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"MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING," "ROMEO AND JULIET," "TWELFTH NIGHT," "TAMING OF THE SHREW," "MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR," "AS YOU LIKE IT," "CAMILLE," "CARMEN." Each Production complete in every detail, and great care taken to ensure artistic excellence. Autumn Dates being rapidly filled.
Apply, Frank Cellier, WEST PIER, BRIGHTON.

MISS MARY AUSTIN
and
E. VIVIAN EDMONDS'
Companies.
"WOMAN AND WINE."
Borough Theatre, Stratford, E.
"THE GOLDEN LADDER,"
Theatre Royal, Mexborough.
MISS AUSTIN in Répertoire.
Address all communications, E. Vivian Edmonds, STRATFORD.

MR. REGINALD DANCE'S COMPANY in
"RAFFLES,"
By arrangement with Mr. Leonard Boyne and Mr. Thomas McKenzie. Under an agreement with Charles Frohman. Monday, April 8, THE IPSWICH LYCEUM.

JACK HADDON'S CO'S.
UNDER THE RUSSIAN FLAG.
By arrangement with
Messrs. Paumier and Howard.
Vacant dates, August 5, onwards, with exceptions.
This, ROYALTY THEATRE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Next, T.R. WHITEHAVEN.

MR. JOSEPH BEBB
will present MISS MILLIE FORD
in a Grand Revival of the Greatest of all Drury Lane Dramas.
THE PRODIGAL DAUGHTER,
By Henry Pettitt and Sir Augustus Harris.
Incidental Music by John Crook.
Arrangements are being made with Mr. Henry C. Arnold to Tour the whole of the Original Drury Lane Scenery.
The Company will be found to be of Exceptional Strength.
A STUD OF THOROUGH-BRED RACEHORSES TOURED.
No time or expense will be spared to make this production equal to its predecessors.
Managers of Big Theatres who know the drawing Power of this Play are requested to secure this Attraction at once.
VACANT SEPTEMBER and ONWARDS.
All communications to A. Rogers,
April 8, T. R., S. SHIELDS.

TOURING COMPANIES.

MISS EMMA HUTCHISON
and
MR. PERCY HUTCHISON.
Twentieth Year of Continuous Management.
"THE FREEDOM OF SUZANNE,"
with MISS MABEL LOVE.
April 8, KING'S T., HAMMERSMITH.
"PETER'S MOTHER," North Co., with Miss Ruth Mackay and Mr. Percy Hutchison.
April 8, BRIGHTON.
"PETER'S MOTHER" South Co., with Miss Lilian Earle and Mr. Henry Renouf.
April 8, CHELTENHAM.
"PETER'S MOTHER" Midland Co. starts Aug.
"THE STRONGER SEX."
This enormous London Success will start on Tour on August Bank Holiday at Scarborough, by arrangement with Mr. Otho Stuart.
Address all communications,
Percy Hutchison, 4, Finchley-road, N.W.
Telephone 2195, Pad.

HENRY SWINERD'S COMPANY.
DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY
by Wilfred Carr.
A
Musical
Comedy
Novelty.
Now in Eighth Year of Continuous Tour,
Wanted, May 13, 20, 27.
June 10, 17, 24,
July 1, 8, 15, 22.
General Manager, Mr. J. W. Cordiner.
April 8, THEATRE ROYAL, SHEFFIELD.

HENRY SWINERD & J. W. CORDINER'S COMPANY.
THE GIRL FROM JAPAN
A Musical Comedy,
Par et Simple,
in Two Acts,
By Wilfred Carr.
Music by Colet Dare.
Arrangements having been Completed to Tour the Above Successful Musical Comedy with Full Chorus and Effects,
Messrs. SWINERD and CORDINER are Prepared to
Receive Open Dates from Managers of First-class Theatres.
Company of Efficient Artists,
Chorus, Ballet, &c.,
Numbering Upwards of Thirty-five.
Resident Managers who have had Business Transactions with the Above in Connection with the Evergreen Success,
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY,"
can Rest Assured that every effort will be made, and no Expense Spared to make this one of the Most Successful Attractions on the Road.
New Scenery, Showy Dresses (upwards of 120 Costumes), and Full Electric Plant Carried.
For Dates from August, onwards, Apply,
J. W. Cordiner,
Theatre Royal, Sheffield.

ALFRED NORTHWAY and
W. V. GARROD'S TOURS.
"THE PRODIGAL PARSON."
Sixty-first Consecutive Week.
April 8, QUEEN'S THEATRE, LONGTON.

"THE 10.30 DOWN EXPRESS."
Vacant Whit, Midlands.
Horace Stanley,
To-day, East Oxford Theatre, Oxford.
Next, AQUARIUM, YARMOUTH, 3rd visit.

MR. WILLIAM MOLLISON
and
SHAKESPEAREAN COMPANY,
"MACBETH,"
"SHYLOCK,"
"JAQUES."
"RICHARD III."
Brilliant Success.
This week,
SHAKESPEARE THEATRE, CLAPHAM.
Business communications to
Sidney Cooper, Lyceum Theatre, Newport, Mon.

"THE GREAT AWAKENING."
No Vacant Dates.
Miss Maud Hildyard,
PRINCE'S THEATRE,
PRESTON.

"THE GREAT AWAKENING."
Miss Gracie Murielle, having purchased from Miss Maud Hildyard the entire theatre rights for the United Kingdom of the above enormously successful play, will tour same this coming autumn, supported by a company of recognised artists. Wanted, theatre for Whit Week (follow Brighton). Also Aug. 5, on (exceptions). Copy of letter from Mr. Laidler.
April 3, 1907. Prince's Th., Bradford.
Madam,—I have pleasure in enclosing herewith contract for a return of "The Great Awakening," which you have purchased from Miss Maud Hildyard, whose part you have been playing with such success here this week.—Yours faithfully,
F. Laidler.
All communications to
Spes Bona,
Grange-road,
Ramsgate.

T. EDWARD WARD'S
GRAND EASTER PRODUCTION,
of a new Romantic Play, by Walter Howard,
Author of "Her Love Against the World," &c.
SECOND TO NONE.
A STORY OF THE ROYAL SCOTS GREYS.
MISS WARD, supported by
MR. JERROLD HEATHER and STAR CO.
Brilliant Success of Production,
at the GRAND JUNCTION, MANCHESTER.
Only vacancies, Aug. 5, Oct. 27, Nov. 11 and 18.
Address, T. Edward Ward,
OSBORNE THEATRE, MANCHESTER.

MR. C. WATSON MILL presents
The New Romantic Play,
"A WARNING TO WOMEN."
Wanted, Theatres with large holding capacity for June 3, Aug. 12, 19, Sept. 2, 9, 16, Nov. 11, 18.
No holiday dates vacant.
Next Big Production.
"FOR LOVE—AND THE KING."
C. Watson Mill, T. R., JARROW.
Next, THEATRE ROYAL, LEIGH.

J. W. WHITBREAD'S
Famous IRISH COMPANY.
Famous IRISH COMPANY.
Address, QUEEN'S THEATRE, DUBLIN

WALTER REYNOLDS' EXQUISITE PLAY,
"MR. SMITH." Mr. Russell Norrie's Tour, Autumn, 1907, by special arrangement with the Author. Note New Address, all communications, 258, Clapham-road, S.W.

FRED ACTON and HARRY C. NASH'S
"BETWEEN THE LIGHTS" TOUR.
Vacant June 17.
Address, Fred Acton, QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH, BOLTON.

"HER MARRIAGE VOW,"
By Owen Davis.
Vacant Sept. 16, 23, Oct. 7, 14.
Everything carried.
Garside and Knowles, T. R., CROYDON (return).

TOURING COMPANIES.

MR. SILVANUS DAUNCEY AND
MR. M. V. LEVEAUX'S TOURS
With MR. ARTHUR BOURCHIER'S COS.
in the Enormously Successful Play,
"THE WALLS OF JERICHO,"
from the GARRICK THEATRE, LONDON.
Now Booking Spring and Autumn, 1907.
Address, Mr. Silvanus Dauncey.
April 8, GRAND THEATRE, FULHAM.

MR. ARTHUR BOURCHIER'S COMPANY, under the direction of
Mr. M. V. LEVEAUX,
in
"THE MORALS OF MARCUS,"
from the Garrick Theatre, London,
now booking Autumn, 1907 and Spring, 1908.
Address, Mr. M. V. Leveaux,
Garrick Theatre, London.

FRED J. LITTLE & FRED DARCY'S Companies.
"THE SHADOW OF A CRIME."
This week, THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
Vacant April 22.
Vacant Panto. Dates, Jan. 20, 27, and Feb. 10.
Fred J. Little, Junction Theatre, Manchester.

LIONEL GLENISTER and WOOD INGRAM present MISS DECIMA MOORE in
"ALL-OF-A-SUDDEN PEGGY"
Owing to extension of Tour, June dates wanted. Coms., J. W. Wood-Ingram, DUKE OF YORK'S THEATRE, LONDON.

MR. and MRS. F. R. BENSON and COMPANY.
April 8, AVENUE T., SUNDERLAND.
North Co., NEW T. R., BIRKENHEAD.
South Co., ASSEMBLY R., PONTYPOOL.
All communications to
Alfred Smyth Pigott, General-Manager.
11, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

House Full. House Full.
The Success
of the Glasgow Holidays.
Hundreds of disappointed patrons unable to gain admission to the Metropole Theatre. Money Reluctantly Returned.
AN UNWEDDED WIFE.
Copy of an unsolicited letter from Wm. Baily, Esq., to a Brother Manager:—
Royal West London Theatre,
London, W.
April 1, 1907.
Dear Mr. ——,
"An Unwedded Wife." This play will suit you; I have re-booked it myself. If you can fix it up you will not regret it. Kind regards,
Yours truly,
W. Bailey.
Address,
J. Edward Whitty, LYCEUM THEATRE, GOVAN.

FRED BENTON'S Company.
"THE FRENCH SPY,"
Written by E. Hill-Mitchelson.
Grand Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Easter Week.

MR. WALTER MAXWELL'S COMPANIES.
"THE LION AND THE MOUSE,"
By Charles Klein.
Vacant May 6, 13, 20, North.
Address,
Walter Maxwell, H. M. Theatre, Aberdeen.

MILTON BODE'S COMPANIES.
"THE BELLE OF MAYFAIR,"
By arrangement with A. and S. Gatti and Charles Frohman.
April 8, MARLBOROUGH T., N., 6 nights.
"A CHINESE HONEYMOON,"
Autumn Tour commences July 25.
Vacant Aug. 12.
Address, Milton Bode, County Theatre, Reading.

MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER'S COMPANIES, in Arthur W. Pinero's Great Comedy,
"HIS HOUSE IN ORDER."
North Co., E. BENHAM, Manager,
April 8, VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE, BURNLEY.
South Co., A. P. HORNE, Manager,
April 3, CAMDEN THEATRE.
No Vacant Dates until Spring, 1908.
Address, C. T. H. Helmsley, General Manager, St. James's Theatre, London, S.W.

G. M. POLINI and AUSTIN MELFORD'S CO., in
"THE SILVER KING."
April 8, NEW THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE.
For Dates, Polini, 93, Penge-road, S.E.
Other coms., Austin Melford,
15, Sandycombe-road, Twickenham.

G. M. POLINI and L. MAITLAND'S CO.
"THE COAL KING."
All dates filled this year.
Spring open.
April 8, GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE.

MR. GEORGE D. DAY'S COMPANIES in
"THE BONDMAN"
"THE PRODIGAL SON,"
By Hall Caine.
From Drury Lane and Adelphi Theatres.
Mr. George D. Day
Will Tour these Plays in the North and Midlands, Commencing in August.
All communications to George D. Day,
ADELPHI THEATRE, W.C.

MR. EDWARD SORLEY'S COMPANY,
in
"THE NEW MAGDALEN,"
including
Miss YVONNE ORCHARDSON as Mercy Merrick.
Open May 6, BRIXTON.
Wanted, Good Dates, for May and Autumn.
Address, Sorley, Scala Theatre, W.

TOURING COMPANIES.

MR. WILLIAM BOURNE,
Twenty-second Year of Tour.
"MAN TO MAN."
Address,
Marine View, Hove, Brighton.

Mr. LIONEL RIGNOLD and MISS ADA BLANCHE'S Co.
"WHAT THE BUTLER SAW."
The biggest success of any Comedy now travelling.
Just finished third week at Theatre Royal, Manchester.
A fine production,
A splendid cast,
And a sure success everywhere.
All Spring dates filled. A few vacant in Autumn; also Christmas and Easter, 1908.
Address,
Lionel Rignold, NEW THEATRE, CARDIFF.

MR. LIONEL RIGNOLD
has secured the Sole Rights of
"WHAT HAPPENED TO JONES,"
"WHY SMITH LEFT HOME,"
"WRONG MR. WRIGHT."
For particulars apply to Mr. Lionel Rignold.

MR. WILLIAM GREET'S COMPANIES
Week commencing April 8.
"EARL AND THE GIRL" (M.), GLASGOW.
"EARL AND THE GIRL" (N.), GRIMSBY.
Address, re Dates, to Alexander Telford.
LYRIC THEATRE, W.

MR. WILLIAM GREET'S COMPANY.
"SIGN OF THE CROSS."
Manager, W. A. McNeill.
April 8, PRINCE'S THEATRE, BRISTOL.
Re dates, address, W. A. McNeill,
en route, or Lyric Theatre, W.

THE LOVE THAT WOMEN DESIRE.
By G. Carlton Wallace,
Author of "The Village Blacksmith."
Vacant Aug. 12, 19, 26, Sept. 9.
Next Production (now booking),
THE LANCASHIRE LAD.
Address, G. Carlton Wallace,
THEATRE ROYAL, SMETHWICK.

THE PRIVATE SECRETARY.
EUGENE C. STAFFORD'S NO. 1 COMPANY.
NOTICE.
The above Farcical Comedy is one of the very few that still Makes Money.
NOW BOOKING AUTUMN, FROM AUG. 5, ON.
Managers with above Vacant Dates kindly write E. C. S., c/o Samuel French, Ltd., 26 Southampton-street, Strand, London, W.C.
WANTED, TO LEASE, A GOOD PROVINCIAL THEATRE.
WANTED, TO LET, "LUCKY MISS DEAN," With Scenery.

ALFRED PAUMIER, WALTER HOWARD'S COS.
THE MIDNIGHT WEDDING.
Romantic Play by Walter Howard.
ANNIE SAKER,
ALFRED PAUMIER,
AND PRINCIPAL COMPANY
"THE PRINCE AND THE BEGGAR MAID,"
a Romantic Play by Walter Howard.
All communications to Alfred Paumier.
April 8, EMPIRE T., SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.

W. H. HALLATT & WALTER HOWARD'S
HER LOVE AGAINST THE WORLD.
A Romantic Play, by Walter Howard
Principal Company, including
ELLEN SNOW and WALTER HOWARD.
Daily Express, April 2:—
It is estimated that there was more applause at the matinée and evening performances of "Her Love Against the World" at the Lyceum Theatre yesterday than has been heard in a West End theatre since the days of Irving.
Address,
LYCEUM THEATRE, LONDON, W.C.

MR. W. H. HALLATT'S TOUR,
"TWO LITTLE SAILOR BOYS,"
By Walter Howard.
Oct. 7 only Vacant Date 1907.
All Communications,
W. H. Hallatt, LYCEUM THEATRE, W.C.

Mr. Alec Flood's & Mr. Aubrey Fitzmaurice's Company
in the Strong Romantic Play of the
NAPOLEONIC PERIOD,
THE ANGEL OF UNREST:
A STORY OF 1812.
By RICHARD A. GREENE.
ONE OF THE FINEST PRODUCTIONS EVER SEEN IN THE PROVINCES
Absolutely Everything Carried. New and Original Plant of Printing by John Waddington, Ltd., Leeds. Incidental Music by H. Henderson, Mus.Bac. Electrical Effects by J. C. Robertson and Co., Glasgow. Specially-Designed Costumes by Hyman and Sons. Wigs by Gustave. Scenery by Walter P. Warren and Archibald Middlemass.

"Carados" in Referee' March 31st, writes:—

The best Napoleonic drama I have seen in many years! Thus I am tempted to speak of Mr. Richard A. Greene's four-act play, "The Angel of Unrest." It is vigorously written. The serious interest, which is keen, is relieved by occasional but never too obtrusive humour, and there is more than one of the characters you are compelled to love as well as to admire before the end is reached. "The Angel of Unrest" was capitally played by a strong company, under the direction of Messrs. Alec Flood and Aubrey Fitzmaurice. Mr. Flood made a highly satisfactory representative of the "Restless Angel" who overan Europe. The drama is well staged, The pretty pine forest set of the last act called forth tokens of warm approval.

8th April —CROWN THEATRE, PECKHAM.
15th " GAIETY THEATRE, MANCHESTER.
22d " THEATRE ROYAL BIRKENHEAD.

Only vacant Spring Dates, 29th April and Whit Week. Now Booking Summer and Autumn.
Wire to-day:—**F. MARTIN MORRIS, THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.**
Letters to:—**CROWN THEATRE, PECKHAM.**

TOURING COMPANIES.

THE DRURY LANE DRAMAS.

THE PRODICAL SON

AND

THE BONDMAN,

By HALL CAINE. Produced by Arthur Collins.

Mr. WENTWORTH CROKE will send out the above Plays with Strong Companies, entirely New Scenery, and all the Original Effects, starting August Bank Holiday.

THE CHRISTIAN,

By HALL CAINE.

Now in its Eighth Year of Tour.

Apply, WENTWORTH CROKE,

31, Bedford Street, Covent Garden.

RENAD BROTHERS' Celebrated "SWISS EXPRESS." "SWISS EXPRESS." A Gilt-edged Attraction.

April 8, OPERA HOUSE, DUDLEY.

H. ARMITAGE AND ARTHUR LEIGH'S COMPANIES
NEXT PRODUCTION.
HENRY SETON MERRIMAN'S GREATEST AND MOST POPULAR NOVEL,

"WITH EDGED TOOLS."

Arranged in Five Acts by H. Armitage.
N.B.—Owing to impending West End production, negotiations re the Autumn suspended pro tem.
WILSON BARRETT'S LAST and GREATEST PLAY

"LUCKY DURHAM."

Vacant May 13th, Aug. 5th, 12th (3n. 22nd, 23rd, 24th), 26th (seaside preferred), Nov. 11th, Dec. 2nd, Christmas, New Year.
CHARLES FROHMAN'S GREATEST DRAMATIC SUCCESS.

"LEAH KLESCHNA."

Vacant May 6th, 13th, Aug. 12th (3n. 19th, 20th, 21st) (seaside preferred), Christmas, New Year.
WILSON BARRETT (Bullock) ORIGINAL VERSION

"EAST LYNNE."

Vacant nothing this spring and summer. Aug. 5th, 12th, 26th, Sept. 23rd, Oct. 14th, 28th, Nov. 18th, Dec. 2, Christmas, New Year.
Willing to book July for "Durham" and "Kleschna" good season dates.
All coms., H. ARMITAGE, Grand, Glasgow.

MISS LYDIA DONOVAN presents her carefully selected Company, in the Popular Domestic Drama of Intense Human Interest, entitled,

"HER ONE GREAT SIN,"

by Frank M. Thorne. (By arrangement with Miss Blanche St. Albans and Mr. J. Leicester Jackson.) Practically everything carried. Renovated Scenery, New Properties, &c. Neither Trouble nor Expense Spared to ensure an artistic and financial success. Wanted, good theatres June 24 (?), Aug. 5, on, with exceptions. Also good Theatre August Bank Holiday. Now Booking 1908.
Address, Miss LYDIA DONOVAN, T. R., Bury.
April 8, GRAND, DERBY.

BARON H. HARRISS
presents by arrangement with
Mr. GEORGE MUSGROVE,
the Latest American Musical Comedy,

THE PRINCE OF PILSEN

with a Company of over 50 London Artists, including
Mr. HARRY KILBURN,
Mr. FRANK CRIMP,
and
Miss SOPHIE HARRISS.
Everything carried, including Conductor and Leader.
Christmas, Spring, Autumn, 1907,
Christmas and Spring, 1908, fully booked.
Now booking Autumn, 1908. First-class Theatres Only entertained.
N.B.—This is the only company now playing "The Prince of Pilsen." All communications to be addressed BARON H. HARRISS,
April 8, QUEEN'S THEATRE, KEIGHLEY.

From the Waldorf Theatre.
MR. J. MAUNDY-GREGORY
presents Mr. H. B. Irving's Latest London Success,

"LIGHTS OUT"

(By arrangement with the Messrs. Shubert).
NOTE.—Mr. Maundy-Gregory holds the sole and undisturbed right to play this piece in the United Kingdom.
This Week, THE PIER PAV., EASTBOURNE.
The company presented by Mr. Maundy-Gregory has been most carefully selected and approved. The Stage-Manager from the Waldorf production tours with the company, the magnificent uniforms have been specially obtained by Messrs. Nathan from Berlin, and the special engagements have been secured of Mr. Chas. Esdale as Lieut. Von Lauffen (Mr. Irving's part), Miss Frances Davie as Klara Volkhardt (Miss Eva Moore's part). The company is definitely booked at Glasgow, Edinburgh, Manchester, Dublin, Brighton, Eastbourne, Folkestone, Cambridge, Harrogate, &c. &c.
Vacant April 15, 22 (3 days), and May 13.
Several Autumn Dates Open for Two Companies.
J. MAUNDY-GREGORY,
WALDORF THEATRE, ALDWYCH, W.C.

Mr. GEORGE E. MUDD'S CO.,

In the Charming Society Play

THE IDLER

From the St. James's Theatre, London.

SUMMER TOUR.

By arrangement with Mr. George Alexander.

Wanted good dates from May 27th, onwards.

GEORGE E. MUDD, Resident Manager,
GRAND THEATRE, NELSON.

THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT
FOR
ACTOR AND COMPOSER,

BY
ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.).

TOURING COMPANIES.

HER LOVE AGAINST THE WORLD.

By Walter Howard.

LONDON PRODUCTION,
March 30, 1907, at the
LYCEUM THEATRE.

A MEMORABLE NIGHT!
REVIVAL OF DRAMA IN THE WEST END.
ENTHUSIASTIC SCENES. CALLS AND RECALLS.
Four Calls after Each of First Three Acts, Culminating at the Final Curtain in a Scene of Enthusiasm Rarely Witnessed in a Theatre.
Players, Management, and Author Called and Recalled.
The Vast Audience Remained in the Theatre for Fully Fifteen Minutes after the Final Curtain Giving Vent to their Enthusiasm.

OPINIONS OF THE LONDON PRESS.

The Times, April 1, 1907 :—
The New Lyceum was re-opened on Saturday night with a "stirring, romantic play," "Her Love Against the World." The official adjectives are not ill-chosen. Mr. Walter Howard's play is likely to prove as popular, stirring, and romantic in London as has been the case, we understand, in the Midlands. . . . The play is a sound, healthy piece of work.

Daily Telegraph, April 1, 1907 :—
Does melodrama still live, or is it to be counted among the lost arts? Ten or fifteen years ago we all know what the answer would have been; one had only to point to the Adelphi to prove that there, at any rate, melodrama flourished exceedingly. But, following close upon the tragic death of William Terriss, came a change of conditions. Little by little, so far as the West End was concerned, that particular form of entertainment went on steadily disappearing, until at length it practically reached the vanishing point. With the re-opening of the Lyceum on Saturday night, the question once more surges to the surface, and if the results of one particular performance may be accepted as conclusive evidence, melodrama is not only alive, but has never been in a more vigorous or robust state of health. It was, indeed, as if the old days had come again. The huge house was packed to the ceiling. . . . The story is of so strenuous a description that it suffices by itself to hold the spectators' attention from start to finish, and in this way to ensure the complete success of the evening. On the final fall of the curtain there were loud calls for all concerned, and hearty congratulations alike for author and for managers.

The Morning Post, April 1, 1907 :—
The huge theatre was crowded. "Her Love Against the World," a popular play if ever there was one, will be a popular success.

The Standard, April 1, 1907 :—
Struck at once a note of joyousness . . . The stage pictures of the new piece are handsome and striking . . . its language, which is notably simple and unaffected. . . . The great audience revelled in the excitement of the piece.

The Globe, April 1, 1907 :—
It was good on Saturday night to find the Lyceum returned to its old allegiance, and good to see an audience which packed the now handsome theatre in all its specious seats following with tense interest, and sometimes with overwrought feelings, that found expression in ways not familiar in the West End, a drama of the right-down kind. The author, Mr. Walter Howard, calls it a romantic play, and no one will take exception to the label, but it has all that breadth of treatment which we have been in the habit of describing as melodrama. The term need not be used in an invidious sense, and it is certainly not so applied in the present case. "Her Love Against the World" is an excellent play; it was received on Saturday night with such a display of enthusiasm as is rarely witnessed at a West End theatre, and Messrs. H. R. Smith and Ernest Carpenter are to be congratulated on the overwhelming success of their initial effort.

The Tribune, April 1, 1907 :—
An immense audience on Saturday gave a hearty welcome to play and players.

The Daily Mail, April 1, 1907 :—
It was an enthusiastic house that welcomed the re-opening of the Lyceum on Saturday evening. . . . The opening piece, a strong drama, from the pen of Mr. Walter Howard, entitled "Her Love Against the World." The cast is good, the scenery excellent, and the story one of absorbing interest . . . the production a success.

The Daily Mirror, April 1, 1907 :—
The new management should see that they have their "house full" boards ready; they are likely to be wanted for many a night to come. Mr. Walter Howard, the author, was called before the curtain at the end.

The Daily Chronicle, April 1, 1907 :—
Somehow or other, out of the everywhere into Wellington-street there had crowded a huge audience such as might have trooped straight out of the old Adelphi. . . . Every curtain went down before a perfect tumult of sympathy. Mr. H. R. Smith and Mr. Ernest Carpenter, the two gentlemen responsible for the venture, came forward at the end, in response to a vigorous call, and accepted their triumph with an air of undisguised pride. There is no possible doubt that for a wholesome, exciting, and entertaining melodrama one might have to go some distance to beat "Her Love Against the World."

The Daily Express, April 1, 1907 :—
Mr. Howard's drama was described on the programme as "a stirring romantic play." "Her Love Against the World" is certainly stirring . . . the play is decidedly romantic. The Lyceum was crowded on Saturday night, and "Her Love Against the World" was received with unbounded enthusiasm, which was really deserved.

The Observer, March 31, 1907 :—
"Her Love Against the World" is a sound, honest, straightforward romance. . . . The applause of the huge audience was deafening.

The Referee, March 31, 1907 :—
The new play is military and romantic, too, with abundant action, deeds of gallantry and daring, a dashing, devil-may-care hero, and a heroine sweet and lovable to the very tips of her fingers. The audience received the piece throughout with great favour.

Sunday Times, March 31, 1907 :—
To predict an enormous success is to be prophetic without indulgence in speculation.—J. T. Grein.

The People, March 31, 1907 :—
Teeming with strong and enthralling incidents. At curtain-fall nothing but pleasant congratulations.

News of the World, March 31, 1907 :—
Enthusiastic Scenes at Lyceum's Re-opening.
In spite of the exodus from town for the Easter holidays, few vacant seats were anywhere to be seen in any part of the theatre, vast as it is, and if the enthusiasm of the evening formed any criterion of what is in store, the famous playhouse is destined to achieve popularity under the new régime. "Her Love Against the World," a romantic play by Mr. Walter Howard, which has found high favour in the provinces, constituted Messrs. Smith and Carpenter's first production, and there need be no hesitation in saying that it responds in no uncertain way to the popular idea of healthy and stirring melodrama. The theatre rang with applause at every curtain. The audience could not have been more enthusiastic.

The Star, April 2, 1907 :—
Achieves its purpose of maintaining the audience's excited attention from beginning to end, and the results of the production? Such applause of virtue, such hissing of villainy as rarely gratify the ear in this days of universal cynicism. We laughed, we applauded, we hissed, we gave "Her Love Against the World" no less than its due, and "we" numbered some thousands, packing the house from gallery to stalls.

Daily News, April 2, 1907 :—
The piece was enthusiastically applauded. "Her Love Against the World" should fill the Lyceum for some time to come.

Daily Express (second notice), April 2 :—
It is estimated that there was more applause at the matinée and evening performances of "Her Love Against the World," at the Lyceum Theatre, yesterday than has been heard in a West End theatre since the days of Irving.

Extract from leading article on Revival of Drama at the West End, in Daily Express, April 2 :—
Melodrama is not moribund. "Her Love Against the World," which has achieved a remarkable success at that home of sub-classical melodrama, the Lyceum Theatre, is a sign of the times.

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30. GRAND THEATRE, DOUGLAS.
31. OPERA HOUSE, DONCASTER.
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33. NEW TOWN HALL, SUTTON COLDFIELD.
34. NEW HIPPODROME, WEST BROMWICH.
35. TOWN HALL, GRANGE-OVER-SANDS.
36. NEW GRAND THEATRE, MANSFIELD.
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MISS IDA PHILLIPS,
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MISS CISSIE PODMORE, Juveniles,
Boys, "Revenge" Co. Dis. April 8. To-day, Longton; next, 156, Walsall-st., West Bromwich.

MRS. MORTON POWELL,
"When it was Dark."
April 8, West London Theatre.

MISS BELLA POWER (Mrs. E. C. Edwards).
At Lib. Old Women, Character, &c. Good Stock or Tour. Add., G. T., Radcliffe.

MISS MARY RABY,
Disengaged.
Cheriton, Send, Woking.

MISS FLORENCE RADCLIFFE,
Nellie Denver, "Silver King."
April 8, T. R., Macclesfield.

MISS EMMA RAINBOW,
Disengaged.
Address, 31, Clayton-street, Blackburn.

MISS MAUDIE RAY,
Disengaged.
Add., Park View, 165, Walmersley-rd., Bury, Lancs.

MISS CISSIE RAYMOND,
Lady Bickenhall, in "Sergeant Brue."
April 8, Tyne Theatre, Newcastle.

MISS ROSEMARY REES,
Disengaged.
Address, 34, Oxford-gardens, North Kensington, W.

MISS GRACE RICHARDSON.
Mr. H. F. Maltby's Co.
Theatre Royal, Leamington.

MISS DORRIE ROBERTS.
Mr. Leonard Rayne's Co.
Opera House, Cape Town.

MISS CONSTANCE ROBERTSON,
Engaged by Oscar Asche, Esq.
Address, 9, Rossetti-mansions, Cheyne-walk, S.W.

MISS MARIE ROBSON
(Mrs. Graham Woods), Lingford Carson Répertoire Co., Alex. Theatre, Sheffield.

MISS LILIAN ROSEBERY
April 8,
Empire, Stratford, E.

MISS GLADYS ROSE-JONES,
Child Actress.
Perm. address, 4, Elgin-avenue, W.

MISS KATHLEEN RUSSELL,
Lead, at Liberty.
14, Elgin-avenue, Maida Vale, W.

MISS MAUD RUSSELL
(Mrs. Frank M. Thorne), "Napoleon the Great" Co., April 8, Royal, Ashton.

MISS NESTA SANDFORD,
"The Midnight Mail" Co.
April 8, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.

MISS LIZZIE SCOBIE,
Disengaged.
Ad, 2, Sussex-terrace, Tregonwell-rd, Bournemouth.

MISS MAUDE SCOTT Specialises
in Boys' Parts; also Specials and Character.
104, Clarendon-road, Putney, S.W.

MISS SCOTT-WATSON,
Disengaged, Lead.
C/o "The Era."

MISS SOPHY SHENTON,
8, West-terrace,
Wherry Town, Penzance, Cornwall.

MISS VIOLET SIMS,
Mary Andrews, "Woman and Wine" Co.
Disengaged April 22. Borough Theatre, Stratford.

MISS FLORENCE SMITHERS,
St. Julian's Hall, Guernsey, till Sunday. Dis. 18, Dover-mansions, Canterbury-rd., Brixton, S.W.

MISS LALLA STANHOPE, Lead, "The Love that Women Desire" Co., Dis. Summer Tour or Stock. April 8, T. R., Smethwick.

MISS WINNIE STANHOPE,
Dainty and Sweet, the Tit-bit of the Menu.
Vaudeville Theatres, London.

MISS BLANCHE STANLEY,
Character or Comedy. At Liberty, Town or Suburbs. 101, Sugden-rd., Clapham Common.

MRS. E. STATHAM STAPLES
(formerly May St. Aubyn) (May Staples).
1, Prima-road, Brixton, S.W.

MISS BLANCHE STEELE,
Hallatt and Howard's Company.
"Her Love Against the World."

MISS GERTRUDE STERROLL
Hon. Susan Lesson, "The Perfect Lover."
Address, 60, Castle-road, Scarborough.

MISS EDITH STEWART (Mrs. Frank H. France),
"The 100 to 1 Chance." April 8, Alhambra, Brighton.

MISS ADELAIDE STONEHAM,
Disengaged. Offers invited for abroad.
64, Gloucester-crescent, Regent's Park, N.W.

MISS MAUD E. STONER,
Disengaged,
39, Hampton-place, Brighton.

MISS KATE SYDNEY,
Heavy Lead; ARTHUR HALES, Bus.-Man.,
Joint Offers invited. April 8, O. H., Blackpool.

MISS GERTRUDE TATE,
Disengaged.
10, Foxberry-road, Brockley, S.E.

MISS GEORGETTE THIERRY
and MR. BERNARD LIELL, "Nancy Sykes."
Agent, Dottridge, Oldham, Tiv., Grimsby.

MISS MURIEL THOMPSON (Mrs. Charles Draycott),
Lead, Lingford Carson's Répertoire Co. Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield.

MISS N. THORNE-HALLAM,
J. A. Campbell's Co. Miss MARGUERITE THORNE. Dis. Char. Parts. S. T., Liverpool.

MISS MAUDE TOWNSEND,
Mrs. Rossmore in "The Lion and the Mouse." Add. April 8, Her Majesty's T., Aberdeen.

MISS HELEN TYTLER,
Mr. Reginald Dance's "Raffles" Co.
April 8, Lyceum Theatre, Ipswich.

MISS HILDA VAUGHAN, Concluded
S.A. Engagement with Messrs. B. and F. Wheeler. Address, 13, Upper Bedford-place, W.C.

MISS NINA VAUGHTON,
Lead. Disengaged May 26, Stock or Tour.
Next, Carlton, Saltley.

MISS ROSSLYN VAYNE,
Barbara, "Two Little Vagabonds."
April 8, T. R., Bolton.

MISS DOROTHEA VIVIAN, Starring
with Matthew Brodie. Title-rôle, "Drummer of the 76th." Empire, Holloway, N.

MISS VIOLET VIVIAN,
Sarah Kerrins, "Anna of the Plains" Co.
T. R., Blackburn (3); Harrogate (3).

MISS MARION WAKEFORD,
Joan, in "Home, Sweet Home."
(Her original part.) Ad., Irving Th., Seacombe.

MISS HELENA WALBRAN,
Mr. Leonard Mortimer's Company.
April 8, Foresters', Mile End, E.

MISS LAURA WALKER,
Glory, in "The Christian." Dis. April 29.
April 8, Fleetwood and Todmorden.

MISS ANENA WALTON,
Principal Soubrette. Disengaged Autumn.
11, West Clowes-street, Eccles New-road, Salford.

MISS LESLIE WARNER,
Lead, "Napoleon the Great" Co.
April 8, T. R., Ashton-under-Lyne.

MISS ADA WATSON,
Edith Adams in Baron H. Harriss's "Prince of Pilsen" Co., Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

MISS JOAN WELLMAN,
Disengaged.
"Sunnyside," Ormonde-road, Bournemouth, West.

MISS MAUDE WESTERN, Own
Company, "The Prodigal Son" (original), and what a success. T. R., Crook.

MISS FRANCES WETHERALL,
Vaudeville Theatre,
London.

MISS LILLA WILDE, at Liberty,
Lead or Heavy Lead.
72, Shrewsbury-rd, Forest Gate, London, E.

MISS GRACE WILSON,
Address,
Standard Theatre, E.

MISS MOLLIE WYNNE,
Continued Success as Jimmie in "The Prince of Pilsen." Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

MR. LEONARD AARDALE thanks
Andrew Melville, Esq., for comf. starring engt. Disengaged. 46, Elizabeth-street, Blackpool.

MR. FRANK ADAIR,
Disengaged.
10, Cobden-place, Leeds.

MR. F. RONALD ADAIR,
Disengaged, Lead, Char., Lead. April 15.
26, Gladesmore-road, Stamford Hill, N.

MR. CHARLES ALDRED,
Mr. W. Greet's Co. At Liberty May 6.
Address, Prince's Theatre, Bristol.

MR. ALEC ALVES,
"What the Butler Saw."
April 8, New Theatre, Cardiff.

MR. HENRY ARMSTRONG,
Lyceum Theatre,
Strand, W.C.

MR. WILLIE ATOM, Small Comedian,
Dis., Comedy, Musical Comedy, Sketches, &c. Boy Parts Speciality. 26, St. George's-rd., Brighton.

MR. LIONEL ATWILL,
Romantic Lead. Perm. address,
Vitznau, Lennard-road, Beckenham, Kent.

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Leading Business,
71, Boundary-road, St. John's Wood, N.W.

MR. GEORGE R. J. AUSTIN,
On Drill, R.N.V.R. All correspondence,
1, Elgin-street, Birkenhead.

MR. and MRS. H. K. AYLIFF
(Miss Gertrude Homewood),
91, Grove End-road, N.W.

MR. WILFORD BAILEY,
Character, Comedy, &c., Disengaged.
Add., 26, Bismarck-rd., Highgate-hill, London, N.

MR. MAURICE E. BANDMANN,
Bandmann's Eastern Circuit.
Address, Theatre Royal, Calcutta.

MR. CHARLES J. BARBER,
Disengaged.
Address, Gothic House, Chapel Field-rd., Norwich.

MR. ARTHUR J. BARCLAY,
Manager, East Ham and Walthamstow Pals.
Address, Parkside, The Drive, Walthamstow.

MR. ORLANDO BARNETT,
Address,
160, Earl's Court-road, S.W.

MR. J. J. BARTLETT,
Joseph Surface, Friar Lawrence, Antonio, &c.
Mrs. Russ Whytal's Co., T. R., Hull.

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Disengaged for Heavies and Aristocratic parts. Add., 42, Liverpool-street, King's Cross.

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Can provide Summer Stock. Good Plays. Good Company. 99, Halton-road, London, N.

MR. and MRS. STANLEY BEDWELL
Leading Business.
Perm. add., 6, Lonsdale-road, Roker, Sunderland.

MR. HENRY BELDING,
Papa Bompasse in "The Angel of Unrest."
April 8, Crown Theatre, Peckham, S.E.

MR. W. BESLEY BELTRAN,
at Liberty.
60, Crawford-street, Denmark-hill, S.E.

MR. FRANK BERESFORD,
Disengaged, June 3.
April 8, Theatre Royal, Bristol (Six Nights).

MR. IVAN BERLYN,
Disengaged.
10, King-street, W.C.

MR. ALBERT BERNARD, Dis. Mr. Sharp, "White Slavery," next Wed. Matinée, Brixton T. 52, Tremadoc-road, Clapham Common.

MR. A. BERNHARDT-TURNER, Re-engaged by Edmund Tearle, Esq. Iago, Richilieu, Marc Antony, &c. C. T., Motherwell.

MR. CHARLES BOULT,
Disengaged, Leading Business, General-Man.
30, Upper Baker-street, N.W.

MR. MATTHEW BOULTON,
Richard Lawrence and S. M., "The Little Bread-Winner." April 8, Star Theatre, Liverpool.

MR. and MRS. T. B. BRABAZON
MR. and MRS. T. B. BRABAZON.
(Lillian Murray).

MR. H. T. BRICKWELL,
Address all Communications,
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MR. ARTHUR G. BROWN,
Comedy, Character, and Old Men. C
37, Hercules-road, Kennington-road, S.E.

MR. and MRS. W. RUDDLE BROWN
(Miss Nellie Howitt). Disengaged shortly.
Junction Theatre, Manchester.

MR. WILLIAM BURCHILL,
with Mr. Arthur Bourchier,
Garrick Theatre, W.C.

MR. and MRS. JOHN BURTON,
All communications,
Theatre Royal, Dunfermline.

MR. HENRY BUTE,
Tredway, in "Lord and Lady Algy." Dis., April 13, Gaiety Theatre, Hastings.

MR. LEYTON CANCELLOR,
At liberty Easter. Heavy Lead.
Address, 7, Lancaster-road, London, N.W.

MR. and MRS. HARRY CANE,
H. C., Mr. Willard's American Tour.
Mr. C., Dis. 22, Linden-gardens, Chiswick, W.

MR. GEO. E. CARLETON,
Business-Manager,
"The Village Blacksmith" Co.

MR. LESLIE CARTER,
as the Lion, "The Lion and the Mouse."
April 8, His Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen.

MR. ROBERT CASTLETON,
Producing "Dr. Wake's Patient."
Address, H. M. T., Carlisle.

MR. FRANCIS CHAMIER and VIOLET CHAMIER, Special Week with E. Chesney, Portsmouth. 46, Altenburg-gdns., S.W.

MR. GEOFFREY CHATE,
Good Autumn offers invited.
All coms., 7, Woodville, Gravesend.

MR. and MRS. GEORGE H. CHILD.
G. H. C., At Lib. April 22, Com., Old Man, &c. "Woman and Wine," B. T., Stratford, E.

MR. WALTER H. CLUXTON,
As the Messenger in "A Messenger from Mars." U.S.A.

MR. JOHN CLYDE,
At Liberty. Leading Bus. Stock or Tour.
21, Gt. Western-road, Glasgow.

MR. C. F. COLLINGS,
Disengaged.
Address, 14, Berners-street, Oxford-street, W.

MR. EDWIN J. COLLINS,
Mr. Leonard Mortimer's Company.
April 8, Surrey Theatre, S.E.

MR. EDWARD COMBERBACH,
Mr. Brownlow, in "Oliver Twist."
April 8, O. H., Southport; 11th, New, Oxford.

MR. SYDNEY COMPTON,
Mr. Brandon Thomas's "Charley's Aunt" Company, County Theatre, Bedford.

MR. TOM W. CONWAY,
Address,
48, Sternhold-avenue, Streatham Hill, S.W.

MR. HORTON COOPER,
"The Truth."
Comedy Theatre, W., Every Evening.

MR. BERNARD COPPING, Lead.
Miss ISA BELLINGTON, Comedy, Dis.
Ardcoille, Park-road, New Barnet, N.

MR. J. W. CORDINER,
April 8,
The Theatre Royal, Sheffield.

MR. and MRS. MONTAGUE CORRI
(Ana Corri). At Lib. Prin. Com., Juvenile Ladies. A. C. tall. 37, Gloucester-st., Liverpool.

MR. WILLIAM CORRI,
Musical Conductor and Composer.
Address, 7, Clive-road, Park-road, Merton S.W.

MR. ERNEST COSSART,
Disengaged.
This, O. H., Cork; next, c/o "The Era" Office.

MR. VERNON COWPER,
"When the Clock went Wrong."
3, Glencoe-mansions, Brixton-road, S.W.

MR. HARRY J. CRANE
Invites offers for April 22, onwards.
360, Upland-road, East Dulwich, S.E.

MR. OSWALD CRAY,
David Rossi, in "The Eternal Cit"
Dis. April 29. April 8, Opera House, Blackpool.

MR. JOHN CULLEN and MISS HILDA FRANCKS (Miss H. F. Disengaged).
Address, Grand Theatre, Chorley.

MR. CLIVE CURRIE,
with Mr. Tree's Company in
Berlin.

MR. ARTHUR CURTIS,
Mr. H. B. Irving's Company.
Prince of Wales's Theatre, Birmingham.

MR. LEONARD DALRYMPLE,
Touring own Company, "As Midnight Chimes." Address, Theatre Royal, Bilston.

MR. BASIL DEAN,
Ian Maclaren Shakespearean Co.,
April 8, Opera House, Northampton.

MR. JACK DENTON,
W. and F. Melville's Stock Season,
Standard Theatre, E.

MR. HENRY DE SOLLA,
Now at liberty for Town only.
21, South End-road, Hampstead.

MR. OSWALD DOUGLAS and MARY AINSLIE (Mrs. O. D.),
"Life's Sweetest Sins." Ap. 8, Weston-super-Mare; 11th, Weymouth.

MR. WELLESLEY DRAPER
terminated engagement owing to illness.
Address, 162, New-road, Chatham.

MR. R. B. DRYSDALE,
At Liberty, Summer and Autumn.
April 8, Opera House, Middlesbrough.

MR. CECIL DU GUE,
Disengaged, Lead.
Letters, forwarded, 2, Norbury-pk., Streatham, S.W.

MR. ALBERT C. DUNCAN,
Manager, Charles Macdona's "Mr. Popple" Co. Address, King's Theatre, Edinburgh.

MR. and MRS. T. W. DUNSCOMBE
(Miss Marie Tennant). "The Face at the Window" Co. April 8, T. R., West Stanley.

MR. CHARLES A. EAST,
Disengaged. Lead. Character. or S.M.
17, Adie-road, Hammersmith, W.

MR. GEO. EDWARDS,
Old Men and Character. Sketches preferred.
Liberty now. 62, Vicarage-road, Tottenham, N.

MR. GEORGE ESS,
Musical-Director, "Off to Gretna Green."
Queen's T., Poplar.

MR. STEPHEN T. EWART,
Victoria Opera House,
Burnley.

MR. ROBERT FAULKNER,
Bertie Cecil, "Under Two Flags," Dis. after Whit. Oxford; next, Worcester.

MR. ARTHUR FITZGERALD,
Stage-Manager to Mr. Leonard Boyne.
April 8, Theatre Royal, Plymouth.

MR. HUGH FLEMING,
Advance-Director, Baron Harriss's "Prince of Pilsen" Co., Opera House, Kidderminster.

MR. HERBERT FORD,
Lead. Disengaged. 81, Hamlet Gardens-mansions, Ravenscourt Park, W.

MR. & MRS. CHARLES FRANMORE,
C. F., Disengaged April 8. Address, 53, Canterbury-terrace, Maida Vale, W.

MR. W. H. GARBOIS,
as Ellis Jordan
"A Wife's Triumph" Co., on tour.

MR. W. V. GARROD as the Prodigal
Parson, John Mildmay and Citizen Sangfroid, April 8, Queen's, Longton.

MR. and MRS. WILLIE GARVEY
(Kitty Jones. K. J., Victoria, Broughton. W. G., Coventry.

MR. G. E. L. D. E. R. D,
Disengaged April 14.
Pavilion, Kingston, Ireland, or A.A.

MR. HENRY GEORGE,
Hotel de Londres, Menton, France;
or, 2, Aliwal-road, Clapham Junction, S.W.

MR. ALFRED GODDARD,
Bardolph, Curio, Hotspur, Agrippa, &c.
New Royal Opera House, Berlin.

MR. DOUGLAS GORDON,
Engaged by Messrs. B. and F. Wheeler.
Address, C/o Messrs. Wheeler, O. H., Cape Town.

MR. and MRS. A. CARLAW GRAND
(Miss Rollo Deas), "Peter Pan" (Manchester Company). April 8, Grand Theatre, Hull.

MR. RICHARD A. GREENE,
"The Angel of Unrest" Co.
Crown T., Peckham, S.E.; or A.A.

MR. FRED GROVE,
Lyceum Theatre,
W.C.

MR. LAWRENCE GROVE,
"Monsieur Beaucaire" Spring Tour.
April 8, Theatre Royal, Exeter.

MR. F. R. GWYN-RICHARDSON,
Shakespeare, Clapham. MISS HARLINGTON, West London. "Waitara," Richmond, S.W.

MR. A. C. HARDIE,
Miss Hildyard's Co. Prince's, Preston.
Disengaged in May.

MR. FRANK HARDING,
Address all coms., 21, Argyll-mansions, King's-road, Chelsea, S.W. Phone 2077, Kensington.

MR. W. HENRY HARGREAVES and
MAY DALLAS (Mrs. W. H. H.). At Lib. Apr. 12. Apr. 8, 10, Thistle-ter., Ton-y-Pandy.

MR. REGINALD HARGREAVES,
Stage-Manager, "The Perfect Lover," April 8, Opera House, Harrogate. Disengaged May 22.

MR. CHARLES HARLEY,
Sir Timothy Crewys, "Peter's Mother."
April 8, Theatre Royal, Brighton.

MR. CYRIL HARRISON,
At liberty. Lead or Management.
Coliseum Theatre, Oldham.

MR. FRANCIS HAWLEY,
Business-Manager, "The Earl and the Girl."
April 8, P. of W., Grimsby. Dis. April 22.

MR. T. P. HAYNES,
Disengaged.
Address, care of "The Era."

MR. JERROLD HEATHER,
Starring as Harry Wilding,
In "Second to None." Osborne Th., Manchester.

MR. FRANK HILL,
Comedy, Musical, Farcical, Drama, Sketch.
Disengaged. 15, Grosvenor-park, Comberwell.

MR. A. T. HILTON,
Address,
31, Crowndale-road, N.W.

MR. A. S. HOMEWOOD, Dis. mid-April. All business communications direct to Cecil Barth, 8, Melina-pl., St. John's Wood, N.W.

MR. FRANCIS HOPE, Principal
Comedian. Disengaged Summer and Autumn. First-class Offers Invited. Opera House, Wakefield.

MR. FRANK HOWARD,
Acting Manager and Light Comedian.
Dis., 130,, Oxford-rd., Dukinfield, near Manchester.

MR. and MRS. GEORGE HOWARD
(Miss Clara Earle), "Dr. Wake's Patient,"
April 8, Theatre Royal, Halifax, Six Nights.

MR. and MRS. WILSON HOWARD
(Miss Carlotta Anson). Disengaged.
9, Berwick-street, Manchester.

MR. & MRS. S. HERBERT HUMBER
(Beatrice Sinclair), Heavy Lead and Lead, "The London Fireman" Co. T. R., Croydon.

MR. REGINALD A. HUNT, Stage-Manager, "Lady of Ostend" Co.
April 8, Court Theatre, Wigan.

MR. JAMES HUSSEY as Harry
Marsland, Mr. Eugene C. Stafford's Co., "The Private Secretary. April 8, Folkestone.

MR. A. B. IMESON,
His Majesty's Theatre, W.
O. H., Berlin, April 8 to 20.

MR. R. SEATH INNES,
Offers invited for summer and autumn.
April 8, T. R., Leamington.

MR. and MRS. FREDERIC JACQUES
(Minnie Rayner), c/o Bandmann, T.R., Calcutta. Mr. Jacques, Dis. 52, Crowndale-rd., N.W.

MR. G. WALLACE JOHNSTON,
Sir Lucius O'Trigger, &c, with Mr. Edward Compton. April 8, Grand Theatre, W. Hartlepool.

MR. T. ARTHUR JONES,
Proprietor, "Life's Sweetest Sins" and "When Other Lips." 26, Wightman-rd., Finsbury Park.

MR. S. MAJOR JONES,
Stage-Manager,
Lyceum Theatre, W.C.

MR. CHARLES KEAN,
With Mr. Leonard Boyne in "Raffles."
This, Grand, Southampton; next, Royal, Plymouth.

MR. OGILVY KEITH,
Address,
Charlmont, Western-parade, Southsea.

MR. and MRS. EDGAR KENT
(Miss Ada Clarke). Perm. Add., Shelton, Stoke-on-Trent. Autumn open.

MR. H. VAL KIMM,
No. 1 "Belle of New York. This, Lyceum, Sheffield; next, Theatre Royal, Manchester

MR. CLAUDE KING,
Leading Business,
Theatre Royal, Calcutta.

MR. ARTHUR KNIGHT, Disengaged,
Character and Management. Miss Edith Knight, Lead, 34, Harlesden-road, St. Albans.

MR. RICHARD HENRY LACE,
Add., New Century T., Motherwell. Apr. 8, The Gaiety T., Leith. 19, Parkfield-drive, Liscard.

MR. JAMES R. LA FANE,
Manager and Stage-Director, Mr. Mouillot's "Geisha" Co., Grand Theatre, Leeds.

MR. PAIGE LAWRENCE, Juvenile
Lead in "Oliver Twist." Disengaged April 13 April 8, Southport and Oxford (3 nights each).

MR. D. LEWIN-MANNERING,
Disengaged.
Address, 100, Earl's Court-road, S.W.

MR. SYDNEY LEYTON,
resumed old part of Reggie, "Our Flat."
Address, Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne.

MR. FRANK LISTER,
Address,
47a, Bedford-road, Clapham, S.W.

MR. FRANK LISTON,
Capt. Thornton and B.M., "The Sin of Her Childhood," April 8, T.R., Colchester.

MR. E. CARTER LIVESEY,
April 8,
Empire, Stratford.

MR. and MRS. SAM LIVESEY.
(Miss Maggie Edwards), "The Village Blacksmith" Co., Miners' Theatre, Ashington.

MR. FEWLASS LLEWELLYN,
On tour with H. B. Irving, Esq.
Address en route.

MR. WILLIAM LOCKHART,
Disengaged April 20. To-night, Grand, Middlesbrough; next week, c/o G.P.O., Liverpool.

MR. and MRS. WILLIAM LOWE,
Mr. Lowe, Mr. and Mrs. Godfrey Tearle's Co. Mrs. Lowe Disengaged. 7, Bridson-st., Liverpool.

MR. HENRY LUDLOW,
Address,
10, King-street, Covent Garden, London.

MR. WILLIAM LUGG,
As Lord Bellingham in "The Beauty of Bath." The Hicks Theatre.

MR. JOHN MACFARLANE,
With Miss Ellen Terry in America,
Address, the A.A.

MR. and MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY,
Own Tour, "Wearin' o' the Green."
En route, or Ashdale, Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancs.

MR. J. T. MACMILLAN,
Disengaged.
1, Rochdale-place, Mount Florida, Glasgow.

MR. GEORGE MALLETT,
Talleyrand and Manager, Mr. Waller's "Brigadier Gerard" Co. W. Pier, Brighton.

MR. MAITLAND MARLER,
at Liberty. Offers Invited.
Address, Warwick Castle, Portobello-road, W.

MR. HERBERT MAULE,
Returned from America, Twelfth Engagement with J. D. Hunter, Esq. Add., Pier, Hastings.

MR. ERIC MAYNE,
Prince Ulric of Ravensburg.
Lyceum Theatre, London.

MR. MAYOR-COOKE,
Heavy Lead, Ulric, "Her Love Against the World." T. R., Rochdale.

MR. HARRY McCLELLAND,
13 weeks and 3 days, Record, Glasgow.
Address, re Pantomimes, BLACKMORE.

MR. ARTHUR McCULLOCH,
At Liberty, Comedy or First-class Drama.
9, Berwick-street, Brook-street, Manchester.

MR. ERIC G. MERRIE,
Manager, "At Cripple Creek" Co.,
Theatre Royal, Hyde, Cheshire, April 8.

MR. GEORGE T. METCALFE,
Acting-Manager, Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer's Tour. Address, New Gaiety Theatre, Ayr, N.B.

MR. BERTRAM MILLAR,
Permanent address,
47, West 28th-street, New York City, U.S.A.

MR. GEORGE MILLER,
Address,
409, Edgware-road, W.

MR. G. M. MONTANINI,
Disengaged, Management or Parts.
26, Oldfield-road, Salford, Manchester.

MR. G. MORETON-WILLIAMS.
"A Woman's Past" Co.
April 8, T. R., Ton-y-pandy.

MR. EDWARD MORGAN,
Disengaged. Principal Comedy or Character. Address, 10, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

MR. GRAHAM MORRISON,
Business-Manager in advance, Miss Terriss, Mr. Hicks' Tour. April 8, T. R., Birmingham.

MR. DAVID G. NOBLE, Lead or
Heavy Lead. Offers invited April 8. Perm. Address, 48, Agate-road, Hammersmith.

MR. ALFRED NORTHWAY,
Heavy lead, "The Prodigal Parson" Tour.
April 8, Queen's Theatre, Longton.

MR. JERROLD ORD,
Leading Business. Disengaged.
122, St. James's-road, Southsea.

MR. LEONARD PAGDEN,
April 15, Poplar, E.
April 8, Alfriston, Berwick, Sussex.

MR. and MRS. ROBSON PAIGE
(Mabel Syringa). Disengaged.
10, Ospringe-road, N.W., or Blackmore.

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
"The Era" Annual for 1907, published at a shilling from 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, is, as usual, a happy conmbination of record, almanac, and literary symposium. The last-mentioned aspect is one that most commends the work to the lay reader. The literary contributions are signed by well-known artists who have contributed personal experiences of remembered incidents, and whose portraits adorn the pages. A touch of pathos is lent to an otherwise cheery publication by the inclusion of stage and music-hall favourites who died last year, one of whom was Mr. J. L. Toole.—Financier and Bullionist., Feb. 6.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
"The Era" Annual for the current year, besides having all the usual valuable features which make the work so necessary for reference, has, for a special feature, a series of short articles, stories, or sketches by prominent members of the dramatic and musical profession, a well-executed portrait of each writer accompanying the text. The obituary for last year—unfortunately a heavy one—is given in a series of photograph likenesses of those departed. The full-page portrait of Mr. J. L. Toole is, indeed, worth more than the humble shilling at which the Annual is sold. The monthly calendar is, as usual, a storehouse of interesting facts connected with the stage.—Weekly Times and Echo.

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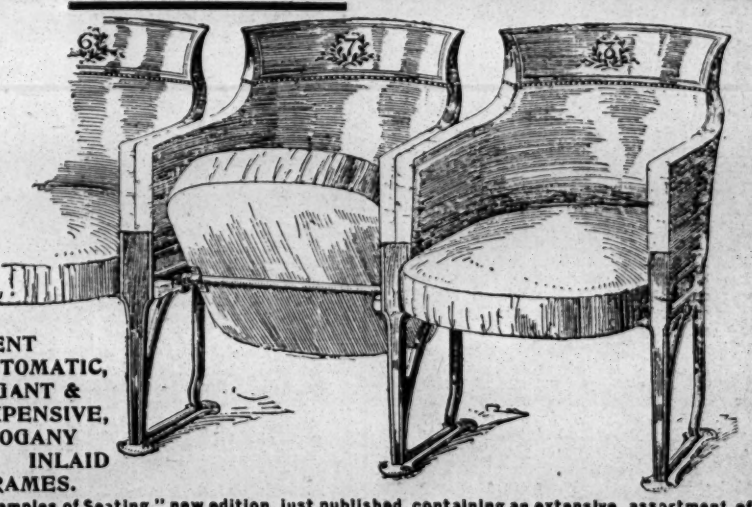

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PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.—His Majesty's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—*The Taming of the Shrew* was played on Monday to a house crowded in every part; Mr. Oscar Asche gave a splendidly characteristic interpretation of Petruchio; and Miss Lily Brayton was a magnificent Katharina. The company all round is exceptionally strong in talent, and the staging and scenery are perfect. On Tuesday Mr. Asche appeared as Othello, with Miss Brayton as Desdemona.

Palace Theatre. — Managing-Directors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Resident Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—Mr. Fred Ginnett, with the assistance of the wonderfully well-trained mare Black Bess and a company, gives a splendid presentation of *Dick Turpin's Ride to York*. Ryan and Hall show remarkable acrobatic skill as well as a decided talent for comedy; the Silvertone Quartette sing beautifully; Martine and Son provide a thoroughly interesting illustrated vocal turn; Mr. Albert Windsor, a local artist of high reputation, is received with exceptional heartiness; and among the other clever performers may be mentioned Onda and Artell, very smart gymnasts; Miss Queenie Seymour, a graceful comedienne; and Miss Madge Allan, a skilful singer and dancer.

ABERTILLERY. — Theatre Metropole. — Lessees, Messrs. Carlton and Duckworth; General-Manager, Mr. Geo. W. Ventom; Stage-Manager, Mr. Fred Thomas.—The attraction for this week is *A Woman's Past*, as successfully represented by Messrs. Warden and Sandford's company. Miss Maisie Hanbury wins golden opinions as Bessie; Mr. W. Henry Hargreaves as David Heath and Mr. Charles V. Sandford as Frank Dellanoy give excellent representations of their characters. Mr. Hamilton Warden as Clement Harper and Miss Phyllis Moncton as Kate make the most of the comic element in the piece.

ACCRINGTON.—Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—On Monday Mr. Harry Foxwell's company opened to a packed house with *A Broken Heart*. Mr. Henry Wolston gave a clever portrayal of John Barnard; Mr. Henry Earlesmere was a success as Stephen; Mr. Will Lindsay made a good Tony Tibbets; Mr. Charles Vivian an effective Gash Gills; the Rev. W. Staunton was well played by Mr. Roy Gordon; and Miss Lillian Herries gave a good rendering of Mary Barnard.

Hippodrome. — Proprietors, Messrs. Willmot, Vandy, Potter, and Weisker.—A smart bill is provided here this week. Miss May Moore Duprez is a host in herself; Muir and Bartlett present an amusing piece; Donald Keir and Mabel Kempton are duly appreciated in their vocal numbers; Miss Flo Wood is well received; Farrell and Miller give a droll turn; and the Rialdasos are particularly clever.

ALDERSHOT.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Saunes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. E. Williams.—Arthur Bourchier's company is here in Mr. Alfred Sutro's satirical play *The Walls of Jericho*. Mr. A. E. Anson's fine conception of Jack Frobisher is much appreciated; and in Miss Gladys Mason (who is an actress of considerable ability and charm) is found an excellent exponent of Lady Alethea Frobisher. Mr. George Bradram as the rough-hewn millionaire is capital; Mr. Cyril Baleine's Marquis is one of the humorous features of the play; and Mr. A. Tyrer's Dallas is ably presented. Miss Nora Wynne, Miss Muriel Mason, and Miss Marguerite Cellier also distinguish themselves.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—The Easter bill at the Theatre Royal is melodrama, the title of the piece *No Wedding Bells for Her*, and the company engaged is the Frank Bateman Dramatic Combination. The leading rôles are ably sustained by Miss Lizzie Montague as Lola Delaspierre, an actress; Miss Dora Pass, as her rival; Miss Bessie Franks as a smart soubrette; and the Misses Ellen Owen, Madge Grey, and Pattie Albery in less important female parts. As a clergyman-author, Mr. Stuart Lomath is vigorous and convincing; Mr. Percy is a smart detective; Mr. F. Garton is good as the wronged husband of the gay actress; as also is Mr. Chas. Liddon as an accomplice in crime of the false-hearted Lola; able impersonations are given to the minor parts by Messrs. P. Beresford, Geo. Herbert, Will Skelton, and Fred Vaughan.

Empire Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—Holiday crowds filled the Hippodrome on Monday. Harry Lee opens with a well-rendered song; Little Tim evokes much mirth with his song and legmania; Baker and Lindsay in a vocal comedy act are very good; Gilroy and Gross, old favourites, are smart singers, patterers, and dancers; Jtoyne, the German military athlete, gives a splendid exhibition of strength and daring; the Czar's Royal Russian Troupe of dancers present a series of vigorous dances and evolutions to robust music and tambourine accompaniment; Henry Carlton and company appear in the popular sketch, *The Window-Cleaner*, causing much laughter; the Sisters Petram present a pretty and entertaining marionette show; the Yiulian Troupe of acrobats give a capital display, and are a pronounced success; the Jollions give evidence of considerable vocal ability in a pretty duet; a comic series of bioscope pictures concludes.

ATTERCLIFFE.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. A. Wordsworth.—No better holiday attraction could have been provided here than Mr. Bert Coote's company in *The Fatal Wedding*. An excellent performance is given by Mr. Ernest Owttrim as Howard Wilson; Mr. Guy Hastings is good as Robert Curtis; Toto finds an able exponent in Mr. C. H. Hughes; the character-part of Peter Schwartz is in the experienced hands of Mr. Cyril Melton; as the Rev. Dr. Lanceford Mr. Arthur Law Raynor brings into prominence a small part; Miss Katherine Clarke wins sympathy as Mabel Wilson; Miss Leah Marlborough is effective as Cora Williams; Bridget finds an efficient representative in Miss Julie Temple; and Jessie is played by Miss Marie Wilson in a natural and easy manner. The children's scene is a special feature of the piece.

Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. T. E. Owen.—Crowded houses have been attracted by the Eastertide programme here, headed by Herr Addison's cleverly-trained fox terriers. Lauri Wylie, with his "mimicking-mannikins," provides an excellent turn; Mr. John Henry, basso, is accorded well-deserved applause; a pleasing item is the vocal speciality of Carr and Rose; Mr. Clayton's pictures include an interesting series depicting this year's Grand National; and other turns are contributed by the Kimberley Boys, the Two Walonells, and Hector and Sultan.

BACUP.—New Court Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Denman-Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Dudley Harcourt.—Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Tomlinson's company is here this week with *Secrets* ——, Mr. Reggie Brown is in high favour, his rendering of Lieut. Herbert Markham being admirable; the Hon. Cecil Cholmondeley is capitally portrayed by Mr. Victor T. Raymon; Mr. Wilton Richards as Nouredin Ali is responsible for some fine acting; Ibrahim Al Murad finds a clever exponent in Mr. John E. Tomlinson; Mr. Herbert Woodin as Peter Wilkins, and Miss Madge Palmer as Winnie Wilkins, are smart in their comedy scenes; and with Mr. Will Bird as Breezy Bill, tickle the risible faculties of the audience at every opportunity. Mr. Lal Abdul Cottman gives an able impersonation of Kara Mesrour; and Mr. H. C. Burt plays well as Khalil. Miss Lizzie Palmer as Ismalia is naturally sympathetic; while her rendering of the more spirited lines is admirable; and Miss Nellie Navarro as Zulieka acquits herself well. The Tivoli Quartette of Continental dancers give a charming exposition of smart dancing.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — Royalty Theatre and Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Stone.—Mr. Jack Haddon's company, *Under the Russian Flag*, is here. He himself as Michael Romanoff has a part that suits him excellently, and Ivan Romanoff has a good exponent in Mr. Charles Stafford. Mr. Sydney Arnold makes a capital Captain Demetrius, and Miss Marie Rayner in the rôle of Luka Marischla is quite successful.

His Majesty's.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Mr. Charles Harrington's company in *Uncle Tom's Cabin* is here this week. Mr. J. Carr in the rôle of Uncle Tom gives an excellent portrayal; Mr. Charles Harrington is a capital St. Clair; and Miss Holly Haselwood an impressive little Eva. Specialities are introduced by Sylvia Stella, plantation song and dancer; Row and Holden, cake-walk; W. H. Nott, tenor; &c.

Tivoli Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edgar Laban.—Here are the Silbons, with an elaborate vaudville circus, a clever show; Amuret, a smart musical athlete; the Zampas, who are pleasing duettists and dancers; Katie Marsh, an entertaining vocalist and dancer; Charlie Gardner, an eccentric comedian; the Morrisons, in a speciality act; and Cole and Rags, amusing and skilful jugglers.

BATH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—Easterside is considered the height of the Bath season, and with such a strong attraction as the delightful comedy, *Peter's Mother*, good audiences have been the rule. Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison's newly-formed South company commenced its tour here on Monday. Miss Lilias Earle, who has undertaken many leading parts under the Hutchison management, adds considerably to her laurels by her natural rendering of the character of Lady Mary Crewys; Mr. Henry Renouf is also well placed as John Crewys; Peter Crewys could hardly be better portrayed than it is by Mr. E. F. Meads, the selfishness and conceit of the soldier youth being cleverly suggested; Mr. E. H. Ruston depicts the hard side of Sir Timothy Crewys's disposition, his acting being sound and forcible; Dr. Blundell is handled by Mr. A. Kaye with quiet skill, and this gentleman also undertakes the duties of stage-management; Canon Birch is humorously portrayed by Mr. Maitland Dicker; Miss Hilda Sims displays ability of a high order as Sarah; two ladies who create no little amusement are Miss Evelyn Shelley and Miss Margaret Bush as Lady Belstone and Miss Georgina Crewys; Miss Mildred Cottell is seen in the small part of Mrs. Hewell, but in the farce, *Chalk and Cheese*, which precedes the chief piece, she has a better chance of exhibiting her acknowledged talents as Sybil Raymond, in which Mr. A. F. Kaye (Walter Raymond) and Miss Hilda Sims (Perkins) also add successfully to the enjoyment of a charming evening's performance. Mr. G. W. Millington is the business-manager for the tour.

Palace Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—The fine weather at Easter did not deter large crowds attending this popular resort. A pretty and entertaining speciality is given by Simosa San, with her clever juggling and performing pigeons; Thornbury is once again welcomed locally in his lightning smoke-picture and ventriloquial act; two laughable interludes are introduced, one, *The Picture*, by the Maitland Trio, and the other, *The Tree of Truth*, by Harry Braham and company, each of which is well received by the audience; Otto and Olga present their mock opera turn, in which mirth and music are smartly combined; Violet Nunn scores by one of her excellent renderings of "Mr. Brown, I'm out"; and Gladys Witton, a young vocalist ,opens the bill, which concludes, as usual, with a series of films by Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

Sydney Gardens.—At Easter Monday fête, Mr. T. R. Gannon, the Bristol agent, for the eighth successive time provided the attractions, his chief draw being Don Pedro, the sensational high-wire artist. The summer-like weather was all in favour of the entertainment.

BEDFORD.—Royal County Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—The above place of amusement was crowded on Monday night, when the first of six evening performances of *The Gay Parisienne* was given. The piece was presented by Mr. Charles Macdona's principal company, who thoroughly delighted, interested, and amused the audience. The comedy is well mounted, and new songs are introduced. Mr. Will Harman as Honeycombe created much hilarity; as also did Mr. Squire Day as the Major. Miss Lilian Talbot had an excellent reception, being excellently well suited in the part of Julie Bon-Bon; Miss Nance O'Neill gave a delightful portrayal of Norah; Mr. Moore made a good Tom; Mr. Clifford Suyler as the French dandy was particularly clever; and Miss Holford Beringer's interpretation of the part of Mrs. Honeycombe, and Miss Madge Soutter's presentation, were alike successful. In the second act, a whistling medley, by Mr. Cecil Lawrence, proved an acceptable item. The smaller parts all received careful attention.

BIRKENHEAD.—New Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Pell.—During the week the Moody-Manners Opera Company have been continuing a highly-successful return visit. On Easter Monday *The Bohemian Girl* was presented, with Mr. George Neilson as Devilshoof, Mr. Seth Hughes as Thaddeus, Mr. Marshall Vincent as Count Arnheim, Miss Alice Boaden as Arline, and Miss Marion Broom as Queen of the Gipsies. On Wednesday *Carmen* was played, with Mlle. Zelie de Lussan in the title-rôle; and the week's productions have also included *The Daughter of the Regiment*, *Lohengrin*, *The Lily of Killarney*, *Cavalleria Rusticana*, *I' Pagliacci*, and *Maritana*. The orchestral arrangements are under the direction of Mr. Harrison Frewin, and the costumes and staging are irreproachable. Large and fashionable audiences have ruled during the engagement.

Argyle Theatre of Varieties. — Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—Harry Rogers and his able company, in a dramatic episode, entitled *Told in a Flat*, worthily head a capital company, and have made a decided hit. Selby and Myers, in their clever and attractive variety entertainment, are well received; and Miss Minnie Cunningham, Irish comedienne, is repeating previous triumphs here. Lord, Murray, and Lord, club manipulators, boxers, &c., are highly popular; and the appearances also includes the Sisters Aindow, vicalists and instrumentalists; La Belle Sylvia, vocalist and acrobatic dancer; Mr. Bob Hamilton, comedian; and Brown's Royal Bioscope. Mr. Ernest Denney is musical director.

BISHOP AUCKLAND. — Eden Theatre. — Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. R. Addison; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Huntley.—This popular place of amusement opened on Easter Monday evening to a very large audience, who witnessed "Colin's Excursions" by cinématograph, supported by a splendid variety company. The performance goes with a merry and exceedingly interesting run, the periodical displays of pictures being very fine and realistic. Miss Violet Reeve's vocal efforts are well received; Miss Edna Reeve and company, in the dramatic sketch, *Her Shattered Idol*, win warm applause; Soros, the mystifier, gives a very pleasing entertainment; whilst endless laughter is occasioned by "Wrangling the Wrangler." Some very catchy humorous songs are sung by Mr. Fred Lindo.

BLACKPOOL.—Her Majesty's Opera House.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr. and Mrs. Kendal are paying a welcome return visit here this week, and their appearance in new and old plays has given great delight to their numerous admirers. On Monday night *The Melcombe Marriage* drew a crowded house. Mr. Kendal's Lord Melcombe is a perfect piece of acting; and Mrs. Kendal portrays Judith Carlusan as naturally as it is possible. Philip Carlusan, the lawyer, has an admirable exponent in Mr. W. M. Rutherford; and Mr. Bassett Roe carefully and cleverly enacts the villain, Dembowski. Mrs. Tapping as Lady Savourin, Miss Dora Fellowes as Mrs. Pemberton, and Miss Marie Lohr as Mrs. Carlusan also play their parts with excellent emphasis and discretion. *A Tight Corner*, *The Elder Miss Blossom*, and *The Ironmaster* also find a place in the week's programme.

Grand Theatre. — Owner and Manager, Mr. T. Sergenson.—Mr. Sergenson has shown much wisdom in booking for his Easter attraction *The Lady Dandies* as presented by Mr. George Edwardes's very able company. This very popular comedy opera was played here as recently as last month by the same company to crowded houses, and the result is the same; this visit is even more satisfactory. Mr. Eric Thorne as St. Amour is again the chief favourite, although every member of the company meets with the most cordial reception. Messrs. Lennox Pawle, Robert Hale, Willie Ward, jun., Jack Cannot, W. Talleur Andrews, Harold Thorley, George Curzon, and Misses Anna Hickisch, Dora Langham, and Deborah Volar also enjoy great popularity.

Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—The place of honour in this week's bill is occupied by Mr. Matthew Brodie and company in a dramatic sketch entitled *The Drummer of the 76th*, the title-rôle being cleverly played by Miss Dorothea Vivian and Mr. Brodie contributing a remarkably fine portrayal of Napoleon. Other popular turns are supplied by Ray Wallace, the well-known mimic; Beatrice Willey, a sweet singer; Recco, an amusing and clever acrobat; Joe Reichen, with his wonderful dogs; Tom Lloyd, eccentric comedian; Whit Cunliffe, the popular comedian; and the Marvellous Craggs, in an acrobatic sketch. Vernon's Imperial Bioscope winds up a capital programme.

Hippodrome. — Lessees, Messrs. Whitehead and Ramsden; Manager, Mr. T. P. Duignan. — Mr. Duignan has provided a strong and varied programme for the Easter holiday-makers, and his enterprise has won well-deserved success. Margaret Ismay, with her peerless white coons, supplies a pleasing and novel turn; Fred Oliver is a racy patterer; the Gentrys are amusing comedians and acrobats; the Three Bozdellias curry favour as classical gymnasts; Will Dalton is a good comedian; Jake Euston proves his versatility as actor-vocalist and as sand dancer; and Mons. Slippere, the blind pianist, is warmly applauded for his efforts as a baritone vocalist.

Winter Gardens Pavilion. — General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—A novel attraction is provided here for the Easter holidays in the shape of an original grand ballet tableau entitled *Holland, in Song and Picture*, produced under the direction of Herr Oscar Van Coppee, in which are given exhibitions of the pleasures of fair time in Zeeland, hand-spinning in Friesland, orphans going to church in South Holland, and the dance of the wooden shoon. Twenty Dutch ladies take part in the production, and their tuneful singing is a special feature. Other artists who find a place in the programme are the Three Rainats, acrobats; Siems, a wonderful French conjurer, who is described as the "king of cards and coins"; Francino Ollom, xylophonist, and Les Fleurs d'Orange, in their grand transformation scenes.

BLYTH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur C. Moody.—The Eastertide attraction has been supplied by Mr. Wentworth Croke, who has given to the habitués of the Royal a special treat in presenting *My Sweetheart*, with the famous comedienne, Miss Minnie Palmer, in her inimitable impersonation of Tina. Opening to a crowded house, the charming comedienne was accorded a brilliant reception; Mr. Robert H. Howard as Tony gave a fine rendition of a most popular part; the Dr. Oliver of Mr. Gilbert Heathfield was a finished and artistic portrayal; Mr. Leslie Tyler as Harold Bartlett found much favour; and the Dudley Harcourt of Mr. Alfred Ibberson created much amusement. The other parts were ably rendered by Mr. Fred W. Leonard, Mr. Alfred May, and the Misses Mildred Sylvester, H. E. Russell, and Elsie Forster.

Gaiety Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee, Mr. G. E. Good.—The company here includes the Carneys, comedians; Dolly Brough, juvenile artist; Jennie Evans, serio; the Nelson and Thomas Combination, in the sketch, *A Fight for a Fiver*; and the Bioscope, all of which have met with a good reception.

The Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Tudor.—Will Hebden and company, in the sketch, *Teddy Smiler the Sportsman*, has formed the chief item of the programme, and has proved a success. Others who have appeared include Halsey and Bowers, comedians; Lillie Vane, comedienne; Storey and Verne, patter comedians; and Florrie Vane, serio.

BOLTON.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Melvin.—The attraction for the Easter holidays is provided by Mr. Lionel Rignold and Miss Ida Blanche and company in *What the Butler Saw*, a large and appreciative house assembling on Monday. As Pink, the butler, Mr. Rignold keeps the house in a continual roar of laughter with his mirth-provoking mannerisms and funny dialogue; Miss Ada Blanche gives a clever and spirited impersonation of the fascinating Mrs. Barrington; while as Jack Barrington Mr. Charles Fawcett acquits himself with distinct success, and contributes largely to the success of the piece; Mr. Louis Lingard gives a natural and polished performance as Sir Charles Foden; Mr. Victor Widdicombe is good as the peppery General Dunlop; Mr. H. H. Rignold depicts the Jew Abraham Welnstein with excellent effect; and other creditable performances come from Mr. Leo St. Clair, Mr. Alec Alves, Mr. Roy Byford, Mr. George Ascott, Miss Julie St. George, Miss Clara Russell, Miss Dorothy Hart, Miss Vera O. Connell, Miss Ella Terriss, and Miss Dorothy Garth.

Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—An exceptionally good company is appearing here, and an attractive programme is submitted by the Alexandroff Troupe of Russian vocalists and expert dancers. Ruby Ashton, comedienne and dancer; Tom Shenton, comedian and dancer; Avon and Crest, speciality comedy artists; Ben Albert, comedian; Bennett and Martell, in their nautical scena, *The Lost Mariners*; Fred Land, eccentric comedian; The Elvio Comedy Trio, in their knock-about absurdity, *Those Troublesome Slaveys*; Cyrus Dare, impersonator of little children; Datas, the marvellous man of memory; Bertie Wright, comedian; and the Imperial Bioscope.

BOSCOMBE. — Hippodrome.—Joint-Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. De Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. De Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Ball. — A splendid holiday programme is put before the patrons of this house. Florrie Gallimore is a great success in her songs, including her latest song, "On the Isle of Anglesea." The Herald Comedy Four are clever in an Indian song-scena, introducing some neat dancing. As a whistler and raconteur Harry Taft at once finds favour; Dot Hardy is a popular comedienne, and causes much laughter with her songs; Constance Mori is a successful comedienne and clever dancer; Josie Deliane is much appreciated for her dancing; Kloof and Ramsay are clever in their burlesque musical act; Tom Lowen is laughable in his songs and patter; the Hippodrome pictures, as usual, conclude.

BOSTON.—The Palace.—Manager and Lessee, Mr. Geo. Saphrini.—The Easter attraction here is the musical extravaganza *Crusoe, the Sailor*, in which appear the following talented artists:—Miss Gertie Wasley, chic comedienne; Willie Fyffe, comedian; the Sisters Tremayne, duettists and speciality dancers; the Two Dianias, knockabouts and tumblers; and the famous Revell Troupe in their absurdity *Mischief*.

Shodfriars Hall.—Lessee and Manager, Mrs. B. Storr.—Mr. Walter Melville's play, *The Girl Who Took the Wrong Turning*, is presented here by Miss Inez Howard's company under the direction of Mr. Henry Chattel, and is drawing crowded houses.

BOURNEMOUTH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Proprietors, David Allen and Sons; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Manager, Mr. Rowland Stewart.—Mr. Arthur Bourchier's company, under the direction of Mr. M V. Leveaux, opened on Monday with *The Morals of Marcus*. A great success was achieved, the play going with a swing from start to finish. As Sir Marcus Mr. H. Nye Chart gave a strong reading of the part, especially in the second act, at the end of which he and Miss Hilda Antony, who played Carlotta, were the objects of repeated sounds of applause. To Mrs. H. Nye Chart great praise is due for her convincing portrayal of the part of Judith Mainwaring. Among those in a strong cast special mention must be made of Miss Eleanor Gilbert, Miss Gladys Purnell, Miss Mary Weigall, Miss Conyers Radcliffe, Mr. David Domville, and Mr. Cecil Brooking.

BRADFORD.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—Mr. Hart's own company, in a reproduction of the popular musical comedy *San Toy* has proved a delightful attraction for the holiday crowds here. It is beautifully staged; and Miss Gertrude Gilliam is very charming and vivacious in the title-rôle. Mr. Horace Mills as the Chinaman Li is quaint and immensely diverting; the excellent cast includes Mr. Alfred Clark as the Emperor, Mr. Colin Coop as Yen How, Mr. Edmund Sherras as Bobby Preston, Mr. J. W. Manning as Sir Bingo, Miss Hebe Bliss as Chu San, and Miss Sylvia May as Poppy, and, needless to say, that with such a combination, the merriment is continuous, and the tuneful numbers are delightfully rendered. Mr. Harry Rushworth is the able conductor.

Prince's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Francis Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—*The Great Awakening* holds the boards here, providing a veritable feast in the way of exciting incidents, and Lola Selby, the desperate adventuress, affords Miss Maud Hildyard fine scope. She is intensely dramatic and emotional, and the part is filled with consummate skill. James Selby has a vigorous exponent in Mr. A. C. Hardie; and the unscrupulous Richard Wilson is effectively played by Mr. George Child. Mr. Stephen Langton's Jack Merton is an able and convincing performance; and Mr. Gordon McLeod is distinctly good as Captain Harry Lambert. Miss Doris Digby wins sympathy as the much-persecuted Molly Merton; the part of Guy Rogan (Lola's accomplice in crime) fits Mr. J. McBride well; Mr. Willie Scott as Billy Brass and Miss Lilla Nordon as Selina Worts supply the capital comedy element, and the piece is effectively staged.

The Empire.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—In his sketch *The Master Musician* Van Biene, the accomplished violoncellist, is meeting with much success here this week. His solos are much applauded, and Miss Lena Burnleigh supports him well as Jennie, a lodging-house slavey. Chas. Vincent, comedian, submits an acceptable comic ditty; Miss Gracie Moore's well-rendered song is prettily illustrated; Ed. E. Ford, "the Australian sundowner," is a clever and entertaining facial expert; a delightful entertainment by Marzella's wonderfully-trained birds wins unstinted applause; Sydney James and company of strolling players are very entertaining; a turn by Dusty Rhodes is rich in comedy; Lily Tiso is a charming comedienne; Carney and Armstrong are a pair of quaint and diverting comedians, and there are some fine pictures shown by the American Bioscope.

Palace Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Richard Ralli.—The Harmony Four are responsible for much mirth and good vocalism here this week; and Flo Chevalier also contributes vocally with success. In their sketch *The Silly Servant* Tom Kelso and company are immensely funny; Bert Danson's turn is noticeable for smart "patter"; the Lombarts are clever acrobats and hand-balancers; Max Duffex displays genuine originality and cleverness as a "musical contortionist"; Arthur Goodman, tramp juggler, is distinctly funny; T. C. Jaques is a good comedian; and Ormonde Penstone, who is aided by his Chinatown belle, "Tsaoungo," is a clever manipulator of billiard balls, and a mystifying magician.

Al Fresco Pavilion.—Proprietors, Messrs. B. Papplewell, W. S. Bentley, and Matt Kilduff.—With a smart and attractive company of entertainers, the third season was entered upon on Saturday under the most favourable and promising conditions. The Pavilion has been much improved and enlarged.

St. George's Hall.—Manager, Mr. S. Carter.—The New Century Animated Pictures Company again furnishes the Eastertide attraction here.

BRIDLINGTON.—Royal Victoria Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—Mr. Norman V. Norman's excellent company is appearing here this week in a round of plays. On Monday, in *Robin Hood*, Mr. Norman and Miss Beatrice Wilson were enthusiastically received. *David Garrick*, *The Adventures of Lady Ursula*, and *Nell Gwynne* are also in the répertoire.

Royal Prince's Parade.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—The Municipal Orchestra, under the conductorship of Mr. Joseph Sainton, has been a great attraction during the Easter holidays.

New Spa and Gardens.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. Henry Hague.—Herr Simon Wurm's famous Viennese Band is a great attraction at this favourite seaside resort.

BRIGHTON.—Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. H. Cecil Beryl; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harcourt M. Beryl.—*The Girl Behind the Counter* was performed here for the first time in Brighton on Monday, and met with a very enthusiastic reception. Miss Nora Brocklebank made a graceful and charming Winnie Willoughby, and sang with artistic finish; Mr. Arthur Cartwright gave an admirable impersonation of Charles Chetwyn, and also displayed pleasing vocalisation; Mr. Ellis Holland submitted a clever character-study as the amorous General Willoughby, and his drolleries and dry humour kept the house rippling with laughter; Mr. A. M. Moore was a very amusing waiter; Mr. William Amery was a diverting Joseph; Mr. Howard Cridland gave a capital enactment of the frivolous Viscount Gushington; M. Jules Charmettes was well suited as the alert M. Duval; Miss Olivia Eltone was a winsome Millie Mostyn; Mr. Frederick Park added to the fun as Adolphus Dodds; and very vivacious acting marked Miss Doris Langdon's Ninette and Miss Rose Helene's Susie. The remaining characters were satisfactorily sustained, and the chorus and augmented orchestra were very effective under the direction of Mr. George M. Saker.

Grand Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's company opened here on Monday with *The Sin of Her Childhood*. Mr. Frank Liston gave an excellent impersonation of the hero, Captain John Thornton; and Miss Stanley Burt portrayed the heroine, Mary Haysel, in charming style. Mr. Wilson Summers was powerfully effective as the villainous Stephen Haysel, alias Dr. Henry Grainger; Miss Clara Santley submitted a capital character study as the bibulous Maria Haysel; Mr. James Duncan as the Rev. Alan Grey, and Mr. Richard Dick as the butler, James, merit praise; and the light comedy element was presented in entertaining style by Mr. Hugh Brady as Barney O'Reilly and Miss Nellie Hook as Eliza Muggins.

Alhambra.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. L. Graydon; General-Manager, Mr. Ernest Lepard.—There is an excellent company here this week. The Abdullah Arabs, wonderful pyramid artists and whirlwind acrobats, evoke the utmost enthusiasm; La Pia submits a new and charming spectacular statuary production, with beautiful limelight effects on fountains of water; Daisy James, "the original Gibson Girl," is warmly applauded for her songs; Helen Martin, a highly artistic vocalist, is a prime favourite; the Seven Wulfrunas show great skill as acrobats in *Fun in a Café*; the Raies, expert dancers, merit warm praise; Pyke, Tholl, and Taylor, American comedy artists, are capital singers and dancers; Fred Lincoln is a humorous comedian; Lambert and Glover are mirth-provoking in their comedy duologue, *The Wrong Room*; Little Tichbourne is a pleasing child comedian and dancer; and the Alhambrascope pictures are interesting and amusing.

Hippodrome Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—The chief attraction here this week is John Tiller's pantomime *Aladdin*. Miss Bessie Cohen is a sprightly Aladdin, and Miss Clara Keck a charming Princess; Little Britton as Schnapps and Mr. Harry Morgan as I-ke-Mo are entertaining; and Mr. Harry Elliston makes a capital Abanazar. Other excellent turns are provided. Boden and Bell are effective juvenile singers and dancers; Nat Watkins, comedian, is well received; Nell Richardson, vocalist, achieves great success; Wyndham and Waters are amusing in *The Professor and His Pupil*; and the Barrascope pictures are attractive.

West Pier.—Secretary and Entertainment Manager, Mr. A. D. Norman.—Mr. Lewis Waller's company is here this week with *Brigadier Gerard*. Mr. Langhorne Burton submits a highly successful enactment of Captain Gerard; Miss Muriel Turner acquits herself admirably as the Comptesse de Roqueleure; Mr. George Mallett gives a fine impersonation of Talleyrand; Miss Margaret Chard merits distinct praise for her representation of Agnes; and Mr. Arthur Somers is well suited as Napoleon. The remaining parts are in capable hands, and the play is capitally mounted.

Palace Pier Theatre.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow and company are here this week with *Lord and Lady Algy*. Mr. Mark Blow gives an admirable and convincing impersonation of Lord Algy, and Miss Ida Molesworth is conspicuously successful in her charming portrayal of Lady Algy. Miss Gertrude Netherville makes a decided hit as Mrs. Tudway; Mr. Cecil Wilford's Duke of Droneborough, Mr. Henry Doughty's Marquis of Quarmby, and Mr. Henry Bute's Brabazon Tudway are ably enacted; and Mr. Kenneth Black is effective as Lord Algy's jockey.

BRISTOL.—Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—The Easter attraction at this theatre, *The Blue Moon*, commenced on Saturday evening, the 30th ult. The musical play was nicely staged, and it was well played by Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company. The chorus was strong and tuneful, the augmented orchestra being ably conducted by Mr. Ernest Harman. Mr. Edward Lewis is exceptionally amusing as Moolraj; Miss Clarice Lockstone acts charmingly as Chandra Nil; Mr. Reginald Switz and Miss Florence Imeson are decidedly clever in their respective parts of Private Charles Taylor and Millicent Leroy; Mr. Leslie Gaze is sufficiently brisk and jovial as Major Callabone; and Mr. Thomas Holding acts in a dignified and impressive style as the Native Prince of Karikhar.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. F. Crowe.—Mr. Harry Roxbury's company is here with the interesting drama, *A Little Vagrant*. The title-rôle (Arthur) is very prettily played by Miss Alice Bowes in a natural and convincing style; Mr. Cecil A. Collins displays much ability in his clever character-study of the repulsive part of Jim Harris; and Miss Vashti Wynne deserves commendation for a powerful and highly interesting impersonation of Poll. Mr. Stanley Radcliffe does all that is practicable with the heavy part of Eric Arden; Mr. Richard Bosco presents an effective and gentlemanly performance of Thomas Whitworth; Miss Carolina Fenton makes a good part of the housekeeper, Julia Pilbeam; and the comic parts of Slideaway Bakes and Hannah Smithers have capital and amusing exponents in Mr. Douglas Campbell and Miss Bella Moody.

Palace Theatre.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—Tom Foy and company head the bill with the amusing sketch, *The Yorkshire Lad in London*; Herbert Lloyd, "King of Diamonds," obtains considerable applause; *The Hypocrite* is a well-staged and interesting sketch, a good broadsword combat being introduced; Frank and Violet Patte amuse with their sketch, *Also Ran*; Fred S. Peake and company successfully introduce their sketch, *The Gambler*; the Cole de Losse Duo do both humorous and skilled work on the slack rope; Fred Villars, comedian, is successful; and the same must be said of Will Souls, the laughing comedian. "A Trip Across the Atlantic" is depicted in good style by Vernon's Bioscope, to conclude the entertainment. On Good Friday there were special entertainments, both afternoon and evening, for the benefit of Mr. F. J. V. Welchman, the attendance being good in the afternoon, and the house packed in the evening.

Empire.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—Madge Lessing heads the bill with her successful scena, *Snowland*, obtaining much applause from all parts of the house for her pleasing and refined turn; Mahatma, "Queen of Secondsight," evinces exceptional ability in her mysterious line of business; the Ottawas, musical cowboys, obtain appreciation; Bella Elmore is a pleasing comedienne; the Brontes amuse with their duologue, "Saucy Maud"; the Paul Hesse Trio of equilibrists and acrobats are expert in their line; Ida Brophy sings and dances in good style; Blarney and Kennard, assisted by a clever dog, amuse with their comedy act; J. C. Morris, patter comedian, is successful; and the Courtiers please with their refined vaudeville entertainment. The performance concludes with animated pictures of the Liverpool Grand National.

Zoological Gardens. — Superintendent, Captain Villiers.—The Easter holiday fêtes here have been very successful, over 15,000 persons paying for admission on Monday. The variety entertainment was provided by Hr. Tom Wood, of Whitehall-road, Bristol, the well-known amusement provider in the West of England. The artists included Blanche and Diakoff, in their tea-cup track cycle speciality; Volo, in physical poses; Fred Moran, e

COLSTON HALL.—Walter Jeff's New Century pictures, the original exhibition from Curzon Hall, Birmingham, is here for a short season, and attracting a large attendance at each performance. The pictures are all very fine, being well selected to be both interesting and effective. Also included in the entertainment is a costume recital of *Maritana*, by Miss Evelyn de Lara, Miss Marie Wescott, Mr. Frank Pemberton, and Mr. Hickman Smith; musical and mimetic monologues and songs by Mr. Cuthbert Rose; and the orchestral band of the 1st Gloucestershire Royal Garrison Volunteer Artillery.

BROUGHTON.—VICTORIA THEATRE, LTD.—Manager and Licensee, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—*Miss Lancashire, Ltd.*, which commenced on the 30th ult., is continuing during this week. Miss Florence Baines keeps the house in roars with her very clever acting. She also shows good singing power by her "Home, sweet home." Mr. Bert Burton's Isadore Moses is a comical character; John Higgins is in the capable hands of Mr. David Donaldson; Eva Lancashire is prettily played by Miss Kitty Jones; Mr. Patrick Evans is well placed as Harry; Bertha is fittingly portrayed by Miss Muriel Johnson; and Herbert Fox, solicitor, and Grunt, the butler, are excellent studies respectively by Mr. Richard C. Hicks and Mr. Walter Hicks. A fine old farmer is presented by Mr. Cole Aspinall, and Miss Pattie Groves is a comical Bridget.

BURNLEY.—VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—A brilliant performance of *Claudian* is drawing crowded houses here this week. As Claudian Mr. William Maclaren is seen to much advantage; Mr. F. Owen Chambers as Tetrarch is excellent; and Mr. Douglas Earle makes a manly Agazil. The difficult part of Alinda is capably undertaken by Miss Lily C. Bandman; Mr. Chas. T. Chaloner creates fun as Belos; and Miss Maud Garth is very good as Edessa. Mr. Edmund Grogan admirably undertakes the rôle of Theorus; Mr. Ulrick Burke does well as the Holy Clement; and Miss Rosa Webster is a capable Serena.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Something new is provided here by the Juanitos, springboard acrobats, who perform a series of startling leaps. Fred and Maud Vypond are highly acceptable; Clifford Morgan, baritone, sings acceptably; The Saletos give a startling performance of hand and head balancing; Cullen and Carthy, with Little Cluley, have a host of new jokes; the Sisters Lytton give a capital rendering of *Il Bacio;* Edwards and Espinosa are experts with the banjo; and the new Empire Theatroscope holds the audience with a long and exciting film.

BURTON-ON-TRENT. — OPERA HOUSE (NEW HIPPODROME).—Proprietor, Mr. H. Dudley Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jno. Waller.—A good company has been engaged for the Easter holidays, consisting of Arthur Kennedy, sensational cyclist, in some daring and exciting tricks; the Garlleys, in their juggling exhibition; Mr. T. C. Callaghan, with some amusing songs; Robert Gilbert's circus, consisting of well trained dogs and cats; Chas. Tempest, the laughing comedian; Miss Ida Fair, comedienne; and Prof. Albert Dickinson and Miss Queenie Johnson, ornamental swimmers and tank performers. Raymond's Bio-tableaux are interesting.

BURY (LANCS.). — THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Walter Mould.—*Her One Great Sin* is being presented here this week by Miss Lydia Donovan and company. Miss Donovan does remarkably well as Grace Warhurst; Mr. C Quinton Fulford is well suited as Arnold Thornhill; Mr. Claude H. Heaton is good as Reuben Warhurst; they are well supported by Miss Maudie Lambert, Miss Phyllis Damain, Mr. Fred Hodson, and Miss Louie Walton.

CIRCUS OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Walter Mould.—A capital programme is provided here this week. Sam Elton, the eccentric tumbler, is the star turn, and is well supported by Chas. R. Whittle, comedian; *Freddie's Ma-in-Law*, a sketch presented by Flockton Foster, Ruth Vincent, and Arnold Richardson; Angeline, lady juggler; Edgar Bodden, bone soloist; Arthur Croxon, mimic and comedy artist; Francis Hanlow, comedienne; and the Colonials, a quartet of nice voices.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead; General-Manager, Mr. Broadhead, jun.—The chief turn here is a musical sketch, entitled *Rent*, by Harry Daniels. Other items are Phern and Phern, a Continental couple of musicians; Olms and Carbeth, sketch artists; Lila Lingard, male impersonator; Alf. Davies, actor-vocalist; Bob Best, comedian; and Leo Trainor and Lily Arthur, vocalists.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Eade Montefiore.—Mr. Montefiore's own production of *The Streets of London* forms a big holiday attraction, the house on Monday night surpassing all records. The refined villainy of Gideon Bloodgood is admirably depicted by Mr. Riddell Robinson; Mr. William Rokeby submits a clever sketch of Badger; good acting is displayed by Mr. Frank Bradley as Mark Livingstone; Mr. Joe Bracewell is amusing as Jonas Puffy; and the rôles of Captain Fairweather and Paul are capably played by Mr. Clifford Armitage and Mr. Chas. O'Connor. Miss Dorothy Mayhew gives a refined portrayal of Alida; Lucy is gracefully played by Miss Violet Hammersley; Miss Helena Rigby is good as Mrs. Puffy; and Miss Florence Moore makes a lively Dan. The street urchins' scene, in which local children appear, creates great excitement, and the admirable staging of the play throughout deserves warm praise.

CAMBRIDGE. — NEW THEATRE. — Managing Director, Mr W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—The theatre opened for the holidays on Monday night to a big audience, with a company under the management of Miss Adria Hill and Mr. Robert Ayrton, the piece selected being *A Gambler's Daughter*. Mr. Ayrton as Desmond O'Dare was in every sense excellent; and Miss Adria Hill, in the dual rôle of Miriam and Mildred Grant, made capital characters of both parts. Mr. Alfred Sanders, Mr. Richard Pitt, Mr. Victor, Mr. Fred Bell, Mr. H. Barham, Mr. S. Fiennes, Mr. George Vinning, Mr. Harry Darby, Mr. Harry Ray, Miss Lizzie Gordon, Miss R Dempsey, Miss Harriett Lloydall, Miss Lottie Sanders, Miss Madge Hobart, and Miss Annie Broughton, were all that could be desired. By special request, *East Lynne* was billed for Friday and Saturday.

CARDIFF.—NEW THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—A greater holiday attraction than *The Catch of the Season* could not have been placed on the boards, and huge crowds bombarded the theatre on Monday. On the last visit of this popular comedy, Miss Moya Mannering made a tremendous hit at Angela, and her reappearance this time is mainly responsible for the popularity of the piece. As the Duke of St. Jermyns, Mr. Frank Lincoln is still as breezy and amusing as ever; Miss Belle Napier is immensely successful as Lady Caterham; Miss Emily Mellon undertakes this time the rôle of Lady Crystal, and her ladyship's two daughters are excellently portrayed by Miss Isobel Dickens and Miss Florence Lee. Mr. R. H. Kelly is a capable Lord Dundreary; and Buckett is amusingly portrayed by Master Graia; while Mr. Hampton Gordon (Sir John Crystal), Mr. Alfred Miles (Mr. Gibson), and Miss Maud Davies (Duchess of St. Jermyns) are perfectly placed. The orchestra and chorus are of valuable assistance.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—*The Beast and the Beauty* is the drama presented here by Mr. Frederick Melville's capable company. The play is full of powerful work and striking situations, and requires delicate handling. Mr. Herbert Ford and Miss Lydia André take the chief rôles of the Beast and the Beauty respectively, acting realistically throughout, but the entire company deserves much praise for the excellent representations.

EMPIRE.—Managing Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. W. Lea; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. S. Dring.—The management of this popular Queen-street house are to be congratulated upon their selection of the artists for this Easter week, the huge holiday crowds being perfectly satisfied with the performances. At the head of the bill we have a return visit of the marvellous Chung Ling Soo, whose conjuring is weird and delusive, and thoroughly baffles the audiences. Another good turn is that of Madge Grey, a capital dialect comedienne; an exceedingly laughable sketch is that entitled *A Short Acquaintance*, presented by Lilieth Leyton, and supported by Mr. John Spurling and Mr. Edgar J. Coyne. Chas. Kay is the typical topical tipster, and is a comedian who is greatly appreciated; Clark and Glenney, in their screamingly funny act, *The Haunted House*, create many a genuine laugh; while Geo. Newburn is a mimic of the first water. Roma and Romani, talented and artistic musicians; Herbert Rule, quaint comedian; Ethel Ra Leslie, comedienne; and a laughable subject on the bioscope complete a really splendid holiday attraction.

CARLISLE.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Mr. Thos. Courtice and Mrs. R. Stewart McKim; Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—The first visit of the musical "dream play," *Bluebell in Fairyland*, by Mr. E. Graham-Falcon's company, drew a splendid house here on Bank Holiday night. Mr. Falcon has brought a most capable company, and the dressing and mounting of the piece excited unusual admiration Mr. Lawrence Emery was admirable as Dickee, and soon became a warm favourite; Messrs. J. H. Bishop and Charles Resti, versatile and clever comedians, were very much in evidence, and contributed smart and highly popular performances; a capital character-sketch of a London policeman was submitted with rare humour by Mr. Harry Douglas, who was equally funny in the second act as the King; Mr. Frank Lennard was quite a success as the Sleepy King; in the title-rôle, Miss Mamie Finbow made quite a hit, and proved herself a clever little actress and agreeable vocalist; a clever dance by Miss Haidee Fitch met with enthusiastic approval; the San Remo Girls contributed some smart and much-appreciated dances; and Miss Vera Vizard as the Good Fairy, Miss Constance St. Bride as the Queen, and a large and well-trained chorus, added much to the success of a thoroughly enjoyable performance.

THE PALACE.—Proprietors, the Palace Theatre, Carlisle, Limited; Managing-Director, Signor Rino Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—An attractive programme is submitted here for the holiday week, and on Monday both houses were packed to the doors. Miss Mabel Hind, a character comedienne of some ability, made a good impression; the singing, and, more particularly, the smart dancing of Amos Howard was much appreciated; Barrett and Knowles are a very popular turn, their quaint patter and really funny business bringing down the house; a most amusing farcical sketch, entitled *House Full*, by Messrs. Danerell and Rutland's company, was brightly played; and the Wakeman Quartette harmonised well-known ballads with excellent effect. Barney Vox, the Irish ventriloquist, who is also on a return visit, met with his usual success; Phern and Phern, in a novel musical act, and the ever-welcome Pepiscope, completed the programme.

CARMARTHEN.—ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—Proprietors, Public Rooms Co.; Secretary, Mr. Edward Baldwin.—On Easter Monday the Merrions appeared in their mirthful, musical, and mimetical entertainment, and delighted a large audience; Messrs. Hees and Lisbon, in their trick and fancy skating act, were very good, while their grotesque Jumbo policemen were highly amusing. Lieutenant Chard's troupe of trained dogs went through a clever performance.

CASTLEFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Cr. Hy. Masterman.—This week Mr. Arthur Carlton's excellent company is appearing here in *The Span of Life*. It is noticeable for the manner in which it is staged and mounted, and for the excellence of the scenery. The character of Richard Blunt is creditably sustained by Mr. R. S. Trelawney; Mr. Sanderson Moffat as Dunstan Leech gives a fine exposition of villainy; Mr. Walter Dale as Nutty Brown proves a constant source of merriment; Miss Kitty Russell is droll in the part of Shrove Tuesday; Kate Heathcote is played by Miss Guinevere Shilton in a pleasing and sympathetic manner; and Miss Phillis Hamilton acts with intelligence as Mrs. Jelfs. Mr. James Jarrett looks a thorough old salt as Joshua Gurnett; Miss Phyllis Graham, in doubling the parts of Cecil Jelf and Cecil Blunt, shows much promise. The Stebbing Trio are much in evidence.

QUEEN'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Charles Beanland and W. H. Emerson; General-Manager, Mr. Will. H. Emerson.—Heading the bill here is the Stavordale Quinette, in their banjo and harp speciality; Mill, May, and Theresa, in a novelty Japanese scena, are excellent; Sandy and Carl, knockabouts, win warm recognition; Miss Madge Daly contributes successfully; Johnny Worman is a clever comedian; Zenora is a smart hand equilibrist and jumper; Harry Levaine causes hearty laughter; and the Loyal Dominion Co.'s animated pictures are still to the fore.

CHATHAM. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard; Secretary, Mr. Geo. G. Ridley.—The holiday attraction comprised *The Little Michus*, performed by Mr. George Dance's company, under the management of Mr. Hubert Dunbar. Miss Alice Coverick makes a splendid Marie Blanche; and her efforts are very ably seconded by Miss Gipsy Dale as Blanche Marie. Miss Mary Young appears to be quite at her ease as Mme. Michu; and Mlle. Marjorie's neat dancing is much admired. In the hands of skilful Mr. Foster Courtenay General Des Ifs proves a most popular personage; Mr. Gilbert Childs works untiringly as Bagnolet, and is very successful; Mr. Robert C. Harcourt makes a pleasing Aristide; Mr. Leon Simkin scores as old Pierre Michu and stage-manages; while Mr. W. Kingsley was seen to advantage as Gaston Rigaud.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard. — Henry De Vry's marble statuary act proves a great attraction, the various groups being highly appreciated; David Poole is a resourceful ventriloquist with smartly-manipulated figures; *Hunting*, by the Three Sisters Tree, is somewhat out of the usual groove, and is interpreted in artistic style; the concertina playing of George Young, a blind musician, is a revelation to local music hall goers; Matt Wilkinson's company amuse in *The Registry Office;* the Sisters Belmont are favourites; Hunter and Maris, comedy artists; Harry Desmond, comedian; Stuart and Evans, patter vocalists and dancers, complete the variety turns; while much excitement is aroused by "The Bad Man of the West," a film projected by means of Mr. Lacey's Erascope.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Captain H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. Frank J. Donne.—*Happy Holland* tops the bill here, and with lively music, pretty dresses, and appropriate scenery, it is proving a big attraction. Mr. Jake Friedman makes a splendid Jakey Oodlevassal; Miss Florence Hunton, a vivacious Gretchen; and Mr. L. Ellis, a lively Frenchman. Lillie Lazzah is on a welcome return visit; the Lurins stage *The Curate's Dilemma;* Edna Cragge's songs go well; Arthur Slater's clever whistling surprises the audience; Virto gives great satisfaction in his musical scena; and the Edisonograph provides new pictures; while mention must be made of Clarissa Talbot and Albert Pearce's Japanese song-scena, which is one of the most popular items in the programme.

CHELTENHAM. — OPERA HOUSE. — General-Manager, Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—*The Swiss Express* is the attraction here. The acrobatic feats of the Renad Brothers are astonishing; and excellent support is given by Messrs. W. E. Brandon, Alec Wylie, and Harwood Cooper. Miss Celestine Brandon is the laudably patient bride; and the spirit put into the business by every member of the company is deserving of great praise, the Verona Quartette being much in evidence.

CHESTER. — ROYALTY THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—A well-filled house greeted Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company with *Bound to Win* here on Monday. Mr. Geo. Steel sustains the part of Harry Lyndon with fine effect; Mr. Edward Bikker makes a good Squire Forbes; Mr. Edward Fryer does well as Philip Eyre; Mr. J. Franklin as the faithful Ned Oakley is well to the fore; Mr. Arnold H. Allen as Horatio Buffit, a dandy, and Miss Effie Macintosh, as Winnie Oakley, are responsible for hearty laughter. Mr. Sidney Rudge is well placed as Joe Blake; Miss Violet Langley is a sympathetic heroine; and Mr. Dick Seddon appears to advantage as Willie Winkins.

CHORLEY.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. G. T. Santé; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Hemingway.—Messrs. Acton and Nash's company is here this week presenting *Between the Lights*. The drama is capitally staged, and special mention should be made of the steel works, an exceptionally realistic scene in Act IV. Mr. Bertram H. Moss capitally plays the part of Robert Hinton; Mr. William R. Winning successfully presents Stanley Crofton; Mr. Frank Orchard very effectively undertakes Ben Armley; Mr. Frank Daleno is particularly good as Charles Stott; and Mr. Fred Acton is a host in himself as Jimmy Tickle. Miss Fanny Williams sympathetically portrays Violet Warren; Miss Eileen Bamford powerfully enacts the rôle of Madge Armley; while Miss Millie Dorris is a charming Kittie.

CLACTON-ON-SEA.—PIER PAVILION.—Lessee, Mr. Harold Montague; Manager, Mr. E. J. Barrett.—Mr. Montague opened here for a fortnight with his well-known vaudeville troupe, the Vagabonds, which comprises Messrs. Leslie Burgess and Claude Russell, and Mesdames Olive Spark, Leslie Lulu, and Marie Longmore. Good business is being done.

OPERETTA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Williams.—Messrs. Graham, Russell, and Bentley opened here over the holidays, and gave their ever-popular variety show to crowded houses. Their programme included Mr. P. Ganton Young, a fine baritone; Mr. Fred Wildon, a very versatile entertainer; and Miss Emily Hayes, a talented soprano; and the three famous old Clacton favourites already mentioned.

PALACE-BY-THE-SEA, LTD.—This hall was hired by a private syndicate, and concerts, under the direction of Mr. Ballard Brown, were given. The programme was made up of the following:—Miss Gertrude Shrimpton and Miss Marie Schulz, and Messrs. Ballard Brown, Leonard Burton, Percy Farling, Harry Hall, Arthur J. Hill, and Finlay Dunn.

COLCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Charles Macdona; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. C. Upton.—Mr. Reginald Dance and company opened a tour with *Raffles* at this house on Saturday last, and the reception extended to the production was of a most flattering nature. Mr. Dance himself impersonates the amateur cracksman and acts in such an easy and confident manner as to bring forth long and continuous applause and calls at the end of each act; Mr. Edward Irwin plays the egotistical Curtis Bedford with considerable success, his mannerisms being capitally Americanised; Mr. C. W. Lyttleton-Rogers is conspicuous as the hot-headed Lord Crowley; and Mr. C. Rivers Bertram, as the professional burglar Crawshay, is particularly well placed. The Ladies Melroso and Ethel are well represented by Miss Mildred Orme and Miss Constance Hamilton; Miss Katie Yates makes a charming Gwendoline Conran; and Miss May Brooke is good as Mrs. Vidal; whilst the small, yet important, part of Marie is cleverly depicted by Miss Rita Ward.

HIPPODROME.—Joint Proprietors, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot and Mr. Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. Jack de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—The chief turn for the holiday week is Mme. Angelo's Three Graces, a trio of beautifully-formed ladies, and their endeavours to impersonate classical statuary are crowned with success, the effect of the artistically-arranged draperies and limelight being most charming; Ernest Rees, the acme of quaintness, is an immense favourite with his songs and patter; Percy M. Stephenson and company appear in a new dramatic sketch, entitled *The Way of the World*, a playlet full of incident, in six scenes; Russell Carr, the military ventriloquist, is well received; and a similar remark applies to Flo Somers, comedienne, who is here on a return visit. Capital pictures of an instructive nature conclude the programme.

CONSETT.—NEW THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance.—The holiday attraction here is Mr. Clarence C. Corri's music hall stars' combination. The following are amongst the artists engaged:—George Danvers, jun., in Ethiopian songs and dances; George Delaforce, character and topical vocalist; the Sisters Powell, big-boot dancers; Frank A. Wood, tenor vocalist; Fred Evered, comedian and mimic; Ethel Thomas, banjoist; the musical comedy sketch, *Office Hours*, is well received; as is also the vaudeville sketch, *A Soldier's Trust; or, A Story of Two Christmas Eves*. Animated pictures conclude a most enjoyable entertainment.

CORK.—OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. John Horgan.—Mr. Charles Macdona's principal company, in *Are You a Mason?* opened a week's engagement here on Monday. The company is an admirable one, and the piece, from start to finish, kept the audience in roars of laughter. As Mrs. Bloodgood, Miss Adelaide Grace was admirable; Miss Margaret Farleigh as Eva Perry was successful; and Miss Dora Frank Harvey pleased greatly as Mrs. Halton. Mr. E. H. Paterson as Amos Bloodgood was excellent; as also was Mr. Howard L. Tracy in the character of Frank Perry. Mr. G. R. J. Austin was most amusing as Hamilton Travers; and as George Fisher Mr. Ernest Cossart was humorous to a degree. The minor parts were capably taken. The play was preceded by *A Bad Penny*.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Henry Kemble.—The Dayton Family, ten in number, are a great attraction here in their entertainment, entitled *The Rendezvous;* Imor Fox gives a clever illusionist and conjuring turn; Nellie Doon is a clever comedienne; the Wallon Duo are delightful duettists and dancers; the Ashley Team of American pantomime skaters are a clever combination; Arthur Richards, character comedian, pleases with his songs; the Fays are good speciality artists; and Flo Cecil is a talented comedienne and dancer.

COVENTRY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—*His House in Order* is being presented here. Miss Dorothy Grimston gives a powerful rendering of Nina, being ably supported by Mr. Stephen T. Ewart as Hilary Jesson. As Filmer Jesson, M.P., Mr. J. Edward Pearce is successful; Mr. H. Lomas, Mr. E. R. Holloway, Miss Augusta Haviland, and Miss Elaine Steddall are responsible for the Ridgeley Family.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Dance; Manager, Mr. A. Rand.—One of the smartest turns of the holiday bill is the Daunton Shaw Troupe of cyclists; Katie Butler as a character comedienne is deservedly encored; Fred Frampton is a successful burlesque actor; Alice Blandford sings popular songs; Mlle. Sylvia's electrical vocal tableaux are interesting; Mlle. Lucretia as a speciality dancer is much appreciated; and George Lashwood is also billed to appear. Vernon's Bioscope concludes the performance.

CRADLEY HEATH.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Jno. H. Morton.—The Easter attraction here is Messrs. E. A'Dell and Chabot's company with *His Sister's Honour*. Mr. Evelyn A'Dell takes the hero's part, and as Frank Stanley wins constant applause; Mr. H. C. Robinson is the heavy villain, Sir Richard Redvers, and submits a capital piece of acting; Mr. Sidney Dean as Timothy Timid causes much fun; and Mr. Gilson Brooke is well placed as Doctor Godfrey. Miss Ethel Ashleigh as Ivy Merton wins the sympathies of the house; Miss Katherine Eckart makes a winsome Dora Stanley; Miss Minnie Hennely is in her element as Gretchen; Miss Bessie Deares deserves praise for her impersonation of Maria; Mr. T. Marsden contributes a useful part as Jones; Mr. Henry Slater and Mr. Fred Carston claim recognition for their able rendering of Sergeant Pedro Ramon and Private Juan Lopez; Mr. Jno. Leyland has a part to his liking as Bill Buggins; Mr. Alf Smith must not be overlooked for his Will Bennett; Mr. Harry Mitchelson as P.C. Worthie justifies his selection.

CREWE.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Taylor, J.P.—Mr. F. R. Benson's Shakespearean company is the popular attraction for Easter week. The répertoire includes *The Merchant of Venice, Henry the Fifth, Hamlet, As You Like It, Macbeth, The Taming of the Shrew*, and *Richard the Third*. On Monday night *The Merchant of Venice* was presented to a crowded holiday audience. Mr. Gerald Ames was at his best in the rôle of Antonio; Mr. Dagnell as the Duke of Venice gave a masterful display; Mr. Philip Merivale acted the part of the Prince of Morocco in excellent style; Mr. Henry Herbert gave a characteristic rendering of Shylock; Mr. Charles Francis was conspicuous as Bassanio; and Mr. Reginald Owen was exceedingly clever as Lorenzo. Miss Louise Graeme's impersonation of Jessica was a finished piece of acting; Miss Dorothy Green cleverly sustained the character of Portia; Miss Mary Webb was good as Nerissa; Misses Beatrice Terry and Mary Dibley, as Balthazar and Stephano respectively, and Messrs. E. Spencer Geach (Gratiano), Vincent Holman (Salanio), Charles Bruce (Salarino), Esme Filmer (Tubal), Ross Shore (Launcelot Gobbo), and Henry Morrell (Old Gobbo) also appeared.

CROYDON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Lawson Lambert.—The Easter attraction here is Mr. George Dance's company, in *The Spring Chicken*, which is giving great satisfaction. Mr. J. S. Durant hits off to a nicety the rôle of Gustave Babori; Mr. Harry Averell is quite at his ease as Boniface; Mr. A. Drinkwater is good as Baron Papouche; Mr. E. Nainby is very quaint as Felix; Mr. C. Brierley is capital in the part of Stephen Henry; Mr. Emil Adams is excellent as Joseph Boniface; and Mr. Fred Payne keeps the house in a roar of laughter in the rôle of Mr. Girdle. Miss Nellie Kavanagh is bright and bewitching as Mrs. Girdle; Miss Clarice Cartner makes a charming Baroness Papouche; Miss Florence Wix is seen to advantage as Dulcie Babori; Miss Lillian Errol is a pretty Emmy Lou; Miss Tatty Leonard is enchanting as La Belle Cissi; and Miss Chrissie Ralland deserves congratulations for her admirable rendering of Rosalie.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Herrick.—Mr. Geo. Kirk and Miss Mary Neil's company, in *Her Luck in London*, is attracting appreciative audiences here this week. Mr. Chas. A. Leicester as the Hon. Fitzgerald O'Connor deserves much praise; Mr. Chas. Stirling figures well as Richard Lenowen; and Mr. Douglas Tremayne gives an excellent representation of the Rev. Lionel Strong. The part of Stephen Harborne is played in an especially effective manner by Mr. Tyron Power; Mr. Bruce Chapman gives a good portrayal of Algie Kircumbrie; and Mr. J. Telley Dillsen as Jerry Gotobed proves himself a good comedian. Miss Marie Clavering distinguishes herself as Mme. Gabrielle; Miss Frances Bruce appears to advantage as Lillian Harborne; Miss Flossie Groves capably fulfils the rôle of Maud Gladys Shovepenny; and Miss Mary Neil enacts the part of Nellie Harborne with all the skill and tact of an accomplished actress.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—A capital holiday bill here. Wal Pink's Workmen, in *Repairs*, are paying a welcome return visit; the Two Bees are successful in their allegorical scena, *The Man in the Moon;* Harry Rogerson, the lazy comedian, receives a cordial reception; the Debreans, in fancy Japanese entertainment, are greeted with applause; Joe Archer, comedian, is worth seeing; the Three Prestons are commendable in a sketch, *The Liftman's Rise;* George Reeves, comedian, is liked; Elton and Edwin are expert banjoists; and Edie Veno is a neat comedienne and dancer.

DARLINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—Miss Maud May and Mr. Courtenay Thorpe's company is here in *Trilby*. Miss May gives a capital study of the title-rôle; Mr. C. Thorpe is a powerful Svengali; Mr. Arthur Houghton gives a characteristic rendering of Taffy; the Laird is effectively played by Mr. Arthur D. Pipe; and Little Billy is capably handled by Mr. T. F. Elvey. Miss Rhoda Ray is charming in the part of Honorine; Miss K. Romsey is an excellent Angèle; and Mme. Vinard is shown to advantage by Miss Mary Cleveland. On Thursday the company played *A White Passion Flower*.

DARWEN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. A. M. Loader; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. J. Robinson.—Mr. Carr Loates' company is here this week on a return visit with *At the World's Mercy*. Mr. Loates gives a capable representation of Captain Frank Manley; Mr. Henry Fergusson ably sustains the rôle of Morris Goldstein; as Skittles Miss Cissie Milford is good; and Mr. Alf. Dawson and Miss Kathleen Loates provide amusement as Charley Smart and Kitty Knot respectively.

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Danley; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Langly Wyatt.—The Derby Operatic Society gave very creditable performances of *Dorothy* on Monday afternoon and evening at the Grand Theatre, and will occupy the boards for the remainder of the week. In the name-part Mrs. Harry Stratton sings and plays with ability, and secures well-merited applause; Mrs. A. G. Thorpe makes a capital Lydia Hawthorn, and combines stage aptitude with a pleasing voice; a vocally charming Phyllis is found in Miss Eva Macdonald, whose bridal song ensures her a well-deserved encore; Miss Bertha Sherwin, too, does very well indeed as Mrs. Privett; and Mrs. Ernest Sadler figures agreeably as Lady Betty. In the male parts Messrs. Charles Butterworth and C. Edgar Taylor may be said to divide premier honours as Geoffrey Wilder and Harry Sherwood respectively, each singing his numbers with artistic finish and good effect; Mr. W. Adderley makes an entirely acceptable Squire Bantam; and Mr. Harry Stratton is diverting as Lurcher, though he rather overplays and hardly looks the part. Mr. W. H. Ward gives a robust and creditable rendering of John Tuppit; and Mr. Frank Harrison acquits himself well as Tom Grass. The members of the chorus do their work well, and the orchestra, led by Mr. Sidney T. Sadler, is to be commended.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Herbert Taylor.—W. J. Churchill, comedian, is making a welcome reappearance here this week, and Monday night's reception testified to his popularity. The Three Richards, in their acrobatic sketch, *The Giddy Golfers*, cause great amusement; as a conjurer, Henri Bekker proves himself well above the average; Mlle. Roza, with her canine hippodrome, provides an interesting turn; Pueblo and Cropp, creole artists, appear to great advantage in song and dance; and the same can very well be said of the Sisters Clifton. Bert Lytton, swell comique, renders his songs in smart style. The Bioscope is not the least entertaining feature of the programme.

DEVONPORT.—METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. G. S. King.—*Life's Sweetest Sins* is being presented here by T. A. Jones's company. The introduction of a submarine is naturally of great interest in the naval town. Miss Marie Daventry, a young and accomplished actress, takes the leading part of Doreen Rivers; Mr. Oswald Douglas is exceedingly clever as Dr. Collbrooke; Mr. J. A. Jones as Captain Harold Marston is a manly hero; and Mr. Edgar Morgan and Miss Elsie Malton do well in the comedy scenes.

DEWSBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Asquith.—The management have reintroduced the system of two houses nightly for a short season. Easter week has seen very large assemblages of the local theatregoers to witness *The Face at the Window*, presented by Messrs. Armadale and Warren's company. Mr. E. Hogan-Armadale as the repulsive Lucio Delgado played with studious earnestness and energy, and made the character sufficiently weird and despicable to inspire disgust and indignation in the minds of his audience. Particularly good in quality is the acting of Mr. T. W. Dunscombe as Paul Gouffet, the detective, whose fearlessness and zeal were characteristically reproduced by this clever young actor. Mr. Gilbert Hall acquitted himself very agreeably as Lucian Cortier, his acting showing much promise; Miss Marie Barrett entered with sympathy and tact into the part of the heroine, Marie de Bresson, and played with unflagging spirit to the end; much humour is forthcoming from the joint exertions of Mr. C. Alan Hineson (Peter Pottleberry) and Miss Gladys Newcombe (Babette).

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Weldon.—Applause greeted the efforts of Zaro and Arno in a new and interesting bar act; whilst the society entertainers, Phillips and Merritt, were no less endorsed by the audience; Miss Merritt claims to be the lady champion finger whistler of the world: certainly her talent is pronounced. Clarke's Nippers figure prominently and ably in their speciality act, in which they introduce club manipulation, ball-punching, and boxing; hilarity reigns supreme whilst the Monckton's perform their comedy sketch, *A Woman's Curiosity*. Other artists are Harry Colton, comedian; Smith and Johnson, society coloured duo; Miss Lottie de Abbey, vocalist. Animated pictures are also much in evidence.

DONCASTER.—NEW GRAND THEATRE AND EMPIRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—*A Beautiful Fiend* was the holiday attraction here. Mr. Montague Beaudyn did yeoman service as Ivan Paulovitch; and a skilful treatment of Count Fedor Karatoff must be credited to Mr. Herbert Skardon; Mr. Matt Russell did well as Sergius Strogoff, and Mr. Harry Oaks in the rôle of Christopher Crackles showed genuine humour. Nadine Karatoff was admirably impersonated by Miss Irene Munro; Miss Annie Clunn was a charming exponent of Pattie Woodlands; and the title-rôle was powerfully portrayed by Miss Sidney Crowe.

DOUGLAS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. C. Fox, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Gray.—This popular playhouse opened on Saturday last with a performance of *The Lady of Ostend*, and a most appreciative audience witnessed the production. Sir Francis Burnand's clever farcical comedy was played with artistic effect by the members of Mr. Lawrence Brough's company. Mr. Henry Hampson as Dick Whortles and Mr. Percy Marshall as Joseph Carbury were admirable; the Baron was played to the life by Mr. Lawrence Brough; Mr. Dalziel Heron's Toby Crockett was excellent; and Mr. Reginald A. Hunt, Mr. W. H. Douglas, and Mr. Hewson Elliott did good service. The Lady of Ostend, in *propria persona*, was characteristically presented by Miss Marian Ripley; Jane, the maid of farcical comedy, was delightfully played by Miss Eiley Boyne; Miss Bessie Harrison's presentment of the mother-in-law was admirable; and Miss Muriel Harding and Miss Kate Milford were charming as the young girls. For the last three nights of the week the same author's *Saucy Sally* was billed. *At the Risin' of the Moon* has furnished the "curtain-raiser," the principal character of Barry O'Blane being perfectly played by Mr. Percy Marshall, well supported by Mr. Reginald A. Hunt, Mr. Dalziel Vernon, and Miss E. Eiley Boyne.

THE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Secretary and Manager, Mr. Charles Fox, jun.—Large audiences have assembled at this popular place of amusement to dance in the still cold nights to the witching strains of Mr. Harry Wood's orchestra. In addition to this there is a special engagement of the Douglas Male Voice Choristers (twenty-five in number), under the conductorship of Mr. Noah Moore. Another item was Vernon's Bioscope.

DOVER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Dover Theatre, Ltd.; Chairman of Directors, Mr. B. Carter; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—An excellent variety programme has been arranged for the first week of the special vaudeville season, for which Mr. Dew has collaborated with Mr. Frederick Baugh, of the Vaudeville Syndicate. A very well played sketch is submitted by Fred Southern's company, including the popular comedian himself, and Miss May Emery, a talented and experienced artist. Nora Beverley is a skilful singer of excellent songs; and Macintosh and

BUCHANAN'S
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THE WHISKY OF WORLD WIDE REPUTE

Royal are a couple of expert dancers; a most amusing turn is that given by Rell and Butt, and entitled *Fun in the Garden*; while Fred Southern and full company also gain well-merited applause for their humorous efforts in *His Lordship's Birthday*. Quite a furore is created by George Bendon's admirable rendering of several catchy songs; Violet Desmond is a captivating comedienne, and wins an encore; while Raymond's Bio-tableaux exhibits some laughable and clever pictures.

Pier Pavilion.—Lessees, The Dover Theatres, Ltd.; Chairman of Directors, Mr. B. Carter; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—A series of splendid concerts commenced here on Good Friday, and proved very acceptable entertainments for the holidays. Miss Alice Tristraam, the possessor of a soprano voice of wonderful compass and exceptional power, has won a host of admirers. The charming personality of Miss Belle Green lends itself to assist her in her cleverly-rendered songs and skilful mimicry; while some dainty songs daintily rendered are contributed by Miss Marie West. A most interesting and novel performance is given by Mr. Ernest Sewell, who succeeds in thoroughly mystifying his audience; Mr. Trefelyn David's melodious tenor voice is heard to advantage in a good selection of songs; Mr. Roland Foster has a pleasing style and a well-trained bass voice; and Miss Ivy Moore is unanimously pronounced to be the most winsome and fascinating of comediennes. Mention should also be made of the various humorous and operatic sketches given by the celebrated Merry Peasants Costume Quartette.

DUNDEE. — Palace Theatre. — Managing-Directors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Manager, Mr. E. J. Dexter.—Corman's Juveniles appear in a beautiful scena, *The Waif*, in which these clever youngsters contribute a number of graceful dances and songs; John Grun Marx, in his strong man turn, proves very popular; Jay W. Winton and "M'Ginty" give a very entertaining performance; while Keith and Merson score heavily in their hunting absurdity *The Meet*. The other contributors to an excellent programme comprise Dolly Denver, a chic comedienne and dancer; Andy Fagan, a really good character comedian; the Nettas, in a charming vocal scena, "Home Again"; Halma, a clever young juggler; and the Bioscope.

Gaiety Theatre. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. A. P. Williams.—The Seven Elliotts are starring here as the Musical Savonas, and produce *The Palace of Orpheus*, in which the storm scene from the famous opera *William Tell* is executed in a most realistic and wonderful manner. They conclude their performance with that pretty American coon melody, "A Moonlight Trip on a Mississippi Steamer." Señorita Eloina, whose graceful gymnastic act is well known here, gets a very warm reception; Ina Lorimer makes a welcome return visit, and this young artist is undoubtedly destined for a brilliant future; Jack Neil, a Scotch comedian of a decidedly novel type, simply bubbles over with wit and humour, and the audience showed their appreciation of his turn in no half-hearted fashion; Harry Leaton, vocal comedian, likewise scored a decided success. Others appearing are the Three Sisters Kilner, vocalists and acrobatic dancers; Nellie Dunbar, charming young soubrette; Rene and Smith, American comedy artists; and the Electro Motorscope, with entirely new set of films. This house now presents a very pretty and attractive appearance, an elaborate and judicious use of the electric light transforming the building into a veritable fairy land.

Empire Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Percival.—Although this is the third week of Messrs. Jury's pictures there is no falling off of public patronage. This week's series of pictures are even better than ever. A sensational dramatic picture, entitled "The Coiner's Daughter," is a work of art in itself. Another dramatic item, and one shown for the first time in this country, is "Trapped by Pinkerton's," depicting an original method of trapping two bank robbers. Capital variety turns are contributed by Professor Gelder (facial mimic) and Ivy Dean (serio and dancer).

DUNFERMLINE. — Theatre Royal and Opera House. — Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. E. Potts.—The second annual benefit to Mr. Potts, the popular manager, took place here on Monday afternoon and evening. Both performances were well patronised, more especially the evening one, showing how much the efforts of Mr. Potts's catering for his patrons is appreciated. The performance commenced with a two-act play, *Breach of Promise*, in which two local amateurs took the principal parts—Miss Ella Craig that of Honour Molloy and Mr. Alec Craig as Philip, both acquitting themselves with much credit. The other parts were capably handled by Miss Madge Locke as Clementina Ponticoff, Mr. Francis Marton as Ashates Croople, Mr. R. A. Catanach as Mr. Fullawords, Mr. Arthur Lee-Todd as Mr. Ponticoff, and Mr. Clyde Miller as David. Charles Dance's comedy, *Delicate Ground*, was also produced, the parts being well sustained by Mr. Baker Howard as Citizen Sangfroid, Mr. Clyde Miller as Alphonse de Grandier, and Miss Ketty Elliott as Pauline. This was followed by Brough and Halliday's Scottish comic romance, *My Heart's in the Highlands*. Mr. Pete Donald, a local amateur comedian, contributed to the success of the programme; the speciality turn by Miss Madge Locke was much appreciated; as also was the dancing of Miss Florrie Simpson.

EASTBOURNE. — Pier Pavilion. — Manager Mr. George Hayes.—Mr. Hayes is to be congratulated on the holiday attractions he has provided. Mr. Lewis Waller recited poems by Kipling and Meredith and extracts from *Henry V.* in his strong, manly style. On Tuesday afternoon another most successful matinée was given. Miss Decima Moore recited in a charming manner, Miss Helen Martin sang in cultured style, Mr. Nelson Jackson was highly amusing in his répertoire, and other successful artists were Mr. Noel Fleming, Mr. Walter Scott, Miss Clara Evelyn, and Miss Edith Pratt. The attraction during the week is Mr. Herbert Ralland's company in *La Poupée*. Mr. Fred Seymour's clever and funny work as Hilarius keeps the house in laughter; Mr. Arthur Cozens sings and acts nicely as Lancelot; Mr. Walter Balfour is a dignified and picturesque Father Maxime; Mr. Fuller Allen is an imposing and effective Baron Chanterelle; and Mr. Arthur Dennis is a quietly able Loremois. Miss Mysie Devine makes a pretty and truly charming Alesia, Miss Doris Dickens a bright and interesting Henri, Miss Edith Hunter an excellent Madame Hilarius, and Miss Alice Roche a captivating Guduline.

Devonshire Park Theatre. — Proprietors, The Devonshire Park and Baths Co.; Managers, Messrs. Murray, King, and Clark. — Attractions on a colossal scale have been offered here during the holidays. On Saturday afternoon and evening Mr. Harry Fragson appeared, and was received with the warmest applause. During the week a high-class variety bill is offered. Mme. Alice Esty, in a scene from *Il Trovatore*, uses her magnificent voice in a way which rouses the audience to enthusiasm. She is assisted by Mr. Crauford Kent, whose fine tenor voice is heard to advantage. A very amusing item is *A Pantomime Rehearsal*, in which Mr. Murray King as Lord Arthur Pomeroy causes much laughter; Mr. Ardene Linden is a tireless and excellent Jack Deedes, Mr. Cecil Frere a capital Capt. Robinson, and Mr. M. Florence a light and effective Sir Charles. Miss Lilias Waldegrave is a very attractive Lady Muriel; and capital work is done by the other ladies of the company. Mr. Manrin's beautiful statuary and fountains are extremely pretty, and one of the most popular numbers of the programme. Mr. Jean Seul mystifies the audience with his Hindoo tricks; Mr. Percy Farrimond as the singing collier has a goodly share of applause; Miss Gladys Archbutt is very pleasing in Dutch song and dance; and the new orchestra, under Herr Tas, contributes a musical selection in finished style.

The Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; General-Manager, Mr. H. Day; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Smith.—At the head of a good variety bill offered here stands "Quo Vadis," the title of a cleverly-worked illusion, in which a lady is apparently burned to ashes. The Madcaps are four agile and comely ladies who revel in many smart and varied dances; Miss Gladys Huxley is a sweet-voiced comedienne; Johnson and Bert give one of the most successful turns in a novelty act called *A Queer Customer*; Mr. William Gourlay as Hamlet introduces a funny drama act; Miss Minnie Mace is a distinctly pleasing singer and dancer; Mr. Cyril Carle does well as an actor-vocalist; and new living pictures are shown.

Floral Hall.—Proprietors, The Devonshire Park and Baths Co.; Manager, Mr. E. A. Brown.—An innovation in the form of Sunday concerts was introduced here this week. The bill was a strong one, and the audiences were large. Miss Constance Collier was recalled again and again for her recitations; Mr. Courtice Pounds sang in his accustomed exquisite style; and Miss Clara Evelyn, Miss Helen Blain, Herr Franz Meisel, and Mr. Harold Craxton also appeared with great success. In connection with the Baths Miss Annette Kellermann gave a display of fancy swimming and diving on Saturday evening of last week.

EXETER. — Theatre Royal.—Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford. — Mr. J. B. Mulholland's company is producing here this week the farcical play *The Electric Man*. The brunt of the work falls upon Mr. Bernard Copping in the dual rôle of Walter Everest and the Electric Man, and he is a decided success. He is well supported by Mr. Sydney Lynn as Jack Strange, and Mr. Legai Robinson hits off the part of the private inquiry agent skilfully. Mr. Chris Grose as General Pomeroy is good; and Miss Amy Fanchette ably sustains the part of the landlady. *Obliging a Friend* makes a capital curtain-raiser.

FALKIRK.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace W. Ebbutt.—The attraction this week is Fred Karno's No. 1 original vaudeville company. The chief items on the bill are the sketches, entitled *The Mumming Birds* and *The Early Birds*, which provide the audience with a continual feast of laughter. In addition, there are enjoyable turns by Miss Lillie Stuart, comedienne and dancer; Mr. Charles Denton, comedian; the Sisters Lavender, duettists and dancers; Messrs. Lincoln and Warren, trick acrobatic comedy cyclists; and the Miltons, a comedy duo.

FOLKESTONE.—Pleasure Gardens Theatre.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—The Easter attraction is Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company, including Miss Mabel Love, in *The Freedom of Suzanne*. Miss Mabel Love, in the title-rôle, played in a vivacious and graceful manner; Mr. Templer Powell was a successful Charles Trevor; Mr. F. G. Thurstans an excellent Fitzroy Harding; Miss Annie Stalman acquitted herself with distinction as Lady Charlotte; Miss Mincing was amusingly played by Miss Florence Harwood; Mrs. F. Turner made a humorous Mrs. Putman; Miss Violet Ley a refined Lady Isabel, Mr. Gerald Alexander an able Sir Horace, and Mr. J. Hastings Batson, Mr. Townsend Whitling, and Mr. Richard Neville were good in their respective parts. Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company was booked on Thursday for a return visit of *Peter's Mother*.

GAINSBOROUGH.—King's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Stear.—This week we have Miss Bonyn Carlton's company in *The Old, Old Story* and *The Plucky Nipper*. In the former piece, Mr. W. Heilbronn gives a clever representation of the villain, James Marlow; Mr. Edward Surrey is successful as the detective; Miss Carlton and Mr. Syd Morton contribute fun in the characters of Tilly Blossom and Bobby; and Mr. H. J. Butler and Mr. M. Maud are capable; Miss Marie Dempster is a pathetic Nelly Hazel.

GATESHEAD. — King's Theatre. — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harold Arnold.—Starring here in an excellent programme we have Wal Pink and Jeff Vendome's company of silent comedians in *The Daybreakers*; described as "Gladiatorial Marvels," the Three Romas make a huge hit; the Bros. Obo, with their laughing song and genuine humour, are eminently successful; Bugler Carr has some clever musical business; the Lavelle Bros. shine as comedy acrobats; Jennie Lee, a capital vocalist; Dave McNeil, comedian; Gracie Lawn, a refined comedienne; and the King's pictures form an entertainment which is a credit to the management.

Metropole Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Councillor Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas France.—*Lucky Durham*, excellently portrayed by Messrs. Armitage and Leigh's company, has drawn large audiences to this house. Mr. Edmund Kennedy supplies a well-nigh perfect embodiment of John Durham, and has been the recipient of much genuine applause. Lord Mountfallon is depicted with success by Mr. Robert Forsyth, in an easy and quite natural manner; Mr. Arthur Leigh portrays Reginald Steighton; Mr. A. E. Walker presents a capital Mr. Vallerton; Miss Alice Esther Belmore submits a charming Helen Vallerton; Miss Francis Wolviston makes the most of Lady Mountfallon; and Miss Louise Gourlay fills the rôle of Mrs. Durham with credit. A clever Margaret Steighton is seen in Miss Florence Dulhunty.

Queen's Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Councillor Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stephen Smith.—Packed houses have been the rule at this house during the week, Mr. Fredk. Melville's *The Ugliest Woman on Earth* being the attraction. Chief honours go to Miss Beatrice Homer, whose work in the name-part wins unstinted praise; another clever portrayal is that of Morita by Miss Violet Macaree; Miss Nellie Jackson does well as Aggie Brown; Mr. Philip Darien supplies an effective Jack Merriman; Mr. Leyton Cancellor is a prominent figure as Hubert Gold; Mr. Chas. Barrett's Antonio Luchesi is smartly done, and Mr. Tubby Edlin makes the most of his opportunities as Tubby Herrick.

GILLINGHAM (Kent).—Hippodrome.—Lessees, The New Bioscope Trading Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. F. R. Griffiths.—The above hall re-opened for a season on Saturday last to a large audience. A fine series of pictures were shown, including "The Wreck of the Berlin" and "Hooligans of the Far West." Variety was added to the programme by Lillie Thomas, a clever juvenile soubrette; and Miss Laurie Hayden, an exceptionally fine balladist. The orchestra, with well-chosen selections, is again under the able leadership of Mr. Harold Price.

GLOSSOP. — Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—This week Mr. and Mrs. Sydney Spenser's own company, in *The Colleen Bawn*, is pleasing local theatre-goers. The piece is well staged, and the version embraces several musical numbers. Mr. Hall Collier as Myles-na-Coppaleen (with songs) gives a good reading; Mr. Henry Danson is a capital exponent of Hardress Cregan; and Mr. Sydney Spenser acts successfully as Danny Mann. Mr. F. Hamilton as Kyrle Daly is conspicuous; Mr. Chas. Osborne as Father Tom does ample justice to the part; Mr. Fawcett Lomax is decidedly good as Mr. Corrigan; Mr. Hyland Clarke stands out well as Bertie O'Moore; Miss Lizzie Hall (Mrs. Sydney Spenser), in the title-rôle, acts the character in a praiseworthy manner, and is also encored for the song "Take me to your heart again." Miss Constance Bellamy as Miss Ann Chute is pleasing, and also gives a tuneful rendition of the song "Come back to Erin"; Miss Adelina Collier shows histrionic ability as Mrs. Cregan; and Miss Carrie E. Grahame is effective as Sheelah. Mr. W. E. Cottrill is in charge of the orchestra.

GLOUCESTER.—Palace.—Owners, Messrs. C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr. R. T. Rea.—The Easter programme is full of good things. Signor and Mme. Eorelli are accorded a gratifying reception; the Three Zaracs on the triple bars are wonderfully smart; Charles Bignell proves an excellent comedian; and Williams and Warden, in their Irish cross-talk, score. The Ladderites present a clever act on unsupported ladders; the Spangelettis introduce clever dogs, a pony, a baboon, &c.; Miss Marie Beresford sings with taste; Mr. George Penn is an excellent Musical Nib; Vasey and Ramsey are good eccentric dancers; and Poole and Poole are responsible for a neat turn, including songs, comedy, and dancing. Miss Bertha Norwood is a refined soubrette; and the Woellhafs present a smart comedy act.

GOOLE.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. John E. Tomlinson.—Messrs. Power and Kirby's company is appearing here in the drama *Man's Enemy*. The drama abounds with thrilling incidents, and the various rôles are well filled by capable artists. Mr. W. A. Overton plays the part of Harry Stanton with great distinction; Mr. Wm. Jeans gives a capital representation as General Sir Arthur Stanton; Mr. Fred Owen gives a very fine character-study of Isaac Barnett; Mr. H. J. Kirby is seen to advantage as Count Lanski; Mr. John Power is to be complimented on his powerful portrayal of Tom Drake; Mr. Burt Cordyn is a capital P.C. Smithers; Mr. Chas. E. Johnson as Bill Saunders and Mr. F. A. Ellis as Fred Lisle are highly successful in their respective rôles; Mr. Frank Hedley is an amusing Adolphe; Miss Constance Medwyn's portrayal of the adventuress Sarah Drake is full of dramatic force and striking effect; Miss May Grayce charms the audience as Grace Leslie; and Miss Clara Reid is successful as Polly Harris, her songs being well received; and Miss Evelyn Geldard ably presents Mrs. Saunders.

GRAVESEND.—New Public Hall and Theatre. —Secretary and Manager, Mr. R. Feaver Clarke.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company was here on Monday and Tuesday in *The Country Girl*. Mr. Bernard Vaughan as the Rajah of Bhong, Mr. W. O. Billington as Sir Joseph Verity, and Mr. C. Biddulph as Lord Anchester, all did well; whilst Mr. Michael D. Pitts as Geoffrey Chaloner sang tastefully; and as Barry, Mr. Arthur Staples created roars of laughter. The character of Marjory was well sustained by Miss Violet Leslie; and the Sophie of Miss Florence was a very artistic performance. The Princess was well enacted by Miss Harding; and as Nan, Miss Edith Maynard was the life and soul of the comedy. Other characters well enacted were Mr. Besley Beltran as Douglas Verity, Miss Florence Brewster as Mrs. St. Quintin, Miss Maude as Lady Anchester, and the Nurse of Miss Kitty Stone. The comedy was under the successful direction of Mr. Goodwin Woodward.

Grand Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. David Hart.—At the head of a good programme here appears Harriett Vernon, in her successful scena, *Sunshine and Shadow*. There are also Charlie Chard, a good comedian; Helm and Cozens, in their laughable comedy act, *The Doctor and the Patient*; Annie Casey, a bright comedienne; Leslie Race, a stirring vocalist; Childie Stuart, vivacious comedienne; and Les Rallis, a unique artist, with his monkey.

Rosherville Gardens.—Manager, Mr. A. E. Radcliffe.—A special holiday programme attracted thousands of holiday-makers to this popular resort. A café chantant was one of the principal amusements; and Herman, styled the modern Blondin, gave a wonderful tight-rope performance.

GREAT YARMOUTH. — Royal Aquarium. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—A welcome return visit is being paid by Mr. Chas. Macdona's principal company with *The Toreador*. As Pettifer, Mr. Richard Adams is most amusing, and dances with astonishing nimbleness and dexterity; Mr. Fred Thompson contributes a capital caricature as Sir Archibald Slackett; Augustus Trail is successfully portrayed by Mr. Herbert Willis; Mr. Sidney Granville makes a splendid Toreador; Mr. Henry Arthur is excellent as the Governor of Villaga; and Sammy Gigg is cleverly and humorously depicted by Mr. Robert Rous. Miss Leah Howard is a bright and vivacious Dora Selby; Mrs. Malton Hoppings finds an able exponent in Miss Gwen Clifford, who sings effectively; Miss Nina Carlton is admirable as Donna Teresa; and Dora Selby and Nancy Staunton are charmingly played by Miss Florence Wood and Miss Mabel Gregory.

The Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert.—A capital programme has been provided by Mr. Gilbert, and is much appreciated by large audiences. The Seves give a wonderful display, the description of articles selected from the audience being accurate. Aerian and Ostara supply a clever and graceful aerial performance; Miss Yetta does extraordinary things, including a cake walk, on the tight-wire; Prince Ishmael and Mlle. Valeria give a mystic séance; the Dorians prove themselves expert gymnasts; Mlle. Rosini introduces her well-trained animals; the Cumberlands contribute a capital turn as trick cyclists; Miss Ada Webb and troupe give an enjoyable exposition of swimming; and the Boy Doodles supply any amount of fun.

GREENOCK.—Alexandra Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Directors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—Messrs. Polini and Maitland's company is here this week in *The Coal King*. Mr. Lauderdale Maitland as Tom Roberts gives an excellent rendering of that character; Mr. Chas. Whitlock as Sir Reginald Hartford is a decided success; Mr. Escott Robson as Walter Hartford is a typical exponent of villainy; and Dick Shirley is well represented by Mr. Frank Dalton. A deal of humour emanates from the efforts of Mr. Alfred Terris as Jim Williams and Miss Enid Ross in the character of Araminta. Miss Gertrude Valentine as Grace Shirley achieves an unqualified success; Miss Sinna St. Clair acts well as Mad Ann; and Miss Eveline North is good as Mrs. Baker.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—General-Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—An excellent programme includes Coram, a clever ventriloquist, who meets with a hearty reception; the Sisters Terry are loudly applauded for their vocal efforts; Ted Curtis and his piccaninnies please immensely; Florence Deighton's vocal items are much appreciated; the Venola Brothers submit a smart gymnastic turn; the Three Panamas, in a pot-pourri act, are exceptionally smart; and the Empire pictures are, as usual, up to date.

Pavilion, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. A. White.—The Sisters Howard, in their clever mental telepathic act, are well received; the Brothers Robson amuse greatly with their knockabout business; Fred Herbert scores as a topical vocalist; and other good turns are Effie Stuart, Scotch comedienne and speciality dancer; Louis Kerno, vocal comedian and dancer; Madeline Rossiter, comedienne and dancer; and the Paviscope pictures complete.

GRIMSBY.—Prince of Wales's Theatre.—Chairman of Directors, Mr. H. J. Curry; Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry.—Mr. Junius Booth's dramatic version of *Monte Cristo* has repeated its former success here. Mr. Booth himself appears in the central character of Edmond Dantes, and his conception of Dumas' hero is admirable in every way; whilst as Mercedes, Miss B. Doyle realises to the full the emotional possibilities of the part. The conspirators, Danglers and Fernand, are played by Messrs. Augustin Bowerman and C. W. Crowe with due regard to the envious and jealous natures of Dantes' enemies. Mr. Beckett Bould is good as Nortier; and Mr. J. W. Braithwaite makes the most of the pathetic part of the Abbe. Amongst other members of the somewhat numerous company who contribute to the success of the play are Miss M. Ellis as Sophie, Miss Alice West as La Carconte, Mr. Walter Huron as Villeforte, Mr. Walter Manfree as Caderousse, and Mr. Leonard Marshall as Albert.

Curry's Tivoli.—Chairman of Directors, Mr. H. J. Curry; Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North.—The farce, *A Trip to Chinatown*, which is a condensed version of the musical comedy of that name, is one of the brightest and most laughable of its kind on the variety stage. The Howes give an interesting séance of mental telegraphy; Alf Gibson is scoring heavily as a comedian; W. H. Clemart gives a ventriloquial turn that presents novel features; the Cabiacs are acrobats with original business; Sinclair and Parr contribute an entertaining medley of Irish ballads; Dot Moss sings pleasing songs; and Fredk. Villiers presents artistically illustrated songs.

The Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. A. Edwardes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Shread; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. V. Allton.—Dr. Carl Hermann is attracting much attention by the exhibition of his powers in the science of electrical healing; Lillie Soutter is a highly popular comedienne; Zeta Gray accomplishes good vocal work in *The Lancashire Lass*; the Bostonians are a clever trio of American singers and dancers; Lilian Rigby introduces an excellent musical speciality; the Voldam Bros. are amusing acrobats; Will Poluski, jun., is a successful comedian; and Montague Biggs is a smart impersonator.

HALIFAX. — Theatre Royal, Ltd. — General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Messrs. Hallatt and Howard's principal company in *Her Love Against the World* has proved a most attractive holiday booking. The efforts put forth are of the best, and Mr. Walter Howard is to be commended for his skilful interpretation of Eric, Earl of Strathmere. His juvenile brother, Neilo, is figuratively enacted by Miss Rossie St. John; while Mr. W. H. Hallett makes his presence felt as Prince Othmar, as does Mr. Walter Langley as Prince Maurice. A delightful study of the Countess of Rassellyn emanates from Miss Blanche Steele, whose fine acting is spontaneously approved of. Two chic maids-in-waiting are found in Miss Lizzie Lennon and Miss Hettie Ferguson; a painstaking Austrian dancer is Miss Julie de Esco; while Miss Ellen Snow has a stupendous task to fulfill as Princess Iris, a part she has mastered to perfection. Other characters in the drama have been wisely allotted.

Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Sam Winks.—A crowded and enthusiastic holiday audience gave Miss Hilda Jacobsen, who describes herself the brightest of all musical comedy stars, a rousing reception on Monday. Her business is of the best, the singing and dancing being superb. The appellation will undoubtedly take much wresting. Another exhilarating turn was contributed by Pip Powell and Katie Vesey in a musical absurdity, *The New Woman*, the witticisms being thoroughly enjoyed. The unique solo concertina player, Percy Honri, once more delighted his numerous admirers; Marriott Edgar, "the man in red," did likewise; Los Rupertos gave a wonderful equilibrium act; while Dan Filmer and Benno Adele were heartily applauded. Captain Maximilian Cruber's elephant, horse, and pony, in a speciality cake-walk and serpentine dances, brought the programme to a close.

Palace and Hippodrome, Ltd.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Ed. Harrison.—A gigantic bill is again put on here, headed by the all-time favourite, Marie Kendall, who gives all her latest successes smartly, embodied with many a quaint pose. Steve McCarthy has more than acquired the art of step-dancing; and Rich and Rich, comedians, extort many smiles. Elsie Roby in *The Slavey's At Home*; Luigi Salvino, a musical prodigy; the Three Pirmans, in their novelty act, *Dans le Jardin*; T. G. Edwards, an Australian baritone; together with James Mooney and Ida Holbein in a vaudeville intermezzo, complete a remarkably good entertainment.

HANLEY. — Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Douglas Elphinstone.—The Easter attraction is Mr. Lewis Waller's company in *Robin Hood*. Mr. R. Minster is seen in the title-rôle, and his performance clever and artistic. Miss Marie Polini contributes a splendid reading of Lady Marion de Vaux; as Friar Tuck Mr. Augustus Wheatman is well placed, his playing of the part being first-class; Miss Katherine Hinton admirably enacts the part of Adela; Mr. Elliott Ball does well as Hugo; and the Sir Aylmer le Botelier of Mr. Val Glynn is a most praiseworthy interpretation. The songs introduced are admirable, Mr. Herbert Bunning having done his work masterly, such songs as "In the May-time," "The man and the maid," "Black Jack," &c., being excellent.

Grand.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. James Wynes.—The Boissetti Troupe head the bill this week in that funny sketch, *The Bricklayers*. The Schiavoni's Troupe in their comic acrobatic performance contribute a really clever exhibition, the feats of Miss Ella being truly wonderful; Ross and Lewis, in their sketch *Fits and Misfits*, present a turn of much excellence, the dancing of the male member being admirable; Alma Obrey is always welcome, and is successful; Bob Baxter sings a capital song, viz., "Come away," in good style; Lillian Warren in her illustrated songs is well received; Lilith, the mysterious flying lady, is a turn which creates much interest; and the pictures are up to date, one being shown of the Grand National.

HARROGATE. — Grand Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Smith. — For Easter week Baron H. Harriss's company in *The Prince of Pilsen* is here. Miss Sophie Harris appears as Mrs. Maddison Crocker, and makes the most of her many opportunities; Mr. Harry Kilburn is a gifted comedian (Hans Wagner), and was greatly appreciated by the huge audience; Carl Otto, the real Prince of Pilsen, has an able exponent in the person of Mr. Frank Crimp, who possesses a fine voice; Mr. Roy Sidney is a good Lieut. Wagner. Miss Connie Leon, as Sidonie, the French maid, is a capital dancer, and receives many recalls for her "Zuyder Zee" song and dance. Mr. Rich was amusing as the French waiter, François; and Miss Albert as the Gibson Girl attracted much attention. The rest of a very long cast was in reliable hands. The piece is lavishly mounted and dressed, and Mr. Albert Vernon conducted an excellent orchestra, and Mr. Herbert Higgins was the courteous general-manager.

HARTLEPOOL.—Empress.—Proprietors, Messrs. Councillor Everton and J. W. Cragg; Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Charlie Ferrier.—Packed houses are nightly showing unmistakable signs of appreciation of the holiday programme submitted this week. Foremost in the list is Miss Georgette Thierry's sketch company in *Nancy Sikes*, an episode dramatised from *Oliver Twist*. Coralli, a Tyneside ventriloquist, is the recipient of marks of appreciation; Sadler and Ross, patter comedians, and Tom Henderson, comedian and dancer, add considerably to the humour of the evening; James Kurry, who has made such a great success in pantomime this season, continues to please; the Belmores (Bertha and Kittie), smart comediennes and neat, expert dancers, please greatly; the Four Maisanos, in Continental musical eccentricities, are loudly encored; and the Bioscope is more than usually interesting.

HASTINGS.—Gaiety Theatre.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Scutt.—The Easter attraction here was provided by Messrs. Lionel Glenister and Wood Ingram's company in *All-of-a-Sudden Peggy*, on a three day's visit. The house was literally packed on Monday, and a hearty welcome was given to Miss Decima Moore upon her entrance as Peggy, a rôle she played with most perfect naturalness. No less a success was the companion rôle, Jimmy, played by Mr. Lionel Glenister. Excellent support was rendered by Miss Naomi Neilson as Mrs. O'Mara, Miss Kate Wingfield as Lady Crackenthorpe, and the Misses Eva Lonsdale and Estelle Despa, and Messrs. F. G. Bailey and Hendum Bland. The comedy was preceded by the dramatic episode *The Lady who Dwelt in the Dark*. On Thursday and remainder of the week Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company were billed with *The Freedom of Suzanne*, Miss Mabel Love in the principal rôle.

Pier Pavilion.—Pier-Master, Mr. R. Turner; Entertainment-Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—Boucicault's sensational drama *After Dark* is being played here by Mr. J. D. Hunter's company. A characteristic sketch of the wily Jew, Dicey Morris, is given by Mr. Hunter; Mr. Charles Hawker gives a polished interpretation of Sir George Medhurst; a telling embodiment of Gordon Chumley comes from Mr. Howell Seguin; Mr. E. W. Maule Cole distinguishes himself in the part of Chandos Bellingham; A very intelligent representation of Old Tom is given by Mr. Herbert Maule; a graceful impersonation of Eliza is presented by Miss Violet Graham; and Miss Violet Agnew very naturally and tenderly portrays the character of Rose Egerton.

Hippodrome Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Norman.—The holiday programme is opened by the swell comedian, Mr. Mike Asher. The Currie Trio exhibit some smart dancing; the unique juggler, Primavesi, is remarkably clever; the Bioscope shows some excellent films; Miss Edie Anderson, comedienne and dancer, is highly appreciated; some telling scenes, extremely well acted, from the works of Dickens are introduced by Miss Eva Hope and Jack Wayho; Happy Attwood, comedian, soon ingratiates himself with his audience; some nimble and diverting comedy juggling is shown by Derenda and Green; the Sisters Reno are pretty and graceful dancers; and the Ford and Barris Trio, legmania dancers and bone soloists, contribute a good turn.

St. Leonards Pavilion Theatre.—Pier-Master and Entertainment-Manager, Mr. Elvey Thomas.—A return visit of *Charley's Aunt* has been much appreciated by the holiday folk. A good sketch of Sir Francis Chesney is given by Mr. Sydney Compton; a natural impersonation of Stephen Spettigue is contributed by Mr. Walter Beaumont; the three undergraduates, Jack Chesney, Charles Wykeman, and Lord Babberly, as represented by Messrs. Hastings Lynn, Richard B. Mason, and Spencer Trevor, exhibit humorous characteristics; Miss Lena MacNaughton in the title-rôle gives an intelligent performance; Miss Bertha Northam plays the part of Kitty Verdun very prettily; and as Spettigue's niece, Miss Ida Vynall acts with refreshing simplicity. An excellent rendering of Ela Delahay is given by Miss Ruth Nightingale.

HOYLAND.—Metropole.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Geo. S. King; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. R. Baker.—Messrs. Beaudyn and Livesey's company opened on Monday to an excellent house with *A Traitor Prince* Mr. George M. Montanini is a powerful exponent of Prince Roa Dalmirez; and Mr. Lincoln Calthorpe is a manly Lieut. F. Derrick. Mr. Dudley Wynton, in the dual rôle of Richard Vane and Colonel Vane, is very good; and an excellent Cara is found in Mr. James Sherwin. The comedy element is ably supplied by Messrs. D. Hallam and T. Musgrove as Billy Bright and the Hon. Bobby Dalrymple, well supported by Miss Netta Mitchell as Pansy Blossom and Miss Clara O'Grady as Mrs. Blossom. As Lola Vane Miss Rose Routledge is all that can be desired; and Miss Florence Delmar, in the rôle of Vashti, displays great histrionic ability.

HUDDERSFIELD.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Andrews.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard has put on the road a fine company for the presentation of Mr. Tree's production of *Oliver Twist*. The various episodes are cleverly handled, notably by Mr. Stanley Drewitt as the crafty and treacherous Fagan, Miss Edith Anton Laing as the devoted Nancy, and Mr. Arthur Escort as the rough and cruel Bill Sikes. Miss Eva Stuart is dainty and refined as Rose Maylie; Mr. W. H. Rotherham "doubles" very effectively as Monks and Mr. Grimwig; Mirrie Omar shows talent as the boy Oliver; and the less important parts are all carefully filled. The piece is well dressed and mounted.

Hippodrome, Ltd. — Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—A big bill is provided for the packed holiday houses. At the top is a closely and cleverly-written one-act piece, by Cecil Raleigh, entitled *The Doom of Delilah*. The intensely dramatic episode is capably played by Miss Lilian Dundas and Messrs. Lawrence Leyton and Harry Kendal. Other turns are Bert Williams, a bright ventriloquial humorist; James Stewart, in his clever sketch, *The Tramp at the Piano*; Mlle. Rose, contralto vocalist; Julia Kent and Alex. Keith, duologue artists; Miss Lola Patey, a pretty ballad singer; J. W. Hawtrey, an acceptable actor-vocalist; Miss Rosa Tilley, comedienne; Tom Carrick, dame comedian; Keen and Waller, in their clever and eccentric acrobatic performance; and new pictures on the ever-popular Bioscope.

HULL.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. F. Morton.—The Easter attraction is Mrs. Russ Whytal, whose present engagement is for a fortnight. The versatility of this charming actress was shown on Monday, when she appeared in the afternoon as Juliet and in the evening as Lady Teazle—an impersonation both delightful and *spirituel*. Sir Peter was pleasantly portrayed by Mr. G. S. Titheradge. Mrs. Whytal is as well able to paint the sombre shades of tragedy as the sunnier-hued of comedy. On Tuesday *The Merchant of Venice*, with many clever innovations, was produced; and *As You Like It* figured on Wednesday's bill.

Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—An extraordinary attraction for Easter is *Peter Pan*, Mr. Barrie's beautiful story. Miss Zena Dare has made the hit of the Grand season, much as her reputation had preceded her; she comes very high up, and fully justifies what one had heard about her. That sterling actor Mr. G. W. Anson finds plenty of scope for his powers as Smee; whilst Mr. Lionel MacKinder as the Pirate Captain has a capital part, which he fills with distinction.

Alexandra Theatre.—Mortons, Ltd.; General Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—*A False Wife* is just the play for a Bank Holiday audience, and there is no denying the fact that at the "Alex." Bank Holiday audiences are very real. The play, if

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built on conventional lines, is one with strong powers of attraction. It is from the pen of Mr. F. Marriott Watson, who finds his opportunity as the villain, painting the character in sufficiently lurid colours. Miss Florence E. Florence as the adventuress shows that she has in no small degree histrionic talent that only needs a little development, and one will watch with interest her future. Miss Annie Hylton as Agnes and Miss Ivy Chandos as Bessie are to be commended.

THE HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Graham; Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—The Eugene Family of gymnasts give a sensational performance; Griffiths Bros. cause much amusement with their very clever business; a very versatile artist is Miss Odeyne Spark, who possesses a highly cultivated voice, and sings, dances, and recites to perfection; the MacDonald Trio appear in a nice musical show; and Sam Shipley is also a favourite. Beatrice Worth, a favourite burlesque vocalist, and Dave O'Toole complete the bill.

THE PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. John S. Barnett. Mike S. Whallen is as big a favourite as ever; Fred Elton gives an excellent piano scena; Speedwell is a most talented artist in the sketching line; the Aurora troupe of cyclists gave a clever performance; Herbert Shelley appears in a smart quick-change artist; Daisy Mayer is a clever coon vocalist and dancer; Azella Wilson a graceful gymnast; and Graham and Webb Bros. also contribute a pleasing entertainment.

THE CIRCUS.—Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Emerson. —Animated pictures are drawing crowded houses.

HYDE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. R. Feather.—Good business is being done here this week by Mr. Bulmer's company in *When Woman Hates*. Mr. Percy Horton as Lieut. Frank Rokeby is well applauded for his spirited acting; the unscrupulous nature of Godfrey Lawton is graphically depicted by Mr. Gordon Robey; and Mr. Fred Dalby plays with quiet dignity the rôle of General Sir Henry Rokeby. In the character of Cora Daintry, Miss Chrissie Dunbar displays exceptional histrionic ability; Miss Gladys Hawthorne makes a sweet and sympathetic Edith Rokeby; Miss Ethel Whiteby gives a finished performance as Marie; and Little Zara Dare plays intelligently as Nelly. The humorous elements are in the capable hands of Mr. Evan Roland as Patrick O'Brien, Mr. Walter Clarke as Alphonse Picolot, and the Misses Mary Dalby and Sybil Haughton as Mrs. Sally Potts and Miss Sally Potts respectively.

OHMY'S CIRCUS.—Crowds have been attracted here this week by Jasper Redfern's talking, singing, and animated pictures and colour photography. Dennis McCarthy scores in his latest songs; Lena Page and Edna Francis are highly successful as vocalists; and Bostock creates roars of laughter by his quaint ditties. The other turns include Cristo, a clever magician; Dean and Lester, coon vocalists and dancers; and F. W. Barrett, comedian.

ILKESTON.—QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. T. Knightall.—The first position on the bill is held by Harley and Melton, comedians and dancers, who have a good reception; Yettmah, with his Japanese magic, remains another week; Fred Harrison receives marked attention as a character comedian; F. H. Dundas, actor vocalist, and Nellie Elder, Tyrolean vocalist, are successful; Dan Harley, comedian, and Fred Melton, comedian, give able support.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—Mr. Augustine Knight and company are appearing here this week in *The Assassin*, in which Mr. Knight himself exhibits acting of a high order in the rôle of Prince Demetri. The part of Countess Wanda is handled in a capable manner by Miss Ella Vane; whilst that of Ipanoff is well represented by Mr. Edward E. Ashby. Mr. Chauncy Morris gives a good reading of General Nicol; and Mr. Theo Balfour is clever as Duke Karl. Mr. Edwin Jenner is excellent as Captain O'Neil; and Miss Hettie Senior as Connie Jonathan wins the favourable opinion of the house. Miss Frances Waring is well chosen for the part of Nita; Mr. Cecil H. Raymond as Baron Alphonse, Mr. Tom J. Taylor as Peter, Mr. George Kempt as Evangie, and Miss Marie E. Robertson as Katrina are responsible for some very acceptable comedy.

IPSWICH.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Leonard Grey.—For the Easter week, Mr. Jerome K. Jerome's piece, *Tommy*, was produced, with Miss Annie Hughes in the title-rôle. This accomplished actress was well supported by Mr. Rupert Leslie as Dick Danvers, Mr. Evelyn Vernon as Peter Hope, and Mr. Willie Haslett as Peter Clodd. The ladies' parts were well rendered by Miss Winifred Pearson and others. The curtain-raiser was the well-known farce, *Good-for-Nothing Nan*.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—A varied and attractive programme was provided for the holidays. The chief item was the appearance of Herr Grais, with his trained baboons, whose marvellous performances were received with general and unstinted applause. The other chief turns included Alf. Chester, a droll comedian and singer; the Four Jumels, clever instrumentalists; Mlle. Haydee's Bijou Marionettes; E. J. Sheldon, the "Man in White"; Walter Purvis and company, in a sketch called *Cauliflower Joe;* and the Weldrums, in an interlude, called *The Silly Burglar*.

JARROW.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr Jerold E. Reed.—Mr. C. Watson Mill and company are paying a welcome visit here with the drama, entitled *A Warning to Women*. Mr. Norman B. Cannon gives a manly performance of the part of Fergus McNaughton; Mr. N. Carter Slaughter is an excellent Lord Eversleigh; and Mr. Henry Rutland a vigorous Squire Kennion. Mr. Richard Vane proves equal to the part allotted to him of Dr. Marcus Dread; Mr. C. Watson Mill makes the part of Shaun quite a character-study; and Mr. Henry P. Kennedy gives great assistance in the rôle of Mike McQuade. Great credit is due to Miss Edith Rutland for the care she bestows on the part of Miles O'Moore; Miss Rosalind Tate supplies an admirable portrayal of Moira Kennion; Miss Grace Barton is sympathetic as Sheila Kennion; and Miss Ellen Beverley is well placed as Molly O'Moore; and the same remark applies to Miss Elinor Glover as Hildred.

THE HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Ernest Adrim.—This place of amusement has been reopened for a short season, and the following artists are appearing this week:—The Four Louberts, in a pantomimical acrobatic sketch, entitled *Uninvited*, which is well received; Keane Harker, eccentric comedian; Winnie Wentworth, comedienne; the old Jarrow favourite, W. S. Hutchinson, ventriloquist; Henderson, the blind concertina soloist; Will Hughes, boy coon singer and sand-dancer; John E. Lennard, character comedian; and the Sauteron Wonders.

JERSEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. Edward Marris.—Mr. Edward Marris reopened this house last Saturday night with his own company in *The Dandy Doctor*. There can be no doubt that Mr. Marris, who has this week taken over the theatre, will prove a most popular lessee, and his clever versatility as author, actor, and manager, augurs well for his success. As Melchisadek Brown Mr. Marris at once placed himself upon a friendly footing with his patrons, making an undoubtedly big hit; Mr. George Blunt as Colonel Pendred is sufficiently fierce; Mr. Brunston Williams is an efficient Dr. Vandyke; Mr. Walter Nugent as Bertie Bolingbroke caused much mirth; and Mr. Owen Dacroy as Drycoff, Mr. J. P. Twist as P.C. Quick, and Mr. Ernest Pierce as Henson do good work. Pretty Miss Ethel Ward is a vivacious Ivy Pendred; and Miss Florence Smithers causes roars of laughter.

KENDAL.—ST. GEORGE'S HALL.—Managers, Messrs. Butler and Chorley.—Mr. Henry E. Leigh's company is presenting *The 'Varsity Belle*. Mr. James Danvers as Professor Septimus Stoney is funny, and is ably supported by Miss Josephine Ellis in the title-rôle. Miss J. Sullivan earns an enthusiastic encore for her rendering of "Dreamland."

KING'S LYNN.—NEW ROYAL THEATRE.—Lessees, J. Bannister Howard, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Herr B. Pareezer.—An excellent programme has resulted in crowded houses the first three nights this week. Ara, Zebra, and Vora, in "Indian Pastimes," were accorded a vociferous reception; Les Blancs gave a clever comic performance on the triple bars; and Staffo was responsible for an excellent comedy juggling turn. Grant and Allen were very funny in their burlesque; Miss Daisy Reed danced exceedingly well; and Fred Elmont proved a popular comedian. As usual, Jury's Pictures were a great success.

KIRKCALDY.—KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Burton.—The season was brought to a close on Easter Monday, when Mr. Burton, the popular acting-manager, took a well-earned benefit. Mr. Burton's popularity was evinced by the large and fashionable audience that turned out to witness the programme, which was a varied and attractive one. The interesting feature of the entertainment was the appearance of Mr. Burton himself, assisted by Mrs. Burton and daughter, in the one-act comedy, *On Delicate Ground*, and in three selected tableaux from *Richard III*. Others who assisted successfully were Mr. John Clyde and his company in *The Irish Doctor;* Mr. E. W. McClellan, tenor vocalist; Miss Nellie Hutchison, and the McCarrons, dancers. The orchestra, which has greatly improved under the lately-appointed conductor, Mr. J. W. Snape, gave valuable assistance.

LANCASTER.—ATHENÆUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alfred Hook.—A big holiday attraction was provided here in Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer and company, who opened on Saturday evening with *East Lynne*. Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer appeared with her usual success as Lady Isabel; and Mr. F. Skein did full justice to the part of Sir Francis Levison. The répertoire also includes *From Washerwoman to Duchess, Mary Queen of Scots, Hamlet, School for Scandal*, and *Jane Shore*.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Porter and Fergusson; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Martin.—A mammoth programme arranged for the holiday week has been rewarded by crowded houses. The Columbia Comedy Team, operatic and humorous vocalists, head the bill; Mabel Le Roy sings exceedingly well; and Vincent, acrobatic performer, is smart. The Boston Twins are well received, and Defidardy has some good patter; Correze and Keith, comedy jugglers, and the Brady and Johnson sketch combination fairly bring down the house. The Hippograph is still an attraction. Ernie Myers, comedian, has a gratifying reception, and Miss Lilly Lonsdale, vocalist, is recalled again and again.

LEAMINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Manager, Mr. Harry Hunter.—Mr. Ian Maclaren and his Shakespearean company are appearing here with great success in a répertoire of the immortal bard's works. On Saturday *Hamlet* was played to an appreciative audience. Mr. Ian Maclaren acted Hamlet in a most impressive manner; whilst Mr. W. S. Hartford gave an intelligent rendering of Claudine. A graceful and pathetic Ophelia was found in Miss Katherine Harrington; whilst Mr. J. N. Bryant's Horatio was a commendable performance. Other impersonations calling for favourable mention were the Polonius of Mr. Arthur Fayne, the Laertes of Mr. Frank Royde, and the Queen of Miss Edith Coleman. On Easter Monday the company appeared in *The Free Lance*, a notice of which appears in another column. *The Merchant of Venice, Othello, Twelfth Night, Romeo and Juliet, As You Like It*, and *Macbeth* have also been played during the week.

LEEDS.—GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Edward Cadman.—*The Belle of New York* again appears here, and has filled the house to overflowing with appreciative holiday crowds. Mr. George Musgrove's company are talented. Mr. John Doran figures well as Harry Bronson; Papa Brown has a capable representative in Mr. Paddy Duprez; and Mr. Joseph R. Tate is repeating his diverting creation of the polite lunatic. Mr. Frank Lawton re-appears in his original part, and his whistling is as usual a most popular feature. The Belle is portrayed in charming style by Miss Empsie Bowman; a clever study of the *chic* Fifi goes to the credit of Miss Lily Maxwell; and Cora Angelique is well acted by Miss Winnie Browne. Other leading parts are well played by Mr. Alfred Sandoe, Mr. Walter Uridge, and Miss Florence Hersee.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—*The Girl Who Lost Her Character* holds the boards here. Miss Alice Bracewell is applauded for a talented portrayal of the central figure of Molly Vernon, and she is capitally supported by a good company, of whom Mr. Stanley S. Gordon, Mr. Vincent W. Carlyle, and Miss Emmie Barton are particularly prominent members.

EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alex Galley.—La Milo's beautiful classic poses have aroused great enthusiasm. That clever quintette of entertainers, the Delevines, fill the bottom of the bill with conspicuous success; the Bros. Lang are screamingly funny with an eccentric knockabout act; Gwennie Hasto finds a big reception for her clever speciality dancing. The vocal contributions of Godfrey James, a real singing collier, are a popular line; Miss Gladys Mavius pleases with attractive song and dance; and acceptable turns are also furnished by Harry Lawson, comedian; Harold Hughman, mimic; and Carrie Joy, comedy artist.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter De Frece; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Bush.—Some beautiful and artistic posings by the famous Spanish artist, Irma Lorraine, are a feature of this week's bill. Dora Lyric is a popular comedienne, and this week enhances a big local reputation. Martinengo achieves notable success with vocal and instrumental contributions; an amusing comedy sketch is cleverly done by the Gregson Trio; Maxford and O'Neill are a pair of smart comedians and patterers; whilst Lloyd Morgan, comedian; Marie Jones and company, in a clever protean act; Johnson and Pelham, with comedy pot-pourri; and Percy Johnson, comedian, also make a successful appearance.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Thos. Barrasford; General-Managers, Mr. Chas. Weldon and Mr. Claude Shayler.—Fred Karno's company, with the extravaganza, *Saturday to Monday*, is a popular holiday attraction here. The Four Rios achieve success with a remarkably fine gymnastic turn. That popular artist, Ada Fawn, enhances a big reputation; Walter Emerson is to the fore with smart new items in the comedy line; and the eccentric contributions of Spencer and Marks are a successful feature. Of the rest, Sam Morrison, vocalist; Dan Robans, operatic tenor; and Gus Hindell, comedian, distinguish themselves in their respective lines.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Jones.—Alburtus and Jessie Millar provide the top-of-the-bill turn this week with an excellent comedy and instrumental speciality. The popular comedian, J. W. Hall, is again a strong favourite; and in a similar line Jack Crawley and Chas. Russell are also doing well. The Lambert and Hands Trio are very successful with an attractive song-scena; the Ringling Trio are eccentrics of much merit; and further capital entertainment is subscribed by the La Donays, song illustrators; and Bertha Winder, the dancing marvel.

LEICESTER.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; General and Business-Manager, Mr. Henry Dundas.—After being closed for five nights, this theatre re-opened on Saturday evening with Mr. Milton Bode's company, in *A Chinese Honeymoon*. The whole production is a particularly smart one, the artists engaged being well up to their work, and the lavishness displayed in the dressing and staging is also a feature. New songs and business have been introduced, and altogether the phenomenal success achieved augurs well for a most successful future. There is a full London chorus and augmented orchestra, under the direction of Mr. W. D. J. Damant. Mr. Rudolph Kloss as the Emperor, who has a most imposing figure, is very good; and both Mr. P. Allerton Turner as Chippie Chop and Mr. Leonard May as Li Hung give excellent impersonations. Mr. Tom Jennings is admirable as Tom Hatherton; Mr. George Rydon scores a distinct success as Mr. Pineapple, the same remark applying to Miss Eva Bevington as Mrs. Pineapple; Miss Gwennie Harcourt must be accorded great praise for a particularly clever impersonation of the waitress, Fi-Fi; Miss Nancy Rossiter is a delightful Princess Soo-Soo, and sings with most successful results; Miss Maud Adams is good as Mrs. Brown. Attractive and pretty bridesmaids are forthcoming in Miss Dorothy Radcliffe, Miss Iris Roy, Miss Kathleen Kerr, and Miss Elsie Skillings. Mr. P. Allerton Turner is responsible for the excellent stage-management, and Mr. Alfred Munro is the general-manager for the company.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; business-manager, Mr. E. R. Beaumont.—A strong holiday attraction is presented here this week by Messrs. Fred J. Little and Fred Darcy's company, in the domestic play, *The Shadow of a Crime*, which has a good reception. Miss Nellie Howitt plays the part of Loyale Norman in an artistic manner; and Mr. W. Ruddle-Brown as Harry Bullington well maintains his reputation as a sound actor; Mr. Hugh Newburn is a success as Ralph Esmond; and both Mr. Fred J. Little as Jim Todd and Mr. Sidney T. Russell as Tom Brown give popular and amusing impersonations. Miss Nita Langford as Mrs. Thomas Brown and Miss Bertha St. Ruth as Sarah are good; Mr. J. B. Murray does well as Sir Edward Bullington; and Miss Nellie Moore as Dora Bullington is deserving of much praise.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Bertram G. Iles.—Huge holiday audiences are highly delighted with the programme here this week, at the head of which is Mr. George Gray and company, who have been specially retained, and are presenting the dramatic sketch, *Parson Gray, V.C.*, which is both staged and played in admirable style. Mr. Gray portrays the principal rôle in his inimitable manner, and the success of the whole performance is most pronounced. Lily Burnand, whose songs are rendered with a vivacity and "go" that is quite infectious, secures a fine reception; Nellie Coleman, whose extremely clever make-up as a low comedian is really astonishing, keeps the audience in the merriest mood. Howard and Harris, in *The Adventures of a Happy Hooligan*, give a most enjoyable and popular turn; the Three Tauberts are past-masters of the zylophone, their selections giving much pleasure; Dome, the comedy clay-modeller, raises the heartiest laughter; Frank Lyne is one of the smartest of humorists; Fanny Erris is a capital comedienne. The American Bioscope is also a feature, with some excellent films. The special overture, "Songs of the Season," is composed by Mr. John W. Lowe, the musical director, and is very tuneful.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Lapworth.—At this vaudeville theatre, where sketches are so popular, the management have secured Lloyd-Phillips' company, in the military drama, *Betrayed Friendship*, which is presented in good style, the principal parts being played by Mr. Syd Leslie, Mr. N. W. Phillips, Mr. T. B. Lloyd, Miss Lizzie Edare, and Miss Ivy Howard. The Albano Family of musical experts meet with a very popular reception. The Custances are seen to great advantage in their entertaining sketch, *A Game for Two;* Bert Goldin is a capital comedian and a very fine clog-dancer; Will Lear, a comedian with a novel style, who arouses hearty laughter; the Bros. Lennetti are excellent acrobats; and Walter H. Pallister's Bioscope makes a big success.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Manager, Mr. G. Stanyon.—Mr. Waller Jeffs' New Century Pictures opened their season here on Monday afternoon. They comprise the very latest films, and the marvellous effects secured by the new process of polychromatic photography is shown. The humorous subjects are accompanied by roars of laughter, and "Japanese Boats Tossing on the Rapids," "A Tour in Cornwall with Bostock and Wombwell's Circus," "The Great Fox Hunt," &c., are received with unstinted approbation. The Four Sisters of Erin also introduce a capital vocal and musical turn, and Miss Tiller renders an illustrated song. Mr. Walter Rozelle lucidly explains the various subjects, which are presented with novel effects, and accompanied by appropriate music.

LEIGH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Cragg; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Rousby.—The popular musical comedy *The Earl and the Girl* is paying a first visit here, and is proving a great attraction as presented by Mr. William Greet's company. Mr. Thomas Kennard is a distinct success as Dick Wargrave, his songs being greatly appreciated. Miss Gertrude Simpson gives a capital representation of Elphin Haye, and her rendering of the song "In Zanzibar" is loudly applauded; Miss Ida Stratham makes a charming Daisy Fallowfield; Mr. Alfred Donohoe as Jim Cheese never fails to keep the amusement at a high pitch; Mr. Leslie Owen makes a capital Hon. Crewe Boodle; Miss Lina Hicks is seen to advantage as Liza Shoddam; Miss K. Gerrard as Mrs. Shimmering Black and Miss Winnie Plumpton as Miss Virginia Bliss deserve special mention; Mr. E. A. Plumpton scores as the American lawyer, Downham; and Mr. G. Hayes and Mr. Sam Lysons are very good in their respective parts of Bunker Bliss and Mr. Talk.

LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—The ever-popular *Florodora* has been the attraction here, well produced by Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company. The peculiar personality of Anthony Tweedlepunch is excellently represented by Mr. Alf. E. Passmore; the rôles of Lord Abercoed and Cyrus Gilfain are effectively interpreted by Messrs. H. V. Cropton and Stanley White; while Mr. Edwin Oxlee and Mr. Harold Perry are both good in their respective parts of Leandro and Captain Donegal. Dolores is exceedingly well portrayed by Miss Daisy Lake; Misses Kate Leicester and Lily Gullick contribute catchy songs and dances as Lady Holyrood and Angela Gilfain; and in the important matters of chorus, costumes, and stage-setting, commendation is due to all concerned.

LINCOLN.—ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Frank King.—In its way, *The Little Stranger*, Michael Morton's fantastic novelty, is certainly unique, and immensely amused a big Bank Holiday audience on Monday. Master Edward Garratt as the pseudo Baby is, of course, the life and soul of the piece; Mr. C. Stewart is good as the Captain; the General and Sir George Peacock are ably contrasted by Mr. S. Lathbury and Mr. A. Lucy; and Mr. C. Hanbury as Howard, Mr. C. A. Doran as the Spiritualist, and Mr. F. Epitaux as Eames, all do extremely well. Miss Dora Hole as the mother is quite successful.

PALACE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Sydney Arthur.—A big holiday bill has attracted overflowing audiences. The chief number is Mr. J. H. Darnley in the condensed farce, *What a Night*, which is crowded with genuine fun. The programme includes two marvellous gymnasts in the Craggs, a party of smart instrumentalists in the Transfields, and entertaining items also by Vera Mayne, D. W. Watson, Lise Rolland, Minnie Fenton, John Macauley, and Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

LLANDUDNO.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. A. E. Vaughan; Manager, Mr. J. Ritson.—The Parisian Animated Picture Company are again occupying the boards of the above theatre with an entire change of pictures, which are up to date in all branches. Miss Vi Epiett, in her songs, "Good-bye, sweet Marie" and "My Rickshaw Queen," greatly contribute to the varied programme; as also does Mr. Ernest Ellerslie in his tableaux song, "Alone on the raft."

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. A. G. Pugh.—On Saturday, March 30, Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company commenced a four nights' engagement in Mr. Hall Caine's play, *The Christian*. The Hon. John Storm, as depicted by Mr. Jack Fortescue, is a part thoroughly enacted throughout, and he deserves every credit; Miss Laura Walker as Glory Quayle is excellent, her many phases of life being faithfully portrayed in each and every case; Mr. P. Gedge Twyman is a good Lord Robert Ure; Mr. Percy Johnson (Parson Quayle) and Mr. Ernest Stidwell (Horatio Drake), are well placed; Miss Constance (Mrs. Callender), Mr. Harry Colbeck (Father Lamplugh), Mr. Phipps Stanley (Archdeacon Wealthy), Mr. Anthony Rawles (the Faro King), and Miss Aggie Royal (Aggie Jones), complete a powerful cast.

LLANELLY.—ROYALTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Z. Andrews; Acting-Manageress, Miss Alice Rocheforte.—Miss Elaine Verner's company, including the great Welsh actor, Mr. Harding Thomas, is here with *The Middleman, Saints and Sinners*, and *Judal*. Mr. Harding Thomas enacts the part of Cyrus Blenkarn in a powerful and successful manner; Joseph Chandler is in the able hands of Mr. E. Rayson Cousens; Mr. Edward de Vere is very good as Captain Julian Chandler; Miss Elaine Verner as Mary is most sympathetic; and the part of Nancy is exceedingly well portrayed by Miss Ada Clarke. Mr. Edgar Kent is a good Batty Todd.

LOWESTOFT.—MARINA.—Managing-Director, Mr. E. A. Smith.—The management here have decided to lower the prices of admission to all parts of the house to half the ordinary prices, and the new arrangement came into operation on Bank Holiday, when a crowded house witnessed a return visit of *Sherlock Holmes*. Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart showed to great advantage in the title-rôle, and was warmly received for a most careful and convincing study. Supporting him were Messrs. W. F. Sterling, Stanley Logan, James Skea, Ernest Gray, Edward Mervyn, and the Misses Constance Leigh, Rosalie Notrelle, and Lindsay Fincham.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert; Manager, Mr. F. Freeland.—This popular house was packed to repletion on Monday. Besides the beautiful series of animated pictures, we have this week the Five M.P.'s, musical experts; Miss Daisy Dimple, vocalist; and Stelling and his canine partner, Kiswoski.

LUTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. Graham Falcon; Manager, Mr. Louis J. Beard.—*The London Fireman* was well received at this theatre on Monday. Miss Nelly Shirley as Ida Curtis makes a womanly heroine; Miss Waddington and Miss Sinclair as Gladys Fleming and Grace Curtis respectively are pleasing; and Mr. E. Garside portrays Ratty successfully. Mr. H. Humber does well as Viscount Fleming.

MACCLESFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. H. Gatley.—A good all-round company, under the direction of Mr. F. J. Webb, is successfully presenting *The Hour of Her Triumph* here. Mr. Fred J. Webb as Eugene Harbury is clever and vigorous; as Rose Denton Miss Barbara Gott acts with grace and ability; Mr. Harry Stuart depicts Harold Clavering in a praiseworthy manner; Mr. Clifton Earle is smart as Jack Vernon; Mr. Louis Nanton as Ben Brodie, Mr. J. Stuart as Roscrus, and Miss Hetty Gale as Jenny Jinks, are most amusing. Miss M. D. Smith as Nellie Clavering and Miss Mamie Stanton as Linda Denton, both do well; and Miss Lallah Price as Sal Soaker is good.

MAIDENHEAD.—PAVILION PLEASURE GARDENS. —Proprietor, Mr. G. Gude.—A capital al fresco entertainment is provided here. Dan Idle is the embodiment of boisterous fun, and keeps the audience in continuous laughter; Rene, the girl juggler, provides a pleasing turn; Charles Douglas is most entertaining, both in song and story; Roy Beavis has a happy way of amusing while he deceives; and a capital finish is provided by Leslie and Player, comedy duettists and patterers. Mr. Gude announces his intention to open for the season on May 6. Miss Adelaide Twort (balladist) and Miss Gertie Lovedale (comedian and dancer), who were great favourites last year, are re-engaged.

MAIDSTONE.—CORN EXCHANGE.—Manager, Mr. J. W. Beslee.—The Margate stock company is drawing crowded houses here this week with *Caste*. Special mention must be made of Mr. Wallis Clark as Eccles, Mr. A. Austin Leigh as Captain Hawtree, Mr. Richard Trieve as Sam Gerridge, and Miss Mabel Archdall as Polly.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. S. Baskerville.—A good holiday programme is being submitted here, headed by Otto Menotti, in his daring and sensational motor-bicycle act; Harry Freeman is a popular comedian; Toch and Tard are amusing in their aerial comedy act; Kitty Clover and company appear in an amusing sketch; Will Cornish is an accomplished musician; the Sisters Lunelle are smart dancers; and Miss Connie Milton, comedienne, and the bioscope, complete the bill.

MANSFIELD.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, Mansfield, Sutton, and District Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Captain Cecil Clayton.—Excellent holiday fare is to be found in the presentation by Mr. Gilbert Payne's company of *The Honeymoon*. In the comedy part of Nathaniel Noodle Mr. Payne is excellently placed; Mr. Fred Fulton gives a capable interpretation of Archie Mashington; as Jack Armstrong Mr. Leslie Erle is successful; Miss Pattie Fairley is a vivacious Madge Armstrong; Miss Lillian Ramsdale is excellent as Eweretta Noodle; and as Stella Le Brunn Miss Nellie Dyson is admirable.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Herbert Darnley; Resident-Director, Mr. Tom Jennings; Acting-Manager, Mr. Mark Lorne.—*Her Nameless Child* is being presented here by Mrs. Sam Duckworth's company. In the rôle of Anthony Ford Mr. J. W. Evelyn plays well; Mr. H. Evelyn is well placed as Arthur Ford; Mr. Ellerslie Pyne admirably represents the part of Lord Henry Woodville; and the comedy element is capably looked after by Mr. Fred Danvers as Tom Rivers, and Miss Florence Hall as Bessie Brooks. Miss Grace Jones capably presents the character of Lady Sybil; and Miss Pattie Hastings is excellent as Phyllis.

VICTORIA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Geo. Fox.—Last Saturday night Mr. Herbert Barr's company opened a week's engagement with a répertoire of plays. On Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday *Life* was presented. Mr. Herbert Barr as Jack Lockhart was excellent; Mr. Will Sherlock was a capable Zac Krabbe; Mr. A. B. Lyons gives an admirable representation of Joe Pippet; Miss Dorothy Oswald is well placed as Beatrice Ferrars; Miss Maudie Vincent is a successful Jess; and as Mrs. Moriarty Miss Eva Shaw is effective.

MARGATE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Edward Michael; Stage and Business-Manager, Mr. A. Austin-Leigh.—This house reopened after the Lenten recess on Saturday with a strong holiday attraction, provided by Mr. Norman Macowan's company, in *Monsieur Beaucaire*. The piece was capitally produced, the acting throughout being of the highest order. The title-rôle was admirably sustained by Mr. Norman Macowan, and he was ably supported by Miss Violet Sterne as Lady Mary Carlisle. Mr. Murray Hathorn was seen to distinct advantage as the Duke of Winterset; and Mr. Harold Weston was good as Major Molyneaux. Mr. Sydney R. Palfrey was a success as Mr. Rakell; and the same remark applies to Mr. George Traill as Mr. Bicksett. Mr. P. Ramsey Forman did excellently as Captain Badger; and Mr. Robert Entwistle as Beau Nash, Mr. Sinclair Holden as Lord Townbreak, Mr. Henry Armstrong as Mr. Bantison, Mr. Erik Rooke as Joliffe, and Mr. Hans Schlesinger in the dual rôle of Marquis de Mirepoix and François, were respectively good. Miss Mary Masters was a charming Lucy Rellerton, Miss Mabel Adams a satisfactory Mrs. Mabsley, Miss Lester Stephens a good Lady Rellerton, Miss Isabel Hathorn meritorious as Miss Prestbury, and Miss Evelyn Victor and Miss Izzard all that could be wished as Miss Paitelot and the Countess of Greenbury. On Tuesday evening *A Marriage of Convenience* was given; but, with the exception of Friday evening, the first-played piece has remained in the bill for the rest of the week.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtree.—The management here have arranged a very attractive programme, and on Easter Monday both houses held packed and delighted audiences. Lew Loman, swell comedian, was boisterously received; the Cecilias, in their refined musical act, were given quite an enthusiastic ovation; and the Tom Davis Trio, in their daring and sensational whirling the whirl on motor-cycles in mid-air, created quite a furore. Fred Collins, Scotch comedian, proved most amusing; and in "Clito" was presented a most realistic reproduction of artistic statuary. The animated pictures are exceptionally good.

JETTY EXTENSION.—Proprietors, Margate Pier and Harbour Company; Secretary, Mr. Theo. Golder.—The special holiday attraction here has been the engagement of Mr. Tom Clare's Comedy Concert Company. Miss Gertrude Snow, soprano, has delighted all hearers; Miss Georgie Esmund, contralto, has sung well; and Mr. Arthur Mortimer, tenor, has carried all before him, his songs being encored over and over again. Mr. Stanley Kirby, baritone, has also been a strong favourite; Miss Jessie Jolly has well acted up to her name by being one of the most delightful comediennes one would wish to hear. Mr. Fred Milner, humorist, has completed the company.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Albert Jackson.—An excellent holiday programme is provided here, and attracts large houses. Harry Tate's company is responsible for endless amusement with the absurdity *Fishing;* Horace Jones, Welsh comedian, has a flattering reception; Athas and Collins are an attractive comedy couple; Cicarde is a smart juvenile juggler; Miss Nellie Stewart is a delightful comedienne, and obtains considerable applause; Sibb and Sibb are clever trapeze artists; S. B. Athol is excellent in his vocal production; and "Dreamland" and an effective display of bioscope pictures complete the bill.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—A really good programme here includes the Testo Brothers, in a humorous musical and comedy act; Barney Noble is successful with his songs; Tony Spring affords amusement as the jumping scarecrow; the Sisters Hypatia are refined duettists and dancers; and other artists include Benson and Waite, Al. Tasker (ball puncher), and Olive Veno (burlesque actress and clog dancer), the biograph showing some fine films.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE. —Manager, Mr. W. H. Melton.—Miss Mary Austin and Mr. E. Vivian Edmond's company is this week presenting *The Golden Ladder*. Mr. Wm. Clayton gives a refined and intelligent rendering of the Rev. Frank Thornhill; Mr. J. Milne-Taylor cleverly depicts the villainous Michael Severn, whose accomplice in M. Peranza is ably played by Mr. Douglas Howard; Mr. Fred Archer is an excellent Jim Dixon; Mr. Fred Mace is well placed as John Grant; Miss Elsie Marriott Watson is sympathetic and womanly in her interpretation of the heroine, Lilian Grant; and Miss Theresa Haynes plays excellently as Mrs. Dixon. Smart comedy is provided by Mr. Fred May as Samuel Peckaby and Miss Nellie Graham as Mrs. Peckaby.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Charles Imeson.—Mr. Frank Lindo and his company, in the domestic drama *Home, Sweet Home*, is here this week. Miss Marion Wakeford fills the leading rôle admirably, playing the part of Joan with naturalness; as Stephen Armitage Mr. Frank Lindo acts with great distinction; and Miss Daisy Rocheforte makes a charming Dora. David Armitage finds an excellent exponent in Mr. Lawrence Boyle; and Miss Cecil Wood gives a delightful reading of the part of Lady Summerton. Mr. Lionel Ray is all that can be desired as Gaffer; and Miss Ray Rocheforte is pleasing as Sybil Fay. Mr. Ernest Owens is very effective as Lord Silvermoor; and Captain Gerald Gambier does full justice to the part of the Duke of Ancaster. Mr. John Patrick does well as the Hon. Percy; and Mr. George Overs is good as Dick Redmayne. Mr. Miles Hodgson (Lucas Lyle), Mr. T. Lewis (Solomon Ready), and Mr. Danvers (Dr. Granby), also portray their respective parts exceedingly well.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, the Middlesbrough Grand Opera House Co., Ltd.—Mr. Louis Calvert's principal company pays a welcome return visit to Middlesbrough this week with *Sunday*. The title-rôle is filled by Miss Emelie Polini, who gives a sympathetic and emotional rendering of a difficult rôle; Mr. Leonard Pagden as Colonel Brinthorpe displays some fine acting, which elicits the applause of the audience; Mr. Ernest A. Douglas as Tom Oxley gives a clever impersonation; and Miss Rosalind Ross as Mrs. Naresby, is very pleasing; while Miss Muriel Pope acts charmingly as the sister

MORECAMBE. — Royalty Theatre and Opera House.—Sole Lessee, Lieut. Julian Malvern; General-Manager, Mr. Chas. M. Julian.—Mr. Walter Maxwell's excellent company in *The Lion and the Mouse* has proved a sterling attraction at this house, and the principal parts have been sustained by Miss Nita Faydon (the mouse), and Mr. Leslie Carter (the lion), and very admirably have both done their work. The capable company supporting them has included Misses Elspeth Dudgeon, Maude Townsend, Margaret Nybloc, Messrs. Herbert Chown, Douglas West, Geoffrey Hill, John Wheatman, and Dan Dyer. A most interesting production.

Alhambra Palace.—Manager, Alderman John Gardner; Secretary, Mr. F. R. Hartley.—The Six Brothers Luck have held high revel at this popular house, and their pantomimical absurdity, *The Demon of the Cellar*, goes as well as usual; the Arthur Saxon Trio of strong men have neat and new business; the Brothers St. Clair are smart in their comedy cycling act; Denby and Dent are capable, clean, clever comedians; Onda and Leon make much fun on the triple bars; the Sisters Dainton sing well; the Brothers Barker have a taking speciality; Polo and Florence are successful acrobats; and Miss Ethel Yorke has a refined and charming style as a comedienne.

Winter Gardens.—General-Manager, Mr. Tom Atkinson.—Tom Grave, in his daring act of flying the wheel, has proved a good holiday sensation here. The Kurios have caught on in their whimsical business; and the Geraldos have juggled cleverly. That excellent actor, Mr. T. W. Rawson, and Miss Lily Bertram, have presented the screamingly funny incident, *The Would-be Actors*, and this has proved quite one of the most bustling things going; Tate and Tate are clever acrobatic and trampoline people; the Wallys have proved themselves expert jugglers; and Mabel La Blanche has rendered attractive songs. Carl Rosine's wonderful hoop trick has baffled all seekers after the secret; Smiler Lee (comedian) and Hesketh Meade (baritone) have also been appearing.

Central Pier. — Manager and Secretary, Mr. Emilius Hill.—Topping the bill the Sisters Onetti have proved an effective holiday draw. Chas. E. Best, in his striking comedy act, *MacBunker the Mountebank*, has caused roars of laughter; the Five Musical Savonas play a variety of instruments with pleasing effect; Urquhart is an expert pedal equilibrist; Wee Jessie sings and dances pleasantly enough; J. S. James is always good on tambourine, banjo, or bones; and Sam Green demonstrates his possession of a capital baritone voice.

West End Pier.—Secretary, Mr. John Bastow.—On Sunday evening Mme. Ella Russell proved herself a great attraction here, and she was most heartily applauded by a big audience. Mr. Frank Oldfield sang at the same concert, and his fine bass voice was heard to advantage. During the week the Leopolds amused as usual, Astley Weaver entertained, and the Fitzgeralds juggled.

MOTHERWELL. — New Century Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant. — Mr. Edmund Tearle's company is this week appearing in a series of plays, *The Three Musketeers* being chosen to open with on Monday. Mr. Edmund Tearle appears to decided advantage as D'Artignan; and Mr. Bernhardt Turner is decidedly good as Cardinal Richelieu. Mr. Clifford Merle appears as the Duke of Buckingham; and the Three Musketeers are ably represented by Messrs. A. A. Adams, Ernest Lodge, and R. H. Lace. Miss Kate Clinton suitably sustains the rôle of Miladi; the same made be said of Miss Mary Campbell as the Queen; while Miss Esther Tearle should be congratulated on the charmingly simple manner in which she impersonates the character of Constance.

NEATH. — Castle Theatre. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Will. Hagger.—The holiday attraction here is *The Colleen Bawn*. Mrs. Will Hagger is a pleasing Eily O'Connor; Miss Kate Sylvester as Ann Chute, and Miss Giddings as Sheelah, are both good; Mr. Will Hagger is admirable as Myles-na-Coppaleen; the Father Tom of Mr. Geo. Stanley is successful; the Squire Corrigan of Mr. Fred Hagger is excellent; and Mr. Jack Desmond makes a capital Danny Mann. Mr. Arthur Stanley as Kyrle Daly and Mr. Harry Templeton as Hardress Cregan were praiseworthy; and the remaining parts were in adequate hands.

NELSON.—Grand Theatre.—Proprietress, Mrs. T. Greenwood Croft; Business-Manager, Mr. Geo. E. Mudd.—The boards have been occupied here this week by Mr. T. Morton Powell's company in the drama *Honour Thy Father*. Mr. Walter M. Cameron draws a faithful picture of the farmer Gabriel Garth; and Miss Kate Newton admirably plays the part of the trusting wife. To Miss Mabel Coleman is entrusted the difficult rôle of Lilian Garth, the erring daughter of the Garths, and she performed her task with every success. As Duncan Bly Mr. Howell Travis acts powerfully; and Mr. Claude Merton, in the dual rôle of Job Merry and Geo. Bloggs, lunatic, is in every respect capital. Miss Muriel Dean gives a charming presentation of Mercy Merry; whilst other characters deserving of note are Miss Ada Salmon as Poppy Cornleigh, Mr. Fred Rolls as Mike Copplestone, and Mr. Melrose as Ned Pennycomquick. Mr. Robert Gilbert as Jack Halyard is excellent. The transformation scenes are performed with expedition.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—Grand Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Bacon and Bolam; Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney Bacon.—The holiday attraction here this week is Mr. Fred Benton's company in *The French Spy*. Mr. Beresford Lovett makes an excellent Captain Sommers; Mr. Max Coutts as Count Romanoff is highly successful; Mr. Hugh Travers as General Trapoff gives a good interpretation; Mr. Charles Digby is a good-humoured Viscount Alexis, being admirably supported by Mr. Seymour Perry as Knipps; Miss A. Harrison Tate makes a winning Olga; and the French spy, Countess Aude, is in the capable hands of Miss Madge Devereaux.

Tyne Theatre. — Lessees, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. C. Sutcliffe.—A real rarity nowadays, in the shape of an English comic opera, is supplied in *Amasis*, which is rendered by a company of exceptional strength, organised by Mr. Louis Calvert. Every part is in thoroughly efficient hands; while the chorus, largely augmented orchestra, and staging are excellent Especially welcome to Novocastrian audiences is the appearance of Mr. Rutland Barrington, who, as Pharaoh, plays with an unctuous humour that is highly effective; Miss Constance Drever has charge of the title-part, and it would be difficult to imagine a more pleasing exponent, her pure, clear, and fresh voice being heard to great advantage in the various numbers allotted her; Miss Madge Vincent is a most vivacious Natis; Mr. Roland Cunningham's fine voice delights the audience; and Mr. Norman Salmond and Mr. Whitworth Mitton also prove great favourites. Mr. Laurie de Frece causes roars of laughter as Sebak; and Mr. Reg. White as Ptolemy is also very diverting. A characteristic dance by Miss Winifred Hart-Dyke gains well-deserved encores. *Amasis* is attracting crowded houses.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—A welcome visit is being paid this week to the Theatre Royal by the popular actor, Mr. Martin Harvey and his well-selected company. To a crowded house on Monday evening Mr. Harvey gave his first production in Newcastle of *The Corsican Brothers*, himself taking the dual rôle of the brothers Fabian and Louis dei Franchi. Judged by the immense reception he met with his interpretation of both parts was in the highest degree successful, and at every fall of the curtain he was awarded insistent rounds of applause. In the rôle of Emilie de Lesparre Miss Coleridge gave a charming and effective performance. The many other characters were ably sustained. An effective one-act tragedy, entitled *Rouget de L'Isle*, with Mr. Harvey in the title rôle, and Miss N. de Silva in a pathetic rendering of Angelo, precedes *The Corsican Brothers*. For Thursday evening *The Breed of the Treshams* was announced.

Empire Theatre.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—At the top of a gigantic holiday bill here is Mr. Hymack, who mystifies his audiences with his remarkable changes, and is accorded a great reception; Casey's Circus causes no end of laughter; Frank and Jen Latona have a delightful musical mélange; Kitts and Windrum's military contretemps goes well; the Cambrian Trio sing well together; George Brooks, with some catchy songs, scores heavily; Mezzetti and Mora, triple horizontal bar performers, do well; and the bill is completed by Lizzie Daniels, comedienne; Schwartz Brothers, Continental parodists; and pictures of the Grand National.

Pavilion Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Will H. Boardman.—Pantomime is the principal attraction here this week, and *Dick Whittington* is being enthusiastically received by crowded houses. A happy and dashing Dick is Miss Jessie Templeton; Lizzie Hay as the Princess fills the rôle in charming fashion. Percy Harman (baritone), The Crystals (vocalists and dancers), W. T. Ellwanger and company, in the comedy sketch *The Peacemaker*, and the well-known Tally-Ho Trio are also in the bill.

NEWPORT.—Lyceum.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sidney Cooper.—Mr. Ernest Carpenter's company, in *The Spider and the Fly*, provide the holiday attraction here. Mr. Benson North as Cyril Girdlestone plays with vigour, and David Strong is admirably portrayed by Mr. Arthur H. Hill; Miss Nina Vaughton is a decided success as Edith McAllister; Miss Amy Venimore as Sheila Grey and Mr. Ellis J. Preston as Welby Girdlestone are powerful in the tragic parts. The comedy element is well provided by Messrs. Chas. Preece and Chas. Russell as the twin brothers Roe; Miss Lucy Murray as an Irish girl is popular; Miss Ada Palmer as a lodging-house keeper does well; and Mr. H. C. Lanceley is a dignified Rev. Mr. McAllister.

Empire.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Major Gallagher; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Page. — A strong holiday bill is provided here. Horace Goldin, an illusionist, with Jeanne Fransiolli and company, give a really mystifying performance; Hall and Earle supply a creditable gymnastic turn; Eily Adair, a charming dancer, is warmly received; Barry Lindon sings some good illustrated songs; Harry Leybourne, a clever comedian, receives cordial recognition; the McConnell Trio, in their sketch, *Mrs. Skinner's Lodgers*, afford much amusement; Harry Bedford, in his latest effusions, causes roars of laughter; and the bioscope shows some interesting pictures.

NORTHAMPTON.—Opera House.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Seddon.—The Northampton Operatic Company have revived *The Silver Stick*, a musical play in two acts, here this week for the purposes of charity.

Palace of Varieties.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred. H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thos. A. Evans.—A programme, excellent from top to bottom, is presented here this week, the principal items being the clever show of the great Narrow Brothers, the pretty and interesting display of Les Montaldos, and the intensely pathetic coster ditties of Will Bacchus. Tom Parker is another highly-appreciated turn; and Minnie Harbor proves herself a superb burlesque artist. Other commendable presentments are those of the Three Careys, Viny Loftus, Hardie Palm, Devere and Kenwick, Lily Gaston, and the artistic display of pictures by C. Vincent.

NORTH SHIELDS. — Theatre Royal.—Lessee, and Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—Mr. A. Clifton Alderson's company, with *Held Apart*, has drawn large and appreciative audiences here this week. As James Barlow Mr. H. K. Ayliff gives a capital portrayal of the character; Mr. Leonard Lawrence brings into prominence the part of John Douglas; and Mr. A. W. Norman acquits himself well as Captain Ford. Mr. E. G. Batley is quite at home as Hugh Trevor; and Mr. Robert B. Drysdale as Andrew M'Pherson scores a distinct success. Miss Ethyle Murray enacts the rôle of Quita Garcia with much tact and skill; Miss Ruby Loncraine makes an admirable Sybil Grey; and Miss Gertrude Homewood gives an excellent interpretation of Lily Granville Stark.

Central Palace.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—Harrison Brothers, capital comedians, head a good company here. The Gilberts, with "In the Park," are cordially greeted; the Three Royal Temples, operatic vocalists, are very popular; Messrs. Bishop and Vale, comedians, create much laughter; Mr. S. Cosgrove and Miss Ethel Burns, duettists, gain loud applause; Mr. George Hylton, ventriloquist, goes well; and the Bio-Photoscope continues to be very interesting.

NORWICH. — Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Mr. Charles Macdona's excellent company opened here on Saturday evening, and remains during the present week in *Three Little Maids*. Miss Mabel Kerridge as Ada, Miss Daisy Sylverton as Hilda, and Miss Eva Weigh as Edna, were each thoroughly appreciated for singing and acting. Miss Kate Graham-Beck was also successful as Lady St. Mallory. Miss Hilda Stericker as Lady Rosemary Beaulieu, Miss Bertha French as Venetia Grafton, and Miss Nellie Clapton as Lady Marjory Chrichton, were successful in their respective parts. Miss Laura Wright was amusing and pleasing as Gretchen, her eccentric sabot dance winning much applause; Miss Maude Madle represented Miss Price, Mr. Frank Henderson was very humorous as Lord Cheyne, Mr. Eric Barrington was good as M. de Orme; Mr. Frank Wilson was highly successful as Bryan Molyneaux, Mr. Burgess Barratt was good as the Rev. Mr. Branscombe, and Mr. Harry Walsh received hearty greetings as Cupid. Mr. C. W. Nightingale ably conducted.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—A capital holiday programme is presented this week. Tom Leamore heads the bill, and is much appreciated for his songs, patter, and eccentric dancing; Lady Mansell and her juveniles make a return visit, and are heartily applauded; the Alberto Troupe are clever in their equilibristic turn; the illustrated sorgs given by the Haverleys are exceedingly entertaining; Ronald Bagnall is a pleasing turn; Harry Weldon, "the swell entertainer," is cordially received; Fred Gasburn, comedian, is successful; Lea and Lovell, duettists and dancers, give great satisfaction; and the Hippodrome Bioscope, with scenes of wild life in the West, is entertaining.

NOTTINGHAM.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—*The Belle of Mayfair* made its first appearance here on Monday before a crowded and appreciative audience. Mr. Harry Parker is the life and soul of the play, simulating Sir John Chaldicott's senile gaiety in a highly-diverting manner. He is well supported by Miss Emily Stevens as Lady Chaldicott. Miss Aurelie de Loriere makes a great success in her impersonation of the "Gibson" Girl, and with her six attendant maidens forms a pretty stage picture. Miss Agnes Tandy sings with charming taste the music of Princess Carl; and Miss Veronica Brady dances gracefully as the maid, Pincott. Miss Queenie Finnis looks dainty, and used a pleasant voice to effect as Julia Chaldicott; and Mr. Edward Hugonnet plays capitally in the rôle of Raymond Finchley. The irascible Mount Highgate finds an able exponent in Mr. Haddon Cave; and Mr. Laurie Lyle is amusing as Perrier. The chorus numbers receive full justice under the bâton of Mr. T. M. Tunbridge.

Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Chas. P. Cooke.—For the holiday attraction *The Prodigal Parson* is presented by Messrs. Northway and Garrod's company. Mr. W. V. Garrod gives a manly impersonation of the Rev. Tom Godley; and Mr. Alfred Northway carefully portrays the character of Enoch Jaggirs. Mr. Wm. Hayward omits nothing from his characterisation of Ben Jaggins, and he is ably assisted by Mr. W. Vincent as Kettlepin. Miss Bertha Kingston enlists the sympathies of all in the rôle of Fern Godley; and the blind child of the Godleys is realised vividly by Miss Violet Jefferies. Miss E. Fredericks does well as Pomeroy; and a very successful artist in a small part is Mrs. Ashton; whilst Miss Dot Russell scores heavily as Korale; and Miss Lydia Hart makes her mark as Gretchen. Mr. Owen Redmonde shows much talent as Phil Drive; and a very satisfactory detective is found in the person of Mr. T. Edward Evans. Messrs. Herbert Martin, E. Ashton, and Edward Vincent fill the remaining places, and add to the success of the play.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles H. Bowmaker.—Fred Bowyer's melodrama, *The Little Stowaway*, rewritten and brought up to date, makes a first-class attraction. Mr. John K. Walton is excellent as the Captain; and as the little stowaway Miss Eva Lumley makes hosts of friends. That wonderful pianist, Mendel, here on a return visit, seems cleverer than ever, and arouses considerable enthusiasm; while Tom Owen, with a budget of new songs, increases his already enormous popularity. A good turn is provided by Bellonini's cockatoos; and the songs and jokes of Dare's Minstrels compel generous recognition. Gertrude Bradshaw, a soprano of merit; and Frank Darwin, an actor-vocalist of undoubted ability, give great pleasure by their respective efforts; and the versatility of C. Randolph King is really exceptional. A good deal of amusement is caused by the Kirbys; and the comedy of the Celtic Trio, no less than their pleasing vocal efforts, are responsible for a commendable addition to the programme. An excellent series of films illustrative of an American detective story, shown through the bioscope, forms an appropriate conclusion.

NUNEATON.—Prince of Wales's Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter J. R. Bryan.—On Monday night there was the usual crowded holiday house when Miss Lena Stanton and Mr. Harry Joseph's company opened with *Sinbad the Sailor*. Miss Stanton was enthusiastically received as Sinbad; Mr. Harry Joseph appeared with success as King Krusty; deserving special praise are Miss Ethyl Errol (Capt. Sellini), Miss Norah Neville (Liza), and Mr. Bruce Green (Mrs. Sinbad). Excellent specialities were introduced, and included the Alhambra Girls; Wyman, comic skater; P. J. Durney, globe walker; the Deroneys, wire walkers; Farrell and Gorman, musical eccentrics; and the favourite, Little Keeno.

OLDHAM.—Empire Theatre.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—Large audiences have assembled this week to witness *The Midnight Mail*, as performed by Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's excellent company. Mr. George Harvard gives a well-rendered delineation of the part of Harry Steyne; and Miss Ada Oakley wins commendation as Mary. Mr. Fred G. Evison causes much laughter as Billy Brewer; and the acting of Miss Mildred Carr as Nancy Brewer is much applauded. Miss Iris Love makes a capital Lady Phyllis; Mr. Austin Mortimer is very good as Leonard Royle; and Mr. Harold B. Lewis as Hassam Padisha is clever. Mr. Harry Emmerson as Donald Craig, Mr. J. Mann as Gerald Eustace, Miss Kitty Johnstone as Kitty, Miss Ethel North as Patty, and Miss Kate Merson as Mrs. Mildmay render much assistance, and the remainder of the characters are well enacted by a capable cast.

Colosseum Theatre.—Manager, Mr. W. Eastwood.—Excellent holiday fare is provided this week by Messrs. Hill-Mitchelson and Harris Fineberg's company in *The Traitor*. Mr. Bensley Evans doubles the parts of Prince Rudolph and Colonel Nervi in a masterly manner; Mr. Stephen E. Scanlon is equally good as the Chief of Police; Mr. W. L. Hurst makes a manly Captain Ross; and his rival, General Hertz, is well played by Mr. Arthur McCulloch. Miss Isabel Hunt is excellent as Lieut. Nicolas; Miss Effie Bartlett as Zula proves a warm favourite; and Miss Gwynne Warren is prominent as Countess Zicka. Miss Lillian Matthews shows ability as Elise Dupres; and Miss Olive Lanty as Cen-Cen is the cause of much laughter, as are also Messrs. Edward Lowrie and Fred Haming, as Loff and Jack Boult respectively.

Royal Theatre of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. Howgate.—Abdullah and La Superbe head the bill with *Electra's Bower*, which provides a splendid spectacle; Selma Braatz, a dexterous lady juggler, elicits much applause; *Old Madrid*, a vocal and humorous scena, with good singing by Miss Margaret Ruby and Ernest Laws, is capitally presented; Ray and Calden earn many recalls with their clever act; and Mlle. du Roche, burlesque artist, sings in fine style. The Vekeys, banjoists, rendered duets admirably; and Fred Cary causes much laughter with his funny songs. Syd Myra and dog have a good novelty act; and the Dottoscope concludes.

Hippodrome. — Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. Nuttall.—The Wedburns, in their funny and refined acts, are excellent; Amy Anderson and company keep the "house" in roars with capital comedy; Maggie Rimmer, a dainty comedienne, submits good songs and dances; the Brothers Adderley are talented duettists and mimics; and Maston, master mimic, has a good reception; as has also Jimmy Shields, comedian and one-legged dancer. Adey North and Charlie Carston, comedians, also take well; and the Grand National, depicted on the Dottoscope, completes a good programme.

OXFORD.—New Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Lucas, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. C. Dorrill.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company is paying a most successful return visit this week with *Under Two Flags*. Mr. Wellesley Draper gives a capital rendering of Louis Victor, acting throughout with power and artistic finish; Mr. Harry Benson scores heavily as Rake, his songs and dances meeting with marked approval; and Mr. Arthur Elwyn cleverly renders the repulsive character of the Black Hawk. Miss Mabel Ormonde is a stately and handsome Princess Venetia; and Miss Amy Maitland plays Cigarette with a dash and go that carry her audience with her right through the play.

East Oxford Theatre.—Lessees, Miss Winifred Stuart and Mr. C. Watson Mill; Manager, Mr. Frank Stuart.—On Easter Monday Mr. Horace Stanley's company opened to a full house with *The 10.30 Down Express*. Mr. George Beverley gives a capital and finished representation of Jack O'Malley; and Mr. Chas. Burdon makes a refined villain as James Inderwick. Mr. Alaric Burton is natural as Cuthbert Leigh; Mr. Edwin Clarke is seen to advantage as Huntley Mason; and Mr. Horace Stanley is decidedly humorous as Sam Wagstaffe. Mr. Arthur E. Francis makes the most of Bletherby Baggs; Miss Kate Kilpack is bright as Peggy Potts; while Miss Evelyn M. Walton causes great amusement as Letitia Leigh. Miss Elsie Capell portrays Bessie Leigh sympathetically.

PAISLEY.—Paisley Theatre.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—A great attraction this week is *Leah Kleschna*, presented by Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's able company, under the managership of Mr. Bernard Hishin. Miss Bessie Rignold gives an earnest and convincing portrayal of the title-rôle; and Mr. Paul Belmore acts powerfully and with distinct ability in his embodiment of Kleschna. Mr. William F. Grant's polished and incisive manner has good effect in the part of Paul Sylvaine; well played in every respect is the Raoul Berton of Mr. Hamilton Deane; Mr. Campbell Goldsmid contributes a capital embodiment of Schram; the General Berton of Mr. Ronald Daniel is admirably depicted; as Mme. Berton Miss Ethel Russell is quite satisfactory; and Claire Berton is finely interpreted by Miss Helene Belgrave. Minor characters are adequately filled by Misses Violet Thorold, May Hamond, and Edith Summers; and Messrs. Bert Gunter, Ronald Daniel, Bernard Rain, Arles Conway, Frederick Bannerman, and Henry Buxton.

Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Douglas F. Bostock.—A good all-round programme is provided here this week. *The Battle of the Belles*, an amusing sketch by Fred Moule and E. D. Nicholl's company, is enthusiastically greeted; Ricardo and Salving are a decidedly clever couple with their daring acrobatic and equilibristic novelty; a pleasing and interesting number is supplied by Wilton Heriot and company in their protean sketch, *An Anglo-American Alliance*; Sadie Simpson is a good serio and coon artist; the Crown trio of vocalists are greatly appreciated; Carson Hicks, coon singer and novel rag-time dancer, is entertaining; the Two Dixons, bâton swingers, banjoists, and song and dance artists, are excellent; Mamie Cannon, coon comedienne, has a good reception; and the Hippodrome Bioscope concludes with some fine pictures.

PERTH.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. H Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge.—A new departure is presented to local theatregoers this week, and one which gives every indication of success, judging from the houses, which are both encouraging and appreciative. Two performances are being given nightly, and the bill is replete with attractiveness, including extremely clever acrobatic feats, cycle-roller races, musical displays, dualogues, and various vocal contributions, all of high order.

PLYMOUTH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. C. F. Williams; Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—*Sergeant Brue* is again "on beat" at Plymouth. Mr. Arthur Reynolds fills the title-rôle, and his representation is intensely amusing; Mr. J. H. Goldsworthy as Michael Brue has a couple of attractive musical numbers, to which he does full justice; Mr. Clarence Ibbotson, as Crookey Scrubbs, is exceptionally humorous; Mr. C. Sims furnishes a clever burlesque in the third act of a well-known Metropolitan stipendiary magistrate; Miss Mary Hay as Aurora is a fascinating and graceful actress; Miss Marion Hargrave makes a good general servant; and Miss Cissy Raymond is an accomplished Lady Bickenhall.

Grand Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. C. F. Williams; Manager, Mr. Percy Williams; Assistant-Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Grant.—Mr. Bert Coote's company is here in *A Fatal Wedding*, which appears to have lost none of its attractiveness. Mr. Cecil A. Melton undertakes the part of Howard Wilson with ability and distinction; Miss Mildred Howard is sympathetic as Mabel; Miss Elaine Vanbrugh provides a clever piece of acting as Cora Williams; and Mr. Dunlop Stewart ably acquits himself as Robert Curtis. Miss Hetty Kelly is popular as Jessie; and Mr. Charles Locke and Miss Beatrice Hudson are amusing in the parts of Joto and Bridget.

Palace of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—Large audiences have been the order of the week, and the programme is interesting and varied. Miss Ella gives a daring exhibition with her well-trained African lions; Mr. Frank Cumminger furnishes some smart dancing; Mark Melford and company are amusing in the sketch entitled *Non-Suited*; Miss Yoland Hill is an attractive comedienne; Mountford and Walsh are a clever pair of society entertainers; and Daisy Morell is a versatile vocalist. Other attractions in the programme are Rowland Hill (comedian), J. C. Scatter (dancer), and Vernon's pictures.

PORTSMOUTH. — Theatre Royal. — Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's production of *The Dairymaids* is exceedingly pleasing and pretty. Mr. Harry Dent is at his best as Joe Mivens, convulsing the audience with his fooling; Mr. E. Statham Staples also does excellent work as Sam Brudenell; Dr. O'Byrne, R.N., is well portrayed by Mr. Forbes Dawson; Lieut. Brudenell is ably presented by Mr. George Desmond; and Captain Fred Leverton pleasingly sustained by Mr. Alec Fraser. Winifred is bewitchingly played by Miss Rhoda Gordon; Miss Violet Lloyd is charming as Peggy; and Eliza is taken by Miss Cissy Sephton in characteristic style. Miss Beryl Vaudrey also does capital work as Hélène; Miss Madge Avery ably depicts Miss Penelope Pychase; and Miss Edith Blanche makes an excellent Lady Brudenell.

Prince's Theatre.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate.—Mr. Ernest Chesney and company are here with *The Power and the Glory*. Mr. Bryce Methven makes a favourable impression in the part of Harry Goodluck; Mr. Francis Chamier does excellent work as Ferdinand Crayle; Mr. Ernest Chesney as Forward is responsible for a clever character-study; and Harold Hartree, alias Medwin, is well impersonated by Mr. Arthur Lindley; Miss Olive Fulton is praiseworthy as Lizzie Medwin; Miss Flo Florence acts naturally as Linda; and Miss Bessie Elma ably sustains the rôle of Kate.

Empire Palace.—Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—The management at this house is offering an excellent and attractive Easter bill. George Rapley sings capital character songs; Hallam and Stanton, in the musical comedy *A Broken Journey*, are much applauded; Leo Lester and company in *Monkeyland* are extremely popular; Wee Mona, juvenile comedienne and danseuse, is an exceedingly capable little artist; Barnard's Mannikins prove a source of great amusement; Tom Craven and company in the sparkling comedietta, *The Lady in Red*, are a highly successful turn; the Three Brooklyn Girls, vocalists and dancers, are a smart trio; Stowe Bros. give a well-sustained and wonderful exhibition of hand-balancing; and also appearing are Bliss and Bliss, eccentric comedians; Janet Howard-Reynolds, vocalist; and Payne's Bioscope.

RAMSGATE. — Amphitheatre. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Bowman.—Mr. Charles Constant's company has been appearing in the attractive pantomime *Bluebeard* with considerable success this week. Miss Isa Bowman is a dashing and popular Selim; and Miss Dorothy Dempster makes a charming Fatima. Mr. C. Luke is a capital Bluebeard, Mr. Johnny Clegg an amusing Sister Ann, and Mr. Mac Stuart (Shacabac) and Mr. Alec Godfrey (Pimple) prove themselves clever comedians. Stuart and Stuart and Little Felicia introduce admirable speciality turns.

RAWTENSTALL. — Grand Theatre. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. George Dickinson.—After a week's interval this theatre was reopened on Saturday last week with *The Silver King*, which was finely presented by Mr. J. Bannister Howard's excellent company. As Wilfred Denver Mr. Horace B. Herbert gave a powerful and finished portrayal; and Miss Florence Radcliffe as Nellie Denver was equally successful with her impersonation, her acting being delightfully clever and sympathetic. Mr. Seton Bernard as Jaikes was admirably placed, and gave a remarkably good interpretation; as the Spider Mr. Paul Beckett was seen to great advantage; whilst as Olive Skinner Miss Dorothea Black was all that could be wished. Miss Dorothy Love and little Josephine Mackintosh gave excellent portrayals as Cissie and Ned Denver.

RHYL.—Palace Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Will Smith; Secretary, Mr. S. Thornley. — Mr. Penrhyn Forster's company are here this week in an original farce, *The Officer's Mess*. Miss Nellie Sheffield as Rose Smith delights the audience with her admirable singing and dancing; as Thomas Rugg Mr. Harry Emeric is very amusing; Miss Edith Harmer makes a delightful Sybil Carruthers, and sings several pretty songs; Mr. L. Cadwaladr acquits himself well as the Major-General; Mr. George Ellis makes most of his opportunities as Capt. Melville; as Antonio Wilkins Mr. Chas. D. Cleveland brings out the humorous features of the rôle excellently; and amongst the other noticeable members of the cast are Mr. H. Vivian, Miss Clara Nicholls, Miss Marcella Hudson, and the Alston troupe of dancers.

Pier Pavilion. — Messrs. Adeler and Sutton's Pierrots are here for the holiday week with a company including Jack Macdermott, the popular manager and comedian, who has a cordial reception; Frank Dunlop, comedian, appeals greatly to Rhyl audiences with his Welsh patter; Rene Steadman, comedienne, meets with success; Bertram Noel gives some entertaining sketches; and Albert Hinton, Alick Macmillan, George Storey, and James A. Lowe (accompanist) complete.

ROCHDALE.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Hague. — *At Cripple Creek* is the play in possession of the boards here this week. Mr. Stanley Bedwell makes a manly hero; Mr. Eric Hudson cleverly portrays the villainies of Martin Mason; Mr. Oscar Power is effective as Manuel Alvarez; Mr. Arthur D. Layland as Wahketah and Mr. Harry Leander as Ben White are both successful in their efforts. Mr. Will Hook is a lively and humorous Reggie Harwood; Miss Daisy Carlton makes a vivacious Maggie Mason; little Rosie Hopkins is a sweet and entertaining Little Tatto; Miss Lily Beagle is winsome as Belle Gordon; and Miss Agnes Verity is effective in the rôle of Dynamite Ann.

Circus and Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Smith and Co.—The programme submitted here this week is headed by Hicks' Clerks (nine in number), with a laughable sketch, entitled *A Day at the Seaside*; George and Edwards are amusing patter comedians; Mezotti finds favour with his clever juggling; and other turns are submitted by Miss Emily Florence, comedienne and dancer; Ted Hord, actor-vocalist; Eventio and Bush, in *A Juggler's Dream*; Miss Madge Seymour, serio-comic; and Miss Clarice, contralto vocalist.

Empire.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thomas Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Hargreaves.—Rosina Casselli, with her midget wonders, evokes loud bursts of applause as the tiny animals go through their wonderful tricks; Vanola is exceptionally clever with his feet, balancing and twirling barrels and balls to a remarkable degree; Ray Ford is a pleasing comedienne and dancer; the Orchids, comedy entertainers; Will Musgrave, comedian; the Prinellas, in a farmyard scena, and the Empire Bioscope complete an attractive bill of fare.

ROTHERHAM.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Holbery Hardy.—Mr. F. G. Kimberley's company is providing the bill for the holiday week with *Two Little Drummer Boys*. Mr. H. R. Leigh is effective as General Kingsley; Mr. Fred Emery is a manly Frank Carsdale; Mr. Archie Helsby scores as Captain George Darrell; and Mr. C. Newton Buckland is seen to advantage as Lieut. Allen Kingsley. Messrs. J. Magrath and Harry Lyndon as Quincy O'Quirke and Timothy Trimmer are responsible for the humour; and Mr. Philip Redgrave is quite a martinet as Major Kilkerrie. Miss Maggie English as Eric Carsdale and Miss Douglas as Jack Smith are highly successful in their parts. Miss Kathleen Magee gives a life-like portrayal of Margaret Rivers (Mad Meg); and Miss Lizzie Chambers scores as Molly Meadows. Miss Mildred Eversleigh is a pleasing and sympathetic Alma Kingsley.

RUGBY. — Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geoffrey Fulton.—The attraction for Easter at this theatre is the musical comedy *The Pick of the Bunch*, by Charles Carey and Harold Wingate. The music is bright and sparkling, and the songs and choruses are well rendered. Mr. Carey as Hallwell Merrit is a great success; and Mr. H. Buckston Clair is excellent as Colonel Joseph Merrit. Mr. Harold Wantage as Dick Seymour is excellent both as vocalist and actor; Miss Eva Ellis as Ruth Gay is charming and vivacious; and Miss Madge Christopher as Nellie Mather is equally attractive. Miss M. Sadie as Nancy gives a humorous and clever impersonation, and pleases greatly with her various songs. The Hydro Girls are a great attraction. Miss Millie James as Wilhelmina is good; and the Misses Gladys Glynn, Sybil Glynn, Mabelle May, and Elsie May as waitresses contribute materially to the success of the piece.

SALFORD.—Prince of Wales.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—*The Price of Her Soul* is furnishing plenty of fun and excitement to good houses this week. As the hero, Lord Rolfe Manderville, Mr. J. B. Shinton gives an able study; Mr. Arthur E. Pringle successfully portrays the villain, Major Ivan Skoboloff; Mr. Larry Clements as Pat Murphy, Miss Ethel Rainforth as Polly Perkins, Miss Gracie Garside as Lady Jemima, Mr. George Marriott, jun., as Hon. Algy Fraser, and Mr. Maurice Lesage as Alphonse Didot all keep the audience in excellent spirits; Miss Maude Yorke as Olga Lanovitz and Miss Ada M. Ryder as Countess Inez Steinmetz do good work in those opposite characters; Mr. Archie Gear as General Lanovitz, Mr. Fred White as Zouroff, Mr. Ernest Regent as Petruski, Miss Mabel Ronald as Vera, Miss Hilda Clench as Nadine, and Mr. Reginald Taylor as Paul Steinmetz give good support.

Regent Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; Manager Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. J. C. Patterson.—Mme. Ada Colley is enthusiastically applauded for her delightful singing. An amusing sketch, *The Cruise of H.M.S. Victory*, is also well

ston. Misses Nellie V. Warden and Muriel Thompson also did well in their respective parts.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. C. Harrison.—Mr. Arthur Carlton's company presented *In Sight of St. Paul's* to a large holiday audience on the opening night. Mr. Arthur Armfield is very successful as Mr. H. Chichester; Mr. Ernest R. Allen interprets Tom Chichester with much power; Harry Chichester is effectively played by Mr. W. H. Domone; the scheming John Gridson is faithfully drawn by Mr. Herbert Cecil; Fretley Burside is vigorously drawn by Mr. Ed. Valentine; Mr. Herbert Colley is very humorous as Jim Palfrey; Blidstein is cleverly enacted by Mr. Henry Gilpin; Aileen Millar is delightfully played by Miss Cissie Bellamy; Cynthia is skilfully treated by Miss Gussie Everitt; Becky is smartly played by Miss Sybil Hammersley.

SHEERNESS.—THE PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Phil Reymond.—An extra special company is engaged at this old-established hall for the holiday week. Miss Hilda Gordon sings popular ballads in a pleasing manner; Miss Amy Cecil is a charming comedienne and dancer; Mr. Nick Ohlson is funny; Miss Josie Watson is clever; the Byrons, musical comedy duo, are exceptionally good in a banjo duet; Miss Topsy Levane fully maintains her popularity; Mr. Phil Reymond is well to the fore, as usual, and the Holroydes conclude.

THE HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. F. Leighton.—An excellent bill is presented here for the holidays. Ariel and Astarte, in their gymnastic pot-pourri act, are clever; Fred Mulvey and Minnie Miriam, in the comedy act *The Studio*, provoke much merriment; Fanny Humber, comedienne and instrumentalist, is favourably received; Linda Wasey is a pleasing comedienne; Grey and Parry distinguish themselves as burlesque acrobats; and Harry Maynard, comedian, is also popular. The programme concludes with an amusing comedy sketch, entitled *Captain Cupid*.

SHEFFIELD.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—*The Christian*, effectively mounted and carefully played, has again proved a good Easter attraction at this theatre. Miss Grace Chalmers is a delightful Glory, and all the members of Mr. Wentworth Croke's company act with care and distinction.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—Good old *East Lynne* has been played to well-pleased holiday audiences this week by an excellent company, headed by that graceful artist Miss Julie Kennard, who gives a conscientious interpretation of the character of the unhappy Lady Isabel. Mr. Alfred Beaumont acts in a natural and finished manner as Archibald Carlyle; Captain Levison is cleverly represented by Mr. Frederick Harker; Mr. C. C. Grattan's Justice Hare and Miss Ethel Hardacre's Cornelia are excellent character-sketches; and the irrepressible Bullock is made the most of by Mr. Alfred Tate.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—The popular actress Miss Winifred Chalmers and a good company opened to a crowded house on Monday in the exciting play *The Master Criminal*, which was received with enthusiastic applause. A fascinating study of criminal character was supplied by Mr. Henry L. Osmond's Lestage; Mr. Harold Macartney was a manly Philip Manners; Mr. Harry Cooke and Mr. Ernest Dale provided good comic relief as Tom Dale and Gentleman Jim respectively; and Mr. John C. Carlyle was smart as a typical stage detective. Miss Winifred Chalmers was a graceful Cecile; Miss Mabel Tremere made a vivacious Peggy; and Miss Kate Somerville secured the sympathies of the audience for the heroine, Mabel Manners. The piece was realistically staged.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Moss Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—The spacious auditorium of the Empire has proved far too small this week for the thousands who have desired to enjoy the splendid programme. The *pièce de résistance* on Monday was the exhilarating extravaganza *The Isle of Ooma*, well played by Mr. Arthur Rigby and a large troupe of smart comedians and pretty ladies. Mr. John Alexander's famous pantomime company kept the house in roars with the screaming fun of *Brown in Paris*; Mr. Tom Costello was enthusiastically applauded in his finished impersonations; and the other items scheduled were comic duets by the Dorrells, songs and dances by Boy Glenn, comic ditties by Mr. Ryder Slone, Mr. Billy Farrell, a clever dancer, the New Macs, comedians, the Sisters Jonghmanns, accomplished vocalists, and the American Bioscope.

GRAND PALACE.—Manager, Mr. R. Ralli.—Here are engaged Mr. Harry Vardon, comedian; Miss Carlotta De Yonsen and company, in dramatic sketches; Miss Raynor, Mr. Harry Merson, Mr. Tom Dawson, Messrs. Cliffe and Kean, Mr. H. C. Lovell and company of burlesque artists in *Mlle. Pom-Pom*, and the Biograph.

ALBERT HALL.—The complimentary benefit tendered to Mr. George Burton by his Sheffield admirers on the 30th ult. was a great success. A colossal programme was gone through, including turns by the Hamiltons, Australian burlesque artists in *Fum-Fum*; De Lyle, mimic and ventriloquist; Fred Cass, novelty artist; Boy Watson, vocalist; the great De Cora troupe of acrobats, &c.; the Sheffield Photo Co.'s pictures; the Conways, the Topsi-Turvys, Gyto, juggler, Mr. Frank Latimer, vocal comedian, and the Hallam string band.

SHREWSBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Business Manager, Mr. W. C. Dornton.—The United English Opera Company, under the direction of Mr. F. S. Gilbert, is here this week, playing the popular old operas *Maritana*, *Bohemian Girl*, *Faust*, *Il Trovatore*, and *Daughter of the Regiment*. *Maritana* was presented on Monday evening to a most appreciative audience, Mr. Gilbert being in excellent voice and acting with ease and ability as Don Cesar de Bazan; as Maritana Miss Elsa May sang with power and refinement, and was loudly applauded; Mr. J. Kneale Campbell acted and sang in an accomplished manner as the King of Spain; Miss Kate White was a capable Marchioness Montefiore; Miss Doris Gilbert was excellent in the part of Lazarillo; Mr. F. C. Silverstone as Don Jose, Mr. James Knox as Captain of the Guard, Mr. Fred Feather Tone as the Alcade, and Mr. H. Balgrave as Marquis de Montefiore were all praiseworthy in their respective rôles.

SOUTHAMPTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fred Mouillot; Resident Manager, Mr. Arthur Weston.—The Easter attraction is Mr. Leonard Boyne and company in *Raffles*. Mr. Boyne in the title-rôle creates a profound impression; Mr. E. W. Thomas is excellent as the American detective; and Mr. Dalziel Heron gives a capital character-study of Crawshay, the burglar. First favourite among the ladies is Miss Elaine Inescort, with a powerful rendering of Mrs. Vidal; Miss Jean Morrison is successful as Gwendoline; and Mr. Lewis Edgard acceptable as Bunny.

PALACE.—Proprietors, the Palace (Southampton), Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. William Trussell.—Crowded holiday audiences twice nightly appreciate the good holiday fare provided. Carlton's Mysterious Cross is a wonderful illusion; Chas. Vandyke and company appear in a popular pantomimic sketch *Nicodemus*; the Four Herberts, Charles Mildare, Chas. Torbay, and Wallan also successfully appear; and Jessie Barlee and Phil Smith present an amusing episode, *A Rehearsal*.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold P. Howell.—Forman and Fannan, the millionaires, are starring here; Morny Cash successfully deputises for Harry Russon; Lonnen Meadows and company present their comedy, *Kiss Your Father*; and others who do well are Burnetti and Corrie, eccentric jugglers; Sisters Carina, instrumentalists, Dandy George and Rosie, and Rose Harvey and Rose Hamilton, comediennes.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—THE KURSAAL.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. P. T. J. Bacon.—The Easter programme provided here is of a diversified character. The entertainment in the variety theatre is of great interest, every turn gaining repeated calls. Tamamoto is a smart perpendicular rope performer; Miss Kate Avey is a fascinating dancer; Morton and Martell gain well-deserved appreciation; Arthur Stacey's top boot dancing creates enthusiasm; Sweet, Dale, and Sweet delight as acrobatic eccentrics; Chivo and Mlle. Moto are marvellous slack wire walkers; the Brothers Odell dance very well; Miss Queenie Lawrence is a fascinating burlesque actress; and some excellent pictures are shown on the Bioscope.

PIER PAVILION.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley E. Angless.—Mr. Pringle commenced his Easter engagement last Thursday, and his North American Animated Singing Picture Company is presenting the Chronophone twice daily. Pictures on the Bioscope are more than usually interesting, especially those of the wreck of the ss. Berlin and the trip to Niagara Falls. The Chronophone is a notable feature, the singing pictures creating admiration. Miss Marie Altino sings powerfully in her English and French selections; Skeath and Adlin submit with success the musical comedy *Claude Du Val*; a musical mélange by Phedona gains a capital reception; and Mr. Stanley Angless is an accomplished 'cellist.

EMPIRE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing Director, Mr. Geo. Conquest; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power.—Mr. Alec Hurley, with an excellent company of artists, furnishes the Easter attraction, and is to be highly complimented on the capital variety entertainment he provides. Included in Mr. Hurley's répertoire is *The Coster's Beano*, in which the popular comedian, capitally supported by a full complement of artists, wins every success. Howard Baker as the "laughometer" is delightful, as also is Miss Marie Gros as a comedienne and dancer. The dramatic episode entitled *Pity the Blind* is pathetically rendered by Miss Frances Ferina and Mr. Charles A. James. Will Van Allen's original monologue is a notable feature, while his banjo, "one striniola," and saxophone selections are musical treats. A novel pot-pourri act entitled "Gentlemen at Practice," by the Zampah Bros., is well received, and their champion chair jumping is sensational. Miss Clorinda Thurtell contributes in fine style Spanish and operatic soprano selections. *A Lesson in Love* is well presented by Miss Poppy Lytton and Mr. Jack Bland. Maxey and Pete are entertaining as trick and comedy cyclists.

SOUTHPORT.—OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS.—Proprietors, the Southport Opera House and Winter Gardens Co., Ltd.; Secretary, Mr. R. Singleton.—In the engagement of the Moody-Manners Opera Company, who are paying their annual visit here, the management have provided a great attraction for the Easter holiday week, and a packed house greeted this celebrated combination of artists on Monday evening, when an excellent interpretation of *Carmen* was presented. Mlle. Zelie de Lussan in the title-rôle submitted a fascinating portraiture of the beautiful fiery-spirited gipsy girl. Signor Umberto Salvi was excellent in every way in the part of Don José, his conception of the character leaving nothing to be desired; Mr. Lewys James was very successful as Escamillo, his rendering of the "Toreador" song was capital, and secured the applause it deserved; Michaela had a charming representative in Miss Kate Anderson, whose brilliant singing was much admired; Mr. H. Bailey impersonated Il Remendado with good effect; and Mr. C. Moppett did well as Il Dancairo. The orchestra was under the able conductorship of Signor Romualdo Sapio. During the week *Faust*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *Aida*, *Tannhäuser*, *Romeo and Juliet*, and *Maritana* were billed.

ALBERT HALL, WINTER GARDENS.—Lessee, Mrs. Charles Parker; Acting Manager, Mr. J. H. Mertz.—Lockhart's performing elephants give a marvellous and interesting entertainment, and the other items submitted embrace Regan and Ryan, comedy entertainers; H. O. Wills, in his latest successes; La Petite Carlina, international dancer; Maitland and Homer in their novel comedy act; T. E. Johnstone, the modern actor-vocalist; Patty Yole, comedienne and dancer; the musical Keiths in their refined instrumental acts; and the Bioscope, with the latest films.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. J. and F. Coulson.—The sensational drama *As Midnight Chimes*, presented by Mr. Leonard Dalrymple's company, is arousing interest. Mr. Dalrymple gives a capital portrayal of Dave Stannard; the villainous Luke Dezzard is ably accounted for by Mr. H. Delmore; Miss Maud Hastings is seen to advantage as Mary Stannard. The comedy element is well supplied by Mr. James Salter as Tat Spavin and Miss Madge Beresford as Suzette. Mr. Herbert Pearce as Ezra Gamble is praiseworthy; and Miss Marion Ryder is an interesting Little Davy.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. George F. Thompson.—A welcome return visit is being paid by the Bros. Egbert, the original happy dustmen; the Vasilescu troupe of pantomimists, in a comedy act on the triple bars, are a strong attraction; the Howards score heavily in a smart musical comedy act; a comedy duo, *Getting Even*, presented by Sinclair and Whiteford, is greatly appreciated. Other enjoyable turns are Jess Thorne, a clever comedienne; H. E. High, comedian; Edie King, comedienne and dancer; Eva Barrie, vocalist, and the Bioscope.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. K. Hall and Joseph Sweeney; Business-Manager, Mr. Harry Burns.—A good bill is headed by the Three Moxons, Continental acrobatic comedians, who arouse enthusiasm by their clever feats; a sparkling musical entertainment submitted by the Bros. Smith is deservedly popular; excellent comedy and dancing are introduced by the Sages; Lillian Victoria, male impersonator, meets with a flattering reception; and Frank Vallance, entertaining magician; Winnie Arnetti, ballad vocalist, and the Tivoli Bioscope are also held in high esteem.

SPENNYMOOR.—CAMBRIDGE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; General-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—A splendid house assembled on Easter Monday to witness the performance by Mr. F. B. Woulfe's company of Max Goldberg's romantic drama *Lady Godiva*, in which Miss Ethel Griffies fills the title-rôle with much *éclat*. Mr. Woulfe submits a really clever sketch of Tom of Coventry, whilst Mr. Clifford Rean, who on a former visit played this part, now appears with much success as Algar; Leofric, Edgar, and Lady Aldyth are parts which are capably handled by Mr. E. Holland Day, Mr. Cecil Renton, and Miss Barnet; as Robin and Elfrida Mr. Bob Anderson and Miss Edith Loraine are a merry pair; Mr. G. Edward Dunstan gives a creditable interpretation of Unwolf. Three other pieces, *Nell Gwynne*, *Jane Shore*, and *Robin Hood*, have been played during the week.

STALYBRIDGE.—GRAND HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Fioni; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. A. Jackson.—The Selbini troupe of cyclists are accorded the premier position in this programme, a distinction which they richly merit; the remaining artists being Minnie Moran, comedienne; Brothers Danby, comedians and dancers; Luis Hardt, the boy Samson; James Tower, impersonator; the Bodina Trio, instrumentalists and vocalists; Carl Lynn, mimic; George Prince, the crazy comic, &c.

ST. HELENS.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—General Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader.—*Driven from Home* has been received with unmistakable appreciation. Miss Beatrice Western, in the dual rôle of Laura and Walter, takes the honours of the evening; Mr. Felix Pitt gives a firm rendering of Antony Raybrook, as does Mr. Leonard Aardale as the outcast, Willie; Mr. C. Imbert, well known here locally, is responsible for most of the comedy.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Wilmot; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Vic Carnell.—A large audience assembled here on Monday night, when an attractive and diversified programme was given. The Ian Kura troupe, introducing *The Slide for Life*, are the principal turn, ably supported by Anthony, Illusionist; J. Dwyer, Sisters Brooks, Carter and Merziand, Wash and Woel, and H. Aiston and company in amusing sketch, *The Duck Hunt*.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Revill, jun.—A most acceptable Easter attraction here is Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Levy and Mr. J. E. Cardwell's juvenile pantomime company in *Sleeping Beauty*, which has delighted crowded audiences. Miss Kittie Trewhitt is a captivating Prince Florizel; and Beauty has a charming representative in Miss Dolly Dodds. Highly clever and amusing is Wee George Wood; Messrs. Doyle and Gibson as Colonel Dreadnought and Major Flashlight provoke an abundance of mirth; Mr. Pat Sloan and Mr. Taylor Snowball add their share to the fun as the Gollywogs; the Bros. Armstrong as the Queen and Asbestos fill their parts capably; and Master Jack Harrison causes plenty of laughter in the character of the King. Throughout the pantomime are interspersed numerous popular and up-to-date songs, the music is bright and entertaining, whilst the dresses are magnificent.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—Carl Hertz, the world-famous illusionist, is the star here this week, and has mystified large audiences with his clever entertainment. Mr. and Mrs. Lucas, in "Scenes from Dickens," are paying a return visit, and have received a gratifying reception. Among others comprising the programme are Ray and Miles, amusing jugglers; Craig, Rose, and Craig, in their clever gymnastic speciality; Ruby Bijou, an expert dancer; Lou Langley, comedienne; and Harry Bickley, an eccentric comedian.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—HIPPODROME THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Geo. and Robt. Nicholson; Manager, Mr. Geo. Stainton.—The Six Æolians, who are here this week, provide an enjoyable musical programme; Maud Vera is delightful in her coon songs; Billy Burns, "the singing pitman," possesses a good tenor voice; Gerhardi Mohr, acrobat, turns a complete somersault over a cab; and the Sisters Desmond, character duettists, Cyrus and Maude, in their burlesque act, *Turpin's Ride to York*, the Forestiers, tumblers, and an excellent novelty show in D'Arc's Marionettes, are among the other attractions. The Pictures complete an excellent programme.

GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Councillor J. Batty; Manager, Mr. W. Batty.—Hetty King, who heads the bill here, is a clever male impersonator; Walter Wade is a remarkably fine vocalist; Will Letters is greatly appreciated; Kelly and Ashby, a couple of comedy acrobats, cause much amusement; Drum and Major are well received; Leslie Bell and company present a good sketch, *The Red Letter*; Mark Leslie is a pleasing coon impersonator; and the Pictures are interesting.

STOKE-ON-TRENT.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Manager, Mr. H. Miller.—Mr. Leonard Thiel and Mr. Fred Fowler's Pom-Poms head the bill this week, and their performance, consisting of vocal items, is excellent. The Tennessee Guards contribute some military exercises, which are performed most rapidly; Vanando returns in his novel ventriloquial entertainment; Lena Willard is a pleasing comedienne, her imitations being good; and the Raymond Trio, in a musical and dancing turn, are most successful. Bert Brantford offers humorous songs; J. H. Carney is a comedian of merit, his mimicry being capital; Kioto, the Japanese equilibrist, is a decided success in his novel entertainment. The pictures are excellent.

STROUD—SUBSCRIPTION ROOMS.—Manager, Mr. S. J. Twitchett.—Miss Maggie Morton's *Home, Sweet Home* company was here on Saturday. Mr. Gordon Ingram does full justice to the part of Stephen Armitage; David Armitage is acted with ability by Mr. F. Morton Wright; Mr. Raymond Chester scores as Lucas Lyle; Mr. Charles Clayton submits a good sketch of the Duke of Ancaster; and Mr. Frank Wheatley is excellent as the Hon. Percy. Joan finds a capable exponent in Miss Francis May; Dora is portrayed in a winsome and pathetic manner by little Josephine Melbourne; Miss Nellie Marler ably sustains the part of Sybil Fay; and Mr. C. W. Oliver hits off the part of Dick Redmayne to perfection.

SUNDERLAND.—AVENUE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. E. Machin.—Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Benson opened a fortnight's visit here on Monday with *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Mr. Benson plays the part of Lysander with all his accustomed keenness and success; Mrs. Benson brings all her acumen and charm to the portrayal of Titania; Mr. Chas. Derwent is a capable Demetrius; and Mr. Murray Carrington displays considerable power as Theseus. Mr. George Buchanan is well placed as Oberon; and Mr. Reginald Davis is a meritorious Egeus. Miss Tita Brand is pleasing as Hermia; and Miss Helen Haye is no less charming as Helena. Miss Leah Hanman is a sprightly Puck; and Miss Estelle Stead ably enacts the rôle of Hippolyta.

KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Carlo.—Mr. Chas. Macdona's principal company provides the Easter week attraction here with *The White Chrysanthemum*. On both Monday and Tuesday there was a crowded house.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. E. Machin; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jos. Hemingway.—Miss Marie Dagmar and Mr. F. C. Somerfield's *The Tyrant* company occupies the boards this week. Miss Dagmar submits a strong portrayal of the rôle of Tisbe; Mr. F. C. Somerfield ably embodies the part of Homodei; Mr. Roy Fortescue forcibly enacts the character of Angelo; Mr. Lionel Atwill is good as Rudolph; Miss Milly Ford does well as Lady Katherine; and Miss Lallah Shelton is seen to advantage as Eulie.

PALACE OF VARIETY, LTD.—Acting-Managers, Messrs. Browne and Stringer.—The bill here is headed by Jack McKenzie and company, in the musical comedy, *The Belle of Barcelona*. Others appearing include the Leotard Bros., musical clowns; Lidden and Hayward's comedy team; Ben Harris and his Nippers; Hans and Lux, college chums; Frank Seely, comedian; and Francis O'Flynn, banjoist.

SWANSEA.—THE STAR.—Of the sensational type of drama none has been more successful than Walter Melville's *Worst Woman in London*, which Mr. T. H. Taylor's company presents at the Star this week. Miss Olga Andre ably presents the title-rôle, and the company supporting her does full justice to the dramatic scenes.

TON-Y-PANDY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Carlton and Duckworth; General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ridgewood Barrie.—The attraction here this week is Mr. Morice Prendergast's company in *A Woman of Pleasure*. In the rôle of the Earl of Arlingforth Mr. Ernest Wallace scores heavily; the Rev. Luke Goddard is in the safe hands of Mr. H. Lewis; Major Barrows is well played by Mr. Arthur Gilroy; Mr. Fred Kay is successful as Commander Deach; Mr. Edmond Baker is extremely funny as Bobby Bumpwell; Miss Grace Carew makes a successful Alice; and Miss Sylvia Eaton is a good Lord Arthur Selwood.

TREHERBERT.—POOLE'S OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Poole; Manager, Mr. J. Gunn.—The attraction which is drawing crowded houses here this week is Mr. E. R. Abbott's company, in *Lady Audley's Secret*. Miss Ada Abbott, who plays Lady Audley, is to be greatly complimented upon her clever embodiment. In the part of Sir Michael Audley, Mr. W. H. Garbois is admirable; Mr. E. R. Abbott as George Talboys proves himself efficient; Mr. Douglas C. Phelps as Robert Audley is seen to advantage; Mr. Edwin Keene is extremely good in the part of Luke Marks; Miss M. Tennant as Phœbe Marks deserves praise for a fine portrayal; Miss Hetty Jones in the child's part proves herself to be a talented young actress, and is ably assisted by Miss L. Gilmore, who plays Clara Talboys.

TYNEMOUTH.—PALACE-BY-THE-SEA.—Proprietor and Director, Mr. J. H. Graham; Manager, Mr. Lindon Travers.—A strong holiday programme includes *The Pansy and the Owl*, a comic operatic burlesque, by Messrs. Gordon and Hickman, and Miss Iris Banfield; Harry May Hemsley, mimic; Lulu Gillespie, musician and vocalist; May Rawlinson, soprano vocalist, Ryde and Beeman, comedians; W. Belmont, cyclist; and the Royal Roumanian band, under the bâton of M. G. Fericescu.

WAKEFIELD.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Miss Winifred Maude's company, in the drama, *The Convict*, is paying a return visit. Mr. Wm. Vane gives a manly and realistic rendering in the title-rôle; Mr. Leonard Harrison is good as Mr. Britton; and Mr. W. Bradford makes a capital villain as Captain Hurley. Mr. Victor Du Cane is highly successful as Sergt. Holmes and Alphonse Godin; Mr. Frederick Gerratt is humorous as Mike Larne; Miss Winifred Maude acts with great pathos as Nellie Seaford; Miss Ethel Tinsley is admirable as Miriam Goldberg; and Miss Jenny Hackett scores as Jenny Bright.

HIPPODROME.—Scottie's Waifs and Strays appear with success in a pathetic scene; Mabelle May is a charming comedienne; Juan and McQue, comedians, are amusing; Mr. Fred Terry, comedian, and Misses Dorothy Kint and Maisie Fuller, vocalists, also appear. Pearce and Ward are a smart comedy couple.

WALSALL.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—The Kremo Family prove a great attraction here this week, and their extraordinary acrobatic display is wonderful. Other items include Andrew Moy; Victor Newman, an actor with a marvellous delivery; the Three Cape Girls, comediennes and clever long-boot dancers; the latest musical comedietta, *Mam'selle Pom-Pom*, by H. C. Lovell and company; and George Christian, comedian. The Musical Schafers, in their speciality, are most entertaining; and the American Bioscope completes a capital programme.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Mr. Fred J. Little's company occupies the boards here this week with the drama, *The New World*. Mr. Victor Rae makes a capital Jack Hawley; Mr. W. S. Stevenson does well as Jim Rawlings; Mr. Albert H. Clarke is successful as Joe Williams; Miss Evelyn Robson shows considerable ability as May Walton; and Jenny Williams is charmingly portrayed by Miss Beatrice Moore.

WARRINGTON.—ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr. Fred Willmot.—The Emilions head the bill here this week, and prove to be a wonderful troupe of acrobats; Jimson's Pets are remarkable specimens of the canine species; Welda and Wynne score in a musical acrobatic act; and Kitty Kearns is a charming comedienne. Oliver Conroy also scores a big success with a good round of humorous songs, and Lena Willard is a dainty burlesque artist. The Bioscope pictures are a choice collection.

WEDNESBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Battersby; Manager, Mr. T. Kuner.—Mr. Godfrey Tearle and company, in *A Soldier of Fortune*, is here for the first time this week. The rôle of Lieut. Rupert Clive finds an able exponent in Mr. Godfrey Tearle; Mr. Alfred Gray exhibits some good work in his portrayal of the Earl of Annandale; and Mr. Baliol Holloway submits a skilful impersonation of Sir Stephen. A clever rendering of Dr. Thorn is presented by Mr. William Lowe; Miss Molly Malone evokes loud applause for her fine representation of Lady Phyllis; Miss Violet Barnett is responsible for the rôle of Grace; and as Mistress Culign Miss Ethel Mathews proves a decided success.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—GRAND.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Manager, Mr. Herbert E. Feather.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company is presenting *The Eternal City* this week to good business. Grace and pathos mark the assumption by Miss Eva Moss of the rôle of Donna Roma Volona, her acting eliciting great appreciation. The delineation of Baron Bonelli entails some exacting work, and Mr. E. Stanton Sharp acquits himself admirably. The fine stage presence and excellent dramatic versatility of Mr. Oswald Cray enable him to score in the rôle of David Rossi; Mr. Edgar L. Hocking gives artistic treatment to the character of Pope Pius XI.; Mr. Charles McCann's interpretation of the part of Bruno Rocco is entirely satisfactory; and Mr. Wernham Byott gives a studied rendition of that of Commendatore Angelli.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—Houses packed in every available part assembled on Monday to witness the excellent array of talent chosen for the holiday attraction. Harry Roxbury and his company have been seen here on a previous occasion. Their merry musical melange, *The Prince of Monte Carlo*, goes as well as ever, the comicalities of Harry Roxbury keeping the audience in roars of laughter. Bert Weston is another old favourite, and his incessant jocularity is irresistibly funny. Some marvellous feats are performed by the Alskarno Trio of comedy Risleyists and tumblers; Edie Endon sings in a taking style, and is an expert sand-dancer; Beau and Belle appear in a novel and artistic singing scena. Good opinions are earned by the Sisters Hall, vocalists; remarkable skill and precision in juggling and club-throwing is exhibited by the Henres; and an excellent display of pictures is submitted and appreciated.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.—KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—Mr. John A. Thomson's No. 1 pantomime company is here this week in *Little Red Riding Hood*. Miss Ella Willmer is a very clever actress, and gave a delightful portrayal of Red Riding Hood; Miss Beatrice Varley acted and sang with distinction as Prince Allfair; Miss Fay Desmond possesses an exceptionally fine voice, which is heard to much advantage in the songs allotted to the Good Queen Flora; Miss Ivy Bolton makes a dashing Boy Blue; and Rosa is charmingly impersonated by Miss Kate Pennington. Mr. Fred Anderson (Tommy Green) and Mr. Lovell Rowland (Simple Simon) are great favourites locally, and their quaint gags keep the house convulsed with laughter; Mr. Fred Latimer is very good as Dame Trot; and Mr. George Newham makes an excellent Baron Sherlock Holmes. Mr. Fred Boulton as Paddy and Mr. Pulo as Sandy, are both entitled to praise; whilst the Wolferino of Mr. Albert Victor deserves the highest eulogy. Other characters are in capable hands.

WIDNES.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Jas. Kiddie.—A huge audience assembled on Bank Holiday night to witness Mr. Fred Karno's troupe of comedians in the old favourite, *His Majesty's Guests*. Mr. George Nestor is well known locally, and his Sergeant Lightning is very funny. Mr. Frank Morton is a capital Lord Easem; Mr. Charles Usher is well suited as Mr. Miffin; Mr. S. Kearns is a comical Minks; Miss Edith Ager is an excellent Dolly; and it would be far from easy to improve upon Miss Kittie Brunton's "new woman." Mr. Tom Manardo is at home in the skirts and eccentricities of Selina; Miss Leonora Castelle does good work as Lady Maud Easem; Mr. A. Bolton is an admirable Harry Miffins; and Mr. Harry Howe is well suited in the part of Bunker.

WIGAN.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Co.—Mr. J. Rice Cassidy's company, in the drama *In Holy Russia* (by Lillian Clare Cassidy) has attracted large holiday audiences. Mr. Robt. Cockroft in the part of the Tzar, Mr. Arthur Stratton as Colonel Forest, and Mr. J. Rice Cassidy as Mickey Nolan are ably supported by the other male members of the cast; and Miss Florence Creagh as Catska Lavotski, a Russian spy, and Mrs. J. Rice Cassidy as Renee Rubinoff portray their respective characters admirably.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Co.—There is an excellent bill of fare at the Hippodrome this week. Newhouse and Ward, trick cyclists; Smarte Bros., acrobatic eccentrics; Prof. Dunning, ventriloquist; the Avolos, somersault throwers; Kahn and Kahn, in a magical act; and Nada Moret, dramatic vocalist, prove very popular; and first-class comedy is provided by Jack Pleasants, W. J. Ashcroft, Jack Lane, and Tennis and Laune.

WORTHING.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Herr C. Adolf Seebold.—Mr. J. Maundy-Gregory is presenting here this week *Lights Out*. Mr. Arthur Stone as Captain Von Bannewitz puts in some excellent work; and he is ably assisted by Mr. Kenneth Brampton as Lieut. Von Howen. Mr. George Hanbury as Major Paschke gives an excellent delineation of the character; Miss Francis Davis is good as Klara Volkhardt. The remaining characters are well placed. The principal play is preceded by *A Hundred Years Hence*, which is well presented by Mr. Lambert Plummer as Hon. Billy Winder, and Miss Belle Donaldson as Astrea Dacre.

WREXHAM.—EMPIRE MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. J. J. Scott; Manager, Mr. Herbert Nicholls.—This week the Sisters Russell, pleasing comedy duettists, have proved a big draw; Mr. T. B. Talbot, ventriloquist, is as popular as ever; Miss Lily Anton is a neat comedienne; Lee and Arden give a clever musical comedy duologue; and Miss Carrie Leslie, characteristic comedienne, is much appreciated.

YORK.—ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—The York Amateur Operatic and Dramatic Society have, during the past week, delighted crowded houses by the clever and artistic manner in which *The Gondoliers* has been presented. The excellent result speaks volumes for the tact and skill shown by Mr. W. Simms Bull, under whose sole stage direction the opera has been produced.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE AND EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brooke.—Jenny Johns is in great form this week, her charm of manner and piquant style finds great favour; Herbert Clifton sings some taking songs in first-class style; and Eldra, with his dog, Prince, are enjoyable items. The Lavalls are gymnasts of more than ordinary merit; Hettie Chattell quickly sings herself into favour; and charming Dolly Elsworthy, as Nell Gwyn, in *The Orange Girl*, gives a delightful impersonation. Wragg and Wragg and the Highland Pipers, together with the Bioscope, complete the bill.

AMUSEMENTS IN BELFAST.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—On Saturday last, the annual Easter pantomime, *Goody Two Shoes*, was produced, under the able direction of Messrs. Fred W. Warden and J. H. Saville. A full report will be found in another column.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Warden, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General-Manager, Mr. J. De Freece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Harris.—There is a splendid attraction for the holidays in Dan Thomas's grand pantomime, *Aladdin*, which forms quite three-fourths of the entertainment, and is a big draw. Mr. Dan Thomas himself appears as Widow Twankey, and a more irresistible impersonation could not be desired, his songs and dances being deservedly encored. Miss Daisy Yates was a charming Aladdin, and her songs were rendered in delightful style; the rôle of the Princess Badroubadour was delightfully played by Miss Amy Bellwood, whose songs were much enjoyed; and other rôles were capitally undertaken by Miss Marie Lewis, Miss Minnie Saunders, and Messrs. A. Jenner, Chas. Dore, Miss Ethel Robertson, and Miss Rosie Conroy. The Four Dandies add much to the success of the pantomime by their clever dancing. Holden's Mannikins, so cleverly manipulated, furnished an entertainment of great attractiveness; and a hit has been made by Miss Edna Seaton, the little Dutch girl; Mr. Arthur Boyne, comedian; Gillen, ventriloquist; and the Palace pictures complete.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John A. Walker.—The bill here is headed by the celebrated actress, Mrs. Brown-Potter, who, with her company, appears to the utmost advantage in a dramatic episode, entitled *Mary Queen of Scots*. Mrs. Brown-Potter's acting quite enthralled the audience. Seeley and West play a number of musical instruments cleverly; and Mr. Barney Armstrong is a capital comedian and dancer. The acrobatic feats of Rhoda Bros. have created quite a sensation; and Hurley and Cole make a big hit with their scena, *Let Bygones be Bygones*. The mimicry of Florence is certainly

AMUSEMENTS IN GLASGOW.

Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Humphrys. — Mr. F. Mouillot's *Geisha* and *Greek Slave* company is here this week. Many as have been the visits of *The Geisha*, this comedy has lost none of its local popularity. O Mimosa San is charmingly played by Miss Louie Collier, who acts and sings with such vivacity and taste as to secure special favour. Miss Florrie Saunders gives a thoroughly artistic reading of Molly Seamore, and uses her voice to great advantage; Miss Violet Kenyon is entrusted with the rôle of Juliette Diamant, which she invests with much chic; Mr. Cyril Thompson is a capital Reginald Fairfax, and he has an excellent voice which he uses with admirable effect in the numbers allotted to him; Wun Hi is undertaken with plenty of spirit by Mr. Edward Carlton; Mr. J. Mansell Stringer plays Captain Katana pleasingly; and Mr. A. J. Nicholls does well as Takamuni. The Marquis Imari is admirably represented by Mr. Lionel Braham. On Friday *The Greek Slave* was presented.

Royalty, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie. —Glasgow playgoers are this week afforded an opportunity of seeing the comedy *Dr. Wake's Patient*, performed in highly creditable style by Mr. Charles Macdona's chief company. Mr. Lawrence Grant plays the title-part, and is heartily applauded for an excellent impersonation, his appearance, voice, and bearing suiting the rôle admirably. The Lady Gerania of the cast is Miss Fyfe Alexander, who gives the necessary charm and interest to the part, and likewise succeeds in finding favour with the audience. The old farmer, Wake, is a well-known character, and, as played by Mr. George Howard, loses none of its firmness and strength; equally characteristic and telling is the Mrs. Wake of Miss Kate Osborne; as the languid young aristocrat, Wynterden, Mr. Allan Pollock pleases the audience greatly; Mr. Paul Lovett comports himself well as the Earl of St. Olbyn; as the Bishop, Mr. Adam Alexander is particularly good; Miss Georgie Trewman looks and acts the part of the Countess of St. Olbyn extremely well; the rôle of Harriet Bronson is attractively filled by Miss Clara Carle, the other female characters being well represented by Miss Mabel Wynne (Mrs. Murdoch), Miss Yamsi Ismay (Gipsy), and Miss Kathleen Ferrers (Janifer); clever sketches being also submitted by Mr. George Newlands (Brown), Mr. C. R. Gordon (Prescott), Mr. Eliot Graham (Antony), and Mr. Tom Constable (waiter).

King's, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. H. Macfarlane. —A big holiday audience, in the best of holiday humour, welcomed *The New Aladdin* here on Monday. Miss Cressie Leonard makes a charming Lally, acting, singing, and dancing with unfailing energy and go from the first scene to the last, and at once established herself a favourite. Mr. Geo. Gregory is already popular here, and as Tippin he has unlimited scope for his versatility. With Miss Leonard he shares the honours of the evening. As the Genie of the Lamp, Mr. Fred Leslie, jun., proves himself to be a most volatile comedian, and carries through his performance with a wealth of high spirits and humour. Miss Jessie Lonnen as the Spirit of Paris makes a typical French comedienne; and Miss Nellie Lonnen as Laolah displays her ability as a dancer. Miss Irene Verona proves as humorous as ever as the Spirit of the Ring; as the Lost Policeman, Mr. John Brabourne has exactly caught that tone and look of hopeless melancholy which Mr. Alfred Lester made so amusing when last here; Mr. Ernest Mahar as General Ratz sings well; Mr. Frank Hector is duly acidulated as Lally's uncle Ebenezer; and Mr. William Spray is an amusing Cadi. Miss Mary Fraser as the Scotch maid Jennie has scored a big hit, her charming appearance and the absolute genuineness of her accent being points in her favour. Miss Ida Rene, who was last seen here in variety business, is a most attractive and engaging Princess, bright and winsome, and she gives her songs with arch humour. Miss Edith Denton contributes a solo dance; and another lady, whose name is not specially given, distinguishes herself in the energetic dance tacked on to "Waltz me round again, Willie." The chorus singing and the staging deserve the highest praise.

Grand, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. D. Macfarlane.—Capital holiday audiences gave a welcome to Mr. Charles Macdonna's company in the musical comedy *Mr. Popple (of Ippleton)*. In the title-part Mr. Arthur Longley is easy, unaffected, and most entertaining as the country Squire; Miss Millie Hylton as La Bolero has had a splendid reception for her acting and singing; Mr. Robert Corray is excellent as Norman; Mr. Tom May scores as Platt; Miss Nellie Hodson is a sprightly and vivacious Louise; as Mr. and Mrs. Hennay and Mr. and Mrs. Doring, Mr. Sydney Courtenay, Miss Alice Rene, Mr. James Stevenson, and Miss Stella St. Andrie are a most successful quartette, sustaining their parts with spirit and ability; Miss Cora Lingard as Violet sings and dances charmingly; while Mr. Robert McLachlan, who appears as Jacques Kenyon, is an excellent vocalist.

Royal Princess's.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—The attraction provided here this week is Robert Perriss' company in the sensational American drama, *A Fight for Millions*. The company is an all-round good one. Mr. Wm. Macready as Tom Manley and Miss Winifred Symons as Pearl Rivers present a striking picture of the injured lovers; and, in conjunction with Mr. Alec C. Grant as Richard Dudley, sustain the principal parts. Other artists include Messrs. Karl H. Edwards, J. Schofield, Harold Turner, George Hodges, and Misses Elma C. Turner, Isabel Edbrook, and Rosie Kearns, who give capital support.

Metropole, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson. —Miss Ethel Van Praagh and Mr. Edward Whitty's company opened here on Easter Monday in the drama entitled *The Unwedded Wife*. As Marion Miss Ethel Van Praagh has a capital rôle, in which she is seen to advantage; and a great success is scored by Little Doris as Reggie. The parts of John Hawthorne, David Drummond, and Frank Armstrong are well cast, and are strongly portrayed by Messrs. Logan Darra, J. A. Grove, and Valentine Henry. Mr. J. E. Whitty as Constable O'Runyin provides some humour. The part of Philip Blackstone lacks nothing in the hands of Mr. E. St. Clair Forbes; and Misses Jessie Gillette and Elsie Walton are commendable as Caraway Crumpet and Elsie Langham. Mr. Sam Roberts is quite entertaining as N. B. Boomer.

Lyceum.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Rich Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—That popular young Irish comedian, Mr. Chalmers Mackey, is here this week in *The Shaughraun*, and the genial humour of his Conn is proving as acceptable as ever. Mrs. Chalmers Mackey is a charming Clare Ffolliott; and the lively and entertaining Moya is well played by Miss Nana Flensberg. Mr. John S. Chamberlain gives due emphasis to the villainies of Harvey Duff; and the scheming Carry Kinchella is ably acted by Mr. David McFarlane. Mr. St. John Stuart is an earnest Robert Ffolliott; and Father Doolan is impersonated with suitable dignity by Mr. H. Sainsbury. Miss Kate Lever as Ate O'Neil, and Miss Adele Liddon as Mrs. O'Kelly are also well placed.

Empire.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. Mussett.—Fred Karno's company in *Dame Trot* still forms the principal part of the programme here, and the lively entertainment provided by Fred Kitchen, Luna Love, Aggie Morris, Fred Whittaker, &c., is heartily enjoyed. Gustave Fasola, the Indian conjuror, shows wonderful neatness and dexterity in the execution of his marvellous tricks; the Geretti Sisters are clever and daring trapeze artists; Lennie and Hast present their artistic *Sea-Nymph* scena, which proves popular; as also do the illustrated songs of Chas. Robinson. Dan. A. Meely's combination in *A Merry Tramp*, Harry Marlo (smart dancer), and Allan Hanbury (light comedian), with the Bioscope, complete a varied and attractive bill.

Zoo-Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd., and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—The Boy Army head the bill at this house, and are well received, their evolutions and drill being very smart. Barton and Ashley as mirth makers are old favourites in Glasgow; Alice May and company, in their sketch entitled *Tranquillity*, and Frances Letty, comedienne, in her latest success, "Hello!" are both exceedingly clever. A versatile turn provided by the Brewsters deserves special mention; the Les Uniques are worthy their hearty reception; and the company also includes Harry Carsdale (farmyard mimic), Stephens and Rennior (sand dancers), and Frobel and Ruge (aerial comedians). The Hippodrome pictures conclude the performance.

Pavilion, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr Samuel Lloyd.—A prominent place here is taken by Arthur Prince, the clever ventriloquist; Harry Tate's *Motoring* sketch has been well received; and so, too, has the clever comedy sketch, *The Golfer and the Maid*, by Hanvarr and Lee; the sleight-of-hand king, Dunningarto, fairly mystifies the audience; Arthur Reece, comedian, sings two favourite songs; and the Markies give a high-class vocal and instrumental sketch, entitled *From Pavement to Stage*. Other acceptable turns include Amy Sullivan, comedienne; Fred Clements, facial comedian; and Venie Clements, refined comedienne and dancer.

Coliseum.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Burdette.—Mr. Herbert Darnley, a popular comedian in Glasgow, heads the bill here with his company in the exceedingly laughable sketch entitled *Moving In*. Henry A. Coutts and company in *Outflanked* give a smart exhibition of quick-change business; and another enjoyable turn is that of the Proveanie Troupe of lady cyclists. Will English is as successful as ever in his coon songs, &c.; and the Anartos, in their speciality act, *The Morning Mail*, are responsible for much mirth. Stylo is a clever hoop manipulator; and Beatrice Bonnie, in her "Peter Peacock" song, is well received. A talented little lady is Kathleen Cogan, whose singing and dancing are highly appreciated; while the dancing, tumbling, and general eccentricities of Forest and King make them favourites. The Bioscope concludes an excellent programme.

Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—The invincible Russian wrestler, Georg Hackenschmidt, is again in Glasgow, and attracting crowded houses to witness his prowess against all comers. Addie Dorina appears in her clever quick-change scena, in which she impersonates seven characters; Gus W. Blake and Maude Granby appear in a lively sketch, *The Man in Possession;* Musical Silvo's selections on various instruments are specially well done; Mlle. Pollo is a clever and daring lady gymnast; Tom E. Hughes increases in popularity with every visit; Geo. Goodfellow and Jennie Gregson are a smart comedy couple, with new and taking business; Verno and Voyce are big favourites in their clever turn; and Robibe Roy, laughing comedian, and the Bioscope complete an excellent bill.

Gaiety, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry Bowerman.—Miss Daisy de Roy, a fascinating burlesque actress, has made quite a success in several songs here this week; and the two Eltons, in a funny triple-bar performance, have also had a good reception. Tom Bassett, comedian, is in demand; and Bob Stephenson and Jack Brindall are popular comedians in their respective lines. A clever performance on ladders is given by Signor Berteni, and a musical turn presented by Mlle. Dora wins applause. Further amusement is provided by Mlle. Sara's trio in classical statuary poses and the Gaiety Bioscope.

AMUSEMENTS IN MANCHESTER.

Theatre Royal.—Lessees, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmonstone Shirra.—High-class holiday entertainment was provided here on Monday night by the Royal Carl Rosa Opera Company, who greatly pleased a fairly large audience by their excellent rendering of *The Bohemian Girl*. Mr. Edward Davies as Thaddeus sang and acted well; and Miss Elizabeth Burgess made in all respects a delightful Arline. Mr. Dillon Shallard's Count Arnheim was distinguished by equally effective renderings of the well-known numbers; and Mr. Arthur Winckworth added to the fine vocalism of his part a spirited interpretation of the humours of Devilshoof. The other parts were well done, and good service was rendered by a highly efficient chorus and orchestra, under the conductorship of Mr. Eugene Goossens. Tuesday's performance of *Tannhäuser* was as excellent and as well-attended as usual, the principal rôles being entrusted to Mr. Julius Walther and Mme. Lucile Hill, to whose fine singing much admirable assistance was added by Miss Marie Alexander (Venus), Mr. Dillon Shallard (Wolfram), and Mr. Arthur Winckworth (the Landgrave). Others in this excellent company who shine prominently in the week's répertoire are Miss Doris Woodall, Miss Grace Nicoll, Miss Ina Hill, Mr. Charles Victor, Mr. Frederick Clendon, and Mr. Charles le Sueer. The remaining operas are *The Merry Wives of Windsor, Lohengrin, The Marriage of Figaro, Cavalleria Rusticana, Pagliacci*, and *Faust*.

Gaiety Theatre. — Proprietors, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. M. Thorburn.—Always highly-appreciated in Manchester, Mr. Edward Compton and his company opened here on Monday in a répertoire of old English comedies, the first of which, *Davy Garrick*, was capitally rendered before a good house. Mr. Compton's impersonation of Garrick was the principal feature, though his graceful and finished work was adequately supported by the company, among whom Miss Mackenzie played very delicately as Violet, and Mr. Henry Crocker also distinguished himself, notably as Gresham. *The Desperate Lover*, a smart one-act comedy, preceded. On Tuesday *Edmund Kean, Tragedian*, was successfully presented; and, in addition to *The School for Scandal, She Stoops to Conquer*, and *The Rivals*, the bill included a production of *The Gentleman in Grey* on Friday, the occasion being the benefit of Mr. Edward Compton.

Royal Osborne Theatre.—Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Mrs. F. G. Kimberley and her company, in the recently-produced drama, *A Soldier's Honour*, provide the attraction here this week. The play is proving very successful, and is certainly staged and rendered in excellent style.

Metropole Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son.—Prominent and well-received turns, included in a good programme here this week, are Gus Harris, the well-known Hebrew delineator; Robins and Collier, in the musical comedy scena, *The Lady and the Porter;* Nellie Voltaire, comedienne and dancer; and the second-sight seers, the Days. Very entertaining also are Eustace and Eyre, in a novel ventriloquial absurdity; Hilda and Leigh and company in a capital sketch *Another Man's Wife;* Little Dando, comedian; Tony Iveson, at the piano; Olive Armadale, a pleasing singer; and Harry Grey, novelty comedian. "Oh! that Hat," is a funny film shown on the bioscope.

St. James's Theatre—Lessee, Mr. Richard Flanagan; Manager, Mr. P. Ryan Smith.—Mr. Chas. H. Lester's company are seen here this week in Max Goldberg's detective drama, *The Bank of England*, which purports to be a characteristic adventure in the life of Sherlock Holmes. Mr. Chas. H. Lester sustains the rôle of Holmes with very good effect; as Stephen Hartley Mr. G. Clifton Boyne presents a clever sketch of the director of the bank; and a prominent success is gained by Miss Lallah Davis as the American widow, Aminta J. Beane. Among many well-played minor parts, that of Gordon Isaacs, the money-lender, is conspicuously brought out by Mr. Edmund O'Grady; and Sylvia Barraclough has an admirable exponent in Miss Dorothy Riddell.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—*Mick Whittintun*, a variation of the doings of the "Casey's Court" comedians, is the top attraction here this week, and provides plenty of amusement. A first-class sketch, *Number 99*, presented by Fred Kitchen and Frank Lister, gives the last-named an opportunity for some very fine character-acting; Jeannie Mackay, vocalist, sings excellently; the Karno Four are amusing in their "dinner-hour" sketch; a capital acrobatic turn is given by the Garganis; Sylvesta, assisted by Vere de Courtney, shows himself a smart magician; and other items are contributed cleverly by James Brady, comedian; Billy McClain and company, in a very effective southern scena; and the Bohemians, instrumentalists and comedy artists. The Bioscope depicts the adventures of a stray dog.

Hippodrome. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—A fine spectacular show here is Frank Parker's production of *The Treasure Ship in Fairy Seas*, with music by Carl Kiefert. Excellent turns are added by the Gems, in song, play, and mirth; the McBanns, wonderfully expert juggiers; Clarence C. Corri's company in *Heart Strings*, a sweet and pathetic episode; the Trapnell Family of graceful acrobats; the Four Royal Welshmen; Topsy and Usher, Kentuckian vocalists and dancers; Harry Clifford, comedian; three pleasing items by the choir, and pictures on the Bioscope.

Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter de Frece; Secretary, Mr. Peter Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—Galatea, otherwise the charming Miss Maud Odell, is here this week rivalling the famous La Milo, in a series of artistic reproductions of sculptured masterpieces, all beautifully carried out. Haley's Juveniles, including Dot and Spot, are smart singers and dancers; Leo Dryden, the popular vocal character-actor, is well received; Charles Austin makes a hit with his song, "Mr. Perkins"; Tom Stuart, character-actor and impersonator, is good; and Gold and Sterling are entertaining duettists. The Three Mackweys cause much laughter in a cleverly-arranged "mad whirling act" on the wire; Fred Hallam, comedian, contributes a song; and the Three Ettenas are successful in their globe-walking speciality. Some excellent films are shown.

King's, Longsight.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son.—*The Lost Coon* is the attraction here this week, presented in excellent style by Dinah Morris and company, including Bessie Morris, the dancing and singing being most enjoyable; another capital turn is that of Emma Don and her Black and White comedy team, in melody, mirth, and music; Greener, the singing pit lad, is well received; Windermere and Mansfield are good in duologue, *A Narrow Squeak;* the Henriques do some smart work in a comedy acrobatic act; and the Three Behans are vastly entertaining in a quick-change, vocal, and dancing act. Acceptable turns are also contributed by the Simpsons, in musical act; the Bendons, in song-scena; and Fortune and Fame, comedians. Animated pictures complete.

Queen's Park Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son.—Mr. W. B. Crabtree's company, in an amusing burlesque, *The Village Free and Easy*, are responsible for much merriment here this week; the Westwoods are wonderfully clever trick cyclists; Vowles and Bryan make a hit in song and story; and the Brothers Curran cause much laughter with a comic boxing act. Excellent vocal items are contributed by Marie Blythe, contralto, and Herbert Bates, tenor. Snowball and Miss Dolia, American artists, dance well; and George Hyam (comedian) and Nell Cotter (comedienne) have pleasing styles. "The Catch of the Season" and "Two Young Scamps" are shown on the bioscope.

Tivoli. — Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—That favourite burlesque artist, Millie Lindon, is the bright particular star here this week, and is well received. Very successful, also, is George French, a capital eccentric comedian; and warmly applauded are the Morton Trio, whose singing in *The Dandy Bandits* is very fine. Mr. and Mrs George Leonard are seen to great advantage in a comedy sketch, *Coming Home;* and Frank Coyle, the "continuous" comedian, is as amusing as ever. Other smart items are contributed by the Sisters Selwyn, vocalists and dancers; Patty McCarthy, comedienne; Tom Garland, ventriloquist; and Nellie Chandos, comedienne. Raymond's Vivagraph pictures are entertaining.

Hippodrome (Hulme).—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son.—A beautiful act is given here this week by Venus, who tops the bill, her poses of famous pictures being represented in a thoroughly artistic manner; Stanley and Vandyke are highly amusing in a laughable sketch, entitled *A Broken Promise;* Mack Olive, assisted by Daisy Baldry, is good in a versatile act; J. W. Gallagher, eccentric comedian, is entertaining; and Mac and Hill are smart patter comedians. Other good turns are those of Annie Cohen, comedienne; Les Valdos in absurdity, *The Eccentric Motor 'Bus Men;* and Mlle. Fontainbleau and her remarkably clever performing dogs. On the occasion of our visit Gladys Williams (comedienne) and Jack Hylton (comedian) did not appear, an unnamed deputy turn of good singers and dancers, and extra bioscope pictures being given.

Grand.—Jasper Redfern's pictures, with vaudeville items, are still the attraction here.

AMUSEMENTS IN BIRMINGHAM.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—*The Sign of the Cross* is drawing large crowds here. Mr. William Greet's No. 1 company is engaged, with Mr. Frank E. Petley, whose presentment of the noble Marcus Superbus shows fine feeling and dignity; Mr. O. Yorke acts with clever art as the ignoble Nero; Mr. Frank Wood scores as Glabio; Miss Mary Newcombe shows good deportment as the Empress; Miss Gertrude Price does admirably as Berenice; and Miss Cissie Carlton, Mr. H. Thurston Harris, Mr. Tom Lloyd, Mr. Charles Aldred, and Mr. J. Wetherall make admirable satellites. Miss Marie Leonard moves the audience deeply as the gentle Mercia, Miss Dulcie Greatwick has the house in tears as Stephanus, and Mr. Walter Fleet as Farius is impressive.

Prince of Wales's Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Rodgers, Limited; Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—*See-See*, the new and exquisitely pretty Chinese comic opera, made its first appearance here last Monday, and has been drawing full houses all the week. In the unavoidable absence of Miss Lily Elsie, the name-part was taken by Miss Octavia Barry, whose pure, full voice and artless manners evoke frequent encores; Miss Elise Don made a highly-efficient substitute for Miss Barry as Mai-o-Yao; Miss Amy Augarde made a most effective part of the fortune-teller; Miss Topsy Sinden as So-Hie appeared in a variety of dances, which brought the audience to her feet; and Miss Daisy Wallace and Miss Alice Hatton, who made a most pleasing impression as Lee, are foremost among the others. Mr. Frank Danby made a fine part of the roguish Hang-Kee, Mr. W. H. Rawlins gave capital aid as Checoo, Mr. Myles Clifton was crisply humorous as Wang, and Mr. Leonard Mackay furnished a bold and resolute lover, Yen, his vigorous delivery and clear, ringing voice being much appreciated.

Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood.—*Man and Wife* fills the bill here, with Mr. T. Edward Ward's company, who have met with much success. Miss Kate Hallam has elicited favourable receptions as Marcelle; Mr. John F. Traynor has made a popular rôle of the conscript, Paul Revere; Messrs. Edward Van Biene and Ambrose Horton are successful in the respective rôles of Colonel Latour and Sergeant Jacques; Mr. Wilson Coleman is highly commendable as Captain D'Esparre; Messrs. Sydney Bryant and Val Gully present the rôles of Bimbo and Bambo cleverly; and Mr. Edward Leslie as Father Coupe, and Mr. R. Stone as Phillipe, support ably. Miss Violet Temple wins sympathy as Ruth Revere; Miss Ethel F. Greene acts capably as Jean; and Miss Pollie Denville is well applauded as Rosette.

Metropole Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Andrew Melville; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—*The Great World of London*, depicted by the Metropole company, has been attended by large crowds of holiday-seekers, who have vented much enthusiasm over their favourites. Mr. Percy Dawsone as the hero, Jack Clinton, is received with acclamation; Miss Rose Ralph is rapturously applauded as Lilian; Mr. Austin Milroy invests the rôle of Richard Thornton with clever realism; and Messrs. Francis Everard, Edward Finlay, Morley Carroll, and Edgar Snow contribute useful parts. Mr. Andrew Emm is the very quintessence of humour as Tom Bates; Miss Jessie Yatman makes a capital rôle of Tagrag, the shoeblack; and a numerous and most efficient cast supports.

Carlton Theatre, Saltley.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—*The Woman Who Gambles* provides the holiday attraction here, a powerful company being presented by Mr. T. Morton Powell. Mr. Alex. Alexander brings out the valiant character of Count Otto Stienbach with conspicuous ability; Miss Louise Peach invests the rôle of the Countess with a glamour that fascinates everybody; Mr. Horatio Sinclair makes a powerful part of the Baron Cratzlaw; Mr. Reginald Fox gives a fine representation of Lieut. Carl Ctzarteriski; and Mr. E. H. Clarke as M. Stambuloff, Mr. Albert Brandhurst as George Orloff, Mr. Gilbert Dance as Speinletch, and Mr. J. J. Welch as Slivanovitch, are well suited. Miss Florence Halton has many attractive features as Cora Gouldheart; Miss Lily Malvern is good as Stella Melakoff; and the comic characters are well represented by Mr. Alfred Richards as the Hon. Bertie Bray, Mr. Fred Prior as Peter Peteroff, and Miss Violet Wilson as Zila Zeyelda.

Theatre Royal, Aston.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr Frank Whittles.—*The Grip of Iron* continues to hold its own among the potent attractions of the stage, and its visit here this week has been signally successful. Mr. Fred Powell is numbered amongst Messrs. E. H. Knight and G. Denham's company, his assumption of the masterful and brutal Simmonet retaining all its powerful attributes; Mr. Geo. Denham's acting as the Smiler yields the audience welcome humorous relief; Mr. Wallace Carnock gives a satisfactory study of Paul Blanchard; Mr. A. G. Polson-Turner as Lerentz de Ribas, Mr. T. Renaud Lockwood as Alphonse de Coucon, Mr. J. Brittain as Dodet, Mr. Norman Tracey as M. de Belfort, and Mr. Henry Lawrence as M. de Beaudin, are all deserving of the highest praise; Miss Rosabel Dodd acquits herself in an admirable manner as Cora Simmonet; Miss Muriel Inglis realises the rôle of Sophie Blanchard to admiration; and Miss Violet Ingram as Marie Guerin, and Miss Pope Royal as Mlle. Delaney, are excellent.

Empire Palace.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham.—Bella and Bijou are a smart pair of entertainers; Tschernoff's dogs and ponies are amazingly well trained; a farcical duologue, *Opera Bouffe*, by May Glenn and Leonard Griffiths, is a bright turn; and the Lupinos are nimble comedians. Lively Lily Langtry keeps the audience amused; Charles Norton's imitations of "stars" are very lifelike; the Five Jees give a clever musical act; and Nipper Lupino Lane is a droll little fellow, who sings Dutch songs. Margaret Ashton sings her songs effectively.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—Miss Rose Elliott, who is described as "the singer of sensible songs," makes a decided hit, being vociferously encored; while the Harvey Boys provoke considerable mirth with their smart patter and mimic boxing act. The Great Roland mystifies the house with his clever illusions; the topical song and recitations of F. V. St. Clair are very well received; while Frederick Voelker, violin virtuoso, provides another acceptable turn. Harry Conlin, a versatile comedian, delights the audience; and Queenie May is enthusiastically applauded. Charles Somers, Lucy Coventry, Dale and O'Malley, and Meier and Mora were also responsible for enjoyable turns.

National Trades' Exhibition, Bingley Hall.—General-Manager, Mr. George Stanley.—This "hardy annual," which was opened last week by the Lord Mayor of Birmingham, supported by the Lord Bishop (Dr. Gore) and other dignitaries, is a marked advancement on all previous shows here, and as an epitome of the art and labour of man, should crowd the place for months. The London and North-Western, Midland, and Great Western Railway companies are represented by models of their respective and various systems, and Messrs. T. Cook and Sons have a miniature fleet of liners on view. Canada is well advertised, and horticulture, groceries, chicken-hatching, and sweet-making, glass-spinning, and the manufacture of artificial teeth, and mechanism of all description is laid bare to the public. Our sweated industries are represented in stalls by the sweated operatives themselves, this being a question that the Lord Bishop has taken in hand. The side shows are comprehensive and engrossing, and, altogether, Mr. Stanley is to be congratulated on the success that has attended the opening of his fifteenth and best effort. This week the band of H.M. Grenadier Guards and Scots Guards Pipers and Dancers are engaged.

Bordesley Palace.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Foster.—Nellie Wallace is a burlesque artist whose humour is irresistible. She renders several songs in a style peculiarly her own. The singing of Parke's Eton Boys has lost none of its charms; and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Finden give a duologue in entertaining fashion. Simms and Simms are capable comedy musicians; the Hartley Wonders are skilful jumpers; while Maggie Walsh, a singing mill girl; and Spry and Monti, in "The Dandy Guardsman," are also appreciated.

MR. DANCE'S PIECES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Referring to Mr. Dance's letter in your last week's issue, would you kindly allow me to correct a statement which may be as misleading as the one Mr. Dance points out? I hold the rights of the fit-up towns and some eighty theatre towns for *The Duchess of Dantzic, The Cingalee, The Girl from Kay's*, and *The Orchid*, and have also options on the *Catch of the Season, Veronique*, and other of Mr. Dance's pieces.

Yours faithfully,

Opera House, Jersey. EDWARD MARRIS.

"The Era" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

AMUSEMENTS IN DUBLIN.

Gaiety Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mrs. Michael Gunn; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Hyland.—The revival of the Gilbert and Sullivan operas formed an agreeable attraction here, and on Monday, when Mrs. D'Oyly Carte's Répertoire Opera Company played *The Mikado*, the popular melodies were heartily enjoyed by a crowded audience. Mr. Fred Billington, who was accorded a warm welcome, sang and acted with his accustomed success as Pooh-Bah; Mr. Pacie Ripple gave a clever representation of Nanki-Poo, and sang his music in capital style; Mr. Charles R. Walenn made a satisfactory Ko-Ko; Miss Hope Hastings was delightfully pleasing as Yum-Yum; Miss Lulu Evans as Pitti-Sing and Miss Mabel Burnege as Peep-Bo were both admirable in their respective parts; as Katisha Miss Theresa Rassam was particularly good, and Mr. Albert Kavanagh also did well as the Mikado; Mr. Leicester Tunks as Pish-Tush and Mr. Fred Drawater as Go-To fulfilled their parts successfully. For the rest of the week *The Gondoliers, The Yeomen of the Guard*, and *Iolanthe* were announced.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Parrington.—An enthusiastic reception was accorded Mr. Chas. Frohman's company, in J. M. Barrie's fantastic play, *Peter Pan*, which commenced a three weeks' engagement here on Saturday. Miss Pauline Chase, in the title-rôle, is most artistic, and received rounds of applause; Miss Hilda Trevelyan was very convincing as Wendy, and acted with much feeling and grace; Miss Mary Grace was admirable as Mrs. Darling; and Mr. Loring Fernie made a capital Mr. Darling, his impersonation of the pirate Captain Hook being also an exceedingly clever performance; Smee and Gentleman Starkey were most amusingly presented by Mr. George Shelton and Mr. Charles Trevor, the remaining parts being filled in a most satisfactory manner. The play was magnificently staged, the last scene, The Tree Tops, being a masterpiece of stagecraft.

Abbey Theatre.—On Monday four one-act plays, entitled *Deirdre*, by W. B. Yeats, *The Rising of the Moon* and *Spreading the News*, both by Lady Gregory, and *The Eyes of the Blind*, by Miss W. M. Letts, were played before a good attendance, and were well received. The principal parts in each were fulfilled with great satisfaction by the Messrs. W. G. Fay, J. F. Fay, J. M. Kerrigan, Arthur Sinclair, and J. A. O'Rourke, and the Misses Maire O'Neill, Brigit O'Dempsey, Sara Allgood, and Mona Limerick. On Thursday Lady Gregory's comedy, *Hyacinth Halvey, Riders to the Sea*, by J. M. Synge, and *Kathleen Ni Houlihan*, by W. B. Yeats, were announced to be played by the same artists.

Empire.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—The holiday programme here is an attractive one. Heading the bill we have Mme. Classen's "Living Art Bronzes," in several classical poses, which elicit much applause; Picton Roxborough and Fanny Wright, in an amusing sketch, entitled *Cockie*, are well received; and the clever and graceful gymnastic act of the Fitzroys proves acceptable. A laughter-provoking item, entitled *Captain Kette*, is presented by the Three Missouries; Miss Kate Trail's entertainment at the piano is well appreciated; Hunt and Thomas cause much merriment in their sketch, *My Birthday*. As an actor-vocalist Mr. George Ridgwell is much above the average; the Knick-Knacks, comedy artists, meet with approval; and the Empire Pictures are also an attraction.

Tivoli.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Secretary, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—The Lorch Family of Risley acrobats provide the leading item in a good bill, and are deservedly applauded. Johnny Holland and company are responsible for much fun in their sketch, *The Millionaire;* and Arthur Woodville gains favour as a comedian and dancer. The College Boys, in harmony and song, create great enthusiasm; and Henriquette Maude, the little New Zealander, supplies an interesting turn. The Two Kays, in their vocal scena, "The Nightingale," are much enjoyed; and Prof. Norcross, shadowgraphist; Wat Tyler, character comedian; and Fenton Cross, society entertainer, score successfully in their respective turns. The latest pictures are shown on the Bioscope.

Pavilion, Kingstown.—Manager, Mr. C. Irvine Bacon.—The Russell Rosse répertoire company commenced a fortnight's engagement here, and on Monday afternoon *Caste* was presented before a large audience. The principal characters were in the capable hands of Miss E. Nolan O'Connor and Mr. David James. In the evening *Betsy* was played to a full house, and was well received.

World's Fair and Music Hall.—Proprietor, Mr. C. A. James.—The programme here includes Prof. and Mme. Elba, second-sight artists; Hilda Hazel, ballad vocalist; Charlie Cooper, comedian and dancer; Harry Garbutt, actor-vocalist; and the New Cinematograph.

THEATRICAL PATENTS.

The concise descriptions that we give below of recent patent applications are specially contributed by Messrs. Howard and Co., Patent Agents, 57 and 58, Chancery-lane, London, W.C., who will assist readers in all patent matters:—

SPECIFICATION.

22,644. Roundabouts. R. Horsley and W. R. Ward, both of the Metropole Hall of Amusement, Blackpool, Lancashire. An aquatic roundabout is constructed of an annular water channel, in which float a number of ships or yachts, which revolve preferably around a lighthouse. The driving-shaft is mounted in suitable bearings, and is driven by worm or other gearing from a motor or engine The ships are connected to a shaft by means of radiating arms and jointed links attached to the keels of the boats. Steps are provided to give access to the boats, and the exterior of the canal may be decorated with mountain or other scenery

22,897A. "Engaged" indicators for seats. C. Bright, Queen Victoria-street, London. The number of seats "engaged" or "vacant" in a theatre or concert hall is shown by apparatus which automatically displays at will the number upon an indicating band or wheel. In the apparatus referred to, the contact-plate allotted to each seat is kept raised by suitable means while the seat is vacant, and a shaft and drum, which normally stand with brushes resting upon the insulating surface, will be completely rotated if the attendant momentarily closes a switch. By this means circuit from the battery is made directly through an electro-magnet which feeds the ratchet-wheel upon the shaft, sufficiently to bring the conducting part of the wheel under the brushes, after which a make-and-break action at the contact controlled by the armature completes the rotation, the battery circuit being made through the electro-magnet and the brushes.

Applications.—5695. Thomas Henry Grave, of Chancery-lane, London. Improvements in apparatus for use in music halls and like places in the performance of certain feats of skill.

6357. George Hannibal Bond, of New Bond-street, London. Improved wig spring.

Complete Specification.—23,559. Hat, umbrella, and card-holders. Beechey, W., Lord-street, Gainsborough. Relates to a device for use in theatres and like places for holding hats, umbrellas, and the like. To a base-plate are attached spring clips. One clip is curved outward to hold umbrellas and the like. The lower end of the other clip is bent round to hold a hat, while the upper end is bent down to form a clip for a play-bill, programme, or the like. The ends of the springs are bent round or tipped with rubber or similar material.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"LE RUISSEAU."

Comedy, in Three Acts, by M. Pierre Wolff, Produced at the Vaudeville on March 21.

Mme. Trévoux .....MME. ANNA JUDIC
Denise .....MLLE. YVONNE DE BRAY
Madeleine Grandval ....MLLE. MADELEINE DOLLEY
Hélène Devilliers .....MLLE. HARLAY
Carton .....MLLE. DE MORNAND
Agathe .....MLLE. J. MARIE-LAURENT
Le Docteur Miler .....M. LERAND
Paul Bréhant .....M. LOUIS GAUTHIER
Henri .....M. BARON FILS
Marcel .....M. ROGER MONTEAUX
M. Edouard .....M. JOFFRE

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, MARCH 28.—The average man is never so happy as when he can applaud in a piece those qualities he does not possess himself. He who, when he meets poor "traviata," withdraws the hem of his garment, on the principle that "Once lost is lost for ever," delights in plays wherein a courtesan is rescued. Alexandre Dumas *fils* tried the experiment with his *Dame aux Camélias*, and for many years to come paterfamilias will continue to shed tears over this sentimental story. Alphonse Daudet followed the example with *Sapho*; and, not long ago, London audiences showed their keen interest in the fate of La Maslowa, in Tolstoi's *Resurrection*. And as these works became immensely popular, and, consequently, brought in money, M. Pierre Wolff decided to write another "rehabilitation" piece, which M. Porel wisely accepted. To-day author and manager are happy, for the new work is proving a financial success. M. Wolff's heroine is by no means a "grande cocotte." She belongs, not to the half, but to the quarter world, and is a gutter-snipe, who sells herself because she is hungry and cold. As a contrast to her, the author shows us a society lady, courted because she is rich, devoid of moral sense, only anxious to satisfy her passing whims. Such a woman is Mme. Grandval, the mistress of Paul Bréhant, a painter of great talent, a "dreamer of dreams." Paul discovers that Mme. Grandval is unworthy of an honest man's affection, and, sick at heart, he seeks distraction in a Montmartre cabaret. Visitors to Paris are acquainted with these night cafés, filled with noisy music, noisy laughter, noisy women, miserable creatures of whom someone said, "Look at them! You think they are having supper, but for the majority of them it is their breakfast." Paul sits alone in a corner, and at the table next to him is a girl, ill-clad, with beautiful, sad-looking eyes. Her name is Denise. A fellow walks up to her and seizes her roughly by the arm. She utters a cry of terror, and the incensed Paul gives the scoundrel a thrashing. Paul is fascinated by the girl. He enters into conversation with her, and proposes to paint her portrait. Later on we find Paul and Denise hiding their love in a little Normandy place. Paul has discovered in Denise wonderful qualities of the heart and of the mind, and he is intensely happy. One day a motor car stops at the small hotel where they are staying. The travellers are some of Paul's Paris friends. One of them recognises Denise as a girl he has frequently met in the Montmartre night cafés, and he hastens to tell this to Paul. This prudish man is married, and deceives his wife, who, equally prudish, returns the compliment. In a shocked tone the man asks Paul, "Do you know whence this girl comes?" "Yes," replies Paul, "I found her in the gutter, which generally carries along some very ugly things. But I found a flower there, called Denise, and I do not intend to part with it." That is the whole plot. Only a cast like that of the Vaudeville could have done justice to a play of that description, and M. Pierre Wolff owes a deep debt of gratitude to M. Louis Gauthier, admirable in the part of Paul Bréhant; to Mlle. Yvonne de Bray, a charming Denise; to M. Joffre, an inimitable Monsieur Edouard; and to the other members of this excellent company.

"LE COUP DE JARNAC."

Vaudeville, in Three Acts, by MM. H. de Gorsse and M. de Marsan. Produced at the Folies-Dramatiques on March 22.

Mme. Brétillot .....MLLE. DIETERLE
Bobinette .....MLLE. MISTINGUETTE
Mme. Bonafous .....MME. GERMAINE ETY
Hildegonde .....MLLE. GENSE
Mme. Prune .....MME. JACQUEMINE
Brétillot .....M. MILO
Farjotte .....M. ROUVIERE
Le Commandant Bonafous .....M. BRESSOL
De la Crémone .....M. NEMO
Prune .....M. MODOT

The new vaudeville bears a strong family likeness to *La Dame de Chez Maxim*. M. Feydeau is a kind providence to many farce-writers, who quietly borrow some of the situations he created, with the absolute certainty that the public will laugh at the jokes. And the Folies-Dramatiques audience, who only like vaudevilles if they are "peppery," had reason to be satisfied. Brétillot, a Civil Service clerk, has gone to Jarnac on a visit to his Uncle and Aunt Bonafous. The latter have no children, and Brétillot hopes to inherit their fortune. Brétillot's wife has remained in Paris. The Bonafous do not know her, and, owing to unforeseen circumstances, Brétillot has been compelled to introduce to them, as his wife, Mlle. Bobinette, a music hall star. But Bobinette is by no means his mistress; in fact, he does not care for her, and is very much annoyed to see the Bonafous fuss over her, for he is a model husband, and intends to remain always faithful to Mme. Brétillot. We next meet Brétillot and his wife at Enghein, where they are spending the summer. Bobinette also arrives there, escorted by the Vicomte de la Tremblotte, whose mistress she is. The Vicomte admires the pretty Mme. Brétillot, but fails to make any impression on her. Brétillot receives a telegram that the Bonafous will come to Enghein the next day. No time is to be lost. If the Bonafous discover that he introduced another lady as his wife, there will be trouble. He sends his wife to Paris, and Bobinette consents to impersonate Mme. Brétillot, as she did at Jarnac. Moreover, the servants are sent away, a new cook is engaged, and Farjotte, one of Brétillot's friends, acts as valet. All might have gone well if Bobinette had taken her duties of pseudo-lady of the house seriously. Unfortunately she proved too flighty. Brétillot, having received the Cross of the Legion of Honour, gives a supper, and Bobinette, under the influence of champagne, sings some outrageous songs of her music hall répertoire, and dances a *pas-seul* to match. She is promptly put to bed, and other scenes occur which cannot well be described. And poor Brétillot learns to his disgust that his scheme to inherit the Bonafous' money could never prove successful, for the Bonafous laugh in his face, and tell him that they have sunk their money in a life-annuity. The farce was well acted. Mlle. Mistinguette, who, with Dranem, was one of the stars at the Eldorado, sang and danced with the entrain to which she owes her reputation; Mlle. Gense—who always impersonates servants—gave a somewhat too realistic sketch of a cook who falls in love with every man she sees; Mme. Ety was an amusing Mme. Bonafous; and the other members of the cast showed their cleverness in not overacting their parts.

ON Monday at the Opera House, Workington, there was a large audience to witness *The Unseen Power*, presented by Mr. Harry Starr and company. As Fred, Mr. Starr was applauded for his singing and acting; Mr. W. Miller was excellent as Harold; Mr. B. Firth was seen to advantage as Antonio; equally good were Mr. Will Hee as George and Miss Dolly Starr as Chris. Miss Kate Norris was successful as Lucretia.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MISS GRACIE MURIELLE.

Miss Gracie Murielle will be remembered as an exceptionally brilliant child actress, of whom some flattering predictions were made by very competent judges indeed—Mr. J. T. Grein amongst their number. Miss Murielle has grown up in an especially trying time for the actor, and so far her best work has been done very far afield, chiefly in South Africa, where she went with the laudable intention of gaining a wide experience in every kind of part, and in seeking to win the favourable verdict of South African audiences she had a by no means easy task before her. A young woman, barely out of her teens, and absolutely unheralded, she may be said to have fairly conquered one of the most critical audiences in the world—an audience composed of many nationalities, each with its own traditions and prejudices. Miss Murielle's recollections of Africa are, for the most part, very pleasant, for she was lucky in adding social success to an artistic one, and when at last, after struggling bravely against "long odds," a very nasty injury to her head and face compelled her reluctantly to curtail a fresh contract, just entered into with Mr. Rayne, she and her mother Miss Marion Laurence (also a member of the company), were simply overwhelmed with the crush of friends who thronged the station at Johannesburg to wish them "God speed and a quick return."

Miss Murielle was in South Africa during the

[*Photo by Allen.*

MISS GRACIE MURIELLE AS ROSALIND.

war, and met many distinguished people and collected some very interesting mementoes. One of these is a bracelet composed of the South African medal, clasps and ribbon, with every engagement engraved thereon. This was presented to Miss Murielle by officers of the famous 60th Rifles (K.R.R.'s), and, being especially designed for Miss Murielle, is unique. Miss Murielle is enthusiastic on the subject of the climate of South Africa, though it is certainly trying in the very hottest season when one happens to be an actor or actress in a repertory company which produced forty plays in four months! (this Miss Murielle believes to be Mr. Rayne's record). So it will be seen that only workers are wanted in South Africa. Mr. Harry Nicholls was the genial comedian of the Rayne company; Mr. Charles Hewitt, the stage-manager; while Mr. Rayne, who is the "Alexander-Bourchier-Tree-Waller" rolled into one of South Africa, played most of the leading male parts.

Miss Murielle during her long engagement out there played over one hundred parts, and her success in such rôles as Roma, The Dancing Girl, The Worst Woman in London, &c., was a very big feather in the cap of the young actress, who went out to play juvenile and ingénue leads.

Miss Murielle (whose full name is Grace Eve Murielle) was quickly appreciated by Mr. Tree, who saw she was just exactly what he wanted for Rosy Sky when he sent out *The Darling of the Gods*. Miss Murielle had only been in England a month when he engaged her. Since then she has been starred as Glory and The Worst Woman in London. Naturally, Miss Murielle looks forward to the time when some astute manager recognises that Gracie Murielle has lost none of the magnetic power that drew all London to see her in *Editha's Burglar*, Managers and the Press are continually bewailing the lack of young actresses; the London and leading provincial papers frequently drew attention to Miss Murielle when, as a young girl of sixteen, she supported Mr. Ben Greet as Ophelia, Juliet, &c.; yet it was left to a Colonial manager to recognise and make practical use of Miss Murielle's exceptional gifts—an enterprise he certainly had no reason to regret.

AMUSEMENTS IN SINGAPORE.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SINGAPORE, FEB. 21.—The Bandmann Comedy Company appeared here this week in Pinero's brilliant comedy, *His House in Order*, which was given a hearty reception by the playgoers of Singapore, who thoroughly appreciated the efforts of the clever combination. Miss Florence Hamer as Nina played with great strength and pathos, and was ably supported by that clever and experienced actor, Mr. Claude King, as Hilary Jesson. Mr. Sidney T. Pease as Filmer Jesson was well to the fore, his acting in the fourth act being particularly worthy of mention. The "boy's" part of Dick Jesson was prettily played by Miss Helen Grenville; and Miss Violet as Geraldine Ridgeley and Mr. Phillip Sanders as Major Maurewarde, acted with convincing effect. The parts of Sir Daniel Ridgeley, Dr. Dilnott, and Lady Ridgeley were efficiently played by Messrs. Clifford Brown, Sinclair Cotter, and Miss Dorcas Corsbie respectively.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR.

Your book will, I am sure, be a valuable aid to all managers and actors.—SIR HENRY IRVING.

Mr. Strong states the whole case very clearly.—*Illustrated London News.*

Should be found very useful.—*Pelican.*

Should prove perfectly invaluable.—*Weekly Sun.*

Contains in a handy compass and in a clear style the law relating to theatres and music halls. The book is well up to date.—*Law Times.*

Furnishes useful information.—*Daily News.*

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—*Star.*

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps. *The Era* is posted on Saturday in time to reach London Subscribers by the *first* Town Delivery, and Country Subscribers should receive their Papers by the *first* London Post. Address, the PUBLISHER, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

CHATS WITH DRAMATIC AUTHORS.

(BY OUR OWN COMMISSIONER.)

MR. ISRAEL ZANGWILL.

How comes it that the Jewish race, more than any other, is instinct with dramatic expression? Mr. Israel Zangwill, no doubt, would be better qualified to answer the question than the present writer, who claims no greater acquaintance with the children of the Ghetto than an occasional ramble in the neighbourhood of Petticoat-lane. But that occasional ramble has taught at least one thing. One does not need to be gifted with extraordinary powers of observation to realise how full of character and expression are the movements, the speech, in fact, the merest casual glance, of the average Hebrew. For centuries past the Jew, like Poor Jo, has been a-movin' and a-movin' on. He has made a home in many lands, and yet he has never been at home. He has been compelled, often by hard fate, to accommodate himself to circumstances as varying as the nationalities with which he has come into contact; and, while the present-day Jew may have, in great measure, those distinctive peculiarities which were part and parcel of the race when it held Palestine, yet he has acquired to a remarkable extent the characteristics of other peoples among whom he or his forbears for some time sojourned. It is these varying characteristics, this inherent gift of being able to adapt oneself to circumstances, that have been responsible for the large Jewish contribution to the stage in all its branches.

So much for the race; now for the individual. Mr. Israel Zangwill, who, as a playwright, is best known to the British public as the author of *Merely Mary Ann*, and as a novelist for his "Children of the Ghetto," has somewhat decided views on the subject of playwriting, or, rather, on the subject of the disposal of a play. In future the plays he proposes to write will not be offered direct to managers, but will be published, and anyone who desires to produce them will have to apply to the author, instead of, as formerly, the author applying to the producer. Thus, Mr. Zangwill is prepared to write at a loss, if need be, taking the chance of their ever being produced. It must not be supposed from this that he speaks as a disappointed dramatist, for in America and many other parts of the world Mr. Zangwill is reaping the rewards—and they are not insignificant—which form the financial outcome of successful playwriting. He feels, now that people are being better educated, that there will be a public who will find pleasure in reading plays. At the same time, he does not think that the conditions of the theatre, from the literary point of view, are what they should be. To his way of thinking, it is quite impossible for the author to do the work he really wants to do. He must not have in his play any ideas that are not already in the minds of the audience. Mr. Zangwill considers that Mr. Granville Barker is the most hopeful influence in the dramatic sphere at the present moment, because the latter has shown himself to be a man of wider ideas and ideals than many other theatrical managers.

"I find," says Mr. Zangwill, "that it is a much easier matter to deal with American managers than with English managers. In this country you are expected to approach the manager with the completed play, and that is one of the reasons

[*Photo by Lafayette.*

MR. ISRAEL ZANGWILL.

why playwriting is so speculative a business here. British managers have not got the business enterprise of the Americans. Some ten years ago, before I had written a single play, Richard Mansfield, the well-known American actor, came to me and said he wanted me to write a piece for him. He paid down a goodly cheque there and then, and in the agreement he stipulated that there should be no alteration of any kind without the author's permission. In the end we did not agree, but still Mr. Mansfield's initiative deserves grateful recognition."

Mr. Zangwill's most successful play was *Children of the Ghetto*, which, it will be remembered, was toured all through the United States. In New York, where there are three Jewish theatres, it was played both in Yiddish and in English, its production in the two languages being most favourably criticised. In London the piece was presented at a most inopportune time. The production, the date of which was arranged long beforehand, took place during what was called the Black Week of the late Boer War. News of the three British reverses at Black Rock, Colenso, and Magersfontein had reached this country, and the feeling was such that nobody was in the mood for theatre-going. Under such circumstances it was not to be expected that *Children of the Ghetto* could be given a reasonable chance of success. In America, on the other hand, it scored tremendously, and every member of the company that played over there has since become a star.

Many admirers of Mr. Zangwill's work have wondered why he has published no book for four years. Even the bulk of his new book now announced—"Ghetto Comedies"—was written many years ago. The explanation is simple enough, and redounds to his credit. During the last eighteen months he has devoted but a few weeks to his literary labours. The rest of the time has been given to affairs in connection with the Jewish Territorial Organisation, of which, as everybody knows, he is the president. An undertaking so ambitious, and of such overwhelming importance, as the foundation of a new home for the Jewish race, from which it shall not be "moved on," requires all the assiduity of thought and attention that can be concentrated upon it, and in this respect Mr. Zangwill and those working with him have not been lacking.

A CONCERT will be given at the Steinway Hall on May 9 by the pupils of that accomplished teacher, Miss Kate Flinn, when clever examples of Miss Flinn's methods of training will appear.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MISS BUENA BENT.

Miss Buena Bent, a lady whose name is, as yet, unfamiliar to English ears, is well known to our American cousins. This charming young lady has just returned from a very successful season in America, and is returning there in the autumn to join a new production. Miss Bent first saw the light in 1885, and was educated in after years at St. Anne's Convent.

Her introduction to the stage was through a Mr. Spellman, representative for the then Mayer Syndicate in America. That gentleman heard her sing at a friend's house, and evidently he thought her voice good, for he immediately took her on a concert tour, and she found herself earning what seemed to her a fortune at the age of eighteen. She, however, soon discovered that singing was far too much of a strain, and under advice turned her thoughts in the direction of musical comedy, &c. Her first venture upon what may be termed "the legitimate," was with the White House Strollers, who used to do little charity performances for hospitals, &c. She then appeared in the American version of *Florodora*, and two other successful musical comedies. Now it is her intention to appear if possible in London.

Miss Bent was in America at the time of the Thaw shooting case, and being rather like Evelyn Nesbit (who, by the way, played with her), she

[*Photo by Arbus.*

MISS BUENA BENT.

used to be followed by newspaper men, and until she sailed for England she scarcely had a quiet minute.

In reply to an inquiry as to what kind of part she liked best, Miss Bent's reply was, "Well, a serious part—a sort of 'Madame Butterfly,' and if ever the chance comes I mean to give up comedy and go in for serious work."

BELFAST EASTER PANTOMIME.

On Saturday, March 30, at the Theatre Royal, Belfast, the Pantomime, by Fred Locke, entitled "GOODY TWO SHOES."

Goody Two Shoes .....MISS MAGGIE BOWMAN
Roland .....MISS ETHEL CAMPBELL
Baron Grabb .....MR. HARRY A. GRIBBEN
Simon .....MR. TOM J. MORTON
Dame Fanny Freckles .....MR. JACK FOLEY
Sandy Sapps .....MR. PETER BERMINGHAM
Truthful Tommy and Phil the Philosopher .....MESSRS. KARR & KOONEY
Smirk and Smile .....CLAREMONT AND VICTOR
Peter Piper .....MISS CARRIE FOY
Dolly Dimple .....MISS ADELA CRISPIN
Mephisto .....MISS FLORENCE LISTER
Fairy Goodheart .....MISS LENA WYLIE

On Saturday last Messrs. Fred W. Warden and J. H. Saville produced the annual Easter pantomime, and undoubtedly another success must be added to the long list recorded under the *régime* of Messrs. Warden, Ltd. The book (by Mr. Fred Locke) is smartly written, and the local allusions, although few, are quite up to date. The plot is on somewhat traditional lines, being ingeniously told. The music, which is certainly catchy, has been composed, selected, and arranged by the clever musical conductor, Mr. Samuel P. Swanton, and Mr. Bert W. Stephens, and among the capital songs that are likely to be "featured" may be mentioned the ear-haunting "Isle of Anglesey." The costumes by Hugo Baruch and Co., Elkan Bros., and Miss Nellie Walters are beautiful; and the scenery by Messrs. John M. O'Farrell, W. McCulloch, and the artistic local scenic artist, Mr. G. Jansen, is on a scale of great magnificence. Mr. Warden has succeeded in securing a very competent company, and possibly chief honours on Saturday evening were due to Mr. Peter D. Bermingham, whose impersonation of Sandy Sapps was simply inimitable. His songs were encored, and his droll and diverting humour was fairly irresistible. In the title-rôle, Miss Maggie Bowman was delightful, her fascinating interpretation winning all hearts. She sang "Zuyder Zee," "Goodnight, Mr. Brown, I'm out," with rare charm, and was rapturously encored. An excellent principal boy is found in Miss Ethel Campbell, her dashing impersonation of Roland being most successful. Miss Campbell, who has a good voice, sang the catchy song, "Isle of Anglesey," and "I'm going back to the Fatherland" in pleasing style, while her dancing was both graceful and excellent. Miss Carrie Foy must also be commended for her capital impersonation of Peter Piper. Miss Foy spoke her lines with good effect, and created quite a furore with her smart rendering of "A different girl again." Mr. Jack Foley presents a droll impersonation of Dame Fanny Freckles, being responsible for much of the laughter heard during the evening. He sings a parody on "The old apple-tree," which made a big hit. Mr. Foley is certainly a capital comedian. Messrs. Karr and Kooney appear as Truthful Tommy and Phil the Philosopher, and are already immense favourites with their funny songs and capital humour. They succeed in keeping the fun going merrily, their parody on "The little wooden hut" being deservedly encored. Mr. Harry A. Gribben makes an admirable Baron Grabb. One would fain see more of Mr. Tom J. Morton, who succeeds so well as Simon. His song with Miss Bowman in Scene 4, entitled "Shopping," is one of the features of the pantomime. Miss Adela Crispin is a winsome Dolly Dimple, investing the rôle with much vivacity and charm. Miss Lena Wylie appears as Fairy Goodheart, and her cultured voice is heard to much advantage in "I can see red roses blooming." Claremont and Victor appear as Smirk and Smile, the bailiffs, and furnish an acrobatic performance of much merit in Scene 6. Miss Florence Lister appears as Mephisto, and is the happy possessor of a powerful voice. Among the specialities may be mentioned the See-Saw Girls, whose clever terpsichorean efforts add materially to the success. The ballets were beautiful, and for the excellent staging Mr. Frank Sutherland is responsible. Mr. Fred W. Warden must certainly be congratulated on the success of this year's production.

"THE FREE LANCE."

A Romantic Drama, in Five Acts, produced at the Theatre Royal, Leamington, on Monday, April 1.

Sir Rudolf, the Free Lance ..MR. IAN MACLAREN
Gottfried von Bergman ....MR. W. S. HARTFORD
Count Oscar von Bergman ..MR. FRANK ROYDE
Otto .....MR. ARTHUR FAYNE
Heinrich Schmidt .....MR. F. S. DAWSON
Nicolas Meyer .....MR. BASIL DEAN
Hugo .....MR. J. V. BRYANT
Karl .....MR. HOUSTON MEHARRY
Herr Schultz .....MR. G. WESTLAND
Princess Hildegarde .....MISS EDITH COLEMAN
Countess Magda von de Horst MISS KATHERINE HARRINGTON
Freda .....MISS IDA FITZPATRICK
Frau Schultz .....MISS GERTRUDE LITTLEWOOD

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The special holiday attraction at the Theatre Royal, Leamington, on Monday evening was the new and powerful romantic drama entitled *The Free Lance*, which was played before a most enthusiastic audience by Mr. Ian Maclaren and his Shakespearean répertoire company. The new piece cannot be said to suggest a mediæval atmosphere, but it abounds in incidents which must be agreeably familiar to all those who have read and enjoyed historical romances of the kind, which were more popular in Early and Mid Victorian days than they are now. The hero is a reputed peasant knight—but really the hereditary prince of a German state, kidnapped when a child by the order of the wicked and ambitious Chancellor—who champions the cause of the poor and oppressed, and by so doing incurs the bitter ill-will of the oppressor in the person of the Chancellor. By that evil personage he is sentenced to death, but the fair Princess, in whose name the Chancellor governs, claims his life under the provisions of an ancient law which makes him her "slave" for a year and a day. The sequel of this is very evident to all lovers of romance. In a very pretty story it is told how the knight and the princess fall in love, and a false charge of witchcraft brought against the lady by her enemies enables the knight to play Lohengrin to her Elsa, and to confound the politics and frustrate the knavish tricks of the Chancellor. The belated repentance and confession of the latter—who is conveniently disposed of by another of the villains of the piece—reveal the Prince's identity, and the curtain falls on his double triumph in the lists of battle and of love. The name of the author of the play was not given on the programme, but the piece is said to have had a successful run in America.

The title-part is, of course, not such an exacting one as any of Mr. Maclaren's Shakespearean rôles. There is no subtlety in it; it is just a picturesque part, but Mr. Maclaren on Monday night made the most of his opportunities, and whether as the depressed captive, the fiery champion of persecuted poverty and virtue, or the ardent lover, he was always "in the picture," a romantic and interesting figure. Miss Coleman made a charming Princess, and the part suited her admirably; whilst Mr. W. S. Hartford acted with great power as the Chancellor. Miss Katherine Harrington played the Countess Magda von de Horst with a certain amount of sinister strength; and Mr. A. Fayne's impersonation of the jester was also an excellent performance.

ALDERSHOT MANAGER'S DEPARTURE.

Mr. Geo. E. Williams, who has been resident-manager at Mr. Clarence Sounes' Aldershot theatre for over five years, is giving up a position that has been worthily held by him. During his connection with Aldershot Mr. Williams has won friends in almost every circle—in his own particular profession, in social matters, and in the local world of sport and athletics. His popularity and ability as manager is widely known, and the public favour bestowed on the Aldershot Theatre attractions week by week testifies to the success of his efforts. The popularity of Mr. Williams among his subordinates is attested by the regret expressed in every department. Mr. Williams's theatrical career commenced sixteen years back at the Royal County Theatre, Reading, where, as secretary, he remained with Mr. Ormsby Trench until Mr. Milton Bode became proprietor. Transferring his services to the new lessee, the young secretary remained at Reading until he was drafted to Mr. Milton Bode's Dalston Theatre. Following his North London experience came some years as manager of touring companies, his travels ceasing for a while with a term as manager for Mr. J. F. Elliston, Bolton. A special appointment to open a new theatre at Hanley, Staffordshire, led up to the meeting with Mr. Sounes, and subsequent managership of Aldershot Theatre. It is not alone at the theatre that his loss will be felt, for as footballer, hockey player, and more especially as cricketer, Mr. Williams has long been a local power. It was almost impossible, it is said, to conceive an Aldershot athletic team without, at the same time, picturing "G. E. W." at the wicket. The business abilities that made Mr. Williams invaluable to any theatrical company as manager have been placed at the town's—or rather the county's—disposal for two successive years in connection with the county matches at the Officers' Club. The first of these was an ordinary three day county match; but last year Mr. Williams, as local secretary, contrived to organise a full week, with credit to himself and satisfaction to the county. The Aldershot Carnival Committee in times past, and even in more recent days, has been grateful to him for advice given and assistance rendered towards the success of a show that in itself demands a knowledge of theatrical effect, and the local Amateur Operatic Society owes much to his expert knowledge and ability.

WE regret to record the death of Master Will N. Courtneay, the nine-year-old son of Mr. Neville Courtneay, late of Messrs. Johnson's Theatre, Tredegar, who passed away after a brief illness on March 27. He was interred at the Llantwit Old Cemetery on Monday last, the chief mourners being the parents (Mr. and Mrs. Courtneay), Mr. Edward Courtneay, and Masters Geo. and Bob Courtneay (brothers), Miss Marie Courtneay (sister, and Miss Pepler Trowbridge. Members of Mr. Will Hagger's Castle Theatre Co. were also present. The wreaths included a cross with "Deepest sympathy" from Mr. and Mrs. Courtneay and Family, a wreath from Mr. Will Hagger's company, and a wreath from the deceased boy's schoolfellows. A touching feature of the ceremony at the graveside was the singing by the school children of the hymn "Safe in the arms of Jesus."

IN 1849 Scribe and Legouvé's drama, *Adrienne Lecouvreur*, was brought out at the Comédie-Française. It was a poor production, but the title-rôle was played by the famous Mlle. Rachel, and all Paris rushed to see her. Mme. Sarah Bernhardt, who likes to do things differently from others, decided to write a new *Adrienne Lecouvreur* for her personal use. She wrote it a long time ago, but never would bring it out in Paris. This time, however, she has had the satisfaction of producing it on her own stage, although it can hardly be said that it was a public performance in the strict sense of the word, as it was in aid of the sufferers of the Iena catastrophe. The seats had been sold at fabulous prices long in advance, and there was, of course, no room for the Press. And thus it happened that although brought out in Paris, the Parisians—except a privileged few—have not seen it, and the Press, who cannot afford to pay £5 a stall, even for a deserving charity, must await another opportunity to hear the work.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, April 1, the farcical play by Charles Hannan, entitled

"THE ELECTRIC MAN."

Just the thing for a holiday-making crowd is the *Electric Man*, and Mr. Mulholland displayed his usual business acumen in bringing his touring company to the King's for the Easter week, for he enabled the Hammersmith public to enjoy themselves, and he thereby secured a good week's business for himself in his dual capacity of touring and resident manager. For the part of Walter Everest, the electrician, and Mr. Prometheus Frankenstein the electric man, Mr. Stanley Cooke is retained, and certainly no better choice could have been made. The representative for so long of Charley's Aunt has a keen perception of the ridiculous, and his efforts meet with the most complete success. Mr. Archie Selwyn is a racy and lively Jack Strange. A thoroughly unctuous performance of Jobbins, the private inquiry agent, is given by Mr. Lloyd Townrow, a ripe comedian. Mr. Richard Pardon causes real amusement by a laughable rendering of General Pomeroy. Miss Sybil Brooke is a praiseworthy Mrs. Everest, and Miss Phyllis Manners displays genuine humour as the landlady, Mrs. Anderson. Miss Gladys Jesson makes a charming Stella Pomeroy, and Miss Amy Francis impersonates Mary Everest with grace. A playlet of a comical nature entitled *The Matrimonial Advertisement* is also given each evening, in which several members of the company combine to put the audience in good humour for the more substantial fare that follows.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, April 1, the Comic Opera entitled

"LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE."

North London Easter holiday-makers whose tastes lay in the direction of good music of the popular kind, found all that they required at the Marlborough Theatre, where Mr. E. St. Alban's company opened on Monday in Planquette's always attractive opera, *Les Cloches de Corneville*. Although the members of the cast have represented their respective characters many hundreds of times, there is not the slightest trace of slackness in their performance, but, on the contrary, the acting all through is most spirited and exhilarating, while the singing gives complete satisfaction. Miss Madge Roberts, the Serpolette, plays the part in such a manner as to satisfy the most exacting critic, and her songs are charmingly rendered. Warm praise can also be accorded Miss Marion Ayling for her pleasing embodiment of Germaine, her singing being a particularly attractive feature of the performance. Mr. E. St. Alban, in his powerful portrayal of Gaspard, has met with his usual success; and the weird scene in the ancient castle goes as well as ever. The miser gloating over his gold; the gaunt figure in armour, and the picturesque surroundings combine to impress an audience, while at the same time there is a touch of comedy introduced that is very welcome. Mr. St. Alban depicts the haggard old man with quite remarkable vividness, and his admirable acting throughout is acknowledged by loud applause. Mr. Walter Everard is seen to considerable advantage in the part of the Marquis de Corneville, and Mr. Charles Ross renders valuable assistance as the fisherman, Grenichaux. Mr. Fred Dark furnishes a capital impersonation of the Bailie, richly humorous in the assumption of official importance and pomposity, while his clerk has a most amusing representative in Mr. Richard Martin, who misses no opportunity of adding to the merriment of the audience. Pretty village girls are brightly embodied by the Misses E. Lawton, E. Humphries, F. Mears, E. Wellbourne, W. Kirby, and M. Yorke. The orchestra and admirable chorus are under the able direction of Chevalier Le Grand. It may with confidence be said that *Les Cloches de Corneville* has again formed one of the most pleasing and attractive holiday programmes that could have been chosen.

CORONET THEATRE.

On Monday, April 1, the Play, entitled

"HIS HOUSE IN ORDER."

During Bank Holiday week Mr. George Alexander's touring company is appearing in Pinero's successful and striking play, as produced at the St. James's Theatre. Mr. Frank Fenton and Miss Auriol Lee enact the parts played in town by Mr. George Alexander and Miss Irene Vanbrugh. It is marvellous the faithful likenesses which are reproduced in the interpretation of this intensely interesting study of sactimonious self-sufficiency and priggish methodicality as typified in the Ridgeley family. Even the tricks of speech and the mannerisms which we became accustomed to at the St. James's, are faithfully reproduced in some cases, but not to the extent of mere imitations. These "pests of humanity," as the author describes the Ridgeley family, are analysed and dissected mercilessly, and their narrow-minded bigotry and selfishness laid bare in all its repulsive nudity. Hilary Jesson, the genial, broad-minded, slightly sentimental diplomatist from Santa Guarda, is delightfully impersonated by Mr. Frank Fenton with earnestness and sincerity, combined with *bonhomie* and incisive wit. Miss Auriol Lee is a charming representative of the impulsive and large-hearted Nina Jesson, and the audience applaud her again and again in her vigorous defiance of narrow-minded tyranny and canting hypocrisy, and they follow with bated breath her various emotional phases of character. She is specially good in the scene where she refuses to recognise either the voice or the echo of priggish and little-minded control, and in the scene where she yields to Hilary Jesson's persuasive power and performs a noble action. Mr. Cyril Harcourt is capital as the weak-minded, methodical M.P., Filmer Jesson, whose insensate attempt to put his house in order meets with its deserved reward. We might shut our eyes and imagine the original representative of the part were acting it, and this is high praise indeed. Miss Moyna Hill enacts the rôle of Derek Jesson, and very prettily she portrays the complex nature of the child, with its semi-ardent, semi-priggish nature. The part of Sir Daniel Ridgeley receives full consideration at the hands of Mr. George Fitzgerald, and very funny is his patriarchal utterance of pharisaical platitudes; whilst Mrs. Kemmis repeats her admirable assumption of Lady Ridgeley, her exasperating acerbity of manner being lifelike to a degree. Mr. George Silver gives a telling portraiture of the caddish Pryce Ridgeley; Mr. Lloyd Lowndes acts with well-considered reserve force as Major Maurewarde; and Miss Lilli Keer is a smart representative of the governess, Mlle. Thomé; and Miss Audrey Campbell is an icy and forbidding Geraldine Ridgeley, who would surely be a suffragette in these days. Other parts are capably rendered. Mr. A. P. Horn is general-manager, with Mr. Charles Grattan as business-manager in advance, and Mr. Cyril Cattley (who enacts the small part of a provincial newspaper representative), assisted by Mr. Reginald Besant, as the secretary Harding, stage-manages the show.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, April 1, the Comic Opera, entitled

"VERONIQUE."

No better draw for the Easter holidays could have been chosen that André Messager's delightful opera, and its return visit to Peckham is proving a great success. Mr. George Dance's principal company gives a rendering which is in all respects excellent, and the favourite items, notably the famous "Swing song" and the catchy duet, "Dear little donkey," are received with the utmost enthusiasm. Miss Nellie Wigley, a handsome Veronique, sings admirably; Mr. Roland Bottomley looks very picturesque as Florestans, his various musical items being cleverly interpreted, his "Letter song" in the second act being especially well rendered. Miss Doris Greville shows to the utmost advantage both as actress and vocalist as the light-hearted Madame Coquenard; and the elderly flirt, Mons. Coquenard, becomes a very droll personage in the skilful hands of Mr. Tom Seymour. Mr. Percival Knight extracts a good deal of fun from the rôle of Loustot, and his topical gags are very smart. Mr. Scott-Cullen plays Seraphin in appropriately brisk and alert fashion; Miss Edith Devonshire shows decided comedy ability as the Countess de Champ d'Ayur, and sings in good style. Miss Neste Laurel is a dainty and piquant Denise; and deaf Aunt Benoit is humorously enacted by Miss Maud Leonard. The chorus works hard and successfully, and the orchestra is under the able direction of Mr. T. E. Boatwright. The scenery and effects are well up to the mark, and the dance at Seraphin's wedding in the wood near Romanville is a very spirited affair. The popular acting-manager, Mr. H. J. Brett, is now at his post again after his recent severe indisposition.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.

On Saturday, March 30, the Comic Opera entitled

"LA POUPEE."

Mr. J. Bannister Howard could scarcely have chosen a more attractive play for Easter week than the well-known and popular *La Poupée*, which his own company rendered, by special arrangement with Mr. C. P. Levilly, and in spite of the extraordinarily fine weather and many other allurements in the building this week it has been played to most satisfactory houses. Mr. Gus Danby, as Hilarius, the doll-maker, is the chief laughter-maker, and is well able to keep the fun going by legitimate humour, gags and incongruities not being needed. Mr. Gerald Clifford as Launcelot, the novice, had many encores for the tasteful rendering of his songs. The title-rôle is played with captivating grace and artlessness by Miss Cissy Wade, whose cultured voice is used artistically in the numbers that fall to her share. The solo and trio "Charming," in which capable assistance is derived from Messrs. Stanley White and Sidney Burt as Baron Chanterelle and Loremois respectively, wins particular recognition. Father Maxime is sustained with abundant jollity by Mr. Arthur Burdett, the favourite "A jovial monk am I" being received with enthusiasm. The drollery of Balthasar is freely exercised by Mr. S. Anchor. Madame Hilarius is effectively presented at the hands of Miss Alice Macfarlane; Miss Violet May is to be commended for her performance of Henri; and Miss Lola Trevor is equally praiseworthy for the agreeable prominence given to the part of the maid. Minor characters in the play are adequately sustained, the choruses are tunefully rendered, and the scenery is on an elaborate scale.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, April 1, the Drama, entitled

"TOMMY ATKINS."

It was a happy selection of Mr. Robert Arthur's to present that popular military drama *Tommy Atkins* for the holiday week. As played by an excellent company under the direction of Mr. John M. East it is proving a first-class attraction. Mr. Albert Ward fills the rôle of Harold Wilson, the curate who leaves the Church and joins the Army, and he gives a very earnest and straightforward rendering of the character. That popular actor Mr. Oscar Adye appears as the villain of the play, Captain Maitland, playing the part with his accustomed skill, and scoring a big success. Miss Theresa Osborne enacts Ruth in a most pathetic manner, and she has the full sympathy of the audience throughout; Margaret Maitland is well sustained by Miss May Kilpatrick, who is seen to advantage in the part. Mr. W. P. Sheen is once more seen in his old character of Ebenezer Skindle, in which he is as diverting as ever, and is responsible for most of the lighter side of the play; he is, however, ably seconded in his efforts to amuse by Mr. Keino Johnston, who portrays Sergeant Paddy Molloy in a truly humorous fashion; while Miss Marie Wright as Kate Perkins, afterwards Mrs. Molloy, is very bright, and acts with great spirit. Mr. Frank Harrison portrays Stephen Raymond in the necessary harsh manner; while Mr. W. Felton is good as Captain Bob Sparrow. Mr. Fred Mason is seen to advantage as Private Mason, a character which he plays with much force and with the best results. Miss Marjorie Murray makes a charming Elsie; and Rose Selwyn is sweetly depicted by Miss C. Harrison. The minor characters are in each case well filled, and there is also a military band introduced which gives finish to the production. Mr. Frank Harrison is responsible for the excellent stage-management.

THE LYRIC.

On Saturday, March 30, Revival of the Comedy, in Four Acts, by Booth Tarkington and E. G. Sutherland, entitled

"MONSIEUR BEAUCAIRE."

The Little Admiral having failed to fulfil expectations, Mr. Lewis Waller revived for the holidays *Monsieur Beaucaire*, a production that has delighted many thousands of playgoers since it was first seen at the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, in the autumn of 1902. It was first produced in the metropolis a few weeks later at the Comedy Theatre. The play has a somewhat curious history. Its reception at the Liverpool theatre had not been of an encouraging nature, and at the Comedy the piece was put in the bill as a mere stop-gap. And then the unexpected happened. The verdict of London audiences quite reversed that of Liverpool, and *Monsieur Beaucaire* quickly became a popular personage. The comedy remained in the bill throughout the season, and the following year it was successfully revived at the Imperial Theatre. It was again revived, this time at the Lyric Theatre, on June 28 last year, and still its popularity showed no signs of abatement. Nobody, therefore, need be surprised to find the romantic comedy once again being played to crowded and enthusiastic houses. One of the secrets of its success is that the interest of the audience is aroused from the very beginning, and is never allowed to relax throughout the four acts. The pictures of fashionable society a hundred and seventy years ago are vividly presented; and the manners as well as the dress of a bygone age are admirably realised.

It is not easy to find anything new to say of the Monsieur Beaucaire of Mr. Lewis Waller, nor is it necessary. The character in his experienced hands retains in a marked degree all those fascinating qualities which distinguished it originally; if anything his embodiment of the Duke, who assumes the name of Monseur Beaucaire, is a more polished and highly-finished performance than ever. It is certainly one that is likely to take a permanent place among the most pleasant memories of regular playgoers. Miss Evelyn Millard is again seen as the fascinating Lady Mary Carlyle, a part that was originally taken by Miss Gracie Lane, and she acts with her usual charm of manner and graceful bearing. Mr. Franklin Dyall is a new representative of the Duke of Winterset, and is quite successful in his treatment of the character. Praise, too, is due to Mr. Owen Roughwood and to Mr. Eric Scott for their excellent impersonations of Major Molyneux and Lord Townbrake respectively. Mr. Herbert Jarman gives a capital sketch of the famous leader of fashion, Beau Nash; Mr. S. B. Brereton is well placed as Captain Badger. Miss Dora Barton is a new Lucy Rellerton, and acts the part in delightful style. Miss Beatrice Lewis as Mrs. Mabsley and Miss May Chenery as Lady Rellerton are pleasing exponents of those rôles; and also deserving of commendation are the Misses Eleanor May, Catherine Vyse, and Minnie Griffin as Miss Presbury, Miss Paitelot, and the Countess of Greenbury. Mr. J. H. Irvine, Mr. A. E. George, Mr. Herman de Lange, and Mr. Shiel Barry carefully and effectively represent various characters who were prominent members of the Bath beau monde more than a century and a half ago. Other parts are safely entrusted to Mr. G. Aspard, Mr. H. Vyvyan, and Cecil McGuinness. *Monsieur Beaucaire* will remain in the Lyric bill for only one more week; but Mr. Waller has had new scenery specially painted for the production by Mr. Walter Hann.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, April 1, the Drama, entitled

"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."

Mr. Herbert Hollister's company is this week appearing in the well-known drama, *The Lights o' London*, and has provided a big attraction for the holiday-makers. The piece is admirably staged, while the acting is good all round. Mr. C. F. Collings is Harold Armytage, and this manly character he forcibly sustains; Mr. Sydney H. Hallows is Squire Armytage; and Mr. Riddell Robson is the rascally nephew, Clifford. Miss Jeanne Burgoyne is the noble-hearted Bess, daughter of the lodge-keeper at the Hall, and she makes an excellent heroine. Members of the "Temple Legitimate" are represented as follows:—Jarvis, Mr. Herbert Lewis; Mrs. Jarvis, Miss Nellie Fern; Shakespeare Jarvis, Miss Rennee Douglas; Jim, Mr. Arthur Bell. The acting of Mr. Lewis and Miss Fern is particularly noteworthy. Mr. Herbert Hollister's Seth Preene is deserving of warm commendation. Miss Constance Davey is Hetty Preene, the poacher's daughter, who seeks "life" in the great world of London. Other interesting representations are Mr. F. V. Lloyd's Lodge-keeper, Mr. H. W. Forster's Skeffington, Mr. F. W. Waters's Percy de Vere, Esq., Mr. G. Wallace's Philosopher Jack; and others in the cast include Miss Hilda Wollard, Miss Mary Rose, Miss W. Eves, and Miss Rita Wallace; Messrs. H. G. Dolbey, J. Willis, G. Wallace, E. H. Dolbey, E. M. Wells, T. Raymond Waghorn, Elliston, Matheson, and Melville.

GRAND THEATRE, ISLINGTON.

On Monday, April 1, the Grand Opera,

"THE BOHEMIAN GIRL."

For the Easter attraction here Messrs. W. and F. Melville have secured for two weeks Mr. J. W. Turner and his well-known opera company, and, despite the counter attractions on the Bank Holiday, a good audience assembled to listen to the rendering of *The Bohemian Girl*, with which the season opened. Mr. F. J. Hargrave as Thaddeus displayed much ability, both as an actor and vocalist, the well-known "When other lips" being enthusiastically received. Mr. Tom Griffiths as the Count was dignified, and sang with taste, his principal number, "The heart bowed down," being accorded an encore. Mr. Sidney Clifford as Devilshoof provoked much amusement, his excellent bass voice being of much assistance in the concerted numbers. Mr. P. Newton as Florestein was amusing. Miss Christine Gomez as Arline carried off the honours of the performance, her singing being very brilliant, and her attractive stage-presence and vivacity combining to make her appearance in the rôle most successful. The ever-popular, "I dreamt I dwelt," was, of course, encored. Miss Jennie Dennis as the Gipsy Queen is also deserving of commendation for a performance both vocally and histrionically of very great merit. Miss Maud Esdale in the small part of Buda completed the cast. The chorus and orchestra, which was largely augmented, were under the direction of Mr. T. Lawton, to whom no small share in the general success is to be attributed. The mounting leaves nothing to be desired. The programme for the rest of the week consisted of *Faust, Daughter of the Regiment, Lily of Killarney, Il Trovatore*, and *Maritana*.

THE STANDARD.

On Monday, April 1, the Drama, entitled

"LIFE'S SWEETEST SINS."

The opera season at this theatre being over, drama is again in full swing. For the holiday attraction, Mr. W. A. Brabner's interesting play, *Life's Sweetest Sins*, has been chosen, and on Easter Monday, at both the afternoon and evening performances, it met with a hearty reception from a full house. The drama is adequately mounted and staged, an incident particularly worthy of special note being the submarine vessel at work in the depths of the sea. Foremost in the powerful company engaged is Mr. Vincent Clive, who undertakes with distinction the rôle of Captain Harold Marston. He plays with much earnestness and power, and his efforts quickly find favour with the audience. Mr. Robin Shields capably portrays Kimberley Coutts, alias Flash Jim; and Mr. E. Howard Templeton acquits himself extremely well as the Rev. Edward Grey, alias Sam, the Scribe. Much praise is due to Mr. J. C. Aubrey for his fine embodiment of Dr. Colbrooke, the callous nature of the man being thoroughly depicted. Mr. Jack Denton supplies a good delineation of Ernie Wodstone; and Mr. Corney Lewis as Martin, an old "salt," makes the most of every opportunity offered. Much merriment is caused by Mr. E. Harvey White as Bob Tanner, whose efforts to amuse result in many a hearty laugh. Mr. George Elsworthy gives every satisfaction as Jack Lackey. Miss Grace Lester supplies a well-conceived delineation of Fay Colbrooke, and is much appreciated; and Miss Lena Delphine ably sustains the rôle of Bess Grayson. The part of Doreen Rivers is played in a capable manner by Miss Maude Stewart Drewry, who submits a sweet and impressive interpretation. The orchestra is ably directed by Mr. A. Sommerlad.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, April 1, Shakespeare's Tragedy,

"MACBETH."

The Bard of Avon has been adequately represented this week at the theatre bearing his own illustrious name, where Mr. William Mollison, an actor of ripe experience and finished methods, is appearing in several Shakespearean characters for the first time in London. Added interest was given to Mr. Mollison's embodiment of Macbeth on Easter Monday evening in view of a recent example by a popular leading actor and of that of another eminent artist yet to come. Mr. Mollison's study of the Thane of Cawdor is one of great picturesqueness and variety of treatment. The ambitious nature of the Thane striving for mastery over a dread of the consequences of his contemplated deed is suggested with artistic restraint, and the intensity of the banquetting scene creates a profound impression, which held the audience completely in thrall. Mr. Mollison has an abundance of dramatic resource at his command, and in the scene where Macbeth comes to realise the destruction of his hopes and his impending doom, the actor went from the ferocity of despair to the depth of dejection with equal sureness. The profundity of tone which has touched some former embodiments of Macbeth is absent from Mr. Mollison's, and the variety of expression which he puts into it stimulates interest throughout. The actor's admirable elocution stands him in good stead from first to last, and his sterling performance was loudly cheered by a discriminating audience. A youthful, but no less impressive, Lady Macbeth is presented at the hands of Miss Evelyn McNay, who shared honours with Mr. Mollison. Miss McNay is especially happy in her contemptuous raillery of her vacillating husband, and rises to superb tragic heights in her sleep-walking scene. The actress manages realistically to convey the impression of the somnambulistic state, the moaning sighs and the prolongation of the sounds being weirdly effective, and the burst of applause which awaited the conclusion of the scene evidenced its impression on the audience. That fine young actor Mr. Whitford Kane gave a vigorous and polished interpretation of Banquo, suggesting the nobility of the character both in appearance and delivery. Mr. B. A. Pittar gave distinction to the rôle of Macduff, and his acting in the scene where he learns of his bereavement was very touching; though he allowed himself occasionally to be betrayed into an excess of passion which impaired his distinctness. Mr. W. Walton Palmer and Mr. Stuart Black rendered the Scottish noblemen, Lennox and Ross, in good style; and Mr. Harold Neville gave character to the part of the Bleeding Soldier. Mr. William Hughes and Mr. Kendal Chalmers shared the responsibilities of the two Murderers, and the sepulchral effect of the cauldron scene was well maintained by the Three Witches, weirdly made-up and acted throughout by Miss E. Blair-Staples, Miss Josephine Woodward, and Miss Elsie Vron respectively. Mr. W. A. Mackersy was a resolute and kingly Duncan; and the requirements of his sons, Malcolm and Donalbain, were amply fulfilled by Mr. Henry Deas and Mr. Hugh Shaw. Fleance was endowed with boyish ardour and prettiness by Miss E. Hermina Black; and the Gentlewoman of Miss M. Roberts was a refined performance. Mr. Fred Ellis contributed valuably to the efficiency of the representation by his efforts in the part of the Physician; a sound rendering of Seyton was given by Mr. Roy Cushing; Mr. Kendal Chalmers invested the part of the General of the English Forces with military firmness and dignity; and the oddities of the Porter were drolly depicted by Mr. Alec F. Thompson.

The Merchant of Venice was given on Monday afternoon, when Mr. Mollison submitted a performance of Shylock which won warm approbation, Miss Evelyn McNay being a Portia of much sweetness and animation. Mr. Henry Worrall's Bassanio also merited the utmost commendation. Other announcements for the week were *Richard the Third*, and the productions of *As You Like It* and *Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush*, with which Mr. Mollison had a prosperous season at the St. James's at the beginning of last year. The mounting of the present series is in every way praiseworthy, and good audiences have been attracted to the Clapham Junction theatre by the promise of fine productions amply realised.

THE PRINCE'S, POPLAR.

On Monday, April 1, the Romantic Play, by Walter Howard, entitled

"THE MIDNIGHT WEDDING."

For the last week of the present management, and for a holiday attraction, no better selection could have been made than *The Midnight Wedding*, by Mr. Walter Howard. It is a romantic and vigorous play, with a well-devised, ingenious, and interesting plot, and was received with warm favour by the audience on Monday, who followed with attention the many thrilling incidents. Mr. Alfred Paumier, who possesses a refined voice and an easy deportment, depicted with considerable ability the character of Paul Valmar; and Mr. Ernest E. Imeson rendered unexceptionally good support as Captain Rudolph von Scarsbruck, the part suiting this actor's method to perfection. The weak-willed gambler, Lieut. Eugene von Strelsburg, is effectively portrayed by Mr. Edward Fletcher; and Mr. Frederick W. Freeman scored a thorough success as the Crown Prince Leopold; while Mr. Arthur Radford was excellent as Sub-Lieut. Kulman. Mr. W. S. Hardy deserves special commendation for his study of Father Gerard; and the three comrades in war, but rivals in love, Sergeant Max, Corporal Otto, and Private Bobo, after the style of the Three Musketeers, are amusingly depicted by Mr. James E. Page, Mr. Vernon Vane, and Mr. Algie Spalding respectively. Miss Annie Saker wins much sympathy for her admirable impersonation of the Princess Astrea von Strelsburg; and Miss Marion Fawcett is particularly well suited as Rozel; while Miss Ada Champion is an animated Kathie. The remaining parts are in the capable hands of Messrs. J. Harringay, C. E. Dane, Chas. Stephens, Mark Shelding, Bert Lewis, and Miss Prudence Laurence. The scenery is in good taste, and the mounting all that could be desired. Mr. Stephen E. Blythe conducts the orchestra with efficiency, Mr. E. H. Grime is a courteous assistant acting-manager, and the genial general-manager, Mr. Harry Lyons, superintends the whole with his usual ability.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, April 1, the comedy entitled

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."

A typical good-tempered Bank Holiday crowd thronged the Kennington Theatre in every part on Monday to give a hearty reception to *The Private Secretary* on its reappearance in South London and to laugh consumedly over the troubles of the Rev. Robert Spalding in the wicked world of London. The brilliance of the comedy seems little diminished with time, despite its twenty-three years of touring, and the delightful humour of the unending succession of amusing situations seemed as fresh as ever. The piece is produced by Mr. Eugene C. Stafford's strong combination, every available ounce of fun being extracted from the play. In the character of the Rev. Robert Spalding Mr. Donald Price-Evans scores a great success. He is an exceedingly clever actor, and played the part of the forlorn curate to the life, and whenever he was about laughter reigned supreme from stalls to gallery. Mr. W. T. Elworthy gives a fine representation of the rôle of Mr. Marsland, the sporting Englishman, and Mr. J. P. E. Hussey is admirable as Harry Marsland, his nephew. Mr. W. Hargreaves is unapproachable in his old part of Mr. Cattermole, giving an intensely amusing study of the irascible old Anglo-Indian. Another comedian of undoubted merit is Mr. Vivian Gilbert, who supported the rôle of Gibson, the Bond-street tailor. The characters of Eva Webster and Edith Marsland are charmingly taken by Miss B. Elliott and Miss D. Shawe, two graceful and dainty actresses. As Douglas Cattermole, who masquerades as "the secretary," Mr. Reade is full of life, and makes much merriment on his own account. Mrs. Alfred Davis is entertaining as Miss Ashford, the chaperone, and Miss Cecily Wade makes a typical landlady. Mr. D. Benford does well as John, the servant, and in the small part of Knox, the writ-server, Mr. John Macready deserves mention. *The Private Secretary* is preceded by a bright little one-act farce entitled *My American Admirer*, in which Mr. W. T. Elworthy gives evidence of his versatility as Petroleum G. Hooker, and Mr. James Hussey also does well. Miss Beth Elliott is very good as Winifred Crow, the lady politician, and Miss Cecily Wade is capital as the servant girl.

THE BROADWAY.

On Monday, April 1, the Play, entitled

"NO CROSS, NO CROWN."

The holiday attraction here is the delightful costume play of the Georgian period, entitled *No Cross, No Crown*, which introduces to a Broadway audience the popular resident-manager, Mr. William Giffard, and his charming wife, who appear as Sir Francis Luttrell and Lady Margaret Luttrell respectively, characters in which they are well and favourably known to provincial playgoers. Mr. Giffard plays Sir Francis quietly and artistically; even in his most impassioned scenes he never loses sight of the courtly gentleman, whose noble nature cannot realise, until confronted by undoubted proofs, that his cousin, Austen Blake, is an unmitigated scoundrel. Mrs. Giffard plays Lady Margaret with a womanly gentleness and tenderness that are delightful; her scenes with Sir Francis make a deep impression on the audience. Miss Rosemary Rees gives a very fine, powerful rendering of Lady Claire. Miss Edith Goodall presents a clever picture of Dame Priscilla Barclay, whose little black page, Plato, is excellently represented by Master Hubert Walter. Other parts are well embodied by Miss Katherine Brook (Annabel), Miss Kate Bratby (Estelle), Miss Rita Russell (Janet Muir), Miss Kitty Cotter (Minnie), and Mrs. Barnet as Nurse Agatha. A very charming and natural performance is that of Doris, by little Elsie Crooke. As Austen Blake, Mr. Henry Hatchman presents a fine study of the smiling villain. Mr. E. Story Gofton proves himself once more an artist of great ability, his conception and rendering of Prof. Nebb is altogether admirable. Dr. Ashby is well acted by Mr. Robert Rivers, who causes much amusement by his persistent wooing of Dame Priscilla. Mr. Conybeare Gough presents a capital character-sketch as Rawson Haines. The remaining parts are all in good hands. The costumes are handsome and costly, and the scenery pretty and appropriate.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, April 1, the Drama, entitled

"THE THREE MUSKETEERS."

There was a typical Bank Holiday audience at the Kingston playhouse on Monday night, when a capable company appeared in an effective adaptation by Ernest Norris of Dumas' novel, which, judging by the manner in which it was received, was quite to the liking of the onlookers. Mr. Norris himself appeared in the part of D'Artagnan, and gave a fine impersonation of the easy-going swash-buckler, which was hugely appreciated. Miss Vera Beringer added to the laurels which she has already been awarded at Kingston by her fine portrayal of the joys and sorrows of Miladi; and Miss Ethel King was also a great favourite in the part of Anne of Austria. The famous trio of musketeers were ably represented by Messrs. Maurice Hoffman, Franklyn Graham, and Harold Wagner. The Cardinal Richelieu of Mr. Frank Harding was a masterly conception. Valuable assistance was also given by Miss Dorothy Chard as Constance, and by Miss Dorothy Mackenzie as the maid to Miladi.

THE TERRISS.

On Monday, April 1, the Drama, entitled

"MIDST LONDON'S MILLIONS."

The patrons of this popular South London house have accorded a hearty welcome this Easter to the talented leading lady, Miss Marion Denvil, and the excellent stock company in the drama, *Midst London's Millions*, a very satisfactory piece of work that affords Miss Denvil a chance of displaying her undoubted versatility in the rôle of Jerry, the waif, a poor little street urchin, half-starved, yet withal good-hearted and merry. Miss Denvil scores a great success, and the pathos of her death scene is very effective. Mr. Astley Page makes a gallant and interesting figure as the young artist, Gerald Dering; and Miss Alice Defoe acts sympathetically as Lucy Barrington. Mr. Weldon Atherstone as Jack Benson plays with great force; and Mr. Johnny Chippendale is very amusing as the wooden-headed P.c. Tompkins. Mr. John Sargeant is grimly effective as Ned Goole; Miss Mattie Everett causes much laughter in the part of Sally Pinks; and Miss Maggie Lindsay is good as Miss Brummy. Mr. Tom Taylor is an aristocratic Colonel Barrington; and Miss East Robertson plays with much feeling as Kate Colby. The scenery and effects are excellent. In the third act, on the Thames Embankment scene, there is a capital street arabs' concert, in which various musical items are rendered in first-class style by Miss Marion Denvil, Miss Lulu Bowes, and Miss Elsie Jezzard. A special feature of the production is the effective incidental music, which has been composed especially for the piece by the musical director, Mr. Alexander Humphreys.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, April 1, the Drama, entitled

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."

Many competent judges consider *A Girl's Cross Roads* the finest of the series of dramas from the pen of Mr. Walter Melville, and, judging by the crowded houses which have packed the West London Theatre this week, their opinion is amply endorsed by the discerning Marylebone playgoers. Mr. Charles Franmore still proffers his delightful impersonation of old Farmer Meadows, and whilst he is on the stage it may truthfully be said that "Glorious Devon" is brought very close indeed to Edgware-road. Mr. Gerald Jordan portrays Cuthbert Lumley with skilful effect. Mr. Fred Withers does well as Luke Ramsden. Mr. Cyril Vernon is adequately placed as Dr. Weston; and Mr. Wilson Gunning gives a robust and telling impersonation of Jack Livingstone. Mr. Fred Ingram provides plenty of amusement with his laughable rendering of Toby Turvey; ample assistance being given him by Miss Mabel Scudamore as lively Tilly Vane. Miss Florence Zillwood sustains Nellie Meadows with convincing force and expression; Miss Jessica Black makes the best of the part of Constance Cornell; and Miss Hilda Beverley, in the trying rôle of Barbara Wade, fairly fascinates the audience with her realistic portrayal of that loathsome creature, her make-up being admirable and her gestures telling.

GRAND, FULHAM.

On Monday, April 1, the Drama, entitled

"HEARTS ADRIFT."

This play was given for the first time in London at the Fulham Theatre some two years ago, and is now paying a return visit. It is full of brisk action and incident, much of it very ingeniously contrived. Few of the original company are now playing in the piece, but among those that remain is Mr. Cecil Klein, who as Robert Darney makes an excellent hero, and puts as much life and vigour into his work as ever. Mr. Henry Bedford has a great deal to do as Captain Teddy, and does it very well; while Mr. Fred Terriss is capitally suited with the part of Edmund Gerne. Mr. R. Gwyn-Richardson is satisfactory as John Lane; and Mr. Alfred Holles gives a good study of the inventor of the airship, Pidgeon. Mr. Brian Daly, with a first-class stutter, is highly amusing as Simeon Green; and Miss Irene Ross is a most capable representative of Little Tim. Mr. William Gomer is another of the old caste, but he now plays a more important part—that of Redway, the detective. Mr. Robert Lyons is effective as Warder Gregory. The attractive rôle of the flower girl, Rosie, is charmingly taken by Miss Nellie Clyde; and Miss Gertrude Harrison plays as Julia Lane with energy and decision, looking particularly well in her handsome gowns. Miss Kitty Kirwan, with a powerful brogue, is responsible, as Peggy MacGuire, for no small part of the laughter-making; Miss Marion Walker renders well the unattractive rôle of Mother Haggstow; and, finally, we recognise another member of the former company in the person of Miss Beatrix Bell, as Energy Mugs, the sleepy domestic, who is as handy with the gloves as before.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, April 1, the Drama entitled

"THE TICKET-OF-LEAVE MAN."

That perennial attraction, *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*, is paying a visit to Stratford this week, and in receiving a cordial welcome. Its interpretation is in the hands of Mr. Charles Freeman's company, and Mr. Freeman himself essays the popular part of the Lancashire lad, Bob Brierly. His performance is throughout earnest and convincing, though a frequent lapse from making it a "dialect" part is noticeable. Miss Florence Tench's May Edwardes is a very prepossessing golden-haired girl, and her acting is always charming. The crafty, scheming nature of James Dalton is admirably expressed by Mr. C. Lodge Percy; and Mr. Frank Coston, who elects to depict the unctuous old rascal Melton Moss on somewhat humorous lines, is quite successful in the part. As the deducting detective, Jack Hakwshaw, Mr. George K. Ashley is seen to much advantage; and Mr. Percy Lincoln submits a sound performance as Mr. Gibson. Miss Henrietta Schrier acts very appropriately as Mrs. Willoughby, and the pert and precocious Sam Willoughby is smartly played by Miss Lily Walker.

THE LYCEUM REOPENING.

On Saturday, March 30, the Romantic Play, in Four Acts, by Walter Howard, entitled "HER LOVE AGAINST THE WORLD."

Eric, Earl of Strathmere..MR. NORMAN PARTRIEGE
Lionel .....MISS VALLI VALLI
Prince Ulric of Ravensburg....MR. ERIC MAYNE
Prince Othmar .....MR. FREDERICK ROSS
Prince Maurice of Saxonia ..MR. SCOTT CRAVEN
General Gessler .....MR. FRED GROVE
Colonel Esterhazy .....MR. LIONEL GADSDEN
Colonel Lindorff .....MR. HENRY ARMSTRONG
Captain Sarona .....MR. WILFRED EDMUNDS
Colonel Werner .....MR. HORACE TERRY
Colonel Otto .....MR. J. BENEDICT BUTLER
Captain Hainhault .....MR. CHARLES VAST
Captain Steinberg .....MR. C. BROOKS
Captain Holzmann .....MR. HAROLD CHAPIN
Captain Wentzel .....MR. H. LESTER
Surgeon-Captain Helgar ..MR. EDMUND WALLER
Sergeant Kaspar .....MR. S. MAJOR JONES
Heinrich Pimpernickel ..MR. HARRY BARFORD
Fritz Pimpernickel .....MR. GUS OXLEY
Shulah, Countess of Rasselyn..MISS M. RIGNOLD
Corona .....MISS MADGE BERESFORD
Katinka .....MISS MAUDE ASTON
Gretchen .....MISS LULU LOUDEN
Princess Iris .....MISS NORA KERIN

The production of *Her Love Against the World* at the Lyceum Theatre on Saturday evening was a sort of surprise to us. We had expected the ordinary provincial melodrama, mounted and acted in the ordinary provincial way. Instead, we found a play and a performance which reminded us of the palmy days of the old Adelphi. Some old tricks and habits of cheap and ancient work have clung to the author, notably the introduction of a pair of comic servants, who supplied "relief"; but in the way in which the drama is planned and the style in which it is written, *Her Love Against the World* is distinctly superior to the ordinary piece of its class. It is admirably mounted and dressed, and it is acted in just the right style and spirit. The success of the production was never for a moment in doubt, and the appeal made was so sincere and sympathetic that the same result would have been attained with a more expensive audience.

Mr. Walter Howard has made an excursion into the region in which Mr. Anthony Hope has been the pioneer—the vague Continental country of little kingdoms and large possibilities, where Rupert of Hentzau flourished and the Prisoner of Zenda was confined. The villain of the play is Prince Ulric of Ravensburg. The hero is Eric, Earl of Strathmere, a "soldier of fortune," who holds a captaincy in one of the Ravensburg regiments. Princess Iris, one of the richest maids-of-honour to the Empress of Austria, is the heroine. Her horse runs away with her, and the Captain, passing at the head of his company, stops the steed, and saves the Princess's life. Of course, she must thank her preserver, with whom, it is evident to the audience, she has fallen over head and ears in love. He, on his side, is equally enamoured; and Prince Ulric, who only wants to marry Iris in order to fill his empty war-chest, is exasperated at this obstacle to his plans. Ulric, with characteristic brutality, rides down Eric's little brother, Lionel, and, when the Captain wants to go to the boy, orders him to remain on guard. Strathmere breaks away mutinously, after assaulting the Prince, and, in revenge, the latter has him arrested and sentenced to solitary confinement in a military prison. After knocking the Captain senseless while he is held by the guard, Ulric tells the latter to leave the culprit lying in the cold in his shirt-sleeves, exposed to a fall of snow, which comes down opportunely for the "situation." The Princess, alone with her lover, takes from her shoulders the sumptuous cloak which she wears, lays it upon him tenderly, and mournfully departs. This is the end of the first act.

With diabolical cruelty, Ulric comes to the military prison where Eric is confined, in order to torture him with the news that he—the Prince—is that evening to meet the Princess Iris and sign a contract of betrothal with her. In desperation, Eric resolves to make his escape, go and see Iris, and persuade her not to sacrifice herself to the villain. He gets out of the prison by the connivance of Ulric's cousin, Othmar, a real good fellow, who not only detests his relative's cruelty, but has excellent reasons for wishing the marriage with the Princess not to take place. Dusty and haggard, he enters her boudoir, and pleads with her; but Ulric and his troops are on the track of the fugitive, who is easily captured. Will the Princess consent to marry him? She refuses, and confesses her love for Eric. Then, says the Prince, either she agrees to wed him, or the man she loves shall be shot. What will she do? Says the Princess: "If Eric wishes me to save his life at such a price, I will save it." Strathmere refuses to accept such salvation, and is led out to be executed. The Prince drops his handkerchief. Bang! go the rifles of the firing party. Surely they cannot all have missed him?—for, of course, the hero must not be killed at the end of the second act. No; they have simply refused to slay their beloved officer, and have fired in the air.

After the sensations created by such ingenious means, the incidents which follow need not be dwelt upon in detail. Sufficient is it to state that Eric enters the service of Maurice of Saxonia, with whom Ulric is having a "little war," and with twelve men, a revolver, and an application of "Hands up!" makes Ulric a captive, and forces him to fight a duel, in which the Prince—who by a brutal blow has caused little Nello's death—is mortally wounded. After this, the course of true love seems likely to run smoothly, and everyone, including Othmar, who succeeds to the crown, is more than satisfied.

Well-deserved success was won by Miss Nora Kerin, who was quite a possible Princess—refined, dignified, and winsomely gentle and kind-hearted. While divesting her performance of all "staginess," Miss Kerin showed that, when necessary, she had plenty of dramatic power at her disposal, and in the passionate parts of the play she "came out" very strongly indeed. Mr. Norman Partriege played Eric, Earl of Strathmere, with a subdued vehemence and an intense earnestness which carried entire conviction, and he had the audience with him from first to last. Manly and alert in action, and distinct and expressive in delivery, Mr. Partriege was an ideal hero of higher-class melodrama. Mr. Eric Mayne's Prince Ulric was an admirably clearly-cut and clever impersonation, and he realised the haughty egoism of the Ravensburg ruler remarkably well. There was nothing of the stage villain about his rendering, which was at the same time natural and incisive. Mr. Frederick Ross indicated the good-nature and humanity of Prince Othmar with decided ability; and Mr. Scott Craven's Prince Maurice was a sound and expert performance, which did him very great credit. Miss Marie Rignold contributed valuably to the cast as the passionate and amorous Shulah; and Miss Madge Beresford was seen to undeniable advantage as Corona, Miss Maude Aston and Miss Lulu Louden making two amusing maids, and Mr. Harry Barford and Mr. Gus Oxley creating a vast amount of amusement as the pair of Pimpernickels. Mr. Edmund Waller played the regimental surgeon neatly; and Mr. S. Major Jones was excellent as the bluff and honest Sergeant Kaspar. Mr. Fred Grove was good as General Gessler; Mr. Lionel Gadsden deserved praise as Colonel Esterhazy; Mr. Henry Armstrong's Colonel Lindorff was a creditable embodiment; and Mr. Wilfred Edmunds made a capital Captain Sarona. Mr. Horace Terry was unimpeachable as Colonel Werner; and Colonel Otho had an able representative in Mr. J. Benedict Butler, Mr. Charles Vast being entirely satisfactory as Captain Hainhault, and Mr. C. Brooks's Captain Steinberg being a meritorious assumption; while Captains Holtzmann and Wentzel were depicted with care and skill by Mr. Harold Chaplin and Mr. Lester. Miss Valli Valli's Lionel was a delightfully sweet and expressive impersonation, which completely won the hearts of the audience.

The play, thoroughly well produced by Mr. Ernest Carpenter, went with complete smoothness, though the two latter acts might be slightly reduced in length and taken in quicker time. The cheapness of the prices was only equalled by the liberality of the dressing and mounting; and Herr Raimund Pechotsch directed the performances of a large and accomplished orchestra with artistic sympathy and skill. The audience was most enthusiastic; and the season at the Lyceum commenced with every symptom of triumphant success. At the close, Mr. Henry R. Smith, Mr. Ernest Carpenter, and the company were rewarded with an uproarious "ovation."

"ALFONSO THE NOBLE."

An Historical Operetta in Yiddish, by Jacob Gordin, produced at the Pavilion Theatre on Monday, April 1.

Alfonso .....MR. NATANSON
Elenora .....MME. GOLDSTEIN
Father Benedictus .....MR. J. FINEBERG
Ganzeron .....MR. M. GUSOFSKY
Count .....MR. ISAACOWITZ
Isaac bal Gusmo .....MR. S. SCHILING
Celia .....MISS R. BRYH
Rachel .....MME. NATANSON
Leizer .....MR. J. SHERMAN
Ezer .....MME. JOSEPHSON

The story of *Alfonso the Noble* is one of extreme simplicity, dealing entirely with the love of a Spanish monarch for a Jewish maiden. The play opens with the Palace Gardens, where the public are allowed to promenade while the king is in residence. Among the visitors are Isaac, Celia, and their daughter Rachel. The monarch appears on the scene incognito, and hearing Rachel express a wish for a lily, and being smitten with her charms, he presents her with a beautiful specimen, at the same time acquainting her with the fact that she had better leave the grounds, as the king is expected. As Rachel is about to depart with the prized flower she is accused by the Guard of having stolen it, and is brought back into the presence of the monarch, who immediately reveals himself, and, despite the wishes of his mother, Elenora, declares that he gave her the lily. Rachel having now decided (being deeply in love with Alfonso) to live at the Palace, Elenora, with the assistance of a scheming priest, Father Benedictus, decides to cure the monarch of his infatuation by the destruction of the Jewess; and, having by foul means obtained the password, manage by treachery to seize Rachel and convey her by boat to a fortress some distance from land, where the King, after vain efforts to secure another vessel, swims through the water and rescues his beloved, marking the fact by much jubilation and festivity hereafter, while permission is accorded the Jews to trade and live free from persecution.

As Alfonso the Noble Mr. Charles Natanson was earnest, vigorous, and hard-working; Mr. Natanson's dive and swim were watched with much interest by the crowded house. Mr. J. Fineberg was plausible and crafty as Father Benedictus; as Rachel Mme. Natanson gave a thoroughly satisfactory performance, her acting in the first scene being marked by ease and grace. Mr. S. Schilling was greatly appreciated for his rendering of Isaac, and his wife Celia was humorously played by Miss R. Bryh. An incisive portrayal of Ganzeron was presented by Mr. M. Gusofsky; and Mr. Isaacowitch was conscientious as a Count. Mr. J. Scherman as Leizer and Mme. Josephson as Ezer did their best with very small parts, and Mme. Goldstein enacted Elenora. The dancers well deserved their reception, and the stage crowds were ably handled.

THE ACTORS' UNION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—As one of the founders of the Actors' Union, before handing over the scheme to the council whom the members will shortly elect, I feel that we ought to ask the profession at large which items on the programme appeal to them most, so that the incoming council may know what course to adopt to make the movement popular and without loss of time.

For instance, at the meetings held in provincial centres will those present discuss as to whether the funds shall be allowed to accumulate so as to form a provident and old-age pension fund, or whether the income shall be devoted to the upkeep of premises such as the A.A. have? It is obvious that we cannot have both for some time, unless the membership makes enormous strides. Also let it be settled if they wish to be known by numbers or not. I find on canvassing the members with whom I am in touch that they are very much divided on these points, and it was the main idea of the founders of this Union to please the majority.

The minimum wage, too, does not appeal to all, although I think, so far as London is concerned, the majority are in favour of it.

Can anyone solve "the stage carpenter who acts" riddle? Is he an actor or not? How can we deal with him? Of course, he ought not to "go on" for parts, but is it policy to interfere? Again, ought we to run an agency? I hope not. That means disappointment to the many, and resignations will at once ensue, to say nothing of the expense.

Members cannot too clearly understand that the founders wish them to be the masters; but that of course can only be effected by their taking a lively interest in the matter, and making known their wishes to those who will endeavour to carry them out.

By discussing the above points, and others that I feel sure will occur to them, they will enable the retiring provisional committee to put the council on the right tack at the start.

I suggest that a vote might be taken on points debated at the meetings, and the result made fully known to headquarters, as the entire success of the Union depends on the governing body knowing the popular feeling at the outset. Every company on the road (members or not) should do this, as this Union may concern them far more than they think at present. Circulars may be obtained by applying to the Hon. Sec., 49, Bedford-street, W.C.—Yours faithfully, ROBSON PAIGE,
10, Ospringe-road, N.W., April 3, '07.

ON Saturday, March 30, the Victoria Opera House, Burnley, was crowded on the occasion of Mr. W. C. Horner's annual benefit, and a monster programme proved heartily enjoyable. The Bros. Egbert, the happy dustmen, caused much merriment; the Lavails, in a smart acrobatic turn, were highly appreciated; Margaret Ruby and Ernest Laws were most acceptable in songs; and Ernie Myers contributed a very funny turn. Lilly Lonsdale, Lilly Hayes, and Virgil Crowther were also successful in the songs; and the Four Maisanos were very pleasing in their eccentric musical turn. The Reays, silver-chain artists, were very good; Amurat, musical athlete; Eskdale Bros., comedians; Coreeze and Keith, equilibrists; Harley and Hardon, knockabouts; and the Bros. Zampah, one-legged acrobats, likewise assisted in capital fashion. Pearl Mystr was very smart in several conjuring tricks; Master Bullock, boy siffleuse, was very good; and Gym Hurst, horizontal-bar artist, and Eddie X. Rabout, swell comique, completed the list.

RETIREMENT OF MR. HALES.

(BY OUR OWN COMMISSIONER.)

In the beautiful riverside residence at Staines owned by Mr. Tom Hales, the well-known supplier of stage animals and properties, is to be seen a fine massive silver loving cup. There is an inscription on the cup, and it reads:

"Presented to Tom Gardner Hales as a mark of esteem and affection upon his retirement after thirty-nine years' service. From Arthur Collins, the Directors, and his numerous Comrades at Drury Lane Theatre Royal. 23rd March, 1907."

And the said Tom Gardner Hales treasures that tribute of affection and esteem as he treasures nothing else among his possessions, and that is saying a good deal, for Mr. Hales has not retired from business a poor man.

It is always interesting and frequently instructive to study the career of a successful man in any department of life or calling. Mr. Hales entered Drury Lane Theatre on September 20, 1868. He went there in the capacity of a super, portraying the character of a City apprentice in the production of *The King of Scots*, Phelps playing the part of the King and doubling it with that of the Miser. Young Hales became on such friendly terms with the super-master that the latter thought he was worth a better position and recommended him to Mme. de Breuil, the wardrobe mistress at Covent Garden under the late "Gus" Harris, and he was engaged as the first dresser for the opera season. A little later he became Mapleson's dresser at Her Majesty's

MR. T. G. HALES.

Theatre, and afterwards general dresser at Drury Lane during the dramatic season, when he attended to T. C. King, J. B. Howard, Britton Wright, Fred Rokes, and others. "After about two years of dressing," says Mr. Hales, "Charles Harris appointed me prompter at the Opera Comique when that house was taken over by a company, at the head of which was Mr. D'Oyly Carte as managing director. The first production there was *The Sorcerer*, followed by *H.M.S. Pinafore*. After a split in the management I became stage manager for *Pinafore* when the piece was transferred to the Olympic Theatre. From there I went to the Imperial Theatre with the same opera, followed by more stage-management at Covent Garden Theatre with the pantomime of *Bo-Peep*. Then I was prompter under Charles Harris in the Covent Garden pantomime, *Jack and the Beanstalk*, where I introduced my first pony, which, by the way, I had to borrow."

The first horse that Mr. Hales purchased was used in *Amy Robsart* when that play was produced at the Adelphi. To the same management he supplied a coach and four for the production of *Nicholas Nickleby*. But his earliest success in the animal line was when he introduced the thoroughbreds to do the race in the Derby scene in *A Run of Luck* at Drury Lane. Sir Augustus Harris's idea was to have presented the scene with the aid of special mechanism, but when Mr. Hales brought real horses to him, the stage innovation appealed at once to Harris, and in the next season's production of *The Prodigal Daughter*, the Grand National was represented by horses jumping over a hedge and real water.

"In the following year," says Mr. Hales, "there was a production called *Freedom*, for which I provided 300 supers, and at the same time I was superintending 500 at the Italian Exhibition and 100 at Covent Garden Theatre, holding the position of super master at all three places, with the control altogether of 1,000 men. I have supplied not only England, but France and America with livestock of every description. My livery stables are at Russell-street, Covent Garden, and the animals that are not required for immediate use are at the farm at Kingsbury. Dr. Maddick has just written to me asking for three camels and four boarhounds, and Mr. John Douglas tells me that he wants me to provide all the live stock for the pageant to be held at Oxford this June."

It has fallen to Mr. Hale's lot to furnish all manner of animals for the great exhibitions at Earl's Court and Olympia. He tells us that the biggest order he fulfilled was for the spectacle called *The Orient*, for which he found one hundred horses, four elephants, six mules, and two Spanish bulls, which he imported direct from Tangiers. Some years ago, in the months when these establishments were closed, Mr. Hales started a company of clown cricketers, who proved so attractive a combination that they appeared for seven years at the Alexandra Palace, and for four years at the Crystal Palace, as well as at Cremorne Gardens, and elsewhere. Ten years ago Mr. Hales built his own theatre—the National Palace, at Croydon—and the respect in which he was held by Sir Augustus Harris at the time found expression in the fact that Harris left a banquet in order to be present at the opening. Recently, Mr. Hales rebuilt the Croydon Palace, and let it to Mr. Walter Gibbons, on a ninety-nine years' lease, giving the latter gentleman the option of purchase. Mr. Hales also has a big interest in the Grand, Clapham, and other halls.

It is not generally known that Mr. Hales (whose real name is Gardiner), married the widow of the late Henry Hales, the celebrated theatrical trimming manufacturer, of Wellington-street. To enable the subject of this sketch to carry on the business in the old name, he took out letters patent, and conferred on himself the nomenclature of Hales.

And now, not only does Tom Hales retire from Drury Lane, but he also retires from the business established in 1838 by Henry Hales. That business, he tells us, has been disposed of in lots to Messrs. Morris, Angel, W. and C. May, J. Harrison, J. and L. Nathan, Willy Clarkson, and Waller.

After a long and useful life—spent, as it were, in the glare of the limelight—it is to be hoped that Mr. and Mrs. Hales have still a long period in which to enjoy the fruits of their labours, and that the wondrous sunset effects, so often witnessed on up-river scenes, may shed a pleasant refulgence on the evening of their days.

"THE PET OF THE EMBASSY."

A Musical Play, in Two Acts, the Book and Lyrics by Sidney F. Bailey, and Music by Albert E. Wilson, Presented, for the first time on the Professional Stage, at the Grand Theatre, Eccles, on Saturday, March 30.

John William Bung..MR. WITTY WATTIE WALTON
Eric Brown .....MR. ROBERT HYETT
Palatine Brown .....MR. HARRY FISCHER
Hon. P. Brassington..MR. T. SINCLAIR HOLDEN
Horatio Jukes .....MR. HERBERT FRANKLYN
Hilda Graham .....MISS ETHEL DUNFORD
Dorothy Stanley .....MISS FLORENCE WATSON
Mrs. Pamela Bung .....MISS JULIA BASSETT
Maud .....MISS TRILBY COLLIER
Eva D'Alroy .....MISS LILY DUNCKER
Doris May .....MISS ETHEL DUNCKER
Carnation Grant .....MISS TILLEY DAVIES
Phyllis Hayé .....MISS WINIFRED RAY
Camille Ford .....MISS GRACE MACKAY
Edna Grand .....MISS WINIFRED WARING

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

This new musical play compares favourably with any of the many similar pieces which have from time to time been witnessed in this town, and it was received in the most cordial manner at the first performance. The new scenery has been specially painted for this play by Mr. John Turner, of Manchester, and the gorgeous costumes have been designed by Mme. Nervy, and made by Messrs. W. A. Hume and Sons, of Manchester. Much credit is due to Mr. Harry Fischer for the excellent way he has staged the play, which opens at Eric Brown's bungalow, Calcutta. He is Commander of H.M.S. Speedy, stationed in Indian waters, and is expecting the arrival of his foster father, Palatine Brown, the latter's ward, Dorothy Stanley, and her companion, Hilda Graham, who are on a visit to India. In due course they make their appearance. Mr. Brown wishes Eric to marry Dorothy, but he (Eric) is in love with Hilda. Among the visitors at the garden party are Percy Brassington, an attaché, and Mrs. Pamela Bung, mother of John William Bung, a middy of H.M.S. Speedy. Palatine Brown, Pamela Bung, and Percy Brassington each carries a portmantean bearing the initials, "P.B." Eric declares his love for Hilda, which is reciprocated, when a messenger arrives from the Viceroy bearing some official despatches, which Eric is ordered to place without delay in the hands of the British Minister in Tokio. He is moreover instructed to take great care of the documents, as efforts will no doubt be made to obtain possession of them. Eric thereupon entrusts them to Hilda's care until he sails. Dorothy then informs Eric that Mr. Brown has been telling her he wishes them to marry, and she having in the meantime fallen in love with Percy Brassington, makes a compact with Eric that they will never marry each other. This compact is sealed with a kiss, and Hilda, not recognising Dorothy, thinks that Eric is deceiving her, and consequently decides to go away to Japan with her foster father, an old actor, one Horatio Jukes, who has been commissioned to direct some theatrical performances at Tokio for the British Minister. Before leaving, Hilda gives the despatches to Mrs. Bung, charging her to hand them to Eric, and urging the necessity of great care in their disposal. Mrs. Bung, for safety, places them in her bag, and about the same time, to her great astonishment, discovers that Mr. Brown is her long-lost husband, Peter Bung, who has changed his name some years ago, and is now a J.P. John Willie, in the excitement, mixes up the bags, and Eric, learning that Hilda has gone to Japan, immediately orders all aboard and sets sail.

The scene of Act 2 is the Hall of the British Legation, Tokio, where a ball is in progress. Owing to the bags having been mixed, some confusion is caused, the three parties concerned whose initials are alike being unable to find their respective suits of clothes. Hilda, disguised as a Jap, proceeds to test Eric's love by flirting with him, but he makes no response to her advances, and she, being now convinced that he loves her only, and learning that the despatches have gone astray, decides to pass John William Bung off as the Ambassador, in the hopes of discovering their whereabouts. This ruse is successful, and eventually it transpires that Hilda is Mr. Brown's daughter, and he gives his consent to her marriage with Eric. This brings the play to a happy conclusion.

Mr. Witty Wattie Walton as John William Bung is a tower of strength in the comedy portion of the play, and meets with marked approval. His songs, "Would you like to hear?" and "The Ambassador," were well received. Mr. Robert Hyett acts the part of Eric, a naval officer, in a realistic manner, and takes full advantage of his rich and well-trained baritone voice in the rendering of his various songs, which are repeatedly encored. They include "The King's Navee," a patriotic song with chorus, and ballad, "Why need we part?" Mr. T. Sinclair Holden as the Hon. Percy Brassington, is artistic and pleasing, and he scores with a topical ditty. Mr. Herbert Franklyn as Horatio Jukes plays his part capably. Mr. Harry Fischer gives great satisfaction as Palatine Brown. Miss Ethel Dunford as Hilda Graham renders her vocal items, including the ballad, "Farewell," and "The Mermaid's Lament," effectively, and the audience testified approval in a very marked manner. Miss Florence Watson, in the rôle of Dorothy Stanley, sings acceptably, "Dora" and "The Jappy," and "The bold Jack Tar." Miss Julia Bassett as Mrs. Pamela Bung makes the most of her opportunities, and infuses much fun into the piece. The chorus is a strong and able one, and reflects great credit on Mr. Albert E. Wilson, the conductor.

PRICES AT THEATRES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—With reference to the controversy that is going on in the London Press as to whether prices for seats in theatres should be lowered, will you kindly permit me to give you the following fact. At Middlesbrough we gave operas ranging from *Tännhauser* to *Maritana* at 4d. in the gallery (and please don't forget that my salary list must be the biggest in Great Britain). That same week Mr. Waller's *Robin Hood* company (very beautifully put on) could have been seen at the other theatre for the same sum. There were two music halls as well, which you could have visited at 2d. a night. To sum up, Middlesbrough had four evenings' entertainment of the above description for 1s. My companies repeatedly play to a fourpenny gallery, and 3s. as the highest. I have never willingly, in my career as an opera manager, consented to putting up the price one farthing, and I think I owe what little success I have had in a great measure to this plan. By the way, I should be quite satisfied if, in my coming season at the Lyric Theatre, Shaftesbury-avenue, we played to the same gross receipts per week as we do in Middlesbrough, and, indeed, if we played to £100 or £200 less. If this can be done throughout the provinces, why not in London? — Yours faithfully, CHARLES MANNERS.
Opera House, Southport, March 30.

MESSRS. TOOTH AND TOOTH will include in their sale of furniture and effects at Oxenham's Auction Rooms, Oxford-street, beginning at mid-day on Tuesday, a quantity of expensive silk plush and damask curtains, draperies, and a supply of fine quality Wilton pile carpet, removed from the Criterion Theatre.

MR. WILLIAM LOCKHART will give his 600th performance of Towzer in *Sunday* at Poplar on Saturday, April 20. No doubt many will be there to say good-bye to their old friend Towzer, in the hope that he may be resurrected in another form equally life-like and attractive.

"SECOND TO NONE!"

A Romantic Drama, in Four Acts, by Walter Howard, produced for the first time on any stage at the Grand Junction Theatre, Manchester, on Monday, April 1.

Sir Reginald Greystone, V.C..MR. LOUIS NORMAN
Captain Philip Mannering..MR. JAMES STILLWELL
Lieutenant Archie Ballater MR. T. G. VANE
Sergeant Jack Horseman .. MR. J. G. MAINE
Harry Wilding .....MR. JERROLD HEATHER
Frank Wilding .....MR. HORACE BOOTH
Private Flutter ..... MR. TOM SINCLAIR
Private Bertie .....MR. ERIC WILDE
Joe Ruggles ..... MR. ALLAN CARRUTHERS
Inspector Trueman ..... MR. FRANCES AUSTIN
Nora ..... MISS MAUDIE GRAYSON
May Greystone .. MISS VIOLET ENNIS LAWSON
Nell Greystone ..... MISS WARD

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. Walter Howard's facility in the writing of successful dramas of military interest is once more exemplified in his latest effort, *Second to None!* which was produced at the Grand Junction Theatre, Manchester, on Easter Monday. The story concerns certain officers of the Royal Scots Greys, one of whom, Colonel Sir Reginald Greystone, V.C., has a doubtful past, though the truth is not suspected by those who are dear to him and who hold him in high esteem. The Colonel has two daughters, May and Nell, of whom the latter plays the more important part, since it is to gain her hand in marriage that the two opposing forces of virtue and villainy, in the persons of Harry Wilding and Captain Philip Mannering, are set in motion. Wilding is the nephew of Colonel Greystone, and, having failed at Sandhurst, is considered at length in the light of a ne'er-do-well, while his brother Frank has more credit to his name. But it is not on account of Harry's delinquencies that he is at length turned out of doors by his uncle. Thereby hangs the tale. The situation of rivalry between Mannering and Harry Wilding being clearly and portentously defined, into the scene comes weirdly, while the Colonel sits alone, Nemesis, in the shape of Sergeant Jack Horseman, a ghastly figure of a man, broken by years of suffering and captivity among the hill tribes of Northern India, but bent upon bringing home to Colonel Greystone a penalty for the latter's crime against him twenty-five years ago. Horseman reads to the Colonel the details of this crime from a written document, which he compels the Colonel to sign. It tells how the respected Sir Reginald Greystone, V.C., deliberately left his wounded comrade to the mercies of the assailing tribesmen, and galloped away on horseback with looted jewels to the value of £25,000, the riches upon which he attained his position in the world. With the signed document Horseman departs, leaving the Colonel in a state of uncertainty as to when the man will make his next appearance and deal the blow that shall shatter his position and good name. But this torment of expectancy takes another turn. Captain Philip Mannering has overheard all from the staircase, and, instantly following Horseman, obtains possession of the paper, leaving the Sergeant prostrate and unconscious. Now he has such a hold upon the Colonel that he can dictate terms. Exposure is the alternative if Mannering does not obtain the Colonel's assurance that he shall marry Nell. This assurance he gets, but Nell herself indignantly refuses; and it is upon her confession that her heart is Wilding's, that the latter—on Mannering's initiative—is bidden to leave the Colonel's roof. From this act, which takes place at Greystone Manor, the action is transferred to Carchester Barracks, after a lapse of six months during which Mannering has been awaiting a final decision from Nell. From her heart he is farther than ever, and the gap is widened by his brutal persecution of Harry Wilding, who has joined the ranks of the Royal Scots Greys, in which regiment also his brother Frank is a lieutenant. Goaded by Nell's contemptuous refusal of him, Mannering makes the revelation of her father's infamy, and this has the effect of bringing her to the prospect of self-sacrifice to save her father's name. In an ensuing scene outside the Manor, Nell makes known her decision to Harry. The parting of the lovers is well done. In the same scene Harry gets an inkling of the reason why their happiness is to be thus destroyed. A dramatic passage between the Colonel and Horseman occurs, the latter being in search of his stolen document; the Colonel is half-strangled, and Wilding appears in time to prevent Horseman's escape. It is from Horseman (whom he allows to go free) that Harry learns the fact of Mannering's possession of the fatal document. Thereafter, in a scene of the third act, efforts are made to despoil the dastardly Captain of his power. This is done rather cleverly by Nell. On the same errand, however, comes Horseman, who, in a sharp struggle, is shot by Mannering. The immediate issue for Mannering is disastrous, and the way is, of course, made clear for a happy denouement, so far as the lovers are concerned. Incidentally, it has been discovered that, to Harry's credit, a mistake between his name and his brother's—an occurrence founded on fact—was made at Sandhurst, so that it is really Harry who should be the lieutenant, while Frank is non-commissioned, and, in fact, a civilian. The point is, of course, used dramatically by the author. But all is not so felicitous as it seems. The last act—Greystone Manor again—is devoted to the wedding of Harry and Nell, but the sinister enters into it. After nine months' imprisonment and disgrace, Philip Mannering re-appears. He has brought a wedding present for one or other of the happy pair, which he will present at the moment of their return from the church. Colonel Greystone realises with horror that the man is mad. The scene is well conceived, and tensely carried out. Mannering's wedding present is to be a bullet from a revolver. But in this crisis, the Colonel hits upon the expedient of persuading the quondam Captain that he is still in his regiment and called for duty; and under the influence of a series of sharp commands Mannering strides off, minus his dropped revolver. Thus the tragedy is averted, and the wedding bells may ring without a jar.

The acting throughout was distinctly capable and effective. As Nell Greystone, Miss Ward played with a grace and an emotional power that made the character quite likelike, and contributed much toward the success of the play. Mr. Jerrold Heather's depiction of Harry Wilding was manly and sincere; Mr. Louis Norman presented a very good idea of the conflicted Colonel; and Mr. James Stillwell acted the evil part of Mannering with marked skill. The rather difficult rôle of Jack Horseman was excellently filled by Mr. J. G. Maine; Mr. Horace Booth played with bold effect as Frank Wilding; and comedy character passages were capitally handled by Mr. T. G. Vane as Archie Ballater and Miss Violet Ennis Lawson as May Greystone. In the way of comedy interludes not directly bearing on the story, Mr. Tom Sinclair as Private Flutter, Mr. Allan Carruthers as Joe Ruggles, and Miss Maudie Grayson as Nora, the housemaid, provided plenty of amusement; and smaller incidental rôles were satisfactorily filled by Mr. Eric Wilde and Mr. Frances Austin.

The play is very well written, strong in interest and dramatic effects, remarkably well staged, and promises to prove a big success. It is being toured by Mr. T. Edward Ward.

AT a meeting of the shareholders of the Hull Grand Theatre Company, which has been summoned for Monday next, an offer of the purchase of the Grand Theatre from Mortons, Ltd., who at present own the Alexandra Theatre in the town, will be considered. Should the negotiations be successful it is proposed that the transfer shall take place in the autumn.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

Sir Charles Wyndham has fixed upon Saturday next for his reappearance with Miss Mary Moore in a revival of *The Liars* by Henry Arthur Jones. The Criterion on its reopening will be found to be practically a new theatre. The scheme of colouring is white, and the upholstery and draperies are in yellow and pale blue, and altogether a most charming effect is obtained.

Mr. Beerbohm Tree is to be entertained at a send-off banquet at the Hotel Cecil on Sunday in honour of his impending visit to Berlin. The Lord Mayor will preside. Intense interest is being taken in the distinguished actor's visit in the German capital, over 3,000 applications for seats being received before the box-office opened. Mr. Tree starts on Monday, the principals of the company who will cross with him including Mr. Lyn Harding, Mr. Basil Gill, Mr. Courtice Pounds, Mr. Henry Neville, Mr. Julian Lestrange, Mr. Nigel Playfair, Mr. Fred Lewis, Miss Constance Collier, Miss Viola Tree, Miss Alice Crawford, and Miss Cicely Richards.

Mr. Martin Harvey performed the opening ceremony on Tuesday at a café chantant in connection with a bazaar in Newcastle promoted by the Legion of Frontiersmen. There was a very large attendance, and Mr. Harvey was received with unbounded applause. The connection between the stage and matters military, he said, was not very obvious. Of course there were the rebellious times of the seventeenth century, when the powers that were declared that art in every form was another form of impiety, and therefore closed the theatres, and the actors, finding themselves without engagements, partly through patriotism, partly from pay perhaps, entered the ranks of the Royalist army to fight for throne and religion. He had no doubt that if ever such an occasion should arise again they would be found there too. Then there was that other incident of which many of them probably had heard, when a certain gallant general and a certain eminent actor were comparing the perils of their respective callings. "How would you like, sir," said the gallant general, "to stand here with shells all bursting around you?" "Well," the actor said, "that would depend upon the date of the egg."

Mr. Harvey had, in a small way, had his experience as a frontiersman. He remembered some time ago, when he had the honour of playing *The Only Way* near the Canadian frontier, and when he was called upon to make a speech at the end of the performance. He would never forget the thrill which passed through him, and passed through the audience too, when he had occasion to say how inspiring it was to an Englishman that, after travelling so many thousands of miles, he still found himself playing under the Union Jack. He should never forget how that Canadian audience rose and cheered at that moment. It made one proud to be an Englishman.

Mr. Arthur Bourchier has determined that should a successor to *Mr. Sheridan* be required at the Garrick Theatre this season he will produce *The Duel*, by Henri Lavedan, a play which has the distinction of being the greatest success the Théâtre Français has produced in Paris during the last few years. This piece also enjoys great popularity in America, where it was presented by Mr. Charles Frohman.

Mr. Oscar Asche will be the occupant of His Majesty's Theatre during Mr. Tree's tour of the provinces in the autumn. Mr. Asche will be aided in his newest enterprise by his wife, Miss Lily Brayton, and both artists will be seen in the course of the season in a new play.

An interesting and pretty wedding took place at St. Mary's Church, Newington, on Saturday last, when Cordelia Elizabeth, the youngest daughter of Mr. J. J. Dallas, was married to Dr. A. Newton Benson, of Manchester. The bride is well known theatrically as Miss Bessie Allayne, and will be remembered by her successes in *San Toy* and other musical plays. The ceremony was witnessed by a large congregation, which included visitors from Lancashire, Tunbridge Wells, &c., also the bride and bridegroom's parents and relatives. The ceremony was impressively performed by the Rev. F. Lynch, the organ accompaniments being played by Mr. Kirby. The presents, numbering over a hundred, included cheques, silver services, valuable furniture, &c.

Mr. F. R. Benson will begin his three weeks' Shakespeare festival at Stratford-on-Avon with *Coriolanus*, which will be presented at the Memorial Theatre on Monday, April 22, with Miss Genevieve Ward and Mr. Benson himself in the cast. The following evening will be devoted to *Love's Labours Lost*. *As You Like It* will be played on the Wednesday evening, and *The Peacemaker*, a one-act comedy, by E. O. Bryant, with Mr. Otho Stuart and Miss Lilian Braithwaite in the cast, and *The School for Scandal* will form the programme for the Thursday. Mrs. F. R. Benson will grace the performance of *The Country Girl*, which is set down for the Friday. *Henry the Fifth* and *Twelfth Night*, given respectively on the Saturday afternoon and evening, will complete the first week.

"The Merchant of Venice," which is announced for the afternoon and evening of Monday, April 29, will have the services of Mr. Arthur Bourchier and Miss Violet Vanbrugh in the chief rôles, and in *Othello*, which is underlined for Tuesday evening, the 30th, Mr. Lewis Waller and Miss Evelyn Millard will appear. Mr. Benson will be seen again on Friday evening, May 3, in an impersonation of *Don Quixote*, and Mr. Henry Ainley and Miss Wynne Matthison will be the Benedick and Beatrice respectively of *Much Ado about Nothing*, to be staged on Monday afternoon, May 6. Repetitions of several of the foregoing pieces will be given, and other productions during the Festival will be *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Richard the Second*, *Hamlet*, and *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. Thursday, May 2, will be marked by a Shakespearean Costume Ball, to be held in the Town Hall.

Mr. George Edwardes will preside at an event of the highest importance on the 29th inst., on which date his eldest daughter is to be married at the Roman Catholic Church of St. James, Spanish-place, to Mr. Cuthbert Arthur Sherbrooke, a grandson of the first Earl Cairns. Miss Edwardes is sweet and twenty, and is a good all-round sportswoman, delighting in riding, driving, motoring, and golfing. She has a fine mezzo-soprano voice, which she uses with charm and culture, and is also an accomplished amateur actress. Mr. Sherbrooke is a son of the Rev. Neville Sherbrooke, of Clifton, Bristol, and his mother was the late Lady Lilias Sherbrooke, a daughter of the first Earl Cairns. He is twenty-four years of age, and was educated at Winchester.

Mr. Laurence Irving has given a donation of £10 towards assisting Mrs. Rayner. Mr. Irving obtained for the petition for reprieve of Rayner a number of prominent names, among them being Mr. John Hare, Mr. Cyril Maude, Mr. Gerald du Maurier, Mr. Basil Gill, Mr. J. Fisher White, Mr. J. Comyns Carr, Mr. Stuart Samuel, M.P., Mr. Samuel Brooks, Mr. Frederick Volpe, and Millicent Duchess of Sutherland.

Mr. Alfred Bishop met with an unfortunate accident while on his way to the Playhouse on Tuesday, when he slipped and severely sprained his leg. His part in *Toddles* has since been played by Mr. Allen Thomas.

Mr. Edward Terry has contributed a guinea to the *Daily Telegraph* Shilling Fund for providing London elementary schools with the national flag. In sending his subscription the popular comedian writes:—"I enclose 21s. for the flag which I have seen more honoured abroad than I have at home. 'The pity of it!'"

Mr. Lewis Waller has forwarded to the Actors' Benevolent Fund a further batch of postal orders and stamps to the value of £6 3s. 2d., the amount having been collected by means of autographing cards, &c. Sir Charles Wyndham, Mr. H. Beerbohm Tree, and Miss Mary Moore are daily sending to the secretary of the Fund the postal orders they receive in exchange for their autographs.

Mr. Edward Compton has secured a theatre for his London season, which will begin on or about August 5 next. He has not yet decided on which of his many plays he will open with, nor is he at liberty to give the name of the theatre, but everything is settled, and Mr. Compton is steadily proceeding with his arrangements.

The complete cast of Mr. Clyde Fitch's four-act play, *The Truth*, to be produced by Mr. Charles Frohman, by arrangement with Mr. Arthur Chudleigh, at the Comedy Theatre this evening, embraces Messrs. Allan Aynesworth, Dawson Milward, Dion Boucicault, Horton Cooper, and Donald Calthorpe, and Misses Marie Tempest, Grace Lane, Sybil Carlisle, and Rosina Filippi. The play is produced under the direction of Mr. Dion Boucicault.

Mr. Algernon Syms, who was for so long a period leading man at the Britannia, has for the last few weeks been *hors de combat* with a severe attack of pneumonia. Happily he has now recovered, and will fulfil his engagement with Mr. Reeves Smith in his production of *The Last of His Race* at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, on Monday.

The Managers' Club brought their first billiard handicap to a successful issue on Tuesday last, when Mr. Stanley White (scratch) beat Mr. C. M. Sofiani (rec. 35) in the final by 79 points. The prize was a handsome silver cup presented by Mr. G. M. Polini. Throughout the game both players endeavoured to get position for the famous "anchor stroke," but, luckily for the interest of the numerous spectators, neither succeeded. Another handicap has been arranged, and the heats will be shortly played off.

The part of Pedro in *The Gipsy Girl* at the Waldorf was not played by Mr. Laurence Wensley, as inadvertently stated last week, but by Mr. Reginald Dane, who took up the rôle at a few hours' notice.

Mr. Lester Collingwood commenced his dramatic season at the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, last Monday, under most promising conditions, the house, notwithstanding the heat, being filled to overflowing at quite an early hour. Tuesday and Wednesday witnessed the same gratifying state of affairs. Mr. T. Edward Ward's *Man and Wife* is the current attraction, both play and players being of a high order of excellence.

The Eccentric Club has forwarded two guineas towards the J. A. Atkin memorial. Donations have also been made per Eric G. Merrie's *At Cripple Creek* company as follow:—Mr. Hugh Fleming, 2s. 6d.; Mr. W. G. Wesley, 2s. 6d.; Mr. Eric Hudson, 2s. 6d.; Mr. Arthur Fell, 2s. 6d.; and Mr. Merrie, 2s. 6d.

Mr. Charles Carey will on Monday produce, in conjunction with Mr. Harold Wantage, his new musical comedy *The Pick of the Bunch* at the Royal County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames, for the first time near London. This production comes from the country with a big reputation, which, no doubt, Londoners will quickly endorse. From Kingston the piece goes to Folkestone, Hastings, Tunbridge Wells, Eastbourne, and Brighton, which brings the tour up to Whit-week. The autumn dates include the best theatres in the largest towns. Mr. Carey, it should be added, has arranged four stock seasons on the South Coast during the coming season, and hopes to be able to produce several new plays.

Mrs. E. Statham Staples, professionally known as May St. Aubyn, wishes us to state that in future she will be known as May Staples.

Mr. Norman V. Norman paid a most satisfactory visit to the Theatre Royal, Hull, last week. Large audiences were attracted to the performances, which were so successful that a return date in the autumn has been arranged.

The Dutch stage has lost one of its most popular dramatists and sterling actors in Rosier Faassen who recently passed away, deeply regretted by all his fellow-professionals, and no less so by the public, whose decided favourite he had been for many a year. Although he was more than threescore and ten, and had practically retired from the stage, he was such a well-known first-nighter that his death came quite unexpectedly. One of his best impersonations was Abt Constantin, and numberless other creations in his own works. His plays were mostly of a popular and national style, and always drew crowded houses. Rosier Faassen was one of the members of the Dutch company that played in London at the Empire Theatre some eight-and-twenty years ago.

Miss Glossop Harris's Répertoire Company has met with such success that she has decided to establish herself permanently as a presenter of Shakespearean and classical plays. Next week she goes to Brighton for a fortnight, and on April 21 starts a Shakespearean Festival week at Dudley. The plays in her répertoire include *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Camille*, and *Carmen*, the last being an entirely new dramatic version of Bizet's opera of which Miss Glossop Harris is part owner.

An original Indian romance, entitled *The Last of His Race*, which has met with considerable success in America, is to be produced for the first time in this country at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, on Monday. The play is by Mr. Donald Maclaren, and the production is under the direction of Mr. H. Reeves-Smith.

The Theatrical and Variety Charity sports, established under the title of *The New Barmaid* Fund, with the object of giving little children an outing, were brought off at West Bromwich on the 28th ult. The efforts of the members of the company referred to and of the West Bromwich Hippodrome Co. resulted in a great success, and it is estimated that a picnic to 2,000 children will be the outcome. Mr. J. P. Moore is the treasurer, Mr. Lloyd Astbury chairman of the committee, Mr. J. G. Gifford vice-chairman, and Mr. H. N. Ellison hon. secretary. The prizes were given out in the evening at the Theatre Royal, West Bromwich, between the acts of *The New Barmaid* by the Mayor of the town.

We call the attention of our readers to the article by Mr. Albert A. Strong on the new Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906. This Act will create great obligations on employers of labour, and should be carefully studied by all concerned.

A meeting of the Committee of the Actors' Benevolent Fund was held on Thursday at the offices of the Society, Adam-street, Strand. At a meeting held on March 21 a letter was received from the hon. secretary of the Actors' Day Fund (Mr. A. E. Drinkwater) submitting, amongst other proposals, the following:—"That the proceeds of the Actors' Day collection be combined with the yearly subscriptions to the Actors' Benevolent Fund received from actors—forming one united source of income: Actors' Saturday being thereby abolished; that the administration of this fund, to be called the Actors' Fund, be in the hands of the committee of the Actors' Benevolent Fund and an equal number of representatives of the Advisory Board; that the details of administration be jointly considered and approved on the understood condition that contributors only shall benefit, and on the further understanding that proportionate provision shall be made for the Actors' Orphanage and the Ladies' Theatrical Guild, and for any further theatrical charity that may be mutually approved."

Before sending their reply to the proposals the committee resolved they should be further considered at another meeting fixed for Thursday last. It was then decided that the following reply be sent to the hon. secretary of the Actors' Day Fund:—"Dear Sir,—The committee of this Fund have considered the matters referred to in your letter of the 18th ultimo, and respectfully state that they have come to the conclusion they cannot entertain the suggestions made.—Yours faithfully, C. I. Coltson (secretary)." Several letters were read from absent members in support of the course recommended by the committee, and those present were quite unanimous in their opposition to the proposals which had been submitted to them.

Mr. E. H. Sothern and Miss Julia Marlowe have arrived in London, and will begin their first season at the Waldorf on Monday, April 22, with Hauptmann's *The Sunken Bell*, a fairy play that has met with a great deal of success in New York. The piece deals with the rights of genius to develop itself at the cost of neglecting the domestic responsibilities and duties of the average man. *The Sunken Bell* will be followed by productions of *Jeanne d'Arc* and *Twelfth Night* during the first week. The second week will be devoted to *As You Like It*, *Hamlet*, and *Romeo and Juliet*, and the third week a romantic play, *When Knighthood was in Flower*, by Paul Kester and Charles Major, will be presented.

The pursuit of the ever-popular *Toddles* is being carried on at the Playhouse by the ladies of the cast in new, captivating, and bewildering frocks. Worn for the first time on Monday night, the latest "creations" of Mme. Pauline Herbert are the last word in up-to-date colours, style, and materials. Miss Lottie Venne appears in the first act in shell-pink ninon, elaborately embroidered in black chenille, with a velvet belt, small elbow-sleeves, and numberless tiny bows of bebé ribbon. Charmingly effective as it is, her second dress eclipses the first, being composed of dove-coloured satin, with puffs of chiffon under lace over-sleeves, held together with gold cord, ending in cone-shaped golden and pearl tassels, the only note of colour in the soft grey being found in the shell-pink—evidently a favourite tint—fall of chiffon on the Empire waist, almost hidden under silver and pearl embroidery. In the third act Miss Venne wears one of the new shades of chiffon velvet—a peculiar red that is neither rose nor flame, although it suggests both of those gorgeous colours. It is trimmed with a bold design of flowers and leaves in silver. The sleeves are transparent, and many jewels are worn. Only a word after this need be given to Miss Venne's black lace and white chiffon costume at the end of the play.

Miss Gertrude Kingston looks her best in a champagne-coloured dress, beautified with a design of apples and green leaves, afterwards changing into an Empire gown of blue ninon and velvet, shimmering with silver. Her last entrance is made in a smart cream cloth costume, with a lace coat that is perhaps more admired by good judges than anything else worn on the stage. Luxury reaches its height in Miss Trevor's costumes, the most striking design being carried out in rose pink, worn under a cloak of the same colour, with velvet cuffs, a wide lace collar edged with gauze ribbon, a big steel buckle at the back of the waistband, and a deep flounce piped with pink silk. More quiet, but hardly less effective, is the black spotted net over white silk, worn in the first act, with its silver belt and dainty knots of black velvet. Another of Miss Trevor's long coats is in black lace, worn over a lace evening gown, and black is again to the front in a sparkling sequined net over silver gauze.

Miss Madge Titheradge looks very pretty in a girlish frock of mauve silk, with a flowered sash, the bodice being made in pinafore style, elaborate handwork embroidery filling in the yoke, the small puff sleeves hardly reaching to the elbow, and the finishing touches to the picture of sweet seventeen being shown in white shoes, long white gloves, a glimpse of fluffy pink underskirts, and a crinoline hat wreathed with small mauve and pink roses. Apropos of simplicity, little Miss Reeve—Miss Ada Reeve's sister, by the way—has a new lace frock with a pink sash and daisy-trimmed hat. Miss Sefton, as the Fountain Maid, wears a severe little black silk, with a black and white plaid bow at her throat, and a mob cap, appearing later in pale blue, adorned with faintly tinted passementerie. Miss Hoffman, like Miss Venne, wears a new colour—it suggests a dark pearl—heavily embroidered, a warmth of colour being given to the long folds of the skirt by a foundation of dull pink. In the first act Miss Hoffman appears in grey, trimmed with Cluny lace and very finely tucked chiffon. Miss Toller's prettiest dress is worn in the marriage scene. It is soft and white, dotted with small pink discs.

The hats at the Playhouse are worthy of the dresses. A plain white chip, with a quantity of pink roses, vivid leaves, and white tulle, is one of the simplest and most satisfactory. Roses and ostrich feathers are the favourite decorations. A dainty French model is made of fine net, with a wreath of lilies-of-the-valley, a twist of Gobelin blue ribbon, and a narrow band of black velvet round the brim. Chocolate-coloured chiffon and smoke-grey plumes are used effectively, without any additional trimming, on one of Miss Trevor's hats, and another is a big black "Gainsborough" with full-blown roses. Miss Toller wears a pale blue velvet model, trimmed with blue feathers and filmy lace. Of Miss Venne's four hats the most original is a combination of mauve chiffon, small plumes, and golden grapes. The same fruit, in silver and purple, is used on a smaller hat, draped in black.

Some hundred sailors belonging to the Russian Squadron attended the Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth, on the evening of the 28th ult., to see *The Prodigal Parson* at the invitation of Mr. J. W. Boughton, Mr. Alfred Northway, and Mr. W. V. Garrod. Proof of the appreciation bestowed on the performance was provided in the fact that all the Russians who passed out during the interval brought some of their comrades with them on their return.

We regret to learn that Mr. Wellesley Draper has been compelled to resign his engagement with Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow owing to a severe attack of appendicitis. The doctors at first feared an operation would be necessary, but, thanks to their skill and attention, an improvement has manifested itself, and Mr. Draper is now steadily recovering.

The usual weekly meeting of the Council of the Actors' Association was held on Tuesday, when there were present:—Messrs. Edward Terry (chairman), C. Aubrey Smith, A. E. Drinkwater, Misses Fanny Brough, Clare Greet, Georgina Hamilton, and Kate Phillips, and Messrs. Henry Ainley, Acton Bond, Lewis Casson, C. F. Collings, Burton Cooke, Arthur Holmes-Gore, Fredk. Morland, Kenyon Musgrave, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary). Two cases of alleged bogus management were under consideration, and the secretary received instructions to file the particulars supplied for future reference. A question arising upon the report of the proceedings at the last bi-monthly meeting was under consideration, and after a lengthy discussion it was agreed that the suggestions made could not be adopted. Reports of the Finance and General Purposes Committee, and also of the Subscription Committee, were given. Maude Lacy was nominated for election, and a former member was reinstated.

The list of unpaid subscriptions was placed before the Council, and the secretary received instructions to remove from the register the names of all those members who were in arrear, with the exception of those who are abroad or who had promised payment, or whose cases had been specifically dealt with hitherto by the Council. The meeting opened at 2.30 and closed at 5.15.

The Finance and General Purposes Committee held a meeting on Tuesday, when there were present:—Messrs. Acton Bond (chairman), Lewis Casson, C. Aubrey Smith, and Chas. Cruikshanks (secretary). Rules for the regulation of committees were drafted, and left on the table for further consideration.

As a result of a special matinée at the Paisley Theatre on Saturday, when *The School for Scandal* was performed by the Compton Comedy Company, Mr. Edward Compton and Mr. J. H. Savile were enabled to devote the sum of £15 10s., the entire proceeds of the performance, towards the fund which has been organised for the preservation of the Auld Brig o' Ayr. The small attendance was easily accounted for by the glorious and summer-like weather, which induced many to go holiday-making.

Mr. John Cassidy, the manager of the Victoria Theatre, West Stanley, died on Saturday, after a long illness, at the early age of 40. Mr. Cassidy, who had toured for some years with *Muldoon's Picnic*, has only been in the district eight months, and during that time had become highly respected. He leaves a widow, but no children. The funeral, which was largely attended, took place on Tuesday at Stanley.

Miss Dollie Varden (Mrs. Jamie Dallas) fell from a trap while out driving the other day, and was picked up unconscious. She was found to be suffering from a dislocated shoulder and cut very badly about the face and hands. It was thought at first she would lose her right eye, but with care it is confidently expected she will completely recover.

Owing to the indisposition of Miss Eva Moore the part of Muriel Glayde, in Mr. Alfred Sutro's play, *John Glayde's Honour*, at the St. James's Theatre, was taken by Miss Ruth Maitland, who acquitted herself to the satisfaction of large audiences at the matinée and evening performances on Saturday.

Mr. Leonard Pagden, at the conclusion of the spring tour of *Sunday*, will, in conjunction with Mr. G. M. Copping, take out *Jim the Penman*. The title-rôle will be undertaken by Mr. Pagden, and Miss Alice Farleigh will play Mrs. Ralston. The Crystal Palace will be visited the week of April 29, and among the towns visited will be Bradford, Sheffield, and Manchester. On June 24 Mr. Pagden will produce *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray* at West Pier, Brighton. Miss Lucy Wilson, whose clever performance of Paula is well known, has been engaged, and Mr. Pagden will be the Aubrey.

Mr. Reginald Grant, the affable and courteous manager of the New Century Theatre, Motherwell, has been appointed manager of the Theatre Royal, Birkenhead. Though only a few months resident in Motherwell, Mr. Grant has become very popular, and carries with him in his new venture the unfailing good wishes of his many friends in Motherwell.

Mr. Overton Moyle asks us to state that there is no foundation for the rumour that he is engaged to play in the forthcoming production of *Madame Tatters* at the Shaftesbury Theatre. He was offered the part of the Sergeant in the piece named, but being engaged at the Savoy Theatre it was impossible for him to consider it.

An enjoyable evening may confidently be predicted for those attending the next social gathering of the Managers' Club at the Savoy Mansions next Sunday, the 14th, which will be a Ladies' Night. Mr. Frank Weathersby, who is taking the chair, is organising an interesting programme.

An example of quick study was given by Miss Maisie Gay this week at West Bromwich. On Thursday, the 28th, Mr. St. John Denton wired her to know if she could take up the part of *The New Barmaid*, which was vacant through illness. Miss Gay telephoned to Mr. Denton accepting the engagement, travelled to West Bromwich the same night, rehearsed the words on the Friday, practised the music on Saturday, opened on Monday, and scored an instantaneous success. Those acquainted with *The New Barmaid* are aware that the music of the title-rôle is heavy, yet Miss Gay sang it all and introduced her own speciality whistling song, accompanied by the chorus.

Mr. Arthur Vezin completes, on Saturday, April 27, a two and a half years' engagement with Mr. Louis Calvert's *Sunday* company. Thereafter he will join Mr. Leonard Pagden's *Jim the Penman* company, opening at the Crystal Palace Theatre on April 29.

Miss Gracie Murielle, who has been playing Miss Maud Hildyard's part in *The Great Awakening* at Bradford with gratifying results this week, has been approached by several important managers with a view to bookings for the play, which Miss Murielle has bought in its entirety. Amongst those who have secured this rapidly-rising young actress is Mr. Laidler, of the Prince's Theatre, Bradford, who expressed himself as delighted with the play and the artist. It is a coincidence that Miss Murielle should have followed Miss Hildyard in three of that clever lady's parts—*Her Second Time on Earth*, Rosy Shy (*The Darling of the Gods*), and now Lola in *The Great Awakening*.

The Queen and the Dowager Empress of Russia witnessed the performance of *The Great Conspiracy* at the Duke of York's Theatre on Monday evening, when, in order that the noise and realistic effects of the explosion scene might not affect Her Majesty of Russia, who is of a highly nervous temperament, its advent was announced to the distinguished visitors by an equerry. Tuesday saw the Queen, the Empress Marie Feodorovna of Russia, and the Princess Victoria and suite at the performance of *The Gondoliers* at the Savoy. The following evening the Queen and the Dowager Empress of Russia visited the Garrick and witnessed Mr. Bourchier's production of *Mr. Sheridan*; and on Thursday the Queen, the Empress Marie Feodorovna, and Princess Victoria honoured *The Belle of Mayfair* at the Vaudeville.

The new play, *Second to None*, written by Walter Howard and produced by Mr. T. Edward Ward's company at the Grand Junction Theatre, Manchester, on Easter Monday, has scored a big success, and is estimated to be one of the best—if not the best—of the clever author's efforts. Among the features of the production were the exquisite and costly gowns worn by Miss Ward, who played Nellie Greystone, the lead. She wore in all five gowns, the first being an evening robe of white lace embroidered with yellow marguerites and green leaves, made up over pale yellow glacé silk in Empire style. Miss Ward's Act II. dresses were, first, a walking-dress of cream voile, trimmed with cornflower-blue silk, and cream broderie Anglaise yoke and sleeves, with Paris model hat of cornflower-blue, trimmed with pink roses and shaded ribbons. An evening dress of flowered chiffon silk, with touches of amethyst velvet and spotted net, was worn in Scene 3 of the same act. The last was a most effective bridal costume.

A new one-act play, entitled *The Boatswain's Mate*, adapted by W. W. Jacobs and Herbert C. Sargent from a story of the same name by Mr. Jacobs, will be put on in front of *When Knights were Bold* at Wyndham's, on Monday, the 15th inst. The cast will comprise Miss Ethel Hollingshead, Mr. Arthur Chesney, and Mr. Geo. F. Tully.

At the Regent-street Polytechnic on Thursday afternoon the British Empire Shakespeare Society gave a dramatic reading of *Twelfth Night* before a particularly large and highly-appreciative audience. Miss Wynne Matthison as Viola delivered her lines with exquisite grace and intelligence, and Miss Edyth Olive and Miss Alice Arden, in their respective parts of Olivia and Maria, were also heard to great advantage. Mr. Acton Bond gave a finely-conceived rendering of the part of Malvolio, and that of Orsino was in the excellent keeping of Mr. Walter Hampden. The Sir Toby was Mr. Arthur Whitby, and the Aguecheek Mr. Michael Sherbrooke, and in their hands the comedy scenes were not allowed to lag. Mr. Shakespeare Stewart sang the songs allotted to the Clown with beautiful effect. All the remaining members of the cast, including Mr. Arthur Applin, Mr. F. H. de Quincey, Mr. Alfred Bristowe, Mr. Reginald Maurice, and Mr. G. Harrison Carter, rendered valuable help. Miss Valerie Salburgh read the stage directions, and the reading was given under the supervision of Mr. Acton Bond.

Miss Florence Ray, who created the part of Beauty in *Beauty and the Enchanted Prince*, at Hengler's Circus, has been compelled, through indisposition, to resign the rôle. Miss Ray is a young actress and vocalist of much ability and charm, and was a great favourite with the company, who sympathise heartily with her. During Miss Ray's absence the part is taken by Miss Eva Kelland.

"A Country Rose" is the pretty title of a new musical play that has just been written by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley, who has already given to the stage several successful dramas, including *A Sister's Sin*, *Bound to Win*, and *A Soldier's Honour*, the last-named being received most favourably wherever presented.

At the Theatre Royal, Leamington, on Easter Monday Mr. Ian Maclaren produced *The Free-Lance*, a romantic drama in five acts, which has found considerable favour in America. A notice of the play, which is set in the picturesque period of mediæval Germany, appears in another column. On Monday a big holiday audience gave the play a most enthusiastic reception, Mr. Ian Maclaren finding immediate favour for his spirited performance in the title-rôle.

The performance of Baron Harriss's *Prince of Pilsen* company at the Opera House, Harrogate, on Easter Monday was marked by a little incident which afforded an eloquent tribute to the artists concerned. During the delightful comedy scene of Miss Sophie Harriss and Harry Kilburn in the second act, an elderly gentleman in the front row of the circle was roused to such a burst of merriment that he dislocated a set of false teeth, which fell from his mouth and alighted with a resounding thud on the cranium of an inoffensive youth who happened to be seated immediately underneath.

The harmony is being disturbed in several Paris theatres, and a few theatrical lawsuits may be expected. Thus, there is war between M. Samuel, the Variétés manager, and Mme. Jeanne Granier. According to that lady, M. Samuel is not adhering to the clauses of his contract with her, and she threatens him with the rigours of the law. Speaking of M. Samuel, few people know why he, a good Catholic, changed his name of Louveau into one of Semitic origin. "I had to do it to protect myself," he says. "Whilst I was in financial difficulties I always fell an easy prey to the Hebrew gentlemen with whom I had to deal. Since I changed my name into that of Samuel, they think I am one of them, and they leave me in peace!"

Trouble number two has broken out between Mme. Sarah Bernhardt and M. Henry Bataille, the author of the new *Faust*, wherein Mme. Bernhardt will impersonate Mephisto. At the Odéon, too, there is a dispute in connection with *L'Arlésienne*, which M. Antoine has just put into rehearsal. As everybody knows, the words are by Alphonse Daudet, and Bizet wrote the music. The feud is between Daudet's and Bizet's heirs. They began by trying to prevent M. Antoine from producing it, except under certain restrictions. Their joint action having failed, they now are quarrelling among themselves. This, of course, M. Antoine does not mind.

"When M. Judic took over the management of the Palais-Royal," writes our Paris correspondent, "I predicted in these columns that he would not remain long at his post. He has now gone away, leaving the poor theatre to its fate. And what a fate! A liquidator has been appointed, who hopes to find someone plucky enough to take over the lease. I am told that Fursy, from the "Boite à Fursy" in Montmartre, is a candidate. It seems incredible. His little pill-box in the Rue Pigalle is a goldmine, full every night with the pick of Paris society. The Palais-Royal is an ill-starred house, in which the public has ceased to take an interest. Under a capable management it could once more become a paying concern. M. Richemont has shown with the Folies-Dramatiques that a house, supposed to be dead, can be brought to life again. But will M. Fursy take that trouble?

Mr. Hans Andresen, the director of the German plays at the Great Queen-street Theatre, has arranged for a professional matinée on Tuesday of the *Die Condottieri*, a romantic play by Rudolf Herzog, to which all English actors and actresses are invited.

The Brixton Theatre has shared largely in the holiday business of the week, and the elegant house was packed from floor to ceiling on Monday, when the clever farcical comedy *The Night of the Party* gave unlimited enjoyment to an appreciative audience. Mr. Sebastian Smith revelled in the drolleries of the rôle of Crosbie, and kept the audience in uncontrollable laughter. Mr. Frank H. Denton won encomiums as Frank Frayne, and Mr. Douglas Munro was irresistibly funny as Mr. Flambert. A charming impersonation of Lady Hampshire was given by Miss Beatrice Mervyn, and the housemaid Paulina found a very talented exponent in Miss Lillian Williams, the other parts being all well rendered.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Bernard Shaw's Dicta.

The two volumes of dramatic criticisms by Mr. Bernard Shaw, which have just been published by Messrs. Archibald Constable and Co., are full of pithy and witty bits of dogmatism. We quote one or two from a book which is full of them.

Points and Parts.

"The majority of actresses never get beyond learning not to invent new points for themselves, but rather to pick out in their parts the passages which admit of certain well worn and tried old points being reapplied. When they have learnt to make these points smoothly and to keep quiet between whiles with a graceful air of having good reasons for doing nothing, they are finished actresses. The great actress has a harder struggle. She goes on inventing her points and her business determinedly, constantly increasing the original half-dozen, and constantly executing them with greater force and smoothness. A time comes when she is always making points, and making them well; and this is the finishing point with some actresses. But with the greatest artists there soon commences an integration of the points into a continuous whole, at which stage the actress appears to make no points at all, and to proceed in the most unstudied and 'natural' way."

Artistic Conscience.

"There are plenty of people who have either no artistic conscience at all, or else one which is very easily satisfied. Just as you have soldiers who are not frightened under fire because they have not imagination enough to conceive their danger, whilst your imaginative Napoleon or Nelson turns pale, and your serene Goethe sees yellow, so there are debutters, both on the social and theatrical stage, who get through their ordeal easily because they are only imperfectly conscious of it. And there are happy people whose artistic conscience has always been awake, and to whom sufficient conscious grace and beauty to begin with are second nature.

Playwright Critics.

"The advantage of having a play criticised by a critic who is also a playwright is as obvious as the advantage of having a ship criticised by a critic who is also a master shipwright. Pray observe that I do not speak of the criticism of dramas and ships by dramatists and shipwrights who are not also critics; for that would be no more convincing that the criticism of acting by actors. Dramatic authorship no more constitutes a man a critic than actorship constitutes him a dramatic author; but a dramatic critic learns as much from having been a dramatic author as Shakespeare or Mr. Pinero from having been actors.

The Old "Stock."

"Having been brought up on the old stock-company actor, I knew that he was the least versatile of beings—that he was still nailed helplessly to his own line of heavy or light, young or old, and played all the parts that fell to him as the representative of that line in exactly the same way. I knew that his power of hastily 'swallowing' the words of a part and disgorging them at short notice more or less inaccurately and quite unimprovably (three months rehearsal would have left him more at sea than three hours) was incompatible with his ever knowing his part in any serious sense at all. I remembered his one absurd 'combat' that passed for fencing, the paltry stepdance between the verses of his song in the pantomime that constituted him a dancer, the obnoxiousness of utterance which he called elocution and would impart to pupils for a consideration, the universal readiness which only meant that in his incorrigible remoteness from nature and art it mattered nothing what he did."

Pit and Gallery Booking.

Mr. Cyril Maude's business manager, Mr. Alfred Turner, interviewed by the *Tribune*, states that the pit and gallery booking at the Playhouse is an immense success. Mr. Turner admits that there was a notion among some managers that if the shilling and half-crown seats can be secured beforehand a large number of people will take them instead of stalls or upper boxes. "But," he says, "the fear is certainly not confirmed by our experience here. As a matter of fact, the better seats are as much in demand as ever. My idea is that if people are to be attracted to the theatre they must be made as comfortable as possible. Why should the man who can only afford a shilling, a sum which to him may represent more in proportion to his income than half-a-guinea to a richer class of playgoer, be made to stand for perhaps a couple of hours outside the theatre in all weathers before he is admitted? By making him endure this discomfort you do not make him pay for a stall, because he cannot afford it. You simply deter him from playgoing."

Saving the "Packers."

"With regard to the printing of the tickets, that is a very small item. In all theatres tickets are printed for every part except the pit and gallery, and in our case the extra printing bill incurred by including those parts of the house is no more than 1s. for each performance. At many theatres men called packers are kept in the pit and gallery for the purpose of making people close up, and thus make room for as many as possible. Here we have no need of them, as everyone has his own seat. One thing we did not foresee, and that is that in selling a shilling seat through the post we often have to spend 2d. on postages, so that we received only 10d. net. I certainly think that in such cases the purchaser should pay for the postages, but so far, at all events, we have not insisted upon this."

Cheap Prices.

Mr. H. R. Smith, in an interview with a representative of the *Daily News*, says:—"I think the minimum limit has been reached with the sixpenny gallery, as just instituted by Mr. Carpenter and myself at the Lyceum. The price might be lowered in suburban and provincial theatres, and still leave a margin for profit, because the cost of the lease, lighting, and other incidental expenses are much smaller. Here we are highly gratified at the results already obtained. On Monday we played to a house filled to its maximum capacity, over four thousand people being present. Before the week is over we shall introduce another innovation in the shape of stalls at 3s. 6d."

Mr. Fred Terry in Paris.

Mr. Fred Terry has returned from a holiday trip to Paris, where he visited some of the theatres. "My first impression," he told a *Daily Chronicle* representative, "was that I should find the Englishman caricatured as a Scotsman, with mutton-chop whiskers, a tweed suit, and knickerbockers. This is the usual manner in which the Englishman is depicted on the Continental stage. Happily the theatres I visited where an Englishman was supposed to take part in the piece, proved the result of a better knowledge of our customs. The Englishman was shown as an ordinary individual, whose acquaintance with the French language is somewhat limited, and therefore humorous. But there were no crudities in his apparel."

We shall be obliged if our readers will send us any amusing anecdotes they may hear, or accounts of any quaint incidents they may witness while acting or rehearsing.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.

The annual meeting of this Fund was held on Thursday afternoon in the saloon of Terry's Theatre. Mr. EDWARD TERRY presided, and there were also present Messrs. R. Morand, Chas. Rock, Chas. K. Cooper, T. F. Dillon Croker, A. H. Elliott, A. B. Tapping, C. Nuthall Foreman, C. T. Burleigh, F. L. Chapuy, Brandon Ellis, G. Weathersby, Dr. Allchin, and Charles J. Davies (secretary); the Misses Maud Santley, Vane Featherstone, Nellie Christie, Caroline Ewell, Lucy Sibley, Marie Hudspeth, Beatrice Bramah, Lily Swonnell, Eida Burman, E. H. Willing, Florence Engleman, and Mrs. B. Reynolds. The financial statement for the year ending December 31, 1906, was submitted as follows:—

INCOME.	£	s.	d.
To Balance from last year	631	18	2
,, Members' Subscriptions	793	16	5
,, Donations, Dinner Tickets, &c.	789	15	6
,, Dividends, India 3 per cents.	188	6	8
,, ,, Local Loans, 3 per cent.	174	0	0
,, ,, Consols, 2½ per cent.	7	2	8
,, Freehold Ground Rent	11	8	0
,, Lacy Bequest Fund, Dividends	416	13	8
,, Helen Faucit ,, ,,	63	15	8
,, Covent Garden ,, ,,	488	7	0
,, Betty Bequest ,, ,,	295	14	0
,, Nellie Farren Memorial ,,	14	13	0
,, Separate Account ,,	117	6	6
,, Income Tax returned	71	19	8
,, Interest on Deposit	14	6	0
	£4079	2	11

EXPENDITURE.	£	s.	d.
By Amount paid to Annuitants	2228	4	4
,, Funeral Expenses	10	0	0
,, Secretary	200	0	0
,, Rent of Office	52	0	0
,, Miscellaneous, including Advertising, Printing, Stationery, and Petty Cash	70	5	0
,, Amount to make up Investment under Separate Account	975	7	0
	3535	16	4
,, Balance of Income over Expenditure	543	6	7
	£4079	2	11

BALANCE-SHEET, DEC. 31, 1906.

LIABILITIES.	£	s.	d.
To Capital Account, viz.—			
Under Rule 13	12000	0	0
Legacy, Mrs. Eliza Holm, per Pinder Simpson, Esq.	100	0	0
,, Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Higgie	700	0	0
,, Mr. David James	2700	0	0
,, Mrs. A. Stirling	50	0	0
,, In Memory of "Nellie Farren"	500	0	0
,, J. R. Anderson (on a/c)	100	0	0
,, J. L. Toole	500	0	0
,, John Ward	100	0	0
,, Betty Bequest	9256	10	7
,, Helen Faucit Fund	2002	16	8
Lacy Bequest (exclusive of remaining value of Leaseholds and Freeholds)	6780	15	2
Separate Account under Rule 13:—			
Invested in Turkish 1891 4 per cent. Bonds 2065 1 0			
Invested in Transvaal 3 per cent. Stock 2158 5 6			
	4223	6	6
	39013	8	11
Balance of Income over Expenditure	543	6	7
	£39556	15	6

ASSETS.	£	s.	d.
By Invested in the Purchase of—			
£6277 19 8 India 3 per cent., at cost	6325	15	0
5800 0 0 Local Loans, at cost	6039	5	0
300 0 0 Consols, 2½ per cent., at par	300	0	0
2000 0 0 Turkish 4 per cent., 1891 at cost	2077	12	0
2000 0 0 do. do. do.	2065	1	0
5980 0 0 India 3½ per cent. Rupee Paper	4539	11	6
7929 10 0 Transvaal 3 per cent. Stock	7837	14	3
62 10 0 Consols, at par	62	10	0
700 0 0 Great Northern Railway, 4 per cent. Guaranteed Stock, at cost	745	2	0
3362 0 0 London and North Western Railway 4 per cent. Guaranteed Stock	3362	0	0
666 0 0 London and North Western Railway 3 per cent. Debenture Stock, at cost	585	0	0
2352 4 2 Local Loans, 3 per cent.	2363	19	4
800 0 0 Transvaal Loan, 3 per cent.	790	3	10
200 0 0 Canada 4 per cent. Bond, at cost	207	6	0
700 0 0 Egyptian Tribute Bonds, at cost	712	14	6
,, Freehold Ground Rent	240	0	0
,, Cash on Deposit 600 0 0			
,, ,, on General Account 461 10 2			
,, ,, Lacy Bequest Account 241 10 11			
	1303	1	1
	£39556	15	6

We do hereby certify that we have examined the books, vouchers, &c., and find them and the above statements correct.

(Signed)
C. K. COOPER, for M. R. MORAND,
HY. DOUGHTY, for F. WEATHERSBY,
Auditors, appointed by the Members.
A. G. WARREN, A.C.A., Hon. Accountant,
9, Fleet-street, Temple Bar.
CHARLES J. DAVIES, Secretary.
16th March, 1907.

THE CHAIRMAN, in opening the proceedings, said it gave him the greatest pleasure to preside over the annual meeting, and he rejoiced in the continued success of the Fund in which they were all so deeply interested. They had to regret the loss of four of their members, but all of them had reached an advanced age, as most of the members did, more especially the ladies. He was, however, glad to say that they were getting new members, fourteen having joined during the past year. This showed that the Fund and the good work it did were being appreciated more and more, as it became better known among the younger members of the profession; and it was only by the infusion of new blood that they could expect to prosper. They should endeavour to bring before the younger members of the profession the great advantages they would derive from joining this old and well-established Fund. Without giving the names, he might mention four cases. One member who paid in £54, received £504; another who paid in £382, received £1289; a third, who paid in £200, received £575; while a fourth, who paid in £85, received £406. These figures were sufficient to show that joining the Fund was a very good investment. There were certain new schemes in the air, and one of these was in connection with what was known as the Actors' Day Fund. This was, he had always understood, started with a charitable purpose only, but it was now proposed to deviate from the original lines laid down and to establish a provident fund, which was, he held, absolutely unnecessary while the Royal General Theatrical Fund remained in existence. This was a proposal respecting which they had a right to feel aggrieved. His own company loyally gave their services for the Actors' Day Fund, believing that the proceeds would be devoted to the theatrical charities, but later they heard of this new proposal, which, if carried out, would injure, though, of course, unintentionally, the Theatrical Fund, which had done such good work in the past, was now doing good work, and would do even greater work in the future. It had taken many years to bring the Fund to its present position, and large sums of money had been invested in various securities. He desired to point out that a young man or young woman who became a member of the Fund, and paid 11s. a quarter, or £2 4s. a year, was entitled to receive £40 per annum after attaining the age of 60; and in case of calamity was entitled after only seven years' membership to claim that annuity. That was the lowest scale, but a payment of £4 per annum secured an annuity of £80 at 60, and £12 per annum an annuity of £120 at £60; these grants being also obtained if seven years after joining a calamity overtook a member. He did not think that the members of his profession were conversant with the advantages which joining the Fund conferred; and he must protest against any attempt, unintentional though it might be, to injure this very old-established Fund. He was reminded by reading a newspaper paragraph the other day that the late Charles Dickens advocated old age pensions when he presided over one of their annual dinners, and certainly subscribers to the Fund secured assistance in old age for a very moderate outlay. They had the balance-sheet before them; and it was open for anyone to criticise it. He was pleased to announce that for their next annual dinner they would have as chairman the Lord Mayor, Sir William Treloar, and if that gentleman was only as successful in obtaining money for the Fund as he had been in his efforts for other good objects, they would have good reason to congratulate themselves on the result.

MR. M. R. MORAND, in moving the adoption of the balance-sheet, said he thought they could heartily congratulate themselves, especially on two items in it. The first was, "amount to make up investment under separate account, £975 7s."; and the second, "balance of income over expenditure, £543 6s. 7d."

MR. CHARLES ROCK, who seconded, referred to the fact that they were now able to pay annuitants the full amount. He quite endorsed the Chairman's remarks with regard to the proposed establishment of another fund; but it would take many years to attain the position now reached by the Royal General Theatrical Fund.

THE CHAIRMAN: Has any lady or gentleman anything to say regarding the balance-sheet?

There being no response, the Chairman declared the motion carried unanimously.

MR. CHAS. ROCK proposed the re-election of the directors, Messrs. Chas. K. Cooper, T. F. Dillon Croker, and Alfred H. Elliott, and said he was sure that all present would agree with him that they could not have more representative gentlemen on the board.

MR. MORAND seconded the proposition, which was carried.

MR. C. K. COOPER, in proposing the re-election of the Hon. Medical Staff, Dr. W. H. Allchin and Dr. R. Percy Middlemist, said that in the case of illness of any member of the Fund these gentlemen could be consulted free of cost.

MR. DILLON CROKER seconded the motion, which was carried.

DR. ALLCHIN, in returning thanks, said that so exceedingly healthy were the members of the Fund that if it were more generally known to the public he believed there would be a large influx into the theatrical profession. As a thoroughly healthy profession he could strongly recommend its adoption. As to the ladies, they lived a long time, but did not get old. It gave the medical staff the greatest pleasure to render the Fund all the services they possibly could.

MR. C. ROCK proposed and MR. A. H. ELLIOTT seconded the re-election of the standing counsel of the Fund—Mr. John Strachan, K.C., and Mr. Ernest De Witt. The resolution was carried.

MR. A. H. ELLIOTT next proposed the re-election of the hon. solicitor, Mr. Theodore Lumley, remarking that they had been singularly free from lawsuits of any kind. Should any arise they could always rely upon the valuable assistance of Mr. Lumley.

MR. DILLON CROKER seconded the proposal, and it was agreed to.

On the motion of MR. M. R. MORAND, seconded by MR. C. K. COOPER, the hon. accountant and auditor, Mr. A. G. Warren, was re-elected.

MR. DILLON CROKER then proposed the re-election of the auditors, Mr. M. R. Morand and Mr. F. Weathersby.

MR. C. ROCK seconded the proposal, which was carried.

MR. ROCK said he had great pleasure in proposing the re-election of Mr. Edward Terry as hon. treasurer, for he felt sure they could not have a better guardian of the funds.

The motion, having been seconded by Mr. Elliott, who spoke in complimentary terms of Mr. Terry, was duly carried.

THE CHAIRMAN thanked the proposer and seconder for the kind things they had said about him, and said he was only too pleased to do all he could for the good of the Fund. It had a hard-working body of directors, who were anxious to do the best for it. Their thanks were due to Mr. James Welch for allowing them the use of the theatre saloon for their meeting, and to save time he would take the opportunity of thanking them for the vote of thanks to the chairman which was on the agenda-paper. In conclusion, he expressed a hope that the Press would bring under the notice of the younger members of the profession the great advantages of joining the Royal General Theatrical Fund.

This concluded the business, and the meeting then separated.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, April 2, the Drama, entitled "THE GIRL WHO TOOK THE WRONG TURNING."

The popular parts of the Borough Theatre are being well patronised this week by those local playgoers who prefer their dramatic fare served "hot and strong," and the plentiful supply of thrilling situations and exciting incidents is proving much to their liking. A company of all-round ability has been selected for the interpretation of the piece, and the scenery and mounting is excellent. Mr. Roy Redgrave, although suffering from the effects of a severe cold in the early part of the week, plays with plenty of power and virility as the outspoken British tar, Willie Mason, and looks the part well. As the sinister James Harcourt, Mr. Walter Thornton acts with fluency and conviction; and a manly presentment of Jack Fenton comes from Mr. Frank Robertson. Mr. Sidney Sarl is responsible for a sound embodiment of Bill Slater; Mr. Willie Reid is a decidedly jocular and amusing Johnny Walker; and Mr. Kenneth Black skilfully handles the part of Richard Fenton. Miss Frances Ruttledge displays much ability and resource as Sophie Coventry; and Miss Nannie Meade contributes a striking performance as Vesta Le Clere. Miss Hilda Baynton is a pretty and sympathetic Lucy Coventry; and Miss Marie Kildare plays with verve and brightness as Poppy Slater. The remaining parts in a long cast are all rendered very carefully.

THE SAD CASE OF GRACE BALMAIN.

FIRST LIST OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

	£	s.	d.
Frank Maitland	5	0	0
G. M. Polini	5	0	0
Alfred Sutro	3	3	0
Henry Taylor	1	1	0
Basil Young	1	1	0
Vernon Cowper	1	1	0
M.	1	0	0

The Hon. Treasurer, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, will be pleased to receive and announce further subscriptions to this Fund.

"THE PALACE OF PUCK."

A Fantastic Comedy, in Three Acts, by William J. Locke, Produced at the Haymarket Theatre, on Tuesday, April 2.

Christopher Podmore	MR. FREDERICK KERR
Nora	MISS MARION TERRY
Elsie	MISS BEATRICE TERRY
Widgery Blake	MR. H. V. ESMOND
Max Riadore	MR. BEN WEBSTER
Peter Dove	MR. H. MARSH ALLEN
Gilbert	MR. E. W. TARVER
Paul	MR. M. ELPHINSTONE
Yarker	MR. HARRY NORTON
Rhodanthe	MISS MIRIAM CLEMENTS
Myra	MISS MONA HARRISON
Lalage	MISS VERA COCKBURN

Any account of Mr. W. J. Locke's fantastic comedy must be inadequate to give the impression it created on the audience at the Haymarket on Tuesday; for the printed word cannot convey the dainty glamour of the mounting and dialogue. There is a "fancy" ball in the piece, which is itself in a nature of a masquerade. "Are we in a lunatic asylum?" enquires one of Mr. Locke's Philistines in the first act; and there is a suspicion of agreeable insanity about the inmates of the "Palace" and its proprietor. The weakness of the theme—which would have passed if treated in a farcical or early Gilbertian spirit—is "shown up" when it is used to "point a moral." The fantastic City broker and his family are brought into contact with equally fantastic artists and musicians, and it is inferred that all the "joy of life" is on the side of the artists, and all the hard and unaffectionate commonplace on that of the *bourgeois*. Readers of Zola's "L'Œuvre," Mr. George Moore's "Modern Lover," and Madox Brown's Biography will be sceptical of the former assumption; and the experience of every-day life is sufficient to rebut the latter. The development of the idea is equally irrational. Let it be granted that the best way to inspire a stockbroker with an ardent love of his wife is to "elope"—say, from Saturday to Monday—with an artist's model, while his wife's passion for him may be kindled by another elopement with a musician, and hundreds will be eager to try the pleasing experiment. It is doubtful, however, if the plan will be found to "answer" in the end.

What pleased the audience at the Haymarket was the feeling of being "behind the scenes" at an opera bouffe theatre, the atmosphere of chaste impropriety, of art without labour, of marriage without income, in short, of pretty "moonshine." They were content to excuse Mr. Locke's ethics for the sake of his elegance, his *toujours gai!* painters and musicians, his charming costumes, and the movement, colour, and sparkle of his play.

The first scene is the entrance hall of a *château* in France, the owner of which is one Widgery Blake, the wealthy heir of a patent corn-cure proprietor. Blake's hobby is to fill his house with a number of idle and eccentric young people connected with the arts, who wear "fancy" costumes, and generally exude with gaiety and goodwill—the old Quartier Latin convention is always popular. Into this menagerie are driven, by stress of weather and circumstance, a Mincing-lane stockbroker called Podmore, his wife, and his daughter; and the action of the play consists in the couple being "Bohemianised." Rhodanthe, a seductive artists' model, is "set on" to bewitch the stockbroker, while a dreamy musician lays siege to Mrs. P. Nothing improper can be introduced; for are not all Puck's guests warranted strictly virtuous, in spite of appearances to the contrary? So the couples agree to "elope." Podmore gets ready to "fly" with the model, and the wife prepares to go off with the musician. But before they can commit themselves Puck interferes, and prevents the departures; the musician and the model pair off, as originally arranged; and a third elopement, that of Miss Podmore with a penniless artist, is condoned by the parents, still under the influence of the "joy of living."

Mr. Locke has thus managed to give us the motive of the ordinary French farce, made innocent, if not entirely harmless, by the simple process of inferring a moral; so that we get all the "fun" of the husband's entanglement with the artful "minx," and the wife's flirtation with the music-master, purified by a Purpose. And, if you accept Mr. Locke's premises, you can, with a clear conscience, laugh heartily at his jests and admire the brightness of his dialogue, his spontaneous hilarity, and his free and fantastic imagination.

The charm of the cast had a great deal to do with the success of the comedy. Mr. H. V. Esmond, in a light green suit and strapped trousers, assumed his most *espiègle* air to impersonate the volatile and eccentric Widgery Blake, and no other actor with whom we are acquainted could have realised the personage so well. There was a "leery" polish about his style, a spritely airiness in his carriage, which made the character credible and acceptable. Miss Marion Terry was far too charming for the typical Mincing-lane wife. Podmore must have gone out of his way to find her; and his insensibility to her attractions was incredible, despite Miss Terry's able assumption of the calm propriety of the British middle-class matron. It is hardly necessary to add that Miss Terry played the title-part daintily through all its inflexions, and gave a delicious little character sketch. Miss Beatrice Terry was delightfully fresh and natural as Elsie; and Mr. Ben Webster's many artistic abilities and advantages made the task of impersonating Max Riadore an easy one to him. Mr. H. Marsh Allen was a very good-looking and effusive Peter Dove; and Mr. E. V. Tarver played Gilbert excellently and without effort. Mr. M. Elphinstone was entirely satisfactory as Paul; and Mr. Harry Norton took full advantage of his opportunities as an impertinent chauffeur—*do* motorists allow their servants such "strange liberties"? Miss Miriam Clements looked bewitchingly handsome as Rhodanthe, and acted with her usual archness, tact, and vivacity; and Miss Mona Harrison was an agreeable impersonatress of the "dainty châtelaine," Myra; Miss Vera Cockburn being a bright and comely Lalage. The fact that the task allotted to each artist was a comparatively easy one gave distinction and a certain easy grace to the production, which, thanks to the popular qualities of lightness and brightness, was indulgently and favourably received. Mr. Walter Hann's scenery was worthy of that clever artist's brush; and the dresses, from D. C. Calthrop's designs, were delightful, Mr. Claude Fenigstein's incidental music adding to the "gala" attractions of the piece, which was preceded by Mr. Keble Howard's one-act comedy, *Compromising Martha*, in which Miss Lydia Rachel repeated her admirably characteristic embodiment of the fat and friendly Neighbour, Miss Florence Hayden being again amusingly odd and elderly as Martha and Miss Dagmar Wiehe and Mr. E. W. Tarver acting neatly and cleverly as Monica and the Curate. Mr. Bruce Smith's cottage interior was capital. *The Palace of Puck* is one of those odd, "out-of-the-way," and original entertainments which often catch the fancy of the public, and succeed, by sheer prettiness, brilliancy, and wilful and extravagant fantasy.

"TOM JONES."

A Comic Opera, in three acts, by A. M. Thompson and Robert Courtneidge; Lyrics by Chas. H. Taylor, music by Edward German; produced for the first time at the Prince's Theatre, Manchester, on Saturday, March 30.

Tom Jones	MR. C. HAYDEN COFFIN
Mr. Allworthy	MR. JOHN MORLEY
Blifil	MR. ARTHUR SOAMES
Benjamin Partridge	MR. DAN ROLYAT
Squire Western	MR. AMBROSE MANNING
Gregory	MR. JAY LAURIER
Grizzle	MR. WALTER L. RIGNOLD
Dobbin	MR. REGINALD CROMPTON
Squire Cloddy	MR. HARRY COTTELL
Pimlott	MR. D. PERCIVAL
Tony	MR. W. BIDDLECOMBE
An Officer	MR. H. WELCHMAN
Two Highwaymen	MESSRS. MELVILLE AND DERRICK
Postboy	MR. WOODIN
Walter	MR. CARR EVANS
Colonel Hamstead	MR. RUPERT MAR
Tom Edwardes	MR. MANNERS
Colonel Wilcox	MR. DALMUIR
Honour	MISS CARRIE MOORE
Miss Western	MISS MARIE DALTRA
Lady Bellaston	MISS DORA RIGNOLD
Etoff	MISS DOROTHY WARD
Hostess of the Inn at Upton	MISS FLORENCE PARFREY
Bessie Wiseacre	MISS MINNA GREEN
Letty Wheatcroft	MISS ANNIE HERNAN
Rosie Lucas	MISS CICELY COURTNEIDGE
Susan	MISS MAUD THORNTON
Betty	MISS MABEL NEWCOMBE
Peggy	MISS FAY TEMPLE
Sophia	MISS RUTH VINCENT

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

There was a fitness in the production of *Tom Jones* by Mr. Robert Courtneidge at the Prince's Theatre, Manchester, this being the scene of many memorable triumphs from the same master-hand. As an important and really lavish attempt to place this lyrical adaptation from Fielding's novel in the list of comic operas with a vogue, it may freely be written down as justifying by complete and immediate success the combined efforts of the authors of the book, Messrs. A. M. Thompson and Robert Courtneidge, the lyricist, Mr. Chas. H. Taylor, and the composer, Mr. Edward German. Ease, amplitude, gracefulness of dialogue and lyrics, picturesque and cheerful staging, and a pervading subtle affinity of the music with the whole produced at once a feeling of certainty that here was being unfolded a satisfying achievement of more than ordinary quality. The lawn at Squire Western's is the opening scene, which does honour to the artist, Mr. Stafford Hall, and in which the groupings of people typical of the times and the shire are vitalised by the presence of Squire Western—jovial, bibulous, and as natural as a man could be in such environment. Songs of Somersetshire strike the true local note, and quaint concoctions, fitted with music appropriate to the sentiment and the picture, are sung with gusto by characters who appear to have stepped before us out of the eighteenth century. All the important persons—excepting Partridge and Lady Bellaston—here make themselves known, and indicate their business in the plot. Blifil the contemptible and his uncle, Mr. Allworthy; Sophia and her maid, Honour; Miss Western and the squire's three servants, Gregory, Grizzle, and Dobbin, a humorous trio; and Tom Jones, the foundling, handsome and in love, all contribute to the situation which at the end of the first act sends Tom out into the world and Sophia upon her adventurous journey to London. The second act takes place in the inn at Upton, an extremely fine interior, by Mr. Conrad Tritschler. Here the rivalry of Lady Bellaston is introduced, woven into a scheme which, while providing for the reappearance of the chief characters, is so contrived that a meeting between Sophia and those in pursuit of her is avoided; and here also a misunderstanding between Sophia and Tom, on the subject of the importunate Lady Bellaston, defers the issue of the story to the third act. Incidentally, though to some purpose, Mr. Partridge makes his appearance, self-sung, as

"—— a person of parts,
Versed in the healing and medical arts;
Fortune or weather prepared to foretell;
Doctor, adviser, and barber as well."

Partridge's share in the events is of a complicating character; but his interest and knowledge keep him busy—to the gratification of the audience—and bring him well into the picture in the closing act at Ranelagh Gardens, another beautiful set by Mr. Conrad Tritschler. In regard to this final scene, it is remarkable how entertaining it proved in spite of the paucity of material essential to the plot. The discomfiture of Blifil and the reinstatement of Tom in the esteem and affection of everybody are, of course, the main issues, and they are arrived at, like all the rest, gracefully, and to the accompaniment of song and delightful music.

As for the cast, nothing was spared in the way of established talent. Mr. Hayden Coffin as Tom Jones surely never looked better, nor moved with a more free and gallant air; he was a figure to captivate all hearts, and to justify especially the tender interest of the ladies, and his singing was done with a fine zest. For Miss Ruth Vincent, who had been suffering from a cold, the indulgence of the audience was asked; but her rendering of Sophia—two of whose songs, "By night and day," and "I wonder," deserve particular mention—was entirely sweet and perfect, betraying no trace of disability of the kind indicated by her recent illness. The enthusiastic confirmation of her frequent vocal triumph was one of the features of the evening. Another fine performance was that of Miss Carrie Moore as Honour. Vivacious, confident, and neat in all ways, Miss Moore had the reception of a favourite, and certainly deserved it. Her "Green Ribbon" song in the last act was especially dainty and enjoyable. As Squire Western Mr. Ambrose Manning made a distinct hit, and, apart from his excellent depiction of the choleric, jovial, masterful old English gentleman, had much to do with the success of the Somersetshire songs. Of these, "The Barley Mow" and "Uncle Jan Tappit" are memorable. As Mr. Allworthy Mr. John Morley, the owner of a fine bass voice, had, unfortunately, too little to do—a fact much to be regretted; and as Blifil Mr. Arthur Soames did well enough in a somewhat unthankful part. Miss Marie Daltra played Miss Western effectively; Miss Dora Rignold showed accomplishment and tact as Lady Bellaston; and the three servants of the Squire were impersonated very well indeed by Messrs. Jay Laurier, Walter L. Rignold, and Reginald Crompton. Of Mr. Dan Rolyat's interpretation of Benjamin Partridge, it covers much to say that laughter accompanied his every speech and movement, and it may be added that he contributed a very large share towards the gaiety of the evening and the success of the lighter scenes. Among the remainder Miss Cicely Courtneidge as Rosie Lucas acted nicely, and Miss Florence Parfrey as the hostess of the inn at Upton made all that was possible of a small part. Praise must be added for the chorus.

The audience had the pleasure of hearing the music under the conductorship of Mr. Edward German himself. Needless to say, it was beautifully rendered, and Mr. German worthily shared the ovations of the evening. No doubt existed from the first as to the success of the piece. At the end of the second act the stage was literally covered with flowers, and at the conclusion of the work the authors were vociferously called upon to acknowledge the enthusiasm of the house. Mr. Robert Courtneidge concluding with a grateful and appreciative speech.

FIFTY YEARS OF THE DRAMA—1850-1900.

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In these columns it is proposed to give a strictly alphabetical arrangement of the titles of plays produced during the last fifty years. It will be the most complete list ever published, and should prove invaluable to authors desiring to discover whether a certain title has ever been used, and when. To members of the dramatic profession it will be useful in determining the dates of plays in which they have achieved successes. Our readers are politely requested to advise us of any omission or inaccuracy which they may notice.

This list as soon as complete will be published in cheap book form.

Up the Ladder, Theatre Royal, Limerick, Dec. 1, 1876.
Up the River, Folly, Sept. 15, 1877.
Up Train, Haymarket, May 22, 1890.
Use and Abuse of Drink, Theatre Royal, Ryde, Jan. 4, 1880.
Utopia, Birkenhead, May 4, 1891.
Utopia, Ltd., Savoy, Oct. 7, 1893.
Uttermost Farthing, Opera House, Coventry, Nov. 23, 1895.
Vacant Place, Terry's, June 23, 1899.
Vagabond King, Camberwell, Oct. 18, 1897.
Vagabond, The, Victoria, Oct. 1, 1866.
Vagrant, The, Scarborough, Dec. 7, 1891.
Vain Sacrifice, Strand, Nov. 4, 1893.
Valentine, A, Adelphi, Feb. 12, 1863.
Valentine and Orson, Park, Dec. 26, 1874.
Valentine's Day, Haymarket, Dec. 26, 1859.
Valjean, Prince of Wales's, Glasgow, Aug. 5, 1878.
Valkyrie, Garrick, Feb. 3, 1897.
Val of the 25th, Fulham, July 2, 1900.
Vampire, Princess's, June 7, 1852.
Vampire, The, Strand, Aug. 15, 1872.
Vanderdecken, Lyceum, June 8, 1878.
Vanishing Husband, Stockton-on-Tees, Jan. 29, 1897.
Vanity, Assembly Rooms, Leeds, March 27, 1882.
Vanity Fair, Theatre Royal, Bristol, Oct. 10, 1888.
Vanity of Vanities, Shaftesbury, July 4, 1890.
Van the Virginian, Theatre Royal, St. Helens, Aug. 11, 1879.
Variations, Garrick, May 18, 1899.
Varsity Boat Race, Olympic, April 6, 1870.
V.C., Parkhurst, April 30, 1891.
Veiled Picture, Princess's, Edinburgh, June 11, 1883.
Veiled Prophet, Covent Garden, July 26, 1893.
Veiled Prophet of Khorassan, Gallery of Illustration, Nov. 24, 1870.
Velleda, Covent Garden, July 4, 1882.
Velvet and Rags, Grecian, April 6, 1874.
Vendetta, St. George's Hall, April 17, 1868.
Vendetta, The, Victoria, May 11, 1863.
Venetian Singer, Court, Nov. 25, 1893.
Vengeance, Macclesfield, Sept. 11, 1897.
Vengeance is Mine, Cheltenham, April 29, 1891.
Vengeance is Thine, Britannia, July 29, 1895.
Venice, Alhambra, May 5, 1879.
Venus, Prince of Wales's, Liverpool, March 26, 1890.
Venus and Adonis, Haymarket, March 30, 1864.
Venus Bewildered, Theatre Royal, Cheltenham, April 9, 1883.
Venus of Venice, Theatre Royal, Lincoln, Aug. 1, 1892.
Venus; or, Gods as They Were and Not as They Ought to Have Been, Royalty, June 27, 1879.
Venus versus Mars, Standard, Sept. 5, 1870.
Vera, Globe, July 1, 1890.
Veracity, Gaiety, April 20, 1886.
Verbum Sap, Criterion, March 20, 1880.
Verdict of the World, Britannia, Aug. 5, 1872.
Verger, St. George's Hall, Dec. 9, 1889.
Verkaufte Braut, Drury Lane, June 27, 1895.
Vert Vert, St. James's, May 2, 1874.
Very Last Days of Pompeii, Vaudeville, Feb. 13, 1872.
Very Latest Edition of the Gathering of the Clans, East London, Oct. 18, 1873.
Very Little Faust and More Mephistopheles, Charing Cross, Aug. 18, 1869.
Very Little Hamlet Apropos, Gaiety, Nov. 29, 1884.
Very Low Spirits, Theatre Royal, Exeter, Nov. 27, 1876.
Very Serious Affair, Lyceum, Oct. 12, 1857.
Very, Very Much Engaged, Glasgow, Oct. 16, 1895.
Vesta, St. James's, Feb. 9, 1871.
Vesta's Temple, Court, Nov. 14, 1872.
Vetah, Theatre Royal, Portsmouth, Aug. 30, 1886.
Veva, Strand, April 26, 1883.
Vicarage, The, Prince of Wales's, March 31, 1877.
Vicar of Bray, Globe, July 22, 1882.
Vicar of Wakefield, Strand, March 4, 1850.
Vicar of Wide-awake-field, Gaiety, Aug. 8, 1885.
Vicar's Daughter, Athenæum, Jan. 28, 1889.
Vicar's Dilemma, Watford, Jan. 31, 1898.
Vicar, The, Theatre Royal, Windsor, Jan. 28, 1885.
Vice Chancellor, Cambridge, Feb. 26, 1900.
Vice Versa, Gaiety, April 9, 1883.
Vice v. Virtue, Grand, Nelson, Aug. 22, 1891.
Vicissitudes of Sir Roger Titchborne, Trowbridge, June 21, 1872.
Victims, Haymarket, July 8, 1857.
Victims of Power, Keighley, March 15, 1895.
Victoire, Dublin, April 17, 1893.
Victor Durand, Prince's, Dec. 13, 1884.
Victoria Cross, Brentford, March 22, 1886.
Victorian, Theatre Royal, Sheffield, April 6, 1883.
Victoria Stakes, Novelty, June 1, 1896.
Victor Vanquished, Princess's, March 25, 1856.
Victory, Theatre Royal, Warrington, April 28, 1890.
Vida, Ladbroke Hall, Oct. 12, 1891.
Vigilant Detectives, Huddersfield, Sept. 13, 1883.
Village Blacksmith, Surrey, June 1, 1857.
Village Forge, Surrey, Sept. 15, 1890.
Village of Youth, Radstock, July 12, 1899.
Village Post-office, Shanklin, April 24, 1889.
Village Priest, Haymarket, April 3, 1890.
Village Tale, Sadler's Wells, April 1, 1850.
Village Venus, Nottingham, Aug. 5 1895.
Villain and Victim, Haymarket, Dec. 11, 1894.
Villainous Squire and the Village Rose, Toole's, June 5, 1882.
Villekyns and His Dinah, Shoreham, July 7, 1873.
Villiano the Vicious, Blackburn, Feb. 25, 1895.
Villon, Poet and Cut-throat, Grand, Birmingham, April 12, 1894.
Vincent Veriphleet, Bijou, Carlisle, Aug. 5, 1869.
Viola, Theatre Royal, Halifax, Aug. 9, 1870.
Violets, Chesterfield, April 8, 1900.
Violet's Playthings, Marylebone, April 1, 1867.
Violin-maker of Cremorne, Olympic, July 2, 1877.
Violin Players, Shaftesbury, April 22, 1890.
Viper on the Hearth, Criterion, May 15, 1888.
Virginia, Theatre Royal, Swansea, July 12, 1883.
Virginia and Paul, Gaiety, July 16, 1883.
Virginian, The, St. James's, Nov. 20, 1876.
Virginius, Olympic, May 7, 1892.
Virginius, Burlesque, St. James's, Oct. 1, 1859.
Vision of Venus, Britannia, March 20, 1893.
Visit, A, Royalty, March 4, 1892.
Visiting Card, Britannia, May 30, 1887.
Vittoria Contarina, Princess's, May 11, 1887.
Viva, Merthyr, Sept. 12, 1887.
Vivandiere, Garrick, Jan. 20, 1897.
Vivianne, Olympic, July 6, 1878.
Vocal Recital, St. George's Hall, April 6, 1885.
Voice from the Bottle, Princess's, March 17, 1888.
Voice from the Grave, Theatre Royal, Maidenhead, April 19, 1897.
Voice of Conscience, Ladbroke Hall, Feb. 1, 1898.
Voices of London, Cardiff, March 30, 1899.
Vokin's Vengeance, St. George's, June 19, 1872.
Volcano, The, Court, March 14, 1891.
Voltaire's Wager, Theatre Royal, Dundee, May 17, 1875.
Vol. III., Ladbroke Hall, Jan. 12, 1891.
Volunteers' Ball, Strand, July 19, 1860.
Vote for Giggs, Vaudeville, May 12, 1892.
Vow of Silence, Victoria, April 31, 1854.
Wager, The, Marine, Chatham, June 20, 1871.
Wages of Sin, Theatre Royal, Coventry, Aug. 3, 1882.
Waif of the Streets, Pavilion, May 19, 1877.
Waifs of New York, Theatre Royal, Liverpool, Sept. 13, 1875.
Waifs; or, Working in the Dark, Edinburgh, Nov. 1, 1869.
Waif, The, Haymarket, May 11, 1892.
Wait and Hope, East London, June 14, 1869.
Waiter, The, Ladbroke Hall, July 7, 1887.
Wait for an Answer, Holborn, Sept. 25, 1869.
Wait for a Year and a Day, Prince of Wales's, Liverpool, Sept. 13, 1875.
Waiting, Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, April 29, 1887.
Waiting Consent, Folly, June 11, 1881.
Waiting for an Omnibus, Adelphi, June 26, 1854.
Waiting for Death, Elephant and Castle, Feb. 9, 1878.
Waiting for the Coach, Ladbroke Hall, July 7, 1891.
Waiting for the Dawn, Theatre Royal, Sheffield, June 6, 1870.
Waiting for the Train, Novelty, Feb. 6, 1891.
Waiting for the Underground, Strand, Aug. 27, 1866.
Waiting for the Verdict, City of London, Jan. 31, 1859.
Waiting Maid, Hackney, Feb. 20, 1900.
Wait Till I'm a Man, Britannia, April 13, 1868.
Walker, London, Toole's, Feb. 25, 1892.
Wallace, Stirling, Sept. 10, 1898.
Wallace and Bruce, Coatbridge, Nov. 27, 1869.
Wallenstein's Lager, Drury Lane, July 19, 1881.
Wall of China, Criterion, April 15, 1876.
Walls Have Ears, St. George's Hall, March 26, 1894.
Waltz by Arditi, Adelphi, March 7, 1874.
Waltz, The, Scarborough, July 8, 1895.
Wanderer from Venus, Croydon, June 8, 1896.
Wanderer, The, Grecian, Oct. 4, 1869.
Wanderers, Alhambra, Pemberton, July 6, 1885.
Wanderer, The, Her Majesty's Theatre, Dundee, Dec. 25, 1893.
Wandering Heir, Amphitheatre, Liverpool, Sept. 10, 1873.
Wandering Janet, Theatre Royal, Aberdeen, Jan. 18, 1873.
Wandering Jew, Adelphi, April 14, 1873.
Wand of Wedlock, Cardiff, April 13, 1896.
Wanted, Gaiety, April 1, 1884.
Wanted, a Companion, Theatre Royal, Dublin, Feb. 10, 1873.
Wanted, a Husband, Olympic, Jan. 28, 1850.
Wanted, a King, Hackney, April 7, 1900.
Wanted, an Enemy, Tyne, Newcastle, Dec. 10, 1886.
Wanted, an Heir, St. George's Hall, April 2, 1888.
Wanted, an Heiress, Balham, June 11, 1898.
Wanted, a Typewriter, Portishead, July 16, 1896.
Wanted, a Wife, M. H., Leamington, Nov. 15, 1871.
Wanted, a Wife and Child, Alfred, Oct. 16, 1871.
Wanted by the Police, Opera House, Chatham, May 23, 1898.
Wanted, Husbands for Six, Drury Lane, March 11, 1867.
Wapping Old Stairs, Theatre Royal, King's Lynn, Jan. 4, 1894.
War, St. James's, Jan. 16, 1871.
War Balloon, Queen's, Barnsley, April 3, 1871.
War Cloud, Theatre Royal, Castleford, Jan. 12, 1895.
War Correspondent, Surrey, Nov. 28, 1898.
War in Abyssinia, Marylebone, May 11, 1868.
War in Turkey, Britannia, May 22, 1854.
Warlock, The, Dublin, Feb. 1, 1892.
Warm Member, Terry's, April 9, 1898.
Warm Members, Hackney, Dec. 8, 1891.
Warm Reception, Surrey, Oct. 7, 1872.
Warning to Bachelors, Vaudeville, Dec. 9, 1871.
Warning to Parents, Albion, March 5, 1877.
Warning Voice, City of London, April 9, 1864.
War of Wealth, Theatre Royal, Bolton, Feb. 8, 1895.
Warranted Burglar Proof, Prince of Wales's, March 31, 1888.
Warranted Sound and Quiet in Harness, Greenwich, Nov. 10, 1871.
War Special, Theatre Royal, Canterbury, Dec. 26, 1900.
War, the Fugitives; or, Surrounded, Theatre Royal, Ipswich, Jan. 7, 1871.
War to the Knife, Prince of Wales's, June 10, 1865.
War versus Art, Walworth Road, April 26, 1898.
Washed Ashore, Birkenhead, Oct. 6, 1894.
Washington Watts, Theatre Royal, Margate, Aug. 15, 1879.
Was It a Dream? Stockport, Jan. 23, 1896.
Wasted Life, St. Albans, June 12, 1894.
Wasted Lives, Theatre Royal, Bishop Auckland, Jan. 29, 1875.
Wastrel, The, Royalty, Aug. 2, 1894.
Watch and Wait, Surrey, Sept. 23, 1871.
Watchboy, The, Lyceum, Nov. 6, 1865.
Watch Dog of the Walsinghams, Amphitheatre, Liverpool, Aug. 28, 1869.
Watchers on the Longships, Penzance, Nov. 13, 1885.
Watching and Waiting, Prince of Wales's, Southampton, Jan. 15, 1891.
Watchman of New York, Victoria, March 24, 1856.
Water Babes, St. George's Hall, March 12, 1889.
Water Carrier, Princess's, Oct. 27, 1875.
Watercress Girl, City of London, Oct. 14, 1865.
Water Cure, St. George's Hall, Oct. 22, 1883.
Waterloo, Sanger's, Oct. 21, 1876.
Waterloo Cup, Newcastle, June 21, 1897.
Waterman of Bankside, Victoria, Aug. 4, 1879.
Wattie and Meg, Opera House, Dundee, Jan. 20, 1873.
Wat Tyler, Gaiety, Dec. 20, 1869.
Wave of War, Terry's, Dec. 15, 1887.
Waverley; or, A Rebel for Love, Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, Sept. 11, 1871.
Wayfarers, Matinée, May 20, 1898.
Way of the Wicked, R. Col., Liverpool, Feb. 11, 1871.
Way of the Wind, Theatre Royal, Brighton, Aug. 28, 1876.
Way of the World, Theatre Royal, Dewsbury, Feb. 12, 1883.
Waxwork Man, Victoria, June 26, 1871.
Weaker Sex, Theatre Royal, Manchester, Sept. 28, 1888.
Weak Woman, Strand, May 6, 1875.
Weal or Woe, Theatre Royal, Rotherham, April 10, 1878.
Wealth, Royalty, Oct. 8, 1870.
Wealth and Want, Pullan's, Bradford, March 3, 1884.
Wealth Got and Lost, Britannia, Dec. 5, 1870.
Wealth of the World, Theatre Royal, Blyth, June 29, 1891.
Wealth; or, A Pitman's Secret, Theatre Royal, Bradford, April 16, 1877.
Wearing of the Green, Victoria, Oct. 1, 1877.
Wearing o' the Green, Dublin, June 22, 1896.
Weather-Hen, Terry's, June 29, 1899.
Weather or No, Savoy, Aug. 15, 1896.
Weather Permitting, Globe, Nov. 27, 1872.
Weatherwise, Lyric, Dec. 27, 1893.

THE LATE JOHN A. ATKIN MEMORIAL.

The following gentlemen have consented to act as a committee:—Messrs. Lester Collingwood, Arthur Shirley, Harris Fineberg, G. M. Polini, W. Bennett, E. Hill-Mitchelson, Tom H. Taylor W. R. King, E. Hewitson, W. Fraser Brunner, Harry Chappell; secretary, Mr. Ashley Page; hon. treasurer, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift.

List of Subscriptions, £42 6s. 6d.

	£	s.	d.
Standard Theatre Staff	2	15	0
The Eccentric Club	2	2	0
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E. H. Knight	1	1	0
Lester Collingwood	1	1	0
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Mr. Eric Hudson		2	6
Mr. Arthur Fell		2	6
Mr. Eric G. Merrie		2	6

Subscriptions will be duly announced if forwarded to the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, 5, Tavistock-street, W.

At the Grand Opera House, Radcliffe, an enthusiastic reception was given by a crowded house on Monday night to Mrs. Morton Powell's company in *When it was Dark*. The exponents of the principal parts have been carefully selected, and the result is a performance of more than average merit. Mr. George H. Pitt is to be congratulated upon his studied portrayal of Constantine Schaube, and Mr. Cyril Austin Lee gives a touching and earnest representation of the Rev. Basil Gortre. The important rôle of Sir Robert Llewellyn is played with great success by Mr. Arthur B. Murray, and Mr. W. B. Summerville acquits himself well as Harold Spence. Gertrude Hunt is superbly played by Miss Elizabeth Watson, and the winsome Helena Byces finds an effective exponent in Mrs. Morton Powell. The minor parts throughout are very satisfactory.

ON THE ROAD, APRIL 8.

Alice-Sit-by-the-Fire.—T. R., Hull.
All-of-a-Sudden Peggy.—Prince's T., Poplar.
Angel of Unrest.—Crown T., Peckham.
Anna of the Plains.—Blackburn and Harrogate.
An Unwedded Wife.—Lyceum T., Govan.
Ashe, Oscar.—H. M. T., Dundee.
Assassin.—Lyceum T., Crewe.
Ban dmann-Palmer, Mrs.—New Gaiety T., Ayr.
Beauty of Bath.—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
Belle of Mayfair (Bode).—Marlborough Theatre, N.
Belle of New York.—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
Benson, F. R. (N.).—T. R., Birkenhead.
Benson, F. R.—Avenue T., Sunderland.
Benson, F. R. (S.).—Assembly Rooms, Pontypool.
Between the Lights.—Queen's T., Farnworth.
Bulb Beard.—Crystal Palace Theatre.
Blue Moon.—Deptford.
Broken Heart.—Prince's T., Blackburn.
Carl Rosa Opera Co.—T. R., Manchester.
Cassidy, J. Rice.—Princess's T., Glasgow.
Charley's Aunt.—County T., Bedford.
Christian, The.—T. R., Bristol.
Claudian.—Princess's T., Bradford.
Coal King.—Grand T., Byker.
Compton Comedy Co.—Grand T., West Hartlepool.
Conscript, The.—Gaiety Theatre, Burnley.
Dairymaids, The.—T. R., Bournemouth.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—T. R., Sheffield.
D'Oyly Carte.—O. H., Cork.
Dr. Wake's Patient.—Halifax.
Earl and the Girl (M.).—King's T., Glasgow.
Earl and the Girl (N.).—P. O. W., Gt. Grimsby.
East Lynne.—Prince's T., Portsmouth.
Face at the Window.—New T., West Stanley.
False Wife.—Chesterfield.
Fight for Millions.—Motherwell and Coatbridge.
Florodora (Howard).—Paisley T., Paisley.
Freedom of Suzanne.—Hammersmith.
Gay Parisienne.—Grand T., Luton.
Grisha.—Grand Theatre, Leeds.
Glossop-Harris Repertoire Co.—W. Pier, Brighton.
Golden Ladder.—T. R., Mexborough.
Go-Won-Go Mohawk.—T. R., Sunderland.
Great Awakening.—Prince's T., Preston.
Grip of Iron.—Alexandra T., Hull.
Heart's Desire.—Theatre Royal, Colne.
Her Luck in London. T. R., Blyth.
Her Marriage Vow.—T. R., Croydon.
Her One Great Sin.—Grand T., Derby.
His House in Order (N.).—O. H., Burnley.
His House in Order (S.).—Camden Theatre, N.W.
His Sister's Honour.—Grand T., Walsall.
Home, Sweet Home (Green and Hinton).—Loughborough.
Home, Sweet Home (Lindo).—Irving T., Seacombe.
Honeymoon, The.—Theatre Royal, Rugby.
Honour Thy Father.—Grand T., Eccles.
Hour of Her Triumph.—P. O. W., Nuneaton.
In Sight of St. Paul's.—Burton-on-Trent.
Irving, H. B.—P. O. W., Birmingham.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Rhyl and Newtown.
La Poupee (Ralland).—Worthing and Tunbridge Wells.
Leah Kleschna.—Grand T., Glasgow.
Lion and the Mouse.—H. M. T., Aberdeen.
Little Breadwinner.—Star T., Liverpool.
Little Vagrant.—T. R., Bristol.
London Fireman.—T. R., Croydon.
Love that Women Desire.—T. R., Smethwick.
Maclaren Comedy Co.—O. H., Northampton.
Manxman.—East Oxford T., Oxford.
Martin Harvey.—Court T., Liverpool.
Merveilleuses.—T. R., Newcastle.
Midnight Mail.—Gateshead.
Midnight Wedding.—Empire T., Southend.
Monsieur Beaucaire.—T. R., Exeter.
Monte Cristo.—Metropole T., Devonport.
Moody-Manners' (A.).—Grand T., Nottingham.
Moody-Manners' (B.).—Southampton.
Morals of Marcus.—Kennington Theatre.
Mr. Popple.—King's T., Edinburgh.
Napoleon the Great.—T. R., Ashton-under-Lyne.
New Aladdin.—Shakespeare T., Liverpool.
New World.—Grand T., Rawtenstall.
Night Out.—Royalty T., Glasgow.
Oliver Twist.—O. H., Southport.
Otto, the Outcast.—Alexandra T., Birmingham.
Perfect Lover.—Harrogate.
Peter Pan (No. 1).—Grand T., Hull.
Peter Pan (No. 2).—T. R., Dublin.
Peter's Mother (N.).—Brighton.
Peter's Mother (S.).—O. H., Cheltenham.
Pick of the Bunch.—County T., Kingston.
Power of Gold.—T. R., Seaham Harbour.
Prince of Pilsen (Harris).—Queen's T., Keighley.
Private Secretary.—P. G. T., Folkestone.
Prodigal Daughter.—T. R., South Shields.
Prodigal Parson.—Queen's T., Longton.
Raffles (Dance).—Lyceum T., Ipswich.
Royal Divorce.—King's T., Sunderland.
Saints and Sinners.—New T., Aberavon.
Second to None.—Junction T., Manchester.
Sentenced for Life.—T. R., Bilston.
Sergeant Brue.—Tyne T., Newcastle.
Sherlock Holmes.—Brixton Theatre, S.W.
Shulamite.—O. H., Kidderminster.
Sign of the Cross.—Prince's T., Bristol.
Silver King (Polini and Melford).—New T., Cambridge.
Still Alarm.—T. R., Huddersfield.
Swiss Express.—O. H., Dudley.
Three Little Maids (Macdona).—Tunbridge Wells.
Throne of Terror.—Carlisle and Kendal.
Tommy.—Theatre Royal, Hanley.
Triumph of Truth.—T. R., Middleton.
Trumpet Call.—Empire T., Oldham.
Two Little Drummer Boys.—T. R., Castleford.
Two Little Vagabonds.—T. R., Bolton.
Tyrant, The.—Theatre Royal, S. Shields.
Uncle Tom's Cabin.—T. R., Wolverhampton.
Under the Russian Flag.—T. R., Whitehaven.
Under Two Flags.—Worcester.
Village Blacksmith.—Ashington.
Walls of Jericho.—Grand T., Fulham.
Warning to Women.—T. R., Leigh.
What the Butler Saw.—New T., Cardiff.
When It Was Dark.—West London Theatre.
White Chrysanthemum (Macdona).—Darlington.
Wilkie, Allan, and Co.—T. R., Consett.
Woman and Wine.—Borough T., Stratford.
Woman Worth Winning.—Grand T., Radcliffe.
Woman's Past.—T. R., Tonypandy.
Worst Woman in London.—O. H., Coventry.
10.30 Down Express.—Aquarium, Yarmouth.
£1,000 Reward.—Theatre Royal, Barnsley.

It is rumoured in Paris that MM. Jules Lermina and Halpérine-Kaminsky intend to dramatise Tolstoi's magnificent work, "War and Peace." The play will be in five acts and fifteen tableaux; and the authors are waiting for the Russian writer's sanction to start their collaboration. It is to be hoped that it will be withheld. Those who have read this stupendous work will know that it does not lend itself at all to the stage, and it, therefore, should not be touched. As is well known, Tolstoi never claims a cent royalty from anyone adapting his novels, and for this reason he is overwhelmed with applications from people in every country, but especially from France. MM. Lermina and Halpérine-Kaminsky, by the way, refer to their adaptation in French of *Resurrection*, afterwards produced in England. *Resurrection* certainly was given at the Odéon, under M. Ginisty's management. But it had been dramatised by M. Henri Bataille, and the English adaptation was by Mr. Michael Morton. Where, then, did M. Lermina come in?

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

ACTRICE.—*Yes; it will be binding if properly drawn up. The great thing is to have the intentions of the parties clearly expressed, and as simply as possible.*

JAMAICA.—*Enquire of Mr. J. A. E. Malone, Daly's Theatre.*

W. H. E.—*The comedy entitled* Peter's Mother *was produced at Wyndham's Theatre, on Sept. 12, 1906.*

ARTHUR E. GREEN.—(1) *When* The Gay Lord Quex *was produced at the Globe Theatre, London, with Mr. John Hare in the title-rôle, Miss Fortescue appeared as the Duchess of Stroud.* (2) *When* Faust *was revived at the Lyceum Theatre in April, 1894, Mr. W. Terriss appeared in the title-part and Sir Henry Irving as Mephistopheles.*

ARTHUR.—The Lights of Home, *by G. R. Sims and R. Buchanan, was produced at the Adelphi, July 30, 1892.*

T. SMITH.—*Miss Vesta Tilley made her first appearance on the stage at Gloucester when she was only three years of age. With regard to the other lady mentioned we have no information.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a Birth or Death or an "In Memoriam" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is One Shilling and Sixpence, every additional word One Penny.

The charge for a notice of Marriage, not exceeding forty words, is Two Shillings and Sixpence, every additional word One Penny.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

BRANDON.—April 4, at Seaford, Edith-road, Kensington, the wife of Jocelyn Brandon, L.C.C., of a son.

CLIVE.—On March 17, at 76, Castlereagh-street, Barnsley, Freda, wife of F. Wybert Clive ("Conscript" and "Branded Woman" Companies), of a son. American and Colonial papers please copy.

MARRIAGES.

BENSON—ALLAYNE.—At St. Mary's Church, Newington, on Saturday, March 30, Cordelia Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Dallas (professionally known as Bessie Allayne), to Dr. A. Newton Benson, of Manchester.

DRAYCOTT—THOMPSON.—On April 3, 1907, at the Parish Church, Bolton, by the Rev. Canon Henn, Charles Henry Draycott (theatrical manager) to Muriel Eisylt Thompson, daughter of the late Rev. H. J. Thompson, vicar of Dodford.

EYRE—TEARLE.—April 2, at St. Margaret's Church, Anfield, Liverpool, by the Rev. John Wakeford, B.D., assisted by the Rev. W. F. J. Timbrell, Frederick Reginald, eldest son of Frederick Eyre, to Sybille, elder daughter of Edmund Tearle. (Sailing for Montreal. Address for re-direction, Fairfield-crescent, Liverpool).

DEATHS.

CAMP.—March 30, at his residence, 27, Gairloch-road, Camberwell, of consumption, John Edgar Campbell, professionally known as Jack Camp, aged 40. American papers, please copy.

CASSIDY.—On March 30, 1907, at Stanley Villas, West Stanley, John Cassidy, manager Victoria Theatre, West Stanley, aged 40, dearly-loved husband of Madge Cassidy. Thy will be done.

LASHWOOD.—March 31, at the residence of her parents, Cardiff, the wife of George Lashwood, professionally known as Lottie Williams, of double pneumonia.

MORTON.—March 30, after a long and painful illness, from cancer, Johnny Morton, negro comedian, late of the Moore and Burgess Minstrels.

IN MEMORIAM.

BELL.—In ever-loving remembrance of our darling sister, Eva Bell, who died April 4, 1901. Never forgotten by her sisters Minnie and Bella Terry.
"We loved her, O, we loved her much,
But Jesus loved her best;
He has taken her to His Heavenly home
Of everlasting rest." R.I.P.

BELL.—In loving remembrance of my dear niece, Miss Eva Bell (Mary Loftus), died April 4, 1901.

BRUCE.—In loving memory of my dear husband, H. A. Bruce (Daddy), who died April 5, 1901.

COLEMAN.—Mr. George D. Coleman, who died April 10, 1902.
"There's rosemary: that's for remembrance."
—J. P. R.

HAMMERSLEY.—In loving memory of our dear father, Henry Hammersley, better known as Wall, late show proprietor, who departed this life April 1, 1906. In memory ever dear to Harry Hammersley, Alexandra Caroline Righini, and Fanny Warwick, son and daughters. Laid to rest with his beloved son Job in Macclesfield Cemetery.

LOTTO.—In loving memory of Clara Lotto, the beloved wife of John Lotto, who passed away April 6, 1904. Never forgotten by her devoted husband and family. R.I.P.

NEWHAM.—In loving memory of Rose Newham, who passed away April 8, 1905. Never forgotten by brother George, sisters and brothers.

SAKER.—To the loved memory of Freddie, the dearly beloved brother of Annie Saker, who passed away April 6, 1904.

WRIGHT.—In loving memory of my dear husband, who died at Boscombe, April 9, 1905.
"The blow was great, the loss severe,
To part with him I loved so dear.
It was God's will it should be so:
At His command we all must go."

WRIGHT.—In everlasting memory of my darling father, Henry Wright, who died April 9, 1905. Deeply mourned by his daughter, Laura Wright.

FOR SYMPATHY.

BONNIE GOODWIN.—Mr. S. G. Lyon (husband) wishes to thank Mr. Fred Miller, Dr. and Mrs. Reid, Mrs. Fred Ginnett, Mrs. Chas. Faning, Miss Virginia, Mrs. A. C. Lilly, Mrs. J. Wren Curtis and Vanity, Mrs. Dipple, Mrs. Pete, Messrs. Heeley (chemists), for their beautiful wreaths and flowers and letters of sympathy; also Mr. E. H. Bostock, Mr. C. Beecham, Mr. Harry Masters, Mr. Geo. Barclay, Mr. Cowis, Miss Helen Charles, Mrs. Iggiesden, Miss Lucy Clarke, and Jordan and Harvey, for their letters and telegrams of sympathy to me in my sad bereavement. All are requested to accept this as a token of sincere thanks.—150, Lambeth-road, London, S.E.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

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Arthurs, Miss Lilly
Ashanti Village Troupe
Ashdown, Mr. Percy
Ashburnham-Newton, Mr
Ashwell, Miss Lena
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Mulvery, Mrs.
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Nelson, Mr. H.
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Norman, Mr. A. W.
Norman, Mr. Leslie
Orford, Miss E.
Orros, The Three
Osmond, Mr. Henry L.
Ousley, Mr. Chas.
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Stuart, Mr. Laurie
Stuart, Mr. Maxwell
Taft, Mr. Harry
Tempest, Miss Marie
Thorne, Mr. George
Toller, Miss R.
Turnbull, Mr. A.
Vanda, Mlle.
Vandy, Mr. Paul
Vansittart, Mr. C. B.
Vassar, Dr. Carl
Vernon, Miss H.
Villion, Miss Gertrude
Vivian, Miss E.
Walsh, Miss Maude
Watson, Mrs. J. B.
Watts, Mr. Clive
Wilkinson-Scott, Mr. C.
Willoughby, Miss Nance
Winona, Mr. Edwin
Wybrow, Mr. Chas.
Wylie, Mr. Laurie
Yorke, Mr. Leonard

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Frank H. Westerton—Saturday, April 6.
Katharine Brook—Saturday, April 6.
Hilda Stewart—Saturday, April 6.
Fred Pollard—Saturday, April 6.
Lily Herries—Sunday, April 7.
A. E. Wallace—Sunday, April 7.
Will White—Sunday, April 7.
W. P. Dempsey—Sunday, April 7.
Madge McIntosh—Monday, April 8.
Beatrice Isaacson—Monday, April 8.
Arthur Estcourt—Monday, April 8.
Frank Wheeler—Tuesday, April 9.
Marie Montrose—Wednesday, April 10.
Cissy Grahame—Wednesday, April 10.
Lady Monckton—Wednesday, April 10.
Alice Saker—Wednesday, April 10.
L. Barley Clarke (Miss)—Wednesday, April 10.
W. F. Frame—Wednesday, April 10.
Bessie Arthur—Wednesday, April 10.
Helen Vicary—Thursday, April 11.
Kate Robberds—Thursday, April 11.
Leonard Boyne—Thursday, April 11.
Austin Melford—Thursday, April 11.
Edward Candler—Thursday, April 11.
F. D. Wood—Thursday, April 11.
Hugh Wigglesworth—Friday, April 12.
Alma Evelyne—Friday, April 12.

DEATHS OF THE MONTH.

MAR. 1. Sir Augustus Manns, aged 81.
" 3. Wm. Birch Broadhead, aged 34.
" 3. Mrs. Caroline Sheppard
" 4. Mrs. Clara Cowan.
" 5. Emily Thorne (Mrs. Gillmore).
" 5. George Brewer, aged 50.
" 6. Emily Stafford (Mrs. Albert Bernard).
" 6. E. Maus Dayton.
" 7. Jules Renaudin.
" 8. John Henry Maycock, aged 89.
" 8. Harry Osman, aged 46.
" 11. Josiah Clarke, aged 70.
" 13. Maurice Grau, aged 57.
" 13. Mary Anne Victor (Mrs. Sarciut), aged 75.
" 13. Mrs. Charlotte James.
" 13. Frank Henderson.
" 15. Ada Alexandra.
" 16. Mme. Priscilla Aptommar.
" 19. John Somerville Graham.
" 19. Bonnie Goodwin.
" 21. Annie Goward (Mrs. Chas. Fawcett).
" 23. William Harvey.
" 24. Ernest Wintour.
" 30. Jack Camp, aged 40.
" 30. John Cassidy, aged 40.

THE mystery of the recent thefts at Drury Lane Theatre has been cleared up by the arrest of Thomas Martin, a scene shifter, who at Bow-street Police-court on Tuesday pleaded guilty to the charge of stealing two costumes worn in *The Bondman*. It was stated that the prosecutors had no wish to be harsh, but the fact that some hundreds of pounds worth of property had been stolen from the theatre could not be overlooked. Prisoner was sentenced to three months' hard labour.

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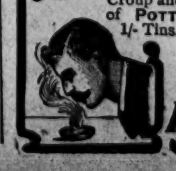
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		a.m.			a.m.
Heysham	dep.	7 25	Bristol	dep.	11 5
Bradford	,,	8 5	Fishguard H.	,,	6 30
Leeds	,,	9 2	Swansea	,,	8 35
Sheffield	,,	10 55	Cardiff	,,	10 0
Chesterfield	,,	11 17	Newport	,,	10 23
Liverpool	,,	9 0	Gloucester	arr.	11 55
Manchester (Cen),		10 10	,,	dep.	11 55
Buxton	,,	10 40			p.m.
Nottingham	,,	11 15	Cheltenham	arr.	12 5
Derby	,,	11 55	,,	dep.	12 10
		p.m.	Birmingham	arr.	1 10
Birmingham	arr.	12 50	,,	dep.	1 18
,,	dep.	12 55	Derby	arr.	2 10
Cheltenham	arr.	1 53	Nottingham	,,	3 2
,,	dep.	1 56	Manchester (c)	,,	4 25
Gloucester	arr.	2 7	,, (Vic)	,,	4 35
,,	dep.	2 12	Bolton	,,	5 1
Newport	arr.	5A18	Blackburn	,,	5 38
Cardiff	,,	5A49	Liverpool	,,	5 10
Swansea	,,	8A15	Chesterfield	,,	2 48
Neyland	,,	10A55	Sheffield	,,	3 15
Bristol	,,	3 0	York	,,	5 35
,,	dep.	3 22	Newcastle	,,	9 45
Weston-S-M	arr.	4 24	Leeds	,,	4 35
Bridgwater	,,	4 59	Bradford	,,	5 10
Taunton	,,	4 13	Morecambe	,,	7 28
Exeter	,,	4 57			
Newton Abbott	,,	5 33			
Torquay	,,	5 59			
Kingswear	,,	6 27			
Plymouth	,,	6 37			

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NAME.	DATE.
Abrahams, Messrs. F. & M.	March 31, 1906.
Alexander, Mr. Alex.	June 2, 1906.
Alexandra, Late Miss Ada	March 23, 1907.
Anderson, Late Mr. Reddick	Jan. 19, 1907.
Ashcroft, Late Mr. W. E.	October 27, 1906.
Ashton, Mr. George	May 5, 1906.
Ashton, Miss Margaret	September 1, 1906.
Atkin, Late Mr. John A.	Jan. 5, 1907.
Ball, Mr. Alf	September 1, 1906.
Barbour, Mr. William	March 3, 1906.
Barclay, Mr. Arthur J.	May 26, 1906.
Barlow, Miss Billie	March 10, 1906.
Barnett, Mr. Orlando	October 6, 1906.
Barrasford, Mrs.	February 10, 1906.
Beatty, Miss May	November 10, 1906.
Beecham, Mr. Charles	Dec. 22, 1906.
Bertoldi, Late Miss Ena	April 7, 1906.
Billington, Mrs. John	January 20, 1906.
Bordin, Signorina Maria	September 15, 1906.
Brandram, Late Miss R.	March 2, 1907.
Brickwell, Miss Mamie	Nov. 24, 1906.
Brookfield, Mr. Charles	Dec. 22, 1906.
Brooks, Mr. George	Dec. 29, 1906.
Bruno, Mr. Albert	Feb. 23, 1907.
Burns, Mr. W. C.	Feb. 2, 1907.
Burton, Mr. John	March 10, 1906.
Butt, Mr. Alfred	August 25, 1906
Carrington, Miss Eva	February 24, 1906.
Cavalho, Miss Sylvia	March 3, 1906.
Cellier, Miss Marguerite	May 26, 1906.
Chappell, Late Mr. James	Feb. 2, 1907.
Cinquevalli, Mr. Paul	May 5, 1906.
Callaghan, Mr. T. C.	Feb. 23, 1907.
Clancarty, Late Lady	Jan. 5, 1907.
Clark, Mr. William	March 3, 1906.
Collins, Mr. Patrick Ross	March 16, 1907.
Conquest, Mr. Arthur	May 26, 1906
Cooper, Mr. Charles K.	Feb. 23, 1907.
Coote, Mr. Bert	June 16, 1906.
Corri, Mlle. Ghita	September 22, 1906.
Costello, Mr. Tom	September 15, 1906.
Cotterell, Mr, Sid	July 14, 1906.
Courtice, Mr. Thomas	Dec. 22, 1906.
Cox, Mr. Ernest H. G.	Feb. 23, 1907.
Craston, Mr. Charles	Feb. 2, 1907.
Craven, Mr. Tom	Dec. 15, 1906.
Crisp, Late Mr. Henry	May 26, 1906.
Cooke, Mr. Stanley	March 30, 1907.
Cruikshank, Mr. Alfred	March 17, 1906.
Dacre, Mr. Harry	Dec. 1, 1906.
Dallas, Mr. J. J.	July 7, 1906.
Dampier, Mr. Alfred	May 12, 1906.
Deering, Late Miss R.	July 14, 1906.
De Gracia, Mr. G.	May 19, 1906.
Denton, Mr. Jack	Feb. 2, 1907.
De Voye, Late Mr. Sam	Feb. 16, 1907.
Dixon, Mr. Robert	Dec. 8, 1906.
Elliott, Late Mr. J. B.	May 26, 1906.
Ellis, Miss M. E.	Feb. 2, 1907.
Featherstone, Late Miss B.	Jan. 5, 1907.
Gatti, Late Mr. Stefano	October 20, 1906.
Genée, Mlle.	September 22, 1906.
Gibbs, Miss Edith	March 3, 1906.
Giffard, Mr. William	Jan. 12, 1907.
Grace, Miss Amy	January 13, 1906.
Gray, Miss Dora	January 13, 1906.
Green, Mr. Richard	Jan. 19, 1907.
Grove, Mr. Fred	March 10, 1906.
Guy, Miss Gladys	Jan. 26, 1907.
Harris, Mr. Thomas	February 24, 1906.
Harrington, Mr. John P.	Dec. 8, 1906.
Harriss, Miss Sophie	April 7, 1906.
Harvey, Late Mr. Eddie	September 1, 1906.
Hastings, Miss Nora	March 10, 1906.
Heron-Brown, Miss Edith	June 16, 1906.
Hey, Miss Muriel	September 15, 1906.
Hitchens, Mr. H. J.	September 8, 1906.
Howard, Mr. J. Bannister	March 16, 1907.
Hunter, Late Mr. Harry	October 20, 1906,
Illington, Miss Margaret	June 2, 1906.
Irving, Late Sir Henry	Oct. 21, 1905.
Jerrard, Late Mr. J. F.	April 28, 1906.
Juliette, Mdlle.	January 13, 1906.
Kinghorne, Late Mr. Mark	November 10, 1906.
Kingston, Miss Bertha	February 24, 1906.
Kinnaird, Miss Helen	March 3, 1906.
Knowles, Mr. J. Forbes	July 7, 1906.
Lacy, Miss Maude	Feb. 23, 1907.
Lamonte, Miss Syria	November 10, 1906.
Lancaster, Miss Nora	Feb. 2, 1907.
Lauri, Mr. Edward	July 28, 1906.
Lazarus, Mr. A.	May 5, 1906.
Le Roy, Servais	June 23, 1906.
Lewes, Miss Miriam	June 16, 1906.
Leyton, Mr. H. Lawrence	Feb. 2, 1907.
Livermore, Late Mr. L. C. J.	October 13, 1906.
Livesey, Mr. Carter	March 24, 1906.
Loftus, Miss Kitty	January 20, 1906.
Love, Miss Mabel	December 16, 1905.
Lugg, Mr. William	October 6, 1906.
Macmillan, Mr. J. T.	May 26, 1906.
Maude, Mr. Cyril	June 2, 1906.
Maynard, Miss Jennie	March 23, 1907.
M'Culloch, Mr. Arthur	November 10, 1906.
Miller, Mr. Fred.	October 6, 1906.
Miller, Late Mr. Kennedy	March 10, 1906.
Millis, Mr. F. W.	May 5, 1906.
Milstead, Mr. Robert	Dec. 22, 1906.
Montague, Mr. Harold	Feb. 23, 1907.
Morgan, Mr. William	November 3, 1906.
Morris, Miss Sylvia	October 6, 1906.
Moss, Sir Edward	December 16, 1905.
Murray, Miss Alma	August 25, 1906.
Murray, Miss Lillian	October 6, 1906.
My Fancy	February 24, 1906.
Nicholls, Mr. Harry	Feb. 23, 1907.
Norman, Mr. Percy	July 28, 1906.
Norris, Mr. Ernest E.	July 28, 1906.
Oliver, Mr. Will	February 24, 1906.
Palmer, Miss Ada	November 3, 1906.
Parker, Mr. Frank	April 7, 1906.
Paxton, Mr. Sydney	September 29, 1906.
Payne, Miss Millie	November 3, 1906.
Payne, Mr. William	September 8, 1906.
Paulton, Mr. Harry	March 10, 1906.
Phelps, Late Mrs. Edmund	Jan. 12, 1907.
Phillips, Miss Ida	January 20, 1906.
Poole, Late Mr. Fred.	Feb. 2, 1907.
Poole, Late Mr. Joseph	October 27, 1906.
Price, Miss Dora	March 3, 1906.
Proctor, Late Mrs.	August 11, 1906.
Renee, Mlle.	June 2, 1906.
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Rind, Miss Kathleen	October 6, 1906.
Ronald, Mr. Landon	Dec. 8, 1906.
Ross, Miss Adelaide	May 26, 1906.
Ross, Miss Irene	May 5, 1906.
Saintsbury, Mr. H. A.	September 15, 1906.
Saker, Miss Annie	March 3, 1906.
Sanger, Lord George	November 4, 1905.
Sargent, Mr. Frederick	April 7, 1906.
Sennett, The Late Mr. C.	November 4, 1905.
Sheridan, Late Mr. J. T.	Dec. 8, 1906.
Sheridan, Mr. Philip	March 24, 1906.
Shirley, Mr. Arthur	March 3, 1906.
Smith, Mr. Aubrey	Jan. 19, 1907.

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SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 1907.

SHAW AND IBSEN.

When a sick man visits his doctor the physician examines very carefully the state of his heart, lungs, and other physical possessions, but rarely enquires whether he has "anything on his mind," which is very often the seat of the disease. MACBETH'S insomnia might easily have been put down to indigestion, and HAMLET'S loss of appetite and general debility attributed to any cause but his prophetic worryings as to the manner of his father's death. The theatrical "bad business," of which everyone, except a few fortunate actor-managers, have been complaining of late, is attributed to the general want of money and the growing popularity of motoring. It is quite arguable that the cause is more moral than mechanical; and a re-reading of the criticisms of Mr. GEORGE BERNARD SHAW, which have just been published in two-volume form by Messrs. ARCHIBALD CONSTABLE and Co., increases our conviction on this point.

These essays were published between 1895 and 1898 in the *Saturday Review*, which under the acute editorship of Mr. FRANK HARRIS shone with unforgettable brilliancy. Mr. SHAW'S attitude towards the stage and the dramatic profession was essentially amicable. He believed in the importance of the theatre. "The church where you must not laugh," says Mr. SHAW in his preface, "is giving way to the older and greater church where the oftener you laugh the better, because by laughter only can you destroy evil without malice and affirm goodfellowship without mawkishness"; and he advocates the claim of the profession to be considered "not merely as actors and actresses, but as men and women; not hired buffoons or posturers, but hierophants of a cult as eternal and sacred as any professed religion in the world." But he was ready to belabour his idol for its own good. In his own words, Mr. SHAW "laid a siege to the theatre of the nineteenth century." He took IBSEN as the nearest approach to his ideal dramatist. He "postulated as desirable" a certain kind of play; and he picked holes, with the aid of a keen intellectual equipment and a curious and peculiar general experience, in everything and everybody that would not, as he says, "come his way." Mr. SHAW'S object, in fact, was to clear the ground for the growth of IBSEN by pulling up the old-fashioned flowers with which everyone had hitherto been quite satisfied.

Mr. SHAW looked forward to the coming of IBSEN as the early Christians looked forward to the approaching destruction of the world; and the result, in each case, was disappointment. In his "Quintessence of Ibsenism" Mr. SHAW spoke of the eventual commercial success of IBSEN, and of it being "inevitable" that all the best existing theatres would be converted to the use of the intellectual playgoer; and this expectation is evident throughout his essays. What Mr. SHAW expected to see was IBSEN elevated in English opinion into a classic; a new school of Ibsenian actors equivalent to the old school of Shakespearean actors; and SHAKESPEARE himself "put in his place" as an intellectual artist, his other qualities being indulgently and affectionately acknowledged.

As Mr. SHAW'S opinions had very little influence on the ways of the public, it may be asked what on earth they had or have to do with the present slump in theatrical entertainments. Such a question would show an imperfect understanding of the springs and wheels of the theatrical machine. The origins of dramatic success are the dramatic authors. The dramatists of England in the early 'nineties were doing remarkably well. They were satisfied with themselves, and their patrons the playgoers were satisfied with them. The world went very well then, and, as the soldiers say, there were "no complaints." But the combined attacks of Mr. SHAW and Mr. ARCHER and the advanced school of criticism put the authors out of conceit with themselves. They ate of the tree of knowledge, and were never the same men afterwards. The success of *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray*—a piece which really succeeded on the strength of its situations and of a unique performance by a rising actress—fostered hopes of an advanced drama which would be taken seriously by the public. Our playwrights looked across the Channel, and saw the authors of the "new" school admired by intellectual people, and named and famed everywhere. They heard of IBSEN being played in all the capitals of Europe; and they did their best to be "modern," advanced, unconventional, and didactic. As a rule, they only succeeded in being slightly improper. Mr. JONES took the idea of Francillon and turned it into *The Case of Rebellious Susan*, inferring all the while that he was preaching some scandalous doctrine offensive to Mrs. Grundy, when he was only writing a well-fitted piece for Sir CHARLES WYNDHAM and Miss MARY MOORE. Mr. PINERO produced *Iris* and *Letty*—great intellectual advances on his previous work, and now consigned to oblivion. There was an IBSEN "boom," in which a few actors and actresses were raised for a time to fame and high estimation, merely to find, when the craze had died out, that they had an immense difficulty in obtaining engagements at the ordinary theatres. We have said that the attack made by the advanced criticism had no influence on the great body of playgoers. It alienated, however, a considerable number, not only of intelligent people whose consciences were awakened, but of intellectually snobbish persons, who took their cue from the intelligents. All these were in the position of a collector who has been perfectly happy with his supposed Van Dyck, until he has been informed by an expert that it is what the burglar in the little piece at His Majesty's describes as a "dud." Some of them took to motoring; others joined the Stage Society and puzzled over the meanings of Mr. SHAW'S plays as produced at the Court.

The error on the part of both critics and dramatists was pardonable. In Paris the New Drama has conquered all along the line. The plays which are imported by the Stage Society as exotics are commercial successes on the other side of the Channel. Here in England the habit which Mr. SHAW notes of "keeping the ideal life and the practical business life in two separate conscience-tight compartments" reduces the patrons of socially-serious plays to a minority of persons who are complacently regarded by the general public as "cranks." The "progress" in public taste merely existed in the imagination of the advanced critics. If the playgoing public cannot get what it likes at the dramatic theatres it simply patronises the musical play. It is encouraging to hear that Mr. GRANVILLE BARKER is in negotiation for a larger house than the Court; so that the virus of advanced thought may be allowed full eruption, instead of remaining in the theatrical system to create "bad business."

THEATRICAL PROPRIETORS AND THE WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT, 1906.

BY ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B.

The immense importance of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906, to almost every member of the community can hardly be over-estimated. To many trades the Act of 1897 came as a revolution, and anyone who has had experience of the working of that Act knows what the new Act will mean to many a business which has so far been untouched.

Apart from any statute, under our common law a servant, as a rule, could not make his master liable for an injury sustained in the course of his service; but in certain cases he could, *e.g.*, when the master had not provided competent fellow-servants.

Then came the Employers Liability Act of 1880, which considerably increased the employee's right of action; but this left many accidents unprovided for. Another drawback to the Act was the fact that the servant might contract himself out of the Act. This "contracting out" was very common, and in many theatrical contracts will be seen conditions that the proprietor of the theatre is not to be liable for accidents under the Employers Liability Act, 1880, &c.

This Act was followed by the Workmen's Compensation Acts, 1897 and 1900, which did not apply to theatres. Finally comes the Act of 1906.

The Workmen's Compensation Act of 1906 comes into force on July 1, 1907, and it affects everyone connected with theatres and music halls, from the wealthy proprietor (who will have to pay) down to the smallest call-boy (who, if injured, will receive compensation).

The first section of the Act contains the essence of the new law, and is worded in an unexpectedly simple manner for an Act of Parliament. It says: "If in any employment personal injury by accident arising out of and in the course of the employment is caused to a workman, his employer shall, subject as hereinafter mentioned, be liable to pay compensation in accordance with the first schedule to the Act."

The term "workman" does not apply only to the horny-handed one in corduroys, but includes everyone, male or female, adult or infant, who works. In short, the Act applies to all employees, with the following exceptions:—

(1) Persons employed otherwise than by way of manual labour, whose remuneration exceeds £250 a year.

(2) Persons whose employment is casual, and who are employed otherwise than for the purpose of their employers' trade or business.

(3) Members of the Police Force.

(4) Outworkers.

(5) Members of the employer's family dwelling in his house.

Now, how will this Act affect the theatrical profession?

First of all, the owner or lessee of the theatre, or whoever is actively carrying it on, will be liable to every person in his employ (other than those specified above) for personal injuries by accident arising out of and in the course of the employment. And it is very important to remember that the Act cannot be excluded by any agreement.

For instance, in the case of Burr *v.* Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, Ltd., on which I commented in a recent issue of *The Era*, the contract contained a clause as follows:—"Notwithstanding anything contained in the Employers Liability Act, 1880, or any Act continuing or amending the same, the artist shall not, nor shall the artist's legal personal representative, in case of the said artist's death, have any right of compensation or any remedy whatever against the company in respect of any personal injury which may be caused to the artist by reason of any defect in the condition of the ways, works, machinery, or plant connected with or used in or out the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, or any other theatre or place of amusement wherein the artist may perform under this agreement; or by reason of the negligence of any person in the service of the company at the said Theatre Royal, Drury Lane (or any such theatre or other place of amusement as aforesaid), who has any superintendence entrusted to him whilst in the exercise of such superintendence; or by reason of negligence of any person in the service of the company whose orders or directions the artist at the time of the injury was bound to conform, and did conform, where such injury may result from her having so conformed; or by reason of the act or omission of any such person in the service of the company done or made in obedience to the rules or bye-laws of the company, or in obedience to particular instructions given by the management."

Such a clause has been very usually inserted in theatrical contracts. In future it will not avail; the proprietor will be liable in spite of it.

The facts in that case form a very good instance of the mischiefs the new Act attempts to remedy. It will be remembered that the plaintiff there was injured while performing at Drury Lane Theatre by something falling on her as she was leaving the stage. She lost her case because it was held that the accident happened owing to the negligence of a scene-shifter who was in the "common employment," with the plaintiff, of the defendants. But under the new Act the plaintiff would certainly have been successful in such a case.

Equally will the management be liable for all accidents to the "workman" (remembering the extended meaning of the word), whether such accident arose through the negligence of the master, a fellow "workman," or the injured employee himself, and though if it is proved that the injury to a workman is attributable to his serious and wilful misconduct, yet if the injury results in death or serious and permanent disablement then the employer must still pay compensation. This is particularly hard on employers. For instance, if some heavy scenery is being put up or moved, and an actor about to do so is expressly warned not to cross the stage for fear of an accident, in spite of this he deliberately does so, the scenery falls on him and he is killed, the management is liable to pay compensation.

The owner of a theatre is liable, therefore, for practically all injuries to his employees, whether they are artists, stage carpenters, property men, or call-boys. The owner of a touring company is equally liable for accidents to members of his company, and the proprietor of a troupe to the members of that troupe. Of course, the accident must be one "arising out of and in the course of the employment." Under the former Act a great many decisions were given on various cases, some of which it was held did arise, and some did not arise, out of and in the course of the employment. A simple instance would be that of an accident happening to a member of a touring company who was driving, walking, or cycling for pleasure, in the interval between rehearsal and the evening performance. Here the management of the touring company would not be responsible. But if the accident happened while the artist was on his way to or from a rehearsal or performance the management would probably be liable. Again, the question has frequently arisen as to the meaning of the word "accident." It has been decided by the House of Lords that the word is used in the former Workmen's Compensation Acts (and therefore in this) in the popular and ordinary sense of the word, as denoting an unlooked-for mishap, or an untoward event which is not expected or designed.

The amount of compensation payable by the employer under the Act is to be

(*a*) Where death results from the injury—

(1) If the workman leaves any dependants wholly dependent upon his earnings, a sum equal to his earnings in the employment of the same employer during the three years next preceding the injury, or the sum of £150, whichever of those sums is the larger, but not exceeding in any case £300, provided that the amount of any weekly payments made under this Act, and any lump sum paid in redemption thereof, shall be deducted from such sum, and if the period of the workman's employment by the said employer has been less than the said three years, then the amount of his earnings during the said three years shall be deemed to be one hundred and fifty-six times his average weekly earnings during the period of his actual employment under the said employer;

(2) If the workman does not leave any such dependants, but leaves any dependants in part dependent upon his earnings, such sum not exceeding in any case the amount payable under the foregoing provisions as may be agreed upon, or, in default of agreement, may be determined on arbitration under this Act to be reasonable and proportionate to the injury to the said dependants; and

(3) If he leaves no dependants, the reasonable expenses of his medical attendance and burial, not exceeding £10.

(*b*) Where total or partial incapacity for work results from the injury, a weekly payment during the incapacity not exceeding fifty per cent. of his average weekly earnings during the previous twelve months, if he has been so long employed; but if not, then for any less period during which he has been in the employment of the same employer, such weekly payment not to exceed £1:

Provided that (*a*) If the incapacity lasts less than two weeks no compensation shall be payable in respect of the first week; and (*b*) As respects the weekly payments during total incapacity of a workman who is under twenty-one years of age at the date of the injury, and whose average weekly earnings are less than 20s., one hundred per cent. shall be substituted for fifty per cent. of his average weekly earnings, but the weekly payment shall in no case exceed 10s.

The above is a summary of the chief provisions of this far-reaching Act. Necessarily my space is too limited to go more fully into it, but enough has been said to show its great importance. Many questions of great interest to the profession will from time to time arise under it. For instance, if an acrobat gets injured while going through his performance on the stage, who is liable—the owner of the troupe or the manager of the theatre? A great many points like this will crop up when the Act comes into force.

Of course, the wise man will insure against all these contingencies—that is to say, if he runs a "show" of any sort; but he must be careful to see that his policy clearly covers him. For the insurance companies, or, at any rate, some of them, are very ready to accept the premium, but are not always ready to pay out.

ENORMOUS business has been done at Leeds this week with Mr. J. Bannister Howard's *Belle of New York* company, which is paying its tenth visit to the city.

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"PATIENCE" AT THE SAVOY.

On Thursday, April 4, revival of the Æsthetic Opera in Two Acts, written by W. S. Gilbert, composed by Arthur Sullivan, entitled "PATIENCE, OR BUNTHORNE'S BRIDE."

Colonel Calverley ..... MR. FRANK WILSON
Major Murgatroyd ..... MR. RICHARD ANDRAN
Lieut. The Duke of Dunstable ..... MR. HAROLD WILDE
Reginald Bunthorne ..... MR. C. H. WORKMAN
Archibald Grosvenor ..... MR. JOHN CLULOW
Mr. Bunthorne's Solicitor ..... MR. RONALD GREENE
The Lady Angela ..... MISS JESSIE ROSE
The Lady Saphir ..... MISS MARIE WILSON
The Lady Ella ..... MISS RUBY GRAY
The Lady Jane ..... MISS LOUIE RENE
Patience ..... MISS CLARA DOW

Mrs. D'Oyly Carte has chosen the right "psychological moment" for her Gilbert and Sullivan revivals. What with the old friends of the Savoy, who know the operas by heart—and can even sing some of the numbers very musically while waiting for the raising of the curtains—and the young playgoers who are curious to make acquaintance with these famous works, a large *clientèle* exists to make her enterprise most profitable. *Patience* was originally produced at the Opera Comique Theatre in the April of 1881, with Mr. George Grossmith as Bunthorne, Mr. Rutland Barrington as Archibald Grosvenor, Mr. Richard Temple as Colonel Calverley, Mr. Frank Thornton as Major Murgatroyd, Mr. Durward Lely as the Duke of Dunstable, Miss Jessie Bond as Lady Angela, Miss Julia Gwynne as Lady Saphir, Miss Fortescue as Lady Ella, Miss Alice Barnett as Lady Jane, and Miss Leonora Braham as Patience. Remembrers and admirers of the original representatives of these parts can hardly be expected to do impartial justice to the merits of the present company, on account of the intrusion of the "ghosts" of the "great" cast at the Opera Comique and at the Savoy, where the opera was transported in the October of the same year in which it was produced at the Opera Comique. The performance of the opera on Thursday was admirably complete and perfect. Every word of the lyrics could be heard distinctly, not only in the solos, but also in the "concerted pieces," which were delivered with silvery distinctness. Mr. W. Raphael had painted some charming scenery, and with Mr. François Cellier's absolutely unimpeachable conducting and Mr. Albert James's careful and capable stage management the *tout ensemble* which has always been such a feature of Savoy productions was entirely secured. The management have been fortunate in finding such an intelligent and agreeable representative of Patience as Miss Clara Dow. She is comely, sweet, and natural, and she sings very commendably. Miss Jessie Rose has greatly improved since she has been working at the Savoy. She has, perhaps unconsciously, modified her method, and has acquired more style and finish. She made a pleasing appearance as the Lady Angela, and looked and sang very nicely indeed. Mr. Frank Wilson made a most energetic Colonel Calverley and his delivery of "When I first put this uniform on" was full of point and emphasis. Miss Louie Réné was of the suitable size and shape for the part of Lady Jane, and her instrumental accompaniments were remarkably spirited and realistic. Miss Réné did full justice to the adipose humour of the rôle, of which she gave a very creditable performance. Mr. John Clulow was "safe" and satisfactory in the character of Archibald Grosvenor, a personage who is always eclipsed by Bunthorne, who has most of the fun of the piece. Mr. Workman came through the trying ordeal of playing the famous part surprisingly well, and his reading, while full of individuality, retained all the old business, even to the Whistler make-up. Mr. Harold Wilde, for whom apologies were made on the score of a cold, nevertheless made a good impression as the Duke of Dunstable; and Mr. Ronald Greene gave a crisp and neat embodiment of Bunthorne's solicitor, Miss Marie Wilson and Miss Ruby Gray being picturesque and painstaking exponents of the rôles of Lady Saphir and Lady Ella, both artists being competent vocalists.

It would be tedious to enumerate all the encores and double encores that were demanded by the delighted audience; it is enough to say that all the old favourite numbers were received with enthusiasm, and some of them with almost frantic approbation. The principals were called at the close of the first act; and at the end of the performance, after all the leading artists had been summoned and vigorously applauded, there was a wild "ovation," in which Mr. François Cellier, Mr. Albert James, and Mr. W. S. Gilbert shared. The audience insisted on seeing Mrs. D'Oyly Carte, who, in answer to a determined demand, appeared and bowed her acknowledgments. The reception of the revival was indeed an extraordinary proof of the enduring popularity of *Patience*.

MR. T. EDGAR PEMBERTON relates the following story concerning John Barton, a Birmingham actor, who, although he never did anything that approached greatness, was possessed of a quaint individuality and bonhomie that made him universally popular. At one time he lived near the Five Ways, Birmingham, and in close proximity to the well-known dancing academy of Mr. Ridgway—in his time one of the most noted of harlequins. Walking down Broad-street one day, Mr. Barton met Mr Ridgway, as the latter was coming out of his house, and, striking an effective theatrical attitude, the dancing-master irrelevantly exclaimed, "Et tu, Brute!" Feeling that this salutation demanded an appropriate reply, and not to be outdone in classical quotation, the actor drew himself up, and solemnly ejaculating, "Aut Cæsar, aut nullus!" passed on.

"THERE is nothing of an authentic or credible nature to show when the first play-bill was printed or issued," writes Mr. W. J. Broadbent in his "Stage Whispers," "and therefore its date must only be a matter for supposition. That they were very early in use is shown by what is perhaps the earliest record of their existence, from an entry in the books of the Stationers' Company, under date October, 1587, which reads:—'John Charlewood, lycensed to him by the whole consent of the assistants, the onlye ymprintinge of all manner of billes for players. Provided that if any trouble arise herebye, Charlewood to beare the charge.' From this it will be seen that the right of printing play-bills was at one time a monopoly. Though what 'all manner of billes' were it is difficult to determine. Ames, in his 'History of Printing,' says that 'James Roberts in 1587 printed bills for the players.' This is quite possible, as Roberts was said to be the publisher of some of the early editions of Shakespeare's plays."

VARIETY GOSSIP.

Miss Vesta Victoria, so it is currently reported in the American papers, will shortly be led to the altar by Mr. Bert Cooper, who is partner of a publishing concern across the "pond" known as Cooper, Kendis, and Paley. That there will be an enormous concourse "waiting at the church" of course goes without saying. The ceremony will take place in New York.

Mr. Walter Gibbons has paid the necessary deposit, and will complete the purchase on Monday of the Grand Theatre, Woolwich, which house he will control from that date. It will be remembered that Sir Henry Irving laid the foundation-stone of the theatre on October 18, 1900, and Mr. Clarence Sounes has been lessee and manager ever since the opening.

Mr. Henri Gros has been unanimously elected, for the seventh year in succession, president of the Entertainments Protection Association; Mr. J. L. Graydon is again the hon. secretary; and Mr. Joseph Davis the hon. treasurer. Mr. G. Adney Payne is the vice-president, Mr. Henry Tozer and Mr. T. S. Dickie, auditors; Mr. Walter Adney Payne, counsel; and Mr. P. J. Rutland, solicitor. The committee nominated includes Mr. Alfred Moul, Mr. H. H. Wells, Mr. T. Richards, and Mr. Oswald Stoll.

Messrs. Richard Warner & Co., Ltd., have been commissioned by Messrs. Klaw and Erlanger to submit acts for their circuit. Messrs. Warner & Co.'s American representative is the well-known Richard Pitrot, "The Globe Trotter," from whom all artists visiting New York will receive every attention.

England can boast of several colossal variety companies, but America, at present, only has two; and the war between Messrs. Keith, Proctor, and Williams and Messrs. Klaw and Erlanger is exciting much comment both in the English and American theatrical journals. Messrs. Klaw and Erlanger, the millionaire magnates, are devoting themselves and their large organisation to entering the field of variety in the States, and will immediately convert no less than seventy-five of their theatres into vaudeville houses. A titanic struggle is about to take place between these gentlemen and Mr. Keith, who for many years has been the Napoleon of the vaudeville business in America.

There is an increasing demand for English stars, therefore, across the "pond." Harry Randall and Little Tich have refused handsome sums; but Gus Elen, Harry Lauder, Lockhart's Elephants, Claire Romaine, Tom Costello, Daisy James, and Rosie Lloyd are among those who have accepted contracts from Messrs. Klaw and Erlanger. Miss Marie Lloyd has been tempted by Messrs. Keith and Proctor with a splendid offer. Meanwhile, the success of Alice Lloyd, Will Evans, George Mozart, and Vesta Victoria is a testimony that there is a growing taste for English comedy in the States.

"The Devil's Sunday," which touches so boldly the canker of gambling that is eating its way into the heart of society, is a stage sermon that is being most eloquently preached this week at the Holborn Empire, where Mrs. John Lawson is repeating her triumphs as Fay Faber, her powerful acting completely holding the house.

Miss Ada Reeve, who is drawing crowded houses to the Empire Theatre, has introduced some clever new songs, which she varies with old favourites, at each performance. Perhaps her very best is "Change," which illustrates the sharp contrasts in the life of people of the hour.

Mr. J. Morton, who was for many years one of the chief comedians of the Moore and Burgess Minstrels at St. James's Hall, passed away on Saturday, March 30. The cause of death was cancer. Johnny's friends will regret to hear that the comedian's slender resources were entirely exhausted by the expenses of a long and painful illness, and if they wish to show their respect for his memory they can do so by helping his widow, Mrs. J. Morton, who has been left in straitened circumstances. Her address is 156, York-road, Westminster.

The deceased gentleman, before joining the Moore and Burgess Company at St. James's Hall, was a well-known performer in the States and in the variety halls, where he was associated with Mr. Sadler. The funeral took place on Friday (yesterday) at Brompton Cemetery. The chief mourners were his widow, a nephew and niece from Scotland, Mr. G. W. (Pony) Moore, Mr. Munnings, Mr. Chas. Pratt, Mrs. Charles Mitchell, Mrs. E. Stratton, and Mrs. Munnings. Floral offerings were sent by the widow, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Elvin, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Stratton, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Pratt, Mr. and Mrs. Harris, Mrs. Pearce, Mr. Munnings, Mr. and Mrs. Miskin, the Rev. — Fisher (curate of All Saints), Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Merrie, and Mr. G. W. (Pony) Moore ("From a dear old friend").

Miss Christine Gomez, of Turner's English Opera Company, who has been winning the highest encomiums for her artistic singing in notably *The Bohemian Girl* (Arline) and *The Lily of Killarney* (Eily O'Connor), is a pupil of Mr. Egbert Roberts, and the younger of the talented daughters of Mr. Angelo Beck, a sculptor and authority on modelling well known in the world of the stage. The beauty of many of Sir Henry Irving's Lyceum stage-settings was largely due to Mr. Beck's art, and his models of Mr. Sandow are known the world over.

Miniature Marie, who attains in a few days her majority, has been on the stage no less than twelve years, appearing at the age of eight as a mimic at the South London, where her father, Frank Egerton, was manager. Her success led to her engagement at the Palace Theatre, where she worked for ten weeks. At the age of fifteen she went in for something more daring than artistic imitations, and accepted an engagement to perform "Hooping the Hoop" in a motor-car. After nine months' experience of this act, in doing which she nearly lost her life, she returned to the variety boards as a comedienne. She will soon be back again in England, and intends visiting Australia, India, and America.

The 506th meeting of the Executive Committee of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association was held on Wednesday afternoon, when the following were present:—Messrs. Joe O'Gorman (chairman of the committee), Fred Neiman, Fred W. Millis (V.P.), Harry Wright, Jack Collinson, Pat Carey, Harry Blake, and C. Douglas Stuart (secretary). The minutes having been confirmed, Mr. W. Mackenzie, of the Abbottsford Bar, Rose-street, Edinburgh, was appointed as agent there.

Upwards of 500 boys from the Duke of York's School, accompanied by members of the school staff and their families, were entertained at Hengler's Circus on Wednesday by invitation of the management. The boys were delighted with the fairy spectacle, *Beauty and the Enchanted Prince*, and at the conclusion of the performance they rose from their seats and cheered again and again until Mr. A. Coomber, Mr. Denham Harrison, and Mr. Edouard Espinosa, the author, composer, and producer of the piece respectively, appeared in the ring and returned thanks for its cordial reception.

The Kursaal, Southend-on-Sea, a fully-licensed freehold property, with a pleasure palace, a marine park, and a trotting track, is to be offered at the Mart by Douglas Young and Co. on Wednesday, May 1. The whole covers an area of about twenty-five acres.

Brighton can scarcely afford to be behind Bournemouth in its musical enterprise, and therefore the position of bandmaster to its Corporation for a season of twelve weeks, commencing July 1, should be a much-coveted one. Candidates must have had experience elsewhere in conducting large military bands, and must possess an extensive and up-to-date library of music. Application is to be made prior to 10 a.m., on Wednesday, April 10, to Hugo Talbot, Town Clerk, Brighton.

Mr. T. Aynsley Cook, secretary of the Formby Golf Club, has resigned his position to become the manager of Mr. Seymour Hicks's business arrangements. Mr. Cook, who is the son of Mr. Aynsley Cook, of Carl Rosa fame, was for a number of years manager of Moss' Empire, at Liverpool. He commences his new duties early next month, and his legion of friends in the city on the Mersey will regret his departure for the Metropolis, although wishing him every success.

Mr. Walter de Frece, who opened a variety season of five months at the Theatre Royal, Edinburgh on Monday, appeared before the crowded audience during the evening and made a brief speech. He said that he had long been of opinion that Edinburgh should have another music hall, and that Edinburgh people were entitled to the best talent. In his experience of twenty-two years it had always been his aim to provide a healthy entertainment, and he thought he might say that he had succeeded. It would be his endeavour to put before the public only such performances as they could bring their wives, their sisters, and their children to. He thanked the large audience that evening for a glorious send-off.

The Royal County Theatre, Reading, was opened on Easter Monday with variety, under the direction of Mr. George Dance. Mr. Dance has placed the bookings in the hands of Moss' Empires, Ltd., having entered into a contract with Mr. Oswald Stoll by which a constant succession of well-known music hall stars will appear during the season. A licence permitting smoking has been granted by the Corporation. Two shows will be given each night, at popular prices.

The Paisley Hippodrome is now under the acting-managership of Mr. Arthur Douglas F. Bostock, son of Mr. E. H. Bostock, sole proprietor of the establishment. The young gentleman gives every promise of fulfilling with credit the duties of the position. He has just returned from a tour in Australia with the great Bostock and Wombwell's menagerie.

Mr. Geo. F. Thompson, the popular manager of the Empire, South Shields, who has been indisposed for some time, has, through the kindness of Messrs. Richard Thornton and Frank Allen, gone for a recuperative voyage to the Mediterranean, and hopes to visit Marseilles, Nice, Genoa, and probably the historic ruins of Pompeii and other places of interest.

Thanks to the energy and interest displayed by Mr. P. D. Elbourne, the Railwaymen's Orphan and Benevolent Funds, as instituted at Birmingham, will benefit by a goodly sum, the proceeds of a concert given on Good Friday at the local Hippodrome, whereat Mr. Elbourne presides as resident-manager. The concert was contributed to by Miss Bessie Butt, Miss Minnie D'Aubyn, Miss Clara Beck, Mr. Fred Barnes, and others, and was much enjoyed, as was the augmented orchestra conducted by Mr. W. Crabtree.

At a recent meeting of the Chester Watch Committee it was agreed, at Mr. Milton Bode's request, to suspend the rule prohibiting smoking in the Royalty Theatre during the months of April to August. Mr. Bode intends running this theatre as a variety house during the summer months, on the two-houses-a-night principle, if the dates fixed up with touring companies can be cancelled. This arrangement will involve no change in the staff, and Mr. C. B. Fountaine, the popular resident-manager, will remain in charge as before.

The complete working plans for the proposed new Hippodrome, at Dundee, have been lodged with Mr. Thomson, the city engineer, Dundee, and will come before the Town Council on Monday. The site chosen for the building is in the centre of the very best part of the city. The main entrance is from Lindsay Street, and the pit entrance is also from the same street, while the gallery is reached from the Overgate. The theatre will be run on the two-performances-nightly system. There is to be a crush-room for accommodating those going into the second house, but the committee does not approve of the site, in view of the fact that there are tenements on the north, east, and south sides.

The Grand Theatre, Churchgate, Bolton, was the arena on Monday afternoon of most disgraceful conduct on the part of a rowdy portion of the audience. Four turns in succession were stopped from continuing by the disorderly conduct of certain persons. When Ben Albert, comedian, however, took the stage, he pointed out the ringleader, who was promptly seized and given in charge of the police. We understand the man, who belongs to Little Hulton, will be prosecuted. Bertie Wright, the well-known comedian in comic opera, was present in the afternoon, but in consequence of the treatment he received he did not appear in the evening.

Miss Margaret Ashton, who has this week begun her tour upon the Moss circuit, made her headquarters during the preceding week at that famous hostelry, the White Hart, Salisbury. During her visit she motored over to Bournemouth, returning through the New Forest, where the Rufus Stone and Lyndhurst Church, with its famous altar-piece, painted by Lord Leighton, were among the objects of interest seen. Stonehenge, Devizes, and Alderbury—with its ancient inn immortalised in the pages of "Martin Chuzzlewit"—afforded enjoyable drives on other days, and it was with regret that Miss Ashton's pleasant visit to the cathedral city was terminated by her resumption of engagements.

Miss Beatrice Elstree, the little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ted Young, made her debut at the Theatre Royal, Perth, on Monday, and was so successful that the management have kept her in the programme for the rest of the week.

Mr. W. J. Ashcroft, an old favourite, will make his reappearance at the Hackney Empire on Monday. Thirty years ago he was as great a draw at a music hall as Little Tich is to-day. Since then he has been theatre proprietor, manager, and entertainer. Born in far-away Pawtucket, Billy retired a few years ago from the stage. "In my retirement," he told the writer, "the great difficulty was to find something to put in my time at. I tried many things, but no matter with what I occupied myself, there was a longing for the old life—a craving, I may say, for the glare and glitter, the rush and excitement of the stage; and so when my old partner, John W. Morton, came to me and discussed the matter, I decided to return, provided it could be arranged that my work would not be of too heavy a character."

The Chelsea Palace will celebrate its fourth anniversary on Friday next, April 12, when all the principal artists have promised to appear.

Mr. Fred Reeves, who was coming to London last Monday week, has had a slight relapse, which has necessitated the lengthening of his stay at Brighton. The popular agent is, however, better, and hopes to be back in harness some time next week.

Mr. Ernest Pantzer, late of the Pantzer Brothers, has taken over the premises at 21, Green-street, Leicester-square. They have been luxuriously fitted up as a rendezvous for artists, and will open with a house-warming luncheon to-day (Saturday). Mr. Pantzer will welcome all managers, agents, artists, and other friends between the hours of 11 and 2.

We regret to announce the death on Sunday last of Mrs. George Lashwood, the wife of the popular variety star, who passed away at 83, Lansdowne-road, Cardiff, the residence of her father, Mr. Richard Williams, after an illness of only three days. The deceased lady, who was professionally known as Miss Lottie Williams, was a member of John Tiller's troupe of dancers, and it was while travelling with the members of this company that she caught a chill. Feeling seriously ill, she went to her parents' home, but though Drs. Cantillon and Neich were in constant attendance, she succumbed to double pneumonia.

Mr. George Lashwood was in the act of preparing to visit his wife, and intended bringing with him a London specialist and two nurses, when the news of her death arrived. The sad event happened only a few days after the ninth anniversary of her wedding.

Mr. William Harvey, late of the Brothers Harvey, died on March 23 at Clapham, after a long illness. He was the son of the late W. H. Harvey, a favourite Drury-lane clown, and well known on the music hall stage a quarter of a century since, with his partner, Gus Connolly. The deceased was brother of Miss Alice Harvey (Mrs. Frederick Baugh).

We regret to hear of the indisposition of Mr. Michael Nolan, one of our very few legitimate Irish comedians. He is better, but he felt that it would have been very imprudent to have risked a relapse by attending on Friday the funeral of his friend and brother-artist, Jack Camp.

Mr. Mendel, the blind musician, has just signed a further seventy weeks on the Moss, Stoll, and Thornton circuit, which will commence shortly after the termination of his present tour in July. He is meeting with flattering receptions nightly. September is booked for his first appearance at the Tivoli.

Many of our readers will be sorry to learn that the widow of the late Tom Zampi, the one-legged gymnast, is in great distress. Poor Tom departed this life two years ago, after eight years and a half's illness, which exhausted all his savings. Mr. H. Humberstone, of the Three Horseshoes Hotel, Sheffield, will be pleased to receive and acknowledge any donations which may be sent to him.

Miss Fanny Wentworth, "the Corney Grain in petticoats," opened a nine weeks' engagement at the Empire, Johannesburg, on Monday, March 4, and is growing in favour nightly with her sketches and songs at the piano. The artistic nature of Miss Wentworth's turn and her refinement are warmly recognised by the Rand Press.

The Foreign Office is inquiring into the death in Buenos Ayres of a beautiful young English dancer, Miss Lily Parker, who is reported to have shot herself through the heart on February 18 last. The deceased was one of the Palace girls in 1904, and departed for Argentina in 1905, after playing in *The White Cat* at Drury Lane. She was originally a pupil of Mr. John Tiller, and went to South America to fulfil an engagement with Frank Brown's Circus at the Coliseo Argentino. Her first engagement was at the Winter Gardens, Blackpool, and before coming to the Palace Theatre she had shared the success of her seven companions in Paris.

Mr. Charles G. Remeges, the popular manager of the Empire, Middlesbrough, who was well known as a zealous lieutenant of Mr. J. L. Graydon at the Middlesex, has received many congratulations on the birth of his daughter.

Mr. Matthew Brodie and company, who are heading the bill at the Palace, Blackpool, and playing Louis Cohen's *Drummer of the 76th* to the holding capacity, start the Moss and Stoll tour next Monday at the Empire, Holloway. Mr. Brodie's Napoleon in this seems even more popular than in *The Duchess of Dantzic*.

"Operas in the Halls" was the headline given by us to Mr. Chas. Fisher's productions of his own famous "miniature operas," which, with the ever-growing demand for the best lyrical art in our variety theatres, are still heading their way to the haven of popular favour.

What might have proved a sad fatality was happily averted by the coolness of Venus, the late Lord Leighton's model. With her manager, Mr. L. Austin Millais, she was coming up the Dan Bank—Stockport's dangerous hill—on Good Friday, and observed a cyclist descending at a fearful rate, he having completely lost control of his machine. Without a moment's hesitation Venus dashed at the machine, swerved it aside, and headed it for the hedge, into which it went headlong. On picking himself up the cyclist was none the worse for his adventure beyond a dislocated thumb and a few cuts. On Saturday at the conclusion of the first house at the Hippodrome, Salford, Mr. Deans, whose life had been saved, presented Venus with a handsome bouquet as a mark of his appreciation of her pluck.

Miss Lillie Dene and Charles Dawson are playing their skit, *Stage Aspirants*, at the Chelsea Palace and Middlesex next week.

Mr. Tom Fancourt's company, in the novel comic opera sketch, *Off to Gretna Green*, is "topping" the bill next week at the Queen's, Poplar. The cast is a strong one, including, as it does, such well-known names as Misses Jennie Rubie and Clara Moore, Messrs. Frank Barclay, Edwin Rutland, and Tom Fancourt, supported by a strong chorus. Mr. George Ess is the musical-director. The elegant dresses are by Messrs. J. A. Harrison.

Master Reginald Leyland, who recently scored a distinct success at the Empire, Camberwell, by his singing of "Mamma's Baby Boy" and "Hearts of Oak," although only ten years of age, is the possessor of a pure and powerful soprano voice, with a register of two octaves and four notes. He is among the list of artists who are giving their services at Mr. H. H. Wells' matinee in aid of the Lord Mayor's Crippled Children's Fund, to be given at the Paragon, by kind permission of the directors, on Thursday, April 18, when the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs will attend in state. He will also sing at the fourth anniversary of the Chelsea Palace next Friday.

Mr. Harry Lyons, late general manager of the Prince's, Poplar, intends taking on tour again with a star cast the sensational sketch by Charles Whitlock, entitled *The Missionary*. Mr. Lyons has already secured many important bookings.

The tide of prosperity is at the flood at the Glasgow Gaiety, formerly the Tivoli, where good business has been the rule for some weeks past. On Monday an extra company accounted for crowded audiences, many being turned away at each performance. We understand the house is to be kept open right through the summer season. This must be gratifying to directors and manager alike, and we congratulate Mr. Harry Bowerman on this pleasing state of affairs.

Mr Richard Ralli, the newly appointed manager of the Palace Theatre, Bradford, and Mr. Henry Martell, of Ivegate, Bradford, were driving in a dogcart from Bradford to Ilkley on Good Friday, when, as they approached Denton Bridge, the horse shied at a heap of lime. The animal mounted a bank, and the trap was completely overturned, the men being hurled underneath. A police-officer went to the assistance of the two injured men, and a passing cyclist notified Dr. Stansfield, who found that Mr. Ralli had sustained a fractured shoulder and Mr. Martell was badly shaken.

To pierrots and concert artists Messrs. R. March and Co.'s "Pierrot Book," with fourteen numbers, should be specially interesting. "Wait for me" is a humorous selection well worthy their attention. The address of the firm is St. James's-walk, London, E.C.

The sketch *All Through You*, which we briefly noticed at the Shepherd's Bush Empire last week, is the joint work of Brian Daly and Jenny Lynn, the music being by J. Nurnberger. The production has been brightened, and now goes with a swing.

Two interesting novelties will be included in the programme of the grand concert which the Musicians' Company has promised to give in the Egyptian Hall, Mansion House, in aid of the Lord Mayor's Cripple Fund. The first is a new trio, "Phantasie," for violin, violoncello, and pianoforte, written for the occasion by Mr. A. von Corse, an old Royal Academy of Music student and a medallist of the Musicians' Company. The other important novelty is a remarkable setting by an unknown composer of the famous soliloquy "To be or not to be," from *Hamlet*. This was lately found by Sir Frederick Bridge in going through the papers in the Pepy's Library at Cambridge. It is written for a bass voice, with an accompaniment for the lute and violin da Gamba, and it is believed to date from Shakespeare's time.

It is to be sung by Mr. Graham Stuart. Among famous vocalists who have kindly given their services are Mme. Albani, Mme. Clara Butt, and Mr. Santley, who will be heard in old and new selections. Miss Hatchett-Jones, Miss Phyllis Lett (of the Royal College of Music), Mr. Kennerley Rumford, Mr. Lloyd Chandos, Miss Hevela Davies (a notable pianist of the Royal Academy of Music), Mr. W. A. Wollmann, Mr. J. Schofield (violoncellist), and Dr. E. Markham Lee will also contribute to the programme. Mr. Stabley Harley and Mr. S. Liddle will share in the accompaniments. Not the least interesting feature of the concert will be the performance of a choir under the direction of Dr. G. F. Huntley of some charming old English madrigals, with part-songs by Dr. W. H. Cummings and others.

Miss Evelyn Taylor, the popular comedienne, has just received an offer to open in America in September for nine weeks; but in consequence of her bookings in London the matter stands in abeyance until she can get her contracts postponed for the period mentioned.

At the Sheffield Police Court, before the Stipendiary Magistrate, on March 28, appeared Thomas Morris, a High-street gutter merchant, in whose possession a publisher's representative had discovered over seventy sheets of pirated music, including such different works as "Abide with me" and "By the side of the Zuyder Zee." The defendant pleaded that he didn't understand music, meaning that dealing in pirated music was a new experience to him.

Mr. Arthur Preston, on behalf of the Music Publishers' Association, having proved that the music was still covered by copyright, pointed out that the defendant had been summoned before, and on that occasion he escaped with a light fine in consideration of a promise to give up music-selling. He trusted that his Worship would inflict a heavy penalty. The Stipendiary: If I did what the publishers want I should give penal servitude. A fine of 30s. being more than he could pay, the merchant went to prison for fourteen days. The destruction of the music was ordered.

Miss Patty Yole resumed business, after her recent illness, at the Albert Hall, Southport, on Monday, and scored an instantaneous success, her dancing being a feature of the evening's entertainment.

Mr. J. C. Oliver, the original magical jester, and Mlle. Jeanetta, lady illusionist and dancer, have been booked by Mr. Arthur Carlton for pantomime at the Theatre Royal, Worcester, for parts and specialities. They have also been secured for a short autumn tour by the same management.

Miss Thierry recently produced, at the Palace, Manchester, a sketch, entitled *Nancy Sykes*, for trial purposes. It met with such an enthusiastic reception that Mr. Dottridge, of Oldham, immediately undertook the sole booking, and has started it this week on tour. The original verdict has been confirmed, and the sketch, which is cleverly acted, is likely to have a long run in the halls.

The Terriers annual Good Friday Dinner and social took place at the headquarters of the fraternity, the Dover Castle Hotel, Westminster Bridge-road, about seventy being present. The president, Mr. Jesse Sparrow, occupied the chair, being assisted by Mr. G. Burgess. Amongst others present were Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Millis and party, Mrs. John Moore and lady friend, Harry Wright, Nellie Gannon, Peggy Fame and party, James Stewart, George Pearson, Jack Tambo, Tom Pacher, Miss Hunter, S. N. Salter, Miss Salter, Peggy Primrose, J. C. Moore, Mr. and Mrs. Will Johnson, Edward Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Cooke, Arthur Willson, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Lester, Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Alexander, Lady Mansell and party, Mr. and Mrs. Fred. Neiman, Master Dolph Neiman, Mr. and Mrs. Barny Hyams and party, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Larola, Miss Alice Maydue and lady friend, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Munroe, Bob Hutt, Mr. and Mrs. Ted E. Box, Tom E. Cliffe, Mr. and Mrs. Mark Bingham and party, W. H. Atlas, Miss Vulcana and family, and many more.

Full justice was done to the special menu provided, and the social was kept merrily going till midnight. Those who contributed to the programme were Tom Packer, Miss Myer, Harry Wright, Nellie Gannon, Ted E. Box, Mr. Scott Gray, Miss Mary Glenn and accompanist, James Stewart, Peggy Primrose, F. W. Millis, and Dolly Glenville. J. C. Moore presided at the piano; Tom Pacher was the M.C., and the successful arrangements were carried out by the secretary, Harry Lester, to whom many compliments were paid.

Mr. Arthur Jefferson's sketch, *Her Convict Lover*, has been accepted by Messrs. Moss and Stoll for production at the Palace, Camberwell, on July 22. This is the second sketch of Mr. Jefferson accepted by the leviathan combination, the first one, *Home from the Honeymoon*, being booked for thirty weeks as the result of a three weeks' trial trip. A feature of *Her Convict Lover* is the cinematograph transference of the actual characters in sketch to the screen.

We are sorry to hear that Miss Kittie Olive is lying very ill at her residence, 61, Ringmer-avenue, Fulham, S.W.

"L'Entente" is the title of a pretty and tuneful musical spectacle written by Bert Dent, the manager of Barnard's Palace, Greenwich, S.E. It was produced on Monday at the above-named hall, and met with enthusiastic approval. It is booked as a top-liner at all the Barnard halls

Mr. Clive Darril, the gigantic Australian, did not appear on Tuesday at Marlborough-street Police Court in support of his summons for alleged assault against Mr. Fred Trussell, manager of the Hippodrome. "This summons," said Mr. Trussell, "has been taken out for purely vexatious reasons. I am supposed to have beaten this man, who is over 8ft. in height. As a matter of fact, the man was annoyed at having been refused admission to the Hippodrome. My servants were instructed not to allow him to come in, and he took out the summons for assault." Mr. Denman: There is no complainant, and, therefore, you need not trouble any more about the matter. The summons is dismissed.

Clive Darril, the absentee complainant, is the Australian giant, who has been making himself conspicuous in his public protestations of affection for Mariedl, the Tyrolese giantess, now at the Hippodrome. From his seat in the stalls he made Mariedl an offer of marriage, and, subsequently followed her to Guildford in a motor, when she was taking her week-end holiday, and there obtained an interview. As the result of Mr. Darril's demonstration at the Hippodrome he was refused admission thereto, although he had spent £2 in tickets for himself and his secretary. It was this refusal that led to the alleged assault.

Mr. Michael Connelly, the well-known musical director, is engaged (with own band) by Mr. Jules Richeux for the summer, at Victoria Theatre and Pavilion, Ramsgate.

Mr. T. J. Klee has just been appointed to the conductorship of the Paisley Hippodrome orchestra, and is filling that office with consummate ability.

Mr. Tom Lally, a native of Sheffield, where he has won a high reputation as a baritone vocalist, has joined the ranks of music hall artists, and made his début last week at the Bordesley Palace, Birmingham, where he scored an emphatic success.

Mr. Ted E. Box, who styles himself "the new comedian," has made a striking impression during the last few days upon the audiences at the Crouch End Hippodrome, where he opened a week's engagement on Monday. For one thing, Mr. Box has a style which is distinctively his own, and it has "caught on" in a manner that should augur extremely well for the future of this comedian.

Mr. Box makes his first appearance somewhat extravagantly garbed as a policeman, and, with pencil and notebook in hand, sings an amusing song, the burden of which is "I've got it all down in my book." What the copper has "got down" is interesting, if not scrupulously precise. For instance, he has had occasion to take charge of a "drunk and disorderly," and an inventory of the prisoner's belongings included such trifles as a bottle of gin, a packet of fags, and a lady's fur boa; but the gentleman in blue forgets what he got on the watch and chain.

After entertaining the house with an absurd song, entitled "My Sister," a pantomime whistling ditty, Mr. Box describes how different men endeavour to stop an omnibus. His imitations of the various tones and styles of whistling create intense merriment, and his representations of birds, dogs, and other animals are exceedingly realistic and greatly appreciated by his hearers. Mr. Box's wonderful whistling is not in any way assisted by artificial contrivances. It is a natural gift which he has developed to a really remarkable degree.

Miss Florrie Bray, who should have been appearing this week at the Palace, Hartlepool, is suffering from laryngitis, but hopes to be able to appear next week at the Palace, Halifax.

The latest quotations of music hall shares are as follows:—Alhambra, 1 7-16; Canterbury, ½; Empire (15s. paid) 1½, (10s. paid) 1½; London Pavilion ordinary 4½, preferred 5; London Coliseum, ½; Metropolitan, ⅝; Moss Empire 4¾, 5 per cent. preferred 4½; Oxford, 6⅝; Palace, 10s.; Tivoli, 6; and Variety Consolidated Theatres, 9-16.

On Easter Monday 2,423 persons paid for admission to Mr. J. Bannister Howard's Hippodrome at Lynn.

The Grimsby Stipendiary Magistrate on Monday heard charges by the Musical Copyright Association against Thomas Dawson Chapman Charlton, music-seller, of Ye Olde Booke Shoppe, Victoria-street. Mr. Arthur Preston, chief agent of the association, said that for several years the defendant had been a dealer in pirated music, and had several times been prosecuted. Last week, accompanied by an officer with a search warrant, witness raided defendant's premises, and there found 144 pirated copies of music, the publication rights of which his association held.

Charlton admitted that the copies were pirated, and pleaded guilty to the second count charging him with selling pirated music. "As a pioneer of cheap music," he said, "I have been fighting the public's battle against the publishers for years. I have done it on principle, and not for private gain." The Stipendiary on the first summons, ordered the confiscation of the music, and fined defendant 7s. 6d. costs, and on the second charge, which was the first one in Grimsby under the new Musical Copyright Act, imposed a fine of £2 10s. and 11s. costs.

At Brentford Police Court on Thursday a curious application was made by Mr. O. Hanson, on behalf of a gentleman resident at Ealing. Mr. Hanson explained that his client, accompanied by his wife, attended a bioscope performance at a local place of entertainment. One of the pictures shown was the operation of skinning a hippopotamus, which, as everyone knew, was a very revolting sight. Several ladies in the audience expressed their intention of leaving if any more pictures of that nature were shown, and the complainant in question signified his disapproval by hissing. An attendant then came to him and told him that if he did so again he would have to leave. About ten minutes afterwards, though nothing further had occurred to warrant any interference, the manager went up to the complainant and ordered him to leave the hall. At the instruction of the manager, the attendant laid hands on the complainant, and pushed him out of the house, within view of the audience. Mr. Montagu Sharp granted the summons.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

MESSRS. MELLOR, LAWRANCE, AND GIFFORD have just placed with the Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Co., Ltd., a dainty new number entitled "Iris, don't say farewell." The publishers have this song in press, and will shortly issue it in their popular sixpenny edition.

MISS KITTIE RAYBURN has scored a terrific success with her new song "Don't miss your chances, ladies," written by Gilbert Wells and composed by Harry von Tilzer. The publishers, Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Co., Ltd., will grant a few permissions for the provinces only.

"IF that apple could have spoken" is the title of a novelty song written and composed by E. W. Rogers and Chas. Collins, the publishing rights of which have been secured by Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Co., by whom a few permissions will be granted.

MISS DORA LYRIC, the refined comedienne, who is this week starring at the Palace, Leeds, has just secured another good song entitled "I'll tell Tilley on the telephone," by Castling and Godfrey. It was produced on Monday night, and met with immediate success.

THE summer books, long expected and waited for by the multitudinous members of pierrot troupes and seaside entertainers, have at length been issued by Messrs Francis, Day, and Hunter. They comprise three volumes, each containing fifty selected items—No. 1, humorous songs; No. 2, coon and soubrette songs; and No. 3, ballads and descriptive and chorus songs.

THE stupendous success of "My Irish Rosie" throughout the United States continues unabated, and at Boston, Mass., at the Park Theatre, on St. Patrick's Day, when Miss Hattie Williams sang it in *The Little Cherub*, and Jean Schwartz (who had journeyed from New York for the occasion) conducted the band during the rendering of his composition, the enthusiasm was indescribable, and the composer of "My Irish Molly" and "Bedelia" received an ovation which almost appalled him. Messrs. Francis and Day are overwhelmed with applications for this song, which shares with "Poor John!" the distinction of being a reigning hit.

THE scena *Back to Barracks*, in which Mr. Dennis Drew and company have appeared during the current week at the Empire, Reading, has aroused enthusiasm unparalleled in the history of the house, and the songs "Mona May," "The Beat of the Drum," and "Come and be a Soldier" have been nightly redemanded. The two latter are published by Francis and Day.

WITH very great success Miss Alexandra Dagmar is featuring "All alone in Old Cologne," a chorus number which ranks high with connoisseurs of melody. It is published by Mr. David Day's firm, who also issue Miss Carlotta Levey's present successes, "Man and wife should always pull together" (Murphy and Lipton) and "Sympathy" (Kendis and Paley).

MISS FLORRIE FORDE returned to town on Monday from her successful pantomime engagement at Bradford, and produced a new song by Messrs. Mills and Scott entitled "Has anyone seen a German band?" It went with a bang! The holiday folks at three halls joined heartily in the catchy chorus, which is likely to take the place of the same writers' famous ditty "By the side of the Zuyder Zee." Pierrots should note. The Star Music Publishing Company have professional copies of the above song ready.

THAT successful chorus singer Mr. Harry Bancroft has made a big hit in Liverpool with a new song by A. E. Richards and Maurice Scott, entitled "When the wedding-bells rang out for you and me." The Star Music Company are the publishers.

"UNDER the yew-tree," a charming love-song by those brilliant writers George Arthurs and C. W. Murphy, has just been accepted for publication by the Star Music Publishing Company. Other numbers recently acquired by this enterprising firm are "The busy bee in the apple-tree," by Macdonald and Meher, and "Swing me higher, Obadiah," by Alf Rick and Maurice Scott.

MISS KATHLEEN MAYER, the society entertainer, has made a hit with her graceful compositions, entitled "Ma sunbeam girl" and "Tears of dew," the lyrics by Frank Ridley. Miss Mayer, whose services are sought for even in the Canary Islands, will give her annual café chantant at the Wharncliffe Rooms, Hotel Great Central, on the evening of the 27th inst., and will be supported by many well-known artists. Messrs. Francis and Day have secured some of the lady's works.

MR. KARL KAPS' new two-step "Bustlin' Billy" and "Lovers' Waltz" were both included in the programme of Dan Godfrey's band at the Covent Garden Ball last night. They are published by J. Roberts and Co., of Wardour-street, who have secured the services of this well-known writer of dance music as musical editor. More than one seaside resort is seeking Mr. Kaps' services as music-director for the ensuing season.

MISS MAUD ESMOND will produce two new songs at the Palace, Leeds, on Monday, entitled "I'd like to call you sweetheart," published by Shapiro Von Tilzer, and "My beautiful Avon rose," issued by Francis, Day, and Hunter. The singing rights of both songs are completely protected. This refined burlesque artist is the original singer of several of the most popular songs of the year.

"LOVE IN SHORT FROCKS,"

a Farcical Sketch, produced at the Empire, Camberwell, on Monday, April, 1, 1907.

Mrs. Lovelocks .....MISS E. BRYAN
Timothy Toddlekins .....MR. ARTHUR BYRON
Diana .....MISS EDITH BLANDE

Humour of the broadest is the dominant note throughout *Love in Short Frocks*, which has come to the London variety world from America, where, we are assured, it had a large measure of success.

Diana Lovelocks, although she has arrived at the age of twenty-two is still at school at Brighton, and there is nothing unusual in her having a lover. The difficulty will be with mamma, and Diana sends her lover to London to pay court to the older lady, and so win her consent to their marriage. He does this so effectively that Mrs. Lovelocks is fully convinced that he will propose for her hand on the very day that her daughter Diana comes home from school.

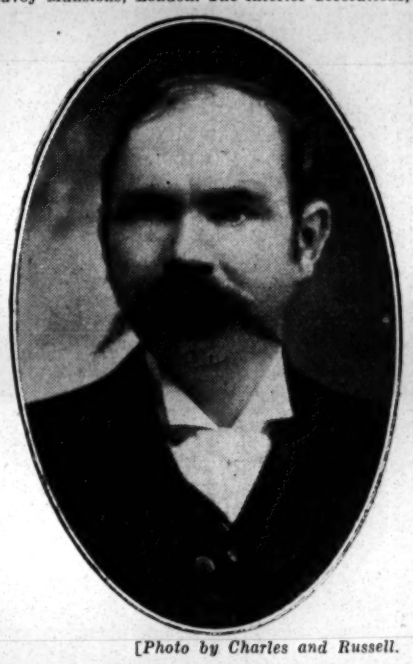
She is so afraid that her admirer will prefer her daughter that she makes Diana don her short frocks again. Diana does not relish her lover seeing "so much of her," and rebels. Another admirer of Diana's, Timothy Toddlekins, has followed her from Brighton, and the widow at once accepts him as her future son-in-law. Diana overhears this, and determines to act the part of a kid of seven, and gives poor Timothy such a lively quarter of an hour that he is glad to take the widow and leave Diana's way clear to a union with her Fred.

Miss Edith Blande as the vivacious Diana cuts an amusing figure. Mr. Arthur Byron as Timothy and Miss E. Bryan as the widow work hard for success, and in their burlesque of physical culture are decidedly funny.

NEW HIPPODROME, BELFAST.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Belfast, with the advent of such a beautiful and commodious structure as the Royal Hippodrome, will surely have removed the reproach that had existed of local non-support of amusements, seeing that in the past a single theatre and three music-halls sufficed for a population of about 360,000 inhabitants in a city noted for its wealth and progression. It is only six months since building operations were begun in Great Victoria-street, and lo! in this short space of time this magnificent building has been erected. It has been constructed on the newest cantilever system, there being none of the heavy supporting columns that exist in many other theatres. The seating has been arranged diagonally, so that one looks over the shoulder of the person in front. The house is a two-tier one, with the stalls and pit on the ground floor, the private boxes and grand circle on the first floor, and, above, the gallery. The auditorium is 80ft. deep by 78ft. wide, and the splendid stage—one of the largest in the kingdom—is 40ft. deep and 80ft. wide. The building is constructed to seat 2700 people, and, if necessary, can accommodate 3500, and is built in the Flemish style of brick and terra-cotta, the design reflecting much credit on the architect, Mr. Bertie Crewe, of Savoy Mansions, London. The interior decorations,

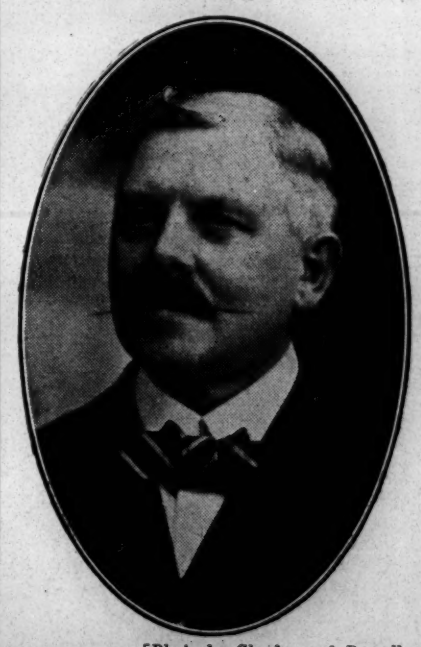


[Photo by Charles and Russell.

MR. W. SLEY.

Managing-Director, Royal Hippodrome, Belfast.

which are certainly elaborate and decidedly handsome, red and gold predominating, are of the most up-to-date and modern manufacture, in the style of the French Rénaissance. The house is lighted throughout by elecricity, and the ventilation is perfect, the atmosphere being changed ten times in the hour by means of electric fans. The heating is the low-pressure hot-water system, thus ensuring a normal heat at all times. The dressing-rooms are splendidly equipped, being fitted throughout with hot and cold water. There is no danger in case of fire, for the exits are so placed that two are available from all parts of the house, and it is calculated that with a densely-crowded audience the entire place would be cleared in less than two and a half minutes. The contractors, who have done their work so admirably and with such celerity, are Messrs. J. Parkinson and Sons, the courteous and efficient clerk of the works being Mr. Charles Place. The decorations and upholstery were entrusted to Messrs. A. R. Dean and Son; Messrs. Vaughan and Cook were responsible for the electric lighting and the outside canopy; while the heating apparatus and fireproof curtain were supplied by Messrs. R. Dawson and Co., and the terra-cotta by the Shaw Glazed Brick Company. The directors of the concern are Messrs. C. W. Henderson (chairman), J. K. Black, E. K.



[Photo by Charles and Russell.

MR. HARRY DOWNS.

Resident-Manager, Royal Hippodrome, Belfast.

Savage, G. W. Smith, and F. Wilmot. Mr. Will Sley (of Manchester), so well-known in variety circles, is managing-director, and in Mr. Harry Downs (formerly of the New Alhambra, Belfast) the directors have secured a gentleman of vast experience, whose efforts as their manager will go very far indeed to make the theatre a solid success. It is no exaggeration to say that a finer and more handsome theatre does not exist in the provinces than this new Hippodrome, and we wish the undertaking every possible success. The two-houses-a-night system, so popular everywhere, has been adopted here, and the Hippodrome opened for the first time on Easter Monday, when, before a vast audience, Miss Elsie Savage (the charming daughter of one of the directors, Mr. W. E. Savage) appeared and sang the National Anthem amidst much enthusiasm. Then a programme of surprising excellence was contributed to by Miss Lydia Yeamans, the accomplished mimic; Mr. Horace Wheatley, the well-known Irish comedian; McCann's Irish Terriers; Leslie Brothers, eccentric musical comedians; Gillen, the smart ventriloquist; the Original Trentanovis Sisters, in their gymnastic act; O'Malley and Brown, comedians, who were so successful in local pantomime; Martelloni troupe of lady gymnasts; Webb and Edna Branston, operatic duettists; the Magic Album; and the very excellent Hippodrome pictures. The orchestra is under the skilful supervision of Mr. Edgar Haines, so well-known in local musical circles. The Hippodrome will be conducted on the strictest temperance principles, tea and temperance refreshments being always available.

EDINBURGH VARIETY THEATRE.

ENTHUSIASTIC "FIRST NIGHTERS."

"We want to cater for the people who require a pure and legitimate class of musical entertainment." Thus Mr. Walter de Frece at the opening of his five months' vaudeville season at the Theatre Royal last night. Rarely has success so spontaneous visited any venture of the kind in Edinburgh of recent years. Turn after turn of the very best succeeded one another, and after one particularly well-received item the demands for an encore grew so clamorous that Mr. de Frece felt called upon to address the audience, taking the opportunity at the same time of explaining the objects of his lease of the Theatre Royal. In his previous experience of this business, said Mr. de Frece, he had succeeded in eighteen different towns in giving an entertainment which had been patronised by the best people in the different towns. He was under the impression that the people of Edinburgh were entitled to get the best talent that could possibly be procured, and it had been the idea for a long time that Edinburgh ought to have a second music hall in the town if required. The proprietors of this theatre had asked him to put on a variety programme, and he would try his best to give them a show a man could take his wife and daughters to. He would look forward with great pleasure to meeting his Edinburgh friends five months hence and saying to them that he had fulfilled his promise. In his succeeding remarks Mr. de Frece gave an indication that rivalry of the healthiest type may prevail in the ensuing season with the "other place."

To many an old frequenter the historic house must have presented an unwonted sight: the "legitimate" displaced, vaudeville in full swing, and the incense from Havana or humbler cigarette curling roofwards to the shrine of My Lady Nicotine. Changed days, truly, but the veriest stickler by old traditions could find nothing to cavil at in the fare provided. Given a maintenance of last night's standard, Mr. de Frece may look to a succession of "bumper" houses. Last night's programme was little but a succession of "stars," there was not a weak link in the vaudeville chain. Dramtically, the strongest item was a little musical romance entitled *The Power of Music*, in which a gipsy fiddler seeks to steal, *à la* Svengali, an heiress from her lover, a rival musician. He visits the pair when together, and by the witchery of his bow wins the lady's heart, when the cast-off lover suddenly shatters the spell by the destruction of the gipsy's violin. Mr. Jan Rudenyi, a virtuoso of great executive ability, gave a marvellous exhibition of musical "pyrotechnics," together with a display of real musicianship of surpassing charm. Leo Kronau's military spectacle *Our Boys in Blue* was an eye-opener for incident and "hustle," and perhaps the most popular couple of the night were Jack and Evelyn, the smartest pair of young vaudeville artists who have been seen on Edinburgh boards for some time. Their wholesome humour kept the house rocking. Other admirable performances were those by Mr. John Le Hay and company in a turn which combined some rather robust humour with capital vocalisation; the Marsumas, two comedy cyclists, who climbed over each other while cycling in a delightfully free and easy style; Mdlle. Nina Martino, who sang a vocal valse charmingly; Mr. Victor Courtney, who provided a unique and laughable imitation of an orchestra tuning up; Miss Jose Collins, comedienne; Miss Joan Deering, vocalist and instrumentalist; and Hurmann, club juggler and hoop manipulator. A well-filled list was completed by the cinematograph, with some real pictorial wonders and a representation of the Grand National Steeplechase.—*Edinburgh Evening Dispatch.*

"CHARLEY'S UNCLE."

A Farcical Absurdity, by Lewis Honig, Produced at the Royal Standard Music Hall, on Monday, April 1.

Chas. Mendham, M.D. .....MR. BERT PHŒNIX
Dolly .....MISS ELLA DAMCOURT
Sarah .....MISS BEATRICE FISHER
Mr. Overproof .....MR. FRANK HILL

One could scarcely wish for anything more delightfully entertaining than the sketch, *Charley's Uncle*, which Mr. Bates-Maddison produced on Bank Holiday, for, from start to finish, the little piece is hugely diverting. Charley is a young medico whose wife is an extremely negligent and untidy person, and Charley's Uncle is a precise, orderly old bachelor, a visit from whom is hourly expected. Charles Mendham is in a state of perturbation concerning that approaching visit. Like most men who have arrived at an advanced age without having tied the connubial bonds, the Uncle has his eccentricities, and one of them is an exaggerated notion of exactitude in all things. *Ergo*, when it is remembered that Mrs. Mendham is a lady of somewhat slovenly habits, it can be well understood that that otherwise charming creature's husband looks forward with some misgiving to the meeting between his wife and his uncle. And, to make matters worse, Mrs. Mendham has mislaid the key of her wardrobe, and cannot get her dress. The uncle eventually makes an appearance, and Charley, with the greatest timidity, makes some references to his wife. He tries to explain in what direction her evil genius lies, but only goes so far as "She has got ——" Naturally enough, the uncle demands, "What has she got?" and still Charley seems incapable or undesirous of explaining in words what he would like to convey. So the older man makes up his mind that what Dolly has got is a fine baby. Charley leaves to attend to a patient, and during his absence his wife enters the room where Mr. Overproof, the uncle, is seated. She is in *déshabillé*, and the whole place resembles an augean stable. Papers and articles are strewn about in the most careless fashion. She has even torn up the MS. of an article written by her husband, in order to stick the pieces of paper outside the canary's cage, so as to protect the bird from the sun's overpowering rays. Mr. Overproof makes an enquiry as to the supposed baby, and Dolly, who has been previously warned by her husband as to the old man's idiosyncrasies, now believes that he is mad, and prepares to defend herself. The uncle, on his part, believes the same thing of her, and altogether some very lively situations ensue. In the end, Charley returns, and explains matters generally, Dolly promises to mend her ways, and everything ends happily.

Mr. Bates-Maddison's company work extremely well, and contrive to make the playlet go with a fine swing. Mr. Frank Hill as the starchy, fidgety old bachelor, and Miss Ella Daincourt as the negligent young wife, give us a couple of excellent characterisations; and Miss Beatrice Fisher as an impudent maid-of-all-work, with a host of amusing eccentricities, proves most entertaining; and Mr. Bert Phœnix as Charley affords able support.

THE spectacular reproduction of the large Johnstown flood, which has been the attraction at Coney Island and at Boston, Mass., for several seasons, and is now in working operation in New York City, is for sale at the price of $7,000. The small Johnstown flood and Mount Vesuvius in eruption may also be had for $3,500 and $1,500 respectively. Applications are to be made to the Joseph Menchen Electrical Co., the extensive manufacturers of electrical effects and appliances, 354, West 50th Street, New York.

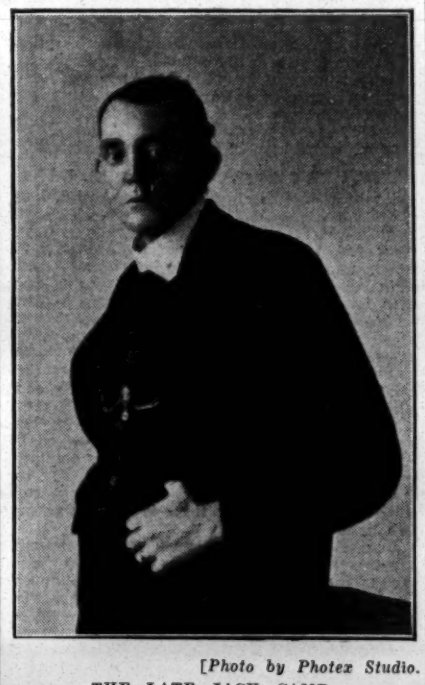
DEATH OF JACK CAMP.

By the death of Jack Camp, which sad event occurred at his residence, 27, Gairloch-road, Camberwell, on Saturday, the 30th ult., the amusement world in two hemispheres loses one of its most highly appreciated laughter-makers, and the news, which has caused keen regret in London, will also be heard with saddened faces by the profession in New York and throughout the States, to which the deceased comedian was a most welcome visitor in 1898-99. Mr. Camp (whose real name was John Edgar Campbell) was the victim of that fell disease, consumption. He had, however, been able the week previous to his death to fulfil an engagement at the Canterbury, and though those who knew him intimately recognised the sad truth that his tenure of life would be short, they were not prepared for the startling suddenness of his death. He complained of severe pain on Good Friday, and the bursting of a blood-vessel was the beginning of the end, which came very peacefully on Saturday evening. Dr. Walker, a popular medico with the profession, attended the deceased.

Jack Camp's father was a Manchester tradesman, who viewed with much disfavour his son's great liking for the stage. When a lad, Jack was consumed with admiration for anything that had the cut of a professional, and ran away from home in order to gratify his taste for singing and dancing. He may be said to have had the rough corners rubbed off him at the free-and-easies, from which have graduated so many of our variety stars. While at a free-and-easy in Nottingham—the Crown and Cushion—he was most kindly recommended to the local Palace. He soon after gained sufficient prestige to secure some good "shops," and, coming to London, went to Harwood's, where he was warmly encouraged by the late Mr. Gus Leach. Mr. Will Oliver arranged for him his first appearance at the Middlesex, but his style did not take, and the engagement was terminated after the first night. But in after years he had many happy evenings at Mr. Graydon's Drury-lane hall.

Mr. Camp used to tell an anecdote against himself in connection with his unsuccessful début at the "Mogul." Mr. Herbert Sprake, then proprietor of Collins's, was present, and said to Will Oliver, "Is this the funny bloomer who opens with me on Monday?" Mr. Oliver said "Yes." Mr. Sprake's decision, reflected in the emphatic rejoinder, "Not in a hundred years; not at any price!" was overruled, and Jack achieved a success at the "hall on the green," which formed one of the agreeable incidents of a chequered professional career.

He went to South Africa in the autumn of 1898, and had scarcely returned when he "crossed the pond" to appear at Keith's Union-square Theatre, New York, where his success was most pronounced. The papers of the period spoke in glowing terms of the unknown English comedian, "who has succeeded where others of a greater reputation failed." He again went to America early in 1900.



[Photo by Photex Studio.

THE LATE JACK CAMP.

His burlesque of the descriptive song has never been equalled, and his parodies, many of which were written by Mr. Curran, a Glasgow song-writer, were always laughable. He was proclaimed an "original" by no less a journal than the *Times*, which, in an eloquent criticism of his performance at the Tivoli a few years since said, "Mr. Camp must be seen to be believed; there is no describing him. The quaint melancholy of his face and long, slim figure, the extraordinary eloquence of his gestures, his primness, and the gravity with which he talks the most absolute nonsense proclaim him an original." Mr. Camp took a great interest in criminology, and incidentally in the methods of detecting crime. Among his cherished documents is a series of his finger prints published in an official form and stamped by the detective department of the Royal Irish Constabulary at Belfast.

The day before his death Jack Camp signed a contract, of which the confirmation arrived when all earthly ties were severed by the grim scythe-bearer. Such is the irony of fate. At the time of his decease he was booked three years ahead by his agent, Mr. Tom Shaw. The deceased comedian leaves a widow and two children—a boy and girl—to mourn his loss. To the bereaved ones we tender our sympathy, which will be shared by the profession at large.

THE FUNERAL.

The funeral took place yesterday afternoon at Camberwell Cemetery, Honor Oak. The remains were interred in the Roman Catholic portion of the ground, and among those who assembled around the graveside were many music hall celebrities.

The principal mourners were Mrs. Campbell (widow), Master J. W. and Miss Florence Campbell (son and daughter), Mr. J. Campbell (brother), and Mrs. and Master Campbell, Mrs. Pickford, and Mrs. Goulden (sisters), Mr. and Mrs. and Master Price, Mr. and Miss Canning, Dr. Walker, Mrs. Michael Nolan, Dr. Griffin, Mr. Tom Shaw, Mr. W. Armstrong, and Mr. Davis.

The respect in which the deceased was held was testified to by the many letters and telegrams of sympathy that reached the widow, as well as the numerous beautiful wreaths that were sent. The widow's floral tribute consisted of a harp of white roses, arum lilies, violets, lilies of the valley, and maidenhair fern. Others came from John William and Florence Campbell (son and daughter), Mr. James Campbell (brother), Mrs. Goulden and Mrs. Pickford (sisters), the Misses Margaret, Maud, Isabel, and Master Rose, Mrs. W. Neale, the Grand Order of Water Rats, South London Boyson Club, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Elvin, Mr. and Mrs. William Harris, Mr. Tom Shaw and his office staff, Mr. Pat Egbert and brother, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Churchill, Dr. Walker, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Nolan, Mr. Fred Karno, Mr. and Mrs. Knowles, and Mr. and Mrs. Bob Hanlon.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE PALACE.

Among the American turns secured by Mr. Alfred Butt during his visit to the States, none have had a more interesting career than Miss Josephine Cohan, who is quite a star in vaudeville on the other side of the Atlantic, and the member of a famous family. She has been on the stage since she reached the age of eight, and her present visit is simply a prelude to a tour through the civilised world. She finds a vehicle for her comedy in a new one-act hustling absurdity entitled *The Friend of the Family*. The trifle has all the quality of an ancient Adelphi screaming farce, with an American complexion. The authors are Will M. Cressy and Fred. Niblo, Miss Cohan's husband. As for imbroglio, it is simple enough. John Hobbs and Nellie, his wife, just married, are already quarrelling, but both wish to make it up. Nellie, by flirting desperately with Tom Greyland, an old friend of her husband, not only arouses John's jealousy, but exercises the mind of Bill Denver, a brother of Nellie's, who fools around with a revolver. The necessary explanation comes at the right moment, but not till after we have seen Miss Cohan execute a skirt dance with much taste. Mr. Otto Hoffmann is a humorous Tom Greyland, and Mr. John Junior is a smart representative of the husband, the conventional fire-eater of the American stage being effectively presented by Mr. Brandon Mitchell.

The sensation of the bill is Kartelli, a skater on the wire, who twirls hoops with one leg while juggling with his hands, and keeping his balance. He is simply wonderful, too, in his accomplishment of difficulties with a bicycle, and does feats that are thought to be exceedingly difficult even on terra firma. We have seen nobody quite as good as Kartelli, who has thought out an original act, which it will take years of study and practice to imitate. Mlle. Juliette's success with her sea-lions at her début at the Palace less than two years since ensured her return, and the obedient and well-trained amphibians again delight everyone by their docility and real cleverness. One of them, who catches sugar loaf hats on his snout for all the world as if he were a performing clown, is assisted in a juggling act by an equally clever companion, and laughter and applause ring through the house at the baton twirling of a third sea-lion. The show is very interesting to watch, and is never marred by the slightest tedium.

Mr. J. P. Ling's mimetic monologues find no more appreciative audiences than those at the Palace, where his imitation of the village glee party is as heartily laughed at as his mimicry of the bibulous amateur who in his recitation will mix up "The Wreck of the Hesperus" with "The Village Blacksmith." La Belle Tortajada is a firm Palace favourite, and Fred Niblo, the American raconteur, returns with new jokes and wheezes, which keep the house convulsed. Nothing in the bill is funnier, however, than Alfred Lester's sketch of the melancholy restaurant waiter, whose master goes out to dine because "he's very pertikler." Miss Lily Mills lends good assistance as the lady customer. The Palace Girls look particularly smart as *les femmes cochères*; and other turns include Miss Nina Gordon, the mimic; the Bensons, who should immediately cut out their inartistic perversion of that beautiful melody, "Sally in our Alley"; and John E. Coyle, comedian, who has a humorous song, "The Sea," with plenty of droll patter.

THE TIVOLI.

The joyous spell of sunshine that gladdened the hearts of those who sought primrose paths and the sound of the sea had apparently no adverse influence at the Tivoli, where on Easter Monday evening Mr. Joseph Wilson and his popular lieutenant, Mr. James Howell, were gladdened by an audience only limited by the capacity of the cosy little house in the Strand. The crowd of variety-lovers were in the happiest holiday mood when the orchestra, under Mr. Louis de Reeder, played a lively overture. They laughed full well at Mr. Phil Ray, with his ingenious abbreviations and amusing quips, and the rapid—we might say lightning—delivery of Mr. Tom Dunville, who gave what may be termed spasms of comedy, was exactly understood and vastly appreciated. Mr. George Robey unfortunately was unable to answer to his number; but a deputy was found in Miss Ada Cerito, whose humour is vivified by many droll touches of low comedy. Miss Cerito attires herself in garments that give her a ludicrous aspect, and her impersonation is lively and interesting.

"When knights were bold" is the newest song to be sung by Little Tich, who owes nothing but the title to the piece now being presented by Mr. James Welch and company at Wyndham's. It is odd to see the quaint and diminutive figure of the comedian dressed in all the bravery of a cavalier, and the heartiest laughter controls the house as soon as he appears. "The Park-keeper" has nothing more historic to talk about than the penalties of courtship and the trials of a Council custodian with the small boys. A great ovation is accorded to Mr. Harry Lauder, who has reached the zenith of his popularity. No Scotch comedian has ever before won such a high place in the esteem of Cockneydom as he, and in his revival of some of his famous successes he was quite wise. "The saftest of the family" is a character creation that would do credit to any stage, and nothing more infectiously rollicking than "Stop yer tickling, Jock," has been heard on the variety stage for many years. Mr. Lauder on Monday was delayed by a disappointment in connection with his motor car, but his opening song showed that he was in the best of voice, and that his comedy is as effective as ever in its mirth-provoking qualities.

Mr. Harry Fragson, who has just finished at Drury Lane Theatre, recommences his variety season with a capital song in "Statues on the spree." We are not referring to the Berlin river, but to the imaginative gambols of the celebrities in stone that are to be found in various parts of our overgrown metropolis. "The bandbox girl" has a lilt and a charm of melody that make it a popular number, and another favourite selection is "Chin Chin Loo," a fascinating heroine from the Flowery Land. Humour is again in the ascendant with the arrival of the Poluskis, who have returned to their legion of admirers after a successful session in pantomime. Their particular form of entertainment is now called "The Provocator," which is another vehicle for amusing cross-talk. Miss Alexandra Dagmar's fine voice is heard with genuine pleasure, and her anecdotes are heartily laughed at. Mr. Harry Tate exploits to the sounds of constant hilarity a new edition of *Motoring*, which exemplifies the axiom that it is but human to rejoice at the mishaps of others. Miss Alice Yorke and company present *A Yacht for Sale*, the dialogue of which contains much amusing equivoque; Miss Abbie Mitchell, the Creole plantation vocalist, is an interesting turn; Miss Madoline Rees opens the entertainment with comedy; and Miss Dorothy Drew is a dainty little dancer.

THE SOUTH LONDON.

All the elements of popular entertainment are contained in the current week's programme at the South London, the old-established hall of variety so ably overseered by Mr. Wm. Payne. There is the customary dramatic sketch, which in this case really deserves to be called tragic, and the enthusiastic reception which awaited its representation by Mr. Fred Winn's company was thoroughly earned. The playlet is called *The Light in the Window*, and boasts neither hero nor villain, but is just an episode of life irresistible in its appeal and thrilling in its effect. It tells of the waiting of an aged mother for the return of her son, who

was reported to have been shipwrecked many years before. During his absence his daughter has grown up and become engaged to a warder at the neighbouring convict settlement. The boom of a gun announces the escape of a prisoner, who presently seeks safety in the cottage, and proves to be the old lady's long-lost son. The joy of the reunion is dashed by the sight of the broad-arrow, which the fugitive has concealed in a long coat, and the old woman falls dead at his feet. His daughter and her warder lover enter, and when the prisoner reveals his identity the warder, for his sweetheart's sake, urges flight, but the convict summons the rest of the officers of the law and gives himself up in despair. A "happy ending" in the ordinary sense is not secured, but it is a highly dramatic one nevertheless, and a state of tension exists among the audience during its portrayal, broken at the end by long-continued applause. The effect obtained is contributed to largely by Mr. Rothbury Evans, who is admirably made up as the convict, and acts with power and intensity. A sound performance is also supplied by Miss Daisy England, who faithfully reflects the wistfulness of the fond mother, who has waited long years for her son's return, and affectingly portrays the joy which comes of his return. Mr. Tom Blacklock acts earnestly and with more than a suspicion of drollery as the warder, and Miss Agnes Paulton is comely and refined in the part of his sweetheart.

A favourite of former days, but no less potent at the present period, is Chirgwin, whose stock of witticisms is being constantly replenished. Nothing comes amiss to the comedian, who is equally at home in dealing in rhyme with events of topical interest, in singing a song full of homely sentiment, or in rendering a melody on one of the many instruments of which he is master. "The White-Eyed Kaffir" maintains his position in the front rank of the army of mirth-makers after long years in the service, and, though the leanness which distinguished him of old has long since departed, his humour is as light and buoyant as ever. His one-stringed fiddle now rejoices in the addition of a funnel, which increases its tone to a wonderful extent, and adds materially to the effect of the old familiar air, "She wore a wreath of roses." Holiday japes and jests flowed abundantly on the night of our visit, and kept the audience in a constant titter. A more than usually strong desire was manifested for "The Blind Boy," until the comedian was obliged to accede to the demand, and was rewarded by tumultuous applause. Favour is also showered upon My Fancy, in whom the poetry of motion is exemplified. Her step-dance is watched with rapt admiration expressed in constantly recurring cheers, but it is when she assumes the silver shoon and flits about the sanded stage that her powers are most fully displayed. Every known variety of dance, and many hitherto unknown, seem to be employed, and the complexity of her steps is only equalled by the speed and rapidity to which the pretty danseuse attains.

A pathetic tale of the sea is told by Mr. Ernest Ball, who sings a ballad of "The Storm Bell," in which the death of a lighthouse-keeper's little girl is described with all the actor-vocalist's well-known graphic power. The sentiment has the true ring, and touches a responsive chord in the hearts of all. Mr. Ernie Mayne broadens the humour of the parodies of "Put a little bit away" and "In the Shade of the old Apple Tree" by phenomenal facial play and other eccentricities, and fun is also liberally provided by Farr and Farland, who have deputised for the New York Nippers. An "extra turn" has been provided in Mr. J. H. Romer, who makes up realistically as a Chelsea pensioner, and obtains the ear of the house for a fine rendering of "The Death of Nelson," which is loudly applauded. Pictures of salmon fishing in Scotland and a very diverting film illustrative of the flight of time are included in Ruffell's Bioscope series, and the programme also contains the names of Miss Jessie Nesbitt serio and dancer, Miss Jeanette Hall, soubrette, The Tatlers, vocalists and dancers, and Archy Cray, the young comedian

CAMBERWELL PALACE.

The festive spirit has been thoroughly maintained at Camberwell, where holiday-makers have availed themselves of the liberal opportunities for enjoyment provided at the Palace. An attraction of irresistible potency is the "episode of exposure," *Sally in Our Alley*, which Mr. John Lawson has revived with all its pristine elaborateness. Mr. Lawson has a wonderful eye for scenic effect, and the setting of the artist's studio is more than usually harmonious. The popular Hebrew actor has a warm reception when he appears as the wealthy "reformer," whose sentiments with regard to a number of burning questions are expressed so vigorously that abundant cheers are bestowed. A company admirably chosen for their respective parts supports Mr. Lawson, and the production proves so enthralling that the audience remain engrossed to the end.

The notes of comedy and pathos are impressively struck in the little coster sketch, *Me and 'Er*, with which Duncan and Godfrey have travelled far and wide since their last appearance at Camberwell. The reception of the clever couple is more cordial than ever, and the laughter that crowns the homely humour of the scena does not prevent a wave of sympathy for the touch of tenderness at the end. Miss Carlotta Levey, resplendent in a dress of glittering jet, delivers in her own distinctive style the ballad of "Man and Wife," the sentiment of which receives added effect from the dramatic manner of its delivery. The tuneful refrain is taken up with alacrity, but still more ardour is manifested in the singing of "All I got was sympathy," in the chorus of which quite a crescendo of sound is gained by the audience. Miss Levey has managed to strike out a new line of descriptive song which in other hands might fall short of its mark; but the clever singer gets home completely to the hearts of her hearers, whose enthusiasm is boundless.

Remarkable additions continue to be made to the skilful act of the Five Bogannys, the "lunatic bakers," whose acrobatics are a source of wonder and delight. The Risley act performed by the head of the troupe, who tosses a boy playfully with his feet, is loudly acclaimed, and the somersaults, hand-springs, and eccentric tumbling of the rest of the combination are comically effective, as well as incredibly difficult. A series of flip-flaps in a skipping-rope, and a number of somersaults while enveloped in a sack, are not the least daring of the exploits to be placed to the credit of the troupe, whose efforts are most exhilarating and obtain many recalls. Miss Daisy Dormer does much to deserve the distinction conferred by the programme of being "an artist to her finger-tips," her singing of the coon ballads, "I wish I were you" and "Dreaming" being made attractive by her dainty promenading round the stage, and by a dance, of which a sidelong high-kick is a notable feature.

Parodies of popular ballads are offered of Mr. Austin Rudd, who enhances the effect of the words by a quaintness of expression and movement that cannot be resisted. "The shade of the old apple-tree" and "The Zuyder Zee" both come in for burlesque treatment, and win the favourite comedian gratifying popularity. Another popular return is made by Mr. Lawrence Barclay, over whose appearance as a kilted Scot, who sings of "Ria" to the tune of the "Soldiers' chorus" from *Faust*, the house grows hilarious. Still greater effect is exercised by Mr. Barclay's presentation of "The pet of the ballet," whose short skirts allow of the exhibition of remarkable physical embellishments, which provoke roars of laughter. Mr. Harry Ford, with his quaint policeman song, and his impersonation of the eccentric gentleman who "Wonders," is as popular as ever; and Mr. Mark Sheridan adds to his singing of "Good-night" a quantity of "patter" of no limited degree, and a dance that is filled to the full with eccentricity. Mr. Percy Curry takes up the rôle of a rag-and-bone man, and causes much amusement by his scenes with small boys, and with an irate lady of the humbler class, who wrecks his stock-in-trade; and the pictures presented on Vernon's Bioscope make largely for mirth, and fully succeed. Mr. P. A. Lennon is the esteemed manager at the Palace, the orchestra of which acquits itself with every credit under the leadership of Mr. Leon A. Bassett.

NEW CROSS EMPIRE.

Mr. Lew Lake heads the bill here this week with the successful sketch entitled *My Pal Jerry*, in which Mr. Lake as Nobbler proves himself an actor of considerable merit, both in comedy and pathos; the death scene in the snow after the escape from Portland is very impressive, and brings tears to many eyes. Jerry is an excellent companion picture to Nobbler, and the part is well embodied by Mr. Bob Morris. Mr. Harry Laverne plays Justice Down very well, and Mr. Charles Graydon is imposing as the King's Counsel Kurtle. Miss Kitty Wilmore is excellent as Edith Arlington; the same may be said of Miss Fay Gueling as Bella Brass. The scenery and appointments are appropriate. Mr. Mark Merry entertains the audience with his exposition of mirthful melancholy, and wins considerable applause. Miss Ruth Lytton, the Scotch comedienne, looks very handsome in full Highland dress, and sings in spirited style about the doings at a Highland wedding; this is a very bright and attractive turn. Phil and Nettie Peters, who come next, cause much laughter by their brisk little entertainment consisting of patter, comedy, trombone playing, singing, and pleasant fooling. Leipzig proves himself to be a marvellous manipulator of coins and cards, and performs many wonderful sleight-of-hand tricks, which he proceeds to explain the working of in a manner that leaves the onlookers more puzzled than ever. Syd May has had a warm reception, which is well deserved; his turn is a capital one, opening with imitations, excellently done, of such popular favourites as Gus Elen, George Robey, and Harry Lauder, and closing with a comedy wrestling match between himself as Hackenschmidt and a dummy figure, which he manipulates very cleverly. The Jackley Trio are great favourites here and score a success with their comedy speciality, introducing the Whistling Comedian, George. Miss Elsie Claire, soprano vocalist, is well received in her pretty and ably rendered songs. The American Bioscope exhibits some new and amusing pictures, including the series entitled "A Sunday School Holiday," which evokes roars of laughter. Last on the bill, but by no means least in point of interest, come Carter Livesey and Lilian Rosebery in *Would-be Actors*. The subject is not new, but the treatment is, the acting of Mr. Carter Livesey as the manager being remarkably clever, natural, and amusing. Laughter accompanies the sketch from beginning to end. Mr. Livesey is admirably assisted by Miss Lilian Rosebery as the heroine and Mr. Albert Mason as the villain. Mr. Ernest Brigden's control of matters in front of the house here continues to win and retain popular favour. The band is still under the admirable direction of Mr. Louis La Rondelle, and "discourses most excellent music" both in the way of overtures and in the accompaniments.

THE DUCHESS PALACE.

Manager Ross should be more than satisfied. The programme that he presented last week for the approval of his patrons was absolutely without a weak spot. At the top of the bill was Joe Elvin, who was giving his amusing sketch, *Trespassers Beware!* which gives ample scope to this inimitable comedian for the exercise of his fun-making abilities. So great a hold has he on Balhamites that the very signalling of his number is a sign for applause of the most deafening description. This sketch has been previously described in these columns, and it is sufficient therefore to say of its present performance that the amusement it causes may be likened to a river, which, gathering force as it proceeds, eventually breaks into a mighty roar. As the erstwhile caretaker, Joe is absolutely great, and the end comes all too soon. On concluding he is the recipient of the most generous applause, and has many times to bow his acknowledgments.

Rose Cabani, a comedienne with a charming manner, is also the possessor of a tuneful voice. In her number "I want no mansion" she appears to exceptional advantage, and is also an excellent dancer. On the night of our visit time did not permit her acceptance of the encore so unanimously given. The Carlyles, described in the programme as whirlwind dancers, are paying a return visit, and their show is meeting with every sign of approval. They are presenting many pretty and novel dances, and altogether their entertainment is well worth watching. George Young, a blind collier boy, proves himself a very capable musician. He chooses Chirgwin's popular "Blind Boy" for his first number, and in response to an encore gives Sousa's "Uncle Sammy" on the concertina. He works hard, and, on concluding, is the recipient of well-sustained applause.

Larola is a comedian as well as a juggler and acrobat—a rare combination, indeed. Whether he is juggling or jumping over chairs, &c., he always manages to introduce many little funnisities, and generally with excellent results, and they all add to the attractiveness of this turn. As a juggler especially he shows himself quite a master, and deserves well of the house, which shows its appreciation in a most generous manner. Will Godwin, a comedian, is giving a couple of capital numbers, entitled "All I want is a girl" and "If those lips could only speak." In the latter number he has the assistance of his daughter, a little girl of about eight, who sings the chorus from a box. The effect is very pretty and pleasing, getting plenty of applause. Starr and Leslie are making one of their periodical visits to this hall, where a hearty welcome always awaits them. On the evening of our visit Miss Starr was in excellent voice, and it is a long time since we heard her to such advantage. The pair's club-swinging act, judging by the applause awarded them, is still as much appreciated as ever. Lena Verdi, fresh from her successes at the Crown, Peckham, pantomime, is appearing here with much success. Her two numbers, "The ship you are waiting for has gone down" and "I'm going back," are both excellent, and she is to be commended for her choice of songs. At the conclusion of her second she treats the audience to some clever dancing, and has many times to bow her acknowledgments. One of the most pleasing items on the programme is the Bioscope, and the pictures that are being shown this week are well up to the average. One that is followed with much interest is that depicting "The Grand National," a clear and realistic production. Mr. Bertram C. Ross, although without an acting-manager, works untiringly for the benefit of his patrons, and his efforts are much appreciated.

The anniversary of the Queen's, Poplar, takes place on Tuesday, April 16. Any artists desirous of helping on the occasion should communicate with Jack Woolf, Wonderland, Whitechapel.

The sad news comes to us that Adelaide, of the team known as Adelaide and Lilian Martini, trapeze artists and gymnasts, has died in Luxemburg. She was but 31.

Mr. Editor.—Sir,—In your report for the Gaiety, Blyth, last week, you mention us as Olgo and Rochelle; it should have been—Yours faithfully, Clyo and Rochelle, in *An Actor's Antics*.

"THE ERA" SHILLING FUND FOR THE MUSIC HALL HOME.

Mr. Barrasford and Miss Vesta Victoria join in a strenuous appeal for the generosity of the profession in support of *The Era* Shilling Fund. When, twelve months ago, we brought before our readers the claims of this deserving charity, a very considerable sum of money was collected in separate shillings. That last year's appeal, however, and most of the money obtained by it, are, as Miss Marie Lloyd would say, "a thing of the past, old dear."

Subscribed to date, 2212½ shillings.

FIRST LIST OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

	£	s.	d.
Edinburgh theatrical and vaudeville sports, per Walter P. Wells	40	0	0
Contents of collecting-box at the Hippodrome (late Tivoli), Leeds, one of Mr. Barrasford's halls, per Charles Weldon	5	7	9
Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Mannering	1	5	0
Leoni Clarke	1	1	0
Collecting-box, Palace of Varieties, Ltd., Manchester, per Nelson Barry	1	0	0
Fred Arthur	1	0	0
Bros. Webb	0	10	0
Geretti	0	5	0
Belford and Mars	0	5	0
A. Lazarus	0	2	0
A Gus Elen Autograph	0	0	6

Collected by Mr. Horace Wheatley, £3 11s.

Horace Wheatley	40	Anthony	1
Terrance Wheatley, jun.	1	Claire Romaine	1
Catherleen Wheatley	1	Sydney James	1
Norah Wheatley	1	Gilbert Fernie	1
Eileen Wheatley	1	Harry Edson	1
Horace Wheatley, jun.	1	Leslie Romani	1
Grandma	1	Lizzie Kirk	1
Auntie	1	Emmie Romani	1
MacWheatley the Dog	1	Frank Turner	1
Edgar Marriott	1	Mrs. F. Turner	1
Frank Leon	1	J. G. Henderson	1
Ted Waite	1	C. Pastor	1
Edgar Romaine	1	Sister Marion	1
Robert Robertson	1	M. Egerton	1
Florence Lambeth	1	Fred O'Malley	1
		George Harvard	1
		Gus W. Blake	1

Collected by Mr. Harry Conlin, Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, £4 7s.

Bros. Egbert	10	Us again, again	1
Us again, again, again, again	7	Us again, again, again	1
Albert Egbert	5	Gladys Cooper	1
Harry Conlin	5	Doris Cooper	1
Rosie Coleman	5	Vera Elvey	1
Mark Sheridan	5	M. Claire	1
Gwladys Elvey	5	Mr. Whitehead	1
Edna Loftus	5	Ian Lloyd-Mackenzie	1
Daisy Dormer	5	Herbert Darnley	1
S. Egbert and Mac.	5	Harry Nelson	1
Mark's Room	4	Erchie Mitchell	1
Mac's Bar, 3 Rose-street, Edinburgh	3	Harry Bendon	1
Harry Lupino	2	A. R. Pole	1
Us again	2	Us	1
Betty Green	1½	Cade Burnett	1
		Deane Tribune	1
		Estella Tribune	1

Collected by Mr. Gus Elen, £2.

Gus Elen (V.A.F.)	10	Edith Villa	1
Mrs. G. E.	1	Cruet	1
The Chickens	1	Boots	1
The Pheasants	1	The Dustman	1
Buller (St. Bernard)	1	Mrs. Carter	1
Major (Pomeranian)	1	Found	1
The Cook (16st.)	1	The Postman	1
The Housemaid	1	Admission	1
The Motor	1	Lizzie C.	1
The Gardener (Bob)	1	Meriah	1
The Parrot	1	Our Tyke	1
The Canary	1	New Pyjama 'At	1
Inky (Black Cat)	1	Luggage Man's (tip)	1
Four-Pots-a	1	Book-Boy's (ditto)	1
Twelve Coppers	1	Cab to *Era* Office	1
Two Sixpences	1		

Collected by Mr. Tom Fancourt, 15s.

Tom Fancourt	1	Margaret Ruby	1
Alf Selby	1	Queenie Clements	1
Harry Ray	1	Lottie Cora	1
Lillie Caldon	1	Florrie Cora	1
Arnold Richardson	1	Mrs. Howarth	1
Jennie Rubie	1	Anon.	1
B. Elton	1	Ernest Laws	1
T. Elma	1		

Collected by Regan and Ryan, Court Theatre, Liverpool, £1 14s.

Malcolm Scott	5	H. Brockbank	2
Fanny Fields	5	Patty Yole	2
Regan and Ryan	5	M. R. M.	1
Harry Tate	5	Doris Dean	1
Hetty King	5	Poppy Wilkinson	1
Fanny Dango	2		

Collected by Mr. Billy Williams, £2 19s. 9d.

Billy Williams	5	E. I. S.	1
Miss Du-Roche	5	A. Hanson	1
Miss M. Sealby	5	W. Marshall	1
Andre Avocat	5	J. B.	1
Miss M. Langdon	2½	B. B.	1
Oliver Round	2½	J. Kelly	1
Roze and Calvert	2½	W. E. D. V.	1
W. W. Walton	2½	W. Clarke	1
Churnell	2½	O. L. Rendell	1
F. E.	2	Wirson Kurat	1
J. K.	2	T. Dare	1
Miss Mab Paul	2	Geo. W. Thorpe	1
Adelaide	2	H. B.	1
King	1½	I. B.	1
W. E. R.	1	Maxwell	1
F. D. B.	1	Graham	1

Collected by Rich and Rich, 11s.

Rich and Rich	5	W. Fullbrook	1
Smarte Bros.	2	Charles Homer	1
H. O. Wills	1	Lola Patey	1

Collected by Carl Hertz, £1.

F. Bernard	1	Wartemberg Bros.	1
Fred Poplar	1	J. Wilson	1
Sinclair and Whiteford	1	H. Osborn	1
Edgar Romaine	1	Carl Hertz	1
Edgar Romaine	1	Carl Hertz	1
Little Tich	1	Carl Hertz	1
Little Tich	1	Carl Hertz	1
Little Tich	1	Mrs. Carl Hertz	1
Little Tich	1	Mrs. Carl Hertz	1
Little Tich	1	Mrs. Carl Hertz	1

Collected by Bliss and Bliss, £1 12s.

George Bliss	1	Pushfoot	1
Leo Bliss	1	Nellie Bailey	1
Jack Cromo	1	Gerald	1
W. Stewart	1	Charlie Hardup	1
Ruby Aiston	1	Kitty Chic	1
Arthur Aiston	1	Zena Page	1
Billy Hoofum	1	Kathleen Tremayne	1
James Kiddie	1	May St. Pierre	1
Tom Kelso	1	Lena Arnold	1
E. Bernhardt	1	Aline Goldsmith	1
Harold Batt	1	Edie Graham	1
Mr. Skimps	1	Minnie Grey	1
Mr. Skopes	1	Eva Mountcastle	1
Ben De Freece	1	M. Maquade	1
Kitty Kildare	1	Nellie Bailey	1
Nellie Bailey	1	Marie Beresford	1

Collected by Fred Land, 16s.

Fred Land	1	Dick Cruikshanks	1
Mrs. Land	1	Carl Rosine	1
Charlie, Stage-Manager	1	H. Harwood	1
Harry Vardon	½	Grant and Grant	1
Dora Lyric	1	Counsel Louie	1
Yukio Tani	1	Mills, Oscar	1
Walter Bentley	1	Harry Dean	1
Wilfords	1	Effie Stuart	1

Collected by Tom Vine, £1 2s. 6d.

Tom Vine	2½	George Bernard	1
Sisters Grovini	2	Pichel Troupe	1
Jessie Harper	1½	Brothers Story	1
Fred Leighton	1	Famous Henderson	1
Arnold H. Colmer	1	Brothers Austin	1
Arthur Arscott	1	Lucy Coventry	1
George Arscott	1	F. R. Griffiths	½
George Neale	1	Joe Huda	½
H. F.	1	Mimic Maston	½
Carl Bernardo	1	Tony Rallis	½
Lee's Marionettes	1	J. C.	½

Collected by W. Kloof, Kloof and Field's *Aladdin* Co., £1 1s. 6d.

Verona Quartette	2	W. Kloof, jun.	1
Bros. Shetland	1½	Harold Kloof, jun.	1
Harry Gold	1	Harry J. Nelson, Fleetwood	1
Bert Goldin	1	T. R. Bennett, Fleetwood	1
T. M. Lee Isor	1	T. P. Hornby, Fleetwood	1
Vulo	½	G. Taylor, Grimsby	½
Sisters Simmons	1	W. H. Betney, Grimsby	½
Fred Fields	1	Elephant (Potted Meat)	½
Florence Lewis	1	Dog (Karno)	½
Master Freddy Fields	1	May Florence	½
Allan Grey, Musical Director	1		
W. Kloof	1		
Cissie Ramsay	1		

Collected by Mr. T. S. Lonsdale, £1 13s.

W. Pratt	2	Sydney James	1
Velvero	1	R. Gilbert	1
T. S. Lonsdale	1	E. Pherson	1
Mr. Cragg	1	Andreassen Bros.	1
Mill May	1	Toch and Tard	1
Johnny Dwyer	1	Mike Cray	1
Frederic Culpitt	1	The Marconis	1
E. H. Williams	1	Clarions	1
F. Lauteron	1	E. Amoda	1
The Panamas	1	Ben Hur	1
Delornes	1	Carter Livesey	1
B. Stavordale	1	Lillian Rosebery	1
Jock Whiteford	1	Espinosa	1
G. Chamberlain	1	Amber Austa	1
Herbert Shelley	1	Will E. Haines	1
Frank Shelley	1	Robbie Roy	1

Collected by Dale and Vale, £1.

F. V. St. Clair	2½	Charlie Williams	1
De Biere	2½	Bert Williams	1
Lillian Victoria	2	Herbert Madden	1
Shoe Black Hero	1	Stylo	1
T. M. Paul	1	Laurie Stuart	1
Charles Lilburn	1	George and Lelia	1
Dick and Dorothy	1	Coro Corina	1
Kyoto	1	Dale and Vale	1

Collected by Carl and Carr, 11s.

Carl and Carr	2	A. Lotto	1
W. Brown	2	E. Lotto	1
Emily Custance	2	B. Roberts	1
E. Davey	1	V. Kingdon	1

Collected by Miss Nellie Christie, Argyle Theatre, Birkenhead, £1 3s.

Nellie Christie	5	George de Lara	1
B. N.	2	The Bassos	1
Ella Lane	1	Julian Ross	1
Eida Burman	1	Jack Charman	1
Herbert La Martine	1	S. de Groot	1
Sylvia du Barry	1	Maude Courteney	1
Eva Lumley	1	Mabel Bardine	1
Bertha Woolcote	1	Pattie Verner	1
May Fallowfield	1	Josie Mooney	1

Collected by Miss Sable Fern, £2 16s.

Malcolm Scott	10	Fred Wood	1
Sable Fern	5	George Peel	1
W. H. Galpin	2	Josh Dixon	1
J. E. Grist	2	Johnnie Whiteman	1
Frank Leo	1	Carrie Kenyon	1
Will Rags	1	Leah Ardell	1
W. Griffin	1	Dolly Moore	1
E. Dubois	1	Bee Cycles	1
Mrs. Dainton	1	Butcher	1
Marie Dainton	1	Hal Forde	1
The Allisons	1	Bill Manning	1
Geo. H. Brooks	1	Joe	1
Kenneth Macleod	1	Claire Romaine	1
A. Jennings	1	Ernest Rees	1
Belles in Orient	1	Will Poluski, jun.	1
Jock Whiteford	1	Edgar Romaine	1
Samuel Lloyd	1	Herbert Coltesmore	1
Alma Gray	1	Laurence Rutledge	1
George Kirby	1	J. McCabe	1
Neil Kenyon	1	H. J. Edwardes	1
Will Lambert	1		

Collected by Albert and Edmunds, 18s.

Mr. E. Edmunds	5	Fred Barnard	1
Patrick Playfair	1	Harry Weston	1
Miss Bella	1	Miss Blanche Albert	1
Mrs. Albert	1	C. Maude	1
Miss Rose Hamilton	1	Winnie Edmund	1
Mr. K. Hamilton	1	James Dunlop	1
A. Martini	1	Mr. J. Albert	1

Collected by Sisters Chester, £1 7s.

Florrie Chester	1	H. Horner	1
Leslie Chester	1	Great Hughes	1
Mrs. Chester	1	Albert Phanto	1
Ethel Condor	1	James Osmond	1
Fred Regina	1	Charles Mildare	1
Cliff Ryland	1	J. Allison	1
F. Picitt	1	Tom E. Conover	1
J. Kellino	1	Lester Carey. (Three Careys)	1
Albert Kellino	1	Lennie and Hast	1
Will Kellino	1	Butterflies	1
John Kellino	1	E. W. Manning	1
Stacey and Williams	1	Henry Hilton	1
Mendel	1	W. H. Wallis	1
W. Meyer Sarnthaler	1		

Collected by Miss Lillie Lassah, 10s.

Mr. W. Onda	1	E. Sharpe	1
Charles Constant	1	J. McCarthy	1
J. B. Howard	1	Nobbler	1
G. Lambert	1	Jerry	1
Fred Bowyer	1	Lillie Lassah	1

Collected by Mr. Geo. Rapley, £1 1s.

Sandy and Carl	2	Edwin Zarac	1
Nellie Moore	1	Fred Lloyd	1
Beatie Moore	1	Tom Shenton	1
Marion May	1	Syd Russell	1
Bertha St. Ruth	1	Chas. Denman	1
Cissie Conyers	1	Fred Bentley	1
The Sydney Girls	1	W. Parker	1
F. J. Little	1	Geo. Rapley	1
Chas. Zarac	1	Mrs. Geo. Rapley	1
Ernest Zarac	1	Baby Rapley	1

Collected by Alley and Hart, 6s.

Harry Allan	1	Llewelyns	1
Rose Hart	1	Grosvenors	1
Olga Romanow	1	Robertys	1

Collected by Newham and Latimer, 11s.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Medhurst	2	J. A. Thomson	1
George Newham	1	Pulo	1
Fred Latimer	1	Fred Boulton	1
Prof. T. Howard	1	Mlle. Bartenelli	1
Lillian Howard	1	Albert Victor	1

Collected by Tom Hearn, Esq., £2 17s.

Geo. Robey	20	Arthur Reece	1
Tom Hearn	13	T. A. Shale	1
Millie Lindon	5	A. Haytor	1
Valli Valli	3	Edward Lewis	1
Nat Clifford	2	James Smith	1
M. W. King	1	J. H. Whittaker	1
L. Collingwood	1	Walter Stanley	1
George Formby	1	Helina Cecile	1
Carlton	1	Griff	1
Frank Haytor	1		

Collected by Jen Latona, 10s. 6d.

Frank and Jen Latona	5	Chas. Robinson	1
Jas. Holden	2½	Hardeen	1
		Marie Kendall	1

Collected by Mrs. Johnny Holland, 35s.

Johnny Holland	5	Miss Ruby Aiston	1
Mrs. J. Holland	1	Mr. Postlethwaite	1
Miss Janett Reynolds	1	Lois Du Cane	1
Miss Cissie Coman	1	Ethel Netherton	1
Miss Marion Scott	1	Maisano	1
Mr. Abe Smith	1	Ida Kathrena	1
Edwards and Dacre	1	George Formby	1
Hal Verdo	1	Chee You Say	1
Anonymous	1	E. W. Edmonds	1
F. Hurst	1	C. Schuberth	1
J. A. Thompson	1	Bert Brantford	1
Mr. Boulter	1	Lillie Soutter	1
W. W.	1	Winnie Derson	1
Mrs. Jones	1	Mona McDonald	1
Mr. Lapworth	1	Madge Daly	1
George Hall	1		

Collected by Terry and Bentley, 11s.

Marie Terry	1	Percy Wood	1
J. S. Bentley	1	Lily Tabrar	1
Tom Stuart	1	Royston Keith	1
Bohemian	1	Talwing	1
E. J. Wilkins	1	Three Bros. Huxter	1
Will C. Jones	1		

Collected by Mr. Harry Taft, 5s.

Meier and Mora	1	Harry Taft	1
Allan and Hart	1	Bert Barnard	1
Doody and Wright	1		

Collected by Miss Minnie Mace, 20s.

F. Warburton	1	Allen, H.	1
G. W. Taylor	1	Copper Coin Penny	1
Harry T. Freeman	1	Berty	1
Harry T. Freeman	1	Paint and Dimples	1
B. G. Thompson	1	Frank Ford	1
C. M'Fee	1	Tharp	1
J. Boulting	1	Likeum	1
C. Tharp	1	Lord Push	1
Morley	1	George Camp	1
F. Prince	1	Minnie Mace	1

Collected by Sterling and Love, 25s.

Sterling and Love	2	Clifford Morgan	1
Carney and Armstrong	2	Janet H. Reynolds	1
Happy Attwood	1	May Marton	1
J. Le Hay	1	Ethel Wilson	1
Tom Owen	1	Royal Welsh Singers	1
Wm. Stephens	1	Frank Parr	1
Silbon	1	E. R. Beaumont	1
T. Diacoff	1	Sisters Lytton	1
D. W. Watson	1	Phil Luck	1
Walter Cranch	1	Johnny Danvers	1
Tommy Nelldon	1	Carson Hicks	1
		Tom Lloyd	1

Collected by My Fancy, 50s.

My Fancy	20	W. C. Jeapes	1
H. Bawn	3½	Percy Ford	1
A. Macey	2½	H. Jeapes	1
Edward Bawn	2	W. R. Pillanders	1
J. Sparrow	1	E. Bridgen	1
G. P. R. Burgess	1	W. R. M. Neill	1
E. C. Webb	1	W. E. Stephenson	1
Fred Leslie	1	F. Neiman	1
H. Balding	1	W. Johnson	1
Mrs. H. Balding	1	W Gassert	1
C. J. Doughty	1	W. Hollis	1
Dot Kemp	1	Will Oliver	1
Geo. H. Dyball	1	W. E. Samuels	1

Collected by Baker and Balfe, 16s.

Baker and Balfe	2	H. Elton	1
Harry Leybourne	2	Horace Jones	1
C. Wynn	2	Leo Derenda	1
Freeman and Tudor	2	George Green	1
Bros. Hayes	1	M. H. D.	1
A. C.	1	John Paxton	1

Collected by Mr. Pat Carey, 14s.

Mrs. Pat Carey	2	G. Gilbey	1
Sam Elton	1	Hans Mensel and others	1
Boyd and Gilfain	1	Alice Maydue	1
H. A. Meymott	1	W. H. J.	1
Mrs. H. A. Meymott	1	J. C. Brindley	1
Cambrian Trio	1	M. S. Richards	1
Mr. Pat Carey	1		

Collected by Mr. Geo. Antill, 11s.

Geo. Antill	1	C. E. Stelling and Dog	1
A. Monte Myro	1	Nobbler	1
A. Holland	1	Jerry	1
H. S.	1	Dave Poole's Figure	1
Ted Thomas	1	Dan Crawley	1
Geo. Newburn	1		

Collected by Rappo and Ella, 13s.

Rappo and Ella	2½	The Vyponds	1
C. Curlette	2½

THE HIPPODROME.

On Monday, April 1, the New Sensational Spectacle, in Four Scenes, written by Alicia Ramsay and Rudolph de Cordova, with Music by Carl Kiefert, entitled

"THE TYPHOON."

George Clifford .....MR. HARRISON BROCKBANK
Dick Sandford .....MR. CECIL MORTON YORK
Chi Chen .....MR. J. G. GRAHAME
David MacGregor .....MR. BERT GILBERT
Ling Fu .....MR. J. WINDHAM GUISE
Kate Vincent .....MISS MARY ALLESTREE

The reputation which the Hippodrome has won for its spectacular and sensational productions bids fair to be considerably increased by the latest addition to its programme, *The Typhoon*, which was presented as the big holiday attraction at both performances on Monday. Packed audiences witnessed the new production, and expressed unqualified approval both of the ingeniously worked spectacular effects and the general representation of the piece. Once more has Mr. Frank Parker, the producer, achieved a notable success by cleverly availing himself of the opportunities which the Hippodrome offers for remarkable realistic stage effects. The authors, Miss Alicia Ramsay and Mr. Rudolph de Cordova, are also to be congratulated on the excellent manner in which they have performed their share of the work; while the music, by Mr. Carl Kiefert, is tuneful and appropriate.

The heroine of the love-story, which is, as it were, the framework of the new production, is an English girl, Kate Vincent, who has been abducted by a rich mandarin named Chi Chen, and conveyed to a Chinese temple. The man to whom she is engaged to be married, George Clifford, a young English merchant, fortunately discovers the whereabouts of his sweetheart, and contrives to rescue her. The couple are entered as passengers on board the steamer called the Albatross, which is on the point of departure from a Chinese port. This vessel is a prominent object in the first scene, which is full of animation and picturesque detail. Chi Chen, it appears, is not prepared to allow the Englishman to get the best of him if it can be helped, and so he disguises himself as a priest, and, together with a number of followers he can depend upon, and a sacred joss, he becomes a passenger on board the steamer, the captain being induced, by a substantial bribe, to consent to the arrangement, which, however, meets with the disapproval of David MacGregor, the Scotch engineer on board the Albatross. The vessel has not proceeded very far on her homeward voyage when the disguised Chinamen suddenly attack the crew and overpower them. They and the officers are made prisoners, and Kate is again in the power of Chi Chen. But the Chinaman has not reckoned on the elements upsetting all his plans. There are signs that the much-dreaded typhoon is approaching, and both sky and sea assume an angry aspect. A thunderstorm breaks overhead, and the vessel has to meet the increasing fury of the gale. The Chinese on board are no sailors, and they are compelled to release the English crew to navigate the storm-tossed ship.

The cinématograph vividly depicts the steamer with the waves breaking over her bows, as she cuts her way through the troubled waters. Then the curtain rises again, showing the fate of the Albatross, which has become a wreck; while in a lifeboat is seen Kate and her sweetheart, who have escaped from the doomed ship, and who, we may anticipate, will ultimately reach a haven of safety.

Mr. Harrison Brockbank plays the part of the hero in a bold, dashing style, which is quite in keeping with the part. He also introduces a song with good effect. Miss Mary Allestree is a pleasing representative of Kate Vincent. Mr. J. G. Grahame plays well as Chi Chen, the villain of the piece; and Mr. Cecil Morton York gives useful assistance as Dick Sandford, the Captain of the steamship. The comedy element is well supplied by Mr. Bert Gilbert as David MacGregor, the engineer, who assumes a broad Scotch accent, and is not indifferent to the fascination of the drink usually associated with bonnie Scotland. Mr. J. Windham Guise as a Chinaman completes the cast. At the first performance Mr. Frank Parker appeared in response to the hearty applause which the latest Hippodrome sensation evoked.

The Easter programme also includes the Lukushimas, in their original Japanese pot-pourri; the Mezzettis, who are responsible for a very smart comedy bar act; the Stein-Eretto Family, who greatly distinguish themselves as table jumpers and vaulters; Prince Kokin, the Japanese who performs wonderful juggling feats; A. D. Robbins, a trick cyclist, who wins much applause; and Tina Clementina, in her sporting act, with highly-trained horse and dogs; the Schenk Brothers, head and hand balancers; Helene and Emilion, gymnasts; the Renard Trio, acrobats; Lavater Lee, the favourite funny man; and last, but by no means least, Mariedl, the "largest lady in the world," whose abnormal height excites much astonishment. Altogether, Easter holiday-makers who have patronised the Hippodrome, have had excellent value for their money. Mr. Fred Trussell is the popular acting-manager here.

"A JAPANESE LOVE STORY."

A Musical Scena, in One Act, by Fred Cooper and Alf Lezor, produced on Monday, April 1, at the Empire, Camberwell.

Lieut. Vernon .....MR. STEPHEN HARLAND
Princess Gryson .....MISS LINA FRANKS
Wishee-Washee .....MR. W. S. POWER
The Mikado .....MR. FRED COOPER

Set in a strikingly pretty Japanese lantern scene of The Mikado's Garden, this charming miniature musical comedy is brimful of tuneful music, delightful songs and duets, and fascinating dancing, and tells how Lieut. Vernon, of H.M. Navy, loves, and is beloved by the Mikado's dainty and pretty daughter, the Princess Gryson. Being her birthday, the Mikado tells his daughter that he can refuse her nothing, and leaves her with her waiting maids to enjoy herself in the garden, but enjoins the Chinaman Wishee-Washee not to allow any intruder, on pain of losing his head. The Princess's English lover soon comes in search of his lady-love, and easily bribes the wily Chinee to keep watch while he wanders with the Princess. The Mikado's return surprises the lovers, and the exalted one threatens the beheadal of both the Lieutenant and the Chinee, but the Princess reminds him of his promise, and eventually he consents to the union of England and Japan.

Miss Lina Franks as the Princess is charming, and infuses the spirit of mirth into her renderings of "My Rickshaw Queen," and into her duets with the Lieutenant, "My Girl of Japan" and "Far from my homeland." As the Lieutenant Mr. Stephen Harland makes a manly and ardent lover, and renders with much expression "The Star of my Life," the pretty and tuneful chorus of which eagerly caught the fancy of the audience. As the wily Chinee Wishee-Washee Mr. W. S. Power gives a careful character-study, and makes his mark in his song and dance, "Let me be your Chinee man." Mr. Fred Cooper has little to do as the Mikado, but does that little effectively. The four Mikado Girls display artistic ability in song and dance.

ONE space on the Sands at Muston, Filey, is vacant from July 1 to Sept. 30, and the Foreshore Committee invite offers from open-air entertainers, Pierrots included. Tenders are to be forwarded not later than the 24th inst. to Mr. F. H. Read, 14, Dean-road, Scarborough.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

AMUSEMENTS IN EDINBURGH.

ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Carpenter.—Crowded audiences have been attracted to the Lyceum this week to see *The Beauty of Bath*, represented by Mr. Seymour Hicks, Miss Ellaline Terriss, and company. The main point about a piece in which Mr. Hicks appears is that he shall have scope for his exuberant, irresistible humour, and in the part of Lieut. Richard Allington, R.N., the actor enhances his reputation for contributing to the gaiety of playgoers. Miss Ellaline Terriss plays with the freshness and charm which appeal to the most blasé habitué of the theatre, and the clever, versatile comedians who support the principals enter very heartily into the spirit of the play. Mr. Lawrence Caird is an amusing Lord Quorn; and Mr. William Lugg, Mr. Stanley Brett, Mr. E. W. Royce, Mr. J. C. Buckstone, and Mr. Cecil Kinnaird give capital pieces of acting. Miss Sydney Fairbrother's lively, entertaining impersonation of Mrs. Goodge adds another to the list of humorous portraits of this ingenious comedienne; and Miss Maudi Darrell as Miss Truly St. Cyr and Miss Florence Lloyd as Mrs. Allington deserve high praise for meritorious work. Master Valchera is very droll as Lemon Goodge; and others who make a favourable impression are Miss Marion Lindsay as Lady Bun and Miss Nell Carter as the Hon. Dorothy Quorn. The performances of chorus and orchestra, under the leadership of Mr. Carl Kiepert, are thoroughly good, and the play is splendidly staged.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—The entertainment at the Theatre Royal this week passed from drama to vaudeville. Under the direction of Mr. Walter De Frece a season of five months' variety performances was begun on Monday last. Mr. De Frece made an excellent start with his opening programme, which was strong, and full of interest from first to last. The theatre was crowded, and enthusiasm ran high. Mr. John Le Hay, Miss Mary Duggan, and Mr. Chas. Cantley appeared in an amusing sketch entitled *Poor Beggar*, in which Mr. Le Hay gave a clever bit of acting as a cheery mendicant, and sang with effect. Loud applause, again and again renewed, greeted the fine rendering of several violin solos by Mr. Jan Rudenyi, in a clever dramatic piece *The Power of Music*; Miss Dora De Winton and Mr. John D. Saunders gave admirable support. Jack and Evelyn scored a great success in their smart comedy sketch, and were several times recalled; Miss Joan Deeming sang expressively and played the violin well; Miss Jose Collins, who possesses a fresh, clear voice of much sweetness, delighted the audience; Mlle. Nina Martino made a hit by her effective interpretation of a French ballad and the well-known "Every morn I bring thee violets"; Mr. Victor Courtenay supplied an attractive turn, with imitations on the piano; Mr. Fred Terry was a capital comedian; Les Marsumas displayed wonderful daring and not a little humour in their trick bicycling feats; Hurmann, as club juggler and hoop manipulator proved himself an expert performer; and Leo Kronan's military spectacle, *Our Boys in Blue*, was carried through with great dash. Pictures shown by the Bioscope completed an admirable bill of fare.

KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Amand Mascard.—Mr. Charles Macdona's chief company appear this week in a special revival of that exceedingly lively facical comedy *A Night Out*. A large house assembled on Monday night to welcome this favourite piece. Mr. Edward Thirlby as Pinglet, the master builder, kept the fun going in rattling style; and Mr. Charles Sugden, in his original character of Paillard, was quietly effective. Mr. Mark Lester as Mathieu, the stammering notary, Mr. Geoffrey Saville as Maxime, and Mr. Dare Austin as Brochard, the police inspector, all contributed to the gaiety of the performance; while Mr. Charles Sugden as Marcelle, Miss Constance Groves as Angelique, and Miss Lilian Stafford as Victorine carried off the many diverting situations with brightness and skill. The piece was preceded by *The Ruby Heart*, a one-act play by Josephine Rae and Thomas Sydney, in which Messrs. Austin, Lester, and Saville, and the Misses Lilian Stafford and Lilian Elen, along with other members of the company, distinguished themselves.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Parham Wells.—A capital Easter holiday programme is being presented at this house twice nightly. A great attraction is Clive Darrell, "the jilted giant," 8ft. 8in. high, whose love affairs have caused a good deal of talk. The Ten Loonies appear in *Dotty*, a mad musical sketch by the mad musicians, in which they cause no end of fun. The Three Amaranths are girl dancers, who give a very graceful speciality turn; Kitty, Marion, and Lizzie Fletcher are comediennes of undoubted merit; as a singer Mr. Arthur Lennard has long been a great favourite here, and his songs are as taking as ever; Chris Richards and his moving antics prove to be a source of great amusement; and Goggin and Davis as comedy acrobats are also very clever and comical. In their novelty tit-bits the Only Two Bostons provide a turn of unique interest; and the remaining item on the programme, the singing and dancing of the Neilson Sisters, is very well done.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Ventom Swift.—The Royal Quintette of international dancers hold first place here this week, and their turn is an excellent one; the Sisters Clare are delightful singers and dancers, and arouse much enthusiasm; Mr. Carl Howard is very droll in his blend of comicalities and conjuring; Lindsay and Harte give a capital musical sketch; and Miss Marie Yorke, Miss Lily Foy, Mr. Dan Noble, and Mr. Tom Laurel are also in the programme, to which views shown by the Alhambrascope lend further variety.

BRIDLINGTON MUNICIPAL ORCHESTRA

The inauguration of the season 1907 at the above thriving seaside resort took place on the evening of the 28th ult. in the new Grand Pavilion of the Royal Prince's Parade, which has gradually increased in popularity since the management was placed in the hands of Mr. Charles Palmer, who has never ceased to urge upon the committee who have charge of the entertainment part of the Corporation's property the necessity of a first-class orchestra for this fashionable resort. This year the musical arrangements have been placed in the hands of Mr. Joseph Sainton, who comes with a reputation as a conductor of the London County Council orchestras and Crystal Palace Theatre, and he has got together a clever band of soloists. There was a crowded audience on the evening of the 28th ult. in the Grand Pavilion, when Mr. Sainton was introduced by the Mayor (Mr. Alderman Sawdon), and he received a true Yorkshire welcome, which was further emphasised when his finely-balanced orchestra had given the audience a taste of their excellence. The chairman of the Entertainment Committee (Mr. Councillor Southcott) and the manager (Mr. Charles Palmer) assured the audience that they had secured the best candidate from the hundreds of applicants for the position, and Mr. Palmer gave a brief outline of the engagements which he had made for the entertainment of the visitors during the coming season.

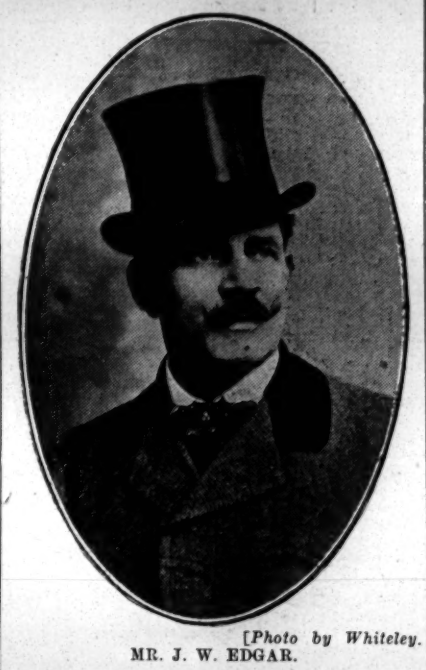
THE Apollo Music Hall, Paris, of which Mr. F. King, of 5, Rue Lafitte, is the sole booking agent, now in course of erection, is announced to open to-day.

CHAT WITH MR. J. W. EDGAR.

(BY OUR OWN COMMISSIONER.)

Mr. J. W. Edgar who is in his eleventh year of management at the Metropolitan Music Hall, Edgware-road, can boast an interesting, and at one period an exciting, career.

Mr. Edgar's first insight into matters affecting the conduct of entertainments was gained as a soldier in India, where he used to organise concerts and the production of plays for his own regiment, the 7th Hussars. He returned home from India in 1870, after twelve years' military service, and was engaged at the Oxford in 1872, and remained at that house for twenty years. He was the counsellor of the late Mr. J. H. Jennings, until the lease of the house was sold to Mr. J. Kirk, who parted with his interest in 1892 to the Syndicate. On leaving the Oxford Mr. Edgar entered into partnership with the late Mr. Graff, the Continental agent, of Leicester-square, and was instrumental in introducing to the public such now famous artists as Miss Connie Ediss, Miss Ida René, Miss Millie Lindon, Mr. George Robey, Miss Amy Clevere, Miss Maud Mortimer, and the Colibris Midgets, besides which he was the first to give a series of dates to Mr. Dan Crawley and Mr. Dan Thomas. He it was, too, who initiated the form of entertainment known as tableaux-vivants, which proved so successful at the Palace Theatre some years ago. It was to Mr. Edgar's sound judgment and foresight that the engagement at the Alhambra for a period of forty-two weeks of Ganivet, the French eccentric comedian, was due. Mr. Edgar saw Ganivet on



[*Photo by Whiteley.*
MR. J. W. EDGAR.

his first appearance in London, and at once realised what an attraction he would prove.

After being approached by Mr. George Adney Payne to take over the management of a London hall, Mr. Edgar sold his agency business, and on Mr. Payne's recommendation to Mr. Henri Gros, became manager of the Metropolitan. The old "Met." was formed into a limited company and then rebuilt, Mr. Edgar being retained in his former capacity. "In the first year of reopening," says Mr. Edgar, "we paid a dividend of 15 per cent. The next year the profits were the same, but we were able to pay, in addition, a bonus to the old shareholders. Last year, which was a very bad one for the music-hall business, when several of the largest halls in town paid no dividend, we were able to announce 5 per cent."

"Artists' salaries have a great deal to do with declining dividends," he goes on to remark. "Many of the performers receive excessive remuneration in consequence of the keen competition. We are being overrun with music halls, and no further new variety establishments are needed for the present, and probably for a long time to come, in the Metropolis at least. So far as our own hall is concerned, I am proud of the good opinion in which it is held by the local people."

A full share of exciting experiences fell to Mr. Edgar's lot during his service in India. In an engagement with the Afridis at Shub Kuddur he was wounded in the leg and had his horse shot under him. At that time Colonel (now Lord) Roberts had charge of the troops on the North-West Frontier, and some hard fighting took place between the British troops and the rebellious natives. For the campaign referred to Mr. Edgar received a medal and clasp. No doubt Mr. Edgar's acquired discipline as a soldier has been used to good advantage in the management of the Metropolitan.

The "Met." is situated on an historic site. According to old records, in the year 1524, when Henry VIII. was King, there existed in the "pleasant little rural village of Padynton" (now Paddington), about a mile from Tyburn Gate, where commences the Edgware-road, a celebrated hostelry yclept the White Lion. Wayfarers and villagers, as well as merrymakers from the adjacent Paddington Green, made it their rendezvous, and here, to the accompaniment of pipe and tabour, the happy country folk would make holiday. To-day the White Lion still exists, but upon and around its site is built the Metropolitan Theatre of Varieties, the inn being snugly enclosed, as it were, by two of the entrances of the music hall. It is said that the old sign which hung in front of the tavern was painted by George Morland, who used to carouse there with his friends. The ancient White Lion was a coaching-house (until it was rebuilt in 1837), and attached to it was a livery stable, the foreman of which was a Mr. White, whose daughter was the celebrated "Wiry Sal"—Mlle. Sarah, we believe she first called herself—who was one of the first to introduce the can-can in England. It was from a small room, capable of accommodating about 150 people, that the present great Metropolitan Music Hall sprang. The house was reconstructed in 1865, and purchased by Mr. Henri Gros in 1892. For five years he ran it most successfully, and in 1897 it was closed for rebuilding. The foundation stone of the new house was laid by Mr. John Aird, M.P. for Paddington, on Aug. 17, 1897, and on Dec. 22 of the same year it was reopened as the present magnificent palace of varieties.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR

Your book will, I am sure, be a valuable aid to all managers and actors.—SIR HENRY IRVING.

Mr. Strong states the whole case very clearly.—*Illustrated London News.*

Should be found very useful.—*Pelican.*

Should prove perfectly invaluable.—*Weekly Sun.*

Contains in a handy compass and in a clear style the law relating to theatres and music halls. The book is well up to date.—*Law Times.*

Furnishes useful information.—*Daily News.*

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—*Star.*

AMUSEMENTS IN LIVERPOOL.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—Mr. William Greet is deserving of thanks for the excellent company he has sent here this week with *The Earl and the Girl*. Jim Cheese is most ably played by Mr. William Stephens; Mr. Arthur Harrold, with his fine voice and careful acting makes a perfect Dick Wargrave; Miss Frances Earle wins a flattering reception for her delightful Elphin; Miss Jennie Richards gives evidence that she thoroughly understands the part of the brusque, merry-hearted Liza Shoddam; Miss Beatrice Anderson fits the rôle of Mrs. Shimmering Black to a nicety; Downham was capitally presented by Mr. W. Norman; and Mr. Percy E. Wright does justice to Boodle.

ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—*The Love that Women Desire* is the attraction at this house. Mr. G. Carlton Wallace's company includes Mr. J. O. Stewart, whose Squire Abingdon is well conceived; Mr. Alfred Brandon, who plays with discretion as Richard Abingdon; Mr. H. Bonhote Wilson from whom comes a delightful picture of the Farmer Carnaby; and Miss Lalla Stanhope, a good Sybil Thorburn.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE, LTD.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—Despite many repetitions, the drawing powers of *A Royal Divorce* seem to be undiminished. Miss Edith Cole is again the Josephine and Mr. Frederick Victor the Napoleon. Miss Agnes Imlay is a capital Marie Louise.

LYRIC THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs. T. Barrasford and F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Coles.—A programme of exceptional talent has drawn good business during the holiday week in spite of the fine warm weather. Charles Majilton and company hold the premier position in an amusing sketch entitled *The Scotsman in Paris*; Sterling and Love are clever both as vocalists and instrumentalists; the Sisters Melba come in for a full share of the applause for their pleasing songs; Emmie Anness is a delightful comedienne; Haidee Lee and Wallace Kingston are good in their sketch, *Practical Joking*; Fields and Lewis are clever; Harry Bancroft is also good.

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—*Wep-Ton-No-Mah* is on a return visit here. The work of Miss Go-Won-Go Mohawk as the Indian mail carrier, is greatly admired; Mr. C. W. Charles does excellently as Colonel Stockton; and a sufficiently villainous Manuel Lopes is found in Mr. Edward Leroy.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—The beautiful tableaux shown by Henriette De Serris and company occupy a prominent place in the programme here this week. An acceptable turn comes from the El Tampico trio of Mexican troubadours; a deal of merriment is aroused by the comedians Cedar and Elgar; Nell Emerald renders several songs in pleasing style; Barrington Foote and company have a neatly presented episode, *The End of the Story*; Sam Spira sings and patters at the piano; Talberto and Douglas are eminently amusing with their talk and antics; as comedy acrobatic equilibrists the Two Falcons prove very enjoyable; and others in the list are Arthur Royce, comedian at the piano; and Woolmer Young, vocalist.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole. Good business continues to be done here by the "Royal" Stock Company, who this week are producing Walter Howard's *A Life's Revenge*. Mr. Percy Boucher proves exceedingly funny as Nicholas Bobliskioff; Mr. Sydney Grant plays with effect the rôle of Prince Boris; a manly Paul comes from Mr. Harry Tresham; and Mr. Robert Wilton handles the part of Maurice Trevor with credit; Miss Beryl Ravenswood is a dignified Marcia; Miss Florence Palmer earns popularity for her Princess Vanda; and satisfactory work is also done by Mr. Cecil Ravenswood (Colonel Tumbleoff), Mr. Leo Montgomery (Clarence Chesterfield), and Miss Florence Cameron (Acoulina). The Royal Bioscope has the latest pictures.

PADDINGTON PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. M. Montgomery.—The "Royal" Stock Company are here this week, presenting E. Hill-Mitchelson's drama, *When the Lights are Low*, the principal parts in which are held by Messrs. Charles Herberte (Admiral Goldsworthy), Frank S. Strickland (Captain Goldsworthy), Wallace Campbell (Guy Goldsworthy), H. G. Brandon (Ikey), Francis E. Wybert (Macpherson), Miss Gladys Hastings-Walton (Nan), Miss Nina Nazeby (Violet), and Miss Evelyn Kingston (Stella). The latest pictures on the Royal Bioscope are a feature of the programme.

PARK PALACE.—Proprietors, Lancashire Vaudeville Syndicate, Ltd.; General Director, Mr. Walter De Frece.—The stock company here are this week presenting *Her Wedding Day*, from the pen of E. T. De Banzie.

WESTMINSTER.—Lessee, Mr. Fred E. Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—Top of the programme here this week are Gladys and Alber, a humorous couple, who present a novel comedy tumbling act; the dancing Gilberts earn loud applause; Loudon Cameron has some mystifying conjuring tricks; the Melroses submit a funny sketch, *The New Page*; as a comedian Bob Williams raises many a laugh; and Violet Ashcroft has some papular songs.

OLYMPIA, LTD.—Manager, Mr. A. W. Young.—In big type here this week is *The Duchess of Tooting*, a capital musical comedy presented by Sydney Bacon and company. The wonderful diving feat of Kearney P. Speedy was watched with breathless astonishment; Albert Whelan came in for a cordial reception on account of his smart all-round entertainment; a pretty show, entitled *The Punch and Judy Girl*, produced by C. S. John Denton and George Rowland's company of juveniles, including little Marjorie Lawrence, was appreciated; Bert Harrow provoked great laughter with his songs and patter; the Robertys proved themselves exceedingly clever juvenile whirlwind dancers; Tom Lally, possessing a rich bass voice, rendered songs in good style; Frank Couch was full of new patter; and Blanche Vincent, comedienne, acquitted herself with credit. "Across the Atlantic in Ten Minutes" was the title of the attractive bioscope film.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Wilkie Bard, at the top of the bill here this week, has proved as big a draw as ever; Lil Hawthorne, a favourite in Liverpool, earned a flattering reception for her latest songs; Fernie's Juveniles, including the Sisters Herbert, created great fun; Arthur Aldridge rendered most pleasingly several tenor songs; much laughter followed the acrobatic work of The Tupps; Isobel Dillon and child presented a neat singing and dancing speciality; the somersault work of the Huxter Brothers won loud applause; an attractive dramatic episode, *The Mystery of the Cliff*, by Will Evans and Tom Craven, was much appreciated; and Tray and Rich, black and white comedians, were exceedingly diverting.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors, Liverpool Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. James Marks.—Another attractive bill is offered here this week, at the head of it being the Three Olympiers, whose beautiful posing has aroused a deal of appreciation; Terry and Lambert, an able comedy couple, came in for hearty applause by reason of their smart burlesques; Bert Coote's Yankee Doodle Girls earned encores for their neat songs and dances; some excellent pieces were rendered by the Five Casinos, brass instrumentaliste; Chas. J. Johnson, the black diamond, proved as amusing as ever; Georgina Leonard had a number of popular songs, and creditable turns came from Maud Esmond, vocal comedienne; Dan Whitley, comedian; and Harry Wenburn, comedian.

HAYMARKET.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. Edwin W. Smith.—The prolonged engagement here of Harry Calden and company continues, the dramatic sketch this week being *A Romany's Trust, or, the Reward of Crime*. Variety turns are given by Chris Masters, who has some taking songs; Nell Brough, vocalist and whistler; and Joe Perry, speciality artist. The Haymarket Bioscope shows excellent films.

THEATRE MODERNE.—Licensee, Mr. Gooes.—This place, formerly known as the Parthenon Music Hall, is doing good business with its excellent selection of bioscope pictures.

HOLLOWAY EMPIRE.

The principal attraction at this popular home of vaudeville this week is the production of "a musical incident" entitled *The Punch Bowl*. The curtain on rising discovers a group of old English gentlemen gathered round the festive board, and, after a number of songs, the episode concludes with their departure for bed at cockcrow. Nothing in the shape of a connected story is attempted, but the music of the vocal numbers, of which there are some half-dozen, displays considerable merit, both from a melodious and musicianly point of view; and Miss Constance Gippett, who is responsible for the score, is to be congratulated on her efforts. Messrs. G. P. Huntley and Herbert Clayton, whose company present the trifle, have not spared expense in mounting it, the scene and hunting costumes strongly reminding one of Mr. Aldin's hunting pictures. Messrs. John Donald, Aubrey Carter, Albert Chapman, Robert Selby, Milroy Cooper, Albert Sims, and Ralph Nairn, who portray the various characters, all work well, particular mention being due to a study of the old Squire, a neat little sketch. Applause of a hearty nature followed the progress of the novelty, which from its original and pleasing features should make no uncertain bid for popular approval. The Gothams occupy the other position of honour this week, and in their singing and humorous business make as good an impression as ever. Frank Leslie in "The Kerbstone Millionaire" meets with a good reception. Dion Wade does well with his song, "What do you want to talk about it for?" and his imitations of Harry Lauder and George Robey (particularly the latter) are very clever, his reception being very gratifying. Mlle. Ameda, a speciality artist, submits a clever and entertaining turn, her concluding business with three large balls displaying considerable skill, and her act gains much applause. Mr. Thomas E. Finglass, a delineator of negro life, has two very good songs; the first, "My Burma Belle," is a pretty song, and was cordially greeted, and his second item, "Idaho," in which he was assisted by Miss Gracie Persse and a girl quartette, is very bright and attractive, a feature being the dance at the finish. A very hearty call rewards his efforts. The Macarte Sisters give a very skilful performance on the tight wire, and their ability as musicians and dancers is displayed to advantage. The turn finishes with a sensational serpentine dance performed by one of the trio on a slack wire suspended from the teeth of the other two, who are hanging from a trapeze. A well-earned call at the close testifies to their success. Alexandre and Hughes in gag and melody cause some genuine amusement, their ability as musical entertainers also being much in evidence. Frank Bertram and Co., in a comedy sketch, *The Chaperon*, are responsible for some hearty laughter. The plot turns on the assumption by a man-servant of the rôle of a mother in order to respect the scruples of Mrs. Grundy during the visit of his master's fiancée. The situations that are thus created lend themselves to hilarity, a fact of which Mr. Bertram and the lady and gentleman who support him take every advantage. The reception of the sketch was very cordial, and the call undeniable. The Bioscope continues to be an attraction.

ROYAL ALBERT.

Amusement-seekers whose tents are pitched in Canning Town have every reason to entertain sentiments of gratitude towards Mr. Arthur G. H. Hunt, proprietor and manager of this go-ahead establishment, for the excellence of the entertainment he places before them. Even on such a record-breaking day—climatically speaking—as Easter Monday, when the glorious weather offered almost irresistible temptations to holiday-makers to enjoy themselves out of doors, the three complete performances presented by Mr. Hunt were of a sufficiently attractive nature to lure thousands of his patrons within the walls of his cool, cosy, and comfortable hall, there to enjoy a programme that would be difficult to surpass for mirth-provoking qualities. The bill is topped this week by Leonard Mortimer and his clever company, in the interesting sensational sketch, *The Country's Cause*, which tells the story of an English officer who, in the face of great temptation, does his duty nobly for his country. The sketch is a cleverly-constructed piece of work, carried out in dialogue at once pointed and appropriate, and commendably free from bombast. Mr. Mortimer himself, with his well-known breeziness of manner and his engaging personality, makes an attractive figure of the hero, entirely succeeding in enlisting the sympathies of his audience. The chief actor is well supported in every part; but as the programme does not supply the cast we are unable to award individual commendation to the ladies and gentlemen engaged. Suffice it to say that all work loyally in support of "the chief," and richly deserve the applause which accompanies their performance. The piece is effectively staged and dressed.

Mr. Johnny Fuller, described as "the great little cat on the wire," dances, leaps, and walks the wire, with wonderful dexterity, at the same time preserving an almost lifelike fidelity to the habits of the domestic pussy. Mr. Charles Ulrick astonishes his audience with his performance as a barrel and "trancka" wonder. The Brothers Ashley contribute a comedy boxing sketch, *Next, Please*, which goes with a perfect roar of laughter from beginning to end. The humours of the sketch are simply irresistible, and it is played for all it is worth by Messrs. Harry Ashley and Wag Ashley, who indulge in a boxing match, W. Barnes, and Frank Yapp. A pretty, original, and interesting sketch, entitled *Captain Hamilton, V.C.*, deals with the remorse of a would-be burglar when confronted with the innocence of a little boy. Whimsical Walker gives a close, delicate study of the "waster," and is well seconded by Miss Molly Moore, who plays the part of the boy with an artistic taste and refinement that are really wonderful in one so young. To Mr. Tom Collins is, perhaps, due the credit of introducing to the *élite* of Canning Town the newest dress for "dandy" men, and his immaculate frock costume of purple suits him admirably. Not more so, however, than his two songs, the latter of which, the popular "Fly Away," goes remarkably well. The finishing touch, "Fly away Bannerman, come back Joe," meeting with the approval that clearly indicates the political views of the majority of the audience. Vernon and Burdell repeat a success as speciality artists that has won for them success wherever they have appeared. The Burnells, in their popular sketch, *On the Links*, are responsible for uproarious hilarity, which is as spontaneous as it is well deserved; and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux show some clever films. The orchestra, under the direction of Mr. J. Stark, plays an admirable overture. Mr. Alfred Levy, assistant-manager and secretary of the Palace, works well for the comfort and convenience of the audience, and Mr. A. G. Everitt proves himself an able stage-manager.

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, March 13.—Mr. Ben Greet and his company are fulfilling an engagement at the Garden Theatre, presenting a series of Shakespearean plays after the Elizabethan manner. Despite the lack of scenery and the accessories, which are commonly deemed indispensable to present-day dramatic enterprises, the performances given by Mr. Greet and his excellent company have been uniformly successful. The first play of the present series, *The Merchant of Venice*, was given for one week to a very satisfactory attendance. *Macbeth* is the current offering, with *Julius Cæsar* and *As You Like It* to follow. *Everyman*, with which Mr. Greet's name will always be associated, is to be the appropriate Easter attraction.

Mr. George Bernard Shaw's satirical comedy, *Widowers' Houses*, was produced for the first time in America last week by the Messrs. Shubert, at the Herald-square Theatre, and the piece is being presented as an afternoon attraction. The cast includes Mr. Herbert Kelcey, Miss Effie Shannon, Mr. William F. Hawtrey (specially engaged), and Mr. Ferdinand Gottschalk. It will be remembered that the action of the comedy, largely used as an excuse for clever dialogue, is intended to satirise the greed of London tenement house landlords.

"Mrs. Warren's Profession," theatrical fare which the authorities pronounced too unsavoury for popular consumption when it was offered at the Garrick Theatre last season, has been dished up again at the Manhattan Theatre without let or hindrance. According to the announcements, three thousand people were turned away on the opening night. Miss Mary Shaw appears in the title-rôle, as she did in the original production, and the cast includes Miss Catherine Courtiss and Mr. E. J. Ratcliffe.

Mr. E. H. Sothern and Miss Julia Marlowe have lately divided their time between *Jeanne d'Arc*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Sunken Bell*, and *Twelfth Night*. Large and appreciative audiences have been the rule, thanks to the finished art of the principals and the general excellence of the supporting company, of which Mr. Rowland Buckstone is a particularly popular member.

"On Parole," a four-act play, by Louis Evan Shipman, lately produced by Mr. Henry Miller at the Majestic Theatre, met with a favourable reception. The scenes are laid in Virginia during the period of the Civil War. Constance Pinckney is the bearer of secret dispatches to General Lee, and Major Dale, of the Federal Army, is in pursuit of her. He traces her to a rude dwelling, where she has quickly doffed her riding habit and put on a gingham dress belonging to Lucy Cress, the daughter of the humble house. There is a capital scene of cross-questioning and parrying, and the soldier is completely hoodwinked. The girl describes a short cut to her own home, knowing that he will disbelieve her, and take the longer road. This enables her to ride home first, and when they meet again she appears before him as the well-gowned and high-bred daughter of a distinguished Southern family. In the meantime she has sent word of the Northerners' coming to her brother, an officer in the Confederate Army, and undertakes to detain her visitor until troops arrive. The pair fall in love, but Major Dale discovers the trick that has been played upon him, and to prevent the girl from giving further aid to the Southern cause, puts her "on parole." This she agrees to, and tries to countermand her order to her brother, but is too late, and the Northern officer is trapped. His predicament, he thinks, is due to the Southern girl's duplicity, and not until a year later, when he saves her brother and brings him back wounded to the old Southern homestead, are the lovers brought together again and made happy. As Major Dale and Constance Pinckney, Mr. Vincent Serrano and Miss Charlotte Walker won the sympathey of the audience, playing their parts in a capable manner. Among the supporting company, Mr. Robert Cummings distinguished himself by his lifelike representation of a crippled soldier, on whom devolves the heart-breaking task of announcing Grant's victory and Lee's surrender.

THE LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

Dr. Walford Bodie is here this week, and with him a company of variety artists. Dr. Bodie gives an effective exhibition of the passing of electricity through his body, and this is followed by a humorous interlude, in which any member of the audience is invited to join, though few seem anxious to experiment. Those who do venture on the stage make the house roar with laughter at their evident surprise and discomfort, as they get unexpected "shocks." A wire is passed round the audience, and they are invited to have a shock; but here, again, few seem to desire an intimate acquaintance with electricity. Then the serious part of the performance commences, and some former patients come on the stage and give expression to their thankfulness to Dr. Bodie for the cures effected. Subsequently Dr. Bodie proceeds to treat a new patient. On the evening of our visit a young lady with paralysis of the leg was operated on, and after a few minutes' application of the electric current, she walked off the stage, carrying her leg-irons under her arm. Dr. Bodie is supported by a very capable company of variety artists, including Russell Reed and company, in a farcical comedietta, entitled *Binks's Blunder*; Bella Skene, burlesque actress; Clarence Mignon, an expert banjoist; Tom W. Mills, an actor-vocalist with a capital patriotic song; the Musical Acmes, in a drawing-room entertainment; and Belford and Mars, singers and dancers.

FOOTBALL.

The Bristol XLCR, Bristol Early Closers, Bristol XLCR Second, Harry Hare's Orchestral Band A.F.C., and Music Halls A.F.C. arranged an enjoyable ramble in the country for Good Friday. In the afternoon a football match took place. The following were the teams:—

Harry Hare's XI.—H. Beldings (goal); A. Hamlin (captain), and J. Lewis (backs); H. Slade, F. Harrison, and A. Mattock (half-backs); H. Edwards, E. Bowman, J. Aubrey, E. Belding, and P. Hewlett (forwards).

J. Pacey's XI.—F. B. Nicholls (goal); A. Cox and B. Elmore (backs); F. Thorne, J. Lacey (captain), and D. O'Connor (half-backs); H. C. Douglas, J. Leonard, M. Leonard, P. Reardon, and H. Clements (forwards).

Referee, H. Hare. Linesmen, G. Hedges and W. J. Horton. Result: Harry Hare's XI., nil; Joe Lacey's XI., four goals. J. Aubrey (two), J. Lacey and J. Lewis scored for the winning team.

The match was followed in the evening by a concert of an appropriate character.

Visitors to the Crystal Palace should not fail to see an entertainment which is now being given by Mr. Howard Crispin and his clever daughter in the Egyptian Court in the North Nave. It is almost sufficient to say that for seven years the Crispins were connected with Maskelyne and Cooke's entertainment in order to secure the interest of the public. Miss Crispin is mesmerised and blindfolded. In absolute silence she will then carry out any suggestions made to Mr. Crispin by members of the audience. Ladies are still continuing to take a keen interest in the Ostrich Farm, which is a feature of interest at the Crystal Palace, and the sale of feathers and boas is daily increasing. It is interesting to note in connection with this show that the birds are all reared from incubators and fed by artificial means. On Saturday next, the last night of the season of the great Asphalt Roller Skating Rink at the Crystal Palace, the popular rink superintendent, Mr. Albert T. C. Bridge, will take his benefit. A grand gala programme has been arranged, and Mr. Bridge will introduce his little son Cecil age three years, assuredly the youngest child skater in the world.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"PIQUE DAME,"

Opera, in Three Acts and Seven Scenes, by P. Tschaikowsky, produced at the Royal Opera, March 20, 1907.

Hermann	Herr Gruening
Count Tomsky	Herr Hoffmann
Prince Jeletzky	Herr Griswold
Czekalinsky	Herr Philipp
Saurin	Herr Krasa
Tschaplitzky	Herr Assmann
Narumoff	Herr Nebe
Gräfin	Frau Goetze
Pauline	Fraulein Rothauser
Gouvenante	Frau von Scheele-Mueller
Lisa	Fraulein Destinn
Mascha	Fraulein Lindemann
Festordner	Herr Alma
Knabe	Fraulein Jansen
Chlos	Fraulein Dietrich
Plutus	Herr Hoffmann
Daphnis	Fraulein Rothauser

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, Thursday, March 28.—The first production here of *Pique Dame*—to which we had so long looked forward—cannot be entirely recorded as a success, although its reception was not lacking in cordiality. Of this opera Tschaikowsky himself wrote in 1890—on its completion—that it was probably a "heartily bad" work, if it did not appear so to him at the moment. This would, however, be saying too much; there are passages of great beauty, and a master-hand is visible throughout, but it is wearisome in many places, and fails where it should be impressive or dramatic. A perfectly delicious bit of composition is a rococo number in the second act, which compensates for a good deal of disappointment. The libretto is extremely poor, and utterly unworthy of Tschaikowsky's music. A brother of the composer is responsible for the ridiculous book. An old Gräfin of doubtful reputation has acquired in no very honourable manner a big fortune by gambling. Her "secret" has made her famous at the tables, where she is known as the "Queen of Spades" (pique dame). Lisa, her pretty grand-daughter, is betrothed to a Russian Prince, and beloved by an officer, Hermann, whose poverty is proverbial. The latter determines to wring the old Countess's secret of luck from her, in order that he, too, may make a big coup and cut out the Prince. He forces his way to the bedroom of the Queen of Spades, but she dies of fright at his threats and takes her secret with her. Shortly afterwards the Countess's ghost appears to Hermann to give him the desired information, and he rushes to the tables to put the system to the test. He finds that the ghost has cheated him—not unnaturally, in the circumstances—and in despair he commits suicide. The interpretation was most creditable. Mr. Griswold scored tremendously, the American artist being applauded by open stage, and Fräulein Destinn, needless to say, made the best of the rôle of Lisa. Frau Goetze gave a good account of the name-part, and praise must be accorded to Herren Hoffmann, Gruening, and Krasa. Kapellmeister Blech conducted with customary skill, the chorus and orchestra acquitting themselves splendidly.

"DER GOTT DER RACHE,"

Drama, in Three Acts, by Schalom Asch, produced at the Deutsches Theatre, March 24.

Schepschowitsch	Herr Schildkraut
Sara	Fraulein Wangel
Riwkele	Fraulein Eilienschutz
Hindl	Fraulein Durieux
Manjka	Fraulein Burger
Bassia	Fraulein Berger
Resl	Fraulein Kupfer
Schlojme	Herr Hartan
Reb Elje	Herr Herzfeld
Reb Aron	Herr Pagay
Jude	Herr Gottowt
Jüdin	Fraulein Wismar

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, Thursday, April 4.—Of all the realistic plays we have had the last year or two this perhaps depicts most drastically the seamy side of life. Schalom Asch is a Russian dramatist of the younger generation, and his plays—unlike those of his compatriot Gorki—have been very favourably received in his own country. *The God of Vengeance* has been translated from the Russian Yiddish into German, and is supposed to be typical of Russian lower-class criminal life; but, for the matter of that, the circumstances might fit the depraved classes of any nation. The play has some similarity with Sudermann's *Die Ehre*, and it may at once be stated that the reception accorded to it was an enthusiastic one. The author, who was present, was called again and again on to the stage to receive the plaudits of the large audience—composed largely, it must be admitted, of his own countrymen. A few words will be sufficient to depict the plot, which is as follows: The Jew, Jankel Schepschowitsch, is the proprietor of a house of ill-fame, upon the proceeds of which he has acquired a fortune. His wife Sara he had selected from the ranks of the same class, but his young daughter Riwkele he hopes to keep from all knowledge and contact with evil. Schepschowitsch—who is responsible for the misery and ruin of so many girls—worships his own child, who knows, of course, nothing of her father's "profession." Vengeance overtakes him, and a terrible one. Riwkele, in her girlish innocence, has conceived a violent affection for one of the girls "down below"—that portion of the house of which Schepschowitsch's daughter is to be kept apart. Her romantic nature leads her to go for a secret walk with her friend one May night, when she—Riwkele—is supposed to be sleeping. The poor girl is shamefully duped and seduced, and the father learns of the disgrace. He understands now how the father's sins are visited on the children, and his desperation increases until he loses his reason. He curses his child and thrusts her from him to join her ill-fated sisters beneath. This is a bare sketch of the plot; the lines may be filled in at will.

At the Lustspielhaus on Thursday a new one-act serious play was produced for the first time, sandwiched in between the merriest of farces. Its title is *Halover*, and the author is a lady—Frau Brock. There is but little to say in its favour, and the reason of its production is not easy to solve. The plot is most obscure, and what might be in other circumstances passable dialogue is rendered unintelligible by the mixture of dialects. The scene is laid in Friesland. An honest old ferryman—but obstinate withal—has forbidden his son Suno to have anything more to do with a neighbouring family named Ufinger, the reason being, as far as one can make out, lack of dowry on the part of the maiden whom Suno loves, and to whom he was once, with his father's consent, engaged. The elder man is ill in bed, Suno has charge of the ferry; but when the call "Hal ower" comes he is absent, having gone secretly to see his sweetheart. His father, in a fit of rage, gets up and obey's duty's call, but is brought home dying. Poor Suno is forced to promise to give up the girl of his heart, but we feel, as the curtain falls, that some day nature will be too strong and he will break his word. The little piece was cordially received, but will hardly see many more performances.

The Komische Oper produced Berlioz's *Damnation de Faust* recently with a good deal of success. Every justice was done to the beautiful music, Fräulein Artot in particular making a hit in the rôle of Margarete. Offenbach's charming *Hoffmann's Erzählungen* is still given two and three times a week, so that there is but little call for novelties.

Auzengruber's inexhaustible comedy, *Der G'wissenswurm* has been revived at the Luisen Theatre. The famous dramatist's plays will live for all time in this country and his native Austria, and *Der G'wissenswurm* is one of his best productions. It made its customary mark, being excellently interpreted in the principal characters. Herr Bach as Dusterer, Frau Witte-Bach as Horlacherlies, Herr Ruff in the part of Grillhofer, and Herr Merker as Wastl gave faultless renderings, and were frequently applauded by open stage. The amusing piece is running successfully through the holidays.

Herr Benno Jacobson has scored again by his four-act burlesque *Der Triumph des Weibes*, produced at the Apollo last week. Herren Helmesberger and Lincke have furnished some bright music to it, and the interpretation is a capital one. The plot is not easy to detail; in fact, there is hardly any plot worthy of the name; but the scenes are all brimful of fun, which is the chief thing after all in a piece of this kind. There are the usual number of couplets or topical patter-songs, all of which were received with frantic applause. Artists, authors, and manager were called repeatedly, and the piece will certainly enjoy a lengthy run.

The managers have done, as usual, excellent business during the Easter holidays. Popular pieces were given, mostly of a cheerful type. The Kleines, it is true, gave on Easter Sunday and Monday an afternoon performance of Maxim Gorki's gloomy tragedy *Nachtasyl*, but this piece has always, strangely enough, held a warm corner in the hearts of the Berliners. At the Residenz Theatre the broad farce *Haben Sie nichts zu verzollen* drew a crowded house at each performance. It has been given on fifty consecutive nights, and there is no diminution of popularity at present.

LADIES AT HOCKEY.

Miss Cecilia Fowler's Eleven v. Miss Winifred Bradley's Eleven.

Played near Clifton Downs on March 23. Miss Lilla Carter, although not quite recovered from her injury received in the match last Saturday, very pluckily turned out for her club. The following were the teams:—

Miss Fowler's Eleven:—Miss Ethel Bowman, goal; Miss Lilla Carter and Miss Ivy Bowman, backs; Miss Cecilia Fowler (captain), Miss May Dadley, and Miss Lillie Belding, half-backs; Miss Minnie Leonard, Miss Gracie Leonard, Miss Trixie Maynard, Miss Amy Bernard, and Miss Lillie Clayton, forwards.

Miss Bradley's Eleven:—Miss May Fisher, goal; Miss Alice Gibbs and Miss Rosie Davies, backs; Miss Edie Lawrence, Miss Gertrude Thomas, and Miss Nell Lawrence, half-backs; Miss Winifred Bradley (captain), Miss Irene Bradley, Miss Kit Montgomery, Miss Maudie Burgess, and Miss Minnie Hamilton, forwards.

Referee: Miss Nesta Beaumont.

Result: Miss Cecilia Fowler's Eleven, nil; Miss Winifred Bradley's Eleven, 1 goal. Miss Rosie Davies scored the goal.

Miss Cecilia Fowler's XI. v. Miss Winifred Bradley's XI.

Played near Clifton Downs on Saturday, March 30.

Included in the former team was Miss Nellie Bailey, a former member of the club, recently returned from Canada.

The following were the teams:—

Miss Fowler's XI.—Miss Ethel Bowman, goal; Miss Ivy Bowman and Miss Lilla Carter, backs; Miss Cecilia Fowler (Captain), Miss Lillie Belding, and Miss Nellie Bailey, half-backs; Miss Trixie Maynard, Miss Amy Bernard, Miss Florrie Hooper, Miss Bertha Godfrey, and Miss Alice Mitchell, forwards.

Miss Bradley's XI.—Miss May Fisher, goal; Miss Rosie Davies and Miss Alice Gibbs, backs; Miss Nell Lawrence, Miss Edie Lawrence, and Miss Gertrude Thomas, half-backs; Miss Irene Bradley, Miss Winnie Bradley (captain), Miss Kit Montgomery, Miss Minnie Hamilton, and Miss Lucy Norris, forwards.

Referee: Miss Maudie Burgess.

Result: Miss Bradley's XI., 1 goal; Miss Fowler's XI., nil. Miss Rosie Davies scored the only goal.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

MELBOURNE, Feb. 20.—Theatre Royal (Lessee, Mr. William Anderson; Business-Manager, Mr. Julius Grant).—The sensational melodrama of Australian life entitled *The Squatter's Daughter* has evidently hit the public taste, and it is attracting large audiences nightly. Miss Eugenie Duggan as the heroine is pleasing and natural, and is ably supported by Mr. George Cross and the rest of Mr. Anderson's company. The scenery is on a lavish scale, and, taken on the whole, *The Squatter's Daughter* is undoubtedly one of Mr. Anderson's best productions this season.

Opera House (Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Aydon).—A strong bill is being presented just now, the chief attractions including Charles Leonard Fletcher and his clever impersonations, King and Benson, Charlene and Charlene, the Four Kwerries, Cora Casselli, Annie Laurie, Ada Saddler, Leonie Dixon, Rochefort and Hart, and Joe Lashwood; while other acceptable "turns" are given by Olive Robinson, Brightie Smith, Maud Florence, Eileen Lyons, and the Gaumont Chronophone. Yesterday afternoon Mr. Rickards, with his customary generosity, gave his theatre and the services of his entire company free for a matinée performance, in aid of the two little children of the late Mr. Frank Clark, who are in destitute circumstances. The performance was well attended, and it is understood a substantial sum has been raised for the two unfortunate children.

"THE ERA."

EARLY DELIVERY.

Special Newspaper Express Services now running on the London and North-Western, Great Northern, Midland, and Great Central Railways, carry *The Era* to the following important cities and towns at the times named. Newsvendors and subscribers obtain their papers at a much earlier hour than was previously possible.

	a.m.
RUGBY	4.30
COVENTRY	4.54
BIRMINGHAM	5.20
CREWE	5. 5
MANCHESTER	6.50
LIVERPOOL	7. 0
CHESTER	9. 3
DONCASTER	6.10
YORK	7. 0
HULL	8.20
DARLINGTON	8.58
SCARBOROUGH	10. 5
NEWCASTLE	10.10
LEEDS (Central)	6.58
HUDDERSFIELD	7.37
BRADFORD (Exchange)	7.47
HARROGATE	7.50
HALIFAX	8.17
BURNLEY	9.28
LEICESTER	4.36
NOTTINGHAM	5.10
DERBY	5.36
SHEFFIELD	6. 6

AMUSEMENTS IN BRUSSELS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Although spring has sprung upon us in a most unexpected manner, our theatres have been exceptionally well patronised during the Easter festivities.

The Royal Opera House (la Monnaie) plays to packed houses every night. Mary Garden is singing *Manon*, or *Pelleas and Melisande*, and Richard Strauss's splendid opera *Salomé*, translated from the words of Oscar Wilde, is in the bill. The first performance in Brussels took place last week, and the reception was enthusiastic.

The Parc has staged Daudet's *Arlésienne* ("The Love that Kills") with G. Bizet's tuneful score, and, needless to say, has found the revival financially successful.

The Olympia is crowded every night with people anxious to follow the innocently risky adventures of Paul Gavault and Robert Charvay's heroine, *Mademoiselle Josette, ma Femme*, so finely acted by Jane Delmar, Normand, and especially Treville, an actor not unknown in England.

The Alcazar has a very attractive item in Louis Forest's farce, *Amour and Cie.*

The Vaudeville, after 100 performances of *Nothing to Declare?* has revived *Madame Mongodin* for the fêtes, and is now playing *Nos Omles s'Amusent*, another farce of the usual Palais Royal type.

The Molière, having a host of good singers, has given us a few comic operas of the not too ancient style, such as *Si j'étais Roi*, Adam's gem, and Auber's well-known *Domino Noir* and *Fra Diavolo*, and is now billing Hirchmann's *Petite Bohéme*, pending a fine revival of Audran's *Miss Helyett*.

The management of the Galeries St. Hubert are giving revivals of their old successes before their retirement. Mme. Maugé and her son, who have conducted this favourite house for years, have come to the end of their lease, and the theatre will reopen next season under the able direction of M. Fonson, the Olympia's most artistic manager.

The Scala announces the last performances of Norman French, Dixon, and the gorgeous operetta *Les Vierges du Harem*. Their season has been particularly good.

Easter Eve witnessed, as every year, one of the principal events of the Brussels season, namely, the reopening of the Palace d'Eté, that unique establishment in Belgium which, since its opening, has steadily prospered under the clever management of Messrs. Malpertuis and Outshoorn. The hall has still been improved this year. The stalls are on a fine rake now to the end of the promenade, and one can see well from every seat, and even the top galleries have been provided with tip-up seats. As for the programme: The Sanderos, acrobats; the Three Sisters Rüderer, charming Tyrolese singers; Ganivet II., an eccentric comedian; the Friemel, on the parallel bars; Temkin Bulba, an artist who skilfully plays the accordion; the Elgonas, comic acrobats; the eccentric Thorn; the Nine Yankee-Doodle Girls, very clever in their dances, songs, and march past à la Tiller; the Three Seldoms, a beautiful representation of marble statues à la Marcel; and the lovely and graceful Dora Parnès, in her new original act, "the animated postcards." All these contributed to amuse and interest a record house, where predominated the English-speaking element.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

The arbitration proceedings in the music-hall dispute will be resumed on Wednesday next. The artists expect to finish their case on that day and the proprietors' reply will occupy the remainder of the week. The following Monday the case for the stage employés will be opened by the evidence of witnesses, so it may be assumed that the next two weeks will finish the proceedings.

To-day (Saturday) will be the eleventh week for which dispute pay has been paid to members of the N.A.T.E. involved in the dispute. There are about forty still in receipt of an allowance.

A meeting of bioscope operators was held on Friday last in the office of the National Association of Theatrical Employés to consider various suggestions regarding the formation of a society for operators of living pictures, &c. Some propose that a separate society be formed, others that the V.A.F. be asked to admit operators, and others prefer that a separate branch be formed in connection with the N.A.T.E. These proposals will be submitted to the whole body of operators, and those interested in the matter are advised to write Mr. William Johnson, 29, Wellington-street, Strand.

The Sothern-Marlow company, which will shortly open at the Waldorf Theatre, have brought quite a crowd of members of the American Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employés, no less than ten members being with the company. Mr. J. O'Brien, a member of the New York Branch of the Alliance, is the master carpenter, Mr. Santray is the electrician, and Mr. Gupbolt the property master. Mr. Gupbolt is the only Britisher, and he worked at the Old Princess's Theatre, Oxford-street, many years ago. Not one of the members of the Alliance is in receipt of less than £5 a week, and some are receiving considerably more!

The committee formed to organise the Theatrical Regatta is now at work, and a meeting will be held on Sunday evening to proceed with the arrangements. In reply to inquiries respecting the Theatrical Sports, it may be said that no decision has been arrived at pending the consideration of a suggestion that they should be combined with the Sports it is proposed to give on Federation Day at the Crystal Palace in connection with the celebration organised by the Variety Artists' Federation. Next week some information may be available.

RE "THE JUDGMENT OF PHARAOH."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I observe that Mr. Alfred C. Calmour is shortly produced a play, entitled *The Judgment of Pharaoh*, dealing with the Children of Israel in Egypt. I have myself just completed a play on the subject of the Exodus, and as I am not so well known as Mr. Calmour, I should dislike to be accused either of plagiarism or the appropriation of that gentleman's ideas. I might mention that my play—*A Daughter of the Pharaohs*—was inspired by Sir Alma Tadema's picture, "The Finding of Moses," and was begun by me nearly two years ago, after seeing that celebrated painting in the Royal Academy. I might further mention that Mr. Ernest Lipschutz, the concert agent of New Bond-street, read the scenario of my play, the prologue, and a portion of the first act, over twelve months ago, and he will, no doubt, verify the accuracy of my statement. As I hope ere long to submit *A Daughter of the Pharaohs* to the public, either through the medium of a publisher or that of the stage, I beg that you will be kind enough to insert this letter, in order that I may avoid any subsequent friction that might arise over so remarkable a coincidence.—I am, Sir, yours respectfully,

DUSE MOHAMED.

April 2, 1907.

A copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps. *The Era* is posted on Saturday in time to reach London Subscribers by the *first* Town Delivery, and Country Subscribers should receive their Papers by the *first* London Post. Address, the Publisher, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

PURITANS AND THE PLAYHOUSE.

The unreasoned criticism which is in some quarters being poured out upon the theatre and allied amusements recalls to mind an illustration of the bigotry which is common among the unsophisticated given by Mrs. Alec Tweedie in her book "Behind the Footlights," published by Hutchinson and Co.

There was, says Mrs. Tweedie, an old Scotch body—an educated, puritanical person—who once informed me, "The the-a-ter is very bad, very wicked, ma'am."

"Why?" I asked, amazed yet interested.

"It's full of fire and lights like Hell. They just discuss emotions there, ma'am, and it's morbid to discuss emotions and just silly conceit to think about them. I like deeds, and not talk—I do!"

"You seem to think the theatre a hotbed of iniquity?"

"Aye, indeed I do, ma'am. They even make thunder. Fancy daring to make thunder for amusement as the good God does to show His wrath—thunder with a machine—it's just dreadful, it is."

The grosser the exaggeration the more readily it provokes conversation. I was dying to argue, but fearing to hurt her feelings, I merely smiled.

"Have you ever been to a theatre?" I ventured to ask, not wishing to disturb the good dame's peace of mind.

"The Lord forbid!"

That settled the matter; but I subsequently found that the old body went to bazaars, and did not mind a little flutter over raffles, and on one occasion had even been to hear the inimitable George Grossmith in Inverness, when—

"He was not dressed-up-like, so it wasn't a regular the-a-ter, and he was just alone, ma'am, wi' a piano, so there was no harm in that," added the virtuous dame, complacently folding her hands across her portly form.

Wishing to change the subject, I asked her how her potatoes were doing.

"Bad, bad," she replied, "they're awfu' bad, the Lord's agin us the year; but we must jist make the best of it, ma'am."

She was a thoroughly good woman, and this was her philosophy. She would make the best of the lack of potatoes, as that was a punishment from above; but she could not sanction play-acting any more than riding a bicycle on the Sabbath.

Dealing with the stage as a career, Mrs. Tweedie writes with a sympathetic pen:—

There are many perils on the stage, to which of course only the weak succumb; but the temptations are necessarily greater than in other professions.

Temptations lie open on all sides for the actor and actress, and those who pass through the ordeal safely are doubly to be congratulated, for the man who meets temptation and holds aloof is surely a finer character than he who is merely "good" because he has never had a chance of being anything else. What an amount of work and experience, too, is necessary to ensure a satisfactory ending, more particularly upon the boards, where all is not gold that glitters. At best the crown is only brass, the shining silver only tin, and in nine theatres out of every ten the regal ermine but a paltry rabbit-skin. Glitter dazzles the eye. Nevertheless, behind it beat good hearts and true; while hard work, patient endurance, and courage mark the path of the successful player. Work does not degrade a man; but a man often degrades his work.

If, as the old body said, it be morbid to discuss emotions, and egotistical to feel them, it is still the actor's art, and that is probably why he is such a sensitive creature, why he is generally in the highest spirits or deepest depths of woe, why he is full of moods and as varying as a weathercock. Still he is charming, and so is his companion in stageland—the actress. Both entertain us, and amusement is absolutely essential to a healthy existence.

When one considers the wonderful success of women upon the stage to-day, and their splendid position socially, it seems almost impossible to believe that they never acted in England until the reign of Charles I., when a French company which numbered women among its players crossed the Channel, and craved a hearing from Queen Henrietta Maria. One critic of the time called them "unwomanish and graceless"; another said, "Glad am I they were hissed and hooted"; but still they had come to stay, and slowly, very slowly, women were allowed to take part in theatrical performances. We all know the high position they hold to-day.

In 1660 there were only two theatres in London, the King's and the Duke of York's, the dearest seats were the boxes at four shillings, the cheapest the gallery at one shilling. Ladies wore masks at the play, probably because of the coarse nature of the performances, which gradually improved with the advent of actresses.

In days gone by the playhouse was not the orderly place it is nowadays, and the unfortunate "mummers" had to put up with every kind of nuisance until Colley Cibber protested, and Queen Anne issued a Proclamation (1704) against disturbances. In those days folk arrived in sedan chairs, and their noisy footmen were allowed free admission to the upper gallery to wait for their lords and ladies, added to which the orange girls called their wares and did a brisk trade in carrying love-missives from one part of the house to the other. Before the players could be heard they had to fight their way on to the boards, where gilded youth lolled in the wings and even crossed the stage during the rendering of a scene.

It was about this time that Queen Anne made a stand against the immorality of the stage, and ordered the Master of the Revels (much the same post as the Lord Chamberlain now holds) to correct these abuses. All actors, mountebanks, &c., had to submit their plays or entertainments to the Master of the Revels in Somerset House from that day, and nothing could be performed without his permission.

The stage has a curious effect on people. Many a person has gone to see a play, and some line has altered the whole course of his life. Some idea has been put forth, some tender note played upon which has opened his eyes to his own selfishness, his own greed of wealth, his harshness to a child, or indifference to a wife. There is no doubt about it, the stage is a great power, and that is why it is so important the influence should be used for good, and that illicit love and demoralising thoughts should be kept out of the theatre, with its mixed audiences and susceptible youth. According to a Swiss report:

"The Berne authorities, holding that the theatre is a powerful instrument for the education of the masses, have decided that on two days of the week the seats in the theatre, without exception, shall be sold at a uniform price of fivepence. 'Under the direction of the manager,' writes a correspondent, 'the tickets are enclosed in envelopes, and in this form are sold to the public. The scheme has proved a great success, especially among the working classes, whom it was meant to benefit. To prevent ticket speculators making a "corner," the principle of one ticket for one person has been adopted, and the playgoer only knows the location of his seat after he enters the theatre. No intoxicants are sold and no passes are given. The expenses exceed the receipts, but a reserve fund and voluntary contributions are more than sufficient to meet the deficit.'"

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

Manchester Easter Fairs.

COTTONOPOLIS had its ancient fairs, but these were all absorbed in the great Knott Mill Fair, held in Campfield, at the end of Deansgate, at Eastertide. Knott Mill Fair dated back to the year 1761, and lasted in undiminished glory for over 100 years. It had its origin in the festivities attending the opening of the Bridgwater Canal—a notable Manchester event commemorated in one of Ford Madox Brown's famous pictures that now adorns the walls of the City Hall in Albert-square.

Memories of the Past.

BEFORE its abolition in 1876, Knott Mill Fair was one of the best Corporation controlled fairs in the country, and marked the beginning of the show season in the cotton districts. From Shudehill to Deansgate, and then right away to Liverpool-road, gaily-decked stalls lined the streets. On Campfield itself the whole of the Corporation fair-ground was taken up with the best shows in the country—such shows as Wombwell's, Manders' menagerie, Pablo Fanque Circus, Calver's marionettes, Williams's mechanical show, Lomas's juvenile mummers, Day's menagerie, and smaller concerns by such well-known showmen as Chapman, West, Gregory, Buckley, Sedgwick, and others.

The Passing of Knott Mill Fair.

AFTER 1876 efforts were made to continue the fair at Pomona Gardens. When the gardens were sold to the Ship Canal Co. the showmen were compelled to divide their forces and to make the fair in the city suburbs at different points outside the one mile radius. The same Act of Parliament that abolished Knott Mill Fair also established that no fair could be held within one mile from the Town Hall at all points. Those were the bad days when showmen were unorganised, and there were no means of trade defence.

The Easter Fairs of To-Day.

THERE are now three or four fair-grounds in and around Manchester at Eastertide, and these draw together a much vaster crowd of patrons than even attended Knott Mill, and are provided with up-to-date shows and machine novelties that in the aggregate far outnumber and outshine the best and palmiest days of old Knott Mill Fair.

Queen's Road Fair.

MR. JOHN COLLINS, the proprietor of this capital fair-ground, has provided a splendid array of novelties for his Easter Week patrons. His own machines include the steam yachts, the twin ships in the air, and the four-abreast galloping horses. The other riding masters and machine owners are Messrs. George Green, with motor cars; James Hibbert and Sons, Newmarket riding school; Harrison Bros., with the American novelty ride and the Alpine flight; Royle, with horses, swings, and yachts; R. H. Williams, with tunnel railway; and gem sets of motors and horses by Messrs. Cardwell, Mercer, Humphries, Chaplain, and Montgomery. At the head of the show list stands Col. Clark's Classical Coliseum of Cinematographie, followed by Bailey's circus; Professor Gibson's Gem Empire and Temple of Occult Mystery; Harry Hughes's school of boxers and military tournament; Wall's freak exhibition; Eagle Davis, in knife-throwing demonstrations; Prof. Blakey, second sight and conjuring show; Mrs. Hughes, up-to-date peep-show; and Wm. Gibson's novelty booth. The minor novelties—always a big crowd at this fair—include shooting galleries, throwing games, football frames, variety stalls, and coker sheets by numerous caterers, amongst whom were Messrs. Mercer, Chaplain, Ingham, Jewell, Humphries, Horton, Clough, Dixon, Royle, Whatmore, Dunwell, Johnson, E. Dixon, and Cunthorpe with photo booth.

Trafford Road Fair.

THE lessee of this ground, Mr. W. Holmes, is also to be congratulated on the excellent variety and novelty of its attractions. Here the shows are James Norman's cinematograph theatre, Layland's marionettes, Samuel's living pictures, Priest's two ground booths (the performing sea lions and the armless lady artist), E. Ball's Queen Lilliput, Hague's black and white boxers, and Traynor's novelty booth. The machines are J. W. Waddington's motor cars, Wm. Holmes' jumping horses, Wm. Mitchell's motor track, T. Hurst's racing roosters, Isaac Richards' steam yachts, Shuttleworth's gem horses, motor cars, and swing boats, Brierley's gems and horses, and Henshaw's juvenile horses. The shooting galleries were by Messrs. Sedgwick, Marsden, Burton, Henshaw, and Harison. The throwing games and cokers were by Messrs. Whatmore, Henshaw, Beckett, Lorenzo, Black, Turner, Fearns, Crick, Traynor, Jones, Hart, Dearden, Holmes, Brannan, Jewell, and Connor.

Ordsall Lane Fair.

UNDER Mr. John Whiting's management, was occupied to the full of its limited capacity by a capital aggregation of fair-ground novelties, headed by the lessee's magnificent set, the Japanese cars from Tokio; Dennis's variety circus, Dobson's racing yachts, swings, throwing games, and shooters, Massey's swings, the variety frames, throwing games; and minor novelties by Messrs. Harrington, Varden, R. Holmes, Stanley, J. Leonard, Mrs. Whiting, E. Stanley Newall, J. Harrington, R. Harrington, and others.

Northenden Fair.

AT this pretty riverside Manchester suburban resort the fair was well maintained by John Walker, with steam horses, aerial flights, and other varieties; coker sheets by the Smith family; pannum stalls by R. Newall and local caterers.

Acorington Fair.

HERE the principal shows were Payne's Royal Bioscope, Green's Cinematograph, Prof. Blakey's occult mysteries, Gal Hague's school of boxers, Shaw's fine art gallery, and Ling's novelty booth. The machines included sets by Messrs. John and George Green, Mrs. Holden and Son, Mitchell Bros., Peter Makins, and Walter Shaw. The other caterers of popular amusements were T. Slater, Geo. Cornwell, Hughes and Martin, Ingham Bros., J. Richmond, Lorenzo Crick, Butterworth, Taylor, Grant, Harrison, Cummings, and others.

Tombland Fair at Norwich.

THE ancient Tombland Fair at Norwich opened on Maundy Thursday, and was continued on Monday and Tuesday of this week. There was a capital attendance of van-dwellers; the fine weather attracted the citizens as well as holiday-makers from the country to the fair, and good business has been done. Messrs. Barker and Thurston engaged the Agricultural Hall, and their mammoth motors did a roaring business. They also had another outside equally successful. The most attractive shows were Mr. Charles Thurston's Slipping-the-Slip, and a similar one of Mr. Holdsworth's. Mr. Chrichton's and Mr. Chas. Thurston's cinematograph shows were very popular. Among the other shows were the Prince of Mudie mysteries, Florence Seymour's curiosities, and C. Wheatley's boxing saloon. Among those who had rifle saloons were H. Parken, W. Abbott, G. Hearns, H. Westropp, J. Westropp, S. Stubbs, R. Parkens, W. Cheeseman, C. Wheatley, and J. Neale. With doll saloons there were C. Abbott, W. Westropp, J. Abbott, John Holmes, Jas. H. Norman, J. Osborne, W. Gray, E. Thompson, Lucky Odds, T. Bonds, C. Summers. With heads and bottles, T. W. Bond, W. Holmes. Other attractions were Aspland's motor-cars, F. Barnes' horses, Sydney Stock's, George Holmes' roundabouts, C. Barnes, Cheeseman's and Underwood's swings, Mackintosh, R. Spinks, Mrs. Rolfe with sweet stalls, North's weighing-machines, Chas. Summers' football, and A. Stocks; and others with toy bazaars, and notably Poulton, with Cracco, this being the forty-eighth annual visit.

A Showman Worthy.

EASTER Monday was the first anniversary of the death of a famous showman—Henry Hammersley—professionally known as Professor Wall, whose phantoscope show was justly celebrated on British fairgrounds.

GUILD subscriptions, 1907:—Per Mr. Shuttleworth: T. J. Court, 5s.; T. H. Newbold, 5s.

Blackburn Easter Fair.

HERE were gathered together, as usual, some of the best shows and machines in the British Empire—shows like Kemp's, Relph and Pedley's, Geo. Green's, Buff Bill's, Prof. Haydn's, and side-shows like Walter Shaw's and Charles Relph's take front rank of their kind in the world of shows. Then the machine list is always great and good—J. Green's motor-cars, Makin's flying motors, George Green's ostriches, and similar sets by Mrs. Holden and Wm. Mitchell, jun.; steam yachts and steam swings by Wm. Mitchell, Walter Shaw, and Mrs. Holden; big boats and highfliers by Messrs. Makin, Howarth, Slater, and J. Smith; shooting ranges and rifle galleries by Messrs. G. Cornwell, Barker, White, Starkie, and Mrs. John Cornwell; and the minor novelties—throwing games, stalls, &c.—were by Messrs. White, Harrington, Pickles, Slater, Wilson, Shorrocks, Ingham, and a crowd of local caterers.

Todmorden Fair

HAD for its entertainers—Prof. Matrillo, with conjuring; G. Marshall, with motor-cars; W. H. Taylor, with gallopers; H. Holland, with swings; and Messrs. Bentley, J. Sharp, E. Thomas, W. H. Taylor, and Holland, with minor attractions.

Middlesbrough Eastertide.

CROW'S cinematograph and galloping horses, O'Brien's Winchester range and varieties, Willey's swings and Emma sheet, Rich's swings and throwing games, and minor novelties by Messrs. Harker, Watkins, Rowley, Crow, Nichols, Peacock, Williams, Burroughes, Whitworth, Harris, Johnson, Smith, and Turton.

April Fair at Gainsborough.

DR. LAWRENCE'S cinematograph, Eva's varieties and picture show, Holland's cinematograph, and Smith and Warren's gondolas, switchback, and Winchester range and shooters, swings and varieties by Messrs. Tuby, Ball, Holland, Barwick, Smith, Illingworth, Gilliatt, and Eva made an excellent fair.

Bakewell Holidays

WERE well maintained by the local caterers, Messrs. Hall Bros., with shooters and other varieties.

Exeter Fair.

THIS famous Western city made merry this Eastertide with the high-class shows and novelties at its ancient fair. These were—Anderton and Rowland's palace of varieties and up-to-date films; Anderton and Rowland's gondolas and switchback; C. Heal's horses and flying motors, Winchester range, and varieties; and swings, throwing games, &c., by Newcombe, Morgan, Russell, and Heal.

News from Scotland.

THE fair at Dunfermline had for its principal attractions McIndoe's gondolas, Burton's galloping horses, Stewart Bros'. athletic show, Clark's Winchester range and big boats, Redpath's highfliers and swings, and other attractions by Messrs. Burton, Ellis, Clark, McIndoe, and Morris.

Notes from Wales.

AT Pontypridd Mr. Jacob Studt had his fine new motors and racers; also his up-to-date bioscope. Buttin's juvenile racers and Taylor's various amusements are also in the fair. Messrs. Wadbrooke were in the Park-yard, and did excellent business, some grand new pictures under the guidance of Mr. Jeffreys being shown.

STOLL'S Panopticon, in Cardiff, was full of amusements, while Mme. d'Arc, the Tussaud of Wales, had several new novelties.

MR. JOHN STUDT, with strong new amusements, is on his Welsh round.

THE clever Fossett family are on their annual tour, and Bostock and Wombwell's menagerie are doing good business throughout South Wales.

MESSRS. HY. STUDT AND SON are at Aberavon with their newest machines. Messrs. Dooner and Sons' bioscope is having a successful run with the newest pictures. Our old friend Gus makes a capable guide.

OTHER old friends are also at Aberavon—J. North and Sons, James Day, Boswell, and others.

AT Barry Dock good old John Johnson is breaking all records; also Mr. Ebley at Senghenith, Mr. Wm. Haggar at Neath, and Messrs. Johnson at Brynmawr.

MESSRS. HAGGAR AND SON'S bioscope shows are in the Mountain Ash district, and are, as usual, up to date.

MESSRS. CRECRAFT'S bioscope and lion show is doing good business on the Welsh ground.

Aberavon Fair.

THIS bi-annual flannel and pleasure fair was held on Easter Monday and Tuesday, and the general consensus of opinion of the stallholders and showmen was that it was the most successful that has been held in the town. The flannel portion, which is always a big attraction here, did very well, and got higher prices than last year. The pleasure-seekers were well looked after by Messrs. Henry and John Studt, with their magnificent motor-cars and zoological specialities; Messrs. Dooner's and Chipperfield's cinematographs; Baker's circus; Johnny North's shooting galleries, &c. When I mention that two-thirds of the cocoanut saloons had to shut up on Monday night owing to the large numbers patronising the fair it proves the huge success it was.

Carmarthen.

AT Carmarthen Park on Easter Monday, in connection with the Carmarthen Attractions Committee's grand sports, Capt. Spencer (of Messrs. Spencer Bros., Crystal Palace) made a successful balloon ascent and parachute descent, although the balloon did not rise to a very high altitude. Lieut. Chard's canine hippodrome was one of the attractions, and the troupe of trained dogs gave a really clever performance. Messrs Hess and Lisbon also appeared in trick and fancy roller skating, and in their grotesque performance, *The Jumbo Policeman*, and both items took well with the immense crowd.

Londoners at Play.

EAST LONDON has many fairs at Eastertide, but the greatest of these is Wanstead Flats, the glorious open space on the fringe of Epping Forest, at Forest Gate. East Londoners in their tens of thousands crowded their much-appreciated playground on all the days of the Easter Holidays. The immense quadrangle of the fair was occupied by the shows, machines, throwing games, varieties, and stalls, that all pleasure-seekers delight in. Chief amongst these were Wm. Taylor's magnificent cinématograph theatre, Ball's electric bioscope, J. Barker's Coliseum of pictures and varieties, and Walter Payne's living pictures. The machine novelties were Swale and Forrest's Japanese airship, Thurston's motors, switchback, four-abreast gallopers, and their combined set of motors and horses, Marshall Hill's motor track, W. Symonds's switchback, and Smith and Whittle's switchback; swings, football games, variety frames, coker shies, and throwing games in great profusion, by Messrs. Bolesworth Bros., Harris Bros., Forrest Bros., Taylor, Parker, Davies, Powell, Bond, Jones, and photo. booth by C. Brooke.

Wormwood Scrubs.

THE Western Londoner enjoys his fair just as much as the East-ender. To prove this, go any Bank Holiday you like to Wormwood Scrubs, and see the toilers from the West and the North-west at play on the breezy expanse of the Scrubs. Notice how the showmen provide just the kind of open-air entertainment that Londoners require—the shows, the merry-go-rounds, the swings, the variety games—and all these obtainable at the people's price—the ready penny. Hastings and Whayman's theatre of animated photography, Edward Elliott's school of boxers, Wilson's galloping horses, Bailey's switchback, Wm. Beach's set of horses and cars, thirty sets of park swings, one hundred variety frames, throwing games, shooters, and novelty stalls, thirty coker-nut sheets, and six sets of juvenile horses and motors, the principal providers of these novelties being Messrs. Bond Bros., Hussey Bros., Manning Bros., Smith Bros., Wm. Bedford, H. Pickard, C. Andrew, A. Whittle, Elliott, and with these were quite a crowd of local caterers.

Bostock and Wombwell's Menagerie

VISITED Merthyr Tydfil on Good Friday, and remained over the Easter Holiday. Throughout the visit immense crowds visited the show, highly delighted with the fine collection of animals. The band, under the direction of Mr. Joe Mills, proved a big attraction.

Wolverhampton Great Easter Fair

WAS situated on the Market Ground, where P. Collins's roundabouts reigned supreme, consisting of Collins's racing motor cars, slipping the slip, wheeley whirley, electric theatre of living pictures, Wright's grand Winchester shooting range, cocoanuts by J. Humphries and C. Dobson, aunt sallies by Cooper, and other stalls too numerous to mention, the whole of the amusements brilliantly lit by electricity, and, owing to the grand weather, doing record business.

The Chronophone Before Royalty.

AT the special request of H.R.H. the Queen, the Chronophone, which is now running at the London Hippodrome, was exhibited before Her Majesty at Buckingham Palace on the afternoon of Thursday last. Besides Her Majesty Queen Alexandra, there were present the Dowager Empress of Russia, the Prince and Princess of Wales, with their children, and a brilliant assembly of aristocracy and nobility. The programme was an excellent one, including a choice selection of Chronophone subjects, among which were "This little girl and that little girl" (*The Little Michus*), "The laughing nigger," "The serenade" from *Faust*, in French, "Tit Willow" from *The Mikado*, "The Miserère" from the grand opera, *Il Trovatore*, "Twin Brothers" (*The French Maid*), "Chorus, gentlemen," and the "Captain" chorus from the light opera, *H.M.S. Pinafore*. Needless to say, Messrs. L. Gaumont and Co. took every precaution to make the performance a success on this unique occasion, and it is pleasing to note they gained their object. The distinguished company were highly pleased with this novel form of mechanical entertainment, while the young Prince Eddy continues to ask for more singing pictures. Now that our gracious Queen has been pleased to patronise this ingenious invention, we may anticipate that the Chronophone will feature largely at fashionable functions, and become more widely popular than ever.

THE new animated photographic films, produced and published by Mr. Robert W. Paul, of New Southgate, and High Holborn, include "The Knight-Errant," a romance of the Middle Ages, in seven years, showing how a swaggering little hunchback, who makes love to a young and lovely princess, but is rescued from his unwelcome attentions by a handsome young forester, who eventually is rewarded by the hand of the charming damsel. Other characters introduced are a good fairy, a witch, and an ogre, whom the forester slays.

"SAVED BY A SAILOR" is a little drama, depicting the adventures of a country maiden whose sailor lover returns from a voyage to find an unexpected rival in the village squire, who induces her to leave her home. However, her lover, discovering that the girl is in the clutches of the villain, attacks him fiercely. A terrible struggle for life and death ends in the sailor proving the better man, and he leaves the villain senseless on the floor. Throwing the girl over his shoulder, he climbs down the verandah in safety. A thrilling picture, and one pointing a moral lesson.

"A MOTHER'S SIN" is a picture that makes a direct appeal to the humane sentiments of the beholder. The comic element enters largely into "The Chef's Revenge" and "How to Make the Time Fly," "Woman Supreme" and "His First Top Hat," and "A Tragedy of the Ice." "The Signalman and the Train Wreckers" tells an exciting story of the wrecking of two trains by some scoundrels who overpower the signalman at his post, and cause a collision for the purpose of robbing the mail.

ON Monday Lord John Sanger ond Sons, Ltd., circus visited Bedford, and gave two performances in a meadow on the outskirts of the town. The mid-day procession through the town was watched by thousands of persons from town and country, and at both the afternoon and evening performances the large tent was well filled.

THEATRICAL PATENTS.

The following particulars have been supplied us by Messrs. Hughes and Young, Patent Agents, 55 and 56, Chancery-lane, London, W.C., who will give advice and assistance free to our readers on all matters relating to the protection of inventions, designs, and trade marks.

Messrs. N. Power, of 115, Nassau-street, and B. Morton, of 253, Broadway, both in New York, have invented new improvements in and relating to cinematographs. A moving picture machine is provided with fireproof spool boxes with cut-off devices to prevent the spread of fire, and a two-part pulley on the spindle of the receiving spool constructed so as to allow the driving band to slip when necessary, to preserve a uniform tension on the film. The fire-proof boxes have outlet and inlet shoots respectively provided with pivoted weighted cut-off flaps to prevent the spread of fire into the boxes. Gearing operated by a handle and mounted on a carriage transmits motion to guides and feed rollers and to a pulley on the spindle by a belt passing over guide pulleys on a bracket adjustably clamped to a bracket. Rollers carried by an arm are pressed against the film by a spring. To allow the speed of the spool to decrease as it fills and maintain a constant uniform tension on the film the pulley is made in two parts, one which is fixed to the spindle while the other is loose on the spindle.

SHOWMEN'S GUILD MEETINGS AT MANCHESTER.

The Rev. T. Horne began his summer itinerary of the fairs at Manchester this week. He visited Queen's-road, Trafford-road, and Ordsall-lane Fairs, making Queen's-road his centre this year. The rector of the parish in which Queen's-road is situated heartily co-operated with the showmen's chaplain, and members of the church choir assisted at the Guild service in the evening. The rector, the Rev. Fenwick Ward, M.A., closed the service with the Benediction. Colonel Clark's beautiful show-booth was the "church" on the fair-ground. A most devout and attentive congregation attended the service, the singing was hearty and congregational, and the sermon, based on the Resurrection of Christ—the theme of Easter Day—was preached by the chaplain.

The afternoon business meeting of the Guild committee and members was attended by Colonel Clark, V.P., Wm. Gibson, S. Mercer, and J. A. Ingham (members of the executive committee), R. Deeks, and other showmen.

The Rev. T. Horne, referring to the absence of Mr. T. Hurst (hon. secretary), said that he felt sure that all would be sorry to hear of Mrs. Hurst's death, and that all their sympathy would be with Mr. Hurst and his family in their time of sorrow. He would take upon himself the sad duty of conveying to Mr. Hurst the sympathy and sincere condolences of his fellow-members, and, in fact, show folk in general. They had met that afternoon at extremely short notice; the reason why was because the important question of the Chester County Council bye-laws had only been decided a day or two ago. He thought that all would agree with him that so urgent and important a matter should be announced at once, and especially at Manchester, where so many showmen were vitally interested. He then read the bye-law with regard to organ music, as given in full in the "Showmen World" columns of *The Era*, and the correspondence between Lord George Sanger, as president of the Guild, and the Home Secretary, and explained how wide the *saving clause* was, added to the original bye-law on the petition of their Society. Not only were wakes, fairs, and feasts exempted from its provision, but also Bank Holidays and festivals. He could only add a word or two with regard to this eminently satisfactory conclusion of their negotiations with the County Council of Chester, and that was to testify to the great courtesy with which they had been treated by the County Council and by the Home Office. Their Guild was now recognised as the accredited representative trade society of showmen. Their objections to, and criticisms of, proposed inimical bye-laws, were now accepted and considered with that attention and respect due to a large and important industry.

He had also a message to deliver with regard to the Rawtenstall Fair and the Bill promoted by the Rawtenstall Corporation, to give the borough monopoly powers over markets. The Committee of the House of Commons, known as "The Referees of Private Bills," had decided in their favour that fairs in Rawtenstall, whether on Corporation or on private ground, were not threatened by the Bill; that in the Rawtenstall Bill fairs were neither mentioned nor intended to be touched by its market monopoly clauses. This, of course, he added, was satisfactory; but, at the same time, he must regret that the Corporation had not made that clear at first, and so obviated the expensive procedure of petitioning and appearing by counsel, to get the matter definitely settled. They had now the assurance that the fair would be continued, and that private business would not be interfered with; and that, in the peculiar local circumstances, was all they could well expect. The dispute with Rawtenstall, he was glad to say, marked the end of their Parliamentary defence work in the present Session.

The executive committee at Manchester in January last outlined a scheme for obtaining the necessary funds for the work of the Guild. Its Parliamentary work, in particular, was in need of immediate help. He had come to Manchester that Easter week in order to organise the first of a series of benefit nights on the fair-grounds of the country for trade defence. Amongst the lessees of ground, showmen, and fair-ground traders who had cordially taken up the scheme were:—Messrs. J. and P. Collins, J. and G. Green J. Whiting, H. J. Wallis, Wm. Holmes, Geo. Kemp, Wm. Clark, T. Hurst, Wm. Gibson, Wm Mitchell, J. H. Geoghegan, S. Mercer, Ralph and Pedley, J. Ingham, Wm. Chaplain, H. Hughes, E. Farrar, T. Payne, and many others. The first benefit night would be on that ground, and would take place on the Wednesday following. He felt sure that the plan of self-help in trade defence would commend itself to all engaged in the show business.

The chaplain's address was followed by a discussion on the amended Chester bye-laws, the Rawtenstall Bill, and other matters, by Messrs. Clark, Ingham, Wm. Gibson, S. Mercer, and R. Deeks. Messrs. Mercer, Gibson, Ingham, and Chaplain were appointed a sub-committee, to assist the Rev. T. Horne in the benefit arrangements. In the evening, at six, the annual business meeting of the Lancashire and Cheshire Stallholders' Society was held, at the Robin Hood Hotel, Queen's-road, and important business engaged the attention of the executive and members.

THE GUILD FUNDS, 1907.

	£	s.	d.
Per Dunwell Johnson, collected at the Showmen's Football Match, at Sheffield	1	5	9
Colonel Clark (subs.)	1	1	0
A. Henderson	1	1	0
Edward Dixon	0	5	0
J. W. Robinson	0	5	0

GUILD FUNDS BENEFIT.

Despite the utterly bad weather of Wednesday evening, and the unfortunate fact that a great number of the concerns had pulled down on account of the change in the weather, the financial returns are quite satisfactory, and prove conclusively that showmen will help their own cause, if properly appealed to. There are still a few subscriptions and returns to come in, and when these are to hand, the sum total received will exceed £20, the principal benefactor of the Fund being Mr. John Collins, the proprietor of the fair-ground, who generously increased the total takings of his two machines to the handsome sum of £10. Colonel Clark gave £3 6s. 7d., the receipts in full of one performance.

The separate results of the benefit night are:—

	£	s.	d.
John Collins	10	0	0
Colonel Clark	3	6	7
H. R. Hibbert	1	1	0
H. Hughes	0	5	0
R. H. Williams	0	5	0
Dunwell Johnson	0	5	0
Harrison Bros.	0	5	0
R. Dixon	0	5	0
H. Lewis	0	5	0
Harry Wall	0	5	0
J. H. Royle	0	5	0
John Lynch	0	5	0
S. Mercer	0	5	0
J. A. Ingham	0	5	0
Mrs. Clough	0	3	0
Mrs. Jewell	0	2	6
Geo. Lee	0	2	6
J. Fletcher	0	2	6
Miss Day	0	2	0
H. Gunthorpe	0	2	0
Wm. Chaplain	0	2	0
A. Whatmore	0	2	0
J. Fairclough	0	2	0
J. Montgomery	0	1	0

FUNERAL OF THE LATE MRS. T. HURST.

The well-known and highly-esteemed honorary secretary of the Showmen's Guild, Mr. T. Hurst, and his bereaved family have the heart of showland with them this week. Mrs. Hurst passed away, after a long and most painful illness, on Good Friday afternoon. Mrs. Hurst bore her long time of wasting illness with the utmost fortitude. She was until quite recent years in capital health, but pulmonary consumption developed, and for the past six months and more she had been under constant medical treatment. All was however unavailing, the fell malady could not be stayed. She died in the bosom of her family at their home, Broadhurst Farm, Clifton Pendlebury, Manchester, and was interred in the family tomb at Clifton Parish Church on Wednesday last, April 3, aged 52 years.

In strict accord with the known wishes of the deceased, the funeral was of the most private character, and limited to the immediate relatives of the family. The funeral service was conducted by the Rev. T. Horne, Chaplain to the Showmen's Guild, assisted by the Curate of the Parish, the Rev. Charles Davies.

Owing to the inclement weather, the greater portion of the service was taken in the church, the prayers of committal and the blessing being said at the graveside. The floral tributes of esteem and respect were beautiful in design and numerous, and included wreaths from prominent showmen, the various societies, and many from members of the Hurst family and their friends.

The coffin bore the following inscription:

"Annie Hurst,
Died March 29, 1907,
Aged 52 years."

Mr. Hurst and family wish to thank their numerous friends for telegrams and letters of condolence and sympathy, and also the kind friends, as under, for their beautiful wreaths:—Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Green, Mr. and Mrs. John Green, Mrs. Holden and family, Mr. and Mrs. John Collins, Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Mitchell, Mr. Ravenscroft and family, Miss Violet Ravenscroft, Messrs. Ralph and Pedley, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Dixon, Colonel Clarke, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Marsden, the members of the British Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen's Union, Norman and Lizzine, Mr. and Mrs. Waters (sister and brother-in-law), Pollie and Bertha (sisters), Mr. and Mrs. Harris (sister and brother-in-law), Mr. and Mrs. Brown (daughter), Mrs. Sweetlove and George Sweetlove, Mr. and Mrs. Huddart (sister and brother-in-law), James Evans (brother-in-law), Miss Dodgin Friend, James Hurst, Robert Jeffart, and numerous others.

THE DRAMA IN ROTTERDAM.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ROTTERDAM, APRIL 1. — A new and original play, from the pen of the young and rising Dutch writer Willem Schürmann has been produced at the Grand Theatre by Manager Van Eyseden, and has had a most favourable reception, well-filled houses greeting each performance. The title of the play is *Het Dubbele Leven* (*The Dual Life*), and it possesses a special interest for the Rotterdam public, as the argument is based on incidents which occurred here in real life a number of years ago. The scene of the play is given as a large seaport, but it is tacitly understood that Rotterdam is the seaport in question. The leading and, indeed, *the* part of the play is that of Walter van Essen, a widower with one daughter. He is a merchant of prominence and influence, and with a spirit of enterprise that prompts him to undertake numberless plans for the improvement and aggrandisement of the city, where he holds a position second to none. His plans, however, require time and funds, and to obtain the latter he commits a succession of frauds and embezzlements, which, however, escape detection. For his fellow-citizens and for his family he is the promoter of the wealth and prosperity that await the town, but in reality his existence is one of torture, self-reproach, and constant fear of discovery. Being unable to keep up the struggle, he at last confesses the truth, and the curtain falls as he is on the point of blowing out his brains. As has been said, the play is founded on a case of embezzlement which took place here some years since. The defaulter was also a man of high standing, whose aim was identical with that of the merchant in *Het Dubbele Leven*; but, instead of committing suicide, he left the country before his arrest was achieved. Mr. Tartaud, in the difficult and trying part of Walter van Essen, gave a striking and artistic portraiture, his by-play, intonation, and general conception and make-up being worthy of unstinted eulogies. Favourable mention should be made of Mesdames Van Kerckhoven and Tartaud as the sister and daughter respectively, and of Mr. de Jongh as the daughter's suitor; a kindly word of appreciation being due also to Mrs. de Jongh for the feeling and tact displayed in the few lines of her secondary, and yet sympathetic, part.

ONE of the "off-nights" at the Grand Theatre has been taken up by the dramatic company of Manager Van Lier from Amsterdam with a performance of *Schakels*. At the time of its original production I spoke of this play of Heyermann's, and need only repeat that the public was enthusiastic and generous in its applause, Mr. de Vries and Mrs. Van Lier receiving repeated calls. This week the same company will be seen on another "off-night" in the well-known play from the German, *Voerman Hentschel*.

AT the Tivoli Theatre the Brondgeest Ensemble gave the initial performance of a Dutch version of Oscar Wilde's fantastic comedy *Bunbury!* The version seems to be taken from a German translation of the comedy, and is defective as such, the interpretation being, besides, a rather weak one, so that the entire production met with little or no success.

Lockhart, in his "Life of Sir Walter Scott," relates how "On the 29th of March, 1817, John Philip Kemble, after going through the round of his chief parts, to the delight of the Edinburgh audience, took his final leave of them as Macbeth, and in the costume of that character delivered a farewell address, penned for him by Scott. No one who witnessed that scene, and heard the lines as then recited, can ever expect to be again interested to the same extent by anything occurring within the walls of a theatre, nor was I ever present at any public dinner in all its circumstances more impressive than was that which occurred a few days afterwards, when Kemble's Scotch friends and admirers assembled around him—Francis Jeffrey being chairman, Walter Scott and John Wilson the croupiers."

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR

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Mr. A. A. Strong has compiled an exceedingly useful volume dealing carefully, intelligently, and fully with the law bearing upon things theatrical. As a book of reference this excellent digest will be found invaluable.—*The Era.*

EIGHTEENTH CENTURY COSTUMES.

"A fixed convention," says Mrs. Clement Parsons, in her amusing account of "Garrick and His Circle," governed the way the elder actresses dressed their parts. Empresses, queens, and Roman matrons wore black velvet. "Diamonds" were as much the tragedy garnish for women as fur was for men. However a character might have met his death, his spectre came on blood-"bolter'd." Murderers' faces were chalked, and their black periwigs heavy with the "gorgon buckle." There was to be no mistaking the "willin" of the piece. Actual records corroborate Sheridan's sarcasm in *The Critic* when Tilburina is set down to enter stark mad in white satin.

"*Sneer.*—'Why in white satin?'

Puff.—'O Lord, Sir, when a heroine goes mad, she always goes into white satin . . . . it's the rule.'"

At Glasgow, when Mrs. Bellamy declined to play Lady Macbeth because her regulation black "vestment" had been burnt in a fire, she was assured that the ghost of the actual Lady Macbeth walked every night at Dunsinane Castle in white satin, on which inducement she "played the character out of the usual form." Garrick, for his own wear, made an end of the feathered toque by which tragedy heroes, whether Danes, Turks, Greeks, Romans, or Scots, were generically recognisable. Kemble, and—more curiously—Macready, revived this hearse-like badge.

Convention is but symbolism frozen hard. In Garrick's day, white for maids and velvet for mothers had become conventions; but "when Burbadge played" they were short cuts to the imagination of an audience, clearing its way, that it might concentrate itself on the glories of the poet's diction.

There is no need to dwell on the contempt for accuracy in dress evinced by Garrick and his circle. Everyone has smiled to think of his playing Hotspur in a laced frock and a Ramillies wig. The effect must have been (though in one sense only!) more like that of a Shakespeare recitation than anything the spoiled and sated modern sightseers at His Majesty's could logically designate a theatrical exhibition. Not so venial an offence as playing Macbeth *temp.* George II. was that of playing a Greek of the golden age, Lysander, in Home's *Agis*, dressed as a gondolier, as, we are told, Garrick did. If it were so, it was a grievous fault. It was the merest trifle then, though an indicative one, that, in Dance's portrait of Garrick as Richard III., that monarch appears with the star of the Order of the Garter which Charles I. added to the insignia.

All the actors were in a tale. "Gentleman" Smith (the original Charles Surface) complained of the shabbiness of his Richard III.'s hat, and asked if he could not have the one Powell wore as King John. Hale insisted on wearing a full-bottomed wig as Charles I. Henderson boasted of having played ten characters in one season in the same dress. They gloried in their anachronistic shame.

They had an inkling of humorous aspects of the situation. In the anonymous "Essay on Acting" (1744), ascribed, on internal evidence, to Garrick's pen, the writer comments on the inapplicability of Macbeth's saying to Banquo's ghost, "Never shake thy gory *locks* at me," when the ghost is wearing a "neat Tye Wig," and suggests "Tye" being substituted, or, "if the word *Wig* is thought more Poetical, it will be equally good, as they are both Monosyllables." Tate Wilkinson, on the other hand, goes into the question with gravity. He is for "strict propriety of habiliment," but does not see his managerial way to it, because "handsome women" will never consent to appear "in a farmer's daughter, witch, or servant maid" without "a French head, white silk stockings, and white satin shoes."

The actresses never dreamt of spoiling their finery by falling, at the close of a tragedy, on bare boards. "Laying the cloth is not a more sure indication of dinner," says Goldsmith in *The Bee*, "than laying the carpet of bloody work at Drury Lane."

As the dresses, so were the scenery and "props." A stony indifference to archæology prevailed throughout stageland. Certainly, no one committed the crime of burying the play under a suffocating mass of decoration, though Cumberland wrote entreating Garrick to have his adaptation of *Timon of Athens* "equipped with splendour," and Loutherbourg received £500 a year as scene-painter to Drury Lane. When Garrick retired, his managerial successors offered Loutherbourg half his previous salary. He refused it, and invented the Panton Street Eidophusikon, that interesting panorama, lighted from above, before which Gainsborough sat, night after night, spellbound. To judge from W. H. Pyne's chapter in "Wine and Walnuts" on the Eidophusikon, Loutherbourg must have been a remarkable experimenter in scenic contrivances, including "the picturesque of sound." From our twentieth century conning tower we are probably a little too ready to suppose that during the eighteenth century the back cloth composed the stage picture, and "two supers made a rabble rout." Even then there were critics to condemn the concessions made to the spectacular cravings of "the many-headed monster of the pit." Pope was one.

"Booth enters—hark! the universal peal!
'But has he spoken?' Not a syllable.
'What shook the stage, and made the people stare?'
Cato's long wig, flower'd gown, and lacquer'd chair."

The instance betrays how unelaborate the appeal to the eye was, after all. Murphy quoted to Garrick a brother-dramatist who had complained of being "fobbed off with a touched-up palm tree," and, on another occasion, making an opening in the back of his theatre, and showing (with disastrously smoky and cold-catching results) a "real" bonfire outside in Drury Lane. New plays seldom had anything but stock scenery. A street, a bed-chamber, a parlour, a hall, a park with trees, a garden, these, in wings and flat, were the six general-utility sets, and so much the worse for any action that could not fit itself in with one or another of them. There were a few tricky devices to assist favourite bits of business. Garrick, as Hamlet, in the scene with his mother, in order, at the Ghost's entrance, to throw down his chair sharply, had one made with tapering legs placed so far under the seat that it fell at a touch. Also there were incongruities, as where Quin as Falstaff, after the fight near Shrewsbury, instead of showing himself a warrior taking his rest on a felled trunk, sank into a crimson velvet *fauteuil*, with gilt claws and blue fringe, pitched conveniently on the battlefield. The cock in *Hamlet*, by the way, was a recognised piece of action, entrusted to a competent performer, and extremely critically received by the gallery.

Garrick, who, in the fashionable and *lettré* society he loved, was the life of pleasure and the soul of whim, became serious and strenuous from the moment he set foot in his theatre. In the general decadence just before him, artists had been unpunctual at rehearsals and careless about their words. He put a stop to their dreaming idleness and jolly negligence. Goldsmith, in *The Bee*, makes the playhouse critic deride the dirty-shirted guards rolling their eyes round upon the audience instead of keeping them fixed upon the actors. There was no such want of discipline under the rule of "the little great man of old Drury."

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Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-class Companies, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
May 13, 20, 27 (six nights), May 2 (three nights).
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON,
Aug. 5, 19, Sept. 2, 23, 30, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY.
April 15, 22, 29, May 6, 20 (Three Nights Only).
E. Graham-Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Company, May 2 (three nights).
E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE, SPENNYMOOR.
WANTED, Sound Attractions,
April 15 and May 27.
Hugh Robertson, T. R., Jarrow.

FOLKESTONE AND HASTINGS.
WANTED, High-class Companies.
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
June 3, July 15, Oct. 28, Nov. 4, 18, 25 (?), Dec. 2, 9.
PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE,
May 20, June 24, July 15, Oct. 21, Nov. 11, 18.
Big Musical Comedy Wanted for Whit Week.
H. W. Rowland, Theatre, Folkestone.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, First-class Attractions,
for weeks of
May 13 and 20.
Wire or write,
W. W. Kelly,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

WANTED, First-class Attractions,
for April 29, May 6, 13, 20, and 27.
Apply, Mr. Robert Arthur, 24a, Regent-street, S.W.

THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-Class Attraction,
May 13, through disappointment.
Wire, Yorke, Royal, Blackburn.

BRIDLINGTON SPA THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.
Thoroughly Up-to-date, Re-opens July 29.
Electricity throughout; new scenery; large stage dimensions.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, for Opening week (no dramas).
Henry Hague, General-Manager.

OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON.
WANTED, Companies, April 15, 22, July 15, 22, 29.
Apply,
Stanley Rogers, 124, Warwick-road, Carlisle.

PALACE PIER THEATRE, BRIGHTON.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
good Attractions,
Musical or Comedy preferred,
April 22 and 29, and onwards, with exceptions.
Apply, Manager.

WANTED, First-Class Companies,
for April 22 and 29,
also May 6.
Apply, Mr. T. Sergensen, Grand Theatre, Blackpool.
Silence a negative.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD, E.
April 29, May 13 and 20.
WANTED, First-class Companies,
for the above Dates.
Fred Fredericks.

GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, May 20, 27, June 3, and Autumn Dates. Fred Granville, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, LONGTON.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions,
May 6 and 13.
May 6 and 13.
Address,
H. Sherriff Howard, General-Manager.

PALACE THEATRE, RHYL.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for Aug. 15, 16, 17, and Sept. 2, on, only vacant dates; Theatre holds 1,500; stage, 50ft. by 30ft. Bookings include "Mr. Popple," "Raffles," "Leah Kleschna," "Peter's Mother," &c. Will Smith, Manager.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
WANTED, Known, Vacant April 18, 22, 25, May 6, 9, three nights each.
Good Companies only.
Apply, J. Ritson, General Manager.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLNE, LANCS.
WANTED, Good Companies,
April 29 and May 6.
Address, Gerald Harding.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies, for May 6, 13, and 20 (Whit Week, Big Holiday Date). Address, E. B. Goulden.

WANTED, First-Class Attraction, P.O.W. T., Mexboro', Whit Week, also vacant May 13, June 10 and 17. Address, W. H. Melton.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Peterborough, Good Companies, April 29, May 20.
A. D. Vernon.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-Class Companies,

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER,
Vacant May 13, June 24, onward (with exceptions).

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH,
Vacant April 25, June 10, onward (with exceptions).
(Last three nights of each week).

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY,
Vacant April 15, May 6, 13, 20, onward (with exceptions).

METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY,
Vacant April 15, 22, 29, onward (with exceptions).

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE,
Vacant April 15, 22, 29, onward (with exceptions).

"THE LOST CHORD,"
Vacant Aug. 5, onward (with exceptions).

"SPAN OF LIFE."
Vacant April 8, 15, onward (with exceptions).

"IN SIGHT OF ST. PAUL'S."
Vacant May 13, 20, onward (with exceptions).

Companies "Farmed" through Fit-ups.

To Let, on Royalty, "THE PRAIRIE FLOWER" and "OUR BRITISH EMPIRE."

Excellent Plants Printing.

All communications to
Arthur Carlton, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
The Premier Theatre in the Furness District.
Holds £90 at ordinary Prices.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions,
June 24, July 1, 8, and 15, on,
with exceptions.

The following, amongst others, are future bookings for the above Theatre:—Allan Wilkie, "Man's Enemy," Lingford Carson's Companies, "A Warning to Women," Mr. and Mrs. Godfrey Tearle, "In Holy Russia," "Her Luck in London," "A Little Vagrant," "A Destroyer of Men," "The Breed of the Treshams," "Life of a Showman," Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's Companies, The D'Oyly Carte No. 1 Répertoire Company (tenth visit), "Raffles," F. R. Benson's Co. (third visit), Baron H. Harriss's No. 1 Company, "The Prince of Pilsen," Mr. Percy Hutchison's Companies, including "Peter's Mother," Mr. George Edwardes' own Company, in "See-See," "The Sign of the Cross," &c., &c.

All applications for dates to
Hugh Robertson,
T. R., Jarrow.

GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA,
Brooks and Woodbridge, Lessees and Managers.
WANTED, Superlative Attraction in Musical Comedy, for August 19, 1907, the week in which the Grand National Eisteddfod will be held in Swansea.

The Eisteddfod is the greatest event of the year in Wales, bringing thousands of visitors from every corner of the Principality, and the theatre must be filled to overflowing nightly, rain or shine.

Managers of the biggest No. 1 Companies please wire instanter.

All coms.,
E. Oswald Brooks, Resident-Partner.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
Vacant
April 15, 22, 29,
May 6, 13, 20, 27.
WANTED, Strong Attractions,
R. C. Buchanan,
Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLYTH, NORTHUMBERLAND.
WANTED, First-Class Dramas and Musical Comedies, April 22, 29, May 13, 20 (Whit week), June 10, 17, 24. Good business certain at this Theatre. Refer to Messrs. Bannister Howard, Ltd., Messrs. Garside and Knowles, Messrs. Phelps and Tilbury, Arnold Bell, Esq., Fred Bulmer, Esq., Messrs. Little and Darcy, Harold Lovey, Esq., Harry Stow, Esq., Rice Cassidy, Esq., V. Edmonds, Esq., W. Maclaren, Esq. Bookings and re-bookings include:—"Florodora," "Eternal City," "Christian," "Claudian," Minnie Palmer, "Whittington," "Robinson Crusoe," "Sinbad the Sailor," "Sleeping Beauty," "Sentenced for Life," "Her Marriage Vow," "Her Luck in London," "The Breed of the Treshams," "The Power of the Cross," "Proof," "Flare Flare," "The Assassin," "The Master Criminal." Managers who know something have tried Blyth, and find it pays to book Return Dates. Apply, A. C. Moody, Lessee.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, Sound Attraction, for Aug. 5 (Bank Holiday), and onwards, with exceptions.
Address,
Thos. Swinton.

WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attractions, Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool, July 1, 15, 22, and 29. M. Montgomery.

WANTED, good Company, April 11, 12, 13, and onward, with exceptions. Day bill, particulars, F. Lewis, Prince's, Horwich.

VICTORIA THEATRE, BROUGHTON.
WANTED, Strong Attractions, for April 22, 29, May 6, 13, and 27; also for Various Autumn Dates. All communications re dates in future to be made to J. Fred Watson.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for April 29 and onwards.
Wire, Horner, Victoria Opera House, Burnley.

WANTED, a Sensational Attraction for the Theatre Royal, Stratford, April 22. Apply, A. E. Abrahams, 26, Great Eastern-rd., Stratford, E.

THEATRE ROYAL, SHREWSBURY.
WANTED, Attractions, April 29, May 6, 13, 27, June 3; only First-Class Companies entertained. Write, W. C. Dornton, Business-Manager.

AVENUE THEATRE, KETTERING.
WANTED, Companies, April 22, May 20, also June 6 (three nights), 13 (three nights), July 1 (Kettering Feast, a holiday here) (three nights). F. Payne.

THEATRE ROYAL, EXETER.
WANTED, immediately, First-Class Company, for April 22.
Wire, Managing-Director.

OPERA HOUSE, JERSEY,
and ST. JULIAN'S HALL, GUERNSEY.
Lessee, Edward Marris.
WANTED, Strong Musical or Up-to-date Company, for May 20.
Address, Edward Marris, Opera House, Jersey.

WANTED, Companies, April 15 (?), May 6, 13 (?), 20, June 10 (?), and on.
James Elphinstone, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

OPERA HOUSE, JERSEY,
and ST. JULIAN'S HALL, GUERNSEY.
Lessee Edward Marris.
Now Booking First-class Attractions only for Five Nights in each Island.
WANTED, No. 1 Company, Musical or Otherwise, for 10 nights, Guernsey and Jersey, commencing Tuesday, April 30.
Address, Edward Marris, Opera House, Jersey.

COMPANIES WANTED.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessees and Managers,
Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.

The Leading Theatre of the Town.
The only theatre in the town lighted by electricity.

This week, "Uncle Tom's Cabin."
April 8, "The Idler" (Local Amateurs).
April 15, Mr. Geo. Alexander's Co., "His House in Order."
April 22, "Miss Lancashire Limited."
April 29, Mr. Albert Chevalier, in "Pantaloon," &c.
Only vacant Spring Date, May 6.
Notice. Notice. Notice.

Owing to the
Continual increase of prosperity
at this Theatre,
the Proprietors
have decided to entirely
Rebuild and Reconstruct
the property,
which, when completed,
will be not only the most
Comfortable and Up-to-Date Theatre
in the Provinces, but will have
A HOLDING CAPACITY
A HOLDING CAPACITY
A HOLDING CAPACITY
SECOND TO NONE
SECOND TO NONE
SECOND TO NONE
in the town.

Personal management
is bound to tell.
The only Theatre in the town
lighted by electricity.

WANTED, Exceptional Attractions,
for Aug. 5 (opening date),
and various onwards,
Musical preferred,
for opening date.

Apply,
Calvert Routledge.
For Bookings
see other advertisement.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE,
MIDDLESBROUGH.
MIDDLESBROUGH.
MIDDLESBROUGH.
MIDDLESBROUGH.
Proprietor, Albert Smith.

Holding Capacity, 3,500.

One of the
Premier Theatres of the North.

Acoustic Properties absolutely perfect in every detail.

(Read what Mr. Charles Manners thinks of Business at this Theatre in this week's Stage, page 13.)

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
No. 1 Attractions Only.
No. 1 Attractions Only.
No. 1 Attractions Only.
No. 1 Attractions Only.
No. 1 Attractions Only.
June 3, 10, 17, 24, onwards.

Can Offer Special Terms for
Aug. 5 (Bank Holiday)
and
Aug. 19 (Race Week).

Managers, Please Note,
To anything really big,
the latter is one of the
Best Dates
in the Year,
being recognised as a
General Holiday
in the Town and District.

Share or Certainty.

Open to negotiate for
Really Big First-class Pantomime, 1907-8.

Will guarantee exceptionally fine production.

Address,
Jno. Ed. Jowsey,
Grand Opera House,
Middlesbrough.
Telegrams, "Magnet," Middlesbrough.
Telephones, 413, 426, 500.

April 15,
Mr. H. B. Irving and Miss Dorothea Baird.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions.
QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH,
May 13, 20, 27, June 10, 17, 24.
ALBERT THEATRE, BRIGHOUSE.
May 6, 20, Sept. 2, 16, 23.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
Sole Lessee, Julian Malvern.
WANTED, High-class Attractions, April 29 (Musical Festival Week),
Whit Week, July 1, 8, and on.
Address, Chas. M. Julian, General-Manager.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions.
Booking Now for the Fall of the Year.
Apply,
James Kiernan, Owner and Manager.

THEATRE ROYAL, ILKESTON
Manager and Licensee, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.
WANTED, Companies, May 20 (Whit), 27, onwards, June 3 to July 29;
Open to Let on Rental, or Stock Company.
Silence a courteous negative.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, May 6, May 6, May 6, May 6, May 6.
Address, T. Allan Edwardes.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, ECCLES.
WANTED, Strong Attractions, April 29, May 6, 13, and Whit.
Hamilton Baines,
This week, Grand, Eccles;
next, Royal, Preston.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLNE, LANCS.
WANTED, Company, three nights, April 18, 19, and 20. Address, Gerald Harding.

WORTHING THEATRE ROYAL.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, April 25, May 2, 6, 9, 13, 16, and Whit Week, three nights, one matinée each instance. Only Good Companies need apply. Silence a polite negative.
Seebold, Worthing.

PAVILION THEATRE, ST. LEONARDS.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, Musical or Farcical Comedies, April 15 and 22, onwards, with exceptions. Elvey Thomas.

WANTED, Big Attractions, May 20, Aug. Grand, Chorley; also May 6, 20, 27 (Holiday), Radcliffe. Address, Sante, Radcliffe.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, KEIGHLEY.
WANTED, First-Class Musical or Dramatic Attractions, April 15 and onwards. L. Carson, Keighley.

WANTED, Companies, 15th, 22nd, May 13, and onward, Picture, Variety, and Drama write in; on share or rental. All business done with Hugh Ritchie, Manager. New T., Musselburgh.

KING'S HALL THEATRE, SKEGNESS.
WANTED, Known,
For Vacant Dates between
Whitsuntide and September,
Apply, H. Rowley, Proprietor.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity. Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, onwards, Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. Cotton.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE GIRL WHO TOOK THE WRONG TURNING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres,
April 22, 29, May 13.
Walter Melville,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE SOLDIER'S WEDDING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, May 13, 20.
Apply,
Walter Melville,
Standard Theatre, E.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 12, Sept. 30.
Walter Melville,
Standard Theatre, E.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 5, 12, 19, and Dec. 23.
Frederick Melville,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 9, 23, Dec. 23.
Frederick Melville,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 12, Sept. 16.
Tom H. Taylor,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, May 13, Sept. 30.
Tom H. Taylor,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, April 29,
Aug. 5, 12, 19.
Douglas Bruce, Theatre Royal, Leeds.

"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY."
The Most Successful Play Produced during the year 1906.
WANTED, Aug. 19, 26, in First-Class Theatres only. Wire or write,
W. W. Kelly,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, Weeks of June 17 and 24,
Scala Production.
Wire or write,
W. W. Kelly,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

The Greatest of all Irish Productions.
MR. and MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY'S
"ROLLICKING RORY," Autumn, 1907.
Bookings complete for 1907.
WANTED, Theatres, now booking Spring, 1908.
Chalmers Mackey, April 8, Prince's T., Accrington, six nights.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres, June 3, 17, July, Aug. 5.
A beautiful work, presented by Charles Harrington's American company. It is a great dramatic triumph.—Bradford Telegraph.
Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
May 20, 27,
June 10, 17, 24,
July 1, 8, 15, 22.
Address, J. W. Cordiner,
Theatre Royal, Sheffield.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
Continued Success. Third Year.
WANTED, May 6 (Yorks or Lancs), Wire for May 6, May 6, wire.
May 20 (Whit), Midlands.
Aug. 12, follow Alexandra, Birmingham.
Frank Ayerton,
Theatre Royal, Seaham Harbour.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, for "White Chrysanthemum," April 22 (three nights), 29, May 6; "Mr. Popple," Chief Co., May 6 and 13. Communicate, Chas. Macdona, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

FRANK M. THORNE'S CO.
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
WANTED, for this Money-maker,
June 10.
June 10.
F. M. T., Royal, Ashton-under-Lyne.

FRANK J. PITT and CHARLES HALLING'S CO.
"£1,000 REWARD."
"£1,000 REWARD."
WANTED, for this Successful Attraction,
April 29,
June 17,
July 29, Aug. 12.
Sept. 23, Sept. 30, on.
T. R., Barnsley, April 8.

JAMES HARE'S COMPANIES.
"A DESTROYER OF MEN."
"A DESTROYER OF MEN."
"A DESTROYER OF MEN."
Complete Production carried.
WANTED, Weeks of April 29 and May 6.
James Hare, Royalty, Llanelly.

LINGFORD CARSON'S CO.
"THE POWER OF THE CROSS."
WANTED, April 22, May 6, Sept. 9, 30, Xmas.
Carson,
To-day, Prince's, Preston; next, Bishop Auckland.
WANTED, Sept. 16, and various, on, for "The Honeymoon." Address, Gilbert Payne, Grand T., Mansfield; next, T. R., Rugby.

Special One Days and Weeks.
LOUIE FREEAR and CO.
WANTED, Open Dates, during July, August, and September.
Apply, Lyric,
The Ascot, West Hill-road, Bournemouth.

"LIFE" and "EAST LYNNE."
WANTED, May 20 (precede Nuneaton), June 10 and 24 (follow Leicester), and July. Special scenery, powerful Co.; Six Musical Turns. H. Barrs, T. R., Lincoln.

"AS GOOD AS GOLD."
WANTED, for this Strong Attraction, Whit Week (?), June 3 (between St. Helens and Grimsby), 17, and on, with exceptions.
Samuel James,
8, Warwick-court, Gray's Inn, W.C.

"THE ASSASSIN."
"THE ASSASSIN."
"THE ASSASSIN."
by
E. Hill Mitchelson.
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 21, Jan. 20, Feb. 17, March 16, 23, 30.
Augustine Knight, Lyceum Theatre, Crewe.

"THE KING OF CRIME,"
by Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck.
Mr. HENRY BEDFORD as RONJARRE.
WANTED, Important Theatres, Aug. 5, onwards. Battersby, T. R., Bilston. Other coms., Chesney, Prince's, Portsmouth.

MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
WANTED, April 29, May 13, and Whit (May 20), for this Great Attraction; new uniforms and effects; band of drums, fifes, and bugles for parade.
Refer Rotherham re business this week.
"A SISTER'S SIN."
Wanted, May 6, 13, and Whit (May 20), for this intensely Human Play; splendid scenery and pictorials, and exceptionally powerful company. These plays draw money anywhere, no matter what opposition. F. G. Kimberley, Osborne T., Manchester.

"HIS SISTER'S HONOUR."
WANTED, April 15, May 20 (three), June 10, and various, on.
Acknowledged everywhere to be one of the best played, staged, and dressed Dramas now Touring.
Refer W. Eastwood, Esq., Col., Oldham. Wire, E. A'Dell, to-day, Cradley Heath; next, G., Walsall.

AUGUSTA TULLOCK and FIRST-CLASS CO., in Comedy Drama, "THE END CROWNS ALL."
WANTED, May 27 (through misunderstanding), to follow Deal. June 10, to precede Scarborough; Various Autumn. Augusta Tulloch, Empire Theatre, Holloway, N.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
WANTED, Aug. 5, Sept. 16, 30, Oct. 14, 21, 28.
Address, Leonard Dalrymple, T. R., Bilston.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
WANTED, Aug. 5, Sept. 16, 30, Oct. 14, 21, 28.
Address, Leonard Dalrymple, T. R., Bilston.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Dates, for "THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES," May 27, June 3, July 1, 15, 22, Sept. 23, 30.
MORTON POWELL, West London Theatre, W.

"HONOUR THY FATHER."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates, April 22, 29, May 6, 20, 27.
MORTON POWELL, West London Theatre, W.

"GREED OF GOLD."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates, Aug. 26, Sept. 16, 23, Oct. 7, 14.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates, July 1, 8, 15, 22, Aug. 5.
MORTON POWELL, West London Theatre, W.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN."
"THE MANXMAN."
WANTED, Theatres, May 20 and 27, through obliging, also June 24, Aug. 5, and few later.
April 8, New East Theatre, Oxford.

"HOME, SWEET HOME,"
"HOME, SWEET HOME,"
"HOME, SWEET HOME,"
the great Domestic Drama,
by Frank Lindo.
Rapidly approaching the Thousandth performance.

WANTED, Good Theatres, May 13, Whit Week, May 27 and June 3.
MR. FRANK LINDO,
MISS MARION WAKEFORD,
and Full Company.
Everything carried. Clear Stage only required.
Autumn nearly filled.
Now booking 1908.
For vacant dates, please address,
FRANK LINDO, T. R., Middlesbrough (return); next, Irving Theatre, Seacombe.

MR. ALEC FLOOD'S and MR. AUBREY FITZMAURICE'S COMPANY,
"THE ANGEL OF UNREST,"
A Story of 1812.
The best Napoleonic drama I have seen in many years.—Carados, in the Referee, March 31, 1907.

Managers are requested to see the production next week at the Crown Theatre, Peckham.
Everything carried. Artistic Pictorial Printing.
WANTED, April 29, and Dates onwards, including Whit. Wire,
F. MARTIN MORRIS, Theatre Royal, Chesterfield.
Letters, Crown Theatre, Peckham.

MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COMPANY.
"A SOLDIER'S HONOUR."
"A SOLDIER'S HONOUR."
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
WANTED, Xmas week, at a good Theatre, for this Great Attraction. Refer P. Broadhead, Esq., Haris Fineberg, Esq.; re-booked at Star, Liverpool, and also here, Osborne, Manchester, for Whit, 1908. One of the finest mounted plays ever toured; uniforms a speciality; magnificent cast engaged for autumn; some of the best dates in Great Britain booked for this great success.
Write, F. G. KIMBERLEY, Osborne, Manchester; next, Vauxhall, The Scotlands, Wolverhampton (vac.).

MISS MARY NEIL and MR. GEORGE KIRK'S "HER LUCK IN LONDON" CO.
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Big Theatres, June 29, Sept. 30, Oct. 7.
CHARLES A. LEICESTER,
This, T. R., Croydon; next, T. R., Blyth.

Miss ANNIE HUGHES.
WANTED, Dates, August, September, October, November, for "TOMMY" and "SWEET NANCY."
Miss ANNIE HUGHES as TOMMY, by Jerome K. Jerome, and SWEET NANCY, by Robert Buchanan. Three nights of each play.
"'Tommy' is a great play. Annie Hughes is a great actress." "Sweet Nancy is Annie Hughes and Annie Hughes is Sweet Nancy."
All Spring and Summer Dates filled.
Address, Miss ANNIE HUGHES, T. R., Hanley.

Messrs. ARMADALE and WARREN'S CO.
"THE FACE AT THE WINDOW."
WANTED, Theatres, July 29, Aug. 5, Sept. 23, Oct. 7, onwards, for the above Attraction.
Address, F. BROOKE WARREN, 110, Woodvale, Dulwich, London, S.E.

"WHEN WE WERE TWENTY-ONE."
By H. V. Esmond.
Miss DOROTHY CACEY'S COMPANY.
Miss DOROTHY CACEY as THE FIREFLY.
Miss MILDRED HODSON as PHYLLIS.
Mr. RIDDELL ROBINSON as RICHARD CAREWE.
None but First-class Artists will be engaged.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, for Whit Week, and others, onwards, with exceptions.
Address, Mr. FRANK NELSON, 67, Burton-road, Brixton, London.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN."
WANTED, April 15, precede Walsall (4th visit), April 29, precede T. R., Hanley.
A delightful version, perfectly cast.
Crowded with Mystic Effects.
Refer, Management of Theatre Royal, Belfast. also, "THE ANARCHIST TERROR."
Either or Both Plays. Wire.
LOIE ESMOND, Alhambra, Dudley Port; next, Stourbridge.

SHINTON and GREENWOOD'S TOUR.
"The PRICE OF HER SOUL."
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WANTED, good Tenor Slide Trombone or Solo Cornet Player, as an Attendant in County Asylum.
Salary commencing £34, increasing to £48, all found. Single man.
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WANTED, Engagement, as Oboeist, at Once, any Business; well up in Variety work; excellent references. OBOE, 34, Stanbridge-road Putney, S.W.

WANTED, by experienced Lady Harpist, Solo and Orchestral, Summer Engagement.
Box 4,602, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Flute and Piccolo, any business; experienced; permanent or otherwise; at Liberty May 20. FLAUTIST, 3, Cranbourne-road, Gosport, Hants.

WANTED, Engagement, by Flute and Clarionet, April 15, together or separate; experienced; good refs. WEBB, Flautist, Opera House, St. Helens.

WANTED, by experienced Flautist, Engagement, references and reliable, at Liberty April 8. FLAUTIST, 8, Kent-street, Leicester.

WANTED, by Flautist, Engagement, small band, pitching, or join Harpist, &c., summer season; young, steady. 16, Buxton-st., London-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Permanent Engagement, as Pianist or Conductor; thoroughly experienced; compose, arrange, &c. ROLAND ALLEN, 21, Berridge-rd., Sheerness-on-Sea.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Experienced Orchestral Pianist; can combine Viola; good offers invited; London preferred.—Box 4,476, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Jim Wilkinson, Pianist, at Liberty Monday, April 8, any business; also Band. 3, St. Bede's-avenue, South Shore, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Young Lady, A.T.C.L, Solo Pianist, good Accompanist, Sight-reader, at Liberty. Sings. E., 11, Willoughby Park-rd., Park, London, N.

WANTED, Engagement for First-Class Variety Pianist, fine Soloist, Accompanist, Sight Reader, Transposer; smart and steady. Conductor, 5, Nelson-street, Southport.

WANTED, Engagement (Tympani), Double Drums, thoroughly experienced, any business; good references. J. Duxbury, 167, Priestman-street, Bradford.

WANTED, Engagement (Theatre closing), for Summer, as Double Drummer, with Effects; good references; total abstainer and reliable. Robert Murphy, 26, Calais-street, Leicester.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Double Drummer; best experience, Variety preferred; steady, reliable. Drums, 177, Ball's Pond-road, Islington, London, N.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-Class Double Drummer (lady), is also an excellent Pianist and Accompanist; best refs. Box 4,614, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by good Orchestral Drummer, experienced, or Deputising. M. Connor, 173, Downham-road, London, N.

WANTED, Known, Lady Drummer, Disengaged, Tympani and Double Drums, with Effects; good references. Goldberg, 42, Bacon-st., Brick-lane, London, E.

WANTED, by Shikissimma Band, Ladies' Japanese Orchestra, at Liberty for Piers, Exhibitions, At Homes, magnificent costume. Glenthorpe, Chesterfield-road, Newbury.

WANTED, Engagements for Orchestra, any number, smart uniform, up-to-date répertoire; highest references. Louis Metz, 62, Wellington-road, Charlton, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Mr. J. Southworth is Open to Receive Offers on behalf of the Gaiety Theatre Orchestra, Manchester, for the Summer Season. J. Southworth, Musical Director, Gaiety, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Band of six, Disengaged, June and July; any business. Bingley, Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield.

WANTED, experienced Orchestral Instrumentalists, July 14, nine weeks, seaside, double-handed preferred. Trial expected. State particulars, Box 4,623, "The Era."

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

KING OHMY'S GRAND CIRCUS, HYDE.

WANTED, April 15, and future dates, the Greatest Star Turn in England, Riders, Acrobats, Gymnasts, Clowns, and Useful Circus turns, to form the Greatest Circus Company now in England. Nothing too big. Money no object for the right turns. Address, King Ohmy, Ohmy's Circus, Hyde, Cheshire.

WANTED, Scene Act Riders, Clowns, Tumblers, Flying Rings, Trapeze Performers, join at once; also Cornet Player. Dennis, Circus, Patricroft, Lancashire.

WANTED, Bar Performers, Ring and Trapeze Artists; those doing more than one act preferred. W. H. Giles, G.P.O., Dublin.

WANTED, Posturer and Ground Tumbler (short). Letters only, E. L., 5, Tenison-street, York-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED.—Notice to Circus, Hippodrome Proprietors and Managers.
The Three Ohmys.
Greatest of all Acrobatic Lady Bareback Somersault Riders, the Only Act of the Kind in the World, complimented by all Blackpool as the Greatest Act Ever Seen in the Tower Circus; the Talk of Blackpool, and Re-engaged to appear at the opening of the Coming Season. A few Vacant Dates for First-class Circuses. A sure success. Address, The Three Ohmys, Grand Circus, Hyde, Cheshire.

WANTED, Known, through Change of Dates, The Fitzroys, Society Gymnasts, are Vacant May 20, 27. Coms., Olympia, Liverpool.

WANTED, Monday, M. and Mme. Henri, Elegant Equilibristic Act; Big Top or Bottom. Free April 8, 15, 22. Wire, 52, St. Agnes-place, Kennington, London.

WANTED, Fêtes, Galas, &c., Alex and Jolly, big Comedy Three-bar Act; Miss Myria LoLa, Clever and Sensational Stage Trapeze Act. Address, 13, Westfield-terrace, Sheffield.

WANTED, Known, Pauletti, clever and funny Cycling Act; no immediate vacancies; two good Acts. Galas. Perm., 106, Bigland-st., Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, by smart, young Comedy Triple-Bar Performer, late well-known Bar Act. Address, Comedy, 61, Holland-road, Brixton, S.W.

I Challenge the World.
WANTED, Known,
G. W. Houghton,
Ornamental Swimmer and High Diver with Sensational Specialities, Open for Summer Season.
Letters, c/o "Era."

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES and THEATRE ROYAL.

WANTED, First-class Variety Artists, all Lines, immediate and future dates.

Arthur Carlton, Palace, Worcester.

Scarborough.

WANTED, Monday, April 15, and onwards, Variety Artists in all Lines. Nothing too Big. Full particulars to Morgan, Aquarium.

WANTED, Variety Artists all Lines, April 15, Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest. Hall small. P. Reymond, as above.

WANTED, Variety Artists, Bioscope, Singing Pictures, &c., 15th, 22nd, 29th. Lowest terms, no best offers. Marcus Boyle, 26, Gillbridge-av., Sunderland.

WANTED, Variety Artists, in all Lines. Bigger the Act the Better. Write immediately full list bookings and vacancies. Harry Ward, 3, Adelaide-st., Strand.

WANTED, for Royal Pavilion, Withernsea, Variety Artists, June, July, and August. Terms must be low. Reynolds, 5, Bousfield-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
William Mould, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, coming North, to send dates and terms,
Anderson's Agency, 6, Great Clyde-street Glasgow

WANTED, Artists all Lines, Concerts and Music Halls. Interviews by appointment only. Scottish Musical Agency, 107, George-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known Artists wishing to be Booked for First-class Music Hall Engagements to communicate with Brooks's Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, two weeks, April 29, May 13, 27. Charles A. James, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin.

WANTED, for Glasgow and the North, Artists in all Lines. Lowest terms and full list of bookings to Frank Lynne, 12, Cranworth-gardens, Brixton, London.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, new for Rochdale, Stanley, Castleford, Darlington, Wakefield, Crewe. If played any of towns mentioned, state when. A good refined Comical Sketch or a good Bicycle Act open Monday next near Doncaster wire lowest. Must be new for Doncaster. Terms must be low, or no good. Wire address until Sunday morning, Daytons, Palace, Cork; after Empire, Doncaster.

Call, Monday, April 8, Empire, Doncaster:

The Dayton Family, in "Le Rendezvous,"
Cecilian Family, Geo. Bernard,
Ivy Gallard, E. Selman, Milford Bros.,
Vernon's Bioscope, Sansom Trio.

Managing-Director, Mr. O. Maus Dayton.
General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Bernard.
Manager, Mr. Alex. Dayton.
Assistant-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Ralph.

THE IMPERIAL VARIETY, THEATRICAL, and CONCERT AGENCY,
Under the direction of Charles Hector and Harry Stowe.

WANTED, Artists and Specialities in all Lines. Send photos., lithos., bookings, and lowest terms. Songs, Scenas, and Sketches written. Latest productions: "The Lady who Could," by Chas. Hector and Walter Slaughter; "Woman's Desire," by Chas. Hector and Harry Stowe. Bands and Artists of every kind provided for Public, Masonic, and Private Banquets, At Homes, Garden and River Parties. N.B.—All our clients are insured for twelve months. Office hours, 11 to 6. Chorus Ladies wanted.

WANTED, Artists and Amateurs for April 11, 18, and 25,
to enter Prize Competition at
THE FORESTERS' MUSIC HALL,
SPECIAL MATINEES.
Over £20 will be divided amongst Successful Competitors, and Contracts will be offered to those suitable to our Circuit.
Twenty weeks
Those wishing to enter will write, enclosing stamped addressed envelope, to
Pete Murray, Manager,
Sadler's Wells, Rosebery-avenue, E.C., stating which date they will appear. Letters will be answered in rotation. No office fees charged.

CATLIN'S PIERROTS.

WANTED, Artists for
Scarboro', Aberystwyth,
Whitley Bay,
Colwyn Bay, and Withernsea,
Comedians, Vocalists, Pianists.

Send full particulars to
W. Catlin,
37, Halkin-street, Leicester.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, for High-class Al-Fresco Business,
Comedians, Vocalists, Specialities, &c.
Preference given to those
able to play Orchestral Instrument.
All must be young, refined, and capable. Lowest terms, age, and full particulars, with two weeks' address, in first letter, or no notice taken.
Good Glee Quartette write.
Fred Buxton, Pierrot Village,
Douglas, Isle of Man.

WANTED, shortly, several Artists in various lines, for Music Hall Sketches, Spring and Summer Tours. All applications must come through the post, giving full particulars, references, lowest salary, and enclose photographs.
No personal interviews.
Wynne Penwyn, Coronet Theatre, W.

THE "PITCHCROFT," WORCESTER.
THE "PITCHCROFT," WORCESTER.

WANTED, First-class Al-Fresco Artists, all Lines, for Long Season at above, commencing Whit Monday; suitable Specialities having week out, following Birmingham, write in. Full particulars and absolute lowest
Summer terms to
Harry Rose,
"Violet Villa," 51, Disraeli-road, Putney, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Tom Prichard, Variety Agent (late of Leicester-square), having disposed of Palace, Oldbury, and Empire, Dudley, intends paying a visit to New York in the course of a few days on important business; will be pleased to Book a few Artists during his stay, he being personally known to all Proprietors and Managers in the States. Artists wishing to place their business in the hands of Mr. Prichard write full particulars, c/o "Era" Office. Artists not personally known to Mr. Prichard state where can be seen the week of 15th.

WANTED, for Picture Co., April 15, near Sheffield, Artists all Lines, Second Sight Act. Collins and Irene wire. Amusements, Sheffield. Burton's Agency.

WANTED, First-Class Artists, for Fête at Wantown Park, Luton, on Whit Tuesday. Send full particulars and terms, Green, Secretary Luton Town Football Club, Luton, Beds.

DUNDAS'S AGENCY.

WANTED, Artists of every description, 15th and on; also Comedians, Principal Boys and Girls, for next season's Pantomimes. Lithos., full particulars, and absolute lowest terms in first letter. 52, Rosthwaite-road, West Derby, Liverpool.

WANTED, Artists, for 3 nights, Heavies, Juveniles, also Ladylike Actress. Write full particulars, Harry Ward, 3, Adelaide-street, Strand.

WANTED, April 15, 22, and 29,
Stars in all Lines,
Stars in all Lines.
Full up for smaller items.
State towns at Liberty for.
Can fix big numbers any odd weeks.
Cadle's Agency, 105, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities, for immediate and future dates. Terms and particulars to Brooks's Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Stars or Musical Comedies, for Grand Theatre, Llandudno, July 22 (three nights), opening of season, Aug. 1, 2, 3, Sept. 16, Sept. 23, 24, 25. Address, Haldane Crichton, T. R., Norwich.

WANTED, for Combinations, Rochdale, April 15, and Dewsbury, April 29, some really good early turns; no dumb-shows. Good Bioscope and Illustrated Song Act write. Cadle's Agency, 105, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, First-Class Refined Double Turn, doing Singles. Specialities write in. Tom Kelley, Southport Pierrots, Southport.

EDWIN C. JAZON'S AGENCY.

WANTED, Variety Talent, all Lines, immediate and future Dates; also Pantomime Artists, to complete Casts "Cinderella" and "Aladdin," including Pair Comedians, Principal Boy and Girl, also Two Good Dancing Troupes. Full list of bookings and lowest terms, Jazon, St. Andrew-road, Anfield, Liverpool. Old clients please keep me posted.

VENTOM SWIFT'S AGENCY, Alham., Edinbro'.

WANTED, the very best of Talent, April 15, on. First-Class Artists coming North with odd week vacant communicate.

WANTED, Variety Talent, nothing too big, Dates waiting for right people. Lithos., lowest terms, and vacancies. Dempsey and Warwick, Talent Providers, St. James's Hall, Manchester.

GRAND THEATRE AND EMPIRE, DONCASTER.

WANTED, Star Comedy Acts, Novelties, Comedians, &c.; must be big. Any price for the right stuff. Wire or write full particulars to Leo Fritz's Variety Agency, 40, Glenshaw-mansions, Brixton-road, S.W. 'Phone, 457 Brixton.

WANTED, Good Speciality and Novelty Acts for Summer Seaside Halls. Terms and particulars to Brooks's Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Novelty Acts which are New for America, under Sole Management. State all particulars to Box 4,613, "The Era."

WANTED, April 15, Variety Acts and Specialities, all Lines. Gannon, West-grove, Bristol. Johnson, Devere, Moet Trio write. Important.

WANTED, Acts of all Descriptions, September, on; 17 more acts booked again this week. Dan Noble's Agency, c/o 4/124, Main-st., Glasgow.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

PALACE OF VARIETIES, OLDBURY.
Proprietors, Messrs. Tyrer and Bostock.

WANTED, Specialities, Novel Acts, really Funny Comedians, Doubles doing Singles, April 15, onwards. Hall small. Lowest, with lithos., W. B. Bostock, Manager.

CIRCUS, SPENNYMOOR, CO. DURHAM.

WANTED, for April 8 and on, Specialities of every description, good Comediennes, Aerial Act, or Troupe of Acrobats.
Address, C. Algie.

WANTED, Specialities, Lady Gymnasts, &c., willing to share, for First-Class Combination. Photos imperative. Bert Ware, 23, Shamrock-street, Hebburn.

WANTED, Specialities of all kinds, to send immediate vacancies by first post Monday. Martino's Agency, Barcroft-street, Grimsby.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME, ROCHDALE.

Rehearsal Monday next, 2 o'clock, for:—Ara, Zebra, and Vora, Bioscope, Bros. Devan, Atroy, Will Dalton, Viola, Pearce and Ward, Fred Temby, Will Onda and Co.

WANTED, big Attraction, on Share, for Apr. 29. Letters, Smith and Co., Red Lion Hotel, Rochdale.

HENRY KEMBLE'S AGENCY.
HENRY KEMBLE'S AGENCY.
HENRY KEMBLE'S AGENCY.
Temporary Office, Palace, Cork
(till June 6; then London).
(till June 6; then London).

WANTED, April 15, 22, and onward,
Novelties, Big Specialities,
Novelties, Big Specialities,
Novelties, Big Specialities,
Animal Shows, &c.
Animal Shows, &c.
Animal Shows, &c.
For London and the Country.
Send Dates, Lithos., Terms.

Mr. Kemble, at the close of the season, June 6, will open offices in London when he will devote most of his time to the Agency. He will retain the General-Management and have the Sole Bookings for the above Hall (Palace, Cork), where all communications for the present should be addressed.

WANTED, Variety Novelties all Lines, Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, late Manager Blackpool, Morecambe, &c. Address next week, 46, Coram-street, W.C. Appointment only, G.P.O. Skegness, up to and including Monday next.

WANTED, the Very Best in all Lines, April, May, June, and on.
Address, Drew Bayley, Agent,
Theatre, Perth.

WANTED, a Talented, Pretty, Juvenile Step and All-round Dancer; good salary, steady engagement, and best care taken. Apply, Madcaps, 20, Rusthall-av., Bedford Park, W.

WANTED, Clever, Smart Young Lady, to assist in a Show. Call between 4 and 5 o'clock. Ariston, 35, Great James-street, Theobalds-rd., E.C.

WANTED, good Vocalists, Comedians, Speciality Artists,
for Glasgow and District,
May, June, July;
also First Violinist for Orchestra;
must be experienced in Variety business.
H. L. Skivington, Empire, Greenock.

WANTED, for the Original "Merry Madcaps," Bandstand, Brighton, fourth Season, First-Class Comedian and Baritone, to act as accompanist; must be young, refined, good appearance. Harvey White reply. Interview, A. Durand, Norfolk House, Tivoli-crescent, Brighton.

WANTED, Good Comedian, also Speciality Artists, Soprano, Open Monday, also for April 15. Wire, Brook, Hippodrome, Barrow-in-Furness.

WANTED, Refined Comedian, for High-Class Al Fresco, Dancer preferred; young, smart, with good and select répertoire. State terms for long season. Harry Reynolds, 53, Holmdene-av., Herne Hill, S.E.

WANTED, Smart Young Comedian and Dancer, for select Al Fresco; Coon and Light Comedy répertoire. State terms. Box 4,616, "The Era."

WANTED, Smart Knockabout Pantomimist, also young lady, small part. Lowest summer terms, or useless. Photos., age, &c., Wys, 4, Conway-st., Stoke-on-Trent. Loan, Prior write.

WANTED, Concert Débutants for Lincoln Hall's London and Provincial Co-operative Concerts; Amateurs Coached and introduced to Business. "Kap's Salon," 92, Newman-street, W.

WANTED, several Coloured Boys, age between 13 and 16 years, must have good voices and speciality dancers; three years' engagement if suitable; also Big Boot Dancer. Apply, Harry Instowe, Royal Varieties, Oldham.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Robt. W. Paul thanks those Artists who have applied for parts in his Animated Picture Scenes, and will communicate in due course with those suitable.
Further applications requested.
Animatograph Film Works, New Southgate, London, N.

WANTED, an Operator, with own Films, for two weeks, April 15 and 22, at the Theatre Royal, Stratford. Apply, A. E. Abrahams, 26, Great Eastern-road, Stratford.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

The World's Greatest Mystery.
WANTED, Wanted, Known,
LILITH THE MYSTERIOUS?
in her Palace of Roses.
LILITH THE MYSTERIOUS?
in her Palace of Roses.
LILITH THE MYSTERIOUS?
in her Palace of Roses.
The Prettiest and most Sensational Mystery ever presented. Elaborately Staged.
Always a draw.
Always a sensation.
Proprietors and Managers requiring a big Attraction should secure this Star Act.
Also, LILIAN WARREN'S VOCAL PICTURES, with beautiful Dissolving Effects.
This week, Grand Theatre, Hanley. April 8, Queen's Theatre, Castleford. Offers invited for May 13, 20, and June 17. Sole Proprietress, Lilian Warren.

WANTED, Known, Venus, the late Lord Leighton's Model, direct from the London Syndicate Halls, starring with Messrs. Broadheads, giving thirty minutes at each house, and the audiences want more. Personally complimented by Percy Broadhead, Esq., as being the First, Best, and Finest Poseuse appearing. Venus leads, who can follow? The only recognised Venus. Get the Original. Toured by L. Austin Millais.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ella Megria, Operatic Ballad Vocalist, the Real Scottish Soprano, just finished comfortable engagement with Mr. W. West's Variety Company. This week, resting. Wire or write, c/o Haycock, Market-street, Hednesford.

WANTED, by Nellie Nora, Musical Act, Monday next. A smart and well-dressed Turn. Wire, 15, Bedford-street, Scarboro'.

WANTED, Engagement, Top of the Bill, or Middle, Baby "Romeo and Juliet" (Balcony Scene), pretty turn. Box 4,619, "The Era."

WANTED, immediate dates, near London, Marie Altino, Disengaged Whitsun, Charming French and English Vocalist, from Principal Halls. 16, Liverpool-street, W.C.

WANTED, Monday, April 8, Phedona, Electrical Musical Act. Terrific success here. Wire, Pier, Southend. Other dates, Charles Massey, Victoria Hall, Sunderland.

WANTED, by Frank Newbury, The Whistler of Style and Distinction. Frank Newbury; April 15, 22. All new stuff. Brilliant in the extreme. Queen's Theatre, Castleford.

WANTED, Known, Mlle. Lumiere's Original Electrical Fairy Grotto, vacant April 15 and 22, share or certainty. Wire or write, Palace, Bristol.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, the Sisters Nella (Florence and Elsie), in their Refined Speciality Pot-Pourri Act, consisting of Juggling, Globe Running, Staircase, Trapeze, Cake Walk, with the sensational finish, with lighted torches, at Liberty from April 8 and onwards. Address, next week, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, by the Sisters Beatrice, Duettists and Expert Dancers, Monday next, April 8 and 15. Wire or write, 35, Florence-street, Islington, N.

WANTED, Known, that the Three Sisters Urma (now at Apollo Theatre, Vienna), Premier Triple Trapeze Artists, described by the Parisian and Viennese Press as "Les Trois Beautés Anglaise," will commence Short Tour in England, April 15, previous to departure for America in August. All dates open, excepting May 20, June 17, and July 15.

Communications to Ashton's Royal Agency, or to 38, Hyde Park-road, Leeds.

WANTED, by J. H. Carroll, Up-to-date American Character Entertainer, and the World's International Dancing Masterpiece, Liberty for Summer Season; last two season's Perry's Minstrels, Llandudno. Specialities, International Solo Clog, Sand, and Top Boots. This, Market Hall, Burnley; next, Central Hall, Wigan.

WANTED, Monday next, also April 15, by Leslie Digby, the Popular Comedian, always a success. Wire, Empire, Riddings, Derbyshire.

WANTED, Monday next, by Harry Leaton, a good, sound Vocal Comedian. Big success, Gaiety, Dundee, where wire.

WANTED, Monday next, by Cambo, the Musical Monkey, big Novelty; also Ventriloquist. Wire, Hippodrome, Reading.

WANTED, Known, Herbert Lenton, at Liberty, refined Speciality Act, for Halls, Fêtes, and Galas. Address, 9, Woodland-road, West Bridgeford, Nottingham.

WANTED, April 15, a sure draw, Kyoto, the Original; and May Geraldine; two distinct Acts. Wire, Tivoli, Dublin.

WANTED, Monday next, and future dates, by Dan Leslie, Dutch Comedian, Sabot and Pedestal Dancer. Wire, 3, Gladstone-street, Leicester.

WANTED, Known, Phil Rabey, the Coming London Comedian, vacant Monday. This week, Surrey. Wire, 2, Medlar-street, Camberwell New-road, S.E.

WANTED, immediate and future dates. Wire for 15th, George Battle, Actor-Vocalist, 3, Goswell-road, London, E.C.

WANTED, April 8, 15, Jack Sheppard, World's Greatest Handcuff King and Prison Breaker; also Miss Ruby Vesta, in the Greatest Trunk Mystery on the Stage, sure draw. Wire or write, Hippo., Blackheath, Staffordshire.

WANTED, April 15, 22, C. H. Charlton, with the most Artistic and Novel Magic Act extant. Tivoli, Dublin, or Sley, Manchester.

WANTED, 15th and 22nd, by the Society Athletes, Atlas, the beautiful Miss Vulcana, and Gwen and Maud Atlas, in most beautiful Act on any Stage for last two months. Miss Vulcana's Posing the talk of Paris. Conclude Palace, Stoke Newington. Monday, Empire, Camberwell. Wire, 17, Waterford-road, Fulham.

WANTED, Known, Mozzetto, the famous Juggler and Comedy Assistant, vacant Monday and the 15th. Wire, Mozzetto, Circus, Rochdale.

WANTED, by Edward Clark and Sadie Gold, American Expert Banjoist, Singers, Dancers, Entertainers. April 8, wire, Royal Assembly Rooms, Leamington.

WANTED, Known, Kavados, first-class Juggling Act; Flo Melville, Burlesque Artist; Liberty Monday, single or jointly. Wire, Tower, New Brighton.

WANTED, April 8, 15, M. and Mme. Henri, Elegant Act, "Sport in the Electric Garden." Wire, 52, St. Agnes-place, Kennington, London.

WANTED, Monday and 22nd, The Moncktons, in their Screamingly Funny Musical Comedy Episode "Are Wives Dummies?" Wire, Hippodrome, Dewsbury (return).

WANTED, by Ariel and Astarte, Smartest and Prettiest of all Gymnastic Pot-Pourri Acts. Monday, Palace, Carlisle. Free 15th, 29th, May 13.

WANTED, by Newton and Lindon, Black and White Artists, Dancers, and Cake-Walkers, April 8, 15, 22, 29, and onward. Address, Newton and Lindon, care of Black, 1, Hill-street, Garnett-hill, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Sterling and Cashen, the great Military Comedy Duo and Champion Dancers, introducing the Funniest piece of Electrical Mechanism ever seen on any Stage, the Marconiphonio and Radiumpulveriser, at Liberty April 15, 22, 29. All coms., Monday, Apirl 8, Hippo., Wigan.

WANTED, Monday next, by Clarke and Groom, Australian Burlesque Artists. Talk of Glasgow as Svengali and Trilby. Gaiety T., Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Malone and Conley, Comedians and Comedy Boxers, want April 8, 15. Wire, Hippo., Mountain Ash; next, 163, Scholefield-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, Monday, April 8, by the men who make them laugh, Hector and Sultan, Eccentric Grotesques. Wire, Palace, Attercliffe.

WANTED, 8th and 15th, by Gravetta and Parr, Clay Modellers, Impersonators of Celebrities, Jugglers, and Vents. 88, Boston-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday, April 8, 15, by The Gelders, Clever Magicians, &c.; Ivy Dene, Dainty Soubrette and Dancer. Wire, Empire, Dundee.

WANTED, Engagements, three distinct Turns, Zancig Thought-Reading, Conjuring, and Bioscope, together or separate. Lenton and Bertram, 251, Seven Sisters-road, N.

WANTED, Known, the Great Four Herberts, the Jolly Californian Farmers and Maid, are free to accept Fêtes, Galas, Seasides, &c., for June 10, 17, 24. Offers respectfully invited. April 15, Palace, Bradford; April 8, Palace, Blackburn. Communications, Madame Herbert.

WANTED, April 15 and 29, by The Boultons and Mlle. Bartenelli, two acts. Address, George Hotel, Amesbury, Wilts.

WANTED, Known, the Four Hearnes, Eccentric Acrobats, at Liberty April 8 and 15. Wire, 252, Brunswick-street, C.-on-M., Manchester.

WANTED, by The Carls, Comedy Trampoline Act, that can follow them all, April 15 and 29. Success everywhere. Roars of laughter and applause; splendid lithos. Halls, Circuses, or Fêtes. Note change of permanent address, 23, Cooper's-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, April 8 and 15, Les Blanc's Original Comedy Triple Bar Act; also Gale Trio, Comedy Sketch. Hippo., Bury St. Edmunds.

WANTED, Walker's Comedy Nippers; Reklaw, Globe Specialité. Success this, T. Hall, Rotherham; vacant Monday. Wire, 18, Eastwood-lane, Rotherham.

WANTED, April 8, 15, by Los Granadas, Trampolin Comedy Gymnasts; a Novelty. 64, Upper Sutton-street, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, April 15, 22, 29, May 6, by Gulliver,
Ventriloquist par excellence.
Undoubtedly One of the Finest of our Modern Ventriloquists. Address (Monday), H., King's Lynn; Thursday, H., Bury St. Edmunds (three nights each).

WANTED, by R. J. Golding, Vent. and Illusionist, April 8, on. Finish to-night, Kursaal, Southend. Perm., 32, Courtenay-rd., Walthamstow.

WANTED, Whit Week and Later Dates, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist, and De Lil, Illusionist, two smart acts. Monday, Hippodrome, Accrington.

WANTED, Known, Young Man, good All-round Tambler, wishes to join Comedy, Sketch, or Troupe; also Clever Boy, to learn, slight knowledge. Box 4,508, "The Era."

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WANTED, Dates, for Juvenile Spectacles, "Japan," "Brigands," "Scalp Hunters," Pantomime "St. George and the Dragon"; everything carried; local children. Clarke, Hippo., Spennymoor.

WANTED, Known, Swift Trio (two ladies, one gent) will shortly be at Liberty for home or abroad, with their Funny and Novel Act on Cycles. Perm. address, 43, Oscar-street, St. John's, London, S.E.

WANTED, by Ella's Lions,
April 29,
May 6, 13, and 27,
Communications week April 8,
Palace Theatre, Bristol.

WANTED, Known, Caban's French Circus, Ponies, Donkeys, and Dogs, at Liberty from April 8, on, with exceptions. Address, Caban, Exhibition, Gloucester.

WANTED, April 8, 15, Bush's American Dog Circus, the World's Greatest Animal Act. Wire, Grand Theatre, Manchester.

WANTED, Galas, Bailey's Punch and Judy and talented Toby; big success at Buxton. Booking Galas fast. Address, Bennett-street, Buxton.

WANTED, Known, Bioscope Operator, at Lib. April 8, onward, lime or electric. Burgess, 28, Norfolk-rd., Essex-rd., Islington, N.

WANTED, Engagement, April 15, by Operator, with own machine, steady, flickerless, gas or electric; twenty minutes' to two hours' exhibition, tour or residential; two machines vacant from Whitsuntide, for Al-fresco, Piers, &c. Clark's Royal Bioscopes, Town Hall, Hatfield, Herts.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

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Auctioneers only supplied.
Write to-day for full particulars,
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Try one of my famed parcels, containing
Ten English Lever and Twelve Silver Geneva Watches. Best Value ever Offered.
In great demand. Price, £5 5s.

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of every Description,
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Good wages and constant employment to suitable people.
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SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known (Very Important), that the Next Meeting of the British Roundabout Proprietors' and Showmen's Union will be Held at Headquarters, the Black Lion Hotel, Salford, on Tuesday next, April 9, at 2.30 p.m. prompt, for the transaction of Business of the Utmost Importance, when all Members are requested to attend.
(Signed) T. HURST, Sec.

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5,000,000 people visited New Brighton last year

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to Showmen, Stallholders, &c.
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P. COLLINS,
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Good opening for Novelty Exhibitions, Side Shows, and Ground Booths, also Doll Frames, Emmas, and Sheets.

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SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

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CALLS FOR MONDAY, APRIL 8, 1907.

THE LONDON HIPPODROME.

"The Typhoon," De Grazia's Elephants, Schenk Brothers, A. D. Robbins, Stein Eretto Troupe, Lukushimas, Prince Kokin, Mezzettis, Clement Trio, Tina Clementa, Moulier Sisters, Mariedl, Chronomegaphone.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1.30, for:—
Karno's "Dame Trot," the Howards, Arabella Allen, Vasilescu Troupe, D'Arc's Marionettes, Edie King, Stylo, Beatrice Bonnie, Gertrude Bradshaw, Frank Darwin.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for:—
"The Skirmishers," Three Amaranths, Kitty Marion, Bioscope, George Brooks, Lizzie Daniels, Geretti Sisters, Topsy and Usher, Russell Wallett, Chris. Richards.

ZOO AND HIPPODROME, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for:—
"Office Hours," Goggin and Davis, G. Christian, Bioscope, Carl Howard, Chas. Fisher and Co., Starr and Leslie, Neilson Sisters, Lozelle, Illustrated Song.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for:—
The Boy Army, Two Bostons, Bohemians, Bioscope, Ryan and Hall, Sinclair and Parr, Chas. Dillon, "Mysteries of the Cliff," Ten Loonies, Barton and Ashby.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Bros. Egbert, Fanny Erris, Mike S. Whallen, Lupino Bros., Delevines, Sinclair and Whiteford, Gwennie Hasto, Nipper Lane, Nellie Coleman, Dome.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Tom Costello, Carney and Armstrong, Jonghmann Sisters, Ed. E. Forde, J. Alexandra and Co., Lily Tiso, Billy McClain's Sextette, Kroney Bros., Three Tauberts, Bioscope.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Wilkie Bard, Fred Elton, Daisy Mayer, Drew and Alders, Margaret Ashton, Strolling Players, Speedwell, Jeannie Mackay, Sylvesta, Herbert Shelley.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
The Kremos, Chas. Robinson, Gladys Mavius, Bros. Lang, the Tupps, Ryder Slone, Boy Glen, "Zululand," Bioscope, Hughes and Elliott.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Hetty King, Lily Langtry, Nellie Wallace, Trapnells, Edwin Barwick, Spry and Monti, Burns and Burns, Jas. Brady, Bioscope, E. Arthur and Co.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
"The Isle of Ooma," Bioscope, Percy Honri, Chas. Vincent, Wartenburg Bros., Bessie Butt, Marzella's Birds, Celtic Comedy Trio, C. Randolph King, Howard and Harris.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
Van Biene and Co., Bioscope, Illustrated Song, Helene and Emilon, Tom Owen, Four Royal Welshmen, Lily Burnard, Harry Marte.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Bella and Bijou, Sisters Dorrell, Kate Trail, George Ridgwell, Anartos, Mr. and Mrs. H. Finden, Frobel and Ruge, Bioscope, New Macs, Mabel Bardine and Co.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
George Lashwood, Three Missouris, Hurley and Cole, Die Vier Provinzen, F. Bernard and Co., the Kirbys, Alice Blandford, Fitzroys, Bioscope, Speedy, Piccolinis.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
"Rogues of the Turf," J. A. Wilson, Paul Conchas, the Motramos, Beattie and Blanche, Jennie Johns, Ellis Barrieton, David Poole, W. J. Ashcroft, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
Daisy Jerome, Boswell's Circus, Walter King, Kellinos, Ian Colquhoun, Woodhouse and Wells, Genaro and Theol, Matthew Brodie and Co., Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
Eugene Stratton, Frank Leslie, Sisters Macarte, Dion Wade, Alexandre and Hughes, Frank Bertram and Co., Alice Maydue, Dan Leno, jun., Bransby Williams, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
Vesta Tilley, Syd May, Ruth Lytton, Carter Livesey and Co., Jackley Trio, Mark Merry, Elsie Claire, Thos. Finglass, Leipsig, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3, for:—
"The Little Stowaway," Bros. Horne, May Evans, Lady Fauntleroy, Allis and Cassati, Lockhart's Elephants, the Boccaccios, Rosa Loader, Bioscope, Andrew Roy.

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EMPIRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 3, for:—
Chung Ling Soo, Ethel Ra Leslie, Lilieth Leyton and Co., Herbert Rule, George Newburn, Madge Gray, Roma and Romani, Russell Brandow, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 3, for:—
Fred Storey and Co., Renard Trio, Arthur Gill, Ruby Dahl, J. W. Rickaby, Carlos Menard, Chronophone, Clarke and Glenny.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
Horace Goldin, Harry Bedford, Chas. Norton, Abdullah Arabs, Lola Patey, Cape Girls, Bioscope, Frank H. Fox, Brayne and Lloyd, Henry Coutts and Co.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30, for:—
"Three of a Kind," Belloni's Cockatoos, Mendel, McConnell Trio, Eily Adair, the Gems, Horace Jones, Fred Keeton, Bioscope.

ARDWICK EMPIRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Clive Darrell, Bioscope, Bert Harrow, Glen and Griffiths, Punch and Judy Girls, Three Merrions, Tom Lally, Alice May and Co., the Robertys, Huxter Bros.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
"The Treasure Ship," Illustrated Song, Bioscope, Tom Reece, Grahame, Hall and Earle, Blanche Vincent, Mabel Green, "Casey's Circus," Frank Couch.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
Lew Lake and Co., Cissie Curlette, Bros. Dean, Mdlle. Von Etta, Les Strads, Fred Cullane's Co., Chas. Fanning, Lottie Lennox, Bioscope, King Kingstone.

THE FOLLOWING ARE BOOKED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ABOVE:

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
Mrs. Brown Potter and Co., Lena Brunton, Rhoda Bros., G. H. Keith, Barney Armstrong, Pictures, Lennie and Hast, Florence, Seeley and West.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
"The Duchess of Tooting," Stevens and Rennior, Allan Hanbury, Forrest and King, Fred Fane, Stave, the Dixons, Minnie Hunt and Rhys Thomas.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Kitts and Windrum, Sadie Simpson, Mezetti and Mora, Robb Gilmore, Billy Farrell, Bioscope, Cambrian Trio, Bessie Benson, Roxborough and Wright.

RICHMOND THEATRE, RICHMOND.
Proprietor, Mr. George Dance.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Fulbrook and Co., Maud Laverne, Dan Paulton, Rosie Sylvesta, Lachie Thompson's Nuggets, Pictures, Wright and Lawson, Little Tichbourne, "The Amorous Prince," Maudie Macdonald.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL
Rehearsal at 12, for:—
Fernee's Juveniles, Hymack, Dan Conroy, Hartley Wonders, Maggie Walsh, Harold Hughman, Bioscope, Caicedo.

THE GRANVILLE, WALHAM GREEN.
Rehearsal at 3, for:—
Harriett Vernon, the Dandies, Austin Rudd, Sam Mayo, J. E. Coyle, Lawrence Barclay, G. H. Elliott, Marguerite Broadfoote, Mamie Cannon, Margaret Radcliffe, Marba and Verity, Bros. Redmond, John Humphries and Co., Harrigan and Holt, the Maples, Pictures.

THE PALACE, CAMBERWELL.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Both Performances.
J. Lawson and Co., Tom Woottwell, Cliff Ryland, the Maples, Richardson Taylor, Marguerite Broadfoote, May Martin, Spry and Austin, Howard and Collinson, Picquays, Bros. O'Gorman, Pictures.

COUNTY THEATRE, COVENTRY.
Proprietor, Mr. George Dance.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Harry Roxbury and Co., Three Careys, Victor Newman, "Heartstrings," Montague Bros., Kathleen Cogan, Harry Simms, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND
(Now in course of erection).
Artists and Agents please note that Bookings for the above Theatre have now commenced.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
"The Magic Carpet," Bioscope, Ouida Macdermott, Will Cornish, Syd Myra, Harry Carsdale, J. W. Magers, Proveanies.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

ARTISTS ARE REQUESTED TO NOTE THAT THE ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON, IS WITHIN THE AREA ABSOLUTELY BARRED BY US.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.

Artists must have Band Parts for at least Twelve different Instruments for the Orchestras. Matter for Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR ALL THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Co-operative Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, or at least TWO WEEKS, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled.

IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to Opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced.

ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

N.B.—Silence in every case a polite negative. Artists are requested not to enclose stamped envelope. Letters marked "Private" will be delayed.

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Sung by Farren Soutar.

"IF YOU MUST SIGH."
Sung by Miss Maud Boyd.

"MILITARY MAD."
Sung by Sam Walsh.

"THE FRENCH GIRL AND THE ENGLISH MAID."
Sung by Miss Ruby Ray and Charles Angelo.

"IN THE HIELANS" (Gerald Grafton).
Sung by Edmund Payne and Miss G. Alwyn in "The New Aladdin" at the Gaiety Theatre.

"THAT'S THE REASON NOO I'WEAR A KILT" (Lauder and Kendall).
Sung by Harry Lauder.

"HULLO, OLD MAN!" (G. A. Stevens).
Sung by Miss Victoria Monks.

"I'M A BACHELOR" (Arthurs and Lyle) and "JOLLY GOOD LUCK TO THE GIRLS WHO LOVE THE SOLDIERS" (Leigh and Lyle).
Sung by Miss Vesta Tilley.

"THE SONG WITHOUT A NAME" (the "Ah-Ah-Ah" Song).
Written, Composed, and Sung by Fred Hastings.

"ALL THAT GLITTERS IS NOT GOLD" (Castling and B. Scott).
Sung by Miss Dora Lyric.

"ROUND THE CLOCK; or, THE STRENUOUS LIFE" (Redmond and Thurban).
Sung by Fred Curtis.

"IN DEMERARA" (Castling and F. Godfrey).
Sung by Miss Marie Kendall.

"I'M A LITTLE BIT DEAF TO-DAY." (Bateman and Leigh).
Sung by Edgar Curtis.

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Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier.

Artists employing Agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents.

New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our District Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follows:—

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LONDON DISTRICT.
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N.B.—Mr. OSWALD STOLL or Mr. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously.

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All Billing Matter for the undermentioned Theatres to be sent to the Secretary at above address. All communications as to engagements for the Theatres to be addressed to Messrs. ROSEN & BLISS, Variety Agents, 56, Whitcomb-street, Leicester-square, London, W.C.
Telegrams, "Twopence, London." Telephone No. 7623 Gerrard.
N.B.—INTERVIEWED BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS for MONDAY, APRIL 8, 1907.

Rehearsals at 1 p.m.

PALACE THEATRE, PLYMOUTH.
Herbert Lloyd, Frank and Violet Payte, Marie Collins, Will Souls, Bliss and Bliss, Nellie Martell, New York Nippers, Vernon's Bioscope, The Cole de Losse Duo.

PALACE THEATRE, BRISTOL.
Miss Ella's Lions, Rowland Hill, Daisy Morrell, Frank Cumminger, Mountford and Walsh, J. C. Scatter, Rezene and Robini, Vernon's Bioscope, Whit Cunliffe.

PALACE THEATRE, SUNDERLAND.
The Harmony Four, Bugler Carr, Burley and Burley, Madge May, J. W. Winton, Onda and Artell, Little Ganty, Vernon's Bioscope, Belle Davis and her Pick Chicks.

KING'S THEATRE, GATESHEAD.
Hanvarr and Lee, Madge Allan, Nash and Noel, Les Two Cabiacs, Ben Harris and Nippers, Hans and Lux, Vernon's Bioscope, Sylvia Du Barry.

PALACE THEATRE, DUNDEE.
Hackenschmidt, Francis O'Flynn, Sisters Mackenzie, Kent and Keith, Albert Windsor, Martine and Son, Vernon's Bioscope, Davis and Gledhill Trio.

PALACE THEATRE, ABERDEEN.
Pat Rafferty, Ena Compton, The St. Johns, John Grun Marx, The Nettas, The Dreadnoughts, "Shattered Idol" Co., Bob Stephenson, Vernon's Bioscope, Corman's Juveniles.

N.B.—Artists will oblige by sending billing matter punctually.

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"CHATEAU ON THE RHINE."
"BELLE OF THE DARDANELLES."
"DON'T BE AFRAID, LITTLE SOLDIER."
"COME FOR A SAIL IN MY YACHT."

"DON'T GO BACK TO CAROLINA!"

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CALLS.

FOR WEEK COMMENCING
MONDAY, APRIL 8, 1907.

PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT.

SPECIAL NOTICE.
Rehearsal at all Halls, Monday, at 12.0 sharp.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Minnie Fenton, Lloyd Phillips and Co., Stuart and Evans, Vi Raynor, The Waltons, Harry Merson, Pictures.

PALACE, LINCOLN.
George Formby, Fioretti and Elly, Edie Endon, Arthur Goodman, Sophie Knight, Arthur Croxon, Coote's Girls, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE, BATH.
The Krags, Lise Rolland, Chas. Mildare, John McCauley, Chas. Torbay, T. W. Rawson and Co., Devereux Dogs, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Three Olympiers, Edna Latonne, Trio Pirmans, Tiny Arnold, Joe Dale, Wallau, Beau and Belle, T. C. Edwards, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Fasola, Sisters Hall, Johnny Dwyer, Flo Burris, Helen Charles, Four Herberts, T. C. Jaques, Diamond and Beatrice, Mooney and Holbein, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, HALIFAX.
Fred Ginnett's "Dick Turpin," Lombarts, Coolvilles, Bert Dansen, Florrie Bray, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE, W. HARTLEPOOL.
Prof. Selkirk, Rich and Rich, Elsie Roby, Vera Mayne, Charlie Williams, Brull and Hemsley, Flo Chevalier, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Tribune Trio, Matweef Hugostons, Bertha Winder, Simosa San, Maitland Quartette, D. W. Watson, Bernard and Weston, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Gladys Witton.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Picture Entertainment.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
"The Golden Ladder."

THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Picture Entertainment.

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
"A False Wife."

THEATRE ROYAL, LEEDS.
"Her Nameless Child."

IMPORTANT NOTICE.
Managers of touring companies are hereby notified that the Rotherham and Chesterfield Theatres are the premier places of entertainment in these respective towns, and that all other places of amusement are rigidly barred. All applications for dates at Leeds, Rotherham, and Chesterfield to be addressed to the Head Offices at Sheffield.

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Rehearsal at all Halls, Monday at 12 o'clock.

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Matinée every Monday.
Arnold Bell and Co., Will Johnson, Daisy Martell, Fred Land, Fatmah Diard, Sisters Florence, Jack Martin, Billy French, Raymond, Little Zola, Mayvilles.

THE BRITANNIA.
Matinée Monday.
King Wow Wow Co., Satsuma, Flo Warner, Jack Rae, Raymond, Galetti's Monkeys, Mignonette Kokin.

FORESTERS.
Matinées Monday and Thursday.
Billy Williams, Harry Anderson, Winnie Derson, Leonard Mortimer's Co., W. B. Raby, Leoni Clarke, Tivoli Girls, Royal Raynors, Raymond, Corelli.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday.
Marion Scott, Chas. Gardener, The Zampas, "Orange Girl" Sketch, Harry Wright, Nellie Gannon, Peggy Fame, Raymond, The Maras, "Love-Makers" Co.

SURREY THEATRE.
All Artists engaged for Surrey Theatre must bring 14 Band parts.
Clifton and Gibson, Chas. Lilburn, Tom Moore, Hillman and Russell, The Ashwells, Leonard Mortimer and Co., Raymond, Chris Baker, 3 Rubys, Bros. Redmond, Vandyke Troupe, Victor Travers.
Matinée every Monday.

Notice.—All artists carrying Scenery must have it Fireproof, according to L.C.C. regulations, otherwise it will not be allowed in the Halls.

All Bill Matter or Notification of Appearance must be sent in 14 days prior to opening. All Artists must attend Band Rehearsal, or their Contracts may be cancelled at the option of the Management.

N.B.—All Billing Matter, accompanied by Pictorials, and Business Communications relating to the Provincial Circuit, must be addressed to the
EXECUTIVE OFFICES:
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Screamingly funny pictures of a beginner learning to skate.

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Thrilling story of a father and daughter. The man steals a loaf and is imprisoned; subsequently escapes, and goes to look for his little girl, who has been sent to a home for children. Great joy when father and daughter meet. Later on he is tracked by the police. In preference to being taken again he throws himself from a great height and is killed. Very pathetic scenes, and full of interest.

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Code Word, BUVEUR.

Amusing struggle between burglars and police, performed by the Price troupe. Ridiculous situations, causing shouts of laughter from start to finish.

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REIGN OF TERROR IN RUSSIA.
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Most impressive scenes. Attempt to kill the governor. Struggle between soldiers, police, and Nihilists. Offices of the Chief of Police blown up. Huge excitement. This is one of the most wonderful films ever put on the market.

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THE RUNAWAY MOTOR CAR.
Code Word, CHIFFON.

A couple of bad boys start a motor-car in the chauffeur's absence. The car goes off at a great speed; travels all over the country; only stops for a cripple. It is extraordinarily funny to watch the antics of the populace trying to stop the car.

320ft. The Subject £5 10s.

AMATEUR PHOTOGRAPHER.
Code Word, CAMPHRE.

He buys a camera; insists on taking everybody and everything; constantly gets in hot water; very droll and keeps the observer amused all the time.

248ft. The Subject £4 2s. 8d.

THE ELECTRIC BELT.
Code Word, CANAPE.

The husband has a bad pain in his back. His wife gets an electric belt; puts it in his overcoat; it makes him jump all over the place and want to kiss every woman he meets. He is arrested; the magistrate accidently puts on the coat and goes through the same performance; many amusing complications follow. This is one of the most humorous films we have ever produced and is bound to be a large seller.

478ft. The Subject £7 19s. 4d.

BABY'S FIRST OUTING.
Code Word, CHICANE.

The careless nurse takes baby out and speaks to many people on the way, and keeps on colliding with various obstacles. Eventually a naughty boy ties the pram to a dog, who rushes off with it, followed by an interested crowd of spectators. Finally the pram is precipitated into a pond, but baby is unhurt, and is brought back to her parents in triumph by a kindly policeman.
Fine quality and really amusing.

478ft. The Subject £7 19s. 4d.

THE GOLDEN BEETLE.
Code Word, BUREAU.

An old wizard succeeds in capturing a golden beetle, which he casts into a melting-pot, from which there immediately appears a most beautiful form, succeeded by fountains of water and displaying lovely girls. This water then throws off splendid coloured effects, rising higher and higher, eventually turning into a regular cascade, the centre of which is a glorious fairy.
Splendid trick film, beautifully coloured.

165ft. The Subject £2 15s. Colouring extra £2 2s.

A VISIT FROM A MOTHER-IN-LAW.
Code Word, CHIC.

The young husband determines that as he does not want his mother-in-law to stay with them, he will get rid of her quickly. Bribes the servants, and they each, without seeming to do so, cause her some trouble. Finally, he takes her out in his car, and bumps her out. She, in disgust, returns home again, to the intense joy of the husband. A very amusing subject, and some very funny effects.

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THE COSMOPOLITAN DANCERS.
Code Word, BURINEUR.

A series of rapid changes in costume and dancing made by two dancers, who exhibit the styles of Jack Tar, Spanish, French, Japanese, Italian, Russian, &c. Beautiful colouring effect.

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We have made elaborate arrangements and have obtained special concessions from the authorities for taking the Great International Match which will be played between England and Scotland To-day, April 6th, at Newcastle-on-Tyne. The Match is of Great interest and importance, and will prove an enormous attraction at any Cinematograph Exhibition. We are taking every precaution to secure a really fine and brilliant picture. The length will probably be about 300 or 400 feet. We shall have a number of prints ready for delivery on Monday.

We guarantee a Grand Film. We anticipate a rush for the Picture. Book your Order at once for the Great International Match Association Game.

A TALE BEAUTIFULLY TOLD. AN ENGROSSING SUBJECT.

No. 1591.

THE COINER'S DAUGHTER.

The Coiners at work. Innocence and guilt. Uttering base coin. When the cat's away the mice will play. The boy sweetheart. Following in her father's footsteps. Captured. The wily detective—waiting and watching. The child as a clue. A boy's honour. A way out. A confidence not misplaced. Traces of guilt removed. Running the gauntlet. The return. The pursuing police Baulked. The little heroine,

Length **640ft.** Price **£10 13s. 4d.** net.

No. 1587.

CARLO STEALS SOME SAUSAGES.

Carlo hungry. The tempting sausages. An exciting chase. The painters upset. The basinette overturned. The train at full speed. The avenging sportsmen. Carlo's life in danger. A bad shot. Carlo's escape. Carlo forlorn.

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No. 1587.

CUP AND BALL MAD.

The game gets on his brain. Cup and Ball with Silk hat, tar pots, milk cans. He arrives home a picture. Wife in hysterics. Cup and Ball with a soup tureen; with the chimney ornaments; with the clock. Cup and Ball in bed. A drastic attempt to effect a cure.

Length **385ft.** Price **£6 8s. 4d.** net.

No. 1584.

THE WONDERFUL ELECTRIC BELT.

This Picture is electrified right through. A continuous current of Fun (not alternating). The Film to electrify and grip an audience. A subject of high voltage.

Length **660ft.** Price **£11** net.

Re THE WONDERFUL ELECTRIC BELT.

We find that one of our contemporaries has considered this film worth copying. Imitation is the surest flattery, but we are the original producers of this film, which was put on the market some three weeks ago.

By Royal Command

THE CHRONOPHONE

At Buckingham Palace, on the afternoon of Thursday, the 4th, by the Royal Command, the Chronophone was exhibited before H.M. Queen Alexandra; there were also present the Dowager Empress of Russia, the Prince and Princess of Wales with their children, and a brilliant assemblage. The performance was a great success in every respect. The young Prince Eddy is eagerly asking for more Chronophone.

The New Converts to the Chronophone are Proctor and Kemp, the famous and successful showmen, who, after examining and trying various imitations offered on the market, are decided there is only one Singing and Talking Picture Machine—THE CHRONOPHONE.

TO PROFESSIONALS.—NOTICE.—

This week all our Film subjects are advertised at our new net price—at 33⅓ p.c.

PIRATING ELGE FILMS.

We note that one of our business contemporaries has made it a practice to copy our subjects wholesale, and the latest piracy of Elge Films is a poor and weak imitation of our powerful and sensational film,

No. 1590. **THE REIGN OF TERROR IN RUSSIA.**

Length **740ft.** Price **£12 6s. 8d.** net.

Which was produced and advertised by us a month ago. We deplore the fact that a well-known firm is so lacking in enterprise and originality as to find it necessary to copy, advertise, and place on the market as theirs pictures which they are well aware are deliberate and barefaced copies of another firm's originals.

TRADE WITH THE FIRM WHICH PRODUCES ORIGINAL SUBJECTS, DO NOT BE PUT OFF WITH POOR AND WEAK IMITATIONS.

Another film which has been copied, but of which we are the original producers and placed on the market some weeks ago.

No. 1581. **MA-IN-LAW VISITS PARIS.**

A rousing and roaring comic. Fun and fancy right through.

Length **450ft.** **£7 10s.** net.

THE PICTURE ABOVE ALL OTHERS MOST APPROPRIATE FOR PASSION WEEK AND EASTER.

Christ Among Men.

Portraying to the life the Birth, Life, Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Christ.
The Greatest Drama ever enacted on the World's Stage.

Scene
1. Arrival at Bethlehem.
2. The Nativity, Adoration of the Wise Men.
3. The Infant Jesus' Sleep.
4. The Woman of Samaria.
5. The Raising of Jairus' Daughter.
6. Mary Magdalene.
7. Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem.
8. The Last Supper and Sacrament.
9. In the Garden of Olives.
10. "Simon, Sleepest Thou?"
11. The Betrayal and Arrest.
12. Jesus before Caiaphas.
13. Peter's Denial.
14. Jesus before Pilate.
15. The Scourging.
16. "Ecce Homo!" (Behold the Man).
17. Jesus is made to carry His Cross.
18. Jesus falls for the first time.
19. The Incident of St. Veronica.
20. The Ascent to Calvary.
21. } The Crucifixion and Agony.
22. }
23. The Descent from the Cross.
24. The Burial of Christ.
25. The Resurrection.

TO BE HAD ENTIRE OR IN PART.

Picture in Black and White, price £43 net.
Price Superbly Coloured, £78 10s. net.

NO SUPERFLUOUS DETAILS.

No. C152. *NEW CLARENDON FILM.*

THE WRECK OF THE MARY JANE.

Length **560ft.** Price **£5 6s. 8d.**

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Reasonable Terms. Good Programmes.
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Place your Date with us, the Reliable STAR PICTURE EXHIBITORS.
We collect and use nothing but the very best Films of the highest photographic quality of all the leading British and Continental Manufacturers, besides Original Subjects of our own, hence our standard of efficiency is always TIP-TOP.
Complete Weekly Changes.
Terms Moderate.

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(Opposite the Hippodrome.)

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TO SHOWMEN ENTREPRENEURS,
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THE "CRUISE OF THE OPHIR."

ONE THOUSAND POUNDS
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TWENTY-FIVE SHILLINGS.

TO THE PUBLISHER, "THE ERA."

Sir,—
It may possibly interest you to learn that a Quarter-Column Advertisement in "The Era" (One Insertion) resulted in over £1,000 Bookings for an Entertainment with which I was connected some little time ago. The Entertainment was entitled

"THE CRUISE OF THE OPHIR,"

Cinématograph Show, and the Bookings were effected within a week.
Yours faithfully,
H. GOLDSMITH-WHITTON,
Late Manager, West's "Our Navy," &c.
London, May 19, 1904.

PAUL'S
NEW FILM.
HIS FIRST TOP-HAT

A picture which will appeal as much to adults as to juvenile audiences. It tells the tale of an Eton boy's first silk hat. His father, a man of military appearance, brings him to the hatter's. The boy causes considerable amusement by his antics with some old-fashioned hats which are displayed as curiosities. The boy being duly fitted, shows disgust with his new head-gear. He lags behind his father as they go down the street, making as though he would get rid of the hat at the first opportunity. Father bids him good-bye, son is accosted by a butcher boy, who jeers at him, and throws a cabbage, which he finds close at hand, knocks off boy's hat, and a lively fight and scramble ensue, during which the combatants collide with an elderly gentleman, causing an accidental exchange of hats as they lie on the ground. The old gentleman walking away has his attention attracted to the misfit, and runs off to recover his own hat. A young girl of the boy's acquaintance meeting him, has her bag snatched from her by a thief while they are talking. The boy chases thief, and loses the hat of the old gentleman, who now arrives on the scene. The boy recovers girl's bag, but the hat lying in the road is run over by a motor-car, and the rightful owner finds it a complete wreck. The boy's father is compelled to pay the value of the old gentleman's hat, which is finally seen in possession of a tramp, who decides it is not good enough for him.
Code word, "Topper." Length 260ft.

ROBT. W. PAUL,
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It does everything required of it. It is simple. The quality is perfect, It cannot get out of order. **Can be fixed** to **ANY** existing Animated Picture Machine in a few minutes. **Cannot** be compared with anything else on the market,

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If you wish for the **LOUDEST** sound-producing Singing Picture Machine in the **WORLD,** purchase the **CINEMATOPHONE** in combination with the AUXETOPHONE. Price complete, £170.

Films, **2/6** per METRE, including Disc, or approximately 10d. per foot.

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Call up 4707 Holborn. Wire "ALBERTYPE, LONDON."

URBAN PRODUCTIONS

THE FILM OF THE MOMENT.

ROUMANIA: ITS CITIZENS AND ITS SOLDIERS.

The Peasants' Rising in Roumania, which has almost assumed the proportions of Civil War, renders the production of this series particularly opportune. Pictures of enthralling interest and photographic perfection are presented, which include **ROUMANIAN VILLAGE and CITY LIFE; Street, Market, and Bazaar scenes; Palaces, Tropical Gardens, Public Parks, and a beautiful procession of children on their way to instruction in tree planting.**
STIRRING MILITARY SCENES, specially arranged for this series by command of the Roumanian Minister for War, illustrate the **Infantry of King Charles** drilling, manœuvres of the **splendidly horsed Field Batteries of Artillery,** and a **March Past of Lancers. These give a complete epitome of the Roumanian Field Forces, and are therefore of paramount interest at this juncture.**

UNSTINTED APPLAUSE WHEREVER SHOWN.

No. 1979. Code "Roumania." Length 420ft. Price £7.

THE LATEST MAGIC FILM. AN ALHAMBRA SUCCESS.

COMICAL CARTOONS. BY THE HAND OF THE ARTIST.

The former picture, "The Hand of the Artist," proved **one of the most successful magic films ever published,** its sales being phenomenal and its reception most enthusiastic. Upon this **the present series is a great improvement and forms a departure in an entirely new direction.** "The Hand of the Artist" draws **outline faces in chalk upon a blackboard; the outlines gradually fill and assume living form and movement. They eat, smoke, drink, whirl, express pleasure and satisfaction without leaving the blackboard, after which the images are removed by an ordinary duster. One head is divided from crown to chin,** and from its interior are produced cigars, cigarettes, champagne, and glasses; the head is rejoined and once more becomes human and vivacious. Many other illusions are included in this marvellous series, which, in its absolutely perfect photography is the **greatest "Trick" Film that has been placed on the market.**

An Amazing, Mystifying, and Most Attractive Subject.

No. 1964. Code "Cartoon." Length 285ft. Price £4 15s.

THE GREAT FOOTBALL CUP FINAL.
We hold Sole Rights for bioscoping this annual event.
CRYSTAL PALACE, APRIL 20th.
EVERTON v. SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY.
Orders supplied in the rotation received. Approximate length ***400ft.***

ALL FILMS 4d. per foot net. **TERMS: Cash with Order.**

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For other Cinematograph Advertisements see Following Pages.

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THE VAUDEVILLE SYNDICATE,

Secretary and Manager, **Mr. C. Standfield,**
Calls for Monday, April 8, '07.

PALACE, DOVER.

Raymond, Three Sisters Thurbani, The Courtney Family, Bert and Dora, Three Graces, Bessie Travis, J. H. Carney.

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Bert Goldin, Carlotta De Yonsen and Co., Will Lear, Bros. Lennettie, The Lannons, Pictures, Albano Family.

THEATRE ROYAL, DOVER.

Constance Juno, Fred Southern and Co., Pictures, Chester and Lees, Frederica, Herbert Madden.

THE PALACE, GLASGOW.
Sole Proprietor and Manager, Rich. Waldon.
All Bookings are now made direct from above Hall.
All Contracts made on behalf of the Palace, Glasgow, on or before April 7, 1906, and delivered to the present Management, not yet completed, will be carried out.
Bill matter must be sent two weeks in advance.
CALL for Monday, April 8, 1907, at 12 o'clock: Jack and Evelyn, Glennie's Marionettes, Will Sargeant, Chummie La Mara, Arthur Boyne, Bros. Obo, Woolmer Young, Jake Friedman, Florence Deighton, Tally-Ho Trio.
Harry McKelvie, Business-Manager.

GLASGOW PAVILION.
CALL for Monday, April 8, 1907.
7. Twice Nightly. 9.
Rehearsal at 11 o'clock for:—
Matinée on Monday, at 2.30.
Sam Elton, Crown Trio, Verno and Voyce Clarice Mayne George French, Annie Nelson, Driscoll and Beattie, May Moore-Duprez.

GREENOCK PAVILION.
Rehearsal at 2 o'clock for
The Musical Markies, William C. M'Phie, Hettie Chattell, Ruby Bijou, the Pavoscope, Cliff and Kean.
All bill matter must be sent to Glasgow fourteen days ahead. Failing this, Artists will run the risk of having their Contracts cancelled. By order,
SAMUEL LLOYD, General-Manager.

SHEERNESS HIPPODROME.
General-Manager, Mr. Fred Leighton.
CALL, Monday, April 8, 1907,
Mabel Bright and Co., Rosie Morn, Will Farrel, Cull-Pitt and Mlle. Adèle, Grant and Allen, Grogie, Eadie and Ramsden.
Band Rehearsal, Monday, 10 o'clock.

In the High Court of Justice. Chancery Division. Mr. Justice Swinfen Eady. Re London Coliseum, Limited.

Moss and Others v. London Coliseum, Limited, and others.

THE LONDON COLISEUM.

A Magnificent Palace of Varieties, licensed for music and dancing. Occupying an area of about three-quarters of an acre in one of the most convenient and important positions in the West-end, close to Charing Cross, and readily accessible from all parts. The house is fitted in a most luxurious manner, tastefully decorated, and conveniently arranged, with all necessary emergency exits and fittings as required by the London County Council. Extensive stage, three revolving tables, and all modern appliances for producing most realistic effects. Possession on completion of the purchase.

There are in addition valuable Freehold and Leasehold Business Premises, &c., in St. Martin's lane, Chandos-street, and Taylor's-buildings, let, and producing about £1510 per annum.

BENJAMIN I'ANSON BREACH, of the firm of FAREBROTHER, ELLIS, EGERTON, BREACH, GALSWORTHY, and Co.
(the person appointed by the Judge to whose Court the cause is attached), will
SELL BY AUCTION,
at the Mart, London, E.C., on Thursday, April 25, 1907, at 2 o'clock, the above Important Properties in Five Lots.

Particulars of Messrs. Smith, Rundell, and Dods, Solicitors, 9, John-street, Bedford-row, London; Messrs. Maples and McCraith, Solicitors, Nottingham; Messrs. Vachell and Co., Solicitors, Cardiff; Messrs. Beaumont, Son, and Rigden, Solicitors, 33, Chancery-lane, London; Messrs. Ford, Lloyd, Bartlett, and Mickelmore, Solicitors, 38, Bloomsbury-square, London; at the Mart, or of Messrs. Farebrother, Ellis, and Co., 29, Fleet-street, London, E.C.

THE KURSAAL, SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.

To Public Entertainers, Syndicates, and Land Speculators.

The valuable FREEHOLD FULLY-LICENSED PROPERTY known as the SOUTHEND KURSAAL, the renowned pleasure palace, trotting track, and marine park, adjoining beach and promenade, and near station. The buildings comprise grand concert hall, theatre or ball room, dining hall, billiard saloon, refreshment bars, an arcade of 26 shops, hippodrome, and menagerie, fitted up with fully equipped dens and aviaries. The whole covers an area of about 25 acres, with important existing building frontages of about 2,800ft. The premises are fully licensed, and electric light is installed.

DOUGLAS YOUNG & CO.

will Sell the above at the MART, E.C., on WEDNESDAY, May 1, 1907, at 2.
Solicitors, Messrs. John Holmes, Son, and Wigan, 34, Clement's-lane, E.C.
Auctioneers' Offices, 51, Coleman-street, E.C.

Telephone, 1948 Gerrard.
Telegrams, "Oxenhams, London."
OXENHAM'S AUCTION ROOMS,
187 and 189, Oxford-street, W.

Messrs. TOOTH and TOOTH will include in their
SALE of FURNITURE and EFFECTS
at the above Rooms on Tuesday Next, commencing at 12 o'clock,
a QUANTITY of
MOST EXPENSIVE SILK PLUSH and DAMASK CURTAINS, DRAPERIES, and a QUANTITY of
FINE QUALITY WILTON PILE CARPET,
removed from the Criterion Theatre.
May be viewed the day prior.
Catalogues had an application.

CRAVEN'S Famous **HAMPERS.**

The World's Strongest and Best, as used by the Elite of the Profession.
RELIABLE TRAVELLING HAMPER.

Fig. 400.

Sizes and Prices as under:—

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GALINO, PERCI, Summer, Messrs. Adeler and Sutton (22 weeks). Mon., Pal., Portsmouth. Panto. '08, Peter Davey.

GERMAIN, the Wizard. Maskelyn and Devant's, St. George's Hall.

GILBERT'S Dogs and Cats. This, Hippo., Burton-on-Trent; next, Hippodrome, Wigan. B. wire address, important.

GRAHAM, the Human Marionette, 'Phone 849 Brixton. Business Representative, GEO. BARCLAY.

GRANADAS, LOS, "Sensational Happenings Outside an Hotel." 64, Upper Sutton-street, Aston, Birmingham.

GRANT and ALLEN, Hippodrome, Sheerness.

GRAPHO and JACKSON, Pierrots and Pictures. Aquarium, Scarborough. 2nd week.

GRAY, GEORGE, GRAY, GEORGE. V.A.F. No. 2000. V.A.F.

GREEN, MR. TOM, Cinematograph Picture Producing Co. 106, Fairholme-road, Croydon.

HALL, J. W., Empire, Stockport.

HARRIS and WORTH, "Hunting," by C. Osborne. Hip., Ashton-under-Lyne.

HART and CO., Dramatic and Variety Agents. 7, Lancaster-house, Rushcroft-rd., Brixton. Tele., 116 Brixton.

HAYDE, Hippodrome, Ealing.

HAYTORS, THE (Edie, Arthur, and Frank). Cravenholme, Bowdon, Cheshire.

HERBERT, FRED, Premier Topical Vocalist. Premier Topical Vocalist.

HILL, ROWLAND, "Ye Dame." Palace, Bristol.

HOWARDS, THE (RALPH and NELLIE), Empire Theatre, Edinburgh.

HULA, SISTERS, Vocalists and Dancers. Lib. Mon. Wire, till Sun., T. R., Perth. After, 66, Kensington-st., Leicester.

HULBERT, Ventriloquist, and DE LIL, Illusionist; Two-Smart Acts. Vac. Whit Week, and later dates. Mon., Hippo., Accrington.

HUMBER, FANNIE, Concludes Sheerness. 8th, London. Address, 85, De Laune-street, Kennington Park, S.E.

HUXTER, THREE BROS., Premier Specialité Artists. E., Liverpool, April 8, Empire, Ardwick.

HYMACK, MR. The Oswald Stoll Tour. April 8, H.M.T. of Varieties, Walsall.

INGLE, ARTHUR, Coster Juggler. The most novel act on the road for galas. King's Head, Ashby-de-la-Zouch.

JAMES, CHAS. A., Waxworks and Varieties, 30, Henry-street, Dublin. Always openings for Novelties.

JAYS, THE TWO (JIM and JOE), Kwarrelsome Komedians. April 8, Alhambra, Brighton.

JOY, ZONA, Disengaged for Summer. Pantomime offers invited.

JUDGE, SISTERS, with their Marvellous Performing Cockatoos, Parrots, and Macaws. Big success, Curzon Hall, Birmingham.

KAVADOS, Juggler; FLO MELVILLE, Burlesque Artist. Big success, Tower, New Brighton. Address as above.

KEITHS, THE ORIGINAL MUSICAL (CARLINA and CHARLIE). Monday, April 8, Hulme Hippodrome, Manchester.

KELLERMANN, ANNETTE, Principal Lady Swimmer, London Hippodrome.

KEMBLE'S, HENRY, AGENCY. Temporary Office, Palace, Cork.

KINGSLEY, CISSIE, the Accomplished Actress-Vocalist. Usual Success, Taunton.

KNIGHT, SOPHIE, the New Ballad Vocalist. Vacant April 15 and 29. Monday, April 8, Palace, Lincoln, Where Address all Coms.

KRISS, SCOTCH, Speciality, with Bendon's Picture Enterprise. This, T. R., Crook; Next, T. R., Murton.

KYOTO, the Comedy Jap; also MAY GERALDINE, with catchy chorus songs. April 8, Tivoli, Dublin. Vacant, April 15.

LA BLANCHE KATIE and LA BELLE SYLVIA. Argyle, Birkenhead; Monday, P., Ilkley. Lib. April 22, to follow Spennymoor.

LA MARA, CHUMMIE, WILL SERGEANT. No Vacancies. C/o "Era."

LANDOR BROS., Comedy Acrobats. Usual Success, Public Hall, Barnsley. Vacant Monday 8. Wire above.

LASSAH, LILLIE, This week, Gaiety, Chatham. Next week, April 8, Grand, Gravesend.

LE BRUN, IRENE, and EDIE, in their Expert and Comedy Juggling Speciality. Vac. May 20. Municipal Hall, Newcastle, Staffs.

LE CLERQ, GEORGE, London Halls Nightly.

LEE, THREE SISTERS, the Original. Acrobats. Always a success. Lib. April 8, onward; next, 17, Newlands-st., Everton, Liverpool.

LE FRE, ALBERT, April 8, Brighton. in his Novel Mélange.

LEGLERES, THE ORIGINAL, Premier Acrobats and Risley Performers. For vacant dates, address "The Era" office.

LENNER, T. W., Comedian and Vocalist; also FLORRIE WRIGHT; Want Monday next, also 15th. This, Alh., Sandgate.

LENTON, HERBERT The Original. Add., 9, Woodland-rd., W. Bridgeford, Nottingham.

LEOLAR TROUPE, Juvenile Acrobatic Dancers, four; with Batchelor's "Beauty and Beast." Perm., Western Valley, Risca, Mon.

LEONS, TWO, and MITZI, On Tour. Also MELITA. Address all letters 53, Third-avenue, Manor Park, Essex.

LE-WIST, Favourite Ventriloquist; also as RENO, smart conjurer, finishing 3 months with Picture Show. Lib. Post Office, Leek, Staffs.

LI CHUNG HI, Magician, concluding Empire, Hull. Next, Exhibition, March, Cambs. Vac. May 6, on.

LILY STEWART, Dainty Comedienne and Dancer. Successful everywhere. This week, Gaiety, Ayr; next, G. T., Falkirk.

LISTON, MR. HARRY, MISS LUMLEY, and Party, London this, Southend Pier Next. Vacant Dates, St. George's Hall, W.

LIZZETTE, THE FOUR SISTERS. Lady Acrobats; also MOLLY AUGARDE, Vocalist. April 8, Circus, Hyde.

LLOYD, LITTLE BABS (late Baby Lloyd), and NELLIE VANCE. Big hit, Edinburgh. Victoria T., Stanley, Durham. All coms.

LOLO, QUEENIE, Lady Gymnast, and LITTLE MAY, Contortionist. Touring with Alexandra. Bull Hotel, Bull-lane, Gloucester.

LORCH FAMILY, Risley Act, including Three Ponies, Donkey. April 8, Royal Hippodrome, Belfast. Only vacant May 6.

LORD, MURRAY, and LORD, This week, Argyle, Birkenhead. Next week, Grand, Gravesend.

LOVELACES, THE, American Song-Illustrators. This, City Varieties, Leeds; next, Empress, Hartlepool. Vacant May 6 and 13.

LUMIERE'S, MDLLE., Original Fairy Grotto. Big Success Palace, Bristol. Address, 6, Gloucester-street, St. Paul's, Bristol.

LYNCH, AGNESE and ARTHUR, in American Picture Songs. Monday next, Circus, Bury, also two following weeks.

LYNDO, FRED, the New Burlesque Comedian. Success, Bishop Auckland; next, Spennymoor. Panto settled.

LYTTON, BERT, the Swell Comique. A brilliant success. This, Palace, Derby; next, Hippodrome, Huddersfield.

MACS, THE NEW, Conversational Jesters. Monday, April 8, Empire, Liverpool.

MARCONIS, THE GREAT, Electric Wonders. This week, making a Sensation, Empire, Islington; next, Hippo., Maidstone.

MARLO, Juggler. April 8, Regent, Salford.

MARSDEN, AMY, Comedy Artist. Tivoli, Barrow. Ninety-eight contracts signed while at the South London. George Foster.

MAXWELL and FRANCES, TOM and (his Daughter) VIRGINIA. April 8, Barnard's Palace, Chatham.

MAY, ALICE. "Traquility," April 8, Empire, Manchester. Perm. address, 15, Rupert-street, W.

MAY, MR. HENRY W., Musical-Director, Empire, Shepherd's Bush. All kinds of music composed and orchestrated.

MAYE, PERCY, Two Special Weeks, New Pavilion, Stretford, Manchester.

MAYNALL, ALF, "Isle of Ooma," April 8, Emp., Birmingham. Summer Again Settled. Messrs. Adler and Sutton.

MAYNE, ERNIE (of Cupid fame), London for three months. Empress, Brixton.

McASKELL, Evening Dress Laughter Creator. Monday next, Victoria Theatre, Stanley, Durham. Porth and Gloucester to follow.

McKAYS, THE (TOM and AMY), Great Success, T. R., Warrington. Monday Next, Hippodrome, Accrington.

McNEIL, SHEILA, Scotch Comedy Artist. Hippo., Wakefield. Vacant April 8. Wire.

MERRIONS, THE (WILL, HARRY, and FRED). This Week, Empire, Ardwick.

METZ & METZ (ARTHUR & TED), Comedians with a style of their own. This, Standard, Pimlico, and Hippo., Crouch End.

M'FALL, JOHN E., Gardeners' Arms, 10, Market-st., and 5, Manse-lane, Greenock, opposite Empire Theatre. "The Era," &., kept.

MILES-STAVORDALE QUINTETTE (the Original Act), South Africa. Address, Anger and Bauer, 50, Rupert-street, W.

MILSTED, EMMIE, and JOE BELL, Indian Comedy Scena. April 8, Royal Albert, Canning Town, E.

MILTON, MARK, the Most Wonderful Fall Performer in the World, Assisted by ETHEL. On Tour. America Later.

MILTON'S MARIONETTES, On Tour, Coms., c/o "The Era" Office, London.

MOHAMED BEN MOHAMED, Souasa Arabs. Circus Corty Althoff, Dusseldorf, Germany.

MONA, WEE (Vivian), April 8, Grand, Hanley.

MONTAGUE, LEO, India's Laughter Lifter. Gardner-Brown Vaudeville Co. in India.

MOORE, A. W., Scenic Artist, at Liberty for Engagement or Contract. Address, 20, Park-street, Middlesbrough.

MORELL, MISS DAISY, Palace, Bristol. Vacant for Pantomime, Principal Boy.

MORRIS, J. C., Droll Comedian and Raconteur. Ap. 8., Em., Wolverhampton. Vacant Pantomime. (Dame.)

MOZZETTO, The Famous Juggler, Care of "The Era."

MUIR and BARTLETT, "The Collar Stud." To-night, H., Accrington; Mon., R., Warrington.

MYERS, ERNIE, & LILY LONSDALE, Hippodrome, Lancaster; Next, Palace, Hammersmith, London.

NEILSONS, THE TWO, Speciality Dancers. This, Victoria, West Stanley; next, Zoo, Glasgow. Vacant May 27.

NEIMAN'S Ventriloquial Minstrels, London Halls Nightly.

NEWHAM and LATIMAR, Dame and Baron, Finish To-night, Sixteen Weeks' Panto., Weston-super-Mare.

NICHELSON'S ANIMATED PICTURES and Variety Combination. On Tour. Manager, Joe Hennessy.

NORA, NELLIE, Musical Act. Thanks Morgan, Good, Swift, for Contracts. Vac. Monday. Wire, 15, Bedford-street, Scarboro'.

NOTE, R. C., & DAISY DEVONPORT, This, Athenæum Hall, Bury; wanted, known, H. Kemble, Esq., P., Cork, is our Sole Agent.

OBO, BROS., the popular Laughing Comedians. Big succ., King's, Gateshead. April 8, Palace T., Glasgow.

O'CONNOR and BRADY, thoroughly experienced in Panto. Vacant Xmas. Perm., 83, The Crescent, South Tottenham.

OLIVER, J. C., the Original Magical Jester, Now in Eighth Week, at Circus, Hull. Liberty, April 22, on. Panto Settled.

ONDA and LEON, Conversational Gymnasts. Address, 24, Brook-street, Preston.

ONDA BROS., and WILL ONDA and Company, in "Hotel Comfort." Circus, Rochdale.

OSBORNE, CHARLIE, the "Extra Special" Author and Entertainer, 54, Fortess-road, London, N.W.

PACEY and REEVES, Agents, 186, Brixton-road, S.W.

PALETTE and Clever Fox-Terriers. "A Busy Time in the Studio." This, Pavilion, Ilkley; next, Hippodrome, Jarrow.

PARLATO, Facialist and Impersonator, Temperance Hall, Northampton.

PAYNE'S, WALTER, Biophotoscopes. Films for Hire, Films for Sale. 346, Brixton-road, London.

PEARCE and WARD, Comedy Artists. This, big hit, Hippo., Wakefield; next, return, Hippo., Rochdale. Vacant July 10.

PEARSON'S, GEORGE, AGENCY, Manager, Mr. George Pearson, 6, Dunstan-road, Honor Oak, S.E.

PERMANE, W., Siberian, Educated, and Equestrian Bears, at Liberty. 347, East India Dock-rd., Poplar, E.

PICKARD, A. E., American Museum, Glasgow. Britannia Panopticon, Glasgow.

PIRMANS, THE THREE, the Leading Pot-Pourri Act, Macnaghten Tour. Big. Pal., Halifax; Mon., Pal., Bradford. No vacancies.

POOLE, DAVID, The Ventriloquist, Commences Stoll Tour, Monday, Empire, Hackney.

POOLE, SISTERS (ADA and LETTA), Great success Palace, Worcester. Return April 8, Royal, Warrington.

POWER, FRANK, Tenor. On Tour, Royal Gipsy Co. Letters, &c, to 1, Grove-road, Brixton, S.W.

POYNTON, MR. ALFRED, The Great Facial Mimic. All coms., Blenheim Hotel, Brighton.

PRIMAVESI, Unique Juggler. Monday, Hippodrome, Eastbourne.

PURVIS, WALTER, and CO., in the enormous hit, "Cauliflower Joe." Palace, Walthamstow, or Tom Shaw.

RAE, GEO., Scotch Comedian and Dancer. Big Success. This, Theatre, Perth. Vacant April 8 and 22. Write or Wire.

RALLIS, LES, "The Artist and His Monkey," Monday, Theatre Royal, Woolwich.

REEVE, MISS EDNA, Dramatic Sketch, "Her Shattered Idol." Theatre, Bishop Auckland; Monday, Spennymoor.

REGAN and RYAN Monday next, Hippodrome, Birmingham. Arrangements complete till May, 1909.

RENE and SMITH, Presenting their Comedy Pot Pourri Act. This week, Gaiety, Dundee; next, Hip., Perth. Vac. May 6 and 27.

RESDAN, RITA. New Songs Active Preparation by Mills and Scott and Alf. E. Rick and Maurice Scott. Agent, G. Barclay.

RICH and RICH, of London. Palace, West Hartlepool.

RICHARDS, ENA, Canadian Comedienne and Dancer, 49, Fleming-road, Kennington Park, S.E.

RIOGOKU FAMILY, THE, Manager, Y. Hamamura, Battenberg Theater, Leipzig.

ROBY, ELSIE, "The Slavey's 'At Home.'" Palace, West Hartlepool.

ROWLEY, J. W., Lynton House, Durand Gardens, Clapham-road. Wires, Comedian, London; also MISS ELLA DEAN.

ROYAL WELSH SINGERS, Scena, "Sweet Italy." This, Hippo., Hulme; next, Hippo., Bury. Ha, ha! Manager, Edward Heath.

RUBYS, THE THREE, Refined Bending Act. Fine success Dover and Brighton. Mon., Surrey Theatre, S.E.

RYLAND, CLIFF, Just concluded Moss and Stoll Tour, six months. Monday, Palace, Camberwell.

SAKER, ALFRED, and CO., Variety Agents. 17, Cranworth-gardens, Brixton, S.W. 'Phone, 194 Brixton.

SANDES and VINCENT, Comedy Act (including the original WILL SAUNDERS). Monday, Hippodrome, Stockton.

SANDY and CARL, the Funny Comedians. "Two of the Best." Queen's, Castleford; next, Tivoli, Shields.

SANTOI, MARIE, and CO., Starring in Town. This, Metropolitan and Cambridge; next, Hippo., West Bromwich. David Hart, Esq.

SCOTT, GEORGE, Adam and Eve, High-st., Peckham. House of Call for Professionals. Nr. Crown T. Cars pass door.

SCOTT, MISS MAIDIE, Just a Comedienne. 42, Chatsworth-gardens, Acton Hill, W.

SELWYN, SISTERS, Great Success, Tivoli, Manchester. Monday, Palace, Grimsby.

SILCOTT, THREE SISTERS, Empire, Wolverhampton. Offers invited for Panto.

SILVO, MUSICAL, April 8, Hippodrome, Leeds.

SMITH and JOHNSON, Success, Hippo., Dewsbury. April 8, in Town.

STANERT and YONDI thank Mr. and Mrs. John Walters for comfortable tour. April 8, Hippo., Ton-y-Pandy.

STANLEY'S URCHINS, April 8, Theatre Royal Varieties, Woolwich; and Palace Theatre Varieties, Greenwich.

STANTON, WALTER, The Giant Dancing Rooster. Finished London Hippo. Add., C/o "The Era."

STAVORDALE QUINTETTE, THE. Queen's, Castleford. Lib. 8th, 15th, 22nd. 29, Ouseley-rd., Balham. Tels. "Stavordale, London."

STEBBINGS, EDGAR, Variety Agent, 23, Egerton-street, Hulme, Manchester. Telegrams, "Stebbing, Manchester." 'Phone 09261.

STEINWAY QUARTETTE, Vacant April 8 and 15. Address, 19, Kennington Park-road, S.E.

STELLING and his Canine Comedian Kiswaski. Vacant Mon. Wire Hippo., Lowestoft. Agent, Peel.

STERLING and LOVE, Bottom of bill. Usual success. This, Lyric, Liverpool; next, Hippo., St. Helens.

STEWART, LILY, Dainty Comedienne and Dancer. This, Grand, Falkirk; next, Coatbridge and Motherwell.

ST. JOHNS, THE, Musicians, Handbell Experts, Gaggists, and Dancers. Add., 21, Granby-street, Liverpool. Vacant April 22, on.

STRATTON, SISTERS, This Week, Tower, New Brighton. Next Week, Empire, Middlesbrough.

STUART and WORTH, Refined Comedy Entertainers. Mon., New Pavilion, Stretford, Manchester.

STYLO, Hoop Juggling Expert; BEATRICE BONNIE, Comedienne; Coliseum, Glasgow. April 8, Emp., Edinburgh. Vac. April 22.

SWAN, BERT, and MARIE VESTA, "In Nelson's Days." Starring Indian Tour.

SWIFT, VENTOM, Variety Agency. Alhambra, Edinburgh.

SYLVESTO, MDLLE., Contortionist. This, Queen's, Keighley; next, Grand Halifax. Lib. 15th, 22nd. Agents, Shaw and Peel.

TAMAMOTO, C., the Japanese Blondin. Kursaal, Southend. At Lib. April 8. Wire, Kursaal, Southend.

TAYLOR, RICH, Whistling Ventriloquist. Macnaghten's Halls, London.

TEMPLES, THREE ROYAL, including LOUIE GILBERT, V.A.F. This, Palace, North Shields; next, Theatre Royal, Perth.

TERRY SISTERS Cheered to the echo, Empire, Greenock. April 8, Gaiety, Glasgow.

THORNTON, MISS NANCY, Address, Care of "The Era."

VALDOS, LES, Hippodrome, Preston. Perm., 6, Devonshire-house, Bath-ter., London, S.E.

VANDYKE'S, CHARLES, "Sensations" and "Nicodemus." Palace, Bath.

VENO the Vent., with "Ginger the Shoeblack," a Ventriloquial Act, met with appreciation.—Blackpool Herald. H., Blackpool.

VENUS, late Lord Leighton's, Originator Flesh Enamel Studies. Starring, Messrs. Broadhead's. Coms., L. Austin Millais.

VERNO'S, JESS, AGENCY, 16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Merriment." 'Phone, 2,076, Royal.

VICTOR, ERIC, Popular Singer of Popular Songs. Dis. Add., York Nest, Waldron-rd., Earlsfield, S.W.

VINCENT, Acrobatic Table Expert. April 8, Empire, Rochdale.

VIOLI, Lady Instrumentalist, Circus, Rochdale.

VULOS, THE, New Coons from the Moon. Vacant May 6, and on. Address Exhibition, March.

VYNE, FRANK, Clean, Refined, Talented Vocalist. Wants Monday next. Also May 6, 13. 7, Sidney-st., Manchester.

WAGNER, The Musical Marvel. This week and next, People's Palace, Tottenham.

WALKER'S COMEDY NIPPERS; Reklaw Globe Act. This, T. H., Rotherham. Vac. Mon., 18, Eastwood-lane, Rotherham.

WALTON and LESTER, At Liberty for next Xmas Season. 59, Oakmead-road, Balham, London, S.W.

WAMBAS, THE (LA BELLE LILY and ALBERT). Grand success, P., Worcester. Mon., P., Gloucester. Vacant April 15.

WATSON, D. W., the Clever Cornetist and Coach Horn Artist. Finish Palace, Lincoln. Monday next, Palace, Southampton.

WATSONS, FAMOUS. New Business. Enormous success everywhere. On tour. Perm. add., 21, Oval-mansions, London, S.E.

WEBB BROS., Palace, Hull. At Liberty April 8, one week.

WEDBURN, MRS. JAMES (The Wedburns), née Amy Carina. Perm., 65, Elsenham-rd, Southfields, S.W.

WEDBURNS, Vocalists, Comedians, &c. Big Success. Topping the Bill at Oldham this week. E., Stockport.

WELDON, HARRY, This, Hippo., Norwich; April 8, Hippo., Ipswich. Coms., Tom Shaw, Esq.; or Vaudeville Club, W.

WESTON, MISS MARIE, At liberty a few weeks previous to long tour. 92, Mersey-road, Walthamstow, London.

WHITMORE, JOE, Public Hall, March, Cambs.

WILDER BROTHERS, Pyrotechnic Artists, Gala, and Fête Agents, 29, Great Francis-street, Birmingham.

WILKINSON'S, MATT, Laughter-Makers, and VIOLET BEATRICE, Boy Impersonator. 157, Silver-st., Edmonton, N.

WILL and ROZE, Curious Comedy Conjuring and Contortion Comicalities. On Tour. 6, Dolly-lane, Leeds.

WILSON, J. A., and Private Towser, Empire Palace, Hackney, London. Sole Agent, Tom Shaw, London.

WOODFORD'S, KITTY, DOGS. Wanted, May 6. This, Drill Hall, Wolverhampton; Monday, Town Hall, Oxford.

WORTH, BEATRICE, and SAM SHIPLEY. Great Success Hippo., Hull. Monday, Hippo., Stockton. Vacant, April 15. Wire.

YOUNG, TED, and ADA TWIBELL, Enormous Success Theatre Royal, Perth. Monday next, Gaiety, Dundee.

ZAID, the Spanish Moor, in his Oriental Speciality on the Rings. April 8, Varieties, Leeds.

APPLICATIONS FOR POSITIONS on the BACK PAGE of "The Era" should be addressed to the Publisher.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.

A capital shilling's worth is the "Era Annual," with its valuable lists of new plays produced during the year in London, the provinces, Berlin, and Paris. In contains, also, many readable articles by stage favourites, notably a characteristic contribution, "How I Spend My Day," by Miss Ellen Terry.—Daily Express, Feb. 2.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.

To anyone connected with the stage, from the call-boy to the "star," and from the electrician to the manager, the "Era Annual" makes an appeal which it is very hard to resist. The number of stories and anecdotes contributed by well-known members of the theatrical profession are always bright, breezy, and fresh, and, as usual, the photographs are excellently reproduced. The calendar is arranged so as to give an interesting theatrical event, with the year of occurrence, for every day in the year. The tables of plays produced at the various London and provincial theatres provide an interesting story of successes and failures, and in every respect the Annual for 1907 is well up to the usual standard. It is published at one shilling by "The Era," at 5, Tavistock-street London.—Dublin Express. Jan. 28.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.

That invaluable annual, "The Era" Almanac, has just made its appearance for 1907. In addition to its usual record of the important productions and revivals of the past twelve months in London and Paris, there is a series of bright contributions by Miss Ellen Terry, Mr. Edward German, Mr. Frank Cooper, Mr. Frank Curzon, Mr. Charles Collette, Miss Alma Murray, and other well-known members of the profession.—Sunday Times, Jan. 27

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.

"The Era" Dramatic and Musical Annual for 1907 is up to its usual standard—in fact, it is, if possible, smarter than ever. There is an excellent budget of articles from the pens of Miss Ellen Terry, Miss Cicely Richards, Miss Pollie Emery, Messrs. Frank Cooper, Arthur Collins, Charles Collette, Frank Curzon, Edward German, Cliff Ryland and many others. The illustrated obituary, the alphabetical list of plays produced in London and the provinces, and all the other valuable features of the Annual are as complete as ever, and make this handbook extremely useful not only to members of the profession, but to the infinitely wider circle interested directly or indirectly in the drama.—Whitehall Review.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.

That welcome little book, "The Era" Annual, has just appeared for 1907, issued from the offices of "The Era," and costing, as usual, 1s. It is always worth a welcome, and is as good this year as ever. In addition to the usual pages of theatrical statistics, there are a number of stories and sketches by well-known actors and actresses, signed with their autographs and illustrated with their photographs. The first, and one of the best, is a description by Miss Ellen Terry of an average day in her busy life. Most of us have, at one time or another, in our artless way, sighed for the glory and triumph the popular actor and actress enjoy. Alas! Miss Terry gives us a peep behind the scenes which takes the gilt off the gingerbread with a vengeance. If this describes the average day of a great actor or actress, better, a thousand times better, to be a man of no importance!—Pall Mall Gazette, Jan. 21, '07.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.

A compendium of great value to all interested, professionally or otherwise, in music and the drama is "The Era" Dramatic and Musical Annual, the issue for 1907 of which has just been issued (London: 5, Tavistock-street. Strand, 1s.). Especially attractive are the stories told by some twenty artists, whose photographs and autographs are included.—Glasgow Herald, Jan. 31.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.

"The Era" Dramatic and Musical Annual for 1907 will be cordially welcomed by the profession, as well as by all who are interested in the modern theatre and concert-hall. It contains some racy little sketches by Miss Ellen Terry, Miss Pollie Emery, Mr. Charles Collette, and other well-known artists; much useful information and many illustrations.—Leicester Daily Post, Jan. 23, 1907.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.

Once more, stuffed with good things, "The Era" Annual appears from its office at 5, Tavistock-street. The edition for 1907 is as nicely got up as its predecessors, and, in addition to a calendar and other theatrical memoranda, contains two lists of the year's productions, one arranged under the names of the theatres and the other alphabetically. In addition there are a number of striking or humorous contributions by leading actors and actresses—Miss Ellen Terry, Mr. Frank Cooper, Mr. Frank Curzon, Mr. Arthur Collins, Mr. Charles Collette, Miss Alma Murray, and Mr. John Lawson are among those who have contributed bright experiences to this up-to-date shilling theatrical handbook.—Star, Jan. 22.

FRED KARNO'S COMPANIES.

EDINBURGH.

EMPIRE. Special Production, "Dame Trot."

Messrs. Fred Kitchen, Albert Bruno, Fred Whittaker, Herbert Landeck, Harry Lappo, Nat Lewis, Bernard Katz, Gipsy Dolin, Victor H. Smith, Georgio Dolin, Harold Wellsey, Bert Griman, Montague Williams, Jack Colet, Arthur Austin, Sid Clare, Tom Curtis, Misses Luna Love, Leah Morris, Ada Whittaker, Little Rosie Lee, Madge Rockingham, Jessie Crammonde, Ianthe Gordon, Eva Norman, Mamie Shaw, Babs Ongar, Dolly Ray, Hettie Fryer, Edna Fryer, Florrie Dean, Dollie Ethel, Marie Newman, Kathleen Boyd, Evangeline Howard, Kitty Hyde, Alice Waters, Florrie Dumfries, Clara Burridge, Eva Brooks, Dorothy Denton, Maud Andrews.

Musical-Director, S. Clarke Richardson.
Stage-Manager, T. Ellis-Buxton.
Manager, Herbert Landeck.

STOCKPORT.

THEATRE ROYAL. "His Majesty's Guests."

Messrs. Geo. Hestor, Frank Morton, Harry Howe, Tom Monardo, Sydney Bolton, Charles Usher, B. Moore, S. Gossing, Mike Johnson, Misses Leonora Castelle, Kitty Brunton, Lily Wright, Chloey Johnson, Margaret Ruby, Edith Ager, Amy Hermance, Marjorie Gossling, Adeline Le Vack, Dollie Gibbs, E. Terry, J. Hylton, K. Elthorn, G. Moore, Florence Dooley.

Manager, Mr. Harry A. Dooley.
Musical-Director, Mr. F. H. J. Moran.

FALL RIVER, U.S.A.

WILLIAMS' THEATRE. "Early Birds."

Messrs. Billie Reeves, George Welch, Will Stanley, Charles Emerald, Jack Osborne, Reed Almonti, Will Crackles, J. Aubrey, W. Fern, Bert Clark, Misses Mabelle Welsh, Minna Dixon, Amy Minister.

Manager, Mr. A. Reeves.

ASTON.

THEATRE ROYAL. "Saturday to Monday."

Messrs. Rolando Martin, James Fletch, Fred Palmer, J. W. Bradbury, Dick Harcourt, Victor H. Crawford, T. McDonough, George Cooper, Sydney Lansdown, Bertie Crew, W. Lawrence, E. Pablo, Misses Amy Rogerson, Ada Maskell, Ethel Beech, Lucy Walden, Kathleen Dennis, Valetta Rushton, Muriel Palmer, Louie Arnold.

Manager, Mr. J. B. Helm.
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The Greatest Episode Ever Produced since "Humanity" and "The Fighting Parson."

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This Episode was specially written for Mrs. Lawson, and produced at a cost of £250.

Her acting held the house spellbound. . . . The delineation of the weak-headed wife was one of the finest bits of acting we have been treated to for a long time. —NOTTS PRESS.

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This is your third engagement with me during my management of the Palace, and I certainly should not have booked your new show, "Le Rendez-vous," at an increase of salary, had I not have had proof of your old act being a drawing number. Seeing you have ten members in your new act "Le Rendez-vous," I sent you contract, and I am pleased to say you have again been most successful, and I should certainly advise anyone wanting a trump card to book your new act.

With best of wishes,

Yours very truly,
HENRY KEMBLE,
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RECORD HOUSES.

HUNDREDS TURNED AWAY.

Dr. Bodie concluded a most successful engagement at the Palace, Stoke Newington, on Saturday. The house was packed at both early and late performances, and many pounds were turned away on account of lack of room. Every seat in the theatre was occupied, and every corner from whence a view of the stage could be obtained had its crowd of tenants, and by 10 o'clock late comers found it impossible to get even a glimpse of the performers. Dr. Bodie was undoubtedly the big attraction, and as many of his patients were personally known to the audience, his work and methods scored a veritable triumph. There were many members of the medical profession present—one of whom had a lively experience of the strength of the current used by Dr. Bodie in the cure. His turn lasted an hour and ten minutes, and plenty of fun was caused by the antics of the "electrocuted" members of the audience who had the temerity to respond to the invitation to assist on the stage. Two afflicted ladies—one at each house—were relieved of their suffering from paralysis (after many years), and were glad to leave the instruments with which they had been provided in the care of Dr. Bodie. One former little patient gave a neat step dance to show the progress she had made; and a young woman and a lad related their experiences at various hospitals, and of their gratitude to Dr. Bodie after having received his treatment. They would not have a word said against their benefactor, and were most enthusiastic in voicing his praise, while the various institutions where they had been patients came in for much adverse citicism.—Vide North London Guardian.

Photo. by Laird, Aberdeen.

Dr. WALFORD BODIE, M.D.,

Great and glorious success at the **EMPIRE BRISTOL.** My 4th visit to the City. Packed nightly at early door prices, and this, the worst week of the year. The verdict of Press, Public, and Managers—no **ONE** but

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TERRIFIC SUCCESS.

Undeniable and unquestionable cures nightly. Amazing results in full view of the audience. Vide Press.

Dr. WALFORD BODIE

. AT THE .

EMPIRE.

Packed Houses at Every Performance.

Dr. Walford Bodie's fame as a bloodless surgeon has gained him renown throughout the kingdom, and during his brief visit to Bristol, at the Empire, this week, it is safe to say he will draw a packed house at every performance. There are many sceptics who regard the results that attend his treatment of cases as merely momentary. That this is not so was amply evidenced last night, when several of his former patients, whom he has treated in Bristol, appeared on the stage to testify to the permanence of the cure. In one case, the father of a young girl, who was cured of paralysis four years ago, publicly expressed his thanks to Dr. Bodie. After performing a number of interesting electrical experiments, in which he passed thousands of volts through his body without turning a hair, and in which he was assisted by a jury from the audience, whose comical contortions when electrified highly amused the audience, Dr. Bodie performed some wonderful cures in cases of paralysis. One case was that of a pretty bright-eyed little damsel of tender years, whose right side was paralysed, and who wore ugly leg-irons. The little maid was promised a "dollie," and evinced much interest whilst Dr. Bodie manipulated her limbs. Within a few minutes she was toddling off the stage, tightly hugging her reward. Dr Bodie is undoubtedly possessed of remarkable powers, and, no doubt, will effect many more such cures whilst at the Empire.—Vide Bristol Mercury.

Cheered to the echo nightly. Recalled again and again. The vast audiences amazed, staggered, and bewildered at the wonderful doings of a wonderful man. The talk of Bristol. "It's simply marvellous."

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Grand Revival last week of "Maritana"; this week, "Il Trovatore," Third Engagement at Gaiety, Birmingham. Next Week, "Il Trovatore," ZOO, GLASGOW (Seventh Engagement at Glasgow), Re-engaged for the Moss-Stoll Tours, this year, and 1908, and 1909; the Syndicate Halls to Follow. Enough Said.
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This Sketch is founded on Facts, not Fiction.
See the Great Fight for a Sister's Honour.
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Beautiful Dresses.
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NOTICE.—The Annual General Meeting will take place at 2 p.m. on Thursday, April 25, at the "Three Stags," Kennington-rd., S.E. Jesse Sparrow Esq. President, in the chair. Further particulars,
HARRY LESTER,
Secretary.
4, KENNINGTON ROAD, S.E.

M. H. A. R. A.

Notices.

The Secretary desires the addresses of Miss Odeyne Spark, Bros. Sidney, Four Watsons, Leo Tell, Kendrick and Laura, Maudie Ford, and Lloyd Phillips. New Agencies:
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Success Greater than Ever.
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Unique Globe Pedalists.
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Have one or two Summer dates open; also free for Panto. Speciality and parts.
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For particulars address as above.

Unprecedented success in America.
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The Graceful Trapeze Artist,
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per S.S. Amerika, to open in London,
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FOUR ZOLAS, Lightning and Herculean Acrobats and Tumblers; also High Perch, two acts. At Lib. April 8, and on, for Tenting, Fêtes, Galas. This, A. T., Kettering; after, perm., 40, Tiverton-rd, Bournbrook, Birmingham. Wire for Monday.

THE CLEMENT TRIO, Comedy Stage Flying Trapeze Act, introducing several different kinds of double somersaults and double pirouettes. We invite directors and agents in search of novelties to see this act at Hippodrome, London. For terms and dates apply to S. Clement, HIPPODROME, LONDON.

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Moss and Stoll Tour.
Vacant Dates for Home or Abroad.
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Moss and Thornton Tour. America postponed.
Always open to buy refined songs suitable to my style. A new song, "I do not require a manager at present."

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PATTY YOLE,
Instantaneous Success, Albert H., Southport.
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Big Succes Last Week,
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"If I had been born a girl,"
By Fred Murray and Chas. Hilbury.
"If I had been born a girl,"
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Better than ever.
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LIVERPOOL.
Agent, Geo. Barclay.

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LEONI CLARKE.
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THE TIVOLI.
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G. H. ELLIOTT.
Terrific Success, as usual, Met., Canterbury, and G., Clapham. Next week, MET., PARAGON, and WALHAM GREEN. Returning to Scenes of Former Triumphs, after my Great Manchester Pantomime Success.
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The Great Waltz Ballad,
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"Don't Tell the World Your Troubles,"
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Two Great Chorus Songs.
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"BY THE SIDE OF THE ZUYDER ZEE,"
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"Sailing in My Balloon,"
"HELLO! IT'S A DIFFERENT GIRL AGAIN"
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MARIE LLOYD'S "Customs of the Country."
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Title-rôle, "The Prodigal Parson."
April 15, Grand Theatre, Walsall.

MR. and MRS. WILLIE GARVEY
(Kitty Jones.)
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MR. GELDERD,
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Address, C/o Messrs. Wheeler, O. H., Cape Town.

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(Miss Rollo Deas), "Peter Pan" (Manchester Company). April 15, Lyceum, Sheffield.

MR. RICHARD A. GREENE,
"The Angel of Unrest" Co.
Gaiety Theatre, Manchester; or, A.A.

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Another Pantomime Success, Easter, Belfast.
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Crown, Peckham. Miss HARLINGTON,
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MR. CHARLES HARLEY,
Sir Timothy Crewys, "Peter's Mother."
April 15, Prince's Theatre, Manchester.

MR. W. S. HARTFORD, Special
Engt., Ian Maclaren, Esq., Iago, Macduff, King, Touchstone, &c. At Lib. April 22. Nuneaton.

MR. FRANCIS HAWLEY,
Business-Manager, "The Earl and the Girl"
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MR. T. P. HAYNES,
Disengaged.
Address, care of "The Era."

MR. JERROLD HEATHER,
Lead. Disengaged Autumn.
Grand Theatre, Nelson.

MR. HORACE E. HERBERT,
Leading Business. Disengaged April 22.
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Comedy, Musical, Farcical, Drama, Sketch.
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Sir Lucius O'Trigger, &c, with Mr. Edward Compton. April 15, T. R., Newcastle-on-Tyne.

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Proprietor, "Life's Sweetest Sins" and "When Other Lips." 26, Wightman-rd., Finsbury Park.

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MR. FRED KNIGHT,
Tom Codd "Beauty and the Barge."
April 15, Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.

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Theatre Royal, Worthing.

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As Lord Bellingham in "The Beauty of Bath." The Hicks Theatre.

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MR. and MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY,
Own Tour, "Wearin' o' the Green."
En route, or Ashdale, Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancs.

MR. GEORGE MALLETT,
Talleyrand and Manager, Mr. Waller's "Brigadier Gerard," Dis. May 6. Lyceum, Ipswich.

MR. JERROLD MANVILLE,
Disengaged.
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MR. MAITLAND MARLER,
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MR. PERCY MARSHALL,
Carbury, "Lady of Ostend."
April 15, Grand, Derby.

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April 15, Grand Theatre, Walsall.

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Slightly, "Peter Pan" (Manchester) Co.
April 15, Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield.

MR. GUS OXLEY,
Lyceum Theatre,
Strand, W.

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Col. Brinthorpe, "Sunday."
April 15, Poplar, E. Mat. Thurs., 2.30.

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MR. WILSON PEMBROKE, Principal
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MR. A. GIFFORD STACEY,
Manager for "Robin Hood."
Grand Theatre, Hull, April 15.

MR. FRANK STANLEY,
Acting-Manager,
"Little Breadwinner Co." T. R., Jarrow.

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Bonelli in "The Eternal City."
April 15, Prince's T., Bradford. Disengaged April 29.

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Theatre Royal, Blackburn.

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Emp., Stockport; 15th, Hippodrome, Hull.

MR. EUGENE WELLESLEY,
Roderigo in "Othello."
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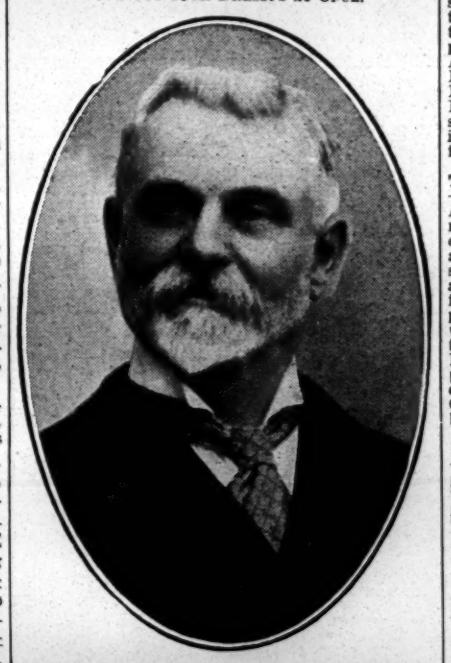

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Down Trains.	A a.m.	B a.m.	A a.m.	E a.m.	C noon	C p.m.	C p.m.	C p.m.	D p.m.	D p.m.	D p.m.	D p.m.	F p.m.	D p.m.	G p.m.	A p.m.	D p.m.
Liverpool-street, depart..	8.40	9.50	10.20	11. 5	12. 0	2.35	4.15	4.30	5.12	8.20							
St. Pancras, "		9.45	10.18	..	12.20	2.40	4.10	..	5. 7	..							
Newmarket, arrive..	10.33	11.45	12.10	12.50	2.20	4.48	6. 5	6.19	7.17	10.18							
Up Trains.	a.m.	a.m.	a.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.
Newmarket, depart..	8. 3	8.59	10.42	12.25	12.30	3.57	4.10	4.15	5.30	5.50	4.30	6.15	4.15	5.30	5.50	4.30	6.15
St. Pancras, arrive..	10.23	11.15	..	2.40	2.43	6.10	6 0	..	7.35	8. 0	6.30	8.35	6.15	7.35	8. 0	6.30	8.35
Liverpool-street, "	10.15	10.55	12.40	2.33	2.47	6. 3	..	6. 3	7.25	7.45	6.20	8.25	6.20	7.25	7.45	6.20	8.25

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RANDOM RECOLLECTIONS.
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AT THE AGE OF SIX.
By EDWARD GERMAN.
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AMUSEMENTS IN LIVERPOOL.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence. — Mr. Martin Harvey opened here on Monday with *The Breed of the Treshams*, and a well-filled house followed the adventures of the daring Keresby with all the old-time interest. Miss N. De Silva repeated her admirable impersonation of the lively Batty; Miss Coleridge was a sweet Margaret Hungerford; and worthy support came from Messrs. Charles Glenny, A. E. Raynor, P. Hewland, C. J. Cameron, Leonard Craske, and Fred Wright, senior. The other plays of the week were *The Only Way* and *The Corsican Brothers*.

ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—Walter Howard's excellent play, *Man and Wife*, is staged here this week by Mr. T. Edward Ward's company. Mr. John F. Traynor plays with dramatic strength as Paul Revere; Miss Kate Hallam distinguishes herself in the rôle of Marcelle; Mr. Wilson Coleman does every credit to Captain D'Esparre; Miss Violet Temple is a sympathetic Ruth Revere; Miss Ethel F. Greene, as the crippled boy Jean, finds favour; and other well-sustained rôles are those of Colonel Latour by Mr. Edward Van Biene, Sergeant Jacques by Mr. Ambrose Horton, and Rosette by Miss Pollie Denville.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE, LTD.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—*The New Aladdin* paid a first visit to Liverpool this week, and was received with every favour. Mr. George Edwardes sent an excellent company, while the dresses and mounting were charming. Mr. George Gregory, on whose shoulders rested the bulk of the work, provoked endless laughter with his Tippin, being ably assisted by Mr. Frank Leslie, jun. (Genie of the Lamp); Miss Ida Rene, as the captivating Princess, sang and danced excellently, and received an ovation; Miss Cressie Leonard did capital work as Tally; Mr. Harry Taylor's lost constable provoked roars of laughter; Miss Nellie Lonnen danced pleasingly as Laolah; and other well-held parts were those of Cadi (Mr. William Spray), Ebenezer (Mr. Frank Hector), and General Ratz (Mr. Ernest Maher).

LYRIC THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs. T. Barrasford and F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Coles.—This week's programme is headed by Le Diabolo, a daring and intrepid performer, who, in the first place, loops the loop, afterwards cycling down a steep incline; Barney Vox, ventriloquist, is witty; the Emilions are clever acrobats; Tom Lloyd is extremely funny; T. E. Hughes, another comedian, does well; Clair Greta is a capable songstress and dancer; the Westwoods give a clever cycling turn; and the Columbia Trio delight everyone with their songs and comedy. Maxford and O'Neil cause much laughter.

STAR THEATRE. Proprietor, and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—*The Little Bread Winner* is presented here by Mr. J. A. Campbell's company. In the name-part Little Emmie Thomas displays talent, and gains approval; Mr. Eugene Santley provides a capital picture of Lord Dorrington; Mr. Alfred Maurice gives satisfaction as Joseph Prior; Mr. Stanley Leedham does well as Charles Prior; Miss Emil Leslie is seen to advantage as Margaret Daventry; Miss Nellie King makes a good impression as Bobby Trott; and Miss N. Thorne-Hallam interprets the part of Kate Cherry with every satisfaction.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan. —Top of the bill here this week is the popular Arthur Prince, whose capital ventriloquial turn is much enjoyed. The musical comedy, *The Cruise of H.M.S. Victory*, presented by Arthur Watson and Co., meets with every favour; the soprano singing of Sam Morrison is listened to with much attention; a funny duologue, *Saucy Maud*, comes from the Brontes; a turn which gains loud applause is that provided by the Five Brewsters, lady vocalists, dancers, lance, and Indian club experts; the singing and dancing of the juvenile Boden and Bell earn cordial recognition; and others in the programme are Spencer and Marks, speciality comedians; Harry Conlin, comedian; and Cullen, Cluly, and Carthy, whose comedy act arouses endless laughter.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES. — Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole. —An acceptable version of *East Lynne*, from the pen of Mr. Percy Boucher, is presented here this week by the "Royal" stock company, the principal characters being undertaken by Messrs. Harry Tresham, Sidney Grant, Robert Wilton, Cecil Ravenswood, and Misses Evelyn Kington, Beryl Ravenswood, Florence Cameron, and Florence Palmer.

PADDINGTON PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. M. Montgomery. —The "Royal" stock company here are this week giving their patrons an interesting sporting drama *Riding to Win*, the principal characters being in the hands of Messrs. Frank S. Strickland, Charles Herberte, Wallace Campbell, Francis E. Wybert, H. G. Brandon, H. Hesslegrace, Miss Florence Barnes, and Miss Lina Nazeby.

PARK PALACE.—Proprietors, Lancashire Vaudeville Syndicate, Ltd.; General Director, Mr. Walter De Frece.—The stock dramatic company here is this week presenting *Mysteries of London*, the principal parts in which are undertaken by Messrs. Albert Sember, Hugh Carmichael, Walter Foster, Miss Lilian Burns, Miss Nelson Ramsay, and Miss Violet B. Clarke.

WESTMINSTER. — Lessee, Mr. Fred E. Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—The Gondolier Glee Singers head the programme here this week, their refined and humorous selections proving a source of much pleasure; as comedians, patterers, and dancers, Farrell and Miller afford every satisfaction; Vardon, an able ventriloquist, and his "caddie," cause a deal of laughter; a smart comedy speciality act of juggling, dancing, &c., is given by Welda and Wynne; other artists appearing being Phil Rees, comedian; and T. C. Callaghan, character comedian.

OLYMPIA, LTD.—Manager, Mr. A. W. Young.—George Lashwood tops an attractive bill here this week, and has a good reception for his taking songs; Kearney P. Speedy puts in a second and final week with his daring diving; roars of laughter follow the farce *Hello*, submitted by Frank Bernard and company; an uncommon act comes from the lilliputian Piccolinis, clever shots and cyclists; Die Vier Provinzen, Dutch lady vocalists and dancers, present a neat show; the ever-popular Missouris have a rousing reception for their sketch of *Captain Kettle and His Mates*; a pleasing scena, *Let Bygones be Bygones*, by Hurley and Cole, earns warm approval; and others in the list are the Fitzroys, society gymnasts; the Kirbys, comedy artists; and Alice Blandford, vocalist.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.—That droll duo, Bella and Bijou, are at the head of the bill this week, charming everybody with their latest songs and business; Mabel Bardine and company present a popular theatrical sketch, *Nell of the Music Halls*, which is well produced; Mr. and Mrs. Harold Finden have a diverting duologue in *Two to One*; George Ridgwell sings several catchy songs, which are received with favour; Kate Traill, seated at the piano, gives a very pleasing turn; *The Morning Mail* is a lively and well-rendered speciality act by the Anartos; and other able artists who appear are Frobel and Ruge, aerial comedians; the New Macs, very funny comedians and patterers; and the Dorrells, duettists and dancers.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors, Liverpool Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. James Marks.—Top of the bill this week are Haley's Juveniles, with their carnival scene, in which the small duettists, "Dot" and "Spot," take part; Claude Ginnett's *Rejected Remounts*, prove a source of great fun; Les Sousloffs make a first appearance in Liverpool, and delight everybody with their wonderful dancing; Jose Collins displays considerable talent as a comedienne; a deal of originality is shown by Burt Shepherd while seated at the piano; Mike Cray provides a capital turn as an eccentric juggler; Edna Seaton is a smart little Dutch girl; and the programme also has the names of Dan Robans (the possessor of a capital voice) and Fred Hallam (comedian).

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Your book will, I am sure, be a valuable aid to all managers and actors.—SIR HENRY IRVING.

Should be found very useful.—*Pelican.*

Should prove perfectly invaluable.—*Weekly Sun.*

Contains in a handy compass and in a clear style the law relating to theatres and music halls. The book is well up to date.—*Law Times.*

Furnishes useful information.—*Daily News.*

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—*Star.*

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.—His Majesty's Theatre.—Managing Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—*The Lion and the Mouse* is here this week. Mr. Leslie Carter plays most impressively the part of Burkett Ryder and Miss Nita Faydon is equally successful as Shirley Rossmore; Mr. Martyn Roland gives an excellent portraiture of Jefferson Ryder; Mr. Herbert Chown is good as the Hon. Fitzroy Bagley; and Miss Margaret Nybloc makes a most attractive Kate Roberts.

Palace Theatre.—Managing Directors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—Mr. Pat Rafferty, who makes his first appearance in Aberdeen, quite captivates the audiences with his irresistibly amusing songs; the feats of Marx, the strong man, are as marvellous as ever; the Three Royal Dreadnoughts give a remarkable display of rifle shooting, and Gorman's Juveniles also score a decided success; Miss Edna Reeve and company play cleverly a strong dramatic sketch, *Her Shattered Idol*; the fine singing and graceful acting of the Nettas is much admired; Miss Ena Compton is a sprightly comedienne; the St. Johns contribute a highly amusing entertainment; and Mr. Bob Stephenson's quaint turn is likewise well received. The Bioscope series of pictures vividly represent various phases in an "Alpine Disaster."

ABERTILLERY.—Theatre Metropole.—Lessees, Messrs. Carlton and Duckworth; General-Manager, Mr. Geo. W. Ventom; Stage-Manager, Mr. Fred Thomas. — An attractive variety programme is submitted here this week. Mlle. Florence, the noted London to Brighton globe-walker, heads the bill, and attracted large crowds on Monday; Abex, apparently a youth, performs some wonderful feats of strength; Fred Ace plays on some wonderfully sweet-toned instruments, and is much appreciated; Erom and Charlotta submit a thoroughly mystifying cabinet trick with every success; Harry Keeble, comedian, with up-to-date songs and business, is heartily encored; Hoozee, in a clever ventriloquial turn, is very entertaining; R. Lomas, the "man monkey," provides a clever turn; the Onyx Duo, quick-change dancers, cause a furore with their speciality turns; the Ottawas provide an original cowboy musical and variety turn; Miss Gladys Wells, with songs; and Alton and Lois, comedy jugglers, complete a most pleasing bill.

ACCRINGTON.—Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—Mr. Chalmers Mackey's company opened here on Monday with *The Wearing o' the Green*, and was greeted by a large audience. Mr. Chalmers Mackey did full justice to the part of Barney O'Hea; Mr. David M'Farlane gave a powerful impersonation of Connor Martin; Mr. Herbert Summers was good as S. McDermott; Mr. John S. Chamberlain must be highly complimented for his portrayal of Michael Kenny; Mr. H. Saintsbury cleverly depicted Sir George; Gerald Courteney was in the safe hands of Mr. John Stuart; Mrs. E. Mackey made an ideal Norah McGrath; Biddy McGlinn was a bright and sparkling performance by Miss Nana Flensberg; and the remainder of the parts were in capable hands.

Hippodrome. — Proprietors, Messrs. Willmot, Vandy, Potter, and Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Parsons.—A good bill is provided here this week. Rosina Cassell, with her wonderful midget dogs, tops the bill; Elton and Elma are here again with their evergreen and funny performance on the bars; the McKays are also a very clever turn; the smart conjuring of De Lil is well received; Hulbert is warmly applauded; and Harry Bancroft wins hearty commendation. The Bioscope showed some excellent pictures.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—What is termed an historic and romantic drama, entitled *Napoleon the Great*, written by Mr. F. Thorne, is being played here this week. Mr. Hugh Montgomery assumes with marked success the rôle of Napoleon; Miss Leslie Warner sustains with much vigour and feminine diplomacy the character of Marie Walewska; the part of Mère Dumont is entrusted to the capable keeping of Miss Florence Thorne; and good delineations of Mlle. Leonie Marbœuf (Miss Maud Russell), Marcelle Choupin (Miss Marie Harcourt), and Lisette (Miss S. Porteous), are given. Prominent male characters receive capable treatment from Messrs. Oliver Birrell, Phil Harper, B. Garth, Frank M. Thorne, A. Sinclair, R. W. Ellis, Acton Dix, T. A. Jones, and others.

Empire Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—Good business is the order of the day here. The great Schiavonis Troupe of acrobats engage interested attention, the business for the most part being of a diverting order; very dainty is Olive Armadale as a sweet-singing comedienne; Hilda and Leigh and company create much merriment in a comedy sketch, *Another Man's Wife*; Vowles and Bryan furnish delight for a limited space with song and story in a garden; a troupe of Oriental conjureres and illusionists, under the title of Simbri, introduce some mystifying optical illusions; the Australian Nugget, Harry Grey, is a good turn; Billy Richardson, stump orator, is revisiting this week with speeches up to date; the sporting comedians, Harris and Worth, and Juan and McQue, knockabout artists, have each their admirers; and the Bioscope shows "The American Convict's Escape."

ATTERCLIFFE.—Theatre Royal, Limited.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaughton; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. A. Wordsworth.—The Imperial Animated Picture Company is again providing the attraction here, and, judging by the measure of support accorded, this class of entertainment is highly popular. A judicious and varied selection of pictures is presented, interspersed with beautifully illustrated songs ably rendered by Miss Ray Royal.

Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. T. E. Owen.—The excellent programme here is headed by Mr. Harry Tate's company in the mirth-provoking sketch entitled *Fishing*; an excellent turn is that of N. T. Kioto, Japanese equilibrist; Miss Lilian Rigby, in a musical speciality act, is most interesting; Mr. E. C. Clayton's popularity is shown by the manner in which his "Attergraph" pictures are applauded; Miss Lilian Hodge is to be congratulated on her efforts as a ballad-vocalist; Mlle. Spada, Franco-English chanteuse, possesses a sweet voice, and her songs are ably given; Mr. James Alston is good as a vocal-comedian; and Kendrick and Laura contribute a pleasing turn as entertainers and dancers.

AYR.—New Gaiety Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry W. Day.—Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer, with her specially selected company, opened a six nights' engagement on Monday, with her own production, *From Washerwoman to Duchess*. Mr. Bandmann-Palmer, a powerful actress, who has the ability to clothe her characters with subtle touches of humanity, is admirably suited to the part of Catherine, and has capital support from the members of her company. Marechal Lefebvre is impressively played by Mr. Robert Pittard; the Fouché of Mr. F. Skein is carefully and well acted; and Mr. Leonard Cheetham plays the part of young Lieut. Adrian. Lefebvre artistically. As Princess Pauline, Miss A. Barker is typically disdainful; Mme. De Staël is portrayed by Miss More Dunphie with art and grace; and Miss Rita Sponti makes the most of the character of Rosalie. In the prologue, Miss Katherine Herbert as Melaine de Lavizne makes an impression by her fine acting. The dresses are splendid, and the staging of the piece complete in every detail. For Tuesday, *Mary Queen of Scots*, Wednesday *East Lynne*, Thursday *Sapho*, Friday *School for Scandal*, and Saturday *Jane Shore* was billed.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.—Royalty Theatre and Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—The New Sapho Syndicate Co., Ltd., present *Sapho* here this week. Miss V. St. Lawrence, in the title-rôle, contrasts the emotional and the gay with artistic skill; and Mr. Otto Minster is a typical provincial Jean Gaussin. Mr. Oliver Rogers is a good Father Legrand, Mr. Geo. Antley an admirable Cesaire le Fenant, and Mr. Pringle Roberts a clever Eugene Flamant. As Caoudel Mr. H. Langford is well suited, the Paul Dechelette of Mr. Roy Milton is admirably conceived, and Joseph is pleasingly played by Miss Gena Lindon.

His Majesty's Theatre.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Mr. and Mrs. Routledge are presenting *The Idler* this week. Mr. Cecil Freeman gives an admirable study of Mark Cross; and Miss Hettie Machin plays Lady Harding with commendable skill. Mr. W. E. Peacock submits a well-balanced representation of Simeon Strong; and Miss Shirley McVeigh is a more than pleasing Kate Merryweather. Mr. C. B. Beveridge, Mr. W. H. Taylor, Miss Nance Comissiong, Miss Annie Silverwood, and Mr. W. Sydney Robinson also call for notice.

Tivoli.—Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edgar G. Laban.—Leo Dryden is making a welcome return here at the top of the bill, his vocal character numbers being exceedingly well received; the Fitzgeralds give a clever and dexterous club act; Dot Hardy is a talented character comedienne; Elsie Earle is irresistible with her song-scena, "Holly and Mistletoe"; Les Uniques give a very pleasing and clean acrobatic show on illuminated ladders; and some capital pictures are displayed on Vernon's Bioscope.

BATH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—Closed for this week, reopening Monday next with Miss Annie Hughes and Co. in *Tommy*.

Palace Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—The gymnastic display given by the Two Krags secures them rounds of applause. Equally clever is the equilibristic performance of Lise Rolland; T. W. Rawson and Lilly Bertram present the sketch, *The Would-be Actors*, which is well received here; John Macauley, a fine character actor, meets with much favour; Charles Mildare maintains his high position as a whistler and imitator of birds; Rell and Butt provide a laughable time as comedians, patterers, and dancers; Chas. Torbay, silhouettist, is watched with interest; and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux unfold a splendid film of the legend, "The curfew shall not ring to-night."

Assembly Rooms.—On Monday the Charles W. Poole's Myriorama commenced another successful visit. In addition there are Woolford's stage circus, Harry Raymond, Funny Chef, The Fordyces, Dane's Marionettes, and Sydney Bush, and a capital series of animated pictures. Mr. John R. Poole pilots the audience as guide in a fashion that gains him much goodwill.

BEDFORD.—Royal County Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—During this week Bedfordians have again had an opportunity of witnessing the ever-popular *Charley's Aunt*, which, produced by Mr. Brandon Thomas's company, has drawn full houses. Mr. Sydney Compton was natural and convincing as the Colonel; and Mr. Walter Beaumont was an excellent Spettigue. The parts of the three undergraduates were in the able hands of Messrs. Hastings Lynn, Richard B. Mason, and Spencer Trevor, the last-named causing roars of laughter as the pseudo-aunt; and Mr. M. A. Wetherell was a capital Brassett. As the real aunt, Miss Lena MacNaughtan acted with grace and dignity; Miss Ruth Nightingale was good as Ela Delahay; and Miss Bertha Northam and Miss Ida Vynall enacted with vivacity and skill the parts of Kitty and Amy respectively. *Fourchette and Co.* was the title of the curtain-raiser.

BELFAST.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—Notwithstanding the success of the Easter pantomime, *Goody Two Shoes*, Mr. Fred W. Warden is compelled to withdraw the same to-night owing to other important engagements.

Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, Warden, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—The top of the bill here is occupied by Galatea, "La Statue Humaine," in a series of beautiful reproductions of sculpture; Chirgwin, "the White-Eyed Kaffir," is paying a successful return visit to this city after some years absence; Terry and Lambert appear to great advantage in their comedy act; the songs of Mr. T. W. Barrett are much enjoyed; Imro Fox has proved a great draw with his conjuring act; Mr. T. P. Carroll's tambourine performance is certainly smart; and Mr. Victor Courtenay's capital act at the piano is worthy of special mention. Also here are Miss Flo Cecil, comedienne and dancer; and the Palace pictures.

Royal Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Belfast Hippodrome, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Will Sley; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Downs.—The success of the opening of this beautiful theatre has been most pronounced. Another fine bill has been presented this week, the chief feature being the acrobatic performance of the Lorch Family (nine in number), which is certainly a triumph of excellence, their feats being simply marvellous; the violin solos by F. Voelker have been rendered with fine technique; and a hit has been made by the Tan Kwai troupe of Oriental acrobats, jugglers, &c.; a novel turn has been provided by Henriquette Maude in her illustrated lectures, which are decidedly interesting; the College Boys have been heard to the utmost advantage; the Royal Quintette of international dancers and pipers furnish a most entertaining performance; and Miss Molly Doon is a charming comedienne; the Two Kays appear in a capital vocal scena; and also here are the Olmars (statuary acrobats), Mr. Watt Tyler (character vocalist), Mr. Arthur Woodville (vocalist and dancer), the Rollars, and the Hipposcope with its most attractive pictures.

Empire Theatre of Varieties, Limited.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John S. Walker.—The chief feature of the bill this week is the smart musical comedy, *The Duchess of Tooting*, presented with much success by a clever company. Miss Minnie Hunt and Mr. Rhys Thomas present with great effect their sketch, *Her Birthday*; Stevens and Rennior make a hit with their comedy act; Forest and King are a capable comedy duo; Stave, the electrical comedy artist, appears in his novel act; the Dixons are expert bâton swingers and banjo artists; and also here are Messrs. Allan Hanbury and Fred Fane, comedians.

New Alhambra Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Sinclair Neill.—This week the Alhambra Dramatic Company, under the personal direction of Mr. M. Montgomery, stage with good effects the well-known play, *The Streets of London*. Mr. Tom H. Holly has been most successful as Badger; congratulations are due to Mr. Horace Denton for his clever assumption of Mark Livingstone; Miss Nina Blake-Adams plays the rôle of Lucy with much grace and charm; and Mr. Cyril Grier's character-sketch of Puffy would be difficult to surpass. Miss Kathleen Magee—a newcomer—although only arriving in Belfast on Monday, at short notice, made a hit as Alidia Bloodgood; and Mr. E. M. Heanley sustained the rôle of Gideon Bloodgood with undoubted skill. Mr. Elmore Frith's assumption of Captain Fairweather reflected much credit on this experienced actor; and Miss Mattie Crawford (who is especially clever in boys' parts) plays the rôle of Dan irreproachably. Mr. Ed. Smyth sustains the rôle of Paul Fairweather with no little skill; and Miss Alice Clarke makes the most of her opportunities as Mrs. Puffy; Mr. J. E. Davies as Edwards completes the cast. Mr. Tom H. Solly is responsible for the admirable stage-management. The Alhambra bioscope, under the direction of Mr. W. E. Newlove, presents a funny picture this week, entitled "Saved by a Stray Dog."

BILSTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Battersby.—Mr. Leonard Dalrymple's company are performing *As Midnight Chimes* here. Chief among the cast are Miss Maud Hastings as Mary Stannard; Mr. Dalrymple as Dave Stannard; Mr. Herbert Belmore as Luke Dezzard; and Mr. Herbert Pearce as Ezra Gamble, all of whom act effectively. The comedy parts, Suzette and Spavvin, have very good representatives in Miss Madge Beresford and Mr. James Salter.

BIRKENHEAD.—New Theatre Royal. — Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant; Secretary, Miss Isabel Morris.—Mr. F. R. Benson's North Shakespearean company commenced a return engagement on Monday, with a fine performance of *Much Ado About Nothing*, with Mr. Henry Herbert as Benedick and Miss Dorothy Green as Beatrice. On Tuesday *Romeo and Juliet* was produced, and during the week *As You Like It*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *Hamlet*, *The Rivals*, and *Macbeth* have been played. The company has an excellent reputation in this town, and has been cordially received on the present occasion.

Argyle Theatre of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—Fred Karno's comedians, in *Early Birds*, are a prominent attraction. Mr. Neil Kenyon, Scotch comedian, is on a highly successful return visit; and the Soho Trio, in their song and dance entertainment, achieve distinction. Miss Millie Payne is an exceptionally clever low comedy artist; and a capital company includes Mr. Jack Lane, mimic and patterer; Mr. A. G. Spry, a comedian of resource; Miss Venie Clements, a talented comedienne; Chorley and Connor, amusing patterers; Miss Gertie Cunningham, a charming soubrette; and Brown's Royal Bioscope.

BIRMINGHAM.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—The spacious Royal is crowded nightly, the attraction being Mr. Louis Calvert's production of *Amasis*, which with one exception he presents with the original London cast. Mr. Calvert has taken up Mr. Rutland Barrington's part Pharaoh, which he plays in an admirable and jocose spirit which tickles the audience immensely; Mr. Reginald White imbues Ptolemy with clever senile humour; Mr. Lauri de Frece as Sebock proves an admirable comedian; Mr. Roland Cunningham as the lover, Prince Anhotep, looks the part well, and sings finely; and vocalism of the highest order is vouchsafed by Messrs. Whitworth Mitton, Norman Salmond, and Frank Perfitt as respectively Cheiro, Nebenchari, and Psamtik. Miss Constance Drever delights the audience with the brilliance of her singing as Amasis; Miss Madge Vincent acts with charming cajolery as Natis; and Miss Winifred Hart-Dyke is much admired for her graceful posturing and dancing. On Monday the performance concluded amid much enthusiasm and cries of "Speech," to which Mr. Calvert responded, and expressed his thanks.

Prince of Wales's Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Rodgers, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—Mr. H. B. Irving and Miss Dorothea Baird's visit has been one of unqualified pleasure and success. Mr. Irving on Monday and Wednesday essayed his father's rôles of Lesurques and Dubosc in *The Lyons Mail*, which by the depth and intensity of his acting he is fast making his own. Miss Baird's portrayal of Janette gave a capital impression of this charming and talented actress; and Messrs. E. Harcourt Williams, Chas. Dodsworth, Frank Tyars, Fewlass Llewellyn, Eric Mason, and the Misses Sybil Noble and Ada Mellon played their parts with excellent point and discretion. On Tuesday *The Bells* showed Mr. Irving in another famous rôle, from which he emerged with signal success, his impersonation of Mathias being in every respect admirable. Miss Baird shone as Annette, while that always interesting and charming actor, Mr. Harcourt Williams, distinguished himself as Christian. *Charles the First* was down for Thursday (matinée) and Friday, and *King René's Daughter*, as a curtain-raiser, has also been in the bill.

Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood.—That favourite and always magnetic comedian, Mr. Harry Starr, appears here in *Carl the Clockmaker* and *Otto the Outcast*, and in the former rôle his clever protean powers come out in bright array. The support is headed by Mr. Edwin Firth, whose acting as the anarchist scoundrel, Maurice Helmore, is well done. Miss Madge Blundell secures much sympathy in her admirably rendered part of the victim, Madge Ryder; Miss Kate Norris acts in good style as Lena Harrigan; Mr. Fred W. Graham scores as a disguised tramp, Arthur Attwood; Mr. Chas. Gabb is successful as Hans Conrad; and Mr. Will Hee, as the Count, Mr. Bernard Mostyn as the detective, Mr. William Miller as Narkey Nabbs, and Miss Lizzie Jacobs as an up-to-date lady-help do well. As Otto, Mr. Starr introduces his clever reincarnations of Napoleon and Lord Nelson, with striking tableaux depicting the battles of Waterloo and Trafalgar.

Metropole Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Andrew Melville; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—Mr. C. Watson Mill's famous drama, *A Wrecker of Men*, is meeting with much success in its present environment. Miss Ruth Zillwood has charge of the titular rôle, Risca Malison, which she enacts with a full grasp of all its requirements. Mr. Eric Campbell reproduces the characteristics of the Sloger, Jim Murley, with splendid fidelity; Mr. Milner Noble is a striking figure as Pharosaphus; Mr. Miller Anderson acts impressively as Railton; Mr. Stanley Vivian assumes the rôle of Guise Strange in the most perfect manner; Mr. Thompson Carruthers, under whose direction the play is presented, makes a good part of Eric Melville; Miss Gwendoline Talbot renders the rôle of Doris Melville gracefully; and Miss Marie Halton, Mr. Harry Melton, and Mr. Henry Meores supply good performances. The humour of the piece is well sustained by Mr. Leslie Ross as Verincourt and Miss Beatrice Reynolds as Slopper; while as the Jew (Isaacs) and later as a Mummy, Mr. Chas. Earle is very successful.

Carlton Theatre, Saltley.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—Messrs. Carpenter and Cooper's company excel here in *The Spider and the Fly*. Mr. Benson North meets with much success and admiration as the hero, Cyril Girdlestone; Mr. Ellis J. Preston simulates the villainous character of Welby Girdlestone in the most complete manner; Miss Nina Vaughton gains the audience's good will with her clever acting as Edith McAlister; Miss Amy Venimore realises her chances as Stella in the utmost degree; and great diversion is caused by the well-timed and clever efforts of Mr. Charles Russell as Romolous Roe, Mr. Charles A. Preece as Remus Roe, and Miss Ada Palmer as Jane Ellen Scriver. The other rôles are well played, and the scenery is excellent.

Theatre Royal, Aston.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles.—Mr. Fred Karno's popular musical extravaganza, *Saturday to Monday*, takes the public fancy here to a large extent. Mr. Rolando Martin, a comedian of an undoubtedly clever stamp, makes a hit as John Willie Jaggs; Mr. V. H. Crawford disports humorously as John Willie, junior; Miss Amy Rogerson acts in a becoming and charming manner as Clarinda, the bride; Miss Ethel Beech lends valuable support as the bride's sister, Violet Blake; Mr. J. Fletch is commendable as Spinks; Miss Ada Maskell is diverting as the Aunt; and Mr. J. W. Bradbury as the bride's father, Mr. Dick Harcourt as the best man, and the Misses Lily Olive, Lucy Walden, Mabel Clarke, and Kathleen Dennis as the bridesmaids lend variety and charm to the show.

Empire Palace.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham.—The bill here includes *The Isle of Ooma*, a most attractive spectacle. In the part of the imperturbable Englishman, and also as the dancing girl, Arthur Rigby is very diverting; Howard and Harris, the well-known Americans, are amusing in *The Adventures of a Happy Hooligan*; Bessie Butt has a most cordial reception; Marzella's collection of trained birds accomplish some remarkable feats; C. Randolph King meets with his usual success; while the Wartenburg Brothers, in their double-foot speciality, are remarkably clever. Charles Vincent, comedian; Percy Honri, the joking concertina-player; and the Celtic Comedy Trio are also responsible for pleasing turns.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—An excellent musical turn is provided by the Tampico Trio, the Mexican troubadors; W. J. Churchill scores a marked success with his quaint songs and patter; Will Vay's Juveniles give a most realistic performance in their scena, *Life in the Slums*; the Falcons, comedy acrobats, set the audience marvelling at their clever feats; Walter Emerson is a most diverting comedian; Wyndham and Waters are amusing in their sketch, *The Professor and his Pupil*; Regan and Ryan, in a comedy act, are very successful; Keen and Waller present a novel eccentric act; and Mlle. Pollo, lady gymnast, Stan Aubrey, legmania comedian, and Ada Fawn, burlesque actress, complete an interesting programme.

Bordesley Palace.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Foster.—At the head of the bill this week is Auguste van Biene, the popular actor-musician, in his sketch, *The Master Musician*; Lily Burnand has several ditties which she sings with great vivacity; Harry Marie is a clever dancer; the Four Royal Welshmen, the original Rhondda Valley Glee Singers, have an enthusiastic reception; Tom Owen is a smart Welsh comedian; Helene and Emilion are clever gymnasts; and Olive Tree is loudly applauded for her illustrated songs.

BISHOP AUCKLAND. — Eden Theatre. — Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. R. Addison; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. J. Huntley.—*The Power of the Cross* is being presented here this week by Lingford Carson's company. As Baron Wolfe Curzois, Mr. Geo. A. de Gray impersonates a difficult rôle in an able manner; Gerald Fairfax has a worthy exponent in Mr. Charles E. Linney; Dr. Leslie Fairfax is well undertaken by Mr. Alexander J. Haviland; and David Kingsley is in the capable hands of Mr. Arthur Read. As Margaret Seaton, Miss Marie Menzies is painstaking; Blanche Kingsley is prettily played by Miss Phyllis Vaughan; Miss Cicely Desmond gives a convincing interpretation of the Adventuress; and Benjamin Hawke is successfully presented by Mr. Frank Stephens. The comedy is supplied by Mr. Richard E. Nugent as Timothy O'Dowd and Miss Etta Turner as Dolly Gray.

BLACKBURN. — Theatre Royal.— Proprietor, Mr. Harry Yorke; Manager, Mr. Reginald C. Yorke.—Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evenings were occupied by Mr. H. A. Saintsbury and his company in *Anna of the Plains*. Mr. Saintsbury is successful in his part of Tom Matthew. His acting is always forceful and convincing, and in the last act his work was very fine. He is splendidly supported by Miss Dorothea Desmond, who, as Anna, acts charmingly. The other parts are also in good hands. The remainder of the week is to be filled by Mr. and Mrs. Kendal, who present *The Housekeeper*, *A Tight Corner*, and *The Ironmaster*.

New Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page.—Mr. Harry Foxwell's company in *A Broken Heart* are appearing here.

Palace Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray; Deputy-Manager, Mr. W. Bradbury.—The entertainment here is given by Gustave Fasola, the Indian fakir; Mooney and Holbein, vocal and dancing comedy artists; the Primrose Male Quartette (who deputise for Helen, Charles, and Flo Burris); the Four Herbertins, knockabout comedians; Johnny Dwyer, comedian; Diamond and Beatrice, musicians; T. C. Jacques, comedian; and the Sisters Hall, vocalists.

BLACKPOOL.—Her Majesty's Opera House.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company is giving a representation of *The Eternal City* here. A painstaking performance of Baron Bonelli is given by Mr. E. Stanton-Sharp, and Mr. Oswald Gray's impersonation of David Rossi has merit. Bruno Rocco has an efficient exponent in Mr. Charles McCann, and Mr. Wernham Ryott proves his fitness for the part of Commendatore Angelelli. Miss Eva Moss contributes a clever portrayal of Donna Roma, and the numerous smaller parts are also played with considerable ability. Songs are pleasantly rendered by Miss Phyllis Castleton and Miss Violet Campbell during the progress of the play.

Grand Theatre. — Owner and Manager, Mr. T. Sergenson. — *The Master Builder* is the fare provided here this week by Mr. Leigh Lovel and company. Mr. Lovel undertakes the title-rôle, and proves himself a very clever actor, and Miss Octavia Kenmore scores a distinct triumph as Hilda Wangel. Alice Solness handles the part of Aline Solness in exactly the right spirit; and Mr. Arthur McCullock as Doctor Herdal, Mr. A. Collins Rolfe as Knut Brovik, Mr. Wilson Gunning as Ragnar Brovik, and Miss Dora Levis as Kaia Fosli also give evidence of careful study.

Palace.— General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—The programme here this week is contributed to by Simms and Simms, a pair of clever comedians; Oswald Williams, a wonderful conjurer; Sid Cotterell and company in a sketch; Carson Hicks, coon delineator; Jessie Merrilees, vocal comedienne; Leo Tell, a very able mimic; Mabel and Winnie Brooke, duettiste; The Firmans in a sketch; and the Australian quartette of lady vocalists.

BLYTH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. A. C. Moody.—Miss Mary Neil, supported by a good company, has presented a new drama, entitled *Her Luck in London*, which has met with a favourable reception, Miss Neil sustaining the part of Nellie Harborne with success.

Gaiety Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee, Mr. G. E. Good.—Alf. Bishop, who tops the bill here, presents a capital turn; Arthur Wade as a baritone renders some good numbers; Sill and Silcott in their sketch, *Lively Luggage*, create roars of laughter; and the bioscope continues to be a draw.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Tudor.—Pictures and variety turns are still the attractions here, and meet with liberal patronage.

BOLTON.—Theatre Royal (Ltd.)—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Melvin.—Messrs Hardie and Von Leer's original company are presenting *Two Little Vagabonds* this week. The little vagabonds are represented by Miss Edie Marton, as Dick, and Miss Josie Beltram, as Wally, the delicate nature of the latter being as well portrayed as the hearty health of the former. Mr. Arthur E. Melborne as George Thornton, Miss Grace Heywood as his trouble-haunted wife, and Miss Rosslyn Vane as Barbara Scarth, help to maintain the interest of the piece; while Mr. Sydney Vautier as Captain Darville and Mr. Dunstan Haye as John Scarth add their quota to the more solid element of the production. Mr. Lionel Ellis is entitled to special mention for an admirable character-sketch as "the Gaffer" of a gang of thieves, among whom are Dido Bunce, represented by Mr. Frank Moore, and the Cough Drop, enacted, with many touches of humour, by Mr. Dick Winslow. Miss Evelyn Shaw is excellent as Biddy Mullins. Other smaller parts are well filled.

Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon. —At this house the popular comedienne, Kate Carney, Queen of Coster Comedy, appears in her successful scena, "'Liza Johnson," supported by fifty auxiliaries. Harry Lawson, a truly eccentric comedian; Lopez, an exceptionally clever dental athlete; Miss Violet Morgan a good character mimic; and Sammy Shields, Scottish comedian; Jessie Barlee and Phil Smith, in their amusing episode, *The Rehearsal*; Mark Leslie, coon impersonator; Loudoun Cameron, conjurer; and the original Cee-Mee Family, in their sensational comedy stage aerial act; and the Imperial Bioscope, also appear.

BOOTLE. — Muncaster Theatre. — Proprietors, Messrs. Pennington; Manager, Mr. H. Pennington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Young.—Miss Bonwin Carleton's company is this week presenting the comedy-drama, entitled *The Plucky Nipper*. Mr. M. Maud gives a capital rendering of Captain Frank Leslie, and Mr. H. J. Butler is well placed as Colonel Fenwick. Miss Bonwin Carleton gives a refined and amusing performance in the titular part, while the representation of Bill Burgess by Mr. E. Surrey is worthy of favourable comment. Miss Esther Lamont plays sweetly as Ina Fenwick; Mr. Syd Morton scores as Tommy Atkin. The rôle of Richard Vanbrugh is capably played by Mr. Wm. Heilbronn.

BOSCOMBE. — Hippodrome.—Joint-Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Ball.—Mr. Arthur Roberts, supported by his own company, forms the chief attraction this week with *The Woman Who Was*. Mr. Roberts makes a great success as a chauffeur, and is ably supported by Miss Ruby Celeste and a very competent company. Little Cliff is accorded a flattering reception, which he well deserves, for his clever singing and dancing; as an imitator of animals, Carl Lynn is one of the best, his reproduction of the noises in a farmyard being life-like; Saxo is a versatile instrumentalist; Sadie Seymour is a *chic* comedienne and clever dancer; Fred Collins excels as a Scotch comedian; the Sisters Reno score in their speciality dance; and interesting pictures are shown on the Biograph.

BOURNEMOUTH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Proprietors, Messrs. David Allen and Son; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Manager, Mr. Rowland Stewart.—*The Dairymaids*, played by Mr. Robert Courtneidge's excellent company, is here this week. It would be difficult to find two more delightfully droll comedians than Mr. E. Statham Staples and Mr. Harry Dent, who easily bore off the leading honours of the evening. Mr. Forbes Dawson as Dr. O'Byrne, and Mr. George Desmond as the Lieutenant were capital; while Mr. Alec Fraser sang and acted well in the part of Fred Leverton. Miss Violet Lloyd represented Peggy with considerable skill; Miss Cissy Sephton played Eliza with a fascinating degree of pertness and a due regard to a North Country dialect; Miss Beryl Vaudrey as Helene used a sweet voice to advantage; while Miss Edith Blanche as Lady Brudenell and Miss Rhoda Gordon as Winifred were well cast. The orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Albert Bartlett, must be specially mentioned for its admirable work.

Shaftesbury Hall.—West's Pictures are again here. On Monday many new films were introduced. Messrs. Gordon Wilde and Williams appear at each performance in sleight-of-hand and musical impersonations; Miss Clara Buchanan is at the piano; Mr. Mackenzie Henderson is the raconteur; and Mr. G. Hastings Philip the clever cinematographist.

BRADFORD.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—*Robin Hood* was presented on Monday night by Mr. Lewis Waller's company. Robin Hood is represented by Mr. Robert Minster with the requisite spirit and vigour for so commanding a figure in the story; the robust Little John is realised perfectly by Mr. Leslie Rea; Mr. Augustus Wheatman's Friar Tuck is an effort brimful of humour; and there is nothing lacking in the vigorous impersonations submitted by Mr. Stockwell Ward as King Richard, Mr. Bellenden Clarke as Prince John, Mr. Arthur Willerby as Fitz-Alwynne, and Mr. H. Elliott Ball as Hugo de Longesper. Miss Marie Polini as Lady Marion de Vaux presents a charming and thoroughly convincing performance; as Adela, Miss O. Moore-Lane aids her well. Miss Mabel Young plays Queen Eleanor with power; and the other parts which stand out prominently in the cast are the Allan A'Dale of Mr. E. Edwards, the Will Scarlet of Mr. L. Tessier, the Sir Aymer le Botelier of Mr. Val Glynn, the Abbot, represented by Mr. C. B. Winston, and Adison Much, played in winsome style by Miss Lilian Lait.

Prince's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—Mr. William Maclaren is here this week with *Claudian*, and he gives a fine performance of the title-rôle. Miss Lily C. Bandmann's histrionic powers fit her well for the trying part of Almida. The audiences are not lacking in their appreciation of Mr. Chas. T. Chaloner's quaint performance of Belos, Mr. Douglas Earle's acting of Agazil, Mr. Ulick Burke's efforts as the Holy Clement, or Mr. Weston Hubbard's representation of Alceres; and in minor parts Mr. Owen Chambers, Mr. E. Grogan, and Miss Maud Garth are distinctly noticeable. The very striking scene of the earthquake is one of the many fine bits of stagecraft which elicit great applause during the representation.

The Empire.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—The remarkable Kremo Family of Risley performers and acrobats are commanding unstinted applause for their sensational feats, and as comedy acrobats the Tupps are amusing; Ryder Slone's song-scenas are novel and very quaint. In her scena *Rosie is Waiting* Gladys Mavius, the Canadian dancer, scores successfully; Charles Robinson's baritone songs are well rendered, and illustrated; as a raconteur, the smart juvenile, Boy Glenn, displays ability; with sand-dancing and comedy Hughes and Elliott are entertaining; and with comedy boxing and knockabout business the Brothers Lang elicit laughter. *In Zululand* is a very thrilling incident of the late Natal rising, dramatically depicted by Leicester Cooke and company; and there are some fine pictures shown by the American Bioscope.

Palace Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. F. Macnaghten;

well played by Mr. Wentworth Croke's company. Miss Grace Chalmers acts admirably as Glory Quayle; Mr. Frank Tennant is a powerful and convincing John Storm; Mr. Frederick Scarth and Mr. Frank Beresford are both excellent in their respective parts of Lord Robert Ure and Horatio Drake; Miss Vashti Wellborne is a capital Polly Love; and Miss Molly Hayden presents a good study of Mrs. Callander. The remaining parts are all very carefully played. Mr. Crowe, who is leaving to undertake the acting-management of the Lyceum, had a benefit on the 5th inst., when the house was packed, special attractions being provided.

PALACE THEATRE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—Miss Ella's troupe of forest-bred lions, who occupy the leading position on the bill, are admirably trained, and go through an effective performance. Whit Cunliffe, vocal comedian, obtains general appreciation; Rowland Hill, comedian, is amusing; Daisy Morell does a pleasing turn; Frank Cumminger scores as a sand dancer; Mountford and Walsh are smart society entertainers; J. C. Scatter, patter comedian and dancer, is successful; Rezene and Robini, knockabout comedians, are good in their line; and the performance concludes with "Hooligans of the West," depicted by Vernon's Imperial Bioscope.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—Jack Collinson and company have an amusing sketch, *The Topsy-Turvey School*, in which some smart dancing, &c., is introduced to advantage; Dora Lyric, comedienne, has some pleasing songs, which she renders effectively; Lillie Mayfield, comedienne and dancer, does a pleasing turn; Bock Pylades is successful in facial impersonations; Ivey Rose and Frank Calvert present a refined comedy act; Harry Russon, comedian, does a good turn; the Four Jumels are successful in their musical act; Alec Kendal, patter comedian, has a quaint style; Johnson and Bert are clever knockabouts; and the performance concludes with an interesting display of animated pictures.

COLSTON HALL.—Walter Jeffs' New Century pictures and variety entertainment is continuing to be attractive. This week the operatic company is appearing with success in a pleasing song-scena, *After the Hunt*.

BURNLEY.—VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Mr. George Alexander's company in the comedy *His House in Order* is the attraction this week. Mr. Stephen T. Ewart as Hilary Jesson gives a clever portrayal of this delightful character; Miss Dorothy Grimstone submits a charming performance as Nina; Miss Elaine Sleddall is excellent as Geraldine Ridgeley; and Miss Augustus Haviland is sufficiently acid as Lady Ridgley. Filmer Jesson is capitally undertaken by Mr. J. Edward Pearce, and Mr. Charles Tyrel is good as Major Maurewarde. Mr. Herbert Lomas as the venerable Sir Daniel Ridgeley presents a clever portrait of this despicable character, and Mr. Ernest R. Holloway is very good as Pryce Ridgeley. Miss Doris Champion as Derek, Miss Jean Cadell as Mlle. Thomè, and Mr. Luke Forster as Doctor Dilnott are worthy of praise.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—A smart gymnastic performance is given here by The Three Pattersons. The Arthur Lloyd Trio provide a clever sketch, *Little Charley*, and a funny acrobatic knockabout turn is given by the Smarte Brothers. Raffo is applauded for his neat hand-balancing, in which he is assisted by Ella. Sid Bandon, with new songs, is most acceptable; Ted Karno and Co., in a pantomime absurdity, are productive of laughter; Georgina Leonard is applauded for her song "After the Victory"; and "Baby's first day out" is the subject of a funny film by the New Empire Theatroscope.

BURTON-ON-TRENT. — NEW THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. H. Dudley Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Waller.—Mr. Arthur Carlton's company, with *In Sight of St. Paul's*, is the attraction here this week. Miss Gussie Everitt portrays with dramatic power an adventuress of the accepted type; Miss Cissie Bellamy evokes much sympathy as the heroine; the Tom Chichester of Mr. Ernest R. Allen is a performance of exceptional ability; villainy, as represented by Mr. Herbert Cecil (Captain Gridston) and Mr. Henry Gilpin (Blidstein), is sufficiently repulsive to rouse the ire of the audience; and the comic business between Mr. Herbert Colley (Jim) and Miss Sybil Hammersley (Becky) is clever and amusing.

BURY (Lancs).—CIRCUS OF VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant Manager, Mr. Walter Mould.—Mr. Culling is making a change in the bill this week, animated pictures occupying nearly the whole of the evening. Other attractions are Miss Maudie Ray, a talented little Bury lady, who sings and dances charmingly, and The Lynches, whose songs are accompanied by coloured illustrations.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead; General-Manager, Mr. Broadhead, jun.—A good programme includes Haley's production, "The Garden of Girls"; Haptmann Marquis Itoyne, in a capital sketch, entitled *Fun on a Bivouac*; Harry Lee, mimic; Cyril Carl, actor vocalist; Fortune and Fame, a clever couple; Donald Douglas and Lil Gordon, comedians; George and Edwards, comedians; C. B. Baker and M. Lindsay in a musical sketch, and the Czar's Royal Russian Troupe of Dancers.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Eade Montefiore.—*The Ticket-of-Leave Man* is presented here this week by Mr. Montefiore's own company, the title-rôle being played by Mr. Chas. O'Connor with distinction; an admirable impersonation of Hawkshaw comes from Mr. Riddell Robinson; Mr. Frank Bradley's Dalton is a capital piece of acting; and the same remark applies to the Melton Moss of Mr. Joe Bracewell; Mr. William Rokeby and Mr. Claremont Gaskell acquitting themselves well as Jones and Mr. Gibson. Miss Violet Hammersley wins appreciation as May Edwards; Miss Dorothy Mayhew looks charming in the part of Emily St. Evremond; and Miss Helena Rigby and Miss Florence Moore are successful as Mrs. Willoughby and Dan.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—This entertainment includes a successful turn by Ara, Zebra, and Vora, wonderful juggling by Staffo, and a horizontal bar performance by Les Blancs. Miss Daisy Reed is a clever dancer; Grant and Allen give a mirth-provoking scene; Fred Elmont contributes two songs; and Jury's pictures are entertaining, as usual.

CAMBRIDGE. — NEW THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—A praiseworthy representation of the *Silver King* was given here on Monday night by Messrs. G. M. Polini and Austin Melford's company. Mr. Fred D. Daviss gained golden opinions by a clever performance of Wilfred Denver; and Nellie was charmingly played by Miss Daisy Scudamore. Mr. Edward J. George, in the part of Jaikes, was as good as ever; Mr. L. St. George Lowther was a capital Spider; and Miss Viola Holland a charming Olive Skinner; Mr. Arthur Wright made an excellent Elijah Coombe; the children, Cissy and Ned, were faithfully rendered by Miss Flossie Hall Daviss and Master Douglas Thomas.

CARDIFF.—NEW THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Robt. Redford.—*What the Butler Saw* was presented here on Monday to a full house. Mr. Lionel Rignold's impersonation of the butler caused endless fun; Miss Ada Blanche as Mrs. Barrington gave a delightful performance; Mr. Charles Fawcett as Jack Barrington portrayed the light-hearted Irishman with much effect; as Sir Charles Foden Mr. Louis Lingard was most capable; the fiery General Dunlop had a clever representative in Mr. Victor Widdicombe; Professor Shale was a particularly amusing character as enacted by Mr. Roy Byford; and Mr. H. H. Rignold (Abraham Weinstein) and Mr. Leo St. Clair (Sydney Clifford) were effective; as Miss Foden Miss Clara Russell's help is valuable.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Robt. Redford.—*The Power and the Glory* was presented on Monday. Mr. Francis Chamier as Ferdinand Crayle made a capital villain; Miss Bessie Elma did well as Kate Goodluck; the part of Harry Goodluck was capably undertaken by Mr. George E. Clive; the difficult rôle of Harold Hartree was in the clever hands of Mr. Ernest Chesney; the blind girl Linda was pathetically delineated by Miss Flo Florence; and Miss Olive Fulton made an interesting Lizzie Medwin.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. W. Lea; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. S. Dring.—A strong programme is presented at the Queen-street house, headed by the sketch *The Little Stowaway*. In the title-rôle Miss Eva Lumley is deserving of much praise; Mr. John K. Walton makes a manly Captain. The deck scene used in the piece is exceedingly good. Lockhart's Elephants provide a popular interlude; a pleasing item is that presented by the Boccaccio Minstrels; the Bros. Horne are clever and amusing in their pugilistic entertainment; and Ross Loader, the musical slavey at the piano; May Evans, character comedienne; Lady Fauntleroy, ventriloquist; Andrew Roy, a fine tenor, with illustrated songs; Allis and Cassati, in comedy and dancing; and Bioscope pictures complete a fine programme.

CARLISLE.—H. M. THEATRE.—Lessees, Mr Thos. Courtice and Mr. R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—Mr. Wm. J. Miller's company opened a three-nights' engagement here on Monday in *The Throne of Terror*. Mr. Miller as Robespierre has a fine part, of which he takes every advantage; Mr. Edwin Turner as Roquefort was especially good in the trial scene; Mr. Carsdale as the spy contributed a capital character-study; and Gerald Byrne's Eugène was a thoroughly sound and artistic performance. The heroine was in the safe hands of Miss Katherine Maude Davis, an emotional actress of considerable ability; Mr. Wallis Bentley appeared with success as Robespierre's accomplice; and Miss George Whyte and Mr. Bert Ellis were responsible for the humorous side of the piece.

THE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Palace Theatre, Carlisle, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Rino Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—The top of the bill is occupied this week by Dinah Morris and company in a musical comedy sketch, entitled *The Lost Coon*, an attractive and popular performance. Fraser and Mac gain the favour of their audience in their clever comedy business and concertina and banjo playing; Gus Garrick, in his versatile and clever imitations of music-hall performers makes a big hit; Mr. Wilson Blackledge has a refined and interesting contribution; Miss Katie Marsh is a smart dancer and vocalist; Ariel and Astarte are clever gymnasts; and The Wheelers, in a funny cycling act, add much to the success of the entertainment.

CASTLEFORD.—ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Councillor Hy. Masterman.—A capital audience greeted the opening performance of Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company, in *Two Little Drummer Boys*. The staging is excellent. From Mr. Edward Bikker comes a vivid portrayal of General Kingston, V.C.; as Captain Frank Carsdale, Mr. Fred Emery gives a genial and manly performance; and Mr. Ed. Warden as Captain George Darrell duly emphasises the unscrupulous villainy of the character. Miss Violet Langley plays engagingly as Alma Kingsley; Mr. Finlayson is amusing and soldierlike as Quiney O'Quirke; and his rival for the affections of Molly is humorously impersonated by Mr. Harry Lyndon, who makes Timothy Trimmer a very comical personage. The scenes with this pair and Molly (brightly played by Miss Edie Macklin) are responsible for a good deal of laughter. Miss Maggie English speaks her lines with intelligence and clearness as Eric Carsdale; and Miss Maudie Douglas merits much praise as Jack Smith. Miss Mildred Eversleigh plays Margaret Rivers with a considerable amount of intensity; and Mr. H. Harley is decidedly good as Lieut. Allen Kingsley.

QUEEN'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — Proprietors, Messrs. Charles Beanland and W. H. Emerson; Business-Manager, Mr. Will H. Emerson.—The great attraction of this week's bill is Lilith, a mystery, in her palace of roses, who makes a big impression on the audience; Cyrus and Maud, with their performing donkey, Bess, keep the house in a continuous state of merriment; Frank Newbury soon whistles himself into favour; the Brothers St. Clair give a capital exhibition of a football on bicycles; Miss Lilian Warren sings in a pleasing style some illustrated songs; Robert Beevers causes much fun as a comedian; the Comicscope, with funny songs and pictures, captivates; and the animated pictures, by the Loyal Dominion Co., are received with much applause.

CHATHAM. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard; Secretary, Mr. Geo. P. Ridley.—Messrs. Cartwright, Lawrence, and Topping's company is here in Mr. H. Kellett Chambers' version of *David Copperfield*. Mr. Charles Cartwright's Dan'l Peggotty is an undoubtedly skilful performance; Mr. Lionel Belmore makes a decidedly good impression as Ham; Mr. Gerald Lawrence's Steerforth is a finished impersonation; Mr. Stanley Harrison is a popular exponent of the title-rôle; Mr. Charles Collette makes a delightful Mr. Micawber; and Mr. A. B. Tapping's Uriah Heep is thoroughly appreciated. Miss Lillie Cavenagh gains sympathy as Martha; the Misses Helen Vicary and Ethel Sarjient prove highly amusing as Aunt Betsy Trotwood and Mrs. Gummidge respectively; and Miss Lorna Lawrence is deserving of much praise as Little Em'ly.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—John Henderson and company are contributing a thrilling sketch, entitled *Under the Maple Leaf*. Little Barney scores with his patter; the Four Sisters Victoria come in for a goodly share of applause for their musical act; Maxwell and Frances are on a welcome return visit; A. J. Hill scores as the living Lilliputian; the Carlyles contribute some very spirited dances; Mr. Lacey continues to find new subjects for his Erascope; while the talk of the evening is the daring aerial display given by the Edgertons.

CHELTENHAM. — OPERA HOUSE. — General Manager, Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company are here this week in *Peter's Mother*. Mr. Henry Renouf sustains the rôle of John Crewys, Q.C., in a masterful manner; Miss Lilias Earle contributes a beautiful study as Lady Mary Crewys, the title-part; the Peter of Mr. E. F. Mead is an admirable performance; Mr. Ernest Ruston as Sir Timothy is convincingly narrow; Miss Evelyn Shelley and Miss Celia Gordon are excellently placed as the sisters Lady Belstone and Miss G. Crewys; Mr. A. P. Kaye is good as Dr. Blundell, and Mr. Maitland Dicker excellent as Canon Birch; Miss Hilda Sims is an attractive and sparkling débutante as Sarah. *Chalk and Cheese* is the curtain-raiser, in which the Misses Mildred Cottrell and Hilda Sims and Mr. Kaye appear to advantage.

CHESTER.—ROYALTY THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—The stage here was occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Kendal and their company on the first three nights of the week. On Monday was presented *The Elder Miss Blossom*. In the rôle of Andrew Quick Mr. Kendal has a part which suits his personality to perfection. A capital study of the sturdy country gentleman was furnished by Mr. Ernest Hendrie; Mr. Bassett Roe was eminently successful as Major Twentyman; Mr. C. W. Standing scored a decided hit as the Rev. Arthur Leacroft; it would be impossible to better Mr. Metcalf Wood's study of Withers; Miss Jessica Thorne made a sweet Sophia; Mrs. A. B. Tapping presented a well-studied sketch of Cooper; and Mrs. Kendal's Dorothy Blossom closely held the attention of the large audience which gathered to greet her. *The Housekeeper* was presented on Tuesday, and on Wednesday *The Ironmaster* was staged. Miss Winifred Maude's company in *The Stowaway* and *The Convict* came here on Thursday.

CHORLEY (Lancs.). — GRAND THEATRE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. G. T. Santé; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Hemingway.—Mr. A. Campbell-Kelly is here with his company in the *Trail of the Serpent*. Mr. Kelly undertakes the dual rôle of Gerald Kingston and Old Jack with excellent results. Mr. Frank Lyndon being effective as Ralph Hammond. Mr. George Porteous is good as Sir Gerald Kingston; and William Higgins is capitally rendered by Mr. J. R. Tyrell. Miss Phyllis Elton charmingly presents Ethel Maynard. Miss Nana Cameron giving a strong interpretation of Rachel, a gipsy, and Miss Jenny Risley vivaciously enacts Rose Wilson.

CLYDEBANK.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert J. Montague.—The attraction here this week is Mr. A. W. B. Kingston's répertoire company. On Monday was presented the Scottish drama *Jeanie Deans* to a good house. Mr. Kingston submitted a careful rendition of David Deans; as the outlawed Geordie Robertson Mr. James Sommerville displayed histrionic abilities; Mr. Harry Egan was an amusing Laird o' Dumbiedykes; Jas. Ratcliffe found a good exponent in Mr. F. Kellard; the Duke of Argyle was well portrayed by Mr. Ashley Carrington; and Mr. Tom Armitage did good work as Mr. Sharpitlaw. Effie Deans received every justice from Miss Emily Peel; Jeanie was safe in the hands of Miss Carrie Henderson; Miss Clarice Jenner was worthy of high praise for her fine impersonation of Madge Wildfire.

COLCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Charles Macdona; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. C. Upton.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's company presented *The Sin of Her Childhood* on Monday, and gave a capable rendition of the piece. Mr. James Duncan played the Rev. Allan Grey with more than average cleverness; and as Mary Haysel, Miss Stanley Burt acted with much power. Mr. Wilson Summers as the modern Borgia, otherwise Stephen Haysel, received flattering notice from the upper portions of the house; whilst the bottle-loving Maria Haysel was depicted in characteristic fashion by Miss Clara Santley. Mr. Frank Liston represented in soldierly style the manliness of Captain Thornton; but the most distinctive hit appeared to be made by the juvenile part of Hannah Spry, as portrayed by Miss Lessa Young. Mr. Hugh Brady as Barney O'Reilly was undoubtedly a genuine humorist, and received great assistance from Miss Nellie Whyte as Eliza Muggins.

HIPPODROME.—Joint-Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. Jack de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—Peggy Pryde heads this week's bill, and is as popular as ever with her quaint songs and sallies; Percy M. Stephenson and company present a comedy sketch, aptly entitled *The Muddle Up*; Martinengo, solo 'cellist, is loudly applauded for his intermezzo from *Cavalleria Rusticana* and other selections; and Henry Hilton goes well with his smartly-finished conjuring. Frank Dunlop scores decidedly with an anti-Suffragette song; and Louie Belrose makes a hit with some capital coon dancing.

CONSETT.—NEW THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance.—Mr. Allan Wilkie and company are occupying the boards here this week in a well-chosen répertoire. On Monday night *Hamlet* was presented. Mr. Allan Wilkie as the Prince gave a fine rendering; Mr. G. Alexander Marsh was an excellent Laerties, and Mr. George Munro a capital Polonius. Miss Ine Cameron did full justice to the part of Ophelia; and the Queen was well played by Miss Carrie Baillie.

CORK. — OPERA HOUSE. — Manager, Mr. John Horgan.—The D'Oyley Carte principal Répertoire Opera Company opened a week's engagement on Monday in *The Gondoliers*. Mr. Charles R. Walenn, an amusing Duke of Plaza-Toro, was much appreciated; Mr. Fred Billington, an old favourite, was warmly applauded as the Grand Inquisitor; Mr. Pacie Ripple and Mr. Albert Kavanagh as Narco and Giuseppe acted and sang well; Miss Hope Hastings (Gianetta) and Miss Lulu Evans (Tessa) were both charming; Miss Theresa Rassam made a dignified Duchess; and as her daughter Miss Mabel Graham scored. *Patience*, *The Mikado*, *The Pirates of Penzance* (followed by *Trial by Jury*), and *The Yeomen of the Guard* are also in the répertoire.

PALACE THEATRE, LIMITED.—Manager, Mr. Henry Kemble.—Ada Gatley, swinging wire artist and juggler, gives a pleasing performance; George Prince sings some capital comic songs; Gillin is a clever ventriloquist; Holden's Mannikins give an interesting and amusing turn; and The Milton Rays in *The Cruise of the Calabar* furnish a light and humorous entertainment.

COVENTRY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—A large house gathered on Monday to welcome the return visit of Mr. T. H. Taylor's company, in *The Worst Woman in London*. Miss Olga André is responsible for the part of Frances Vere, and the manner in which she portrays this difficult character draws forth the warmest applause; Mr. F. Vernon Travers is seen to advantage as James Milford; Mr. George Gaisford is successful as Jack Felton; and Miss Elizabeth Watkins as Ruth Milford and Miss Polly Marsh as Matilda Parker, leave nothing to be desired.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Dance; Manager, Mr. Geo. Rand.—Harry Roxbury and company are appearing here in a musical mélange, entitled *The Prince of Monte Carlo*, which is highly successful and amusing; another capital turn is that of Victor Newman, who gives "Napoleon's Farewell to his Troops" in an admirable manner; the Montagu Brothers are responsible for a charming representation of living statuary; Clarence C. Corri's company give a clever little episode called *Heart-strings*; the Three Careys, a trio of Australian entertainers, are appreciated; Harry Simms, comedian, and Kathleen Cogan, comedienne, are both clever; and the usual bioscope pictures are shown.

CRADLEY HEATH.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John H. Morton.—Mrs. Fred J. Kirke's company is here in *The Naval Detective*. Mr. Leslie Austin and Miss Louie Fountaine divide honours in having most of the work to do. The former, as the Naval Detective, sustains three characters, acting in a style peculiarly his own, and gaining constant applause. Miss Fountaine also has three parts to fill, which serve to show her versatile powers, and in one of which she charms the audience with her powerful voice. Mr. Roland A. Bridge as Dr. Schreiner evidently has a part to his liking; Mr. Walter T. Hybert is very funny, and causes much laughter as the Hon. Bertie Fairlox; Mr. George Whillis makes a first-rate Captain Hustle; Mr. Charles Burns deserves special mention for his rendering of Hans Winklepump; Mr. Joe Plant makes a good Sergeant Duncan; Miss Gladys Claney is well placed as Maud Mashem; Miss Edith Claris fills the part of Susan Scrubbs in a chic way; Miss Francesca Strickland as Lulu Kaufmann shows taste and feeling; Miss Lily Seymour as Rebecca Gentle deserves praise; Miss Amy Shaw as Pearl dances to perfection and to the delight of her audience; Miss C. Yorick has a lot to do as Ruby, and acts with much force and ability.

CREWE.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Taylor, J.P.—This week Mr. Augustine Knight presents E. Hill-Mitchelson's drama, *The Assassin*, which is well staged. Mr. Knight portrays Prince Demetri with powerful effect; Mr. Edward E. Ashby gives a realistic rendering of Impanoff; Mr. Theo. Balfour's representation of Duke Karl is an admiarble piece of acting; Mr. Cecil H. Raymond gives a good account of himeslf as Baron Alphonse; Mr. Chauncy Morris makes a good impression as General Nichol; Mr. Edwin Jenner capably sustains the rôle of Captain O'Neil; and Mr. Tom J. Taylor plays Peter in a humorous manner. Miss Ella Vane displays exceptional dramatic ability as the Countess Wanda; Miss Hettie Senior's impersonation of Conie Jonathan is in true American style; Miss Frances Waring is good as Nita, and Miss Marie E. Robertson as Katrina contributes much to the success of the play.

CROYDON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Lawson Lambert.—Mr. E. St. Alban's Opera Company is here this week with *Les Cloches de Corneville*, the performance on Monday being in aid of the L.B. and S.C.R. Servants' Benevolent Fund. Mr. William Everard is excellent as Henri; Mr. E. St. Alban submits a really fine character sketch of Gaspard; Mr. Charles Ross is well placed as Grenicheaux; Mr. Fred Dark is very quaint as the Bailie; Mr. Richard Martin makes the most of his opportunities as Gobo; Miss D. Rhodes is commendable as Christophe; Miss Marion Ayling makes a charming and sweet-voiced Germaine; and Miss Madge Roberts is full of life and spirits in the rôle of Serpolette. The chorus is well balanced, the dresses are admirable, and the scenery is appropriate.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Herrick.—Revisiting here this week is Messrs. Garside and Knowles' company with *The London Fireman*. Mr. Edward L. Garside and Mr. J. Forbes Knowles both give admirable performances of their respective parts; Mr. S. Herbert Humber ably impersonates Viscount Fleming; Mr. Lionel Thomson makes the most of Abel Fortnum; and Mr. Philip Renouf as Nixey Stinger is responsible for the humorous element. Miss Nellie Waddington does well as Countess Fleming; Miss Beatrice Sinclair as Grace Curtiss gives a good rendering of her part; Miss Nellie Garside is very good as Polly Bramble; and Miss Nellie Shirley is an attractive representative of Ida Curtis.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—An exceptionally fine entertainment here is drawing crowded houses nightly. A big sensation is made by John Leopold's smart acrobatic pantomimic company in *The Houseboat*; Victoria Monks brings down the house with her invigorating songs; Shirley and Ransom just touch the right note in the comedy-act *Arf a Quid*; Orpheus, instrumentalist, is uncommonly good; George Gibbey's songs and droll patter cause roars of laughter; Barton and Franklin are capital in vocal and instrumental turn; Rosie Archer is a dainty and clever mimic; the Brothers Hayes are humorous comedians; Johnnie Fuller deserves warm congratulations for a first-rate performance as a cat on the wire; and the Imperial Bioscope hits the popular taste.

DARLINGTON. — THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—Charles Macdona's company is here this week in *The White Chrysanthemum*. As the Admiral Mr. St. John Hamund is good; Mr. H. Langdon-Bruce plays in admirable style as the Admiral's son; Mr. H. E. Garden is a capable Lieut. Chippendale Belmont; Mr. Jamie Dallas makes an interesting Chinese Cook; and Miss Muriel George in the title-rôle is most delightful. Miss Dorothy Sephton as Betty Kenyon is charming; Miss Wilmot Karkeen is a typical American woman. There is a full chorus, which is aided by the Japanese Strolling Singers (Mesdames Eileen Victoria, Alice Sands, D. Harries, Alys Collier, Alice M. Dunn, and Gertrude Chadwick).

DARWEN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. A. M. Loader; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. J. Robinson.—The attraction here this week is Mr. J. Koffler Reynolds and company in *Conscience* and *Siberia*, two short plays in which Mr. Reynolds is seen to advantage. He is ably supported by Miss Maude Yarrell, Miss Hilda Stanley, Mr. C. Vivian Charles, Mr. Stanley Douglas, and Mr. Arthur Dandoe. A good variety entertainment is also given by Miss Flo Manson, a charming soubrette; Miss Maud La Blanche, comedienne and dancer; Halsey and Bowers, patter comedians; Billy Renton, a funny singer of funny songs; Mons. De Lacey, speciality artist; and Harold McGill, the singing newsboy.

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and General-Manager, Mr. Allan Edwards; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Denley; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Langley Wyatt.—Miss Lydia Donovan and company are appearing here in *Her One Great Sin*. Miss Donovan is a success in the title-rôle; and the part of Arnold Thornhill is well played by Mr. C. Quinton Fulford; while Mr. G. Edward Hall does well as Reuben Warhurst. Other characters are capably impersonated by Mr. C. E. Lambert, Miss Louie Walters, Mr. Fred Hodson, Miss Nellie Lambert, Miss Phyllis Damian, and Miss Maude Lambert.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Allan Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Herbert Taylor.—The top line turn this week is supplied by the Venturinis in a remarkably clever illusion, "So-Da," which consists of producing two ladies from an apparently unoccupied glass tank of water. The act, which introduces some clever sleight-of-hand, is thoroughly enjoyed. The Alskarno Trio are risley acrobats of a high standard, their neat tricks meeting with well-deserved applause. As a comedienne, Chas. Sloman makes a decided hit; H. Pawson, necromancer and rag painter, submits a most amusing exhibition of shadowgraphy; Carr and Rose, speciality artists, appear to great advantage in a comedy vocal scena; York, Mac, and York, comedy boxers, cause hearty laughter; and Lena Willard is a vivacious little comedienne and dancer. The Grand National film projected by the bioscope completes a good programme.

DEVONPORT.—METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Geo. S. King.—A dramatised version of Dumas' ever-popular *Monte Cristo* is being played to large houses here. Mr. Julius Booth undertakes the title-rôle with conspicuous success; Miss B. Boyle makes a hit as Mercedes, whose son is well played by Mr. S. Doyle.

DONCASTER.—NEW GRAND THEATRE AND EMPIRE.—An attractive variety bill of fare is provided here this week.—Harry Sanson, comedian, is deservedly popular; Milford Brothers, triple trapeze artists, are agile; Hannaway Brothers, with their patter, dancing and burlesque boxing, are warmly applauded; Miss Ada Lucerne is a charming vocalist; George Bernard has made a good impression as an actor vocalist; the Dayton Family are especially clever; and their *Le Rendezvous*, a scene in Hyde Park, is well received; the Cecilian Family, musicians and dancers, give a pleasing turn; the concluding item, Johnny Groves, Sansom and company, in a comedy sketch, being one of the most attractive features of the programme.

DOVER. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Dover Theatres, Ltd.; Chairman of Directors, Mr. B. Carter; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—Fred Southern and company still tops the bill, this time with a well-played sketch, entitled *Lost at Sea*. Herbert Madden has a good voice, and sings in a pleasing manner; Chester and Lees introduce a cleverly-manipulated marionette entertainment; Constance Juno has a catchy song in "Wine, wine, wine"; a very pretty turn is contributed by Miss Frederica's intelligent and highly-trained dogs and pony; a most hilarious farcical sketch is played, with a full appreciation of its opportunities for broad comedy, by Fred Southern, Miss May Emery, and company; and an admirable ventriloquial turn is given by Charles Argo. Some striking films are shown on Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

DUBLIN.—GAIETY THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mrs. Michael Gunn; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Hyland.—Mr. George Edwardes's company is here in the comic opera *See-See*. Mr. W. H. Rawlins distinguishes himself as the retired merchant Cheoo, and as Yen Mr. Leonard Mackay acts well, and his excellent voice is heard in several numbers to great advantage. Mr. Frank Danby has plenty of scope to display his humour in the character of Hang-Kee; Miss Lily Elsie submits a pleasing and effective portrayal of See-See; Miss Amy Augarde is admirably suited as Mai-Yai; Mr. Myles Clifton fills the part of Hoang Wang with credit; and the Mandarins are well played by Messrs. E. D. Wardes, Francis Rayne, Cameron Carr, and E. Freshwater. Miss Topsy Sinden, as So-Hie, contributes some exceedingly clever and graceful dances; Miss Alice Hatton is most acceptable as Lee; and the Misses Sybil Grey, Octavia Barry, and Lilian Hewitson are very good as Cheoo's wives; and Miss Adeline Lester as Mrs. Hoang-Wang, and the Misses Clair Marsden, Violet Hollam, Bertha Callen, and Julita Dumas contribute most satisfactorily as "the Pearls beyond Price."

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—The premier attraction in this week's bill is Mrs. Brown-Potter and company in the dramatic episode *Mary Queen of Scots*, which is most artistically played and heartily enjoyed. Seeley and West, in their musical turn, introduce some fine harmony as well as pleasing humour, and Lena Brunton, comedienne, meets with a good reception; Barney Armstrong, comedian, is as popular as ever in his quaint songs and dancing; Lennie and Hast, in an entertaining sketch, *The Sea Nymph*, are well received; Rhoda Brothers give a smart acrobatic display; and G. H. Keith, actor-vocalist, has made a decided hit. Clever mimicry is introduced by Florence, and an extra turn is supplied by a troupe of capital dancers. The Empire pictures are of more than usual interest.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Secretary, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—The Yinlians troupe in their highly finished acrobatic feats are at the head of the bill here this week; O'Malley and Brown, in a comedy sketch, entitled *You're Still a Friend of Mine*, are highly amusing; and A. Ba-Bee's picture postcard album is an interesting item. Webb and Cranston are accomplished operatic vocalists, and the singing and dancing of May Geraldine are heartily approved. Johnny Holland and company cause great laughter with their sketch *My Friend Boots*, and Will Walton, comedian, has several taking songs. Others appearing are C. H. Charlton, conjurer, and Kyoto, with his comedy Japanese box, and the Bioscope pictures complete a capital entertainment.

PAVILION, KINGSTOWN.—Manager, Mr. C. Irvine Bacon.—Mr. Russell Rosse's company commenced a second week's engagement here on Monday, when the farcical comedy *The Guv'nor* was presented. Mr. David James and Mr. Russell Rosse as the Boatman and the Guv'nor kept the audience highly amused; and others deserving of mention are Miss E. Nolan O'Connor as Mrs. Butterscotch, Miss Ida Phillips as Kate, Mr. Norman Clark as the M'Toddy, and Mr. J. Boyd Pearson as Freddy. On Thursday night Mr. David James's benefit took place, when *The Money Spinner* and *His Last Legs* were on the bill.

WORLD'S FAIR AND MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. A. James.—The attractions here include: Professor and Madame Elba, second-sight artists; Hilda Hazel, ballad vocalist; Harry Garbutt, actor-vocalist; Charlie Cooper, comedian and dancer; and the new cinematograph.

DUDLEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—*The Swiss Express* is running as successfully as ever here this week, the Brothers Charles and Frederick Renad being exceedingly droll and introducing much original business. Mr. Wilfred E. Brandon works hard to make a success of the part of Dr. Gondimar Gull; and he is ably assisted by Miss Celestine Brandon, who plays Virginia in a pretty and engaging manner; Mr. Basil Reynolds as Bob Rollingstone and Mr. Alex. Wylie as Dudley Green make the fun fast and furious; and all other parts in a long cast are excellently filled.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. Nightingale.—At the top of the programme this week we have Les Montaldos, continental equilibrists—a very clever turn; the Claymores, in a good speciality, are strong favourites; as also are Carta and Mitzani, in a speciality act; and U. C. Ugo, assisted by Veletta, in "Mirthful Mysteries." Tom Parker, comedian, keeps the house convulsed with his jokes and songs; and Harry Bold is another good comedian; Mabel Moss is a pleasing and refined vocalist; Ted Hord, vocal comedian, does well; and the Empire pictures are still a great attraction.

DUNDEE.—PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Manager, Mr. E. J. Dexter. — Georg Hackenschmidt, "the Russian lion," is top-liner, and is proving a big draw; Albert Windsor, a Scotch comedian of ability, finds much favour; Martine and Son provide pleasant entertainment; and other contributions to a good programme are from Kent and Keith, duologue artists; Sisters Mackenzie, vocalists and dancers; Francis O'Flynn, an expert banjoist; the Davis and Gledhill Trio of Cyclists; and Vernon's Bioscope.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. A. P. Williams.—The Seven Savonas are retained for another week, their entertainment being entirely different from that of last week. Their delightful rendering of the *Tannhäuser* overture is in itself worth going to hear; the Four American Comedy Singers have made a good impression; Mark Anthony, an old-established favourite here, scores a hit; J. H. Anthony, Scotch comedian, gets a flattering reception; and other numbers in a capital bill are Oakley and James, a versatile couple; Ted Young, character comedian; Ada Twibell, burlesque artist; and the

Platt shows ability as a comedian; and Mr. Robert Corray does some smart dancing in the part of Norman Popple. Miss Cora Lingard, a young Edinburgh lady, who continues to make excellent progress in her profession, delights the audience by her fresh, girlish style of acting as Violet Brinton, and she sings with expression. Mr. Robert MacLachlan, a pleasant vocalist, is a capital Jack Kenyon; and the remaining parts are capably filled, a special word of praise being due to Mr. Edwin Herbert, who plays Alfred, a lift attendant. The orchestra and chorus, under the direction of Mr. Julian Rutt, do admirable work.

Empire Palace Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Parham Wells.—In an excellent programme here this week, Mr. Fred Karno's pantomimic excerpts from *The House that Jack Built*, a popular Glasgow production, is the principal item. The selections form a bright little piece—full of go—in which Mr. Fred Kitchen surpasses himself by his genuinely comic performance of Dame Trot. Mr. Harry Lappo is a nimble, clever cat; and Miss Aggie Morris, Miss Luna Love, and other members of the company render efficient support. Miss Arabella Allen impersonates with versatility some character sketches from Dickens; Miss Edie King dances gracefully; Miss Beatrice Bonnie is an attractive comedienne; Miss Gertrude Bradshaw is really admirable as a singer; and Mr. Frank Darwin, actor-vocalist, makes a favourable impression. The Vasilescu troupe of acrobats infuse much humour into their clever performance on the horizontal bar; Stylo is marvellous in his hoop-manipulating act; Darc's Marionettes give successful impersonations of music-hall stars; and the Howards (Ralph and Nelly) are amusing and skilful in an act in which they introduce good and effective cornet playing.

Alhambra Theatre of Varieties.—General-Manager, Mr. Ventom Swift.—A first-rate programme is presented here this week. Messrs. Bennett and Martell are entertaining in their burlesque sketch, *The Lost Mariners;* Mr. Harry Bent, society humorist, gives a clever turn; and Henriette and Selina supply a capital musical performance. The farcical duologue, *Married or Photographed*, is admirably acted by Mr. F. Warden Reed and Miss J. Stevens; and other interesting performances are given by Mr. Frank Whiteley, comedian; Miss Carlotta Lunn, American comedienne; Mr. Jack Brindall, humorist; and the Alhambrascope.

EXETER. — Theatre Royal. — Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—Mr. Norman Macowan's company is appearing here this week in *Monsieur Beaucaire* and *A Marriage of Convenience*. Mr. Norman Macowan as Monsieur Beaucaire and as the Comte De Candale quite upholds his reputation, and he and Miss Violet Sterne as Lady Mary Carlisle and the Comtesse give finished portrayals of their parts. Mr. Murray Hathorn as the Duke of Winterset and as the General is excellent; Mr. Harold Weston as Major Molyneaux and as Chevalier de Valclos proves a distinct success; Mr. George Traill's portrayals of Mr. Bicksett and Jasmin are all that can be desired; and the same may be said of Miss Mary Masters as Lucy Kellerton and Marton.

FALKIRK.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace W. Ebbutt.—This is the last week of the season, and the attraction is *The Female Swindler*, effectively presented by Mr. Tom H. Taylor's company. The accomplished actress Miss Grace E. Leslie appears in the title-rôle; Mr. Joseph Millane has a capital part in Jack Coulson; and that of May Andrews is very nicely taken by Miss Florrie Kelsey. Mr. J. Knox-Orde makes a despicable enough villain; Mr. A. Kenyon Gray is dignified as the retired merchant; and Mr. Guy P. Ellis, as Harold Travers, acts his part well. Mr. Henry Wright, as assistant to the detective, and Miss Mary Dawson, in the capacity of a servant, prove themselves comedians of considerable merit. Mr. John Belton's representation of the Jew is very good. The drama is skilfully staged and prettily dressed.

FOLKESTONE.—Pleasure Gardens Theatre.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Mr. Eugene C. Stafford's company opened here on Monday in *The Private Secretary*. As the Rev. Robert Spalding, Mr. Donald Price Evans evokes continual laughter; Mr. W. T. Elworthy figures well as Mr. Marsland; Mr. James P. E. Hussey as Harry Marsland is admirable; Mr. W. Hargreaves as Mr. Cattermole causes much fun; Mr. Randolfe distinguishes himself in the part of Douglas Cattermole; Mr. Vivian Gilbert is well placed as Mr. Gibson. Mrs. Alfred Davis portrays Miss Ashford successfully; Miss Cecily Wade is seen to advantage as Mrs. Stead; Miss Beth Elliott makes a charming Eva; and Miss Dorothy Shawe ably acts the rôle of Edith Marsland.

Leas Pavilion.—Miss Dorothy Payn, an old favourite, is appearing here this week, and scoring her usual success in songs and imitations; Miss Muriel Fane and Mr. Will Gane render duets in an able manner; Mr. Eric Davidson is accorded well-deserved applause; Miss Florence Croft's vocal efforts are well received; and Mr. Robert Tattersall is a good ventriloquist with smartly-manipulated figures.

GATESHEAD. — King's Theatre. — Lessees, The United County Theatres, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Harold Arnold.—The leading line here this week is filled by Hanvarr and Lee, who submit an excellent act, which comprises acrobatics and comedy juggling; Sylvia Du Barry, the South American vocalist, has a host of admirers; Les Two Cabiacs win loud applause for a capital comedy gymnastic display; Ben Harris introduces his quartette of accomplished children in a sketch entitled *A Promising Pupil;* Hans and Lux are capital patterers; Nash and Noel are a pair of clever comedians and dancers; Madge Allen, vocalist and dancer, and the King's pictures complete a good entertainment.

Metropole Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Coun. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas France.—An old favourite, in *The Midnight Mail*, has been welcomed by large audiences at this house. Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's company (under the direction of Mr. James Willard) presents the drama in an excellent manner. Mr. George Harvard is still the Harry Steyne, a character which he sustains with great skill; a more meritorious character sketch than Mr. Fred G. Evison's Billy Brewer has not been presented here in recent years; Mr. Harry Emerson makes a capital Donald Craig; Mr. Magill Martyn plays Hassan Padisha with credit; Leonard Royle is carefully depicted by Mr. Austin Mortimer; the emotional acting of Miss Ada Oakley in the part of Mary Steyne leaves a deep impression; Miss Nesta Sandford is well placed as Lady Phyllis; and Miss Mildred Carr as Nancy Brewer makes the most of her scant opportunities.

Queen's Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Coun. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stephen Smith.—Mr. Ed. McLean's company, in *The Hero of the Flag*, forms the fare at this establishment. Mr. McLean supplies a capital embodiment of Jack Lawrence; Paul Mansfield is well embodied by Mr. Ernest Wangfield; Mr. Leslie Vyner scores in the part of Stephen Clifford; Mr. Johnny McElroy is amusing in the part of Johnny Truckle; Miss Gladys Vernon is a dainty Mabel Forrester; Miss Lilian Beaumont portrays Ruth Clifford with skill; and Miss Amy Randolph is diverting as Jenny Stubbs.

GILLINGHAM. — Hippodrome.—Lessees, The New Bioscope Trading Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. F. R. Griffiths.—The animated pictures continue to attract here, and chief interest centres in the Passion Play, which is being presented this week. Owing to her great success, Miss Laurie Hayden has been retained for a second week, and is delighting all with a new selection of ballads.

GLOSSOP. — Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—Mr. F. B. Woulfe and Miss Ethel Griffies' company in *Lady Godiva* are here this week. Miss Griffies is extremely popular in the title-rôle; Miss Barnet as Lady Aldyth gives a sound reading; Mr. F. B. Woulfe handles the part of Tom of Coventry in a skilful manner; Mr. Cecil Renton does ample justice to the rôle of Edgar; Mr. E. Holland Day stands out prominently as Leofric; Mr. Clifford Rean as Algar acts with intensity; whilst Mr. Edward Dunstan as Unwolf Unwolfson makes a good compatriot. Mr. Bob Anderson as Robin Shackleton (with songs) and Miss Edith Lorraine as Elfrida are responsible for the comedy element, which is well sustained. *Jane Shore* is also in the répertoire of the week.

GLOUCESTER. — Palace. — Owners, Messrs. C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr. R. T. Rea.—Zertho and his dogs are a distinct novelty in training; the Four Goldinis in their electrical spinning, dancing, and juggling act win applause; the Du Gros Trio of gymnasts on the trampolin submit a comic and clever performance; Miss Millie Denham is a pleasing serio; Mr. Tom Stuart gives us burlesque character sketches from plays and novels in excellent style; an interesting equestrian act is contributed by Miss Sylvia Martin; Mr. Harry Albery is an entertaining comedian; the Brooklands are dainty vocalists and dancers; and a clever society entertainer is Miss Lilian Payne. The Bioscope is up to date.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—Royal Aquarium.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—A return visit is being paid by Mr. Horace Stanley and company with the sensational drama, *The 10.30 Down Express*. Sam Wagstaffe is played in played in true comedy fashion by Mr. Stanley; and Petty Potts is brightly and humorously depicted by Miss Kate Kilpack. Mr. George Beverley is manly and earnest as Jack O'Mally; James Inderwick is capitally represented by Mr. Chas. Burden; Mr. Alaric Burton is excellent as Cuthbert Leigh; Bessie Leigh is pleasingly portrayed by Miss Elsie Capell; Miss Evelyn M. Walton gives a clever character-study as Letitia Leigh; and other members of a long cast render adequate assistance.

GREENOCK.—Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietors, the Greenock Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Directors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—The stage here this week is in possession of the Greenock Amateur Operatic Society, whose initial production of *The Yeomen of the Guard* has proved quite successful. The professional coach and stage-manager is Mr. Lindsay Harman, who has justly earned unanimous praise for the excellence of the performances. An excellent chorus and largely-augmented orchestra are under the bâton of Mr. Frank Smith. The proceeds of the production go to local charities.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—General-Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—Fred Moule and E. D. Nicholl's company is appearing here with great success in *The Battle of the Belles*. Other attractive turns are provided by the Saletos, who submit some skilful balancing; and the Lavello Brothers, a pair of clever and quaint acrobats. Amy Elcock, comedienne and acrobatic dancer, are also successful; and some capital pictures conclude a good all-round entertainment.

Pavilion, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. A. White.—This week's programme is of the usual good quality, with plenty of variety, and includes Mr. Harry Tate's company in the laughable sketch entitled *Motoring*. The Musical Markies submit a novel turn, which is well received; Cliff and Kean are popular comedy artists; Wm. C. McPhie, vocalist, has a cordial greeting; Ruby Bijou is responsible for some clever dancing; and Hettie Chattell's vocal items are much appreciated. The Pavescope pictures are also interesting.

GRIMSBY.—Prince of Wales's Theatre.—Chairman of Directors, Mr. H. J. Curry; Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry.—*The Earl and the Girl* is brighter and more attractive than ever. Mr. Alfred Donohoe is again seen as the showman Jim Cheese, and extracts the maximum of fun from the part; Miss Ida Stratham also repeats her former success as Daisy Fallowfield; Miss Gertrude Simpson is equally pleasing as Elphin Haye; whilst Miss Kathleen Gerard admirably realises the part of Mrs. Shimmering Black, and Miss Lena Hicks finds ample scope to display her ability as Liza. Excellent vocal work is accomplished by Mr. Thomas Kennard as Dick Wargrave, and also by Mr. Leslie Owen as the Hon. Crewe Boodle; Mr. Greville Hayes gives a breezy impersonation of A. Bunker Bliss; Mr. Ernest Plumpton is a capital exponent of Downham; and Mr. Sam Lysons is thoroughly amusing in the quaint character of Mr. Tulk.

Curry's Tivoli.—Chairman of Directors, Mr. H. J. Curry; Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North.—Kelly and Ashby accomplish novel business in their acrobatic billiard board speciality; Miss Georgettee Thierry's sketch, *Nancy Sykes*, a notable episode from Dickens's "Oliver Twist" is dramatically portrayed; the Elimans present an artistic and refined instrumental act; Hallam and Stanton pleasingly combine comedy with good singing; Gus Hindell introduces a song scena which has novel features; the Waldrons cause laughter with their farcical sketch; Alma Aubrey sings popular songs; and Bob Baxter dispenses original comedy.

The Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. A. Edwardes; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. C. Shread; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. V. Allton.—The Gotham Comedy Quartette are an entertaining combination, as, besides being clever laughter-makers, they are excellent vocalists. Frank Elliston's company appears in a highly amusing sketch, *Aunt Matilda;* Pueblo and Cropp are smart sand dancers; the Katos successfully manipulate living marionettes; the Raymond Trio display versatility as dancers and mandoline and banjo soloists; Hurley and Melton are responsible for much merriment; gymnastics are neatly performed by the Walonells; and the Sisters Selwyn sing nicely and dance prettily.

HALIFAX.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Mr. Charles Macdona's No. 1 company opened here on Monday in *Dr. Wake's Patient*. Mr. Lawrence Grant carried the honours of the evening for his superb interpretation of Dr. Forrester Wake; while a consummate study of Andrew Wake was submitted by Mr. George Howard. Mr. Paul Lovett acted with virility and refinement in the rôle of the Earl of St. Olbyn; while Mr. Allan Pollock was soon a prime favourite as Puff Wynterden. Miss Fyfe Alexander was at her best, and made an impressive Lady Gerania; but the finest acting came from Miss Kate Osborn, a lovable old lady, who presented with infinite tenderness the passive mother of the young practitioner. Miss Georgie Trewman subtly enacted the potent Countess; while the other members of this brilliant organisation proved an acquisition to the performance.

Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Sam Winks.—Miss Lil Hawthorne's bright singing and sprightliness has given satisfaction to all. Miss Lilian Dundas, Mr. Lawrence Leyton, and Mr. Harry Kendal are responsible for the presentation of *The Doom of Delilah*, and the thrilling incidents in which the episode abounds are most realistically conceived by these artists. Cedar and Elgar prove diverting in a comedy scena, *Ye Days of Olde;* while James Stewart, the man who dances at the piano, meets with acclamation. Nada Moret gives "Two little boys" tastefully; while Jimmy Shields is favourably received for a couple of songs; and Edith Sylvesto also participates in the programme successfully.

Palace and Hippodrome, Ltd.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Ed. Harrison.—A powerful attraction is provided by Fred Ginnett and company in *Dick Turpin's Ride to York*. Like the company, a massive gee-gee, Black Bess, has been trained in a masterly fashion; Florrie Bray has acquired the happy art of keeping the audiences in good spirit; Bert Danson is a patter comedian; the balancing of Lombard Brothers is excellent; and Nancy and Edie Coalvilles sing and dance smartly; while, as before, a variety of pictures are thrown on the screen.

HANLEY. — Royal, Ltd. — Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Douglas Elphinstone.—Mr. Jerome's artistic and interesting play, *Tommy*, is staged this week. Miss Annie Hughes has a fine all-round company, and the piece is well received. Miss Hughes as Tommy scores a distinct success, acting in a manner which is delightful; Mr. Evelyn Vernon's Hope is a clever piece of acting; and Mr. Willie Hartill as Clodd is admirably well suited to the part. As Flipp, the office boy, Mr. Reginald F. Beech is remarkably successful; Miss Winifred Pearson has a good presence, and plays the adventuress finely; Miss Vera Pole contributes a touching and effective reading as Honour; and Mr. Rupert Lister is well placed as the young Irish gentleman, Dick Danvers. The piece is nicely mounted and dressed.

Grand, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. James Wynes.—The Boissets are retained in their screamingly funny sketch, viz., *The Wild West;* Joe Reicher, with his three dogs, contributes an astounding turn; Chas. R. Whittle scores a great success in his song; Wee Mona Vivian is heartily applauded for her excellent songs and dances; the Lowenwirth Brothers, comedians and patterers, are well received; Burns and Bentley are a clever pair of vaudeville artists, their speciality dancing being capital; the Sisters Redfern, banjoists, vocalists, and dancers, meet with success; Robert Gilmore is a comedian of merit; and the pictures are, as usual, excellent.

HARROGATE.—Grand Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Smith.—On the first three nights of this week Mr. Harold V. Neilson and company appeared in *The Perfect Lover*. As Lord Carden, Mr. Bernard Limpus was in every way excellent; Mr. W. Lemmon Warde as William Tremblett hit off the domestic bully to the life; and Mr. John Detvil gave a clever study of a drunken "sponger." Miss Edith Dent as Martha Tremblett was admirable; and the same remark applies to Miss L'Estrade as May. Miss Gertrude Sterroll was excellent as the outspoken Hon. Susan Lesson; Miss Amy Sangster was well placed as Lilian Tremblett; Mr. Harold V. Neilson played Joseph Tremblett with success.

HARTLEPOOL. — Empress. — Proprietors, Messrs. Councillor Everton and J. W. Cragg; Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Charlie Ferrier.—A capital bill of fare is headed by Captain Max Gruber, whose wonderful elephant, horse, and pony give an excellent performance; the Mackweys introduce some smart equilibristic feats in a fast and furious comedy acrobatic act; *The Red Letter*, an episode of New York society as played by Mr. H. Leslie Bell, proves of much interest; the acrobatic comedy by the Three Moxons causes much laughter; the illustrated songs by the Lovelaces are popular; George Westland, Scotch comedian, scores with his songs and patter; Gracie Bard, a neat coon speciality artist, and the Bioscope complete a capital programme.

HASTINGS.—Gaiety Theatre.—Manager, Mr H. W. Rowland; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Scutt.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow and company are here this week in *Lord and Lady Algy*. Mr. Blow's Lord Algy, masquerading at the fancy dress ball as the Duke of Marlborough, is very comic; and he is cleverly supported by Mr. Kenneth Black, jun., as his jockey, who, for the nonce, is the Young Pretender. Miss Molesworth's Lady Algy is presented with well-defined characteristics; Mr. Henry Bute as Brabazon Tudway and Miss Gertrude Netherville as Mrs. B. Tudway, act very effectively. Mr. Henry Doughty plays well as the Marquis of Quarmby. A curtain-raiser, *Aunt Rebecca*, is well played.

Pier Pavilion.—Pier-Master, Mr. R. Turner; Entertainment-Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter. — An amusing *lever de rideau*, entitled *Lady Kitty*, precedes the farcical comedy, *Twins*, which Mr. J. D. Hunter and his company are producing here. As the twins, Mr. Hunter creates great fun, one being a professor, the other character being an ordinary waiter at a grand hotel. The great similarity of the two is the cause of numberless ludicrous mistakes. Mr. Herbert Maule makes the most of his retirement as a merchant; his son is capitally represented by Mr. Charles Hawker; Mr. Maule Cole makes a typical Irishman; as Mrs. Billings Miss Eva Bayley is excellent; Miss Helen Anderson and Miss Violet Graham are very natural in the respective parts of the Hon. Mrs. Granby and Edith Granby; Miss Blanche Bayley as Matilda Spinach is a good piece of acting; Miss Violet Agnew is equally convincing in the part of Lydia O'Haversack.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Norman.—Mr. Walter Norman, who has an excellent voice and good style of singing, kindly appeared as a substitute for one artist; a singing scena, by Miss Ida Katherina, "The Dolly Girl," and her automaton dance, is very novel; Mr. Charles Harvey, eccentric comedian, contributes a good turn to the bill; *All Through the Christening* is a very smart musical comedy, given by Percival on the piano; Miss Nellie Lewis sings some pleasing songs; the exponents of burlesque comedy, the Brothers Allison, are an acquisition; some special exhibition films from the Bioscope are much appreciated; Mr. Dave Laird as a ballad singer gains great applause; the Mysterious Mahatma astonishes her audience by her remarkable power of second sight and thought transmission.

St. Leonards Pavilion Theatre.—Pier-Master and Entertainment-Manager, Mr. Elvey Thomas.—The Smart Comedy Set are giving a musical entertainment the first part of the week. They are excellent artists and vocalists; their songs and style of singing are thoroughly appreciated. Mr. H. Vivian Fisher and Miss Bessie Watson engage in a humorous musical sketch; Mr. Wallett Scott is a comedian of ability; Mr. Bert Forss is an impersonator of character; a white coon is seen in Mr. Felix Bone, whose drawing-room songs are much applauded; a pleasing soprano is found in Miss Edie Edwardes. The artists conclude with the laughable farce, *The Wrong Box*.

HEREFORD.—Garrick Theatre.—Manager, Mr. H. Barnsley.—The United Opera Company, under the direction of Mr. F. S. Gilbert, is here this week. The company opened on Monday before an appreciative house with *Maritana*. Miss Elsa May in the title-rôle rendered with taste "Scenes that are brightest." Mr. F. S. Gilbert was an excellent Don Cæsar, Miss Doris Gilbert a fascinating Lazarello, and Mr. F. C. Silverstone portrayed Don José with distinction.

HORWICH.—Prince's.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Lewis. — The Apex Picture Company are giving a grand entertainment this week with their Chronophone, on the same lines as the performance before the Queen, Dowager Empress of Russia, and Prince and Princess of Wales last Thursday. This being a railway centre, the electrical apparatus has excited much curiosity, and is very highly spoken of.

HUDDERSFIELD.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Andrews.—The sterling merit of *The Still Alarm* keeps it well to the front amongst the attractive dramas touring. The well-known situations are capably handled by the excellent company organised by Messrs. Matthew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond. Both gentlemen are in the cast as Jack Manley and Doc Wilber respectively. Mr. George Arthur is thorough as the scamp Bird; Miss Maude Warburton is refined as Elinor; and Miss Gertie Reid is sprightly as Cad Wilber.

Hippodrome, Ltd.—Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—Very pleasant entertainment is provided by Miss Hilda Jacobsen, whose finished singing of some pretty songs is highly appreciated; Bert Lytton, light comedian; Miss Addie Spencer, a clever mimic and accomplished pianoplayer; Kisbey, the call-boy, whose humours are really diverting; the Lorrisons, in a funy duologue; Fentoni, cartoon and shadowgraph artist; Lambert and Hands, duettists; Mr. Eade Montefiore's little company, in a charming and pathetic sketch entitled *The Little Colonel;* and new pictures on the Bioscope.

HULL.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. W. Morton; Resident-Director, Mr. W. F. Morton.—Mrs. Russ Whytal began her second week here with her version of *Twelfth Night*. Her rendering of Viola was a pleasant surprise for the ingenuity and unconventionality she imparted into the lines. The Malvolio of Mr. Titheradge was an intelligent reading of the rôle; Mr. Eardley Turner's Sir Toby was brimful of fun; as Olivia, Miss Ada Mann rendered efficient aid; and Miss Mabel Knowles was a capital Maria. *Much Ado, Romeo*, and *The Merchant of Venice* have been among the plays included in this week's répertoire.

Grand Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—*Peter Pan* remains a delight to Hull playgoers for a second week; Miss Zena Dare still contrives to add to the reputation she has so swiftly acquired in the Third Port; Miss E. May cannot be praised too highly for her delightful conception of the rôle of Little Wendy; a striking feature in the show is Mr. Lionel Mackinder's Chief of the Pirate Crowd. The beauty of the *mise en scène* has been a very commendable feature in so fine a production.

Alexandra Theatre. — Mortons, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton. — That ever-striking play, *The Grip of Iron*, pays another visit to this city. Simmonet is portrayed by Mr. Fred Powell with his customary power; a clever Loustalot is Mr. Geo. Denham; the Cora of Miss Rosabel Dodd is very acceptable; and the remainder of the cast are highly efficient.

The Hippodrome.—Lessees, Mr. Alfred Graham; Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—The Martelloni Troupe of acrobats top the bill. Will Driscoll is a very good swell comedian; the Melroses do well in *The New Page;* Goodfellow and Gregson, Hull pantomime favourites, make a hit; other turns include Florrie Fuller, Charles Austin, and The Broughtons.

The Palace.—Manager, Mr. John S. Barnett.—Tom Costello is a welcome star turn here; the Jonghmanns' harmonious singing brings down the house; Ed. E. Ford creates a good impression; Lily Tiso is a smart comedienne and dancer; other artists include the Three Tauberts, Kroney Bros., Carney and Armstrong, Billy McClain and company, and J. Alexander and company.

The Empire.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Selwyn; Manager, Mr. Harry Slingsby.—Scottice Waifs and Strays, in a humorous and pathetic ballet, are a good top turn; Maisie Fuller is a charming serio and dancer; whizzing the whirl creates much amusement; other artists include Chas. Lestree, T. E. Johnson, Penrhyn Parke, Little Dot Moss, and the Bioscope.

The Circus.—Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Emerson. — Animated pictures are drawing crowded houses.

ILKESTON.—Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—*The Sledge Hammer* is being put on here this week, the players being the company of Mr. George Henry. Mr. Alfred Burrows achieves success as Everard Derrick; Miss Jessie Hope is a pleasing exponent of Rose Maywell; Mr. Frank Litchfield appears as Tom Walker, a part which he handles with excellent results; Miss Kitty Chambers does well as Catherine; Miss Lottie Davis is effective as Martha Derrick; Mr. Richard Cass makes the most of his chances as John Marlo; Mr. F. Litchfield, jun., gives a good reading of Dr. Clarke; Mr. Joe Cliffe is worthy of mention as Ezra Walker; and Mr. Victor C. Rolfe is an amusing Sammy Shaw. Mr. L. Henry as Jacob Derrick is powerful; and Mr. Stephen Crossley is responsible for a good performance of Simon Derrick.

Queen's Palace of Varieties.—Licensee and Manager, Mr F. Knightall.—Evered and Vaughan, in sketches and duets, are proving an attraction; Messrs. Terry and Snowdon are equally successful in song and patter; Chas. Bush, eccentric, is well received; and Clarice Vere, serio, Cecil Rorke, comedian, Grace Day, vocalist, Edwin Fay, lady impersonator, Tom Carr, comedian, and Little Doris Jeff, quick-change artist, are other capable turns.

IPSWICH.—Lyceum Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Leonard Grey.—On Monday *Raffles* was presented here by Mr. Reginald Dance's company, Mr. Dance himself appearing most successfully in the title-rôle. Mr. Edward Irwin in the part of the American detective gave a forcible rendering; Miss Katie Yates was a graceful and pleasing Gwendoline; Miss May Brooke an accomplished Mrs. Vidal; and Misses Mildred Orme and Constance Hamilton did well as Lady Melrose and Lady Ethel respectively.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—Tom Leamore, the well-known comedian, heads the current week's programme, and his latest songs please immensely; a pleasing and effective turn is that of Lady Mansell and her juveniles; the Albertos Troupe introduce novel feats as equilibrists; and Ronald Bagnall is an amusing comedian. Other items include Harry Weldon, described as a "swell entertainer"; Fred Casburn, comedian; Lea and Lovell, singers and dancers; and the Haverleys, American song illustrators.

JARROW.—Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Ernest Adrim.—The following artists are here this week:—The Zerbini Troupe, in an excellent musical scena; Mr. George Glenville, eccentric comedian; Pallete, cartoonist, with his trained dog Max; Miss Jeannie Evans, comedienne; Colin and Irene, in a second-sight act; Harry Rylton, swell comic; La Bella Rosa, solo mandolinist; the Hippodrome Bioscope, with up-to-date pictures; the Nelson and Thomas Trio, in a successful sketch, entitled *A Fight for a Fiver*.

JERSEY.—Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Edward Marris.—On Monday night a crowded house gave an enthusiastic welcome to *The Duchess of Dantzic*, played here for the first time. Too much praise cannot be bestowed on Miss Blanche Lynd, whose sans gêne kept the audience alternating between laughter and tears throughout the entire evening; Miss Ethel Ward's winsome personality well fitted the part of Renée; Miss Norah Melton was a vivacious Lisette; and the ladies of the Court were efficiently represented. Mr. George Blunt acquitted himself with distinction in the trying character of Napoleon; Mr. Tom Payne was a delightfully droll Papillon; Mr. Brimston Williams, who is responsible for the production, did well in the rôle of the Vicomte de Bethune.

KEIGHLEY.—Queen's Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Carson and Kendall; Acting-Manager, Mr. Will Carson.—Baron H. Harriss's chief company is here in *The Prince of Pilsen*. Miss Sophie Harriss is a bewitching Mrs. Maddison Crocker, and sings and acts with a charm that is quite refreshing. Mr. Harry Kilburn brings to the part of Hans Wagner much ability, which makes for a distinct success; Mr. Frank Crump, as the Prince of Pilsen, possesses a fine stage presence, and his song, "A passing cloud," is given with telling effect. Miss Connie Leon is a charming Sidonie, and her song "The Zuyder Zee" is encored nightly; Mr. Roy Sydney plays Lieutenant Tom Wagner in an acceptable manner; Mr. Bernard Russell scores as the Earl of Shrimpton; and Mr. Ernest Gifford provides a highly diverting performance as François, the French waiter. Miss Ada Watson's voice is heard with pleasure; and Miss Alice Nixon is a satisfactory Nellie Wagner.

KIDDERMINSTER.—New Opera House.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. Jas. P. Moore; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. C. Gudgeon.—This week the boards are occupied by a good company in *The Shulamite*. Simeon Krillett, a Boer farmer, is in the capable hands of Mr. Algernon J. Hicks; Mr. Chas. Fancourt is equally good in the rôle of Robert Waring; Jan Vanderberg is well portrayed by Mr. Geo. Rommell; Deborah is strikingly played by Miss Ruth Shepherd; and Miss Emily Levettez in the rôle of Tante Anna is realistic.

KING'S LYNN.—New Royal Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. J. Bannister Howard, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Herr B. Pareezer.—The attractive programme presented here this week includes Mlle. Fontainbleau, with her troupe of somersault and high-leaping dogs, a turn highly deserving of the applause accorded it; Gulliver, in his exceedingly clever ventriloquial novelty, is a distinct success; H. E. High is intensely funny in his speciality. *Crazy on Skates;* and the Forsyths are responsible for a comedy sketch, *The Tramp in the Nursery*. The Two Daniels give a smart exposition of dancing, &c.; and Jury's pictures help to complete a good programme.

LANCASTER.—Athenæum.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alfred Hook.—*The Stowaway* was the attraction the first three nights this week, being capitally presented by Miss Winifred Maude's company. Mr. Victor Du Cane as Dicky Dials was the life and soul of the piece; and he received able support from Miss Jenny Hackett as Chucky. Miss Winifred Maude appeared with much success as Althea Dale.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. John Porter and W. J. Fergusson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jack Martin.—The Craggs are again here, and their reception each night is enthusiastic; the Brothers Lillian are clever gymnasts, and the violin solo contributed by the younger brother is highly appreciated; Ray and Calden are paying a return visit; as also are Ford and Hanson, in a pleasing musical turn. Edie Tennis and Gertie Laune sing nicely; Charley Bowen, comedian, does well; and Miss Maude Vera sings and dances pleasingly. "Her First Pancake" and other pictures on the Hippograph cause roars of laughter.

LEAMINGTON. — Theatre Royal. — Lessees, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Manager, Mr. Harry Hunter.—Leamington playgoers are being provided with an exceptional treat this week in the form of pretty romantic costume plays, which are being given by Mr. H. F. Maltby and company. On the first three nights *The Youngest of Three* was presented, and met with hearty approval. Mr. H. F. Maltby played the part of George Wendover in a very able manner; whilst the character of his son, Gerald Wendover, was portrayed with much intelligence by Mr. Wyn Weaver; Miss Mara Maltby as Lucy Dulley was charming; whilst her elder sisters found competent representatives in Miss Janet-Hodson and Miss Grace Richardson; Mr. W. R. Favell was exceedingly good as Philip Radford; and an excellent character sketch was Mr. F. Stoney's Samuel Johns.

LEEDS.—Grand Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Edward Cadman.—Though seen here on very many previous occasions, *The Geisha* loses none of its popularity, and the presentation this week by Mr. F. Mouillot's company has been witnessed by full houses. Miss Louie Collier plays the part of O Mimosa San with rare charm and vivacity; Miss Fiorrie Saunders brings a fine presence and much vocal ability to the rôle of Molly; and Juliette is a clever effort by Miss Violet Kenyon. Mr. Cyril Thompson, with a good voice, generally scores well as Reginald Fairfax; Mr. Edward Carlton is vastly amusing as the irrepressible Wun-Hi; Mr. Lionel Braham presents the Marquis Imari in a style that leaves nothing to be desired; and Mr. J. Mansell Stringer is effective in the part of Captain Katana. For Friday evening *The Greek Slave* was announced.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—Mr. Sam Duckworth's company is responsible for a stirring presentation here of an interesting drama, *Her Nameless Child*. The central figure is that of Anthony Ford, the village blacksmith, and Mr. J. W. Evelyn's strong presentment of the part creates a deep impression. Some fine emotional acting is done by Miss Florence Hall in the character of Bessie Brookes; valuable assistance is rendered by Miss Grace Jones as Lady Woodville; and Mr. Herbert Evelyn and Mr. Ellersley Pine also do strenuous work in prominent parts. Mr. Fred Danvers finds plenty of scope for his comedy abilities in the rôle of Tom Rivers.

Empire.—Moss' Empires, Ltd; District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—That drollest of comedy purveyors, Wilkie Bard, again leads the Empire bill, and a flattering reception is accorded him nightly. Herbert Shelley himself plays all the five characters in a thrilling sketch, *Dan, the Outlaw*, and the performance arouses much enthusiasm. Sidney James's Strolling Players find a ready reception of their capital entertainments; Fred Elton hits the public taste with an attractive vocal scena; Speedwell's clever lightning sketches are a novel and interesting feature; and the magician Sylvesta contributes a mystifying entertainment. Daisy Mayer is a favourite with a clever coon speciality; Drew and Alders are doing a new act with success; charming Margaret Ashton has many admirers of her vocal abilities; and Jeannie Mackay, another vocalist of merit, completes an attractive programme.

Palace. — Managing-Director, Mr. Walter De Frece; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Bush.—A good house gathered on Monday in joyous anticipation of the appearance of popular Florrie Gallimore, but the famous comedienne was ill, and unable to answer to her number; an effective deputy was secured in Collinson's company, whose comedy sketch went with rare gusto. The Juggling Geraldos are exceedingly smart; John Le Hay is the principal actor in a dramatic sketch which makes a big impression; comedy acrobatics by Wild, Willie, and West prove uproarously funny; Harry Wenburn is smart and amusing; the Three Ettenas present their unique globe speciality with success; and Josie Delaine, in vocal scena; Maud Esmond, comedienne; and Mabel La Blanche are also popular.

Hippodrome. — Proprietor, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; General-Managers, Mr. Chas. Weldon and Mr. Claude Shayler.—The Great Roland, a clever illusionist, is the star of this week's bill, and his entertainment is truly mystifying. The Bros. Griffiths dispense broad comedy; the Meynotts are doing well in a similar line; Queenie May is a juvenile artist of ability; Elmo and Rego, with comedy acrobatics, are a strong line; the vocal contributions of Percy Hannan are received with favour; a novel musical act by Sylvo is much enjoyed; some good impersonations are given by Letine; Am

Forster's company appeared here in *The Officers' Mess*. Mr. Harry Emeric as Thomas Rugg contributes largely to the success; Miss Nellie Sheffield as Rose Smith is excellent, her singing and dancing evoking loud applause; Mr. L. Cadwaladr as Major-General Sir Adalbert de Beaune is well placed; as also is Mr. George Ellis (Captain the Hon. Claude Melville). Sybil Carruthers is in the capable hands of Miss Edith Harmer, her winsome manner and sweet voice being much admired; Mr. Charles D. Cleveland as Antonio Wilkins is all that can be desired; Miss Marcella Hudson (Timothy Tiptop), Miss Clara Nicholls (Lady Constantia), and Mr. Harry Victor (Rienzi Poorpoori), complete a good cast.

PIER PAVILION.—Secretary, Mr. Samuel Hughes.—The grand orchestra, under the conductorship of Mr. Walter Haigh, has commenced for the season, the vocalist for this week being Miss Ida Kahn.

LOUGHBOROUGH.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Payne-Seddon and George Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lindsey Edwards.—Messrs. Travis Green and Arthur Hinton's company in *A Soldier of France* is the attraction here this week. Mr. Hinton undertakes two parts, both of which are admirably played; Mr. Travis Green in the rôle of Judas Belaras, and afterwards as Count D'Laban, is seen to great advantage; Mr. Victor Millard in a double part is also excellent; as the Duke D'Laval, Mr. Arthur Lowery gives a fine performance; Miss Leila Zillwood as Pauline Lorraine submits a refined rendering; and Miss Lydia Audre is good as Rita. Other parts are capably played by Miss Jennie Clare as Margot, Mr. Wilson Drury as Pollyput Jollyboy, and Miss Dolly Turner as Master Louis Lorraine.

LOWESTOFT.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. George Gilbert; Manager, Mr. Frank Freeland.—This week the Chronophone, that was exhibited at Buckingham Palace, by Royal Command, on the 4th inst., is a powerful attraction here; and, in addition, there are a number of excellent films, and an exceptionally strong variety company, including the Cumberland Family of athletic, acrobatic cyclists; J. H. Crew is immensely popular; as are Wisper, the cimic juggler, and Miss Beattie Bloom.

MARINA.—Managing-Director, Mr. E. A. Smith.—Miss Winifred Chalmers's company is paying a first visit here, with the drama *The Master Criminal*. In the title-rôle Mr. Henry L. Osmond presents a clever study, and acts throughout in a most accomplished manner; a capital performance of Philip Manners is given by Mr. Harold C. Macartney; Messrs. J. C. Carlyle (Ben Beandy) and E. Noble (Gentleman Jim) are both suitably placed; and Mr. H. Cooke submits an amusing sketch as Tommy Dala. Miss Winifred Chalmers is highly successful as Cecile, and praiseworthy are the Messrs. Kate Somerville (Mable Manners), Mabel Tremere (Peggy Perks), and little Miss Lizzie Power (Winifred Manners).

LUTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. Graham Falcon; Manager, Mr. Louis J. Beard.—Mr. Chas. Macdona's No. 1 company, in *The Gay Parisienne* is delighting Luton playgoers here. Amongst the performers must be mentioned specially the Imperial Glee Singers, Mr. Cecil Lawrence in a whistling medley, Miss Lilian Talbot as Julie Bon Bon, Miss Madge Souttar as Ruth, Miss Holford Beringer as Mrs. Honeycambe, and Mr. Harman as Mr. Honeycombe.

MACCLESFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Gatley.—A crowded house welcomed Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company on Monday in *The Silver King*. Mr. Horace B. Herbert played the part of Wilfred Denver with excellent effect; Miss Florence Radcliffe acted with quiet pathos as Nellie Denver; Mr. Seton Bernard was well placed as Daniel Jaikes; Mr. Paul Becket gave dramatic force to the part of Captain Skinner; Mr. Ralph Leo as Henry Corket, Mr. William Dempsey as Eiljah Coombe and Mr. William Allison as Cripps contribute in no small measure to the success of the play. Miss Dorothea Black ably filled the part of Olive Skinner; Miss Dorothy Love as Cissie and little Josephine Mackintosh as Ned were very neat; whilst Mr. Laurie Hunter as Geoffrey Ware and Mr. Alex. Begbie as Samuel Baxter lent able support.

MANCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmondstone Shirra.—A second week of the Royal Carl Rosa Opera Company opened here with a delightful rendering of *Carmen*, Miss Doris Woodall in the title-rôle, Mr. Edward Davies as José, and Mr. Charles Victor as Escamillo. A big house applauded, and the event was noteworthy as a brilliant reproduction at a cost of over £1,000. On Tuesday *Fidelio* was performed in fine style, and with a superb cast, including Mme. Lucille Hill and Mr. Julius Walther. Further opportunities occurred to other distinguished members of the company during the week, in *Rigoletto*, *Il Trovatore*, *Don Giovanni*, *Tannhäuser*, and *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, and the fortnight's visit has proved highly popular and successful.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, LTD.—Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—The second week of *Tom Jones* has been attended with convincing proof, in the shape of huge audiences and enthusiastic applause, that Mr. Courtneidge's production has come to stay. It is a long time since so signal a success was achieved in Manchester.

GAIETY THEATRE, LTD.—Acting-Manager, Mr. H. M. Thorburn.—The performance of *San Toy* here this week, by Mr. John Hart's company, has delighted big houses nightly. A good cast is headed by Miss Gertrude Gilliam, who plays the title-rôle charmingly, and Mr. Horace Mills, who repeats his old-time success in the part of Li. Mr. Frederick Hobbs gives a capital rendering of Fo-Hop; Mr. Colin Coop is seen once more as Yen-How; Mr. W. J. Mannings as Sir Bingo Preston is another old favourite; Mr. Edmund Sherras is quite satisfactory as Bobby Preston; and as Lieut. Harvey Tucker, Mr. Alfred Majilton acts and sings well. Among the ladies, Miss Sylvia May as Poppy is notable; and on Monday Miss Olive Crellin was successful as Dudley, the maid, a part which should have been played by Miss Lulu Valli, who unfortunately sprained her ankle. The piece is brilliantly staged.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Mr. T. Edward Ward's company, in *Second to None* (produced last week in Manchester), is delighting good audiences here with their smooth and effective rendering of Mr. Walter Howard's successful play.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead. — Messrs. John B. Shinton and Alexander Greenwood's company is here in the Russian drama, *The Price of Her Soul*. The piece is interesting and exciting. Mr. John B. Shinton acts splendidly the part of Lord Rolfe Mandeville; Miss Ada M. Ryder is very good as Countess Inez; Mr. Archie Gear gives a capital impersonation of General Lanovitz; and Mr. Arthur Pringle renders Major Skoboloff with satisfactory results. Miss Maude Yorke gives a clever delineation of Olga Lanovitz; and others worthy of praise are Mr. George Marriott, jun., Mr. Maurice Le Sage, Mr. Reginald Taylor, Mr. Larry Clements, and Miss Ethel Rainforth, the two latter providing humorous relief.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. R. Flanagan; Manager, Mr. P. Ryan Smith.—Messrs. Power and Kirby's company is here this week in *Man's Enemy*, a strong and entertaining drama. Prominent parts are notably well handled by Miss Clara Reid as Polly Harris and Mr. John Power as Tom Drake; while rôles essential to the story are in the safe hands of Mr. Norman A. Overton, Miss May Grayce, and Miss Constance Medwyn. The long cast is, however, entirely capable, and the performance as a whole goes briskly and well.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Messrs. Fred J. Little and Fred Darcy's company is appearing here this week in the successful domestic play, *The Shadow of a Crime*. Mr. William Matthews as Jim Murdock has a capital part, and plays it well; and equally good is Miss Nellie Howitt in the corresponding rôle of Loyale Norman. Mr. Hugh Mewburn gives a strong sketch of the villainous Ralph Esmond; Mr. J. B. Murray is good as Sir Edward Bullington; Mr. W. Ruddle-Brown scores distinctly as Harry Bullington; Miss Bertha St. Ruth makes a satisfactory Sarah; and excellent comedy is provided by Mr. Fred J. Little, Mr. Sidney T. Russell, and Miss Nita Langford.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—Clive Darrell, the jilted giant, and an interesting example of abnormal growth, is "walking round" here this week; another star turn is provided by the Robertys, exceedingly clever juvenile whirlwind dancers; while other good business is forthcoming from Alice May and company, in *Tranquillity*, a clever sketch; Tom Lally, a fine bass vocalist; the Merrions, entertainers; Denton and Rowland's company of Punch and Judy Girls, a very smart combination of juveniles; the Huxter Brothers, a wonderful somersault-throwing trio; May Glenn and Leonard Griffiths, in a well-sung operatic duologue; and Bert Harron, a brisk comedian. The Bioscope is as good as usual.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—That beautiful spectacular production, *The Treasure Ship in Fairy Seas*, remains the chief attraction here another week; another big turn, which is extremely funny, is Henry Cadle's company of comedians, in *The Casey Circus*; dainty Mabel Green, of *Little Michus* fame, sings her songs in her usual pleasing style; Hall and Earle, comedy acrobats, are heartily received; and Blanche Vincent is a smart comedienne. Enjoyable items are also those of Frank Couch, whose patter is good; and Grahame, the human marionette. A novel turn is submitted by the famous billiardist, Tom Reece, in an exposition of difficult "shots"; and the programme is further strengthened by the inclusion of a "Nautical Overture" (Haines), by the choir and orchestra; and an illustrated song, rendered in fine style by Mr. Thos. Grundy.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter de Frece; Secretary, Mr. Peter Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry. — John Tiller's company in *High Jinks* forms one of the principal attractions here this week; and another is Irma Lorraine, who poses in a series of beautiful tableaux vivants. Excellent turns are added by Mlle. Renee, instrumentalist; Johnson and Pelham, comedy artists; the Five Casino Girls, instrumentalists; Les Trombettas, in their protean pot-pourri; the Max Milan Trio of equilibrists; and Chas. J. Johnson, the "Black Diamond." The Palace pictures portray the latest events.

KING'S, LONGSIGHT.—Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead. — An excellent programme here this week comorises Harry Daniels and company, in *Rent*, a comic and elaborate sketch; the Woodwards, in their marvellous cycle act; Doris Myddleton, a clever mimic; Bob Best, eccentric comedian; Macdonald and Huntington, American duo; Alf. Davies, actor-vocalist; the Jollions, harmonising vocalists; Herbert Bates, the silver-voiced tenor; Lila Lingard, a talented male impersonator; and Cleland, in a smart comic act.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son.—"Venus," Lord Leighton's model, introduced by Mr. L. Austin-Millais, is the attraction here this week, her artistic poses being greatly admired by large audiences; *The Galley Slave*, a powerful and interesting sketch, is presented by Howell Webb and company, with great dramatic force; and very entertaining are Windermere and Manifield, in a comedy duologue, *A Narrow Squeak*. Emma Don and her black and white comedy team, are good singers and dancers; H. Nelson, comedian, has some good patter; the Three Behans are well received; Sidney Lee is a smart conjurer; J. H. Dundas, actor-vocalist, is clever; Greener, the pit lad, has a good reception; and Eustace and Eyre provide a smart ventriloquial turn.

TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Millie Lindon remains here another week, and charms with her new song-scena, "My girl in the picture-frame," and other songs; the Great Weiland, assisted by Mlle. Carlotta, is a wonderfully clever juggler; and the Elvio Comedy Team are exceedingly funny in a sketch, entitled *Those Troublesome Slaveys*. Vere and Royal are capital vocal comedy artists; the dancing absurdity of Will and Alice Vokes is clever and amusing; and Tom Yorke is a good coster comedian. Other successful turns are contributed by Edith St. Clare, burlesque artist; Tray and Rich, comedians; and Irene Meldon, comedienne and dancer. Raymond's Vivagraph, good, as usual, completes an enjoyable programme.

HIPPODROME (HULME).—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son. — The Nelson Newsboys' Quintette, who head the bill here this week, sing very sweetly; the figures introduced in the miniature circus by the Sisters Petram are manipulated in a wonderfully life-like manner; Halma is a smart juggler; Leo Trainor, vocal comedian, Marie Blythe, contralto, and Charles Santon, male soprano, each provides a good turn, and is well received; Les Zelovas go through a clever acrobatic performance; Gilroy and Gross are expert sand-dancers; Little Dando is an amusing comedian; and the Musical Keiths are good. "The Haunted Hotel" is a screamingly funny film shown on the Bioscope.

GRAND.—Jasper Redfern's pictures, with vaudeville interludes, still provide an attractive entertainment here.

MANSFIELD. — HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Herbert Darnley; Resident-Director, Mr. Tom Jennings; Acting-Manager, Mr. Mark Lorne.—During this week Mr. W. Graham Arthur's company have been presenting the drama, *When a Man Hates*, to good houses. In the rôle of Danelli, Mr. W. Graham Arthur plays excellently; as Laurence Hastings, Mr. Arthur Jarvis is well placed; Mr. Ernest Turner gives a capable interpretation of the part of Peter Pimple; and Mr. George P. Pleons is a shrewd detective. Miss Mabel Leston admirably impersonates Letty the "white angel"; and Miss Jennie Hallworth is quite at home in the part of Dolly Dimple; as Olga Gwynne, Miss Maud Burleigh is very successful; and Mr. Herbert M. King as the half-witted Paul is excellent. All the other parts are admirably sustained, and the staging is praiseworthy.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, Mansfield, Sutton, and District Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Captain Cecil Clayton.—On Thursday the Mansfield Amateur Operatic Society produced *The Pirates of Penzance* for the benefit of the Mansfield and District Nursing Association.

MARGATE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Edward Michael; Business Manager, Mr. A. Austin-Leigh. — The stock company has made a welcome return this week, and has been playing successfully the amusing piece *Our Flat*. In the rôle of Reginald Sylvester Mr. Robert Grey plays in a humorous manner, and obtains able support from Mr. Wallis Clark, as Clarence Vane. Mr. A. Austin-Leigh, as Nathaniel Glover, the theatrical manager, together with Miss Emmie O'Reilly, as Bella, the general servant, provide a great deal of the fun; Mr. H. G. Mason is quite at home as Mr. MacCullam, and Mr. Richard Trieve is capable as Stout; Miss May Saker, a new member of the company, has quickly become popular with the audiences, and her playing of Margery Sylvester has given every satisfaction; Miss Mabel Archdall sustains with vigorous emphasis the rôle of the Bond-street modiste, Mme. Volant, and Miss A. Mercandalli is good as Lucy MacCullum; Miss Belle Travers plays briskly as Clara Pryout.

HIPPODROME. — Sole Proprietors, Messrs. F Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtree.—In this week's variety programme are Raynor and Reece, who, as a comedy duo, are much appreciated; Henri Bekker is, as an exponent of sleight-of-hand, particularly good; Beattie Kent, comedienne, is a dainty dancer as well as a pleasing vocalist, and Lily Flexmore also shows marked skill as a contortionist and speciality dancer; Tom Collins, comedian, is exceptionally good; Theo. Hardeen, the handcuff king, proves a decided attraction. The pictures this week are very amusing.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Albert Jackson.—Mr. Lionel Vaughan's company tops the bill here in the comedy sketch, *In Trouble*; Otto and Olga are exceedingly clever; Lindon's Vaudeville entertainers are highly divering in a musical mélange, *Monks at Play*; Mark Henton is a quaint comedian; Jolly Crissie Cross is very popular; Edouards and Dacre afford amusement in their comedy duologue, "What a Life"; and Harry Clifford is an excellent comedian. The Bioscope pictures are up to date.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. H. Melton.—Mr. Chas. Morritt opened here on Monday night, when, in addition to placing a man in the hypnotic state for a week, he also operated on local subjects with amusing results. As an illusionist, Mr. Morritt is in the front rank, and his work in this direction won him loud applause. Supporting him are the Blind Man of Memory, Mme. Beulah, fitly described as the marvel of mental telepathy; Blanche and Diacoff, on their great cycle whizz; Boy Sampson, youthful athlete; Magna, the mysterious suspended lady; Hines, coloured speciality artist; Flemine, a clever hand balancer; and a fine series of animated pictures.

MIDDLESBROUGH. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Charles Imeson.—*The Woman who Gambles* is being played here for the first time in Middlesbrough this week. It is presented by Mr. Horton Powell's company. Miss Louisa Peach appears in the title-rôle, and gives a natural and womanly rendering of a difficult part; as Count Steinbach Mr. Alex. Alexander plays with an artistic restraint which is always effective, and Miss Florence Hulton infuses much sweetness into the character of Cora Gouldhart; Mr. Horatio Sinclair does full justice to the part of Baron Cratzlaw and Miss Lily Malvern is pleasing as Stella Melakoff; Miss Violet Wilson is good as Mlle. Zeyelda, and Lieut. Cizarteriski finds an able representative in Mr. Reginald Fox; Miss Brenda May is effective in the rôle of Zaneta, and Mr. Alfred Richards as Hon. Bray, Mr. James Welch as Paul Slivanovitch, Mr. Ernest Clarke as M. Stamboloff are all that can be desired.

OPERA HOUSE. — Proprietors, The Middlesbrough Grand Opera House Co., Ltd.; Manager and Licensee, Mr. W. Ker Chatto.—Mr. A. Clifton Alderson's company occupies the boards here this week with the play *Held Apart*. Mr. H. K. Ayliff as James Douglas and Miss Ruby Loueraine as Sybil Grey are the two principals, and much of the success achieved is due to their exertions; Miss Ethyle Murray acts with considerable force as Countess de Castre, and Mr. Leonard Lawrence acts with great distinction as John Douglas; Miss Winifred Love is charming as Lady Grant, and for the part of Hugh Trevor a clever representative is found in Mr. E. G. Batley; Miss Gertrude Homewood is pleasing as Lily Stark, and Mr. A. W. Norman does full justice to the part of Captain Ford.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Brill; Manager, Mr. Charles G. Kembyes.—Mme. Irma Glasen's living art bronzes provide the star turn here this week; Damewell Rutland and company create roars of laughter in their comical caper entitled *House Full*, and Harry Thorpe and Zoe Coe score a great success in their comedy episode, *My Burglar*; Conway and Garland do well in their absurdity, *Left in Charge*; and Charles Russell pleases in his latest song scena, "It's a wonder what music will do"; the Sisters Stratton, duettists and dancers; Fred Lincoln, comedian; and Nellie Chandos, comedienne and dancer, also add attractive items to a capital programme.

OXFORD PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Alf. Graham; Manager, Mr. R. L. Griffiths.—Arthur Lennard, a great favourite with the Tees-siders, pays a welcome return visit here this week, and his sympathetic rendering of "Skylark" and "Mother" wins for him complete success; Harwood's Juveniles score in a series of pretty songs and dances, and Harry Levaine is a quaint comedian; Selby and Myers provide a clever dancing turn, and Lizzie Fletcher, comedienne, pleases. Other turns are provided by Betsy Baker, serio, and Odeyne Spark.

MOTHERWELL. — NEW CENTURY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percy Hart.—Mr. Robert Perris's company commenced on Monday a three nights' engagement in the sensational American melodrama, *A Fight for Millions*. Mr. Alec Grant gave a good delineation of the scoundrel Richard Dudley; Mr. William Mackready was a manly hero; Miss Winifred Symons a charming Pearl Rivers; and Miss Elma C. Turner a sympathetic Helen Dudley. Fred Karno's *Mumming Birds* came on Thursday.

NELSON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietress, Mrs. T. Greenwood Croft; Business-Manager, Mr. Geo. E. Mudd.—Mr. E. Lockwood and Mr. R. Crossman's company has made its first appearance here this week in the musical comedy, *Sergeant Brue*, and crowded houses have each night witnessed a capital performance. The title-rôle is filled by Mr. E. Russell in an eminently satisfactory manner; whilst as Crookie Scrubbs, Mr. T. A. Shale keeps the audience in constant merriment. His facial expressions and acting generally are particularly worthy of note, whilst he does justice to the musical portion of his work. Mr. Tom Shelford as Michael Brue adds greatly to the dash and swing of the performance; Miss Mabel Keith makes a charming Aurora Brue; Miss Edith Housley can be credited with good accomplishment in the rôle of Lady Bickenhall; and the part of Daisy, the servant, is in the capable hands of Miss Constance Berkley. As Mr. Crank, the magistrate, Mr. Henry Chichester is well received.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—The musical play *The Lady Dandies* occupies the boards here for the first time. Miss Anna Hickish sings with entire acceptance as La Merveilleuse, and Miss Deborah Volar proves a good exponent of the rôle of Illyrine; much of the success of the piece rests on an able interpretation of the part of Dorlie, and in better hands than Mr. W. Talleur Andrews' it could not well be placed, his singing being a distinct success; very funny is Mr. Eric Thorne, a great Newcastle favourite, as the Prefect of Police; and splendid support is given him by a sound comedian in Mr. Lennox Pawle, Mr. Robert Hale, Mr. Jack Cannot, and Mr. Willie Ward, jun.

TYNE THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessees, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe.—The bright and amusing musical comedy *Sergeant Brue* is paying a welcome visit to the Tyne Theatre this week, the company being Mr. Robert Crossman's. Capital comedy is contributed by Mr. Arthur Reynolds as the Sergeant and Mr. Clarence Ibbetson as the ticket-of-leave man; Miss Cissie Raymond figures smartly in the part of Lady Bickenhall; Miss Mary Hay is a pleasingly vivacious Aurora Brue; while Mr. J. H. Goldsworthy is seen and heard to great advantage as the Sergeant's son. To her song of "Instinct" Miss Raymond adds a smart verse on "The Suffragettes"; and amongst the most appreciated items is the well-known number "Under a Panama," as rendered by Miss Hay.

GRAND THEATRE.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon.—*The Coal King*, a most interesting drama, is presented here this week by Messrs. G. M. Polini and L. Maitland's company. A well-balanced company includes Mr. Lauderdale Maitland, Mr. Chas. Whitlock, Mr. Escott Robson, Mr. Frank Dalton, Mr. Alfred Terris, Mr. Fabian Lock, Miss Gertrude Valentine, Miss Enid Ross, Miss Sinna St. Clair, and Miss Eveline North.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. Richard Thornton.—Mr. Mike S. Whallen occupies a prominent position on the programme here this week. The Egbert Brothers made a decided hit in their amusing sketch, *The Happy Dustman*, and Miss Nellie Coleman, "the only lady comedian," renders character songs in capital style; the Delevines, in a mélange, *Flipp and Flopp*, score a well-merited success, and Sinclair and Whiteford contribute an interesting duologue, "Getting Even"; a clever juvenile comedian and dancer is Nipper Lupino Lane, and the Lupino Brothers are responsible for a capital comedy speciality act; Miss Fanny Erris, comedienne, and Dome, comedy clay modeller, are also worthy members of the company. The Bioscope depicts many of the chief incidents of the England and Scotland Association match played at Newcastle last Saturday.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Acting Manager, Mr. Will H. Boardman—Coram, a capital ventriloquist, gives one of the leading turns in a good all-round entertainment at the Pavilion Theatre this week; Kronan's Boys in Blue provide a picturesque military spectacle, and Mr. Edwin Boyde's humorous and well-rendered songs prove as popular as ever; Walker and May, coloured comedians and dancers, provide first-class amusement, and Blake and Granby contribute a mirth-provoking sketch entitled *The Man in Possession*. Others in the programme are Arthur Royce, Robbie Roy, Dale and O'Malley, Miss Nell Emerald, and Geo. Barron.

NEWPORT.—LYCEUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sidney Cooper.—Mr. Wm. Mollison and Co. are here, and on Monday *Macbeth* was presented. Mr. Mollison's Macbeth was a great interpretation, perfect in elocution, and wanting in nothing to make the character ideal. Miss Evelyn McKay's Lady Macbeth was full of fine touches, marked by fire and scorn and overmastering ambition, and later, at the banquet scene, she was queenly and womanly. Other parts are in good hands, and the tragedy was well dressed and mounted. *The Merchant of Venice*, *Richard III.*, *Beside the Bonnie Briar Bush*, and *As You Like It* are included in the week's bill.

EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Major Gallaghar; Assistant, Mr. Page.—Mr. Fred Storey and Co. present a version of *Rip Van Winkle*, and all through the audience showed its appreciation of the charming sketch; Carlos Minard is a violinist of a high order; Arthur Gill, "the Original Yokel," gave a pleasing musical turn; and J. W. Rickaby, who sang some good burlesque songs, was a prime favourite. Ruby Dahl, with the "Merry Manikins," gave a clever and amusing performance; the Renard Trio evoked hearty applause with their acrobatic feats; and Clarke and Glenny, in *The Haunted House*, caused much amusement. In conjunction with Gaumont's Chronophone there were some amusing pictures shown on the Bioscope.

NORTHAMPTON.—OPERA HOUSE. — Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Seddon.—Mr. Ian Maclaren is paying us a first visit in a round of Shakespearean plays, commencing on Monday with *Hamlet*, in which he was highly successful in the title-rôle, giving a clear and consistent rendering of the part. Miss Katherine Harrington was sweetly charming as Ophelia, and Mr. W. S. Hartford lent valuable support as Claudius. On Tuesday *The Merchant of Venice* was played. *Othello*, *Twelfth Night*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *As You Like It*, and *Macbeth* are also in the répetoire.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thos. A. Evans.—A good, all-round show is being presented here. Mlle. De Rose, contralto, is a great favourite; Mabel Mavis, with glassophone solos, gains great favour; the Yansons give a smart display of trapeze feats; the Kurios produce a mixture of pantomime and mystery; Arthur Aiston and Co. appear successfully in a comic sketch, *Duck Hunting*; J. H. Hawtry, actor-vocalist, sings with good effect; Lily Hales pleases as a comedian and dancer; Harry Desmond is a character comedian of ability; and C. Vincent completes a good programme.

NORTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—A short variety season was commenced here on Monday, when large audiences assembled. The programme is headed by Mr. Charlie Green, champion heavy-weight wrestler, who met with appreciation; Mr. Fred Ramsdale's musical comedy company in *The Squire's Daughter* had a hearty reception; the Sauteron Wonders, in their jumping act, made a great hit; Miss Nellie Nora, instrumentalist, was loudly applauded; and Mr. Frank Senior, descriptive vocalist; Miss Louie Desmond, vocalist; Mr. Joe Marsden, Mr. Billy Bretton, and Mr. H. Stanley Howard, comedians; Miss Jessie Thorne, comedy artist; and Mr. Bob Campbell, comedian and one-legged dancer, appeared successfully.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—A good bill of fare is attracting capital houses here. The Four Andys present an amusing pantomimical sketch, which is much enjoyed; and Messrs. Hall and Wilson in their cycling act are heartily received. Prince Ismael and Mme. Valeria, magicians and illusionists, are very smart; Messrs. Doyle and Gibson, comedians, are great favourites; Mr. Bert Fisher, swell comic, is popular; and Miss Lillian, vocalist; Mr. Alex. Robson, clog danger; and the Bio-photoscope also meet with favour.

NORWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan.—A powerful company under the direction of Mr. Haldane Crighton in *A Soldier of Fortune* is here this week. Lieut. Rupert Clive is portrayed by Mr. Godfrey Tearle in a masterly manner; Mr. Baliol Holloway as Sir Stephen Cunningham is very good; Mr. Alfred Gray is successful as the Earl of Annandale; whilst Mr. William Lowe is good as Dr. Thorn; Mr. Edmond T. Sayers is a humorous Boniface; and Mr. Charles C. Ommaney deserves mention as the Roundhead Captain. Miss Molly Malone as Lady Phyllis is very pleasing; Miss Violet Barnett is good as Grace; and Miss Ethel Matthews as Mistress Culegir is well received.

NOTTINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robt. Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—The Moody-Manners Opera Company opened here on Monday with *Faust*. Mme. De Vere-Sapio made a delightfully girlish Marguerite; Mr. Wilson Pembroke portrayed Faust, vocalising with skill and spirit; the Mephistopheles of Mr. Charles Manners was as refined and artistic as ever; Mr. Lewys James used his voice with excellent effect as Valentine; Miss Mildred Bryan was an acceptable Siebel; and Miss Baker capitally interpreted Martha. *Romeo and Juliet*, *Tannhäuser*, *Merry Wives of Windsor*, *Aida*, and *Carmen* are also in the répertoire of the week.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Charles P. Cooke.—Miss Adria Hill and Mr. Robt. Ayrton, with their company, present *A Gambler's Daughter*. Mr. Robert Ayrton is convincing as Desmond O'Dare; Miss Adria Hill works unceasingly in the double rôle of the Grants; Mr. Richard Pitt makes a typical gambler; Mr. Alfred Sanders and Mr. Fienner are admirable conspirators; and Mr. Herbert de Ville easily assumes the air of an American capitalist. Miss Lizzie Gordon and Miss K. Dempsey respectively do well as a Spaniard and a Chinese. Very villainous looks Mr. H. Barham as the Weasel; and very hard-working is Mr. Edward Hobart as Tom Brand.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Bowmaker.—Horace Goldin, the arch-illusionist, assisted by Jean Fransiolli, pays a return visit, and is as successful as ever; Charles Norton is a mimic of the highest order; *Outflanked*, given by Henry Coutts and Co., has a decided touch of novelty; the Hadj-abdullah Arabs cannot surely be excelled as human-pyramid builders; the Three Cape Girls are smart; Brayne and Lloyd make a welcome re-appearance in their successful sketch, *The Tree of Truth*; and Harry Bedford is always popular. Lola Patey is a smart comedienne; and Frank H. Fox and the usual Bioscope pictures complete the programme.

NUNEATON.—PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE AND ENTERTAINMENTS CO., LTD.—Managing Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter J. R. Bryan.—Mr. Fred J. Webb's company occupies the boards here this week with *The Hour of Her Triumph*. Miss Barbara Gott plays with considerable effect as Rose Denton; Mr. F. J. Webb gives an excellent portrayal of Eugene Harbery; Miss M. Danvers Smith, as Nellie Clavering, is well placed; Miss Mamie Stanton is a charming Linda Denton; Mr. Clifton Frank makes a capital hero as Jack Vernon; Miss Lalah Price, in the double rôles of Sal Soaker and Martha Jinks, is deserving of praise; Mr. Leslie Hawkins plays well as Harold Clavering; deserving of mention are Mr. Louis Norton (Ben Brodie), Mr. Jas. Stuart (Roscais Montmorency), and Miss Hetty Gale.

OLDHAM.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—Mr. Chas. F. Cooke's company is here in *The Trumpet Call*. Mr. Frank Fielden as Cuthbert Cuthbertson fits the part excellently; Miss Helena Millais shows great talent as Constance; and Miss Doris Gilham, in the part of Astrea, is excellent. Mr. C. F. Cooke, as Sergeant-Major Milligan, is in the right place; and Mr. Walter Manfree, as Professor Ginnifer, and Miss May Foster as Lavinia were very amusing. Mr. Freddie Bentley provides excellent comedy as Tommy Dutton; Mr. John Dennys is good as Richard Featherstone; Mr. J. Betterton is a fine Sir William Barton; Mr. G. Hastings scores as Col. Engleheart; Mr. W. G. Blunt does well as James Redruth; and Mr. J. B. Glover is a praiseworthy Capt. Sparkes. Miss Amy Wood is a success as Mrs. Wicklow; and Little Ethel Glyde deserves mention as Cuthbert.

COLOSSEUM THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. Eastwood.—Mr. Frank E. Burdett's company, in *The Indian Mutiny*, is here this week. Mr. E. M. Hamilton as Lieut. Manley plays in a forcible manner, and he is well supported by Mr. Cyril Harrison as Capt. Manley; Major Ingleby is ably played by Mr. J. Davidson; Mr. Villiers Stanley is a capital Nebu Singh; and Mr. George Belmont scores as Abul Khan. Mr. E. Keand in the part of Ra Goonga does some excellent work; Terry O'Brien is very amusing, as played by Mr. Cecil Morand. Miss F. Melrose Millett as Ghuz-nah is praiseworthy; and Miss Lillie Grey plays the martinet, Mrs. Ingleby, to the life. Miss Agnes Kingston is a good Kate Ingleby.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. Howgate.—Techernoff's well-trained ponies and dogs give a clever performance; the Smart Set are capital vocal entertainers; Mr. and Mrs. Edward Lucas, in scenes from Dickens, were excellent; Sanford and Lyons, comedians and dancers, caused roars of laughter; and the Brothers Maningo give a marvellous acrobatic and equilibristic display. The Silver Tone Quartette have had a capital reception for their well-rendered songs; Irene Rose, comedienne, and Blanche and Powell, in their high-class drawing-room entertainment, also appear; and the Royal Dottoscope shows interesting pictures.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. Nuttall.—Albert Wyndham and Co., in a well-acted dramatic episode, *Prince Arthur*, in which Misses Pateman and Foster and Messrs. Gilbey and Witley appear with success, top the bill; Clarke's Nippers, in ball-punching and club-swinging, provide a capital turn; Starr and Jerome are capital vocalists and sand dancers; and Miss Ida Ross is a charming Tyrolean vocalist and comedienne. The Ringling Trio cause much amusement in their absurdity, *The Manager's Lunch*; J. H. Wakefield is an ideal coon; and Auto, comedy instrumentalist, and the Dottoscope complete the bill.

OXFORD. — EAST OXFORD THEATRE.—Lessees, Winifred Stuart and C. Watson Mill; Manager, Mr. Frank Stuart.—Mr. Alfred B. Cross's company is appearing here with *The Manzman*. The success of the piece is chiefly due to the able and natural performance of Mr. Alfred B. Cross as Pete, his every word and action having its due effect. Mr. Sydney C. Kearns interprets Philip Christian with commendable effect; as Cæsar Cregeen, Mr. Frank Etheridge makes the most of his opportunities; and Mr. Maurice Yorke does well as Ross Christian; Mr. F. Lynton and Mr. E. C. Howitt are successes as Prof. Mawley and Monty Missit. Miss Hazel Dent is satisfactory as Miss Christian; Miss Nellie Freeland is full of life as Nancy; and Miss Minnie Waterford proves herself possessed of considerable histrionic power as Kate Cregeen.

TOWN HALL.—Poole's Myriorama is proving an attraction here this week.

PAISLEY.—PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile. — *Florodora* is being presented here this week by Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company. Mr. Alf E. Passmore acts the chief part, Anthony Tweedlepunch, in a capable and amusing

soprano; Mark Anthony, quaint comedian; Miss Nellie Dunbar, vocalist and dancer; Geo. Casey, funny comedian and dancer; and Jock McNab, in the farcical comedy *Egyptian Mummy*, which elicits unrestrained mirth.

PLYMOUTH. — Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—Mr. Leonard Boyne's company, which is presenting *Raffles* for the first time at Plymouth, is meeting with a singularly warm reception. Mr. Boyne gives a most interesting representation of the gentleman burglar, his distinguished demeanour in the first character standing out in bold contrast to the rough-and-ready methods adopted in the second. Mr. Lewis Edgard as Bunny furnishes a striking study; Mr. Edmund Breon makes a characteristic Viscount Crowley; Mr. Arthur Willoughby is dignified and aristocratic as the Earl of Amersteth; and Mr. Dalziel Heron is an ideal burglar of the typical hooligan class. Miss Elaine Inescourt is a striking and bold adventuress; Miss Jean Morrison is a womanly and sympathetic Gwendoline Conran; Miss Jean Harkness an effective French maid, and Miss Jane Savile a girlish Lady Ethel. The play is preceded by an attractive curtain-raiser entitled *A Lesson in Shakespeare*.

Grand Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. C. F. Williams; Manager, Mr. Percy Williams; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest Grant.—*The Fatal Wedding*, having done such good business during the Easter week, has been re-engaged.

Palace of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—The Cole de Loss Duo furnish one of the cleverest pieces of slack wire business seen at the Palace for a long time past; Herbert Lloyd is amusing in his skit on a millionaire; Bliss and Bliss have plenty of new business and patter, which they intermingle with clever dancing; the New York Nippers are an accomplished sextette; Nellie Martell is an attractive dancer; and Marie Collins and Will Souls complete an attractive programme.

PONTYPRIDD.—Royal Clarence Theatre.—Owners and Proprietors, Mrs. Trenchard and Miss L. Jones; Manager, Mr. Charles Trenchard.—On Monday the attraction was Mr. Edward Morris's company in *Somebody's Sweetheart*. — Stanton Ashley was ably portrayed by Mr. Cecil Parke; Mr. Percy Maitland made a clever Stephen Leverton; Mr. George Bentwood was good as Martin Blabbs; Mr. Frank Gala showed to advantage as Old Joe; Miss Masie Jerrard was an excellent Zora; Miss Effie Vincent a charming Lulu; Miss Dora Hargreaves shone as Miss Ainsley; and Miss Dolly Payne and Miss Rosie Chandler danced prettily.

PORTH. — The Palace (late Opera House). — General-Manager, Mr. C. W. Poole; Acting and Stage Manager, Mr. Walter Bynorth.—The programme submitted to the Palace patrons this week is a most enjoyable one, and on Monday evening there were excellent houses at both performances. The Woellhaffs, in a comedy act, are entertaining; the Three Zaracs, in a comedy sketch on the triple bars, afford much genuine amusement; Evelyn Taylor, "the girl with a style of her own," is well received; Vasey and Ramsey, in eccentric comedy dancing, captivate the audience; the Ladderites, in their marvellous and incomparable ladder act, are undoubtedly clever; Williams and Warden, the Irish comedians, keep the audience in continuous roars of laughter with their queer sayings; M. Biggs is a smart impersonator; Marie Beresford, musical comedy artist, is very popular; and some new and interesting films are shown on the Palace Electric Bioscope.

PORTSMOUTH.—Prince's Theatre.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate.—*East Lynne* is played here this week by Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company. Archibald Carlyle is taken by Mr. Alfred Beaumont with great distinction; Mr. Frederick Harker is most able as Francis Levison, "Captain Thorn"; Mr. Harry C. Rutland is forcible as Richard Hare; Justice Hare is successfully played by Mr. C. C. Grattan; Barbara Hare is capitally impersonated by Miss Ethel Savill; the faithful Joyce is portrayed by Miss Jessie Sydney with ability; Miss Jessie Bayes takes the part of Little Willie with commendable intelligence; and Miss Julie Kennard, in the dual rôles of Lady Isabel and Madame Vine, gives an artistic and well-balanced performance.

Theatre Royal. — Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell. — Mr. F. Mouillot's company is here this week with *The Girl Behind the Counter*. Mr. Arthur Cartwright plays Charles Chetwyn with vigor and earnestness; Mr. Ellis Holland as General Willoughby was quaintly amusing, and won much favour; Mr. Howard Cridland did well as Viscount Gushington, the imperturbable dandy; M. Duval was depicted by M. Jules Charmettes with finish and alertness; Mr. Frederick Park was excellent as the office boy Dudds; and Mr. A. M. Moore was drily humorous as the Waiter. Miss Winnifred Knightly capitally sustained the part of Lady Willoughby, and Miss Florence Lee as Milly Mostyn did good work. Ninette was taken in a most admirable manner by Miss Doris Langdon; Miss Rose Helene made a winsome Susie; Miss Nora Brocklebank was a sweet, dainty, and charming Winnie Willoughby, her song "I mean to marry a man" gaining her well-merited applause.

Empire Palace. — Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt. — J. W. Rowley heads the bill here for the week, and commends himself to the younger generation as he did to the old; Professor Thornbury, chromographist and ventriloquist, does some capital work; Ella Dean, a contralto and comedienne, is most cordially received; Dennis Drew, in the military scena *Back to Barracks*, is successful and scores well; Joe Humphreys, vocal comedian, gives some very taking numbers; Mulvey and Miriam, in the speciality act *The Studio*, make a pleasing turn; Foreman and Fannan, with amusing patter, "The Millionaires Percy and Harold," are applauded; Ethel May, comedienne and danseuse; Sisters Edwards, vocalists, dancers, and drummers; and Payne's pictures fill a pleasurable programme.

PRESTON.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, the Executors of the late Mr. Wm. Johnson.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Stephen Pritt.—Messrs. C. Hamilton Baines and H. Keates Hales' company is here this week with *The Pet of the Embassy*. Mr. Witty Watty Walton creates continuous merriment in the rôle of John William Bung, and Mr. Harry Fischer is equally amusing as Palatine Brown; Mr. T. Sinclair Holden contributes a distinctly humorous portrayal of the Hon. Percy Brassington; Mr. Robert Hyett acts and sings well as Eric Brown; and Mr. Herbert Franklyn capably fills the part of Horatio Jukes. Miss Ethel Dunford is a handsome and sweet-voiced representatitve of Hilda Graham; Miss Florence Watson makes a blithe and captivating Dorothy Stanley; and Miss Julia Bassett is very comical as Mrs. Pamela Bung. There is an excellent chorus, the music is lively and tuneful, and the augmented orchestra is under the direction of the composer, Mr. Albert E. Wilson.

Prince's Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Sawyer and Woodruff.—Miss Maud Hildyard's company is here with *The Great Awakening*. Miss Maud Hildyard gives a powerful impersonation of Lola Selby; Mr. A. C. Hardie displays the requisite dramatic ability in his delineation of James Selby; Mr. S. Langton ably sustains the dual rôle of Sir Henry Merton and Jack Merton, his son; Miss Doris Digby makes a charming Molly Merton; Mr. G. McLeod is excellent as Captain Harry Lambert; and the comedy element is cleverly provided by Mr. Willie Scott as Billy Brass and Miss Lilla Norden as Selina Worts.

Royal Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. E. J. Linsdell.—W. L. Murray gives a striking exhibition of his strength and unique physical development; Fanny Robina and Florrie Cooper are popular descriptive vocalists; Mack Olive is an exceptionally clever and tuneful whistler; Johnny Dean and company (including Mr. Jim Mawdsley) present a laughable sketch, *The Terrible Office Boy*; the Three Currans cause great hilarity in their boxing act, *Taking the Census*. Successful turns are also given by Billy Bint, Les Valdos, and Geo. Hyman. Bioscope pictures complete.

RAWTENSTALL. — Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. George Dickinson.—This week Mr. Will White's company is here in the romantic drama, *The New World*. Miss Beatrice Moore is most successful as Jenny Williams, her acting being full of life and feeling, and her musical contributions thoroughly enjoyable; Mr. Victor Rae is excellent as Jack Hawley; and Mr. W. S. Stevenson is a capital Jim Rawlings. Miss Evelyn Robson as May Walton gives an excellent portrayal; and Mr. Albert Carlton is good as José Alverez. Mr. Albert H. Clarke scores as Joe Williams; and Mr. Willie Hicks as Pete is exceptionally clever, his patter and songs being most effective. Equally enjoyable are Mr. Will Bass and Mr. Fred Guinness, as Brutus Brown and Sam Smart, who give an excellent turn as comedians and dancers; Mr Donald Gilbert is a capable Colonel Clayton; and Mr. Fred Bentley is a good Frank Carter.

READING.—Royal County Theatre.—Proprietor Mr. Milton Bode; Manager, Mr. E. J. Macdermott.—Mr. George Dance has commenced a variety season at this house, which will extend through the summer months. Mr. Dance is working in conjunction with Mr. Oswald Stoll, and during the season a succession of variety stars will appear. A smoking licence has been granted by the Corporation, and two performances will be given nightly. The programme this week includes a clever illusion sketch, *The Magic Carpet*, by John Warren and Co.; the Provaine Troupe of lady cyclists, who give a skilful performance; Ouida Macdermott, Will Cornish, Harry Carsdale, and Sid Myra, and some excellent new pictures are shown by Messrs. Mager's and Vernon's Bioscope.

ROCHDALE. — Theatre Royal, Ltd. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Hague.—*Her Love Against the World* is the attraction here this week. Mr. Walter Howard is powerful in the rôle of Eric, Earl of Strathmere; Mr. Mayor Cooke cleverly portrays the tyrannical Prince Ulric; Mr. W. H. Hallatt acts with success the part of Prince Othmar; Mr. Arthur J. Moss is all that can be desired as Sergeant Kasper; and Mr. Henry B. Lewis is amusing as Heinrick Pimpernickle. Miss Rossie St. John wins all hearts as the devoted Nello; and Miss Helen Snow submits a most effective impersonation of Princess Iris.

Circus and Hippodrome. — Proprietors, Messrs. Smith and Co.—Ara, Zebra, and Vora top the bill here with their novelty, "Indian Pastimes," in which they display great skill and agility; *Hotel Comfort* is a laughable sketch, introduced by Will Onda's combination; the Brothers Devars are clever performers on the triple bars; Atroz, juggler and hoop roller; Viola, with novel musical instruments; Will Dalton, comedian; Fred Tenby, comedian; Pearce and Ward, comedians; and Edison's Bioscope, complete the programme.

Empire.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thomas Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Hargreaves.—Frank and Jen Latona delight the audience with their music and comedy; Rose Lloyd is a charming comedienne; Keith and Merson, in their absurdity, *The Meet*, create roars of laughter; and other capital turns are submitted by Flo Hilton, male impersonator; Vincent, tumbler; W. G. Webber, bass vocalist; Walter Wallis, comedian; and the Empire Bioscope.

ROTHERHAM.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Holbery Hardy.—Miss Mary Austin and Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds's company is filling the bill here with *The Golden Ladder*. Mr. Scott Leighton is seen to advantage as Rev. Frank Thornhill; Mr. Fred May scores as Samuel Peckaby; Mr. J. Milne Taylor is clever as Michael Severn; and Mr. Douglas Howard does well as M. Peranza. Mr. Fred Mace is deserving of mention as John Grant; Mr. Gilbert Elvin is a bluff Noah Learoyd; Messrs. S. D. Mayne as Captain Jackson and S. T. Emmerson as Rev. W. Stanley are well placed. Miss Elsie Marriott-Watson is a sympathetic Lilian Grant; and Miss Nellie Graham a droll Mrs. Peckaby; Miss Beattie Wilson a capital Teaser; and Miss Mina Vesta is deserving of recognition as Victoria Alexandra Peckaby.

RUGBY. — Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geoffrey Fulton.—Mr. Gilbert Payne and company are this week presenting the new musical farcical play, *The Honeymoon*. The play abounds in amusing situations and taking songs and dances. Mr. Gilbert Payne as Nathaniel Noodle is clever and humorous; Mr. Alvin Sawyer as Colonel Vandvke Brown is excellent; Mr. Leslie Erle is good as Jack Armstrong; and Mr. Fred Fulton as Archie Mashington does well. Mr. Harry Hoyland as Victor L'Estrange makes the most of his opportunities; and as Timothy Tubb and Policeman X.0. Mr. Bert Gray and Mr. Arthur Kento show ability Miss Pattie Fairley as Madge Armstrong is charming as vocalist and actress; Miss Lilian Ramsdale is most amusing as Emeretta Noodle; and Miss Nellie Dyson as Stella le Brun is well placed. The Sisters Godfrey make smart and attractive waitresses, and give a clever exhibition of artistic and acrobatic dancing.

SALFORD.—Prince of Wales' Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—Miss Emma Litchfield's company, under the personal direction of Mr. Stuart Cleveland, drew a good house on Monday with *A Clever Impostor*. The title-rôle is well played by Mr. Stuart Cleveland; Miss Litchfield enhances her reputation by her portrayal of Nora Grosvenor, Sarah Ellen, Old Rebecca, and Molly O'Flynn. The comedy business is ably presented by Mr. Edward Swinton as Jim Brightside; Mr. Reginald Kloof as Sambo, and Miss Norah Waylett as Annie Pleasant. Captain Desmond is successfully played by Mr. Arthur Mervyn; and Bob Darnforth is in the safe hands of Mr. Harry Cullenford. Miss Maud Steeple as Margaret Grosvenor, and Miss Isabel Singleton as Maisie Grosvenor, are well placed.

Regent Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. J. C. Patterson.—The principal attraction this week is Yvette De Laabe, in her daring and beautiful reproductions of sculpture, with electrical decorations and effects. *Ferdie's Ma-in-Law* is an amusing sketch, cleverly presented by Flockton, Foster, and company; Lillie Soutter, character comedienne, makes a good impression. The programme also contains acceptable business by Marlo, a clever young juggler; Dave McNeil, a versatile comedian; Fred Clements, facial comedian; the Arleys, comedy cyclists; and the Eugene Family, in their smart aerial gymnastic act.

Royal Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Wentworth.—Henriette De Serris gets much applause for the pretty realistic artistic bas-reliefs and statuary reproduced by her company of professional French models; Joe Conway, comedian; Snowball and Miss Dolia, American comedy artists; Walter Wade, story teller and mimic; Lily Arthur, comedienne; Phern and Phern, in their musical act; Mac and Hill, comedians; Robins and Collier, in the musical scena, *The Lady and the Porter*; and Gladys Williams, comedienne, also appear and give acceptable turns.

Pavilion.—Proprietor, Mr. Sidney Weatherhilt; Manager, Mr. Fred Erick.—This week Percy Maye is giving his well-known female impersonations; Mark Stuart keeps the house in roars with his smart patter and funny songs; Fred Erick contributes some comical songs; Nelly Stuart, comedienne, with coon songs; Teddy Worth, comedian; Harry Harcourt, comedian; and Bert Holmes, instrumentalist, also receive much applause for their singing, dancing, and business.

SEACOMBE.—Irving Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiernan.—Mr. Frank Lindo and company form the attraction here this week in the domestic drama, *Home, Sweet Home*. Stephen Armitage receives an excellent rendering at the hands of the author of the play. Mr. Frank Lindo, David Armitage being strongly acted by Mr. D. Lawrence Doyle. Captain Gerald Gambler distinguishes himself by his earnest and natural portrayal of the Duke of Ancaster; and Mr. F. Miles Hodgson does well in the rôle of Lucas Lyle. Mr. Jack Patrick gives an amusing impersonation of the Hon. Percy, whose wife, Sybil Fay, is smartly played by Miss May Rochefort. Mr. George Overs gives satisfaction as Dick Redmayne; as also does Mr. Ernest E. Owens as Lord Silvermore, and Miss Cecil Ward as Lady Summerton. Mr. T. Lewis as Solomon Keary, Mr. Lionel Ray as Gaffer, and Mr. Danvers as Dr. Granby are all equal to the demands of their respective rôles. Miss Daisy Rochefort does well as Dora, and Miss Marion Wakeford presents a clever and pleasing delineation of Joan.

SCARBOROUGH.—People's Palace and Aquarium.—Managing Director, Mr. Wm. Morgan; Secretary and Manager, Mr. Walter Kitchingman.—Grapho and Jackson's Pierrots are here for another week with an entirely new programme of songs, dances, duets, and sketches; the Days give a clever exhibition of thought-reading; Alf Ripon is a ventriloquist and comedian who submits a capital turn; the Cheers introduce their troupe of well-trained cats and give a refined performance; Vernon's Bioscope submits an up-to-date lot of pictures.

The Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. Geo. Zalva.—The Five Musical Palmers are a great attraction here this week; the three Zednas give a fine exhibition of dancing, and sing well; Daisy Palmer, comedienne, is a great favourite, and Lindsey and Hart give an excellent turn. An excellent selection of animated pictures is submitted.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—New Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. C. Harrison.—*The Power of Gold* is being presented here with success by Mr. Frank Ayrton's company. Hadji Zambra is powerfully depicted by Mr. Geo. Lyttleton; as Paul Judson, Mr. R. F. Stacey wins much approval; the treachery of Mark Harley is effectively shown by Mr. Richard Harris; Mr. Frank Ayrton finds plenty of scope in the part of Sammy Smudge to display his talents as a comedian; Mr. Wilson Wyte, in the rôle of Mark Anthony, is another good comedian; Mr. Frank Holyoake, as Dr. Saunders, plays with success; and as Peter Maguire, Mr. W. Victor is satisfactory. Meg Judson is admirably portrayed by Miss Lily Prescot; Lady Brandon is carefully treated by Miss Amy McNeill; Miss Hettie Laytine does good work as Sister Marie; Miss Madge Seymour earns hearty plaudits by her performance as Norah; Little Prudence does well as Paddy.

SHEERNESS.—The Palace.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Phil Raymond.—A strong bill here this week includes Miss Hilda Gordon, a charming balladist; Mr. Royde, a funny comedian; the Sisters Finlay, clever duettists and dancers; the Byrons, in their smart act, *Music Hath Charms*; Mr. Phil Reymond the well-known comedian, who is a prime favourite; Miss Topsy Levane, the popular burlesque actress and dancer, also a big favourite; the Crown Sketch Co., in *Rural Retirement*, which causes roars of laughter; Miss Berris Forde, charming burlesque actress and vocalist; and the Nicholsons, who conclude with a laughable comedy act.

SHEFFIELD.—Lyceum Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—Bright, tuneful, and exhilarating as ever came *The Belle of New York* to delight a large and enthusiastic house on Monday. Miss Empsie Bowman made a dainty and charming Violet Grey, Miss Winnie Browne was again successful as Cora Angelique; and Miss Lily Maxwell proved a pleasing representative of Fi-Fi. Mr. Paddy Duprez made a clever successor to Mr. Harry Meymatt in the important rôle of Ichabod Bronson, whose son Harry was admirably impersonated by that sympathetic vocalist, Mr. John Doran. Mr. Alfred Sandoe was amusing as the old-time American opera-bouffe manager, Doc. Smifkins; and the fun was further kept up by Mr. Walter Uridge as Kenneth Mugg, and Mr. J. R. Tate as the Polite Lunatic. Mr. Frank Lawton, who was cordially welcomed, repeated his inimitable dancing and whistling solos as Blinky Bill, and he had a vivacious companion in Miss Florence Hersee as Mamie Clancy. The entire entertainment is under the able management of Mr. Bannister Howard.

Theatre Royal. — Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—Mr. Henry Swinerd's talented company began a return visit on Monday in *Dare-Devil Dorothy*. There was a good audience, and the various songs, dances, and interludes were loudly applauded.

Alexandra Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—Mr. Lingford Carson has submitted a most attractive programme to the patrons of this theatre. On Monday, *The Heart of a Hero* was acted, with that sound leading actor, Mr. Charles Draycott in his powerful impersonation of Jim Resdale, and Miss Muriel Thompson as the interesting Muriel Resdale. On Thursday was presented *The Octoroon*, and last night (Friday) was revived *The Ticket-of-Leave-Man*.

Empire Palace.—Proprietors, The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan A. Dunbar.—Miss Hetty King, male impersonator, made a hit here on Monday in her songs. Miss Lily Langtry's vivacity made her turn doubly welcome; and the quaint ditties of Miss Nellie Wallace caused great hilarity. The Trapnells did a smart act; Burns and Burns are diverting performers; Mr. James Brady, an old Sheffield favourite, was well received; Mr. E. Arthur's operatic party, in costume selections from *The Lily of Killarney*, was a novel feature; Spry and Monti were again successful in *The Dandy Guardsmen*; Mr. Edwin did some clever imitations; and up-to-date animated pictures concluded a good programme.

Grand Palace.—Proprietors, the Vaudeville Co.; Manager, Mr. David Warwick.—Miss Carlotta de Yonson, Mr. Charles Carlile, Mr. C. Douglas Carlile, and other artists, in a stirring sketch; Mr. Bert Golden, the Brothers Lenetti, the Lannons, Mr. Will Lear, Pallister's Popular Bioscope (with topical and humorous new films), and the celebrated Albano Troupe (from the Alhambra) are appearing to large audiences at this bright and well-conducted variety theatre.

SMETHWICK.—The Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—*The Love that Women Desire* was well received this week, as presented by Mr. G. Carlton Wallace's company. Mr. J. O. Stewart represents Squire Abingdon with firmness and ability; Mr. Alfred Brandon plays with discretion as Richard Abingdon; Mr. H. Bonhote Wilson as Philip Carnaby is particularly well placed; good work is done by Mr. J. W. Wilkinson as P.C. Snowberry; Miss Lalla Stanhope acts with feeling as Sybil Thorburn; Miss N. Griffiths makes the most of the part of Mariquinha; Miss Gladys Murray as Madge Abingdon, and Miss Violet Haye as Molly, are well placed; amusing comedy is introduced by Mr. John Hignett and Miss Emmie Litchfield, as Denis O'Rourke and Pattie Swift.

SOUTHAMPTON. — Grand Theatre. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Weston.—This week we have a special attraction in the Moody-Manners Opera Company, in a series of favourite operas. On Monday evening, a very fine performance of *Carmen* was given; Miss Rosina Beynon charmed everyone with her admirable impersonation of the wayward heroine, her singing and acting being excellent; Mr. Charles Carter (Don Jose) was another favourite who gave unbounded delight to his listeners; Miss Alice Boaden played well as Michaela; and excellent assistance was given by Mr. F. Erle (Escamillo), Mr. R. Brookes (Remendado), Mr. S. Lansdale (Dancairo), Miss M. Wilcocks (Frasquita), and Miss M. Wood (Mercedes). *Faust* was given on Tuesday, *Maritana* on Wednesday, and the répertoire for the week also include *Cavalleria Rusticana*, *Pagliacci*, *Tannhäuser*, *Il Trovatore*, and *The Bohemian Girl*.

Palace.—Proprietors, The Palace (So'ton), Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Trussell.—The Matweef Hugoston Troupe of Russian singers and dancers submit an entertaining turn; the Maitland Trio appear in a funny sketch, *The Picture*; and Deane, Tribune, and Co. excel in an absurdity, *Applicants*. Simosa San is a smart juggler; and others who contribute are Bertha Winder, a wonderful dancer; Gladys Witton, juvenile contralto; D. W. Watson, cornetist, &c.; and Bernard and Weston, comedians.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. P. Howell.—The Melody Makers, on their first appearance here, are accorded an ovation for their fantastic performance, *The Burglar's Dream*; Laurie Wylie is a wonderful mimic; Rosetti an accomplished lady instrumentalist; and the Herald Comedy Four are successful in their Indian scena. Harry Taft, whistling comedian; Lena Verdi, comedienne; Blanche Marion, comedienne; and Constance Mori, speciality dancer, all add to the evening's enjoyment.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—Empire Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Conquest; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power.—*The Midnight Wedding* as presented by Messrs. Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard is being very well received this week. As Paul Valmar, an arduous and difficult character, Mr. Alfred Paumier shows considerable talent; Mr. Fredk. W. Freeman is well suited as the Crown Prince Leopold; and Mr. Edward Fletcher gives satisfaction as Lieut. Eugene Von Strelsburg. Mr. Ernest E. Imeson works well as Capt. Rudolph Von Scarsbruck. Merriment is caused by Messrs. E. Page, Vernon Paul, and Algie Spalding; and Miss Ada Champion adds considerably to the enjoyment as Kathie. The Princess Astrea Von Strelsburg is for tunate in having such a capable exponent in Miss Annie Saker, whose impersonation gains quite an ovation.

Pier Pavilion.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley E. Angless.—Mr. Harry Liston is proving immensely popular here this week in his bright and merry programme. Miss Lord Lumley assists him in the very enjoyable sketches, and her talents are well revealed. Miss Avey sings and dances delightfully; and Miss Adelaide Chadwick is well received in her artistic renderings of good songs.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. J. and F. Coulson.—Miss Marie Dagmar and Fred C. Summerfield's company is here in the romantic drama *The Tyrant*. Miss Marie Dagmar, in the rôle of Tisbe, pleases the audience by the excellence of her acting; Mr. Fred C. Somerfield is seen to great advantage as Homodei; and Mr. Roy Fortescue acts powerfully as Angelo. Rudolph is pleasingly portrayed by Mr. Lionel Atwill; Miss Millie Ford makes a charming Lady Katherine; and Miss Lallah Shelton arouses sympathy as Eulie Homodei's sister. The comedy is supplied by Miss Olive Lloyd as Reginella, Mr. Percy Brown as Victor, and Mr. Albert Rogers as Nobbo. Mr. Alec Findlater is good as Lieut. Taska.

Empire Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—Chas. Kitts and Rhoda Windrum and company, in a military comedy, *The Cuckoo*, are very entertaining. A farcical episode, entitled *Cockie*, is presented with great success by Picton Roxborough and Fanny Wright; Billy Farrell's songs and patter are well received; a clever horizontal bar performance is submitted by Mezzetti and Mora; the Cambrian Trio contribute an enjoyable musical turn. Other excellent attractions are Sadie Simpson, coon comedienne and dancer; Bessie Benson, dainty comedienne; and the Bioscope, with excellent films.

Tivoli.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. K. Hall and Jos. Sweeney; Business-Manager, Mr. Harry Burns. — The D'Ostas, mental telegraphists and second-sightseers, are mystifying the audiences here. The Four Maisanos, musical eccentrics, are accorded a good reception; Sandy and Carl, speciality comedians, have lost none of their popularity; and the Prinellas, in their cornfield and farmyard scena, *A Country Flirtation*, score heavily. Dolly Denver is an exceptionally clever dancer; and Ben Jones, vocalist, and the Tivoli Bioscope also attract.

SPENNYMOOR.—Cambridge Theatre. — Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; General-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—This week's entertainment is being provided by a combination touring under the title of Colin's Excursions, which exhibits a varied series of animated pictures, descriptive of scenes in all parts of the world. Interspersed between the different sets of films are variety turns. Fred Lyndo is a popular comedian with local audiences; and Soros, the mystery, Wrangler, the Wrangler, and a laughable sketch entitled, *Her Shattered Idol*, presented by Miss Edna Reeve and company, are also successful.

STAFFORD.—Lyceum Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Elphinstone.—An excellent variety programme is presented here this week. Mme. Ada Colley, the Australian nightingale, is the star turn, and the enthusiastic reception accorded her is in every way merited. Lytton and Bland give a very acceptable turn; Lillian Sivado proves a clever trapeze artist; the sketch, *Charlie's Indian*, is very laughable; Globella, globe walker, is exceptionally good; Harry Plowden, comedian, with patter, meets with success; Harry Whitman sings some good illustrated songs; and the animated pictures are also interesting.

ST. HELENS.—Theatre and Opera House, Ltd. — General-Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader.—*A Beautiful Fiend* is paying a return visit here. Mr. Montague Beaudyn gives a sound and impressive rendering of Ivan Paulovitch, major of the Russian police; Miss Sydney Crowe as Wanda Lubinoff displays the requisite dramatic force in the difficult part of the adventuress. She is ably supported by Mr. Herbert Skardon, who appears to great advantage in the part of Count Karateff; and Mr. Matt. Russell is excellent as Strogoff. Mr. Harry Oates and Miss Annie Clunn cause continuous laughter by their performance in the comedy parts; and an admirably-balanced cast is completed by Mr. Robertson Foulis, Mr. John Baxter, Mr. Lionel Carteret. Miss Irene Munro, and Mr. J. Burnett. The play is well mounted.

Hippodrome. — Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Wilmot; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Vic Carnell.—Miss Marie Loftus makes her first appearance in St. Helens this week, and had a magnificent reception for her three numbers; another capital turn is that of the Narrow Brothers, trick cyclists; Sterling and Love present an original musical mélange; Newco and Sulls cause plenty of amusement, their dancing being exceptionally good; Flo Wood, comedienne, is successful with her song, "My Octoroon"; Harry Mantle, a capital descriptive artist, and the Orchids, in an amusing vocal scena, complete a fine programme.

STOCKPORT. — Theatre Royal and Opera House. — Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Revill, jun.—The return visit of Fred Karno's company in *His Majesty's Guests* has been a distinct attraction here this week. Mr. George Hester gives a very amusing impersonation of Sergeant Lightning; Lord Easem is capably sustained by Mr. Frank Morton; Mr. Charles Usher makes a capital Mr. Miffins; and Mr. Sid Kearns is mirth-provoking as Mr. Minks. Miss Leonora Castelle is charming in the character of Lady Maud Easem; and Miss Edith Ager pleasingly fills the part of Miffins' daughter, Dolly.

Empire. — Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black. —J. W. Hall, comedian, heads the bill here this week, and has delighted everybody with his amusing patter. Entertaining and clever are Gold and Sterling, in their scena, *The Welsh Girl and the Artist*; Frank Coyle, comedian, is much applauded; Whimsical Walker, in a sketch *Captain Hamilton, V.C.*, assisted by Miss Molly Moore, is highly successful; and among others who command appreciation are Field and Lewis, in a pot-pourri act; the Wedburns, instrumentalists, vocalists, and comedians; Gertrude Lytton, vocalist; and W. T. Ellsranger's comedy sketch, *The Peacemaker*.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—Hippodrome Theatre. —Proprietors, Messrs. Geo. and Robt. Nicholson; Manager, Mr. Geo. Stainton.—The Aurora Troupe of cyclists are here this week, and fully maintain their reputation; Beatrice Worth is a pleasing character vocalist; and Sam Shipley causes great amusement in his character of a policeman. Addie Dorina, lady protean artist, is greatly appreciated; Sands and Vincent are popular comedy artists; Clown Barker, with his trained dogs, is loudly applauded; while Tom Kelso and company fairly bring down the house with their humorous sketch, *The Silly Burglar*. The pictures complete an excellent programme.

Grand Theatre.—Proprietor, Councillor J. Batty; Manager, Mr. W. Batty.—Alburtus and Millar head the bill this week, and as a funny pair of comedians are greatly appreciated; Luigi Salvino is a youthful musical prodigy; the Brothers Durant cause amusement in their comedy act; and H. O. Wills, an old favourite, is well received for his humorous songs. Amy Anderson and company present a funny sketch, *The Banana Queen*; Ross and Lewis score with their patter; and Tennyson and Wallis are accorded a good reception for their up-to-date duets. The pictures are interesting.

STOURBRIDGE.—Alhambra Theatre.—Manageress, Miss Maude Lynton.—Miss Lole Esmond and company are here for the week, appearing in *The Anarchist Terror* and *The Sorrows of Satan*. On Monday, the first-mentioned was presented in capital style. The leading artists are Messrs. Fred Cherry, J. McCaigh, Edward Neville, Herbert Carrington, Coleman Davies, and Misses Lola Esmond, Jennie Croft, and Rosie Neville.

SUNDERLAND.—Avenue Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. E. Machin.—The second and concluding week of Mr. F. R. Benson's welcome visit here has been devoted to a répertoire of plays, opening on Monday with *The Taming of the Shrew*. Mrs. F. R. Benson once again delineated the well-known character of Katharina with all the histrionic ability for which she is noted. Mr. Benson also submitted his vigorous rendition of Petruchio; Mr. George R. Weir was well cast as Grumio; and Mr. George Buchanan efficiently portrayed Lucentio. *As You Like It*, *Hamlet*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *The School for Scandal*, *Macbeth*, and *The Merchant of Venice* were also in the week's répertoire.

King's Theatre.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. E. Stevens and Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Carlo.—Mr. W. W. Kelly's No. 1 company, in *A Royal Divorce*, never fails to provide a powerful attraction, and with Miss Edith Cole as the Empress Josephine success is doubly assured. Mr. Fred Victor as the Emperor Napoleon adds to his reputation; Miss Agnes Imlay scores as the haughty Marie Louise; and Miss Gertrude Entwhistle is seen to advantage as Stephanie; Mr. Alfred Grenville is amusing as General Angerau.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. E. Machin; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jos. Hemingway.—Go-Won-Go Mohawk is here with *Wep-Ton-no-Mah*, in which she powerfully portrays the title-rôle. Mr. C. W. Charles is strong as Col. Stockton; and Mr. E. Leroy capably fills the part of Manuel; Messrs. Guy Hackney and Dan Ryan provide amusement as Sam White and Carry Cullen respectively; and a word of praise is due to Miss Blanche Leroy for a pleasing portrayal of Nellie Stockton.

Palace of Variety, Ltd.—Acting-Managers, Messrs. Browne and Stringer.—The premier position is this week held by the Harmony Four, in their smart musical comedy; Belle Davis and her Chicks provide another turn of merit; and Little Yanty scores with his funniosities. Others contributing to the programme include Onda and Artell, in a gymnastic act; Madge May, comedian; Burley and Burley, comedians; Jay Winton, ventriloquist; with the usual display of pictures as a finale.

SWANSEA.—Grand Theatre.—The attraction at the Grand this week is the film of the famous fight between Battling Nelson and Gans, shown by the American Pictures Company. The pictures are wonderfully clear, and all details are well shown. A really excellent variety company includes George Russell, Tommy Hayes, the Levans, and Will Doran and company.

Empire.—Packed houses gave a hearty welcome on Monday to Chung Ling Soo, who heads a powerful variety company at the Empire this week. Miss Madge Gray, dialect comedienne, gives an unique turn; and Geo. Newburn, mimic; Herbert Rule, comedian; Lillieth Leyton, supported by Mr. John Leyton, in a comedy interlude; Russell Brandow, acrobatic dancer; Roma and Romani, musicians; Ethel Ra Leslie, a charming vocalist; and the American Bioscope complete.

The Star.—Mr. Chas.

Kimberley Boys are as funny as ever; and some excellent pictures are shown by the Hippodrome lantern.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—Grand.—Lessee, Mr Fred Granville; Manager, Mr. Herbert E. Feather—The Compton Comedy Company is at all times assured of a hearty welcome in West Hartlepool, and the present visit is no exception to the rule. The répertoire this week includes *Davy Garrick*, *Edmund Kean*, *The Gentleman in Grey*, and *She Stoops to Conquer*, the leading rôle being taken by Mr. Compton in that masterly style for which he is so justly noted. Valuable work is done by Miss Mackenzie, who has previously gained considerable popularity in the town.

Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—This week the spectacular performance *All Scotch*, by W. Selkirk's Juveniles, is a great attraction, and Flo Chevalier, a tasteful soprano, sings with engaging sweetness; Rich and Rich are old favourites, as also is Elsie Robey; Bruce and Hemsley, in the clever musical comedy act *Fun in a Music Shop*, introduce some smart dancing; Charlie Williams, the Scotch nigger, is an attraction, and Vera Mayne, comedienne, and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux contribute acceptable turns.

WHITEHAVEN.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Clark; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Clark.—A strong attraction is provided here in the visit of Mr. Jack Haddon's company, in the drama, *Under the Russian Flag*. Mr. J. Haddon appears as Michael Romanoff, and plays the part in a creditable manner; and Mr. Chas. Stafford acts in a manly way the character of his brother, Ivan. Mr. Sydney Arnold has a soldierly bearing as Captain Demetrius; and Mr. Templar is amusing as Alexis. Mr. Hal Forde is good as Peter; and Miss Molly Hackett causes much laughter as Ogarita. Miss Violet Lytton is a charming Vera; and Miss Marie Rayner acts powerfully as Luke Marishla. Other characters are well represented, and the scenery deserves mention.

WIDNES.—Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Jas. Kiddie.—Hilliard Vox's company is here in the thrilling American drama, *Alaska*. Mr. Percy Ballard is an admirable Skookum Jim; Mr. R. Naylor Grimson is villainous enough to satisfy the most fastidious; Mr. Stenson Liddiard is a clever Baptiste; Mr. A. Ferris as Pompey causes much fun; a fine character-sketch of Father Bernard is given by Mr. James Fox; Mr. Gilbert James is a desperate-looking Malmite Kid; and Mr. J. Howard gives a very satisfactory delineation of Lieut. Harding. Miss Ethel May is well placed as the irrepressible Topsy; Miss M. Palmer plays winningly as the good-natured Widow Casey; Miss Muriel Vox is a charming heroine as Jessie Dalton; and Miss Violet Craufurd makes the most of the sympathetic part of Alaska, the faithful Indian. The play is very nicely staged, and the knife fight over the burning crater of a volcano provides a great thrill.

WIGAN.—Royal Court Theatre.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Company.—Mr. Lawrence Brough and company have won warm encomiums for their admirable presentation of *The Lady of Ostend*. Mr. Henry Hampson as Dick Whortles and Mr. Percy Marshall as Joseph Carbury enact their respective parts with delectable humour; Mr. Lawrence Brough is most amusing as the Frenchman; Miss Marian Ripley cleverly takes the part of the Lady of Ostend; Miss Bessie Harrison is successful in that of Matilda Carbury, and Miss Kate Wilford as Dorothy Whortles, the neglected wife, impersonates the character with due dignity.

The Hippodrome.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Company.—Datas, the man with the remarkable memory, and the Leslie Bros., comedy musicians, are the chief turns in a good programme. Gilbert's Circus, Marstro and Oretto (tumblers), and the Three Seabornes (acrobats) are popular; and excellent comedy is provided by Neon and Norris, Bob Hamilton, Ruby Aston, Sterling and Cashen, F. S. Hulme, and the Three Coopers.

WORKINGTON. — Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Manager, Mr. Falconer Jackes.—On Monday night Mr. Dickie Clare's company presented *Lucky 'Liza* to a large and appreciative audience. As Silas Slim and aliases, Mr. Clare worked arduously and successfully; Mr. T. W. Benson was excellent as the irritable Petitoe; and was well matched by Mr. B. Collins as Blatherwick. Mr. S. Hind as Paul played effectively and danced splendidly; as the Scotchman he was heartily applauded. Mr. A. W. Thompson's brogue as Biffens was amusing; Miss M. Brownie sang well and danced gracefully as 'Liza; Miss Vesta Brownie was piquant as Virginia; as Marie, Miss B. Russell gave satisfaction; the dancing by Miss N. Buckley, Miss M. Gordon, and Miss Q. Bell was effective.

WORTHING.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Herr C. Adolf Seebold.—Mr. Herbert Balland's company was here for the first three days of the week, presenting *La Poupée*. Mr. Fred Seymour as Hilarius was excellent; Miss Mysie Devine as Alesia also was excellent; Mr. Arthur Cozens as Lancelot put in good work; Miss Edith Hunter did well as Mme. Hilarius; the remaining characters were all in good hands.

YORK.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—*Beauty and the Barge* is paying a welcome return visit, and delighting large audiences. As Captain Barley, Mr. Blake Adams repeats his unique performance, which draws forth warm applause; Miss Mary Pemberton is a particularly pleasing Lucy Dallas; much amusement is caused by Mrs. J. W. Braithwaite as Mrs. Porter; and as the irate Major Smedley, Mr. Walter Pemberton never misses a point. Mr. Edward Coventry is smart and polished as Lieut. Seton Boyne, and Mr. Fred Knight is sufficiently unctuous as Tom Codd. The mounting of the play is excellent.

Opera House and Empire. — Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brook.—Minnie Cunningham has rapidly sang herself into favour this week, giving a neat and clever show. Valvo, a ventriloquist of more than ordinary merit, has created a favourable impression; and the Howes give a clever exhibition of second sight. Violet Ashcroft is a sweet singer; and the Stowe Brothers are smart equilibrists; Dusty Rhodes tells some funny yarns; Mr. E. is a clever patterer; and the fine performance of the Alexandroff Troupe is greatly admired. The Evalos and the Bioscope complete the bill.

THE LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, April 8, the Drama, entitled
"A NOBLE BROTHER."

This well-known drama is nightly attracting large audiences at the Lyric. Mr. Charles Carte as Jerry the Tramp presents one of the best character studies to be seen at the present time on the melodramatic stage. In both the pathetic and humorous scenes Mr. Carte is excellent. His company, a very good one, includes Miss Doris Brookes. Miss Brookes is admirable as Nana Leigh, the heiress, and in the second act introduces a clever song. Miss Nora Kingsley makes Mrs. Leigh, the Colonel's wife, an interesting old lady. Mr. Howard Thorne as Colonel Richard Leigh is effective; his nephew, Henry Travers, is powerfully played by Mr. Arthur A. Tomlin; and Mr. A. H. Gilbert makes a manly Jack Elsworth. The sermon of "The Strange Preacher" is well delivered by Mr. Gerald Weston. One of the best performances is that of Miss Winnie Rose. Her Rosie Rapid, the servant, is a lively little person, and her song in the first act is well sung; and in the second act Miss Rose gives a clever dance, which is much applauded. The others parts are Moss, a policeman, played by Mr. Payne Reynolds; and Claire Florence, embodied by Miss N. Faithful, who are both good in these small parts. The piece is well mounted.

The drama is preceded by a clever farce, entitled *All the World Over*, and is followed by Mr. Charles Carte in two descriptive songs, with appropriate scenery. The first is "Follies of the day," and the other "Across the bridge." Both songs are admirably rendered and much appreciated by the audience. Mr. Newman Maurice, Mr. James's new manager here, has been carrying out certain decorative additions, and has made the theatre more cosy and attractive than ever.

Mr. Editor,—Sir,—In your notice of *No Cross, No Crown*, at the Broadway Theatre, New Cross, this week the name of the child playing Sir Francis Lutrell's daughter should have been, not Elsie Cook, but yours faithfully, Little Madge Gillard, 97, Bravington-road, St. Peter's Park, W., April 6.

"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."

A Domestic Drama, in Four Acts, by William Hibbert and Fred Bulmer, produced at the Theatre Royal, Hyde, on Friday, April 5.

Sergeant John Harvey ..Mr. T. C. Glenville
Frank Julian .....Mr. P. Horton
Rupert Murdock .....Mr. G. Robey
Doctor Adolphus Boomer....Mr. Evan Roland
Jeames Yellowsocks .....Mr. Walter Clarke
Gen. St. J. Finnegan.Mr. R. Brancepeth-Nevill
The Rev. John Walker .....Mr. Fred Power
Doctor Norton .....Mr. Tom Ellis
Bowman, P.C. .....Mr. Luke Warden
Gussie Seymour .....Mr. H. Walton
John Jobson .....Mr. Hugh Falkner
Molly Bucks .....Miss Sybil Haughton
Lily .....Little Zara Dare
Sarah Sniggins .....Miss Ethel Whiteley
Madge Harvey .....Miss Gladys Hawthorn
Violet Harvey .... } Miss Chrissie Dunbar
Zara Lestrange .. }

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Judging by its reception at the first performance, this new play promises to be as popular and money-making as any of the the other "girl" title dramas that have been produced. The story deals with the vicissitudes of twin sisters, Violet and Madge Harvey. They are the daughters of Sergeant Harvey, an old soldier and V.C. man, rendered blind while engaged in saving the life of a comrade at Ladysmith. Violet is the home-bird, who looks after and is devoted to her afflicted father. Madge has spread her wings and gone to London, and by all accounts is married to a man of means there. In reality she is an abandoned woman, and a decoy in the gambling rooms of Rupert Murdock and Zara Lestrange; but that is not known in her native village, except to Zara, her maid, and "Dr." Adolphus Boomer. Zara is an unscrupulous adventuress, but has fallen in love with Frank Julian, who has proposed to Violet and been accepted. Zara, seeing Violet, at first takes her for Madge, for the twin sisters are so much alike that they cannot be distinguished from one another. After Violet's marriage Zara finds out that Violet is not Madge, but her sister, and from the likeness forms a diabolical plot to compel Madge to impersonate her sister. Maddened by drink, Madge agrees to this, and Frank Julian is convinced that his wife is a woman who drinks and is of light conduct when away from him. The adventuress and her lover Rupert connive to make out that Frank is a drunkard and a libertine, and bring his superior officer, General Finnegan, to see him in a drunken stupor, but "Dr." Boomer, disguised as a female, spoils their plans. Zara, robbed of her prey, returns to Hazeldene as a nurse to Sergeant Harvey. She puts arsenic in his medicine, intending to place the crime on Violet, but Boomer again appears and saves the old man's life. Zara has almost succeeded in luring Fred into her net, but the timely arrival of a messenger announcing his child's illness breaks the spell. Then follows a very pathetic scene—the death of Frank and Violet's child, the father and mother coming together over the child's deathbed. In Act 4 we find Madge broken down in health and at the end of her gay career. She realises how terribly she has wronged her sister, and resolves to put matters straight by writing a full confession to her father; and this she does and gives to her landlady to deliver. No sooner has she done this than Zara and Rupert appear. After a violent altercation, Zara fatally stabs Madge. In the next scene a complete reconciliation of Frank and Violet takes place. He knows that it was Madge he saw in Zara's room, and that it was to save her father from the knowledge of his pet daughter's fall that Violet had kept the secret. In the last scene we find Rupert and Zara at variance. Zara attempts to stab Rupert, and a very exciting fight takes place between them which make a most original and weird ending to the drama. Zara gets through the window to escape, but Rupert pulls her back by her hair and shuts down the window, which in its descent catches her by the throat. The thrill this caused was marked, and as the curtain fell the applause broke out, and could only be satisfied by a special call. The piece is enlivened with clever and original comedy, dealing with Molly and her lovers, one Jeames Yellowsocks, a footman, and "Dr." Boomer, a quack.

The drama was very efficiently played by Mr. Fred Bulmer's company. Mr. P. Horton presented an excellent portraiture of Frank Julian, his acting throughout being characterised with much energy and earnestness. Mr. G. Robey as Rupert Murdock was an ideal scoundrel, hardened and impenitent; and Mr. T. C. Glenville played with quiet dignity the rôle of the old veteran, Sergeant Harvey. Mr. Evan Rowland's "Dr." Adolphus Boomer was a clever impersonation, and caused the audience to exercise their risible faculties to a very large degree. Miss Sybil Haughton was a bright and vivacious Molly Bucks; and Mr. Walter Clarke caused roars of laughter as Jeames Yellowsocks. Miss Chrissie Dunbar depicted with boldness and emphatic effect the hard, selfish character of Zara Lestrange; Miss Gladys Hawthorne doubled with marked ability the rôles of Madge and Violet; and Little Zara Dare intelligently interpreted her lines as Lily. The minor characters were well handled.

"AT HOME" AT DUNDEE.

The second anniversary of Mr. R. A. P. Williams' lesseeship of the Gaiety Theatre, Dundee, was taken advantage of by the staff to hold their first annual "At Home," and at the same time to present their genial "governor" and his wife with tangible tokens of esteem. The function, which took place in the Thistle Hall on Friday, the 5th inst., was presided over by Mr. Philip Sefton. Included in the company were gentlemen representatives of the trades and professions in the city, while the theatrical profession was represented by gentlemen from Mr. H. B. Irving's company (at Her Majesty's) and the variety artists by the Savonas and Elliotts, who have been doing great business at the Gaiety; Ina Lorimer, the Sisters Kilner, Mark Anthony, Jack Nell, and others. The "top of the bill" came on after supper, and was introduced by the chairman, who, after making a passing reference to Mr. Williams' high standing among the Dundee public, and also to the fact that Mrs. Williams, as a result of her kind yet at the same time business manners, was a general favourite with music-hall frequenters in the city, asked their acceptance of tokens of prosperity from members of the staff and a few friends. In handing over to Mr. Williams a beautiful dressing-case and to Mrs. Williams a magnificent gold curb bracelet with an inscribed medallion the chairman, amid cheers, remarked that with such a management as existed at the Gaiety at the present time there was no need to fear other than its continued success, even if fifty theatres should be raised in the city. Mr. Williams, who on rising was received with the "Jolly Good Fellow" chorus, in a very appropriate speech returned thanks both on his own behalf and on that of Mrs. Williams. Mr. Powell, the popular manager of the Royal Hotel, also returned thanks on behalf of Mrs. Williams, and his remarks were followed by "An Ode to the Gaiety" by the editor of the *City Echo*. Thereafter Mr. Jas. Lockhart moved a hearty vote of thanks to the chairman and others, which was heartily accorded.

Dancing, which was then commenced, was kept up for several hours, the capable masters of ceremony being Messrs. Rollo and Fraser. Several members of the company rendered songs during the evening, and the gathering, which proved a great success, reflected great credit in the committee who had charge of affairs.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MR. ARTHUR COLLINS-ROLFE.

Mr. Arthur Collins-Rolfe, who has lately been impersonating the Marquis of Steventon in *The Walls of Jericho*, is the son of the late Captain Rolfe, and nephew of Sir Arthur Collins, K.C., who recently retired from the Chief Justiceship of Madras. Mr. Arthur Collins-Rolfe studied under the guidance of the late Mr. J. N. Ellaby, B.A., the well-known Shakespearean reader; also under Mr. J. N. Ohlson, from whom it may be mentioned Mr. Pinero received his first lessons in the elocutionary art.

After a short experience as an amateur, Mr. Collins-Rolfe drifted to the professional stage, playing small parts in such dramas as *The Ladder of Life*, *A Woman's Revenge*, &c. Then followed an engagement with Mr. Ben Greet in *Hearts are Trumps*, remaining with that production until its transference to Mr. Henry Dundas, who afterwards re-engaged him for Dr. Blake in *The White Heather*, a part he retained for several tours. Shortly after, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge secured him for the eccentric artist in their farcical comedy, *All Through Arabella*, and the young Nihilist in *The Ghost of the Past*, sharing the honours of the latter with the late Mme. Dittini. Then followed several tours with Mr. Frederick Mouillot with *The Night of the Party* and *A Message from Mars*, after which Mr. Frank Lindo engaged him for the Duke of Ancaster in *Home, Sweet Home*. One of his happiest engagements was with Miss Olga Nethersole during her Adelphi season in *Sapho*.

Mr. Collins-Rolfe has also played various character-parts in *Sowing the Wind*, *A Bunch of Violets*, *The Master Builder*, *The Professor's Love*

MR. ARTHUR COLLINS-ROLFE.

Story, *Guilty Gold*, &c. It may be remembered that during the first tour of the Lancashire drama, *The Coal King*, he enacted the title-rôle.

For charitable purposes Mr. Collins-Rolfe often gives recitals from the poets, including in his répertoire selections from Shakespeare, Tennyson, Longfellow, Kingsley, &c.

ECCENTRIC CLUB CONCERT.

The Eccentric Club gave their ladies' afternoon concert at the Hotel Cecil on Tuesday last. The concert was a great success, and everyone was delighted. Messrs. Jack Harrison and "Billy" White (as his many friends love to call him) were tireless in their energy in securing for the ladyguests "a real good time"; and a veritable bank of flowers awaited the artists. Mr. Norfolk Megone's fine orchestra of fifty performers commenced the programme with a new march, "The Eccentric Club," by Norfolk Megone, the nature of which may be judged from the following synopsis: "Big Ben Chimes—12 o'clock strikes: The Club Opens—The Eccentrics March—What's the matter with Jack Harrison, Tom Fraser, "Billy" White, Walter Beard?—Big Ben Chimes—4 o'clock strikes: The Club Closes—Finale." The choruses were sung out in spirited style by the instrumentalists, and a burst of applause greeted Mr. Megone at the conclusion of the march. The concert opened with a song from Mr. J. M. Hay. Mis Clara Jacks gave in true racy style that clever poem by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, "A Groom's Story." Miss Jecks delighted all present by her humorous method, and her speech had the real stable-boy twang. The stage lost a rare artist when Clara Jecks became Mrs. Wigley. Miss Evie Grene, looking very pretty, sang admirably, and gave as an encore "The Irish Girl." Miss Ruth Lincoln was in fine voice. Mr. Louis Bradfield contributed "My first cigar"; Mr. Gordon Cleather accompanied himself at the piano to a spirited marching song; Mr. Walter Walters sang about "Algy" in his peculiarly humorous way; Mr. William Devereux supplied a powerful rendering of "Gunga Dinn"; Mr. Leon Rogee, a clever imitator of instruments, finished with some remarkable whistling on two fingers; Mr. Albert Whelan told his "bear-shooting" story neatly; and gave a clever imitation of Harry Lauder. Mr. Bransby Williams evoked applause by his recitation of "Jim Bludso." Mr. Sam Welsh caused amusement by his "Talk at the Piano"; and Mr. Eugene de Kerpley supplied an excellent violin solo. Mr. Will Edwards's humorous ditty about "Girls" was appreciated; Miss Phyllis Legrand's "Ferry" song was applauded; Miss Marie Shultz's "Little things that tell" was pleasantly rendered; Mr. Richard Green sang superbly; Mr. George Robins's imitations of a mandoline and a German band were realistic; Mr. Charles Wreford told some very funny stories about West Country parsons; and Mr. Willie Rouse's vocalised humour proved very effective. Several other artists appeared, including Mr. Tom Clare. Both the luncheon and the concert were capitally managed; and Mr. J. A. Harrison, Mr. Ernest Stuart, and Mr. H. Yardley may be congratulated on the results of their efforts, assisted by Mr. W. H. White and an able entertainment committee.

Presentation.—A pleasing little ceremony followed the close of the performance at the Theatre Royal, Birkenhead, on the 22nd inst., when Mr. Chas. Pell, who is severing his connection with the theatre where he has been acting-manager, was made the recipient of an address and a gold sovereign purse from the staff of the "front of the house" and a number of friends. Mr. Pell suitably acknowledged the gift, which he accepted as a token of esteem and good feeling. In the address reference was made to Mr. Pell's courteous, business-like, and gentlemanly manner, and gratification was expressed at the fact that he does not intend leaving the town.

"The Era" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, April 3.—*The Tattooed Man*, a comic opera with Mr. Frank Daniels in the rôle of Omar Khayam, jun., is one of the liveliest and most attractive offerings on Broadway, and is playing to big houses nightly at the Criterion Theatre. The scenes are laid in Persia. Omar is the Shah's weather prophet, and is called the "Tattooed Man" because of a peculiar birthmark on the back of his neck. He is anxious to marry a lady named Leila, who regards him with aversion and loves a big Bedouin chief, Abdallah. To add to his troubles, Omar is pursued by Fatima, an unattractive damsel, who means to marry him willy-nilly. Abdallah plans an elopement with Leila, but Omar hears of it through Fatima, and the Bedouin is seized by the guards and imprisoned. In the meantime Omar's daughter, Alma, returns from a visit to America, accompanied by Algy Cuffs, a "matinée idol," whom she is anxious to convert into a husband. Algy doesn't please Alma's papa, and Omar decides to "kill two birds with one stone," or, in other words, to treat the populace to a double execution. At the last moment, however, birthmarks similar to the one on Omar's neck are discovered on the necks of the two prisoners, whereupon Omar stops the execution, and decides that the best of everything is none too good for them. It turns out that the "birthmarks" were the handiwork of the artful Fatima, whose pursuit of Omar is ultimately successful. As the jovial and amorous fakir, Omar Khayam, jun., Mr. Daniels cuts capers that cause constant laughter. Miss May Vokes, as the forlorn spinster Fatima, is particularly diverting in the song "Nobody loves me"; and others who handle their parts successfully are Miss Sallie Fisher, Miss Gertie Carlisle, Mr. W. P. Carleton, Mr. Harry Clarke, Mr. William Pruette, and Mr. Nace Bonville. Mr. Victor Herbert composed the music, and the book was written by Messrs. Harry B. Smith and A. N. C. Fowler.

Signor Ermete Novelli, the noted Italian actor, began an engagement at the Lyric Theatre on the 18th ult., under the management of the Shuberts. Originally limited to a fortnight, the engagement has proved such a pronounced success that it has been extended for one week. That Novelli is nothing if not versatile may be judged from the fact that he brought with him the scenery for nearly half a hundred plays, and is said to be sufficiently familiar with as many more to present them after a day's rehearsal. The performances given by the Italian actor and his company have been uniformly well attended, the entire standing-room on several occasions being occupied. Novelli speaks in Italian, and is supported by a company using the same language. It was natural, therefore, that the audiences should be chiefly composed of Italians. During the last two weeks Novelli has appeared in *Papa Lebonnard*, *King Lear*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *Louis XI.*, *La Morte Civile*, *Il Burbero Benefico*, *Othello*, *Alleluia*, *Œdipus Rex*, *Povera Gente*, and *The Taming of the Shrew*. For his opening Novelli selected *Papa Lebonnard*, a drama by Jean Alcard, originally written for Coquelin. Papa Lebonnard is an easy-going old watchmaker, who has made a fortune at his craft and who still loves to tinker among clocks, while he mixes with the common folk who have always been his friends. He loves his family no less than his work, but he has small patience with his wife, who aspires to high social life, and schemes to wed her daughter, Jeanne, to Count de Martinac, a disreputable nobleman. The other member of the family is Robert, a haughty youth, who, like his mother, has social aspirations. Jeanne is deeply in love with Dr. Andres, a physician who has brought her through a severe illness, and would marry him even when he tells her that his birth resulted from a social sin. The father does not hold this against the young man, for he is true and sincere, but the mother and son are loud and violent in their refusal to sanction the match. The distress of the girl and her utter hopelessness suddenly turn Lebonnard from a mild-mannered old man into a demon of fury, and he bitterly denounces his wife, telling her that for over twenty years he has known that he was not the father of Robert. He produces proof of her infidelity just as her son enters. Then the father turns upon the young man, and shows him that, so far as birth is concerned, he is in the same class as Andres. The violent fit of passion having spent itself, Lebonnard realises that his outburst has brought nothing but unhappiness, and he appeals to his daughter to heal the family wound. This she eventually succeeds in doing, and the end of the play finds all the members of the family happily reunited. After the play Signor Novelli appeared in evening dress, and gave a monologue in which he imitated several types of theatre-goers.

In Paolo Giacometti's four-act drama, *La Morte Civile* ("The Civil Death"), Novelli appears as the escaped convict Corrado, who, after serving thirteen years in prison for killing his brother-in-law, has returned to his old home in search of his wife and daughter. The daughter, Emma, has been adopted by Dr. Palmieri, and the wife, Rosalia, is living in the house as Emma's governess. Through the aid of a bishop Corrado discovers the couple, and accuses his wife of living with the doctor as his mistress. The doctor explains how he has taken care of the woman and the girl, and Corrado then agrees to go away with Rosalia, leaving his daughter in ignorance of his relationship to her. The pain of losing the daughter, for whom he has broken out of prison, proves too much for him, and he dies.

In *Alleluia*, by Marco Praga, Novelli appears as Allesandro Fara, an eminently respectable and highly-beloved member of a provincial Lombardy family, and a man who has endeared himself to the entire community by his generosity, his good-heartedness, and his simple, democratic ways. They call him "Alleluia" because of his seeming joyousness. When the play opens various neighbours and friends are about to celebrate his silver wedding anniversary. Apparently all is happiness, but it develops that Fara has for years been nursing a secret sorrow. His wife has been unfaithful on one occasion, and he has never been able to overcome the sorrow and shame of the discovery. Now, however, she comes to him on her knees begging for forgiveness. Her pleadings move him to pity, and he is about to take her in his arms when an old servant bursts into the room with the news that Fara's daughter has been discovered by her husband in a similar intrigue. There is a powerful scene, in which the mother pleads for her daughter, asserting the girl's innocence, in which she firmly believes. When Eva arrives her father upbraids her, but in face of her positive denial of any wrong-doing is ready to forgive. The second and third acts are largely devoted to Fara's efforts to satisfy himself and his son-in-law of the truth of Eva's assertions of her innocence. The husband, urged on by his brother, who is an emphatic champion of the Continental code of honour, insists that nothing but a duel will satisfy him. The father protects, finally revealing the secret of his own unhappy life. He urges that until there is positive proof there must be no public scandal, as there is the child to be considered. When the curtain rises again Fara enters, worn, dejected, his face pale and drawn with suffering. He has seen letters which have convinced him that his daughter has lied. She comes into the room, trying to create sympathy by the presence of the child. Fara turns on her in passionate frenzy, taunting her with her sin. The shock is too much for him. A few moments later the son-in-law enters. He gathers from Fara's emotion that the worst has happened, and is about to rush from the room to confront his wife. There is a cry from the old man, and with a shudder he sinks to the floor. When he rises one side of his face and body are rigid and the other twitching convulsively. He staggers to the door, trying to call out for his wife and daughter. His voice is thick; Eva's husband leads his child away. Then Fara suffers a second stroke, falls, and dies.

In Franco Liberati's three-act play, *Povera Gente* (Poor People), Novelli impersonates Zakar Polrovsky, a Russian Government officer, and a weak, spineless specimen of humanity, who has married a second wife, who despises him and Petruka, his son by a first marriage. She carries on an intrigue with Ivan Tromenskoi, a Commissioner of Police, and together they plot to ruin the old man by accusing him of the theft of Government papers. The son, in the meantime, has been one of a band of student revolutionists. Zakar is forced to resign his office, and takes to drink. Then, while in a maudlin state, and being led to talk by the faithless wife, who still maintains her influence over him, he betrays the secret meeting-place of his son and the other revolutionists. The young men are all sent to prison. When Petruka comes out he is in the last stages of consumption. In the final act his last moments are depicted, and the spectacle is anything but exhilarating. The father, who by now has almost entirely lost his wits, is about the least-interested person in the room. While his son is dying he sings snatches of old songs, imitates the whistling of the wind, and chuckles to himself as he carefully wraps his last ten roubles in a handkerchief for safe keeping. Meanwhile a young girl who loves Petruka has attended to his wants. As he gasps convulsively in the last throes of death she makes an outcry. The father rushes to the bedside, throws himself upon the prostrate body, kisses it, and calls upon his boy to answer. And, to complete the spectacle, he goes mad, the curtain descending as he is spinning around in a wild, maudlin dance.

"Captain Jinks of the Horse Marines" was revived for a few weeks at the Empire Theatre, and Miss Ethel Barrymore, for whom the play was written, and who achieved a signal success in it several years ago, was seen once again as Mme. Trentoni, and gave a delightful portrayal. Discarding the fashionable frills and furbelows of the 'seventies for the homely garb of a charwoman, Miss Barrymore appeared on the 18th inst. as Mrs. Jones in *The Silver Box*, a play in three acts, by John Galsworthy, and acquitted herself admirably, the versatility she displayed in her acting of a part so radically different from those with which she had been previously identified coming as a most agreeable surprise to her many admirers. Mr. Bruce McRae, as the drunken bully, Jones, gave an earnest and convincing portrayal.

"Ben-Hur" has taken a new lease of poularity at the Academy of Music. Originally produced in 1899, this play has been performed over 2,500 times. It will be the leading amusement offering at the Jamestown Exposition.

Mr. Ben Greet and his company of English players offered an interesting revival of *Everyman* at the Garden Theatre last week. The last week of the engagemnt is being devoted to a series of Shakspearean revivals.

Mr. Richard Mansfield, after appearing for several weeks at the New Amsterdam Theatre in Ibsen's *Peer Gynt*, returned to his familiar répertoire for the final week of his New York engagement. He had previously announced that he would be unable to play *Peer Gynt* much longer as the rôle was too exacting. As soon as he went "on the road" Mr. Mansfield was taken ill, and his engagements are cancelled for the time being.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, April 8, the Drama, entitled
"WOMAN AND WINE."

Miss Mary Austin and Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds's company is appearing this week in this well-known play, which is proving a strong attraction. Miss Cissie St. Elmo acts with considerable power as Marcel Rigadout, and looks very handsome in the part. Miss Violet Sims makes a prepossessing Mary Andrews, and a bright and spirited performance as Janet Marlow comes from Miss Ethel Vinroy. Miss Joan Perreira achieves a signal success as La Colombe, playing with rare abandon and fervour. Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds contributes a striking performance as the reckless Dick Seymour, his portraiture being most faithful. Mr. Fred W. Goddard is responsible for an incisive characterisation of Alphonse Beaudet, and a grim and well-defined sketch of Pierre Crucru is contributed by Mr. George P. Lester. Mr. John S. Haydon plays Hugh Seymour appropriately; Mr. George H. Child is capital as Professor Sauter; and Mr. Harry Harrop is highly successful as Charles Sauter. The remaining parts in an exceptionally long cast are all played with ability, and the specialities introduced by the Lottie Stone troupe of whirlwind dancers meet with ready approval. The piece is exceedingly well-mounted and dressed.

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LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

COURT THEATRE.

On Monday, April 8, Revival of the Play, in Three Acts, by John Galsworthy, entitled "THE SILVER BOX."

Produced at a matinée performance at the Court Theatre on Sept. 25 last, *The Silver Box* has been placed in the evening bill, and, judging by the highly favourable reception accorded it on Monday, Mr. John Galsworthy's play bids fair to attract large audiences to the Sloane-square house. In any case, it will be succeeded a fortnight hence by the revival of Mr. St. John Hankin's successful play *The Return of the Prodigal*. The author of *The Silver Box* seems to have had the intention of throwing a lurid light upon certain aspects of modern life, and bringing into special prominence the inequalities between the rich and the poor. The play does, indeed, touch closely upon some much-discussed problems of the day; and the story of the Barthwick and the Jones families might well be cited by the Socialist speaker or writer in support of his views. It is, however, the absolute truthfulness of the picture presented that renders the piece so remarkably interesting. In numerous plays the caricatures of the proceedings of a court of law have been rendered laughable by reason of their absurd divergencies from the real thing, but in *The Silver Box* the police-court scene is absolutely correct even to the minutest details, as everyone familiar with these gloomy buildings used for the administration of the law must admit.

Most of the principal characters are, happily, still embodied by their original representatives. A more convincing portrait of John Barthwick, M.P., than that presented by Mr. James Hearn cannot be imagined; the irritation and perplexity caused by the youthful folly of Jack, his anything but promising son, being very cleverly depicted. Equally excellent is the Jack Barthwick of Mr. A. E. Matthews, who has become quite famous for his telling sketches of unsatisfactory young men of a too familiar type. Jack presents all the worst features of the mother's spoilt boy, submitting with an ill-grace to the frequent "ragging" of his righteously angry father; and every weak point in the young man's character is skilfully brought out by Mr. Matthews. Mr. Norman McKinnel again appears as Jones, the out-of-work groom who has taken to drink and to wife-beating. It would be difficult to name an actor better qualified to play the part of this drunken, violent, ne'er-do-well, whose one redeeming quality is his love for his unfortunate offspring; and Mr. McKinnel's realistic carefully-studied embodiment contributes in no small degree to the success which has attended the revival. Mr. Cecil Rose has replaced Mr. Goodsall in the rôle of Mr. Roper, the solicitor, and plays it well; Mr. Dennis Eadie has succeeded Mr. F. Lloyd as Marlow, Mr. Barthwick's butler, and exactly hits off the quiet, deferential manner of the well-trained servant. Mr. Athol Forde gives a capital sketch of the police-court magistrate; and Mr. Lewis Casson as the magistrate's clerk reads over the evidence in exactly the monotonous tone adopted by that important official. Mr. Edmund Gurney does good work as Levens; and worthy of mention, too, are the Snow of Mr. Trevor Lowe, the Relieving Officer of Mr. Edmund Gurney, and the Usher of Mr. Norman Page. With regard to the ladies, Miss Nora Greenlaw now plays the part of Mrs. Jones, the original representative of which was Miss Irene Rooke; and admirably in every respect does the newcomer portray the honest, hard-working charwoman, whose spirit has been broken by a worthless husband who "raises 'is 'and" to her when he is drunk. Quite life-like is this portrait of a woman of the people. Another actress new to the cast is Miss Mary Hamilton, who replaces Miss Sydney Fairbrother as the Unknown Lady, and makes good use of her one opportunity in the first act, when the "unfortunate" who has lost her purse confronts the horrified, disgusted father and the shambling, shame-faced son. Miss Frances Ivor is well placed as the doting mother, Mrs. Barthwick, whose self-satisfaction and intolerance of the lower classes are excellently expressed. Mrs. Charles Maltby as Mrs. Seddon, the Jones's landlady, and Miss Amy Lamborn as Wheeler, a maid-servant, lend efficient assistance.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, April 11, the Comedy entitled "THE FREEDOM OF SUZANNE."

Told in a delightfully pleasant manner, Mr. Cosmo Gordon Lennox's light comedy affords an excellent evening's amusement. Interpreted by the clever members of Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company, headed by such an accomplished artist as Miss Mabel Love, the comedy was bound to succeed, and at the fall of the curtain after each act on Monday evening the applause was most enthusiastic. Suzanne Trevor, the wayward lady, fits Miss Mabel Love's style exactly, and she plays the part so as to secure an artistic triumph. An excellent embodiment of the husband, Charles Trevor, is given by Mr. Templer Powell; Mr. F. G. Thurstans makes a capital Fitzroy Harding, the rakish old uncle; and Mr. Gerald Alexander is a good Sir Horace Hatton. Lord Dachet is safe in the hands of that experienced actor Mr. J. Hastings Batson; and Mr. Townsend Whitling is a capital Captain Harry Cecil. Tommy Keston is well played by Mr. Richard Neville; and as the King's Proctor's man, Budd, Mr. Montgomery is amusing. Miss Annie Stalman as Lady Charlotte Trevor, the mother-in-law, is characteristically biting, and acts with much spirit; as Fanny Mincing, Miss Florence Harwood has many opportunities of causing genuine laughter; Miss Violet Ley is a handsome and talented Lady Isabel Bury; and Miss Dorothy Lart is successful in the small part of Mrs. Tunstall. The charwoman, Mrs. Putnam, is humorously undertaken by Miss F. Turner. A well-written trifle, by Miss Rosemary Rees, entitled *Her Dearest Friend*, is also played, in which Miss Violet Ley, Miss Annie Stalman, and Mr. Richard Neville give every satisfaction. The scenery and appointments are exceedingly effective.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, April 8, the Musical Comedy, entitled "THE BELLE OF MAYFAIR."

The engagement of Milton Bode's principal company in *The Belle of Mayfair* is proving a strong attraction this week at the Marlborough. The successful musical play is produced on a very lavish scale, the scenery and dresses being most charming, while the company includes a number of able artists. Chief honours must be given to Mr. Harry Parker, who appears in the part of Sir John Chaldicott, Bart., M.P. He succeeds admirably in his portrayal, which is full of genuine humour and clever work. There is not one dull moment while he occupies the stage, and he pleases both in his acting and singing. Especially successful is Mr. Parker with his song "In skyland," which calls forth at least half a dozen encores. Mr. Haddon Cave merits warm praise for his natural performance as the Earl of Mount Highgate; Mr. Edward Hugonnet efficiently represents the Hon. Raymond Finchley; and Mr. Gwyn Alwyn does well as the light-hearted Hugh Meredith. Mr. Laurie Lisle cleverly sustains the part of Comte de Perrier; and Mr. George McCloskie makes the most of his opportunities as the Rev. Marmaduke Lawrence. Miss Queenie Finnis is a charming Julia Chaldicott, and her songs "To-morrow" and "Far away from cares and worries" meet with cordial recognition. Miss Veronica Brady, whose dancing is exceedingly neat and clever, is deserving of special mention for her portrayal of Pincott; Mr. Lewis Wigley is very entertaining as Simpson, and scores well with Miss Brady in the second act in their duet and dance; Miss Emily Stevens deserves much praise for her untiring energy in the rôle of Lady Chaldicott; and Miss Leslie St. John is successful as Lady Highgate. Miss Aurelie de Loriere creates a favourable impression by her impersonation of Lady Rosaline Rockesley and the Gibson Girl; her efforts as a vocalist meet with due recognition, and she sings with capital effect "Why do they call me a Gibson Girl?" assisted by the ladies of the chorus. This contribution is decidedly one of the hits of the piece. Miss Agnes Tandy acts daintily as the Princess Carl of Ehrenbreitstein. Miss Tandy possesses a rich voice, which she uses skilfully in several songs, notably "The weeping willow wept," Mr. Fred Brandon is good as Captain Theobald, and the numerous other minor characters are all in excellent hands. Not the least noteworthy part of the production is the strong and well-balanced chorus, and a word of praise is due to the Marlborough orchestra, which is augmented and under the able conductorship of Mr. Thomas M. Tunbridge. In addition to his excellent performance as the Rev. Marmaduke Lawrence, Mr. George McCloskie is to be complimented on his abilities as stage-manager.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, April 8, the Play, entitled "HIS HOUSE IN ORDER."

Mr. Robert Arthur has lost no time in securing Mr. Pinero's latest, and perhaps most brilliant, play for the delectation of the patrons of the Camden Theatre, where it is attracting crowded houses this week. The play is presented by Mr. George Alexander's company, which has been carefully chosen and rehearsed under the direct guidance of the popular actor-manager and the author. Mr. Frank Fenton, in the rôle of Hilary Jesson, presents a finished study of the genial, resolute, and clever diplomat who does so much to help his brother Filmer to put "his house in order." It is an altogether admirable piece of acting and most convincing. In the character of the young wife, Nina, Miss Auriol Lee is seen to the utmost advantage, and she plays with much charm and skill, especially in the more emotional scenes. In the scene in which Nina discovers the incriminating letters her acting is very powerful, and is loudly applauded at the fall of the curtain. Mr. Cyril Harcourt portrays the methodical, but somewhat weak, Filmer Jesson, who is so blind to his wife's good points, in a most creditable manner; Derek Jesson is well played by Miss Moyna Hill; the pompous and austere Sir Daniel Ridgeley is depicted in a most natural manner by that sound actor Mr. George Fitzgerald; while Lady Ridgeley is played in appropriately dignified style by Mrs. Kemmis, who is seen to great advantage in the part. Geraldine Ridgeley is a trying rôle to fill; however, Miss Audrey Campbell is quite successful in her clever embodiment. Pryce Ridgeley is capitally delineated by Mr. George Silver, who, however, has not much opportunity until the last act; Mr. L. Lowndes is good as Major Maurewarde, and Mr. A. E. Benedict amusing as Dr. Dillnott; Miss Lilli Kehr is smart as the French governess; Mr. Reginald Besant fills the part of Harding with excellent results; and Mr. Cyril Cuttley, who also stage-manages, appears with success as Forshaw, the newspaper representative. The play is staged in the most complete and artistic manner, and Mr. A. P. Horne is the general-manager for the company. Mr. Wilfred Stanford looks after Mr. Arthur's interests as acting-manager at the theatre.

CORONET THEATRE.

On Monday, April 8, "LE PETIT DUC."

M. René Debrenne's French opéra-bouffe company is giving a short season at the Coronet Theatre with a varied répertoire of well-known operas, including *La Fille de Mme. Angot*, *Les Mousquetaires au Convent*, *Les Cloches de Corneville*, *Le Petit Duc*, *La Mascotte*, and possibly also *Véronique*, *Les Saltimbanques*, and *Le Jour et la Nuit*. Mlles. Henriette Delormes and Degoyon are well known to Parisian habitués of the Gaîté, and other well-known performers are Mlle. Hilbert (of the Lyrique), M. Corin (who created the rôle of Bariton in London), Mlle. de Kiercourt, Mlle. Nast, Mlle. Lenac, MM. Duncan, Ranté, Dumontier, Merlin, and Dorbach. The story of *Le Petit Duc* is concerned with the youthful love and marriage of the Duc de Parthenay and his juvenile Duchess; their nuptials are celebrated so early in life that the Duchess de Parthenay has to go back to a convent school, whither the lovelorn Dukelet follows her in disguise, and then she returns the compliment by joining him on the camping ground, whither he has gone as colonel of his regiment. There are some very pretty songs in the piece, but as no book is published it is somewhat difficult to recall the titles. Mlle. Henriette Delorme is a delightful little Duke, her vivacity and charm, as well as her grace and refinement, being apparent at every turn, and she is a sweet-voiced and expressive vocalist, and artistic all the time. Mlle. de Kiercourt is a sweet and gentle and lovable little schoolgirl Duchess, and sings most agreeably; M. Corin is a very distinguished and melodious Montlandry; M. Ranté is exceedingly droll as the scholarly Frimousse, and displays a lively wit in his interpretation of the part; and Mlle. Degoyon is capital as the lively and complacent Diane de Château Lansac. The dresses strike an English audience as somewhat quaint, but they are doubtless in keeping with the parts portrayed. M. Bonafous is chef d'orchestre, and Mr. Leachman assists in the front of the house.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, April 8, the Play, entitled "THE MORALS OF MARCUS."

The first visit of that charming play, *The Morals of Marcus*, to the London suburbs attracted a large and interested audience to the Kennington Theatre on Monday, and it is safe to say that no one went away disappointed. The play is one of the prettiest on the road at present, and the absorbing love-story of Sir Marcus Ordeyne, with its blend of comedy and tragedy and its eventual realisation, lost none of its freshness at the hands of Mr. Arthur Bourchier's strong company. The production is under the direction of Mr. M. V. Leveaux, and he is to be congratulated on the satisfactory result attained. The staging and dress effects are necessarily circumscribed, but the cottage and garden at Surbiton in the first act make rather a nice set. As Sir Marcus Ordeyne, the philosophic bachelor baronet of the first act, devoted to his books and forsworn of women, who gradually falls in love with Carlotta, Mr. H. Nye Chart was admirable. He made the most of the many fine situations in which the play abounds, and won for himself a veritable triumph. He was splendidly supported by that gifted actress, Miss Hilda Antony, who made a lovable Carlotta. Whether as the stray Syrian girl, forlorn and forsaken, as the wayward and mischievous young lady being slowly civilised, as the frightened woman in flight, or the returned penitent, Miss Antony was equally successful, and her acting was deserving of the warmest praise. In the part of Sebastian Pasquale, the cynical villain, Mr. David Domville did exceedingly well and displayed histrionic ability of no mean order. Mrs. H. Nye Chart gave a careful and sympathetic study of the somewhat difficult character of Judith Mainwaring, being seen to especial effect in the third act, when she makes a despairing effort to secure Sir Marcus for herself. An amusing as well as clever interpretation of the part of Antoinette, the garrulous cook, was given by Miss Eleanor Gilbart; Mr. A. H. Leveaux did not have much opportunity to shine as Hamdi Effendi, but he acted the grim old Turk very well; Miss Gladys Purnell was an ideal Dora Ordeyne, the modern cigarette-smoking girl, whose determined quest of Pasquale was eventually rewarded; while as Mrs. Ordeyne, Miss Mary Weigall looked a typical British matron whose sense of propriety had been outraged. Mr. Cecil Brooking was excellent as Stenson, the butler; and the Bobby Tremlett of Mr. W. Swinburne deserves mention. Miss Conyers Radcliffe as Mrs. McMurray, Miss Mary O'Neill as Lady Elmira Wynne, Miss Evelyn Summers as Miss Lestrange, and Miss Hilda Saxe as the Maid supported their respective rôles in a creditable manner.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.

On Monday, April 8, the Burlesque, entitled "BLUEBEARD THE BOLD."

Mr. J. Bannister Howard's production for this week smacks more of the festive pantomime than of burlesque; but that is a slight matter, when the public gets an evening of rollicking fun, as many as five comedians, and a plethora of beauty and talent in the performers of the other sex. Miss Isa Bowman sang, danced, and acted with great go and success, wearing many and varied costumes of the "principal boy" order, and had an arch and pretty sweetheart in Miss Dorothy Dempster, who, as Fatima rendered several favourite songs, including "Ma Starlight Queen" in the second part of the play, with much applause. Miss Cissie Thompson showed much promise as Cashim, and there was plenty of ability and merit in the numerous ladies who acted the minor parts of ladies of Bluebeard's Court, attendants, &c. Mr. Charles Lake as Bluebeard was full of unctuous humour, but was too little seen. Mr. Gus Danby (an old favourite here) as Bamboozlum, the father of Fatima, was funny, and much laughter was caused by him in conjunction with Mr. Alec Godfrey as Pimple, Mr. MacStuart as Shakabak, and Mr. Johnny Clegg as Sister Anne. These three last-named comedians all had their opportunities during the course of the evening, and did not fail to take the fullest advantage of them. The company included several speciality artists; Mr. Morrice Holmes, a whistler of the Lawton school, with a good song; and Stuart and Stuart, whose eccentric songs and clever dances of the rag-time order secured encores repeatedly. As Nolah, Miss Maud Brock produced a good impression, both by her appearance and singing. There were several heavy sets in the way of scenery and the dresses, choruses, and general production left nothing to be improved upon.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, April 8, the Play, entitled "THE ANGEL OF UNREST."

This week we have a visit from the new Napoleonic drama, entitled *The Angel of Unrest*. The play is interesting and unconventional in treatment, and an excellent interpretation of it is given by Messrs. Alec Flood and Mr. Aubrey Fitzmaurice's company. The central figure is Papa Bompasse, one of the Old Guard of Napoleon, a brave and kind-hearted old soldier, honest as the day, and somewhat given to boasting. The part is splendidly played by Mr. Henry Belding; very pathetic is his final scene, where the war-scarred veteran goes forth to answer the final roll-call. Mr. Alec Flood submits a fine character-sketch of the little Corporal, and the mannerisms which tradition has attributed to the Corsican tyrant are faithfully reproduced. Mr. Creagh Henry as the brave, high-souled Paul Brandt soon enlists the sympathies of the audience by the sincerity of his acting; and the reckless and unscrupulous Captain Lemesnil is played with much cleverness by Mr. Alexander Bradley. Miss Florence Tressillian puts pathos and passion into her rendering of the unfortunate young wife, Julie Lepine, and Miss Nita Imeson is a pert French maid as Lisette. Hugle, an old Russian, is made a strikingly effective character-study in the hands of Mr. James Chippendale. Mr. Richard A. Greene is a dignified and soldierly Colonel Bennaise. Miss Patti March does all that is possible with the small part of Mme. Renandot; General Renandot is well acted by Mr. Aubrey Fitzmaurice. Messrs. George Chase, P. L. Danks, Laurence Vining, Dudley Walton, and Fred Stone are all successful in minor rôles. Some very pretty scenery has been specially painted for the production, and the effect of the burning of Moscow in the third act is excellently contrived. Mr. F. Martin Morris is the general-manager for the company.

THE PAVILION.

On Monday, April 8, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Jacob Gordin, entitled "THE TRUTH."

The attraction on Monday at the Pavilion was a performance by the Jewish Operatic and Dramatic Company of Jacob Gordin's masterpiece *The Truth*, in which the writer answers the argument he raised in his earlier play, *Menasha*, by proving in *The Truth* that assimilation in the married state is practicaly impossible. Although the piece is of a domestic character, it contains great literary merit, and depends entirely upon the acting for its success, the author disregarding meretricious aids to produce effect. A large audience followed the drama with rapt attention, and testified approval with no uncertain voice. A portrayal in every respect scholarly and dignified was given by Mr. Sigmund Feinman, who depicted with power the anxieties of the husband William, every detail being carefully studied and the conception well thought out. Mme. F. Epshtein must be highly congratulated upon her brilliant achievements as Rosah, her impersonation of the wife being not only full of charm, but interesting and forcible withal. Mme. Epshtein has put in some good work during her engagement, but on Monday her performance was distinctly an artistic triumph. High commendation must be awarded to Mr. Isaacowitch for his decisive rendering of Mr. Stenten, which was perfect in every way, while his "make-up" was excellent. Mr. J. Sherman was equal to the demands made upon him in the part of Kalmen, which he enacted with all his usual cleverness; while that talented actress, Mme. J. Kayzer, presented a capital exposition of Wiala. A manly interpretation of Mike was given by Mr. M. Gusofsky; and an admirable interpreter of Abraham Gershuni was seen in Mr. J. Goldsmith. Mme. Josephson was delightful as Grase; and Mr. N. Hamburger was seen to advantage as an old Judge. Mme. Goldstein was natural and effective as Sheine Tubeh; and Mme. Bloom as Mrs. Stenten and Miss Lubritski as Benjamin were quite satisfactory. During the week *Jews in Roumania*, *Othello*, *Alfonso the Noble*, and *Jews in Morocco* have been played.

THE BROADWAY.

On Monday, April 8, the Musical Play, entitled "THE BLUE MOON."

Mr. Robert Courtneidge has exercised great discrimination in the selection of artists to interpret this successful musical play from the Lyric Theatre, each member of the company being peculiarly well suited to the character he or she represents, the result being an admirable performance. The chorus is well trained and attractive, and the orchestra ably directed by Mr. Ernest Hurman. Mr. Edward Lewis scores a great success as Moolraj the idol maker, juggler, and marriage broker; and the part is exactly suited to his quaintly humorous style. Mr. Leslie Gaze is well placed as Major Vivian Callabone. Mr. J. Edward Fraser as Captain Jack Ormsby looks and acts the handsome, dashing officer to the life. His song, "Letters from dear old England" is splendidly rendered. Mr. George Mudie, jun., is very good as Bobbie Scott, the journalist; and the trio, entitled "The major and the minor," is capitally given by these gentlemen, and is one of the hits of the evening. Mr. Reginald Switz as Private Charlie Taylor is excellent; and Mr. Thomas Holding (the Prince Radahur), Mr. Hugh Glendon (Abdul), Mr. George Parti (Hafez), Mr. Frank Haylett (Hon. Archie May), Mr. Edward Noble (Clive Mansfield), Mr. A. C. McDearsmid (Farzer Jenkins), and Mr. Charles Francis (Hanniker Makins), are all capital exponents of their respective parts. Miss Clarice Lockstone gives a charming impersonation of Chandra Nil, and her singing of "The little blue moon" is delightful. Miss Ethel Callanan is an attractive Evelyn Ormsby, and the duet, "Sometimes with Bobbie," is warmly applauded. Miss Florence Imeson is a bright and pleasing Millicent Leroy, and sings "The dear little girl with the bandbox" in clever and vivacious style. Miss Mabel Lorrell scores as Lady Brabasham, as also do Miss Maude Schwitz as Oma, and Miss Christine Ferris as Ramah. Other parts are well filled by Mesdames Hilda Lochner, Florence Foster, Margaret Radcliffe, Edith Foster, Lucy Daves, Lilian Stead, Margaret Evans, and Cissy Murphy. The play is lavishly dressed and mounted.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, April 8, the Comedy Drama, entitled "HEARTS ADRIFT."

At the Shakespeare Theatre this week Mr. Frank Bertram's company is holding the boards with the stirring American comedy-drama *Hearts Adrift*. An excellent company has been engaged, and the representation is illustrated by fine scenery, the tableau "On the Airship" being a very realistic set. The acting all round is worthy of the warmest praise. Mr. Harry Bedford brings out the main characteristics of the repentant Captain Teddy with convincing force, faithfully portraying the varying emotions of the part. Another good performance is that of Mr. Cecil Klein, an actor of marked ability, in the rôle of Robert Darney. Mr. Fred Terris's impersonation of the scheming company promoter is eminently satisfactory; and the same may be said of Mr. Alfred Holles as Pidgeon and Mr. R. Gwyn Richardson as John Lane. Mr. William Gomer does all that is necessary as the detective, Sam Redway; and Mr. Brian Daly contributes some welcome touches of humour as Simeon Green. Of the ladies Miss Nellie Clyde gives a natural representation of Rosie, a flower girl, winning the sympathy of the audience; Miss Gertrude Harrison makes an attractive appearance as Julia Lane; and Miss Beatrice A. Bell submits a capital character-sketch of Energy Muggs. Miss Kitty Kirwan as Peggy MacGuire keeps the audience well amused; and Miss Irene Moss is to be congratulated upon a sterling performance of Little Tim, a crippled newsboy. The play is produced under the direction of Mr. John East, and Mr. Eugene Bertram is general-manager and Mr. Ernest Bingham business-manager for Mr. Frank Bertram.

THE BRIXTON.

On Monday, April 8, the Drama, entitled "SHERLOCK HOLMES."

A great celebrity has this week appeared at the Brixton Theatre in the person of Sherlock Holmes, whose remarkable adventures have been followed with eagerness and rapturously applauded by houses filled from floor to roof. On the night of our visit the theatre presented an aspect of fulness that reminded one of its best days, and Mr. R. W. Allum is to be congratulated on the revival of prosperity which has evidently set in. The version of the famous book is that prepared by the author, Sir A. Conan Doyle, in conjunction with Mr. William Gillette, who played the title-rôle on the production of the play at the Lyceum in the autumn of 1901, and the company is that of Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart, who travels the piece by arrangement with Mr. Charles Frohman. Mr. Stewart plays the indomitable detective with admirable ease, sangfroid, and skill, humour being frequent, and a touch of pathos also being supplied. His handsome presence and well-modulated voice fit him excellently for the part, and his command over the audience lasts from beginning to end, curtain calls innumerable testifying to the estimation in which he is held. A fine embodiment of Moriarity is also submitted by Mr. James Skea, who has got quite into the skin of the rôle of the cunning, unscrupulous master-criminal, and plays it with rare finish. The make-up is excellent, the pallid features, the sunken eyes, and general air of degradation being capitally assumed, while a resonant voice and deliberate method add to its effectiveness. The famous scene in the second act was played to perfection, and won loud cheers. The gentleness and grace of Miss Gladys Harvey recommend Alice Faulkner at once to the sympathies of the audience. The young actress puts much animation into her portrayal of the part, and delivers her lines with feeling. Mr. Allan Jeayes is a satisfactory Dr. Watson, acting the genial medico with care and intelligence. James Larrabee is cast in a villainous mould by Mr. Henry Hare, whose effective voice and mordant methods are successful in giving added significance to the part, and as his lady partner, Madge Larrabee, Miss Georgina Wynter triumphantly surmounts the difficulties of an exacting and ungrateful rôle. A capital rendering of John Forman is given by Mr. Fred Bell, whose penetrating tones are of excellent service in the assumption; Mr. Edward Mervyn is the cause of much merriment as the "leery" Sydney Prince; and a bright and buoyant Billy is found in Master Leslie Hall, who is at times too rapid in utterance, but is throughout a favourite. Cragin, Leary, and "Lightfoot" McTague are embodied with due sinister characteristics by Messrs. Gordon K. Bull, Hubert Pinder, and Harold Broughton; and Sir Edward Leighton and Count von Stahlburg have suitable exponents in Mr. Henry Littlejohn and Mr. Frank H. Moar. A pleasingly Parisian Thérèse is found in Miss Rosalie Notrelle, who acts vivaciously and never loses hold of the accent; Mrs. Faulkner is creditably portrayed by Miss Dot Seilby; Miss Smeedly is sustained by Miss Grace Howard; and Mr. Wilson Roberts as Alfred Bassick, Mr. William Wilson as John, and Mr. Frank Spray as Parsons complete the well-selected cast.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

Dr. Walford Bodie and his company are taking the place of melodrama at the Stratford Theatre Royal this week, and the enterprise recently shown in the management of this popular house is likely to be well rewarded, judging by the auspicious start made on Monday night, when a large and enthusiastic audience was present. And when it is taken into consideration that it is only a few months since Dr. Bodie was last in Stratford, it is a strong tribute to his personal popularity. The doctor prefaced his performance by some pertinent remarks on the powers and wonders of electricity as a healer when all other means have failed, and the audience was considerably impressed by the elaborate display of electrical appliances which are brought into requisition, while quite a feeling of awe pervaded the auditorium at the sight of the cruel leg irons, now happily of no use to their owners, but retained by Dr. Bodie as "trophies." If there were no demonstration of the doctor's prowess as a healer, the turn could rank among the foremost on the variety stage for its entertaining and mirth-provoking side. For nothing funnier could be imagined than the antics of the "victims" who bravely go on the stage and attempt to undergo an electric charge or to sit on an electrified chair. Those in front are also not left out, for an electric cord is passed round the stalls, and the involuntary yells of those courageous enough to grasp the attached handles arouse screams of laughter. After several grateful patients of Dr. Bodie's had come forward and briefly testified to the good they had derived, two cases were treated, both being children discharged from London hospitals as incurable. And it was a gladsome sight, indeed, to see these youngsters, who were carried on to the stage, able to toddle off unaided.

The entertainment which precedes is contributed to by Bella Skene, burlesque actress and vocalist; Little Dolly Robson; Belford and Mars, singers and dancers; Clarice Mignon, banjoist; T. Dariah, comedian; Tom N. Mills, actor-vocalist (who also ably combines the duties of acting-manager); the Musical Acmes; and Russell and Reid's combination, in the farcical comedy *Bink's Blunders*.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, April 8, for the first time in London, the Play, in Four Acts, by S. Buchanan Rogerson, founded on Guy Thorne's novel, entitled "WHEN IT WAS DARK."

The Rev. Basil Gortre ..Mr. Cyril Austen-Lee
Constantine Schwabe .....Mr. George H. Pitt
Sir Robert Llewellyn ....Mr. B. Henry Stanley
The Rev. Mr. Byars .....Mr. Henry Heller
Honourable Charles Gayfly Mr. Millar Wilson
Nunc Wallace .....Mr. George Mortimer
Harold Spence .....Mr. W. B. Sommerville
Luifer .....Mr. Francis Cairns
Mr. Ommaney .....Mr. Arthur Clifton
Ionides .....Mr. D. M. Stormfort
Ali-al-Murad .....Mr. F. Davis
Ibram .....Mr. A. Watts
Hassan .....Mr. W. Shaw
Alphonse .....Mr. Allen Johnson
Helena Byars .....Mrs. Morton Powell
Grace Goldeye .....Miss Bessie Ellis
Flossie Lovegay .....Miss E. Ross
Minnie Golightly .....Miss G. May
Gertrude Hunt .....Miss Elizabeth Watson

There are in existence two dramatic versions of Mr. Guy Thorne's sensational novel "When It Was Dark," one being an adaptation by the Rev. Forbes Phillips, and the other by Mr. S. Buchanan Rogerson, with fresh dialogue and a scene written by Mr. Thorne, and now first produced in the metropolis at the West London Theatre. This last-mentioned version was originally staged at Cradley Heath, and a little later was produced at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, under the title of *Darkness*. The plot reveals how Constantine Schwabe, a millionaire, resolves to destroy the foundations of the Christian faith, and with this sinister object in view seeks the co-operation of Sir Robert Llewellyn, a dissipated baronet, who is deeply in the other man's debt. Evidence is produced to the world that the real tomb of the Saviour has been discovered at Jerusalem, and an inscription in Greek proves that the story of the Resurrection was a myth. Gertrude Hunt, who has been the mistress of Sir Robert, becomes a changed woman, after listening to a powerful sermon preached at the Bloomsbury Church by the Rev. Basil Gortre, the earnest young curate who is engaged to be married to Helena Byars, the daughter of the Vicar of Walkton. She resolves to thwart the evil designs of Schwabe and his tool Llewellyn, whom she has left. One night this "modern Magdalen" makes her appearance at Llewellyn's rooms. He is overjoyed at her unexpected return, and celebrates the occasion by imbibing freely of brandy. The woman presses him to disclose the terrible secret of which he is in possession. He at first refuses; she threatens to leave him again, as he has no trust in her, and he then confesses to her the details of the plot to overthrow Christianity, for which he and Schwabe are jointly responsible. She then makes her escape from the now drunken man.

The first scene of the last act is the Mosque at Nabjal. Hither has come the Rev. Basil Gortre to make investigations; and to the Governor of Nabjal he appeals for assistance. Ionides, a Greek, who has been employed by the conspirators, is brought in guarded, and under the lash he confesses to the part he has taken in the fraud. Then the scene changes to the room occupied by Llewellyn, who has by this time become a terror-stricken man, dreading the results of the discovery of the fraud which has been practised. He receives a visit from Schwabe, who learns from him that he has disclosed their secret to Gertrude Hunt, and that they are no longer safe from discovery. Schwabe places a phial containing poison on the table, and leaves the wretched man to die alone. For he has been stricken with partial paralysis, and is in a pitiable state. Dragging himself into a chair, he is about to put an end to his miserable existence by taking a dose of the poison when his hand is stayed by Gertrude, who has entered the room unseen by him. At her earnest entreaty, he signs a paper confessing to the conspiracy of which he and Schwabe have been guilty; and a few moments afterwards expires. In the last scene Schwabe makes an attempt to hypnotise Gertrude so that she shall support the false accusations he brings against Gortre. However, he fails, and is himself denounced as the conspirator who has done so much evil, the confession of Llewellyn being produced as irrefutable evidence against him.

Mr. Cyril Austen-Lee gives a very good embodiment of the zealous and plucky young curate, Basil Gortre, and makes excellent use of his opportunities. Mr. George H. Pitt as the satanic millionaire Constantine Schwabe has the advantage of a commanding personality, and plays the part with force and conviction. Mr. B. Henry Stanley submits a decidedly powerful impersonation of Sir Robert Llewellyn, and thrills the audience by the intense realism of his acting in the scene where the unhappy man is stricken with paralysis, and dies a horrible death in the presence of his former mistress. Miss Elizabeth Watson gives a telling performance in the rôle of Gertrude Hunt, and is loudly applauded for her highly-effective acting. Mrs. Morton Powell is excellent as Helena Byars, whose father, the vicar, is admirably portrayed by Mr. Henry Heller. Mr. W. B. Sommerville does well as the young journalist, Harold Spence, and Mr. Arthur Clifton plays carefully the rôle of Mr. Ommaney, editor of the *Daily Mercury*. Mr. D. M. Stormfort is a praiseworthy representative of Ionides, the Greek, and Mr. T. Davis is a sufficiently stern and dignified Governor of Nabjal. Neat sketches are submitted by Mr. Millar Wilson as the Hon. Charles Gayfly, and by Mr. George Mortimer as Nunc Wallace, a man about town. Miss Bessie Ellis is well suited as Grace Goldeye, and other minor parts are ably embodied by Misses E. Ross and G. May, and Messrs. Francis Cairns, A. Watts, W. Shaw, and Allen Johnson. The drama, which has had a favourable reception from West London audiences, has the advantage of being staged in a thoroughly effective manner, some of the scenic effects being exceptionally well-managed.

THE PRINCE'S, POPLAR.

On Monday, April 8, the Comedy, by Ernest Denny, entitled "ALL-OF-A-SUDDEN PEGGY."

This week Messrs. Lionel Glenister and Wood-Ingram's accomplished company is presenting *All-of-a-Sudden Peggy* at this popular house, and is being accorded a hearty reception. Great interest is centred in Miss Decima Moore, who impersonates the title-rôle with irresistible charm, investing her performance with many dainty touches of light comedy that keep the audience delightfully amused. The cultivated style of Mr. Lionel Glenister is seen to advantage in his presentment of the Hon. Jimmy Keppel; and Mr. Frank G. Bayly is an admirable representative of Anthony, Lord Crackenthorpe, Mr. Patrick Fitzgerald making the most of his opportunities as Lucas. Mr. Henderson Bland deserves special praise for his portrayal of Major Archie Phipps; and Jack Menzies is capitaly handled by Mr. J. Edgar Stevenson; the small part of Parker being well filled by Mr. Harry Phillips. Miss Kate Wingfield is successful as the imposing Lady Crackenthorpe; and Miss Naomi Neilson displays ability as Mrs. O'Mara. The Hon. Millicent Keppel has a satisfactory exponent in Miss Eva Lonsdale; and Miss Estelle Despa is well suited as the Hon. Mrs. Colquhoun. The play is beautifully mounted and dressed, and was closely followed by an appreciative audience, who recognised all the points, the "business" in the second act being greatly to their liking. The comedy is preceded by a dramatic episode entitled *The Lady who Dwelt in the Dark*.

"VOTES FOR WOMEN!"

A Dramatic Tract, in Three Acts, by Elizabeth Robins, produced at the Court Theatre, on Tuesday afternoon, April 9.

Lord John Wynnstay.....MR. ATHOL FORDE
Geoffrey Stoner .....MR. AUBREY SMITH
St. John Greatorex..... MR. E. HOLMAN CLARK
Richard Farnborough....MR. P. CLAYTON GREENE
Freddy Tunbridge .....MR. PERCY MARMONT
Mr. Allen Trent .....MR. LEWIS CASSON
Mr. Walker .....MR. EDMUND GWENN
Lady John Wynnstay.....MISS MAUD MILTON
Mrs. Heriot .....MISS FRANCES IVOR
Miss Beatrice Dunbarton..MISS JEAN MACKINLAY
Mrs. Freddy Tunbridge..MISS GERTRUDE BURNETT
Miss Ernestine Blunt .....MISS DOROTHY MINTO
A Working Woman .....MISS AGNES THOMAS
Miss Vida Levering ....MISS WYNNE MATTHISON

We must not allow social or political feeling to influence us in our judgment on Miss Elizabeth Robins's piece and its production by the management of the Court Theatre. *Votes for Women!* is a really remarkable stage production. It is almost the only play, since *It's Never Too Late to Mend*, which has an avowedly didactic purpose. And, just as Charles Reade's detestation of the old prison system nerved him to dramatic vigour, so Miss Robins's sympathy with her sex has inspired her with an intensity of sincerity, a passion of earnestness which are irresistible. And this zeal for thoroughness has communicated itself to the management, and has resulted in some of the most striking stage-management that we have ever seen on the boards of a theatre. Not the Saxe-Meningen crowds, not the coster mob in *The Lights of London* at the old Princess's were so perfectly and absolutely illusive as the people who stand round the base of the Nelson column in the second act of Miss Robins's "tract."

This second part is a "slice out of life," and is sandwiched between an act of preparation and one of conclusion. The first takes place in the house of Lady John Wynnstay, a political hostess, who, with a Mrs. Heriot, represents indifferentism as to the suffrage as far as feminine opinion is concerned. Mrs. Freddy Tunbridge is the type of the woman's vote advocate who believes in getting reform by "winning the men"; and Miss Vida Levering is a handsome and well-to-do young woman who has "been through the mill," and has been turned, by her bitter experiences, into an ardent supporter of the movement. Thrown by accident on the world, suddenly reduced to get her living, and with only the workhouse at last in view, she was seduced, ten years before the play began, by a gentleman named Geoffrey Stoner, and became *enceinte*. This secret is known only to him and Mrs. Heriot. Miss Beatrice Dunbarton Stoner's fiancée, has taken a great fancy to Vida, who, now prosperous, holds a notable place in Society; and Mrs. Heriot, to put Beatrice on her guard, tells her the story of Vida's "fall." Looking at the matter by the light of her experience, Beatrice determines that Geoffrey must make amends to Vida by marrying her. He sees the absurdity of the suggestion, which, like a similar one made to Magda, would simply make matters worse; but he agrees to make the proposal to Vida. She is equally undesirous that he shall marry her; but, after bringing him to acknowledge that he owes her a debt, she makes him promise to pay it by giving his fullest support—he is now an influential politician—to the female suffrage movement.

This is merely the bare outline which Miss Robins has filled in with arguments, facts, and delicate and tender touches which is is impossible to take out of their setting without spoiling them. If *Votes for Women!* does not have the effect of altering opinions as to the question of female suffrage, it will, at any rate, show the women's side of the question in a fresh light to most playgoers, who are not, as a rule, "strong" in philanthropic facts and figures.

The *clou* of the piece, however, is the scene in Trafalgar Square. The base of the Nelson column is shown, with a little band of "suffragettes" upon it; and around, with their backs to the audience, is a typical London crowd, each item of which is differentiated with great care and skill—indeed, they have, really, separate and individual "parts." A most realistic Working Woman addresses the crowd. Next come a young and pretty girl-speaker, who is followed by a popular orator of the rough-and-ready sort. Then Vida Levering, nervous, hesitating, but resolved, braves the jeers of the mob, and, eventually, by the thrilling intensity of her belief, reduces them to attention and silence. The realistic way in which every detail of the scene is done is extraordinary. The coarse humours of the crowd; its insensate and impertinent interruptions, and the clever and painstaking characterisation of the whole, are from a technical point of view, worthy of the warmest praise

Miss Wynne Matthison scores a complete triumph as Vida Levering. Looking strikingly handsome, sensitive to every turn and phase of the part, full of deep feeling which was all the more effective for being semi-suppressed, Miss Matthison won the sympathy of the whole house, and "even the ranks of Tuscany"—represented in this case by those taking a contemptuous view of the "suffragettes"—could "scarce forbear to cheer" an embodiment so earnest, so refined, and so delicately artistic. Mr. Aubrey Smith played Geoffrey Stoner with his accustomed ease and firmness, and treated the very critical and trying scenes in the last act with admirable discretion and judgment. It was impossible to do much with a rôle which was comparatively subordinate to the female interest; but all that could be done Mr. Smith did, and did remarkably well Miss Robins has taken care to give the women all the best parts in the piece; and one of the more fortunate artists in the cast was Miss Agnes Thomas, who, made-up and costumed as the "very image" of an over-worked British matron, spoke the Working Woman's very "straight talk" with the men capitally, making every point tell. Another lucky artist was Miss Dorothy Minto, who put plenty of spirit into her little oration, and hit off the good-humoured tolerance of the young enthusiast exactly. Lord and Lady John Wynnstay were easily and commendably represented by such artists as Mr. Athol Forde and Miss Maud Milton; Mr. E. Holman Clark, slightly more fortunate, being all that could be desired as the practical politician, St. ohn Greatorex. Mr. P. Clayton Greene as Richard Farnborough was quite equal to the occasion; and Mr. Percy Marmont was efficient as Freddy Tunbridge; Mr. Lewis Casson being satisfactory as Mr. Allen Trent and Mr. Edmund Gwenn deserving very warm praise in the little part of Mr. Walker. It was a marvellously real and humorous impersonation. Miss Francis Ivor did good and careful work as Mrs. Heriot; and Miss Jean MacKinlay was a delightfully sweet, simple, and impulsive Beatrice Dunbarton, Miss Gertrude Burnett contributing a clever sketch of the mincing and "precious" Mrs. Freddy Tunbridge. The "dramatic tract" held the house from start to finish; and, at the conclusion, there was a demonstration which was, in great part, a tribute to the merits of the performance, apart from any opinion on the theme.

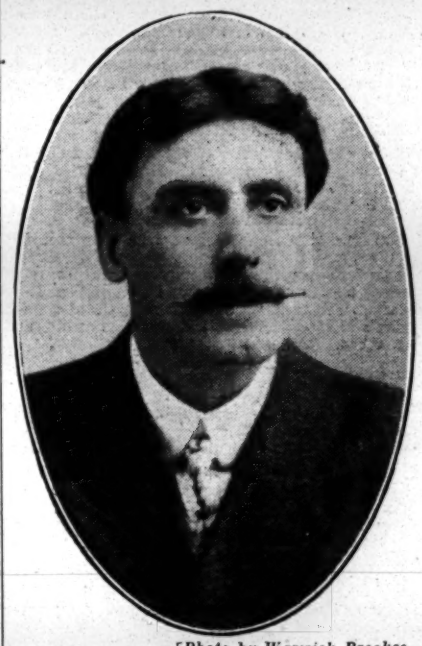
CHAT WITH MR. ERIC MAYNE.

(BY OUR OWN COMMISSIONER.)

"I think," says Mr. Eric Mayne, who is at present playing the part of Prince Ulric in *Her Love Against the World* at the Lyceum Theatre, "that there is a desire on the part of the public to return to the theatre. Undoubtedly for a time the music hall caught the public taste, and—especially in the smaller provincial towns, where the theatre-going section is a comparatively small one—there was a serious decline of support for the drama. But there is a large number of people who are not satisfied with the brief brilliancy of a music hall turn, and to such people a strong story, clearly told, picturesquely mounted, and well acted, appeals.

"There has been a great development in public taste even recently. People now are quick to appreciate a real dramatic situation, as opposed to one merely created for dramatic effect, and there is a demand for better plays—clean, healthy, well-written plays, but not dull. Unfortunately many very clever and beautiful plays are dull, and therefore financially unsuccessful.

"The theatre-goer, as a rule—at any rate, the English theatre-goer—is out for amusement. The theatre ought to be, and undoubtedly is, a power for good; but it must be the general tendency of its work that makes for the uplifting of the ideals of life, and not specific moral lessons preached at the audience. The evening at the theatre should be one of healthy excitement and amusement—an antidote to the stress and monotony of life. Speaking generally, people do not want to see the un-



[*Photo by Warwick Brookes.*

MR. ERIC MAYNE.

pleasant aspects of life unfolded and discussed by morbid-minded or misanthropic characters.

"But, after all, a part which is characterised by strength of purpose is most interesting to represent. I like, for instance, the part of Prince Ulric. He is a strong and uncompromising character. Villains seem to come my way oftener than heroes, and, as I have seen it advanced—as an argument against the theatre—that the constant representation of wickedly-disposed individuals must have a detrimental effect on the character of the performer, I try now and then to play a hero—just to ensure the saving grace of virtue. I think most actors like to have the audience in sympathy with them."

Mr. Mayne's first experience of serious theatrical work was in the fit-up towns, where, for about two years, he played in almost every class of play, from Shakespeare to burlesque. After that he toured for some time with the Adelphi dramas, and also had a long and pleasant engagement with Mr. Fred Gould, the well-known actor-manager, from whom among others, he had a message of good wish on his opening night at the Lyceum.

He was for a considerable time associated with the Drury Lane dramas. In *A Life of Pleasure* he played Lord Avondale for several tours, and was also responsible for the general-management of the tours. In *The Derby Winner* he played Lord Desborough for two tours; in *Hearts are Trumps* the part of Lord Barford; and in *The White Heather*, that of Lord Angus Cameron. He was engaged by Mr. Arthur Collins for the production three years ago at the Lane of *The Flood Tide*, but Mr. Collins was good enough to release him, in order to allow him to accept an offer from Mrs. Lewis Waller, with whom he did leading business for five tours, appearing as Bernard Dupresne in *Zaza* and Alexis in *Vilma*, and Captain Alderson in *Miss Jack*.

This is not the first time he has appeared in one of Mr. Walter Howard's plays. A few years ago he was engaged by Mr. Howard to manage a tour and play the heavy part in *Under the Russian Flag*; he also played Captain Demetrius in a suburban tour of the same play.

"Mr. Howard has been known as a successful playwright in the provinces for some years," remarks Mr. Mayne, "and the success of *Her Love Against the World* seems to suggest that what the provinces has been appreciating for some time, London is prepared to appreciate to-day.

"I don't think the public have ever lost interest in really good drama, provided you give them the play they like, done as they like it. Messrs. Ernest Carpenter and H. R. Smith have found the right play, and they have put it on in a way that appeals to popular taste."

In the autumn of last year Mr. Mayne went to Glasgow, where he played the part of Pisanio in the revival of *Cymbeline* at the Grand Theatre. After that he was with Mr. William Mollison, playing the Rev. John Carmichael in *Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush*, on a tour through Scotland. He has also played the part of General Ivanoff, under the management of Mr. August Van Biene, in *The Broken Melody*; and Julian Devane, in *The Lost Memory*, toured by Messrs. Hart, Courtneidge, and Graham.

MRS. SIDDONS' GRAVE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—The other day I happened to be passing Paddington Churchyard, in company with Mr. Arthur Hervey, the distinguished composer and critic, when I suggested to the latter that we should pay a visit to the tomb of the great tragic actress Sarah Siddons, who lies buried in this old, now disused, God's acre, and whose grave I was the means of restoring many years ago. My friend consented to accompany me to this memorable resting-place all the more readily as he had never before seen it. But imagine our surprise and disappointment to find the grave of Mrs. Siddons in a most dirty and neglected condition—so dirty, in fact, that not even a single word of the once perfectly legible inscription could be deciphered! I must, therefore, call the attention of the public to this disgraceful state of affairs, and express the earnest hope that the tomb of the illustrious Sarah Siddons may once more be thoroughly and completely restored.—Yours faithfully,

ALGERNON ASHTON.

44, Hamilton-gardens, St. John's Wood, N.W.

"THE LAST OF HIS RACE."

An Original Indian Romance, in Four Acts, by Donald McLaren, produced for the first time in Great Britain, at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, on Monday, April 8.

Lonawonda .....MR. H. REEVES SMITH
Sheanagua .....MR. ARTHUR POOLE
Cagawicka .....MR. L. ASHTON-JARRY
Gangwar .....MR. EDWARD BEECHER
Wangosh .....MR. RICHARD NORTON
Medicine Man .....MR. EDWIN PALMER
Matawagnon .....MR. ALGERNON SYMS
Niatawa .....MR. PHILIP CUNINGHAM
Toscameia .....MR. E. WILSON
Kolonek .....MR. HENRY WHITE
Adulola .....MISS MAY CHEVALIER
Lashota .....MISS MARGARET MURCH
Tana-Mongosh .....MISS EDITH MATT
Fawn .....MISS WINIFRED INGHAM
Hara .....MISS BEATRICE HODSON
Tanoi .....MISS ELLA MANTON

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The author of the new play is understood to be a Glasgow man, long resident in Milwaukee, and a diligent student of the manners and customs, ideas and modes of speech of the "noble red man." This insures that the local colour will be above suspicion, and a Glasgow audience accorded a kindly welcome to the new piece.

The story opens with a council called by the Chief of the Ockotchees, Lonawonda, who feels that age and infirmity make it necessary to appoint a successor as chief of the tribe. This he desires to do by inducing his daughter Adulola to marry one of his braves, the one so favoured to be chief. But the daughter, the Lily of Namabin as she is called on account of her fair complexion, will have none of the warriors, her affections being towards Niatawa, who is looked down upon by all the members of the tribe on account of the fact that he is no warrior, preferring the quieter life of a hunter. The father of Niatawa, Matawagnon, pleads his son's cause with the old chief, and when this is scornfully rejected, he casts suspicion on the parentage of Adulola, which so enrages the chief that he kills Matawagnon. The son thereupon vows vengeance on the slayer, whose identity is not known, and a faithless wife, Lashota, who is enamoured of Niatawa, artfully suggests that her husband, Sheanagua, is the murderer. Later, Niatawa discovers that the old chief is the guilty person, and realises how hopeless his love quest is. "My only love flows from the fountain of my hate," says the author, paraphrasing *Romeo and Juliet*. The most dramatic moment of the play comes when the chief (now turned blind) proceeds with several of his warriors to the Sacred Cave, with the intention of entrapping the faithless Lashota with Niatawa, and finds instead his own daughter, who had followed the guilty pair with the intention of saving her lover, and remained to shield the wife. The scene when the daughter steps forward to declare herself to her blind father, and meets his scorn and reproaches at her supposed guilt, rouses the audience to a certain degree of enthusiasm. In Act III., Niatawa has been condemned to die for his fault, and a wierd scene is made of the rites and ceremonies which precede the burning at the stake. Before this takes place, however, Naitawa is released on condition that he fights the wronged husband, and in this he receives his death wound. The concluding act is in the nature of an allegory, representing Autumn, Winter, and Spring, and through these scenes wanders the hapless Adulola, sighing for the day when she may meet her lover in the happy hunting grounds. Her death brings to a conclusion a poetically-conceived but somewhat melancholy story.

The play is beautifully staged. Mr. H. Reeves-Smith, in his original part of Lonawonda, makes an impressive old chief. Mr. Arthur Poole as Sheanagua was especially successful in a strong scene in Act III. Niatawa was excellently embodied by Mr. Philip Cuningham, who gave distinction to the character, and earned the plaudits of the audience. Mr. Algernon Syms as Matawagnon did well; and the other "braves" were ably portrayed by Messrs. L. Ashton-Jarry, Edward Beecher, Richard Norton, Edwin Palmer, E. Wilson, and Henry White. In the part of Adulola, Miss May Chevalier proved of great value; her light-hearted gaiety and the power she displayed in the strong scenes showed her to be an actress of much ability. Miss Margaret Murch as Lashota, Miss Edith Matt as Tana-Mongosh, and Miss Winifred Ingham as Fawn, all gave able support; and Misses Beatrice Hodson and Ella Manton added their quotas as Indian maids. At the conclusion of the play Mr. H. Reeves-Smith thanked the audience for their kindly reception, and promised to cable the author of the fact. He also referred to the help accorded by Mr. B. Tucman, general stage-director for Mr. William A. Brady, in the production.

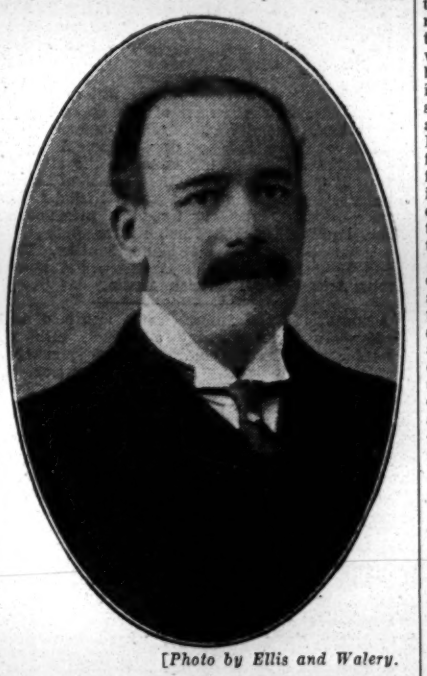
THE GERMAN THEATRE.

Every promise of continued support was given to Herr Hans Andresen on the 5th inst., when he opened his eighth London season of German plays at the Great Queen-street Theatre. A large audience was present, and amply testified their appreciation of the care bestowed in the mounting and acting of *Die Condottieri*, with which the season was begun. The piece, which is by Rudolph Herzog, and has met with great success in Berlin, was fully described by our correspondent on its production at the Neues at the latter end of October. The remote times of the Venetian Republic under Bartolomeo Coleone are dealt with by the author in striking fashion, and the scenes of the play were acted by the company with all the requisite force and effect. To Herr Albert Heine, who appeared in the title-rôle, belongs chief honours. He maintained with admirable discretion the character of the part, and delivered the exacting speeches with well-varied effect. The sudden attacks of illness which come as the result of an ill-spent life were well simulated, and the address to the Council of Ten, in which the dying Coleone insists on the erection of a statue to perpetuate his memory, was finely sustained. Herr August Weigert made an appropriate appearance as Giovanni, Coleone's natural son, who aspires to inherit his father's greatness. The difficult and impressive scene of the third act, when Giovanni pretends to take the words from his father—already dead in his chair—advocating his son's succession to his honours, was capitally managed, and won warm cheers. Fräulein Herta von Hagen acted with fascinating effect as the syren Madonna Isabella, and infused passionate energy into the scene in which she yields to Coleone's embraces. The rôle of Madonna Beatrice was cleverly sustained by Fräulein Clara Rabitow, an actress of finished methods, who bore herself with admirable dignity, and delivered her lines superbly. Herr Hans Andresen, who was warmly welcomed on his appearance, made the bluff and kindly Gabriele an immediate favourite, giving admirable expression to his lines. Other rôles were played by Herren Paul Wind, Hans Stock, Willy Grill, and Joseph Idali, the last-mentioned having to give up his part in the third act owing to an attack of faintness. Loud and prolonged applause was bestowed after each act, when the author appeared and bowed his acknowments. The second of Herr Hans Andresen's season was produced on Thursday, and consisted of a rhymed verse farcical comedy by Schönthau and Koppel-Ellfeld, entitled *Die Gold'ne Eva*, a play which enjoys considerable popularity in Germany.

"HEARTS ADRIFT," with Mr. Henry Bedford and Mr. Frank Bertram, will be the attraction next week at the Crown Theatre, Peckham.

DEATH OF OWEN HALL.

We regret to record the death of Mr. James Davis, better known as Owen Hall, the well-known musical comedy writer. The sad event occurred at Harrogate on Wednesday morning, in the fifty-fourth year of his age. For the past few months Mr. Davis had been very ill, suffering from acute gastritis and heart trouble, and on the advice of Sir Thomas Barlow he went a little more than a week ago to try the Nauheim treatment at Harrogate, which, however, did not have the desired effect. The deceased was not prone to talk much about his health, and he was probably ill for a much longer time than anyone suspected. His condition had undoubtedly been aggravated by an accumulation of troubles and anxieties, though he himself was a man so accustomed to meet the "slings and arrows of outrageous fortune" in a philosophic spirit that his most intimate friends did not realise how great was their effect upon him. An Irishman by birth, the deceased—the son of the late Mr. Hyman Davis—was educated at University College, and for a period of twelve years after he had graduated as Bachelor of Laws followed his profession as a solicitor. This he subsequently relinquished in order to devote himself to newspaper work—journalism, in the main, of the critical, satirical, and "gossipy" order. He was a popular man with those who knew him best. As a conversationalist, he was extremely versatile—as an epigrammatist the cleverness of his mots usually atoned for the roughness of their "edge." Extremely fond of the Turf, it may fairly be assumed that the sport he followed



[*Photo by Ellis and Walery.*

THE LATE MR. OWEN HALL.

brought him no pecuniary profit. He was a man who made money with comparative facility, and spent it with even greater ease. Above all, he possessed an abiding sense of humour calculated to appeal to the world at large, though often appreciated in only a strictly limited sense by individuals.

Mr. Davis, who was born in Dublin, was a brother of "Frank Danby" (Mrs. Frankau) and Mrs. Aria, and he married the only daughter of the late Mr. Joseph Andrade, a highly-accomplished lady, by whom he had several children. A daughter is at present playing in *The Gipsy Girl* at the Waldorf, and his son holds a commission in H.M. Army. The deceased gentleman made two unsuccessful attempts to drive law and politics as a pair under Tory colours—at Carlow and Dundalk. He was about to make a third try at Clerkenwell, and was actually Tory candidate for the division when other interests claimed him. During all this while Mr. Hall had been doing a good deal of very varied newspaper work, contributing to *Truth*, the *World*, *Illustrated London News*, and other papers. He was for two years, from 1888 to 1890, assistant-editor of *Galignani's Messenger*, and his were the "Stalled Ox" theatrical criticisms of the *Sporting Times*. Before this he had been editor of the *Bat* from 1885 till its demise, under gloomy circumstances, in 1887.

It was about this period that he became friendly with Mr. George Edwardes, who commissioned him to write a musical play, and *A Gaiety Girl*, his first musical comedy, was the result. Often when he in later days told the story of this wonderfully successful piece, Mr. Davis related how when thinking out what pseudonym he should adopt the condition of his finances suggested "Owing All," and eventually he changed this to Owen Hall, over which name he wrote *An Artist's Model*, *The Geisha*, *A Greek Slave*, *Florodora*, *The Silver Slipper*, *The Girl from Kay's*, *The Medal and the Maid*, *Sergeant Brue*, and *The Little Cherub*.

In the autobiography written by Mr. Davis and published some three years ago one is told, with remarkable candour, that he received £2,000 for the libretto of *A Greek Slave*, and that he lost it all horse-racing in three weeks. *Florodora* had so great a vogue in America that it was said that the famous sextette, "Tell me, pretty maiden, are there any more at home like you?" had supplanted "Yankee Doodle" as the American national air. Last autumn Mr. Davis floated "Owen Hall, Limited," a company which was to produce his plays without the expense of the middleman manager. For many weeks he had been seriously ill, but his new "book," tentatively called *The Catherine Wheel*, was almost finished, and it was announced on Wednesday that it was to be produced in the autumn at the Adelphi Theatre.

The body of Mr. Davis was conveyed from Harrogate to London on Thursday, and the interment is to take place at Highgate Cemetery at twelve to-day, the *cortège* leaving 6, Montague-mansions, York-street, W., at eleven o'clock.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, April 8, the Musical Comedy, "KITTY GREY."

The members of Mr. C. St. John Denton's company are appearing with great success this week at the Dalston Theatre in the musical comedy, *Kitty Grey*. The title-rôle is sustained by Miss Hilda Guiver, who makes a really charming Kitty. As an actress she is vivacious, as a vocalist tuneful, and as a dancer fascinating. Mr. Robert Whyte, jun., is the King of Illyra, and he succeeds in making his Majesty a most interesting individual. Mr. Leslie Harris's Lord Plantagenet is an amusing character, and Sir John Binfield, who is the very ideal of an affectionate husband, finds a cordial representative in Mr. George Rowlands. Miss Eily Helene is a charming Lady Binfield, and is quite a rival to Kitty Grey in the matter of popularity. Mrs. Bright is played by Miss N. Laurraine, who, in the course of the play, sings a lively song. Saide de Poulson is played with commendable ease by Miss Lena Denton. Miss P. Listin is vivacious as Mabel; and others in the cast include Miss Mabel French as Lillie, Mr. L. Winning as Comte de Trenitz, and Mr. T. W. Kingston as Ponbrichet.

"THE PICK OF THE BUNCH."

A Musical Comedy, in Two Acts, by Charles Carey, Music by Louis Laval and Harry W. Wellmon, Lyrics by Buckstone Clair and Charles Wilmot, produced for the first time in the London District at the Royal County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames, on Monday, April 8.

Halliwell Menit .....MR. CHARLES CAREY
Colonel Joseph Menit ..MR. H. BUCKSTONE CLAIR
Nancy .....MISS M. SADIE
Martin .....MR. ALGERNON W. LEE
Dick Seymour .....MR. HAROLD WANTAGE
Nellie Mather .....MISS MADGE CHRISTOPHER
Ruth Gay .....MISS EVA ELLIS
Wilhelmeina .....MISS NELLIE JAMES
Alice .....MISS GLADYS GLYNN
Joan .....MISS SYBIL GLYNN
Mary .....MISS MABETTE MAY
Minette .....MISS ELSIE MAY
Gladys Paule .....MISS MINNIE SEYMOUR
Ida Downe .....MISS LOUDOLPH BARRETT
Stella Austin .....MISS CLAIRE BARRINGTON
Julia Green .....MISS MADGE LACEY
Ethel Fancourt .....MISS MABEL COLEMAN
Nancy Cliffe .....MISS EUNICE EUSTON
Nora Fossel .....MISS ELAINE GRAY
Freda Holmes .....MISS BABS CHRISTOPHER
Jack Nesby .....MR. HAROLD CLEMENCE
Thomas .....MR. W. MILLARD
Charlie Austin .....MR. CHARLES SWINBURNE
James .....MR. BERTRAM GUNNEL
Tiny Tim .....LITTLE TOM LEWIS

Produced originally as a farcical comedy, with the title *After the Ball*, then changed into a musical comedy with the same title, Mr. Carey, the author, had not very great luck with the venture; but now that, for the third time, it has been rewritten and a new name has been given to it, there is every prospect of it receiving a considerable amount of public patronage. Indeed, although it has only just come to the vicinity of London, *The Pick of the Bunch* has been toured for some time in the provinces, and has been most favourably received wherever it has appeared. It is a bright and tuneful production, full of life and colour, and there is a story running through it that is not altogether devoid of interest, as is too often the case in this class of play.

Briefly, the story centres around the difficulties of a certain Halliwell Menit, who, having married a widow lady in Indiana, discovers at her death that she has a daughter named Nancy, to whom she left her fortune, and who, anxious to marry again a young English lady, Nellie Mather, endeavours to keep the story of the widow and the stepdaughter a secret between him and the object of his affection as well as the lady's guardian and his own uncle, Colonel Joseph Menit. His efforts in this direction necessitate the invention of many lies, which lead to numerous entanglements. For instance, when he arrives at a hydropathic establishment at Tunbridge Wells, where all the action takes place, and meets the lady, he finds himself forced to invent his first lie when he learns that his stepdaughter is staying at the same establishment. His mortification is increased by the unlooked-for discovery that his dead wife's child talks with a pronounced Mile End-road accent, and in every particular behaves herself as if she were a child of that familiar but unpoetic locality. His difficulties are not lessened by the arrival at the hydro of the uncle, who proves to be a very peppery old man. His stepdaughter loses no time in introducing herself to her "dad" by marriage, a circumstance that causes much disgust amongst the ladies and gentlemen at the fashionable resort, and particularly to the colonel and his ward, and a series of absurd lies about the lady, invented to save himself, and no sooner invented than discovered, at last leads to the harassed Halliwell declaring that the lady is his mother. Of course this deception, like all the others, was bound to be found out, and the surprise of the guests at the hydro may be imagined when Nancy openly and with characteristic coster energy declares her relationship to Halliwell and claims him as her stepfather. This at once sets up a barrier between Halliwell and Nellie Mather, whose love he had won, and sends the peppery uncle, from whom he had expectations, into a furious passion. Things, however, take a sudden turn in his favour at a fancy ball at the hydro, at which the gaucheries of Nancy had been particularly objectionable, for she suddenly appears amongst the astounded company, faultlessly attired in evening dress, beautiful to behold, and with an accent as pure as that of any of the aristocrats present. For, after all, Nancy had only been playing a part, though for what reason is not very clear; and, now that the disguise is thrown aside, there is not one in the company who does not declare that she is "the pick of the bunch."

Mr. Carey, who, in conjunction with Mr. Harold Wantage, produced the comedy, deserves to be congratulated for having succeeded where so many others have failed. There is scarcely a dull moment in the play, and there is such a wealth of action, skilfully interspersed with melodious songs and graceful dances, that the attention and the interest of the onlookers are never for a moment allowed to flag. Both Mr. Carey and Mr. Wantage have parts in it—Mr. Carey as the much-to-be-pitied Halliwell and Mr. Wantage as a foppish young gentleman of the name of Dick Seymour. Mr. Carey, who has a fine presence, acquitted himself admirably in the part, his numerous scenes with the supposed coster girl causing no end of merriment. Mr. Wantage's impersonation of the invertebrate Dick Seymour was also very good, and won for him the good opinion of the audience. Chief honours, however, were earned and freely accorded to Miss M. Sadie, who appeared as the irrepressible Nancy. Her assumption of the manners of the coster woman was redolent of Mile End, whilst her singing and dancing called forth the heartiest encomiums. Amongst the most successful of the musical numbers allotted to her were the songs "The Fancy Ball" and "The Ragity-Tagity Brigade," each of which was sung with force and character. Mr. H. Buckstone Clair, who plays the part of the fiery colonel, is also an exceedingly interesting personality, his grotesque outbursts of passion never failing to raise a laugh, as they never seemed to frighten anybody. A charming impersonation of the part of Nellie Mather was given by Miss Madge Christopher, whilst two of her songs, "The Tea House" and "The Flying Machine," were rendered with conspicuous success. Miss Eva Ellis also made a most favourable impression as Ruth Gay, Nellie's companion, a part that she invested with a charm of her own. Her singing of the songs "Molly O'Shea" and "The best little Queen in the pack" was very good; whilst a coon song and dance, in which she took the leading part with a number of other ladies, was one of the prettiest features of the show. Another successful part was that of Wilhelmeina, a Dutch girl waitress, which was filled by Miss Nellie James. Her assumption of the Dutch accent was faultless, and her clog dances brought down the house. Amongst the other artists, all of whom acquitted themselves well, mention should be made of Mr. Algernon W. Lee, who fills the part of Martin, Halliwell's servant, and shows the possession of a remarkably fine tenor voice, which was heard to great advantage in a song about dreams. There is a good chorus, a little weak in male voices, but admirably trained and working harmoniously together. It was kept well in hand by Mr. Harry Bolton, the musical director, who also controlled an augmented orchestra. Mr. J. Wilfred Chilton is acting as manager for the tour, which has just started, and Mr. Buckstone Clair is stage-manager.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

Sir Charles Wyndham is assured of a hearty reception this evening, when he begins his welcome season at the Criterion with *The Liars*, in which the actor-knight and Miss Mary Moore will play their original rôles. The other parts in Mr. H. A. Jones' admirable play will be sustained by Messrs. Thalberg Corbett, Eille Norwood, Bertram Steer, Sam Sothern, W. H. Kemble, Herbert Dansey, L. White, and Reginald Walter, and Misses Charlotte Granville, Caroline Dupont, Dorothy Thomas, Frances Vine, and Enid Spencer Brunton.

Mr. Edward Terry occupied a seat as a magistrate at Surrey Quarter Sessions on Tuesday. The appointment of the eminent comedian to the judicial bench was made at the end of last year, and was a notable addition to a long list of offices of a municipal, social, and philanthropic character already held by Mr. Terry.

Mr. Arthur Bourchier will produce his English version of Henri Lavedan's play, *Le Duel*, on Tuesday evening, the 23rd inst., at the Garrick Theatre. Mr. Bourchier's talents as a dramatist were conspicuously displayed in *The Arm of the Law*, his adaptation of *La Robe Rouge*. In that play, it will be remembered, the foreign environment of the original was retained, but in his latest effort Mr. Bourchier has transplanted his characters to English soil. Miss Violet Vanbrugh will have a powerful part in the new play, the cast of which will also include Mr. Sydney Valentine and Mr. Cyril Keightly. *The Duel* will be preceded by Mr. Leo Trevor's one-act comedy, *Dr. Johnson*, with Mr. Bourchier in his renowned impersonation of the title-rôle.

The wedding of Mr. Charles Draycott, the general-manager of Mr. Lingford Carson's répertoire company, and Miss Muriel Thompson, daughter of the late Rev. H. J. Thompson, vicar of Dodfield, took place on the 3rd inst. at St. Peter's Parish Church, Bolton, the Rev. Canon Henn officiating. The bride, who was given away by Mr. Lingford Carson, was attended by her sisters, Misses Violet, Christobel, and Rose Thompson, and Mr. Sydney C. Cranston acted as best man. The wedding guests were subsequently entertained at 15, Harcourt-avenue, Seacombe. The honeymoon will be spent on tour. The happy pair were the recipients of many presents, including a cheque and dressing-case from the bride's mother., and a silver mirror and turquoise and pearl pin from the members of the répertoire company.

Mr. Martin Harvey has almost completed his arrangements for his London season, which commences in May. The programme will be changed every week, and each of the plays in the actor's répertoire is to be seen in turn. Great interest is sure to be excited in the new drama, at present entitled *The Rich Youth*, which Mr. Harvey will produce in June. The action of the piece takes place in Palestine about the year A.D. 30, and deals largely with the effect of the first lessons of Christianity upon the Jewish and Greek civilisations. In the new production Mr. Harvey will impersonate the youth "of great possessions."

Mr. George Edwardes has decided that *The Lady Dandies* at Daly's shall be followed by *The Gay Widow*, Mr. Edward Morton's adaptation of the successful Viennese opera *Die Lustige Wittwe*, the rights of which were acquired by the astute manager some time ago. The present attraction at Daly's, however, is so well sustaining its popularity that no date can be given for the production of the novelty, the cast for which will include Mr. George Graves, Mr. Louis Bradfield, Mr. W. H. Berry, Mr. Fred Kaye, and Mr. Lennox Pawle.

The executors of Mr. J. L. Toole have granted the sum of £250 (less duty) out of the funds at their disposal under the late comedians's will to the Royal Female Orphan Asylum, Beddington, to which institution Mr. Toole was a subscriber for upwards of a quarter of a century. £500 (less duty) has also been granted to the Royal Hospital for Incurables, Putney Heath of which Mr. Toole was for many years a regular supporter.

"Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch" will make her London début at Terry's Theatre on April 25, when Mr. Gaston Mayer commences a season with this delightful American play. The character created by Mrs. Anne Hegan Rice, the authoress of the book, has become a sort of incarnation of the American spirit of optimism, and some of her quaint sayings bid fair to pass into household maxims. She is a pronounced type of American humour, and her kindly fun is set off by the comically odd background of the "Cabbage Patch" itself, the "po' white" quarters of Louisville.

The case of the suffragette was amusingly brought forward at the Avenue Theatre, Sunderland, on Monday, during the performance of *The Taming of the Shrew*. When Mrs. F. R. Benson, who played the part of Katherina, repeated the lines, "I am ashamed that women are so simple to offer war when they should kneel for peace," a gentleman in the audience gave utterance to a fervent "Hear, hear." The audience shook with laughter, in which the actress could hardly prevent herself from joining.

Mr. William Mollison resumed his provincial tour on Monday at Newport, where he is playing to the full capacity of the theatre nightly, while the advance booking approaches that of the late Sir Henry Irving's visit. On Monday night, the Mayor, wearing his chain of office, and the magistrates and Town Council attended officially. The officers of the Royal Artillery were present in full-dress uniform, and the president and members of the Newport Literary Society, as well as the local clergy, were strongly represented. Mr. Mollison's performance of Macbeth was received with the greatest enthusiasm, and when the curtain had been raised again and again at the end of the tragedy, Mr. Mollison was obliged to respond to the call for a speech.

Mr. Edward van Biene, son of the famous actor-'cellist, has just obtained a patent for an invention the usefulness of which will be apparent to all. It appears in the *Patent Journal* as "A spark or ash-collecting cigarette or cigar-holder," and consists of an ingenious device made of aluminium, or other suitable metal, in the shape of a cone, which, by a clever contrivance, will hold a cigarette or cigar, and prevent sparks or ashes from falling or being blown about. The device moreover is of a collapsible nature, and closes into the space of about one inch, and can be used either as an ordinary cigarette-holder, or as the specially protected one.

Mr. Bourchier has chosen "The Limits of the Dramatic Art" as the subject of the two lectures which he has consented to deliver to the members of the Royal Institution of Great Britain. The addresses are arranged to be given on Saturday, May 18, and Saturday, May 25.

The autumn drama at Drury Lane was decided upon on Thursday. It is to be a play from the pens of Mr. Cecil Raleigh and Mr. Henry Hamilton, who have collaborated in so many successes at the National Theatre, including *The Derby Winner*, *Cheer, Boys, Cheer*, *The White Heather*, and *The Great Ruby*. It is understood that the new piece will be of a modern and military character, and will afford opportunities for scenic display of which Mr. Arthur Collins may be trusted to take all possible advantage.

Dr. Distin Maddick has decided to have *The Judgment of Pharaoh*, originally announced for the 23rd inst., ready for production at the Scala by Saturday next in order to avoid a clash with the new piece at the Garrick. The full cast of the Egyptian play will consist of Messrs. Brandon Thomas, Edmund Gurney, James Fernandez, Vincent Clive, Edward Sorley, Cecil Fowler, Henry Worrall, Selwyn Seymour, Anselm Milroy, and Frank Collins, and Misses Nora Lancaster, Cecil Cromwell, Rachel Warre, Shelly Carlton, Betty Castle, Kitty Carew, Marjorie Day, and Vivian Stafford. The management are reverting to the old 7s. orchestra stall, 5s. staircase stall, balcony 3s., pit 2s., and gallery 1s.

Mr. Neil Forsyth, the manager of the Royal Opera, Covent Garden, who returned to London on Thursday night from his honeymoon at Monte Carlo, has resumed preparations for the coming season, which begins on the 30th inst. The season will be opened with two special cycles of Wagner's "Ring" and two elaborate performances of *Die Meistersinger*, and other Wagnerian operas to be revived are *Der Flieglende*, *Holländer* and *Tannhäuser*.

Among the French and Italian works will be Verdi's *Aida*, *Il Ballo in Maschera*, *Otello* (a novelty at Covent Garden), *Rigoletto*, and *Traviata*; Puccini's *La Bohème*, *Madama Butterfly*, and *La Tosca*; Bizet's *Carmen*; Mascagni's *Iris* (in addition to the répertoire) and *Cavalleria Rusticana*; Mozart's *Don Giovanni*; Gounod's *Faust*; Giordano's *Andre Chenier* and *Fédora*; Ponchielli's *Gioconda* (another novelty); Humperdinck's *Hansel und Gretel*, Catalani's *Loreley* (a new work), Nicolai's *Merry Wives of Windsor*, and Leoncavallo's *Pagliacci*.

The "star" vocalists of Europe will combine in the effective representation of the operas. Mme. Melba heads the list of lady artists, and Signor Caruso is again the principal tenor. A special noteworthy feature of the season is the attention given by the directors to the claims of British vocalists, who include Mme. Agnes Nicholls, Miss Cicely Gleeson White, the Canadian prima-donna, Mme. Pauline Donalda, Mme. Kirkby Lunn, Miss Gertrude Lonsdale, Miss Maud Santley, Mme. Edna Thornton, Mr. John Harrison, and Messrs. Frank Arthur and Frederick Austin.

A meeting of the Actors' Union was held at 3, Bedford-street, on Tuesday afternoon, with Mr. Harry Paulton in the chair. About fifty members were present, including Mr. Arthur Bawtree, Mr. Fred Bentley, Mr. Rawson Buckley, Mr. Percy Baverstock, Miss Mary Bissell, Mr. Orlando Barnett, Miss Beattie Bland, Mr. Fred Brooks, Mr. Arthur Cecil, Mr. W. H. Everleigh, Mr. Wm. Farren, jun., Mr.. Francis Chamier, Mr. James Graydon, Mr. Maurice Hoffman, Mr. Frank Lacey, Mr. Fred Jacques, Mr. Peet Leslie, Mr. Oswald Marshall, Mr. Ernest Norris, Mr. Robson Paige, Miss Mabel Syringa, Mr. E. Y. Rae, and Mr. Wilfred Shine. The acting secretary reported that 154 members had joined since the meeting at the Criterion. Mr. Paulton said he had left the Actors' Association owing to the unsatisfactory working of the qualification clause. He deprecated managerial influence on associations for the benefit of actors. A motion by Mr. Robson Paige —"That this meeting sympathises with the efforts of the Reform Party to effect reform in the Actors' Association"—was seconded and carried.

At a meeting at Manchester on Tuesday in support of the Actors' Union, Mr. Ruddle Brown, who presided, and Mr. Cole Aspinall spoke in sympathy with the movement; and the following resolution was proposed and carried:—"That in the opinion of this meeting carpenters and baggage-men who take walking-on parts and speak lines should not be eligible for membership in the Actors' Union." A requisition was presented to the Council of the Actors' Association on Tuesday afternoon, signed by 120 members, asking for an extraordinary meeting to consider certain resolutions altering the Articles of Association. The extraordinary meeting is fixed for May 6th; and a meeting in favour of the proposed reforms will be held at 3, Bedford-street, at 8 p.m., on Sunday.

Mr. Norman V. Norman gave a special matinée of *David Garrick* at the Theatre Royal during his recent visit to Hull. The audience were most enthusiastic, there being twelve "curtains" during the play. Mr. Norman is rapidly completing his preparations for the Shakespeare week at Tunbridge Wells. In the selections given from *Romeo and Juliet* the part of Romeo will be played by Miss Beatrice Wilson, who will also appear as Lady Macbeth, Rosalind, and Beatrice.

Mr. Norman, who has nearly recovered from the accident to his hand, has been able to resume playing hockey. His team has been very successful lately, beating the Hull Corinthians by five goals to three, the "Newlands" mixed team by twelve goals to two, and the Bridlington Ramblers by five goals to two.

Mr. Ernest Vousden, commenting on the report of his father's death which appeared in *The Era*, writes:—"You state that he was removed from Dublin to a home at Bexhill by the kindness of some friends. Allow me to say that I was the friend, also that I was at his bedside in his last hours, and that efforts to look after him were made years ago by his family, but given up through no fault of their own."

The members of the Green Room Lodge of Freemasons held their twentieth regular meeting at the Imperial Restaurant on the 5th inst. Mr. Harry Nicholls and Mr. James W. Mathews, in the absence of Mr. Herbert Leonard, the Worshipful Master for the year, presided alternately. Mr. Matheson Lang was advanced a stage, and Mr. Leslie Stiles and Mr. Wilfred Draycott completed their degrees. Messrs. Richard Green, Lauri de Frece, Dermot Fitzgibbon, and Lyn Harding were named as candidates. Mr. Herbert Leonard had a fine Past-Master's jewel voted to him as a mark of esteem from the Brethren, and in recognition of his valuable services as Master. Mr. Akerman May was unanimously elected as Mr. Leonard's successor, his installation being fixed for May 3. Mr. W. S. Penley was chosen as treasurer, and Mr. Chas. Patrick as Tyler, in succession to the late Mr. Samuel Ellis, with whose family deep sympathy was expressed. Messrs. A. B. Tapping, F. de B. Holmes, and Albert Le Fre were among the visitors. The usual dinner followed.

Miss Lena Ashwell will have the direction of a concert at a garden fête to be given on May 24 at the Royal Botanic Gardens by the Legion of Frontiersmen. A pageant representing the evolution of single combat over 2000 years, closing with a camp fire display by the officers and men of the Legion, will also be a feature of the fête.

Mr. Bannister Howard is continuing his policy of providing first-class attractions at the Crystal Palace Theatre by the engagement for next week of Mr. Charles Macdona's company in *The Gay Parisienne*. The cast will include Miss Lilian Talbot as Mlle. Julie Bon-Bon, Mr. Will Harman as Honeycombe, and Mr. Squire Day as the Major, supported by a first-rate company and the original Imperial Glee Singers. Every care has been taken to present the play as produced at the Duke of York's Theatre, and lovers of musical comedy who have not seen *The Gay Parisienne*, as well as those who wish to renew acquaintance with the lively work, should pay a visit to the Palace next week. There will be matinées on Wednesday and Saturday.

Becky Warder, the heroine of Mr. Clyde Fitch's new play, produced at the Comedy Theatre last Saturday night, may not know how to tell the truth, but she does know how to dress, and Miss Marie Tempest appears in three charming frocks. Designed and made by Mme. Hayward, they are admirably suited to the player and the part. Becky's first fibs, or preliminary prevarications, are told in a pale lemon-coloured crêpe de chine, mounted over Oriental satin of the same shade. The kimono-shaped bodice, now so popular, has wide sleeves, a high belt, and an elaborate design of Oriental embroidery, fading from deep orange to pale primrose—this gives an impression of colour and warmth in excellent contrast to the delicacy of the rest of the gown. A smart coatee of the same tone is worn, and the finishing touch is a big muff of silk crochet over crêpe de chine.

In the second act, Miss Tempest wears her favourite pink, technically described as "a soft la France shade," the corsage being cut in Oriental style trimmed with wide-meshed fillet lace, worked in thick floss silk and bordered with a hem of crêpe de chine. A pointed vest of cream-silk blonde-lace and a narrow waistcoat of folded pink tulle, decorated with small cameo buttons, complete the scheme. The undersleeves are composed of blonde-lace, while the skirt is decorated with a broad strap at the back, which reaches to the top of the belt and is mitred at each end. Becky Warder's third dress is grey voile over soft satin of the same shade. Wide Japanese sleeves again appear, with undersleeves of kilted net edged with Valenciennes lace, and a particularly effective redingote of grey satin with a high waistbelt is perfected by cords, tassels, and a collar of deep violet velvet.

The dresses worn by Miss Sybil Carlisle and Miss Grace Lane are the work of Messrs. Blanquaert and Co., and Mrs. Siddons is responsible for all the millinery. Miss Carlisle, who only appears in the first act, looks very pretty in olive green Oriental satin, worn under a coat of coarse lace in a somewhat brighter shade, with a band of silver embroidery round the collar, and wide kimono sleeves, the costume being completed by a beautiful feather boa, suède gloves and shoes, and a most original hat—nothing more nor less than a big grey-green parrot, resting on a twist of silver gauze! This is worn well tilted over the face, so that the bright yellow eyes of the bird seem to look at the wearer's forehead and the beak almost touches her hair.

Miss Lane's first entrance is made in a cleverly-cut dress of strawberry pink, with sables, her hat, of the same colour, being trimmed with shaded ostrich plumes, a small bunch of roses, and chocolate-coloured chiffon. In the second act Miss Lane is dressed in cream chiffon over white silk, with touches of old gold, and she wears ermine and carries a big white muff. Her hat, if not as amazing as the grey-green parrot, is decidedly new and effective, being a fine crinoline, with a quantity of delicate white feathers sweeping from front to back. As a contrast to the smartness of the other costumes, Miss Rosina Filippi, in the character of Mrs. Crespigny, is appropriately dressed in black brocaded silk, trimmed with black sequins.

Two additional subscriptions to the "Fred Locke" Fund are this week acknowledged by Mr. J. G. Crichton, 9, Bridge-street, Glasgow, namely 10s. 6d. from sympathisers at 23, West Nile-street, Glasgow; and 2s. 6d. from Mr. Charles Boult. Mr. Locke is at present an inmate of the Glasgow Western Infirmary, and several old friends have this week visited his bedside and helped to cheer him up.

"Clancarty," as Tom Taylor's popular play is to be called on its revival at the Lyric on Tuesday, will be strongly cast. Mr. Lewis Waller and Miss Evelyn Millard will be Lord and Lady Clancarty respectively, and the company will be completed by Messrs. W. Mackintosh, A. E. George, Owen Roughwood, Franklin Dyall, H. J. Carvill, S. B. Brereton, Herbert Jarman, W. Wilson, W. L. Schonberg, G. Ronald, S. J. Warmington, A. Caton Woodville, P. Digan, J. H. Irvine, Shiel Barry, and F. W. Trott; and Misses Eleanor May, Adrienne Augarde, Dora Barton, and Leonora Braham.

The first performance in London of the concert version of the opera, *Merrie England*, by Basil Hood and Edward German, will be given at the Crystal Palace this evening. The principal artists will be Miss Edith Evans, Miss May Peters, Mr. Alfred Heather, and Mr. Julien Henry. The Crystal Palace choir and the Crystal Palace Orchestral Society of 300 performers will be conducted by Mr. Walter W. Hedgcock.

Many theatrical and musical artists will contribute to Colonel Barrington Foote's annual concert and variety entertainment in aid of the Church of England Soldiers' and Sailors' Institute, Woolwich, to be given at Grosvenor House on Friday, May 3. Among those who will give their services will be Miss Margaret Cooper, Miss May Palfrey, Miss Gabrielle Ray, Mr. Kennerley Rumford, Mr. Huntley Wright, Mr. Willie Warde, Mr. Fred Kerr, and Mr. George Grossmith. Mr. Wilhelm Ganz will conduct.

Mr. Aubrey Mather has been selected by Mr. Norman V. Norman to play Orlando in his revival at Tunbridge Wells. Mr. Mather will also appear as Claudio in *Much Ado About Nothing* and Banquo in *Macbeth*.

The Duchess of Devonshire visited the Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne, on Saturday and witnessed Mr. Murray King's very clever and amusing performance in *A Pantomime Rehearsal*. Her Grace, who was received by Mr. Clark, was accompanied by the Countess of Munster, the Countess Von Platen, and the Lady Theo Acheson. In addition to Mr. King the programme included Mme. Alice Esty in the Miserere scene from *Il Trovatore*. Since Murray King and Clark have taken over this admirably appointed theatre many improvements have been effected, and large and fashionable audiences have been the rule. A special feature has been made of the new orchestra, which has excited so much admiration that it will probably be heard in London during the season.

Mr. G. Alexander Marsh, who was accidentally wounded during the performance of *Othello* at the Miners' Theatre, Ashington, on the 1st inst. by Mr. Allan Wilkie, was unable to appear during the remainder of the week. His parts were undertaken by Mr. Harold Nuttall at twenty-four hours' notice, the young actor showing remarkable ability and giving a very clever study of Romeo. On the Friday evening Mr. Nuttall gave an excellent performance of Laertes in *Hamlet*.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest G. Batley (Miss Ethyle Murray) are concluding ten months' engagement with Mr. A. Clifton Alderson's *Held Apart* company. In the summer Mr. and Mrs. Batley will create two parts in a new historical drama.

Mr. Sandon Perkins, late of Dundee and Sunderland, sailed on Thursday by the whaling ship Morning, bound for the coast of Greenland, Davis Straits, and the regions beyond the Arctic Circle. He is going into these northern wilds to gather material for a lecture, and is taking with him a full photographic outfit, including the necessary apparatus for taking animated pictures. The expedition is not expected to return before the end of October.

The Council of the Actors' Association held their usual weekly meeting on Tuesday, when there were present:—Mr. A. E. Drinkwater (in the chair), Mr. Henry W. Mote (solicitor), Miss Carlotta Addison, Miss Clare Greet, Miss Georgina Hamilton, and Miss Kate Phillips; Messrs. Acton Bond, Cecil Brooking, W. Graham Browne, C. F. Collings, Burton Cooke, H. Athol Forde, Frederick Morland, Kenyon Musgrave, Frederick Volpe, and Chas. Cruikshanks (secretary). The hon. solicitors gave their report.

A requisition signed by 122 members and others requesting the Council to call an extraordinary general meeting of the Association for the purpose of considering the adoption of a certain resolution, and to direct the secretary forthwith to give notice of such meeting in accordance with the articles of association was placed upon the table. The meeting was fixed for Monday, May 6, at 2 p.m., and the secretary was instructed to carry out the necessary arrangements.

The secretary reported that the names of a number of members of the Association had been removed from the register, owing to non-payment of subscription, and he was directed to return any letters addressed to such members, after a fortnight's grace, to the postal authorities. Dr. James Burnet, of 6, Glengyle-terrace, Edinburgh, was elected as an hon. medical officer to the A.A. The report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee was received. G. Stapleton Roche, Arthur D. Layland, and Vera Herbert were nominated for election to the A.A.; and thirty-two former members were reinstated. The meeting opened at 2.30 and closed at 5.15.

The Finance and General Purposes Committee held a meeting on Tuesday, and were engaged for some considerable time settling the details of a communication which it is proposed should be sent to the managers throughout the country concerning the comfort of artists visiting their theatres. There were present—Messrs. Acton Bond (chairman), A. E. Drinkwater, H. Athol Forde, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary).

Mr. Robert Arthur has arranged for the visit to the Fulham Theatre next week of Mr. George Alexander's principal company in *His House in Order*. The company, which has been specially selected and rehearsed by Mr. Alexander, will include Miss Auriol Lee, Mr. Cyril Harcourt, and Mr. Frank Fenton.

Miss Ethel Van Praagh, the accomplished actress, was on Saturday night, at the Metropole Theatre, Glasgow, presented by the members of her company with a beautiful wrought copper teakettle and stand of an exquisitely artistic design, bearing the following inscription:—"To Miss Ethel Van Praagh, on her 200th performance of Marion, from the members of *An Unwedded Wife* company, with every good wish for the continued success of both artist and drama."

Mr. Benbrick Blanchard will finish his short season with *The Gipsy Girl* at the Waldorf Theatre on the 22nd inst., and will then take the piece on tour for a few weeks in the suburbs and provinces. During the tour the play will be entirely re-written, and will then return to the West End as a second edition, with new numbers, new dances, and fresh business.

Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton, the proprietors of the Royal Opera House, Leicester, have just completed another improvement in the shape of a very pretty rockery, which abuts to the corridor leading to the stalls and dress-circle. The work, which has been carried out under the direction of Mr. Henry Dundas, the esteemed manager, goes to a great height, and is artistically decorated with plants and electric bulbs, while goldfish disport in a miniature pond.

A more central situation for the enterprise which was begun so auspiciously at the Court some two years or more ago has been secured in the Savoy Theatre, to which Messrs. Vedrenne and Barker will transfer their productions in September. The season at the Court ends on June 29, and afterwards the Savoy will go through the process of renovation in readiness for the new tenants. It is interesting to note that in *The Return of the Prodigal*, which is to be the next evening production at the Court, Miss Fortescue, the beginnings of whose fame were laid at the Savoy, will appear.

Mr. T. W. Ford will be repeating early triumphs in his engagement for Simon Ingot, the part in which he made a great success to the David Garrick of the late Mr. E. H. Sothern, the father of the present Mr. Sothern, who opens shortly at the Waldorf Theatre.

Mr. Egbert Lewis, the lessee and manager of the Theatre Royal, Bath, has arranged two highly interesting flying matinées during June. The first will be given on the 7th by Mme. Jane Hading and her company in *Frou-Frou*, and the second on the 12th by Mr. Seymour Hicks and Miss Zena Dare, who will appear in a triple bill consisting of three one-act comedies, *Scrooge*, *Hook and Eye*, and *Papa's Wife*.

Mme. Kate Flinn, the well-known teacher of singing and elocution, will have an afternoon concert at Steinway Hall on Thursday, May 9, when several of her more advanced pupils will appear. Mme. Flinn, who has obtained such remarkable results by her methods of teaching, is bringing out some good voices this year as a practical result of her efforts. A charming soprano, of which much is expected, will be heard, and various other pupils, one of whom has just been engaged by Mr. Geo. Edwardes, will sing, recite, and dance. The attractions of the afternoon will be enhanced by the inclusion in the programme of the famous vocalist Mr. David Bispham, the clever violinist M. Léon Sametini, and Miss Leah Barnato, who will give a recitation.

Owing to the sudden illness of Mr. Edward Surrey, who was appearing in *The Plucky Nipper*, at the Muncaster Theatre, Bootle, his part was taken up at four hours' notice by Mr. Louis Weston, who was warmly complimented by Miss Bonwin Carlton, the manageress of the company, and by the resident-manager.

At the Theatre Royal, Leamington, on Saturday, Mr. Ian Maclaren produced *Macbeth*, thus making another addition to his répertoire, which now includes nine of Shakespeare's masterpieces. On the night of the production the audience were not satisfied until Mr. Maclaren had acknowledged with a speech the prolonged applause which attended the fall of the curtain on the last act.

Baron Harriss, emboldened by the success which has attended his *Prince of Pilsen* company, the tour of which was originally intended to terminate at Cambridge early in June for the usual summer vacation, is seriously contemplating filling in the recess by transporting his company *en bloc* to Paris for a fortnight's engagement there, to be followed by a series of matinées in Brussels.

Mr. Walter Howard is the author of many successful plays, but his latest, *Second to None*, is pronounced to excel most in crisp, refreshing comedy. It is not improbable that it will appear in due course at the Lyceum, the fortunes of which appear to be in a fair way of restoration by means of the same writer's play, *Her Love Against the World*.

The great success of *Peter's Mother* in the suburbs and provinces continues unabated under the management of Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison. Fashionable and crowded houses attended the recent performances at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, many well-known members of the profession being present. Mr. W. S. Gilbert, Mrs. De La Pasture (the authoress), Miss Marion Terry, Mr. Alfred Bishop, Sir Theodore Martin, Mr. A. F. Henderson, Mr. Sidney Dark, Mr. Carl Leyel, Mr. A. E. Matthews, Mr. Harry Nicholls, Mr. Norman McKinnell, and Sir Charles Wyndham made a special journey on Thursday to witness the matinée at Brighton.

The following extracts from letters received from Mrs. De La Pasture offer a remarkable testimony to the excellence of the production of her play by the Hutchison management, to whose enterprise the suburbs and provinces are indebted for so many artistic representations:—"I have just heard from Sir Theodore Martin, who witnessed your performance at Folkestone (having seen the play in London). He speaks in high terms of praise of your company, and of the entire performance. There is no better judge living of literature or the drama, though he is now ninety."

The satisfaction of the talented authoress is also expressed in the following excerpt:—"I must send you a hurried line this morning before starting for the country, to say how very much we all enjoyed your performance of *Peter's Mother* last night. I was especially pleased with the very faithful rendering of all the business arranged in the London performance, and the fidelity of the text; and I am delighted to congratulate you most heartily on the excellence of your company. Mr. W. S. Gilbert, as you heard, was quite as pleased as Sir Theodore Martin with the performance, and I am so glad to think that the piece will be, and has been, so well played in the provinces and suburbs. I am sending the members of your company copies of the novel 'Peter's Mother' as a little souvenir of my warm appreciation, which I hope they will accept with the authoress's congratulations on their success and thanks for their work."

Mr. Richard Elliott, who has just concluded a tour of twenty-one weeks as Dr. Oliver in Mr. Wentworth Croke's tour of *My Sweetheart*, has been engaged by Mr. Croke to play Adam Fairbrother in his autumn tour of *The Bondman*.

"Mr. George," the new comedy by Louis N Parker, is to be produced at the Vaudeville on Wednesday, the 24th inst. The return of the Vaudeville to comedy pure and simple will be inaugurated by a powerful company, of which Mr. Charles Hawtrey and Miss Billie Burke will be the leading figures. The rest of the cast will consist of Mr. Arthur Playfair, Mr. O. B. Clarence, Miss Alice Beet, Miss Gwynne Herbert, Miss Frances Wetherall, Mr. Hubert Harben, Mrs. Campbell Bradley, Miss Alice Russon, Mr. Charles Troode, Mr. Russell Norrie, and Mr. Henri Laurent.

Mr. Louis Calvert made his début in comic opera at Birmingham this week, during which he has played the part of Pharaoh in *Amasis*, owing to the regrettable illness of Mr. Rutland Barrington. Next week Mr. Calvert will be seen in the rôle at the Broadway Theatre, New Cross.

Encouraged by the success with which Mr. Arthur Shirley's sketch, *The Stepmother*, was received on its production at the Camberwell Empire on the 18th ult., William Holles and Nannie Goldman (who have been so successful for the last three years at the Moss Empires and other leading variety theatres) have decided to tour the original drama, in four acts, by Arthur Shirley, of which they hold the entire rights, and to which Mr. Holles will devote his entire attention. Miss Nannie Goldman's performance as Danny, the cruelly ill-used boy in *The Stepmother*, is spoken of as the most pathetic bit of acting since Jennie Lee's Jo.

"Toddles" is to emulate the example of musical comedy, and run into a "second edition." The fresh material will consist of a new last act, the scene of which is laid at a Paris railway station, and its introduction may be expected in about a fortnight's time. Meanwhile, the crowds which are filling Mr. Cyril Maude's Playhouse nightly are in no respect diminishing, and a new lease of life may be predicted for the amusing comedy.

Messrs. Henry R. Smith and Ernest Carpenter have appointed as acting-manager of the Lyceum Theatre Mr. W. F. Crowe, lately acting-manager of the Theatre Royal, Bristol. Mr. Crowe, who is very popular in the Western city, had a benefit there on Friday.

The organisation of the forthcoming benefit to Mr. Sidney Barraclough is proceeding satisfactorily. The committee includes the names of many influential people, representing the drama and kindred arts, and a number of the leading lights in the profession have kindly notified their willingness to give Mr. Barraclough all the assistance they can. Mr. T. H. Ferrar, of 42, Thorney Hedge-road, Gunnersbury, is the temporary secretary. It should be added that it was in the October of 1905, and not that of last year that Mr. Barraclough caught the chill which unhappily developed into consumption. It is hoped, however, that a complete cure will be effected.

The Thanet branch of the British Empire Shakespeare Society was inaugurated with much success at Ramsgate on Monday. This, the twenty-third branch of the Society, owes its existence chiefly to the energy of Miss Gracie Murielle, and is an amalgamation with the B.E.S.S. of a small society formed originally amongst Miss Murielle's own personal friends. The reading chosen for the opening was *Twelfth Night*, in which Mr. Acton Bond and Miss Murielle delighted their audience by their finished rendering of the chief characters. Amongst the distinguished assembly was Lady Burnand, who, with a few very charming words of congratulation, presented Miss Murielle with a handsome basket of red roses.

Mr. M. Russell Rosse will to-night terminate his Easter season at the Pavilion, Kingstown, where his répertoire company has been playing a succession of modern comedies. The directors have been so pleased with the efforts of Mr. Rosse's well-balanced company that they have made arrangements with him to return in July, the height of the Kingstown season.

The prizes offered last autumn by Mme. Fanny Moody for the best essays on a performance of *Lucia di Lammermoor* given by the Moody-Manners Opera Company before 1,500 children from the London schools have been duly awarded. The successful essayists were:—Lettice Pearson, London County Council Battersea Pupil Teachers' Centre; Lily Windust, Stanley Higher Elementary London County Council School; and A. Taplin, Kentish Town-road London County Council School.

Mr. Harry Ludlow has been engaged by M. August Van Biene to play his old part, General Ivanoff, in *The Broken Melody* for a special fortnight, beginning on May 13, at the Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham.—Mr. T. Henry Twyford, who is just concluding his second tour in Mr. Lewis Waller's *Brigadier Gerard* company as understudy for the title-rôle, has been fortunate enough to play the part on several occasions.—Mr. Russell Vaun, the author of *The Great Awakening*, has just finished another drama for Miss Maud Hildyard, which she will produce in Australia.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Suffragettes at the Court.

THE auditorium of the Court Theatre, at the matinée of *Votes for Women* on Tuesday afternoon, was sprinkled with celebrities. Well-known Suffragists, some of them, according to the *Tribune*, just released from Holloway, thronged every part of the house. Miss Elizabeth Robins, the authoress of the piece, was in the stage-box with a number of friends, and Miss Lillah Macarthy, who is also a convert to female suffrage, watched the play from a box. Miss Marion Terry was in the stalls; and the leaders of the movement were well represented by Mrs. Pankhurst and Miss Sylvia Pankhurst, Mrs. Cobden-Sanderson, and Mrs. Despard. Lady Bamford-Slack, co-hon. secretary of the Women's Liberal Federation, Mrs. C. A. V. Conybeare, Mrs. Pember Reeves, Mrs. Hylton Dale, and many other ladies who are taking a prominent part in the agitation for the suffrage were also present.

Plain Speaking and Hard Hitting.

SOME of the lines in the play are memorable; for instance, the Working Woman's query, "What's politics? Only housekeeping on a large scale. The national housekeeping has merely been mismanaged all these years because men wouldn't allow women to help them look after it"; and the statement by the heroine that "Well-behaved women, after working for forty years, have not done as much as the Suffragettes have done in a few short months." The idea that seduction is "mainly a question of economics" is suggestive, and at certain points of the play the audience positively "sat on thorns" in anticipation of what was going to be said next—especially when the "babe unborn" was being discussed.

Mr. Bourchier's Dream.

MR. ARTHUR BOURCHIER has told a *Daily Mail* man that the dream of his—Mr. Bourchier's—life is to see a National Theatre established in London. "I mean," he said, "a theatre by which the finest plays of our great dramatists should be kept fresh and green by revival performances, and where, as is done at the Comédie-Française, the exchequer might be replenished by the production of new plays of distinctive merit. I know," said Mr. Bourchier, "this question of establishing a National Theatre is surrounded by dangers and difficulties, and I believe that it will only be solved when someone hands over a theatre and a répertoire and the paraphernalia necessary to such an enterprise. The actor who one day might do this is Mr. Tree. No theatre in this country possesses such a répertoire as His Majesty's, and in no theatre in the world is the serious drama so fittingly, so superbly staged as there."

Mr. Willard at Chicago.

MR. W. S. WILLARD, in his recent farewell speech to the Chicago public at Power's Theatre in that city, said:—"If you had been seventeen years in a foreign land and been treated as I have been treated in America, you would know how loath I am to say farewell. And to Chicago especially is it hard to say that word, for it was in your city that for two months I lay ill at the Auditorium. Messages, letters, flowers, books, were then showered upon me, and though I was not allowed to see them when they came, they showed me later how the people had given a fond thought to the man as apart from the actor. That I can never forget. And you, in your great, and ever-growing greater, city, will you, perhaps, have room in the years to come for a memory of me. In my heart there will always be the loving memory of you and all your kindness."

Spicing the Dialogue.

WHEN Mr. Forbes Robertson was playing an engagement recently in a city near New York he was put up at one of the country clubs, and as the weather was fine both Mr. Robertson and his wife spent a great deal of their time there. The members of the club were getting up a matinée for some local charity; and as soon as they heard of it Mr. and Mrs. Robertson volunteered to appear, being an afternoon affair, and it was arranged that the Robertsons should give a scene from the piece they were then playing, Bernard Shaw's *Cæsar and Cleopatra*.

THE day before the performance Mr. Robertson's artistic soul was filled with horror by the receipt of this letter from one of the leading members of the club:—"My dear Mr. Robertson," the letter ran, "although this benefit which we are giving at the club is entirely a local affair, we want to make it as gay and spicy as possible, so I am enclosing you a few local jokes and quips which if you and Mrs. Robertson will only introduce them somewhere in the dialogue of your play they will be sure to make a hit."

IT was finally Mrs. Robertson's woman's wit which came to the rescue. To her husband's secretary she dictated a very charming little note, stating that Mr. George Bernard Shaw was such an ogre of a playwright that if Mr. Robertson were to insert even so much as a superfluous comma into the dialogue of *Cæsar and Cleopatra* he would forfeit his rights to the play.

English and German Acting.

HERR ADALBERT MATKOWSKY, leading tragedian of the Kaiser's, Berlin, Theatre, and a famous German Shakespearean actor, has been giving a *Daily Express* correspondent an interesting outline of the particular aspects of the Beerbohm Tree visit which appealed to German actors. "It is not alone that we are to see a great English actor on a Berlin stage," he said. "From the standpoint of general culture we will profit by this portrayal of the English national characteristics and the English temperament. The German follows the national instinct, and presents a tragic Shakespeare rôle with an abandon and passion which are entirely foreign to the reserve of the English nature. It is this English reserve, as against the German intensity, which will, in my opinion, make the most striking impression on the German mind. Where the English actors excel the Germans most is, I think, in their comedians. There is no reserve about the English actor where humorous rôles are concerned, and that, again, is characteristic. He is willing to lend himself to the grotesque, according to Shakespearean demands, to an extent impossible to the German actor."

School Board and Song.

A SPECIAL matinée of *Lucia di Lammermoor* was given last autumn, by arrangement between the Moody-Manners Opera Company and the London County Council Education Committee, to 1,500 children from the London schools, and three prizes were offered by Mme. Fanny Moody for the best essays written by the juveniles on the opera. These have now been collected, and some of the opinions expressed appear in the *Tribune*. "The only flaws in the reality of the whole performance," points out Phyllis Blackler, Burghley-road Higher Elementary School, "were, to my mind, first, Lucy's quick revival from her faint, and then the speedy coming to life of Edgar, in order to bow their acknowledgments of the hearty applause." A young student at the Hackney Pupil Teachers' Centre writes:—"What a boon would be conferred upon the English nation, what a stimulus given to educational advancement, were it possible for performances of this kind to supersede these harrowing plays, which perforce attract so many thousands to-day!"

We shall be obliged if our readers will send us any amusing anecdotes they may hear, or accounts of any quaint incidents they may witness while acting or rehearsing.

BEERBOHM TREE'S BERLIN VISIT.

DINNER AT THE CECIL.

The greatest interest has been felt both here and in Germany in Mr. Beerbohm Tree's visit to Berlin. The gathering at the send-off banquet held in honour of Mr. Tree on Sunday evening at the Hotel Cecil was representative of all the professions. Diplomats rubbed shoulders with lawyers, dramatists sat side by side with great soldiers, and actors and critics exchanged courtesies and opinions in the most cordial spirit of friendship.

Never were Germans and Englishmen more happy in each other's company. The Lord Mayor (Sir William Treloar) occupied the chair, and others present were Mr. Max Beerbohm, Mr. J. Comyns Carr, Mr. Haddon Chambers, Mr. J. M. Chute, Lieut.-Col. Henry A. Fletcher, Col. Ker Fox, Mr. J. T. Grein, Mr. George Grossmith, Mr. Weedon Grossmith, Mr. Lyn Harding, Mr. Ludwig Holthusen, Mr. Rufus Isaacs, Col. Leroy Lewis, Mr. C. P. Little, Mr. Henry Neville, Mr. Louis N. Parker, Direktor Schroder, Mr. Yorke Stephens, Sir Douglas Straight, Mr. Edward Terry, Maj.-Gen. Sir Alfred Turner, Mr. Frederick Whelen, and Mr. J. B. Mulholland.

After the health of the King and the Kaiser had been proposed and enthusiastically toasted, with the singing of the two National Anthems,

The LORD MAYOR, rising to propose "Our Guest," said he felt highly honoured in holding the position of chairman that evening. He felt, however, that there was no one who had a greater appreciation of Mr. Tree's good qualities than he had, or who was more anxious to do him justice. Those who were responsible for the toast list must have had the opinion—which he shared—that there were many gentlemen present who could do greater justice to Mr. Tree than the Lord Mayor, for associated with him in the toast were the names of four gentlemen. This was a send-off banquet to Mr. Tree, but it was not meant to indicate that they were glad he was going to leave London for a week or two. They intended to show him that he was appreciated here, and that they were glad to know he was appreciated in Germany. He (the Lord Mayor) had always experienced great pleasure in seeing Mr. Tree act, and could he have spared the time, he should have been delighted if Mr. Tree had offered to take him to perform some small part in Berlin. If he had a theatre of his own he might perform in it sometimes, and would not allow anybody else to take a leading part. That, he believed, was the way with people who owned theatres. At any rate, that was the way with people who dwelt in the Theatre Royal, Mansion House. They hoped that whatever Mr. Tree undertook in Germany he would be successful. It was a great delight to them all to think that the German Emperor was going to honour Mr. Tree with his presence at several of his performances. They were glad to wish the distinguished actor God-speed in his journey, and they hoped that he might have a very pleasant and very successful time in the German capital. He would ask the company to join with him in drinking the health of Mr. Beerbohm Tree.

MR. LUDWIG HOLTHUSEN, who supported the Lord Mayor, appeared in the picturesque costume of the Duke Leopold von Dessau, and delivered "in the name of Frederick the Great and William Shakespeare a Message from Mars to the Darling of the Gods." The message, spoken by Mr. Holthusen with fine elocutionary effect, was most humorous. This "old Dessauer," presuming to represent Frederick the Great, said: "My King has heard with much pleasure of the impending visit of the English drama to his old capital, and has instructed me, his faithful servant, to make a descent from Mars to the shores of these islands and to wish the representative of Shakespeare good speed and a royal success. You go to Berlin, Sir, at the invitation of an Emperor who has the soul of an artist and the heart of a soldier."

MAJOR-GENERAL SIR ALFRED TURNER, K.C.B., said that he was quite sure that the visit of their distinguished guest and his company to Berlin would have a far wider and more important result than the mere enjoyment of the performances of a series of Shakespearean plays produced in the highest style of dramatic art where those plays were known, and where the name of their author was revered as much as it was in England. He (the speaker) was convinced that the reception which would be accorded to Mr. Tree and his company in Germany by the Emperor and by Germans generally would disabuse the minds of many of those persons, both German and English, who had been misled into the fallacious belief that there existed any real enmity and malice between Germany and England.

HERR VON STUMM, the German Charge d'Affaires, who appeared on behalf of the German Ambassador, remarked that Mr. Tree, as a most distinguished representative of dramatic art in England, could be sure of a warm reception in Germany. There was no ill-feeling against this country among the large masses of the German people, and he hoped that Mr. Tree's visit would reap most beneficial results in creating better feelings between the two nations.

MR. EDWARD TERRY said he had great pleasure in expressing the delight and satisfaction he had always derived from witnessing German performances both in Germany and in this country, and so far as the German Theatre in London was concerned he thought they were greatly indebted to Mr. Hans Andresen, who, it was to be hoped, would remain for a very long time here. He hoped that soon a German theatre would be founded in London. The wreck of the Berlin and the disaster that befel the German Opera Company was sadly lamented by all. People sometimes spoke pessimistically about the English drama; for himself, he was an optimist, and so long as the young authors were coming to the front he felt there was little to fear.

MR. HANS ANDRESEN gracefully acknowledged Mr. Terry's compliments on behalf of the German Theatre in London and himself. He assured the company that their most sincere wishes would accompany Mr. Tree on his journey to Berlin. He (the speaker) and his colleagues had a firm conviction that Mr. Tree's enterprise would meet with deserved success in Germany, for it was a country where art was appreciated. During his (Mr. Andresen's) seven years' stay in London he had had the opportunity of studying the English stage, and he was convinced that it was of the greatest importance that the two nations should work hand-in-hand in the matter of dramatic art.

Mr. Tree's health was then enthusiastically drunk, to the singing of the German equivalent of "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow."

MR. TREE, who was enthusiastically cheered on rising, replied to the toast of his health as follows: My Lord Mayor and gentlemen, I am deeply sensible of the honour you, gentlemen of the German community, and you, my kind friends, have done me in inviting me to spend my last evening in your company. You have provided me with my "Henkersmalzeit," as the Germans say—that is, the last meal of which the criminal is allowed to partake before his departure for another world. But, indeed, gentlemen, I feel in more senses than one like the criminal in the dock, for do we not often read in the records of murder trials "the prisoner was the only person who appeared unconcerned." Well, I think this description accurately realises the state of affairs at His Majesty's Theatre during the past few weeks of storm and stress. In the maelstrom which has been agitating that little sea the centre alone has remained calm and untroubled. For my part, I have only become informed of what is going on through what I have read in the newspapers. I only hope that all I have read is true. Some of the items, I confess, came upon me as a surprise. I learnt, for instance, that I am "a mighty golfer." The other evening a newspaper rang me up, and asked me if the statement were true that our staff included 200 children. I replied that the statement was not entirely accurate, but if they would strike off two noughts—mere nothings—and divide the remaining numeral by two the statement would be strictly accurate. Around me I have noticed anxious faces and ruffled fronts. I notice that the bulky form of my manager, Mr. Henry Dana, has grown small by degrees and beautifully less. I notice that my stage-manager has buried his puzzled face in the depths of a German dictionary in his endeavours to conform to the approved etiquette in addressing his German comrade, so as not to upset the *entente*. I think he now calls him Herr Kaiserlich, Koniglicher, Hof Ober Regisseur und Geheimer Haupt unter Flisseur. I have noticed a look of despair on the erstwhile bucolic countenance of my master carpenter. I have remarked signs of artificial courage on the part of the chief electrician, who had hitherto been a total abstainer; and even the stoical Mr. Whelen has exhibited signs of what I may call municipal exaltation. My kind adviser and legal lexicon, Mr. Langton, has unconsciously relaxed the judicial frown which normally furrows his expansive brow; and it has not escaped me that even the redoubtable Mr. Grein's moustache curls less imperially. To him, by the way, I should again like to express my thanks for the interest which he has so generously shown towards me throughout these negotiations. Indeed, I should like to take this opportunity of tendering my thanks to all with whom our enterprise has brought me in contact. The German and the English authorities appear to have vied with each other in making our undertaking easy; and it appeared at first, I assure you, no easy task to accomplish. All have conspired to make our visit to Germany not only a labour of love, but a joyous pilgrimage. The Press, too, of both countries have shown us an amount of consideration and generosity which should make us very modest, for to the sensitive mind nothing is so destructive of conceit as is over-kindness and appreciation. Conceit, indeed, is often the armour we assume in the presence of our detractors. If, then, we are grateful for words of God-speed and encouragement on the one side, and of welcome on the other, we are also conscious that we have to face the ordeal of criticism. But we look hopefully towards the result, conscious that we shall do the utmost that is in us, and conscious also that we shall face a public which in art knows no jealousy and no Chauvinism. All nations meet on the common ground of Art—that blessed spot of neutral territory—that land of cordial intent. It is in this sense that His Imperial Majesty the Kaiser has said that the Art of the Drama is a mediator between nations. We who regard art as a serious element of life cannot but feel grateful for such a lofty conception of the function of our art, and if it should be given to us, in however small a degree, to bind closer the intellects, the intelligencies, and the sympathies of nations, we shall indeed be justified in our claim to be something more than the day-flies of pleasure. I began by saying that in the stress of work I had not realised the seriousness of our mission. To-night I have for the first time heard the trumpet that sounds the reveille, and calls us to arms. On the eve of battle I pledge to you, my kind friends, my full heart for the token of "gemutlichkeit," the good-fellowship of the soul, which you have to-night proffered me, and when we appear before our German judges, our thoughts will cling to the memory of to-night, and from that memory we shall quaff refreshing hope and courage as I quaff this full and loving cup to you to-night.

MR. J. COMYNS CARR proposed the health of the Lord Mayor in a happy and humorous speech, and his Lordship's reply brought the proceedings to a close.

During the evening a delightful programme of music was performed, under the conductorship of Herr G. H. Mohr, by that gentleman's "Salon Sextett."

The Lord Mayor forwarded to the Kaiser the following telegram:—

"The English and German friends and disciples of Art, assembled in the name of Shakespeare, at a banquet at the Hotel Cecil with Beerbohm Tree, on the eve of his leaving for Berlin, beg to present to your Majesty, the great protector and lover of Art, their respectful greetings.—WILLIAM TRELOAR, Lord Mayor."

On Monday came this reply:—

"His Majesty the Emperor having received the telegram which you addressed to him last night on the occasion of the Beerbohm Tree banquet, I am commanded to convey to your lordship, as the chairman of the banquet, his Majesty's best thanks for this friendly attention.—STUMM."

FAREWELL AT HIS MAJESTY'S.

There was a full house at His Majesty's Theatre on Saturday, when Mr. Tree appeared for the last time before leaving for Berlin. In answer to repeated demands Mr. Tree made a short speech, in which he said he was taking a series of Shakespeare's plays to a public that loved Shakespeare and was devoted to his art. At the same time, he was carrying the banner of the British drama across the sea, and he would, he trusted, return with it untarnished.

THE START FROM VICTORIA.

Mr. Tree and his company, nearly eighty in number, left Victoria Station at eight on Monday. By that hour crowds had assembled in the station who cheered Mr. Tree loudly when he came on the platform. He bowed his acknowledgments from the carriage; and the train moved off after emotional farewells from excited friends.

THE STOP AT HANOVER.

The travellers were fortunate in having a smooth crossing. At Hanover on Tuesday afternoon, a deputation from the Royal Theatre was on the platform with hospitable offerings, Miss Collier and Miss Tree being presented with bouquets of orchids, roses, and lilies. The leader of the deputation in a short speech expressed the hope that Mr. Tree would be able to make a professional appearance in Hanover. Mr. Tree, speaking in German, recalled the connection between Great Britain and Hanover, and said that though his arrangements would not permit him to play in the capital of the province on this occasion, he hoped to be able to do so at some future date. If he did not come they would know that he had failed at Berlin. It had been said that there were many Englishmen who did not know where the Rhine was, but he could state with emphasis that, at all events, all the members of his company knew where Hanover was, and that was "just here."

ARRIVAL AT BERLIN.

At the Friedrichstrasse station, Berlin, Mr. Tree's manager, Mr. Henry Dana, and a corps of journalists had formed themselves into a Reception Committee. Mr. Tree wanted to go to the Theatre Royal to see a performance of Schiller's *Wallenstein*; but he was persuaded to dine and rest for the morrow.

BANQUET AT THE KAISERHOF.

On Wednesday a banquet was given at the Kaiserhof Hotel in honour of Mr. Tree and his company. The gathering included many distinguished in art, literature, and journalism. Among those present were the Intendant-General of the Royal Theatres, almost all the theatre managers, and many of the principal editors of Berlin.

The Intendant-General (Baron Huelsen) proposed the health of the King and the Kaiser, and the toast was most enthusiastically cheered.

Dr. John Lehmann expressed his thanks for the enjoyable days that were spent by the German journalists in London, and pointed out how closely interwoven were English and German dramatic art. On the German stage Shakespeare, Shaw, and Wilde were predominant, and there were days when only the works of British authors were performed. He concluded his speech by proposing Mr. Tree's health.

Mr. Tree, replying in German, remarked that as he had British and German blood in his veins, his father having been a German and his mother an Englishwoman, he felt himself called to be an exponent of Anglo-German friendship. He alluded to the popularity which the plays of Bernard Shaw and other English dramatists enjoy in Germany, and emphasised the difficulty of the task of playing Shakespeare before a German audience. He thanked all those who had agreed to help him in performing that task, and concluded his speech amidst enthusiastic applause with the expression of a sentiment that the visit would realise the hopes that were entertained on both sides.

Herr Ludwig Barnay, manager of the Royal Theatre, praised Mr. Tree as an actor, and observed how much the German stage had profited by its association with foreign, especially English and Italian, actors and artists. In the course of his speech Herr Barnay asked: "Why speak of reconciliation when no quarrel has taken place?" In conclusion he referred in terms of the highest enthusiasm to English hospitality.

ARTISTIC SOUVENIR.

The souvenir programme which Mr. Tree prepared for the opening performance on Friday included a prefatory note in German, ending:—

"Mit unterhänger Huldigung
Ersuchen wir Genehmigung";

and very fine reproductions of photographs of Mr. Tree in ordinary morning dress, as Hamlet, as Svengali, as Falstaff, as King Richard II., as Malvolio, and as Antony.

Mr. Oswald Brand has written the following verses àpropos of Mr. Tree's visit:—

"God speed! The Thespian mantle don,
Fashioned for thee by Fame!
An alien soil to tread upon,
Clad as becomes thy name!
May all thy pomp and circumstance,
Thy genius and renown,
Bring German laurels to enhance,
Those in thy English crown.

And buckle well thy armour on!
Art's trusty arms unsheath!
For there must be brave battle done,
To win that foreign wreath!
So let *sans* fear thy prowess shine,
Accoutred *cap-à-pè!*
The champion of those gifts divine
The gods have given thee.

Each year the Drama's Teuton sons
Have landed on our shore!
Our honoured guests, right welcome ones,
All actors to the core!
Now England's envoy thou, we hope
Berlin will at its best,
See thy great stage kaleidoscope
Thou 'Wizard of the West.'

So well equipped set proudly out,
On a victorious march!
And then quick turn and round about
Through Art's triumphal arch!
Thy mission spent, the coming years
Will proud remembrance bring,
And oft perchance within thy ears
These echoed words will ring:—

'Wilkommen uns, du Musen Sohn!
Vom fernen Themse-Strand!
Du Herscher auf dem Künstler Thron,
Wir reichen dir die Hand,
Und spenden dir des Rhumes Lohn,
In Deutschland, stammverwandt!
Die Kunst gehört nicht der Nation
Die Welt ihr Vaterland!'"

The following appeared in the *Tribune* of Friday:—

THE ACTOR-MANAGER-DIPLOMATIST.

A wizard of dramatic art,
A histrionic Merlin,
Our Mr. Tree is on the Spree,
And likes it—that is, likes to be
In theatre-loving Berlin.

"His Majesty's" Ambassador,
He puts the courtier's suit on:
It fits him well, but truth to tell
His magic robe, his Shakespeare-spell,
Will most delight the Teuton.

Thus statecraft high and stagecraft join
As one befriending factor,
And on the Spree the Germans see
The laurel-branches of the Tree—
The triumph of the Actor.

G. F. R. A.

Mr. Fred Terry's Day.

MR. FRED TERRY, in a *Daily Mail* symposium about "Work and Pleasure," says:—"My ideal day would be equal portions of work, recreation, and sleep. I should like to have eight hours of each; but, of course, that is impossible. Many people think that an actor's work is only play, but that is very far from being the case; our work is as exacting and as tiring as any. During rehearsals we are very often hard at it from early morning till late at night, but I usually try to take an hour off for luncheon. Then I have an immense number of plays to read, good, bad, and indifferent, from would-be dramatists."

Playing for Pleasure.

THE most remarkable thing, says Mr. E. H. Sothern in the *Morning Leader*, about the productions which Miss Marlowe and I are going to present to London is the attitude of my friends. They take such a gloomy aspect of the matter—quite as though I were being driven into something disagreeable against my will. They sort of take a fellow by the hand and pat him on the shoulder, you know, and they seem to say:—"Well, old fellow, if you must do this sort of thing, of course I wish you well. But I'm really sorry for you." It never seems to occur to them that we are doing this because we like it—that we take great pleasure in producing these beautiful plays, and that we're by no means forced into it. It's like the idea some people have when a fellow talks of playing *Hamlet*. They look on it as a sort of a pose. They say, "Well, now, this fellow has reached the point where he wants to play Hamlet. Isn't it too bad? But I suppose they all have to pass through that period, and he may be the better for it." Isn't it remarkable that they do not realise that one wants to play *Hamlet* for its dramatic worth, and that no one would play it were it not a great play?

"THE TRUTH."

A Comedy, in Four Acts, by Clyde Fitch, played for the first time in London at the Comedy Theatre on Saturday, April 6.

Tom Warder ..... MR. ALLAN AYNESWORTH
Frederick Lindon ..... MR. DAWSON MILWARD
Stephen Roland ..... MR. DION BOUCICAULT
Jenks ..... MR. HORTON COOPER
Messenger ..... MR. DONALD CALTHROP
Eve Lindon ..... MISS GRACE LANE
Laura Fraser ..... MISS SYBIL CARLISLE
Mrs. Genevieve Crespigny ..... MISS ROSINA FILIPPI
Becky Warder ..... MISS MARIE TEMPEST

Mr. Clyde Fitch, to use a phrase from a famous music hall song, "'As our simperfy." He has been inspired with an excellent "notion"—one of those simple, universally-appreciable ideas which tempt a dramatist irresistibly. So charmed has he been with his *trouvaille* that he has started out on his journey without any definite idea of how he was to cover the latter half of it. If Mr. Fitch's inspiration had been less happy we should be inclined to be harder on his falling off; as it is, we can only regret it, wish matters had been otherwise, and enjoy the excellences of the play which far outbalance its defects.

We have all of us met with people like Becky Warder in *The Truth*; people who lie, not from fear or interest, but simply by nature, habit, and instinct. There are many cases of married women, naturally truthful, having been driven into lying to their husbands by fear, and having found their first fib develop into a mountain of duplicity. But Becky's case is quite different. She lies for pleasure, *pour l'amour de l'art*, to keep her hand in, so to speak. She is a victim of heredity; her father is a congenital prevaricator, and, like the daughter of Mme. Angot, Mrs. Warder "takes after her parent." As long as her taradiddles are confined to misstatements as to her winnings at cards, and to the destination of a cheque supposed to be devoted to the purchase of a new bonnet, no great harm follows. But the consequences are serious when she "practises to deceive" about more serious matters. Frederick Lindon, a married man, conceives an infatuation for Becky. He is on bad terms with, and separated from, his wife, Eva, and Becky tries to bring them together, with the result of entanglement. With the too-frequent fatuity of silly women who think they can play with fire with impunity, Becky goes on meeting Lindon at Richmond and Mme. Tussaud's—in fact, compromising herself with him pretty completely. Lindon's jealous wife sets detectives to watch the doings of the pair, and lays the evidence thus obtained before Warder, who refuses to accept it, and adheres to his belief in his wife's veracity. Becky sends a note to Lindon putting him on his guard, so that he may deny the accusation of having been "out" with her. But Lindon, taking the letter for an encouragement to proceed to extremities, arrives, and embraces her passionately. Becky, who has only gratified her love of intrigue by flirting with him, orders him out of the house. In order to conceal the fact of the interview, Beck tells her husband another lie. This time, by accident, his suspicions are aroused. His faith in his wife is destroyed; and when she asserts that she is innocent, and that she has repulsed Lindon's advances with scorn, Warder cannot believe her word. He goes away to consider his course; and Becky runs down to Brighton to see her father. He also disbelieves her story, and resorts to more chicanery. He wires to Warder that Becky is dying. She tries hard to return to the paths of truth, but is over-persuaded by her parent, and induced to agree to again deceive Warder, who, when he arrives, learns the real state of the case from the landlady. When Becky sees him, her better nature triumphs, and she makes a "clean breast" of everything to her husband, who forgives her on promise to amend; and so, happily, ends the play. Those who criticise Mr. Fitch's two latter acts should be prepared with a scenario, showing how the idea could have been better exploited. *The Truth*, taken as a whole, is a clever, interesting, and amusing play.

If the piece does not evoke the enthusiasm in London which it has done in New York, the opportunities which it affords for a remarkable display of acting by an exceptionally strong cast must earn the gratitude of all playgoers. Miss Marie Tempest has never had a part better calculated to display her talent than Becky, the woman with the straight heart and crooked tongue. Becky's lying is an inherited instinct, laughed at from her childhood, and her fibs are told with such gay irresponsibility and such captivating unconcern by Miss Tempest, that it is impossible to take them with the seriousness which lapses from truth deserve. Miss Tempest's well-known powers as a comedienne have full play in the first act; and her Becky Warder is so buoyant, so full of natural sweetness of disposition, that, by the time she is caught in a net of falsehoods of her own weaving, and every struggle to free herself only entangles her more hopelessly in the meshes, we have taken her so completely to our hearts that, as we watch the struggles of the poor little victim we long to help her to escape from the consequences of her own folly. Miss Tempest has a wonderful power of moving her audience from laughter to tears in one moment; she rises to the height of tragic power when she sits stricken, with white face, and eyes with the look of a trapped animal in them, listening to the decree of her much-loved husband, that henceforth they must live as strangers, as he can never trust her again. For once the glib, lying tongue fails her, and she can only repeat brokenly again and again "I love you, I love you." As the type of a well-bred English gentleman, pleasant voiced and pleasant mannered, Mr. Allan Aynesworth has few superiors on the stage; but Mr. Aynesworth can show us other phases of an Englishman's character: he can show us the husband touched in his most vital point—his honour; the man of deep feelings, stirred to a frenzy of jealousy, keeping his emotions in check after the first outburst by the exercise of strong self-control, but showing his suffering by every tense line in his face, by the very tonelessness of his usually vibrant voice. Mr. Dawson Milward gives a most clever sketch of a fascinating and unprincipled scamp. He portrays the libertine in a very subtle and effective manner, and scores highly. Mr. Dion Boucicault plays what has become known as an "Eccles" part with odd touches of pathos and with quaintly humorous effects, which give the character a remarkable individuality. The performance of Miss Grace Lane is all the more deserving of praise in that the part is not particularly well suited to Miss Lane's temperament. As Eve Lindon she shows us a woman, naturally badly balanced, whose jealousy has rendered her unreasonable to the point of insanity. As Mrs. Genevieve Crespigny, the lady who insists upon being called a lady, who is insulted at the idea of taking boarders, but "consents to receive an occasional paying guest," Miss Rosina Filippa is a source of pure delight whenever she is on the stage. Her "gentility" is something marvellous; it is seen in every inflection of Miss Filippi's voice in her choice of words, in her walk, in her dress. Miss Sybil Carlisle as the would-be peacemaker is so sweet and kind and looks so pretty that her efforts to set matters straight all round evoke the warm sympathy of the audience. Mr. Horton Cooper is good as a well-trained servant; and although Mr. Donald Calthrop has only a few words to say, he conveys an excellent impression of a brisk and breezy Messenger. With acting such as it receives from Miss Tempest and her supporters, *The Truth* has every chance of success.

FIFTY YEARS OF THE DRAMA. 1850—1900.

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In these columns it is proposed to give a strictly alphabetical arrangement of the titles of plays produced during the last fifty years. It will be the most complete list ever published, and should prove invaluable to authors desiring to discover whether a certain title has ever been used, and when. To members of the dramatic profession it will be useful in determining the dates of plays in which they have achieved successes. Our readers are politely requested to advise us of any omission or inaccuracy which they may notice.

This list as soon as complete will be published in cheap book form.

Weaver's Daughter, Sadler's Wells, March 10, 1883.
Web of Fate, Braintree, Oct. 9, 1899.
Wedded and Lost, Britannia, Sept. 5, 1868.
Wedded Bliss, Theatre Royal, Cork, Oct. 3, 1871.
Wedded, not Wived, Theatre Royal, Hull, April 5, 1886.
Wedded to Crime, Sadler's Wells, May 25, 1891.
Wedding Bells, Britannia, Oct. 2, 1876.
Wedding Eve, Britannia, April 8, 1867.
Wedding Guest, Garrick, Sept. 27, 1900.
Wedding March, Court, Nov. 15, 1873.
Wedding Present, St. George's Hall, Nov. 10, 1888.
Wee Curly, Theatre Royal, Greenock, April 2, 1883
Weeds, Gallery of Illustration, May 6, 1871.
Weeds and Flowers, East London, July 25, 1870.
Weeds and Flowers of Erin, Liverpool, March 14, 1870.
Weeping Willow, Staines, May 5, 1886.
Weighed in the Balance, Theatre Royal, Margate, Aug. 9, 1881.
Weird Destiny, Theatre Royal, Margate, Aug. 13, 1888.
Welcome, Little Stranger, Adelphi, March 30, 1857.
Welcome Visit, Harwich, July 14, 1887.
Well Matched, Ealing, March 26, 1887.
Well of Wishes, Ladbroke Hall, May 10, 1889.
Well Pair'd, Bijou, June 7, 1879.
Well Played, Uxbridge, Jan. 28, 1888.
Welsh Heiress, Comedy, Jan. 21, 1893.
Welsh Orphan, Cardiff, March 12, 1894.
Welsh Rabbits, Folly, May 21, 1881.
Wep-Ton-No-Mah, Liverpool, April 10, 1893.
Were Wolf, Avenue, Feb. 15, 1898.
Werther, Covent Garden, June 11, 1894.
Westminster, Her Majesty's Theatre, Dundee, Feb. 18, 1893.
Weston the Walker, Prince of Wales's Birmingham, April 17, 1876.
Westward Ho! Theatre Royal, Dewsbury, July 18, 1892.
Wet Day, Vaudeville, Aug. 21, 1884.
Wexford, Wolverhampton, June 17, 1889.
Whalers, The, Victoria, Dec. 5, 1863.
What an Idea, Aquarium, Brighton, June 25, 1883.
What Does He Want? Covent Garden, Jan. 29, 1856.
What Happened to Hooley, Wolverhampton, March 11, 1899.
What Happened to Jones, Vaudeville, Aug. 24, 1897.
What Is She? Gallery of Illustration, April 29, 1871.
What Might Have Been, Llandudno, May 14, 1896.
What! More Trouble? Prince of Wales's, July 20, 1899.
What Shall I Sing? Ealing, Sept. 22, 1892.
What's In a Name? Queen's Hall, Feb. 9, 1895.
What's It On? Gallery of Illustration, Jan. 29, 1870.
What's the Odds? Theatre Royal, Bolton, May 1, 1882.
What's Your Game? Surrey, Sept. 27, 1858.
What Will Become of Him? Britannia, May 20, 1872.
What Will He Do With It? Vauxhall Bridge Road, July 11, 1871.
What Will the Neighbours Say? Standard, Sept. 1, 1873.
What Will the World Say? Terry's, Jan. 26, 1899.
What Will They Say at Brompton? Olympic, Nov. 23, 1857.
What Women Will Do, Theatre Royal, Birmingham, Sept. 17, 1890.
Wheel of Fortune, Theatre Royal, Rotherham, May 4, 1883.
Wheel of Time, Theatre Royal, West Bromwich, Dec. 26, 1892.
Wheels Within Wheels, Court, May 23, 1899.
When a Man's in Love, Court, Oct. 19, 1898.
When a Man's Married, Theatre Royal, Dover, June 25, 1900.
When George III. was King, Folkestone, Dec. 26, 1893.
When George IV. was King, Theatre Royal, Birmingham, Sept. 17, 1896.
When George was King, Theatre Royal, Batley, Sept. 20, 1899.
When Greek Meets Greek, Surrey, June 29, 1896.
When London Sleeps, Crewe, March 19, 1896.
When One Door Shuts Another Opens, Town Hall, Hove, Oct. 23, 1885.
When the Cat's Away, Garrick, Nov. 19, 1896.
When the Clock Strikes Nine, Britannia, March 8, 1869.
When the Lamps are Lighted, Salford, Oct. 11, 1897.
When the Wheels Run Down, St. George's Hall, April 29, 1899.
When Widows Wooed, Ladbroke Hall, May 10, 1899.
Where's Bertram, Kingston-on-Thames.
Where's Prodgers? Maidenhead, Aug. 27, 1896.
Where's the Cat? Criterion, Nov. 20, 1880.
Where's Your Wife? Strand, Sept. 21, 1863.
Which? Gaiety, Feb. 18, 1886.
Which is It? Sadler's Wells, July 16, 1862.
Which is Which? Court, July 10, 1871.
Which Wins? Terry's, June 12, 1889.
While It's to be Had, Mirror, Dec. 17, 1874.
While There's Life There's Hope, Strand, July 2, 1863.
While the Snow is Falling, Prince of Wales's, Rochdale, March 10, 1873.
Whip Hand, Theatre Royal, Cambridge, Dec. 21, 1884.
Whipping Post, Theatre Royal, Norwich, March 10, 1884.
Whips of Steel, St. George's Hall, May 7, 1889.
Whips the Scourge, Balham, Oct. 9, 1900.
Whirlwind, The, Elephant and Castle, Sept. 27, 1890.
Whiskey Demon; or, The Dream of the Reveller, Pavilion, Nov. 9, 1867.
Whist, Brighton, Aug. 20, 1879.
White Bays, Surrey, Jan. 20, 1862.
White Blackbird, Croydon, Aug. 1, 1898.
White Boys of Kerry, Theatre Royal, Bradford, Oct. 14, 1872.
White Cat, Drury Lane, Dec. 26, 1877.
Whitechapel Girl, Theatre Royal, Norwich, Oct. 29, 1900.
White Chateau, Grecian, Oct. 14, 1861.
White Chief, Pavilion, Nov. 5, 1866.
White Cliffs, Theatre Royal, Hull, Dec. 13, 1880.
White Cockade, Croydon, Sept. 26, 1874.
White Cuirassier, Theatre Royal, Jersey, Oct. 9, 1895.
White Devil, Blackburn, June 23, 1893.
White Elephant, Elephant and Castle, Nov. 27, 1875.
White Ensign, Theatre Royal, Aston, July 2, 1900.
White Fawn, Holborn, April 13, 1868.
White Hat, Adelphi, April 14, 1873.
White Heather, Drury Lane, Sept. 16, 1897.
White Knight, Terry's, Feb. 26, 1898.
White Lady Lever de Rideau, Prince of Wales's, July 28, 1892.
White Lie, Novelty, Nov. 24, 1888.
White Lies, Albert Hall, June 11, 1897.
White Lily, Theatre Royal, Hanley, Aug. 31, 1891.
White Palfrey, Astley's, May 24, 1858.
White Passport, Pavilion, March 29, 1869.
White Phantom, Marylebone, Oct. 19, 1867.
White Pilgrim, Court, Feb. 14, 1874.
White Queen, Sadler's Wells, Oct. 12, 1883.
White Rose, Adelphi, April 23, 1892.
White Roses, Parkhurst, Dec. 14, 1891.
Whiter than Snow, Opera Comique, June 25, 1885.
White Scarf, Standard, Jan. 30, 1864.
White Sergeants, Adelphi, May 6, 1850.
White Silk Dress, Prince of Wales's, Oct. 3, 1896.
White Slave, Prince's, Bristol, Aug. 4, 1884.
White Stocking, Comedy, Oct. 3, 1896.
White Stockings, Theatre Royal, Stratford, Aug. 31, 1888.
White Woods, Victoria, Feb. 2, 1852.
Whittington, Alhambra, Dec. 26, 1874.
Whittington Junior and His Sensation Cat, Royalty, Nov. 23, 1870.
Who'd Be a Manager? Queen's, Dublin, Dec. 15, 1876.
Who Did It? Theatre Royal, Scarborough, May 11, 1875.
Who Did It? or, The Track of the Crime, Britannia, Dec. 18, 1867.
Who is Sylvia, Opera Comique, Nov. 12, 1892.
Who Killed Cock Robin? Haymarket, Nov. 13, 1865.
Whose Wife? Theatre Royal, Bournemouth, Aug. 30, 1898.
Who's Married? Bayswater, June 22, 1893.
Who's the Heir? Gallery of Illustration, March 5, 1869.
Who's to Be Master? Theatre Royal, Stratford, March 20, 1886.
Who Stole the Tarts? Regent Street, June 2, 1894.
Who's to Win? Theatre Royal, Weymouth, May 24, 1871.
Who's to Win Him, Lyceum, Jan. 20, 1868.
Why Smith Left Home, Strand, May 1, 1899.
Why Woman Sins, Theatre Royal, Wigan, May 10, 1900.
Why Women Weep, Criterion, Jan. 23, 1888.
Wicked Paris, Theatre Royal, Gloucester, April 28, 1884.
Wicked Uncle, Gaiety, Dec. 6, 1900.
Wicked Wife, Haymarket, Feb. 16, 1857.
Wicked World, Haymarket, Jan. 4, 1873.
Wickerd the Witcherer, Opera House, Sheffield, April 14, 1873.
Wicklow Rose, Prince's, Manchester, May 3, 1883.
Wideawake, Theatre Royal, Portsmouth, July 18, 1887.
Wide World, Blackburn, July 8, 1895.
Widow and Wife, Old Theatre Royal, Bristol, Sept. 11, 1876.

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AMUSEMENTS IN GLASGOW.

Royalty, Ltd. — Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company is here, in *A Night Out*. Mr. Charles Sugden in his original part of Paillard is as easy and natural as ever; the rôle of Pinglet is sustained by Mr. Edward Thirlby, whose energy and talent contribute largely to the fun; as Mathieu, Mr. Mark Lester gives a distinctive character study; Mr. Dare Austin deserves credit for his doubling of Brochard and Botticelli; Messrs. Fred Penley and Thomas Barry are amusing as the waiters; as the student Maxine, Mr. Geoffrey Saville does well; Mrs. Charles Sugden plays Marcelle with considerable grace; as Mrs. Pinglet, Miss Constance Groves supplies an amusing portrayal; Victorine is saucily represented by Miss Lillian Stafford; and the four daughters of Mathieu are attractively sketched by Misses Elmie Kemp, Elvira Stuart, Dorothy Dance, and Muriel Dance. The comedy is preceded by *The Ruby Heart*.

King's, Ltd. — Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Macfarlane.—Mr. William Greet's company in *The Earl and the Girl* is here. Miss Frances Earle as Elphin Haye deserves great praise for her interpretation; Jim Cheese is well played by Mr. William Stephens; Mr. Arthur Harrolds' fine voice is heard to advantage in "By the Mediterranean Shore"; Mrs. Shimmering Black is well embodied by Miss Beatrice Anderson; Miss Gertrude Melville as Daisy Fallowfield puts plenty of life into her work; Miss Jeanie Richards gives a clever character-study of Liza Shoddam; Mr. Percy E. Wright does well as the Hon. Crewe Boodle; and Mr. Green Taylor as Mr. Talk is capital; Mr. W. Norman is very amusing as Downham, and Mr. H. Courtin acts in fine style as A. Bunker Bliss.

Grand, Ltd. — Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. D. Macfarlane.—Messrs. H. Armitage and Leigh's company is here with *Leah Kleschna*, in which Miss Bessie Rignold gives a spirited delineation of the heroine; Mr. Paul Belmore as Kleschna gives a strenuous rendering of the old criminal; Paul Sylvaine is finely portrayed by Mr. William F. Grant, and Schram is fittingly depicted by Mr. Campbell Goldsmid; Mr. Hamilton Deane as Raoul Berton invests the character with comedy, and Gerald Berton is ably handled by Mr. Roland Daniel; Madame Berton is played in a natural manner by Miss Ethel Russell, and Miss Helene Belgrave looks pleasing as Claire Berton. Less prominent parts are filled by Miss Violet Thorold as Sophie, Miss May Hamond as Freda, and Miss Edith Summers as Charlotte.

Princess's.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—Mr. J. Rice Cassidy's company is here in *In Holy(?) Russia*. Catska Lavotski and Renee Rubinoff are well played by Miss Florence Creagh and Mrs. J. Rice Cassidy; Mr. Cassidy as an Irish servant supplies some smart comedy; Mr. Arthur Stratton as Colonel Forrest excels, and Messrs. Frank Copeland, Martin Sands, Carl Rovinelli, J. Cuthbertson, Fred Lloyd, and Robert Cockroft are excellent.

Metropole, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—*At the World's Mercy* is here under the direction of Chas. Hermann. Praise is due to the efforts of Miss Madge Devereaux as Alice Lloyd and Miss Cissie Millford as Kitty Knott and Skittles. The acting of Messrs. Chas. Hermann, John Cecil, and G. D. Knight leaves little to be desired. The singing and dancing of Mr. Jesse Boxer are smart; he is ably assisted by Gwenny Ashdown as Dot.

Lyceum. — Proprietor, Mr. Richard Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—*An Unwedded Wife*, which was at the Metropole last week, is here, played by Miss Ethel van Praagh and Mr. Edward J. Whitty's company, who have a hearty welcome.

Empire.—Proprietors, Moss Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. Mussett.—Herbert Darnley's company in *The Skirmishers* provide a lively half-hour of fun; Chris. Richards is as agile as ever, and his acrobatic dancing is wonderful; Russell Wallett's "lady in black" turn is always enjoyable; George Brooks and Lizzie Daniels contribute clever and catchy songs; the Three Amaranths are wonderful dancers; Topsy and Usher are a clever coloured couple; the Geretti Sisters with their daring trapeze performance are retained; Kitty Marion sings acceptably; and the Bioscope shows several fine films.

Zoo-Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Moss Empires, Ltd., and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. N. Bostock.—Clarence C. Carri's company in *Office Hours* has proved a great source of enjoyment. The company includes Frank A. Wood, the well-known tenor, and Miss Violet Hicks. Charles Fisher's Pocket Opera Company give a good rendering of numbers from *Il Trovatore*; Carl Howard greatly amuses the audience with his parody of conjuring; Goggin and Davis are clever comedy acrobats; Starr and Leslie are amusing in their comical juggling act; James Dunn presents two well-illustrated songs; Lozelle goes through some extremely clever trapeze tricks; the Neilson Sisters sing and dance acceptably; and George Christian scores a success as a "Silly singer of silly songs."

Pavilion, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—Sam Elton displays wonderful ability and agility in his scena; May Moore Duprez as a Dutch girl is full of quaint mannerisms; Driscoll and Beattie cause roars of laughter with the sketch, *McPhee, M.P.*; Verno and Voyce are doing new business this week; George French is decidedly clever; and an excellent turn is provided by Josh Dixon. Annie Nelson is a vocalist of ability; Clarice Mayne shines in original songs and in imitations; and the Crown Trio of vocalists contribute an enjoyable turn.

Coliseum. — Proprietors, Moss Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Sam Gething; Acting-Manager, Harry Burdette.—The Ten Loonies are here creating the usual mirth; the Boy Army, in a series of cavalry drills, movements, and clever gun and carriage dismantling, &c., are a strong card; Chas. Dillon, comedian, and Sinclair and Parr, in song and patter, do good turns; and *The Mystery of the Cliffs* is well acted and staged. Barton and Ashley, in *Canal Boat Sal*, are great favourites; Ryan and Hall, in a comedy acrobatic scene, are very funny; the Bohemians, Will and Madge, show ability as instrumentalists; and good fooling is done by the Two Bostons.

Palace.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Richard Waldon; General-Manager, Mr. Harry M'Kelvie.—Here this week are Jack and Evelyn, comedy burlesque artists; the Tally-ho Trio of harmony vocalists are well received. Others engaged are Florence Deighton, double-voiced vocalist; the Brothers Obo, patter comedians; Prof. Glennie's Marionettes; Chummie La Mars, burlesque comedienne; Sam Thompson, Scotch comedian; Will Sergeant, Anglo-American comique; Arthur Boyne, comedian; and Woolmer Young, vocal comedian.

Gaiety, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. Harry Bowerman.—A. J. Gamble takes the place of honour here. He has lost none of his humorous eccentricities. Cookson is a ventriloquist above the average; a sprightly comedienne is Kate Lund; the Sisters Terry are excellently received; Harry Mars in a comedy gymnastic entertainment is clever; Tom Bassett is as great an attraction as formerly; and the Robsons do an eccentric "business" successfully. The films shown on the Gaiety Bioscope terminate a good programme.

Miss Bessie Butt, the principal boy of the pantomime at the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, was presented on the stage on the 30th ult., by Mr. Lester Collingwood, with the nineteenth *Owl* annual prize for the principal lady of the pantomime which had enjoyed the longest run. Mr. Collingwood also presented the *Owl's* beautiful pantomime bouquets to Miss Minnie D'Aubyn and Miss Nellie Lunelle, the principal boy and second principal girl of the pantomime. Mr. Syd Sylvester presented Mr. Collingwood, on behalf of his company, with a framed illuminated address; after which Mr. Collingwood presented Mr. Bert Browne with a brooch consisting of a pair of gold bees, in recognition of his services at the various benefits; Mr. Jones, the assistant stage-manager, pany; and a kerb and set of fire brasses were given for "The Guv'nor's" office.

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NEW PLAYS OF THE MONTH.

London.

Mar. 1. *Her Wedding Dress*, operetta, by Fewlass Llewellyn, music by Alfred Wigley, lyrics by Argyll Saxby—Putney Assembly Rooms.
,, 1. *Matrimony Limited*, comedietta, by Ernest Martin—Putney Assembly Rooms.
,, 1. *Blanchette*, by Eugène Brieux (adapted into English by J. T. Grein and Martia Leonard, and performed at the Albert Hall on Dec. 9, 1898; Court Theatre, May 24, 1901) (Mme. Féraudy)—Royalty.
,, 2. *My Darling*, musical play, in two acts, written by Seymour Hicks and composed by Herbert E. Haines, lyrics by Charles H. Taylor, additional numbers by Evelyn Baker, additional lyrics by P. G. Wodehouse—Hicks Theatre.
,, 2. *Peter's Mother* — transferred from the Apollo Theatre to Haymarket.
,, 4. *Anna of the Plains*, play, in four acts, adapted by H. A. Saintsbury from the novel by Alice and Claude Askew—Crystal Palace Theatre.
,, 4. *The Great Conspiracy*, drama, in three acts and four scenes, by Pierre Berton, adapted from *La Belle Marseillaise* (Ambigu, March 3, 1905) by Madeleine Lucette Ryley—Duke of York's.
,, 4. *La Cagnotte*, comedy, by Labiche and Delacour—Royalty.
,, 6. *Mr. Sheridan*, comedy, in four acts, by Gladys Unger (originally produced at Theatre Royal, Brighton, Aug. 29, 1904)—Garrick.
,, 7. *A Pre-historic Lord Mayor's Show*, arranged by Mr. E. T. Reed and Mr. Edmund Payne (Cripples' Fund matinée)—Drury Lane.
,, 7. *Feu Toupinel*, farcical comedy, by Alexandre Bisson—Royalty.
,, 7. *The Unknown Philanthropist*, play, in four acts, by Coryton Day—Ladbroke Hall.
,, 8. *John Glayde's Honour*, play, in four acts, by Alfred Sutro—St. James's.
,, 9. *The Last of the Legends*, musical extravaganza, in three scenes, by Gilbert A'Beckett (revised edition)—Terry's.
,, 9. *The Little Admiral*, play, in a prologue and three acts, by Horace Hodges and T. Wigney Percyval—Lyric.
,, 11. *A Soldier of Fortune*, drama, in four acts, by Gordon Holmes — Prince's, Poplar.
,, 11. *Dan'l Peggotty*, version, in four acts, of "David Copperfield," by Charles Dickens—King's, Hammersmith.
,, 12. *Her Son*, play, in four acts, by Horace Annesley Vachell (originally produced at Theatre Royal, Glasgow, Nov. 15, 1906)—The Playhouse.
,, 15. *The Wooden Shoe*, comedietta, by Rita Strauss, music by Marjorie Slaughter—Criterion.
,, 16. *The Van Dyck*, episode, in one act, adapted from the French by Cosmo Gordon Lennox—His Majesty's.
,, 16. *Pilgrim's Progress*, version of John Bunyan's allegory, written by Mrs. W. Hadley and Miss E. Ouless — Imperial Theatre.
,, 18. *The Shadow of a Crime*, drama, by Nita Rae (originally produced at the Pier Pavilion, Hastings, May 28, 1906)—Dalston Theatre.
,, 18. *The Old, Old Story*, domestic drama, in four acts—Theatre Royal, Edmonton.
,, 18. *The Youngest of Three*, play, in four acts, by H. M. Maltby (originally produced at Worthing on March 8, 1906)—Crystal Palace Theatre.
,, 18. *The Shadow Between*, drama, in four acts, by Harry Kingston, T. C. Denville, and Charles Self—Variety Theatre, Hoxton.
,, 18. *The Diplomacy of Sue*, comedy, in two acts, by Adrian Silas—Victoria-street, S.W.
,, 22. *The Gipsy Girl*, musical play, in two acts, book and music by Claude Arundale, lyrics by Follett Thorpe, additional numbers by Claude Arundale and Tom Heffernan—Waldorf.
,, 25. *Les Hannetons*, comedy, in three acts, by Eugène Brieux, translated by H. M. Clark—Imperial.
,, 25. *The Angel of Unrest: A Story of 1812*, play, in four acts, by Richard A. Greene (originally produced at Theatre Royal, Brighton, March 4, 1907) — Borough Theatre, Stratford.
,, 25. *The Coachman with Yellow Lace*, play, in four acts, by Charles Hannan—Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith.
,, 26. *The Dryad*, dance-play, in two tableaux, by Dora Bright (Mrs. Knatchbull)—The Playhouse.
,, 30. *Her Love Against the World*, romantic play, in four acts, by Walter Howard (originally produced at the Grand Junction Theatre, Manchester, Sept. 17, 1906), reopening as a theatre of—The Lyceum.

Revivals.

Mar. 16. *The Red Lamp*, drama, in four acts, by W. Outram Tristram (originally produced at the Comedy Theatre, April 20, 1887)—His Majesty's.

Provinces.

Mar. 4. *The Angel of Unrest: A Story of 1812*, play, in four acts, by Richard A. Greene—Theatre Royal, Brighton.
,, 9. *The Rising of the Moon*, play, in one act, by Lady Gregory—Abbey Theatre, Dublin.
,, 13. *The Robe of Righteousness*, drama, in four acts, by Norman Towers—Theatre Royal, Ilkeston.
,, 14. *Lone Man*, domestic comedy, in three acts (produced by amateurs)—Bridlington.
,, 18. *No Other Way*, dramatic episode—Theatre Royal, Shrewsbury.
,, 19. *Sadie of Brantome*, comic opera, in two acts, by Percy J. Barrow, music by Paul de Loëtz (copyright performance)—Palace, Porth.
,, 21. *The Woman from Scotland Yard*, play, by G. E. Clive and Alex. C. Grant (copyright performance) — King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield.
,, 30. *The Pet of the Embassy*, musical play, in two acts, the book and lyrics by Sidney F. Bailey, music by Albert E. Williams—Grand Theatre, Eccles.
,, 30. *Tom Jones*, comic opera, in three acts, by A. M. Thompson and Robert Courtneidge, lyrics by Charles H. Taylor, music by Edward German—Prince's Theatre, Manchester.

Paris.

Mar. 2. *La puce à l'oreille*, three act farce, by Georges Feydeau—Nouveautés.
,, 3. *La Revue du Centenaire*, revue, three acts and ten tableaux, by Paul Gavault, P. L. Flers, and Eugène Heros—Variétés.
,, 6. *Vive l'Amour!*, vaudeville, by A. Valabrègue and W. Canaple—Palais-Royal.
,, 9. *Petit Jean*, comedy, five acts, by de Buysieux and R. Max—L'Œuvre.
,, 13. *Florise*, comedy, three acts, in verse, by Th. de Banville—Odéon.
,, 15. *Bouffe-la-Route*, three-act vaudeville, by Xanrof and Kraatz—Cluny.
,, 16. *Paris-New York*, play, three acts, by F. de Croisset and Emmanuel Arène—Théâtre Réjane.
,, 21. *Le Ruisseau*, three-act comedy, by Pierre Wolff—Vaudeville.
,, 22. *Le Coup de Jarnac*, vaudeville, three acts, by Henry de Gorsse and Maurice de Marsan—Folies-Dramatiques.

Berlin.

Mar. 2. *Narrenglanz*, four-act play, by Rudolf Rittner—Schiller O.
,, 2. *Wegen Pressvergehen*, one-act play, by K. Böttcher—Figaro.
,, 2. *Die Erziehung zum Don Juan*, three-act farce, by E. Klein—Schiller N.
,, 7. *Paris*, operetta, in one act, by Terrasse—Figaro.
,, 8. *Der faule Hans*, one-act opera, by Alexander Ritter—Royal Opera.
,, 8. *Olympische Spiele*, musical burlesque, in three acts, by MM. Kraatz and Neal, music by M. Schmidt—Thalia.
,, 9. *Der blaue Klub*, operetta, in three acts, by K. Kapeller—Central.
,, 12. *Allersellen*, three-act play, by H. Heyermanns—Kleines.
,, 20. *Pique Dame*, three-act opera, by Tschaikowsky—Royal Opera.
,, 24. *Der Gott der Rache*, play, in three acts, by Schalom Asch—Deutches.
,, 24. *Dasletzte Mittel*, three-act farce, by P. Berges—Schiller N.
,, 28. *Halower*, play, in one act, by Hermine Brock—Lustspielhaus.
,, 29. *Vorbestraft*, four-act drama, by A. Bernstein-Samersky—Neues.

ON THE ROAD, APRIL 15.

All-of-a-Sudden Peggy.—Gaiety T., Dublin.
Amasis.—Broadway T., Deptford.
Angel of Unrest.—Gaiety T., Manchester.
Anna of the Plains.—Cambridge.
An Unwedded Wife.—Paisley T., Paisley.
Asche, Oscar.—King's T., Glasgow.
Assassin.—Alexandra T., Birmingham.
Bandmann-Palmer, Mrs.—Motherwell and Coatbridge.
Beauty of Bath.—Tyne T., Newcastle.
Belle of Mayfair (Bode).—Hammersmith.
Belle of New York.—T. R., Manchester.
Benson, F. R. (N.)—Grand T., Blackpool.
Benson, F. R.—T. R., Hanley.
Benson, F. R. (S.).—Clevedon and Burnham.
Between the Lights.—Muncaster T., Bootle.
Blue Beard.—Tunbridge Wells.
Carl Rosa Opera Co.—O. H., St. Helens.
Cassidy, J. Rice.—Lyceum T., Govan.
Charley's Aunt.—Theatre Royal, York.
Christian, The.—Grand T., Wolverhampton.
Christian, The (Howard).—Colne and Harrogate.
Claudian.—New Theatre, Cardiff.
Coal King.—Metropole T., Gateshead.
Compton Comedy Co.—T. R., Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Conscript, The.—Theatre Royal, Darwen.
Dairymaids, The.—Grand T., Croydon.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—Royalty T., Chester.
D'Oyly Carte.—Theatre Royal, Belfast.
Dr. Wake's Patient.—T. R., Bolton.
Earl and the Girl (M.).—Edinburgh.
Earl and the Girl (N.).—Huddersfield.
Eternal City.—Bradford.
False Wife.—Rotherham.
Fight for Millions.—Gaiety T., Leith.
Florodora (Howard).—O. H., Perth.
Freedom of Suzanne.—County T., Kingston.
Gay Parisienne.—Crystal Palace Theatre.
Grisha.—Opera House, Leicester.
Girl from Japan.—Royalty T., Chester.
Glossop-Harris Repertoire Co.—W. Pier, Brighton.
Go-Won-Go Mohawk.—New T., Consett.
Great Awakening.—Rotunda, Liverpool.
Grip of Iron.—Queen's T., Longton.
Heart's Desire.—T. R., Tyldesley.
Her Luck in London.—T. R., South Shields.
Her Marriage Vow.—T. R., Bedford Leigh.
Her One Great Sin.—T. R., Crook.
His House in Order (N.).—H. M. T., Barrow.
His House in Order (S.).—Fulham Theatre, S.W.
Home, Sweet Home (Green and Hinton).—Scunthorpe.
Honeymoon, The.—Harrogate and Goole.
Honour Thy Father.—Star T., Liverpool.
Hour of Her Triumph.—T. R., Edmonton.
Ian Maclaren Repertoire.—P. O. W., Nuneaton.
In Sight of St. Paul's.—Theatre Royal, Leeds.
Irving, H. B.—Grand T., Middlesbrough.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Montgomery, Ruthin.
La Poupée (Ralland).—Salisbury and Weymouth.
Leah Kleschna.—King's T., Edinburgh.
Lion and the Mouse.—H. M. T., Dundee.
Little Breadwinner.—Theatre Royal, Jarrow.
Little Vagrant.—Grand T., Plymouth.
London Fireman.—Theatre Royal, Leigh.
Love that Women Desire.—T. R., Aston.
Lucky Durham.—T. R., Glasgow.
Lucky Liza.—Athenæum, Lancaster.
Manxman.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
Martin Harvey.—Grand Theatre, Leeds.
Merveilleuses.—Court Theatre, Liverpool.
Midnight Mail.—Newcastle.
Midnight Wedding.—T. R., Norwich.
Mollison, William.—T. R., Bournemouth.
Monsieur Beaucaire.—O. H., Torquay.
Monte Cristo.—Theatre Royal, Bristol.
Moody-Manners' (A.).—Birmingham.
Moody-Manners' (B.).—Southampton.
Morals of Marcus.—T. R., Nottingham.
Mr. Popple.—Alexander T., Greenock.
Napoleon the Great.—Grand T., Nottingham.
New Aladdin.—Theatre Royal, Birmingham.
New World.—Goole and Yeadon.
Norman V. Norman.—Bridlington.
Otto, the Outcast.—Theatre Royal, Chesterfield.
Perfect Lover.—Glasgow.
Peter Pan (No. 1).—Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield.
Peter Pan (No. 2).—Theatre Royal, Dublin.
Peter's Mother (N.).—Manchester.
Pick of the Bunch.—P. G. T., Folkestone.
Power of Gold.—T. R., Houghton.
Prince of Pilsen (Harris).—T. R., Hanley.
Private Secretary.—Gaiety T., Hastings.
Prodigal Parson.—Grand T., Walsall.
Raffles (Dance).—T. R., Portsmouth.
Royal Divorce.—T. R., Blackburn.
Saints and Sinners.—Star Theatre, Swansea.
San Toy.—Prince's T., Bristol.
Second to None.—Grand T., Nelson.
Sergeant Brue (N.).—King's T., Sunderland.
Sherlock Holmes.—County Theatre, Bedford.
Shulamite.—Avenue Theatre, Sunderland.
Sign of the Cross.—Dalston Theatre, N.E.
Silver King (Howard).—Farnworth.
Silver King (Polini and Melford).—Marlboro' T., N.
Still Alarm.—Prince's T., Preston.
Swiss Express.—Grand Thatre, Luton.
Three Little Maids (Macdona).—T. R., Brighton.
Throne of Terror.—Queen's T., Gateshead.
Tommy.—Theatre Royal, Bath.
Triumph of Truth.—Lyceum T., Newport.
Trumpet Call.—O. H., Wakefield.
Two Little Drummer Boys.—Irving T., Seacombe.
Two Little Vagabonds.—Empire T., Oldham.
Tyrant, The.—Theatre Royal, Castleford.
Uncle Tom's Cabin.—T. R., Smethwick.
Under the Russian Flag.—T. R., Seaham Harbour.
Under Two Flags.—Cheltenham.
Village Blacksmith.—T. R., Stockport.
What the Butler Saw.—O. H., Dudley.
When It Was Dark.—T. R., Birkenhead.
White Chrysanthemum (Macdona).—T. R., Halifax.
Wilkie, Allan, and Co.—T. R., Preston.
Woman and Wine.—Shakespeare T., Clapham.
Woman Worth Winning.—Albert T., Brighouse.
Woman's Past.—Clarence T., Pontypridd.
10.30 Down Express.—Marina T., Lowestoft.
£1,000 Reward.—Colosseum, Oldham.

In the Court of Chancery on Tuesday an application was made for the delivery of 855 packages of scenery from America for Mr. E. H. Sothern's and Miss Julia Marlowe's coming season at the Waldorf Theatre. It was stated that the scenery arrived on the liner Minnehaha, and that Mr. Sothern's manager arranged that Messrs. Pickford should cart it from Tilbury to the theatre. The Custom House broker in New York, however, had consigned it to Messrs. Hickie, Borman, Grant, and Co., who claimed the right to transport it to the theatre. Mr. Justice Warrington's suggestion that the dispute should be settled by the delivery of the scenery to Messrs. Pickford and the payment to Messrs. Hickie, Borman, Grant, and Co. of £26 19s. 9d., and a further sum of £56 into Court was agreed to.

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(two doors off Wellington Street)
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephone, 4747, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A. T. K.—*When* My Innocent Boy *was produced at the Royalty, May 11, 1898, the chief characters were played by Messrs. Sidney Drew, Charles Rock, Atherley, and De Lange, and Misses Furtado Clarke and Kate Bishop.*

W. Nearns.—*The Borough Theatre, Stratford, was opened Aug. 31, 1896, by Mr. Tree and his Haymarket Theatre company in* Henry IV.—Part I.

J. A.—*Mr. Willie Edouin was the original Tweedlepunch, at the Lyric.*

Taffy.—*Mr. Paul Potter's version of* Trilby *was first played in England at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, Sept. 7, 1895. Its first London production was at the Haymarket on the following October 30.*

R. C.—*The duration of French copyright is fifty years from the death of the author.*

Croydon.—*Mr. Eric Lewis made his first appearance in London as an entertainer at the Polytechnic.*

F. J. M.—*The part played by Mr. Cyril Maude in* Joseph's Sweetheart *at the Vaudeville was that of Lord Bellamar.*

Toreador.—*At the Alhambra (now the Palace), Blackpool, March 10, 1902.*

Pro.—*The Argyll Rooms were closed for music and dancing on Nov. 30, 1878.*

C. J.—*In* The Don, *produced at Toole's Theatre on March 7, 1888, the part of Dora was first played by Miss Marie Linden, and later by Miss Eva Moore.*

Anxious.—*We do not think the law would apply to a case of that sort, and therefore the child can perform.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a Birth or Death or an "In Memoriam" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is One Shilling and Sixpence, every additional word One Penny.

The charge for a notice of Marriage, not exceeding forty words, is Two Shillings and Sixpence, every additional word One Penny.

In a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

Sprague.—April 10, 1907, at the Bungalow, Hampton-on-Thames, the wife of W. G. R. Sprague, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

Corney Grain—Barlow.—A marriage took place on April 4, at Hampstead, between Mr. A. Corney Grain, of 21, Stanley Gardens, and Miss Miriam Barlow, of Chez Nous, Churt, Farnham.

DEATHS.

Clamp.—On April 3, at 12, Hallgarth-street, Durham, John Clamp, banjo maker, age 74, the dearly-beloved father of Cissy Clamp, novelty instrumentalist.

Davis.—April 9, at Harrogate, of acute gastritis, James Davis (Owen Hall), musical comedy author, age 53.

Dowsett.—April 6, Ellen, widow of Vernon Dowsett, formerly manager of the Tivoli, aged 45. Friends kindly accept this, the only intimation.

Heno.—March 25, at Andover, Professor Heno, conjurer, from pleurisy, aged 55.

Martin.—April 8, of dropsy and heart disease, Harry Jackson Martin, stage-door keeper at the Grand Theatre, Bolton, aged 39 years.

Winter.—March 2nd, at Melbourne, Australia, Lady Winter, professionally known as Miss Edith Moore, prima donna in English opera.

In Memoriam.

Adams.—In loving memory of my darling brother Bert, who passed away April 17, 1904. Never forgotten by his loving sister, Edith Blanche.

Lord.—In loving memory of Gladys Lord, only child of Will and Annie Lord, died April 13, '06. Never forgotten by her sorrowing father, mother, and grandmother.

Wright.—In ever-loving memory of our dear father, who died April 9, 1905. Not forgotten by his son and daughter, Florrie and Jack.

For Condolence.

Cassidy.—Mrs. John Cassidy desires to express her grateful thanks and heartfelt gratitude for the numerous letters and telegrams of sympathy, also for the beautiful floral offerings received in her great bereavement.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Ellaline Terris—Saturday, April 13.
Daphne de Rohan—Saturday, April 13.
David Christie Murray—Saturday, April 13
Leonard Shepherd—Saturday, April 13.
Margaret Beach—Sunday, April 14.
Jessie D'Alton—Sunday, April 14.
Matthew Brodie—Sunday, April 14.
E. Allan Aynesworth—Sunday, April 14.
Edward Swanborough—Sunday, April 14.
Jake Almo—Sunday, April 14.
Austen Lenton—Monday, April 15.
Harry Marlow—Monday, April 15.
Dora Gray—Tuesday, April 16.
Mary Brough—Tuesday, April 16.
Bertha Duckett—Tuesday, April 16.
D. W. Watson—Tuesday, April 16.
Poppy Lytton—Tuesday, April 16.
Marguerite Moreau—Tuesday, April 16.
Harold Kinton—Thursday, April 18.
H. Val Kimm—Thursday, April 18.
Arthur Wyndham—Thursday, April 18.
Harry Thurston—Thursday, April 18.
Minnie Griffin—Thursday, April 18.
Violet Macree—Thursday, April 18.
George Robinson—Friday, April 19.
Helena Millais—Friday, April 19.
Edith Blanche—Friday, April 19.
Mrs. John Douglass—Friday, April 19.
Gladys Bartle Frere—Friday, April 19.

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Alexander, Miss Edna
Allandale, Mr. Fred
Allen, Mr. Bert
Anarto, Mr. Arthur
Ashanti Village Troupe
Ashburnham-Newton, Mr
Ashwell, Miss Lena
Baines, Miss Edith
Barton and Ashley.
Barvard, Mr. Carl
Beaute, Mons.
Bell, Mr. H. Leslie
Benge, Mr. Wilson
Biddie Bros.
Billing, Mrs. H. C.
Birch, Mr. C.
Bonheur, Mr. Theo.
Bromwich, Mr. D.
Brough, Miss Fannie
Brougham, Miss Mollie
Brown-Potter, Mrs.
Bullock, Mr. Clifford
Bunce, Mr. H.
Bunce, Mr. Thomas
Burke, Miss Billie
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Carr, Miss Lulla
Carson, Mr. J. H.
Carey, Mr. W. G.
Catlin, Mr. Will
Cattle, Mr. William
Chard, Lieut.
Chippendall, Mr. Jas.
Cingalee Troupe
Clements, Mr. Fred
Cliff, Little
Colin, Mr. R.
Coma, Mr. Arthur
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Cooney, Mr. E.
Cooper, Mr. Frank
Coppin, Miss Daisy
Cossart, Mr. Ernest
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Cronin, Mrs.
Crossley, Miss Ada
Cumberlands, The Five
Cunningham, Mr. James
Danvers, Mr. James
Darnley, Mr. J. H.
Daunton, Miss Edith
Davis, Mr. Sidney
Deane, Mr. A. J.
De Bessell, Mr.
De Courtnay
Delaforce, Mr. George
Delmar, Mr. Neville
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Elsie, Miss Lily
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Erle, Miss Godwynne
Evans, Miss Lulu
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Feeley, Mr. Claudius
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Forde, Miss Florrie
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Gaze, Mr. Leslie
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La Martine, Mrs. John
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Lingarde, Miss H.
Lupin, Mr. Barry
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Maddison, Mr. Bates
Magnus, Miss Eugenie
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Martin, Mr. Philip
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Meier and Mora
Melia, Mr. Martin
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Mitchelson, Mr. Angus
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Mulvery, Mrs.
Nairn, Mr. H.
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Nelson, Mr. H.
Netta, Miss Clarice
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Norman, Mr. Leslie
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Osmond, Mr. Henry L.
Ousley, Mr. Chas.
Parke, Mr. Cecil W.
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Raffin, Miss L.
Ray, Miss Gladys
Raynor, Miss Dorothy
Regina Trio
Rehan, Miss Ada
Renee, Mdlle. B.
Rivarz, Mr. Ernest
Rogers, Mr. H.
Roadnight, Mr. C.
Rollenson, Mr. Albert
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Russell, Mr. M.
Saville, Mr.
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Schrader, Miss Nellie
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Somerset, Mr. C. W.
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Stella, Sisters
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St. Quentin, Mr. Ed.
Stuart, Mr. Laurie
Stuart, Mr. Maxwell
Taft, Mr. Harry
Thorne, Mr. George
Toller, Miss R.
Vandy, Mr. Paul
Vansittart, Mr. C. B.
Vassar, Dr. Carl
Vernon, Miss H.
Vicat, Miss Grace
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Wilkinson-Scott, Mr. C.
Willoughby, Miss Nance
Winona, Mr. Edwin
Wybrow, Mr. Chas.
Yorke, Mr. Leonard

"ATONEMENT."

A Drama, in One Act, by Albert Chevalier, played for the first time on any stage at the Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne, on Monday, April 8.

The Rev. Philip Cartwright ..... Mr. Albert Chevalier
George Cartwright ..... Mr. Cyril Fairlie
John Gordon ..... Mr. Julian Cross
Parker ..... Mr. Philip Durham
Mrs. Cartwright ..... Miss Keith Lytton

(from our own correspondent.)

Into this somewhat sombre little play Mr. Chevalier has succeeded in packing a great amount of interest, and in its chief point it presents again the problem of "the everlasting injustice to a woman."

The curtain rises on the interior of the Vicarage at Edenmarsh. It is Christmas Day, and apparently a happy time is promised for everyone concerned, and particularly for the vicar's son, George Cartwright, who has made a happy choice, and become engaged to a suitable and charming lady. But the promised happiness is marred by the sudden appearance at the house of a former tutor of young George Cartwright. In a few brief words this tutor, John Gordon, accuses the vicar's son of betraying his girl friend. George admits his guilt, but refuses to marry the girl he has wronged. Thereupon Gordon hands to the old vicar a letter explaining the painful circumstances of the case. Alone with his son, the vicar implores him to make honourable amends and marry the girl. George still refuses, and urges on his own behalf that his father does not know the world or its temptations. The old vicar now confesses to his son that he, too, has sinned, and that George Cartwright himself is the offspring of an early love, and Mrs. Cartwright is, after all, only his foster-mother. The son is humbled, and is led to see his duty clearly, and is prepared to marry his former love.

As the vicar, the Rev. Philip Cartwright, Mr. Chevalier again shows his wonderful versatility and his intense and earnest work enlisted the keenest interest of the audience, and placed the success of the little drama beyond doubt. Mr. Cyril Fairlie as George Cartwright played a somewhat difficult part naturally, and with excellent judgment. Mr. Julian Cross was an able and impressive John Gordon; Miss Keith Lytton was sincere and womanly Mrs. Cartwright; and Mr. Philip Durham gave able help as Parker.

We understand that Mr. Joseph Bebb intends touring the well-known Drury Lane sporting drama, *The Prodigal Daughter*, which has had a four years' rest, and should be heartily welcomed by managers. Miss Millie Ford will be cast for Rose Woodmere, the title-rôle, and will be supported by a strong company. The tour will be under the direction of Mr. A. Rogers, who has been associated with the play in the past.

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
The "Era Annual" for 1907 is now out. It is full of good things, and will be eagerly perused by all who are interested in dramatic and musical affairs and personnel. Portraits of, and original contributions by, several public favourites and managers appear, including Miss Ellen Terry, who tells "How I Spend My Day"; Mr. Frank Cooper, Mr. Arthur Collins, Mr. Charles Collette, Mr. Frank Curzon, Mr. Matthew Brodie, Miss Constance Moxon, Miss Edith Cole, and Mr. Tom Craven. There is, in addition, the usual store of miscellaneous theatrical information which is indispensable to all who are interested in stage matters.—Liverpool Post, Jan. 26.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
A capital shilling's worth is the "Era Annual," with its valuable lists of new plays produced during the year in London, the provinces, Berlin, and Paris. In contains, also, many readable articles by stage favourites, notably a characteristic contribution, "How I Spend My Day," by Miss Ellen Terry.—Daily Express, Feb. 2.

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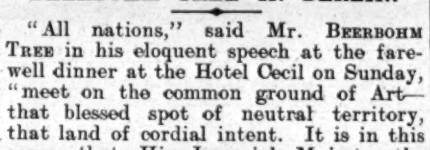

SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 1907.

BEERBOHM TREE IN BERLIN.

"All nations," said Mr. BEERBOHM TREE in his eloquent speech at the farewell dinner at the Hotel Cecil on Sunday, "meet on the common ground of Art—that blessed spot of neutral territory, that land of cordial intent. It is in this sense that His Imperial Majesty the KAISER has said that the Art of the Drama is a mediator between nations." The truth is, hostility between nations chiefly arises from misunderstanding. NELSON'S ideal attitude for young midshipmen, "To hate a Frenchman as they did the Devil," could only have been maintained by keeping up certain erroneous conceptions of the average Gaul; and the German public, who, in the course of the late war, believed in the caricatures in which British soldiers were represented as shooting down their foes from behind a barricade of Boer women, must have been sadly misinformed as to the characteristics of Tommy Atkins. The objection of Germans to the English is easily understood. The British nation is seen at its worst when represented by vulgar tourists. In England the Germans who have made this country their home get on excellently with the English. The unfortunate thing is that so few ever return to Germany to tell their compatriots that the British, when you know them, are not half as bad as they seem.

The only way, of course, is to send someone to demonstrate this decidedly; and no emissaries can be more fit and appropriate than the actor and actress. When Sir HENRY IRVING went to America in 1883 he increased and consolidated the brotherly feeling between the people of America and England; and it is certain that the visit of Mr. TREE to Berlin will have a beneficial effect on the relations between this country and Germany. The German nation, in its present form, and with its present aspirations, is quite a modern invention. The old idea of the typical Teuton was a fat, dreamy person, with a big pipe, who elaborated a camel out of his inner consciousness. The up-to-date notion of him is a well-set-up man in a spiked helmet, who knocks his heels together when he bows. Early in the eighteen hundreds it could actually be written, "The more profound study of Æsthetics has among the Germans, by nature a speculative rather than a practical people, led to this consequence: that works of art, and tragedies more especially, have been executed on abstract theories, more or less misunderstood." The drama in Germany well into the eighteenth century could scarcely be said to exist; and then it lived upon insipid and diffuse translations from the French, or imitations of the same school. This taste was overthrown by LESSING, who, as the editor of a theatrical paper, naturally advocated home manufacture. As far as the European world goes, LESSING is a neglectable quantity. Who nowadays admires or cares to consider *Minna von Barnhelm* or *Emilia Galotti?* As a dramatist, GOETHE, too, was a failure. He took the story of *Faust* from a marionette play, and elaborated it with many philosophic and poetical excrescences—beautiful in themselves, but injuring the work as a drama. Indeed, it is only by returning to the marionette outline that *Faust* can be made an effective piece. *Iphigenia in Tauris* was a mere echo of the Greek drama. As for SCHILLER, he was a defective imitator of SHAKESPEARE, or perhaps we ought rather to say of the pre-Shakespearean playwrights. *Wallenstein*, *Maria Stuart*, and *The Maid of Orleans* are, however, good stage plays of their *genre;* and *Wilhelm Tell* is a fine example of the sincerely patriotic drama. After SCHILLER, the German stage was flooded with romance and sickly sentiment, till the "modern movement" was made. The Germans have been praised for so often playing SHAKESPEARE in the old days. The fact is they had nothing of their own, even approaching "the Bard," to play.

It is well that Mr. TREE has elected to present a Shakespearean programme in Berlin; we should cut a sorry figure if we attempted to vie with the modern Germans in authorship. We have absolutely nothing of national growth that can challenge comparison with a work like *Magda*, for instance. Yet why should we be "down-hearted"? Art has no country; and have we not seen several of our own actresses besides Signora DUSE and Mdme. SARAH BERNHARDT in SUDERMANN'S masterpiece? The Germans do not mourn because they have not been able to breed a GEORGE BERNARD SHAW; they simply translate his pieces and put them on their stages in Berlin; and they do the same with the works of PINERO, ZANGWILL, DICKENS, and others, including Sir ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE. We must not conceive the great German public as feeding exclusively on the serious drama; they "like a bit of fun" as well as any nation. The only difference between the two nations is that we are stupid without being "stodgy"; while the Germans are "stodgy" without being stupid. What English audience, for instance, would have "stuck it out" for five hours in witnessing a performance of *Antony and Cleopatra*, poorly mounted, and with only one actor—the representative of Enobarbus—who could make any impression? Yet this heroic deed was actually performed, according to Mr. SIDNEY LEE, at a Burg-Theatre, on the occasion of his visit to that "stately and dignified" house. We feel certain that the Germans will be so much delighted with Mr. TREE and his company that they will insist on his visiting them annually, just as the German Theatre Company visit us. Other leading managers will follow Mr. TREE'S example; and it will be the correct thing amongst London actor-managers to have, yearly, a season in the German capital. Their kindly intercourse with German audiences will do more to bring about a good understanding between the two countries than any efforts of diplomacy. For diplomats deal with the princes; but actors appeal to the people.

GRAND, FULHAM.

On Monday, April 8,
the Play, by Alfred Sutro, entitled
"THE WALLS OF JERICHO."

A strong programme has been forthcoming at the Fulham Theatre this week in the shape of Mr. Sutro's powerful play, presented by a capable and well-balanced company. The leading rôle, Jack Frobisher, is played by Mr. A. E. Anson with intensity and self-control. He is well seconded by Mr. G. A. Brandram as Hankey Bannister, a pleasant study of the rough diamond type. Mr. Cyril Baleine is amusing as the Marquis of Steventon; and Mr. Alex. Cassy does well in the small part of Lord Drayton. Mr. A. W. Tyrer, who plays Harry Dallas, has made the part quite his own. The other society men, Bertram Hannaford, the Hon. Wilfred Renton, and Lord Marchmont, are capably represented by Messrs. G. Percy, J. Herbert, and W. S. Lane respectively. Miss Marguerite Cellier acts with great sympathy and power as Lady Westerby; and Miss Edith Cuthbert scores as Miss Mornington. Miss Nona Wynne's performance of Lady Lucy deserves warm commendation. It is full of cleverness, and has a strong sense of humour. Miss Florence Jackson as Lady Alethea Frobisher is a worthy partner to Mr. Anson. She is very successful in portraying the varying moods of the character. Playfulness, anger, half-hearted repentance, pride, and the triumph of maternal love and wifely loyalty are all shown with great dramatic skill. The piece, as presented, shows every sign of careful management, and Mr. Alexander as organiser and Mr. Brandram as stage-manager are to be congratulated on their success.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.

THE PRESENTATION OF THE "OWL" PANTOMIME CAKE AND BOUQUETS

took place at the Alexandra Theatre on Saturday night, when, in the presence of a crowded house, Mr. Lester Collingwood, in the Palace scene, where it occupied the centre of the stage, in the limelight, asked Miss Bessie Butt's acceptance of the *Owl's* nineteenth annual prize for the principal lady of the pantomime which had enjoyed the longest run. This he did in felicitous terms, thanking the Editor of this paper for the institution of the prize, and expressing the hope that Miss Butt, the notable Cinderella of a memorable production, would live to win many such rewards. Mr. Collingwood also presented the *Owl's* beautiful pantomime bouquets to Miss Minnie D'Aubyn and Miss Nellie Lunelle, the principal boy and second principal girl, respectively, of his pantomime, and complimented the recipients gracefully, while praising the handiwork of Messrs. Perkins and Sons, from whose nurseries the bouquets had been supplied. Those ladies, like Miss Butt, bowed their acknowledgments. The cake, which was the most successful of the series made for us by the Birmingham Dairy Company, Limited, at their Grand Theatre Restaurant in Corporation-street, was greatly admired, and especially appreciated by those amongst whom it was subsequently distributed by Miss Butt, behind the scenes.

Following the ceremony just described, Mr. Syd Sylvester presented Mr. Collingwood with a framed illuminated address, on behalf of his company, which was accepted in suitable terms, after which Mr. Collingwood presented Mr. Bert Browne with a brooch consisting of a pair of gold bees—B. B., in recognition of his services at the various benefits. Then Mr. Jones, the assistant stage-manager, was given a cruet-stand by the artists of the company, and, finally, a kerb and set of fire brasses were produced as a gift for "The Guv'nor's" office.—Birmingham Owl, April 5, 1907.

AT the Aldershot Theatre Royal, this week, *A Soldier of France* is being capably presented. Mr. Arthur Hinton gives a vigorous portrayal of the loyal Corporal Jean, and a powerful personation of Pauline is contributed by Miss Leilla Zillwood. Mr. Travis Green in the thankless rôle of Judas is clever; Mr. Arthur Lowry, Victor Millard, and Frank Hudspeth are capital as the Duke, Lieut. Louis, and Barnave respectively; and humour is freely introduced by Mr. W. Drury and Miss Jennie Clare. Miss Lydia Andre's Rita is ably played; and Miss Dolly Turner as Little Louis does well.

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THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"VORBESTRAFT."

Play, in Four Acts, by Albert Bernstein-Sawersky, produced at the Neues, March 29, 1907.

Riemann	HERR STANGE
Frau Riemann	FRAULEIN GABRI
Mia	FRAULEIN WINKLER
Alfred	HERR SCHROTH
Von Hilden	HERR MARLOW
Frau von Hilden	FRAULEIN HARTWIG
Else	FRAULEIN PRILL
Kroner	HERR SCHMIDTHASSLER
Hering	HERR WALDOW
Dr. Kulmann	HERR KAISER-TITZ
Von Mirbach	HERR ZIEOLD
Frau Forbes	FRAULEIN LEVERMANN
Fritz	HERR LUECK
Auguste	FRAULEIN HAHL
Gerichtsdiener	HERR HELMERDING
Staatsanwalt	HERR SCHWAIGER
Von Zittelmann	HERR GORDON
Perl	HERR SCHINDLER

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, April 11.—The manager of the Neues is preferably German in his tastes, and, in contradistinction to his fellow-managers, seldom or never produces a play, or even an adaptation, from any other country. This is not altogether an advantage; but it pleases the Chauvinists, and the theatre does as good business as any in Berlin. Herr Bernstein-Sawersky's latest production is a "tendency-piece," aiming at certain rules and regulations of the Prussian law courts. Distinct traces of talent are apparent in the psychological passages and in one or two dramatic scenes; but, taken as a whole, the piece is too spun out, and the audience loses patience and interest as the four long acts draw to a close. Captain von Hilden, a retired Army officer, and now head-inspector of the fire-insurance company "Teutonia," is unjustly accused of forging a bill. There is only one person who can prove his innocence, and that is Hilden's old friend, Kommerzienrat Riemann—a wealthy and highly-respected citizen. Riemann's testimony in the witness-box would save his friend, but he is afraid of the publicity. In his early youth Riemann—driven to desperation—had committed an embezzlement, for which he served a short term of imprisonment with extenuating circumstances. The story is long forgotten; many of the present generation know nothing of it. Herr Riemann is the father of a coming magistrate himself, and the disgrace of being compelled to own to a long-atoned-for crime is too much for him. It is against this cruel law that the author fights with might and main. A witness in Prussia is asked under oath if he has been "vorbestraft," and is frequently badgered into giving details that have no bearing on the case in point, and all this is in the open court, to which public and reporters have access. Through three long acts the unhappy Riemann struggles and squirms between the demands of his conscience and his position, and in the meanwhile Von Hilden is sentenced. Finally, after a full confession to his family and a consultation with them, Riemann makes up his mind to speak, but it is too late; his friend has hanged himself in his cell. The piece met with a cordial reception, the author being called before the curtain and warmly applauded. The interpretation was thoroughly satisfactory.

THE Monte Carlo Opera Company commenced their season at the Royal Opera last week, and the undertaking is proving successful beyond anticipation. An ardent patron is the Kaiser, who has attended several of the performances in the company of the Prince of Monaco, who is His Majesty's guest for a few days. The first performance was Berlioz's dramatic legend *La Damnition de Faust*, a work which, despite its musical beauties, always fails in effect on the operatic stage. Its interpretation was an excellent one on the whole, although the impersonator of Faust was audibly indisposed. It is scarcely necessary to add that every possible care and taste had been expended on the mounting. Boito's *Méphistophélès* created a very favourable impression, the singing of M. Chaliapine in the title-rôle being especially fine. By the Kaiser's wish the duet in the second part, between Helena and Panthalis, was repeated. The principal artists, including Mmes. Storchio and Brozia and MM. Chaliapine and Sobinow, were received by His Majesty in the Imperial box, and highly complimented. This evening Verdi's *Don Carlos* (in three acts and six tableaux) is to be produced. The work has never yet been done in Berlin, and as the cast is a particularly good one, much interest has been shown in the production.

IN the bill of the Chamber Plays at the Deutsches Theatre Ibsen's *Comedy of Love* has found a place. Director Reinhardt scarcely displayed his customary excellent judgment in the selection of a play which never has been, and never will be, a success. *Die Comödie der Liebe* was written in Ibsen's earliest youth. The author evidently intended a similar theme to that of the *Pillars of Society*, which was written fifteen years later; but his powers of description failed him, and many other necessary qualifications also. Ibsen never was a graceful verse-maker, and this he himself acknowledged in later years. Even the Lessing Theatre—the Ibsen theatre *par excellence*—has always avoided this crude piece of playwriting, and not even a good cast and splendid mounting at the Deutsches could obtain for it a success. These chamber plays, by the way, are doing particularly good business. They are not given in the Deutsches Theatre itself, as many people seem to imagine, but in an adjoining building, which was formerly a small concert hall. This has been converted into a bijou theatre, with high prices of admission. Only such plays are here performed as are in keeping with the intimate character of the building. Director Reinhardt's admirable company and his own incomparable taste in mounting make the "Kammerspiele" a very great attraction for all lovers of high-class plays.

DR. BLUMENTHAL'S amusing "journalistic" comedy *Das Glashaus* is being given again at the Royal Schauspielhaus. It has not lost any of its popularity, and the interest shown in it by the Kaiser has given it an impetus. The piece is very brightly acted, Frau Schramm, our most famous comedienne, being foremost as usual.

THE Mozart cycle at the New Royal Opera has proved very successful. On Sunday *Figaro's Hochzeit*, with Frau Herzog, Frau Scheele-Müller, Herren Naval, Hoffmann, and other first singers of the Royal Opera, was given, and on Monday the cycle ceased with *Così Fan Tutti*. All the performances have been most enjoyable; Dr. Richard Strauss has conducted the last three.

ON Sunday afternoon the Lessing Theatre gave a final performance—for this season—of *Die Weber*, and in the evening *Die Stützen der Gesellschaft* was given. The company has gone on a lengthy tour through Holland, opening at Amsterdam this week. In the meantime, the company which has been got together by the eminent actor, Herr Emanuel Reicher, gives a season at the Lessing, commencing to-night with Sardou's comedy *Marquise*.

MISS MAUDE ROOSEVELT, a cousin of the President of the United States, has just been engaged at the Stadt Theatre at Elberfeld for grand opera. Miss Roosevelt, who is young and extremely good-looking, is a pupil of Jacques Bouhy, of Paris, and of Rosa Sucher, Berlin.

AT the Lui'sen Nestroy's humorous farce, *Lumpacivagabondus*, has been revived, and is proving a good draw. The acting is very vivacious and good all round.

DURING the indisposition last week of Miss Lilian Braithwaite her parts in *The Peacemaker* and *The Stronger Sex*, at the Apollo Theatre, were played with great success by Miss Victoria Addison.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"MADAME LA DOUANE."

Play, in Four Acts, by MM. A. Dinter and J. La Rode, produced at Déjazet, on April 10.

François Sperber	M. A. CALMETTES
Schimmel	M. SIMON-MAX
Zipfel	M. PHILIPPON
Pimpe	M. MAX-ANDRE
Biederman	M. BAILLY
Brumm	M. WAGMANN
Von Pufki	M. MORAT
Solomé	MLLE. IRMA PERROT
Eugénie	MLLE. PAULE ROLLE
Katelé	MLLE. FRANCEY

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, April 11.—*Tire-au-Flanc!* which kept the bill at Déjazet for a considerable time, has now been replaced by *Madame la Douane*. Although translated from the German, the work surely was never produced in the Fatherland in its present form. If so, author, manager, and performers would be languishing in jail for having dared to speak slightingly of the Emperor and deriding the German officials. The scene is laid in Alsace, in a small inn, on the Swiss frontier. Schimmel, the innkeeper, is also a smuggler, in league with the famous contrabandist, François Sperber. The latter, a kind of Fra Diavolo, is a handsome youth, French at heart, and, having returned from his military service in France, once more declares war to the Imperial Customs. He is a wholesale importer of contraband goods, and when the story begins is trying to smuggle a large quantity of Swiss watches into Alsace. But the authorities have wind of the affair, and they try to arrest him. In fact, the officers enter the inn before he has time to escape. Schimmel trembles in his shoes; but the resourceful François is equal to the occasion. Von Pufki, a high official from Berlin, who travels incognito in order to pay surprise visits to custom house officers to see whether they perform their duty, is hourly expected, and François hits upon the ingenious plan of impersonating him. The ruse succeeds, and it is the real Von Pufki who is mistaken for François and arrested. The watches are duly smuggled into Alsace, and it is only when François is safe on the other side of the frontier that he addresses a letter to the chief custom house official, advising him to release the pseudo-François and tender him his apologies. Moreover, François has succeeded in inducing a dozen young Alsatians to go with him and enter the French Army, and this patriotic act afforded much pleasure to the easily-amused audience. A little love story interwoven into the plot comes as a happy relief to this otherwise childish story. M. André Calmettes, who used to play important rôles at the Vaudeville, under Mme. Réjane's management, impersonated François with his usual skill; but it is, nevertheless, a comedown. M Simon-Max fell into his old failing, and overacted his part to such an extent that he seemed afflicted with the St. Vitus's dance. MM. Wagmann and Bailly, on the other hand, supplied capital types of German officials; and Mlle. Perrot and Rolle gave a good account, one of an amorous spinster, and the other of a love-sick German maiden. The new piece met with a cordial reception.

LAST week we mentioned in these columns that the rumour that M. Fursy (from the Boîte à Fursy) intended taking over the Palais-Royal management was not likely to prove true. Our prediction has been fulfilled, for this gentleman has made a public declaration, stating "that for a moment he thought of risking the affair." Now, however, he feels no longer tempted, and he winds up his statement by saying: "And I intend to remain in my 'Boite,' where, after all, I feel happy and contented." M. Fursy is a wise man.

I JUST hear of the death of Mme. Désirée Artot de Padilla at the age of seventy-two. She was born in Paris of Belgian parents, and for two years was pupil of Mme. Viardot-Garcia. Thanks to her magnificent voice, she had a marvellous success, and on Meyerbeer's recommendation obtained an engagement at the Paris Opera. She afterwards married the Spanish singer, Padilla y Ramos, with whom she sang in different cities. After her retirement from the stage she devoted herself to teaching, and her little house in the Rue de Prony became the rendezvous of artistic Paris. A great artist, and a lady in the highest sense of the word, Mme. Artot de Padilla will be deeply regretted by all who were fortunate enough to know her. Mlle. Lola de Padilla, her youngest daughter, is now engaged at the Opéra-Comique in Berlin.

A GALA subscription is announced at the Opera to raise the necessary funds for the erection of a statue to Beethoven on the Ranelagh, the triangular grass-plot on the Muette side of the Bois-de-Boulogne. The site has been given by the Paris Municipal Council, who showed a proper spirit in wanting to honour the memory of the great musician. Unfortunately, their spirit carries them a little too far. They have become statue-mad, and our beautiful city is being slowly changed into a kind of second-rate museum for cheap sculpture. Statues jump up from every side. Men in frock-coats, in evening dress, in walking coats, sitting, lying, or standing, are to be seen at every street corner, and look with a bored expression on the passer-by. Alfred de Musset was fortunate to escape the statue epidemic for a long time. But last year he, too, fell a victim to the craze, and the man is now to be seen gazing vacantly at the Comédie-Française, taking no notice whatever of the damsel behind him. That young lady is supposed to be "Fame," watching over him. But the public does not seem to know this; and certainly not the Cook's tourists' guides, who whisper to their flock "that this young woman is Georges Sand, with whom Musset had that love affair, you know!" If the Beethoven Committee spent the money intended for the statue in inducing the French middle-classes to adopt Beethoven and discard some of the fifth-rate musicians they patronise, they would raise the standard of music in this country, and pay a higher tribute to the German musician's memory.

THERE is not a word of truth in the rumour that M. Antoine's management has not given satisfaction to the gentlemen in power. Like all innovators, M. Antoine has many detractors, who consider that he is taking "liberties" with the Odéon répertoire. The Odéon, as everybody knows, is our second Comédie-Française; but that is no reason why the management should not be eclectic in its taste. In the short time M. Antoine has been at the head of the house he has brought out plays that made people, who had not gone there for years, flock to it. And as regards financial results, the figures speak for themselves. During the last year of M. Ginisty's management the gross takings amounted to £18,655. During M. Antoine's tenure of office they showed the first year £22,640, an increase of £4,000, despite the fact that in consequence of the theatre having been partly rebuilt one hundred and fifty places had to be sacrificed.

ALTHOUGH the theatrical season here is nearing its end, there are still many new pieces to be brought out. At the Comédie-Française: *La Réveuse*, by MM. Henry Kistemaeckers and Dellard. At the Odéon: *La Française*, by M. Brieux. At the Opéra: *La Catalane*, by M. F. Le Borne. At the Gymnase: *Le Joujou Tragique*, by Mlle. Jehanne d'Orliac. At the Athénée, a comedy, by MM. Jacques Monnier and Montignac, of which the title is not yet settled. The Opéra-Comique, too, has several novelties in course of preparation, but there will be hardly time to produce them all.

NEXT week will see the production at the Prince's Theatre, Poplar, by Mr. Louis Calvert, of the wonderfully successful play *Sunday*. The capable cast will include Miss Emelie Polini, Mr. Leonard Pagden, and Mr. Arthur Vezin.

"THE DREAM OF HIS LIFE."

A Fantastic Musical Play, in One Act, written by Albert Chevalier, Music by Alfred H. Weit. Played for the first time at the Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne, April 8.

Prof. Peter Pinder	MR. ALBERT CHEVALIER
Dr. Percy Goodwin	MR. ISIDORE MARCIL
Geoffrey Goodwin	MR. STUART ALEXANDER
Raha Rantaja	MR. JULIAN CROSS
Sims	MR. HARRY BRETT
Mrs. Peter Pinder	MISS KEITH LYTTON
Nellie Pinder	MISS DOROTHY GARDEN
Miss Nadoura Pinkerton, afterwards Nadoura from "Space"	MISS DOROTHY DAVIS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. Chevalier has produced in this an extremely amusing comedy. Professor Pinder is a scientist who holds ideas of the most materialistic kind. He publicly and vigorously denounces all those who hold any sympathy will things spiritual. Now Raha Rantaja, an apostle of spiritualism, is highly indignant at the Professor's remarks, and promises, by means of spirits, to punish the man of science. The Professor has a strong intellect but a very weak digestion. Contrary to all advice, he insists on partaking of a substantial pork chop for supper. A drowsy feeling follows the heavy meal; the Professor stretches himself upon a couch, and soon falls asleep. Suddenly, in a blaze of light, Raha Rantaja appears, and proceeds to prove to the Professor that his mysticism is anything but a fraud. Ghosts of Pinder's former self are ranged around him, and he sees before him the bodies he has inhabited—a prehistoric man, a monk, an ancient courtier, a jester, and soon. Notwithstanding the strains of "Should auld acquaintance" he fails to recognise the images of his former self, and very appropriately sings "How soon we all forget these little things." But Raha, the spiritualist, now pronounces a punishment upon Pinder for his unbelief. In the presence of other people he will assume the personality of his own butler, who has well-marked characteristics and a pronounced Cockney accent. Only when alone will Professor Pinder revert to the knowledge of his real identity. In the character of the butler Mr. Chevalier again has a very fitting song, "My Sunday out." From the pompous Butler Sims in company, he in solitude becomes the despondent Professor. His own family imagine him dead; his wife decides to marry again, and Pinder is condemned to assist at the marriage as best man. In a moment, when he is alone, a brilliant idea strikes him, and he writes to his solicitors, explaining that though he is apparently and outwardly the Butler Sims, he is really Professor Pinder. Before he can address the letter he is interrupted, and is again the butler. The letter is found, and the most amusing situations and explanations are the outcome. The room suddenly darkens, and we find the Professor awaking from what has been a most exciting and, to him, uncomfortable dream—all the result of an undigested pork chop. Professor Pinder at last realises he has only been dreaming; Raha is merely a charlatan and has been given in charge, and everything ends happily.

As a character-actor, in his own line Mr. Chevalier has no rival, and in the dual personalities of Sims and Professor Pinder he finds scope for his undoubted abilities, and the visible and alternating change from one character to another—essentially different—was wonderfully effective. Mr. Geoffrey Goodwin sang in very pleasing style a tuneful song, "Nelly," and took part in a spirited and taking trio, "How dare you!" in which he was very ably helped by Mr. Isidore Marcil as Dr. Goodwin and Miss Dorothy Davis, a very charming and attractive Miss Pinkerton, and afterwards Nadoura. Miss Dorothy Garden was a very successful Nellie Pinder, and Miss Keith Lytton was a most appropriate Mrs. Pinder; Mr. Julian Cross was an ideal and impressive Raha, and Mr. Harry Brett was a smart and humorous Sims.

WOLVERHAMPTON AMATEURS.

A series of performances of *Cousin Kate* has been given this week at the Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton, by amateurs in aid of a fund for a nurses' home in connection with the Wolverhampton and Staffordshire General Hospital. The cream of Staffordshire society and the *élite* of Wolverhampton filled the theatre to its utmost capacity at every performance. Among others present were the Mayor and Mayoress, Mrs. Twentyman, Mrs. Waterhouse, and the Earl and Countess of Dartmouth, who occupied a box at the matinée on Saturday.

Mrs. Douglas Barlow played the title-part, and was delightfully bright and convincing. She wore a charming white frock, and smart hat with paradise plumes. Mr. D. Barlow played forcefully as Heath Desmond. Miss Elwell was a pretty Amy Spencer; Miss May Hutchins was an excellent and natural Bobby; and Mme. Vantini gave a careful and finished study of Mrs. Spencer. Miss Strange made the most of Jane; and Mr. Cyril Langley looked very well as the Rev. James Bartlett, and, with much temptation to exaggeration, played with artistic restraint.

The play was produced and stage-managed by Mme. Vantini, who is so well known in London and Oxford. The second act, with its exacting scenic effects, was handled in a masterly and artistic manner, and reflected great credit on Mme. Vantini. The series was probably the most successful that has been produced by amateurs in Wolverhampton for many years. There were three specially brilliant houses—on the Masonic night, the Mayoral night, and the Yeomany night, when official robes and uniforms filled the spacious dress circle.

NEW MUSIC.

Messrs. March and Co., of St. James's-walk, E.C., are offering to the musical public a startling novelty in their "Eclipse" edition of songs, and can certainly defy competition in the well-printed copies of sentimental and comic songs selling at the extremely low price of one penny. In this case there will be no need to invoke the aid of Mr. O'Connor's admirable Copyright Act, as the price and quality give the pirates no chance. Each copy has a space for the insertion of vocalists' portraits, and the comic songs will no doubt be very welcome to singers at the seaside during the coming summer. In "Wait for me," written by Dave Hall and composed by Herbert Rule, the chorus, "Don't go in the workhouse until I come home, then we'll all go in together," is certain to be popular. "The Pride of Lucerne," written and composed by Paul Pelham and Herbert Rule, is a catchy melody in waltz time; and "Won't you come and see the soldiers?" is written to a stirring march air by the same authors. An Irish song "Sally O'Malley, introduced by Mme. Sims Reeves, is very effective; and a lively ditty, "There's a girl everywhere," is certain to please. One of the songs, "Who'll come for a ride with me on my Aeroplane," written and composed by Fred E. D'Albert, is sung with great success by Miss Jessie Burnett. A song with the comical refrain "I don't know," written by James McGhee and composed and sung by Mr. Herbert Rule, is always secure of a hearty laugh. Other novelties are Mr. Herbert Rule's song "Diary" and Mr. J. P. Long's "Bubbles." Among the serious melodies are "I'm so sorry that I left you," written by James McGhee and David Hall, and "Farewell, Sweetheart Nell," composed and written by Mr. Austin Turner.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.
BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR.
Your book will, I am sure, be a valuable aid to all managers and actors.—SIR HENRY IRVING.
Mr Strong states the whole case very clearly.—*Illustrated London News.*

VARIETY GOSSIP.

Mrs. J. Lawrence (mother of Miss Vesta Victoria) writes under date April 11:—"By to-day's mail we have a letter from Miss Vesta Victoria asking us to contradict the rumour that she was to be married to Bert Cooper, of the firm of Cooper, Kendis, and Paley, of New York, and that the report is absolutely false."

"Who leads in favour—Alice Lloyd or Vesta Victoria?" is the question that appears in big type on the front page of the *Evening Mail* of New York city, which, all unmindful of the old adage that "comparisons are odious," prints a coupon, and invites its readers to "mark an X before the name of your favourite." The votes will be counted, and the momentous question will then be decided.

To quote further from the said newspaper:—"Thousands of vaudeville patrons are discussing the respective popularity of Vesta Victoria and Alice Lloyd. These two talented artists from across the Atlantic seem to have aroused New York theatregoers to a most enthusiastic pitch. Each one, however, seems to have as many and as loyal champions as the other, though both claim the lead. The entire vaudeville world is at sea as to whether Miss Lloyd or Miss Victoria has the larger following." The competition is an excellent boom for both these charming and popular ladies.

These things speak for themselves and need no comment. *The Era* was certainly correct in saying that "the taste for English and Scotch comedy is evidently growing in the Empire City." The New Yorkers are much more cosmopolitan in their ideas of what constitutes wit and humour than they were ten years ago.

In reference to the American boom, the following New York cable from Mr. H. B. Marinelli, the well-known agent, is published:—"Keep my firm out of newspapers. Bollinger, too (the manager). You know nothing. All salaries mentioned are smoke. People dreaming of fairy tales and tremendous salaries may wake up soon with a tremendous headache, and those who have accepted extraordinary salaries are not over their troubles yet.—Marinelli."

Mr. Clifford Fischer, the sole and exclusive representative of Klaw and Erlanger in London, says that those gentlemen are going to some extent into the variety business, and are seeking good turns, but they are working on a commercial basis, and certainly could not do that if they paid the salaries that are being mentioned. Of course, salaries are higher in America, the natural consequence of general expenses and the cost of living being higher there. Mr. George Foster is working in conjunction with Mr. Fischer. It is understood that Miss Marie Lloyd goes to America in the fall.

The first annual general meeting of the Variety Artists' Federation will be held at the Empire Theatre, Camberwell, to-morrow (Sunday) at four o'clock. The chairman will be Mr. Joe O'Gorman. The theatre has been kindly lent by Messrs. Jesse Sparrow and Harry Bawn. Admission will be by card of membership only, and the Press, we understand, will be excluded. In another column will be found a letter on the subject from Mr. Charles Coborn.

The Woolwich Hippodrome is the new name adopted by Mr. Walter Gibbons for the Grand Theatre, Woolwich, when it begins its music hall career. A. W. Deer, formerly of the Balham Empire, has been engaged as manager. Luxurious tip-up seats and pretty upholstery will brighten the auditorium considerably. The performances will start each night at 6.45 and 9.10, except Saturday, when the times will be 6.15 and 8.45. The prices will range from a threepenny gallery to an eighteenpenny stall.

The recent death of Major Murray recalls the famous Northumberland-street affray in 1861, when the Major was twice shot by a solicitor and moneylender named Roberts, who had inveigled his victim into a deserted suite of apartments and locked all doors. The Major, recovering partly, made such a desperate fight with the fire-irons and a champagne bottle that his assailant succumbed to his terrible injuries in Charing Cross Hospital. The incident is, to a cetrain degree, produced in *Humanity*, the famous John Lawson music hall sketch, which in its turn was taken from the drama by Hugh Marston and Leonard Rae, produced under the direction of Mr. John Douglass at the Standard Theatre on April 10, 1882.

Mr. Owen Hall (Mr. James Davis), whose death is announced elsewhere in our columns, gave nothing of his daring wit or smartness to the variety stage. The only piece from his pen produced thereon was *Agnèse's Secret*, a sad little drama undistinguished by humour, given at the Palace Theatre on Nov. 13 last at the farewell matinée of Emily Solvene.

The first meeting of creditors was held on Monday in the case of Julien Davis Solomon, described as of Belsize-road, Kilburn, theatrical manager. It appeared that the debtor had been engaged in the theatrical business since 1866. He spent £4000 or £5000 on a scheme for converting the old Kilburn Town Hall into a theatre, but the place was afterwards converted into a music hall, the debtor estimating that his expenditure on alterations had amounted to about £12,000. During the past four years the letting of the hall had been unfortunate, and the mortgagees entered into possession shortly before Christmas last. A trustee was appointed.

The Charles Bertram matinée in aid of the widow and daughters of the late popular conjuror will be given at the Palace Theatre on Tuesday, April 23. In connection with this performance an influential committee, including the Lord Mayor, Lord Dufferin, Lord Lonsdale, Lord Glenesk, Mr. Herbert Gladstone, and others, has been formed. The lamentable position in which Mrs. Bertram has been left was due to the deceased conjuror's illness, which caused the loss of all professional engagements, while adding greatly to his expenses.

The beautiful series of Living Pictures at the Empire, reinforced by further additions this week, makes way for the new ballet, *Sir Roger De Coverley*, by Adrian Ross, with music by Dr. Osmond Carr, at the end of April, so no time should be lost in seeing them. Miss Ruby Helder, a young lady baritone of seventeen summers, adds a fresh element of strength to the present Empire programme. Her turn is a distinct novelty.

At the 507th meeting of the Executive Committee of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association, held at the offices on Wednesday, there were present Messrs. Fred Herbert (in the chair), P. W. Millis, Harry Blake, Harry Wright, Bob Hutt, Pat Carey, and C. Douglas Stuart (secretary). A letter was read from Mr. G. W. Gerald, for some time the representative of the Association in Paris, resigning his position. Dr. A. S. Sieger, 9, Grey-place, Greenock, and Dr. Robert Thompson, 1, Sinclair-gardens, Kensington, were appointed hon. medical officers. Nineteen new members had been enrolled since the last meeting.

Liverpool is to have another place of amusement. After several unsuccessful applications, Messrs. Broadhead, of Manchester, have succeeded in obtaining the approval of the magisterial licensing bench of that city to plans for the erection of a two-houses-a-night variety theatre, proposed to be erected at the junction of Lodge-lane with Upper Parliament-street.

On Thursday when the magistrates, many of whom hold strong teetotal and religious views, had the matter before them, a bitter opposition was shown by a number of people, who had succeeded in getting the signatures of hundreds of Sunday School scholars against the granting of the licence. It was stated that the site, which consisted mainly of slum property, had cost £8,000, and the erection of the building, which was estimated to hold 2,000 persons, would demand another £20,000. The site was about a mile and a half from the nearest present place of amusement, and within a reasonable distance of Lodge-lane there resided about 200,000 people. The Bench, while approving the plans, stated that no guarantee would be given that a licence would follow when the place was erected. Messrs. Broadhead took the risk of proceeding with the work.

Sheffield is to have a new variety house. Negotiations are being directed towards securing a site in Cambridge-street, and if this is obtained a good hall may be erected with an excellent and commanding frontage. The people interested in the proposed venture are a London syndicate, which includes Mr. Walter de Frece and possibly Mr. Tom Barrasford. If Mr. De Frece and his colleagues are able to complete their arrangements for the site, it is probable that a local company will be formed.

Mr. Oswald Stoll has once again earned the thanks of the public of Leicester by placing the Palace Theatre at their disposal in the cause of charity, viz., to raise funds for the Children's Hospital and General Hospital. The affair took place on Thursday, April 4, and was under the distinguished patronage of Sir Edward Wood (the Mayor), Sir John Rolleston, and Sir Herbert J. Marshall. After the payment of expenses between £20 and £90 will be divided in the ratio of two-thirds to the Children's Hospital and one third to the Infirmary. Mr. C. Finch-Hatton, the acting manager of the Palace, gave his valuable services in conjunction with his assistant, Mr. Bertram G. Iles.

The programme submitted was a strong one. Miss Florence Smithson (the clever daughter of Mr. Will Smithson, so well known in the profession) made her first appearance in her native town in the "Jewel Song" scena from *Faust*, and had a great reception. Other artists who appeared were Tom Costello, the New Macs, Ryder Slone, and Boy Glen from the Empire, Sheffield; Mendel, Dare's Minstrels, and the Kirbys, from the Empire, Nottingham; the Findens, from the Empire, Birmingham; Fanny Erris, Nellie Coleman, the Three Tauberts, and the Bioscope of the Leicester Palace Theatre; and Hilda Boot (of Nottingham, Alfred Raymont, Winnie Oldershaw, Daisy Pollock, W. Barrington Nurse, and Philipps (Royal Opera House).

Mr. George Gray, who was unable to appear in *Parson Gray, V.C.* owing to the length of the programme, sent a note of apology to the Mayor, enclosing a cheque for £2 as an expression of his sympathy. Other artists who were present and ready to appear, but could not owing to time, were Dome, Frank Lynne, Lily Burnand, and Howard and Harris. Sir Edward Wood (the Mayor of Leicester), who was cordially received on making his appearance on the stage, after stating that the artists had given their services free, and that Mr. Oswald Stoll had undertaken to pay their expenses, said the performance had been promoted by the various friends of the Infirmary and the licensed victuallers of the town. They were deeply indebted to the orchestra, the Palace staff, and all helpers for services so freely given.

Mr. B. Pearce Lucas, managing-director of the Bedford, made an application through his counsel, Mr. Clavell Salter, K.C., to the adjourned annual licensing session at Bristol on Monday for a dramatic licence for the Empire and Hippodrome, Old Market-street, now run on the two-houses-a-night principle. The application was opposed by Mr. James M. Chute, proprietor of the Prince's Theatre, and Messrs. Carpenter, Ltd., of the Theatre Royal, in King-street.

Mr. Lucas, who went into the witness box in support of his case said that he was applying for the licence for his own safety. Such sketches as he wished to present might last from thirty to forty-five minutes, and would not have more than six principals and twenty-four supers. He had never been prosecuted in Bristol, but had been threatened that if a sketch lasted more than thirty minutes he would be prosecuted. He had no agreement with Mr. Chute and Mr. Carpenter. The application was refused.

Mr. William Holland, who was for several years manager of the Morecambe Winter Gardens, has been appointed manager of the New Brighton Tower grounds for the present season. Mr. R. T. Davy, who has been connected with the company for over ten years, retains his position as secretary and manager of the company.

The summer variety season at the Royalty Theatre, Chester, will open on May 6. As it is the local race-week the two-houses-a-night system is certain of a good send-off. Mr. C. B. Fountaine's services will be retained as resident-manager. The chief attraction is to be Bob Hutt's *Welcome Home*.

The remains of Ben Doubleday (father of the Three Darrells) were laid to rest on April 4 in Chesterfield Cemetery in the presence of his daughters and several life-long friends, including his staunch "pal," Mr. Harry Wilson. Mr. Doubleday's daughter, Miss May Darrell, a talented instrumentalist, will shortly start on tour with a refined drawing-room act.

We regret to record the death of Professor Heno, a much respected local entertainer and an old resident of Brighton. Professor Heno was to have fulfilled an engagement at the Town Hall, Andover, but whilst waiting at Tidworth Railway Station he contracted a severe chill; an acute attack of pleurisy followed, and Mr. Heno passed away suddenly on March 25, at the comparative early age of fifty-five.

He was one of the few entertainers who received an autograph letter from the late Queen Victoria, complimenting him on a successful entertainment he had given before her Majesty at Buckingham Palace. On one occasion Mr. Heno was performing before the inmates of the Broadmoor Criminal Lunatic Asylum, where he met Prince, the murderer of William Terriss, the popular actor. After the performance, the Professor saw Prince, who said to him, "What wonderful tricks! What marvellous conjuring! But I wish you could conjure me out of these iron bars." Professor Heno leaves a widow, for whom Mrs. Barrasford makes an appeal in another column.

Mr. John Lawson wishes to contradict the statement that *The Unwritten Law* will be a "hash up" of the Thaw trial. Such is not the case, as the episode bears very little, if any, resemblance to this somewhat sordid crime. Preparations are now well forward for the presentation of the work, which will take place at the Holborn Empire on May 6.

Mrs. John Lawson has again scored a great triumph at the Ealing Hippodrome with *The Devil's Sunday*. The performance of Fay Faber at once stamps Mrs. Lawson as a true artist.

In reference to the death of the late Johnny Morton, late of the Moore and Burgess Minstrels, in our last issue, it should have been mentioned that any donations to the fund being raised for his widow—now in very straitened circumstances—should be forwarded to Mrs. G. W. Moore, Moore House, Finchley-road, St. John's Wood, who has kindly consented to receive the same.

The first anniversary of the Queen's Palace of Varieties, Poplar, under the direction of Mr. Jack Woolf, takes place on Tuesday, when, in addition to the usual strong programme, many extra turns will be provided, and several well-known artists have promised to appear.

Mr. Charles Relf, who pioneered variety in Canning Town, where he developed the possibilities of a cheap entertainment at the Royal Albert, is to become mine host of the Royal Standard, 84, Victoria Park-road, South Hackney, of which house he will take possession on Thursday next. He will be pleased to welcome any of his old friends.

Mr. Fred H. Anderson will add the entire proceeds of the Palace, Northampton, on Friday next to the Good Samaritan Society of the town.

A grand international wrestling tournament has been arranged to take place at the Crystal Palace after the final tie football match on Saturday next at 6.15. Contests in ju-jitsu style will be taken part in by Yamato, the champion ju-jitsu wrestler of the world; Yukio Tani, the most scientific ju-jitsu wrestler; Takio, the boy champion of ju-jitsu, and Miss O-Fuji-San, the lady champion of ju-jitsu. There will be a catch-as-catch can contest for £25 between Peter Gotz, light-weight champion of the world, and George Jennings, of Liverpool. Those wishing to accept any of the challenges of the ju-jitsu wrestlers must inform the Crystal Palace management two days before the tournament.

Mr. Barney Stuart returned on Saturday by the R.M.S. Tarquah from Las Palmas. The favourite character-actor resumes work at the Westminster Palace, Liverpool, on Monday.

A physical drill display and march-past competition of the London Girls' Brigade will take place to-day in the Centre Transept of the Crystal Palace. Proceedings will commence at three o'clock, and the various items on the programme include ambulance and nursing, club display, physical drill display, beauty culture and physical fitness competition, and a march-past competition. The prizes will be presented by Lady Benn at five o'clock.

Paul Valentine's Doreen Girls are appearing in song and dance this week at the Canterbury Next week they go to East Ham Palace. They have just been secured for pantomime at the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool.

Mrs. Jack Camp desires through our columns to thank the numerous professional and private friends for their extreme kindness to her during her recent bereavement. It will be impossible for her to answer individually the letters and telegrams of sympathy sent, which touched her deeply, or to acknowledge each of the many beautiful wreaths that testified to the esteem in which her late husband was held. Among those who sent floral offerings whose names were inadvertently omitted from the account of the funeral in our last issue were the Haytors, Mrs. Stace and family, Mr. and Mrs. Price and family, and Mr. and Mrs. Fox. Others who followed and sent wreaths were Mrs. Canning and family and Mrs. Paul Courtney.

Miss Jane Moore produced her sketch, *White Slavery*, at the Empress, Brixton, on Wednesday last, April 10, with unquestionable success.

Mr. Harry Bamford, who is known as "the crippled comedian," will be performing at the Paragon matinée on Thursday next, in aid of the Lord Mayor's Cripples' Fund. Mr. Bamford has been engaged with Alf Ball's travelling entertainment for the past eleven years, and is well known amongst showmen.

Mr. Billie Bint is going excellently well on the Broadhead tour with his song, "Quite content to stay at home." Does the evergreen Billy refer to our coming artistic invasion of the States?

Miss Pattie Hanbury, who has appeared in musical comedy under Mr. George Dance's management, made her début on the variety stage on Monday at the Royal Standard, Pimlico. She is the possessor of a fine soprano voice, of considerable range, and her rendering of "Marguerite" and "Down the Vale" was heartily applauded by the audience.

Mrs. Bennett and Mr. Edward Cranston will produce a new comedy duologue, entitled *A Model Wife*, next week at the Hippodrome, Hastings.

Always a great attraction at the Alhambra is the fine orchestra, whose performers are skilfully guided by the bâton of Mr. G. W. Byng. Some of the loudest applause heard during the evening is awarded to the admirable interpretation of Tschaikowsky's remarkable "1812" symphony.

The monthly meeting of the Committee of the Music Hall Sick Fund was held on Wednesday afternoon at the York Hotel, when Mr. Frank Heath occupied the chair. There were also present—Messrs. Tom Carney, W. Brisco, W. West, and R. T. Baines (secretary). The agenda did not contain any items of public interest, and the meeting closed with the customary vote of thanks to the chairman.

Miss Rose Hamilton, after an absence of five months from London, and fresh from her pantomime success, will appear at the Metropolitan in two new numbers, one a musical recitation by George Arthurs and Orlando Powell, entitled "The study of life." The other, a Chinese song, by Mills and Scott.

Miss Barbara Babington, who met with such brilliant success as principal boy in Hull, has returned to London with an extensive répertoire of refined and pleasing chorus songs, which were the rage at her recent engagement with Mr. Stoll.

Mr. Billy Keene (of Keene and Adams) writes as follows:—"We have covered something like 28,000 miles since we left England for India last October. I shall be happy to assist anybody going out there with advice, as nobody knows the country but those that have been through it."

Mr. Toni Pastor celebrated his forty-second anniversary as a theatrical manager last week, and was the recipient of numerous congratulations from all parts of the country. It is superfluous to say that his theatre was crowded. Mr. Pastor sang "Down in a coal-mine" and "Sarah's young man," as is his wont on these festive occasions, and the cordial and enthusiastic greeting he received must have delighted the popular "veteran of variety" exceedingly.

Mr. L. Austin Millais suddenly collapsed at the Hippodrome, Hulme, on Friday, the 5th inst., and was unable to lecture on Venus and her portrayals of popular paintings. Slides were hastily made for the second house, and Mr. Percy Broadhead's manager, Mr. E. Kay, kindly deputised for Mr. Millais at both houses on Saturday with remarkable success.

The new Hippodrome, Middlesborough, promises to be among the largest and most palatial of the provincial variety theatres. The plans have been prepared by Mr. G. F. Ward, theatrical architect, of Birmingham, who is responsible for the designing of a large number of theatres and halls throughout the country.

Miss Alexandra Dagmar is certainly a feature in the present tremendous bill at the Tivoli, her beautiful voice, handsome gowns, and smart stories making quite a hit.

"A miniature comedy in fifteen minutes" is the description of a new sketch, entitled *A Game of Bluff*, produced by Mr. Fred S. Howard at the Empress, Brixton, at a matinée last week. The little piece has nothing to do with the pantomime order of play, but is genuine comedy of the best school. Smartly written, *A Game of Bluff* enjoyed the distinction of being played by a company of artists who know their business. Mr. Fred S. Howard enacted the worried husband admirably. Miss Grace Dillon was charming as the wife; Miss Fannie Selby capital as the mother-in-law; and Miss Bella Wallis very fine as the "hotel thief." It is to be hoped that the sketch will be seen at a more central house before long.

Miss Maidie Scott, after her severe throat trouble, is in harness again, and is anxious, through these columns, to thank the numerous friends who have written and inquired after her during the past three weeks.

Miss Alice Grossmith (Flo D'Orville) and Mr. Lyall Grant, by the courtesy of Mr. Pete Murray, produced at the matinée at the Britannia on the 3rd inst., a new musical comedy act, entitled *The Chorus Girl and the Call-Boy*. It was practically unrehearsed, as Miss Grossmith has been away, fulfilling engagements in the provinces, but it so pleased Mr. Frederick Baugh that he at once booked it for the five London halls under his management.

Mr. Reuben More, the popular pierrot, concludes to-night a successful engagement as Harry de Vere in Lionel Vaughan's sketch *In Trouble*. He will now devote a week or so to preparing for his fourteenth summer pier tour, for which he is writing special concerted numbers.

The Prince and Princess de Broglie, at their first performance in Rome, had a very unpleasant experience. A crowd of young aristocrats had taken with them to the theatre whistles, rattles, and keys, which they worked with great vigour when the Princess appeared. The police surrounded the most violent of the disturbers, but all to no purpose, and the performance would have ended in a hand-to-hand fight if the Princess had not suddenly stopped and defied her audience by putting her thumb to her nose. This bold act turned the tide in her favour, and all ended good-humouredly.

The D'Ostas, who are mental telegraphists—wireless, of course—have just returned from the States, and are now fulfilling their fourth engagement in England since 1893. At the Tivoli, South Shields, this week their performance has prompted much curiosity, speculation, and excitement.

Henry Robson, described as a porter, of Percy-street, Tottenham Court-road, was charged at Marlborough-street on Monday with selling pirated music. Walter Frost, agent to the Music Publishers' Association, proved ordering two copies of "The Dream of Paradise" from the prisoner and being supplied with them by him. The music was pirated. Mr. Herbert Cooper, assistant-secretary to the Association, said prisoner was well known as an underling for others. Robson denied that he dealt in such goods, and only supplied them to Frost at his repeated solicitation. Mr. Denman imposed a fine of 40s., or fourteen days.

Miss Camilla D'Alberg's comedy company is booked for *In at the Finish* for Paris in the autumn. Negotiations are pending for the production of the sketch at a London West End house.

The latest quotations of music-hall shares are as follow:—Alhambra, 1⅞; Canterbury, ⅛; Empire (15s. paid), 1½; Empire (10s. paid), 1⅛; London Pavilion Ordinary, 4⅜; London Pavilion Preference, 5; London Coliseum, ⅛; Metropolitan, ⅜; Moss' Empires, 4⅞; Moss' Empires 5 per cent. Preference, 4⅛; Oxford, 6⅛; Palace, 10s.; Tivoli, 5⅜; Variey Consolidated Theatres, ⅞.

At St. George's Hall, Liverpool, the native choir from Jamaica, brought over a few months ago by Sir Alfred L. Jones, has appeared for three weeks, and hundreds have been turned away at every performance. On the Saturdays it was found necessary to give as many as three and four performances in the one day. The Pier Pavilion, St. Annes-on-the-Sea, recently was crowded to hear the famous combination. At Manchester and Southport the same thing has occurred. The choir is to visit London, Blackpool (three dates), Bridlington, Lincoln, Birmingham, Ryde, Folkestone, Dover, Birkenhead, Rhyl, &c.

The question whether songs reproduced by means of phonographic records come within the Copyright Act was raised before Mr. Justice Sutton on Wednesday, and decided in the action of Newmark *v.* the National Phonograph Company and the Edison Manufacturing Company. The allegation of the plaintiff, Newmark, was that the defendant companies by reproducing the music of a song (of which he was the owner of the words and music) upon a large number of phonographic records which they had sold, had been guilty of a contravention of the Copyright Act. He consequently asked for an injunction, and claimed damages at the rate of 40s. for each performance of a particular song.

Mr. Scrutton, K.C., argued that the record on the cylinder was not a "copy" within the meaning of the Act. That had been decided in the case of Boosey *v.* White, where the court held that a perforated roll was not a copy of a song. His lordship agreed with this contention, and said it was clear that this was not a case under the Copyright Act. The records could not be regarded as in any way a "sheet of music," and as a result there must be judgment for both the defendants, with costs

Messrs. Vaughan and Cook, the eminent firm of specialists in electric lighting, whose artistic work in many London theatres speaks eloquently of their conception of harmony in architectural details, have been again successful in their scheme of electric lighting at the New Royal Hippodrome, Belfast.

The main ceiling is lit by a beautiful series of twelve standard electroliers of hammered brass, the illumination of the circle, gallery, and box fronts and over boxes being secured by elegant hammered brass brackets of a most up-to-date design. The main entrances, corridors, staircases, and lounges are also prettily embellished with ornamental fittings of a similar design. In the front of the house and throughout the auditorium there are about 800 lights, and something like 400 bulbs contribute to the stage illumination, in addition to the usual limelights, &c. The fine façade looks well under the brilliant incandescence of six flame arc lamps fixed to ornamental wrought-iron brackets, and ornamental box lanterns are placed over the various entrances and exits.

The auditorium is ventilated by means of electric fans. In the main ceiling a 36in. fan fitted into a large air shaft is used, and smaller ones are fixed in the circle and pit ceilings. The whole of the work has been carried out under the personal supervision of one of the partners, Mr. A. L. Fitzroy Cook. The firm is also responsible for the whole of the brass hand-rails, &c., and is now erecting wrought-iron and glass canopies to the whole of the front and side of the house.

Horace Goldin, "illusionist," on Saturday sought in the Glasgow Sheriff's Court for an interdict to restrain Gustave Fasola, appearing at the Glasgow Empire, from performing a trick in which a lady is supposed to be shot from a cannon into a box suspended from the roof. Petitioner held a patent which provided for the lady getting out of the cannon by means of a trap-door on the floor or by means of adjacent scenery, or for her to remain in the cannon, while a substitute was found in the box. The box consisted of two trunks, one inside the other, the inside one having a false bottom that could be opened. When the trick was performed the inner trunk was taken out and placed on the floor of the stage over a trap-door, through which the lady could enter the box. The Sheriff refused to grant an interdict.

A well-known personality will be missed from the Grand Theatre, Bolton, by the death which took place on Monday evening last of Harry Jackson Martin, who occupied the position of stage-door keeper up to a week ago, when he was obliged to give up. Deceased had been in failing health for some time, and during his absence from the Grand he was frequently visited by artists, with whom he was a great favourite. When the Grand was built thirteen years ago, Mr. Martin was the first stage-door keeper. He was thirty-nine years of age, a native of Preston, and died from dropsy and heart disease.

In connection with the Belfast Theatrical Charity Fund, in aid of local charities and Theatrical and Music Hall Benevolent Funds (London), a grand matinée will be held to-day (Saturday) at the Palace Theatre, Belfast, which theatre is being kindly lent by the directors of Warden, Ltd. Mr. Fred W. Warden (managing-director of Palace and Theatre Royal, Belfast) has charge of the programme, which will be contributed to by various artists from the Empire, Hippodrome, and the New Alhambra. The principal members of the *Goody Two-Shoes* pantomime have also promised to assist. Every effort is being made to exceed last year's contribution.

The death is announced of Mrs. Vernon Dowsett, widow of the once popular manager of the Tivoli, who passed away on Saturday, the 6th inst. The remains of the deceased were interred at Crayford, Kent, yesterday (Friday). The late Mrs. Dowsett at one time was an accomplished danseuse. Her hubsand died nearly three years since.

Mr. George Robey on Monday captained a strong scratch team against Chelsea, in aid of the fund to help the widow of the late James Miller. Some interesting football was seen, the result being a win for Robey's team by 3 goals to 0. The popular comedian was assiduously fed by the members of his team, and twice before ends were changed almost scored. Ten minutes after resuming Bull headed a second goal, and a quarter of an hour before the end Robey himself beat the Chelsea goalkeeper with a good cross shot, much to the delight of the crowd.

"SATAN'S ANGEL."

A Dramatic Sketch, produced at the Canterbury Theatre of Varieties, on Monday, April 8.

Frank Lyndhurst ..... Mr. Leslie Clare
Lord Ravenscroft ..... Mr. Arthur Rodney
Dick Denton ..... Mr. Montague Turner
Jules Scara ..... Mr. Naylor Grimson
Cora Onandez ..... Miss Freda Sharlotte

That Cora Onandez deserved her ultimate fate no one can deny, for she fell by the hand of a man she had falsely betrayed. Cora is an unscrupulous adventuress, who, having married Jules Scara, a bank clerk, deserts him after he had got into trouble in connection with a robbery. Subsequently, however, Jules traces her to London, where he finds her carrying on her wicked schemes with the aid of one Dick Denton, a rogue of the first water. She has, too, become the wife of Frank Lyndhurst. Cora and Denton, who are aware that Jules is wanted by the police, seek to get rid of him by planning his arrest, but their would-be victim overhears their conversation on the subject, and before the scheme has had time to fructify he makes an end of his faithless wife by shooting her.

Miss Freda Sharlotte acts with dramatic forcefulness in the rôle of Cora, and creates a striking impression. Mr. Leslie Clare is handsome and gentlemanly as Frank Lyndhurst, and the representations of Mr. Arthur Rodney as Lord Ravenscroft, Mr. Montague Turner as Dick Denton, and Mr. Naylor Grimson as Jules Scara are in every respect praiseworthy.

THE LATE PROFESSOR HENO.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—The many friends of Professor Heno, conjuror and ventriloquist, will learn with deep regret of his death, which occurred with painful suddenness whilst he was on tour at Andover, on the 25th ult., at the comparatively early age of fifty-five. Mr. Heno's willingness to give his services gratuitously at many entertainments to further the interests of charity is so well known that it is hardly necessary for me to draw this to the notice of your readers.

Unfortunately the profession of a public entertainer has of late years been a declining one, so much so that Professor Heno has been unable to make any provision whatever for his widow whom he leaves to mourn his loss.

A subscription list has been started to assist her to tide over difficulties—which are many—and any donations towards this most deserving cause will be most thankfully received and acknowledged by me.—Yours faithfully,

MAUD BARRASFORD

Hippodrome House, Brighton, April 10.

SONGS. WRITERS. AND SINGERS.

AMONG the very latest songs about to be published by Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter, are "The echo of an old, old tale," sung by Miss Sable Fern, written and composed by Frank Leo; "Jackson's not at home," by R. P. Weston; "Sometimes the sweetest honey," by Percy Edgar and H. E. Pether; "My sweet Babette," by Fred Warwick and T. F. Robson; "My girl," by Charles Collins and Charles Ridgwell; "Little cloud with the silv'ry lining," and "What's the good of living?" both by Geo. Arthurs and C. W. Murphy; and "There you are—that's a girl" (Miss Ruby Verdi), by F. W. Leigh and Ben Albert.

IN addition to the foregoing, Mr. David Day's firm has in the Press "My sunny Egyptian home" (featured by Miss Ethel Ra-Leslie), by T. F. Robson; "This coon ain't a-gwine home no more," by Edgar Bateman and H. E. Darewski, jun.; "I shall love you all the while," by Fred Glenville; "Lavender," sung by Miss Mabel Green, by Charles Wilmott and H. E. Darewski, jun.; and "The gipsies' wedding," by J. F. Lambe and T. W. Thurban.

THE "Sixpenny Pops" of Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter, now comprise 363 numbers, the last three songs just added being "Man and wife should always pull together" and "Sympathy," Miss Carlotta Levey's great successes, and "Poor John!" Miss Vesta Victoria's enormous hit.

EDGAR BATEMAN was a few days since bidden by Miss Marie Lloyd to put on his considering cap especially for her, and the "command" of the "Queen of Comediennes" was obeyed forthwith, the result being a cockney country idyll, entitled "With my little bunch of daisies in my hand," embodying some remarkable discoveries in ornithology and agriculture made by a small and select party of New Cut maidens having a day's outing a little way from town, and of some strange happenings at the terminus on their return. The author, who positively revelled in the writing of the number on Southend pier, has as collaborator Henry E. Pether.

AT the South London Palace on the 15th inst., Miss Flo D'Orville and Mr. Lyall Grant are producing a new musical comedy sketch by the latter, entitled *The Chorus Girl and the Call Boy*. Special dance and other music has been arranged by J. Chas. Moore, and the latest motoring song by Shapiro, Von Tilzer Co., "A ride in my automobile," has been featured.

THE Monte Carlo Publishing Co. have been fortunate in acquiring a new song from the master hand of Mr. Felix McGlennon, which this celebrated author-composer optimistically considers will equal, if not eclipse, his old-time success "Comrades." This new song recounts the adventures of a young German girl in London, who, when the moment for parting arrives, light heartedly enjoins her disconsolate lover to "Wait for me, Fritzy dear!" which injunction gives the song its title. The *dénouement* evolved by the third verse is novel and humorous.

MISS GLADYS MAVINS, whose success with Messrs. John P. Harrington and Jas. W. Tate's "Rosie is Waiting" all round the Stoll tour has been extraordinary, has just conveyed to the same author and composer the gratifying intelligence that their new Scotch number, "Kiss your ain Scotch laddie," is going very big at the Empire, Bradford, this week; indeed so successful are both songs that she will specially "feature" them at the London, Empire, Holborn, and Empress, Brixton, on her return to town.

SOMETHING like a sensation was caused at the Empress, Brixton, by that clever juvenile comedian Little Cliff, in his quaint rendering of Messrs. R. P. Weston and F. J. Barnes' whimsical composition, "The Coon's Conscience," which was received with screams of laughter. This number, which Little Cliff is now especially "featuring" on tour, will shortly be published in the Monte Carlo Publishing Co.'s "Sixpenny Successes" series.

MISS ADDIE LENNARD (late of Mr. Chas. Macdona's *Gay Parisienne* company) is the latest theatrical recruit to the music-hall stage, and she will shortly be heard at a leading West-End music hall in a new and original répertoire, entirely written and composed by Messrs. John P. Harrington and Jas. W. Tate, two chief items of which may be tentatively entitled "Lovers" and "Military."

FROM America comes the intelligence to the Monte Carlo Publishing Co. that Miss Alice Lloyd and Miss Lilian Doreen are both "featuring" Mr. J. F. Lambe's charming song "Queen of Old Samara" in the States. The American edition of this popular song has now been issued by Mr. Fred Day (manager of Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter's New York house), who predicts a big sale. Miss Alice Lloyd is also singing with signal success "I'm going back to the Fatherland."

A SONG in great demand among pierrots just now is the popular idyllic number "My Tiny Firefly," written and composed by Ballard Macdonald and Donovan Meher, which is one of the Monte Carlo Publishing Co.'s "Sixpenny Successes," and is selling in very large numbers.

MESSRS. FRANCIS AND DAY have purchased the following novelties from the pen of Mr. T. F. Robson, viz., "My sunny Egyptian home," introduced by Miss Ethel Ra Leslie; "My sweet Italian Maiden," acquired by Miss Fanny Robina; and "The old home across the sea," sung by Ernest Ball. The two former are already established successes, and are free. The same firm have purchased yet another for the free list in "My Babette," which is also by T. F. Robson, in collaboration with Fred Warwick.

MR. SAM MAYO produced this week at the Oxford a new song, entitled "The policeman," the music of which Mr. Mayo composed himself, while the words are by Mr. Worton David. The song proved an instantaneous success. "I'm going to sing a song to you this evening" is also a strong item on the Oxford programme. Both of these numbers are published by the Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Co., Ltd.

MR. FRED EARLE has just placed the publishing rights of his new winner, "Let 'em see you've one, father," by Murray, Leighton and Hilbury, with the Shapiro, Von Tilzer Co., and the song will shortly be added to the Sixpenny catalogue of this enterprising firm.

MISS DAISY DORMER intends to produce shortly two numbers, entitled "Can't you take the baby over there with you?" written and composed by Charles Collins and Harry Castling, and "The wedding bells won't ring out for you and me," also composed by Charles Collins. The publishing rights of both songs have been secured by Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Co.

ON the application of Mr. Gill, K.C., on Tuesday, the Court of Appeal ordered that the appeal in Mackay *v.* Edwardes stand over until April 23. The appeal is by Miss Julie Mackay, the music hall artist, who brought an action against Mr. George Edwardes for alleged libel, interfering with her right to sing "Under the bamboo tree," and threats. The case was heard by Mr. Justice Bigham and a special jury, and found for the defendant.

MISS MAIDIE SCOTT.

as DICK WHITTINGTON
at the AVENUE THEATRE, SUNDERLAND.

The selection of Miss Maidie Scott as Dick was a well-judged one. Pretty and shapely, she takes the hearts of all who see her, for her archness and winsomeness are irresistible. She dances with grace, makes love with fervour and a slight mischievousness, and sings with sweetness. Her rendering of "Everybody works but father" gained her a double encore, and was followed by a still more enthusiastic greeting when she sang the song of the season, "Zuyder Zee."—*Sunderland Echo*, Dec. 27, '06.

The cast is undoubtedly graced by the presence of Miss Maidie Scott. She fills the rôle of the hero Dick, and proved herself such an attractive boy that, if Dick Whittington possessed the same personal attractiveness, 'tis little wonder the alderman's daughter could not resist his blandishment. Besides being able to sing and dance in a pleasing and skilful manner, Miss Scott possesses that dramatic power required to bring out the full effect of the part she is enacting.—*Newcastle Chronicle*, Dec. 27, '06.

The title-rôle is entrusted to Miss Maidie Scott, a young lady of graceful presence, that secures her the public favour on her first appearance. Her work is full of vivacity and energy, whilst the rendition of her various numbers is distinctly pleasing. Possessing a sweet voice, she shows evidence of having received a good musical training, whilst her acting is all that can be desired. In "Everybody works but father," with a refrain that is immediately caught up by the audience, and also in the now popular "Zuyder Zee," with juvenile chorus and dance, a distinct success is scored.—*Era*, Jan. 5, '07.

The charm of Miss Maidie Scott wins her the favour of all, and last night she had quite an ovation after giving "Zuyder Zee," a song in which she appeared to revel.—*Sunderland Echo*, Jan. 15, '07.

As Dick Miss Maidie Scott has thoroughly made good her hold, the assured ease of her acting and fine, cultured voice having made her a firm favourite.—*Era*, Jan. 26, '07.

The principal boy (Miss Maidie Scott), who became a special favourite from the first night, received quite an ovation on her appearance last night. Miss Scott has a style all her own—at all times perfectly natural and unaffected—and she sustains the character to perfection. She is a pleasing singer, and the assistance she received in the rendering of her popular songs from the gentlemen in the upper circle proved that they had, at any rate, been there before.—*Sunderland Echo*, Jan. 29, '07.

Miss Maidie Scott assumes the title-rôle. She has a graceful presence and a captivating manner, sings well, and dances with spirit.—*Newcastle Chronicle*, Feb. 5, '07.

As Dick, Miss Maidie Scott delights everyone by her versatility and charming manner.—*Newcastle Journal*, Feb. 12, '07.

A charming principal boy is Miss Maidie Scott, who has won hosts of admirers.—*North Mail*, Feb. 12, '07.

Miss Maidie Scott, who appears in the title-rôle, scores a huge success.—*Northern Gossip*, Feb. 23, '07.

Miss Maidie Scott gives a fine performance in the title-rôle, and sings and dances exceedingly well.—*North Mail*, Feb. 26, '07.

CROUCH END HIPPODROME.

The Crouch End Hippodrome is now firmly established in the regard of audiences in the northern heights of London, the excellent programmes framed by Henry de Groot making for the legitimate success that has been so happily and deservedly achieved. An excellent programme is invariably submitted at this place of entertainment, including many West End stars, and upon the evening of our visit the house, which is a large one, was well filled. The astute manager, Mr. Henry de Groot, is responsible for this happy state of affairs, keeping his finger on the pulse of the special public for whom he caters, and he is inevitably successful in his efforts to please them. The result is a performance which goes from start to finish without the slightest hitch. The proceedings commence with a capital overture, rendered with spirit by the excellent orchestra under the direction of Mr. J. Howard Hutchinson, after which Miss Jennie Lynwood, comedienne, contributes two songs, "I want no other girl but you" and "I wonder if the girl I'm thinking of is thinking of me." Special mention is due to Messrs. Stacey and Williams, cross-patter comedians and dancers. They go through their business in a neat and artistic manner, and are much appreciated. A strong turn is supplied by Carl Rosine, magician. He introduces some surprising and very puzzling feats, one of the most inexplicable being the passing of hoops over the hands, the thumbs being tightly tied by a member of the audience. Carl Rosine's entertainment is a very striking and ingenious one. Mr. Chas. Lilburn is a capital comedian, well deserving of the cordial reception given him. Mr. Lilburn displays an abundance of humour in the rendering of his two effusions "Shan't ask 'em any more" and "Work days."

Miss Maud Elliston and company play with much spirit and animation the farcical production, entitled *Dobson's Day Off*, the parts in which are well acted and the result most satisfactory. Miss Alice Digby sings about "A Bungalow in Borneo" and "White moon"—the latter a very pretty serenade—afterwards giving a dance, which is highly commendable alike for agility and grace of movement. The Three Sisters Tree (Bibby, Dolly, and Portia) appear in a hunting episode, *The Love-chase*, and their combined efforts win (as they deserve to do) the appreciative recognition of the audience. Celest, the well-known sensational wire-walker and gymnast, contributes a turn remarkable for its neatness and dexterity, and it meets with general approval. Mr. Harry Ford is this week the bright particular star, and his appearance has been welcomed in the heartiest manner possible. Of his performance it need only be said that it retains all the familiar features which long ago promoted Mr. Ford to a high rank amongst the music hall comedians of the day. Mr. Ford, with a style of his own, is both versatile and clever, changing his manner as well as his dress with each song. He displays an abundance of humour in the rendering of his songs, "I wonder," "Oh! bosh!" and "When she walks," introducing some very amusing patter in the two latter. The Five Digby Girls, expert dancers, contributed valuably in their speciality "Back from the Continent," in which they introduce various national dances. Their varied and picturesque costumes and clever dancing provide a delightful item in the programme. James Willard and company, in a laughable sketch, entitled *The Little Wonder*, prove a strong attraction, and its reception must be very encouraging to the performers. Harry Reynold's Minstrel Quintette give a capital entertainment, the varied features of which include part-singing, whistling, ballads, and comic songs. Each member of the company in turn contributes, and their combined efforts are worthy of high praise. The excellent programme concludes with Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope.

MR. EDITOR.—Sir,—In your report of the City Varieties, Leeds, in your last issue we are reported as the La Donays, song illustrators. It should have been the Lovelaces, song illustrators.—Yours sincerely, THE LOVELACES, Empress, Hartlepool, April 9.

FAY FABER OWNS TO AMBITIONS.

Mrs. John Lawson Would Like to Play Leading Rôles in the Higher Drama.
TORN FROCKS.

No one who has witnessed Mrs. John Lawson's striking impersonation of Fay Faber in *The Devil's Sunday* will need to be told that the accomplished lady has high ambitions.

What she would like to do would be to play the leading rôles in the higher drama—the "temperamental" heroine—characters requiring the magnetism necessary for the creation of an "atmosphere." I think she could do it, too. At any rate, the ambition is there.

And now I have told you that you will not be surprised to learn further that Mrs. Lawson's ideal is Mrs. Patrick Campbell, of whom, with her luminous eyes, sweeping carriage, and svelte figure, she is somewhat reminiscent.

Most people know that Mrs. Lawson's husband is Mr. John Lawson, a clever actor, who has become famous in the variety world for his intense sketches, and will be at once remembered.

I told the fair actress that many regrets had been expressed at the fact that Mr. John Lawson had not appeared with her this week.

"What is your favourite part?" I asked.

MRS. JOHN LAWSON.

"Whatever the public like me in best," came the prompt answer; "because," sagely observed this logically-minded lady, "if the public like me, the managers do, and that means lots of engagements."

Mrs. Lawson thinks the music halls better to work in than the theatre, from the artist's point of view, because the effects are more rapidly obtained.

The success of the music hall, with its continuous entertainment and absence of intervals, she attributes to the quicker pace at which life is lived nowadays. Just as a man takes the Twopenny Tube instead of the omnibus, so he goes to a music hall in search of his amusement instead of to a theatre.

It is interesting to mention that Mrs. Lawson designs all the dresses and scenery used in her husband's productions, and her artistic taste has frequently been commended.

Talking about dresses, the sensational struggle in *The Devil's Sunday* is rather hard on the wardrobe, and Mrs. Lawson showed me a charming "confection" which had been hopelessly ruined this week. Silk and chiffon were not intended for jiu-jitsu.—*Nottingham Press.*

"OFF TO GRETNA GREEN."

A Comic Opera, in Three Scenes, Lyrics and Libretto by Wellesley Smith, New and Original Music specially composed by George Ess and Julian Rutt, produced on Monday, April 8, at the Queen's Palace of Varieties, Poplar.

Squire Hawthorn ..... MR. WELLESLEY SMITH
Sir George Graham ..... MR. FRANK BARCLAY
Spotts ..... MR. TOM FANCOURT
Cranky ..... MR. WALTER WESTWOOD
Molly ..... JENNIE RUBIE
Maude ..... MISS CLARA MOORE
Hearty ..... MR. PEARCE
Leary ..... MR. ALFRED ELLIOTT

Bright and tuneful music, good comedy, pretty dresses, and a simple plot are the ingredients which have contributed towards the immediate success of this merry trifle, while the completeness of the production and the smoothness of the performance reflect every credit on all concerned. Maude Fairbanks, the ward of Squire Hawthorn, is in love with Sir George Graham, but the Squire, who has gambled away Maude's fortune, fears that Sir George may find out his dishonesty, and, therefore, forbids him the house. During the Squire's temporary absence the lovers meet and arrange to elope and marry at Gretna Green. In this scheme they are aided by Spotts and Molly, together with a lunatic who has a mania for blowing up anything that annoys him by means of bombs. Maude and George manage to elope, and after several amusing incidents, arrive safely at Gretna Green, where they are united, the Squire's guilt is proved, and the end is forgiveness and happiness.

Mr. Wellesley Smith was energetic as Squire Hawthorn, and Mr. Frank Barclay made a manly Sir George Graham, his fine voice being heard to advantage in the charming number "Gretna Green." Miss Clara Moore looked exceedingly pretty as Maude, and Mr. Walter Westwood was capital as the bomb-throwing Cranky. Miss Jennie Rubie was smart and vivacious as Molly, and Mr. Tom Fancourt as Spotts was extremely funny, his amusing "business" and comic interludes being in a rich vein of comedy, while his duet with Miss Jennie Rubie fairly brought down the house. The chorus worked well, and the scenery and dresses were of a high order of excellence. Praise must be awarded to the general-manager, Mr. Jack Woolf, for his successful efforts; while Mr. Morris Abrahams carries out his duties as assistant acting-manager with his usual urbanity.

HARRY STACKHOUSE, for some months past electrician at the Empire, Glasgow, resigned his position last Saturday to take up an appointment in Middlesbrough. A pleasant surprise awaited him at the fall of the curtain, when Mr. Charles Mussett, the manager of the theatre, had the pleasure of presenting him with a purse of gold, subscribed by his colleagues. In handing this to him, Mr. Mussett said that although he had been at the Empire only a few months, he had become most popular with the management and the staff, and his leaving was greatly regretted by one and all. Harry Stackhouse replied in a few words; and, with a handshake all round, a pleasant function terminated.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES

LONDON PAVILION.

Mr. Frank Glenister's Easter programme at the fine house in Piccadilly-circus is blest with the names of a number of old favourites, who are making happy returns in more senses than one. Among them is Mr. George Mozart, who comes back to a house where he has always been popular after a series of triumphs in America. As a new vehicle for his humour Mr. Mozart—who, by the way, is a skilled instrumentalist—gives a burlesque of the vagaries of a village band, comically untuneful and unmelodiously droll. The imitation of the untutored efforts of an amateur on the clarionet—a much-abused instrument for which Balfe had such a great regard—are in the best spirit of travesty, and Mr. Mozart undoubtedly gets "home" with his audience, by whom he is cordially welcomed. He will probably, with repetition, add further to the amusing features of the skit. Mr. John E. Coyle has also been securing golden opinions from all sorts of people in sunnier lands since his last Pavilion engagement, and finds a very hilarious subject in "By the sea" which appeals in its clever comedy patter to the many-headed. In strong contrast to Mr. Coyle is Mr. Will Edwards, a comedian who has won much popularity in another field of entertainment. He is nightly increasing his reputation at the "Pav.," where he amuses vastly with a humorous song on a beanfeast outing, in which breadth of humour is very advantageously displayed.

We have had many cross-talk comedians from the other side, but for abysmal depths of absurdity commend us to the conversations of Jordan and Harvey, who hit off in a very clever fashion the foibles of the humbler members of the Hebrew race. One exclaims to the other in a pathetic vein concerning his wife's extravagance. Mrs. Ikestein's demands are extortionate. Every day she bothers Ikey for cash—in increasing amounts, too. Commencing at the humble sum of twopence, she raises the figure until it reaches the lordly half-a-crown. "Mein gracious," says Ikey's sympathiser, "what can she do with all that money?" "I don't know," is the reply, "I haven't given her any!"

Refined musical turns are always heartily welcomed in the halls, and the selections of Florence and Lilian on the cornet, violin, and post-horn find the heartiest appreciation. Les Fleurs Polonaises, whose artistic dancing causes enthusiasm nightly, have very wisely been retained over the holidays. They give a most exhilarating performance of their native dances, especially of "The Krakoviak," into which is infused all the fire and energy of the Slav nature. The cosmopolitan attractiveness of the programme is added to by Hill and Whitaker, from America, who hold us captive while we hear echoes of the ancient negro revival songs—always melodious and often quaint. Mr. Malcolm Scott, a chartered libertine in the matter of jest, has increased his knowledge by observation during his recent voyage to the Canaries and back. The comedian's matter is exceedingly well put together, and his observations as the latest Gibson Girl are not only quaint, but they are often 'cute. Mr. Scott is evidently a caustic critic of public affairs and topical incidents.

Early in the evening Mr. Kit Keen evokes much applause by his ingeniously introduced bone solos, choosing as the vehicle for his clever exhibition the "Anvil Chorus" from *Il Trovatore*. Miss Alice Lawton is a fascinating dancer; and Mr. Harry Zetter, as a comedian and eccentric dancer, is in a progressive groove, and is very smart. Howard and Collinson exploit a highly original act in *The Porter and the Parcel*, quite a parcel of fascinating mischief, with a wonderful study of mechanical movement, *à la poupée*. Beautiful examples of statuary are still chastely realised by the perfectly-formed Olga Seldom and her companions, the finest being "The Fountain," a design worthy of a place in an art gallery. Francis, juggler; Miss Marie Dainton, Mr. Frank Maura, Mr. Hal Forde, Miss May Henderson, and Miss Nora Moore, are other attractions in a long and finely-varied bill.

THE EUSTON.

The gentleman burglar is quite an old friend of the lovers of melodrama. Mr. Henry Arthur Jones is supposed to have invented him when he created the character of Captain Skinner in *The Silver King*, a piece that may be counted as one of the finest of its kind produced during the nineteenth century. Up to that period the cracksman of the drama was a forbidding-looking personage in moleskin or corduroy, of the Bill Sikes or Rogue Riderhood pattern; and, therefore, when Mr. Jones added to his elegance and his tailor's bill, and presented him in faultless evening dress, the public interest in the lamented Wilson Barrett's Princess's Theatre production was largely stimulated. Later, Sir Charles Young introduced to the London stage *Jim the Penman*, played by, among other actors, Mr. E. S. Willard, who became famous by his impersonation of the aforesaid Captain Skinner. *Raffles, the Amateur Cracksman*, is the latest addition to the interesting series of characters; and *The Gentleman Cracksman*, now being presented at the Euston, one would think, was suggested by the Comedy Theatre success referred to. But an examination of both pieces reveals no resemblance, and if Mr. Edward Ferris—who, we may presume, is the author—has been inspired by any theatrical production at all, it would seem to be Sir Charles Young's powerful play. Jim the Penman is a successful commercial man, as well as a famous forger. Philip Marsden is a clever barrister and a bold burglar. He disturbs burly Bill Grimes while in the act of abstracting jewels from Lady Unstart's bureau, and, covering him with a revolver, makes him replace them. Bill doesn't get away, but clears himself by inculpating an innocent man, whom Marsden defends in the last scene. The game is up, however, when Grimes enters the witness-box. Marsden confesses to the robbery, and shoots himself. Mr. Ernest Norris plays the barrister-burglar with excellent effect, being cool in his audacity and eloquent in speech. Mr. Bruce is grimly humorous as Bill Grimes; and a very great hit is made by Miss Adie Boyne, a capital little character actress, with a positive genius for low comedy. Miss Boyne appears in the trial scene in a number of characters, and the poor, distressed widow who pleads to the judge so pitifully for her son is in deep contrast to the jaunty and pert Polly Potter or the unreflecting and stupid Mrs. Painter.

A very attractive interlude of song is presented by Mr. Emlyn Jones and his quartet of international singers. Firstly, Mr. Jones himself sings as a solo "Memories," the chorus of which is very artistically rendered by a ladies' quartet, who appear behind a transparency. The national sentiment is emphasised by such selections as "The Bells of Aberdovey," in Welsh, "Loch Lomond," and "Killarney," the finale being the refrain of "The Death of Nelson." Loud applause greets these admirable vocalists.

We find an excellent humorist in Cruikshank, "the fool of the family," who sings to his own banjo accompaniment a funny parody of "In the shade of the old apple tree." Mr. R. H. Douglass, a first-class monologue entertainer, gives a résumé of the fun of a pantomime rehearsal, which, besides being replete with humour, shows much keen observation, and is full of laughter-raising points. A very fine exhibition of sand-dancing is furnished by My Fancy, a champion at quickness and intricacy of step; the Three Sisters Sprightly show decided ability in their trios, and especially as dolls; Baker and Balfe are excellent xylophonists; Miss Ella Retford makes a delightful fraulein with a pretty sabot dance; Mr. C. tells stories in his quaint American way; and the Yankee Doodle Girls present a lively series of manœuvres and dances, which typify international amity between the States and the Old Country. The bill concludes with Ruffell's Bioscope, with an amusing film, "The movable pillar post-office." Mr. Fred McAvoy is the popular manager here, and he is well assisted by Mr. Charles Wellman.

ISLINGTON EMPIRE.

The management of this hall of amusement should be well satisfied with the result of their efforts to place before their patrons an excellent entertainment at a very low price. The high-class performance provided has made this hall as popular as any in London, and good business is the rule. Foremost on the programme this week are Mr. Wal Pink's "workmen" in *Repairs*. The scene represents Muddleton Villa in the hands of the decorators, Messrs. Messit and Spoiler, and apparently these cognomens are very appropriate. This little absurdity is the essence of humour, and hearty laughter rewards the efforts of those responsible. The scene in this sketch is an excellent example of its kind, and not only may the members of Mr. Pink's company be looked upon as comedians of a high class, but they may also be regarded as acrobats of more than usual merit. Much praise is due to this clever body of players for their energetic and highly-satisfactory performance. Miss Nellie Farrell, an Irish comedienne with a charming manner, and also the possessor of a tuneful voice, sings of the troubles of married life in a style which gains for her considerable applause. Mr. Frank Seeley, the quick and quaint comedian, provides plenty of amusement with his two songs. In the first, disguised as a woman, he relates in a droll manner the worries and troubles he has experienced as Cinderella. In the patter he tells of the time when seated by the fireside his fairy godmother came down the chimney covered with soot and pieces of brick. Not having the necessary pumpkin in readiness to be changed into a coach, he breaks open the child's money-box and sends for a vegetable marrow, and so he continues, causing laughter with every sentence. His second contribution, "I had to go back and change it," was delivered in his usual humorous manner, and much praise is due to him for his excellent contributions.

Another favourite here is Mr. Charles Bignall, and he scores a huge success with his two songs, "The happiest man alive" and "Are we downhearted?" In this latter number he is assisted by the audience, who, when asked the question, "Are we downhearted?" reply, in an extra hearty manner, "No." Mr. Charles Bignall's turn is much appreciated. Miss Daisy Dormer proves herself to be a dainty and charming comedienne. Both her numbers are rendered in capital style, and she afterwards treats the audience to some clever dancing, a most noticeable feature of this being a backward high kick. She must be complimented on her really capable performance. Mr. Tatten Hall, a burlesque comedian, obtains a warm reception which is well deserved. His turn is an excellent one, opening with a catchy song relating to the troubles of a dude who wears an eyeglass, and closing with a most comical impersonation of a huntsman. Both contributions gain for him well-deserved applause. Miss Lilian Boanas, a charming vocalist, is well received in her tasteful and well-rendered songs. Her voice is pure and rich in tone, and enables her to do great credit to the numbers of her choice. Jordan and Harvey, a couple of Hebraic comedians, entertain the audience with their droll songs and amusing patter. Fun is liberally provided by these clever artists, who appear to have reached the zenith of their popularity. Some excellent pictures are shown by the Imperial Bioscope, the most interesting of which is "The Hooligans of the Wild West." Mr. George Wilson has taken over the management of the Holborn Empire for a time, and in his place Mr. Harry Blight is again seen in his old post. He ably attends to the front of the house, and his close attention to the comfort of the audience is much appreciated. The orchestra is under the able direction of Mr. A. Petersen, who is a firm favourite with everyone.

THE MIDDLESEX.

The stars are always twinkling in Drury-lane, or in that portion of it occupied by Mr. J. L. Graydon's old-established hall, and among those who shine with most lustre this week are the Bensons, who have just been entertaining patrons of the Palace, and prove to be equally acceptable to the more humble, but no less discriminating audiences of the Middlesex. The daintiness and grace of the lady, her vocal accomplishments, and excellence in the art of terpsichore, combined with the smartness and agility of her partner, take the occupants of stalls and gallery alike captive, and their brilliant comedy gifts are exercised in many varied and agreeable ways. Their version of "Sally in Our Alley," in which the lady does such excellent work at the piano, proves irresistible to the audience, who applaud the act with might and main. The effects obtained in the selection are highly relished, and an encore is undeniable. The response made on the evening of our visit took the shape of a rendering of the favourite "Shy Ann," sung with delightful archness by the comedienne, and aided by her partner in the refrain. The dance which concluded the item was distinguished by variety of movement and neatness of execution, and though more was demanded, the artists had breathlessly to bow their acknowledgment of the prolonged cheers which their exhilarating act had drawn forth. They certainly get "the" reception of the evening.

Phenomena of the Fire Brigade are presented in the sketch *Blazes*, which flares furiously under the care of the Six Brothers Luck. The playlet has some genuinely funny moments, and the efforts of the famous family of comedians move the house to the heartiest laughter. The New Bioscope has this week turned on a film in which a little dramatic story is portrayed. Under the title of "Foul Play," it depicts a theft by a bank clerk, who causes suspicion to fall upon his fellow employee. The latter is arrested, and the trial in a police-court, when the accused is convicted, is reproduced. How the wife of the prisoner tracks down the scoundrel, and secures the release of the husband is vividly portrayed on the film, which is enthusiastically cheered.

A musical motorist figures among the variety items of the programme. Mr. Gus Barra, who makes his entry in a bassinette fitted up as an automobile, playing a droll solo on a number of "hooters" attached to his clothes. His performance on a couple of concertinas played at the same time is very clever, and well applauded. Mr. Frank Seeley receives the welcome always extended to an old favourite. His appearance as Cinderella involves the addition to his lay of a quantity of "patter" that is well appreciated, and the singing of "Coming in" is also highly approved. Ross and Grayson excite constant peals of laughter by their comedy act, in the course of which the comedian does a funny sand-dance at the piano, on which he executes solos in the most inconceivable positions. There is a good deal of quiet drollery about Stacey and Williams, whose "cross-talk" is original and ingeniously contrived, and, together with their capital dancing, renders them prime favourites. The Sisters Cora captivate their hearers in their duet, "Would you care?" and in the popular lyric, "Come back to Borneo," to which is added some skilful dancing. Mr. Fred Dornan, a son of the popular basso of Moore and Burgess Minstrels fame, reveals hereditary talent in his descriptive songs "Fairies" and "Jack of Diamonds," the choruses of which are vigorously re-echoed up aloft; and the Currie Trio succeed in a bright act in which military drill and dancing are agreeably combined. Fyne and Hurley are popular contributors to a well-filled programme, which is also embellished by Corelli, in "Conjuring, and How it is done"; Master Charles Carr, Miss Marie Neilson, Mr. Will Freedo, Gerant and Ugar, and Dene and Dawson, in a comedy sketch.

TRIAL TURNS AT NEW CROSS.

Two hours were devoted at the New Cross Empire on Monday afternoon to the sampling of a number of candidates for the London halls selected by Mr. Ernest Bridgen, the manager of the handsome Moss and Stoll house in the South-east. No particularly novel item was to be found among the fourteen aspirants who presented themselves, but earnestness and ability were evident in almost every case, and in some instances great promise was given. The test, over which Mr. Will Collins, district manager for the Moss Empires, presided, was made under the least encouraging conditions, no audience being present with the exception of a few artists and some members of the Press, so that the performers had to face many rows of empty benches. A good beginning was made by a young lady vocalist named Miss Sudbury, who gave "She wandered down the mountain side." The ballad, of course, is more fitted for a concert room, but such great strides have been made in that direction by the modern variety hall that Miss Sudbury, who sings with great feeling and taste, might well hope for future success. A neat dancer was forthcoming in Mr. Geo. Phillips, a youthful comedian, who made the plaintive appeal in song, "Honey, won't you open the door?" and did a well-varied sand dance. A brother of a popular comedienne was found in Mr. Jack Monks, who had nothing more new to offer than the old favourite "Terry," but he sang it in breezy style, and revealed the possession of a robust tenor which might be used to still better advantage.

An artist well qualified to hold her own in the regular bill appeared in Miss Minnie Merry, a lady low comedian, who put on male attire of an eccentric kind to sing a couple of comic songs. Miss Merry is gifted with a droll expression and a well-developed sense of humour, and works with abundant resource. Her style, indeed, is superior to her songs, with which she might be better suited. Miss Jeanie Deans' "The Tinker's Wedding," sung in Scottish array, was chiefly noticeable for a graceful hornpipe. As a vocalist Miss Deans did better in the ballad "Caller Herrin'," sung in character, and partly accompanied by herself at the piano.

Command of the concertina was manifested by Mr. Alexander Prince, who played unaccompanied an excerpt from grand opera in musicianly style; but his performance, while being interesting to music-lovers, would have to be more varied to obtain permanent recognition by a music-hall audience. Mr. Walter Barrett, dressed in the picturesque garb of a bandit, displayed a cultivated baritone in the difficult ballad "The Bandolero," which he rendered with all the requisite breadth and vigour. A child comedienne appeared in the person of Miss Lily Farrar, who sang of "Mlle. New York," and did a pretty and well-executed dance. Clever songs were well sung at the piano by Miss Herron Brown, who treated of the Workman's Compensation Act in "Master's got to keep me all my life," and also reproduced humorously the peculiarities of her partners at a dance. Similar work was done by Miss Roma Howard, who sang daintily to her own accompaniment a couple of piquant songs. Tentative appearances were also made in the course of the afternoon by the Pollods, who cut a comical appearance as a trio of Lilliputian oddities; Miss Flo Rose, who made a blithe vivandière; Mr. Frank Goddard, who sang of the delights of "Flying"; and Smyth and Moylan, who submitted a duologue followed by a tenor and soprano duet.

GRAND, CLAPHAM.

The all-round excellence of the programme that is being presented here this week is drawing houses packed from floor to ceiling, standing-room only being the order throughout. The bright particular star is Miss Marie Lloyd, who appears to be in excellent health and spirits. She is giving this week two capital numbers, in both of which she appears to exceptional advantage. Her first is the increasingly popular "Custom of the country," which is going as well as ever, and is being received with every expression of favour. In her second contribution she is dressed as a Spanish dancing-girl, and sings of the rapid ways of the land of King Alfonso, "where the girls they do go on so." In this she exhibits a delicious piquancy, and gives her audience just a taste of Orientalism in her dancing. On concluding she is the recipient of a perfect hurricane of applause. Special mention should be made of her lovely dresses, which both suit and fit her to perfection.

Sibb and Sibb, the clever trapeze artists, are again paying one of their periodical visits to this hall, and are presenting their ever-popular turn, which has been further improved by much new and original work. No matter how steep is the trick, it is accomplished with an ease that is surprising. On concluding they are rewarded in a most liberal manner. Ella Lane is singing a capital number of the pot-pourri description, in which she introduces the names of innumerable songs, both past and present, which are strung together in a most clever manner. Real rollicking fun is supplied by the Six Brothers Luck, who are presenting that laughable absurdity, *Blazes; or, The Lightning Fire Brigade*. Whilst these comedians occupy the stage the fun waxes fast and furious, and they succeed in keeping the house in one continuous roar of laughter. The Three Prestons, in *The Liftman's Rise*, are as amusing as ever, bringing the sketch to a conclusion by some excellent dancing. Miss Maud Courtney, an American artist, tells a number of funny stories in a most interesting manner, and brings her turn to a conclusion with an excellent number, entitled "Wouldn't that be a dream." Victor Travers is singing "I'm the messenger of love," the verses of which he intersperses with some funny patter and amusing impersonations, which seem much to the liking of the house. Fred Spencer, described on the programme as "an expressionist," is giving a number, entitled "They call me a bathing girl," in which is introduced some original patter.

A Daughter of Pleasure is the title of a sketch which is being successfully exploited by Grahame and Harrington. This little drama is cleverly written, and admirably acted. The scene is the reception-room of an hotel. A gentleman, on his way to London with a large sum of money, which is to save the credit of a certain renowned bank, is forced, owing to a breakdown on the railway, to break his journey in Paris. He is in great fear that he may not reach his destination in time, but at the last minute discovers that if he leaves in the middle of the night he may bring his journey to a successful ending. Whilst interviewing the maître d'hôtel, and arranging everything for his early departure, he discovers that a certain former mistress of his is staying at the same hotel, and she makes her appearance ere he can escape. Wine is ordered, just for old time's sake, and under its influence he divulges his mission and the sum of money he has with him. The sudden temptation is too much for her; and she succeeds in effectively drugging and robbing him. Whilst going through his pocket-book, she discovers that the bank which he represents is the one in which her aged mother has invested her all. A feeling of contrition possesses her. She is able to successfully administer an antidote, and her former lover catches his train and saves the credit of the bank. Of the title-rôle Miss Harrington has made a close and deep study, and the result is quite artistic. Mr. Grahame is also intense and powerful as the lover.

George Reeves has a capital song, entitled "Nap, Nap, Nap Napoleon," which is being received with every expression of goodwill; the Three Sisters Sprightly introduce some clever dancing into their turn; and the Bioscope is again contributing an interesting item. Mr. Harry Ketteman, the manager, is popular, and his courteous assistant is Mr. Charles Lurring.

SADLER'S WELLS.

Miss Dolly Elsworthy and her company in the sketch *The Orange Girl* have proved a great attraction here this week. The story concerns the relations of King Charles II. with one Nell Gwyn, his mistress. It would be difficult to conceive anything more bewitching than Miss Dorothy Elsworthy in the rôle of the Royal favourite. Her moods and manners are kaleidoscopic. At one moment she brings the King to a feeling of remorse with her battery of tears, and at another she has him in a spirit of exultation and unbounded joy by her smiles and her merry cajolery. In short, where one thing fails, pretty mistress Nell knows very well that another will succeed, and so with a variety of expressions and a changefulness which have ever characterised her sex, the vivacious erstwhile seller of oranges moves from gloom to gaiety, from angry words to mirthful sentiments. In Miss Elsworthy's hands she is an embodiment of all the peculiar qualities which have made her sex a riddle, and the actress is certainly to be congratulated upon a brilliant portraiture. Mr. S. Wilson acts in good style as the King, and Mr. J. Willoughby appears to advantage as the Duke of Buckingham. Miss E. Douglas plays with marked ability in the part of the jealous, back-biting Lady Castlemaine; and Mr. Adderley Howard is virulent as the disappointed lover. Miss C. Rivers as Mother Gwyn presents a capital study of an old drink-sodden hag. The playlet is excellently mounted.

Mr. Fred Moule's company creates uproarious merriment with the "musical mirthful mixture" entitled *The Love-Makers; or, The Extra Turn*. The antics of a jocular stage-manager and his various "turns" cannot fail to arouse our risible faculties, and with the assistance of a troupe of dancers, specially trained by Miss Lottie Stone, the comedietta is bright and lively from beginning to end. Mr. Harry Wright excels as an extempore vocalist; and Miss Marion Scott is a very engaging and talented comedienne. Miss Nellie Gannon sings in stirring style about Nelson and the days of Trafalgar, and she also has a pretty ditty entitled "My little love-bird," which is sung with feeling and expression. Raymond's Bio-Tableaux display some remarkably realistic pictures on the subject of "The Village Fire Brigade"; and the Maros are seen in a quaint triple bar act which is smartly performed. The Zampas are also heard and seen to advantage as vocalists, speciality dancers, and bâton manipulators, and in the latter line show themselves to be most skilful. Capital contributions to the programme are furnished by Miss Peggy Fame, comedienne and dancer; and Mr. Charles Gardiner, comedian.

BARNARD'S PALACE, GREENWICH.

Mr. Bert Dent has, according to his invariable custom, arranged a programme for this week remarkable both for quantity and quality. The frequenters of this hall must be hard to please if they cannot find much to their taste in the capital bill submitted for their delectation. After the overture, "Aus der Leit für die Zeit," has been rendered by the excellent band, under the direction of Mr. William Skerry, the entertainment commences with the appearance of Mr. Dudley Hayes, character comedian, who sings two amusing songs, entitled "It won't be a stylish wedding" and "Don't 'e do 'is 'air all right?"; next comes Mons. Savoro with some cleverly executed imitations of a thrush, a young chicken, a skylark, a puppy, &c., and these are all so perfect as to evoke loud applause. George A. Stevens and vaudeville party follow, and the songs they contribute are all well rendered; Miss Ray Raymond, the charming comedienne and dancer, creates an excellent impression with "The girl I left behind" and "I'm going to marry Brown, of Chicago"; the attractive lady gymnast and contortionist, Lilian, causes much wonder and admiration at the marvellous skill and dexterity she exhibits, and the precision and grace with which she executes her difficult and novel tricks. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope presents a new and interesting series of animated pictures. A capital extra turn is that of the sketch entitled, *The Paperhanger*, which is well acted by the Sprengsons. Other extra turns include those of Long and Beale, whose duologue is excellent; and Charles Banks, with his cleverly-trained dog. La Belle Maie, known as the Queen of Equipoise, delights all with her clever and graceful performance; George Scott has a flattering reception for his rendering of "Something missing" and "Nelson"; Cline and Clare, comedy duologue artists, do well in their contribution, entitled *The Other Mrs. Brown*; Baroux and Bion, comedy and eccentric acrobats, cause much laughter by their funny boxing act; Mlle. Du Roche, operatic vocalist, rouses the audience to enthusiasm by her splendid rendering of "Banish sorrow" and "Marguerite." This artist is the fortunate possessor of a very fine soprano voice, well trained and pleasing in tone. Stanley's Urchins are great favourites here, and their entertainment, consisting of singing, comedy, and dancing, is very popular; especially so is their rendering of "Snowflakes," "Eileen Alannah" and "Don't send the organ-man away." Billie Bracey, the dandy negro comedian, scores a success with his original patter, and his song, "A telegram from baby."

THE DAYTON FAMILY AT DONCASTER.

GRAND THEATRE AND EMPIRE.

A high-class variety entertainment is provided at the local theatre this week, and on Monday evening two good houses witnessed the performance, and by their applause showed marked appreciation. There is not a dull minute from beginning to end. The Dayton Family head an excellent bill, and show some exceedingly novel and clever tricks. They are ten in number, and each one finds something to do, and does it well. Their latest creation, "Le Rendezvous," a scene in Hyde Park, London, is a huge success. The Cecilian Family, musicians and dancers, created something in the way of a surprise with the performance of a little girl. Milford Bros., triple trapeze artists, and George Bernard, actor-vocalist, are worthy of special mention. Johnny Groves, Sansom and company, Billian Trio comedy sketch, in *A Night's Frivolity*, found plenty of scope for some excellent fun. The company is well balanced throughout. Others appearing are Miss Ada Lucerne, charming singer; Hannaway Bros., comedians, dancers, and burlesque boxers; and Harry Sansom, comedian. There is every appearance of a busy week for the theatre staff.—*Doncaster Borough Advertiser*.

GRAND THEATRE.

A particularly fine variety entertainment is being given at the Grand Theatre and Empire this week, and none should miss it, every "turn" being good. People who like thrilling and clever acrobatic displays find everything to be desired in the Dayton family, ten in number, who in a specially set piece, entitled "Le Rendezvous," go through a series of the most amazing feats. Lying on their backs, five of the adults, by leg and feet movement, roll and toss three little boys about in the air as if they were nothing more than bundles of hay, and apparently without at all inconveniencing either themselves or the youngsters. Two or three fine and unique human pyramids feature the performance, which, on the whole, to use a colloquialism, is well worth the money.—*Doncaster Gazette*, April 12, 1907.

Performers having a long wait in Birmingham on any Sunday can obtain lunch, tea, and other refreshments by calling at the Dog and Partridge Inn, Ellis-street, Holloway Head, the proprietress of which is Mrs. Charles Edgar, widow of the late Charles Edgar. Railway tickets must be produced.

"The Era" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

"THE ERA" SHILLING FUND FOR THE MUSIC HALL HOME.

Mr. Barrasford and Miss Vesta Victoria join in a strenuous appeal for the generosity of the profession in support of *The Era* Shilling Fund. When, twelve months ago, we brought before our readers the claims of this deserving charity, a very considerable sum of money was collected in separate shillings. That last year's appeal, however, and most of the money obtained by it, are, as Miss Marie Lloyd would say, "a thing of the past, old dear."

Subscribed to date, 2212½ shillings.

FIRST LIST OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

	£	s.	d.
Edinburgh theatrical and vaudeville sports, per Walter P. Wells	40	0	0
Contents of collecting-box at the Hippodrome (late Tivoli), Leeds, one of Mr. Barrasford's halls, per Charles Weldon	5	7	9
Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Mannering	1	5	0
Leoni Clarke	1	1	0
Collecting-box, Palace of Varieties, Ltd., Manchester, per Nelson Barry	1	0	0
Fred Arthur	1	0	0
Bros. Webb	0	10	0
Geretti	0	5	0
Belford and Mars	0	5	0
A. Lazarus	0	2	0
A Gus Elen Autograph	0	0	6

Collected by Mr. Horace Wheatley, £3 11s.

Horace Wheatley	40	Anthony	1
Terrance Wheatley, jun.	1	Claire Romaine	1
Catherleen Wheatley	1	Sydney James	1
Norah Wheatley	1	Gilbert Fernie	1
Eileen Wheatley	1	Harry Edson	1
Horace Wheatley, jun.	1	Leslie Romani	1
Grandma	1	Lizzie Kirk	1
Auntie	1	Emmie Romani	1
MacWheatley the Dog	1	Frank Turner	1
Edgar Marriott	1	Mrs. F. Turner	1
Frank Leon	1	J. G. Henderson	1
Ted Waite	1	C. Pastor	1
Edgar Romaine	1	Sister Marion	1
Robert Robertson	1	M. Egerton	1
Florence Lambeth	1	Fred O'Malley	1
		George Harvard	1
		Gus W. Blake	1

Collected by Mr. Harry Conlin, Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, £4 7s.

Bros. Egbert	10	Us again, again	1
Us again, again, again, again	7	Us again, again, again	1
Albert Egbert	5	Doris Cooper	1
Harry Conlin	5	Vera Elvey	1
Rosie Coleman	5	M. Claire	1
Mark Sheridan	5	Mr. Whitehead	1
Gwladys Elvey	5	Ian Lloyd-Mackenzie	1
Edna Loftus	5	Herbert Darnley	1
Daisy Dormer	5	Harry Nelson	1
S. Egbert and Mac	5	Erchie Mitchell	1
Mark's Room	4	Harry Bendon	1
Mac's Bar, 3 Rose-street, Edinburgh	3	A. R. Pole	1
Harry Lupino	2	Us	1
Us again	2	Cade Burnett	1
Betty Green	1½	Deane Tribune	1
		Estella Tribune	1

Collected by Mr. Gus Elen, £2.

Gus Elen (V.A.F.)	10	Edith Villa	1
Mrs. G. E.	1	Cruet	1
The Chickens	1	Boots	1
The Pheasants	1	The Dustman	1
Buller (St. Bernard)	1	Mrs. Carter	1
Major (Pomeranian)	1	Found	1
The Cook (16st.)	1	The Postman	1
The Housemaid	1	Admission	1
The Motor	1	Lizzie C.	1
The Gardener (Bob)	1	Meriah	1
The Parrot	1	Our Tyke	1
The Canary	1	New Pyjama 'At	1
Inky (Black Cat)	1	Luggage Man's (tip)	1
Four-Pots-a	1	Book-Boy's (ditto)	1
Twelve Coppers	1	Cab to *Era* Office	1
Two Sixpences	1		

Collected by Mr. Tom Fancourt, 15s.

Tom Fancourt	1	Margaret Ruby	1
Alf Selby	1	Queenie Clements	1
Harry Ray	1	Lottie Cora	1
Lillie Caldon	1	Florrie Cora	1
Arnold Richardson	1	Mrs. Howarth	1
Jennie Rubie	1	Anon.	1
B. Elton	1	Ernest Laws	1
T. Elma	1		

Collected by Regan and Ryan, Court Theatre, Liverpool, £1 14s.

Malcolm Scott	5	H. Brockbank	2
Fanny Fields	5	Patty Yole	2
Regan and Ryan	5	M. R. M.	1
Harry Tate	5	Doris Dean	1
Hetty King	5	Poppy Wilkinson	1
Fanny Dango	2		

Collected by Mr. Billy Williams, £2 19s. 9d.

Billy Williams	5	E. I. S.	1
Miss Du-Roche	5	A. Hanson	1
Miss M. Sealby	5	W. Marshall	1
Andre Avocat	5	J. B.	1
Miss M. Langdon	2½	B. B.	1
Oliver Round	2½	J. Kelly	1
Roze and Calvert	2½	W. E. D. V.	1
W. W. Walton	2½	W. Clarke	1
Churnell	2½	O. L. Rendell	1
F. E.	2	Wirson Kurat	1
J. K.	2	T. Dare	1
Miss Mab Paul	2	Geo. W. Thorpe	1
Adelaide	2	H. B.	1
King	1½	I. B.	1
W. E. R.	1	Maxwell	1
F. D. B.	1	Graham	1

Collected by Rich and Rich, 11s.

Rich and Rich	5	W. Fullbrook	1
Smarte Bros.	2	Charles Homer	1
H. O. Wills	1	Lola Patey	1

Collected by Carl Hertz, £1.

F. Bernard	1	Wartemberg Bros.	1
Fred Poplar	1	J. Wilson	1
Sinclair and Whiteford	1	H. Osborn	1
Edgar Romaine	1	Carl Hertz	1
Edgar Romaine	1	Carl Hertz	1
Little Tich	1	Carl Hertz	1
Little Tich	1	Carl Hertz	1
Little Tich	1	Mrs. Carl Hertz	1
Little Tich	1	Mrs. Carl Hertz	1
Little Tich	1	Mrs. Carl Hertz	1

Collected by Bliss and Bliss, £1 12s.

George Bliss	1	Pushfoot	1
Leo Bliss	1	Nellie Bailey	1
Jack Cromo	1	Gerald	1
W. Stewart	1	Charlie Hardup	1
Ruby Aiston	1	Kitty Chic	1
Arthur Aiston	1	Zena Page	1
Billy Hoofum	1	Kathleen Tremayne	1
James Kiddie	1	May St. Pierre	1
Tom Kelso	1	Lena Arnold	1
E. Bernhardt	1	Aline Goldsmith	1
Harold Batt	1	Edie Graham	1
Mr. Skimps	1	Minnie Grey	1
Mr. Skopes	1	Eva Mountcastle	1
Ben De Freece	1	M. Maquade	1
Kitty Kildare	1	Nellie Bailey	1
Nellie Bailey	1	Marie Beresford	1

Collected by Fred Land, 16s.

Fred Land	1	Dick Cruikshanks	1
Mrs. Land	1	Carl Rosine	1
Charlie, Stage-Manager	1	H. Harwood	1
Harry Vardon	½	Grant and Grant	1
Dora Lyric	1	Counsel Louie	1
Yukio Tani	1	Mills, Oscar	1
Walter Bentley	1	Harry Dean	1
Wilfords	1	Effie Stuart	1

Collected by Tom Vine, £1 2s. 6d.

Tom Vine	2½	George Bernard	1
Sisters Grovini	2	Pichel Troupe	1
Jessie Harper	1½	Brothers Story	1
Fred Leighton	1	Famous Henderson	1
Arnold H. Colmer	1	Brothers Austin	1
Arthur Arscott	1	Lucy Coventry	1
George Arscott	1	F. R. Griffiths	½
George Neale	1	Joe Huda	½
H. F.	1	Mimic Maston	½
Carl Bernardo	1	Tony Raffis	½
Lee's Marionettes	1	J. C.	½

Collected by W. Kloof, Kloof and Field's *Aladdin* Co., £1 1s 6d.

Verona Quartette	2	W. Kloof, jun.	1
Bros. Shetland	1½	Harold Kloof, jun.	1
Harry Gold	1	Harry J. Nelson, Fleetwood	1
Bert Goldin	1	T. R. Bennett, Fleetwood	1
T. M. Lee Isor	1	T. P. Hornby, Fleetwood	1
Vulo	½	G. Taylor, Grimsby	½
Sisters Simmons	1	W. H. Botney, Grimsby	½
Fred Fields	1	Elephant (Potted Meat)	½
Florence Lewis	1	Dog (Karno)	½
Master Freddy Fields	1	May Florence	½
Allan Grey, Musical Director	1		
W. Kloof	1		
Cissie Ramsay	1		

Collected by Mr. T. S. Lonsdale, £1 13s.

W. Pratt	2	Sydney James	1
Velvero	1	R. Gilbert	1
T. S. Lonsdale	1	E. Pherson	1
Mr. Cragg	1	Andreassen Bros.	1
Mill May	1	Toch and Tard	1
Johnny Dwyer	1	Mike Cray	1
Frederic Culpitt	1	The Marconis	1
E. H. Williams	1	Clarions	1
F. Lauteron	1	E. Amoda	1
The Panamas	1	Ben Hur	1
Delornes	1	Carter Livesy	1
B. Stavordale	1	Lillian Rosebery	1
Jock Whiteford	1	Espinosa	1
G. Chamberlain	1	Amber Austa	1
Herbert Shelley	1	Will E. Haines	1
Frank Shelley	1	Robbie Roy	1

Collected by Dale and Vale, £1.

F. V. St. Clair	2½	Charlie Williams	1
De Biere	2½	Bert Williams	1
Lillian Victoria	2	Herbert Madden	1
Shoe Black Hero	1	Stylo	1
T. M. Paul	1	Laurie Stuart	1
Charles Lilburn	1	George and Lelia	1
Dick and Dorothy	1	Coro Corina	1
Kyoto	1	Dale and Vale	1

Collected by Carl and Carr, 11s.

Carl and Carr	2	A. Lotto	1
W. Brown	2	E. Lotto	1
Emily Custance	2	B. Roberts	1
E. Davey	1	V. Kingdon	1

Collected by Miss Nellie Christie, Argyle Theatre, Birkenhead, £1 3s.

Nellie Christie	5	George de Lara	1
B. N.	2	The Bassos	1
Ella Lane	1	Julian Ross	1
Eida Burman	1	Jack Charman	1
Herbert La Martine	1	S. de Groot	1
Sylvia du Barry	1	Maude Courteney	1
Eva Lumley	1	Mabel Bardine	1
Bertha Woolcote	1	Pattie Verner	1
May Fallowfield	1	Josie Mooney	1

Collected by Miss Sable Fern, £2 16s.

Malcolm Scott	10	Fred Wood	1
Sable Fern	5	George Peel	1
W. H. Galpin	2	Josh Dixon	1
J. E. Grist	2	Johnnie Whiteman	1
Frank Leo	1	Carrie Kenyon	1
Will Rags	1	Leah Ardell	1
W. Griffin	1	Dolly Moore	1
E. Dubois	1	Bee Cycles	1
Mrs. Dainton	1	Butcher	1
Marie Dainton	1	Hal Forde	1
The Allisons	1	Bill Manning	1
Geo. H. Brooks	1	Joe	1
Kenneth Macleod	1	Claire Romaine	1
A. Jennings	1	Ernest Rees	1
Belles in Orient	1	Will Poluski, jun.	1
Jock Whiteford	1	Edgar Romaine	1
Samuel Lloyd	1	Herbert Coltesmore	1
Alma Gray	1	Laurence Ratledge	1
George Kirby	1	J. McCabe	1
Neil Kenyon	1	H. J. Edwards	1
Will Lambert	1		

Collected by Albert and Edmunds, 18s.

Mr. E. Edmunds	5	Fred Barnard	1
Patrick Playfair	1	Harry Weston	1
Miss Bella	1	Miss Blanche Albert	1
Mrs. Albert	1	C. Maude	1
Miss Rose Hamilton	1	Winnie Edmund	1
Mr. K. Hamilton	1	James Dunlop	1
A. Martini	1	Mr. J. Albert	1

Collected by Sisters Chester, £1 7s.

Florrie Chester	1	H. Horner	1
Leslie Chester	1	Great Hughes	1
Mrs. Chester	1	Albert Phanto	1
Ethel Condor	1	James Osmond	1
Fred Regina	1	Charles Mildare	1
Cliff Ryland	1	J. Allison	1
F. Picitt	1	Tom E. Conover	1
J. Kellino	1	Lester Carey (Three Careys)	1
Albert Kellino	1	Lennie and Hast	1
Will Kellino	1	Butterflies	1
John Kellino	1	E. W. Manning	1
Stacey and Williams	1	Henry Hilton	1
Mendel	1	W. H. Wallis	1
W. Meyer Sarnthaler	1		

Collected by Miss Lillie Lassah, 10s.

Mr. W. Onda	1	E. Sharpe	1
Charles Constant	1	J. McCarthy	1
J. B. Howard	1	Nobbler	1
G. Lambert	1	Jerry	1
Fred Bowyer	1	Lillie Lassah	1

Collected by Mr. Geo. Rapley, £1 1s.

Sandy and Carl	2	Edwin Zarac	1
Nellie Moore	1	Fred Lloyd	1
Beatie Moore	1	Tom Shenton	1
Marion May	1	Syd Russell	1
Bertha St. Ruth	1	Chas. Denman	1
Cissie Conyers	1	Fred Bentley	1
The Sydney Girls	1	W. Parker	1
F. J. Little	1	Geo. Rapley	1
Chas. Zarac	1	Mrs. Geo. Rapley	1
Ernest Zarac	1	Baby Rapley	1

Collected by Alley and Hart, 6s.

Harry Allan	1	Llewelyns	1
Rose Hart	1	Grosvenors	1
Olga Romanow	1	Robertys	1

Collected by Newham and Latimer, 11s.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Medhurst	2	J. A. Thomson	1
George Newham	1	Pulo	1
Fred Latimer	1	Fred Boulton	1
Prof. T. Howard	1	Mlle. Bartenelli	1
Lillian Howard	1	Albert Victor	1

Collected by Tom Hearn, Esq., £2 17s.

Geo. Robey	20	Arthur Reece	1
Tom Hearn	13	T. A. Shale	1
Millie Lindon	5	A. Haytor	1
Valli Valli	3	Edward Lewis	1
Nat Clifford	2	James Smith	1
M. W. King	1	J. H. Whittaker	1
L. Collingwood	1	Walter Stanley	1
George Formby	1	Helina Cecile	1
Carlton	1	Griff	1
Frank Haytor	1		

Collected by Jen Latona, 10s. 6d.

Frank and Jen Latona	5	Chas. Robinson	1
Jas. Holden	2½	Hardeen	1
		Marie Kendall	1

Collected by Mrs. Johnny Holland, 35s.

Johnny Holland	5	Miss Ruby Aiston	1
Mrs. J. Holland	1	Mr. Postlethwaite	1
Miss Janett Reynolds	1	Lois Du Cane	1
Miss Cissie Coman	1	Ethel Netherton	1
Miss Marion Scott	1	Maisano	1
Mr. Abe Smith	1	Ida Kathrena	1
Edwards and Dacre	1	George Formby	1
Hal Verdo	1	Chee You Say	1
Anonymous	1	E. W. Edmonds	1
F. Hurst	1	C. Schuberth	1
J. A. Thompson	1	Bert Brantford	1
Mr. Boulter	1	Lillie Soutter	1
W. W.	1	Winnie Derson	1
Mrs. Jones	1	Mona McDonald	1
Mr. Lapworth	1	Madge Daly	1
George Hall	1		

Collected by Terry and Bentley, 11s.

Marie Terry	1	Percy Wood	1
J. S. Bentley	1	Lily Tabrar	1
Tom Stuart	1	Royston Keith	1
Bohemian	1	Talwing	1
E. J. Wilkins	1	Three Bros. Huxter	1
Will C. Jones	1		

Collected by Mr. Harry Taft, 5s.

Meier and Mora	1	Harry Taft	1
Allan and Hart	1	Bert Barnard	1
Doody and Wright	1		

Collected by Miss Minnie Mace, 20s.

F. Warburton	1	Allen, H.	1
G. W. Taylor	1	Copper Coin Penny	1
Harry T. Freeman	1	Berty	1
Harry T. Freeman	1	Paint and Dimples	1
B. G. Thompson	1	Frank Ford	1
C. M'Fee	1	Tharp	1
J. Boulting	1	Likeum	1
C. Tharp	1	Lord Push	1
Morley	1	George Camp	1
F. Prince	1	Minnie Mace	1

Collected by Sterling and Love, 25s.

Sterling and Love	2	Clifford Morgan	1
Carney and Armstrong	2	Janet H. Reynolds	1
Happy Attwood	1	May Marton	1
J. Le Hay	1	Ethel Wilson	1
Tom Owen	1	Royal Welsh Singers	1
Wm. Stephens	1	Frank Parr	1
Silbon	1	E. R. Beaumont	1
T. Diacoff	1	Sisters Lytton	1
D. W. Watson	1	Phil Luck	1
Walter Cranch	1	Johnny Danvers	1
Tommy Nelldon	1	Carson Hicks	1
		Tom Lloyd	1

Collected by My Fancy, 50s.

My Fancy	20	W. C. Jeapes	1
H. Bawn	3½	Percy Ford	1
A. Macey	2½	H. Jeapes	1
Edward Bawn	2	W. R. Pillanders	1
J. Sparrow	1	E. Bridgen	1
G. P. R. Burgess	1	W. R. M. Neill	1
E. C. Webb	1	W. E. Stephenson	1
Fred Leslie	1	F. Neiman	1
H. Balding	1	W. Johnson	1
Mrs. H. Balding	1	W Gassert	1
C. J. Doughty	1	W. Hollis	1
Dot Kemp	1	Will Oliver	1
Geo. H. Dyball	1	W. E. Samuels	1

Collected by Baker and Balfe, 16s.

Baker and Balfe	2	H. Elton	1
Harry Leybourne	2	Horace Jones	1
C. Wynn	2	Leo Derenda	1
Freeman and Tudor	2	George Green	1
Bros. Hayes	1	M. H. D.	1
A. C.	1	John Paxton	1

Collected by Mr. Pat Carey, 14s.

Mrs. Pat Carey	2	G. Gilbey	1
Sam Elton	1	Hans Mensel and others	1
Boyd and Gilfain	1	Alice Maydue	1
H. A. Meymott	1	Mrs. H. A. Meymott	1
Cambrian Trio	1	J. C. Brindley	1
Mr. Pat Carey	1	M. S. Richards	1

Collected by Mr. Geo. Antill, 11s.

Geo. Antill	1	C. E. Stelling and Dog	1
A. Monte Myro	1	Nobbler	1
A. Holland	1	Jerry	1
H. S.	1	Dave Poole's Figure	1
Ted Thomas	1	Dan Crawley	1
Geo. Newburn	1		

Collected by Rappo and Ella, 13s.

Rappo and Ella	2½	The Vyponds	1
C. Curlette	2½	The Lashmars

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

Norton Heath Fair.

We are very much afraid that this fair will have to go. There seems to be a lamentable want of energy or interest on the part of the local showmen, for although we have reason to believe that the roundabout proprietor who provides the principal attractions is well aware of the proposal of the local authorities to abolish the fair, he is taking no action to preserve his business interests. Acting for the Showmen's Guild, Mr. Horne has visited Norton Heath and interviewed the authorities at Ongar.

Stafford.

The Eastertide amusements at this town were provided by the local caterer, Mr. Davies, who provided galloping horses, park swings, and other machine novelties, and with him was associated Mr. Connor, with throwing games and fair-ground novelties.

Richmond Park.

The show-ground in the Old Deer Park at Richmond was, as usual, well supplied by Matthews, of Farnborough. The principal attractions were roundabouts, shooters, and throwing games.

On the Sands at Crook.

According to our Durham correspondent the showmen have had a good time on the sands this Eastertide. The Warden and Freemen of Durham have always encouraged the best class of showmen to exhibit their concerns on the sands. One of the principal novelties this year was the Japanese airship provided by Mr. J. Wingate, of Skegness. On the upper deck of this machine novelty there is a large platform, capable of holding one hundred patrons; when the roundabout is in full swing the sensation experienced by the trippers is most realistic. The deck oscillates from side to side, first up and then down, giving all the experience of a short voyage on a squally sea. Mr. Wingate announces that he intends to patent an airship and to bring it out as a novelty on his next tour. In addition to this amusement there were motor-car roundabouts, a cinematograph theatre, various side-shows, and throwing games.

Guild Meetings at Wrexham.

Continuing his itinerary of British fairs, the Guild Captain hopes to be at Wrexham for next Sunday, when he intends to hold meeting of the Guild and a service on the fair-ground.

Guild Subscriptions, 1907.

Per W. Shuttleworth—A. Hutchinson, 5s.; W. Shuttleworth, 5s.; J. W. Robinson, 5s.; Wm. Bradbury, 5s. Per Rev. T. Horne—J. Wingate, 10s.

A Colonial Premier and Party at the Fair.

Amongst our distinguished guests now in the old country for the purpose of attending the Colonial Conference is Sir Joseph Ward, the Premier of New Zealand. Accompanied by Lady Ward and the rest of his party, the distinguished statesman spent a glorious afternoon on Hampstead Heath at the time of the Easter Fair. To the ordinary Britisher it is difficult to realise how our cousins overseas enjoy when they come to the Mother Land the glorious attractions of the fair. In recording his impressions, he says:—"I would not have missed it for anything. To feel myself at one with the merry-makers, to take part in the joyous din of chatter and song, and to be carried away with the hurly-burly of the roundabouts, and to be drawn a willing patron into the numerous shows, was, to me, one of the most delightful experiences of my home visit." The showmen were justly proud of the distinguished visitors in their midst, and there is no doubt that our guests from New Zealand entered fully into the spirit of the fair.

Gorton Spring Wakes.

Under Mr. John Collins' management, the principal concerns from Queen's-road Fair opened at Gorton, a great industrial suburb of Manchester. The shows included Colonel Clarke's coliseum of varieties. A contingent of side-shows and the machines and throwing games were those already described at the Easter Fair.

Eccles Spring Fair.

Under Mr. John Whiting's banner, the shows at Eccles included Norman's cinematograph theatre and Gibson's temple of occult magic. The lessee exhibited his celebrated Japanese cars and other attractions. The side-shows and throwing games were provided by the caterers from Ordsall-lane Fair and a contingent from Queen's-road.

Abertillery, Wales.

Bostock and Wombwell's fine menagerie were here Tuesday for the day. Crowds were highly delighted with the animals' performances and music of the excellent band. They also visit this week Risca, Abercarn, Treharris, and Maesycwmmer.

Astwood Bank.

Holloway's New Empire Theatre has just concluded a very successful three months' visit to Astwood Bank. Some first-class plays have been performed—*The Fighting Parson, East Lynne, Driven from Home, My Sweetheart,* and many others.

Mr. H. Ayres is now paying a visit with his steam galloping horses and cockerels, park swings, shooting saloons, bottle battery, cokernut gardens, and other numerous attractions.

Evesham.

At Evesham Easter Fair were Mr. H. Ayer's steam roundabouts, horses and cockerels, swing boats, bottle shooter, Mollies, cokernut sheets, &c.

Pershore.

At Pershore we have had Mr. A. Scarrott's new pony roundabouts, aerial swings, pipe smasher, cokernut sheets, and other numerous amusements.

Circus Horses Run Away.

An exciting scene was witnessed in the streets of Kettering on Thursday. Shortly after two o'clock the mid-day procession in connection with Lord John Sanger's circus was returning to the show-ground when two horses attached to one of the vans took fright and bolted, occasioning much alarm among the thousands of people in the streets. Their mad career came to a sudden stop through one of the horses falling.

A Fair Saved.

Our readers will remember the agitation at Writtle, near Chelmsford, to abolish the annual pleasure fair at Whitsuntide. Fortunately the local showmen have a great friend and champion of the fair at Writtle—Mr. Castledine, veterinary surgeon. The Showmen's Guild executive satisfied itself that the fair was one to be defended, and co-operated with Mr. Castledine in petitioning the Home Office against abolition.

A Friend in Need.

Mr. Castledine took a great amount of trouble, and enlisted a good deal of public sympathy for the showmen, whose business interests were threatened. He also made a strong point of the people's side of the question. We are glad to be able to announce that the Home Secretary, after taking the whole of the circumstances into consideration, has written to the local authorities and the various petitioners to say that he does not feel justified in abolishing Writtle Fair.

Mr. Castledine has forwarded the following letter for publication in our columns. It is addressed to the Hon. Chaplain of the Showmen's Guild:—

My Dear Sir,—As I suppose you already understand, we have been informed that the Home Secretary does not feel justified in making an order for the abolition of our Whitsuntide fair. We have fought hard in Writtle for the benefit of the inhabitants, and I feel sure you have worked hard for the welfare of the showmen, for which I thank you very much. As we are now only six weeks to Whitsun, I hope you will make it well known with the show people, so we are sure of having a good fair, which I should like to see much larger than in previous years. As the show people are on the green on Whit Sunday I should very much like to see you come down among the people on that day, or if that should not be convenient, perhaps you could come on the Monday, so as to open the fair. Trusting this will meet your favour,—Yours faithfully, W. Castledine.

Writtle, Chelmsford, April 11, 1907.

Wrexham Fair.

Amongst the many excellent shows and machine novelties at this pleasure fair are P. Collins' coliseum of living pictures and empire varieties; Relph and Pedley's electrograph and variety theatre; C. Farrell's animated pictures; Wortley's two ground booths—the colliery model and the fine art gallery; C. Relph's willow pattern plate novelty show; and Tiny Tot, the midget pony. The machines are P. Collins' quartette—the yachts, the motors, the wheeley-whirley, and helter-skelter; C. Farrell's racing cockerels and jumping horses; J. Collins' Japanese airship; and Relph and Pedley's motor-cars. The shooting concerns are provided by C. Farrell, J. Fossett, Turner and Wright; throwing games, stalls, and varieties by Messrs. Hall, Turner, Farrell, Greatorex, Wright, Ball, Curry, Cordwell, and others; photo. saloons and vans by Messrs. Caddick and Fossett.

Our Blackburn correspondent omitted to mention that Captain Tom, with his bioscope, was on his usual ground at the fair. He will be at Darwen next week.

Royal Recognition.

The Chronophone, which is a combination of the principles of the cinematograph and the graphophone, was introduced on the 14th inst. to Royalty at Buckingham Palace, London, by special command.

Realistic and convincing-looking artists were made to act and sing in a most perfect and natural manner, the pictures being thrown on the screen over a bank of palms.

The Queen, the Empress Marie of Russia, and the Prince and Princess of Wales and children were present, and evinced the greatest delight at the entertainment afforded. Her Majesty showed her pleasure by commanding the production of extra pictures. The entertainment lasted about an hour.

It is interesting to note that Mr. Pickard, of the Britannia, Glasgow, was the first in the United Kingdom to bring the Chronophone before the public, and at his establishment it still forms one of the leading items of his entertainment.

Old Spilling's Fair is located this week on the Denes, at Lowestoft, and presents all the attractions recently on view at Norwich and Yarmouth. The fair, which is attracting thousands of sightseers from the surrounding neighbourhood, includes Messrs. Barker and Thurston's motor-cars, bioscope shows, slipping-the-slip, shooting galleries, boxing booths, &c.

The Charles Urban Trading Co. has long been noted for the cleverness of its magic and mystery cinematograph films, but its latest production is far ahead of previous publications. "Comedy Cartoons, by the Hand of the Artist" is a marvellous combination of expert—almost uncanny—photography and magic. The hand of the artist outlines chalk heads on a blackboard, and these gradually become animated. The head of a female appears and casts comical eyes of longing in the direction of an outlined tea-pot, which materialises into the real thing. The spout of the tea-pot is inserted into the mouth of the living image, and her expressions of content are extremely quaint. Most wonderful of all, however, is the drawing of a masculine head, which also assumes life and gesticulates in a remarkable manner. Suddenly the animated head is seen to split from crown to chin, and the halves fall apart as if hinged. From the eyes of the image are then drawn numberless yards of fine tape, and from the interior of the bisected head are produced wines, liqueurs, cigars, and cigarettes. The halves then reunite and resume the facial contortions, which continue as an ordinary duster removes feature by feature from the blackboard until only one eye is left, which winks impudently at the audience. Many other illusions are produced in this notable subject, which is certain to achieve a wide popularity.

On Thursday of this week (11th inst.) Lord John Sanger and Sons' Circus and Hippodrome paid a visit to Mansfield, and was largely patronised.

THEATRICAL PATENTS.

These particulars have been supplied us by Messrs. Hughes and Young, of 55-56, Chancery-lane, London, W.C., who will give advice and assistance free to our readers on all matters relating to the protection of patents, designs, and trade marks.

Mr. G. F. Rayner, 37, Chancery-lane, London. Improvements relating to kinematographs. The intermittently rotating disc which carries the film, and the continuously rotating driving-disc, which is provided with slots, each of which, in passing the lens, acts as a focal-plane shutter, and exposes a portion of the film. A stop device is provided for stopping the disc at the end of one revolution. The stop, fixed on the disc, comes in contact with a projection on a slide and forces out the slide so that the projection comes into the path of the pin and stops the disc when the pin and projection contact. When uninterrupted rotation is required the slide is pulled out so that the pin passes between the projections.

Complete Specifications.

25,737. Panoramas, exhibitions, scenic Thorp, J. B., 98, Gray's Inn-road, London, W.C. A circular platform, carrying a model of a city, scenery, &c., is rotated on circular rails by a motor and worm-gearing, and spectators view the whole scene from a gallery, or get a closer view of parts from a corridor through apertures. The platform is surrounded by horizon and sky scenery and a semi-transparent awning diffuses the light from lamps. Electric lights for imitating sunlight, moonlight, and other effects are switched on and off by commutating-rings on the platform. An awning is provided over the gallery. Moving parts of the model, such as boats sailing on a river, may be operated by electricity.

26,307. Stage illusions. Goldin, H., 17, Torrington-square, London, W.C. In order to produce an illusion of firing a lady from a cannon into a series of boxes or trunks locked and bound one within another, the cannon is provided with a visible inlet door and a concealed outlet through which the lady descends through a trap-door in the stage, or a large cannon-wheel may be provided with sliding quadrants which move one behind another to enable the lady to pass through the wheel and behind scenery at the back. The trunks are fitted with flap or sliding doors to allow the lady to enter through a trap-door in the stage, or a double may be dressed to resemble the lady, who enters the cannon and remains in it after the firing, which is simulated by a pistol at the muzzle of the cannon. The trunks are arranged in the roof or other part of the building in view of the audience, and may be run down to the stage on a stretched wire or rope.

BIO OPERATORS' ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of operators resident in London was held on Friday, April 5, at 29, Wellington-street, Strand, London, the office of the National Alliance and of the National Association of Theatrical Employees. In addition to a number of operators there were present Mr. William Johnson, general secretary of the National Association of Theatrical Employees; Mr. Frank Gerald, secretary to the Variety Artists' Federation; Mr. C. C. Bartram, and other representatives of these organisations.

A general discussion took place, and a number of letters were read that had been sent relating to the reports which appeared in *The Era* and the *Performer* on the subject of a union for bioscope operators.

The meeting was unanimous that an organisation should be formed, and it was decided to issue further invitations to discuss the proposal at a meeting on Wednesday, April 10.

The adjourned meeting was held on Wednesday at the same place. Mr. Catling, of the Surrey Theatre, was elected to the chair, and among those present were Mr. Merrett, Hale's Tours; Mr. Field, Bow Palace; Mr. Neal, Foresters'; Mr. Mayo, the Star, Bermondsey; Mr. J. Wood, Assembly Rooms, Canning Town; Mr. Brown, Mr. Brill, Britannia Theatre; and others connected with the N.A.T.E.

The following resolution was carried unanimously:—

"That, in view of the fact that a branch of the National Association of Theatrical Employees has control of its trade interests and its funds, and practically all the advantages of an independent society, this meeting recommends that a Bioscope Operators' Association be formed to be a branch of the N.A.T.E."

It was suggested that the entrance fee be 2s. 6d., and that those applying to join send an application fee of 1s,

A list of provisional objects was drafted, and it was decided to circularise all operators before coming to any decision with respect to objects, contributions, and benefits.

The following donations were received, and they will be regarded as part payment of entrance fees:—C. E. Mack, 2s. 6d.; L. Wood, 2s.; H. Catlin, 1s.; J. Love, 1s; J. M Robinson, 1s.; J. Hutchins, 1s.; Merrett, 1s.; Sagett, 1s.; Mayo, 1s.; J. Wood, 2s.; Neal, 1s.; Brown, 1s.; Field, 1s.; Catling, 1s.; Cullen, 1s.; F. Gerald, 2s. 6d.; C. C. Bartram, 1s. Total, £1 2s.

Mr. Merrett was appointed to act with W. Johnson in issuing the necessary circulars.

It was decided to hold the next meeting on Wednesday, April 24, at 2 o'clock.

All those interested in the matter are urged to communicate their views, and to secure the support of those operators whom they meet, or with whom they are acquainted.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP.

I, the undersigned, hereby apply to be elected a member of this Association, and hereby pledge myself to abide by the rules and decisions of the Association, and to do my utmost to promote its welfare. If at any time it be proved that I have made untrue statements to obtain admission, or have violated any rule or refused compliance to any decision of the Association, I agree to be fined, expelled, or suspended, as the governing body may decide.

Name (in full) .....
Address (in full) .....
I have been an operator for ..... year (or months). Cross out the work year or month as the case may be.
Where now employed .....
Full Address .....
Name of firm with whom employed .....
Address of firm .....
Date of application ....., 1907
Amount paid, £ s. d. Received by .....
Elected ....., 1907. Registered No.....

It would facilitate matters if applicant would mention names of well-known operators to whom applicant is known, and who can vouch for his eligibility for membership.

This application, with a fee of 1s., should be sent to Mr. William Johnson, 29, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

TO THE BIOSCOPE OPERATORS, ETC., OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

It has been decided to form a Bioscope Operators' Association, and it is desired to elicit the opinions of all operators as to the objects the Association should aim at. The following list is submitted, and those interested are asked to say whether they favour the adoption of all or any of these objects.

Write in "Yes" or "No" in the column of the right-hand side, and return the form to William Johnson, 29, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

1. To establish a minimum salary.
2. To establish an employment agency
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6.
7.

Add any further object which you think should be included.

What should be the qualification for admission to the Association?

Would you favour an examination and the provision of a certificate of competency?

What amount as entrance fee would you suggest .....?

What amount as a weekly contribution....?

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR

Your book will, I am sure, be a valuable aid to all managers and actors.—Sir Henry Irving.

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The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—*Star.*

Mr. A. A. Strong has compiled an exceedingly useful volume dealing carefully, intelligently, and fully with the law bearing upon things theatrical. As a book of reference this excellent digest will be found invaluable.—*The Era.*

Gaumont's Chronophone celebrated its 200th consecutive performance at the London Hippodrome on Saturday evening last. The attractive powers of the wonderful instrument are as potent as ever, the new singing pictures being a source of wonder and delight with Hippodrome audiences.

Miss Florrie Bray, who is appearing this week at the Palace, Halifax, had rather an amusing incident occur during her song. She expected the audience to take up the lines "At Blackpool," which they did with gusto; but at the end of one of the verses a small voice from the gallery shouted "At Bunce's" (a local place) instead of "Blackpool," and evoked a peal of laughter in which the singer was compelled to join.

"The Era" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE METROPOLITAN.

Mr. Jack Edgar's holiday bill was robbed of one of its chief attractions during the Easter carnival by the indisposition of Mr. George Robey, who is now happily himself again, and quite able to realise his large responsibilities as the "prime minister of mirth" at the fine Edgware-road house. He has come back with the pantomime honours gained in Birmingham thick upon him. Quite in the Robeyan vein is "Now Laugh!"—a story in verse of "turning the tables" upon those who are too previous in their joy at the discomfiture of others. Mr. Robey, who has given us a sketch of our prehistoric ancestors on the variety stage, is again adding to his comical historical gallery of portraits by a burlesque skit of Elizabeth—good Queen Bess. "She" gives her own version of the story of Sir Walter Raleigh and the cloak, and has something amusing to say about Bluff King Hal, her father. Mr. Tom Woottwell, another prominent favourite at the Metropolitan, has given his admirers many a droll quarter of an hour, and he is again fortunate in the selection of his numbers. In his first he sings of "a little shirt." In his second item Mr. Woottwell, dressed as a navvy, seated on a barrow, indulges in philosophical dissertations concerning many blessings beyond the reach of his class. The possession of them is based on the fabric of a dream, and "Blowed if I didn't wake up" is the phrase that supplies a droll text.

Cinquevalli, the juggler of two centuries, holds the senses captive by his wonderful skill with billiard cues and billiard balls, and his tricks as a human billiard table in pocketing a ball that rolls from his forehead to his hips are far prettier to watch than the anchor cannon. If we do not indulge in superlatives concerning an exhibition of the art of poise and balance that has become world-famous it is because nothing that can be written can convey any real idea of the scope of Cinquevalli's genius. He has many imitators, but he is his only parallel. A word of praise should be given to his smart assistant, who most unmistakably possesses the gift of comic expression.

Early in the evening Miss Jessie Preston, who hails from the land of loch and brae, submits a whimsical character-sketch of the heroine of Mr. Harry Lauder's song "Ma Scotch Bluebell." A comical figure indeed, with an eccentric dance that sends the house into fits of laughter. Miss Marguerite Broadfoote, in her chief number, satirises the ditty that praises the maidens of unknown regions. There may be poetry in singing about the lily of Lugano, the pet of Pekin, the belle of Borneo, or the maid of Mexico; but Pimlico is more prosaic and practical, and the little girl whose adventures are so cleverly and archly described by pretty Miss Broadfoote "gets there just the same." Miss Godwynne Earle is well suited with "A picture no artist can paint"; and Miss Lilian Elfreda mimics a number of variety stars with considerable cleverness. Mr. G. H. Elliott, with charm of voice and earnestness of style, takes his audience captive when he warbles "Baby Loo." So wholesome a song and so sweet a singer are a rare combination. Mr. G. W. Hunter is at his very best in "The Freedom of the Press," a clever satirical song; Mr. Wilson Hallett is an exceedingly clever mimic of children; Mr. Andie Caine is very smart in his essays in musical comedy; Mr. Arthur Gilbert opens the bill with humour; and that favourite sketch, *Love Germs*, which is a screamer from first to last, is smartly presented by the Smythsons. Mr. Brien McCullough, who is not only an excellent comedian but a prolific author, is responsible for a farcical absurdity entitled *The Wrong Letter*, in which he plays with considerable unction the part of Lieutenant Nelson Beresford Togo Greene. Miss Nellie Nelson is a capital Mrs. Nelson Greene; and Mr. Horace Hunter is alert and smart as Captain Sidney Cawthorne, military officer. There should be plenty of bookings for such an amusing bit of nonsense as *The Wrong Letter*. A very fine film of the Grand National is presented among Jeapes' animated pictures, by permission of the Palace Theatre Company. The programme is wound up by the Great Northern Troupe, admirable dancers. On the night of our visit the place of Kelly and Gillette was successfully filled by Mr. Martin Conway.

THE PARAGON.

The Paragon programme is made up of a number of variety items, each one of which can be said to possess some special interest of its own, the whole forming an exceedingly attractive entertainment. An important engagement is that of Mr. George Robey, who is as heartily welcomed in the East End of the town as he is in the West. Genuine humour has its admirers everywhere, and Mr. Robey has gained his present position by the display of those uncommon qualities which belong only to the true comedian. The song "Now, laugh" is one of the happiest of the more recent additions to his répertoire, and the audience literally obey the invitation, as successive peals of merry laughter sufficiently prove. Even more conducive to uncontrollable merriment is the appearance of Mr. Robey as Queen Elizabeth, wearing a flamboyant wig and a huge lace collar of the true Elizabethan type. Queen Bess discourses on various matters, is anything but respectful to the memory of her father, bluff King Hal, and gives an entirely new version of the famous cloak episode in which Sir Walter Raleigh played a leading part. The frequent introduction of obsolete words of exclamation adds greatly to the fun, and Queen Bess has quickly become a popular personage at the Mile End place of amusement. Another comedian whose quaint style and funny patter meet with ready acceptance at the hands of patrons of the Paragon is Mr. Mark Sheridan, who has some amusing references to the alleged enormous salaries offered to English variety stars by American vaudeville managers. He also gives a taste of his quality as a dancer, and scores with a funny imitation of a young man going through a set of quadrilles for the first time.

Mr. Harry Tate and company in a revised version of *Motoring*, are responsible for some of the heartiest laughter heard during the evening. The boastful motorist, as of yore, comes to grief at the very beginning of his proposed trip, and the real humour of the situation appeals to everybody. In addition to a chauffeur who will persist in saying "I don't think," at the conclusion of almost every sentence, and the curious boy who is always getting in the way, the motorist has now an additional aggravation in the form of an impertinent individual who contemptuously strikes a match on the broken-down vehicle to light his cigarette. The sketch goes as merrily as ever it did.

Mr. and Mrs. Royston-Dene are appearing in the powerful dramatic episode, *At the Stroke of Twelve*, the most notable feature of which is the sleep-walking scene, played with thrilling effect by the lady. An innocent man is in prison on a charge of committing murder, though the actual criminal is no other than Isabel Trevellyn, the wife of a solicitor. She walks in her sleep, and in the presence of her horrified husband and a detective, she repeats all the details of the tragedy. On being awakened and learning what she had done she fatally stabs herself. Mrs. Royston-Dene gives a very forcible and telling rendering of this scene, and her admirable performance is greeted by loud applause. She is ably supported by Mr. Royston-Dene as the husband, Miss Sheelah Desmond as the daughter, and Mr. A. Field-Fisher as the detective.

The great Northern Troupe of International Dancers are always an attractive turn; and Miss Wynnie Darrell, comedienne gives a charming rendering of "My bungalow in Borneo." De Lilo and Metz meet with a flattering reception, the gentleman doing well as a comedy juggler, while the young lady scores as a contortionist who achieves some remarkable feats. Miss Ella Retford is quite successful with a song in the rendering of which she appears in the character of a lady who is looking for a German band and a member thereof named "Fritz." The Sisters Wingrove, duettists and dancers, and the Lancashire Lads, in song and dance, are cordially greeted; and so, too, are Miss Madoline Rees, comedienne, and Mr. G. H. Elliott, the chocolate-coloured coon. The Bensons continue to shine as speciality artists; Howard and St. Clair appear in a comedy sketch; and Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope presents the latest pictures. During the interval a selection of the most popular songs of the day, arranged for the orchestra by Mr. Arthur Grimmett, its conductor, is given. Mr. Charles Beecham, the manager, is naturally desirous that it should be widely known that on the 18th inst. a special grand matinée will be given here by Mr. H. H. Wells in aid of the Lord Mayor's Cripple Children's Fund. Sir W. Treloar and the Sheriffs have promised to attend in State.

HAMMERSMITH PALACE.

The bill presented here this week is topped by Mr. Frederick Maxwell and company in the episode entitled *Dick Dare, M.P.* Mr. Maxwell plays the title-rôle admirably. The part is a well-written one, and he makes the most of it. Miss Louise Biddulph sustains the dual parts of Lucy and Alice Vernon, twin daughters of Sir Edward Vernon, very prettily and cleverly. Mr. Charles Levey as Raffael Villois, alias Jules Varlerie, the bullying spy, gives an effective performance; and Mr. Gerald Blake quite looks an Italian organ-grinder, and is accompanied by a clever little monkey. Mr. W. Beatty as the father of Lucy and Alice, Sir Edward Vernon, makes the most of his opportunities; and Mr. Sam Harcourt as the gouty member of the "Upper House," Lord Savage, is good.

Miss Carlotta Levey, a great pantomime favourite in Hammersmith, is very popular in her two songs, "Man and wife should always pull together" and "All I got is sympathy." Mr. Dan Crawley also gives two songs, "I finish them off a treat" and "Mother-in-law," the last-named causing roars of laughter. The Deer Family present the sensational act in two scenes, entitled *The Indians of the Past*. In the first scene we see a small Indian encampment with three Indians and one Indian maid resting after their day's travels. The maid sings a very pretty song, after which they decide to once more continue their travels. The next scene is a log-cabin in a wood, where an American is living with his wife and child. After instructing his wife to keep the cabin door locked for fear of Indians, he departs on a hunting excursion. Mother and child retire to the cabin and bolt the door; then the Indians arrive and set fire to the habitation. The inmates run out and are caught and bound to a post. The father returns, and with his gun makes short work of the Indians. The sketch is very cleverly played. Two of the performers, James and John Deer, acted as scouts for Lord Wolseley in the march to Khartoum.

Mr. John Coyle gives "Don't you think he ought to see a doctor?" and "Bathing in the sea." His facial expression is very comic. Mr. William Gourlay presents an exceedingly funny skit on the modern melodrama, in which he plays all the parts. Miss Carrie Laurie and her juveniles give their popular entertainment. The children sing several good choruses, and one tiny mite of a girl dances cleverly. Amongst the juveniles there is also a clever boy comedian. Miss Belle Braham sings two songs descriptive of the pictures shown on a screen. In the first, "Songs, songs, popular songs," the verses are composed of extracts from various well-known music hall ditties, and the various singers of them are shown on the screen. The second song is "I'm longing for my old Kentucky home." Both are well received, the audience singing the choruses with much gusto. Miss Madeline Rossiter sings "Alice, where are you going?" and gives a clever dance.

The Musical Schaffers are one of the most novel musical turns on the halls. They consist of a lady and a gentleman, and first give a clever performance by three or four instruments which are shaped like funnels. "Flight of Ages" is played on "a piece of wood with two holes in it" by the male member particularly well, and their show concludes with "The Lost Chord," played by them on aluminium tubes. Mention must also be made of their revolving sunflowers, on which another duet is played. Mr. Ted Saunders cleverly imitates Harry Lauder, George Lashwood, and others, and the Three Delaries give a good trapeze performance. Miss Ivy Aberdare sings a coon song and does a smart sand-dance. Allsopp and Beckwith are excellent in "Coming Upstairs." During the interval the selection, "The Lady Dandies," is well played by the orchestra, and the Edisonograph completes an attractive show.

BOW PALACE.

The principal attraction here this week, in a programme of all-round excellence, is the sketch *Paul Kanvar*, a popular dramatised episode of the French Revolution, performed by Mr. Arnold Bell's company. The story, which is on the lines of Dickens's "Tale of Two Cities," holds the rapt interest of the audience throughout, and is enthusiastically applauded. Mr. Arnold Bell as Paul Kanvar acts with thorough conviction; and Mr. Cuthbert Imrie gives a most incisive portraiture of the crafty Marquis de Vaux. Mr. J. W. Henson is a dignified and earnest Duke de Beaumont; Mr. Arthur T Lennard does well as General de la Roche; and Mr. Frank C. Robson renders able support as Potin. Miss Frances Campbell plays with much feeling and power as Diane.

Little Zola is a prime favourite with his eccentric actions. "Four foot two and a bit" is a most appropriate number for him, and his other item, "Who'd ha' thought it?" goes wonderfully well. Jack Martin touches a popular chord when he sings in rousing style of a private soldier who "only did what a man would do in taking his own wife's part," and he is also highly successful with "The beautiful idol called gold." Daisy Martell creates a most favourable impression when she appears and sings of "Mabel May," as an encore to which she gives a dexterous step-dance. Fred Land has a quaint style, and his "nursery rhymes" songs, containing some very pointed verses, are keenly relished. The high-class vocalism of Fatmah Diard receives vociferous applause, her rendering of "Scenes that are brightest" and "Home, Sweet Home," showing the possession of a voice of much sweetness and compass.

The Mayvilles, in a lilliputian act, receive some of the heartiest applause heard during the evening, the duo showing much versatility and cleverness, and being always amusing. The Sisters Florence are a prepossessing pair, who make a favourable impression with their singing, and afterwards are seen to great advantage in a neatly-executed dance. Will Johnson causes much laughter with "You'll have to get out of that," and afterwards has the audience on the best of terms when he appears as a female of uncertain age, who regretfully recalls the days when she was young. Billy French wins favour with his smart appearance, and quickly shows himself to be a skilful buck dancer. Raymond's Bio-Tableaux are presenting a new series of pictures, entitled "The Haunted Hotel," which are proving one of the most attractive items on the programme.

Mr. Charles Harvey is deservedly popular in his managerial capacity, and nothing but praise can be bestowed on the Bow Palace orchestra, under the able bâton of Mr. Vincent Exley.

Mr. Editor.—Sir,—Speaking of my new production, *The Chelsea Pensioner*, at the South London, in last Saturday's issue you mention most highly the work and singing as done by J. H. Romer. It should have been, yours faithfully, T. W. Rowse.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SYDNEY, March 5.—Miss Tittell Brune gave a farewell performance on the 1st inst. at Her Majesty's Theatre, which was packed. An act each was performed of *L'Aiglon*, *Sunday*, and *Leah Kleschna*, and also the balcony scene from *Romeo and Juliet*; and in all these Miss Brune played her old popular rôles, Mr. Gaston Mervale and Mr. Thomas Kingston helping in their own masterly style. A speech from the bénéficiaire followed repeated curtain calls. To Mr. J. C. Williamson's enterprise and encouragement Miss Brune's great success is chiefly due; he even set apart her last night as a benefit, a rare act of generosity. On the next night Mr. Julius Knight and the artists selected by him in England for Mr. J. C. Williamson, appeared in *Robin Hood*. The scenery, notably Sherwood Forest, was much appreciated, and Mr. W. R. Coleman deserved the praise and plaudits bestowed. Mr. Julius Knight had a hearty reception on his return, and Mr. Harry Plimmer came next in the popular welcome. Miss Katherine Elbert Orton was a charming Maid Marian; Miss Dorothy Sydney was a piquant resourceful Adela; Miss Mary Godfrey was a dignified and attractive Eleanor of Aquitaine; Miss Elsie Wilson did well as Alison. Mr. Harry Plimmer as King Richard was a truly royal personage; Mr. Rupert Julian was good as Hugo de Longespee; and Mr. Herbert J. Bentley depicted a scowling Prince John. The tenor music allotted to Allan and Dale gave Mr. Walker Whyte a fine opportunity, of which he fully availed himself; Friar Tuck had a humorous exponent in Mr. Hubert Willis; and an old favourite, Mr. Leslie Victor made the most of the steward De Tracy. The play was most enthusiastically received.

Mr. Bland Holt is closing his season very soon, and *The Breaking of the Drought* is to be replaced on the 9th by a revival of *The White Heather*, in which Mrs. Bland Holt will make her last appearance prior to her departure for England and rest.

The Sydney Howard dramatic company, under Mr. Harry Rickards' engagement, finished at the Criterion on the 2nd, and took its departure for Adelaide.

The Tivoli welcomed Miss Annie Lauri on the 2nd with great cordiality, and King and Benson continue to charm with their *Just for Fun*; Fred Russell, Will Lochrane, Fred Bluett, Cassie Walmer, Fanny Powers, and other clever artists keep visitors here busily employed in laughing and applauding.

The National Amphitheatre, improved according to official requirements, is now open again with a huge company, and the new artists are Apollo Belvidere, who gives studies in statuary; Miss Gertie Everett, a character comedienne; Little Dot Ireland, ball punchress; Hedley, "the musical moke"; Miss Essie Jennings; and the ever-mirthful Will and Charles Bovis. The place is an enormous amphitheatre, accommodating thousands, every one of whom has a good view of the stage.

Wonderland City keeps on adding to its attractions, the latest being "the Pocket Hercules," with feats of strength; Ben Hur, the wrestler; and Jack Prendegast, the Australian rough-rider.

Miss Rose Seaton, elocutionist, is giving excellent recitals of fairy stories for children, and the lady announces her intention of giving a Shakespearean Night.

Lady Winter (wife of Sir Francis Winter, late Chief Justice of New Guinea), professionally known as Miss Edith Moore, prima donna in English opera, died in a private hospital in Melbourne on the 2nd inst. The deceased lady's sister is Miss Elsie Moore, now in Europe.

MELBOURNE, March 5.—Prince's Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Ward and Willoughby; Business-Manager, Mr. A. Cowan.—*The New Clown* has been drawing good houses since the opening night. Messrs. Ward and Willoughby between them keep the fun merrily going. Miss Palotta sings and dances with her usual grace, while the rest of the company lend valuable assistance to the performance. On Saturday evening next *Mr. Hopkinson* will be staged for a brief season.

Her Majesty's Theatre.—Lessee, J. C. Williamson; Business-Manager, Mr. George Tallis.—The last twelve nights of *Mother Goose* are announced. The pantomime has proved one of the most successful productions ever presented to Melbourne audiences, the house being packed nightly. The enchanting "Swing" song has quite captivated Melbourne playgoers, and is nightly encored two and three times. Mr. Phydora has established himself a great favourite; while others who receive their fair meed of praise include Miss Florence Young, Mr. Harry Shine, Miss Morelle, Miss Ghiloni, Queen and Le Brun, the Miniature Dartos, Miss Addie Nine, and many more. On Saturday, the 23rd inst., Miss Tittsell Brune will make her reappearance in Melbourne in the remarkable play *Parsifal*, which is just now running to good business in Sydney.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. William Anderson; Business Manager, Mr. Julius Grant.—*The Squatter's Daughter* is still running to good business, and has entered upon its fourth week. The production is lavishly mounted, the scenes depicting glimpses of the Australian bush being especially good. Judging from present appearances there should be no need to change the bill for some time to come.

Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Aydon.—Chanti, the quick-change artist, is appearing for a brief farewell season, and is still as strong a "draw" as ever; the Charlenes have introduced some new "business" into their clever turn; Mr. Charles Leonard Fletcher appears in a number of new character-sketches, which meet with genuine approval; Miss Preston is back with new songs; Rochfort and Hart delight all with their part-songs; a feature of the programme is Signor Antonio and his troupe of performing dogs and monkeys; while the rest of the company present interesting items.

COVENT GARDEN BALL.

The last fancy dress ball of the season took place at Covent Garden Theatre on the night of the 5th inst., and there was a very good attendance. For the best fancy costumes eight ordinary and six special prizes were offered, among the latter being an eighty-guinea upright grand piano, an oak canteen case of plate and cutlery, a tea and coffee set, and a case of silver salt-cellars. The dresses again evidenced the exercise of much ingenuity on the part of those responsible for the invention of the clever designs. Mr. W. Clarkson gained the first award (ladies') for a dress entitled "The Prize Airship." Large panels on the skirt suggested the journey from Calais to Dover and from Charing Cross to St. Paul's, while on the bodice and shoulders airships were represented. The head-dress was formed of a Maxim flying machine above a large crescent. The wearer carried a banner in the design of which a large airship, some balloons, and the British, French, and German flags figured. Mr. Clarkson also won a third prize (ladies') with a pretty costume called "Wedding Bells," and several less important prizes. "The Blue Moon" consisted of a pretty Princess robe painted to represent the moon, and decorated with chiffon petals and various coloured spangles, the general effect being much enhanced by electric illuminations. The march past took place at about two o'clock. Mr. Dan Godfrey's orchestra was again in attendance, and dancing was kept up till a late hour.

Music Hall Home Fund cards received:—Will Johnson, 35s.; Gladys Mavius, 10s.; Woolmer Young, 9s.; Bros. Oho, 20s. Particulars will appear in the next issue of the paper.

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ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS.

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April 29, May 13, 27, June 3, Aug. 5, 12, 26, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING,
Aug. 5, 12, 19, 26, Sept. 2, 16, Oct. 14, 21, Nov. 11, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER,
May 6, 13, 20, 27, Aug. 5, 12, Dec. 2, 9, Feb. 10, 17, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER,
Aug. 5, 12, 19, Sept. 9, Oct. 7, 14, 21, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON,
May 20, Aug. 12, 19, 26, Sept. 2, 16, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD,
May 20, 27, June 3, Aug. 19, 26, Sept. 23, Oct. 7, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON,
June 3, 10, Aug. 26, Sept. 2, 23, 30, on
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER,
May 20, June 3, 24, Aug. 5, 12, 19, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON,
May 2 (three nights), Sept. 2, 9, 16, 23, on.
Address, Milton Bode, THEATRE, READING.

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METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD,
May 27, June 3, onwards.
QUEEN'S THEATRE, GATESHEAD,
July 29, Aug. 12, onwards.
Address, Sidney Bacon, Metropole T., Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-class Companies, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
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Wire or write,
W. W. Kelly,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for April 29, May 6, 13, 20, 27, June 3, 10.
Apply, Mr. Robert Arthur, 24a, Regent-street, S.W.

THEATRE ROYAL, MARGATE.
Sole Manager, Edward Michael.
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May 20, May 20, May 20,
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Carson, Keighley.

PALACE THEATRE, RHYL.
A magnificent building, splendidly equipped. Seats 1,500. Stage, 50ft. by 30ft.; to grid, 40ft.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, Aug. 5 (Musical Comedy preferred), biggest week in season. Aug. 26, Sept. 2, and on.
Address, Will Smith.
London Agent, Kelson Truman, 233a, Regent-street.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies, for May 6, 13, and 20 (Whit Week, a Big Holiday date).
Address, E. B. Goulden.

WANTED, Companies, May 6, 13, June 3, and on, big Attraction for Whit write. James Elphinstone, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, PRESTON.
WANTED, First-Class Dramatic Company, or other big Attraction, May 20. Address, Sawyer and Woodruff.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-Class Companies.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER,
Vcant May 13, Dec. 16, onward, with exceptions.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH,
Vacant April 25, 29, onward, with exceptions.
(Last three nights of each week.)

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY,
Vacant May 6, 13, 20, onward, with exceptions.

METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY,
Vacant April 22, 29, onward, with exceptions.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE,
Vacant April 15, 22, onward, with exceptions.

"THE LOST CHORD,"
Vacant Aug. 5, onward, with exceptions.

"SPAN OF LIFE,"
Vacant May 27, Sept. 2, onward, with exceptions.

"IN SIGHT OF ST. PAUL'S."
Vacant May 13, 20, onward, with exceptions.

Companies "Farmed" through Fit-ups.

To Let, on Royalty, "THE PRAIRIE FLOWER" and "OUR BRITISH EMPIRE."

Excellent Plants Printing.

All communications to
Arthur Carlton, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

The Premier Theatre in the Furness District.

Holds £90 at ordinary Prices.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions, June 24, July 1, 8, and 15, on, with exceptions.

The following, amongst others, are future bookings for the above Theatre:—Allan Wilkie, "Man's Enemy," Lingford Carson's Companies, "A Warning to Women," Mr. and Mrs. Godfrey Tearle, "In Holy Russia," "Her Luck in London," "A Little Vagrant," "A Destroyer of Men," "The Breed of the Treshams," "Life of a Showman," Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's Companies, The D'Oyly Carte No. 1 Répertoire Company (tenth visit), "Raffles," F. R. Benson's Co. (third visit), Baron H. Harriss's No. 1 Company, "The Prince of Pilsen," Mr. Percy Hutchison's Companies, including "Peter's Mother," Mr. George Edwardes' own Company, in "See-See," "The Sign of the Cross," &c., &c.

All applications for dates to
Hugh Robertson,
T. R., Jarrow.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE,
MIDDLESBROUGH.
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MIDDLESBROUGH.

Proprietor, Albert Smith.

Holding Capacity, 3,500.

One of the
Premier Theatres of the North.
(Note what Mr. Charles Manners says in last week's "Era" about business at this theatre.)
Thanks for numerous offers, but
Still Vacant for
No. 1 Attractions Only.
June 3, 10, 17, 24, onwards.
Silence a polite negative.

WANTED, Special Attraction, Aug. 19 (Race Week).
Managers Please Note,
To anything Really Big
the latter is one of the Best Dates in the Year, being recognised as a General Holiday in the Town and District.
Share or Certainty.
Also open to negotiate for really big first-class Pantomime, 1907-8.
Will guarantee exceptionally fine production.
Address, Jno. Ed. Jowsey,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE,
MIDDLESBROUGH.
Telegrams, "Magnet," Middlesbrough. Telephones 413, 426, 500.

Next Week, Mr. H. B. Irving and Miss Dorothea Baird.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

Vacant
April 15, 22, 29,
May 6, 13, 20, 27.

WANTED, Strong Attractions,
R. C. Buchanan,
Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

BRIDLINGTON SPA THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.
Thoroughly Up-to-date, Re-opens July 29.
Electricity throughout; new scenery; large stage dimensions.
WANTED, First-class Attraction for Grand Opening Week (no Dramas), July 29.
Holds £100 at ordinary prices.
Only few vacant dates, July 29, week (three or six nights), at Liberty. Wire or write immediate re this date; also Aug. 8, 9, 10; 26, 27, 28; and Sept. 5, 6, 7; must be the best Attractions on the road.
Henry Hague, General-Manager.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE,
Sole Lessee, Julian Malvern.
WANTED, High-Class Attractions,
April 29 (Musical Festival week),
May 20, July 1, 8, and on.
Bookings include: "The Blue Moon," "The Earl and the Girl," "Peter's Mother," "The Girl Behind the Counter," "Raffles," "Mr. Popple," "Breed of the Treshams," &c.
Address, Chas. M. Julian, General-Manager.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
WANTED, Known, Vacant April 18, 22, 25, May 6, 9, three nights each.
Good Companies only.
Apply, J. Ritson, General Manager.

THEATRE ROYAL, ILKESTON
Manager and Licensee, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.
WANTED, Companies, May 20 (Whit), 27, onwards, June 3 to July 29;
Open to Let on Rental, or Stock Company.
Silence a courteous negative.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions.
May 6, 13; also for Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec.
Apply, Owner and Manager, James Kiernan.

TOWN HALL THEATRE, CROMER.
WANTED, First-class Attractions,
Aug. 8, 12, 19, 22, Sept. 2, 5, 12, 16, and 19,
all two or three nights.
Hunstanton can be booked to precede or follow.
Apply, Baring Bros., Cheltenham.

WANTED, Big Attraction, May 20, Grand, Chorley; also May 6, 20, Grand, Radcliffe.
Address, Sante, Theatre, Radcliffe.

PALACE THEATRE, RHYL.
WANTED, Dramas, April 15, 22, 29, three nights' Booking. Address, Will Smith.

WANTED, First-class Attraction, Musical preferred, Whit Week; Yeomanry Encampment in neighbourhood. Address, E. A. Smith, Marina Theatre, Lowestoft.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-class Dramas, Répertoires, &c., May 13, 27, on.
E. H. Page.

COMPANIES WANTED.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

Lessees and Managers,
Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.

The Leading Theatre of the Town.
The only theatre in the town lighted by electricity.

April Bookings:
April 1, "UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
April 8, "THE IDLER" (Local Amateurs).
April 15, MR. GEO. ALEXANDER'S CO.
"HIS HOUSE IN ORDER."
April 22, "MISS LANCASHIRE LIMITED."
April 29, MR. ALBERT CHEVALIER, in "PANTALOON," &c.

Notice. Notice. Notice.

Owing to the
Continual increase of prosperity
at this Theatre,
the Proprietors
have decided to entirely
Rebuild and Reconstruct
the property,
which, when completed,
will be not only the most
Comfortable and Up-to-Date Theatre
in the Provinces, but will have

A HOLDING CAPACITY
A HOLDING CAPACITY
A HOLDING CAPACITY
SECOND TO NONE
SECOND TO NONE
SECOND TO NONE

in the town.

The only Theatre in the town
lighted by electricity.

WANTED, Exceptional Attractions, Aug. 5, 12, 19 (?), 26, Sept. 16 (?), 23, Oct. 7, Nov. 4, 11, 25, Dec. 2, 9.

Musical preferred for Aug. 5 (opening date).

Calvert Routledge, H.M.T., Barrow.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions, QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH,
May 20, 27, June 10, 17, 24.
ALBERT THEATRE, BRIGHOUSE,
May 6, Sept. 9, 16, 23.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

WAKEFIELD OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, Companies, April 29, May 6, 13, 27, onwards. Reply, Sherwood and Co., Opera House, Wakefield

WORTHING THEATRE ROYAL.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, April 25, May 6, 13, 16, 20, and several Dates onwards, three nights, one matinée each instance. Wire, wire, wire for April 25, Sekbold, Worthing.

COLISEUM, ABERYSTWYTH.
WANTED, Best Companies, April 22, 29 (three nights), May 21, 22, 23, 24, 25. Wire, Phillips.

WANTED, Good Companies, April 29, and Whit Week (Vacant through cancelling). Apply, J. W. Chapman, Grand T. and Empire, Doncaster.

KING'S HALL THEATRE,
SKEGNESS.
WANTED, Known,
For Vacant Dates between
Whitsuntide and September,
Apply, H. Rowley, Proprietor.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity. Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, onwards, Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. Cotton.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE GIRL WHO TOOK THE WRONG TURNING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres,
April 22, 29, May 13.
Walter Melville,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE SOLDIER'S WEDDING,"
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, May 13, 20.
Apply,
Walter Melville,
Standard Theatre, E.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 12, Sept. 30.
Walter Melville,
Standard Theatre, E.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE,"
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 5, 12, 19, and Dec. 23.
Frederick Melville,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 9, 23, Dec. 23.
Frederick Melville,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 12, Sept. 16.
Tom H. Taylor,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, May 13, Sept. 30.
Tom H. Taylor,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Theatre, April 29, Aug. 5, 12, 19.
Douglas Bruce, Theatre Royal, Bury, Lanc.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
Presented by Charles Harrington's Company.
It is a great dramatic triumph.—Bradford Telegraph.
WANTED, Theatres, June 3, on.
Charles Harrington, T. R., Smethwick.

"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY."
The Most Successful Play Produced during the year 1906.
WANTED, Aug. 19, 26, in First-Class Theatres only. Wire or write,
W. W. Kelly,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, Weeks of June 17 and 24, Scala Production.
Wire or write,
W. W. Kelly,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

The Greatest of all Irish Productions.
MR. and MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY'S
"ROLLICKING RORY." Autumn, 1907.
Bookings complete for 1907.
WANTED, Theatres, now booking Spring, 1908.
April 15, P. O. W., Great Grimsby, 6 nights.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, May 27,
June 10, 17, 24,
July 1, 8, 15, 22.
Address, J. W. Cordiner,
April 15, Royalty Theatre, Chester.

MISS MARY NEIL and MR. GEORGE KIRK'S
"HER LUCK IN LONDON" CO.
By Charles Darrell
WANTED, Big Theatres,
June 29, Sept. 30, Oct. 7.
Charles A. Leicester,
This, T. R., Blyth; next, T. R., S. Shields.

FRANK M. THORNE'S CO.
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
WANTED, for this Money-maker,
June 10.
June 10.
F. M. T., Grand Theatre, Nottingham.

WANTED, by Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer, May 6, 13, and 20 (?). Address, Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer, Saturday, Ayr; Monday, Century Theatre, Motherwell.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, First-Class Theatres.
Fred Bulmer, c/o "The Era." Vacation add.

WANTED, through transfer, April 22 (precede Gaiety Dublin), "Our Flat." Wire, Balmain, D. P. Theatre, Eastbourne.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Dates,
"HONOUR THY FATHER,"
April 29, May 13 (?), 20, 27.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
WANTED, Dates,
May 27, June 3, July 1, 15, 22,
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
WANTED, Dates,
July 1, 8, 15, 22.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"GREED OF GOLD."
WANTED, Dates,
Sept. 23, Oct. 14, 21, 28.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"HOME, SWEET HOME,"
the greatest of all Domestic Dramas,
by Frank Lindo.
WANTED, Good Theatres,
June 3, July 8, 22,
and August Bank Holiday.
Mr. FRANK LINDO,
Miss MARION WAKEFORD,
and full Company.
Address,
Frank Lindo, T. R., Barnsley.

"THE ANGEL OF UNREST." A Story of 1812.
Mr. ALEC FLOOD'S and
Mr. AUBREY FITZMAURICE'S COMPANY.
The best Napoleonic drama I have seen in many years.—Carados, in the Referee, March 31, 1907.
The play is full of vigour and intelligence.—Morning Post, April 9.
Managers are requested to see the production this week at the Crown Theatre, Peckham.
Everything carried. Artistic Pictorial Printing.
WANTED, April 29, and Dates onwards, including Whit. Wire, F. Martin Morris, Crown T., Peckham. Letters to Gaiety T., Manchester.

"Suffer little children to come unto Me."
"A BROKEN HEART."
The Dramatic Success of 1907.
WANTED, Big Theatres only, June 3, 10 Aug. 5 and 19. Another Terrific Success at Prince's, Blackburn; Tuesday better than Monday, Wednesday better than Tuesday, and Thursday's first return £6 better than Wednesday. Managers refer E. H. Page, Esq. Latest bookings include Court T., Wigan; Palace, Newcastle; Rotunda, Liverpool; Alex., Birmingham; Sunderland, Oldham, Glasgow, Leigh, Blackpool, Swansea, Accrington, Barnsley, Coventry, Nelson. A clear stage only required.
Harry Foxwell, Metropole Theatre, Glasgow.

"WHEN A MAN HATES."
"WHEN A MAN HATES."
"WHEN A MAN HATES."
WANTED, for above, May 20, 27, June 10, Aug. 12, 19, Sept. 9, onwards.
Enormous Success this week at Hippodrome, Mansfield.
Managers wishing to Book a Strong Attraction should not fail to secure above.
Wire to W. Graham-Arthurs,
Empire Theatre, Cradley Heath.

JAMES HARE'S COMPANIES.
"A DESTROYER OF MEN."
"A DESTROYER OF MEN."
"A DESTROYER OF MEN."
Complete Production travelled.
WANTED, weeks of April 29, June 3 and 10.
James Hare, wires, Royalty, Llanelly;
Letters, Aquarium, Yarmouth.

SHINTON AND GREENWOOD'S TOUR.
"THE PRICE OF HER SOUL."
WANTED, May 27 (through transfer), North; also Aug. 5, Sept. 2, 9, 23. Thanks M. Montgomery, Esq., for Contracts for two consecutive weeks. Address, John B. Shinton, Metropole T., Manchester.

"THE NEW MAGDALEN."
WANTED, June 3 and 10, entirely new version of this Celebrated Drama;
magnificent plant of printing
cut specially for this tour.
Coms. to H. G. Griffin, T. R., Bristol.

FRANK J. PITT and CHARLES HALLING'S CO
"£1,000 REWARD."
"£1,000 REWARD."
WANTED, for this Successful Attraction, April 29,
July 29, Aug. 12.
Sept. 23, 30, Oct. 7, 14, on.
Colosseum, Oldham, April 15.

JERRARD GRANT-ALLEN'S CO.,
including Mr. Leon M. Lion, in
"THE NEW BOY,"
by Arthur Law.
WANTED, May 27, June 17, July 15.
Address,
Grant Allen, Criterion Theatre.

"THE GREAT AWAKENING."
WANTED, for this magnificent production, Whit Week (follow Brighton), also few Autumn Dates, Aug. 12 (Nottingham district), Sept. 16 and 30 (follow Glasgow), Nov. 18 (precede Bradford). See Companies Page. Wire for Whit. Spes Bona, Ramsgate.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, May 13, June 3 and 10, 50th Week of Continuous Tour.
Dickie Clare, Athenæum, Lancaster.

"AN ABANDONED WOMAN."
WANTED, Good Theatres,
April 22, May 6 and 13.
To-day, Harry Foxwell, Prince's T., Blackburn.
April 15, Metropole Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, for the great production, "Second to None," by Walter Howard, good Theatre, Aug. 5 (week). "Second to None" is pronounced the finest play yet written by Walter Howard. Address, T. E. Ward, Grand Theatre, Nelson.

"THE ASSASSIN."
WANTED, April 29. Suddenly Vacant; April 29, Suddenly Vacant.
South or Midlands.
Augustine Knight, to-day, Crewe;
after, Alexandra, Birmingham.

"A LIFE'S STORY."
WANTED, April 22, vacant through transferring, only vacant date this year. Wire, Stanley Carlton, Grand, Chorley.

"DRIVEN FROM HOME."
WANTED, Good Theatres,
April 22, May 13.
Andrew Melville, Metropole Theatre, Birmingham.

WANTED, Theatres for "The Superior Miss Pellender," from Waldorf Theatre, London, May 6 (follow Brixton), 20 (follow Leicester), and various onwards. Wm. Fraser-Brunner, Brixton Theatre.

"THE SEVEN SISTERS," Brilliant Success of Revival.
WANTED, Good Theatres, April 22 and 29.
Wires, Worthing; letters, Kidderminster.
All communications to James P. Moore.

WANTED, for "Her Lost Self," by Nita Rae, good Theatre, Whit. Miss Frances Delaval, 23, Cromwell-road, Whitstable-on-Sea.

WANTED, First-Class Theatres, for "White Chrysanthemum," chief Company, April 29, May 6 and 13; also "Mr. Popple" Star Company, May 6 and 13. Communicate, Chas. Macdona, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, London, W.

Something New and Original.
"MR. ROBIN HOOD."
Musical, Pantomimical Extravaganza.
WANTED, April 29 and May 20 (North), for this successful production. Splendid Chorus, Coquette Troupe of Dancers. Wire, W. H. Fields, 2, Pump-square, Boston.

WANTED, Whit, for "Man and Wife," by Walter Howard, now playing to enormous business everywhere. Address, T. E. Ward, Grand Theatre, Nelson.

WANTED, Theatres, "A Heart's Desire." Complimented and booked by every Manager who saw play. A remarkable attraction; a splendid play is the verdict. Communications en route, or Messrs. Elliman, 5, Vernon-st., Dublin.

"A NIGHT OFF."
WANTED, Whit Week, and on, for Summer Tour of above successful Farcical Comedy, Mr. Ardene Linden's Company of experienced Artists; no amateurs. Leslie House, Willowfield-road, Eastbourne.

THEATRES WANTED.

Mr. and Mrs. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COS.,
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
WANTED, May 20, May 20 (Whit), for this Great Play; new uniforms and effects, Band of Drums, Fifes, and Bugles for Parade.
"A SISTER'S SIN."
Wanted, May 6, 13, and 20 (Whit), for this Romantic Drama. Picturesque costumes, splendid scenery and pictorials, unusually powerful company.
"A SOLDIER'S HONOUR."
Wanted, Aug. 5, for this Great Play. Acknowledged by Managers and Press to be the Success of the year. The above date is vacant through transferring. Played, mounted, and dressed second to none. F. G. KIMBERLEY, Vauxhall, The Scotlands, Wolverhampton.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN."
"THE MANXMAN."
By Hall Caine and Wilson Barrett.
WANTED, May 20 and 27 (through obliging), June 24, Aug. 5, 12, and few later.
April 15, Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield.

"WHEN WE WERE TWENTY-ONE,"
by H. V. Esmond.
MISS DOROTHY CACEY'S COMPANY,
including Mr. RIDDELL ROBINSON,
and a First-Class Company of Picked Artists.
A few London Press extracts:
Times:—Gave the whole house the keenest delight.
Daily Telegraph:—Unquestionably a great popular success.
Daily Chronicle:—The play created a furore.
Daily Mail:—Will fill the Comedy Theatre for many a month to come.
WANTED, Whit Week, also June 3 and on, with exceptions.
FRANK NELSON, Lyceum Theatre, Ipswich.

"A FOOL'S PARADISE,"
by Sydney Grundy.
Cast includes:
Miss Laura Hansen, Miss Beatrice Lindley, Miss Eileen Lindley, Mr. Cecil Wynne, Mr. Arthur Claremont, Mr. Wylie A. Thompson, Mr. J. Henry Twyford.
WANTED, May 6 (precede Brighton), Whit, May 27, June 13 (three), 27 (three).
Bookings include Brighton, Eastbourne, Harrogate, Buxton, Oxford, Ramsgate.
WYLIE THOMPSON, Lyceum, Ipswich.

LINGFORD CARSON'S CO.,
"THE POWER OF THE CROSS."
WANTED, May 6, May 6, Sept. 9, 30, and Christmas.
G. A. DE GRAY, April 15, T. R., Blyth.

MESSRS. HOFFE AND CAMPBELL'S TOUR OF "THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST," by Oscar Wilde.
WANTED, First-Class Dates, June 13 (three nights) and on, Aug. already booked. May and June dates: Grand, Leeds; Grand, Croydon; Devonshire Park, Eastbourne; County, Bedford; Opera House, Harrogate; T. R., Bath; and T. R., Manchester. Add., MONCKTON HOFFE, 15, Claverton-street, W.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
Continued Success. Third Year.
WANTED, May 13, through obliging, Wire for May 13, May 13, Wire.
May 20 (Whit), Midlands.
Aug. 12, follow Alexandra, Birmingham.
FRANK AYRTON,
Theatre Royal, Houghton-le-Spring.

MESSRS. ARMADALE AND WARREN'S CO.,
"THE FACE AT THE WINDOW."
WANTED, Theatres, August Bank Holiday, Aug. 19, 26, Oct. 28 (Midlands), Nov. 4 (North), Dec. 23, 30, onwards, for the above Attraction. F. BROOKE WARREN, 110, Woodvale, Dulwich.

WANTED, Known, to Managers, new Comedy, the very thing to Tour. Tickets Copyright performance, from Miss CLARK, 24, Oxford-terrace, W.

Enormous Success.
See below for a Unique and most Successful Entertainment. The famous Jamaica Choir, all escaped from the recent terrible earthquake. Causing a furore everywhere. This week, Cambridge Hall, Southport; next week, Theatre Royal, Stratford, London, to follow Blackpool (three dates), London, Ryde, Folkestone, Dover, Ramsgate, Birmingham, Rhyl, Liverpool, Birkenhead, &c.
A Great Novelty. A Real Sensation.
Hundreds turned away nightly.

WANTED, April 22, and onwards, with exceptions, twelve performers; can give whole Entertainment; three changes of Costume; splendid Lithos. Apply for booklet, terms, &c.
Wire,
for
April 22
to Managers, Messrs. H. E. JONES and A. DOUGLASS, 21, Water-street, Liverpool.
Telephones, 5650 and 2449 Central.
Wires, "Motherland, Liverpool."

WANTED, Theatres, Halls, &c., for May 6, 13, 20, 27, rent or share, Royal British Biograph Company, with any amount of pictorials, &c. Specialities by Almo Troupe (Acrobats Gymnasts), Four Aubrays (Comedy Act), Holmars (Comedians, Dancers, &c.), The Loraines (Classical and Refined Novelty Act), &c., &c.
Wires, JAKE ALMO,
Theatre, Macclesfield, Cheshire.

WANTED, Stars or Musical Comedies, for Grand Theatre, Llandudno, July 22 23, 24 (opening of season), Aug. 1, 2, 3, Sept. 16, Sept. 23, 24, 25. Address, HALDANE CRICHTON, H.M. Theatre, Carlisle.

ARTISTS WANTED.

NORTHERN THEATRES CO., LTD.
WANTED, Dramatic Artists in all Lines, Stock Season, commencing Whit Monday, Rehearse week previous.
Full particulars of parts played, stock experience, lowest summer terms, &c., &c.,
OTTO C. CULLING, Theatre Royal, Bury.

"MISS LANCASHIRE LIMITED."
WANTED, Smart Juvenile Lady, must sing and dance, dress well both on and off the stage, and agree to travel abroad if necessarily; also Robust Character Actor, to play Farmer Thompson, Lancashire dialect part. Lowest terms, recent photographs (to be returned), and references to BURT BURTON, Grand Theatre, Halifax. Applicants please note, they are not expected to advertise thanking me for offering the engagement by reason of their applying for same.

WANTED, Powerful Dramatic Juvenile Lady, Strong Character Old Woman, Tall Heavy Man (not lead), Clever Chambermaid, Speciality Dancer preferred, Smart Comedian. Particulars to Miss FRANCES DELAVAL, 23, Cromwell-road; Whitstable.

WANTED, Musical Comedy Sketch, rehearse April 22, open May 6, London, Full Company, with exceptions, namely, Tall, Dark Lady, for Cleopatra part, must have exceptional voice; Gent. for Emperor part, tall, stout (Bass); Legmania Dancer, for "Old Man of the Sea Acting Part; Low Comedian; Lady and Gent. Choristers; Carpenter, able to make and touch-up; Wardrobe Mistress; Pianist, able to arrange. State height, age, &c., with compass of voice, to JOHN M. DAWSON, 124, Holland-rd., Brixton, S.W. (No interviews.)

WANTED, for Dramatic Sketch, starting shortly, Well-known Leading Lady, Leading Man, Intense Juvenile and Character Heavy Men. Apply by letter only, FRED WINN, 2/25, Cranworth-gardens, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Musical Comedy Artists, all Lines, including Good Baritone and Soprano. Former applicants write. SANBORNE, 368, Moss-lane East, Manchester.

WANTED, for "The Superior Miss Pellender," Artists, including Young Comedian for Boy Part (15). Rehearse London. WM. FRASER-BRUNNER, Brixton Theatre.

WANTED, Strong and Attractive Leading Lady, for Stock Season of six weeks, commencing with one week's rehearsal, free (Whit Week). Box 4,641, "The Era."

WANTED, Smart Lady, to Play Part in Burlesque (Maid Marion); find own dresses; sing and dance; good delivery and appearance; Tour. Terms and photos. to W. H. FIELDS, 2, Pump-square, Boston.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Young Actress, one who can play Organ preferred. Photo., terms, names and addresses of last two references. A. CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

"THE TYRANT."
WANTED, Gentleman, for Lieut. Tasks, short part, good; tall, good build. Photo., lowest terms, SOMERFIELD, Theatre Royal, Castleford.

WANTED, Short Eccentric Light Comedian, Broken English part; also Comedy Old Man Rehearse West Bromwich, 17th, open 22nd; Special Week, probable tour to follow.
All particulars and photos.,
LEWIS GILBERT, New Hippodrome.

WANTED, for Special Week in London, Sketch, April 29, refined Comedian for Dame, two Ladies, to Sing and Dance, four Dancers (one to arrange), Chorus Ladies and Gentlemen, also Musical-Director. Letters, HODGSON and LOWTHER, 4, Rushcroft-house, Rushcroft-road, Brixton.

"THE SEVEN SISTERS."
WANTED, to Rehearse and open Monday, Stourbridge, Responsible Couple, small parts. Inclusive terms, MOORE, Kidderminster.

WANTED, Lady and Gentleman, to understudy, Play Small Parts, and Walk On. W. HOWARD ASHLEY, Opera House, Wakefield.

WANTED, Smart Boy, good voice, age over 10, to look 8, at once. Full particulars, KEMP, 117, Mitcham-road, Tooting.

WANTED, Known, Messrs. Richard Warner and Co., Ltd., having arranged with Signor Rosi, late Ballet Master of the Alhambra, to Open a School of Dancing with a view to prepare Troupes, &c., for English, American, and Continental Engagements, will be glad to hear from Good Chorus Ladies, Dancers, and Ballet Ladies. Send photo. to R. WARNER and Co., LTD., Lyric Chambers, 27, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Sopranos and Contraltos, for Classy, Refined Act; must have good voices and able to dance. Apply, LEWIS, Monday, 3 o'clock, Percy Hall, Percy-street, W.C.

WANTED, Basso Vocalist; must also be good Accompanist; Long Tour to the right man. Letters, MUSIC, 143, Great Portland-street, W.

WANTED, Three Choristers, to sing Shakespearean Glees; two nights. W. H. ASHLEY, Opera House, Wakefield.

WANTED, Young Man for Marionettes and Side Shows, permanent for anyone with money to join. RETENE, 67, Bonsall-street, Hulme.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. SMITH and SONS' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Miss Renée de l'Estrade resigns engagement with Mr. H. V. Neilson, "The Perfect Lover" Co. Dis. April 20.

WANTED, Known, young Professional Lady (refined and experienced) will give a month's services in good company. Box 4,631, "The Era."

WANTED, by Stanley Maude, Light Comedian, Engagement in Musical Comedy, Sketch or Opera, small part; or would accept Chorus and Understudy (Bass voice). Address, 156, Casewick-road, West Norwood, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty for Illusion, Small Parts, or Chorus. HILDA BERESFORD, 37, Goldney-road, Paddington.

WANTED, by Soprano Vocalist, Known, good, Engagement for Summer, or odd weeks, Pavilions, Piers, &c. Box 4,645, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Contralto, very large Répertoire; can play piano. Address, MARJORIE IRVINE, c/o Mrs. Lavender, Brent-st., Hendon, N.W.

WANTED, Engagement, as Violinist and Vocalist (Baritone), with Troupe, seaside preferred; young and reliable. VIOLINIST, c/o Adams, 11, Saltburn-street, Hanson-lane, Halifax.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for Pantomime,
First-class Principal Boy,
also Good Comedian;
both must be experienced in Pantomime.
Send terms and full particulars to
J. GAR KIDDIE, 9, Ollier-terrace, Widnes.

WANTED, Pantomime Chorus and Show Ladies. Send photograph, age, height, and other measurements, lowest salary. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Brothers Brooks, Pantomime Mascots, Liberty Xmas, nine years "Aladdin," with funniest original Bath Scene extant; Sisters Hrand, at Liberty, Second Boy and Girl (expert dancers), worked three numbers in Grand, Nottingham Pantomime last season; encored for each. Coms., 113, Lilford-road, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Los Granadas, Free for Pantomime, to Play their own Speciality Scene, entitled "Sensational Happenings Outside an Hotel"; will have Special New Scenery for same. 64, Upper Sutton-st., Aston, Birmingham.

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WANTED, First-Class Scenic Artist, to start immediately.
Apply,
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WANTED, First-Class Scenic Artist, must be good Designer. State Salary.
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WANTED, a First-class Scenic Artist.
Lowest terms,
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SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Scenery Contracts, Productions. Our Paint Frames, 40 by 24; Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. FRED WILKINS and BRO., LTD., 54, Whitechapel, Liverpool. Telegrams "Theatrical."

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Magnificent paint-frame; spacious carpenter's shop
Estimates free on application to
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WANTED, Contracts, for Brilliant, Effective Scenery, Attractive Settings, lowest prices. Carlyle Scenic Studio, W. B. ROBINSON, 170, King's-road, S.W.

WANTED, Known, the Best and Cheapest Firm for Scenery and Properties is
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Write for Price List.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery; Best Work and Carpentry at lowest possible prices. C. J. SAYER, Scenic Artist, 2, Clarendon-rd., Croydon.

WANTED, Contracts for High-Class, Effective Scenery, at lowest prices; attractive; Stage Pictures, 50 by 30, frame to let. ELMS LESTER, St. Giles, W.C.

WANTED, Known, that Sidney Beltran's arrangements are complete for the present. Letters, C/o Waterloo Hotel, Liverpool.

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WANTED, £250, for Stirring Melodrama, by highly-successful Author, parts and position open. Good terms offered.
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Care of May and Williams, Piccadilly.

WANTED, an Acting-Manager. State qualifications, references, previous variety, theatrical and commercial experience, and salary. Apply by letter, OSWALD STOLL, Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, London, W.C.

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WANTED, Gentleman for Syndicate, formed for Initial Suburban Production and Tour of Farcical Comedy by Successful Authors.
Investment of £500 in shares.
Good salary offered.
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WANTED, First-class Carpenter, Bench Hand, and Scenic Artist.
Wire,
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WANTED, Situation, as Baggage-man. FRED KEMP,
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WANTED, thoroughly competent Wardrobe Mistress, resident. Apply, stating references and terms, to FRED KARNO, 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E.

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WANTED, Known, W. C. Burns, Disengaged, to manage any concern, road, rail, or resident; twenty years' practical experience; Circus, Varieties, Theatre, &c.; well up in accounts, two houses nightly, and bars; unique pressman, expert advertiser; highest refs.; life abstainer; cash guarantee if suitable situation. 15, Charlotte-st., South Shields.

WANTED, Engagement, as Secretary, Clerk, Assistant, &c., Playwright, thorough secretarial experience; shorthand, typist, &c., plenty ambition, energy, and brains; living wage. Box 4,653, "Era."

WANTED, Re-engagement, by Bert Lawson, Practical Stage Carpenter; last 3 years Theatre Royal, Aldershot. Resident or Tour. 49, Gordon-road, Aldershot.

WANTED, Known, Carpenter, good bench hand, able to play Viola or Second Violin if required, London or Provincial Theatre preferred. Box 4,646, "The Era."

WANTED, by two young men, Billing (use brush well), or Limes and Baggage; know England and Continent well. Box 4,633, "The Era."

WANTED, Situation at front of House, practical in gas and water appliances, dressed height 5ft. 11½in.; thirteen years' reference. Box 4,658, "The Era."

WANTED, Evening Employment by young lady, good references; bonus given, or two months free. Box 4,632, "The Era."

WANTED, Evening Employment, by respectable Man, 30, height 5ft. 9in, any capacity, take part in Sketch. M., 80, Crawford-street, W.

MUSICIANS' WANTED.

WANTED, Leader, Violinists, 'Cellist, Double Bass (Piano combined), Pianist, Flauto, Clarionets (A, B, C), Cornets, must transpose Trumpets, Trombones, Double Drummer, Tympani, Glockenspiel Effects combined; Seaside, July 14, nine weeks; trial expected. Send lowest, DIRECTOR, 92, West End-lane, London, N.W.

WANTED, for Pavilion, Ramsgate, Leader, Solo Cornet, 'Cello, Basso, Flute, Solo Clarionet, Trombone, Pianist, combine Second Violin. Address, Box 4,635, "Era" Office.

WANTED, Leader, must be good solid Player, well up in Variety business. State age and refs. F. BRAHAM, Regent Theatre, Salford.

WANTED, at Once, Good First Violin, not over 20 years; must be good player, with orchestra experience, Concerts only. Apply, with photo. and lowest terms, MUSICAL-DIRECTOR, Scotch Orchestra, Concerthaus National, Copenhagen, Danemark. Letters, 2½d. stamp.

WANTED, a good Cornet Player, Sight Reader, Transpose; also Double Bass; two Shows daily; open Whitsuntide. Terms, HARRY COLLINS, Rhyl.

WANTED, immediately, Cornet, to combine Violin, for Permanent Staff of Militia Corps in London; ex-Army men under 30, Pensioners 45, non-Military men under 25. GUEST, 100, Hewitt-avenue, Wood Green, N.

WANTED, Ladies, Cornet and Clarionet, from Whit Week to end of September; experienced in Dance Music. State lowest terms and refs. Address, Miss NEWTON, 5, Winter-gardens-terrace, Southport.

WANTED, at once, good Cornet and E Flat Bass, for Town Band; Shares; Permanent. PHILLIPS, Richmond-avenue, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, for St. Annes-on-Sea, Trombone, to combine Euphonium preferred; must be first-class and experienced; Whit Week and Thirteen Weeks' Season; 31½ hours' duty weekly. References to JOH. BECK, 10, Parker-street, Whitworth Park, Manchester.

WANTED, Euphonium and Second Clarionet, for R.E. Militia Training; must enlist. Discharge bought if required. Silence polite negative.
BANDMASTER,
The Castle, Monmouth.

WANTED, Bath Military Band, for seventeen weeks, from May 11, good French Horn. State reference and age. WILLIAM SCHOTTLER, Bath.

WANTED, Pianist, at once, must be sight reader, used to Dramatic Music, and Transpose occasionally.
Apply, ARTHUR HENDERSON,
Cinématograph Show, Linn's Ground, Cowdenbeath.

WANTED, May 18, for Summer Season Indoors, Young Lady Pianist, Vocalist, Seaside. Lowest terms, photo. (returnable), GANNON, Westgrove, Bristol.

WANTED, Young Gentleman Pianist, Brilliant Performer, one who can sing preferred. State lowest terms. GREENHEAD, 10, Cavendish, Herne Bay.

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"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster,
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WANTED, Seaside Resort, First Violins, 'Cello, Bass, Flute and Piccolo, Clarionet, Solo Cornet, Second Cornet, Trombone, also First-class Pianist (good Accompanist); duties, about 5 hours daily (Sundays excepted). State age, height, references, and lowest terms. Silence a polite negative. MUSICAL-DIRECTOR, Rockville, Charles-st., Buxton.

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WANTED, Known, Arthur W. Creighton, Musical Conductor and Accompanist (Piano), Disengaged Summer Season, South Coast preferred; refs. 170, Walworth-road, London.

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WANTED, Engagement, as Violinist, First or Second; can combine Viola; young and reliable; thorough knowledge of Variety; good refs. VIOLINIST, c/o Adams, 11, Saltburn-street, Hanson-lane, Halifax.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Violinist; well up in any Business; good references. Address, SOLOSKY, 20, Beaumont-square, London, E.

WANTED, Known, Lady Violinist (Solo and Orchestral), Good Leader; every experience; Disengaged July and August. Box 4,638, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Young Lady Violinist, Soloist and Orchestral, Tour or Permanent; good appearance. Box 4,643, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by good experienced Violinist, any business; good references. G. W., 33, Brewerton-road, Oldham.

WANTED, Summer Engagement or permanency, by Second Violin; good refs. H. HEGGIE, 55, West Cumberland-street, Charing Cross, Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagement, Violin, Cornet, and Piano, together or separate; can open at once; any business. LEADER, 5, Quelph-street, Low-hill, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Solo Cornet (good), Engagement, in good Orchestra; references; summer or permanent; Cornet Solos. BENSON, 89, Linthorpe-road, Middlesbrough-on-Tees.

WANTED, Known, George Howard, at Liberty; 2 years Hippodrome, and now Solo Cornet, West Pier, Brighton. 1, New Port-street, Brighton.

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WANTED, Engagement by reliable Cornet Player, can join immediately. Address, C. BURROWS, 7, Stone-street, Hastings.

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H. PAILES, 4, Albany-street, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, Summer Engagements, by First Clar. and B flat Saxophone; combine Second Clarionet. Address, HOWARTH YATES, 52, Carlton-terrace, Huncoat, Accrington.

WANTED, by Clarionet, Deputising, any business, experienced, in or around Manchester. ALF. ORME, 8, Derby-street, Edgeley, Stockport.

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WANTED, Engagement, Bombardon, Disengaged April 20; experienced, good refs; season; Yeomanry Bandmasters please note. BOMBARDON, 187, Altmore-avenue, East Ham.

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WANTED, Engagement by 'Cellist, experienced in all branches of the profession; highest references. Address, GEO. HIRST, 1, Melbourne-st., Lee Mount, Halifax.

WANTED, by 'Cello, Summer Engagement or Deputising, Town or Suburbs.
GEO. CHALDER, Grand Theatre, Croydon.

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WANTED, an Engagement, at once, as 'Cellist, Theatre, or Variety; good references; thoroughly experienced. E. INKPEN, Theatre, Richmond, Surrey.

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WANTED, Known, Arthur Cowen, Viola, Grand Theatre, Glasgow, is open for Summer Engagement; refs. Permanent address, 20, Monteith-row, Glasgow.

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WANTED, Engagement by Lady Double Drummer and Violin, well experienced in Orchestra. Miss GORDAN, 9, Coborn-road, Bow, E.

WANTED, Engagement, by thoroughly experienced Double Drummer; steady, reliable; Variety preferred; good references. DRUMS, 177, Balls Pond-road, Islington, London.

WANTED, Engagement by First-Class Double Drummer (Lady), is also an excellent Pianist and Accompanist; best references. Box 4,650, "The Era."

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WANTED, Known, Madame H. E. Angless's Ladies' Pompadour Orchestra. Great Success, Exhibition, East Molesey, and Queen's Hotel, Westcliff-on-Sea. Re-engaged
Now performing Royal Agricultural Hall, London. Twelfth International Automobile Exhibition. Kingston-on-Thames to follow.
Specially engaged for Laundry Exhibition, Agricultural Hall, May 11 to 18.
Vacant dates, Whitsun, onwards.
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WANTED, by Shikissimma Band, Ladies' Japanese Orchestra, at Liberty for Piers, Exhibitions, At Homes, magnificent costume. Glenthorpe, Chesterfield-road, Newbury.

WANTED, Known, One of the Best Existing Viennese Bands Disengaged (through postponement), 14 perf. (more or less), every one a Brilliant Soloist; splendid ensemble; huge success everywhere; smart uniforms, very extensive répertoire; highest references and testimonials; sure to draw. Offers of Managers of Piers, Exhibitions, Hotels, &c., to Box 4,657, "Era."

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WANTED, Known, Mr. J. Southworth is Open to Receive Offers on behalf of the Gaiety Theatre Orchestra, Manchester, for the Summer Season. J. SOUTHWORTH, Musical Director, Gaiety, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement for King's Theatre Orchestra, Edinburgh, Disengaged April 22, eighteen members, either collectively or singly. Apply, Leader.

WANTED, Engagements for Scarlet Domino Ladies' Band, Ladies' Salon Quartette and Florentine Quartet, at home or abroad. Apply, BUREAU, 8, Bedford-terrace, Kensington.

WANTED, Engagement, Family Band, open at once; any business; good library. YULE, 4, Tottenham-villas, Stamford, Lincs.

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KING OHMY'S GRAND CIRCUS, HYDE.
WANTED, Star Turns and Big Sensations, also Useful Circus Artists in all Lines.
Anything New and Startling. Write at once.
Nothing too Big.
Address, KING OHMY,
Ohmy's Grand Circus, Hyde.

WANTED, for Hodgini's Royal Circus, good, useful Clown, Acrobats, Lady Wire Performer, and Artists in all Lines, for Fair Business. Address, HODGINI, JUN., Royal Circus, Shipley, near Bradford, Yorks.

WANTED, for Tenting, Riders with own horses, ponies, Troupe of Dogs, and good Ground Acts; open Monday next. GILES, Circus, Ballybrack, co. Dublin.

WANTED, Young Lady for Gymnastic Act, Jewess or Coloured Lady not objected to; Good Amateur write. Send photo. (if any). J. SLADENE, Ivy Dene, Stavely, near Chesterfield.

WANTED, a good Contortionist, for Biddall's Circus; must be used to Fair Business. Will Alex. write? Address, Biddall's Circus, Hetton, Co. Durham.

WANTED, a Finely-built Lady Gymnast, about 18 years, first-class performer; may lead to a long engagement. State height. Apply, with photo., O. V. ESTRELLA, General Post Office, Ipswich.

WANTED, Young Man, close Back Bender. H. RYAN, Empire, Edinburgh;
April 22, Grand, Halifax.

WANTED, Good Tumbler, for Long Engagement; must be good. Apply, E. L., 5, Tenison-street, York-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Posturer, for Long Engagement; must be good. Letters only. E. L., 5, Tenison-street, York-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

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WANTED, Known, the Original Bimbo, Circus Clown and High Stilt Performer, suitable for Gala and Large Buildings. Big Success Easter Monday, Gala, Belfast. Selly Park, Birmingham. Wanted, to Buy, Rolling Globe, must be cheap and sound.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Dominos, Two, Clown and Donkey, finish Coliseum, Wrexham (second week). Liberty 15th, week. Letters, 131, Fonthill-road, Holloway, London.

WANTED, May 6, 13, and 20, through misunderstanding, The Maros, Quaintest Three-bar Act. This, Sadler's Wells; Monday, Surrey T.

WANTED, by Four Zolas, Lightning and Herculean Acrobats and Tumblers; also Bros. Alpine, on High Perch; at Liberty April 22, for Tenting, Fêtes, Galas. T. R., Rugby.

WANTED, Known, Sisters Nella, in their Refined Speciality, Pot-Pourri Act, consisting of Juggling, Globe Running, Staircase, Trapeze, Cake Walk, with the Sensational Finish with Lighted Torches, at Liberty from April 15, onwards. Address, Cooke, Royal Circus, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Known, George Davilla, Marvellous Wire Performer at Liberty for coming Season. Address, Forest View, Honey-lane, Waltham Abbey, Essex.

I Challenge the World.
WANTED, Wanted, Known,
G. W. Houghton,
Ornamental Swimmer and High Diver, with Sensational Specialities, vacant for Summer Season. Letters, C/o "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by smart young Comedy Triple Bar Performer, late well-known Bar Act. Address, "Comedy," 61, Holland-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement by Tumbler, with Sketch or Troupe.
Address, Box 4,655, "The Era."

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for April 29 and onwards, for the
Anglo-American Bioscope and Variety Company,
Anglo-American Bioscope and Variety Company,
Anglo-American Bioscope and Variety Company,
Anglo-American Bioscope and Variety Company,
Anglo-American Bioscope and Variety Company,
Variety Artists in all Lines,
Variety Artists in all Lines,
Variety Artists in all Lines,
Variety Artists in all Lines,
Variety Artists in all Lines,
for
Falkirk,
Ayr,
Kilmarnock,
Leith,
and
Coatbridge.
Apply, with absolute lowest terms, to
E. H. Bostock,
The Zoo, Glasgow.

Silence a polite negative.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Variety Artists all Lines,
Big Acrobatic Troupes,
Big Bicycle Troupes,
Big Sensational and Novelty Acts,
May 20, Aug. 5 Dec. 24 and 31.
Terms, Lithos., Bookings.
Edgar Stebbings, 23, Egerton-st., Manchester. Telegrams, "Stebbing, Manchester." 'Phone 09261.

THEATRE ROYAL, STANLEY, CO. DURHAM.
WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, new for above, for May 6, one Show nightly; any big Act or Comedy Sketch, on percentage. State absolute lowest terms. Address, C. Cliquot, 11, Portland-street, Rochdale.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES and THEATRE ROYAL.

WANTED, First-class Variety Artists, all Lines.

Arthur Carlton, Palace, Worcester.

WANTED, Variety Artists for May 6, Empire, Hull; say when last in Hull. Full particulars, lowest summer combination, terms, address, Ernest Dillon, Standard Music Hall, Pimlico, London.

Scarborough.
WANTED, Monday, April 15, and onwards, Variety Artists in all Lines. Nothing too Big. Full particulars to Morgan, Aquarium.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, April 29, onward, for Towns South Coast; share or salary; good Bioscope write. Kardoc, Theatre Royal, Dover. N.B.—Silence a polite negative.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, April 22 and onwards.
A. E. Pickard, Britannia, Glasgow.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, April 22, Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest. Hall small. P. Reymond, as above.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, for Mr. O. Maus Dayton's No. 1 and No. 2 Companies of Refined Vaudeville Performers.
Managing-Director, Mr. O. Maus Dayton.
General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Bernard.
Manager, Mr. Alex. Dayton.
Assistant-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Ralph.
Accountant, Mr. Fred Carter.

Call, Monday, April 15, Victoria Theatre, West Stanley, Co. Durham:
The Dayton Family, in "Les Rendez-vous," Cecilian Family, Geo. Bernard, Milford Brothers, Sansom Trio, Hannaway Brothers, Grove Billian Trio, in "A Night's Frivolity," Vernon's Imperial Bioscope. Suitable Acts can have twenty weeks' solid engagement. Artists having written please write again, and state permanent address and wire address. N.B.—Silence in every case polite negative. Impossible to answer all. Please do not enclose stamped envelopes nor send reply paid wires.

WANTED, Artists to Know, I hold Booking Arrangements for, and invite correspondence from Artists new to, the following places:—Blackpool, Birmingham, Glasgow, Grimsby, London, Hanley, Portsmouth, Chatham, Stockton, Dundee, York, Dublin, Belfast, Hull, Oldham, Manchester, Leeds, Burnley, Sheffield, Barnsley, Wigan, Bury, Bolton, &c. Artists please note.—It is imperative to send full list of prospective engagements. Lowest terms essential, and any good printing. Dalton's Agency, 29, Mauldeth-rd. West, Withington, Manchester.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
William Mould, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, Concerts and Music Halls. Interviews by appointment only. Scottish Musical Agency, 107, George-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, First-Class Artists, for Fête at Wantown Park, Luton, on Whit Tuesday. Send full particulars and terms, Green, Secretary Luton Town Football Club, Luton, Beds.

WANTED, Known, Artists wishing to be booked for First-Class Music Hall Engagements to communicate with Brooks's Agency, 35, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

VICTORIA THEATRE, STANLEY, DURHAM.
WANTED, Artists all Lines, for immediate and future dates; good Top for April 22. T. C. Rawes.

WANTED, for Glasgow and the North, Artists in all Lines. Lowest terms and full list of bookings to Frank Lyne, Empire, Liverpool.

WANTED, Artists in every Line for the North, including Hippo. Theatre, Perth, May June, and on. Drew Bayley, Agent, 170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, two weeks, April 22, 29, May 6, 13. Charles A. James, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for Tour. Apply, Mlle. Florence, Sat., Metropole, Abertillery; Monday, Victoria, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, nothing too big, for immediate and future dates. Lowest terms, &c. Dietrich's Vaudeville Bureau, 31, Islington, Liverpool.

WANTED, for Withernsea, Al Fresco Artists and Pianist (lady or gentleman). State where can be seen working. Harry Levaine, Lyric, Liverpool, till April 20.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, coming North, to send dates and terms.
Anderson's Agency, 6, Great Clyde-street Glasgow

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

FRED DURHAM'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for London, Leicester, Sheffield, Dover, Sandgate, Sheerness, &c. Send bookings and lowest terms, 1A, Loughborough-road, Brixton, London, S.W. Telephone, 15 Brixton.

WANTED, Artists of all Descriptions. Write or call, with full particulars,
J. W. Johnson,
Variety and Pantomime Agent,
86, Waterloo-road, S.E.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for Al Fresco. Ladies send photos. Apply, Ripley-Woodstock Agency, 36, Gerrard-street, W.

WANTED, First-class Artists only, for First-class Variety Theatres, immediate and future dates, also Pantomime.
Jess Verno's Agency, 16, Elizabeth-st., Liverpool. Telegrams, "Merriment." 'Phone, 2076, Royal.

WANTED, Refined and Gentlemanly Pierrot Artists for Prestwick, Girvan, and Saltcoats, Tenors, Baritones, Comedians, &c., also First-class Pianist; must be thoroughly acquainted with Concerted Numbers and Sketches. Photo., lowest terms, and fullest particulars, Ernest Hampson, 63, Stratford-rd., Heaton, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

SKIPTON, HOSPITAL GALA, JULY 13, 1907.
WANTED, Known, to Entertainment and Fireworks Caterers, Tenders are invited for the supply of Artists and Fireworks for the above event. Artists (£40), six items wanted (not more), giving two turns each; Fireworks (£15). Persons tendering for both Artists and Fireworks must state whether tenders are combined or separate. Tenders, endorsed "Entertainments," to be sent not later than Friday, April 19, 1907, to J. Ayrton, 7, Bright-street, Skipton, Yorkshire.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME, ROCHDALE.
WANTED, Known, Rehearsal Monday next, 2 o'clock, for: The Casey Circus, Sisters Clare, Lytton, Royal Quintette, Sugden and Davis, The Dunville Pictures, Chevalier Cliquot. Letters, Smith and Co., Red Lion Hotel, Rochdale.

EMPIRE, GREENOCK.
WANTED, Known.
Artists and Agents please Note,
that on and after May 6
this Theatre will be Closed.
for the Summer Season.
H. L. Skivington.

WANTED, Al-Fresco Artists and Managers to send 1 guinea for Medley Barrett's Concerted Numbers, especially "Home-made Hunting." 4, Lower Kennington-lane, S.E.

TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN.
WANTED, for the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Dublin,
All the Greatest Stars in the Profession,
Acts New in Dublin, for the above,
the Premier Variety Theatre in Ireland,
Direct or through Agents.
All communications to Will Sley,
41, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone, 09144.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities, for immediate and future dates. Terms and particulars to Brooks's Agency, 35, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, good Speciality and Novelty Acts for Summer, Seaside Halls. Lithos., terms, and particulars to Brooks's Agency, 35, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Star Acts for England and America, good Comedy Numbers. State where can be seen working; only First-class Turns entertained. The Albemarle Syndicate, 157, Strand, W.C. 'Phone 4957 Gerrard. Wires, "Templify, London."

WANTED, for Reading, Portsmouth, Glasgow, and Bristol, Variety Acts all Lines, Whit Monday, onwards. Lithos., Memos, Gannon, Westgrove, Bristol.

WANTED, outdoor Acts, £10 to £20, Whit week, attractive, with good lithos. Apply, Young, Estate Offices, Pwllheli, N. Wales.

HIPPODROME, SCARBORO'.
WANTED, Four good Acts, Monday next and April 22, onwards, new to the Town. Terms must be reasonable. Apply, Zalva, Scarboro'.

VENTOM SWIFT'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Best of Talent, immediate dates. Alhambra, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Specialities, Novelties, Comedians (Double Acts doing singles); Hall small, very lowest. W. B. Bostock, Manager, Palace of Varieties, Oldbury. Artists that have had no replies, please write again.

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, late Manager Blackpool, Morecambe, &c.; appointments only. Wanted, Dog Show, known to me; also Concert Parties. Address up to Tuesday, 46, Coram-st., Russell-square, W.C.; after, Douglas Hotel, Corporation-st., Manchester.

WANTED, First-Class Musical Novelty and Sensational Turns of every description, must be new to the town, for weeks July 1, onward; also High Diver for Pier Head. All particulars and terms to Robert Forsyth, Pier Pavilion, Folkestone.

WANTED, the Cream of the Profession; those new to London can always have a Trial Show; those that have written before, write again. Great Success, Jane Moore's "White Slavery," produced at the Empress, Brixton, Wednesday last, 18 in number; also Great Success of Dan Hendey and Gladys Standey. Contracts waiting Lade Henderson, Lily Arthur, Sauteron, Banks and Dog, Norah Noble, Laurie Wallis, Cissie Esdale, Nellie Kolle, T. P. Carrell, Stanley Ross, Harry Lynks, Ryder Davis, The Dewas (Dick and Dorothy).
Billy Henderson and Co.,
30, Handforth-road, Brixton-road, S.W.
Ring up, 2882 Hop.

CIRCUS, SPENNYMOOR, CO. DURHAM.
WANTED, Specialities of every Description, Comedians, in fact anything Funny.
P.S.—A good Property Man can
Open at Once.
Address, C. Algie.

WANTED, Top of the Bill, or Middle, for Baby "Romeo and Juliet" (Balcony Scene). Charming turn. Box 4,637, "The Era."

WANTED, Big Top of Bill, May 6, near Preston. Address,
Will Onda, Kenwyn, Penwortham, Preston.

GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME, STALYBRIDGE.
Lessee and Manager, James Fioni.
WANTED, Big Attraction, May 13.
James Fioni, 21, Norton-street, Liverpool.
'Phone, 1686 Royal. Tels., "Fioni, Liverpool."

WANTED, Japanese Troupe, Musical Acts, Risley Performers, Dogs, Equilibrists and Speciality Acts, for one week, June 17, 1907. Send full particulars, lithos., and terms, Freear and Son, 39, Dame-street, Dublin.

WANTED, a Big Sensation, such as Looping the Loop or Parachute Descent, also Turns, all Lines, for a Yorkshire Gala, Whit Monday and Tuesday. Full particulars, lowest terms, first letter, to Beanland and Emerson, Queen's Theatre, Castleford.

WANTED, Known, Broadstairs Band and Entertainment Committeee are prepared to engage a Concert Party of not less than five Artists, to give Entertainments on their Bandstand for six weeks or longer. Send all particulars of Party, with terms (sharing or otherwise) to Band Committee, Broadstairs.

HENRY KEMBLE'S AGENCY.
HENRY KEMBLE'S AGENCY.
HENRY KEMBLE'S AGENCY.
Temporary Office, Palace, Cork
(till June 6; then London).
(till June 6; then London).
WANTED, April 22, May 13, 20, and onward,
Novelties, Big Specialities,
Novelties, Big Specialities,
Novelties, Big Specialities,
Animal Shows, &c.
Animal Shows, &c.
Animal Shows, &c.
For London and the Country.
Send Dates, Lithos., Terms.
Mr. Kemble, at the close of the season, June 6, will open offices in London, when he will devote most of his time to the Agency. He will retain the General-Management and have the Sole Bookings for the above Hall (Palace, Cork), where all communications for the present should be addressed.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Big Variety Turns,
Big Variety Turns,
Big Variety Turns,
Big Variety Turns,
Big Variety Turns,
Big Variety Turns,
Big Variety Turns,
Big Variety Turns,
Big Variety Turns,
Big Variety Turns,

Something New and Up to Date,
Something New and Up to Date,
Something New and Up to Date,
Something New and Up to Date,
Something New and Up to Date,
Something New and Up to Date,
Something New and Up to Date,
Something New and Up to Date,
Something New and Up to Date,

Novelties and Sensational Acts,
Novelties and Sensational Acts,
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Novelties and Sensational Acts,
Novelties and Sensational Acts,
Novelties and Sensational Acts,
Novelties and Sensational Acts,
Novelties and Sensational Acts,
Novelties and Sensational Acts,

For Immediate and Future Dates, for
London, Liverpool,
Birmingham, Leeds, Newcastle,
Glasgow, Belfast,
Dublin, Manchester, Bolton,
Wolverhampton, Oldham,
Hartlepool, Shields, Barrow,
Carlisle, Darlington,
Hull, Middlesbrough, Stockport,
Blackpool, Morecambe,
Brighton, Boscombe, Margate,
Portsmouth, Southampton,
Bath, Lincoln, Leicester, Bradford,
Halifax, Sheffield, Blackburn,
Lancaster, Stockport, Burnley, Derby,
Attercliffe, Stoke, Grimsby.
St. Helens, Accrington, Warrington,
Bury, Hanley, Stockton, &c., &c.
Send, at once, terms, dates, and lithos.
Those having a good act can rely on getting
Immediate Work.
Will Sley,
Will Sley,
Will Sley,
Will Sley,
Will Sley,
Will Sley,
41, Oxford-street,
41, Oxford-street,
41, Oxford-street,
41, Oxford-street,
41, Oxford-street,
41, Oxford-street,
Manchester.
Manchester.
Manchester.
Manchester.
Manchester.
Manchester.

Telephone, 09144.
Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."

GEO. ZALVA'S INTERNATIONAL AGENCY.
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GEO. ZALVA'S INTERNATIONAL AGENCY.
GEO. ZALVA'S INTERNATIONAL AGENCY.
Residential Offices:
The Hippodrome, Scarboro'.
Sole Appointed Agent for the
Yarmouth and Lowestoft Hippodromes,
Hengler's Cirque, Glasgow.
Geo. Gilbert's Enterprises.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
for the above
and various other Towns,
Big Acts of every description for
Stage and Ring.
Absolute lowest price must be quoted in first instance, together with full list of bookings.
Silence a polite negative pro tem.
Now booking for Scarboro' Season, 1907.

Telephone, No. 288.
Telegraphic address, "Zalva, Scarboro'."

WANTED, Concert Parties, on Sharing Terms, May 27, June 3, 10, 17, and 24; seating accommodation for 900; big business can be done by really First-Class Shows. Robert Forsyth, Pier Pavilion, Folkestone.

CHARLES ELDERTON'S TOREADORS, WHITLEY PARK.
WANTED, First-Class up-to-date Picture Show, complete change each night, week nights twenty minutes' show, Sundays thirty minutes' show; list of Pictures, Double Turn, to do show in day time preferred; sixteen weeks from Whit Monday. Charles Elderton, T. R., Hebburn.

WANTED, Trio of Lady Acrobatic Dancers, also Short Acrobatic Pantomimist. References, photos., and lowest terms, Manager, 4, Kellett-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Several Young Ladies, for Music Halls; must have good voices, and be able to Dance well. Photos. and letters only (stamps for returning). Miss Harvey, c/o 116, Gowen-avenue, Fulham, S.W.

H. L. SKIVINGTON'S AGENCY.
H. L. SKIVINGTON'S AGENCY.
48, Brisbane-street, Greenock.
48, Brisbane-street, Greenock.
WANTED, Vocalists, Speciality Artists, and Comedians, to send vacant dates and lowest terms for Glasgow and District.

WANTED, a good Serpentine Dancer, dress must be good; also a Set of Stereoscopes, with or without Views. Payne, 346, Brixton-road, S.W.

WANTED, Girl for Vaudeville Stage, to learn Gymnastic and Dancing Act, age about 14-16; experience not necessary, but must be stylish, healthy, well-formed, quick, fair-featured, rather small for age; to the right one a good home and small salary will be given from the start. Grand opportunity for an ambitious girl. Address, or call between 1 and 2 p.m., J. D. Millman, 49, Rupert-street, Leicester-square.

WANTED, for London, Big Star Comedian and Comedienne, April 22; also First-class Snake Charmer and Egyptian Novelty Acts. Mlle. Ameda wire address. Alfred Saker and Co., Variety Agents, 17, Cranworth-gardens, S.W. 'Phone, 194 Brixton.

WANTED, First-class Comedians, Baritones, and Good Singing Soubrette; all must be excellent Artists, refined, young, and appearance.
Send terms, photos., age, répertoire, &c., to
Leonard Thiel, Pom-Poms, Palace, Grimsby.

WANTED, for Bognor Pier, Humorists, Specialities, Sopranos, Contraltos, Tenors, &c. Lowest Summer Terms first letter. Lessee, 60, Garrick-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, by W. J. Churchill's Minstrels, Llandudno, a couple of Knockabouts, also Double Bass, Cornet, and Flute Players, to join May 14 and on.

All letters to 18, Canterbury-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, Boys and Girls, Choristers, &c., must have good voices, age from 14 to 15.
Apply to Emma Don,
61, Holland-road, Brixton, London.

WANTED, Two Boys, with excellent voices, age 14, for Established Music Hall Troupe. Address, Stanley, Stanley's Urchins, Empire, Camberwell.

WANTED, Lecturer and Pianist, for Pictures, one who can sing or give humorous turn; also Young and Petite Lady Vocalist, with répertoire, for illustrated songs. Working Agent write. Apply, with photo. and full particulars, W. J., Curzon Hall, Birmingham.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Experienced Operator, thoroughly versed Electric (Gaumont's machine), for Music Hall, and assist as required; constant employment guaranteed to steady and conscientious worker. Full particulars, character, experience, salary required, to
Box 4,629, "The Era."

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

The World's Greatest Mystery.
WANTED, Wanted, Known,
LILITH THE MYSTERIOUS?
in her Palace of Roses.
LILITH THE MYSTERIOUS?
in her Palace of Roses.
LILITH THE MYSTERIOUS?
in her Palace of Roses.
The Prettiest and most Sensational Mystery ever presented. Elaborately Staged.
Always a draw.
Always a sensation.
Proprietors and Managers requiring a big Attraction should secure this Star Act.
Also, LILIAN WARREN'S VOCAL PICTURES, with beautiful Dissolving Effects.
This week, Grand Theatre, Hanley. April 15, Prince's Theatre, Accrington. April 22, Argyle, Birkenhead. Offers invited for May 13, 20, 27 (N. preferred). Sole Proprietress, Lilian Warren.

WANTED, Known, Messrs. Broadhead have the Original Venus. Hundreds turned away, Hippo., Hulme. Refer Percy Broadhead, Esq. Manager, Mr. L. Austin Millais.

WANTED, Known, the only Recognised Venus (late Lord Leighton's Original Model), Starring Messrs. Broadhead's, Manchester. Hundreds turned away last week at Hippodrome, Hulme; same this, Queen's Park. Refer Percy Broadhead, Esq. Managers, get the one and only Original Venus; reject substitutes. Don't be misled by distorted titles. All coms., L. Austin Millais.

WANTED, Monday next, also 22nd, by Alma Curzon, Comedienne; reliable turn. Wire or write, 12, Wellington-road, Egremont, Cheshire.

WANTED, Monday next, also 22nd, 29th, by George Ritter, Speciality Musical Comedian, introducing my latest novelty (the Cuckoo), Pictures, Al Fresco, &c. Wire for Monday, Buckhurst Hill, Essex.

WANTED, Monday next, by George Battle, Actor-Vocalist.
Wire, 3, Goswell-road, London, E.C.

WANTED, April 22, and on, for my Screaming Comedy Act, "Waking Them Up," four in number. Managers note, this is something new. J. Negus, 26, Straithville-road, Earlsfield.

WANTED, Known, many thanks for friendly warning; my successful Comedy Act, "Waking Them Up," fully protected. Produced Palace, Greenwich, March 25. J. Negus.

WANTED, Known, Wagner, the Musical Marvel, 8th week Hermann's Bright Lights; Liberty April 29. Sure success. Wire, People's Palace, Tottenham.

WANTED, April 22, 29, and Summer Dates, Halls, Piers, Al-Frescoes, Palette, the Premier Lightning Artist, and Marvellous Dog Max. Hippodrome, Sheerness.

WANTED, Engagements by W. Villroe, 9st., Champion Weight-lifter, Wrestler, and Handcuff King. Star Turn. Address, 2 Court, 10 House, Allen-street, Sheffield.

WANTED, Monday next, by Cambo, the Musical Monkey, Musical Cage, Musical Tree, and Cocoanuts, &c.; big drawing Novelty; also Ventriloquist. Wire, 98, St. George's-road, Southwark, London, S.E. Macnaghten Tour to follow.

WANTED, Monday and 22nd, C. H. Charlton, with Artistic Magic Act, great novelty, sure draw. Wire, Tiv., Dublin; after, Market-st., Hanley.

WANTED, Known, Herbert Lenton, Flying Aeroplane, Speciality, at Liberty for Halls, Fêtes, and Galas. Address, 9, Woodland-road, West Bridgeford, Nottingham.

WANTED, April 15, 22, 29, by Seves, Mental Telepathists, topped Easter Bill, Hippodrome, Yarmouth. Second engagement with G. Gilbert, Esq. Address, 138, Blake-st., Barrow.

WANTED, April 15, any distance. Wire, Tivoli, Dublin, Kyoto, Japanese Contortionist and Versatile Act; also May Geraldine, Comedienne and Dancer.

WANTED, Known, Le Brun and Irene, Equilibrists and Jugglers, introducing Little Edie, the Youngest and Smartest Girl Comedy and Expert Juggler. A Novel Act. Vacant May 20, onward. Add., Theatre Royal, Macclesfield.

WANTED, by Edward Clark and Sadie Gold, American Expert Banjoist, Singers, Dancers, Ap. 15, 22. Wire, 54, Chatham-st., New Kent-rd., S.E.

WANTED, Monday, on, The Mannikins, (Harry and Maud), Living Marionettes, Elaborate and Novel Show; also Double Singing and Dancing turn. T. R., Edmonton.

WANTED, April 29, May 13, on, The Monckton, in their Screamingly Funny Musical Comedy Episode, "Are Wives Dummies?" Gaiety, Blyth.

WANTED, Engagements, three distinct Turns, Zancig Thought-Reading, Conjuring, and Bioscope, together or separate. Lenton and Bertram, 251, Seven Sisters-road, N.

WANTED, Monday, and onwards, Shops, Halls, or Booths, for Collier and Child (Retsill and Myra), Second-sighters, Clairvoyance. Terms, £2. Wire, Manager, 164, Pentonville-road, N.

WANTED, Known, Hastings and Fields, Comedians and Dancers, with Speciality, Liberty Monday. Wire, Albert Hall, Southport. April 22, Grand, Rawtenstall.

WANTED, 15th, 23rd, by Bassett and Clarke, Burlesque Sketch Artists, Svengali and Trilby; re-engaged from last week. Big hit this. Thanks E. H. Bostock, Zoo-Hippodrome, for Contracts. Gaiety, Glasgow.

WANTED, Galas, Vaudevilles, Circus, &c., Turle and Turle, Knockabout Gymnastic Comedians, two acts. Just con. Alex. Pal., second season. Terms or shares. 10, Upper Gough-st., Birmingham.

WANTED, by Gravetto and Parr, Monday and 22nd, Clay Modellers, Vents., Jugglers, and Impersonators. 88, Boston-st., Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next, Walon Duo, Duettists, Dancers; Arthur Richards, Character Comedian; one or both. 14, Canterbury-street, Islington, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Sword and Robb, Comedians and Dancers, Liberty Monday, also April 22. Wire, 22, Booth-street, East Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next, also 22, 29, Sterling and Cashen, Military Comedy Duo and Dancers. Wire, Hippodrome, Wigan.

WANTED, Known, Onda and Leon, Greatest of all Comedy Bar Acts, Vacant 15th, 22nd. Wire, 24, Brook-street, Preston.

WANTED, April 15 and 29, by The Carls, Comedy Trampoline Act, that can follow them all. Roars of laughter and applause. Sure success. Splendid lithos. Just returned from The Scala, Haag. Halls, Fêtes, or Circuses. Wire for Mon., 23, Cooper's-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, April 22, by the Three Garellys, Unique Double Jugglers; and Alec Aubrey, Gymnast; Star Acts; Salary or Shares. Hippo., Burton.

WANTED, Monday next, also April 29, by Titan, Telka, and Wyllie (3 Acts), Musical Act and Ballad Vocalist. 61, Portland-cres., Leeds.

WANTED, by Attillas, Grecian Gladiators, and Most Sensational Strength Act, with new Competition, vacant 22nd and 29th. Wire, Palace, Cork.

WANTED, May 6 and 13, by Ara, Zebra, and Vora, through postponement of Continental Contract. Address all letters, Gaiety, Dundee.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, the Great Four Herberts, the Jolly Californian Farmers and Maid, are free to accept Fêtes, Galas, Seasides, &c., for June 10, 17, 24. Offers respectfully invited. April 15, Palace, Bradford. April 22, Palace, Halifax. Communications, Madame Herbert.

WANTED, April 15, 22, by Los Granadas, in their own Original Comedy Trampolin Act, "Sensational Happenings Outside an Hotel." Special scenery. May 1, Apollo, Paris. 64, Upper Sutton-street, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, immediate and future dates, for Fred W. Millis' Screamingly Funny New Ventriloquial Sketch, "A Speaking Likeness," also booked in conjunction, Miss Ivy Kildare, with her Original Illustrated Songs. For terms, share, or salary, apply, Fred W. Millis, Wattle Bloom, Broomwater, West Teddington.

WANTED, Known, Scotch Kriss, at Liberty May 27, June 3, on, two First-Class Acts, Vent., one figure show, Conjuring Specialite; good showy fit-up. Next week, Hippo., Blyth. Write, wire, or Marconigraph.

WANTED, April 22, 29, May 6, by Gulliver, Vent.; the hit of the programme, King's Lynn; also vacant Al Fresco. Address, Derngate, Northampton.

WANTED, Known, Geo. Gulliver thanks Messrs. Fortune and Granville for Stoll Contracts (return) at increase; also Gardner Brown, Esq., for offer to return to India for twelve months at increase; also F. Collins, Esq., for offer.

WANTED, Monday next, April 15, by Gulliver, Ventriloquist; First-Class Act; thoroughly up-to-date; huge success King's Lynn. Personally complimented by the management. Wire, H., Bury St. Edmunds.

WANTED, Whit Week and later dates, by Hulbert (Ventriloquist) and De Lil (Illusionist). Offers invited. Westminster M. H., Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, the Bros. St. Clair, the Great Comedy Cyclists and Bicycle Football Experts. Open Moss and Stoll. Open Moss and Stoll, June 17, 1907. June 17, 1907. Liberty April 15, 22. Wire, Queen's, Castleford. Perm., 14, Seaview-parade, Morecambe.

WANTED, Monday next and 22nd, for "Whizzing the Whirl," funniest thing on earth; also two Singles. Wire, Alexander, Empire, Hull.

WANTED, April 15, 22, "Battle of the Belles," Screamer, six people; "Lovemakers," Musical Sketch, sixteen people. Moule, 12, Patrick-st., Greenock.

WANTED, April 29, May 20, 27, on, for Leo's Comedy Co., in "Blundering Bertie," a Pocket Musical Comedy. 110, Inverness-place, Cardiff.

WANTED, Monday, also 22nd, by Billy Rosse and Co., greatest Comedy Act on the Stage, Queen's, Poplar, London, E. Wire for Draw.

WANTED, by Miss Ella's Lion Show, April 29, May 6 and 27.
London or Midlands preferred.

Communications week April 15,
New Hippodrome, Burton-on-Trent.

WANTED, Known, Caban's French Circus, Ponies, Donkeys, Goat, and Dogs, at Liberty April 15, 22, 29; also for Galas. Address, Caban, 4, Charles-street, Gloucester.

WANTED, Known, Devereux's Funny Troupe of Dogs, the most Original Show in the World, Liberty April 22, May 13. Palace Varieties, Bow, E.

WANTED, Known, Devereux's Comedy Troupe of Dogs, big Show for Galas, Piers, Pictures. Always a sure draw. Liberty May 13. Palace, Bow, E.

WANTED, Known, Alice Fontainbleau's World-famed Troupe of Dogs. Hippo., Hulme. Topping Bill this, Hippo., King's Lynn, Bury St. Edmunds.

WANTED, Known, Fontainbleau's Troupe of Canine Marvels, personally complimented by Management. Next week, Hippodrome, Bury. Vac. April 22. Care "Era."

WANTED, Monday next, also 22nd, Bush's American Dog Circus; greatest Animal Act on Earth. Wire, Grand Theatre, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, The Pygmies from Central Africa are Open for Engagements Whit Week and after. Apply, James Harrison, Brandesburton Hall, Hull.

WANTED, Known, to Hotels and Music Hall Proprietors, Cecil Fernleigh, Well-known Chairman and Refined Vocalist, Disengaged 19th; useful in daytime. Windmill Hotel, Old Humberston, Leicestershire.

WANTED, Known, Two All-round Gymnasts, doing First-class Act; have worked Halls with same, would join good Acrobatic or Statue Troupe. Particulars, Gymnasts, 140, Oak-street, Norwich.

WANTED, Known, Good Juggler and First-class Hoop Manipulator wishes to join Good Show. Address, Box 4,649, "The Era."

WANTED, by Youth (21), tall, smart appearance, Engagement in Cinématograph Show, Musical Sketch, &c.; good pianist and banjoist. M. R. S., 54, Crystal-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, Engagement, Public or Private, Harmon's Bioscope, Marionettes, also Royal Punch and Judy, with Toby. 326 Earlsfield-road, Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, Engagements, Piers or Tour, Clark's Royal Bioscopes, twenty minutes to two hours; steady, up-to-date Pictures; Change Weekly. Combine Baritone, assist Pianist. Vac. April, on. P.O., Hitchin.

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WANTED, Known, Tom Norman, Silver King (regd.), Auctioneer, Valuer, Expert and Authority to the United Kingdom and Van Dwellers' Association, Auctioneer to Lord George Sanger (England's Greatest Showman), and Leading Showmen of Great Britain. Sales and Commissions conducted in any part of the World. If you want to Buy or Sell anything connected with the Business, consult Tom Norman, Auction Dept., "The Era" Office, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand. Change of address. Wanted to purchase or engage, all kinds of Novelties and Curiosities (alive or dead), if suitable for exhibition.

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Try one of my famed parcels, containing
Ten English Lever and Twelve Silver Geneva Watches. Best Value ever Offered.
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SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

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to Showmen, Stallholders, &c.
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Good opening for Novelty Exhibitions, Side Shows, and Ground Booths, also Doll Frames, Emmas, and Sheets.

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WANTED, First-class Side-shows, for two shops, and two well-fitted Shops for Attractive Trades; electric lights; nominal rents; good Space for Toys. SECRETARY, World's Fair, Rhyl.

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WANTED, Novelties and Freaks, at all times, for HUMBER'S Permanent Waxwork, George-street, Aberdeen.

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WANTED, Midget People, male or female, mention height and salary expected. Wanted, to Buy, Seal, in healthy condition, or any suitable small animals. C. RELPH, Fair Ground, Wrexham.

WANTED, Lady or Gentleman Phrenologist and Character Reader, Caston's Famous Waxworks, opening this day for one month, other places to follow, wire; also want First-Class Lady Character Reader, for Pier, Aberystwyth, for the season. HAFERKORN, Waxworks, Pentre, S. Wales.

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will be Held at Headquarters,
the Black Lion Hotel,
on Tuesday Next, April 16,
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when all Members are requested to Attend.
Business Important.
(Signed) T. HURST, Secretary.

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Good Position
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Space required,
Bigger the Better.

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Tenders, which must give full particulars and details of the class of entertainment to be provided, endorsed "Tender for Entertainers," must be sent to me by Saturday, the 20th instant.

J. ERNEST JARRATT,
Town Clerk.

Town Hall, Southport,
April 8th, 1907.

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EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1.30, for:—
Herbert Darnley, in "Skirmisters," C. Randolph King, Brothers Egbert, Robb Gilmore, Cambrian Trio, Ryand and Hall, Mezetti and Mora, Kitts and Windrum, George Brooks, Lizzie Daniels.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for:—
Three Golden Graces, Bioscope, David Stewart, Sinclair and Whiteford, Dare's Marionettes, George Westland, Barton and Franklyn, Kroney Brothers, Kirbys, Mabel Green.

ZOO AND HIPPODROME, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for:—
Caicedo, Ted Curtis and Piccs, Bioscope, Vasilescu Troupe, the Howards, Edie King, Chas. Coborn, Tray and Rich, Ruby and Laws, Mabel Bardine and Co.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for:—
Bella and Bijou, Bioscope, Arabella Allen, Bert Harrow, Will Cornish, Soho Trio, Tom Lally, Leo Tell, "Office Hours."

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Tom Owen, Billy Ferrell, Drew and Alders, Daisy Mayer, Brothers Lang, Herbert Shelley, Wartenburg Brothers, Belloni's Cockatoos, Ten Loonies, Bioscope.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Zululand, Traphells, Gladys Mavins, Edwin Barwick, Nellie Wallace, Strolling Players, Chas. Robinson, Ryder Slone, Boy Glen, Bioscope.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Billy McClain's Sextette, Aurora Troupe, Tom Costello, Lillie Langtry, Lily Tiso, Jonghmanns Sisters, J. Alexander and Co., Spry and Monti, Three Tauberts, Van Biene and Co.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Hetty King, New Macs, Dorrells, Albert Whelan, Fitzroys, Anartos, Margaret Ashton, Burns and Burns, Speedwell, the Howes, Bioscope.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Lil Hawthorne, Barnard's Marionettes, Amy Russell, Hettie Chattell, Frobel and Ruge, Ed. E. Forde, Sylvesta, Celtic Comedy Trio, Bioscope, "Duchess of Tooting."

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Wilkie Bard, A. W. Scott, Barrett and Knowles, Chronophone, Montague Bros, Nellie Stratton, the Cumberlands, Madge Temple, Arthur Gill.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
"Indian Mutiny," Bioscope, J. W. Rickaby, the Tupps, Agnes Molteno, Ruby Dahl, Mdlle. Von Etta, Three Missouris, J. W. Rowley.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Savonas, Three Cape Girls, Bioscope, Frank Lynne, Ed. Arthur and Co., Cussac, Talma, Geretti Sisters, Florence, Alice May and Co., Harmony Four.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Tom Reece, Cline and Clarke, Bioscope, Rhoda Bros., Bohemians, Barton Ashley, Gus Garrick, Seeley and West, Clita Clifford, Victor Newman, Clive Darrell.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
Ross and Grayson, Marzella's birds, Millie Lindon, Horace White, La Milo, Five Osranis, Barbara Babbington, Lindon Vaudeville Co., Harry Marte, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
J. A. Wilson, Paul Conchas, Motramos, Beattie and Blanche, Jennie Johns, Ellis Barrieton, J. F. Preston and Co., David Poole, Claire Romaine, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
Starr and Leslie, Daisy Jerome, Boswell's Circus, Walter King, Kellinos, Ian Colquhoun, Woodhouse and Wells, Genaro and Theol, Harry Ford, Tom Finglass.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
Sisters Macarte, Frank Leslie, Dion Wade, Alexandre and Hughes, Frank Bertram and Co., Godfrey James, "Happy Holland," Dennie Drew and Boys, Bransby Williams, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3, for:—
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EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 3, for:—
Ethel Ra Leslie, Lilieth Leyton and Co., Chung Ling Soo, Herbert Rule, Geo. Newburn, Madge Grey, Roma and Romani, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
Four Royal Welshmen, McConnell Trio, Eily Adair, Percy Honri, Hall and Earle, Fred Storey and Co., Bioscope, Illustrated Song, the Kremos, Ernie Mayne.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30, for:—
Harry Bedford, Chas Norton, Horace Goldin, Abdullah Arabs, Fred Elton, Jeannie Mackay, Bioscope, Illustrated Song, Harry Carlton and Co.

ARDWICK EMPIRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Boissett's "Wild West," Bioscope, Eadie and Ramsden, Otto and Olga, Russell Wallett, Sisters Grovini, Harry Simms, Hurley and Cole, Millie Howell, "King for a Day."

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Rehearsal at 2, for:—
"Treasure Ship," Bioscope, Flo. Somers, Helene and Emilon, Die Vier Provinzen, Harry Coutts and Co., Sousloffs, Illustrated Song, Piccolinos, Alice Blandford.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
Eugene Stratton, Syd May, Ruth Lytton, Carter Livesey and Co., Mark Merry, Phil and Nettie Peters, Elsie Clare, Dan Leno, jun., Leipsig, Bioscope.

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EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
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Rehearsal at 3, for:—
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CALLS for MONDAY, APRIL 15, 1907.
Rehearsals at 1 p.m.

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Grais' Baboon Prodigies, Dene and Dawson, Harry Weldon, Russell and Reed The Musical Schafers, Rezene and Robini, Vernon's Bioscope, J. W. Hall.

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Nat Clifford, Acland, Bliss and Bliss, Nellie Martell, The Picquays, Earle and Melville, Marie Collins, Vernon's Bioscope, New York Nippers.

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Fred Karno and Co., Nelson and Thomas, Daisy Morell, Martine and Son, Jennie Evans, Marstro and Oretta, Rowland Hill, Vernon's Bioscope, "The Punch and Judy Girls."

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Sam Elton, Carrie Joy, The Nettas, Albert Wyndham and Co., Bernard and Weston, Les Valdos, Vernon's Bioscope, Corman's Juveniles.

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Pat Rafferty, the St. Johns, Louis Hardt, George French, the Belmores, Bob Stephenson, Vernon's Bioscope, the Dreadnoughts, the Decars.

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CALLS.
FOR WEEK COMMENCING
MONDAY, APRIL 15, 1907.

PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT.
SPECIAL NOTICE.
Rehearsal at all Halls, Monday, at 12.0 sharp.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Edward Ranier and Co., Edie Endon, Pictures, Bert Danson, Frank Mara, Katie Eplett, Steve Knoto.

PALACE, LINCOLN.
Bert Coote's Girls, Elsie Roby, T. C. Jacques, Beau and Belle, The Henres, Rich and Rich, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, La Belle Mai.

PALACE, BATH.
"Prince of Monte Carlo," Arthur Goodman, Minnie Fenton, Meier and Mora, Bertha Winder, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Wal Robbins.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Deane Tribune and Co., Charlie Williams, Sisters Hall, Four Herberts, Florrie Bray, Brull and Hemsley, Richardson Taylor, Diamond and Beatrice, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Ginnett's "Dick Turpin," Sisters Marion, Penstone, Vera Mayne, Wallau, Edna Latonne, Ben Albert, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, HALIFAX.
Prof. Selkirk, Adey Spencer, Johnny Dwyer, Gold and Sterling, Kisbey, Clown Barker, Blake and Granby, Arthur Croxon, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE, W. HARTLEPOOL.
Six Aeolians, The Coolvilles, Joe Dale, The Lombarts, Walker and May, Three Pirmans, Tiny Arnold, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Victoria Monks, Mike Cray, Lise Rolland, Fioretti and Elly, The Krags, John Macaulay, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Andie Burn, Leslie Harris.

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Picture Entertainment.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
"A False Wife."

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Matinée every Monday.
Harry Anderson, Winnie Derson, Madeline Rossiter, "The Orange Girl," Sisters Edwards, Hillman and Russell, Raymond, Williams and Warden, Chris Baker, Capt. Devereux, Bros. Redmond.

THE BRITANNIA.
Matinée Monday.
Lottie Govell, Chas. Lilburn, Harry Wright, Nellie Gannon, Peggy Fame, Leoni Clarke, Sisters Florence, Bros. Raynor, Vaudeville Sketch Co., Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

FORESTERS.
Matinées Monday and Thursday.
Arnold Bell and Co., Victor Travers, Sisters Lunelle, The Waltons, Hippodrome Girls, Chas. Gardener, The Zampas, John Coyle, Bros. Smart, Raymond, Clifton and Gibson.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday.
Tennyson and Wallis, Billy Williams, Fred Land, Marguerite Broadfoote, Tom Moore, Jack Rae, Jack Martin, Tivoli Girls, The Ashwells, Raymond, Fred Southern Sketch Co.

SURREY THEATRE.
All Artists engaged for Surrey Theatre must bring 14 Band parts.
Galletti's Monkeys, Mignonette Kokin, The Three Graces, Marion Scott, Edmunds Troupe, Bert and Dora, Satsuma, Flo Warner, Billy French, Raymond, The Mayvilles, Simosa San, Maros.
Matinée every Monday.

Notice.—All artists carrying Scenery must have it Fireproof, according to L.C.C. regulations, otherwise it will not be allowed in the Halls.

All Bill Matter or Notification of Appearance must be sent in 14 days prior to opening. All Artists must attend Band Rehearsal, or their Contracts may be cancelled at the option of the Management.

N.B.—All Billing Matter, accompanied by Pictorials, and Business Communications relating to the Provincial Circuit, must be addressed to the
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"GROW, LITTLE MUSHROOM, GROW."
"PANSY."
"MY MONTANA MAID."
"CAN'T YOU FIND A LITTLE TIME TO SAY 'GOOD EVENING'?"
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Secretary and Manager, **Mr. C. Standfield**
Calls for Monday, April 15, '07.

PALACE, DOVER.
Raymond, Horace Monto, Laurie Wallis, Cissy Coman, Will Bacchus, Bros. Ralston, Sam Redfern, Valvero.

ALHAMBRA, SANDGATE.
Milsted and Bell, Raymond, Harry Morgan, Florrie Leonard, The Courtney Family, J. H. Carney, Constance-Juno, Bessie Travis, Frederica.

GRAND, SHEFFIELD.
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GLASGOW PAVILION.
CALL for Monday, April 15, 1907 7. Twice Nightly. 9.
Rehearsal at 11 o'clock for:—
Marie Lloyd, The Cabiacs, Lloyd Morgan, Edw Boyde, Janet Howard, Reynolds, Valazzi, Eh. Lane, Maud Vera, Irma Lorraine.

GREENOCK PAVILION.
Rehearsal at 2 o'clock for
Driscoll and Beattie, Crown Trio, Kent and Keith, Annie Nelson, Pavoscope, and Company as booked.
All bill matter must be sent to Glasgow fourteen days ahead. Failing this, Artists will run the risk of having their Contracts cancelled. By order, SAMUEL LLOYD, General-Manager.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, NEW HIPPODROME.
CALL, Monday, April 15.
Rehearsal 12.30.
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General-Manager, Mr. FRED LEIGHTON.
CALL, Monday, April 15, 1907.
Tokio Troupe, Miss Amy Elvira, Lizzie Warland, Ryder Davis, Palette, Eva Ward, Bert Rayner, and Cissie Reece.
Band Rehearsal, Monday, 10 o'clock.

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The husband has a bad pain in his back. His wife gets an electric belt; puts it in his overcoat; it makes him jump all over the place and want to kiss every woman he meets. He is arrested; the magistrate accidently puts on the coat and goes through the same performance; many amusing complications follow. This is one of the most humorous films we have ever produced, and is bound to be a large seller.

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"THE CRUISE OF THE OPHIR,"

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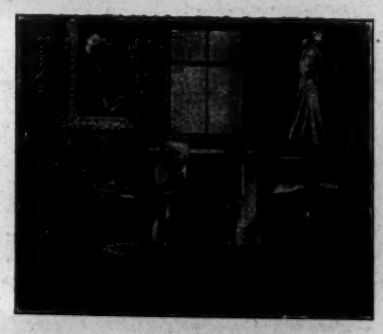

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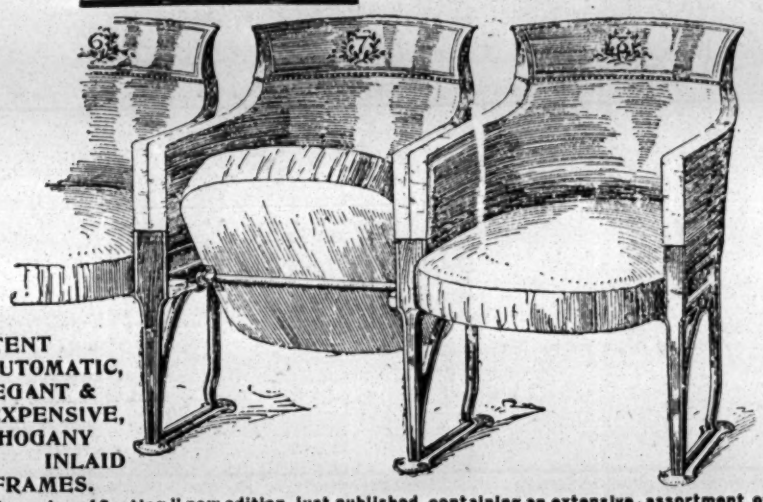

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THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"TIMON D'ATHENES,"

Play, in Five Acts, by M. Emile Fabre, produced At Antoine's on April 12.

Timon d'Athènes	M. DE MAX
Apémantes	M. GEMIER
Avagoras	M. MAXENCE
Alcibiade	M. FLATEAU
Astoclès	M. COLAS
Démos	M. DALLEU
Cléom	M. BOUTHORS
Aspasie	MLLE. GILDA DARTY
Nisoea	MLLE. SUZANNE DE BEHR
Praxagora	MLLE. VENIAT
Myrtion	MLLE. TOULOUZE

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, April 18.—M. Emile Fabre, the distinguished author of *La Vie Publique* and *Les Ventres dorés*, has also been attracted by the fascinating story of Timon of Athens, immortalised by Shakespeare. For some unknown reason, the work, written many years ago, was not brought out in Paris, but in Marseilles, where it was not sufficiently well appreciated; and M. Gémier promised himself to produce it the moment he became manager of the Antoine Theatre. He has kept his word, and has shown himself a worthy successor of Antoine. M. Fabre, who in his previous works already showed us his great contempt for latter-day political morals, has had a fine opportunity of pouring forth his mordant satire. His Timon is what the great Napoleon used to call an "ideologist." He believes in the sincerity of his friends, and helps them with money, loading them with presents and using his influence on their behalf. And then comes the crash. Athens has been devastated, and poor Timon is ruined. Penniless and sad, he appeals to those he has befriended, but, to his surprise, he finds himself deserted by all. He has the good sense to follow Alcibiade's advice, and joins him in an expedition against the island of Minos. Having looted like the rest, Timon returns to his native city a wealthy man. Despite the severe lesson he received, he is still the ideologist of before, and his ambition now is to reform society. He starts with the aristocracy, and establishes what he considers an ideal community. When he finds the aristocrats selfish and greedy, he turns his back on them, goes over to democracy, and gives the power to the people. He has every reason to feel sorry for having tried the experiment. The mob is unjust, unthinking, narrow-minded, and ill-bred into the bargain. He has been their benefactor, and they reward him by hounding him out of the town. This time, however, he has had enough of politics, and withdraws to a neighbouring wood, where, on hearing of the fall of Pallas, he kills himself. It is a clever play, and a masterpiece of staging. Less praise must be bestowed upon the acting. M. de Max was most unsatisfactory in the chief rôle, and, with the exception of M. Gémier, who was an impressive Apémantes, the other exponents were hardly up to the mark.

A CURIOUS action has been brought against M. Alphonse Franck, the Gymnase manager, by Mlle. d'Orliac. When that lady brought him her play *Le Joujou tragique* M. Franck accepted it with enthusiasm. In fact, he was so delighted that instead of inserting in the contract the usual sum of £400 to be paid to the author in case of non-production, he raised the amount to £800. *Le Joujou tragique*, thereupon, was put into rehearsal, but in the meantime M. Franck received from M. Bernstein and from MM. de Flers and de Caillavet two plays that took his fancy. He then stopped the rehearsals, and informed Mlle. d'Orliac that her piece would be produced—at an indefinite period. "In that case," replied Mlle. d'Orliac, "pay me the sum we agreed upon!" "£800!" exclaimed M. Franck. "Never! According to the Society's rules, you can claim only half that sum." The case will now come before the Authors' Society, and if these worthies cannot arrive at a settlement the affair will be brought into a court of law.

THE interesting event this week has been the opening of the new Apollo music hall in the Rue de Clichy. Every praise is due to M. Auburtin, the architect, for the manner in which he has acquitted himself of his task. The hall is spacious, beautifully decorated, and the seats so arranged that from every part of the house a perfect view can be obtained of the stage—a thing unknown in the existing Paris music halls. The performance, too, is of a high order, and the excellent programme includes the names of such well-known artists as Miss Vickey Delmar, Estio-Luigi (champion ball jugglers), Wynne Brothers, Mr. Wood and the Sisters Rosie, the Snowdrops, Hale and Francis (the American globe experts), the Elsa-Satanella Trio, Trilby and Svengali, the great Rapoli, and the Kaufmanns (cyclists). But the sensation of the evening is "The Basculo." At 11.30 the people are requested to leave the stalls. The shrill sound of a whistle is heard, and, to the bewilderment of the audience, the floor slowly begins to revolve on its axis. For a moment we see it perpendicular over the abyss below; it topples over, the stalls disappear, and the hall becomes a dancing-room—the "Bal du Tout-Paris"—whereon the Snowdrops, Les Clodoches, Mlles. Tanagra and Farfalla, and the adepts in the Paris quadrille disport themselves. Management and artists may be congratulated on the success they achieved.

THE Opéra-Comique has given us *Circé*, a lyric poem in three acts, by M. Edmond Haraucourt, music by M. Hillemacker. Everybody knows the story of Circe, who changed men into swine. In the first act we are shown Ulysses' companions at Circe's residence. They have not undergone the ugly physical metamorphosis, but, voluptuous and drunk, they behave like pigs, which comes pretty well to the same thing. Ulysses, guarded against the enchantment by a drink given him by Mercury, comes to Circe, and, sword in hand, demands the restoration of his friends to their normal state. But he falls in love with the sorceress, and only towards the end of the last act remembers his faithful Penelope, when, after a little hesitation, he returns to Ithaca. The symbolic story is simple enough, but in the libretto it is drowned in gallons of philosophy. The music, also, is too philosophical. It is compact, solid, well orchestrated, but lacking in charm.

THE Opéra-Comique also produced *La Légende du Point d'Argentan*, in one act, by MM. Henri Cain and Bernède, music by M. Félix Fourdrain. It is a pretty story, prettily told. The secret of manufacturing the famous lace, called "Point d'Argentan," having been lost, a reward is offered to whoever discovers it. A poor woman whose child is ill, anxious to earn the money, prays to the Holy Virgin, and prays so hard that the heavenly maid comes to her during the night with a little army of angels, and in a short time manufactures yards of "Point d'Argentan." The woman finds the lace in the morning, and all she has to do is to sell it and grow rich. As usual, M. Carré has distinguished himself in the way of staging.

LA COMEDIE-ROYALE, the new house in the Rue Caumartin, will open on Monday next, with *La Maison n'est pas au coin du thé*, a revue by M. Gabriel Timmory. The cast, a strong one, comprises many well-known artists: MM. Galipaux, Tauffenberger, and Mmes. Arletto Dorgère, Valentine Petit, and Marion Davencey.

MM. MESSAGER AND BROUSSAN, the new managers of the Opéra, announce that one of the first works they intend to produce will be *Le Prince Igor*, by Borodine. They have also made arrangements with Mme. Cosima Wagner's representative to bring out *The Dusk of the Gods* and *Rheingold*.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"THEODORA,"

Musical Drama, in Four Acts, by Xavier Leroux, Produced at the Royal Opera by the Monte Carlo Court Company, April 11.

Théodore	MLLE. HEGLON
Tamyris	MDLLE. FRICHE
Antonine	MLLE. DURIF
Iphis	MLLE. DELOMBRE
Callirhoe	MLLE. BARBYRE
Andreas	M. ROUSSELIERE
Justinien	M. RENAUD
Marcellus	M. BOUVET
Belisaire	M. CHALMIN
Faber	M. ANANIAN
Eudemon	M. LEQUIEN
Nicéphore	M. GLUCK
Mundus	M. MEURISSE
Styrax	M. ARMAND
Euphratas	M. GILBERT
Timocles	M. ARNAUD
Michel	M. DOLESTAN

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, April 18.—This work—to the best of my knowledge—has never been heard in Berlin before. It cannot be said that we have lost much, or that the Monte Carlo Opera have greatly added to their laurels by including the work in their repertory. The music is neither good nor bad; it endeavours—in keeping with the book—to present an Oriental character, and is at times effective, though never original. Sardou's text is too well known to need description; it has a highly dramatic plot, the realism of which should satisfy the most bloodthirsty spectator. The singers have but little chance of distinguishing themselves vocally, the chief demands made upon them being to weep and groan and shriek. In addition to this, several of the artists were evidently indisposed. A fashionable audience filled the house fairly well, and their Majesties, with several members of the Imperial family and the Prince of Monaco, were in the State box. Verdi's *Don Carlos*, given by the Monte Carlo guests on Tuesday night, achieved a greater success, although the opera cannot be reckoned among the composer's best productions. The interpretation was a good deal more satisfactory than that of some of the other works given by the company, notably *Méphistophélès* and Berlioz' *Damnation de Faust*—a work never intended for the operatic stage. M. Renaud, M. Chaliapine, and M. Rousselière gave the best renderings.

FROM an "entente cordiale" point of view, the Monte Carlo "Gastspiel" has been a complete success, from an artistic point of view less so. Being a "gift-horse," criticism is inadmissible. The Prince of Monaco—who has been the Kaiser's guest for the last ten days—has defrayed the whole of the enormous expenses himself, and placed the proceeds of the eight performances at the disposal of the Kaiser for German charities. All that was asked of Berlin was a theatre to act in and an orchestra. Nearly two hundred persons—including soloists, chorus, and ballet—were brought over from Monte Carlo. The artistic management was in the hands of Raoul Gunsbourg, who has proved himself a very capable and tasteful manager. The Kaiser's interest in the season was naturally great, his Majesty attending the majority of the performances with his princely guest, and singling out the composers Massenet and Saint-Säens, as well as several of the artists, for exhibitions of his good-will. Among the artists, Mlle. Brozia, of the Paris Opera Comique, Rénaud, the famous French baritone, Rousselière, a capital tenor, and Schaliapine, the eminent Russian bass, made the greatest hits; but the representations, taken as a whole, were not so good as those of many an important German opera company. The last-mentioned singer was exiled from his native country for political reasons, leaving the Imperial Opera at Petersburg for America. Schaliapine is a close friend of Maxim Gorki, the two men having been fellow tramps in their early youth, before the world of art and letters "discovered" them.

AFTER the recent production—detailed in your columns—of a play by the German author Bernstein, the Neues gave last week *Der Dieb* (the thief), by the French writer of the same name. It is a sensational piece, with melodramatic effects, but, notwithstanding a good deal that appears unnatural, the whole is skilfully put together. The story of the extravagant young wife, who robs her best friend gradually and systematically to pay for her follies, and allows the blame to rest upon a youth who is in love with her (the friend's only son), is doubtless known to your readers. It was admirably interpreted, and met with a most cordial reception, many of the audience being visibly moved by the rather overdone pathos of some of the scenes.

HERR BONN, manager of the Berliner, is nothing if not original. He is always doing funny things, and he enjoys the local fame they bring him. One night last week he issued a houseful of invitations to what he termed a general rehearsal. The piece performed was written by Herr Bonn himself, and entitled *Der Junge Fritz*. It is the first part of a patriotic play, representing scenes in the life of Frederick the Great. *Der Junge Fritz* depicts the king in several familiar situations, the scene between himself and his father (the rigid punishment which followed youthful insubordination) being the best. The piece met with a very cordial reception, and was well interpreted, Herr Bonn taking the name part. At the conclusion the author made a speech to his guests, stating—candidly enough—that he had been hawking his play about for eight years, never finding anyone willing to take it. He had, therefore, chosen this method of making his work known. Herr Bonn added, with charming naïveté, that the reasons for the refusal of his play were utterly incomprehensible to him.

AT the Deutsch-American Theatre the company of the Theatre des Westens are holding the boards for a time. On Wednesday last Hervé's three-act vaudeville *Mamselle Nitouche*—the book by MM. Meilhac and Millaud—was produced, meeting with genuine and hearty appreciation. The merry little operetta has not been done here for some time, but it will in all probability remain for a good while now that it has come. It was very well acted and sung.

MADAME NEVADA made her appearance here a few nights ago, after an interval of many years. She sang the part of Lakmé at the Komische Oper, but was suffering so acutely with a bad throat that the results were unfavourable, and criticism would be out of place. Madame Nevada (in private Mrs. Palmer) has returned to her home in Paris, but intends to come again before long.

WOLF FERRARI'S pretty little comic opera *Die Neugierigen Frauen*, which met with such great success two seasons ago at the Theatre des Westens, is to occupy the stage of the Komische Oper while Herr Gregor is in London. The services of Herr Pfitzner, the eminent composer and kapellmeister, have been engaged for the time, he having superintended the work on its first production.

"ALT-HEIDELBERG" has been revived once more, and at the New Schauspielhaus this time. Herr Walden, who created the rôle of Karl Heinrich, gave the part of the youthful prince in the same sympathetic manner as at the première, and the rest of the cast was very satisfactory.

HANS SOMMER'S new "fairy" opera, *Riquet mit dem Schopf*, was produced at the Court Theatre at Brunswick on Sunday. Excellent things are reported of it, and the reception is said to have been enthusiastic. The work will be given here early next season.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

THE GERMAN THEATRE.

Comedy was still the dominant note of Herr Hans Andresen's third production of the season at the Great Queen-street Theatre, which, on Monday evening, rang with hearty bursts of laughter over Gerhart Hauptman's clever farce, *Die Biberpelz*, an English translation of which was produced at the Court Theatre in the spring of 1905. The rôle upon which the fun chiefly depends is that of a provincial magistrate, who conducts an inquiry into a series of thefts in general, and of a fur coat in particular, organised by Frau Wolff, a crafty washerwoman, and although convinced of his own wisdom and astuteness, the official is deceived by all and sundry. Herr Carl William Büller, who played the part, made a palpable hit on his introduction to London. He is a matured comedian of natural methods and considerable resource, and was very droll throughout, both in speech and action, his pomposity and self-complacency being irresistible. Fräulein Ida Müller-Bardon exercised a similarly comic effect as a woman of the lower class, who manages to "bluff" everybody into believing that she is innocent of all crime, when in reality she is the prime mover in the petty larcenies which are the subject of judicial inquiry. Herr Hans Andresen gave a capital characterisation of the wealthy Krüger, whose pursuit of his property leads to such droll results; Herr Carl Winter was suited admirably in the part of Dr. Fleischer; Herr Paul Wind gave a skilful embodiment of the artful and insinuating mariner Wulkon; Herr Carl Berger gave a clever study of a bibulous policeman; and Fräulein Ida Mahr and Elsa Steele are to be praised for their renderings of the two daughters of Frau Wolff, whose husband was also a striking impersonation at the hands of Herr Hermann Merz.

The comedy, in three acts, entitled *Die Von Hochsattel*, by Leo Stein and Ludwig Heller, was played on Wednesday evening. The character whose name is used as the title of the play is an eccentric old gentleman who resides on the fourth floor of the house that once entirely belonged to his family. He has, amongst other peculiarities, a strong prejudice against the Jews, and it is a sore point with him that a member of the chosen race, one Von Rosenstock, should be the owner of the house and occupy with his family the first floor. Much against the old man's wish, his son, Ulrich, has become an opera singer. A letter addressed to Ulrich is opened by his father. It contains an invitation to the young man to sing at an "At Home" to be given by the Rosenstocks, and enclosed in payment for his services is 1,000 marks. Hochsattell regards the proferred payment as an insult, and angrily resolves to interview Rosenstock on the matter. Ulrich, calling on his father's neighbour, meets Hedwig, the Jew's daughter, and the young people quickly become good friends. Old Hochsattel puts in an appearance, and indignantly returning the money sent to his son, gives Rosenstock a piece of his mind. However, when the discussion has reached a very heated stage Ulrich himself appears and announces, to his father's disgust, that he will accept with pleasure the invitation to sing. In the last act Ulrich and Hedwig discover that they love each other, and all congratulate the happy pair with the exception of Hochsattel, who is quite horrified at the idea of his son marrying a Jewess. Eventually, however, finding he has no support, he gives in. Herr Carl William Büller presented a clever and delightfully amusing sketch of the Freinherr. Hans Andresen was also excellent as Rosenstock, making his points with the ease and skill of an experienced actor. Herr Paul Breitfeld played naturally and effectively as Ulrich; and neat portraits of Adolf, Rosenstock's nephew, and of Graf Wilms, who aspires to the hand of Hedwig, were presented by Herr Carl Winter and Herr Hans Stock. The merriment was considerably increased by the genuinely humorous way in which Herr Hermann Merz played the part of Adler, a Jewish theatrical agent. Frau Ida Müller-Bardon as Rosenstock's wife gave a comical embodiment of that very pompous lady; and Fraülein Elsa Steele was bright and pleasing as Hedwig. The minor rôles were all carefully played.

MR. ARTHUR VERNE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—May I encroach upon your kindness and space to present to your readers and friends the sad case of Mr. Arthur Verne, comedian? Mr. Verne joined my *Dare-Devil Dorothy* company in December, 1902, as principal comedian, and played the part till March, 1906, when, through weakness in the legs, he was compelled to relinquish his engagement. He was under medical treatment at his home till May, when he went into hospital as an in-patient till July. He was discharged, and rejoined the company, Aug. 13; but in September, four weeks after, at Manchester, was suddenly stricken with paralysis in the right side, leaving him entirely helpless, and, of course, had to resign his part again. Since then, to the present time, he has been totally incapacitated, and although a very prudent and well-living man, his savings are quite exhausted.

Mr. Verne's previous engagements were:—Four years with *The Prodigal Parson*; he also toured with *The Days of Cromwell*, *Our Irish Visitors*, &c.; pantomimes at Standard Theatre, London; Princess's, Glasgow (two seasons); Theatre Royal, Manchester; Grand Theatre, Cardiff; Theatre Royal, Plymouth, &c.

I should like to say that during the long period Verne was under my management I always found him sober, industrious, and a splendid comedian and dancer, and always willing to help brother artists in distress.

I feel sure there are many old friends who would be glad to help poor Verne now he is unable to help himself.

Subscriptions will be gratefully received and acknowledged by Henry Swinerd, Royal Artillery Theatre, Woolwich; or by J. W. Cordiner, *Dare Devil Dorothy* Company, en route.—Yours truly,

HENRY SWINERD.

Royal Artillery Theatre, Woolwich, S.E.
April 12, 1907.

Already Received:—	£	s.	d.
Henry Swinerd	5	5	0
J. W. Cordiner	5	5	0

LYRIC OPERA HOUSE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, April 15, the Melodrama,
"A WRECKER OF MEN."

The well-known melodrama, described as a story of a modern Delilah, is this week being presented at the above house by Mr. Samuel James's stock company. Miss Florence Dalton, in the leading part of Risca Mallison, a woman with a past, is excellent. Miss Dalton's acting is powerful and thrilling. Mr. H. Gray Dolby makes Jim Morley, the slogger, a most interesting character, whose career is keenly followed by the audience. Mr. Herbert Hewetson looks sufficiently villainous as Pharosaphus, the Egyptian wanderer, and Mr. Albert Brasque plays Railton, the silent servant, well. Mr. D. G. Noble puts plenty of energy into the part of Guise Strange. Mr. Edmund Cuthbert as the Hon. Reggie Verincourt is good, and Mr. J. P. Dryden is Ezekiel Isaacs, a Jew. Miss Florence Lovel is a pleasing Marion Isaacs, and Miss Laura Leycester as Doris Melville is a tender and loving sister to Eric Melville, her dissipated brother, a part well sustained by Mr. Sidney Hallows. Mr. Percy Allen as Karnaphus, a mummy, Mr. Ashton Winslow as Detective-Inspector Bransmere, Mr. George Rawlings as Ishma, and Miss May Seton as Vavasole Slopper are all satisfactory. The play is well staged, and a word of praise must be added for Miss Dalton's dresses.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDARE.—New Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Z. Andrews.—The attraction here this week is Mr. Joseph Poole's latest Myriorama and Variety Amusement Amalgamation. The pictures are excellent, the special production of Venice being worthy of great praise. Mr. Natt Abott is a very popular guide and raconteur. The Paulasto Troupe, sensational eccentrics, are very clever; Felix Somers, a facial expert, gives some skilful representations of "People we Know"; Mlle. Juanita de Ollviera's wonderful collection of performing cockatoos provides a very interesting turn; Pauletti, a trick cyclist, is worthy of special mention; the Veronas are two clever lady dancers and vocalists; the Silly Selbys, the musical clowns, cause roars of laughter; and Miss May Finch, in song-scena, adds greatly to the evening's enjoyment.

ABERDEEN.—His Majesty's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—Mrs. Russ Whytal and company appear this week in a cycle of Shakespearean plays. On Monday, in *Romeo and Juliet*, Mrs. Whytal played Juliet with much tenderness and pathos in the love episodes, and with an intensity that showed to some extent the measure of her tragic powers in the latter scenes of the drama. Mr. Henry Le Grand interpreted Romeo with considerable power; Mr. Stratton Rodney was an excellent Mercutio; and other male parts were well filled by Mr. F. Pennington Gush, Mr. S. Hawley, Mr. Osborne, Mr. G. E. Polson, Mr. Eardley Turner, Mr. Wilfred Beckwith, and Mr. J. J. Bartlett. Miss Eugénie Vernie made a capital Nurse, and Miss Ada Marius and Miss F. Aynesworth appeared with success as Lady Capulet and Lady Montague. *Twelfth Night* was presented on Tuesday, with Mrs. Russ Whytal as Viola; and among the other pieces for the week are *The Merchant of Venice* and *Much Ado About Nothing*. Mr. G. S. Titheradge, who was unable to appear on Monday in *Romeo and Juliet*, is billed for Malvolio, Shylock, and Benedict in the other plays.

Palace Theatre. — Managing-Directors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Resident Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—The visit of Georg Hackenschmidt completely crowds the theatre this week. The Davis-Gledhill trio give an exciting display of trick cycling; and Ben Harris and his clever "nippers" keep the audiences in an almost continuous roar of laughter by their appearance in the mirth-provoking boxing sketch, *A Promising Pupil*. Among the other successful artists on the bill are Miss Nellie Dunbar, an attractive comedienne; Rene and Smith, comedians, dancers, and ball-punchers; Mr. Charles Ashdowne, eccentric comedian; Hans and Lux, the "argumentative college chums," and Mr. Francis O'Flynn, a clever banjoist.

ACCRINGTON.—Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—Lilith tops the bill here and receives a fair share of applause; Hector and Sultan deserve to be complimented on their clever comedy act; Lilian Warren gives an interesting show; Prince Ishmael and Mlle. Valeria are smart illusionists; Le Diable Rouge is pleasing; the Two Sparks are acceptable duettists and dancers; the Carney Bros. score as duettists; the Biograph completes the bill.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Willmot, Potter, Vandy, and Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Parsons.—A very good bill is provided here this week, including Belle Davis and her youngsters, who give an interesting and amusing performance; Sisters Poole are smart entertainers; the King's College Boys are clever; Welda and Wynne give a neat juggling and tumbling act; Maidie Scott is well received; *Jimpson's Pets* is a clever sketch, and is duly appreciated; and Nash and Noel are well applauded. The Hippo Bioscope shows some good pictures.

ALDERSHOT.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—The performance of *The Girl Who Took the Wrong Turning* is very successful here this week. Mr. Roy Redgrave makes an ideal sailor, and scores heavily in the rôle of Willie; Mr. Frank Robertson's Jack is well played; Mr. Walter Thornton gives a good personation of the villainous James Harcourt; and as Bill Slater, Mr. Sidney Sarl does well; as the wayward Sophie, Miss Frances Ruttledge portrays a thankless rôle with effect; and Miss Nannie Meade makes her part of the worldly-wicked Vesta as realistic as possible. Many laughable incidents are introduced by Mr. Willie Reid (Johnny) and Miss Marie Kildare (Poppy).

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—Mr. J. A. Campbell is here with his own company in *The Sin of Her Childhood*. Mr. Arthur Trail does well as Farmer Haysel; Mr. Wilson Summers depicts with sufficient emphasis the utterly selfish, callous scoundrel, Stephen Haysel; Mr. Frank Liston is a kindly and courageous exponent of Captain Thornton; Little Dorothy is remarkably good as the child, Little Mary. Miss Clara Santley scores as the drink-sodden, wretched Maria Haysel; Miss Madge Violet is pert and smart as Eliza Muggins, a servant girl; Miss Stanley Burt stands out prominently for her clever and artistic assumption of the long-suffering heroine, Mary Haysel. Mr. James Duncan as the Rev. Alan Grey plays the part with a quiet power which is very telling; Mr. Hugh Brady is diverting in the character of a rollicking Irishman; and Miss Lissa Young, who appears as Hannah Spry, is a clever little danseuse and vocalist.

The Empire Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—For the chief feature of this week's programme the lady known as Venus is responsible. The beauty of the living pictures she presents is freely acknowledged. The other artists are Adey North, a new comedian; Sidney Lee, a clever conjuror; Phern and Phern, in their Continental musical act; the Kimberley Boys, quaint comedians; Eustace and Eyre, in their ventriloquial absurdity, *Tomkins, Junior*; the Three Bebans, quick-change vocalists and dancers; Three Spangelettis, with their circus; T. C. Edwards, the Australian baritone; and Mac and Hill, patter comedians. The Bioscope pictures are also attractive.

ATTERCLIFFE.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chris A. Wordsworth.—Picture entertainments are being continued here with marked success, and the thoroughly up-to-date series is most enjoyable; Miss Ray Royal, a charming vocalist, having proved so popular in her illustrated songs, has been again retained.

Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. T. E. Owen.—The premier position here is held by the Pasquali Brothers, in a smart exhibition as head-to-head balancers; Mlle. Roza's Canine Hippodrome is most interesting; the Sages, burlesque artists, are well received; hearty applause rewards the clever performance on the trapeze by Natalia and Diana; hearty laughter is aroused by Mr. Clayton's pictures, entitled "The Housekeeper's Party"; Mr. Dan Robans is very good in his songs; Harley and Melton are a couple of mirthful comedians; and Mr. Johnny Walker makes a welcome reappearance.

AYR.—New Gaiety Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry W. Day.—Mr. Edmund Tearle and company opened here on Monday night in *It's Never Too Late To Mend*. Mr. Tearle himself played the part of Tom Robinson in a masterly way, winning the applause of the audience by his bluff, hearty, and kindly portrayal; Mr. Bernhardt Turner as George Fielding was particularly successful; while Mr. Clifford Marle as the Prison Chaplain played this manly part to the life. The Peter Crawley of Mr. G. T. Greig was made rascally enough, and Isaac Levy had a fine exponent in Mr. Ernest Lodge; Mr. W. R. Wilson as the Governor of the Prison acted well, and the same may be said regarding Mr. A. D. Adams as Mr. Meadows. Mr. J. A. Keoch did not spare himself in his delineation of the Aboriginal Australian "Jackey," and caused much laughter by his antics. The Mr. Merton of Mr. W. R. Weldon was carefully acted; while Mr. R. H. Lace as William Fielding was natural and effective in his acting. Miss Mary Campbell as Joseph, the waif, gave a most pathetic rendering of her part; Miss Esther Tearle as Susan Merton was delightful. On Tuesday night *Othello* was played, on Thursday *Jeanie Deans*, and on Friday *Julius Cæsar*.

BARNSLEY.—Public Hall. — Lessee, Mr. Hoyey.—The Camerons (Jim and Marie) have quickly made themselves prime favourites in their comedy act, *The Plough Boy and Lady Guide*; the Rollars are exceptionally good acrobats; the Welsh Glee Singers, Marie de Voy, Jim Elvo, Sheila McNiel, the Gentrys, and Jasper Redfern's up-to-date pictures complete a good programme.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — Royalty Theatre and Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Stone.—Messrs. Power and Kirby's company in *Man's Enemy* is here. Mr. Norman A. Overton gives a powerful presentment of Harry Stanton, and Mr. William Jeans is a good General Sir Arthur Stanton; Mr. T. Arthur Ellis is an effective Fred Lisle, Mr. Fred Owen a typical Isaac Barnett, and Mr. John Power a resourceful villain, Tom Drake. Miss May Grayce is a pleasing Grace Leslie, Miss Constance Medwyn a splendid Sarah Drake, and Miss Clara Reid as Polly Harris and Mr. Frank Hedley as Adolphe D'embonpoint are not a little amusing.

His Majesty's.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Mr. George Alexander's company, in *His House in Order*, is here. Nina is excellently done by Miss Grimston, and Hilary Jesson is quite a distinguished performance in Mr. Stanley E. Ewart's hands; Mr. J. Edward Pearce is a precise Filmer Jesson, M.P., and Mr. Luke Foster is an engaging Dr. Wilmott; Miss Augusta Haviland as Lady Ridgeley, Miss Elaine Sleddall as Geraldine Ridgeley, Mr. Herbert Lomas as Sir Dan Ridgeley, and Mr. Ernest R. Holloway as Price Ridgeley all show cleverness; while Mr. Charles Tyrel as Major Maurewarde, Miss Jean Cadell as Mlle. Thorne, and Miss Carmen Woods as Derek are effective.

Tivoli Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Edgar Laban.—Messrs. Kelly and Ashby, America's acrobatic grotesques, are much enjoyed, and Wat Tyler is a good character vocalist; Rozell is a sensational gymnast, and Hanid Alexander an amusing mimic; the Saletos give a novelty equilibrist pot-pourri act, and the Vyponds, who submit a refined comedy drawing-room entertainment.

BATH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—Miss Annie Hughes and company opened on Monday with *Tommy*, and here, as elsewhere, her success in the title-rôle was never for a moment in doubt. Her big scene in Act 3 was a triumph, not only for Miss Hughes, but also for Miss Winifred Pearson, in the character of a jealous and revengeful rival. Miss Ada Richardson as Honour gave a vivid picture of the girl in her teens who is desirous of assisting her father in his troublous life; Mr. Rupert Lister sustained the part of Dick Danvers with commendable sincerity; as Peter Hope, Mr. Evelyn Vernon played with a quiet humour not easily forgotten; two impersonations that also deserve warm commendation were Mr. W. Hartill and Mr. Reginald F. Beach as William Clodd and Flipp. The duologue, *The Love Lesson*, is also included in the programme.

Palace Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—A return of that merry musical mélange, *The Prince of Monte Carlo*, with that resourceful and amusing comedian, Harry Roxbury, as P.C. Longfellow, is proving much to the liking of audiences here this week; Meier and Mora once again are seen in their ball-punching speciality act; Bertha Winder continues to display her acknowledged talent as a step-dancer; Wall Robins, the black and white comedy musician, is always sure of a cordial welcome; as is Arthur Goodman, the tramp juggler, with his amusing banter. Minnie Fenton, Scotch comedienne, also contributes; and Raymond's Bio-tableaux is the final item in a good programme.

BEDFORD.—Royal County Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—*Sherlock Holmes* is staged here this week, and Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart, who brings the company, plays the part of Holmes himself. He has an excellent reception each night, and thoroughly deserves it. The make-up of Mr. James Skea as Moriarty is extremely good, and he plays the part most successfully; Miss Gladys Harvey as Alice Faulkner puts plenty of expression into her lines.

BELFAST.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—The ever-popular D'Oyly Carte opera company presented *The Mikado* on Monday with greater success than ever. Mr. Fred Billington's impersonation of Poo-Bah was, as usual, inimitable; Mr. Pacie Ripple appeared as Nanki-Poo, and sang all his numbers delightfully; and Mr. Charles R. Walenn appeared to the greatest advantage as Ko-Ko. Miss Hope Hastings' charming impersonation of Tum-Yum won abundant favour. Much praise is due to Miss Theresa Rassam for her impersonation of Katisha; and Mr. Albert Kavanagh was all that could be desired as the Mikado; Miss Lulu Evans and Miss Mabel Burnege were thoroughly capable as Pitti Sing and Peep-Bo; and other rôles were admirably sustained by Messrs. Leicester Tunks and Fred Drawater. On Tuesday *The Yeomen of the Guard* was presented amid much enthusiasm; and during the week *The Gondoliers* and *Iolanthe* have also been performed.

Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General-Manager, Mr. J. De Freece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—Kronom's grand military spectacle, *Our Boys in Blue*, with its vastly-exciting incidents, has been received with intense enthusiasm. Jack and Evelyn appear in their smart comedy act, their success being emphatic; and Albertus, the American eccentric juggler, assisted by Miss Jessie Millar, gain much approval for "A Scena at the Fair Grounds." Miss Libby Blondelle and her Johnnies have made a big hit; and the Three Ettenas appear in their unique globe speciality. Mr. Chas. J. Johnson; the Sisters Wingrove, duettists and dancers; the Casimo Girls, brass instrumentalists; and the Palace Pictures complete a fine programme.

Royal Hippodrome. Managing-Director, Mr. Will Sley; General-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The success of this beautiful new theatre continues to be unabated, fashionable crowds thronging the theatre nightly. Rosina Casselli and her midget wonders top the bill, and the extraordinary feats of this highly-trained troupe of rare dogs has caused a veritable sensation. Mr. Harry Barker's character songs have been heard with pleasure; and much surprise has been expressed at the remarkable acrobatic feats of the Yullan Family, seven in number. Miss May Newall is a splendid singer of American ballads, and the Primrose Quartette in song-scena have quite delighted the crowds. Rappo and Ella, society gymnasts, gain unmeasured approval for their fine act, and the Lavails, in their ladder and bar act, would, indeed, be difficult to surpass. Also here are Mr. Will Walton, comedian; Huline and Le Hay, modern musical clowns; Vanola; and the very attractive pictures on the Hippoecope.

Empire Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John A. Walker.—Mr. George Lashwood repeats all his former successes in this city by his finished rendering of several capital songs; the Two Bostons return with their novel sketch; and a hit has been made by Miss Peggie Lennie and Mr. Walter Hast, who appear to great advantage in their phantasy, "The Sea Nymph." The acme of excellence is exhibited by the Three Amaranthas, in their graceful and clever dancing; and Goggin and Davis, acrobatic comedians, have been as successful as they could desire. The Neilson Sisters are accomplished duettists and dancers; and Mr. Chris Richards is one of the drollest comedians imaginable. The Empire Bioscope is also on the programme.

New Alhambra Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Sinclair Neill.—The Alhambra Dramatic Company, under the personal direction of Mr. M. Montgomery, produce this week the sensational drama, *A Life's Revenge*. Miss Nina Blake-Adams, an accomplished actress, delights all with her sympathetic and clever impersonation of Princess Vanda Iveyala; and much praise is won by Mr. Horace Denton for his capital acting as Paul Starovitch; Mr. Cyril Grier acquits himself with distinction as Maurice Trevor; and congratulations are due to Miss Kathleen Lagee for her clever impersonation of Marcia Vittoria. Mr. Edward M. Heanley's impersonation of the iniquitous Prince Strognoff is so realistic that he fully earns the loud anathemas of the crowded house. Mr. Elmore Frith sustains the rôle of Michael Orloff with his accustomed ability; Mr. Tom H. Solly's humour as Nicholas Bobliskioff is irresistible; and Miss Mattie Crawford is thoroughly satisfactory as Daphne Dashaway. Miss Alice Clarke is an admirable Acoulina; and other rôles are admirably sustained by Messrs. J. E. Davies and Edward Smythe. The Alhambra Bioscope present very humorous pictures.

BILSTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Battersby; Musical-Director, Mr. J. E. Machin.—It is not often that the heroine and the heroine's child take first honours in the piece, but in *The Power and the Glory*, played here this week by Mr. Ernest Chesney's company, these characters should claim that distinction. The histrionic ability of Miss Chrissie Dunbar as Lizzie Medwin is undoubted; whilst the juvenile efforts of Miss Flo Florence as Linda, the blind girl, stamp her at once as a real artist, young as she is. Full of vigour and outspokenness is the young sailor, Harry Goodluck, of Mr. Geo. Edwin Clive; Mr. Chesney as Crayle, and Miss Bessie Elma as Kate, are good; Miss Cissie Clarke is successful as Bessie, the flower girl; and others prominent in the cast are Misses V. Chamier and F. Olive; also Messrs. H. Eglington, H. Nelson, W. J. Gould, and Bradford.

BIRKENHEAD.—New Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant; Secretary, Miss Isabel Morris.—Mrs. Morton Powell's company opened here on Monday, in *When It Was Dark*, a capital performance meeting with cordial recognition. Miss Elizabeth Watson gives a finished and effective rendering of Gertrude Hunt; Mr. Cyril Austin-Lee appears to great advantage as the Rev. Basil Gorte; Constantine Schuable is well impersonated by Mr. George H. Pitt; Sir Robert Llewellyn is cleverly embodied by Mr. T. Morton Powell; Miss G. May is an efficient Minnie Golightly; Mrs. Morton Powell displays considerable ability as Helena Byars; and the remaining characters are all capably filled. The scenic effects are elaborate, and the piece is carefully staged.

Argyle Theatre of Varieties. — Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—Mr. John Lawson and his company are a centre of attraction here, and during the week have appeared in *The King's Minister*, *The Monkey's Paw*, and *Humanity* with pronounced success. Boyd and Gilfain, in their musical comedietta, *Sunny Spain*, are also a favourite turn, and a strong programme also introduces the Three Clarions, in a musical sketch; Miss Lorna Doone, juvenile danseuse; Mr. Ted E. Box, comedian; Farr and Farland, patterers; Miss Dot Hardy, comedienne; Mr. Julian Mack, comedian; and Brown's Royal Bioscope.

BIRMINGHAM.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—*The New Aladdin* is met with ringing applause nightly on this its first week here with Mr. George Edwardes's company. The hero, Lally, is made exquisitely graceful and captivating by Miss Cressie Leonard's clever efforts in the rôle; Miss Ida Rene's fine talents and beauty render the Princess's rôle one of irresistible charm and sweetness; Miss Irene Verona shares in the general triumph with her merry humour as the Spirit of the Ring; Miss Nelly Lonnen makes a highly popular rôle of the dancing girl, Laolah; Miss Mary Fraser imparts a charming Scotch accent to the part of Jennie, the maid; and Miss Jessie Lonnen's clever Parisian style as the French comedienne is well relished. Mr. George Gregory as Tippin has a part which his clever burlesque powers exploit to full advantage amid roars of laughter; Mr. Fred Leslie, jun., as the Genie of the Lamp enters into the spirit and humour of the rôle with admirable and tireless zeal; Mr. Henry Taylor's Lost Constable is a diverting piece of acting; and Mr. Frank Hector as the Uncle, Mr. William Spray as the Cadi, Mr. Ernest Maher as General Ratz, and others contribute most ably to the production, which is liberally chorused and richly staged.

Prince of Wales's Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Rodgers, Limited; Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—The Moody-Manners Opera Company opened here on Monday with the always-welcome *Carmen*, which, as usual, drew a big house. Unfortunately, Mlle. Zelie de Lussan was indisposed, but Miss Toni Seiter rose to all exigencies and showed much improvement on her previous efforts in the rôle. Miss Kate Anderson scored as the timid and tender Michaela; Mr. Wilson Pembroke as Don José did exceedingly well, especially in the last scene; Mr. Lewys James won enthusiastic plaudits as Escamillo; and the other principals, together with the band and chorus under Herr Richard Eckhold, worked splendidly. During the first act the stage was thrown into semi-darkness and the orchestra into total darkness through the failure of the electrical apparatus, albeit the situation was partly saved by the lighting of gas brackets and the main chandelier in the ceiling. The orchestra stuck to its work, and the act finished as well as could be expected, matters being set right afterwards. *Aïda*, the novelty of the week, was on Tuesday greeted from start to finish with loud applause, while the performance terminated amid a scene of the wildest enthusiasm and cries of "Speech!" to which Mr. Manners replied, the principals and conductor having all been summoned to the front. Mr. Joseph O'Mara sang in his best style as Radames; Mme. De Vere-Sapio enraptured the audience as Aïda; Miss Toni Seiter acquitted herself of the arduous rôle of Amneris splendidly; and Messrs. Manners, Magrath, James, &c., were duly acclaimed. The conductor was Signor Romualdo Sapio. *Tannhäuser* (Parisian version), with Mme. Fanny Moody as Elizabeth, was performed on Wednesday. *Lohengrin*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, and *Faust* also figure in the programme.

Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Bernardo.—The gratifying success which attended the opening of Mr. Collingwood's dramatic season at Easter is well sustained by the visit of *The Assassin*, which is presented by Mr. Augustine Knight and full star cast. Mr. Knight holds the audience well in hand with his powerful acting as Prince Demetri; Mr. Edward E. Ashby realises the aspirations and character of the young soldier, Impanoff, with clever art; Mr. Theo. Balfour gives a smart embodiment of the modern aristocrat, Duke Karl; Mr. Cecil H. Raymond is favourably situated as Baron Alphonse; and Mr. Chauncy Morris as General Nichol, and Mr. Edwin Jenner as Capt. O'Neil both give good impressions of their ability. Miss Ella Vane enacts the rôle of the assassin, Countess Wanda, with exceptional success, her dramatic moments being many and thrilling; Miss Frances Waring is successful as the Prince's victim, Nita; Miss Hettie Senior acts the American rôle, Connie Jonathan, in good style; Miss Marie E. Robertson's acting as Katrina tends to the success; and Mr. Tom J. Taylor is very acceptable in the humorous rôle of Peter.

Metropole Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Andrew Melville, Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—Mr. Mark Blow's company is doing well here in the picturesque drama, *At Cripple Creek*, Mr. Stanley Bedwell leads in his manly and taking portrayal of Joe Mayfield; Mr. Eric Hudson as Martin Mason, the terror of Cripple Creek, acts with well-studied effect; Mr. Oscar Power makes the character of the bully, Manuel Alvarez, duly formidable; Mr. Will Hook scores with his humorous acting as Reggie Harwood; and the clever endeavours of Mr. Arthur P. Layland as Wahketah, Mr. Harry Leander as Ben White, and Mr. Chas. Watson as the Rev. Mr. Wilson are much applauded. Miss Daisy Carlton is highly attractive as Maggie Mason; Miss Lily Beagle wins favour as Belle Gordon; Miss Agnes Verity gives clever expression to the rôle of Dynamite Ann; Little Rosie Hopkins is admired as Little Tatto; and Miss Norah Dillon is successful as Sarah Lively

Carlton Theatre, Saltley.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—*Her Nameless Child* is making a successful appeal here with Mrs. Sam Duckworth's company. Miss Pattie Hastings portrays the heroine's rôle, Phyllis Ford, with much cleverness and charm; Miss Grace Jones in the opposite rôle, Lady Sibil Woodville, shows excellent force and ability; Mr. Ellerslie Pyne enacts the rôle of Lord Henry Woodville in a very satisfactory manner; Mr. Herbert Evelyn presents the good qualities of Arthur Ford in a happy and manly style; Mr. Fred Griffiths gives a clever delineation of Mongrole, the cat's-paw; and Mr. J. W. Evelyn is prominent in the cast as Anthony Ford. Mr. Fred Danvers as Tom Rivers creates much mirth; and Miss Florence Hall as Bessie Brooks and Miss Madge Trevelyan as the maid, Crayont, infuse much humour into the play, which is of a soul-stirring nature, and well mounted.

Theatre Royal, Aston.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles.—Mr. G. Carlton Wallace's company in *The Love that Women Desire* fully maintains the reputation of this popular house for effective drama. Mr. H. Bonhote Wilson acts to the audience's keen delight and admiration as the manly young farmer, Philip Carnaby; Mr. J. O. Stewart portrays the mercenary qualities of Squire Abingdon to the finest point of discretion; Mr. Alfred Brandon shows a clever grasp of character as Richard Abingdon; Miss Lalla Stanhope acts prettily in the love scenes, and brings out the sympathetic character of the heroine, Sybil, with delightful charm; and the play is leavened with some acceptable comedy, conveyed principally by Mr. John Hignett as Dennis O'Rourke and Miss Emmie Litchfield as Pattie Swift. Other clever rôles are played by Mr. J. W. Wilkinson as P.-C. Snowberry, Miss N. Griffiths as Mariquinha, Miss Gladys Murray as Madge Abingdon, Miss Violet Haye as Molly, Mr. Hugh Wallace as Cathorne, Mr. Charles Franklin as Adam Frere, Mr. B. Morris as Amos Gibson, and Mr. S. P. Clewton as Dr. Brandeth.

Empire Palace.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham.—Wilkie Bard is at the head of the bill here, and scores a great success. Nellie Stratton and Madge Temple are both favourite comediennes; the Montague Brothers in their speciality act, *A Sculptor's Dream*, are excellent; John Rowley is another comedian of great ability; Arthur Gill is well received; the Cumberlands have an up-to-date cycle act; Barratt and Knowles are expert dancers and comedians; and Gaumont's Chronophone and A. W. Scott, coon artist, complete the programme.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—Arthur Prince, ventriloquist, meets with a most cordial reception; the Carina Sisters provide an excellent musical turn; Frank Leon has brought the Lancashire art of clog-dancing to perfection; and an attractive programme is completed by Spencer and Marks, the Meymotts, Fred Hastings, Percy Hannan, George Barron, Tom Leamore, the Four Rio Brothers, and Rosie Lloyd.

Bordesley Palace.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Ed. Foster.—The premier position on the bill is held by F. E. Burnett's sensational dramatic sketch, *The Indian Mutiny*, played by a powerful company. Mlle. Von Etta, lady illusionist, proves very attractive; J. W. Rickaby is very amusing; and the Zapps, Ruby Dahl, the Three Missouris, and Agnes Molteno and company are all responsible for attractive and well-rendered turns.

Curzon Hall.—Mr. Walter Jeffs returns to Birmingham for a short season with his New Century Pictures, which come in for a hearty reception. Mr. Jeffs introduces, among others, "The Wonderland of Canada" and the building of the Cape to Cairo railway.

BISHOP AUCKLAND. — Eden Theatre. — Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. R. Addison; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Huntley.—Mr. and Mrs. John E. Tomlinson's company is here on a return visit in the Oriental play, *Secrets* . . . . As Lieut. Herbert Markham Mr. Reggie Brown depicts the character of the true English sailor in convincing style; Mr. Wilfred Richards is well suited as Nouredin Ali; Ibrahim Ali Murad has a powerful exponent in Mr. J. E. Tomlinson; whilst Kara Mesrour receives a masterly delineation at the hands of Mr. Lal Abdul Gottman. The interesting and appealing character of Ismalia could not be better delineated than it is by Miss Lizzie Palmer; whilst splendid ability is shown by Miss Nellie Navarro as Zuelieka. The humorous element is well provided by Mr. Victor V. Raymond as the Hon. Cecil Cholmondley, and Mr. Herbert Woodin as Peter Wilkins, assisted by Miss Madge Palmer as Peggie Wilkins. A clever troupe of dancers introduce several dances in the course of the evening.

BLACKPOOL.—Her Majesty's Opera House.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr. Norman Y. Norman and company are appearing here this week with considerable success. *Robin Hood* was the attraction on Monday night, when Mr. Norman very ably played the title-rôle and Miss Beatrice Wilson was sweet and attractive as Maid Marian. Mr. Kenneth Bruce as King Richard and Mr. Aubrey Mather as Little John also acted their parts with care and discretion. *David Garrick*, *The Adventure of Lady Ursula*, and *Nell Gwyn of Drury Lane* also occupy a place in the week's programme.

Grand Theatre.—Owner and Manager, Mr. T. Sergenson.—Mr. F. R. Benson's Shakespearean company is paying another visit here this week and meeting with the most cordial reception nightly. *The Merchant of Venice* was presented on Monday in an admirable manner. Mr. Henry Herbert as Shylock and Miss Dorothy Green as Portia were excellent. *As You Like It*, *Hamlet*, *Macbeth*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, and *Richard III.* have also received attention during the week.

Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Tom Foy and company top the bill here this week, and their comedy absurdity, *The Yorkshire Lad in London*, causes roars of laughter at every performance; Charles Austin, the popular comedian, is also very well received; whilst other enjoyable turns are provided by Harwood's Juveniles, in a novelty scena entitled *The Children's Christmas Eve*; the Brewsters, vocalists, dancers, and Indian club experts; the Lorrisons, comedians; Katie Marsh, vocalist and dancer; Ida Ross, comedienne; Starr and Jerome, vocalists; and Leslie Race, a clever comedian. Vernon's Imperial Bioscope still remains a great attraction.

BOLTON.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Melvin.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company is here with *Dr. Wake's Patient*. Mr. Lawrence Grant gives a finished impersonation of Dr. Forrester Wake; and Mr. George Howard is successful in his delineation of the old Devonshire farmer. Much comedy is infused in the acting of Mr. Allan Pollock in his part of Duff Wynderden, and also amusing is the Bishop of Selby by Mr. Adam Alexander. Miss Fyfe Alexander gives a delightful rendering of Lady Gerania Wyn-Charteret; Miss Mabel Wynne is neat and humorous in the part of Mrs. Murdoch; and a very clever character-sketch is the Mrs. Wake of Miss Kate Osborne. Miss Georgie Trewman is a stately Countess of St. Olbyn; Mr. Paul Lovett displays ability in his impersonation of the Earl of St. Olbyn; Miss Clara Earle is vivacious as Harriet Bronson, and Miss Yamsi Ismay is a creditable Gipsy.

Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—There is variety here in plenty this week, supplied by Miss Marie Kendell, comedienne; Harry Taylor, the Wigan comedy warbler; the Gregson Comedy Trio, in their original speciality act, *The Dummy*; Henderson, blind concertina soloist; Keith and Merson, in their hunting absurdity, *The Meet*; Tom Lloyd, eccentric comedian; A. Ba Bes, in his magic picture postcard album; Steve McCarthy; comedian and expert dancer; Whimsical Walker, in his sketch, *Captain Hamilton, V.C.*; the Varleys, harmonising duettists; W. Fullbrook and company, in their screaming sketch, *Astrology*; and Vernon's Imperial Bioscope.

BOOTLE.—Muncaster Theatre — Proprietors, Messrs. Pennington; Manager, Mr. H. Pennington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Young.—Messrs. Fred Acton and H. C. Nash's company are presenting this week the popular drama, *Between the Lights*. The drama is well staged, the swing-bridge scene and the steel-works being excellent sets. Mr. Bertram R. Ross is a manly Captain Hinton; and Miss Fannie Williams makes a sympathetic Violet Warren. Mr. Frederick Garrett is well placed as Gerald Warren, and Mr. Wm. R. Winning as Stanley Crofton displays some fine acting; Mr. Frank Orchard is all that can be desired in the dual rôles of Oswald Warren and Ben Armley; and Madge Armley finds an excellent exponent in Miss Eileen Bamford. Much amusement is created by Mr. Fred Acton as Jimmy Fickle, Mr. Frank Daleno as Charles Stott, and Miss Millie Doris as Kitty.

BOSCOMBE. — Hippodrome.—Joint-Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. De Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. De Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Ball.—At the top of the bill here are the popular comedians Foreman and Fannan, who have had a good reception; a refined turn is given by Dandy George and his dog Rosie; Lena Verdi is a dainty comedienne and clever mimic; a good turn is submitted by Laurie Wylie in his marionette performance; as an instrumentalist, Rosetti, the musical girl, is much appreciated; Blanche Marion is a pleasing comedienne and dancer; the Bioscope shows some up-to-date pictures.

BOSTON.—Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Geo. Saphrini.—The chief attraction here is the Leslie Troupe, in their pantomimical burlesque, entitled *Larks*, which causes roars of laughter. In the bill are also Miss Jessie de Grey, soubrette and dancer; the Three Scrooneys, in an up-to-date absurdity, *Come Back*; Bert Bevan, comedian and raconteur; the Sisters Russel, in new dances; Dan Hatfield, comedian; Vera Goodall, vocalist; the Barrand Troupe of acrobats; the Matthews, in their latest success, *Eccentric Visitors*; and a new musical burlesque sketch, entitled *Mr. Robin Hood*. On Friday, the 12th inst., Mr. Geo. Saphrini took his second annual benefit. There was a large audience, and the chief novelty in the programme was the first appearance of Master Stanley Saphrini, son of the manager, who received the best reception of the evening, his dancing being excellent for a boy only five years of age.

Shodfriars Hall.—Lessee, Mrs. Bartol Storr.—*The Sign of the Cross* was played on Wednesday and Thursday under the direction of Mr. Henry Chattel. Although this is the third visit the interest in the play was as strong as ever.

BOURNEMOUTH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Proprietors, David Allen and Sons; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Manager, Mr. Rowland Stewart.—Mr. Sidney Cooper's company, in *Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush*, opened here for the first time on Monday. Mr. William Mollison has a part exactly suited to him as Lachlan Campbell; a capital piece of acting is given by Mr. Alec F. Thompson as the Postman; Miss Evelyn McNay as Flora Campbell plays charmingly, and divides with Mr. Mollison the honours of the evening. Mr. W. A. MacKersy, Mr. Archie W. Chappell, Mr. Kendal Chalmers, Miss Josephine Woodward, and Miss Elsie Vron, are all excellent.

BRADFORD.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—Mr. George Edwardes's company in the new Chinese comic opera, *See-See*, is here this week. As the retired merchant, Cheoo, Mr. W. H. Rawlins is diverting, and Mr. Frank Danby is funny as the Chinaman, Hang-Kee; Mr. Leonard Mackay's voice is heard to advantage in the character of Yen. As So-Long, Mr. E. Freshwater is pleasingly in evidence; Miss Amy Augarde as Mai-Yai is excellent. The vocalism of Miss Lily Elsie in the title-rôle, and the delightful dancing by Miss Topsy Sinden (So-Hie) are features of a most enjoyable performance.

Prince's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—*The Eternal City* is being presented here by Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company. The call

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. R. Ralli.—Those diverting comedians, the Deane Tribune Company, are here again, funny as ever, in *Applicants*. Richard Taylor furnishes a very clever turn as ventriloquist, mimic, and whistler; there is some capital dancing by Brull and Hemsley in *Fun in a Music-Shop*; Florrie Bray, comedienne, contributes with a fair measure of success; the Four Herberts are seen to advantage as acrobats and knockabout comedians; the vocalism by the Sisters Hall is good; Charlie Williams as a "Scotch nigger" is entertaining; with harp and saxophone, Diamond and Beatrice supply excellent music; and Raymond's Bio-tableaux show some capital pictures.

BRIDLINGTON.—ROYAL VICTORIA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—Miss Lena Stanton and Mr. Harry Josephs opened here on Monday evening with an entirely new entertainment, which bears the title of *Samples*. Miss Stanton scores with her finely rendered songs and graceful dances. Miss Nora Neville and Miss Ada Brogden are charming comediennes; and the Sisters Richardson give some cleverly-executed dances; Mr. Bruce Green is a great favourite here, and his amusing songs and patter are loudly encored; Mr. Will Terry is a smart comedian and reciter, and Mr. George Millard amuses with his funny songs; that clever boy comedian, Little Keeno, gives amusing imitations of Harry Lauder; Professor Lenton is a successful magician, and with young Bertram gives a remarkable display of thought-reading. The Pagodascope living pictures are very good, and Mr. Joseph's capital pierrot team is responsible for some excellent concerted numbers from the best of the musical comedies.

ROYAL PRINCE'S PARADE.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—The vocalist this week at the promenade concerts in the Grand Pavilion, which Mr. Joseph Sainton is making so popular, is Miss Elsie Whitham, a lady possessing a very fine contralto voice. Mr. Kettlewell's finely rendered cornet solos stamp him as a musician of rare talent on that instrument, and Mr. J. Messer's 'cello solos are a rare treat.

BRIGHTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. H. Cecil Beryl; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harcourt M. Beryl.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company opened here on Monday with *Three Little Maids*. Miss Mabel Kerridge, Miss Daisy Sylverton, and Miss Eva Weigh gave charming impersonations of the three daughters of the Vicar of Market Mallory, and displayed tasteful vocalisation; Mr. Frank Henderson submitted a clever character study as the frivolous Lord Cheyne; Mr. Eric Barrington's M. de L'Orme and Mr. Frank Wilson's Bryan Molyneux were well played; Mr. Harry Walsh as Cupid and Miss Laura Wright as Gretchen afforded much amusement; Miss Kate Graham-Beck made a dignified Lady St. Mallory, whose aristocratic protégées had attractive representatives in Miss Hilda Shericker, Miss Bertha Trench, and Miss Nellie Clapton; while able assistance was also rendered by Mr. Burgess Barratt as the Vicar, and Miss Maud Madle as Miss Price. At Thursday's special London matinée *Toddles* was performed by Mr. Cyril Maude and the entire company from The Playhouse, London.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter.—Dr. Walford Bodie is here this week. On Monday evening the great bloodless surgeon treated two patients who were suffering from paralysis, and, in each case, proved completely successful. Dr. Bodie's lecture and electrical experiments were very interesting. A variety programme was also sustained. Sydney Baker and company were very successful in the musical romance, *Visions of the Past*; Tom N. Mills, the Australian actor-vocalist achieved great success with his patriotic songs; Little Dolly Robinson sang and danced in good style; the Musical Acmes won warm applause for their refined entertainment; Belle Skene, burlesque actress and vocalist, was well received; and capital turns were contributed by Belford and Mars, comedy duo singers and dancers, and T. Duriah, comedian.

ALHAMBRA.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. L. Graydon; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Ernest Lepard.—An excellent company is here this week. Hardeen, the "Handcuff King," submits a very attractive turn, and releases himself from handcuffs and irons with remarkable ease; George Doughty and company are very entertaining in the sketch, *Captain Cupid*; Marjory Clark and Percy Hayden are well received in their comedy duologue, *By Appointment*; Will Musgrave, comedian, is a prime favourite; Willie Gardner is clever in roller and ice skate dances; Raie Walters gives her fishing song effectively; Oakdene proves himself a smart ventriloquist; Marie Neilson is a dainty comedienne and dancer; Master Gicardo, the boy juggler, achieves great success; the Sisters Cora are pleasing duettists and dancers; and the Alhambrascope pictures are interesting and amusing.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—A capital programme is sustained here this week. Ernest Shand, comedian, is enthusiastically applauded for his songs and short stories; Great Roland is a clever illusionist; Bertha Zander is highly successful in her "home songs illustrated"; the El Tampico Trio of Mexican troubadours give a bright and much appreciated performance; the Falcons are smart acrobatic equilibrists; Lawrence Barclay is an eccentric comedian; the Silver Tone Quartet, harmonious vocalists and cake walk dancers, furnish a capital turn; Eva Hope and Jack Wayho and company present scenes from Dickens' novels in good style; Keir and Kempton, vocal soloists and duettists, merit praise; Mlle. Pollo is a daring gymnast; Charles Somers is a pleasing comedian; and the Barrascope pictures are amusing.

WEST PIER.—Secretary and Entertainment Manager, Mr. A. D. Norman.—Miss Florence Glossop-Harris and Mr. Frank Cellier, jun., and company opened their second week here on Monday with *Carmen*, a play founded on the well-known opera. Miss Florence Glossop-Harris made an ideal Carmen; Mr. Frank Cellier, jun., was highly successful as Corporal Don José; Mr. David Santley was admirably suited as the Toreador; Miss Kate Turner's Tessa and Mr. Percy Vernon's Il Dancairo were ably enacted; Mr. Edward Landor was a humorous Lieutenant Mina; and Miss Nora Goulden was a capital Manuelita. The programme for the week also included *Twelfth Night*.

PALACE PIER THEATRE.—Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope is still here, and proves very attractive.

HOVE TOWN HALL.—On Wednesday afternoon and evening dramatic performances were given here in aid of St. Oswald's Convalescent Home for Boys, Alfred-road, Brighton. The programme comprised *The Bugle Call* and *Woodcock's Little Game*, which were given under the direction of Col. G. M. Onslow. The principal characters were sustained by Miss Mary Pinero, Mrs. G. M. Onslow, Miss Edith M. Onslow, Mr. George Hammond, Mr. Harold Richardson, Mr. T. Gates, and Miss Maud Molyneux.

BRISTOL.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—A return visit of *San Toy*, staged with liberality, is proving attractive. Miss Gertrude Gilliam is a pleasing exponent of the title-rôle; Miss Olive Crellin is highly successful as the vivacious Dudley; Miss Hebe Bliss is well placed as Chu San, obtaining much applause for her excellent singing; Mr. Horace Mills is capital as Li; Mr. Colin Coop is amusing as Yen How; Mr. Edmund Sherras both acts and sings well as Captain Bobby Preston; Mr. W. J. Manning is decidedly smart as Sir Bingo Preston; Miss Sylvia May is pleasing as Poppy Preston; and Mr. Frederick Hobbs both acts and sings excellently as Fo Hop. The other parts are all capably taken, and Miss May Gould presents a clever and graceful dance in the Palace scene.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry C. Alty. Mr. Junius Booth and company are here for the week with *Monte Cristo*, the drama being well staged and capitally performed. Mr. Junius Booth, who is the author of the play, displays considerable power in his impersonation of Edmund Dantes; Miss B. Doyle is a charming and interesting exponent of Mercedes; Mr. Augustin Bowerman makes the most of the part of Danglers; Mr. C. W. Crowe acts effectively as Fernand; Mr. Percy Braithwaite makes a good character-study of Caderousse; and the same may be said of Miss Alice West as La Carconte; Mr. F. Doyle acts with distinction as Albert de Morcef, Mr. Walter Huron is satisfactorily placed as Villefort, and Mr. Beckett Bould is in every way commendable as Nortier. The remaining parts are all carefully played, and the drama is interesting.

PALACE THEATRE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—Nat Clifford, comedian, heads the bill, and obtains considerable appreciation; New York Nippers have an amusing scena, *Bed-time*, in which singing and dancing are introduced; Marie Collins, comedienne, obtains much applause; the Picquays score with their drawing-room entertainment; Nellie Martell is a pleasing comedienne and an expert dancer; Bliss and Bliss, comedians, do a good turn; and Earle and Melville, comedians, are successful. The performance concludes with interesting animated pictures.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—Raku, exponent of ju-jitsu, supported by Japanese assistants, heads the programme, obtaining much appreciation for clever demonstrations of the usefulness of the art. Lily Burnand, comedienne, presents an attractive turn, which is much appreciated by all parts of the house; Lord, Murray, and Lord score with an amusing ball-punching and boxing interlude, *The Instructor*; Ivy Aberdare is a capable and attractive coon vocalist and dancer; Jan Rudenyi, Hungarian violinist, supported by Dora de Winton and John Saunders, is successful in a musical romance, *The Power of Music*; Happy Attwood, comedian, obtains applause; Six Lancashire Lassies are clever exponents of clog and other styles of dancing; and Van Allen, attired as a tramp, amuses with patter, plays the banjo cleverly, and gives selections upon trick instruments. The performance concludes with a good selection of animated pictures.

COLSTON HALL.—This is the last week of Walter Jeff's New Century Animated Pictures. Judging from the large attendance at each entertainment the season has been a successful one.

BROUGHTON.—VICTORIA THEATRE, LTD.—Manager and Licensee, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—Mr. F. B. Woulfe and company are giving a series of historical plays during this week, and on Monday the drama by Clifford Rean, entitled *Robin Hood; or, The King of Sherwood Forest*, occupied the attention of a good house. Robin Hood is forcibly played by Mr. F. B. Woulfe, who has a manly presence and a good voice. An excellent Marion Gilfain is presented by Miss Ethel Griffies; Mr. James Stillwell as King Richard acts well; Mr. A. Edward Dunstan is a comical Eustace le Beau; and much fun is also contributed by Miss Edith Loraine as Maude, Mr. Bob Anderson as Friar Tuck, Mr. Holland Day as Little John and Will Scarlett and Mr. Albert Waghorne as the host of the mill. Mr. Clifford Bean scores as Fitzalwyn; Prince John is a good study by Mr. Henry Ernestine; Elwynna is well embodied by Miss Winifred Symonds. *Nell Gwynne*, *Jane Shore*, and *Lady Godiva* are the other plays presented during the week.

BURNLEY.—VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—*Peter's Mother* is being presented here this week by Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company. Miss Lilias Earle gives a most human and sympathetic rendering of Lady Mary (Peter's mother). Miss Hilda Sims is very pleasing as Sarah; Miss Evelyn Shelley and Miss Celia Gordon are both excellent in their respective rôles of Lady Belstone and Miss C. Crewys; Mr. Maitland Dicker is delightfully fresh as Canon Birch; and Mr. Henry Renouf gives a clever portrayal of John Crewys, Q.C. Mr. Ernest Rushton as Sir Timothy Crewys is very good, and Mr. E. F. Meads is capital as Peter; Mr. A. P. Kaye as Dr. Blundell calls for praise; and Mrs. Howell is ably undertaken by Miss Mildred Cottrell. The play is preceded by a clever farce, *Chalk and Cheese*, in which Miss Mildred Cottrell, Miss Hilda Sims, and Mr. A. P. Kaye maintain the merriment of the audience throughout.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—An excruciatingly funny turn here this week is that of the Gentle Mackweys in a comedy acrobatic turn. The Kurios are another turn in an absurdity which greatly affects the risible faculties of the audience; and Ward and Davies are very funny in *Wanted, a Typist*. Lloyd's Gondolier Glee Singers give delightful renderings of several quartettes, and are highly appreciated. Zaid performs a series of contortions on the rings; and D. J. Tandy, comedian, is well received; Billy Burns has a good voice; and the Ringling Trio are clever eccentric comedians. The New Empire Theatroscope is up to date with a picture of the Grand National.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—OPERA HOUSE (NEW HIPPODROME).—Proprietor, Mr. H. Dudley Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Waller.—Some good variety turns are given this week. The wonderful spectacular effects produced by Maurin's fountains are watched with intense interest; Frank Sauteron, of the Sauteron Wonders, gives a clever exhibition of his agility as a jumper; the Musical Keiths' bright and skilful entertainment is much enjoyed; Alec Aubrey is an excellent gymnast; Ida Fair sings in good style; and Will Hughes and Charles Tempest score heavily. Raymond's Bio-Tableaux concludes a good bill.

BURY (LANCS.).—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Walter Mould.—The drama, *The Girl Who Lost Her Character*, is being played here this week by Mr. Douglas Bruce's company. Miss Ethel Bracewell sustains the title-rôle capitally; Miss Lydia Manning is successful as Marian Franklyn; Mr. Frank Adair is effective as the villain of the piece; and capital fun is provided by Mr. G. H. Aspin as Dick Punch and Miss Daisy Meynard as Isabella Jones.

CIRCUS OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Walter Mould.—Animated pictures again form the principal turn here this week. Other turns are the Lynches, who illustrate songs; and Vasey and Ramsey, expert step-dancers.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Sons.—A good bill includes Robins and Collier, in a musical comedy, entitled *The Lady and the Porter*; Mary Blythe, contralto; the Veqneys, banjoists; Les Zelovas, acrobats; George Hyam, comedian; Mlle. Vand, juggler; and Alice Fontainblea and her trained dogs.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS.—ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Eade Montefiore.—Fontainblea and her trained dogs top the bill here, with a performance which fully merits the applause evoked; the Forsyths give an entertaining sketch, *The Tramp in the Nursery*; the dancing of the Daniels is remarkably clever; Miss Nellie Duval sings a good song; H. E. High is an amusing comedian; Jury's pictures keep up their reputation; and Gulliver, a smart ventriloquist, concludes an excellent programme.

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—For the whole of this week the theatre is occupied by Mr. H. A. Saintsbury and company in *Anna of the Plains*. Of Anna, Miss Dorothea Desmond gave a most interesting study; Mr. H. A. Saintsbury invested the rugged old Boer with a good deal of pathos; Mr. Hilliard Vox was successful as Michael O'Donaghan; Mr. C. H. Croker King played naturally as Piet Van Heller; Miss V. Vivian as Sarah Kerrins gave a realistic performance; Mr. Louis Scott (William Van Stern) and Miss Grace Ryland (Stina Kerring) made the most of the humour. The play was followed by a smart little comedy, entitled *Jocelyn the Jester*.

CARDIFF.—NEW THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—Cardiffians have an opportunity this week of witnessing a revival of *Claudian* performed by Mr. William Maclaren's company. Mr. Maclaren interprets the title-rôle with dignity and a restraint which emphasises its power; Miss Lily C. Bandman submits a fine rendition of Almida; as Agazil Mr. Douglas Earle is seen to much advantage; and Miss Maud Garth as Edessa and Mr. C. T. Chaloner as Belos enliven the piece with some welcome comedy. The difficult part of Thariogalus is in the capable hands of Mr. F. Owen Chambers; while the rôle of Alcares is undertaken by Mr. Weston Hubbard with much effect. Other characters in the prologue well-represented are Theorus (Mr. Edmund Crogan), the Holy Clement (Mr. Alick Burke), and Serena (Miss Rosa Webster).

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—After a long absence we have a visit of *The Sorrows of Satan*, presented by Miss Loie Esmond's company, under the direction of Mr. Edward Neville. Mr. Neville impersonates Prince Lucio, and deals most effectively with this difficult part; Miss Cecilia Dare appears as Lady Sybil, and submits a very charming delineation. As Geoffrey Tempest Mr. J. McCaigh acquits himself with much credit; Miss Loie Desmond as Diana Chesney is a captivating and vivacious American; while the comedy of Mr. Fred Cherry (Morris) is certainly one of the successes of the piece.

EMPIRE.—Managing Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Wm. Lee; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. S. Dring.—The versatile Vesta Tilley is packing the Cardiff Empire this week. The charming, bright, and breezy little lady is more entertaining than ever, and her new songs are rendered with more than her usual sprightliness of manner. A comedian new to Cardiff is "Mr. Hymack," and he has achieved great success; the Sisters Morgan are enthusiastically welcomed back to the city of their birth with all their South African honours fresh upon them; the Bros. Dean prove an expert troupe of dancers; and the Renard Trio of dental athletes are particularly smart and clever. Collins and Rice, two bright comedy artists; the Strads, in a musical turn; Cissie Carlette, a mimetic vocalist; and the Bioscope, with interesting pictures, entitled "Black Diamonds," complete a most attractive programme.

CARLISLE.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Mr. Thos. Courtice and Mrs. R. Stewart McKim; Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—Mr. Godfrey Tearle's company opened here on Monday with *A Soldier of Fortune*, under the direction of Mr. Haldane Crichton. In the title-rôle, Mr. Tearle acquitted himself in a manner worthy of the highest praise. The delightful acting of Miss Molly Malone as the Lady Phyllis was followed with intense interest; in the heavy rôle, Mr. Baliol Holloway was seen to marked advantage; Mr. William Lowe's ripe experience enabled him to make Dr. Thorn quite a prominent character; Phineas Sturge had a capable representative in Mr. Chas. E. Ommanney; Mr. Edmond T. Sayers was responsible for most of the laughter, receiving excellent support from Miss Violet Barnett; Mr. Alfred Gray as the Earl and Miss Ethel Matthews as Mistress Culign contributed sound performances.

THE PALACE.—Proprietors, the Palace Theatre, Carlisle, Limited; Managing-Director, Signor Rino Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—A capital programme is provided here this week. "The Smart Set" on the top of the bill sing popular music in a novel and delightful style; Indian club juggling is contributed by the Fitzgeralds, whose tricks bring down the house. A lady with a style quite her own is Miss Millie Payne, whose quaint mannerisms and comical facial expression create roars of laughter. A popular turn is given by Roze and Calvert, the comedy couple; and Ada Twibell, comedienne and burlesque actress, is also a favourite. Ted Young, whose humorous pantomime successes here have made him quite an old favourite, had a splendid reception, which was renewed at the end of his clever performance. A turn quite out of the common is contributed by the Lowenwirth Bros., who are simply brimful of comic Hebrew patter and funny business. The Pepiscope shows some fine new pictures this week.

CASTLEFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Cr. Hy. Masterman.—Miss Marie Dagmar and Mr. Fred. C. Somerfield are presenting here this week for the first time their new production, *The Tyrant*, by Mr. Fred. C. Somerfield, adapted from one of Victor Hugo's masterpieces. The scenery is admirable, and the numerous actors work hard, and are much appreciated. Miss Dagmar as Tisbe again gives proof of ability as an actress of emotional power; Mr. Somerfield appears with great success as Homodei; Mr. Roy Fortesque's portrayal of Angela is highly satisfactory, as is also the Rudolph of Mr. Lionel Atwill. Some powerful acting is contributed by Miss Lallah Shelton as Eulie; Miss Millie Ford plays Lady Katherine with genuine insight; Mrs. Chas. E. Warne makes an effective Dean of St. Anthony; Mr. Albert Rogers is amusing as Nobbs, and he receives capital assistance from Miss Olive Lloyd as Reginella. Mr. Percy Brown is quite at home as Victor.

QUEEN'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Charles Beanland and W. H. Emerson; General-Manager, Mr. W. H. Emerson.—The management has arranged an admirable programme for this week. Les Louberts (four in number) head the bill in an entertaining comedy sketch; Little Dot Moss, the toy comedienne, appears with remarkable success; Little Eugene McCabe sings some good songs; a word of praise is due to Mr. Russell Hatton for some clever impersonations of Dickens's characters; Reed and Lerne as eccentric comedians keep the audience in a roar throughout; Will McIvor, in a song-scena, is a capital turn; the Miltons contribute some clever tricks as knockabout skaters; Clem Lisbon is an agile comedian; and the Loyal Dominion Company's animated pictures are a treat.

CHATHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard; Secretary, Mr. Geo. G. Ridley.—Lovers of melodrama are witnessing with much satisfaction *As Good as Gold*, which is being presented here by Mr. Samuel James' company.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Here we have Millie Williams, vocalist and dancer; Jack Crawley, eccentric comedian; Rita and Roma, in a smart vaudeville act; Dolly Golden, a neat dancer; Rosie Archer, who imitates in a telling manner many music hall celebrities; Marriott Edgar, the man in red, has some quaint songs; Jack Collinson's company includes some bright juveniles, who amuse with *The Topsy-Turvey School*; Barnard and Dent's company give a musical comedy, entitled *L'Entente*; and several films are projected by Mr. Lacey's Bracopde.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Capt. H. R. Davis; Manager, Mr. Frank J. Dorme.—Rita Ross, burlesque artist, appears first, and is followed by T. W. Romer, in his song-scena, "The Chelsea Pensioner"; then we have the Three Sisters Thurban, who achieve success in a musical entertainment. Miss Amy Sullivan has two capital numbers, which prove popular; Arthur Reece obtains a very flattering reception; Marie Santoi is again scoring with "A Japanese tea-garden"; Allen and Hart are a pair of pleasing dancers; and the Edisonograph contributes an amusing film.

CHELTENHAM.—OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company opened on Monday in *Under Two Flags*. Mr. Blow's impersonation of the hero is worthy of all praise; Miss Amy Maitland takes Miss Molesworth's place as Cigarette in a powerful and admirable manner. Mr. Harry Benson as the hero's devoted servant contributes most of the fun; Miss Mabel Mannering as Venetia, Miss Ella Dixon as Lairnia, Mr. R. Faulkner as Lord Rockingham, Mr. H. Fitzgibbon as the brother, and Mr. Arthur Elwyn as Black Hawk are all worthy of special mention.

VICTORIA ROOMS.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. B. Shenton.—Mlle. Florence's amalgamation of vaudeville artists are the attraction here, drawing two crowded houses nightly. Mlle. Florence's performance on the rolling globe is truly marvellous; Abex, the miniature Hercules, gives a striking exhibition; Lomas, the monkey-mimic, astonishes; and other turns are the Ottawas, Canada's musical cowboys, ventriloquial sketches by Hoozee, and popular songs by Miss Gladys Wells and Harry Keeble.

CHESTER.—ROYALTY THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—Mr. Henry Swinerd's company, under the direction of Mr. J. W. Cordiner, is paying a return visit with *Dare-Devil Dorothy*. Mention may chiefly be made of the Hawkins of Mr. Arthur Hartley; Miss Dorothy Desmonde, in the title-rôle, admirably realises the author's charming heroine; a humorous Silas Crump is found in the person of Mr. Bert Edwards; Mr. William G. Hearson does well as the footman, Smith; Miss Marie Vere is suitably placed as Ruth Montrose; and the various other artists concerned do their best with the material at their disposal.

CHORLEY.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. G. T. Santé; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Hemingway.—Mr. Stanley Carlton's company is here this week with *A Life's Story* and *A Marriage of Vengeance*. In the former play on Monday Mr. F. Bulman Pitt, as Detective Tom Berry, won much praise; Miss Rubie Maude scored a decided success as Zieka, and Miss Marjory Armstrong was good as Beatrice; Mr. Stanley Carlton made an excellent Count Benger, and Mr. Arthur Dudley was well fitted in the part of Captain Jack Temple. Mr. Edwin Beverley gave a capital impersonation of Max Clifford, and Mr. Geoffrey Chate successfully appeared as Lieut. Hugo de Bresson. The humorous parts were well supplied by Mr. Fred Rose as Tony and Miss Lottie Pearce as Rosa.

COLCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Charles Macdona; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. C. Upton.—Mrs. Fred J. Kirke's *Naval Detective* company opened a three nights' engagement here on Monday. Mr. Leslie Austin as the detective was successful in his trio of parts, and Miss Louie Fountaine, who had a like number of characters, sang several songs in good style. Mr. George Whillis was wonderfully active in the aptly-named part of Captain Hustle; and Mr. Walter Hybert was successful with several humorous contributions. Mr. Charles Burnes, in his rôle of saloon-keeper, was most entertaining on a variety of musical instruments; the Roduin Girls danced throughout in good style; and Miss Edith Claris did well in the low-comedy part of Susan Scrubbs.

HIPPODROME.—Joint Proprietors, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot and Mr. Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. Jack de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—*The Trip to Coontown* is the chief attraction this week, and without a doubt the coloured people in the piece are very clever, their singing and dancing being of a high order. Takio, the mimic, is an entertaining artist; Ada Parker sings and dances in irreproachable style; and A. E. Clifford is a descriptive vocalist of considerable merit. Joe Mac is boisterously amusing with his eccentricities, and Allsopp and Beckwith introduce some smart comedy business, the pictures concluding

CONSETT.—NEW THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance.—Miss Go-Won-Go-Mohawk, who is here this week with her company in *Wep-Ton-No-Mah*, portrays the title-part with commendable ability. As Col. Stockton Mr. C. W. Charles is exceptionally good, and Mr. E. Leroy is a capable Manuel. The comedy element is amply supplied by Messrs. Guy Hackney and Dan Ryan, who keep the house in roars of laughter. Miss Blanche Leroy is the recipient of well-deserved applause for her very careful rendition of the part of Nellie Stockton; and the remaining characters are well filled by the other members of the company. The play is excellently staged.

CORK.—PALACE THEATRE, LIMITED.—Manager, Mr. Henry Kemble.—The programme here this week includes the Szarvasi-Ferencz Troupe of Hungarian singers, dancers, and acrobats, who give a novel and interesting turn; Frank Cass, actor-vocalist, sings in good style; Lozelle is an exceedingly clever gymnast; Barney Vox, in his ventriloquial turn, causes great amusement; G. H. Keith, descriptive vocalist, pleases very much; Armino gives a fine display of strength with heavy weights. The farcical episode, entitled *A Bunch of Trouble*, by Messrs. E. Cossart, Victor Kerr and Miss Babs Stuart, evokes much laughter; and Harry Edson and his performing dogs give a capital turn.

COVENTRY.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Dance; Manager, Mr. Lennox Barry.—Large and appreciative audiences are being drawn here this week. A big attraction is Miss Lottie Lennox, who is deservedly encored; Lilian Dundas and company give a dramatic sketch, *The Doom of Delilah*, which is superbly acted; Thorpe and Coe appear in a charming comedy duologue, entitled *My Burglar*; Fernee's Juveniles are a very clever troupe of children, who give some good songs and dances; Horace Jones appears as an original Welsh humorist, and effectively mimics local celebrities; Lotto, Lilo, and Otto give a clever exhibition of football on cycles; Beatrice Willey, comedienne, and Freed Keeton, comedian, are well received; the Bioscope pictures concluding a successful entertainment.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—*The Woman Who Gambles* is being produced by a strong company under the direction of Mr. Morton Powell, and judging by its reception on Monday promises to have a successful week's run. Mr. Alex. Alexander appears with striking effect as Count Steinbach; Mr. Horatio Sinclair is responsible for Baron Cratzlaw; Mr. Reginald Fox is successful as Carl Ctzarteriski; Miss Louisa Peach gives a striking and forcible rendering of Countess Steinbach (the woman who gambles); Miss Florence Halton is an effective Cora. The piece is excellently staged.

CRADLEY HEATH.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Jno. H. Morton.—Mr. W. Graham Arthurs' company, with *When a Man Hates*, is here this week. Mr. W. Graham Arthurs plays the heavy character of Pietro Danelli, and gives a finished performance; Mr. Herbert M. King is responsible for a fine piece of acting as the half-witted Paul; Mr. Arthur Jarvis makes a capital curate as Lawrence Hastings; Mr. F. A. Lester deserves praise for his careful rendition of Sir Rupert Treharne; Mr. George F. Pleons as Detective Smart earns well-merited applause; Mr. Ernest Turner and Miss Jennie Hallworth as Peter Simple and Dolly Pimple are responsible for the fun of the play. Miss Maud Burleigh as Olga Gwynne acts with much taste and feeling; Miss Mabel Lister makes a winsome Letty; Mr. A. G. Gillies as Hawk is well chosen for the part; Mr. Fred Rosson deserves mention for his Sergeant Wiggins; Mr. E. Sampson as Jim Rogers submits a very careful study.

CREWE.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Taylor, J.P.—Mr. Hilliard Vox's company in *Alaska* is fulfilling an engagement here this week. As Skookum Jim, the hero of the play, Mr. Percy Ballard is a huge success. Mr. H. Naylor Grimson plays Ned Larson with commendable skill; Mr. Stenson Liddard does ample justice to the part of Baptiste; Mr. Arthur Ferris gives a faithful rendering of Pompey Cæsar; and Mr. James Fox makes a favourable impression as Father Bernard. Miss Violet Craufurd's delineation of the Indian girl, Alaska, is an admirable bit of acting; Miss Muriel Vox merits warm approval as Jessie Dalton, and Miss Ethel May is a clever Topsy. Miss M. Palmer as Widow Casey, and Little Polly Percival as the Widow's Mite are worthy of notice.

CROYDON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Lawson Lambert.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge has sent an extremely well selected company, including a handsome and sweet-voiced chorus, with *The Dairymaids*, whilst the dresses and scenery are also very fine. Miss Edith Blanche is delightfully fresh in the rôle of Lady Brudenell; Miss Violet Lloyd is bright and attractive as Peggy; Miss Rhoda Gordon deserves hearty congratulations as Winifred; Miss Beryl Vaudrey is a charming Hélène; Miss Madge Avery admirably fits the part of Miss Penelope Pychase; Miss Cissie Sephton is full of gaiety as the maid-of-all-work, Eliza; and Misses Muriel Gordon, Gay Silvani, and Rosie Campbell are pretty schoolgirls. Mr. E. Statham Staples tickles the fancy of the audience immensely with his whimsical acting as Sam Brudenell; Mr. George Desmond's free and easy style exactly fits the rôle of Lieutenant Brudenell; Mr. Alec Fraser sings to perfection in the part of Captain Fred Leverton; Mr. Forbes Dawson enacts Dr. O'Byrne in the best possible manner; and praise is due to Messrs. Harry Cottell, Rupert Mar, and Fred Foster as Tim Capus, Lieut. Berton, and Togers.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Herrick.—Mr. Harry Foxwell's company is at the Royal with *An Abandoned Woman*. Mr. Walli Spinner scores as Captain Herbert Seaton; Mr. P. Morton Wright is commendable as Robert Saunders; Mr. Richard Ferris is praiseworthy as Philippe Malvoisin; Mr. Jim K. Woods makes a humorous Paddy Boyle; Mr. Will Glaze is suitable to the part of Sammy Sharp; Miss Georgetta Thierry acts creditably as Ninon Malvoisin; Miss Elsie Deane is successful as Sally Sloper; Miss Edith Spinner acts with strength in the rôle of Eleanor Deane; and little Frances Maddocks is clever as Mona Deane.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—Paul Martinetti's company of pantomimists in the graphic sketch, *A Night Attack*, is greeted with unstinted applause; Les Rallis are great in their acrobatic comedy sketch; the Eight Sunrays sing and dance their way into favour; Albert Lee Fre is an excellent comedian; Daisy Dormer sings coon ditties to perfection; Bert Byrne, comedian, is much liked; Bosanquet, violin virtuoso, has a good reception; and Mlle. Haydee's miniature theatre is enjoyable.

DARLINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—The Karno Troupe of comedians opened here on Monday, appearing in *Mumming Birds* and *Early Birds*. Mr. Charles Denion proves himself a smart comedian; the Milton Comedy Duo are very good; Lincoln and Warren, cyclists, give a clever turn; the Sisters Lavender, dancers, give a pretty and refined performance; Jack Neil, Scotch comedian, is well received; and Lillie Stuart, comedienne and dancer, completes an excellent programme.

DARWEN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. A. M. Loader; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. J. Robinson.—Mrs. F. Wybert Clive's principal company is here this week in *The Conscript* and *The Branded Woman*. In the former, which was played on the night of our visit, Mr. Cowell Clarke gives a capital rendering of Ivan Manloff; Mr. Walter Steele is capable as the villain, Paul Hardisti; as also is Mr. H. Creagh Hunt as Karl Truevitch. As Tretch Trotoff, Mr. Harry Liddle supplies good comedy, being well supported by Miss Isabel Hunt as Wanda. Mr. Edward Lowrie and Mr. Wybert Clive both do well as Doggervitch and Maxim Fredka respectively; Nadia Truevitch is sympathetically portrayed by Miss Florence M. Daly; Miss Maud Elliott makes a good Dame Katinka; and as Little Karl, Miss Cissie Reenan is pleasing.

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Denley; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Langley Wyatt.—Mr. Lawrence Brough and full West End company are here with *The Lady of Ostend*. As the French Baron, Mr. Brough has a part that fits him like the proverbial glove, and does it and himself infinite credit. Mr. Percy Marshall is in every way excellent as Joseph Carbury; and Mr. Henry Hampson could not be improved upon as Dick Whortles. The name-rôle is played engagingly by Miss Marian Ripley, and Miss Kate Milford is a charming Dorothy, Miss Bessie Harrison doing thoroughly well as the mother-in-law. Mr. Watkin Wynne is capital as Toby Krockitt, and Miss E. Eiley Boyne appears to advantage in a minor part. The *lever de rideau* is *At the Risin' of the Moon*. Mr. Percy Marshall is highly praiseworthy as Barry O'Blane, and Miss E. Eiley Boyne makes a delightful Norah. Other parts are carefully filled by Mr. Reginald A. Hunt and Mr. Rupert Harvey.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Herbert Taylor.—Dora Lyric's up-to-date repertoire of tuneful songs is warmly appreciated; a comedy sketch, *Aunt Matilda*, submitted by Frank Elliston and Co., causes roars of genuine laughter; the Katos, living marionettes, provide a highly diverting turn; the Wallenda do some very neat tricks on parallel bars; John Henry, a Welsh basso, sings in fine style; the Sisters Selwyn are

BUCHANAN'S
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THE WHISKY OF WORLD WIDE REPUTE

vivacious in song and dance; and Lilian Rigby proves herself a talented musical artist. The Bioscope continues to maintain its popular character.

DEVONPORT.—Metropole Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Geo. S. King.—*East Lynne* is being played here by a fine company under the management of Messrs. H. Armitage and A. Beaumont. Miss Julie Kennard gives a most laudable rendering of Lady Isabel; Mr. Alfred Beaumont is quite at home in the part of Archibald Carlyle; Mr. Frederick Marker submits an accurate study of Francis Levison; Miss E. Hardacre is a creditable Cornelia Carlyle; and Mr. Harry Rutland impersonates Richard Hare.

DONCASTER.—New Grand Theatre and Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—The Frank Bateman Dramatic Company, under the personal direction of Mr. Stuart Lomath, has made a successful appearance in *No Wedding Bells for Her*. Mr. Lomath himself undertakes the part of Frank Hatherleigh, and gives a powerful delineation of muscular Christianity; Mr. Percy Shaw is exceptionally smart as Dick Delver; and Mr. Frederick Carton is happy in his portrayal of Montague Blair; Harold Trevelyn loses nothing by being assigned to Mr. P. Beresford; and Mr. George Herbert, as Horatio Fane, an old actor, is convincing. Mr. Will Skelton secures warm recognition as Simkins, a nondescript; a good impression is created by Mr. Frank Davies as a mad actor, and the Adonis Tightfist of Mr. Fred Vaughan is submitted with a fine artistic appreciation. Miss Dora Pass is charming as Doris Fane, Miss Bessie Franks is admirable as Peggy, and Miss Patty Alberry's treatment of Mrs. Eastman is excellent. The part of Lola Delaspierre presents no difficulties to Miss Lizzie Montague, who is applauded to the echo.

DOVER.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, the Dover Theatre, Ltd.; Chairman of Directors, Mr. B. Carter; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—The chief attraction here is *Faust*, an excellent sketch played with success by Miss Josephe Calona, Mr. Arthur St. John, and company. The Almos, lightning equilibrists and tumblers, perform many smart feats; and Beattie Kent proves herself a charming comedienne. Hearty applause is earned by Tom Collins, who gives a couple of capital songs with appropriately topical verses; and Lang and Beal are clever musical artists. Miss Colona's company also appears in the second house in a farcical episode, entitled *O'Callaghan's Luck*; and in the early house Mr. A. Welham (a Dover vocalist), Miss Jessie Licence (a youthful soprano), assisted by Miss Lily Lingard (a capable and experienced artist), contribute an original sketch called *The Little Peacemaker*. Raymond's Bio-tableaux has as usual some most interesting and amusing pictures.

Palace and Hippodrome.—Lessees, The Vaudeville Syndicate; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Holt; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. Chas. R. Standfield.—At the top of an excellent bill is Valvero, a lightning painter, who astonishes everyone with the rapidity and excellence of his pictures. A good musical act, entitled *Tommy Atkins at Play*, is contributed by Horace Monto; the illustrations add much to the success of Cissy Coman's well-rendered songs; and a really fine turn is given by Joe and Jim Ralston; Laurie Wallis, national and skipping-rope dancer, is an expert; a good deal of fun is derived from the amusing patter of Sam Redfern, negro comedian; the mannerisms of the coster are faithfully copied by Will Bacchus; and the "Pork Butcher's Nightmare" and "The Yawner" on Raymond's bio-tableaux complete the programme.

DUBLIN.—Gaiety Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mrs. Michael Gunn; General Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Hyland.—The amusing comedy, *All-of-a-Sudden Peggy* has been heartily enjoyed and warmly appreciated by good audiences this week. It is played by Messrs. Glenister and Wood Ingram's company. Mr. Frank G. Bayly gave a particularly good reading of the part of Lord Crackenthorpe, and the Hon. Jimmy Keppel was capitally represented by Mr. Lionel Glenister; a decided success was made by Miss Decima Moore in her effective portrayal of Peggy; Mr. R. Henderson Bland displayed his abilities cleverly in the character of Major Phipps, and as Jack Menzies Mr. J. Edgar Stevenson sustained his part creditably. Miss Kate Wingfield was a dignified Lady Crackenthorpe, and Miss Eva Lonsdale as the Hon. Millicent Keppel and Miss Estelle Despa as the Hon. Mrs. Colquhoun were both good in their respective rôles; Miss Naomi Neilson submitted a clever impersonation of Mrs. O'Mara; Mr. Harry Phillips as the Footman Parker, and Mr. Patrick Fitzgerald as Lucas were also good. A dramatic episode, *The Lady Who Dwelt in the Dark*, preceded, and was well received.

Empire.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—In an excellent programme the chief item is George Gray and company in *The Fighting Prason;* the Emerald Gems, in character songs and dances, delighted the audience, and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Finden in their comedy duologue, *Two to One*, meet with well-merited success; Stevens and Rennior are a capital pair of comedians and dancers, and Fred Fane, actor-vocalist, has several taking songs; Forest and King are a smart pair of comedy artists, and the musical turn contributed by Stave is cordially approved. A gratifying reception is given to the Two Dixons, bâton swingers and song and dance artists, and Allan Hanbury is a comedian who hits the mark. The Empire Pictures are also interesting.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Parrington.—*Peter Pan*, which finishes here to-night, has had a most successful three weeks' run. Miss Pauline Chase as Peter Pan and Miss Hilda Trevelyan as Wendy have become most popular with their charming performances. Captain Hook (Mr. Loring Fernie) and the Pirates Smee (Mr. George Shelton) and Gentleman Starkie (Mr. Charles Trevor) continue to give much amusement in their respective rôles, and Miss Mary Mayfren is again worthy of mention as Mrs. Darling.

Tivoli.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Secretary, Mr. H. A. Murphy. — An excellent variety combination provides the amusement here this week. The leading turn is by Sims and Sims, musical comedians; Weiland, comedy juggler, assisted by Mlle. Carlotta, perform some clever and amusing feats; an engaging turn is contributed by Winifred and Lang, lady duettists and dancers; the vocal items of Edie Gray and Boys are well received; Maude Cherry, comedienne, has a good style; Columba Trio, comedy vocalists, score a hit, as does also George Prince, the crazy comic; Morton and Roberts, comedians, are going strong, and Roy Ralston, baritone vocalist, is popular. The Bioscope exhibits some new pictures.

World's Fair and Music Hall.—Proprietor, Mr. C. A. James.—The company engaged here includes Prof. and Mme. Elba, second sight artists; Ted Warner, comedian and dancer; Ethel Mackey, soprano vocalist; and George Mack, comedian. The new cinematograph is an additional attraction.

Samuels' Exhibition Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. S. Samuels; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Howard.—The following artists are appearing here:—The Raymonds, in their original acts, *Serial Stories* and *The Lady and the Pupil;* Harry May, eccentric comedian; Ida Bernard, vocalist and dancer; Allen and Hall, patter comedians; and Percy Harris, comedian and dancer.

DUDLEY.—Opera House.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—*What the Butler Saw* has had a particularly favourable reception here. Miss Ada Blanche as Mrs. Barrington acts with charming archness and a humour that is simply irresistible; Mr. Lionel Rignold's embodiment of the butler, Pink, delights the audience; Mr. Charles Fawcett acts Jack Barrington in a thoroughly clever and artistic manner; another excellently played part is that of Sir Charles Foden by Mr. Louis Lingard; the Misses Clarissa and Selina Dunlop are characters vivaciously filled by Miss Jenny Wigney and Miss Dorothy Hart; and Miss May Hart displays good abilities as the young Sophonisba Hake. Mr. Victor Widdicombe causes much amusement as the fiery General Dunlop; Mr. Leo St. Clair combines effective stage-management with a well-played part as Sydney Clifford.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. B. Peberdy.—The principal attraction here this week is the amusing sketch, entitled *Duck Hunting*, cleverly rendered by Arthur Aiston and company. Another popular turn is that of Mlle. De Rose, lady baritone vocalist, who is in great request; Mabel Mavis is skilful as a glassophone soloist; J. H. Hawtrey has some capital songs; Kendrick and Laura, the society pair, give an enjoyable turn; Clara Sefton, comedienne, and Harry Desmond, character comedian, also obtain a good reception.

DUNDEE. — Palace Theatre.—Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Licensee and Manager, Mr. E. J. Dexter.—The Three Royal Dreadnoughts, expert rifle shots, give an exhibition of sharp shooting which is simply marvellous; Pat Rafferty's Irish humour is irresistible; Luis Hardt, the Boy Samson, performs some wonderful feats of strength; the Belmores are exceedingly popular with their sweet singing and graceful dancing; the operatic selections rendered by the St. Johns, musical comedians, are delightful; George French and Bob Stephenson are both entertaining comedians, and are warmly received; the Decars, burlesque artists, contribute a very laughable turn. Vernon's Imperial Bioscope completes an excellent bill.

Gaiety Theatre. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. A. P. Williams.—In place of the usual variety programme the patrons of this house are regaled this week with dramatic fare, the piece presented being *The Hero of the Flag*, which receives a capital representation at the hands of Mr. Edward McLean's company. The part of the hero, Jack Lawrence, is in the safe hands of Mr. Edward McLean, who gives it a very powerful rendering; Miss Gladys Vernon, who undertakes the title-rôle, submits a really charming interpretation; the part of the villainous Paul Mansfield is dramatically played by Mr. Ernest Wingfield; enjoyable comedy is supplied by Mr. Johnny McElroy and Miss Amy Randolph as Johnny Gruckle and Jenny Stubbs respectively.

Empire Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Percival.—A capital programme is presented here this week. Will Candlish, the coloured gentleman, evokes roars of laughter; Henrietta and Selina present a unique musical entertainment; Dan Noble, eccentric comedian, is a very comical "cuss"; the charming contributions of pretty Rosie Yorke are warmly received; Vallance fairly mystifies all with his magical illusions; Ara, Zebra, and Vora are successful in their novel turn entitled *Indian Pastimes;* Kitty Marion proves herself to be a charming vocalist; and Philip Sefton, baritone vocalist, enhances his already high reputation as a singer of good songs. The Empire Bioscope, with several new films, completes the programme.

EASTBOURNE.—Devonshire Park Theatre.—Proprietors, the Devonshire Park and Baths Co.; Managers, Messrs. Murray, King, and Clark.—Messrs. Cartwright, Lawrence, and Tapping's excellently-cast company is appearing here in *David Copperfield, David Garrick*, and *The Coping Stone*. The last-named is a new play, written by Mr. Gerald Lawrence, and was billed for production on Friday evening of this week. *David Copperfield* was splendidly staged on Monday evening, and the very fine work of Mr. Charles Cartwright as the old salt Dan'l Peggotty moved the audience to tears of sympathy; Mr. Charles Collette, in his own delightful, breezy manner, submitted an irresistible study of Micawber and highly pleased everyone; Mr. Lionel Belmore gave quite a little masterpiece of pathetic acting as Ham, and he is to be highly congratulated; Mr. Gerald Lawrence lost no point as Steerforth; Mr. A. B. Tapping realised many of the possibilities of the part of Uriah Heep; and Mr. Stanley Harrison was a very good David Copperfield. Miss Lorna Lawrence as Little Emily played with fine feeling and judgment; Miss Gordon Walker was a pleasing and interesting Agnes; Miss Helen Vicary displayed just the necessary amount of vigour and smartness as Betsy Trotwood; Miss Ethel Sarjient and Miss Beatrice Grósvenor shared honours for their excellent work as Mrs. Grummidge and Mrs. Barkis; Miss Clarissa gave a strong and pointed account of the part of Rosa Dartle; and Miss Lillie Cavenagh did able and delicate work as Martha.

Pier Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Mr. E. St. Alban's company is appearing here with great success in the ever-delightful opera *Les Cloches de Corneville*. Mr. E. St. Alban works hard and well, and his study and make-up as Gaspard deserve the warmest praise; Mr. William Everard possesses a fine, rich voice, and he is heard to great advantage in his songs as the Marquis; Mr. Charles Ross uses a sweet voice with splendid effect as Grenicheaux; Mr. Fred Dark revels in the part of the Bailie and loses no opportunities, and he has a mirth-provoking partner in Mr. Richard Martin as Gobo; Miss Marion Ayling is a dainty Germaine, and her beautiful and artistic singing is warmly applauded; Miss Madge Roberts is a delightfully vivacious and pretty Serpolette, singing with delightful charm and result. A very fine chorus is under the direction of Chevalier Legrand, who deserves hearty commendation.

The Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; General-Manager, Mr. H. Day; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Smith.—A varied and interesting bill is offered here this week. At the head is Mahatma, whose exhibition of second-sight is wonderfully smart and startling in its correctness; Hyde, Cody, and a charming lady contribute a turn which is a clever mixture of funny comedy work and extremely smart tumbling and balancing; Miss Kathrena is interesting in her song and dances in *The Carnival of Toys;* Miss Nellie Lewis sings excellent songs in capital style; Mr. and Mrs. G. Leonard deserve high praise for their work in the sketch *Coming Home;* Mr. Alfred Davis is a successful descriptive vocalist; and Mr. C. Harvey does well. The pictures complete the bill.

ECCLES.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. C. Hamilton Baines; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert Orton.—The attraction here this week is the musical comedy, entitled *Cissy*. Mr. Harry Vernon as Victor Carleton acts and sings pleasingly; as Gilbert Temple Mr. Basil Mitchell plays the part of an adventurer capably; Dossy Bowers, an outcast, is well impersonated by Mr. Sydney Humphreys; Mr. Fletcher Sansome as Titus Thomas creates great fun; Miss Hetty Lind, in the rôle of Cissy Vere, is deserving of praise; the Olive Temple of Miss Dorah E. Eastlake is well acted; Miss Gladys Silvester as Mary Mopps is the cause of much laughter; Miss Daisy Towers, Miss Trissie Mills, and Miss Kitty Vernum, in the respective parts of Polly Truelove, Daisy Meadows, and Sally Springs, acquit themselves creditably.

EDINBURGH.—Royal Lyceum Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; General Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Minshull.—The return visit of *The Earl and the Girl*, played by Mr. William Greet's principal company, has drawn full houses. Chief honours fall to Mr. Wm. Stephens for his exceedingly funny rendering of the part of Jim Cheese. Mr. Arthur Harrold as Dick Wargrave acts and sings with much point and effect; and Mr. Percy E. Wright is quite happy in his delineation of the humours of the Hon. Crewe Boodle; while as Downham, Talk, and Hazell, Messrs. W. Norman, Green Taylor, and Fred W. Patrick are well fitted with their respective rôles. Among the ladies, Miss Frances Earle's singing and acting in the leading part of Elphin Haye are wholly delightful; Miss Jennie Richards develops the broader comedy of Liza Shoddam most successfully; and other characters are well sustained by Miss Beatrice Anderson, Miss Gertrude Melville, Miss Joan Clifford, and Miss Hilda Gray. The "entente cordiale" dance is very prettily executed by a bevy of charming dansenses, and the whole production does credit to the stage direction of Mr. George A. Highland.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—One of the principal attractions of this week's bill is the clever performer Galatea (Miss Maud Odell), whose beautiful poses of famous masterpieces of sculpture are very graceful; Miss Violet Ray, a charming vocalist and finished player on the violoncello, receives enthusiastic applause; Mr. Leslie Holland and Miss Vera Vere are entertaining in a smart duologue, *A Side-slip;* Miss Florence Deighton charms all hearts by her vocal contributions, and Miss Maud Courtney is highly successful both in song and story; Mr. James Fawn is fresh and original as ever in his sketches, and the Mysterious Mr. C. makes a hit in his clever turn; Mr. Johnny Fuller displays remarkable agility in his acrobatic sketch; the Four Hearnes are droll and nimble performers; Musical Silvo extracts music from some strange instruments; and a pleasing example of animal training is given by Mr. Alfredo Trentanoir with his mules and baboon.

King's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Amand Mascard.—A large audience filled the King's Theatre on Monday evening, when Mr. H. Armitage and Mr. Arthur Leigh's company began a six nights' engagement in *Leah Kleschna*. The play owes much of its success to the quiet, forcible acting of Mr. William F. Grant as Paul Sylvaine, a performance of undoubted merit, and the charming, pathetic impersonation of Miss Bessie Rignold as Leah. Mr. Paul Belmore plays with much power as Kleschna; Mr. Hamilton Deane strikes the right note in his Admirable portrayal of Raoul Bertin, and Mr. Roland Daniel displays great skill in his representation of the small part of Valentin Favre. Mr. Campbell Goldsmid acts with marked ability the difficult part of Schram; General Berton is capitally played by Mr. Roland Daniel, and Miss Ethel Russell, Miss Helene Belgrave, and Miss Violet Thorold are excellent in their respective parts. The drama is well staged.

Empire Palace Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Parham Wells.—The Egbert Brothers easily take first place this week with their *Happy Dustmen* turn, and Mr. Herbert Darnley's company of comedians appear with much acceptance in a lively military pantomime entitled *The Skirmishers*. The comedienne and comedian element is represented by Miss Lizzie Daniels, Mr. Robb Gilmore, and Mr. Geo. Brooks, all of whom contribute in their several styles to the amusement of the audience; and the Cambrian Trio of lady vocalists also receive their due meed of applause. An excellent exhibiton of versatility as a quick-change artist is given by Mr. C. Randolph King; Ryan and Hall are good comedy acrobats; the bar act of Mezetti and Mora includes some clever novelty; and a bright sketch styled *The Cuckoo*, smartly played by Mr. Charles Kitts, Miss Rhoda Windrum, and others, is very diverting.

Alhambra Theatre of Varieties. — General-Manager, Mr. Ventom Swift.—A dramatic sketch, *The Red Letter*, is effectively acted by Miss Lily Pearl and Mr. H. Leslie Bell. Mr. Arthur Elvy, sporting comedian, finds favour with a large section of the audience; Mr. A. J. Gamble, Scotch comedian, shows ability in his characterisation; the Brothers Obo, laughing comedians, are very amusing, and the Three Moxons are droll and capable acrobats; Vowles and Bryan provide an interesting sketch, and Mr. Archie Cameron proves himself to be an entertaining comedian.

EXETER. — Theatre Royal.—Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—Mr. T. Arthur Jones's company is here this week in the melodrama *Life's Sweetest Sins*, and is drawing large houses. Miss Marie Daventry as the heroine enlists the sympathies of the audience and together with Mr. T. Arthur Jones as Captain Harold Marston, the hero, appears in some very effective scenes; Mr. Oswald Douglas as Dr. Colbrooke, the scheming villain, is distinctly good; Miss Marion Armitage and Mr. Edgar Morgan, as maid and manservant respectively, introduce some humorous scenes.

FOLKESTONE.—Pleasure Gardens Theatre.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Mr. Charles Carey, in conjunction with Mr. Harold Wantage, presented the new musical comedy, *The Pick of the Bunch*, here on Monday. Mr. Charles Carey, who works untiringly as Halliwell Menit, is very successful; Mr. H. Buckstone Clair is a quaint Colonel Menit, Mr. Algernon W. Lee a good Martin, his singing being much appreciated, Mr. Harold Wantage an amusing Dick Seymour, Miss M. Sadie a clever and spirited Nancy, Miss Eva Ellis a fascinating Ruth Gay, Miss Nellie James a particularly smart Wilhelmina, and Miss Madge Christopher as Nellie Mather sings tastefully. A clever dance is introduced in Act II. by Miss Madge Lacey. The piece is well dressed and mounted.

GATESHEAD. — King's Theatre. — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harold Arnold.—The eccentricities of Sam Elton, who heads the bill here this week, have caused the greatest hilarity; Corman's Juveniles sing and dance with good effect; Albert Wyndham's company, in the Shakespearean episode, *Prince Arthur*, pays a return visit, and makes the hit of the week; the Nettas submit two excellent vocal items, for which they receive abundant praise; Les Valdos, in a comedy gymnastic act, are seen to advantage; Bernard and Weston, a pair of clever cross-talkers, achieve success; Carrie Joy, ballad vocalist, and pictures by Vernon's Imperial Bioscope, are also in the bill.

Metropole Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Councillor Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas France. — Messrs. Polini and Maitland's company, in the excellent drama, *The Coal King*, has drawn huge audiences to this house. Mr. Lauderdale Maitland could hardly be improved upon for the part of Tom Roberts; Mr. Chas. Whitlock makes a capital Sir Reginald; Mr. Escott Robson in the part of Walter Hartford shows much ability; the rôle of Dick Shirley is successfully taken by Mr. Frank Dalton; Mr. Alfred Terriss as Jim Williams looks after the comedy element to everyone's satisfaction; a sweet and womanly Grace Shirley is presented by Miss Gertrude Valentine; Miss Sinna St. Clair is a powerful Mad Ann; Miss Enid Ross makes much out of the humorous part of Araminta Green.

Queen's Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Councillor Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Smith. — The romantic play, *The Throne of Terror*, is the fare at this establishment. Mr. W. J. Miller is seen to advantage as Robespierre; Mr. Walter Bentley as D'Almonte, lends valuable assistance; Miss Katherine Maude Davies supplies a skilful Marguerite.

GLASGOW. — Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Humphrys.—This week *Lucky Durham* is visiting Glasgow for the second time, the play being again presented with exceptional care and finish by Messrs. Armitage and Leigh's company. Mr. Edmund Kennedy sustains the rôle of John Durham, and gives a strong and convincing depiction of the character; for the part of Lord Mountfallon Mr. Robert Forsyth is particularly well suited; Mr. Arthur Leigh appears as the Hon. Reginald Steighton, and his rendering of the part is distinctly amusing; the Vallerton of Mr. A. C. Walker is a refined conception; a gentlemanly Walcombe is submitted by Mr. W. Kingsford Pearse; and clever character-work is seen in the Verstein of Mr. W. F Clitherow, the Tasker of Mr. John Hartt, and the Mintborough of Mr. Sydney Bancroft. The Helen Vallerton of Miss Alice Esther Belmore is quite a captivating heroine; Miss Frances Wolviston plays the haughty Lady Mountfallon very well; as Margaret Steighton Miss Florence Dulhunty acts gracefully; the Mrs. Durham of Miss Louisa Gourlay is a particularly good performance; and the parts of Miss Premore and the Typist are ably filled by Misses Elsie Mayne and Gwynne Hanley.

Royalty, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie.—*The Perfect Lover*, produced for the first time in Glasgow on Monday evening by Mr. Harold V. Neilson and company, met with a very good reception from a large audience. Mr. Harold V. Neilson, in the part of Joseph Tremblett, plays with much strength and conviction; the unscrupulous money-maker, William Tremblett, had a good representative in Mr. W. L. Warde; Lord Cardew, a slender part, was played very creditably by Mr. Bernard Limpus; and John Collis, the uncle, had a capable exponent in Mr. John Dettin. Lillian Tremblett, the rich man's luckless and heart-broken wife, was sympathetically played by Miss Amy Sangster; and a word of praise is due to Miss Lucy Dibly, who as the Hon. Susan Lesson gave a delightful study of the elderly maiden aunt.

King's, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. H. Macfarlane.—A gratifying reception was accorded Mr. Oscar Asche and Miss Lily Brayton when they opened here on Monday in *The Virgin Goddess*, and the new tragedy was followed with rapt attention. As Haephestion Mr. Asche has a part that affords him unlimited scope, and his acting throughout undoubtedly marks an advance on anything he has yet given here. Miss Lily Brayton as the ill-fated Althea is also specially well suited, and from first to last the tragic aspects of the part were finely indicated. Mr. Alfred Brydone as the craven-hearted Cresphontes ably shared the honours of the evening, and added another to his long list of successes. Miss Elsie Chester as Cleito also deserves the highest commendation; and other parts were well played by Miss Leila Norris, Miss Agnes Brayton, and Messrs. H. R. Hignett, G. Kay Souper, and Reginald Ian Penny. On Tuesday Mr. Oscar Asche gave a striking performance as Othello to the Desdemona of Miss Lily Brayton, Mr. Alfred Brydone being excellent as the wily Iago. *The Taming of the Shrew* was given later in the week.

Royal Princess's.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—*The Female Swindler* is the attraction here this week, and is drawing good houses. Miss Grace E. Leslie makes a most successful appearance as La Valroy, the clever criminal; Mr. Joseph Millane enacts John Coulson, the acute detective; the male rascality is well depicted by Mr. J. Knox-Orde as Geoffrey Warden and Mr. John Belton as Abraham Mikestein. Mr. Guy P. Ellis gives a good account of himself as the heroic Harold Travers; while Miss Florrie Kelsey as May Andrews makes an attractive heroine. Mr. A. Kenyon Gray as a retired merchant acts the part with suitable dignity; Mr. Henry Wright makes up amusingly in four different characters, the principal being Billy Binks, a boy in buttons, who, with Miss Mary Dawson as a servant girl, adds greatly to the fun. Detective Dixon by Mr. E. Winstow, Larkin by Mr. A. Wilson, and Mrs. Poppin by Miss Edith Gray are notable embodiments.

Metropole, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—Mr. Harry Foxwell's company is doing capital business here with *A Broken Heart*. Mr. Harry Wolston plays John Barnard with marked success; and Miss Lillian Herries gives a clever reading of Mary Barnard. Stephen Raylton is played with distinction by Mr. Harry Earlesmere; Mr. Will Lindsay scores as Tony Tibbets. In the dual rôle of Grace Fanshawe and Mrs. Kellett Mrs. Harry Foxwell does remarkably well; and Mr. George Addiston as Skrimp and Miss Nancy Mitchell as Sally Tanner appear with much acceptance. The Gash Gills of Mr. Charles Vivian gives satisfaction.

Lyceum.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Rich Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—Lilian Clare Cassidy's thrilling Russian drama, *In Holy (?) Russia*, which formed such an attraction last week in the Princess's Theatre, is this week reproduced by Mr. J. Rice Cassidy's company in the Lyceum. In the Hibernian part of Micky Nolan Mr. Cassidy is excellent; while as Renee Rubinoff Mrs. Cassidy evokes the enthusiasm of her audience from the commencement. The acting of Messrs. Stratton, Copeland, Sands, Rovinelli, and Loyd is all that one can desire; and Miss Florence Creagh makes an admirable Catska Lavotski.

Empire.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. Mussett.—A successful programme is submitted this week. Mme. De Vry's "Three Golden Graces" give a most artistic exhibition of living bronze statuary; Mabel Green, the well-known musical comedy artist, sings her songs well, and is a great favourite; the Kirbys, comedy artists, are a funny couple; George Westland gives a most successful turn as a Scotch comedian; Barton and Franklyn are clever instrumentalists; D'Arc's Marionettes give wonderful impersonations of well-known music-hall artists; David Stewart sings well, and his songs are illustrated by some very artistic pictures. Other good items are presented by Sinclair and Whiteford in their sketch *Getting Even*, and the Kroney Bros, as *The Lazy Coalmen*.

Zoo-Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd., and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—Caicedo, the King of the Wire, is here, and his wonderful performance is heartily enjoyed; Mabel Bardine and company are producing the clever sketch *Nell of the Halls*, which is cleverly written and well acted; Chas. Coborn receives the welcome of an old favourite, and as a coster or a Dutchman seems equally at home, finishing up with a well-known Gaelic song; Ted Curtis and his piccaninnies give an enjoyable turn; Edie King is a smart dancer; Ruby and Laws contribute a smart vocal comedy-scena; and the Vailescu Troupe display wonderful ability on the triple bars. The cornet playing of the Howards is particularly good; and a smart patter turn is that of Tray and Rich. The Bioscope concludes a first-rate programme.

Pavilion, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr Samuel Lloyd.—Edwin Boyde, after a lengthy absence, receives a hearty welcome here, and in his own inimitable manner keeps the audience in roars of laughter right through his turn. Irma Lorraine gives a series of tableaux vivants which are much appreciated. Clarice Mayne is retained this week, and her impersonations and original songs are equally enjoyed; Valazzi is a clever juggler with a number of new and ingenious tricks; the illusion "Quo Vadis" is a most mystifying affair, and is cleverly carried out; Lloyd Morgan does well as a light comedian; Janet Howard Reynolds possesses a sweet soprano voice; and the coon songs and dances of Maude Vera are well received. Les 2 Cabiacs contribute an acrobatic display of much originality.

Coliseum.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Burdette.—A capital programme is provided here this week. Bella and Bijou, comedy entertainers, are the outstanding feature, and earn rounds of applause; Clarence C. Corris's company, in an amusing sketch, *Office Hours*, are responsible for much amusement. Other notable turns include the Soho Trio, singing and dancing specialists; Bert Harrow, comedian; Arabella Allen, in her clever Dickens sketches; Will Cornish, musical expert; Tom Lally, bass vocalist; Leo Tell, musical mimic; Jack Mills, comedian; and the Bioscope with a capital series of pictures.

Palace.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Rich Walden; General-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—Harry Tate's company in *Motoring* provides genuine amusement; and a very fine and artistic act by Effie White, kaleidoscopic dancer, is one of the hits of the programme. A good singer and smart dancer is Cherrie Lass; and quite charming in voice and style is Lottie De Abbey, who uses her fine soprano to advantage. Dale and O'Malley worthily top the bill as patter comedians and singers; and the pedestal dancing by the Lannons is excellent. The respective performances of Bob Baxter and Josh Dixon are greatly enjoyed; in sentiment and song Alma Obrey makes a big success. The Bioscope pictures close a pleasant entertainment.

Gaiety, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. Harry Bowerman.—Hess and Lisbon top the bill here, their skating act being very amusing. Lil Hartley sings favourite songs; and Chorley and Connor are clever comedians; while the efforts of the Three Royal Temples have met with success. Other smart turns include Joe Wesley, comedian; Luie Gilbert, serio; George Ra, comedian; Marie Raymond, comedienne, and the Gaiety Bioscope.

Britannia.—Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickard.—This favourite little hall, under its new management, is proving most successful. In addition to the many permanent attractions, this week's programme includes Staley and Ashton, the soapy tramps; James Toner, the newsboy mimic; Gwen Ashdown, child vocalist; and the latest Chronophone and Bioscope novelties.

GLOSSOP. — Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—This week Mr. T. Eduard Ward's company in *Man and Wife* is scoring a huge success. Mr. John F. Traynor as Paul Revere acts in a skilful manner; Mr. Wilson Coleman plays with judgment the part of Captain D'Esparre; Mr. Edward Lealie is seen to advantage as Father Coupe; whilst Mr. Edward van Biene as Colonel Latour and Mr. Ambrose Horton as Sergeant Jaques give good readings. Miss Kate Hallam gains unstinted applause for her portrayal of Marcella; Miss Violet Temple is sympathetic and effective as Ruth Revere; and Miss Ethel F. Green stands out prominently as Jean. Mr. Sidney Bryant (Bimbo) and Mr. Val Gully (Bambo), along with Miss Polly Denville (Rosette), are responsible for the comedy parts.

GLOUCESTER.—Palace.—Owners, Messrs. C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr. R. T. Rea.—Topping the bill are the Craggs, in their acrobatic pantomimic sketch *Billy, the New Steward*. A refined musical entertainment is given by the Ellimans; Frank Cumminger dances in his usual smart way, and is well received; the Prince and Milner Trio are good in a miscellaneous programme; and Minnie D'Aubyn pleases all with her songs. Variety is added to by Cavalli, a smart ventriloquist; Leo Lester's company in the comedy burlesque *Monkeyland;* and Gus Hindell, who does extremely well in his scena, entitled "Boys will be boys," in addition to which his mimicry is really amusing. The bioscope concludes an enjoyable evening.

GOOLE.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. John E. Tomlinson.—Mr. Will White's company opened here on Monday for three nights in the romantic drama, *The New World*. Miss Beatrice Moore as Jenny Williams acts throughout delightfully, and is responsible for a good deal of amusement; Mr. Victor Rae gives a manly and vigorous portrayal of Jack Hawley; Mr. W. S. Stephenson carefully depicts the callous nature of the villain, Jim Rawlins; as Joe Williams Mr. A. H. Clarke is responsible for a clever character-study; some welcome touches of humour are contributed by Mr. Willie Hicks as Pete; Mr. W. Base as Brutus Brown, and Mr. Fred Guinness as Sam Smart; Mr. Donald Gilbert is a breezy Colonel Clayton; Miss Evelyn Robson is seen to advantage as May Walton; and Miss Maude Leslie is a capital Tamantha. Mr. Albert Carlton is worthy of special mention for his clever portrayal of Jose Alvarez. Songs and dances are introduced with great success by Miss Beatrice Moore, Mr. W. Hicks, and Messrs. Bass and Guinness.

GREAT YARMOUTH. — Royal Aquarium. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—The new romantic Servian drama, *A Destroyer of Men*, is being played here this week by Mr. James Hare's company. Count Starevitch is admirably impersonated by Mr. C. T. Wentworth; Paul is effectively handled by Mr. Hill Cremer; Olga finds an able representative in Miss Irene Clifford; and Vidal Ravel is sympathetically portrayed by Miss Jessie Yatman.

GREENOCK.—Alexandra Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Directors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—*Mr. Popple (of Ippleton)* is presented here this week by Mr. Charles Macdona's company. In the title-rôle Mr. Arthur Longley's quaint humour provokes the audience to genuine unrestrained laughter. Miss Millie Hylton is an attractive and vivacious exponent of La Bolero, her vocal numbers being pleasingly rendered. Mr. Robert Coray plays Norman Popple in manly style; Mr. Tom May is amusing as Platt; and Mr. Robert MacLachlan acts and sings well as Jacques Kenyon. Violet is admirably portrayed by Miss Cora Lingard, and the Louise of Miss Nellie Hodson is another outstanding feature of the performance. Miss Stella St. Audrie as Mrs. Hennay, Miss Alice Rene as Mrs. Doring, Mr. Sydney Courtenay as George Hennay, and Mr. James Stevenson as Henry Doring, all enact their respective parts with satisfactory results. The chorus is good, and the musical arrangements under the direction of Mr. Julian Rutt are all that could be desired.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—General-Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—This week's attractions include Ross and Lewis, who appear in a smart sketch, entitled *Fits and Misfits*, in which they introduce some exceptionally clever dancing; Zaro and Arno, in a capital comedy bar act, the Sisters Kilner, a capable trio of vocalists and dancers, Bert Williams, ventriloquist, Luigi Salvino, instrumentalist, and Will Driscoll, comedian and dancer, are also on the bill, and their performances are appreciated.

Pavilion, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. A. White.—Mlle. Sara's Marblesque Trio appear in a series of beautiful poses, in which there is much to command the admiration of lovers of the artistic; Driscoll Beattie and company, in *McPhee, M.P.*, cause uproarious laughter; and other good turns are Keith and Kent, comedy artists, the Crown Trio, speciality vocalists, the Three Eltons, acrobats, Annie Nelson, Australian vocalist, and the Paviscope pictures.

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GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Chairman of Directors, Mr. H. J. Curry; Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry.—The Irish drama, *The Wearing o' the Green*, has established itself a prime favourite on its first visit here. The life of the piece is Mr. Chalmers Mackey, who portrays the genial Barney O'Hea in a manner that is distinctly diverting; Mr. Herbert Summers sustains the part of Shamus M'Dermott with becoming dignity; and Mr. St. John Stuart is equally successful as Gerald Courtney. Miss Nana Flensberg is a captivating colleen as Biddy M'Ginn; whilst Mrs. Chalmers Mackey as Norah M'Grath and Miss Adele Liddon as Mrs. M'Dermott win complete approval in their respective parts. Mr. John S. Chamberlain admirably realises the scheming disposition of Michael Kenny; and other prominent members of the company are Mr. H. Sainsbury as Sir George Courtney and Mr. David M'Farlane as Connor Martin.

CURRY'S TIVOLI.—Chairman of Directors, Mr. H. J. Curry; Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North.—The Courtiers, a party of nine ladies and gentlemen, are scoring honours, their vocal act being alike notable for its artistic merit and refined character; George Formby's exposition of Lancashire humour is a popular feature; Bromley and Fontein's musical burlesque is an entertaining item; the Maitland Trio present an amusing absurdity; Toney Iveson, as the ragman at the piano, gives evidence of pleasing versatility; Leo is a ventriloquist with original business; and Mlle. Onra is a graceful wire performer.

THE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. A. Edwardes; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. C. Shread; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. V. Allton.—The Pom-Poms, who appear under the joint-direction of Messrs. Leonard Thiel and Fred Fowler, are a smart troupe of pierrots; Pick, Tholl, and Taylor create an abundance of laughter with their sketch, *The Dancing Master;* the Four Jumels contribute a musical speciality which is as novel as it is clever; the Elgars present an excellent Irish song-scena; Burns and Bentley prove expert step-dancers; Bertha Norwood is a charming vocalist and dancer; Walter Wallis is a comedian with good business; and Marlo combines jugglery with equilibristic work.

GUERNSEY.—ST. JULIAN'S HALL.—Lessee, Mr. Edward Marris.—*The Duchess of Dantzic*, played by Mr. Edward Marris's own company, was staged here on the 12th inst. Mr. George Blunt was an admirable Napoleon; Mr. Mansell Fane's François was a pronounced success, both musically and dramatically; Mr. Tom Payne caused merriment as Papillon; Mr. Brunston Williams as Vicomte de Bethune was excellently placed; Miss Ethel Ward proved charmingly acceptable as Renee; and Lizette was engagingly played by Miss Norah Melton; premier honours were taken by Miss Blanche Lynd, whose delineation of Sans Gêne was a decided triumph. The play was repeated on Saturday.

HALIFAX. — THEATRE ROYAL, LTD. — General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—*The White Chrysanthemum* is enjoying a successful run here this week. Mr. St. John Hamund makes a typical Admiral Horatio; Reginald is capably presented by Mr. H. Langdon Bruce; Mr. Richard Telford keeps the fun going at a good pace as Sin-Chong; excellent assistance is rendered by Mr. H. E. Garden as the imperturbable Lieutenant; Miss Muriel George is delightfully natural as the White Chrysanthemum; Miss Dorothy Sephton makes the most of her opportunities as the discriminating widow; Miss Wilmot Karkeek and Mr. Jamie Dallas are also noteworthy contributors to the success.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Sam Winks.—Notwithstanding that the present is the third visit of the farce, *Miss Lancashire, Ltd.*, crowded houses are congregating to see it presented twice nightly. Miss Florence Baines is mistress of the dramatic situation from the rise of the curtain, giving a realistic portrait of the uncultured but honest-hearted and shrewd Lancastrian, Mary Ellen Thompson. Her laughing song is especially well received; a good representation of an American Jew is submitted by Mr. Burt Burton; and Mr. David Donaldson advantageously retains the rôle of Jno. Higgins.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Ed. Harrison.—A gigantic bill is being presented here. A leading attraction is W. Selkirk's juvenile spectacle, *All Scotch*, in which 100 local kiddies distinguish themselves; Johnny Dwyer is very quaint indeed; Adey Spencer, the girl from the hat shop, soon dances herself into favour; Clown Barker's animal act is accorded a hearty welcome; Gold and Stirling, in a refined speciality scena, *The Welsh Girl and the Artist*, meet with an ovation; and a very neat duologue entitled "The Man in the Procession" is given by Blake and Granby; Arthur Croxon and Kisbey also score.

HANLEY. — ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Douglas Elphinstone.—Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Benson are paying a welcome return visit in a round of Shakespearean plays. On Monday *The Merchant of Venice* was presented. As Shylock, Mr. Benson was admirable, his portrayal being scholarly and convincing; Mrs. Benson as Portia contributed a most effective impersonation; Mr. Edward A. Warburton scored as the Prince of Morocco; Mr. George R. Weir, as usual, gave an admirable performance as Launcelot Gobbo; as the Merchant, Mr. Clarence Derment was well placed; and the Bassanio of Mr. George Buchanan was a highly commendable impersonation. Lorenzo had a worthy representative in Mr. G. F. Hannam; and Mr. H. O. Nicholson's Gratiano was a performance to be remembered. Miss Gwladys Wynne contributed a charming portrayal as Jessica; as Nerissa, Miss Helen Haye was most successful. *As You Like It, The Merry Wives of Windsor, Julius Cæsar, Hamlet, Taming of the Shrew*, and *Macbeth* are in the week's programme.

GRAND, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. James Wynes. — Miss Hilda Jacobsen heads the bill this week; she has a nice voice, which is heard to advantage in her selections. Howard and Harris provide a very funny turn; Herbert Clifton as a mimic provides a clever and interesting turn; Fred Cary scores with capital songs; Miss Mayme Cannon is an extraordinary pianist; Geo. D'Albert is well received; the Sisters Lytton sing well; the Four Aces, in their acrobatic turn, are capital.

HARROGATE. — GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Smith.—On the first three nights of this week *The Honyemoon* was presented by Mr. Gilbert Payne and company. Mr. Alvin Sawyer was an amusing Colonel Vandyke Brown; Mr. Leslie Erle was well placed as Jack Armstrong, and proved himself a clever banjoist; Mr. Gilbert Payne earned many laughs for his performance as Nathaniel Noodle. He had able support from Miss Lillian Ramsdale as Emeretta, Miss Nellie Dyson as Stella sang well; and Mr. Fred Fulton was acceptable as Archie Mashington. The Four Sisters Godfrey are clever dancers.

HARTLEPOOL.—EMPRESS.—Proprietors, Messrs. Councillor Everton and J. W. Cragg; Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Charlie Ferrier.—The Countess Romanow, who is appearing here this week in a series of beautifully graceful and artistic poses, is applauded to the very echo; Dolly Denver excels in as fine a display of buck dancing that could be wished for; the Prinellas are certainly up to date in their farmyard scena, *A Country Flirtation;* Gerhardi Mohr's somersaulting fully entitles him to his claim to be considered the Somersault King; the turn by Sandy and Carl, who are on a return visit, is amusing; the laughable skit, *The Would-be Actors*, Percy Curry, Tyneside comedian, and the Bioscope are agreeable additions to the programme.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Scutt.—The excellent company organised by Mr. Eugene C. Stafford is here this week in *The Private Secretary*. Mr. Donald Price-Evans as the Rev. Robert Spalding is intensely funny, and with his antithesis, the self-assertive Mr. Cattermole, so ably played by Mr. W. Hargreaves, causes roars of merriment. Another well-acted rôle is that of Mr. Sidney Gibson, admirably presented by Mr. Vivian Gilbert; and Miss Cecily Wade is a genuinely good Mrs. Stead. Mr. Randolfe Reade as Douglas Cattermole, the pseudo-secretary, does well, and is ably seconded by Mr. James Hussey as Harry Marsland, Miss Dora Gray as Edith Marsland, and Miss Beth Elliott as Eva Webster, who are pleasing in their respective rôles; and the mystified Miss Ashford has a good exponent in Mrs. Alfred Davis. Mr. W. T. Elworthy is a hearty Mr. Marsland. *My American Admirer* precedes, and is brightly played by Messrs. W. T. Elworthy and James Hussey, and the Misses Cecily Wade and Beth Elliott.

PIER PAVILION.—Pier-Master, Mr. R. Turner; Entertainment Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—Mr. J. D. Hunter's company appears here in the farcical comedy entitled *In the Soup*. Mr. Hunter's rich humour serves him well in the part of Horace Gillibrand; Uncle Ruppershaw is effectively represented by Mr. E. Maule Cole; Miss Blanche Bayley is admirable as Judith Gillibrand; Mr. Charles Hawker is capital as Meekings; very successful also is Miss Helen Anderson as Mme. Poppett; Miss Violet Graham very naturally assumes the part of Delphine, while Mrs. Bates is in the capable hands of Miss Violet Agnew.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Norman.—The attractive burlesque artist, Miss Josie Hammersley, is at the head of a good programme here; Mr. Fred Dorman sings some excellent songs; the Sisters Belmont exhibit graceful dancing; the Bioscope displays a special exhibition film, "Hippopotamus Hunting"; *A Model Wife* is the title of a pleasing comedy duologue in which Mr. Edward Cranston and Mrs. Bennett are associated; Miss Joan Deering is a clever violinist and vocalist; the Four Golden Ayeshas excel in their artistic posing as living bronze statuary; Mr. George Bee is much appreciated as a singer; Phil Bransby scores as a coster comedian; the pot-pourri performance of the Paul Hesse Trio is smart.

ST. LEONARDS PAVILION THEATRE.—Pier-Master and Entertainment-Manager, Mr. Elvey Thomas.—By kind permission of Mr. Arthur Collins the juvenile company of artists from Drury Lane Theatre are performing in an amusing pantomime, *The Forte Thieves*. They are introduced to the public by Mr. J. M. Glover, who is at the piano and acts as musical conductor. The piece is cleverly written, the dances are full of prettiness and vitality, and the scenic effects are charming. A brilliant transformation scene entitled "The Coming of Spring" adds much to its attractiveness.

HORWICH. — PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Lewis.—This week there is a strong combination, including Alf Berg in a novel lifting act; Miss Molly Moore, in a polyglot scena, playing five different characters; the Parzones Troupe, in *Trainer and Tramps, or Troubles of an Elephant;* Miss Elsie Kenward, comedienne and dancer; Mr. J. Hulme, comedian; the Martinettes in *The Mad Music Master;* a Swiss belt wrestling competition; and several excellent pictures by the Bioscope.

HUDDERSFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Andrews.—Mr. Wm. Greet's company is paying a return visit with *The Earl and the Girl*. The cast is largely identical with the one engaged on the former occasion, and includes Mr. Alfred Donohoe, a very entertaining Jim Cheese, Miss Lina Hicks as Liza being an able colleague; Miss Gertrude Simpson is a charming Elphin Haye, whose merry lover is well played by Mr. Thomas Kennard; Mr. Leslie Owen is smart as Crewe Boodle, and well varied sketches are contributed by Miss Kathleen Gerrard as Mrs. Black, Mr. Greville Hayes as Bliss, Mr. E. A. Plumpton as Downham, and Mr. Sam Lysons as Talk. The chorus is alert, and the piece goes smoothly under the direction of Mr. W. Stephenson.

HIPPODROME, LTD. — Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—Carl Hertz, the illusionist, is a big attraction as principal turn supported by Miss D. Alton and company. Other items in the bill are provided by James Shields, a nimble one-legged dancer; Valvo, ventriloquist; three San Remo Girls, comediennes and dancers; Bert Woodward, a clever coon cyclist; Miss Isabel Dillon, in a dainty song scena, "Pansy"; Bob Pueblo and Miss Katie Cropp, duettists and dancers; Miss Nada Moret, vocalist and raconteuse; the Bennetts, duettists and dancers; Frank Harwood, descriptive vocalist, in his scena, "My Pipe"; and pictures on the Biograph.

HULL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. F. Morton.—After a far too long absence, the Kendals have returned to Hull, the scene of many former triumphs. A very warm place is retained in the hearts of Hull playgoers for Madge Robertson, for it was in this city she practically made her début. The present visit opened with *The Housekeeper*. The play is presented with that finish which is such a distinguishing feature of all of the Kendal productions. As the supposed Housekeeper, Mrs. Kendal has a rôle which she fills to perfection; whilst as the fire-eating Colonel, Mr. Kendal is equally well suited. As the designing widow, Miss Dora Fellowes is well suited; many pleasant little touches distinguished Miss Marie Lohr's picture of the fiancée; and also the sporting young lady, cleverly limned by Miss Jessica Thorne. *The Elder Miss Blossom, The Ironmaster*, and *The Melcombe Marriage* form part of the répertoire.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—The version of *Robin Hood*, by Henry Hamilton and William Devereux, is the attraction this week, Mr. Robert Minster taking the leading rôle with more than average ability. That talented actress, Miss Marie Polini, gives a pleasing representation of Maid Marion; Mr. Bellenden Clarke's Prince John has sufficient fire in it to make it a capital companion picture to the one of King Richard, intelligently depicted by Mr. Stockhall Ward. The incidental music and vocal efforts contribute towards the success achieved.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Mortons, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—The ever-popular play, *The Fatal Wedding*, is drawing well this week. The company includes such clever people as Miss Catherine Clark, who fills the rôle of the wronged wife with skill; as the hero, Mr. Ernest Owtrim is well received; while the darker hues of villainy afford scope to Mr. H. Wilson and Mr. Guy Hastings. Far above the usual average is Miss Marie Wilson in the child part.

HYDE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. R. Feather.—Large and enthusiastic houses are being attracted here this week by Mr. C. Watson Mill's company, in *A Warning to Women*. Mr. C. W. Mill gives a fine, manly rendering of Shaun; Mr. Richard Vane submits an excellent study of Dr. Marcus Dread; Mr. Norman B. Cannon gives a sound and natural embodiment of Fergus McNaughton; Mr. N. Carter Slaughter is very amusing as the inane dude, Lord Eversleigh; Mr. Henry Rutland is a capital Squire Kennion; and Mr. George Harvey as the Rev. Emmanuel Wallace makes the most of the part. Miss Rosalind Tate easily surmounts the difficulties associated with the rôle of Moira Kennion; Miss Elinor Glover depicts very truthfully the depraved character of Hilda; Miss Grace Barton acts with grace and charm as Sheila Kennion; Miss Edith Rutland plays very intelligently as Miles O'Moore; and Miss Ellen Beverley is suitably placed as Molly O'Moore. The comedy element is well looked after by Mr. Patrick P. Kenny as Mike McQuade; Mr. W. Palliser Acock as Ferdinand de Jules; Mr. Stanley Wood as John Forgie; and Mr. George Avery as P.C. Marlin.

OHMY'S CIRCUS.—The daring equestrian feats of the Misses Lily and Ada and Mr. Claude Ohmy continue to delight large audiences, and the latter artist has also given another instance of his remarkable versatility by contributing a clever trapeze act; Mons. Friskey is an expert juggler, and introduces some funny business; the Cameo Troupe of acrobats provide a most enjoyable turn; the Woodwards give a sensational balancing performance; Anderson's two donkeys are well trained; and Ohmy's living pictures are as popular as ever. August and September appear in a series of new and laughable sketches; and Pete Simple is also responsible for some capital clowning.

ILKESTON.—QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. T. Knightall.—Mozzetto presents a good juggling act; Nellie Dagmar is successful in patter and song; Fred Maurice scores as a comedian and actor vocalist; Ada Bramwell, balladist; Harry Raley, boy vocalist; and Fred Dice, comedian, also entertain.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—Miss Violet Osmond's company in the musical comedy, *The New Barmaid*, is here. The rôle of Ethel Joy could not be entrusted to better hands than those of Miss Maisie Gay, whose charming voice and manner soon secure a host of admirers; Miss Grafton takes the part of Brenda in good style, and Lady Moulton is well portrayed by Miss Mabel Harrison; Miss Phyllis King finds a very suitable place as Dora Heather; Mr. James Hawkes is seen and heard to advantage as Captain Lovebury, whilst Mr. Harry Collier as Colonel Claymore has a fair share of honours; Mr. James Grant's William White is one of the humorous features of the piece, and Mr. Charles Adeson gives a very smart show as Mons. Bonser, his antics and patter causing much merriment; Mr. Alexander Loftus as Bertie White is exceedingly droll, and is quite the hit of the evening.

IPSWICH.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Leonard Grey.—Mr. Lewis Waller's *Brigadier Gerard* company has occupied the boards here this week, Mr. G. Poulton making a striking impression in the chief character. As Gerard Mr. Langhorne Burton renders due justice to the rôle of the brave Gascon; Miss Muriel Godfrey Turner gives a graceful embodiment of the part of the Countess, and Mr. George Mallett's Talleyrand is in every respect satisfactory. The other chief parts are capably represented by Mr. Cecil Wynne, Miss Mary Chard, and Mr. James Crowe.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—A varied and sensational programme at this popular place of entertainment included Mr. Tom Davies' Trio in their startling performance entitled "Whirling the Whirl." Other turns include the Four Spanish Goldinis, whose juggling and dancing are of a novel character; Annie Casey, a pleasing comedienne; Charles Card, with a good song "A Count of no account"; the Vetter Bros. in a speciality act entitled *The Page's Recreation;* Amos Howard, a clever dancer; Sterling with his clever dog; and Big Ben Brown and Little George Le Clerq, black-faced comedians.

JARROW.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr Jerold E. Reed.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's company is here this week with the drama entitled *The Little Breadwinner*. Little Emmie Thomas as Meg proves herself an excellent artist, while Mr. Eugene Santley is quite at home as Lord William Dorrington; Mr. Matt Boulton is well placed as Richard Lowerance, and Mr. Alfred Maurice plays with force and skill the part of Joseph Prior; Mr. Stanley Leedham does full justice to the character of Charles Prior; Miss Emil Leslie is charming as Margaret Daventry, while Bridget O'Flanagan could not be in better hands than those of Miss Jenny Bostock; Miss Nellie Thorne Hallam is equal to the part of Kate Cherry.

THE HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Ernest Adrim.—The company here includes the Brothers Harrison, Irish comedians and dancers; Globella in a clever act on the globe; Sheila McNeil, Scotch comedienne; Bob Campbell, one-legged dancer and comedian; Eva Searle, vocalist; Comical Walker and his nippers; the Hippodrome Bioscope with some new pictures; Max Merlin in his wonderful animal impersonation; and Moneta and Ford in a capital comedy acrobatic turn.

JERSEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Edward Marris.—A real treat is provided this week in a visit of *The Cingalee*. Miss Norah Melton is a bright and pleasing Noyoya; Miss Poppy Dale looks charming as Lady Patricia; and Miss Millie Gordon as Angy Loftus is cordially applauded for her graceful dancing; Mr. Brunston Williams is good as Harry Vereker; Mr. Mansell Fane is excellent as Bombhamba; Mr. Walter Nugent is a satisfactory Bobby Warren; and Mr. George Blunt is an effective Sir Peter Loftus; but the honours of the performance undoubtedly fall to Mr. Tom Payne, who, as Chambhuddy Ram, keeps the audience in roars of laughter. He is ably supported by fascinating Miss Ethel Ward.

KETTERING.—AVENUE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Payne.—Mr. Herbert Barrs and company are here this week in the musical drama, *Life*. Mr. Barrs gives a masterly rendering of the hero, Jack Lockhart; and Mr. Ronald Graham is a competent Sir Horace Lester. Mr. Will Sherlock presents an excellent character-study of Zac Krabbe; and Mr. A. B. Lyons is good as Joe Pippett. Miss Dorothy Oswald is a success as Beatrice Ferrars; and Miss Maud Vincent scores with some excellent acting and singing as Jess.

KIDDERMINSTER. — NEW OPERA HOUSE. — Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. James P. Moore; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. C. Gudgeon.—Baron H. Harriss' company in the musical comedy *The Prince of Pilsen* has been here for the first three nights of the week. The piece is admirably staged and mounted. Mr. Harry Kilburn in the rôle of Hans Wagner is a host in himself, and Miss Sophie Harriss makes an ideal Mrs. Crocker from New York. The principals are ably supported by a strong all-round company.

KING'S LYNN.—NEW ROYAL THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. J. Bannister Howard, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Herr B. Pareezer.—A programme of extraordinary merit has been presented here this week. The Zerbinis troupe give a highly meritorious display; Ben Jackson, the banjo magician, is well applauded; the Cosmans are responsible for a comedy turn that is intensely funny; and smart Eva Rosslyn proves a charming comedienne. Wisper is popular in his unique concoction of comedy juggling; Beattie Bloom is received well; and Jury's pictures are good.

LANCASTER.—ATHENÆUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alfred Hook.—The farcical absurdity, *Lucky Liza*, is the attraction this week, and is well presented by Mr. Dickie Clare and company. Mr. Clare is quite at home in his triple rôle; and Miss Madge Brownie as Eliza Bird is most successful.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Porter and Fergusson.—A really good show is presented here. At the top of the bill are the Leslie Bros. in a musical act. Bob Hamilton, Scotch comedian, fairly brings down the house; as also does Effie Stuart, comedienne; the D'Ostas with their Zancig business, baffle the audience; and Clark's Nippers give a smart performance. Sisters Brooke, duettists; Marie Beresford, vocalist; and Du Gros Trio, in a gymnastic act, complete the bill. The "Sunday-school Treat" on the Hippograph causes roars of laughter.

LEAMINGTON. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Manager, Mr. Harry Hunter.—The management of the local theatre is to be congratulated upon securing a visit from such a versatile and resourceful character-actor as Mr. Albert Chevalier for the last three nights of this week. He is appearing in three plays, supported by a specially-selected company.

LEEDS.—GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Edward Cadman. — Mr. Martin Harvey and his excellent company are here this week. A crowded house witnessed on Monday Mr. Harvey's revival of the historic drama, *The Corsican Brothers*, when his masterly and artistic interpretation of the dual part was followed with rapt attention, and rewarded by rounds of applause; Miss Coleridge plays the rôle of Emilie de Lesparre with grace and charm; and Mme. Dei Franchi is a portrayal of considrable merit by Miss Mary Rorke. Mr. Vincent Sternroyd makes a strong and effective villain; Mr. Albert E. Raynor evinces considerable ability in the rôle of Baron de Montgiron; and Mr. George Cooke does sterling work in the part of Baron Martelli. Mr. Alfred Mansfield, Mr. Fred Wright, sen., and Mr. Philip Hewland, are excellent in leading parts. *A Cigarette Maker's Romance* and *The Only Way* are each allotted one evening, and *Hamlet* is announced for Saturday's matinée.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—The powerful drama, *In Sight of St. Paul's*, is being played here to good houses by Mr. Arthur Carlton's clever company. Miss Cissie Bellamy makes a most acceptable heroine; the hero, Tom Chichester, is a capable and satisfying effort by Mr. Ernest R. Allen; a very creditable performance is that of Mr. Herbert Cecil as the villain, Gridston; whilst the Harry Chichester of Mr. W. H. Domoney is also a capital effort. Miss Gussie Everitt scores in the rôle of the adventuress, Cynthia Bell; and some welcome comedy is infused into the piece by Mr. Herbert Colley and Miss Sybil Hammersley in their respective parts of Cabman and Maid.

EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alex Galley. — The famous actor-musician, Van Biene, is the big attraction in this week's programme, his accomplished 'cello playing being a much-admired feature of a well-played pathetic sketch, in the presentation of which he is assisted by Miss Lena Burnleigh and Miss Rose Summers; Tom Costello, the popular comedian, is again having a very successful time; the Aurora Troupe present a sensational trick cycling act, which evokes much enthusiasm; and some well-played xylophone selections by the Three Tauberts are appreciated. Billy McClain introduces a troupe of clever coloured artists; the Jonghmanns, a female vocal trio, are well liked; that clever and vivacious comedienne, Lily Langtry, is again a prominent success; and Lily Tiso is also popular in a similar line. Alexander and company present a diverting sketch; and Spry and Monti, the clever comedy duo, with a merry novelty, complete a good programme.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter De Frece; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Bush.—Another famous poseuse, Clito, is a leading line in the week's bill, and her representations of various classic figures are artistic and interesting; the Deer Family, are seen in a series of tableaux, depicting episodes of Indian life; the popular comedy duo, Athas and Collins, contribute an entertaining act; Barney Armstrong is a favourite comedian; a clever turn at the piano is contributed by Ethel Walker; Lester Brothers do smart things in the way of song and dance; and Lena Brunton, comedienne and mimic; Edna Seaton, a study in Dutch; and Blanche Vincent, burlesque artist, also appear.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Thos. Barrasford; General-Managers, Mr. Chas. Weldon and Mr. Claude Shayler.—Coram, the clever novelty ventriloquist, occupies a premier place in this week's bill, and his entertainment is much enjoyed; the Martelloni Troupe are lady acrobats of much ability; Lily Soutter, comedienne, has a big local reputation; the Brothers Ashley are once more doing their diverting sketch, *Next Please*, with huge success; Fields and Lewis contribute an amusing burlesque speciality in their own inimitable style; of eccentric comedians, Harry Conlin, Stan Aubrey, and Arthur Royce are clever examples in different styles; the vocal efforts of Sylvia du Barry are much appreciated; and the Crystals are excellent in song and dance.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam Jones.—That popular comedian, Dan Crawley, is the leading attraction here; a pleasing musical comedy sketch is done by Zeta Grey and company; and the Melroses are successful as an up-to-date comedy duo; Florence Yaymen is vastly popular in coon burlesque; Cleland, novelty juggler, is expert in his own peculiar style; Gribb and Cribb are a pair of smart eccentrics; Bert Lytton adds to his reputation as a clever comedian; and the contributions of Lilian Bishop, comedienne, and Ada Gatley, in an up-to-date speciality, are favourably received.

LEICESTER.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; General and Business-Manager, Mr. Henry Dundas.—This week we have Mr. Mouillot's company in *The Geisha* and *A Greek Slave*. In *The Geisha*, Miss Louie Collier gives a delightfully refreshing and clever delineation of O Mimosa San; Miss Florrie Sanders makes a conspicuous success as Molly Seymour; Miss Violet Kenyon as O Juliette Diamante is deserving of much praise; Mr. Cyril Thompson gives an admirable performance as Reginald Fairfax; Mr. Edward Carlton is exceedingly funny and clever as Wun Hi; Mr. Lionel Brahm as the Marquis Imari is very good; and both Mr. J. Mansell Stringer as Captain Katana and Mr. A. J. Nicholls as Takemine render able assistance.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. E. R. Beaumont.—This week Miss Emma Litchfield's company, under the personal direction of Mr. Stuart Cleveland, present *A Clever Imposter*. Miss Emma Litchfield makes a conspicuous success in the rôles of Nora Grosvenor, Sarah Ellen, Old Rebecca, and Molly O'Flynn; and Mr. Stuart Cleveland as Manuel Teixeira, the clever imposter, is seen to considerable advantage. Mr. Arthur Mervyn is well placed as Captain Desmond; Mr. Harry Cullenford is good as Bob Darnforth; and Mr. Edwin Swinton is capital as Jim Brightside. Others deserving commendation are Miss Florence Gomer as Annie Pleasant, Miss Maude Steeple as Margaret Grosvenor, and Miss Isabel Singleton as Maisie Grosvenor.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Bertram G. Iles.—Horace Goldin goes through his illusion performance in a manner that leaves the audience completely mystified. The Hadj Abdullah Arabs are really wonderful pyramid artists and whirlwind acrobats; Charles Norton's mimicry of "Pros. at the Races" is extremely clever; Henry Carlton and company appear in *The Window Cleaner*, which causes roars of laughter. Fred Elton, in his speciality scena (at the piano), *On Board an Ocean Liner*, gives a thoroughly enjoyable turn; Harry Bedford, comedian, is, as usual, very popular; Bertram Jenkins is heard to advantage in his illustrated song, "Asthore"; Jeannie Mackay, vocalist, also entertains; the Bioscope is showing "The Coiner's Daughter" and "The Billiard Fever."

PAVILION THEATRE. — Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten.—Mr. Edward Ranier and company are here in *A Son's Devotion*, the various parts being admirably delineated by Miss Alice Maude, Miss Lilla Wilde, Mr. Edward Rainer, Mr. Edward Muir Palmer, Mr. Harrison Dalley, and Mrs. Maynard. Bert Danson, comedian, is making a most successful first appearance; Frank Zaro proves exceedingly amusing; the others are Edie Endon, burlesque actress and dancer; Steve Knota, contortionist; Katie Eplett, comedienne and dancer; and Walter H. Pallister's Bioscope.

LEIGH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Cragg; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Rousby.—A welcome return visit is being paid here this week by Messrs. Garside and Knowles' company in the interesting drama, *The London Fireman*. Mr. J. Forbes Knowles gives skilful interpretation of the title-rôle; Miss Nellie Shirley submits a careful study of Ida Curtis; Mr. Edward L. Garside does full justice to the part of Hal Curtis; Miss Beatrice Sinclair is a very creditable Grace Curtis; Mr. S. Herbert Humber is a capital Viscount Fleming; and Mr. Philip Renouf is a humorous Nixey Stringer.

LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—*A Fight for Millions* is here this week. Mr. William Macready portrays the hero, Tom Manley, with needful vigour; Mr. J. Schofield gives a noteworthy impersonation of Hudson Rivers; Mr. Alec C. Grant is conspicuously successful as the villainous Richard Dudley; Mr. Harold Turner imparts much humour to the rôle of Solomon Moses; and Mr. Nicholas Conway as Harold Hobbs contributes his share of fun. Mr. Karl H. Edwards is responsible for the direction of the company, and for much of the success of the performance, by his clever interpretation of the part of Willie Neverwork; and Mr. Tom Jones lends good support as Clara Ap Morgan. Helen Dudley and Pearl Rivers find very sympathetic representatives in Miss Elma C. Turner and Miss Winifred Symons; Miss Edith Hook and Miss Dorothy Wilkinson are commendable as Mrs. Rivers and Little Madge; and Miss Rosie Kearns is lively in the dual rôles of Betty and Mag Brady. Minor parts are all carefully played.

LIMERICK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. Robert Fogerty.—The Milton Ray's No. 1 company opened a week's engagement on Monday with *The Cruise of the Calabar*, before a very large and appreciative audience. Mr. Arthur Milton sustained the rôle of Cherible Chickington with marked ability, and as Captain Fairweather Mr. Fred Russell was very clever. Mr. Charles Drew was good as Peter Panley, and as Bo'sun Bill Mr. Thomas Hill proved himself a clever artist. The rôles of Watson, Lowes, and Brown were capitally played by Messrs. Frank Dudley, Charles Higgins, and Frank Bond, and Maud Chickington had a capable exponent in Miss Edie Dawson. Miss Alice May was an artistic Gerty Lovell, and Polly Panley was delightfully acted by Miss Lily Ward. The rôle of Mrs. Chickington was capitally worked up by that prepossessing comedienne, Mrs. Arthur Milton, and as Lucy Falconer Miss Gertie Grey was agreably vivacious. The Misses Annie Hanes, Edie Valroy, Lucy Valroy, Annie Young, Belle Taylor, and Lolue Russell all acted with animation. The full ballet and chorus were applauded. Mr. Forshaw Kershaw was clever in his musical and mimetic act. The musical comedy was preceded by a comedy drama entitled *A Rough Diamond*, in which Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Milton sustained the principal characters.

LINCOLN.—ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Frank King.—Nothing better of its kind has been seen here than *The Walls of Jericho*, which is admirably played. Mr. A. E. Anson appears as Jack Frobisher, which he makes a powerful representation; and he is excellently supported by Miss Florence Jackson as Lady Alethea. Mr. G. A. Bradram is a huge success as Bannister; as Lord Steventon, Mr. Cyril Baleine is very effective; and the rôles of Drayton, Dallas, and Hanneford could not be in better hands than those of Messrs. A. Cesay, A. W. Tyrer, and G. Percy. Lady Lucy is charmingly played by Miss Nona Wynne; the rôle of Lady Westerby finds a clever artist in Miss Marguerite Cellier; and the Lady Porchester of Miss Evelyn Maxwell and the Miss Hampton of Miss E. Cuthbert are respectively excellent pieces of character work.

PALACE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. Sydney Arthur.—The Irish-Indian Maids, presented by Mr. Bert Coote, are a smart troupe, whose songs and dances create a furore. Rich and Rich, patter comedians, are immensely popular; La Belle Mai gives a graceful wire act; Elsie Roby's *Slavey's At Home* is very amusing as well as clever; and C. Jaques, Ted Waite, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, the Bros. Herne, Benn and Belle, and Wright's orchestra add to the strength of the bill.

LIVERPOOL.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—A very satisfying presentation of the bright and lively comedy opera, *The Lady Dandies*, has been given here during the week, and the general acceptation of the work was exceedingly cordial. Mr. George Edwardes sent an able company, the members of which displayed vocal abilities of a very high order. Foremost was Miss Deborah Volar, who, as Illyrine, rendered several songs with delightful effect; the rich soprano voice of Miss Anna Hickisch was heard to great advantage in the rôle of Lodoiska, her acting being also pleasing; Mr. Eric Thorne's efforts as St. Armour caused endless merriment; Mr. Lennox Pawle (Malicorne) and Mr. Jack Cannot (Tournesol) helping vastly with the lighter side of things. Mr. W. Talleur Andrews sang with taste in the character of Dorlis; Mr. Robert Hale's Lagorille was a perfect picture of the Dandy; and Miss Vivien Talleur earned applause for her exquisite dancing.

ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—*The Great Awakening* has proved a strong attraction here this week. Miss Maud Hildyard repeated her telling assumption of the adventuress, Lola Selby; Mr. A. C. Hardy gave every satisfaction as James Selby; Mr. Bertrand Copping distinguished himself in the dual rôle of Sir Henry Merton and Jack Merton; a creditable Captain Lambert came from Mr. Gordon McLeod; Miss Doris Digby was charming as Molly Merton;

Willie Scott and Miss Lilla Norton did justice to the comedy; Mr. Stephen Langton skilfully portrayed Guy Rogan; and Mr. George Child in the part of Richard Wilson displayed high histrionic ability.

Shakespeare Theatre, Ltd.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—*The Last of His Race*, an original Indian romance, by Donald McLaren, has this week been brought to Liverpool, and critical audiences have expressed their approval in a marked manner, the "curtains," to which the principal artists had to respond, being frequent. Mr. H. Reeves Smith as Lonawonda gives a brilliant representation of the dignified old Indian chief, the outbursts of indignation on discovering his daughter to be a companion of the murdered man's son being a fine piece of declamation. Miss May Chevalier has an abundance of hard work in the rôle of Adulola, but was never found wanting; and in the latter part of the play she rises to a height of histrionic skill, which elicited warm acknowledgment. Sheanagua, one of the finest characters in the whole work, is perfectly portrayed by Mr. Arthur Poole; every credit is due to Mr. Philip Cuningham, who, in the rôle of Niatawa, plays with the discretion and force which stamp him as a master of acting. Mr. Algernon Syms' duties in the part of the unfortunate Matawagnon are accomplished with true artistic spirit. Miss Margaret Murch has a somewhat thankless part in that of Lashota, but plays it in a fashion that give evidence of much ability. Miss Edith Matt is well placed with the minor rôle of the old Squaw; Miss Winifred Ingham throws a deal of gaiety and sprightliness into her Fawn; the Indian maids, Hara and Tanoi, are capably undertaken by Miss Hodson and Miss Manton; and Messrs. Ashton-Jarry, Beecher, and Norton as the warriors lend strength to the production. The close of the story, where Adulola expires and joins her dead lover, Niatawa, in the happy hunting-grounds is marked by several beautiful tableaux.

Lyric Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs. T. Barrasford and F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Coles. — A wonderfully clever and interesting turn is that of the Four Juggling Geraldos, who head this week's bill; Regan and Ryan are an amusing pair, roars of laughter greting their witticisms; knockabouts are always a good draw, and Elton and Elma are certainly all that could be desired in that line; Harry Levaine is funny and original; Mabel La Blanche is pleasing; and the Two Cecilias are heartily applauded for their musical turn. Patty Yole and Flo Wood are good comediennes.

Star Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—This popular resort has been visited this week with *Honour Thy Father*, Mr. T. Morton Powell's company presenting it. Miss Mabel Coleman, who has played the rôle of Lillian Garth over one thousand times, made as great an impression as ever; Miss Winnie Donovan acquitted herself well as Mercy Merry; a bright Poppy Cornleigh was submitted by Miss Ada Salmon; Mr. W. M. Cameron handled the character of Gabriel Garth with care; Mr. Howell Travis was excellent as Sir Duncan Bly; Mr. Robert Gilbert proved a manly Jack Halyard; and worthy support came from Mr. Claude Merton (Job Merry and George Bloggs); Miss Kate Newton (Gertrude Garth), and Mr. Fred L. Connynghame (Mike Copplestone).

Royal Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—A capital programme here this week has drawn large audiences. At the top were Frederick Maxwell and company with the dramatic sketch, *Lord Harkaway*, which was particularly pleasing to the popular parts of the house; Wyndham and Waters provoked endless laughter with their *The Professor and the Pupil*; a miniature musical comedy, *A Night in Japan*, served for the introduction of some pleasing numbers; W. J. Churchill was as quaint as ever; Fred Herbert had some taking songs; as juvenile singers and dancers Field and Robson afforded satisfaction; the Tossing Austins introduced some funny juggling; George Antill, "the evening shadow," aroused great laughter; the duets by Belrose and De Velin earned for those able artists loud applause; and also in the list were Queenie May, juvenile comedienne; and Lucy Coventry, dancer and comedienne.

Royal Palace of Varieties.—Manager, Mr M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole. —The "Royal" stock company here is this week giving an excellent rendering of *The Wicked City*. Mr. Percy Boucher was exceedingly funny as McClery; Mr. Harry Treaham did excellently in the heroic part of Harold Stanton; Mr. Sydney Grant proved effective as Robert Marsden; and good support came from Messrs. Robert Wilton, Cecil Ravenswood, and the Misses Beryl Ravenswood, Miss Florence Cameron, and Nellie Bonsor.

Park Palace, Ltd.—General-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece.—*The Ticket-of-Leave Man* is being given here this week. Mr. Albert Sember presents a capital Brierly; Mr. Albert Guyon makes a villainous James Dalton; Mr. Will Percy affords satisfaction as Melter Moss; Mr. Walter Foster does well as Gibson; Miss Nelson-Ramsay enacts the rôle of Mrs. Willoughby with discretion; and praise is also due to Miss Violet Barley Clarke (Sam Willoughby) and Miss Lilian Burns (May Edwards).

Paddington Palace.—Lessee, Mr. M. Montgomery. —*In the Midst of Sin* is the dramatic sketch being played here this week by the stock company, the principals of which are Messrs. Frank S. Strickland (John Holmes), H. Hesslegrave (Neil Brentford), H. G. Brandon (Dick Skinner), Wallace Campbell (Gilbert Weston); Misses Sara Blumenthal (Aunt Matilda), Florence Barnes (Maisie), Lina Nazeby (Johanna), and Gladys H. Walton (Laura Weston).

Haymarket.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. Edwin W. Smith.—Harry Calden and company still remain here, the title of their present sketch being *Sunset, or a Traitor's Reward*; Signor E. Bertini has a remarkable performance on unsupported ladders; Bessie Bell renders several popular songs; and as eccentric acrobats, Baroux and Bion create much laughter.

Westminster.—Lessee, Mr. Fred B. Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—The Britannia Comedy Trio head the list here this week, pleasing everybody with their fine vocalism; Barney Stuart has a number of taking Irish songs; Molly Doon shows herself a dainty comedienne; Con and Davis arouse much laughter with their item, *The Page and the Chauffeur*; De Lil has some clever conjuring tricks; a deal of laughter follows the work of Newco and Sullo, comedians; and Hulbert, ventriloquist, also appears.

Olympia, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. Albert Bulmer.—An attraction here this week is the celebrated Tom Reece, who gives an exhibition of billiard strokes, including the much-talked-of "anchor"; Clive Darril, the Australian giant, walks among the audience to show his immense size; Seeley and West, musical comedians, provide a capital sketch; Barton and Ashley delight every one with their *Canal Boat Sal*; some remarkable imitations of Irving's principal characters are given by Victor Newman; some smart head and hand balancing comes from the Rhoda Bros.; as black and white comedy artists Cline and Clarke prove delightful; Gus Garrick carries his audience with him in his music-hall tit-bits; and others who appear are Clito Clifford, coon singer; and the Bohemians (Will and Madge), comedy artists and instrumentalists.

Empire.—Proprietors, Moss Empires, Ltd.—The Elliott Savonas top the bill here this week, and afford every pleasure with their fine musical entertainment; the Harmony Four with their comic business arouse great laughter; Cussac-Talma, assisted by Mlle. Yvonne de Forge, performs some startling illusions; Edward Arthur and company render pleasing selections from *The Lily of Killarney* opera; the Three Cape Girls are sprightly comediennes and long boot dancers; some graceful work on the trapeze is performed by the Geretti Sisters; Alice May and company have an amusing sketch, *Tranquillity*; and also in the list are Florence, a clever lady mimic; and Frank Lynne, humorist.

Tivoli, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. James Marks.—The big line at this popular house this week is Arthur Rigby and company with the delightful sketch, *The Isle of Ooma*, which has proved eminently pleasing; the Herald Comedy Four have a capital scena, into which they introduce some excellent harmony, comedy, and singing; some remarkable feats as equilibrists are executed by the Max Milan trio; the Westwoods prove a most pleasing turn as comedy and expert cyclists; Mlle. Renee is a wonderful instrumentalist; and others who appear include Venie Clements, vocalist, with a musical scena, *A Trial Trip*; the Bartholomew Girls, smart duettists and dancers; and Flo Cecil, comedienne and dancer.

LLANELLY.—Royalty Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Z. Andrews; Acting-Manageress, Miss Alice Rocheforte.—The local Dramatic Society, assisted by Miss Rocheforte (who as Catherine is most successful) and Mr. F. Cremlin, are performing *The Bells* here this week in aid of the Llanelly Cricket Club. Mr. B. Percy Rees makes a capital Mathias; Mr. Jack Aukland as Christian is very good; Miss Marion Lewis as Annette and Miss Maggie Williams as Lozel are both clever. Mr. Cremlin gives a capitally-performed monologue, *Domestic Mutual Improvements*, as a part of the programme.

LONDONDERRY.—Opera House.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. W. Payne-Seddon.—Mr. J. H. Savile's company is presenting *Goody Two Shoes*. In the title-rôle Miss Maggie Bowman is very good; as principal boy, Miss Ethel Campbell is a decided success, and Miss Lena Wylie an excellent Fairy; Mr. Peter Bermingham sustains the comic element with great spirit; and the Baron is capably impersonated by Mr. H. A. Gribben; Mr. Jack Foley is a capital Dame.

LOUGHBOROUGH. — New Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Payne-Seddon and George Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lindsey Edwards.—*In Old Madrid* is presented here this week by Mr. Fred J. Kirke's company. Mr. Leslie Austin, in the dual rôle of Frank Lyndhurst and Count Corregillo, gives a masterly performance; Mr. George Whillis makes an excellent Toreador; and Mr. Roland A. Bridge brings out with force all the malevolence of the unscrupulous Tenando Cassilus. The comedy element is ably sustained by Mr. Walter Hybert as Horatio J. Rogers; and Mr. Charles Burns makes a good Marmaduke R. FitzSimmons; Miss Francesca Strickland deserves special mention for her fine portrayal of Violet Lyndhurst; Miss Louie Fountaine's rendering of Lola Stittagano was very pleasing; and Miss Lily Seymour is particularly well-suited as Martha Jane Montmorency; Miss Edith Claris as Madeleine Ellesmere is also good.

LOWESTOFT. — Marina. — Managing-Director, Mr. E. A. Smith.—*The 10.30 Down Express* is paying a return visit, and lovers of the sensational are well provided for. Mr. Andrew Money is well placed as Jack O'Malley, and Mr. Chas. Burdon gives a powerful representation of James Inderwick. Mr. Horace Stanley is a host in himself as Sam Wagstaffe, and is ably supported by Miss Kate Kilpack (Peggy Potts).

Hippodrome. — Manager, Mr. F. Freeland.—Crowded houses are the rule here. The bill includes Zazma, society gymnast; Florence Carlow, comedienne and dancer; and Bes Blancs, comedy triple-bar performers.

MACCLESFIELD.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Gatley.—The chief attration this week is Chas. W. Poole's New Imperial Myriorama, illustrating scenes in all lands, &c., which has aroused great enthusiasm here. There are also many good variety turns, including the Avondale Four, comedy vocalists; the Three Almos, comedy triple horizontal barristers; the Swift Trio, cyclists; Geo. Menra, humorist; Little Edie, child vocalist; Le Brun and Irene in a unique speciality; and C. F. Couper, vocalist.

MANCHESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmondstone Shirra.—Always popular and no less entertaining, in spite of its many visits, *The Belle of New York* attracted and delighted a good audience here on Monday night. Miss Empsie Bowman follows worthily in the footsteps of her predecessors in the title-rôle, and is entirely pleasing in her vocal efforts and general demeanour. Mr. Frank Lawton repeats his impersonation of Blinky Bill in his well-known style. Mr. Paddy Dupres—a clever comedian—is now in the part of Bronson, sen., the junior rôle being in the safe hands of Mr. John Doran, who acts it with a nice sentiment. Miss Lily Maxwell is capital as Fifi; and among others who do much to keep things lively Mr. R. Tate presents a clever impersonation of Karl von Pimperniell, the lunatic. The orchestra, chorus, and staging contribute much to the brilliant effect.

Prince's Theatre.—Proprietors, the United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—A first visit of *Peter's Mother* to Manchester was signalised by a good house here on Monday, and a distinctly good reception testified to the effect produced on the audience by the acting of Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company. Mr. Charles Harley in the first act—his only opportunity—made an excellent impression by the powerful, yet restrained, way in which he presented the character of Sir Timothy Crewys. As Lady Mary, Miss Ruth Mackay was delightfully sympathetic, strong, and appealing in the emotional passages and charming in the lighter ones; while as the selfish, but ultimately enlightened, son Peter Mr. Percy Hutchison contributed a really fine exposition of the character. The two elderly sisters of Sir Timothy were cleverly and amusingly rendered by Miss Mary Griffiths and Mrs. Mallalieu; Mr. William Mallalieu was light and distinctive as Canon Birch; Mr. Drew Mackintosh played satisfactorily as the Doctor; while Miss Hilda Honiss gave a very nice rendering of Sarah and Mr. Stanley Pringle played John Crewys in the right suggestive style. A return visit of this effective play will be welcomed. It was preceded by Eille Norwood's farce, *Chalk and Cheese*, played well by Mr. Drew Mackintosh, Miss Ethel Royale, and Miss Hilda Honiss.

Gaiety Theatre. — Proprietors, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. M. Thorburn.—Mr. Richard A. Greene's drama, *The Angel of Unrest*, tells something of the story of Napoleon's disastrous Russian campaign in acceptably effective style. It is being played here this week by Messrs. Alec Flood and Aubrey Fitzmaurice's company, among whom, it must be said, Mr. Henry Belding stands remarkably foremost in a fine interpretation of Papa Bompasse, a private in the Guards. Other parts, however, are well played—that of Paul Brandt by Mr. Creagh Henry, Julie by Miss Florence Tressilian, and the Napoleon of Mr. Alec Flood. Others deserving of praise in a wholly adequate cast are Mr. Alexander Bradley as Lemesnil, Mr. Laurence Vining as Lepine, Mr. James Chippendale as Hugie, and Miss Nita Imeson as Lisette. The staging is very good.

Royal Osborne Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—Messrs. Little and Darcy's company in *The Shadow of a Crime* are here this week, after a successful week at the Grand Junction Theatre.

Metropole Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hearn.—Harry Daniels and company in *Rent* are the principal attraction here this week. The bounding Pattersons give a good turn; the Sisters Petram provide an excellent entertainment with their marvellous fantoches; and pleasing items are added by Billy Richardson, stump orator; Jack Hylton, eccentric comedian; Mack Ollive, mimic and whistler; Itoyne, the German athlete and equilibrist; Zanfretta and Napio, musical eccentrics; and Leo Trainer, vocal comedian.

St. James's Theatre—Lessee, Mr. Richard Flanagan; Manager, Mr. P. Ryan Smith.—Miss Bonwin Carlton's company are here again in the sensational comedy-drama, *The Plucky Nipper*. Miss Bonwin Carlton plays the title-part in spirited style, and in addition to a strong performance by Mr. William Heilbronn as Vanbrugh, a prominent success is made by Mr. Edward Surrey (author of the play) in the rôle of Bill Burgess, a ne'er-do-well. Others worthy of praise are Miss Esther Lamont, Mr. H. J. Butler, and Mr. Claude Kingston.

Grand Junction Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Dry.—An excellent interpretation of Frank Adair's drama, *Held Apart*, is given here this week by Mr. A. Clifton Anderson's company. Mr. H. K. Ayliff rises to his opportunities as the villainous Douglas in convincing fashion; and Miss Ethyle Murray contributes cleverly to the same side of the story. On the side of virtue, Mr. Leonard Lawrence as John Douglas and Miss Ruby Loncraine as Sybil Grey fulfil every requirement; and excellent impersonations are added by Mr. F. G. Batley as Hugh Trevor, Miss P. Ford as Mrs. Briggs, the housekeeper, and Mr. A. W. Norman as Captain Ford. The play is full of sensational interest, and capitally staged.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—A fine programme here this week is headed by the Boissetts in their well-known laughter-maker, *The Wild West*. Prominent also is a new musical piece, *A King for a Day*, which is noticed in another column. Russell Wallet, "the lady in black," adds his popular song-sketch; Millie Howell sings well; Otto and Olga are excellent in their eccentric musical-comedy interlude; the Sisters Grovini give a graceful tumbling and acrobatic act; and Eadie and Ramsden are highly successful in their comic business, entitled *Charlie's Visit*; while Harry Simms (vocal comedian), and Hurley and Cole (in their scene *Let Bygones be Bygones*) were also deservedly well received. The Bioscope depicts moral and interesting pictures of life.

Hippodrome. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—*The Treasure Ship in Fairy Seas* is still the *pièce de résistance* at this popular hall, and delights large audiences. Helene and Emilon go through an extremely graceful and clever gymnastic act; a remarkable turn is that of the Piccolinis, two lilliputians, who dance, cycle, shoot, and head and hand balance in a really surprising manner; and the dancing of Mount and Corelli is something to marvel at. Henry A. Coutt and company are seen to advantage in a quick-change production, entitled *Outflanked*; Florence Summers, the Sunshade Girl, sings pleasingly; Alice Blandford, vocalist, sings well; a good turn is Die Vier Provinzen, Dutch lady singers and dancers, and two vocal items by the choir and "The Sunday School Treat" on the Bioscope complete the programme.

Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter de Frece; Secretary, Mr. Peter Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—G. H. Chirgwin, the well known White-eyed Musical Kaffir, tops the bill here this week, and amuses with up-to-date talk. Whit Cunliffe scores all along the line; the Romsakoff Troupe consist of eight charming girls, whose military musical drill and wall-scaling act is gracefully done; Terry and Lambert, American comedy duo, are excellent; Zerthe's dogs are smartly trained; the Four Madcaps are wonderfully clever dancers; and other entertaining items are contributed by Lottie Collard, comedienne and dancer; the Three Sisters Silcott, vocalists and dancers; Mark Leslie, coon comedian and dancer; and Maud Esmond, vocal comedian.

King's, Longsight.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son.—An excellent production of *Oliver Twist* is to be recorded here this week, by Mr. Ernest Noble's company. Mr. Henry L. Osmond as Bill Sikes is altogether excellent; Miss Winifred Chalmers is particularly good as Nancy; Miss Lizzie Powers plays well as Oliver; and Mr. John C. Carlyle makes an effective Fagan. Mr. Ernest Noble's portrayal of Monks is satisfactory; and others who do good work are Messrs Harry Cooke (Artful Dodger), E. Elbone (Charlie Bates), T. Williams (Toby Crackitt), and Miss Kate Somerville as Rose. The remaining parts are in safe hands, and the whole production is above the average. Bullseye, Sikes's dog, is well trained.

Queen's Park Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son.—W. L. Murray, Britain's ideal of physical culture, tops the bill here this week in poses and clever feats of strength; Fanny Robina, comedienne, is as dashing as ever, and sings well; and the Jollions are high-class harmonising vocalists. Max Duffek gives a marvellous musical contortionist act; Florry Cooper sings sweetly; and Nellie Voltaire is a quaint dancer and singer. The Orchids are good in a vocal act; Little Dando, the 42in. comedian, is very funny; Billy Bint scores with his new song "He's quite content to stay at home"; Gilroy and Gross are good sand dancers; and Walter Wade, comedian, provides a successful extra turn. "Playing Truant" is shown on the Bioscope. A really fine programme.

Tivoli. — Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Billie Barlow, the ever-popular comedian, is to the front here this week, and is well received. Highly successful also is merry May Moore Duprez, whose quaint style, funny stories, and delightful dancing are vastly entertaining. Alec Kennedy, actor-vocalist, makes a big hit, and is deservedly applauded; the Three Rubys are seen to advantage in a neat gymnastic bending act; and Beatrice May, operatic vocalist, sings exceedingly well. Other excellent turns are those of the Forsyths, in sketch; Kittie Rayburn, comedienne; J. B. Selph, in song-scena *The Veteran's Dream*; and the Raymond Trio of instrumentalists and dancers. The pictures are good, as usual.

Hippodrome (Hulme).—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son.—The chief item here this week is undoubtedly Henriette de Serris's artistic bas-reliefs, tableaux vivants, and statuary, reproduced from famous works of art by a company of twenty professional models. Henry Hallam and Josephine Stanton are good in their musical sketch, *A Broken Journey*; T. E. Gilbey, on the unsupported rocking ladder, provides a sensational turn; H. Nelson, comedian, has some quaint patter; Harry Russon is a capital comedian; and Snowball and Miss Dolis, American comedy artists, are good. Other enjoyable items are those of Lily Arthur, toy comedienne; J. H. Dundas, actor-vocalist; and George and Edwards, comedians and dancers. On the occasion of our visit MacDonald and Huntington did not appear.

MANSFIELD.—Grand Theatre.—Proprietors, Mansfield, Sutton, and District Theatres, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Cecil Clayton.—The Leopold company occupy the boards here this week, and two short plays are given each evening, *The Houseboat* and *The New Frivolity*. The Leopolds are responsible for much clever work, and cause great amusement. In the cast of *New Frivolity*, Miss Cathleen Cavanagh as Mme. Cobweb is well placed; as Lucy Buckwheat, Miss Amy Hall is successful, as is also Miss Zillah Fair as Maud; Miss Queenie Bronte is capable as Manenette; and Miss Violet Keand scores as Nita Gorden.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Herbert Darnley; Resident-Director, Mr. Tom Jennings; Acting-Manager, Mr. Mark Lorne.—Miss Adria Hill and Mr. Robert Ayrton's company has occupied the boards here this week in the play *Under Two Flags*. Mr. Robert Ayrton is very successful in the rôle of Hon. Bertie Cecil; as Cigarette, Miss Adria Hill submits an artistic interpretation. Mr. A. Sanders gives an effective rendition of the rôle of Ezra Brown; Mr. G. Vinning is well placed as Rake; and Mr. Sidney Fiennes scores as Colonel Chateauray. Miss Maggie Hobart is excellent as Lady Venetia, as is also Miss Harriett Loyall as Biddy Flanagan. On Thursday and Friday evenings *East Lynne* was produced, with Miss Adria Hill as Lady Isabel.

MARGATE.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr Edward Michael; Stage and Business-Manager, Mr. A. Austin-Leigh.—The stock company has been producing this week, with great success, the three-act comedy, *The Case of Rebellious Susan*. Mr. A. Austin-Leigh is excellent as Sir Richard Kato, Q.C., and Miss Mabel Archdall is a pronounced success as Lady Susan Harabin; Mr. Wallis Clark does well as Admiral Sir Joseph Darby, and Mr. H. G. Mason is good as James Harabin; Mr. Robert Grey is effective as Ferguson Pybus; Mr. Archie Selwyn puts in good work as Lucien Edensor; and Miss Emmie O'Reilly gives a fine impersonation of Mrs. Inez Quesnel. Minor parts are capably sustained by Miss May Saker (Elaine Shrimpton), Miss Belle Travers (Lady Darby), and Messrs. H. W. Wells (Jacomb), Richard Trieve (Mr. Kirby), and E. J. Latchford and W. Dane Scott.

Hippodrome.—Joint Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtree. —The Continental stilt-walkers, a family of ten, are very amusing; the Sisters Allen, duettists, are particularly good as vocalists and dancers; Saxo gives a novel instrumental performance; Dolly Denton, comedienne, gives a pleasing turn; Harry Taft, whistling comedian, is much appreciated; the Pender Troupe, in a highly-amusing pantomime sketch, keep the audience in a roar of laughter; and the Pictures, as usual, are an interesting Bioscope feature of the diversified programme.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—Theatre Royal. — Lessees, The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Albert Jackson.—Harry Champion tops the bill here, and nightly has a flattering reception. Other attractive turns are provided by the Two Bees; the Four Watsons, musical experts; Correlli, an amusing conjurer; Harry Cooke, comedian; Edgar Forrest's Comedy Combination, in the farcical sketch, *My Friend the Enemy*; and the theatre pictures.

Temperance Hall.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—Chas. Vandyke's company of pantomimists head the bill in a humorous sketch, *Nicodemus*; Kavados is a clever juggler; Flo Melville greatly pleases with her vocal selections; the Three Berlin Belles are smart dancers; the Days give a clever exhibition of mental telepathy; and Biograph pictures complete a capital programme.

MEXBOROUGH.—Prince of Wales' Theatre. —Manager, Mr. W. H. Melton. — Mr. Leonard Dalrymple's company occupies the boards here this week with the drama *As Midnight Chimes*. Mr. Leonard Dalrymple submits a thoughtful and earnest interpretation of Dave Stannard; Mr. Herbert Belmore gives a vigorous rendering of the unscrupulous Luke Dezzard; the part of Ezra Gamble is creditably filled by Mr. Herbert Fearce; Mr. H. B. Peppin is a capable Nat Wilson; Mr. James Salter scores with a humorous study of Tat Spavvin; Miss Maud Hastings displays emotional power and high dramatic skill as the heroine, Mary Stannard; Miss Alma Henson cleverly portrays the character of Zamora; while Miss Madge Beresford is a vivacious and pleasing Suzette.

MIDDLESBROUGH. — Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Charles Imeson.—Mr. Arthur Hardy's company in the comedy, *Beauty and the Barge*, is paying a successful return visit here this week. The whimsical character of Captain James Booby is admirably impersonated by Mr. Blake Adams. The rôle of Ethel Smedley is gracefully undertaken by Miss Dido Drake; and Mr. Edward Coventry is very amusing as Lieut. Boyne. In the parts of Mrs. Porter and Mrs. Baldwin, Mrs. J. W. Braithwaite and Miss Ruby Wyndham are exceedingly good; and the character of Herbert Manners is in the capable hands of Mr. Aubrey Mallilieu. Mr. Edward Drake is comical as George Porter, and Miss Mary Pemberton pleasing as Lucy Dallas; Mr. Walter Pemberton makes an excellent Major Smedley, and Miss Mona Robin is a charming Mrs. Smedley. A clever representative of the part of John Debbs is seen in Mr. Charles E. White, and Mr. Fred Knight is good as Tom Codd. Mr. Forester Harvey (Augustus), Mr. W. R. Hammersmith (Joe), Mr. Arthur Flinders (Ted), Mr. R. Wilson (Bill), Mr. A. Thorncroft (Alf), and Mr. H. Richford (Jack) also do full justice to their respective rôles.

Opera House, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. W. Ker Chatto. —The visit of Mr. H. B. Irving to Middlesbrough has been looked forward to with much interest, and on Monday night a good audience greeted him warmly when he made his first appearance here in *The Lyons Mail*. Following the example of his distinguished father, he appeared in the dual rôle of Joseph Lesurques, the Parisian merchant, and Dubosc, and showed himself to be a worthy successor to the great tragedian. Miss Dorothea Baird gave an admirable portrayal of the character of Jannette. The audience were deeply impressed, and showed their appreciation of the two talented artists by repeated calls. Mr. Frank Tyars gave a fine impersonation of Jerome Lesurques; while Mr. E. Harcourt Williams acted with great distinction as Courriol, and Mr. Charles Dodsworth as Choppard sustained his part well. Miss Sybil Mable was very effective in the rôle of Julie; and Mr. Tom Reynolds was exceedingly good as Fouinard. Miss Ada Mellon, Mr. Fewlass Llewellyn, and Mr. Eric Maxon did full pustice to their respective parts. The *Lyons Mail* was preceded by a pretty one-act play, *King Rene's Daughter*, in which Miss Dorothea Baird took the pathetic part of Iolanthe, her acting being delightful. During the week *The Bells* and *Charles I.* were played with great success.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Brill; Manager, Mr. Charles Rembges.—The Alexandroffs, a troupe of Russian dancers, provide the star turn here this week, and give a wonderful eccentric dancing performance. Wild, Willie, and West create roars of laughter in their acrobatic turn; and Daisy James scores a great success; Stylo is a clever hoop juggler; and Hugh Cedar and Edward Elgar are pleasing in a comedy act, *Ye Dayes of Old*. Blanche and Powell provide a most pleasing vocal and musical entertainment; and Carney and Armstrong please. Other turns are also provided by Arthur Boyne, comedian; and Beatrice Bonnie, comedienne and dancer.

Oxford.—Proprietor, Mr. Alf. Graham; Manager, Mr. R. L. Griffiths.—A capital programme is presented here this week. The Four Burnels score a great success in their musical and comedy act, *On the Links*. Wee Mona Vivian, dancer and vocalist, has had a great reception; and the Pelhams provide a clever acrobatic turn. Dave O'Toole, the popular Irish comedian, causes much laughter; the Three Zednas, serios and buck-dancers, please; and other enjoyable items are given by Mlle. Lizette, vocalist; and Little Eileen, vocalist and dancer.

MIDDLETON. — Pardoe's Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Pardoe and Turner.—An excellent performance is being given this week of the drama *The Sledge Hammer*, by George Henry's company. Mr. Frank Litchfield and Miss Jessie Hope play lead most effectively; they are well supported by Messrs. C. Appleby, A. Barrows, and B. Howard.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Langham.—The Compton Comedy Company pay their annual visit to this theatre this week, their répertoire of plays being *Davy Garrick*, *The Rivals*, *The School for Scandal*, and *She Stoops to Conquer*. On Monday evening, *Davy Garrick*, with which Mr. Edward Compton's name, of course, is most familiarly associated, was staged, and the well-known actor's 1,362nd impersonation of the title-rôle was received with many signs of real appreciation, his admirable acting in the drunken scene being rewarded with recall upon recall. Miss Mackenzie gave a pleasing study of Violet; Mr. Henry Crocker was excellent as Alderman Gresham; and a very good character-study was the Mrs. Rumblow of Miss Marie Hassell. Others in a well-balanced company were Mr. Dennis Cleugh, Mr. Montague Lane, Mr. Charles Rogers, Mr. Philip Gordon, Mr. G. W. Johnston, Mr. Vernon O. Crabtree, and Miss Barbara Pigot.

Tyne Theatre and Opera House.—Lessees, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe.—In fulfilment of a pledge given to Novocastrian audiences on the occasion of a previous and first successful visit to the Tyne Theatre, Mr. Seymour Hicks, accompanied by Miss Ellaline Terriss and an excellent company, is again here, this time appearing in *The Beauty of Bath*. Needless to say, the piece met with a rare reception. In the part of Dick Alington, Mr. Hicks displays all his restless loquacity and overflowing good-humour; Miss Ellaline Terriss, quiet and refined, is an ideal Betty Silverthorne, her songs, especially "Cheyenne" and "Hyacinth," being charmingly rendered. Capital support is given by Miss Florence Lloyd as the kindly Mrs. Alington; Miss Sydney Fairbrother, with a skit on the "Gibson Girl"; Mr. Stanley Brett as Mr. Hicks's double; Miss Maudie Darrell, with a capital interpretation of "The Zuyder Zee"; Mr. Laurence Caird, with a clever character-sketch as Lord Quorn; and Master Valchera, a young Cockney comedian, who often convulses the house.

Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon.—Messrs. Dottridge and Langden's company is appearing here this week in *The Midnight Mail*. Mr. Fred E. Evison ably fills the rôle of Billy Brewer; and the part of Harry Steyne is well played by Mr. George Harvard; while Miss Mildred Carr is seen to great advantage as Nancy Brewer.

Empire Theatre.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton.—Occupying the place at the top of the bill are the *Ten Loonies*, who appear in a very funny musical sketch, entitled *Dotty*; a most humorous act also is *The Coastguards*, as given by Drew and Alders, whose fantastic dancing takes immensely; Daisy Mayer, in coon songs, is extremely good; and in a boxing act and as knockabout comedians, the Brothers Lang prove very popular. Others in the bill are the Wartenberg Brothers, novel double-footed experts; Billy Farrell, an encyclopædia of coonology; Belloni's Cockatoos; Herbert Shelley, in *Dan the Outlaw*; and Tom Owen, Welsh comedian.

Pavilion Theatre.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Will H. Boardman.—John Tiller's company, in the musical farce, *High Jinks*, occupies a prominent place in the Pavilion bill this week. With a popular comedian in Bob Selvidge at its head, the company is a strong one, and the singing and dancing introduced into a well-staged and highly-amusing extravaganza, are really first-class. The other turns include Gladys Witton, a juvenile contralto; the Elvio Comedy Trio, in *Those Troublesome Slaveys*; Gregson and Goodfellow, vaudeville artists; Woolmer Young, actor-vocalist; and Verno and Voyce, comedians.

NEWPORT.—Lyceum.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sidney Cooper.—Mr. Roland Yorke's company is appearing here in *The Triumph of Truth*. Mr Louis Hector as Capt. Jack Eversleigh, V.C., makes a dashing hero, and Mr. Leonard Maxwell plays Inspector Danvers in a spirited style. The part of the villain, Count Raoul d'Orville, is capitally filled by Mr. Henry Lonsdale, and he is well supported by Miss Gertrude Hunt as Blanche le Croix, whose acting is very realistic. Miss Gertrude Bonser as Violet Anstruther makes a winsome heroine; Miss Nellie Hughes as Little Lena does exceedingly well; and Miss Sybil Hare as Coraline makes a vivacious artist's model. The comedy element is entrusted to Mr. Fred de Vere as Tommy Woodhead, the strongest man on earth, and Miss Gertie Rosalind as Kate Bright, both of whom make the best of their parts. Mr. Roland Yorke as Vitteo Moscagni, the avenger, showed himself to be an actor of much power.

Empire.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Major Gallagher; Assistant, Mr. Page.—Chung-Ling-Soo, who heads the bill here, performs conjuring tricks of a mystifying nature; Madge Grey achieves success; Roma and Romani are talented musicians; and an amusing sketch, *The Order of the Bath*, is presented by Miss Lillieth Leyton, supported by Mr. J. Spurling. George Newburn wins applause in his imitations of well-known artists; Ethel Leslie scores a success with her excellent voice and charming appearance; and songs by Herbert Rule, a quaint comedian, are well received. The Bioscope, showing instructive pictures, completes the bill.

NORTHAMPTON.—Opera House.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Seddon.—Mr. J. W. Turner's English Opera Company is paying a long-looked-for return visit this week, commencing on Monday with *Il Trovatore*, the principals being Miss Jessie Dennis, Miss Christine Gomez, Miss Kitty Brownless, Mr. F. J. Hargrave, Mr. Tom Griffiths, and Mr. G. Ridding, who gave a brilliant performance of Verdi's masterpiece. On Tuesday Mr. J. W. Turner appeared as Miles-na-Coppaleen in *The Lily of Killarney*, and received a great ovation. Miss Christine Gomez's delightful rendering of Eily was also highly applauded. Miss Jessie Dennis, Mr. F. J. Hargrave, Mr. Tom Griffiths, Mr. Sydney Clifford, and Mr. George Ridding all rendered valuable assistance. The chorous is very good, and the orchestra, with special additions, under the able conductor, Mr. T. Lawton, greatly contributed to the success attained. *The Daughter of the Regiment*, *Maritana*, *Faust*, and *The Bohemian Girl* follow in succession.

Palace of Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thos A. Evans.—James Stewart, "the original tramp on the piano," is highly appreciated for his artistic fun; Brayne and Lloyd appear with great success in a screaming absurdity, *The Tree of Truth*, with special scenery and effects; Dorothy L. Clark is a very pleasing comedienne; Lambert and Glover make a hit in their farcical duologue, *My Birthday*; Henri Bekker pleases with his conjuring; Mme. Gray is successful as an operatic vocalist; George Grogie, the "character countryman"; and the Three Sisters Lee, able vocalists and acrobatic dancers, also appear. C. Vincent gives a clear and realistic picture of "The Grand National" and some vivid scenes in Canada.

NORTH SHIELDS. — Theatre Royal.—

dienne and dancer; Miss Lillian Sivado, trapeze artist; Messrs. Lytton and Bland, comedy artists; Mr. Harry Plowden, comedian; and Turner's animated pictures all meet with favour.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—Les Montaldos gives a clever equilibristic act, and introduces his performing parrots and cockatoos; the Three Coopers, comedy vocalists, are popular; and Mr. J. C. Scatter, Tyneside comedian, pleases immensely. Mr. Teddie Rogers, tramp juggler, is smart; Messrs. Tallard and Ivy, comedians; and Little Rose Pink, song and dance artist; Mr. Leonard Bean, baritone vocalist; and the Bio-Photoscope complete.

NORWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Messrs. Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's company is here this week in *The Midnight Wedding*. Miss Annie Saker as Princess Astrea plays with much earnestness and power; Mr. Alfred Paumier is equally good as Paul Valmar; Mr. F. W. Freeman is successful as Crown Prince Leopold; Mr. Edward Fletcher acts with ability as Eugene; whilst Mr. Ernest E. Imeson as Captain Rudolph makes the most of a thankless part. Miss Ada Champion is very good as Kathie, and the same compliment is due to Mr. Algie Spalding as Bobs, Mr. James E. Page as Sergt. Max and Mr. Vernon Vane as Otto are very amusing. Mr. W. S. Hardy as Father Gerrard deserves mention.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—Heading the bill this week, and received with much appreciation, is Joe Elvin, with his popular entertainment, *The Cockney Cabdriver*, in which he creates much laughter. The Smythsons, in their laughing hit, "Love Germs," excite fun; the Hartley Wonders are always appreciated here; Marba and Verity are good knockabouts; Maggie Walsh is a pleasing vocalist with a powerful voice; Mabel Osborn and Gordon Brooks are a capital turn; while Amy Anderson as the "Banana Queen" pleases; and the Sisters Terry, comediennes and dancers, have a good reception. The Hippo-Bio is always attractive.

NOTTINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—*The Morals of Marcus* attracted a large house on Monday, when Mr. Arthur Bourchier's company gave a fine representation of this charming play. Mr. H. Nye Chart as Sir Marcus Ordeyne developed the many interesting features of the part in an able and artistic manner, which the audience recognised in no uncertain way; Miss Hilda Antony made a thoroughly delightful exponent of Carlotta; Mr. David Domville proved a clever delineator of the knavish Sebastian Pasquale; and Mrs. H. Nye Chart played spiritedly as Judith Mainwaring. Miss Gladys Purnell impersonated Dora Ordeyne with marked success; and Miss Eleanor Gilbart won favour by her smart work as Antoinette. Mr. A. H. Leveaux was sufficiently determined as Hamdi Effendi, and Miss Mary Weigall capitally depicted the precise Mrs. Ordeyne. Other parts were carefully rendered by Misses Conyers Radcliffe, Mary O'Neill, Evelyn Summers, and Messrs. Cecil Brooking and W. Swinburne.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Chas. P. Cooke.—*Napoleon the Great* presents a good opportunity for the display of Mr. Hugh Montgomery's histrionic abilities, his embodiment being both artistic and commanding; Mr. Oliver Birrell gives full sinister effect to the part of the scheming Colonel Lavarennes; Mr. Phil Harper plays the hero, Colonel Mervion, and his acting throughout is earnest and convincing; Miss Maud Russell calls forth instant sympathy by her winsome and pathetic rendering of Leonie Marbouef; Miss Leslie Warner supplies a spirited portrayal of Marie Walewska; Mr. Bartlett Garth makes the most of the pitiful Paul Laczinska; and Mr. F. M. Thorne works with excellent effect as Pierre Pomponnet; Miss Marie Harcourt (Marcelle), Miss Florence Thorne (Mère Dumont), and Mr. Albert Sinclair (Choupin) also deserve a word of praise.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles H. Bowmaker.—Mr. Fred Storey occupies the top of the bill this week, and his production of *Rip Van Winkle* forms an exceedingly interesting and clever item. The marvellous skill of the Kremo Family in their Risley act holds the audience interested from start to finish, and the deafening applause accorded them is well-earned. The Four Royal Welshmen obtain a gratifying reception for their melodious singing; and the McConnel Trio add to the harmony in a sketch, entitled *Mrs. Skinner's Lodgers*. The quaint drollery of Ernie Mayne is well exemplified in a humorous parody on the song "Zuyder Zee." Hall and Earle are responsible for several merry moments in an acrobatic turn; and Percy Honri submits smart imitations of various instruments on a concertina. An illustrated song by Daisy Pollock and the dancing of Eily Adair are duly rewarded; and the Bioscope shows some fine films.

NUNEATON.—PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE AND ENTERTAINMENTS CO., LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter J. R. Bryan.—Mr. Ian Maclaren is paying a first visit here this week. On the opening night *Hamlet* was presented to an appreciative audience. In the title-rôle, Mr. Maclaren gives a carefully-studied and clever assumption. Miss Katherine Harrington makes a pleasing Ophelia; her mad scene wins well-merited applause. Miss Edith Coleman is an excellent Queen; Mr. W. S. Hartford is well placed as Claudius; Mr. Arthur Fayne as Polonius and Mr. Frank Royden as Laertes are both good; Mr. F. S. Dawson plays with effect as the Ghost; Mr. J. V. Bryant is an efficient Horatio; and Mr. George Powell scores as the Gravedigger. *Othello* was given on Tuesday night, *She Stoops to Conquer* on Thursday, and *David Garrick* on Friday.

OLDHAM.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. B. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—Hardie and Von Leer's *Two Little Vagabonds* company is paying a return visit this week, and has a hearty reception. In the name-parts, Misses Edie Martin and Josie Beltram as Dick and Wally respectively act in an excellent manner. Mr. Arthur E. Melbourne portrays the rôle of George Thornton in well-finished style; and Miss Grace Heywood as Marion and Miss Rosslyn Vayne as Barbara are well to the fore. Mr. Sidney Vautier is excellent as Captain Darville, and the same may be said of Mr. Dustan Haye as John Scarth; Mr. Lionel Ellis is humorous as Bill Mullins, and is ably assisted by Mr. Frank Gordon as Dido Bunce and Mr. Dick Winslow as the Cough-Drop. Miss Evelyn Shaw is capital as Biddy Mullins, and Lena Vernon is good as Sister Randall; Mr. Thomas Blakeman as Dr. Lynn, Mr. Harry F. Wright as Leeson, and Miss Hilda Leslie as the maid-servant are of much assistance, and the remaining parts are well filled.

COLOSSEUM THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. Eastwood.—*£1000 Reward* is much enjoyed here, as played by Messrs. Frank J. Pitt and Charles Halling's company. Mr. Fred Wilberforce is forcible in the part of Gilbert Lisle; Mr. J. Newton Cowling as Fred Ingleford, and Mr. Frank J. Pitt as his son are also very good. Mr. Charles Halling as Vincent Rainsworth is capital, and Mr. Frank Dallas causes much amusement as Inspector Gilbert, his rival in the force. Miss Daisy Halling is clever as Madam Sanson, Mrs. Sydney Halling is very good as Mrs. McCarty, and Miss Cissy Francess as Kitty is capital; Miss Lynn Darlington possesses an admirable contralto voice, which she uses with good effect in the part of Meg. Mr. George Scully is good as Dick Springthorpe, and the remaining characters are adequately played.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. B. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. Howgate.—Kreamer and Braun, in a sensational novelty, Horse v. Cycle, head the bill, and Francinio Oljam in a "Soirée Musicale" provides good music. My Fancy is billed as the Queen of sand dancers, and well merits the title; Sammy Shields, the football spectator, keeps the house in excellent humour, as does also Walter Curtis; the merriment merchants, Harris and Worth, sporting comedians, keep the ball rolling with their cross-talk; Marlow and Manton (Harry and May) are good in an interesting sketch; and the Mezzettis have a capital comedy gymnastic act, which gains much applause. "Curfew shall not ring to-night" is depicted on the Dottoscope.

HIPPODROME. — Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. Nuttall.—Fred Karno and company appear in a funny sketch, *Dinner Time*, and cause much laughter; Anilee brings the house down with whistling solos; *Sally's Dilemna* is acted in a capital manner by Bensley Evans company, in which Miss Olive Lanty appears with great success; Miss Ena Compton is a dainty comedienne, and she sings some pretty songs very nicely; Reilly and Taylor are a pair of good duettists; J. S. James again appears with success as a humorist and bone expert; and George Penn, comedian, and some interesting Pictures conclude the programme.

OXFORD. — EAST OXFORD THEATRE.—Lessees, Miss Winifred Stuart and C. Watson Mill; Manager, Mr. Frank Stuart.—Mr. Andrew Melville's company is here with *Driven from Home*. Mr. Fred A. Marston acts with great spirit and vigour as Anthony Raybrook; Mr. Howard Tracey is consistent as George Clissold; and Mr. Francis Everard is well suited as Walter Hatherleigh. Mr. G. M. Montanini plays Geoffrey Waring with due restraint; Mr. Percy Dawsone is worthy of high praise for his clever portrayal of Willie; and Mr. Harry Cornwall shares honours as Jabez Thomas. Mr. Fred C. Imbert is highly amusing as John Anderson; Mr. Edward Finlay is especially good as Dick Sanders; and Mr. Henry Helling makes an admirable Adam Marley. Mr. Arnold Winters causes fun as Tom Mortlake; Miss Amy Corelli is bright as Margaret Bailey; and Miss Bella Power does well as Barbara Ashdown. Miss Jessia Yatman is refined as Walter Hatherleigh, the younger; while Miss Rose Ralph shows ability as Laura Raybrook. The scenery is very effective.

TOWN HALL.—Poole's Myriorama is here again this week, and continues to attract delightful houses.

PAISLEY.—PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—Miss Ethel Van Praagh and Mr. J. Edward Whitty's company is here this week in *An Unwedded Wife*. A very capable rendering of Marion is submitted by Miss Van Praagh; while the Elsie Langham of Miss Elsie Watton is worthy of high commendation. Mr. E. St. Clair Forbes as Philip Blakstone acts in a powerful manner; Mr. Logan Darra essays with considerable success the part of John Hawthorne; as David Drummond Mr. J. A. Grove plays commendably; Mr. Valentine Henry makes an admirable Frank Armstrong; a capital embodiment of Christopher Lennox is submitted by Mr. Wilton Bedford; and Little Doris as a child actress shows cleverness and ability in her assumption of Reggie. Very humorous are the interpretations given by Miss Jessie Gillette as Caraway Crumpet, Mr. Will Casey as Napoleon B. Boomer, and Mr. J. Edward Whitty as Perkinson Pimple O'Runyin. Mr. Fred Allen as Inspector Grabem, and Mr. James Finny as Constable Bolt, are both good.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Douglas F. Bostock.—Marie Loftus gives a selection of her latest songs, which are all rapturously applauded; an excellent number is Addie Dorina, protean artist, who, in a clever sketch, *Dr. Spot's Patients*, impersonates seven characters with marvellous rapidity; the Lavelle Brothers are a couple of extremely quaint comedy acrobats; Ruby Bijou contributes an artistic and entertaining terpsichorean turn; Georgina Leonard is a chic comedienne; Carl Howard scores in his expert conjuring exhibition; as a comedian Fred Lincoln makes a decided hit; the Society Quartette appear to great advantage as singers and dancers; and the Bioscope completes a good programme.

PERTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. H Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's No. 1 company is engaged for the week in the successful musical comedy, *Florodora*. Mr. Alf. E. Passmore is highly amusing in the responsible rôle of Anthony Tweedlepunch; Mr. Stanley White's Cyrus W. Gilfain is a huge success; Mr. H. V. Cropton and Mr. Harold Perry are advantageously seen in Frank Abercoed and Captain Arthur Donegal respectively; Mr. Edwin Oxlee makes an admirable Leandro; Miss Daisy Lake as Dolores and Miss Lilly Gullick as Angela Gilfain are heartily received; as also is Miss Kate Leicester as Lady Holyrood, while Miss Dora McLasky is an ideal typewriter, Miss Eleanor Barnwell making a suitable Valleda, and Mr. H. Green an admirable footman. Special dances are given with much acceptance by Miss Eleanor Barnwell, Dora McLasky, Daisy Cayley, and Emmie Oxlee.

PETERBOROUGH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. A. Darville Vernon.—*Raffles* is the attraction here this week. Mr. Reginald Dance impersonates the title-rôle with great ability and power; and Mr. Edward Irwin scores a big success as Mr. Curtis Bedford. Mr. Brisco Owen lends able support as Harry Manders; Crawshay is capitally represented by Mr. C. Rivers Bertram; and Mr. Percy Foster is successful as Lord Amersteth. Miss Katie Yates acts the part of Gwendoline Conran most charmingly; and Mrs. May Brooke as Mrs. Vidal, and Miss Rita Ward as Marie, both deserve praise.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. C. F. Williams; Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—Mr. Mouillot's well-balanced company is this week appearing in *The Girl Behind the Counter* for the first time locally. Mr. Ellis Holland is very amusing as General Sir Wilkie Willoughby; Mr. Arthur Cartwright is admirably suited to the part of the colonial, Charles Chetwynd; Mr. Howard Cridland—a former local amateur—does excellently well as the society dude, Viscount Gushington; Miss Nora Brocklebank has a particularly fascinating stage presence and manner as Winnie Willoughby; and Mons. Jules Charmettes furnishes some of Lauder's tit-bits in the French tongue in most amusing fashion. Susie is well portrayed by Miss Rose Helene; Mr. Frederick Park is quaint and humorous as Dudds the office boy; and Mr. A. M. Moore is a typical waiter.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. C. F. Williams; Manager, Mr. Percy Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Grant.—The attractive drama, *A Little Vagrant*, is being played here by Mr. Harry Roxbury's company. A noticeable performance is that of Miss Vashti Wynne as Poll; Miss Alice Bowes makes an admirable vagrant, and quickly elicits the sympathies of the audience; Mr. Richard Bosco is aristocratic and dignified as befits the rôle of an English gentleman; Mr. C. A. Collins is very natural as James Harris; and Mr. J. W. Gallagher as Slideaway Bates, and Miss Bella Moody as Hannah Smithers furnish the lighter vein in commendable fashion.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—Dene and Dawson, the first turn on the programme, have some attractive patter; the Musical Schaffers are genuinely funny; Harry Weldon obliges with a couple of ditties in his customary quaint manner; Rezone and Robini have retained their popularity established by many preceding visits; and Grais' Baboon Prodigies furnish the star turn, one of the cleverest animal turns ever witnessed at the Palace. Vernon's pictures present an attractive film depicting the Grand National.

PONTYPRIDD.—ROYAL CLARENCE THEATRE.—Owners and Proprietors, Mrs. Trenchard and Miss L. Jones.—*A Woman's Past* is the attraction this week. Mr. W. Henry Hargreaves is excellent as David Heath; Frank Dillannoy is ably portrayed by Mr. Charles T. Sandford; Clement Harper is in the capable hands of Mr. A. Hamilton Warden; Mr. G. Moreton Williams scores as Uriah Craven; Miss Maisie Harbury deserves the highest praise as Bessie; Miss Eva Bertram acts well as Clara Darrel; Dorothy Heath is ably represented by Miss May Dallas.

PORTH.—THE PALACE (LATE OPERA HOUSE).—General-Manager, Mr. C. W. Poole; Acting and Stage Manager, Mr. Walter Bynorth.—This week the programme here includes the following turns:—Mr. Harry Claff, operatic and descriptive vocalist; McAskell, the talking comic conjurer; the Five M.P.'s, military musical experts; Mulvey and Miriam, in their comedy act, entitled "Fun in a Studio"; the Brooklands, dainty comedians and dancers; the Two Roses, in a laughable acrobatic comedy; Mr. Tom Stuart, in dramatic and character sketches from famous plays; Burg, Hand, and Wise, in an original comedy act, *Ye Brown Cow Inn*; the Palace Pictures; Miss Daisy Almer, refined vocalist; and Miss Rosie Carlo.

PORTSMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—This week Mr. Leonard Boyne is presenting here, with the aid of a very competent company, the play, *Raffles, the Amateur Cracksman*. Mr. Boyne has a quiet, decisive style, very suitable to the part of the keen and subtle Raffles. Mr. E. W. Thomas enacted the detective, Curtis Bedford, with skill and success; the Earl of Amersteth was played with quiet dignity by Mr. Arthur Willoughby; Harry Manders was most effectively acted by Mr. Lewis Edgard; Crawshay, in the hands of Mr. Dalziel Heron, was depicted with much energy; Miss Alys Rees did excellent work as Lady Melrose; Lady Ethel and Gwendoline Conran were played very pleasingly by Miss Jean Morrison and Miss Jane Savile; Miss Elaine Inescort sustained the part of Mrs. Vidal in a telling manner; and Miss Jean Harkness deserves mention for her capital personation of Marie. The play is preceded each evening by *A Lesson in Shakespeare*.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate.—Messrs. Carpenter and Cooper's company is here this week with the powerful play, *The Spider and the Fly*. Mr. Benson North gives a fine manly portrayal of the hero, Cyril Girdlestone; the unscrupulous Welby Girdlestone is played by Mr. Ellis J. Preston with a fine conception of the part; David Strong is extremely well acted by Mr. Arthur H. Hill; Messrs. Charles Russell as Romulus Roe, and Charles A. Preece as Remus Roe, with Miss Lucy Murray as Molly Blake, sustained with great success the lighter side of the play; Miss Nina Vaughton portrayed the long-suffering heroine, Edith McAllister, with sympathetic feeling; Miss Amy Venimore as Stella Grey gives an extremely powerful rendering.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—Lew Lake's comedy company heads the bill here with the sensational absurdity *The Bloomsbury Burglars*. Daisy Lane, a dainty comedienne, makes a favourable impression; Oliver Conroy, eccentric comedian, creates great merriment with his quaint patter and songs; Tate and Tate, comedy trampolin acrobats, are decidedly clever; and Harry Carmen, vocal polyglot comedian, is most amusing. The Woelhaffs, versatile vaudevillists, give a capital turn; N. E. Kioto, Japanese equilibrist, does some wonderful balancing; other capable turns are given by Maude Ford, a clever and dainty soubrette and danseuse; the Sisters Hula, smart duettists and dancers; and Payne's Bioscope, with up-to-date pictures.

PRESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Executors of the late Mr. W. Johnson; Manager, Mr. Stephen Pritt.—Mr. Allan Wilkie and a strong company are here with a répertoire of standard plays. On Monday night *Hamlet* was presented to a full house. Mr. Allan Wilkie gave an impressive performance in the title-rôle; and Miss Ine Cameron submitted an affecting portrayal of Ophelia. Other leading parts were ably sustained by Messrs. John Paley, Alexander Marsh, Ernest Digges, Geo. Munro, Herbert Morgan, and Miss Carrie Baillie. The programme for the week also includes *Romeo and Juliet*, *Othello*, *The Lady of Lyons*, *Garrick*, *The Bells*, and *The School for Scandal*.

PRINCE'S THEATRE. — Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Sawyer and Woodruff.—Messrs. Glenville and Osmond's company occupies the boards in *The Still Alarm*.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. E. J. Linsdell.—The chief attraction here is the sketch *Nancy Sikes*, based on Charles Dickens's "Oliver Twist." It is admirably presented by Miss Georgette Thierry's company, with Miss Georgette Thierry in the title-rôle, Miss Florrie Sorsby as Oliver, Mr. Bernard Liell as Fagin, Mr. Willie Black as Bill Sikes, and Mr. Harry Deane as Mr. Brownlow, and appeals strongly to the audience. Mr. Harry Lee receives rounds of applause for his songs; Joe Cawley, pocket comedian, is also accorded a very favourable reception; Mr. Cyril Carle, actor-vocalist, gives a good rendering of the late Charles Godfrey's song, "Dreams"; Haley's company appear in a pretty scena called *The Garden of Girls*; a clever "disappearing lady" illusion is introduced by Simbri; the Czar's Russian troupe of dancers score with their clever dances; an exhibition of comedy boxing and an acrobatic display by Fortune and Fame; a song by Miss Gladys Williams, comedienne; and Bioscope pictures complete an excellent entertainment.

RADCLIFFE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Santé; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jas. Boothman.—Mr. A. Campbell Kelly and company are here with *The Trail of the Serpent*. Mr. Frank Lyndon is excellent as Ralph Hammond, and the dual part of Gerald Kingston and Old Jack receives ample attention from Mr. A. Campbell Kelly. Mr. John Culleen as Gipsy Jake deserves a word of praise; Miss Phyllis Elton makes a charming and attractive Ethel Maynard, and Miss Nana Cameron scores as Rachel, a gipsy. The comedy-part is made attractive by Miss Jennie Risley.

RAMSGATE. — AMPHITHEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Bowman.—Mr. Gerald Hunt's Empire Biograph has been exhibited here during the week. New up-to-date films depicting scenes and events of considerable interest and humour are displayed, and the programme is made up by the inclusion of several particularly good variety turns. The Bros. Mills, in their lofty trapeze act, are extremely popular, and the singing of Taylor and Bridge, the singing Lancashire millhands, is loudly applauded.

RAWTENSTALL.—GRAND THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. George Dickinson.—Messrs. Hallatt and Howard's principal company is here in the powerful military drama, *Her Love Against the World*. As Eric, Earl of Strathmere, Mr. Walter Howard has exceptional opportunities of displaying his fine histrionic abilities, his portrayal being very clever indeed. Miss Ellen Snow as Princess Iris gives a delightful interpretation; Miss Rossie St. John as Neilo is also exceptionally good. As Ulric of Ravensburg Mr. Mayor-Cooke gives a clever and forceful impersonation of the cruel and cowardly ruler; whilst as Prince Othmar Mr. W. H. Hollatt is equally good. Messrs. Henry B. Lewis and Richard Webb as Hemrick and Fritz are exceedingly comical, and along with Miss Lizzie Lellon and Miss Hettie Ferguson as Katinka and Gretchen are responsible for many amusing situations. Miss Blanche Steele is a thoroughly capable Shulah, and Mr. Sam Arthur an excellent Prince Maurice.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Milton Bode; Business-Manager, Mr. E. J. Macdermott.—Mr. George Dance's variety season has "caught on." This week a leading item in the programme is the naval sketch, *The Little Stowaway*, played by an excellent company, with Miss Eva Lumley in the title-rôle. Miss Bessie Butt sings and dances with great vivacity; Miss Kitty Wager is an accomplished comedienne; Fred Poplar is a favourite artist; Les Voces, high-class operatic vocalists, give a successful turn; Charles Kay, the "topical tipster" is much appreciated; the Avolos give a clever gymnastic performance on six upright poles; and some excellent pictures are shown on Vernon's Bioscope.

ROCHDALE.—CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Smith and Co.—*The Casey Circus* is a mirth-provoking burlesque, and evokes roars of laughter; Chevalier Cliquot creates a sensation by his sword-swallowing feats; the Sister Clare, duettists; Lytton, ventriloquist; Royal Quintette, dancers, &c.; Sugden and Davis, illustrated songs; and the Dunvilles, musical duo, complete an attractive bill of fare.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thomas Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Hargreaves.—Dinah Morris and her troupe of coons, in *The Lost Coon; or, Mad Michael*, render songs in attractive style, some clever dancing is also submitted; the Wedburns, described as humorous cross-talkers, were highly amusing. Other turns are contributed by the Evalos, jugglers, &c.; Leslie and Player, comedy duettists; Tom Hughes, comedian; Mr. "E.," patterer; and the Empire Bioscope.

ROTHERHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Holbery Hardy. Mr. F. Marriott-Watson's company is here this week with *A False Wife*. Mr. Fred H. Constable is a manly Lieut. George Mansfield, and Mr. Elton Morgan a breezy Ben Rattler. Mr. Allen Charles is amusing as Archibald Brown Tee; Mr. F. Marriott-Watson scores as Jean Beraud; Miss Annie Hylton is pleasing as Agnes Weyland; Miss Ivy Chandos is a smart Bessie Blazer; Miss Flo Morgan is deserving of mention as Sarah Bernstein (Old Sal); and Miss Florence E. Florence gives a clever portrayal of Lady Mansfield.

RUGBY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geoffrey Fulton.—Mr. Gus Levaine's Easter pantomime, *Cinderella*, is being presented this week to large audiences. Miss Dora Denmark as Prince Charming quite looks the part, and Miss Fanny Collins as Dandini is very good; Miss Ada Conway is excellent as Dorothy, and Miss Lizzie Levaine as Cinderella wins all hearts. As the Fairy Crystal Miss Florry Anderson is well placed. Mr. Arthur Collins as Baron Hardup is clever and humorous; Mr. Cecil Webb as Evalina, and Mr. D'Arcy Mould as Grisella, the two sisters, are responsible in no small degree for the success of the piece; and Pepper, the Baron's page, is a character that is amusingly rendered. Mr. Tom Ashley and Mr. Dave Anderson as Ping and Pong, the Baron's retainers, do excellent work.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—This week's attraction is another visit of Mr. Montague Beaudyn's company, in the Russian melodrama, *A Beautiful Fiend*, in which Miss Sidney Crowe plays the leading part of Wanda Lubinoff in her usual impressive style. Mr. Montague Beaudyn makes a manly Ivan Paulovitch; Count Fedor Karateff is well played by Mr. Herbert Skardon; Mr. Harry Oates as Christopher Crackles, Miss Annie Clunn as Patty Woodlands, and W. Robertson Foulis as Malachi, contribute many comical incidents; Miss Irene Munro is an excellent Nadine Karateff; Mr. Matt Russell as Sergius Strogoff, and Mr. John Baxter as Trolski, give satisfactory studies.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; Manager Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. J. C. Patterson.—The Sivronis gain much applause for their very comical business; Austin and Cowan, vocal entertainers, also score well; the Alberto Troupe are very smart in their equilibristic act; Oakley and James, also provide much amusement. Miss Minnie Cunningham, with her taking Irish songs; Ally Benson, comedy artist and whistler; the Sisters Brenton, comediennes and dancers; Tay and Tay, in their comedy boxing act; Bert Brantford, comedian; and Sid Bandon, character comedian, also give acceptable turns.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Wentworth.—The chief item of a varied programme is Mr. Howell Webb's dramatic sketch, *The Galley Slave*, in which Mr. Howell Webb, Mr. Charles Bennett, Miss Emily Huby, Little Ivy Rochfort, and Miss Magdalen Moore take principal parts, and whose efforts give much satisfaction. The programme also includes excellent turns by Harry Grey, the Australian novelty comedian; Olive Armadale, dainty comedienne; Windermere and Manifield (Charles and Clare) in their comedy duologue, *A Narrow Squeak*; Greener, the singing pit lad; the Three Currans, in boxing act, *Taking the Census*; Halma, comedy juggler; Emma Don and her black and white comedy team; Juan and McQue, eccentric comedians and knockabouts; L. B. Athol, in an artistic vocal production, entitled *Dreamland*.

STRETFORD PAVILION. — Proprietor, Mr. Sidney Weatherilt; Manager, Mr. Fred Erick.—This week's programme is headed by Keane Harker, comedian, whose business is much appreciated; Harry Harcourt, comedian, is well applauded; Charles Byron, another comedian, scores heavily. Lou Langley, a charming soubrette; Winnie Wentworth, a dainty comedienne; and Fred Erick, with his eccentric songs, also appear.

SCARBOROUGH. — PEOPLE'S PALACE AND AQUARIUM.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Morgan; Secretary and Manager, Mr. Walter Kitchingman.—A specially attractive programme is submitted here this week. Wee George Wood is a wonderful comedian for a boy of his age, and a capital mimic; Letta and Minni have a speciality in hand-jumping and dancing; Cara Magda is a clever lady gymnast; Scott Barrie, with his descriptive songs, is well received; and Wilmot Fowler at the piano delights all with his excellent selections. Reno causes a great deal of amusement by his clever juggling; and Le Wist, ventriloquist, also delights the audience.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. George Zalva.—The Richards Trio, comedy acrobats, head the bill here this week; Ada Whitton sings descriptive songs in first-rate style; Chas. Tempest, comedian, is good; and Marcus Boyle delights the audience with his songs. An entirely new series of pictures is submitted.

SEACOMBE.—IRVING THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiernan.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's No. 1 Company is proving an attraction here this week with the powerful domestic drama *Two Little Drummer Boys*. General Kingsley receives a good interpretation from Mr. Edwin Bikker; Captain Frank Carsdale is powerfully rendered by Mr. Fred Emery; the villain, Captain George Darrel, is capitally handled by Mr. Edward Warden; Lieut. Allen Kingsley and Major Kilkerren are well played by Mr. Charles Gallier and Mr. Philip Redgrave respectively; the clever comedy acting of Mr. J. Magraph as Corporal Quinery O'Quirke and Mr. Harry Lyndon as Timothy Trimmer is responsible for much merriment; Mr. Frank Hoyd does justice to the rôle of Jim Barker, and Mr. Harry Greenburn gives satisfaction as the Rev. John Rivers. The boys of the 6th Royal Warwicks are capitally played by Messrs. James Fitton, Thomas Crew, Will Jackson, and Geoffrey Allen. Eric Carsdale and Jack Smith, the two little drummer boys, are smartly acted by Miss Maggie English and Miss Douglas; Miss Violet Langley gives a pleasing rendering of Alma Kingsley and Margaret Rivers is cleverly played by Miss Mildred Eversleigh; Miss Edith Macklin submits a vivacious delineation of Molly Meadows.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. C. Harrison.—*Under the Russian Flag*, as presented by Mr. Jack Haddon's company, is proving a strong attraction here this week. Ivan is admirably portrayed by Mr. Charles Stafford; the villainy of Michael is effectively shown by Mr. Jack Haddon; Mr. Edward Avinal plays Wolf Marischla with much power; as Captain Demetrius Mr. Sydney Arnold is very successful; Mr. Geo. Cecil Murray is a realistic General Romanoff; Mr. Templer Ellis is an amusing Alexis; and as Peter Mr. Hal Forde prove himself a popular comedian. Miss Marie Rayner acquits herself with great success as Luka Marischla; Vera is delightfully acted by Miss Violet Lytton; and as Ogarita Miss Molly Hackett is distinctly good.

SHEERNESS.—THE PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Phil Reymond.—Miss H. Gordon proves herself a gifted ballad vocalist; Mr. Will Thornhill is a clever musical comedian and instrumentalist; the Sisters Finlay are an attractive pair of duettists and dancers, who are loudly applauded. Mr. Phil Reymond still continues a big favourite; the Byrons, celebrated musical entertainers, create a furore with their act, "The Power of Music"; Miss Topsy Levane gains much applause for her excellent character songs and dances; and the Crown Sketch Company conclude with a screaming comedy, *Peace and Quietness*.

THE HIPPODROME.—General Manager, Mr. F. Leighton.—The Royal Tokio troupe of Japanese gymnasts gain tremendous applause for their remarkably clever balancing feats; Patelle, lightning cartoonist, wins approbation; Bert Rayner and Cissie Reece, in an amusing scene, *Early Closing Day*, are much appreciated; and Lizzie Warland, character comedian, pleases immensely. Other successful contributors include Ryder Davis, actor vocalist; Miss Amy Elvira, burlesque artist; and Eva Ward, comedienne. The usual display of pictures concludes the programme.

SHEFFIELD. — LYCEUM THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—Mr. Charles Frohman's company, including Miss Zena Dare, opened on Monday for two weeks in J. M. Barrie's delightful fantasy, *Peter Pan; or, The Boy Who Wouldn't Grow Up*.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—Mr. Fred Karno's popular company is here this week in the funny farcical absurdity, *His Majesty's Guests*. Mr. George Hester as Sergeant Lightning is brimful of quaint humour, and keeps the house in roars of laughter; Miss Isolora Castelle makes a graceful and vivacious Lady Maud Easem; Mr. Frank Morton as Lord Easem sings effectively; Mr. Charles Usher is good as Mr. Mivens; and all the other characters are well played. The "Burglar's Chorus" and the other songs are as popular as ever with the Royal patrons, and the piece is mounted in Mr. Karno's usual elaborate manner.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—*The Manxman* was acted to a large audience on Monday by a good company, headed by that clever actor, Mr. Alfred B. Cross, who again kept the attention of the house by his emotional ability and sustained dramatic power in the part of Pete; Miss Winnie Watersford made a pathetic and interesting Kate Cregeen; and other carefully-acted characters were the Cregeen of Mr. Frank Etheredge, the Philip of Mr. S. C. Kearns, and the Nancy of Miss Nelly Freeland. The drama was staged effectively.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—Mr. Sydney Bacon's company delighted a crowded house on Monday in the lively musical farce, *The Duchess of Tooting*, which proved entirely to the taste of the Sheffield public; Miss Lil Hawthorne, a great Empire favourite, sang three pretty songs with her wonted charm and refinement, and she was enthusiastically applauded; Barnard's Marionettes was an entertaining item of the programme; and other pleasing turns were Froebel and Ruge, agile aerial comedians; Edward R. Ford, the man with the "indiarubber face"; Sylvestre, a skilful magician; Miss Hettie Chatteli, the favourite burlesque actress; Miss Amy Russell, vocalist; the Celtic Comedy Trio; and the American Bioscope, with new and amusing pictures.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. David Warwick.—Miss Carlotta de Yonsen, Mr. C. A. Carlile, and company are appearing this week in *The Blue River*; and others engaged are the clever Alskarno Trio of acrobats, &c.; Mr. E. W. Selman, vocal comedian; Miss Ivy Gallard; Miss Lily Foy; Kenneth and Kane, in a novel act; Stuart and Evans, a smart duo; and Pallister, with his popular animated pictures.

SHREWSBURY. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Business-Manager, Mr. W. C. Dornton.—The stirring drama, *The Streets of London*, is here this week, admirably played by Mr. Eade Montefiore's company. Mr. William Rokeby is the life and soul of the piece as the irrepressible Badger; Mr. Riddel Robinson makes a capable villain as Gideon Bloodgood; Mr. Frank Bradley acts creditably as Mark Livingstone; Mr. Clifford Armitage merits praise as Captain Fairweather; Mr.

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, April 15,
the Musical Comedy, entitled
"THE BELLE OF MAYFAIR."

This popular musical play is excellently acted by Mr. Milton Bode's energetic company. The Earl of Mount Highgate is smartly represented by Mr. Haddon Cave; and the Hon. Raymond Finchley is very satisfactorily played by Mr. Edward Hugonnet. Extremely comical is Sir John Chaldicot, Bart., M.P., as represented by Mr. Harry Parker, a comedian of much resource; Hugh Meredith, a modern Mercutio, is dashingly rendered by Mr. Gwyn Alwyn, who rattles bravely through the part and sings very pleasantly; Mr. Laurie Lisle is good as the Comte de Perrier; and Mr. George McCloskie makes an excellent Dr. Marmaduke Lawrence. Captain Theobald is capably interpreted by Mr. Fred Brandon; Julia Chaldicot introduces a very talented young lady in the person of Miss Queenie Finnis, who acts brightly and winningly, and possesses a pleasing though not powerful voice. A fascinating Pincott, the maid, is Miss Veronica Brady, who soon makes herself a popular favourite; Miss Brady's dances evoke great enthusiasm. H.S.H. Princess Carl of Ehrenbreitstein is impersonated by Miss Agnes Tandy with genuine ability and tact; Miss Emily Stevens is an amusing Lady Chaldicot; and Lady Violet Gussop is tellingly undertaken by Miss May Harris; while Miss Leslie St. John acts prettily as the Countess of Mount Highgate. Miss Aurelie de Loriere is successful as Lady Rosaline Rockesey, and subsequently as the Gibson Girl obtains a perfect ovation for her capital song, "Why do they call me a Gibson Girl?" The chorus is both animated and good-looking, and the orchestra is well directed by Mr. T. M. Tunbridge. Costumes, scenery, and appointments are alike an effective display of colouring.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, April 15, the Drama, entitled
"THE SILVER KING."

The enterprising management of Holloway's popular playhouse have this week provided their patrons with a strong attraction in *The Silver King*, under the direction of Mr. G. M. Polini. The reputation of this delightful play is, of course, world-wide, and although most playgoers must have seen it, the Marlborough has been well filled throughout the week, and the verdict of the audiences has been unmistakably in its favour. The story has been followed with genuine interest, and the principal artists have been recalled at the close of each act. Mr. Austin Melford as Wilfred Denver depicts the various shades of character with a force and precision that merit emphatic eulogy; Mr. L. St. John Lowther is the cool and calculating Captain Skinner, "the Spider," to the life, and he has a distinct and incisive delivery. In Miss Daisy Scudamore, who appears as Nellie Denver, we have an artist who undoubtedly possesses considerable histrionic ability; her acting is characterised by an easy natural grace and an earnestness that favourably impress an audience, and she richly deserves the plaudits with which her efforts are received. Mr. E. J. George plays the part of Jaikes, and succeeds in investing it with a sympathetic interest that wins friends in all parts of the house; Mr. George Belmore ably impersonates the part of Henry Corkett; and Mr. A. H. Rooke lends valuable assistance in the carrying out of the plot as Geoffrey Ware. Praiseworthy efforts are made by Mr. Byron Pedley as Baxter, the detective, Mr. Leslie Parker as Landlord of the Wheatsheaf, Mr. Warris Linden as Cripps, and Mr. P. Redmayne as Frank Selwyn. Mr. Arthur Wright plays the rôle of the unscrupulous Elizah Coombe very cleverly, and achieves a well-deserved success. Mr. Wright is also responsible for the stage-management of the play. Mr. Henry Watts (Mr. Parkyn), Messrs. S. Bingham and S. Hatchway (Binks and Bronson), Mr. John Pollard (Gaffer Pollard), Mr. Walter Anderson (Tipsy Passenger), Mr. Chas. Grant (Railway Inspector), Miss Louie Hale (Tabitha Durden), Miss Bessie Wright (Susie), and Miss Mary Simpson (Mrs. Gamage), bring the welcome element of humour into their impersonations, and all materially contribute to the success of the play. Miss Viola Holland suggested tenderness and shrinking timidity in her rendering of "the Spider's" wife; and Miss Flossie Hale Davis cleverly depicts the part of the child Cissy Denver. Subordinate parts in an exceptionally long cast all receive most careful treatment, and the play is mounted with excellent taste. Mr. C. Elcock ably conducts the fine orchestra; and Mr. J. Murray Herriott still fulfils his duties in the front of the house with a pleasant courtesy.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, April 15, the Drama, entitled
"THE SPAN OF LIFE."

Mr. Robert Arthur is providing drama of the most exciting order for his patrons at the Camden this week, where Mr. Arthur Carlton's company is appearing in Sutton Vane's well-known play, *The Span of Life*, which is a never-failing attraction. The great scene is that in which the heroine and her child are saved by a human bridge thrown across a chasm, over which they escape. The human bridge is made by the Stebbing Brothers, very clever acrobats, and it is a very smart piece of work, which is loudly applauded. The characters in the play, too, are capably filled, notably that of Dunstan Leach, the villain, who is powerfully and cleverly handled by Mr. Sanderson Moffat. A vigorous and manly portrayal of the much-wronged Richard Blunt is provided by Mr. R. S. Trelawney, who undoubtedly makes a success in the rôle. Miss Guinevere Shelton gives a sympathetic rendering of Kate Heathcote; Miss Phyllis Hamilton is seen to advantage as Mrs. Jelf; and Miss Phyylis Graham, a clever young actress, displays her talents in the rôle of Cecil Jelf, and afterwards as Cecil Blunt. In the comic scenes Mr. Walter Dale causes much hilarity as Nutty Brown; and receives able support from Miss Kitty Russell, a smart Shrove Tuesday. Miss Russell sings a very pretty coon song, which is well received; and Mr. Dale scores heavily with a parody on songs of the "Good-bye" type. Mr. James Jarrett is responsible for the stage-management, and he also appears as Josua Garnet. During the evening the Stebbing Brothers give a display of their acrobatic feats, which are very heartily applauded.

CORONET THEATRE.

On Monday, April 15,
"LA FILLE DE MME. ANGOT."

M. René Debrenne's French opera-bouffe company opened the second week of its fortnight's tenancy of the Coronet Theatre with Lecocq's melodious opera, *La Fille de Mme. Angot*. The lilting melodies and catchy tunes are familiar as household words to the average playgoer, though apparently it is more difficult to give them a name, for Mons. Debrenne styles the pretty and popular air in the first act, sung by mère Angot (Amaranthe), as "couplets de la mére Angot," and Clairette's pretty song as "couplets politiques," and so on and so forth. Mlle. Henriette Delormes again proves herself a bright, engaging, and irrepressible comedienne as Clairette Angot, though personally we prefer her as a boy. Her various songs and duets are rendered with great spirit and charm, and she hits off the *sans gêne* manner to the life. Mlle. Göet undertakes the rôle of Mlle. Lange, and sings "Les couplets d'Augereau" exceedingly well, and in the taking duo "De maman papa," and in the quarrelling duet with Clariette, she is quite at her best. She enters thoroughly into the spirit of the part, and is full of animation. Mlle. Degoyon is very well suited in the part of the peasant woman Amaranthe, and sings her song in the first act with great *éclat*. Mons. Duncan is delightful in the rôle of the much-loved Ange Pitou, and although having a cold did full justice to the pretty vocal *morceaux* allotted him. MM. Ranté and Dumontier are very funny as the elderly *beau*, Larivaudiere and the amorous perruquier Pomponnet respectively, and their duo, "Du farinier and du charbonnier," in the last act creates much laughter. Mons. Merlin cuts a droll figure as the police agent, Louchard; and other small parts are capably rendered. M. Bonafons again conducts the orchestra, and Mr. Leachman assists Mr. Edward Lytton in the front of the house.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, April 15, the drama, entitled
"THE WORK GIRL."

Mr. J. M .East is providing a great attraction this week for Elephant and Castle theatre-goers when presenting the clever stock company in *The Work Girl*. An exceptionally strong cast, including Mr. George Conquest in his original part as Loo Genesis, score a complete success in this sensational drama. Miss Kathleen Russell must indeed be congratulated on an excellent portrayal of two rather trying parts. Firstly as the wife of Frank Belton and afterwards as his daughter Claire, Miss Russell, by her pathetic rendering, completely secures the sympathies of the audience. Mr. Albert Ward gives an earnest and convincing performance in the rôle of the gambler Frank Belton. Mr. W. H. Hatchman as the villainous Silas Sephton has no difficulty in securing the cordial hatred of all present. Mr. George Conquest as the shrewd old Hebrew, Loo Genesis, keeps the audience in roars of laughter whenever he is on the stage. A really clever character is supplied by Mr. Wm. Felton as Keeley Rendale. He obtains rounds of applause for his rendering of the much broken-down bookmaker. The callous Evelyn Sephton is convincingly played by Miss Lindsay Fincham. Mr. Fred Morgan, as the Hon. Edgar Drayton, and Mr. Harry Royce, as Tom Courtney, fill their respective parts with much credit. Much excellent work is done by Mr. W. P. Sheen in the rôle of the coster. He is ably assisted by Miss Eva Reed as Jenny Wibbles. Mr. Frank Harrison is effective at Watty Wibbles. Mr. Henry St. George causes much merriment as Bloggs, a servant. Miss Annie Travers does good work as the hypocritical Mme. La Marshe. Other characters are most capably handled. The staging of the piece is on a very elaborate scale, the greatest attention to detail being evident throughout. A picturesque and very realistic scene is that of the "Red Lion" at Tooting, where bookmakers, costers, and other folk are seen returning from the Derby in donkey chaises, dog-carts, and other conveyanges. The orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Albert A. Forshaw, does good work throughout the evening, both with the incidental music and during the intervals.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, April 15, the comedy entitled
"THE LITTLE STRANGER."

"One of the most laughable comedies of the day," was the verdict of the large audience which assembled at the Kennington Theatre on Monday to welcome the appearance of *The Little Stranger*. The central figure of the piece is, of course, Mr. Edward Garrett, the famous boy actor, who takes the dual part of the Baby and Tom Pennyman. Every action, speech, and mannerism of this pocket edition comedian sends the house into roars of merriment, and the contrast between his baby face and knowing manner is in itself a study in humour. He may well be described as the infant prodigy. A great deal of fun is caused by Mr. Stanley Lathbury, as General Allenby, and Mr. Hubert Druce as Sir George Peacock, the controversy between the two grandfathers appealing especially to the risible faculties of the onlookers. Miss Mary Stuart, as Mrs. Allenby, and Miss Alice Clayton Greene, as Lady Peacock, enact their respective parts with considerable skill. Mr. Charles Steuart makes an affectionate father as Captain Dick Allenby, being endowed with marked histrionic abilities. The character of the unfortunate convert to spiritualism, Mrs. Dick Allenby, is admirably presented by Miss Dora Hole. Mr. Charles Hanbury as Alec Howard, who figures so prominently in Mr. Morton's story, sustains the interest of the audience throughout. Paul Vronsky, the Russian President of the Soul Hunters' Association, is impersonated with great dramatic force by Mr. Charles A. Doran, who casts quite a glamour of mysticism over the scene. Mr. Fred Epitaux gives a noteworthy representation of Eames, looking the respectable butler to the life. The difficult part of the nurse was ably supported by Miss Louie Tinsley, while Miss Christine Rayner was a charming and attractive Effie Peacock. The setting of the piece is fully up to the Kennington standard. Mr. Charles Steuart, who is responsible for the production of *The Little Stranger*, having brought with him the entire scenery and effects from the Criterion Theatre, where it was first presented. The orchestral music was both pretty and light, and Herman Finck's symphony between acts one and two, "In Toyland," was brightly rendered. As a curtain raiser there is a one act play of an amusing description, in which Miss Christine Rayner and Mr. Hubert Druce participate with great success.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, April 15, the Play, by Wilson Barrett, entitled
"THE SIGN OF THE CROSS."

Mr. William Greet's principal company, appearing this week at the Dalston Theatre in *The Sign of the Cross*, provide local theatre-goers with an opportunity of seeing a really fine production. As the two most prominent personages in the piece, Mr. Frank E. Petley as Marcus Superbus, Prefect of Rome, and Miss Marie Leonard as the gentle Mercia, naturally come in for a large share of attention. Mr. Petley provides a most dramatic sketch of the handsome young Prefect, while the very atmosphere of resignation, inspired by consistent faith, which pervades the character of Mercia renders the part most interesting. Mr. C. Yorke's Nero serves to provide a sufficiently telling portrait of the suspicious and cruel tyrant. Mr. Charles Aldred as Tigellinus (counsellor to Nero), Mr. J. Wetherall as Licinius, Mr. Frank Wood, Mr. Harry Jones, and Miss Gertrude Price and Miss Cissie Carlton as patricians, Mr. Walter Fleet as Favius, Mr. Clifton Yates as Titus, Mr. R. Chapman as Melos, and Miss Dulcie Greatwich as Stephanus help to sustain the general interest. Miss Mary Newcombe as Poppœa, Empress of Rome, does not miss opportunities for the exercise of the dignity duly befitting the part. As the two spies, Servillus and Strabo, Mr. H. Thurston-Harris and Mr. Tom Lloyd succeed in making themselves just sufficiently objectionable, and the first-named also undertakes the responsible duties of stage-management. The cast also includes Mr. Tom Cook, Mr. J. Newman, Mr. H. Roose, the Misses Lily Ward, Pauline Emeric, Nellie Burn, Beatrice Felstead, Adelaide Clifton, Ethel Warde, Edith Drayson, Gladys Gordon, and Freda St. Clair.

THE STANDARD.

On Monday, April 15, the Drama, entitled
"HER FATAL PAST."

A decided attraction is found here in *Her Fatal Past*, and good houses have been the rule during this week. The play is one of an intensely exciting nature, and is of absorbing interest throughout. The members of the capable company employed in the representation do full justice to their respective rôles. A manly and forcible delineation of Mark Desmond is supplied in Mr. Ronald Adair, whose elocutionary efforts are of a high order, and whose acting generally is deserving of high praise. Mr. E. Howard Templeton contributes a pleasing performance as Leonard Fernside, and does all that is possible to insure the success of his interpretation. Mr J. C. Aubrey powerfully portrays Gilbert Fernside, and plays throughout with much vigour and skill. The lighter portions of the drama receive suitable treatment at the hands of Mr. E. Harvey White, who supplies a characteristic impersonation of Jonathan Buckstone Nobbs, and Mr. Jack Denton, who ably portrays Dicky Bird. Little Miss Elsie Jessard, a clever child actress, is very successful as Little Leonard, and thoroughly establishes herself a favourite. Mr. H. H. Barrington does well as Reuben Treadaway; and Mr. Jack Anderson is all that could be desired as Constable Smithers. Miss Lena Delphine is a bright and captivating Kitty Sprigwell; Miss Maggie Lindsay ably delineates Martha Sprigwell; and the part of Sal Jenkins is well taken by Miss Laura Coombs. Miss Nell Oliver plays with considerable ability as Ruth Fernside; and Miss Grace Lester creates a powerful impression as Bella de Lara, a "woman of pleasure." Every praise is due to Miss Maude Stewart Drewry, who is earnest and impressive in the highest degree, for her touching portrayal of Honor Symes. Some really pretty scenery is employed in this production, the most effective set being the old mill and Brackenhurst Weir, with realistic sunset and storm effects. Mr. H. A. Chappell, the acting-manager here, has been away for some time owing to illness, but we hope soon to see him back at his post completely restored to health and strength.

THE BRIXTON.

On Monday, April 15, the play entitled
"DAVID GARRICK."

The promise of prosperity given at the opening of Mr. R. W. Allum's administration of this comfortable and well-appointed theatre was well borne out when on Monday a large and appreciative audience assembled. A powerful attraction for this week is provided in *David Garrick*, one of Sir Charles Wyndham's Criterion successes. An excellent company, headed by Mr. Walter Maclean, was completely successful, notwithstanding that on Monday night Mr. George de Lara was unable to appear owing to indisposition. His part, that of Squire Chevy, was taken at short notice by Mr. Alfred J. May, who throughout very ably sustained the character. A fine conception of David Garrick is presented by Mr. Walter Maclean. He fully realises the part of the great actor, who, in obedience to the call of honour, fulfils his promise, even though, when too late, he discovers the sacrifice he has to make. Miss Eveleen Mills as Ada Ingot, the daughter of the doting old city merchant, captivates the audience at first by the pretty arch way in which she coaxes her old father, whilst later, in the more serious scenes with her hero actor, she completely claims the sympathies of all. One of the most finished performances of the evening is that of Mr. T. J. Forde's Simon Ingot. He very cleverly portrays the prejudices of the old City merchant against the stage. His struggle against pride and prejudice is indeed cleverly depicted. Mr. Sydney Burt, as the hysterical young man, Mr. Smith, is quite effective. Mr. Browne is carefully played by Mr. A. Brown; whilst as Mr. Jones, Mr. C. L. Brocknor is well placed. Miss May Conrade as Mrs. Smith and Miss Lilly Edwards as Miss Araminta Browne make the most of their parts. Included in the cast are Mr. W. Bishop as Thomas, a servant, and Mr. G. James as Garrick's servant. *My Friend Jarlet*, a romantic play in one act, precedes the piece of the evening. In this Mr. Walter Maclean and Miss Eveleen Mills are seen to advantage. Mr. Gerald James is business manager and Mr. W. Bishop stage manager for Mr. Walter Maclean .

GRAND, FULHAM.

On Monday, April 15, the Play, entitled
"HIS HOUSE IN ORDER."

Last week's attraction at the Fulham is worthily succeeded by Mr. Pinero's very fine play, *His House in Order*. The company has been selected and rehearsed by Mr. George Alexander, so that we have an almost exact facsimile of the London representation. The part of Hilary Jesson created by Mr. Alexander finds an excellent representative in Mr. Frank Fenton. He gave a finished study of the sympathetic, kind-hearted man of the world, whose detached position enables him to take an unprejudiced view of the situation, and whose tact enables him in reality to set the much-troubled house in order. Although there is a good deal of "preaching" in the part, Mr. Fenton is such a good elocutionist, and his manner is so sympathetic, that one could listen to very much more. He plays very finely indeed in the famous scene concerning the compromising letters. Mr. Cyril Harcourt was successful in showing the amiable but weak-minded Filmer Jesson, dominated by his appalling relatives, and the child Derek was excellently played by Miss Maisie Richardson. Mr. George Fitzgerald as Sir Daniel Ridgeley and Mr. George Silver as Pryce Ridgeley made one realise to an extent which was almost painful the narrow-mindedness and bigotry of these good people. Nor were Mrs. Kemmis as Lady Ridgeley and Miss Audrey Campbell as Geraldine in any way inferior to their male associates in the manner in which they portrayed those terrible females. Mr. Lloyd Lowndes was good as Major Maurewarde, and showed to advantage, especially in the powerful situation at his departure. Mr. A. E. Benedict gave a vigorous sketch of the fussy Mayor, Dr. Dilnott, and make the most of the part. Mr. Reg. Besant and Mr. Cyril Cattley filled the parts of Harding and Forshaw respectively with satisfaction. Miss Lilli Kehr was amusing and interesting as the French Governess, Mlle. Thomé. On the slight shoulders of Miss Auriol Lee hangs the burden of a part as heavy as any in the play. In all the varying moods required she acquitted herself superbly, and showed great dramatic power, well deserving the enthusiastic applause she obtained. The play is, of course, admirably mounted and stage-managed, and the whole performance is one of unusual merit.

THE BROADWAY.

On Monday, April 15, the Comic Opera, entitled
"AMASIS."

This gorgeous production is doing great business at the handsome house on Deptford Broadway, and one of the greatest points of interest is the appearance of the popular lessee, Mr. Louis Calvert, who is seen here for the first time in a comedy part, though his memorable appearances as Othello and Shylock made a great and lasting impression on the frequenters of this theatre. Mr. Calvert has shown his versatility by his capital rendering of such a different part as that of Pharaoh, which he acted with all the lightness and humour inseparable from successful comic opera. It was a thoroughly artistic and enjoyable performance, and in keeping with the entire production. Chief among Mr. Calvert's clever company is Miss Constance Drever, whose delightful impersonation of Princess Amasis charms everyone, and her singing of the various pretty numbers allotted to the part is all that could be desired. Miss Madge Vincent is a dainty and vivacious Natis; Miss Winifred Hart Dyke contributes a graceful and cleverly-executed dance in the second act, which is warmly applauded; Miss Emmie Santer is good as Anna; the same remark applies to Miss Muriel Seymour Hodges as Oeresa, and Miss Winnie O'Connor as Kassa. Other ladies appearing are Mesdames Dorothy Aylmer and Daisy Stafford (fanbearers to Pharaoh), Avice Scholtz (Atossa), Daisy Nunn (Ladice), Ethel Graham (Klies), Nellie Moore (Tachot), Winifred Macey (Rhodopis), Paula St. Clair (Nitetis), and Mildred Fincham (Aries), who are successful in their various parts. Mr. Roland Cunningham is a warm favourite with the audience, his fine appearance and manly bearing being exactly suited to the character of brave Prince Anhotep, and his singing is excellent; Mr. Whitworth Mitton as Cheiro does all that is possible with the part, and his rendering of "I prayed for life" is very good; Mr. Norman Salmond is a grimly humorous High Priest, Webenchari; Mr. Reginald White's rendering of Ptolemy is a remarkable piece of character acting, which is thoroughly appreciated by the audience; Mr. Lauri de Freece is most amusing as Sebak; Mr. Frank Perfitt's striking personality and excellent acting as Psamtik are of great value to the performance; Mr. George F. Mackarness is good as Zopyrus; Mr. Walter Brodie is amusing as the Town Crier; and Mr. Alfred Swinhoe as the Second Priest plays well. The scenery is picturesque and appropriate, and the dresses costly and beautiful. The chorus is satisfactory, and the large and admirably directed orchestra does full justice to the charming music of the opera.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, April 15, the Comedy-Drama entitled
"HEARTS ADRIFT."

Good audiences have been attracted to the Crown during the present week to welcome the return visit of the above interesting and moving American piece. Mr. Frank Bertram's principal company give a most acceptable rendering of the play. That favourite actor, Mr. Henry Bedford, has an important rôle as the old mariner, Captain Teddy, a man with a past, and the sincerity and force of his acting arouse the house to much enthusiasm. Miss Irene Ross, who acted cleverly as a waif in the Peckham pantomime, is very pathetic as the crippled newsboy, Little Tim; and Miss Nellie Clyde makes a winsome and touching heroine as the flower girl, Rosie. Miss Gertrude Harrison acts with dramatic force as Julia Lane; Mr. Cecil Klein is a sincere and gallant young lover as Robert Darney; Mr. Fred Terriss scores well as the rascally company promoter, Edmund Gerue; and Mr. William Holles, with a very clever make-up, contributes a most able character-sketch as Pidgeon. Mr. R. Gwyn-Richardson does all that is possible as the broker, John Lane; and Mr. Brian Daly causes much amusement as the stuttering simpleton, Simeon Green. Miss Beatrix A. Bell is very humorous as the pugilistic Bowery girl, Energy Muggs; and Miss Marion Walker is appropriately repulsive as the old hag, Mother Haggslow. The scenery and effects are first-class, and special mention should be made of the excellently-contrived flight of the airship in the third act.

THE PRINCE'S, POPLAR.

On Monday, April 15, the Play, in Fourt Acts, by Thomas Raceward, entitled
"SUNDAY."

A welcome addition to modern drama is Thomas Raceward's *Sunday*, which this week is paying a most opportune visit here under the direction of Mr. Louis Calvert. It is a play well calculated to please the patrons of the handsome Prince's, Poplar, containing, as it does, much homely humour and sentiment, and it receives admirable treatment at the hands of a hard-working company, which on Monday night had a most hearty reception from an audience that filled the theatre. As the impetuous, lovable Sunday, Miss Emélie Polini scored a conspicuous success, being refreshingly natural throughout, and making the most of a part that offered many opportunities. She is responsible for pretty touches of pathos combined with moments of power. A calm and deliberate Colonel Brinthorpe was found in Mr. Leonard Pagden, whose efforts met with well-deserved recognition; Mr. Pagden carried through the Colonel's declaration of love for Sunday with remarkably good effect; Mr. Ernest A. Douglas acted with ability and conviction as the genial Tom Oxley; Mr. Max Montesole was responsible for a satisfactory impersonation of the dishonourable and callous Arthur Brinthorpe; and very commendable was the forcible delineation of Towzer by Mr. William Lockhart. A particularly interesting character-sketch of Lively was presented by Mr. Cecil Yapp; Mr. Sidney Rennef was really excellent as Davy; and Jacky found a capable and manly exponent in Mr. Arthur Vezin. Miss Rosalind Ross displayed earnestness in her work as Mrs. Naresby; and Miss Muriel Pope invested the part of the Nun with considerable charm, Mr. Ernest Harrison being a careful Abbot.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.

On Monday, April 15, the Musical Comedy entitled
"THE GAY PARISIENNE."

Mr. Chas. Macdona's company has played to full houses here this week, and scored a complete success with this amusing musical comedy, and although it has been before the public for many seasons, it went as well as ever, and was skilfully brought up to date by the introduction of new songs and business. Mr. William Harman as Ebenezer Honeycombe, the peccant spouse, was most amusing, and caused much merriment. The gallant volunteer, Major Fossdyke, fitted Mr. Squire May to a nicety, and his two songs were well rendered. Miss Holford Beringer gave an incisive rendering of Mrs. Honeycombe, her only solo song being heartily encored. Norah, the heroine, was played by Miss Nance O'Neill in a rather subdued key; her vocalisation is excellent. The broad humours of Ruth, the diminutive domestic, were fully brought out by Miss Madge Soutter, the song of the piece, "Sister Mary Jane's top-note," going as well as ever. Miss Lilian Talbot made a great hit as Julie Bon Bon, being full of vivacity and movement, and she obtained full recognition for her really clever impersonation. Gustave Pompier, Julie's companion in duplicity, gave Mr. Clifford Seyler just the opportunity required for the display of his talents and experience. Mr. Philip Moore as Tom Everleigh, the suitor for the hand of Norah, acted well, and his songs secured a good reception; Mr. Leslie Waller's Algernon P. Dulcie was commendable; and Mr. J. Fitz-James as Hans, the German hotel-keeper, used his fine voice to advantage in some glees, with Mr. Ted Dennis (Fritz), Mr. Richard Rose (a gendarme), and Mr. Philip Moore. The four charming daughters of Major Fossdyke were played by Mesdames E. McHardy, Kathkeen O'Malley, Gertrude Davies, and Lucie Donati, who looked well in their cycling and mountaineering costumes. Mr. Cecil Lawrence introduced a clever whistling medley in the second act, showing that it is possible to be conversational and intelligible without words. Mr. Seyler sang a new song, by Frederic Norton, entitled "Gertie on the go, go," with a full chorus, and established it as a welcome addition to the piece.

THE TERRISS.

On Monday, April 15, the Play entitled
"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."

The attraction here this week is Mr. Walter Melville's popular drama, *A Girl's Cross Roads*, which has already been several years on tour, and has thus given evidence of its enduring popularity. Mr. Melville's company gives a capital rendering of the piece, which it is calculated has already been witnessed by over a million persons. That accomplished actress, Miss Hilda Beverley, gives a superb rendering of the rôle of the unhappy dipsomaniacal Barbara Wade, and her conception of the character is almost terrible in its grim reality; Mr. Charles Franmore gains great applause as the breezy, hearty old Yorkshire farmer, Jack Meadows, and his impersonation is in all respects a very fine one. Mr. Wilson Gunning plays with sincerity as Jack Livingstone, the unfortunate husband; and Mr. Fred Ingram is amusing as Toby Turvey. Mr. Cyril Vernon gives a life-like impersonation of the good-hearted Doctor Weston; and Miss Florence Zillwood shows to much advantage as the heartless, frivolous Nellie Meadows. Miss Mabel Scudmore acts with much tenderness and feeling as the young schoolmistress, Constance Cornell. Miss Fay Garnet Vayne is bright and amusing as Tilly Vane; Mr. Gerald Jordan plays with much cleverness as the villain, Cuthbert Lumley; and Luke Ramsden is effectively enacted by Mr. Fred Withers. The scenery is well up to the usual high standard at this popular South London theatre.

GRAND THEATRE, ISLINGTON.

On Monday, April 15, the Drama, entitled
"THE FACE AT THE WINDOW."

For the current week's attraction at this theatre Messrs. W. and F. Melville have selected Mr. F. Brooke Warren's well-known drama, and very good audiences are evincing an interest in the production. The company entrusted with the performance is headed by Mr. Ashley Page and Miss Marion Denvil, whose admirers in the neighbourhood are legion. Mr. Page as Paul Gouffet is responsible for a good and effective rendering, his acting being characterised by ease and conviction. Mr. Weldon Atherstone as Delgado portrays that sinister individual in the approved manner, and is very successful. Mr. Frank Woodville submits a sound performance in a small part. Mr. Edward Thane, whom we have not seen here for a long time, is clever as Cortier, his portrayal of the unfortunate bank clerk being distinctly good. Mr. Johnny Chippendale as Portlebury contributes some very welcome comedy relief, in which he has the support of Miss Mattie Everett, their joint efforts being much appreciated. Mr. Tom Taylor as Le Blanc, the mad doctor, presents a clever character-sketch of great merit, and Mr. John Sargent is to be commended as Barbelos. Miss East Robertson as La Pinau gives a capital performance, acting with power; and Miss Marion Denvil as Marie is altogether admirable. The mounting is on a lavish scale, the last scene of the drama being exceptionally well done.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, April 15, the drama entitled,
"AT DUTY'S CALL."

Dramas of a military type are always sure of a hearty welcome in Marylebone, so consequently Mr. John Gerant and his company have been received with much favour at Mr. William Bailey's comfortable theatre. As the designing Anglo-Egyptian plotter, Harold Allison, Mr. John Gerant infused plenty of vigour and determination into his work, and scored accordingly. Mr. Harry Scott was clear and decisive as Captain George Allison, his methods being admirable; Mr. Ernest St. John cut a lonely, pathetic figure as the ever alert and watchful hero of Khartoum, General Gordon; Mr. Frank G. Kent worked with wondrous agility and vim as Jack Spencer; and Mr. Harry Ugar was no less successful as the Hibernian humorist, Teddy O'Halloran; Miss Jeannie Weston's embodiment of Salema was a decidedly creditable one; Miss Harlington was bright and cheery as Mary, and Miss Lily Crammonde sustained Dora Drummond with much grace and charm, speaking her lines with womanly tenderness and pathos.

THE SHAKESPEARE, CLAPHAM.

On Monday, April 15, the Drama, entitled
"WOMAN AND WINE."

Miss Mary Austin and Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds's company is appearing this week in the above well-known play, in which a great success is achieved by a bright and spirited performance. Miss Cissie St. Elmo acts with power and effect as Marcel Rigadout; Miss Violet Sims plays with much skill as Mary Andrews; Miss Joan Pereira gives a vivid performance of La Colombe. The realism of her acting hold the audience with rapt attention; and Miss Ethel Vinroy makes a charming young widow of Janet Marlow. Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds is worthy of considerable praise for the passion and feeling he infuses into his part as Dick Seymour, a student; Mr. George S. Lester is exceedingly clever in the part of Pierre Crucru. Messrs. John S. Haydon, Charles Wilton, and Samuel Hilton play their parts artistically; and the remaining characters are exceedingly well represented.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, April 15, the Comedy entitled
"THE FREEDOM OF SUZANNE."

Miss Mabel Love made a reappearance at the Royal County Theatre, Kingston, on Monday and during the week in this charming production, and received a hearty welcome from those who had the pleasure of seeing her on the occasion of her former visits. Her impersonation of the central figure in the comedy, Suzanne, was admirable, and did not fail to win the approval of the house. The part of Charles Trevor was in the hands of Mr. Templar Powell, who gave a good account of himself in the part. Miss Annie Halman acquitted herself well as Lady Charlotte Trevor; and satisfactory delineations of their respective parts were also given by Miss Florence Harwood, Miss Violet Ley, Miss Dorothy Lart, Mrs. F. Turner, Mr. E. Eder, Mr. F. G. Thurstoms, Mr. Gerald Alexander, Mr. J. Hastings Batson, Mr. Townsend Whitling, Mr. Richard Neville, Mr. Montgomery, and Mr. F. Pritchard. The play, which was brought to Kingston under the direction of Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison, was admirably presented, and was well received.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, April 15, the Drama, entitled
"THE SOLDIER'S WEDDING."

The first visit to Stratford of Mr. Walter Melville's latest drama, *The Soldier's Wedding*, is proving a welcome attraction to the patrons of the popular parts of the commodious Borough Theatre this week. The piece has less of the sensational element than characterises others of the same author's productions, relying for success on a story of strong domestic interest most picturesquely mounted, with, naturally, a decided military flavour permeating its course. Mr. Wingold Lawrence makes a bold and dashing Jack Brown, looking extremely smart in his well-fitting uniform, and his easy and fluent style make him a very popular hero. Mr. Beresford Whitcomb is a dignified and soldierly Colonel Graham; and Mr. Raymond Wood submits an incisive portraiture of the scheming Charles Courtney. Mr. A. Gamoier Melford supplies an able and amusing sketch of Tommy Spratt; and Mr. Frederick Biron makes the most of his opportunities as David Munroe. A pretty and engaging heroine is found in Miss Jessie Winter, as Nancy Lee, and she is deservedly a favourite, being charming and vicacious, tender and sympathetic as occasion requires, and her acting quite raises the part above the ordinary. Miss Georgie de Lara handles the part of Peggie Munroe with considerable tact and skill; and Miss Marie Macaulay, in the rather difficult rôle of Julie de Beauvais, contributes a finished performance, despite the handicap of playing an "accent" part. Miss Ettie Carlisle is a bright and entertaining Lizzie Walker; and Miss Maggie Burton is well placed as Miss Hatherton. Mr. D. J. Hennessey makes a satisfactory John Marks; and Mr. Fred Yarnold depicts an old farmer very successfully. The remaining parts are all intelligently and carefully played.

CRICKET.

HARRY HARE'S XI. v. JACK LEONARD'S XI.

Played on Clifton Downs on April 1. J. Leonard batted and bowled well for the winners. Scores:—

HARRY HARE'S XI.—A. Hamlin, b Leonard, 4; A. E. Bailey, b Leonard, 13; H. Hare (captain), b Leonard, 2; J. Aubrey, b Reardon, 19; H. Edwards, c Nicholls, b Reardon, 0; H. Belding, b Leonard, 5; P. Hewlett, b Leonard, 0; J. Lewis, b Leonard, 0; C. Howard, b Leonard, 3; E. Bowman, b Leonard, 0; S. Carter, not out, 8. Extras, 11. Total, 65.

JACK LEONARD'S XI.—Miss Gracie Leonard, b Hare, 0; Miss Minnie Leonard, b Belding, 9; P. Reardon, b Belding, 14; M. Leonard, b Hare, 23; B. Green, b Hare, 0; J. Leonard, c and b Belding, 44; A. Cox, b Belding, 0; F. B. Nicholls, b Hare, 5; D. O'Connor, not out, 22. Extras, 6. Total (for eight wickets), 113.

ACTORS' UNION MEETINGS.

LONDON.

At the meeting of the Actors' Union which was held at 3, Bedford-street, on Tuesday, the chair was taken by Mr. Arthur Bawtree, and present were Miss Gladys Ffolliott, Miss Mary Bissell, Miss Agnes Paulton, Miss Beatrice Lloyd, Miss Mabel Syringa, Mr. Cecil Raleigh, Mr. Chas. Sugden, Mr. Robson Paige, Mr. Rawson Buckley, Mr. E. Y. Rae, Mr. Edward S. Petley, Mr. Chas. Aldred, Mr. F. Chamier, Mr. Robt. Taylor, Mr. H. Tripp Edgar, Mr. G. W. Reynolds, Mr. Harry Paulton, jun., Mr. Harry Paulton, Mr. Orlando Barnett, Mr. Fred Bentley, Mr. Wilfred Shine, Miss Violet Chamier, Mr. E. S. Petley, Mr. Elliott, Miss Raymond, Mr. H. Pritchard, Mr. E. Story Gofton, Mr. E. Howard Templeton, and Mr. Oswald Marshall (Hon. Sec.).

The CHAIRMAN called attention to the two meetings which had been held at Manchester and Glasgow, and asked Mr. Robson Paige to read the report of the latter.

Mr. ROBSON PAIGE, before he read the report, pointed out what could be done by a postcard. The Committee had been looking for Mr. Hamilton Deane's address for some time; but Mr. Paige found it, and dropped Mr. Deane a postcard, inviting him to join. Not only had he joined, but he had been the means of inducing 48 others to do so within a fortnight. Mr. Paige hoped all interested would write postcards to their friends inviting them to join. He thought the fact of 48 members having been obtained from an attendance of 53 spoke for itself.

Mr. CECIL RALEIGH said he would work heart and soul for the Union until the A.U. showed him the door. He mentioned a letter he had received from an actor in the country, who was engaged at a salary of £1 10s. per week in a recognised drama. After he had paid his fare, spent £1 10s. on his wardrobe, and played for two weeks, the manager came to him and said that he was quite willing to run on if he would accept £1 per week, and at the end of the run any profits to be so divided as to ensure his salary being as near £1 10s. as possible. The theatre managers and touring managers organised secretly: why should not the actors? Mr. Raleigh concluded by appealing to the profession, through those present, to join the Union.

Mr. CHAS. SUGDEN said although he knew that some such body as the Actors' Union was required and had been needed for years, he went to the meeting at Glasgow with the idea that the latest effort would go the way of its predecessors and fall to the ground. He was so much struck with the prevailing enthusiasm and the businesslike way in which the meeting was carried through that he joined at once.

Mr. HARRY PAULTON endorsed all that Mr. Raleigh had said, and he hoped all concerned would do their level best to keep the Actors' Union on a solid foundation.

Miss GLADYS FFOLLIOTT said if possible they should become an Affiliated Trades Union.

On Mr. ROBSON PAIGE'S proposition a vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Hamilton Deane for his efforts in Glasgow. He (Mr. Paige) thought Mr. Deane had made a very fine speech.

The meeting of the Reform party of the A.A., which was held at 3, Bedford-street, Strand, on Sunday evening, the chair being occupied by Mr. Frederick Moriand, was chiefly formal. Among those present were Misses Wynne Matthison, Claire Greet, Rosamund Mayne Young, Winifred Mayo, Agnes Thomas, Beatrice Chester, Beatrice Mervyn, Beatrice and Amy de Burgh, and Messrs. Lewis Casson, Kenyon Musgrave, Arthur Morris, Athol Forde, C. F. Collings, and Charles Caffrey. The propositions which are to be put before the Council at the general meeting on May 6 next were discussed.

The following are the Provincial Agencies appointed by the Actors' Union, where meetings in future will be held every Tuesday.

ABERDEEN.—The Bon Accord, 17 and 19, Market-street.
ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—White Hart Hotel.
BARNSLEY.—Three Cranes Hotel.
BATH.—Seven Dials Hotel.
BIRMINGHAM.—White Lion Hotel.
BOSCOMBE.—The Salisbury Hotel.
BOLTON.—Golden Lion Hotel.
BLACKBURN.—Bay Horse Hotel.
BLACKPOOL.—Adelphi Hotel.
BRADFORD.—Alexandra Hotel.
BRIGHTON.—Lord Nelson.
BURY.—Knowsley Hotel.
CARDIFF.—The Tivoli, Queen-street.
DUNDEE.—The George Bar.
GLASGOW.—Palace Restaurant, Renfield-street.
HASTINGS.—Central Hotel.
HULL.—Wheatsheaf Hotel.
LEEDS.—Mitre Hotel.
LONDON.—49, Bedford-street, Strand.
MANCHESTER.—Salisbury Hotel, Oxford-road.
NOTTINGHAM.—Three Crown Inn, Parliament-street.
PORTSMOUTH.—Judd's Railway Hotel.
SHEFFIELD.—Three Horse Shoes, Norfolk-street.
SOUTHAMPTON.—The Sussex Hotel, 86 and 88, Above Bar.

GLASGOW.

At the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, on the 12th inst. a meeting was held to discuss the working of the Actors' Union. Amongst those present were Mr. Hamilton Deane, Miss Bessie Rignold, Mr. Paul Belmore, Mr. Bernard Hishin, Miss Violet Thorold, Miss Ethel Russell, Mr. H. Armitage, Mr. H. Morgan, Mr. Campbell Goldsmid, Miss Florence Dulhunty, Mr. Greene Taylor, Mr. C. Pope, Mr. Edward Beecher, Mr. Stanley Field, Mr. Douglas Payne, Mr. Edwin Palmer, Miss Lilian Stafford, Mr. Dare Austin, Mr. Mark Lester, Mr. Frank M. Cross, Mr. Richard Sullivan, Mr. Geoffrey Saville, Mr. Frederick Lloyd, Miss Florence Creagh, Mr. Valentine Henry, Mr. E. St. Clair Forbes, Mr. Arthur Stratton, Miss Alice Marsden, Miss Lilian Clare Cassidy, Mr. J. W. Stewart, Mr. Carl Rovinelli, Miss Lily Cuthbertson, Mr. Jo. Cuthbertson, Mr. Frank Copeland, Mr. Charles Sugden, Mrs. Charles Sugden, Mr. Harry Courtin, Mr. William S. Palmer, Mr. Herbert Bentone, Mr. Arthur Poole, Mr. Harry Glenney, Mr. Joseph B. Montague, Mrs. Montague, Mr. Russell Wallett, Mr. Frederick Sandy, Mrs. F. Sandy, Mr. Frederick Clive, Mr. Martin H. More, and Mr. Geo. Mitchell.

Mr. EDWARD BEECHER proposed Mr. Hamilton Deane as Chairman. This was seconded by Mr. H. ARMITAGE. Mr. Deane read telegrams and letters received from Mr. Harry Paulton, Mr. Robson Paige, Mr. Lennox Pawle, Mr. Wilfred E. Shine, Miss Anna Hickish, and Miss Madge Devereux, and others.

In the course of his opening speech, Mr. DEANE said:—Surely you all must realise in these days of syndicates and managerial associations the crying need of some definite union amongst us actors and actresses, without whom neither syndicates nor associated managers can exist. If, therefore, you recognise this need, and fully realise that some day there must be a federation or union amongst us, all-embracing and self-supporting, let me ask you not to place obstacles in the way of this toddling child, but to give it a leg-up and help it on its way. The Actors' Union is now an accomplished fact, not a visionary idea, and it only needs the co-operation of the masses to make it an operating force, the like of which has never before existed in our profession.

Mr. RUSSELL WALLETT, a member of the executive committee of the V.A.F., assured his hearers that in these days of trusts and syndicates, a union of actors founded on the lines proposed was the only safeguard for the masses of the dramatic profession. He wound up by wishing the Actors' Union, on behalf of himself and the executive committee of the V.A.F., all possible success.

The CHAIRMAN then read the rules of the Actors' Union, which have been prepared by the Provisional Committee. They were as follows:—

1. The title of this body is to be the Actors' Union.

2. That this Union is being formed for the object of safeguarding the interest and welfare of all those who earn their living by acting or singing in Musical or Dramatic Plays.

3. The Union will be governed and developed on strictly democratic lines—by Actors, for Actors.

4. Qualifications for membership: That all entering the profession can be admitted as probationary members, but no one to be allowed to vote or sit on the Council under five years' actual experience on the stage, or five years' membership of the Union. That each candidate for election shall be proposed by one and seconded by two Fellows of the Union, who, from personal knowledge, can vouch that, in their opinion, the candidate is professionally and socially fit for membership.

5. That the entrance fee be 2s. 6d., and a subscription of 6d. per week to be paid for forty weeks of the year. Members to be in full benefit must not allow their weekly subscriptions to fall in arrears. Those who are desirous of doing so can pay their subscriptions quarterly 5s., half-yearly 10s., or annually 20s.

6. That any member of the Union becoming a manager or acting manager shall, during the period of his management, forfeit his right to vote and cease to hold executive powers in the Union.

7. That the Union be governed by a Council of twenty-four Fellows annually elected, all being allowed to offer themselves for re-election.

8. That branches of the Union at the earliest date possible shall be formed in other centres such as are already forming in London and Manchester.

9. Members shall be known by a number, and each shall have a card to which special stamps issued by the Union shall be affixed, thus denoting their weekly payments.

The Objects of the Union are:—

1. To establish and maintain an honest living minimum salary.

2. To abolish the unfair competition of unpaid or premium-paying amateurs on the professional stage.

3. To insist on the decent and healthy structural condition of Theatres.

4. To found a Provident Fund, Loan Fund, and Old Age Pension Fund so soon as the Union is on a sound financial footing.

5. To give Free Legal Advice to all members.

6. To grant Free Legal Protection to all members.

7. To collect a levy of 6d. per member in the event of the death of any member, to defray the funeral expenses and assist the widow, widower, children, or next-of-kin.

8. To form an honourable, solid, and united body of Actresses and Actors whose decisions will be accepted with respect, and whose protests will be made with authority when directed towards the reform or abolition of any abuses that are detrimental to the interests of the Stage.

Mr. SINCLAIR FORBES wished to know how an actor would stand if in times of stress he were offered a salary below the minimum; would he have to refuse such a salary as a member of the Union, and, if so, would the Union keep him?

The CHAIRMAN said it rested with themselves as to what their rules and regulations in future would be. They would have the electing of their executive themselves.

Mr. VALENTINE HENRY stated that he believed a a minimum wage was necessary, but could small managers afford to pay such a minimum as £2, and if they were compelled to do so, would it not affect the salaries of the leading artists, which would naturally be cut to square accounts?

Mr. H. ARMITAGE replied that if the masses of the profession were loyal, and joined the Union, such a thing as a manager offering any artist less than £2 would become a matter of impossibility.

Mr. FRED LLOYD thought a £2 minimum was too high, and would be non-operative in the event of an artist signing for a vacation or summer tour, which managers sometimes risked in order to keep their artists together. A minimum of 30s. would meet the case.

Mr. GOLDSMID said the imposition of a £2 minimum salary would naturally enhance the prestige of the travelling company, and the travelling manager and resident managers who now offered the small companies "share after," or ridiculous percentages, such as 35 or 40 per cent., would be unable in future to do so. If the terms to the travelling manager went up slightly, the matter of the extra little on the salary list would be equalised.

Mr. EDWARD BEECHER, with reference to Rule 4, said the necessity of five years' experience to vote or sit on the Council was obvious. As to the portion of Clause 4 about being professionally and socially fitted to become a member, they were only applying a rule they would apply to any decent club. The rule was passed unanimously.

The question then arose as to what position an advance agent, carpenter, or acting-manager would hold, to which the Chairman replied that if he ceased to be an actor—or, in other words, if he became exclusively an agent or acting-manager—he would cease to have his vote or be able to sit upon the executive body.

The CHAIRMAN, in reading Rule 5, pointed out that they were only asked to subscribe 6d. per week for forty weeks in the year, allowing a margin of twelve weeks for illness or for being out of work This clause was passed unanimously.

Mr. RICHARD SULLIVAN said that he welcomed the Union in every way, and that, as it was a union of actors for actors, it was but right that managers should not have votes. Managers might find themselves asked by proprietors to do things that went against the grain, and which, as members of the Union, they should not do. This clause, therefore, was very welcome. He was entirely in favour of the movement.

The clause was carried unanimously.

When Rule 7, in which it is stated that the Union be governed by a Council of twenty-four Fellows, was considered, the question arose as to whether the provinces would be adequately represented.

The CHAIRMAN said it was proposed to make twelve representatives provincial and twelve London, and that the Fellows must be actors pure and simple.

The clause was unanimously passed, as were Rule 8, referring to weekly meetings, and Rule 9.

The CHAIRMAN then applied himself to the Objects of the Union.

Nos. 1, 2, and 3 were passed unanimously as soon as read.

Mr. EDWARD BEECHER opined that the idea of "old age pensions" was premature, and suggested that the question should be deferred.

Mr. GOLDSMID said in his opinion it should be pushed forward as rapidly as possible. There was no reason to defer it if the masses came into the Union.

Mr. H. ARMITAGE supported Mr. Goldsmid, and the clause was carried unanimously.

No. 5 Clause was explained by the Chairman, and passed.

Clause No. 6 was read and explained by the Chairman, who, in reply to an interrogatory stated that "protection" meant that the Union would take up the case of a member who was threatened with law proceedings, defraying the expenses of the process.

The clause was carried unanimously.

In answer to questions on Clause 7, the CHAIRMAN explained that the money raised on the death levy would in all probability be paid in advance from the head office, or at least enough to defray the immediate funeral expenses, and the remainder as it came in.

Clause 8 was passed unanimously.

The following artists signed a paper, promising to join the new Actors' Union:—A. Armitage, Harry Courtin, Lilian Clare Cassidy, Florence Creagh, Doris Lorraine, Alice Marsden, Arthur Stratton, Valentine Henry, Carl Rovinelli, J. W. Stewart, Edith Matt, Bessie Patience Rignold, Ethel Russell, Helen Sugden, Violet Thorold, Charles Sugden, E. St. Claire Forbes, Lilian Stafford, Greene-Taylor, Dare Austin, Joseph B. Montague, Harry Glenney, C. Pope, Richard Sullivan, Lilian Glen, Edward Shirley, Frederick Sandy, Frederick Clive, Frank Copeland, Frederick Lloyd, Mark Lester, G. Cuthbertson, Bernard Hishin, Florence Dulhunty, H. J. Morgan, Campbell Goldsmid, L. Ashton-Jarry, Paul Belmore, Florence Delman, Douglas Payne, Arthur Leigh, Frances Wolviston, Arthur Poole, Cecil Elgar, Julie Kennard, Hamilton Deane, and Edward Beecher.

MANCHESTER.

Mr. Ruddle Brown took the chair at a meeting of the Actors' Union which was held at the Salisbury Hotel, Manchester on Tuesday last. Amongst those present were Messrs. John B. Murray, Hugh Mewburn, Leonard Lawrence, Wm. Matthews, C. M. Buckland, Malcolm J. Cumming, C. L. Belcliffe, A. W. Norman, Henry Loraine, Misses Nita Langford, Georgie Trewman, Nellie Howitt, Teresa Haynes, and Bertha St. Ruth.

The CHAIRMAN having referred to the success of the Union meetings and the increase in membership,

Miss BERTHA ST. RUTH advocated a five years' qualification before artists could be enrolled as fellows, and a minimum salary of £2.

Mr. MALCOLM J. CUMMING asked whether an artist who joined the Union was expected to comply immediately with the £2 per week minimum rule.

Mr. J. B. MURRAY knew of cases where actors were compelled to accept less than £2 per week. The £2 minimum could not be effective until the Actors' Union had gained a strong membership.

Mr. LEONARD LAWRENCE suggested that when the Union was sufficiently strong enough to render itself assertive, then would be the time to insist on the minimum salary.

Mr. HUGH MEWBURN suggested the formation of a loan society in connection with the Union. Members in want of money to pay their railway fares, &c., should be able to obtain it from this source.

The CHAIRMAN said it was one of the items that would no doubt receive consideration.

Mr. L. LAWRENCE suggested that the entrance fee to the Union should be fixed at 2s. 6d. up to the end of the present year; that members joining during the following six months should pay 5s., while afterwards the fee should be raised to half a guinea.

The original resolution on being put to the vote was passed as a recommendation for the Provisional Committee to deal with.

At the special meeting of the members of the Actors' Association on May 6 resolutions will be proposed to amend the Articles of Association, with a view to keeping managers out of the Association. The principal resolution runs:—

"No manager shall be qualified to become president, vice-president, or member of the Association, and any such office-holder or member becoming a manager shall *ipso facto* vacate his office and be suspended from all privileges of membership so long as he shall remain a manager.

"The term manager is to be held to include all responsible managers of theatres or theatrical companies, and their general business and acting-managers."

If the motion is adopted it will mean the resignation of the following vice-presidents:—Miss Ellen Terry, Sir Charles Wyndham, Messrs. George Alexander, F. R. Benson, Arthur Bourchier, John Hare, H. B. Irving, Cyril Maude, Edward Terry, and H. Beerbohm Tree. The only vice-presidents unaffected are Messrs. A. W. Pinero and Lionel Brough. The resolution would also enforce the retirement of two councillors, Mr. Granville Barker and Mr. Brandon Thomas.

ROBERT GANTHONY IN MONTREAL.

CANADIAN CRITICISMS.

GANTHONY ENTERTAINS.

PROVES HIMSELF TO BE COMEDIAN OF HIGH ORDER.

The large and fashionable audience assembled at Stanley Hall last evening had the pleasure of enjoying one of the best entertainments that has been seen in Montreal for months.—*The Gazette.*

GANTHONY ENTERTAINMENT.

Mr. Robert Ganthony as a humorous entertainer has a world-wide reputation, and last night appeared before a Canadian audience for the first time, delighting everyone present, and fully sustaining this talented artist's reputation.—*Daily Witness.*

ROBERT GANTHONY AMUSED HIS AUDIENCE.

There was a show at Stanley Hall last night. Robert Ganthony was the show. Quite a good-sized bunch of very select Montrealers were the audience. They seemed to enjoy Robert—laughed at all his jokes. Everybody seemed to have a good time, and Robert had the best of all.—*The Star.*

THE GANTHONY RECITAL.

Mr. Robert Ganthony, the dramatic entertainer and actor, gave a recital last night in the Stanley Hall, and scored a signal success. His numbers were enthusiastically encored by the large and fashionable audience which assembled to hear him, and his "Ganthonicals" provoked much laughter and proved their author to be a person of originality as well as talent.—*Daily Herald.*

ONE OF A NUMBER OF NEW YORK CRITICISMS.

And speaking of versatile actors, have you ever heard Robert Ganthony's imitation of a boarding-school girl's performances on the mandoline? If you have not had that felicity, has amiable fate ever afforded you the opportunity of hearing Mr. Ganthony's wonderful impersonation of the three characters in a French father-in-law farce? Unless one excepts his delicious imitation of an amateur soprano singing to a 'cello obbligato, I reckon the French farce monologue is the cleverest bit of nonsense in the world.—*Morning Daily Telegraph.*

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR.

Your book will, I am sure, be a valuable aid to all managers and actors.—SIR HENRY IRVING.

Should be found very useful.—*Pelican.*

Should prove perfectly invaluable.—*Weekly Sun.*

Contains in a handy compass and in a clear style the law relating to theatres and music halls. The book is well up to date.—*Law Times.*

Furnishes useful information.—*Daily News.*

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—*Star.*

A GOLF match was played between the White Chrysanthemum Club and the Dinsdale Spa on Saturday, when the former were beaten by 6 up. The scores were:—Frank Withers, A. E. Wiener, 0; H. E. Garden, A. Havelock Allen, 2; H. Langdon Bruce, J. W. Forster, 4; total, 6.

"A BOATSWAIN'S MATE."

Play, in One Act, by W. W. Jacobs and Herbert C. Sargent, adapted from Mr. Jacobs' story with the same title, and produced on Monday, April 15, at Wyndham's Theatre.

Mrs. Waters .....MISS ETHEL HOLLINGSHEAD
George Benn .....MR. W. E. RICHARDSON
Ned Travers .....MR. GEORGE F. TULLY

Mr. W. W. Jacobs' humour added largely to the gaiety of Britishers with the production of *Beauty and the Barge.* Since then we have laughed heartily at *That Brute Simmons,* both at the theatres and the halls, and, therefore, Mr. James Welch's introduction of another piece from the pen of the author of *The Monkey's Paw* enables faithful playgoers to renew acquaintance with an author who is always able to frame life's little ironies with wit, ingenuity, and interesting studies of character. Mr. Herbert C. Sargent has come to Mr. Jacobs' aid in the adaptation of the story for the stage, and *A Boatswain's Mate* will no doubt become a valuable addition to the attenuated list of successful modern curtain-raisers.

An attractive widow, possessing a snug little roadside "pub," has proved a potent attraction to George Benn, an ex-boatswain, but he is not exactly to the taste of Mrs. Waters, who notes that Benn is always prompted to declare his unalterable attachment to her after the third mug of beer, though he asserts that he is consumed with love for her even before he has had a drop. During the widow's supper-time Benn consents to take charge of the bar, his only customer being Ned Travers, a discharged soldier. A brilliant scheme occurs to the ex-bo'sun, and he immediately proceeds to take Travers into his confidence. As he cannot gain the widow by protestations and vows, he will try stratagem. For the sum of two pounds, borrowed from the widow, Benn cajoles the ex-soldier into acting as a pretended burglar, merely to frighten the lady into the belief that she needs a protector—that protector, of course, being Benn, who is to come forward at the proper moment, and heroically rescue her from the amateur cracksman. The widow upsets both Benn and his calculations when she descends in her "nighty" and covers the pretended burglar, who has hidden in a cupboard, with a loaded gun. Learning the true state of affairs from a paper handed through the chinks of a cupboard-door, through which Travers had made a rapid exit, the widow quite checkmates Benn's little game by a counterplot in which she has the assistance of Travers Firing off the gun she persuades Benn that she has killed the pretended burglar. There's only one thing to be done—conceal all evidence of the tragedy by the burial of the body. Benn must get her out of her difficulty by digging the grave. His horror may be guessed; but, trembling in every limb and groaning, he obeys. Ned Travers watches him with a chuckle, and then strikes terror into his inmost soul by "appearing" to him, and he flies. "What a rare joke it would be," says the soldier, "if old Benn came back and found me as the landlord." The widow's consent to this proposal is hastened perhaps by Travers's repayment of the two-pound loan, borrowed by Benn; for when that worthy returns he sees that his hopes are crushed. The cast will play with a greater certainty of touch after a few representations; but Mr. W. E. Richardson did very well as the boatswain; Mr. George Tully made a genuine success as the soldier; and Miss Ethel Hollingshead entered thoroughly into the humour of the chief situation, and did not lack rustic coquetry. *When Knights Were Bold* pursues its hilarious course, and evokes peals of laughter nightly from packed houses.

FUNERAL OF OWEN HALL.

The burial of the late Mr. James Davis, better known as Owen Hall, whose death was announced in our last issue, took place at Highgate New Cemetery on Saturday. The funeral procession, which consisted of an open car and a large number of private carriages, left 6, Montague-mansions, York-street, N.W., shortly after eleven, arriving at the cemetery chapel about an hour later. It was preceded by a brougham containing some beautiful floral tributes, conspicuous amongst these being one in the form of a closed book, and consisting of orchids and other rare flowers. This was sent by Miss Edna May. Flowers that formed a red cross, in a framework of green and white, came from Mr. Ivan Caryll, and from Mrs. Frankau (sister) an open volume, over one page of which roses bloomed, while opposite, worked on green, were the words, "Alas, poor Yorick!" A card attached was inscribed—"From Julia Frankau. Infinite grief and regret." Lady de Bathe (Mrs. Langtry) sent a beautiful wreath of lilies; and Mr. Lionel Monckton a pillow of flowers. Other wreaths were from Mrs. Davis (the widow), Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Frankau, Lord and Lady Marcus Beresford, the Dowager Lady Rossmore, Sir J. Edwards-Moss, Mr. George Edwardes, Lieut.-Colonel Newnham Davis, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Collins, Sir Theodore Brinckman, Mrs. Harry de Windt, Captain Graham Pigott, and Miss Alice Hollander.

The chief mourners were Mr. Hyman Davis, son of the deceased; Mr. Hall's sister, Mrs. Frankau, well known as a novelist under the *nom-de-plume* of Frank Danby; Mrs. Benjamin, another sister; Mr. Marcus Collins, his brother-in-law; Mr. Edward Benjamin and Mr. Ashley Benjamin, nephews; and Miss Benjamin and Miss Nita Aria (nieces). The other mourners included Sir James Hume, Mr. Arthur Collins, Mr. Leslie Stuart, Mr. Arthur Cohen (of the Gaiety Theatre directorate, representing Mr. George Edwardes), Mr. Malcolm Salaman, Mr. John de la Cour, Mr. Charles Taylor, Mr. Ducane, Mr. Roy Horniman, Mr. Loftus Thornhill, Mr. James Smith, Mr. Sidney Ellison, and Mr. Davis's coachman (Charles) and his butler (Brookes), the former of whom had been in his service sixteen and the latter ten years.

The service, held at the chapel and by the grave (which is situated just inside the Chester-road entrance to the new cemetery), was conducted by the Rev. J. T. Bingley, of St. James's, Highgate. Matinée performances accounted for the absence of many professional friends and colleagues, who would otherwise have attended the funeral.

CHAS. FISHER "POCKET OPERA" CO.

Referee says:—

"At the Chelsea Palace Mr. Chas. Fisher and company presented a capital little musical farce, entitled *The Music-Master.* The central figure of the sketch is a music-master, who is in great trouble because his special operatic production seems doomed to failure owing to the fact that his chief vocalists have let him down at the eleventh hour. But his servant and the young man from next door come to the rescue, and all join in a sort of impromptu rehearsal, full of fun and excellent vocalism. On Monday the company rendered in fine style an excerpt from *Faust* as a grand finale. *The Music-Master* was received with every sign of favour, and Mr. Fisher may be congratulated on a really good show."

The Entr'acte says:—

"A novelty at the Chelsea Palace, and at the top of the bill, was *The Music-Master,* presented by Chas. Fisher and company, which achieved a distinct success. Their new act is simply a very clever burlesque on opera. Mr. Fisher and his associates thus have the opportunity of demonstrating that they possess besides—as is well known—fine operatic voices, a rare combination of voice and comedy. They received three hearty curtain calls on Monday night; then the audience still clamoured for a repeat of the grand finale from *Faust.*"

REVIVAL OF "THE LIARS."

On Saturday, April 13, the Comedy, in Four Acts, by Henry Arthur Jones, revived at the Criterion.

Sir Christopher Deering ....CHARLES WYNDHAM
Edward Falkner .....MR. THALBERG CORBETT
Gilbert Nepean .....MR. EILLE NORWOOD
George Nepean .....MR. BERTRAM STEER
Freddie Tatton .....MR. SAM SOTHERN
Archibald Coke .....MR. H. KEMBLE
Waiter .....MR. HERBERT DANSEY
Taplin .....MR. REGINALD WALTER
Gadsby .....MR. L. WHITE
Footman .....MR. JOHN CABOURN
Mrs. Crespin .....MISS GRANVILLE
Beatrice Ebernoe .....MISS DOROTHY THOMAS
Dolly Coke .....MISS CATHERINE DUPONT
Ferris .....MISS FRANCES VINE
Lady Rosamund Tatton..MISS SPENCER-BRUNTON
Lady Jessica Nepean .....MISS MARY MOORE

Sir Charles Wyndham returned on Saturday to his home—the house that he raised to a pinnacle of popularity at first by frivolous comedy, mostly adapted from the French, and later by slightly more serious work by the best English dramatists. He had the warmest, the most affectionate of welcomes, from a house crowded in every part as he strolled on the stage as Colonel Sir Christopher Deering, in *The Liars,* a character that must always be regarded as one of the best in his repertory. The comedy, which was originally produced on Oct. 6, 1897, was perhaps the most successful of the pieces produced in the later Criterion era, and in it we find Mr. Henry Arthur Jones in his most genial mood, sketching character with the lightest of touches, and writing with literary elegance and an epigrammatic verve that is positively brilliant.

Sir Christopher Deering is the *raisonneur* of the younger Dumas brought up to date. To misquote "Father O'Flynn" he is the "powerfullest preacher" and the "tenderest teacher" in the domain of high comedy. Like that popular priest, too, he has wide and generous sympathies, and a wonderful "way wid him." Sir Christopher treats his friend Falkner's infatuation for the rather feather-headed Lady Jessica Nepean as a huge joke; but when he finds the South African hero fixed and determined to throw his reputation to the winds and risk a grave scandal, he gives him a long lecture, which contains not only some of the best writing in the piece, but some of the best Mr. Jones has given us. We tremble to think what would be the fate of such a passage in any other hands than those of Sir Charles, whose variableness in delivery, whose kindly earnestness and deep sincerity shown in every inflection of the voice, take the house captive. Miss Mary Moore returns to fascinate us by her delightful irresponsibility as Lady Jessica, who has a predilection for taking the "wrong turning," which invariably leads her into compromising entanglements. Miss Moore looks as pretty and flirts as coquettishly as ever, and her presence in a character she has certainly made her own is very welcome. Mr. Thalberg Corbett, who, as Mr. T. B. Thalberg, originally played the rôle of Edward Falkner, is very much in earnest, and makes the part stand out in vivid contrast. One feels that the reading is correct; for to Falkner life is real, life is serious. Mr. Eille Norwood, too, adopts the correct attitude as the rough, tyrannical, and inconsiderate husband, who supplies some reason for the temporary defection of Lady Jessica. Mr. Sam Sothern is exactly suited as Freddie Tatton; and an excellent successor to Mr. Alfred Bishop is found in Mr. Henry Kemble, who is particularly amusing as Archibald Coke. Miss Granville easily acquits herself of her slight responsibilities as the sarcastic and cutting Mrs. Crespin; Miss Dorothy Thomas, a beautiful girl, looks superb and acts with sweet sensibility as Beatrice Ebernoe; Miss Spencer-Brunton's Lady Rosamund gives a light and agreeable character-sketch of a captivating society leader; and Miss Francis Vine's Ferris lacks none of the nonchalance and coolness of the lady's maid. Mr. Herbert Dansey supplies a neat sketch of the waiter; and Mr. Reginald Walter, Mr. L. White, Mr. John Cabourn, and Miss Catherine Dupont lend adequate aid to an irreproachable representation.

At its conclusion the company assembled on the stage, with Sir Charles Wyndham in the centre. The curtain was lifted several times, and at last Sir Charles yielded to the demands for a speech. He said:—"In the name of all of us, Miss Mary Moore, my company, and myself, I thank you for your presence in such numbers and your generous reception of us. This performance has a special significance, for I am returning home. That is to say to my first home, for, as most of you know, I have, in conjunction with Miss Moore, acquired two other theatres which are homes to us. If a captain may, as he often does, call his ship his wife, may not an actor-manager, when speaking of his theatre, do likewise. Of course, I know that in any case it will be a little awkward, for I shall be speaking of my three wives and risking your reproof, for having during the last few years lived in a state of picturesque trigamy. Do me the justice, however, to remember that I played the game fairly and impartially, and that I love them all just as did that moral philosopher, who, in somewhat similar circumstances said "to be faithful to one is moral: to be faithful to all is an epic." Well, I complete my epic to-day, for I return with pleasure to my first and oldest—a pleasure tempered only by the fact that I shall not stay long. For Fate seems to have decreed that Miss Moore and I shall be wanderers during the rest of our career—here to-day—over the way to-morrow. Nevertheless, it is a great delight to find myself here, where insufferable conceit might tempt me to say I made my name, did I not feel that in truth you kindly made it for me. For that, for your attitude to-night, and indeed all favours past and present, I tender you my gratitude, my respect, and my affection."

THE CHARLES GARTHORNE WIDOW FUND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—May I once more encroach upon your space to call attention to the statement of accounts of this fund, and to remind those who have not contributed that further assistance is much needed? Thanks are due to Messrs. Hudson, Victoria Station Repository, who have kindly consented to make a substantial reduction on the amount owing for the storage of Mrs. Garthorne's furniture; at the same time, the balance in hand is not sufficient to pay the amount due to this firm after allowing for this reduction.—Faithfully yours, JAMES W. MATHEWS.

Green Room Club. April 18, 1907.

	£	s.	d.
Amount previously acknowledged..	35	7	6
SINCE RECEIVED:—			
Miss Helen Ferrars	5	0	0
Mrs. Castles	1	1	0
E. J. Pearson, Esq.	1	1	0
E. Compton, Esq.	1	1	0
Capt. Law, R.N.	0	10	0
E. M. Robson, Esq.	0	10	0
Luther Munday, Esq.	0	5	0
	44	15	6

Payments:—

	£	s.	d.
To Mrs. Garthorne	17	0	0
Printing	0	6	6
Second printing account	0	12	6
Postage	0	7	8
Balance in bank	26	9	10
	44	15	6

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

Mr. Beerbohm Tree and his company arrive in London this morning, and will re-open at His Majesty's on Monday with *The Tempest*. The triumphs achieved by the eminent actor and his company are recorded by our Berlin correspondent in another page, and further testimony to the brilliant results gained is furnished by a telegram from Mr. Henry Dana, Mr. Tree's business-manager, which ran as follows: "Notwithstanding captious local critics, entire visit enormous success with public. Second performance last night of *Twelfth Night* received with uproarious applause. Could have continued taking calls indefinitely."

The closing performance of Mr. Tree's visit was *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, which was repeated on Thursday night before a crowded house, the Crown Prince and Princess and the Princess Eitel Friedrich occupying the Royal box. An extraordinary ovation attended the fall of the curtain, and Mr. Tree, responding to the calls for a speech, said, in German, that he would never forget his splendid reception. The readiness wherewith the Berlin public had shown its appreciation of English theatrical art was to him a delightful surprise. He had great pleasure in saying this was to be "Au revoir," not "Good-bye," since he had accepted Berlin's invitation to return next year.

Subsequently Mr. Tree, Miss Viola Tree, and Miss Collier had an audience of the Crown Prince, who expressed the warmest appreciation of the delightful performance, and said he hoped he would have the pleasure of coming to see and hear Mr. Tree's company again next year. The spectators waited till the audience was over, and then began again lusty cheering, which was redoubled when Mr. Tree appeared in the gallery and addressed a second and similar speech in English to the crowd, many of whom waved handkerchiefs and cheered in a manner unmistakably British.

Mrs. D'Oyly Carte, who intends to carry her season at the Savoy well into June, when the theatre is to undergo a few alterations in readiness for the Court Theatre company, has determined to add another to the number of Gilbert and Sullivan revivals. The public are offered their choice between *Pinafore*, *The Sorcerer*, *The Pirates of Penzance*, *Iolanthe*, and *Princess Ida*, and Mrs. Carte will be influenced in her decision entirely by the number of postcards sent in favour of either one of the works mentioned.

Mr. E. S. Willard arrived at Plymouth on Monday on the Kaiser Wilhelm II., having finished his American tour at Cleveland on Saturday week last. The eminent actor was accompanied by his nephew, Mr. Walter Edmunds. The remaining English members of Mr. Willard's company are on the Vaderland, due at Dover to-morrow, Sunday.

Mr. Willard said "farewell" this season to all American cities west of the Alleghenny Mountains, and in the course of a few years may return to America to play "good-bye" engagements in New York, Boston, Philadelphia, and Washington. For the present, however, he remains in England, but has no intention of appearing on the stage for six months at least, as he needs a rest.

Mr. William Mollison was the recipient of a massive silver loving-cup from the members of his company at the termination of his first Shakespearean tour at Newport last week. In making the presentation Mr. Sidney Cooper referred to the high esteem in which Mr. Mollison was held by the members of the company, and their great admiration of him as an actor, and of his own personal business relationship with Mr. Mollison, which is of a most cordial nature. The first Shakespearean tour had been a pronounced success, Mr. Mollison having made a great impression among theatre-goers both artistically and socially, and he was happy to tell them that the week at Newport had far exceeded his most sanguine expectations, for the receipts approached those of the late Sir Henry Irving's visit, and far exceeded those of any other individual star during his lesseeship. In accepting the gift, Mr. Mollison made an eloquent and sympathetic speech, during which he thanked the ladies and gentlemen of the company for their beautiful present, for their earnest work throughout the tour, and expressed the hope that they may again be associated with him.

Mr Arthur Bourchier will appear in both *The Duel* and *Doctor Johnson* at the Garrick Theatre on Tuesday. In the former piece, for the adaptation of which Mr. Bourchier is responsible, Miss Violet Vanbrugh will be seen as a fascinating Duchess, and the cast will also comprise Messrs. Sydney Valentine, Cyril Keightley, Charles Goodhart, Alfred Bristowe, G. Harrison Carter, and Douglas Imbert; Mrs. Herbert Bennett and Miss Eva Killick. The action passes in three consecutive days, the first act taking place at a private hospital near London, the second at a priest's rooms in poorer London, and the third at a bishop's apartments in a Duke's house in richer London, overlooking the private chapel and oratory. In the revival of *Doctor Johnson* Mr. Bourchier will be supported by Mr. Arthur Whitby, Mr. Walter Pearce, and Miss Pamela Gaythorne.

The Managers' Club held their last ladies' social evening of the season at their elegant and cosy rooms in Savoy Mansions on Sunday. Mr. Frank Weathersby presided and supplied the entertainment, which was voted first-class by the large muster of members and friends who availed themselves of the evening's amusement. The programme was contributed by the following artists: Misses Ena Souter, Flo Wakeman, E. Heron-Brown, Ida Freeman, Chrissie Ralland, Kitty Cavendish, and Messrs. Robert Noble, Edmund Lea, John Gill, Ivan Berlyn, William Butler, and J. Carpenter.

The illness of Miss Lena Ashwell, through which she was compelled to bring her recent American tour to a premature conclusion, has, we regret to state, been attended by more serious results than were anticipated, and on the advice of her physician the popular actress is to undergo an operation. On Thursday Miss Ashwell was removed to a nursing home, and though there is no reason to fear any grave results, some little time must elapse before she can hope to resume work.

Ladies and gentlemen desirous of obtaining engagements with Mr. George Edwardes's companies either in London or for the provinces should note that voice trials are held at Daly's Theatre every Tuesday at four o'clock. No card of admission is necessary, all the applicants have to do being simply to present themselves and be provided with a song.

Saturday next will witness the farewell to the stage of Miss Edna May, whose influence over musical comedy since her appearance in *The Belle of New York* in London has been so powerfully exercised. As a parting refrain Miss May is singing the popular "Follow On" for the remainder of her engagement in *Nelly Neil* at the Aldwych, which will precede her "retirement into private life" on her marriage with the young American millionaire. The next attraction at the Aldwych will be an American drama entitled *Strongheart*, which has enjoyed a prosperous run for over two years in the United States, and will be played in London by an American company.

Matinées will be given at the Playhouse, kindly lent by Mr. Cyril Maude, on Tuesday, April 30, and Thursday and Friday, May 2 and 3, in aid of the St. Vincent's Homes for Destitute Children, Harrow-road. The entertainment will include a new psychic play, entitled *The Finding of the Sword* (which deals with the subject of reincarnation), by the Countess of Cromartie. Miss Edyth Olive will dance a classic dance, and *Tom's Second Missus*, a new peasant play by M. E. Francis, and *The Grey Domino*, an eighteenth-century play, in one act, by Mr. and Mrs. Egerton Castle, will be among the features of the programme.

Mr. Cyril Maude has kindly given the use of the Playhouse for a matinée under the patronage of the Princess of Wales, the Princess Royal, and the Duke of Fife, which is to take place on Thursday afternoon, May 16, in aid of the Girls' Realm Cot in the Great Ormonde-street Hospital for Children. Mr. Maude and Miss Winifred Emery, supported by Mr. Fred Terry and Mr. Ben Webster, will give the Screen Scene from *The School for Scandal*; Miss Gertrude Kingston will appear in t piece, entitled *A Friend in the Garden*, by E. F. Benson, the novelist, and the popular curtain-raiser *Compromising Martha*, will be given, with Miss Florence Haydon in the name-part. Miss Aimée Lowther and Mlle. Rita Jolivet will interpret a short French play, and Miss Camille Clifford, Miss Phyllis Dare, Miss Zena Dare, Miss Billie Burke, Miss Vera Le Fleming (the wonder-child dancer), Mr. Harry Lauder, and Miss Margeret Cooper will also contribute to the programme.

The Playhouse will again be put to the purposes of philanthropy on June 27, when a matinée performance of Captain Marshall's comedy, *The Noble Lord*, the cast of which will include several well-known amateurs, will take place, by kind permission of Mr. Cyril Maude. The performance, which will be under the immediate patronage of the Princess Louise, will be in aid of the Regimental Homes belonging to the Royal Artillery, Royal Warwickshire, and Essex Regiments.

Mr. Edward Compton has been persistently dogged by illnesses during his present tour. Miss Mackenzie (his daughter) had to be left behind at Perth recently suffering from an attack of jaundice, and did not rejoin her father's company for a fortnight. In her absence her parts of Violet Gresham, Mistress Prue, and Lady Teazle were admirably taken by Miss Phyllis Relph, to whom Mr. Edward Compton has presented a charming necklace of Tay pearls, with a still more valuable letter of appreciation. Miss Marian Le Strange and Miss Barbara Pigot also did capital emergency work, and to each of them Miss Mackenzie gave a handsome travelling bag in recognition of their services. Last week Mr. Edward Compton was down again with a second attack of influenza, and could not appear on the Tuesday night or at the Saturday matinée at West Hartlepool, his place being filled by Mr. Wallace Johnston as Charles Surface, and Mr. Philip Gordon as Tony Lumpkin, Mr. Vernon Crabtree also doing good work as Moses. Both Mr. Compton and his daughter are now quite themselves again, and the former is working quietly on his preparations for his London season in August.

Mr. E. H. Sothern and Miss Julia Marlowe, our distinguished American guests, begin their season at the Waldorf on Monday with Hauptmann's fantastic drama, *The Sunken Bell*. Mr. Sothern is the Bell-founder, Heinrich, Miss Marlowe the "elfin creature," Rautendelein, and the rest of the company consists of Misses Kruger, Betty and Freda Green, Clifton, Alexander, Clement, Lamison, Sanford, and Hammond, and Messrs. Crompton, Aspland, Anderson, Buckstone, and Eric. The season ends on Saturday, June 1, and on the following day the company leaves for Denmark, and subsequently gives a performance of *Hamlet* at the little theatre close to Elsinore.

"The Great Conspiracy" is to be withdrawn within a fortnight from the Duke of York's, and will be followed, on Saturday, May 4, by the revival of *A Royal Family*, the clever comedy by Captain Robert Marshall, originally produced at the Court Theatre in the autumn of 1889. Included in the cast will be Mr. Henry Ainley and Miss Alexandra Carlisle.

Mr. W. F. Crowe, who has managed the Theatre Royal, Bristol, for Mr. Ernest Carpenter for the past two years, and has been appointed manager of the Lyceum Theatre, had a farewell benefit at Bristol on the 12th inst., when the current attraction, *The Christian*, was supplemented by many "turns" from local halls, including Mr. Whit Cunliffe, the popular comedian; Mr. Alec Kendal; Mr. Charlie Goodman; and Mr. Syd Bishop, the local impromptu comedian. Towards the end of the performance Mr. Horace Livermore came before the footlights, and amidst applause handed the departing manager a purse of gold from the members of the theatre staff and other friends. Mr. Crowe, who was enthusiastically received, said the gift gave him all the more pleasure through being handed him by such an old friend. He had been very happy in Bristol, and was sorry to have to say farewell to his numerous friends in front of the footlights and behind, but at the same time it was a great pleasure to him to know that Mr. Carpenter had remembered him in taking on his London house. Mr. Crowe is succeeded by Mr. Henry C. Alty.

Mr. Walter Slaughter's forthcoming romantic light opera *Lady Tatters*, which will see the footlights at the Shaftesbury on Wednesday, May 1, is in the press, and will be published by Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter. The book of the opera, the scene of which is laid in the time of Charles II., is by Mr. Herbert Leonard, the author of *On Active Service* and several other popular Surrey dramas, and the lyrics are by Mr. Roland Carse, whose graceful fancy has had plenty of scope, the very titles of some of the songs breathing the spirit of the picturesque period of the Restoration. Mr. Herbert Cottesmore produces the work.

The numbers include "Boot, Saddle, and Horse!" "A Bunch of Blue Ribbons," "Never Laugh at Love," "The Folly, Folly, Folly of Flirtation," "The Fiddler and his Dog," "Sing Hey-down-derry!" "O'er the Countryside we Wander," "A Lady of Fashion," "Wouldst thou recall the past?" and "Dance and be gay." The company will number such well-known names as Mr. Courtice Pounds and Miss Louie Pounds, Miss Marie George, Mr. Walter Passmore, Mr. Ivor Foster, Mr. Johnny Danvers, Mr. Sydney Brough, Mr. Herbert Sparling, and Miss Claudia Lasell, an actress comparatively new to London, but who has met with very considerable success in the provinces in, notably, *The Sweet Girl* and *Peggy Machree*.

Mr. W. S. Hartford, who has concluded a most successful special engagement as Iago, Macduff, the King, Touchstone, &c., has been engaged by Mr. Fred Winn to play the part of the convict in his sketch *The Light in the Window* at the Palace, Leicester, next week.

Mr. J. B. Mulholland is about to erect at Wimbledon a new theatre, the site for which he has already obtained. Plans and quantities are also practically settled. It will be one of the biggest houses in Greater London, and will hold over 3,500, its prominent feature being a magnificent grand circle.

The Reform Party in the Actors' Association will hold a meeting to-morrow (Sunday) evening at 9, Trafalgar-square Studios, Manresa-road, Chelsea. A further meeting of the Actors' Union is fixed for Tuesday afternoon next, at 3, Bedford-street, when Mr. Wm. Farren, jun., will occupy the chair; and the provincial meeting will take place at 13.30 p.m. on the same day at the Salisbury Hotel, Oxford-street, Manchester. A paper on "Actors' Organisation" will be read by Mr. J. Telly Dillsen at a meeting to be held on Friday next at the club room of the Percy Arms, Percy-street, Newcastle. Miss Marie Clavering will take the chair, and discussion will be invited. A meeting in connection with the Actors' Union will also take place at Leicester during next week. All particulars may be obtained from Mr. E. S. Petley, at the Palace, Leicester, or from Mr. E. H. Templeton, Theatre, Leicester.

The Finance and General Purposes Committee of the Actors' Association held a meeting on the 12th inst., when there were present Messrs. Acton Bond (chairman), Lewis Casson, H. Athol Forde, and C. Aubrey Smith. Several matters were dealt with and recommendations to the council agreed upon.

The usual weekly meeting of the council was held on Tuesday last, when there were present Messrs. A. E. Drinkwater in the chair), Henry W. Mote (solicitor), Misses Carlotta Addison, Clare Greet, and Kate Phillips, and Messrs. Acton Bond, W. Graham Browne, C. F. Collings, Burton Cooke, H. Athol Forde, Laurence Irving, Frederick Morland, Kenyon Musgrave, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary).

The hon. solicitors reported they had obtained a verdict for the full amount of a member's claim, together with costs; they also reported they had advised several members on points submitted, and were requested to advise three others. The report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee was given, and the several suggestions made by that body were adopted by the council.

The secretary was instructed to engage the hall at the Passmore Edwards Settlement for the purposes of holding the extraordinary general meeting of members of the Association on the 6th and 27th days of May next. It was agreed that, together with the notice of such meeting to be sent to each member, a list of pros and cons setting forth the position of affairs from both sides, with request for information and a proxy if necessary, should be forwarded. Douglas Beaufort was nominated for election. Twenty-seven former members were reinstated. The meeting opened at 2.30 and closed at six o'clock.

The Finance and General Purposes Committee held a meeting on Tuesday, when there were present Messrs. Acton Bond chairman), A. E. Drinkwater, H. Athol Forde, and Chas. Cruikshanks (secretary). Matters referred to the committee by the council were considered, and ultimately instructions given for the preparation of reports, &c., to be placed before the council at their next meeting.

The Irving Memorial Committee held a meeting on Monday last, when there were present Mr. Cecil Raleigh (chairman), Sir Charles Wyndham, and Messrs. G. P. Bancroft, Acton Bond, Lewis Casson, John Hare, A. W. Pinero, Edward Terry, and Chas. Cruikshanks (secretary). Questions in connection with the proposed site were discussed, and it was agreed that the sculptor, Mr. Thomas Brock, should be consulted on the matter. The secretary received instructions to write to various ladies and gentlemen who had promised financial support, and it was agreed that the second list of subscriptions should be published next week.

"Peter's Mother," which is giving delight to numberless playgoers in country and suburbs by the medium of Mr. Percy and Miss Emma Hutchison's company, received a charming compliment on Thursday last week, when Sir Charles Wyndham postponed his rehearsal of his imminent production at the Criterion in order to travel to Brighton and be present at the representation of Mrs. De La Pasture's clever play at the Theatre Royal there. The eminent actor greatly enjoyed the performance, and heartily congratulated Mr. Percy Hutchison, Miss Ruth Mackay, Mr. Norwood, and the other members of what is undoubtedly one of the best all-round companies seen out of London for some time past.

Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison's companies have visited Brighton on seventy different occasions with their various attractions, and have done record business, but *Peter's Mother* has taken the highest receipts of any. Mr. Cecil Beryl, the manager of the Theatre Royal, Brighton, was so captivated by the play and company that he watched the performance no fewer than seven times.

The Playgoers' Club have this year obtained the New Theatre for their annual ladies' concert, which will be held to-morrow evening. It is intended that the concert shall consist of light music, and among the artists who have already accepted invitations to be present are Miss Billie Burke, Miss Margaret Cooper, Miss Marie Dainton, Miss Clarice Mayne, Miss Marie Tempest, Mr. Tom Clare, Mr. R. H. Douglass, Francis, Mr. Harry Lauder, Mr. George Mozart, and Mr. Malcolm Scott.

Messrs. Vedrenne and Barker's revival of *The Return of the Prodigal* is announced for Monday, April 29. The cast will consist of Mr. Eric Lewis, Miss Florence Haydon, Mr. Dennis Eadie, Mr. A. E. Matthews, Miss Amy Lamborn, Mr. Cecil Rose, Miss Fortescue, Miss Dorothy Minto, Mr. James Hearn, Mr. Norman Page, Miss Mary Barton, and Mr. Edmund Gwenn.

A new farce, entitled *Priscilla and the President*, by Charles Heslop, will be produced at the Royal Opera House, Wakefield, on Wednesday. The opening act takes place at a ladies' club in London, the second at Mauritania (Central America), and the third in the country house of the Duchess of Knightsbridge and Kensington Gardens. Included in the cast are Mr. Arthur Hare, Mr. Ernest Trevor, Mr. Dean Williams, Miss Hetta Bartlett, Miss Mary Deverell, Miss Lillian Tweed, and Miss Violet Symonds.

"Romeo and Juliet" is to be produced next week at the Terriss Theatre. Mr. Ashley Page will be the Romeo and Miss Marion Denvil the Juliet. Prelude, extracts, and incidental music have been specially composed by Mr. Alexander Humphry.

Jacob Gordin's sensational drama, *Alfonso the Noble*, was again repeated on Monday night at the Pavilion Theatre by the capable Jewish Operatic and Dramatic Company, when Mr. Charles Natansohn in the title-rôle and Mme. Natansohn as Rachel once more scored a great success. Special interest was again evinced at the beautiful scenic effects, while the dive and swim in real water by Mr. Natansohn provoked great excitement. During the week *Love and Poverty*, *The Truth*, and *The Witch* have been played.

Mr. Thomas Sidney has arranged with Mr. Cosmo Gordon-Lennox to tour *The Marriage of Kitty* through the summer with the same excellent cast that played it with him last spring at Hastings. The tour starts with a return visit to Hastings on April 29.

The success of *Her Love Against the World* at the Lyceum has been remarkable, 30,000 persons having visited ten shows. It is reported that at ten performances at the Lyceum no less than 10,000 programmes were sold at an average of 2d. apiece. £80 odd for programmes per week is equal to a goodly rental.

Mr. Lester Collingwood, who has in his time contributed so largely to the charities and amusements of the nation, has, our readers will be sorry to learn, been far from well, though we are glad to know that his illness, which has been of a somewhat painful and irksome, though not dangerous, nature, has taken a favourable turn. Mr. Collingwood has been working hard, both in connection with *Bluebeard* on tour and *Cinderella* at Birmingham, which ran for upwards of three months, and we trust he will emerge from his indisposition more robust and "brighter" than ever.

We record with regret the death of Miss Christine Lanscar at the early age of twenty-two years. Ten months of intense suffering with lupus of the larynx led to rapid consumption, which terminated fatally on the 4th inst. The deceased began her stage career with Mr. Beerbohm Tree at His Majesty's Theatre eight years ago, but during the last few years travelled with the "Four Magnets," a quartette owned by herself and her sister. Miss Lanscar, who was a very charming young artist, was highly respected and beloved by a large circle of relatives and friends. Her private name was Christine Garland Nicholls, and she was first cousin to the famous singer Miss Agnes Nicholls.

Messrs. Melford and Polini's company will play *The Silver King* at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, during next week, with a special matinée on Thursday. By desire of Mr. J. B. Mulholland Wilfred Denver will be played by Mr. Austin Melford.

The annual service of the Actors' Church Union will take place at four o'clock evensong at St. Paul's, Knightsbridge, on Sunday, April 28, when the Lord Bishop of Birmingham will deliver an address. All members of the profession interested in the movement are invited.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Collins presided on Saturday at a pleasant little function at Bexhill-on-Sea, where the youthful performers connected with the recent Drury-lane pantomime have been giving a few representations of their own production, *The Forte Thieves*, by invitation of Mr. James Glover, the musical-director at the National Theatre and Mayor of Bexhill. The youngsters have spent a most enjoyable time at the popular watering-place, and the festivities were concluded on Saturday by a "Baddeley Cake" night. The proprietors of a local confectioner's had two beautiful cakes made them, with "Good Luck" on one and "Good-bye" on the other, and these were duly brought on the stage at the end of the performance, when the Mayor introduced Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Collins to the children, and called upon Mrs. Collins to cut the new cake, an operation which was performed amidst the greatest enthusiasm.

At the Royal Academy of Music the Charles Mortimer prize (for composition) has been awarded to Percy Bowie, a native of London, Morton F. G. Stephenson and Katharine E. Eggar being commended. The examiners were Messrs. Hamilton Harty, Stanley Hawley, and John E. West. The Louisa Hopkins' Memorial prize (for pianists) has been awarded to Myra Hess, of London, Marjorie Wigley being highly commended, and Rose Keen commended. The examiners were Messrs. Frederic Moore, Fritz Read, and Gustav Ernest (chairman).

Mr. Charles Collette, who has rejoined Messrs. Cartwright, Lawrence, and Tapping's *Dan'l Peggotty* company, will appear every evening next week in his famous impersonation of Micawber, a part which for some years he has made essentially his own.

During his very successful week at the Grand Theatre, Leeds, Mr. Martin Harvey had some extraordinarily packed houses with *The Only Way*. On Thursday evening 1212 people paid for admission to the early door pit, and even after that hundreds were turned away.

Mr. Robert Forsyth, the managing-director of the Victoria Pier, Folkestone, will be assisted in the management by his brother, Mr. Lloyd Forsyth. A speciality this season will be the flying matinées, and we understand contracts have already been made for the appearance, among others, of Miss Phyllis Dare and Miss Louie Freear and their respective companies.

The Pioneers will add to their record of new productions by the staging, on the evening of Sunday, May 12, of a three-act light comedy, entitled *Clothes and the Woman*, by George Paston, and a one-act play, called *A Man's Foes*, by Miss Diana Cholmondeley, sister of the well-known novelist, Miss Mary Cholmondeley. "Temporary members" of the society will be elected for the occasion, and on payment of half a guinea will be entitled to two tickets for admission.

"The Stronger Sex" was on Tuesday transferred from the Apollo to the New Royalty Theatre, where the powerful piece has already found favour. Mr. Leonard Boyne has been succeeded in the part of the Hon. Warren Barrington by Mr. Herbert Waring, whose finished style and vigorous acting are admirably suited to the part. Miss Nina Boucicault is seen again in her clever rendering of the self-willed wife, Miss Lilian Braithwaite's freshness and charm are still agreeably apparent in the rôle of her friend, and Miss Marie Illington and Mr. Paul Arthur repeat their fine impersonations in an engrossing performance. *The Peacemaker*, as at the Apollo, precedes the chief piece.

Brixton Theatre, which is steadily returning to its former prosperous condition, will be occupied next week by M. Russell Rosse's company, which will appear in Haddon Chambers's Haymarket success, *Captain Swift*. The company will include Messrs. James Gelderd, Charles Boult, Norman Clark, George Mudie, jun., Albert Bernard, and Misses E. Nolan O'Connor, L. Kingston, Rachael de Travis, and Ida Phillips.

The Scala Theatre, the beauty of which aroused such wide-spread admiration on its opening about eighteen months ago, has undergone a change in order to relieve the classical severity of the interior. The ceiling has been treated architecturally in a combination of Pompeian colours, and the mouldings throughout are now in bronze, while the fronts of the circles and of the boxes have been draped with red cloth. Carpets of the same hue cover the marble staircases, bright crimson shades adorn the numerous electric globes, and a general air of warmth and agreeable colouring prevails. At the re-opening this evening with *The Judgment of Pharaoh* a reversion will be made to the former cheaper prices, comprising 7s. for a stall and 2s. for pit seats.

We regret to record the death of Mr. Wallis Mackay, the artist and humorous cartoonist, who was found dead in his room from the effects of coal-gas poisoning. Wallis Mackay at one time contributed both artistic and literary work to *Punch* and to the *Illustrated Sporting and Dramatic News*, and was the originator of the "Captious Critic" article. He married Miss Emily Nichols, sister of Mr. Harry Nichols, the comedian.

"The Lady Dandies" at Daly's has been strengthened by the introduction of new numbers, the most acceptable of which is a melodious ballad, entitled "Little bird of blue," sung by Miss Denise Orme to her own accompaniment on the harp. The item is a delicious morsel in an already well-diversified bill of fare. Another novelty is a duet, called "Etiquette," sung by Miss Gabrielle Ray and Mr. W. H. Berry, and supplemented by a captivating dance. Mr. Huntley Wright is quite at home again at Daly's, where his welcome is invariably of the most enthusiastic character; and Miss Evie Greene's fascinations as the chief of the Merveilleuses are still irresistible. The brightness of Mr. George Edwardes's production is further enhanced by Mr. Louis Bradfield, Mr. Fred Kaye, Mr. Robert Evett, and the rest of the talented company.

A link with the times when the art of terpsichore occupied a foremost position on the lyric stage has been broken by the death of Mme. Lucile Grahn, who passed away at Munich last week at an advanced age. Mme. Grahn, who was of Danish birth, made her début in London in a new ballet d'action, entitled *Eoline*, at Her Majesty's Theatre at the beginning of the season of 1845, and achieved a great success, which was followed by many more triumphs. After her marriage with Mr. Frederic Young, a tenor, in 1856, Mme. Grahn made no more public appearances, but devoted a good deal of time and care to the superintendence of ballets at Leipzig and Munich, in which latter town she lived. Her reputation there for benevolence was so great that a street has been named after her, and the municipal council has lately decreed that her grave shall be cared for in perpetuity, the cost to be borne by the town.

Since August last Messrs. Polini and Maitland have given away over one hundred tons of coal to the deserving poor in the towns visited by *The Coal King* company. At Gateshead this week, where large audiences have witnessed the performances of Mr. Maitland and company, the usual two tons have been divided amongst four of the most deserving people of the town.

At the Grimsby Town Council meeting, on the 12th inst., on the motion of the Mayor, a licence was granted to Mr. Jos. Hy. Curry for the performance of stage plays at the Tivoli Theatre, Grimsby, with the proviso that no intoxicants should be sold there.

The Liverpool Shakespeare Theatre Company has, we understand, been transferred to a syndicate which for some time has been busy taking over enterprises in Scotland and elsewhere. Messrs. R. C. Buchanan, of Glasgow, and Ernest Stevens, of London, have been added to the board of managing directors.

Mr. Russell Vaun, whose collaboration with Miss Maud Hildyard in *The Great Awakening* resulted in such gratifying success, has just finished another piece written in conjunction with the same talented lady, who will produce it in Australia.

Mr. Fred Bulmer has achieved a great success in a new domestic play, entitled *The Girl Who Went Astray*, which he has written in collaboration with Mr. William Hibbert. The play has a most original and weird ending, and in sending it on tour Mr. Bulmer hopes to surpass all his previous productions. Mr. Bulmer will have four companies on the road next autumn.

After an absence of some years, Mr. Jack Gladwin has resumed management of Aldershot Theatre this week. During the time Mr. Gladwin has been away from Aldershot he has been connected with Mr. Clarence Sounes' other theatres.

The attractions at the Theatre Royal, Stratford, next week will include an Indian episode, entitled *The Hindu's Revenge*, founded on fact, by Mr. Wal Pink. A feature of the sketch, which will be played by Miss Geraldine Montrose and company, will be a fight to the death between a woman and a snake, the latter having been specially procured for the thrilling contest by Cross, the famous animal importer, of Liverpool.

A comedietta, entitled *Violets*, from the pen of Miss Mary Staples, has been accepted by Mr. W. Fraser Brunner, and it will be played as a curtain-raiser in front of *The Superior Miss Pellender*.

"The Eternal City," the powerful play presented by his own company with which Mr. Bannister Howard inaugurated his enterprise in the evening at the Crystal Palace Theatre a little more than a year ago, will again be the attraction at the popular Sydenham house next week. Friday evening and the Saturday matinée are set apart for *The Four Just Men*, which has also appeared with much success at the Palace. The following week will welcome *Jim the Penman*, and on Friday, May 3, a special flying matinée will be given by Mme. Jane Hading and her Paris company in *Frou-Frou*.

Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow will produce a new drama, entitled *For Her Sake*, at the Metropole, Devonport, on Monday night. This play, a stirring Russian military drama, comes with a big reputation from America, where it has been toured for the last six years. The American author is Mr. Wm. Roberts, and Mr. Ben Landeck has partly rewritten the play for the English stage. The piece goes to the Royal, Wolverhampton, for the week of April 29, and has a very good tour already booked for the autumn, when it will visit the principal drama houses. A very fine plant of American pictorial printing is among the features of the production.

Miss Louisa Peach concludes to-night at the Opera House, Coventry, a third starring engagement with Mr. Morton Powell for her original part, Countess Natalie, in *The Woman who Gambles*.

"A Fool's Paradise" starts out on May 6, the tour comprising Brighton, Eastbourne, Oxford, and other important towns. The strong cast will include Miss Laura Hansen, Miss Margery Chard, Miss Hilda Stericker, Mr. Cecil Wynne, Mr. J. Henry Twyford, Mr. Arthur Claremont, and Mr. Wylie V. Thompson.

A large congregation assembled in St. Margaret's, Westminster, on Wednesday to witness the marriage of Miss Jean Caverhill Newman, the clever Canadian lyric soprano, and the youngest daughter of Mr. F. W. Newman, of Hampton Wick, England, and Montreal, Canada, with Mr. Alois J. J. Pfeiffer, the general-manager and chief engineer of the Calcutta Tramways, India. The Rev. Cecil Knox, B.A., officiated. Mr. F. D. Wanning, of Derby, Connecticut, U.S.A., acted as best man, and Mr. Newman gave his daughter away. After the ceremony, a reception, largely attended, was held at the Westminster Palace Hotel, and subsequently the happy couple left for their honeymoon, which will be spent in France, Italy, and Germany, to be followed by a trip to the United States and Canada.

Rudolf Herzog's successful play, *Die Condottieri*, which was performed by the German Theatre in London last week, after a phenomenal run at the Neues Theater, Berlin, is going on tour through all the principal towns in Germany. It is also to be played in Italy next season, and it is hoped that an English adaptation may soon be seen on the London stage.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Mr. Tree and the Critics.

MR. BERSOHN TREE has told the Berlin correspondent of the *Morning Leader* that he is charmed and delighted with the reception that has been accorded him in Berlin. "You saw yourself," said Mr. Tree, "that we have had full houses; that the public applauded us most heartily, and even gathered behind the footlights to cheer us. We have been treated everywhere most kindly, and have thoroughly enjoyed our visit to Berlin. The criticisms which have appeared in the Berlin Press have passed over me without making the slightest impression. The Germans have evolved an ideal according to which they consider Shakespeare should be played. This ideal is in all cases exactly alike. I consider that Shakespeare left room for the development of the individuality of the actor who reproduces his parts, and thus we cannot be expected to agree."

Strike of Stage-hands.

ALL the technical difficulties leading up to the strike of German stage-hands at Mr. Tree's performance in Berlin on Saturday had, says the *Daily Mail*, their inception in the failure of the Royal Theatre management to hand over the house to Mr. Tree's carpenters, mechanics, and electricians until April 9—three days before the opening—instead of April 1, as had been agreed. Mr. Tree found it necessary to make a formal protest to the Kaiser's theatrical director, Dr. von Huesslen. The protest had little effect, and the rebellious attitude of the stage-hands was continued. Sunday night's performance of *Antony and Cleopatra* would have come to a sudden termination had not the members of Mr. Tree's company—both men and women—with praiseworthy pluck, undertaken the most cumbersome jobs of scene-shifting left undone by the fatigued and thirsty German workmen.

Hoffmann at the Adelphi.

ONE of our contemporaries remarks that the librettists of *Les Contes d'Hoffmann* made Hoffmann as a wild and dissipated personage. But this is exactly what he was. Ernst Theodor Wilhelm was an extraordinary mixture of keen intellect and wild imagination. He was trained for the law, but the French invasion of Warsaw stopped his career, and he became in turn musical director, composer, musical critic, scene-painter, and story-writer. His opera *Undine* was a success, and it is from his "Serapionbrüder," translated into English under the title of "Weird Tales," that the three stories used in the libretto are taken.

Told by Mr. G. H. Snazelle.

THE most persistent of practical jokers, says Mr. G. H. Snazelle, occasionally gets the tables turned on him, and just once the late J. L. Toole came off second best to "Teddy" Silverthorne. One evening, at Scarborough, the popular comedian was playing his favourite part in *Uncle Dick's Darling*. It will be remembered that Uncle Dick is a travelling hawker—a "cheap jack." At the end of the first act he is found selling his goods in a country village to a crowd of yokels. The sale concluded, they disperse, and he falls asleep on the steps of his cart. Silverthorne, an old friend of the actor, arrived in the town about seven o'clock, and, unknown to Toole, borrowed a countryman's long smock frock, made up his face, and went on with the crowd in the scene described. When the auction was over, and Toole should have been left alone on the stage, there was one obstinate countryman who seemed reluctant to leave, and there followed a scene which had not been rehearsed. Uncle Dick (quietly): Get off. Countryman: I beant agoing until you give me that there saucepan. Uncle Dick: Get off, you idiot, you are spoiling the scene. Countryman: You give me that there saucepan, then. Uncle Dick (turning to audience and trying to make the best of it): He says he wants the saucepan. I suppose I shall have to give it him. (He gives it, and whispers again in the countryman's ear that he should get off sharp.) Countryman: I ain't agoing until you give me that there concertina. Uncle Dick (sotto voce): You blithering idiot, get off the stage. Countryman: Not till I get that there concertina. Uncle Dick (turning to audience in despair): He says he wants the concertina now; I suppose I must give it him. (Climbs up on the roof of van and hands it down, with another order to get off and a promise of half a crown.) Countryman: Not till I get that there warming-pan. Uncle Dick (thinks he has a madman to deal with, looks into the prompt entrance for the stage-manager, Mr. Westland, who, of course, has been squared, and turns again to the audience): Says he wants the warming-pan. (Climbs up to the roof again and hands down the warming-pan, promising the countryman a sovereign if he will clear out).

THE dialogue went on as follows: Countryman: Give me them there two bundles of clothes pegs, and that there watch and half a dozen spoons, and the sovereign, and I'll think it over. Uncle Dick (helpless and livid with rage): Well, there, take them, and now be off. Countryman: Thank 'ee, sir; so long, guv'nor. See you later. On the fall of the act-drop, Toole rushes off to find the stage-manager, with, ready for him, a verbal display of fireworks not to be surpassed even at Brock's benefit. Toole: Where have you been? Westland (innocently): I knew I shouldn't be wanted for ten minutes, and went out to get a glass of beer. Toole: There has been a bally madman ramping round the stage; he has spoilt my scene. Fetch him here.

THE theatre was searched, but the "madman" was not to be found. That night at the hotel, while Toole sat at supper with some of the members of his company, in walked Silverthorne in full evening dress. This followed:—Silverthorne: Hallo, Johnnie, how are you? Toole: Pretty well; but I have been so upset to-night; never had such a doing in all my life. Silverthorne: I was in front, Johnnie; I thought the play did not go very well, and I don't think that new scene you have got in with the comic countryman is at all a success. Toole: Success! If I had had a knife on the blessed cart I should have killed him. They couldn't find him anywhere about the theatre, and he has got off with a saucepan, a concertina, a warming-pan, clothes pegs, a watch, six spoons, and a sovereign. After supper Toole went up into Silverthorne's bedroom for a chat, and there discovered all the stolen "props," with the exception of the sovereign. "Oh! it was you, was it?" said Toole.

Miss May's Many Friends.

MISS EDNA MAY, who will take her farewell of the stage on Saturday week, has been giving a *Daily Chronicle* man particulars of the worship she has received from the public. She says: "I'm simply overwhelmed with letters, most of them strangely pathetic farewell messages from people I don't know. Mail after mail, they come from all parts of the world. Some of them ask for autographs. I am replying to every request personally. Then there are people who want souvenirs—slippers, old shoes, old frocks, any old thing, they say, for a keepsake. If you go outside the theatre at 11.30 you will find two ladies, cousins, who have waited for me every night, rain, hail, or snow. When I'm abroad or in America they write to me by every post telling me to take care of myself. And all I have ever said to them is just 'Good evening,' and a few kind words as I pass out of the door. During the last year or so I have given orders that they are to wait in the corridor on wet nights."

MR. TREE IN BERLIN.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

All thinking persons, of course, were confident that Mr. Tree's season here would prove an unqualified success, and the anticipations of the most sanguine have been more than realised. The triumph is all the greater on account of the technical difficulties and other adverse conditions that had to be met and conquered at the outset. In consequence of the Monte Carlo opera holding the boards of the Opera House all last week, the Royal Opera Company proper gave their performances at Krolls (New Royal Opera), so that the latter stage was unavailable until practically the eleventh hour for the English company. Thus, rehearsals which Mr. Dana wished to hold with the German supernumeraries, and which were naturally most imperative, could not take place, neither could some even more urgent trials of the elaborate stage fittings be made. Mr. Tree's general-manager has not had a bed of roses; he has probably seldom been so rushed and worried in his life before; but he may now rest upon his well-earned laurels, for the results were brilliant.

When the curtain finally descended upon the opening performance of *Richard the Second*, it was apparent to all that Mr. Tree and his company of picked artists had come, been seen, and had conquered. The Kaiser—who was present with the Kaiserin, Princess Victoria Luise, and Princess Feodora—led the applause, and the great English actor was called before the curtain over a dozen times. German audiences do not, as a rule, applaud by open stage, but wait until the end of the acts; in this case, however, a marked exception was made, enthusiastic applause breaking forth from every part of the crowded house after many of the scenes. That Mr. Tree and his daughter were invited to the Imperial box to receive the compliments of their Majesties is now a matter of history. Mr. Tree's reading of the part of King Richard differs a good deal from that of most leading German actors. It is less passionate, but more intense, and, by reason of its faithfulness to life, more impressive. The critics are unanimous in praise of its originality and power. Miss Viola Tree as the Queen, Mr. Basil Gill (Mowbray), Mr. Neville (Gaunt), and others of the faultless cast came in for their share of the applause, while expressions of admiration at the magnificence of the costumes and mounting were heard on every side.

Expectation was rife as to Mr. Tree's conception of Malvolio on the following evening, and the theatre was filled with a representative audience. There is no doubt but that *Twelfth Night* has proved the most popular of all the performances up to the time of writing. Miss Tree took the hearts of her audience by storm, and held them spellbound throughout by her delightful impersonation of Viola—the finest rendering of the rôle, one of our best critics declares, that he has ever witnessed. Mr. Tree's Malvolio is too well known to be described, and is above all praise. Seldom have I seen a German audience so enthusiastic; again and again this marvellously versatile actor was called before the curtain and cheered to the echo. The critics are full of unstinted praise for the even well-roundedness of the *ensemble*; it would be difficult to say which of the admirable cast pleased the most. Miss Alice Crawford's charming study of Olivia, and Miss Cicely Richards's bright and sparkling rendering of Maria, captivated the audience; Mr. Basil Gill's Orsino was a very fine piece of acting; and the Sir Toby Belch of Mr. Fred Lewis, and the Sir Andrew of Mr. Quartermaine, created storms of delighted laughter. Perhaps no German audience has ever seen such a good impersonation of Feste, the clown, as that presented by Mr. Courtice Pounds; the clever actor was in capital voice, and several of his ditties were encored. Other artists who scored were Mr. Hugh Buckler as Sebastian, Mr. Fisher White (Antonio), Mr. Atkins, and Mr. Beresford. Several points in the play came as novelties to German audiences, among them the entrance of Malvolio in night attire, candle in hand, to see that everything is in order in his mistress's kitchen. The beauty of the Garden Scene provoked spontaneous applause as the curtain rose upon it.

The performance of *Trilby* was postponed from Sunday until Tuesday afternoon, owing to some technical difficulties. *Antony and Cleopatra* was given on Sunday evening before a crowded and fashionable audience. Their Imperial Majesties were again present, with several of their sons and a numerous suite, and applauded as heartily as anyone. Mr. Tree, Miss Collier, and Miss Viola Tree were once more bidden to the Imperial box, where, with very flattering words, the Kaiser presented them with handsome and costly souvenirs—in the case of the ladies a gold and diamond bracelet, with His Majesty's initials, Mr. Tree's gift being diamond solitaires. The play was magnificently acted, the *mise-en-scène* being the finest thing of the kind witnessed here for a long time.

The Merry Wives of Windsor scored a tremendous success on Monday, and proved—if such proof were needed—that the English are absolutely unrivalled in comedy. Mr. Tree's Falstaff came as a revelation to all, critics and public alike declaring his study of the character to be the most entirely Shakespearean, and therefore the best extant. A sweeter Anne Page could not be found than Miss Viola Tree, nor a more tender yet manly Fenton than Mr. Basil Gill. The merry trio, Mistresses Page, Quickly, and Ford, found faultless exponents in Misses Richards, Alexander, and Collier respectively. Mr. Quartermaine's Master Slender convulsed the audience with laughter; Ford and Page were admirably represented by Messrs. Harding and Buckler; Mr. Playfair's Dr. Caius was very clever, and Bardolph, Nym, Pistol, and Simple were capitally rendered by Messrs. Goddard, Beresford, L'Estrange, and Buffum, while a word of unstinted praise must be accorded to Mr. Pounds' Sir Hugh Evans. The fine mounting reached its highest pitch in the last scene, Windsor Forest, which was one of indescribable beauty, and presented much that was new to German audiences. It would be difficult to say how many times Mr. Tree and the principal artists were called before the curtain at the close.

The performance of *Trilby* was a great and well-deserved triumph. Mr. Tree excelled himself in the rôle of Svengali, one of the most masterly impersonations of his repertory. The critics are full of unbounded praise, and the audience applauded till they were tired. Miss Viola Tree, in the name-part, was quite perfect, as your readers all know; her charming singing, too, was much admired. It was difficult to recognise Mr. Charles Quartermaine as Billie after his rendering of Master Slender a few hours before, but one rôle was as admirably played as the other. Mme. Vinard was delightfully acted by Miss Cicely Richards, who reminds many English people here of Miss Ellen Terry in her early days; Taffy and the Laird and Gecko found excellent exponents in Messrs. L'Estrange, White, and Beresford, while Mr. Lewis made a hit as the Rev. Thomas Bagot. The wild merriment of the students and their friends in the studio on Christmas Eve was perfectly irresistible; it was absolutely true to life, and the dancing, under the leadership of Miss Hilda Moore, fascinated all beholders. In the Imperial box sat the Crown Prince and Princess with a number of friends. Their Imperial Highnesses evidently enjoyed the play immensely, and told Mr. and Miss Tree so afterwards in warm and appreciative words.

Notwithstanding the enormous demands made upon them, Mr. and Miss Tree have found time to entertain and be entertained. After the performance of *Antony and Cleopatra* over 200 guests were invited by Mr. Tree to a reception at the Bristol. The famous actor and his daughter have been entertained at the British Embassy, and on Tuesday were guests of the Lyceum Club.

"TALES OF HOFFMANN."

Offenbach's Opera, in a Prologue, Epilogue, and Three Acts, played for the first time in England at the Adelphi Theatre on Wednesday, April 17.

Hoffmann	JEAN NADOLOVITCH
Niklaus	ERY S. URBAN
Lindorf	RUDOLF HOFBAUER
Luther	WILLY FABIAN
Andreas	STEPHEN BORODIN-DELWARY
Nathanael	BERNHARD BOTEL
Hermann	MAX BEGEMANN
Stella	HEDWIG FRANZILLO-KAUFFMANN
Cochenille, Pitichinaccio, Franz	STEPHEN BORODIN-DELWARY
Schlemil	WILLI BROSE
Spalanzani	PETER KREUDER
Crespel	HANS THOMASCHEK
Coppelius, Dapertutto, Mirakel	RUDOLPH HOFBAUER
A Voice	ANNA WILLNER
Olympia, Giuletta, Antonia	HEDWIG FRANZILLO-KAUFFMANN

Those who only know Offenbach by his scores for *The Grand Duchess* and other comic operas of his that have been produced in London, may be a little puzzled by his music to *Les Contes d'Hoffmann*, which was performed for the first time in London at the Adelphi Theatre on Wednesday evening by the German company which has been brought over from the Komische Oper, Berlin, by Herr Hans Gregor. After making a tremendous success of the popular sort with his lighter work, Offenbach, in advanced age, yearned for more artistic triumphs; and in the *Chanson de Fortunio* he tuned his talent to a more elevated key. But it was to the *Contes d'Hoffmann* that he looked as the work which was to establish his fame as a "great" musician, and to give him immortality as a composer. About 1850 MM. Jules Barbier and Michel Carré brought out, at the Odéon Theatre, a drama taken from the stories of the celebrated German tale-teller. General criticism of the work was that it was better fitted for the libretto of an opera; and it was proposed to transfer it to the Porte St. Martin, with a musical accompaniment by M. Hector Salomon. This idea was, however, abandoned, and, when Offenbach took over the management of the Gaieté, he offered to compose a grand opera on the piece. M. Carré being dead, M. Barbier willingly turned the play into a libretto, and this was the origin of the present work.

Offenbach was generally most fortunate in his librettos, which were well-constructed comedies, as cleverly invented and as carefully worked out as if they had been intended to stand by themselves without the help of music. This cannot be said of the "book" of *Les Contes d'Hoffmann*, which is disjointed, undramatic, and a little bewildering. MM. Carré and Barbier took three of Hoffmann's most interesting fables, and accounted for their connection by a prologue and an epilogue. Hoffmann is introduced to us at a tavern in Nuremberg. He is in love with a singer called Stella, and has for a rival a certain Counsel Lindorf, who determines to lead Hoffmann on to drink and then let him be seen in this condition by Stella, so as to disgust her with her lover. The latter is a dreamy, imaginative, and intemperate genius, who believes that an evil spirit has always cast a bad spell over his loves, the stories of which he offers to tell to his student-friends in the tavern.

This gives an excuse for three little plays of the nature of the dreams which are sometimes shown on the stage, each play making an act. The first will remind English playgoers of *La Poupée*. An old scientist called Spalanzani has made a mechanical figure which imitates the movements and voice of a woman. When Hoffmann is at Spalanzani's house a dealer named Coppelius sells the former a magic pair of spectacles which make him see in the doll "Stella" a beautiful woman. He makes love to her; but, happening to touch a spring in the figure, it runs off, leaving Hoffmann in despair, which is increased when Coppelius, who has been cheated by Spalanzani, revenges himself my smashing up the automaton.

The second of Hoffmann's "loves" is shown in the next division of the libretto. Giuletta is a fashionable courtesan; and we see her lying on a couch in a beautiful moonlit palace, surrounded with every sensual and amorous attraction. A magician gives Giuletta a magic mirror. If Hoffmann looks into it his heart will belong to the courtesan, and his life and soul to the sorcerer. Giuletta gets Hoffmann to look in the enchanted glass; and, after yielding entirely to the wanton's charm, he kills his rival, Schlemil, in an impromptu duel, and has to fly to escape justice.

The last of his loves is Antonia, a singer whose delicate health prevents her from using her fine voice, for the exertion is likely to be fatal. A certain Dr. Mirakel—obviously an evil genius—tries to tempt Antonia to sing, but she resists until her dead mother's voice is heard entreating her. Then she bursts into song, and dies. The opera ends with a brief epilogue, in which Stella comes to seek Hoffmann, and finds him drunk, the epilogue ending with a Bacchanalian chorus.

Offenbach finished *Les Contes d'Hoffmann* in 1880, but died a few weeks later; and the opera was not brought out in Paris until the February of 1881, the leading parts being performed by Mlle. Isaac and M. Talazac. The fire at the Ring Theatre, Vienna, prevented the work being done there in the same year, as had been intended; but, in the November of 1905, *Les Contes d'Hoffmann* was put on at the Komische Oper, Berlin, and had a run of 300 nights.

The score is full of colour and variety, and at times the composer rises to a real height of inspiration. In the original performance the present second act was suppressed, and the beautiful barcarolle in it was transferred to the opening of what is now the third act. There is striking vigour in some passages in the last "story," suggesting great possibilities in Offenbach had he not preferred to devote his talent to a lighter form of art. As an instance of his skill as a writer of florid music may be quoted the aria for Olympia in the first act, which was rendered with remarkable agility and accomplishment by Fräulein Hedwig Franzillo-Kauffmann, who won an enthusiastic encore from a very demonstrative audience. She also had hearty applause for her singing of her share in the duet in the second act, and for her fine treatment of Antonia's music in the third. Herr Jean Nadolovitch acted and vocalised with energy as Hoffmann; and Fräulein Ery S. Urban gave a bright and pleasing performance of the part of Niklaus, Herr Willy Fabian being active and amusing as the fat innkeeper. A neat impersonation of Spalanzani was supplied by Herr Peter Kreuder; and Herr Willi Brose rendered Schlemil's music in the second act admirably. Herr Rudolf Hofbauer was characteristic and dramatic as Coppelius, Dapertutto, and Mirakel, and made a striking success by his singing; and some quaint and eccentric comedy was supplied by Herr Stephen Borodin-Delwary as Cochenille. The fine orchestra was capitally conducted by Herr Fritz Cassirer, and under Herr Maximilian Morris's stage-management the opera went with remarkable smoothness, and the rather elaborate scenery was, all things considered, shifted with small delay. The costumes, from the designs of Professor Karl Walser, were picturesque, and the chorus was thoroughly well trained and drilled. *The Tales of Hoffmann* had a most friendly and encouraging reception, part of which was doubtless due to a feeling of "reciprocity" in connection with the present exchange of art between this country and the "Fatherland."

'CLANCARTY.'

The Play, in Four Acts, by Tom Taylor, revived at the Lyric Theatre on Tuesday, April 16.

King William III.	MR. W. MACKINTOSH
The Earl of Portland	MR. A. E. GEORGE
Lord Woodstock	MR. OWEN ROUGHWOOD
Lord Spencer	MR. FRANKLIN DYALL
Sir George Barclay	MR. H. J. CARVILL
Sir John Friend	MR. S. B. BRERETON
"Scum" Goodman	MR. HERBERT JARMAN
Charnock	MR. W. WILSON
Rokewood	MR. W. L. SCHONBERG
Vaughan	MR. G. RONALD
Knightly	MR. S. J. WARMINGTON
Officer of the Guard	MR. A. CATON WOODVILLE
Tremlett	MR. P. DIGAN
James Hunt	MR. J. H. IRVINE
Gille	MR. SHIEL BARRY
Clink	MR. F. W. TROTT
Lord Clancarty	MR. LEWIS WALLER
The Princess Anne	MISS ELEANOR MAY
Lady Betty Noel	MISS ADRIENNE AUGARDE
Susannah	MISS DORA BARTON
Mother Hunt	MISS LEONORA BRAHAM
Lady Clancarty	MISS EVELYN MILLARD

Not many months ago a pathetic sight could be seen by passers along Aldwych. In the course of the demolitions, the whole of the back of the old Olympic Theatre had been cut away, so that the auditorium, including the private boxes, could be seen from the street. To many old playgoers the spectacle must have revived pleasant memories connected with the house; and amongst the most agreeable would be those of Miss Ada Cavendish's season in 1872, with its production of the *New Magdalen*, and of Mr. Henry Neville's six years' reign, with its presentations of *The Two Orphans* and *Lady Clancarty*.

Mr. Lewis Waller was happily inspired with the idea of reviving the latter piece under the title of *Clancarty*. Tom Taylor's play was originally produced at the Olympic in the March of 1874. The leading incident and the principal personages, as the author reminded his audience in his explanatory note, are historical. The story of the assassination plot of 1696 has been told in detail by Lord Macaulay, from materials furnished mainly by the State Trials of that date. The incident of the marriage of Lord and Lady Clancarty while still boy and girl—a practice not uncommon at the time when it occurred—their long and entire separation, their encounter as strangers, the husband's subsequent discovery of himself to his wife, the rapid growth of their love, Clancarty's arrest in his wife's arms by Lord Charles Spencer, her brother, his condemnation to death under the High Treason Act, and the pardon obtained from the King by the loving courage of Lady Clancarty, are all historical; but Tom Taylor took the liberty of assigning to Lord Clancarty the part in revealing the assassination plot of 1696, which was really played by Thomas Prendergast, a Jacobite gentleman of Lancashire.

The story, which must be forgotten by many of our readers, begins with a Jacobite meeting at Romney Marsh. Lord Clancarty, who is an ardent but honourable conspirator, recoils with horror from a proposal to burn Kensington Palace, and shoot William of Orange in the scuffle. Lady Clancarty and her cousin, Lady Betty Noel, take shelter at the inn on the marsh, are assaulted by "Scum" Goodman, a vile associate of the Jacobites, and are rescued from his clutches by Lord Clancarty, who has no idea that the lady he has protected is the little girl to whom he was formally married when she was ten and he fifteen. Clancarty gives his name to her as Heseltine, so she is equally ignorant of his identity. The chivalrous Irishman goes to Kensington Palace, informs the King of the plot against his life, and learns that the lady he saved at Romney Marsh was his girl-wife. Clancarty, however, refuses to give the names of the conspirators. Close on his heels comes "Scum" Goodman, in haste to betray his associates, and with a full list of their names. William of Orange, impressed by the gallant bearing of Clancarty, conducts him in person through the Palace gardens, and warns him that after twenty-four hours he may be liable to arrest. But Clancarty determines to see his wife once again; and, though shot at in transit, manages to climb in at the window of her bedchamber. Here he reveals himself to her; but, in the midst of their raptures, her brother comes to arrest him. With the aid of Lady Betty, Lady Clancarty gets audience of the King, and pleads with him so earnestly that she obtains her husband's pardon. The piece was played at the Olympic by a strong company, Mr. Henry Neville as Clancarty, Miss Ada Cavendish as Lady Clancarty, and Mr. Anson as "Scum" Goodman, being particularly noteworthy; Mr. Charles Neville as William the Third, and Mr. Vernon as the stern brother, also giving memorable impersonations.

The Lyric revival is excellent. For William III., Mr. Waller has secured that admirable actor, Mr. W. Mackintosh. Mr. Mackintosh's embodiment has lost none of its original characteristics; and the courteous gravity of the King's manner, his Dutch accent, his trick of clapping his hand to his side at intervals, and his kingly dignity, are as effective as they are well-conceived. Mr. Lewis Waller assumes with success the genial and persuasive style of Lord Clancarty, and acts throughout with his accustomed energy and acuteness, making every point in the dialogue tell. Clancarty's gallant bearing, the impetuosity with which he makes love, and his easy assurance and quiet impudence, are all most ably indicated by Mr. Waller, who scores a complete success in the rôle. Mr. Herbert Jarman gives an admirable interpretation of the character of "Scum" Goodman, not overdoing the rascality of the bully's appearance, but indicating his base effrontery in every speech and gesture. Miss Adrienne Augarde makes a very "kittenish" and impulsive Betty Noel, and wins the hearts of the audience entirely by her dainty impersonation of the frolicsome young lady. Solid importance, strength, and seriousness are given to the part of the Earl of Portland by Mr. A. E. George; and Mr. Owen Roughwood contributes a neat and alert depiction of Lord Woodstock. Mr. Franklin Dyall is naturally well gifted for the embodiment of Lord Spencer, and hits off the sluggish sternness of the character exactly, besides being sufficiently emphatic in the stronger passages. The party of Jacobites have excellent representatives, Mr. H. J. Carvill as Sir George Barclay and Mr. S. B. Brereton as Sir John Friend being especially commendable. Mr. A. Caton Woodville does good work as the Officer of the Guard; Mr. P. Digan and Mr. J. H. Irvine being fully efficient as Tremlett and James Hunt; Mr. Shiel Barry supplying a bright and acute impersonation of Gille; and Mr. F. W. Trott being praiseworthy as Clink. Miss Eleanor May is very happily cast as the Princess Anne. Miss Leonora Braham gives a ripe, sound, and full-bodied representation of Mother Hunt; and Miss Dora Barton is pleasing in the small part of Susannah. That Miss Evelyn Millard would play Lady Clancarty finely was a foregone conclusion; but even her warmest admirers will not be disappointed with a reading so full of technical excellence, grace, dignity, tenderness, and emotional expression as that given by this accomplished actress. The production, in which Mr. Waller has been assisted by Mr. Herbert Jarman, is finished and complete, the costumes from the designs of Mr. Tom Heslewood, and the scenery by Messrs. E. G. Banks and Walter Hann, being thoroughly good. The merits of the revival were warmly appreciated.

"TOM JONES."

Comic Opera, in Three Acts, founded upon Henry Fielding's novel, Book by A. M. Thompson and Robert Courtneidge, Lyrics by Charles H. Taylor, and Music by Edward German, produced for the first time in London at the Apollo Theatre, on Wednesday, April 17.

Tom Jones	MR. C. HAYDEN COFFIN
Mr. Allworthy	MR. JOHN MORLEY
Blifil	MR. ARTHUR SOAMES
Benjamin Partridge	MR. DAN ROLYAT
Squire Western	MR. AMBROSE MANNING
Gregory	MR. JAY LAURIER
Grizzle	MR. WALTER L. RIGNOLD
Dobbin	MR. REGINALD CROMPTON
Squire Cloddy	MR. HARRY COTTELL
Pimlott	MR. D. PERCIVAL
Tony	MR. W. BIDDLECOMBE
An Officer	MR. H. WELCHMAN
Highwaymen	MESSRS. MELVILLE AND DERRICK
Postboy	MR. WOODIN
Waiter	MR. CARR EVANS
Colonel Hamstead	MR. RUPERT MAR
Tom Edwardes	MR. MANNERS
Colonel Wilcox	MR. DALMUIR
Honour	MISS CARRIE MOORE
Miss Western	MISS MARIE DALTRA
Lady Bellaston	MISS DORA RIGNOLD
Etoff	MISS DOROTHY WARD
Hostess of Inn	MISS FLORENCE PARFREY
Bessie Wiseacre	MISS MINNIE GREEN
Letty Wheatcroft	MISS ANNIE HEENAN
Rosie Lucas	MISS CICELY COURTNEIDGE
Susan	MISS MAUD THORNTON
Betty	MISS MABEL NEWCOME
Peggy	MISS FAY TEMPLE
Sophia	MISS RUTH VINCENT

"Despite a certain taint, which is coarseness rather than immorality, *Tom Jones* has gained its immortality as a work of art because it is fundamentally pure in its pictures of human nature." Thus the late Mr. Robert Buchanan in a foreword to his successful play *Sophia*, founded upon incidents in Henry Fielding's classic, and produced at the Vaudeville on April 12, 1886. Strange as it may seem to the Britisher, the first composer to give a musical setting to the novel was Poinsinet, whose opera on the subject was produced in Paris a few years before Joseph Reed's weak adaptation of it was seen at Covent Garden in 1769. *Tom Jones* was also musically treated by Thomas Dibdin in the form of a burletta brought out at the Surrey. But all this is ancient history, and need not trouble lovers of comedy opera, who will crowd the Apollo for months to come to enjoy the musical delights of Mr. Edward German's setting of the famous work, and to applaud the legitimate successor of *Dorothy*. Purists will, of course, carp at the faint reflex of the spirit of Fielding to be found in the libretto and at the omission of certain characters; but there is sufficient of the story, and each of the first two acts reaches forward to a fine dramatic climax, both of which have been most cleverly treated by the composer, the first being perhaps the most effective. There is sufficient, too, of the story of Tom Jones's love and adventures and of the faith of his sweet Sophia to sustain the interest, and of the heartiness and jollity of the "full-bodied" period of English life mirrored in Fielding's pages there is also enough. For the rest, the opera, in its amplitude of detail, picturesque dressing, and brilliant setting, appeals most successfully to eyes and ears that have been glutted with the luxury of musical comedy, and the enthusiasm of Wednesday, which commenced early in the first act—the most artistic and satisfying of the three, culminated in ringing cheers at the conclusion.

Naturally, the acting and singing reach a much higher plane of excellence than we are accustomed to in mere musical comedy. Towards the undoubted first-night triumph Miss Ruth Vincent contributed greatly, and her impersonation of Sophia Western not only sustains her well-earned reputation as the "Queen of light opera," but it adds appreciably to her status as an actress. Looking sweet and lovable in a pretty grey costume of the period, she grasps the more dramatic situations like the true artist she is. There is real tenderness in the scene where Sophia discovers that Tom Jones has been trifling with another, and true pathos rings through her delivery of the pretty lilt "Hey derry down derry." Other most successful numbers are a florid valse song in the last act and "By night and day." As an actress, Miss Carrie Moore's piquancy and charm were warmly recognised by Londoners in musical comedy. She now takes a higher flight as the maid Honour, and scores both by her fascination as a comedienne and her art as a vocalist. She has a special number in the last act, "Green ribbon," which is most artistically rendered, and she is of immense help in several of the concerted numbers. Tom Jones is much more delicate in the opera than he is in the book; but still Mr. Hayden Coffin makes him a lad of spirit, and sings with all the vocal expression to which he has accustomed us. He infuses much tenderness into the number "A little foundling boy," and shares with Miss Vincent the success of a pretty duet, "For aye, my love." Mr. Dan Rolyat, who plays Benjamin Partridge, the village barber and wit of the countryside, is eccentric and mirth-provoking in a way that is peculiarly his own. He is funny with his legs, and droll with his tongue. He is audacious, too, in his gags, for, if we are not mistaken, he has added not a little to the lines originally given him; but is he not fortified by precedent? At any rate, he is original and refreshing, and his best justification lies in the hearty peals of laughter heard all over the house whenever he is on the stage. Mr. Jay Laurier, who has recently finished a successful engagement at the Tivoli, gives a wonderful character-sketch of a Somersetshire chaw-bacon as Gregory, and sings most successfully a folk-song of the West Country, entitled "Uncle Jan Tappit," also assisting in the success of the famous "Barley Mow." Mr. Ambrose Manning as Squire Western is as boisterous and as splenetic as any gentleman of the three-bottle period need be, and his sketch of the character is firmly drawn and consistent. Mr. Arthur Soames makes the very most of his limited opportunities as Blifil; and Mr. John Morley, with an excellent voice, has little else to do in the first act but assist in the success of the pretty madrigal, "Here's a paradox for lovers." Miss Marie Daltra, an excellent actress, has a fine appreciation of old comedy, as she shows by her rendering of Miss Western; and Lady Bellaston finds in Miss Dora Rignold a really admirable representative of a part that is none too easy to play. Miss Florence Parfrey, a lively hostess, sings well; and two parts that stand out from the many are Grizzle and Dobbin, capitally rendered by Mr. Walter L. Rignold and Mr. Reginald Crompton. The chorus particularly distinguishes itself in the haunting barcarolle, "Beguile, Beguile." The scenery is from the artistic brushes of Stafford Hall and Conrad Tritschler. The former has distinguished himself by a pretty picture of the lawn and gardens of Squire Western in the first act, and the latter's interior of the inn at Upton and Ranelagh Gardens realise the old-world atmosphere of the opera. The composer, Mr. Edward German, conducted a fine orchestra, and was received with much heartiness. The principals were enthusiastically called and recalled after each act, and the success of the opera, which was originally produced at the Prince's Theatre, Manchester on March 30, was never in doubt.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(*Continued from page 11.*)

SMETHWICK.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—Mr. Charles Harrington's American combination is paying a return visit here with *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, opening on Monday to a large audience. The Grand Plantation Festival is finely worked up by the large chorus of negroes and others, and is a prominent and attractive feature. Mr. J. Carr is still Uncle Tom, and no more able exponent could be desired; he is the old negro to the life. Mr. J. H. Renney is good as Phineas Fletcher; Mr. Leslie Beaufort is well placed as George Harris; and Mr. Charles Harrington plays St. Clair with commendable skill. Mr. J. H. Rogers as the inhuman Legree makes a hit; Mr. Walter Langford makes an amusing Marks; Little Eva is sweetly and cleverly played by Miss Holly Haselwood, a well-known local girl; Miss Sylvia Stella as Topsy gives a clever and realistic interpretation; Miss Hero Hathaway as Eliza submits a pleasing performance.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—Pier Pavilion.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley E. Angless. — A first-class programme is presented this week by Mr. Harry Reynolds's Minstrels. Part I. is devoted to minstrelsy, and the manner in which every item is received fully maintains this popular troupe's reputation. Part II. commences with a capital series of animated pictures shown on the Biograph; then follows a capital vaudeville entertainment, a musical treat being provided by Trippello, whose selections on various instruments create great enthusiasm; Mr. Neville Delmar mimics in good style, and his whistling is well received; Mr. Percy Banning as a burlesque artist gets a worthy reception; as also does Little Thomas, in his new eccentricity. Mr. Arthur Gallimore is a clever acrobatic comedian and trick dancer. The concluding item is a laughable sketch, entitled *Me Too, Charlie*.

SOUTHPORT.—Opera House, Winter Gardens.—Proprietors, the Southport Opera House and Winter Gardens Co., Ltd.; Secretary, Mr. R. Singleton.—Mr. Robert Crossman's company is this week presenting the successful musical comedy *Sergeant Brue*. Mr. T. A. Shale submits a capital comedy-sketch in the part of Crookie Scrubbs; the title-rôle is characteristically acted by Mr. E. Russell, who is responsible for much of the merriment of the piece; Miss Mabel Keith portrays Aurora Brue with charming vivacity; Michael Brue has an effective and clever exponent in Mr. Tom Shelford; Miss Edith Housley essayed the rôle of Lady Bickenhall with marked success; Mr. Henry Chichester acquits himself with credit as Mr. Crank; and Miss Constance Berkeley does some commendable work as Daisy, the servant.

Albert Hall, Winter Gardens.—Lessee, Mrs. Charles Parker; Acting Manager, Mr. J. H. Mertz.—The principal turn here is this week supplied by the Cee-Mee Family of gymnasts, who give a wonderful performance; the programme includes Dan Conroy, comedian; J. B. Preston, typical Scotch comedian; Louie Lauri, operatic and ballad vocalist; Almon, the upside-down marvel; Ronald and Evelyn Hope, in an original costume scena, entitled "An Emperor's Divorce"; H. Pawson, Australian illusionist and shadowgraphist; Cliffe Carter, eccentric comedian; and the Bioscope with the latest films.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. J. and F. Coulson. — Mr. George Kirk and Miss Mary Neil's company, in *Her Luck in London*, is here. Miss Mary Neil is a pronounced success as Nellie Harborne; and Mr. Chas. A. Leicester makes the part of the Hon. Fitzgerald O'Connor stand out. The Richard Lenowen of Mr. G. Heath is an excellent piece of acting; Mr. Tyrone Power is suitably cast as Stephen Harborne; and Mr. D. Tremayne gives a good rendering of the Rev. Lionel Strong. The Mme. Gabrielle of Miss Marie Clavering is a powerful performance; and Miss Frances Bruce appears to advantage as Lilian Harborne. Miss F. Groves as Maud Gladys Shovepenny, and Mr. J. Telly Dillsen as Jerry Gotobed, prove diverting.

Empire Palace Theatre.—Proprietors, The South Shields Empire Palace, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—Mike S. Whallen meets with an enthusiastic reception; the dancing submitted by Gwennie Hasto arouses admiration; Nellie Coleman as a lady comedienne is in her element; and Dome, the comedy clay-modeller, is still entertaining. Nipper Lupino Lane, boy comedian, displays versatility; and other welcome turns include the Lupino Brothers, in their comedy speciality act; Fanny Erris, comedienne; Robbie Roy, comedian; and the Bioscope.

Tivoli.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. K. Hall and Joseph Sweeney; Business-Manager, Mr. Harry Burns.—Johnny Hollond and company, in a comedy sketch, *My Friend Boots*, created an excellent impression on Monday evening; the Three Sisters Urma, in a thrilling and graceful trapeze performance, gained hearty applause; Bert Weston, comedian, made a decided hit; and other acceptable turns are Madge Allen, vocalist and dancer; Bert Crosby, comedian; Gracie Bard, coon artist and dancer; and the Tivoli Bioscope.

ST. HELENS.—Theatre Royal and Opera House, Ltd. — General-Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader.—The management of this theatre have provided the music-lovers of St. Helens this week with a rare musical treat. It is the first visit of the famous Carl Rosa Opera Company. They opened on Monday night with an enjoyable representation of *Carmen*. Mr. Walter Wheatley was the José, and scored a huge success; the Carmen of Miss Doris Woodall was a splendid performance, her acting being admirable, and she sang with charming spirit; Mr. Charles Victor as Escamillo sang and acted in excellent style; and the Micaela of Miss Elizabeth Burgess gave the utmost satisfaction. Useful assistance was given by Miss Ina Hill (Frasquita), Miss Dorothy Mayfield (Mercedes), Mr. Alec Richard (Zuniga), Mr. Arthur Thomas (Morales), Mr. A. Felton (Lilias Pastia), Mr. Fred Clendon (Doncairo), and Mr. Arthur Hyde (Remendado). *Lohengrin* was produced on Tuesday night, and was specially remarkable for a fine interpretation of the title-rôle by Mr. Julius Walther, who was in excellent voice, and was rapturously applauded. Elsa was finely played by Mme. Lucille Hill, her acting and vocalisation being alike capital; Mme. Marie Alexander as Ortrud met with the fullest appreciation; Mr. Charles Victor (Telramund), Mr. Arthur Winckworth (Henry), and Mr. Fredk. Clendon (the Herald) were the recipients of much favour. The choral work and orchestral execution won flattering encomiums. The mounting and dresses are of the richest description, and the whole production is of the very highest class. Mr. Walter Van Noorden and Mr. Eugene Goossens are the musical conductors; and Mr. Ernest C. Gittins, who is well known locally, is the courteous acting-manager for the company. The week's répertoire also included *Faust*, *Il Trovatore*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *Tannhäuser*, and *The Bohemian Girl*.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Wilmot; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Vic Carnell.—Mr. Carnell, the energetic and popular manager, took his annual benefit on Thursday last week, which proved a record one, the two houses being packed from floor to ceiling. Miss Marie Loftus was the bright particular star, and there was a long list of turns. This week's bill includes Yvette De Laabe, in her reproductions of sculpture, which win enthusiastic applause; Cullen, Carthy, and Cluney create plenty of laughter; Craig, Rose, and Craig, horizontal bar performers, are heartily appreciated; Miss Emmie Ames, a pleasing comedienne, is nightly recalled; Mr. Harry Vardon, ventriloquist, does well; Mr. Harry Bancroft, vocalist, makes a hit; Ray and Miles, comedy jugglers, are amusing; and Fred S. Peake and company, in the dramatic sketch, *The Hypocrite*, are well received.

STOCKPORT.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Revill, jun. —Large audiences have witnessed *The Village Blacksmith*, capitally played by Messrs. Dottridge, Longden, and Livesey's company here this week. Mr. Sam Livesey's acting in the character of John Strong is able and effective; Mr. Joseph Carter impersonates the villain, Captain Leo, with much ability; genuinely funny and amusing is Mr. Geo. V. Campbell as Billy Twigg, and Mr. George Wilton as St. John Herman, the music hall manager, and Mr. Edwin Maydew as Lucas Farler are both excellent. Miss Maggie Edwards acts feelingly as Kate Strong, and Miss Cassie Le Grande sympathetically fills the part of Ruth Parkins; whilst the child-actress, Miss Bertha Hanbury, is clever as Harry Strong.

Empire. — Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black. —The Lorch Family of acrobats have achieved a great success here this week. The Wakeman Quartette, in a musical comedy-sketch, are very entertaining; Violet Morgan is pleasing in her imitations of well-known artists; Lorne and Rene, in a Lancashire singing sketch, *Capital and Labour*, quite suit the popular taste; the McKays display ability as lightning oil-painters; Ailsa Douglas, soprano vocalist, sings delightfully; and Marquis and Mignonette are successful in a comedy act, entitled *Little Willie*.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—Hippodrome Theatre. Proprietors, Messrs. George and Robert Nicholson; Manager, Mr. Geo. Stanton.—Irvan Tschernoff, with his trained dogs and ponies, is here this week, and has received a good reception; Ford and Hanson are successful in their musical act; and Gibson and Doyle create great amusement with their patter. Fred Clifford, who possesses a rich baritone voice, is loudly applauded for his fine singing; Desmonti and Mora are excellent acrobats, and the Three Panamas are greatly appreciated in their tumbling display; the Sisters McQueen are excellent vocalists and dancers; Hanvarr and Lee are great favourites as the "Golfer and the Maid"; and the Pictures are both interesting and humorous.

Grand Theatre.—Proprietor, Councillor J. Batty; Manager, Mr. W. Batty.—Will Vay's Juveniles head the bill this week, and are greatly appreciated; Irene Rose is an ideal comedienne; Mendel, the blind pianist, is a clever musician; Sandford and Lyons are comedians of rare ability; and Herbert Bates is greatly appreciated in his songs. Vandinoff, a remarkable lightning painter, is loudly applauded; Donn, the miniature comedian, greatly delights the audience; and the Pictures, as usual, complete the programme.

STOKE.—Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr T. Allan Edwardes; Manager, Mr. H. Miller.—The Mohamed Ben Mohamed Troupe of Sousa Arabs head the bill this week in their remarkable bounding turn; the Three Macdonalds, in their musical act, contribute a novel and clever turn; Tom Kelso and company do well in their sketch, *The Silly Servant*; Nellie Chandos sings her coon songs cleverly, and dances admirably; the Sisters Clifton are capital duettists and skipping-rope dancers; Cyclo is a clever trick cyclist; Geo. Grenville is a comedian of merit; Carr and Rosi are a smart pair, and provide an excellent turn.

STOURBRIDGE.—Alhambra Theatre.—Manageress, Miss Maude Lynton.—Mr. James P. Moore and company is here for the week, presenting an old-time favourite drama, *The Seven Sisters*. Mr. Arthur Millward as Robert Raebourne played with good effect, and was ably assisted by Mr. Charles Clifford as Dr. Walraven; Mr. James P. Moore as Holden Dale gave quite a natural impersonation; while Mr. Monson Thorpe as the brother, Gilbert Dale, acted with force and ability; and Mr. Clarence Turner as Billy Bubbles provided plenty of fun, and was applauded for his songs. Miss Gwendoline Hastings as Ida Raebourne proved an accomplished actress; and Mr. Alwynne Ermon did well as Norah. Miss Mollie Revell as Judith was prominent.

SUNDERLAND.—King's Theatre.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Ernest Stevens and R. C. Buchanan.—Mr. Robert Crossman's company, in *Sergeant Brue*, is drawing crowded houses here this week. The title-rôle is in the capable hands of Mr. Arthur Reynolds, who does it every justice; Crooke Scrubbs finds an apt exponent in Mr. Clarence Ibbotson, and Michael Brue is admirably portrayed by Mr. J. H. Goldsworthy; Mr. Charles Sims is well placed as Mr. Crank; as Lady Bickenhall Miss Cissie Raymond acts with *chic*, which makes her impersonation charming; Miss Mary Hay is a bright and winsome Aurora Brue; whilst as Daisy Miss Marion Hargrave gives a fine character-study.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. E. Machin; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jos. Hemingway. —Messrs. Armadale and Warren's company, in *The Face at the Window*, is the attraction here. Mr. E. Hoggan-Armadale is again playing Le Loup with all his accustomed ferocity; Mr. T. W. Dunscome gives an excellent delineation of Paul Gouffet; Mr. G. Phythian scores as Le Blanc; as Peter Pottleberry Mr. C. Alan Hineson proves himself to be a comedian of some ability, and with Miss Gladys Newcombe as Bamette is responsible for most of the fun; Miss Marie Barrett gives a pathetic rendering of Marie de Brisson; and as La Ginau Miss Marie Dennant is excellent.

Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Acting-Managers, Messrs. A. Brown and S. B. Stringer.—Fred Karno's amusing sketch, *Early Birds*, heads the bill, and is as popular as ever; Jennie Evans, comedienne; C. St. John Denton and G. Rowland's company, in *The Punch and Judy Girl*; Martine and Son, singing picture artists; Nelson and Thomas, comedy team; Daisy Morell, versatile vocalist; Marstro and Oretta, equilibrists; Rowland Hill, comedian; and the Palace Pictures complete the programme.

SUTTON-IN-ASHFIELD. — King's Theatre. —Proprietors. Mansfield, Sutton, and District Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Edward Gray.—After a long absence, Mr. F. S. Gibbert is paying a visit here this week with grand opera, and on Monday evening *Maritana* was most favourably received. Mr. F. S. Gibbert was particularly good in his tenor songs, "There is a flower that bloometh" and "Let me like a soldier fall," and had to respond to numerous encores. The part of King of Spain was ably supported by Mr. K. Campbell. The rôle of Martinano was sustained by Miss Elsie May, who gave a very capable rendering. The week's bill includes *Il Trovatore*, *The Daughter of the Regiment*, and *The Bohemian Girl*.

SWANSEA.—The Empire. — Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. Albert Mitchell; Assistant-Manager, Mr. P. C. Rowe.—The ever-popular Lockhart's elephants, presented by Capt. Taylor, are here; the Bros. Horne have lost nothing of their popularity, being welcomed as heartily as ever; the Bocaccio Minstrels, including Signor Francia (mandoline soloist), give a most refined turn; and Rosa Loader, the musical mimic, is much appreciated; May Evans, character comedienne, is as bright as ever; Allis and Cassiti give a very humorous show; whilst Lady Fauntleroy, ventriloquist, ranks with the best. The Bioscope complete a good all-round bill.

The Grand.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Brooks and Woodbridge; Resident Manager, Mr. E. Oswald Brooks.—*The Officers' Mess* is being presented here by Mr. W. Penrhyn Forster's company. Miss Nellie Sheffield as Rose Smith is delightful; Miss Clara Nicholls, Miss Edith Harmer, and Miss Marcella Hudson charmingly sustain their parts, whilst the dancing of the Alston Troupe (including Miss Maude Sandemann) is particularly commendable. As Major-General Sir Adelbert de Beaune, Mr. L. Cadwaladr has a part eminently suited to him; whilst Mr. Harry Emerie as Sir Adelbert's body-servant could not be improved upon. Messrs. Geo. Ellis, Charles D. Cleveland, and Mr. H. Vyvian do full justice to their characters.

The Star.—Manager, Mr. William Coutts.—*The Middleman* and *Saints and Sinners* are staged here this week by Miss Elaine Verner and company. In *The Middleman* Mr. Harding Thomas, in the difficult rôle of Cyrus Blenkarn, gives convincing proofs of his ability; as Mary, Miss Elaine Verner was sweet, and shared with Mr. Harding Thomas the triumph of the evening; Mr. John Hooper is admirable as Joseph Chandler; as is also Mr. Edgar Kent, as his managing man. Miss Ada Clark (Nancy), Mr. Guy Dene (Sir Seaton Umfraville), and Mr. E. Rayson Cousens (Joseph Chandler) worthily sustained their parts. The play is excellently staged.

TODMORDEN.—Town Hall.—Proprietors, Corporation of Todmorden; Secretary, Mr. Howarth Stansfield.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company are here in *The Christian*. As Glory Quayle Miss Laura Walker plays with much discrimination and feeling; whilst Mr. Jack Fortesque as John Storm gives a fine impersonation. They are ably supported by Mr. Ernest Stidwell as Horatio Drake; Mr. P. Gedge Twyman as Lord Robert Ure; Mr. Phipps Stanley as Archdeacon Wealthy; Mr. Courtenay as Brother Paul; and Mr. Harry Colbeck as Father Lamplugh. A word of praise is due to Miss Edith M. Savery for her excellent rendering of the part of Polly Love; and the Liza of Miss V. Herne, and the Mrs. Callender of Miss Constance Stevens are alike worthy of commendation.

TON-Y-PANDY.—Theatre Royal. — Lessees, Messrs. Carlton and Duckworth; General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth.—Mr. Ernest Abbott and company are here in *Lady Audley's Secret*. Mr. Ernest Abbott furnishes a fine character-study as George Talboys; Robert Audley is taken by Mr. Douglas Phelps with great distinction; Mr. W. H. Garboi is powerful in the rôle of Sir Michael Audley; Luke Marks is successfully played by Mr. Edwin Keen; the part of Master George Talboys is well played by Miss Hetty Jones; Miss Doris Dew is very amusing as Alicia Audley; Miss Ada Abbott submits a charming performance of Lady Audley. *Sapho*, *East Lynne*, and *The Unknown* are billed for the remainder of the week.

Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. W. Stone; Manager, Mr. Edgar Harper.—On Monday the Hippodrome was opened for a season by Mr. W. Stone.—Davis Charter and Bedford are very amusing in their sketch, *Jack's Uncle*; Mr. Edgar Harper is very successful in his illustrated songs, namely, "Off to Philadelphia" and "The Village Blacksmith"; Poole and Poole are an attraction; and a prominent feature of the programme is the cinématograph, some very fine films being shown.

TORQUAY.—Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Managing Director, Mr. W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. A. Pearse.—Mr. Norman Macowan's company paid a welcome return visit on Monday with *Monsieur Beaucaire*, in the name-part of which Mr. Macowan achieved a great success, his acting throughout being distinguished by manly dignity; as Lady Mary Carlisle, Miss Violet Sterne acted with feeling and an aristocratic bearing that was in every sense admirable; Mr. Murray Hathorn took the part of the Duke of Winterset with great ability; Mr. Arthur Somers was a successful Major Molyneaux, and the Captain Badger of Mr. Ramsey Forman was well acted. On Tuesday evening *A Marriage of Convenience* was given with the Screen Scene from *The School for Scandal*.

WAKEFIELD.—Royal Opera House.—Proprietors, Messrs. Sherwood and Co.—On Monday night Mr. Charles F. Cooke's company opened a week's stay here in the military play *The Trumpet Call*. Mr. Leonard Yorke gives a manly and spirited impersonation as the hero, Cuthbert Cuthbertson; the part of Sergeant-Major Milligan is skilfully portrayed by Mr. Charles F. Cooke; Mr. Freddie Bentley does well as Tommy Dutton; and is well supported by Miss May Foster as Lavinia Ginnifer. Mr. David Beattie does good work as Professor Ginnifer; and Mr. John Dennys is successful as Richard Featherstone. Mr. J. Betterton proves capable as Sir William Barton; the trying part of Constance Cuthbertson finds a clever exponent in Miss Helena Millais; and Miss Doris Gilham is efficient as Astrea.

Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—Herr Fritz, illusionist, assisted by Mlle. Jeannette, heads the bill this week, and completely mystifies the audience by his wonderful illusions. Mr. Frank Bernard and company are successful in a sketch entitled *Hello!* which evokes much laughter; Babs Lloyd, juvenile comedienne, is smart; Mr. T. E. Johnstone, actor-vocalist, proves popular; Hurman, hoop manipulator and juggler, merits favour; and Miss Nellie Vance is a pleasing comedienne.

WARRINGTON.—Royal Theatre of Varieties. —Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr. F. Willmot.—Joe Reichen's dogs perform wonderful tricks here this week; Sterling and Love are a refined couple; James Gorse, blind pianist and vocalist, scores well; Conan and Doyle have up-to-date business; Jack Ross has a voice of good range; and T. C. Callaghan is a refined character comedian. The Bioscope Pictures are good.

WEST BROMWICH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. Harding Thomas; Manager, Mr. Richard Nightingale.—Messrs. E. A'Dell and Charbot's company is here this week with the musical comedy-drama, *His Sister's Honour*. Mr. Evelyn A'Dell gives great satisfaction in his impersonation of Frank Stanley; Mr. Harry C. Robinson makes a capital villain in the character of Sir Richard Redvers; a fund of humour is exhibited by Mr. Sidney Dean as Timothy Timid, and certainly keeps the audience in very good spirits; Mr. Gilson Brooke is effective as Dr. Godfrey; Mr. Harry Mitchelson doing well as the policeman. Miss Bessie Deares is a great success in the part of Maria; Miss Ethel Ashleigh succeeds in gaining the sympathy of the house for her excellent acting of Ivy Merton, a cripple; in the rôle of Dora Stanley Miss Kathryne Eckart displays clever acting; and Miss Winnie Hennerley does well as Gretchen.

New Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. Lewis Gilbert. —A delightful performance is given here by the Selbinis in a combination of marvellous cycling tricks, for which they receive encore after encore; Dan Filmer sings some very jolly songs; Miss Crissie Cross meets with a good reception; Stewart and Morgan are highly-successful in their vocal scena, "Leaving Ireland; the Markies are deserving of much praise for their clever musical act; Miss Rose Elliott sings her songs with great taste and feeling; Miss Lily Le Breton is very smart on the trapeze; the programme being brought to a close by the Hippodrome Pictures.

WIDNES.—Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Jas. Kiddie.—A unique production took place here on Monday evening, when Mr. Kiddie "put on" 130 school children in the pantomime, *Dick Whittington*. The principals were all youngsters of tender years, some of whom will be heard of again. Miss Nellie Carr was a delightful Dick, singing charmingly; Miss May Barrett's Alice was a pleasing performance; Miss Lena Merrick played the Fairy remarkably well, and proved herself a vocalist of unusual merit. The efforts of the junior comedians were highly pleasing to a crowded house.

(*Continued on page 24.*)

"A KING FOR A DAY."

A complete Musical Comedy, the Book, Lyrics, and Music by George Sheldon, produced for the first time on any stage at the Ardwick Empire, Manchester, on Monday, April 15.

H.H. the Hereditary Prince of Polignac ..... Mr. Fred Brampton
Signor Carrara ..... Mr. Will Letters
Septimus Tupper ..... Mr. Harry Buss
Adolf ..... Mr. Robert Barbour
Eliza Remnant ..... Miss Edith Barwell
Elise Remnant .... Miss Molly Woolstenhulme

(from our own correspondent.)

The action of this bright and amusing miniature musical comedy (toured by Mr. Sidney Dooley and Mr. Charles Seymour) hinges upon the expectation of Signor Carrara that H.H. the Hereditary Prince of Polignac, the King, is coming, upon request, to unveil his latest masterpiece, a statue of Psyche, in the Kursaal Gardens, at Badenbad (Austria), where the scene is laid. Carrara is in high glee at the honour that is about to be bestowed upon him, and the general sentiment of a fête day is voiced lustily by himself and a chorus of girls in brilliant holiday costumes, who give life and colour to the scene. Carrara has little of the conventional sculptor in his appearance, however, and it is at once obvious that his gifts lie rather in the direction of low comedy. Into the midst of the expectant crowd come Eliza Remnant, a spinster of prim and unlovely aspect, and her niece Elise, the latter of whom, wishing to be present at the unveiling ceremony in spite of her aunt's refusal, disguises herself as a boy; while her aunt—much to the lady's surprise and delight—receives by mistake an offer of marriage from Septimus Tupper, who is smitten by the charms of Elise. The endeavour of the aunt after this to find Mr. Tupper leads to a considerable amount of chasing and dodging on the part of various characters (including Mr. Tupper himself), and no small amount of fun is got out of the idea that the elderly Miss Remnant must never give up her hope of finding Mr. Tupper until she has got hold of a husband of some sort. In the meantime the King, desiring a holiday *incognito* at the Kursaal, has wired his inability to come and unveil the statue. In this crisis Signor Carrara prevails upon Tupper to impersonate the King. Tupper's get-up is very funny. No one but the audience know that the real King is on the scene; but his Highness is in trouble, having been chased by Miss Remnant, and hidden himself, with Psyche, under the drapery to escape the pertinacious lady's attentions. When the unveiling takes place the King is discovered. Fine fun ensues, Carrara and Tupper producing roars of laughter by their mock-legal handling of the situation. Finally, the King is incarcerated, but the aunt, releasing him, is shut up by him in his place, while he goes to establish his identity for the righting of affairs. When he comes back, however, Tupper has resumed his own identity, and so has Elise. The aunt, let out of durance, is faced with the revelation of Tupper's misdirection of his offer of marriage; but, not to be disappointed, she takes headlong advantage of the very obliging nature of Adolf, the waiter, who is wholly at anyone's service. For everyone, in short, the day of the ceremony has been a lively time. The piece is remarkably well done. The music is bright, the lyrics are smart, and the action never flags for a moment. Miss Edith Barwell was excellent as the old maid; Miss Molly Woolstenhulme was very pleasing as Elise, and scored especially in her song-scena, "Fighting for Home and King"; Mr. Robert Barbour made a characteristic waiter, Adolf; Mr. Fred Brampton played brusquely as the King; and Mr. Harry Buss worked hard and well in a successful depiction of the lively Mr. Tupper. But the hit of the piece was the Carrara of Mr. Will Letters, who got the utmost out of—or put the utmost into—a score of fine opportunities. For the rest, Mr. George Sheldon is to be congratulated upon his work as well as upon his cast. It should be added that some electrical effects are introduced very prettily.

THE WAYFARERS' DRAMATIC CLUB.

Judging by the programme which announced the production on Tuesday at Ladbroke Hall, Notting Hill, W., of a three-act comedy, the wayfarers might be an association of literary vagabonds possessing ambition to climb the steeps of Parnassus; but the piece was written in such a jejune style that we may conclude that they are merely players dallying with the drama in their spare moments. Mr. O. Percy Martin, the author, should have tried his 'prentice hand on a one-act piece before attempting to shape a three-act comedy. Poverty of incident and conversations of the most insipid nature mark its progress from the rise to the final fall of the curtain. It is impossible either to feel any sympathy with Teddy Travers, the hero, after whom the so-called comedy is named. He lacks backbone, and cuts a very poor figure. There is some feeling for character in the sketch of the modern sailor, Jack Barker, and some consistency is found in the character of Philip Everest. The piece has no dramatic scheme to speak of, and is mostly episodical. Teddy Travers, a bank clerk, has fallen in love with Enid Marsden, the daughter of the Vicar of Woodington, a little country town where the action takes place. He confides his hopes to Enid's mother, who makes him promise not to propose to her until he is in a position to keep a wife. Enid, who returns his affection, is at a loss to understand his backwardness, and listens to the suit of Mr. Philip Everest, a rich *parti* of mature age. To his declaration of love, Enid promises to give an answer on the morrow near the hollow oak in Woodington Woods. Frank Marsden, son of the clergyman, a very ordinary specimen of the bounder, who when he is not making an ass of himself is acting—as he himself confesses—like "a beastly cad," has kissed his mother's slavey, Lucy, with whom he makes an appointment near the same rendezvous. Lucy does not keep the appointment, but tells her sailorman, Jack Barker, of the insult offered her without revealing any name. Jack, coming to the spot, misses Marsden, who hides himself in the hollow of the tree, and happens on Everest, who is impatiently awaiting Enid's arrival. The sailor, mistaking him for the insulter of his Lucy, prepares to give Everest a sound thrashing; but the latter saves his skin by a bribe of twenty pounds. Eventually a bank managership conferred upon him enables Teddy Travers to take Enid to his arms; and Marsden, contrite and humble, makes it up with his *fiancée*, and the curtain falls on the unalloyed happiness of the four principal characters. Miss Margaret Martin, Mr. George H. Chappell, Mr. Montague Lewis (who stage-managed), Mr. C. F. Frost, and Miss Isabel E. Frost were the best of the company playing *Teddy Travers*, but no conspicuous ability was shown by anyone.

The first meeting of the committee of the old Welcome Club, of which Lord Roberts of Kandahar is president, was held at the Criterion last week in order to elect members and do other business in regard to the coming season, during which the Balkan States Exhibition is to be held at Earl's Court. The club premises and lawns have been improved and extended, and the buildings opposite have been replaced by a charming illuminated garden, which gives a more beautiful outlook to members on the lawn, and is also the means of doing away with the noises of the side-show attendants, to which exception was hitherto taken.

"WEE WILLIE WINKIE."

A Nursery Rhyme Pantomime, in Three Acts, written by H. Weston Wells, music by Frederic Leeds, produced at St. Peter's Hall, Brockley, on Saturday, April 6.

Old King Cole ..... Mr. Harry de Koningh
Robin ..... Miss Daisy Aucutt
Richard ..... Miss Irene Southall
Simple Simon ..... Mr. Harold James
Dr. Fell ..... Mr. Weston Wells
Dr. Foster ..... Master Eddie Slade
Princess Mary Mary, Quite Contrary ..... Miss Birdie Barnett
The Old Woman who Lived in a Shoe ..... Miss Bessie James
Tom Tom, the Piper's Son ..... Master Archie Wells
Queen Mab ..... Miss Kathleen Jackson
Robin Goodfellow ..... Master Leslie Cole
Thistle-down ..... Miss May Lockwood
Wee Willie Winkie ..... Master Percy Barnett

The plot of *Wee Willie Winkie; or, The Pig and the Pedigree*, is as follows:—King Valiant, who has been slain in battle, has left an infant son, who is rescued by a benevolent little sprite, Wee Willie Winkie, and spirited away into fairyland. When he has become a grown lad, known as Tom Tom, the Piper's Son, he comes to the Court of King Cole. That usually jovial monarch has fallen into the hands of a couple of quacks, Dr. Fell and Dr. Foster, and these worthies, by their pills and potions, have nearly killed the unfortunate King, who naturally suffers from melancholia. Tom, on coming to the Court, falls in love with Mary Mary, Quite Contrary, the King's daughter, and in accordance with nursery lore, steals a pig intended for the King's dinner. Tom is arrested and sentenced to death, but having obtained permission to play upon his pipe, his wondrous music causes the invalid King to dance, and, finally, to regain his wonted health. In his gratitude King Cole bestows the hand of his daughter Mary upon Tom, and the quack doctors are ducked in a horse-pond by the children. Mr. Wells' piece is well suited for the juveniles, and Mr. Leeds' music, if not very striking, is tuneful and catchy. Mr. Harry de Koningh was amusing as Old King Cole. Master Leslie Cole sang excellently as Robin Goodfellow; Miss Birdie Barnett made a pretty and tuneful Mary Mary, Quite Contrary; Mr. Percy Barnett looked an ideal Wee Willie Winkie; Mr. H. Weston Wells gained laughter as Dr. Fell; Mr. Fred d'Encer sang well as Little Jack Horner. Miss Bessie James spoke her lines intelligently as the Old Woman Who Lived in a Shoe; and Master Archie Wells scored well as Tom. Some pretty dances were arranged by Miss Lucy O. Wheeler. The scenery by Messrs. T. Bull and Son was very effective. The piece was well received by the audience, and both author and composer were awarded a hearty call before the curtain.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(from our own correspondent.)

SYDNEY, March 12.—*Robin Hood*, with its picturesque setting and historical traditions, continues to attract at Her Majesty's Theatre. Mr. Julius Knight, with his bold, vigorous embodiment of the outlaw, is still the centre figure; Miss Elbert Orton has become a firm favourite; and Mr. Harry Plimmer, and the rest of the specially-chosen company, combine to make the Sherwood Forest idyll a charming production.

"The White Heather," perhaps Mr. Bland Holt's most notable production, and in which he plays a congenial part as Edgar Trefusis, was revived for the last week of the actor-manager's present season at the Theatre Royal; and Mrs. Bland Holt was again the Lady Janet Maclintock; and Miss Frances Ross, Messrs. W. E. Baker, Chas. Brown, Albert Norman, and Maurice F. Kemp were to the fore in a strong cast.

"The Kelly Gang" was staged at the Criterion on the 9th. The house was packed. Mr. J. T. Ryan directs the venture, and Mr. Ernest Blackstone is business-manager, the stage-management being left to Mr. Robert Henry.

The Tivoli has a capital bill. King and Benson, Will Lochnane, Fred Russell and Coster Joe, clever Fanny Powers, Gracie Grahame, Cassy Walmer, Fred Bluett, Art Slavin, Harold Reeves, Frank G. King, Addie Leigh, Pearl Lovell, Gracie Compton, Annie Laurie, and Lily Grimshaw, are all popular with the public, and to this long list Mr. Harry Rickards promises to add next Saturday the American character-actor, Charles N. Fletcher.

The National Amphitheatre has the Bovis Brothers, Apollo Belvidere, Essie Jennings, Carder Wilson, Bert Nicholson, and Gertie Everett, among a host of others.

MELBOURNE, March 12.—Princess's Theatre. —Lessees, Messrs. Ward and Willoughby.—After a successful run of three weeks, *The New Clown* was withdrawn last Friday in favour of *Mr. Hopkinson*, which was presented to a crowded house on Saturday evening. The performance, taken on the whole, was a most successful one in every way. Mr. Ward, in the name-part, looked and acted the part excellently. It is undoubtedly one of the best things Mr. Ward has done since this first appearance in Melbourne. Miss Grace Palotta was admirably suited with the part of the Duchess, Miss Olive Winton gave a natural presentation of Lady Thyra, Mr. George Willoughby was well placed as the crotchety old Earl. Mr. Edward Bonfield as Lord Gawthorpe was well suited; while the minor parts were pleasingly acted by Messrs. Gamble, Harry Overton, C. Angler, and F. Walhalla.

Her Majesty's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson; Business-Manager, Mr. George Tallis.—*Mother Goose* is still going strong, and on Saturday evening the theatre was packed long before eight o'clock. The season is now limited to eight more performances, so the management anticipate a record week. Active preparations are being made for the performance of *Parsifal*, which will be staged on Saturday, 23rd inst.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. William Anderson; Business-Manager, Mr. Julius Grant.—People had to be turned away on Saturday night, where the exciting episodes of *The Squatter's Daughter* were portrayed by Mr. Anderson's company. So great has been the success of this piece that, although the season has yet three weeks to run, it is anticipated that the present programme will last the full time without the necessity for a change.

Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Aydon.—Brinn, the herculean juggler and cannon manipulator, made his reappearance on Saturday evening for a brief farewell season. The last nights are announced of Mr. Charles Leonard Fletcher, whose character-sketches have proved highly successful during his season here. The programme at present also includes Antonio and his dogs, Cora Caselli, Rochfort and Hart, Charlene and Charlene, Fred Curran, Leonard Nelson, Nellie Kilburn, Ethel Preston, Eileen Lyons, Ada Saddler, Olive Robinson, Maud Florence, Brightie Smith, and Joe Lashwood.

FIFTY YEARS OF THE DRAMA.

Owing to pressure on our space, we have been compelled to hold over the weekly instalment of the above. The series will be continued next week.

"The Era" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

ON THE ROAD, APRIL 22.

All-of-a-Sudden Peggy.—T. R., Belfast.
Amasis.—Prince's T., Manchester.
Angel of Unrest.—T. R., Birkenhead.
Anna of the Plains.—Pier, Eastbourne.
An Unwedded Wife.—O. H., Perth.
Asche, Oscar.—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
Assassin.—Empire T., Southend.
Bandmann-Palmer, Mrs.—H. M. T., Aberdeen.
Beauty of Bath.—T. R., Birmingham.
Belle of New York.—T. R., Dublin.
Benson, F. R. (N.).—New T., Loughborough.
Benson, F. R.—Stratford-on-Avon.
Benson, F. R. (S.).—Yeovil, Dorchester.
Between the Lights.—Albert T., Brighouse.
Blue Beard.—Theatre Royal, Bath.
Carl Rosa Opera Co.—Marlborough Theatre, N.
Cassidy, J. Rice.—Paisley T., Paisley.
Charley's Aunt.—Grand Theatre, Derby.
Christian, The.—O. H., Leicester.
Christian, The (Howard).—Chesterfield.
Claudian.—Lyceum T., Newport.
Coal King.—T. R., West Hartlepool.
Compton Comedy Co.—Court T., Liverpool.
Conscript, The.—Theatre Royal, Castleford
Dairymaids, The.—Broadway T., Deptford.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—O. H., Burnley.
Destroyer of Men.—Sutton-in-Ashfield.
D'Oyly Carte.—Bradford.
Dr. Wake's Patient.—Hull and Bolton.
Earl and the Girl (M.).—Newcastle.
Eternal City.—Crystal Palace Theatre.
Face at the Window.—Queen's T., Farnworth.
False Wife.—Leigh.
Female Swindler.—Lyceum T., Govan.
Fight for Millions.—T. R., North Shields.
Florodora (Howard).—O. H., Middlesboro'.
Geisha.—P. O. W. Theatre, Birmingham.
Glossop-Harris Repertoire Co.—O. H., Dudley.
Go-Won-Go-Mohawk.—Grand T., Newcastle.
Great Awakening.—O. H., Northampton.
Grip of Iron.—Grand Theatre, Eccles.
Heart's Desire.—Empire T., Cradley.
Her Luck in London.—Palace T., Newcastle.
Her Marriage Vow.—T. R., Chesterfield.
Her One Great Sin.—Queen's T., Gateshead.
His House in Order (N.).—H. M. T., Carlisle.
His House in Order (S.).—T. R., Brighton.
His Sister's Honour.—Gaiety T., Burnley.
Home, Sweet Home (Green and Hinton).—Yarmouth.
Honeymoon, The.—Grand Theatre, Chorley.
Honour Thy Father.—T. R., Cardiff.
Hour of Her Triumph.—Grand T., Luton.
Ian Maclaren's Repertoire.—Victoria T., Broughton.
In Sight of St. Paul's.—T. R., Ashton.
Irving, H. B.—T. R., Newcastle-on-Tyne.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Denbigh and Penmaenmawr.
La Poupee (Ralland).—T. R., Bournemouth.
Life's Sweetest Sins.—Prince's T., Portsmouth.
Lion and the Mouse.—Gaiety T., Ayr.
Little Breadwinner.—Alexandra T., Hull.
Little Vagrant.—T. R., Rochdale.
London Fireman.—T. R., Chesterfield.
Love that Women Desire.—T. R., Wolverhampton.
Lucky Durham.—Irving T., Seacombe.
Lucky Liza.—O. H., Radcliffe.
Man's Enemy.—O. H., Workington.
Manxman.—Clarence T., Pontypridd.
Martin Harvey.—Prince's T., Bristol.
Master Criminal.—T. R., Coatbridge.
Midnight Mail.—Sunderland.
Midnight Wedding.—T. R., Middlesbrough.
Mollison, William.—Grand T., Swansea.
Monsieur Beaucaire.—Cambridge and Bedford.
Monte Cristo.—Dalston Theatre, N.E.
Moody-Manners'.—T. R., Sheffield.
Morals of Marcus.—Theatre Royal, Newcastle.
Mr. Popple.—Lancaster.
Napoleon the Great.—Prince's T., Bradford.
New Aladdin.—Theatre Royal, Portsmouth.
New World.—Muncaster T., Bootle.
Otto, the Outcast.—Theatre Royal, Leeds.
Perfect Lover.—Glasgow.
Peter Pan (No. 1).—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
Peter Pan (No. 2).—Shakespeare T., Liverpool.
Peter's Mother (N.).—Dublin.
Peter's Mother (S.).—York.
Pick of the Bunch.—Hastings.
Power of Gold.—Theatre Royal, Consett.
Power of the Cross.—T. R., Lincoln.
Prince of Pilsen (Harriss).—County T., Kingston.
Private Secretary.—West Pier, Brighton.
Prodigal Parson.—Alexandra T., Birmingham.
Raffles (Dance).—Theatre Royal, Norwich.
Royal Divorce.—T. R., Halifax.
Second to None.—Colosseum, Oldham.
Sergeant Brue (N.).—Gaiety T., Manchester.
Sherlock Holmes.—Grand T., Nottingham.
Shulamite.—Theatre Royal, Shrewsbury.
Sign of the Cross.—O. H., Coventry.
Silver King (Polini and Melford).—King's T., Hammersmith, W.
Sin of Her Childhood.—Met T., Gateshead.
Span of Life.—T. R., Stockport.
Still Alarm.—Grand T., Mansfield.
Swiss Express.—Theatre Royal, Aston.
Throne of Terror.—Theatre Royal, Blyth.
Tommy.—Grand Theatre, Southampton
Triumph of Truth.—Royalty T., Llanelly.
Trumpet Call.—New Gaiety T., Leith.
Two Little Drummer Boys.—T. R., Huddersfield.
Two Little Vagabonds.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
Tyrant, The.—Theatre Royal, Smethwick.
Uncle Tom's Cabin.—Prince's T., Poplar.
Village Blacksmith.—T. R., Rotherham.
Warning to Women.—Royalty T., Barrow.
Walls of Jericho.—Coronet Theatre, W.
What the Butler Saw.—O. H., Cheltenham.
When It Was Dark.—Court Theatre, Wigan.
When the Lights are Low.—Junc. T., Manchester.
White Chrysanthemum (Macdona).—Cambridge.
Wilkie, Allan, and Co.—T. R., South Shields.
Woman Worth Winning.—Grand T., Nelson.
Woman's Past.—West London Theatre.
Youngest of Three.—O. H., Torquay.
10.30 Down Express.—Colchester.
£1000 Reward.—St. James's T., Manchester.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Amy Height—Saturday, April 20.
H. Leslie Bell—Saturday, April 20.
"Papa" Brown—Sunday, April 21.
J. R. Lowe—Sunday, April 21.
A. Bernhadt-Turner—Sunday, April 21.
C. Haddon Chambers—Monday, April 22.
Ada Rehan—Monday, April 22
C. Hayden Coffin—Monday, April 22.
Leslie Beaufort—Monday, April 22.
Helen Charles—Monday, April 22.
Brian Daly—Monday, April 22.
Amy Coleman—Monday, April 22.
Maurice Farkoa—Tuesday, April 23.
Ernest Dottridge—Tuesday, April 23.
W. Scott Phipp—Tuesday, April 23
James Howell—Tuesday, April 23.
Cyril Maude—Wednesday, April 24.
Raynor Golden—Wednesday, April 24.
Violet Ellicott—Wednesday, April 24.
Rosie Vernon—Wednesday, April 24.
Celestine Brandon—Wednesday, April 24.
Chas. H. Gallier—Thursday, April 25.
John Wainwright—Thursday, April 25.
Harry Graham—Thursday, April 25.
Percy E. Abell—Friday, April 26.
Ethel Griffies—Friday, April 26.
Lily Hanbury—Friday, April 26.
Fred Williams—Friday, April 26.

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The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Robert Musgrave.—A Cruise to China, *an adaptation of* Le Voyage en Chine, *with Mr. Tree in the cast, was first played at the Garrick Theatre, Whitechapel, on June 5, 1879.*

R. G.—Peep o'Day *was orignally produced at the Lyceum, Nov. 9, 1861.*

T. Courtice.—*You must get the permission of the owner of the copyright and performing right in the plays.*

V. V.—The Parvenu, *comedy, in three acts, by G. W. Godfrey, was produced at the Court, April 8, 1882.*

J. Scott.—(1) *It is against our rule to give the ages of members of the profession.* (2) *No.*

W. Curtis.—*Barnum and Bailey's Show, which opened at Olympia on Nov. 11, 1889, included Imre Kiraly's spectacle,* Nero; or the Destruction of Rome.

Anxious.—*If you take money at the doors, both the play and the place it is played in must be licensed.*

L. N.—*When* Kitty Grey *was revived at the Apollo on Sept. 7, 1901, Miss Edna May played the Baroness de Tregué and Mr. Maurice Farkoa Baron de Tregué.*

W. F.—*At the Folly (afterwards Toole's), Feb. 23, 1878.*

G. M.—*A musical comedy, in three acts, entitled* The Marriage Market, *by Frederick Jarman, music by the Chevalier Legrand, was produced at the Opera House, Jersey, on March 31, 1902.*

H. T. Moore.—*We regret that we are unable to inform you.*

George Cristo.—*On such a point the best authority to consult would be Mr. J. N. Maskelyne, St. George's Hall, Langham-place, W.*

Mr. Fred Groves *writes pointing out that the part played by Mr. Cyril Maude in* Joseph's Sweetheart *at the Vaudeville Theatre was Lord Fellamar, not Lord Bellamar, as printed in last week's issue, in reply to "F. J. M."*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a Birth or Death or an "In Memoriam" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is One Shilling and Sixpence, every additional word One Penny.

The charge for a notice of Marriage, not exceeding forty words, is Two Shillings and Sixpence, every additional word One Penny.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

MARRIAGES.

Crippin—Matthews.—At Hornsey Church, Hornsey, London, on April 15, 1907, Sybil Matthews (Stella Troupe) to Geo. William Crippin (Eugene and Willie). Thanks to all friends for good wishes.

James—Moore.—Feb. 27, at St. Mary's Cathedral, Kalgoorlie, Australia, by Father Kelly, Charles James, banjoist (of Caselli and James), to Malvena Moore.

DEATHS.

Doubleday.—B. Doubleday, of Sheffield, (née Bennett Darrell, of The Darrell Trio), of heart disease. Died April 1, at Dresden Cottage. Interred Chesterfield Cemetery, April 4 1907. Deeply mourned by his sorrowing children.

Hamilton.—April 12, at his London residence, after a long and painful illness, William Hamilton, proprietor of Hamilton's Excursions, aged 69. Deeply mourned by his sorrowing wife and family.

Maxam.—April 11, Clara Maxam, the beloved wife of Harry Maxam, at her residence, White House, Hackney Marshes, from pleurisy, age 38. Gone, but not forgotten.

Nicholls.—On the 4th inst. Christine Garland Nicholls, professionally known as Christine Lanscar, of the Four Magnets, age 22, after 10 months' illness.

Russell.—On April 16, Kenna Russell, dearly loved and deeply mourned by her devoted friend Clover (K. H.).

Shipley.—Beatrice Worth, the wife of Sam Shipley, died at Stockton-on-Tees, April 13, 1907. Buried at Salford Borough Cemetery, Wednesday, April 17. Gone, but not forgotten.

In Memoriam.

Adams.—In ever loving memory of our darling brother, Albert George Down Adams (Bert Adams), who fell asleep April 17, 1904. Ever deeply mourned by his devoted sisters, Ada Blanche, Edith Tully, Rosie Courtneidge, and Addie Peacock.

If love and care could death prevent,
Thy days would not so soon be spent;
Life was desired, but God could see,
Eternal Life was best for thee.

Redfern.—In ever-loving memory of our darling mother, who died April 20, '05. "Though our faces wear a smile, our hearts do yearn for thee." Rubie and Elsie Redfern and family.

Smith.—In ever-loving memory of my dear husband, Charles P. Smith, late Secretary of the Guildhall School of Music, who died April 18, 1894. Gone, but never forgotten.

The County Theatre, Kingston, will next week be visited by *The Prince of Pilsen*, the popular musical comedy presented by Baron H. Harriss' company, which has achieved a series of successes on tour. Miss Sophie Harriss and Mr. Harry Kilburn are the principals of the company, which is a strong one in every respect, and the piece should prove a powerful attraction to the theatre-loving inhabitants of the historic borough.

The annual Shakespeare dinner of the Urban Club will be held at the Covent Garden Hotel on Tuesday evening next, under the presidency of Mr. Bram Stoker, for so many years the genial business-manager at the Lyceum Theatre, and the author of a biography of Sir Henry Irving. The toast of the evening will be, as usual, in memory of Shakespeare, and the after-dinner programme will consist of songs and recitations from the poet's plays.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.
BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR
Your book will, I am sure, be a valuable aid to all managers and actors.—Sir Henry Irving.
Mr. Strong states the whole case very clearly.—*Illustrated London News.*

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.
No Circulars or Parcels admitted to this list.

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Alec
Alen, Mr. G.
Allandale, Mr. Fred
Allen, Mr. Bert
Ashanti Village Troupe
Ashburnham-Newton, Mr
Ashwell, Miss Lena
Baines, Miss Edith
Barnet, Mr. W.
Barker, Mr. J.
Barton and Ashley.
Banvard, Mr. Carl
Bassett, Mr. Tom
Beaute, Mons.
Bee, Mr. E.
Bell, Mr. H. Leslie
Benge, Mr. Wilson
Biddle Bros.
Billing, Mrs. H. C.
Black, Mr. Joe
Bonheur, Mr. Theo.
Bromwich, Mr. D.
Brough, Miss Fannie
Brougham, Miss Mollie
Brown-Potter, Mrs.
Bullock, Mr. Clifford
Bunce, Mr. H.
Bunce, Mr. Thomas
Burg, Hand, and Wise
Burgon Opera Co.
Burke, Miss Billie
Butt, Madame Clara
Cardac, Mr. H.
Carr, Bugler
Carr, Miss Lulla
Carson, Mr. J. H.
Carter and Gale, Messrs
Carton, Mr. R. C.
Cattle, Mr. William
Chaplin, Mr. Sidney
Chard, Mr. F. W.
Chippenedall, Mr. Jas.
Cingalee Troupe
Clements, Mr. Fred
Cliff, Little
Clifford, Mr. Nat
Cohen, Mr. Sidney L.
Colin, Mr. R.
Connor, Mr. T. W.
Cooper, Mr. Frank
Coppin, Miss Daisy
Cosgrove and Burns
Cranston, Mr. W. J.
Cronin, Mrs.
Crossley, Miss Ada
Cumberlands, The Five
Daly, Mr. Chas. M.
Dando, Capt.
Danvers, Mr. James
Darnley, Mr. J. H.
Daunton, Miss Edith
Davis, Miss Fay
Davis, Mr. Sidney
Deane, Mr. A. J.
Deane, Mr. Chas.
De Bessell, Mr.
De Courtnay
Dent and Harris
Devin, Mr. W.
Donaldson Bros.
Duncan, Mr. Albert
Duncan and Godfrey
Dundas, Mr. F. H.
Dunning, Mr. R.
Durant, Mr. F. D.
Eagle, Mr. G.
Edwards, Miss Jessie
Edwards, Sisters
Ellis, Mr. J. F.
Elsie, Miss Lily
Eltons, The Two
Erle, Miss Godwynne
Faber, Mr. Arthur
Feeley, Mr. Claudius
Ferari, Brothers
Fowler, Miss Francis
Fredericks, Mr. Harold
Gay, Miss Maisie
Goldin, Mr. Horace
Godart, Miss Gertrude
Godfrey-Turner, Miss M
Gooma, Princess
Grand, Mrs. M. R.
Green, Mr.
Grey, Miss Kathleen
Halling, Miss Daisy
Harcourt, Miss Eva
Hardy, Mr. Fred
Harllem Bros.
Harvey, Mrs. Frank
Hastings and Whayman
Hatton, Mr. Russell
Hayden, Miss B.
Hazell, Mr. W. E.
Hinton, Mr. Chas.
Houghton, Mr. G. W.
Howard, Mr. G. W.
Howell, Miss M.
Hunt, Miss Minnie
Iris, Miss Lily
James, Miss Daisy
Jardine, Mr. A.
Jaron, Mr. Edwin C.
Jones, Miss T.
Jones, Mr.
Julian, Mr. Johnny
Keene, Mr. Billy
Kellinos, Mr.
Kendall, Miss Marie
Kenyon, Mr. Neil
Kilner, Sisters
King, Mr.
Kioto
Kirkdall, Mr. R. D.
Knight, Mr. Percival
Kremser, Miss Iena
Kyasya, Mr. J.
La Martine, Mrs. John
Langtry, Mrs.
Le Grand, Mr. H.
Leonard, Miss Flora
Levanti, Mdme.
Lingarde, Miss H.
Lupin, Mr. Barry
Macdermott, Mr. Ed. J.
Macknay, Mr. A.
Macnally, Mr. John
Maddison, Mr. Bates
Magnus, Miss Eugenie
Maples, The
Martin, Mr. Philip
May, Miss Melinda
Mentises, Mr. Joe
Meier and Mora
Melia, Mr. Martin
Mersano, Mr. C.
Mersano, Prof.
Milian, Mr. Max
Mitchelson, Mr. Angus
Moet and Chandon
Moore, Mr. Marshall
Morimura
Morton, Miss Effie
Moseley, Mr. Gray
Motramo, Mr. Tom
Nelson, Mr. H.
Netta, Miss Clarice
New York Comedy Four
Norman, Mr. A. W.
Norman, Mr. Leslie
Olga and Elgar, Messrs.
Orford, Miss E.
Osmond, Mr. Henry L.
O'Toole, Mr. Dave
Ousley, Mr. Chas.
Parke, Mr. Cecil W.
Parkinson, Miss M.
Pearson, Mr. Bob
Placide, Madam
Polson-Turner, Mr. G.
Prinz's Lions
Rafferty, Mr. Pat
Ray, Miss Gladys
Raynor, Miss Dorothy
Regina Trio
Rehan, Miss Ada
Renee, Mdlle. B.
Richards, Mr. C.
Richards, Mr. N.
Roadnight, Mr. C.
Robinson, Mr. F. S.
Rogers, Mr. H.
Russell, Mr. Harry
Russell, Mr. M.
Saville, Mr.
Singhi, Mr. Dhuleep
Smithers, Miss Florence
Somerset, Mr. C. W.
Stanton, Mr. Walter
St. Clair, Mr. F. V.
Stella, Sisters
Stoneham, Mr. W. A.
St. Quentin, Mr. Ed.
Stuart, Mr. Laurie
Taft, Mr. Harry
Thorne, Mr. George
Thornton, Miss Maude
Thorpe, Miss Dora
Toller, Miss R.
Travers, Mr. Hyam
Urquhart, Mr. David
Vandy, Mr. Paul
Vansittart, Mr. C. B.
Vassar, Dr. Carl
Vernon, Miss H.
Vicat, Miss Grace
Vint, Mrs.
Vivian, Miss E.
Walford, Mr. Archie
Walsh, Miss Maude
Warmsley, Sisters
Watson, Mrs. J. B.
Watts, Mr. Clive
Wilkinson-Scott, Mr. C.
Willard, Mr. George
Willoughby, Miss Nance
Wybrow, Mr. Chas.
Yorke, Mr. Leonard

"STARS" AT QUEEN'S HALL.

Celebrities of the stage adorned the platform at the Queen's (Small) Hall on Tuesday afternoon, when a matinée was given in aid of the funds of St. Mark's, Hamilton-terrace, N.W. An outstanding attraction was the presence in the programme of the names of Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Maude, who appeared in the Quarrel Scene from *The School for Scandal*. An ideal performance of the excerpt from Sheridan's celebrated comedy was given, and while Miss Winifred Emery fascinated with her delicacy, freshness, and grace as Lady Teazle, the artistic finish of Mr. Maude's rendering of Sir Peter was a delight to all. Great enthusiasm was aroused by the performance, the talented couple being recalled again and again. Another eminent representative of the drama was found in Miss Eva Moore, who recited "If we only knew," by Mel. B. Spurr, with rare feeling and effect, and as an encore gave a dainty fragment which might be called "Ma Belle Amie." Mr. H. V. Esmond contributed to the pleasure of the audience by a rendering rich in elocutionary graces of Tennyson's stirring poem, "The Defence of Lucknow," thrilling his hearers through and through with the intensity of his delivery.

The comic side of the entertainment had a practised exponent in Mr. Charles Allan, who was very cordially welcomed. His drollery in a couple of monologues, in which the disadvantages of "Yachting" and the misadventures of a youth's first entry into "Society" are detailed, was irresistible. Few raconteurs can put such a wealth of meaning into the words of a piece as can Mr. Allan, and the laughter which began at his first utterance grew quite riotous as he proceeded. Harp solos, including Mendelssohn's "Songs Without Words," were exquisitely played by Herr Alfred Kastner, and Herr Anton Tschaikov displayed a rare mastery of the violin in some difficult selections, producing a magnificent tone and showing a remarkable command of technique. The afternoon was rendered additionally agreeable by a couple of songs from Mr. Francis Ludlow and a ballad by Miss Birdie Garnault. The hall was well filled by an audience including many distinguished persons, and the purpose for which the entertainment was given should be amply fulfilled.

At the Exchange Theatre, Wellingborough, Messrs. Henry Chattel and G. W. Bowes's company appeared on Tuesday and Wednesday with *The Sign of the Cross*, which again drew crowded audiences. Mr. Wallace G. Court gave a manly impersonation of Marcus; and an excellent contrast was found in the sweetly-played Mercia of Miss Nancy York. Miss Lena Gordon as Berenice, Mr. Donald McAdams as Glabrio, and others in the cast gave general satisfaction.

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
"The Era" Annual for 1907 is out, published from the offices of "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, W.C. It is the usual complete record of doings in theatreland during the past year, and possesses a live interest in the number of excellent personal contributions by well-known managers, authors, actors, and actresses of the day.—Sportsman, Jan. 22, 1907.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
"The Era" Annual, a most useful record of theatrical events, has just been issued. It contains, as usual, many short stories by well-known players.—Globe, Jan. 21, 1907.

LONDON THEATRES.

HIS MAJESTY'S. MR. TREE.
Monday Next to Saturday, April 27,

ANNUAL SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL.

Monday Evening .....THE TEMPEST.
Tuesday Evening .....THE WINTER'S TALE.
Wednesday Matinée .....HAMLET.
Wednesday Evening .....TWELFTH NIGHT.
Thursday Evening .....JULIUS CÆSAR.
Friday Evening .....JULIUS CÆSAR.
Saturday Matinée .....TWELFTH NIGHT.
Saturday Evening .....THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR.

On Monday, April 29, will be resumed
THE RED LAMP.
Followed by
THE VAN DYCK.
Box Office Open Daily, 10 to 7.

GAIETY THEATRE.
Manager, Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES.

Every Evening, at 8
(Doors Open 7.40),

THE NEW ALADDIN.
A Musical Extravagance.

Box Office Open 10 till 10.

ST. JAMES'S.
GEORGE ALEXANDER.
Every Evening, at 8.30,
A New and Original Play in Four Acts,

"JOHN GLAYDE'S HONOUR,"
By Alfred Sutro.
Mr. GEORGE ALEXANDER. Miss EVA MOORE.
Matinée, Every Wednesday and Saturday, 2.30.
St. James's, King-st., Pall Mall. Tel. 3,903 Ger.

GARRICK. MR. BOURCHIER.

TO-DAY (Saturday), at 2.30 and 8.30, in
MR. SHERIDAN,
a Comedy in Four Acts, by Gladys Unger.

The cast also includes MISS ALEXANDRA CARLISLE, MISS NANCY PRICE, and MR. SYDNEY VALENTINE.
Last Two Performances.

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Sole Lessee, Mr. ARTHUR CHUDLEIGH.
Under the Management of Mr. Arthur Chudleigh
Every Evening, at 8.30,
CHARLES FROHMAN presents
MARIE TEMPEST
in
THE TRUTH,
A Comedy in Four Acts, by Clyde Fitch.
Matinées every Wednesday and Saturday, at 2.30.

DALY'S THEATRE.
Under the management of Mr George Edwardes. Every Evening at 8.15.
Matinée every Saturday, at 2.30.
A New Comedy Opera, entitled
THE LADY DANDIES (The Merveilleuses).
The book by Victorien Sardou, adapted for the English Stage by Basil Hood, lyrics by Adrian Ross, and the music by Hugo Félix, with an exceptional cast. Box Office 10 till 10.

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And their Lyric Theatre, New York, Company.

Répertoire for the first week:
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Wednesday and Thursday Eve. and Sat. Mat., JEANNE D'ARC.
Friday and Sat. Evenings, TWELFTH NIGHT.
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'Phone, 119 HAMMERSMITH. Owner and Resident-Manager, J. B. MULHOLLAND.
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All communications re King's and Marlborough Theatres; also re "The New Magdalen" (for Tour or Special Weeks), address Mr. MULHOLLAND, KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

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Mr. ERNEST STEVENS and Mr. R. C. BUCHANAN.
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Next week,
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BRIXTON THEATRE.

Monday, April 22,
Every Evening at 7.45.
Matinée Saturday, April 27,
at 2.30,
"CAPTAIN SWIFT."
Popular Prices.
'Phone, 50, Brixton.
Manager, Mr. R. W. ALLUM.

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KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.
Managing Director, Mr. PETER DAVEY.
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Comedy, "THE PRINCE OF PILSEN."
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Resident-Manager, Mr. E. D. ELDRIDGE.
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Monday, April 22, Norburn and Campling's Co., Ella Shields, Henry A. Moore, May Henderson, Jas. Willard and Co., the Ellimans, Frank Couch, Jessie Merrilees, Warde and Wylie, Geo. Penn, Ryder Davis, Augustine Symonds and Kate Parry, Chas. Harvey, Edisonograph. Rehearsal, Monday, 1 o'clock. Doors open 7.30 (Saturdays 7 o'clock), Commence 7.40 (Saturdays 7.15). Tele. 503, Westminster. Assist. Manager, Mr. MAURICE VOLNY.

THE NEW BEDFORD
PALACE OF VARIETIES, LTD.
Manager, A. F. LOVESY.
Twice Nightly at 6.10 and 9.0.
Monday, April 22. Lew Lake, in "My Pal Jerry," Dave Laird, Ida Katherina, Joan Deering, Marlow and Manton, Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope, Frank Seeley, Milner Verren, Will Newby, "Mahatma."
Artists are notified that they must send their full Bill Matter in two clear weeks before opening. Rehearsal, 1 o'clock Mondays. All must attend. Artists not complying with the above rules are subject to having their contracts cancelled at option of Management.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.
Twice Nightly at 6.30 and 9.
Band rehearsals at 3 p.m. on Mondays. All artists must attend.
Henry de Vry's Statuary Act, Fred Eustace and Co., C. Emlyn-Jones and Quartette, Maude Courtney, Cole and Rags, Lilian Lowe, the Seven Wulfrunas, Ruffell's Pictures.

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"QUEEN OF SPADES,"
New Ballet.
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Margaret Cooper,
Les Trombetta,
Alfred Lester,
Niblo, &c.
Grand National, &c., on Bioscope.
Evenings at 8.0 (doors 7.45).
Matinée, Full Programme, Saturday, at 2.
Managing-Director, Mr. ALFRED BUTT.

OXFORD. LITTLE TICH.
George Robey, Harry Randall, Bessie Slaughter, T. E. Dunville, Sam Mayo, Phil Ray, Laurie's Juveniles, Poluskis, Mark Sheridan, Gladys Huxley, Carlotta Levey, Fred Earle, Ella Retford, Tom Woottwell, Ike Scott and Son, Stella Troupe, Ruffell's Bioscope. Open 7.35.
Saturday Matinées at 2.25.

Manager, Mr. BLYTH PRATT.

THE TIVOLI. GRAND PROGRAMME.
Harry Lauder, George Robey, Harry Randall, T. E. Dunville, Harry Tate and Co., the Bensons, Phoebe Mercer and Co., Maggie Carr, Alexandra Dagmar, the Poluskis, Phil Ray, Madoline Rees, Mark Sheridan, Dorothy Drew, and Fragson.

Open, 7.30.

Saturday Matinées, 2.15.

THE METROPOLITAN,
EDGWARE-ROAD, W.—Harry Lauder, Geo. Robey, Neil Kenyon, Craggs, Dark Town Entertainers, Frank Harwood, Billy Williams, Hettie Chattel, Marie Reeve, Tom Woottwell, Jeapes' Graphic, Rose Hamilton, Dollie Harmer, Three Trees, Gladys Huxley. Open 7. Manager, J. W. EDGAR. Tel. No. 194, Pad. Box Office from 11. All artists must send their full bill matter in two clear weeks before opening. Rehearsal, 1 o'clock, Mondays.

CANTERBURY.—Monday, April 22, 1907. Matinée Every Saturday, at 2.30. Half price to all parts. "Widow Twankey's Laundry," Funny Burlesque, by Daisy Yates' Co., including Dan Thomas as Widow Twankey, G. H. Elliott, My Fancy, Benson and Geoffreys, Jessie Preston, R. H. Douglass, Frank Harwood, Lancashire Lads, Ernie Mayne, Margaret Parker and Co., in "Sunshine," Oliver and Owen, Ruffell's Bioscope, Percy Terrimond, the Singing Collier, Harry Tate in new edition of "Motoring." Doors 7 o'clock.
General-Manager, FRED MILLER.

PARAGON, Mile End-road, E.
Managing-Director, Mr. G. ADNEY PAYNE.
Monday, April 22, and Every Evening, George Robey, The Poluskis, Stella Girls, Phil Ray, T. E. Dunville, "The Musical Burglar," by J. C. Piddock, Lempriere Pringle and Co., Pete and Minnie Lee, Clair Greta, and Hendy and Wooton, Lilian Lowe, Hardy and Stanley, Lieut. Travis, Tarrimond, Herbert Terry's Co. in Russian Incident, "Retribution, Ruffell's Bioscope. Doors open 7; Commence 7.30. Seats may be booked in advance. Telephone, 165 East. Prices, Fautueils 2s., Stalls 1s. 6d., Pit and Promenade 1s., Balcony 6d. Matinée Every Thursday. Doors Open 2.15; commence 2.30.
Mr. H. H. WELLS tenders his sincere thanks to the following Artists who were present on the occasion of the Lord Mayor's Visit in aid of the Cripple Children's Fund Matinée: Harry Tate, Sam Mayo, Geo. Robey, T. E. Dunville, Phil Ray, The Bensons, G. H. Elliott, Pete and Juno, H. Banford, J. P. Ling, Fred Villers, Jack Daw, F. Charman, R. H. Douglas, J. D'Alberti, R. Leyland, Arthur Stacey, Lee and Kingston, Dagmar and Clown, Fielding and Hull, Stella Girls, Baby Baker, Dora Deveen, Bertha Goddard, Lilian Alfreda, Ella Retford, The Enas, Gladys Huxley, Tots Davis, Jessie Preston, Marguerite Broadfoote, Clarice Heney, The Dandies.

HAMMERSMITH PALACE,
Proprietor, Mr. J. C. COE.
Monday, April 22, 1907, Claude Ginnett and Co., "Dick Turpin's Ride to York," Florrie Burns and Jimmy Danvers, Frank Seeley, Bros. Durant, Spry and Austin, Fred Dunstone, Millie Lindon, Hettie Chattell, Franz Crisp, Morton Trio, Gladys and Alber, The Edisonograph, Thorpe and Coe, Dutch Daly.

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HIGH-STREET, EAST HAM.
Twice Nightly, at 6.30 and 9.0.
Band Rehearsal, Monday, at 4 o'clock.

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EMPRESS THEATRE of VARIETIES.
Apr. 22, Phil Ray, Lily Burnand, F. Crouch, Betty Green, Ten Dixie Girls, the Picads, Spry and Austin, Chas. Fisher and Co., Los Grandes, Rosaline Jacobi, Davidson and Co., Maggie Carr, Hulo Hodgson and Harry Lowther and Co., Ruffell's Pictures. Half-time 9.30. Matinée every Wednesday at 2.30 p.m. Prices, 4d. and 2s. Seats may be booked. 'Phone 41 Brixton. Manager, NELSON FRANCIS.

ROYAL ALBERT PALACE OF VARIETIES, CANNING TOWN, E. Sole proprietor and Manager, Mr. ARTHUR G. H. HUNT. Assistant-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Alfred Levy. Twice Nightly, at 6.30 and 9.15. Band Call, 2.0. Monday, April 22, Albert Wyndham and Co., Charley Dixon, Sisters Bartholomew, Will Burton, Johnny Hanson's "The Lily," Kate Lynd, The Mays, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, The Royal Banzai Family.
Musical-Director, Mr. J. Starck;
Stage-Manager, Mr. A. Everitt.

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Proprietors, Messrs. F. and M. ABRAHAMS.
Nightly, 6.30 and 9.10. Thursday, 2.30. Joe Peterman and Co., in "The Belle of the Orient," Harry Pleon, in "P.C. Pudden," Lil Elfreda, Phillips and Merrett, Pueblo and Cropp, Jennie Lee, New Bioscope, Frederica's Wonderful Terriers, Mr. and Mrs. Royston-Dene, in "At the Stroke of Twelve."
Notice to Artists.—Band Rehearsal at 1 o'clock on Mondays, as usual.
Popular Prices.
General-Manager, Mr. JACK WOOLF.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

MIDDLESEX, Drury Lane, W.C.
Proprietor, Mr. J. L. GRAYDON. Monday, April 22, 1907, Graydon's Lightning Programme. Dr. Carl Hermann, the famous bloodless surgeon, Ernest Rees, Sisters Lunelle, Bros. Redmond, Farr and Farland, Esmond and Evelyn, M. R. Nono, Raie Walters, Will Poluski, jun., Ouida Macdermott, F. J. Elliston and Co., Meier and Mora, The New Bioscope, Mackinnon Family, Marion Scott, George English and Co. Commence 7.15. Saturday one hour earlier. Popular prices.

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King's-road, Chelsea.
Twice Nightly at 6.40 and 9.10.
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The Annual Sermon will be Preached
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THE ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the Actors' Association will be held at THE PASSMORE EDWARDS SETTLEMENT, 35, TAVISTOCK PLACE, TAVISTOCK SQUARE, LONDON, W.C., at 2 O'CLOCK IN THE AFTERNOON, on MONDAY, THE 6TH DAY OF MAY, 1907, for the purpose of considering and, if thought fit, passing the subjoined Resolutions as Special Resolutions; and
NOTICE IS ALSO HEREBY GIVEN that a further EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the above Association will be held at THE PASSMORE EDWARDS SETTLEMENT, 35, TAVISTOCK PLACE, TAVISTOCK SQUARE, LONDON, W.C., at 2 O'CLOCK IN THE AFTERNOON, on MONDAY, THE 27TH DAY OF MAY, 1907, when a report will be furnished of the proceedings at the Extraordinary General Meeting to be held on the 6th day of May next, and the subjoined Resolutions will, if passed by the requisite majority at that Meeting, be submitted for confirmation as Special Resolutions.

RESOLUTIONS.

That the Articles of Association be amended as follows:—
To Article IV., add—
"But no Manager shall be qualified to become "President, Vice-President, or Member of "the Association, and any such office-"holder or Member becoming a Manager "shall *ipso facto* vacate his office and be "suspended from all privileges of member-"ship so long as he shall remain a Mana-"ger.
"The term Manager is to be held to include all "responsible Managers of Theatres, or "Theatrical Companies, and their General, "Business, and Acting Managers."
At the commencement of Article IX., add the words—
"The Council shall elect a President and shall "have power to elect Vice-Presidents. The "President and Vice-Presidents shall be "or shall have been actors, and subject to "the provisions of Article IV., shall hold "office for life or till they resign."
To Article IX., add the words—
"The provisions of Article IV. shall not apply "to Life Members elected before January "1st, 1907."
Delete Article XI., and replace by—
"The Association shall be governed by a "Council consisting of 25 Members, who "shall hold office for one year and shall "retire at the time appointed for the "Annual General Meeting, any retiring "member being eligible for re-election. The "Council shall have power to transact all "the business of the Association, five to "form a quorum.
"Any two Members whose subscriptions for the "current year are paid may give to the "Secretary a notice or notices signed by "them nominating any qualified member "or members as a candidate or candidates "for the Council. Such notices shall contain the name and address of the proposed candidate or candidates, and shall "be signed by him or them. Such notices "shall be sent to the Secretary not less "than 21 days before the date of the Annual "General Meeting. If the candidates are "not more in number than are required to "fill the vacancies they shall be declared "to be elected at that Meeting. But if a "greater number of candidates are nominated than there are vacancies to be "filled, voting papers shall be issued by "post to all the Members of the Association containing the names of the candi "dates. The voting papers shall be sent "out by the Secretary 14 days prior to the "date of the Annual General Meeting, and "must be filled in and signed by the Members and returned to the Secretary before "the commencement of the Annual General "Meeting."
Article XV. to read—
Delete from "time when the term" to the end of Article, and add the words "next "Annual General Meeting."
Article XXIII., Delete "President, Vice-Presi-"dents, and"
Article XXIV., Delete.
Article XXV., Section 2, Delete from "But if a "greater number" to "hereinafter pro-"vided."
Article XXV., Section 3, Delete section and substitute "If the election has been by voting "papers the members present shall elect "four scrutineers who shall examine the "voting papers, and after the same have "been counted the result shall be published at the Offices of the Association."
That Articles 7 and 8 be deleted and be replaced by the following:—

SUBSCRIPTION.

7. The Entrance Fee shall be Five Shillings.
8. The Annual Subscription shall be Fifteen Shillings payable in advance on January 1st in each year, or Eighteen Shillings payable in advance by equal instalments on the 1st January, 1st April, 1st July, and 1st October in each year, and only those Members whose Subscriptions are paid shall be entitled to vote at any Meeting.
Should a Member fail to pay his Subscription within seventy days after it is due his membership shall cease, but he may be re-elected by the Council upon payment of arrears and a reinstatement fee of One Shilling.
The Subscription of any person elected on or after the 1st of April shall be regulated by the quarterages for the remainder of the year.
The Council may, at their discretion, suspend payment of Subscription by Members travelling Abroad.
Should the said Resolutions not be passed by the requisite majority at the Meeting to be held on the 6th May next, due notice will be given to the members of the Association that the Meeting on the 27th day of May, 1907, of which notice is now given, will not be held.
Dated the 16th day of April, 1907.
By Order of the Council.
CHAS. CRUIKSHANKS,
Secretary, Actors' Association,
10, King-street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.
The attention of Members is directed to the following Articles:—
26. At least seven days before the day appointed for holding any annual or other meeting, written notice shall be given to the Secretary of any motion to be moved or proposition to be considered thereat.
30. All Members shall be entitled to attend, and every Member whose subscription for the current year is paid shall be entitled to vote. Those who do not desire to attend and whose subscriptions for the current year are paid may vote by proxy. Persons appointed as proxies must be so appointed in writing, and must be Members of the Association whose subscriptions for the current year are paid. Each proxy paper shall be stamped, and shall be forwarded to the Secretary twenty-four hours at least before the meeting at which it is to be used.
Forms of Proxy may be had upon application to the Secretary.

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 1907.

SHAW AND MELODRAMA.

The flavour and the quality of the "Dramatic Opinions of Bernard Shaw," which Messrs. ARCHIBALD CONSTABLE and Co. recently published in two volumes, depend on the attitude of the writer to the world at large. Mr. SHAW is not a stylist; he is amusingly "slangy," not to say coarse, at times. The irresistible piquancy of his essays lies in the fact that he is a kind of "rogue elephant," ravaging, alone and at large, the plantations of the benighted Britisher. Mr. BERNARD SHAW has never published a confession of his faith; but it may be gathered from his writings. In the first place, he is a vigorous opponent of the institution of Marriage as it exists in England at present. According to Mr. SHAW, 299 out of every 1000 persons find marriage a failure.

"It is insufferable," he says in his "Quintessence of Ibsenism," "that two human beings, having entered into relations which only warm affection can render tolerable, should be forced to maintain them after such affections have ceased to exist, or in spite of the fact that they have never arisen. . . . Let us provide otherwise for the social ends which the family subserves; and then abolish its compulsory character altogether."

Mr. SHAW is also an advocate of much greater latitude being allowed to pre-nuptial lapses in women. He says:

"The desirability of women preserving their chastity depends just as much on circumstances as the desirability of taking a cab instead of walking."

As everyone knows, in politics Mr. SHAW is a Socialist; and his religion is the abandonment of Duty as a guide to conduct. He is an advocate of the system of public education and maintenance of children which was employed at Oneida Creek. "We are not likely," he admits, "to dispense with legal ties and obligations until the continuity of society no longer depends on the private nursery." Oneida Creek, our readers will remember, was a free-love community, and therefore all the children belonged to everybody.

The humour of the situation when Mr. SHAW became a dramatic critic was intense. Imagine a writer—holding the opinions above expressed with all the tenacity of a reformer—commissioned to report upon an art which of all others needs to be "understanded of the people." "Change yourn!" said the raw recruit when his comrade in his company whispered to him that he was out of step; and the attitude of the iconoclast firmly convinced of his own faith, and half-amused, half-irritated by the absurdities of his fellow-men is irresistibly diverting. There is even a pathos in the futility of all this cleverness. In connection with these essays of Mr. SHAW's we think, with moistened eyes, of the number of attacks that have been made on stays, tall hats, and modern "evening dress." "Don't mind them, Tanner!" says the heroine at the end of *Man and Superman*, "go on talking!"; and perhaps this line was meant by Mr. SHAW as a touch of melancholy self-summing-up.

ROSA BONHEUR once said of RUSKIN that he was a man who "saw Art with one eye—like a bird"; and there is something in Mr. SHAW of the "limited wision" which Sam Weller owned to in the witness-box. "What I want," he writes in one of his essays, "is an audience of philosophers"; and we do not think he fully understands how small the philosophic minority really is, and how insignificant. For, after all, it is the people and not the philosophers who "run the show." The only occasion on which the philosophers tried to do it was the French Revolution; and a nice mess they made of it.

If we want to understand how utterly un-Shawesque is the average Englishman we have only to point to the popularity of melodrama. For Man in melodrama, which forms the staple entertainment to thousands in this country, is Mr. SHAW's antipodes. He is the flesh-eating, fisticuffing, forgiving, emotional, impulsive man, marrying and giving in marriage, dying for his country, worshipping the opposite sex; the sentimental, inconsistent, and illogical animal that does the work of the world—that tills the soil, fights the battles, and generally speaking manures the world with his "absurd" energies. Now it is possible for certain arts to exist for the sake of an intellectual coterie; but not for the art of the stage. We must not be misled by the apparent "success" of Mr. SHAW's plays in London and America. The average individual is attracted to the Court Theatre by the motives which move the simple sightseer. He comes away from a play like *Major Barbara* absolutely bewildered, but feeling, at any rate, that he has seen something extraordinary. A very different motive impelled the crowds who worshipped at the shrine of WILLIAM TERRISS at the Adelphi in the old days, and now stand in closed ranks outside the entrances to the Lyceum. What the mass of the public like is melodrama in some form or another. Every London manager who has tried the experiment knows that an IBSEN translation is "no good for a run." It is easy to understand why Mr. SHAW dislikes SHAKESPEARE as a dramatist. The popularity of SHAKESPEARE'S plays is an undeniable proof of the enduring sentiments of the English race. They are splendid melodramas, with plenty of bloodshed, sentiment, patriotism, maternal and paternal love, religion, and—marriages. If Mr. SHAW could only understand the importance of fox-hunting to one sort of Englishman, and of football to another sort, and the absolute indifference of both classes to philosophy, he would cease writing plays as he has ceased to write criticisms; and that, certainly, would be a pity.

THE LATE DICK MANSELL.

Mr. Edward Compton, in sending a contribution to the "Dick Mansell Widow Fund," writes:—"I send you my cheque for one guinea. I only knew Mansell slightly, but I read with much regret of the straits to which he was reduced at the last, and the sad position in which the widow has been left. In regard to his meteoric career, and the many things he has been connected with, I have been surprised that no one has mentioned the fact that some thirty-five years ago (or it may be thirty-six or thirty-seven), he and (I think) his brother produced at the old Holborn Theatre a very literal, bald translation of the play of *Kean*, by Alexandre Dumas the elder. I was one of a very thin house on one night of its brief career, having, as a mere boy, stolen out and gone to the play; and, although there was very little to recommend the piece to English audiences, it yet lived in my memory so vividly that some dozen years ago I commissioned the late T. Edgar Pemberton to do me a very free adaptation of the piece, which he and I practically wrote together, though only his name appears. This I have been playing continuously in my répertoire since then, and am nearing the 300th performance.

"I may mention that in Mr. Mansell's cast the late Tom Swinburne played the part of Kean, and E. J. O'Dell—now still alive, and nearly ninety, I suppose—played the part of the old Prompter, created in my version by the late Lewis Ball. It is also interesting to note that in the original French play the part of Anna Danby was sustained by Mme. Sarah Bernhardt; she thus, I believe, making her first appearance on the regular stage. Both Salvini and Rossi played the piece in Italy a great deal, but, I believe, with the exception of the disastrous production of the Mansells which I have alluded to, I am the only English actor who has produced the work and played the part. I may say it is a great favourite with my audiences."

The following gentlemen have kindly consented to act on the Committee of the Dick Mansell's Widow Fund:—Sir Charles Wyndham, Lewis Waller, Esq., Sir William Bull, M.P., T. P. O'Connor, Esq., M.P., G. R. Sims, Esq., Jocelyn Brandon, Esq., L.C.C., E. G. Saunders, Esq., J. Bannister Howard, Esq., E. Lockwood, Esq., E. Graham Falcon, Esq., Bertie Crewe, Esq., Austin Melford, Esq., A. F. Henderson, Esq., Rollo Balmain, Esq.

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The Hon. Treasurer, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, will be pleased to receive and announce further subscriptions to this Fund.

A. A. SOCIAL.

"The Sketch Question" was the subject of the debate at last week's social gathering of the Actors' Association. The chair was occupied by Mr. Henry Ainley.

Mr. Cecil Raleigh, who opened the discussion in an interesting speech, said that, in regard to the production of sketches, metropolitan theatres suffered under certain disabilities as compared with provincial playhouses. Managers in the country had no London County Council to contend against. He thought it was time they all realised that the public were drifting to the music halls, and that they—the actors—were drifting to the workhouse. Yet, for all that, the public were true to drama. They supported the sketches which were every day getting better. Why, even Mr. George Alexander and Mr. Seymour Hicks had appeared in a music hall; while Mrs. Brown-Potter had curtailed Shakespeare for the purpose of a variety entertainment, and he (Mr. Raleigh) did not see why Shakespeare should not be curtailed for modern production. It was a very good thing for actors that the tendency of popular taste was to support really good drama on the music halls. Nowadays, of course, people wanted everything of the tit-bitty order, and actors would have to bow to that decision. So far as the legitimate stage was concerned, there had been a disinclination to recognise the signs of the times, the result being that the music hall had progressed while the theatre had declined in public favour. In America no restrictions were placed upon a manager as to what he should produce, or how he should produce it. In England a very different state of things obtained, and it should be the business, if not the duty, of actors and actresses to agitate for new legislation. The Actors' Association should realise that here was something that hindered the art of the drama and of the player. Our licensing laws should be put on the same footing as they are in America. Censorship in this country should be done away with; it was one of the relics of mediæval barbarism. Dramatic art should be free from the licence or the censorship of one man, as it was free in Australia, Canada, and South Africa, and even in Ireland. The Lord Chamberlain had no voice in the latter country. It was only in England, Wales, and Scotland that he interfered with the theatre. Concluding, Mr. Raleigh urged upon his hearers the fact that music-hall audiences were calling for higher art, and they—the actors—could supply it. There was, unquestionably, an enormous audience for one-act plays. Why could not even *Hamlet* be reduced, so that an artistic one-act performance be given of it?

THE ACTORS' UNION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA

SIR,—May I draw the attention of such of your readers as may be members of the A.A. to the vital importance of a matter which will shortly be placed before all members of the Actors' Association for their votes, through the efforts of the reform party? I refer to the measures—"Exclusion of managers and exclusion of business-managers from the Association." In advocating these measures the reform party are merely adhering to the original idea with which the Association was founded fifteen years ago, namely, an *Actors'* Association, formed of actors, run by actors, in the interests of actors. The mere fact that in times of past financial stress the aid of managers has been called in is no reason at all for the government of the Association, even in part, by managers. Although possibly well-intentioned, the very doubtful kindness of retaining the Association in a position of even partial dependence on the charity of managers, instead of encouraging it to become self-supporting, gives matter for thought. Has not the maintenance of the Association as a kind of protegé of the managers now for some years to some extent served the managerial interest by minimising the chances of a more efficient combination of actors being formed? I would ask all those who so gladly welcome managers as members of the Association if they, as actors, are equally welcome into the various managers' associations which exist? There are members of the A.A. at present who are also members of the Touring Managers' Association. In the event of a difference of opinion between the Touring Managers' Association and the Actors' Association would it be possible for these gentlemen to take an entirely disinterested view of the case? One cannot drive a bargain on two sides at once, and however sincere the attempt to be fair, the leaning would undoubtedly be (even if unconsciously) towards the stronger interest.

If fifteen years ago actors felt the need of an Association of their own to protect their interests, how infinitely greater is that need to-day! The trusts are creeping in like great octopods, with long feelers out in all directions under the surface squeezing out the individual manager wherever possible. In place of the old paternal government of the manager (were he tyrant or friend) actors have, as often as not, now to deal with the paid officials of a syndicate. Managers themselves have formed associations for their mutual protection; music hall artists have combined; but the actor in the Association still clings to the skirts of the manager, timorous of managing his own affairs.

In response to all those who prate of what the Association owes the managers, I would ask if it be a greater kindness to a man to give him an occasional £10 note, while keeping his services a drug in the market, or deny him the £10 note while putting him in the way of earning a decent livelihood for himself? The present Association does nothing to keep up the wage of the actor. It admits members on so low a qualification that it rather tends to cheapen the actor's services by dragging down the reputation of the good artists who belong to it to the level of the novices, who are admitted for the sake of their subscriptions. Membership is low, and it will remain low until the old standard of qualification (the eighty-two weeks, or something equivalent to this) is required, and until actors are left to manage their own affairs without managerial interference.

An Association of *actors only*, with a certain standard of qualification for membership; with branches in the provinces tapping that large body of steady workers who tour year in and year out; with a decent economy exercised in London in order to start those provincial branches; with a better membership which would come when these changes had been made, and hence a good fund at the back of it to fight the actor's battles for him—an Association such as this would very soon be a power against the trusts and the tide of amateurs, and that other evil, the short-sighted, greedy manager, who is blinded by his desire for "cheap material" to the fact that with this same "cheap material" he is fast killing the geese which lay the golden eggs, namely, the best public and the best actor.

It is to be hoped that the Association will give serious thought to these vitally important matters, which, owing to the efforts of the reform party, are shortly to be laid before them for their individual attention.—Yours faithfully,

ROSE MATTHEWS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—For forty years I have held aloof from all theatrical—shall I call them?—amalgamations; weird institutions founded for the supposed purpose of benefiting the actor, starting off with a flourish of trumpets like the celebrated Dramatic College, and often enough ending in unsavoury smoke. I have been greatly struck, however, by the fact that in recent days the administration of our charities has greatly improved. They are conducted in an honourable, careful, and businesslike manner by kind, sympathetic men and women, who have nothing to gain, and who devote valuable time and great ability to the work of helping others.

Now, if this can be done with regard to the charities, why is it not done in connection with other institutions with which our calling is concerned? I was pondering this question last week when I found myself touring at Glasgow, and I saw that a meeting of the new Actors' Union was to be held. Therefore, I determined to go and hear what was said, and see whether the new spirit I have mentioned was permeating this new idea. At the same time, I went with the fixed suspicion in my head that the ideas of the Union would be confused and impossible, and that the whole thing was doomed to fail, if it were ever actually floated.

Well, sir, I left the meeting in question—after having signed the paper enrolling myself as a member—with the firm conviction that the Actors' Union was destined to be a splendid success, if actors and actresses will only "stick together" and be in earnest.

At that meeting I saw fifty or sixty provincial actors and actresses, all in deadly earnest. An able chairman presided over the meeting, and maintained a dignity of procedure and discussion that contrasted very favourably with the curious ineptitude displayed at the last general meeting of the Actors' Association. A gentleman from the V.A.F., to whom all thanks are due, most kindly and thoroughly explained the working of his institution, and he even went so far as to explain how and why certain experiments had failed. Others dealt with the economic situation, and we were told that provincial theatres had offered companies 35 or 40 per cent. of the gross, a fact that is sometimes put forward as an excuse for touring managers being obliged to "starve" their companies. I heard with shame and disgust of companies paying their leading man 35s. a week, and of young girls doubling several parts getting 25s., 20s., and even as little as 18s. a week. These miserable and degrading conditions can only be alleviated by the formation of a definite and powerful Union, and I hope that every self-respecting actor and actress in this country will, for the honour of his calling, join the Actors' Union at once. The provinces are thoroughly roused and mean business; I have assured myself of that. The Union will, of course, be of little use in London, where honourable and decent conditions prevail; but, surely, it is for us, who occasionally taste the sweets of a London engagement, and know the pleasures and courtesies of working for honourable managements, to stand up and fight for our poorer brethren, and do what we can to abolish what is little better than a "white slave" traffic, at starvation wages, that prevails in the provinces to-day.

Many people no doubt are in a position to say that they will get nothing by joining the Actors' Union. That is quite true. But, at least, they can do something of which they will always have cause to feel proud.

I was delighted to find that men like Mr. Frank Cooper, and that ladies like Miss Gertrude Kingston had already joined the Union. I appeal to all in their position to come in and help; and then, at last, we shall have indeed a Union of actors that is run for actors by actors; and that, and nothing else, is what an Actors' Union ought to be.—Yours faithfully,

CHARLES SUGDEN.

Savage Club, April 19, 1907.

RARELY has Miss Mary Moore looked more charming than she does as Lady Jessica Nepean in the revival of *The Liars* at the Criterion Theatre. Her three dresses are in summery tones, and she throws superstition to the winds by making her first entrance in green—delicate, but bright, green net over white, with a shimmering design in silver tissue and padded embroideries of flowers and leaves, the décolletage showing a small vest of white lace, while the silver belt has a fold of rose-pink at the back and front. When Lady Jessica appears at the Star and Garter, Shepperford, in the second act, she is dressed in cream spotted silk net, heavily embroidered in guipure, with a full-blown rose tucked into her lacey bodice, pretty puffy elbow sleeves, and a black crinoline hat, with a wreath of roses and a black lace veil which falls to her waist at the back, a delightful finishing touch being given by a little bolero entirely composed of embroidery, and she wears turquoise ornaments. For the last two acts Miss Moore has chosen rose-pink—a clever blending of D'Alençon lace, guipure, and touches of mauve velvet, with the idea of the rose being carried out, not only in colouring, but in the petal-like effect of garlands of pink lace on the skirt, which is edged with a band of mauve, and in the soft effect of the lace and pink embroidery of the dainty bodice.

MISS SPENCER BRUNTON, as the effusive Lady Rosamund Tatton, also wears a frock of pink tulle, embroidered with different shades of pink, a "splash" of tiny gold beads, and a ribbon design that runs from waist to hem. Her prettiest costume, however, is Wedgewood-blue, trimmed in a way that suggests the peculiar tint of an apricot, a scheme which is completed by the appearance of apricots on her big picture hat, with its wide blue bows and twists of silk tulle. Miss Granville looks very handsome in copper-coloured chiffon over orange, embroidered with different shades from mulberry to deep brown, with effective touches of pink and blue. She afterwards appears in violet chiffon over mauve, her hat being the same tint, and she wears a long black feather boa. Miss Dorothy Thomas wears at the beginning of the piece a smoke-grey gown that is in excellent contrast to the vivid colour of her surroundings, and at the end she appears in white satin, under a mauve chiffon cloak. Miss Catherine Dupont's dresses have the happy effect of elaborate simplicity, perhaps the first being the prettiest—a mingling of white chiffon, pale blue moiré, and silk crochet. All the costumes at the Criterion are by Maison Beer, of Paris and London, and the hats by Maison Lewis, of Regent-street.

"THE GREEN-ROOM BOOK" for 1907 will be published on Monday. It contains biographies of all the leading actors, dramatists, and critics of the day brought down to the most recent times, with numerous full-page portraits of the "stars" of the stage. The appendices comprise an editorial review of the dramatic year; also a special review of the Vedrenne-Barker régime at the Court; a full account of the Ellen Terry jubilee celebrations; a synopsis of London playbills for 1906; the French and German theatres in London; new plays in New York, Paris, and Berlin; thirty-eight genealogical tables of well-known theatrical families; "Dramatic Critics and Criticisms," by J. T. Grein and the managing-editor; green-room gleanings in the Law Courts, comprising leading theatrical law cases and judgments of the year; a full list of the theatrical clubs, institutions, and charities of London and New York; a special article by a member of the London Stock Exchange, with table showing capital, dividends for five years, and prices of shares of thirty theatre and music-hall companies; lists of London and provincial theatres and halls; theatrical variety and concert agents, with practical advice to stage aspirants; box-plans of forty London theatres; and obituary for the year. The publishers are Messrs. T. Sealey Clark and Co., Ltd., 1, Racquet-court, Fleet-street, E.C.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

Sir Edward and Lady Moss have returned to London from the Riviera, where they have been spending the winter.

Mr. Thomas Barrasford has, by the aid of his Sunday concerts, been enabled to provide 14,000 dinners to the poor of the neighbourhood of Hoxton, and hopes during the summer months to give boots and clothing to the deserving cases.

Mr. John Lawson has engaged Miss Buena Bent to create the leading part in his new production, *The Unwritten Law*. This lady bears a remarkable resemblance to the central figure in the recent great murder trial in America.

Mr. Gus Elen, who is enjoying a month's trout-fishing in preserved waters at Dulverton, in Somersetshire, has placed a special commission for a song-scena with Edgar Bateman, who assured the comedian he had once enjoyed a similar luxury, but afterwards confessed it was not trout-fishing in preserved water, but "fly-fishing in preserved milk!"

It was reported in the *Referee* that Mr. Oswald Stoll had withdrawn from the arbitration proceedings, but he was present on Tuesday throughout the sitting, when the case of the artists was again under consideration. On Thursday, when the case for the managers commenced, Mr. George Adney Payne and Mr. Henry Tozer were examined, and on Thursday Mr. Henri Gros and Mr. Walter Gibbons gave evidence. Mr. Ben Nathan and Mr. Ernest Cadle have been heard on behalf of the agents.

Mr. Dick Knowles, it is understood, will be visiting London shortly in order to fulfil some special engagements. It is quite within the bounds of possibility that he will be seen at the Palace Theatre.

At the last general meeting of the Music Hall Benevolent Fund it was announced that that institution must cease to exist unless some strong measures were taken to remodel it. The unanimous opinion of those present was that it would be a lasting shame if the Fund were allowed to die, and with a view of finding out the best means of averting such a disaster a joint committee of members of the Benevolent Fund Committee and the V.A.F. Committee was appointed. A suggestion has now been made by Mr. Horace Marriott that if it could be arranged to hold the annual dinner shortly after the Arbitrator has given his award it would be a suitable occasion for managers and artists to meet together in the cause of charity. Sunday, May 5, is the date suggested. The joint committee will meet shortly and discuss the matter fully.

Mr. Bransby Williams, who is about to visit the Hackney Empire, will have his foot on his native heath, so to speak, as he was born in the Hackney-road. Early in his career he was attached to an East End mission, and addressed meetings. Mr. E. V. Page, the well-known manager and song-writer, did the same thing in the days of his callow youth, and before he attained fame as the writer of "La-di-dah," sung by Nellie Power. For a time Mr. Williams was a tea-sampler, and then a designer of wall-papers—an occupation quite congenial to his artistic temperament. Like the lamented Dan Leno, he draws in more senses than one, and many of his friends treasure sketches from his pencil.

It was a tall order to the contractors at the Alhambra to shift the position of the dress circle without interfering with the performances or in any way inconveniencing audiences. Yet it has been done. After last Saturday night's performance and before the audience assembled on Monday evening the contractors moved the entire grand circle, dropping it eleven inches in front and giving it a tilt of eight inches at the back. The host of workmen toiled incessantly through night and day, and only put the finishing touches to their task at 7.10 on Monday night, the entertainment commencing at 7.45.

At the Palace Theatre a large number of alterations deemed necessary by the London County Council are being carried out; but the ordinary visitor is not aware of it. Every night, when the place is closed, hordes of workmen invade the house, and "oft in the stilly night" are heard the clanging of hammers and the hoarse directions of the foremen. Massive pillars are being changed into more graceful columns; new exits are being evolved; the stage is being thrown back some 20in., and under it some 30 tons of cement are to be laid down. From floor to ceiling the auditorium will be reseated, and the elaborate electric light installation is being remodelled, the entire house being rewired with the latest improvements. Great pains are being taken to mask the alterations, and Mr. Alfred Butt, up to the present, has been quite successful in concealing all signs of putting the "house in order."

Not only Americans in London, but Americans at home, will soon have the opportunity of seeing the "Living Pictures" which the Empire is still presenting. A tour, in fact, has been arranged for the States, where the whole series will go *en bloc*. A tour has also been arranged for the provinces, so that the principal cities of England will have an opportunity, which has been denied them till now, of seeing the great masterpieces of the picture galleries brought to their own doors. The pictures have been universally conceded to be unique in their lighting, their arrangement, and their presentation.

The great Football Cup final—the blue ribbon of the socker season—to be played between Everton and Sheffield Wednesday at the Crystal Palace to-day, will be shown in its entirety in the animated pictures of "Urbanora" at the Alhambra at half-past nine in the evening. To accomplish this feat the Urban Company has secured the sole rights for bioscoping the contest, and has arranged a special motor service to expedite the developing and printing. Both teams will visit the Alhambra to-night.

Messrs. Jackson and McLaren, two of the champion tree fellers of Australia, will be seen shortly at the London Hippodrome. The audience will be shown how each of these men can bring down a tree fifty inches in circumference in a fraction over a minute. The two men are due at Plymouth to-day, and are bringing with them from Australia a supply of timber sufficient to last them for three months. A special setting, illustrating a scene in the Australian bush, will be provided from snap-shots taken by officials of the Australian Governments.

Les Frasettis, whilst motoring to a little village twenty miles from The Hague, met with a serious accident, a wheel of their motor catching in the train-lines, which run at the side of the road, causing it to swerve and run down a bank into a house. They were particularly fortunate to escape with a severe shaking and a few bruises, as the car was travelling at a good speed, and striking the house with a terrible crash, was completely A[illegible] The pro[illegible] series of pi[illegible] was five o'clock in the afternoon, titled "The [illegible]uble to get back in time for the compliment [illegible]), but eventually succeeded in his kindly ar[illegible]ned Dutch coach, which, after of those in fi[illegible] landed them just in time to

The report that the Grand, Nottingham, is to go on the De Frece Tour shortly is incorrect. The negotiations have fallen through.

Mr. A. Rand, who severed his connection with Mr. Geo. Dance at the Empire, Coventry, last week, is, we understand, shortly taking up another position on the Moss and Stoll circuit.

An important move is projected in connection with Scotland's provincial theatres in the autumn. This will take the form of a combined theatrical and variety programme at several of the theatres weekly, giving, say, three nights of a play and then three of variety business, so catering for all tastes. Mr. E. H. Bostock is understood to be interested in the new arrangements.

The Pavilion, Glasgow, under Mr. Samuel Lloyd's energetic management, is rapidly taking a front place in the list of Glasgow variety theatres. Important structural alterations are in progress, designed to provide a large waiting hall below the street level to accommodate the crowds waiting for admission. Additional bars will also be included in the new plans.

Mr. William Holland writes us respecting his engagement by the New Brighton Tower and Recreation Company. He says: "By my agreement with the company I am responsible for all the departments of their extensive undertaking, including the theatre, ballroom, "Fun Park," side shows, and other branches, except the financial and secretarial."

Mr. Harry Barker, for the second year in succession, has been appointed general-manager of the al-fresco concerts at Great Yarmouth, which for so many years were directed by the lamented Mr. James Chappell. The site has been let on lease to Mrs. S. Lawton, daughter of Mr. Chappell.

Mr. John Kurkamp, the American singing conductor, one of the company appearing at the Brighton Hippodrome, entertained on Friday afternoon, the 12th, a small party of guests at the Dyke Park Hotel, those present including Mrs. Thomas Barrasford, the Mayor of Hove (Ald. Bruce Morison, J.P.), and several pressmen. Mr. Kurkamp proved a genial chairman, and delighted the company with his singing and his short stories of American life. A violin solo was also given very tastefully by Mrs. Barrasford. Mr. Kurkamp was warmly thanked for his hospitality.

Rezene and Robini, the drolls on trapeze and rings, performed in a cage with Mme. Ella's lions at the Palace, Bristol, accepting her challenge on Friday evening, the 12th, for the second house only. They were accompanied by Mme. Ella and her playful pets. The exhibition caused great amusement, but the happily-associated pair have no present intention of taking the title of *lion-comiques*.

"If there was anything wrong with the posters we display and the photographs we exhibit, you may depend upon it the police authorities would be down on us in a moment" is the opinion of Mr. Nelson Barry, the manager of the Manchester Palace, which house is alleged to have exhibited posters "in the highest degree detrimental to the moral interests of the community." It was pointed out that not only was there a censorship of all posters, but that the particular act pictured in the photographs had been witnessed by the Chief Constable and the chairman of the Watch Committee.

Mr. Percy Broadhead is also emphatic in his defence of living representatives of marble, and says that any minister of religion or member of the Vigilance Association will be admitted to the Hulme Hippodrome, where a living statuary turn is billed this week, on presenting their cards. He undertakes not to use the visitors' names for advertising purposes.

Mr. Arthur Hoskins was much exercised in his mind recently when at the Hippodrome, Ealing, at the exhibition of a certain picture on the Bioscope, and hissed somewhat aggressively. He was requested to leave by an attendant, and later was escorted to the door. He summoned both the manager, Mr. Edward James, and the attendant, and the case was disposed of yesterday by the summonses being withdrawn, and each of the parties expressing regret and paying their own costs.

On the stage of the Empire, Glasgow, on Saturday night, just previous to the rise of the curtain on Mr. Herbert Darnley's sketch, *The Skirmishers*, Mr. Haldane, general manager for Mr. Herbert Darnley, was presented by the ladies and gentlemen of the company with a silver card-case as a token of sincere friendship and esteem, following upon a handsome money present by Mr. Herbert Darnley. Both gifts were a surprise. Mr. Haldane, who leaves *The Skirmishers* company to take up again his duties as general secretary to Mr. Herbert Darnley at the offices in London, returned his sincere thanks. Mr. Frank Howard succeeds Mr. B. Haldane as manager of *The Skirmishers* and *Moving In* companies.

Miss Patty Yole has produced two new numbers this week at the Lyric, Liverpool, which were an instantaneous success.

Miss Katie Marsh finishes to-night, at the Palace, Blackpool, a three months' tour with great success everywhere.

A grand matinée (under the patronage of the Lord Mayor of Belfast, Earl of Shaftesbury) was held on Saturday, 13th inst., at the Palace Theatre, in the linen metropolis. The proceeds are to be devoted to the Belfast Theatrical Charity Fund and Theatrical and Music-Hall Benevolent Funds, London. There was a good audience, and the programme provided was certainly most varied and comprehensive. By kind permission of Messrs. Fred W. Warden and J. H. Saville, Miss Ethel Campbell, Miss Maggie Bowman, Mr. T. J. Morton, Karr and Kooney, and Peter Bermingham came over from the Theatre Royal, and Mr. Harry Downs, with his usual courtesy, permitted Miss Molly Doon, Messrs. A. Woodville, F. Vollker, the Royal Quintette, and the College Boys, from the Hippodrome, to appear, and they were most successful. Mr. Sinclair Neill sent over Mr. Tom H. Solly, and Mr. John A. Walker, with characteristic kindness, sent the following from the Empire: "The Duchess of Tooting" Co., Stevens and Rennior, and Miss Minnie Hunt and Mr. Rhys Thomas. All the artists at the Palace contributed items, Chirgwin's success especially being most pronounced.

The entire proceedings were most enthusiastic, and during an interval Mr. Fred W. Warden appeared on the stage, accompanied by Messrs. W. Laird, D. Motherwell, H. E. Lynas, and George Harris, manager of the Palace. Mr. Warden, speaking as chairman and hon. treasurer of the fund, expressed his appreciation of the magnificent manner in which the public had again supported a movement, not only for the benefit of the theatrical charities, but for the benefit of local public institutions. On behalf of the committee and himself he wished to thank Mr. Harry Downs, of the Hippodrome; Mr. Sinclair Neill, of the Alhambra; and Mr. J. A. Walker, of the Empire, for their kindly assistance in giving members of their companies permission to take part.

Artists holding collecting cards for the Music Hall Home are requested to forward them to the hon. treasurer in order that the amounts may be duly announced. It is intended to close the Fund at an early date.

Miss Katie Lawrence desires us to contradict the rumour that she is going to America in August. It is true she has had a tempting offer, but is at present undecided.

The sad circumstnces of the death of Mr. J. D. Kirtland, the manager of the Foresters', has excited much sympathy for his widow and relatives. The deceased manager before accepting his position under the Macnaghten régime was manager of the Empire, Brighton.

Miss Anna De Grey, secretary of the Ladies' Guild, desires to thank Mrs. Barnard, Miss Erris, Miss Edna Rimforth, Mrs. Geo. Smythson, and Harwood's Juveniles for donations of clothing, and Miss Madoline Rees for a donation of 2s. 6d.

In *The Hindu's Revenge*, to be produced at the Theatre Royal, Stratford, on Monday, we are to have the weird sensation of a struggle for life and death between a python and Miss Geraldine Montrose, who will be supported by a strong company. A bungalow set will give the necessary atmosphere, and the ophidian drama will be well dressed. It is from the pen of Mr. Wal Pink, the author of so many of Mr. Joe Elvin's sketches.

Mr. Tom Craven did so well for Mr. Jesse Sparrow at the Camberwell Empire with the sketch *The Lady in Red* that Mr. Sparrow has arranged with him to produce the new musical duologue—an entertainment long anticipated and widely advertised—*The Understudy*. In this original musical interlude Mr. Craven impersonates no less than six diverse characters, and a moral and plot mortice the whole thing.

Mr. Ernest Ch. Gittins' production of his condensed version of *Il Trovatore* will be one of the chief features at the Empire, Holborn, next week. With a cast including Mesdames Una Bruckshaw and Elizabeth Elliston, Messrs. Saxton Granville and Albert Chapman, late of the Carl Rosa and Moody-Manners companies, lovers of opera should have a treat.

Miss Flo Penley and Mr. George English will be bringing to the Middlesex on Monday the humorous sketch, by Brien McCullough, entitled *Two Runaway Girls*. The trifle has an ingenious plot, and is full of gaiety and fun. A comic boxing scene is one of the farcical developments, and both the performers mentioned are well fitted with parts. Miss Penley is an old favourite with Mr. Graydon's patrons.

Miss Hanid Alexander returns from Germany on May 2, having completed a most successful tour. During her stay she was offered the Keith and Orpheum circuit in America, and also a year's engagement in Berlin. Existing contracts, however, prevent her acceptance of these offers.

Mr. Denman, the Marlborough-street magistrate, referred on Monday to the greatly improved conduct of the crowds waiting entrance at the London theatres. In a charge of obstructing the police it was urged against Harry Johansen that, when outside the Oxford, he pushed as hard as he could into the crowd, and several women were hurt against some railings. Johansen's defence was that he was merely trying to protect a young lady who was with him. This form of disorder, remarked Mr. Denman, in imposing a fine of 20s., was common in England some years ago, but, by the combined efforts of managers of places of amusement and the public, a great improvement had been effected. All ought to assist the police in this matter.

Mrs. John Lawson's success with *The Devil's Sunday* still continues, and it is pleasing to note that this clever lady is well booked. During the past week this episode has been presented at the Duchess, Balham, where it has drawn large houses. Next week it will be seen at the Grand, Clapham, and on April 29 at the Canterbury and Euston. Mrs. Lawson has accepted a new work by Mrs. Pole, which she hopes to produce in August at Camberwell.

Miss Lilian Dundas and company, including Mr. Laurence Leyton and Mr. Harry Kendall, will appear at the Chelsea Palace on Monday in Mr. Cecil Raleigh's successful "Episode with a Moral," *The Doom of Delilah*. Miss Dundas's highly finished acting has been most favourably received at all the halls visited, and goes to make, with the excellent work of Mr. Leyton and Mr. Kendall, a unique production.

Mme. Helen Shelley, première danseuse, sister of the popular actor-vocalist, Herbert Shelley, and daughter of the old-time journalist and dramatic author, A. C. Shelley, has opened a dancing academy at 55, Sydney-street, South Kensington. Many of her pupils occupy leading positions on the stage to-day.

Messrs. Sherek and Braff, the international variety agents, have removed their offices from 10, Leicester-place, W.C., to 17, Lisle-street, W.

Little Dott Moss, who is so well known in the dramatic world, hade her début on the variety stage on April 1 at the Tivoli, Grimsby, when some of the warmest applause of the evening was awarded to this talented little lady. Judging from her receptions, she bids fair to become as big a success on the music-halls as she was in drama.

The latest quotations for music-hall shares are as follow:—Alhambra, 1 7/8; Canterbury, ½; Empire (15s. paid) 1½, ditto (10s. paid) 1½; London Pavilion Ordinary 4⅜, ditto Preferred 5; London Coliseum, ½; Metropolitan, ⅜; Moss Empire 4⅝, ditto 4 per cent. Preference 4½; Oxford, 6⅞; Palace, 10s.; Tivoli, 5⅞; Variety Consolidated Theatres, ⅞.

Mr. Charles Bertram, whose conjuring tricks and illusions for a quarter of a century did much to divert and mystify the amusement-loving public, has left his widow and daughters in sadly straitened circumstances. The directors of the Palace Theatre, on learning the facts, immediately offered that house for a special benefit matinée, and a strong committee, including the Marquis of Dufferin, the Earl of Lonsdale, Lord Glenesk, and the Lord Mayor of London was formed. The matinée is fixed for Tuesday next, when an exceptionally good programme will be submitted. Miss Sybil Arundale, Miss Margaret Cooper, Miss Kitty Gordon, Mr. Louis Bradfield, Miss Marie Tempest, Mr. George Grossmith, Little Tich, Mr. Courtice Pounds, Mr. George Robey, and Mr. Lewis Waller are among those who have already proffered their services. During his long career Mr. Bertram, by his gratuitous services, did much to aid hospitals and other benevolent institutions in all parts of the country.

Miss Lily Burnand, with her alluring attractions and excellently chosen songs, has been capturing all hearts at the Empire, Bristol, where packed houses have been applauding her in all her songs, but especially in her up-to-date number concerning the flying-machine and M. Santos-Dumont. This has been written by C. W. Murphy and Harry Castling, and Bristolians are whistling it everywhere. Miss Burnand's sweet comeliness is set off by a beautiful dress of royal purple, in which she burlesques the Gibson girl.

Don Juan A. Caicedo, the king of the wire, has been presenting his original and daring act recently at Belfast, Walsall, and Glasgow. The grace, the agility, and the intrepidity of the performance have taken the Glaswegians captive; and the enthusiasm of the good people of Belfast knew no bounds when Caicedo did his wonderful bounding somersaults on a thin filament of steel no less than forty-five feet from the ground.

"Les Grandes" diamond statues, represented by Walter Seldom, Max Seldom, Franz de la Paix (Paris), and Mlle. Rita (Paris), are the latest novelty in nude departures, and a special performance of the act will be given at the Empress, Brixton, on Thursday afternoon next.

Primavesi thanks the following artists for their kind enquiries and sympathy at Eastbourne last week during his severe illness (rheumatic fever):—Miss Edie Anderson, Mr. Walter Norman, Derenda and Green, Mr. Jack Wayho, Mr. Phil Bransby, and Mr. Russell. They will be glad to hear that he is improving every day under the care of Dr. McKetnie, Devonshire Lodge, Eastbourne.

Mr. Charles D. Wright will produce a new comedy duologue, entitled *The Rehearsal*, at the Hippodrome, Hastings, on Monday next. In the representation he will be associated with Miss Katie Blair.

Mr. Austin Boyd and Miss Trixie Gilfain have produced their new act, of which a feature is the introduction by the lady of the Irish bagpipes. We hope to see it shortly in London, where it is certain to repeat its provincial success.

Miss Jennie Johns, who was personally complimented recently at the Empire, Holloway, by Mr. Will Collins on her artistic success, has a number of new lyrics in study, and will shortly produce a novel gipsy song by Bert H. Delmar.

Mr. Ernest Rivarez, late of *The Night of the Party* company, presented at the Foresters' this week an original dramatic musical sketch, entitled *Monsieur Lepinard*, which has many interesting features, among them being an angels' chorus and a vision scene.

Miss Florence Elliott and Chichelets made their appearance in a smart vocal and dancing act at the Bedford on Wednesday, when owing to their success they were retained for the rest of the weeks. One of the hits of their act is the song "It's a Girl," sung by Harvey Rayne. The words and music are by that clever writer, Bert H. Delmar. The number is published by Price and Reynolds.

Regan and Ryan are scoring heavily on the Barrasford tour with a new entertainment. They are re-engaged by Mr. Robert Arthur for next season, and after pantomime they sail for Australia to fulfil an engagement with Mr. Harry Rickards.

A tremendous array of well-known artists will, as usual, positively appear on the night of May 2 at the concert (the twentieth) to be held in the great hall of the Northern Polytechnic in aid of the funds of the London General (horse and motor) Omnibus Drivers and Conductors' Sick and Burial Club, Holloway, Stoke Newington, "Favourite," Islington, Hampstead, Oxford-street, and Muswell Hill. In addition to the names of thirty-nine well-known concert turns, those of some two dozen first-class music-hall artists figure on the third prospective announcement; but that Napoleon of managers, Mr. Alf Bishop, again has charge of the stage, and will doubtless once more demonstrate how easy it is to get a quart into a pint receptacle when one knows how.

Mr. Bertram C. Ross, who enjoys what, alas! must be an ephemeral distinction—that of being the youngest manager in London, has been presented by the staff of the Duchess, Balham, with a leather travelling trunk and a silver-mounted walking-stick. Mr. Archie Hulley, the youngest London musical director, said it was a spontaneous expression of the good feeling of the staff towards him. Mr. Ross said that he prized the gift very much indeed, and it would always pleasantly remind him of their kindness.

A new and original musical extravaganza, entitled *L'Atelier Sans-Dessus Dessous*, by the Estraverleys, is to be seen next week at the Hippodrome, Crouch End.

The famous native choir from Jamaica are now almost fully booked up for this year, and have but few vacant dates. At Southport, last week, remarkable business was done, and on their last night an audience numbering 2200 crowded the Cambridge Hall, and over 1000 were unable to obtain admission.

Miss Helen Charles (daughter of the late Madame Lennard and Tom Charles) has been for the last fortnight confined to her bed with an attack of bronchitis. Mr. Macnaghten, under whose management she had been appearing, has very kindly postponed her dates. She is now on the high road to recovery, and hopes to entertain her friends on Sunday next at her residence, Welburn House, Hartlepool, and to celebrate her twenty-first birthday. Accompanied by her husband, Mr. Harry Burns, the popular agent, she will have an American tour in June.

In the King's Bench Division, before the Lord Chief Justice and Justices Darling and Phillimore, on Saturday came up the Palace Theatre appeal. In the case of the King v. Denman, ex parte the Palace Theatre Company, a rule had been obtained calling upon Mr. Denman, the magistrate, to state a case in regard to a conviction under the London Building Act of 1894. Their lordships decided that the conviction should be upheld. The magistrate convicted on the ground that the illuminated advertisement, made of wood, with a design in ornamental plaster, was a building or structure within the meaning of the Act. An affidavit by Mr. Denman was read, stating that he decided the case on fact and not upon law, no question of law arising. In his judgment, there was no necessity to state a case. Mr. Bodkin, who supported the appeal, said that the structure did not really project beyond the building line, because a turret in the main building came out further than the frame in question. He asked that the rule should be made absolute. The Lord Chief Justice agreed that the question was one of fact, and therefore discharged the rule. Justices Darling and Phillimore concurred. There are evidently some remarkable vagaries in the interpretation of the London Building Act.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

Messrs. Francis and Day have, among other noteworthy purchases made during the last few days, secured "The Laureate Dance," by J. Follit and Arthur Morris, the inventors of the now world-famous Veleta, and the following songs: "Knock your heads together" (sung by Michael Nolan), by Harry Castling and C. W. Murphy; "Zulieoo" (featured by Billy Hobbs), by Scott McKenzie; "He went on his way rejoicing" (Miss Josie Mooney), by Phil Ray and Walter Munroe; and a new number by those favourite writers F. W. Leigh and H. E. Pether, entitled "The only home that's home for me."

Mr. Billy Williams's amusing song, his own composition, entitled "John, go and put your trousers on!" has been added to Messrs. Francis and Day's "Sixpenny Pops," being No. 364 of the series.

Miss Maidie Scott produced on Monday a new character song, by Messrs. Alfred Wood and George Ess, which proved an instantaneous success. The "gods" absolutely revelled in the refrain, and the rest of the house showed its appreciation in an equally hearty, if less boisterous, manner.

Mr. Harry Randall's new song, "All he's left me is the old cracked basin that we strain the 'taturs in," is from the pen of T. W. Connor, who has fitted to this comic plaint of a neglected wife a lilting melody which will be a sure favourite with the frequenters of Olympus.

Following the announcement in these columns that Messrs. Francis and Day's Summer Books for the use of seaside entertainers were ready, comes the interesting news that so great was the demand for copies that the huge first editions of the three volumes were entirely exhausted in four days. Large reprints have been prepared, and are now ready of Vol. I., Fifty Humorous Songs; Vol. II., Fifty Coon and Soubrette Songs; and Vol. III., Fifty Ballads, Descriptive, and Chorus Songs.

Mr. F. V. St. Clair has provided Coram, the famous ventriloquist, with several winning numbers. The latest are a recitation, "Bill did," and a touching little ditty, "I'm only a little bit of wood." The same author has found a winner for James and Alexander, in the shape of a scena, entitled *The Bouquet*.

Moss' Empires have bought three novel songs by Denham Harrison and Richard Elton. One of them, "Follow your captain's lead," will, it may be predicted, undoubtedly become a popular favourite.

Mr. George Robey is featuring with enormous success a new song, written and composed by E. W. Rogers, entitled "Now laugh." The publishing rights have been secured by the Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Co., Ltd.

The Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Co., Ltd., will shortly issue in their popular sixpenny edition, Mr. T. E. Dunville's latest, "Just my luck," written and composed by Alf. Ellerton. Mr. Dunville has been featuring this number at the Tivoli, and it is a signal success.

Two great al-fresco songs, "Heliotrope" (Geo. Arthurs), sung by Whit Cunliffe, and "Presents" (Medley Barrett and Nat Clifford), sung by Fred Earle, are in great demand by all pierrots for the coming season, and the Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Co., Ltd., predict a great demand for both numbers.

THE PARAGON.

MATINEE FOR LONDON'S CRIPPLES.

Thursday was quite a field day at the Paragon. That something of special importance was taking place was evidenced by the gay decorations outside the building and by the crowd which throughout the afternoon held the approaches to the establishment. To come to the point, the occasion was the visit of the Lord Mayor of London in connection with a matinée which Mr. H. H. Wells was giving in aid of his Lordship's Fund for Crippled Children. The box occupied by the Lord Mayor, as well as the other boxes and the frontages of the balconies, bore the City colours, while the civic emblem of the St. George's Cross and the dagger was also to be seen in various parts of the house.

Mr. H. H. Wells, who as everybody knows is a director of the Canterbury and Paragon, came before the footlights during the afternoon, along with the Lord Mayor, and delivered an interesting speech. "On the present occasion," he said, "I venture to inform you that I have recently been elected a member of the Corporation of the City of London, and I thought that it would be a very fitting occasion on my part to celebrate that auspicious event by inviting you to come here this afternoon to support a scheme which has been inaugurated by the Lord Mayor—who, I am sure, you will be delighted to welcome for the first time in this hall—in aid of his Lordship's fund for the benefit of crippled boys and girls in London. There are 7,000 of those unfortunates in the Metropolis, and the Lord Mayor's idea is to raise £60,000, and with that money to establish a home at some seaside place where these poor children can receive proper medical care and attention and a certain amount of manual training which will enable many of them to gain a livelihood. The scheme has the cordial approval of their Majesties the King and Queen, and I have a letter from Sir Dighton Probyn in which he encloses two cheques for 100 guineas each as donations from their Majesties towards the fund. I have to express my gratitude to Mr. Charles Beecham, the manager of this hall, for the very able assistance he has rendered me and for the magnificent programme he has placed before you. I have also to thank the orchestra and the staff and the artists for their appearing without fees of any kind. There is no body of men and women who do more for the cause of charity than variety artists."

The Lord Mayor, who was most enthusiastically received on coming forward to speak, said that he thought himself very fortunate in the election of Mr. H. H. Wells as a member of the Corporation of London. He was greatly encouraged to see such a large audience, and he had to thank most sincerely his hearers, the artists, Mr. Wells, and everybody who had assisted to make the function what it was—a success.

Among those who were on the stage during the speech-making were Mr. Fred Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Beecham, and Mr. and Mrs. Worland S. Wheeler. Mr. David Alexander, assisted by Mr. David Cowis, had charge of the stage arrangements.

A goodly number of artists turned up to assist in the entertainment portion of the function, and these were—Baby Baker, the Bensons, Marguerite Broadfoote, Victoria Dagmar and clown, the Dandies, Tots Davis, Dora Deveen, T. E. Dunville, Lilian Elfreda, G. H. Elliott, Fielding and Hull, Bertha Goddard, Clarisse Heney, Lee and Kingston, J. P. Ling, Sam Mayo, Pete and Juno, Jessie Preston, Phil Ray, George Robey, the Sisters St. Julian, the Stella Girls, and Harry Tate. Ruffell's animated pictures were also among the attractions.

THE V.A.F. ANNUAL MEETING.

The first annual general meeting of the Variety Artists' Federation was held at the Empire Theatre, Camberwell, on Sunday. Mr. Joe O'Gorman, who was warmly received, opened the meeting shortly after half-past four. In the course of his remarks he said:—"When I left for Africa on July 14 this little Association had grown to be a very healthy child, and was well on the road to success. When I returned, I am sorry to say that a certain few gentlemen had captured the Association. I am nothing if not candid, and whether you like it or not, I am going to tell you the truth. There have been such false reports circulated all over the country that I think now is the time for every member of this organisation to know the cause of these reports, and whether the Executive Committee are to blame for the action they have taken. We come, then, down to the meeting at the Surrey, when we were committed to the policy of an Alliance, on which I, for one, had not been consulted at all. We were in the middle of the fight, and, considering that we had given our promise that there would be no strike because it was repugnant to our wishes, every member of the Federation will admit that we fought, having been so committed, as one man. Another meeting was held at the Surrey Theatre, when our secretary arose and made an excellent speech, and said: 'You are now the proprietors of the handsomest theatre in the world.' Now let me tell you that I can speak for dozens of persons in the building at the time, and they all thought the Scala Theatre was going to be a variety theatre pure and simple. I was asked for a cheque for the £1200 to pay a month's rent, and I declined to sign it.

Mr. Fred Millis asked at whose instigation the Scala was taken.

On being pressed, Mr. O'Gorman stated that Mr. Gerald was responsible.

Mr. Millis: Did the stars promise to appear there?

Mr. O'Gorman: No.

Mr. Millis: Why were we misled and told that they were going to appear?

Mr. O'Gorman: I personally insisted upon Mr. Joe Elvin, who is engaged with Mr. Payne at a considerable salary for thirty weeks in the year for the next six years, not appearing. I told Mr. Elvin that it would not be wise to prejudice those engagements by appearing at the Scala Theatre.

Mr. Adderley Howard: If the Executive Committee were against taking the Scala Theatre, now was it that the majority allowed the minority to take it?

Mr. O'Gorman: Because Mr. Gerald had negotiated a contract.

Mr. Frank Gerald, general secretary, in submitting his report and balance-sheet for the first year of the Federation, said: This Federation was christened on Sunday, Feb. 11, 1906, when Albert Voyce gave it the name of "The Variety Artists' Federation." It was born a week after it was christened, Feb. 18, when Wal Pink threw down the first shilling on the table, and Fred Herbert, acting as hon. treasurer pro tem., picked it up. Since that day 171,640 other shillings have been paid in to the coffers of the V.A.F. Starting with one small room at 28, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C., at a rental of £30 per annum and two clerks, we have now two floors of the building and a staff of seventeen clerks, and pay £115 yearly in rent. We have 110 agencies in the provinces and abroad; and we have enrolled 4516 members; £2800 has been received in subscriptions, £610 in donations, £429 in death levies, £3963 2s. 9d. in donations and strike levies, and £446 13s. 4d. has been loaned to members to assist them to travel to engagements. The registration of the V.A.F. as a trade union is another landmark in the year's history, and a mark that will stand out, perhaps, more vividly than any other. It has been a matter of considerable difficulty to adapt our rules to the requirements of the Trade Union Acts, but this has at last been brought about through our solicitors, Messrs. Morris and Rickards, and Counsel W. M. S. Knight, and hon. counsel, and the Federation was duly registered as a trade union on March 21 last.

Referring to the Scala Theatre, Mr. Gerald said: The Scala Theatre, I believed, would become the home of the music-hall profession. I had the idea of having our offices there, of it becoming the music hall exchange. That was the main idea in my mind in agreeing to the Scala Theatre being taken.

Mr. O'Gorman: May I ask Mr. Gerald who are the stars who promised and then withdrew? That is a fair question. Joe Elvin did not promise.

Joe Elvin: Quite right, Mr. Chairman, I did not. I brought my contracts to the Executive Committee, and showed them that I was liable for breach of contract on something like 200 contracts, and I said, "If you pass it that I appear, I will appear."

Mr. Gerald: I did not say that Joe Elvin had promised to appear. The Brothers McNaughton promised, together with Miss Alice Lloyd.

Mr. O'Gorman: The McNaughtons and Miss Alice Lloyd were sailing for America on the Wednesday, and could only have appeared for one night. Arthur Roberts was on the Conciliation Board, and so was Wal Pink, and could not have appeared had they been ever so willing.

Arthur Roberts: I think that Mr. Gerald has been rather moderate. I will do him the justice to say that I partly promised. I had already broken one, and on looking up my contracts, I found that I should have broken a contract which had not come into force. I had also a writ to the tune of £1000. Therefore, I went the first night and sat in the stalls to show that my thoughts were with you.

John F. Preston: I can say this in connection with the Scala. When Mr. Gerald spoke to me first about it he said undoubtedly we shall get many of the stars. Had I known that the stars were not going to appear, I can assure you that I should not have suggested the title *A Night With the Stars*.

Mr. Mountford considered that the Scala was one of the biggest levers used during the music hall war. "I claim, if we never had opened it, if we had brought the war to an end without opening it, it would have been money well spent. Here you are, men who have gone through a fight, sitting here and holding a post-mortem on our actions. We all did our best, and I stand here and say there is no harm in disagreeing with the opinions of your fellow committeemen. It is impossible to find any 126 men who agree on one subject."

Mr. George Gray seconded the resolution, and the secretary's report and balance-sheet was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

Mr. C. C. Bartram, in his capacity of managing-editor of the *Performer*, gave some interesting particulars of that publication, and the account thereof was adopted. The agenda was then reached.

Mr. Charles Coborn moved: (1) That, in the opinion of this meeting, in order to place the Federation in line with all other similar institutions, a president, and one or more vice-presidents should be appointed, who must be members of the Variety Artists' Federation. (2) That in the best interests of the Federation it is desirable that the Press should be fully represented at our general meetings.

No. 1 suggestion was put to the meeting, after discussion, only two hands showing in favour. Before putting No. 2 suggestion, Mr. Coborn asked Mr. Mitchell whether it was usual for the Press to be present at meetings, and on being answered in the negative, he asked permission to withdraw the resolution.

Mr. John F. Preston moved that Clause 18 in Book of Rules be altered to read: "The secretary shall be elected annually by votes of the whole of the members of the Federation, and not by the executive committee only."

Mr. Cliquot seconded the resolution.

Mr. Monte Bayly proposed an amendment that the secretary shall be elected annually by the votes of the whole of the executive committee members in the United Kingdom.

Mr. Clemart: At the present moment I distinctly object to any secretary being elected by the main body of the Federation. The main body of the Federation do not know what is required of the secretary. You elect the executive committee to run your Federation, surely to goodness you can trust them to elect a secretary. After remarks from Mr. Mitchell it was carried that the secretary shall be elected annually by members of the executive committee in the United Kingdom, voting by ballot.

Mr. George Gray proposed: "That an Inner Council be formed, comprised of twelve members elected from the executive committee, including chairman, vice-chairman, and secretary, to which body all disputes arising in committee, proposals of alterations of the constitution, or other drastic reforms, shall be submitted for consideration, approval, or otherwise, such Inner Council to be constituted a Court of Appeal, from whose decision a special meeting in town and provinces simultaneously held on an appointed date, and a three-fourths majority vote of such meetings shall overrule such decision."

Mr. Walter Munro seconded the resolution.

Mr. Mountford called the chairman's attention to Rule 25, and asked if this and the next resolution on the agenda had been published as per this rule.

The chairman thought not, and that it would be better to now adjourn until after the Arbitrator's award had been given, and to carry the balance of the agenda over until that meeting.

Mr. Clemart said that his first resolution was ruled not unconstitutional, therefore could be considered. He moved, "That the quorum of the executive committee be ten," and added to this "that the quorum, if there are not more than ten present, must be unanimous."

Mr. T. M. Paul moved an amendment to this resolution, "That no important measures be taken by the executive committee unless a quorum of fifteen be in attendance, the measures to be approved of by ten of the members," but on it being pointed out that there would be a difficulty in defining the words, "important measures," also in getting fifteen members together at the same time, he withdrew the amendment.

The Chairman put Mr. Clemart's resolution, which was carried, and the meeting was adjourned until after the Arbitrator had given his award.

A vote of thanks was passed to the directors of the Empire Theatre, Camberwell, which was responded to by Mr. Harry Bawn, on behalf of Mr. Sparrow, himself, and the directors.

A vote of thanks to the chairman, proposed by Mr. Wal Pink, seconded by Mr. Millis, concluded the meeting.

THE V.A.F. COMMITTEE.

Below are to be found the names of candidates for the Executive Committee of the Variety Artists' Federation. The forty-nine candidates receiving the highest number of votes are elected for three years. The poll closes at 12 noon on Saturday next.

MEMBERS OF PRESENT COMMITTEE, who offer themselves for re-election.

Alexander, S. King	Jimson, J. C.
Benson, Frank	Kisbey, H. J.
Brantford, Bert	Latimar, Fred
Butler, C. J.	Leonard, Alf
Dillon, Charles	Monti, B.
Farley, W. H.	Newham, George
Godfrey, Arthur E.	Mason, H.
Grace, Wal	Phillips, Harry
Halter, Frank	Reeves, George
Herald, A.	Spot
Herald, H.	Ward, E. A.
Holles, William	Warsaw, Erne
Howard, Jas.	

NEW CANDIDATES FOR COMMITTEE.

Abadaroff, Tom	High, H. E.
Alexandre, J.	Hindell, Gus
Allan, Harry	Hoffman, Maurice
Allison, James	Howard, Adderley
Anthony	Hughes, George
Armstrong, Barney	Iveson, Tony
Atlas, W. H.	Kellino, Jas.
Austin, Charles	Kenyon, Neil
Bandon, Sid	Laurel, Syd
Barnard, Fred	Leamore, Tom
Baroni, Harry	Leybourne, Harry
Barton, D.	Leyton, George
Barwick, Edwin	Lloyd, Herbert
Bates-Maddison	Lukos, Alix
Bayly, Monte	Mack, Julian
Belrose, Geo.	Major, Tom
Benn, Willie	Maple, Fred
Bernard, Fred	Marlow, Harry
Blake, Harry	Mildare, Chas.
Brough, Hal	Millis, Fred W.
Burnetti, Tom	Mortimer, Leonard
Byrne, Bert	Munroe, Walter F.
Chirgwin, Geo. H.	Myers, Ernest
Cliffe, Tom E.	Noble, Barney
Clifford, Nat	Obo, Ben
Cliquot, Chevalier	Obo, Jim
Coborn, Charles	O'Malley, Horace
Cochrane, Roy	Payne, Geo. E.
Collins, Tom	Permane, W.
Costello, Tom	Preston, John F.
Cotterill, Sid	Primavesi
Couch, Frank	Rhodes, Dusty
Cragg, J. W.	Richards, Dick
Crawley, Jack	Roberts, Arthur
Cyril, Herbert	Ryland, Cliff
Dale, Augustus	St. Clair, F. V.
Dale, Harry	Sinclair, Fred
Dunmore, Tom	Sinclair, Geo. B.
Dunning, Robert	Sivroni
Ellison, J. W.	Stanley, O. B.
Elton, William	Sylvester, Syd
Elvo, Jim	Vendome, Jeff
Franklin, J.	Vetter, R. D. A.
Freeman, Harry	Vox, Barney
Friedman, Jake	Waldron, Joe
Gillin, W. E.	Walker, Whimsical
Gilmore, Johnny	Wallis, W. H.
Ginnett, Fred	Wayho, Jack
Glenroy, Sam	Wenburn, Harry
Goldin, Horace	Weston, Bert
Gribben, Harry A.	White, Horace
Hallett, Wilson	Williams, Bert
Harris, Ben	Wills, H. O.
Harwood, Frank	Wilson, J. W.
Harwood, H. W.	Woellhaf, Fred
Herman, Phil	Woottwell, Tom
Hertz, Carl	Zola, Little

Mr. Editor,—Sir,—In your notice last week of trial turns at the New Cross Empire, you style us as Pollods. It should have been Pollard Bros. and Kitty Grey (the Lilliputian Oddities).

Mr. Edmond Bosanquet has been booked for America by Mr. Alfred E. Aarons, manager for Klaw and Erlanger. He opens in New York in October.

DEATH OF BEATRICE WORTH.

Everyone connected with the profession will hear with deep regret of the death of Beatrice Worth, comedienne (wife of Sam Shipley). Miss Worth had been suffering for some eight months from an ulcerated stomach, but had recovered sufficiently to be able to appear at the Hippodrome, Stockton-on-Tees, on Monday, April 8. She performed every night during the week right up to Friday, when a relapse prostrated her, and she passed away at noon on Saturday after a few hours' suffering. Miss Worth was thirty-two years of age, and is sister of Miss Ada Twibell, who travelled from Carlisle to attend the funeral, which took place at the Weaste Cemetery, Manchester. During her severe illness in Stockton Miss Worth was lovingly attended to by Mrs. Thomas, of the Royal Oak. We are sure Mr. Sam Shipley has the deep sympathy of the profession in his sad bereavement.

THE LATE MISS BEATRICE WORTH.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR

Your book will, I am sure, be a valuable aid to all managers and actors.—Sir Henry Irving.

Mr. Strong states the whole case very clearly.—*Illustrated London News.*

Should be found very useful.—*Pelican.*

Should prove perfectly invaluable.—*Weekly Sun.*

Contains in a handy compass and in a clear style the law relating to theatres and music halls. The book is well up to date.—*Law Times.*

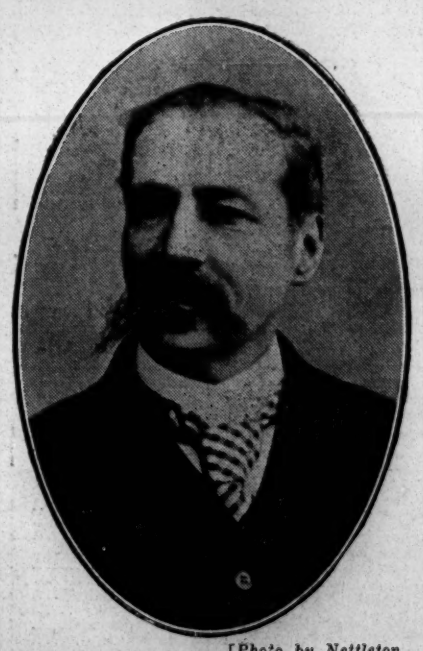
Furnishes useful information.—*Daily News.*

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—*Star.*

Mr. A. A. Strong has compiled an exceedingly useful volume dealing carefully, intelligently, and fully with the law bearing upon things theatrical. As a book of reference this excellent digest will be found invaluable.—*The Era.*

DEATH OF WILLIAM HAMILTON.

It is with great regret that we announce the death of Mr. William Hamilton, of the original Hamilton Brothers, of Hamilton's Excursions fame, which took place at his residence in London on the 12th inst. The body was cremated at Golder's-hill, Hampstead, on Monday, the chief mourners being A. and V. Hamilton (sons), H. Judson and R. Woodhead (sons-in-law), and J. King (brother-in-law of the deceased). Mr. Hamilton underwent a serious operation in October last, from the effects of which he never recovered. He had been ill for some time before his death; and the show had been successfully carried on by his sons, Archie and Victor Hamilton. The Hamilton family gave their first exhibition at the Linwood Gallery in 1848, and were the pioneers of dioramic excursions.



[*Photo by Nettleton.*

THE LATE MR. WILLIAM HAMILTON.

Miss Dorothy Rundell, who is playing for the Muswell Hill Dramatic Society next Wednesday, has for some considerable time been studying under Miss Kate Rorke at the Guildhall School, and has shown such promise that Mr. Oswald Stoll will give her a leading part in the very next sketch to be produced on his tour.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps. *The Era* is posted on Saturday in time to reach London Subscribers by the *first* Town Delivery, and Country Subscribers should receive their Papers by the *first* London Post. Address, the Publisher, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

COLLINS'S.

On Monday, April 15, a new sketch, by Percival H. T. Sykes, entitled "THE STORM; OR, JEAN RUSSEAU'S LAST PICTURE."

Jean Russeau ..... Mr. Percy Murray
Philippe ..... Mr. Herbert Segerton
Cure Lacelles ..... Mr. Charles Frome
Suzell ..... Miss Helena Parsons
Camille Russeau ..... Miss Lena Penrose

Grimly sensational is Mr. Percival H. T. Sykes's latest sketch, the gloomy nature of the theme being unrelieved by any touches of comedy. It is based upon the old story of a woman's perfidy and a man's deadly revenge. Described as a French story, the one scene represents the home of Jean Russeau, a clever artist, who has just completed a picture for the Salon, by the sale of which he hopes to make good the heavy loss he has sustained by an unfortunate business speculation. The painting is called "The Madonna," and the artist's wife, Camille, has acted as his model. From a conversation between husband and wife we learn how Jean lost his money. He entrusted it to Camille's brother, who invested the whole amount in the purchase of mining shares, which eventually proved worthless; and now the artist is so poor that he is compelled to use their living-room as a studio. Jean is an absinthe drinker, and so, too, is Philippe, a brother artist who pays him a visit, and announces that their old friend the Cure Lascelles, is in Paris, and intends paying Russeau a visit. Their conversation is interrupted by the arrival of the venerable priest, who relates to Jean how his nephew, ruined by a woman, threw himself into the Seine. On his dead body was found her portrait. The priest's attention is called to the picture, which Jean is about to send to the Salon, and to his horror he recognises the face of the woman who caused his nephew, in a moment of desperation, to commit suicide. He informs Jean that his wife's so-called brother has no existence; but is a man with whom Camille lived. Camille, little suspecting the revelations that have been made in her absence, returns. She has to face an infuriated husband, whose feelings are intensified by the absinthe he has so freely imbibed. She begs for mercy and pardon, but the man means murder. She switches off the electric light, and crouches behind the picture. Russeau, intent on destroying the painting, thrusts the knife through the canvas, and the weapon enters the breast of the faithless wife. "You've painted your last picture—the guillotine," she cries, as she falls dead at his feet. But Jean escapes arrest as a murderer, for when he is discovered lying by the side of his dead wife, he also has joined the great majority. Mr. Percy Murray gave a powerful embodiment of Jean Russeau, and was well supported by Miss Lena Penrose as the false wife, who pays the penalty with her life. Mr. Charles Frome, though a little uncertain of his words on the first night, was good as the Cure Lacelles; Mr. Herbert Segerton was satisfactory as Philippe; and Miss Helena Parsons also deserves favourable mention for her excellent impersonation of Suzell. The stage effects are by Mr. Frank Clinton; and the storm which gives its title to the new production was extremely realistic.

The general company at Collins's this week includes Mr. Harry Randall, who, having concluded his pantomime engagement, has returned to the halls with new songs. As usual, domestic topics form the basis of his ditties, and in "No more gardening out-of-doors for me" he comically describes how he cultivates horticulture in his own house, and so defies the vagaries of the weather. Next, in the familiar character of a dame, Mr. Randall tells the story of a broken-up home in his own humorous style. This is a capital chorus song. Mr. G. W. Hunter is also here, and with his ditties and jokelets fully maintains his popularity. Miss Peggy Pryde is as energetic and as vivacious as ever, and meets with a cordial reception. Sinclair and Parr are excellent vocalists, who score with a medley of popular Irish songs. The Maples are very successful in their act, *How to Treat a Burglar;* and the Daunton-Shaw troupe of trick cyclists, consisting of two men and three young and charming ladies, give an exceedingly clever and graceful performance. Mr. Arthur Lennard has a capital song in "The boy and the eagle," and the old favourite, "Mother," with the touch of pathos in the last verse, is greeted with loud applause. Mr. Bert Coote's Yankee-Doodle Girls give a very smart show; Miss Rosie Bartlett, a dainty comedienne, is also well received; and the Imperial Bioscope depicts the adventures of a too enthusiastic billiard player. Mr. Alfred Selwyn has been appointed the general-manager at this hall; and Mr. Edmund Leslie is the assistant-manager. The ladies' band has been replaced by an orchestra conducted by Mr. George Richardson.

HOLBORN EMPIRE.

The invasion of London by the Scotch comedian still proceeds. This week Mr. Donald Macdougall, whose name emphatically proclaims his native land, has made his first appearance in the Metropolis at the Holborn Empire. Mr. Macdougall, who, we believe, is not related in any way to the London County Councillor who has shown a warm interest in variety theatres, wears the garb of ancient Gaul, and there can be no doubt regarding the genuineness of his northern brogue. He has made a decidedly favourable impression by his undeniable vivacity and humour. There is nothing particularly distinctive or original in his methods, but he is evidently a comedian of experience, and can with confidence be recommended as a good turn. An important engagement is that of Miss Madge Lessing, the popular musical comedy artist, who is supported by a number of graceful young girls. Opening in her pretty scena, "Snowland," Miss Lessing not only presents a very charming appearance in a costume appropriate to the wintry scene, but gives the audience a delightful specimen of her ability as a vocalist. Next she appears as a Dutch girl, and in the garb peculiar to Holland appear other girls and boys, who join in the chorus of the song and assist Miss Lessing in a quaint dance. In the final glimpse we get of her she is carrying off pickback one of the small Dutch lads already mentioned.

The Six Brothers Luck, in their sketch, *The Grand Hotel*, work very hard in a performance distinguished by abundance of fun and frolic of the broadest kind. Much depends upon the two waiters at the hotel, and the remarkable tricks they play the customers cause roars of laughter. A fiery military officer, actively engaged in a search for the villain who has made advances to his wife, is a prominent character in this boisterous sketch, which concludes with the capture of this gentleman. Each member of the company contributes his share to the merriment which prevails during the whole time the performance lasts. Another combination which greatly amuses the audience is the Three Prestons (George, Joey, and Jock), in the comedy act entitled *The Liftman's Rise*, which is one of the best items in the current bill. Miss Mabel Thorne, comedienne, in her song makes a pretence of recognising male members of the audience and addressing them respectively as Green, White, and Brown. The last mentioned occupies a private box, and is accompanied by a lady, who it is evident strongly disapproves of his demonstrative recognition of Mabel, and angrily takes her departure followed by her male escort. Miss Gertie Gitana, comedienne, meets with a very hearty reception, and makes her biggest hit with her "Songbird" ditty, which she renders with a charm of manner that is most delightful. Mr. R. H. Douglas is here with his clever and amusing monologue entertainment, in which he gives an imitation of a counsel appealing to judge and jury on behalf of his fair client in a breach of promise case, followed by a very life-like character-sketch of a temperance orator addressing a crowd on the evils of drink, which he is so ready to "put down" in a double sense of that term. Mr. H. O. Wills is a comedian whose make up is very suggestive of the simian race. While singing his second song he munches a small loaf, in which he at intervals discovers various curious articles. Mr. Wills's methods are original and successful. Miss Queenie Essex is a good-looking comedienne, and sings in pleasing style, "Isn't that a girl all over?" and "Dear heart." The Four Vincents are young girls who, described as miniature gladiators, pose in such a manner as to represent groups of statuary, and they achieve a decided success. The Lancashire Lads, vocalists and dancers, are rewarded by abundant applause; and Mr. Walter Stanley and Mr. Leslie Harris, comedians, are also in the bill. On the evening of our visit a deputy appeared in the place of Thorpe and Coe in their comedy sketch, *The Burglar*. The Imperial Bioscope has a series of interesting films depicting a wild boar hunt. Excellent work is done by the orchestra under the direction of Mr. James Sale; and the front of the house is well looked after by Mr. J. C. Cuthbertson, the acting-manager.

THE FORESTERS'.

The death, under the tragic circumstances which are detailed in another column, of Mr. Kirtland, the late manager of the Foresters', has aroused a feeling of deep regret in the neighbourhood, where Mr. Kirtland was highly respected. Mr. Fred Lawrence, the well-known light comedian, is the acting-manager *pro tem*, and this week he has been attending with much assiduity and ability to the duties connected therewith.

There is plenty to interest one in the programme presented this week. Mr. Arnold Bell and his company in *Paul Kauvar* provide the leading attraction. *Paul Kauvar* is a story of the French Revolution. We have recollections of it not as a music-hall sketch, but as a lengthy play, and an extremely popular one, too. Now it is reduced to half an hour or less, and it can be said that in the curtailment the most stirring incidents have not been cast aside. The little piece is very well acted and superbly staged. Mr. Arnold Bell is seen and heard to advantage in the title-rôle; and Miss Frances Campbell wins everybody's sympathy for her graceful and charming representation of the heroine. Mr. Cuthbert Imrie as the Marquis de Vaux, Mr. J. W. Henson as the Duke de Beaumont, Mr. Arthur T. Lennard as General de la Roche, and Mr. Frank C. Robson as Potin, all give admirable assistance in the presentation of the playlet. Coming to the other items, we have an intensely amusing comedian in Mr. John E. Coyle, whose rendering of the songs, "Ought to see a doctor," and "Bathing in the sea," is characterised by a keen sense of the ridiculous. Clifton and Gibson also contrive to be exceedingly absurd with their thought-reading burlesque and their patter, while a word of praise is due to them for the medley duet on London plays. The Zampas win great applause for their speciality dancing and bâton manipulating; and the Brothers Smart give an entertaining eccentric acrobatic act. The Waltons, too, excel in the latter direction, their knockabout business being of an astonishing nature. Miss Flo Vincent appears in place of the Hippodrome Girls, and renders a good account of herself as a comedienne. Mr. Charles Gardener, attired firstly as a policeman and then as an old woman, sings in a style quite characteristic of the people he is supposed to represent two ditties, "Not on my beat," and "I am a lady." The Sisters Lunelle, soubrettes and dancers, contribute in pleasing style some sets of verses about a "Rickshaw queen" and the "Coonville coloured band"; and Mr. Victor Travis keeps the audience in a happy frame of mind with his eccentric comedy, as applied to the song, "The Angel of Love," to his laughable poses, and his legmania. Reymond's Bio-Tableaux give us a clear and sensational film in "The Automobile Thieves."

STRATFORD EMPIRE.

Packed houses nightly are the rule at this popular and well-managed variety theatre, a happy state of affairs which the strong programme submitted each week thoroughly justifies. The principal attraction in the current bill is Mr. Jake Friedman's company in *Happy Holland*, a musical comedy in miniature. A pretty and picturesque scene depicts the Quay of Rotterdam, and a number of merry Dutch girls are disporting themselves, and some lively and tuneful numbers are introduced. The principal character is undertaken by Mr. Jake Friedman, who is very quaint and amusing as Jakey Dodlevassal, as well as when masquerading as a female guide. Gretchen (Jakey's sweetheart) is charmingly impersonated by Miss Florence Hunton, whose fine vocalism wins general praise. Others supporting are Mr. L. Ellis, Mr. Fred Dennis, Mr. John Tudor, and Miss L. Braham. The piece is well staged and most cordially received.

Mr. Bransby Williams shows much histrionic ability and resource in some well-contrasted character-sketches. While submitting "An Old Man's Soliloquy to His Pipe" the proverbial pin could be heard to drop, and silence is changed to mirth while "The Student" is given. The favourite, "Devil May Care," is Mr. Williams's third item, and at its conclusion the applause is loud and continuous. The Three Sisters Macarte are deservedly popular in their tight-wire act, a novel and daring conclusion to which is for two of the sisters to be suspended in mid-air at opposite ends of the stage. A wire is then passed, across which each holds in her teeth, and the third sister mounts the wire and performs a serpentine dance thereon. Frank Leslie as a dilapidated crossing-sweeper is very amusing in his song, "The kerb-stone millionaire," whose jollity is evidence that this precarious means of earning a livelihood has not made him downhearted. Visions of the blackness of the coalmine are conjured up to the mind by the appearance of Godfrey James, who wears the attire of a pit-worker, but the underground atmosphere has not impaired his voice, which is heard to fine advantage in a rousing ballad.

Alexandre and Hughes contribute a most diverting entertainment, and there is a continuous ripple of laughter while they are on the stage. As musicians, too, they are excellent. The amusing by-play which ensues during the rehearsal of a visit to a temple of Bacchus, where one of the twain is on friendly terms with the fair Hebe who dispenses the liquid refreshment, but, unfortunately, he only possesses three pence, sufficient only to quench the thirst proclivities of himself, is in the best comedy vein, and their turn might be long extended to satisfy the audience. Frank Bertram and company provide some entertaining moments in their sketch, *The Chaperon*, and the Bioscope Pictures are watched with keen interest, this week's series including a military episode, entitled "The Spy." Dion Wade has a successful style peculiar to himself, and is decidedly amusing in "Wouldn't you be better in a home?" Dennis Drew displays fine vocal powers in his military song-scena, "Back to Barracks," and he has the assistance of a smart squad of boys, the patriotic refrain of one of his songs, "Every British boy should be a soldier," being delivered by the youngsters with rare gusto. Early comers are regaled by the overture, "The deep blue sea" (the piccolo solo in which is well rendered by Mr. R. Vernon Pierson), by the orchestra, under the skilful bâton of [illegible] The energetic and popular acting-m[illegible] T. S. Mayne, directs affairs with t[illegible]ER. courtesy, and he has an able lieut[illegible]he list very W. S. Bucclengh.

BRITANNIA, HOXTON.

The patrons of this popular house of amusement have been well provided this week with a programme that should suit all tastes. After a spirited overture by Mr. Carl Hamlin's efficient orchestra, Miss Peggy Frame appears and renders an excellent song entitled "I am looking for a sweetheart" in an agreeable fashion; she also wins the approval of the audience in a well-executed dance. That popular comedian, Mr. Harry Wright, next favours with a rollicking song in his well-known style, entitled "Come round home"; on being recalled he gives his successful extempore song, "The little items of the day," which is warmly greeted. The succeeding item is the Royal Raynors, a pair of smart legmania artists, who introduce some excellent gymnastic feats. Miss Lottie Govell next appears, and this smartly-dressed and agile young lady warbles a tuneful ditty, "Don't cry," and also gives a neat dance. An item on the programme that causes the audience to indulge in hearty applause is Leoni Clarke, "the Cat King." A vast amount of time and trouble, to say nothing of patience, must have been expended in bringing his troupe of animals to such a state of perfection. It is certainly one of the smartest animal acts on the variety stage. The Sisters Florence are an exceedingly clever pair of dancers, and introduce some fine specimens of acrobatic dancing; they are well received. Mr. Chas. Lilburn was billed, but owing to a severe cold was unable to appear. Messrs. Kerr and Keo deputised for him, and highly amused the crowded audience with their funny cross-talk, excellent singing and dancing. Another well-known favourite who is warmly greeted is Miss Nellie Gannow, whose powerful voice is listened to with rapt attention in the rendering of "Little love-bird" and a song dealing with the times of Nelson. The programme is not complete without a sketch, and this important item is presented by Mr. Leonard Mortimer's company in a romantic drama entitled *The Martyrdom of Michael*, which is well played by a good company, and fully deserves the applause bestowed upon it. The performance is brought to a close with an exhibition of Raymond's Bio-Tableaux. Mr. James McCarthy is the able and courteous acting-manager, who studies the comfort of his audience.

EMPRESS, BRIXTON.

The programme which is being presented here this week is one of general excellence rather than of individual brilliance. Dull moments are scarce, and well-filled houses seem to be well pleased with the fare provided. Miss Jeanette Hall is deputed to set the ball rolling, and her powerful voice is heard to exceptional advantage. Fred Barnes, a new comedian, has a capital number, entitled "Just raise your hat to the lady," which is set to taking music, the result being that the chorus is most readily taken up.

Mrs. Oscar Luck's company is presenting a dramatic episode, entitled *Kismet*. Mr. Heaton Grey, as Frank Galbraith, appears to advantage; Jessie Elvin, as the artist's model, is successful; and Miss May Vaughan as Julie Grey, with little to do, does well.

Tom Leo has a very amusing song, entitled "I'm lazy," the idea of the number being well carried out, as is the singer. After hearty and prolonged applause Tom appears to bow his acknowledgements, and is again "removed." Cruikshank, described as "the fool of the family," has some very amusing patter, and brings his turn to a conclusion by a clever parody on "Under the old apple-tree." After deafening applause he submits as an encore a series of verses, each line ending with a word ending with "ion." This impromptu is very clever. The turn presented by Henry A. Moore is certainly most interesting and well diversified. He supplements clever imitations of Wilkie Bard, Wilson Barrett, and R. G. Knowles by burlesques of some of our leading actors and comedians reciting the first verse of "Mary had a little lamb" Messrs. Beerbohm Tree, George Alexander, Arthur Roberts, and the late Dan Leno are very happily hit off. He brings his turn to a conclusion by a recitation entitled "The coquette; or, never carry your heart on your arm." Cole and Rags, comedy jugglers, are very amusing, he who styles himself as Rags being especially quaint. Sinclair and Parr are the possessors of very fine voices, which they know full well how to use; Jessie Preston is seen to advantage in a couple of numbers; and the Bensons are again here with their musical act. This is going as well as ever, and their clever dancing is a delight to all. Henry de Vry's statuary consists of a series of finely-realised bas-relief and white marble representations, that of "The Runners" being especially effective.

Miss Madeline Rees is exploiting a couple of capital numbers with success, viz., "Dear little water lily, I love you" and "What is the good of knocking at an empty house." Herbert Terry's company is presenting what is described on the programme as a powerful Russian incident. Mr. Terry as the Prince and Miss Jessie Danvers as the wife work hard for the success of the piece, which meets with hearty applause. The evening's enjoyment is brought to a close by some amusing pictures on the Bioscope. Mr. Francis Winchcombe, the popular acting-manager, does everything possible for the comfort of his friends and patrons.

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE.

Mr. B. G. Maclachlan has an excellent programme to offer his patrons at this very popular house this week, and crowded houses are the rule. The bill is headed by that popular artist, Eugene Stratton, whose singing and dancing are as delicate and fascinating as ever. Although he prefers to always appear as a coon, the variety of the characters he impersonates afford him plenty of scope for his versatility. Mr. Stratton's songs on this occasion include "That little gal of Johnson's," "That coon's in love," and, most admirable of all, and an old favourite, "I may be crazy, but I love you." A most interesting event is the first appearance at this house of young Dan Leno, son of the famous and much-lamented comedian. Mr. Leno on the stage closely resembles his father in appearance and manner, and his song, or, rather, sketch, is of the type always associated with "dear old Dan." At present he is somewhat handicapped by his boyish voice; but he quickly gets on good terms with his audience, and his reception is most cordial. Mr. Leno's development as a comedian will be watched with interest. A very clever coin and card manipulating turn is provided by Leipzig; and Mark Merry sings a song, as he describes it, "in mirthful melancholy." Syd May does his usual imitations in his usual excellent manner, impersonating in turn Gus Elen, George Robey, and Harry Lauder, and winds up with a most amusing "study" of George Hackenschmidt. Syd May's realistic struggles with a dummy figure is one of the funniest things on the music-hall stage. Elsie Claire sings a charming song in a very sweet manner; and Ruth Lytton, in Scotch attire, soon becomes very popular with a light, humorous song. An excellent turn is contributed by Phil and Lettie Peters, in a clever comedy duologue. One of the *pièces de résistance* at Shepherd's Bush this week is the now famous sketch, *The Would-be Actors*. Played by the same company as when it first appeared in London during last year at the Palace Theatre, the progress of this splendid sketch is followed by roars of laughter from beginning to end. Mr. Carter Livesey as the hero and others, Miss Lilian Rosebery as the heroine, and Mr. [illegible] Mason as the villain, are all admirable. [illegible]gramme this week is terminated by a [illegible]ictures on the American Bioscope, en- Wonderful Electric Belt." A word of [illegible]must be passed to Mr. Maclachlan for [illegible]d courteous attention to the comfort [illegible]ront.

"THE ERA" SHILLING FUND FOR THE MUSIC HALL HOME.

Mr. Barrasford and Miss Vesta Victoria join in a strenuous appeal for the generosity of the profession in support of *The Era* Shilling Fund. When, twelve months ago, we brought before our readers the claims of this deserving charity, a very considerable sum of money was collected in separate shillings. That last year's appeal, however, and most of the money obtained by it, are, as Miss Marie Lloyd would say, "a thing of the past, old dear."

Subscribed to date, 2310½ shillings.

FIRST LIST OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

	£	s.	d.
Edinburgh theatrical and vaudeville sports, per Walter P. Wells	40	0	0
Contents of collecting-box at the Hippodrome (late Tivoli), Leeds, one of Mr. Barrasford's halls, per Charles Weldon	5	7	9
Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Mannering	1	5	0
Leoni Clarke	1	1	0
Collecting-box, Palace of Varieties, Ltd., Manchester, per Nelson Barry	1	0	0
Fred Arthur	1	0	0
Bros. Webb	0	10	0
Geretti	0	5	0
Belford and Mars	0	5	0
A. Lazarus	0	2	0
A Gus Elen Autograph	0	0	6

Collected by Mr. Horace Wheatley, £3 11s.

Horace Wheatley	40	Anthony	1
Terrance Wheatley, jun.	1	Claire Romaine	1
Catherleen Wheatley	1	Sydney James	1
Norah Wheatley	1	Gilbert Fernie	1
Eileen Wheatley	1	Harry Edson	1
Horace Wheatley, jun.	1	Leslie Romani	1
Grandma	1	Lizzie Kirk	1
Auntie	1	Emmie Romani	1
MacWheatley the Dog	1	Frank Turner	1
Edgar Marriott	1	Mrs. F. Turner	1
Frank Leon	1	J. G. Henderson	1
Ted Waite	1	C. Pastor	1
Edgar Romaine	1	Sister Marion	1
Robert Robertson	1	M. Egerton	1
Florence Lambeth	1	Fred O'Malley	1
		George Harvard	1
		Gus W. Blake	1

Collected by Mr. Harry Conlin, Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, £4 7s.

Bros. Egbert	10	Us again, again	1
Us again, again, again, again	7	Us again, again, again	1
Albert Egbert	5	Gladys Cooper	1
Harry Conlin	5	Doris Cooper	1
Rosie Coleman	5	Vera Elvey	1
Mark Sheridan	5	M. Claire	1
Gwladys Elvey	5	Mr. Whitehead	1
Edna Loftus	5	Ian Lloyd-Mackenzie	1
Daisy Dormer	5	Herbert Darnley	1
S. Egbert and Mac	5	Harry Nelson	1
Mark's Room	4	Erchie Mitchell	1
Mac's Bar, 3 Rose-street, Edinburgh	3	Harry Bendon	1
Harry Lupino	2	A. R. Pole	1
Us again	2	Us	1
Betty Green	1½	Cade Burnett	1
		Deane Tribune	1
		Estella Tribune	1

Collected by Mr. Gus Elen, £2.

Gus Elen (V.A.F.)	10	Edith Villa	1
Mrs. G. E.	1	Cruet	1
The Chickens	1	Boots	1
The Pheasants	1	The Dustman	1
Buller (St. Bernard)	1	Mrs. Carter	1
Major (Pomeranian)	1	Found	1
The Cook (16st.)	1	The Postman	1
The Housemaid	1	Admission	1
The Motor	1	Lizzie C.	1
The Gardener (Bob)	1	Meriah	1
The Parrot	1	Our Tyke	1
The Canary	1	New Pyjama 'At	1
Inky (Black Cat)	1	Luggage Man's (tip)	1
Four-Pots-a	1	Book-Boy's (ditto)	1
Twelve Coppers	1	Cab to *Era* Office	1
Two Sixpences	1		

Collected by Mr. Tom Fancourt, 15s.

Tom Fancourt	1	Margaret Ruby	1
Alf Selby	1	Queenie Clements	1
Harry Ray	1	Lottie Cora	1
Lillie Caldon	1	Florrie Cora	1
Arnold Richardson	1	Mrs. Howarth	1
Jennie Rubie	1	Anon.	1
B. Elton	1	Ernest Laws	1
T. Elma	1		

Collected by Regan and Ryan, Court Theatre, Liverpool, £1 14s.

Malcolm Scott	5	H. Brockbank	2
Fanny Fields	5	Patty Yole	2
Regan and Ryan	5	M. R. M.	1
Harry Tate	5	Doris Dean	1
Hetty King	5	Poppy Wilkinson	1
Fanny Dango	2		

Collected by Mr. Billy Williams, £2 19s. 9d.

Billy Williams	5	E. I. S.	1
Miss Du-Roche	5	A. Hanson	1
Miss M. Sealby	5	W. Marshall	1
Andre Avocat	5	J. B.	1
Miss M. Langdon	2½	B. B.	1
Oliver Round	2½	J. Kelly	1
Roze and Calvert	2½	W. E. D. V.	1
W. W. Walton	2½	W. Clarke	1
Churnell	2½	O. L. Rendell	1
F. E.	2	Wirson Kurat	1
J. K.	2	T. Dare	1
Miss Mab Paul	2	Geo. W. Thorpe	1
Adelaide	2	H. B.	1
King	1½	I. B.	1
W. E. R.	1	Maxwell	1
F. D. B.	1	Graham	1

Collected by Rich and Rich, 11s.

Rich and Rich	5	W. Fullbrook	1
Smarte Bros.	2	Charles Homer	1
H. O. Wills	1	Lola Patey	1

Collected by Carl Hertz, £1.

F. Bernard	1	Wartemberg Bros.	1
Fred Poplar	1	J. Wilson	1
Sinclair and Whiteford	1	H. Osborn	1
Edgar Romaine	1	Carl Hertz	1
Edgar Romaine	1	Carl Hertz	1
Little Tich	1	Carl Hertz	1
Little Tich	1	Carl Hertz	1
Little Tich	1	Mrs. Carl Hertz	1
Little Tich	1	Mrs. Carl Hertz	1
Little Tich	1	Mrs. Carl Hertz	1
Little Tich	1		

Collected by Bliss and Bliss, £1 12s.

George Bliss	1	Pushfoot	1
Leo Bliss	1	Nellie Bailey	1
Jack Cromo	1	Gerald	1
W. Stewart	1	Charlie Hardup	1
Ruby Aiston	1	Kitty Chic	1
Arthur Aiston	1	Zena Page	1
Billy Hoofum	1	Kathleen Tremayne	1
James Kiddie	1	May St. Pierre	1
Tom Kelso	1	Lena Arnold	1
E. Bernhardt	1	Aline Goldsmith	1
Harold Batt	1	Edie Graham	1
Mr. Skimps	1	Minnie Grey	1
Mr. Skopes	1	Eva Mountcastle	1
Ben De Freece	1	M. Maquade	1
Kitty Kildare	1	Nellie Bailey	1
Nellie Bailey	1	Marie Beresford	1

Collected by Fred Land, 16s.

Fred Land	1	Dick Cruikshanks	1
Mrs. Land	1	Carl Rosine	1
Charlie, Stage-Manager	1	H. Harwood	1
Harry Vardon	1	Grant and Grant	1
Dora Lyric	1	Counsel Louie	1
Yukio Tani	1	Mills, Oscar	1
Walter Bentley	1	Harry Dean	1
Wilfords	1	Effie Stuart	1

Collected by Tom Vine, £1 2s. 6d.

Tom Vine	2½	George Bernard	1
Sisters Grovini	2	Pichel Troupe	1
Jessie Harper	1½	Brothers Story	1
Fred Leighton	1	Famous Henderson	1
Arnold H. Colmer	1	Brothers Austin	1
Arthur Arscott	1	Lucy Coventry	1
George Arscott	1	F. R. Griffiths	½
George Neale	1	Joe Huda	½
H. F.	1	Mimic Maston	½
Carl Bernardo	1	Tony Rallis	½
Lee's Marionettes	1	J. C.	½

Collected by W. Kloof, Kloof and Field's *Aladdin* Co., £1 1s 6d.

Verona Quartette	2	W. Kloof, jun.	1
Bros. Shetland	1½	Harold Kloof, jun.	1
Harry Gold	1	Harry J. Nelson, Fleetwood	1
Bert Goldin	1	T. R. Bennett, Fleetwood	1
T. M. Lee Isor	1	T. P. Hornby, Fleetwood	1
Vulo	½	G. Taylor, Grimsby	½
Sisters Simmons	1	W. H. Betney, Grimsby	½
Fred Fields	1	Elephant (Potted Meat)	½
Florence Lewis	1	Dog (Karno)	½
Master Freddy Fields	1	May Florence	½
Allan Grey, Musical Director	1		
W. Kloof	1		
Cissie Ramsay	1		

Collected by Mr. T. S. Lonsdale, £1 13s.

W. Pratt	2	Sydney James	1
Velvero	1	R. Gilbert	1
T. S. Lonsdale	1	E. Pherson	1
Mr. Cragg	1	Andreassen Bros.	1
Mill May	1	Toch and Tard	1
Johnny Dwyer	1	Mike Cray	1
Frederic Culpitt	1	The Marconis	1
E. H. Williams	1	Clarions	1
F. Lauteron	1	E. Amoda	1
The Panamas	1	Ben Hur	1
Delornes	1	Carter Livesey	1
B. Stavordale	1	Lillian Rosebery	1
Jock Whiteford	1	Espinosa	1
G. Chamberlain	1	Amber Austa	1
Herbert Shelley	1	Will E. Haines	1
Frank Shelley	1	Robbie Roy	1

Collected by Dale and Vale, £1.

F. V. St. Clair	2½	Charlie Williams	1
De Biere	2½	Bert Williams	1
Lillian Victoria	2	Herbert Madden	1
Shoe Black Hero	1	Stylo	1
T. M. Paul	1	Laurie Stuart	1
Charles Lilburn	1	George and Lelia	1
Dick and Dorothy	1	Coro Corina	1
Kyoto	1	Dale and Vale	1

Collected by Carl and Carr, 11s.

Carl and Carr	2	A. Lotto	1
W. Brown	2	E. Lotto	1
Emily Custance	2	B. Roberts	1
E. Davey	1	V. Kingdon	1

Collected by Miss Nellie Christie, Argyle Theatre, Birkenhead, £1 3s.

Nellie Christie	5	George de Lara	1
B. N.	2	The Bassos	1
Ella Lane	1	Julian Ross	1
Elda Burman	1	Jack Charman	1
Herbert La Martine	1	S. de Groot	1
Sylvia du Barry	1	Maude Courteney	1
Eva Lumley	1	Mabel Bardine	1
Bertha Woolcote	1	Pattie Verner	1
May Fallowfield	1	Josie Mooney	1

Collected by Miss Sable Fern, £2 16s.

Malcolm Scott	10	Fred Wood	1
Sable Fern	5	George Peel	1
W. H. Galpin	2	Josh Dixon	1
J. E. Grist	2	Johnnie Whiteman	1
Frank Leo	1	Carrie Kenyon	1
Will Rags	1	Leah Ardell	1
W. Griffin	1	Dolly Moore	1
E. Dubois	1	Bee Cycles	1
Mrs. Dainton	1	Butcher	1
Marie Dainton	1	Hal Forde	1
The Allisons	1	Bill Manning	1
Geo. H. Brooks	1	Joe	1
Kenneth Macleod	1	Claire Romaine	1
A. Jennings	1	Ernest Rees	1
Belles in Orient	1	Will Poluski, jun.	1
Jock Whiteford	1	Edgar Romaine	1
Samuel Lloyd	1	Herbert Coltesmore	1
Alma Gray	1	Laurence Rutledge	1
George Kirby	1	J. McCabe	1
Neil Kenyon	1	H. J. Edwardes	1
Will Lambert	1		

Collected by Albert and Edmunds, 18s.

Mr. E. Edmunds	5	Fred Barnard	1
Patrick Playfair	1	Harry Weston	1
Miss Bella	1	Miss Blanche Albert	1
Mrs. Albert	1	C. Maude	1
Miss Rose Hamilton	1	Winnie Edmund	1
Mr. K. Hamilton	1	James Dunlop	1
A. Martini	1	Mr. J. Albert	1

Collected by Sisters Chester, £1 7s.

Florrie Chester	1	H. Horner	1
Leslie Chester	1	Great Hughes	1
Mrs. Chester	1	Albert Phanto	1
Ethel Condor	1	James Osmond	1
Fred Regina	1	Charles Mildare	1
Cliff Ryland	1	J. Allison	1
F. Picitt	1	Tom E. Conover	1
J. Kellino	1	Lester Carey (Three Careys)	1
Albert Kellino	1	Lennie and Hast	1
Will Kellino	1	Butterflies	1
John Kellino	1	E. W. Manning	1
Stacey and Williams	1	Henry Hilton	1
Mendel	1	W. H. Wallis	1
W. Meyer Sarnthaler	1		

Collected by Miss Lillie Lassah, 10s.

Mr. W. Onda	1	E. Sharpe	1
Charles Constant	1	J. McCarthy	1
J. B. Howard	1	Nobbler	1
G. Lambert	1	Jerry	1
Fred Bowyer	1	Lillie Lassah	1

Collected by Mr. Geo. Rapley, £1 1s.

Sandy and Carl	2	Edwin Zarac	1
Nellie Moore	1	Fred Lloyd	1
Beatie Moore	1	Tom Shenton	1
Marion May	1	Syd Russell	1
Bertha St. Ruth	1	Chas. Denman	1
Cissie Conyers	1	Fred Bentley	1
The Sydney Girls	1	W. Parker	1
F. J. Little	1	Geo. Rapley	1
Chas. Zarac	1	Mrs. Geo. Rapley	1
Ernest Zarac	1	Baby Rapley	1

Collected by Alley and Hart, 6s.

Harry Allan	1	Llewelyns	1
Rose Hart	1	Grosvenors	1
Olga Romanow	1	Robertys	1

Collected by Newham and Latimer, 11s.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Medhurst	2	J. A. Thomson	1
George Newham	1	Pulo	1
Fred Latimer	1	Fred Boulton	1
Prof. T. Howard	1	Mlle. Bartenelli	1
Lillian Howard	1	Albert Victor	1

Collected by Tom Hearn, Esq., £2 17s.

Geo. Robey	20	Arthur Reece	1
Tom Hearn	13	T. A. Shale	1
Millie Lindon	5	A. Haytor	1
Valli Valli	3	Edward Lewis	1
Nat Clifford	2	James Smith	1
M. W. King	1	J. H. Whittaker	1
L. Collingwood	1	Walter Stanley	1
George Formby	1	Helina Cecile	1
Carlton	1	Griff	1
Frank Haytor	1		

Collected by Jen Latona, 10s. 6d.

Frank and Jen Latona	5	Chas. Robinson	1
Jas. Holden	2½	Hardeen	1
		Marie Kendall	1

Collected by Mrs. Johnny Holland, 35s.

Johnny Holland	5	Miss Ruby Aiston	1
Mrs. J. Holland	1	Mr. Postlethwaite	1
Miss Janett Reynolds	1	Lois Du Cane	1
Miss Cissie Coman	1	Ethel Netherton	1
Miss Marion Scott	1	Maisano	1
Mr. Abe Smith	1	Ida Kathrena	1
Edwards and Dacre	1	George Formby	1
Hal Verdo	1	Chee You Say	1
Anonymous	1	R. W. Edmonds	1
F. Hurst	1	C. Schuberth	1
J. A. Thompson	1	Bert Brantford	1
Mr. Boulter	1	Lillie Soutter	1
W. W.	1	Winnie Derson	1
Mrs. Jones	1	Mona McDonald	1
Mr. Lapworth	1	Madge Daly	1
George Hall	1		

Collected by Terry and Bentley, 11s.

Marie Terry	1	Percy Wood	1
J. S. Bentley	1	Lily Tabrar	1
Tom Stuart	1	Royston Keith	1
Bohemian	1	Talwing	1
E. J. Wilkins	1	Three Bros. Huxter	1
Will C. Jones	1		

Collected by Mr. Harry Taft, 5s.

Meier and Mora	1	Harry Taft	1
Allan and Hart	1	Bert Barnard	1
Doody and Wright	1		

Collected by Miss Minnie Mace, 20s.

F. Warburton	1	Allen, H.	1
G. W. Taylor	1	Copper Coin Penny	1
Harry T. Freeman	1	Berty	1
Harry T. Freeman	1	Paint and Dimples	1
B. G. Thompson	1	Frank Ford	1
C. M'Fee	1	Tharp	1
J. Boulting	1	Likeum	1
C. Tharp	1	Lord Push	1
Morley	1	George Camp	1
F. Prince	1	Minnie Mace	1

Collected by Sterling and Love, 25s.

Sterling and Love	2	Clifford Morgan	1
Carney and Armstrong	2	Janet H. Reynolds	1
Happy Attwood	1	May Marton	1
J. Le Hay	1	Ethel Wilson	1
Tom Owen	1	Royal Welsh Singers	1
Wm. Stephens	1	Frank Parr	1
Silbon	1	E. R. Beaumont	1
T. Diacoff	1	Sisters Lytton	1
D. W. Watson	1	Phil Luck	1
Walter Cranch	1	Johnny Danvers	1
Tommy Nelldon	1	Carson Hicks	1
		Tom Lloyd	1

Collected by My Fancy, 50s.

My Fancy	20	W. C. Jeapes	1
H. Bawn	3½	Percy Ford	1
A. Macey	2½	H. Jeapes	1
Edward Bawn	2	W. R. Pillanders	1
J. Sparrow	1	E. Bridgen	1
G. P. R. Burgess	1	W. R. M. Neill	1
E. C. Webb	1	W. E. Stephenson	1
Fred Leslie	1	F. Neiman	1
H. Balding	1	W. Johnson	1
Mrs. H. Balding	1	W. Gassert	1
C. J. Doughty	1	W. Hollis	1
Dot Kemp	1	Will Oliver	1
Geo. H. Dyball	1	W. E. Samuels	1

Collected by Baker and Balfe, 16s.

Baker and Balfe	2	H. Elton	1
Harry Leybourne	2	Horace Jones	1
C. Wynn	2	Leo Derenda	1
Freeman and Tudor	2	George Green	1
Bros. Hayes	1	M. H. D.	1
A. C.	1	John Paxton	1

Collected by Mr. Pat Carey, 14s.

Mrs. Pat Carey	2	G. Gilbey	1
Sam Elton	1	Hans Mensel and others	1
Boyd and Gilfain	1	Alice Maydue	1
H. A. Meymott	1	W. H. J.	1
Mrs. H. A. Meymott	1	J. C. Brindley	1
Cambrian Trio	1	M. S. Richards	1
Mr. Pat Carey	1		

Collected by Mr. Geo. Antill, 11s.

Geo. Antill	1	C. E. Stelling and Dog	1
A. Monte Myro	1	Nobbler	1
A. Holland	1	Jerry	1
H. S.	1	Dave Poole's Figure	1
Ted Thomas	1	Dan Crawley	1
Geo. Newburn	1		

Collected by Rappo and Ella, 13s.

Rappo and Ella	2½	The Vyponds	1
C. Curlette	2½	The Lashmars	1
Chas. Denton	1	W. G. Webber	1
Chas. Banks	1	Mr. Morimura	1
Clyo and Rochelle	1	Alec Aubrey	1

Collected by the New Macs, 36s.

J. P. McNally (of New Macs)	5	Will Johnson	2½
John James	5	T. Ardell	2½
George MacNally	2½	Fred Donaldson	2½
C. Parsons	2½	J. J. McNally	2
J. G. Taylor	2½	Jack Denton	2
W. H. Kirby	2½	H. G.	2

Collected by Arthur Melrose, 19s.

Madge Grey	2½	C. W. Payne	1
P. Montagu	2½	Navadatha	1
Schenk Bros.	2	Harry Lawson	1
W. Bellonini	2	Princess Pauline	1
A. Melrose	1	H. Bellonini	1
Lyd, M.	1	Marguerite Broadfoote	1
Caldwell	1		
Chas. Johnston	1		

Collected by Johnny Dwyer, 6s.

Johnny Dwyer	1	Walter Graham	1
David Allis	1	Will Cornish	1
James Eadie	1	Lew Lake	1

Collected by Miss Ethel Ra-Leslie, 8s.

Ethel Ra-Leslie	1	Billy Brown	1
F. Travis	1	Madge Grey	1
Mrs. A. Scoble	1	Collins and Rice	1
Mrs. Percie Brown	1	Lileth Leyton	1

Collected by Mr. Fred Arthur, 20s.

Fred Arthur	3	Haidee Hemsley	1
Florence Calile	1	G. H. Snazelle	1
Gus Walker	1	Olive Tempest	1
Tom Finglas	1	Marjory Tempest	1
Cecil Kingsley	1	May Beatty	1
C. Hunt	1	Lily Pimmer	1
Gracie Persse	1	Edward Lauri	1
Nina Osborne	1	Mrs. Lily Vansburg	1
Agnes Gunn	1		

Collected by Bosanquet, 2s.

E. Bosanquet	1	G. Bosanquet	1

Collected by Hanvarr and Anna Lee, 36s.

Anna Lee	2	Alec Huline	1
Hanvarr	2	Will Onda	1
Mr. and Mrs. Ganly	2	Dusty Rhodes	1
Walter Emerson	2	Roze and Calvert	1
W. J. Williams	1	Oh Yes	1
Leslie Romain	1	Charlie Rich	1
Zeta Grey	1	Elsie Roby	1
W. Howgate	1	Mina Lee	1
T. W. Warden	1	Tommy Downie	1
For our "Anna," F. K.	1	Richie Hanvarr	1
Mrs. Matthews	1	"Dunter"	1
R. Lee	1	Paul Duster	1
Tom Le May	1	J. Crawford	1
Robbie Roy	1	McAndra	1
George Tacius	1	A. S. Farrill	1
Lill Soutar	1	F. G. Murdoch	1

Collected by Mr. Frank Coyle, 5s.

Frank Coyle	1	Miss Violet Coyle	1
Will Murray	1	Mrs. Frank Coyle	1
Arthur Lynch	1		

Collected by Miss Gertie Gitana, 22s.

Arthur Prince	5	Miss Beatrice	1
Hill and Whitaker	5	S. Baskerville	1
Gertie Gitana	2½	Ivy Ongar	1
Prince's "Mac"	2½	H. Fletcher	1
J. O'Connor	1	Mabel La Blanche	1
Mabel O'Connor	1		

Collected by Fred Herbert, 26s.

Edgar Stebbings	5	W. J. Williams	1
The Howes	2	J. Warden	1
Sisters Hall	2	Harry Luck	1
Fred Herbert	1	La Rochelle	1
Will Leslie	1	A Friend	1
Three Ettenas	1	Madge Temple	1
Two Wiltons	1	Steve McCarthy	1
Fred Leslie	1	Ruby Emmerson	1
E. Cooke	1	H. D. Wills	1
Vowles and Bryan	1	The Howards	1

Collected by Lambert and Glover, 12s.

Geo. Wood (Junction Hotel, Selly)	5	J. Heppell	1
Vandinoff	2	W. Wilson	1
Lambert and Glover	2	Lambert and Glover	1

Collected by Elliotts and Savonas, 60s.

Mrs. J. B. Elliott	10½	Mrs. Ralph Elliott	1
Tom Elliott	5	Milner Verren	1
James Elliott	5	Ralph Elliott	1
Pauline Elliott	5	Senorita Eloina	1
Matthews Elliott	5	May E. Savona	1
Annie Elliott	5	Miss Florence	1
Harry Elliott	5	Annie Savona	1
May Elliott	5	Violet Elliott	½
Edwin Brett	2½	Bedford Elliott	½
Emmeline Orford	2½	Hazel Elliott	½
Rose Harvey	1		

Collected by Mr. Bransby Williams, 19s.

Brans

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

The Fairs Ahead.

FOR next week are:—Barnoldswick, on the Midland; Bewdley, on the Great Western and North-Western; Guisborough, on the North-Eastern; Hatfield, on the Great Northern; Bracknell, on the London and South-Western; Iron Acton, on the Midland; Alton, on the London and South-Western; Horncastle, on the Great Northern; Holmes Chapel, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Knutsford, on the Midland and Cheshire lines; Darlington, on the North-Eastern; Horwich, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Lincoln, on the Midland, Great Central, Lancashire, Derby, and East Coast, Great Northern, and Great Eastern; Longtown, on the Great Western; Newchurch, on the Great Central; South Shields, on the North-Eastern; Edinburgh, on the Caledonian, North British, North-Eastern, Lancashire and Yorkshire, Glasgow and South-Western, Highland, Great Western, and North-Western; Pontypool (Wales), on the Great Western and North-Western; Merthyr Tydfil (Wales), on the Great Western, North-Western, Taff Vale, Brecon and Merioneth, Cambrian and Rhymney Railways.

P. Collins's New Organ Front.

THE very latest and the best thing in organ fronts was opened at Wrexham Fair, built to the order of Mr. P. Collins for his cinematograph theatre by Messrs Manenghi et Cie, Paris, and erected under the personal supervision of the London agent, Mr. J. Wentworth. As a masterpiece of art it dominated the fair and claimed the attention of the vast crowds that thronged the ground. Mr. Collins is to be congratulated on his latest acquisition. We are informed that the cost of the beautiful organ and the artistic front is quite £3,000.

Technical Education at the Fair.

MR. T. WORTLEY'S latest side-show—the working model of a colliery—is a most interesting technical exhibition. Every detail of colliery expert work is shown in action—above and below ground. The collier at the face of the coal, the underground conveyance by pony tramway of the coal, the descent in the cage to the coal seam, the pit mouth, the arrival of the loaded lorries of coal, the weighing, screening, and sorting the coal at the pit bank—every part of the work of coal mining is shown in full, from the coal seam to the coal wagon for transport to the coal merchant and consumer.

Photography at the Fair.

THE Caddick family (to the third generation) are famous fairground artists in photography. Mr. Caddick's well-known photo van has attended Wrexham Fair for nearly forty years, and he justly claims to be the oldest tenant of the fairground at the present fair. Mr. Caddick and his clever son are artists of known ability, and their work in the portable studio is justly prized by an ever-increasing number of patrons. The Caddick family may also be cited as examples of the longevity of life enjoyed by van-dwellers. There are at the present time five generations of the Caddicks. The patriarch of the family, Mr. Caddick, sen., living in retirement, is over ninety-one years old, and his good wife still hale and hearty at eighty-two.

A Novel Show Front.

THE willow-pattern plate forms a quaint and delightful subject for a side-show front. Mr. C. Relph's living novelty show is the first to have this original idea, and extremely effective and arresting it is—a huge plate, with just a clear-cut segment of the circle open for visitors to enter the show.

FOSSETT'S circus visited Kidwelly on Saturday, and gave two performances to large crowds in the Fair Field. Mr. Robert Yelding and Mr. J. Holloway were, as usual, excellent equestrian performers; Miss Scott did admirably on the rolling globe; and a very good turn was given by the Siegels, wrestlers.

LORD JOHN SANGER'S circus was visited by thousands of people at Sheffield on Saturday and Monday. The programme retains the best features of the old-time circus, with many new and up-to-date turns, including the Maros and others, who show the skill, grace, and intrepidity of the new school of acrobats, gymnasts, and equestrians. The time-honoured and always acceptable *Dick Turpin* concluded a bountiful bill of fare.

THE market-place at Denton, Lancashire, is occupied this week by J. Green's racing cockerels, Purchase's over-boats, cocoanut sheets and shooters by Messrs. E. Booth, the shows also including Captain Eagle Davis's knife-throwing and wild animal encampment. Business is very fair.

PRESENT on the Darwen market-ground are Captain Payne's bioscope, J. Green's motor cars, Holden's cockerels, and rifle ranges by Cornwell and J. Sharpe.

"FUN CITIES" are evidently to be multiplied in this country, for a scheme is in preparation for the erection of six permanent pleasure parks, to be known by the name of "fun cities." The "cities" will be framed on a most elaborate plan, and will be centres of innocent but up-to-date gaiety on the American model. In the centre of each will be a grand entertainment, in which the circus element will predominate, and all around will be permanent buildings for side-shows.

THE "White City" enterprise is to be inaugurated in Manchester in Whit Week, and at nightfall 40,000 electric lamps will make the walks and buildings brilliant with light. Among the attractions will be a fairy fountain, 120ft. high, playing constantly, a magnificent ball-room, a huge rink for roller skaters, and music by the best bands in this country and the Continent. An average daily attendance is expected during the twenty-five weeks the season is to last of between 30,000 and 40,000. Entertainments of a startling character drawn from the best American sources, and similar to those at Coney Island, are promised, and there will be plenty of foreign exhibits.

MESSRS. L. GAUMONT AND CO., the cinematographers by Royal command, being unable to acquire the whole of Cecil-court for the transaction of their constantly increasing business, have decided to remove, and on Monday re-open in two spacious buildings, comprising 12 floors in all, at 5 and 6, Sherwood-street, back of the County Fire Office. Old and new friends are cordially welcomed at the handsome new premises, where many new and interesting features in the business of cinematography are promised.

ANSWERS TO SHOWMEN.

J. B.—*There will be a fair at the usual time at Burslem. If the adverse majority on the Borough Council comes to a right mind and relents, the fair will be held on its usual pitches, in the centre of the town. Failing that, Mr. P. Collins has secured a suitable centrally-situated fairground, so that under no circumstance will the fair be allowed to lapse. We cannot say more at the present moment as the negotiations with the Corporation are still pending, and the local committee are still hopeful of success with the Council.*

A. S. (London).—*Your letter has, unfortunately, been mislaid. We should be glad to hear from you again. The Guild chaplain is on tour of the fairs in Wales, or he would have endeavoured to visit you.*

WILL Harry Ashington please send permanent address and his route for the next fortnight to this office?

SHOWMEN'S GUILD AT WREXHAM FAIR.

The organising chaplain of the Guild had a full day's work last Sunday at Wrexham Fair. The first meeting was in the afternoon, and it was attended by nearly every showman at Wrexham, and a few Welsh and Cheshire showmen who made a special visit to hear about the Cheshire County by-laws. The gathering took place in Mr. P. Collins's cinematograph theatre, and Mr. P. Collins, as a vice-president of the society, took the chair. Amongst the prominent showmen and stall-holders present were Messrs. C. Farrell, J. Caddick, J. Cordwell, T. Wortley, J. Wright, J. Caddick, jun., P. Collins, jun., T. Kemp, J. Hall, L. Parry, J. West, G. Simons, J. Dillon, J. Pilling, J. Turner, T. Avery, T. J. Humphries, H. Hambrough, J. Greatorex, and many others.

Mr. P. Collins particularly wished to emphasise the necessity laid upon all those who follow the fair to support the mother society of all showmen societies. They might, and might rightly, support other societies, whether show or machine proprietors or stall-holders. Here, he contended, was a society that worked for all, defended all alike when and wherever attacked, and it was the duty of all to support and to strengthen it for its necessary and important work. (Applause.) They might take it from him—and he claimed to know the work of the van-dwellers from the beginning—that but for its work they would have had precious little liberty of life left them to carry on trade and means of livelihood. He referred to the early days of their trade defence movement, and he rejoiced to see with them that old veteran traveller and champion of theirs, Mr. Joe Caddick. It was men like Mr. Caddick and the late James Dean who led them and organised in those early days of struggle and strife when they fought the iniquitous Movable Dwellings Bill. Did they realise, he asked them, what that Bill sought to impose upon the travelling community? Why, amongst other things, it sought to break up the family life, and to prevent more than two people sleeping in a van. It sought to give powers of summary inspection at any hour of vans by any constable or parish officer. In fact, it sought to stigmatise show-people as needing special laws to make them cleanly and moral citizens. They fought that Bill and killed it. But that was not all. Their friend and chaplain, Mr. Horne, would tell them that a Bill to deal with their children had been before Parliament only the last Sessions, and that it was the vigilance of this society that prevented that Bill reaching the second reading stage. He warmly commended Mr. Horne for the self-sacrifice of his life and work for their good, and concluded by urging all present to join the society. (Applause.)

The Rev. T. Horne, in the course of his address, covered the whole range of the Guild's activities in recent years. In particular he dwelt upon the position their trade society had won as the recognised official defender of their character as citizens, as honest, industrious, God-fearing men and women—as the official exponent and champion of their trade and business in life. The general public, instructed by their society, now recognised that show-people, as a class of workers and traders in the community, were entitled to equal privileges with other classes and workers, that the same law that was good enough for the "butcher, the baker, or the candlestick-maker," was good enough for showmen; that their life and their business did not need special laws and special penalties any more than other lawful trades and callings in the community. Mr. Collins knew, he said, and men like Mr. Caddick remembered the bad old days, not more than twenty years ago, when show-people were regarded with suspicion, and when they were classed with gipsies or the pariahs of the road. They had worked hard, and they had succeeded in gaining both public sympathy and support; and the whole status and position of showmen had been raised in the public mind. Why had this happy condition of things, this altered state of affairs, come about? It was because their society had instructed and had guided and had moulded public opinion. Those early pioneers of the Guild, fighting to defeat the immediate enemy, little realised the tremendous forces for good they were setting in motion. He had the honour and the privilege of throwing in his lot with them in those early, strenuous years. He remembered speaking at their first great public demonstration in the Free Trade Hall, Manchester, in the first year of their society's life. How they defeated the Movable Dwellings Bill was ancient history; but in human affairs it was curious to notice how history repeated itself. This had been brought home to them by the fact that only last year a Bill was introduced into the House of Commons that would have stigmatised their domestic life just as vilely as the now historic relic of a bad past—the Movable Dwellings Bill. If the recent measure had succeeded in becoming law it would have prevented the children being with their parents in their homes on wheels. It would have given power to any constable, without a warrant, on mere suspicion, at his own sweet will, to take into custody the parents and to send to the nearest workhouse the children of the van. (Shame.) Yes, they might well cry "Shame!" Why should show children be subjected to any such invidious proposals? He asked them to notice the great advance their society had made since its origination eighteen years ago; to notice how by their Parliamentary and public propaganda work they were able at once to meet all threatened danger and to deal with every emergency as it arose. They had friends in the House of Commons, and it only needed that these friends of theirs should be informed of the injustice of proposed invidious legislation for these crude essays in faddist legislation to be met and to be defeated. (Applause.) He desired to impress upon his hearers the important fact that the Van-dwellers' Society came into existence for the urgent reason that faddists and fanatics persisted in their mistaken zeal, and that as one obnoxious proposal was defeated another would come to the front, and the only way of safety was to be always prepared for defence; and more than defence, to carry the war into the enemy's country and to show that the large and important industry of the fair-ground was a national and necessary work, and entitled to all the liberties and privileges of a well-ordered and honestly-worked trade and business. (Cheers.) Their society dealt with all the outside dangers and troubles that from time to time threatened their very existence. He recognised that there were inside difficulties, but these inside troubles could be met best and better dealt with by other trade organisations. The Guild had its hands quite full, and more than full, with the outside dangers—dangers like those he had already noticed; dangers from both public and Private Bill legislation; dangers from proposed by-laws, and the schemes of mistaken zealots to abolish fairs and to curtail the holidays and amusements of the people. Bad by-laws were dangers to be met and defeated, and insidious clauses to obtain additional powers in Private Bills had to be met and fought. The latest example of by-law proposals was that of the Chester County Council. He saw before him a large number of amusement caterers whose yearly round of business took them into the county of Chester. Their society had petitioned against the Chester by-laws, and the Home Secretary had recognised the justice of their complaint. The County Council had accepted the amendments submitted by the Guild, and the saving clause exempting fairs, wakes, feasts, and festivals, had been added to the by-law. (Great applause.) Since they commenced their Parliamentary defence work they had carefully scrutinised hundreds of Private Bills, and either by private negotiations or by persistent opposition in the Houses of Parliament they had prevented scores of towns being closed to their business. They had succeeded at last in convincing public bodies that any proposal, however cleverly it might be drafted in a Parliamentary Bill, would be found out, and if not dropped at our request, would be fought by us and thrown out by the House of Commons. (Cheers.) There were valuable principles that their persistent defence work had maintained. In their first great Parliamentary fight they secured the valuable principle that the ordinary law of the land was quite sufficient for shows. As regards closing-time and Sunday work, corporations like Mansfield, Hyde, and Eccles wanted powers to enable them to fix the hours during which shows and fair-ground amusements should be open. We objected on the broad principle that the ordinary law that closed shops and places of entertainment at reasonable hours was good enough for fairs, and we won our contention. Our fight for our trading rights did more; it caused the assertion of a broad principle of vast importance to all traders and entertainers—the affirmation as part and parcel of the law of the land; that Private Bill legislation cannot rightly obtain powers in restraint of trade; and that it is a constitutional principle that legislation in restraint of trade must be by Public Bill, and subject to discussion in all its stages by the Houses of Parliament. Another important principle gained in Parliament was the recognition of free trade in fairs. Many corporations have sought powers to prevent private ground being used within their boundaries for the show business, the most notable examples being Halifax and Rotherham. Halifax the organised showmen fought and defeated after three days' argument before the Private Bills Committee of the House of Commons. Rotherham and other towns dropped the clauses at our request; but remember that if Halifax had won the day the other towns would have persisted in their demands. The very latest example of this kind was the Borough of Rawtenstall, in a Bill promoted by that Corporation. They sought a monopoly of market grounds. It was wisely foreseen that if the Corporation obtained market monopolies they might want to use their powers to prevent private land being used for fair-ground purposes by showmen. Their society had to petition against the Rawtenstall Bill and to appear before the Committee by counsel, in order to obtain the valuable admission from the Corporation that their market rights did not threaten show-grounds, nor did their Bill seek powers against the local wakes or fair. He had but briefly referred to these extremely important victories of their trade defence work in order to impress upon the show-people present the vast importance of adequately supporting the society, whose record was so brilliant in the past, and whose influence and position in the public eye was so great a guarantee for their peace in the future. (Cheers.)

Mr. J. Caddick said that as one who had been a founder of the society he entirely endorsed, and wished to emphasise fully, all that Mr. Horne had so well said. Great as the work achieved in the past had been, there still remained the necessities of the present day and the possibilities of the future. He felt very keenly that all who travel the fairs ought to rally to the support of the cause so ably championed by their good friend the showmen's chaplain. Remembering, as he did, the prejudice that dogged their footsteps in past years, and how their position and status had been lifted up by the work of the Guild, he for one would ever recognise the society's claim upon their loyal and generous support. (Cheers.)

Mr. P. Collins urged the necessity of increasing the membership of the Guild as well as finding the necessary funds for its work. He told how the committee of the Guild had originated a system of benefit performances at the fairs, and announced that he intended to give one hour's benefit on Monday night from his show and machines. (Applause.) He confidently trusted that the other proprietors would do the same.

Mr. Horne said that at Rotherham Fair the first benefit was taken for the Guild funds, and £26 had been the result. At Queen's-road Fair, Manchester, the second benefit resulted in over £18. The idea of thus replenishing the exhausted treasury of the Guild was a good one, but at the same time he urged the importance of joining the society. It was of the greatest value to be able to produce the member-roll of their organisation and to prove by the great number of its members the unanimity and solidarity of its work.

The following members were then enrolled:—

Mr. P. Collins, jun.	£1	0	0
Mr. Charles Farrell	1	0	0
Mrs. Hambrough	0	10	6
Mr. J. Turner	0	10	0
Mr. J. Cordwell	0	10	0
Mr. James Hall	0	10	0
Mr. T. Wortley	0	5	0
Mr. J. West	0	5	0
Mr. T. Kemp	0	5	0
Mr. J. Dillon	0	5	0
Mr. G. Simons	0	5	0
Mr. J. Greatorex	0	5	0
Mr. L. Parry	0	5	0
Mr. T. Avery	0	5	0
Mr. J. Caddick, jun.	0	5	0
Mr. J. Wright	0	5	0
Mr. J. Pilling	0	5	0

The evening meeting was also held in Mr. P. Collins' show, and thrown open to the general public. The booth was crowded to its utmost capacity, and the Guild service, conducted by the Rev. T. Horne, was followed with the closest attention by a most reverent and deeply interested congregation. The singing of the service was much assisted by the Church Army Mission Choir (forty in number). The lesson was read by the senior curate of Wrexham Parish Church, the Rev. Probert, and the sermon was preached by the Rev. T. Horne, who took for his subject the Church theme of the day, "The Good Shepherd."

Again, the show people attended in a body, and the greatest satisfaction was expressed at the evident interest of the people and clergy of Wrexham in the work of the Showmen's Guild.

The excellent lead given by Mr. P. Collins in promoting benefit performances for the Guild funds at Wrexham Fair was heartily taken up by the other show and machine proprietors. Considering the satisfactory response to the request of the speakers at the afternoon meeting for new members, it was not thought necessary (or wise), at so short a notice to ask the side-show and novelty owners, or the providers of throwing games or stalls to join in the benefit or to give another subscription.

RESULT OF BENEFIT PERFORMANCES:

One hour's takings at the following machines, from 6 to 7 p.m.:—

P. Collins (motor cars)	£2	1	4
Relph and Pedley (motors)	1	10	0
P. Collins (yachts)	0	9	8
P. Collins (slip)	0	4	10
J. Collins (razzle)	0	3	3

The proceeds of one performance at each of the following shows:—

P. Collins (Coliseum)	£2	1	2
Relph and Pedley's Cinematograph	1	0	0
Charles Farrell's Cinematograph	0	7	4

UNSOLICITED TESTIMONIAL.—Empire Theatre, Liverpool. April 16, 1907. Dear Sir,—Many thanks for your prompt attention to our order, and the way you have cleaned our musical dresses. They are done splendidly.—Yours faithfully, MAGGIE ELLIOTT. T. Harris, Esq., Chemical Cleaning and Dyeing Co., 6, Argyll-street, W. [ADVT.]

CHELSEA PALACE ANNIVERSARY.

Ever since a variety house of the first class was erected in their midst, the Chelsonians have chosen the best way of exhibiting their appreciation of the privilege by setting the seal of success on the enterprise. Mr. Henri Gros, indeed, has no more loyal and gratified constituency than that patronising the fine theatre in the King's-road, and were any further evidence required in confirmation of this statement, it would have been discovered on the evening of Friday, the 12th inst., when two gigantic houses celebrated with joyous unanimity and extreme heartiness the fourth anniversary of the establishment, which was opened to the public on April 13th, 1903. Mr. J. Norman Berlin, the popular acting-manager, was in command, and happily was able to assure many kind enquirers that the health of Mr. "Teddy" Swanborough, the much-esteemed manager, was showing a decided improvement. Among those who looked in to congratulate the management were Messrs. Tom Barrasford, Braff, Ernest Leathley, Fred Neiman, Ernest De Vere, Felice Napoli, Fred Leighton (Hippodrome, Sheerness), and Leon Zeitlin and Harry Bawn (both former acting-managers).

Both the entertainments given were full and varied, and hilarity was largely in the ascendant throughout the evening. A great hit was made by the Smythsons in a new vehicle for their mirth, entitled *Love Germs;* a very popular favourite was found in Harry Champion, who described in his own characteristic way the man with the large mouth and the wearer of the same old brown hat; and a tremendous reception awaited Harry Lauder. The contemplation of the serious and the pathetic fixed the audience when Mr. Arthur Conquest—the legitimate successor of the lamented Charles Lauri—and his company appeared in *The Sioux,* which brought back the vivid pages of Fenimore Cooper to the memories of those whose boyhood had long been a thing of the past. Mr. Marriott Edgar, "the man in red," sang successfully of a juvenile episode from which one might draw their own moral; Mr. T. E. Dunville's rapidity of style and exuberant methods elicited laughter; Herbert La Martine danced exceedingly well; and Miss Gladys Huxley's coon song was well appreciated. Music, heavenly maid, found one of her most artistic disciples in Mr. Angelo Asher, the popular director of the orchestra, who, like William, plays the fiddle like an angel; the Lyric Mummers were heard to advantage in an entertainment uniting the elements of comedy and music; the Cecilias, in instrumental selections, were voted pleasing; and Miss Nina Gordon, with mimicry at the piano, found favour. Dancing in its most attractive form was seen in the graceful doings of Espinosa and Neilson; Mr. Ivan Berlyn, a capital actor, gave some impressions; and other turns appearing during the evening were Little Alice, Nellie Christie, Vona Clifford, Dene and Dawson, Harriett Fawn, Fred Harrison, Master Reginald Leyland, Nina Martino, Ernie Myers, Julian Ross, Mr. and Mrs. Royston Dene in *My Lady's Chamber,* Talbot and Pearce in their musical comedy scena; Miss Taylor, and Jeapes' Animated Graphic, with comic and up-to-date pictures. The house was prettily decorated with flowers.

"A SON OF THE PEOPLE."

A Dramatic Episode, by Tom Tindall, produced at the Empire, Camberwell, on Monday Evening, April 15.

Ivan Briloff.....MR. J. G. GRAHAME, JUN.
Pitonet.....MR. GEORGE WALLACE
The Countess Olga Karovitch
MISS ZERLINA HARRINGTON

Beautifully staged, powerfully acted, and of absorbing interest, this intensely exciting one-act tragedy has held the audience spellbound at each performance this week, and it is safe to predict a successful future for the new production. Born in serfdom, of humble parents, Ivan Briloff leaves Russia, and wins fame in Paris as an artist under the assumed name of Ivan Ivanovitch, and we find him busy in his studio hard at work on his picture of "Nero," for which his humorous model, Pitonet, is sitting. Hearing a carriage drive up to his door, Ivan hurries his model away. Scarcely has he gone, when the beautiful Countess Olga Karovitch arrives to give a sitting for her portrait. Under the spell of her charming presence Ivan impetuously declares his love for the lady, and is enraptured to find it is reciprocated. He pleads for an early marriage, but the Countess replies that when her portrait is finished and hung in the Salon the announcement of their engagement can be made public. Just at this moment Pitonet returns with an official letter, which the Countess playfully takes from him, and teases Ivan to let her open it and read its contents. Ivan pleads to her not to do so, but the more he objects the more her woman's curiosity is aroused, and while her arms are placed coaxingly around his neck she opens the envelope and reads that Ivan Briloff, son of a labourer, is called to Russia to serve the Czar. The Countess questions Ivan, and reads in his face the painful truth that Ivan Briloff and Ivan Ivanovitch are one. All the outraged pride and dignity of the aristocrat rise within her, and subordinate all her former love and tenderness, and in scathing tones she taunts him with his lowly birth and his daring assumption and deceit in asking her, the representative of one of the oldest families in Russia, to wed a man born in serfdom. Ivan pleads his great love and devotion, but Olga is obdurate, and his appeal only inflames her passion, and in her blind fury she seizes a dagger and slashes at her portrait. Ivan rushes forward to save the picture and restrain her, and receives one of her mad thrusts in his breast and drops dead at her feet. The awfulness of the deed dawns on Olga, and her first impulse is flight; but while gazing at her dead lover all her old love for him returns, and in her despair she seizes the dagger, stabs herself, and falls lifeless across the body of her lover.

Miss Zerlina Harrington has a most charming personality, and as the Countess Olga acts first with a queenly grace and deep and tender emotions, and afterwards delineates with skill and artistic ease the strong passions of outraged womanhood. Her performance throughout is most agreeable, interesting, and fascinating. As Ivan Mr. J. G. Grahame, jun., is manly, earnest, incisive, and highly convincing. Mr. George Wallace as the model, Pitonet, has little to do, but does that litle well.

QUEEN'S, POPLAR, ANNIVERSARY.

The first anniversary of the Queen's under its new management was held on Tuesday night. The enthusiastic audience that packed the theatre from floor to ceiling testified by their presence their hearty appreciation of the enterprise and skilful administration manifested by the proprietors, Messrs. F. and M. Abrahams, and their able coadjutor, Mr. Jack Woolf, in the excellent conduct of the hall. The house presented a bright appearance with its wealth of floral display. Mr. Sam Mayo caused immense amusement with his song, and Mr. Hyram Travers sang "Collar and Tie" in good style; Miss Peggy Pryde was well received for her item, "Molly the jolly little lady," and the fine voice of Miss Ghita Corri was heard to advantage in "The banks of Loch Lomond." An exceptionally smart turn, introducing many novel effects, was given by The Donas, and the Leotard Brothers were smart with their hat throwing. The well-known lady mimic, Miss Lil Elfrida, gave excellent imitations of Harry Lauder, Marie Lloyd, and Kate Carney, and Mr. Ted Saunders was good in a similar performance, his subjects being Wilkie Bard and George Lashwood. The Ten Dixie Girls were charming with their song and chorus, "Lady Vi," and Messrs. Phillips and Terry were mirth-provoking in their sketch. Little Zola, who is a host in himself, had the audience entirely with him in his "Who'd have thought it," and the Five Merry Maids created quite a furore with their pretty dances. Miss Cecilia Maude was applauded for "Sweetheart," and The Mascots gave "Sailing in my balloon," while Mr. Ted Cowan was funny with his "In Case." Towards the close of the evening there was a series of presentations to those principally connected with the establishment. The general manager, Mr. Jack Woolf, was given a handsome silver flower epergne, a pair of solid gold and diamond links, two gold mounted umbrellas, and a solid silver cigar case, these valuable gifts being severally presented by members of the staff, Mr. Fred Brown (acting manager, Pavilion Theatre), Mrs. Fred Brown, and Mr. and Mrs. Barnett (Miss Florrie Forde). The assistant acting manager, Mr. Morris Abrahams, had the pleasure of receiving on behalf of the staff and many personal friends a solid gold demi-hunter watch suitably inscribed, a gold-mounted ebony walking-stick, and a life-sized framed picture of himself. The presents were handed to the popular recipients by Mr. Arthur T. Piper, who made a graceful speech, and Mr. Jack Woolf, on replying for himself and colleague, stated that they had at heart the comfort and enjoyment of their patrons. Messrs. F. and M. Abrahams, on advancing forward, were received with loud cheering, the audience singing "Dear old pals," after which Mr. Jack Woolf then presented on his own behalf a solid silver cigar case to the musical director, Mr. F. W. Venton, a diamond pin to Mr. Ben Abrahams, and handsome ladies' handbags to Mrs. Fred Brown and Miss Lily Brown. Mr. Issy Woolf, brother of the general manager, gave valuable help in the direction of the stage. Among the many visitors were Mr. Isaac Cohen, Mr. Fred Brown (Pavilion Theatre), Mr. W. Rosenthal (Pavilion Theatre), Mr. Charles Briggs (Crown Theatre), Mr. Harry Lyons (late Prince's Theatre), and Mr. Barnett.

PUTNEY EMPIRE.

If one may draw conclusions from the excellent audience assembled on Monday, the two-houses-a-night system has caught on, and business is booming. There is no gainsaying the fact that ultimate success is deserved, as the entertainments provided are invariably up to the standard, and the week's programme is made up of interesting, varied, and enjoyable items, calculated to suit even the most fastidious. A pleasing feature to lovers of instrumental music is the capable orchestra which, under the leadership of Mr. William Hinkinson, renders excellent overtures commendably. They prefaced this week's show by "The Belle of New York." The Sisters Grosvenor, a trio of vocalists, opened with an operatic excerpt, in which voices were nicely blended. This was followed by a harmonised version of "May I come home again?" in which the gallery joined. Miss Nina Elmo, a smartly-dressed serio, sang of a certain "Marjorie," and then recorded in song the amatory experiences of Jennie and Jeremiah Jenkins. A very smart turn is that of Park's Eton Boys: they are all clever performers as soloists or in glee singing. Opening with "Excelsior," an excellent impression was created, and was sustained as the following items were presented in rapid succession—"Manitoba," "Wearing my heart away for you," "There's always room for a girl," and "Starlight." The O'Gorman Brothers, a pair of youthful Irish comedians, might improve their song and patter, which has not the virtue of originality, but their dancing turn is far above the average, and secured for the exponents rounds of applause as they retired. Lee and Bentley are a comical pair of American entertainers, the sailor make-up of the gentleman being in itself extremely comical. He introduced some trick violin playing, and his partner in addition to some spirited dancing, sang "The little boy named Tapps." This was "illustrated" by caricatures thrown on a screen whilst the song was being sung, and produced roars of laughter. The New York Comedy Four fully answered their description, being both harmonious and humorous vocalists; the mock speech and presentation given by one of the quartette as a comic interlude was cleverly done. Tom Leo, "the lazy comedian," seemed to be fairly well known; the house took up the refrain, which he was too lazy to sing, with great gusto. That clever impressionist, Miss Alice Pierce, had a good reception, and easily ranked as one of the cleverest turns on the bill. After giving striking imitations of Miss Irene Vanbrugh in *His House in Order* and Mrs. Leslie Carter in *Zaza,* she gave an equally clever impersonation of Miss Ellaline Terriss in "Teasing," from *The Catch of the Season,* and wound up with a charming little rustic love idyll. Ruffell's pictures—"Capturing a coiner" and "An International Paper-chase"—finished a capital entertainment.

FIFTY YEARS OF THE DRAMA

Kind expressions from Authors and Managers.

SIR SQUIRE BANCROFT.

"I congratulate you on your 'Fifty Years of the Drama': the list must prove both interesting and useful to lovers of and workers for the stage."

MR. GEORGE EDWARDES.

"I think the new feature of *The Era* is most interesting and useful. A list of plays produced from 1850 to 1900 will certainly be of great service to a very large number of your readers."

MR. EDWARD TERRY.

"An admirable idea, and will prove a most valuable record."

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"Your list, I think, will be most useful for reference."

MRS. W. K. CLIFFORD.

"I think the list will be immensely useful."

MR. SYDNEY GRUNDY.

"Your list will be exceedingly useful. But, of course, there is no reason why old titles should not be used again. Indeed, some day we shall have to go back to them. Some of our modern titles, when they are not mere proper names with an adjective attached, display the desperation of the dramatist in too ludicrous a light. Such a title as 'The Importance of Being Earnest' amounts to a misdemeanour."

MR. ARTHUR W. PINERO.

"The list of plays produced during the last half-century is a most valuable record. The thanks of those interested in the theatre are due to *The Era* for this and many other enterprises."

MR. ALFRED SUTRO.

"The list you are compiling will be of very great benefit, and I am looking forward to the time when it shall be complete, and obtainable in pamphlet form."

MR. ARTHUR BOURCHIER.

"Mr. Arthur Bourchier thinks the list very useful indeed."

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(Continued from page 16.)

WALSALL.—Her Majesty's Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—The principal item here this week is Mr. John Warren in a conjuring act, "The Magic Carpet." Lola Patey is a vivacious comedienne; George and May Wyffs score in their farcical absurdity, *The Parson's Mishaps in a London Flat;* Signor and Mme. Borelli are well received; Howe and Ardie are extremely clever as comedy acrobats and gymnasts; George Leonard, comedian, and Dare's famous minstrels contribute interesting turns. The entertainment concludes with an admirable show of animated pictures.

Grand Theatre, Ltd.—General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Messrs. Northway and Garrod's company in *The Prodigal Parson* is the attraction here this week. As the Rev. Tom Godley Mr. W. V. Garrod fills the part with excellent dramatic effect; Mr. Alfred Northway makes a capital Enoch Jaggins; Miss Bertha Kingston plays sympathetically as Fern Godley; Miss Violet Jeffries does well as Myrtle, the blind child; Mr. William Hayward scores as Ben Jaggins; and Mr. Walter Vincent is a capital Ned Kettlepin; Mr. Owen Remonde as Phil Drive and Miss Lydia Hart as Gretchen Fan Crans are very humorous.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—Grand.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Manager, Mr. Herbert E. Feather. —Mr. Fred Karno's company is here this week with the extravaganza *Saturday to Monday.* Mr. Rolando Martin, who undertakes the rôle of John Willie Jaggs, keeps the audience in one continual ripple of merriment with his ceaseless drollery; Miss Amy Rogerson as Clarinda is entirely successful; a capable representative of Mr. Blake is found in Mr. J. W. Bradbury. The trio, Messrs. V. H. Crawford, B. Patten, and Master T. McDonagh are amusing as the Junior Jaggses.

Palace. — Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—The host of talent assembled this week is resulting in houses well filled at each performance. The vocal harmony by the Six Æolians is delighting all; Tiny Arnold, a wee mite, is brimming with sparkle and vivacity; considerable hilarity is the result of the novelty pantomimic act by the Pirmans Trio; the singing and dancing by the Coolvilles is an enjoyable item; Lombart Bros., artists of wonderful ability, perform some startlingly clever acrobatic and hand-balancing feats; the vaudeville entertainment by Walker and Hall (the former of whom is totally blind) is a remarkably clever one, and a series of films are exceptionally good.

WEST STANLEY.—Victoria Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Raws; Manager, Mr. Ted Raws. —The programme here this week includes the Dayton Family, in an acrobatic act, entitled "Les Rendezvous"; Mr. Walter Bellian, ably assisted by Mr. J. W. Groves and Miss Tina Shaw, gives an amusing sketch, called *A Night's Frivolity;* the Milford Bros. are a trio of smart trapeze performers; the Cecilian Family, with their smart dancing and catchy music, are great favourites; the Hannaway Bros. are responsible for some smart dancing and singing; the Bioscope concludes a well-appreciated variety bill.

Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Mark H. Lindon.—Mr. Chas. March's company in *The Gamester of Metz* is here this week. Mr. Charles March, in his many rôles, proves to be an able actor; Mr. Paul Teuton gives a fine presentation of General de Monparasse; Mr. Wilfred Prothero is an acceptable Captain Bedaire; the part of Lieut. Herve is carefully handled by Mr. George Paget; Mr. George Harte's impersonation of Louis Bedaire is excellent; Miss Elsie Cole is a capital Babette; Miss Eva Lyndhurst as Countess Baldot is responsible for some clever acting; Miss Zana St. George is a lively Gwendolin Pearson; the rôle of Lucia Baldot is ably acted by Miss Una Lane.

WIGAN.—Royal Court Theatre.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Co.—Messrs. C. Hamilton Bains and H. Keates Hales' company is here in the musical play, *The Pet of the Embassy,* and Mr. Witty Wattie Walton as John William Bung, a middy, creates endless fun. Mr. G. Sinclair Holden as the Hon. Percy Brassington, Mr. Harry Fischer as Palatine Brown, and Mr. Robert Hyett as Eric Brown all give capable impersonations of their respective parts. Hilda Graham is excellently represented by Miss Ethel Dunford; and the parts of Dorothy Stanley and Miss Pamela Bung are admirably portrayed by Miss Florence Watson and Miss Julia Bassett respectively. Songs are artistically sung by the principals and chorus, and the general ensemble is exceedingly good.

The Hippodrome.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Co.—Fred Karno's troupe in the highly amusing sketch, *Dame Trot,* win great popularity. Other capital turns are Apollo, the strong man; the Treshams, in a comedy absurdity; Vincent, lightning Arab tumbler; Booker and Narbis, society entertainers; Latine, female impersonator, and Frank Boyce, comedian.

WORTHING.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Herr C. Adolf Sebold. — Mr. Rollo Balmain and Miss Sara Mignon's company is here for the first three nights presenting *Our Flat.* Mr. Rollo Balmain gives an excellent performance as Nathaniel Glover. Mr. Sydney Leyton does well as Reginald Sylvester, as does Mr. Langford Reed as Clarence Vane. Mr. J. W. Braithwaite is highly amusing as Mr. McCullum; Mr. Wilfred Compton and Mr. James Ellis are well placed as Pinchard and the Foreman respectively; too much praise cannot be allotted Miss Sara Mignon as Margery Sylvester. On Thursday *The Ticket-of-Leave Man* was presented.

YORK.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. J. Dacre.—The The ever-green *Charley's Aunt* is here again, meeting with great success. Mr. Spencer Trevor assumes his old part with undiminished success; as Charley Mr. R. B. Mason gives a racy and neat performance; Mr. Hastings Lynn is in every way successful as Jack; Miss Bertha Northam is a delightful Kitty; and as Amy Miss Ida Vynall does well. Miss Lena McNaghton is a handsome Donna Lucia, and Mr. W. Beaumont is vastly amusing as Spettigue.

Opera House and Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brooke.—Mr. Neil Kenyon may almost be termed York's favourite comedian. He has appeared this week with phenomenal success. *The Little Colonel,* as played by Mr. Ernest Montefiore and company, is well received, and Eva Chadwick is a nice soprano. The Four Maisanos are eccentric musicians, whose performance is much above the average; Mlle. Roseltha speedily dances herself into favour; and Hookey Walker as a Scotch comedian appears to advantage. Esme Gordon is a dainty singer, and the original business of the Cole de Losse duo is a pleasing feature.

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL.

Bristol X.L.C.R. and Harry Hare's Orchestral Band Athletic Clubs v. Bristol X.L.C.R. II. and Music Halls.

Played on Clifton Downs, April 13. The following were the teams:—

Bristol X.L.C.R.—H. Belding, goal; J. Lewis and A. Hamlin (captain), backs; F. Stevens, P. Howlett, and H. Slade, half-backs; H. Edwards, E. Bowman, E. Belding, J. Aubrey, and A. Mattock, forwards.

Bristol X.L.C.R. II. and Music Halls.—F. B. Nicholls, goal; F. Thorne (captain) and B. Elmore, backs; J. Lacey, D. O'Connor, and T. Neagle, half-backs; A. English, H. Douglas, F. Hansford, R. Cullen, and P. Reardon, forwards.

Referee, A. E. Bailey; linesmen, H. Hare and H. Whelan. Result: Bristol X.L.C.R., 2 goals; Bristol X.L.C.R. II. and Music Halls, 5 goals. H. Slade, J. Aubrey, J. Lacey, B. Elmore, and P. Readon (2) scored the goals.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS.
ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

This Scale does not apply to "Trade" Advertisements in these Columns.

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COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.,
May 13, 27, Aug. 5, 12, 26, Sept. 9, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING,
Aug. 5, 12, 19, 26, Sept. 9, 16, Oct. 14, 21, Nov. 11, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER,
May 13, 27, Aug. 5, 12, Dec. 2, 9, Feb. 10, 17, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER,
Aug. 5, 12, 19, Sept. 9, Oct. 7, 14, 21, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON,
May 20, Aug. 12, 19, 26, Sept. 2, 16, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD,
May 27, June 3, Aug. 19, 26, Sept. 23, Oct. 7, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON,
June 3, Aug. 26, Sept. 2, 23, 30, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER,
May 20, June 3, 24, Aug. 5, 12, 19, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON,
Sept. 2, 9, 16, 23, on.
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies.
GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE,
May 13, June 17, July 29, Sept. 9.
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD,
May 27, June 3, 10, 24 (Race Week), onwards.
QUEEN'S THEATRE, GATESHEAD,
Aug. 12, 19, 26, Sept. 16, 23, Oct. 14, onwards.
Address, Sidney Bacon, Metropole T., Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-class Companies, for
COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
May 13, 20, 27 (six nights), May 2 (three nights).
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON,
Aug. 5, 19, Sept. 30, Oct. 7, 14, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY,
April 29, May 6, 20, 27 (three nights only).
E. Graham-Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Company,
May 2 (3 nights).
E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

FOLKESTONE AND HASTINGS.
WANTED, High-class Companies.
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
June 3, Nov. 4, 18, 25, Dec. 2, 9.
PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE,
May 20, June 24, Nov. 11, 18,
Big Musical Comedy Wanted for Whit Week.

H. W. Rowland, Theatre, Folkestone.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, First-class Attractions,
for weeks of
May 27 and June 3.
Wire or write,
W. W. Kelly,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
Sole Lessee, Julian Malvern.
WANTED, First-class Attractions,
May 20 (Whit Week),
July 1, 8,
Aug. 5 (Musical Comedy).
Address,
Chas. M. Julian, General-Manager.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions for the following dates, April 29, May 6, 13, 27, June 3 and 10. Apply, Mr. Robert Arthur, 24a, Regent-street, S.W.

THEATRE ROYAL, HULL.
WANTED, Attractions for June, strong, high-class Plays or Musical Comedy.
Wm. Morton.

THEATRE ROYAL, HULL.
WANTED, Attractions for May 27, also dates in June, strong high-class Plays or Musical Comedy. Wm. Morton.

BRIDLINGTON SPA THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.
Thoroughly Up-to-date, Re-opens July 29.
Electricity throughout; new scenery; large stage dimensions.
WANTED, First-class Attraction for Grand Opening Week (no Dramas), July 29.
Holds £100 at ordinary prices.
Only few vacant dates, July 29, week (three or six nights), at Liberty. Wire or write immediate re this date; also Aug. 8, 9, 10; 26, 27, 28; and Sept. 5, 6, 7; must be the best Attractions on the road.
Henry Hague, General-Manager.

PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE, GRIMSBY.
WANTED, Companies, for January 17, 24 (?), and July 15, and possibly for Aug. 5.
Copy of bill and terms to
J. H. Curry, as above.

WANTED, for Grand Theatre, West Hartlepool, Powerful Attractions, May 20, 27, June 3, 10, 17, onward. Apply, Fred Granville, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, KEIGHLEY.
WANTED, First-class Musical and Dramatic Companies, April 29, May 6 and 13.
Carson, Keighley

PRINCE'S THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
WANTED, Known, Vacant April 22, 25, May 6, 9, three nights each.
Good Companies only.
Apply, J. Ritson, General Manager.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, Sept. 30, Oct. 7, Dec. 9, 16, and a few Spring Dates.
Address, T. Allan Edwardes.

PALACE THEATRE, RHYL.
A Magnificent Building, splendidly equipped.
Seats 1,500; Stage, 50ft. by 30ft.; to grid, 40ft.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Sept. 2 and on. Add., Will Smith. London Agent, Kelson Truman, 233a, Regent-street.

WANTED, for May 13, Powerful Drama.
Apply. Thos. Courtice,
Her Majesty's Theatre, Carlisle.

PAVILION THEATRE, ST. LEONARD'S.
WANTED, May 13, 20, on, with exceptions, First-class Companies, Farcical or Musical Comedy preferred. Elvey Thomas.

PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE, MEXBORO'.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, May 13.
Address, W. H. Melton.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-Class Dramatic Attractions, May 20 and 27.
E. H. Page.

GRAND THEATRE, CROYDON.
WANTED, First-class Attraction. Musical Comedy preferred, for May 20, Whit Week.
Address, Lawson Lambert,

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-Class Companies,

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER,
Vacant June 24, July 1, 8, onward, with exceptions.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH,
Vacant April 29, onward, with exceptions
(Last three nights of each week.)

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY,
Vacant May 6, 20, onward, with exceptions.

METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY,
Vacant April 22, 29, onward, with exceptions.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE,
Vacant April 22, 29, onward, with exceptions.

"THE LOST CHORD,"
Vacant Aug. 5, onward, with exceptions.

"SPAN OF LIFE,"
Vacant onward, with exceptions.

"IN SIGHT OF ST. PAUL'S,"
Vacant May 13, 20, onward, with exceptions.

Companies "Farmed" through Fit-ups.

To Let, on Royalty, "THE PRAIRIE FLOWER" and "OUR BRITISH EMPIRE."

Excellent Plants Printing.

All communications to
Arthur Carlton, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

GRAND OPERA HOUSE,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE,
MIDDLESBROUGH.
MIDDLESBROUGH.
MIDDLESBROUGH.
MIDDLESBROUGH.

Proprietor, Albert Smith.

Holding Capacity, 3,500.

One of the
Premier Theatres of the North.
Thanks for numerous offers, but
Still Vacant for
No. 1 Attractions Only.
June 10, 17, 24, onwards.
Silence a polite negative.

WANTED, Special Attraction,
Aug. 19 (Race Week).
Managers Please Note,
To anything Really Big
the latter is one of the Best Dates in the Year, being recognised as a General Holiday in the Town and District.
Share or Certainty.
Also open to negotiate for really big first-class Pantomime, 1907-8.
Will guarantee exceptionally fine production.

Address, Jno. Ed. Jowsey,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE,
MIDDLESBROUGH.
Telegrams, "Magnet," Middlesbrough. Telephones 413, 426, 500.

This week, Mr. H. B. Irving and Miss Dorothea Baird.

CHANNEL ISLANDS THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Attractions,
Five Nights and Matinée, each Island,
Opening Tuesday Evening, Guernsey,
following Monday, Jersey.
Enormous Success under New and Up-to-date Management.
Packing both buildings nightly with own Musical Comedy Stock Campany.
This week,
"THE CINGALEE";
Next week,
"GIRL FROM KAY'S."
May 6 Vacant, and various, onward.
Edward Marris, O. H., Jersey.

STAR THEATRE, SWANSEA.
STAR THEATRE, SWANSEA.
STAR THEATRE, SWANSEA.
The Best Drama House in Wales.
The Best Drama House in Wales.
The Best Drama House in Wales.

WANTED, Strongest Attractions for
Aug. 12 and 26,
Oct. 28,
Nov. 18,
Dec. 2, 9, and 16.

Apply,
William Coutts.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions,
May 20, 27, June 10, 17, 24.
ALBERT THEATRE, BRIGHOUSE.
May 6, Sept. 2, 16, 23.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

THEATRE ROYAL, ILKESTON
Manager and Licensee, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.
WANTED, May 20 (Whit), also July 1 to 29 (5 weeks), stock season;
rental or percentage.
Aug. 5, onwards.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions.
May 6, 13; also for Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec.

Apply, Owner and Manager, James Kiernan.

THEATRE ROYAL, MARGATE.
Sole Manager, Edward Michael.
WANTED, First-class Attractions,
Whit Week, opening the previous Saturday,
August Bank Holiday, August Bank Holiday.
Apply Edward Michael, 15, Craven-st., Strand, W.C.

WORTHING THEATRE ROYAL.
WANTED, Big Musical Comedy, for Whit Week (3 nights, two matinées), also First-class Companies, May 23, June 20, 27, and one or two later dates, 3 nights, 1 matinée each instance.
Wire or write, Seebold, Worthing.

WANTED, First-class Attractions,
for May 6 and 13.
J. F. Elliston, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

OPERA HOUSE, KIDDERMINSTER.
One of the Prettiest Theatres in Midlands.
Tremendous Success, "Prince of Pilsen" this week.
WANTED, Great Musical Attractions, for
Aug. 5, Sept. 2, Oct. 7.
Flying Matinées with Best London Stars.
Reserved seat capacity alone, £60.
Only Best London Attractions Entertained.
Address, James P. Moore, Kidderminster.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, Sound Attraction, for Aug. 5 (Bank Holiday), and onwards, with exceptions.
Address,
Thos. Swinton.

WANTED, Best Companies, Coliseum, Aberystwyth, April 29, May 6 (3 nights); also May 21, 22, 23, 24, 25. Wire, Phillips.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies for May 13 and 20 (Whit Week, and a Big Holiday Date).
Address, E. B. Goulden.

WANTED, something good, May 6, 20, Grand, Radcliffe; also May 20, Grand, Chorley.
Address, Sante, Radcliffe.

THEATRE ROYAL, SHREWSBURY.
WANTED, Known, Vacant, Vacant, Vacant, April 29, April 29, April 29, only First-Class Companies entertained. Wire or write, W. C. Dornton, Business-Manager.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLNE, LANCS.
WANTED, Good Companies,
April 29 and May 6.
Address, Gerald Harding.

COMPANIES WANTED.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

Lessees and Managers,
Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.

The Leading Theatre of the Town.
The only theatre in the town lighted by electricity.

April Bookings:
April 1, "UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
April 8, "THE IDLER" (Local Amateurs).
April 15, MR. GEO. ALEXANDER'S CO.
"HIS HOUSE IN ORDER."
April 22, "MISS LANCASHIRE LIMITED."
April 29, MR. ALBERT CHEVALIER, in
"PANTALOON," &c.

Notice. Notice. Notice.

Owing to the
Continual increase of prosperity
at this Theatre,
the Proprietors
have decided to entirely
Rebuild and Reconstruct
the property,
which, when completed,
will be not only the most
Comfortable and Up-to-Date Theatre
in the Provinces, but will have

A HOLDING CAPACITY
A HOLDING CAPACITY
A HOLDING CAPACITY
SECOND TO NONE
SECOND TO NONE
SECOND TO NONE

in the town.

The only Theatre in the town lighted by electricity.

WANTED, Exceptional Attractions,
Aug. 12, 19, 26, Sept. 16, 23,
Oct. 7, 14 (3 nights), Nov. 11, 25, Dec. 2, 9.

Calvert Routledge, H. M. T., Barrow.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

The Premier Theatre in the Furness District.

Holds £90 at ordinary Prices.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions,
June 24, July 1, 8, and 15, on,
with exceptions.

The following, amongst others, are future bookings for the above Theatre:—Allan Wilkie, "Man's Enemy," Lingford Carson's Companies, "A Warning to Women," Mr. and Mrs. Godfrey Tearle, "In Holy Russia," "Her Luck in London," "A Little Vagrant," "A Destroyer of Men," "The Breed of the Treshams," "Life of a Showman," Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's Companies, The D'Oyly Carte No. 1 Répertoire Company (tenth visit), "Raffles," F. R. Benson's Co. (third visit), Baron H. Harriss's No. 1 Company, "The Prince of Pilsen," Mr. Percy Hutchison's Companies, including "Peter's Mother," Mr. George Edwardes' own Company, in "See-See," "The Sign of the Cross," &c., &c.

All applications for dates to
Hugh Robertson,
T. R., Jarrow.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLYTH.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Powerful Attractions,
May 13, June 3, 10, 17, 24.
Equitable terms given for Dramas, Musical Comedies, and Operas that can take money, and that can be done at this theatre with the right material. Bookings include: William Mollison in "Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush," "Florodora," "Christian," "Eternal City," "The Breed of the Treshams," "Claudian," "The New Barmaid," &c., &c.

Apply, A. C. Moody, Lessee.
Managers please accept silence as polite negative pro tem.

WANTED, Drama Companies, May 6 and 13, special dates, Share or Certainty. Particulars, J. H. Saville, Paisley Theatre.

KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE, WESTON-SUPER-MARE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, April 29, May 6 (3 or 6 nights), also June and July.
Sharing terms. W. Payne.

GRAND THEATRE, DOUGLAS.
WANTED, First-class Musical Play or other Attraction for the Capital Season Date, July 22. Apply, Jas. Buck, 30, Brown-st., Manchester.

STANLEY, DURHAM, NEW ROYAL, LTD.
WANTED, good Attraction, May 6, through cancelling. Apply, Mark H. Lindon.

WANTED, good Companies all descriptions, for April 29, Treherbert and Maesteg (three days each); also Company, complete in itself, for Maesteg, Whit Week. Apply, Poole, Palace Theatre, Gloucester.

WANTED, Stars or Musical Comedies, for Grand Theatre, Llandudno, July 22, 23, 24 (opening of season), Sept. 16. Address, Haldane Crichton, Theatre Royal, Whitehaven.

TOWN HALL THEATRE, CROMER.
WANTED, First-class Attractions,
Aug. 8, 12, 19, 22, Sept. 2, 5, 12, 16, and 19,
all two or three nights.
Hunstanton can be booked to precede or follow.
Apply, Baring Bros., Cheltenham.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity.
Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, onwards,
Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. Cotton.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY."
The Most Successful Play Produced during the year 1906.
WANTED, Sept. 2 and 9, in First-Class Theatres only. Wire or write,
W. W. Kelly,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, Weeks of June 17 and July 1,
Scala Production.
Wire or write,
W. W. Kelly,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN,"
a Beautiful Work presented by Charles Harrington's company. It is a great dramatic triumph.—Bradford Telegraph.
WANTED, Theatres, July 1, on.
Charles Harrington, Prince's T., Poplar, E.

The Greatest of all Irish Productions.
MR. and MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY'S
"ROLLICKING RORY," Autumn, 1907.
Bookings complete for 1907.
WANTED, Theatres, now booking Spring, 1908.
Ashdale, Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancs.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, May 27 (South),
June 10, 17, 24,
July 1, 8, 15, 22.
Address, J. W. Cordiner,
April 22, Opera House, Burnley.

FRANK J. PITT and CHARLES HALLING'S CO.
"£1,000 REWARD."
"£1,000 REWARD."
WANTED, for this Successful Attraction,
April 29,
July 29, Aug. 12.
Sept. 23, 30, Oct. 7, 14, on.

St. James's, Manchester, April 22.

"A FOOL'S PARADISE."
By Sydney Grundy.
WANTED, May 9 (3 nights), precede Brighton, Whit, June 24 (follow Ramsgate),
on, with exceptions.
Wylie Thompson, "Bridgen," Bexley, Kent.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, First-Class Theatres.
Fred Bulmer, c/o "The Era." Vacation add.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE GIRL WHO TOOK THE WRONG TURNING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres,
April 29, May 13.
Walter Melville,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE SOLDIER'S WEDDING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, May 13, 20.
Apply,
Walter Melville,
Standard Theatre, E.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 12, Sept. 30.
Walter Melville,
Standard Theatre, E.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 5, 12, and Dec. 23, 30.
Frederick Melville,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 9, 23, Dec. 23.
Frederick Melville,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 16, Oct. 28, Nov. 4, and Xmas.
Tom H. Taylor,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, May 13, Sept. 30.
Tom H. Taylor,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, April 29 (London),
Aug. 5, 12, 19.
Douglas Bruce, Grand T., Islington, London, N.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Managers to Please Note,
MISS MABEL LEEDS
MISS MABEL LEEDS
MISS MABEL LEEDS
announces the production of the New Musical Comedy,
"LADY SELINA OF 'K,'"
"LADY SELINA OF 'K,'"
at a Special Matinée
at
The Royal County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames, on Saturday, May 4.
"LADY SELINA OF 'K,'"
Book and Lyrics by Mabel Leeds,
Music by Claude Blakesley Yearsley,
Produced by A. F. Allen Towers.
Managers cordially invited to see this performance.
Autumn dates will be gladly considered.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN."
WANTED, May 13 (follow T. R., Hanley), May 20, on, with exceptions.
A Delightful Version. Perfectly Cast.
Exquisitely Dressed. Crowded with Mystic Effects.
Splendid Opening, Monday, at T. R., Cardiff.
Tuesday, £3 better than Monday.
Wednesday nearly Double Monday.
Close on the Century in Three Nights.
Refer Mr. Robt. Redford.
Managers are Courteously Requested to wire or write Mr. Redford for his opinion.
Loie Esmond, Theatre Royal, Cardiff.
April 22, Grand T., Walsall (fourth visit).

"A BROKEN HEART."
The Dramatic Success of 1907.
WANTED, Big Theatres only, May 13, June 10, and Aug. 5. Another Terrific Success at Prince's, Blackburn; Tuesday better than Monday, Wednesday better than Tuesday, and Thursday's first return £6 better than Wednesday. Managers refer E. H. Page, Esq. Latest bookings include Court T., Wigan; Palace, Newcastle; Rotunda, Liverpool; Alex., Birmingham; Sunderland, Oldham, Glasgow, Leigh, Blackpool, Swansea, Accrington, Barnsley, Coventry, Nelson. A clear stage only required.
Harry Foxwell, Theatre Royal, Leicester.

E. H. KNIGHT and GEORGE DENHAM'S CO
"THE GRIP OF IRON."
Enormous success last week at the Alexandra, Hull, over £300 gross, and £50 over our previous visit two years ago.
WANTED, Aug. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 7, 21, 28, Dec. 16, 23, 30, Jan. 6, 13. George Denham,
This, Queen's, Longton; next, Grand, Eccles.

"WHEN WE WERE TWENTY-ONE."
Miss DOROTHEY CACEY'S CO.,
including Mr. Riddell Robinson.
WANTED, Whit, May 20, June 10, and on, with exceptions.
First-class Theatres only.

Frank Nelson,
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FRANK M. THORNE'S CO.
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
WANTED, for this Money-maker,
June 10.
June 10.
F. M. T., Prince's Theatre, Bradford.

MISS BONWIN CARLTON'S CO.,
"THE PLUCKY NIPPER."
WANTED, April 29, May 6, 13, 20, Wire for April 29, Wire, Wire, Wire. Edward Surrey, to-day, St. James', Manchester; next, Court Theatre, Bacup.

SHINTON AND GREENWOOD'S TOUR.
"THE PRICE OF HER SOUL."
WANTED, May 27 (through transfer), North; also Aug. 5, Sept. 2, 9, 23. Thanks M. Montgomery, Esq., for Contracts for two consecutive weeks. Address, John B. Shinton, Metropole T., Manchester.

WANTED, Dates, "The End Crowns All," Comedy-Drama, by Augusta Tullock. A specially-selected Company engaged. Production April 22, T. R., Ilkeston. Managers invited to witness this magnificent production. I will pay travelling expenses. Wanted, May 27 (to precede Mansfield), June 10 (to precede Scarborough), and various Autumn.
Re Dates, Augusta Tullock,
T. R., Ilkeston.

MRS. ROBERT CASTLETON'S CO.
WANTED, to arrange for Stock Season, Seaside or First-Class Theatre, Copyright Plays only. Full Company of recognised Artists for every production.
Robert Castleton, 10, King-street, W.C.

WANTED, by Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer, May 6 and 13. Address, Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer, Saturday, T.R., Coatbridge; Monday, H.M.T., Aberdeen.

MISS EMMA LITCHFIELD'S DRAMATIC NOVELTY, "A CLEVER IMPOSTOR."
WANTED, June 3, 17, July 1, on,
Good Theatres and Equitable Terms.
A Sound Artistic and Financial Success.
Stuart Cleveland, P.O.W. Theatre, Mexborough.

"OLIVER TWIST."
WANTED, good Theatres, June 3 (Scotland preferred), 10, Aug. 3, 10.
Henry L. Osmond, T. R., Coatbridge.

"LIFE'S SWEETEST SINS."
WANTED, Extension of Tour, April 29, May 13, 20, June 3, 10 (?), 17, must be best Theatres.
T. A. Jones, Prince's, Portsmouth.

CULLEN AND CARTHY'S GREAT PANTO.,
"BABES IN THE WOOD," at Liberty.
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27, Feb. 17 and 24. Enormous Success last Season, Played to Record Business. Refer Mr. Broadhead, Manchester; Mr. Nicholson, Hippo., Stockton, &c. Coms., John Cullen, Lyric, Liverpool; or, Mr. H. A. Jordison, St. James's Hall, Manchester.

"RICH AND POOR OF LONDON."
Never fails to please.
Miss DORA DENCH and full Company.
WANTED, May 20, 27, Aug. 5. Address, Dench, 140, Rumford-st., Manchester.

"HER LOST SELF," by Nita Rae; "THE BIGGEST SCAMP ON EARTH," by F. A. Scudamore.
WANTED, Whit. Wire or write, Frances Delaval, 23, Cromwell-rd., Whitstable-on-Sea.

WILLIAM HOLLES, NANNIE GOLDMAN, and CO.,
in the Great Domestic Drama, in Four Acts,
"THE STEPMOTHER," by Arthur Shirley.
WANTED, May 20, 27, and onwards.
Address, William Holles,
11, Newport House, Great Newport-street, W.C.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE PET OF THE EMBASSY."
"THE PET OF THE EMBASSY."
"THE PET OF THE EMBASSY."
Terrific Success.
Terrific Success.
Declared by
Press and Public
to be the
Brightest and Smartest Musical Show
on the road.

The Show a "go" from start to finish.
Great West-end Cast.
Full Operatic Chorus.
Splendid New Scenery and Gorgeous Costumes.

Bookings include:—
Theatre Royal Bolton; Theatre Royal, Halifax; Grand Opera House, Middlesbro'; Grand Theatre, Newcastle; New King's Theatre, Sunderland, Royal Court, Wigan; Theatre Royal, Preston; Grand Theatre, Eccles;
&c., &c.
Don't fail to book it!

WANTED, for this Great Attraction, Aug 5. Aug. 5, 12, 19, 26, and on.

Managers are kindly requested to pencil Dates for the Great Musical Comedy Production, "HIS LORDSHIP'S ARRIVAL," Aug. 5 and on.

Wanted, two First-class Theatres for Pantomimes, "JACK AND JILL," "CINDERELLA." Guaranteed winners.

All communications, HAMILTON BAINES, This, Royal Court, Wigan; Next, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Dates for "WHEN IT WAS DARK." July 1, 8, 15, 22, Sept. 9.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"HONOUR THY FATHER."
WANTED, for this Powerful Play, April 29, May 20 (?), 27, June 3.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
WANTED, for this Romantic Drama, May 27, June 3, July 1, 15, 22.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"GREED OF GOLD."
WANTED, for this Money-maker, Sept. 2, 23, Oct. 14, 21, 28.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

ALFRED B. CROSS' TOUR,
"THE MANXMAN."
"THE MANXMAN."
WANTED, Whit Week, through obliging, Also June 24, July 1, Aug. 5, and Few Later.

New Printing, Special Scenery, and Effects.
April 22, Royal Clarence, Pontypridd.

MISS MARY NEIL and MR. GEORGE KIRK'S "HER LUCK IN LONDON" CO.
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Big Theatres, July 29, Oct. 7, through transfer (Mid.).
CHARLES A. LEICESTER,
This, T. R., South Shields; next, PALACE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
Continued Success. Third Year.
WANTED, May 13, through obliging, Wire for May 13, May 13, Wire. May 27 (?), July 22.
Aug. 12, follow Alexandra, Birmingham.
FRANK AYRTON,
Theatre Royal, Consett.

MESSRS. ARMADALE AND WARREN'S CO.,
"THE FACE AT THE WINDOW."
WANTED, Aug. 19, 26, Oct. 28 (Midlands), Nov. 4 (North), Dec. 23, 30, onwards, for the above Attraction.
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"THE HEART OF A HERO,"
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Everything carried. Finest and largest plant of pictorials ever used. The most perfect Dramatic Combination touring. Business enormous. Refer.
WANTED, Theatres, Vacant Aug. 26, Sept. 2, 23, onwards. Apply at once, CHARLES DRAYCOTT, T. R., Barnsley.

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"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
WANTED, May 20, Whit Week, for this great Attraction. New Uniforms and Effects, Band of Drums, Fifes, and Bugles, for Parade.
"A SISTER'S SIN."
Wanted, May 6, 20, and 27, for this Intensely Human Drama, Powerful Cast,
"A SOLDIER'S HONOUR."
Wanted, Aug. 5, for this Great Play. This Date is Vacant through Transferring.
This, F. G. KIMBERLEY, Irving Theatre, Seacombe. Next, Vauxhall, The Scotlands, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Theatres for "A HEART'S DESIRE."
An Instantaneous Success.
Finest Production since "East Lynne."
Booked by Every Manager who has seen it.
Everything Carried, Everything New,
Everything Original.
One of the Finest Companies of Artists Touring.
Communications en route; or
Messrs. ELLIMAN, 5, Vernon-street, Dublin.

"THE MASTER CRIMINAL."
WANTED, good Theatres, June 3, 10, 24, Aug. 3. HENRY L. OSMOND, T. R., Coatbridge.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, June 3 and 10, to follow Seacombe (return).
DICKIE CLARE, Opera House, Radcliffe.

"LIFE OF A SHOWMAN."
WANTED, Sept. 30 (between Lancaster and Newport), Nov. 4, Jan., 1908; everything new; magnificent production. Address, SANTE, Chorley.

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"THE BEST OF HER SEX."
Bookings include: Palace, Newcastle; T. R., North Shields; Prince's, Portsmouth; Grand, Luton, Leicester, Edmonton, Crewe, &c.
WANTED, Whit Week, May 27 and onwards, with exceptions. WILLIAM A. ARMOUR, 5, Sandringham-drive, New Brighton.

RUSSELL ROSSE'S TOURS.
WANTED, April 29 and May 6 and 20, Répertoire or otherwise.
Wire, RUSSELL ROSSE, 10, King-st., W.C.

WANTED, Whit Week, for Walter Howard's "Man and Wife." Refer Lester Collingwood or M. Montgomery. Address, T. E. WARD, Colosseum Theatre, Oldham.

Enormous success.
The Famous Jamaica Choir, all escaped from the recent terrible earthquake. Causing a furore everywhere. London, Lincoln (return visit), Blackpool (three dates) (return visits), Ryde, Folkestone, Dover, Ramsgate, Rhyl, Liverpool, Birkenhead, &c.
A Great Novelty. A Real Sensation.
Hundreds turned away nightly.
WANTED, May 20, and onwards, with exceptions, twelve performers; can give whole entertainment. Three changes of costume; splendid Lithos. Sunday Concerts if desired.
Apply for booklet, terms, &c.
At Southport last week 2,200 persons were present at the Final Performance,
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Such a house and such enthusiasm seldom, if ever, witnessed in Southport.
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WANTED, for Autumn Tours of Musical Comedy, Artists in all Lines, also a Large Number of Chorus Ladies and Gentlemen; must be young, and have good voices and appearance. Apply, either by letter or personally, between 11 and 12 o'clock, C. ST. JOHN DENTON, 34, Maiden-lane, Strand.

WANTED, Autumn Drama Tours, Gentleman Leading Juvenile, Heavy, Character Comedian, Juvenile Leading Lady, Heavy, Chambermaid. State height, last 3 references, terms. No wires. London interviews essential. MARK BLOW, 11, St. Edmund's-terrace, London.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists, in all Lines, Heavies, Comedian, and Young Actress. Call or write, WARD, 3, Adelaide-street, Strand.

WANTED, Musical Comedy Artists, known to Mr. Herbert Darnley. Apply by letter only to 18A, Brixton-road, S.W.

WANTED, smart, young, handsome Soubrette, good figure, about 5ft. 7in.; also tall young Juvenile Gentleman, Scotchman preferred; good voices, clear articulation and appearance most essential. Lowest terms, photos., age, height, and references by letter to A. B. C., 7, Endsleigh-street, Tavistock-square, W.C.

WANTED, for "East Lynne," Cornelia and Willie Carlyle, one week May 13. Rehearse three days prior; joint preferred. For Princess's, Glasgow. Photos and lowest terms, F. PITT and F. SANDY, Princess's, Glasgow.

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"HER LOVE AGAINST THE WORLD."
WANTED, Strong Romantic Juvenile Actor, tall, also Comedian, about 5ft. 8in., to rehearse Bradford, May 1, open May 6; three Special weeks in London. Particulars, age, height, &c., to WALTER HOWARD, 104, Spring-st., Bury, Lancs.

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WANTED, really First-Class Society Entertainer, à la Algernon Newark, must be absolutely clever and up-to-date; also Baritone Descriptive Vocalist, and a Tenor of the highest order; real live Comedian, to work Dude songs to perfection; also Pianist (gentleman preferred), sight reader, transpose and arrange; rép. Musical Comedy Concerted essential. Send terms (for twelve weeks), refs., photos., list of songs, &c. H. C. BENTLEY, Public Hall, Dudley, Staffs.

WANTED, Amateurs.
Lady and Gentleman Amateur
Wanted at Once.
Small premium required.
Thorough coaching; long tour; salary. Address, MANAGER, 9, Hart-street, W.C.

WANTED, Known, Messrs. Richard Warner and Co., Ltd., having arranged with Signor Rosi, late Ballet Master of the Alhambra, to Open a School of Dancing with a view to prepare Troupes, &c., for English, American, and Continental Engagements, will be glad to hear from Good Chorus Ladies, Dancers, and Ballet Ladies. Send photo. to R. WARNER and Co., LTD., Lyric Chambers, 27, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Choristers (Ladies and Gents), for April 22, 29; able to read and sing well. HERDEN, Olympia, Murton, Durham. After Sat., T. R., Crook.

TOM J. MORTON'S SUMMER COMPANIES.
WANTED, Principal Baritone or Tenor, Principal Soprano or Contralto, Humorist at Piano, also to accompany; Engagement from June 24 to Aug. 17. Lowest inclusive terms and répertoire to TOM J. MORTON, 33, Dalston-lane, N. No interviews.

WANTED, Contraltos, good, for Quartette; young, pretty, good musicians, height about 5ft. 2in.; small salary to commence. Apply, MDME. ALBU, 7, Bayley-street, W.C.

WANTED, for Bognor Pier, Humorists, Specialities, Sopranos, Contraltos, Tenors, &c. Lowest Summer Terms first letter. LESSEE, 60, Garrick-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Handsome Lady Dancers, must be expert, high kickers, young, and have good voices (no use otherwise); chance of long engagement, starting Whit; under important management. Send full particulars of age, height, experience, salary, and photo. (imperative), by letter only, to SECRETARY, 18A, Brixton-road, S.W.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

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WANTED, by two tall Young Ladies, Engagement, small parts or Chorus, in Company going abroad; good references. E. R., 3, Mysore-road, Clapham Junction, London, S.W.

WANTED, by Young Character Actor, Shop for Summer.
for new experience,
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WANTED, Engagement, Baritone, with Concert Party, or Pierrot Troupe. Apply, P. F. H., 19, Grange Park-road, Leyton.

WANTED, by First Tenor, combine Flute and Piccolo; capable. J. J., 59, Crofton-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, by Youth (21), tall, smart appearance, Engagement in Cinématograph Show, Musical Sketch, &c.; good pianist and banjoist. M. R. S., 54, Crystal-road, Blackpool.

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WANTED, Pantomime Chorus and Show Ladies. Send photograph, age, height, and other measurements, lowest salary. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

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WANTED, Young Gentleman, as Assistant-Manager, immediately, long engagement, splendid opening for beginner. Particulars, LEVINO BRIGHT LIGHTS Co., Theatre, Musselburgh.

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WANTED, by Secretary and Manager of the late Owen Hall, Re-engagement; thoroughly understands theatrical work. Address, Mr. THOMAS BARNETT, 84, New King's-road, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, as Secretary, Clerk, Assistant, &c., Playwright, thorough secretarial experience; shorthand, typist, &c., plenty ambition, energy, and brains; living wage. Box 4,653, "Era."

WANTED, Known, Charles E. Massey, Advance Manager, Disengaged; good offers invited for Advance Summer and Autumn. Offers, 7, Tatham-street, Sunderland.

WANTED, Situation as Advance, or All-round Man, for Fit-ups, Pictures, Pierrots, &c.; good refs. FIELD, Box 4,464, "The Era."

WANTED, by experienced M. H. Performer, Situation in Agent's Office or any place of trust; smart, young, reliable. Box 4,665 "The Era."

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WANTED, for Andrews' Animated Picture Companies, a First-Class Pianist-Conductor and Arranger, also Baritone Vocalist (able to lecture), both to open April 29 (South). Lowest terms, refs. and full particulars first letter, H. ANDREWS, 8, King-gardens, Plymouth.

WANTED, Leader, Violinists, 'Cellist, Double Bass (Piano combined), Pianist, Flauto, Clarionets (A, B, C), Cornets, must transpose Trumpets, Trombones, Double Drummer combined Tympani, Glockenspiel Effects; Seaside, July 14, nine weeks; trial expected. Send lowest, DIRECTOR, 92, West End-lane, London, N.W.

WANTED, Good Violin (Leader), also Cornet; good readers; steady and reliable.
Terms to MUSICAL-DIRECTOR, New Theatre, Oxford.

WANTED, First-class Solo Cornet, experienced in Variety, and Strictly Sober, or no use. Commence Monday next. Terms, references, to SYDNEY DAVIES, Conductor, Hippodrome, Ipswich.

WANTED, for Pavilion, Ramsgate, Solo Cornet, Solo Clarionet, Viola, Basso, Trombone, Drums, Whit Sunday to Oct. 5. MICHAEL CONNELLY, care of "The Era."

WANTED, for a Music Hall in the North of England, First and Second Cornets, Trombone, drums, and effects.—Apply, Box 4699, "The Era."

WANTED, to Train with Band 3rd Lincoln Regiment, from May 27 to June 22, Solo B Flat Clarionet, Solo Trombone, Second Trombone.
Applicants should apply to
BANDMASTER, 3rd Lincoln Regiment, Lincoln,
Stating Height and Age.
H. Boser, Capt. and Adjt., 3rd Lincoln Regiment.

WANTED, for Orchestra of High-class Entertainment, Good Clarionet; sober and reliable; permanency to good man. R. NIBLETT, Conductor, 36, Lochrin-buildings, Gilmore-place, Edinburgh.

WANTED, for Yeomanry Training, May 17 to 30, good First Trombone, to play Orchestra and Military; also First or Second Violin, combine Second Trombone (Military). State terms and measurements. Rations provided. Apply, BANDMASTER, 39, Oliver-st., Stockport.

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WANTED, good Double Bass, to combine Bombardon. Terms, 32s. 6d. Apply, BANDMASTER, Monday, Castleford.

WANTED, at Once, thoroughly competent and sober Double Bass, experienced in Variety. Send terms, references, SYDNEY DAVIES, Conductor, Hippodrome, Ipswich.

WANTED, for Duffy's Circus, Tenting Ireland, Good Euphonium; must be steady, and not afraid to blow. Monday, Kingscourt; Tuesday, Bailliebourough.

WANTED, First-class First French Horn for Summer Season, Scotland, Military and Orchestral; 5 hours daily; no Sundays. Lowest terms, references, to CONDUCTOR, 38, Prince's-street, Southport, Lancs.

WANTED, Flute and Piccolo, for Tenting Season, commence April 29. Apply AUGUSTE DENTON, Mus. Dir., 86, Victoria-street, Grimsby.

WANTED, a thorough good Pianist, to Travel with Auction Mart; must be used to the Business, and not afraid of work; also a Descriptive Vocalist. No Mummers. Apply, Box 4,667, "The Era."

WANTED, good Pianist, sight reader, transpose, arrange, &c.; open Whitsuntide; Al Fresco; two shows daily. Terms, age, particulars. HARRY COLLINS, Rhyl.

WANTED, Pianist, combine other instrument. Lowest terms, age, &c.,
LOUIS J. BEARD, Grand Theatre, Luton.

WANTED, for Llandudno, April 29, to Sept. 30, five hours daily, First Violin, Viola, 'Cello, Double Bass, Flute-Piccolo, Clarionet, Cornet, Trombone, Side Drums and Effects (combining Second Violin or Viola preferred). Age, references, terms, CONDUCTOR, 5, Nelson-st., Southport.

MERSEY TRADING CO. PLEASURE STEAMSHIPS, N. WALES COAST.
WANTED, Tenders for privilege of Music on above, for Season of about seventeen weeks, 1907, or would engage three small suitable Bands of three. Full particulars, J. CODMAN, Blaenau Festiniog, N. Wales.

WANTED, Instrumentalists, for Small Military Band (District Council), for Whit Week, also Bombardon for season, open June 24. BELLERBY, Deneholme, Ilkley.

POOL AND BOSCO'S PICTURE SHOW.
WANTED, Complete Band of seven, Double-handed, for Tenting Ireland, commencing May 4. Write, Bosco, 3, Winsley-road, Bristol.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

FROM A MUSICIAN:—
To the Manager of "The Era" Advert. Dept.,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street,, W.C.
"Re Advertisement
"'WANTED, ENGAGEMENT BY CORNET.'
"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, "A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

FROM A BANDMASTER:—
"Re Advertisement, 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.'
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies, and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster,
"Littlehampton."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Arthur W. Creighton, Musical Conductor and Accompanist (Piano), Disengaged Summer Season, South Coast preferred; refs. 170, Walworth-road, London.

WANTED, Known, W. H. Brinkworth, Musical-Director, ten years Grand Theatre, Islington; Composer; Arranger. 14A, Heyworth-road, Clapton, N.

WANTED, Engagement by First-Class experienced Conductor-Pianist, well-known, Composer, Arranger, six years Conducting West End pieces, first-class management. Press opinions; highest references. Permanency or good Tour. Box 4,609. "The Era."

WANTED, Known, T. C. Poyser, Musical-Director (Diplomé with Honours, R.A.M.). Disengaged. Address, 98, Gordon-hill, Enfield, N.

WANTED, Engagement, as Musical-Director or Leader, Dramatic or Variety; excellent references. SYKES, 108, Howard-street, Oxford.

WANTED, immediate re-engagement as Leader or First Violin, theatres, restaurants; London or suburbs. OSCAR CREMER, 10, Caithness-road, Mitcham, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement as Mus.-Dir., First Violin or Viola, age 29, smart, steady, reliable, experienced; good répertoire. DEXTER, Theatre Royal, Whitehaven.

WANTED, Engagement by Conductor, brilliant Violinist; experienced Theatre. up-to-date Library. Address, Box 4,671, "The Era."

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Engagement as Leader, for good Circus, excellent references, splendid First-class Stock of Music. Address, LEADER, 44, Woodlands-road, Walthamstow.

WANTED, Known, Edward Parker, Conductor (Piano), Disengaged, London and Suburbs only; many years' experience. Address, 2, Trinity-square, Borough.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Re-engagement by Musical Director (Violin), Theatre or Variety, owing to Hall closing; steady and experienced; own library. References and Press notices. Disengaged May 4. MORRIS, Conductor, Pavilion, Greenock, N.B.

WANTED, by Leader (or as First Violin), Summer Engagement or Permanency; any business. J. W. WILDE, Leader, Palace Theatre, Bath.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced First Violin, combine Solo Viola or Solo Euphonium in Good Orchestra; reliable, sober; references. Add., Box 4,677, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, as Violin, combine Trombone; first-class on both instruments; excellent references. SYKES, 108, Howard-st., Oxford.

WANTED, Known, experienced Lady Violinist, Soloist and Leader, good appearance, disengaged. Apply, Box 4,669, "The Era."

WANTED, by good Second Violin, Summer Engagement in good Orchestra, at Liberty Whit. G. OLIVER, Subscription Rooms, Nailsworth, Glos.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Violinist; reliable; good references. J. H. DIXON, 218, Every-street, Nelson, Lancs.

WANTED, by Violinist, young, Engagement as Soloist for ensuing season; extensive répertoire. Address, L. C. L., 230, Hackney-road, N.E.

WANTED, Engagement as First or Second Violin, used to Variety; young, steady. Address, JOHN MALCOLM, 73, Union-street West, Oldham.

WANTED, by Second Violin, good, reliable, Engagement for Summer; Seaside Resort; good references. CROTCHET, 15, Trevelyan-road, Tooting, S.W.

WANTED, by Violinist, Engagement, Solo, Orchestral, or Ball Business, in or near London. R. ROBINSON, 13, Heathcote-street, Mecklenburgh-square, W.C.

WANTED, Engagement, by young Lady Violinist and Double Drummer; well experienced in Orchestra. Reference. Miss GORDAN, 9, Coborn-road, Bow.

WANTED, by Edythe Reeve (Violinist), Engagement; just concluded ten weeks' variety work in London. VIOLINIST, 60, Kimberley-gardens, Harringay Park, N.

WANTED, Engagement, Violinist, Musical Director, Palace, Bath; also wife, Pianist at above; any business; finishing season. J. ANDREWS.

WANTED, Engagement, by Violinist and Harpist, together preferred; good répertoire; could supply small Band. VIOLINIST, 1, Warren-place, Woodhouse, Leeds.

WANTED, by Solo Cornet, Engagement; can open immediately; competent; excellent refs.; steady and reliable. W. KAYE, Terriss T., Rotherhithe, S.E.

WANTED, Engagements, Cornettist, in London, disengaged April 27. H. ANGEL, 47, Stopford-road, Upton Manor, London, E.

WANTED, Engagement, for First-Class Cornet and Flute and Piccolo, together, Dancing or Variety preferred. Apply, LORRIMAN, Flautist, Purston, Yorkshire.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by experienced Orchestral Cornet, as First or Second, in good Orchestra or Theatre; highest refs. TOM TITHERINGTON, Gaiety Theatre, Dublin.

WANTED, Engagement, by Good Clarionet; three years with Moody-Manners "A" Opera Co. Address, GEO. E. GODDARD, 25, Upper Grove-place, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Known, an excellent Clarionettist and Pianist is open to accept Engagement as First or Second Clarionet and Accompanist, Orchestra or Military. Box 4,689, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by good Double Bass, 28, steady, reliable, any business.
At Liberty 29th.
UNSWORTH, Pavilion Theatre, Greenock.

WANTED, Known, Miss Georgie Vernon, Double Bass, at Liberty, April 29 till June 24. Care of 41, Rymer-road, Addiscombe, Croydon.

WANTED, Known, H. Tooth, Bassoon, at Liberty for Engagement, permanency or season. Address, SOLO BASSOON, Orchestra, West Pier, Brighton.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-Class Double Bass, concluding five years' engagement West Pier Orchestra, any business; highest refs.; abstainer. E. FRANKS, West Pier, Brighton.

WANTED, Engagement, by Bassoonist, good all-round experience; any business; refs. BASSOON, 4, Upper Fountaine-street, Albion-street, Leeds.

WANTED, by Trombone, Engagement, any Business; good references. "ORCHESTRAL," Grand Palace, Clapham Junction, London, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, as Trombone or Euphonium; any Business. Apply, P. EWINS, 9, South-street, Reading.

WANTED, Engagement, by Marie Walker, Trombonist, Orch. and Solos. 7, Cromwell road, Shipley, Yorks.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by good Euphonium or Double Bass; thoroughly reliable; good refs. J. STONE, 20, Old Orchard-street, Bath.

WANTED, by Second French Horn, Summer Engagement (Military). Address, MUSICIAN, Post Office, Rushden, R.S.O, Northants.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice, for Little Girl, on 'Cello; also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. CASSELLE, 35, Granville-square, King's Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, Engagement, as 'Cellist, Theatre or Music Hall Orchestra; thoroughly experienced; good references. INKPEN, 12, Napoleon-road, St. Margaret's, Twickenham.

WANTED, Engagement, by Young Ladies, Cellist and Double Bass; thoroughly experienced. Box 4,676, "The Era."

WANTED, by Lady 'Cellist, Engagement until Whitsun; good Soloist; would deputise.
L. HINE, 43, Shepherd's Bush-road, W.

WANTED, Known, experienced 'Cello, disengaged, any business, first-class references. Address, 'CELLO, 17, Macdonald-road, Forest Gate, London.

WANTED, Known, 'Cellist Open for Summer Engagement; any Bus.; good solos. Box No. 1697, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by First-Class Solo Violoncellist, can memorise Standard Overtures, Selections, &c.; just concluding seven years' engagement; highest references. MUSIKUS, 44, Grenville-place, Brighton.

WANTED, by First-class Viola (thoroughly experienced, reliable), Orchestral Engagement, any business; excellent references. PAMELA CHANDLER, Herbert-street, Mansfield, Notts.

WANTED, by Viola, a permanent Engagement, thoroughly experienced in Variety and Concert business; good refs. 23, Khyber-road, Battersea, London.

WANTED, Summer Engagement by First-Class Oboeist, Disengaged from May to Sept.; also Young Lady Harpist, Tea Rooms or Hotel work; terms moderate. Apply, J. FIELD, 8, Wavendon-avenue, Sutton Court-road, Chiswick.

WANTED, by experienced Lady Harpist (Solo and Orchestral), Summer Engagement. Box 4,685, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Flute and Piccolo; experienced in Var. Bus.; good references; can open April 29. F. BROUGHTON, 3, Montague-villas, Horncastle-road, Boston.

WANTED, Engagement, experienced Flautist, used Variety business; good references; at Liberty April 27. WOOLMAN, Trafalgar-avenue, Trafalgar-road, Smethwick, Birmingham.

WANTED, by Smart Variety Pianist, any reliable Engagement; long experience, conduct and arrange, always reliable; have finest monster Portable Organ in existence. LEWIS, 744, Oxford-rd., Reading.

WANTED, Known, Madam Wilton Davis, Pianist and Accompanist, Open for Summer Offers, Hotels, &c. Good Trio (ladies). 42, Linton-street, Islington.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by good Pianist, sight reader, mans., or Leader copy. Address. Scott, 109, Durham-road, Finsbury Park, London

WANTED, Known, Nita Smith, Pianist, &c., at Liberty shortly (any business); English Orchestra, Hotel Van Der Burg, Hague, Holland. Per. add., Sandfield, Bacup, Lancs.

WANTED, Engagement, smart, reliable Pianist, experienced Opera, Drama, Variety, Popular Répertoire. References. Barnard, 58, Hampark-road, Stratford.

WANTED, Summer Engagement (Hotel, or Pier Concerts, &c.), for Pianist, Violinist, and 'Cellist, up-to-date Library and Solos. J. Reillie, 123, Waddon New-road, Croydon.

WANTED, Re-engagement, Double Drummer, own tympanies and effects; last engagement seven years; steady, reliable. Tympanis t 75, High-street, Godalming.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, good Double Drummer; thoroughly experienced, Theatre, Variety, Orchestra. Box 4,662, "The Era."

WANTED, Summer Engagement, good Double Drummer; experienced thoroughly, Theatre, Variety, Orchestral. Amy Vetta, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by good Drummer, with effects, for Theatre, Varieties, or good town band; excellent references. Wire or write, Brooklyn, 44, Woodlands-road, Walthamstow.

WANTED, Engagement, by thoroughly experienced Double Drummer; first-class variety experience; reliable; references. Drums, 177, Ball's Pond-road, Islington, London, N.

WANTED, Known, One of the Best Existing Viennese Bands Disengaged (through postponement), 14 perf. (more or less), every one a Brilliant Soloist; splendid ensemble; huge success everywhere; smart uniforms, very extensive répertoire; highest references and testimonials; sure to draw. Offers of Managers of Piers, Exhibitions, Hotels, &c., to Box 4,657, "Era."

WANTED, Engagements for Scarlet Domino Ladies' Band, Ladies' Salon Quartette and Florentine Quartet, at home or abroad. Apply, Bureau, 8, Bedford-terrace, Kensington.

WANTED, Known, through the engaging of Army Bands by the Brighton West Pier Co., the present Orchestral Band will be at Liberty to accept Engagements after May 18 (any business). Apply, Secretary, J. Walker, 39, Mighell-street, Brighton.

WANTED, Engagements, for Orchestra, any number, smart uniform, up-to-date répertoire; highest references. Louis Metz, 62, Wellington-road, Charlton, S.E.

WANTED, Known, First-class Established Military Band, Disengaged for Summer Season; 15 to 30 performers; extensive répertoire. Box 4,678, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Small Family Band, at Liberty Whitsun, Tour or Seaside; experienced in Theatre, Variety, Pictures, &c. Moderate terms. Box 4,675, "The Era."

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, May 22, week, Fêtes, Cycle, Animal, High Wire, and Speciality Acts all Lines. Lithos., memos., Gannon, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, a finely-built Lady Gymnast, about 18 years, First-class Performer can Lead to a Long Engagement. State height. Apply, with photo., to O. V. Estrella, 132, Kennington Park-road, London.

WANTED, a Trampoline Tumbler. Jack Scott write. Age, height, and weight, &c., to Box 4,694, "The Era."

WANTED, a Tumbler, one that has done Top Mounting preferred. All particulars, Box 4,696, "The Era."

WANTED, at Once, a Smart Boy, from 16 to 18, who would like to Learn the Business, for Good Troupe; must have an idea of Bending and Acrobating; good handwriting required; everything found and 5s. pocket-money weekly. Address letters to Piermont, Hippodrome, Hull.

WANTED, Apprentice, 16 or 17 years old, with Talent for Juggling. State height, weight, and send photo. Address, Box 4,468, "The Era."

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty shortly, for Stage or Ring, Tudor's Four Performing Ponies, twice daily, Hengler's Circus, London. Good Agent wanted.

WANTED, by a Clown and Comedian, to join Ballet Troupe or Sketch Company. Address, Alfrano, Hippodrome and Circus, Blackheath, Staffordshire.

WANTED, Known, Gigantic Success Everywhere. Queenie Lolo, Charming Lady Gymnast, assisted by Little Ena; also Little May, Contortionist and Dancer, two acts. Nov. first vacant date. Now booking 1908. C/o "The Era."

WANTED, May 6, onwards, Alex and Jolly, Greatest of all Comedy Bar Acts. 15, Westfield-terrace, Sheffield.

WANTED, Known, Four Zolas, Lightning and Herculean Acrobats and Tumblers; also Bros. Alpine, on High Perch. 22nd, Alhambra, Stourbridge; 29th, T. R., Wednesbury; at Lib. May 6, 27, and onwards, for Tenting, Fêtes, Galas.

WANTED, Dates, La Dor Troupe (male and female), in their Acrobatic, Tumbling, Roman, Double Ladder Wonders, most graceful, refined, and high-class. Circus, Spennymoor.

WANTED, Known, Don Pedro, the Modern Blondin, at Liberty for Fêtes and Galas. Enormous success, Crystal Palace, London. Terms. 121, Rhyddings Park-road, Swansea.

WANTED, Known, George Davilla, Marvellous Wire Performer, at Liberty for coming Season. Address, Forest View, Honey-lane, Waltham Abbey, Essex.

WANTED, Galas, by Mlle. Bartenelli, Wonderful Aerial Contortionist; also The Boultons, Comedy Act. Vacant May 13, 20, and 27. Address, 10, Church-road, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Known, Paulettì, Bicycle Expert, in Funny and Novel Act, away from others. Poole's Myriorama, Ferndale, S. Wales. Free for Galas.

WANTED, Engagement by smart young Comedy Triple Bar Performer, late well-known Bar Act. Address, Comedy, 61, Holland-rd., Brixton, S.W.

Parachute Descents.

WANTED, Gala Secretaries seeking big Attractions to engage Lieut. Lempriere and his charming Lady Pupils for Parachute Descents or Races; together or separate. One still open for Whit week. Lempriere, Handsworth, Birmingham.

Balloon Ascents.

WANTED, Engagements, by Lieut. Lempriere, the Popular Reliable Aeronaut. Address, Lempriere, Handsworth, Birmingham.

WANTED, Engagements, for Miss Viola Spencer, for Parachute Descents. Disengaged Whit Week. Spencer Bros., Ltd., 45b, Aberdeen-park, Highbury. N

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, April 29, May 6, onwards. Lowest terms; no best offers. Marcus Boyle, 5, Alfred-street, Preston.

WANTED, Variety Artist in all Lines, April 29 and onwards. A. E. Pickard, Britannia, Glasgow.

WANTED, good Novel Variety Artists, suitable for Hospital Fête, near Leeds, Sat., June 29. A. Tudor, Pelham-street, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, Variety Artists new to Hull, May 6. Full particulars (no callers), Bouncing Dillons, Regent Variety Theatre, Salford, Manchester.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, Big Speciality and Novelty Acts, May 20, onwards. Terms, bookings, lithos., Edgar Stebbings, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester.

Scarborough.

WANTED, Monday, April 22, and onwards, Variety Artists in all Lines. Nothing too Big. Full particulars to Morgan, Aquarium.

WANTED, Variety Artists and Novelties of every Description. Send full list of bookings and Vacancies. Harry Ward, 3, Adelaide-st., Strand.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES and THEATRE ROYAL.

WANTED, First-class Variety Artists, all Lines.

Arthur Carlton, Palace, Worcester.

WANTED, Variety Artists all Lines, April 29, Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest. Hall small. P. Reymond, as above.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for Mr. O. Maus Dayton's No. 1 and No. 2 Vaudeville Companies, lowest terms essential; silence a polite negative. Call, Monday, April 22, Central Hall, Darlington, 1 p.m.: Vernon's Bioscope, Cecilian Family, Sansom Trio, Gratton and Esmond, Alice Wigham, Stanley Baltimore, Bros. Conway, Fred Carter, and Geo. Bernard.
Managing-Director, Mr. O. Maus Dayton.
General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Bernard.
Assistant-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Ralph.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
William Mould, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, First-Class Artists, for Fête at Wantown Park, Luton, on Whit Tuesday. Send full particulars and terms, Green, Secretary Luton Town Football Club, Luton, Beds.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, coming North, to send dates and terms,
Anderson's Agency, 6, Great Clyde-street Glasgow

WANTED, Known, Artists wishing to be Booked for First-class Music Hall Engagements, communicate with Brooks's Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Pierrot Artists, all Lines, long season; must be refined, well up in Concerted, Sketches, &c. State full particulars, répertoire, and lowest terms, to East, 100, Golborne-road, Notting Hill, W.

VICTORIA, STANLEY, CO. DURHAM.
Terrific success with the Daytons this week.
WANTED, Artists all Lines, for April 29 and on, big Shows can be arranged with.
T. C. Rawes, Proprietor.

STANLEY, DURHAM, NEW ROYAL, LTD.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, May 6, new to Stanley. Stage capable of any production. State lowest terms (salary or percentage).
Address, Mark H. Lindon.

WANTED, Artists Known to William Ainsworth, 5 years Manager Oxford Palace, Middlesbrough, desiring Engagements through my Agency, to send full list of bookings, photos., litnos.,, lowest terms. Tops, Bottoms, Middle of Bills wanted. Address, 120, Preston-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, First-Class Artists, nothing too big, May 2, 3, 4 (three nights), Harrogate.
Apply, William Peacock, Opera House.
Silence a polite negative.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, nothing too big, for immediate and future dates. Lowest terms, &c. Deetrich's Vaudeville Bureau, 31, Islington, Liverpool.

IMPERIAL VARIETY AGENCY,
19, Green-street, Leicester-square.
Under the Direction of
F. F. Wade (late Manager of Collins's Music Hall) and H. J. Stowe, jun.
Proprietor, H. J. Stowe.
WANTED, good Artists, original Acts and Specialities. Call or write.

CHAPPELL'S CONCERTS, GT. YARMOUTH.
(Three Performances Daily.)
WANTED, Artists, all Lines, June, July, August, September, Specialities, one or two weeks. Send lowest for season, with photo., age, height, répertoire, and full particulars. Give permanent address. Harry Barker, 6, Queen's-square, Dublin. Thanks for congratulations upon appointment (second year), as General-Manager for above Established Al-Fresco Concerts. Bros. Hannaway write. Silence a courteous negative.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines; Specialities doing two numbers preferred, for April 22 and 29. Wire absolute lowest, Hebden, Olympia Theatre, Murton, Durham. After Saturday, Theatre Royal, Crook.

WANTED, First-class Artists Only, for First-class Variety Theatres, immediate and future dates, also Pantomime. Wanted, a good Double Comedy Act for May 27. Jess Verno's Agency, 16, Elizabeth-st., Liverpool. Telegrams, "Merriment." 'Phone, 2076 Royal.

WANTED, for Glasgow and the North, Artists in all Lines. Lowest terms and full list of bookings to Frank Lyne, Palace Theatre, Cork.

WANTED, First-Class Artists of every description, only the very best and new to town entertained. Lowest terms and dates, and all particulars to Robert Forsyth, Pier Pavilion, Folkestone.

FRED DURHAM'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for London, Leicester, Sheffield, Dover, Sandgate, Sheerness, &c. Send bookings and lowest terms, 1a, Loughborough-road, Brixton, London, S.W. Telephone, 15 Brixton.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, Monday next, and Monday following, continuously, for London and Provinces.
Quote absolute lowest Monday next terms,
Cavill's Agency,
127, Clapham-road, London, S.W.
Telegrams, "Dramatical, London."

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME, ROCHDALE.
WANTED, Known, Rehearsal Monday next, 2 o'clock, for: Corman's Juveniles, May Tudor, The Levans, Three Zednas, Four Poole Pelhams, Bros. Corcoran, Joe Cookson, Bert Weston, The Henris. Smith and Co., Red Lion Hotel.

EMPIRE, GREENOCK.
WANTED, Known.
Artists and Agents please Note, that on and after May 6 this Theatre will be Closed. for the Summer Season.
H. L. Skivington.

WANTED, Refined Specialities, must be classy and free from vulgarity, for the Bradford Original Al-Fresco Pavilion, Frizinghall, Bradford. Third Season; covered-in stage and dressing-rooms, lighted by electricity. State lowest terms. Weekly engagements only.

CIRCUS, SPENNYMOOR, CO. DURHAM.
WANTED, Specialities of every description, good Comedians, Acrobats, Gymnasts, &c.
Address, C. Algie.

WANTED, Specialities and Dumb Acts of all kinds, immediate vacancies for the right people. Martino's Agency, Barcroft-st., Grimsby.

WANTED, for Gala, near Darlington, Aug. 5, Dumb Shows of every description. Address, Galas, 9, Looms-lane, Bury St. Edmunds.

WANTED, for Glasgow, week commencing Dec. 30, 1907, Full Variety Company. State when last in Glasgow and lowest salary. J. A. Cochran, 17, Lisle-street, London, W.

Henri Cazman's Agency, 138, Denmark-hill, S.E.
WANTED, Monday next, May 6, 13,20, 27. Star Features and Novelties of Highest Calibre only, for Best London and Provincial Houses. Write, Full List Dates, Terms, Town and Country, Henri Cazman, Empire Varieties, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, Big Tops and Artists in every line, May, June, and on, for the North. Artists will do well to post me weekly. Drew Bayley, Agent 170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

H. L. SKIVINGTON'S AGENCY,
H. L. SKIVINGTON'S AGENCY,
48, Brisbane-street, Greenock.
48, Brisbane-street, Greenock.
WANTED, Vocalists, Speciality, Artists, and Comedians, to send vacant dates and lowest terms for Glasgow and District.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Big Variety Turns,
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For Immediate and Future Dates, for
London, Liverpool,
Birmingham, Leeds, Newcastle,
Glasgow, Belfast,
Dublin, Manchester, Bolton,
Wolverhampton, Oldham,
Hartlepool, Shields, Barrow,
Carlisle, Darlington,
Hull, Middlesbrough, Stockport,
Blackpool, Morecambe,
Brighton, Boscombe, Margate,
Portsmouth, Southampton,
Bath, Lincoln, Leicester, Bradford,
Halifax, Sheffield, Blackburn,
Lancaster, Stockport, Burnley, Derby,
Attercliffe, Stoke, Grimsby.
St. Helens, Accrington, Warrington,
Bury, Hanley, Stockton, &c., &c.
Send, at once, terms, dates, and lithos.
Those having a good act can rely on getting Immediate Work.
Will Sley,
Will Sley,
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Will Sley,
41, Oxford-street,
41, Oxford-street,
41, Oxford-street,
41, Oxford-street,
41, Oxford-street,
41, Oxford-street,
Manchester.
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Manchester.
Telephone, 09144.
Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."

WANTED, Star Turn, Sharing terms; also Novelties every description new to Hippodrome, Wakefield, May 13. Secretary, 16, Oxford-street, Accrington.

WANTED, Speciality Turns, not Singing, for Fête, at Reading, Whit Monday. No best offers. Geo. Baker, Hippodrome, Reading.

TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN.
WANTED, for the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Dublin,
All the Greatest Stars in the Profession,
Acts New in Dublin, for the above,
the Premier Variety Theatre in Ireland,
Direct or through Agents.
All communications to Will Sley,
41, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone, 09144.

WANTED, April 29, May 6 and 13,
Stars in all Lines.
Stars in all Lines.
Full up for smaller items.
State towns at liberty for.
Can fix big numbers any odd weeks.
Cadle's Agency, 105, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities, for immediate and future dates. Terms and particulars to Brooks's Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

BARNARD'S AGENCY, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, Stars and Specialities, all Lines, for Immediate and Panto. Dates and terms.
Barnard, 33, Shaw-street.
Old clients keep me posted.

WANTED, Novelties, Specialities, Comedy Acts, and anything good for
Seaside Towns, Summer Season.
Seaside Towns, Summer Season.
Send lowest terms and dates in first instance.
Cavill's Agency, 127, Clapham-road, S.W.

PALACE OF VARIETIES, OLDBURY.
Proprietors, Messrs. J. Tyrer and Wm. B. Bostock.
WANTED, April 29, on, Novelties, Specialities, Doubles doing Singles, Hall small. Lowest terms. Lithos., Wm. B. Bostock.

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, late Manager Blackpool, Morecambe, &c. Address, 46, Coram-st., Russell-sq., W C. Appointments only.

STALYBRIDGE HIPPODROME.
WANTED, Talent, all Lines,
James Fioni's Agency,
21, Norton-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool."
Telephone, 1686 Royal.

VENTOM SWIFT'S AGENCY, Alham., Edinburgh.
WANTED, the Very Best of Talent, April 22, onwards. First-class Artists coming North with odd weeks vacant, communicate.

HENRY KEMBLE'S AGENCY.
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HENRY KEMBLE'S AGENCY.
Temporary Office till June 6,
PALACE, CORK.
PALACE, CORK.
PALACE, CORK.
PALACE, CORK.
WANTED, May 6, 13, and onward,
Big Numbers,
Cycle Acts,
Illusions,
Jugglers,
&c., &c.
State towns at Liberty for.
Mr. Kemble, at the close of the season, June 6, will open offices in London, when he will devote most of his time to the Agency. He will retain the General-Management and have the Sole Bookings for the above Hall (Palace, Cork), where all communications for the present should be addressed.

WANTED, all the Finest
Acts in the Business,
Tops, bottoms, &c.
Immediate dates onwards.

Send full list of bookings
and absolute lowest, first instance,
Harry Burns' Agency,
Head Office, Empress Theatre, Hartlepool.
Telephones, 0231 and 0231a Hartlepool.
Telegrams, "Burns, Empress."

GRAND THEATRE and EMPIRE, DONCASTER.
WANTED, Comedy Acts, Speciality Top Liners, with lithos., also Acts for every Hall and Tour of note, twelve months' solid work for the right stuff. Wire or write, Leo Fritz's Variety Agency, Glenshaw-mansions, Brixton, S.W. 'Phone 457 Brixton.

WANTED, Good Speciality and Novelty Acts, for Seaside Halls. Lithos., terms, and particulars, to Brooks's Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-av., W.

WANTED, for Gloucester, Porth, Worcester, Glasgow, Portsmouth, Variety Acts in all Lines. I can book you. Gannon, West-grove, Bristol.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Big Acts of Every Description, Halls, Galas, and Seasides. Nothing too Big.
James Fioni's Agency,
James Fioni's Agency,
James Fioni's Agency,
James Fioni's Agency,
James Fioni's Agency,
James Fioni's Agency,
James Fioni's Agency,
James Fioni's Agency,
21, Norton-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool."
Telephone, 1686 Royal.

WANTED, for Long Tour, Lady Musical Act, with Speciality. Terms, photo. (returnable), with stamped address, Gannon, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, Minstrel Arena, Great Yarmouth, Tenor, Bass, Baritone, and Interlocutor, Comedians, &c., for the Season.

Apply to Agent,
12, Cecil-court, Charing Cross-rd., W.C., letters only.

WANTED, Ballad Vocalists and Serios, for Monday next. Wire absolute lowest, letters till Sunday, Taylor, 76, North-street, Scarborough.

WANTED, for Chittock's Empire (Portable), smart young girl, live in or out, sin and dance; six months' engagement if suitable; club turn not objected, with or without dresses; also good Vent. Artists now booked: Leo Fallowfield, Phil Rabey, Bros. Oxo, Alf Chappel, Sisters Smith, M. Richards, &c.. Also, will Buy good Darkening Tilt, for Cinematograph. Terms low, but sure; Monday on. Call or wire. Alec Fox wire. New Southgate, London, N.

POOL AND BOSCO'S PICTURE SHOW.
WANTED, good Comedians, refined Lady Vocalists, Musical Show, good Ventriloquist, for Tenting Ireland, commencing May 4. Address, lowest terms to Bosco, 3, Winsley-road, Bristol.

WANTED, smart Young Man, used to Pantomimic Work, must be steady and able to take Naps and Knockabout. Apply, Ted Karno, Empire, Sheffield.

WANTED, a Young Man as Improver, must be able to tumble a little. Age, height, and weight. Box 4,695, "The Era."

HIPPODROME, BLACKPOOL.
WANTED, for Whit Week (May 20), and from July 1 to end of Sept., up-to-date Bioscope, with competent Operator and latest Living Pictures.
Apply, with lowest terms, to T. P. Duignan, Manager, as above.
Also Wanted, for same period, experienced Bill Poster and Bill Distributor. State lowest terms to Manager, as above.

WANTED, Bioscope Operator, at once (electric). B. Cohen,
63, Whitechapel-road, London, E.

WANTED, for Bioscope Tour (Scotland), steady man, used to working effects and to make himself generally useful. Address, E. W. Bostock, Zoo, Glasgow.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

The World's Greatest Mystery.
WANTED, Wanted. Known,
LILITH THE MYSTERIOUS?
in her Palace of Roses.
LILITH THE MYSTERIOUS?
in her Palace of Roses.
LILITH THE MYSTERIOUS?
in her Palace of Roses.
The Prettiest and most Sensational Mystery ever presented. Elaborately Staged.
Always a draw.
Always a sensation.
Proprietors and Managers requiring a big Attraction should secure this Star Act.
Also, LILIAN WARREN'S VOCAL PICTURES with beautiful Dissolving Effects.
This week, Prince's Theatre, Accrington. Next week, Argyle, Birkenhead. 29th, Palace Theatre, Glasgow. Offers invited for May 13, 20, 27, (N. preferred). Sole Proprietress, Lilian Warren.

WANTED, Known, the Great Ariel Mystery Lilith, in her beautiful Palace of Roses; also Lilian Warren's Vocal Pictures, with splendid dissolving effects; Liberty May 13, 20, 27 (North preferred). April 22, Argyle, Birkenhead; 29th Pal., Glasgow. Sole Proprietress, Lilian Warren.

WANTED, Known, only One Recognised Venus, viz., the late Lord Leighton's Model, Originator Flesh Enamel. Manager, L. Austin Millais. Starring, Broadhead's.

"VENUS AND CUPID."
WANTED through Disappointment, April 29, for this Unrivalled Sculpture Turn, topping Bill at Barnard's, Greenwich. Models now sitting to Royal Academnicians. New outfit, entirely avoiding all waits. Best offer; Midlands preferred. Travels eight persons. Stanton, 30, Rathbone-place, London, W.

WANTED, Engagements from May 6, Miss Myria Lo-La, the Marvellous Lady Trapeze and Bar Expert. Poole's Myriorama Co., Stourbridge, Worcestershire.

WANTED, Monday, 22nd, by Miss Ella Megria, Scottish Brilliant Soprano Vocalist; good songs and good wardrobe. 16, Rochester-avenue, off Cross-lane, Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, April 22, May 6, 13, ? So ? Da ? Creation of two Ladies from nothing, British Letter Patent, Absolutely the Best Top.

Everywhere the biggest hit. Audience say, However is it done? Managers wanting a novelty, sure draw, should book this Magnet. Last weeks, Top Stoke-on-Trent, Derby, also London, Holborn Empire. Thanks to T. Allan Edwardes, Esq., for new Contracts, Attercliffe, Grimsby. Communications, Venturini, 28, Newham-terrace, Lambeth, London, S.E.; or Somers and Warner, Agents.

WANTED, Known, Clack and Clack, the only Female Comedy Acrobatic Team. Hit of any programme. Liberty April 29. Letters, Palace, Gloucester.

WANTED, 29th and on, by Jack Sheppard, World's Greatest Handcuff King and Prison Breaker; also Miss Ruby Vesta, in the greatest Trunk Mystery; big Top, sure Draw. Challenges. Moss's to follow. Wire or write, this and next, Palace, Oldbury.

WANTED, by George A. Deighton, the Colonial Society Entertainer, Humorous Songs, Sketches, and Stories, Ventriloquism and Sleight-of-Hand. At Liberty for High-class Al-Fresco. Permanent address, Dagenham House, Bideford, N. Devon.

WANTED, 22, 29, by Arthur Wade, Versatile Baritone, vacant through Barring. Only Vacancies till Sept. Wire, quick, 31, Daulby-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Will Candlish, Eccentric Patter Comedian and Instrumentalist, April 22 and 29. Sure hit. Wire, Empire, Dundee.

WANTED, April 29, by Cambo, the Musical Monkey, between Sheffield and London. Address, T. R., Croydon.

WANTED, Monday next, by Carl Hershal, The Mystery Merchant and Merriment Manufacturer. Wire, Alexandra T., Widnes. Wire for good goods.

WANTED, by Vosper, the Master Mimic and Necromancer, April 29, also May 6. Address, until Tuesday, c/o Frame's Concert Company, Inverness.

WANTED, Known, Dan Whitley, Eccentric Comedian, vacant Monday next. 22nd, through postponing date. Booked and rebooked by Messrs. Henri Gros, Walter De Frece, &c.. &c. Coms., 21, Albany-square, Seedley, Manchester.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Wagner, Musical Speciality, "A Bachelor's Pastime," success third week Palace, Tottenham. Monday next, T. R., Dewsbury; Liberty onwards. Offers invited.

WANTED, April 22, Kyoto, Comedy Japanese Mysterious Box, Contortionist, Juggler, Conjurer, &c.; also May Geraldine, Comedienne and Dancer, with catchy Chorus Songs. Wire, 16, Repton-st., C.-on-M., Manchester. Two certain Hits.

WANTED, Monday next, by Phil Rees, Double-voiced Vocalist and Mimic. Big Success this week, Oxford, Middlesbrough. Wire to save time, 19, Croft-street, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, by Steve Cooke, Refined Character Comedian, two weeks, April 22, also Summer, all round Performer. Wire, 175, Essex-road, Islington.

WANTED, next week, through Theatre Royal, Stratford, closing unexpectedly, by Li-Chang-Hi, Chinese Magician and Illusionist. Wire for Monday, 8, Ruskin-house, Rushcroft-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Known, the Boy Hackenschmidt, Vacant May 6, 13, 20, London or Midlands preferred; secure this marvel. Write, 34, Margaret-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Herbert Lenton, Flying Aeroplane, Speciality, at Liberty for Halls, Fêtes, and Galas. Address, 9, Woodland-road, West Bridgeford, Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, Scotch Kriss, Ventriloquial Comedian, Disengaged June 10, onwards. For address see Cards. Write, wire, or Marconigraph.

WANTED, Monday next, also 29th, by Ted Young and Ada Twibell.
Wire, one or both, Palace, Carlisle.

WANTED, Tom Garland, Vent., and Conjurer, Janet Leslie, Smart Comedienne. Big success, Tivoli, Manchester, wants April 22. Write, 12, Poplar-road, Wrexham.

WANTED, Monday, also April 29, Dave Wallace, Eccentric Comedian; Marie Tilley, Comedienne, Great Dancer. Wire, 16, Boyson-road, Camberwell (permanent).

WANTED, April 29, May 6, on, The Monckton, in their Screamingly Funny Musical Comedy Episode, "Are Wives Dummies?" Alhambra, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Monday next, also April 29, Sardou's Illusionists, Marvellous Mystifiers; also Marie Riviers, Popular Comedienne. Wire, Pav., Ilkley, Yorks. Wire.

WANTED, Known, Ariel and Astarte, smartest and prettiest of all Lady and Gentleman Gymnastic Pot-Pourri Acts, free April 29, May 13, 20. Monday, Hippo., West Bromwich.

WANTED, Known, Fortune and Fame, the Irresistible Comedians, with a style of our own, and we don't work other Artists' gags to make a success. The talk of Preston this week. Thanks to Arthur Carlton, Esq., for Contracts for Pantomime. Vacant May 27, on, with exceptions. Monday, Metropole, Manchester.

WANTED, by Upton and Upton, Comedians, in their Latest Success, the "Curbstone Millionaires," April 29 and May 6 only. Wire or write, "Oakhurst," Cambridge Park, Wanstead, Essex.

WANTED, Dates, De Toreadors, in their most laughable Spectacular Sketch ever Toured, the "Spanish Bull-Fight," Toreadors and Auxiliaries, &c., Hippodrome, Spennymoor.

WANTED, Known, Rezene and Robini, vacant Monday and April 29. This week big success Palace, Plymouth; Monday, 1, Fulford-mans., Fairmead-rd., Holloway, N. See advert., Sensation.

WANTED, April 22, 29, Sterling and Cashen, Military Comedy Duo and Champion Dancers. Wire, 32, Quay-street, Manchester.

WANTED, by Volray, Comedy Conjurer, &c., Clown Homo, Banjoist, &c. Galas, May 20, on. 1, Mabbott's-place, Holland-st., Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, the D'Ostas, the World's Greatest Mental Telegraphists, conclude tonight another gigantic success, Hippodrome, Lancaster; Monday, Empress, Hartlepool.

WANTED, Proprietors and Managers to Know, if the best is good enough, why not have the best? Book the D'Ostas

WANTED, Known, The D'Ostas' Act consists of the undermentioned good qualities: Stage Appearance the Best; Wardrobe, ditto; the Number in its entirety, Immaculate.

WANTED, offers by Retsill and Myra (Collier and Child), Thought Transmitters, who are continuing the success made on the Moss Tour of nine weeks. Thanks to Messrs. Dalton, Lynne, and Burton for Contracts.
For terms and dates apply recognised Agents, or permanent address,
42, Rufford-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, Engagements, three distinct acts, Zancig Thought-reading, Conjuring, and Bioscope. Lenton and Bertram, this week and next, Royal Victoria Theatre, Bridlington.

WANTED, April 29 and May 13, The Carls, Comedy Trampoline Speciality, that can follow them all; roars of laughter and applause; Twisting, Pirouette, and Double Somersaults, also forty Somersaults on a Swing. Just returned from the Continent. Success everywhere. Big Gala Act. Hippo., West Bromwich.

WANTED, by the Florias, Celebrated Continental Slack Wire Artists and Novelty Equilibrists, real Dutch Comedy Wire Act. Vacant April 29 and few Summer dates. Temperance Hall, Merthyr.

WANTED, April 22, by Los Granadas, in their own Original Comedy Trampolin Act, "Sensational Happenings Outside an Hotel." Special scenery. May 1, Apollo, Paris. 64, Upper Sutton-street, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, April 29, May 13 and 20, by The Boulton and Mlle. Bartenelli, two First-class Acts. Wire, People's Palace, Portsmouth.

WANTED, May 13, 20 (North), Pollard Bros. and Kitty Grey, Burlesque Continental Midgets; excellent wardrobe. Pollard Bros., 2, Astbury-road, Peckham.

WANTED, Monday next, April 22, also April 29, by Stanley's Urchins, and Mlle. Du Roche. Wire offers. Empire, Camberwell.

WANTED, 22nd, by Atlas and Vulcana Troupe, the Premier Athletic and Posing Act of all time. Conclude to-night, London, Shoreditch; return to Continent May 1.
Wire, 17, Waterford-road, Fulham.

WANTED, May 6 and 13, by Ara, Zebra, and Vora, through postponement of Continental Contract. Address all letters, Hippodrome, Hull.

WANTED, Monday next, on, by Gulliver, Ventriloquist, also Al Fresco Engagement. Tremendous hit Hippo., Bury St. Edmunds. Again complimented by management. An absolutely unique Act. Address, Derngate, Northampton.

WANTED, May and June, by Bessie Travis, only lady Ventriloquist and Pianist, works three life-size figures and plays piano simultaneously; legitimate Ventriloquism featured on every Bill, three distinct voices. Thanks H. Cazman, Esq., for Contracts. This, Alh., Sandgate. Perm., 10, Gordon-road, Stratford.

WANTED, Karl Birvell, Ventriloquist, big show, on Tour in Scotland, Frame's Concert Co., Lib. April 29. Music Hall, Inverness, this Sat. and Mon.

WANTED, Known, Good Juggler, Baton Swinger, Open for Pictures, Variety Company, or Good Troupe, Comic. Zexo, P.O., Boscombe.

WANTED, April 22, for "Battle of the Belles" or "Dreadful Detective," six people, Screaming Comedy Sketches. Moule and Nicholls, Grand Theatre, Sheffield.

WANTED, April 29, May 6, for Miss Dot Robins's Celebrated Sketch, "The Necklace of Death." Two kinds of pictorials. Could arrange Combination with First-class Bioscope. Address, People's Palace, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Dates, for Juvenile Spectacles, "Japan," "Brigands," "Scalp Hunters," "St. George and the Dragon." Clarke, Hippo., Spennymoor.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

Great Success. Great Success.
Great Success. Great Success.
Starring Moss-Stoll Tour.
Starring Moss-Stoll Tour.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
Leicester Cooke's
"ZULULAND"
"ZULULAND"
"ZULULAND"
(With Royston's Horse).
Seven Persons, Two Horses, One Large Dog.
Seven Persons, Two Horses, One Large Dog.
Few vacant dates from May 18.

Address next week, Empire, Leeds,
or GEO. ZALVA, Hippodrome, Scarborough.

WANTED, immediate Dates for Mr. James De Voy's "Billy," presented by Mr. Edgar Hayes. "Billy" is without doubt the most Wonderful Educated and Performing Pony or Horse Breathing. This animal answers questions, does arithmetic, tells the time, tells value of coins, solves problems, calculates, plays cards with opponent, and other new, novel, and original business. No other act like it in existence. An absolute and unique novelty. The most Wonderful and Interesting Animal Performance before the Public. Sole Agents, Messrs. ANGER AND BAUER, 50, Rupert-street. Tel., 1919, Gerrard.

WANTED, by Miss Ella's Lion Show, May 6 and 27,
June 3, onwards, with exceptions,
Midlands preferred.
Communications, week April 22,
Alhambra, Brighton.

WANTED, Known, Caban's French Circus, Ponies, Donkeys, Goat, and Dogs, at Lib. April 22, 29, onward, with exceptions. Address, CABAN, 4, Charles-street, Gloucester.

WANTED, Known, Devereux's Dog Act, the Biggest Novelty in the World, Liberty Whit Week, taking the audience by storm everywhere. Theatre Royal, Croydon.

WANTED, Fêtes and Galas, Alice Fontainbleau's World-famed Troupe of Trick Somersault and High-leaping Dogs. Highest Jumpers in England; also her renowned Rolling Globe Equilibrist Performance. Great Success, Hippo., Bury. Liberty April 22 and 29. Wire, 20, Derby-st., Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Judge's Cockatoos, Vacant April 29 and May 13.
Wire, 6, Ashbrook-rd., Upper Holloway, London.

WANTED, Known, Bros. St. Clair. Comedy Cyclists and Football Match on Bicycles, few immediate dates wanted. Wire quick, Hippodrome, Burton-on-Trent.

WANTED, Known, Bros. St. Clair. Comedy Cyclists and Bicycle Football Experts. Lib. 29th. Next week, Hippodrome, Burton-on-Trent.

WANTED, Known, Bros. St. Clair, open Moss and Stoll, open Moss and Stoll, June 17, June 17. Per., 14, Sea View-parade, Morecambe.

WANTED, Engagement, Public or Private, Harmon's Bioscope, Marionettes, also Royal Punch and Judy, with Toby. 326, Earlsfield-road, Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, Cinematograph Operator, own Gaumont's machine (lime), 40 minutes' own films; can combine violin in Orchestra. Liberty Whit. G. OLIVER, Subscription Rooms, Nailsworth, Glos.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, Tom Norman, Silver King (regd.), Auctioneer, Valuer, Expert and Authority to the United Kingdom and Van Dwellers' Association, Auctioneer to Lord George Sanger (England's Greatest Showman), and Leading Showmen of Great Britain. Sales and Commissions conducted in any part of the World. If you want to Buy or Sell anything connected with the Business, consult TOM NORMAN, Auction Dept., "The Era" Office, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand. Change of address. Wanted to purchase or engage, all kinds of Novelties and Curiosities (alive or dead), if suitable for exhibition.

WANTED, Auctioneers and Market Workers to send to Simons for up-to-date List, which shows special money-making lines at low prices.

100, 101, 102A, Houndsditch, E.C.

WANTED, Known, .22 "R" and "D" cartridges, Globes, Balls, Winchester and New Military Repeaters, Pistols, and all repairs done. GREENE, 74, Falmouth-road, London, S.E.

Auctioneers.
WANTED, Known, Great Value Offered in Secondhand Silver Watches.
Auctioneers only supplied.
Write to-day for full particulars,
C. G. CLACHER, 22, Argyle-street, Glasgow.
Try one of my famed parcels, containing
Ten English Lever and Twelve Silver Geneva Watches. Best Value ever Offered.
In great demand. Price, £5 5s.

WANTED, Known, Doncaster Butterscotch, with Fortune, 3s. gross. J. PODMORE, 36, Tatton-street, Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancs.

WANTED, Known, all kinds of Showmen's Painting undertaken; Oil Paintings, Scenery, Letter Cloths. ROCHE, Artist, 22, Lansdown-road, Lee, London, S.E.

WANTED, Showmen to Know that the Gourock Ropework Co., Ltd., Largest Tent Manufacturers in the World, have a large stock of New and Second-hand Circus Tents made from their famous Rotproof and Waterproof Tent Canvas, Birkmyres Cloth." The most durable and waterproof canvas for Showmen's Tents, &c. Buy from Manufacturers and save middlemen's profit. GOUROCK ROPEWORK CO., LTD., Lancaster-place, Lowestoft.

WANTED, Known, to Auctioneers, Hand Sellers and Umbrella lost property depots, Umbrellas ready for immediate sale, wholesale only. Write for particulars, Umbrella Depôt, 241, Camden-road, London.

WANTED, Stalls, Games, Novelties, Palmistry, Fish-pond, Wire Worker, Engraver Sideshows, &c., under Cover, Seaside. MELVILLE, Rathbone-gardens, Portobello.

WANTED, for Blackpool, The Great Wheel, Eleventh Annual Summer Carnival, Whit to Oct., Good Side-shows and Novelties; central position, adjoining Winter Gardens.

WANTED, a refined Side-show, for Summer Season; salary or share, or will buy. ELLIOTT, 13, Queen's-road, Central Drive, Blackpool.

WANTED, Novelties and Freaks, at all times, for HUMBER'S Permanent Waxwork, George-street, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Dahomey Troupe, male and female.
HUMBER'S Exhibition, George-street, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Lady or Gentleman Phrenologist and Character Reader, Caston's Famous Waxworks, opening this day for one month, other places to follow, wire; also want First-Class Lady Character Reader, for Pier, Aberystwyth, for the season. HAFERKORN, Waxworks, Pentre, S. Wales.

WANTED, at once, good Character Reader, for one or two weeks. Apply, MANAGER, Trades Exhibition, Commercial-street, Newport, Mon.

WANTED, Tattoo Artist,
HUMBER'S Permanent Exhibition,
George-st., Aberdeen.

WANTED, for Tuby and Sons' Coliseum, a good Doorsman and Describer, to make himself generally useful; must be steady; can join at once; state wages, &c., required.

Address, Fair Ground, Lincoln.

WANTED, a good Floorsman, to travel under canvas; comfortable shop and permanent to right man; boozer save stamp. State wage first letter. KNIGHT, Auction Mart, Potton.

WANTED, Marionette Workers, young, must have good voices. Shall be pleased to hear from Alf Renzo. DAY, 293, Alfreton-road, Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, Minni Letta's Rolling Stage Side Show, at Liberty for First-Class Exhibitions, the only show of its kind in the world. Will work on salary or sharing terms (but must have a guarantee). Address, 5, Queen's-square, Leeds.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, by Mathews, Expert Horological Mechanic and Droll Comic Singer, and Little Reggie, Marvellous Boy Vocalist, Permanency with Travelling Auctioneer. Terms very moderate. PARSONS, Auction Pavilion, Chorley.

WANTED, Known, Will Proctor, Pianist and Planksman, Liberty, sight reader and vamper; steady and reliable. 16, Yeo-street, Resolven, near Neath, S. Wales.

WANTED, Galas, Prof. Carcass's Talented Punch and Judy, and Dog Toby, Pipes and Drum, Pretty Fit-up, Large-size Figures, splendidly carved Novelty Boxing Kangaroos, going great. Amateurs and others, don't pinch this. Liberty for Whit. Distance no object. Perm., 5, Old Elm-st., Ardwick, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, P. Mariand's Royal Punch and Judy, with Champion Dog Toby, at Liberty Fêtes, Galas, &c. 142, Chesham-rd., Bury.

WANTED, Known, Rutland Foulks, at Liberty shortly for Summer as Manager of Exhibitions, Pier, &c.; 18 years' experience England and America all branches; capable arranger; undeniable personal refs.; age 38; smart appearance. 66, Doddington-grove, Kennington, S.E.

BLACKPOOL SANDS.
WANTED, Known, the South Shore Pleasure Beach is the only site in Blackpool for Open-air Attractions.
The grounds are forty acres in extent, right on the sea front, and are situated immediately next the Promenade at the Electric Tramway Terminus. From April 1 to Dec. 31, 1905, 4,000,000 passengers were carried on these tramways. The permanent attractions now include the "River Caves of the World," "Maxim Flying Machine," "Sea Circus," &c. Great Canadian Water Chute and Scenic Railway from Coney Island now being erected for next season, commencing at Easter. For sites and concessions for really good Novelties apply personally. Office on grounds. Letters only, 14, Balmoral-road, Blackpool.

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Manager, WILLIAM HOLLAND.
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Thirty-five acres of beautiful Grounds open free to the Public. The Pioneer
AMUSEMENT PARK
in this country. A British adaptation of an American Institution.
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Wanted, Helter Skelter, Razzle-Dazzle, Roundabouts, Swings, Flying Machines, Shies, &c.
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Wanted, Lessee,
Wanted, Lessee,
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Rehearsal at 12, for :—
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EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Lil Hawthorne, Aurora Troupe, Gladys Mavius, Mendel, J. Alexander and Co., Jonghmann Sisters, Strolling Players, The Gems, Chas. Norton, Bioscope.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Hetty King, Lily Langtry, Amy Russell, Frobel and Ruge, Burns & Burns, Jas. Brady, Bioscope, Harmony Four, Gracie Moore.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Nellie Wallace, Casey's Circus, New Macs, Dorrells, Trapnell Family, Edwin Barwick, Chas. Robinson, Ryder Slone, Boy Glen, "Zululand."

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Tom Costello, Spry and Monti, Punch and Judy Girls, George Ridgwell, Barnard's Marionettes, Three Missouris, Florence, Rhoda Bros., Bioscope, Seeley and West.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Casey's Panto, Billy McClain's Sextette, Lukushimas, Karno Four, Geretti Sisters, Hurley and Cole, Kate Trail, Effie Stuart, Ted E. Box, Robertys, Bioscope.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
La Milo, Lola Patey, Brewsters, F. H. Fox, Albert Whelan, Kirbys, Roma and Romani, Katie Butler, Bioscope, Molasso Quartette.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Fred Storey and Co., Herbert Rule, Fitzroys, Jackley Trio, Harry Carsdale, Alice Blandford, Bioscope, Fernee's Juvenilies.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Harry Tate's Co. in "Fishing," Forrest and King, Fred Frampton, Mabel Green, Sinclair and Whiteford, Vasilescu Troupe, Bioscope, Allan Hanbury, Jack Monks, The Howards.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
"Tally Ho," Ada Martine, Lennie and Hast, Helene and Emilon, The Gothams, Stevens and Rennior, Mdlle. Von Etta, Millie Howell, Bioscope, The Howes.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Bransby Williams, Three Sisters Chester, Three Phydoras, The Boissetts, Margaret Broadfoote, Renard Trio, Ross and Lewis, Powell's Marionettes, Grace Merton, Gus Garrick.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Eugene Stratton, Ross and Grayson, Mdlle. Marzella, Horace White, Barbara Babbington, Lindon's Vaudevilles, Amy Clevere, Harry Marte, Bioscope, Minnie Merry.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
J. F. Preston and Co., J. A. Wilson, Paul Conchas, The Motramos, Beattie and Blanche, Jennie Johns, Ellis Barrieton, David Poole, Claire Romaine, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Matthew Brodie and Co., Starr and Leslie, Daisy Jerome, Boswell's Circus, Walter King, Kellinos, Ian Colquhoun, Woodhouse and Wells, Genaro and Theol, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3, for :—
Paul Cinquevalli, Syd May, Ruth Lytton, Carter Livesey and Co., Russell Brandow, Elsie Claire, Lottie Lennox, A. W. Scott, Bioscope.

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EMPIRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 3, for :—
Vesta Tilley, Cissie Curlette, Bros. Dean, Collins and Rice, Les Strads, Hymack, Sisters Morgan, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 3, for :—
Lockhart's Elephants, Bros. Horne, May Evans, Lady Fauntleroy, Allis and Cassati, The Boccaccios, Rosa Loader, Illustrated Song, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Chung Ling Soo, Ethel Ra Leslie, Lilieth Leyton and Co., The Mezzettis, Arthur Gill, The Jees, Ruby Dahl, J. W. Rickaby, Bioscope.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30, for :—
"Office Hours," Four Royal Welshmen, Speedwell, George Newburn, Hall and Earle, Ed. E. Ford, Bioscope, "Light at the Window," Daisy Pollock, Topsy and Usher.

ARDWICK EMPIRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Horace Goldin, Lotto, Lilo, and Otto, Ada Cerito, Victor Newman, Dan Leno, jun., Ed. Arthur and Co., Chas. Hargreaves, Goldinis, Bioscope, "Moving In."

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Bella and Bijou, Clito Clifford, Harry Bedford, Cussac Talma, Abdullah Arabs, McConnell Trio, Illustrated Song, Bioscope, Eily Adair, "The Treasure Ship."

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
"Happy Holland," Frank Leslie, Thos. E. Finglass, Sisters Macarte, Dion Wade, Alexandre and Hughes, Kremo Family, Frank Bertram and Co., Rose Sylvester, Bioscope.

THE FOLLOWING ARE BOOKED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ABOVE:

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
George Lashwood, Neilson Sisters, Two Bostons, Bessie Benson, Chris Richards, Marlo, Three Amaranths, Pictures, Goggin and Davis.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
George Gray and Co., Kitty Marion, Slippere, Edie King, The Howards, Pictures, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Finden.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Harry Tate's No. 1 Co. in "Motoring," May Fallowfield, Drew and Alders, Tom Owen, Daisy Mayer, Pictures, O'Gorman Bros., Blanche Vincent, Herbert Shelley.

RICHMOND THEATRE, RICHMOND.
Proprietor, Mr. George Dance.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
"The Little Stowaway," Vera Granville, Rell and Butt, Tom Dunmore, Flo Wakeman and J. C. Groves, Pictures, Cul Pitt, Howard and Collinson.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL
Rehearsal at 12, for :—
Tom Lloyd, Cline and Clark, Kioto, Harry Simms, Kurios, Barton and Franklin, Bioscope, Henry Coutts and Co.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.
ARTISTS ARE REQUESTED TO NOTE THAT THE ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON, IS WITHIN THE AREA ABSOLUTELY BARRED BY US.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.

Artists must have Band Parts for at least Twelve different Instruments for the Orchestras. Matter for Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR ALL THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Co-operative Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, or at least TWO WEEKS, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled.

IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to Opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced.

ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

N.B.—Silence in every case a polite negative. Artists are requested not to enclose stamped envelope. Letters marked "Private" will be delayed.
Telephone, 1399 Gerrard. Wires, "Twigsome, London."

"THE GRANVILLE. WALHAM GREEN.
Rehearsal at 3, for :—
Harry Tate's Co., John Lawson and Co. in "Sally in Our Alley," Chas. Cardow, Ernie Mayne, Dutch Daly, Carlotta Levey, Peggy Pryde, Ruth Doris, Maude Courtney, Dixon Sisters, Frank Leon, Spry and Austin, Barrett and Knowles, American Comedy Four, Eadie and Ramsden, Leotard Bros. Pictures.

THE PALACE, CAMBERWELL.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Both Performances.
Geo. Leyton and Co., "The Yellow Fang," Pat Rafferty, Cruikshank, Ernest Rees, Little Cliff, Madge McCalla, Twin Andersons, Marie Empress, Barrett and Knowles, American Comedy Four, Meier and Mora, Leotards, Pictures.

EMPIRE, COVENTRY.
Proprietor, Mr. George Dance.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
The Savonas, Madge Temple, The Wyffs, Bert Harrow, Howe and Ardie, George Brooks, Lizzie Daniels, Bioscope.

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Sung by Arthur Lennard.

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Sung by Miss Ada Cerito.

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Sung by Miss Carlotta Levey.

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Written, Composed, and Sung by Billy Williams.

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(Lauder and Kendall).
Sung by Harry Lauder.

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Sung by Miss Vesta Tilley.

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Artists employing Agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents.

New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not re-booked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our District Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follows:—

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All Billing Matter for the undermentioned Theatres to be sent to the Secretary at above address. All communications as to engagements for the Theatres to be addressed to Messrs. ROSEN & BLISS, Variety Agents, 56, Whitcomb-street, Leicester-square, London, W.C.
Telegrams, "Twopence, London." Telephone No. 7623 Gerrard.
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CALLS for MONDAY, APRIL 22, 1907.
Rehearsals at 1 p.m.

PALACE THEATRE, PLYMOUTH.
Nat Clifford, Acland, The Picquays, George Davis and Co., Prince Kokin, Earle and Melville, Lily Lena, Vernon's Bioscope, Newhouse and Ward.

PALACE THEATRE, BRISTOL.
Grais' Baboon Prodigies, Dene and Dawson, Madge Allan, The Musical Schafers, Billie Barlow, Russell and Reed, Harry Weldon, Vernon's Bioscope, Marstro and Mlle. Oretta.

PALACE THEATRE, SUNDERLAND.
Gunner Moir, Bros. Zampah, Wee Mona, New York Nippers, Bob Stephenson, The Davis and Gledhill Trio, Nellie Martell, Vernon's Bioscope, Sisters Sprightly.

KING'S THEATRE, GATESHEAD.
Hackenschmidt, Will Lytton, Society Quartette, Cliff Ryland, Gold and Sterling, Ernest Montefiore and Co., Vernon's Bioscope, Chas. Frazer, in "Iona."

PALACE THEATRE, DUNDEE.
H. Leslie Bell and Lily Pearl Co. in "The Red Letter," Nelson and Thomas, Jennie Evans, Pyck, Tholl and Taylor, Vowles and Bryan, Ben Harris' Nippers, Hans and Lux, Chas. Ashdowne, Vernon's Bioscope, The Schiavonis.

PALACE THEATRE, ABERDEEN.
Captain Max Gruber, George Westland, The Mayfair Trio, Lillian Victoria, Ambrose Thorne, The Belmores, Luis Hardt, The Eight Pavilion Girls, Vernon's Bioscope, George Formby.

N.B.—Artists will oblige by sending billing matter punctually.

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"TINY FIREFLY."
"ROSIE IS WAITING."
"GEORGIE FROM GEORGIA."
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"JOAN! JOAN! JOAN!"
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CALLS.
FOR WEEK COMMENCING
MONDAY, APRIL 22, 1907.

PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT.
SPECIAL NOTICE.
Rehearsal at all Halls, Monday, at 12.0 sharp.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Bonnetti and Corri, Edward Ranier and Co., Lade Henderson, Chester and Lees, Amy Eastwood, Pictures, Harry Desmond.

PALACE, LINCOLN.
Maitland Trio, Leo King, Bertha Winder, Maude Ford, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE, BATH.
Sisters Edwards, Mooney and Holbein, T. C. Jaques, Helm and Cozens, Bros. Huxter, Fioretti and Elly, Mike Cray, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Bert Coote's Girls, Coolvilles, Alskarno Trio, Vera Mayne, Walker and May, The Modern Venus, Zarmo, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Edna Latonne.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Prof. Selkirk, Pirmans Trio, Arthur Croxon, Florrie Bray, Tom Kelso and Co., Clown Barker, Deane Tribune and Co., Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, HALIFAX.
Chas. Majilton and Co., Sophie Knight, Four Herberts, Barlee and Smith, Edie Endon, Ben Albert, Charlie Williams, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE, W. HARTLEPOOL.
Fred. Ginnett's "Dick Turpin," Wallau, Johnny Dwyer, Salvino, Sisters Marion, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
"Prince of Monte Carlo," Bosanquet, Beau and Belle, Will Musgrave, Minnie Fenton, Arthur Goodman, Story and Trigg, Richardson Taylor, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

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SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday.
Sisters Lunelle, The Waltons, Madeline Rossiter, Chas. Lilburn, Bert and Dora, Satsuma, Hillman and Russell, Raymond, La Corina, Chris. Baker, Arnold Bell and Co.

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All Artists engaged for Surrey Theatre must bring 14 Band parts.

Fred Land, Tennyson and Wallis, Chas. Gardener, The Zampas, Edmunds Troupe, Jack Rae, Sisters Florence, Bros. Raynor, Le Cren Trio, Vaudeville Co., Raymond, Bros. Luck.
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All Bill Matter or Notification of Appearance must be sent in 14 days prior to opening. All Artists must attend Band Rehearsal, or their Contracts may be cancelled at the option of the Management.

N.B.—All Billing Matter, accompanied by Pictorials, and Business Communications relating to the Provincial Circuit, must be addressed to the
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"CAN'T YOU FIND A LITTLE TIME TO SAY 'GOOD EVENING'?"
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"DON'T STOP MY 'ARF A PINT OF BEER," (Pratt, Moore & Elen). Sung by Gus Elen.
"NOW LAUGH," (E. W. Rogers). Sung by George Robey.
"PRESENTS," (Medley Barrett & Nat Clifford). Sung by Fred Earle.
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"IDAHO," (Sterling & Von Tilzer). Sung by Thos. E. Finglas.
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CALLS. CALLS.

THE VAUDEVILLE SYNDICATE.
Secretary and Manager, **Mr. C. Standfield**
Calls for Monday, April 22, '07.

PALACE, DOVER.
Milsted and Bell, Raymond, the Lovelaces, Harry Morgan, Florrie Leonard, Registry Office, Violet Beatrice, Haydee's Marionettes.

ALHAMBRA, SANDGATE.
Raymond, Horace Monto, Laurie Wallace, Sam Redfern, Bros. Ralston, Will Bacchus, the Albanos, Tom Collins, Beattie Kent.

GRAND, SHEFFIELD.
Tiny Arnold, Joe Dale, Frank Hardie and Co., J. H. Carney, Pictures, Bert Danson, Jessie Harper.

THEATRE ROYAL, DOVER.
Harry Merson, Ethel Wilson, Chas. Banks and Dog, Pictures, Wal. Bobbins, La Belle Maie, Idento Bros., Dudman, Bromwich and Co.

THEATRE ROYAL, CROYDON.
Andy Burn, "Faust," "The Master Hand," Pictures, Jack Heath, Daisy Sillcott, Cambo, Kerr and Koe, Captain Devereux's Dogs.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, NEW HIPPODROME.
CALL, Monday, April 22. Rehearsal 12.30.
The Five Abadaroffs, Ethel Yorke, Russell Carr, J. T. Macmillan, Sisters Ford, Stuart and Evans, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Bros. St. Clair.
Artists requiring immediate dates, apply Sole Booking Representative, H. PERCIVAL YOUNG, Shakespeare Theatre Offices, Clapham Junction, London, S.W.

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Bill matter must be sent two weeks in advance.
CALL for Monday, April 22, 1907, at 12 o'clock. Dan Crawley, Margaret Agnes, Bros. Ashley, Roze, and Calvert, Ada Gatley, George Leonard, Ray and Calder, Lillian Bishop, Sable Fern, Bert Williams, George D'Albert, Irma Lorraine.

GLASGOW PAVILION.
CALL for Monday, April 22, 1907.
7. Twice Nightly. 9.
Rehearsal at 11 o'clock for:—
Belle Davis, Bert Brantford, Zaro and Arno, Fred Cary, Yiulians Family, The Burnells, Rowland Hill, The Mackweys, The Harvey Boys.

GREENOCK PAVILION.
Rehearsal at 2 o'clock for
Emily Warren, Maude Vera, The Lannons, Dan Thomas, The Lurins, Pavoscope, and Company as booked.
All bill matter must be sent to Glasgow fourteen days ahead. Failing this, Artists will run the risk of having their Contracts cancelled. By order, SAMUEL LLOYD, General-Manager.

SHEERNESS HIPPODROME.
General-Manager, Mr. FRED LEIGHTON.
CALL, Monday, April 22, 1907.
J. Collinson's Co., Harry Philips, Rita Redan, The Falcons, Florrie Beck, Vere and Royal, The Brontes, Hippodrome Pictures. Band Rehearsal, Monday, 1 p.m.

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The kind guide. Separated. The voice of a friend. Poor dog! Help. Free. Too late. In search of his Friend. Touching fidelity.

We see here two old friends who never leave each other, and every day have the same fight for life, one being the eyes of the other. Separation comes one day when two scamps steal the dog, and the poor beggar in distress is taken to his miserable home by charitable people. Friendless from now on, one morning he is found dead. Next we see the dog which has escaped, back in the old home, and finally tracing his master to the cemetery, he lies down on his grave, faithful to the end. **Length 362ft. The Subject £6 0s. 8d.**

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A wife with a grievance. A husband fond of his glass. Their efforts to get the better of each other are very amusing. The husband wins at first, but naturally it is the wife who finally conquers.

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The night before the wedding the mother turns a beggar away from the house. This the bride thinks will be an ill-omen. She dreams all kinds of terrible things at first, later on a fairy comes, lets her see her bridegroom, and all is well. Very pretty scenes.

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Thrilling story of a father and daughter. The man steals a loaf and is imprisoned; subsequently escapes, and goes to look for his little girl, who has been sent to a home for children. Great joy when father and daughter meet. Later on he is tracked by the police. In preference to being taken again he throws himself from a great height and is killed. Very pathetic scenes, and full of interest.

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A tragic story of a jealous husband. He goes mad, and is shut up in an asylum. Later on he is allowed to return home, but is still a victim of the insane jealousy which leads him to kill his young wife, and finally to get arrested and shot. Most pathetic story.

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WONDERFUL FLAMES. Code Word, CAISSON.

Wonderful flames. Lovely girls representing butterflies; also a demon performing all kinds of weird exercises. Very pretty. Splendid quality.

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The husband has a bad pain in his back. His wife gets an electric belt; puts it in his overcoat; it makes him jump all over the place and want to kiss every woman he meets. He is arrested; the magistrate accidently puts on the coat and goes through the same performance; many amusing complications follow. This is one of the most humorous films we have ever produced, and is bound to be a large seller.

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The careless nurse takes baby out and speaks to many people on the way, and keeps on colliding with various obstacles. Eventually a naughty boy ties the pram to a dog, who rushes off with it, followed by an interested crowd of spectators. Finally the pram is precipitated into a pond, but baby is unhurt, and is brought back to her parents in triumph by a kindly policeman. Fine quality, and really amusing.

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Very droll and grand quality.

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This is a great temperance picture. It depicts the drunken father in his home, always imbibing, the only one who seems to have any influence with him being his sweet little daughter. The scene changes to the works where he has just drawn his pay. He leaves work and gets hopelessly drunk again. His little daughter goes to find him, gets lost, and is taken to the police station by a friendly policeman. Here before the magistrate she meets her father. He throws the bottle away and swears to become sober. He is allowed to leave the police-station, being given a fresh start.

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The above Film Subjects are most enthusiastically received at the Alhambra, London, where they are being exhibited this week for the first time.

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Carlo hungry. The tempting sausages. An exciting chase. The painters upset. The basinette overturned. The train at full speed. The avenging sportsmen. Carlo's life in danger. A bad shot. Carlo's escape. Carlo forlorn.

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No. 1584. **THE WONDERFUL ELECTRIC BELT.**

This Picture is electrified right through. A continuous current of Fun (not alternating). The Film to electrify and grip an audience. A subject of high voltage.

Re THE WONDERFUL ELECTRIC BELT.

We find that one of our contemporaries has considered this film worth copying, even copying our description as on this page. Imitation is the surest flattery, but we are the original producers of this film, which was put on the market some three weeks ago.

The husband has a bad pain in his back. His wife gets an electric belt; puts it in his overcoat; it makes him jump all over the place and want to kiss every woman he meets. He is arrested; the magistrate accidentally puts on the coat and goes through the same performance; many amusing complications follow.

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We note that one of our business contemporaries has made it a practice to copy our subjects wholesale, and the latest piracy of Elge Films is a poor and weak imitation of our powerful and sensational film,

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Which was produced and advertised by us a month ago. We deplore the fact that a well-known firm is so lacking in enterprise and originality as to find it necessary to copy, advertise, and place on the market as theirs pictures which they are well aware are deliberate and barefaced copies of another firm's originals.

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This removal has become imperative **OWING TO THE ENORMOUS INCREASE IN OUR BUSINESS.** We have from time to time added shops to our premises in Cecil Court, and still finding our present space inadequate to meet the heavy demands made upon it, we have seen the necessity of either acquiring the whole of Cecil Court or quitting it. We have decided to do the latter.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL

Please Note that on and after **MONDAY, APRIL the 22nd,** our New Address will be

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IMPORTANT NOTICE.

EARLY TRAINS.

The Railway Companies are despatching many morning trains earlier than hitherto. This will enable subscribers and advertisers in the provincial towns to get copies of "The Era" in time for the breakfast table. Advertisers are requested to forward their advertisements as early in the week as possible, and not later than 7 p.m. on Thursday.

Address:
THE PUBLISHER, The Era Buildings, 5, Tavistock Street, W.C.

THE L.C.C. AND AMUSEMENTS.

The usual weekly meeting of the London County Council was held on Tuesday at the County Hall, Spring Gardens.

INSPECTION.

The Theatres and Music Halls Committee reported that the expenditure incurred in connection with reports upon the character of the performances at places of public entertainment during the quarter ended March 31 last was £1 6s.

PUTNEY HIPPODROME.

The Committee reported that they had considered drawings, submitted by Messrs. F. Matcham and Co., showing a new pair of doors proposed to be fitted in the vestibule, and a proposal to re-space the seating on the ground floor of the Putney Hippodrome, Felsham-road, Putney. They considered that the applicants' proposal with regard to the vestibule is unobjectionable, but the proposed re-arrangement of the seating is not in accordance with regulations of the Council, and would be less satisfactory than the present arrangement. They recommended that Messrs. F. Matcham and Co. be so informed.

Agreed to.

AGRICULTURAL HALL.

The Committee having considered a drawing submitted by Mr. J. Jeffrey, recommended that he be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the drawing submitted by him with regard to the proposed alteration to the entrance to the refreshment bar on the north side of the galleries in the main building of the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, subject to the second exit from the refreshment-room being retained.

Approved.

A NEW ST. JAMES'S HALL.

The Council on Oct. 30 last approved drawings of the concert hall to be known as the St. James's Hall, proposed to be erected on the site of St. Paul's Church, Great Portland-street, and on Nov. 30 granted a provisional music licence for the proposed premises. Amended drawings have now been submitted by Messrs. Joseph and Smithem. These drawings show the provision of seating accommodation for 1,112 persons, or 122 persons less than the number shown to be accommodated on the original drawings. The site complies with the regulations of the Council, and the Committee recommended that Messrs. Joseph and Smithem be informed that, provided the works shown on the eight drawings submitted by them with regard to the proposed concert hall be commenced within six months, the Council will be prepared to grant the usual certificate to the owner of such building, on being satisfied that the premises have been completed in accordance with the drawings referred to, and that certain conditions have been complied with, these including that a doorway be provided from the choir and orchestra room to the staircase on the south side, and that such doorway be fitted with a door hung in a manner satisfactory to the Council; that the direction of the stairs from the prompt side of the balcony be reversed so that persons descending do not meet face to face those leaving the orchestra; and that the regulations of the Council with regard to lighting, heating, seating, notices, fastenings, small fire appliances, and other details be satisfactorily complied with.

The recommendation was adopted.

DALY'S THEATRE.

The Building Act Committee recommended that the Council do consent to the erection of iron and glass shelters on the eastern and western sides of Daly's Theatre, Cranbourne-street, one of such shelters abutting upon Ryder's-court, as shown on the plans submitted in connection with the application of Mr. J. Sinnott, on behalf of Mr. G. Edwardes, such consent being subject to the usual conditions.

Agreed to.

THE PLAYHOUSE.

The Council, on Jan. 29 last, consented to the erection of a projecting illuminated sign over the shelter at the main entrance to the Playhouse Theatre, Northumberland-avenue, Strand. The applicant has since informed the Building Act Committee that it is not now intended to erect the sign, and they recommended that the resolution of Jan. 29 consenting to the proposed erection be rescinded.

Approved.

LOCAL HALLS.

Plans for the erection of a parochial hall to be erected in Trinity-road, Tooting, to provide seating accommodation for about 400 persons, and for which it is proposed to apply for a music licence, were recommended for approval (subject to the usual conditions being complied with), as were also amended drawings showing proposed alterations and additions to the St. Clement's Parish Hall, Fulham Palace-road.

"FAND."

A Play in Verse, in Two Acts, by Wilfred Scawen Blunt, produced for the first time at the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, on Saturday, April 20, 1907.

Cuchulain	MR. F. J. FAY
Conchubar	MR. ARTHUR SINCLAIR
Laeg	MR. J. M. KERRIGAN
Laegaire	MR. ERNEST VAUGHAN
Lugaid	MR. J. A. O'ROURKE
Emer	MISS SARA ALLGOOD
Fand	MISS MAIRE O'NEILL
Eithne	MISS MARIE-NI-GHARBHAIGH
Attendants	MISS BRIGIT O'DEMPSEY, MISS ANNIE ALLGOOD

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Fand is in two acts, and by a well-known poet, Mr. Wilfred Scawen Blunt. Set in Alexandrines, it was splendidly produced, and well received by the audience present. In the first act, A Room in the Speckled House at Emain, the hero, Cuchulain, is discovered at the rise of the curtain in a trance-like sleep out of which his wife, the King, and a poetess who has won his heart cannot waken him. Then Fand, the fairy bride of the God of Storms, appears on the scene, promptly falls in love with Cuchulain, who reciprocates her passion, but then matters get complicated by the sudden appearance of Emer, Cuchulain's wife, and the poetess. In the second scene, on Baile's Strand, there is much tender writing in the passages where Emer discovers that she has lost first place in her husband's affections, and some effective dramatic touches are also introduced in Fand's renunciation of earthly love in favour of the rather shabbily treated wife of Cuchulain. Finally the Storm God is heard approaching to claim his fairy wife, and Fand obeys his call, leaving, however, as a token of her love to Cuchulain a cloak gifted with the virtue of conferring immense power upon its possessor.

The acting was in very capable hands. Mr. F. J. Fay's reading of Cuchulain was an excellent performance; and as Conchubar Mr. Arthur Sinclair gave entire satisfaction. Miss Sara Allgood as Emer, Cuchulain's wife, was most sympathetic and dramatic throughout; Miss Maire O'Neill most creditably acted the rôle of Fand; and the remaining parts were well sustained. A number of pretty songs composed by Mr. Arthur Darley were heard throughout the two acts.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, April 22, the Musical Comedy, "THE BELLE OF MAYFAIR."

Musical comedy is always a strong card to play at the Stratford Borough Theatre, and consequently excellent business is resulting from the visit of Mr. Milton Bode's company in *The Belle of Mayfair*. Mr. Harry Parker is always droll and amusing as Sir John Chaldicott, and he has a clever topical ditty, which goes remarkably well. Mr. Edward Hugonnet makes a dashing and buoyant Raymond Finchley; Hugh Meredith is smartly played by Mr. Gwyn Alwyn; Mr. Haddon Cave submits a clever portraiture of Lord Mount Highgate; and Mr. Laurie Lisle portrays the idiosyncracies of Comte de Perrier most appropriately. Miss Queenie Finnis acts and sings in dainty and captivating style as Julia Chaldicott; Miss Veronica Brady plays with much charm and vivacity as Pincott, her skilful dancing being greatly admired; Miss Agnes Tandy is a graceful Princess Carl; Miss Aurelie de Loriere is seen to distinct advantage as Lady Rosaline, her "Gibson Girl" song being a popular number; Miss Emily Stevens is eminently successful as Lady Chaldicott; Miss May Harris makes a prepossessing Lady Violet; and Miss Leslie St. John does well as the Countess of Highgate. Minor parts are all in capable hands. Mr. T. M. Tonbridge as musical director secures a splendid ensemble; and Mr. Hugh Nolan is the courteous general manager of the company.

THE Ben Greet Players, on the other side of the Atlantic, celebrated Shakespeare's Birthday Week by performing the poet's plays "as he wrote them." The representations were given at the Academy of Music, Philadelphia, under the auspices of the University of Pennsylvania. *Hamlet*, 2nd Quarto, acted in its entirety and taking five hours—four to six and eight to eleven—formed the bill for the 23rd. The other plays were *The Merchant of Venice*, *As You Like It*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Twelfth Night*, *Julius Cæsar*, and *Macbeth*. Mr. Greet, it is interesting to learn, has recently been invited to West Point Military Academy.

MR. EDITOR,—Sir,—Your West Stanley correspondent omitted my name from his last week's report of the Victoria Theatre.—Yours faithfully, GEO. BERNARD.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDARE.—NEW THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Z. Andrews.—Mr. John H. Tomkinson's No. 1 Royal Gipsy company is here this week. The entertainment is, as usual, bright and amusing. The company includes the Rizarelis, lady gymnasts, who are exceptionally clever; the Regars, two child acrobats, are received with great favour; Vio Lette, described as a "Pocket Edition of Vesta Tilley," gives a capital turn; Miss Elsie Rubina is also worthy of praise; Miss Evie Lynn is a dainty comedienne and a graceful dancer; Mr. Walter Wallace, entertainer, Mr. Frank Power, Mr. Arthur Daintree, Miss Minnie Richardson, Miss Annie Knowles, Miss Mona Clare, the Sisters Dudley, and Miss Kitty Druid also add greatly to the evening's enjoyment, and the same may be said of Mr. Tweed Andrews, the Two Does and Mr. A. Ventnor.

ABERDEEN.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer and company opened their week's engagement with a version of *Mme. Sans-Gêne*, entitled *From Washerwoman to Duchess*. Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer played with much fervour the part of the heroine, and she was capably supported by Mr. F. Skein as Fouche, Mr. Robert Pittard as the Marechal, and Mr. Cheetham as the Lieutenant. The minor parts were well filled. On Tuesday *Jane Shore* was staged, and in the course of the week Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer will also appear in *Sapho* and *East Lynne*.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—The chief turn this week is that of Captain Max Gruber with his remarkably well-trained performing elephant and pony. Mr. George Formby captivates the audiences with his funny eccentric songs; Mr. Ambrose Thorne appears most successfully as a comedian, and the Eight Pavilion Girls are likewise highly appreciated. The Mayfair Trio dance and sing admirably; and among the other clever artists on the bill are Mr. George Westland, Miss Lilian Victoria, the Belmores, and Mr. Luis Hardt.

ACCRINGTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—On Monday Miss Mary Austin's company presented *The Cotton Spinner*. Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds in his old part was well supported by Miss Mary Austin as Mary Prescott. The rest of the parts were played by Messrs. J. Milne Taylor, George P. Lester, Fred W. Goddard, John S. Haydon, Albert T. Cooper, and Misses Ethel Inwool, Bella Power, and May Grimshaw. On Tuesday and Friday *Shall We Forgive Her?* was produced by the same company.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Willmot Potter, Vandy, and Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Parsons.—The Harmony Four fairly bring down the house by the excellent rendering of their numbers; Harry Rogerson is particularly quaint as the Tired Comedian; Tray and Rich must be complimented for their very smart turn; Alice Maude is duly appreciated; Sterling and Love are very good in their vocal and instrumental comedy act; Vardon gives a good ventriloquial show; and Jack Ross, the double-voiced vocalist, is praiseworthy; F. V. St. Clair is pleasing in *The Shoeblack Hero*.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—Mr. Arthur Carlton's company is here with *In Sight of St. Paul's*. Miss Gussie Everitt as Cynthia Dell, the woman who betrays, and afterwards atones, plays with telling effect; Mr. Ernest R. Allen as Tom Chichester, and Mr. W. H. Domoney as Harry Chichester, jun., his brother, submit able impersonations; Mr. A. Armfield is good as the father; and villainy is ably represented by Messrs. H Cecil and H. Gilpin. Good work is also done by Miss Cissie Bellamy.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—Cyril Carle, actor-vocalist, has a good reception in his song-scena, "Dreams"; good comedy juggling is done by Halma; the singing pit lad, Greener, has an expressive method; the Four Sisters Victoria attract great attention with their skill as instrumentalists; Gladys Williams is a charming comedienne; and Emma Don and her black and white comedy team are lively and entertaining. Snowball and Miss Dolia, American comedy artists, and the episode, entitled *Conscience*, are other attractions.

ATTERCLIFFE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaughten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chris. A. Wordsworth.—The Imperial Animated Picture Company submit an entire change of programme here this week. A special feature is the illustrated songs, for which Miss Nellie Burke meets with well-deserved success. The Cup Tie at the Crystal Palace won by Sheffield Wednesday, is received with hearty applause.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. T. E. Owen.—A programme full of good things is headed by the Avolos in a smart performance on perpendicular poles; the Four Jumels give an interesting musical act; Mr. Leslie Paget introduces a unique speciality entitled "My Picture Gallery"; and other attractions are Mr. Walter Wade, mimic; Mr. H. C. Bori, comedy juggler; the sisters Hula, vocalists and dancers; and Miss Nellie Chandos, comedienne, and pictures.

AYR.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry W. Day.—On Monday night Mr. Walter Maxwell's principal company opened here with the powerful domestic play, *The Lion and the Mouse*. Mr. Leslie Carter is responsible for the "lion" part, and his acting is admirable throughout. He has a capital foil in Miss Shirley Rossmore—the Mouse—with her sympathetic voice and pretty ways. Mr. Martyn Roland is a manly, true-hearted Jefferson Ryder; the Hon. Fitzroy Bagley has a clever exponent in Mr. Herbert Chown; Mr. Douglas West as James Rossmore presents a capital picture of the broken man; Mr. Geoffrey Hall acts the part of the Rossmore legal adviser very well; Mr. John Wheatman as Mr. J. W. Roberts, M.P., looks the part, and plays with effect; the Mrs. John Burdett Ryder of Miss Elspeth Dudgeon is carefully and artistically treated; Miss Maud Townsend makes the most of the part of Mrs. Rossmore; while Miss Margaret Nybloc is charming and vivacious as Kate Roberts.

BACUP.—NEW COURT THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Denman-Wood.—Miss Bonwin Carlton's company is here with *The Plucky Nipper*. Mr. J. H. Butler, as Colonel Fenwick of the gallant 24th plays in manly and praiseworthy style, and is ably supported by Mr. Morris Maud as Captain Frank Leslie; Mr. William Heilbronn as Richard Vanbrugh does full justice to that repulsive character; and Mr. Edward Surrey as Bill Burgess gives a lifelike representation of the character. Mr. Syd. H. Morton as Tommy Atkins ably sustains his part, and his acting, as well as his singing, is fully appreciated by the audience; Miss Esther Lamont is good in the part of Ina Fenwick; and Miss Bonwin Carlton scores heavily in the title-rôle. A word of praise is due to Miss Kitty Maynard for her pleasing impersonation of a blind girl.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Mr. C. Watson Mill is here with his *A Warning to Women* company. He himself is exceedingly effective as Shaun and Mr. Richard Vane is capital as Dr. Marcus Ward; Mr. Norman B. Cannon is a typical Fergus McNaughton; and Mr. N. Carter Slaughter imparts humour into the part of Lord Eversleigh; Sheila Kennion is gracefully played by Miss Grace Barton; Molly O'Moore is admirably done by Miss Ellen Beverley; and Miss Rosalind Tate makes excellent use of her powers in portraying Moira Kennion.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—*Miss Lancashire, Limited*, is here, and Miss Florence Baines again gives a vivacious portrait of the heroine, Mary Ellen, and Mr. David Donaldson is a capable John Higgins; Miss Kitty Jones is a pleasing Eva Lancashire; and Miss Muriel Johnson a winsome Bertha.

TIVOLI THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Edgar Laban.—Leslie Brothers provide much amusement, particularly by their "Cure for Lockjaw," and the Wheelers are good knockabout comedy cyclists; Stark gives a pleasing pot-pourri entertainment, and Lowenthal Brothers are amusing dialect comedians. Lena Wylie is a good soprano vocalist; Wedburns, in a refined original act, and Millie Payne a capital low comedy artist, complete the cast.

BATH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—Mr. Charles Constant's company is presenting a musical extravaganza, *Blue Beard the Bold*. This cast is headed by Miss Isa Bowman as Selim, and this talented little lady acts, sings, and dances with all her well-known animation. As Fatima Miss Dorothy Dempster has plenty of opportunities of displaying her vocal and Terpsichorean abilities to the best advantage. The comic element is well looked after by Mr. Johnny Clegg as Sister Ann, who works indefatigably, and receives capital support from Mr. Gus Danby (Bamboozlum), Mr. Morris Holmes (Pimple), and Mr. Mac Stuart (Shakabak). Blue Beard is impersonated upon traditional burlesque lines by Mr. Charles Lake. Amongst others who contribute are Miss Cissie Thompson as Cassim, Stuart and Stuart, and Morrice Holmes.

PALACE THEATRE. — Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth. — Mooney and Holbein, the grotesque dancing comedian and lady associate, get an enthusiastic reception; the Bros. Huxter are a trio of young acrobats that require a great deal of beating in their particular line; Fioretti and Elly appear in a spade and barrel act, the gentleman being a marvellous jumper; the Sisters Edwards score as vocalists and dancers; Mike Gray, tramp comedy juggler, and his dog Dolly provide plenty of amusement combined with cleverness; Helm and Cozens, in a comedy act, *The Doctor and the Patient*, create much hilarity; T. C. Jaques, in his dramatic song, "The Fatal Card," meets with a cordial reception; and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux is highly appreciated.

BEDFORD.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—Mr. J. W. Turner's English opera company presented *Maritana* here on Monday. The principal rôle was ably taken by Mr. J. W. Turner, whose fine rendering of "Let me like a soldier fall" evoked a clamorous encore; Mr. John Ridding was a capital Don Jose; and Mr. Sidney Clifford gave an admirable representation of the King of Spain. Miss Christine Gomez as Maritana soon established herself as prime favourite, all her songs being encored. On Tuesday night Gounod's *Faust* was presented, and on Wednesday Verdi's *Il Trovatore* was staged. For the latter end of the week Mr. Norman Macowan's company, in *Monsieur Beaucaire*, was announced.

BELFAST.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—Mr. Lionel Glenister and Mr. Wood-Ingram presented here on Monday the sparkling comedy, *All-of-a-Sudden Peggy*. Miss Decima Moore's impersonation of Peggy is delightful, and she gained a success on Monday of which she has every reason to feel proud. In Hon. Jimmy Keppel, Mr. Lionel Glenister has a part that fits him like the proverbial glove, his acting being admirable throughout; Miss Kate Wingfield is the haughty and stately Lady Crackenthorpe to the life; Mr. Frank G. Bayly must be commended for his clever impersonation of Lord Crackenthorpe; and the rôle of the retired Major Archie Phipps is in the safe hands of Mr. Henderson Bland. Miss Eva Lonsdale plays the rôle of Hon. Millicent Keppel with grace and charm; and Miss Naomi Neilson is deserving of much praise for her realistic impersonation of Mrs. O'Mara, her brogue being perfect. The rôle of Hon. Mrs. Colquhoun is well sustained by Miss Estelle Despa; and other parts receive careful treatment at the hands of Messrs. J. Edgar Stevenson, Harry Philips, and P. Fitzgerald. The dramatic episode, *The Lady Who Dwelt in the Dark*, forms an admirable curtain-raiser.

PALACE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris. The great Miss Marie Loftus is the star here this week, and worthily does she fill the position, with her inimitable rendering of several catchy songs, her success being even greater than ever. The Five Juggling Geraldos furnish an exhibition of the art which it would be difficult to surpass; Mr. Frank Cass's vocal items command much success; and a hit has been made by Mr. Leslie Holland and Miss Vere Vere in their smart and racy duologue, *A Side-Slip*. The Three Sisters Silcott are delightful vocalists and capital dancers; and Mlle. Renee's musical act has been accorded a fine reception. Mr. George Prince is a decidedly humorous comedian; and Mr. Joe Carney a smart coon delineator. Miss Mabel La Blanche, vocal comedienne, and the attractive Palace Pictures are also in the bill.

ROYAL HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Will Sley; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—Barton and Ashley are the stars here this week, and create unbounded merriment with their comedy act, *Canal-Boat Sal*. Mr. Fred W. Millis upholds his reputation as one of the smartest ventriloquists before the public; and a hit has been made by Simms and Simms, musical comedians. Weiland, comedy juggler (assisted by Mlle. Carlotta), wins high approval for his novel act; and Miss Edie Gray and Boys, in their vocalism, gain unbounded applause. Mr. Walter Emmerson is a droll comedian; and the sweet tenor vocalism of Mr. Jack Truman has been accorded an enthusiastic reception. Also here are Miss Ivy Kildare, soprano vocalist; the Columbia Trio, comedy vocalists; the Three Moxons, acrobatic comedians; and new pictures on the Hipposcope.

EMPIRE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John A. Walker.—Mr. George Gray and company head the bill, and present *The Fighting Parson* with all possible success, Mr. Gray's impersonation of the title-rôle being an engrossing piece of acting. Mr. and Mrs. Harold Finden create much laughter with their well-acted comedy duologue, *Two to One*; and a musical treat has been provided by Mons. Slippere (assisted by Miss Ramsay), blind novelty pianist and fine baritone vocalist. Miss Edie King is a smart comedienne and capital dancer; and the Howards appear to every advantage in their comedy musical act. Miss Kitty Marion, comedienne, and the Empire Bioscope are also among the attractions.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Sinclair Neill.—The Alhambra Dramatic Company, under the personal supervision of Mr. M. Montgomery, produced here this week the fine drama, *On Circumstantial Evidence*. Miss Nina Blake-Adams, a clever actress, furnished a skilful impersonation of Violet Ogilvy; and Mr. Horace Denton must be commended for his admirable portrayal of Lieut. John Ogilvy. Mr. Cyril Grier gained the utmost approval for his finished interpretation of the dual rôle of Sergt. Gabriel and Sergt. Cavour; and Miss Kathleen Magee upheld her fine reputation by her acting as the twin sisters, Olga Brandom and Mary Brandom. Mr. Elmore Frith's dignified impersonation of Col. Sir Laurence Kurloch reflected much credit on this able actor; and the iniquities of Capt. Hamilton were powerfully depicted by Mr. Edward M. Jeanley. The humour of the piece was safely entrusted to Mr. Tom H. Solly, who created roars of laughter as Jeremiah Tobin; and he was ably assisted by Miss Mattie Crawford as Polly Smithers. Other rôles were carefully sustained by Messrs. J. E. Davies, E. Smithers, &c. The Alhambra Bioscope exhibits a fine picture.

BILSTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Batersby; Musical-Director, Mr. J. E. Machin.—This week we have Chas. Morritt, hypnotiser; Mme. Beulah, mental telepathist; Will Souls, laughing comedian; Blanche and Diacoff, novel cyclists; the boy Samson, athlete; and the Blind Man of Memory, all attractive and clever. Further, there are Collin and Croft, illustrators; J. Hines, coloured dancer; Magna, the suspended lady; and some capital pictures on the Bioscope.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL. — Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant; Secretary, Miss Isabel Morris.—A visit from Mr. Alec Flood and Mr. Aubrey Fitzmaurice's *The Angel of Unrest* company is proving attractive. Mr. Alec Flood earns premier honour by a powerful and telling performance of Napoleon I.; Mr. Henry Belding plays Papa Bompasse with marked ability; Paul Brandt is well acted by Mr. Creagh Henry; and Mr. Aubrey Fitzmaurice is an excellent General Renaudot. The important rôle of Julie is skilfully depicted by Miss Florence Tressilian; Miss Pattie March is well suited as Madame Renaudot; and Miss Nita Imeson is an efficient Lisette.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—Mr. Arthur Prince, an exceptionally clever ventriloquist, is a prominent attraction, and Mr. Harry Ford, the popular comedian, is on a welcome return visit. The mysterious Lilith is a marvellous illusion; Miss Lillian Warren and her capital illustrated songs secure a warm welcome; Harrigan and Holt, comedians; Mr. Harry Anderson, comedian, Miss Winnie Derson, comedienne, Mr. Jack Hylton, comedian, and Brown's Royal Bioscope with some up-to-date pictures also furnish attractive turns.

BIRMINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—Miss Ellaline Terris and Mr. Seymour Hicks have again taken Birmingham by storm. Miss Terris, in *The Beauty of Bath*, charms her admirers as she never charmed them before. Her dainty tricks of acting and her sweet and gracious style of singing wrought the audience to an ecstasy. Mr. Hicks as the gay lieutenant is received with ringing cheers, and everything he does brings him thunderous applause. Master Valchera, who has the sense of humour fully developed, distinguished himself as the programme boy; Mr. Stanley Brett is clever and useful as the double, Mr. Beverley; Mr. Laurence Caird makes an admirable Lord Quorn; and every success attends the efforts of Mr. William Lugg as Bellingham, Miss Florence Lloyd as Mrs. Alington, Miss Sydney Fairbrother as Mrs. Goodge, and Miss Maude Darrell as the actress, Miss Truly St. Cyr, &c. The twelve "Bath Buns" and a good-looking and melodious chorus support this elegant production, which on Monday appears at the Prince of Wales Theatre here for the week.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Rodgers, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—*The Geisha*, with Miss Louie Collier in her delightful rôle of O Mimosa San, is charming audiences here; Mr. Edmund Carlton keeps the audience in full glee as the irrepressible Wun-Hi; Mr. Cyril Thompson's fine voice and energetic acting bring the part of Reggie Fairfax into fine prominence; Mr. Lionel Braham plays the Marquis Imari on extremely clever lines; and Messrs. J. Mansell Stringer and A. J. Nicholls shine as Katana and Takemine respectively. Miss Florrie Saunders makes a big success with her handsome presence and fine singing as Molly Seymour; and Miss Violet Kenyon has an enchanting manner as Juliette. On Friday *A Greek Slave* was performed, with Miss Collier as Maia, Miss Florrie Saunders as Iris, and Mr. S. Lockridge as Archias.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Bernardo.—*The Prodigal Parson* is being played here this week. Mr. W. V. Garrod as the Vicar of Grassleigh realises the dramatic possibilities of the part in a masterly manner; Mr. Alfred Northway as the Churchwarden is as nature would have moulded the part; Miss Gwen Stewart acts the part of Fern Godley in a manner that is very pleasing; Miss Violet Jeffries enlists the audience's fullest sympathies as the blind daughter, Myrtle; Mr. Wm. Hayward gives a fully complete study of Ben Jaggins; Mr. W. Vincent ably supports as the confederate, Kettlepin; Mr. T. Edward Evans scores well as the detective Markby; and Mrs. Ashton, Miss E. Fredericks, Miss Dot Russell, and Messrs. E. Ashton, E. Vincent, and others all add to an excellent portrayal. The pathos of the play is well relieved by the clever humorous acting of Mr. Owen Redmonde as Phil Drive and Miss Lydia Hart as Gretchen. *Still Waters Run Deep* and *A Regular Fix* filled the programme on Friday.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Andrew Melville; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—The Frank Bateman Dramatic Company, under the direction of Mr. Stuart Lomath, is here with *No Wedding Bells for Her*. Mr. Lomath figures as Frank Hatherleigh, representing the church militant with striking effect; Mr. Percy Shaw as the detective, Delver, acts in a very smart manner; Mr. Frederick Carton acts true to the part of Montague Blair; Mr. P. Beresford inspires admiration as Trevelyn; Mr. Geo. Herbert supplies an engrossing characterisation of the old actor, Frane; and Messrs. Morice Holmes, Frank Davies, Fred Vaughan, and Chas. Liddon are all happy in their parts. Miss Lizzie Montague holds the audience complete under her spell as Lola Delaspierre; Miss Dora Pass as Doris Fane, adds to the charm of the play; Miss Louie Danby is successful as Peggy, and Miss Patty Albery makes an effective rôle of the landlady.

CARLTON THEATRE, SALTLEY.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—The Theatrescope shows here with the Nelson v. Gans fight, and other engrossing pictures of the day, including the race for the Grand National. Much interest and enthusiasm is evinced in the views which are supplemented by variety turns from Little Violet, burlesque artiste; Will Doren and company, in their clever absurdity *The Inventors;* Tom Haynes, the pocket comedian; and the clever actor-vocalist, Barney Stuart, whose contributions are much appreciated and vociferously encored.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles.—*The Swiss Express* has returned here. Mr. Wilfred E. Brandon makes clever diversion as Dr. Gall; while Messrs. Charles Renad and J. Oliver Russell keep the audience uproariously merry with their smart drolleries as Dr. Gull's eccentric servants. Miss Celestine Brandon comes in for much admiration as Virginia; Mr. Basil Reynolds makes a suitable Bob Rollingstone; Mr. Alec Wylie amply fills the rôle of Dudley Green, and Mr. Harry H. Vernon, Mr. Chas. Gray, Miss Blanche Vernon, and the Misses Lilian Lea, Beatrice Fairfax, Daisy Caulder, and Queenie Bilterton add with their talents and charms.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham.—La Milo is appearing in her representations of famous classical statues; the Molassos are expert lightning dancers, who contribute an excellent turn; Roma and Romana have an excellent vocal and instrumental act. Other excellent turns are provided by the Brewsters, vocalists and dancers; Albert Whelan, the Australian entertainer; the Kirbys, comedy artists; Lola Patey, burlesque actress; Katie Butler, comedian; and F. H. Fox, comedian.

GAIETY.—General Manager, Mr. Albert T. Bushell.—Florrie Forde has several new and successful songs; the dramatic sketch, *No. 99*, by Fred Kitchen and Frank Lister and company received great favour; the Athos Troupe excel in their performance of acrobatic feats, and the remainder of the programme is provided by Sandford and Lyons, Peggy Fame, Rose Archer, Fields and Lewis, Johnson and Bert, and the animated pictures.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—*Lord Harkaway* is the star turn at this house, and proves very popular. Musical Sylvo gets some good melodies out of musical glasses; Herbert La Martine is a capital dancer; and Laurence Barclay is extremely entertaining with his Scottish songs. Letine, female impersonator; Fred Herbert, vocalist; Tod Lowen, Dave O'Toole, comedians; Verno and Voyce, George Antil, and the pictures conclude an excellent show.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Foster.—Fred Storey, in *Rip Van Winkle*, gives an exceedingly meritorious performance; he is supported by a very strong company, including Miss Lilian Holmes and Miss Gwendoline Burney. Fernee's Juveniles supply a bright turn; and the Sisters Herbert are two of the cleverest of the troupe. The Fitzroys are graceful in their daring gymnastic performance; and the Jackley Trio contribute an enjoyable turn. Alice Blandford has an excellent voice; Harry Carsdale is a very lifelike farmyard mimic; whilst Herbert Rule is a first-rate comedian.

CURZON HALL.—Mr. Waller Jeffs, with his New Century Pictures, continues to attract crowded houses.

BISHOP AUCKLAND. — EDEN THEATRE. — Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. R. Addison; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. J. Huntley.—Mr. Harry Rogerson's company, in the musical absurdity, *Jacko*, preceded by the burlesque *Herne the Hunter*, is the attraction here this week. Mr Charles Leverton causes much innocent amusement in the rôle of Fred Fitzgerald; Professor Zerio is capably handled by Mr J. H. Booth; Mr. W. G. Wesley causes much laughter by his portrayal of Sims Spotter; Miss Jessie St. Clare represents Mrs. Zerio in a very able manner; whilst Ada Zerio finds an altogether pleasing exponent in Miss Bessie Herbert. Mr. Anthony Gordon's interpretation of Dr. Samuel Smith is also very good.

BLACKBURN. — THEATRE ROYAL.— Proprietor, Mr. Harry Yorke; Manager, Mr. Reginald C. Yorke.—Fred Karno's company is here in *Saturday to Monday*. Mr. Rolando Martin, as John Willie Jaggs, is the life and soul of the piece; Mr. J. Fletch as Spinks and Mr. L. H. Crawford as Jaggs, junior, are also extremely funny, while Miss Amy Rogerson as Clarinda Blake acts and sings charmingly. Next week the popular manager, Mr. Reginald Yorke, takes his benefit.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page. — Mr. Sam Duckworth's company in *A Nameless Child*, occupy the boards this week.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—The following artists give the entertainment this week:—Florrie Bray comedienne; Tom Kelso and company in *The Silly Servant;* Deane, Tribune and company in *Applicants;* Arthur Croxon, comedian; Three Pirmans in *In the Garden;* Clown Barker and Miss

Roysika; and W. Selkirk's Scottish spectacle, *The Congress of Border Heroes.*

BLACKPOOL.—Her Majesty's Opera House.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr. Arthur Hardy's company is here this week, giving a very efficient representation of *Beauty and the Barge.* The ability of Mr. Blake Adams is well known, and his impersonation of Captain Barley is as good as was expected, which is saying a great deal. Mr. Edward Coventry carefully plays Lieut. Seton Boyne; and Mr. Walter Pemberton makes a capital Major Smedley. Mr. Aubrey Mallalieu as Herbert Manners and Mr. Fred Knight as Tom Codd also give a satisfactory account of themselves. A charming Ethel Smedley is found in Miss Dido Drake; whilst Lucy Dallas is cleverly portrayed by Miss Mary Pemberton.

Grand Theatre. — Owner and Manager, Mr. T. Sergenson.—*The Little Stranger,* played by Mr. Charles Steuart's company, is again proving a big attraction here this week. Several changes have been made in the cast since the last visit, but the title-rôle still remains in the hands of Master Edward Garratt, who again scores a success. Mr. Charles A. Doran contributes a clever study of Paul Vronsky; Mr. Stanley Lathbury is really excellent as General Allenby; Miss Frances Dillon is very successful in the trying part of Mrs. Dick Allenby; and Miss Louie Tinsley makes a decided hit as the nurse. *The Second Mrs. Grundy,* cleverly played by Mr. Herbert Druce and Miss Christine Rayner, makes a good curtain-raiser.

Palace.— General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—The Violas, the original White Mahatmas, are the great attraction here this week, and their performance is certainly wonderful. George French, comedian, is another favourite turn. Other contributors are Rich and Rich, amusing comedians; the Tups, eccentric acrobats; Sadie Simpson, a charming comedienne; Billy Hobbs, a clever coon dancer; J. W. Magers, comedian and raconteur; and Bert Dansie, a very humorous artist. Vernon's Imperial Bioscope winds up the show, as usual.

BLYTH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur C. Moody.—The romantic play, entitled *The Throne of Terror,* has been presented here with success The part of Robespierre is entrusted to Mr. W. J. Miller, who gives a most artistic and carefully-studied portrayal; as Marguerite de Roqueforte Miss Katherine Maud Downs finds favour with the audience; and Miss Isabel Marte, in the rôle of Victorine d'Almonte, is decidedly successful.

The Gaiety.—Lessee, Mr. George E. Good.—The principal turn has been supplied by the Thompson-Wood's juvenile stars, in their musical sketches, *A Gipsy's Holiday* and *The Henpecked Husband,* which have proved strong attractions; the Prinellas, in *A Country Flirtation,* are much in evidence; and the Bioscope continues to be a good draw.

The Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Tudor.—The Scottish Animated Picture and Variety continue in possession here, and are meeting with fair patronage.

BOLTON.—Theatre Royal (Ltd.)—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Melvin.—Messrs. C. Hamilton Baines and H. Keates Hale's principal company is being well received here with the successful musical play, *The Pet of the Embassy.* Witty Watty Walton is very humorous in his impersonation of John William Bung, a middy; Mr. G. Sinclair Holden as the Hon. Percy Brasington, Mr. Harry Fischar as Palatine Brown, and Mr. Robert Hyett as Eric Brown, are good in their several parts; Miss Ethel Dunford is graceful and ladylike as Hilda Graham, "the pet of the Embassy"; the characters of Dorothy Stanley and Mrs. Pamela Bung are capably taken by Miss Florence Watson and Miss Julia Bassett, and smaller parts are in good hands.

Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon. —One of Fred Karno's combinations is here with the special production of *Dame Trot* and *The Bailiff,* a second and revised edition of *Moses and Son,* with Fred Kitchen in possession. A company comprising Aggie Morris, Luna Love, Harry Lappo, Albert Bruno, H. Landeck, and Madge Rockingham, do excellent work. Other turns on the bill are Kid Johnson and Maisie Pelham in a comedy pot-pourri act, *The Golf Match;* the Sisters Brenton, comediennes and expert dancers; Booker and Narbis, society entertainers; The Lorrisons, the amiable idiot and dainty soubrette; Nina Gordon, mimic and entertainer; Walter Curtis, the merriment merchant; and Vernon's Imperial Bioscope.

BOOTLE. — Muncaster Theatre. — Proprietors, Messrs. Pennington; Manager, Mr. H. Pennington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Young.—*The New World* is presented by Mr. Will White's company. Miss Beatrice Moore delights all with her portrayal of Jenny Williams, and Mr. Victor Rae realises the character of Jack Hawley with clever art. Mr. W. S. Stevenson gives a good personation of the villainous Jim Rawlings, ably assisted by Mr. Albert Carlton as Jose Alvarez. Mr. Donald Gilbert (Col. Bijah Clayton) and Miss Evelyn Robson (May Walton) sustain their rôles with much credit. Joe Williams is cleverly played by Mr. Albert H. Clark; also Pete by Mr. Willie Hicks. The humour of Messrs. Bass and Guinness as Brutus Brown and Sam Smart is irresistible. Attractive specialities are given by Miss Beatrice Moore and Mr. Willie Hicks.

BOSCOMBE. — Hippodrome.—Joint-Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Ball.—Haley's company of juveniles dance and sing here this week in a manner that gains for them most enthusiastic applause; Lonnen, Meadows, and company are laughable in their farcical comedy, *Kiss Your Father;* a refined turn is submitted by Mr. and Mrs. Ed. H. Lucas, in scenes from the works of Charles Dickens; and other good turns include Charles Austin, a droll comedian; Charles Ulrick, the barrel king; Moon and Morris, a clever comedy pair; Dolly Denton, a *chic* comedienne; and the Hippodrome pictures.

BOURNEMOUTH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Proprietors, Messrs. David Allen and Son; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Manager, Mr. Rowland Stewart.—Mr. Herbert Ralland's company in *La Poupée* opened here on Monday. Mr. Fred Seymour bore off the leading honours with his impersonation of Hilarius, whose daughter, Alesia, was cleverly played by Miss Mysie Devine; the Father Maxime of Mr. Walter Balfour and the Lancelot of Mr. Arthur Cosens stood out well; and strong support came from Mr. Fuller Allen, Mr. E. Mooney, Miss Edith Hunter, and Miss Doris Dickens.

Shaftesbury Hall.—West's pictures, presented twice daily, continue to prove highly attractive. The principal item is a series of interesting films illustrating life in the Holy Land. Mr. Mackenzie Henderson is a capable raconteur, and Mr. Mattie Cheshire scores with his musical sketches.

BRADFORD.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—The D'Oyly Carte principal répertoire opera company commenced an engagement here on Monday evening with *The Gondoliers,* and a large audience greeted the revival with much heartiness. Mr. Fred Billington was seen once more in his delightful impersonation of Don Alhambra del Bolero; Mr. Albert Kavanagh in his part of Guiseppe Palmieri was, as heretofore, excellent; and he had capital support from Mr. Pacie Ripple as Marco. Mr. C. R. Wallenn brilliantly filled the rôle of the Duke of Plaza-Toro; as Luiz, Mr. Leicester Tunks was excellent; Miss Theresa Rassam admirably filled the part of the stately Duchess; Miss Mabel Graham was charming as Gianetta; with success Miss Marie Carveth played Casilda; and Miss Lulu Evans was a capable exponent of Tessa. *The Yeomen of the Guard* was the opera on Tuesday night, and, during the engagement *The Pirates of Penzance, Trial by Jury, Iolanthe, Princess Ida,* and *The Mikado* are billed for representation.

Prince's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—Mr. Frank M. Thorne and company are presenting here this week, with considerable success, the finely-staged drama, *Napoleon.* Mr. Hugh Montgomery represents with force and dignity the part of the French Emperor; Miss Maud Russell acts with power as Mlle. Leonie Marbœuf; as Marie Walenska, Miss Leslie Warner achieves success; in the part of the Vivandière, Miss Marie Harcourt is very good; as Pierre Pompenot, Mr. Thorne is seen to advantage; and Mr. Albert Sinclair as Sergeant Choupin is successful in bringing out the comedy element.

The Empire.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig. — Those excellent comedians and musicians, Seeley and West, who are responsible for much laughter, are on a return visit here; and Spry and Monti are also here again, and are as amusing as ever in *The Dandy Guardsman.* A very bright and enjoyable entertainment is supplied by C. St. John Denton and George Rowland's smart company of juveniles (including little Marjorie Lawrence), in *The Punch and Judy Girl;* Tom Costello is again to the fore with his humorous skit, *The Suffragettes,* and his pathetic sketch, *The Old Clown;* the Three Missouris are clever acrobats; George Ridgwell, vocalist, is heard to advantage in good songs; Barnard's Mannikins are cleverly manipulated and very entertaining; in a gymnastic pot-pourri, Rhoda Brothers, head and hand balancers, do some smart work; Florence is a good lady mimic; and the American Bioscope shows some capital pictures.

Palace Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Richard Ralli.—Realistically statuesque poses by the Modern Venus form a prominent feature of this week's programme here; Vera Mayne, comedienne, contributes acceptably; a clever and humorous Risley turn is contributed by the Alskarno Trio; the Coolvilles are charming dancers and vocalists; Zarmo, "the mad juggler," is distinctly funny; Edna Latonne renders good songs with much success; the Leonards, with illustrated song, are deputising for Bert Coote's Yankee Doodle Girls; Walker and May, coloured vaudeville entertainers, are particularly energetic and smart; and some fine pictures are shown on Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

BRIDLINGTON.—Royal Victoria Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—Miss Lena Stanton and Mr. Harry Josephs' variety company is here for a second week, and is scoring in its varied programme, entitled *Samples.* The cleverly-played sketches, in which Miss Stanton, Mr. Bruce Green, and Mr. Will Terry appear never fail to keep the audience in constant laughter. Little Keeno is a remarkably clever exponent of humorous songs; the Sisters Richardson introduce several new and smartly-executed dances; the Pagoda Pierrots are highly entertaining, the various concerted numbers being very finely rendered; Miss Lena Stanton's song-scenas are carefully-finished performances; and the other members of a clever company contribute to a very attractive programme.

The Palace.—Managers, Messrs. W. H. and J. W. Delmar.—Mr. J. W. Delmar, who has had the management of this place of entertainment during the winter, and who has secured a host of friends, was accorded a benefit on Monday, when a big programme was presented before a crowded house, both the Mayor and the Deputy-Mayor of the borough (Alderman Sawdon and Councillor G. Rennald) being present. The turns included Professor Reno, a capital illusionist; Mr. Fred Field, a capable baritone vocalist; Mr. Geo. Le Wist, ventriloquist and mimic; Miss Catherine Grantham, a charming young comedienne; Mr. E. Brewin, vocalist; and Master Angus Grantham, a clever boy impersonator of female character. Mr. Joe Bath introduced a new sketch, *A Night Out,* which was admirably done. The Tennessee Minstrels gave a short "nigger" entertainment and a burlesque sketch; and there was a series of good animated pictures by the Parisian Picture Company. Mr. Delmar thanked his friends for their many kindnesses, and announced that he had taken the Palace for the coming year, and hoped to introduce some of the best talent he could procure for the entertainment of his patrons.

BRIGHTON.—Theatre Royal.—Licensee, Mr. H Cecil Beryl; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harcourt M. Beryl.—Mr. George Alexander's company is here this week with *His House in Order.* Mr. Frank Fenton submits an artistic and very warmly-appreciated impersonation of Hilary Jesson; Miss Auriol Lee displays charming and impressive acting as the young wife, Nina; and Mr. Cyril Harcourt gives an excellent enactment of the weak-minded husband, Filmer Jesson. The members of the Ridgeley Family are well represented by Mr. George Fitzgerald as the pharisaical Sir Daniel, Mrs. Kemmis as the narrow-minded Lady Ridgeley, Miss Audrey Campbell as the overbearing Geraldine, and Mr. George Silver as the caddish son, Price. Little Miss Maisie Richardson makes a pleasing Derek; and others who merit praise include Mr. Lloyd Lowndes (Major Maurewarde), Mr. A. E. Benedict (Dr. Dilnott), Miss Lilli Kerr (Mlle. Thomé), and Mr. Reginald Besant (Harding).

Grand Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter.—The great bloodless surgeon and electric wizard, Dr. Walford Bodie, is still here, and, in addition to his successful treatment of paralysed patients on the stage, gives advice gratuitously to very many who visit him privately at the theatre each day, between the hours of one and two. A variety programme is again sustained. Tom N. Mills, comedy and character actor, and vocalist, is heartily applauded for his songs and recitations; Belford and Mars are amusing duettists; little Dolly Robson sings and dances in capital style; the Musical Acmes achieve great success in their refined drawing-room entertainment; Fred Brooks, character comedian, is well received; and Bella Skene is effective in a Scottish scena.

Alhambra.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. L. Graydon; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Ernest Lepard. — An attractive programme is sustained here this week. Dan Conroy, comedian, is warmly applauded for his songs; Miss Ella's well-trained African Cape lions provide a capital turn; Mabel Bright and company are entertaining in an original vocal mélange, *Girls Will Be Girls;* Driscoll and Felino are amusing in the absurdity, *Paddock Life;* the Two Palmers are pleasing comedy duettists; Billie Burford is a charming vocal comedienne; the Sisters St. Julian (Gladys and Lillie), duettists and expert dancers, are well received; Master Charles Carr, comedian and dancer, merits praise; Patta Bella is a dainty comedienne; and the Alhambrascope pictures, including this year's Football Final, are interesting.

Hippodrome Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford. — There is an excellent company here this week. Morris Cronin and company, modern jugglers, perform some clever feats; Harry Brown, coloured comedian, wins enthusiastic applause; Regan and Ryan are diverting in their comedy act; the Four Maisanos achieve much success in their eccentric musical act; J. B. Preston, Scotch comedian, contributes some capital songs; Harry Taft is an entertaining whistling comedian; the Meymotts are humorous in their comedy duologue, *Semi-detached;* Spencer and Marks are good speciality comedians; George Barron is an eccentric comedian; Wylie's wonderful dogs furnish an excellent turn; Myra Love is a pleasing comedienne; and the Barrascope pictures are amusing.

West Pier.—Secretary and Entertainment Manager, Mr. A. D. Norman.—Mr. Eugene C. Stafford's company is here this week with *The Private Secretary.* Mr. Donald Price-Evans is very amusing as the Reverend Robert Spalding; Mr. W. Hargreaves submits a clever character-study of the elder Mr. Cattermole; Mr. W. Telworthy is well suited as Mr. Marsland; Mr. James P. E. Hussey is successful as Harry Marsland; Mr. Randolfe Reade is a capital Douglas Cattermole; Mr. Alfred Davis as Miss Ashford makes the most of her opportunities; and Miss Beth Elliott as Eva Webster and Miss Dora Grey as Edith Maitland act brightly.

Palace Pier.—Mr. Charles Carte and company are here this week with *A Noble Brother.* Mr. Carte achieves conspicuous success by his fine portrayal of Jerry, the tramp; Miss Doris Brookes makes a charming Nana Leigh; Mr. G. W. Hewitson is admirably suited as Jack Elsworth; Miss Phyllis Brent's Rosie Rapid is a good character-study; Mr. Arthur A. Tomlin gives a powerful impersonation of the villainous Henry Travers; and Mr. Gerald Weston is excellent as the Strange Preacher.

BRISTOL.—Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—Mr. Martin Harvey and company are here for the week. On Monday evening *The Only Way* attracted a full house. Mr. Harvey as Sydney Carton acted with earnestness, and was highly effective throughout. Miss N. de Silva presented a highly interesting exposition of Mimi; Miss Coleridge was pleasing as Lucie Manette, and Miss Mary Rorke displayed considerable power as The Vengeance. Mr. Leonard Craike acted with much sincerity as Charles Darnay; Mr. Charles Glenny was sufficiently powerful as Ernest Defarge; Mr. P. Alexander was decidedly good as Mr. Lorry; Mr. Philip Hewland made the most of Mr. Stryver; and Mr. Fred Wright, sen., acted admirably as Dr. Manette. In the prologue the parts of the Marquis de St. Evremond, Vicomte de St. Evremond, Jean Defarge, and a peasant were ably taken by Messrs. E. A. Raynor, Leslie Palmer, Alfred Mansfield, and H. Blackmore. The augmented orchestra was ably conducted by Mr. Clemens Franckenstein. On Tuesday evening *Hamlet* was presented, Mr. Harvey being highly successful in the title-rôle. *The Corsican Brothers* is billed for Thursday and Friday evenings.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry C. Alty. —Mr. T. Edward Ward's company is here with *Man and Wife.* Miss Kate Hallam plays Marcelle in sympathetic style; Mr. John F. Traynor presents a fine, manly exposition of Paul Revere; Mr. Wilson Coleman is highly successful in the unpopular part of Captain D'Esparre; Mr. Ambrose Horton is suitably bluff as Sergeant Jacques; Messrs. Sidney Bryant and Val Gully are amusing as Bimbo and Bambo; and Mr. E. Van Bien makes a good part of Colonel Latour. Other characters have clever exponents in Miss Polly Denville, Miss Ethel F. Greene, Miss Violet Temple, Messrs. Edward Leslie, Argus Phillips, Harcourt Ralph, and R. Stone.

Palace Theatre.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—Grais's baboons do remarkable gymnastic feats, including a sensational "looping the loop" on a tricycle. Marstro, assisted by Mlle. Oretta, does a clever equilibristic and tumbling act; Billie Barlow, comedienne, presents a pleasing turn; the Schafers are successful in a musical comedy act, *The Garden of Melody;* Madge Allan is a pleasing vocalist and dancer; Harry Weldon, comedian, is successful; Russell and Reed amuse with their sketch, *Binks' Blunder;* Dene and Dawson have also a comical sketch, *Stage Aspirants,* which is successful; and the performance concludes with "The Wonderful Electric Belt," depicted by Vernon's Bioscope.

Empire.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—John Humphries and company are amusing in the absurdity *Ancient Britons;* Clarice Mayne, comedienne and mimic presents a pleasing turn; Burt Shepard, comedian, is successful; Eustace and Eyre have a smart ventriloquial absurdity, *Tomkins Junior;* Charlton is successful as an illusionist, &c.; Ethel Arundale, comedienne, presents a pleasing turn; Derenda and Green, juggling comedians, obtain considerable applause; and Harris and Worth, patter comedians and dancers, are successful. The performance concludes with a good selection of animated pictures. For Friday evening, being the anniversary of the present management, special attractions are announced.

BROUGHTON.—Victoria Theatre, Ltd.—Manager and Licensee, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—Mr. Ian Maclaren met with a gratifying reception on Monday evening when he represented the title-rôle in *Hamlet* in a most impressive and convincing style; Miss Katherine Harrington was an excellent Ophelia; the King and Queen were well presented by Mr. G. Westland and Miss Edith Coleman; Laertes was also a fine piece of work by Mr. Frank Royde; Mr. Arthur Fayne ably sustained Polonius; Mr. J. V. Bryant carefully played Horatio; Mr. Basil Dean, Mr. George Powell, Miss G. Littlewood, Mr. W. S. Butt, Mr. P. Stafford Dawson, and the other members of the company gave excellent studies of their various characters. The staging was excellent. *Hamlet* was announced to be repeated on Saturday, the intervening evenings and Wednesday matinée being filled with *David Garrick, As You Like It, She Stoops to Conquer, The Merchant of Venice,* and *Romeo and Juliet.*

BURNLEY.—Victoria Opera House. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Good houses are witnessing Mr. Henry Swinerd's company here in *Dare Devil Dorothy.* Miss Dorothy Esmond, an excellent actress, makes the most of the title-rôle; Mr. Walter Ashley as Captain George Fielden displays good voice and is heartily applauded; Miss Marie Vere gives a clever performance as Ruth Montrose; and Mr. Dean Cliffe is capital as Featherstone Haugh. The humour is maintained at a high standard by Mr. Bert Edwards as Silas Crump and Miss Nellie Harcourt as Judith; Mr. Henry C. Ward is clever as Captain Dudley; and the Misses Mabel and Lillie Blake give a "mirror dance" which is greatly appreciated.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—The principal item here this week is furnished by the Lorch Family (nine in number) in a brilliant series of risley feats, for which they are heartily recalled; Minnie Cunningham sings some excellent songs in a charming manner; *A Game for Two* is the subject of a good sketch given by the Two Custances; Merson and company give a hunting absurdity, introducing some smart patter; Ada and Lucien Grey are loudly applauded for "Down the Vale"; and the Collier and his Child give a clever performance of second sight; Chas. Santon double-voiced vocalist, sings most acceptably; Dunningusto, conjuror, is exceedingly dexterous with cards; and the Empire Theatroscope projects a good picture.

BURTON-ON-TRENT. — New Theatre and Opera House (Hippodrome).—Proprietor, Mr. H. Dudley Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Waller.—Capital variety turns are the order here this week. The Abadaroffs, in their quaint pre-historic garb, are responsible for some clever acrobatic work; Ethel York is a pleasing vocalist; the comic duets of the Sisters Ford are well received; Mr. J. T. McMellan is decidedly original in his Scotch character songs, and speedily gains favour; Stuart and Evans sing and dance well; Russell Carr is a skilful ventriloquist; the Brothers St. Clair excel as comedy cyclists; and entertaining pictures are produced by the Raymond Bio-tableaux.

BURY (Lancs.).—Theatre Royal and Opera House, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Walter Mould.—*Her Love Against the World* is being played here by Messrs. W. H. Hallatt and Walter Howard's company. Miss Ellen Snow is a charming Princess Iris, and Mr. Walter Howard makes a manly Eric Strathmere; Miss Blanche Steele acts well as the Countess of Rassellyn; Miss Rosie St. John is well suited as Nello Strathmere; and Mr. Mayor-Cooke, as Prince Ulric, is a fine villain.

Circus of Varieties.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant Manager, Mr. Walter Mould. —The principal feature is Pathé Frère's Passion Play, depicted on the Ottograph. There are also numerous other pictures. Other turns are the Lynches, who sing acceptable illustrated songs, and Will Van Allen, the American comedian and tramp musician, who evokes much applause.

The Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Sons; General Manager, Mr. Broadhead, jun. —A good company here includes The Smart Set (under the direction of Walter George), who sing very well; W. L. Murray, winner of the Sandow competition; Vilvare, a clever illusionist; Alvina Mining, assisted by Dan Mining, in a dramatic sketch entitled *A Modern Shylock;* The Gentrys, humorists; Landor Brothers, contortionists; Harry Nelson, comedian; Lytton, ventriloquist; Cleland, juggler; and Stuart Melville, comedian.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS. — Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Eade Montefiore.—The boards are occupied this week by the Colchester Military Amateur Dramatic Society in *My Friend the Prince,* preceded by *The Man in the Street.*

Royal Hippodrome.—At the head of the bill here are the Zerbinis, in their musical act; Beattie Bloom makes a good impression with her catchy songs; Ben Jackson is a clever banjoist; Wisper gives a smart display of juggling; Eva Rosslyn is a pleasing vocalist; Jury's Pictures are better than usual; and the Cosmans, in their diverting sketch complete a first-class programme.

CAMBRIDGE. — New Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—On Monday and Wednesday Mr. Norman Macowan and company paid a welcome return visit with *Monsieur Beaucaire.* Mr. Macowan endows the Frenchman with a personality quite his own, and makes the character thoroughly interesting; Miss Violet Sterne fills the part of Lady Mary Carlisle with much charm; Mr. Murray Hathom gives a clever impersonation of the Duke of Winterset; Mr. Arthur Somers is pleasing as Major Molyneaux; and Mr. Sidney R. Palfrey, Mr. George Traill, Mr. P. Ramsey Forman, Mr. Robert Entwistle, Miss Mary Masters, Miss Mabel Adams, Miss Lister Stevens, and Miss Isabel Hathorn give adequate representations of their respective parts. On Tuesday evening *A Marriage of Convenience* was played.

CARDIFF.—New Theatre.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford. — Mr. Mouillot's company is here in *The Girl Behind the Counter.* The fun is kept going rapidly by Mr. Howard Gridland as Viscount Gushington and Mr. Ellis Holand as General Willoughby; Mr. Arthur Cartwright as Charles Chetwynd, and Miss Nora Brocklebank as Winnie Willoughby, are a delightful couple, their fine voices blending beautifully; as Mons. Duval, the excitable proprietor of the Maison Duval, Mons Jules Charmettes scores an instantaneous success; Mr. Frederick Park as Adolphus Dudds is a very versatile artist, his songs and business with Miss Rose Helene, the charming and captivating impersonator of Susie, being among the prettiest things in the whole performance; Miss Florence Lee as Millie presents a delineation which is quite irresistible; Mr. A. M. Moore as the "energetic" waiter deserves praise for a rendition which is extremely funny; the Commissionaire is well represented by Mr. Geoffrey Allsopp; and Ninette is capitally presented by Miss Doris Langdon.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Robt Redford.—Mr. T. Morton Powell's company presents *Honour Thy Father.* Miss Mabel Coleman is to be congratulated upon her rendering of Lilian Garth; and Gabriel Garth is admirably represented by Mr. Walter M. Cameron; while Mr. Howell Travis is sufficiently villainous as Duncan Bly. Mr. Robert Gilbert as Jack Halyard is an unqualified success; Mr. Fred L. Conynghame is exceedingly good as Mike Copplestone; Mr. Claude Merton in the dual rôle of Job Merry and George Bloggs acts with much ability; Gertrude Garth is well sustained by Miss Kate Newton; and Miss Winnie Donovan as Mercy Merry gives a capital delineation. Excellent fun is provided by Mr. W. H. Melrose as Ned Pennycomquick and Miss Ada Salmon as Poppy Cornleigh.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. W. Lea; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. S. Dring. — On Monday night Paul Cinquevalli made his first appearance after his most successful American tour; he is as entertaining as ever. Carter Livesey and Lillian Rosebery present an amusing sketch, entitled *The Would-be Actors;* Lottie Lennox is a favourite comedienne, her catchy songs being well appreciated; Syd May is an admirable imitator, and his wrestling skit is undoubtedly one of the funniest items to be seen; Russell Brandow, an exceptionally clever acrobatic dancer; Ruth Lytton, Scotch comedienne; A. W. Scott, the popular coon singer; Elsie Claire, soprano vocalist; and an amusing Bioscope picture, complete an ideal programme.

CARLISLE.—H. M. Theatre.—Lessees, Mr Thos. Courtice and Mr. R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—*His House in Order* is being played here for the first time by Mr. George Alexander's company Mr. Stephen T. Ewart has a part which suits him admirably, and the power, earnestness, and agreeable vivacity with which he invests the part of Hilary Jesson stamps him as an actor of unusual ability. As Filmer Jesson, M.P., Mr. Edward Pearce was seen to distinct advantage. Little Derek was splendidly played by Miss Doris Champion; and Mr. Herbert Lomas as Sir Daniel Ridgeley, Mr. Ernest R. Holloway as his son, Mr. Charles Tyrel as the Mayor, and Mr. Luke Forster as Dr. Dilnott contributed sound and thoroughly interesting performances. The delightful and artistic impersonation of Nina by Miss Dorothy Grimston was highly appreciated, her emotional and dramatic scenes being rendered with true feeling and effect. Miss Augusta Haviland was clever and amusing as Lady Ridgeley, whose daughter Geraldine was cleverly impersonated by Miss Elaine Steddall.

The Palace.—Proprietors, the Palace Theatre, Carlisle, Ltd.; Managing-Directors, Signor Rino Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—The sketch *Dotty,* played by the Ten Loonies, is one of the funniest and smartest turns seen on these boards; a distinctly novel sketch entitled *The Phantom Ship,* in which the stage effects were remarkably clever, is also much appreciated; *Chapters from Life,* by Tennis and Laune, interests the audience, and the ventriloquial humourist Gillan meets with his usual success; Henriquette Maude, described as "the little New Zealand Girl," relates the experiences of her tour round the world, illustrated by the Bioscope; Carr and Rose contribute a pleasing turn; as did also Charlie Pastor, a laughing comedian; and there is a splendid picture by the Pepiscope.

CASTLEFORD.—Royal.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Cr. Hy. Masterman.—Mrs. F. Wybert Clive's company, under the direction of Mr. Wybert Clive, presents *The Conscript* this week. Mr. H. Creagh Hunt is an excellent Karl Truevitch; Mr. Douglas Watson acts with great effect as Ivan Manloff; the villain, Count Paul Hardiski, is well played by Mr. Walter Steele; Doggervitch is presented with skill by Mr. Edward Lourie; Mr. Wybert Clive makes a deep impression as Maxim Fredka, "the ferret"; Miss Lilian Ross does good work as Nadia Truevitch; Miss Florence M. Daly gives a successful performance as Dame Katinka; and Little Karl is nicely portrayed by Miss Cissie Reenan. The comedy parts are amusingly played by Mr. Harry Lidole as Tretch Tretoff, and Miss Isabel Hunt as Wanda; both sing and dance. Mr. James Jeff's performance is capital as Sergeant Michael Andrevitch. The staging is excellent.

Queen's Theatre of Varieties. — Proprietors, Messrs. Charles Beanland and W. H. Emerson; General-Manager, Mr. W. H. Emerson.—Kahn and Kahn are remarkably clever in their exposition of magic; Mr. George Belrose and Miss Maud de Velin, duettists of unusual ability, are loudly applauded; a successful turn is given by Mr. Beanland, comedian; the Brothers Curran, in their original boxing act, *Taking the Census,* are both clever and amusing; a hit is made by Wright and Elton as speciality artists; the Evalos give an exhibition of jocular juggling in finished style; R. Dunning is well received as an up-to-date ventriloquist; and Mr. E. sings well, and causes fun with witty patter. The Loyal Dominion Company's Animated Pictures are entertaining.

CHATHAM.—Barnard's Palace of Varieties.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. S. B. Barnard.—Miss Maude Elliston and company are creating plenty of fun here in *Dobson's Day Off.* Fred Hallam's comic songs take well, and Frank and Free's domestic squabble is very capably represented; Mabel Thorne, an old favourite here, sings some new numbers, including "Waiting at the Church," which fairly brings down the house; Gustave Fasola mystifies the audience with his conjuring tricks and illusions; Winnie Wynne, vocalist, and Beale and Broadway, comedians and dancers, complete the variety turns, while pictures by Lacey's Erascope continue to afford amusement.

Gaiety Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Capt. H. E. Davis; Manager Mr. Frank J. Donne.—Jock Walker opens the ball here with songs à la Harry Lauder. Then comes Miss Mabel Moss with some pleasing ballads and Frank Coyle, whose ditty, "The Songs they Sing To-day," is certainly deserving of the applause he gets; Stelling and Revell appear in a smart comedy bar act, and Mabel Sinclair gives a neat ventriloquial act, Esme Gordon, serio, advises us in song, "Don't tell your troubles to the world"; the Dandies please everyone with their songs and dances, and the Edisonograph contributes a laughable film, "The Juggling Maniac."

CHELTENHAM. — Opera House. — General Manager, Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—*What the Butler Saw* draws crowded houses this week. Mr. Lionel Rignold as the Butler leads the revels in an inimitable manner; Miss Ada Blanche is a delightful comedienne, and as Mrs. Barrington has a part that suits her perfectly; Mr. Charles Fawcett gives a racy impersonation of Jack Barrington; Mr. Victor Widdicombe is realistic as the apoplectic General Dunlop; Mr. H. H. Rignold is excellent as the little Jew, Wilnstein; and Mr. Roy Byford is good as Professor Shale; Miss Clara Russell, as the haughty Miss Foden, is irresistible; Miss Jennie Wigney as Nora is capable; Misses Dorothy Hart and Vera O'Connell are effective as the feline sisters; Miss Julie St. George is well placed as Mrs. Hake; and Miss May Hart is the *enfant terrible* to the life.

CHESTER.—Royalty Theatre. — Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—A good bill is presented here, Mr. Fred Karno's vaudeville company appearing in *Mumming Birds* and *Early Birds* with great success. Apollo, assisted by Bacchus, presents a novel athletic entertainment; the Miltons are a smart comedy duo; Lincoln and Warren are clever acrobatic comedy cyclists; Jack Neil, Scotch comedian, has some smart patter. Others appearing are Chas. Denion, comedian; the Sisters Lavender, duettists and dancers; and Lily Stuart, a sprightly comedienne.

CHORLEY (Lancs.). — Grand Theatre. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. G. T. Santé; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Hemingway.—The attraction this week is Mr. Gilbert Payne's company in the musical comedy *The Honeymoon.* Mr. Gilbert Payne creates much amusement by his jokes and antics as Nathaniel Noodle; Mr. Alvin Sawyer as Colonel Vandyke Brown, and Mr. Leslie Erle as his nephew, Jack Armstrong, respectively, are excellent; Miss Patty Fairley is very good as Madge Armstrong; and Miss Lillian Ramsdale is seen to advantage as Emeretta Noodle. The company also includes Mr. Fred Fulton Mr. Harry Hoyland, Miss Nellie Dyson, and the Four Sisters Godfrey, who are excellent dancers.

COLCHESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Charles Macdona; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. C. Upton.—Mr. Horace Stanley opened here on Monday with his company in the *10.30 Down Express.* Mr. Andrew Money made a capital Jack O'Malley, being well supported by Miss Elsie Capell as Bessie Leigh; Mr. Chas. Burdon was successful as the malicious James Inderwick; the ex-gamekeeper was characteristically presented by Mr. Tom Roydon; Mr. Horace Stanley was the life of the piece as Sammy, being nicely aided by Miss Kate Kilpack as Peggy, and Miss Evelyn Walton as Letitia; Mr. Alaric Burton made a convincing Cuthbert Leigh; and Mr. Edwin Clarke did well as Huntley Mason; the Man in Possession being worthily represented by Mr. Arthur E. Francis.

Hippodrome.—Joint-Proprietors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. Jack de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—Miss Lucy Weston, who tops this week's bill, is a lady with perfect enunciation, who sings a trio of songs in a charmingly demure way, eliciting much applause; Ford and Barras, street performers, provide an unique entertainment, in conjunction with which a competition is run nightly; Joe Nightingale and Stegant give a particularly fine low-comedy character-sketch, in which quaintness and natural fun predominate; Alec Kendall patters in racy fashion; Frances Drew sings popular songs; George Reeves has some bright parodies; Les Petite Diabolos dance in approved style; and good pictures conclude.

CONSETT.—New Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance.—Mr. Frank Ayrton and company are paying a welcome return visit here with *The Power of Gold.* Mr. Geo. Lyttleton is good as the Hadgi Zambra; and as Paul Judson Mr. R. F. Stacey is favourably received. Mr. Richard Harris as Mark Harley and Mr. Frank Holybake as Dr. Stephen Saunders do full justice to their respective parts; Peter Maguire is in the capable hands of Mr. W. Victor; whilst Mr. Wilson Whyte is very clever as Mark Antony. In the comedy parts of Sammy Smudge and Norah Donnelly Mr. Frank Ayrton and Miss Madge Seymour are very funny, their songs and dances being loudly applauded. A word of praise is due to Little Prudence, who appears as Paddy Blake; and as Meg Judson Miss Lily

commendation are Miss Clara Greenhalgh, Miss Lucy Desmond, Miss Gladys Oliver, Miss Dorothy Crowther, Miss Grace Chester, and Mr. William Wilby. The play is elaborately staged.

DARWEN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. A. M. Loader; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. J. Robinson.—Messrs. John B. Shinton and Alex. Greenwood's company is here this week in *The Price of Her Soul*, in which Mr. Shinton appears with great credit as Lord Mandeville, being excellently supported by Miss Ada M. Ryder as Countess Inez. Mr. Arthur E. Pringle (Major Skoboloff), Mr. Ernest Regeat (Captain Petruski), Mr. Geo. Marriott, jun. (the Hon. Algy Fraser), are all good in their respective parts; Lady Fraser is well played by Miss Grace Garside; Miss Maude Yorke is capable as Olga Lanovitz; Mr. Larry Clements (Pat Murphy) and Miss Ethel Rainforth (Polly Perkins) supply excellent comedy; while mention should be made of Little Mabel Ronald as Vera.

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Denley; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Langley Wyatt.—*Charley's Aunt* is being played by Mr. Brandon Thomas's company. Mr. Spencer Trevor, in the title-part, is the life and soul of the piece, and scores all through; and the Spettigue of Mr. Walter Beaumont is another outstanding feature of the performance. Sir Francis Chesney is exceedingly well played by Mr. Sidney Compton; and Jack Chesney and Charles Wykeham are very creditably presented by Mr. Hastings Lynn and Mr. Richard B. Mason; while Mr. M. A. Wetherell is capital as Brassett. Miss Ruth Nightingale is a charming Ela; Misses Bertha Northam and Ida Vynall are both praiseworthy in the rôles of Hetty and Amy; and the Donna Lucia is admirably enacted by Miss Lena MacNaughton. *The Lancashire Sailor* is the *lever de rideau*. Miss Nightingale, as the blind girl Alice, is in every way commendable; and Miss Mollie Robertson is good as Martha. Alfred is capably accounted for by Mr. Wetherell; Mr. Beaumont appears to advantage as a farmer; and Mr. Compton plays effectively as a solicitor.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Allan Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Herbert Taylor.—The Royal Tokio Troupe of Japanese equilibrists are paying a return visit here this week, and their exceptionally clever show is warmly appreciated; the Three Macdonalds, with a novelty musical act, are decidedly entertaining; George Grenville, comedian, soon makes himself popular; Cyclo, trick cyclist, provides a sensational turn, which is deserving of special mention; the Sisters Brooke are charming duettists and dancers; whilst Kendrick and Laura, society entertainers, add in no small measure to the harmony. Conway and Garland, in an absurdity, *Left in Charge*, cause roars of laughter; and the Bioscope, depicting the English Cup Final, concludes a well-varied bill.

DEVONPORT.—METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. G. S. King.—Devonport is favoured with a visit from Mr. Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company, in the exciting drama, entitled *For Her Sake*, dealing with many stirring incidents of Russian life. Miss Mabel Mannering is delightfully sympathetic as the heroine; Mr. Henry Ford is a manly hero; and Mr. Arthur Elwyn makes a typical stage villain. Mr. Fred Beck proves himself a genuinely funny comedian as Lord Charmley Hargraves; and Miss Nellie Louraine capably plays the part of Princess Wolanoff.

DEWSBURY. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, the Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Asquith.—The "star" artists of the excellent variety company here this week are Mme. Ada Colley and Mr. Leo Dryden, whose popularity remains as effusively appreciated as their talent is undimmed; Miss Lillian Sivado proved herself an accomplished trapeze artist; Mr. Harry Plowden, with his humorous songs and patter, has a cordial reception; Globella, on the rolling globe, performs numerous difficult tricks; a sketch entitled *The Rival Indians*, makes a hit; the Dunlops deserve particularly to be eulogised for the excellence of their eccentric bicycle performance; Los Rupertos, in an equilibristic turn of an interesting nature, manifest skill and originality; and the humorous antics of Comical Walker and his bodyguard of juveniles keep everybody in a good humour.

DONCASTER.—GRAND THEATRE AND EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—An excellent variety programme is being presented here twice nightly. Fred Tenby, comedian and dancer, pleases; the Brothers Devars, comedy bar performers, are clever; Madge Osmond is a dainty male impersonator; Pearce and Ward, boxers, provide a good turn; and Violi, lady instrumentalist, introduces some novel and interesting instruments; Tom Parker, comedian and dancer; Atroy, society juggler and hoop roller; and Will Onda's combination in the pantomime comedy sketch, *Hotel Comfort*, are other excellent attractions.

DOVER. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Dover Theatres, Ltd.; Chairman of Directors, Mr. B. Carter; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—Mr. Dudman Bromwich is here this week with Miss Katie Neville and, assisted by a capable company, is presenting a sensational sketch entitled *In Old Madrid*. Harry Merson is an amusing comedian; Ethel Wilson, an exceedingly well-dressed burlesque artist, contributes two good songs; a clever turn is given by the Idento Bros., smart jugglers; Wal Robbins is well received for his humorous and musical turn; a pretty and novel entertainment is given by Charles Banks, assisted by his highly intelligent little dog; and an exceedingly graceful little lady named La Belle Maie is responsible for a charming performance on the tight wire and afterwards on the rope. Raymond's Bio-tableaux show "Those Boys Again" and "A Venetian Love Tragedy."

DUBLIN.—GAIETY THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mrs. Michael Gunn; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Chas. Hyland.—This week we have Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company in *Peter's Mother*. Miss Ruth Mackay won the delight of all the audience by her dignified and effective portrayal of Lady Mary Crewys; Mr. Percy Hutchison displayed his abilities with considerable skill as Peter Crewys; and the part of Sir Timothy was in the clever hands of Mr. Charles Harley. Mr. Stanley Pringle acted with great dramatic power as John Crewys; and Canon Birch was well sustained by Mr. F. G. Thurstans. Miss May Griffiths as Lady Belstone and Miss Florence Harwood as Miss G. Crewys added greatly to the comedy by their clever and entertaining parts. Dr. Blundell had a capital representative in Mr. Townsend Whitling; Miss Violet Ley acted splendidly as Mrs. Hewell; and as her daughter, Sarah, Miss Hilda Honiss was most efficient. A farce, *Her Dearest Friend*, preceded.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—George Lashwood's songs were received with great applause here on Monday; Chris. Richards gave plenty of amusement with his tricky manipulations of his funny hat; the Three Amaranths in their clever and graceful dances gave a capital performance; the Eight Emeralds Girls have made many friends here, and their songs and dances are heartily enjoyed; the Two Bostons appeared in their well-known showman's performance with success. Goggin and Davis, acrobats, Marlo, juggler, Bessie Benson, comedienne; and the Sisters Neilson also contribute most successfully to an excellent programme, and the Empire pictures, exhibiting the Cup Final, Crystal Palace, are interesting.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Monillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Parrington.—*The Belle of New York* is being presented by Mr. George Musgrave's company. As the Salvation Army Lassie Miss Empsie Bowman charmed everyone with her pleasing and effective singing, and danced most gracefully; an old favourite is Mr. Frank Lawton, in his well-known part of Blinky Bill, and his whistling solos and clever dancing were heartily enjoyed; Mr. Joseph R. Tate as the Polite Lunatic was particularly good; Mr. Paddy Durpres fulfilled the character of Ichabod Bronson in capital style; and his son, Harry, was most successfully enacted by Mr. John Doran. Miss Lily Maxwell as Fifi sang "La Belle Parisienne" in a most taking manner, and danced very nicely; Cora Angelique was admirably played by Miss Winnie Browne; and Miss Florence Hersee as Kissie Fitzgarter received deserving applause for her coon song and dance. The amusing part of the Portuguese Twins was excellently sustained by Messrs. Lionel Yeoman and Ray L. Cody.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles Jones; Secretary, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—Rosini Casselli with her clever troupe of Mexican dogs, gives a very interesting show; Olms and Carbeth are remarkably smart and diverting as comedy jugglers; May Newall sings several ballads in taking style, and is deservedly applauded; the musical turn of Huline and May provokes much laughter; Harry Barker scores successfully as a character comedian, as also do Rappo and Ella, society gymnasts; Louie Harman is a fascinating comedienne and burlesque actress; and other acceptable turns are Vanola, Mexican antipodeste, Jack Foley, comedian, and the Bioscope, with new pictures.

WORLD'S FAIR AND MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. A. James.—The artists appearing this week are Ethel Mackey, soprano vocalist; Ted Warner, comedian and vocalist; Prof. and Madame Elba, second-sight artists; George Mack, comedian and dancer. The new cinematograph displays a capital series of pictures.

SAMUELS' EXHIBITION PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. S. Samuels; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Howard.—The company engaged here are the Raymonds, in their comedy act *The Warrior's Return*; Isa Bernard, vocalist and dancer; Harry May, eccentric comedian; Daisy Clowser, comedienne and dancer; Herbert Davis, eccentric patter comedian; and Halt and Lane, speciality artists, in their comedy act *Courtship*.

DUDLEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—Miss Florence Glossop-Harris, supported by Mr. Frank Cellier, jun., and a London company, are giving a round of Shakespearean performances, opening on Monday with *Twelfth Night*. Miss Glossop-Harris's acting as Viola was particularly graceful and pleasing; Mr. Cellier as Feste had scarcely sufficient scope for his powers, but on Tuesday as Romeo he gave an excellent rendering. The principals are supported by a strong company of all-round excellence. *Much Ado About Nothing*, *As You Like It*, and *The Taming of the Shrew* are also billed.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. B. Piberdy.—Marguerite Ismay's White Coons are causing quite a furore here. Too much praise cannot be accorded The Gilberts, in their smart performance on the wire; Raynor and Reece have an enjoyable sketch, *Early Closing Day*; the Sisters Hypatia, duettists and dancers, are lively; a clever exhibition of step-dancing is given by Lily Gaston; Blarney and Kennard, comedians, are an amusing turn; and Alf Davis, comedian, and Viny Loftus, comedienne, are very good. The Empire Pictures complete.

DUNDEE.—PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. E. J. Dexter.—*The Red Letter*, a clever dramatic incident founded on the Thaw case, is proving a big draw here this week, and Miss Lily Pearl and company should feel pleased with their reception. An exceptionally good turn is supplied by those smart American comedy artists, Pyck, Tholl, and Taylor, while that of Vowles and Bryan is one of the most refined and enjoyable turns imaginable; Charles Ashdowne is a very amusing comedian, and his legmania dancing is marvellous; the Schiavonis Troupe of acrobats are decidedly clever; Ben Harris and his Nippers are deservedly popular; and Nelson and Thomas appear in a new act with great success; Hans and Lux, cross-talk comedians, score, and Jennie Evans, a chic serio, obtains a good hearing. A novel boxing competition and Vernon's Imperial Bioscope complete an attractive bill.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. A. P. Williams.—The topliner here is Mr. A. J. Gamble, a versatile Scotch comedian and eccentric dancer; a very enjoyable combination of mirth and music is supplied by Fred Ramsdale's musical comedy company in a very laughable sketch entitled *The Squire's Daughter*; Staffo, the butcher boy juggler, is decidedly clever; Clark's Nippers are well received; the Two Daniels, negro entertainers; John E. Lennard, character comedian; Sam Morrison, male soprano; and the Electric Motorscope, with several new films, complete.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Percival.—After a short and successful variety season drama once more holds sway here. This week Mr. Carr Loates' company is appearing in *At the World's Mercy*. Miss Cissie Milford as Skittles, the stowaway, makes a big hit; and as Alice Lloyd Miss Maude Devereux acts most sympathetically; as the hero, Captain Frank Mannley, Mr. John Cecil plays with fine vigour; Mr. Jess Doxer as Charlie Smart supplies humour of an acceptable kind.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Devonshire Park and Baths Co.; Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clark.—The enterprising managers this week introduce their own capital company in the ever-interesting drama, *East Lynne*. The staging is quite worthy of special mention, and the triumph of the production is the very fine work of Miss Lilias Waldegrave as Lady Isabel, which well deserves the full measure of applause obtained; Miss Evelyn Neilda is a natural and pleasing Barbara Hare; Miss Iris Hawkins gives a very sweet and youthful rendering of Willie Carlyle; Mrs. Stanislaus Calhaem realises to the utmost all the comedy possibilities of Cornelia Carlyle; and Miss Sepha Julian is a capital Joyce. Mr. John J. Daly plays carefully and well as Archibald Carlyle; Mr. Henry Watson is a keen and effective Captain Levison; Mr. Walter Russel does the excellent work expected of an experienced actor as Lord Mount Severn; Mr. Ardene Linden helps along the laughter in an able manner as the Gamekeeper; and other parts are in very good hands.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Mr. H. A. Saintsbury and a small, but very fine, company are appearing here in *Anna of the Plains*. Mr. Saintsbury as Matthew Kerrins contributes an extremely artistic and impressive performance, which merits the highest praise; Mr. Hilliard Vox, as Michael O'Donoghan, is capitally placed, and his efforts are warmly appreciated; Mr. C. H. Croker-King fully realises the possibilities of the part of Piet Van Heller, and shows fine judgment; and Mr. Louis Scott is an amusing Widem Van Stern. Miss Dorothy Desmond is a gentle, appealing Anna, and scores a marked success in a difficult part; Miss V. Vivian is a strong and well-defined Sarah Kerrins; and Miss Grace Ryland does capitally as Steina. The play is followed by a comedy, *Jocelyn the Jester*, in which Mr. Saintsbury shows his versatility in the remarkably well-played part of Jocelyn.

THE HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sydney W. Winter; General-Manager, Mr. H. Day; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Smith.—At the head of the bill here is Raku, the Japanese athlete, but on Tuesday evening the wonderfully smart little wrestler was unable to appear owing to sudden and severe indisposition. In his absence a very clever exhibition was given by an able assistant and a prepossessing lady, who gave finished illustrations of Ju-Jitsu. The Paul Hesse Trio are acrobats and wire-performers of much ability; Elmore and Recco are a couple of fine tumblers and comedians; Mr. Jack Crawley is a clever singer and realistic imitator; the Sisters Belmont are capable singers and smart dancers; Mrs. Bennet and Mr. Edward Cranston appear successfully in a cleverly-written sketch, *A Model Wife*; Mr. Fred Dornan, a refined vocalist, is a great favourite; Miss Josie Hammersley is a dainty burlesque artist; and new pictures give great pleasure.

ECCLES.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. C. Hamilton Baines; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert Orton.—Messrs. E. H. Knight and Geo. Denham's company is here in *The Grip of Iron*. Chief honours go to Mr. Fred Powell, whose depiction of Jagon is very powerful. Mr. Wallace Gurnock sustains the character of Paul Blanchard excellently; and Mr. A. G. Polson Turner is clever as Lorentz de Ribas. Mr. W. T. Riley impersonates Alphonse de Coucou, a detective, capably; while as Dodet, Mr. John Brittain is amusing. Mr. George Denham in the rôle of Loustalot, the smiler, creates considerable fun; Miss Rosabel Dodd as Cora Simmonet plays in good style; Miss Frances Trevoir ably sustains the rôle of Sophie Blanchard; and Miss Maggie Stewart as Marie Guerin achieves considerable success.

EDINBURGH.—ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Carpenter.—Mr. Oscar Asche and Miss Lily Brayton have drawn crowded houses here this week. The company opened on Monday with *The Virgin Goddess*. Mr. Asche's admirable qualities of virility and earnestness are displayed in his stirring performance of Haephestion; and the acting of Miss Lily Brayton as Althea was memorable for grace, tenderness, and passion. Mr. Alfred Brydone makes an outstanding figure of the vacillating King of Artis—the impersonation is a brilliant one, characterised by evident study, and remarkable for finished elocution; Miss Elsie Chester is powerful and pathetic as the blind Cleito; Mr. H. R. Hignett acts with much ability as Iphicles; and Mr. Reginald Ian Penny is impressive as the Leader of the Male Chorus. Miss Leila Norris is dramatic as a Priestess of Artemus; and amongst other parts that are ably played a special word of praise is due to the Herald of Mr. G. Kay Souper. In response to loud applause at the close of the play Mr. Asche thanked the audience for the warmth of their reception. *Othello* was given on Tuesday, Mr. Asche winning a triumph with his masterly impersonation of the Moor. Miss Brayton's Desdemona was a performance full of beauty, naturalness, and effective quietude. *The Taming of the Shrew* has also been played during the week.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndnam; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—The long programme provided this week proves to be again an exceptionally strong one. Miss Edna Seaton makes a promising appearance as a Dutch comedienne; Vandinoff paints beautiful pictures with extraordinary skill and rapidity; Miss Jeannie Hartley is a particularly pleasing coon vocalist and dancer in miniature; Mr. Will Driscoll entertains by his singing, and still more by his dancing; Burnetti shows some surprising novelty as a quick-change musician; Miss Lena Brunton displays great proficiency in her imitations of music-hall celebrities; and Mr. Barney Armstrong, the popular comedian, assisted by a small boy, gives a quaint turn. The most outstanding musical item is contributed by Miss Lelia Roze, whose scena, *A Dressing-room Dream*, merits to the full the hearty approval with which it is received. An episode of Parisian life, entitled *A Daughter of Pleasure*, is admirably acted by Mr. J. G. Grahame, jun., and Miss Zerlina Harrington; and the series of bas-reliefs and tableaux vivants, reproduced by Henriette de Serris's company of French models, is remarkable for the fidelity with which the subjects are presented. Very interesting films are exhibited by the cinematograph.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Parham Wells.—The leading item in an attractive bill is provided by Mme. De Vry's Three Golden Graces, in their poses as gold bronze works of art, which comprise wonderfully perfect simulations of classical subjects; Miss Gwennie Hasto pleases the audience by her singing and dancing; and dancing of a surprisingly eccentric kind also marks the successful *Flipp and Flopp* sketch of the Delevines. Mr. Mike S. Whallen reels off a fund of amusing patter stories, and his impromptu verses are clever; the Lupino Brothers appear with much acceptance in a comedy speciality act; Nipper Lupino Lane gives a bright turn in character songs; and Gaumont's Chronophone contributes an interesting series of songs and films. Dome, the well-known clay modeller; Miss Nellie Coleman, the popular "only lady comedian"; and the Brothers Lang, knockabout performers, are also in the bill.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Ventom Swift.—The strength of the programme here this week lies in its admirable variety. The Moncktons present a clever musical sketch, *Are Wives Dummies?* and Miss Nellie Nora's instrumental act evokes loud applause. Mr. Percy Maye is successful in his female impersonations; and Chorley and Connor, comedians and dancers, are unflagging in their efforts to please. The Orchids, comedy entertainers, are bright and amusing in their turn; while Rene and Smith's vigorous performance, and the up-to-date films shown by the Alhambrascope, add to the interest of the bill.

EXETER. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr Edward J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—Mr. Andrew Melville's powerful company is here this week in the well-known drama, *Driven from Home*, and is attracting large houses. Miss Rose Ralph as Laura Raybrook enlists the sympathies of the audience by her pathetic rendering of the part. Mr. Fred A. Marston as Laura's autocratic uncle is lifelike; while Mr. G. M. Montanini is good as Geoffrey Waring. Mr Percy Dawsome deserves a word of praise for his portrayal of Willie the outcast; and Mr. Francis Everard ably sustains the part of Laura's husband. Miss Amy Corelli and Mr. Fred C. Imbert are responsible for some very humorous scenes.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Mr. E. St. Alban's Opera Company is here this week in *Les Cloches de Corneville*. Mr. William Everard is an excellent representative of Henri; Mr. E. St. Alban's impersonation of Gaspard evokes loud applause; Mr. Charles Ross as Grenicheaux displays considerable talent; Mr. Fred Dark is most amusing as the Bailie; and Mr. Richard Martin is equally good as Gobo. Miss Marion Ayling as Germaine plays with success; and Miss Madge Roberts makes a dainty and charming Serpolette.

LEAS PAVILION.—Manager and Musical-Director, Mr. D'Arcy Clayton.—"The Gipsies and their Jester" are concluding their visit here this week, and have fully maintained their reputation. Mr. Eric Davidson's voice is heard to advantage in all his songs, but especially in "Lorraine"; Miss Muriel Fane is much applauded; Miss Florence Croft sings in a pleasing manner; Mr. Will Gane (the Jester) keeps the audience in continual merriment; and Mr. Robert Tattersall is a diverting conjurer and ventriloquist.

GAINSBOROUGH.—KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Stear.—Messrs. Travis Green and Arthur Hinton's company appeared here for three nights last week in *A Soldier of France*. Mr. Hinton gave a powerful rendering of Corporal Jean, and the villainies of Judas de Lara were well brought out by Mr. Travis Green. Miss Lelia Gillwood played the difficult part of Pauline in a clever manner. The comedy element was safe in the hands of Mr. Wilton Drury and Miss Jennie Clare; Mr. Victor Millard played the dual part of Captain Lorraine and Lieut. Louis well, and Mr. Arthur Lowry gave a good rendering of the Duke de Laval.

GATESHEAD. — KING'S THEATRE. — Resident Manager, Mr. Harold Arnold.—The leading line here is occupied by Hackenschmidt, whose wrestling matches with worthy opponents have aroused much enthusiasm; Charles Frazer and company present an item entitled *The Enchanted Iona*, which comprises good singing and dancing, and is also a vehicle for the introduction of posing and illusionary business; Cliff Ryland, a genuine humorist with a quaint delivery, has pleased immensely; Ernest Montefiore and company in a dramatic and musical sketch, *The Little Colonel*, have accomplished a success on a return visit; Will Lytton, an original dancer and a capable comedian, makes a decided hit; Gold and Sterling, in a musical comedy scena, *The Welsh Girl and the Artist*, renew acquaintance with Gateshead people, and get a flattering reception; the Society Quartette of singers and dancers are successful; and pictures by Vernon's Imperial Bioscope conclude this excellent entertainment.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Coun. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas France.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's company in *The Sin of Her Childhood* has attracted good audiences to this house during the week. Mr. James Duncan as the Rev. Alan Grey is responsible for a capital embodiment; Stephen Haysel receives the greatest attention from Mr. Wilson Summers; Mr. Frank Liston makes a manly John Thornton; Mr. Hugh Brady is very amusing as Barney O'Reilly; Miss Stanley Burt as Mary Haysel has a difficult task, but comes through the ordeal with distinct credit; Miss Clara Santley supplies an excellent portrayal of Maria Haysel; Miss Katie Lever is to the fore in the part of Eliza Muggins; and Miss Lissa Yound and Little Dorothy are successful in their respective parts.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Coun. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stephen Smith.—Miss Lydia Donovan's company in *Her One Great Sin* is appearing here this week. Miss Donovan is the central figure as Grace Warhurst. Mr. C. Quinton Fulford (Arnold Thornhill) and Mr. G. Edward Hall (Reuben Warhurst) lend valuable assistance.

GLASGOW.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Humphrys.—Mr. Edmund Tearle and company are here in a répertoire of plays, the first presented being *The Three Musketeers*, with Mr. Tearle as D'Artagnan, of which character he gives a vigorous impersonation. Miss Kate Clinton is equally impressive as Miladi, the spy of Cardinal Richelieu; the part of that wily Statesman is suitably rendered by Mr. Bernhardt Turner; and Louis XIII. is well delineated by Mr. G. T. Greig. Miss May Campbell gives a tender, yet dignified, interpretation of the Queen, Anne of Austria; Miss Esther Tearle is very pleasing as Constance, the Queen's tire-woman; Mr. J. A. Keoch introduces some amusing broad comedy into his impersonation of Boniface; the Musketeers are powerfully played by Mr. A. D. Adams as Athos, Mr. Ernest Lodge as Porthos, and Mr. R. H. Lace as Aramis; while their Captain is forcibly portrayed by Mr. P. Kelsie. Mr. Clifford Marle is satisfactory as the Duke of Buckingham. *Macbeth* was played on Tuesday, with Mr. Tearle as the Thane and Miss Kate Clinton as Lady Macbeth, *Jeanie Deans* on Wednesday, and during the remaining nights *It's Never Too Late to Mend*.

ROYALTY, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie.—It is many years since the Ibsen boom was at its height, and yet Glasgow is only being given its second opportunity of seeing an Ibsen play. Mr. Harold V. Neilson is presenting *An Enemy of the People* here, and the audience, if not as large as it might have been, was most enthusiastic. As Dr. Stockmann, Mr. Neilson gives a very fine performance; and his timid wife is cleverly acted by Miss Lucy Sibley. The pompous Burgomaster is played with excellent effect by Mr. Claud Haviland; a specially good performance is the Hovstad of Mr. H. Gomer May; the part of the printer, Aslaksen, is played on amusing lines by Mr. Frank Lilliput; Mr. John Delliv as old Kiil, Miss Amy Sangster as Petra, Mr. W. Lemmon Warde as Billing, and Mr. Bernard Limpus as Captain Horster lend able and effective support, and the "rowdy" meeting in Act 3 is cleverly stage-managed.

KING'S, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Macfarlane.—*San Toy* is this week being presented by Mr. John Hart's company. Miss Gertrude Gilliam's portrayal of San Toy is a most artistic performance; and the Bobby Preston of Mr. Edmund Sherras is most successful. Mr. Horace Mills as Li is very amusing; Mr. Colin Coop sings and acts well as Yen How; Mr. W. J. Manning gives an excellent account of Sir Bingo Preston; Miss Sylvia May is a dainty Poppy; and Miss Clive Crellin is worthy of high commendation as Dudley. Mr. Alfred Clark does good service as the Emperor; Mr. Frederick Hobbs as Fo Hop, and Mr. Jocelyn Hope as Sing Hi, lend able assistance.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch. — A special stock season commenced here on Monday, when a stirring performance was given of the American drama, *The Unknown; or, A River Mystery*. Mr. Phillip Darien was very successful in depicting the trials of the unfortunate hero, Harold Merrybright, who, through loss of reason and memory, becomes "the unknown." The heroine, Bessie Merrybright, had a winning and accomplished exponent in Miss Maud Linden; a splendid example of a bluff and hearty old sailor was seen in the Jack Salt of Mr. Felix Pitt; Mr. Clavering Craig's Tyson was a forcible and telling performance; the Dr. Brinckton of Mr. Thomas Barry showed careful study; as Albert Stormking, Mr. Herbert Young made a pleasing impression; good character work was done by Mr. Frederick Sandy as Jimmy; and amusing comedy scenes were supplied by Mr. David Phillips (Pat) and Miss Enid Wilde (Louise).

METROPOLE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Gordon Jefferson.—*The Trail of the Serpent*, played by Mr. A. Campbell-Kelly and company, is the attraction here. Of outstanding merit is Miss Nana Cameron in the part of Rachel, the gipsy; no less excellent are the dual parts of Gerald Kingston and Old Jack, played by Mr. A. Campbell-Kelly; Ralph Hammond has a strong exponent in Mr. Frank Lyndon; and the Gipsy Jake of Mr. John Cullen is equally good. Abundant humour lightens the piece considerably, thanks to Miss Jennie Risley as Rose and Mr. J. R. Tyrell as William; Miss Phyllis Elton as Ethel Maynard, the heroine, is a capable actress; and the remaining parts are impersonated acceptably. Between the acts, the phonograph selection and the bioscope pictures continue to add further to the evening's enjoyment.

LYCEUM. — Proprietor, Mr. Richard Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—Mr. Tom H. Taylor's company, in the stirring drama, *The Female Swindler*, has migrated here from the Princess's, and Govan playgoers seem highly appreciative of the merits of this strong play. Miss Grace Leslie in the title-rôle acts with exceptional ability.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Mussett.—The centre of attraction this week is the one and only Wilkie Bard; as a comedian he has gained to an enormous extent in popularity with Glasgow audiences, and this week has proved no exception. An all-round excellent company includes Miss Nellie Stratton, another welcome comedienne; the Dayton Family give their accustomed clever exposition of tumbling, &c.; the Westwoods are a clever team of trick cyclists; the Cambrian Trio of lady vocalists provide an excellent turn; while another Glasgow favourite, Arthur Sutcliffe, is well received. Farley, Rennie, and Farley also serve up an amusing eccentric turn, entitled *Fun at a Railway Station*; the Three Cane Girls are a talented trio of dancers; Kitts and Windrum, in their farcical sketch *The Cuckoo*, are responsible for much merriment; and the Empire Bioscope terminates an enjoyable evening's entertainment.

ZOO-HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd., and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—A special attraction this week is Clive Darrell, "the jilted giant," who has had a flattering reception; a clever performance is given by the Piccolinis, Liliputian wonders, in a unique shooting and cycling act; the tricks performed by Belloni's Cockatoos border on the marvellous; O'Malley and Brown are seen to much advantage in a comedy sketch; other acceptable turns include Fanny Erris, comedienne; Robb Gilmore, comedian; Arthur Albert, vocalist; Olive Tree, in illustrated songs; the Jagos, in a clever sketch; and the Hippodrome Bioscope, with new pictures.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—Miss Belle Davis and her piccaninnies head the list here, and the programme is strong in comedians, including Bert Brantford, Fred Cary, Roland Hill, and the Harvey Boys. The latter, as London messengers, have a new boxing act, entitled *That Was Me*, which is provocative of much mirth; the Burnells, a clever quartette, appear in their sketch, *On the Links*; the Mackweys, comedy acrobats, and Zarno and Arno, in a comedy act, win much applause; an outstanding turn is that of the Yiulians Family, who give a Risley performance that is both daring and skilful.

COLISEUM.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Burdette.—Those old Glasgow favourites, the Egbert Brothers, are as funny as ever in their sketch, *The Happy Dustmen*; Carlotta De Yonson's company, in a stirring detective drama, *Sexton Blake*, has proved a great attraction; Jack Hills, Scotch comedian, is a decided success; C. Randolph King is a clever impersonator of music hall artists; Mezetti and Mora are a smart pair of horizontal bar performers; very good turns are also given by the Sousloffs, whirlwind dancers; Beatrice Renee, comedienne and sand dancer; Billy Farrell, coon singer; and David Stewart, illustrated song vocalist.

PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Richard Waldon; General-Manager, Mr. Harry M'Kelvie.—An excellent company is billed here this week. Dan Crawley, comedian, has had a capital reception; another interesting item is the engagement of Miss Irma Lorraine, the fascinating Spanish artist, who is seen to great advantage in a series of tableaux vivants; other notable turns include Lillian Bishop, male impersonator; George D'Albert, comedian; Brothers Ashley, comedy boxers; Sable Fern, the clever young comedienne; Mlle. Ada Gatley, juggler and wire performer; Ivey Roze and Frank Calvert, comedy specialists; George Leonard, comedian; Bert Williams, ventriloquist; Harry Ray and Lillie Galden, transatlantic artists; and the Bioscope, with an interesting set of pictures.

GAIETY, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Harry Bowerman.—Rose Elliott, comedienne, always a strong favourite in Glasgow, is crowding this theatre twice nightly; Daisy Morrell is another artist with a taking style, and she proves a great hit; Chant and Chant are a clever comedy couple with smart songs and patter; Ella Duncanson's illustrated songs are well received; as also are the male impersonations of Flo Hilton. Jack Henri is a favourite Scotch comedian; and the songs of Jas. Merrilees, jun., go with a good swing. G. H. Furgus shows much ability as a step-dancer; and the Bioscope presents the latest films.

BRITANNIA.—Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickard.—May Wallie, and Louie, the Royal trio, top the bill here; Norah Dey is a smart young comedienne with a good style; J. H. Harris has several taking songs; Charles H. Clivers, the coloured bass vocalist, is well received; Walter Gilbert, descriptive vocalist; the Chronophone, and the Bioscope, with all the latest novelties, complete an enjoyable programme.

GLOSSOP.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—Mr. Montague Beaudyn's company, in *A Beautiful Fiend*, is here this week. Mr. Beaudyn as Ivan Paulovitch gives a finished performance; Mr. Herbert Skardon is exceedingly good as Count Fedor Karateff; and Mr. Mat Russell does ample justice to the part of Sergius Strogoff. Mr. W. Robertson Foulis as Malachi and sergeant of police submits good readings; Mr. Lionel Cartaret is diverting as Olcholi Trolski; Miss Sidney Crowe portrays Wanda Lubinoff in a capable manner; Miss Irene Munroe acts artistically as Nadine; and Mr. Harry Oates as Christopher Crackles and Miss Annie Clunn as Patty Woodlands supply good comedy.

GLOUCESTER.—PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr. R. T. Rea.—Maurin's Fountains, with kaleidoscopic effects, are well received; Harry Claff, in *Nelson from His Monument*, is much liked; The Maros contribute a good turn on the triple bars, while variety is added by McAskell, the comic conjurer. Mulvey and Miriam have a funny sketch entitled *Fun in the Studio*; the Two Roses are clever in a *mélange*, and the Ringling Trio do some good tumbling and stilt dancing. Daisy Aylmer scores with her dancing; Miss Nance Harder is a chic comedienne; and the Five M.P.'s bring down the house with their clever musical act. The bioscope concludes a pleasant evening.

GRAVESEND.—GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General Manager, Mr. David Hart.—Here for this week are Marie Santoi and her merry little Japs, in their scena, *A Japanese Tea-Garden*, who are voted extremely good; Allan and Hart, clever dancers; Gicardo, a juggler of no mean ability; the Three Sisters Thurban, whose vocal and instrumental selections gain much applause; Rita Rose, a good burlesque artist; Charles Russell, a pleasing vocalist; and Levarni, in a daring wire act.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—*Home, Sweet Home* is the attraction here this week, and is well played by Messrs. Travis Green and Arthur Henton's company. As Stephen Amitage, Mr. Hinton gives a capital representation, and David Armitage is well played by Mr. Frank Hudspeth. Mr. Travis Green effectively enacts the thankless part of Lucas Lyle. Joan is charmingly represented by Miss Le

performance; the Masumas, comedians on wheels, provide a really clever and amusing turn; and the pictures are good and right up to date.

HARROGATE.—Grand Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Smith.—The first three nights of this week Mr. Peacock has introduced variety at two houses a night. Mlle. Irma Clasen's Living Art Bronzes are both artistic and clever; Miss Dolly Denver is a clever dancer; and the Bros. Exlade proved themselves amusing comedians. Sandy and Carl are capital cross-talkers, and do some very good tumbling; T. W. Rawson and Lily Bertram present *The Would-be Actors* with great success; Harry Hayton, comedian, has a funny parody on "In the Shade of the Old Apple Tree"; while Maston, a mimic, satisfactorily completes the bill. For the rest of the week Mr. Frank Lindo and his company present *Home, Sweet Home.*

HARTLEPOOL. — Empress. — Proprietors, Messrs. Everton and Cragg; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Charlie Ferrier.—The King's College Boys are pleasing all with the perfect harmony with which their vocal numbers are rendered; Henderson, the blind musician, manipulates the concertina in masterly style; the marvellous tumbling and headbalancing by the Fergana troupe evokes considerable applause; Harry Levaine is truly a quaint comedian, and has a splendid reception; Cedar and Elgar, in a novel and original act, *Ye Dayes of Olde*, sing well and introduce some side-splitting comedy patter; the D'Ostas, second sight seers, give an interesting exhibition of their skill. The Three Luna Girls, vocalists, and the Bioscope are also entertaining turns.

HASTINGS.—Gaiety Theatre.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Scutt.—Messrs. Carey and Wantage's company is here with *The Pick of the Bunch.* Mr. Charles Carey presented the difficulties and embarrassments of Halliwell Menit very amusingly, and was well supported in the comedy scenes by Miss M. Sadie, with her excellent assumption of illiteracy in the rôle of Nancy, her songs being admirably sung. Mr. H. Buckstone Clair was amusingly irritable as Colonel Menit; Miss Madge Christopher gave a charming impersonation of Nellie Mather, and sang her songs very acceptably; Mr. Harold Wantage made a foppish Dick Seymour; Mr. Algernon W. Lee has a good voice, which was heard to advantage in his rôle as Martin; Miss Nellie James did well as Welhelmeina, and contributed a good Dutch song with clog dance; Miss Eva Ellis appeared as Ruth Gay very pleasingly, and sang her songs very effectively, and in a coon song, with dance, she was ably assisted by the Misses Gladys Glynn, Sybil Glynn, and Mabelle and Elsie May. Mr. Harry Bolton directed an augmented orchestra, and Mr. Buckstone Clair ably stage-managed.

Pier Pavilion.—Pier-Master, Mr. R. Turner; Entertainment-Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—Mr. Harry Reynolds's coloured minstrels are occupying the boards here this week. These minstrels are always a favourite attraction. Their singing in their part songs and choruses is singularly sweet and tuneful, while the comedians are as funny as ever. A good Bioscope concludes the entertainment.

Hippodrome Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Norman.—A full and strong programme is opened by Mr. Roy Beavis, who is a proficient in the art of conjuring; a new musical comedy, entitled *The Rehearsal*, performed by Mr. Chas. D. Wright and Miss Katie Blair, is noticed in another column; Miss Mollie Doon is an attractive singer and dancer; the Bioscope gives some effective scenes in "True to His Trust," and an amusing series, "The Cabman's Dream"; a laughable comedy sketch is gone through by Mr. and Mrs. George Leonard, *Coming Home*; Miss Audrey Wykenham, a juvenile violinist, shows remarkable technical facility of touch; Hyde and Cody are clever eccentrics; the Sisters Charnley score a success as dancers; a skilful juggler is seen in Miss Rene, who is accorded a hearty reception; Mr. G. P. Newall, a society comedian, gains much applause; Wilton Heriot and company engage in a protean pleasantry, entitled *An Anglo-American Alliance.*

St. Leonards Pavilion Theatre.—Pier-Master and Entertainment-Manager, Mr. Elvey Thomas.—Mr. W. G. B. Bell's company is appearing in a musical and pantomimical comedy, entitled *Captain Blarney.* Mr. Sam Wilford in the title-rôle takes the character of a breezy old salt, whose adopted son Frank is naturally played by Mr. Bernard Lovett, who introduces some capital songs; Frank's tutor, the Rev. Horatio Kneebone, finds a good representative in Mr. W. G. Bell; Mrs. Banks, a wealthy widow, has a dignified exponent in Miss Nora Coronne; Miss Ethel Lovett gives a charming rendering of Emily Banks; the two maids are well acted by Miss Vera Cooper and Miss Louie Lenora, and as the menservants Messrs. Frank Watson and F. Denvers are equally successful.

HORWICH.—Prince's.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fred Lewis.—The British Empire Talking Pictures and Variety company are paying a visit here this week, and have caught on thoroughly. The turns presented by Mr. Arthur Bright, comedian and Milanese pipe-player, Little Doris, ballad vocalist, and Mr. Harry Lamb, Scotch comedian, are of a high order.

HUDDERSFIELD.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Andrews.—*Two Little Drummer Boys* is being played by Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company. The leading parts are in the hands of Mr. Fred Emery as Frank Carsdale, and Mr. Harley as Darrell; Miss Maggie English and Miss Douglas as the two drummer boys; Miss Mildred Eversleigh, a sympathetic Alma; Miss Kathleen Magee as Margaret Rivers; Miss Lizzie Chambers as Molly; Mr. J. Muldoon as O'Quirke; and Mr. Harry Lyndon as O'Trimmer.

Hippodrome, Ltd.—Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—The Courtiers, under the direction of Mr. Paul Mill, give a dainty and refined entertainment. Their reception has been terrific. In addition there are Ford and Hanson, a couple of clever and humorous musical experts; Frank Lincoln, comedian; Benno and Adele, in a smart acrobatic speciality; Little Don, comedian; Conan and Doyle, duettists; Walton and Lester, in their highly laughable burlesque as *The World's Worst Wizards*; and a change of film on the Bioscope.

HULL.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. F. Morton.—That very pretty play, *Dr. Wake's Patient*, is paying a return visit to Hull. As Gerania Miss Fyfe Alexander has a capital part, which she plays admirably. There is a spirit of true manhood in Mr. Laurence Grant's Dr. Wake, while the parents have excellent exponents in Mr. Alf. Ibberson and Miss Kate Osborne, whose work was highly commendable. As the Duke Mr. Paul Lovett shone, and Miss Beatrice Fitzgerald was a capable Harriet Bronson.

Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—That popular play, *A Message from Mars*, under the direction of Mr. John Hart, is here doing good business. The cast includes that sterling actor, Mr. Arthur Holmes-Gore, whose Horace Parker was good in every phase. As the Messenger Mr. W. H. Brougham was excellently cast. A charming Minnie Templas was Miss Joan Ellis. A notable piece of work was the Tramp as presented by Mr. Bruce Lindley.

Alexandra Theatre. — Mortons, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—An excellent play, *The Little Bread Winner*, is drawing good houses to this popular playhouse. The Kate of Miss Nellie Thorne-Hallam is essentially praiseworthy, whilst Miss Emmie Thomas paints the picture of a natural child without the usual staginess or visible precocity.

HYDE.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. R. Feather.—This week we have Mr. Fred Karno's company in *His Majesty's Guests*, and large audiences have been highly entertained. Mr. George Hestor is a clever comedian, and his quaint patter and comic actions never fail to raise a laugh. Mr. Frank Morton makes an admirable Lord Easem, and sings several numbers with artistic effect; Mr. Charles Usher is a sufficiently pompous Mr. Miffin; Mr. Sid Kearns furnishes a capital character sketch as Mr. Minds; and Mr. M. Johnson is capital as Fritz. Some really clever knockabout business is introduced, principally by Mr. Tom Manardo as Selina and Mr. Harry Howe as Bunker. Miss Leonora Castel is a charming and vivacious lady Maud Easem; Miss Edith Ager is a winsome Dolly Miffin; and Miss Kitty Brunton hits off Miss Manley, one of the new woman type, to perfection.

Ohmy's Circus.—The bill is topped this week by the Szarvais Ferencz troupe of acrobats, whose marvellous feats are watched with keen interest. Souplessi's wonderful performance as a contortionist entitles him to be called the man-snake; Claude Ohmy is loudly applauded for his juggling and other feats on the globe, and for his equestrian scena, *Dick Turpin Up to Date*; Miss Ada Ohmy performs some graceful acts on horseback; Miss Lily Ohmy introduces two clever performing ponies and a dog; Handy Handy and his comic donkeys provide an interesting turn; August and September provide mirth in abundance; Pete Simple contributes to the hilarity; and the living pictures are greatly enjoyed. On Tuesday evening Mr. Ohmy had his benefit. The Mayor and Mayoress were in attendance, and the building was literally packed. In addition to an exceptionally attractive programme, Mr. Ohmy performed his daring acrobatic feat by which he established his name.

ILKESTON.—Queen's Palace of Varieties.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. T. Knightall.—Mons. Mozzetto is still attracting with his clever juggling act; Gale and Gale in *My Beautiful Masterpiece* are highly successful; Harry Raley, vocalist; Florrie Wright, serio; Les Blancs, with a smart horizontal bar performance; T. W. Lenner, eccentric comedian; and Will Platt, vocal comedian, are all deserving of mention.

IPSWICH.—Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—The programme here this week is headed by Park's "Eton Boys," who contribute glees and part songs with such a pleasing manner as to gain general applause. Other turns include Mabel Osborne and Gordon Brooks, speciality artists, Maggie Walsh, the Lancashire singing girl, Marba and Verity, acrobatic dancers, the Hartley Wonder Jumping Acrobats, Amy Anderson and company in a knockabout sketch, and the Sisters Terry, lady mimics.

JARROW.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jerold E. Reed.—Mr. Jack Haddon's company is here this week with the drama entitled *Under the Russian Flag.* Mr. George Cecil Murray is well placed as General Romanoff; Mr. Jack Haddon plays with force and ability the part of Michael Romanoff; and Mr. Charles Stafford gives a manly portrayal of Ivan Romanoff. The part of Captain Demetrius is in the capable hands of Mr. Sydney Arnold, and Mr. Templer Ellis causes much amusement as Alexis Skopolopki. Miss Violet Lytton gives a charming rendering of Verga Vassiloff; Miss Marie Rayner submits an excellent reading of the part of Luka Marischla; and Miss Molly Hackett is well placed as Ogarita; while Mr. Hal Forde causes much fun as Peter Poulski. The part of Wolf Marischla is done justice to by Mr. Edward Avinal.

The Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Ernest Adrian.—This place of amusement has an excellent display of animated pictures, which are attracting appreciative audiences.

JERSEY.—Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Edward Marris.—Mr. Marris's company concluded its engagement here this week with *The Girl from Kay's.*—Miss Harriet Fawn scored an immense and well-deserved success in the title-rôle; Miss Ethel Ward was a delightfully dainty Norah Chalmers; Miss Norah Melton made a smart and vivacious Ellen; and Miss Beaumont Collins did ample justice to the part of Mrs. Chalmers. Mr. George Blunt has shown remarkable versatility during the present visit, and his Hoggenheimer was a particularly clever and amusing performance; Mr. Tom Payne made a screamingly funny Joseph Hall; Mr. Brunston Williams did well as Harry Gordon; Mr. W. Nugent was a capable Fitzthistle; Mr. Robert Rivers ably portrayed Quench, K.C.; and Mr. Mansell Fane was an effective Chalmers.

KETTERING.—Avenue Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Payne.—The attraction this week is Mlle. Florence's company, in a variety entertainment. Prominent in an excellent programme are Abex, the miniature Hercules; the Ottawas, musical cowboys; Erom and Charlotta, illusionists; Lomas, the man-monkey; and Mlle. Florence, globe walker.

Victoria Theatre.—Secretary, Captain W. Gray.—Mr. F. R. Benson's (North) company commenced a short engagement on Monday, opening with *The Merchant of Venice.* On Tuesday *The Taming of the Shrew* was presented. Mr. Henry Herbert gave a thoroughly artistic rendering of Petruchio; and the charming acting of Miss Dorothy Green as Katherina was highly appreciated. Mr. Ross Shore was most successful as Grumio.

KING'S LYNN.—New Royal Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. J. Bannister Howard, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Herr B. Pareezer.—Mr. John Warren and his clever illusion, *The Magic Carpet*, is proving immensely popular; another turn received with the utmost enthusiasm is that of Percy Honri in his marvellous manipulation of the concertina; Rex Sugden is highly appreciated in his illustrated songs; Mr. John Warren also appears as a ventriloquist, and is highly applauded; and Mollie Lynder as a siffleuse is keenly appreciated. Jury's pictures are highly entertaining.

LANCASTER.—Athenæum.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alfred Hook.—Mr. Chas. Watson Mill's company, in *A Wrecker of Men*, drew a crowded house on Monday. Mr. Eric Campbell appeared with much success as Jim Murley; Miss Ruth Zilwood gave an excellent portrayal of Risca Mallison; and Mr. Felix Lawson worked hard in the rôle of Eric Melville.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. John Porter and W. J. Fergusson.—The management have this week initiated a new departure in the production of the musical comedy *Mr. Popple of Ippleton*, the company being organised by Mr. Chas. Macdona. Miss Millie Hylton made a fascinating La Bolero, singing her songs excellently, and dancing with much grace; Mr. Arthur Longley gave a clever impersonation of Mr. Popple; Mr. Robert Corray made a capital Norman Popple; and Platt, as enacted by Mr. Tom May, was a quaint study. Mr. Robert MacLachlan sang nicely as Jacques Kenyon; Messrs. Sydney Courtenay and James Stevenson did remarkably well as George Hennay and Henry Doring respectively; the disconsolate wives had admirable representatives in Miss Alice Rene and Miss Stella St. Andre; Miss Nellie Hodson gave a capital rendering of Louisa; and Miss Cora Lingard was an excellent Violet Brinton. The dresses are superb. Mr. Julian Rutt is the musical director.

LEAMINGTON. — Theatre Royal. — Lessees, Messrs Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Manager, Mr. Harry Hunter.—The attraction here this week is the musical comedy, *The New Barmaid*, which is being played with conspicuous success by Miss Violet Osmund's company. Mr. Alexander Loftus as Bertie White is excellent, and he is ably supported by Mr. Charles Adeson as Bonsor and Mr. James Grant as William, both of whose performances cause much amusement. The title-rôle is admirably sustained by Miss Maisie Gay, the possessor of a delightful voice. Other commendable performances are given by Mr. James Hawkes as Captain Lovebury and Mr. Harry Collier as Captain Claymore. There is an excellent chorus and augmented orchestra under the direction of Mr. E. W. Vaughan.

LEEDS.—Grand Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Edward Cadman.—The theatre is occupied this week by the Leeds Amateur Operatic Society, who are making their annual effort on behalf of the local charities.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—Mr. Harry Starr and his capable company are here. Mr. Starr plays in effective manner the heavy central parts in two plays, *Otto the Outcast* and *The Unseen Power*, his able work calling forth continual applause. His company are also well up to their work, special good assistance being given by Mr. William Miller, Mr. Edwin Firth, Miss Dolly Starr, and Miss Kate Norris.

Empire.—Moss' Empires, Ltd; District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—The extravaganza, *Casey's Circus*, is provocative of much hilarity nightly, being played with rare gusto by a clever company. Edwin Barwick, the popular character-comedian, adds laurels to an established reputation; Nellie Wallace has many admirers of her low comedy abilities; expert acrobatics by the well-known Trapnell Family are a much-applauded feature; Boy Glenn is above the average of juvenile entertainers; and the New Macs are favourite patter comedians. A dramatic sketch, *Zululand*, is well played by Leicester Cooke and Co.; and others are Ryder Slone, with song-scena; Dorrell Sisters, in song and dance; and Chas. Robinson, vocalist.

Palace. — Managing-Director, Mr. Walter De Frece; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Bush.—The popular comedian, Arthur Rigby, brings a capable company in the presentation of *The Isle of Ooma*; the veteran James Fawn is accorded a big reception for clever new items; another smart comedian is Frank Dunlop; and Fred Barnes is a clever character-vocalist of the Beau Brummel type. Rosie Lloyd finds great favour with some taking contributions; and Flo Cecil is another song and dance artist of merit; while Daniel Gillen, ventriloquist, does a novel and entertaining turn.

Hippodrome. — Proprietor, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; General-Managers, Mr. Chas. Weldon and Mr. Claude Shayler.—Edwin Boyde and Tom Leamore are particularly high in public favour with smart new items cleverly rendered; whilst Tom E. Hughes and Dale and O'Malley also prove very popular. Wyndham and Waters submit an acceptable comedy episode in clever style; and some well-known characters from Dickens are well portrayed by Hope and Wayho; Woolmer Young is a capital actor-vocalist; and the Elvio Trio score well with comedy speciality; while Boden and Bell, juvenile vocalists, also contribute successfully.

City Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Jones.—A cleverly-conceived and well-acted episode, entitled *Life in the Slums*, is a striking feature of the week's bill here, Will Vay's Juveniles distinguishing themselves in the presentation thereof. The Pasquali Brothers arouse interest with some marvellous acrobatic feats; Little Ganty, the diminutive eccentric, again proves vastly amusing; Alsop and Bekwith are an up-to-date and clever comedy duo; and the Obo Brothers are a clever pair, and stand high in public favour. Natalia and Diana are doing a very fine performance on the trapeze; and Madge May (charming comedienne) and Fred Lyndo (character-comedian) complete a good bill.

LEICESTER.—Royal Opera House.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; General and Business-Manager, Mr. Henry Dundas.—Mr. Wentworth Croke's excellent company in *The Christian* is here this week. Miss Grace Chalmers creates a favourable impression as Glory Quayle, and as John Storm Mr. E. Howard Templeton is to be complimented on a portrayal of great merit. Mr. Frederick Scarth is very good as Lord Robert Ure, and Mr. Frank Beresford as Horatio Drake is excellent. Mr. Charles E. Dering as Archdeacon Wealthy is a success. Both Miss Molly Hayden as Mrs. Callender and Miss Vashti Wellbone as Polly Love are deserving of much praise, and Mr. Edwin Ling as Father Lamplugh plays well. The play is admirably staged.

Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business Manager, Mr. E. R. Beaumont.—A first visit is being paid here this week by Mr. Harry Foxwell's company in *A Broken Heart*, which is well staged and interpreted. Mr. Henry Wolston displays true histrionic ability as John Barnard, and as Mary Barnard Miss Lillian Herries is admirable. In the dual rôle of Miss Grace Fanshawe and Mrs. Kellet, Mrs. Harry Foxwell is seen to considerable advantage. Mr. Henry Earlesmere does well as Stephen Raylton, and Mr. Charles Vivian as Gash Gills is capital. Both Miss Nancy Pearce as Sally Tavner and Mr. Will Lindsay as Tony Tibbets are successful, and Miss Julia Calcraft as Mrs. Barnard, Mr. Charles Gallier as Rev. M. Staunton, and Mr. Geo. Addison as Skrimp are also meritorious.

Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Bertram G. Iles.—At the head of a good all-round programme here is Clarence C. Corri's company in *Office Hours*, which keeps the audience in continual merriment. A strong and clever cast includes Mr. Harry Monkhouse, Mr. Frank A. White, Miss Florence Lelgard, Mr. George Danvers, jun., Mr. Johnnie Schofield, jun., Miss Violet Hicks, and Mr. George Delaforce. There is also some smart dancing by the Coralie Troupe. A full chorus assists, and the dressing and staging is excellent. *The Light in the Window* is presented with the greatest success by Mr. Fred Winn's company; Mr. Ed. E. Ford, the Australian sundower, whose facial contortions are remarkable, is very popular; Mr. George Newburn, a master of mimicry, receives a flattering reception; Hall and Earl are a smart and clever duo of comedy acrobats; Topsey and Usher are most entertaining in plantation songs and dances; the Four Royal Welshmen, glee singers, make a good impression; and Speedwell, the lightning painter, gives a show that is much appreciated. An interesting appearance is being made here by Miss Daisy Pollock, a lady popular in local musical circles, who is meeting with a cordial reception with her illustrated song, "Won't you come over to my house?" The Bioscope is showing the final of the English Cup and the "Wreck of the Mary Jane."

Pavilion Theatre.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten.—Mr. Edward Ranier and his clever dramatic company are retained over another week, and are presenting the Russian episode, *In Siberia*, in which Mr. Ranier, Mr. Arnold Palmer, Mr. Arthur Barnes, Mr. George Knight, Miss Lilla Wilde, and Miss Alice Maude are seen to considerable advantage in the principal parts; a very smart show is provided by Chester and Lee's marionettes, which are quite up-to-date; Lade Henderson, actor vocalist, is meeting with a big reception; Bonnetti and Corri, both clever and amusing speciality artists and jugglers, are well received. Entertaining turns are also given by Harry Desmond, comedian, and Amy Correlli, vocalist. Walter H. Pallister's Bioscope is depicting the final of the English Cup, and "The Beauties of California."

LEIGH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Cragg; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Rousby.—Mr. F. Marriott Watson's company is appearing here this week with the thrilling drama, *A False Wife.* Estelle De Lussan, the adventuress, affords Miss Florence E. Florence fine scope for her dramatic and emotional powers; and Jean Beraud is admirably depicted by Mr. F. Marriott Watson. Lieut. George Mansfield is excellently portrayed by Mr. Fred H. Constable; Miss Annie Hylton wins golden opinions as Agnes Weyland; and the comedy element is capably looked after by Mr. Elton Morgan as Ben Rattler, Miss Ivy Chandos as Bessie Blazer, and Mr. Allen Charles as Archibald Brown Tee.

LEITH.—New Gaiety Theatre.—Managing Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—The stirring military drama, *The Trumpet Call*, receives a spirited interpretation by Mr. Charles F. Cooke's company. Mr. Cooke cleverly impersonates the character of Sergeant-Major Milligan; Mr. Leonard is quite the hero. Cuthbert Cuthbertson, and is ably seconded by Miss Helena Millais in the rôle of Constance; while Astrea is effectively portrayed by Miss Doris Gilham; and the parts of Richard Featherstone and Sir William Barton find good representatives in Mr. John Dennys and Mr. J. Betterton. The comedy scenes are well developed by Mr. David Beattie's Ginnifer, Mr. Freddie Bentley's Tommy Dutton. Miss May Foster as Lavinia, and Miss Amy Wood as Mrs. Wicklow.

LIVERPOOL.—Royal Court Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—Mr. Edward Compton gave his 984th performance of Charles Surface in *The School for Scandal* on Monday, when the distinguished actor and his able supporters received a cordial welcome to the city on the Mersey. Everybody was delighted with Miss Mackenzie's treatment of Lady Teazle, and followed with interest and enjoyment her sprightly and playful passages with Sir Peter in the second act. Mr. Philip Gordon made a perfect Sir Oliver, playing with an ease and polish that was pleasing to witness; thanks are due to Mr. Henry Crocker for his Sir Peter—a capital picture; Mr. Dennis Cleugh handled the despicable Joseph Surface most skilfully; the rôle of Moses could scarcely have been in better keeping than that of Mr. G. W. Johnston; Miss Phyllis Relph brought out all the telling points of Lady Sneerwell; and among other strong supporters were Messrs. G. Wallace Johnston and Vernon O. Crabtree, Miss Marian Le Strange, and Miss Marie Hassell. *The Rivals, Edmund Kean, Tragedian, The Gentleman in Grey* (first time in Liverpool), *She Stoops to Conquer*, and *Davy Garrick* were also billed.

Shakespeare Theatre. — Managing Directors, Messrs. E. Stevens and R. C. Buchanan; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—*Peter Pan* pays a second visit here, with the intention of remaining a fortnight. This time Miss Pauline Chase holds the title-rôle, and that charming artist has certainly earned the encomiums that have on all hands been bestowed upon her work. Another delightful figure in the story is Miss Hilda Trevelyan's Wendy, whose childish naturalness is pleasing to witness; Hook, piratical in make-up and movement, could not be mistaken, and for such a perfect picture Mr. Loring Fernie merits the utmost commendation; Mr. George Shelton afforded much support as his man Smee; and the remainder of the cast contributed satisfactorily towards a very fine production. Public support has been great, and the success of the visit is already assured.

Rotunda Theatre.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—Hardie and Von Leer's combination are here this week with *Two Little Vagabonds.* Miss Edie Martin and Miss Josie Beltram are cordially recognised for their work as Dick and Wally; Mr. Arthur E. Melbourne gives an excellent idea of George Thornton; Mr. Sidney Vautier brings out all the strong points of Captain Darville; very humorous is Mr. Lionel Ellis as Bill Mullins, receiving help in the comedy from Messrs. Frank Gordon (Bunce) and Dick Winslow (Cough Drop); Miss Evelyn Shaw presents a lively Biddy Mullins; and Miss Grace Heywood does well as Marion Thornton.

Lyric Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainment, Messrs. T. Barrasford and F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Coles.—A sensational turn is that of the Tom Davis Trio on motor bicycles in an aerial track; a most dramatic sketch is *The Hypocrite*, as presented by F. S. Peake and company; Cullen, Carthy, and Cluley make a delightfully amusing team; Craig, Rose, and Craig are clever gymnasts; Horace Jones causes a good deal of amusement with his Welsh mimicry; and Ray and Miles are laughable, as is Kisbey. The Three Sisters Kilner and Ada Spencer also appeared to advantage.

Star Theatre. Proprietor, and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—The "Bullock" version of *East Lynne*, played by Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's capital company, is a strong attraction here this week. Miss Julie Kennard exhibits high accomplishments as Lady Isabel and Mme. Vine; Mr. Alfred Beaumont makes a manly and forceful Carlyle; Mr. Frederick Harker shows a true appreciation of the rôle of Francis Levison; the Justice Hare of Mr. C. C. Gratton is marked by tact and discretion; Mr. Harry C. Rutland affords satisfaction as Richard Hare; Miss Ethel Savill proves a tender Barbara; a deal of humour emanates from Mr. Alfred Tate, as Bullock; and Miss Jessie Bayes is the little Willie.

Royal Hippodrome. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—Top of the bill here this week is a military episode entitled *La Vivandière*, introduced by Col. Denis Lorraine, which is watched with interest; Coram, with his capital ventriloquial show, proves an enjoyable turn; the Tally-ho Trio are loudly applauded; the Lavelle Bros. prove quaint comedy acrobats; to Blake and Granby credit is due for their funny duologue, *The Man in Possession*; some popular baritone songs are pleasingly rendered by Percy Hannan; Fred Hastings, comedian, keeps his audience in a good humour; and others who appear are Gladys Witton, juvenile contralto; and Goodfellow and Gregson, vaudeville artists. The Bioscope shows the Football Cup Final.

Royal Palace of Varieties. — Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—The stock company here are this week giving *Tricked by a Woman*, the principal rôles being in the hands of Messrs. Percy Boucher, Harry Tresham, Sydney Grant, Robert Wilton, Cecil Ravenswood, Misses Evelyn Kington, Florence Cameron, Reryl Ravenswood, and Nellie Bonsor. The Football Cup Final is shown by the Bioscope.

Paddington Palace.—Lessee, Mr. M. Montgomery.—The Royal stock company here are this week producing Walter Howard's *A Life's Revenge.* Principals in the cast are Messrs. Wallace Campbell, Frank S. Strickland, Francis E. Wybert, Charles Herberte, H. Hesslegrave, and H. G. Brandon, and Misses Lina Nazeby, Florence Barnes, Emmie Kilner, and Gladys Hastings-Walton.

Haymarket.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. Edwin W. Smith.—Harry Calden and his sketch company are producing *The Inventor, or Man against Man.* The Bioscope shows some excellent pictures; Eric Graham is an extremely funny comedian; Ethel Liston has some popular songs; and O'Connor and Traynor's turn as comedians, dancers, and burlesque boxers arouses endless laughter.

Westminster. — Lessee, Mr. Fred E. Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—A smart couple of comedians, McDonald and Huntington, top the bill here this week; Ted Curtis, negro entertainer and dancer, with his piccaninnies, provides an acceptable turn; some popular songs are rendered by Bert Lytton; Jimmy Shields, the one-legged dancer, pays a return visit; Lila Lingard scores as a male impersonator; and Bob Best, eccentric comedian, also appears.

Olympia, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. Albert Bulmer.—The aquatic spectacle *Tally-Ho* is here again, the principal characters being undertaken by Colin Hazlewood, Charles Hanbury, Leonard Maitland, A. G. Leigh, Tom E. Conover, Rose E. Rovana, and Alice Maydue. The Howes (Rowland and Kitty), with their remarkable "thought-reading" turn, interest everybody; some smart illusions are produced by Mlle. Von Etta; Peggie Lennie and Walter Hast have a neat fantasia, *The Sea Nymph*; the Gothams are as funny as ever; some graceful work as gymnasts is performed by Helene and Emilon; funny and clever dancers are Stephens and Rennior; and Ada Martine, comedienne and dancer; and Millie Howell, comedienne, and the Bioscope are also in the bill.

Empire.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.—The Howards, with their "thought-transmission," head the programme here this week; Sinclair and Whiteford present an amusing duologue, *Getting Even*; May Glenn and Leonard Griffiths cause endless laughter with their farcical trifle, *Opera Bouffe*; a smart comedy act on the bars is given by the Vasilescue Troupe; Jack Monks, possessor of a strong tenor voice, renders several excellent illustrated songs; Allan Hanbury is amusing with the story of a spinster's troubles; Forest and King exhibit remarkable powers as contortionists; and Fred Frampton, burlesque actor, is also in the list. Messrs. Sidney Dooley and Charles Seymour's company submit a neat musical comedy in *A King for a Day.*

Tivoli.—Proprietors, Liverpool Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. James Marks.—Clark and Hamilton, a smart comedy duo, head the bill here this week; Athas and Collins provide some amusing comedy; Sylvia Du Barry sings several excellent songs in good style; Morny Cash, "The Lancashire Lad," is as funny as ever; some dainty dancing and pleasant singing come from the Sisters Wingrove; and others in the list are the Sivronis, burlesque artists; Alburtus and Millar, juggling eccentric and lady cornet player; and Rosie Revel, character comedienne.

LOUGHBOROUGH. — New Theatre Royal. — Proprietors, Messrs. W. Payne-Seddon and George Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lindsey Edwards.—Mr. F. R. Benson's Shakespearean company is here this week with a répertoire of plays. *The Merchant of Venice* was presented on Monday. As Shylock Mr. Henry Herbert was admirable; Miss Dorothy Green as Portio contributed a charming impersonation; Antonio was in the capable hands of Mr. Gerald Ames; Mr. Ross Shore as Launcelot Gobbo was quaint; Miss Louise Graeme gave a charming rendering of Jessica; and other parts were ably sustained by Mr. Reginald Owen as Lorenzo; Mr. Philip Merivale as the Prince of Morocco; and Miss Mary Webb as Nerissa. *The Taming of the Shrew, As You Like It*, and *Hamlet* are in the week's programme.

LOWESTOFT. — Hippodrome. — Proprietor, Mr. George Gilbert; Manager, Mr. Frank Freeland.—Excellent business is being done here this week. The pictures are a powerful attraction, and the songs of Mr. Percy Curry have caught on immensely; the Bohemians are clever instrumentalists, and highly refined; Amurat, the musical athlete, is also appearing here.

LUTON.—Grand Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. E. Graham Falcon; Manager, Mr. Louis J. Beard.—Mr. Fred J. Webb's company are here in *The Hour of Her Triumph.* Mr. Leslie Hawkins personifies Harold Clavering in perfect manner; and Mr. Webb as Eugene Harbury, Clavering's cousin, enacts this rôle successfully. Miss Danvers Smith is praiseworthy as Nellie Clavering, a flower girl; and Miss Price ably portrays the difficult character of Sal Soaker.

MACCLESFIELD.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Gatley.—The Royal Star Pierrots and vaudeville company opened here on Monday on a return visit. Miss Eva Barlow, in illustrated songs, was accorded an enthusiastic reception; and James Mackenzie, coon singer and dancer, was very entertaining and clever. Taylor Snowball, as usual, delighted everybody with his amusing patter and songs; Miss Flo Varley is a pleasing vocalist; and Master Eugene Maccabe, boy vocalist, was greatly applauded. The Mills-Farren turn was neat; and Sid Walford, refined comedian, caused great amusement. The Four Verona Girls, vocalists and dancers, was a very entertaining turn. The programme concluded with the beautiful electric pictures.

MANCHESTER.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmonstone Shirra.—Mr. Leigh Lovel and Miss Octavia Kenmore appeared here on Monday in Ibsen's *The Master Builder.* Apart from the intrinsic interest of the play, it is due to the company to say that the interpretation was so serious and apt that the attention of the audience never strayed for a moment from the theme, and that the performance was therefore a source of pleasure from beginning to end. Mr. Leigh Lovel as Halvard Soiness and Miss Octavia Kenmore as Hilda Wangel both acted superbly, and they were admirably supported by Miss Carylion as Aline Soiness and the remainder of the cast.

Prince's Theatre, Ltd.—Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee. The comic opera, *Amasis*, attracted a crowded house here on Monday, and the expectation of a lively entertainment was not disappointed. Mr. Rutland Barrington plays Pharaoh in quite an amiable fashion; Mr. Roland Cunningham sings vigorously and well as the culprit Prince Auhotep; Mr. Whitworth Witton's interpretation of Cheiro, the scribe, is sufficiently imbued with the lugubrious sentiment of the part; bold and musical impersonation of Nebenchari is given by Mr. Norman Salmond; Miss Madge Vincent plays Natis, the maid, in a lively and agreeable style; and some fine vocalism is contributed by Miss Constance Drever, who figures gracefully and attractively in the title-rôle. Along with Mr. Rutland Barrington's successful Pharaoh, the splendid comic efforts of Mr. Lauri de Freece as Sebak, and Mr. Reginald White as Ptolemy are worthy of particular praise; and Miss Winifred Hart-Dyke's solo dance in Act 2 is a conspicuously pleasing introduction. The piece is finely put on, and an undoubted success.

Gaiety Theatre, Ltd.—Acting-Manager, Mr. H. M. Thorburn.—Mr. Robert Crossman's company here this week in *Sergeant Brue* is a very capable combination, and includes Mr. Arthur Reynolds in the title-rôle, a capital impersonation. Mr. T. A. Shale as Crookie Scrubbs is also very successful, while an excellent piece of work is the Michael Brue of Mr. J. H. Goldsworthy. Miss Cissie Raymond acts cleverly as Lady Bickenhall; Mr. Chas. Sims gives a neat delineation of Mr. Crank; Miss Marion Hargrave is capital as Daisy; and other smart impersonations are added by Miss Mary Hay, Miss Ethel Ivimey, and Mr. Cecil Hood.

Royal Osborne Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. M

Keiths, in an up-to-date speciality; and Adams and Rouse in a new style singing sketch. Harry Russon, the well-known comedian, did not appear on the occasion of our visit, his place being successfully taken by Juan and McQue, eccentric comedians and knockabouts.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son.—The principal turn here this week is that of the Napoli Sextette, including the well-known tenor, Mr. John Lloyd, in a pleasing vocal scena, *An Evening at Home*. Hauptmann Marquis Jtoyne does some marvellous feats in a clever equilibristic act; and the famous bounding Pattersons are seen to advantage in a sensational tumbling act. The Simpsons are excellent musicians; Veno, a capital ventriloquist, introduces "Ginger," the shoeblack, with success; Victor Courtney is clever at the piano; Baker and Lindsay are good singers; Taylor and May, coloured artists, whistle and dance in smart style; and Adey North is an amusing comedian. "The Jewel Robbers" is shown on the Bioscope.

TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Clito is again posing here artistically; John E. Coyle, one of the best eccentric comedians, is funnier (if possible) than ever, and makes a big hit; Daisy James, that first-rate comedienne, renders those catchy songs in excellent manner, and is enthusiastically received; Harry Mountford and Maude Welsh, Society entertainers, talk smartly in a taking fashion; and Lilian Boanas, a charming Austrian vocalist, sings exceedingly well. Others who figure with success in the programme are Lucy Coventry, comedienne and dancer; Mona McDonald, comedienne; George Hall, whistling comedian; and Ollie Burgoyne, Creole comedienne, assisted by Master Albert, who sings sweetly; and another. Raymond's Vivagraph completes.

HIPPODROME (HULME).—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son.—One of the most novel and pleasing scenas placed on the vaudeville stage is that of Hayley's presented here this week, and entitled *The Garden of Girls*, which includes some neat dancing and singing; W. T. Ellwanger and company are seen to advantage in a first-rate comedy sketch, entitled *The Peacemaker*; the Three Behans, quick-change artists, give a clever turn; and as banjoists, the Vequeys are exceedingly smart. Billy Richardson, as a stump orator of the old school, makes a decided hit; Mlle. Vanda juggles on a rolling globe in a surprising fashion; and amusing and well received turns are contributed by Joe Conway, Happy Attwood, and George Hyam, comedians. A sensational and interesting illusory cremation act is given as a deputy turn for Juan and McQue, comedians, who did not appear on the occasion of our visit. The animated pictures are very funny.

MANSFIELD. — HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Herbert Darnley; Resident-Director, Mr. Tom Jennings; Acting-Manager, Mr. Mark Lorne.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company is here in the melodrama *A Sister's Sin*. Mr. H. Arnold Allen ably portrays the rôle of Harold Raymond; the part of George Oakley is safe in the hands of Mr. Edward Warden; Mr. Ernest Frere is well placed in the part of Ikey Moses; as Theophilus Hope Mr. Harry Lyndon is successful; Mr. Larry McGowers is a typical Irishman. In the two Gipsy parts Miss Augusta Franks (Charzel) and Miss Violet Langley (Redempta) do well; Miss Edie Macklen and Miss Effie Mackintosh play their respective parts of Floss Perks and Nell Stubbs (the rival lovers) admirably; Miss Violet Addison gives a natural interpretation to the rôle of Minnie Hastings.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD. — General-Manager, Capt. Cecil Clayton.—Messrs. Glenville and Osmond's company in *The Still Alarm* has proved a great attraction here this week. The rôle of Jack Manley is powerfully portrayed by Mr. Matthew Glenville; Mr. Fred Osmond is well placed as Doc Wilber; the part of John Bird is capably enacted by Mr. George Arthur; as Willie Manley Mr. Tom Beasley is successful, as also is Mr. Lewis Gordon in the rôle of Franklen Fordham. Miss Gertie Reed is a vivacious and entertaining Carrie Wilber; as Mrs. Manley Miss Mabel Veriton is capable; Miss Maud Warburton gives a very artistic portrayal of Elinor Fordham. The singing of the Lyric Comedy Quartette has met with warm approval.

MARGATE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Edward Michael; Stage and Business Manager, Mr. A. Austin Leigh.—The Margate Stock Company this week produced *Rip Van Winkle*, arranged from the original dramatic version and from Washington Irving's story by A. Austin Leigh. The title-rôle was effectively sustained by Mr. Austin Leigh, who received capable support at the hands of Miss Emmie O'Reilly as Gretchen Van Winkle. Mr. Robert Grey made an excellent Hendrick Knickerbocker; Mr. Wallis Clark was good both as Nicholas and Hans Vedder; Miss May Saker, in the rôle of Elspeth, sang well; and dainty dances were contributed by Miss Belle Travers in the dual rôle of Katrina and Meenie. The remaining characters in a lengthy cast were satisfactorily sustained.

HIPPODROME. — Joint Proprietors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtree.—Miss Peggy Pryde, the premier low comedy artist, heads the bill this week, and has at each appearance been vociferously encored. Dandy George, with his wonderfully trained dogs, Rosie and Nell, has a very cordial reception; Lena Verdi is a clever mimic, a pleasing singer, and a good dancer; Ada Parker, comedienne, also sings well and dances expertly; A. E. Clifford, descriptive vocalist, scores; Blanche Marion, comedienne and dancer, is a pleasing turn, and the Bioscope pictures are exceptionally good.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. H. Melton.—Miss Emma Litchfield's company is presenting *A Clever Impostor*. Mr. Stuart Cleveland gives a skilful interpretation of Manuel Teixeira, playing with rare dramatic intensity; Mr. A. Mervyn is capable as Captain Desmond; Jim Brightside has a capital exponent in Mr. Edward Swinton; Mr. Geo. Childers is well placed as Sir George Ashwell; Miss Emma Litchfield's versatility and high dramatic gifts are fully brought out in her delineation of the parts of Nora Grosvenor, Sarah Ellen (a Lancashire lass), Old Rebecca (a Jewess), and Molly O'Flynn; Miss Maud Steeple and Miss Isabel Singleton do well as Margaret and Maisie Grosvenor; and Miss Florence Gomer is well placed as Annie Pleasant.

MIDDLESBROUGH. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Charles Imeson.—Mr. Alfred Paumier and Mr. Walter Howard's company provides the entertainment here this week in *The Midnight Wedding*. An interesting feature of the production is the appearance of Mr. Ernest E. Imeson, nephew of the popular manager of the Royal. Mr. Imeson appears in the rôle of Captain Scarsbruck, and proves that he is an artist of no mean ability, his efforts being highly appreciated; in the dual part of Karl Heisburg and Princess Strelsburg Miss Annie Saker displays fine emotional powers; and Mr. Alfred Paumier greatly pleases as Paul Valmar. Mr. Frederick Freeman gives a fine impersonation of Prince Leopold; and for the part of Rozel a clever representative is found in Miss Marion Fawcett. Miss Ada Champion is pleasing as Kathie; and Mr. W. S. Hardy as Father Gerard, and Mr. Edward Fletcher as Lieut. Strelsburg, are all that can be desired. The part of Marie is in the capable hands of Miss Prudence Laurence; and Mr. Arthur Radford as Lieut. Kulman, Mr. J. Harringay as the Sergeant, and Mr. C. E. Dane as Conrad, do full justice to their respective rôles.

OPERA HOUSE. — Proprietors, The Middlesbrough Grand Opera House Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. Ker Chatto.—*Florodora* pays a welcome return visit here this week, and is produced by the members of J. Bannister Howard's No. 1 company. Mr. Alf. Passmore is exceedingly funny in the character of Professor Tweedlepunch, and keeps the house in roars of laughter; the part of Dolores is taken by Miss Daisy Lake, a lady of attractive appearance, fascinating manner, and the possessor of a sweet voice; Mr. Edwin Oxlee is amusing as Leandor; and Mr. H. V. Crofton as Frank Abercoed is all that can be desired. Miss Lily Gullick as Angela, and Miss Kate Leicester as Lady Holyrood, both contribute very acceptable songs and dances; and Mr. Stanley White does full justice to the rôle of Cyrus Gilfain. Miss Sydney Penaryn is pleasing as Cynthia Belmont; and Mr. Harold Perry gives a clever impersonation of Captain Donegal.

EMPIRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. John Brill; Manager, Mr. Charles Rembges.—Carl Hertz, the famous illusionist, pays a return visit here this week, and again succeeds in completely mystifying the audience with his clever work; the Great Northern troupe of dancers give a skilful display; and the Twin Sisters Melba are a pair of delightful vocalists. H. C. Lovell and company cause much laughter in their musical comedy, *Pom-Pom*; and Florence Yaymen gives some amusing impersonations. Lytton and Bland please in their comedy act, *A Session in Love*; and other turns are provided by Les Valdos and Kathleen Radford.

OXFORD.—Proprietor, Mr. Alf. Graham; Manager, Mr. R. L. Griffiths.—The star turn here this week is a remarkable gymnastic display by Abel and Welsh; Boyd and Gilfain are a popular pair of duettists; and Arthur Aldrige scores a great success for his rendering of some old ballads. Alf. Chester, comedian, causes much laughter; and Dot Hardy is an excellent vocalist. Maud and Sydney Wood, duettists and dancers, please; and Geo. Collins, comedian, and Laura Doone also contribute to the bill.

MOTHERWELL. — NEW CENTURY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percy Hart.—Mr. Edward McLean's company is filling a three nights' engagement here in *The Hero of the Flag*. Mr. Vernon Lansbury is pre-eminently good in his portrayal of Captain Hilliard; a manly and convincing Jack Lawrence is found in Mr. Edward McLean; the iniquities of Paul Mansfield are well realised by Mr. Ernest Wingfield; Mr. Leslie Vyvien gives a careful study of Stephen Clifford; Miss Gladys Vernon is a charming Mabel; Miss Lillian Beaumont a pathetic Ruth; and abundance of effective comedy is provided by Mr. Johnny McElroy and Miss Amy Randolph as Johnny Truckle and Jenny Stubbs respectively. Miss Winifred Chalmers' company opened on Thursday in *The Master Criminal*.

NELSON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietress, Mrs. T. Greenwood Croft; Business-Manager, Mr. Geo. E. Mudd.—Mr. Percy Norman's company is here in *A Woman Worth Winning*. Mr. Percy Norman himself depicts the character of General Borinski, the crafty and cruel Governor; whilst Fergus Novinsky is capitally played by the author of the piece, Mr. A. B. Mackay. Miss Maud Buchanan charmingly presents Roma Pauloff, Queen of the Nihlists; Mr. Charles R. Harris makes a striking "man with a past"; and the rest of the characters are in capable hands. The dresses and scenery are both effective.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—To the regret of Newcastle playgoers, with whom she is a great favourité, Miss Dorothea Baird is indisposed, and unable to take any part in the répertoire of plays Mr. H. B. Irving and company present at the Theatre Royal this week. On Monday evening, in *The Lyons Mail*, her place was taken by Miss Ada Mellon, who made a most efficient substitute; in the dual rôle of Lesurgues and Dubosc Mr. Irving played with a power that stirred the house to enthusiasm; Mr. Frank Tyars was touchingly effective as Jerome Lesurgues; and Mr. Harcourt Williams was good as Courriol; while the low-comedy element of the play is ably done by Mr. Charles Dodsworth.

TYNE THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessees, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe.—Mr. Greet's company in *The Earl and the Girl* is here. Mr. William Stephens, who fills the rôle of the showman-dog trainer by droll methods, provides capital comedy, and proves quite a host in himself. He is ably aided and abetted in this respect by Miss Jennie Richards, who appears as Jim Cheese's cockney sweetheart. Miss Frances Earle plays very daintily as "the Girl" and the Earl is given manly and attractive representation by Mr. Arthur Harrold. Mr. Percy E. Wright, Mr. H. Courtin, Miss Beatrice Anderson, Miss Gertrude Melville, Miss Hilda Gray, and Miss Joan Clifford, lend capital support towards the successful performance.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon.—Go-Won-Go-Mohawk, the American Indian actress and authoress, appears here this week in her own play, *Wep-Ton-No-Mah*, a piece redolent of life in the Far West of America. She ably plays the leading part; and others whose delineations, in a representation full of interest from start to finish, are worthy of mention, are Mr. C. W. Charles, Mr. Edward Leroy, Mr. Guy D. Hackney, Mr. Arthur Selwyn, Mr. Dan Ryan, Miss Bessie Frank, and Miss Jessie Hart.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton.—The Gems, a talented troupe of artists, under the direction of Mr. Wallace Kennedy, give a sparkling turn of singing and dancing; and Mr. Charles Norton's impersonations of music-hall stars prove very popular. Mendel, the blind musician, who displays marvellous dexterity as an instrumentalist, provides a turn quite out of the ordinary run; another great hit is Miss Lil Hawthorne, whose songs, with a catchy rhyme, are all well rendered; the Aurora Troupe of trick cyclists give a skilful display; and capital fun is provided by John Alexander and company in *Brown in Paris*. Other good turns are given by the Strolling Players; Miss Gladys Mavius, assisted by Dot; and the Jonghmann Sisters.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Acting Manager, Mr. Will H. Boardman.—Mr. Michael Welsh, who made his *début* a few weeks ago at this hall, gives a study of "a Tynesider spectator at a football match," which is distinctly clever and full of rare humour; Mr. Joseph Tiller's company present the musical extravaganza, *A Trip to Paris*, Mr. Bob Selvidge as Hiram P. Gibson, Miss Jessie Templeton, Mr. T. Gibbs, Miss Nellie Rodney, Miss Emmie Franks, Mr. B. Dixon, and Mr. Harold Wardroper being chiefly responsible for the success of the piece; Miss Lillie Soutter, character comedienne, presents a pleasing turn; and acceptable also are the efforts of Miss Ruby Bijou, dancer; Mr. Harry Conlin, comedian; Mr. Stan. Aubrey, "legmania" comedian; Miss Queenie May, a smart juvenile; and Cherry Lass, comedienne and dancer.

NEWPORT.—LYCEUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sidney Cooper.—Mr. Wm. Maclaren's company are appearing in *Claudian*. Mr. Wm. Maclaren plays the title-rôle, and makes a very fine figure. Miss Lily C. Bondmann is a charming heroine, Almida; and Mr. Douglas Earle is a vigorous Agazil; Mr. F. Owen Chambers plays Thariogalus with much force; Mr. C. T. Chaloner is genuinely funny as Belos; while Miss Maud Garth, who is very amusing, does well as Edessor. Miss Violet Barclay sings prettily in the Palace scene just preceding the earthquake, which is very effective.

EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Major Gallagher; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Page.—Lockhart's Elephants, under the management of Captain Tayler, are a great attraction here; May Evans, comedienne, sings a couple of successful songs; Mr. Dyfed Lewis's fine voice is heard to advantage in three songs illustrated with pictures; and the Bros. Horne present a very amusing turn, entitled *The Biter Bit*. Lady Fauntleroy shows exceptional powers of ventriloquism; the Boccaccio Minstrels (in which Signora Francia distinguishes herself with an excellent mandoline solo) are acceptable; and Allis and Cassati, in their song and dancing, are specially popular. Rosa Loader, the "Happy Slavey at the Piano," provides a turn that is both amusing and clever; and the Bioscope shows some interesting pictures.

NEWRY.—TOWN HALL.—Owners, Newry Urban Council.—On Monday Mr. George Robertson's company appeared here in the ever-popular *Charley's Aunt*. Mr. Tom MacFarlane as Lord Fancourt Babberley was a great success, and proved highly amusing; Miss Bianca Stewart figured smartly as Donna Lucia D'Alvadorez; some capital comedy was contributed by Mr. Henry Nelson in the rôle of Stephen Spettigue; Miss Sybil Grieg as Amy Spettigue, and Miss Edith King as Kitty Verdun, were pleasingly vivacious; Mr. Basil Lynn as Jack Chesney and Mr. Ralph Lynn as Charley Wykeham were excellent; and Mr. Theo. McCausland Stewart as Colonel Sir Francis Chesney, Miss Norah Johns as Ela Delahay, and Mr. W. A. Stoltuck as Brasset, were very effective in their respective parts.

NORTHAMPTON.—OPERA HOUSE. — Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Seddon.—*The Great Awakening* is here this week. Miss Maud Hildyard puts plenty of vigorous work the part of Lola Selby; Mr. A. C. Hardie plays with effect as James Selby; Mr. Bernard Sopping successfully renders the dual characters of Sir Henry Merton and Jack Merton; Mr. Stephen Langton is excellent as Guy Rogan; Mr. Gordon McLeod makes a gallant Captain Harry Lambert; Mr. Willie Scott is a comical Billie Brass, Miss Doris Digby is a charming Molly Merton, and Miss Lilla Nordon an amusing Selina Worts.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Thos. A. Evans.—Heading the bill are the Seven Zerbinis, Continental musical speciality artists, who are well received in their electrical musical scena, *The Enchanted Glen*; the Celtics are a musical trio of accomplished vocalists, and their efforts are highly applauded; Anthony is an amusing and comical conjuror; Amy Elcock is a dashing burlesque artist; the Carney Bros. are clever comedy duettists; Tatten Hall, comedian, is accorded well-deserved applause. The Palace pictures by C. Vincent, military ventriloquism by Valvo, and Judge's cockatoos, presented by the Sisters Judge, complete the programme.

NORTH SHIELDS. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—The boards here this week are occupied by Mr. Robert Perris's company, with *A Fight for Millions*, which has been cordially greeted. As Tom Manley, Mr. William Macready gives a good interpretation of the part; and Mr. J. Schofield is well placed as Hudson Rivers. Mr. Alec C. Grant renders due justice to the rôle of Richard Dudley; Mr. Harold Turner is funny as Solomon Moses; Mr. Nicholas Conway makes a hit as Harold Hobbs; Mr. Karl H. Edwards makes the most of William Neverwork; and Mr. Tom Jones is clever as Ciara Ap Morgan. Miss Winifred Symonds as Pearl Rivers is seen to advantage; Miss Elma C. Turner is an acceptable Helen Dudley; Miss Edith Hook is successful as Mrs. Hudson Rivers; Miss Dorothy Wilkinson is pleasing as Little Madge; and Miss Rosie Kearns, in the dual rôles of Betty and Mag Brady, is appreciated.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould. — The principal attraction here is Miss Daisy De Roy, the favourite comedienne, who has been warmly received; the Sisters Nella give a clever performance on the running globe; and Messrs. Cliff and Kean, comedians and dancers, are smart. Zenora, in his novelty act, meets with a hearty reception; Messrs. Madeline and Fedora present an enjoyable vocal scena; Mr. Jack McCann, comedian and skate-dancer, is loudly applauded; and the Bio-photoscope is still successful.

NORTHWICH.—CENTRAL THEATRE. — Proprietress, Mrs. S. Golden.—Messrs. Ediscope and Barnum's electric animated pictures are here this week, and are both amusing and entertaining. The variety entertainment includes Lulu, lady instrumentalist, in her illuminated garden scene; Mlle. Pardoe, comedienne and speciality dancer; Loder Lyons, Irish entertainer and ventriloquist; Otto Ethardo, continental juggler; and M. Leon, guide and American song-illustrator.

NORWICH. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Mr. Dance's company is here with *Raffles*. Mr. Reginald Dance as Raffles acted with ability, and is greeted with warm approbation throughout. As Curtis Bedford, Mr. Edward Irwin is very good; Mr. Brisco Owen as Harry Manders is successful, and the same may be said of Mr. C. Rivers Bertram as Crawshay; Mr. Percy Forster is appreciated as Lord Amersteth, and Mr. Edward Coutts as Lord Crowley is amusing. Miss Katee Yates gives a charming impersonation of Gwendoline Conran, and wins the sympathy of the audience; Miss May Brooke deserves every compliment as Mrs. Vidal; Marie is capably represented by Miss Rita Ward; Miss Constance Hamilton as Lady Ethel and Miss Mildred Orme as Lady Melrose are commendable.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—The Smythsons continue this week, and are well received in their sketch, *Our Suite*, and create great laughter; Duncan and Godfrey are also successful in their romance, *Me and 'Er*. Nelly Farrell is very pleasing with her Irish songs and dances; Fred Keeton, in song and patter, is appreciated; the Florodora Girls are also good singers and dancers; Talberto and Douglas are a good turn; while Big Ben Brown and Little George Le Clerq dispensing Black Justice evoke screams of laughter. The Elgars are very entertaining as Irish song singers; and the Hippo. Bioscope, with renewed fresh scenes, make up a capital programme.

NOTTINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robt. Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—A large audience gave Mr. and Mrs. Kendal a warm greeting on Monday, when they appeared in *The Elder Miss Blossom*. Mr. Kendal plays Andrew Quick in the light and breezy way that so well fits him; Mrs. Kendal's acting in the title-rôle is a delightful piece of work, calling forth sympathetic interest by her tenderness and touch of true womanly feeling. Mr. Ernest Hendrie capitally supplies the geniality of Christopher Blossom; and Mr. Bassett Roe gives an acceptable portraiture of the testy Major Twentyman. Mr. C. W. Standing makes his points as the golf-loving clergyman; and Mr. Metcalfe Wood presents a comical interpretation of the stuttering valet. Miss Jessica Thorne is fresh and engaging as Sophia Blossom; and Mrs. A. B. Tapping gives prominence to the part of Cooper. Miss Kate Bishop (Mrs. Wells), Mr. W. M. Rutherfurd (Wells), and Mr. R. Burnett (Tyrel Jones) complete the cast. Other plays given during the week are *A Tight Corner*, *The Housekeeper*, *The Melcombe Marriage*, and *The Ironmaster*.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Charles P. Cooke.—*Sherlock Holmes* is being presented this week. Mr. Hamilton Stewart, who essays the title-rôle, gives a fine conception of the cool and calculating detective. Miss Gladys Harvey plays Alice Faulkner with a grace and sympathetic interest that are worthy of all praise; and Mr. James Skea evokes the heartiest repugnance for his representation of the villainous Moriarty. Mr. Henry Hare gives a powerful rendering of the part of James Larrabee, and is capably assisted by Miss Georgina Wynter as his wife. Mr. Allan Jeayes makes an effective study as Dr. Watson; and Mr. Henry Littlejohn is a dignified Sir Edward Leighton. There is some good acting, too, by Mr. Fred Bell (John Forman), Mr. Frank H. Moar (Count Stahlburgh), Miss Grace Howard (Mrs. Smedley), and Miss Dot Seilby (Mrs. Faulkner).

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Bowmaker.—Chung Ling Soo is creating intense interest with his clever and bewildering tricks. The Mezzettis present an exceedingly smart act on the triple bars; Arthur Gill secures much applause for his rendering of several songs in different voices; the Musical Jees create genuine amusement by a comical speciality, entitled *The Scarecrow*; a decided novelty is introduced by Lilieth Leyton and John Spurling in their sketch *The Order of the Bath*; the songs and patter of J. W. Rickaby may always be counted upon as a source of merriment; Ethel Ra Leslie looks sweet and dainty as a gentleman of "the olden times," and also sings pleasantly; Ethel Dennis, a local celebrity, makes her début on the halls with great success. Appropriately costumed, she sings an Irish and Scotch song, evoking the heartiest plaudits. Ruby Dahl in a novelty, "The Merry Mannikins," and the American Bioscope complete the programme.

NUNEATON.—PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter J. R. Bryan.—Mr. Bert Coote's company is drawing good houses with *The Fatal Wedding*. Miss Katherine Clarke gives a capable study of Mabel Wilson; Mr. Ernest Owttrim is well placed as Howard Wilson; Mr. Guy Hastings makes a capital Robert Curtis; the part of Cora Williams is ably portrayed by Miss Leah Marlborough; and Miss Marie Wilson is a favourite as Jessie. Mr. Cyril Melton (Peter Schwartz), Mr. C. H. Hughes (Toto), and Miss Julie Temple (Bridget) supply an amount of fun. Miss Dolly McCall wins applause for her song, "Yankee Doodle Dandy"; and Miss Shirley Sparks, with her love song with chorus, is deservedly encored, as is Miss Dorothy Pain for her rendering of "Killarney." Messrs. Tom Grice and Walter Aubrey contribute some good dancing. The piece is well staged and dressed.

OLDHAM.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—Mr. Lewis Waller's company, in *Robin Hood*, opened here on Monday evening to a large and appreciative audience. Mr. Robert Minster as Robin makes a gallant outlaw, acting in capital style; Miss Marie Polini as the Lady Marion is admirable; and Miss D. Moore-Lane as Adela is excellent; as also is Miss Lilian Lait as Alison Much. Miss Mabel Young and Miss Nora Clare as the Queen Dowager and Elspeth are very good; Mr. Bellenden Clarke does capital work as Prince John; and Mr. Arthur Willerby is adequate as Fitz Alwynne. Mr. Leslie Rea, Mr. Ben Lewin, Mr. Laurance Tessier, and Mr. Ethelbert Edwards assist in making the piece successful; and Mr. Augustus Wheatman as Friar Tuck supplies some broad comedy. Mr. E. C. Vaughan as King Richard, and Mr. C. Bruce Winston as the Abbot, appear to advantage.

COLOSSEUM THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. Eastwood.—Mr. T. Edward Ward's company is here in *Second to None*. Mr. Jerrold Heather as the hero, Harry Wilding, acts in manly fashion; Miss Ward plays Nell Greystone in her usual talented manner; Miss Violet Ennis Lawson appears as May with success; Mr. Louis Norman is fine as Sir Reginald; and Mr. James Stillwell as Captain Mannering is an excellent villain. Mr. Horace Booth and Mr. T. G. Vane, as Frank Wilding and Lieut. Archie Ballater, are capital; and Mr. J. G. Maine makes a good Sergeant Horseman. Miss Maudie Grayson as Norah causes much amusement, receiving considerable assistance from Mr. Tom Sinclair as Private Flutter, and Mr. Allan Carruthers as Joe Ruggles.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. Howgate.—Miss Victoria Monks is fulfilling a most successful engagement with her capital songs; the Cee-Mee Family, in their aerial comedy act, win approbation; the Cymros, Welsh duettists, sing excellently; and Will Cornish does well in a musical bell act; Elsie Roby is a smart comedienne-pianiste; the Three Goodfellows have a good sketch in *Watch the Chalk*; and Ivey Aberdare is a good coon vocalist and sand dancer. A. G. Spry, comedian, and the Dottoscope, complete the bill.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. Nuttall.—Jimson's novelty sketch, a capital turn, introducing some well-trained dogs, is at the top of the bill; Whimsical Walker appears in *Captain Hamilton, V.C.*, assisted by Miss Molly Moore, and wins much applause; Zaid, the Spanish Moor, gives a clever turn on the rings; F. W. Nash and T. H. Noel are a pair of smart comedians and dancers; Morimura and Miako have some clever illusions; J. P. Carrol is very good as a tambourine expert; and Percy Johnson, comedian, also appears. The Dottoscope is again showing some interesting pictures.

OXFORD. — EAST OXFORD THEATRE.—Lessees, Miss Winifred Stuart and Mr. C. Watson Mill; Manager, Mr. Frank Stuart.—Mr. Ernest R. Abbott's company is fulfilling a six nights' engagement here with *Sapho*. As Jean Gaussin, Mr. Ernest R. Abbott acts with laudable restraint, and easily wins favour; while Mr. Charles Tring is well adapted for the part of Flamant. Capable exponents are found in Mr. W. H. Garbois as Henri Dechelette, Mr. John Lester as Caoudal, and Mr. W. H. Davis-Brown as Hettema. Mr. Douglas C. Phelps' performance as Uncle Cesaire is excellent, his refined humour and by-play causing roars of laughter; Mr. Weedon Ross is a typical cabman as Old Legrand; Miss Doris Dew is a very attractive Lucy; and Miss Marjorie Tennant is vivacious as Mme. Hettema. Miss Hetty Jones makes the most of Josaph; and as Fanny Legrand Miss Ada Abbott shows considerable power and ability, depicting the various phases of the character with distinct success.

PAISLEY.—PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile. — *In Holy (!) Russia*, presented by Mr. J. Rice Cassidy's company, is in possession here this week. A very able and finished impersonation of Colonel Richard Forrest is furnished by Mr. Arthur Stratton; Mr. Frank Copeland makes Sir Harry Beresford an interesting study; Mr. J. Cuthbertson portrays Baron Von Pleve with effect; Michael Natolski is played in a telling manner by Mr. Frederick Loyd; intensely amusing and clever is the embodiment of Micky Nolan by Mr. J. Rice Cassidy; and the assumptions of Count Gregori Petrofski by Mr. Martin Sands, and Laurice Steragoff by Mr. Carl Rovinelli, are highly commendable. Mrs. J. Rice Cassidy plays the rôle of Renee Rubinoff with skill and charm; Miss Florence Creagh is to be commended for an admirable portrayal of Catska Lavotski; and other characters are well impersonated by Miss Alice Marsden as Mme. Natolski, Miss Agnes Durham as Natalie Natolski, and Miss Annie Dudley as Mrs. Richard Forrest.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Douglas F. Bostock.—A programme of exceptional merit is being presented here this week. Frank and Jen Latona, in a musical and comedy act, give a highly meritorious entertainment; Sammy Shields, Scotch comedian, is responsible for business that is intensely funny; Hess and Lisbon, comedy skaters, give a thoroughly enjoyable turn; Annie Nelson, soprano vocalist, is applauded; Alma O'Brien, soubrette, entertains; as also do Josh Dixon and Bob Baxter, comedians. Bernard and Weston, in an amusing comedy duo, are well received; and the Hippodrome Bioscope, as usual, contributes to the success of the programme.

PLYMOUTH. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—Mr. Edward Marris's company, in *Somebody's Sweetheart*, is the attraction here. Mr. Percy Maitland as Stephen Leverton makes a fine stage villain of quite the conventional order; Mr. Cecil Parke as Stanton Ashleigh gives a capital rendering of a manly young Englishman; Miss May Norris as Freddie Ashleigh cleverly interprets a somewhat precocious youngster; Miss Elfie Vincent is graceful and fascinating as Lulu; and Miss Masie Gerrad makes an acceptable Zora. The programme includes no less than twenty-two vocal and instrumental numbers, the majority of which receive flattering applause.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—The top place on the bill is deservedly occupied by Mr. Nat Clifford, and the popular comedian has an unlimited supply of new wheezes and business; Newhouse and Ward provide a cycle turn distinctly clever; Prince Kokin, the Japanese juggler, is on a return visit; Lily Lena, comedienne, has an attractive and well-rendered répertoire; the Picquays have a refined item; and George Davis and company extract plenty of fun out of their sketch, entitled *Jack's Uncle*. Earle and Melville, comedians, and Vernon's pictures, are the remaining items.

PONTYPRIDD.—ROYAL CLARENCE THEATRE.—Owners and Proprietors, Mrs. Trenchard and Miss L. Jones; Manager, Mr. Charles Trenchard.—Mr. Alfred B. Cross is here with *The Manxman*. Mr. Cross as Pete is magnificent; and Miss Minnie Watersford as Kate Cregeen wins all hearts. Mr. Frank Etheridge displays great ability as Cæsar Cregeen; and Mr. Sidney C. Kearns admirably portrays Philip Christian. Mr. Maurice Yorke capitally portrays the part of Ross Christian; and Mr. E. C. Howell is most amusing as Monty Missil; while Miss Nellie Freeland gives a clever portrayal of Nancy.

PORTH.—THE PALACE. — General-Manager, Mr. C. W. Poole; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Bynorth.—The programme here, an exceptionally good one, includes the following turns:—Leo Lester's comedy burlesque pantomime, *Monkeyland*; Miss G. Haile, comedienne and dancer; the Prince and Milner Trio in a novel equilibristic act; Cavalli, the clever young ventriloquist; the Two Walonells, Continental triple bar performers; Frank Cumminger, sand-dancer; Zertho and his troupe of performing dogs; the Seves, in their interesting entertainment of second sight and mental telepathy. The Palace Bioscope this week depicts the films, "Foul Play" and "A Good Cigar."

PORTSMOUTH.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate.—Mr. T. Arthur Jones and company are staging *Life's Sweetest Sins*. Mr. Jones taking the part of Captain Harold Marston effectively. Mr. Oswald Douglas, as the villainous Doctor Colbrooke, gives an exceedingly interesting impersonation; Miss Marie Daventry, as the much-harried Doreen Rivers, is conspicuously successful; Miss Marion Armitage as Bess Grayson, and Mr. Edgar Morgan as Bob Tanner do very well on the lighter side, and keep the house much amused.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—Mr. George Edwardes's able company, in *The New Aladdin*, is here. Mr. George Gregory in the part of Tippin causes much amusement; the Princess is played by Miss Ida Rene very cleverly and with much charm of manner; Lally is depicted very gracefully and with commendable dash by Miss Cressie Leonard; Miss Irene Verona is a very solid embodiment of the Spirit of the Ring. Miss Nellie Lonnen as a dancing girl, Miss Mary Fraser as the maid to the Princess, and Jessie Lonnen as the Charm of Paris all did good and careful work. Mr. Fred Leslie, jun., as the Genie of the Lamp is excellent; Mr. William Spray is diverting as the Cadi; and Uncle Ebenezer is capitally sustained by Mr. Frank Hector. General Ratz and the Lost Constable are admirably portrayed by Messrs. Ernest Maher and Harry Taylor.

EMPIRE PALACE. — Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—Hardeen, handcuff manipulator, is here, and his successful efforts to free himself from his shackles gain him much applause. Brett and Orford cause much amusement with *The Two Love Birds*; and Arthur Ainston and company in sketch, *Duck Hunting*, meet with warm approval. Jack Pleasants, a comedian, scores with his extremely droll style; Moss and Son, vocal scenic artists, do a very pleasing and unconventional turn; and the Three Delaries, in speciality act, *The Demon Grotto*, present an able gymnastic display. Rachel Rowe, the singer of novelty songs, is distinctly good. Frank Boyce, eccentric vocal comedian; Lily O'Gorman, soubrette and danseuse; and Payne's Bioscope, with quite up-to-date pictures, fill an interesting programme.

PRESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Executors of the late Mr. Wm. Johnson; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Stephen Pritt.—Mr. Chalmers Mackey's company is appearing here this week in *The Shaughraun*.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. E. J. Linsdell.—Mr. L. Austin Miliais introduces the late Lord Leighton's model in classical poses; as comedy acrobats the Rinaldo Trio are exceedingly good; Messrs. Phern and Phern, in their musical act, delight the audience; the Jollions acquit themselves well in refined songs and duets; Miss Mayne Cannon is recalled for her attractive trick-playing on the piano and her coon song; Messrs. Gilroy and Gross contribute to the amusement with humorous patter and a well-executed step-dance; Les Zelovas

Longden, and Livesey's company are here with *The Village Blacksmith*. Mr. Sam Livesey gives an excellent portrayal of the part of John Strong, and Mr. Joseph Carter scores as Captain Leo. Mr. Edwin Maydew is seen to advantage as Lucas Marler, and Mr. Thomas E. Marshall is interesting as Jeremiah Parkins. The part of Billy Twiggs is in the capable hands of Mr. George V. Campbell. Miss Maggie Edward's gives a pleasing and sympathetic rendering of a soul-stirring part of Kate Strong, and Miss Cassie Le Grande does well as Ruth Parkins. Miss Edith Giddens is smart as Martha Mopps, and Mrs. T. C. Livesey gives a capital representation of Sal Parkins. Little Miss Bertha Hanbury as Harry Strong speaks her lines with intelligence and gives evidence of careful training.

RUGBY. — Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geoffrey Fulton.—This week a variety company is here. Mr. Jabez White, light-weight champion of England, gives an excellent exhibition of scientific boxing; Miss Kittie Ere, soprano vocalist, is good; Miss Daisy Dashwood, comedienne, renders several songs in a piquant style; Mlle. Doro proves herself to be a musician of ability; the Danas are popular; and Vesto is seen in a clever exhibition of ball-punching; the Eltons, on the triple bars, are smart; Fred Lyndo, comedian, does well; Le Warren is an excellent ventriloquist; and Mlle. Sara's Trio submit clever and realistic tableaux.

RYDE.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. H. E. Arkwright; Manager, Mr. F. B. Farrant.—W. F. Jury's Imperial animated pictures are here for a week. Among the many popular films shown are those representing the wreck of the ss. Berlin, and some remarkably effective photographs of a cruiser in a storm. Many amusing items also find a place in the programme. Mr. J. W. Hortin sings two songs in capital style; and Miss Vera Bateman accompanies efficiently.

SALFORD.—Prince of Wales' Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—*As Good as Gold* is the attraction this week, Mr. Samuel James's company on Monday being greeted by a good audience, who quite appreciated the performance. Mr. J. Hayes makes a thorough villain of Sir Richard Wharncliff, Bart., and Kate D'Arville, his unwilling tool, is well portrayed by Miss A. Collier. Mr. Fred Lloyd cleverly sustains the manly part of Lieut. Jack Stanton. Mr. Clinton Baddeley gives a good study of a country gentleman and selfish father as Mark Williams. The Kipper is a clever piece of work by Miss B. Baker, and a charming Norah Williams is presented by Miss Isla Garnet Vane. Mr. Herbert Fuller as Horatio Spanker, Mr. J. Rowlands as Timothy Nias, and Miss M. Merrick as Madge Merry keep the comedy well to the front.

Regent Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. J. C. Patterson.—Kronan's American military spectacle, *Our Boys in Blue*, is a very smart exhibition of infantry and artillery drill, and receives due appreciation. A very pretty act is A-Ba-Bee's picture postcard album. The programme also includes excellent turns by the Sages, comedy burlesque artists and dancers; Robbie Roy, laughing patter comedian; the Gregson Comedy Trio, in a comic speciality, *The Dummy*; Little Bobby, the gallery boy; Eva Chadwick, vocalist; Harry Taylor, comic vocalist; and the Bouncing Dillons, in their unique acrobatic act.

Royal Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Wentworth. — *Nancy Sikes*, an episode from "Oliver Twist," heads a good programme. The title-rôle is sustained by Miss Georgette Thierry, and she is supported by Mr. Bernard Liell, Mr. Will Black, Mr. Henry Deane, and Miss Florrie Sorsby. Other items are contributed by Marie Blyth, contralto; Hallam and Stanton (Henry and Josephine), in the musical comedy sketch *A Broken Journey*; Shavo, a smart juggler; Lilian Brothers, clever acrobats; Zanfretta and Napio, musical eccentrics; the Cheers, with their wonderful performing cats; the Spangelettis, with their dogs, pony, and baboon circus; George and Edwards, patter comedians and dancers; and J. H. Dundas, actor vocalist.

Stretford Pavilion.—Proprietor, Mr. Sidney Weatherhilt; Manager, Mr. Fred Erick.—Blanco J. White, droll comedian and buck dancer, heads another good programme; Stella Millar gets much applause; and clever turns are also provided by Walter Buxton, baritone vocalist; Bert Goldin, speciality dancer and comedian; Colwyn Thomas, tenor vocalist; and Fred Erick, comedian, with his eccentric songs and business.

SALISBURY.—County Hall.—Proprietor, Mr. Arthur Whitehead; Business-Manager, Mr. T. Brinsmead.—Mr. Herbert Ralland's principal company has appeared here in *La Poupée*. As Alesia, Miss Mysie Devine was delightful, her dainty dancing and singing being greatly appreciated; Miss Edith Hunter made a capital Mme. Hilarius; Miss Doris Dickens was very smart and lively as Henri; Miss Adelina Burgon was good as the Maid; and as Guduline, Miss Alice Roche acted well. Mr. Arthur Cozens as Lancelot was clever; Mr. Fred Seymour scored as Hilarius; the Father Maxime of Mr. Walter Balfour was excellent, and his singing won for him unbounded praise; Baron Chanterelle was ably played by Mr. Fuller Allen.

SCARBOROUGH.—People's Palace and Aquarium.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. Walter Kitchingman.—Harry Mars is the chief attraction here this week, his exhibition on the trapeze being both novel and daring; Little Dando, comedian, sings songs that suit him exactly; Chas. Kay, comedian, is well received; Harry Drew has a voice that he uses to great advantage; Letta and Minnie, handbalancers, are here for another week; Herman's feats of jugglery, and the Bioscope and the new pictures, complete a capital entertainment.

The Hippodrome.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. George Zalva.—The Miltons are a great attraction here with their comic skating sketch; the Volbecque Sisters, comedy duettists and dancers, are very popular; Steve Cooke's songs keep the audience in capital humour; Clem Lisbon, comedian, and Stavert and Yondi, musicians, also appear. The animated pictures are as popular as ever.

SEACOMBE.—Irving Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiernan.—Overflowing audiences testify to the popularity of Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company in *Lucky Durham*. The title-rôle is acted with conspicuous ability by Mr. Edmund Kennedy, repeated calls being given after each act. Mr. Robert Forsyth is an earnest and convincing Lord Mountfallon; the Hon. Reginald Steighton being cleverly depicted by Mr. Arthur Leigh. Mr. A. E. Walker gives a satisfactory performance of Mr. Vallerton; Ellen Vallerton receives a delightful rendering from Miss Alice Esther Belmore; Arthur Welcombe (Mr. W. Kingsford Pearce) and Ben Verstein (Mr. W. F. Clitheroe) are both good in their respective parts. Miss Francis Wolviston displays all the necessary dignity in her impersonation of Lady Mountfallon, and the Hon. Margaret Steighton is well depicted by Miss Florence Dulhunty.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—New Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. C. Harrison. — The Scottish Animated Picture Co. and Scottish artists are proving a capital draw here. Prince Bendon is a Scotch ventriloquial comedian of ability; the Lindsays, musical comedians, provide an enjoyable turn; Scotch Kriss, conjurer and comedian, delights the audience; Miss Margot Johnston, illustrated songstress, is an acknowledged favourite; and J. C. Lawrance a capable Scotch comedian.

SHEERNESS. — The Hippodrome. — General-Manager, Mr. F. Leighton.—The excellent programme of last week has been superseded by another of equal merit. J. Collinson's company, in the comedy act *The Topsy-Turvy School*, creates an abundance of amusement; the Falcons, comedy acrobats, submit a skilful performance; Vere and Royal, comedy duettists, get loudly applauded; and the Brontes, in a comedy duologue entitled *Saucy Maud*, are well received. Rita Resdan gains approbation for her successful impersonation of male characters. Harry Phillips, comedian, and Florrie Beck, comedienne, complete a most entertaining bill.

The Palace.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Phil Raymond.—The company engaged here this week is fully up to the standard of excellence. Miss Hilda Gordon charms all with her ballads; Will Thornhill is a clever instrumentalist; Miss Amy Cecil is a charming burlesque actress and dancer; Mr. Phil Raymond continues a big favourite; the Byrons' new act is highly relished; Miss Topsy Levane, the well-known burlesque actress and dancer, is adding to her popularity; and a screaming sketch concludes.

SHEFFIELD.—Lyceum Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. B. B. Beaumont.—The eagerly-anticipated visit of Mr. Charles Frohman's company, in *Peter Pan; or, The Boy Who Wouldn't Grow Up*, has resulted in a big financial success, as well as an artistic triumph. Miss Zena Dare in the title-rôle has charmed local playgoers, and many who do not exactly come under that category, by her dainty acting and winning manner; and those well-known artists, Mr. G. W. Anson, Mr. Stratton Mills, Mr. Lupino, and Mr. Lionel Mackinder, have thoroughly caught the whimsical spirit of the author.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—This is the Opera Festival Week here, the great event of the year to Sheffield musical enthusiasts, and the famous Moody-Manners "A" and "B" companies have been amalgamated for this engagement. The proceeds are to be devoted to the Sheffield medical charities, and though prices are trebled, the advance-booking and the crowded house on the opening night, point, in spite of the heavy expenses, to a handsome surplus being netted. The combined chorus provided by Mr. Manners has been further strengthened by the members of the Sheffield Amateur Grand Opera Company, which, together with a band of sixty, has lifted the performances up to a high standard of artistic excellence. The revival of *Aida* on Monday was a triumphant success, on account of the magnificence of the mise en scène. The cast of the opera was as follows:—Aïda, Mlle. De Vere-Sapio; Ramphis, Mr. Charles Manners; King of Egypt, Mr. Chas. Magrath; Amonasis, Mr. Lewys James; Amneris, Miss Toni Seiter; Radames, Mr. Joseph O'Mara. Mlle. De Vere-Sapio and Mr. Chas. Manners were recalled again and again at the end, and Signor Sapio, the conductor, was twice called in front of the curtain. On Tuesday *Lohengrin* was performed, with Mme. Fanny Moody as Elsa; and the operas billed for the rest of the week were *The Flying Dutchman*, *Faust*, *Madama Butterfly*, *La Bohème*, and *Tannhäuser*.

Alexandra Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—*At Cripple Creek*, a play redolent of the spirit of Bret Harte, was again acted here on Monday by Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company. Mr. Stanley Bedwell made a manly and gallant hero as Joe Mayfield; Mr. Oscar Power as the villainous Dago earned the execrations of the gallery; and a full-blooded type of frontier rascality was Mr. Eric Hudson's Martin Mason. Mr. Harry Leander, an old Sheffield variety favourite, acted humorously as Ben White; and Mr. Will Hook was funny as Reggie Harwood. Miss Daisy Carlton was a pretty and talented representative of Maggie Mason; and the dramatic powers of Miss Agnes Verity were exerted to the full as Dynamite Ann.

Empire Palace.—Proprietors, The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—A screaming item of this week's programme is the cleverly-concocted "Casey Court Pantomime" of *Mick Whittington*, which gives scope for some right-down funny comic business and smart burlesque; Billy McClain's Troupe do a pretty and exhilarating sketch, called *A Coon from Dixey*; the Four Karnos are agile pantomimists and acrobats; the Sisters Geretie are pretty, shapely, and talented performers; and other successful artists are the Robertys, dancers; Hurley and Cole, vocalists; Miss Kate Traill, pianist; Miss Effie Stuart, comedienne; the Lukushima Troupe; and Mr. Ted E. Box, comedian.

Grand Theatre.—Proprietors, The Vaudeville Co.; Manager, Mr. David Warwick.—The company here this week includes Mr. Frank Hardie, in the Californian sketch, *The Pedlar*; Miss Tiny Arnold, a dainty and accomplished comedienne; Mr. Bert Danson, vocal comedian; Mr. J. H. Carney, vocalist; Miss Jessie Harper, comedienne; Mr. Joe Dale, variety entertainer; and Pallister's Bioscope, with the latest humorous and dramatic films.

Montgomery Hall.—The Modern Paris Theatre company, under the management of M. Gustav Gooes, opened to a good audience on Monday with the latest thing in animated coloured photography. Scenes from the "Arabian Nights," with a number of humorous and fantastic pictures, accompanied by appropriate incidental music and songs, made a programme full of instruction, humour, and dramatic interest.

SHREWSBURY.—Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Business-Manager, Mr. W. C. Dornton.—*The Shulamite* is being played here this week. Mr. Algernon J. Hicks is powerful and artistic as the sanctimonious Boer farmer, Simeon Krillett; Mr. Chas. Fancourt is a manly Robert Waring; Mr. Geo. Rammell makes a vigorous and successful Jan Vanderberg; Miss Emily Levettez plays with conscientious effort and ability the part of Tante Anna Vanderberg; Miss Ruth Shepherd in the trying rôle of Deborah Krillett sustains the part throughout with power and feeling; Mr. Gus L. Rilings makes a capital Klaus; and Miss Chrissie Bickerstaff succeeds as Memke, a Kaffir slave girl.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—Empire Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Conquest; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power.—*The Assassin* is being presented here by Mr. Augustine Knight, who, as Prince Demetri, is most successful; Mr. Edward E. Ashby gives an interesting study of Ivan Ipanoff; Mr. Theo Balfour impersonates Duke Karl in a creditable manner; Mr. Cecil H. Raymond is a pleasing Baron Alfonse; Mr. Tom J. Taylor creates merriment as Peter; Miss Marie E. Robertson is well suited as Katrina; Miss Frances Waring ably impersonates Nita; and Miss Hettie Senior is sprightly as the Yankee girl. Miss Ella Vane takes the rôle of the assassin (Countess Wanda) in a very attractive and skilful manner.

The Kursaal.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. P. T. J. Bacon. — The highly-amusing musical comedy, *H.M.S. Victory*, is markedly successful here, and the clever company was given a hearty reception on Monday. Lord Teasum has a capital exponent in Mr. Bob Leardo, who makes a typical Admiral of the Fleet; Messrs. Arthur and Harry Watson provide merriment as Jack Marlinspike and Dick Hatchway; and Mr. Ted Shepperd makes a jovial Sam Mainmast. Trotter is in the capable hands of Mr. Joe Burnley; Miss Nellie Grant gives a capital impersonation of Lady Teasum; and Miss Flo Stanley is decidedly good as Polly. Specialities are contributed by Leardo, acrobat; H. Watson, who sings to the delight of all; Clivetto, a smart juggler; the Sisters Dudley, clever dancers; and Lord and Lady Watson, in pleasing duets.

Pier Pavilion.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley E. Angless.—Mr. Harry Montague, with his well-known wandering minstrels, called "The Vagabonds," is providing a refined entertainment of humorous songs, sketches, dances, imitations, and burlesques.

SOUTHPORT.—Opera House, Winter Gardens.—Proprietors, The Southport Opera House and Winter Gardens Co., Ltd.; Secretary, Mr. R. Singleton.—The attraction here is provided by Mr. Lawrence Brough and company, with *The Lady of Ostend*. Mr. Brough submits a clever and finished portraiture of the Baron; Dick Whortles is capitally enacted by Mr. Henry Hampson; Mr. Percy Marshall sustains the part of Joseph Carbury with great success; Mr. Watkin Wynne is highly commendable as the Prizefighter; Miss Bessie Harrison submits a praiseworthy character-sketch as Matilda; Miss Dorothea Svendson is a diverting Lady of Ostend; Miss Kate Milford a charming Dorothy; and Miss Eva Boyne a capital maid. As a curtain-raiser, *At the Rising of the Moon* is presented.

Albert Hall, Winter Gardens. — Lessee, Mrs. Charles Parker; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Mertz.—The principal items in the well-selected programme presented here this week are supplied by the Six Æolians, in their refined vocal and dancing act; Signor and Mme. Borelli, society entertainers; and Harry Grey, novelty comedian, in his comic scena, entitled *Chiming Bells*. Other attractions are presented by Lopez, contortionist and dental athlete; Olive Armidale, comedienne; Carl Muller, speciality dancer; Jimmy Holland, the whistling collier; Selby and Myers, refined comedians; Marie Beresford, musical comedy artist; and the Bioscope, with the latest films.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. John and Fred Coulson.—Mr. Allan Wilkie and a strong company occupy the boards in a round of standard plays. On Monday *Hamlet* was produced to a crowded house. Mr. Wilkie thrilled the audience by his tragic rendering of the title-rôle; and Mr. G. Alexander Marsh was a capital Laertes. Claudius was well enacted by Mr. John Paley; and Mr. Herbert Morgan as the ghost was impressive. The Horatio of Mr. Ernest Digges was an excellent piece of acting; Miss Irene Cameron was seen to great advantage as Ophelia; the Queen of Denmark by Miss Carrie Baillie was a strong performance; Mr. Geo. Munro in the double rôle of Polonius and the First Gravedigger was all that could be desired; and he was ably supported by Mr. Charles W. Dockwray as the Second Gravedigger. Mr. Ian Fleming was a pleasing Marcellus. *Romeo and Juliet*, *Garrick*, *The Bells*, *Othello*, and *The Two Orphans* are also billed.

Empire Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—Harry Tate's company in *Motoring* is well received, and proves as funny as ever; Herbert Sketch, in *Dan the Outlaw*, gave a good exhibition of quick-changing; good dancing is contributed by the O'Gorman Brothers; Drew and Alders are very humorous in *The Coastguards*; the remaining enjoyable items are Daisy Meyer, in coon stories, assisted by Paul Knox; Blanche Vincent, vocalist; May Fallowfield, comedienne; Hilda Playfair, vocalist; and the Bioscope.

Tivoli.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. K. Hall and Jos. Sweeney; Business-Manager, Mr. Harry Burns.—Fanny Robina sings her songs in an appreciative and dashing style; some clever training is exhibited by the parrots and cockatoos introduced by the Montaldos; Florrie Bint renders her vocal selections in good fashion; the witty repartee of Messrs. Doyle and Gibson is much appreciated; Johnny Holland and company and the Three Coopers are responsible for good comedy work; and there are some attractive Bioscope pictures.

SPENNYMOOR.—Cambridge Theatre. — Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; General-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—Mr. Charles March, after a prolonged absence, is once more appearing here with his sensational play, *The Gamester of Metz*. In the rôle of Paul Baldot he acquits himself with distinction. As Henri Badaire, Mr. Wilfred Prothero gives a successful impersonation; Miss Una Lane appears to advantage as Lucia Baldot; and in the comedy rôles of Goliath Grow and Gwendoline Hastings, Mr. Thorpe Tracy and Miss Elsa Cole are lively and piquant.

STAFFORD.—Lyceum Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Elphinstone.—We are visited by the United English Opera Co. On Monday night *Maritana* was presented, and had a very cordial reception. A capable interpretation of the title-rôle was given by Miss Elsa May; Miss Doris Gilbert as Lazarello sang in an excellent manner; Mr. Kreole Campbell as King of Spain scored a success; and as Don Cæsar de Bazan, Mr. F. S. Gilbert sang and acted in splendid style, and received a fine ovation for his rendering of "There is a Flower." The bill also includes *Daughter of the Regiment*, *Il Trovatore*, and *The Bohemian Girl*.

STALYBRIDGE.—Grand Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Fioni; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. A. Jackson.—The Waldrons, the favourite Lancashire comedians, head the bill, and their sketch, *The Silly Burglar*, is a capital laughter provoker. Carl Rosine, a dextrous conjurer, succeeds with a series of mystifying tricks; and the remaining portion of the programme is contributed by Miss Beattie Foster, comedienne; Arnetti, the musical Momus; Arthur Woodville, comedian and dancer; Rex and Ford, cross-talk comedians; the Wallys, expert jugglers; Wallace Whitney, comedian; Miss Lillian Payne, a beautiful soprano, who accompanies herself on the piano, &c.

ST. HELENS. — Theatre Royal and Opera House, Ltd. — General-Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader.—Drama takes the place of grand opera this week, the boards being occupied by Mr. Hilliard Vox's company, in *Alaska*. Mr. Percy Ballard speedily wins favour as Skookum Jim, his performance being one of the most notable features of the piece; Mr. George H. Doyle strikingly portrays the rôle of Ned Larson; Mr. Stenson Liddard (late of *Country Girl* company) realises to the full the character of Baptiste; and Mr. James Fox plays the part of Father Bernard with ability. Miss Violet Crawford is excellent as Alaska; Miss Muriel Vox is sympathetic and natural as Jessie Dalton; and as the Widow Casey, Miss M. Palmer is capital.

Hippodrome. — Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Willmot; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Vic Carnell.—Mr. Tom Foy and company head the bill here with their laughable sketch, *The Yorkshire Lad in London*; the Emilions give an extremely smart acrobatic performance; and other good turns include Hulbert, ventriloquist; the Foy Brothers, in vocal scena, *Pat in China*; De Lil, illusionist; Miss Ida Ross, comedienne; Farrell and Miller, Irish comedians; and Starr and Jerome, vocalists and sand-dancers.

STOCKPORT. — Theatre Royal and Opera House. — Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Revill, jun.—The exciting incidents and interesting situations in *The Span of Life* have been followed with marked pleasure by large audiences here. Mr. R. S. Trelawney gives a manly impersonation of Richard Blunt; Mr. Sanderson Moffat is thoroughly effective as Dunstan Leech; as Nutty Brown, Mr. Walter Dale is amusing; and a genuine comedienne is Miss Kitty Russell in the character of Shrove Tuesday. Miss Guinevere Shilton acts with feeling as Kate Heathcote, and the Stebbings Trio prove themselves to be exceedingly clever acrobats.

Empire. — Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—A sketch abounding in fun, entitled *Rent*, given by Harry Daniels and company, is the chief attraction here. Marvellously clever are the Pichel troupe of Risley acrobats. Another act of exceptional ability is that of Charles Matthews, the champion jumper; the success of the Wakeman quartette last week ensured their special engagement for this week; Little Rose Pink, in song and dance, is successful; Issa Steel, operatic vocalist, sings pleasingly; and Sam Shipley is a most amusing character comedian.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—Hippodrome Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Geo. and Robt. Nicholson; Manager, Mr. Geo. Stainton.—Auguste Van Biene and company provide a rich musical treat this week in the sketch, *The Master Musician*. Gracie Bard is a charming coon delineator; and Lottie De Abbey scores with her Tyrolean songs; Wartemberg Brothers, the foot experts, are both interesting and amusing in their entertainment; Les Uniques are a troupe of acrobats who exhibit great skill in mounting ladders; while Effie White as a serpentine dancer is unique, and is greatly appreciated. Ward and Davis are amusing in their sketch, *The Type Writer*; and another delightful turn is provided in the *Japanese Love Story*, a miniature musical comedy, which is highly appreciated. The Pictures complete an unusually good programme.

Grand Theatre.—Proprietor, Councillor J. Batty; Manager, Mr. W. Batty.—W. J. Churchill, the popular comedian, heads the bill this week; Harry Friskey, comedy juggler, creates great amusement; the Three Rubys are exceedingly clever as tumblers and acrobats; Mark Merry is a quaint comedian; Ruby and Laws present a humorous sketch, *In Old Madrid*, combining comedy with good singing; Janet Reynolds is a delightful soprano vocalist; and G. W. Hunter, an old favourite here, causes great amusement with his local "hits." The Pictures are very interesting and amusing.

STOKE.—Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Manager, Mr. H. Miller.—Premier position here is held by the Three Merrills, comedy cyclists, whose turn is clever and amusing; Mr. Frank Elliston and company present a screamingly funny farce in *Aunt Matilda*; Sandes and Vincent in their burlesque speciality are capital; H. Pawson, necromancer and rag-painter, is successful; Lilian Rigby is good; the Katos, living marionettes, provide an interesting turn; Walter Wallis is a smart comedian; the Sisters Selwyn, vocalists and dancers, are well received; and the the pictures are capital.

STROUD.—Subscription Rooms.—Manager, Mr. H. J. Twitchett.—Mr. Chas. W. Poole is this week presenting his successful Royal Myriorama. The pictures are brought up to date and given with the usual grand dioramatic effect. The following talented artists also appear:—Miss Daisy Graham and trained birds, in a very neat show; Massons, a clever comedy juggler; Harry Stewart, actor-vocalist; Little Doretta, who dances well; Kitty Woodford's dogs, in a wonderful performance; and Leonard and Mac, patter comedians. The very latest of animated photos. brings the programme to a close.

SUNDERLAND.—King's Theatre.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Ernest Stevens and R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry L. Carlo.—Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company is this week appearing here in *Leah Kleschna*. Mr. Paul Belmore is an admirable Kleschna, playing with much dramatic power; and the Leah Kleschna of Miss Bessie Rignold is excellent. Mr. William F. Grant plays Paul Sylvaine with considerable power; and Raoul Berton finds an apt exponent in Mr. Hamilton Deane. Other parts are capably filled by Messrs. Campbell Goldsmid, Roland Daniel, Bert Gunter, and Miss Violet Thorold.

Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. Jos. Hemingway.—Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's company, in *The Midnight Mail*, is the attraction this week. Mr. George Harvard gives a strong impersonation of Harry Steyne; and as Billy Brewer Mr. Fred G. Evison could not well be improved upon. Mr. Magill Martyn scores as Hassan Padisha; and Mr. Harry Emmerson is a capital Donald Craig. Mr. J. Ingledew is well placed as the kind-hearted Policeman; Miss Ada Oakley is a pleasing Mary Steyne; and Miss Iris Love a lively Nancy Brewer.

Palace.—Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Acting-Managers, Messrs. Alfred Browne and Syd B. Stringer.—The place of honour is this week held by Gunner Moir, boxer; the Sisters Sprightly, comediennes, contribute another excellent turn; Wee Mona, child vocalist and dancer, obtains a flattering reception; the Davis and Gledhill Trio score in their cycling and motor racing performance; the New York Nippers please in their scena, entitled *Bedtime*; Nellie Martell is a comedienne and dancer of considerable ability; Bob Stephenson, comedian; Brothers Zampah, billed as the one-legged marvels; and the Palace pictures complete an enjoyable entertainment.

SUTTON-IN-ASHFIELD.—King's Theatre.—Proprietors, Mansfield, Sutton, and District Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Captain Clayton; Manager, Mr. Edward Gray.—Mr. James Hare and company are here in *The Destroyer of Men*. Mr. Hare, in the part of Karl Mischia, gives a fine performance; Mr. C. P. Wentworth makes a good Chief of Police; and the comedy element is in the capable hands of Mr. Ross Warren. Miss Irene Clifford figures to advantage as Olga Mischia; and Miss Alice Buckland makes a vivacious comedienne.

SWANSEA.—The Grand.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Brooks and Woodbridge; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Oswald Brooks.—Mr. William Mollison and company, in *The Bonnie Brier Bush*, are here. Mr. Mollison's conception of the part of Lachlan Campbell is winning him enthusiastic recalls; Wee Postie was in the safe hands of Mr. Alec F. Thompson, who was excellent; the Earl of Kilspindle was ably enacted by Mr. Whitford Kane, as was also Lord Hay by Mr. Archie W. Chappell. William MacClure was cleverly taken by Mr. W. A. Mackersy; whilst equally successful was the Rev. John Carmichael of Mr. Henry Deas and the Tammas Mitchell of Mr. Kendal Chalmers. Coming to the ladies, Miss Evelyn McNay was winsome and natural in her impersonation of Flora Campbell; a great success also being scored by Miss Elsie Vron as Kate Carnegie; whilst Miss Josephine Woodward as the sympathetic Margaret Howe, and Miss Edith Blair Staples as Annie the dairy-maid, enhanced their reputations. Miss E. Herminia Black and Miss Joanne Fitzgerald, as Geordie and Jeannie, made the most of their opportunities.

The Empire.—Proprietors, Messrs. Moss, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. A. Mitchell; Assistant-Manager, Mr. P. C. Rowe.—Through the unfortunate illness of Miss Vesta Tilley Swansea has had to go without their idol this week. The management were fortunate in securing an excellent military sketch by Mr. Wm. Bourne, which is well staged and admirably acted; Mr. Hymack, the chameleon comedian, provides an extraordinary turn, which is greatly liked; the Bros. Dean, dancers, give a typically clever exhibition; the Sisters Morgan are duettists with voices above the average; Cissie Curlette as a mimetic vocalist is smart; Collins and Rice, comedy artists, are thoroughly good; and the Strads, in *The Night Before the Concert*, provide very pleasing music. Some excellent bioscope pictures are also shown.

The Star.—Manager, Mr. William Coutts.—An excellent series of animated pictures, illustrated songs, and dramatic recitals by Mr. William Coutts are drawing big houses here this week.

TORQUAY. — Theatre Royal. — Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. W. H. Mortimer; Sec., W. A. Pearse.—Mr. H. F. Maltby's company in *The Youngest of Three*, and *Sir George, of Almack's* visited Torquay this week, and played to highly-appreciative houses. In the former of the two plays named, Mr. Maltby appeared to great advantage as George Wendover; and Mr. Wyn Weaver was excellent as the younger Wendover; whilst the three sisters were admirably portrayed by Miss Janet Hodson, Miss Grace Richardson, and Miss Mora Maltby, the last-named making a most charming character study of "the youngest of three" sisters. Mr. W. Reginald Favell, Mr. Franc Stowey, and Mr. F. Stuart Willson ably supported.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS. — Opera House. — Lessee, Mr. Charles Carey; Business-Manager, Mr. L. J. Gunnell.—Tunbridge Wells is enjoying its first Shakespearean commemoration week, and a varied répertoire is being provided by Mr. Norman V. Norman and Miss Beatrice Wilson. Occasion has been taken to present Miss Wilson in two new Shakesperean rôles, in which it may at once be said that this clever and versatile actress has scored a triumph in what was undoubtedly a noteworthy feat for an actress even of Miss Wilson's versatility. That feat was in one evening to play Romeo to Miss Kathleen Bird's Juliet in the balcony scene, then to transform herself into Lady Macbeth to Mr. Norman V. Norman's Macbeth, and, finally, to become the mocking Beatrice to Mr. Norman's Benedick in *Much Ado About Nothing*. Miss Wilson's polished diction in the great love scene was one of her finest achievements, and the musical cadence of her voice in the wooing of Juliet simply charmed all hearers. A word of praise is also due to the emotional power displayed in Miss Rind's Juliet. A complete and tragic contrast was achieved by Miss Wilson as Lady Macbeth, and she gave a very interesting and human reading of this fascinating and complex character. As Macbeth Mr. Norman repeated a previous success in his study of the moody Thane. To crown her achievements Miss Wilson gave a rendition of Beatrice, which was as sprightly and charming as her Rosalind of the previous evening. For the week-end Miss Wilson is appearing in *David Garrick* and *Robin Hood*, and the festival week is proving a series of triumphs. Among other members of the company, Mr. Norman Leslie and Mr. Aubrey Mather were the other generals with Macbeth; and King Duncan was played by Mr. Brember Wills; while in *Much Ado About Nothing* Mr. Norman Leslie was Don Pedro, Mr. Brember Wills Don John, Mr. Aubrey Mather Claudio, and Mr. Kenneth Bruce Leonato, and each of these added their share of success to the garden scene. The ladies who took their share in the gentle conspiracy with equal vivacity were Miss Sybil Ruskin as Hero, Miss Dorothy West Symes as Margaret, and Miss Hilda Gregory as Ursula; while mention must also be made of Miss L. Rushforth, whose artistic singing of "Sigh no more, ladies" delighted everyone. In *Romeo and Juliet* Mr. Howard Brenan gave a spirited representation of the humours of Mercutio.

WALSALL.—Her Majesty's Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, the Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; General Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Henry Coutts gives a marvellous turn in his mystifying and lightning-change production, *Outflanked*; Cline and Clarke, black and white comedy artists; Harry Simms, light comedian, proves to be very popular; and Kioto, Japanese equilibrist, is well received. Kurios, in their curious concoction of comicalities, create great fun; Barton and Franklin's vocalism and instrumentalism are very enjoyable; and Tom Lloyd gives a capital turn. The American Bioscope presents interesting pictures.

Grand Theatre. — Proprietors, the Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—On Monday, Tuesday, and Saturday, Miss Lole Esmond's company are here with *The Anarchist Terror* and *The Sorrows of Satan*. Mr. Edward Neville, in *The Anarchist Terror*, takes the parts of Ravagoon, Count Grovini, the blind wanderer, Ephraim Oldroyd, and the Terror, and does ample justice to his arduous task, and proves himself to be a fine actor. Mr. Coleman Davies as Ishmael and Mr. Ben Brew as Nathan also score in their respective rôles; Mr. Fred Cherry makes a capital Silas Washington Goldstraw; as Lieut. Armstrong Mr. J. McCaigh found favour; Miss Lole Esmond as Kitty Malone was natural and charming; and with Mr. Herbert Carrington as Micky Doolan, creates the heartiest laughter. Miss Rosie Neville as Columbia Goldstraw gains much applause; Miss Pennie Croft is successful as Zara; and Miss Cecilia Dare is a capable Marita.

WEDNESBURY. — Theatre Royal. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Batersby; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Kuner.—Mr. Leonard Dalrymple's No. 1 company is here this week in *As Midnight Chimes*. Mr. Herbert Belmore as Luke Dezzard, and Mr. Leonard Dalrymple as Dave Stannard, do excellent work in their respective parts; Mr. Herbert Pearce gives a very clever rendering of Ezra Gamble; Mr. James Salter makes up well as Tat Spavvin; an artistic portrayal of Mary Stannard is ably presented by Miss Maud Hastings; whilst the part of Zamora is cleverly enacted by Miss Alma Henson. Miss Madge Beresford is warmly appreciated for her capital impersonation of Suzette, the French maid.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—Grand.—Lessee, Mr Fred Granville; Manager, Mr. Herbert E. Feather.—Messrs. J. M. Polini and L. Maitland and company present *The Coal King* on its return visit. Mr. Lauderdale Maitland's conception of the rôle of Tom Roberts is a masterly one, well studied in every way; Mr. Chas. Whitlock gives a capable rendition of the character of Sir Reginald Hartford; the heavy part of Walter Hartford is creditably played by Mr. Escot Robson; considerable humour is infused into the play by Mr. Alfred Terris in the rôle of Jim Williams and Miss Enid Ross as Araminta Green; a splendid piece of character-acting is done by Miss Sinna St. Clair as Mad Ann; and a brilliant success is achieved by Miss Gertrude Valentine as Grace Shirley.

Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—The excellent array of talent submitted this week is resulting in capital business. Messrs. Fred Ginnett's equestrian spectacle, *Turpin's Ride to York*, is proving a strong attraction, and receiving considerable applause nightly. Mr. Fred Ginnett undertakes the principal rôle of Dick Turpin in his usual masterly style, and he is capably supported by such clever artists as Mr. George Jennings, Mr. Carl Barello, Mr. Alf. Burgess, Mrs. F. Ginnett, and Mrs. Jennings. Johnny Dwyer, comedian, gains considerable popularity; Salvino, boy instrumentalist, is a perfect master of his art; a pleasing turn by the juvenile Sisters Marion is well received; some clever feats in the juggling line are done by Wollan, the boy juggler; and admirable pictures are shown on the Bioscope.

WEST STANLEY.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

At a meeting of the "reform party" of the Actors' Association at the Trafalgar Studio, Chelsea, on Sunday, Mr. Lewis Casson took the chair, and among those present were Miss Wynne Matthison, Miss Alys Reece, Mr. Frederick Moreland, Miss Tita Brand, Mr. Robert Castleton, Mr. Kenyon Musgrave, and Miss Clare Greet.

Mr. MORELAND said it had been settled that a poll of the members of the Association should be taken regarding matters in dispute, and the voting papers would be issued to members, who are asked to vote for the reduction of the numbers on the council from forty-two to twenty-five; for an annual election of the council, for the election of the council by voting papers issued to all the members, which would give provincial actors their due weight; for the exclusion of managers, on the ground that the Actors' Association should consist of actors; for the making of the offices of president and vice-president honorary; and for the agency connected with the Association to decline to treat for appointments, so far as speaking parts are concerned, at less than £2 a week.

ACTORS' UNION MEETINGS.

LONDON.

Mr. Wm. Farren, jun., took the chair at Tuesday's meeting of the Actors' Union, held at 3, Bedford-street, W.C., and among others present were:—Mr. Cecil Raleigh, Mr. Charles Sugden, Mr. Harry Paulton, jun., Mr. and Mrs. Robson Paige, Mr. Arthur Bawtree, Miss Emily Polini, Miss Harriet Polini, Mr. Edwin J. Collins, Mr. George H. Child, Miss Beatrice Lloyd, Miss Gertrude Tate, Miss Dorothy Mackenzie, Mrs. Meek, Miss Adelaide Gracey, Mr. Frank Lennard, Mr. Alfred Bennett, Mr. Buchanan Wake, Mr. E. Johnstone, Miss Isa Patterson, Mr. William Allison, Mr. Robin Shiells, Miss Gladys Ffolliott, Mme. Rouir, Mr. Edwin Palmer, Miss Elsie Carew, Miss Nellie Dade, Miss Heron Brown, Mr. R. E. Warton, Mr. Robert M. Taylor, Miss Violet Sims, Mr. Edward Carlin, Miss Bull, Mr. W. H. G. Wynne, Miss Buckstone, Mr. Roy Barraclough, Mr. R. Ryder, Mr. Alfred Richards, Mr. Orland Barnett, Mr. Harold Cundall, Mr. William Lockhart, Mr. Tripp Edgar, Mr. Gifforde Reynolds, Miss Florence Mitchell, Miss Phyllis Manners, Mr. E. Y. Rae, Mr. F. W. Ford, Mr. Frederick James, Miss Evelyn Vaudray, Mr. Alec Crichton, Miss Norreys, Miss De Burgh, Mr. W. Henry Hargreaves, Miss May Dallas, Miss Paget, Mr. Douglas Munroe, Miss Sophie Lingwood, Mr. P. Sturgis, Miss Florence Tyrrell, Mr. Cecil Newton, Mr. Wilfrid Shine, Mr. T. Barriscale, Mr. J. Bentley, and Mr. Oswald Marshall (secretary).

Mr. ROBSON PAIGE read extracts from the very encouraging Glasgow report, which will be found below.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that were he to go back to the times of David Garrick he could find nothing that was more worthy of support than the Actors' Union. It was the only association of actors that would keep them on their feet. Sooner or later it would bring together a solid body of actors who would stand together, and not allow it to be knocked down. The objects of the Union were fairplay and self-help. There were a good many young people who came on the stage and who did not play the game fairly because they happened to possess friends or relatives with money. And it was nonsense to imagine that a competent actor could be turned out by a dramatic academy after a few months' training. Acting was only to be learned by hard work. The old stock system might have had its disadvantages, but it gave work to a large number of people and provided the English stage with our greatest players. Could better names in instance of this be given than those of Mrs. Siddons, Mrs. Kendal, Miss Ellen Terry, and the late Sir Henry Irving? Of course, the young people to-day might retort that there was no stock system. Well, there were plenty of travelling companies, and youthful actors could work their way up in them. In his (the Chairman's) early days, beginners had to be content with small parts; now the salary-cutting or premium-paying amateur would be given an important part owing to the fact that a certain class of manager had entered the dramatic field. But it was not to be thought that because a man or a woman had money he or she should be debarred a stage career. Nothing of the sort was intended by the Union, the idea being to give everybody a chance. They ought to have the co-operation of all the actors and actresses, and the touring managers would then support the Union. The economic conditions of the stage were such that the Actors' Union had become a necessity. They owed a great debt of gratitude to Mr. Cecil Raleigh for the way in which he had come forward to support their cause, and everything now depended upon actors pulling together properly.

Mr. CHARLES SUGDEN spoke on the subject of a loan fund, warned the meeting of the uses to which such a fund might be put, and remarked that they would have to deal constantly with a begging class.

Mr. CECIL RALEIGH said that the profession was overrun by incompetent amateurs. He read several advertisements from various newspapers in which "ladies and gentlemen without any experience" were offered engagements. He would tell them of one case where the agency was in the same hands as the management of the theatre. A company of amateurs rehearsed a piece for a fortnight, and it was tried at an experimental matinée. The production proved moderately successful, and it was continued. The first lot of paying amateurs were then dismissed, and a new lot taken on who paid a fresh 10 per cent. The minimum wage of £2 a week must be established to abolish the paying amateur. No man or woman could live decently in the theatrical profession under that sum. At a later date he (Mr. Raleigh) would explain a very simple scheme he had for guaranteeing to their sick and aged the sum of £10,000 a year.

Miss GLADYS FFOLLIOTT suggested that the Union should appoint a reader of plays for the purpose of protecting its members against fraud. The duty of this official would be to keep a copy of each play sent to a manager, and to endorse the script with the name of the Union, so that the person to whom it was sent would know that it was protected.

A letter from Mr. Harry Armitage, speaking from the managerial side, in favour of the Actors' Union, was read amidst considerable enthusiasm; and Mr. Buckley's scheme for a provident fund was also brought before the meeting.

Mr. ARTHUR BAWTREE, in proposing a vote of thanks to Mr. Farren for presiding, mentioned that there were now forty-seven centres of the Union.

The announcement that a meeting, for members of the Union only, was convened for Sunday evening at eight o'clock at 3, Bedford-street, brought the proceedings to a close.

GLASGOW.

By kind permission of Messrs. Howard and Wyndham and Messrs. Armitage and Leigh, an Actors' Union meeting was held on the 19th on the stage of the Theatre Royal, Glasgow. The following were present:—Paul Belmore, Arthur Leigh, Bernard Hishin, Jos. B. Montague, Hamilton Deane, Frances Wolviston, Florence Dulhunty, Fredk. Loyd, Arthur Stratton, Frank Copeland, Carl Rovinelli, John Clyde, Alice E. Belmore, Hilda Blanch, Joseph Millane, J. W. Stewart, Lillian Clare Cassidy, Wm. S. Palmer, Edmund Kennedy, Dare Austin, Florence Creagh, Louisa Gourlay, W. Kingsford Pearce, Wyn Hanley, W. F. Clitherow, Alice Marsden, Robert Forsyth, A. E. Walker, Harry Glenny, G. Mitchell, John Hartt, Katie Evelyn, and H. Wolston.

Mr. LOYD, in opening the proceedings, touched on the fact that the Actors' Union did not wish to fight managers. He for one fully recognised the good feeling that ought, and did, exist between many managers and their artists. In touching the ever-present question of the stage-door beggar, he said it was a crying shame and a disgrace to our profession, which the A.U. when in full working order would materially be able to deal with. He then drew the attention of the meeting to the phenomenally successful gathering of last Friday on the stage of the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, when out of all the artists who were then present only five failed to sign on as wishful to become members of the A.U. He had great pleasure in proposing Mr. Hamilton Deane as chairman at this meeting. This was seconded by Mr. Edmund Kennedy.

Mr. DEANE, on coming to the chair, was greeted with hearty applause. He commenced by reading telegrams wishing all possible success and good wishes from the following:—John Ryder, Campbell Goldsmid, Harry Armitage, Oswald Marshell (Provisional Committee), Robson Paige, William Farren, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Sugden, Arthur Bawtree, and Ben Webster. In his speech which followed Mr. Deane touched on the absolute necessity of trades unionism to such a body of workers as actors and actresses. Collectively, he said, we are bound to make a firm stand, and he asked those present to pin their faith entirely on the new Union, and to believe that, judging by the numbers who are pouring in, that actors and actresses, for the first time in the history of their profession, would be a well-governed body of workers at no very distant date. He then gave a brief résumé of how the Union came to be formed and how things had fared with it up to the present date. He was more than pleased to be able to state that, of all the meetings held since the inauguration, that of last Friday on the same stage was the most successful of any; out of fifty-three actors and actresses who were present forty-eight signed on to join the Union. He thought that in taking the clauses one by one and inviting discussion on each they would be better able both to give a clear idea of the Union and to gauge the popular feeling. Cohesion and loyalty, he said, were the two great things needed. To all of you who recognise that a Federation or Union was necessary to the welfare of the stage he would say, put scruples aside and put your name down to join. He concluded by saying he hoped on leaving the meeting to be able to wire to the Provisional Committee that they had had the most successful meeting on record yet, and that the Actors' Union had received a big impetus on the road to solid and financial success.

Mr. KENNEDY, speaking on Object No. 2, "to abolish the premium-paying amateur," said: We are all too well acquainted with the amateur; we ought to wipe him out. These people are, to a great extent, the reason of bad business in the theatre of to-day; the raw amateur is not worth 2s. 6d. per week.

Mr. LOYD, supporting Mr. Kennedy, said that it was absurd that an amateur with no experience should be on a par with the professional actor and be entitled to demand £2 per week.

The CHAIRMAN replied that the gentlemen would have a grave difficulty in getting admission to the Union.

Mrs. CASSIDY said that very often amateurs were good, clever artists.

The CHAIRMAN replied that did not matter; that in every other profession or calling a novitiate had to be served, and that we had on the stage to-day a plentiful supply of the genuine article without going to the ranks of amateurs to find more—sufficient material, he would say, to last the next ten years.

Mr. CLITHEROW said that amateurs must be kept out. He agreed with Mr. Kennedy that they were a serious bar to people coming to the theatre nowadays.

Mr. PAUL BELMORE said that, in his opinion, a certain amount of tuition was both necessary and essential to all. A man or woman may be born clever, but a certain amount of hard study was necessary in order to "get there." Our greatest actors and actresses had to learn. We must have a standard of a minimum wage, or we should get no further advanced. He knew of managers who had engaged artists at 15s. a week, and also received a premium.

Object No. 2 was therefore passed unanimously; also No. 3.

On No. 4, the CHAIRMAN said a few words on the acceptability of a loan fund and old-age pension fund to all ranks of the theatrical community, and urged that these measures should be pushed forward as rapidly as possible. This was passed unanimously. Nos. 5 and 6 were also passed.

With regard to No. 7, Mr. PALMER suggested that, instead of having a sixpenny death levy, it would be more advisable to have a further penny or twopence added to the weekly subscription, this money to go to form an insurance fund which could be drawn upon in the event of a death or deaths among the members of the community.

Mr. KENNEDY seconded Mr. Palmer's motion, and, on its being put to the vote, twenty-one were for and four against. The eighth and last object of the Union was passed.

The CHAIRMAN then read excerpts from letters received by him from members of the Provisional Committee dealing with the minimum clause, how and where to pay subscriptions, and where necessary stamps were to be obtained; and called attention to the advisability of all members attending the weekly meetings and keeping as up to date in the matter of subscriptions as possible for the benefit of the funds. He concluded by exhorting all present who had not done so to join the Union, and, having once joined, to put as much thought and care into the selection of the fellows who were to represent them on the Council as they possibly could, remembering that so much depended on this first year, and on the governing body during that year.

Votes of thanks having been passed to Mr. Hamilton Deane, Mr. Fredk. Loyd, Mr. Arthur Leigh, and Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, the proceedings terminated.

Twenty new names were added to the roll of members.

MANCHESTER.

A meeting of actors took place on Tuesday at the Salisbury Hotel, Manchester, to discuss the current situation and take new opinions and suggestions upon the same. Mr. William Matthews occupied the chair, and opened the meeting by reading the rules and objects of the Union. Afterwards a long discussion took place on the subject of the minimum salary.

MR. JERROLD HEATHER suggested that the £2 minimum might wisely, in present circumstances, be reduced to 30s. for ladies, and that a further alteration be made in the qualifying period of five years in their case, three years being perhaps desirable.

This led to some dissension, in the midst of which MR. MOUNTFORD, who had entered the room quietly during the course of the argument, begged leave to offer the meeting the benefit of his experience and advice. Mr. Mountford lost no time in hammering home the principle that Unionism must adhere without compromise to one minimum figure, or the entire efforts of the organisation which actors are trying to establish for the general benefit of bonâ-fide members of the profession will be of no avail. To establish a sliding-scale among themselves would be subversive of the good that could be done by adhering to the £2 minimum for all who are qualified to take up a line of business. No reason appeared to exist why ladies should be paid less than their brother actors, and Mr. Mountford suggested that to put Mr. Jerrold Heather's proposal seriously before the profession would have the immediate effect of alienating actresses in a body from the Union.

MISS DAISY HALLING spoke to the same effect, adding that ladies—apart from their abilities—are frequently called upon to provide more in the way of costumes than actors are. Miss Halling showed her sincerity in the cause of the Union by a very neat and fervent speech.

Among other suggestion was one that probationers — *i.e.*, those having less than five years' experience — should be at liberty to play utility parts at any rate of pay they chose to accept; but this was based upon a misconception of the meaning of the five years' rule. A further suggestion that the actors' year should commence in August, so missing the evil conditions of the two months preceding, was generally accepted as increasing the chance of enrolling new members. Among those present, in addition to those already mentioned, were Mr. J. G. Maine, Mr. Horace Booth, Mr. Edward Beecher, and Mrs. Sidney Halling.

HULL.

The Actors' Union held a meeting in the Wheatsheaf Hotel, Hull, on Wednesday. MR. PAUL LOVETT, who presided, said there were now about 400 members. He thought much good would be done by holding meetings week by week in various places, and laying before prospective members of the Union its advantages.

MR. BRUCE LINDLEY said some fancied the Union was a London institution. He entirely repudiated that suggestion. A discussion followed.

LEICESTER.

A meeting under the auspices of the Actors' Union was held at the Cricket Players' Hotel, Church-gate, Leicester, on Thursday afternoon, the chair being taken by Mr. Edward S. Petley. Amongst others present were Mr. E. Howard Templeton, Mr. W. S. Hartford, Mr. Edward Ranier, Mr. J. Collinson, Mr. Arnold Palmer, and Mr. Fred Elvin.

The CHAIRMAN at the outset explained the rules and objects of the Union seriatim, which met with the approbation of the meeting.

Mr. EDWARD RANIER remarked that he understood that practically sketch artists were considered as music-hall artists. He might say that he always secured recognised actors and actresses for his sketches.

Mr. W. S. HARTFORD, in explanation, said that an alteration of the rules which had been made now admitted recognised sketch artists to join the Actors' Union.

In a discussion which ensued as to the minimum wage of £2 per week, Mr. HARTFORD remarked that an actor rarely worked more than 36 to 40 weeks in a year, and that £2 per week was not a living wage. A manager who paid £2 for small parts got value for his money.

Mr. ARNOLD PALMER said that he knew of men who had been offered 50s. per week who would rather starve than accept less.

The CHAIRMAN, in reply to some remarks by Mr. Ranier, said that in his opinion it was only a question of Unionism that sketch managers should receive sufficient money for their productions to pay their artists the minimum of £2. The number of members of the Actors' Union now exceeded 400, who had joined within the past five weeks.

Mr. FRED ELVIN: There seems to be an opinion that actors could not form a Union.

Mr. TEMPLETON: We are now giving the lie to them.

The meeting, which was of a most harmonious character, then terminated, after Mr. Edward Ranier, Mr. Arnold Palmer, and Mr. Fred Elvin had signed forms of application for membership.

The following new agencies have been established in the provinces:—

BRISTOL.—Crown and Dove, Bridewell-street.
BURNLEY.—Rose and Thistle.
CARLISLE.—Deakin's Vaults.
CHATHAM.—Dover Castle.
COVENTRY.—Golden Cross.
DERBY.—Exchange Hotel, Albert-street.
DOVER.—Walmer Castle Hotel, Market-square.
DUBLIN.—Crampton Hotel, College-street.
DUDLEY.—Seven Stars' Hotel.
EASTBOURNE.—Devonshire Hotel, Seaside-road.
GREAT YARMOUTH.—Royal Standard.
GRIMSBY.—Railway Hotel.
HALIFAX.—Shakespeare Hotel.
HUDDERSFIELD.—Victoria Inn.
IPSWICH.—The Posada, Brook-street.
LIVERPOOL.—The American Bar.
NEWCASTLE.—Bridge Hotel.
PLYMOUTH.—Great Western Hotel.
PRESTON.—Black Horse Hotel.
SOUTHPORT.—Pavilion Hotel.
WEST HARTLEPOOL.—Station Hotel, Mainsworth.
WORCESTER.—Ewe and Lamb Hotel.

The following twenty-five gentlemen have been nominated for the forthcoming election of committee:—Mr. Chas. Allan, Mr. Arthur Bawtree, Mr. Fred Bentley, Mr. W. Ruddle Brown, Mr. Rawson Buckley, Mr. Cecil Calvert, Mr. Francis Chamier, Mr. Edward Chester, Mr. Hamilton Deane, Mr. H. Tripp Edgar, Mr. Wm. Farren, jun., Mr. Frank Gerald, Mr. James Graydon, Mr. Frank Lacy, Mr. Bruce Lindley, Mr. Oswald Marshall, Mr. Robson Paige, Mr. H. Paulton, jun., Mr. E. S. Petley, Mr. E. Y. Rae, Mr. J. C. Taylor, Mr. Howard Templeton, Mr. Robert Whyte, jun., and Mr. W. H. Wynne.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Those interested in this movement are constantly being asked: If the minimum wage is established, how are the touring managers going to pay it without being at a loss? The general answer is that the resident manager will give better terms for a better company. May I respectfully suggest another way? Is all the pictorial printing put out in provincial towns necessary? Has it not played its part and ceased to attract the public? Have not the managers, in competing against each other in this matter somewhat cut their own throats? Further, is not the so-called "special week" a cruel injustice to the legitimate touring manager? Does it not place him *absolutely* in the hands of the resident-manager? As I am told I am to be boycotted by some managers for helping to form the Union, they may as well hang me for a sheep as a lamb. I may, however, point out to the timid that many managers at the now famous meeting approved strongly of the Union. We have now enlisted the sympathy of Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Sugden, who are setting an admirable example to other "top branches" in unselfishness.

The Council will shortly be elected, and will, of course, in years to come undergo many changes; but should this Union ever become a real power in the land, I hope they will always bear in mind that it is the wish of the three founders not to be unfair to the managers. But wrongs must be righted, the amateur kept back, and those who are *in* considered before those who *want* to come in. The letter below from Mr. H. Armitage speaks for itself.—Yours faithfully ROBSON PAIGE.

10, Ospringe-road, N.W., April 25.

"DEAR MR. ROBSON PAIGE.—I am getting ready to organise a monster meeting in Liverpool in two weeks' time. Our *Leah Kleschna* company will be in Seacombe, and Mr. Deane will again preside. I hope to have ten signatures to-morrow from our *East Lynne* company, which is in Devonport. The *Lucky Durham* company will join *en masse*, as I have it clearly understood that Union men will stand a better chance of re-engagement with us in the autumn.—Yours sincerely,

"H. ARMITAGE.

"Star Theatre, Liverpool, April 18."

"THE END CROWNS ALL."

A Comedy-Drama, in Four Acts, by Augusta Tulloch, produced at the Theatre Royal, Ilkeston, on Monday, April 22.

Prince Borinsky ..... MR. ROY MILTON
Lord Arthur Lyndhurst ..... MR. MAX COUTTS
Dr. Clifford Barrington .... MR. EDWARD VIVIAN
Ivan Spava ..... MR. ARTHUR PLUMMER
Rev. Samsone Gone ..... MR. WM. DE LACEY
Jno. Jubbs ..... MR. GEO. BYRNE
Edwin Romaine ..... MR. HUGH W. TRAVERS
Boris ..... MR. CHAS. ROBINSON
Policeman D53 ..... MR. DONALD STUART
Lola Ivanwitch ..... MISS AMBER WYVILLE
Enid Romaine ..... MISS CORA LINDA
Birdie Going ..... MISS NELLIE FERN
Mrs. Cleo Jubbs ..... MISS ROSIE WATSON
Harris ..... MISS FAY NORTON
Vera Romaine ..... MISS AUGUSTA TULLOCH

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The varied nature of the scenes and incidents and the wide range of character in this drama make it a most interesting production. It is the work of Miss Augusta Tulloch, who shows the hand of experience by deft craftmanship in the arrangement of many effective scenes. It is a romance of the arena that the authoress presents to us, and the first act opens "behind the scenes" of Jubbs's Circus, where we find Edwin Romaine, acrobat, and Ivan Spava, a lion-tamer of Slav descent, gambling. The former, losing his money, hands Spava a locket belonging to his daughter Enid, which contains the portrait of her mother, Vera Romaine. Vera had left the acrobat on account of his drunken habits, and had placed Enid in a convent. The girl is taken away by her father, who trains her for the arena. The beauty of Enid inflames the passion of the lion-tamer, who attempts to kiss her, but is foiled by her would-be lover, Dr. Clifford Barrington. The locket, which plays a conspicuous part in the development of the plot, is purchased from Ivan Spava by Prince Borinsky, who is associated with him in an Anarchist conspiracy.

Edwin Romaine, who loses his reason through an accident at the circus, claims Vera as his wife, but is looked upon as demented. She marries Lord Lyndhurst, a union that much incenses the Prince, who admires her very much, and is determined to expose her as a bigamist. To carry out his purpose he immures Enid in his mansion, and entrusts her to the care of a Russian spy, Lola Ivanwitch. Spava comes to the mansion and accuses Borinsky of hiding Enid, and at a masked ball given by the latter hands to Lord Lyndhurst by mistake some incriminating Anarchist papers. Vera—now Lady Lyndhurst—recognises Enid as her daughter and faints, the curtain falling on a highly interesting situation.

Lady Lyndhurst, through the aid of Clifford Barrington, endeavours to see her child; but Borinsky prevents the meeting, and, thrusting his unwelcome attentions on the girl, she finds an unexpected defender in Boris, an old Russian in his employ. The old man has lost a son in exile in Siberia, and though the secret has been kept from him by the Prince, it is disclosed to him by Lola. By the aid of Boris Enid eventually escapes. She meets Spava, who overhears her give the circus proprietor Lola's address. Meanwhile Prince Borinsky proceeds with his plot of unmasking the supposed bigamist, Lady Lyndhurst (Vera Romaine). By sending him a false telegram he secures the departure of Lord Lyndhurst and then calls on the lady. She summonses the servants, and the return of my lord coincides with her exposure as the wife of a drunken madman. Lord Lyndhurst strikes the Prince, and is challenged to a duel. Lord Lyndhurst's life is afterwards attempted, but he is saved by Boris and Spava—now exposed as an Anarchist by Lola—is hoist with his own petard. He leaves the lions' cage open in order that they may attack Lola, whom he has induced to visit the circus; but his scheme gangs agley, and the beasts attack him. Prince Borinsky is exiled to Siberia; Vera's innocence of the charge of bigamy is proved, and the curtain falls on the reunion of herself and Lord Lyndhurst and the happiness of Enid with Barrington.

Prince Borinsky had a good exponent in Mr. Roy Milton; and the Vera Romaine of Miss Augusta Tulloch was worthy of the highest praise. Ivan Spava was in the capable hands of Mr. Arthur Plummer and Miss Amber Wyville did justice to Lola Ivanwitch. Mr. Max Coutts was decidedly good as Lord Lyndhurst; Miss Cora Linda was responsible for a feeling portrayal of Enid Romaine; and Mr. Edward Vivian as Clifford Barrington, Mr. Hugh W. Travers as Edwin Romaine, and Mr. Chas. Robinson as Boris were all most effective. The comic relief of Mr. Wm. de Lacey and Miss Nellie Fern was refreshing. Mr. Geo. Byrne and Miss Rosie Watson also contributed to the fun.

THE TERRISS.

On Monday, April 22, the Tragedy in Five Acts, by William Shakespeare, entitled

"ROMEO AND JULIET."

The Messrs. Melville afford us a great treat this week in presenting *Romeo and Juliet*. The great success here of the previous production of *Hamlet* aroused eager anticipation of the next Shakespearean production, and expectation has been amply fulfilled. The talented stock company give a very able representation of the sweetest love story that ever was told. Miss Marion Denvil made a splendid Juliet, girlish and full of the joy of living in the earlier scenes, and rising to a very high level of tragic acting in the potion scene at the end of the fourth act. Miss Denvil was very impressive in the final scene, when, wounded unto death, she has just sufficient strength to crawl to her husband's body and clasp his neck in a last embrace. Mr. Ashley Page is almost an ideal Romeo, young, handsome, and passionate. He was at his best in the fight with Tybalt and Paris. Mr. Wilson Gunning was a light-hearted Mercutio, and gave the famous Queen Mab speech excellently. Mr. Weldon Atherstone was an impressive and kind-hearted Friar Laurence; and Miss Maggie Lindsay a benevolent Nurse. Mr. John Sargent made the part of the obstinate Capulet stand out prominently by his sterling acting; Peter was played with abundant humour by Mr. Johnny Chippendale; Mr. David Noble was an admirable Paris; Mr. Cyril Vernon did well as the fiery Tybalt; and Miss Lulu Bowes was good as Balthasar. Miss East Robertson was a dignified Lady Capulet. The applause was frequent throughout, and the whole production was received with much enthusiasm. The scenery was very appropriate, the balcony scene and the Capulets' garden being especially pretty sets. Not the least attractive feature of the evening was the incidental music, composed by the musical director, Mr. Alexander Humphreys, which fitted the Shakespearean theme admirably. Mr. Will T. Tayler, the acting-manager, is assiduous in looking after the comfort of his numerous patrons in the front of the house.

"WHEN THERE'S LOVE AT HOME," a drama, with a prologue and four acts, by Maud Hildyard and Russell Vaun, was produced for copyright purposes at the Opera House, Northampton, on Thursday, April 25.

THE costumes for the production of *Tales of Hoffmann* at the Adelphi Theatre, which have excited unanimous and enthusiastic praise on account of their originality and artistic design, were supplied by the Vienna Theatrical Costume Studio.

"THE COPING STONE."

A Play, in Four Acts, by Gerald Lawrence, played for the first time at the Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne, on Friday, April 19.

John Babbington ..... MR. STANLEY HARRISON
Lucien Bobbington .. MR. CHARLES CARTWRIGHT
Henry Babbington ..... MR. CHARLES COLLETTE
Lawrence Allington ..... MR. LIONEL BELMORE
The Hon. Jack Lancing .. MR. GERALD LAWRENCE
The Rev. Archibald Piggott .. MR. A. B. TAPPING
Geoffrey Courtley ..... MR. D. BRYAN
Marjory Graham ..... MISS FAY DAVIS
Agnes Gray ..... MISS HELEN VICARY
Helena Courtley ..... MISS CLARISSA SELWYNNE
Mary ..... MISS BEATRICE GROSVENOR
Brown ..... MISS LILLIE CAVENAGH

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

All the world loves a lover, and a most acceptable one is presented in the new play by Mr. Gerald Lawrence which saw the light on the 19th inst., when the audience showed their delight and appreciation in a very marked manner. Marjory Graham is a charming young lady of nineteen, who has been brought up on unconventional lines by her eccentric guardian, Mr. Dwyer, her father having died when she was six years of age. While in her guardian's charge Marjory was never allowed to venture beyond the boundary of the house in which she lived. Her guardian, too, had original ideas of education: he talked with his ward on art, literature, and poetry, but she was not allowed to learn to read or write until such time as the accomplishments would do neither harm to herself nor to anyone else. The outcome of this rigid training is the production of an unsophisticated young lady, delightfully frank, and quite free from any of the ordinary social restrictions. The eccentric Mr. Dwyer dies, leaving his wealth to Marjory, but the last chapter of the will is missing, and without it the remainder is invalid and the property will be diverted into Chancery. Marjory is first seen in the house of John Babbington, a solicitor, who for a few days is taking charge of her pending the arrival of her other guardian, Lawrence Allington. Meanwhile Marjory is introduced to a handsome young fellow, the Hon. Jack Lancing, whom she immediately calls by his Christian name and invites him to lunch. Marjory's new guardian arrives from abroad, and he is soon visited by Mrs. Courtley, a designing lady to whom Allington in years previous has written a compromising letter in mistaken kindness. Mrs. Courtley attempts to revive the old attachment, but Allington honourably refuses, and Mrs. Courtley threatens to be revenged. Marjory has overheard the conversation and her remarkable memory enables her to retain every word. Mrs. Courtley shows the compromising letter to her husband, who at once accuses Allington of being a false friend and of trying to lure his wife from him. Marjory is able to disprove the false charges brought against Allington by Mrs. Courtley, and repeats the interview word for word as she overheard it.

In an unfortunate speculation Allington loses the £50,000 left to Marjory by her father, and the young girl is obliged to live in a riverside cottage, where she sells her sketches to obtain pocket-money. Jack now reappears on the scene, and declares his love for Marjory, which she reciprocates in full. At the back of one of Marjory's sketches Jack detects the missing chapter of the will—the coping-stone—which provides that all the wealth of the eccentric guardian is to go to Marjory when she is wedded to the man of her choice.

As Jack Lancing Mr. Gerald Lawrence was an ideal lover. His work was earnest and convincing, and loud applause marked his performance throughout. In Mr. Charles Collette and Mr. Charles Cartwright, we have two fine, experienced actors, and as twin brothers, Henry and Lucien, who make desperate love to Marjory in the hope of sharing her fortune, were extremely droll. Mr. Stanley Harrison was a brisk and definite exponent of John Babbington; Mr. Lionel Belmore did complete justice to the part of Lawrence Allington; Mr. A. B. Tapping was a highly amusing Rev. Piggott of the ordinary stage type; and Mr. D. Bryan was an excellent help as Geoffrey Courtley. Mr. Lawrence was fortunate in having the assistance of Miss Fay Davis for the part of Marjory. She displayed all the charm and ingenuousness that properly attaches to the rôle, and captivated all by her dainty grace and her effective delivery. Miss Clarissa Selwynne was a distinctive and attractive Helena Courtley; Miss Helen Vicary gave a pleasing and womanly performance as Agnes Gray; and as Mary and Brown Miss Beatrice Grosvenor and Miss Lillie Cavenagh were all that could be wished. The scenery was pretty and appropriate, and deserves a special word of praise.

"FOR HER SAKE."

A Drama, in Four Acts, by William Roberts and Ben Landeck, produced for the first time in England at the Opera House, Cheltenham, on Friday, April 19.

Prince Vladimir Walanoff .. MR. HERBERT FORD
Gregorovitch ..... MR. ARTHUR ELWYN
Nicholas Nicholoff ..... MR. ROBERT FAULKNER
General Pauloff ..... MR. CHARLES WILLIAMS
Lieut. Rostow ..... MR. DERMOT FITZGIBBON
Lord Chumley Hargreaves ..... MR. FRED BECK
Ivan ..... MR. FRED HILLIARD
Patrick ..... MR. HARRY BENSON
Rensenski ..... MR. HENRY RUSSELL
Paulanoff ..... MR. T. SHARP
Libinski ..... MR. F. LEYLAND
Zouroff ..... MR. FRED SCOTT
Sergius ..... MR. C. STEVENS
Princess Natacha Walanoff ..... MISS NELLIE LAURAINE
Miss Phyllis Gray ..... MISS ELLA DIXON
Amelia Jane ..... MISS AMY MAITLAND
Olga ..... MISS MABEL MANNERING

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

For Her Sake, which has already achieved considerable success in America, was played by Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company. St. Petersburg is the opening scene, and the plot turns on the love of the hero, Prince Vladimir Walanoff (a captain in the Russian Army), for a beautiful serf girl, Olga, who has incurred the hatred of a former serf, Gregorovitch, a Nihilist, police spy, and fugitive slave. The play lends itself to effective situations and staging. The best scenes are those of a Barrack Room in Poland and the interior of a Siberian prison, wherein are realistically depicted flogging, bullying, and other tortures typical of Russian prison life. The latter scene leads to an exciting climax of virtue triumphant over baffled villainy.

The producers are to be congratulated on an excellent first performance, and the stage-management in particular was good.

Miss Mabel Mannering as the much-oppressed Olga, and Mr. Herbert Ford, her princely lover, gave convincing studies of the two principal parts, and were heartily applauded. Miss Nellie Lauraine was quite at her ease as the treacherous Russian Dowager; and Mr. Arthur Elwyn was all that could be desired as the villainous spy and traitor, Gregorovitch. Mr. Robert Faulkner played with great power the part of Nicholas Nicholoff, an imprisoned serf, his acting being very effective in the torture chamber, where the oppressors attempt to extract his valuable secrets. The essential comic relief as supplied by Mr. Fred Beck (Lord Chumley Hargreaves) and Mr. Harry Benson (Patrick, an Irish coachman) was excellent, and both were well received; Miss Ella Dixon as the American heiress helped the comic business; and Miss Amy Maitland (maid to the heiress) had a part which fitted her like a glove, and of which she took full advantage. Minor parts were ably filled by Messrs. Williams, Gibbon, Hilliard, Russell, and others.

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, April 22, the Drama, entitled
"THE SILVER KING."

That playgoers still retain an undiminished affection for "the greatest drama of the present century" was fully borne out by the enthusiasm displayed by the crowded house on Monday evening, when Messrs. Polini and Melford's company entered upon a week's engagement therein. Wilfred Denver has had many representatives since the days of Wilson Barrett, but Mr. Austin Melford scores a conspicuous success as the unfortunate hero, the audience rewarding his efforts with every praise. Mr. Edward J. George retains his old part of Daniel Jaikes—a part which he has embodied from the first provincial tour of the play. He is the faithful and attached family servant one delights to see. Mr. L. St. John Lowther makes a characteristic and cool Captain Herbert Skinner, otherwise "The Spider." As Henry Corkett Mr. George Belmore is light and amusing, and Mr. Warris Lindon as Cripps plays capitally. Mr. Arthur Wright, in make-up and acting, is extremely clever as Elijah Coombe, and Mr. Arthur H. Rooke is an efficient Geoffrey Ware. Mr. Byron Pedley is an incisive and smart Samuel Baxter, the detective. The small part of Frank Selwyn is well rendered by Mr. P. Redmayne, and the parish clerk, Mr. Parkyn, played by Mr. Henry Watts, is a humorous creation. Messrs. Bingham and Hatchway are a couple of comical villagers, Binks and Bronson. Mr. Leslie Parker is successful as Tubbs, the publican; and Mr. John Pollard's Gaffer Pottle causes laughter. Miss Daisy Scudamore is an earnest and painstaking Nellie Denver, winning much sympathy by her very sincere acting. A really clever little girl, Miss Flossie Hale Daviss, undertakes Cissie Denver most naturally and without any suggestion of artifice. Miss Viola Holland represents Olive Skinner with great ability, and Miss Louie Hale makes a pleasant Tabitha Durden. The scenery and effects are very effective.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

When the Carl Rosa Opera Company visited this theatre in October, 1903, the opening week of this handsome North London playhouse, it furnished a very strong attraction, and on each of its return visits proves to be even a greater draw. On Monday evening, when *Tannhäuser* was presented, the customary cordial welcome was extended by a large and appreciative audience. The performance reached the artistic standard for which this carefully-selected and efficient company is noted, the principals being all in excellent form, and the adequately-trained chorus doing most effective work. On Tuesday an entirely new production of *Carmen* was produced at a cost of about £1,000. The new production is on a lavish scale, the scenery and dresses being charming in their brilliant colouring. Miss Doris Woodhall makes an ideal Carmen, and her charming acting and singing received due recognition from an overflowing audience, which literally overflowed the large auditorium. Mr. Edward Davis's well-trained voice was heard to advantage in the rôle of Jose, and he was happy in having such a delightful colleague in Miss Woodhall. Mr. Charles Victor acted and sung with irresistible effect as Escamillo, playing the part with unflagging fervour throughout, and showing perfect control of his excellent voice. Miss Elizabeth Burgess was effective, both in vocalisation and acting in the part of Micaela, her clear and well-trained voice being at its best. Miss Ina Hill and Miss Dorothy Mayfield displayed their vocal and dramatic skill with excellent effect in their portrayals of Frasquita and Mercedes respectively, and are to be congratulated on their performances. Mr. Alec Richard, Mr. Arthur Thomas, and Mr. A. Felton showed considerable ability all round in the parts of Zuniga, Morales, and Lillas Pastia; whilst Messrs. Frederick Clendon and Arthur Hyde pleasingly depicted the smugglers, Dancairo and Remendado. The work of the whole company, principals and chorus alike, was especially good. The Marlborough orchestra, considerably augmented and numbering forty in all, did praiseworthy service under the bâton of Mr. Walter Van Noorden, and the artistic scenery formed a fitting background to an excellent performance. The other attractions billed for the week include *Lohengrin*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *Othello*, *Faust*, and *Trovatore*.

Thursday evening saw the presentation before a very large audience of *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, the opera by Otto Nicolai, which has held a high place in the esteem of musical audiences in all parts of the Continent for many years. As it was a special revival of the work after many years, it was interesting to note the attitude of the lovers of opera in Holloway, who were not only absorbed by the amusing incidents of Shakespeare's story, which excited continual laughter, but evinced the pleasure they derived from the singing of many charming numbers by enthusiastic applause. Repetitions, however, were very wisely banned by the conductor, Mr. Walter Van Noorden, who controlled an excellent orchestra, capable of doing complete justice to the instrumental beauties of the composer's sprightly score. It seems strange that no native composer ever undertook to set to music a Shakespearean play so thoroughly English in its atmosphere, and that it was left to a foreigner; but Continental masters of music have always recognised the fitness for lyrical treatment of the plays of the Bard. Ambroise, Thomas, Rossini, Gounod, and Verdi are among those who found inspiration for their lyre in his tragedies, and the music by Mendelssohn to *A Midsummer Night's Dream* is immortal. The fat Knight in love was represented with a fine sense of fun by Mr. Arthur Winkworth, whose profondo tones are of beautiful quality. He was the *bon vivant*, the jolly toper whose fealty was divided between woman and wine to the life. At the Garter Inn Falstaff has a drinking song, which Mr. Winkworth gave with rare spirit. The jealous Ford, as represented by Mr. Charles Victor, shared the success of the famous duet in the same scene, and added to the fun in Ford's dwelling when the husband is outwitted a second time by the pretty jades who love to excite his fierce jealousy. Miss Elizabeth Burgess, in the florid music given to Mrs. Ford, displayed a charming voice, and was altogether delightful, looking exceedingly pretty in the simple dress of the period. Miss Ina Hill was a sweet Ann Page, and scored in the love duet with Master Fenton, who found a sweet-voiced exponent in Mr. Edward Davies. Mr. Davies gave proof of his fine quality as a vocalist in the serenade, "Sing for ever, sweet bird." Mr. Charles Le Sueur emphasised in amusing fashion the ridiculous traits of Master Slender; Mr. Frederick Clendon was heard to advantage as Mr. Page; Mr. John Ebbeler made an eccentric Dr. Caius; and Mr. Alec Richard was the Bardolph, Mr. Albert Felton being mine host of the Garter Inn. Mr. Ernest Ch. Gittins is the acting-manager of the company.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, April 22, the Musical Play,
"THE DAIRYMAIDS."

Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company appearing here this week in *The Dairymaids* is attracting crowded houses, the visit being most successful in every way. It is, indeed, a bright and merry show, with an interesting plot, comic incidents, and an endless flow of melody. The company includes many first-class artists, at the head being that great favourite, Miss Violet Lloyd. She is seen to the greatest advantage as Peggy, being most vivacious and captivating, and winning all hearts by her delightful and dainty manner. Her Sandow Girl song must be written down as quite the hit of the piece. As Joe Mivens, the sailor, Mr. Harry Dent, a first-class comedian, is a host in himself, and whether punching the ball or driving a motor, he is equally diverting. Mr. Harry Dent's efforts to amuse are aided by Mr. E. Hatham Staples, another diverting joker, who finds scope for his talents in the part of Sam Brudenell. As a girl he is very funny, and in his number, "In Dover-street," with its topical verses, he scores heavily. The two comedians join in a duet on the subject of poaching, entitled "Not a word," which has some very funny business, and is quite among the best things in the piece. Mr. Forbes Dawson as the genial Irish doctor, O'Byrne, finds a character which suits him admirably, and plays it in a breezy style, which is quite exhilarating. Miss Cissie Sephton's Eliza, the maid, is a capital piece of work, for she greatly aids the lighter scenes, and scores in her "Grumbling" ditty. Miss Edith Blanche fills the rôle of Lady Brudenell in a dignified and finished manner; Miss Beryl Vaudrey is a very sweet Helene, Lady Brudenell's niece; and Miss Rhoda Gordon, a winsome Winifred, makes a hit in her song, "Hullo, Little Stranger." Mr. George Desmond is a dashing Lieutenant Brudenell, and Mr. Alec Fraser is seen to advantage as Fred Leverton. The head of the Schoolastic Seminary, Miss Penelope Pyechase is admirably depicted by Miss Madge Avery. An excellent chorus works with inexhaustible energy, and the Sandow Girls are six very graceful ladies, who are the cynosure of all eyes. The orchestra is under the direction of Mr. Albert Bartlett. The comedy is beautifully mounted.

CORONET THEATRE.

On Monday, April 22, Alfred Sutro's Play,
"THE WALLS OF JERICHO."

During this week Messrs. Silvanus Dauncey and M. V. Leveaux's company is presenting Alfred Sutro's highly successful tirade against the members of the smart set. Well written, vigorously acted, and capitally staged, Mr. Bourchier's Garrick success is ever welcome and interesting. Mr. A. E. Anson enacts the part of the leonine Queenslander, Jack Frobisher, who is tamed into the lamb of Mayfair. Roused from his lethargy, this rough farmer blows a stirring blast, and the jerry-built walls of smart society which had encompassed his wife totter and fall to the ground. His scathing denunciation of the manners of the smart set, with its unsexed women and foppish, philandering men, is delivered in most stirring and impressive fashion. He enacts the part on the lines of stern repression and latent strength, except for the final flare-up against the artificial methods of smart society. Miss Florence Jackson is a very charming and well-gowned Lady Alethea, and she particularly excels in the scenes of light comedy. Miss Nora Wynne has the good fortune to be cast for the pretty and taking part of Lady Lucy Derenham, an enigma in her way, and she does good work in the part. Miss Edith Cuthbert is a smart and attractive Miss Mornington; and Miss Marguerite Cellier a refined, sweet, and gentle Lady Westerby. Mr. George A. Brandram, who stage-manages the show, is a great favourite as Hankey Bannister, and causes much amusement by his quaint *gaucherie* as the rough miner who has "struck lucky." Mr. Cyril Baleine gives a capital character-sketch of the heartless old exquisite, the Marquis of Steventon; and Mr. A. W. Tyrer does well in the somewhat thankless part of Harry Dallas. Other members of well-dressed wickedness who haunt the purlieus of the smart set and poke fun at dowdy duty as championed by Jack Frobisher, are pleasantly and intelligently represented. Mr. Ernest F. Mehrer acts as general-manager to the company, with Mr. Jas. Leslie as advance representative.

THE PAVILION.

On Monday, April 22,
the Drama, by M. D. Hermalin, entitled
"LOVE AND POVERTY."

Mr. M. D. Hermalin's play, *Love and Poverty*, is a simple domestic story, strongly melodramatic, and by no means lacking in exciting incidents; while the humour is of a fertile description, which appeals to a very large section of Yiddish playgoers. As acted by the Jewish Operatic and Dramatic Company at the Pavilion on Monday evening, it is not surprising that the play scored an immediate success. Mr. Sigmund Feinman makes excellent use of his opportunities as Bernard Rabinowitz, and gives a most intelligent and vivid portrayal of the character, his assumption of madness in the final scene being in every way admirable. Mr. Isaacowitch sustains the rôle of Hirsch Waldman with ability and discretion, his whole performance being an even rendering of a difficult and arduous part; at the same time Mr. Isaacowitch must be commended for the great care he exhibits as regards his "make-up," which in this particular instance is perfect. Mme. Goldstein successfully interprets Sarah; and Mme. Bloom is a competent Chaye. Mme. J. Kayzer amply proves the possession of uncommon mental power and qualification in her exposition of Feigele, the death scene being an artistic triumph. Mme. Josephson displays capability and versatility in her impersonations of Anuta and Dora; while Miss Lubritski is a graceful Freidele; Mr. Goldsmith is thoroughly efficient as Solomon Edelman; and Mr. S. Schilling causes amusement as Berel; Miss Weinberg being an acceptable Jane. The scenery and mounting are in the best possible taste. During the week *The Brothers*, *Journalists and Actors*, *The Jew in Roumania*, *The Savage Woman*, and *David's Violin* have been played.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, April 22, the Drama, entitled
"A WOMAN'S PAST."

This is a drama of a thoroughly domestic character, and has many telling situations. As David Heath Mr. Beresford Lovett, although at times somewhat indistinct, nevertheless put in some good work; Mr. Charles V. Sandford vigorously portrayed Frank Dellannoy; Mr. A. Hamilton Warden imparted plenty of energy into his delineation of Clement Harper; and Mr. G. Moreton-Williams was satisfactory as Uriah Craven. Miss Mary Mallalieu played in an intelligent and pleasing way as Dorothy Heath, Miss Phyllis Moncton did well as Kate, Miss Eva Bertram portrayed the scheming Clara Darrell with much coolness and skill, and Miss Maisie Hanbury made many friends because of her winning impersonation of the sorely-tried Bessie. The play was carefully mounted and staged.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, April 22, the Play, entitled
"MONTE CRISTO."

The American actor, Mr. Junius Booth, supported by his own company, is attracting fairly full houses this week to the Dalston Theatre, where he is appearing in the play entitled *Monte Cristo*. Mr. Booth takes the part of Edmond Dantes, subsequently the Count of Monte Cristo. It takes the audience but a very short time to discover that Mr. Booth is an actor of experience and resource. He has a great deal to do, and not a single opportunity for securing the best effect is missed. Mr. Augustin Bowerman also plays well as Baron Danglers, and so does Mr. C. W. Crowe as General Fernand Mondego, who first makes his appearance as a fisherman, but afterwards becomes a Count. Mr. Walter Huron is M. Morel, the King's Attorney; and Mr. Beckett Bould is M. Nortier, brother to this high official. Mr. Finn Doyle is Lieut. Albert de Morcef; Mr. Walter Martin as Abbé Faria, Prisoner 23 in the dismal dungeon prison, plays effectively, especially in the death scene; and Mr. Percy Braithwaite as a bibulous old innkeeper, who afterwards becomes a servant, creates a good deal of amusement in the first-named rôle. Miss Alice West plays remarkably well as the wife of the innkeeper, her portrayal of a thoroughly avaricious woman being very true to life. Miss M. E. Ellis appears as Sophie Danglers, the Baron's daughter. Miss B. Doyle as the heroine, Mercedes, who subsequently becomes Countess de Morcef, has a somewhat trying part, but she enacts it with considerable credit to herself, and fully interests the audience. Mr. Walter Smith, Mr. Sydney White, Mr. J. Yoxall, Mr. Sam Elton, and Mr. W. A. Hillyer are also in the cast.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.

On Monday, April 22, the Play, entitled
"THE ETERNAL CITY."

This absorbing and powerful play comes as an agreeable variant to the musical comedies and lighter plays of the last few weeks, and has had a gratifying reception. The chief interest is of course centred in the doings of Baron Bonelli and the Donna Roma. Mr. E. Stanton Sharp made the Italian diplomatist a very real impersonation, and his appearance and acting were alike good. Miss Eva Moss had the sympathies of all in her troubles as the young Italian adventuress, Donna Roma Volonna, who sees the error of her ways, her elocution and facial expression being excellent. The part of David Rossi, in the hands of Mr. Oswald Cray, was full of interest and romance; Mr. C. McCann as Bruno Rocco was excellent, his acting in the trial scene receiving especial recognition from the audience. The spy, Minghelli, was effectively played by Mr. Cecil Warde; and Mr. L. Hunter was good in the small part of Felice, Bonelli's creature. Mr. E. L. Hocking made a venerable and convincing Pope Pius XI., playing with dignity and reserved force. The Commendatore Angelelli of Mr. Wernham Ryott was all that could be desired; and Mr. Arthur Gordon gave a manly representation of the old Garibaldian soldier. A word of praise must be given to Mr. John Haines's Father Pifferi, the Capuchin confessor. Miss Kate Sydney was the Princess Bellini in the first act; and the many officers and officials in the prison trial scene were represented by Messrs. Court, Percy, K. Ackroyd, and T. Rilings. The British and American Ambassadors were appropriately rendered by Messrs. A. Jefferson and G. Roberts respectively; and the minor parts were also satisfactorily filled. The play entails special scenery for each scene, the short waits being agreeably relieved by Mascagni's specially-written music, and the several songs and choruses were artistically rendered by Miss Phyllis Castleton and a special choir. The same company, which is quite up to Mr. J. Bannister Howard's usual high standard, gave two performances of *The Four Just Men*.

GRAND THEATRE, ISLINGTON.

On Monday, April 22, the Drama, in Four Acts,
by Walter Melville, entitled
"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."

Islington has this week an opportunity of renewing acquaintance with Mr. Walter Melville's drama of the above title, and a good house on Monday indicated the interest that is manifested locally in the production. Mr. Douglas Bruce, who is touring the play, has secured a good company, and much praise must be accorded them for their collective efforts. Mr. Vincent W. Carlyle as the Rev. Robert Everton acted with sincerity and power, particularly in the closing scenes, and is to be congratulated. Mr. Stanley S. Gordon as Jack England is manly, and acts with force and effect; Mr. George H. Asquin as Dick Punch is a capital comedian, and provides abundant opportunities for laughter during the evening. Mr. Frank Adair as Captain Caversham succeeds in making that altogether objectionable character about as obnoxious to the audience as is possible, his portrayal being very complete and convincing. Mr. James George Mitchell as Sutton is effective in a part of small opportunity. Miss Ethel Bracewell as Molly Vernon is responsible for a very successful character-study of an exacting nature, her depiction of the girl through all the stages of her unfortunate career being cleverly conceived; the scene in which she wrecks her betrayer's rooms was excellently acted, and altogether her efforts call for cordial praise. Miss Emmie Barton as Rose Seymour was attractive and natural, making a good impression. Miss Lydia Mannington as Marion Franklyn acted with power, and made much of the rôle. Miss Daisy Meynard was alert and bright in the comedy rôle, and supported Mr. Asquin capitally. Many smaller parts all received adequate treatment from the remaining members of the company, and the dressing and mounting were on Mr. Melville's usual lavish scale. Mr. Edward Reeve's incidental music is appropriate, and of assistance to the production. Mr. Frederick Carr is the manager for Mr. Douglas Bruce.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, April 22, the play entitled
"THE SOLDIER'S WEDDING."

Mr. Walter Melville's company is appearing this week in this favourite drama, which contains more of the domestic and less of the sensational element than is usually to be found in Mr. Melville's plays. The piece has not been seen before at the Crown, and is obtaining a hearty reception from good audiences. Mr. Wingold Lawrence makes a manly and dashing soldier hero as Jack Brown; Miss Marie Maculay gives a clever reading of the part of the foreign adventuress, Julie de Beauvais, and looks very handsome in some pretty gowns; a charming heroine is found in Miss Jessie Winter, who soon becomes a popular favourite as Nancy Lee; Mr. A. Gambier Melford is a comical Tommy Spratt; and Teddy Munroe is played to the life by little Albert. Mr. Frederick Biron gives a good study of the wronged husband, David Munroe; and Miss Georgie de Lara does well as the erring, but repentant, wife. Mr. Raymond Wood plays cleverly as the polished scoundrel, Charles Courtenay; Mr. Beresford Whitcomb makes a dignified and kind-hearted Colonel Graham; Miss Ettie Carlisle is amusing as the frivolous and irresponsible Lizzie Walker; and Mr. Fred Yarnold affords an effective sketch of the old rustic, Nathaniel Lee. The scenery is very picturesque, especially the sets representing the sale of the farmhouse and the interior at the old farm.

LYRIC OPERA HOUSE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, April 22, the Drama, by Edward Thane,
"EVERY INCH A MAN."

This drama first saw the light in the early weeks of 1906, when, in a somewhat shortened form, it was played on the two-performances-a-night system at the King's, Hoxton. There is nothing particularly new about the plot, but the dialogue is smart and the comedy scenes very well written. There is a wealthy old architect of old-fashioned, stubborn ideas, who tries to make his son follow in his footsteps, while the son longs to join the Army, and through this desire is paid £50 and told to go. Then there is the nephew who forges a cheque for £125 and substitutes it for the £50 one, with the result that the son is sent to prison. He escapes and seeks his father's house. His father refuses him help and he leaves, only to return a few minutes later to find the old man stabbed, but, fortunately, not dead. This is the nephew's work. Vera Maxwell, whom the son has previously saved from a bicycle accident, has been robbed of some money by the nephew, and the father overheard him bragging of his cleverness and power from behind the curtain. He orders him out of the house, and is accordingly stabbed. The father recovers, and the nephew departs. In the last act the nephew has lured Vera out on to the open sea in a small boat, to which he sets fire; but the son arrives at the right moment and saves his sweetheart. The play closes on the nephew being run to earth at Deadman's Rocks. The part of Alderman Barnet in the hands of Mr. H. H. Barington is all that could be desired. He looks every inch the successful provincial professional man. Mr. C. F. Collings makes a manly Dick Barnet; and as the nephew, Daniel Barnet, Mr. Herbert Hewetson is the personification of a cool, calculating villain. Mr. Morley as Ben Brown, an old soldier, is well made up and acts capably, and Miss Lena Pierpoint is a very attractive Vera Maxwell, the staunch sweetheart of Dick. As we have said, the fun is good. First and foremost comes Teddy Edwards, excellently played by Mr. Victor Rowlands. Teddy is a schoolboy who eventually gets articled to Alderman Barnet, and he is always playing practical jokes on anyone. His mother is seeking for a second father for Teddy and her suitors are the particular butts for his jokes. Miss Winnie White as his mother, Mrs. Edwards, proves herself a clever and humorous actress. Mr. Edward Thane, the author, plays the part of Marmaduke Pool Martin, described on the programme as "a silly old fop," and is another large contributor to the fun in the play. Another excellent study is that of Miss Florence Lovell as Martha, the deaf housekeeper, and the way in which she misinterprets everyone's remarks causes much laughter. Other parts were well filled by Mr. James Edwards, Mr. Ashton Winslow, and Mr. Arthur Malone, and the play is well staged.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, April 22, the Drama entitled
"THE GIRL WHO TOOK THE WRONG TURNING."

Notwithstanding the fact that there has been a long sequence of dramas at the Shakespeare Theatre, their popularity with local playgoers has in no wise diminished, and this week crowded houses have welcomed Mr. Walter Melville's company in the successful play, *The Girl Who Took The Wrong Turning*. An excellent company has been engaged, and their interpretation of the piece was in every way so successful that the interest of the audience was fully sustained throughout the performance, and at the final fall of the curtain the applause was very pronounced. The fine presence of Mr. Roy Redgrave was well suited to the rôle of the British Tar, Willie Mason, and he acted throughout with earnestness and in the most finished manner. Mr. Sidney Sarl was very successful as Bill Slater, his delineation of the rôle being in every respect admirable; Mr. Frank Robertson played in manly and straightforward style as Jack Fenton; and Mr. Kenneth Black did all that was necessary in the part of Richard Fenton. James Harcourt, the villain of the piece, was carefully played by Mr. Walter Thornton; and Mr. Willie Reid kept the house in roars of laughter by his clever presentation of Johnny Walker. In the title-rôle, Miss Frances Ruttledge is provided with a strong part to which she does full justice, and the intensity of her acting held the audience throughout. Miss Hilda Baynton made an attractive appearance as Lucy Coventry, and acquitted herself with success; Miss Nannie Meade as Vesta le Clere was seen to advantage in a trying rôle: and Miss Marie Kildare was admirably placed as Poppy Slater. Mr. Bert E. Hammond is business-manager for Mr. Walter Melville, and Mr. E. de Hague Body acting-manager for Mr. H. G. Dudley Bennett.

THE STANDARD.

On Monday, April 22, the Drama, in Prologue and Four Acts, by J. A. Campbell, entitled
"THE SIN OF HER CHILDHOOD."

A play of intense heart interest in found in *The Sin of Her Childhood*, and the production is meeting with well-deserved success at the Standard this week. The piece is lavishly mounted, and the staging leaves nothing to be desired. Mr. Ernest Norris enacts the part of the Rev. Allen Grey with sincerity and feeling. He supplies an intelligent and well-defined reading throughout, and is very successful. Mr. J. C. Aubrey plays with callous indifference and heartless cruelty as Stephen Haysel, and must be congratulated on his excellent performance. Mr. Jack Denton suitably portrays Captain John Thornton; and Mr. John Brooks is well to the front as Thomas Haysel. A capable impersonation of the Irishman Barney O'Reilly is given by Mr. C. Harvey White. He is suitably and very ably assisted in the lighter scenes by Miss Lena Delphine as Eliza Muggins, and the combined efforts of the two are productive of much mirth during the evening. Mr. Wagner is well placed as James. Miss Grace Lester supplies a powerful embodiment of Maria Haysel, and wins well-deserved applause. She presents a capital picture of a woman fallen through drink, and her interpretation all through reflects much credit upon her. Little Miss Elsie Jezzard proves of considerable value as Eric Dugdale; whilst Miss Elsie Forster, another accomplished child-actress, displays ability as Hannah Spry, and sings a song in good style, afterwards contributing a neatly-executed dance. The rôle of Mary Haysel is played with pathos and feeling by Miss Maude Stewart Drewery. Her acting shows the result of careful study, and her whole interpretation is the essence of sincerity and power. The orchestra, under the able direction of Mr. A. Sommerlad, dispenses some good music during the evening.

GRAND, FULHAM.

On Monday, April 22, the Drama entitled
"A WOMAN OF PLEASURE."

Melodrama again fills the bill at the Fulham Theatre, where Mr. Morice Prendergast's company is appearing in *A Woman of Pleasure*. Mr. Ernest F. Wallace sustains the leading part as the Earl of Carlingforth with vigour and success. Mr. Arthur Gilroy is a powerful villain as Major Burrows, and finds an effective counterpoise in the Rev. Luke Goddard, played with much quiet sincerity by Mr. Noel H. Lewis. Mr. F. G. Kay enacts the part of Jim Dench, subsequently appearing as a Boer commandant; Mr. Edmund Baker is very entertaining as a weedy American youth; and Mr. A. E. Maskell raises many a laugh as Joe Ploughman, albeit his Devonshire dialect would not escape criticism in the south-west of England. Mr. Fred Laws is a satisfactory representative of Michael Issitt; and Mr. Sid Vincent ably depicts another unpleasant type, Zoratoff, of the Boer Foreign Legion. The child's part of Lord Arthur Selwood is taken by Silvia Eaton; and Mrs. Charles Eaton is humorous as an American widow, Mrs. Bumpwell, of Chicago. Miss Dorothy Gilroy is charming and piquant as Dolly Dimple; and Miss Grace Chesterfield sustains with skill and power the important part of Alice Dane, at one time village schoolmistress and subsequently Countess of Carlingforth. There are some striking and sensational incidents in the play well staged, notably the escape in the balloon and its collapse in the sea.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, April 22, the Play, entitled
"CAPTAIN SWIFT."

Captain Swift, as played so successfully by Mr. Beerbohm Tree at the Haymarket Theatre, has been secured by Mr. R. W. Allum to fill the programme here this week. The brilliant comedy-drama by C. Haddon Chambers is successfully presented by Mr. M. Russell Rosse's company, and on Monday night the play and the acting were much appreciated. The title-rôle is taken by Mr. James Gelderd, who gives a careful reading of the adventurer, Wilding, his excellent elocution and intense earnestness both tend to make the character interesting and convincing. Miss E. Nolan O'Connor as Mrs. Seabrook supplies a pathetic and moving picture of a mother's love, her portraiture being replete with charm and expression. Mr. Charles Boult gives a delightfully breezy rendering of the Colonial, Gardiner, and Mr. Albert Bernard as Mr. Seabrook plays the elderly husband to the life. As the impetuous Harry Seabrook Mr. George Mudie, jun., is throughout full of life and spirits. Mr. Norman Clark as Marshall gives a clever study of the butler who, when he learns his power, quickly changes from the humble domestic to a scheming villain. Mr. Charles H. Kenny furnishes a smart detective as Ryan from Queensland. Miss Rachel de Travis as Lady Staunton gives an expressive rendering. Miss L. Kingston is very dainty and charming as Mabel Seabrook. Miss Ida Phillips as Stella Darbyshire is responsible for a graceful and well-marked performance, and secures the sympathies of all by her sincerity and conviction. The piece is preceded by a dramatic episode in one act, entitled *The Setting of the Sun*, in which Messrs. Norman Clark and George Mudie, jun., together with the Misses Ida Phillips and L. Kingston, are seen to advantage. Both plays are carefully staged. The orchestra, under the direction of Mr. George Carter, very ably supplies the incidental music and enlivens the intervals.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, April 22,
the Musical Comedy, in Two Acts, by Frank Pixley, Music by Gustave Luders, entitled
"THE PRINCE OF PILSEN."

Few of the more recently produced musical plays have received a heartier reception than that accorded to *The Prince of Pilsen* by audiences at the Royal County Theatre, where it is being produced this week by Baron H. Harris in conjunction with George Musgrove. Not only is the company one of the most numerous and most capable that has ever appeared in a musical play at Kingston, but the music abounds in catchy airs, and the costumes and scenic effects are first class. Mr. Harry Kilburn appears as the Cincinnati brewer, Hans Wagner, who masquerades as the Prince of Pilsen, and succeeds in investing the part with a drollery that is irresistibly mirth-provoking. Miss Sophie Harris plays Mrs. Maddison Crocker with great success, which is enhanced by a fine presence and the possession of a remarkably fine voice. Mr. Frank Crimp makes a very good Prince of Pilsen, and his companions from Heidelberg are ably impersonated by Messrs. C. Frances, A. Chester, R. Webster, F. Dawson, A. Pennington, V. Llewellyn, R. Valiance, and F. Marshall. The part of the invertebrate Earl of Shrimpton is in the able hands of Mr. Bernard Russell; Mr. Roy Sydney acquits himself well as Lieutenant Wagner; Miss Alice Nixon makes a charming Nellie Wagner; and others in the company deserving of particular notice are Mr. Ernest Gifford as François and Miss Connie Leon as the French maid, the dancing of the latter being particularly well received. The chorus, which worked together admirably, and an augmented orchestra are under the direction of Mr. Albert Vernon.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, April 22, the Chinese Comic Opera, entitled
"SEE-SEE."

See-See is a brilliant comic opera, and as sent on the road by Mr. George Edwardes is one of the gayest and brightest productions of the day. The story is ingenious, and it is delightfully told to the accompaniment of pretty, tuneful music, and picturesque costumes and scenery. Mr. Robert Arthur and his business-manager, the genial Mr. Harry Brandreth, are to be congratulated on the enterprise they have shown in securing this first-class attraction, which has filled the Kennington Theatre to overflowing point each night, and sent the audiences away in the highest of humours. The company engaged is strong and talented, the vocalisation of the chorus is admirable, and the principals put their best work into their tasks. In the title-rôle Miss Lily Elsie looks sweet, acts with charming naïvete, and sings admirably. Her chief song, "What do I want?" never fails to win an encore, and she is easily first favourite. Mr. Leonard Mackay is a dashing, manly hero as Yen, and his splendid baritone voice is heard to great advantage in "I am in love with you" and "I am the man of the moment," the rattling chorus of the latter number winning an enthusiastic recall. The honours on the comedy side fall in the main to Mr. Frank Danby, who gives an intensely humorous interpretation of the part of Hang-Kee. Mr. Danby simply bubbles over with mirth, and keeps the house in roars, and his topical songs, especially "The happy Chinee," go with tremendous swing. Mr. W. H. Rawlins makes a very good Cheoo, scoring heavily in his duet with Hang-Kee, "Some people never take a hint." Miss Amy Augarde acts the part of Mai-Yai with great spirit, and her superb vocalisation finds ample scope in several fine numbers and duets. Another brilliant singer is Miss Octavia Barry (Miao-Yoo), whose striking rendering of "Your promises are like pie-crust" earned a double encore on Monday. Miss Barry also posseses great histrionic powers. Miss Alice Hatton makes an artless and attractive Lee; and as Humming Bird, Miss Daisy Wallace is very effective. Mr. E. Freshwater (Hoang-Wang) and Miss Adeline Lester (Mrs. Hoang-Wang) support their respective rôles with considerable credit; while Miss Sybil Grey and Miss Lilian Hewitson do well as two of Cheoo's wives. The smaller characters are ably taken, but an especial word of praise is due to Miss Topsy Sinden, whose dancing furnishes one of the best features of the opera.

PRINCE'S, POPLAR.

On Monday, April 22, the Play entitled
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."

For the first time at this theatre, Mr. Charles Harrington's capable and hard-working company is appearing in *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, which, owing to its specialities and the inclusion of a full real negro chorus, forms a combination which is certain to provide a good entertainment. Mr. J. Carr makes an ideal Uncle Tom, fully realising Mrs. Beecher Stowe's conception of the loyal slave; while the brutal and revengeful Legree was vigorously personified by Mr. J. Henry Rogers; Mr. James Jackson being well in the picture as the callous Dan Haley. The brave and manly freedom-seeking George Harris is capitally rendered by Mr. Leslie Beaufort; and an excellent representative of his wife Eliza is seen in Miss Hero Hathaway, who gives evidence of much dramatic power. The impossible lawyer Marks is made the most of by Mr. Walter Langford; and the audience keenly relish the easy and successful treatment of Phineas Fletcher by Mr. J. H. Renney; while Mr. Charles Harrington is seen to good effect as Mr. St. Clair. Some good comedy is presented by Miss Sylvia Stella as Topsy; and Miss Jenny Malcolm is a prim Aunt Ophelia; while Miss Hettie Johnson makes the Creole Cassy extremely picturesque. Little Eva is pathetically performed by Miss Holly Haselwood; and Aunt Chloe is well represented by Mrs. Carr. Creditable representatives of Emmeline, Mrs. St. Clair, and Dina are found in Miss Annie Watson, Miss May Turner, and Miss Mabel Bowman; and good support is given by Mr. John Gibson as Mr. Wilson, Mr. W. Eversleigh as Loker, Mr. Eddie Roberts as Adolphe, Mr. Jack Black as Sambo, Mr. Tom Miles as Quimbo, and Mr. Jack Kavala as Walter. An entertainment is interpolated in the fourth act, in which enjoyable turns are presented by the Tennesseeans, Mr. W. H. Mott, Mr. Walter Langford (banjoist), Rowe and Holden, Ben Rowe (bone soloist), Rich and Moore, and Miss Sylvia Stella; numerous songs and choruses are also given in well-trained style by the negro choir. The scenery and mounting are all that could be desired.

Maidie Scott tops the bill at the Royal Court, Warrington, this week, and has scored well with a capital budget of songs. Barney Vox is an amusing ventriloquist; the Brothers Adderley are rare comedians and dancers; Fay and Fay are experts in the art of self-defence; and Emmie Ames is a dainty comedienne. Harry Bancroft is a smart actor-vocalist; and Newco and Sullo are grotesque dancers. The Bioscope pictures are up to date.

THE SHAKESPEARE ANNIVERSARY.

The anniversary of the birthday of William Shakespeare has, as usual, been celebrated in various places and in various ways, but there have been a thorough unity of spirit and complete earnestness of intention in doing honour to the memory of one of the greatest of Englishmen. At Stratford-on-Avon the festivities have been carried out with a heartiness which is in itself sufficient evidence that the inhabitants of the poet's birthplace are determined that no charge of any lack of enthusiasm on the occasion of this annual celebration shall be brought against them. The ancient town's time-worn, half-timbered gables have never been so bedecked with flowers and flags, not even in the tercentenary year. Several novel features were introduced into the proceedings, and all were in harmony with the central idea—that of doing homage to the man whose genius has cast a glamour over the scene of his birth and death.

On Tuesday the Mayor (Mr. J. A. Priest) and the members of the Shakespeare Club mustered outside the Birthplace, and they were joined by over a hundred visitors, four abreast. Each carried some floral tribute—an elaborate wreath or a simple posy, a bouquet of orchids or a single daffodil. All kinds of spring flowers were carried, but the favourite buttonhole was the English rose, which symbolised the association of the Shakespeare celebration with St. George's Day, the national poet with the national saint.

As the procession marched towards the church it was augmented by many who had hitherto lined the route. There was much to beguile the pilgrims by the way. They passed under many a Shakespearean motto and saw banners depicting favourite characters from the plays, In Henley-street were also shields bearing the arms of Stratford worthies, and the Market Hall was appropriately emblazoned with the arms of the craft guilds. Festoons and garlands predominated in the High-street. The Seven Ages of Man were depicted in cartoons outside the Town Hall. The history of New Place, where Shakespeare died, was illustrated by heraldic devices and embroidered portraits.

At the entrance to Shakespeare's School the master and boys joined the procession and took their privileged position at the head. Mason Croft, the residence of Miss Marie Corelli, was conspicuous for its profuse display of yellow flowers in window-boxes, while St. George's ensign fluttered in the breeze. A novel feature in the Old Town was a long line of Venetian masts, from which hung the flags of all countries where Shakespeare is read in the native tongue.

As the procession neared the Parish Church the sky, which had threatened rain, began to clear, and from that time the weather was delightful. The grand old fane soon filled, and some pilgrims were kept outside when the doors were closed. The service opened with a welcome innovation. Miss Marie Brema sang with dramatic effect "Through the grave and gate of death" (Bach), then gave an expressive rendering of Schubert's solemn Litany, and finally made the church echo with the glad strains of an Elizabethan Easter song. The Rev. G. Arbuthnot (vicar) recited the ancient bidding prayer, in which he included the names of St. George and William Shakespeare, and then he delivered the customary address.

An augmented choir sang the anthem, "There's none, none that can resist thy voice" (Ivor Atkins). The organist played a minuet by Handel and Tschaikowsky's "Marche Militaire" while the pilgrims were taking their floral tributes to the shrine. The Vicar and curates stood within the altar rails for an hour receiving the flowers and arranging them around the "brass" which marks the poet's grave. The fragrant carpet almost covered the chancel floor, and the stream of votaries seemed unending. Among them were Lord Ronald Gower and the Rev. de Courcy Laffan. Miss Genevieve Ward accompanied Mr. and Mrs. Benson, and brought with her a sheaf of arum lilies. Miss Marie Corelli brought her offering after the official ceremony had concluded. Wreaths were also sent by the Society of St. George, the Shakespeare Society, Weimar, Professor Koler and teachers and students of the Royal Institute in Sardinia, and the Stratford-on-Avon Shakespeare Club.

The performances in the Memorial Theatre, Stratford, opened on Monday evening, when *Coriolanus* was played by Mr. Benson and company. Mr. Benson himself, as the Roman General, gave a very scholarly embodiment of the character, and was particularly impressive in the later stages of the play. Miss Genevieve Ward's Volumnia was a performance that fully upheld her reputation as a fine actress. In the great pleading scene in the last act she played with remarkable power and effect. Sharing with her the honours of the evening was Mr. H. O. Nicholson, who, in the difficult rôle of Menenius, was excellent. He had thoroughly gripped the character in all its various phases. Virgilia was capitally depicted by Miss Helen Haye. Aufidius was carefully portrayed by Mr. George Buchanan.

On Tuesday night, before a distinguished audience, Mr. Benson gave a representation of *Love's Labour's Lost*. Mr. Benson himself took the part of the satirical Biron and Mrs. Benson that of Rosaline. Mr. Weir appeared as Costard, Mr. Hannam Clarke as Holofernes, Mr. Percy Owen as Sir Nathaniel, and Mr. Warburton as Don Adriano.

After the fall of the curtain the Mayor of Stratford-on-Avon appeared on the stage and extended a warm welcome to Mr. Benson and his company.

Mr. Benson, in reply, said it was with infinite pleasure they again found themselves in Shakespeare's town.

The curtain finally fell amid great enthusiasm.

The annual meeting of the subscribers to the Birmingham Shakespeare Memorial Library was held on Tuesday under the chairmanship of Professor Churton Collins. There were also present Alderman Martineau, Mr. Maurice Pollack, Mr. G. J. Johnson, and the Chief Librarian, Mr. Capel Shaw, who is the hon. secretary and treasurer to the subscribers. Mr. Shaw reported that 226 volumes had been added during the year at a cost of £36, and that the total number of books now in the library was 12,829. These were valued at £2,970. The most important gift to the library since the last meeting was the Garrick Shakespeare, consisting of twelve volumes, with an introduction by G. Brandes. This was obtained through the Mullin's bequest, and "The Bible in Shakespeare," by W. Burgess, was added in the same way. Altogether 2,317 volumes had been issued to 1,192 readers. Many of the books were in foreign languages, including Dutch, Finnish, French, German, Italian, Polish, Russian, Spanish, and Swedish.

There was now a balance in hand of £87, and Mr. Shaw suggested that possibly the subscribers would think it a good opportunity to acquire, at a cost of £75, a 1637 edition of "The Merchant of Venice." After some discussion, the subscribers present decided that the balance might be expended more advantageously at some future date. The Chairman mentioned that there had recently been founded at the University a society to encourage the serious study of Shakespeare and also Shakespearean research.

The annual meeting of the Memorial Governors attracted a larger attendance than usual. Mr. A. D. Flower presided, supported by Lord Ronald Gower, Lord Leigh, the Rev. R. S. de Courcy Laffan, Mr. Howard Pearson (Birmingham), Mr. Arthur Flower, and the resident governors. The report was of a satisfactory nature, and thirty-four out of a total of thirty-seven plays usually accepted as Shakespeare's had been acted in twenty-eight years; some of the more popular plays had been produced many times, and the less-appreciated plays, seldom seen elsewhere, had been presented at the Memorial Theatre on at least one occasion. Mr. Brassington reported that they had secured an important picture, which was formerly in Sir Henry Irving's collection, representing the trial scene in *Henry VIII.*, with Mrs. Siddons as Queen Katherine, and the portraits of all the members of the Kemble family in their various parts.

Alderman Pearce presided at the annual meeting of members of the Shakespeare Club on Tuesday, when the hon. secretary (Mr. S. F. Ellis) reported that the membership had largely increased. A very interesting presentation was made by Mr. Gathorne Ashfield, of the banner of the Royal Shakespearean Club, established at the Falcon Tavern on April 23, 1824. The Mayor (Councillor J. A. Priest) was elected as president for the ensuing year, with Mr. G. M. Bird as vice-president, the latter observing that he was looking forward to the time when they would ask permission of the King to put the prefix "Royal" before the name of the club. A similar favour was granted to a former Shakespeare Club by George IV.

In the afternoon the Mayor held a reception, and the Morris dancers performed in various parts of the town.

The Birmingham Central Literary Association held its nineteenth annual dinner on Monday night to commemorate Shakespeare's Day. Mr. Richard Steenbock presided. Mr. J. C. Frith proposed "The Immortal Memory of William Shakespeare," and said that those who desired to convert Shakespeare into Bacon must realise that what cannot be cured must be endured. The toast was drunk in silence.

Mr. Fred Giles proposed the toast of "Art and Letters."

Professor Masterman, whose name was coupled with the toast, claimed that Shakespeare stood for the great democratic idea that true government depends upon realising every man's point of view and that great English quality freedom of speech. No greater guarantee existed for peace than a wider diffusion throughout the world of that appreciation of the great masters of letters and arts in which we were fundamentally one.

The annual Shakespeare dinner of the Birmingham Dramatic and Literary Club was held at the Grand Hotel on Tuesday. The guest of the evening was Mr. Arthur Bingham Walkley. The gathering numbered about 130 ladies and gentlemen. Mr. Frank Roscoe presided, and those present included the Rev. Jos. Wood, Mr. A. B. Walkley, Messrs. Alfred Hayes, Max Mossell, Grenoble Bantock, W. W. Jordan, G. W. Hubbard, E. L. Tyndall, Charles E. Innes (hon. sec.), E. Newman, and the Rev. J. Reader Smith.

In proposing "The Immortal Memory of Shakespeare," Mr. Roscoe said they were met to honour Shakespeare as a master of literary craft, and as the supreme interpreter of the genius of his race.

Mr. R. W. Reynolds proposed "Literature, the Drama, and Music."

Mr. Walkley responded for the drama and Mr. Ernest Newman for music.

A dinner in celebration of the birthday anniversary was held on Tuesday by the members of the Birmingham and Midland Institute Shakespeare Society. The gathering, which took place at Fletcher's Café, was presided over by Mr. F. Cowper, who proposed "The Immortal Memory." During the evening a number of Shakespearean scenes were acted.

Mr. Edward Compton, who is this week appearing in *The Rivals* at the Royal Court Theatre, Liverpool, came before the curtain on Tuesday evening and said:—

"I don't think that you and I, as theatre-lovers, and especially as lovers of all that makes for the best in theatrical representation, should let this evening pass without alluding, however briefly, to the fact that to-day is Shakespeare's birthday. I don't believe in mixing the quality of my entertainment, any more than I do in mixing my liquors, being a strict teetotaler, but I do wish once a year when this day comes round that my company was a Shakespearean as well as an Old English comedy one. That, however, does not come within the range of practical theatrical politics; but, at least, I may lay the flattering unction to my soul that in the past I have produced numbers of our immortal bard's plays, in London, in Stratford-on-Avon, and all over the country, and I will yield to no man in my admiration, my appreciation, my adoration of the greatest genius that the world ever knew or ever will know. Shakespeare died young. As a matter of fact, he was the same age at his death as I am to-day, and I am a particularly young man, and bearing that fact in mind I don't think I can better conclude these few informal remarks, intended to be an humble tribute to his glorious memory, than by quoting a few lines from a lecture delivered in America by Jerrold Massey:—'He went from us with his energies unsubdued, his sympathies undimmed; there was no returning flow of an ebbing manhood, but the great ocean of his life, that had gathered its wealth from a myriad springs, rose to the perfect height—touched the complete circle, and in its spacious fulness was divinely still.'"

On Thursday evening the programme at the Memorial Theatre consisted of *The School for Scandal*, preceded by *The Peacemaker*. M. E. Bryant, the author of the last-mentioned piece, is an ex-Bensonian and the wife of an ex-Bensonian, and her stage name is Ella Tarrant. Her husband is Alfred Brydone, and out of the two surnames her pen name is fashioned. Miss Tarrant played very cleverly the part of a blundering maid-servant. To sustain the other four parts old Bensonians had travelled far. Mr. Otho Stuart, of the Adelphi and the Royalty, who played in the first Bensonian Commemoration at Stratford twenty-one years ago, and has not appeared on the stage since he was the Horatio to Mr. Tree's Hamlet in 1897, scored all through as the doctor. Miss Lilian Braithwaite, Mr. Walter Hampden, and his wife, Miss Mabel Moore, who in a few days leave for America, also gave complete satisfaction. The house was crowded in every part, and there was great enthusiasm at the end, the curtain having to be raised times without number. Then came *The School for Scandal*, with an excellent cast, the admirable performance of Sheridan's comedy evoking renewed enthusiasm.

THE URBAN CLUB.

The forty-eighth annual festival in celebration of Shakespeare's birthday by the members of the Urban Club took place at Covent Garden Hotel, Southampton-street, on Tuesday evening. Mr. Bram Stoker presided, and there were also present Messrs. G. B. Burgin, Thomas Catling, W. E. Church (hon. secretary), T. Thurgood Catling (hon. treasurer), G. J. Dawson, E. J. Odell, C. J. Davies (secretary Royal General Theatrical Fund), C. J. Coltson (secretary Actors' Benevolent Fund), Chas. Cruikshanks (secretary Actors' Association), Geo. Spencer Edwards, Walter Grace, E. C. Fache, Arthur Millward, Jas Perfect, J. Hancox, H. Haes, Essex, Jennings, Pratt, and others.

The Chairman opened the toast-list by proposing "The King, Queen, and other members of the Royal Family," concluding by reciting some verses appropriate to the toast, which was received with musical honours, the solo portion of "God Save the King" being sung by Mr. Walter Grace.

The Chairman, in proposing the toast of the evening, "The Memory of William Shakespeare," referred in the first place to the forty-six dinners which the club had held on this occasion, this being the [illegible] to commemorate the had the privilege of being present. In the three centuries that have passed since Shakespeare's time he had grown so much in public favour, and his memory had become so great a part of the national possessions, that it became almost necessary now and then to go back to fact. Though he did not feel qualified to deal with any part of the poet's work, those present, no doubt, shared with him a desire to know something of the identity of the man, Shakespeare, though there was very little new to be said on the matter. Physical appearance was a very important part of the method by which we formed our personal judgment of a man; and with regard to Shakespeare they had two things to refer to. One was the effigy in the church at Stratford-on-Avon by Gerald Johnson, a contemporary of the poet, and the other was the engraving of the poet by Martin Droeshout, prefixed to the folio edition of 1623. Ben Jonson bore testimony to the likeness of the effigy, though he somewhat qualified it by another passage. However, there was the fact that Droeshout's engraving was distinctly like the effigy in the church, and looking at the two carefully, one was able, he thought, to form some idea of the physical identity of the man. Judging by the effigy, the poet was a full-blooded man; and, further, that he was a strong, thoughtful, lovable man. These qualities were illustrated in his life and work. The full-bloodedness was manifested in his youth. The deer-stealing episode, no doubt, had some foundation in fact, and there was also the episode of the too hasty marriage with Anne Hathaway. It had often occurred to him, what was Shakespeare's life between the years of 1586 and 1592? In the year 1588 occurred that memorable historical event, the defeat of the Spanish Armada; and it hardly seemed likely that this full-blooded, passionate young man would have held back at a time when the greater part of the nation was in arms. It would be interesting to search any old records of the London-trained bands of 1586-88 that might be in existence to ascertain whether, in the muster-rolls appeared the name of William Shakespeare. A study of the forehead and lines in the face showed that he was a careful man of business in later years, and it was on record that he sued in the courts for a small sum which was due to him. That he was methodical and exact was shown by his will, which was apparently drawn up by himself. He (the Chairman) thought his own handwriting was very bad, but judging by his signature, that of Shakespeare was far worse. The speaker next made reference to the poet's practice of taking the stories of other authors for the foundation of his plays, and pointed out that he never wasted any material. Within the inner room of the Mermaid Tavern Shakespeare must have met a good many seamen and adventurers from all parts of the world—this winning, genial, silent, thoughtful man, always receptive, always sympathetic, must have been the recipient of a good many confidences. With regard to Shakespeare's lovableness, he did not think there could be any doubt. He was beyond question beloved by his friend, Ben Jonson, who wrote touching lines to his memory. The Chairman proceeded to quote passages from Henry Irving, Gabriel Rossetti, Gerald Massey, and Tennyson in praise of Shakespeare and his work, and finally called upon the company to drink to the great poet's memory.

Mr. W. E. Church then gave, in admirable style, an eulogy of Shakespeare by Milton (1630), Dr. Johnson (1747), and Matthew Arnold (1864).

The toast of "The Chairman" was submitted by Mr. Thomas Catling, who congratulated Mr. Stoker on having so clearly and vividly brought before the gathering Shakespeare as a man.

The Chairman briefly responded; and Mr. W. E. Church then proposed "The Visitors," coupling with it the names of Mr. G. B. Burgin, the well-known novelist and journalist, and Mr. Jenner.

Mr. Burgin responded in a humorous speech, and Mr. Jenner also returned thanks.

In the course of the evening Mr. E. J. Odell gave, as a recital, Launce and his dog Crab from *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*. Mr. E. Charles Fache gave "The Sway of Love" (*Love's Labours Lost*). Songs were also excellently rendered by Mr. Walter Grace and Mr. Arthur Millward.

At the Mansion House on Monday evening the Lord Mayor received a number of guests at a conversazione to meet the London Shakespeare League. In the Long Parlour a selection of manuscripts and books from the Guildhall Library were exhibited during the evening by Mr. E. M. Borrajo, the librarian, to illustrate Shakespeare's London. The exhibits included the signature of William Shakespeare to the deed of purchase of a house in Blackfriars, dated March 10, 1612-13, and also Ralph Agas's map of London in the time of Queen Elizabeth.

The feast spread by Mr. Beerbohm Tree in honour of the National Poet has been worthily attended, and a crowded audience assembled in His Majesty's Theatre on Monday for the opening play, that of *The Tempest*. A demonstrative welcome awaited Mr. Tree on his appearance in his remarkable embodiment of Caliban, and throughout the performance the cheers were constantly renewed. The Prospero of Mr. Lyn Harding was as impressive a performance as could be imagined, and Miss Viola Tree was a winsome Ariel, and acted with agreeable artlessness. Miss Alice Crawford and Mr. Basil Gill gave pleasing distinction to the parts of Miranda and Ferdinand, and the rest of the cast did their work with their accustomed effectiveness. In response to persistent demands, the principals appeared again and again before the curtain, and at length Mr. Tree was induced to make a speech. He said:—"Ladies and gentlemen, we have had a very splendid reception during the last week, but this home-coming welcome is none the less touching to us all. We are delighted to be back with you once more, although I am pleased to say we have met with nothing but kindness in Germany, and we hope to return there next year. During our absence it is not improbable that I may present to you some of the great German plays, and I am sure that when the stranger arrives within our gates he will be received with the same acclamation that we ourselves have been accorded on the other side. It was, indeed, I may say, a long-cherished ambition with me to play in the land of my father, and that ambition has been splendidly fulfilled. We are all, believe me, very happy at the result. We return to you to-night to begin our third Shakespearean festival, and I am glad to find that there is every prospect of our having a splendid week. Your enthusiasm can but spur us to still greater efforts in the future. After this week we shall produce *The Red Lamp* again, together with the little one-act play, *The Vandyck*. After that, as it is my pleasure to announce to you this evening, we shall revive what I conceive to be a great modern play—I refer to *A Woman of No Importance*. I thank you once more on behalf of all for you gracious welcome home. Be assured we shall always try to deserve your kindness."

Tuesday was devoted to *A Winter's Tale*, the performance of which was notable by the inclusion in the cast of Mrs. Russ Whytal, who followed Miss Ellen Terry in the part of Hermione. Mrs. Whytal has the queenly grace necessary for the role, to which she gave dignity and sweetness combined, while her mellifluous voice gave added grace to the charming lines. Mr. Lyn Harding's talents were fully employed as Leontes, the passion of the part being brought out with striking effectiveness. Miss Viola Tree's prettiness as Perdita was again an agreeable feature of the performance, and Mr. Basil Gill gave to Florizel a commendable air of youth and buoyancy. Miss Alice Crawford added greatly to her laurels as Paulina, and Mr. C. W. Somerset caused laughter unlimited by the quaintness of his Autolycus.

Two performances marked Wednesday's contribution to the Festival, *Hamlet*, which formed one of Mr. Tree's series in Berlin, being given in the morning, when the audience was large and appreciative. Mr. Tree exercised his customary influence in the part of the melancholy Prince; Mrs. Russ-Whytal as Gertrude won cordial appreciation; and Miss Viola Tree acted Ophelia with a care and intelligence that cannot be over-praised. The Horatio of Mr. Basil Gill and the Polonius of Mr. Fisher White were perfect performances; and Mr. Lyn Harding as the Ghost and Mr. Julian L'Estrange as Laertes contributed valuably to the artistic whole. The desire to see Mr. Tree in one of his most happily inspired impersonations was evidenced on Wednesday evening, when an audience occupying every available space in the magnificent theatre welcomed the raising of the curtain on *Twelfth Night*. An overwhelming reception was again lavished upon Mr. Tree as Malvolio picked his fantastic way down the steps of Olivia's garden. So many artistic touches of whimsicality are crowded into the impersonation of the vainglorious steward, from the play of the weazened features to the fantastic flicking of the wand, that the attention is kept constantly on the alert for fresh specimens of eccentricity, and Mr. Tree's performance was followed throughout with delighted interest. A palpable success was again made by Miss Viola Tree in the part of her namesake. Miss Tree's youth and comeliness make her an ideal Viola, and the naturalness of her acting and the intelligence displayed in the study of one of Shakespeare's most engaging heroines give added promise for the future of a career already well begun. Miss Alice Crawford's Countess Olivia was an embodiment of beauty, graciousness, and power, and the delicacy and refinement of the difficult passages in which the Countess expresses her love for Sebastian had a particular charm. The grandeur of Mr. Basil Gill's method was admirably displayed in his acting of Orsino, whose chivalry and devotion were depicted in admirably impressive fashion. Mr. Courtice Pounds, who received a warm welcome, made his first appearance in the Festival Week as Feste, the clown, and carried the audience entirely with him. They hung upon each merry jest and encored every song, all of which were rendered in Mr. Pounds' best and most tuneful style. The mellow richness of Mr. Fred Lewis's drollery had abundant opportunities for expansion in the boisterous mirth of Sir Toby Belch; Mr. Charles Quartermaine reproduced with added effect the airs and fopperies of Sir Andrew Ague-cheek, and maintained laughter at high pressure; and the merry trio was completed by Miss Cicely Richards, who revelled in the roguishness of Maria, and acted with a spontaneous gaiety that was infectious. Mr. Hugh C. Buckler's Sebastian, besides having the merit of a close resemblance to Miss Tree, had qualities of manly grace and earnestness that well became the part, and his lines gained in effect by his sympathetic delivery. Mr. J. Fisher White was a rugged and picturesque Antonio, and employed his elocutionary powers with effect; and Mr. Robert Atkins bore himself with infinite credit both in speech and action as the Sea Captain. Mr. J. Cooke Beresford was a bright and alert Fabian; Mr. Edward Ouston's demeanour as the Priest was properly grave and ascetic; and the superb cast was completed by Mr. Cyril H. Sworder and Mr. Alfred Goddard as Valentine and Curio, and by Mr. Harry C. Hewitt and Mr. Clive Currie as First and Second Officer. Calls were frequent at every curtain, and at the close Mr. Tree had twice to lead his daughter forward before the cheers would subside.

Julius Cæsar furnished the Festival attraction for both Thursday and Friday evenings, when Mr. Tree, as Antony, commanded on each occasion the admiration of a huge house. Mr. Lyn Harding and Mr. Basil Gill were the Cassius and Brutus respectively, and Miss Constance Collier and Miss Alice Crawford appeared in the rôles of Portia and Calphurnia. Mr. Henry Neville repeated his fine embodiment of the title-rôle. At to-day's matinée *Twelfth Night* will be repeated, and the Festival will be brought to a conclusion this evening by the reproduction of *The Merry Wives of Windsor*.

THE GERMAN THEATRE.

Hans Huckebein, the farce by Oskar Blumenthal and Gustav Kadelburg, with which Herr Hans Andresen regaled his supporters on Tuesday, is familiar to English playgoers, as it was the source from which Sir (then Mr.) F. C. Burnand took his piece *The Lady of Ostend*, produced at Terry's Theatre in the summer of 1899. The incidents arising out of the public presentment of a cinematographic picture, in which a young husband figures flirtatiously with a lady not his wife, are very comic, and were treated in a suitably mirthful spirit by the members of the company now appearing at the Great Queen-street Theatre. The title-rôle was ably sustained by Herr Paul Breitfeld, who invested Martin, the young husband, with an amusing air of perturbation, and maintained the spirit of the rôle throughout. Herr Andresen, who has supplied in his present short season abundant proof of his versatility, gave added testimony of his capacity in the part of a prize-fighter, the husband of the lady with whom Martin's flirtation was conducted. Herr Andresen put on successfully all the characteristics of a pugilistic pet, and his ferocity was most comically assumed. Much of the laughter that was aroused on Tuesday was caused by Herr Hans Stock, whose impersonation of the young Russian, who is also implicated in the incriminating series of pictures, had quaintness which was irresistible. Fräulein Elsa Gädemann gave a charming rendering of the injured wife, whose emotions she depicted realistically. Fräulein Hadwig Mahr was a prepossessing Martha Wendel, the object of the young Russian's affections, and acted gracefully; and a quaint contribution to the performance was made by Fräulein Elsa Steele, a comedienne of droll methods, who played the part of a housemaid.

"THE LANCASHIRE SAILOR."

A Play, in One Act, by Brandon Thomas,
Produced at the Theatre Royal, York, on April 20.

Alice ..... Miss Ruth Nightingale
Martha ..... Miss Mollie Robertson
Alfred ..... Mr. M. Wetherell
Mr. Erasmus Ellerby ..... Mr. Edward Compton
Ralph Ormerod ..... Mr. Walter Beaumont

This pretty little playlet deals with the fortunes of Alfred, who in infancy was left in the care of Ralph Ormerod by an unknown female. Ralph, an honest Lancashire farmer, brings the lad up as his son, and has him taught a trade. However, he leaves home at the age of about eighteen for the sea as a ship's carpenter, after a quarrel with Ormerod's daughter Alice, to whom he expresses the wish that she may never look upon his face again. During the three years Alfred is absent things have gone badly with those he left behind. Ormerod has had misfortunes through the grasping demands of an avaricious landlord, and is on the verge of bankruptcy. Alice, who has severely felt Alfred's continued absence, has become blind through overwork in nursing the sick people of the village during an epidemic, and things look pretty black when the play opens and the characters are introduced. All, however, comes right in the end. Alfred is found to be the heir to a baronetcy and great wealth, and of course marries Alice. The acting was excellent. Miss Ruth Nightingale was particularly successful as Alice; she looked and played charmingly. A strong character-part, that of Ralph Ormerod, was taken by Mr. Walter Beaumont, who gave a most convincing performance; Miss Mollie Robertson was quaintly amusing as Martha; Mr. Edward Compton was an eminently satisfactory lawyer; and as Alfred Mr. M. Wetherell gave a thoroughly realistic rendition of the bluff Lancashire sailor.

PINERO ON STEVENSON.

Mr. A. W. Pinero, who is president of the Wednesbury Institute, gave an address at the Town Hall there on the 18th inst. on the subject of "Robert Louis Stevenson." He observed that some who might even be called ardent Stevensonians were perhaps scarcely aware that Stevenson was a dramatist at all, or that he ever essayed the dramatic forte. It was a fact, however, that he wrote, or, at any rate, actively collaborated in, three plays, which were actually published, though none made any great mark on or off the stage, and one enjoyed only a single performance. The question why should Stevenson the dramatist take such a back seat in comparison with Stevenson the novelist, the essayist, the poet, was all the more worth asking because his case was by no means an exceptional one. There was, in fact, hardly a poet or novelist of the whole nineteenth century who did not stand in exactly the same position. They had one and all attempted to write for the stage, and it was scarcely too much to say they had, one and all, failed, not only to achieve theatrical success, but even in any appreciable degree to enrich our dramatic literature. Some people might perhaps claim Shelley and Browning as exceptions. He would not attempt to argue the point, but would content himself with asking what position Shelley would have held among the poets if his reputation had depended on his dramatic essays. Wordsworth and others produced dramas of a more or less abortive kind, and though some of Byron's plays were forced into a kind of success, how low a place they held among his poetic works to-day!

Dickens and Thackeray both loved the theatre, and wrote for it without the smallest success. Lord Tennyson's plays were so admirably mounted and rendered by Sir Henry Irving that they enjoyed considerable prosperity in the theatre, but no critic ever dreamt of assigning to any of Tennyson's dramas a place co-equal with his non-dramatic poems. Mr. Swinburne had written many plays, but had any one of them the smallest chance of being remembered along with his poems and ballads? There was only one exception to the rule that during the nineteenth century no poet or novelist made any success upon the stage, and that was the obvious one of Bulwer Lytton. The non-success of Stevenson was due to his failure to realise that the art of the drama was not stationary, but always progressive. By this he did not mean that it was always improving, but that its conditions were always changing, and that every dramatist whose ambition it was to produce live plays was bound to study with respect, and not with contempt, the conditions which held good for his own age and generation. Stevenson, like Tennyson, Browning, Shelley, and others, made the mistake of imitating outward models instead of discovering for themselves and, if necessary, ennobling the style of the drama. One great rule, perhaps the only universal rule, of the drama was that one could not pour new wine into old skins, and when a dramatist imitated the Chinese and made a character tell the whole story of his life in a soliloquy failure only could ensue. Dramatic talent Stevenson undoubtedly had, and in proof of this Mr. Pinero delighted his audience by reciting with much effect selections from the plays to which he alluded, *Deacon Brodie*, *Admiral Guinea*, and *Beau Austin*.

Unfortunately, the plays abounded with other passages which were wearisome and ineffective. Stevenson's failure enforced the lesson that a dramatist must adhere to his own particular form of technique, and must not jumble up two styles. In the case of Stevenson and others like him, their technique was neither ancient nor modern, their language neither poetry nor prose.

"THE RISIN' O' THE MOON."

A Four-Act Melodrama, by H. Gerald Ransley,
Produced for the first time on any stage
in the College Hall, Liverpool, Thursday, April 18.

Shaun O'Farrell ..... Mr. Gerald Ransley
Dennis O'Hara ..... Mr. Herbert Lawrence
Mr. O'Sullivan, J.P. ..... Mr. Chas. Robinson
Matt Plunket ..... Mr. Chas. W. Diamond
Father Keogh ..... Mr. Clarke
Jock McIntyre ..... Mr. J. Sidney Gorrie
Corporal Williams ..... Mr. Wm. Burrows
Dan O'Halloran ..... Mr. Leon D'oyle
Phelim O'Rourke ..... Mr. Frank Pearson
Molly O'Halloran ..... Miss Ethel Caine
Bridget O'Halloran ..... Miss Annie Fell
Lady Cynthia Hamilton .. Miss Winnie Bromley

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

This new work, which treats of the uprising in Ireland at the close of the eighteenth century, travels along somewhat familiar lines, although the manner in which old material is handled reflects every credit upon the writer, who exhibits a deal of praiseworthy ingenuity in formulating a plot which maintains the interest of an audience. Briefly, the story sets forth that on the death of Squire O'Hara his estates are seized by Mr. O'Sullivan, J.P., his agent, who claims to have a heavy mortgage on them. The deceased man's son, Dennis, on returning from France, learns with surprise that he is without a home, and, having allied himself with certain Irish rebels who are engaged in raising forces to aid the impending French invasion of Ireland, finds himself, through the machinations of O'Sullivan, a marked man, for whom the English soldiers are hunting. He is captured, and sentenced to death; but, through the efforts of his lady love, Miss Hamilton, whose father commands the King's army, is pardoned. Matt Plunkett, being mortally wounded in a quarrel with O'Sullivan, confesses that the latter poisoned the Squire and forged the mortgage deeds. O'Sullivan is consequently arrested, and Dennis gains the hand of Lady Hamilton and obtains his estates.

There is a large amount of real Irish humour permeating the drama. Mr. Gerald Ransley makes an admirable Shaun O'Farrell, a happy-go-lucky but kind-hearted Irishman, whose yarns concerning his adventures in France, along with his young master O'Hara, are exceedingly funny. Their style reminds one very much of Bill Adams's account of the Battle of Waterloo. Mr. Lawrence infused a deal of earnestness and feeling into the rôle of Dennis; the despicable O'Sullivan was ably played by Mr. Robinson; thanks are due to Mr. Diamond for his Plunket, a character of the Harvey Duff type; a naturally portrayed priest came from Mr. Clarke; Mr. Gorrie caused merriment as the Scotch steward, as did also Mr. D'oyle as Dan; Miss Bromley in the rôle of the faithful and good-hearted Lady Hamilton showed a deal of care and discretion; Miss Ethel Caine pleased as Molly; and Miss Fell afforded satisfaction as the grumbling Bridget. A large audience showed that they derived a deal of pleasure from the play.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

At the Guildhall School of Music on Wednesday afternoon Mr. Charles J. C. Boddington gave an organ recital in the concert-room. The programme, which was varied and interesting, commenced with "Fantasia and Fugue" by Best. Mr. Boddington also played a charming "Intermezzo" by Tours and an Offertoire in D Flat by Salome, both of which were rendered with great delicacy by the organist. Bach's fine Prelude and Fugue in C Minor, No. 3, gave the professor ample opportunity of showing his command of the instrument. Other items in the recital were Handel's characteristic Organ Concerto, No. 5, a very pleasing Andante of Dubris, and Mailly's "Marche Solennelle." Although the audience was not large, it was very appreciative, and warmly greeted the professor at the close of his excellent recital.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

Sir Charles and Lady Wyndham called together the leading representatives of the drama at the Hyde Park Hotel on Thursday in order to honour the Colonial Premiers in the name of the English stage. The Ministers present were Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Mr. Deakin, Sir Joseph Ward, Dr. Jameson, and Mr. Moor. Sir Charles Wyndham had on his immediate right Lady Laurier, and on his left Mrs. Deakin, while Lady Wyndham had on her right Sir Wilfrid Laurier, with Mr. Deakin on her left. Mr. Beerbohm Tree, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Mr. Lewis Waller, Mr. Cyril Maude, Mr. George Alexander, Mr. Henry Arthur Jones, Mr. Hubert Henry Davis, Mr. George Grossmith, Mr. Weedon Grossmith, Mr. Willard, Mr. Laurence Irving, Mr. S. Brough, and Mr. Brandon Thomas, Miss Violet Vanbrugh, Miss Irene Vanbrugh, Miss Edna May, Miss Granville, Miss Mary Moore, Miss Marion Terry, Mrs. Lionel Monckton, Miss Violet Tree, and Miss Constance Collier were among the distinguished assembly.

Mr. George Edwardes has also shown hospitality towards our Colonial visitors, and on Saturday invited several of the Premiers of Britain Overseas to a special performance of *The Lady Dandies* at Daly's. All the boxes were placed at the disposal of the visitors, the Royal box being occupied by Lady Laurier; and a specially printed programme in gold lettering, emblazoned with the arms of the Colonies, was presented to each member of the audience. Several references to the Colonies were made by the comedians, and at the end of the entertainment Mr. Robert Evett sang "Motherland."

Mr. Tree's reception by Berlin audiences is well described by Mr. J. T. Grein in an article in the *Sunday Times*:—"It was not only that they clapped their hands and stamped their feet, they had to shout at the top of their voices until their wish was gratified and the actor addressed them as a man. And when he had spoken, and when there had been a summons to meet the heir-presumptive of the German empire and his spouse the storm continued unabated. 'Speech!' they thundered, alternated with a chaos of names until the young son of Kaiser William himself urged Mr. Tree to pour the oil of grateful eloquence on the waters troubled by enthusiasm. And then we had the most remarkable spectacle of all. The English theatrical manager harangued the German crowd from the precincts of the Royal box with the future Emperor and Empress as listeners by his side. But the public were insatiable. Watch in hand, more than twenty minutes passed before, at length, the house emptied, and even then many stormed the stage to shake hands and pour forth congratulations."

Mr. George Alexander's work on the L.C.C. has not obliged him to relinquish his social duties, a fact which was pleasantly proved by his taking the chair at the ladies' dinner of the Vaudeville A.D.C., of which he is president, at the Hotel Metropole on Sunday. In proposing the toast of "The Club," Mr. Alexander said amateurs of to-day compared very favourably with those of fifteen or twenty years ago. He recalled that the Vaudeville Club had ventured to produce one of Mr. J. L. Toole's plays without permission. There was talk of legal proceedings, but finally the punishment which Mr. Toole imposed was to invite the whole of the club members to a performance at his theatre. Looking through their list of former members, Mr. Alexander found the names of some who had afterwards become famous players. Among these were Miss Fanny Brough, Mr. J. Raymond, and Miss Patty Bell, and some others who were, or had been, members of his own company.

Mr. Alexander told his hearers that he had himself been in his time an amateur actor. One of the first pieces in which he ever appeared was *Whitebait at Greenwich*, in which he took the part of Sally, a servant. As the ladies were afterwards being taken in to supper a practical joker asked a young officer who was present, but had not seen the performance, to take "Sally" in with the rest. During the supper the soldier whispered sweet nothings into his ear; but when told of the joke that had been played on him he took it in good part. Incidentally he (Mr. Alexander) told the officer that he intended to be a doctor. "Well," said the latter, "if you do become a doctor and should happen to join the Army, don't forget the name of Wood." Years afterwards, at a dinner-party in London, he realised that his partner at the supper-party had become Field-Marshal Sir Evelyn Wood.

The toast of "The President" was proposed by Mr. C. H. E. Rea, who incidentally referred to the practice of arriving late at the theatre. In reply, Mr. Alexander said he had especially suffered from late comers at his theatre, and recalled the *première* of *Paolo and Francesca*, when he had intended to shut the doors of the St. James's at 8.15. His efforts, however, were in vain, for half an hour before the rising of the curtain a dense fog descended. Playgoers, he continued, had many definite grievances, amongst them being the much-debated one of the matinée hat. He had tried all in his power to get ladies to take off their hats. But a playgoer had complained to him, saying, "What is the use of asking ladies to take off their hats in your theatre. I sat behind Mrs. Alexander the other day, and did not see a thing," from which they might conclude that a manager might manage his theatre, but he could not be expected to manage his wife.

Mr. E. S. Willard gave a special matinée in the week of his farewell engagement in Cleveland, Ohio, for the benefit of the Babies' Dispensary and Hospital of that city, the net receipts exceeding £250. In recognition of his generosity Mr. Willard was elected an honorary member of the Babies' Hospital Association, and was presented with a beautiful set of jewelled cuff-buttons. A gold plate on the case containing the links was inscribed, "To Mr. E. S. Willard, in grateful appreciation of his gift to the Babies' Dispensary and Hospital of Cleveland. *A Pair of Spectacles*, April 5, 1907."

Mr. Arthur Bourchier and Miss Violet Vanbrugh will impersonate Shylock and Portia respectively on Monday afternoon and evening next, at the Shakespeare Memorial Performances of *The Merchant of Venice* at Stratford-on-Avon. No performance will therefore be given at the Garrick Theatre on that evening.

The Shakespeare Festival next week will also affect the Lyric Theatre, which will be closed on Tuesday evening to enable Mr. Lewis Waller to fulfil his promise to play *Othello* at Stratford-on-Avon. Miss Evelyn Millard, Miss Wynne Matthison, Mr. Lyall Swete (as Iago), Mr. A. E. George, Mr. Owen Roughwood, and the members of Mr. F. R. Benson's company will complete the powerful cast.

"Brewster's Millions" will be brought to the Hicks Theatre on Wednesday next. In the chief part in the successful American piece Mr. Gerald Du Maurier will be supported by Messrs. J. L. Mackay, Louis Goodrich, Percival E. Stevens, George Lestocq, Courtenay Foote, Vernon Davidson, Arthur Minton, Edward Sass, Clarence Blakiston, Arthur B. Murray, George Bellamy, W. Farran, and Webb Darleigh, and Misses Mollie Lowell, Evelyn D'Alroy, Hazel Thompson, Kitty Melrose, Jane May, and Beatrice Agnew.

Mr. Beerbohm Tree's welcome back to His Majesty's on Monday, when he opened his Shakespeare Festival Week, was worthy of the eminent actor, and vividly reflected the satisfaction of his admirers at his recent achievements in Berlin. Mr. Tree's return is to be celebrated by a dinner given by the Playgoers' Club at the Hotel Cecil, on Sunday, May 12, when he will be the honoured guest. Meanwhile the representations of *The Red Lamp* and *The Vandyck* will be resumed at His Majesty's on Monday next, and in a few weeks time Oscar Wilde's play, *A Woman of No Importance*, will be revived.

Mr. and Mrs. Kendal's only visit to the Metropolis this season will be paid next week, during which the eminent players appear at the Coronet in Herbert Swears' three-act farcical comedy, *A Tight Corner*, which thus makes its first appearance in London. In addition to Mr. and Mrs. Kendal, the cast of *A Tight Corner* consists of Mr. Ernest Hendrie, Mr. Metcalf Wood, Mr. F. Charles Pool, Mr. Arrowsmith, Miss Dora Fellowes, and Miss Marie Lohr. *The Elder Miss Blossom*, at the Wednesday matinée, and *The Ironmaster* on Saturday evening complete the week's programme.

A public performance by the students of the Academy of Dramatic Art will be given on Monday afternoon, May 6, at the St. James's Theatre, lent for the occasion by Mr. George Alexander. The programme will comprise the casket scene from *The Merchant of Venice*, arranged from the text for this purpose by Sir Squire Bancroft; the first act of *As You Like It*; a scene from *Macbeth*; the first act of Mrs. Craigie's comedy, *The Ambassador*; and, for the first time in this country, *L'Ideal*, a "pantomime" by Lieut.-Col. Newnham Davis, with music by André Wormser. A fencing display and dances will also be given. The performers in the various items have received tuition from Sir Squire and Lady Bancroft, Mr. Pinero, Mr. Geo. Alexander, Miss Violet Vanbrugh, Mr. Lyall Swete, Mr. Fisher White, Mme. Cavallazzi, Mr. d'Egville, and M. Bertrand.

A serious driving accident occurred on the 19th inst. at Wetheral, a picturesque village near Carlisle, by which Mr. Godfrey Tearle, Miss Molly Malone (Mrs. Godfrey Tearle), and Miss Ethel Matthews, all members of *A Soldier of Fortune* company, were injured. Mr. and Mrs. Tearle, who were severely cut about their heads and faces and sustained several bad bruises, were taken to their apartments and are now progressing favourably, but Miss Matthews sustained a bad injury to her back, and had to be removed to the Carlisle Infirmary. The leading rôles in *A Soldier of Fortune*, which were filled by Mr. and Mrs. Tearle, were ably taken up at very short notice by Mr. Baliol Holloway and Miss Violet Barnett.

Mr. Bannister Howard has secured Messrs. Leonard Pagden and G. P. Coppin's principal company in the powerful play *Jim the Penman* for next week's attraction at the Crystal Palace Theatre. Mr. Leonard Pagden will impersonate the character of Jim Ralston, the forger, and Miss Alice Farleigh will appear as Mrs. Ralston. Other members of the cast include Messrs. Orlando Barnett, Will Lockhart, E. A. Douglas, Arthur Vezin, Max Montesole, Cecil Yapp, Gerald Lenlon, and Thomas Dixon, and Miss Muriel Pope and Miss Rosalind Ross. There will be matinées on Wednesday and Saturday, and Friday morning will be devoted to the flying visit of Madame Jane Hading with *Frou Frou*.

Miss Kitty Loftus was the defendant in an action in the King's Bench Division on Tuesday and Wednesday. The plaintiff was Mr. Charles Sturt, a Bow barge-owner, who sought to recover £300, which he alleged he lent to Miss Loftus in 1904 to assist in the production at Terry's Theatre of *A Maid from School*. The defence was that the money was put into the piece as a speculation on the understanding that it was only to be repaid if the venture was a success. The jury found in favour of defendant, for whom judgment was given, with costs.

The Playhouse Cricket Club has been established, with Mr. Cyril Maude as president. The latest combination of wielders of the willow are open for matches from Sunday, May 5, onwards, and communications in reference to the same should be made to Mr. H. Chiswell Billing, the secretary, at the Playhouse.

Mr. Martin Harvey, who is playing to immense audiences this week at Bristol, opened a Café Chantant in aid of the Bristol Guild of Handicraft on Tuesday last. Addressing a very large assembly, Mr. Harvey said that Art is the expression of a man's joy in his work, and added that the mere practice of any beautifying art brought its own reward. While recommending all who could afford to spend at all to buy the work of the craftsmen in preference to machine-made imitations, he begged the craftsmen to remember that utility should always go hand-in-hand with decoration—a fact sometimes lost sight of nowadays, though never lacking in the handiwork of the past. Mr. Harvey's tour concludes at Portsmouth on May 11, and his reappearance in London is being eagerly awaited.

A trio of capital hockey matches were played at South Shore, Blackpool, last week. On Wednesday the South Shore Club entertained Mr. Norman V. Norman's company, and a very good and fast game resulted. In the first half S. Blane scored twice for the home club and W. H. Ashley (the able manager for the company) scored for Norman's. After the interval Blane added two more for the club, and Mr. Norman scored for the company. The scores were: South Shore 4, Norman V. Norman's company 2.

Mr. F. R. Benson's Shakespearean company (North) met South Shore on Thursday, the 18th inst. The game was much more even than the score indicated. The home team, however, were smarter in front of goal, and scoring three in the first half and four in the second ran out winners by 7 to nil. On Friday the Norman V. Norman company played F. R. Benson's company, and a really capital game was contested. Norman's had slightly the better of the exchanges, but the Benson defence worked hard, and a very fast game ended in a goalless draw. Mr. Norman's company, it may be added, have, during the winter, played twenty-nine hockey matches against various clubs, and have scored 99 goals to 116 of their opponents.

Mr. Nugent Monck has secured a strong cast for his play, *The Hour*, which is to be produced by the English Drama Society at the Bijou Theatre, Bayswater, on May 6. Miss Lucy Wilson will be seen in a principal part, and Mr. Frederick Morland, Mr. Arthur Goodsall, Mr. Gordon Bailey, Mr. Edward Lander, Miss Clare Greet, and Miss Annie Hill will also appear. During Mr. Monck's season Miss Esme Beringer, who will make her first appearance since her return from America, will create the part of Cleopatra in Mr. Arthur Symon's play, *Cleopatra in Judea*.

The numerous admirers of Mr. Alfred Lester will be sorry to learn that he is not in the cast of the new piece at the Gaiety. He has been secured by Mr. Alfred Butt for a further period at the Palace in his new skit, *A Restaurant Episode*. At the conclusion of his engagement there Mr. Lester will take a short holiday.

A mass meeting of members of the Actors' Union is to be held in Liverpool next week, when Mr. Hamilton Deane will preside, and Mr. Cecil Raleigh will probably be among the speakers. A meeting will also be held at the Cricket Players' Hotel, Church-gate, Leicester, every Tuesday at 12.30.

A very enthusiastic meeting of the Actors' Union was held at 3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C., on Tuesday afternoon, under the chairmanship of Mr. William Farren, jun., speakers including Mr. Cecil Raleigh, Mr. Charles Sugden, Miss Gladys Ffolliott, Mr. Arthur Bawtree, and Mr. Robson Paige. Progress was reported, and the report of the Glasgow meeting read. A list of provincial agencies where meetings are held every Tuesday at noon, and where members may be enrolled and stamps may be bought, appears in another column.

Mr. Seymour Hicks and his representatives are busily engaged forming the company that will sail shortly for South America under the joint management of Mr. Hicks and the South American Theatrical Syndicate, which is represented here by Mr. Edouard José, its managing-director. The company, which will comprise many well known artists, a very strong chorus, and all the latest London successes in musical comedy, will visit the principal cities in the Argentine and Uruguay Republics, and are expected eagerly by the British community in Buenos Aires, where Mr. José is the lessee of the Odeon Theatre, the house of musical comedy. Mr. José has already contracted with several big attractions to follow the Seymour Hicks company in South America.

At the Pier Pavilion, Clacton-on-Sea, on the 13th inst., Mr. Harold Montague produced for the first time a nondescript vaudeville entertainment entitled *A Vagabond's Life*, written by W. Mann Mayne and Harold Montague, and composed by H. Montague. Of the many songs sung mention may be made of a pretty little duet, "Two Little Robins," a capital baritone song, "A Vagabond's Life," a good topical ditty, "The Soothsayer," and an amusing little trifle, "Three Little Monkeys."

Mr. T. P. O'Connor's widespread circle of friends in the profession will sympathise with him on the bereavement he has sustained by the loss of his mother, who passed away peacefully at her home in Athlone, co. West Meath, on Sunday last, at the ripe old age of eighty-four. Mrs. O'Connor, who had been seriously ill for little more than a week, was much beloved in Athlone for her gentle and charitable disposition. Her last hours were soothed by the presence of her two daughters and her son, Mr. O'Connor having been in Athlone since Wednesday of last week.

Mr. George Norman-Burt, who is brother to Mr. Norman V. Norman, and has gone to reside in Gloucestershire, gave a highly successful performance of *The Arabian Nights*, in which he played the part of Arthur Hummingtop, on Tuesday, April 16, at the Subscription Rooms, Stonehouse. He was assisted by several well-known amateurs and professionals, including Mr. Herbert Duberly, who was for three years with Sir Charles Wyndham, and he had a representative audience of all the surrounding leading families. Mr. Norman-Burt has been engaged to play the Governor in *His Excellency the Governor* at the Opera House, Cheltenham, on May 7 and 8, in aid of the local hospital.

The production of *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch*, announced at Terry's Theatre for Thursday, has been postponed till this evening. All tickets issued for the first-named date will be available for to-night.

Mr. and Mrs. Greville are returning to England in May at the conclusion of a most successful engagement of over twelve months with Messrs. B. and F. Wheeler in South Africa. The talented couple hope soon to be at work again in the old country.

A new musical comedy, entitled *Lady Selina of "K,"* the book and lyrics by E. C. Mabel Leeds and the music by Claude Blakesley Yearsley, will be produced at a special matinée at the County Theatre, Kingston, on Saturday next. The scene is laid in Wales on the coast of Carmarthen Bay, and picturesque local colour is being provided.

A pleasant surprise awaited Messrs. Glenville and Osmond's *Still Alarm* company at the fall of the curtain at the Prince's Theatre, Preston, on the 15th inst., when Mr. Allan Wilkie, who was appearing at the Theatre Royal, in a neat speech, presented, on behalf of Mr. Will True and Mr. George Dornan, a handsome Dutch pipe to Mr. Fred Osmond and a pair of leather driving gloves to Mr. Matthew Glenville as a token of the esteem in which they are held by men who have had the pleasure of serving under their banner for many years. A supper was afterwards given at the Victoria Hotel, Mr. Allan Wilkie ably presiding.

Mr. J. Wellesley Lynn, the well-known entertainer, has been specially engaged by Mr. Arthur Hare for his season at the Opera House, Wakefield, to play Dick in *A Pair of Spectacles*, Phil in *A Fool's Paradise*, and Tom in *Priscilla and the President*. Mr. Lynn gives selections from his entertainment of "Mirth, Music, and Mystery," as a baritone with a charming voice.

Mr. Edward Cooper Willis accomplished a very smart thing last Saturday in *The Gipsy Girl* at the Waldorf. He went on in the last act for Mr. Aubrey Fitzgerald and played Freddie at a moment's notice, giving a very creditable performance.

Mr. Gerrard Grant Allen is about to inaugurate in London an enterprise on the lines of the Kammer Theater in Berlin, and the much older institution of the Théâtre Bodinère in Paris. Following the example of both these successful institutions, Mr. Allen will not take an existing theatre for this purpose, but will occupy a small hall so as to preserve the intimate and informal character of the enterprise. It is proposed that the run of each play shall be limited to three weeks of seven performances each, for which purpose a stock company will be engaged. In his direction of this undertaking Mr. Allen has been fortunate in enlisting the active interest of Miss Gertrude Kingston, who will co-operate with him in the management of the stage.

"Prunella"; or, *Love in a Dutch Garden*, which will be revived at the Court for a series of Tuesday and Friday matinées, beginning on May 7, will have Mr. W. Graham Browne and Miss Dorothy Minto in the chief parts. Mr. Louis Casson will again be the Statue of Love, and the other characters will be taken by Messrs. James Hearn, Trevor Lowe, Allan Wade, Edmund Gwenn, Kenelm Foss, Jules Shaw, F. Cremlin, Edmund Gurney, and Norman Page, and Mr. Charles Maltby, Misses Dorothy Marsdin, Margaret Busse, Mary Hamilton, Hazel Thompson, Amy Lambo, Agnes Hill, Clare Greet, and Agnes Thomas.

Mr. Henry Austen has been invited to play his original part of Foulcher in *Terence*, the comedy by Mrs. B. M. Croker, upon its reproduction at the Winter Gardens, Folkestone, on May 23.—Miss Lucy Sibley has been engaged by Mr. H. V. Neilson to play Mrs. Stockmann in Ibsen's *An Enemy of the People* at the Royalty Theatre, Glasgow.

The usual weekly meeting of the Council of the Actors' Association was held on Tuesday last, when there were present:—Mr. A. E. Drinkwater in the chair, Mr. Henry W. Mote (solicitor), Misses Clare Greet, Georgina Hamilton, and Kate Phillips, and Messrs. J. Cooke Beresford, Acton Bond, W. Graham Browne, C. F. Collings, Burton Cooke, H. Athol Forde, Frederick Morland, Kenyon Musgrave, and Chas. Cruikshanks (secretary). Miss Cicely Hamilton was nominated for election to the Association, and eight former members were reinstated.

The hon. solicitors reported they had advised several members, and were requested to take such steps as they deemed advisable to recover damages for breach of contract by a management. Mr. William Devereux was elected to fill a vacancy on the Council. The secretary reported that the next bi-monthly meeting of the members would be held on Thursday, the 9th prox., in the Saloon at King-street. A question of alleged insanitation at a provincial theatre was under discussion, and the secretary received instructions. The report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee was given, and certain rules for the governance of committees, formulated by them and submitted to the Council, were approved and adopted. The suggestion book was considered and entries made. Questions to be submitted to members in connection with the forthcoming extraordinary general meetings of the 6th and 27th prox. were considered and referred again to the gentlemen who had framed them, and the arguments for and against.

The Finance and General Purposes Committee held a meeting on Tuesday last, when there were present:—Messrs. Acton Bond (chairman), J. Cooke Beresford, H. Athol Forde, A. E. Drinkwater, and Chas. Cruikshanks (secretary). The committee were engaged for some time framing a further rule for the governance of committees.

An additional and local attraction is provided at the Coronet Theatre this week in the shape of a ten minutes' orchestral selection from the first act of *The Fairy Princess*, a musical extravangaza (the words and lyrics by Wynne Penwyn, the treasurer of the theatre, and the music by W. Meyer, the resident musical director) during the interval between the first and second acts.

Messrs. Lionel Glenister and J. W. Wood Ingram have secured the rights of the play entitled *The Blackmailers*, by Mrs. T. P. O'Connor and R. Henderson Bland, which will be produced in London late in June. The services of several well-known artists have been retained for the production.

Mr. Robert Pateman now plays Scum Goodman in *Clancarty* at the Lyric Theatre, Mr. Herbert Jarman being compelled to relinquish the part so as to be able to devote his time to managing the forthcoming pageant at St. Albans. In the hands of so able and experienced a player as Mr. Pateman the part is absolutely safe.

Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Homewood (Miss Joan Blair) arrived at Dover on Tuesday last after a comfortable voyage in the Vaderland of the Red Star Line. They are now settled at their flat in town after an absence from England of thirteen months.

At the invitation of the directors of the Grand Theatre, Nottingham, about fifty members of the local Crimea and Indian Mutiny veterans witnessed *Napoleon the Great* on the 18th inst., and were supplied with refreshments and tobacco between the acts. In one of the intervals all went on the stage, their uniforms and decorations making a picturesque array. Mr. Hugh Montgomery stood in their midst and recited "The Charge of the Light Brigade" amidst wild enthusiasm.

Amongst the pupils who have been studying for some time with Mme. Kate Flinn, the well-known teacher of singing and elocution, is a clever little lady—Mlle. Sowinska—who has a remarkably flexible voice well adapted to light opera or concert work. The young vocalist is being introduced by Mme. Flinn at her concert on May 9, at Steinway Hall. Miss Ruby Cobbett, one of our most promising contraltos, who achieved such a success last year at Mme. Flinn's concert, hopes to make her début at one of the musical festivals next year. Another of Mme. Flinn's protégés—Miss Xenia Greville, an accomplished dancer—will shortly appear in some of Mr. Lionel Monckton's songs.

The first tour of Shakespearean plays presented by the able company headed by Miss Florence Glossop-Harris and Mr. Frank Cellier, jun., terminates to-day at the Opera House, Dudley. The undertaking has met with unqualified success, the last three weeks being numbered among the most pleasant and profitable of the tour. After a most successful fortnight's season at the West Pier, Brighton, where Miss Harris won unstinted praise for her performances of Katherine, Beatrice, Viola, and Carmen, the company have fulfilled a special engagement at the Opera House, Dudley, for the festival in commemoration of the great poet's birthday. Six Shakespearean plays have been presented, including *Romeo and Juliet*, which was the piece chosen for birthday night, April 23. Several more plays are to be added to the répertoire in the autumn, after the summer vacation, which will allow time for their proper mounting and dressing.

Mr. J. Maurice Clement, of the Opera House, Dudley, commemorated the birthday of the Immortal Bard by engaging that talented actress, Miss Florence Glossop-Harris (daughter of the late Sir Augustus Harris) and her well-known Shakespearean Répertoire Company for this week, the performances being under the patronage of the Mayor and Mayoress and the élite of the town and neighbourhood. Lovers of Shakespeare have had a rare treat during the Festival week, Mr. Clement's efforts being highly appreciated. A special souvenir was given out to patrons on birthday night.

"Iolanthe" has headed the po'l in Mrs. D'Oyly Carte's plebiscite, *H.M.S. Pinafore*, *Princess Ida*, *The Pirates of Penzance*, and *The Sorcerer* being next in order. Nearly 2,000 postcards were sent in by lovers of Savoy opera, some of them breaking out into rhyme for the occasion.

Miss Vyvyan Montgomery, who has unfortunately developed signs of lung trouble, is going to California in search of health, and will have the best wishes of all for a speedy recovery. Miss Montgomery hopes eventually to be able to take an engagement out there. Her excellent work in leading parts in the English provinces will be well remembered, and her accomplishments should ensure her equal success in the States.

Mr. Wm. Fraser-Brunner, by special arrangement with Mr. Cyril Maude, will open his tour of the charming three-act comedy, by Sidney Bowkett, entitled *The Superior Miss Pellender*, at the Brixton Theatre on Monday. A strong company has been chosen, including Miss Marie Ault, Miss May Staples, Miss Nana Flensburg, Miss Beatrice Fitzhugh, Mr. St. John Stuart, Mr. Ellis D. Carlyle, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Fraser-Brunner, &c. Many of the most popular seaside resorts are included in the bookings, which also embrace a number of important inland towns. A new curtain-raiser, entitled *Violets*, written by Miss May Staples, will precede the comedy.

The costumes in *The Judgment of Pharaoh*, the new play at the Scala Theatre, are handsome, *bizarre*, and of every colour imaginable. In the first act, where the scene is laid in the Valley of Rephaim, there is a troop of harvesters closely swathed in white and pale tints of pink and blue; and Miss Nora Lancaster, who plays the much-persecuted heroine, Miriam, appears in a clinging dress of soft crêpe-de-Chine, with heavy white tassels. The costume worn by Miss Cecil Cromwell is, as befits the character of the wicked Mione, of gaudy splendour, the old gold and russet brown of the wide Egyptian belt toning well with huge turquoise ornaments and a vivid green satin cloak lined with purple.

Towards the end of the play Miss Cromwell is seen in the most effective dress of the whole production—a beautiful arrangement of blue silk, tightly drawn round the figure, over a very long under-robe of white, with a golden wreath on her dark hair. The Mystic Three, whose spells are supposed to enchain the weak heart of the Jewish lover, Jevan, are clothed in many colours, with long white chiffon scarves; and half a dozen slaves, in the Palace of Pharus, show the value in their scarlet costumes of a definite splash of colour in the midst of a scene that is best described as kaleidoscopic.

Miss Violet Vanbrugh is the only lady, with the exception of the small part of a housekeeper, in the cast of *The Duel*, produced at the Garrick Theatre on Tuesday night, but a lack of quantity in the way of costumes is more than atoned for by their quality. In the first act, with its fresh and delightful suggestion of spring in flowering trees, bowls of lilac, and distant green lawns, Miss Vanbrugh appears in a filmy dress of striped white silk net, the skirt falling in long folds from a folded belt of the palest tint of blue-grey, the same colour being used round the square yoke, filled in with lace; the sleeves are very short, like big puffs of thistle-down, and the cloak worn is shimmering silver-grey, a darker shade being seen in the wide-brimmed hat with its shaded ostrich plumes.

As a forecast of the fashions of the coming season, it may be noted that Miss Vanbrugh, as the Duchess of Severn, wears long white gloves, pearl earrings, and floating veils with all her costumes. In the second act, as befits the occasion of a visit to a priest's house, her Grace is dressed in a more sombre manner; her black gown, elaborately embroidered with a design in black silk, is cut with a V-shaped bodice, filled in with lace and finished off by a very high collar, the sleeves again being well above the elbow, and the big black hat, draped in what the priest's housekeeper calls "a spidery veil," is only adorned by a couple of dull red roses. Miss Vanbrugh's dress at the end of the play is of fine cloth, the colour of pale lilac—almost white—with a broad flounce of a deeper shade, trimmed with narrow bands of dark velvet, the bodice being pouched, with a touch of black at the throat, and the hat, with its gauze veil of mingled green and purple, trimmed with pale chiffon and loops of violet velvet ribbon.

Additional subscriptions for the Celli Fund have been received from Miss Olga Birrell £1 1s., Mr. Anthony Hope Hawkins £1 1s., Mr. S. Heilbut £1 1s., Mr. H. B. Irving £1 1s., and Capt. Robert Marshall £1 1s.

Mr. Russell Norrie has obtained from Mr. Walter Reynolds the rights for the United Kingdom of his very successful play, *Mr. Smith*, and will begin a tour with it in the autumn. Mr. Norrie will carry the entire production recently travelled by Mr. Reynolds, which was the admiration of every town visited. An excellent tour has been booked, including a large number of return dates. In the meantime, Mr. Russell Norrie is appearing at the Vaudeville Theatre as Robert Sampson in Mr. Louis N. Parker's delightful comedy, *Mr. George*.

Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart has arranged with Mr. Hugh Moss for the rights of that charming play, *Bootle's Baby*. The tour will commence about Whit-week, at the finish of the *Sherlock Holmes* run, which concludes on Saturday next at the Borough Theatre, Stratford. Mr. Stewart intends to tour *Bootle's Baby* during the summer, taking out *Sherlock Holmes* again in September. As *Bootle's Baby* will be staged in the same excellent style as *Sherlock Holmes* a successful tour is assured.

Mr. Norman V. Norman has made a great success with the first Shakespearean Commemoration Festival that has been given in Tunbridge Wells. Miss Beatrice Wilson's performance as Romeo and Lady Macbeth is alluded to in the local Press as one of the most remarkable achievements that has been seen in recent years in the provinces.

Compliments are due to Mr. Edward Wynn, who on Thursday, at the Savoy Theatre, played the part of Marco in *The Gondoliers* at an hour's notice with great success.

Mr. J. D. Beveridge, who is just finishing a successful tour of the United States with *Man and Superman*, will be welcomed home this month. During his tour, North, South, East, and West, the popular actor has visited ninety-eight towns in eight months; but, although the travelling was at times very hard, his reception, both on and off the stage, has amply compensated for all the fatigue endured. Granted, as everyone hopes that Mr. Beveridge will reach England in safety, he will have covered considerably over 20,000 miles since he left us in August last. Mr. Beveridge has naturally seen a great deal of the New World, and carries away many happy memories; but he yearns for the sight of old friends—not, as he adds, that he likes America less, but that he loves London more.

Mr. Monckton Hoffe has booked a first-class tour for Oscar Wilde's brilliant comedy, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, in conjunction with Mr. J. Græme Campbell. A remarkably good cast has been secured.

The large audience that on Monday welcomed Mr. Sothern and Miss Julia Marlowe at the Waldorf Theatre included Mr. Whitelaw Reid, the American Ambassador.

Miss Louisa Peach has been engaged by Mr. Ernest Norris for a special week to appear as Lady Isabel at the Dalston Theatre on Monday.

Mr. Allan Wilkie's first visit to the Theatre Royal, Preston, resulted in the biggest business done at this theatre by any Shakespearean company during the past ten years, and Mr. Stephen Pritt has arranged for Mr. Wilkie to pay an annual visit. On three evenings during the week every available seat was taken before the commencement of the performance. Similar success has attended the visit during the present week to the Theatre Royal, South Shields. On Wednesday the building was packed from floor to ceiling before the rise of the curtain, hundreds being unable to obtain admission. Mr. Wilkie is further strengthening his cast from Whit week onwards, and has made several important engagements for his autumn tour, which commences on July 29.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Mr. Tree and the Kaiser.

"THE German Emperor," said Mr. Tree to a *Tribune* representative last Saturday, "struck me as being unlike the popular conception of him. Like all truly great men, he has a natural simplicity of manner that makes one feel perfectly at ease in addressing him. I saw him only on one occasion. The second time he came to the theatre he had to catch a train immediately after the performance, so I saw the Empress and the Crown Prince. The Emperor speaks English perfectly, although it would not be true to say that he has not a slight German accent. He talks with great knowledge and in a most interesting way about Shakespeare."

Biblical and Bibulous.

A YOUNG actor, who was travelling with a *Sign of the Cross* company, had the other day for his companion in a railway carriage a dear old lady, who knew the play well and was warm in her praise of it. "What a fine thing it must be," she said, "to represent so many noble characters!" "It is, ma'am," said the actor; "and I am sure we feel it so." "And I hope it does not end with the acting," said the old lady; "I trust you endeavour to carry into private life the qualities you represent on the stage." "I can't answer for my companions," was the reply; "but I know *I* do—as much as I can, at any rate." He did not mention that he played the bloated and intemperate noble who is so conspicuous in the banqueting scene.

Othello's Apology.

WHEN dear old Morris Abrahams was in management at the East End, he once consented to rehearse a company of amateurs who wanted to play *Othello*. Mr. Abrahams took great pains with his task; and was horrified, on the night of the performance, to meet the representative of the Moor of Venice returning from a visit to a neighbouring "pub." in a state of hopeless intoxication. "Great heavens!" cried Abrahams; "what's to become of the show? Why, you're drunk, sir—absolutely drunk!" "Drunk, am I?" answered the intemperate amateur with a leer of boozy wisdom, "Drunk? *Wait till you see Iago!*"

Actors and Income Tax.

MR. STANLEY PALMER gives a friendly warning to artists respecting the new income tax collection. "It is imperative," says Mr. Palmer, "that artists generally should protect themselves from overcharge and penalties by engaging the services of an income tax expert, as, owing to the nature of the expenses being peculiar to the profession, they can only be arrived at and satisfactorily proved to the authorities by one well-versed in income tax laws. With the tax reduced to 9d. will come greater official stringency. It therefore behoves all members of the profession to make sure that the yearly buff-coloured form is duly and correctly prepared and deposited." If what we hear of salaries in the provinces be correct, a great many actors will be exempted from income tax by natural causes.

Masks and "Mustapha."

A CORRESPONDENT writes:—"In the article entitled 'Puritans and the Playhouse,' which recently appeared in your paper, it was mentioned that female performers first acted in England in the reign of Charles I.; also that, in 1660, there were only two theatres in London, the King's and the Duke of York's, and that ladies wore masks at the play, probably because of the coarse nature of the performances, which gradually improved with the advent of actresses. It may interest you to know that an ancestor of my wife's family, named Sacheverell, has left on record, in an autograph notebook written mostly at Oxford between the years 1651 and 1665, now in the British Museum, the draft of a letter, dated May 9, 1665, written to a lady, which contains not only a criticism of a play entitled *Mustapha*, but also a reference to the mask she wore while there. 'You were pleased,' says the writer of the letter, 'to impeach ye beautys under ye restraints of ye mask as if you meant only to attaigne us with a single parley or two, without bringing up ye main forces to yé onsett. But, madam, I beseech you have a care how you often put such experiments in practice, least you enrage nature by inheriting too much upon her prerogative and dimming those perfections for which she never intended a coverture.' The writer was one George Sacheverell, High Sheriff of Derbyshire in 1709. It would be interesting to know if any of your numerous readers possess any record of this play *Mustapha*, or know at which of the two theatres then in existence it was presented."

Made by Americans.

MR. ARTHUR H. WOOLF, who is to conduct the Shakespearean Ramble to-day in connection with the London Shakespeare League's Commemoration, was recently, says the *Daily Chronicle*, spending a few days in Stratford-on-Avon, and lodged in one of the old-world houses of the town. The landlady was as old-fashioned and antiquated as the house itself, and held her own views about things in general, and Shakespeare in particular. One day, "feigning Cockney ignorance," says Mr. Woolf, "I said to her in the course of conversation, 'Tell me, Mrs. ——, who is this Shakespeare of whom one hears so much down here? Was he a very great man?' To which she replied, 'Lor', sir, he warn't thought nothing on a few years ago. It's the Americans as 'as made him what he is.'"

General Utility.

IN these days of long runs and travelling companies few young actors obtain the "experience" which fell to the lot of the stock company artists of the last generation. Wybert Reeve gives an example of this, when he was engaged at the Ryde Theatre, under the management of Mrs. Barnett. "A star, Mr. Henry Betty, son of the Young Roscius, came to play a week, and amongst other pieces *Macbeth* was put up. I found myself cast for Ross, Banquo, and the First Murderer, which necessitated my murdering myself, and reporting to Macbeth I had done so. Macduff and Malcolm mixed up Ross's lines in the first two acts, and I was all right as Banquo up to the front scene, when I appeared in a cloak, slouch hat, and beard as the Murderer, and undertook my own murder; then in the murder scene I crossed as Banquo with Fleance, threw cloak and hat on, bobbed round the wing, and entered as First Murderer, followed myself off and committed the sanguinary act, entered at the banquet scene, reported I had done the deed, off with cloak, some chalk on face, and a huge red gash across my throat, and I was Banquo's ghost. I afterwards came to life for the rest of the piece as Ross."

Something Coming In.

THE Ryde Theatre, except on special occasions, was poorly attended, and the roof was not in first-rate repair. On one occasion, on an off-night, some half-dozen people were in the pit, and had put their umbrellas up to keep off the rain that was pouring in from the roof—it was a very severe thunderstorm. When not acting, Mrs. Barnett was playing cards with friends who were always dropping in to her little house attached to the theatre. One of the company ran down to her in great excitement at seeing the umbrellas up, and said—"Mrs. Barnett, the rain's coming in dreadfully on the heads of the audience." "Well, my dear," replied Mrs. Barnett, not looking up from her cards; "I am glad there is something coming in. Trump; my dear, that's my trick," and on she went playing.

"THE DUEL."

A Play, in Three Acts, adapted by Arthur Bourchier from the drama by Henri Lavedan, produced at the Garrick Theatre on Tuesday, April 23.

Father Daniel ..... MR. BOURCHIER
Monsignor Boleyn ..... MR. SYDNEY VALENTINE
Sir Paul Forester ..... MR. CYRIL KEIGHTLEY
Lord Charles Townley .. MR. CHARLES GOODHART
A Chinaman ..... MR. ALFRED BRISTOWE
Servant ..... MR. G. HARRISON CARTER
Footman ..... MR. DOUGLAS IMBERT
The Duchess of Severn .. MISS VIOLET VANBRUGH
Martha ..... MRS. HERBERT BENNETT
A Nurse ..... MISS EVA KILLICK

The task of adapting a "modern" French play for performance before an ordinary English audience is not an easy one. *Le Duel* was written for a philosophical public, ready to be—indeed, demanding to be—made to think, and enduring of ethical discussion, if impatient of the obvious. The British version had to be made to please an entirely different *clientèle*, avid of action and averse from analysis. M. Henri Lavedan, the author of *Le Duel*, which was produced at the Comédie Française Théâtre in the April of 1906, with M. Le Bargy and Mlle. Bartet as the Priest and the Countess, may be termed a mitigated modern; that is to say, there is a good deal of natural fun in him. Being Parisian fun, of course it is improper, but still it is humanising in effect. Beginning with *Le Prince d'Aurec*, a kindly admonition to the French *noblesse*, he continued to preach the political extinction of the class in *Les Deux Noblesses*. Then he wrote *Viveurs*, a piece of the "smart" and "fast" order, in which Mme. Réjane was wildly comical, and *Le Nouveau Jeu*, another cynically lively work; ultimately adding to his fame with *Catherine* at the Français. Mr. Arthur Bourchier, immediately after the production of *Le Duel*, made arrangements for securing the English rights of the play, and himself undertook the work of adaptation, retaining the main features of the plot, and making certain reductions, alterations, and additions.

At the opening of *The Duel* we are introduced to Sir Paul Forester, a celebrated physician, and to Lord Charles Townley, an almost offensively healthy Major in the 1st Life Guards. Sir Paul is at the top of his profession, and keeps a private hospital in the country with a staff of doctors and nurses. One of his patients is the Duke of Severn, who, after a youth of dissipation, has nearly killed himself by the morphia habit. His wife, the Duchess, a young and attractive woman, is reduced to the condition of a "grass-widow. She finds it a painful one, for she constantly combats a passion for Sir Paul, which he returns with equal ardour. The Duchess, who is a Roman Cathôlic, flies for support in her struggle with temptation to her confessor, a certain Father Daniel, who is none other than Sir Paul's brother William, who, after a course of debauchery, has entered the priesthood under an assumed name. The "duel" of the play is between Daniel, who is determined to keep the Duchess in the straight path, and Sir Paul, who is resolved to possess her. The poor lady is torn by conflicting emotions. As the music-hall song says, first she will and then she will not. She goes to the very verge of collapsing in Sir Paul's arms; and then, remembering religion, she repulses him and goes off to her confessor for help. At the end of the first act her fate hangs in the balance.

In the second, she repairs to Father Daniel's rooms in the East End, but the physician still pursues her. There is more attempted embracing, and more semi-yielding on the part of the lady; then remembrance, revulsion of feeling, and escape. Then comes a passionate argument between the two men. Sir Paul derides the pretensions of the priesthood and the rules of conventional morality; Daniel tells him he is an enemy of society, who would bring the Duchess to ruin. Stung by this taunt, Sir Paul accuses the priest of being himself influenced by a subtle sexual feeling as regards the lady; and Daniel, horrified beyond measure at recognising a grain of truth in the accusation, indignantly turns his brother out.

In the last act the priest lays his self-reproach before a kindly old bishop, who soothes his fears and sends him off to a leper settlement. The morphia-ised Duke dies, and the Duchess, with the Bishop's fullest approval, marries the doctor. Though a great deal of the psychology of *Le Duel* has been omitted, Mr. Bourchier's adaptation retains enough intellectual matter to make it memorable. The questions of faith and scepticism are freely dealt with; as when the physician objects to being connected with a religious charity because his cures will be put down to the "priests' doctor—God." The sensual—or perhaps we ought rather to say sensuous—side of the Duchess's character is freely emphasised; and the fact that the hero early indicated the direction of his mind by vivisecting a college cat with a razor and a pair of tweezers is quite in harmony with the "atmosphere" of the play.

Condensed as Mr. Bourchier's version is, its dramatic interest is sufficient to hold an audience tightly throughout. It was acted on Tuesday with great alertness and intensity, an agreeable surprise being the very fine performance given by Mr. Cyril Keightley as Sir Paul Forester. Mr. Keightley was artisticaly made-up for the part and played it admirably from first to last. He was careful to graduate the emphasis of his reading; and, beginning with excellent self-restraint, through which a flash of force was occasionally allowed to penetrate, he revealed by degrees the fiery passion of Sir Paul's nature, culminating in the powerful scene between the two men in the priest's garret. The incisive and intellectual quality of Forester's character was capitally suggested; and, altogether, Mr. Keightley may be congratulated on having immensely increased his position and reputation. Mr. Bourchier, as was only to have been expected from previous achievements, gave the needed touch of clericalism to Father Daniel very skilfully; and in the more dramatic scenes rose to the occasion grandly, and acted with a power and energy which were deeply impressive. Mr. Sydney Valentine gave a polished performance as the benign old Bishop who makes so light of the terrible tortures which he endured in China, and played the part with his wonted unction, ease, and finish; and Mr. Charles Goodhart revelled in the exuberant heartiness of Major Lord Charles Townley, Mr. Alfred Bristowe, by his eloquent dumb show, making important the little rôle of the Bishop's devoted Chinese attendant. Mr. G. Harrison Carter and Mr. Douglas Imbert were excellent as servants; and Miss Eva Killick did useful and careful work as Nurse, Mrs. Herbert Bennett being highly commendable as the priest's housekeeper. Miss Violet Vanbrugh acted with impassioned earnestness as the Duchess, her representation of the fluctuating emotions of the unhappy woman, magnetised by passion but restrained by religion, being touchingly natural and thrillingly intense. The refinement and delicacy of her treatment of details were exquisite. Mr. Walter Hann and Mr. R. C. McCleery had supplied some really fine scenery; and, under Mr. Alexander Stuart's stage-management, the piece went with the agreeable smoothness to which we are accustomed at the Garrick. It was preceded by *Doctor Johnson*, Mr. Bourchier repeating his famous impersonation of the lexicographer, Mr. Arthur Whitby being good as Boswell, and Mr. Walter Pearce and Miss Pamela Gaythorne displaying ability as Captain McKenzie and Mrs. B.

"MR. GEORGE."

A Comedy, in Three Acts, by Louis N. Parker, produced at the Vaudeville Theatre on Thursday, April 25.

John March ..... MR. CHARLES HAWTREY
Timothy Finny ..... MR. O. B. CLARENCE
Godfrey Burdon ..... MR. HUBERT HARBEN
Harry Fryer ..... MR. CHARLES TROODE
Robert Sampson ..... MR. RUSSELL NORRIE
Peter ..... MR. HENRI LAURENT
Miss Judith ..... MISS ALICE BEET
Miss Tabitha ..... MISS GWYNNE HERBERT
Miss Fanny Patton ..... MISS ALICE RUSSON
Mr. Charles Vulliamy .... MR. ARTHUR PLAYFAIR
Miss Perceval ..... MISS BILLIE BURKE

Delightfully dainty and choice is the comedy which Mr. Louis N. Parker has written to follow *The Belle of Mayfair* at the Vaudeville Theatre. Slight in story, delicate in treatment, and finished in every detail, it wins by its sweet simplicity, and charms by its comedy and its cleverness. Its reception on Thursday evening supported the theory that the pleasure of an audience lies not in its curiosity, but in its anticipation. From the time when John March, of the firm of Perceval and March, merchant adventurers, of London and Boston, "sets eyes upon" pretty Miss Perceval, we have complete confidence that the result will be the union of the pair. The author's skill is shown in the way in which he has placed obstacles in the way of their coming to an understanding. The time of the play is 1773, when, as everyone knows, the Bostonians, indignant at the attempt of the English to tax them, threw overboard into Boston harbour a cargo of tea which the Governor tried to land by force. This commencement of the great national struggle does not play an important part in Mr. Parker's piece; we merely hear the muttering of rebellion in the background. John March is the Boston partner of the firm, and, when the action opens, he and his household, consisting of his senior clerk, Timothy Finny, and his two elderly sisters, Judith and Tabitha, are eagerly expecting the arrival from England of a certain "Mr. George," the present senior partner of the firm. "He" turns out to be Miss Perceval, the daughter of the late senior partner, who has brought his daughter up to business, and left her his share in the firm. John falls in love with her on the spot; but her late father's wish, conveyed to March in a sealed letter, is that she shall marry a clownish English gentleman named Charles Vulliamy. On the other hand, John's sisters are anxious that he shall make a match with a certain Miss Fanny Patton, a lively and facetious young lady, for whom the merchant feels no inclination. He writes a copy of amatory verses to Miss Perceval, and leaves them on her desk. They are found by one of the sisters, who sends them to Fanny. Vulliamy disgusts Miss Perceval by his bad manners, and March pleases her by his obvious devotion, and by the disinterestedness with which he—as in duty bound by his late partner's wishes—pleads Vulliamy's cause with her. There is a cleverly written and amusing scene here, full of the quaintest and most agreeable comedy. But Fanny Paton comes to thank March for the verses; and Miss Perceval's jealousy is excited. However, after more manœuvrings and misunderstandings, she is thrown into John's arms by the appearance of some of the Boston rioters disguised as Mohawk Indians; and, the ice once being broken, and the Fanny Paton incident being explained, the piece ends with the union of the "partners," the head clerk eloping with one of the comic spinsters.

The success of the play was greatly due to the performance of Miss Billie Burke as Miss Perceval. From the moment of her first entrance in a curious but becoming costume of furs, Miss Burke captured the audience completely, and by her pretty and piquant performance of the part quite confirmed their prepossession. Especially to be praised was Miss Burke's facial play, and the way in which she pointed every phrase by a glance or a gesture. Composed and at her ease throughout, she never under-acted; and the brightness and piquancy of her comedy were irresistible. Her burst of weeping in the last act was most naturally done; and the dashes of delicate coquetry which she introduced were immensely effective. She realised exactly the self-willed, intensely feminine, and entirely amiable personage suggested by the text. Mr. Charles Hawtrey, at first obviously nervous, became more confident as the play proceeded, and indicated the solicitous anxiety, the hesitation, and the intense affection of John March very ably indeed. In the scene already alluded to Mr. Hawtrey was at his best; and his performance throughout left, to use the hackneyed phrase, but little to be desired. The two elderly sisters had excellent representatives in Miss Alice Beet and Miss Gwynne Herbert, whose differentiation of the characters was clever and complete, and full of humour and keen perception. Miss Alice Russon contributed a neat and pleasant performance as Fanny Patton; and Mr. Arthur Playfair's blatant boorishness as Charles Vulliamy could hardly have been improved upon. Mr. O. B. Clarence as Timothy Finny gave one of the finished and appreciative embodiments of old men for which he is famous, and mingled with his quaint characterisation some nice touches of feeling; and Mr. Hubert Harben, Mr. Charles Troode, and Mr. Russell Norrie supplied conscientious, careful, and altogether effective impersonations of the three clerks; Mr. Henri Laurent adding a useful and carefully-studied reading of the little rôle of Peter. *Mr. George* was preceded by a play in one act, by Louis N. Parker, performed for the first time, and entitled

"JEMMY."

Mr. Bates ..... MR. O. B. CLARENCE
Jack Fennimore ..... MR. HUBERT HARBEN
Mrs. Bates ..... MRS. CAMPBELL BRADLEY
Jane Emily ..... MISS FRANCES WETHERALL

This was a rather serious little play, with a good deal of passionate emotion in it considering its brevity. Jane Emily, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bates, two poor country folk, has been seduced by a gentleman named Jack Fennimore. She loves him so dearly that she will not allow him to marry her for fear of offending his relations and spoiling his career. She returns to her parents' cottage; and they gradually discover the state of things. Much sorrow and grieving follows; but Fennimore turns up at the conclusion, and puts matters right by insisting on wedding Jane Emily, and taking her away with him to the Colonies. *Jemmy* had adequate interpretation from a liberal cast, Mr. O. B. Clarence playing the working-man father admirably, Mr. Hubert Harben being a satisfactory Jack Fennimore, Mrs. Campbell Bradley doing bold and steady work as Mrs. Bates, and Miss Frances Wetherall enacting Jane Emily with much depth of feeling and emotional expression.

"NOAH'S ARK," a musical extravaganza in two acts, words and music by Clare Kummer, was produced for copyright purposes at the Victoria Hall, Bayswater, on Monday.

PRESENTATION.—During the performance of *Alfonso the Noble* by the Jewish Operatic and Dramatic Company at the Pavilion Theatre, Mile End, Mr. and Mme. Charles Natansohn were presented last week with solid gold medals by the Benevolent Society of the Lubline, as a slight recognition for their efforts on behalf of that association.

BY permission of the management of the Pavilion Theatre, Mile End, Mr. Joseph Fineberg, the esteemed and popular stage-manager of the Jewish Operatic and Dramatic Company, is to be accorded a well-deserved benefit on May 6 next, when the exciting play, *The Wild Man*, will be produced.

"THE JUDGMENT OF PHARAOH."

Drama, in Four Acts, by Alfred C. Calmour, played for the first time in London at the Scala Theatre, on Saturday, April 20.

Pharaoh ..... MR. BRANDON THOMAS
Pharus ..... MR. EDMUND GURNEY
Neziah ..... MR. JAMES FERNANDEZ
Jevan ..... MR. VINCENT CLIVE
Jethro ..... MR. EDWARD SORLEY
Diomedes ..... MR. CECIL FOWLER
Canopus ..... MR. HENRY WORRALL
Rames ..... MR. SELWYN SEYMOUR
The High Priest ..... MR. AUSTIN MILROY
Simeon ..... MR. FRANK COLLINS
Miriam ..... MISS NORA LANCASTER
Mione ..... MISS CECIL CROMWELL
Cleo ..... MISS RACHEL WARRE
Amarna ..... MISS SHELLY CALTON
Rachel ..... MISS BETTY CASTLE
1st Sybil ..... MISS IDA CALVER
2nd Sybil ..... MISS MARJORIE DAY
3rd Sybil ..... MISS VIVIAN STAFFORD
1st Egyptian ..... MISS KITTY CAREW
2nd Egyptian ..... MISS ETHEL VERDI
3rd Egyptian ..... MISS JENNINGS

"The same old game"; from one generation to another! Mr. Cyril Maude's system of booking was anticipated by *entrepreneurs* at Pompeii, and the odours which pervaded the Scala Theatre on Saturday evening, when *The Judgment of Pharaoh* was performed, were doubtless used by Helen and her handmaidens in Troy. And here, in Egypt, in the time of the Pharaohs, we have the quartette of the villain and the villainess, in love respectively with the heroine and the hero, and working together to deprave and ruin both. We have the young man who wants to see the world, and who buys his experience of it dearly; and we have the inevitable triumph, after sore trial and trouble, of virtue over vice. The youth who yearns for a trip to "foreign parts" is Jevan, the son of the old Hebrew patriarch Neziah, who leads a pastoral life in the peaceful valley of Rephaim. The poison has been infused into Jevan's system by two baleful Egyptian sojourners, Pharus, cousin to the King of Egypt, and Mione, his concubine. Pharus has grown tired of Mione, and has cast his lustful eye on the sweet and modest Rachel, Jevan's betrothed; and the youth, fired by the concubine's descriptions of Heliopolis, burns to see its splendours. His father gives him his portion, and sends him off on his travels with a blessing.

Neziah little knew what life at Heliopolis was like. In the next act Pharus gives a dinner-party, at which the sparse provision for the hunger of the guests is only equalled by the liberal catering for their basest passions. Having secured a large gathering of the choicest concubines, Pharus anounces to his male guests that they can pick and choose, and they pair off with the loose ladies accordingly. Then Jevan appears, richly attired, and Mione charms him with fair words and crafty caresses. Pharus, who burns with unquenchable fire for Rachel, has sent her a message that Jevan is seriously ill, and hopes that the falsehood will lure her to Heliopolis. Jevan is led on to drink and gamble, the result being that Pharus wins all the young Hebrew's money, with the aid of loaded dice supplied by Mione. Jevan discovers how he has been cheated, and in the midst of his distress Rachel arrives. Pharus seizes her, and is grappled with by Jevan, the result being that the maiden and her lover are overpowered and arrested.

The next scene is the Temple of Osiris, with a gilded statue of the Ox-god standing on a pedestal. The land is suffering from a great drought, and Osiris is prayed to to send down rain. Pharaoh arrives to add his supplications; and Pharus alleges that the god has appeared to him in a dream and has demanded the sacrifice of an Israelite on the altar. Jevan being, so to speak, "under remand," is suggested as a suitable victim; and Pharaoh decides that he shall be exposed, bound hand and foot, in the Haunt of the Lions, while Rachel shall remain in the care of Pharus. The libertine, while attempting the virtue of the Hebrew maiden, is stabbed by a slave called Canopus, and Miriam flies to the lions' haunt. Here she is preceded by Mione, who asks Jevan to escape with her on a camel. He refuses; and the lions, prowling about, devour the imprudent concubine, while Miriam, arriving, loosens Jevan's bonds, and the pair return to Rephaim, where the prodigal is welcomed and forgiven by his venerable parent.

It may easily be imagined how effective with a popular audience are these scenes of simple elementary passion, played by such able artists as Dr. Distin Maddick has assembled at the Scala. Mr. Brandon Thomas made a most impressive Pharaoh, bearing himself with regal dignity, and well suggesting the astute and imperturbable character of the Egyptian king. Mr. Edmund Gurney enacted Pharus with all the energy and vigour for which he is noted, his fine voice and admirable elocution having full effect. Mr. James Fernandez was a most patriarchal Neziah; he looked the character superbly, and the genial grandeur of his style was most impressive. Mr. Vincent Clive acted with freshness, vivacity, and feeling in the part of Jevan, and quite succeeded in suggesting the ingenuous and impulsive nature of the young Hebrew. Mr. Edward Sorley was entirely efficient in the little rôle of Jethro; Mr. Cecil Fowler did useful work as Diomedes; and Mr. Henry Worrall gave a praiseworthy performance as Canopus, Mr. Selwyn Seymour doing well as Rames. Mr. Austin Milroy must be warmly praised for his sonorous delivery of the long prayer allotted to the High Priest; and Mr. Frank Collins supplied a neat rendering of Simeon. Miss Norah Lancaster played Miriam very sweetly and tenderly, rising to fine emotional expression in the deeper passages; and Miss Cecil Cromwell contributed a powerful and graphic embodiment of Mione, her picturesque appearance uniting very effectively with the fire and intensity of her acting. Miss Rachel Warre and Miss Shelly Calton were commendable as the Attendants; and Miss Betty Castle was a pleasing representative of Rachel. Praise is due to Miss Ida Calver, Miss Marjorie Day, and Miss Vivian Stafford for their painstaking performances as the Sybils; and Miss Kitty Carew, Miss Ethel Verdi, and Miss Jennings were satisfactory as Egyptians.

Special notice is deserved by the mounting, with which great pains had evidently been taken. Mr. W. T. Hemsley's Home of Neziah and Temple of Osiris were fine examples of the scenic artists' skill in different lines; and Mr. Bruce Smith's elaborately built-up Court of Concubines and mysteriously gloomy Haunt of the Lions displayed his varied talent in great contrast. Expense was not spared in the mounting, live camels being introduced in the first act; and a whole host of well-drilled supernumeraries and a capable chorus were employed in the Court and Temple acts, under the able stage-management of Mr. W. Palmer. Mr. Napoleon Lambelet's orchestra, adroitly conducted, did its duty well, and the costumes designed by Mr. W. Palmer were gorgeously effective, Mr. Richard Flanagan, of Manchester, having supplied valuable assistance in many of the details of the production. *The Judgment of Pharaoh*, which was first performed at the Queen's Theatre, Manchester, on Oct. 30, 1905, was very favourably received at the Scala, and at the close Mr. Calmour and Dr. Distin Maddick were called before the curtain and warmly applauded.

MESSRS. SMITH AND CO., of 117, Borough, S.E., have made a speciality in preparations for the voice and throat. A few of their preparations are pastilles composed of the finest honey and glycerine; other pastilles are made of eucalyptus, menthol, and pino. For actors and speakers nothing could be more acceptable than these pastilles.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"LA FRANCAISE."

Comedy, in Three Acts, by M. Brieux, produced at the Odéon on April 18.

Marthe ..... MLLE. JEANNE ROLLY
Geneviève ..... MLLE. MADELEINE LELU
Leontine ..... MLLE. RENÉE MAUPIN
Rose ..... MLLE. DIDIER
Bartett ..... M. DECORE
Gontier ..... M. DUQUESNE
Pierre ..... M. DESJARDINS
Charles ..... M. VARGAS
Poquelet ..... M. BERNATD

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, April 25.—*La Française* is not, as the title implies, the trade-mark of a bicycle or a sauce. It is a play written by M. Brieux to vindicate the Frenchwoman's character, which, the author thinks, is not held in sufficiently high esteem by the stranger. There can be no doubt that some foolish people still believe that every Frenchwoman has necessarily a lover, that every Frenchman has at least one mistress, and that the *café* is the home of the average French family. And, in order to develop his views on his countrywoman's moral virtues, M. Brieux introduces us to the Gontier family. Pierre Gontier was a widower with a charming eighteen-year-old daughter called Geneviève. But Pierre married again, and the second Mme. Gontier is certainly what the Americans would call "an agreeable person." Pierre's brother, an eccentric man, went out to America, and had his son brought up there in the typical American manner. When the story opens twenty years are supposed to have elapsed, and Pierre is expecting the visit of Charles Gontier, the Franco-American boy. The youth makes his appearance, accompanied by Bartett, his American friend and foster-father. Charles takes his relative somewhat by surprise. He is close-shaven, chilly in demeanour—in fact, the reverse of a Frenchman. Moreover, he despises everything French. Gontier is not sorry to meet Bartett. His business requires fresh capital, and Bartett, active and wealthy, would prove an ideal partner. Anxious to further her husband's plans, Mme. Gontier makes herself as pleasant as she can to Bartett. But the latter, who has formed his ideas of Frenchwomen from the cheap novels he has read, at once starts making love to her. He is surprised to see that she resists him, and his astonishment grows when he discovers that she is actually virtuous. A virtuous Frenchwoman seemed an anomaly to him. Virtue among women, he thought, only existed in America! And before he has recovered from his surprise he finds himself interested in Gontier's business; while Charles, also cured of his prejudices, falls in love with his pretty cousin, Geneviève, and marries her. The story is interlarded with lectures on the superiority of Frenchwomen which do not tend to enliven the play. The work was well acted, especially by Mlle. Lélu (a charming Geneviève) and M. Decorè, who succeeded in making Bartett an interesting personage.

THE Bouffes Parisiens have given us *Papillon*, a comedy by MM. René Peter and Robert Darceny. The story would have done well for a libretto of an operette, but for a three-act play it is far too flimsy. Papillon is the nickname of a young and pretty modiste, who, in an evil hour, became the wife of Carolus Fignolas, a second-rate musician. Deeply devoted to him, she is his faithful companion; but although her husband treats her cruelly she does not complain, and does not even notice that Chaumette, a painter, and Le Bonnel, a rich banker, have both fallen in love with her. Carolus at last becomes so brutal that Papillon runs away from him and opens a millinery shop with the money lent her by Le Bonnel. Carolus discovers her retreat, and Papillon, afraid of him, applies for protection to Le Bonnel, for Chaumette, whom she now secretly loves, is not there to defend her. She now becomes Le Bonnel's mistress, but not for long. Chaumette turns up unexpectedly and offers her his name, a proposal she gladly accepts. A poor production, but fairly well acted.

"LA MARJOLAINE,"

Play, in Three Acts, in Verse, by M. Jacques Richepin, produced at the Porte-Saint-Martin on April 20.

Marjolaine ..... MME. CORA LAPARCERIE
Marquise de Sabran ..... MLLE. FERIEL
Duchesse de Phalaris ..... MME. FABER
Mme. Thibaut ..... MLLE. CANTI
Saint-Léger ..... M. JEAN COQUELIN
Philippe d'Orleans ..... M. CASTELLAN
François ..... M. DORIVAL (Odéon)
De Nocé ..... M. COSTE
Cauche ..... M. WALTER
L'Abbé de Grançay ..... M. D'AUCHY

The scene of *La Marjolaine* is laid in the dissolute days of the Regency, and the managers of the Porte-Saint-Martin had a fine opportunity of making a gorgeous display of scenery and costumes. As regards stage-craft, the piece proved a decided success, but the same cannot be said of the work itself. It is too disconnected, and the initial idea is not sufficiently well carried out. La Marjolaine, the heroine, is the daughter of a peasant woman and of a nobleman. Plebeian and aristocratic blood flows in her veins, with the result that the girl is alternately swayed by pity for the down-trodden masses and hankering after the revelries of the Regent's Court. She has fallen in love with François, a lawyer imbued with revolutionary principles, who makes her espouse the cause he represents. On the other hand, her godfather, the Marquis de St. Léger, poisons her mind with glowing descriptions of the Court. She hesitates, and is lost, for she follows the aristocratic tempter, and at a supper given by the Regent is presented to him by St. Léger. The champagne and the excitement prove too much for her young brain, and after supper the Regent carries her off in his Royal arms. The awakening is less pleasant. La Marjolaine bitterly repents what she has done. She loathes her Royal lover, and pines after the honest François. The latter manages to gain access to her, and at his bidding she consents to go away with him to the old home. But this little idyll is not to the taste of the Regent, who refuses to part with her on any account. This leads to a rather violent scene between them, and the Regent vents his anger on François by having him taken at once to the Bastille. Whilst the guards drag him away he curses La Marjolaine, and she falls down, crying "Tout est fini!" This would have proved a good ending to the piece; but the author apparently did not consider it sufficiently dramatic, and has added a superfluous act, where we see La Marjolaine at her villa in Meudon indulging in a final revel, in the midst of which she dies. As regards the acting, nothing could have been finer than M. Castellan's impersonation of Philippe d'Orleans—a difficult rôle, but admirably acted. Mme. Laparcerie seemed strangely unsuited for the part of La Marjolaine in her husband's play. But we all know that love is blind, and M. Jacques Richepin possibly saw in her qualities she does not possess. M. Jean Coquelin, although the manager, only took a small part, which, however, he played very creditably.

THE Ambigu has not been very fortunate in the selection of the new play. *Le P'tit Mitron*, five acts, by M. Henri Demesse. The public at that theatre is accustomed to dramas with at least a couple of murders; and the story of a girl seduced, deserted, and afterwards married to a good-hearted baker's assistant proved rather [illegible] The management made a mistake [illegible] from the lines on which their hous[illegible] run for so many years, and it is to [illegible] that their next venture will again be of a [illegible] cardling order.

1907.
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B) -OPERATORS' ASSOCIATION.

A well-attended meeting of the provisional committee forming this Association took place on Wednesday at 29, Wellington-street, Strand. Mr. Catling, of the Surrey Theatre, presided.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and adopted, the Secretary (pro tem.) read a large number of letters from various parts of the United Kingdom, many of which contained applications for membership and suggestions as to the objects of the Association and the qualifications for membership, &c.

The following resolutions, among others, were agreed to:—

That the title of the Society be "The Bioscope Operators' Association," and that it consist of qualified operators of animated picture machines.

That the entrance fee be 2s. 6d., for the next three months, and the question of fixing a larger amount dealt with after the expiration of that period.

That the contribution, for trade purposes and management be 1s. per month, payable in advance.

That applications submitted to this meeting be granted and balance of entrance fee paid with first contribution on or before May 1.

That all members in London on the date of the committee meetings be invited to join the provisional committee and attend its meetings.

That any person in sympathy with the objects of the Association and acceptable to the committee may join as an honorary member on payment of an annual subscription of not less than 10s. 6d.

The questions of establishing Sick, Funeral, and Benevolent Funds, and of arranging for examinations of operators, &c., were deferred. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 7, at 29, Wellington-street. Full particulars from the honorary secretaries may be had on application.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—In your issue of the 13th inst. you kindly gave a notice of our meeting for the formation of a Bioscope Operators' Association. As I had the honour of being elected chairman on that occasion, perhaps a word or two in explanation of the objects of the society will not be out of place. Our aim is to form a society of good, experienced operators, both London and provincial. I am pleased to say we have the support of several London managers, and from the North we have letters from proprietors wishing to become honorary members, whom we will be very pleased to accept.

The bioscope operator has a twofold duty; he has to do justice to the firm he represents and at the same time give every assistance to the manager of the theatre where he is placed, by being ready in good time in case a turn drops out, giving a long show if required, making a slide for a future announcement, &c., and keeping his machine and electrical plant in good condition ready for any unexpected visit from the L.C.C. inspector, so that no complaints can be made inflicting more work on his manager. When a manager knows he has a practical man in charge of the picture-box he must feel more at ease than when he sees a so-called operator run in at the last moment to turn the handle, and get through his show more by luck than judgment. As pictures are now practically permanent, I think you will see the benefit of an association of this description both to managers and operators, the association only having good experienced men as members. Trusting the masters and managers will fall in with our views.—I am, yours faithfully,

E. CATLIN,

Surrey Theatre, April 25, 1907.

BRITISH SINGERS' BERLIN FUND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Will you be so kind as to announce our final list of contributions? The committee has now closed the fund with the gratifying total of £212 13s. 6d., an amount which is made up of contributions from 150 singers. A cheque for this amount has been sent to Sir Frank Lascelles, the British Ambassador in Berlin, who has most kindly consented to hand it over to the special committee which has been formed in Berlin to distribute the money in the proper quarters.

It now only remains to me, on behalf of the committee, to express our thanks to all those artists who have so generously responded to our appeal, and also to you personally for your courtesy and most valuable help.—Yours faithfully,

JOHN COATES.

9m, Hyde Park Mansions, N.W., April 26.

	£	s.	d.
Amount already acknowledged in *The Era*	140	17	6
Mrs. L. Goetz (Muriel Foster)	10	0	0
Mme. Ada Crossley	5	5	0
Members of the Carl Rosa Opera Company	3	3	6
Hugo Heinz	3	3	0
Miss Lillie Wormald	2	2	0
Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Heather	2	2	0
Mrs. Charles Balme	2	2	0
Frederic Austin	2	2	0
Anonymous	2	0	0
Herbert Ralland's *La Poupée* Co.	2	0	0
Mlle. Zélie de Lussan	2	0	0
Students of Royal College of Music	1	13	0
Samuel Masters	1	1	0
Harry Dearth	1	1	0
Frederic King	1	1	0
Miss Grainger-Kerr	1	1	0
Miss Ethel Lister	1	1	0
Fred Walker	1	1	0
E. Gordon Cleather	1	1	0
Robert Evett	1	1	0
Lawrence Kellie	1	1	0
Herbert Brown	1	1	0
F. Franklin Clive	1	1	0
Edward Iles	1	1	0
Charles Knowles	1	1	0
Ivor Foster	1	1	0
Miss Carmen Hill	1	1	0
Courtice Pounds	1	1	0
Mrs. Helen Trust	1	1	0
Miss Stella Maris	1	1	0
Miss Joan Ashley	1	1	0
Frederick Ranalow	1	1	0
Anderson Nicol	1	1	0
George Grossmith	1	1	0
Mme. Sobrino	1	1	0
Miss Mabel Manson	1	1	0
Charles Tree	1	1	0
Mme. Esta d'Argo	1	1	0
O. Fischer Sobell	1	0	0
Anonymous	1	0	0
J. Brownlee Young	0	10	6
Mme. Eleanor Cleaver-Simon	0	10	6
Miss Muriel Gough	0	10	6
Dan Price	0	10	6
Mme. Mary Conly	0	10	0
Miss Jenny Taggart	0	10	0
Mrs. Sydney Webster	0	5	0
G. and L.	0	5	0
C. H. B.	0	5	0
Per E. T.	0	5	0
M. J.	0	3	0
A Lover of German Opera	0	2	6
C. E. D.	0	2	6
Miss Mabel Marx	0	2	6
Matthew G. Woods	0	2	6
An Unknown	0	2	6
Total	£212	13	6

THE contributions received by Mr. J. W. Cordiner, the general business-manager for the *Dare-Devil Dorothy* company, for the Arthur Verne subscription list now stand as follows:—Henry Swineard, £5 5s.; J. W. Cordiner, £5 5s.; Horace Stanley, £2 2s.; Miss Nellie Harcourt, £1 1s.; Cliffe, 5s.

OR,—Sir,—In the report of the Empire, your current issue the favourable notice upon Lee and Bentley should have been Yours faithfully, DE VERE AND KENWICK. 1907.

DEATH OF WILLIAM MORGAN.

We regret to announce the death, which took place on Monday at his residence, Fairholme, The Valley, Scarborough, of Mr. William Morgan, the noted *entrepreneur*, after a long and trying illness. Mr. Morgan was a native of Staffordshire, and was born in 1829. At nineteen he had charge of a Post Office Receiving House in Fenchurch-street. He subsequently returned to Bradford, where he opened a wholesale newsagent's business. His first theatrical speculation was in 1857. Those were the days of the stock companies, and Mr. Morgan made arrangements for the visit of a company to Bradford with *Still Waters Run Deep*. He hired the theatre from the then tenant, and the visit was so successful that he arranged for other visits, and practically put an end to the old stock company system.

Mr. Morgan was the first in the provinces to introduce Saturday night concerts. Amongst those who took part in them were Mme. Patey, Nelson Varley, Sims Reeves, Chevalier Lemmens, Edward Lloyd, Mme. Lemmens-Sherrington, Joseph Maas, Charles Santley, and Signor Foli. Mme. Patey was engaged to sing twice one winter, but she was so shocked at appearing before a threepenny gallery that she positively refused to appear a second time. The law-suit which followed brought Mr. Morgan's work prominently before the public. In 1864 Mr. Morgan was at the head of a syndicate running the old Alexandra Theatre (now the Royal), Bradford. In 1875 he and several friends built the Princess's Theatre, Bradford, and three years later he had the misfortune to lose all his savings, as the house was burnt down.

Later on, he was appointed manager of the Morecambe Winter Gardens, and next became manager of the Winter Gardens, Blackpool. At

THE LATE MR. WILLIAM MORGAN,
Thrice Mayor of Scarborough.

Blackpool Mr. Morgan arranged ten hours' continuous programmes; and during his management the shares rose from 11s. to £3 15s.. He remained at Blackpool as manager of the Winter Gardens for seven years.

In 1886 he and others bought the Scarborough Aquarium, which had been constructed at a cost of £120,000. They paid £4,082 for the property, and, including fixtures, the Aquarium only cost them £5,150. Mr. Morgan became two-thirds proprietor of the establishment, and five years later it was turned into a limited company, with a capital of £30,000, and, until about 1900, never paid less than 10 per cent. Mr. Morgan was also the managing-director of the People's Palace, Bridlington.

In 1904 he bought the North Promenade Pier, Scarborough, at auction, and in January of the following year it was washed down by a great storm and tidal wave. He rebuilt the entrance portion, bordering on the Clarence Drive, which was afterwards carried on as a place of entertainment under his proprietorship. In 1885, Mr. Morgan married the second daughter of Mr. James Firth (brother of Sir Charles), of Heckmondwike, whose mother was Octavia, a daughter of the late Captain Samuel Hood, of Greenwich, a member of the well-known naval family. Mrs. Morgan was very popular, and was Mayoress of Scarborough for three years. She also had a seat on the Board of Guardians, and sat as a member of the local Education Committee. In 1902 the Town Council invited Mr. Morgan to accept nomination as Mayor, and he was elected to the chief magistracy. He was nominated as the Conservative candidate for the East Ward at the municipal election of Nov. 1, 1903, and was returned to the Town Council as the representative of that ward. He again consented to nomination for the Mayoralty, which office he filled for the municipal year 1903-4, and again in 1904-5. On the termination of his three years' term of office as the representative of the East Ward on Nov. 1, 1906, he did not seek re-election, on account of his health. He still, however, retained his seat as one of the representatives of the East Ward on the Board of Guardians, to which he had first been elected by the East Ward at a bye-election on Jan. 24, 1903, and his term expiring the following year, he was returned without a contest for another period of three years.

Mr. Morgan was created, in 1902, a Justice of the Peace for the borough. He was also President of the Scarborough Hospital, and president of the Cricket Club. On Nov. 30, 1906, his jubilee as an entertainment caterer was celebrated at a banquet at the Grand Hotel.

A splendid funeral took place at Scarborough on Wednesday, the burial being in the new cemetery. The procession was led by thirty-two members of the Scarborough police force, under the command of the chief constable (Mr. W. Basham). The chief mourners were Sir Charles Firth, Mr. John Morgan (Bradford), Mr. Jack Morgan (Birmingham), Mr. W. Sayner (executor), Mr. W. Kitchingman (executor), Alderman Valentine Fowler, Mr. J. Overend, Mr. J. Burnley (London), Mr. J. L. Smith (Blackpool), and Mr. J. Thompson (Scarborough). The body was borne to the Unitarian Church, Westborough, where a special service was held by the pastor, the Rev. Ottwell Binns, who, in his address, said that if they would have Mr. Morgan's epitaph, they would find one fitting in the line of Gray's: "Large was his bounty and his soul sincere."

THE annual Ladies' Concert of the Playgoers' Club drew a large audience to the New Theatre, on Sunday last. An admirable programme had been provided, among the contributors being Miss Marie Dainton, Miss Margaret Cooper, Mr. Harry Lauder, Mr. Malcolm Scott, Mr. Murray Carson, Mr. R. H. Douglas, Mr. George Mozart, Francis (the cannon-ball juggler), Hill and Whittaker, and several other popular artists. Mr. A. Bond Sayers conducted the London Pavilion orchestra. Supper at the Hotel Cecil, at which many of the audience were present, brought the evening to a pleasant conclusion.

HIPPODROME.

When one looks around the gorgeously-decorated house in Cranbourn-street, it is impossible to repress a feeling of curiosity as to what an ancient Greek would have thought of the modern conception of a hippodrome. In one particular he would observe some similarity—that is in the tier upon tier of gaily-dressed spectators; the rigid classic beauty of the marble benches, from which he was in the habit of protecting the angularities and his person by a self-provided cushion or carpet, has given place to the most luxuriously upholstered easy-chairs, while there have been introduced into the working of the whole house mechanical devices of which Archimedes never dreamed. The environment would be an even more striking contrast. The sooty pall of London smoke and the garish hustle of Leicester-square would present a weird change from the verdant groves of Attica, with the ultramarine of the Ægean shimmering in the distance. But we must do the best we can, and the best of Mr. Stoll is, in the words of a song, "Very, very good."

To the programme. In Mr. A. D. Robbins one must believe that the *ne plus ultra* of trick cycling has been reached. He seems to possess an absolute control over his machine, and it is a matter of indifference to him whether he is riding backwards or forwards, on one wheel or on two. His evolutions on a tandem are even more perfect. Gaumont's chrono-megaphone grows in popularity. The operators seemed to have arrived at perfection in the matter of attuning the megaphone to the moving scene on the screen. The coon song "Every little helps" excites genuine merriment, while the troubles which a French statesman newly-elected to office suffers from the energetic persecutions of reporters and photographers make one thank one's stars that one is only a humble taxpayer. Alfred Agoust is a comedy juggler who combines a wonderful amount of manual dexterity with no little histrionic humour. Mariedl, the tallest woman in the world, continues to delight the audience by her condescension in stooping to shake hands with numbers of them. Tina Clementina is a graceful equestrienne, whose figure is seen to advantage in the saddle of a beautiful mare which she has trained to a wonderful degree of dexterity. She also introduces a number of deerhounds, fox-terriers, and dachshunds, which she has succeeded in training with remarkable results. De Gracia's performing elephants are mightily appreciated by the juvenile section of the audience, as well as by their elders; and the Schenk Brothers distinguish themselves as head-and-hand balancers. Payen, the mysterious gymnast and auto-pierrot, introduced by Miss Lucie, arouses interest and wonderment; and the Moulier Sisters take part in skilful fashion in an attractive bar-act.

Speedy, the high diver, extorts breathless attention while he plunges from some point far above the auditorium into the flooded arena. The liability to injury in such feats can only be countenanced on the ground that the almost certain exactitude of the performer nullifies the risk. The Clement Trio consist of two ladies and a gentleman, who give a clever trapeze and gymnastic display. The feat of one of the ladies supporting her two companions by her teeth is one of marvellous strength, skill, and endurance. The Stein Erretto Family are a talented troupe of table jumpers and vaulters, and into their act they introduce a considerable element of humour. The popularity of the American Bioscope is perennial, due to the fact that it is constantly presenting new scenes. The pictures showing the escapades of two tomboys are really very funny. Browning and Wally give an excellent account of themselves as acrobats. The Hippodrome's dramatic spectacle, *The Typhoon*, continues to elicit the admiration of visitors to that house; indeed, it is not too much to say that it is to see this production that the greater part of the audience visits the house. The mechanical details of this wonderful scene appear to work even more perfectly than ever, and there is a hush over the house when the elements combine with the bursting of the ship's boilers to plunge the doomed ship and its passengers into eternity. Mr. Cecil Morton Yorke continues to act the part of a British skipper with a considerable degree of fidelity; and Mr. Harrison Brockbank is sufficiently gallant as the rescuer of beauty in distress. Mr. Bert Gilbert as the bibulous Scots engineer has a considerable sense of dry humour. By his accent we should imagine that he hails from the "dark, sea-born city" on the banks of the Clutha, which is, of course, in keeping with the part he plays. Mr. J. G. Grahame as the wicked old Mandarin exhibits an amount of histrionic talent which should speak well for some future work on the legitimate stage. A visit cannot be paid to the Hippodrome without remarking the able efforts of Herr H. Erborn and his orchestra, whose performances enhance the attractiveness of the various turns.

MASONS AT WORK.

The regular meeting of the Chelsea Lodge of Freemasons was held at the Town Hall, Chelsea, on Friday last, Mr. Albert Le Fre, W.M., in the chair, supported by James W. Matthews, I.P.M., Serpentello, S.W., F. Clay, acting J.W., H. Heriot Hill (chaplain), Wolfe S. Lyon (treasurer), C. J. Doughty (secretary), Douglas White (acting S.D.), Harry Bawn, J.D.W., F. K. Walton, J.G., Angelo Asher (organist), and Messrs. E. Lester, G. Dyball, L. G. Sharpe, H. Mayville, W. Permane, F. Neiman, E. Brett, R. Duce, Burnetti, Geo. Graham, Herbert Austin, Atlas, G. H. Hill, Frank Hardie, A. Nicklen, Geo. Mozart. The visitors included Messrs. Chenery, Hofem, Benenith, Phillips, Brown, and Robertson.

The W.M. initiated Messrs. Wilding, Graydon, Dan Lipton, and Parker, advanced Messrs. Collinson, Dix, Fred Keeton, and Andie Cane, and completed the ceremony with Mr. B. Whiteley.

Mr. W. G. Moseley was elected a joining member; Serpentello was unanimously elected Master for the ensuing year; Mr. Wolfe S. Lyon was again elected treasurer; and Mr. McNaughton Tyler. The Benevolent Committee, and Trustees were also re-elected. A Pastmaster's jewel and a silver-gilt loving cup were voted to Mr. Albert Le Fre in recognition of his services as W.M. during the past year. A proposition by Mr. Wolfe S. Lyon to raise the entrance fee two guineas and the joining fee one guinea, such extra amounts to be devoted to Masonic charities, was unanimously adopted. At the conclusion of business the members adjourned to the neighbouring hotel for refreshment.

MR. CHAS. FISHER'S pocket opera company has never been heard or seen to greater advantage than this week at the Empress, Brixton, where delighted audiences have insisted upon a reappearance of the famous combination in front of the drop-curtain to repeat the grand finale to "The Music Master."

SHOWMEN will have unexcelled opportunities for their enterprise at the 700th anniversary of the Foundation of Liverpool, which will be celebrated under the presidency of the Lord Mayor of that city from Saturday, Aug. 3, to 10 (inclusive). The committee of the Festival invite tenders for spaces in Sefton Park Review Ground, Wavertree Playground, Recreation Ground in Rice-lane, Walton, the land forming portion of Walton Hall Estate, the land on north side of Lister Drive, and land on the Edge-lane Hall Estate, where the pageant will be held. Tenders must be sent to Edward R. Pickmere and Ramsay Muir, hon. secretaries, at the Town Hall, Liverpool, W.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

DEATH OF MR. H. J. CURRY.

After over a quarter of a century of theatrical management in the town of Grimsby, Mr. Henry James Curry died early on Monday morning at the age of 61. He was the founder of the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Grimsby, and also of the Tivoli Variety Theatre, and held the position of chairman of directors of both houses. Mr. Curry was well known and widely respected among provincial theatrical circles, and a few years ago was presented with a handsome service of silver plate, to which all the leading touring managers subscribed.

The deceased gentleman had not been in robust health for the past few years, but still maintained an active part in the conduct of his business, and his demise was entirely unlooked for. Only as late as a week before his death he was in attendance at both his houses, but a chill, contracted during a visit to Manchester a few days previously, developed serious symptoms. As the week went on his condition became rapidly worse, congestion of the lungs set in, and he died, as stated, on Monday morning.

Mr. Curry first came to Grimsby in 1879, though prior to that he had been connected with the stage in a variety of ways. In his early days he was a member of a party of amateur players at Hull, and also gained prominence as one of the troupe of White Star Minstrels. He became associated with Mr. Sefton Parry, under whose management he played in stock companies. However, on settling in Grimsby he took possession of the Corporation Hotel, and conducted a concert room there. Encouraged by his success, he converted the Hall of Science into a variety theatre, and further prosperity led him to branch out on still more ambitious lines. He acquired a brick

THE LATE MR. H. J. CURRY.

structure, used as a circus, which stood upon the site of the present Prince of Wales's Theatre, and ran music-hall programmes there. A year later he transformed it into a dramatic theatre, and then, in 1886, he laid the foundation of the present building. Into this venture he put all the energy at his command, and possessing, as he did, a keen appreciation of the requirements of the public of the day, success was established from the very beginning, and it was Mr. Curry's boast that the Prince of Wales's Theatre had never been closed for a single week since the day it was opened.

However, although the dramatic business established his reputation as a theatrical manager, Mr. Curry never lost his love for the variety stage. For years he entertained a scheme of building a variety theatre in Grimsby, and the idea materialised in June, 1905, when, exactly nineteen years after the founding of the Prince of Wales's Theatre, he commenced building the Tivoli, within a stone's throw of the Prince of Wales's. The Tivoli was opened the following Christmas, and has become an extremely popular house of entertainment.

Mr. Curry, it should be added, at one time took a prominent part in civic life. For several years he was a member of the Grimsby Town Council, and he also served on the School Board and Board of Guardians.

The funeral took place on Wednesday, and was attended by an exceptionally large number of the deceased's friends, including representatives of all the leading public and business institutions in the town. Tributes to his memory were sent by the staffs of the theatres, by local friends, and also by professional acquaintances from all parts of the country.

The deceased gentleman left a widow, four sons and a daughter, to whom many expressions of condolence have been tendered. His eldest son, Mr. J. H. Curry, who has been for some time the managing director, will continue to hold the reins of government of the Prince of Wales's and the Tivoli.

THE Moody-Manners Opera Company are giving a concert of operatic numbers, consisting of solos, duets, and choruses from the various operas in their répertoire, at the Royal Albert Hall, on Sunday evening, May 5, when the principals of the company will be supported by a chorus of 100 voices and an orchestra of fifty, made up of the two companies of the organisation. A programme of similar kind, it may be remembered, was given under the auspices of the National Sunday League at the Queen's Hall and the Alhambra Theatre some time ago with much success.

"THE GREEN-ROOM BOOK" for 1907, which was published on Monday, is a most valuable work of reference for all who are interested in any way with the drama. The bulk of the volume consists of biographies of all the leading actors, dramatists, and critics of the day brought down to the most recent times, with numerous full-page portraits of the "stars" of the stage. The appendices comprise an editorial review of the dramatic year; also a special review of the Vedrenne-Barker régime at the Court; a full account of the Ellen Terry jubilee celebrations; a synopsis of London playbills for 1906; the French and German theatres in London; new plays in New York, Paris, and Berlin; thirty-eight genealogical tables of well-known theatrical families; interesting articles; "Dramatic Critics and Criticisms," by J. T. Grein and the managing-editor; green-room gleanings in the Law Courts, comprising leading theatrical law cases and judgments of the year; a full list of the theatrical clubs, institutions, and charities of London and New York; a special article by a member of the London Stock Exchange, with table showing capital, dividends for five years, and prices of shares of thirty theatre and music-hall companies; lists of London and provincial theatres and halls; theatrical variety and concert agents, with practical advice to stage aspirants; box-plans of forty London theatres; and obituary for the year. The theatrical library is certainly incomplete without this carefully-compiled year-book. The publishers are Messrs. T. Sealey Clark and Co., Ltd., 1, Racquet-court, Fleet-street, E.C.

ON THE ROAD, APRIL 29.

ALL-OF-A-SUDDEN PEGGY.—Prince's T., Manchester.
AMASIS.—Court Theatre, Liverpool.
ASCHE, OSCAR.—Theatre Royal, Newcastle.
AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES.—Muncaster T., Bootle.
ASSASSIN.—Empire T., Southend
BANDMANN-PALMER, MRS.—H. M. T., Dundee.
BEAUTY AND THE BARGE.—T. R., Belfast.
BEAUTY OF BATH.—P. O. W. T., Birmingham.
BENSON, F. R. (N.).—Theatre Royal, Norwich.
BENSON, F. R.—Stratford-on-Avon.
BENSON, F. R. (S.).—Andover and Basingstoke.
BETWEEN THE LIGHTS.—T. R. Lincoln.
CARL ROSA OPERA CO.—T. R., Portsmouth.
CASSIDY, J. RICE.—T. R., Sunderland.
CHARLEY'S AUNT.—Theatre Royal, Preston.
CHRISTIAN, THE.—T. R., Nottingham.
CLAUDIAN.—Theatre Royal, Worcester.
COAL KING.—T. R., South Shields.
COMPTON COMEDY CO.—Grand Theatre, Leeds.
CONSCRIPT, THE.—O. H., St. Helens.
DAIRYMAIDS, THE.—Broadway T., Deptford.
DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY.—O. H., Northampton.
DESTROYER OF MEN.—Grand Theatre, Eccles.
D'OYLY CARTE.—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
DR. WAKE'S PATIENT.—King's T., Sunderland.
FACE AT THE WINDOW.—Prince's T., Accrington.
FALSE WIFE.—Grand Theatre, Nelson.
FIGHT FOR MILLIONS.—H. M. T., Carlisle.
FOR HER SAKE.—T. R., Wolverhampton.
GEISHA.—Theatre Royal, Cardiff.
GIPSY GIRL.—Kennington Theatre, S.E.
GIRL BEHIND THE COUNTER.—O. H., Cheltenham.
GO-WON-GO-MOHAWK.—Metropole T. Gateshead.
GREAT AWAKENING.—Theatre Royal, Leeds.
GRIP OF IRON.—Theatre Royal, Leicester.
HEARTS ADRIFT.—Prince's T., Portsmouth.
HEART'S DESIRE.—Avenue T., Kettering.
HER LUCK IN LONDON.—Alexandra T., Hull.
HER MARRIAGE VOW.—T. R., Castleford.
HER NAMELESS CHILD.—Colosseum, Oldham.
HER ONE GREAT SIN.—Paisley Theatre, Paisley.
HERO OF THE FLAG.—Grand T., Walsall.
HIS HOUSE IN ORDER (N.).—T. R., Darlington.
HIS HOUSE IN ORDER (S.).—Shakespeare T., Clapham.
HIS SISTER'S HONOUR.—Junction T., Manchester.
HOME, SWEET HOME (GREEN AND HINTON).—Yarmouth.
HOME, SWEET HOME.—T. R., Bilston.
HONEYMOON, THE.—Opera House, Dudley.
HONOUR THY FATHER.—Treherbert and Maestag.
HOUR OF HER TRIUMPH.—Peterborough.
IAN MACLAREN'S REPERTOIRE.—East Oxford T., Oxford.
IN SIGHT OF ST. PAUL'S.—T. R., Bolton.
IRVING, H. B.—Theatre Royal, Manchester.
LA COMEDIE ANGLAISE.—Bangor and Carnarvon.
LA POUPEE (RALLAND).—Grand T., Southampton.
LAST OF HIS RACE.—Theatre Royal, Hull.
LIGHTS OUT.—P. G. T., Folkestone.
LION AND THE MOUSE.—Alexandra T., Greenock.
LITTLE BREADWINNER.—Alexandra T., Birmingham.
LITTLE VAGRANT.—Theatre Royal, Jarrow.
LONDON FIREMAN.—Theatre Royal, Castleford.
LOVE THAT WOMEN DESIRE.—Lyceum T., Newport.
LUCKY DURHAM.—Gaiety T., Manchester.
LUCKY LIZA.—Grand Theatre, Chorley.
LUCKY MISS DEAN.—O. H., Harrogate.
MAN'S ENEMY.—West London Theatre.
MANXMAN.—O. H., Coventry.
MARTIN HARVEY.—Theatre Royal, Birmingham.
MASTER CRIMINAL.—Metropole T., Glasgow.
MERVEILLEUSES.—Borough T., Stratford.
MIDNIGHT MAIL.—Grand T., Middlesbrough.
MIDNIGHT WEDDING.—Lyceum T., Crewe.
MOLLISON, WILLIAM.—Theatre Royal, Hanley.
MONSIEUR BEAUCAIRE.—Pier Pavilion, Eastbourne.
MONTE CRISTO.—H. M. T., Aberdeen.
MOODY-MANNERS (A.).—Crown T., Peckham.
MOODY-MANNERS (B.).—New T., Cambridge.
MR. POPPLE.—Empire Theatre, Oldham.
MY DARLING.—Theatre Royal, Dublin.
NAPOLEON THE GREAT.—Queen's T., Gateshead.
NEW ALADDIN.—Camden Theatre, N.W.
NEW WORLD.—Queen's Theatre, Fleetwood.
NORMAN V. NORMAN.—O. H., Tunbridge Wells.
OTTO THE OUTCAST.—T. R., Rochdale.
PERFECT LOVER.—Sunderland.
PETER PAN (No. 1).—Prince's T., Bristol.
PETER PAN (No. 2).—Shakespeare T., Liverpool.
PETER'S MOTHER (N.).—Southport.
PETER'S MOTHER (S.).—Hull.
PICK OF THE BUNCH.—O. H., Tunbridge Wells.
PRICE OF HER SOUL.—Metropole T., Birmingham.
PRINCE OF PILSEN (HARRIS).—T. R., Aldershot.
PRIVATE SECRETARY.—Royalty Theatre, Chester.
PRODIGAL PARSON.—O. H., Kidderminster.
RAFFLES (DANCE).—Empire Theatre, Southend.
ROYAL DIVORCE.—Theatre Royal, Huddersfield.
SAPHO.—Theatre Royal, Sheffield.
SECOND TO NONE.—P. O. W. T., Mexboro.
SERGEANT BRUE (N.).—O. H., Leicester.
SHERLOCK HOLMES.—Borough T., Stratford.
SHULAMITE.—Royalty T., Llanelly.
SIGN OF THE CROSS.—Grand T., Derby.
SIN OF HER CHILDHOOD.—T. R., Stockport.
SISTER'S SIN.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
SLEDGE-HAMMER.—T. R., Chatham.
SOMEBODY'S SWEETHEART.—O. H., Torquay.
SPIDER AND THE FLY.—T. R., Bristol.
SPORTING LIFE.—Grand T., Fulham.
STILL ALARM.—Grand Theatre, Nottingham.
SWISS EXPRESS.—Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.
TOMMY.—Theatre Royal, Bournemouth.
TRIUMPH OF TRUTH.—P. O. W. T., Salford.
TRUMPET CALL.—Theatre Royal, Glasgow.
TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS.—Victoria T., Broughton
TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS.—Court T., Wigan.
TYRANT, THE.—Theatre Royal, Aston.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN.—Theatre Royal, Colchester.
UNDER THE RUSSIAN FLAG.—Ashington.
VILLAGE BLACKSMITH.—Theatre Royal, Chesterfield.
WARNING TO WOMEN.—Royalty T., Barrow.
WHAT THE BUTLER SAW.—P. O. W., Grimsby.
WHEN A MAN HATES.—T. R., Houghton
WHEN THE LIGHTS ARE LOW.—Osborne T., Manchester.
WHITE CHRYSANTHEMUM (MACDONA).—Hip., Sheerness.
WILKIE, ALLAN, AND CO.—Theatre Royal, Blackburn.
WOMAN AND WINE.—Aston-under-Lyne.
WOMAN'S PAST.—Metropole T., Devonport.
WORST WOMAN IN LONDON.—Marlborough T.
WRECKER OF MEN.—Star T., Liverpool.
YOUNGEST OF THREE.—Theatre Royal, Exeter.
10.30 DOWN EXPRESS.—Colchester.
£1000 REWARD.—Theatre Royal, Cardiff.

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Owing to pressure on our space, we have been compelled to hold over the weekly instalment of the above. The series will be continued next week.

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Your book will, I am sure, be a valuable aid to all managers and actors.—SIR HENRY IRVING.

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Should prove perfectly invaluable.—*Weekly Sun.*

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Mr Strong states the whole case very clearly.—*Illustrated London News.*

Mr. A. A. Strong has compiled an exceedingly useful volume dealing carefully, intelligently, and fully with the law bearing upon things theatrical. As a book of reference this excellent digest will be found invaluable.—*The Era.*

MISS VIOLET FULTON is producing on Monday, at the Empress, Brixton, a new sketch, entitled *Varna's Revenge*, written by Mr. Fred S. Jennings, who will support this able actress in a part that is specially suited to her gifts. Miss Fulton, it will be remembered, played the interesting, but complex character of Zaza with great success, and her acting at the Théâtre des Capucines, Paris, met with marked favour.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

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Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week, and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances, payable to "THE ERA," LTD., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

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"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(two doors off Wellington Street)
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephone, 4747, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

M. S.—*The comedy by A. W. Pinero, entitled* The Benefit of the Doubt, *was produced at the Comedy Theatre, Oct. 16, 1896.*

D. F. P.—*Miss Heath (Mrs. Wilson Barrett) died on July 27, 1887. She had retired from the stage a few years previously.*

J. T.—*Miss Marie Lloyd played the Prince in* The Magic Dragon of the Demon Dell *pantomime at the Britannia at Christmas, 1888.*

PAUL.—Faust, *by W. G. Wills, was produced at the Lyceum Theatre on Dec. 19, 1885, with H. B. Conway in the title-rôle.*

W. MANNING.—The Corsican Brothers, *by Dion Boucicault, was first produced at the Princes's Theatre on Feb. 24, 1852. Another adaptation by C. Fechter was staged at the same theatre on Dec. 15, 1860. When the play was revived at the Princess's in 1864 by Mr. George Vining he appeared as the Brothers.*

SOUTH AFRICA.—Brown at Brighton *was produced at the Avenue Theatre on Dec. 20, 1902, with the following cast:—Bertie Brown, Mr. Dallas Welford; Professor MacAlpin, Mr. Chas. Rock; Reggie Brownhill, Mr. Douglas Gordon; Col. Dundas, Mr. C. M. Lowne; Josiah Greatjax, Mr. Athol Forde; Dick Snaresby, Mr. Hubert Willis; Wilkins, Mr. Lewis Broughton; P.-C. Railly, Mr. Jas. Lewis; F. Jaggerson, Mr. W. Collard; Cora Mansfield, Miss Lettice Fairfax; Mrs. Stapleton, Miss Madeline L'Estrange; Violet, Miss Mabel Garden; Amy, Miss Rose Temple; Mrs. Rushbrook, Miss Emma Gwynne; Bessie, Miss Maisie Dene; Maisie Greatjax, Miss Ethel Clinton.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth** or **Death** or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny**.

The charge for a notice of **Marriage**, not exceeding forty words, is **Two Shillings and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny**.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

DEATHS.

ALZAR.—Mme. Alzar (Mrs. T. Stephens), age 43, died April 24, at her home after six months' illness, of pulmonary tuberculosis. She was eleven years costumier for Messrs. Greet and Englebach. She will be laid to rest in Norwood Cemetery, Monday, noon.

CURRY.—On April 22, 1907, at his residence, Gordon House, Dudley-street, Grimsby, of pneumonia, Henry James Curry, age 61, Chairman of the P. O. W. and Tivoli Theatre Cos., Grimsby.

MORGAN.—April 22, William Morgan, theatrical manager, aged 77.

O'ROURKE.—April 24, "Jacky," only beloved son of Mr. and Mrs. Johnny O'Rourke, at Blaina, S. Wales, of pneumonia, age 3½ years. Interred Yew Tree Cemetery, Liverpool.

IN MEMORIAM.

CUTHBERT.—In loving memory of Maud Cuthbert, the beloved wife of A. Robini (Rezene and Robini), who departed this life April 24, 1905.
Gone, but not forgotten.

DASHWOOD.—In loving and affectionate memory of my dear husband, Harry Dashwood, who passed away April 23, 1900.
His memory is as dear to-day
As in the hour he passed away.
Beyond the sea of Death love lives
To-day and for ever.
His loving wife, MABEL.

TREVANION.—In pathetic remembrance of the passing into spirit of Edward Trevanion, April 26, 1887. (Proprietor of Prince's, Blackburn; Adelphi, Liverpool; and Circus, St. Helens.)
The mills of God grind slowly:
They grind exceeding small.
—CLAIRE TREVANION.

VILLIERS.—R. E. Villiers, died April 29, 1904. In loving memory.—JACK.

FOR SYMPATHY.

MR. ADOLP TRESSIDER, the Stage-Manager of the London Pavilion, wishes to express his heartfelt thanks to the many kind friends who have written him letters of sympathy in view of his recent bereavement, and trusts that they will accept this intimation of his appreciation. He feels confident they will not consider his non-reply discourteous.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Rhoda Beresford—Saturday, April 27.
Kate Terry—Sunday, April 28.
George Leyton—Sunday, April 28.
Amy Lyster—Sunday, April 28.
Dave Avrigny—Sunday, April 28.
Kate Avrigny—Sunday, April 28.
C. F. Collings—Sunday, April 28.
J. Dewhurst—Sunday, April 28.
A. P. Leo—Monday, April 29.
Cecil Morton York—Monday, April 29.
J. P. Macnally—Monday, April 29.
G. Zanetto—Monday, April 29.
Wm. Hillier—Monday, April 29.
A. Lukos—Monday, April 29.
Tom Costello—Tuesday, April 30.
W. H. Crane—Tuesday, April 30.
Tilly Poole—Tuesday, April 30.
Horace W. Ebbutt—Tuesday, April 30.
Geo. Regan—Tuesday, April 30.
A. Chisholm—Wednesday, May 1.
May Palfrey—Wednesday, May 1.
Edgar Romaine—Wednesday, May 1.
May Woolgar Mellon—Wednesday, May 1.
Arthur Palling—Wednesday, May 1.
Jessie Preston—Wednesday, May 1.
J. P. Harrington—Wednesday, May 1.
Eric G. Merrie—Thursday, May 2.
Jerome K. Jerome—Thursday, May 2.
W. L. Abingdon—Thursday, May 2.
Lucie Evelyn—Thursday, May 2.
Peggy Pryde—Thursday, May 2.
Elsa Joel—Thursday, May 2.
Minnie Rayner—Thursday, May 2.
Cecile E. Anson—Friday, May 3.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.
No Circulars or Parcels admitted to this list.

Adams, Miss Nellie
Alaska, Mrs. H.
Alberto, Mr. Fred
Alexander, Mr. Stuart
Alec
Alen, Mr. G.
Ashburnham-Newton, Mr
Austa, Miss Amber
Baines, Miss Edith
Ball, Mr. Ernest
Barnet, Mr. W.
Barratt, Mr. Burgess
Banvard, Mr. Carl
Bassett, Mr. Tom
Beaute, Mons.
Bee, Mr. E.
Benge, Mr. Wilson
Black, Mr. Joe
Bonheur, Mr. Theo.
Brough, Mr. Harry
Bunce, Mr. H.
Bunce, Mr. Thomas
Burgon Opera Co.
Burke, Miss Billie
Bury, Mr. Sam
Cardac, Mr. H.
Carlton, Miss Minnie
Carte, Mr. Chas.
Carter and Gale, Messrs
Cattle, Mr. William
Church, Miss L.
Cingalee Troupe
Clements, Mr. Fred
Cliff, Little
Collings, Mr. C. P.
Collins, Miss Lottie
Collins, Mr. G.
Connor, Mr. T. W.
Correze and Keith
Cosgrove and Burns
Cranston, Mr. W. J.
Cray, Mr. Oswald
Cronin, Mrs.
Crossley, Miss Ada
Cumberland, Mr. C. G.
Cumberlands, The Five
Curre, Mr. Carne
Dando, Capt.
Danvers, Mr. James
D'Arc, Mr. W. J.
Dare, Mr. Colet
Davis, Miss Fay
Deane, Mr. A. J.
De Bessell, Mr.
De Courtray
Delome, Miss
Depallion, Miss
Dodds, Mr. Edwin
Dolan, Miss W.
Donaldson Bros.
Durant, Mr. F. D.
Earl, Miss Kate
Edwards, Miss Jessie
Elsie, Miss Lily
Elton, Mrs. Fred
Eltons, The Two
Erle, Miss Godwynne
Ferari, Brothers
Fowler, Miss Francis
Fredericks, Mr. Harold
Galetti's Monkeys
Garrick, Mr. Esca
Geyce, Miss Elsene
Goldin, Mr. Horace
Godfrey-Turner, Miss M
Gooma, Princess
Grafton, Madam Louise
Grand, Mrs. M. R.
Grant and Kelly
Gregory, Mr. Wilfred
Green, Mr.
Grey, Miss Kathleen
Hall, Mr. Tom
Halling, Miss Daisy
Harcourt, Miss Eva
Hardy, Mr. Fred
Harlem Bros.
Harvey, Mrs. Frank
Hayden, Miss B.
Hazell, Mr. W. E.
Herbert, Mr. H. E.
Hinton, Mr. Chas.
Houghton, Prof.
Howard, Mr. G. W.
James, Miss Daisy
Jardine, Mr. A.
Jazon, Mr. Edwin C.
Johnson, Mr. Kid
Julian, Mr. Johnny
Keene, Mr. Billy
Kendall, Miss Marie
Kerr, Mr. G. C. V.
Kilner, Sisters
King, Mr.
Kioto
Kremser, Miss Jema
Le Grand, Mr. H.
Lennard, Mr. Leo
Leonard, Miss Flora
Le Roy, Mr. Servais
Levey and Caldwell
Lewis, Mr. Edward
Lingarde, Miss H.
Mackintire, Mr. T.
Macknay, Mr. A.
Maddison, Mr. Bates
Martin, Mr. Philip
May, Miss Melinda
May, Sisters
Mentises, Mr. Joe
Melia, Mr. Martin
Melton, Mr. Fred
Mersano, Prof.
Mitchelson, Mr. Angus
Morgan, Mr. H.
Moore, Mr. Marshall
New York Comedy Four
Norman, Mr. Leslie
Olga and Elgar, Messrs.
Parke, Mr. Cecil W.
Parker, Mrs. J. E.
Paul, Miss Ethel G.
Pearson, Mr. Bob
Pease, Mr. S. T.
Placide, Madam
Polson-Turner, Mr. G.
Pyrquins, Mr. F.
Raynor, Miss Dorothy
Rehan, Miss Ada
Ringham, Mr. Mark
Robinson, Mr. F. S.
Russell, Mr. Harry
Saville, Mr.
Schoolden, Mr. John
Seaton, Mr. R. G.
Shallard, Mr. Dillon
Smith, Mr. Will
Somerset, Mr. C. W.
Stewart, Miss Hilda
St. Quentin, Mr. Ed.
Stuart, Mr. Laurie
Thorpe, Miss Dora
Toller, Miss R.
Urquhart, Mr. David
Vernon, Miss H.
Vicat, Miss Grace
Villiers, Mr. John
Villion, Mrs. Gertrude
Vyvyan, Mr. Herbert
Walonell, Mr. Jack
Walton, Mr. W. W.
Warmsley, Sisters
Watson, Mrs. J. B.
Watts, Mr. Clive
Weight, Mr. Chas.
White, Mr. Arthur
Willard, Mr. George
Wybrow, Mr. George

DUCHESS PALACE.

Newly papered throughout with a paper of bright red hue, the Duchess has now quite a gala appearance, and small wonder is it that Manager Ross's face is fairly wreathed in smiles. The ball is started rolling in no half-hearted fashion by Charles Vincent, who sings a capital song, the chorus of which is made up of the names of several songs which are very cleverly strung together. Fun of the right sort is being provided by the Six Brothers Luck, who are presenting their amusing farce, *Blazes; or, The Lightning Fire Brigade*. From the moment that these comedians appear the fun waxes fast and furious, and they fairly make the audience shriek with laughter. The Three Prestons are making one of their periodical visits here with their laughable sketch, entitled *The Liftman's Rise*, which is certainly going as well as ever. The comicalities of the supposed liftman are the cause of endless laughter, and he proves himself to be a comedian of considerable merit.

A prominent place in the bill is this week taken by Miss Maud Odell, better known as Galatea or La Statue Humaine. She is presenting a number of beautiful poses, which are most artistic. Amongst others, she is giving Sapho, "Le Miroir de Bacchus," "La Vérité," Yugent, Artemis, "The Dancer" after Tadolini, Helen of Troy, "La Fortune," and Galatée. One of the most interesting items on the programme this week is the Bioscope, which is giving a series of pictures depicting last Saturday's great football match at the Crystal Palace. These have a most enthusiastic reception, and are eagerly followed from start to finish. Jordan and Harvey, the Hebrew comedians, are again delighting Balhamites with their most amusing patter. They start their performance by singing an excellent parody on "Moving Day," Victoria Monks's successful song, and conclude with a splendid number, entitled "Every little bit helps." The Australian twin sisters Anderson start their performance with an amusing song, entitled "Oh, Mister, let me tell you when the music starts." Afterwards they treat us to some very clever and original dancing, their skipping-rope dance especially being quite out of the ordinary. Elton and Edwin show themselves to be banjoists well above the average, and delight all by the clever manner in which they perform on these instruments. Harry Clifford, a comedian, is singing a sympathetic song about "My Little Missus is worth her weight in gold," which gains for him much applause. Fred Spencer, an expressionist, sings a couple of songs, that entitled "This way" being most interesting. He then gives a couple of capital imitations. The first is how a boy received a pennyworth of electricity. The second is the same boy who has been sent by his mother to buy a couple of eggs. Throughout both of these his facial expressions are excellent, which shows that he must have spent some considerable period of time to get them to this pitch. Mr. Ross, the popular manager, continues to increase the number of his friends in the front of the house by his careful study of their requirements, and is now being assisted by Mr. Blight, of Islington fame. One thing that is noticeable at this popular theatre of varieties is the splendid manner in which the stage-manager, Mr. Saunders, discharges his duties.

FRIENDS of Mr. Walter T. Clifford may be interested to know that he is now manager of a typewriting company at Bradford. During the last twelve months he has been especially successful with the profession, Messrs. Paul Cinquevalli, Harry Tate, George Gray, Bates Maddison, Ryder Slone, Glenville and Osmond, Watson Mill, Carthage, Calcleugh, Percy Norman, Ivan Goré, and many others being numbered amongst his customers.

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Indispensable for PUBLIC SPEAKERS
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IT ACTS LIKE A CHARM IN DIARRHŒA CHOLERA, AND DYSENTERY, and Effectually cuts short all attacks of Spasms
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NEWMARKET RACES.
FIRST SPRING MEETING.
April 30, May 1st, 2, and 3, 1907.
2,000 GUINEAS STAKES, May 1.
1,000 GUINEAS STAKES, May 3.
First and Third Class Trains will run as under:—

Down Trains.	A	B		C		D		E	D	D	* BF	A†	
	a.m.	a.m.	a.m.	noon	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.
Liverpool-street, depart..	8.40	9.50	10.20	11. 5	12. 0	2.35	4.15	4.30	4.10	5.12	8.20		
St. Pancras, ,,		..	9.45	10.18	..	12.20	2.40	4.10	..	5. 7	..		
Newmarket, arrive..		10.33	11.45	12.10	12.50	2.20	4.48	6. 5	6.19	7.17	10.18		

Up Trains.	a.m.	a.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.
Newmarket, depart..	8. 3	8.59	10.42	12.25	12.30	3.57	4.10	4.15	5.30	5.50	6.15	7.47
St. Pancras, arrive..	10.23	11.15	..	2.40	2.43	6.10	6. 5	6. 0	..	7.35	8. 0	8.35	..
Liverpool-street, ,,	10.15	10.56	12.40	2.30	2.47	6. 3	6. 5	..	6. 5	7.28	7.45	8.25	9.57

(A) Special. (B) Special—First Class only. (C) On April 29 only. (D) On May 3 only. (E) On May 1 only. † On May 3. Start one hour and one hour and twenty minutes respectively after the advertised time of the last race. (BF) On April 30, May 1 and 2. On Wednesday, May 1, a Special Excursion Train will leave Liverpool-street and St. Pancras at 8.15 a.m. for Newmarket, returning the same day at 6.50 p.m. Fare: First Class, 25s.; Third Class, 6s. 6d.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
"The Era" Annual, a most useful record of theatrical events, has just been issued. It contains, as usual, many short stories by well-known players.—Globe, Jan. 31, 1907.

LONDON THEATRES.

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Paul Demetrius .....MR. TREE.
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THE ERA

SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 1907.

THE SCALA LIONS.

DR. DISTIN MADDICK raises a curious question in a letter which he has sent us about the "lions" in the production of *The Judgment of Pharoah* at the Scala Theatre last Saturday. There is no doubt that these interesting animals were, to many present, of the nature of a disappointment. The very ability of the author contributed to this result. When we learnt, at the end of the second act, that the hero was to be exposed to almost certain death in the "Haunt of Lions," expectation was on tip-toe all through the "interval." The reputation of the King of Beasts for untameable ferocity has, it is true, a little declined of late. We have seen him dealt with wholesale at the Hippodrome, slapped ignominiously, and put to bed in revolving boats; and in "another place" ladies have carried him off the stage wrapped round their necks like a fulvous "boa." It seemed only another step to his being trained to "savage" an actor without really hurting him. Certainly at the Scala on Saturday the growling "off" was done admirably. It was just the sort of uneasy, dissatisfied noise that a lion might make when kept waiting for his dinner. Then came on two "shadowy beings," as Doctor JOHNSON called the Cock Lane ghost. They were all right about the heads, which were magnificent; it was the legs and the walk that "gave them away." The legs of the lion are thick and ponderous, his fore-limbs being almost "bolstery." The Scala lions' legs are thin, and they walk with a brisk and casual air. We found absolutely nothing to object to in the tails, which were, in truth, most illusive.

Dr. MADDICK, in his remonstrance, says:

"The fact that the Scala lions are not 'real' seems to have given great offence to some critics. Did anyone seriously expect our lions to be 'real?' Did they suppose that Mr. Brandon Thomas was a real Pharaoh, or Mr. Fernandez a real Hebrew patriarch? Was Sir Henry Irving ever a real Becket, or Mr. Tree a real Nero. The very essence of *acting* is unreality. The moment it becomes real it ceases to be *acting*. The valley of Rephaim, the Palace of Pharus, the Temple of Osiris, and, last but by no means least, our beautiful Sphinx are not real. Everything connected with *The Judgment of Pharaoh* is, and is intended to be, *acting*. Why raise such a hullabaloo over the two handsome canine members of our company?"

We submit that Dr. MADDICK misses the point here entirely. Take one of the examples which he gives—that of Mr. FERNANDEZ as the venerable Hebrew. Everybody knew it was Mr. FERNANDEZ; but what a splendid wig and beard he had! Dr. MADDICK may say, "So had the 'lions.'" Exactly, but Mr. FERNANDEZ'S legs were not visible, being concealed by flowing garments; whereas the legs of the lions were patently canine. Could not the boardhounds be clad in complete suits of lion skin, or some imitation thereof? This would impede their movements, and give them something of the massive deliberation with which the real lion moves his limbs.

The reception given to the "lions" on Saturday was painful to us, as well-wishers to the enterprise; and we say nothing about it in our notice. But, now that the thing has been brought into the sphere of public discussion, we feel free to speak. Dr. MADDICK, in the same letter from which we have quoted, says:

"Another note struck by some of the critics is the apparent remissness of the lions in that they pass by the prostrate figure of Jevan, and devour the Assyrian woman Mione. The young Hebrew is under the protection of the God of Israel, who shows his power by protecting him from the jaws of the hungry beasts; Mione, on the other hand, in spite of the imaginary powers of her god Osiris, is devoured. It will thus be seen how very unjustly our lions have been treated by some of our friends."

Of course, it is open to those who prefer to accept the supernatural explanation offered by the proprietor of the Scala to do so; but there is a much more obvious one—*i.e.*, that the lions had become epicures from the number of criminals of both sexes who had been exposed in their "haunt," and knew well the difference between a plump, though mature, concubine and a wiry and athletic young Hebrew. There is nothing stranger in their action than there is in that of an elderly gentleman who neglects a tough fowl for the sake of a spring chicken.

We feel certain that there is "money in" this lion incident. In the last generation, a Monsieur MARTIN appeared at Drury Lane Theatre in a piece called *Hyder Ali; or, The Lions of Mysore*. In one scene, M. MARTIN, who played a Hindoo fighting on the side of the English, was attacked by Hyder Ali's troops. Two great lions stood at bay on either side of him; and, as the men advanced with spears, flew at them like fiends. The applause was deafening, as much for the soldiers as the lions, the audience wondering what could make the "supers" so marvellously valiant. The explanation was simple. There was a network of wire, fine but very strong, between the brutes and the soldiers, the lighting being so well arranged that the "screen" was invisible from the auditorium. When the spears went through, the lions were taught to seize them and shiver them to splinters, to the intense excitement of the audience.

Another ingenious expedient was adopted by Mr. GEORGE—now "Lord"—SANGER in a production of *The Forest of Bondy* at the Folies-Bergère, Paris, some years since. An elaborate scene of tropical forestry, with trees, creepers, *lianes*, &c., had been painted on "profile." The apertures between the foliage, made too small to admit a lion's body, were cut out; and, at the back of the scene, was constructed, out of iron gas-piping, an elaborate framework, hidden, of course, by the apparent foliage. The hero and the heroine came on, wandering in the forest. Then the growling of the lions was heard, near at hand. Anxiety and terror on the part of the lady; defiance on that of her champion. She begs to be assisted up into a tree; he obeys, but scorns to take such ignominious refuge. On come the lions, ravening for his blood. "Back, back, brutes!" exclaims the hero, aweing them by the power of the human eye. The onward rush of the animals is stayed. The lions can come no "forrarder." They are spellbound; and so is the audience.

We do not presume to dictate to the management of the Scala as to the solution of this great lion difficulty. We merely throw out a few suggestions, hoping that an "effect" which now leaves, perhaps, a little to be desired, may be turned into what the French call the *clou* of the picturesque and interesting play.

"THE BAILIFF."

Sketch, by Messrs. Karno, Kitchen, and Durell, produced at the Hippodrome, Wigan, on Friday, April 19.

The Bailiff ..... MR. FRED KITCHEN
Assistant ..... MR. ALBERT BRUNO
Mr. Jacobs ..... MR. T. ELLIS BUXTON
Mr. Moses ..... MR. HERBERT LANDECK
Policeman ..... MR. NAT LEWIS
Caretaker ..... MISS MORRIS
Typist ..... MISS JESSE CRAMMOND
Mrs. Pendlebury ..... MISS MADGE ROCKINGHAM

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

In connection with the visit of Mr. Fred Karno and company to the Hippodrome, Wigan, last week a new sketch, which seems to be an elaboration of the popular *Moses and Son*, was produced. The highly diverting little play had a most welcome reception. The story illustrates the Shylock-like instincts of a moneylender, who persists in extracting the uttermost farthing from his victim. Just at the time he is straining the process of the law to the farthest limit, his chief clerk and lady typist are leaving for their honeymoon with the blessing of their employer and a cheque for £2 2s. as a wedding present. The couple leave their furnished house in charge of a caretaker, and soon after their departure the wife of the debtor vainly pleads for lenience. The bailiffs are instructed to take possession, but the clerks in the office, pitying the distressed woman, make her a money present, and, it is presumed, alter on the face of the warrant the number of the house to be entered to correspond with that of the bride and bridegroom who reside in the same street. The consequent mix-up and its effects can be "better imagined than described." The futile attempts to enter the house owing to the careful instructions given to the wide-awake caretaker by the bride are most entertaining, various disguises are assumed all to no purpose, until Meredith, the assistant bailiff, who prides himself on his genteel appearance and "good looks," making a "clean breast" of his intention, at once captivates the "slavey," and the three of them have a high old time of it. In due course the "things" are gathered together in the drawing-room and sold by auction by the chief bailiff. This scene is very realistic, and a very satisfactory "sale" is portrayed. The climax is reached on the arrival, towards the close of the proceedings, of the bride and bridegroom, who thus find their new home broken up.

It will be seen that there is plenty of scope for such clever comedians as Mr. Fred Kitchen as Perkins (chief bailiff) and Mr. Albert Bruno as Meredith (assistant bailiff), and as the sketch bristles with most laughable incidents these are made the most of. Mr. H. Landeck takes the part of Moses; and Miss Aggie Morris is a very astute caretaker. The bride and bridegroom are ably represented by Mr. T. Ellis Buxton and Miss Jessie Crammond, and Mrs. Pendlebury, the wife of the debtor, is pathetically portrayed by Miss Madge Rockingham.

THE SOTHERN-MARLOWE SEASON.

"THE SUNKEN BELL,
A Fairy Play, in Five Acts, from Gerhart Hauptmann, freely rendered into English verse by Charles Henry Meltzer, Original Music, including the Preludes and Intermezzos, by Aimé Lachaume, produced at the Waldorf Theatre, on Monday, April 22.

Heinrich ..... MR. E. H. SOTHERN
Magda ..... MISS KRUGER
Their Children ..... MISS BETTY GREEN, MISS FREDA GREEN
A Neighbour ..... MISS ALEXANDER
The Vicar ..... MR. CROMPTON
The Schoolmaster ..... MR. ASPLAND
The Barber ..... MR. ANDERSON
Old Wittikin ..... MISS CLIFTON
Rautendelein ..... MISS MARLOWE
The Nickelmann ..... MR. BUCKSTONE
The Wood Sprite ..... MR. ERIC
First Elf ..... MISS CLEMENT
Second Elf ..... MISS LAMISON
Third Elf ..... MISS SANFORD
Fourth Elf ..... MISS HAMMOND

Mr. E. H. Sothern and Miss Julia Marlowe come to us with high credentials from across the sea, and the welcome extended to them at the Waldorf on Monday evening was typical of the cordial feeling that is always shown by London playgoers to distinguished artists. Both of them have earned high reputations in productions of the Bard. It was therefore a matter of surprise that they did not open in this, the week devoted to Shakespearean celebrations, with one of his plays. They chose, however, to make their début in the fairy play *The Sunken Bell*, an English version of Gerhart Hauptmann's *Die Versunkene Glocke*, freely translated by Charles Henry Meltzer. The play-poem, which is mostly in rhymed couplets, presents a most interesting phase of the German playwright's philosophy; it possesses a subtle symbolism that would perhaps be more definitely fathomed in the study; anyhow, its dreaminess and mystic beauty appeal rather to the æsthetic and highly-cultured section of an audience than to the ordinary playgoer. We are in the realms of elves, pixies, wood sprites, and witches; we move in a romantic atmosphere; our senses are captured by impressive music, beautiful scenery, and occasionally powerful imagery; but the dramatic moments do not come until nearly the end of the play—somewhat too late, it seemed on Monday, to revive the interest that had been languidly stimulated in the earlier portions of the piece. In a foreword to his translation of the play Mr. Metzler writes:—

"Look at the story of *The Sunken Bell* with the eye of an artist, and you may take it as a parable showing the eternal effort of all artists (typified in Heinrich) to attain their æsthetic ideals. View the play from the standpoint of the reformer, and you may interpret it as the tale of the dreamer who, hampered by inevitable conditions, strives to remodel human society. For my own part I incline to regard Heinrich, the bell-founder, as a symbol of Humanity struggling painfully towards the realisation of its dream of the ideal truth and joy of light and justice. Rautendelein in this reading stands for Nature, or, rather, for the freedom and sincerity of Nature, missing a reunion with which Humanity can never hope to reach the supreme truth and the supreme bliss of which the Sun is the emblem. In Magda, the poor, faithful, patient wife, whose dead hand, in the tragical fourth act, tolls the bell that arouses Heinrich from his dream, we have a symbol of the domestic loves, the earthly ties, from which no man, however noble and far-reaching be his aims, can be released. Old Wittikin embodies the eternal, passionless, philosophy of Life. The Vicar, the Barber, and the Schoolmaster stand for the conventions—the half-dead, half-living creeds, theories, and superstitions of society, which stand in the way of the idealist. Heinrich makes the attempt to break with them. Filled with despair at the failure of his old ideals (symbolised in the lost bell), and enlightened by communion with Rautendelein, he turns his back on all the shams, and alas! on some of the realities, which bind him to earth. The kiss of the fair elf who heals him when he lies upon his sick-bed broadens his vision, steels his hand, puts youth into his soul. Only by a mystical union with the Nature which society, as it is now constituted, has disowned, can he 'work wonders with the power on high' and fashion the grand peal of bells which is to ring out a new, glad, and merciful Gospel through the world."

Rautendelein, an elfin creature round whom the tragedy of the play revolves, queens it in a fir-clad glade in the mountains. The very soul of fairy fantasy sighs through the woods. Other inhabitants of this haunted region are the Nickelmann—a water sprite, who finds his home truths, apparently, at the bottom of a well—a wood-sprite or faun, and a beldame named Wittikin. To this fairy fastness comes the bell-founder, Heinrich, sorely hurt and sorrow-stricken. He had cast the most perfectly-toned bell in the world, and the master-work of his life has been hurled by the baleful influence of evil spirits into the mere, and he himself has fallen into an abyss, death being avoided by his grasp of a wild cherry tree growing from the rocks. Rautendelein is strangely human. Her woman's heart goes out to the wounded man in his distress, and something more than sympathy is enkindled in her bosom by the sound of his voice and the flattery of his tongue. He is borne away on a litter by the vicar, the schoolmaster, and the barber of his native village, and with his departure Rautendelein expresses her determination to go among the world of men.

Heinrich's is a sad home-coming. He no longer clings to life, and in a tender interview with his wife, Magda, he takes a last farewell. As she departs to secure the aid of one who is credited with miraculous cures there enters a young girl, who is mistaken by the good vicar for Anna, the dumb daughter of a neighbouring farmer. The girl speaks not until left alone with Heinrich. It is Rautendelein, who exercises potent spells, and by a kiss wakens the bell-founder to new life and new love. He forsakes Magda and his two children to pursue new ideals with his fairy mistress in the mountains. Here he works to 'make a chime "such as no minster in the world has seen." He answers the admonitions of his pastor with specious arguments, urged with kindliness. Since he lives anew, and loves her who did give him life, he has no resentment for the preacher's accusation that he is steeped to the neck in sin; but to his highly-wrought imagination there is something ominous in the warning to beware when he hears the sound of the sunken bell. In the fourth act, the most interesting and dramatic in the play, the phantoms of Heinrich's two children appear to him, and between them they carry an urn in which are enshrined the tears of their mother, "who is with the water lilies." Remorse now possesses the soul of the father, and as he hears the reverberation of the bell he realises that it is the hands of his dead wife who is sounding the knell of his hopes—the death-peal. In an agony of despair he casts from him Rautendelein. Sorrowfully she returns to the hill-tops, and sinks into the well to dwell with the water sprite. She is followed by Heinrich, who would see her once more. His wish is gratified, but the kiss of his loved one is now the kiss of death.

Miss Julia Marlowe plays with great charm and tenderness the elf-like Rautendelein, sounding a pathetic note in the touching farewell in the last act. The part, too, is one in which her beauty and sweet sensibility are found in delightful harmony with the creation of the poet, and she probes both the untrammelled joy and the agony of sorrow that poor Rautendelein feels when she seeks the world of men. Mr. E. A. Sothern is a scholarly and intellectual actor, and he shows a real understanding of the soaring ambition of Heinrich. He reaches the depths of tragedy in the final moments of the fourth act, when the crescendo of doom is symbolised by the clanging of the sunken bell. Here the music adds very materially and powerfully to the dramatic effect. Mr. Crompton is responsible for a dignified and virile sketch of the good Vicar; and the sorrow of Magda, the wife, is most heart-searching as limned by Miss Kruger. Miss Clifton is dramatically uncanny as Wittikin; Mr. Buckstone is effective as the Nickelmann; and Mr. Eric is an able and agile wood-sprite. Miss Alexander distinguishes herself in the small part of the neighbour; and the children are adequately played by Misses Betty and Freda Green. Mr. Aspland and Mr. Anderson, with the Misses Clement, Lamison, Sanford, and Hammond, add to the effectiveness of the production in minor characters.

On Wednesday was presented for the first time in this country Percy Mackaye's play, in five acts, "JEANNE D'ARC."

AT DOMREMY.

Jacques D'Arc ..... MR. CRAWLEY
Pierre D'Arc ..... MR. RICE
Colin ..... MR. HOWSON
Gerard ..... MR ERIC
Geradin ..... MR. ASPLAND
Perrin ..... MR. KELLY
Jeanne D'Arc ..... MISS MARLOWE
Hauviette ..... MISS CLEMENT
Isabellette ..... MISS LAMISON
Mengette ..... MISS HAMMOND

IN FRANCE.

Charles VII. ..... MR. LEWIS
Jean, Duke D'Alençon ..... MR. SOTHERN
Seigneur de la Tremouille ..... MR. MAWSON
Regnault De Chartres ..... MR. REICHER
René De Bouligny ..... MR. HAMPDEN
Vendome ..... MR. DABNEY
Dunois ..... MR. TAYLOR
Marshal La Hire ..... MR. BUCKSTONE
Jean De Metz ..... MR. ASPLAND
Bertrand de Poulangy ..... MR. WALSH
Pasquerel ..... MR. CROMPTON
Pigachon ..... MR. HOWSON
Master Seguin ..... MR. SPIERS
Brother Richard ..... MR. HARRIS
Louis De Contes ..... FREDA GREEN
Pierre Cauchon ..... MR. VIBART
Nicolas Loiseleur ..... MR. ARTHUR
Flavy ..... MR. CONKLIN
A Tailor ..... MR. TURNLEY
A Boot-Maker ..... MR. RABON
John Gris ..... MR. ROBERTSON
Adam Goodspeed ..... MR. KELLY
An English Herald ..... MR. VIBART
Catherine De La Rochelle ..... MISS KRUGER
Diane ..... MISS CLEMENT
Athenie ..... MIES LAMISON

AT ROUEN.

Brother Martin Ladvenu ..... MR. KELLY
Captain of Guard ..... MR. ASPLAND
First Guard ..... MR. WALSH
Second Guard ..... MR. TAYLOR
Third Guard ..... MR. RABON
Voice of Judge's Clerk ..... MR. REICHER

The story of the Maid of Domrémy—surely the most marvellous historical figure for all time—has not been seriously treated on the English stage since Tom Taylor, with the ostensible purpose of providing a picturesque part for the beautiful Mrs. Rousby, wrote *Joan of Arc*, which was produced at the Queen's Theatre on April 10, 1871. The piece was superbly mounted, and the portrait of Mrs. Rousby in "casque and tasses" exhibited everywhere. England has been more respectful to the memory of the militant maid than France, for did not Boileau satirise her? and—worse still—Voltaire treated her career with revolting coarseness. Southey, however, raved about her, and Schiller made her life a really interesting study. Mr. Percy Mackaye, the author of *Jeanne D'Arc*, the second play of the Sothern-Marlowe répertoire to be produced at the Waldorf, has treated the subject with considerable dramatic effect, and with the true feeling of a poet has disdained to rely on mere theatrical display. Thus the crowning of Charles VII. in the Cathedral of Rheim, which was a superb spectacle at the Queen's in 1871, is an event merely indicated by a procession across the stage; and the deliverance of Orleans is suggested only by alarums and excursions.

The opening scene is the ladies' tree at Domrémy, where the villagers are rejoicing. We hear the old legend of the Maid who is to save France, and Jeanne, who has had visions of St. Margaret and St. Catherine, is asked by her father to favour the suit of Colin, a shepherd, and to signify her acceptance of him by touching his shepherd's crook. She is about to do so when in its place appears a flaming sword. The author, it will be seen, emphasises very impressively the mystic element of the story. The high purpose of the heroine set forth with such simple directness thus early in the play, carries her to the court of Charles VII., the utterly weak and irresolute monarch, who is surrounded by a dissolute court, and is bankrupt in pocket. He is given up to luxury, and is very much under the domination of the Seigneur de la Trémouille. A better influence is that of Jean, Duke d'Alençon. At the instigation of Trémouille, a ruse is played upon Jeanne. The King changes places with D'Alençon, but the inspired Maid from among the crowd of nobles selects her beloved Dauphin, who recognises her claim to be the future saviour of France by the miraculous voice of the figure of the Emperor in the stained-glass window, who says:—"This is the Maid whom God hath sent to bring thy land and thee deliverance." The devotion of D'Alençon is suggested in the next scene—a meadow before the walls of Orleans, May 7, 1429. Jeanne leads her fighting men to the attack, and is wounded by an arrow. That the Maid cannot yield to an earthly love is shown in the next act, where D'Alençon, in one of the best passages in the play, watches the *pucelle* asleep, and hears her murmur his name. He is about to kiss her hand, when the winged form of St. Michael, holding a flaming sword, intervenes.

In the next act Jeanne enters Rheims in triumph, and a natural touch is given to the play by the expression of her joy as she kisses her father. Having kept her vow to God, she would return to Domrémy, but she must go to serve her good friends at Compiégne. The fifth act shows her in prison in Rouen, where D'Alençon, disguised as a monk, confesses his love. The Maid is again sustained by the murmuring voices of the saints, and as she goes forth to the stake the curtain falls.

There were but few acting opportunities for any of the cast except Miss Marlowe, whose simple dignity as the peasant maid made a deep impression on the house. The actress made it very clear by the quiet strength and restraint of her acting that Jeanne D'Arc was possessed with an abiding faith in her mission, and that her only ambition was to obey the voices that had filled her soul with the holiest fervour of patriotism. The more human side of Jeanne's nature was beautifully suggested in the last interview with D'Alençon in the dungeon, when her heart sinks at the thought of the terrible trial she is to undergo. Mr. Sothern's D'Alençon, the sceptic, whose soul is awakened to belief and love by the heroism of Jeanne, is cast in a minor key, and there was something of the ascetic in the actor's rendering of the part in the earlier acts. But the romance of the love of the noble for the peasant—a most interesting variation in the story as told by Mr. MacKaye—is very beautifully emphasised in the last act. Mr. Mawson as Trémouille, Mr. Buckstone as the rugged and faithful Gascon, La Hire, Mr. Lewis as Charles VII., Mr. Eric as Gerard, and Miss Kruger as Catherine de la Rochelle all showed conspicuous ability.

THE LATE DICK MANSELL.

Mr. Edward Compton, in sending a contribution to the "Dick Mansell Widow Fund," writes:—"I send you my cheque for one guinea. I only knew Mansell slightly, but I read with much regret of the straits to which he was reduced at the last, and the sad position in which the widow has been left. In regard to his meteoric career, and the many things he has been connected with, I have been surprised that no one has mentioned the fact that some thirty-five years ago (or it may be thirty-six or thirty-seven), he and (I think) his brother produced at the old Holborn Theatre a very literal, bald translation of the play of *Kean*, by Alexandre Dumas the elder. I was one of a very thin house on one night of its brief career, having, as a mere boy, stolen out and gone to the play; and, although there was very little to recommend the piece to English audiences, it yet lived in my memory so vividly that some dozen years ago I commissioned the late T. Edgar Pemberton to do me a very free adaptation of the piece, which he and I practically wrote together, though only his name appears. This I have been playing continuously in my répertoire since then, and am nearing the 300th performance.

"I may mention that in Mr. Mansell's cast the late Tom Swinburne played the part of Kean, and E. J. O'Dell—now still alive, and nearly ninety, I suppose—played the part of the old Prompter, created in my version by the late Lewis Ball. It is also interesting to note that in the original French play the part of Anna Danby was sustained by Mme. Sarah Bernhardt; she thus, I believe, making her first appearance on the regular stage. Both Salvini and Rossi played the piece in Italy a great deal, but, I believe, with the exception of the disastrous production of the Mansells which I have alluded to, I am the only English actor who has produced the work and played the part. I may say it is a great favourite with my audiences."

The following gentlemen have kindly consented to act on the Committee of the Dick Mansell's Widow Fund:—

Sir Charles Wyndham,
Mr. Lewis Waller,
Sir William Bull, M.P.,
Mr. T. P. O'Connor, M.P.,
Mr. G. R. Sims,
Mr. Jocelyn Brandon, L.C.C.
Mr. E. G. Saunders,
Mr. J. Bannister Howard,
Mr. E. Lockwood,
Mr. E. Graham Falcon,
Mr. Bertie Crewe,
Mr. Austin Melford,
Mr. A. F. Henderson,
Mr. Rollo Balmain.

LIST OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

	£	s.	d.
Frank Curzon	5	5	0
Stafford and Co.	5	5	0
G. M. Polini	5	0	0
Frank Maitland	5	0	0
Alfred Sutro	3	3	0
W. H. Kendal	3	3	0
Henry Arthur Jones	3	3	0
W. S. Gilbert	3	3	0
Rev. Frank Heath	2	2	0
Martin Harvey	2	2	0
Eccentric Club	2	2	0
Ernest Dottridge	2	2	0
Mrs. D'Oyly Carte	2	2	0
Edward Compton	1	1	0
E. C. Stafford	1	1	0
J. F. Elliston	1	1	0
J. B. Howard	1	1	0
Fred Terry	1	1	0
A Sympathiser	1	1	0
H. W. Keely	1	1	0
Austin Melford	1	1	0
Henry Taylor	1	1	0
Basil Young	1	1	0
Vernon Cowper	1	1	0
Mabel Love	1	1	0
Miss Emma and Percy Hutchison	1	1	0
James Welch	1	1	0
R. Redford	1	1	0
Alfred Bishop	1	1	0
Oswald Stoll	1	1	0
M.	1	0	0
Edyth Olive Applin	0	10	0

The Hon. Treasurer, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, will be pleased to receive and announce further subscriptions to this Fund.

BROADWAY THEATRE, S.E.
On Monday, April 22, an adaptation of Charles Dickens'
"DAVID COPPERFIELD."

A highly interesting week's engagement was commenced here on Monday, when *David Copperfield* was played to a large and appreciative audience. Mr. Charles Cartwright appeared as Dan'l Peggotty, and once more proved himself an artist of exceptional ability, finished and unexaggerated. Mr. Lionel Belmore was good as Ham; Mr. Gerald Lawrence presented an excellent picture of Steerforth; Mr. Stanley Harrison was an earnest and capable David Copperfield; Mr. Charles Collette as Micawber exactly realises the hopeful head of the Micawber family; and Mr. A. B. Tapping was remarkably good as Uriah Heep. Miss Clarissa Selwynne made an effective Rosa Dartle; Miss Helen Vicary was an amusing Aunt Betsy Trotwood; Miss Gordon Walker was interesting as Agnes; and Miss Lillie Cavenagh played Martha well; Miss Lorna Lawrence was a delightful Little Emily, and must be congratulated on a charming performance. There are two matinées this week of *David Garrick*. Mr. Gerald Lawrence plays the title-rôle admirably. He is well suited by nature to characters of this type, as he possesses an attractive personality and a pleasing and well-managed voice; his impersonation of this famous part was very satisfactory, and won the enthusiastic applause of the audience. Mr. Charles Cartwright gave a sound and natural rendering of Simon Ingot, which added greatly to the success of the performance. Mr. Charles Collette was very good indeed as Squire Chivy, his drunken scene being particularly well acted; Mr. A. B. Tapping presented a capital character-sketch as Mr. Jones; Mr. Lionel Belmore was very good as Mr. Smith; Mr. D. Bryan was well placed as Mr. Browne; Miss Beatrice Grosvenor was capital as Mrs. Smith; and Miss Helen Vicary was as amusing Miss Araminta Browne. Miss Valerie Salsberg furnished a charming Ada Ingot—sympathetic and graceful. *David Garrick* was preceded by a farce, entitled *Vandyke Brown*, in which Miss Lorna Lawrence appeared to advantage as Rebecca; other parts being well played by Mr. Charles Collette and members of the company.

AT a special matinée at the Margate Hippodrome, on Tuesday, a new play, in four acts, entitled *Needles and Pins*, by Mr. Justin Huntly McCarthy, was produced for copyright purposes.

THE artists appearing at the Victoria Theatre, West Stanley, this week are giving a benefit performance in aid of Mrs. John Cassidy, widow of Mr. John Cassidy, late manager of the above place of amusement.

THE Prince and Princess of Wales visited the Comedy Theatre on Saturday evening and witnessed the performance of *The Truth*. The following evening the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, with Prince Arthur and Princess Patricia and suite, were present at the representation of *The Lady Dandies*, at Daly's Theatre; and on Thursday the Playhouse received a visit from the Prince and Princess Christian and Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein, whose appreciation of *Toddles* was frequently manifested.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

The arbitration proceedings were adjourned on Thursday until Thursday next at 10.30, which, it is expected, will be the last day. At the sitting on Thursday the Managers concluded their reply to the Artists' case, and it was practically agreed that the award, so far as it affects the artists, shall be observed for a period of five years with one year's notice, on either side, making the period one of six years.

The Musicians and Stage Employees' representatives will submit their views on this matter to the arbitrators at the next sitting. It is understood they take the view that the question is outside the terms of reference and one for agreement, by consent, between the parties. The consent of the managers to reinstate the men not yet absorbed would considerably influence the action of the representatives of the Musicians and Stage Employees.

The matinée at the Palace on Tuesday on behalf of the widow and daughters of the late Mr. Charles Bertram was in every way a great success, over £1,000 being realised. We are requested to state that the subscription list is still open, and the hon. secretaries—Messrs. J. A. Harrison and R. E. Peacock—will be pleased to receive any small sums which may be sent to them at 33, Old Bond-street, W.

"The most palatial and up-to-date house of entertainment in the Metropolis" was the description given by the auctioneers of the Coliseum, which was offered at the Mart on Thursday by Messrs. Farebrother, Ellis, and Co. The room in which the property was offered is the largest in the building, but it did not suffice to hold the crowd.

Tied hand and foot as he was by the Chancery Court, the auctioneer was unable to start the bidding, or to divulge the reserve price until some offers had been made; but he had in his pocket a sealed envelope within which was written the price at which he could let the property go. The Coliseum had cost nearly £300,000. Would anyone start it at £200,000? At £100,000? At £50,000? After lingering awhile in the attempt to get a bid, the auctioneer said, "Well, gentlemen, I am sorry to say that I must report to the Court that there was no bid for the property. Thank you."

Mr. Maskelyne will shortly produce at St. George's Hall a spiritualistic sketch, up to date and far beyond it, entitled *Spectres of the Sanctum*. A series of extraordinary manifestations will be presented, including the £1,000 ghost, and human beings will be apparently disintegrated and passed through solid objects in view of the audience and in full light.

The jury, at the suggestion of the counsel engaged in the libel action brought by Archdeacon Colley against Mr. Maskelyne, turned up in force at St. George's Hall, on Wednesday evening, to see Mr. Maskelyne produce the lady from his side. Most of them came early, and it was well, for seats were at a premium. When Mr. Maskelyne himself appeared, a generous burst of applause greeted him. In his introductory speech Mr. Maskelyne told how thirty-five years ago he assisted to expose Miss Florence Cooke, and how he had never known any spirits to be produced which did not turn out to be either the medium himself or some confederate. The illusion was then performed. Although their duty was accomplished, the jury stayed to listen to Mr. Barclay Gammon and to witness the "Enchanted Hive."

Mr. Alfred Lester has not any part, as stated, in the new play at the Gaiety, where he has been amusing audiences as the Lost Policeman in *The New Aladdin*, and he has therefore been secured by Mr. Alfred Butt for a further period at the Palace in his new skit, *A Restaurant Episode*, which is a great hit. At the conclusion of his engagement there he will take a short and well-earned holiday.

The Cape to Cairo variety circuit should be a possibility in the near future. The Hyman Family have started in the south of the great continent, and now we understand that the Khedive is about to supply his capital with a palatial establishment, including a variety theatre to seat 2000 people, a smaller theatre for cinematograph displays, a concert-hall, a suite of club rooms, and a café restaurant to be conducted by the famous "Henri," of the Place Gaillon, Paris. His Highness has not yet entered into a working agreement with the Moss and Stoll Empires, though such an arrangement, we are certain, would be distinctly favourable to the new enterprise.

Miss Agnes Fraser and Mr. M. R. Morand, who were associated together in the original cast of *The Earl and the Girl* at the Adelphi and Lyric in 1904—the lady as Elphin Haye and the gentleman as the American solicitor Downham—are about to exploit a new musical comedy sketch, entitled *When the Clock Strikes One*. It will be played by them, supported by a special company, at the Granville, Walham Green.

In reply to a memorial from variety artists praying for a modification of the regulations of the Board as regards performing dogs which are landed in Great Britain in pursuance of licenses granted under the Importation of Dogs Order of 1901, the Board of Agriculture has expressed its regret that it is unable to accede to the memorialists' prayer, and does not consider that any useful purpose would be served by the reception of a deputation.

At the Empire on Monday two new turns will be introduced. These are the Perezoffs and Margit and Lehner. The Perezoffs (seven in number) come to us with a great Continental reputation. All are brilliant comedy jugglers, their turn being on the lines of the famous Agoust family. Margit and Lehner are a pair of droll knockabout eccentrics, whose turn is packed with really clever fooling. The beautiful "Living Pictures" have only another week to run previous to their transference to the American variety theatres.

The great esteem in which both Miss Vesta Victoria and Miss Alice Lloyd are being held by the American public, and the widespread interest in their performances just now, could not be better exemplified than by quoting from a foremost New York authority, who writes as follows in a leading organ:—"Speaking of Miss Vesta Victoria and Miss Alice Lloyd, it is an impossibility, after hearing both singers, not to make a comparison between them. The primary reason for this is because they are the most entertaining singers of comic songs ever imported from London, and because they represent a type new to Americans. Their methods as to diction, distinctness, and proper emphasis are largely similar. Miss Victoria goes in for the eccentric in make-up and song, and doesn't care what liberties she takes with her good looks, while Miss Lloyd, on the other hand, wears beautiful gowns, and, with perhaps one exception, selects only dainty songs that do not require a Cockney trick-out."

"Sir Roger de Coverley," it has now been definitely decided, will be produced on Monday, May 6. The scenario of the new ballet is by Adrian Ross, the music by Dr. Osmond Carr. Rehearsals are now rapidly proceeding, and the final scene at Vauxhall promises to be a most interesting feature of the Empire new productions.

Chappell's Promenade Concerts at Great Yarmouth (three shows daily) will commence on Monday, June 17, under the management of Mr. Harry Barker. The proprietress is Mrs. S. Lawton, daughter of the late Mr. James Chappell.

Mr. Edward Foster, of the Bordesley Palace, has just received marked preferment for his substantial merits and deserts, Mr. Oswald Stoll having promoted him to the resident-managership of the newly-acquired Grand Theatre, Birmingham. Mr. Foster is the son of the late Major Foster, Royal Marine Artillery (Crimean veteran), is a public school man, and speaks French and Italian fluently. He has travelled through India and the Far East with theatrical répertoire companies, playing in *Florodora*, *The French Maid*, *The Gay Parisienne*, *The Geisha*, *San Toy*, *The Belle of New York*, and *The Runaway Girl*, &c.

Mr. Foster joined Moss' Empires six years ago as assistant-manager for Mr. Stoll, who placed him at the Holloway and Stratford Empires, and latterly and since September, 1903, at Bordesley Palace, where by "strict attention to business" and by his many other excellent and pleasant qualities, he has made many friends, who are rejoiced at his promotion.

The entertainment world has lost two striking figures by the deaths of Mr. William Morgan, of the Scarborough Aquarium, and Mr. H. J. Curry, of Grimsby. The former started life in a very humble capacity, and then became bookstall attendant at Bradford. By dint of hard work he became part proprietor of the local theatre, but all his savings were lost when the place was destroyed by fire. He persevered, however, and ended in making a fortune out of his theatrical ventures, spread over a period of fifty years.

Mr. Leo Dryden has been caused intense annoyance and put to great inconvenience by a swindler, named George Rogers, who was sentenced to six months' imprisonment on Tuesday for fraud practised on Mrs. Asquith, a theatrical landlady of Dewsbury. Prisoner represented himself as Mr. Leo Dryden, who was announced to appear at the Theatre Royal, Dewsbury, with a variety company. Mrs. Asquith agreed to take him on terms as a lodger, and when he returned at night he brought a lady with him, who, he said, was the sister of Miss Ada Colley, another artist "billed" with this week's company, and she remained at the house. The next day he borrowed a half-sovereign, saying he would give a cheque for it, but failed to do so. The prisoner, who had an exceptionally bad record, had rendered himself liable for conviction for failing to report himself as a ticket-of-leave man.

It seems surprising that such a fraud should have been possible; and had more discernment and discretion been shown by the landlady, Mr. Dryden would have been saved the intense irritation he must have felt in having to deny the outrageous imputations of a rank impostor.

The directors of the Pavilion, Glasgow, on Friday, the 19th, declared an interim dividend of 15 per cent. payable on May 1.

Some important alterations and improvements recently carried out at the Palace Theatre, Aberdeen, have considerably increased the seating capacity of that fine hall. During the summer further improvements will be effected at great cost by the United County Theatres Co., whose patrons in the Granite City will have nothing to desire in the way of comfort.

An "extra turn" of great interest to Sheffielders was seen at the Empire, Sheffield, at the second house on Monday, when the Wednesday football team, the winners of the Association Cup on Saturday last at the Crystal Palace, came on to the Empire stage to display the much-prized trophy. The players had previously been entertained to dinner at the Town Hall by the Lord Mayor. Mr. Alan D. Dunbar had made excellent arrangements, and the players and their well-known supporters were received with uproarious enthusiasm. Mr. Alan Dunbar was also loudly cheered.

Mr. Leoni Clarke (the Cat King), mine host of The Two Brewers Hotel, Northampton, having made important contracts for touring America with his Royal Cat Show, has sold his lease of the above premises.

Mr. P. D. Elbourne, resident-manager of the Birmingham Hippodrome, has again been doing good work in the cause of charity. It is only a few weeks ago—on Good Friday—that he succeeded in gaining £40 for the Railwaymen's Orphan and Benevolent Fund, and on Sunday last he eclipsed all the Hippodrome's previous efforts for charity by gathering in nearly £80. The present occasion was a sacred concert promoted by Mr. Elbourne and arranged by Mr. W. Crabtree, the Hippodrome's chef d'orchestra, in aid of the local charities, and which received assistance from much of the musical talent of the town.

"When the Cat's Away," a new and original sketch by Nita Rae, was produced on the 19th with great success at the Tivoli, Manchester. It was capitally and brightly played by Messrs. Fred Little, Sydney Russell, William Matthews, and Misses Bertha St. Ruth and Nita Langdon.

"Jedovka," a new sensational sketch, was produced at a matinée on April 17 at the Palace Theatre, Manchester. The plot revolves round Moshka, a Jew soldier in the Russian army, who saves the life of Evanknoff, his commanding officer, who is under the ban of Anarchists. To reward Moshka for his devotion, Evanknoff invites the soldier and his wife to spend an evening at his house. Rachel is beautiful, and inflames the passion of the officer, who makes attempts to induce her to surrender her honour, and has her husband arrested. Moshka eventually escapes, and kills the libertine in a duel. Mr. John Clempert, the author, played Moshka.

Mr. Julius Simpson, manager of the Palace, West Hartlepool, who was recently entertained at a banquet at the Grand Hotel in that town, was incidentally presented with a gold watch in recognition of his efforts on behalf of local charity.

Owing to the enormous success last week at the Grand Theatre, Brighton, Mr. Ernest Carpenter made arrangements at great expense to retain Dr. Walford Bodie for another week. The Grand has been packed nightly with the élite of Brighton, and the local Press have spoken highly in praise of the Doctor, who has been daily inundated with letters of congratulation. Miss Jenie Jacobs, the well-known American variety agent, has just offered the doctor forty-one weeks' tour in the States at the biggest salary ever paid to any artist who has yet visited America.

At the Central Hall, Sheffield, excellent business is being done under the able and experienced direction of Mr. Jasper Redfern, whose vaudeville and animated picture entertainments draw crowded houses nightly. This week's programme, in addition to realistic pictures of Sheffield Wednesday winning the Football Cup at the Crystal Palace, is contributed to by Miss Mavis in a pleasing musical act, Mr. James Elyo (descriptive vocalist), and Mr. N. C. Bostock, comedian.

The L.C.C. have objected to the plans for the proposed reseating of the Putney Hippodrome.

Mr. Dick Knowles, as we foreshadowed in these columns last week, is to return to London, and will fulfil an engagement at the Palace in June.

The London Pavilion Cricket Club hopes to commence its season at Tufnell Park on Wednesday, May 1, when the Pavilion orchestra will play the "front of the house" staff.

A special matinée at the Bedford was given on Thursday in aid of the Children's Seaside Holiday Home. Mr. B. Pearce Lucas, who is interesting himself in the charity, hopes to hand over a goodly sum.

Mr. Frank Macnaghten was presented with a handsome solid silver tea and coffee service and tray on the 18th in the Board-room of the Palace, Halifax. The presentation was made on behalf of the directors and friends by Mr. R. W. Evans.

Miss Lelia Roze has had a great reception at the Edinburgh Theatre Royal during the week in her beautiful scena, *A Dressing-room Dream*. This fascinating actress is to be congratulated on having something original and up to date to place before the public.

My Fancy is unable to answer to her number at the Syndicate halls this week, being prostrated with a severe attack of influenza, contracted while she was on tour. We wish the popular lady a speedy recovery.

Miss A. Lucas, the daughter of Mr. B. Pearce Lucas, the proprietor of the Hastings Hippodrome as well as the Empire, Bristol, and the Bedford, has been celebrating her twenty-first birthday. She was much gratified at the gift of a beautiful umbrella from the staff of the south-coast house.

The Oxford announces for Monday the special engagement of Radford and Valentine, American grotesques, in their novelty juggling act; and De Vry's famous living statuary. Little Tich continues to convulse huge Oxford audiences with "The park-keeper."

Mr. John Lawson, who has specially engaged Miss Buena Bent to create the leading rôle in *The Unwritten Law* on May 6 at the Holborn Empire, has secured a cast of exceptional strength for that production, including two well-known members of the "legitimate" stage. The scenery is in the able hands of Mr. Francis Bull.

Mrs. John Lawson will be found next week at the Canterbury and Euston, with *The Devil's Sunday*. This strong episode has been on the halls for the past five months, and its drawing powers are such that it is well booked into 1908. Mrs. Lawson's rendering of the faithless wife remains as perfect as ever.

The annual general meeting of the Terriers' Association was held on Thursday at the Three Stags, Kennington-road, Mr. Jesse Sparrow, the president of the fraternity, occupying the chair. There was a good attendance of members, and Mr. Harry Lester, the secretary, was highly complimented on the successful balance-sheet presented.

Miss Julie Mackey was the appellant in an action brought by her against Mr. George Edwardes, which affected her right to sing in public "Under the bamboo tree." The appeal was from a refusal of Mr. Justice Bigham to grant a declaration that the plaintiff was entitled to sing the song in question. The case was part heard on Wednesday, and is proceeding at the time we are going to press.

Mr. Jack Woolf will present at the Queen's, Poplar, next week, Mr. Henry Herne and company (including Miss Ida Millais) in *A Dark Secret*, the water sketch written and invented by Mr. John Douglass. It will be elaborately mounted.

Mr. John Kurkamp, who is known as the singing conductor, is producing at the Metropolitan on Monday an artistic musical act, entitled *The Harmonious Fairy Shell*. In this will be introduced four 'cellos, one harp, flute, and double bass. The novelty will be under the direction of Mlle. Strebelli.

Vasco, who is now in America, is delighted with the success that he has met with there, and the originality of his show with its quaint setting has appealed very strongly to the Yanks. He was recently made a member of the "White Rats" fraternity, the most powerful organisation of variety artists on the other side. He leaves for England on June 12 to fulfil his Continental engagements.

Mr. Leslie Holland is for the nonce deserting musical comedy, and is making his first appearance on the variety stage. With Miss Vera Vere he is producing a new comedy duologue, *A Side-Slip*, by Herbert C. Sargent, at the Richmond Theatre on Monday.

Mr. Ben Nathan (late of Ashton's Royal Agency) has joined forces with Day's Agency, Effingham House, Arundel-street, Strand.

Among the many eminent artists who will appear this (Saturday) evening at the fourth annual Café Chantant given by Miss Kathleen Mayer, the well-known Society entertainer, at the Wharncliffe Rooms, Hotel Great Central, are Mesdames Alice Esty, Gertrude Lonsdale, Alice Hollander, and Margaret Holloway, and Messrs. MacKenzie Fairfax, Charles Copland, Walter Wheatley, Barclay Gammon, and Dr. Lulek.

Carl Lynn, the king of animal imitators, owing to his enormous success, has been retained at the Alhambra, for which theatre he has also received offers for next year.

Mr. Howard L. Tracy is the latest recruit to the halls. At the termination of *Are You a Mason?* tour he joined Mr. Syd. Cotterell in his sketch *The Substitute*, which is appearing at the principal suburban halls for the next five weeks.

The Mr. Zeitz, of Croydon, who met with a regrettable accident whilst engineering cinematograph films, is not one of the Brothers Zietz, nor is he a relative of that well-known professional family.

Mr. A. S. Harris, who had to resign his position at the Empire, Swansea, through ill-health, has just returned to England after a three months' sojourn in the South of France and Italy, having greatly benefited by the change.

Mons. Slippere, the well-known blind entertainer, has been receiving quite an ovation at the Belfast Empire. On several occasions the stalls audience broke through their usual reserve, and actually asked for more.

The latest quotations for music hall shares are as follows:—Alhambra, 1½; Canterbury, ½; Empire (15s. paid), 1⅛; Empire (10s. paid), 1⅛; London Pavilion Ord., 4⅛; London Pavilion Pref., 5; London Coliseum, ½; Metropolitan, ⅝; Moss Empire, 4⅞; Moss Empire 5 per cent. Pref., 4½; Oxford, 6⅛; Palace, 12s.; Tivoli, 5½; Variettes Consolidated Theatres, 12s. 6d.

Miss Florence Elliott and Chicklets, whose success at the Bedford last week was so pronounced, open on Monday at the Duchess, Balham.

Mr. Adolph Tressidder, the stage-manager of the London Pavilion, whose wife died recently, has been deeply touched by the sympathy shown him in his great trouble, and he feels sure all will forgive his inability to reply individually.

Datas was asked by Mr. Joseph Wilson to deputise on Tuesday evening for Mr. Harry Randall at the Tivoli, where the famous memory man was warmly welcomed.

Mr. Tom Evans, one of the Four Royal Welshmen, who were appearing at the Nottingham Empire last week, gallantly rescued a little boy of three years from drowning in the River Trent.

Mr. G. Dezmonti, of Dezmonti and Mora, the well-known bar performer, is retiring from the profession in consequence of an illness from which he has lately been suffering. Mora, the comedy man of the team, is therefore at liberty to join another partner.

Miss Rachel Lowe and her "Lucky Duck" "Hoppy" are making their first appearance at the Empire, Portsmouth, this week, and scoring a decided success with the crowded audiences. Miss Lowe has been spending some time in Paris, where she will shortly present another of her novelty songs in French. The "Lucky Duck" has also been adapted, and will be one of the items of her Parisian répertoire.

Mr. Alfred Butt will reintroduce, on May 6, at the Palace Mr. Horace Goldin, who is now preparing a number of new "ideas" for the delectation of the public, with whom he is so popular. Spissel Brothers and Mack will, on the same evening, make their début in this country with a novel comedy acrobatic act.

Miss Carlotta de Yonson was presented on Saturday with a silver-mounted toilet set on the occasion of the termination of a very successful three weeks' engagement at the Grand, Sheffield. The presentation was made by Mr. David Warwick, on behalf of a few friends and admirers.

Miss Dolly Harmer, having recovered from her serious throat trouble, has resumed business, and this week is appearing at the Metropolitan and Chelsea Palace. She sails for South Africa under contract with Mr. Sydney Hyman on May 4.

Sydney Baker and Co. have produced an original musical romance, entitled *Visions of the Past*, which is now running its second week successfully at the Grand Theatre, Brighton. With Dr. Bodie's company the romance will shortly be seen in London.

Bert Olrac, who is touring with Sanger's Hippodrome, and Ted Milton, now with the Barnum show, have agreed to join forces at the termination of their respective engagements, and to work a high-class novel gymnastic turn for the halls.

The magnificent New York premises of Messrs. Francis and Day are now the recognised rendezvous of the *cognoscenti*, and the high lights of the theatrical and variety worlds foregather there daily to learn the latest news from Europe. The Anglo-American firm, as was ever their wont, extending a hearty welcome to all professionals and entertainment managers visiting America, and Mr. Fred Day cordially invites visitors to make use of the offices at 15, West Thirtieth-street as a temporary address for their letters, telegrams, and cables, "Playtime, New York" being a telegraphic and cable address that should be made a note of.

Harry Roxbury and Paul Knox's humorous skit, *The Prince of Monte Carlo*, will be seen at the Hackney Empire next week. As Archibald Longfellow—a modern Sherlock Holmes, summoned from Scotland Yard by Lady Carr, and on his arrival is taken for the Prince of Monte Carlo—Harry Roxbury presents quite an inimitable performance.

Mr. Roxbury has had many years experience, commencing when he was fifteen with the Warwick Gray Opera Company. For over two years he appeared with *Les Cloches de Corneville* and *La Fille de Madame Angot* companies. At this time John Lawson was touring drama, and with him Mr. Roxbury appeared in *Humanity*, upon many occasions playing Mr. Lawson's part of the Jew. For five years Harry Roxbury ran his own pantomimes, playing the principal comedy parts. Miss Vashti Wynne, who plays the part of Lady Carr in *The Prince of Monte Carlo*, is, in private life, Mrs. Roxbury.

The Terriers will have their annual summer river outing on Sunday, June 16. Early application for tickets is necessary, as the number is strictly limited. For particulars application should be made to Harry Lester, secretary, 4, Kennington-road, S.E.

In *The Era* of last week Mrs. Barnard was mentioned as having sent clothing to the secretary of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild. It should have been Mr. Frank Barnard. Miss De Grey also desires to thank Mrs. Geo. Smythson, Miss Edna Rainforth, Atlas (of Atlas and Vulcana), Miss Lizzie Collins (of Athas and Collins), Miss Bertha M. Graham, Mrs. Collins, Anonymous, and Mrs. Douglas Stuart for gifts of clothing; and Miss Agnes Molteno for her donation of 5s.

Mr. Charles Goold was awarded, on Wednesday, at the Westminster County Court, £18 balance of salary against Mr. Arthur Roberts, the well-known comedian. Mr. Goold had been engaged for ten weeks to play in *Robin Hood*, a sketch which was stopped on Jan. 22 last by the music-hall strike. He refused to join the strikers, but held himself in readiness to go on with his part if the sketch was played. Mr. Roberts made beautiful speeches at the Surrey Theatre and elsewhere, and promised all their salaries. Mr. Roberts, denying the agreement, told the Court that he lost over £800 on the strike.

"Mother's Consent," a new musical sketch, in which Herr Leon de Swarte's exquisite violin playing was a big feature, was tried successfully at a matinée on Thursday, last week, at the Birmingham Empire.

Miss Queenie Leighton, the Drury Lane pantomime favourite, started when she was eight years of age at the old Oxford, and appeared on the halls a little later. Then, of course, she was sent back to school. After that she drifted into drama with her brother-in-law, taking chambermaid parts. Then she went with Mr. Greet into the No. 1 *Gay Parisienne* company, taking the singing part. Next she worked with the Gattis, and took parts in *The Night Out* and *The Lady Slavey*, eventually playing Flo Honeydew. She then graduated at the Gaiety to create the part of Donna Teresa in *The Toreador*. She was there for eighteen months, and Mr. George Edwardes only released her to play Kitty Grey. Miss Leighton loves animals, and they love her. In one Drury Lane pantomime were twenty-four small ponies, and she tells how one, of its own accord, came to her dressing-room every performance for sugar.

PARIS MUSIC HALL GOSSIP.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Decidedly the chief event in Paris music-hall circles this month has been the opening of the Apollo. The rumours which have been circulating for the last two or three weeks regarding certain novelties in its construction piqued everyone's curiosity, and in consequence everybody who could turned up at the *première*.

Certainly, as far as tastefulness goes, everything has been done to make the house as cosy and comfortable as anyone could desire. The stalls are on a beautiful incline, allowing for a full view of the stage from any part. Behind this is the spacious *prominoir*, fitted up with dainty little tables where supper may be taken after the show. There is only one circle, but from here a good view is also obtained. But the "clou" of the construction, and that which raised the greatest curiosity, is the basculo. This is an apparatus for turning the floor of the theatre completely over, and replacing the sloping line of stalls by a beautiful level dancing floor. The change on the opening night took rather a long time, but by now it is done in the specified time of five minutes.

There is one weak point, and the weak point is that which should be the strongest—namely, the company. There are, however, several very good acts indeed. The Wynne Bros. do one of the best balancing acts. Hal and Francis are excellent hoop and globe manipulators; and the great reputation of the Kaufmanns is, of course, well known; but on the whole it could have been better. With this defect remedied, the Apollo should have a very long and prosperous career. A new attraction has now been added. On Saturday nights a special grand costume ball will be given after the show, in which all the audience will take part.

Bert Coote's Marigny Girls are busy rehearsing for the new Revue which will open on the 22nd inst. This is not his first venture over here. Last year his troupe at the Scala met with very gratifying success. Here's the same to the Marigny Girls.

The Revue of the Ambassadeurs this summer should be a big success. Amongst others in the cast will be Gaby Deslys, from *The New Aladdin* at the Gaiety, who brings over a big number from London; Max Dearly and Miss Lawler, who are both at present doing big things at the Variétés.

Hirchmann's operette, *The Vine Leaf*, which has had quite a long run at the Moulin Rouge, has just finished, and a wrestling competition now holds the chief position on the bill, which also includes Tiller's Sherry Girls in a couple of dances which go exceedingly well. Another of Tiller's troupes is now playing at the Scala.

At Barrasford's Alhambra a very good show is running. Topping the bill are the Black Hussars. These dusky musicians treat us to a regular feast of music on many instruments. Their playing is fine, but they might cut out the singing part of their act. The Bros. Kuno do an excellent balancing act, with some marvellous displays of strength; Susie and Protti give a nice dancing act, as also, in quite another style, do Cairns and Lynch. Tom Burrows gives a fine display of sword and club swinging, introducing several neat tricks with the sabre; Picett et Lizette, illusionists, have a very good act; and some fine acrobatic work is done by Lanos and Montes; Larola has a good juggling show, mixed with a good sprinkling of comedy; Ergotti and King Louis give their fine Risley act, and Barrington does some good trick piano playing.

The 50th performance of the *Centenaire Revue* at the Variétés has been registered; and there seems to be no change in the fine business the house is doing. This is certainly the biggest success seen there for a long time. Unfortunately it cannot run longer than June, as a new piece has to be produced in that month.

The Marigny will open on Saturday, and should be in for a very successful season. We hear very good reports of the Revue, and a lot of big English and American acts have been booked. One of the first of the English shows will be Chris Richards with his eccentric dancing act.

Another novelty will be given at the Folies-Bergère on Thursday matinées. This is the Children's Theatre. When tried last year this was such a success that it has been decided to revive it again this year. Everything is done by the children. The actors and actresses are children, and the band of thirty-five musicians is under the direction of M. Lepage, aged 12. The first performance is to be played before an audience of school children.

Lena Barrison, who was well known as one of the Barrison Sisters, is now appearing at the Théâtre des Mathurins. Wizard Stone will open on Friday night at the Folies-Bergère in his sensational cycling act.

"THE TALE OF A TIGRESS."

Comedy Sketch, by Mark Melford, produced at the Grand, Clapham, on Monday, April 22.

Jim Barker ..... Mr. Mark Melford
Samuel Bunce ..... Mr. L. Shepherd
Adriana Worsall ..... Mrs. Mark Melford

The success of this amusing trifle—which, we are informed, was written as recently as a week ago—is mainly due to Mr. Mark Melford's masterly acting and his wonderful facial expressions. There is very little story to tell. Jim Barker and Samuel Bunce are partners in business. Jim is overcome by the acts and wiles of Sam's wife, and he elopes with her—or, rather, that romantic little episode in their lives must be chiefly laid to the account of the strong-minded Amanda Bunce. But a very short space of time elapses before Jim sickens of her, and he takes the first opportunity to return. He eventually arrives at his office, in a very nervous state as to the reception that will be accorded him by his partner. He leaves a note on the table expressing his sorrow at having "taken away" the charming Amanda from her husband's keeping. Sam comes in and reads the note. He is quite overjoyed that he has been, temporarily, at least, released from the clutches of his vixenish wife, and he is prepared to show Jim how grateful he is for the service which has been rendered him. Jim, who has been standing behind the door to watch the course of events, is agreeably surprised that Sam should actually refer to him in affectionate terms, and that he regards the loss of his wife as a blessing. Thereupon Jim feels no compunction in facing the man he had believed he had wronged. They fall on each other's shoulders like brothers who have been long separated, and Sam listens with sympathetic interest to the recital of Jim's unhappy experiences with Amanda Bunce, whose death is reported. So greatly are the two men in fear of Amanda that even when a picture of the unlovely dead is placed before them they fall on their knees with terror.

The playlet is capitally acted. Nothing could be more funny than Mr. Melford's lugubriousness as Jim; it is simply irresistibly laughable. The aspect of gloomy dejectedness which he assumes as he relates his adventures with the vigorous Amanda convulses the audience. Mr. L. Shepherd ably supports Mr. Melford in the rôle of Sam; and Mrs. Melford plays with easy grace the quiet part of Sam's stepdaughter.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

THE visit of the Colonial Premiers to the Mother Country has been marked by the advent of a new Imperial anthem, entitled "King and Sireland," written and composed by Edward Montagu. It has been secured by Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter.

MR. ALEC HURLEY'S strikingly quaint song, "I ain't nobody in particular," is in the press, and will be issued immediately by Mr. David Day's firm. It is the joint handiwork of Scott Mackenzie and F. W. Leigh.

RECENT purchases made by Mr. David Day's firm include the following songs:—"The tonic-sol-fa courtship" and "Cherry lips," by Barnes and Weston; "The only bit of English" (sung by Billy Williams), by Harry Castling and Fred Godfrey; "Have you ever looked in the glass?" by Frank Leo; and a striking barn dance, by Luke Cavendish Everett, entitled "The Merry Clown."

MR. BERT H. DELMAR, whose song, "Iona," is likely to prove one of the hits of the summer season, has the following numbers ready for artists who require catchy items for the seaside:—"It's the band," fine concerted number, now being sung by the Six Aeolians; "Flirting" and "Barney" for soubrettes; "It's a girl" and "Carrie Carrie" for comedians; and "Moon girl," "Iona," and "Garden of my heart" for vocalists. These are all published by Price and Reynolds.

MISS WINNIE STANHOPE has just purchased the entire rights of a very clever song, "Beautiful stories of love," from J. F. Lambe, which has been written to suit her own particular style.

MISS BARBARA BABBINGTON is meeting with great favour at the Empire, Holloway, where she is singing the popular number, "Will you love me in December as you do in May?" This song was predicted to be one of the season's hits, and the prophecy has been fully realised.

THAT charming little artist, Gertie Gitana, whose popularity is nightly increasing, has two enormous song successes in "Seems to me I've always loved you" and "The song-bird."

AMONG the American song hits just now popular in the United States first place must be given to a number entitled "Love me, and the world is mine." It will be sung at all the English seaside resorts this summer. Witmarks are the publishers.

MR. G. H. ELLIOTT has made a terrific hit, as has also that charming comedienne, Miss May Moore-Duprez, with Messrs. Francis and Day's new song, "If the man in the moon were a coon," by Fred Fischer.

MISS ADA REEVE'S new song, "Musical dreams," which is spoken of as a real gem, is, it is understood, from the pen of a new writer named Fred Hopkins, a "find" of Maurice Scott, who has composed the melody.

MR. HARRY FORD'S successful songs, "I wonder" and "If I were you," both composed by himself and written by Mr. Harry Boden, will shortly be added to the Shapiro, Von Tilzer Co.'s catalogue of sixpenny editions.

MISS FLORRIE FORDE has produced a new song, by T. R. Robson and Fred Warwick, entitled "There's a dear little girl that I know," which has proved an instantaneous success. The Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Co., Ltd., are the publishers.

THE Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Co., Ltd., have accepted a new song from Messrs. Gilbert Wells and Geo. Everard, "I'll take her to Jamaica," which Miss Florrie Ford intends to feature shortly. This number has a bright, tuneful melody, and looks like being one of Miss Forde's biggest successes.

A NEW firm of song-writers, Messrs. George Asaf (author) and Felix Powell (composer) have supplied Mr. Harry Russon with a comedy number which proved, on its production, an immense success. During the past few days these writers have been fortunate in adding Miss Ada Reeve, Miss Millie Lindon, and Mr. Mark Sheridan to their rapidly-growing list of clients.

THAT charming young comedienne, Miss José Collins will specially produce two of the Monte Carlo Publishing Co.'s songs—viz., "You don't miss de water," by Harrington and Tate, and "Don't go back to Carolina," by Mellor, Lawrence, and Gifford—when she opens at her London engagements, commencing with the London Pavilion, shortly.

A SONG in universal demand among pierrot troupes just now is Messrs. Mellor, Lawrence, and Gifford's "I'm going back to the Fatherland," which all the principal combinations of seaside entertainers are featuring, or about to feature. This favourite number is published by the Monte Carlo Publishing Co. in their "Sixpenny Successes" series, and is already enjoying a remarkably brisk and satisfactory sale.

LITTLE TICH is now engaged in actively rehearsing Messrs. John P. Harrington and Jas. W. Tate's specially-written new comedy "creation," "The General," and will produce it in the West End in the course of a week or so. This eminent comedian considers this song one of the finest comedy mediums he has ever had written for him.

LITTLE CLIFF has been scoring heavily at the Camberwell Palace this week with Messrs. R. P. Weston and F. J. Barnes's humorous song "The Coon's Conscience," which has been going great guns, and will be issued at an early date by the Monte Carlo Publishing Co. in their "Sixpenny Successes" series.

THE success of Paul Pelham and Herbert Rule's military march song, "Don't be afraid, my little soldier," in the hands of Miss Barbara Babbington in town, and Miss Kitty Marion in the provinces on the Stoll tour, has been phenomenal, and this song promises to be one of this year's biggest "winners" for its enterprising publishers, the Monte Carlo Publishing Co.

MISS LENA VERDI, on the Stoll tour, is securing nightly acclamations for her renderings of two of the Monte Carlo Publishing Co.'s songs, "When, when, when is your ship coming home?" by Pelham and Rule, and "I'm going back to the Fatherland," by Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford, which latter number Miss Lilian Lea is also specially featuring at all her engagements in town.

OUR readers will learn with regret of the recent death, at the age of seventy-six, of Mr. Row, pianist. For the last forty years the deceased had written melodies and arranged band parts for many of the profession, but as he invariably omitted to sign his work he was not so well advertised as many with less claim. In the old days he played the piano at the old Surrey Light Horse Concert Hall, Bermondsey, long since abolished. The aged widow, who is quite unprovided for, has been very kindly helped by Miss Kate Carney. If other artists who knew the deceased and benefited by his services will do likewise it would be greatly valued. Mrs. Row's address is 43, St. Paul's-road, Kennington, S.E.

THE BERTRAM MATINEE.

The Bertram benefit found the right pioneers and the right environment. Hence its welcome success and a goodly sum for the widow and daughters of the genial entertainer who never refused his services in the cause of charity. Mr. George Ashton, an excellent chairman, had upon his committee of management such men as Alfred Butt, Tom Catling, Joe Lyons, and Dick Warner. Tom Fraser and Tom Honey were the hon. treasurers, and Jack Harrison and E. E. Peacock the hon. secretaries. These names mean much in the world of Bohemia, and it was not surprising therefore that the best artists both on the legitimate and lesser stages came along to give their services in the cause of the fatherless and the widow. That dark-eyed beauty of the Sierras, La Tortajada, writhed and pirouetted in a dance of Mauresque origin. Then we had the purely English art of Margaret Cooper, who poured out pathos at the piano when she sang "Visitors." Earlier in the afternoon came Marie Tempest, the queen of comedy, to take us captive by her rendering of "Speak but one word"; the Follies sounded the note of drollery in their burlesque of Wagner, with special reference to *Lohengrin*; Little Tich convulsed the house with his "Major" song; Mr. George Robey expatiated drolly on the arrogant pretensions of "Good Queen Bess"; Mr. Harry Fragson gave his popular item, "Statues on the spree"; Miss Sybil Arundale in red hessians danced the Slav dance from *The Gipsy Girl*; and Mr. Lewis Waller recited the weird poem by Owen Meredith, "The Portrait," with his wonted dramatic fire. Mr. Fred Wright, jun., brought with him the suffragettes from *Nelly Neil* at the Aldwych to sing "Jane is a suffragette," and was not allowed to depart until he had sung a multitude of verses. Mr. Bransby Williams imitated Sir Charles Wyndham in *David Garrick*, Mr. George Alexander, Mr. R. G. Knowles, and the late Dan Leno with all his old skill. Dr. Byrd-Page (the only conjurer in the programme) was very clever and entertaining; Miss Annie Mars brought her Alhambra girls along, and sang her pretty Japanese song scena, *Cherry Blossom*; Mr. Wilson James and Miss Ruby Wilson presented a quaint coon version of *Romeo and Juliet*; and Mr. Alfred Lester, assisted by Miss Lily Mills, provoked the greatest merriment by his sketch of the melancholy waiter in *A Restaurant Episode*. Kindly aid was also given by Les Trombetta; by Fred Niblo, the American humourist; Mr. Frank Haskoll; Miss Kitty Gordon, with her "Cigarette" song; and Miss Evie Greene, who sang Frank Tours' setting of Rudyard Kipling's verses, "Mother o' Mine," with her customary charm of voice. An impromptu was presented by Messrs. Farren Soutar, Charles Angelo, and Sam Walsh, who mimicked various of the theatrical stars between them, including Sir Charles Wyndham, Beerbohm Tree, Seymour Hicks, and G. P. Huntley. It was vastly amusing to see two Mr. Trees—one as Svengali and the other as the Russian police spy in *The Red Lamp*—looking upon a figure of Napoleon, which was greeted with the cry "There's Hare!"

Mr. Jack Harrison came forward during an interval to thank the directors of the Palace for the loan of their beautiful house, the staff before and behind the curtain, the large number of artists who had contributed such a splendid entertainment, and the audience. He spoke of Mr. George Ashton's modesty, and without enlarging on his own, announced that the financial result of the matinée would be close upon £1000. The hon. acting-manager was Mr. E. A. Pickering; the hon. musical director, Mr. Herman Finck; the hon. stage-manager, Mr. Frank Damer; and the hon. accompanist Mr. F. R. Kinkee. The following ladies sold programmes: Mrs. Jack Harrison, Miss Hilda Cohen, Miss M. Hodgkinson, Miss Cressie Bell, Miss May Gates, Miss Elsie Kay, Miss Gladys Carrington, Miss Kitty Harold, Miss Nora Megone, Miss Dorothy Monkman, and Miss Amy Webster.

THE BEDFORD.

Crowded houses twice nightly are the rule at this comfortable hall in Camden Town, where Mr. B. P. Lucas has always got together a first-class programme, which is so varied that it cannot fail to please all classes of frequenters. The current bill includes several interesting turns. At the head is that amusing dramatic sketch *My Pal Jerry*, which is being played by Lew Lake and company. It is described as a comedy drama, and is a sequel to another sketch of the same type, *The Bloomsbury Burglars*. In the Court scene there are some lively proceedings at the trial of Nobbler and Jerry, the fun being fast and furious. But there is a pathetic side to the story which is not missed. The devotion of the Nobbler to his pal Jerry and the subsequent escape from Portland are keenly enjoyed. The sketch is accorded a rousing reception, and Messrs. Lew Lake and Bob Morris as Nobbler and Jerry, who bear the brunt of the work, play with marked success. They are ably supported by a talented company, and the sketch is admirably staged.

Mr. Frank Seeley, a diverting comedian, is a prime favourite here, and keeps the audience in the best of spirits with his lively songs and witty gags. His first song is entitled "Cinderella," in which he appears dressed as a dame. He has a lot of funny patter, and scores a hit. His second item is a distinctly amusing parody on "The Old Apple Tree," which finds great favour. *Other People's Babies* is the title of a bright little sketch which is presented by Marlow and Manton. It deals with the troubles of a young husband whose wife is seized with the idea of starting a crèche, much to his discomfort. It is a light and breezy trifle, which is smartly played and well received; the vocal numbers introduced add materially to its attractiveness. A striking turn is that presented by Mahatma, described as the Queen of Second Sight, a title she certainly earns by her clever and bewildering exhibition. On the night of our visit one of a committee chosen from among the audience wrote down a column of figures which Mahatma, though blindfolded, added up correctly. She also called out instantly any number pointed to on the board. Another clever thing was the telling the value of any card taken from a pack, and in a game of nap played on the stage the Mahatma told the players what cards to play. An astounding performance indeed! Milner Verren, with a sweet voice, sings "Only a Message" with great feeling; Miss Joan Deering's charming voice is heard to advantage in "Whisper and I shall hear," in which she accompanies herself on the violin; Will Newby, an eccentric comedian, goes well; and Mr. Dave Laird scores with his songs. Early in the evening Miss Ida Katherina, "The Dolly Girl," makes a successful appearance. The Bioscope pictures are always keenly appreciated here, and the film of the Cup Tie Final at the Crystal Palace is highly popular. Mr. A. F. Lovesey is the genial manager here.

THE LATE M. ZAMPI.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Many artists of the variety and circus professions will remember Zampi, the once popular one-legged gymnast, a steady, good-principled man and a good performer, and who, in his prosperous days, was always ready to give a helping hand to those in distress. During his ten years' illness all his savings went, and his widow now appeals to those who knew her late husband for a little help to enable her to get a bit more furniture together and take a house suitable for professional apartments. This is a thoroughly deserving case. Any small sums forwarded to Mrs. Zampi, 74, Georgelane, London-road, Sheffield, will be gratefully acknowledged.—Yours truly,

G. HARRISON.

MR. ALFRED BUTT LIBELLED.

In the King's Bench Division on Tuesday, before Mr. Justice Lawrence and a special jury, Mr. Alfred Butt, managing-director of the Palace Theatre (Limited), brought an action to recover damages for libel from Mr. C. C. Bartram in a paper called *Variety*.

The defence was a denial by Mr. Bartram that he wrote, printed, or published any of the words complained of, that the words did not mean what was alleged, or that they were defamatory. Mr. Bartram admitted that he was employed by the proprietors of the paper to write for it, but he denied that he wrote or authorised the words in question to be written.

Mr. Shearman, K.C., and Mr. Kisch appeared for plaintiff, and defendants were represented by Mr. Marshall Hall, K.C., and Mr. Cannot.

Mr. Shearman, in opening the case, said that the paper known as the *Variety* was published in America, and dealt with the music hall stage. Mr. Bartram was the English agent, and also a contributor to the paper. On Sept. 1, 1906, under the heading of "London News," followed by the name of "C. C. Bartram," the following article appeared:—

"Following the shift at the Oxford come indefinite rumours of a change in Palace management. No hint of this has reached the London papers, but we hear from private sources that manager Pickering, of the Tivoli, Cape Town, will be the man to assume the guiding reins in the fall. One would think the position of the present incumbent rather strong, as he married the daughter of Count Hollander, the lately deceased chairman of the Palace directorate, who left nearly half a million dollars. Perhaps this has caused a slackening of ambition, and will account for the rumoured retirement. Since manager he has been quite persistent with agents about percentage splitting."

This last, explained the counsel, was a phrase well known in the profession, and was a most offensive, serious, and grave charge, as it meant that unless he received half the charges he would not do business with the agents. It was not until some time afterwards that it came to the knowledge of the plaintiff, and he immediately took steps to vindicate his character. After the issue of the writ the plaintiff was approached, and stated that he was prepared to accept a satisfactory apology, but the so-called apology in the issue of Oct. 27 could not be so described. It said:—

"I regret to learn that manager Butt, of the Palace Theatre, has taken exception to my paragraph in the issue of Sept. 1 with reference to the rumoured change at the Palace. Nothing to the detriment of Mr. Butt's good name was intended. When I spoke of percentage splitting I meant that all knew that Mr. Butt had been strenuously opposed to this nefarious practice."

In the circumstances, he asked the jury to give such a reasonable amount as would stop this sort of attack.

Mr. Alfred Butt, managing-director of the Palace Theatre (Limited), was called, and said that he had held the position since May or June, 1906. He was previously manager, and succeeded Mr. Morton, a gentleman well known in the music hall profession. The engagement of artists came within his duty, and from time to time he had to go all over Europe and America to engage them. He had known the paper called *Variety* for about two years, and believed that it had a very large circulation. It was well known amongst music hall people. He did not marry the daughter of Count Hollander, and he had never asked an agent to "split a percentage" with him. He was strongly against the practice, which was carried on in certain houses, but he did not think that any West End house of repute would do such a thing, and during the music hall strike this practice was one of the complaints made.

The article of which he complained was shown to him by Mr. Graydon, the son of one of the directors, by Mr. Polden, the chairman of the Palace Theatre, and Mr. Cremetti, a director, who stated that the article was very serious and notice should be taken of it. He also saw other copies of the paper which contained articles more or less objectionable. The interpretation he put upon the phrase "percentage splitting" was that he was sharing the agents' commission. He could not see what other interpretation could be placed upon it.

In cross-examination, the witness said that he was still managing-director of the Palace Theatre. He did not read the article with jaundiced eyes, but he could not see that any other construction was possible than the one he put on the article. He knew nothing of the actual circulation of the paper.

Do you know that the maximum circulation in England is seven copies a week?—Then it is only a continuance of their policy of lying.

In further cross-examination the witness said that he saw in all two or three copies of the paper containing the article in question. The paper had been sent over from America to a rival management, and it was circulated in a place called the Cavour, which was widely frequented by agents and music hall managers. For the last year he had bought issues of the paper at Mr. Bartram's office in Lisle-street. On the issue of the writ he was told that Mr. Bartram had not written the article himself, but that he accepted responsibility, and was desirous of settling. The witness was willing to settle on the publication of a sufficient apology. The whole matter was incomprehensible to him, but he thought that Mr. Bartram, being a clever American correspondent, wanted to go "one better." Since the issue of the writ the defendant had written in *Das Programm* a statement to the effect that if the action was tried the revelations would be "both lovely and lively."

Mr. T. Ernest Polden, chairman of the Palace Theatre, said that he read the article in question and was acquainted with the expression "percentage splitting" which appeared in it. After seeing the article he called the plaintiff's attention to it, and it was with his sanction and encouragement that this action was brought.

In cross-examination the witness said that the directors of the Palace Theatre were not responsible for the costs of the action, as the action was brought by Mr. Butt to clear his character. He had known Mr. Butt for a long time, and was absolutely certain he would never stoop to share a five per cent. commission with an agent.

Mr. Shearman said that he anticipated that, as it was usual in what was really an undefended action. Even assuming that the paper had only a small circulation in England, it was a paper that circulated largely amongst members of the music hall profession, and such a statement was therefore calculated to do the plaintiff very considerable damage. In these circumstances, though he did not ask for vindictive or excessive damages, he did ask for such a verdict as would teach the defendants that they must not make such statements about the plaintiff.

Mr. Marshall Hall submitted that the defendant Bartram was entitled to a verdict, as there had been no evidence that the defendant either wrote, authorised to be written, printed, or published the article in question. The plaintiff had obtained a judgment against the American owners and publishers of the paper, which might or might not be fruitful, but in spite of that they dragged in Mr. Bartram because the judgment they had got did not give the Palace Theatre enough advertisement. It was an abuse of the process of the Court, and he hoped that the jury would mark their sense of the whole matter by giving a verdict to the defendants.

His lordship having summed up,

The jury, without leaving the box, gave a verdict for the plaintiff for £100.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES

THE ALHAMBRA.

Fresh arrivals this week at the Alhambra are Mr. Carl Lynn and some Urbanora pictures. The former, who hails from the land of the Soaring Eagle, is an animal imitator, and as such he is possessed of extraordinary powers. Indeed, considering the vocal gymnastics which Mr. Lynn performs, one is almost inclined to credit him with some abnormal physical development. He contrives to introduce his various feats of mimicry in an interesting and amusing description he gives of a trip to the country. The friendly and the unfriendly neighing of a horse, the grunting of a sow and the squealing of its litter, the midnight love passages of an amorous feline couple, the roaring of a lion, with the variations in the sound noticeable before and during mealtime, and the braying of a donkey are all similated with wonderful fidelity. The turn is one that is greatly appreciated. As to Urbanora, there is a realistic representation of Saturday's great football match at the Crystal Palace. It is quite evident from the clearness and precision of these pictures that an almost perfect degree of accuracy is being attained in the manipulation of the photographic apparatus. It is hard to say whether the introduction of photo-micrography into such displays is calculated at all to reassure the feelings of some of the audience who propose to partake of supper shortly after. Of the instructional effect, however, there can be no doubt whatever. One has to bear in mind the fact that the hydrozoa in stagnant water or the mites in a ripe piece of cheese are not necessarily of a pernicious character in order that one may proceed to eat one's supper with perfect equanimity. Another novel idea is the representation of the titles of several popular newspapers by scenes suggesting such titles. Altogether, the Urbanora people are justified in their claim, "We set the world before you."

In these days, when such stupendous efforts are being made by our legislators and others to minimise, if not altogether to eradicate, the gambling mania, no doubt those puritans who may possibly visit the Alhambra will view with satisfaction the moral inculcated in the ballet *Queen of Spades*. Of course, it must be at once acknowledged that the grace of Mlle. Alexia is a very strong excuse for the madness of that very attractive young sculptor, Miss Julia Seale. Perhaps one of the most beautifully-blended displays of colour in this ballet is the Valse des Liqueurs, the hues of the dancers' garments suggesting the various wines represented. Even more gorgeous is the Grand March of Playing Cards. The idea of enlisting the assistance of the Urban Bioscope in producing certain realistic scenic effects continues to meet with the approval of the audience. Coming back to those items on the programme which are of somewhat shorter duration, we have the really marvellous performances on the aerial tight wire of the famous Millman Trio, including Miss Birdie Millman, whose feats arouse a sensation of astonishment in the minds of the spectators. International music and songs are delightfully brought to our notice by the Four Golondrinas, of whom Miss Anita Manuela, styled "the Spanish Nightingale," distinguishes herself in no mean manner; and Mlle. Bresina, a very engaging and sweet-voiced French soubrette. De Biere may be considered one of our leading exponents of the art of magic and illusion, and his different tricks in the direction of producing objects from seemingly nowhere, his own and his assistant's mysterious disappearance and reappearance, cannot fail to excite one's admiration and interest. The ballet *L'Amour* still continues to please audiences at Leicester-square. The ancient East always casts an irresistible glamour over all who love a wealth of light and colour, and metropolitan audiences have been of late treated to several spectacles the scene of which has been the valley of the Nile. Of course, very few care to follow the story of *L'Amour* as dumbly portrayed on the stage. People are quite content to feast their eyes on the gorgeous Oriental scenery and dresses. Signorina Morina proves a delightful exponent of a style of dancing not now so popular as it used to be, and the music of M. Francis Thome has just that weird Eastern ring about it which such a production demands.

SURREY.

The current programme is so full of good things that it is hard to discriminate, but out of the thirteen items three sketches loom most prominent. The first of these is Leonard Mortimer's strong romantic drama, *The Martyrdom of Michael*. Set in two scenes, the story is one of absorbing interest, and tells of the ruthless treachery and persecution of Michael Vesney by his—afterwards repentant—friend, Robson Macowan, who in turn is persecuted and blackmailed by his secretary, Neville Potter, who knows his secret. Ruth Macowan, however, is loyal to her lover, Vesney, and finds him imprisoned in a dungeon beneath the convent in Spain to which she has retired. On the eve of his execution, Ruth, disguised as a monk, gets to her lover, and makes him don the monk's robe and escape. Michael Vesney and Ruth return to England, and Michael, full of determination to punish his enemy, Ruth's father, goes to his house, and, being mistaken for Macowan by the poor wretch whom Neville Potter has made his tool, learns how Macowan has been blackmailed and persecuted, and that Macowan has employed Olive Kingsley, a female detective, to find out for him who is his mysterious blackmailer. Olive Kingsley meets Michael and begs of him to spare Macowan; but Macowan, hearing from Potter that Michael is in his house, writes a full confession of his treachery to his friend Michael, and takes his own life. Potter tries to fix the charge of murder on to Michael, but the lady detective clears Michael, and gives Potter into the hands of the police. Mr. Herbert Pearson delineates the character of Michael with a strength and feeling which is throughout artistic; as Macowan, Mr. Harry McClelland is remarkably good; Mr. James Esmond imbues the part of the villain with a brutal force that makes its mark on the audience; and as the "Social Wreck," Mr. C. E. Ludlow gives a fine character-study. Both Miss Louie Adair as Ruth, and Miss Helena Walbran as Olive Kingsley have a charming personality, and invest their characters with an artistic skill. In direct contrast is the brilliantly-lighted scene of *The Hotel Grande*, in which the Brothers Luck and their clever acrobatic company indulge in a series of mad revels that savour much of pantomime. Laughter holding both its sides follows the whole action of this absurdity. On the same lines follows the Edmund Edmund's troupe in their farcical comedy, *Mrs. Banbury*, and, like all this clever comedian and his very lively company attempt, is a feast of laughter.

Tennyson and Wallis as two policemen keep the house fairly roaring with mirth in their amusing cross-talk, and in their duet, "You can't take it with you when you die." The Le Gren Trio are excellent and grotesque performers: one is remarkably lean and tall, the other short and stout, while their lady companion is charming and lively. Their military absurdity is full of admirable fooling that is really hard and artistic work. The Zampas are two vaudeville artists from U.S.A. who win abundant approbation by their lightning dances; the Sisters Florence, tall, graceful, and shapely, in pretty costumes, excel in the art of terpsichore, and win well-merited aplause for their skilful International dances and acrobatic feats; the Royal Raynors, three demon acrobats, are supple and clever; Charles Gardiner, a gifted comedian, wins a series of well-merited recalls for his song and patter, "I'm a lady"; Fred Land, an eccentric comedian, in his parody of "Nursery Rhymes," leaves his audience hungry for more of his wit; and Jack Rae, the tramp gymnast and juggler, keeps up a running fire of humour while indulging in marvellous acrobatic feats and juggiery. Raymond's Bio-tableaux depicts the story of "The Villain Who Still Pursued Her," with a realism that leaves the audience in wonderment and hearty appreciation. The efficiency of Mr. Charles Craig, the courteous acting-manager, is evidenced both sides of the footlights by the smoothness of the whole entertainment, and by the excellent order maintained by the Surrey patrons.

HACKNEY EMPIRE.

A capitally diversified programme is provided for the delectation of the patrons of this hall for the current week, and Mr. Christie had the pleasure of seeing the large auditorium packed to the doors at both performances on Monday. The Boisset Troupe top the bill in their absurdity *The Dock Strike*. The many incidents of a strike, the labour agitator's stump speeches, the fights, and all the other characteristics of a labour dispute are parodied in a humorous manner, and the spirit of infectious irresponsibility that pervades the whole, together with some smart knockabout work, enables the troupe to acknowledge a hearty and deserved curtain. The Phydoras, in an eccentric musical act, which embraces dancing and some acrobatic work, make a good impression. Miss Grace Merton, the original street singer, displays vocal ability of a high order in a ballad, and is cordially received. The Renard Trio, described as dental athletes, present a turn of distinct merit and originality. The whole of their turn consists of trapeze work with no firmer support on which to depend than each other's teeth. No small praise must be accorded to the leading member of the troupe for the endurance he displays, and it is pleasant to record that their efforts were loudly applauded, several calls being accorded them. Gus Garrick is a very popular item on the programme. His imitations of such diverse comedians as Sam Mayo, Harry Champion, and Harry Lauder are particularly clever, the most amusing impersonation, however, being that of the Continental chanteuse, a study that provoked much amusement. The Three Sisters Chester present a good turn as comediennes, dancers, and instrumentalists, their song and dance, in which they accompany themselves on banjoes, being smart. A well-earned call is accorded them. Marguerite Broadfoote, in two songs, scores her usual success. Her first, "She didn't come from Borneo," caught the ear of the audience at once, and her second, the well-known "Nursery Rhymes," went equally well, several encore verses being demanded. Ross and Lewis, in "Fits and Misfits," present a very smart show, the gentleman being a dancer of extraordinary agility and the lady's efforts in this direction being capital, in addition to being a good pianist. Mr. Ross had to concede an encore, and the act scored a conspicuous success. Powell's Marionettes is an ingenious and effective show, the allegorical tableaux at the end being particularly brilliant and gaining an undeniable call for Mr. Powell. The bottom of the bill this week is no less an artist than Mr. Bransby Williams, and when it is borne in mind that he first saw the light in the locality it will be almost superfluous to mention that his entry was the signal for a very popular greeting. Mr. Williams gave as his first item "An old man's soliloquy to his Pipe," a clever thumbnail sketch of an old man recalling the past, for his second a humorous story in which depiction of an elderly and a young man formed the notable features, and for the third "The flight of little Em'ly," from "David Copperfield." In each Mr. Williams' gifts as a character-actor were much in evidence, and the enthusiastic nature of his greeting from the audience at the close testified to the complete success of his artistic labours. Mention must be made of the valuable assistance rendered by Mr. Johnston and his excellent orchestra during the evening.

THE CANTERBURY.

The specialities with which Mr. Fred Miller has embellished his bill of fare at the Canterbury this week include a goodly portion of pantomime served up by Miss Daisy Yates' company. It is an excerpt from the *Aladdin* production in which Mr. Dan Thomas has recently been seen in halls and theatres, and is called *Widow Twankey's Laundry*, because it is that scene which is depicted. Laughter is the chief object of the sketch, and Mr. Thomas's antics as the Widow are quite successful in obtaining it in abundance. Miss Daisy Yates presents a pleasing principal boy as Aladdin, and joins with Mr. Thomas in a burlesque of music-hall turns which has before received praise at our hands. Other characters in the "pantolet"—if we may coin a word—are effectively represented, and a tuneful chorus, a troupe of lady dancers, and new scenery and dresses help considerably towards the success attained.

New eccentricities have been imported into Mr. Harry Tate's *Motoring* sketch, the fun of which now grows more riotous than ever. Mr. Tate, who has imitated so many in his time, is himself inimitable in his impersonation of the irascible automobilist, whose journey to Portsmouth is attended by so much tribulation. Additional comic personages figure in the sketch, which now concludes with a conflict between the small boy with the mouth-organ and the owner of the car. Miss Margaret Parker and company give an effective rendering of an episode called *Sunshine*, the pathetic element in which makes a strong appeal to the audience. Miss Parker exercises her dramatic skill impressively as a young girl who acts as a housekeeper for an artist and thereby incurs the odium of the neighbours. Her father, who years before had driven his own wife from the door through similar unfounded suspicions, sides with the detractors. The girl finds out that she is his daughter and loads him with scorn, but in the end the artist asks her hand in marriage and everything is forgiven. Miss Parker's emotional ability and the naturalness of her acting in a difficult rôle gain general approval. She is adequately supported, and the sketch, which is mounted with taste and elegance, is received with special marks of favour.

The sentiment attaching to the songs of Mr. G. H. Elliott, the chocolate-coloured coon, has a fragrance that is well brought out by the singer, who wins for "Baby Lou" the plaudits of a delighted house. Mr. Elliott's methods are of excellent service also in his serio-comic lay "If the man in the moon were a coon," which is finished off with a dance possessing novel features and executed with a graceful agility that secures the artist so many recalls that the ecstasies of admiration have to be cut short by the curtain. Mr. Percy Tarrimond, the collier lad, who looks to be fresh from the pit's mouth, gives a remarkable vocal display. He has a tenor voice of marvellous strength and purity of intonation. "The Soldiers' Chorus" from *Faust* tries its quality to the utmost, but he takes the top notes with unfailing sureness, while in the old Scotch ballad "Annie Laurie" he reaches with ease what sounds remarkably like "high C." Mr. Tarrimond really is a valuable "find," and his reception is overwhelming.

Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope continues "unruffled" on its successful course, the domestic comedy in which the vagaries of a mother-in-law on a motor-car are depicted being irresistibly amusing. Miss Jessie Preston, the clever comedienne, is a great attraction of the current programme, which also includes Mr. R. H. Douglass, Benson and Geoffreys, Olive and Owen, Mr. Frank Harwood, My Fancy, the superb danseuse, Ernie Mayne, and the Lancashire Lads, unexcelled exponents of the art of stepping.

EALING HIPPODROME.

That Miss Daisy Dormer—most dainty of soubrettes—would return again and again to the Ealing Hippodrome was a certainty from the moment when she first came "Westward Ho!" and captured the hearts of innumerable Ealingites. There is a personal and particular charm attaching to this "sweetest and prettiest of coon vocalists and dancers" which extends to her songs—always melodious, piquant, and witty. There is, too, an irresistible witchery in her "buck" dancing which is altogether unapproachable. Her audience will never tire of her history of Jonas Johnson in "Going, going, gone"; while in "I wish I were you" she is equally happy. On the night to which we are alluding an eager house would willingly have had more of her dainty contributions. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope is a standard attraction nowadays, and this week Mr. E. W. James, ever in search of up-to-date methods, secures a gem that appeals to all lovers of football. Every interesting incident in the Cup final of the Everton—Sheffield contest at the Crystal Palace last Saturday is so clearly depicted that one is really almost there. An ever-welcome and a clever little scena is found in *Married or Photographed*, presented by Reed and Stephens. Here the usual marital misunderstanding that is so deftly exploited in this class of show is made full use of, and the result is an enjoyable fifteen minutes of hearty merriment. A note of pathos is struck by Fox and Melville in "Illustrated Melody." In this turn it is a neat idea to throw the words of the chorus on to the screen, and the house joins heartily in the refrain to "Mother is my sweetheart" and "Like a star"; both songs being illustrated by beautifully-coloured lantern slides.

We have before had occasion to notice the work of that careful and earnest character-actor, Mr. Tom Stuart. His Uriah Heep is a fine study of the unlovable, Janus-faced hypocrite; while the audience is stilled to silence by Wilfred Denver's dream-speech in that famous drama, *The Silver King*. Mr. Johnnie Fuller is an all-round sort of "cat," who finds itself quite at home on the wire, and here Miss Tabby contrives to disport herself very cleverly, descending to terra firma for a little chair vaulting. Mr. Bert Byrne is a comedian who strives to be funny—and succeeds. He is responsible for two songs, "It's a funny feeling" and "Song types," and both are equally serviceable in raising laughter. Mr. H. O. Wills has a merriment-producer in his "I am a wanderer," and his little flag, of postage-stamp proportions, causes immense amusement. Miss Edie Veno, with a sympathetic voice, is heard to advantage in her song, "Firefly"; a more boisterous note is sounded in "Yellow Boy." Mr. E. W. James, the popular manager, is capably aided by his second in command, Mr. L. Westcott Hicks.

RICHMOND THEATRE.

Variety of the best character fills the bill this week, and not a discordant note mars an admirably arranged programme, which is hugely enjoyed by everybody present. The orchestra lead off with "Bustling Billy," and then the fun begins in real earnest. Miss Vera Granville vocalised satisfactorily in a couple of ditties, the latter dealing with a truism, "Accidents will happen." Then Rell and Butt got to work with some crosstalk, and cause hurricanes of laughter; they dance neatly, too, and dress their show to perfection. Mr. Cull-Pitt, assisted by Mlle. Adele, obtained some wonderful illustrations by means of le chapeau, and his sleight-of-hand greatly mystifies the audience. *Better Friends* afforded Miss Flo Wakeman and Mr. J. C. Groves an opportunity to display their histrionic ability. The sketch deals with the disguises assumed by a jealous husband, and the troubles that ensue through the "green-eyed monster," who has really quite a lot to answer for. A selection from *Miss Hook of Holland*, skilfully interpreted by the orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Max Guy, is sufficiently well done to maintain every one in a good temper. Howard and Collinson's comedy duo, *The Porter and the Parcel*, is one of the tit-bits of the evening; and it would be difficult to find a funnier or better interpreted sketch. As the doll, Miss Collinson is excellent throughout, while Mr. Howard revels in the humours of the porter. Mr. Tom Dunmore meets with a flattering reception, and deserves it; his patter is inimitable, and much of it original; and fresh merriment pervaded the house when he recounted his adventures as a football referee. The popular sketch, *The Little Stowaway* is as successful as ever, and never was virtue more triumphantly applauded or vice more emphatically hissed. Miss Eva Lumley is charming as the Stowaway, and puts in some really excellent work; Mr. J. K. Walton does well as Capt. Worsley; to Mr. H. G. Shaw falls the rôle of Lieut. Burton; and Mr. Hugh Metcalf is sufficiently boisterous as the burly bo'sun. Mr. A. Chatterton plays the part of the Hon. Percy Willie, and the remaining characters are satisfactorily delineated. A novelty about Vernon's bioscope pictures here is that the latest important news is wired at different times after publication of the newspapers and exhibited during the evening.

"THE REHEARSAL."

A new Musical Comedy-Duologue, performed for the first time at the Hippodrome, Hastings, On Monday, April 22.

An Affected Fop .....Mr. Chas. D. Wright
A Prima Donna .....Miss Katie Blair
(from our own correspondent.)

When the curtain rises, an exquisite dude is found in a very discontented and desponding state through the prima donna failing to appear at a rehearsal, having lost her jewels. He is very desirous of exhibiting his marvellous musical ability by accompanying her on the piano. The chambermaid discovers him in this depressed condition, and offers to help him out of his difficulties by taking the rôle of the prima donna herself. The dandy consents if she will give a rehearsal. She therefore asks him to play some light and graceful music for her to dance to. He plays selections from Wagner, and her attempts at dancing are a decided failure, as the music is, of course, too classical. He therefore attempts another piece, but as she is equally unsuccessful in dancing to his superior playing, she bursts into tears, and he then plays "Oh, dry those tears." Eventually he, with the assistance of the orchestra, executes a dance, and the maid dances, to his great satisfaction. A new and taking duet is here introduced, "By your kind permission" (the words by Fred Leigh, the music by Airlie Dix), in which numerous current topics are amusingly treated. The ten minutes' sketch is brought to a conclusion by the two artists playing, on respective pianos, a selection from Wagner's opera *Lohengrin*. Their répertoire of music is extensive, and varies from time to time. Mr. Chas. D. Wright was good as the musical fop, and Miss Katie Blair did well as the "prima donna."

Miss Mayme Cannon has just signed a large batch of contracts, including one for principal boy with Messrs. Dottridge and Longden, through her agent, Will Oliver.

Mr. Fred H. Anderson, of the Palace, Northampton, generously devoted the gross takings of the two houses on Friday, the 19th inst., to the funds of the Northampton Good Samaritan Society. Mr. F. H. Mardlin, hon. sec., proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Anderson for his great kindness, and gave some interesting details of the work done by the Society. Mr. Evans, the manager, replied on behalf of Mr. Anderson, who sent a telegram regretting his absence and trusting the cause would be well supported. The entertainment was under the patronage of Mr. R. L. Poulton (the Mayor) and of Alderman F. C. Adnitt.

"THE ERA" SHILLING FUND FOR THE MUSIC HALL HOME.

Mr. Barrasford and Miss Vesta Victoria join in a strenuous appeal for the generosity of the profession in support of *The Era* Shilling Fund. When, twelve months ago, we brought before our readers the claims of this deserving charity, a very considerable sum of money was collected in separate shillings. That last year's appeal, however, and most of the money obtained by it, are, as Miss Marie Lloyd would say, "a thing of the past, old dear."

Subscribed to date, 2388½ shillings.

FIRST LIST OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

	£	s.	d.
Edinburgh theatrical and vaudeville sports, per Walter P. Wells	40	0	0
Contents of collecting-box at the Hippodrome (late Tivoli), Leeds, one of Mr. Barrasford's halls, per Charles Weldon	5	7	9
George Collins	1	18	0
Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Mannering	1	5	0
Leoni Clarke	1	1	0
Collecting-box, Palace of Varieties, Ltd., Manchester, per Nelson Barry	1	0	0
Fred Arthur	1	0	0
Miss Alexandra Dagmar		10	0
Bros. Webb	0	10	0
Geretti	0	5	0
Belford and Mars	0	5	0
A. Lazarus	0	2	0
A Gus Elen Autograph	0	0	6

Collected by Mr. Horace Wheatley, £3 11s.

Horace Wheatley	40	Anthony	1
Terrance Wheatley, jun.	1	Claire Romaine	1
Catherleen Wheatley	1	Sydney James	1
Norah Wheatley	1	Gilbert Fernie	1
Eileen Wheatley	1	Harry Edson	1
Horace Wheatley, jun.	1	Leslie Romani	1
Grandma	1	Lizzie Kirk	1
Auntie	1	Emmie Romani	1
MacWheatley the Dog	1	Frank Turner	1
Edgar Marriott	1	Mrs. F. Turner	1
Frank Leon	1	J. G. Henderson	1
Ted Waite	1	C. Pastor	1
Edgar Romaine	1	Sister Marion	1
Robert Robertson	1	M. Egerton	1
Florence Lambeth	1	Fred O'Malley	1
		George Harvard	1
		Gus W. Blake	1

Collected by Mr. Harry Conlin, Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, £4 7s.

Bros. Egbert	10	Us again, again	1
Us again, again, again, again	7	Us again, again, again	1
Albert Egbert	5	Gladys Cooper	1
Harry Conlin	5	Doris Cooper	1
Rosie Coleman	5	Vera Elvey	1
Mark Sheridan	5	M. Claire	1
Gwladys Elvey	5	Mr. Whitehead	1
Edna Loftus	5	Ian Lloyd-Mackenzie	1
Daisy Dormer	5	Herbert Darnley	1
S. Egbert and Mac.	5	Harry Nelson	1
Mark's Room	4	Erchie Mitchell	1
Mac's Bar, 3 Rose-street, Edinburgh	3	Harry Bendon	1
Harry Lupino	2	A. R. Pole	1
Us again	2	Us	1
Betty Green	1½	Cade Burnett	1
		Deane Tribune	1
		Estella Tribune	1

Collected by Mr. Gus Elen, £2.

Gus Elen (V.A.F.)	10	Edith Villa	1
Mrs. G. E.	1	Cruet	1
The Chickens	1	Boots	1
The Pheasants	1	The Dustman	1
Buller (St. Bernard)	1	Mrs. Carter	1
Major (Pomeranian)	1	Found	1
The Cook (16st.)	1	The Postman	1
The Housemaid	1	Admission	1
The Motor	1	Lizzie C.	1
The Gardener (Bob)	1	Meriah	1
The Parrot	1	Our Tyke	1
The Canary	1	New Pyjama 'At	1
Inky (Black Cat)	1	Luggage Man's (tip)	1
Four-Pots-a	1	Book-Boy's (ditto)	1
Twelve Coppers	1	Cab to *Era* Office	1
Two Sixpences	1		

Collected by Mr. Tom Fancourt, 15s.

Tom Fancourt	1	Margaret Ruby	1
Alf Selby	1	Queenie Clements	1
Harry Ray	1	Lottie Cora	1
Lillie Caldon	1	Florrie Cora	1
Arnold Richardson	1	Mrs. Howarth	1
Jennie Rubie	1	Anon.	1
B. Elton	1	Ernest Laws	1
T. Elma	1		

Collected by Regan and Ryan, Court Theatre, Liverpool, £1 14s.

Malcolm Scott	5	H. Brockbank	2
Fanny Fields	5	Patty Yole	2
Regan and Ryan	5	M. R. M.	1
Harry Tate	5	Doris Dean	1
Hetty King	5	Poppy Wilkinson	1
Fanny Dango	2		

Collected by Mr. Billy Williams, £2 19s. 9d.

Billy Williams	5	E. I. S.	1
Miss Du-Roche	5	A. Hanson	1
Miss M. Sealby	5	W. Marshall	1
Andre Avocat	5	J. B.	1
Miss M. Langdon	2½	B. B.	1
Oliver Round	2½	J. Kelly	1
Roze and Calvert	2½	W. E. D. V.	1
W. W. Walton	2½	W. Clarke	1
Churnell	2½	O. L. Rendell	1
F. E.	2	Wirson Kurat	1
J. K.	2	T. Dare	1
Miss Mab Paul	2	Geo. W. Thorpe	1
Adelaide	2	H. B.	1
King	1½	I. B.	1
W. E. R.	1	Maxwell	1
F. D. B.	1	Graham	1

Collected by Rich and Rich, 11s.

Rich and Rich	5	W. Fullbrook	1
Smarte Bros.	2	Charles Homer	1
H. O. Wills	1	Lola Patey	1

Collected by Carl Hertz, £1.

F. Bernard	1	Wartemberg Bros.	1
Fred Poplar	1	J. Wilson	1
Sinclair and Whiteford	1	H. Osborn	1
Edgar Romaine	1	Carl Hertz	1
Edgar Romaine	1	Carl Hertz	1
Little Tich	1	Carl Hertz	1
Little Tich	1	Carl Hertz	1
Little Tich	1	Mrs. Carl Hertz	1
Little Tich	1	Mrs. Carl Hertz	1
Little Tich	1	Mrs. Carl Hertz	1
Little Tich	1		

Collected by Bliss and Bliss, £1 12s.

George Bliss	1	Pushfoot	1
Leo Bliss	1	Nellie Bailey	1
Jack Cromo	1	Gerald	1
W. Stewart	1	Charlie Hardup	1
Ruby Aiston	1	Kitty Chic	1
Arthur Aiston	1	Zena Page	1
Billy Hoofum	1	Kathleen Tremayne	1
James Kiddie	1	May St. Pierre	1
Tom Kelso	1	Lena Arnold	1
E. Bernhardt	1	Aline Goldsmith	1
Harold Batt	1	Edie Graham	1
Mr. Skimps	1	Minnie Grey	1
Mr. Skopes	1	Eva Mountcastle	1
Ben De Freece	1	M. Maquade	1
Kitty Kildare	1	Nellie Bailey	1
Nellie Bailey	1	Marie Beresford	1

Collected by Fred Land, 16s.

Fred Land	1	Dick Cruikshanks	1
Mrs. Land	1	Carl Rosine	1
Charlie, Stage-Manager	1	H. Harwood	1
Harry Vardon	1	Grant and Grant	1
Dora Lyric	1	Counsel Louie	1
Yukio Tani	1	Mills, Oscar	1
Walter Bentley	1	Harry Dean	1
Wilfords	1	Effie Stuart	1

Collected by Dale and Vale, £1.

F. V. St. Clair	2½	Charlie Williams	1
De Biere	2½	Bert Williams	1
Lillian Victoria	2	Herbert Madden	1
Shoe Black Hero	1	Stylo	1
T. M. Paul	1	Laurie Stuart	1
Charles Lilburn	1	George and Lelia	1
Dick and Dorothy	1	Coro Corina	1
Kyoto	1	Dale and Vale	1

Collected by Tom Vine, £1 2s. 6d.

Tom Vine	2½	George Bernard	1
Sisters Grovini	2	Pichel Troupe	1
Jessie Harper	1½	Brothers Story	1
Fred Leighton	1	Famous Henderson	1
Arnold H. Colmer	1	Brothers Austin	1
Arthur Arscott	1	Lucy Coventry	1
George Arscott	1	F. R. Griffiths	½
George Neale	1	Joe Huda	½
H. F.	1	Mimic Maston	½
Carl Bernardo	1	Tony Rallis	½
Lee's Marionettes	1	J. C.	½

Collected by W. Kloof, Kloof and Field's *Aladdin* Co., £1 1s 6d.

Verona Quartette	2	W. Kloof, jun.	1
Bros. Shetland	1½	Harold Kloof, jun.	1
Harry Gold	1	Harry J. Nelson, Fleetwood	1
Bert Goldin	1	T. R. Bennett, Fleetwood	1
T. M. Lee Isor	1	T. P. Hornby, Fleetwood	1
Vulo	½	G. Taylor, Grimsby	½
Sisters Simmons	1	W. H. Betney, Grimsby	½
Fred Fields	1	Elephant (Potted Meat)	½
Florence Lewis	1	Dog (Karno)	½
Master Freddy Fields	1	May Florence	½
Allan Grey, Musical Director	1		
W. Kloof	1		
Cissie Ramsay	1		

Collected by Mr. T. S. Lonsdale, £1 13s.

W. Pratt	2	Sydney James	1
Velvero	1	R. Gilbert	1
T. S. Lonsdale	1	E. Pherson	1
Mr. Cragg	1	Andreassen Bros.	1
Mill May	1	Toch and Tard	1
Johnny Dwyer	1	Mike Cray	1
Frederic Culpitt	1	The Marconis	1
E. H. Williams	1	Clarions	1
F. Lauteron	1	E. Amoda	1
The Panamas	1	Ben Hur	1
Delornes	1	Carter Livessy	1
B. Stavordale	1	Lillian Rosebery	1
Jock Whiteford	1	Espinosa	1
G. Chamberlain	1	Amber Austa	1
Herbert Shelley	1	Will E. Haines	1
Frank Shelley	1	Robbie Roy	1

Collected by Carl and Carr, 11s.

Carl and Carr	2	A. Lotto	1
W. Brown	2	E. Lotto	1
Emily Custance	2	B. Roberts	1
E. Davey	1	V. Kingdon	1

Collected by Miss Nellie Christie, Argyle Theatre, Birkenhead, £1 3s.

Nellie Christie	5	George de Lara	1
B. N.	2	The Bassos	1
Ella Lane	1	Julian Ross	1
Eida Burman	1	Jack Charman	1
Herbert La Martine	1	S. de Groot	1
Sylvia du Barry	1	Maude Courteney	1
Eva Lumley	1	Mabel Bardine	1
Bertha Woolcote	1	Pattie Verner	1
May Fallowfield	1	Josie Mooney	1

Collected by Miss Sable Fern, £2 16s.

Malcolm Scott	10	Fred Wood	1
Sable Fern	5	George Peel	1
W. H. Galpin	2	Josh Dixon	1
J. E. Grist	2	Johnnie Whiteman	1
Frank Leo	1	Carrie Kenyon	1
Will Rags	1	Leah Ardell	1
W. Griffin	1	Dolly Moore	1
E. Dubois	1	Bee Cycles	1
Mrs. Dainton	1	Butcher	1
Marie Dainton	1	Hal Forde	1
The Allisons	1	Bill Manning	1
Geo. H. Brooks	1	Joe	1
Kenneth Macleod	1	Claire Romaine	1
A. Jennings	1	Ernest Rees	1
Belles in Orient	1	Will Poluski, jun.	1
Jock Whiteford	1	Edgar Romaine	1
Samuel Lloyd	1	Herbert Coltesmore	1
Alma Gray	1	Laurence Ratledge	1
George Kirby	1	J. McCabe	1
Neil Kenyon	1	H. J. Edwardes	1
Will Lambert	1		

Collected by Albert and Edmunds, 18s.

Mr. E. Edmunds	5	Fred Barnard	1
Patrick Playfair	1	Harry Weston	1
Miss Bella	1	Miss Blanche Albert	1
Mrs. Albert	1	C. Maude	1
Miss Rose Hamilton	1	Winnie Edmund	1
Mr. K. Hamilton	1	James Dunlop	1
A. Martini	1	Mr. J. Albert	1

Collected by Sisters Chester, £1 7s.

Florrie Chester	1	H. Horner	1
Leslie Chester	1	Great Hughes	1
Mrs. Chester	1	Albert Phanto	1
Ethel Condor	1	James Osmond	1
Fred Regina	1	Charles Mildare	1
Cliff Ryland	1	J. Allison	1
F. Picitt	1	Tom E. Conover	1
J. Kellino	1	Lester Carey (Three Careys)	1
Albert Kellino	1	Lennie and Hast	1
Will Kellino	1	Butterflies	1
John Kellino	1	E. W. Manning	1
Stacey and Williams	1	Henry Hilton	1
Mendel	1	W. H. Wallis	1
W. Meyer Sarnthaler	1		

Collected by Miss Lillie Lassah, 10s.

Mr. W. Onda	1	E. Sharpe	1
Charles Constant	1	J. McCarthy	1
J. B. Howard	1	Nobbler	1
G. Lambert	1	Jerry	1
Fred Bowyer	1	Lillie Lassah	1

Collected by Mr. Geo. Rapley, £1 1s.

Sandy and Carl	2	Edwin Zarac	1
Nellie Moore	1	Fred Lloyd	1
Beatie Moore	1	Tom Shenton	1
Marion May	1	Syd Russell	1
Bertha St. Ruth	1	Chas. Denman	1
Cissie Conyers	1	Fred Bentley	1
The Sydney Girls	1	W. Parker	1
F. J. Little	1	Geo. Rapley	1
Chas. Zarac	1	Mrs. Geo. Rapley	1
Ernest Zarac	1	Baby Rapley	1

Collected by Alley and Hart, 6s.

Harry Allan	1	Llewelyns	1
Rose Hart	1	Grosvenors	1
Olga Romanow	1	Robertys	1

Collected by Newham and Latimer, 11s.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Medhurst	2	J. A. Thomson	1
George Newham	1	Pulo	1
Fred Latimer	1	Fred Boulton	1
Prof. T. Howard	1	Mlle. Bartenelli	1
Lillian Howard	1	Albert Victor	1

Collected by Tom Hearn, Esq., £2 17s.

Geo. Robey	20	Arthur Reece	1
Tom Hearn	13	T. A. Shale	1
Millie Lindon	5	A. Haytor	1
Valli Valli	3	Edward Lewis	1
Nat Clifford	2	James Smith	1
M. W. King	1	J. H. Whittaker	1
L. Collingwood	1	Walter Stanley	1
George Formby	1	Helina Cecile	1
Carlton	1	Griff	1
Frank Haytor	1		

Collected by Jen Latona, 10s. 6d.

Frank and Jen Latona	5	Chas. Robinson	1
Jas. Holden	2½	Hardeen	1
		Marie Kendall	1

Collected by Mrs. Johnny Holland, 35s.

Johnny Holland	5	Miss Ruby Aiston	1
Mrs. J. Holland	1	Mr. Postlethwaite	1
Miss Janett Reynolds	1	Lois Du Cane	1
Miss Cissie Coman	1	Ethel Netherton	1
Miss Marion Scott	1	Maisano	1
Mr. Abe Smith	1	Ida Kathrena	1
Edwards and Dacre	1	George Formby	1
Hal Verdo	1	Chee You Say	1
Anonymous	1	E. W. Edmonds	1
F. Hurst	1	C. Schuberth	1
J. A. Thompson	1	Bert Brantford	1
Mr. Boulter	1	Lillie Soutter	1
W. W.	1	Winnie Derson	1
Mrs. Jones	1	Mona McDonald	1
Mr. Lapworth	1	Madge Daly	1
George Hall	1		

Collected by Terry and Bentley, 11s.

Marie Terry	1	Percy Wood	1
J. S. Bentley	1	Lily Tabrar	1
Tom Stuart	1	Royston Keith	1
Bohemian	1	Talwing	1
E. J. Wilkins	1	Three Bros. Huxter	1
Will C. Jones	1		

Collected by Miss Minnie Mace, 20s.

F. Warburton	1	Allen, H.	1
G. W. Taylor	1	Copper Coin Penny	1
Harry T. Freeman	1	Berty	1
Harry T. Freeman	1	Paint and Dimples	1
B. G. Thompson	1	Frank Ford	1
C. M'Fee	1	Tharp	1
J. Boulting	1	Likeum	1
C. Tharp	1	Lord Push	1
Morley	1	George Camp	1
F. Prince	1	Minnie Mace	1

Collected by Mr. Harry Taft, 5s.

Meier and Mora	1	Harry Taft	1
Allan and Hart	1	Bert Barnard	1
Doody and Wright	1		

Collected by Sterling and Love, 25s.

Sterling and Love	2	Clifford Morgan	1
Carney and Armstrong	2	Janet H. Reynolds	1
Happy Attwood	1	May Marton	1
J. Le Hay	1	Ethel Wilson	1
Tom Owen	1	Royal Welsh Singers	1
Wm. Stephens	1	Frank Parr	1
Silbon	1	E. R. Beaumont	1
T. Diacoff	1	Sisters Lytton	1
D. W. Watson	1	Phil Luck	1
Walter Cranch	1	Johnny Danvers	1
Tommy Neildon	1	Carson Hicks	1
		Tom Lloyd	1

Collected by My Fancy, 50s.

My Fancy	20	W. C. Jeapes	1
H. Bawn	3½	Percy Ford	1
A. Macey	2½	H. Jeapes	1
Edward Bawn	2	W. R. Pillanders	1
J. Sparrow	1	E. Bridgen	1
G. P. R. Burgess	1	W. R. M. Neill	1
E. C. Webb	1	W. E. Stephenson	1
Fred Leslie	1	F. Neiman	1
H. Balding	1	W. Johnson	1
Mrs. H. Balding	1	W Gassert	1
C. J. Doughty	1	W. Hollis	1
Dot Kemp	1	Will Oliver	1
Geo. H. Dyball	1	W. E. Samuels	1

Collected by Baker and Balfe, 16s.

Baker and Balfe	2	H. Elton	1
Harry Leybourne	2	Horace Jones	1
C. Wynn	2	Leo Derenda	1
Freeman and Tudor	2	George Green	1
Bros. Hayes	1	M. H. D.	1
A. C.	1	John Paxton	1

Collected by Mr. Pat Carey, 14s.

Mrs. Pat Carey	2	G. Gilbey	1
Sam Elton	1	Hans Mensel and others	1
Boyd and Gilfain	1	Alice Maydue	1
H. A. Meymott	1	W. H. J.	1
Mrs. H. A. Meymott	1	J. C. Brindley	1
Cambrian Trio	1	M. S. Richards	1
Mr. Pat Carey	1		

Collected by Mr. Geo. Antill, 11s.

Geo. Antill	1	C. E. Stelling and Dog	1
A. Monte Myro	1	Nobbler	1
A. Holland	1	Jerry	1
H. S.	1	Dave Poole's Figure	1
Ted Thomas	1	Dan Crawley	1
Geo. Newburn	1		

Collected by Rappo and Ella, 13s.

Rappo and Ella	2½	The Vyponds	1
C. Curlette	2½	The Lashmars	1
Chas. Denton	1	W. G. Webber	1
Chas. Banks	1	Mr. Morimura	1
Clyo and Rochelle	1	Alec Aubrey	1

Collected by the New Macs, 36s.

J. P. McNally (of New Macs)	5	Will Johnson	2½
John James	5	T. Ardell	2½
George MacNally	2½	Fred Donaldson	2½
C. Parsons	2½	J. J. McNally	2
J. G. Taylor	2½	Jack Denton	2
W. H. Kirby	2½	H. G.	2

Collected by Arthur Melrose, 19s.

Madge Grey	2½	C. W. Payne	1
P. Montagu	2½	Navadatha	1
Schenk Bros.	2	Harry Lawson	1
W. Bellonini	2	Princess Pauline	1
A. Melrose	1	H. Bellonini	1
Lyd, M.	1	Marguerite Broadfoote	1
Caldwell	1		
Chas. Johnston	1		

Collected by Johnny Dwyer, 6s.

Johnny Dwyer	1	Walter Graham	1
David Allis	1	Will Cornish	1
James Eadie	1	Lew Lake	1

Collected by Miss Ethel Ra-Leslie, 8s.

Ethel Ra-Leslie	1	Billy Brown	1
F. Travis	1	Madge Grey	1
Mrs. A. Scoble	1	Collins and Rice	1
Mrs. Percie Brown	1	Lileth Leyton	1

Collected by Mr. Fred Arthur, 20s.

Fred Arthur	3	Haidee Hemsley	1
Florence Calile	1	G. H. Snazelle	1
Gus Walker	1	Olive Tempest	1
Tom Finglas	1	Marjory Tempest	1
Cecil Kingsley	1	May Beatty	1
C. Hunt	1	Lily Pimmer	1
Gracie Persse	1	Edward Lauri	1
Nina Osborne	1	Mrs. Lily Vansburg	1
Agnes Gunn	1		

Collected by Bosanquet, 2s.

E Bosanquet	1	G. Bosanquet	1

Collected by Hanvarr and Anna Lee, 36s.

Anna Lee	2	Alec Huline	1
Hanvarr	2	Will Onda	1
Mr. and Mrs. Ganly	2	Dusty Rhodes	1
Walter Emerson	2	Roze and Calvert	1
W. J. Williams	1	Oh Yes	1
Leslie Romain	1	Charlie Rich	1
Zeta Grey	1	Elsie Roby	1
W. Howgate	1	Mina Lee	1
T. W. Warden	1	Tommy Downie	1
For our "Anna," F. K.	1	Richie Hanvarr	1
Mrs. Matthews	1	"Dunter"	1
R. Lee	1	Paul Duster	1
Tom Le May	1	J. Crawford	1
Robbie Roy	1	McAndra	1
George Tacius	1	A. S. Farrill	1
Lill Soutar	1	F. G. Murdoch	1

Collected by Mr. Frank Coyle, 5s.

Frank Coyle	1	Miss Violet Coyle	1
Will Murray	1	Mrs. Frank Coyle	1
Arthur Lynch	1		

Collected by Miss Gertie Gitana, 22s.

Arthur Prince	5	Miss Beatrice	1
Hill and Whitaker	5	S. Baskerville	1
Gertie Gitana	2½	Ivy Ongar	1
Prince's "Mac"	2½	H. Fletcher	1
J. O'Connor	1	Mabel La Blanche	1
Mabel O'Connor	1		

Collected by Fred Herbert, 26s.

Edgar Stebbings	5	W. J. Williams	1
The Howes	2	J. Warden	1
Sisters Hall	2	Harry Luck	1
Fred Herbert	1	La Rochelle	1
Will Leslie	1	A Friend	1
Three Ettenas	1	Madge Temple	1
Two Wiltons	1	Steve McCarthy	1
Fred Leslie	1	Ruby Emmerson	1
E. Cooke	1	H. D. Wills	1
Vowles and Bryan	1	The Howards	1

Collected by Lambert and Glover, 12s.

Geo. Wood (Junction Hotel, Selly)	5	J. Heppell	1
Vandinoff	2	W. Wilson	1
Lambert and Glover	2	Lambert and Glover	1

Collected by Elliotts and Savonas, 60s.

Mrs. J. B. Elliott	10½	Mrs. Ralph Elliott	1
Tom Elliott	5	Milner Verren	1
James Elliott	5	Ralph Elliott	1
Pauline Elliott	5	Senorita Eloina	1
Matthews Elliott	5	May E. Savona	1
Annie Elliott	5	Miss Florence	1
Harry Elliott	5	Annie Savona	1
May Elliott	5	Violet Elliott	½
Edwin Brett

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

LISTS OF FAIRS, FEASTS, AND WAKES IN ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, AND WALES, FOR MAY.

ENGLAND.

May 1. Castlesacre (1,600)
May 1. Holbeach (4,800)
May 1. Lancaster (40,300)
May 1. Leigh (Dorset) (400)
May 1. Ludlow (4,600)
May 1. Norton St. Phillips (600)
May 1. Poole (16,500)
May 1. Reading (60,000)
May 1. Stockton-on-Tees (51,476)
May 1. Tenbury (1700)
May 1. Ollerton (770)
May 1. Stockport (70,600)
May 2. Bishop Auckland (12,000)
May 2. Cleobury Mortimer (1,200)
May 2. Coventry (70,000)
May 2. Leominster (6,000)
May 2. Longridge (4,300)
May 2. Worthen (11,000)
May 3. Barton-on-Humber (5,700)
May 3. Bury (60,000)
May 3. Consett (10,000)
May 3. Horncastle (4,000)
May 4. Bishop's Castle (1,400)
May 4. Boston (15,700)
May 4. Bramley Carnival (9,000)
May 4. Gosport (29,000)
May 4. Guildford (16,000)
May 4. Northallerton (4,000)
May 4. Wooler (1,500)
May 6. Abingdon (6,500)
May 6. Alnwick (6,700)
May 6. Chester (36,000)
May 6. Cornhill-on-Tweed (600)
May 6. Dudley (49,000)
May 6. Heckmondwike (10,000)
May 6. Ivinghoe (1,300)
May 6. Lewes (11,300)
May 6. Looe (2,000)
May 6. Macclesfield (34,700)
May 6. Morpeth (6,200)
May 6. Pleasley (1,500)
May 7. Ipswich (66,600)
May 7. Kirkhampton (500)
May 7. Leintwardine (1,500)
May 7. Maldon (5,600)
May 8. Braintree (5,300)
May 8. Colne (23,000)
May 8. Hereford (21,400)
May 8. Market Bosworth (911)
May 8. Swaffham (3,400)
May 9. Bildesden (5,000)
May 9. Blyth (1,629)
May 9. Dorking (7,709)
May 9. Kirkby Lonsdale (1,600)
May 9. Loughborough (21,500)
May 9. Mirfield Feast (3,867)
May 9. Newbury (11,000)
May 9. North Walsham (4,000)
May 9. Orpington (4,000)
May 9. Soham (4,200)
May 9. Stamfordham (900)
May 9. Wigan (70,000)
May 9. Beaconsfield (1,600)
May 10. Farnham (6,124)
May 10. Stonehouse (1,800)
May 11. Chelmsford (12,000)
May 11. Clun ((1,700)
May 11. Congleton (10,800)
May 11. Haverhill (5,000)
May 11. Holmfirth (9,000)
May 11. Lambourn (900)
May 11. Leicester (211,600)
May 11. Lowestoft (30,000)
May 11. Lymington (4,200)
May 11. Much Wenlock (2,300)
May 11. Richmond (Yorks.) (4,000)
May 11. Spalding (9,400)
May 11. Staines (6,700)
May 11. Sturminster Newton (2,000)
May 11. Totnes (4,000)
May 11. Wadebridge (2,300)
May 11. Worsted (800)
May 11. Yaxley (1,300)
May 13. Hindon (500)
May 13. Haslemere (1,000)
May 13. Kirkby Stephen (2,000)
May 13. Long Sutton (2,400)
May 13. Pembridge (1,100)
May 13. Spilsbury (1,500)
May 13. Stow-on-the-Wold (1,900)
May 14. Arundel (2,800)
May 14. Bicester (3,300)
May 14. Bodmin (4,400)
May 14. Burwell (Cambs.) (2,000)
May 14. Chertsey (12,806)
May 14. Haltwistle (12,000)
May 14. Hartlepool (22,800)
May 14. Nuneaton (25,000)
May 14. Stafford (20,275)
May 15. Over (Cheshire) (6,200)
May 16. Louth (9,500)
May 17. Ashford (Kent) (13,000)
May 17. Brentford (15,200)
May 17. Earlestown (8,000)
May 17. Maryport (12,000)
May 17. Newton-le-Willows (16,708)
May 18. Caister (Lincs.) (2,000)
May 18. Carlisle (25,500)
May 18. Clayton-le-Moors (8,200)
May 18. Egremont (Cumb.) (8,000)
May 18. Leek (15,500)
May 18. Malton (4,800)
May 18. North Shields (50,000)
May 18. Preston (113,000)
May 18. Redruth (10,500)
May 18. Rothbury (1,300)
May 18. Runcorn (16,500)
May 18. Southwell (3,425)
May 18. Sutton (262)
May 18. Stagshawbank (14,000)
May 18. Tyldesley (1,400)
May 18. Wellington (7,300)
May 20. Amersham (3,000)
May 20. Appleby (1,800)
May 20. Bakewell (3,500)
May 20. Barrow-in-Furness (57,600)
May 20. Biggleswade (5,000)
May 20. Bilston (24,000)
May 20. Birkenhead (111,000)
May 20. Blackheath (21,000)
May 20. Blockley (1,463)
May 20. Brierfield (7,300)
May 20. Cartmel (400)
May 20. Castleford Feast (15,650)
May 20. Cheltenham (49,600)
May 20. Clevedon (6,000)
May 20. Cockermouth (6,400)
May 20. Coltishall (900)
May 20. Dalton-in-Furness (13,000)
May 20. Doncaster (29,000)
May 20. Evesham (7,100)
May 20. Garston (17,300)
May 20. Great Harwood (12,000)
May 20. Hampstead Heath
May 20. Helston (3,000)
May 20. Hendon (Welsh Harp) (17,000)
May 20. Hinckley (11,300)
May 20. Horbury Feast (5,678)
May 20. Jarrow-on-Tyne (31,300)
May 20. Lichfield (9,125)
May 20. Malvern (16,500)
May 20. Melton Mowbray (7,500)
May 20. Methley Feast (5,000)
May 20. Middlesbrough (91,300)
May 20. Morecambe (12,000)
May 20. New Brighton (10,000)
May 20. Newcastle-on-Tyne (214,803)
May 20. Newmarket (10,700)
May 20. Northampton (87,000)
May 20. Northwich (17,600)
May 20. Oulton Feast (1,684)
May 20. Portsmouth (189,000)
May 20. Reigate (26,000)
May 20. Richmond (Surrey) (31,000)
May 20. Rushden (12,500)
May 20. Ryde (11,000)
May 20. Salford (Trinity Markets) (221,000)
May 20. Sheffield Fair (361,000)
May 20. Southport (48,400)
May 20. South Shields (97,300)
May 20. Stafford (20,275)
May 20. St. Ives (Hunts.) (6,700)
May 20. Taunton (21,600)
May 20. Thornaby (16,000)
May 20. Torksey (400)
May 20. Torquay (33,600)
May 20. Tunbridge Wells (33,400)
May 20. Wanstead Flats (9,200)
May 20. York Fair (75,560)
May 21. Alford (2,500)
May 21. Bognor (6,200)
May 21. Fakenham (200)
May 21. Halesworth (2,300)
May 21. Hitchin (10,000)
May 21. Ipswich (66,600)
May 21. Leighton Buzzard (6,400)
May 21. Longton (36,000)
May 21. Penrith (9,200)
May 22. Askam-in-Furness (3,300)
May 22. Barnard Castle (4,300)
May 22. Bedworth (5,000)
May 22. Bolton (162,220)
May 22. Broadway, Worcester (1,539)
May 22. Broughton-in-Furness (1,100)
May 22. Elmley (1,400)
May 22. Felling (32,500)
May 22. Truro (11,562)
May 22. Workington (26,000)
May 23. Adwalton Feast (1,650)
May 23. Bacup (22,500)
May 23. Bingham (1,500)
May 23. Birmingham (522,182)
May 23. Bristol (329,849)
May 23. Buckingham (3,400)
May 23. Camborne (14,300)
May 23. Cambourne (8,200)
May 23. Long Melford (3,300)
May 23. Mickleton (729)
May 23. Standish (6,300)
May 23. Ulverston (10,000)
May 24. Chipping Campden (1,700)
May 24. Deptford (110,000)
May 24. Derby (106,400)
May 24. Haslingden (18,600)
May 24. Skipton Fair (10,800)
May 25. Ashford (663)
May 25. Brackenfield (344)
May 25. Cowes (8,700)
May 25. Craven Arms (1,525)
May 25. Kendal (14,200)
May 25. Keswick (4,500)
May 25. Grimesthorpe (4,750)
May 25. Lancaster (40,300)
May 25. Littlehampton (7,400)
May 25. Snowshill Wakes (242)
May 25. Southampton (104,911)
May 27. Bidford-on-Avon (1,466)
May 27. Ossett Feast (5,562)
May 27. Crowle (2,800)
May 27. Hounslow (6,790)
May 27. Millom (10,400)
May 27. Pool (1,600)
May 27. Southwold (3,400)
May 28. Bridgnorth (6,000)
May 28. Briston (11,000)
May 28. Fiskerton (283)
May 29. Iron Bridge (3,000)
May 29. Thorpe (Surrey) (600)
May 30. Alston (Cumb.) (2,300)
May 30. Ely (8,000)
May 30. Messingham (1,300)

SCOTLAND.

May 1. Stewartown (2,858)
May 2. Burntisland (4,720)
May 6. Aberdeen (19,288)
May 14. Jedburgh (2,222)
May 14. Renfrew (9,299)
May 16. Langholm (3,142)
May 16. Paisley (79,353)
May 18. Kilmarnock (34,161)
May 21. Alyth (3,000)
May 24. Inverness (31,102)
May 28. Airdie (19,288)
May 31. Berwick-on-Tweed (13,437)

WALES.

May 2. Brecon (6,000)
May 3. Montgomery (1,200)
May 4. Lydney (3,000)
May 6. Crickhowell (12,000)
May 6. Llanidloes (3,797)
May 9. Llanelly (23,000)
May 10. Penygroes
May 13. Knighton (3,000)
May 13. Monmouth (5,000)
May 13. Talgarth (1,220)
May 14. Abergavenny (8,000)
May 20. Cardiff (164,000)
May 20. Flint (5,125)
May 20. Merthyr Tydfil (26,500)
May 20. Mold (4,000)
May 20. Newport (Monmouth) (67,000)
May 20. Risca (8,000)
May 21. Denbigh (6,000)
May 25. Treorchy (12,000)

Oxford May Fair.

THE May Festivals at Oxford take place on the 3rd of the Month of Flowers. The fair is principally in the capable hands of the local showmen, among whom will be found the Jennings Bros., with electric-driven horses and grand electric orchestrions. The other local caterers include the Dolloways and Buckland, with machine novelties, shooters, cokers, and variety stalls.

OUR Oxford correspondent calls attention to this fixture as being capable of development. It is held on the Cattle Market Ground, and he thinks that side-shows and a helter-skelter might do well to remember it.

Knutsford May Festival.

THE picturesque Cheshire town of Knutsford is the centre of the modern revival of May-Day Festivals. Nowhere else is the pageant of crowning the Queen of May so elaborately celebrated. The procession that parades the narrow streets of the quaint old town, the Queen's courtiers and the various notabilities in attendance at the Court of Beauty, the Ambassadors representing the nationalities of the British Empire all take their allotted part in the gay throng, the stage-management and marshalling of the procession being a matter for which Knutsford is justly famous.

The Morris Dancers.

QUITE a special feature and an unfailing attraction of these May Festivals is the company of the Morris Dancers—the agile Lancashire lads in their wooden shoon dancing their way along in the procession. The cult of the Morris Dance is quite a Lancashire passion. Even to the tie of a ribbon bow, to the exact number of steps in a particular part of the dance, all, all, has been fixed and settled for ages. Tradition rules the dance, the dresses, and all else. No one dare alter or vary it. It is an abiding monument of the power and tenacity of glorious old customs enshrined in the heart and life of the people.

Showmen and the May Festival.

IN this truly national renaissance of the love of life and colour showmen have taken a conspicuous and important part. In the early days of the revival of May-Day Fair at Knutsford the late James Dean developed the fair. Dean was succeeded by John Whiting, who for many years past has managed the fairground. In fact, both Mr. and Mrs. Whiting throw all their energies into this unique local celebration, and year by year Mrs. Whiting presents the May Queen with a costly and beautiful basket of choice flowers. There is the heartiest recognition on the part of the local committee organising the Festival of the necessary co-operation of the showmen, and the fair is regarded as part and parcel of the May-Day festivities.

The Showmen's Guild at Knutsford.

THE Rev. T. Horne has arranged with the Vicar of Knutsford to conduct Guild services on the Sunday before May Day (to-morrow, April 28), and also to address a meeting of Guild members in the afternoon of that day. The Guild Chaplain is quite satisfied with the result of his work on the fairgrounds. At Manchester in Easter week, at Wrexham Fair, and at various centres in Wales he has met with the most cordial reception, and the propaganda work of the Guild has been enthusiastically received by the showpeople.

A VERY pleasing and significant result of this work of Mr. Horne's has been the manifest interest of the outside public in the life and business interests of the travelling showman.

Stockport May Fair.

WE understand that the British Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen's Union has again obtained the lease of the Fairground for the May Festival. The energetic secretary of the Union, Mr. Thomas Hurst, will, as before, set out the ground, and the local caterers, Messrs. James Hibbert and Sons, will display their well-known machines and other novelties.

Newcastle Temperance Festival.

FOR some years past efforts have been made to reduce the hitherto exorbitant rents for shows, &c., at this Northern fixture. Cut-throat competition and unreasonable business rivalry on the part of local lessees had raised the price of the ground to that extent that showmen found nearly all their profits absorbed in ground rents. It was sincerely hoped that this year would show a great reduction in exorbitant charges. Mutual arrangements with this desirable end in view had been arrived at. The two trade societies concerned had decided upon a reasonable maximum sum to offer for the ground, and all seemed to promise well for the success of the effort to bring the rent within reasonable limits. We regret to hear that this much-desired result has been prevented this year by an offer from another source, which was accepted, and so we shall witness again (unless better counsels prevail) the continuance of those trade rivalries that throw back for the time being the organisation of showmen to prevent exorbitant rent.

WE are informed that the British Roundabout Proprietors' Union have advised their members, in conjunction with the North of England Amusement Caterers' Federation, to keep away from Newcastle this year.

Aberdare Fair.

THIS fair, as usual, attracted some of the best shows on the Welsh circuit, the principal exhibits being by Messrs. Jacob and John Studt. The shows were:—Jacob Studt's coliseum of animated photography, Chipperfield's menagerie, and Wadbrook's electrograph and Empire varieties, and Professor Scarrett's school of athletes and boxers. The machines included sets of motor-cars and ostriches by the brothers John and Jacob Studt. There were also the usual attendant novelties—shooters, cokers, side-shows, varieties, and stalls by the caterers attending the Welsh fair.

Pontypool Fair.

THIS spring fixture had for its entertainers this season J. Scarrott with boxing-booth; Sid White with tunnel railway, helter-skelter, and over-boats; Plinston Bros., with razzle-dazzle; Miles Jervis, with swings, Alpine wire, and shooting-range; and Messrs. Hayle, Hall, Danter, Gaze, Challis, and Davies, with bottle-smashers, pipe-breakers, coker-nut sheets, and stalls.

Carmarthen.

CONSIDERABLE dissatisfaction is felt in this town at the refusal of the County Licensing Committee to grant Mr. Haggar, jun., a dramatic licence for his portable theatre. For some time past Mr. Haggar has been located at Neath, and he proposed erecting his theatre in the Market-place, Carmarthen. Mr. Haggar is the son of the well-known and highly-esteemed South Wales Bioscope proprietor, Mr. William Haggar.

WE can only express our own sympathy with Mr. Haggar, jun., and at the same time our strong hope that licensing bodies throughout the country will realise their public duty to encourage and not to hinder high-class amusements for the people.

Mold Fancy Fair.

THIS Fair was held in the Cricket Field, and consisted of P. Collins's racing motor-cars, twin yachts, helter-skelter, slipping-the-slip, and animated palace of pictures and variety entertainment; Wortley's colliery exhibition; West's novelty booth; Wright, Fossett, with Winchester ranges; also Harry Fossett's photo booth; cokers by Wright, Halls; Emmas by Hall, James, and Curry; the whole making a great fair, brilliantly lit with electricity.

Pontypool Fair.

AT this Fair the shows were Testo's cinematograph, Buckley's freaks, J. Scarratt's boxing-booth, and Lucas's novelty booths; while there were J. Studt's motor-cars, the tunnel of S. White, and the whirling-the-whirl of Plinston Bros., big boats by S. White, high-fliers by J. Studt and Gervis, and shooting-the-shoot of S. White. Among the novelties were Messrs. Clark, Vail, and Gervis' rifle saloons, J. Butlin's bottle-smashers and Emma sheets, cokers by Jervis and Davis, and roll-up boards by Gage and Challis. The dates for the year of Pontypool Fairs are April 2, April 22, July 5, and Oct. 10.

Charles Urban's New Work.

"THE Cinematograph in Science and Education and Matters of State" is the title of an excellently got-up little brochure. Mr. Charles Urban demonstrates the uses to which the cinematograph may be put. Having applied it to the amusement of the people, he now seeks to popularise it amongst our teachers, professors, and politicians as an aid to their studies and work. A copy of the instructive little pamphlet will be forwarded gratis on application to the Charles Urban Trading Co., Ltd., 48, Rupert-street, London, W.

Bedford April Fair.

THIS annual event, held on Corporation Ground on Monday and Tuesday, was graced with fine weather and thousands of visitors from the town and outlying villages. The attractions include Chas. Thurston's helter-skelter, H. and W. Thurston's cinematograph, Thurston and Sons' switch-back motor-cars, H. Thurston and Sons' round-abouts, Professor Goldsmith's boxing-booth, Madam Lambert, and Braham's birds.

Warminster Spring Fair.

AT the monthly meeting of the Warminster Urban Council on Monday there was a lengthy debate over the pleasure fair which had been revived after a lapse of some years. Various complaints were made by tradespeople in the town, but one speaker remarked that if they attempted to shift the fairs they would have to fight the town; and others were of the opinion that the townspeople would resist any such attempt. The Clerk said they had no power in the matter. The fair was a chartered fair, and open, and these people had a right to come. The only thing they could do was to shift the venue, and that could only be done with the consent of the lord of the manor (Lord Bath) and the Local Government Board. A small committee was appointed to see what could be done. It was stated that the showpeople appeared to fully know their rights at chartered fairs. The action of the manager of the tolls in admitting the shows was upheld.

Guild Subscriptions, 1907.

PER Mr. Chaplain, J. W. Taylor (Gorton), 10s.; per Mr. Mercer, Mrs. Ann Jones, 5s.; Geo. Smith, 5s.; J. Mitchell, 5s.; per Mr. Shuttleworth, Paul Blakey, 5s.

Horwich Spring Fair.

MESSRS. MAKIN BROS., have command of the ground for the above fair, which is in full swing. Messrs. Makin's flying motor cars and gondolas, whoa Emmas, and J. Sharp's horses and swings, &c., keep the place alive.

Redruth.

ALEXANDRA'S CIRCUS visited Redruth on Saturday last, and performed to crowded and delighted audiences.

"THE BELLS"—A TRAGEDY.

One of the latest and most exciting films published by the Vitagraph Co. is entitled "Retribution." This film is based on the famous play entitled *The Bells*, played with such great success by the late Sir Henry Irving. A poor innkeeper, by name Mathias, is in great poverty and unable to pay his rent. He is visited by a representative of the law and two gendarmes, who are about to dispossess him, but his wife pleads so earnestly with the sheriff that he consents to an extension of time. The same evening a travelling Jew visits the inn and pays for his refreshment from a belt of gold, which he wears around his waist. The innkeeper, who is desperate, and whose avarice is aroused by the sight of the gold, determines to waylay the Jew and rob him. The guest drives away in his sleigh through a winding path in the woods, and Mathias, seizing his woodman's axe, takes a short cut through the wood, and, as his victim drives by kills him with the axe, and, after possessing himself of the gold belt, carries the body on his shoulder to a lime-kiln, into which he throws his gruesome burden, thus destroying all traces of the crime. But, although the material evidence has been disposed of, he cannot escape from his conscience; he reaches home and is counting over his ill-gotten gains when his wife enters. She recoils at the sight of the money, and he locks himself in his room overcome with remorse. Then we see a series of wonderful visions or dreams illustrating with vivid power the agony of a guilty conscience. He sees again the murder in all its horrible reality, then he views himself in the court room, being tried for his life. The murdered Jew appears and forces Mathias to make a written confession, and, although he fights against doing this, he is unable to prevent it. This scene then fades away, and he sees himself being roughly dragged up the steps of a scaffold, while before him a multitude of angry faces hurl jeers and curses at him. The effect of this vision is so terrible that he awakes from his horrible dream, gasping for breath, and, staggering to the centre of the room, falls dead, just as his wife and some of the villagers, who were drinking in the room below, rush in, alarmed by the noise of his fall.

Lord John Sanger and Sons' circus was stationed in Castle Fields, at Castleford, on Monday, performances being given both afternoon and evening. In the evening it was calculated that close upon seven thousand persons paid for admission.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

STORIES OF SHOWMAN LIFE.

By the Rev. T. HORNE, Hon. Chaplain, the Showmen's Guild.

"CHORUS, TOMMY."

Probably no show has had a more abiding interest and popularity than the marionette theatre. Although at the present moment there are but few such theatres travelling our fairs, we must look for other reasons rather than decline in popular esteem for their paucity in numbers. The tremendous popularity and the endless variety of the cinematograph has not tended to drive other shows off the road, but it has also come to the front at the psychological moment when electricity has revolutionised the showman world as it has revolutionised all other departments of human life and enterprise.

We are to notice that despite the well-known supremacy of the cinematograph as the up-to-date show, there still exist shows that combine marionettes with pictures. This is notably true of such showman worthies as Edward Lawrence and Harry Ashington, and that we have on the road marionette theatres and marionette turns of an extremely artistic and popular character on the variety stage.

Our story is an episode in the life of a marionette worker, who may be justly regarded as the greatest expert of his time—the actual pioneer of such magnificent mimic theatres as the Holden's, of world-wide fame.

Edward Calver the elder flourished in the first half of the eighteenth century, and his son, Edward Calver the younger, carried out the traditions and ideas of his father to such perfection that Calver's marionette show was the centre of attraction at our great pleasure fairs. It remained for the genius of Thomas Holden to take the marionette as the clever Calvers left it and to lift the marionette theatre to its highest pinnacle of success. That, however, is another story. This tale concerns Edward Calver the elder, who was known throughout the land as "Chorus Tommy." In those far-off days, more so than now, the people fixed upon some trait in the character of their supreme favourites in the world of shows, some mark of his genius, and from that they named them.

Calver was known as "Chorus Tommy" from the catchword of an old ballad sung by two marionettes in the entertainment. So popular was this particular singing turn that no marionette theatre in the country travelled by the Calvers dare omit it from their répertoire.

The ballad singers were an old and very deaf Navy veteran and his dear old wife; the charm and pathos of the ballad were in the way the dear old couple sang it. The cleverly-worked figures—the old one-legged, one-eyed sailor, scraping an accompaniment to the air of the song on his fiddle; the old woman, in her feeble, senile treble, singing the words of the ballad, at the end of each verse had to shout into the ear of her deaf partner, "Chorus, Tommy."

At this cue from the old woman the old man began with a presto accompaniment on the fiddle and a shuffle of his leg-stump to yell the chorus in a thunderous roar that set the audience going, and again and again the chorus would ring out.

This ballad and the way in which it was rendered was not only the great source of Calver's success, but it was also closely linked with the greatest trouble of his life. Minnie Calver, his favourite child, and the one and only member of the family that inherited the father's dramatic and mimetic ability, used to help in the double voice part of "Chorus, Tommy"—in fact, so singularly deficient were the other members of the Calver family in the spoken part, and so remarkably versatile was Calver, that, whilst the family worked the figures Calver himself would speak the words of the whole play. So wonderful was his power of vocal mimicry, so rich and flexible his voice, that it was the spoken word quite as much as the clever working of the figures that drew the immense audiences to the show.

Minnie Calver, like many gifted daughters of the road before her and since, chose her own path in life at the time of crisis. Her case, like many another, only illustrates the world-wide ignorance of parental love to determine what in the great hazards of life is really best for its offspring.

Minnie Calver married wisely the man of her choice, and after events proved that the man of her choice was the right man, although her autocrat of a father prognosticated all manner of evil, and also in his stubborn self-will and self-love refused to be convinced otherwise. Young and full of new ideas, Minnie and her husband were amongst the first flight of British show-people to cross the Atlantic and to begin show life in the New World.

For years the old man's pride and the difficulties of communication between the two countries prevented the reconciliation of father and daughter. At last, however, the long absent couple, with two bonnie boys of their own, returned to England from America. Minnie found the old people's show stationed at Stalybridge for the winter season.

* * * * * *

"'Chorus Tommy' has coom agen. 'Chorus Tommy' is on t' fair-ground, lads," were the words of welcome on every lip as the theatre was being built up.

"Ah, me lud, thet's true enuff; but t'owd chap winna sing 'Chorus, Tommy' no more," was the confidential reply of a listener who posed as being in the family secrets of the showman.

"Yoo're tu yung to remember abawt his bonnie lass, Minnie, wot ran away to Amerikey and brock his hert. He's niver sung 'Chorus, Tommy' sin' he sung it last wi' her. He's niver bin the same mon sin' then, I can tell yo'."

"Well, I've herd my feyther speak on that. I sud so loike to hear it," was the remark of another interested listener.

"I'll try and get a few to go wi' me on t' oppening neet, and win raise a shout for it as a sort of encore. I shall be theer, me luds, and hope you'll get it, thet's all."

Now, it chanced that Minnie's husband was listening to this deeply interesting chapter of their family history, and the conversation gave him an idea that sent him back to his wife and to the elaboration of a scheme of reconciliation that would touch the heart of the old marionette worker.

The mimic play for the opening night of the marionette theatre was *The Miller and his Men*, produced and staged with the scenic and pyrotechnic effects for which the Calvers were famous, concluding with the pantomime of *The Beauty and the Beast*.

Between the play and the pantomime were to be the usual interlude of trick figures and vocal turns. The theatre was crowded to its utmost capacity. The full enjoyment and the enthusiasm of the audience was immense. Old Calver was at his best, and his sons and daughters still with him did full credit to their reputation as figure-workers. The first singing figure, the Country Joskin, finished his turn, amidst tumultuous applause. Someone in the audience raised the cry, "'Chorus, Tommy.' Let's have 'Chorus, Tommy.'" This cry was taken up by the whole audience. It was alternated with long and sustained applause. Calver came to the front and bowed his acknowledgment, but listen to him they would not. "'Chorus, Tommy,' 'Chorus, Tommy.' Let's have 'Chorus, Tommy.'"

This diversion at the front was the opportunity of the family behind to join in the plot to help their absent sister to soften her father's heart and to get the dear old figures ready for the stage.

Minnie was already in hiding, and, with streaming eyes and throbbing heart, waiting for her old-time part in the duet.

With a troubled face old Calver said to his eldest son, "You did right to get out the figures. I must do my best with the double part, but I fear it will break my heart to sing it again."

"Put your heart into it, dear old dad, and you will find it all turn out right."

On to the centre of the stage came the figures, only to be welcomed with thunderous applause. "Good old 'Chorus, Tommy,' good old 'Chorus, Tommy'!"

When the musical introduction had been played, in the dead hush of the expectant audience, Calver began, in the feeble treble of the old woman, to sing "Bartholomew Fair," better known as "Chorus, Tommy":—

"'Ow cruel wos the pressgang
Wot pressed my love from me;
'Ow cruel wos the little boat
Wot took 'im hout to sea;
'Ow cruel wos the Hadmiral
Wot did the fleet command;
Hand 'ow cruel was the big ship
Wot took 'im from the land."

With breathless attention the audience watched the clever and life-like manipulation of the dollies, the old-time business at the end of the verse—the deaf sailor's absence of mind until his old woman shouted in his ear, "Chorus, Tommy."

Then the sudden raucous energy of the sea dog, with the clever double-voiced treble and bass of Calver in the rollicking sea chorus, "Tooral looral high do, tooral looral hey," with additions by the audience *ad libitum*.

The whole family, behind the scenes, saw in eager and expectant anxiety the tense excitement of their dear old parent. They marked the sympathetic note in his voice as he sang the second verse, whilst the hiding Minnie was bracing herself for the critical moment of self-revelation.

"'Ow cruel wos the splinter
Wot shot 'is won heye hout;
'Ow cruel wos the cannon ball
Wot shot 'is won leg hoff;
'Ow cruel wos the capting,
Hand 'ow cruel wos the men;
They didn't care a *fargin*
If we never met agen."

At the last line, "If we never met agen," the old showman utterly broke down, and cried to his eldest son, "Bring off the dolls; I can sing no more. Minnie, Minnie, my poor wandering Minnie!"

From the opposite wing came a wonderful mimicry of old Calver's voice, "Chorus, Tommy"; and Calver's sons, working the figures, went through the dear old business. Teddy Calver the younger broke the silence for the first time, and sang, as best he could, the old sailor's part.

The audience, all unconscious of the play behind the scenes, took up the chorus, and sang it again and again.

It was the brave, tender-hearted, loving Minnie who held to her heaving bosom the bowed head of the now astounded old showman.

It did not need many words. Their hearts were beating in unison; and the anthem joy of their reconciliation made harmony with the exultant chorus of the shouting audience. It was the voice of Minnie finished the song:—

"Now my dear old love and I
Werry seldom fights;
Except when he gets grog aboard
Hand I gets gin at nights.
We roam about from fair to fair,
From town to town we pass;
We illustrate the story
Of a sailor and his lass."

What a mercy that clamant and insistent demand, "Encore, encore, encore!" was. Again the artist within the father triumphed. "Chorus, Tommy" was sung as never before—or since.

What worlds of love, what worlds of tender pathos father and child put into the dear old words:—

"How cruel was the captain,
How cruel was the men;
They did not care a fargin
If we never met agen."

All the cruel years of their heart exile were now over; the family were one again. Their tragedy of real life was ended. Now the rollicking fun of the pantomime could fittingly finish the performance.

When old Calver went to the front, in answer to the long and sustained demand for his presence, he led by the hand his darling daughter Minnie. He told the people that not alone to him was all the credit, but that his daughter, just come home from far-away America, had sung with him, and for him when his heart was too full for song, "Chorus, Tommy."

MASKELYNE AND DEVANT'S.

The most recent novelty in the programme at St. George's Hall is supplied by Mr. Percy French, who as a quick humorous draughtsman takes high rank. In the first place he defty illustrates the story told in rhyme of the courtship of a rich young man, rapidly sketching portraits of the suitor, the young lady, and her parents, a few strokes of the crayon changing the expression of the faces in a most amusing manner. Finally the couple are duly married, and we see a picture of the first-born in an amiable and an unamiable mood. Mr. French next proceeds to illustrate a theory that man was descended not from monkeys but from spiders, the sketch of a big spider being cleverly transformed into the features of a man's face. Lastly the artist tells a sort of fairy story concerning a hermit who was skilled in the magical art. In illustration of the tale a picture is drawn, and on being reversed this is found to be a pretty landscape with a flock of sheep travelling along a country lane. Mr. French has a pleasant conversational style, and his entertainment is a very agreeable addition to the present programme.

Mr. Karl Germain continues with marked success his "experiments in sleight-of-hand and stage conjuring." His production of hot coffee from the most unpromising material is an ingenious trick, which is greeted with applause, cups of the steaming beverage being handed round to lady members of the audience. Another trick which never fails to excite amusement as well as wonderment is the discovery of a live rabbit underneath the overcoat worn by a lad who has been induced to take part in an experiment in connection with a lady's watch, which is found attached to a ribbon around the animal's neck. The mysterious growth of a rose tree in full bloom is also a neatly worked piece of stage conjuring, and altogether the "American magician," as he is called, proves himself to be a past-master in his line of business. Mr. J. N. Maskelyne continues to excite astonishment with his "New Page" effect and his illusion "A Side Issue," the spirit mediums being challenged to produce a materialised visitant from another world under like conditions. The performance of Joad Heteb, Egyptian necromancer, presents specially interesting features; and for a welcome variation from the mysterious and unaccountable the audience is indebted to Mr. Barclay Gammon, whose humorous musical interlude, "Tunes and Tarradiddles," is greatly appreciated. The "perplexing playlet" called *The Enchanted Hive*, excellently played by the Messrs. F. W. Arnold-Mussett, Edward Morehen, Chas. Glenrose, and the Misses Helen McCulloch and Cassie Bruce, remains an interesting item in the bill. The orchestra is under the able direction of Mr. F. Cramer, and their rendering of the descriptive fantasia entitled "The Wedding Day" is received with well-deserved applause.

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WANTED, First-class Companies, for
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.,
May 13, 27, Aug. 5, 12, Sept. 9, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING,
Aug. 5, 12, 19, 26, Sept. 9, 16, Oct. 14, 21, Nov. 11, 25, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER,
May 27, Aug. 5, 12, Dec. 2, 9, Feb. 10, 17, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER,
Aug. 5, 12, 19, Sept. 9, Oct. 7, 14, 21, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON,
May 20, Aug. 12, 19, 26, Sept. 2, 16, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD,
June 3, Aug. 19, 26, Sept. 23, Oct. 7, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON,
June 3, Sept. 2, 23, 30, Oct. 7, 21, Nov. 18, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER,
May 20, June 3, 24, Aug. 5, 12, 19, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON,
Sept. 2, 9, 16, 23, on.
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

THE DALSTON THEATRE, N.E.
WANTED, Good Dramatic Attraction for May 13.
Apply (in this instance),
Milton Bode, The Dalston Theatre, N.E.

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GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE,
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Address, Sidney Bacon, Metropole T., Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-Class Companies for
COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
May 13, 20, 27, Aug. 5, 12, 19, onwards.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON,
Aug. 5, 19, Sept. 30, Oct. 7, 14, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY,
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E. Graham-Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
May 13, 20, 27.
E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for weeks of
May 27 and June 3.
Wire or write,
W. W. Kelly,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for the following dates:
May 6, 13, 27, June 3, 10, and 17.
Apply, Mr. Robert Arthur, 24A, Regent-st., S.W.

GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE.
WANTED, First-class Company, May 13.
Wire,
"Bacon, Gateshead."

HOWARD and WYNDHAM, LTD.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, for June 3, 10, and 17, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Newcastle.
Address, Lyceum, Edinburgh.

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Thoroughly Up-to-date, Re-opens July 29.
Electricity throughout; new scenery; large stage dimensions.
WANTED, First-class Attraction for Grand Opening Week (no Dramas), July 29.
Holds £100 at ordinary prices.
Only few vacant dates, July 29, week (three or six nights), at Liberty. Wire or write immediate re this date; also Aug. 8, 9, 10; 26, 27, 28; and Sept. 5, 6, 7; must be the best Attractions on the road.
Henry Hague, General-Manager.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, First-Class Musical Attraction,
Aug. 5, 19.
Sept. 23, 30.
Wire, James Bell.

GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions, Whit Week, May 27, June 3, 10, 17, on; also Autumn Dates. Apply, Fred Granville, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

THEATRE ROYAL, MARGATE.
Sole Manager, Edward Michael.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Whit Week, Whit Week,
August Bank Holiday, August Bank Holiday.
Apply Edward Michael, 15, Craven-st., Strand, W.C.

THEATRE ROYAL, BURY ST. EDMUNDS.
WANTED, Good Companies, May 6 (three nights), May 20 (three nights), May 27 (three nights); also Pageant week, July 8. Write, Eade Montefiore, c/o Kennington Theatre. Wire, "Busily, London."

WANTED, First-class Companies, Metropole Theatre, Abertillery, April 29; Theatre Royal, Ton-y-Pandy; May 6, Lyceum T., Pentre. May 13. Wire, Carlton, Worcester.

WANTED, First-Class Company, T. R., Wednesbury. Whit Week, also May 27, June 3. Harry Battersby, T. R., Bilston.

WANTED, Companies, May 13, 27, and onwards, with exceptions. Apply,
Sherwood and Co., Opera House, Wakefield.

WANTED, Sound Dramatic Attractions, May 13, 20, 27.
J. H. Savile, Paisley Theatre.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Salford, First-Class Companies, for May 13 and 20 (Whit week), a big Holiday date. Address, E. B. Goulden.

WANTED, Strong Attractions, for May 6, onwards; nothing too big. Wire, Horner, Victoria Theatre, Burnley.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, T. R., York, Musical preferred, June 3 and 17; later date, Great Yorkshire Gala Week, Town En Fête Waddington, Stonegate.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, Sound Attraction,
for Aug. 5 (Bank Holiday),
and onwards, with exceptions.
Address, Thos. Swinton.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLNE, LANCS.
WANTED, Good Attraction for Whit Week, May 20. The Mills are having two days' Holidays this week this year instead of one as formerly. A good week anticipated. Address,
Gerald Harding,

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-Class Companies,

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER,
Vacant July 8, 15, 22, 29, onward, with exceptions.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH,
Vacant on, with exceptions
(Last three nights of each week.)

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY,
Vacant on, with exceptions

METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY,
Vacant April 29, May 13, onward, with exceptions.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE,
Vacant May 6, 13, onward, with exceptions.

"THE LOST CHORD,"
Vacant Aug. 5, 19, onward, with exceptions.

"SPAN OF LIFE,"
Vacant July 29, Sept. 2, onward, with exceptions.

"IN SIGHT OF ST. PAUL'S,"
Vacant May 13, 20, onward, with exceptions.

Companies "Farmed" through Fit-ups.

To Let, on Royalty, "THE PRAIRIE FLOWER" and "OUR BRITISH EMPIRE."

Excellent Plants Printing.

All communications to
Arthur Carlton, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

GRAND OPERA HOUSE,
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MIDDLESBROUGH.
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Proprietor, Albert Smith.

Holding Capacity, 3,500.

One of the
Premier Theatres of the North.
Thanks for numerous offers, but
Still Vacant for
No. 1 Attractions Only.
June 17, onwards.

Silence a polite negative.

WANTED, Special Attraction,
Aug. 19 (Race Week).
Managers Please Note,
To anything Really Big
the latter is one of the Best Dates in the Year, being recognised as a General Holiday in the Town and District.
Share or Certainty.
Also open to negotiate for really big first-class Pantomime, 1907-8.
Will guarantee exceptionally fine production.

Address, Jno. Ed. Jowsey,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE,
MIDDLESBROUGH.
Telegrams, "Magnet," Middlesbrough. Telephones 413, 426, 500.

CHANNEL ISLANDS THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Attractions,
Five Nights and Matinée, each Island,
Opening Tuesday Evening, Guernsey,
following Monday, Jersey.
Enormous Success under New and Up-to-date Management.
Packing both buildings nightly with own Musical Comedy Stock Company.
This week,
"GIRL FROM KAY'S."
Next week,
"THE ORCHID."
Vacant dates, June, onwards.
Edward Marris, O. H., Jersey.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
Sole Lessee, Julian Malvern.
WANTED, First-class Attractions,
May 20 (Whit Week),
July 8, 22 (?),
Aug. 5, Musical Comedy.
Address,
Chas. M. Julian, General-Manager.

GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA.

WANTED, Superlative Attraction,
Whit Week,
owing sudden vacancy.

Wire instanter,
Brooks.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions.
May 6, 13; also for Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec.

Apply, Owner and Manager, James Kiernan.

MINERS' THEATRE, ASHINGTON, NORTHUMBERLAND.
WANTED, Sound Attraction, for May 6 (unexpectedly Vacant), wire; also June 3, 17, and 24. Fred Gould.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
WANTED, Strong Attraction, July 29, only vacant date this year. No wires.
Full particulars, with copy of day-bill,
Lester Collingwood.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, Big Musical Attraction, Whit Week (Big Holiday).
Wire, James Bell.

WANTED, Best Attractions Touring, for Aug. 5, 26, Sept. 2, 9.
Andrew Melville,
Metropole Theatre, Birmingham.

GRAND THEATRE, CROYDON.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, Musical Comedy preferred, for May 20, Whit Week.
Address, Lawson Lambert.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
WANTED, Known, Vacant
May 6, 9, three nights each.
Good Companies only.
Apply, J. Ritson, General Manager.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, LINCOLN.
WANTED, First-class Attraction,
May 13, unexpectedly Vacant.
Address, Frank King.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Aug. 5, 12, 19, 26, Sept. 2, 30, Oct. 7, 14, 21, Nov. 25, Dec. 2, 16, and few Spring Dates.
Address, T. Allan Edwardes.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions, May 6, Radcliffe, May 20, Chorley; also re-opening date, Aug. 5, Chorley, after ten weeks' vacation, both towns. Sante, Theatre, Radcliffe.

WANTED, Musical or Farcical Comedy, Sketch or Drama, one night, May 18, Santé's Benefit. Lowest terms, certainty. Sante, Radcliffe.

THEATRE ROYAL, BATLEY.
WANTED, First-class Drama, for Whit Week (one of the best Holiday Dates).
J. Edward Whitty, T. R., Batley.

ROYAL CLARENCE THEATRE, PONTYPRIDD.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, May 6 (suddenly vacant), May 20, June 17, 24, and July 1. For dates apply,
Charles Trenchard,
Royal Clarence Theatre, Pontypridd.

TOWN HALL THEATRE, CROMER.
WANTED, First-class Attractions,
Aug. 8, 12, 19, 22, Sept. 2, 5, 12, 16, and 19,
all two or three nights.
Hunstanton can be booked to precede or follow.
Apply, Baring Bros., Cheltenham.

COMPANIES WANTED.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

Lessees and Managers,
Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.

The Leading Theatre of the Town.
The only theatre in the town lighted by electricity.

April Bookings:
April 1, "UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
April 8, "THE IDLER" (Local Amateurs).
April 15, MR. GEO. ALEXANDER'S CO.
"HIS HOUSE IN ORDER."
April 22, "MISS LANCASHIRE LIMITED."
April 29, MR. ALBERT CHEVALIER, in
"PANTALOON," &c.

Notice. Notice. Notice.

Owing to the
Continual increase of prosperity
at this Theatre,
the Proprietors
have decided to entirely
Rebuild and Reconstruct
the property,
which, when completed,
will be not only the most
Comfortable and Up-to-Date Theatre
in the Provinces, but will have
A HOLDING CAPACITY
A HOLDING CAPACITY
A HOLDING CAPACITY
SECOND TO NONE
SECOND TO NONE
SECOND TO NONE
in the town.

Re-open Aug. 5, 1907.
The only Theatre in the town allowed to advertise on the electric cars.

The only Theatre in the town
lighted by electricity.

WANTED, Exceptional Attractions,
Aug. 12, 19, 26, Sept. 2, 16, 23,
Oct. 7, 14 (three nights), Dec. 2, 9, Jan. 6, onwards.

Calvert Routledge, H. M. T., Barrow.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

The Premier Theatre in the Furness District.

Holds £90 at ordinary Prices.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions,
Vacant all July, also Aug. 12, 19, 26,
and various on.
The following, amongst others, are future Bookings for the above Theatre:—Allan Wilkie, Lingford Carson's Companies, "A Warning to Women," Mr. and Mrs. Godfrey Tearle, "In Holy Russia," "Her Luck in London," "A Little Vagrant," "A Destroyer of Men," "The Breed of the Treshams," "Life of a Showman," Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's Companies, The D'Oyly Carte No. 1 Répertoire Company (tenth visit), "Raffles," F. R. Benson's Co. (third visit), Baron H. Harriss's No. 1 Company, "The Prince of Pilsen," Mr. Percy Hutchison's Companies, including "Peter's Mother," Mr. George Edwardes' own Company, in "See-See," "The Sign of the Cross," &c., &c.

All applications for dates to
Hugh Robertson,
T. R., Jarrow.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions for
QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH,
May 27, June 10, 17, 24.
ALBERT THEATRE, BRIGHOUSE,
May 6, Sept. 2, 16, 23.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

WANTED, best Attractions only, May 6 (three nights), 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, on, magnificent building. Wire, Phillips, Coliseum, Aberystwyth.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity.
Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, onwards, Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. Cotton.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE GIRL WHO TOOK THE WRONG TURNING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres,
April 29, May 13.
Walter Melville,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE SOLDIER'S WEDDING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, May 13, 20.
Apply,
Walter Melville,
Standard Theatre, E.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 12, Sept. 30.
Walter Melville,
Standard Theatre, E.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 5, 12, and Dec. 23, 30.
Frederick Melville,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 9, 23, Dec. 23.
Frederick Melville,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Aug. 12, 19, Dec. 23, 30.
Douglas Bruce, Standard Theatre, London, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, May 13, Sept. 30.
Tom H. Taylor,
Standard Theatre, E.

"IN A WOMAN'S GRIP."
WANTED, Aug. 26, Sept. 2, 9, 15.
Andrew Melville,
Metropole Theatre, Birmingham.

"DRIVEN FROM HOME."
WANTED, Aug. 12, 26, Sept. 2, 9.
Andrew Melville,
Metropole Theatre, Birmingham.

"SCALES OF JUSTICE."
WANTED, Sept. 16, 23, Oct. 14, 21.
Andrew Melville,
Metropole Theatre, Birmingham.

"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY."
The Most Successful Play Produced during the year 1906.
WANTED, Sept. 2 and 9, in First-Class Theatres only. Wire or write,
W. W. Kelly,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, Weeks of June 17 and July 1,
Scala Production.

Wire or write,
W. W. Kelly,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Wanted Theatres,
July 1, Aug. 1.
Theatre Royal, Colchester.

The Greatest of all Irish Productions.
MR. and MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY'S
"ROLLICKING RORY," Autumn, 1907.
Bookings complete for 1907.
WANTED, Theatres, now booking Spring, 1908
April 29,
Her Majesty's Opera House, Blackpool (6 nights).

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, May 27 (South),
June 10 (South),
July 1, 8, 15, 22.
Address, J. W. Cordiner,
April 29, Opera House, Northampton.

MISS MARY NEIL and MR. GEORGE KIRK'S
"HER LUCK IN LONDON" CO.
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Big Theatres,
July 20, Sept. 9, 16, Oct. 7.
Charles A. Leicester, Palace, Newcastle; next, Alex., Hull.

THEATRES WANTED.

"GREED OF GOLD."
WANTED, Dates, for this Sterling Attraction, Sept. 2, 16, Oct. 14, 21, 28.
Morton Powell,
Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton.

"HONOUR THY FATHER."
WANTED, Dates for
this Powerful Domestic Play,
May 27, June 3, 17, 24, July 1.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Dates for
"WHEN IT WAS DARK,"
July 1, 8, 15, 22, Aug. 5, Sept. 9.

Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
WANTED, Dates for
this Fine Romantic Play,
June 3, July 1, 15, 22.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

LINGFORD CARSON'S REPERTOIRE CO.
"A MODERN ADVENTURESS."
"THE HEART OF A HERO."
"THE TICKET-OF-LEAVE MAN,"
"THE OCTOROON,"
and "THE SHAUGHRAUN."
Everything carried. Finest and largest plant of pictorials ever used. The most perfect Dramatic Combination touring. Business enormous. Refer.
WANTED, Theatres, Vacant Aug. 26, Sept. 2, 23, onwards. Apply at once, Charles Draycott, T. R., Smethwick.

MR. AND MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COS.
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
WANTED, May 20 (Whit week), June 3, for this great Attraction. New Uniforms and Effects, Band of Drums, Fifes, and Bugles, for Parade.
"A SISTER'S SIN."
Wanted, May 6, 20, and 27, for this Intensely Human Drama, Powerful Cast,
"A SOLDIER'S HONOUR."
Wanted, Aug. 5, for this Great Play. This Date is Vacant through Transferring.
Vauxhall, The Scotlands, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Known.
Pastoral Plays.
Mr. Norman V. Norman
can arrange Dates for Pastoral Plays
in June and July.
W. Howard Ashley, Opera House, Tunbridge Wells.

"THE MARRIAGE OF KITTY."
The Principal Parts are in the capable hands of
Miss MARY THORNE as Kitty.
Miss KATHLEEN RUSSELL as Mme. de Semiano.
Mr. EDGAR KENT as Sir Reginald Belsize.
Mr. THOMAS SIDNEY as Travers.
WANTED, Theatres.—Mr. Sidney is desirous of filling May 13, 20, 27, June 3, 10, and 17.
All July and August are Booked.
Tour starts April 29 at Hastings.
Address, 16, Long Acre, W.C.

WANTED, June 3 and 10, for
Mrs. Ann Hughes' Company,
in the New Comic Opera,
"THE YOUNG LIEUTENANT."
A Story of 1805, Nelson's Glorious Days.
By A. F. Allen Tower, Herbert Dawson, and R. A. Smith. West End Cast. Splendid Chorus of Trained Voices. The entire production carried. Magnificent Scenery. Mrs. Ann Hughes, Selattyn, Thurleigh-road, Balham, S.W.

H. HAMILTON STEWART'S COMPANIES.
"SHERLOCK HOLMES,"
by arrangement with Charles Frohman.
H. Hamilton Stewart in Title-rôle.
WANTED, Theatres.—Only a few Autumn Dates Vacant (South).
Now booking Spring, 1908.
"BOOTLES' BABY,"
by arrangement with Mr. Hugh Moss.
Summer Tour. H. Hamilton Stewart as Captain Ferrers ("Bootles"), supported by a Specially-selected Company.
Wanted, immediate Dates. Coms., Walter J. Bayliss, Borough Theatre, Stratford, E.
Wires, Grand, Nottingham.

FRANK M. THORNE'S CO'S.
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
WANTED, June 10.
Summer Production of "The Octoroon."
Wanted, June 10.
F. M. T., Queen's, Gateshead.

"SAPHO."
"SAPHO."
WANTED, First-Class Theatres,
June 3, 10, 17, 24.
Miss Annie Bell as Fanny Le Grande.

Wire, James Bell, T. R., Darlington.

E. H. KNIGHT and GEORGE DENHAM'S CO.
"THE GRIP OF IRON."
WANTED, Aug. 5, 12, Oct. 21, 28. All Drama records broken at Longton last Saturday.
George Denham,
This, Grand, Eccles; next, Royal, Leicester.

Miss BONWIN CARLTON'S CO.
"THE PLUCKY NIPPER."
WANTED, May 6, 13, 20, June 3, 24, July 8, 22.
Wire for Whit, Edward Surrey, to-day, Theatre, Bacup; next, King's, Sutton-in-Ashfield.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, First-Class Theatres.
Fred Bulmer, c/o "The Era." Vacation add.

"A BROKEN HEART."
WANTED, big Drama Theatres,
May 13, June 10, and Aug. 5,
to follow Royal Court Theatre, Wigan.
Harry Foxwell, Star Theatre, Swansea.

WANTED, for Walter Howard's greatest and latest Play, "Second to None," August Bank Holiday week, good Theatre only, South preferred, suitable for Suburban Theatre. Address, T. E. Ward, P.O.W. Theatre, Mexboro'.

SHINTON and GREENWOOD'S TOUR.
"THE PRICE OF HER SOUL."
WANTED, for this Certain Draw,
June 3, 10, Sept. 2, 9, 23.
John B. Shinton, Met. T., Birmingham (return).

WANTED, Dates, "The End Crowns All," Comedy Drama by Augusta Tullock. A Big Success. Production a Big Success on Monday, April 22, at T. R., Ilkeston. Re same, refer A. Rogers, Esq. First-class Company of capable Artists, including Amber Wyville. Beautifully dressed, magnificent scenery, five full sets carried; clear stage only required. Wanted, May 27, June 10 and 24, to precede and follow Scarborough and various Autumn. Wire or write, Augusta Tullock, T. R., Worthing.

WILLIAM HOLLES, NANNIE GOLDMAN, and CO.,
in the Great Domestic Drama, in Four Acts,
"THE STEPMOTHER," by Arthur Shirley.
WANTED, for this Great Attraction, full of Laughter and Tears, Aug. 19, 26, Sept. 2, 9, and onwards.
Address, William Holles,
11, Newport House, Great Newport-street, W.C.

WANTED, for "Robespierre; or, The Throne of Terror," May 6, 13 (?), various on, seventy-fifth week. W. J. Miller, Royal, Blyth.

JAMES HARE'S COMPANIES.
"A DESTROYER OF MEN."
Complete Production Travelled.
WANTED, June 3 and July 22, big Theatres only. James Hare, Grand Theatre, Eccles.

Messrs. ARMADALE and WARREN'S CO.
"THE FACE AT THE WINDOW."
WANTED, Aug. 19, 26, Oct. 28 (Midlands), Nov. 4 (North), Dec. 23, 30, onwards,
for the above Attraction.
Address, F. Brooke Warren,
110, Woodvale, Dulwich, London, S.E.

"A FOOL'S PARADISE."
By Sydney Grundy.
WANTED, May 9 (3 nights), precede Brighton, Whit, June 24 (follow Ramsgate), on, with exceptions.
Wylie Thompson, "Bridgen," Bexley, Kent.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
Continued Success. Third Year.
WANTED, May 27 (Lancs. or Yorks.).
Wire for May 27, May 27. Wire.
June 10, July 22.
Aug. 12, follow Alexandra, Birmingham.
Frank Ayrton,
Eden Theatre, Bishop Auckland.

"THE MASTER CRIMINAL."
WANTED, good Theatres, June 3, 10, Aug. 5, 12.
Henry L. Osmond,
Met. Theatre, Glasgow.

THEATRES WANTED.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN."
"THE MANXMAN."
WANTED, July 1, Aug. 5 and 12, Sept. 9, and few later.
Mr. CROSS as PETE.
Miss WATERSFORD (Mrs. Cross) as KATE.
Continued success. New Special Printing, Scenery, and Effects.
"DIVORCED."
A New Powerful, Emotional, and Modern Domestic Drama. Can be played in conjunction, or booked separately. "Divorced" will be produced with the same Artistic attention to detail as "The Manxman." New plant of Printing, Scenery, and Effects. April 22, O. H. Coventry (fourth visit).

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN."
"THE SORROWS OF SATAN."
"THE SORROWS OF SATAN."
WANTED, May 27 (follow T. R., Sheffield), onward, with exceptions.
[Copy.]
Theatre Royal,
Cardiff.
April 25, 1907.
Miss Lole Esmond.
Dear Madam,—
I am very pleased with the performance of "The Sorrows of Satan." It is capitally played, and the receipts have gone up each night. Wishing you every success,
Yours faithfully,
R. Redford.
Special Performance every Friday of the great Parisian Play, "NANA."
Lole Esmond, Grand T., Walsall (fourth visit).
April 29, Grand Theatre, Blackpool.

WILLIAM A. ARMOUR'S COMPANY.
"THE BEST OF HER SEX."
WANTED, Known, Production at Colosseum Theatre, Oldham, May 13.
May 13, Colosseum Theatre, Oldham.
May 20 (Whit), Grand Theatre, Doncaster.
May 27, Vacant.
June 3, Vacant.
June 10, Theatre Royal, North Shields.
June 17, Palace Theatre, Newcastle.
June 24 and onwards, with exceptions, vacant.
William A. Armour,
5, Sandringham-drive, New Brighton.

FRANK J. PITT and CHARLES HALLING'S CO.
"£1,000 REWARD."
"£1,000 REWARD."
WANTED, for this Successful Attraction, July 29, Aug. 12,
Sept. 23, 30, Oct. 7, 14,
Nov. 25, Dec. 2, on.

T. R., Cardiff, April 29.

ROBERT PERRIS'S CO.

"A FIGHT FOR MILLIONS."
Great Production.
Big Success Everywhere.
WANTED, Whit Week, May 20.
Address, Her Majesty's T., Carlisle.

WILL WHITE'S SPECIALLY SELECTED CO.,
"THE NEW WORLD."
WANTED, good Theatre, Share or Certainty, Whit week, Whit week, to follow Metropole, Manchester, and precede Royal, York (Race week).
Excellent Cast and Musical Numbers.
Complimented by H. Pennington, Esq., on smartness of show, and offered a return before the fall of the curtain Monday night. Refer any Manager visited. Wire, Will White,
Muncaster Theatre, Bootle.

MESSRS. HOFFE AND CAMPBELL'S TOUR OF "THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST,"
By Oscar Wilde.
WANTED, First-Class Dates only, June 17 and on. Aug. full. May and June bookings: Grand, Leeds; Grand, Croydon; Devonshire Park, Eastbourne; Opera House, Harrogate; County, Bedford; T. R., Bath; and T. R., Manchester.
Address, Monckton Hoffe, 15, Claverton-street, W.

WANTED, Theatres, "The Streets of London," Vacant May 27, June 3, 10. Eade Montefiore, c/o Kennington Theatre. Wires, "Busily, London."

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, June 3 and 10,
Aug. 12 anqd 19, Sept. 2 and 9.
Dickie Clark, Grand, Chorley.

"THE NEW MAGDALEN."
WANTED, Managers to Know that this Play is Available for Special Weeks, &c. Notice.—"The New Magdalen" is fully protected by an Order of the High Court, and proceedings will be taken against all persons in any way infringing the rights, which are solely vested in
J. B. Mulholland.
Address, King's Theatre, Hammersmith.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, "Mr. Popple" (Chief Company), with Star Cast, including Millie Hylton, May 6, 13; also "White Chrysanthemum," Chief Company, May 6, 13; "Dr. Wake's Patient," May 13. Communicate, Chas. Macdona, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Good Theatres,
May 20, Whit, and June 24,
for our Latest Success,
"A GAMBLER'S DAUGHTER."
Wire to-day, Hill and Ayrton, Amphitheatre, Ramsgate; or write, Grand Theatre, Brighton.

"RICH AND POOR OF LONDON."
Miss DORA DENCH and Full Company.
WANTED, Theatres, May 20, June 3, Aug. 5.
Address, 140, Rumford-st., Manchester.

"THE ANGEL OF UNREST."
Mr. ALEC FLOOD'S and Mr. AUBREY FITZMAURICE'S CO.
WANTED, Whit Week, only vacant date.
Wire, F. Martin Morris, T. R., Birkenhead.
Letters to Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, for "At the World's Mercy,' Money-taking Theatres, May 20 (through obliging), June 17, 24, &c.; reference Cashiers' Final Returns. Address, Charles Hermann, Wire, to-day, Empire, Dundee; next, Grand, Radcliffe.

"LIFE OF A SHOWMAN."
WANTED, Nov. 4 (between Liverpool and Newcastle), only open date this year. Offers invited 1908. Sante, Theatre, Chorley.

"THE SUPERIOR MISS PELLENDER."
As played by Cyril Maude at Waldorf Theatre.
WANTED, May 20 (follow Exeter), June 3 follow Weston, third visit). Wm. Fraser-Brunner, Brixton Theatre.

"THE WORLD'S GREAT SNARE."
"THE WORLD'S GREAT SNARE."
WANTED, May 20 (Whit week), June 3 (follow T. R., Sheffield), onwards, with exceptions.
Re Dates, Fred S. Jennings, 8, Rupert-court, Piccadilly Circus, W.

"HIS SISTER'S HONOUR."
"HIS SISTER'S HONOUR."
WANTED, Big Theatre,
May 23, 24, and 25,
June 10 (?), 17, and 24, Aug. 5 (?), on.
Managers' opinion everywhere: There is not a better played, staged, and dressed Drama now touring. Wire, to-day, Gaiety, Burnley; next, Junction, Manchester.

Enormous success.
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Such a house and such enthusiasm seldom, if ever, witnessed in Southport.
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ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for Autumn Tours of Musical Comedy, Artists in all Lines, also a Large Number of Chorus Ladies and Gentlemen; must be young, and have good voices and appearance. Apply, either by letter or personally, between 11 and 12 o'clock, C. ST. JOHN DENTON, 34, Maiden-lane, Strand.

WANTED, for Musical Comedy and Light Opera, Town and Tour, Principal Artists in all Lines; also Chorus Ladies and Gentlemen; the latter must be young, of good appearance, and good voices. Send particulars at once to KELSON TRUEMAN, Regent House, 233a, Regent-street, W.

LINGFORD CARSON'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for Autumn. Send photos and references to Queen's Theatre, Keighley. Mr. Leonard Maitland please communicate.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for "A Fight for a Throne." Leonard Maitland kindly communicate. Photos and references to GEORGE A. DE GREY, Royalty Theatre, Barrow.

WANTED, for May 20, six nights, Opera House, Leicester, Attractive Young Leading Actress, Juvenile Actress, Tall Walking Gentleman, Character-Actor, Aristocratic Old Man. References, lowest terms, HENRY DUNDAS, Opera House, Leicester.

WANTED, Capable Man for Colonel Scorcher (Aristocratic Military Gent), in "The Houseboat"; also to play Buckwheat, in "Frivolity"; must be 5ft. 10in.
Apply, LEOPOLD, to-day, T. R., Grantham; after, Hippodrome, Manchester.

WANTED, at Once, First-rate Character Actor, for General Baldie in "Turned Up"; one who has played the part preferred.
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WANTED, for Portable Theatre, Gentleman for Heavies Responsibles, and Turns; also Ladies for Old Woman, Juveniles, Chambermaids, and Turns. All to Open at Once. JORDAN, Theatre, Potter-street, Harlow, Essex.

WANTED, Good Comedian. Send last two references, age, height, photo., ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

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WANTED, at once, two Gentleman, for Musical Comedy, both high baritone; also Robust Tenor, for Chorus. Call to-day, 5 p.m., Chandos Hall, Maiden-lane, or write. Refs., photos. (stamp).

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WANTED, Young Lady, as Page for a few representations, previous experience, dancing, or singing not necessary, but a good appearance is essential.
Liberal terms.
If photo. can be sent it would save time and trouble, and shall be carefully returned.

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TYPES OF BEAUTY.
WANTED, Young Lady, to sit for series of Classical Heads (Head only); liberal terms to one who possesses the requisite qualifications.
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WANTED, for West End Production, twenty Chorus Ladies, First-Class voice and appearance absolutely essential. Trial Monday, 10 to 11 a.m. STEDMAN'S, 58, Berners-street, W.

WANTED, for Bognor Pier, Humorists, Specialities, Sopranos, Contraltos, Tenors, &c. Lowest Summer Terms first letter. LESSEE, 60, Garrick-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Good-looking Expert Dancers of medium height, with fair voices, for America; good salary, long engagement. Apply, VI HOLMES, Dollie Bell's Dancing School, Kennington Cross, S.E., Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday, 11.30 to 2.

WANTED, Attractive and Smart Young Lady Dancers. Apply by letter,
MATTIE CRONIN, 12, Brook-street, S.E.

WANTED, Humorist, at Piano preferred, must be good, to open Pier Pavilion, Southend, Sunday, twelve performances. Wire lowest, sharing. SCOTT, Pier Pavilion, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, smart Young Man, to collect during Band Performances in Redcar each day, for two hours only, must be of good appearance and capable of singing good song, commencing July 1 for ten weeks. Applications, stating lowest terms, either on commission or weekly salary, to be sent to G. B. ROBINSON, 33, Russell-st., Stockton-on-Tees.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. SMITH and SONS' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Managers and Agents see you get Venus, Lord Leighton's Model; all others using my name are imitators, no connection with La Moderne, Cupids. My name, title, &c., is fully protected. Proceedings will be taken against copyists after this date. AUSTIN MILLAIS, Manager.

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WANTED, Engagement, immediately, by Actor-Playwright (doing Pictorial Recital "turn"), (Duologues), or otherwise, "AUTHOR," 1, Woodlands-rd, Clevedon, Somerset.

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WANTED, Pantomime Chorus and Show Ladies. Send photograph, age, height, and other measurements, lowest salary. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, Artists Disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas to send photos., terms, and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

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Write for Price List.

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WANTED, Known, Wm. Quick, Stage-Manager and S.A. at Liberty; late Belfast Hippodrome; offers invited, seaside desired. Communicate, above.

WANTED, Re-engagement as Assistant-Manager or Secretary; 6 years' experience, 4½ years with Moss Empires, Ltd.; good Book-keeper and Accountant; excellent refs. Box 4,730, "The Era."

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WANTED, by Young Man, Situation in Box Office, Theatre or Music Hall; smart experienced, reliable; good references. Box 4,702, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Wardrobe Mistress, at Lib. shortly; thoroughly experienced; good refs; good cutter, either ladies' or gentlemen's; any period; square cuts, &c. Reply this week, F. E. D., Theatre Royal, Bristol.

WANTED, Known, Venus, the Late Lord Leighton's Original Model; the only and Original, toured by L. Austin Millais; no Vacancies. Turns money away at every Hall appearing at. Venus will give £100 to imitators who can follow her and produce half the business that she draws.

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for White Star and Cunard Services.
Musical Duties Only.
State age, references, to
Mr. C. W. BLACK, 19, Castle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Repetiteur; must be well up in Variety Business. Age and refs., FREDERIC BRAHAM, Regent Theatre, Salford.

WANTED, a good Violinist, for the Permanent Staff, King's Own Scottish Borderers; discharged men who have completed 12 years in the Army, and who are under 30 years of age, need only apply.
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WANTED, Smart Violinist (Vocalist preferred), open Whit, four months, Al-Fresco. Lowest terms, age, all particulars, CHAPMAN, 52, Chatham-street, Reading.

WANTED, Lady Violinist, also 'Cellist, must be experienced, open Seaside, May 2. Apply, M. B., 4, Porteus-road, Paddington.

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WANTED, for Annual Training, 4th Gloucesters, May 13 to June 8, First B Flat Cornet, E Flat Clarionet, Euphonium or Bass, must be ex-Linesman to Re-enlist. In applying, send discharge papers and recent testimonials.

Apply, SERGT.-MAJOR, Cirencester.

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WANTED, First-class Solo Cornet, for Matlock Bath (sixteen weeks); must be good Soloist. Apply, BIOLCATI, 3, Union-place, Edinburgh.

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WANTED, First Clarionet, Baritone, Bass Drum. P.W.O. Norfolk Artillery Militia Training, at Great Yarmouth, May 20 to June 8; engagement Wellington Pier Gardens to follow until Sept. 30; must enlist. Apply, with stamped address, to Mr. E. HOLLAND, 44, Salisbury-road, Great Yarmouth. Army men preferred; with references.

WANTED, Known, Vacancies for Solo Clarionet Player (must also play First Violin), and for Flute and Piccolo. Apply, sending copies of testimonials, to THE BANDMASTER, Royal Artillery, The Castle, Dover.

WANTED, Solo and First B Flat Clarionets, Euphonium, Bombardon, for Militia Training, twenty-seven days, commencing June 3, Strensall Camp. Terms apply, BANDMASTER, 4th West Yorks Regt., York.

WANTED, for Militia Training, June 3, 1907, three Clarionets (one E flat), 27s. 6d. per week, rations, &c.; must enlist; free discharge; ex-Army men preferred. Apply, B. M., 3rd King's Own, Lancaster.

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WANTED, Double Bass, combine Bombardon, for Paraders; commence immediately. Apply, BANDMASTER, Sat., Truro; Mon., St. Austell, Cornwall. Good Bombardon may write.

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ROYAL CIRCUS.
WANTED, Double Bass, to combine Brass. Terms, 32s. 6d.; join Monday. Wire, BANDMASTER, to-day, Ossett; Mon., Cleckheaton, Yorks.

WANTED, for Season, competent Bass Player, young, good appearance, Lady or Gentleman, Open May 1. Apply, with references and lowest terms, HUNT, English Ladies' Orchestra, Hotel Yd Burg, Wagenstraat, Haag, Holland.

WANTED, First-class First French Horn for Summer Season, Scotland, Military and Orchestral; 5 hours daily; no Sundays. Lowest terms, references, to CONDUCTOR, 38, Prince's-street, Southport, Lancs.

WANTED, Bath Military Band, May 11 till Sept. 7, good First French Horn. State reference and age. WILLIAM SCHOTTLER, Bath.

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WANTED, Flute and Piccolo, Minstrel Troupe. State age, experience, lowest terms, photo. (which will be returned). Address, GILBERT ROGERS, Rhyl.

WANTED, Deputy Flute, for ten weeks, commencing July 8; good terms. Wire, FLAUTIST, Royal Hippodrome, Belfast.

WANTED, Lady Pianist, Conductress; must be used to Variety Business, and read MSS. at sight. Permanency. A. E. PICKARD, Britannia, Glasgow.

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WANTED, Known,
Applications are invited for the
Supply of an
efficient Season Band of Twelve,
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including a properly qualified Conductor
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for a period of seven weeks at least,
Six Hours per Day of Three Performances,

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Applications, stating terms per week,
with names of instruments (and whether uniform),
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The HON. SECRETARIES,
Season Band, Burnham, Somerset.

WANTED, First-Class Musicians, String Players, and Pianists, for White Star and Cunard Steamships; Musical duties only. Good accommodation. State age and experience, with references. Conditions on application to Mr. C. W. BLACK, 19, Castle-street, Liverpool.

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WANTED, Engagement as Violin can combine Clarionet; good refs. H. SMITH, West Pier Orchestra, Brighton.

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WANTED, Engagement, First Violin, Double Bass, together or single; good references, any business. Address, MUSICIAN, 20, Beaumont-square, London, E.

WANTED, Engagement by good Second Violin, any business; young and reliable.
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WANTED, Known, experienced Lady Violinist, Soloist and Leader, good appearance, Disengaged. Apply, Box 4,709, "The Era."

WANTED, good Summer Engagement, by experienced Violinist; extensive Library. Apply, MUSICAL-DIRECTOR, His Majesty's Theatre, Barrow-in-Furness.

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WANTED, through unexpected closing, Engagement, by experienced and reliable Cornet, transpose Trumpets; age 30; good refs. FRITZ, Pavilion Theatre, Greenock.

WANTED, Situation Shortly, as First Cornet, any Business (Variety Business preferred); 15 months last situation. PILLING, 14, Crewe-street, Chester.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarionet, Dis. May 4, any Bus.; ft.-cl. references; Military and Orchestral Conductors; reliable. York House, Court-road, Gt. Malvern.

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WANTED, by Bassoon, Engagement, thoroughly experienced, season or permanency. Address, HIRE, 2, Royal-parade, Hunstanton, Norfolk.

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WANTED, by Double Bass, experienced, Engagement; steady and reliable; excellent refs. W. H., 29, Palatine-road, Stoke Newington, N.

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WANTED, Engagement, by Orchestral Bass Player (4 strings); experienced in all Lines; good references. L. WITTIG, 27, Melbourne-road, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Known, Amy Luraine, Euphonium, Disengaged.
441, Woolwich-road, Charlton, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, Trombone; experienced, Theatre or Music Hall; open for Summer Season; now at Lib. TROMBONE, 9, Stanley-street, Accrington.

WANTED, Known, Miss Marie Walker, Trombone, at Liberty Orchestral and Solos.
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WANTED, Engagement, First or Second Trombone, combine First or Second Violin, First-class on both. SYKES, 108, Howard-street, Oxford.

WANTED, by Trombone, Engagement, any business; good references. ORCHESTRAL, 3, Exon-street, Walworth, London, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, Trombone or Euphonium, May 6, any business. W. J. COTTON, Empire, Greenock.

WANTED, Engagement, by a thoroughly experienced Second French Horn, Orchestra or Military; steady, reliable; highest references. Address, J. W. ROBERTS, 5, Watercroft, Almondbury, Huddersfield, Yorks.

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WANTED, Orchestral Practice, for Little Girl, on 'Cello; also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. CASSELLE, 35, Granville-square, King's Cross-road, W.C.

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WANTED, Engagement, by good 'Cellist; moderate terms.
'CELLO, 5, Lower Addiscombe-road, E. Croydon.

WANTED, by Viola, permanent Engagement; thoroughly experienced in Variety and Concert Business; good refs. Apply, 29, Khyber-road, Battersea, London.

WANTED, Permanent Engagement, by Jones, Viola or First Violin; thoroughly experienced in Variety Business; good refs. 17, Kingston-road, Leeds.

WANTED, by Viola, Soloist, experienced, reliable, any business; Seaside preferred; excellent refs. Box 4,719, "The Era."

WANTED, by Violoncellist, young, Engagement for Ensuing Season, Hotel or Pier, &c.; good Soloist. Box 4739, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Oboeist, First-Class; any business.
OBOE, 41, Margravine-gardens, West Kensington.

WANTED, Engagement, as Oboe, at Once, any Business; well up in Variety Work; good references. OBOIST, 34, Stanbridge-road, Putney, S.W.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by First-class Oboeist; Disengaged from May to Sept. J. FIELD, 8, Wavendon-avenue, Sutton Court-road, Chiswick.

WANTED, by Lady Harpist, Engagement, Summer Season; Piano or Second Violin parts. BARRY, 337, Thorold-road, Ilford, Essex.

WANTED, by experienced Lady Harpist (Solo and Orchestral), Summer Engagement. Box 4,728, "The Era."

WANTED, by young Lady Harpist, Tea Rooms or Hotel work; terms moderate. J. FIELD, 8, Wavendon-avenue, Sutton Court-road, Chiswick.

WANTED, Engagement, Flute and Piccolo; experienced in Variety business; good reference; can open May 6, 1907. F. BROUGHTON, 3, Montague-villas, Hornecastle-road, Boston.

WANTED, Seaside Engagement by Flautist; references supplied. J. WALLWORK, 21, Stafford-road, Swinton, near Manchester.

WANTED, Known, experienced Flautist desires Engagement, London only, any Business; permanent. Highest references. CLINTON, 256, St. John-street, London, E.C.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by Flute and Piccolo, Orchestral or Military Band, just finished five months Crystal Palace. FLAUTIST, 35, Barnfield-road, Upper Norwood.

WANTED, Engagement, by Accompanist, Senior R.A.M.; experienced Operatic Coach, Concerted Music, Ballads, Concerts, Private Practice (Blüthner Grand) perfect intonation, quick sight-reader; moderate terms. Miss KENNEDY, 92, Holbein-house, Sloane-square, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Nita Smith, Pianist, &c., at Liberty shortly (any business); English Orchestra, Hotel Van Der Burg, Hague, Holland. Per. add., Sandfield, Bacup, Lancs.

WANTED, by Lorenzo Lewis, ever reliable Variety Pianist (arrange, &c.), Engagement (late 9 years Varieties, Portsmouth). 744, Oxford-road, Reading.

WANTED, Engagement by Lady Pianist, thoroughly experienced in Dramatic, Variety, and Orchestral; good offers only. SILVESTER, 46, Langney-road, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Engagement, Pianist (lady), read transpose sight, splendid accompanist; also Tenor, compass C, first-class; both good appearance, young, singly, joint. CLARE-RICHARDS, G.P.O., Blackpool.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Orchestral Pianist and Vocalist. Café preferred. GRACE GOODWIN, 12, Juer-st., Park-rd., Battersea.

WANTED, Known, Miss Maud Hummerston, Pianist and Accompanist, Disengaged for Concert Party or Orchestra. Offers. 1, Forburg-road, Stamford Hill, N.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Pianist, at Liberty May 11; good references; any Bus. PIANIST, P.O., Hurstbourne Priors, Whitchurch, Hants.

WANTED, by Drummer, with Effects, Eng. in Theatre, Varieties, or Good Town Band, combine Second Cornet; ft.-cl. refs. BROOKLYN, 44, Woodlands-road, Walthamstow.

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady Double Drummer and Violinist; well experienced in Orchestra; references. Miss GORDON, 9, Coborn-road, Bow, E.

WANTED, Engagement, Whitsuntide, by First-Class Lady Drummer, thoroughly conversant all lines. 35, Henrietta-street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED, Engagement, as Drums and Tymps.; can combine Second Violin or Viola.
MUSICIAN, 149, Tennyson-road, Stratford, E.

WANTED, by Trio (Ladies), Piano, Violinist, 'Cellist, Summer Engagement at Hydro or Pier. Apply, H. TALBOT, 56, Hamsptead-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Quartette, Piano, Two Violins, and 'Cello, Disengaged; extensive library, solos; uniforms. Good Agent write in. Box 4,701, "Era" Office.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty in June, Instrumental Quartette, with an Up-to-date Répertoire of Music and Solos, for Hotel, &c.; seaside preferred, but inland offers invited. Box 4,707, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Shikissimma Band, Ladies' Japanese Orchestra, all Soloists; magnificent costume, for vacant dates. Apply, CONDUCTRESS, Glenthorpe, Chesterfield-road, Newbury.

WANTED, Engagements for Scarlet Domino Ladies' Band, Ladies' Salon Quartette and Florentine Quartet, at home or abroad. Apply, BUREAU, 8, Bedford-terrace, Kensington.

WANTED, Known, Madam Wilton Davis's Ladies' Orchestra, just concluded ten weeks, Collins's, London. Open for Summer. 42, Linton-street, Islington, N.

WANTED, Engagements, for Orchestra, any number, smart uniform, up-to-date répertoire; highest references. LOUIS METZ, 62, Wellington-road, Charlton, S.E.

WANTED, Known, First-class Established Military Band, Disengaged for Summer Season; 15 to 30 performers; extensive répertoire. Box 4,678, "The Era."

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Menagerie or Complete Circus Company, or any good big Attraction suitable for outdoors, for nine days, commencing July 11. Applicants who have not yet received an answer owing to change of address, kindly communicate again. G. GREEN, The Carnival, Glasgow.

WANTED, for Hanneford's Circus, Ireland,
Good Aerial Show,
Troupe of Acrobats,
or any other Novelty suitable for Tenting.
Address,
HANNEFORD, 10, Goldsmith-street, Dublin.

WANTED, Gala Acts, Aerial and Ground Specialities, Whitsun and on; big Sensational Acts, Aug. 5 and 6, Sheffield. Terms, BURTON'S Agency, Fargate, Sheffield.

WANTED, May 20, week, Fêtes, Cycle, Animal, High Wire, and Speciality Acts all Lines. Lithos., memos., GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, Attractive Comedy Dumb Shows (good and funny), for one week, June 17, 1907. Send full particulars at once. FREEAR and SON, 39, Dame-street, Dublin.

WANTED, Known,
Joe Boganny has always
a Vacancy for good
Tumblers.
Address, Hippodrome, Stockton-on-Tees.

WANTED, Lady and Gentleman Acrobats and Hand Balancers, to join Troupe. State age and full particulars, CAMBRIDGE, care of Post Office, Blyth.

WANTED, a Finely-built Lady Gymnast, about 18 years, First-class Performer.
Can lead to a Long Engagement.
State height. Apply, with photo., to
O. V. ESTRELLA, 132, Kennington Park-road, London.

WANTED, Young Man that can Posture, Knockabout, and work Double Trapeze, for Continent. Particulars and terms, Box 4,723, "The Era."

WANTED, Young Man, about 18, that can Tumble a Little; one that has done Top-mounting preferred. All particulars, Box 4,732, "The Era."

WANTED, Knockabout Bar Performer, for Gala Work. For Sale, Novel Electro-plated Trapeze Fit-up. GYMNAST, 72, Church-street, Harpurhey, Manchester.

WANTED, immediately, girl 14-18, for well-known Troupe, little Bending and Posturing required, but not essential; good handwriting; board and lodgings found and 10s. weekly. Apply immediately, GONZALO, Oxford, Middlesbro'.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, immediately, Smart Boy, 14-16, for good Troupe, to learn the business and make himself useful; board and lodgings found, and 5s. pocket money weekly. Gonzalo, Oxford, Middlebrough.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, John Irvin and Miss Pinder, Bareback Equestrians, Pigeon Charmers, and foot Equilibrist, will be at Liberty Whit Monday, with a Number of Bareback Acts; Own Horse, Two Collie Dogs, and Good Dresses. All letters, Irvin, 144, High-street, Deptford, London.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty shortly for Stage or Ring, Tudor's Four Performing Ponies, twice daily, Hengler's Circus, London. A good Agent required.

WANTED, Known, to Fête and Gala Secretaries and Agents, Miss Florence Blanche, Gymnast, Open to receive Engagements for Whit Monday and August Bank Holiday, Trapeze Rings and Rope. For full particulars, apply, 203, Gladstone-avenue, Noel Park, Wood Green.

WANTED, Known, Stebbing Bros., Vacant May 27, for Summer, two Acts, Acrobats and Triple Bars. Address, next, Gaiety Theatre, Burnley.

WANTED, Known, Olrac and Milton, Classical and Novelty Gymnastic Number. Communications, c/o "Era" Office, London, W.C.

WANTED, May 6, 13, and 20, through misunderstanding, The Maros, Three-Bar Comedians. Success, P., Gloucester. Monday, Palace, Porth.

WANTED, Known, Bodey Bros., Comedy Triple Bars, wire for Monday, also vacant Whitguntide, for Galas. American and Australian Tours shortly. 10, Fillwood-road, Fishponds, Bristol.

WANTED, by Rozel, Sensational Speciality Gymnast, April 29, May 6, 13. 32, Providence-street, Stockport.

WANTED, Known, Sisters Nella, in their Refined Speciality Pot-Pourri Act, consisting of Juggling, Globe-running, Staircase Trapeze, Cake Walk (with the Sensational Finish, lighted Torches).
Bottom of Bill and Terrific Success this week, Central Palace, North Shields. Declared by Press and Public to be the Brightest and Smartest Show on the Road. At Liberty April 29, onwards.
Address, next week, Cook's Circus, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Known, Don Pedro, the Modern Blondin, at Liberty for Fêtes and Galas. Enormous success, Crystal Palace, London. Terms. 121, Rhyddings Park-road, Swansea.

WANTED, Known, George Davilla, Marvellous Wire Performer, at Liberty for coming Season. Address, Forest View, Honey-lane, Waltham Abbey, Essex.

WANTED, Known, Pauletti, in novel and funny Cycle Absurdities, away from others; two good Acts for Galas. Poole's Myriorama, Abercynon, South Wales.

Parachute Descents.

WANTED, Gala Secretaries seeking big Attractions to engage Lieut. Lempriere and his charming Lady Pupils for Parachute Descents or Races; together or separate. One still open for Whit week. Lempriere, Handsworth, Birmingham.

Balloon Ascents.

WANTED, Engagements, by Lieut. Lempriere, the Popular Reliable Aeronaut. Address, Lempriere, Handsworth, Birmingham.

WANTED, Engagements, for Miss Viola Spencer, for Parachute Descents. Disengaged Whit Week. Spencer Bros., Ltd., 45b, Aberdeen-park, Highbury. N

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES and THEATRE ROYAL.
WANTED, First-class Variety Artists, all Lines.

Arthur Carlton, Palace, Worcester.

WANTED, Variety Artists, in all Lines, May 6, and onwards,
Comedians, Comediennes, Sisters,
Burlesque Actresses, Good Doubles doing Singles, write in.
A. E. Pickard, Britannia, Glasgow.

WANTED, Variety Artists all Lines, May 6, Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest. Hall small. P. Reymond, as above.

WANTED, for April 29 and onwards, Variety Artists all lines, also Bioscope, with up-to-date Films. Quote lowest. J. Fraser, Manager, Tudor's Hippodrome, Blyth.

Scarborough.

WANTED, Monday, April 29, and onwards, Variety Artists in all Lines. Nothing too Big. Full particulars to Morgan, Aquarium.

WANTED, Variety Artists, New to the Town; one house nightly. Terms and dates to George E. Good, Gaiety Theatre, Blyth.

WANTED, a few good Variety Artists, also a good Bioscope Operator, with own Machine. Write or wire, Leslie, Empire, Riddings, Derbyshire.

IMPERIAL VARIETY AGENCY,
19, Green-street, Leicester-square.
Under the Direction of
F. F. Wade (late Manager of Collins's Music Hall) and H. J. Stowe, jun.
Proprietor, H. J. Stowe.
WANTED, good Artists, original Acts and Specialities. Call or write. 'Phone 14,252 Cen.

CHAPPELL'S PROMENADE CONCERTS, GREAT YARMOUTH (three Shows daily).
WANTED, Artists all Lines. June to Sept. Quote lowest, vacancies, perm. add.; to Harry Barker, Grand Theatre, Halifax, Yorks.

WANTED, First-class Artists Only, for First-class Variety Theatres, immediate and future dates, also Pantomime. Wanted, a good Double Comedy Act for May 27. Jess Verno's Agency, 16, Elizabeth-st., Liverpool. Telegrams, "Merriment." 'Phone, 2076 Royal.

WANTED, Artists of every description, to give Trial Show, with view to Engagement on Vaudeville Circuit of twenty Halls.
Every encouragement and assistance given to Amateurs.
Write, enclosing stamped addressed envelope, to The Manager, Sadler's Wells Theatre, E.C.
No interviews will be granted, and applications will be answered strictly in rotation.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Monday next and Monday following, continuously. Artists with Summer Dates vacant for Seaside Towns please communicate.
Cavill's Agency,
127, Clapham-road, London, S.W.
Telegrams, "Dramatical."

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
William Mould, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, two weeks, May 13, 27, June 13. Charles A. James, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin.

WANTED, Artists and Specialities, for Fêtes near London. Send pictorials and terms (rail paid). Furneaux, 40, Thorpe-rd., Forest Gate.

WANTED, Known, Artists wishing to be booked for First-Class Music Hall Engagements to communicate with Brooks's Agency, 35, Shaftesbury-avenue.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, coming North, to send dates and terms,
Anderson's Agency, 6, Great Clyde-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, Special Week, North England, May 6, probably longer. Photos., lowest, Manager, 58, St. John's-villas, Holloway.

WANTED, Al-Fresco Artists, all Lines, for Sheffield; must be Versatile; Open Whit, rehearse week previous. Particulars, photo., lowest, Sambon, Hippodrome, Sheffield.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

EMPIRE, GREENOCK.
WANTED, Known.
Artists and Agents please Note,
that on and after May 6
this Theatre will be Closed.
for the Summer Season.
H. L. Skivington.

CIRCUS and HIPPODROME, ROCHDALE.
WANTED, Known, Rehearsal, Monday next, 2 o'clock, for "A Trip to Coontown" and Variety Company. Letters, Smith and Co., Red Lion Hotel, Rochdale.

TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN.
WANTED, for the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Dublin,
All the Greatest Stars in the Profession,
Acts New in Dublin, for the above,
the Premier Variety Theatre in Ireland,
Direct or through Agents.
All communications to Will Sley,
41, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone, 09144.

WANTED, May 6, 13, and 20,
Stars in all Lines.
Stars in all Lines.
Full up for smaller items.
State towns at Liberty for.
Can fix big numbers any odd weeks.
Cadle's Agency, 105, Strand, W.C.

EDWIN C. JAZON'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Stars and Novelties. Full list of bookings and lowest terms. Can place Good Tops, May 6. 20, and 27; also Big Comedy Acts for Seaside Towns, August and Sept. Panto. Artists open next season write, with full particulars, Jazon, St. Andrew-road, Anfield, Liverpool.

HENRY KEMBLE'S AGENCY.
HENRY KEMBLE'S AGENCY.
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HENRY KEMBLE'S AGENCY.
Temporary Office,
PALACE, CORK.
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PALACE, CORK.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Big Specialities,
Big Specialities,
Big Specialities,
Animal Shows, Illusions,
Animal Shows, Illusions,
Animal Shows, Illusions,
for May 20, and onward.
for May 20, and onward.
for May 20, and onward.
Send full list of Bookings, Terms, Lithos., &c.

WANTED, Specialities and Dumb Acts of all kinds, and anything Sensational. Send full bookings. Martino's Agency, Barcroft-st., Grimsby.

WANTED, for Poole's Myriorama, good Specialities for May 20, new to Wales. Address, with terms, F. Mayer, Public Hall, Abercynon.

CIRCUS, SPENNYMOOR, CO. DURHAM.
WANTED, Specialities of every description, Acrobats, Gymnasts, good Comedians, anything funny. Address, C. Algie.

PALACE OF VARIETIES, OLDBURY.
Proprietors, Messrs. J. Tyrer and Wm. B. Bostock.
WANTED, April 29, on, Novelties, Specialities, Doubles doing Singles, Hall small. Lowest terms. Lithos., Wm. B. Bostock.

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, late Manager Blackpool, Morecambe, &c. Address, 46, Coram-st., Russell-sq., W.C. Appointments only.

WANTED, May 6, an extra good Comic Act; must be Screamingly Funny;
nothing too big.
From June 3, onwards,
Artists Wanted, all Lines,
for O. Maus Dayton's
Vaudeville Companies.

Apply, with lowest terms and lithos., if any, to
The Dayton Family,
Queen's Theatre, Castleford.

WANTED, Gala Acts, Novelties, Aerial and Ground Specialities, Double Turns, Whitsun, June, July, Aug. Big Sensational Acts, Aug. 5 and 6, Sheffield. Send full particulars, George Burton, Milners-chambers, Fargate, Sheffield.

WANTED, good Acts for the North, Star Comedians especially. Terms and full list of bookings, to Frank Lynne, 12, Cranworth-gardens, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Good Speciality Act, Japanese Troupe, Musical Acts, Bar and Comedy Performers, Equilibrists, Acrobats, Dogs, &c. Apply, Freear and Son, 39, Dame-street, Dublin.

WANTED, for Gloucester, Porth, Worcester, Glasgow, Portsmouth, Variety Acts in all Lines. I can book you. Gannon, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, any big Acts or Comedy Sketch, on percentage, also Variety Artists, new for Castleford, for June 3. Lowest terms to Chevalier Cliquot, Theatre Royal, Dewsbury.

WANTED, Known, T. Wood, Variety Agent, and Gala Caterer, late of Easton and Cheese-lane, has removed offices, 140, Whitehall-road, Bristol. Wanted, Gala Acts for Whit Week and later dates.

WANTED, Top of Bill, May 6, new to Wigan. Wire till Saturday night, Onda, Empire, Doncaster; after, Empire, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Startling Attractions, May 6 and onwards, High-Class Small Turns also communicate, Summer terms. Ventom Swift's Agency, Alhambra, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Good Pierrot Troupe for Season. West End Pier, Morecambe.

WANTED, Pierrot, good Baritone, Pianist, refined, well up Concerted Sketches, &c. East, 100, Golborne-road, Notting Hill.

H. L. SKIVINGTON'S AGENCY,
H. L. SKIVINGTON'S AGENCY,
48, Brisbane-street, Greenock.
48, Brisbane-street, Greenock.
WANTED, Vocalists, Speciality Artists, and Comedians, to send vacant dates and lowest terms for Glasgow and District.

WANTED, Lady Vocalist or Variety Artist, one who can typewrite and do shorthand. Full particulars and photo. to The Scottish Musical Agency, 107, George-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Vocalist (Lady or Gentleman), to partly manage Small Concert Party; living wage and share profits; at once. Horn, Gate Hotel, Hildenborough, Kent.

WANTED, for week commencing May 6, Contralto Vocalist, to sing to Pictures; also a refined Speciality Turn. Davis, 4, Rothesay-rd., Newport, Mon.

WANTED, Acrobats, Gymnasts, Comedy Acts, &c.; people with more than one act preferred; Bioscope, one night only, Saturday, May 18. Sante's Benefit. Sante, Radcliffe.

WANTED, Troupe of Dancers, to appear in Sketch, May. 6.
Send full particulars and photos.,
Secretary, 49, Binfield-road, Stockwell, S.W.

WANTED, Young Lady, for Hypnotic Living Statue Sketch; must be good-looking, or need not apply; 2 years' engagement guaranteed to suitable applicant; commence £2 weekly, rising gradually. State age, height, colour hair, and send photo., to Agent, Box 4,737, "The Era."

WANTED, for Minstrel Turn, for the Halls, two Tenors, must read and be competent to sing Solos; also First-Class Comedian. Apply, with Songs, at Clapham Assembly Rooms, opposite Clapham-road Station, Monday, April 29, at 12 noon.

DREW BAYLEY'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Sisters, Comedians, Comedy Acts, for the North, May 6, and on. 170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

WANTED, good Serio and Dancer, for May 6, also six smart Dancers for Troupe. Apply at once, Sinclair, 118, Kennington-road, S.E.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Big Variety Turns,
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Novelties and Sensational Acts,
For Immediate and Future Dates, for
London, Liverpool,
Birmingham, Leeds, Newcastle,
Glasgow, Belfast,
Dublin, Manchester, Bolton,
Wolverhampton, Oldham,
Hartlepool, Shields, Barrow,
Carlisle, Darlington,
Hull, Middlesbrough, Stockport,
Blackpool, Morecambe,
Brighton, Boscombe, Margate,
Portsmouth, Southampton,
Bath, Lincoln, Leicester, Bradford,
Halifax, Sheffield, Blackburn,
Lancaster, Stockport, Burnley, Derby,
Attercliffe, Stoke, Grimsby.
St. Helens, Accrington, Warrington,
Bury, Hanley, Stockton, &c., &c.
Send, at once, terms, dates, and lithos.
Those having a good act can rely on getting Immediate Work.
Will Sley,
Will Sley,
Will Sley,
Will Sley,
Will Sley,
Will Sley,
41, Oxford-street,
41, Oxford-street,
41, Oxford-street,
41, Oxford-street,
41, Oxford-street,
41, Oxford-street,
Manchester.
Manchester.
Manchester.
Manchester.
Manchester.
Manchester.
Telephone, 09144.
Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."

Short Hippodrome Season in First-class Theatre.
WANTED, really good Star Turns, for Top of Bill, Variety Artists of all Kinds;
must be refined.
Address in first instance, with lowest terms and immediate Vacant Dates,
Box 4,714, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Speciality Turns, not Singing, for Fête, at Reading, Whit Monday. No best offers. Geo. Baker, Hippodrome, Reading.

WANTED, May 6, 13, 20,
Comedians, Comediennes, Specialities,
Best Syndicate Halls, Town and Country.
Geo. Aitoun, Variety Agent,
120, Kennington Park-road, London, S.E.
Wires "Antics, London." 'Phone, 1949 Hop.
Provincial Representative, Frank Lynne.

WANTED, Eccentric Comedian, able to produce Sketches, also High-Class Tenor or Baritone, with Musical Comedy Numbers, four months, Al Fresco. Terms, &c. Chapman, 52, Chatham-street, Reading.

WANTED, Star Comedians, Comediennes, Big Speciality Acts. Send full bookings, terms, lithos., Ainsworth's Entertainment Bureau, 120, Preston-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, for Dunoon, Scotland, Al Fresco Comedian, well up in Sketches and Concerted numbers. Lee and Arden, 86, Rusholme-rd., Manchester.

WANTED, Minstrel Comedian, with Speciality. State age, experience, lowest terms, photo. (which will be returned). Address, Gilbert Rogers, Rhyl.

WANTED, for Bilston Al Fresco Pavilion, First-Class Comedian, Tenor Vocalist, used to Concerted Numbers, play in Sketches, &c. Photo., age, terms, Harry Battersby, T. R., Bilston.

WANTED, Contralto and Comedian, for First-class Seaside Engagements, on Pier. Box 4,717, "The Era."

WANTED, Real Coloured Coon Singer and Dancer, for Long Tour; must have good voice (tenor preferred), and be first-class. Full details to Manager, 8, Sandringham-drive, New Brighton, near Liverpool.

WANTED, immediately Two Boys, age 14, good Dancers, Coon, Clog. Apply personally, this day (Saturday), Stanley, 19, Daneville-road, Camberwell.

WANTED, a Coloured Boy, age about 15 years, must be a good Singer and Dancer. Good money and three years' Engagement if suitable. Harry Instone, Royal Varieties, Oldham.

WANTED, Four Young Lady Trick Cyclists, to form troupe. Photos., age, height, terms, particulars, Broughton, 428, Gorton-rd., Reddish, Stockport.

WANTED, Smart Young Trick Cyclist, for well known Troupe. Age, height, weight, list of tricks. Lenn, 11, Queen-street, Lancaster.

WANTED, Bioscope (Lime), and Good Films (40 minutes' show). Open Monday next, six months' engagement, tour North; good shop for right man. Money sure. Wire, Bioscope, Theatre, Musselburgh.

WANTED, an experienced, reliable Operator (Urban Bioscope), for week commencing May 6. Apply, with lowest terms, to Davis, 4, Rothesay-road, Newport, Mon.

WANTED, Cinématographist, with half hour's show. Company Touring Midlands; good bookings. Box 4,710, "The Era."

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED.—Notice to Proprietors, Managers, and Agents.—From May 20, 1907, I shall be known as Mi Narom. (Signed) Minnie Moran, Palace, Cork.

WANTED, Known, Vacant Monday next; also May 6, Lizzie Worland, Characteristic Comedienne. Offers, 86, Lyal-road, Bow, E.

"VENUS AND CUPID."
WANTED, for this Unique Double Statuary Act, Four Models, no wait whatever, May 13 (follow Wigan), 27 (follow Hull), onwards.
Stanton,
30, Rathbone-place, London, W.

WANTED, by Sisters Beatrice, Duettists and Expert Dancers, Monday next, also May 6, through hall closing. Wire or write, 35, Florence-street, Islington, N.

WANTED, by Sisters Truro, Ballad Harmonising Duettists, Monday next; pretty dress, good voices; also Miss Laura D'Estrail, Ballad Vocalist; two good turns. 3, Corporation-street, Middleton, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Three Sisters McQueen, Operatic Vocalists, Hippodrome, Stockton, Open 29th and 6th, Piers, Halls, &c. 66, Locomotive-street, Springfield, Darlington.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, the Four Sisters Sligo, Irish Harmonising Instrumental and Vocal Speciality, at Lib. for Halls, Piers, &c. Offers invited. Palace, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Neddy Vokes, Comedy Musical Artist; Funniest Act before the Public. Liberty April 29. Wire, City Hall, Perth, Scotland.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by Carlos Menard, renned Musical Entertainer, good in Sketches, Con. Numbers, Choruses, Gags, &c.; last season twenty weeks Palace, Douglas; this, County T., Reading; next, Pal., Leicester.

WANTED, by Miss Sadie Bush, Contralto Vocalist, Monday next, also May 6. Liberty for good Al Fresco. Wire, 78, Gartside-street, Quay-street, Manchester.

WANTED, 29, and on, Jack Sheppard, World's Greatest Handcuff King and Prison Breaker; also Miss Ruby Vesta, in the Greatest Mystery on the Stage. Sure Draw. Big Challenges. Turning away hundreds every night. Refer Mr. Bostock. Wire or write for Monday, Palace, Oldbury.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Harry Lawton, the Popular Society Entertainer, is at Liberty May 13, onward. Twice re-engaged one season, Llandudno Pier Pav. 20 re-engagements, North Pier, Blackpool. One of the Best and most Versatile Entertainments before the Public. Address, Mr. Harry Lawton, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Monday next, and onwards, by J. H. Kavanagh, Star Comedian. Wire, Temperance Hall; or, 13, Union-street, Guisborough, Yorkshire.

WANTED, Monday next, by Mr. Jock Warker, the celebrated Scotch Comedian. A sure success. Wire, Gaiety Theatre, Chatham.

WANTED, Known, Barney Stuart, High-Class Character-Actor, Vocalist, and Mimic, Lib. Monday next, onwards, with exceptions.
Wire or write, Carlton T., Saltley, Birmingham.

WANTED, by J. H. Carney, Anglo-American Humorist, Mimic, and Dancer, Vacant May 6, 13, 20. This week, Grand, Sheffield; next, Pav., Leicester.

WANTED, Known, Alvar, Sensational Gymnast, and Will and Roze, Comedy Acrobatic Conjurers, conclude May 4, forty-six consecutive weeks' tour; at Liberty May 6, on, Halls or Galas; Two First-class Acts. 6, Dolly-lane, Leeds.

WANTED, Monday next, to precede Glasgow, Prof. Arnold's Artistic Magical Act; the Provincial Representative Magicians. Wire early, Temperance Hall, Bolton.

WANTED, Monday next (one week only), by Cambo, the Musical Monkey. Big Novelty Musical Act, also Ventriloquist. Wire, Theatre Royal, Croydon.

WANTED, by Steve Cooke, Refined Character Comedian, April 29; also Summer Season; All-round Performer. Wire, 175, Essex-road, Islington, N.

WANTED, by Conjurer, good appearance, First-class Sleight-of-Hand Performer, Summer Engagement. Dr Relse, 65, Cemetery-road, Ipswich.

WANTED, April 29, Kyoto, and his Mysterious Comedy Japanese Box, introducing Marvellous Contortions, Comedy Jap Juggling and Conjuring; also Oto; Miss May Geraldine, a Dainty Comedienne, Vocalist, and Dancer. Enormous Success. Two Distinct Acts. Wire, 15, Clifford-st., Oxford-st., Manchester. After Saturday, 25, Devonshire-house, Bath-terrace, London, S.E. Also Vacant, May 6, onward.

WANTED, Known, the Original Bohemians (Will and Madge) have no connection with anyone using same name. Managers and Agents kindly note this.

WANTED, Known, The Bohemians (Will and Madge), Instrumentalists. This, Hip., Lowestoft. Vacant April 29. Wire to above.

WANTED, by the Lendens, Will and Mabel, May 6, on, Marble and Terra Cotta Statuary; a great draw. Add., 37, Criskell-street, Holbeck, Leeds.

WANTED, Known, Will and Roze, Comedy Acrobatic Conjurers, and Alvar, Sensational Gymnast, conclude May 4, forty-six weeks' consecutive tour. At Liberty May 6, on, Halls or Galas. Two First-class Acts. 6, Dolly-lane, Leeds.

WANTED, Monday next, by Ryder Davis, Comedian; also Eva Ward, Comedienne. This week, Standard. Wire, 41, Cambridge-street, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, by The Prinellas, Monday next, for their Beautiful Farmyard and Cornfield Scene, "A Country Flirtation." Wire, Gaiety, Blyth.

WANTED, Monday next, also May 6, The Percys (Harry and Lillie), Duettists, Dancers, Speciality Performers, distance no object. Wire, Percys, Hippodrome, Blyth.

WANTED, May 6, 13, through transferring, The Monckton, in their Screamingly Funny Musical Comedy Episode, "Are Wives Dummies?" Pavilion, Greenock.

WANTED, May 6, to follow Palace, Blackpool, by Huline and Le May (Alec and Tom), Creators of Comical Curiosities. Tivoli, Dublin; Monday, Palace, Blackpool.

WANTED, Monday, by Chant and Chant, Refined Comedy Duo, Dewsbury to follow. Ask Mr. Bowerman. Wire for a winner. Gaiety, Glasgow.

WANTED, Monday next, by Eustace and Eyre (E. W. and Dorothy), in an Original and Novel Ventriloquial Absurdity, entitled "Tomkins, Jun.," introducing Smart Ventriloquism. Novel Speciality Dances, &c. First Vacancy this year. Wire for a Sure Success. Empire, Bristol.

WANTED, Monday next, and Whit Week, onwards, by The Gelders, in a high-class, refined Magical Séance; Ivy Dene, Dainty Soubrette and Speciality Dancer; two magnificent numbers for any programme. Wire or write, 20, Greck-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, by Two Palmers (Maud and James). Comedy Duettists, Monday next, also May 6; two distinct Acts if required. Wire, Alhambra, Brighton.

WANTED, by (Edward) Clark and (Sadie) Gold, American Expert Banjoist, Dancers, Entertainers, April 22, Theatre Royal, Canterbury; April 29, Corn Exchange, Ashford; May 6, Kursaal, Bexhill. Liberty 13th, 20th.

WANTED, Le Brun and Irene, Trapeze Equilibrists and Double Jugglers. Vacant May 6, onward. Add., Assembly Rooms, Great Malvern.

WANTED, Monday next, Arthur Goodman, assisted by Rosalind, Funniest Juggler and Burlesquer of Vaudevilles. Tremendous hit guaranteed. Palace, Southampton.

WANTED, Monday, also 6th, 14th, Bob Hartley, Comedian; Doris Dene, Descriptive, Serio. Liberty for Good Troupe. Wire, 2 Court 2 House, Well-lane, Sheffield.

WANTED, Known, Rezene and Robini, vacant Monday and May 13, success everywhere. See advertisement, Sensation. Wires, Half Moon, Holloway, N.

WANTED, Monday next, also May 6 and 13, by Titan (Strong Man) and Wyllie (Musical Act); two good Acts. Manager having disappointment, wire for Monday to Titan, Victoria Theatre, West Stanley, Durham.

WANTED, by Upton and Upton, Comedians, in their latest success, "The Curbstone Millionaires," May 6 and few dates onward. First-class Halls. Wire or write, Oakhurst, Cambridge Park, Wanstead, Essex.

WANTED, by Sterling and Cashen, Military Comedy Duo and Dancers, May 6, 13, 20. Coms., Palace, Bradford.

WANTED, Monday, Macintosh and Royal, Vocalists and World's Champion Dancers. Only Vacant Date this year. Wire, Hippo., Cambridge.

WANTED, Known, Lang and Beal thank Fred Durnam for twenty-four weeks' Contracts. Monday, Pal., Bath. All coms., Durham's Agency.

WANTED, by Hector and Sultan, the men who make them laugh, the World's greatest Eccentrics, Monday, April 29, Wire, 16, Oxford-street, Accrington.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, May 22, 23, 24, and 25, for the Famous Mysteries. Certainties or good shares. Booked May 6 to 18, Southend Pier. May 20 and 21, Specially Engaged, People's Palace. 32, Piccadilly-mansions, London, W.

WANTED, April 29 and May 13, by The Caris, Comedy Trampoline Act, refined Comedy and Talent combined; Pirouette and Double Somersault, also thirty Somersaults in a Swing. Big success Hip., West Bromwich, where wire for Mon. Address after Sunday, 23, Cooper's-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Monday next, April 22, by Stanley's Urchins, and Mlle. Du Roche, 2 distinct turns. Wire, 19, Daneville-road, Camberwell.

WANTED, Known, Three Transfields, Refined Musical Speciality,
Vacant May 13, 20, 27, June 10, 24.
A Popular Musical Show,
well staged, and handsome dresses. Always a Success. Mon., Palace, Bradford.

WANTED, May 13, and on, three Distinct Turns, Zancig Thought-reading, Conjuring, and Bioscope. Lenton and Bertram, 251, Seven Sisters-road, N.

WANTED, Monday next, by The Boultons, and Mlle. Bartenelli; two First-class Acts.
Wire, 10, Church-road, Portsmouth.

WANTED, by Cameo Troupe, Comedy Acrobats, Halls, Fêtes, Galas, &c., &c. Address, 1, Upper Duke-st., Manchester; or Stebbings, Agent.

WANTED, Known,
The Sabots,
under the Direction of
Mr. Walter Walters,
Have Free
Whit Week
and
a few others in June only.
Accept certainty or good share.
Apply, Sole Agents,
Keith, Prowse and Co., Ltd.,
162, New Bond-street, W.

WANTED, Known, Four Zolas, Lightning and Herculean Acrobats and Tumblers; also Bros. Alpine, on the High Balancing Perch; just finished eighteen weeks' tour, at Liberty May 6, 13, for Tenting or Fêtes, Galas. Monday, Theatre Royal, Wednesbury.

WANTED, Monday next, by Albert Trillo, Ventriloquist. Success guaranteed. A sure draw; refined and humorous. Wire, Post Office, Chelmsford, Essex.

WANTED, to Book, Al-Fresco, &c., by R. J. Golding, Superb Vent. and Comic Conjurer, &c. Perm., 32, Courtenay-road, Walthamstow, London.

WANTED, Monday next (North preferred), by Gillin,
Unique Ventriloquial Humorist,
Wire, Palace, Carlisle.

WANTED, May 27, June 3, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist, and De Lil, Illusionist; two smart Acts. Monday, Empire, Greenock.

WANTED, May 6, 13, by Eric, Novelty Ventriloquist. Wire,
Kursaal, Harrogate.

WANTED, Piers, Pavilions, for Syd Sylvester's Costume Concert Company, "The Lyrics," Vacant May 27 and June only. Sylvester, Empire, Birmingham.

WANTED, by Miss Ella's Lion Show, May 6 and 27,
June 3, onwards, with exceptions,
Midlands preferred.
Communications, week, April 29,
The Hippodrome, Burton-on-Trent.

WANTED, Known, Caban's French Circus, Ponies, Donkeys, Goat, and Dogs. At Liberty April 29, May 6, 13, 20. Address, C. Caban, 4, Charles-street, Gloucester.

WANTED, Known, Capt. Devereux's Dog Marvels, the Four-footed Animals with Human Brains. Liberty May 13 and 27. Sure draw. Palace, Greenwich.

WANTED, Alice Fontainbleau, Liberty one week, April 29, prior to finishing Broadhead Tour. Next vacancy, June 10. Communications, Hippo., Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Fêtes and Galas, Alice Fontainbleau's World-famed Troupe of Trick, Somersault, and High-Leaping Dogs, also her Marvellous Rolling Globe Performance. Address, Hippo., Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Alice Fontainbleau, worked thirty Galas last year under Wilders, Birmingham; many more booked this year, which shows well for Talent. Commencing Whit Monday, Shrewsbury Fête.

WANTED, the Dunlops, Comedy Cycle Act, also Lillian Sivado, Lady Gymnast, two distinct Acts, Vacant May 6, 27, two good Acts for Galas, &c. Monday, Public Hall, Barnsley.

WANTED, Known, Bros. St. Clair, the Great Comedy Cyclists and Bicycle Football Experts, vacant May 13, 20, 27. Per., 14, Sea View-parade, Morecambe.

WANTED, Known, Bros. St. Clair, open Moss and Stoll June 17. Few immediate dates wanted. 14, Sea View-parade, Morecambe.

WANTED, by Bros. St. Clair, May 13, 20, 27. Wire or write,
Perm., 14, Sea View-parade, Morecambs.

WANTED, Galas, &c., by The Dunlops, Comedy Cycle Act; Lillian Sivado, Lady Gymnast; two acts. Address, Public Hall, Barnsley.

WANTED, Engagement, by Knockabout Acrobatic Pantomimist, Animal Impersonator, height 5ft. 4in, weight 9st, age 22. Morel, 7, Inkerman-street, Collyhurst-road, Manchester.

WANTED, to Join, Sketch Co.; can Tumble, Knockabout, Dance, &c. (Late of Leopold's "Frivolity.") A. Lambson, 274, Glyn-road, Clapton Park, London.

WANTED, Seaside Halls, for First-class Pictures; Big Magical Act, and Varieties. Lester, Aylesbury.

WANTED, Engagement, Public or Private, Harmon's Bioscope, Marionettes, also Royal Punch and Judy, with Toby. 326 Earlsfield-road, Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, Engagements, by Bioscope; 20 minutes' show each night. Terms, £3 per week. Coloured Song Slides to Sell. Morris, 18, Tweed-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Operator, with Machine, vacant Monday, May 6, tour, Al-fresco Pavilions; 20 to 60 minutes' pictures; Baritone Vocalist, assist piano. Clark, P.O., Ongar.

WANTED, Engagements, by Bioscope Operator, with Machine. Walker, 1, Lorne-street, Fairfield, Liverpool.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
Johnson Wood, Operator,
Empire, Birmingham.

WANTED, Engagement, by Operator, lime, electric, own Urban Bioscope. Dis. Monday, on. Change weekly if required; reliable. Harry Lemon, Post Office, Northampton.

WANTED, Engagement, by Operator, with own new Urban Bioscope and latest Films. Write, E. Pinkpank, 109, Park-street, Denmark-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, Bioscope Operator, own Machine and Films, twenty minutes to two hours' show. Operator, 20, Wharf-road, Wandsworth, S.W.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, .22 "R" and "D" cartridges, Globes, Balls, Winchester and New Military Repeaters. Pistols, and all repairs done. Greene, 74, Falmouth-road, London, S.E.

Auctioneers.
WANTED, Known, Great Value Offered in Secondhand Silver Watches.
Auctioneers only supplied.
Write to-day for full particulars,
C. G. Clicher, 22, Argyle-street, Glasgow.
Try one of my famed parcels, containing Ten English Lever and Twelve Silver Geneva Watches. Best Value ever Offered.
In great demand. Price, £5 5s.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, Tom Norman, Silver King (regd.), Auctioneer, Valuer, Expert and Authority, Auctioneer to Lord George Sanger (England's Greatest Showman), and Leading Showmen of Great Britain. Sales and Commissions conducted in any part of the World. If you want to Buy or Sell anything connected with the Business, consult TOM NORMAN, Auction Dept., "The Era" Office, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand. Change of address. Wanted to purchase or engage, all kinds of Novelties and Curiosities (alive or dead), if suitable for exhibition.

WANTED, Showmen to save money by sending for Leete's Catalogue of specially prepared paints, colours, varnishes, brushes, &c., and every requisite for decorating caravans, roundabouts, swings, &c. Cheapest house in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, Known, all Kinds of Showmen's Painting Undertaken, Oil-Paintings, Scenery, Letter Cloths. ROCHE, Artist, 22, Lansdown-road, Lee, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Doncaster Butterscotch, with Fortune, 3s. gross. J. PODMORE, 36, Tatton-street, Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancs.

WANTED, Known, to Auctioneers, Hand Sellers and Umbrella lost property depots, Umbrellas ready for immediate sale, wholesale only. Write for particulars, Umbrella Depôt, 241, Great College-street, London, N.W.

WANTED, Known, Stacey and Co., Showman's Stores for .22 Ammunition, Guns, &c. We are Specialists in Rifle Ranges, Fittings, and Fair Goods. Settles-st., London, E.

WANTED, for Blackpool, The Great Wheel, Eleventh Annual Summer Carnival, Whit to Oct., Good Side-shows and Novelties; central position, adjoining Winter Gardens.

RHYL WORLD'S FAIR.
WANTED, good Side Show and a good Trades Exhibit, only four Spaces left. Apply, SECRETARY.

WANTED, Novelties, Freaks; can open at once. Sale of Books and Postcards allowed. CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin.

WANTED, Good Novelty, for Booth; salary or shares, or would purchase anything good, suitable to exhibit. COLLENA, P. Office, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, Novelties, at all Times. Will Madam Howard please send Vacant Date. HUMBER, Permanent Exhibition, George-st., Aberdeen.

WANTED, Novelties, at Once. Brown's Dahomey Troupe write. BURNETTE'S Waxworks, 273, Argyle-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Quick-Showing Novelties, good Flash, Automatics, Punch Ball, Shares, three good shops; Illusion for sale. MANAGER, 335, High-st. North, East Ham.

WANTED, Novelties, Bioscope, Freaks, anything with drawing powers; nothing too big; must have Flash. HOWARD, Exhibition, 24, Plumstead-road, Woolwich.

WANTED, for Free Fun City, New Brighton, Novelties, Stalls, Games, Palmist, Engraver, Wire Worker, &c., under cover. MELVILLE, Rathbone-gardens, Portobello.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, and Attractions.
A. E. PICKARD, American Museum, Glasgow.

WANTED, an Up-to-Date Illusion, for Side Show, for World's Fair. Sharing terms. MANAGER, Victoria Hall, Rhyl.

WANTED, immediately High-stilt Walker (George Wray send address); also Small Men (Dwarfs). WOOD, 94, Kenbury-street, Camberwell.

WANTED, at Once, some Small Men (Dwarfs). For particulars, apply
WOOD, 94, Kenbury-street, Camberwell.

NEW BRIGHTON TOWER.
WANTED, a good Touter, for the Tower Entrance, for the Season of Twenty Weeks, commencing at Whitsuntide; must be a smart Patterer, sober, gentlemanly, and thoroughly understand the business. Apply, with copies of testimonials, to
WILLIAM HOLLAND, Tower, New Brighton.

WANTED, Paraders, male or female, Sisters, Knockabouts, &c., for Bioscope. Open at Once. Actual terms first letter to HAGGAR, Bioscope, Bargoed. Only those who understand the show business need apply.

WANTED, Two Female Paraders, with or without own dresses; also Two Good Tumbling Knockabouts; only single people who understand the business need apply. BIDDALL, Bioscope, Fair Ground, Reading, May 1 and 2.

WANTED, Man, for Waxwork Exhibition, Engagement abroad; must understand grouping, tableaux, arranging, &c.; good taste and display; one who can do little wax repairs preferred. Apply, with references and particulars of previous engagements, by letter only, to 181, Audrey-house, Ely-place, Holborn, London.

WANTED, Character Reader, shares or rent, for Blackpool; Ground to Let for all Kinds of Side-shows. CLOWES, 84, Victoria-road, New Brighton.

WANTED, Phrenologist; terms, shares; Grand Opening in good Exhibition. Apply for particulars, Box 4,715, "The Era."

WANTED, from Whitsun, for Welsh Seaside Resort, Wire-worker, Electric Engraver, and Daisy Needle Worker; also Automatic Machines; on shares. Box 4,712, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Mathews, Watchmaker and Comedian; and Reggie, Boy Vocalist; at Liberty for Auction Tent, 32s. 6d. Care of Parsons, Auction Tent, Chorley, Lancashire.

WANTED, Situation, by smart young Auctioneer; steady and reliable; understands business thoroughly; knows good firms; undeniable references; disengaged. Box 4,708, "The Era."

WANTED, Galas, Prof. Carcass's Talented Punch and Judy, and Dog Toby, Pipes and Drum, Pretty Fit-up, Large-size Figures, splendidly carved Novelty Boxing Kangaroos, going great. Amateurs and others, don't pinch this. Liberty for Whit. Distance no object. Perm., 5, Old Elm-st., Ardwick, Manchester. Thanks Prof. Wingard (the Royal Illusionist) for congratulations.

WANTED, Known, Bailey's Punch and Judy thanks Wilder for six Contracts; also Smith for offer of Boxing Kangaroo. Address, Buxton.

WANTED, Known, P. Marland's Royal Punch and Judy, with Champion Dog Toby, at Liberty Fêtes, Galas, &c. 142, Chesham-rd., Bury.

WANTED, by Lady Palmist, Space in Exhibition, or for Season at Seaside; could join at once. Rental or sharing terms. Address, MADAM, 16, Regent-street, Swindon.

WANTED, suitable Position at Seaside for Lady Palmist and Fancy Goods, &c. Full particulars, PROF. TAYLOR, Commercial-street, Nantymoel, S. Wales.

WANTED, Known, Man, Wife, and Daughter, thoroughly experienced in Side Shows or Novelty Exhibits, seeks a Situation as Manager or Doorsman, or would join as Partner; well up in Illusions. Apply, C. M., 265, Waterloo-road, London, S.E.

DUNFERMLINE RACES AND HIGHLAND GATHERING, July 15, 16, and 17, 1907.
WANTED, to Let, Ground, Roundabouts, Variety Shows, and Amusements. Terms and Space apply ALEX. DODDS, East Port-street, Dunfermline.

YARMOUTH SEA FRONT.
WANTED, to Let, Spaces for Stalls, Side Shows, Waxworks, &c., covered in and also open air, opposite jetty, winter gardens, and pier; best position. Apply, W. T. NICHOLLS, Lowestoft-road, Gorleston, Yarmouth.

BOROUGH HALL, STAFFORD,
May 7 to 17, 1907.
WANTED, Known, few Spaces to Let, good Side Show, or half shares required, also Lady Vocalist and Instrumentalist (combined). Apply, EXHIBITION MANAGER, Co-operative Hall, Crewe.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Everybody to Note that NEW BRIGHTON TOWER.
Manager, WILLIAM HOLLAND,
The Gigantic
FREE
FUN
PARK,
now in course of Organisation, to Open at Whit Week for the Season, promises to be the Greatest Success
ever achieved in this direction in Great Britain.
It will be absolutely the
First American Free Amusement Park
on this side of the Atlantic, and is, without doubt, a Daring and Unique Experiment.
The following Shows are in Course of Arrangement:
Bamberger's Abyssinian Village, occupying six acres of ground;
Hale's "Tours of the World,"
Helter-Skelter Lighthouse,
Plinston's Flying Airship,
Travers' Giant Circle Swing,
Oscillating Stairway,
Whirling Switchcar,
Bevan's Snakeries and Menagerie,
The Hypnotic D'Auras,
Chidlow's Games, &c.,
Himalaya Railway,
Giant Switchback,
Water Chutes,
"Merry-Makers" Pierrot Co.,
Aerial Flight,
Gaumont's Chronophone,
Shooting Galleries.
Ground Still Vacant for Novel Shows, Swings, Cockerels, Motors, Over-boats, Games, &c.
Apply for terms (rent or share) to
WILLIAM HOLLAND.

BLACKPOOL SANDS.
WANTED, Known, the South Shore Pleasure Beach is the only site in Blackpool for Open-air Attractions.
The grounds are forty acres in extent, right on the sea front, and are situated immediately next the Promenade at the Electric Tramway Terminus. From April 1 to Dec. 31, 1905, 4,000,000 passengers were carried on these tramways. The permanent attractions now include the "River Caves of the World," "Maxim Flying Machine," "Sea Circus," &c. Great Canadian Water Chute and Scenic Railway from Coney Island now being erected for next season, commencing at Easter. For sites and concessions for really good Novelties apply personally. Office on grounds. Letters only, 14, Balmoral-road, Blackpool.

CHESTER RACES.
LEICESTER GREAT MAY FAIR.
WANTED, Known, to Showmen, Stallholders, Travellers, &c.,
who have Booked Ground,
that I open Chester, "The Little Roodee," on Saturday, May 4.
Also, as my Big Show will not visit Leicester, the Ground to Let for Main Position;
also Position Open for Beast Show,
and few Side-shows and Ground Booths,
Sheets and Stalls.
Leicester opens Thursday, May 9.
I have Ground to Let to follow, a Continuous Run:
Birmingham Great May Fair, open May 23;
Lichfield Bower, Whit Week;
Wolverhampton Whitsuntide Fair;
Staffordshire Run;
Bromsgrove, Kidderminster;
Worcester Races;
Burslem, New Ground, Centre Town, sanctioned by Corporation.
All applications for Grounds, price, and particulars, Address, P. COLLINS,
Gondola Works, Walsall.
Telegrams, "Gondola, Walsall."
Telephone, 80 Walsall.

WANTED, to Let, Land for Stalls and Shows. Apply, ALBERT ELLIS, Secretary, Starr Estate Fairground Co., 81, Central Beach, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, to Circus Proprietors, Showmen, and Al Fresco Entertainers, to Let, large piece of land, close to joint railways station, centre of town, splendid opening.
Address, AUCTIONEER,
6, Hampshire-terrace, Southsea.

WANTED, to Let, Spaces for Novelties, Fairy Floss, Photos., Jewellery, &c. The Exhibition will be extensively Advertised. It is anticipated we shall get 2,000 visitors daily. Apply, H. J. SNELSON, Wonderland, Fleetwood.

WANTED, to Let, the Wonderland, Sheffield, suitable for Auctioneers, Bazaars, or Cheap Entertainments, on Shares or Rental, from Whit onward. Address, PROPRIETOR.

WANTED, to Let, Ground at Shotts (Original Fair Ground, Dykehead Football Field), for Roundabouts, Shows, Swings, Stalls, &c.,
First Week in July.
Apply, G. GREEN, Carnival, Glasgow.

WANTED, to Let, Large Auction Room, with Office; would suit Bazaar; very best position, near market. YATES, 22, Park-street, Darlington.

WANTED, to Let, Shutter Booth, 28ft. by 12ft., suitable for Photographing, on Share or Rental; best position in London. Apply, H. Cox, Steam Circus, Vale of Health, Hampstead Heath.

WANTED, to Let, Sea View Exhibition, Great Yarmouth, Gold Wire and Electric Engraving; finest position. BARRON, Exhibition, The Square, Richmond.

WANTED, by George Duval, Space, Touring Exhibition or Seaside, for Jewellery, Optics, Engraving, Scotland or North preferred. 58, Ainslie-street, Ulverston.

WANTED, Space, Shop on Pier or Gardens, for Distorting Mirrors, Open to Purchase Mirror Maze. Box 4,727, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, a perfectly new Caravan, fit for an Auctioneer, Travelling Shop, Sale and Manufactory of Sweets, in fact built suitable for any purpose, built with the very best material, completely fitted with acetylene lighting plant, arc lamps, for outside, &c, front of Van opens and forms a perfect Shop; inside beautifully fitted with all necessary fittings; size 6ft. by 14ft., height 6ft.; also nineteen Penny-in-Slot Machines. No reasonable offer refused, going out of business.
Apply, 302, Commercial-road, Portsmouth.

WANTED, to Sell, 6 h.p. Road Loco, by Foden, Compound, on Springs, Showman's finish, in good order, £150. GEO. BAKER, Hippodrome, Reading.

WANTED, to Sell, Double Waggon Front, with Centre Trolley, 32ft., nearly new, with or without Organ; Back Waggon, and 50ft. Booth. Address, CLOWES, 131, Manor-rd., Itchen, Southampton.

WANTED, to Sell, or Let on Hire, Several Telescopic Auction Vans. Apply to Sole Proprietor, HENRY WHITE, Bull and George Hotel, Dartford, Kent.

WANTED, to Sell, Cheap, Steam Roundabout, thirty-six Horses, two Carriages, two Figure Organ, on Trolley, and Trucks, complete, all in good working order, fit for the road. Apply to JOHN PENFOLD, Otham Green, West Malling, Kent.

WANTED, to Sell, a large Auctioneer's Tent, in first-class condition, 50ft. by 55ft.; also 18 shutters, 7ft. square; to be Sold, cheap. Apply, R. WILLIAMS, Auction Mart, Llanhilleth, Mon.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, new, shop soiled, from 5s.; Card Delivery, Games, Fortunes, Electrics. MANAGER, 5, Denning-road, Hampstead.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, Husbands, Babies, Love-Letters, Palmistry, Lunatics', Marriage, and Liars' Licences. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square, W.C.

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WANTED, Address of Mr. C. De Quincey, Musical-Director. Box 4,704, "The Era."

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
A capital shilling's worth is the "Era Annual," with its valuable lists of new plays produced during the year in London, the provinces, Berlin, and Paris. It contains, also, many readable articles by stage favourites, notably a characteristic contribution, "How I Spend My Day," by Miss Ellen Terry.—Daily Express, Feb. 2.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
The "Era Annual" for 1907 is now out. It is full of good things, and will be eagerly perused by all who are interested in dramatic and musical affairs and personnel. Portraits of, and original contributions by, several public favourites and managers appear, including Miss Ellen Terry, who tells "How I Spend My Day"; Mr. Frank Cooper, Mr. Arthur Collins, Mr. Charles Collette, Mr. Frank Curzon, Mr. Matthew Brodie, Miss Constance Moxon, Miss Edith Cole, and Mr. Tom Craven. There is, in addition, the usual store of miscellaneous theatrical information which is indispensable to all who are interested in stage matters.—Liverpool Post, Jan. 26.

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EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1.30, for :—
A. Van Biene and Co., Lil Hawthorne, Fanny Erris, Billy Farrell, Daisy Mayer, Drew and Alders, Strolling Players, Tom Owen, Wartenburg Bros., Herbert Shelley.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for :—
Mike S. Whallen, Sisters McNulty, Illustrated Song, Toch and Tard, Cumberlands, Bioscope, Daisy Davidson, Molasso Quartette, Nipper Lupino Lane, Lupino Bros.

ZOO AND HIPPODROME, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for :—
"That Brute Simmons," Conan and Doyle, Lambeth and Robertson, Frank and Jen Latona, Society Quartette, Bros. Lang, Cussac Talma, Lily Flexmore, Bioscope, The Delevines.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for :—
Abdullah Arabs, Dome, Chorley and Connor, Nellie Coleman, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Finden, Chronophone, Margaret Ashton, The Gems, Gwennie Hasto, "King for a Day," Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Fred Storey and Co., in "Rip Van Winkle, Trapnells, Ryder Slone, Boy Glen, Edwin Barwick, Musical Jees, Bioscope, Olive Tree, Libby Blondell and Four Johnnies, Frobel and Ruge.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Wilkie Bard, Barnard's Marionettes, Spry and Monti, Robertys, New Macs, Dorrells, Four Royal Welshmen, Karno Four, Lukushimas.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Hetty King, Ed. E. Ford, Amy Russell, Carney and Armstrong, Ruby Dahl's Mannikins, Punch and Judy Girls, Bioscope, The Howes, Jagos, Jas. Brady.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Casey's Circus, George Ridgwell, Bioscope, Geretti Sisters, Clive Darrell, Boccaccio Minstrels, Rosa Loader, Frank Couch, Topsy and Usher, The Gothams, Syd Sylvester.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Lockhart's Elephants, Bioscope, Florence, Frank Bertram and Co., Seeley and West, Rhoda Bros., Illustrated Song, Chas. Coborn.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Fred Karno's "The Bailiff," Stevens and Rennior, Nellie Wallace, Forrest and King, Hurley and Cole, Renard Trio, Kate Trail, Bioscope, Helene and Emilon.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
J. Lawson and Co., in "The King's Minister," Hardeen, New York Nippers, Tina Clementa, Nellie Martell, Alice May and Co., Victor Newman, Stylo, Beatrice Bonnie.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Horace Goldin, Bert Byrne, Goggin and Davis, Neilson Sisters, E. Trowbridge's International Opera Co., Three Amaranths, Belloni's Cockatoos, Lola Patey, Bioscope, Chris. Richards.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
"Tally Ho," Goldinis, Two Bostons, Graham, Harry Weldon, Æolians, Dan Leno, jun., Cambrian Trio, Bioscope, Aurora Troupe.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Harry Roxbury and Co., Larry Lewis, Queenie Leighton, J. B. Preston, Dida, J. W. Rickaby, Two Dixons, Esta Stella, Morton and Bowman, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
The Boissetts, Three Sisters Chester, Three Phydoras, Margaret Broadfoote, Ross and Lewis, Powell's Marionettes, Vetter Bros., Gus Garrick, Grace Merton, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
La Milo and Cruickshank, Ross and Grayson, Gintaro, Marzella's Birds, Millie Lindon, Horace White, Five Osranis, Lindon's Vaudeville Co., Bioscope, "Kiss your Father."

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
J. F. Preston and Co., J. A. Wilson, Paul Conchas, The Motramos, Beattie and Blanche, Jennie Johns, Ellis Barrieton, David Poole, Claire Romaine, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3, for :—
Lew Lake and Co., Frank Leslie, Thos. Finglass, Sisters Macarte, Dion Wade, Lena Verdi, American Comedy Four, Millie Howell, Illustrated Song, Bioscope.

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EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Three Golden Graces, Bros. Horne, May Evans, Lady Fauntleroy, Allis and Cassati, Herbert Rule, George Newburn, Madge Grey, Roma and Romani, Duval and Maguire.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30, for :—
Chung Ling Soo, Ethel Ra Leslie, Lilieth Leyton and Co., May Henderson, The Mezzettis, Arthur Gill, Burns and Burns, Carlos Menard, Minnie Merry, Bioscope.

ARDWICK EMPIRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
"The Skirminshers," Mdlle. Von Etta, Three Cape Girls, Eisteddfod, Sextette, Fred Frampton, Effie Stuart, Allan Hanbury, Bioscope, Vasilescu Troupe, Sinclair and Whiteford.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Mdme. Alice Esty, Howe and Ardie, Illustrated Song, Lennie and Hast, La Danseuse, Boyd and Gilfain, Bioscope, "The Houseboat."

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Bransby Williams, Starr and Leslie, Boswell's Circus, Walter King, Daisy Jerome, Kellinos, Woodhouse and Wells, Ian Colquhoun, Genaro and Theol, Bioscope.

THE FOLLOWING ARE BOOKED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ABOVE:

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
W. Fulbrook and Co., Edie King, Musical Howards, Harry Bent, Chas. Robinson, Carlotta Lunn, Slippere, Pictures, Kitty Marion, Frank Bernard and Co.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1 for :
Juno May, Chas. Dillon, C. Randolph King, Bessie Benson, Bros. Egbert, Parker and Parr, Marlo, Mezzetti and Mora, Kitts and Windrum.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Tom Costello, Queenie May, Pictures, Gladys Mavius, Fred Fane, Lily Langtry, J. Alexander and Co., Chas. Norton.

RICHMOND THEATRE, RICHMOND.
Proprietor, Mr. George Dance.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Beau Ideals, Fred Bronte, Leslie Holland and Vera Vere, Daisy Stratton, Hinton and Wootton, Alice Maple, Pictures, Lily Esplin, Fred Zola, "The Belle of Bonn."

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL
Rehearsal at 12, for :—
Mendel, Bros. O'Gorman, Madge Temple, Bioscope, Trentanovi Sisters, Katie Buther, Geo. Brooks, Farley, Rennie, and Farley.

THE GRANVILLE, WALHAM GREEN.
Rehearsal at 3, for :—
"The Magic Carpet," Diana Hope and Co., Tom Edwards, Arthur Lennard, Tom Woottweil, Billy Williams, Harry Bedford, Edie Veno, "Eve," Edie Anderson, Rosie Sylvesta, Bartholomew Sisters, Gladys and Alber, Rita and Roma, "The Little Laundress," Pictures.

THE PALACE, CAMBERWELL.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Both Performances.
Elliott Savonas, Neil Kenyon, Ella Shields, G. H. Elliott, Arthur Lennard, Chas. Cardow, Victor Travers, Albert Whelan, Sisters Redfern, McConnell Trio, Two Falcons.

EMPIRE, COVENTRY.
Proprietor, Mr. George Dance.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Bella and Bijou, Russell Brandow, Kioto, Illustrated Song, Huxter Bros., S. A. Cooke and Co., The Kirbys, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND
(Now in course of erection).
Artists and Agents please note that Bookings for the above Theatre have now commenced.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE, READING
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Chas. Baldwin and Co., Glenroy Troupe, Geo. Dougbty and Co., Bert Woodward, Frank Darwin, Gertrude Bradshaw, Joe Reichen's Dogs, Bioscope.

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INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.

Artists must have Band Parts for at least Twelve different Instruments for the Orchestras. Matter for Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR ALL THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to CO-OPERATIVE OFFICES, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, or at least TWO WEEKS, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled.

IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to Opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced.

ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

N.B.—Silence in every case a polite negative. Artists are requested not to enclose stamped envelope. Letters marked "Private" will be delayed.
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Sung by Arthur Lennard.

"HALF TIME! CHANGE OVER!" (Lidden and Alf. Lotto),
Sung by Miss Ada Cerito.

"MAN AND WIFE SHOULD ALWAYS PULL TOGETHER" (Murphy and Lipton), and "SYMPATHY" (Kendis and Paley).
Sung by Miss Carlotta Levey.

"JOHN, GO AND PUT YOUR TROUSERS ON!"
Written, Composed, and Sung by Billy Williams.

"THAT'S THE REASON NOO I WEAR A KILT"
(Lauder and Kendall).
Sung by Harry Lauder.

"I'M A BACHELOR" (Arthurs and Lyle) and "JOLLY GOOD LUCK TO THE GIRLS WHO LOVE THE SOLDIERS" (Leigh and Lyle).
Sung by Miss Vesta Tilley.

"IF THE MAN IN THE MOON WERE A COON" (Fred Fischer).
Sung by G. H. Elliott; also by Miss May Moore-Duprez.

"ALL THAT GLITTERS IS NOT GOLD"
(Castling and B. Scott).
Sung by Miss Dora Lyric.

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Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier.

Artists employing Agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents.

New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our District Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follows:—

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CALLS for MONDAY, APRIL 29, 1907.

Rehearsals at 1 p.m.

PALACE THEATRE, PLYMOUTH.
Fred Ginnett's "Boy Army," Hans and Lux, Dandy George and Rosie, Poole and Poole, Madge Allan, Stelling and Revell, Vernon's Bioscope, Pat Rafferty.

PALACE THEATRE, BRISTOL.
Leoni Clarke, Brull and Hemsley, George Davis and Co., Louis Kerno, Hall and Earle, Mollie Wolstenholme, Prince Kokin, Vernon's Bioscope, Jay W. Winton.

PALACE THEATRE, SUNDERLAND.
Alexandre and Hughes, Charles Ashdowne, Ada Twibell, Phil and Nettie Peters, Mark Leslie, Bliss and Bliss, Gertrella, Vernon's Bioscope, Lyons Trio.

KING'S THEATRE, GATESHEAD.
Mme. de Serris ("Venus"), Ward and Davis, Wee Mona, Lord, Murray, and Lord, Eva Chadwick, Harry Bickley, Onda and Leon, Vernon's Bioscope, Clark and Hayden.

PALACE THEATRE, DUNDEE.
Captain Max Gruber, George Westland, Venie Clements, Ambrose Thorne, Sandy and Carl, The Eight Pavilion Girls, Vernon's Bioscope, George Formby.

PALACE THEATRE, ABERDEEN.
Gunner Moir, Vowles and Bryan, Pyck, Tholl and Taylor, Jennie Evans, H. Leslie Bell and Co. in "The Red Letter," Bert Bowden, The Montaldos, Nelson and Thomas, Vernon's Bioscope, The Schiavonis.

N.B.—Artists will oblige by sending billing matter punctually.

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"GEORGIE FROM GEORGIA."
"MR. OCTOPUS."
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CALLS.

FOR WEEK COMMENCING
MONDAY, APRIL 29, 1907.

PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT.

SPECIAL NOTICE.
Rehearsal at all Halls.
Monday, at 12.0 sharp.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Bertha Winder, Harvey and Holt, Frank Hardie and Co., Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, J. H. Carney, Stacey and Williams, Jessie Harper, Maudie Ford.

PALACE, LINCOLN.
Prof. Selkirk, Bennetti and Corri, Madoline Rees, Bert Danson, Three Pirmans, Joe Dale, Tiny Arnold, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE, BATH.
Ginnett's "Dick Turpin," Lang and Beal, Vera Mayne, The Coolvilles, Richard Finberg, Edie Endon, Beau and Belle, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Florrie Gallimore, The Katos, Sterling and Cashen, Arthur Croxon, Three Transfields, Josie Delaine, Johnny Dwyer, Sisters Marion, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
De Serris' Statuary Act, Luigi Salvino, Walker and May, Charlie Williams, Rosa Rossetti, Blake and Granby, Lauri Wylie, La Diabelo, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, HALIFAX.
Victoria Monks, Gym Hurst, Tom Kelso, and Co., Mike Cray, Gertie Moore, Leo King, Deane Tribune and Co., Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE, W. HARTLEPOOL
Three Sisters Sprightly, Jack Lane, Four Herberts, Edna Latonne, Dave Laird, Ormonde Penstone, Sisters Jonghmans, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
"Three of a Kind," T. C. Jaques, Sisters Hall, Three Dreadnoughts, Mooney and Holbein, Dene and Dawson, Chas. Dare's Minstrels, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

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THE BRITANNIA.
Matinée Monday.
Fred Land, Bros. Redmond, Chas. Gardener, The Zampas, Tivoli Girls, Mulvey and Miriam, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Letine, The Minstrel Maids, Sisters Edwards, James Willard and Co., Fred Southern and Co.

FORESTERS.
Matinées Monday and Thursday.
Lily Black, Marion Scott, Chas. Lilburn, Four Emilions, Bert and Dora, Jack Martin, Hillman and Russell, Katie Lawrence, Cissy Lupino, Arnold Bell and Co., Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Bertha Landa, Illustrated Songs.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday.
"H.M.S. Victory," Edmund Edmunds Troupe, Flo Warner, Sisters Florence, Bros. Raynor, Billy French, The Mayvilles, Le Cren Trio, Marie Collins, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, The Kraggs.

SURREY THEATRE.
All Artists engaged for Surrey Theatre must bring 14 Band parts.
Matinée every Monday.
Sisters Lunelle, Madeline Rossiter, Lottie Govell, Tom Yorke, Bros. Smart, Williams and Warden, "Orange Girl" Co., Lilly Lassah, Freddie French's Co., Sheen and Payne's Co., Raymond's Bio-Tableaux

Notice.—All artists carrying Scenery must have it Fireproof, according to L.C.C. regulations, otherwise it will not be allowed in the Halls.

All Bill Matter or Notification of Appearance must be sent in 14 days prior to opening. All Artists must attend Band Rehearsal, or their Contracts may be cancelled at the option of the Management.

N.B.—All Billing Matter, accompanied by Pictorials, and Business Communications relating to the Provincial Circuit, must be addressed to the

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"HERE WE COME GATHERING FLATS AND JAYS" (E. W. Rogers).
"GIRLS ALL LOVE A SOLDIER BOLD" (Bagley & Moore). Sung by George Lashwood.
"BY THE BANKS OF ALLAN WATER" (Lamb & Moore). Sung by Jock Whiteford.
"I WONDER" (Boden & Ford).
"IF I WERE YOU" (Boden & Ford). Sung by Harry Ford.
"IDAHO," (Sterling & Von Tilzer).
"CINDY, YOU'RE MY DREAM" (Mullen). Sung by T. E. Finglass.
"A MOST RIDICULOUS SORT OF THING TO DO" (Hyde & Moore).
"JUST MY LUCK" (Alf. Ellerton). Sung by T. E. Dunville.
"JUST ACROSS THE BRIDGE OF GOLD" (Sterling & Von Tilzer).
"THERE'S A DEAR LITTLE GIRL THAT I KNOW" (Robson & Warwick). (Sung by Miss Florrie Ford.
"I WANT A GIBSON GIRL" (Luck, Rule and Moore). Sung by Malcolm Scott & Miss Hetty King.
"THE DRAGOON GUARD" (Carter & Moore). Sung by Miss Hetty King.
"I NEVER LOSE MY TEMPER" (Wellmon).
"I'M LEAVING HOME (Ford & Moore). Sung by Miss Victoria Monks.
"SHARE MY LITTLE NEST WITH ME" (Arthurs & Powell). Sung by Miss Lottie Collins.

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Calls for Monday, April 29, '07.

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CALL, Monday, April 29. Rehearsal 12.30. Miss Ella's Lions, George Rapley, Operascope, Burg, Haud, and Wise, H. A. Griffiths, Victoria Carmen, Judge's Cockatoos, &c.
Artists requiring immediate dates, apply Sole Booking Representative, H. PERCIVAL YOUNG, Shakespeare Theatre Offices, Clapham Junction, London, S.W.

CALLS. CALLS.

THE PALACE, GLASGOW.
Sole Proprietor and Manager, RICH. WALDON.

All Bookings are now made direct from above Hall.
All Contracts made on behalf of the Palace, Glasgow, on or before April 7, 1906, and delivered to the present Management, not yet completed, will be carried out
Bill matter must be sent two weeks in advance.
CALL for Monday, April 29, 1907, at 12 o'clock. Michael Nolan, Lilian Warren, Herbert Maden, Maxford and O'Neil, George Antill, Johnny Holland and Co., Mysterious Lillith, Harry Conlin, the Waldrons, Lillie Souter.

GLASGOW PAVILION.
CALL for Monday, April 29, 1907.
7. Twice Nightly. 9.
Rehearsal at 11 o'clock for:—
Lelia Roze, Montague Biggs, Grahame and Harrington, Geraldo Troupe, Mabel Le Blanche, Ray and Calden, George De Albert.

GREENOCK PAVILION.
Rehearsal at 2 o'clock for
Fred Cary, Sibb and Sibb, Sisters Tinsley, Carrie Joy, Pavoscope, and Zarmo and Company, as Booked.
All bill matter must be sent to Glasgow fourteen days ahead. Failing this, Artists will run the risk of having their Contracts cancelled. By order,
Special Notice to Artists and Agents.
The Directors of the Pavilion Theatre, Greenock, have decided to close down this theatre, May 4, for the summer months. Artists holding contracts for May, June, or July may have the date transferred if so desired; otherwise it must be considered cancelled.
SAMUEL LLOYD, General-Manager.

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TO SHOWMEN.

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April 24, 1907.

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E. E. RANDALL,
Sec. Amusements Committee.

Town Clerk's Office, Harwich,
April 20, 1907.

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Town Hall,
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25th April, 1907.

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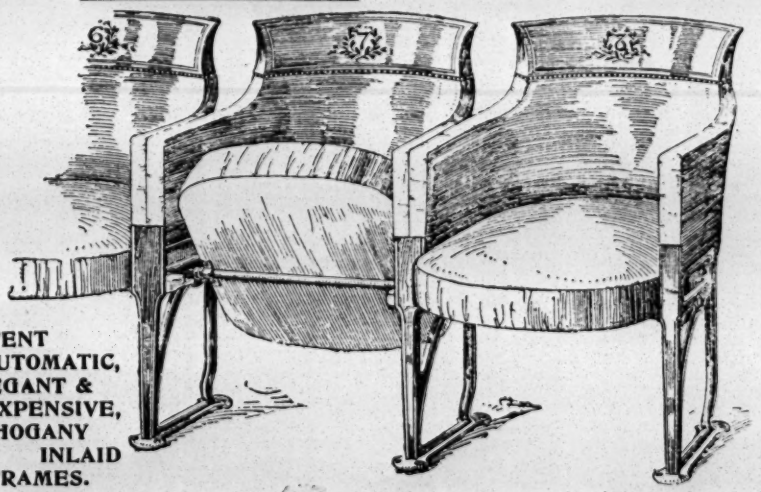

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PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDARE.—NEW THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Z. Andrews.—Mr. Fred Karno's vaudeville company opened here on Monday night in the sketches, *The Mumming Birds* and *Early Birds*. Mr. Charles Denton is a comedian of high merit, and is well received. The Sisters Lavender are clever duettists and dancers; the Meltons, comedy duo, give a bright and amusing turn, and are deservedly applauded; Lincoln and Warren are exceedingly capable trick acrobats and comedy cyclicts; Miss Lillie Stuart, comedienne and dancer, also adds greatly to the evening's entertainment.

ABERDEEN.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—Mr. Junius Booth and company are appearing here this week in *Monte Cristo*. Mr. Booth plays most powerfully and artistically as Edmond Dantes; and admirable portrayals of the parts of Nortier and Caderousse are given by Mr. Beckitt Gould and Mr. Percy Braithwaite; while Baron d'Anglers and General Mondego are well impersonated by Mr. Augustin Bowerman and Mr. C. W. Crowe.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—Gunner Moir's feats of boxing are the principal attraction here this week; Schavoni's troupe of comedy acrobats are completely successful; Miss Lily Vearl and company play cleverly an interesting sketch, *The Red Letter*, which is founded on the Thaw case; the Montaldos give a capital wire and equilibristic act; Pyck, Tholl, and Taylor, American comedians, earn hearty applause; Mr. Bert Bowden is clever as a comedian; Nelson and Thomas are particularly humorous patterers; Miss Jennie Evans, comedienne, is appreciated; and the ingenious "song and story in a garden" turn of Vowles and Bryan proves highly interesting.

ACCRINGTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. I. E. Barnes.—*The Face at the Window* is being presented here this week. Mr. Hoggan Armadale gives a thrilling performance of Le Loup; Paul Gouffet is cleverly portrayed by Mr. T. W. Dunscombe; Henry de Brisson is well played by Mr. A. Warne; Mr. C. A. Hineson scores as Petre Pottleberry; Le Blanc is in the safe hands of Mr. George Rhythian; Miss Marie Tennant gives a very artistic performance as La Pinau; Miss Gladys Newcombe plays Babette with effect; Miss Marie Barrett is an ideal Marie de Brisson.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Willmot, Potter, Vandy, and Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Parsons.—Tom Foy tops the bill with the funny sketch, *The Yorkshire Lad in London*; McDonald and Huntington are a smart comedy duo; Arthur Royce is a good character comedian; and Fay and Fay amuse the house by their burlesque boxing. Pete and Juno are capital dancers; the Lorrisons are good; and *Pat in China*, by the Foy Bros. and company, is funny and clever. The Hippo. pictures complete an interesting programme.

ALDERSHOT.—THE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—*The Prince of Pilsen*, played by Mr. Baron H. Harriss's company, forms the attraction here this week, and has had a hearty reception. Mr. Harry Kilburn's conception of Hans Wagner is excellent; Mr. Frank Crimp gives a talented portrayal of the Prince, and he uses a good voice to advantage in his song, "A passing cloud"; Mr. Roy Sydney as Lieut. Wagner also does well; as the affected Earl, Mr. B. Russell is good; and Mr. Ernest Gifford is an amusing Francois; Miss Sophie Harriss's fine appearance, clever acting, and success generally as the Widow, places that rôle among the foremost; Miss Connie Leon has a charming manner, and sings and dances with great ability; Miss Mollie Wynne is a vivacious Jimmie, Miss Alice Nixon's Nellie is ably portrayed, and Miss Ada Watson as Edith is good.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Revill.—A return visit is being paid here by Miss Mary Austin and company. The play produced on Monday and two following evenings was the pathetic story of *The Cotton Spinner*, with Miss Mary Austin in the character of Mary Prescott, the cotton-spinner's daughter. It was a very fine portrayal of the true woman. Some excellent delineations of character are also depicted by Miss Annie Beaumont as Lady Charlotte Needy and Miss May Grimshaw as Constance Harrington. Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds scores as Arthur Northbury, a swell wastrel; Mr. Jno. S. Haydon gives a powerful and touching interpretation of the cotton-spinner, Mr. Jno. Prescott; Messrs. J. Milne Taylor, Geo. P. Lester, F. W. Goddard, Chris. Dashwood, H. Harrop, and Miss Ethel Vinroy, in minor rôles, are satisfactory exponents of varied characters. On Thursday and Friday evenings the drama, *Shall We Forgive Her?* another of the late Mr. Frank Harvey's plays, was ably performed by Miss Austin and members of her company.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—A good all-round "variety" company has possession here, including Derenda and Green, the creative juggling comedians; Mr. Geo. Hyam finds admirers of his peculiar humour and song; W. L. Murray, the Roman gladiator, is a man of fine physical proportions; the Gentrys appear to advantage in the refined acrobatic sketch *Wanted, a Maid*; the Lilian Brothers are good acrobats; Kate Hill, singing comedienne; Harry Russon, versatile comedian; and Ginger, a clever ventriloquist, are interesting "turns." Mlle. Vanda does some expert juggling on the rolling globe. Finally, a good dramatic sketch is submitted by Howell Webb's company, *The Galley Slave*, showing how a galley slave paid with his life the debt he owed to his benefactor. The chief actors in the scene are Messrs. Howell Webb, Chas. Bennett, Miss Magdalen Moore, Miss Emily Ruby, and little Ivy Rochfort.

ATTERCLIFFE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaughton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chris A. Wordsworth.—Picture entertainments are still drawing crowded houses nightly here. In consequence of her great success, Miss Nellie Burke, the pleasing comedienne, is retained, and her illustrated songs, ably rendered, meet with hearty approval.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. T. E. Owen.—The programme at this popular house is up to the usual high standard. One of the cleverest illusions ever seen here is presented by the Denturinis, under the title of "So-Da." A most interesting coster-scena is furnished by Shirley and Ransom, entitled "'Alf a Quid"; Mr. E. C. Clayton's "Attergraph" pictures of the Football Cup Final last week prove popular; well-deserved applause is given to Kier and Kempton for their refined vocal scena; Mr. Harry Zetter is an amusing and versatile comedian; other turns are given by Valvo, ventriloquist; the Sisters Brooke, duettists and dancers; and Cyclo, comedy cyclist.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Mr. Lingford Carson's company in *The Power of the Cross* is here on a return visit. Mr. George A. de Gray plays Baron Wolfe Curzola with convincing realism, and Mr. Charles Linney is happy as Gerald Fairfax; Mr. Alexander J. Haviland is well placed as Dr. Leslie Fairfax; and Messrs. Frank Stephens as Benjamin Hawke and A. Read as David Kingsley are good in their respective characters. Miss Cicely Desmonde makes a fine adventuress as Rita Lascelles, Miss Phyllis Vaughan a winsome Blanche Kingsley, Miss Etta Turner a vivacious Dolly Gray, and Mr. Richard E. Nugent a humorous Timothy O'Dowd.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—The last company to appear here prior to rebuilding is Mr. Albert Chevalier in the three plays, *Atonement*, *The Dream of His Life*, and *Pantaloon*. He himself plays the leading part in each of the plays, showing great artistic gifts and singing finely, and is assisted by a very efficient company.

TIVOLI THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edgar St. Laban.—An excellent programme is presented here this week. The Ten Loonies are the top of the bill with their musical sketch, *Dotty*, and display clever musical abilities; Lozelle gives a clever and neat performance in a novel speciality act; Francis and Alfred, in a juggling act, are very clever; Miss Marie Beresford is a pleasing musical comedy artist; and Mark Merry is much appreciated for his quaint songs and patter; Dave McNeil is well received; and the Jansons, equilibrists, give a clever and novel show; the performance is concluded with some good pictures shown by Vernon's Bioscope.

BATH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—Closed this week; re-opening on Monday next with Mr. H. F. Maltby and company, in the romantic play, *The Youngest of Three*.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—Mr. Fred Ginnett's equestrian spectacle, *Turpin's Ride to York*, has met with an enthusiastic reception. The rest of the bill is contributed by Beau and Belle, in an artistic song-scena; the Coolvilles, engaging vocalists and dancers; Richard Finberg, a clever character-actor; Lang and Beal, musical comedians and patterers; Vera Mayne, a pleasing comedienne; Edie Endon, comedienne and dancer; and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

BEDFORD.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—A new play from the pen of William T. Saward was presented for the first time on Monday night, three subsequent performances being given. *Honi Soit* is the title of the piece, which was played by local amateurs, the profits from the performances to be handed to the Bedford Cricket Club. From rise to the fall of the curtain things went smoothly enough, the players appearing to be almost word-perfect, and mistakes being few in number. Many members of the company have faced Bedford footlights before, a fact which probably accounted for the absence of any awkwardness among them. Every part showed evidence of careful study and rehearsal. According to the plot, the piece might be termed a society drama in high life. Lord Harborough was cleverly personated by Mr. E. E. Spencer; Mr. J. Trapp was amusing as Dick Cunningham; as Gerald Arden Mr. G. W. Carter was good, although we have seen him in a more suitable part. Mr. W. E. Ison looked the exact image of a country squire, Sir Robert Cardington, and played the part admirably; Mr. A. Ednie gave a clever representation of the unsuccessful schemer—Major Rimmington; and Mr. E. P. Anthony, excellently made-up, is to be congratulated on his portrayal of the character of Lord Harborough's secretary. Mrs. Kyffin Crossfield gave a refined and clever performance as Norah St. Quentin; and next in order of merit must be placed Miss Hebden, who as Countess Lanovitch played with much dramatic force; Mrs. A. H. Blake was a dignified Lady Harborough. The piece was well staged, and many charming dresses were worn.

BELFAST.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—Mr. Arthur Hardy's company opened here on Monday with *Beauty and the Barge*. Mr. Blake Adams achieved a noteworthy success as the amorous old salt, Captain Barley; as the mate, Mr. Fred Knight was in every sense admirable; and Miss Dido Drake gave a delightful impersonation of Ethel Smedley. Miss Mary Pemberton was a charming Lucy Dallas; and Mr. Edward Coventry a capital Lieut. Seton Boyne, R.N.; the rôle of Major Smedley was cleverly sustained by Mr. Walter Pemberton, and Mr. Aubrey Mallalieu presented an excellent impersonation of Herbert Manners. Miss Mona Robin appeared to much advantage as Mrs. Smedley; and the parts of Mrs. Porter and Mrs. Baldwin were well represented by Mrs. J. W. Braithwaite and Miss Ruby Wyndham. *Jerry and the Sunbeam* was an acceptable curtain-raiser.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Warden, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. de Freece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Harris.—Mr. Arthur Rigby, with a most capable company of twenty artists, appears with every element of success in a new comic opera, *The Isle of Ooma*; Les Piccolinos, two midgets three feet high, appear in their extraordinary performance, including head and hand balancing, wire-walking, &c., which has created quite a sensation; the sweet tenor vocalism of Mr. Arthur Aldridge has delighted all; and Mr. Morny Cash, a versatile comedian, creates roars of laughter. Also here are Mr. J. H. McCann, the comedian on skates; Miss Rosie Reval, comedienne; and the Palace pictures.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Hippodrome Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Will Sley; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—Mr. Eugene Stratton, a great favourite in Belfast, heads the bill here; Silbon's American Vaudeville Circus provide an excellent entertainment; the illusory feats of Kahn and Kahn have created the utmost astonishment; Olms and Carbeth, comedy jugglers, have been accorded a good reception; the McKays, in their comedy act (which includes some clever painting by Mr. McKay) gain approval; Prof. R. Dunning is a humorous ventriloquist; and Miss Mabel Vavius plays the musical glasses to perfection. The De Gross Trio, in their novel gymnastic act; Adams and Ward, acrobatic comedians; Mr. George Lennard, comedian; and the Hipposcope, with new pictures, are also among the attractions.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Walker.—Miss Juno May, the lady wrestler, tops the bill, and her capital exhibition has been accorded a good reception; a hit has been made by Mr. Chas. Kitts and Miss Rhoda Windrum in their military sketch, *The Cuckoo*; Mezzetti and Nora appear in a smart exhibition on the bars; the graceful dancing and capital singing of the Eight Emerald Gems have won favour; the Bros. Egbert, big favourites here, are on a return visit with their highly amusing act; and the juggling feats of Marlo have astonished large audiences. Also here are Mr. Chas. Dillon, comedian; Mr. C. Randolph King, the one man programme; Miss Bessie Benson, comedienne and dancer; and Parker and Parr, Welsh comedy vocalists.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Sinclair Neill.—The Alhambra Dramatic Company, under the personal direction of Mr. M. Montgomery is producing *Kathleen Mavourneen*. Mr. Horace Denton, a capable actor, deserves congratulations on his success in the rôle of Terence O'More; a winning impersonation of Kathleen is furnished by Miss Nina Blake-Adams; Mr. Cyril Grier acquitted himself with distinction as Black Rody; and Miss Kathleen Magee deserves special mention for her clever impersonation of Dorothy Kavanagh. The humour of the piece is in the hands of Mr. Tom H. Solly, an inimitable Bill Button Cap, and Miss Mattie Crawford, a charming Kitty O'Lavery. The iniquities of Bernard Kavanagh are cleverly portrayed by Mr. Edward

M. Heanley; Mr. Elmore Frith is Father O'Cassidy to the life; and Miss Alice Clarke as Meg Marslogh is all that can be desired.

BILSTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Battersby; Musical-Director, Mr. J. E. Machin.—Mr. Frank Lindo is here this week as the hero of his own drama, *Home, Sweet Home*, and gives an excellent impersonation of Steve Armitage. Miss Marion Wakeford as Joan (the heroine) is also a painstaking performer; Captain Gerald Gambiar makes an ideal Duke of Ancaster; the Misses Rochefort are well cast as Sybil Fay and Dor; good service is rendered by Mr. D. Lawrence Doyle as David Armitage, Mr. F. Miles Hodgson as Lucas Lyle, Mr. Geo. Overs as Dick Redmayne, and Mr. Jack Patrick in the comedy part of the Duke's son.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant; Secretary, Miss Isabel Morris.—Messrs. C. and F. Renad's company in *The Swiss Express* is here. Mr. Charles Renad as James and Mr. J. Oliver Russell as John shine with exceptional brilliance; and the Dr. Gondiniar Gull of Mr. Wilfred E. Brandon is a most humorous impersonation; Miss Celestine Brandon is a charming and efficient Virginia; Miss Blanche Vernon is well suited as Mrs. Septimus Squeeze, and Mr. Charles Gray, Mr. Harwood Cooper, Mr. Harry H. Vernon, and Mr. Alex Wylie are prominent in the cast; Miss Lottie Stone's quartette of vocalists and dancers are a decided acquisition.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—Morris Cronin and his confrères, in their marvellous exposition of jugglery, are an undeniable attraction; Miss Nina Gordon, an accomplished comedienne and mimic, is a leading favourite; and Fred Kitchen and Frank Lister in a well-sustained sketch, *No. 99*, are received with well-deserved cordiality. Wylie's dogs are marvels of canine sagacity; Sandford and Lyons, clever dancers, are a favourite turn; and an excellent company also includes Mr. Albert Le Fre in "That's What You See in the Halls"; Mr. John E. Coyle, comedian; Mr. Charles Pastor, comedian; Miss May Young, descriptive vocalist; and Morris's Royal Bioscope. On Thursday Mr. Clarke generously gave a matinée in aid of the Benevolent Fund of the Mersey Railway Company, when extra attractions were provided.

BIRMINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—Mr. Martin Harvey is here in *The Only Way*. Mr. Martin's study of the self-sacrificing hero remains as ever an affecting picture, and he is admirably supported by Miss N. De Silva as Mimi, Miss Coleridge as Lucy, Miss Rorke as the vengeance, Mr. Leonard Craske as Darnay, Mr. Fred Wright, sen., as Dr. Manette, and Mr. Charles Glenny as Defarge, &c. On Wednesday and Thursday evenings *The Breed of the Treshams* showed Mr. Harvey in splendid form as Reresby, "the Rat"; with Miss De Silva in her original part of Batty. *The Corsican Brothers*, which Mr. Harvey revived here last autumn, was down for Friday and Saturday, *Hamlet* being reserved for Thursday's matinée.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Rodgers, Limited; Manager, Mr. J. F. Garham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—*The Beauty of Bath*, which drew enormous crowds to our Theatre Royal last week, is now appearing here, where its success is fully maintained. Mr. Hicks as the Lieutenant, and Miss Terris as "the Beauty" are quite "the catch of the season," and Birmingham delights in them.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Bernardo.—*The Little Bread-Winner* is being played by Mr. J. A. Campbell's company. Meg, the title-rôle, is presented in a pleasingly natural style by little Miss Emmie Thomas; Miss Nellie Thorne-Hallam deserves the highest praise as Kate Cherry; Miss Emil Leslie is admired as Margaret Daventry; Miss Jenny Bostock handles the part of Bridget in a clever manner; Miss Kitty Melville is successful as Ruth Cherry; Mr. Eugene Santley plays with impressive dignity as Lord Dorrington; Mr. Matthew Boulton secures much sympathy as Richard Lawrence; Mr. Alfred Maurice brings out the characteristics of the secretary, Joseph Prior, with admirable skill; and Mr. Stanley Leedham gives true realism to the rôle of Charles Prior.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Andrew Melville; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—*The Price of Her Soul* is here, with Mr. John B. Shinton and Mr. Alexander Greenwood's company. Mr. Shinton appears with fine effect as Lord Rolfe Mandeville; Miss Ada M. Ryder lends full glamour to the rôle of the Countess Inez Steinmetz; Miss Eva Elwes gives a clever portrayal of Olga Lanovitz; little Mabel Ronald deserves much praise as Vera; Miss Grace Garside wins distinction in the rôle of Lady Jemima; and Mr. Archie Gear as General Lanovitz, Mr. Arthur C. Pringle as Major Skoboloff, Mr. Ernest Regent as Captain Petruski, and Mr. George Marriott, jun., as the Hon. Algy act with signal ability. Mr. Larry Clements as Pat Murphy and Miss Ethel Rainforth as Polly Perkins are responsible for some clever humorous passages.

CARLTON THEATRE, SALTLEY.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—Interest here centres in the famous native choir from Jamaica, who submit a pleasing programme from their extensive répertoire of plantation melodies, novel glees and choruses, instrumental solos, descriptive pieces, and funny sketches. The entire entertainment is of a decidedly novel and catchy character, and Mr. Henry Nation's pianoforte solos, from the works of Chopin, Rubenstein, &c., show a fine appreciation of the works of these masters.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles.—*The Tyrant* is being presented by Miss Marie Dagmar and Mr. Fred C. Somerfield's company. Miss Dagmar, in her acting as Tisbe, displays rare emotional power, and keeps the audience enthusiastic to the end; Mr. Somerfield's success as Homodei is very pronounced and deserved; Mr. Roy Fortesque's presentment of Angela is thorough and convincing; and Mr. Lionel Atwill is most satisfactory as Rudolph. Miss Lallah Shelton shows much power as Rulie, Miss Millie Ford acts the rôle of Lady Katherine to considerable advantage; Miss Olive Lloyd shines as Reginella; Mr. Albert Rogers makes capital fun as Nobbo; Mr. Charles E. Warne makes a goodly Dean; and Mr. Percy Brown does well as Victor.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham.—Harry Cadley's sketch, *The Casey Circus*, is screamingly funny, and anything more ludicrous than the Casey Boys could hardly be imagined. The Gothams fully maintain their reputation for song and merriment; Clive Darrell is appearing as "the Jilted Giant," and it will be recalled that his unreciprocated attentions to Marie Fassenr, the Tyrolese giantess, some little time ago created a stir. The Geretti Sisters fully deserve their designation as graceful gymnasts and lightning trapeze artists. The Boccacio Minstrels provide a pleasing turn, and Rosa Looder is entertaining as "the Slavey at the Piano." Topsy and Usher, in plantation songs; George Ridgwell, versatile vocalist; Syd Sylvester, comedian; and Frank Couch, patter comedian, complete the bill.

GAIETY.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—The great features of the entertainment are the tableaux of La Tia, and a crowded audience gives the artist a reception no less hearty than is deserved. Terry and Lambert, the American comedy duo, add greatly to the fun; while Alec Kendal scores a distinct success with his quaint and original patter. W. H. Clemart is an exceedingly clever ventriloquist; Gilroy and Gros, expert dancers; Tom Lloyd, eccentric comedian; Nash and Noel, comedians and dancers; the Three Laurels, gymnasts on the ping-pong table; Daisy Martell, comedienne; and Will Johnson, the lively comedian, also contribute to the success of the evening.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—Harry Ford presents a number of new songs, which appears admirably suited to the public taste; Harry Brown's American quaintness and patter adds greatly to the success of the entertainment; Sylvia du Berry possesses a rich soprano voice; Sam Spira is an entertainer of no mean order; while Helen Charles gives a refined drawing-room entertainment, which has the additional charm of novelty; Effie White, in her kaleidoscopic dance, is also successful. Jack Hylton, La Velle Bros., the Tally Trio, and Woolmer Young are also responsible for pleasing turns.

NATIONAL TRADES EXHIBITION, BINGLEY HALL.—General-Manager, Mr. George Stanley.—The popularity of this hardy and recreative annual shows no signs of waning, and the instructive quality of the exhibits and the rare diversity of the side-shows have awakened unprecedented interest in the show. This week, the music is supplied by H.M. Band of the Royal Marines, Chatham, whose selections have proved most satisfactory and popular.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Ed. Foster.—Lockhart's Elephants, presented by Captain Taylor, hold the place of honour in the programme. Charles Coborn sings several capital songs, which are well received, especially "The costers' friendly league"; Seeley and West are expert musicians, as well as comedians, whose handbells and numerous brass and wood-wind instruments delight their hearers. Gracie Moore has a pleasing contralto voice, and her songs are illustrated by limelight views; Frank Bertram and company appear in a sketch, entitled *The Chaperon*, which is extremely amusing; the Rohda Bros. are neat and skilful gymnasts; and Florence is a clever lady mimic, whose imitation of Happy Fanny Fields and Eugene Stratton captivate the audience.

BISHOP AUCKLAND. — EDEN THEATRE. — Mr. Frank Ayrton's company is presenting here this week *The Power of Gold*, a drama which is proving an exceedingly good attraction. The rôle of Paul Judson is manfully played by Mr. R. F. Stacey; Mark Harley is well depicted by Mr. Richard Harris; and the character of Hadgi Zambra could not be better portrayed than it is by Mr. Geo. Lyttleton. As Meg Judson, Miss Lily Prescot is most painstaking, and her efforts are deservedly applauded; villainy is well represented by Miss Amy McNeill as Lady Brandon; Little Prudence makes an admirable Paddy Blake, a street arab; much fun is caused by Mr. Frank Ayrton as Sammy Smudge, and Miss Madge Seymour as Norah Donnelly.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr. and Mrs. Chalmers Mackey and company are here this week with *The Shaughraun*. Mr. Mackey gives a lively picture of an Irishman, and Mrs. Mackey presents a pleasing impersonation of Clare Ffolliott. Mr. John S. Chamberlain's Harvey Duff is a masterpiece, and Korry Kinchella has an able representative in Mr. David M'Farlane. Mr. H. Sainsbury as Father Doolan, Mr. St. John Stuart as Robert Ffolliott, and Mr. Charles Homer as Captain Molyneux are deserving of praise.

GRAND THEATRE.—Owner and Manager, Mr. T. Sergenson.—*The Sorrows of Satan* is here played by Miss Loie Esmond's company. The part of Prince Lucio Rimanez is sustained by Mr. Edward Neville, and Miss Esmond is responsible for that of Diana Chesney. The play is preceded by a curtain-raiser, entitled *Two Soft*.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Arabella Allen contributes remarkably good impersonations of Dickens' characters; Hyram Travers, "the Pearly King," gives great delight with his humorous songs; the Three Electrics are funny comedians; the Maples are comedy artists and dancers of repute; Lizzie Kirk finds instant favour as a comedienne; Huline and Le May win the good graces of the audience as musical clowns; and Rowland Hill's comic songs are always in good taste. Vernon's Imperial Bioscope winds up the show.

BLYTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur C. Moody.—Mr. Montagu Beaudyn's company has paid a return visit here with *A Beautiful Fiend*. Mr. Beaudyn made an interesting Ivan Paulovitch; Mr. Herbert Skardon, in the character of Fedor Karatoff, was well received; the Sergius Strogoff of Mr. Mat Russell won favour; and Mr. W. Robertson Foulis as Malachi was highly satisfactory; Miss Sidney Crowe assumes the part of Wanda Lubinoff with distinction; and an artistic portrayal of Nadini is furnished by Miss Irene Monroe. The humour of the piece is safe in the hands of Mr. Harry Oates and Miss Annie Clunn.

THE GAIETY.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. George E. Good.—The artists appearing here include J. P. Carroll, George Grenville (comedian), Paddy Cullen and Nellie Nora (a dainty instrumentalist). Pictures are a feature of the programme.

BOLTON.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Melvin.—Mr. Arthur Carlton is presenting *In Sight of St. Paul's*. The company responsible for the production is a capable one, and mention must be made of the abilities of Mr. Ernest R. Allen as Tom Chichester, Mr. Herbert Cecil as John Gridston, Mr. Henry Gilpin as Blidstein, Herbert Colley as Jim Palfrey, Miss Sybil Hammersley as Becky Vetch, and Miss Gussie Everitt as Cynthia Dell.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—Mr. Fred Karno's company is here in *Mumming Birds* and *Early Birds*. Other turns are Apollo, athlete; Miss Rosie Archer, mimic; Tom E. Hughes, comedian; Sterling and Love, in a smart vocal and instrumental comedy act; Will Vay's juveniles, in their scens, "Life in the Slums"; Robins and Collier, in *The Lady and the Porter*; and Will Driscoll, swell comedian and dancer.

BOOTLE.—MUNCASTER THEATRE — Proprietors, Messrs. Pennington; Manager, Mr. H. Pennington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Young.—Mr. Leonard Dalrymple's company is here in *As Midnight Chimes*. Mr. Herbert Pearce makes a fine Ezra Gamble, and Mr. Dalrymple a manly Dave Stannard; Miss Maud Hastings is a capable and sympathetic Mary Stannard, and Miss Marion Ryder is well placed as Little Davy; Mr. H. Belmore gives a powerful rendering of Luke Dezzard, his acting in the Vault scene being deserving of special mention. The comedy portion of the piece finds capable exponents in Mr. James Salter as Tat Spavvin and Miss Madge Beresford as Suzette. Other characters in capable hands are Nat Wilson (Mr. H. B. Peppin), P.C. Tibbot (Mr. Harry C. Nerney), and Zamora (Miss Alma Henson).

BOSCOMBE.—HIPPODROME.—Joint Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Ball.—Jan Rudenyi, supported by Miss Dora de Winton and Mr. John Saunders, appears in a romance, entitled *The Power of Music*, in which his skill on the violin is shown to great advantage; the Pender Troupe of pantomimists create much laughter in their farcical burlesque, *Hands Up!*; the Five Casino Girls submit a pleasing instrumental turn which gains much applause; Harry Carsdale is a clever mimic of farmyard animals; the Sisters Belmont are dainty singers and dancers; Henri Bekker is good in a neat conjuring turn; the Stilt-Walkers' Troupe are amusing; and some excellent pictures are shown on the Bioscope.

BOURNEMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, David Allen and Sons; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Manager, Mr. Rowland Stewart.—Miss Annie Hughes, supported by a strong company, in *Tommy*, is appearing here this week. Miss Hughes in the title-rôle is rapturously received, and deservedly so; Mr. Evelyn Vernon as the Editor is very good, and so is Mr. Willie Hartill as Clod; while the Dick Danvers of Mr. Rupert Danvers is a sound piece of acting; Miss Winifred Pearson in her lovely costumes scores heavily as "Mr. Morrison"; and strong support is lent by Mr. R. F. Beach as Flipp and Miss Ida Richardson as Honour.

BRADFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—Mr. Hart's own company is appearing this week in the delightful comedy-drama *A Message from Mars*, with that clever actor, Mr. Arthur Holmes-Gore, as Horace Parker. He is finely supported by Mr. W. H. Brougham as the imposing Martian; Mr. Bruce Lindley is particularly effective in his acting as the tramp; Arthur Dicey has a capable exponent in Mr. T. Holding; Miss Joan Ellis gracefully fills the part of Minnie Templer; and a capital performance of Miss Parker is given by Miss Flora Hastings. There are some fine stage effects, and the play is greeted with hearty applause.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—With marked success Mr. Walter Howard's military drama, *Her Love Against the World*, was presented here for the first time on Monday evening by a capable company, under the direction of Messrs. W. H. Hallatt and Mr. Howard, who wins unstinted applause for his vigorous and convincing acting as the much-persecuted Lieut. Eric Strathmere; his little brother Nello is represented by Miss Rosie St. John in a capable manner, her acting being marked by earnestness and pathos; Mr. Mayor-Cooke is forcible as the tyrant Ulric, Prince of Ravensburg; Mr. Hallatt gives a performance of the part of Prince Othmar which is earnest and conscientious; Mr. Sam Arthur leaves nothing to be desired as Prince Maurice of Saxonia; Mr. Walter Langley's fire-eating General Gessler is a capital effort. With much grace and tenderness Miss Ellen Snow embodies the character of the oppressed Iris, Princess of Idalia. The love complications of Henrick Pimpernickle (Mr. H. B. Lewis), Fritz Pimpernickle (Mr. R. Webb), Katinka (Miss Lizzie Lennon), and Gretchen (Miss Hettie Ferguson) supply the humorous element, and there is much praise due to Miss Blanche Steele for a powerful impersonation of the small but important part of the confiding Shulah, Countess of Rassellyn.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—Mr. Fred Karno's company of comedians, including Mr. Fred Kitchen, are here again this week, convulsing audiences with the farcical absurdity *The Bailiff*, which is brimful of broad humour. A pleasing song-scena, "Let Bygones be Bygones," is presented by Hurley and Cole; an attractive and clever gymnastic display is given by the Renards, dental trio; Kate Traill at the piano largely interests the audience with her songs; as comedians and dancers Stephens and Rennior are excellent; Forest and King are clever contortionists; some very fine gymnastic feats are accomplished by Helene and Emilon; as a comedienne of the broad comedy type Nellie Wallace is decidedly clever and diverting; and a good programme is completed by interesting pictures on the American Bioscope.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. R. Ralli.—Excellent dancing by Sterling and Cashen, of the speciality order, is the first turn on an excellent programme here; Arthur Croxon, a smart mimetic comedian, is entertaining; Josie Delaine, a charming vocalist and dancer, wins unstinted applause; a fine instrumental performance by the accomplished Transfield Trio is deservedly applauded; the Katos are good as "The Komical Kidgets"; Johnny Dwyer, comedian, submits some capital songs; the pretty juvenile duettists, the Sisters Marion, charm the audience; Florrie Gallimore, comedienne, is as popular as ever with her excellent songs; and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux submit up-to-date pictures.

BRIDLINGTON.—ROYAL PRINCE'S PARADE.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—The promenade concerts given daily by Mr. Joseph Sainton and his talented orchestra are increasingly popular. Mr. Sainton, in addition to his great ability as a conductor, is also a very brilliant pianist, and has gained in favour by the beautiful manner in which he has interpreted various solos by some of the great masters. Miss Ethel Walker is this week giving some smart and well-chosen sketches at the piano, and scores greatly with her humorous songs; Mr. F. L. Kettlewell's cornet solos are a great source of delight.

THE PALACE.—Managers, Messrs. W. H. and J. W. Delmar.—A ten days' Carnival is being held here, and the management have secured some good talent to assist the usual attractions, including the Japanese Ladies' Orchestra, a good combination of vocalists and instrumentalists; Professor Reno, a smart and up-to-date illusionist; Mr. George Le Wist and his talking figures, in a very clever ventriloquial entertainment; and Miss M. Adrian, a lady tenor vocalist. The animated pictures and Milton's "hall of laughter" add to the enjoyment of the large audiences.

BRIGHTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. H. Cecil Beryl; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harcourt M. Beryl.—Mr. Leonard Boyne and company opened here on Monday with *Raffles*. Mr. Leonard Boyne gave a masterly portrayal of the amateur cracksman, Raffles; Miss Jane Savile imparted grace and charm to her enactment of Gwendoline Conran; Miss Elaine was distinctly effective as the grass widow, Mrs. Vidal; and Miss Alys Rees was admirably suited as Lady Melrose. Mr. E. W. Thomas, as the American detective, Curtis Bedford, achieved great success; Mr. Dalziel Heron submitted a clever character-study as the professional burglar, Crawshay; Mr. Arthur Willoughby was a dignified Earl of Amersteth; Mr. Lewis Edgard's Harry Manders and Mr. Edmund Breon's Viscount Crowley were well played; and able support was rendered by Miss Jean Morrison (Lady Ethel), Miss Jean Harkness (Marie), and Mr. Charles Kean (Goldby).

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter.—Miss Adria Hill and Mr. Robert Ayrton's company is here this week with *A Gambler's Daughter*. Miss Adria Hill's acting in the dual rôles of Mildred Grant and her daughter Miriam is thoroughly artistic; Mr. Robert Ayrton gives an admirable enactment of Desmond O'Dare; Mr. Fiennar is well suited as Stephen Brand; Mr. Alfred Sanders makes an entertaining Solomon Solomens; Miss Harriett Loydall affords much amusement as Auntie Zeb; Mr. W. H. Terriss as Ralph Gillman merits praise; Mr. H. Barham capitally impersonates Dick, "the Weasel," afterwards Capt. Stanhope; Mr. Richard Pitt is an excellent John Grant; and the remaining characters are satisfactorily sustained.

ALHAMBRA.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. L. Graydon; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Ernest Lepard.—There is a capital company here this week. The Mysterious Brothers Howard, mind readers, submit a clever and interesting turn; Edith Muir, Hubert Bartlett, and company are highly successful in the tabloid comedy, *The Collar Stud*; the "Bounding Navvies," Wild, Willie, and West, are entertaining in their comedy acrobatic trampolin and trap act; Dorothy Vernon and Marie Burdell win warm applause in their musical comedy duo, *What Price Me?* Jordan and Harvey, Hebrew comedians, contribute a praiseworthy turn; the Mackinnon Family of musicians, vocalists, and dancers are well received; Farr and Farland, the "aristocratic comedians who converse," are diverting; Dorothy Gould is a dainty comedienne; George Burley, comedian, merits commendation; and the Alhambrascope pictures are interesting and amusing.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—An excellent programme is submitted here this week. Arthur Roberts and company appear in the farce *The Woman Who Was*, and evoke very hearty laughter Keith and Herson are amusing in their hunting absurdity, *The Meet*; Millie Payne's quaint songs are warmly appreciated; W. T. Ellwanger and company win cordial applause in the comedy sketch, *The Peacemaker*; Vernon and Voyce are capital singing comedians; Coram, a clever ventriloquist, gives an excellent entertainment; the Crystals are pleasing vocalists and graceful dancers; Percy Hannan, American baritone, acquits himself admirably; Dave O'Toole is an amusing comedian; and the Barrascope pictures are interesting.

WEST PIER.—Secretary and Entertainment Manager, Mr. A. D. Norman.—Mr. Ernest R. Abbott and company opened here on Monday with *Sapho*. Miss Ada Abbott achieved great success in her impersonation of Fanny Legrand; Mr. Ernest R. Abbott submitted an excellent enactment of Jean Gaussin; Mr. Weedon Ross made a capital old Legrand; Mr. John Lester was well placed as Caoudal; Mr. Douglas C. Phelps' Uncle Ceasaire was ably presented; and Mr. C. Douglas as Flamant, Mr. W. H. Garbois as Henri Dechelette, and Miss Hetty Jones as Joseph also deserve praise. In the first act Mr. Edward Keene introduced some pleasing musical and humorous specialities. The programme for the week included *Trilby*.

PALACE PIER.—Mrs. Fred J. Kirke's company is here this week with *The Naval Detective*. Mr. Leslie Austin achieves conspicuous success as the detective, and cleverly impersonates three characters; Miss Louie Fountaine, who also sustains three parts, displays marked skill, and sings in good style; Mr. Rowland Bridge is highly effective as Dr. Schreiner; Mr. George Willis makes an admirable Captain; Mr. Walter T. Hybert is amusing as the Hon. Bertie Fairlox; and Miss Edith Claris as Susan Scrubs and Miss Francesca Strickland as Lulu Kaufmann contribute to the great success of the performance. The variety turns introduced included specialities submitted by Miss Louie Fountaine (soprano), Miss Edith Claris (comedienne), the Roduin Girls (expert dancers), Mr. George Whillis (character comedian), Mr. Leslie Austin (baritone), Mr. Walter T. Hybert (light comedian and dancer), and Mr. Charles H. Burns, instrumentalist.

BRISTOL.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—Mr. Chas. Frohman's excellent company is here for a fortnight with *Peter Pan*. The play is elaborately staged, and on Monday evening it obtained full appreciation by a large audience. Miss Zena Dare acted very cleverly the difficult part of Peter Pan. Altogether her exposition of "the boy who wouldn't grow up" was most interesting and highly artistic. Miss Ella Q. May acted well and spoke her lines clearly as Wendy; John and Michael were done full justice to by Masters Walter Cross and Philip Tonge; Mr. and Mrs. Darling had capable exponents in Mr. Lionel Mackinder and Miss Irene Rooke; Mr. George Lupino was both amusing and clever as the colley dog, Nana; Mr. Lionel Mackinder scored heavily as the old-style transpontine pirate captain, James Hook; Mr. G. W. Anson, capitally made up, made an amusing Smee, the other pirates being well represented by Messrs. Stratton Mills, Evans, Eric Leslie, William Luff, A. G. Williams, and H. W. Hewlett. The Red Indians, Panther and Tiger Lily, were ably represented by Mr. Humphrey Warden and Miss Florence Wells; Miss Hetty Muret sang pleasingly as the Mermaid; and Miss Mabel Lamont scored as Liza. The incidental music was very capably performed by the orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Alfred Isaacson.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry C. Alty.—Messrs. Carpenter and Cooper's company is here with *The Spider and the Fly*, the drama being staged with much liberality. Miss Amy Venimore displays considerable power in her clever exposition of Stella Grey; Miss Nina Naughton is pleasingly interesting as Edith McAllister; Mr. Benson North is highly successful as Cyril Girdlestone; Mr. Ellis I. Preston is good in the unpopular part of Welby Girdlestone; Mr. Arthur H. Hill does remarkably well as David Strong; Mr. H. C. Lanceley is successful as the village Pastor; Miss Lucy Murray is pleasing as Molly Blake; and Messrs. C. Russell and C. A. Preece score in the comic parts of Romulus and Remus Roe.

PALACE THEATRE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—Leoni Clarke, with his cats, rabbits, monkeys, &c., is highly successful, the show being both interesting and amusing; Jay W. Winton obtains applause for his ventriloquial turn; Prince Kokin is decidedly smart as a balancer, juggler, &c.; Hall and Earl, eccentrics, are amusing; Mollie Wolstenhome is a pleasing vocalist; Davis and company have a capital absurdity, *Jack's Uncle*; Brul and Hemsley (Elsa and Arthur) have a good musical act, *Fun in a Music-shop*; and Louis Kerno scores as a coon impersonator and dancer. Vernon's animated pictures—a good selection—conclude the entertainment.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—Marie Lloyd is here for the week, the popular comedienne having a very cordial welcome, and obtaining enthusiastic applause. Alf Gibson, comedian, has a quaint style and obtains appreciation; Clifford and Monti amuse with their comedy act, *The Mad Actor*; Tom Dunmore, comedian, has some amusing songs and patter; Ella Lane, comedienne, presents a pleasing turn; Hyde and Cody, eccentrics, are smart in jumping and tumbling acts; the sprightly Dancing Gilberts are exceptionally expert dancers; and the performance concludes with a good display of animated pictures.

BROUGHTON.—VICTORIA THEATRE, LTD.—Manager and Licensee, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—The popularity of the domestic drama, *Two Little Drummer Boys*, gains favour, especially when so well presented as it was on Monday by Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Kimberley's No. 1 Company. Miss Maggie English as Eric Carsdale and Miss Maud Douglas as Jack Smith are a couple of smart drummer boys; Mr. Edward Bikker gives a good portrayal of General Kingsley, V.C. The villain, Captain George Darrell, is in the capable hands of Mr. H. Harleigh; Mr. Fred Emery powerfully sustains the part of Captain Frank Carsdale; Mr. Geoff Sutherland as Lieut. Allen Kingsley and Mr. Philip Redgrave as Major Kilkereen do well. Much amusement results from the funny incidents provided by Mr. Michael Madden as Corporal O'Quirke, Mr. Dick Seddon as Private Trimmer, and Miss Lizzie Chambers as Molly Meadows. Miss Mildred Eversleigh cleverly plays the rôle of the deserted Margaret Rivers, and a charming Alma Kingsley is presented by Miss Beatrice Shirley.

BURNLEY. — VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—*The Lady of Ostend* is presented by Mr. Lawrence Brough's company. Mr. Lawrence Brough submits an exceptionally clever character-study of the Baron de Longueville; Mr. Percy Marshall as Joseph Carbury attains high excellence; and the unlucky Dick Whortles is played with correct spirit by Mr. Henry Hampson. A smart Dorothy is Miss Kate Milford; and Miss Roberta Svendson is equally pleasing as the Lady of Ostend; Mr. Walkin Wynne is well suited to the rôle of Toby Krackitt, and Miss Eva Boyne is good as Jane. The mother-in-law, Matilda, is splendidly given by Miss Bessie Harrison; and Mr. Reginald A. Hunt is clever as John Humbert. The comedy is preceded by a capital one-act play, *At the Risin' of the Moon*, which is greatly appreciated. *The Cruise of the Saucy Sally* is announced for performance on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—The Yuilians Family provide some excellent and difficult risley acrobatic work at this hall this week; the Leonards (Bob and Jennie) give a very acceptable turn in comedy vocalism and dancing; Little Lillybelle is charming in a song-scena; and the Davenports display some really good palming and card tricks. R. A. Speedwell paints several excellent portraits with wonderful rapidity; and A. G. Spry is a very funny comedian; Miss Mayne Cannon, comedienne, is loudly applauded for her excellent songs; good singing is done by Vesta and Minnie Pine in *A Kitchen Rehearsal*; and the Empire Theatroscope exhibits interesting pictures.

BURTON-ON-TRENT. — NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. H. Dudley Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Waller.—Some good variety turns are given this week. The premier honours are accorded Miss Ella and her lions; most pleasing and interesting is the turn of the Sisters Judge, who introduce some clever performing birds; Victoria Carmen gives her songs in capital style; George Rapley is an amusing comedian; H. A. Griffiths (comedian) and Burg, Haud, and Wise (comic acrobats), acquit themselves creditably. Up-to-date pictures are shown on the Operascope.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS.—ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, MR. Eade Montefiore.—An attractive feature of this popular entertainment is the wonderful concertina-playing of Percy Houri; Miss Mollie Wynter's tuneful whistling evokes much applause; John Warren gives a smart exhibition of ventriloquism and conjuring, also appearing as a clever illusionist in his sketch *The Magic Carpet*; Rex Sugden's illustrated songs are deservedly popular; and Jury's pictures amuse and instruct.

CAMBRIDGE. — NEW THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—The Moody-Manners Opera Company is paying a return visit here. On Monday night *Faust* was performed in a most delightful manner. Mr. Seth Hughes in the title-rôle was admirable, having a very fine voice; Mr. George Neilson as Mephistopheles showed to great advantage, not only in his singing, but also in his acting; Mr. Frederic Erle was perfectly satisfactory as Valentine; Miss Alice Boadin is the happy possessor of a splendid voice, and as Marguerite charmed the house; Miss Rosina Beynon has also a lovely voice, and she played Siebel beautifully. The chorus and band, under the direction of Mr. Harrison Frewin, came in for their share of appreciation. The week's bill included *Lohengrin*, *Cavelleria Rusticana*, *Pagliacci*, *Maritana*, *Carmen*, *Tannhäuser*, and *The Bohemian Girl*.

CARDIFF.—NEW THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robt. Redford.—It is some time since *The Geisha* has been to Cardiff, and, consequently, a visit this week of Mr. Mouillot's principal company, with the popular Japanese musical play, was very acceptable. Miss Louie Collier gives a fine representation of O Mimosa San; Miss Florrie Saunders is equally successful as Molly Seymour; Mr. Edward Carlton as Wun Hi, sustains the comedy element in excellent style; and Mr. Lionel Braham invests the part of the Marquis Imari with irresistible humour. Mr. Cyril Thompson as Reginald Fairfax makes a manly and dashing hero; and Miss Violet Kenyon as O. Juliette Diamant and Miss Aubrey Ashton as Lady Constance Wynne are both well placed. The rôle of Captain Katana is in the capable hands of Mr. J. Mansel Stringer.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—The interesting drama, *£1000 Reward*, is this week presented by a talented company. Mr. Fred Wilberforce, in the rôle of Gilbert Lisle, achieves much success; Mr. Frank J. Pitt as Fred Ingelford fills the part with distinction; Mr. Chas. Halling, well groomed as Vincent Rainsworth, makes a capital exponent of this important part; and Mr. Frank Dallas is particularly amusing as Inspector Gilbert. As Mme. Sanson Miss Daisy Halling shows her histrionic powers to much effect; and Miss Lynn Darlington, in the part of the flower-girl, Meg, displays a powerful and well-trained voice. In the comedy characters Miss Cissie Frances as Kitty and Mr. George Scully as Dick Springthorpe prove a delightful couple. Mention must not be omitted of Mr. Arthur Merton's impersonation of Fighting Jepps.

EMPIRE.—Managing Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Wm. Lee; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. S. Dring.—Lew Lake and his company of clever artists are here in *The Bloomsbury Burglars*, meeting with great success, Mr. Lake and Mr. Bob. Morris keeping the audience in one continuous peal of laughter; the American Comedy Four delight with their beautifully-balanced quartettes, as well as with their comedy; T. E. Finglass scores in his well-rendered coon songs; the Macarte Sisters are a clever trio on the trapeze and wire; Dion Wade's mimicry wins him an enviable reception; a finely-illustrated song is presented by Tom Hoed; and other turns are given by Frank Leslie, comedian; Lena Verdi, a captivating singer and dancer; Millie Howell, a refined singer; and the ever-welcome Bioscope.

CARLISLE.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Mr. Thos. Courtice and Mrs. R. Stewart McKim.—The first week at "summer prices" is proving even more successful than the enterprising manager anticipated, the house being crowded in every part when *A Fight for Millions*, by Mr. Robert Perris's company, commenced a week's engagement on Monday night. Mr. Karl H. Edwards as the tramp soon became a favourite; Mr. Alec Grant in the heavy part made good use of his opportunities, and contributed a strong and robust study of the part; Mr. Tom Jones, a Welsh comedian, sang himself into favour; and Mr. Tom Manley was quite successful as the hero; a capital piece of acting by Miss Elma Turner as Helen Dudley, well supported by Miss Dorothy Wilkinson, a capable child-actress, was deservedly appreciated; Miss Isabel Edbrook and Miss Winifred Symons also contributed sound performances. The sensational scenes and eff

siderable merriment as Polly Bramble, and her singing and dancing are appreciated; Mr. Wm. Burgess gives an effective reading of the part of Captain Langton; Mr. Philip Renouf introduces plenty of humour as Nixey Stinger; and the part of Joe Bluener is excellently interpreted by Mr. Walter Wilby.

QUEEN'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Charles Beanland and W. H. Emerson; Business-Manager, Mr. Will. H. Emerson.—The Dayton Family, in their latest creation, *Le Rendez Vous*, are meeting with extraordinary success; the Cecilian Family of Musicians and dancers, including Prof. T. Wigham, concertina soloist, give selections well worth listening to; Miss Beattie Foster creates a pleasing impression as a ballad vocalist; as coloured comedians Liggins and Murlow score heavily; the Milford Brothers contribute a smart and entertaining turn on the triple bars; Wallace Whitney, a funny comedian, is applauded; George Bernard, vocal actor, sings some good songs successfully; Palette, in his original act, *A Busy Time in the Studio*, introduces some beautiful sketches; and animated pictures by the Loyal Dominion Co. are still to the fore.

CHATHAM. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard; Secretary, Mr. Geo. G. Ridley.—Mr. George Henry's company is this week presenting *The Sledge Hammer*. The most noteworthy performances are Mr. Frank Litchfield as Tom Walker, Mr. Arthur Chisholm as Jacob Derrick, and Mr. Hardy Macoo as Simon Derrick. There are many stirring incidents in the play, the fight with sledge hammers in the last scene proving a very exciting contest. In the interval between Acts II. and III., Lacey's Erascope projects some amusing and interesting pictures.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Cee Mee and Family top the bill here, and nightly gain unstinted applause for their aerial act; Mabel Thorne is staying over from last week; Fred Herbert, topical vocalist, is on a return visit; another old favourite appearing is Will Musgrave; David and Longmore score in a vocal scena, *The Green-eyed Monster;* the Summersons, comedy duettists; Louie Oswald, vocalist; and Phillips and Merritt, society entertainers, also appear; and Lacey's Erascope pictures are quite up to the mark.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Capt. H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. Frank J. Dorme.—The leading attraction here is *The Little Stowaway*, which is well staged and capitally acted, Miss Eva Lumley scoring quite a hit in the title-rôle. Dan Conroy dances nimbly, and has some good patter; Maud Esmond has a very pleasing style, and the same remark applies to Ailsa Douglas. Barrett and Knowles prove amusing as cross-talk comedians; the Sisters Grovini are a trio of nimble and lithe tumblers, who are enthusiastically recalled; Charles Russell is well received; and the audience display great interest in the pictures shown by means of the Edisongraph.

CHELTENHAM. — OPERA HOUSE. — General-Manager, Mr. H. Oswald Redford. — *The Girl Behind the Counter* is introduced by Mr. Mouillot's company. Mr. Ellis Holland sustains in a most taking manner the part of General Sir Wyke Willoughby; Mr. Arthur Cartwright as Charles Chetwyn, and Miss Nora Brocklebank as Winnie Willoughby, act with refinement and style, using their excellent vocal powers to advantage; Miss Florence Lee scores a success as Millie Mostyn, the real shop girl, with whom is associated Mr. Howard Cridland as Viscount Gushington, who acts with necessary point and humour. Miss Rose Helene and Mr. Fredk. Park, as the cash girl and the erring office boy, Susie and Adolphus Dudds, are a lively and talented little pair; M. Jules Charmettes makes a big hit as Duval; Miss Doris Langdon is pretty and chic as the French milliner, Ninette; Mr. A. M. Moore gives a clever study as Baron's Court waiter; Mr. Geoffrey Allsopp is imposing as the Commissionaire; Mr. William Amery a lugubrious Joseph, a second waiter; and Miss Winifred Knightly is a stately Lady Willoughby.

CHESTER. — ROYALTY THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—Mr. Eugene C. Stafford's company is here in *The Private Secretary*. Chief mention may be made of the admirable performance of Mr. W. Hargraves as Mr. Cattermole; Mr. Donald Price-Evans is good as Rev. Robert Spalding; Mr. Randolfe Reade makes a bright, breezy Douglas Cattermole; Mr. Vivian Gilbert appears to advantage as a tailor with social aspirations; Mr. James Hussey does well as Harry Marsland; Mrs. Alfred Davies is the "motherly" Miss Ashford to the life; whilst Miss Cecily Wade is an excellent Mrs. Stead; the two girls, Eva Webster and Edith Marsland, have charming exponents in Misses Beth Elliott and Dora Gray; Mr. W. E. Torrington is a jovial Mr. Marsland. On Monday the summer variety season will commence here, and arrangements have been made whereby first-class programmes will be presented weekly.

CHORLEY.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. G. T. Santé; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Hemingway.—Mr. Dickie Clare's company is here this week in the comedy *Lucky 'Liza*. Mr. Clare gives an excellent and humorous portrayal of Silas Slim; Peter Pettitoe and Paul, his son, have capable exponents in Mr. T. W. Benson and Mr. Syd. Hind respectively; Mr. J. W. Forrest as Biffins the gardener, and Mr. A. W. Thompson as Barnaby Blatherwick are successful in their respective parts; in the title-rôle Miss Madge Brownie meets with approval; and Miss Vesta Brownie is good as Marie Pettitoe. The company also includes "the Dancing Girls," Miss Nellie Buckley, Miss Marie Cordon, and Miss Queenie Bell, an excellent trio.

COLCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Charles Macdona; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. C. Upton.—Mr. Charles Harrington's *Uncle Tom's Cabin* combination opened here on Monday. In Act IV. a plantation festival scene is cleverly introduced, in which the following were very well received, viz., Rich and Moore, coloured duettists; Walter Langford, banjoist; Sylvia Stella, plantation songstress and whirlwind dancer; Ben Rowe, bone soloist; Rose and Holden, cake walkers; Mr. Harrington himself ably portrayed the much-worried Mr. St. Clair; Mr. J. Carr made an ideal Uncle Tom; Mr. J. H. Renny did well as Phineas; Mr. Leslie Beaufort was an admirable George Harris; and Little Eva was well represented by Holly Hazelwood; whilst the villainous Legree was cleverly shown by Mr. J. Henry Rogers.

HIPPODROME. — Joint-Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. Jack de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—Miss Lilian Dundas and company head the programme in the dramatic sketch *The Doom of Delilah*, and the greatest credit is due to the trio who comprise the cast; Lew Lake's company, in the comedy sketch *My Landlord*, provides a most amusing entertainment; Moon and Morris, twin dancers, create a very favourable impression at each house and rightly so; Beattie Kent dances in an artistic manner; whilst Minnie Love, an old pantomime favourite, is deservedly applauded for her songs; Ted Saunders is an entertaining mimic; and Tom Collins goes well with his lullabies.

CORK.—OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. John Horgan.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard opened on Monday with *The Belle of New York*. Miss Empsie Bowman as Violet Grey won great success, and her solo, "Follow on," was loudly applauded. The part of Fifi was taken by Miss Lily Maxwell, who sang well; Miss Florence Hersee as Kissie Fitzgarter and Miss Winnie Browne as Cora Angelique were distinctly good; Mr. Paddy Dupres as Ichabod Bronson was most enjoyable, and the part of his son Harry was successfully filled by Mr. John Doran; Mr. Joseph R. Tate as the polite lunatic was capital; Mr. Frank Lawton, as Blinky Bill, sang, danced, and whistled with his accustomed skill; Mr. Walter Uridge as Kenneth Mugg also scored.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD. — Manager, Mr. Henry Kemble.—Barton and Ashley, in a comedy act, introduce some clever dialogue; Olga Rayne is a capital comedian and dancer; the Woodwards (lady and gentleman) are a clever pair of equilibrists; Sylvesta is a very clever sleight-of-hand artist; the Delcars are expert acrobats, and afford genuine amusement; Allsopp and Beckwith introduce humorous babble and sing a few good songs; Simms and Simms play in good style on several instruments; and the Cinematograph shows the latest pictures.

COVENTRY.—HIPPODROME THEATRE.—There is a good and well-varied programme this week. Miss Kate Carney gives some capital songs; for one of these, "'Liza Johnson," she was encored again and again. The nine members of the Lorch Family perform some wonderfully clever feats; the Fitzroys give a fine trapeze performance, and also excel as rope climbers; Simosa San, a lady juggler, is very smart, and gives a good show with trained pigeons. Other artists are Ivy Aberdare, coon songster and dancer; the Three Sisters Tree, vocalists and dancers; and Jack Pleasants, a good comedian. The Hippodrome pictures are specially interesting.

THE OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—*The Manxman* is drawing good houses at this place of amusement. Mr. A. B. Cross is still appearing as the giant-hearted Pete, and his fine portrayal of this part wins him well-earned praise. Miss Minnie Watersford is seen to good advantage as Kate; Miss Nellie Freeland is responsible for the faithful Nancy; Mr. Frank Etheridge gives a forceful rendering of Cæsar Cregeen. Other well-rendered characters are Mr. Sydney C. Kearns as Philip Christian, Mr. Maurice York as Ross Christian, and Miss Hazel Dent as Miss Christian.

THE EMPIRE THEATRE. — Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Dance.—A well-varied and entertaining programme is submitted this week, the chief turn being Bella and Bijou, the comedy duo, who, among other items, give an amusing skit on the woman Suffragist. The Huxter Brothers are very clever long-distance somersault performers; Leicester Cooke and company appear in a smart dramatic episode, entitled *Lululand*, which is much admired; the Kirbys appear as musical comedy duologists with marked success; Kioto, Japanese equilibrist and balancer, is responsible for some very clever tricks; Russell Brandon gives a wonderful exhibition of clever dancing; Jack Monks is successful as a descriptive vocalist; Vernon's Bioscope shows some new and up-to-date pictures.

CREWE.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Taylor, J.P.—Messrs. Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's company in *The Midnight Wedding* is a strong attraction here this week. Paul Valmar is excellently played by Mr. Paumier, Mr. F. W. Freeman ably embodies Crown Prince Leopold, Mr. E. Fletcher is well placed as Lieut. Eugene von Streisburg, Mr. E. E. Imeson is a capital Captain Rudolph Von Scarsbruck, Mr. W. S. Hardy is good as Father Gerard, and Messrs. James E. Page, Vernon Vane, and Algie Spalding are responsible for much mirth in the characters of Sergeant Max, Corporal Otto, and Private Bobo respectively. Miss Annie Saker cleverly impersonates the dual rôles of Princess Astrea Von Streisburg and Second Lieutenant Karl Helsburg; Miss Ada Champion contributes a successful rendition of Kathie; and Miss Marion Fawcett acquits herself worthily as Rozel.

CROYDON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Lawson Lambert.—Mr. Arthur Bourchier's company is here in *The Morals of Marcus*. Miss Hilda Antony makes a fascinating Carlotta; Mrs. H. Nye-Chart acts with skill as Judith Mainwaring; Miss Mary Weigall is adequate as Mrs. Ordeyne; Miss Gladys Purnell is a pretty Dora Ordeyne; Miss Conyers Radcliffe makes the most of Mrs. McMurray; Miss Eleanor Gilbart submits a studied rendering of Antoinette; Miss Mary O'Neill is good in the part of Lady Elmira Wynn; Miss Evelyn Summers deserves a word as Miss Lestrange; and Miss Hilda Saxe is a neat Maid. Mr. H. Nye Chart gives a carefully studied portrayal of the rôle of Sir Marcus Ordeyne; Mr. David Domville is excellent in the character of Sebastian Pasquale; Mr. A. H. Leveaux is well made up as Hamdi Effendi; Mr. Cecil Brooking is careful as Stenson; and Mr. W. Swinburne completes the cast as Bobby Tremlett. Mr. Lawson Lambert deserves all praise for his creditable management of this popular theatre.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Herrick.—Mr. T. Edward Ward's company is here with *Man and Wife*. Mr. John F. Traynor gives a fine manly rendering of Paul Revere; Mr. Wilson Coleman is admirable as Captain D'Esparre; Mr. Edward Van Biene acts with effect as Colonel Latour; Mr. Edward Leslie is careful as Father Coupe; and Mr. Ambrose Horton is satisfactory as Sergeant Jacques. The comedy element is abundantly supplied by Messrs. Sydney Bryant and Val Gully, a pair of quaint comedians, who, as Bimbo and Bambo, keep the house agog with merriment the whole time they are on the stage. A young actress who will make her way to the front, Miss Ethel F. Greene, cleverly enacts the rôle of Jean; Miss Kate Hallam plays the emotional part of Marcelle with all the skill and ability of an accomplished actress; Miss Pollie Denville is a bright and attractive Rosette; and Miss Violet Temple wins sympathy as Ruth Revere.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—The star here this week is enchanting Madge Lessing, who brings down the house with her songs, "Nesting in a New York tree," and "The Story of the Wedding March"; the Ten Dixie Girls are excellent singers and dancers; the Three Panamas are great in acrobatic, dancing, and tumbling act; Arthur Pearl, comedian, wins favour; Tom Stuart is a clever dramatic and burlesque character artist; Rastus and Banks, coloured American entertainers, are applauded; Anna Kenwick, comedienne and dancer, is commendable; the Four Aces are smart acrobats; and a cordial reception is given Collinson's Combination in *The Club Raid*.

DARWEN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. A. M Loader; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. J. Robinson.—Mr. Edward Ranier and his company are here this week in *A Son's Devotion* and *The Bank Robbery*. In the former, which was played on Monday night, Mr. Ranier has a part that suits him admirably, and he is well supported by Mr. Edward Muir Palmer, Mr. Harrison Dalley, Mr. Henry Pearce, Mr. Arthur Barnes, Miss Lilla Wilde, Miss Alice Maud, and Mrs. Maynard. The performance is preceded each evening by *Apartments for Two*.

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Denley; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Langley Wyatt.—Mr. William Greet's principal company is here this week with *The Sign of the Cross*. The Marcus Superbus of Mr. Frank E. Petley is a powerful assumption. He both acts and looks the part to perfection. Miss Marie Leonhard's Mercia is an appealing stage picture, and her delineation all through is very effective; Nero has a thoroughly realistic exponent in Mr. C. Yorke, his depiction doing him much credit; the Tigellinus of Mr. Charles Aldred is another very capable assumption. Glabrio is commendably accounted for by Mr. Walter Fleet; and Favius receives adequate justice at the hands of Mr. Walter Fleet; while Miss Dulcie Greatwich plays exceedingly well as Stephanus. The Berenice of Miss Gertrude Price is a highly successful characterisation; and Miss Lillie Ward and Miss Cissie Carlton figure acceptably as Aucaria and Dacia respectively.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Herbert Taylor.—A particularly attractive programme is submitted here this week. Occupying first place is Harry Tate's No. 1 company in the laughable skit *Motoring*, which gains deserved applause. The Bouncing Dillons are responsible for some clever gymnastic feats. In connection with this turn Mr. Edwardes has kindly arranged for a bouncing competition, the final being fixed for Friday night's second performance. The efforts of the competitors are highly diverting. The Ongars are speciality dancers of great ability; Ted Waite, comedian, scores, as does Hesketh Meade, a fine baritone singer. The Sages, burlesque artists, do well in song and dance; and Nellie Chandos is an exhilarating little comedienne. The Bioscope adds greatly to the merriment.

DEVONPORT.—METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Geo. S. King.—Messrs. A. Hamilton Warden and Charles V. Sandford's company are presenting *A Woman's Past*. Miss Maisie Hanbury as Bessie is a charming actress; and Mr. G. Morton, who takes the part of Uriah Craven, makes a very fine villain. Mr. Beresford Lovett, Mr. Charles V. Sandford, Mr. A. Hamilton Warden, Miss Mary Mallalieu, and Miss Eva Bertram also prove themselves capable artists.

DEWSBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Asquith.—Chevalier Cliquot swallows cavalry sworts, watches, &c., with facility. Cliquot is a physiological marvel. The Five Royal Quintettes are brilliantly clever and successful as singers, international dancers, and pipers. The acme of drollery and absurdity is secured in Harry Cadle's *Casey Court Mick Wittintun*, being a street urchin's idea of producing a pantomime. Vocalism of very good quality was forthcoming from Miss Georgina Leonard, a comedienne of marked talent and blessed with a style essentially her own. Rex Sugden has a pleasantly harmonious tenor voice, which he used in several illustrated songs. The Sisters Clare evinced terpsichorean skill of no mean order.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Weldon.—Zanfretta and Napio's performance as musical eccentrics gratified the audience; the Dainton Girls as gipsy and character duettists scored with their efforts; Frank Coyle, defined as "the continuous comedian," assuredly lived up to his title; J. C. Morris, a comedian and raconteur, who has a droll humour and wit, found speedy acceptance; whilst Miss Eva Reed as a character comedienne and grotesque dancer gave the completest satisfaction. The Alskamo Trio distinguished themselves for an exceptionally clever performance as risley performers and tumblers, and their refined comedy was thoroughly appreciated.

DOVER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Dover Theatres, Ltd.; Chairman of Directors, Mr. B. Carter; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—Kavados, expert equilibrist, is giving a smart sensational act here this week; Ethel York sings "The Rhine" and another song with a catchy chorus; a good turn is contributed by the Albano troupe of musicians; Flo Melville scores with her "Stowaway" song and "My Sweetheart"; Beal and Broadway, described as cross-talk comedians, and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux complete the programme.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Lessees, The Vaudeville Syndicate; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Holt; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. Chas. R. Standfield.—Prominent among some excellent turns is the one contributed by J. P. Ling, whose vocal mimicry is both clever and humorous. Ford and Barris give a good performance, the former proving himself a smart dancer. A dancing competition is held in connection with this turn, some valuable prizes being offered for the best local talent. Harry Hillier, paper tearer, vocalist and violinist, shows his versatility; Florence Bell, comedienne, and Louie Oswald are well received; H. C. Lovell and company in *Mam'selle Pom-Pom*, the Two Wiltons, and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux bring the performance to a close.

DUBLIN. — GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Directress, Mrs. Michael Gunn; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Chas. Hyland.—Mr. Rollo Balmain and Miss Sara Mignon's company, in the farcical comedy *Our Flat*, are drawing excellent houses here this week. Mr. Balmain creates hearty laughter throughout by his impersonation of Nathaniel Glover; Miss Sara Mignon portrays the rôle of Margery Sylvester with considerable vivacity and cleverness; Mr. Sydney Leyton gives a capital representation of Reginald Sylvester; and an amusing bit of characterisation is the Bella of Miss Louie West. Mr. J. W. Braithwaite successfully enacts the part of Mr. McCullum; and Miss Mary Beatrice acquits herself admirably as Mme. Volant. The part of Clarence Vane has an able exponent in Mr. Langford Reed; and Miss Miriam Holt does full justice to the rôle of Lucy McCullum. Mr. Wilfred Compton is satisfactory as Pinchard; and Mr. James Ellis as the Foreman, Mr. Holden as Lewis, Mr. Arundel as Jones, and Mr. W. S. Dent as Stout are all good in their respective parts. A playlet in one act, entitled *One of the 93rd*, precedes, and is well received.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—A hearty welcome is accorded here to Charles Robinson, the popular Dublin baritone; Mons. Slippere, the blind pianist and vocalist, gives a clever and interesting performance; Frank Bernard and company caused plenty of laughter in their sketch, *Hello;* and W. Fullbrook and company in *Astronomy* keep the audience highly amused. Harry Berd excels as a mimic; Edie King sings and dances nicely; the Howards give a capital musical act; Carlotta Lunn, comedienne, and Kitty Marion also appear with success; and the Empire pictures complete the programme.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Parrington.—*My Darling* is having a most favourable reception here this week. Miss Marie Studholme gives a dainty and effective portrayal of Joy Blossom, her excellent singing and graceful dancing being warmly appreciated; in the character of Sir Henry Heldon Mr. J. F. McArdle is particularly good, his comedy throughout being most amusing; Miss Barbara Deane makes a charming Daphne Bell, and delights everyone with her exquisite vocalism; Mr. Will Bishop displays considerable skill as Sir James Jagg, and wins rounds of applause; Mr. Armand Kalisz as the opera singer, Maurice Le Blanc, acts cleverly; and Mr. Henry A. Lytton is most agreeable as the Hon. Jack Hylton. Miss Marguerite Leslie makes an admirable Sylvaine; Miss Alice Barth submits an amusing conception of Lady Heldon; and as the American widow, Mrs. Pomeroy P. Green, Miss Helen Kinnaird does very well. Mr. Tom Graves fulfils the part of Oddy, the proprietor of the hotel, capitally; Master Archie McCaig is pleasingly conspicuous as the page boy, Squib. The dresses are handsome, the scenery pretty and picturesque, and the music and choruses admirably carried through under the direction of Mr. Thos. M. Tunbridge.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Secretary, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—Roland, illusionist, assisted by Miss Marjorie Russell, heads the programme here this week, and meets with a gratifying reception; Maxwell and Frances, in their flirtation comedy act, cause much laughter; Walter Emerson, an exceedingly funny comedian, is nightly recalled; a refined musical act provided by Mlle. Renee is deservedly applauded; Bob Nicol is an excellent mimic; Miss Anita Wayman sings several songs in fine style; the Fitzgeralds, in a graceful juggling act, are warmly appreciated; Brilliant Rose, comedienne, is an established favourite; and Fred Hastings is a capital comedian. The Bioscope pictures are interesting.

WORLD'S FAIR AND MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. A. James.—The programme for this week includes Syd Mountford, comedian and educated dog; Rosie Young, serio and dancer; James Dunne, musical comedian; Yew and Deare, the comedy couple; James Rogers, comedian and dancer; and the new cinematograph.

SAMUELS' EXHIBITION PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. S. Samuels.—The following artists are appearing here:—Hall and Lane, speciality artists; Hubert Davis, eccentric comedian; Daisy Clowser, comedienne and dancer; Harry May, comedian; Isa Bernard, vocalist and dancer; and the Raymonds, in their comedy act, *The Warrior's Return*.

DUNDEE. — PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. E. J. Dexter.—Captain Maximilian Gruber's elephant, horse, and pony go through a marvellously clever performance; Ambrose Thorne's songs are delightfully fresh, and his business, in which he is assisted by the Eight Pavilion Girls, is on novel lines. These clever ladies also appear earlier in the evening, and their charming singing and dancing win golden opinions. Another big attraction is George Formby, whose songs are exceedingly quaint, and his antics are ludicrous in the extreme; Venie Clements, with her catchy refrains and fairy-like dancing, is another popular card, as is also George Westland, a Scotch comedian, who is as funny as ever; Sandy and Carl introduce some capital fooling in their well-worked turn; and Herr Einwol completely mystifies the audience with his illusionist entertainment; Vernon's Imperial Bioscope completes.

GAIETY THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. A. P. Williams. — The Marvellous Juanitas Troupe of acrobats work with lightning-like rapidity, and their turn is at once picturesque and thrilling; Clara Sefton, comedienne and dancer, is very warmly received, her style being good and her appearance excellent; Flo. Hilton, a dashing male impersonator, proves an immense favourite, as does also Dot Hardy, a dainty comedienne; *Early Closing Day*, a pretty and effective scena, as worked by Bert Raynor and Cissie Reece, proves very diverting; Carr and Rose, a very clever singing duo, are well received, while a special word is deserved by the Four Hearns, eccentric acrobats. The Electro Photoscope, with latest films, concludes an enjoyable bill.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Percival.—The Twentieth Century Animated Picture Co. pay a return visit, with a large and varied assortment of all the latest films. A very popular picture is "Highway Robbery," a dramatic film in twenty scenes. Another long subject deals with incidents in the life of Charles Peace. The variety turns, which include Clifford Spencer, comedian, and Ella Durken, ballad vocalist, are also greatly enjoyed.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Devonshire Park and Baths Co.; Managers, Messrs. Murray, King, and Clark.—Mr. Norman V. Norman and company are appearing here in *Robin Hood, Davy Garrick, Lady Ursula*, and selections from Shakespeare's plays. As Robin Hood Mr. Norman fully realised the humorous side of the character; Mr. Kenneth Bruce as King Richard deserved the highest praise for a performance full of dignity and strength; Mr. Norman Leslie was an incisive Lord Guy; Mr. Francis Hope made much fun as Friar Tuck; and Mr. Brember Wills was an able Sir William Trusty. Miss Beatrice Wilson again delighted the audience with her fine, womanly rendering of the part of Maid Marian; Miss Sybil Ruskin was a pretty, charming Clorinda, and Miss Bessie Stannard a very good Conrad.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Mr. Norman Macowan's company is here in *Monsieur Beaucaire* and *A Marriage of Convenience*. In the latter Mr. Macowan as Comte de Candale gave a very effective, restrained account of the part; Mr. Murray Hathorn is to be congratulated on the easy, refined work he contributed as the General; Mr. Arthur Somers, light, bright, and entertaining, was a capital Chevalier de Valclos; and Mr. George Traill gave excellent help as Jasmin. Miss Violet Sterne, naturally graceful and attractive, was a charming and unaffected Comtesse de Candale; and Miss Mary Masters as Marton did her work in admirable fashion. The screen scene from *The School for Scandal* followed, and in this the characters were particularly well played.

THE HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; General-Manager, Mr. H. Day; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Smith.—Miss Lily Burnand, in her own bright and brisk manner, carries all before her; the Royal Russian troupe of dancers arouse the house with their whirlwind of dance; Mr. Charles Windermere and Miss Clare Manifield play very smartly in their sketch, *Lunch for Two;* Rene is a lady who juggles very dexterously; Miss Mollie Doon is a distinctly bright, and refined dancer and vocalist; Mr. Roy Beavis conjures and mystifies the audience; the Sisters Charnley sing and dance very well; Mr. Will Freedo is a good dancer, too, and provides laughter. The new films are interesting.

ECCLES.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. C. Hamilton Baines; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert Orton.—The attraction here this week is James Hare's company in the romantic Servian drama, *A Destroyer of Men*. Mr. C. P. Wentworth makes a grand Count Starevitch, Chief of Servian Police; the character of Paul Starevitch is in the capable hands of Mr. Hill Cremer; Mr. James Hare as Karl Mischla plays powerfully; Michael Mischla is well depicted by Mr. Charles Birkell; Mr. Ross Warren as Coco Tatchooki is responsible for a deal of fun; and Mr. Arthur Swain as Colonel Linievitch, governor of the convict prison, undertakes his duties admirably. Miss Irene Clifford impersonates Olga Mischla, known as Countess Starevitch, with great credit; Miss Alicia Buckland is a pleasing exponent of Nina Pattakake; and Miss Jessie Yatman as Vida Ravel is dainty and entertaining.

EDINBURGH.—ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. George T. Minshull.—*San Toy* is being presented by Mr. John Hart's company. Mr. Horace Mills is as funny as ever in his old part of Li; Mr. W. J. Manning develops the humour of Sir Bingo Preston in capital style; and Mr. Edmund Sherras is in excellent form as Captain Bobby. Mr. Colin Coop as Yen How, Mr. Jocelyn Hope as Sing Hi, Mr. Alfred Clark as the Emperor, and Mr. Alfred Majilton as Lieut. Harvey Tucker act and sing admirably. Miss Gertrude Gilliam makes a very winsome San Toy; and lively support is well provided by Miss Sylvia May's Poppy, Miss Lulu Valli's Dudley, Miss Olive Crellin's Ko-Fan, and Miss Mabel Davies as Yun Shi. Miss May Gould danced a graceful *pas seul* very prettily.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—Luis Hardt, the original boy Samson, introduces his wonderful feats of strength, all of which are very dexterously performed. The clever nondescript comedy turn of Clark and Hamilton is quite to the taste of the audience; the Soho Trio of vocalists and dancers make a very favourable impression; and Walton and Lester are amusing as "the world's worst wizards"; Mlle. Yetta gives a neat and graceful performance on the slack wire; Meg Hamilton and Jack Cromo appear in their diverting travesty, *Artful Aladdin;* Francis O'Flynn is prominent as a remarkably skilled banjoist; Zaro and Arno provide entertainment by their horizontal bar display; and Frank Dunlop, dialect comedian, with the Sisters Wingrove, duettists and dancers, and an interesting series of bioscope pictures completes the bill.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Parham Wells.—Mr. Van Biene is seen to advantage in the playlet *A Master Musician*, which serves as a framework for the introduction of the clever violoncellist's performance of several graceful solos. Mr. Van Biene receives able support from Miss Lena Burnleigh in a pathetic impersonation of a little maid-of-all-work. Miss Lil Hawthorne gives a dashing rendering of several songs; Miss Daisy Mayer is loudly recalled for her vigorous coon sketch; Mr. Herbert Shelley acts with considerable success a short dramatic sketch, *Dan the Outlaw*, in which four diverse characters are delineated; Drew and Aiders, nimble and amusing as ever, prove especially entertaining in their latest sketch, *The Coastguards;* Sydney James's Strolling Players are seen in a travesty of the balcony scene from *Romeo and Juliet;* and the Wartenburg Brothers, admirable double-foot jugglers; Miss Fanny Erris, comedienne; Billy Farrell, coon comedian; Mr. Tom Owen, Welsh comedian; and the Bioscope are also included in the programme.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Ventom Swift. Smith and Johnson are smart coloured comedians, whose work is much appreciated; Miss Winnie Wentworth is a clever artist, whose turn is greatly to the taste of the audience; and Miss Marie Raymond is equally successful in her vocal efforts; Ted Curtis and his piccaninnies obtain loud applause; Mr. K. C. Macgill, a Scotch comedian, is really amusing; Cliff and Kean are excellent dancers, and Mr. Keane Harker and the Alhambrascope secure due recognition.

EXETER. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—Mr. H. F. Maltby and company are here with his play *The Youngest of Three*. Mr. H. F. Maltby himself as George Wendover is decidedly good; Miss Mara Maltby is a sweet and charming Lucy Dulley; Mr. Wyn Weaver an excellent George Wendover; Miss Janet Hodson and Miss Grace Richardson as Lucy's two elderly sisters are all that could be desired; and Mr. W. Reginald Favell is a capable Philip Radford. *Hounslow Heath* makes an interesting curtain-raiser.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—*Lights Out* was presented to an appreciative audience on Monday night. Mr. Charles Esdale gives an able and finished impersonation of Lieut. Von Lauffen; Mr. Arthur Stone renders due justice to the rôle of Capt. Von Bannewitz; Mr. Kenneth Brampton portrays Lieut. Von Howen with effect; Mr. Lionel D'Arragon wins golden opinions as Sergt. Volkhardt; Mr. Frederick Clifton plays Private Michael in good style; and Miss Frances Davie, a clever actress, fills the part of Klara Volkhardt with much charm. *A Hundred Years Hence* is played as a curtain-raiser. Mr. Lambert Plummer and Miss Belle Donaldson give adequate representations of their respective parts.

LES PAVILION.—Manager and Musical-Director, Mr. D'Arcy Clayton.—Les Directoires are here this week, and are unflagging in their efforts to please, and are rewarded with loud applause; Mr. Edgar Berte is a capable comedian, and makes a decided hit; and the Pavilion Bioscope terminates an enjoyable evening's entertainment.

GATESHEAD. — KING'S THEATRE — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harold Arnold.—The modern Venus in living statuary is here; Clark and Hayden, in a musical duologue, *By Appointment*, make a "hit"; Lord, Murray, and Lord, in a comedy gymnastic mélange, *The Intruder*, are warmly applauded; and abundant praise is awarded Wee Mona, a child vocalist and dancer. Onda and Leon are accomplished gymnasts; and Ward and Davis, in a comedy duologue, *Wanted, a Typist*, achieve a success. Harry Bickley, an eccentric comedian, with quaint "animal" object lessons; Eva Chadwick, vocalist; and Vernon's Imperial Bioscope, are also on the programme.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Councillor Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas France.—Go-Won-Go-Mohawk and company are appearing here in the drama *Wep-Ton-No-Mah*. Go-Won-Go-Mohawk repeats her clever interpretation of the title-rôle; Mr. C. W. Charles makes a capital Colonel Stockton; Mr. Ed. Leroy is successful as Lopez; Mr. Guy D. Hackney makes a manly Captain Franklin; Messrs. Arthur Selwyn and Dan Ryan, as Sam White and Carry Cullen respectively, are very amusing; Miss Bessie Frank is a dainty and refined Nellie Stockton; and Miss Jessie Hart is well placed as Matilda.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Councillor Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stephen Smith.—*Napoleon the Great* occupies the boards here. Mr. Hugh Montgomery presents a particularly striking picture of Napoleon; Mr. Frank M. Thorne deserves praise for his highly-amusing Pierre Pomponnet; Miss Leslie Warner does excellently as Marie Walewska; and Miss Maud Russell does well as Mlle. Marboeuf.

GLASGOW. — THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Humphrys.—Mr. Charles F. Cooke's company opened, on Monday evening, in the Sims-Buchanan play, *The Trumpet Call*. Mr. Leonard Yorke as Cuthbert Cuthbertson made a capital hero; and Mr. C. F. Cooke created a good impression as the genial Sergt.-Major. Professor Ginnifer was a most enjoyable character, thanks to Mr. David Beattie; Mr. John Dennys and Mr. Freddy Bentley, as Richard Featherstone and Tommy Dutton, made excellent capital out of the very dissimilar parts. Miss Helena Millais was charming and sympathetic as the heroine; Miss Doris Gilham as Astrea, Miss May Foster as Lavinia, and Miss Amy Wood as Wicklow were admirable in their respective rôles; and the other members of the large cast deserve credit for conscientious work. The whistling solos by Mr. F Selby, who was encored, deserve a word of praise.

ROYALTY, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie.—Mr. H. G. Pellisier and his talented assistants scored an instantaneous success here on Monday, when they commenced a two weeks' engagement in their unique entertainment "The Follies." The

BUCHANAN'S
"BLACK & WHITE"
THE WHISKY OF WORLD WIDE REPUTE

visit of this combination has been looked forward to with considerable interest by local playgoers, and, judging from the size of the audience and the heartiness of the laughter and applause, the expectations of seeing high-class burlesque were fully realised. In the miscellaneous part of the programme the versatility of Mr. Pelissier's talent was a revelation to most spectators, perhaps his most popular contribution being "Mein Faderland." Miss Lily Walbrook's singing of Arditi's waltz was duly appreciated; as singer and accompanist Miss Gwennie Mars did good service; the dramatic recitation of Mr. Norman A. Blume was an exceedingly funny item; Mr. Lewis Sydney is another accomplished member of the troupe, who shone both as a comedian and piano-player; while considerable refinement was displayed by Miss Dollis Brooke and Mr. Dan Everard in their duets, &c. The burlesques of opera and musical comedy pleased the house immensely, and the extravagant pantomime travesty, *Bill Bailey*, made a fitting termination to an evening of almost continuous laughter.

KING'S, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. H. Macfarlane.—An exceptionally good performance of *Twelfth Night* was given here on Monday by Mrs. Russ Whytal and company. This clever American actress made a charming Viola, and spoke Shakespeare's lines with evident appreciation of their poetic value. Mr. G. S. Titheradge gave a good performance of Malvolio; and the humours of Sir Toby Belch and Sir Andrew Aguecheek were amusingly depicted by Mr. Eardley Turner and Mr. Stratton Rodney. Miss Ada Marius was happily placed as Olivia, and ably shared the honours of the evening. Mr. Henry Le Grand was duly melancholy as the love-sick Duke Orsino; Mr. J. J. Bartlett made a picturesque and impassioned Antonio; Mr. G. E. Polson was a dignified Friar; and the fun-loving Maria was cleverly played by Miss Mabel Knowles. Mr. Arthur Burne looked the part and acted well as Sebastian; Mr. F. Pennington-Gush as Fabian, Mr. Wilfred Beckwith as Feste, Miss Ninon Dudley as a page, and Messrs Alan Birch and Thomas Pauncefort in other parts completed a good cast. On Tuesday Mrs. Russ Whytal was seen as Portia in *The Merchant of Venice*, and a novelty was introduced in making that lady the judge instead of an advocate in the Trial scene. On the remaining evenings *The School for Scandal*, *As You Like It*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, and *Romeo and Juliet* were given.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—*Siberia*, presented by the stock company under the direction of Messrs. Felix Pitt and Frederick Sandy, is the attraction here this week. Mr. Philip Darien is a convincing Nickolai Neigoff; and the part of Vera is sympathetically sustained by Miss Doris Lorraine. Mr. Frederick Sandy's interpretation of Sparta is a piece of clever acting; and Mr. Felix Pitt gives an excellent account of the Governor-General. Mr. Clavering Craig depicts cleverly the evil nature of Lieut.-Governor Jaracoff; Sara has a clever representative in the hands of Miss Maud Linden; Miss Enid Wilde is successful as Phedora; and Miss May Anderson impersonates the Princess with credit. Mr. David Phillips bears himself admirably in the part of Michael Troisky.

METROPOLE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—The attraction here this week is Miss Winifred Chalmers' company in the interesting melodrama *The Master Criminal*. Some talented artists are included in the company, notably Mr. Henry L. Ormond as Telford Lestage, a character for which he is well adapted. Mr. Harold C. Macartney and Mr. John C. Carlyle also perform their respective parts with credit; while the portrayal of Cecile by Miss Chalmers is all that could be desired. Other characters well filled are those by little Lizzie Power (who is entrusted with a vocal part), Miss Mabel Tremere, Miss Alice Lloyd, and Mr. Harry Cooke.

LYCEUM.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Rich Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—A change is given here, variety entertainments having taken the place of the drama for a time. Animated pictures form a considerable part of the show, and clever artists lend variety to the entertainment. The Sisters Lotus are pleasing little duettists, who give quite an operatic tone to their performance; the Bros. Durant are a pair of funny acrobats, who keep the house in roars of laughter; the Narrow Brothers are amusing comedians and eccentric cyclists; Jack Neil, Scotch comedian, keeps the fun going briskly; J. J. Hargadon and Emily Cole give an entertaining sketch called *A Lucky Mistake*.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners.—Milke S. Whallen tops the bill here, and his racy style and fund of clever stories makes his turn a most enjoyable one. The Molasso Quartette are wonderfully clever and agile in their whirlwind dances; Toch and Tard give a smart acrobatic turn, and their burlesque wrestling is extremely funny; Daisy Davidson's beautiful voice is heard to full advantage in three songs from *Faust*; McNulty Sisters are smart dancers; Lupino Bros. contribute a musical and animal speciality; and Nipper Lupino Lane proves himself a smart young comedian. The Cumberlands give a particularly clever and daring cycle display; Charles Hargreaves' illustrated songs are well received, and the Bioscope shows views of the Royal visit to Glasgow.

ZOO-HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd., and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—A strong and varied programme is submitted this week. Frank and Jen Latona increase their popularity by their clever entertainment; F. W. Purcell and company are highly successful in that farcical comedietta *That Brute Simmons*; Lily Flexmore is a remarkable dancer of the contortionist variety, and makes a decided hit; the Delevines produce much laughter with their sketch *Flipp and Flopp*; Lambeth and Robertson are as successful as ever in their humorous sketch *Scots Folks' Wooing*; Miss Lambeth sings some Scotch songs in a charming manner. Other good turns are given by the Bros. Lang in a clever speciality act; the Society Quartette, singers and dancers; Conan and Doyle, comedy patterers, and Cussac-Talma, the clever illusionist.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr Samuel Lloyd.—In the unavoidable absence of Miss Lelia Roze, owing to illness, the management were lucky in securing Miss Lily Morris, who is a strong favourite in Glasgow, and her latest songs are catchy and popular. George D'Albert is a comedian with a novel style, and he is well received; Selby and Myers are smart patterers and neat dancers; Montague Biggs gives a clever female imitation, including an impersonation of Marie Lloyd in her "Coster's Wedding" song; and Mabel Le Blanche is a vocalist of much merit. J. G. Grahame, jun., and Zerlina Harrington again appear in their strong dramatic sketch, *A Daughter of Pleasure*; Harry Rae and Lillie Calden contribute a smart song and dance turn; the Juggling Geraldos give a novel and ingenious Indian club display.

COLISEUM.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Burdette.—A capital programme is submitted here this week, the chief item being the engagement of Sidney Dooley and Chas. Seymour's company in a musical comedy, entitled *A King for a Day*, which has had a good reception. The Hadj Abdullah Arabs give a wonderful exhibition of acrobatic feats; Mr. and Mrs. Harold Finden, in a comedy duologue, *Two to One*, are very successful; a clever turn is submitted by Nellie Coleman, the female comedian; and a laughable and smart performance in clay-modelling is given by Dome. The rest of the artists include Chorley and Connor, comedians; Gaumont's Chronophone; Miss Margaret Ashton, the versatile American girl; the Gems, vocalists; Gwennie Hasto, fancy dancer, and the Bioscope, with pictures of the Royal visit to Glasgow.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—This week that versatile Hibernian comedian Mike Nolan tops the bill. As of yore, his songs are well selected, and many are the calls of "Encore." Lillie Soutter is another who is excellently received, and her breezy style at once makes her a favourite; that popular little comedian Harry Conlin is also included; the Waldrons are responsible for the production of an exceedingly humorous sketch, entitled *The Silly Burglar*; Johnny Holland and company, in their farcical absurdity, *My Friend Boots*, continue to prove successful and amusing; Lilith, a modern illusionist, provides a mysterious turn; Maxford and O'Neil are clever patter comedians; Lillian Warren proves a capable vocalist; George Anthill is an eccentric dancer above the average, and Herbert Madden is a successful vocal comedian.

GAIETY, LTD. — General-Manager, Mr. Harry Bowerman.—Several clever experiments in thought-reading are given by "The Collier and his Child." The programme is strong in vocal and instrumental music, in which The Orchids and Musical Miller and Son figure prominently. Ina Bathurst is a dainty and clever comedienne; Sam Thomson, Scotch comedian, makes a successful appearance; the Original Blackpool Singer, Sam Morrison, gives an enjoyable turn; the Bioscope pictures, with some up-to-date films, maintain their popularity.

BRITANNIA.—Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickard.—This week a special feature is being made with the Bioscope pictures, showing the recent Royal processions, decorations, &c., and a company of clever variety artists keep the entertainment up to date.

GLOSSOP.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—The Ediscope and Barnum's variety company is drawing large houses here. Topping the bill is Boy Hackenschmidt, wrestler. Others include Mlle. Pardoe, speciality dancer; Otto Ethardo, Continental juggler; M. Leon, in illustrated songs; Lulu, instrumentalist; and Loder Lyons, ventriloquist. Animated pictures are also a feature of the programme.

GLOUCESTER.—PALACE.—Owners, Messrs. C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr. R. T. Rea.—Messrs. Cline and Clark, clever dancers and duettists, pay a return visit; while new aspirants for favour are the Hartley Wonders, who perform some excellent jumping feats; Amy Anderson in a smart coster skit, *The Banana Queen*, makes a hit; and Percy Curry gives a novel turn as a rag and bone man; Barney Vox gives a show second to none that have appeared here lately in the ventriloquial line; Miss Maggie Walsh, the singing mill girl, is well received; and Geo. Barron is a good eccentric comedian; Messrs. Blarney and Kennard are neat patterers, and their waltzing dogs are extremely pretty; Miss Florry Bray persuades the house to assist her in each of her chorus effusions; and Will Ellerslie gets applause for his facial mimicry. The Bioscope, as usual, concludes a good bill.

GRANTHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. A. Campbell.—Mr. John Leopold's company, including the original Leopolds, occupied the boards at the theatre last week in their musical absurdity, *New Frivolity*, preceded by the farce *The Houseboat*. The Leopolds display great cleverness as acrobats; Miss Cathleen Cavanagh took her part well as Mme. Cobweb, the schoolmistress; and Mr. Watson Hulme as Buckwheat, the stockbroker, was excellent. Mr. Willie Leopold, as the dunce in school, was very clever.

GREAT YARMOUTH. — ROYAL AQUARIUM. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—Messrs. Travis Green and Arthur Hinton's company is fulfilling a second week's engagement here. For the first three nights *A Soldier of France* was played, when Mr. Hinton gave an able rendition of the rôle of Father Jean, and Mr. Travis Green was excellent as Judas Delara. Miss Leila Zillwood was effective as Pauline Lorraine; and other parts were well filled. For Thursday and Friday *The Sorrows of Satan* was announced.

GREENOCK.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Directors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—The attraction here is Mr. Walter Maxwell's company in *The Lion and the Mouse*. Miss Nita Faydon gives a realistic portrayal of Shirley Rossmore; Miss Maud Townsend is well suited as Mrs. Rossmore; Miss Margaret Nybloc is vivacious and clever as Kate Roberts; and as Mrs. John Burkett-Ryder, Miss Elspeth Dudgeon is successful. Mr. Leslie Carter scores a triumph as John Burkett-Ryder; Mr. Martyn Roland as Jefferson Ryder is very fine; Mr. Douglas West as James Rossmore is decidedly good; the Hon. Fitzroy Bagley is ably portrayed by Mr. Herbert Chown; Mr. John Wheatman appears as J. Whitmore Roberts, M.P.; and the Alfred Stott of Mr. Geoffrey Hall deserves mention.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr Harry L. Skivington.—Mr. George Gray and company are here in *The Fighting Parson*, which arouses great enthusiasm. O'Malley and Brown are popular in their sketch, *Still a Friend of Mine*; Professor Hulbert is an exceptionally clever ventriloquist; M. de Lil, conjurer, is good; and the Empire pictures are interesting.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. A. White.—Fred Cary, comedian, who heads the bill here, has a cordial reception; Sibb and Sibb submit a daring performance on the double trapeze; and remaining enjoyable items are the Moncktons, in their tabloid plays, *Are Wives Dummies?* and *A Woman's Curiosity*; Zarmo, comedy juggler; Jack Mills, comedian; Carrie Joy, serio-vocalist; and the Paviscope.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry.—*What the Butler Saw* is here. Mr. Lionel Rignold as Pink extracts the maximum of humour from the part; his comedy is quiet and free from exaggeration. Miss Ada Blanche fully sustains her reputation in the part of Miss Barrington; and Mr. Charles Fawcett gives a breezy representation of Jack.

CURRY'S TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North.—*Enchanted Iona*, a sketch in which comedy and mystery are pleasingly combined, is proving very entertaining here, presented by Charles Frazer and company. The Brothers Leslie's eccentric musical speciality is very well received; Stanley and Vandyke present a capital absurdity; the Paul Hesse Trio are clever wire-walkers; Carl Howard is an amusing burlesque conjurer; W. H. Webb and Edna Branston are talented duettists; the Brothers Obo have good patter; and Harry Taylor is a successful comedian.

THE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. A. Edwardes; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. C. Shread; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. V. Allton.—The dramatic episode, *Anarchy*, is causing much interest here; the Pichel Troupe give a smart risley performance; and others appearing are Takio, a Japanese mimic; Curwen and Bell, in a speciality; Chris Masters, character comedian; the Reays, in a chain act; Arthur Boyne, comedian; and the Sisters Ford, duettists.

HALIFAX. — THEATRE ROYAL, LTD. — General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Messrs. Baines and Keat's company are presenting the musical comedy, *The Pet of the Embassy*. Mr. Witty Wattie Walton enhances his reputation as the Middy, his broad humour being thoroughly appreciated; an eccentric Hon. Percy Brassington is found in Mr. Sinclair Holden; another who contributes to the gaiety of the play successfully is Mr. Harry Fischer as Palatine Brown; the Pet of the Embassy is delightfully sustained by Miss Ethel Dunford, whose charming voice is heard to advantage in the song, "Take back the word"; and a vivacious Mrs. Bung is Miss Juila Bassett.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Ed. Harrison.—Miss Victoria Monks, who made her first bow to a Halifax crowd here on Monday, scored instantaneously with "Sweet Saturday night," "Moving day," and "If you want to have a row"; Mike Gray, an eccentric juggler, adequately supported by a sagacious canine, earned rounds of applause; straight faces were out of the question whilst Deane Tribune and company occupied the boards with their absurdity *Applicants*; another exhilarating turn was contributed by Tom Kelso and company in *The Silly Servant*; the Association Final was realistically depicted on the Bioscope; and Lea King, Gym Hurst, and Gertie Moore are also here.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Sam Winks.—The premier position here this week is held by Duncan's Royal Collies, whose performances evoke hearty plaudits; Lotto, Lilo, and Otto submit a clever and sensational cycling act; the Brothers Harrison are a couple of quaint knockabouts; the Etharien Brothers, Harry Barker (a light, descriptive vocalist), Harry Leybourne, and the Alberto Troupe of acrobats are also prominent; while the air-gun shooting competition has caused great amusement.

HANLEY. — ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Douglas Elphinstone.—Messrs. Mollison and Cooper's company opened here on Monday in *Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush*. Mr. Mollison as Lachlan Campbell contributes a most masterly reading, his impersonation of the old sheep farmer being admirable; Miss Evelyn McNay, as Flora Campbell, is well placed, and plays the part charmingly; Mr. W. A. Mackersy cleverly represents William Maclare; as the Rev. John Carmichael Mr. Henry Deas is distinctly successful; Mr. Alec F. Thompson as Wee Posty is excellent, playing the part in a most finished manner; Mr. Archie W. Chappell makes a capital Lord Donald Hay; Mr. Kendal Chalmers makes the most of Tammas Mitchell with great success; as Lord Kilspindie Mr. Whitford Kane does well; Kate Carnegie (Miss Elsie Vron) is charmingly portrayed; Miss Josephine Woodward is a fine exponent of Margaret Howe; and Miss E. Blair-Staples makes a good Annie. As the children, Geordie and Jeannie, Miss E. Hermina Black and Miss J. McGaw Fitzgerald do well, as also does Mr. Maclaren as Macpherson.

GRAND, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. James Wynes.—The Kremo Family head the bill in their clever acrobatic performance; Sam Mayo returns in new songs, which are funnier than ever; Marjutti is a contortionist of wonderful ability; Mabel Sinclair, the lady ventriloquist, is entertaining; Barlee and Smith, in their duologue, *A Rehearsal*, contribute a clever turn; Baker and Balfe, in their operatic xylophone selections, are capital, the dancing also of the male member is smart; the Northern Troupe of dancers are always welcome; and Maud and Sidney Wood are clever duettists and dancers. The pictures conclude.

HARROGATE. — GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Smith.—Ibsen's play, *The Master Builder*, was presented here by Mr. Leigh Lovel's company on Monday and two following nights. Mr. Lovel was excellent in the title-rôle; and Miss Ethel Caryllon was well placed as the miserable wife, Aline Solness. Mr. Arthur McCulloch as Dr. Herdal was very good, and delivered his smart lines with point; Miss Dora Levis was fair as Kara Fosli, the book-keeper; and Mr. Alfred Hardinge was acceptable as Ragner Brovik; Miss Octavia Kenmore was admirable in the long and exacting part of Hilda Wangel. A variety performance (two houses a night) was given the remainder of the week.

HARTLEPOOL.—EMPRESS.—Proprietors, Messrs. Councillor Everton and J. W. Cragg; Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Charlie Ferrier.—The bill this week is headed by the Six Brothers Luck, who in their sketch *The Demon of the Cellar*, do some brisk work; the musical performance of Phern and Phern is highly enjoyable; marvellous skill is shown by Mlle. Pollo, in her novel gymnastic act; much amusement is caused by the originality of Percy Johnson; the dancing by Doyle and Gibson is well done; Fanny Cooper, a charming vocalist, and Florry Robina, are old favourites who always please; and the Bioscope is more than usually good.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Scutt.—*Les Cloches de Corneville* is capitally presented by Mr. E. St. Alban's company, the orchestra being directed by Chevalier Legrand, and the piece stage-managed by Mr. Richard Martin, who also plays divertingly as Gobo. Miss Madge Roberts gives a good impersonation of the vain and ignorant Serpolette, and sings successfully; Miss Marion Ayling has a well-cultured voice, and sings to good effect as Germaine; Mr. William Everard does well as the Marquis; Mr. E. St. Alban finely enacts the miser Gaspard; and Mr. Fred Dark, as the Bailie, is humorous.

PIER PAVILION.—Pier-Master, Mr. R. Turner; Entertainment-Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—*The Marriage of Kitty* is being produced here this week by Mr. Thomas Sidney's company. Mr. Thomas Sidney as the solicitor is admirable in every way, and gives the character weight, dignity, and repose; Mr. Edgar King gives an intelligent representation of Sir Reginald Belsize; Miss Mary Thorne amply justifies her principal position as Kitty, playing her part with a light and effective touch, and all the piquancy which the character demands; and Mme. de Semiano is a well-studied sketch by Miss Kathleen Russell, who plays the part admirably.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Norman.—Mr. Frank Dunlow sings capital songs in spirited fashion; an excellent dancer Miss Enid Errol proves herself; Mr. Will Sergeant, comedian, carries the audience with his patriotic songs; the comedy eccentrics, Elmo and Rocco, are diverting; Mr. Jack Crawley introduces a very clever act of imitating a concert party; a laughable comedy duologue is enacted by Mr. and Mrs. Shelley; Barton and Franklin quite excel in their novel orchestration and singing; the burlesque actress, Miss La Mara, contributes some spirited songs; Cosgrove and Burns give a delightfully amusing vocal turn; a marvellous display of Ju-Jitsu is shown by the Japanese wrestler Raku, supported by Japanese assistants; and some interesting pictures are shown by the Bioscope.

ST. LEONARDS PAVILION THEATRE.—Pier-Master and Entertainment-Manager, Mr. Elvey Thomas.—The latter evenings of last week Mr. W. G. Bell's company occupied the boards here in *Rip Van Winkle*. Mr. Broadbent Bell, in the title-rôle, gave a sturdy and convincing rendering; the part of Gretchen was taken by Miss Norah Coronne, who showed excellent dramatic ability. This week Mr. Harold Montague has brought a small party of smart vocalists and clever artists, who, under the designation of the Vagabonds, or Wandering Minstrels, go through a very bright and entertaining performance; Mr. Harold Montague's original comedietta, in which he is associated with Miss Mayaffre, is received with applause; and the other lady vocalists, Miss Marie Longmore, Miss Olive Sparke, and Miss Leslie Lu-lu possess tuneful voices.

HUDDERSFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Andrews.—Mr. W. W. Kelly's company in *A Royal Divorce* is here. The fine performances of Miss Edith Cole as Josephine and Mr. Frederick Victor as Napoleon, are making their usual good impression. The rest of the parts are in capable hands.

HIPPODROME, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—Alburtus and Millar present a clever and highly humorous sketch medley, *Fun at the Fair*. Other turns are by Bert Dansie, character comedian; Mme. and Signor Borelli, in a fine singing and clever burlesque act; Herbert La Martine, the talented dancer; James and Alexander, in a vocal scena; Miss Edith Sylvesto, a graceful contortionist; Billy McClain's troupe of coloured singers and dancers; and the Bioscope.

HULL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. F. Morton.—Very early indeed in its career Hull has had the opportunity of seeing the new and powerful play *The Last of His Race*. There is a strong romantic, yet, at the same time, dramatic element running through the play. The theme touched upon is of the Red man, at the era when he was still unspoiled by the advance of civilisation. The characters are all cleverly limned, and it is safe to say that when the play reaches Drury Lane, London will be keen to endorse the provincial opinion. Mr. H. Reeves Smith, who stands at the head of the present organisation, is well fitted for the rôle of Ockotchees, and fills a big place in the picture; Hull has fewer favourites more welcome than Mr. Phillip Cunningham, who, as the Indian hunter, has a rôle which he sustains with that skill and artistic finish that one now always expects from him; there is a distinct charm about the work of Miss May Chevalier, who, as Adulola, is all one may desire; highly commendable is the work of Mr. Arthur Poole; whilst praise in no small manner must be bestowed on Miss Margaret Murch and Miss Winifred Ingham.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—*Peter's Mother* finds a place for the first time on a Hull programme this week, and Mrs. Henry de la Pasture's play has become a favourite. It is well written, whilst in construction it lacks nothing that would add to its further success; the dialogue is smart and crisp. As Peter's Mother, Miss Lilias Earle fills a prominent place with every success; Mr. Henry Renouf plays the part of the barrister with all his well-known force, never lacking in resource; the Peter of Mr. E. F. Mead has much in it to signalise for praise; as the two old ladies could anything be finer than the work of Mrs. Mallalieu and Miss Evelyn Shirley. The clever farce, *Chalk and Cheese*, precedes the play itself.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Mortons, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. George Morton.—*Her Luck in London* is a play which has already been seen in the city, and one that has gained a hold on local patrons of the playhouse. The story, if conventional, is not the less pleasing, and affords ample opportunity to several clever artists to gain fame. As an emotional actress Miss Mary Neil finds in the rôle of Nellie Harborne; as the Curate Mr. Douglas Tremayne succeeds well; and Miss Fanny Bruce proves herself to be a very acceptable Lilian Harborne. The staging and mounting are very fine.

THE HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Graham; Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—Mlle. Yvette de Laabè, in her artistic poses, stays a second week; Edwin Boyde delights all with his witty songs; Little Ganty is a firm favourite; and Madge May is a dainty comedienne. Regan and Ryan are a very smart turn; and Bert Brantford and Marco complete a good bill.

THE EMPIRE.—Manager, Mr. Harry Slingsby. — J. G. Aitken gives a very entertaining turn; Elsie Russell and Violet Ashcroft are two talented comediennes; Leslie and Player make a hit; Sanderson and Hill, in an iron-bar breaking act, create astonishment; and other good artists are D'Argan and Dene and Hurman.

THE PALACE. — Manager, Mr. Jno. S. Barnett.—Wilkie Bard is a big favourite, singing eight songs nightly; the Lukushima troupe of Oriental entertainers are the next principal turn. Other excellent artists include the Dorrell Sisters, Karno Four, Spry and Monti, Barnard's Mannikins, Robertys, and Four Royal Welshmen.

THE CIRCUS.—Manager, Mr. E. Emerson.—Animated pictures are still drawing good houses.

HYDE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. R. Feather.—Mr. Samuel James's company is here in the drama *As Good as Gold*. Mr. Fred Lloyd, as Lieut. Jack Stanton, submits a thoughtful and earnest interpretation; Mr. Jackson Hayes strikingly depicts the unscrupulous nature of Sir Richard Wharncliffe, Bart.; Mr. Clinton Baddeley gives a painstaking study of Mark Williams; and Mr. Ernest Tresner makes the most of his opportunities as Sumners Maniwett. Miss Isla Garnet Vane endows the rôle of Norah Williams with grace and charm; Miss Agnes Collier displays emotional power and dramatic skill as Kate D'Arville; and Miss Bertha Baker admirably portrays the character of the Kipper. A remarkably clever sketch is furnished of Timothy Nias by Mr. Joseph Rowlands; Mr. Herbert Fuller is mirth-provoking as Horatio Spankes; and Miss Maud Merrick is a bright and vivacious Madge Merry.

ILKESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—The United English Opera Company occupy the boards with *Maritana*, *The Daughter of the Regiment*, *Il Trovatore*, and *The Bohemian Girl*. *Maritana* was presented on Monday evening, Miss Elsa May receiving marked attention for her portrayal of the title-rôle. Mr. F. S. Gilbert as Don Cæsar makes his usual hit; whilst Miss Doris Gilbert as Lazarillo is a charming exponent of the part. Mr. F. C. Silverstone as Don José uses his fine voice with much effect; whilst Mr. J. Kneale Campbell scores as the King of Spain. Mr. H. Blagrave (Marquis de Montefiore) and Miss Kate White (Marchioness Montefiore) are deserving of praise.

IPSWICH.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Leonard Grey.—*The Silver King* opened on Monday, with a capable company. The title-part was played with great effect by Mr. Fred D. Daviss, who was well supported by Messrs. Edward J. George. Arthur Wright, and Miss Flossie Hale Daviss, and other members of the company.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—Mr. Nat Clifford is one of the chief engagements this week. Other turns include Talbeeto and Douglas, in a pleasing sketch; the Elgars, vocalists; Nelly Farrell, a charming singer; Fred Keeton, comedian; Duncan and Godfrey; the Florodora Girls; and the Smythsons, in a funny sketch.

JARROW.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr Jerold E. Reed.—Mr. Harry Roxbury's company is here in *A Little Vagrant*. Mr. Brian Henry is well placed as Amos Browning; while Mr. J. W. Gallagher causes much amusement as Slideaway Bates; and is ably assisted by Miss Bella Moody as Hannah Smithers. Mr. C. A. Collins does full justice to the part of Jim Harris; and Mr. R. Bosco is most excellent as Thomas Whitworth. Mr. Stanley Radcliffe gives a very powerful portrayal of the part of Eric Arden; and Miss Vashti Wynne proves herself a talented artist in the part of Poll. Miss C. Fenton is well placed as Julia Pilbeam; and Miss Alice Bowes gives an excellent rendering of the part of the Little Vagrant.

JERSEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Edward Marris.—The St. Louis Picture Company, under the direction of Mr. Walter W. Hook, is presenting a series of scenes and sketches here this week. The chief feature of the entertainment is the Chronophone, an apparent combination of the cinématograph and phonograph, by means of which scenes are reproduced from *The Belle of Mayfair*, *The Mikado*, and *The Little Michus*.

ODDFELLOWS' HALL.—Moving pictures are also the fare here, where a full programme is given by the National Animated Picture Company.

KEIGHLEY.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Carson and Kendall; Acting-Manager, Mr. Will Carson.—The Three Orros Brothers head an excellent variety programme, and achieve much success in their silver chain acrobatic performance; Whimsical Walker scores immensely in *Captain Hamilton, V.C.*; Jack Trueman possesses a fine tenor voice, and his songs are received with enthusiasm; Arthur Page keeps the house in roars of laughter; Little Daisy Ray sings and dances prettily; the Days provide an astonishing thought-reading act, which is much applauded; and new and amusing pictures are exhibited on the Bioscope.

KIDDERMINSTER. — NEW OPERA HOUSE.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. James P. Moore; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. C. Gudgeon.—Messrs. Alfred Northway and Mr. V. Garrod's company is here in *The Prodigal Parson*. Mr. Garrod, as the Rev. Tom Godley, is good; and Enoch Jaggins, his churchwarden, is in the capable hands of Mr. Northway; Ben Jaggins, brother of Enoch, being well portrayed by Mr. William Hayward. Miss Gwen Steward as Fern Godley, the parson's wife, does well. The play is effectively staged.

KIDWELLY.—TOWN HALL.—Mr. Will Stone's animated pictures are paying a return visit here this week. Supporting are Lemaitre and Bert, smart conjurers and illusionists; Robertson Keene, a versatile and successful entertainer; and the Pierrot and Page, with their packing-case trick.

KING'S LYNN.—NEW ROYAL THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. J. Bannister Howard, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Herr B. Pareezer.—In the programme are the Stavordale Quintette, who are raptuously applauded in their clever banjo and harp speciality; Arthur Stacey scores a success as an eccentric comedian and top boot dancer; whilst Miss Beatrice Willey sings well in her novel medley of flower songs. The Three Clarions are responsible for a musical absurdity, *The Would-be Tenor*; and Willie Fauder, a local comedian, makes his first professional appearance on the boards. Jury's Pictures include the Cup Final.

LANCASTER.—ATHENÆUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. S. Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alfred Hook.—Mr. Bert Coote's company is here in *The Fatal Wedding* on Monday. Mr. Ernest Owttrim appears with success as Howard Wilson; Mr. Guy Hastings is an effective Robert Curtis; Mr. Arthur Law Raynor does well as the clergyman; Mabel Wilson is excellently portrayed by Miss Katherine Clarke; and as Cora Miss Leah Marlborough is most successful.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Porter and Fergusson.—The bill of fare here is headed by Herr Grais' baboon prodigies in a marvellous turn. Dennis Drew, in a military scena, *Back to Barracks*, is recalled nightly; and Mephisto is a smart equilibrist. Others who contribute include Rene and Smith, singers and dancers; Miss Bessie Lind, comedienne; Joe Conway, comedian; George Young, blind musician; and the Sisters Brenton, capital dancers. The Hippograph with new pictures still proves an attraction.

LEAMINGTON.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Manager, Mr. Harry Hunter.—For the first three nights of this week Lord Willoughby de Broke, together with his Kineton amateurs, gave performances of Captain Robert Marshall's farcical romance, *The Duke of Killicrankie*. Large and fashionable audiences filled the theatre each day, and that deserving institution, the Warneford Hospital, Leamington, in aid of which the performances were given, should benefit in no small measure. Lord Willoughby de Broke's delineation of the title-rôle was admirable; and the Hon. Mrs. Ailwyn Fellowes played Lady Henrietta Addison with charm and grace. Mr. Leo Trevor's impersonation of Mr. Henry Pitt Welby, M.P., was exceedingly good; Lady Willoughby de Broke sustained the exacting part of Mrs. Mulholland in a most creditable manner.

LEEDS.—GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Edward Cadman.—The ever-popular Compton Comedy Company opened a week's sojourn here on Monday, and a very gratifying reception was extended by a full house. *Davy Garrick* filled the bill on this occasion, and Mr. Compton's masterly interpretation of the title-rôle again evoked a mighty show of enthusiastic appreciation; Miss Mackenzie makes a charming Violet Gresham, her portrayal being followed with rapt interest; Mr. Henry Crocker's Alderman Gresham is an excellent effort, subdued yet impressive; and the part of good-for-nothing Tally-ho is skilfully handled by Mr. Dennis Cleugh. Mr. Cleugh and Miss Mackenzie also display much ability in the principal characters of a pleasing curtain-raiser, *The Desperate Lover*. Excellent support is rendered by Mr. Philip Gordon, Mr. G. W. Johnston, Miss Phyllis Relph, and Miss Marian Le Strange. *She Stoops to Conquer*, *School for Scandal*, and *Edmund Kean* are also in the bill.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—The stirring drama, *The Great Awakening*, receives a spirited representation at the hands of a strong company, and good houses are the rule. Miss Maud Hildyard, who is joint author of the piece, plays the central rôle of Lola Selby, and her fine work is most impressive; Mr. A. C. Hardie gives a capital rendering of his part of James Selby; the work of Miss Lilla Nordon as Selini Wortz deserves high praise; and Mr. Bernard Copping, Mr. Stephen Langton, and Miss Doris Digby are also seen to advantage in leading parts.

EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—Miss Hetty King is the bright particular star of this week's programme. The Howes are giving a marvellous exhibition of mental telepathy, which proves interesting; Carney and Armstrong are a clever and versatile pair of comedy entertainers; Ed. E. Ford strikes out in an original style, and his turn is much enjoyed; as also is a comedy act by the Jagos. A pleasing vocal entertainment is done by Denton and Rowland's Juveniles; Amy Russell is well known and popular as a ballad vocalist; and Ruby Dahl, with impersonations; and James Brady, comedian, also make successful appearances.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter De Frece; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Bush.—A diverting musical extravaganza, *The Cruise of the Calabar*, is a strong line in the week's Palace bill, and Milton Ray's clever comedians prove themselves very smart in the presentation thereof. Jack and Evelyn are vastly entertaining in some clever comedy specialities; Bert Lytton and W. B. Raby are other popular contributors in the same line; and Johnny Fuller scores with comic business. Adey Spencer proves a clever comedienne; Kisbey, the call boy, makes a successful appearance; and the Palace pictures are again a popular feature of the programme.

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HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Thos. Barrasford; General-Managers, Mr. Chas. Weldon and Mr. Claude Shayler.—Mr. John Tiller's musical extravaganza, *High Jinks*, figures here again, and with that popular favourite, Bob Selvidge, as chief executant, the fun is fast and furious; W. J. Churchill, an amusing comedian, with a quaint style, is making gratifying appearances; Goodfellow and Gregson also score with a comedy speciality; and the witticisms of Wright and Elton are favourably received. Richardson Taylor contributes a novel ventriloquial entertainment; Ruby Bijou is a bright and pleasing comedienne; the Five Vernons are a pronounced success as xylophone soloists; and Roxborough and Wright, with a cleverly-rendered comedy episode; Cherry Lass, comedienne; and Tod Lowen, comedian, appear with success.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam. Jones.—Chas. R. Whittle, a comedian with a big reputation locally, pleases his audience vastly with new items cleverly rendered; and other successful contributors in a similar line are Arthur Woodville and Jem Pawson. The Brothers Kroney tickle our risible faculties with comedy speciality; a bright and lively turn by Little Don is much enjoyed; and a novel ventriloquial item by Russell Carr is very well received. Ruby and Laws, vocal comedy; Lillian Rigby, musical specialist; and Blanche Marion, a clever comedienne, also stand high in popular favour.

LEICESTER.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; General and Business-Manager, Mr. Henry Dundas.—Another excellent attraction is here in Mr. Robert Crossman's company, in the musical comedy, *Sergeant Brue*. A great favourite locally, Mr. Arthur Reynolds makes a conspicuous success in the title-rôle. Mr. T. A. Shale, as Crookie Scrubbs, is deserving of all praise for a clever performance; Mr. J. H. Goldsworthy makes an excellent impression as Michael Brue; and as Aurora Brue, Miss Mary Hay is dainty and vivacious. Miss Cissie Raymond is very good as Lady Bickenhall, and as Daisy Miss Marion Hargrave is well placed; Mr. Charles Sims, as Mr. Crank, is capital; and both Miss Ethel Ivimey and Mr. Cecil Hood deserve a meed of praise.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. E. R. Beaumont.—*The Grip of Iron* is here this week, presented by Messrs. E. H. Knight and Geo. Denham's company. Mr. Fred Powell continues to give his powerful portrayal of Jagon with the greatest success; Mr. Geo. Denham as Loustalot is to be highly praised; and other meritorious impersonations are those of Mr. Wallace Curnock, Mr. A. G. Polson-Turner, Mr. John Brittain, Mr. W. T. Riley, Miss Rosabel Dodd, Miss Florence Trevoir, and Miss Maggie Stewart. The play is well staged.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Bertram G. Iles.—The place of honour is held here this week by Chung Ling Soo, the magician, whose bewildering and deftly-performed feats are watched with the greatest interest. At the other end is May Henderson, whose vivacity, combined with her big-boot dancing, ensures for her unstinted approbation. Miss Lilieth Leyton and Mr. John Spurling prove most amusing in their cleverly enacted interlude, *The Order of the Bath*; Minnie Merry, the new eccentric female comedienne, is funny; Carlos Menard, a smart trick violinist, is making a well-deserved success; The Mezzettis raise roars of laughter in their clever comedy act on the triple bars; Burns and Burns score in their laughable speciality, *Fun in a Museum*; Ethel Ra Leslie, who is daintily costumed as a gentleman of old, goes well; Arthur Gill uses his many voices to considerable advantage; and the Bioscope is very interesting.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten.—Frank Hardie and company are here on a successful return visit in the well-played melodramatic episode, *Pedlar Sam*; Miss Irene Carlton, Mr. Frank Hardie, Mr. Richard Cruikshanks, and Mr. Harry Hillar giving portrayals calling for special praise. Stacey and Williams, cross-talk comedians, are very good; Bertha Winder's remarkably clever speciality dancing ensures for her an excellent reception. Others who give turns of special merit are Jessie Harper, serio and comedienne; Harvey and Holt, comedians; Maudie Ford, comedienne and dancer; and J. H. Carney, chorus vocalist. Walter H. Pallister's Bioscope is popular.

LINCOLN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner, Mr. Frank King.—Messrs. Fred Acton and H. C. Nash are playing *Between the Lights* to very appreciative audiences. Mr. Bertram H. Ross is a dashing soldier hero; and Miss Eileen Bamford wins sympathy for the Captain's sweetheart, whose adventures she makes very interesting. Mr. F. Garrett is good as the old banker, Warren; and Mr. W. R. Winning is an incisive and convincing heavy man; while Mr. F. Orchard cleverly plays a dual rôle. The part of Madge Armley is admirably treated by Miss Fannie Williams; and the humour of the play is in the capable hands of Mr. Fred Acton, Mr. Frank Daleno, and Miss Mollie Doris.

PALACE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. Sydney Arthur.—To an all-round strong programme the gem is contributed by Kelly and Ashby, whose *Fun on a Billiard Table* is entertaining to a degree. The Three Pirmans, Joe Dale, Madoline Rees, Bert Danson, Tiny Arnold, Bonnetti and Corrig, and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux are also thoroughly successful.

LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—*The Trail of the Serpent* affords opportunities for realistic and thrilling work, of which Mr. A. Campbell-Kelly and the members of his company take every advantage. Mr. Campbell-Kelly himself acts well in the dual rôles of Gerald Kingston and Old Jack; Mr. Henry K. Penn puts in useful service as old Sir Gerald; and both Mr. Frank Lyndon and Mr. John Cullen give forceful rendering to their respective parts of Ralph Hammond and Gipsy Jake. Miss Nana Cameron appears to advantage in the leading feminine rôle of Rachel, the gypsy; and Ethel Maynard, the heroine, is gracefully portrayed by Miss Phyllis Elton. The comedy element is abundantly and aptly supplied by Mr. J. R. Tyrell and Miss Jennie Risley in their impersonations of William Higgins and Rose Wilson.

LIVERPOOL.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—Enthusiastic audiences have this week flocked to witness the clever and funny comic opera *Amasis*, as well as to enjoy the artistic efforts of a most capable company sent by Mr. Louis Calvert. In order to prepare the public on Monday evening for any little disappointment they might experience in regard to Miss Constance Drever, the Princess Amasis, who was declared to be suffering from a cold, a notice was exhibited in the theatre; but all who heard the rich and charming voice of that lady doubted whether it were possible for her to afford more satisfaction than she did on the occasion. The applause was great and well deserved. Mr. Rutland Barrington proved a source of much enjoyment with his Pharaoh; shouts of laughter followed the work of Mr. Lauri de Frece, the Keeper of the Crocodiles; Mr. Reginald White, as the Court Embalmer, provoked smiles whenever he moved; admirable acting and singing characterised Mr. Roland Cunningham's efforts in the rôle of the Prince; Miss Madge Vincent was a bright and lively Natis; every credit is due to Mr. Whitworth Mitton for his carefully-handled part of the scribe Cheiro; Mr. Norman Salmond did excellently as Nebenchari; and Miss Winifred Hart-Dyke's solo dance in the second act earned for that lady several well-deserved encores As to the setting of the opera and the accompanying music, praise is superfluous.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE. — Managing-Directors, Messrs. E. Stevens and R. C. Buchanan; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—*Peter Pan* puts in a second week here, and public appreciation has been great. Miss Pauline Chase in the title-rôle and Miss Hilda Trevelyan as Wendy, Mr. Loring Fernie with his villainous though humorous Hook, and the remained of the excellent cast have been accorded receptions that cannot fail to be gratifying to painstaking artists.

ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—*The Shadow of a Crime* has this week paid a first visit to the popular North-end house. Messrs. Fred J. Little and Fred Darcy's company includes Mr. W. Ruddle-Brown, who plays Harry Bullington with care; Mr. Hugh Mewburn, a capital Ralph Esmond; Mr. William Matthews, to whom is allotted the rôle of Jim Murdoch; Mr. Sydney T. Russell, an excellent Tom Brown; Miss Nellie Howitt, who affords every satisfaction as Loyale Norman; and Miss Nita Langford, who impersonates Mrs. Thomas Brown. Mr. J. B. Murray is the Sir Edward Bullington.

LYRIC THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs. T. Barrasford and F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Coles.—Fred Karno's company of comedians, in *Saturday to Monday*, provoke rounds of hearty applause and roars of laughter here this week. Maidie Scott, a delightful comedienne, richly deserves the applause accorded her; Josh Dixon is certainly very funny; Lily Lena, a pleasing songstress, receives due recognition, as does Jack Ross, "double-voiced vocalist."

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—The attraction here this week is *A Wrecker of Men*, presented by Mr. Charles Watson Mills' company. Miss Ruth Zillwood afforded an excellent portrayal of Risca Mallison; Mr. Eric Campbell played powerfully as Jim Murley; Mr. Miller Anderson afforded satisfaction as Railton; Mr. Percy Horton acquitted himself with credit in the rôle of Guise Strange; and Miss Gwendoline Talbot proved a popular Doris Melville. The play was mounted with care, some of the mechanical changes being very effective.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—Top of the bill here this week are the Three Demons, whose sensational work on the aerial whirling stage is watched with interest; the Bros. Griffiths, with their motor-car and duel, are particularly diverting; some smart head and hand balancing is shown by the Pasquali Bros.; *Those Troublesome Slaveys* is the title of a most amusing sketch presented by the Elvio Comedy Trio; Lawrence Barclay comes with a budget of funny songs and sayings; Dale and O'Malley keep their audience in a good humour with a large stock of patter; as gymnasts Natalia and Diana prove successful; the Meynotts have a bright comedy duologue, *Semi-Detached*; Bert Williams gives a neat ventriloquial turn; and Silvo has a smart performance on the musical glasses.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—The stock company here this week is presenting *Geoffrey Langdon's Wife*. Mr. Harry Tresham distinguishes himself a Cyril and Geoffrey Langdon; Mr. Sydney Grant makes a villainous Will Maynard; Mr. Robert Wilton affords every satisfaction as Vimbart; and other well-played rôles are Hingston (Mr. Cecil Ravenswood), James (Mr. Percy Boudor), Elinor (Miss Beryl Ravenswood), and Lily Lorrimer (Miss Nellie Bonser).

PADDINGTON PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. M. Montgomery.—The "Royal" stock company is this week presenting *The Unknown; or, a River Mystery*, the principal characters in which are ably undertaken by Messrs. Wallace Campbell (Harold Merrybright), Frank S. Strickland (Arnold Tyson), Charles Herberte (Dr. Brinkton), H. Hesslegrave (Jack Salt), H. G. Brandon (Pat), Francis E. Wybert (Albert Storm King), Fred Carroll (Jimmy), Miss Gladys H. Walton (Bessie), and Miss Florence Barnes (Louise).

HAYMARKET.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. Edwin W. Smith.—Harry Calden and company are here this week with *The White Renegade; or, A Race for Life*, a story of Indian life; the double-voiced vocalist, Charles Santon, renders several acceptable songs; Carrie Elliott and Tom Warne provide an agreeable turn as comedy artists, patterers, and dancers, and Joe Hocter also appears.

ROSCOMMON. — Lessee, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Ted Curtis is here this week with his clever black-and-white piccaninnies, who give a smart turn in singing and dancing; Lillian Victoria, a favourite in Liverpool, whose male impersonations are exceptionally fine, has had a most gratifying reception; Jake Euston dances in a talented manner, and renders some good coon songs; while Pearce and Ward, patter comedians, dancers, and burlesque boxers, find ready acceptance.

WESTMINSTER.—Lessee, Mr. Fred B. Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—Pathé Frère's beautiful Passion Play pictures are shown here by means of the bioscope; Fred S. Peake and company have a capital sketch, *The Gambler*; Starr and Jerome, as comedians and speciality dancers, have a cordial reception; and the singing of Ida Ross is much appreciated.

OLYMPIA, LTD.—District-Manager, Mr. Albert Bulmer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wighton.—The aquatic spectacle *Tally-Ho* puts in a second week, and is repeating its success; the wonderful trick cycling by the Aurora Troupe is loudly applauded and much enjoyed; Harry Weldon, the "swell" comedian, is diverting; the original Two Bostons cause laughter with their funny show; the work of Graham, the human marionette, is richly enjoyed; a high-class vocal and dancing act is submitted successfully by Charles Parker's Six Æolians; Dan Leno, jun., is received with much favour; and other capital items are supplied by the Five Spanish Goldinis, jugglers and carpet-spinners, and the Cambrian trio of lady vocalists.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.—The able illusionist, Goldin, assisted by Jeannie Fransiolli and company, heads the bill here this week. Chris Richards has some new and excellent songs and business; the performance by Belloni's Cockatoos is appreciated; a neat sketch from *Il Trovatore* is given by the International Opera Company; Goggin and Davis have a pleasing comedy acrobatic turn; the Neilson Sisters are pretty duettists and dancers; and others who appear include Bert Byrne, comedian; and Lola Patey, burlesque actress.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors, Liverpool Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.; Manager, Mr James Marks.—In big type here this week is Imro Fox, whose conjuring is somewhat out of the ordinary and particularly enjoyable; Zertho and his dogs are a good turn; Frank Cass, for his popular songs, earns a cordial greeting; a daring display on the wire and cycles is given by Johnson and De Vere; the Three Sisters Silcott show to advantage as vocalists and dancers; Charles Deane has brought some of his latest songs; the juggling of the youthful Wallace is cleverly executed; and Frank Gee, comedian, also appears.

LLANELLY.—ROYALTY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Z. Andrews; Acting-Manageress, Miss Alice Rocheforte.—*The Shulamite* is being played here with great success this week, Mr. Algernon J. Hicks taking the difficult part of Simeon Krillet in most effective style. As Deborah, Miss Ruth Shepherd gives a realistic delineation of the part; Mr. Charles Fancourt is a manly Robert Waring; Mr. George Rammell is very good as Jan Vanderberg; Miss Chrissie Bickerstaff as Menke and Miss Emily Levettez as Tante Anna also do exceedingly well.

LOWESTOFT. — HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert; Manager, Mr. Frank Freeland.—There is plenty of variety in the programme at the Hippodrome this week. The "Passion Play" is a great attraction; and other films are equally entertaining. The company includes the Lancashire Harmony Boys, Cliff Dover, the Levans, and Geo. Russell, the man to make you laugh.

LUTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Manager, Mr. Louis J. Beard.—Dr. Walford Bodie and his company are here this week. Large and appreciative audiences are receiving Dr. Bodie, and several cures are made nightly. Amongst the variety turns must be mentioned particularly the acting-manager, Mr. Tom Mills, or, rather, as he is better known, Mr. John Bull, who sings and tells funny stories; one of Dr. Bodie's cures, a child of about twelve, sings very sweetly; the Musical Acmes are very clever with their different instruments; and the other members of the company are Bella Skene, who sings and acts well; Belford and Mars sing and dance exceptionally well; *Bink's Blunder*, a sketch by Russell and Read, is ably and well acted, and causes yells of laughter; and T. Duriah is a very able comedian.

MAIDSTONE.—HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. S. Baskerville.—The Norman and Leonard Trio, at the head of affairs this week, are popular in their sketch *The Itinerant*. Mr. C. Emlyn Jones, Welsh tenor, is assisted by a quartet of sweet-voiced lady vocalists in a popular selection of international songs; Frank Maura does more with his feet than many jugglers do with their hands; Spencer and Marks are clever cross-talk comedians; Frank Terry, a clever dancer, the Sisters St. Julian, duettists, and Miss Minnie Dare, comedienne, together with the Bioscope, complete the bill.

MANCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmonstone Shirra.—Mr. H. B. Irving's appearance in *The Lyons Mail* here on Monday attracted a large and interested audience. Mr. Irving's dual impersonation, a strong and impressive effort, was highly appreciated, and the company rendered excellent assistance. Mr. E. Harcourt Williams, Mr. Charles Dodsworth, and Mr. Tom Reynolds, as members of the gang, were markedly effective; Mr. Frank Tyars played the elder Lesurques with distinction; and Mr. Arthur Curtis was very good as Joliquet. Among the ladies Miss Ada Mellon was particularly effective as Janette; and Miss Sybil Noble made a pleasing Julie. The play was preceded by *King Rene's Daughter*, in which Mr. Harcourt Williams and Miss Madge McIntosh were excellent in a very adequate cast. (Miss Dorothea Baird does not appear during the week, being indisposed.) At the conclusion of Monday's performance Mr. Irving responded to acclamations with a short speech of thanks. The week's programme includes *The Bells* and *Charles the First*.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, the United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—Mr. Lionel Glenister and Mr. Wood-Ingram's company is here in *All-of-a-Sudden Peggy*. Miss Decima Moore, in the title-part, is excellently suited, and her pleasing work is well matched by the clever and refined acting of Mr. Lionel Glenister as the Hon. Jimmy Keppel. A remarkably fine piece of character-acting is contributed by Mr. Frank G. Bayly as Anthony, Lord Crackenthorpe; Miss Eva Lonsdale is very pleasing as Millicent; Miss Kate Wingfield makes a capital Lady Crackenthorpe; and clever impersonations are added by Mr. Henderson Bland as the Major, Miss Estelle Despa as Mrs. Colquhoun, and Miss Naomi Neilson as Mrs. O'Mara. A dramatic episode (unnamed) preceded the comedy, and gave good opportunities to Mr. J. Edgar Stevenson in a cast of three.

GAIETY THEATRE. — Proprietors, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. M. Thorburn. — Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company gave a fine performance of *Lucky Durham* here on Monday. Mr. Edmund Kennedy particularly distinguished himself as John Durham; and an entertaining delineation of the Hon. Reginald Steighton was given by Mr. Arthur Leigh. As Helen Vallerton Miss Alice Esther Belmore acted nicely; Miss Louisa Gourlay played well as Mrs. Durham; and Miss Florence Dulhunty fulfilled all requirements as the Hon. Margaret Steighton. All the remaining parts were in capable hands, and the staging is really admirable.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—*When the Lights are Low*, played by Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson's company, is here this week from the Grand Junction Theatre.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hearn. — An excellent programme here this week includes *The Smart Set*, a very clever vocal sketch. Juan and McQue, eccentric comedians; T. G. Edwards, an accomplished baritone; L. B. Athol, the popular actor-vocalist, in *Dreamland*; the Simpsons, in a clever musical act; the Three Behans, smart comedy artists; Mr. "E.," an amusing patterer; Nell Cotter, a pleasing comedienne; Duncan and Brasque, in a neat little playlet, *On the Times*; the Evalos, jugglers and gymnasts, and the Rinaldo Trio of comedy acrobats.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE—Lessee, Mr. Richard Flanagan; Manager, Mr. P. Ryan Smith.—Miss Maude Western presents here this week an interesting military drama, entitled *The Prodigal Son*, the principal parts being capitally rendered by Miss Maude Western, Mr. W. A. Buckstone, Mr. Claude Seaton, Miss Ada Hender, Mr. Alf Stretton, and Miss Helen Thomson, others of the cast contributing to the dramatic effect of the whole. The piece is well staged, and is enlivened by some good music composed by Mr. A. E. Wilson.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Day.—Messrs. E. A'Dell and Chabot's play, *His Sister's Honour*, is the attraction here this week. Miss Kathryne Eckart plays Dora Stanley with distinction, and Miss Ethel Ashleigh is very good as Ivy Merton; while Mr. Evelyn A'Dell makes an excellent Frank Stanley and Mr. Lincoln Calthorpe is good as Redvers, the financier. Miss Winnie Kennedy sings and dances well as the Dutch girl, Gretchen; and the remainder of the cast are quite satisfactory.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Berry.—Mr. Flanagan opened his stock season here on Monday with a very successful production of Lytton's *Richelieu*, including Mr. William Calvert in the title-rôle. Mr. Calvert's delineation was well received, and he was ably seconded by Miss Clara Cowper as Julie de Mortimer and Mr. A. A. Harris as the Chevalier de Mauprat. Miss Ethel Maguire as François is worthy of special mention; and, among others, Mr. Hornby Warburton played well as Joseph. The whole performance was enjoyable and well staged.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—The top attraction here this week is Herbert Darnley's company of comedians in *The Skirmishers*, a most amusing piece. Sinclair and Whiteford provide ample amusement in their duologue, *Getting Even*; and other capital turns are Mlle. Von-Bita, a smart illusionist; the Eisteddfod Prize Vocal Sextette, who sing beautifully; Allan Hanbury, a very smart patter comedian; the Vasilescu troupe of eccentric bar performers; the Three Cape Girls, comediennes and dancers; Fred Frampton, burlesque actor; and Effie Stuart, Scotch comedienne and speciality dancer. The Bioscope is, as usual, highly entertaining.

HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—Mme. Alice Esty, the celebrated operatic prima donna, is here this week, singing the "Miserere" from Verdi's opera, *Il Trovatore*, and is deservedly well received. Mr. Crawford Kent as Manrico sings well, and renders valuable assistance. Much laughter is caused by John Leopold's company, in *The House Boat*; an exceptionally clever turn is provided by Tambo and Tambo, who spin tambourines in a marvellous fashion; and the Harry Alaskas, in their comedy tumbling act, do some surprising evolutions. Other entertaining items are contributed by Lennie and Hast, in a pretty scena, *The Sea Nymph*, by Chris Davis; Boyd and Gilfain, who sing nicely; Howe and Ardie, comedy acrobats and gymnasts; two pleasing vocal items by the choir; and last, but not least, some excellent dancing by a clever juvenile, La Danseuse, in a scena, *Santa Claus*. "Baby's First Outing" is an amusing film shown by the Bioscope.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter de Frece; Secretary, Mr. Peter Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry. — Vesta Tilley is the bright particular star here; the talented lady is enthusiastically received. A sketch, *The Girl and the Tough*, is ably presented by John G. Brandon, the American actor, assisted by Pearla Cardiner and H. A. Lyons. The Four Jumels are good in a smart musical act; Jeanie Hartley is an exceptionally neat juvenile comedienne and dancer; Lena Brunton is a clever mimic; Barney Armstrong, with a quaint assistant, is well received; the Ladderites are clever in their unique ladder act; the Zaracs, in a comedy horizontal bar act, are excellent; and George Prince, the "crazy" comedian, is amusing. Up-to-date pictures complete.

TIVOLI. — Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Charming Helene D'Aubigny, from the Opera House, Paris, is singing delightfully here this week, and is warmly applauded. Clito remains another week in her artistic poses; G. W. Hunter, the well-known comedian and raconteur, is as funny as ever, and well received; Arthur J. Hill makes a hit in his Lilliputian act; Vincent Kelway and company are good in a costume sketch, *The Poet of the People*; and good turns are those of Hughes and Elliott, smart dancers; Canard, eccentric contortionist; Lucie Gerrard at the piano, Marie Elsie, comedienne, and Gladys Witton, vocalist.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—Mr. J. Koffler-Reynolds, a Yiddish actor, and a strong company are here in an episode entitled *Conscience*, in which Mr. J. Koffler-Reynolds takes the chief part with great success. Douglas and Gordon are a smart comedy couple, who dance and sing well; Harwood's Juveniles are very entertaining in a pretty scena, *A Children's Christmas Eve*; and Les Zelovas, Continental acrobatic equilibrists, have a good reception. Halma is a capital juggler; the Spangelettis introduce some well-trained animals; George and Edwards are good patter comedians; Lily Arthur is a dainty singer; and Happy Attwood, comedian, is very funny. Ruby Dahl did not appear on the occasion of our visit.

HIPPODROME (HULME).—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Kay.—Miss Georgette Thierry and company are exceptionally good in an episode from "Oliver Twist," entitled *Nancy Sykes*. The Smart Set, under the direction of Mr. Walter George, and including little Hilda Light, are repeatedly recalled. Fame and Fortune are highly diverting in their acrobatic and boxing act; Shavo is a smart juggler; the Fours Sisters Victoria as instrumentalists and dancers are very entertaining; Baddow is an amusing ventriloquist; and Baker and Lindsay present a bijou musical comedy with excellent vocal effect. Greener, the singing pit lad, and Adams and Rouse in a new style singing playlet, both contributed good turns. As usual, the pictures prove very popular.

MANSFIELD.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, Mansfield, Sutton, and District Theatres, Ltd.; General-Manager, Captain Cecil Clayton.—Mr. Eade Montefiore's company opened on Monday in *The Streets of London*. In the rôle of Gideon Bloodgood Mr. Gerald Kennedy was very good; as Mark Livingstone Mr. Frank Bradley did well, as also did Mr. Joe Bracewell as Jonas Puffy; Mr. Clifford Armitage gave a clever representation of the rôle of Captain Fairweather; and Mr. Charles O'Connor was well placed in the part of Paul Fairweather. Miss Florence Moore gave a fine rendition of the part of Dan Puffy; Mr. Wm. Rokeby was successful as Badger; as Alida Bloodgood Miss Dorothy Mayhew played successfully; and the same may be said of Miss Violet Hammersley as Lucy Fairweather. Mrs. Puffy was admirably delineated by Miss Helena Rigby.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Herbert Darnley; Resident-Director, Mr. Tom Jennings; Acting-Manager, Mr. Mark Lorne.—Mr. Hilliard Vox's company, in the drama *Alaska*, occupy the boards here. In the rôle of Shookum Jem Mr. Percy Ballard plays exceptionally well, and scores a great success; Mr. G. H. Doyle gives a fine rendition of the rôle of Ned Garson; Mr. Stenson Liddiard as Baptiste is very well placed, and quite a success; Mr, James Fox gives a masterly interpretation of the part of Father Bernard; in the title-rôle Miss Violet Crawford is really excellent, and receives great appreciation; Miss M. Palmer is a clever Widow Casey; as Jessie Dalton Miss Muriel Vox scores.

MARGATE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr Edward Michael; Stage and Business Manager, Mr. A. Austin-Leigh.—The Margate stock company has this week been playing Arthur Law's amusing comedy, *A Country Mouse*. As Angela Muir, Miss Belle Travars is quite delightful; as the Hon. Archibald Vyse, Mr. Robert Grey is excellent, playing the part in a refined manner; Mr. Wallis Clark gives a very good impression of John Bowlby, M.P.; Mr. A. Austin-Leigh is amusing as the Duke of St. Kitt's; and Mr. Archie Selwyn is successful as Lord Robert Wyckham. Miss May Saker acts the somewhat difficult part of Lady Sylvia Bowlby with good judgment and skill; and Miss Mabel Archdall makes quite a charming Violet Aynsley. Miss Emmie O'Reilly is to be complimented upon her clever sketch of the charwoman, Mrs. Cropper; Mr. H. G. Mason as the butler and Mr. Richard Trieve as the footman are satisfactory.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Joint-Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtree. —Sadie Seymour, comedienne and dancer, has met with an enthusiastic reception; and Kloof and Ramsey, in their comedy musical act, introduce several instrumental novelties. The Brothers Lester, swell coons and dancers, give a good show; and Arthur Stigant and Joe Nightingale, comedians, cause plenty of merriment in their new sketch, *Two Sides of a Wall*. The Sisters Reno give a very smart turn as Continental transformation dancers; Ernest Rees, the droll, is, as usual, quaint in his talk, and generally amusing; "The Wonders of Canada" is an instructive and entertaining series of Bioscope pictures.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. H. Player.—The popular character comedian, Arthur Reece, heads the bill here this week, and his songs are heartily encored; Milner Verrin possesses a good tenor voice, and his "Only a message" is well received; Vi Carlyle is successful with her scena, "My mountain maid"; and the Wyffs have a funny sketch, *The Parson's Mishap in a London Flat*; Amy Sullivan, comedienne; the Donas Trio, in a novelty balancing trapeze act; the Kimberley Boys, knockabouts; Auto, in a musical speciality act; Joey Stirling; Ernest Wright, comedian; and the Theatre Bioscope, with new pictures, also furnish attractive turns.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—The Five M.P.'s, military musical experts, top the bill here and prove a big attraction; the Wyndham and Kitty Trio provide an attractive show; Eugene and Willie are refined acrobatic and musical grotesques; the Royal Estos, in specialilites; Daisy Almer, comedienne and dancer; Janet Leslie, comedienne and vocalist; Li Chang Hi, Chinese conjurer, also provide good turns; and the Biograph, with all the latest novelties, completes an excellent programme.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE. —Manager, Mr. W. H. Melton.—Mr. T. Edward Ward's company is this week playing here in *Second to None*. Mr. Jerrold Heather submits an intelligent and manly portraiture of the hero; the villain, Capt. Mannering, is powerfully played by Mr. James Stillwell; Mr. J. G. Maine presents a fine study of Sergt. Horseman; Mr. Louis Norman is a capital Sir Reginald; Mr. Horace Booth is well placed as Frank Wilding; while Mr. T. G. Vane is an excellent Lieut. Ballater. Miss Ward's histrionic skill is cleverly displayed in her interpretation of Nell Graystone; Miss Violet Ennis Lawson is highly commendable as May Graystone; genuine comedy is provided by Miss Maudie Grayson (Norah), Mr. Allen Carruthers (Joe Ruggles), and Mr. Tom Sinclair (Private Flutter).

MIDDLESBROUGH. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Charles Imeson.—Mr. Alec Flood and Mr. Aubrey Fitzmaurice's company occupy the boards in the historical play *The Angel of Unrest*. The leading rôle, Napoleon I., is undertaken by Mr. Alec Flood; he is a sterling actor, and his interpretation of the character is apt and natural. Miss Patti March as Mme. Renaudot gives a refined, womanly rendering of the part; Mr. Creagh Henry acts with great distinction as Paul Brandt; and General Renandot finds a capable exponent in Mr. Aubrey Fitzmaurice. Mr. Henry Belding gives a fine impersonation of the old soldier, Bompasse; and Miss Florence Tressilian is exceedingly good as Julie. Mr. Laurence Vining is effective as Mons. Lepine; and Mr. Richard A. Greene and Mr. Alexander Bradley do full justice to the parts of Colonel Beznaise and Capt. Lemesull. Mr. George Chase as Capt. Leblanc, Mr. L. P. Danks as Capt. Beaupré, Mr. James Chippendale as Hugh, and Miss Nita Imeson as Lisette, are all that can be desired.

OPERA HOUSE. — Proprietors, The Middlesbrough Grand Opera House Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. Ker Chatto. — Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's company are here in *The Midnight Mail*. Miss Ada Oakley in the difficult rôle of Mary Steyne gives a very natural and womanly rendering; Billy Brewer, a drunken stoker, found an excellent representative in Mr. Fred G. Evison; while into the part of Harry Steyne Mr. George Harvard infuses a large amount of skilful acting. Miss Louise Brandon is delightful as Nancy Brewer; and Miss Nesta Sandford as Lady Phyllis Eustace leaves nothing to be desired. Mr. Austin Mortimer is good as Leonard Royle; and Hassan Padisha has an able representative in Mr. Maygill Martyn. Mr. Harry Emmerson as Donald Craig, Mr. Richard Banks as Ben Burney, Mr. J. Mann as Gerald Eustace, and Miss Kate Merton as Mrs. Milday all do full justice to their rôles.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Brill; Manager, Mr. Charles Rembges. — John Green Marx, the strong man, performs some remarkable feats of weight-lifting; Sable Fern scores a great success, her vocal items being well appreciated; a delightful musical turn is provided by the Sisters Carina, who prove to be musicians of exceptional ability; and the Dons and Gledhill Trio reproduce actual racing on a miniature track. Dolly McCalla, juvenile artist, pleases with her songs and dances; and George French causes much laughter. Billy Hobbs, coon dancer and comedian, and Almon, also add acceptable turns.

OXFORD.—Proprietor, Mr. Alf. Graham; Manager, Mr. R. L. Griffiths.—Albert Athas and Lizzie Collins provide the star turn here this week, and score a great success; Cliff Ryland creates roars of laughter with his songs and gags; and Ara, Zebra, and Vora do well in their novelty, "Indian Pastimes." The Snows please in their musical act; and the Three Royal Temples provide a delightful vocal turn. Florence Deighton is a dainty vocalist; and other turns are provided by Belton Jube and the Palascope.

NELSON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietress, Mrs. T. Greenwood Croft; Business-Manager, Mr. Geo. E. Mudd.—Mr. F. Marriott-Watson's play, *A False Wife*, has been staged here this week. The company includes Miss Florence E. Florence as Estelle de Nussan, and her clever acting has impressed good houses each night. Mr. Fred H. Constable gives a capital presentation of Lieut. Geo. Mansfield; whilst as Ben Rattler Mr. Elton Morgan is excellent. As Jean Berand, the author, Mr. Marriott-Watson, plays very powerfully; and Mr. Harold Wallace in the rôle of the Mad Wizard proves most impressive. The sleep-walking scene is effectively given by Miss Florence; whilst the weird mystery, "From Life to Death," in which the hero gradually takes the form of a perfect skeleton, was quite startling. Capital gramophone selections are given between Acts II. and III. each night.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. F Teale Lingham.—Mr. Oscar Asche and Miss Lily Brayton and company are here in *Othello*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, and *The Virgin Goddess*. On Monday evening *Othello* was played. No more convincing representation of the Moor of Venice has been seen in Newcastle than that given by Mr. Asche. In Miss Lily Brayton as Desdemona he has a strong and striking counterfoil, and vociferous rounds of applause at the end of each act and upon the final drop of the curtain testified to the immense gratification Mr. Asche and Miss Brayton had created. A favourable impression was made by Mr. Alfred Brydone in the important part of Iago; and as Cassio Mr. H. R. Hignett played very well indeed. Roderigo had a good exponent in Mr. G. Kay Souper; while Miss Constance Robertson gave an excellent account of herself as Emilia.

TYNE THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessees, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe.—This theatre is occupied by the New-

castle Amateur Operatic Society, in *Merrie England*.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon.—Mr. Fred Karno's company is here in the sketch *His Majesty's Guests*. The chief honours fall to Mr. George Hestor as Sergt. Lightning.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton.—The representation of *Rip Van Winkle*, in which Mr. Fred Storey figures as the principal performer, is one of the finest spectacular entertainments seen on the variety stage in Newcastle for some time; Miss Libbie Blondell, an American comedienne possessed of a fine soprano voice, gives a singing novelty which creates a good impression; graceful as well as clever acrobats are the Trapnell Family; and a popular comedian and mimic is Mr. Edwin Barwick; while the Musical Jees, in their speciality *The Scarecrows* gain hearty applause. Boy Glenn, raconteur; Ryder Slone, in song scena; Olive Tree; and Frobel and Ruge also ably assist in good all-round entertainment.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Will H. Boardman.—Mr. Dan Crawley proves a very popular turn this week, his songs being given in a style that he can claim as quite his own; Miss Florence Fenwicke, a member of a Newcastle family, presents a pleasing novelty in the form of an electrical scena, and, possessed of a very fine voice, she makes good use of it in the rendering of the "Holy City"; good instrumental music is provided by the El Tampico Trio, Mexican troubadours; while there is an abundance of fun during the occupation of the stage by Wyndham and Waters, in the sketch *The Professor and His Pupil*. Hope and Wayho, in a scene from one of Dickens's novels; Miss Lucy Coventry, comedienne and dancer; Roze and Calvert, a comedy couple; Miss May Fallowfield; and Andrews and Thompson, in a humorous act, are also good turns.

NEWPORT.—LYCEUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sidney Cooper.—Mr. G. Carlton Wallace's company is presenting *The Love that Women Desire*. Miss Lalla Stanhope gives a natural study of the heroine; as Madge Abingdon, Miss Gladys Murray is passionate; and the Pattie Swift of Miss Emmie Litchfield is characterised by vivacity and sweetness; whilst Miss N. Griffiths makes an admirable Indian maiden. Mr. H. B. Wilson as Philip Carnaby acts with vigour characteristic of a yeoman; Mr. J. O. Stewart does well as the scheming Squire Abingdon; and Mr. Alfred Brandon as Richard Abingdon is eminently successful; whilst Mr. Graham Winsford does splendidly in the part of Frank Hardy. The comedy element loses nothing in the hands of Messrs. J. Hignett and J. W. Wilkinson as Dennis O'Rourke and P.C. Sowerberry respectively.

EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Major Gallagher; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Page. — Mr. Hymack, described as the chameleon comedian, quickly gets on good terms with the house; a pretty Japanese musical comedy is presented by Marie Santoi and her party of Japs, entitled *A Japanese Tea Garden;* the Brothers Dean are a couple of good dancers; and Ted E. Fox, a quaint comedian, secured a well-earned encore. The Sisters Morgan sing duets, and dance nicely; Cissie Courlette is a good mimetic vocalist; and in a musical sketch, *The Night Before the Concert*, the Strads discourse sweet music on the violin, 'cello, and piano; whilst Collins and Rice are a smart pair of comedy artists. The Bioscope completes the bill.

NORTHAMPTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Seddon.—Mr. Swinerd's company, in *Dare-Devil Dorothy*, under the direction of Mr. J. W. Cordiner, is here. Miss Dorothy Desmond plays and sings well as Dorothy; and Miss Nellie Harcourt as Judith is as vivacious as ever, and introduces fresh specialities; whilst the clever dancing of Miss Mabel Blake and Miss Lillie Blake commands applause. Mr. W. Ashley plays and sings well as Capt. George Fielding; and Mr. H. C. Ward ably repeats his powerful presentation of Capt. Edward Dudley. Mr. Bert Edwards cleverly presents the part of Silas Crump.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Thos. A. Evans.—The New York Comedy Four are justly termed "humorously harmonious," and are a big success; the Six Lancashire Lasses, clog-dancers and vocalists, give a skilful display; Les Rubens delight with a musical sketch; the Prince Milner Trio give a display of equilibrism; the Gilberts are clever young performers on the wire; Kit Keen, coloured comedian, amuses with his smart comic patter; Harry Luck is a very good eccentric comedian; and C. Vincent completes the programme with some amusing pictures.

NORTH SHIELDS. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—Variety again forms the attraction here this week, the programme being headed by Herr Addison's troupe of fox terriers, who perform some clever feats; Mr. W. T. Burgess and company present the sketch, *Found Faithful*, which is received with much favour; Messrs. Norman and Britton, comedy acrobatic hand-balancers, are loudly applauded; the Sisters Dawn, vocalists and speciality dancers, have made a hit; the Alvenos, gymnasts, go well; and Mr. George Battle, actor-vocalist; Miss Warren, clog dancer; Gillan and his Street Arabs; and Mr. J. C. Hoffman, comedian, all meet with favour.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—Mr. Ben Harris and his Nippers are again here, meeting with their usual success; the Three Zedicas, in their Risley and juggling act, are cordially greeted; the Brothers Hannaway, comedians and dancers, are accorded a hearty reception; the Two Kays, in their vocal scena, are much appreciated; and Miss Gracie Bard, comedienne, Mr. Harry Hayton, eccentric comedian, and the Bio-Photoscope all contribute successfully.

NORTHWICH. — PIERROT PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. Glanmore Jones; Manager, Mr. Lindon Wyatt. — The Pierrots have re-opened for the season. Mr. Glanmore Jones, who was hitherto the manager, being now the sole proprietor. The artists engaged for this week are Miss Ellaline Florence; Miss Flo Blanchard; Mr. Fred Temple, tenor; Mr. Newton Ide, the eminent bass; Mr. Lindon Wyatt, society entertainer; Mr. Charles Howarth, comedian; Mr. Barry Gilmore, eccentric comedian and dancer; and the ever-popular Mr. Glanmore Jones.

NORWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Manager, Mr. F. Morgan.—Mr. F. R. Benson's Shakespearean company is delighting audiences here this week with a capital répertoire. On Monday night *Macbeth* was admirably rendered. Mr. Henry Herbert, who took the title-rôle, was excellent in every degree; Mr. Gerald Ames was equally successful as King Duncan; Mr. E. Spencer Geach did well as Macduff, and Mr. Reginald Owen deserves praise as Malcolm; Miss Dorothy Green was exceedingly good as Lady Macbeth, and the other parts were ably filled. On Tuesday the company was equally good in *Much Ado About Nothing*. On Wednesday *Henry V.* was given, and *The Merchant of Venice, The Rivals, As You Like It*, and *Hamlet* were also billed.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. F. W. Fitt.—Popular Peggy Pride heads the bill, and charms the audience with her four latest successes; the Wakeman Quartette, with Miss Nancy Bruce as the soloist, is a delightful turn; Park's Eton Boys, seven in number, meet with a good reception; Julian Mack, comedian, creates much amusement; Harry Taft's whistling is much appreciated; the Ellimans are very entertaining; Stelling introduces his dog Krowaski, which gives evidence of admirable training; Fioretti and Elly are clever spade jumpers, whilst the Hippo. bioscope exhibits interesting pictures.

NOTTINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—*The Christian* is presented by Mr. Wentworth Croke's company. Miss Grace Chalmers as Glory Quayle is distinctly successful; Mr. E. Howard Templeton displays great adaptability as John Storm, and acts the dramatic episodes with artistic repression; Mr. Edwin Ling imports the necessary religious feeling into his representation of Father Lamplugh; and the rôle of Archdeacon Wealthy loses none of its unctuousness in the hands of Mr. Charles E. Dering; Lord Robert Ure is skilfully personified by Mr. Frederick Scarth; and the parts of Drake, "Faro," and Lorimer are capably handled by Messrs. Frank Beresford, Bert Conway, and Fern Pounds. Miss Molly Hayden is capital as Mrs. Callander; and Miss Vashti Wellborne does well as Polly Love, being admirably supported by Mr. Wilfred Noy as Brother Paul. Mr. Charles Hill is good as Parson Quayle; and the music hall artists are portrayed in a dashing manner by Misses May Dudley, Violet White, and Nelly Hastings. The play is staged and mounted excellently.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Chas. P. Cooke.—*The Still Alarm*, with its exciting incidents and fine scenic arrangements, is attracting large houses this week. Mr. Matthew Glenville gives a vigorous portrayal of the hero, Jack Manley; Mr. George Arthur earns the execrations of the "gods" by his energetic impersonation of the rascally John Bird; Mr. Fred Osmond submits a good character-sketch of the drink-sodden Doc Wilber; and Mr. Tom Beasley acts amusingly as Willie Manley; Mr. Lewis Gordon makes a satisfactory Franklyn Fordham, and Mr. J. Sutton Pateman adds a touch of comedy as Joe Jones. The impersonation of Elinor Fordham by Miss Maude Warburton is full of sweetness and grace; and Miss Mabel Verity appears to advantage as the motherly Mrs. Manley. Miss Gertie Reid offers a good rendering of the music hall artist, Carrie Wilber, and the minor parts are all well filled. In the fire-station scene the Lyric quartette of glee singers vocalise with good effect.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles H. Bowmaker.—The Three Golden Graces give an admirable idea of bronze statues, their posing being very clever; Madge Grey makes a delightful raconteuse, and her dialect song is an exceedingly smart item; audiences never seem to tire of the comical boxing of the Brothers Horne, the laughter being loud and continuous throughout the turn; hearty applause is accorded Roma and Romani, who submit a dexterous performance on a number of musical instruments; Madeleine Du Val and Charles Macquire awake enthusiasm by their vocal episode; Allis and Cassati brighten the stage by singing, dancing, and comedy; and the imitative powers of Geo. Newburn are effectively and smartly displayed; Herbert Rule, comedian; May Evans, comedienne; Lady Fauntleroy, and the American Bioscope add their share to the general enjoyment.

NUNEATON.—PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE AND ENTERTAINMENTS CO., LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter J. R. Bryan.—Mr. Jabez White, Light-weight Champion of England, and a good variety company occupy the boards here. Included on the programme are Miss Kitty Erl, soprano vocalist, who wins applause; Le Warren is a good singing ventriloquist; Mlle. Dora is a clever musician; the Two Eltons give some clever horizontal bar performances; the Danas are entertaining comedians; Miss Daisy Dashwood is a good comedienne; Fred Lyndo is a capable comedian and dancer; and some interesting films are shown on the Bioscope.

OLDHAM.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—Mr. Chas. Macdona presented on Monday for the first time in Oldham the new comedy, *Mr. Popple of Ippleton*. Mr. Arthur Longley appears in the name-part, and he plays it in a capital manner; as La Bolero, Miss Millie Hylton received several recalls for her excellent singing; Miss Nellie Hodson is very good as Louise; and Miss Cora Lingard is a dainty Violet Blinton; Miss Alice Rene and Miss Stella St. Audrie do good work as Mrs. Doring and Mrs. Hennay; Mr. Robert Corray as Norman Popple plays smartly; and Messrs. Sydney Courtney and James Stevenson as George Hennay and Henry Doring are amusing. Mr. Willie Kottaun is a capital Messenger Boy, Mr. Tom May as Platt is also good. The comedy is well dressed and staged.

COLOSSEUM THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. W. Eastwood.—Mrs. Sam Duckworth's company occupies the boards here this week with *Her Nameless Child*. Mr. J. W. Evelyn as Anthony Ford acts in a highly finished manner; and Mr. Herbert Evelyn as Arthur is also very successful; the villainous Lord Henry Woodville is well played by Mr. Ellerslie Pyne, and Mongrole is excellently portrayed by Mr. Fred Griffiths. Miss Pattie Hastings receives much sympathy in the part of Phyllis Ford, and Miss Grace Jones is capital as the scheming Lady Sybil; Miss Beatrice Dover is good as Sarah; and Miss Florence Hall as Bessie Brooks is responsible for some excellent comedy, as is also Mr. Fred Danvers as Tom Rivers.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. Howgate.—Belle Davis and her Pick Chicks score with their clever singing and dancing; Flockton Foster and Arnold Richardson in *Ferdie's Ma-in-Law* cause roars of laughter; Foreman and Fannan, the millionaires, are capital fun-providers; Kitty Traney has some clever dogs and a well-trained pony; the Gasch Sisters are marvellous acrobats; Wee Jessie is a clever song and dance artist; and Miss Fatmah Diard sings in a capital manner; Bert Harrow is a funny comedian, and the Royal Dottoscope concludes with an amusing picture.

HIPPODROME. — Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. Nuttall.—Lloyd's Gondolier Glee Singers, including Miss Helen Bourne (lady tenor), are excellent vocalists; De Vere and Kenwick, comedy duo, cause hearty laughter with their burlesque pictures; Agnes and Arthur Lynch do well with their illustrated picture songs; Smiler Lee, talking comedian, tells funny stories with good results; Carl Rosine, magician, performs clever illusions; Joe Humphreys, vocal comedian, sings some good songs; and Robb Gilmore, comedian, is very good. The Dottoscope is showing some interesting pictures.

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Lucas, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. C. Dorrill.—Mr. Lewis Waller's company in *Robin Hood* is the attraction this week. Mr. Robert Minster scores a big success in the title-rôle; his bright, natural acting just suiting the romantic character; Richard and Prince John find capable exponents in Messrs. E. C. Vaughan and B. Clarke; Mr. H. Elliott Ball is well suited as the rough wooer, De Longespee; Messrs. A. Willerby, Val Glynn, and C. B. Winston are all good as Fitz-Alwynne, Le Botelier, and the Abbot of Mervaulx; Mr. H. Wakefield as De Tracey and Mr. L. Rea as John Little are both excellent; Mr. L. Tessier is a gallant Will Scarlet; and Mr. Augustus Wheatman brims over with humour in the delightful character of the merry Friar Tuck. Miss Mabel Younge is a stately and natural Queen; Miss D. Moore-Lane is a piquant and charming Adela; Miss Lilian Lait a delightful Alison Much; while Miss Marie Polini has won all hearts here with her charming presence and delightful acting as Lady Marion.

EAST OXFORD THEATRE.—Lessees, Miss Winifred Stuart and Mr. C. Watson Mill; Manager, Mr. Frank Stuart.—Mr. Ian Maclaren's Shakespearean company is occupying these boards this week, the répertoire comprising *Hamlet, The Merchant of Venice, Othello, Twelfth Night, As You Like It*, and *David Garrick*. In *Hamlet*, Mr. Ian Maclaren was accorded a fine reception for his masterly and finished performance in the title-rôle; as Laertes Mr. Frank Royde wins favour; and Mr. Arthur Fayne is admirable as Polonius, his acting being very natural. Mr. George Westland does good service as Claudius, Mr. J. V. Bryant as Horatio and Mr. Hustin Meharry as Marcellus are both good; Mr. F. Stafford Dawson is an undoubted success as the Ghost; while Mr. George Powell makes the utmost possible of the Gravedigger. All the minor parts are well filled. Miss Katherine Harrington's Ophelia is a very clever performance; Miss Gertrude Littlewood is effective as the Player Queen; Miss Edith Coleman makes a charming and, at the same time, a stately Gertrude. There were vociferous calls for Mr. Ian Maclaren at the close of the performance.

PAISLEY.—PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—Miss Lydia Donovan's company, in *Her One Great Sin*, is here this week. Mr. C. Quinton Fulford submits a capital impersonation of Arnold Thornhill; as Rueben Warhurst Mr. G. Edward Hall plays with marked effect; Mr. Fred Hodson is mirth-provoking in the rôle of Jerry Jumble; Dan Hundle is amusingly depicted by Mr. Charles E. Lambert; as Jack Hundle Mr. J. Croudace makes a decided impression; Mr. J. Nella is a satisfactory and intelligent Mr. Benton; and clever are the assumptions of Ben Barkley by Mr. M. Sterling, Robert Brown by Mr. S. A. Russell, and P.C. Jackson by Mr. C. Dale. Miss Lydia Donovan as Grace Warhurst acts with histrionic ability and naturalness; Miss Louie Walton plays Bet Hundle with great success; Nancy Wimpenny, as portrayed by Miss Nellie Lambert, is very funny; and as Charlie and Gracie, Miss Phyllis Damian and Miss Maudie Lambert (child actresses) are to be highly praised.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Douglas F. Bostock.—The King's College Boys submit a refined and entertaining number here this week; Henry Coutts, a clever protean actor, impersonates no fewer than eight characters in his sketch *Outflanked*, in which he is assisted by Miss Dot Kemp, Mr. W. R. Grey, and Mr. Lee; J. A. Cassells, Scotch comedian, is excruciatingly funny; the Burnells cause no end of merriment with *On the Links;* the Westwoods prove themselves skilful trick and comedy cyclists; Maude Vera, descriptive vocalist and coon artist, has a fine reception; the Lannons elicit admiration in their comedy act, *The Policeman and the Maid;* Harrigan and Holt, original patter comedians, are warmly applauded; and the Hippodrome Bioscope concludes an interesting programme.

PERTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. H Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge.—Mr. Charles Majilton, with his company of eccentric comedians, is engaged for the week, and is giving two performances nightly of *The Trippers*. The piece teems with fun, and from the rise of the curtain to its fall causes continuous mirth.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. C. F. Williams; Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—This week *David Copperfield, David Garrick*, and *The Coping Stone* are being played by a capable company. On Monday *David Copperfield* was presented. As Dan'l Peggotty, Mr. Charles Cartwright scored brilliantly, the rough generosity and poignant grief of the old "sea porkipine" being rapturously applauded; Mr. Lionel Belmore carefully depicted the strong character of Ham; Mr. Gerald Lawrence was the recipient of high encomiums for his representation of James Steerforth, the vices of this wayward character being admirably portrayed without ostentation; Mr. Charles Collette caused the house to resound with laughter at his bombastic flights of oratory as the talkative Micawber; Mr. A. B. Tapping furnished a splendid study of the mealy-mouthed Uriah Heep; and Mr. Stanley Harrison was a generous, whole-hearted David Copperfield. Amongst the ladies, principal interest naturally centres round Little Em'ly, a part sympathetically and touchingly played by Miss Lorna Lawrence; Miss Clarissa Selwynne has a somewhat distasteful part as Rosa Dartle, but she does full justice to it; Miss Helen Vicary relieves many situations by her perky humour as Betsy Trotwood; and Miss Gordon Walker is graceful and reserved as Agnes Wickfield. On Tuesday David Garrick was produced, and premier honours were shared by Mr. Gerald Lawrence in the title-rôle, and Miss Fay Davis, who gave a magnificent performance as Ada Ingot. Later in the week, *The Coping Stone*, from the pen of Mr. Gerald Lawrence, was performed.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—The Palace management have put together a very good bill, the chief attraction being Fred Ginnett's Boy Army; Pat Rafferty proves himself a warm favourite with the strong Naval contingent who patronise the Palace; Dandy George puts a couple of well-trained dogs through some clever and graceful manœuvres; Stelling and Revell are an amusing pair of comedy bar performers; and Madge Allan is a graceful vocalist and dancer. Vernon's pictures show some interesting scenes; and Poole and Poole and Hans and Lux also contribute to the programme.

PONTYPRIDD.—ROYAL CLARENCE THEATRE.—Owners and Proprietors, Mrs. Trenchard and Miss L. Jones; Manager, Mr. Charles Trenchard.—Mr. Andrew Melville's company is here in *Driven from Home*. Anthony Raybrook is played in a masterly manner by Mr. Fred A. Marston; Mr. Francis Everard is a decided success as Walter Hatherleigh; Mr. G. M. Montanini scores as Geoffrey Waring; Mr. Howard Tracey capably portrays George Clissold; Mr. George Lawrence acts well as Peter Pettipher; Miss Rose Ralph displays marked ability as Laura Raybrook; Jane is splendidly impersonated by Miss Muriel Alleyn; Mrs. McCarthy is well sustained by Miss Amy Williams; and Mr. Percy Dawsone could not be improved upon as Willie.

PORTSMOUTH. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—The Carl Rosa Opera Company opened here on Monday with *Il Trovatore*. Mr. Julius Walther gave an exceptionally fine portrayal of Manrico; Mr. Dillon Shallard's Count di Luna was a great vocal success; Miss Elizabeth Burgess as Leonora sang with her accustomed sweetness and power; Azucena was magnificently played by Miss Doris Woodall, her vocalisation being brilliant; Mr. Frederick Clendon was an admirable Ferrando; and Miss Lilla De Berra was capable as Inez. The opera was under the able conductorship of Mr. Eugene Goossens.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate.—Mr. Frank Bertram's company, with *Hearts Adrift*, is here. Captain Teddy is admirably sustained by Mr. Henry Bedford; Mr. Fred Terriss gives a capital interpretation of Edmund Gerue; Mr. Cecil Klein plays with distinction as Robert Darney; Mr. Brian Daly is excellent as Simeon Green; Pidgeon is ably embodied by Mr. S. Tavershan; Little Tim is satisfactorily played by Miss Irene Rose; Miss Nellie Clyde depicts Rosie with graceful piquancy; Energy Mugs is played by Miss Beatrix A. Bell with amusing dash; and Julia Lane, Peggy McGuire, and Mother Huggolow are successfuly portrayed by Misses Gertrude Harrison, Kitty Kirwan, and Marion Walker.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—Mr. and Mr. E. H. Lucas in their scenes from Dickens, give a highly meritorious and artistic performance here; Bert Coote's Kiddies are pleasing and popular; Will Rain and company are most entertaining and amusing in the sketch, *Hotel Comfort;* the Oonda Brothers, with a clever triple bar act, score well; the Sisters Caselli are a smart pair of vocalists and specialty dancers; Terry and Bentley, refined comedy artists, are appreciated; Herbert Clifton, vocal mimic, is an artist of undoubted ability; Ernie Myers is an amusing patter comedian; Lily Lonsdale is a very good soprano vocalist; and Payne's Bioscope, with capital new pictures, make up a good all-round entertainment.

PRESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Executors of the late Mr. W. Johnson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Stephen Pritt. — Mr. Brandon Thomas's company is here with *Charley's Aunt*. Colonel Chesney has an excellent representative in Mr. Sidney Compton; and Mr. Walter Beaumont successfully impersonates Stephen Spettigue. In the title-rôle, Mr. Spencer Trevor gives an exceptionally clever and amusing performance; his confederates in duplicity, Jack Chesney and Charles Wykeham, are very humorously portrayed by Mr. Hastings Lynn and Mr. Richard B. Mason. Mr. M. A. Wetherell is exceedingly droll as Brassett; Miss Lena MacNaughton well sustains the part of Donna Lucio; Miss Ruth Nightingale makes a charming Ela; and Miss Bertha Northam and Miss Ida Vynall are pleasing exponents of Kitty Verdun and Amy Spettigue. A one-act play, *The Lancashire Sailor*, precedes the comedy.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. J. Linsdell.—Crowded houses this week give Miss Harriet Vernon a hearty reception, and her songs are greatly enjoyed; Miss Marie Blythe gains rounds of applause; the Szarvasi-Ferecnz troupe give a smart acrobatic display, including some Hungarian dancing; Cleland, the earthquake juggler, causes roars of laughter; Mr. Leslie Race's vocal contributions are well received; Miss Emma Don and her black and white comedy team entertain with musical mirth; Kendrick and Laura, as duettists; Mr. J. H. Dundas, the actor-vocalist; a dramatic episode, entitled *A Modern Shylock*, presented by Miss Alvina Mining, assisted by Mr. Dan Mining, and the pictures complete an attractive programme.

RAMSGATE. — AMPHITHEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Bowman.—Messrs. S. Egerton Burnett and Harry Tindell have provided an attractive entertainment here during the past week. Twice nightly they have presented their animatograph entertainment, which comprises a fine selection of animated pictures that please audiences immensely. During the show clever variety turns are introduced by Miss Lilian and Clown Auguste (gymnasts and contortionists), Savaro (mimic), and Miss Katie Kyrle (contralto).

RAWTENSTALL. — GRAND THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. George Dickinson.—Mr. Will Hebden's company includes several turns, amongst whom are Stanley Howard, descriptive vocalist; the Morellis (Sid and Minnie), with a funny musical comedy act, *How Dare You;* Miss Jessie Thorne, versatile comedian; Halsey and Bowers, cross-talk comedians. A laughable sketch entitled *Johnny Kelly's Night Out*, in which Miss Lilly Vane, Mr. G. Clifton, and Mr. Will Hebden show to advantage, was also good; whilst a bright musical comedy, *Teddy Smiles*, brought the performance to an end.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Milton Bode.—Mr. George Dance's variety season.—This week's attractions include Joe Reichen's clever troupe of performing dogs; Frank Darwin, the popular actor-vocalist; George C. Doughty and company, in the smart comedy scene, *Captain Cupid;* the Glenroy Troupe of International dancers; Gertrude Bradshaw, soprano vocalist; Bert Woodward, trick cyclist; Charles Baldwin's company of comedians and pantomimists, in the absurdity, *Bank Clerks;* and Vernon's Bioscope. A special flying matinée was given on Wednesday, when Harry Lauder was the star attraction.

REDDITCH.—PUBLIC HALL.—Manager, Mr. W. Treadgold.—Miss Maggie Merton's company gave two performances here on the 26th and 27th ult. of *Home Sweet Home*.

WOOD'S CONCERT AND PICTURE COMPANY opened for six nights on Monday last, and have met with a big success.

ROCHDALE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Hague.—*The Unseen Power*, by Harry Starr, occupies the boards here this week. The author undertakes the principal character, Fred Granville, with his usual power; Mr. Wm. Miller acts with success the part of Harold Granville; Mr. Edwin Firth as Antonio Romano is all that could be desired; and Mr. Fred W. Graham creates roars of laughter by his portrayal of Horatio Cracklesby. Miss Dolly Starr impersonates Chris Granville with marked ability; and Miss Lizzie Jacobs is seen and heard to advantage as Jennie Shrubb.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. Smith and Co.—*A Trip to Coontown* tops the bill here; eighteen coloured artists take part in a most enjoyable entertainment of singing and dancing. Others appearing include Josie Mascot, comedienne; Herbert, the man monkey; Nelson and Maitland, in comedy sketch; Archie Clements, vocalist; Franko Midgets; Marie Neilson, comedienne; and G. W. Foster, comedian.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thomas Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Hargreaves.—The Bounding Pattersons submit a remarkably clever series of somersaults from a spring net to horizontal bars; Addie Dorina, assisted by J. Butler, create much amusement and wonder in their sketch, *Dr. Spot's Patients*, the lady appearing in eight characters; Amy Elcock and Florrie Roy, comediennes and dancers; De Hevan, artist with his toes; Walker and Lake, in "Extemporania"; Billy Burns, pit lad vocalist; Mlle. Aladina, with her trained cockatoos; and the Empire Bioscope, complete the programme.

ROTHERHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Holbery Hardy.—Miss Florence Baines and company are appearing in *Miss Lancashire, Limited*. Mr. Burt Burton is seen to advantage as Isidore Moses, and is responsible for a highly-finished instrumental turn; Mr. David Donaldson is a bluff John Higgins, and Mr. Patrick Evans scores as Harry Higgins, his songs being well received; Mr. R. C. Hicks is deserving of mention as Herbert Fox, and Mr. Walter Hicks scores as Grant; Mr. Hall Menzies is responsible for some exciting incidents as William Henry Thompson, and Mr. Robert Turley is deserving of mention as Smithson. Miss Kitty Jones is very pleasing as Eva Lancashire, and Miss Muriel Johnston does well as Bertha; Miss Nellie Birchenough is very amusing as Bridget Thompson, and Miss Florence Baines as Mary Ellen Thompson arouses merriment with both speech and actions.

RUGBY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geoffrey Fulton.—Miss Violet Osmund's company is this week presenting the musical comedy, *The New Barmaid*. Miss Maisie Gray, who represents Ethel Joy, is an artist of great ability, with a charming presence and a tuneful voice; Miss Grafton as Brenda Louth is very good; and Miss Marian Vyner is clever as Dora Heather. Miss Mabel Harrison is well placed as Lady Moulton. The members of the Pussy Cat Club are all fascinating young ladies and good vocalists. Mr. James Grant as William White is a comedian of the first order, and is most successful; a capital Bertie White is seen in Mr. Alexander Loftus; and these two gentlemen keep the audience in roars of laughter. Mr. James Hawkes is excellent as Captain Lovebury; and as Colonel Claymore Mr. Harry Collier is quite at home. Mr. Charles Adeson as Mons. Bonsor proves himself to be a versatile and clever actor; Miss Jean Verner as Braddy, Mr. George Roslyn as the Inspector, Mr. Edward Osburn as George, Mr. John Cole as James, and Mr. F. Collins as Henry, all do well.

RYDE—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. H. Arkwright; Manager, Mr. F. B. Farrant. — A further instalment of W. F. Jury's excellent animated pictures was shown here the first three nights of the week. New films include those of the Crystal Palace Cup Tie, "A Day with the Devonshire Staghounds," "A Voyage to South America," and a host of original and amusing items of great popularity. A feature is the illustrated singing of Mr. J. W. Hontin, who ably fills the part of lecturer and guide.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—Mr. Roland Yorke's company met with a good reception from a full house on Monday, when *The Triumph of Truth* was presented. Mr. Henry Lonsdale capitally portrayed the villain, Count Raoul D'Orville; and was well supported by Miss Gertrude Hunt as Blanche Le Croix. The hero, Jack Eversleigh, V.C., was represented in dashing style by Mr. Henry Lonsdale; Mr. Leonard Maxwell gave a good study as Police Inspector Danvers; much laughter was caused by Mr. Fred De Vere as Tommy Woodhead, and Miss Gertie Rosalind as Kate Bright; and also by Miss Sybil Hare as Coralie. Mis G. Bonser ably undertook the twin sisters, Lilian and Violet Anstruther; Mr. Roland Yorke made a powerful impression as Vitteo Mascagni; Little Lena was exceedingly well acted by Miss N. Hughes.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. J. C. Patterson.—A specially attractive programme this week is headed by Carlton's Mysterious Cross, a clever vanishing illusion, introduced by Mr. Arthur Preston; Charles Faning, comedian, assisted by Lotta Charles, keeps the house in roars; Thiel and Fowler's Pom-poms give a smart musical act; the equilibrist act of Jules Kiar obtains much applause; Emmie Ames, comedienne; Bernard and Weston, patterers and comedians; Harry Bancroft, actor-vocalist; Janet H. Reynolds, a sweet singer; Johnny Walker, comedian; and Johnson (Kid) and Pelham (Maisie) in *The Golf Match* also appear, and are duly appreciated.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Wentworth.—A well varied programme is provided this week. The ventriloquial act, "McPherson, the Komik Skot," by Alf. Ripon, is smart; the musical Keiths (Carlina and Charlie) are clever; *The Garden of Girls* is a pleasing scena by Haley's company; Victor Courtney, in *The Boot's Lament;* Taylor and May, acrobatic buck-wing dancing, whistling solo, &c.; Cyril Carle, actor-vocalist; Hauptmann Marquis Jtoyne, in *Fun on a Bivouac;* May and Ruby, vocalists and dainty dancers; and Vequeys, marvellous banjoists, also give acceptable turns.

STRETFORD PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. Sidney Weatherilt; Manager, Mr. Fred Erick.—Ally Benson, comedian and whistler, does well; smart work is done by Edith Cooper and Stanley Goddard in their musical act; Marion Hemming's Welsh songs are pleasing; Hugh Haines, eccentric comedian; and Fred Erick, eccentric comedian, also keep the audience in excellent humour.

SCARBOROUGH.—AQUARIUM.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. Walter Kitchingman.—Mr. George Belrose, who has a remarkably strong voice and Miss Maud Vellin, who possesses a rich soprano voice, win applause here for their duets and solos; the Valdos introduce their motor-car with acrobatic tricks, and do well; Bert Weston is a refined comedian; Danby and Holmes sing diverting numbers; Chas. Lestree juggles in fine style; Miss May Gibson, vocalist, and Miss Ida Owston, dancer, also appear. There are excellent pictures shown by the Bioscope.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. George Zalva.—Mr. Sidney Dalf heads the bill here this week, and is a first-class artist; Miss Belle Ray sings illustrated songs in a style that makes the audience enthusiastic; the Sisters Ely both vocalise and dance well; De Ora is a gymnast who does his tricks cleverly and without fear; the Bioscope pictures are new and up-to-date.

SEACOMBE.—IRVING THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiernan.—Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company is doing good business here this week with *Leah Kleschna*. The part of Kleschna is strongly presented by Mr. Paul Belmore; Mr. William F. Grant does excellently as Paul Sylvaine; Raoul Berton is capitally rendered by Mr. Hamilton Deane; and Schram capably enacted by Mr. Campbell Goldsmid. General Berton receives a good interpretation from Mr. Roland Daniel; Miss Ethel Russell makes the most of Mme. Berton; and Miss Bessie Rignold, in the title-rôle, displays histrionic power.

SHEERNESS.—THE PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Phil. Raymond.—An excellent all-round company is appearing here this week, and includes Miss H. Gordon, ballad and descriptive vocalist; Will Thorne, eccentric comedian and instrumentalist; the Sisters Finlay, duettists and dancers, who are great favourites; Phil Raymond, comedian, contributes capital character songs; the Byrons are an accomplished pair of musical entertainers; Miss Topsy Levane, burlesque actress and dancer, is applauded to the echo for her well-rendered character songs and dances; and the Empire company concludes with a sketch which causes much laughter.

THE HIPPODROME.—General Manager, Mr. F. Leighton.—Mr. Chas. Macdona's excellent company, in *The White Chrysanthemum*, is proving an immense attraction this week. Mr. St. John Hamund sustains the rôle of Admiral Sir Horatio with conspicuous ability; as Lieutenant Reginald Armitage Mr. H. Langdon Bruce is highly successful; whilst Mr. H. E. Garden as Lieut. Belmont is also deserving of much praise. Mr. Richard Telford causes considerable merriment as Sin-Chong; Miss Muriel George, who undertakes the title-rôle, renders her numbers with delightful effect; the chorus is excellent, and the musical arrangements leave nothing to be desired.

SHEFFIELD. — LYCEUM THEATRE. — Managing-Director

and dogs are loudly applauded; Stylo manipulates hoops in a very expert manner; a pleasing entertainment is given by the New York Nippers; and Hardeen's clever act proves successful. Miss Alice May and her company play a charming little piece called *Tranquillity*; Mr. Victor Newman is a skilful mimic of dramatic celebrities; and others who win applause are Miss Nellie Martell, comedienne; Miss Beatrice Bonnie, and Miss Alice.

GRAND THEATRE. — Proprietors, The Vaudeville Syndicate; Manager, Mr. David Warwick.—Messrs. Moule and Nicholl's company are paying a return visit in the favourite serio-comic drama, *The Battle of the Belles*; and others engaged are Mr. Lade Henderson, vocalist; Mr. Charles Banks, comedian; Miss Lottie Bray, burlesque actress; and Idento Bros, comedy jugglers; while Raymond's Bio-tableaux supply up-to-date pictures.

MONTGOMERY.—The artistic entertainment known as the Paris Modern Theatre, presented by Mr. Gustav Gooes, is a great success here. The latest improvements in coloured animated photography are received with hearty applause by large and delighted audiences.

CENTRAL HALL.—Bioscope pictures and a talented little variety company are meeting with approbation at this popular resort.

SOUTHAMPTON. — GRAND THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frederick Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Weston.—*La Poupée* is being presented by Mr. Herbert Ralland's company. Mr. Fred Seymour is responsible for most of the fun as Hilarius, a part which he plays remarkably well; Mr. Walter Balfour is excellent as Father Maxime, and sings in good style; Mr. Arthur Cozens is well suited as Lancelot, and Miss Mysie Devine is charming as Alesia.

PALACE.—The Palace (So'ton), Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. William Trussell.—*Three of a Kind*, a delightful comedy sketch, is the star attraction here. The Three Royal Dreadnoughts are wonderful rifle shots; and Chas. Dare's Minstrels are exceedingly popular; Mooney and Holbein, dancing comedians and singers, submit a clever act; and others who do well are Dene and Dawson, in their comedy sketch, *Stage Aspirants*; T. C. Jaques, comedian; and the Sisters Hall, vocalists.

HIPPODROME. — Joint Proprietors, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot and Mr. Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold P. Howell.—Geo. Lashwood wins golden opinions for his excellently-sung songs; Haley's Juveniles, twenty in number, are a great success; Henri Cazman, the one man music hall; Florence Zaymen, coon caricaturist; Lilian Elfreda, mimic; Chas. Austin, droll comedian; Dolly Denton, comedienne; and Orpheus, in his well-known musical scena, complete the bill of fare.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Conquest; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham-Power.—Mr. Reginald Dance and company are appearing in *Raffles*. Mr. Reginald Dance from the commencement gives striking proof of his capabilities as the "Amateur Cracksman." Mr. Edward Irwin finds ample scope to display a vigorous impersonation of Mr. Curtis Bedford; and Mr. Brisco Owen gives a delightful and creditable portrayal of Harry Manders, while Mr. C. Rivers Bertram ably takes the part of Crawshay. Messrs. Stanley Lathbury and Edward Coutts are worthy exponents of Lord Amersteth and Lord Crowley respectively; Miss Mildred Orme is well suited as Lady Melrose; the rôle of Gwendoline Conran is entrusted to Miss Katie Yates, who gives evident satisfaction with naturalness and marked ability; Mrs. Vidal is fortunate in having such an able exponent as Miss May Brooke, who works in fascinating style that is much admired.

PIER PAVILION.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley E. Angless.—A first-class entertainment is given nightly this week; Mme. Natalia arouses immense enthusiasm by her clever renderings of good classical songs, and is equally delightful with her pianoforte solos; the Misses Loeta Dewhurst and Ida F. Price also sing in fascinating style that gains much favour, and whose selections are rendered with both force and skill; Mr. W. Hockley contributes well-selected songs in very creditable fashion; Mr. Lawrence Turney imparts real good merriment in his quaint way of entertaining; while Mr. L. Sears also appears popular with his répertoire of songs. Mention should be made of the concluding item for the excellent and pleasing manner in which the company render the "Death of Cock Robin."

SOUTHPORT.—OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS.—Proprietors, the Southport Opera House and Winter Gardens Co., Ltd.; Secretary, Mr. R. Singleton.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's excellent company has met with a cordial reception from large audiences with *Peter's Mother*. Miss Ruth Mackay speedily wins the favour of the audience by her powerful portrayal of the rôle of Lady Mary Crewys, which she depicts in a clever and effective manner; Peter Crewys is capitally impersonated by Mr. Percy Hutchison; Mr. Charles Harley is an admirable representative of Sir Timothy Crewys, Bart.; Mr. Stanley Pringle shows a thorough grasp of the part of John Crewys, and is eminently successful; Mr. Townend characteristically impersonates Dr. Blundell; Mr. F. G. Thurstans represents Canon Birch very efficiently; Miss Mary Griffiths, Miss Florence Harwood as Lady Belstone, and Miss G. Crewys respectively acquitted themselves creditably; Miss Violet Ley plays particularly well as Mrs. Hewell; Miss Hilda Horriss lends ample assistance in the character of her daughter Sarah; and Mr. Mitchell and Mr. T. Salver do well in their respective parts of Butler and Footman. As a curtain-raiser a one-act play, entitled *Her Dearest Friend*, is presented.

ALBERT HALL, WINTER GARDENS.—Lessee, Mrs. Charles Parker; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Mertz.—The principal items during the current week are supplied by Charles Mildare, assisted by Miss Edna Werner, in *A Day in Birdland*; Peter Bermingham, the popular Scottish comedian; and the Celtics, in their diverting musical comedy. The programme also includes Minnie D'Aubyn, burlesque actress and vocalist; Ford and Hanson, in their musical novelty; Newco and Sullo, comedians and grotesque dancers; Leotard Brothers, comical clowns, hat balancers, and throwers; Bugler Carr, instrumentalist; and the Bioscope, with the latest films.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. J. and F. Coulson.—*The Coal King* is presented by Messrs. G. M. Polini and L. Maitland's company. The part of the hero is well performed by Mr. Lauderdale Maitland, and Miss Gertrude Valentine as Grace Shirley exhibits marked ability. The villainous Walter Hartford is capitally sustained by Mr. Escott Robson, and Mr. Charles Whitlock as Sir Reginald Hartford scores heavily. Excellent humour is introduced by Mr. Alfred Ferris as Jim Williams, and Miss Enid Ross as Araminta. Mr. Frank Dalton works hard as Dick Shirley, and the Mrs. Baker and the Mad Ann of Miss E. North and Miss Sinna St. Clair are both creditable performances.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, The South Shields Empire Palace, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—Tom Costello presents his latest success, "The Suffragettes," and his characteristic masterpiece, "The old clown," to an appreciative audience; Charles Norton, a mimic of pronounced ability, also has a good reception; Gladys Mavius scores heavily in a song-scena, "Rosie is Waiting," assisted by Dot; Lily Langtry is a vivacious comedienne; good songs are rendered by Hilda Playfair, and other attractive items are J. Alexander and company, in a sketch; Queenie May, juvenile artist; Fred Fane, vocal comedian; and the Bioscope.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. K. Hall and Joseph Sweeney; Business-Manager, Mr. Harry Burns.—A musical military sketch, *The Little Colonel*, is being presented by Ernest Montefiore and company; Harry Levaine is a quaint comedian; a clever juggling turn is contributed by the Henres. Other excellent turns are provided by Maeston, an excellent mimic; the Three Luna Girls, comediennes and dancers; Paddy Sloan, comedian; and the Tivoli Bioscope.

SPENNYMOOR.—CAMBRIDGE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; General-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—Miss Ethel Van Praagh and Mr. J. Edward Van Praagh and Mr. J. Edward Whitty's company is fulfilling a week's engagement here with *An Unwedded Wife*. In the title-rôle Miss Van Praagh gives an excellent interpretation of an arduous character; Mr. E. St. Clair Forbes presents the shady side of the drama as the double-dyed villain Philip Blakestone; and his artless accomplice, Kit, is ably handled by Mr. Wilton Bedford. Miss Elsie Walton and Messrs. Logan Darra and Valentine Henry, as Elsie Langham, John Hawthorne, and Frank Armstrong respectively, all do good work. The fun of the piece is capably sustained by Mr. Will Casey as Napoleon Boomer, Miss Jessie Gillette as Caraway Crumpet, and Mr. Whitty as O'Runyin.

ST. HELENS.—THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader. Mrs. Wybert Clive's well-balanced company are appearing here this week in *The Branded Woman*. Miss Lilian Ross in the title-rôle is very effective; Miss Florence M. Daly as Marie gives an excellent impersonation of a faithful woman; Mr. H. Creagh Hunt as Philip is good; and Miss May Warden as Rodulph acts extremely well; Mr. Cowell Clarke is excellent as Zarka; and Mr. Walter Steele gives a sound performance as Baron Haubert. Pleasant relief is afforded by the witticisms and songs of Dick Brown, well played by Mr. Harry Liddle, who shares the honours of the comic relief with Miss Isabel Hunt.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Wilmot; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Vic Carnell.—The bright and particular stars here are the Royal Tokio Troupe of Japanese Jugglers, who present a unique turn. Mr. F. V. St. Clair scores a most pronounced success with his topical songs. A capital turn is that of Welda and Wynne, comedy jugglers and dancers; their act is as funny as it is clever. Tray and Rich are big favourites, and receive a cordial reception; the Three Sisters Kilner give a capital exhibition of acrobatic dancing; and the Sisters Poole make a welcome reappearance. Harry Claff, with a rousing naval song, completes a capital bill.

STOCKPORT. — THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE. — Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Revill, jun. —Mr. J. A. Campbell's company, appearing in *The Sins of Her Childhood*, has been received here with favour this week. Mr. Fred Liston makes an excellent Captain John Thornton; and Mr. Wilson Summers acts very effectively as Stephen Haysel. Mr. Hugh Brady depicts the character of Barney O'Reilly in a mirth-provoking manner, capitally supported by Miss Madge Violet as Eliza Muggins; the Rev. Alan Gray is pleasingly impersonated by Mr. James Duncan; Miss Clara Santley displays marked ability in acting the part of Maria Haysel; and Miss Stanley Burt is charmingly sympathetic as Mary Haysel.

EMPIRE, LTD.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Black.—A musical entertainment of much ability, given by Francinio Ollam, is the chief attraction here this week. Others appearing are the Gladenbecks, in a clever hand-balancing and ring speciality act; the Bensley Evans' company, in a laughable sketch, entitled *Sally's Dilemma*, in which the comicalities of Miss Olive Lanty as Sally are a prominent feature; Lotti de Abbey, a pleasing vocalist; the Walleys, really smart jugglers; Gus Merriman, styled the human steam engine; the Sisters Selwyn, charming vocalists and dancers; and Wheeler and Wilson, amusing comedy acrobats.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—HIPPODROME THEATRE. —General-Manager, Mr. Robert A. Nicholson; Assistant-Manager, Mr. G. Stainton.—Harry Burn's Juveniles provide a delightful musical entertainment in their scena, *The Waif*; Ada Gatley, lady juggler, is worthy of special mention; and Gold and Sterling are amusing in their sketch *The Welsh Girl and the Artist*. Annie Nelson is an ideal soprano, and is greatly appreciated; Walter Curtis, a funny comedian, causes great amusement; and the Belmores are an exceedingly clever pair of comedians and dancers. The Brothers Corcoran, musical artists, are clever; and a great sensation is caused by the Tom Davis Trio of motor cyclists. The pictures are very interesting.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Councillor J. Batty; Manager, Mr. W. Batty.—Carl Hertz heads the bill this week with his wonderful illusions; Abel and Welsh cause great amusement in their grotesque act; and Rich and Rich are a funny pair of comedians and patterers; Rose Elliott is well received as a singer of sensible songs; Burnetti is a clever musical character impersonator; the Three Coopers are very humorous in a comedy melody, "Henpecked Husband"; and the Jimsons cause much mirth in *The Burglar's Surprise*. The pictures are amusing.

STOKE.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr T. Allan Edwardes; Manager, Mr. H. Miller.—The premier position is held by Dutch Daly, who scores a huge success; the Columbia Trio provide a clever and amusing turn; Hallam and Stanton are good singers, and present a pleasing act; the Sisters Grosvenor sing well together; and Ian Robans is a capital operatic singer. Conway and Garland are a most amusing pair; Tate and Tate provide a smart humorous acrobatic display; the Walonells on the triple-bars are exceptionally clever. The Pictures are capital.

STOURBRIDGE.—ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—Manageress, Miss Maude Lynton.—Clarence C. Corri and company are presenting here "Items," grave and gay. The most prominent artists include Miss Gladys Horley, a talented violinist; Miss Nora Beverley, a pleasing singer, whose numbers are illustrated by appropriate scenes; Mr. George Delaforce, a descriptive and topical vocalist; Mr. W. F. Jury's Bioscope; and the musical comedy, *Office Hours*.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Ernest Stevens and R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry L. Carlo. —Charles Macdona's company in *Dr. Wake's Patient* drew a crowded house here on Monday night. Mr. Lawrence Grant gives a most effective rendering of Dr. Forrester Wake, and Mr. Alfred Ibberson is a pleasing Andrew Wake; Mr. Paul Lovett submits a polished rendering of the Earl of St. Olbyn; whilst an agreeable touch of humour is imparted to the scenes by Mr. Allan Pollock as Duff Wynterden; Mr. Adam Alexander makes the most of his opportunities as the Bishop of Selby; Miss Fyfe Alexander gives a pleasing interpretation of Lady Gerania Wyn-Charteret; Miss Georgie Trewman has ample scope for her ability as the Countess of St. Olbyn; Miss Beatrice Fitzgerald is a pleasing Harriet Bronson; and the same may be said of Miss Kate Osborne as Mrs. Wake.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. J. Hemingway.—Mr. J. Rice Cassidy's company, with *In Holy Russia* is here. Mr. Arthur Stratton ably fills the rôle of Col. Richard Forrest; Mr. J. Rice Cassidy, a comedian of more than usual ability, scores a huge success as Micky Nalan; Mr. Frank Copeland is a manly Sir Harry Beresford, and Count Gregori Petrolski is played with telling effect by Mr. Martin Sands; Mr. Carl Rovinelli scores as Laurice Steragoff; and as Baron von Plove Mr. J. Cuthbertson is excellent; Mrs. J. Rice Cassidy gives a refined impersonation of Renee Rubinoff, and the Mrs. Richard Forrest of Miss Annie Dudley could not well be improved upon; Miss Florence Creagh is a pleasing Catska Lavotski.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessees, The United County Theatres, Ltd.; Acting-Managers, Messrs. Alfred Browne and Syd. B. Stringer.—The place of honour is this week held by Alexandre and Hughes, two comedians, who are always sure of a hearty reception in the Wearside borough. The programme includes Lyons Trio, pantomimists and dancers; Bliss and Bliss, comedians; Charles Ashdowne, eccentric comedian; Gertrella, vocalist and gymnast; Phil and Nettie Peters, entertainers; Ada Twibell, comedienne; Mark Leslie, billed as the dusky prince; and the Palace Bioscope.

SWANSEA.—GRAND.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Brooks and Woodbridge; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Oswald Brooks.—The boards here are occupied by an excellent company. Mlle. Lumiere, the human butterfly, introduces a number of beautiful serpentine dances; Vulcaris is an accomplished pianist and banjo player; Clack and Clack combine clever barrel jumping with excellent comedy; the Ashburns baffle the "house" with their cabinet trick; Seves, a fifteen-year-old young lady, gives an excellent demonstration of second sight; Gladys Wells is a comedienne of merit; Hoozee as a ventriloquist is hard to beat; Kingsley, handbell ringer; Les Henris, gymnasts; Harry Keeble, character comedian; and Minni Carlo, serio, are also in the bill, which has as an attraction a sketch by E. Oswald Brooks, entitled *The Simple (?) Life*.

THE EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. A. Mitchell; Assistant-Manager, Mr. P. C. Rowe.—Paul Cinquevalli has lost nothing of his skill since his last visit here, his turn being as effective as ever; Lottie Lennox has good songs, which she gives in excellent style; Syd May, "the imitator without imitation," is received as heartily as ever; Mr. Carter Livesey and Miss Lilian Rosebery, in *The Would-be Actors*, are one of the features of the programme; a pleasing turn is contributed by Ruth Lytton; A. W. Scott's coon songs are much enjoyed; and Elsie Clare, soprano vocalist, sings well. Some interesting pictures on the Bioscope are shown.

THE STAR. — Manager, Mr. William Coutts.—*A Broken Heart* is being presented here by Mr. Harry Foxwell's company. Mr. Henry Woolston gives a manly delineation of the Village Blacksmith; Mrs. Harry Foxwell as Mary Barnard is equally successful; the Stephen Rayton of Mr. W. H. Earlesmere is good; Mr. Will Lindsay does full justice to the part of Tony Tibbetts; and Mr. Geo. Addison is effective as Skrimp. Miss Julia Calcraft as Mrs. Bernard and Miss Beatrice Hart as Grace Fanshawe are also successful.

TAMWORTH.—ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—Manager, Mr. F. Hughes.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company appeared here on Saturday night to a good house in *The Christian*. Mr. Jack Fortescue was a manly Father Storm, torn by conflicting emotions; Miss Laura Walker was a decided success as Glory Quayle, and won golden opinions; Mr. Harry Colbeck was excellent as Father Lamplugh, and Mr. Phipps Stanley was commendable as the Archdeacon; Mr. P. Gedge Twyman gave a good account of himself as Lord Robert Ure, an unthankful part; Miss C. Stephens gave a capital personation of Mrs. Callander, the strong-minded woman. Other characters deserving of mention were those of Parson Quayle (Mr. Percy Johnson), Horatio Drake (Mr. Ernest Stidwell), the "Faro" King (Mr. Anthony Rawles), Polly Love (Miss Edith M. Savery), and Aggie Jones (Miss Aggie Royal).

TON-Y-PANDY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, Messrs. Carlton and Duckworth; General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth.—Mr. J. H. Tomkinson's Royal Gipsy Girls' Choir is here, and has attracted large houses. The singing is well up to the standard, and in the second half of the programme a good variety show is put on.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Will. Stone; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edgar Harper.—The Bioscope pictures here still draw good business. Of the variety turns, Edgar Harper, baritone vocalist; and Morimura, juggler and illusionist, are the pick.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS. — OPERA HOUSE. — Lessee, Mr. Charles Carey; Business-Manager, Mr. L. J. Gunnell.—This week Mr. Carey's touring company is appearing here in the successful musical comedy *The Pick of the Bunch*, and Friday was fixed for a complimentary benefit night for Mr. Carey, with the result that the popular lessee was assured of a bumper house. The piece goes with a swing, and Mr. Carey resumed the leading rôle and had quite an ovation. Miss M. Sadie's exuberant humour kept the house thoroughly amused in the title-rôle; Miss Madge Christopher and Miss Eva Ellis charmingly sustained the love interest, and the latter lady proved herself an accomplished *danseuse*. Miss Nellie James as the Dutch maid gave a quaint and humorous impersonation; Mr. Buckstone Clair as the susceptible Colonel, Mr. Harold Wantage as Dick Seymour all contributed materially to the success of the evening; while the Hydro Girls in song and dance, with Miss Madge Lacey as *première danseuse*, were cordially received. A word of congratulation is certainly due to the musical director, Mr. Harry Bolton, and it may be added that some distinguished residents, including Mr. Hedges, M.P., Lord Colchester, Lady Lawrence, and Lady Miller, gave their patronage for the benefit.

WAKEFIELD.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Sherwood and Co.—Mr. C. St. John Denton's company is here this week in the pretty musical play, *Kitty Grey*. Miss Hilda Guiver is the Kitty, and her charming manner and vocal ability make her a great favourite; Miss Zena Denton is pleasing as Sadie de Poulston; Mr. Leslie Harris is excellent as Lord Plantagenet, and keeps the house in continuous merriment; Miss Nellie Cozens is distinctly good as Mrs. Bright, and Miss Noira Moira is dainty and smart as Lady Binfield; Mr. Robert Whyte, jun., makes an admirable King of Illyra; and Mr. Percy Yorke Hatton acts and sings in grand style as Sir John Binfield.

HIPPODROME. — Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—Miss Margaret Ismay and her White Coons contribute some clever dancing; the Watson Family are successful in a muscial turn; Clifton and Gibson, comedians, are amusing with their patter; Harry Barfoot and Charles Carson, in a comedy act, are diverting; Stephen Blythe, actor-vocalist, sings well; Hardy and Willis, comedians; and Miss Olga Fane, contralto vocalist, also contribute.

WALSALL.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—The bill here this week is headed by Mendel, the blind pianist. Also here are the Brothers O'Gorman, comedians and dancers; Madge Temple, musical comedy artist; Sisters Trentanovi, who give a clever performance in their gymnastic transformation act; Katie Butler, character comedienne; Farley, Rennie, and Farley, in their speciality act, *Fun at a Railway Station*, are attractive; and George Brooks, the nautical sailor. The pictures are very attractive.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD. — General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.— Mr. Edward McLean's company is presenting *The Hero of the Flag* here this week. Paul Mansfield is in the capable hands of Mr. Ernest Wingfield; Mr. Edward McLean makes a capital Jack Lawrence; Miss Gladys Vernon as Mabel Forrester plays very well; Mr. Johnny McElroy as Johnny Truckle creates great laughter, as also does Miss Amy Randolph, in the part of Jenny Stubbs.

WARRINGTON.—ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES. —Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr. F. Willmot.—Minnie Cunningham tops the bill here this week, and the charming comedienne has captured all hearts with her dainty songs; Harry Rogerson, the tired comedian, is a typical droll, and his sketch is highly appreciated; Miles Platting is a capital mimic; and Young Vardon is a smart ventriloquist. The Greys are delightful duettists; and Flo Wood is a dashing comedienne. George Collins is a quaint comedian; and Farrell and Miller rare knockabouts. The pictures depicting the Grand National of 1907 are good.

WEST BROMWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. Harding Thomas; Manager, Mr. Richard Nightingale.—Mr. Chas. H. Lester and company opened here on Monday night with *The Bank of England*. Mr. Lester gives an interesting and clever impersonation of Sherlock Holmes; Mr. G. Clifton Boyne is well suited to the rôle of Stephen Hartley; and Mr. H. J. Firman is well placed as Sir Sidney Barraclough; Mr. F. C. Berridge does well in the part of the Hon. Bertie Burlington; Mr. Harry T. Wood is effective as Eric Dane; Mr. Edmond O'Grady makes a capital Gordon Isaacs; and Mr. W. R. Stanley as Tommy Sprouts and Miss Annie Thomas as Lucy Lockett are very entertaining; Miss Marjorie Davenport makes a sympathetic Margaret Dane; and a smarter exponent of the American widow than Miss Lallah Davis it would be difficult to find; Miss Dorothy Riddell is all that could be desired in the character of Sylvia Barraclough. On Wednesday and Friday *East Lynne* and *The Sorrows of Satan* were presented respectively by the same company.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Lewis Gilbert. —The society entertainers, Mountford and Walsh, appear here this week, and are well received; Mr. T. W. Romer, in his vocal scena, is a success, and a clever turn is submitted by Miss Bessie Travers, who shows great ability with her talking figures; the Harvey Boys cause great merriment and receive encores; Nanno, Leo, and Kinko create roars of laughter with their funny antics; Miss Edie Gray and Boys render some smart songs in a very pleasing manner; Bromley and Fontein present a novel turn; Happy Tom Parker pleases the house immensely by his comic songs and manner; and a fine film of the Grand National is shown by the Hippodrome lantern.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—GRAND.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Manager, Mr. Herbert E. Feather. —*Florodora*, played by Mr. J. Bannister Howard's No. 1 company, is here again. Mr. Alf. E. Passmore makes a good deal of fun out of the part of Tweedlepunch; Cyrus W. Gilfain has a capable portrayal at the hands of Mr. Stanley White; Frank Abercoed and Capt. Arthur Donegal are ably represented by Mr. H. V. Cropton and Mr. Harry Perry; Miss Daisy Lake is a refined and pleasing Dolores, and she sings with engaging sweetness; Miss Lily Gullich is a petite and winning Angela Gilfain; and a well-studied piece of acting is given by Miss Kate Leicester as Lady Holyrood.

PALACE. — Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—The Four Herberts, in their acrobatic act, as *The Jolly Californian Farmers and Maid*, provide a turn which gains for them a perfect tumult of applause; those popular favourites, Ormonde Penstone and his Chinatown belle, Tsaou-ago, are also on a return visit, and are receiving a flattering welcome. A conspicuous hit is made by the Three Sisters Sprightly; the harmonised songs by the Sisters Joughmans are delightfully rendered; Jack Lane, the Yorkshire rustic, spins some capital jokes, and excels at the piano; Edna Latonne sings very prettily some songs with choruses, which catch on at once. Dave Laird, comedian, and some excellent films are also included in the attractions.

WEST STANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Mark H. Lindon.—Mr. Edmund Tearle, supported by Miss Kate Clinton and a powerful company, opened here on Monday with *Jeanie Deans*, which proved a strong attraction. The week's programme include *Othello, It's Never Too Late To Mend*, and *The Octoroon*.

VICTORIA THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. C. Raws. The bill here this week includes the Lauriers, speciality artists; the Leonards, in pictorial songs; Flemine, a clever acrobat with one leg; the Two Volbecques, smart comedy duettists; Mlle. Fontain's Mannikins; Leon Ardo, conjuror; the Mohamed Ben Mohamed troupe of Souasa Arabs; and the Vicoscope is quite up to date.

WIGAN. — ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Co.—Hardie and Von Leer's company in the ever-popular play, *Two Little Vagabonds*, pay a welcome return visit. The "vagabonds" are impersonated by Miss Edie Martin and Miss Josie Bertram. The former as Dick is a brave and vivacious urchin, and Miss Bertram as Wally plays the part of the sickly and dying lad with much pathos. Miss Grace Heywood as Marion Thornton, Miss Rosslyn Vayne as Barbara, and Miss Evelyn Shaw as Biddy impersonate the respective characters realistically; George Thornton is ably represented by Mr. Arthur E. Melborne; and Bill Mullins, the "Gaffer" (Mr. Lionel Ellis), is capitally supported by Dido Bunce (Mr. Frank Gordon) and the Cough Drop (Mr. Dick Winslow).

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Co.—Holden's Mannikins, Mozzetto (juggler), and Galetti's highly-trained monkeys give excellent performances. Good vocal selections are given by Bean (the basso) and Master Raley (boy singer); whilst Vandinoff is described as the world's fastest painter. Fine comedy turns are provided by Mignonette-Kokin, Will Van Allen, Tom Moore, Ike Scott and son, and Minnie Fenton.

WOLVERHAMPTON. — GRAND THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. E. H. Bull and Mr. Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Percival. —J. W. Turner's opera company is appearing here in a round of operas. On Monday night *Il Trovatore* was produced, the principal characters being in the hands of Mr. F. Clarke, Mr. F. J. Hargrave, Miss Kitty Brownless, Miss Christine Gomez, Miss Jessie Dennis, Mr. G. Ridding, and Mr. P. Newton, all of whom did full justice to their respective parts. They were assisted by an excellent chorus. The following were also included in the programme:—*The Bohemian Girl, Faust, Lily of Killarney, Nigel, The Daughter of the Regiment*, and *Maritana*.

THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company are producing *For Her Sake* at this house. Mr. Herbert Ford and Miss Mabel Mannering are allotted the chief parts, and sustain them admirably. They are ably assisted by Mr. Arthur Elwyn, Mr. Robert Faulkner, Miss Nellie Lauraine, Mr. Fred Hilliard, Mr. Fred Beck, Mr. Harry Benson, and Miss Ella Dixon.

EMPIRE PALACE.—This week's bill is headed by D'Arc's Marionettes, who give an excellent show; and Harry Champion's efforts as a comedian are greatly appreciated. Other items in the programme are Oakdene, ventriloquist; Les Vocos, operatic vocalists; Johnson and Bert, in amusing comedy act, *A Queer Customer*; the Three Rubies; Syd Brandon; Fred Collins; and Will Lytton.

WORCESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. F. Le Wards.—Mr. Wm. Maclaren, Miss Lily C. Bandman, and their company are this week presenting *Claudian*. Mr. Maclaren is a dignified and convincing Claudian; Miss Bandman plays the part of Almida with singular charm and grace; Edessa, in the hands of Miss Maud Garth, is a most interesting character study; Mr. F. Owen Chambers realises the villainies of Thariogalus; and Mr. Douglas Earle is well suited as Agazil. As the Holy Clement Mr. Ulick Burke is powerfully dramatic; and the Serena of Miss Rosa Webster is very natural and entertaining. Mr. Edward Crogan (Theorus), Mr. A. Nuttall (Demos), and Mr. Weston Hubbard (Alcares) are able members of the company; Miss Amy Hardcastle is responsible for a delightful dance; and Miss Violet Barclay sings the Harvest Song admirably.

WORKINGTON.—QUEEN'S OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Falconer Jackes.—On Monday night Mr. Godfrey Tearle's clever company presented *A Soldier of Fortune* to a large and appreciative audience. In consequence of Mr. Tearle's accident the part of Rupert Clive was taken by Mr. B. Holloway, who infused into it good colouring and intelligent acting; Mr. Alfred Gray was excellent as Sir Stephen; as Dr. Thorn Mr. Lowe was satisfactory; Mr. C. Este was effective as Phineas; whilst a fund of humour was apparent in the portrayal of Jerry by Mr. E. T. Sayer; Miss Barnett played the heroine with fervour and grace, and was well supported.

WORTHING.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Herr C. Adolf Seebold.—Miss Augusta Tullock and company were here the first three nights of the week presenting *The End Crowns All*. Mr. Roy Milton is excellently placed as Prince Borinsky; Mr. Max Coutts gives a fine character study as Lord Arthur Lyndhurst; Mr. Edward Vivian is very good as Clifford Barrington; Mr. Arthur Plummer puts in capital work as Ivan Spava; Mr. Wm. De Lacy typically acts the part of the Rev. Samsone Gone; Mr. George Byrne possesses a good voice, and uses it to effect as John Jabbs; Amber Wyville sings well, and is a favourite as Lola Ivanwith; Miss Augusta Tullock is the life and soul of the play, sustaining the part of Vera Roamine with ease and grace.

YORK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington. — Messrs. Armitage and Leigh's *East Lynne* company is here. Miss Julie Kennard has proved an exceptionally clever Isabel; Mr. Alfred Beaumont was forcible and natural as Carlyle; and Mr. Frederick Harker cleverly brought out the villainies of Levison; a clever character-sketch of Justice Hare was given by Mr. C. C. Grattan; and a highly diverting Bullock was seen in Mr. Alfred Tate.

OPERA HOUSE AND EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brooks.—Sam Elton is a most lively comedian, and during the present week large crowds have given him a hearty welcome; Gladys Huxley is a sweet singer, with a voice much above the average; Cruikshank has been well received, both in story and song; Drum and Major introduce funny business; and the boxing of the Brothers Curran smacks of novelty; the Satelos for their age are remarkable; the Sisters Cora and Ellis and Watts do well; and the Living Art Bronzes of Mme. Irma Clasens are artistic and absolutely free from suggestiveness.

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SHAKESPEARE ANNIVERSARY.

The Shakespeare Festival performances were continued at the Memorial Theatre, Stratford-on-Avon, on Friday last week, when Mr. Benson's company gave a capital representation of *The Country Girl*. Mrs. Benson as Peggy Thrift simulated the rustic simplicity and gaucherie of the Country Girl for the most part admirably. Miss Helen Haye as Alithea played throughout in the most convincing manner, and conveyed most artistically the feelings of the noble-minded woman who, purely from considerations of honour, is willing to tie herself to a witless fool. Mr. Murray Carrington's Harcourt was a creditable piece of work; and Mr. H. O. Nicholson suggested capitally the would-be wit of the period. Mr. Edward A. Warburton also gave a strong study of the grumpy, jealous curmudgeon Moody; and Mr. George Buchanan bore himself with every credit in the not over-exacting part of Melville; while Miss Cissie Sumarez was sprightly as Lucy.

Saturday afternoon saw Mr. Benson's production of *Henry V.*, the theatre being packed in all parts. Mr. Benson was particularly happy in the rôle of the soldier king, and he moved the audience to unwonted fervour by his spirited playing on this occasion. Mrs. Benson was almost equally successful as the coquettish Katherine, and excellent support was rendered by the other members of the company, Miss Elinor Dickens meeting with an especially cordial welcome.

In the evening *Twelfth Night* was performed, Mr. Benson enacting the rôle of the self-centred Malvolio, a characterisation which gained him universal congratulation. The Viola of Mrs. Benson furnished a fund of amusement, and the portrayal was marked by the skill which we expect from her. There was a delightful Olivia in Miss Helen Haye; while Miss Leah Hammam was pleasing as Maria. Mr. Nicholson proved highly entertaining as the feather-brained fool, Sir Andrew Aguecheek; and Mr. Weir gave a capital representation of the drunken Sir Toby Belch.

Shakespeare Sunday was fittingly celebrated. For the week-end there was a large influx of visitors from all over the country, and the procession to Trinity Church was much larger than usual. The Mayor of Stratford was accompanied by the Marquis of Hertford (High Steward of the borough), Captain Kincaid Smith, M.P., the members of the Corporation, the borough and county magistrates, the members of the Shakespeare Club, and other societies. The annual Shakespeare sermon was preached by the Bishop of Derry, who remarked that that week they were celebrating the extraordinary man who probably saw deeper into the secrets of good and evil, and their working in the human heart, than the eyes of any other mortal ever penetrated. Homer had his gods and warriors, and with them all the range of Nature, wine-coloured rivers and stars like the watch-fires of an army; Dante had heaven and hell, spiritual tragedies, the mystic rose of Paradise; Milton had the sublime, and now and then the beautiful; but the magic touch of Shakespeare had the whole keyboard of human nature from end to end, and struck every note of music. At the close of the service the Mayor and his escort returned in procession to the Town Hall, where "The Immortal Memory" was toasted in silence. A special service of praise was held in the church in the afternoon, when there was again a crowded congregation. The music was under the direction of Mr. Ivor Atkins, organist of Worcester Cathedral. Miss Marie Brema sang selections from *Elijah* and two songs by Bach and Dvorak. Other vocal items were contributed by Mr. Clive Carey, and Herr Lehmann played two violoncello solos.

On Monday two performances of *The Merchant of Venice* were given, this time the honours falling thick upon Mr. Arthur Bourchier, who made his Shylock a malignant, merciless usurer, whose intense hatred of Christians in general, and of Antony in particular, is his most prominent characteristic. Mr. Bourchier conveyed the impression compellingly, and his performance from beginning to end was marked by a dramatic force and vigour which won the most enthusiastic admiration. Miss Violet Vanbrugh's Portia was a figure of infinite charm—a witty, tender, queenly woman, who moved through the scenes with a delicate grace which won the hearts of all. Mr. Cyril Keightley made a manly Bassanio; the character of Antonio was invested with becoming dignity by Mr. Arthur Whitby; Mr. Acton Bond made a blithely irresponsible figure of Gratiano; and Miss Pamela Gaythorne invested Nerissa with fitting sprightliness and coquetry. Mr. G. R. Weir rollicked in the part of Launcelot Gobbo, and the remaining characters were capably filled. Mr. Bourchier had brought down with him some of the scenery used in the Garrick production, and the whole performance was of the most enjoyable description.

On Tuesday the programme consisted of *Othello*, with Mr. Lewis Waller as the Moor. Mr. Waller's conception of Othello was one that met with popular favour. Othello is naturally a robust character, and in that respect it was well suited to such an actor as Mr. Waller, whose artistic self-restraint prevented him from over-acting the part. Mr. Lyall Swete's presentment of Iago was all that could be desired. Miss Wynne Matthison's Emilia was a remarkably capable piece of acting. Her simulated passion with her husband and the Moor for treachery, and the blunder to which it leads, had in it the right grip. As Desdemona Miss Evelyn Millard played with a realism that was almost painful in its intensity, but her interpretation otherwise afforded no room for unfavourable criticism. Cassio was most carefully played by Mr. Owen Roughwood, who at no time thrust himself out of the picture, despite sundry obvious temptations afforded by the rôle. The same may be said of Mr. A. E. George's Roderigo. Mr. E. A. Warburton had only limited opportunity for the use of his talents as Brabantio, but these he utilised fully; and Mr. H. O. Nicholson, in the small part of the Duke, was entirely satisfactory.

On Thursday evening the great event of the Festival, the Elizabethan costume ball, was held in the Town Hall, the Mayor of Stratford (Councillor Priest) and Mr. John Palmer being the masters of the ceremonies. There were about 250 beautifully-dressed dancers, most of them representing Shakespearean characters, and who come from all parts of England and Ireland. Dancing took place in the large upper room of the Town Hall. The decorations, in pale green and white, formed a soft foil to the brilliant play of costume colour, and an especially effective feature was the graceful old pavane danced by the parties of Mrs. F. R. Benson, Miss Hodgson, and Miss Allward. Amongst the principal parties were thirty-five members of the Benson company, and house parties arranged by the Mayor (Councillor Priest) and Mrs. Priest, Miss Marie Corelli, the Rev. F. H. and the Honourable Mrs. Hodgson, Mrs. Charles E. Flower, and Captain Milward. Amongst the dancers were Mme. Marie Brema, Miss Tita Brand, Lady K. Drummond, the Rev. and Mrs. Cornwall Robertson, Major and Mrs. Capel Cure, Viscount Lifford, Major-General Thomson, Messrs. Acton Bond and R. E. Morrison. At ten o'clock there was a brilliant scene, when the dancers marched past Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Benson and Miss Marie Brema, who were the judges of the costumes. The ladies' prize was awarded to the Hon. Mrs. Hodgson, as Lady Totnes, and the gentlemen's prize went to Mr. S. K. Thorpe, of Nuneaton, as Henry VIII.

Mr. Tree brought his Shakespeare celebration at His Majesty's to a close on Saturday. In the afternoon *Twelfth Night* was presented, with Mr. Tree as Malvolio. This is a part which gives Mr. Tree a splendid opportunity of exhibiting that mastery of detail which he absolutely revels in. In fact, it may be said that were not these very minute details carefully emphasised, the part of the self-important, opiniated major-domo would lose a great deal of its mirth-provoking qualities.

In the evening *The Merry Wives of Windsor* formed the attraction, and it seemed to be a strong one, for the house was crowded with an audience which waxed enthusiastic as the evening advanced. We have before referred to the boisterous exuberance which Mr. Tree imparts to the character of the jolly old knight. After each act the principals were called before the curtain, and after the forest scene, Mr. Tree, in response to repeated and enthusiastic demands, made a brief speech. He had, he said, reached the happy ending of ten years' management of His Majesty's Theatre, preceded by ten at the Comedy and the Haymarket. His aim during that long term had been to make his theatre a repertory one, and he thought he might claim to have succeeded, at least, if the splendid success of the last week were to be taken as an indication. As regards the future, he proposed to give a few performances of *Julius Cæsar* and *Hamlet*, and *The Red Lamp*, and *The Van Dyck* would be included in the following (this) week's programme. In conclusion, Mr. Tree said that he proposed to revive that wonderfully successful comedy, *A Woman of No Importance*. He trusted that this would meet with acceptance from the public, an announcement which was greeted by loud cheers.

MRS. RICHARD EDGAR.

Most British-born folk go to our colonies for the purpose of starting a career and making a fortune. Mrs. Richard Edgar, who has been an actress for over thirty years, is leaving these shores to end her days in one of our over-seas possessions. On Friday last she sailed for British Columbia, where, among relatives and friends, she will spend her—let us hope, long and happy—retirement from active work.

Although Mrs. Edgar graduated in the old stock school, she is not one of those who have an unbounded belief in the utility of the stock company as a means of bringing an actor's work to a state of perfection. "It was not possible for us in the old days, when we played as many as thirteen different parts in a week, to give a perfect performance," says Mrs. Edgar. "I often wonder now," she adds, "what some of those performances must have been like. On the other hand, whatever talent and initiative we had were undoubtedly developed by this system. We were given our parts, and it was left entirely to us to delineate the characters as we thought best. How different is everything nowadays, when an actor is allowed six weeks in which to study his part, and, in addition, all that time has the guidance of the author and stage-manager! Personally, I heartily approve of the long rehearsals, because, after so many weeks' preparation, one feels at ease on the first night."

Mrs. Edgar ridicules the prevalent idea that the actors and actresses in a new production are in a state of nervous tension on the opening night. "They are certainly anxious," she says, "as to the success of the whole production, but it would be absurd to suggest that anyone who has had ample opportunities for learning a few lines off by heart would be in a state of perturbation as to his or her individual work. At least, I am speaking from my own personal experience, and I believe it is the experience of other members of the profession."

Our interviewee is able to burst another bubble which the present generation so often and so boastfully drag before people's eyes. She points out that playgoers of thirty years ago got far better value—at any rate from the point of view of quantity, if not exactly of quality—for their money than they or their descendants get now. For instance, Mrs. Edgar recalls playing in *The Colleen Bawn* and *The Octoroon*, and singing between these pieces, all in one night, at the old Theatre Royal, Oxford. The price of admission to the gallery in those days was sixpence, and at nine o'clock half price was allowed. This meant that one could be entertained for five and a half hours on end, and witness two plays and what was really a short music-hall entertainment, for the humble "tanner," while for the still more modest threepenny bit the more or less ardent but poor student of the drama could enjoy the production of a four-act play of a first-class order and be enchanted by some delightful vocalism given by a charming comedienne. How does this compare with our variety entertainments, even on the two-houses-a-night system?

Mrs. Edgar commenced her theatrical career, under the name of Miss Jenny Taylor, at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, and afterwards went with the late Mr. Clifford Cooper to Oxford for his stock seasons, playing all the principal comedy parts, as well as "principal boys" in pantomimes and burlesques. After that she appeared at Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Greenock, also in "stock," and subsequently joined Miss Marriott's company to play Madge Wildfire in *Jeanie Deans* through the provinces. Mrs. Edgar's next engagement was with her husband's own company in *Our Boys*, in which she enacted the rôle of Belinda. Then she was engaged by the Court Theatre management to play Mrs. John Wood's parts in such plays as *The Magistrate*, *Schoolmistress*, and *Dandy Dick*. These plays were later toured by Mr. Edgar with considerable success, his talented wife taking her former parts. Mr. and Mrs. Edgar also took *Aunt Jack* on the road with equal good fortune, and it is of interest to state that Mrs. Edgar is the only actress who has portrayed that important character in the provinces, and she played it for seven years. She was next engaged by Sir Augustus Harris for the rôle of the Duchess in *The Derby Winner*, her association with which piece lasted for three years. This was followed by her appearance in one of the principal female rôles in Mr. Ralph Lumley's play *In the Soup*, produced at the Strand Theatre, and her active theatrical career concluded with an autumn engagement at Drury Lane two years ago in *The Best of Friends*.

CRICKET.

BRISTOL X.L.C.R. AND HARRY HARE'S ORCHESTRAL BAND ATHLETIC CLUBS v. BRISTOL EARLY CLOSERS C.C.

Played on Clifton Downs, April 17. George Hedges bowled well for the Early Closers. Scores:—

Bristol X.L.C.R.—H. Hare (captain), b Hedges, 0; H. Slade, b Hedges, 0; J. Aubrey, c and b Hedges, 5; F. Stevens, b Hedges, 0; H. Belding, b Hedges, 14; H. Edwards, lbw, b Hedges, 2; A. Hamlin, b Millard, 5; A. E. Bailey, b Hedges, 17; L. Clayton, b Hedges, 0; P. Hewlett, not out, 0; A. Mattock, b Hedges, 0; extras, 11; total, 54.

Bristol Early Closers C.C.—B. Green, b Belding, 0; G. Wilson, b Belding, 9; G. Harrison, b Hare, 3; F. Worth, lbw, b Hare, 0; A. Rossiter, b Hare, 16; G. Hedges (captain), b Belding, 28; W. Taylor, b Belding, 0; F. Weston, b Hare, 2; A. Cameron, b Belding, 25; D. Cameron, c Aubrey, b Hare, 0; G. Hendy, not out, 5; extras, 7; total, 95.

BRISTOL X.L.C.R. AND HARRY HARE'S ORCHESTRAL BAND ATHLETIC CLUBS v. MUSIC HALLS AND THEATRICALS.

Played on Clifton Downs on Saturday, April 20, and resulted in a victory for the latter team by 78 runs against 32. P. Reardon and J. Leonard played well for the Music Halls and Theatricals.

MATINEE AT THE PLAYHOUSE.

A noble cause was well served at the Playhouse on Tuesday, when the first of three matinées on behalf of St. Vincent's Homes, Harrow-road, for which funds are urgently needed, was given. The institution provides a home for destitute children, and no youthful applicant for relief that cannot be otherwise provided for is ever refused. It is satisfactory to record, therefore, that, despite the inclemency of the weather, Mr. Cyril Maude's handsome theatre was well filled by an audience which included many distinguished persons. The programme for Tuesday afternoon embraced three novelties, the most pretentious of which was a play in two scenes, by the Countess of Cromartie, entitled

"THE FINDING OF THE SWORD."

Osra Innis .....MR. MATHESON LANG
Lord Colmore .....MR. PLOWDEN
Professor Kéravel .....CAPTAIN BLUNT
James Barrington .....MR. MOORE BRABAZON
Muriel .....MISS EDYTH OLIVE

The results of *The Finding of the Sword* are a little obscure, but with regard to its startling effect there can be no doubt. The play treats in striking fashion of the theme of reincarnation, and opens at the present period in an old cairn or tomb, into which come Lord Colmore and his friend, with spade and pick, bent upon antiquarian discovery. His lordship's hobby is distasteful to his daughter Muriel, who has an indefinable reverence for the days of old. The excavations result in the discovery of a sword which had belonged to an ancient Milesian King. The weapon exercises a peculiar fascination over Muriel, who presently has a vision of the owner rising in an ominous way from the ground, the apparition causing her to faint. A young man bearing a close resemblance to the vision is introduced in the second scene, which is laid in an old baronial hall. The youth, whose name is Osra Innis, is dressed in ancient Irish kilts, and when he catches sight of the sword he offers, but in vain, to purchase it at any price. By some occult influence Osra compels Muriel to perform a dance in which the sword figures. When midnight comes Osra reappears, attired in a manner which leaves no room for doubt that he is the vision of the cairn. He recalls a scene long ages ago, when he was a monarch and rode out to his last fight, when, too, Muriel had been a dancing girl, and had won his love, but had refused to follow him to the grave. He loads her with scorn, but she implores him to take her with him, and, after some resistance, he consents, a fearful din is heard, darkness sets in, and when light is restored the warrior has disappeared and Muriel is lying dead. That the dramatic effect of the play was preserved was owing principally to Mr. Matheson Lang, who made a kingly Osra, appearing to particular advantage in his passionate reproaches addressed to Muriel. That character was made weirdly impressive by Miss Edyth Olive, who acted with powerful intensity. She looked supremely fascinating in an emerald robe with a violet sash, in which she performed the quaint dance, the air of which, it was stated, was taken from a manuscript found in an old cairn. A Breton professor of antiquarian lore was naturally acted by Captain Blunt; and Mr. Moore Brabazon supplied some little comedy relief as a typical young man of to-day. The audience were very enthusiastic in applause, and at the end, in answer to many calls, the Countess Cromartie appeared and bowed her acknowledgments.

The afternoon was begun by a new one-act play, by Mr. E. Francis (Mrs. F. Blundell), entitled

"TOM'S SECOND MISSUS."

Thomas Alty .....MR. ARTHUR WHITBY
Betty Alty .....MISS SCHLETTER
Margaret Heptonstall .....MISS LILIAN HOLE

Homely pathos and many quaint touches are contained in the little piece, which is written in Lancashire dialect. Thomas Alty and his wife have lived long years together in mutual affection, but the time comes when Betty's health gives way, and she makes the extraordinary suggestion that he shall look out for another "missus" to "do" for him, and herself chooses a widow named Margaret Heptonstall. The experiment does not promise success. The new arrival is inquisitive and interfering, finds fault with her predecessor's housekeeping, criticises her sewing, and makes free with every article of furniture; but when she insists on sitting in the old lady's chair Tom can stand it no longer, and he bundles the widow out of the door, he and his "old woman" determining to go on a little longer alone. Professional assistance was also forthcoming in this instance, Mr. Arthur Whitby doing excellent work as the old labourer, causing laughter and tears by turns. Miss Schletter gave a remarkably good representation of senility as the old woman, and evoked a hearty round of applause for her efforts; and Miss Lilian Hole was amusingly realistic as the aggressive Margaret.

Another novelty was forthcoming at the end of the programme is an eighteenth-century play, in two scenes, by Agnes and Egerton Castle, entitled

"GREY DOMINO."

Lord Mandeville .....MR. HAROLD WHITAKER
Beau Stafford .....MR. DOUGLAS IMBERT
Hon. Dennis O'Hara .....MR. MOORE BRABAZON
The Prince .....MR. PLOWDEN
Sir Jasper Standish ..MR. A. RUTHVEN STUART
Pompey .....MASTER HILL TREVOR
Sambo .....MASTER VLASTO
Kitty Bellairs .....MISS AGNES BLUNDELL
Lydia .....MISS EGERTON CASTLE
Lady Standish .....MISS SUZANNE DE BALAN
Lady Flora Dare-Stamer .....MISS VAN CUTSEM
Rachel Peace .....MISS ELINOR SWEETMAN

"Sweet Kitty Bellairs," of old renown, is the heroine of the comedietta, but appears in rather an unfavourable light. She has determined, by hook or by crook, to secure the hand of Lord Mandeville, and offers him wealth, beauty, and wit. The nobleman's love, however, is given to Rachel Peace, the actress, but the pair have had a lovers' quarrel, and relations are strained. Rachel goes uninvited to a masked ball in order to meet Mandeville, and has succeeded in effecting a reconciliation, when Kitty, wishing to expose the actress, prevails upon the master of ceremonies to order all masks to be removed. Rachel at length complies, and is insulted by the lady of the house, but Royalty is present, and the Prince interposes in favour of the actress, and leads her himself in to supper. A minuet, which forms a leading episode of the piece was very gracefully performed. Miss Agnes Blundell was a fascinating study in pink as Kitty Bellairs; and Miss Egerton Castle acted vivaciously as her maid. Mr. Douglas Imbert, who appeared by permission of Mr. Arthur Bourchier, gave character to Beau Stafford, who acts as M.C.; Mr. Harold Whitaker was a dignified and well-spoken Lord Mandeville; and Miss Elinor Sweetman succeeded in winning sympathy for the actress. The costumes were of a most elaborate kind, and a picturesque touch was given by the appearance of two little black pages. Infinite pains were taken in the mounting of all three plays, which were repeated on Thursday and Friday afternoons.

THIS week Miss Bonwin Carlton's company is appearing at the King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield, in *The Plucky Nipper*. Miss Bonwin Carlton, in the title-rôle, works hard, and achieves success; in the character of Richard Vanbrugh Mr. William Heilbronn proves himself capable; and the Tommy Atkins of Mr. Edward Surrey is a fine piece of character acting.

DRESSES AT THE PLAY.

A lavish display of feminine costumes is made in *Clancarty*, which has been so happily revived at the Lyric. Miss Millard looks her loveliest all through the play. The scarlet riding-habit in which she makes her entry in the first act supplies a vivid contrast to the exquisite blue and white striped silk of Act II., looped up over a petticoat of blue, all embroidered in gold and hung with gold fringe. One could not desire to see a prettier picture than she and Miss Adrienne Augarde make when they stand together, the latter saucy and bewitching in a pink and white striped silk gown, looped up over a lace petticoat, and trimmed with many bunchy bows. In Act III. Miss Millard wears a tunic and super-tunic, both of a lovely reseda green chiffon velour, which suits her colouring admirably; while Lady Betty's (Miss Augarde) blue dress and dainty lace cap are both delightful. In Act IV. the heroine is seen in two very different garbs, first in a very spick-and-span washerwoman's attire, and afterwards in a robe of white and gold brocade, jewelled down the front.

Picturesqueness is a feature of the delightful dresses at the Apollo. In the first act Sophia is presented by Miss Ruth Vincent in a costume of palest pink broché crêpe, a large pink rose being tucked into her white fichu, and a shepherdess hat tied up with pink ribbons resting on the full-frilled cap that encircles her face. Her maid, Honour, played so delightfully by Miss Carrie Moore, wears in this act a dainty muslin apron, fichu, and cap. In Act II. Sophia looks fair and dainty in her riding-suit of French grey cloth, the coat open over a waistcoat of silver-embroidered white satin, a long cloak, bordered with white fur, falling back over her shoulders and the neatest of grey felt hats resting on her lace under-cap. The maid makes a winsome picture in her Dolly Varden hat of yellow bound with black, her shot silk dress turned back from a stiff petticoat of fawn, and a cape of mauve cloth round her shoulders. The villainess of the play looks her part admirably, though gowned quietly enough in pale blue cloth, a three-cornered hat of black with blue plume giving the necessary aggressive note.

Act III. opens upon a scene absolutely reminiscent of Watteau—Ranelagh Gardens illuminated for a fête, and gay with the presence of a crowd of fair women and men in brave attire, their exquisite coats, with the curious fan-like pleats either side the back, harmonising admirably with the hooped brocade and satin petticoats of the women. In this scene Sophia is attired in simple white satin, open in front just to show a green petticoat, with a row of silver bows and tassels down the centre, her hair concealed beneath a fitting cap. She makes a striking contrast to her wicked cousin, Lady Belliston, whose green brocade and gold gauze drapery are magnificent.

There are four effective changes of costume in the four acts of *Brewster's Millions*, produced at the Hicks Theatre on Wednesday. Miss Mollie Lowell makes her first entrance in a beautiful evening dress of silver tissue, very finely embroidered in gold, with tiny puff sleeves, hiding its shimmer at the end of the scene under a long apple-green cloak. Miss Beatrice Agnew appears, as becomes her part, in a girlish white frock adorned with little wreaths of pale pink rosebuds, her blond-lace cloak being lined with pink. Miss Hazel Thompson's gown is of soft blue chiffon, the dainty berthe embroidered in blue and mauve flowers, with touch of silver, and a silver fringe forming the sleeves. Miss Evelyn D'Alroy wears pale pink silk net, with gold spots, trimmed with silver and various shades of the same colour, fading from blush rose to white. Miss Kitty Melrose, as the actress, looks handsome in mauve satin with large sprays of silver roses, and an écru lace cloak lined with mauve gauze.

The second act taking place in an office, Miss Lowell wears a walking-dress of tussore silk of the new tabac shade, with braidings of the same colour and pipings of leaf-green silk, her hat being a Parisian model with long brown plumes shaded to green. Miss Agnew's second little frock is a simple grey cloth, with a Dutch lace yoke, and summery hat. Miss Thompson wears a fine maise-coloured cloth, with bands of sable on the kimona sleeves, the scheme of colour being perfected by a brown feather boa and a burnt straw hat with big black plumes and bunches of ripe corn. Miss D'Alroy also wears a cloth costume of Rose du Barri, a black boa, and black chip hat, with Rose du Barri plumes.

On board Brewster's yacht—in the third act—all the ladies appear in the very latest and smartest yachting costumes, and at the end of the play Miss Lowell wears a charming voile dress, egg-shell tint, embroidered with pale pink roses to match the magnificent bouquet she carries. Miss Agnew's pink ninon is plainly tucked round the skirt, with a folded silk belt, and her little brown tulle hat is adorned with a single rose. Miss D'Alroy's white foulard has a small black spot, pipings of black velvet, and a pretty lawn vest; and Miss Melrose reappears in Wedgwood-blue cloth, the collar and revers relieved with striped black and white silk, the finishing touch being a Wedgwood-blue hat, trimmed with blue wings flecked with brown, and draped with a floating chiffon veil. All the costumes and hats at the Hicks Theatre are by Mme. Pauline Herbert, of Orchard-street.

"AFTER SEVEN YEARS."

Dramatic Sketch, by Marie Muggeridge, produced for the first time at the Theatre Royal, Belfast, on Friday, April 26.

Mr. Gracefield .....MR. J. WOOD-INGRAM
Will Somers .....MR. J. EDGAR STEVENSON
Mrs. Brooks .....MISS ESTELLE DESPA
Nellie Brooks .....MISS MARIE MUGGERIDGE

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

This little piece will form a most acceptable curtain-raiser. The plot is ingenious, and Miss Muggeridge, who is a member of *All-of-a-Sudden Peggy*, is to be congratulated on the success of her efforts. Some seven years before the opening a young lady, named Nellie Brooks, giving promise of rare vocal ability, has been sent abroad through the kindness of Mr. Gracefield to be educated. When the scene opens Mrs. Brooks and Will Somers—a carpenter—are anxiously awaiting the arrival of Miss Brooks, who is singing in the neighbourhood. Will is anxious that his former sweetheart should settle down and become his wife, but Mr. Gracefield points out to Miss Brooks the disadvantages of marrying beneath her, and at the same time he presents a big American contract for the famous singer's acceptance. The offer is declined, as Nellie believes herself morally bound to marry Will. Mr. Gracefield pleads with Mrs. Brooks to induce her daughter to avoid blighting her brilliant prospects, and this she does by informing Nellie that while she was abroad Will Somers had bestowed his affections on another. This news is of great relief to Miss Brooks, who had evidently feared that Will had intended exacting his promise. The piece ends with the grief of Will Somers and Mrs. Brooks, the latter declaring she "had to do it," implying, it is supposed, that the fabrication of which she had been guilty was absolutely necessary. The authoress appeared to the greatest advantage as Nellie Brooks, speaking her lines with the utmost effect; Mr. J. Edgar Stevenson was a manly Will Somers, and a more faithful portrait of the rising young carpenter could not be desired; Miss Estelle Despa acted cleverly as Mrs. Brooks, although her voice seemed somewhat youthful; and Mr. J. W. Wood-Ingram appeared with success as Mr. Gracefield, the philanthropist friend of Miss Brooks.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

PARIS, THURSDAY, May 4.—We have had no premières at our regular theatres this week, and our little "à côté" playhouses took advantage of this to launch their novelties. Novelties is perhaps a misnomer, inasmuch as the organisers of these shows have unearthed some dust-covered plays, and polished them up a bit to suit the taste of the day. This was especially the case with *Le Hasard du Coin du feu*, by Crébillon fils. Who remembers Crébillon fils? Yet, he, too, had his hour of fame. He was born in 1707, and wrote naughty little plays almost to his death, which took place exactly ninety years later. The work was produced under the auspices of the Escholiers, a dramatic society of some standing, but it fell somewhat flat. Fortunately, the organisers had secured the services of Mlle. Marie Leconte, the charming actress of the Comédie-Française, admirable in the chief rôle, who imparted life to the otherwise dull production.

THE second piece was *Le Jouet*, a three-act comedy, by M. J. J. Frappa and Mme. R. Maquet, a story with a moral. Maurice de Villiers, a young man of good family but bad principles, has a mistress, Cathérine Brémont. He cannot marry her, because his family would disown him; and, as he is anxious to see her settled in life, he induces her to become the wife of Bressanes, a good-hearted man, who loves the girl and is likely to make her happy. The truth is that Maurice hopes that Cathérine once married will continue to be his mistress. But the ugly scheme fails. When Cathérine returns from her honeymoon trip Maurice attempts to take her in his arms, but she wisely thinks that it is now her husband's place to defend her, and, throwing herself in his arms, she tells him everything, and—is forgiven.

THE Théâtre des Capucines has also changed its programme. But, of the three new pieces produced, only *Son Petit Frère*, by M. André Barde and M. Charles Cuvellier, deserves mention. These gentlemen, too, have dived into the past for their plot, for the little plot they serve us up dates from the year 150 B.C. Things were pretty well the same then as they are to-day. Laïs is a hetaira, alias a cocotte, and her lover has deserted her. Poor little Laïs is in a terrible plight, and her friends think that if Agathos, the wealthy Athenian, were to take an interest in her she could deem herself lucky. Agathos is as guileless as he is rich, and we were quite prepared to see him fall an easy prey to the girl's charms. But that gentleman possesses a quality which renders things rather difficult. He is virtuous, and has a rooted objection to cocottes. Laïs's friends, therefore, hit upon a stratagem. Agathos's father was not a saint, like his son, and his love intrigues in the good city of Athens were a public scandal. Agathos is informed that Laïs is his sister, a bastard child of the old man, and he at once resolves to make reparation for his father's misdeeds. He makes Laïs presents, he calls himself her "little brother," and when he has grown desperately fond of her the truth is revealed to him. From that moment Agathos continues to be rich and stupid, but he ceases to be virtuous. Curiously enough, the principal rôles in the piece were played by two ex-music hall stars: Mlle. Marguerite Deval and M. Polin. The former is a bright and delightful diseuse, and as to Polin, English visitors to Paris will remember him as the man who always impersonated French soldiers.

"LE P'TIT MITRON" has had only one week's run at the Ambigu. It will now be replaced by *Les Deux Orphelines*, which will prove more to the taste of the frequenters of that house. Mme. Tessandier, the great actress, will impersonate the rôle created by Mme. Marie Laurent, and the old melodrama may have a long run.

SINCE yesterday, M. Eugène Héros has been manager and lessee of the Palais-Royal. That gentleman's name is most appropriate, for, as I have had occasion to remark several times, it wants a hero to take over the ill-starred Palais-Royal. Yet M. Héros may succeed where so many others have failed.

THAT charming actress, Mme. Le Bargy, has of late played a prominent figure in our law courts. This week we had the pleasure of seeing her defend an action to recover £980 for a motor-car supplied to her. For reasons that did not transpire, the fair defendant had refused to pay, whereupon the plaintiff obtained judgment against her, and attached the lady's salary at the Renaissance, where she is appearing in *Le Voleur*, at a salary of £12 per evening. Mme. Le Bargy made an application that her creditor should only have a right to one-fifth of her money; but as it was proved that she had sufficient means to live comfortably without that one-fifth, the application was refused.

THE Variétés will inaugurate next season with *La Revanche et la Belle*, a play by M. Louis Artus. We will see an American trying to get the better of a Frenchwoman, and worsted in the encounter. Mlle. Yvette Guilbert will impersonate the principal character.

M. ALVAREZ, the popular singer, has undergone a rather serious operation. He is, however, progressing favourably, and will be able soon to resume his duties at the Opera.

MUSICAL Paris is in a state of excitement about the coming production of *Salomé* at the Châtelet. Dr. Loewenfeld, from the Royal Theatre in Stuttgart, is superintending the rehearsals, and the orchestra is led by M. Gabriel Pierné.

"LES FRESNAY" is the title of a new comedy by M. Vandérem, to be brought out at the Comédie-Française in the course of next season. M. de Féraudy has charge of the rehearsals, and the cast will be an exceptionally strong one. We are also promised a revival of *Monsieur Alphonse*.

THE Hackney Furnishing Company, which for upwards of thirty years have helped to beautify the homes of the East, has extended its operations to the West, having opened mammoth new premises at 93, 95, 97, and 99, Oxford-street. At both their establishments the firm now undertake furnishing for everyone. This is a bold saying, but the Hackney Furnishing Co., of which Mr. A. M. Stewart is the founder and managing-director, the originators of the system of deferred payments, are equal to it. At Hackney, their original home, they have over 6½ acres of showroom area, being one of the largest furnishing stores in the Metropolis, and their new premises have been described as "the prettiest shops in London." In these two establishments can be seen furniture fit to grace the most elegant mansion, and also furniture fit to withstand the hard and constant wear of the artisan's home. It can be obtained either for cash or upon the Hackney Furnishing Co.'s improved "Model" system. The terms of payment are most advantageous. Twenty pounds' worth of goods can be obtained on payments of eleven shillings per month, fifty pounds' worth for twenty-eight shillings per month, one hundred pounds' worth for forty-five shillings per month, and so on in proportion. A free fire insurance policy is issued with all purchases; whilst, by a system of life insurance, if the purchaser dies before completing the instalments, the goods become the property of the widow or next-of-kin without further payment. If a cash transaction is preferred, the purchaser enjoys a cash discount of 10 per cent. One of the latest enterprises of this gigantic firm is house reclaiming. An old, dilapidated house can be handed over to the care of Mr. Stewart, and he will rebuild it, fit up electric light, and furnish it artistically. It would be practically impossible to name anything pertaining to he furnishing or decoration of a home which the firm do not stock, as a perusal of their illustrated catalogue, which they will send post free on application at either branch, will amply prove.

ACTORS' UNION.

LONDON.

Mr. Harry Paulton, jun., presided at Tuesday's meeting of the Actors' Union, held at 3, Bedford-street, W.C., and among others present were

The CHAIRMAN, in opening the proceedings, said it was decided to register the Actors' Union as a trades union. At a previous meeting there had been a discussion as to how they should register. They found that under the Companies Act it would cost over £20. A trades union registration would only cost them a guinea, and as at the same time it would give them many benefits from association with other unions, it was thought that the best thing would be to register in that way. A lot of people had mistaken notions on the subject of trades unionism. Some of them talked about art in the theatrical profession, but they must remember that art was of no use unless there was money at the end of the week. Then there was a good deal of misapprehension on the subject of the fixed minimum wage. In most trades unions there was a minimum rate of payment, but that did not prevent a highly skilled workman from getting more than that minimum. It would not be the means of lowering the wages of actors, but would preclude anyone entering the profession under a certain salary. It had been decided at last Sunday's meeting that the sketch manager should be eligible for election to the Union. If an actor had got a sketch in which he himself played a part, he was not to be treated as a manager; but if he was running more than one sketch and was drawing money and paying people to act in it, then he was to be treated as a manager, and was not eligible for election in any way. As to the question of ladies on the committee, he wished to say that there was no animus against them in the vote that was found to be opposed to their admission to seats on the committee, but it had been decided that there should be a sub-committee of ladies, to deal with matters in the treatment of which they were specially qualified. Any recommendations by such sub-committee would have the best attention of the general committee. Later on he (the chairman) would propose that they get out their own form of agreement, which should include payment for rehearsals, minimum wage, &c. They might also run their own paper, on the same lines as *The Performer;* but, of course, all these things could not be done unless they had the unqualified support of every member of the Union. There was to be a monster meeting at the Court Theatre, Liverpool, on Friday, and it was hoped that as a result of that meeting there would be a considerable accession to their ranks.

Mr. ROBSON PAIGE, referring to what took place at Sunday's meeting, said he was fighting the battle of their chief, Mr. Cecil Raleigh. If they insisted on interfering with the actors who took part in sketches in the Music Halls, Mr. Raleigh would drop out, and that, he thought would be a calamity. While the actor was engaged on the Music Hall stage the Union would not be able to help him, but this would not prevent him joining the Union, and when acting in licensed theatres, he would have every protection from the Union.

Mr. OSWALD MARSHALL thought that it was very childish of a man to drop them merely because they disagreed on one point. The idea they wished to put forward to the meeting was that any actor, having the qualification of an actor, who had played in a licensed theatre for a certain period, was eligible for election to the Union, and if he wanted to take a sketch to a music hall, he was still eligible.

A member of the audience pointed out that an actor might be playing in the music halls for a week or two, and it would be a pity if he were to be debarred from taking part in the Union because of that.

Mr. PAIGE expressed the opinion that if an actor went on the music hall stage for a week or so he did so at his own risk. Sketch artists should look to the V.A.F.

A gentleman in the room pointed out that a solicitor was a solicitor whether he practised in the County Court or the Police Court.

Mr. PAIGE retorted that neither Mr. Stoll nor the music hall manager would recognise the Actors' Union.

Mr. MARSHALL remarked that he thought they were a little too precipitate in settling the point on Sunday. It was quite possible that Mr. Stoll would not recognise the Union, but those who ran sketches, like Mr. Preston and Mr. Karno, must do so. He thought that the members of the Union should have an opportunity of meeting Mr. Raleigh, talking over the matter with him, and then voting on it.

The CHAIRMAN stated that they had passed a certain rule at Sunday's meeting, and they should not go back upon it.

Eventually the discussion was closured on a proposition to proceed with the next business.

Miss GLADYS FFOLLIOTT gave it as her view that ladies should not be allowed on the committee, because they frequently permitted their judgment to be warped by sentiment where the hard reasoning of a man was required.

Mr. PAIGE announced that snowball cards were being sent round to members and others with the object of securing new members.

MANCHESTER.

At a meeting of the Actors' Union held at the Salisbury Hotel, Manchester, on Tuesday, it was suggested that, if possible, the meetings at Manchester should be held later in the week, as very often there were calls for rehearsals on Tuesday, and also it hardly gave sufficient time for members to beat up recruits.

It was also suggested that circulars should be sent to all companies touring the provinces canvassing for members, as many companies were debarred from attending the meetings through never being near any of the centres where meetings were held.

It was suggested that if possible no Actors' Union meeting should be held on licensed premises, as many persons who were teetotalers objected to attend the meetings at hotels, &c.; but it was pointed out that the Union could not afford to engage halls for their meetings until the membership was considerably stronger.

Five promised to join as soon as possible, and two gave their names as wishing to join next week.

GLASGOW.

On Friday, April 26, on the stage of the Metropole Theatre, Glasgow, by courtesy of Mr. Arthur Jefferson and Mr. A. Campbell-Kelly, the third meeting in Glasgow in support of the Actors' Union was held. The attendance included, Mr. John Clyde, Mr. Frank Lyndon, Miss Florence Creagh, Mr. Frederick Loyd, Mr. John Cullen, Mr. J. R. Tyrell, Mr. Geo. Porteous, Miss Phyllis Elton, Miss Jennie Risley, Mr. Dare Austin, Mr. Thomas Barry, Mr. David Phillips, Mr. Robert Harris, and Mr. Clavering Craig.

Mr. FREDERICK LOYD, who took the chair, at the proposal of Mr. Clyde, seconded by Mr. Cullen, mentioned that the Union was very young at present. It had been likened to a toddling child, but he was delighted to inform them that this toddling child had, during the last two weeks, made, so to speak, giant strides, especially in Glasgow. At the first meeting forty-eight actors and actresses, out of an attendance of fifty-three, had given in their names for membership, and at the second meeting they had secured over twenty names. He hoped to be equally successful that day. After paying a tribute to the work of the Provisional Committee in London, Mr. Loyd went on to say the Union had been formed to improve in every way the position of the actor. Not in any aggressive spirit towards the touring manager, but to work with him, to assist him to secure better actors, and thus enable him to obtain more advantageous terms.

He then drew their attention to the death levy, which could not fail to abolish the regrettable charitable appeals they were unfortunately only too used to, and stated this alone was sufficient reason for every actor and actress to join the Union at once. In conclusion, Mr. Loyd read the nominations for committee, urging all present who had not already done so, to become Unionists without delay, in order that they might receive their books of membership, and be entitled to vote at the forthcoming election.

The clauses were then considered seriatim, the first three being passed without any comment.

Rule 6 was also the subject of much discussion. Mr. CLAVERING CRAIG thought it was somewhat harsh. Mr. LYNDON opined that an actor employed also as acting-manager had as much right to full membership as anyone else, provided he was an actor first, that was if he were not a manager playing merely a small part.

Mr. CLYDE: I think one who combines the offices of business-manager and actor will rather sympathise with the actors.

The other rules were then agreed to. Regarding the last, "Members shall be known by numbers," Mr. CULLEN remarked that some of them would take exception to number thirteen." (Laughter.)

THE CHAIRMAN: "I can guarantee none of you present to-day will be known by that number. It has long been passed." (More laughter.)

The meeting then discussed the objects of the Unicn.

THE CHAIRMAN suggested that the amount of the minimum salary be postponed for the time being. Agreed to.

Regarding object two, Mr. CLAVERING CRAIG stated in his opinion the £2 minimum would be the only way to get rid of unpaid or premium-paying amateurs.

After some discussion as to whether amateurs should be allowed to appear in small parts of a few lines, the CHAIRMAN suggested a greater evil was the manager who put beginners into leading parts.

Mr. CRAIG: "Pity, 'tis, 'tis true. There are too many of the kind."

The meeting formally assented to object two.

The CHAIRMAN read correspondence from Mr Robson Paige, in the course of which he said the days of pictorial printing drawing the public were gone, and it would be better to lessen the printers' bills and put the money gained on the salaries of the actors.

Mr. CRAIG asked whether anything had been said in opposition to the two houses a night system.

The CHAIRMAN replied that, so far as he knew, the Union had not yet dealt with the matter. Let them all join the Union, and thus enable it to become powerful enough to deal with all such grievances.

Votes of thanks having been passed to Mr. Frederick Loyd, Mr. John Clyde, Mr. Arthur Jefferson, and Mr. Campbell-Kelly, the meeting concluded. Eight new signatures for membership were obtained.

NEWCASTLE.

There was a small, but enthusiastic, meeting of artists at the Percy Arms, Newcastle, on the 26th ult. Miss Marie Clavering was in the chair. The following ladies and gentlemen attended. Mr. Wilson Summers, Mr. Hugh Brady, Miss Stanley Burt, Miss Kate Lever, Mr. Arthur Trail, Mr. Tyrone Power, Mr. Pascoe Bioletti, Mr. Arthur Selwyn, Miss Pamela Hodson, Mr. Dan Ryan, Mr. Edward Le Roy, Mr. Chas. E. Lambert, Miss Louie Walton, Mr. William Macready, Mr. Chas. A. Leicester, Mr. J. Telly Dillsen, Mr. Hamilton Deane, Mr. C. Sterling, Mr. C. Grant, Mr. Claud Morton, Mrs. Kate Fitzgerald, Miss Marie Clavering, Miss Florrie Groves, Mr. Campbell Goldsmith, Mr. Bruce Clapham, Mr. Douglas Tremayne, Mr. Green Taylor, Mr. William H. Kitley. The members of Mr. H. B. Irving's company, playing at the Theatre Royal were unable to attend, owing to rehearsals, and through Miss Dorothy Baird's indisposition.

Miss CLAVERING in opening said they were gathered together to discuss the necessity of the organisation of actors. A feeling of unrest was felt in the profession. For years they had been suffering keenly, and could get no redress. She instanced the case of the swindling manager, the insanitary state of dressing rooms, and the premium-paying amateur, who deprived them of the reward of their experience. They hoped now to remedy these abuses, and raise the status of the profession.

Mr. PASCOE BIOLETTI wanted to know whether this was an A.A. meeting, an A.U., or an independent revolutionist meeting.

Mr. J. TELLY DILLSEN explained that it was held under no special banner—although they might have their leanings—they were there to discuss from any point the general question of organisation.

Mr. HAMILTON DEANE thought the people in the profession did not realise the meaning of the word cohesion and the value of concerted action. There was too much "sitting on the fence," waiting to see which way the cat jumped. Somebody must start and risk failure. We should not be so very particular about detail at first, but get to work and establish a strong Union.

Mr. J. TELLY DILLSEN then read his exhaustive paper. Reviewing briefly the history of the efforts at organisation to the present day, he contended that while fully in sympathy with the principles of the A.A., he considered that it had not done its work well, and by its constitution seemed never likely to do so, despite the worthy efforts of the reform party. Unionism, no doubt, seemed an objectionable thing to apply to art, minimum wage an inartistic, awkward, militant term to use, but the manager had brought his best top price which he will give, so the artist was compelled to bring into line his best bottom price which he would take.

We wanted this Union to stop the profession from slipping further into the mud, to squeeze out the bogus manager, with his wonderful I.O.U.'s, to encourage true art and the true artist, to teach, to demonstrate if necessary, to the manager that it was far cheaper to give a good price for good work, to provide for time of sickness and old age; but, more than anything else, to close the wide-open door through which rushed a constant stream of beginners. It would be better for the beginner, for it would save him from some painful surprises.

Referring to the overcrowding, he continued, the premium-paying beginner was not so devoid of principle when he reasoned that as he could not give full value, as he spoilt, in part, the picture, he forfeited his money. It was a fair agreement; but he paid his money to the wrong person. It was not the manager, but the artist he should pay, for whom his presence in an overcrowded profession made living harder. A healthy rivalry was good, a fair fight was invigorating, but here the combatants were hopelessly out of proportion; and on the field of Art it had become a fight not for Art, but for money, and the weapons not brain and soul, but the poison of under-selling. In many parts it had resolved itself into a feverish, disordered struggle for bread, and the time had come when we were forced to say, "Stop! The thing has gone too far. If we fight at all we will fight fair!"

They were there in the Union to help others, and to help themselves. They invite others to join them. They would not get something for nothing. It would cost them 6d. a week, but it would buy them not only a big sixpennyworth, but the best sixpennyworth that they as dramatic or musical artists could buy. "Join the Union, and they would get their pound of flesh," he said, "but did fraternity and brotherhood count for nothing?" On that ground alone he urged them to join the union and lift an honourable profession to the position it deserved.

Mr. CAMPBELL GOLDSMID spoke enthusiastically about the Union. Referring in particular to the minimum wage question, he said, a £2 minimum would result in bettering the quality of the companies touring, and so make it better for everyone concerned. But they could not hope to enforce this rule till they were some thousands strong.

Mr. WILLIAM MACREADY said he was glad to see the Union being formed, and noticed there were good men on the council whose sympathies were solid for the actor; one in particular, who was soaked and saturated with enthusiasm for the Union—he referred to Mr. Hamilton Deane.

Mr. GREEN TAYLOR echoed all that had been said in favour of the Union, and, as there had been a sort of Zancig performance—as Mr. Deane had said all he had thought of saying—he would save them a repetition.

Mr. CHAS. A. LEICESTER, in advocating the Union, said one of the most useful things it could accomplish would be to kill the bogus management. He contended that a management could be legally proceeded against that entered on a new business contract—in having his fares advanced—whilst insolvent.

Mr. TELLY DILLSEN read a letter from Mr. Fewlass Llewellyn, who appealled for unity for the betterment of the actor, and, while wishing the A.U. every success, advised it to come inside the A.A., and to reform that; not to erect a tent in the wilderness. It had a house already built, and to join it would be the shortest way to bring about the reforms they were advocating. Mr. Dillsen said he was very glad they had received that letter, and heard the kind wishes, but thought that Mr. Llewellyn was inconsistent. His tone was that reform was needed, yet he derided their efforts at it. One could not bend cast iron, 'twas better to throw it into the mould again.

Mr. CHARLES GRANT was glad to see the Union in existence. It was such that he had in his mind when he helped to found the N.O.C. Although that had not been a success, he thought this was going to be a boon to the actor. He would gladly become a member.

Miss CLAVERING then took a vote on the question, "Do we want this Union or not?" The result was everyone voted in the affirmative with one single exception.

Mr. DILLSEN then moved that a vote of thanks should be given to the Provisional Committee in London, who had worked so hard and loyally for them. They had to rouse the apathy of members of the profession, which was really worse than honest opposition. The proposition was carried unanimously.

Mr. HAMILTON DEANE moved a vote of thanks to Miss Clavering for her duties in the chair. Mr. PASCOE BIOLETTI seconded.

Fifteen members signed applications for membership.

HUDDERSFIELD.

At the Victoria Inn, Huddersfield, on Tuesday, a meeting in favour of the A.U. was held by the members of *The Royal Divorce* company, Mr. Graham Wood (Chairman), Mr. William Hudson, and Mr. A. Grenville being present, with others.

Questions having been put as to whether subscriptions from incoming members would be demanded, dating from the date of origin or formation of the Actors' Union, Mr. HUDSON suggested that this would prove a drawback to the enlistment of new members.

Miss RICHMOND, speaking on behalf of herself and other members of the Actors' Association, said they were waiting for the Reform Party to take action.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION REFORM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—The Association are taking a poll on the various points which have been raised of late, and I should be very much obliged if you would allow me to impress on every member of the Association the enormous importance of voting on the present occasion. Proxy papers are sent out by the Council, and there is no excuse for anyone neglecting his duty.—Yours faithfully,

May 2, 1907. ERNEST H. PATERSON.

MANAGERS AND THE A.A.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—One of the first principles of progress in human affairs is the elimination of fear. It is probable that a not unreasonable fear of imperilled alimentation, and the quicksands of unemployment, may keep back a good many actors from voting that managers in future have no part, lot, or share, no voice, vote, or say, in the affairs of the Actors' Association.

Those who (as I do) look upon managers as the friends of actors are yet inclined to distrust their friends! They nervously imagine that, smarting under some hypothetical insult, these same friends will turn into avowed enemies on and after May 6 or May 27. I do not believe that any manager would be so mean and base as to visit upon a man in his capacity of artist deprivation for what he may have done in his capacity as a member of the Actors' Association.

In the opinion of many it is now essential that the little house in King-street, Covent Garden, should be set in order once and for all. The time has come to put away all fear, to steel one's heart against any sentiment in business, and to bravely stand up for a policy of avowed reform.

The managers, in my short experience of the stage, have exhibited such consistent good faith towards their artists that I cannot personally see any reason to doubt but that they will accept the change, if it is arrived at, with equanimity. It is of paramount importance to the actor's self-respect that he should have a society in his own interest, a parliament for his own politics, on the basis of his own requirements, and without benefit of those Olympians whose ways are not his ways, nor their needs the same as his. If any man is afraid, let him vote in the dark, by proxy.—Yours faithfully, CECIL BROOKING,

10, King-street, W.C.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, April 29,
"SHERLOCK HOLMES."

This thrilling drama maintains a strong hold on the playgoing public, as was evidenced by the large audience attracted to the Stratford Borough Theatre on Monday night and the cordial reception which the piece obtained. Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart submits a convincing and most interesting portraiture of Sherlock Holmes, every deed and utterance of the great unraveller of crime being followed with the closest attention. Mr. James Skea cleverly realises the part of the arch-criminal, Professor Moriarty, and Mr. Allan Jeoyes smartly impersonates Dr. Watson. John Forman has a sound exponent in Mr. Fred Bell, and Sir Edward Leighton and Count von Stahlburg are appropriately played by Mr. Henry Littlejohn and Mr. Frank H. Moar respectively. Mr. Henry Hare skilfully delineates James Larrabee; Mr. Edward Mervyn does well as Sydney Prince; while Mr. Wilson Roberts as Jim Cragin, Mr. Gordon K. Bull as Thomas O'Leary, and Mr. Harold Broughton as McTague all play with ability. Miss Gladys Harvey is a sympathetic and charming Alice Faulkner, and Miss Georgina Winter plays powerfully as Madge Larrabee. Miss Rosalie Notrelle portrays Therese very acceptably; Mrs. Smeedley and Mrs. Faulkner are commendably played by Miss Grace Howard and Miss Dot Selby; and Master Leslie Hall is an alert and intelligent Billy.

ACTORS' CHURCH UNION.

The Lord Bishop of Birmingham addressed a congregation, composed largely of actors and actresses, at St. Paul's, Knightsbridge, on Sunday afternoon, the special service being held under the auspices of the Actors' Church Union.

His lordship, who took as his text the 11th and following verses of the 20th chapter of the Revelations of St. John, said: No one could have more slender qualifications for speaking to the Actors' Church Union than I, in the sense that I have the least opportunity of ministering to the ends which that Union seeks to serve. But I resolved to accept the invitation sent to me to come for two reasons, partly because I can bear witness to the service which the Union does, and partly because I believe in its principles. I can bear witness to what the Union has done two or three times within the last few months. Members of travelling companies who were appearing at the theatres in Birmingham have been brought up to me for confirmation, and I have ascertained the real service which the Union does under circumstances where obviously there is the greatest need of its ministrations. We have good reason to be proud of the parochial system in the Church of England, which covers the whole country with a network of parishes. But if the Church does its work thoroughly it must bear in mind other classes which are totally non-parochial. Amongst such classes are the members of these travelling companies who serve in our theatres. If the Church is to do its work effectively it must have its hand both on the moving and stationary population. There is, then, this obvious place for a Union such as yours. Consequently, I desire to come because I approve of its principles. I am well aware that the Church has in the past, and at very frequent epochs, looked askance at the actor's profession. I cannot help, in this matter, contrasting the attitude of the Church towards the dramatic profession with the attitude of the Church towards the Army. Obviously, there is a duty on the part of a nation of organised self-defence, and therefore the institution of the Army and the office of the soldier are at the bottom legitimate; but since the time that Christianity got command of society, since the break-up of the Roman Empire, how much of military ardour could be excused, how much of it has been due to motives distinctly and professedly non-Christian—the lust of glory, the passion of revenge, the instinct of domination—the strong over the weak? And yet the Church has been in constant alliance with the Army at its worst times as well as at its best. I ask, "Is there any reason in the world why exactly that same charity should not have been exhibited by the Church towards another great profession which holds a great place in the imagination of men?" For at the bottom I am persuaded that it is quite impossible for anyone who really knows the meaning of the religion of the Incarnation—for anyone who really believes that the glory and the honour of a nation can be brought within the light of the Holy City at the last—it is impossible for anyone who believes that to attempt to oust from the City of God the dramatic faculty. How immense a place in what is greatest in human genius is occupied by dramatic composition! How large a part of what has been most appealing and most human in talent and faculty has gone in dramatic representation; or, to put the same thing in other words, how deep in human nature, and that over the widest area, are the love and the instinct of dramatic representation. It is impossible for anyone who believes that all that is human is at the last to be brought into the City of God to seek to oust the dramatic faculty. There is, also, surely the greatest reason why the Church should show the most generous charity towards those whose lives are so very often uncomfortable, hard, isolated; who need the charity of religion in the sense that they need that large love which we show to all persons who minister to human convenience under circumstances which must put the greatest strain on nerve and patience and endurance. I daresay you will say that there is not in our time the least necessity for saying all this. There was a time when Puritanism was dominant. Now we are living under a reaction from Puritanism. We look back upon the Puritan, surrounded by his comforts and seated in his rented pew, saying he thanked God that he was not as these actors. There has been a reaction, and I suppose that the tendency of our time is sometimes such that we are disposed to wonder whether there is not a Pharisaism of the publican who thanks God that he is not as that Puritan. It is impossible to be surrounded by the tendencies of modern literature without perceiving that there is a very widespread inclination on the part of all classes to claim that human life should be accepted just as it is assumed to be—the creation of God, and on the way, somehow or other, to His Kingdom. There is a tendency to allow people of all classes to patronise the religion of God by a kind of superficial recognition without any real intention of submitting themselves to the reality and profundity of its claim. It is worth while examining this tendency. Religion is so real a power in human life. In fact, human life would sink to a lower level unless religion were constantly in evidence. We are all priests and people. Religion is a gracious master, but a bad servant. It is impartial. Our Lord, because He loves every one of the children of men, will never be hard on us, or impatient with us, not though we fall ten thousand times, so long as we will go on trying. We are all subject to the same penetrating claim. Priests and actors are playing their part in mutual succour, and should keep one another constantly in mind of the largeness and dignity of our nature, and the depth and thoroughness and largeness of Divine grace.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, April 29, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Charles H. Longden and Eric Hudson, entitled

"MAN'S ENEMY."

The West Londoners have had a rare treat this week, by reason of the visit of Power and Kirby's well-balanced company to Marylebone, Mr. Bailey's commodious theatre being comfortably patronised. Mr. Norman A. Overton gives a forcible and convincing rendering of Harry Stanton, and in his set-to in the third act with Tom Drake the enthusiasm of the house is well-nigh raised to boiling pitch, so vividly is the death struggle put before them. Mr. John Power deserves every possible credit for his meritorious portrayal of the aforesaid Tom Drake; Mr. William Jeans is satisfactory as General Sir Arthur Stanton; Mr. L. Fred Lenaur proffers a capital character-study of Adolphe D'Embonpoint; whilst Mr. Fred Owen's representation of Ikey Barnett was a clever piece of work, being not in the least exaggerated, as is so often the case with many stage Jew efforts. Miss May Grayce made many friends with her easy and natural portrayal of Grace Leslie; Miss Clara Reid was bright and amusing as the vivacious Polly Harris; and that experienced and accomplished actress, Miss Constance Medwyn, won plenty of sympathy and applause for her well-sustained rendering of the unfortunate Sarah Drake. The play was well mounted and staged, the all-round excellence of the company being undeniable.

"SAPPHO AND PHAON," a tragedy in three acts, by Percy Mackaye, and *The Enchanted Rose*, a one-act play by E. Harcourt Williams (founded on a story by Hans Andersen), were produced for copyright purposes at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, on Tuesday, April 30.

"OTELLO" AT HOLLOWAY.

On Friday, April 26, for the first time in London, the English version of Verdi's Opera, in Four Acts (libretto adapted from Shakespeare by Arrigo Boito), produced at the Marlborough Theatre, Holloway, by the Carl Rosa Opera Company.

Othello	MR. JULIUS WALTHER
Iago	MR. CHARLES VICTOR
Cassio	MR. CHARLES LE SUEUR
Roderigo	MR. ARTHUR HYDE
Lodovico	MR. JOHN EBBELER
Montano	MR. FREDERICK CLENDON
A Herald	MR. ALEC RICHARD
Emilia	MME. MARIE ALEXANDER
Desdemona	MISS GRACE NICOLL

The enterprise of the Carl Rosa Company has not scored so great a triumph of late years as that won by their artistic production at the Marlborough Theatre, on the 26th ult., of an English version of Verdi's *Otello*, the last opera from his pen, which was originally produced in February, 1887, at La Scala, Milan. An audience that filled every part of the house with opera-lovers gave the work a reception that did credit to their musical instincts, and no company of lyric artists could have wished for a more intelligent auditory or greater enthusiasm. Mr. Eugene Goossens, who conducted, had evidently taken no ordinary pains with his orchestra, largely augmented for the occasion, and Mr. Charles Victor, who pioneered the stage-direction, also shared in the success. The reception of *Otello* was all the more gratifying because in his musical treatment of Shakespeare's great tragedy the composer departed from his earlier manner, and there are evidences throughout that he closely studied the principles of art developed by Wagner. He sought in his score to work out the characters of the chief personages, and if we have not a wealth of "detached" melody such as may be found in *Trovatore*, *La Traviata*, or *Rigoletto*, there are numerous passages of great power and beauty. One can, however, understand the disappointment of his admirers on the first production of the opera, when they discovered the new work to be so different from the old. But he had thrown off the shibboleth of the ancient Italian lyrical methods, and his glorious gift of melody had found new avenues of expression. In the libretto he was well served by the poet Arrigo Boito, the composer of *Mefistofele*, who had already adapted *Hamlet* for his friend Faccio—the conductor, by the way, of *Otello* when it was first presented in London at the Lyceum on July 5, 1889.

The opera opens on the shores of Cyprus—the librettist having regarded the first act of the tragedy as unsuitable for operatic treatment. The storm and stress of the career of Othello are indicated by the opening bars, and the curtain rises after a short descriptive passage. The peasantry and soldiery on shore are celebrating the return of the Moor after his naval victory over the Turks. Soon, however, we get to the pith and marrow of the plot. Iago, the Moor's ancient, sings a quaint song, which is echoed by Cassio, who, tempted to drink by his pretended friend's devilish devices, becomes intoxicated and quarrelsome, and here occurs the conflict which is interrupted by Othello. Gradually the turbulent scene calms down, and then come the exquisite love passages between the Moor and Desdemona—the duet, which is known in Italian as "Gia nella notte densa" realising charmingly the intensity of the husband's devotion, and his happiness in once more returning safely to her arms. This duet peacefully closes the first act.

The soliloquy for Iago in the second is one of the most striking to be found in the whole range of opera, and in the same act is to be discovered a beautiful passage in which the Cypriotes bring offerings of flowers to Desdemona, and a delightful chorus is accompanied partly by gigeliras, the ancient form of mandolin. But the fiendish work of Iago is proceeding, and the powerful and dramatic duet in which Othello's jealousy is awakened by him is worked up in a very skilful manner. There is also a striking quartet, in which Iago, by threatening Emilia, obtains the custody of the handkerchief which proves such a fatal possession. In this scene also occurs a fine martial melody, the subject of which is Othello's farewell. Sticklers for the dignity of the Moor's character may very properly object to him playing the eavesdropper, as he does in the next act, when he hides behind the columns of the great hall of his castle so that he may be confirmed in his jealousy—a course of action never intended by Shakespeare. The last act is sublime in its sorrow, and the composer has added a touching beauty to the remorselessness of the tragedy and a deeply pathetic note to the despair and anguish of Desdemona by his setting of the "Willow Song" and the "Ave Maria." Nothing in the whole domain of music could be more beautiful than either. The opera finishes with Othello taking tender leave of his dead wife to the strains of the love duet which closed Act I.

Mr. Julius Walther sang with considerable suavity and sweetness in the beautiful love duet in the first act, and there was no lack of intensity and passion in the scenes wherein Othello's jealousy is aroused and fanned by the Machiavellian plottings of his "ancient." The fire and energy of his acting of the more energetic phases of the character also highly pleased the audience. Miss Grace Nicoll, by her grace, dignity, and the beauty of her voice, stimulated sympathy and interest in Desdemona, the most distressful of all Shakespeare's heroines. Her rendering of the "Willow Song" was for her a triumph, and her picture of the unjustly accused wife's anguish in the last act must have touched all hearts. Mr. Charles Victor must be complimented on his Iago. The diabolical subtlety of the "ancient" was expressed with no little histrionic skill, and his singing of the extraordinary "Credo" aroused considerable enthusiasm. Cassio was played with sufficient force by Mr. Charles Le Sueur; Mr. Arthur Hyde did effective service as Roderigo; and Mr. John Ebbeler's fine voice enabled him to do justice to the part of Lodovico. Mme. Marie Alexander's Emilia showed genuine power; and Montano was adequately rendered by Mr. Frederick Clendon. The artists were overwhelmed with applause at the end of each act; and Mr. Eugene Goossens, the conductor, rightly shared with the principals the honours of a most interesting production.

"THE LADY OF HAIGH; OR, A WIFE'S PENANCE," a romantic historical drama in four acts, was produced, for copyright purposes, at the Royal Court Theatre, Wigan, on Wednesday, May 1.

AN invaluable little handbook, appropriately entitled "Baby's Welfare," has been issued by Allen and Hanbury's, Ltd. It contains comprehensive instructions with regard to the treatment of children of tender age, and shows how the most delicate infant may be made robust by the exercise of care in combination with the famous milk foods manufactured by the firm. A table giving the quantities of food necessary for young babies and the times it should be administered is likely to prove of excellent service to the young mother, who will also reap advantage by the perusal of the general instructions so lucidly given. The booklet is free on application to Messrs. Allen and Hanbury, Lombard-street.

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, April 29,
the Chinese Comic Opera, entitled
"SEE-SEE."

Mr. Mulholland's patrons have this week been made happy by the distinctly meritorious comic opera, *See-See*, rendered so capitally by Mr. Geo. Edwardes's company. A more dainty See-See than Miss Lily Elsie cannot well be imagined. She soon ingratiated herself into the favour of the audience by very pleasing singing and acting, and her popularity was quickly assured. Mr. W. H. Rawlins as the retired merchant Cheoo was most humorous and entertaining; as Yen, Mr. Leonard Mackay scored highly, his acting and singing being worthy of all praise; Mr. E. Freshwater made an amusing Hoang-Wang; in Hang-Kee, Mr. Frank Danby obtained a real opportunity for a display of his versatility, and he succeeded admirably, and, whether singing or acting, he was invariably successful, and well earned the applause bestowed upon him. That graceful and sweet-voiced actress Miss Amy Augarde charmed everyone with her clever impersonation of Mai-Yai; and as So-Hie, the boy attendant, Miss Sinden danced and acted delightfully. A graceful and pretty Lee was Miss Alice Hatton; and Miss Mabel Russell was a merry and vivacious Humming Bird. Poo-See, Mais-Yao, and Shoo-Shoo, the wives of Cheoo, were spiritedly played by Miss Sybil Grey, Miss Octavia Barry, and Miss Lilian Hewitson. Miss Adeline Lester played refreshingly as Mrs. Hoang-Wang. The chorus was a live one, and bore evidence of skilful training. The scenery and dresses made a most picturesque combination, and the orchestra, under the conductorship of Mr. Arthur Spittle, performed the music with excellent effect.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, April 29,
"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."

On Saturday last the Carl Rosa Opera Company finished up their marvellously successful week's engagement here with the popular opera, *Il Trovatore*. For hours before the opening of the doors crowds had been waiting patiently for admittance, and long before the performance commenced the house was filled to its utmost capacity; as a matter of fact, hundreds were reluctantly turned away. The ever-popular opera is by no means new to the patrons of the Marlborough; on the contrary, it may be reckoned amongst the old favourites, which are always safe to draw appreciative audiences. Its mounting and stage-management, as with all this company's repertory, was characterised by thoroughness and vigour—one may say they are all splendidly staged and mounted, and the costumes artistically handsome. The efforts of the whole company, principals, and chorus alike, have been greatly appreciated throughout the week, and the Marlborough orchestra, considerably augmented, have done yeoman service. This week the management have provided their patrons with Mr. Walter Melville's *Worst Woman in London*. The piece is exceedingly well played, has been cordially received and immensely enjoyed, and the company have had the satisfaction of playing to excellent houses. The staging, mounting, and stage-management are all that could be desired, the sets being, in several cases, very effectively placed. The Frances Vere (the Worst Woman in London) of Miss Olga André—her original character—is a telling, vigorous portraiture of a most unprincipled adventuress, and deserves praise for the force which is always thrown into it. Mr. George Gaisford is seen to advantage in the part of Jack Felton, his elocution being an especial feature of his performance. Another praiseworthy contribution is the Philip Armstrong of Mr. Leonard Booker; and Mr. F. Vernon Travers acquits himself very creditably as James Milford. Mr. Paul Barry-Lewers gives a telling exposition of the cool, calculating villain, Vincent Lyle; and Mr. Cass as Fred Thornborough is perfectly suited to the part. Mr. Willie Garvey's efforts to amuse as Bob Goldfinch are highly appreciated, and he displays some true humour in the part; and Miss Polly Marsh is also particularly funny as Matilda Parker. These two artists work well together. Miss Elizabeth Watkins displays ability as Ruth Milford, playing in a most graceful manner the part of the heroine; and the remainder of the long cast is in excellent hands.

THE CORONET.

On Monday, April 29, for the first time in London, the Farcical Comedy, in Three Acts, by Herbert Swears, entitled
"A TIGHT CORNER."

Jack Hyacinth ..... Mr. Kendal
Samson Quayle ..... Mr. Ernest Hendrie
Barrington Skews ..... Mr. Metcalfe Wood
Bangham ..... Mr. F. Charles Pool
Postern ..... Mr. Arrowsmith
Mrs. Pertwee ..... Miss Dora Fellowes
Clara ..... Miss Lohr
Mrs. Hyacinth ..... Mrs. Kendal

A Tight Corner was produced a year ago, all but a week or two, at the Theatre Royal, Portsmouth, with the same cast, except that Miss Dora Fellowes now plays the part of Mrs. Pertwee, originally sustained by Miss Jessie Moore. As the comedy has had a favourable reception at the hands of many provincial audiences since its production, it is but following the usual course to include the novelty in their répertoire now that Mr. and Mrs. Kendal are again in London. It is not a piece that seriously taxes the artistic resources of either of these accomplished and experienced performers; but as a light, easily-digested dramatic dish serves its purpose well enough in a short London season marked by frequent changes of programme.

When a well-preserved, middle-aged married lady passes a good deal of the spare time which hangs rather heavily on her hands in the company of members of the opposite sex who are a good deal younger than herself, scandal-loving friends and neighbours are apt to whisper unpleasant things. This is what happens in the case of Mrs. Hyacinth, the wife of a stockbroker, an easy, happy-going individual, without a serious care in the world. But a mild kind of Iago appears in the person of Samson Quayle, a prim solicitor of the old school, who talks to Jack Hyacinth about his wife's reprehensible encouragement of the attentions of young men. His plan for the effectual cure of this sort of thing he communicates to his friend, whom he advises to write an effusive letter to a Mrs. Pertwee, who occupies a flat in the same building, and has already shown a decided partiality for Jack. The letter is accordingly written, and, as intended by the two conspirators, is duly discovered by Mrs. Hyacinth, who, finding it unfastened, reads it. But the missive does not disturb her serenity in the least, for she has unlimited confidence in her husband, and, shrewdly suspecting the little plot, fastens up the letter and sends it to her supposed rival. The results are extremely unpleasant for Mr. Hyacinth, as Mrs. Pertwee, in an interview with him, plainly indicates the warmth of her feelings towards him. Jack indeed finds himself in "a tight corner" through taking the advice of his old friend, and he is compelled to explain that the letter was a mistake. The lady thereupon faints, but is restored by Quayle, who returns at this crisis. As Mrs. Hyacinth is just then heard approaching, Mrs. Pertwee, unwilling to face her, conceals herself in an old oak chest, which is presently to be sent to the auctioneer's for sale. However, Mrs. Hyacinth quickly discovers what has happened, and the removal of the chest by workmen brings the second act to a merry conclusion. Before the end comes there is more trouble for Jack and his friend the lawyer, and Mrs. Pertwee has also a bad time of it. In fact, Mrs. Hyacinth scores all along the line, and eventually sends the meddlesome Quayle and Mrs. Pertwee about their business.

Mrs. Kendal played the part of the stockbroker's wife with unflagging vivacity and spirit, displaying once again those fine qualities which gained for her years ago a foremost place amongst the English actresses of the day. She seemed to revel in the humour of the situations, and her success in the part was beyond question. Mr. Kendal, as Jack Hyacinth, depicted the genial qualities of the worthy, unromantic stockbroker in an easy, natural manner that greatly delighted the audience, his anger with Quayle and his trying interview with the amorous Mrs. Pertwee being specially conducive to hearty merriment. Mrs. Ernest Hendrie deserves warm praise for his clever study of the character of Samson Quayle; Mr. Metcalfe Wood did extremely well as Mrs. Hyacinth's admirer, Barrington Skews; and commendable work was also done by Mr. F. Charles Pool as Bangham and Mr. Arrowsmith as Postern. Miss Dora Fellowes was a capital Mrs. Pertwee; and Miss Marie Lohr did good service at the maid Clara.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, April 29,
the Extravaganza, entitled
"THE NEW ALADDIN."

On Monday evening Mr. George Edwardes's Gaiety company opened their first visit with *The New Aladdin* at this theatre, and this bright and entertaining concoction proved a veritable feast of fun, and kept the audience thoroughly amused. The company includes many old friends who have appeared here before in other productions, and there was a very hearty welcome awaiting them. Miss Ida Rene, who comes for the first time, soon made herself a big favourite by her dainty playing of the Princess, and she captivated all with her songs, especially one of her own anent "Marriage—and After," which she gave with great point and archness. Lally was capitally played by Miss Cressie Leonard, who made quite a smart young man, and she played very energetically throughout, and was especially successful with that very pretty song "Night time at the Zoo," concluding with a really neat dance. Mr. Fred Leslie, jun., filled the rôle of the Genie of the Lamp in a capital manner; his energy is really marvellous, and though his "Simple Life" song went strong, it was quite eclipsed by his rendering of "Waltz me round again, Willie," which fairly brought down the house. In speaking of the latter song, mention should be made of the lady who aids Mr. Leslie in his almost bewildering but very clever dance which follows it. That always diverting comedian Mr. George Gregory finds in Tippin a character which suits his methods admirably, and he is vastly amusing. Whether he is singing a Scotch song or a coster ditty, he is always mirth-provoking, and scores a big success. As the Scotch lassie, Jennie, Miss Mary Fraser was excellent, and greatly added to the enjoyment of the piece. Mr. William Spray found ample scope for his talents as the Cadi; while Mr. Frank Hector ably impersonated Ebenezer. The character of the Lost Constable was cleverly depicted by Mr. Harry Taylor, whose serious look and dry manner exactly fit the part. Mr. Ernest Mahar appeared as General Ratz, and sang delightfully. Miss Irene Verona played the Spirit of the Ring with rare humour, lending great aid in the lighter scenes; Miss Jessie Lonnen was captivating as the Charm of Paris; and Miss Nellie Lonnen made a pretty Laolah. Miss Edith Denton contributed a clever solo dance in the second act, which is much applauded. There are a host of pretty girls in the chorus, who all do splendid work and take the choruses along with a great swing; while the orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Ernest Vousden, acquit themselves admirably. Mr. Trueman Towers is responsible for the excellent stage-management of the play, which is gorgeously mounted, and there are pretty dresses in profusion. Mr. Herbert Cathcart is the general-manager of the company.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, April 29, the Opera by Gounod
entitled "FAUST."

Mr. Cecil Paget has given the Peckham public a rare musical treat this week by engaging the famous Moody-Manners Opera Company in a répertoire of well-known operas. On Monday last an admirable interpretation of *Faust* was given by the company, and the production was received with the utmost enthusiasm by a house packed from floor to ceiling. Mr. Charles Manners scored a notable success by his well-known impersonation of Mephistopheles, singing magnificently, and acting with grim realism varied occasionally by flashes of humour. Mme. De Vere Sapio was loudly applauded for her excellent singing and acting as the hapless Margherita; Miss Mildred Bryan gave her musical numbers admirably as Siebel; and Mr. Lewys James rendered his rôle of Valentine in forcible style, his singing being much appreciated; Miss Baker submitted a performance replete with humour as the amorous Martha; and Mr. Anderson as Wagner ably completed the cast. The chorus gave unqualified satisfaction, and the orchestra was under the bâton of Signor Romualdo Sapio. The scenery is very pretty, especially the set representing Margherita's garden. During the week *Tannhäuser*, *Carmen*, *The Bohemian Girl*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, and *Lohengrin* have been represented. Mr. T. C. Fairbairn is the stage manager, and Mr. J. McCabe the general manager for the company.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, April 29, the Comedy, entitled
"THE SUPERIOR MISS PELLENDER."

An encouraging start was made at the Brixton Theatre on Monday by Mr. Wm. Fraser-Brunner's company in the clever comedy by Sidney Bowkett named above. The piece formed the opening attraction of Mr. Cyril Maude's season at the Waldorf in the January of last year, and supplied the popular comedian with a part after his own heart. Partly sentimental, greatly comic, and wholly interesting, the piece is one that makes a strong appeal to popular audiences, and that at the Brixton Theatre—now going well under the management of Mr. R. W. Allum—received the piece with a relish that gave abundant promise for the future. The title-rôle is played by Miss Queenie Fraser-Brunner, who enters thoroughly into its requirements, the stony glare, the supercilious sneer, and the adamant firmness being effectively assumed. The young actress contrives to preserve a stately and even fascinating appearance in some becoming gowns, and the distinctness of her delivery is not the least praiseworthy feature of a very creditable achievement. Mr. Wm. Fraser-Brunner has no insignificant task in following Mr. Maude in the rôle of Tister, but he manages to catch a good deal of the charm that invariably surrounds Mr. Maude's acting, and wins for the good-hearted country gentleman the entire sympathy of the house. The frequent attacks of nervousness with which he is overcome are represented with realistic effect, and have very laughable results. A wealth of tenderness is imported by Miss Beatrice Fitzhugh into her rendering of Mrs. Pellender. She plays the young mother of a grown-up family with grace, refinement, and well-varied expression, and gives a performance that closely approaches perfection. Mr. Ellis D. Carlyle takes a broad view of his responsibilities as the boy Noel. As a representative of the schoolboy filled with animal spirits and bursting for a lark Mr. Carlyle's embodiment would be hard to beat. A well-studied characterisation of the peevish Edith was given by Miss Marie Ault, who put on a scowl that did not come off till the end. She drew a realistic picture of the obstinate girl, and made a minor part conspicuous by skilled acting and clever facial play. The short but excellent cast is completed by Miss May Staples, who made a bright and captivating child as Nancy, Noel's vivacious companion. Miss Staples also appeared in the rôle of authoress, her name being associated in that capacity with a new comedietta, in one act, entitled

"VIOLETS."

John Farrell ..... Mr. Will H. Gainsford
George Bruce ..... Mr. Gerald James
Jimmy ..... Mr. Ellis D. Carlyle
Meg ..... Miss May Staples

The distinction attained by the "curtain-raiser" was not great. As played on Monday it seemed to be the first chapter of a novelette to be "continued in our next," and of dramatic action it possesses little. There is a young actor named Bruce who has fallen ill in a remote country village, and is nursed back to health at a farmhouse. Meg, the farmer's granddaughter, has fallen in love with the actor, and fixes a bunch of violets in his buttonhole just before she goes off to mend his top coat ready for his journey in quest of an engagement. The farmer, who has been a witness of what looks very like a love scene, warns Bruce not to rob him of his grandchild, for whom he has a husband in view in the person of the village organist, and is relieved to learn that Bruce has a sweetheart in town to whom he is engaged. Meg returns with a letter she has found in the coat by which it appears that Bruce's father, who had disinherited his son through going on the stage, has now restored his fortune. The actor rushes off to see about his inheritance, and Meg learns from her grandfather that he is not going to return. The young son of the organist sympathises with the girl, and directs attention to the violets which Bruce had apparently thrown away, and the curtain descends upon Meg in tears. The chances of the little piece were hampered by the authoress herself, who was frequently indistinct as Meg, but otherwise played naturally and effectively. A painstaking impersonation of the actor was given by Mr. Gerald James, who delivered his lines well. Mr. Will H. Gainsford made a typical country farmer; and a few moments of comedy were supplied by Mr. Ellis D. Carlyle as the lad Jimmy.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.

On Monday, April 29, the Play, entitled
"JIM, THE PENMAN."

Messrs. Leonard Pagden and G. M. Copping's company is this week achieving a well-deserved success with this popular play, which is remarkable for its telling situations and effective curtains. One cannot withhold sympathy from James Ralston, as played by Mr. Leonard Pagden, in spite of his forgeries and villainies. Mr. Pagden's acting rises to a very high level in the last act during the scene with his injured wife, a part intelligently played by Miss Alice Farleigh. The American detective, Captain Redwood, was a finished study in the experienced hands of Mr. E. A. Douglas; and the other American, Louis Percival, was ably embodied by Mr. Will Lockhart, who took care to do no more than suggest the Transatlantic accent in this serious and interesting character. Mr. Orlando Barnett made Baron Hartfeld an impressive villain, his make-up and manner being most effective; Lady Dunscombe was a typical feather-brained society leader as acted by Miss Rosalind Ross; and Mr. Arthur Vezin as the young Peer, Lord Drelincourt, was easy and natural. His fiancée, Agnes, Ralston's daughter, found a charming exponent in Miss Muriel Pope. Mr. Cecil Yapp gave a clever character-sketch of a fussy Parliamentarian, Mr. Netterby, M.P.; and as Dr. Prettywise, Mr. Gerald Lenton carefully represented the family doctor, whose diagnosis of James Ralston's weakness foreshadows the tragic end of the play. The company is adequate throughout, the small part of a manservant, played by Mr. Thomas Dixon being equally commendable. The several scenes of the play gave occasion for the display of some especially handsome and tasteful costumes by the ladies, and at the end of the third act the curtain had to be raised three times in response to the prolonged applause.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, April 29, the Comedy,
"OUR BOYS."

The reproduction of the famous comedy of *Our Boys* was hailed with delight by the theatre-going population of South London. The actual play was preceded by a curtain-raiser, entitled *A Happy Pair*, which comprised the two characters of Mr. and Mrs. Honeyton, played with considerable skill and gusto by Mr. James Geldred and Miss L. Kingston. It is descriptive of an estrangement which arose between this young couple owing to an excess of affection on one side, which, in consequence, was wholly unreciprocated upon the other, but which terminated in the reunion of the pair. The three scenes in which the plot of *Our Boys* is laid make very realistic sets. Of the characters composing this brilliant company, Mr. Rusell Rosse, in the part of Sir Geoffrey Champneys, made a typical English gentleman of the old school. He appeals more especially to the audience in the third and last act, when he relaxes somewhat from his former rigidity and displays his more humane and less exalted sentiments. Talbert Champneys, his son and heir, was admirably represented by Mr. George Mudie, jun., who again was seen at his best in the last act, when misfortune and poverty have brought out the manly traits in his nature. Mr. Norman Clark as Perkin Middlewick was a lifelike impersonation of a successful retired tradesman. His son, Charles Middlewick, as rendered by Mr. James Geldred, is a distinct type of a well-educated young English touring enthusiast. In the first act especially the contrast between this man's observant discrimination and intellectual eloquence and Talbert's foppish empty-headedness is very striking, and calculated to enlist the sympathies of the audience in favour of Middlewick. The part of Kempster, Sir Geoffrey's servant, was entrusted to Mr. W. E. Dixon, who displayed his usual skill and aptitude; Miss E. Nolan O'Connor as Violet Melrose, the heiress, evidenced all the bearing of a high-bred lady, coupled with an occasional pleasing dash of sentiment; Miss L. Kingston gave a graceful delineation of Mary Melrose, Violet's poor cousin, whose naïvete and winning manner won the hearts of her entire audience; Miss Rachel de Travis lent a truly sympathetic touch to the character of Miss Clarissa Champneys, Sir Geoffrey's sister; and Miss Ethel Hesketh as the incorrigible Belinda kept the entire audience suffused with merriment.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, April 29,
The Comedy, entitled
"HIS HOUSE IN ORDER."

The visit this week of Mr. George Alexander's company in A. W. Pinero's admirable comedy, *His House in Order*, which achieved such a great success at the St. James's Theatre, is welcome. The bare statement of the fact that the play was rehearsed under the direction of Mr. Geo. Alexander and that the company carried all scenery, furniture and accessories was in itself an incentive to suburban playgoers, and therefore it was not surprising to find a large audience assembled at the opening performance on Monday evening. That their expectations were fully realised was evident by the enthusiasm which prevailed throughout and by the applause accorded the principals at the close of the play, the interpretation of which was in every respect excellent. A leading feature of the performance was the presentation by Miss Auriol Lee of the sorely-tried Nina. With a thorough grasp of her character, Miss Lee, by her excellent acting, held the attention of the audience throughout, and scored a great success. Mr. Frank Fenton as Hilary Jesson acted with a true understanding of the rôle, the characteristics of which he displayed with telling effect. Mr. Cyril Harcourt was seen to advantage as Filmer Jesson, and gave a smart and concise rendering of the part. The pompous and narrow-minded Sir Daniel Ridgeley was cleverly depicted by Mr. George Fitzgerald, who was responsible for much quiet humour; Mr. George Silver as the intolerable and priggish Pryce Ridgeley gave an excellent presentation of the rôle; and Mr. Lloyd Lowndes as Major Maurewarde and Mr. A. E. Benedict as Dr. Dilnott were excellent. Mr. Cyril Cattley as Forshaw, a reporter, and Mr. Reginald Besant as the secretary Harding also rendered good support. Mrs. Kemmis never wavered in her dignified serenity and composure as Lady Ridgeley, and proved an admirable exponent of the part; and Miss Audrey Campbell as Geraldine Ridgeley acted with zest and intelligence. Miss Lillie Kehr created an excellent impression by her impersonation of Mlle. Thomé, a French governess; and Miss Moyna Hill is to be congratulated upon a really clever representation of the young boy, Derek Jesson. Mr. A. P. Horne is general-manager, Mr. Charles Grattan business-manager, and Mr. Cyril Cattley stage-manager for Mr. George Alexander.

THE PAVILION.

On Monday, April 29, the Drama, entitled,
"THE JEWISH ZAZA."

A crowded house at the Pavilion on Monday witnessed the performance of Zolotarevsky's drama, *The Jewish Zaza*, by the Yiddish Operatic and Dramatic Company. The piece, which was excellently played and well staged, bears no relation to the play similar in name already so well known, but is a simple story dealing entirely with domestic sentiment and honour, while the exciting finale is unexpected, and rouses almost breathless interest. *The Jewish Zaza* was remarkable for some exceedingly powerful acting, particularly that of Mme. Natansohn, who in the title-rôle scored a great success, holding her audience spellbound by the intensity she displayed in the somewhat lengthy third act. Mr. Charles Natansohn's fine, resonant voice was heard to advantage in his declamatory scenes, and his portrayal of Sascha was almost perfect; Mme. Bloom rendered good service as Hitte, and praise must be accorded to Mme. Goldstein for her reading of Zipe. Kube was in the capable hands of Mr. Joseph Fineberg, who made the most of his opportunities; and Mr. N. Hamburger is entertaining as Schmulke; while an artistic impersonation of Samuel Herschman is given by Mr. Isaacowitch. Mr. Fischman did his best as the bibulous Aunt Zelde; and Miss Lubritski was competent as Manele; Mme. Josephson showed dramatic possibilities as Sorah; and Sone and the Doctor were in the hands of Mme. Weinberg and Mr. Levene. During the week *Journalists and Actors*, *Love Victorious*, *The Wise Man*, *Jews in Morocco*, and *Hyman in America* have been performed.

PRINCE'S, POPLAR.

On Monday, April 29, the Play, entitled
"THE WORLD'S DESIRE."

Mr. and Mrs. William Giffard's company are this week presenting *The World's Desire*, by Barry Williams, and the piece is played exceedingly well, to the satisfaction of large audiences. The drama is a favourable specimen of its class, and its success is mainly due to the brisk succession of striking situations, rather than to any great originality of treatment. Mrs. William Giffard ably sustains the onerous part of Dora Mutley, her powerful acting, particularly in the scene where she recognises her child, gaining loud and prolonged applause. As Helen Berkshaw, Miss Ella Seton, although suffering from a cold, is thoroughly pleasing throughout; Miss Alberte's rendition of the little street arab known as Ragged Jack is worthy of much commendation; and Miss Helen G. Edwins does ample justice to the character of Justerina Hook; Mr. William Giffard, as the twin brothers Selkirk, puts in some good work, his breezy personation of Robert in the first act being most acceptable, while the part of Henry is invested with admirably-sustained intensity, gaining thereby the well-deserved plaudits of the house; Mr. Henry Danson enacts the execrable Hon. Ellis Fridley in a deliberate and incisive manner, being ably supported by Mr. Harry Belford, whose portrayal of the whisky-drinking solicitor, Nathaniel Mutley, is praiseworthy. Prominence is given to Godstone Clair by the firm and natural exposition of Mr. Herbert Regers; and Mr. Harry Townley extracts all the fun possible from the rôle of Washington Dobbs. Competent assistance is given by Mr. Paul Gault as James, Mr. John Owen as Inspector Haslum, Mr. Pitt Hitham as Saunders, Mr. Alfred Annand as Sergeant Greet, and Mr. Harold Dentley as Constable Scott. No expense has been spared in the mounting, which was first-rate.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, April 29, the Play, entitled
"EAST LYNNE."

East Lynne, the play founded on the world-famous novel of the same name by Mrs. Henry Wood, is the attraction here this week. Miss Louisa Peach, so long a favourite actress at the neighbouring Britannia Theatre, appears in the rôle of Lady Isabel, a representation to which she imparts the necessary element of pathos, especially so when she is appearing as the self-styled Mme. Vine. Mr. Ernest E. Norris succeeds in making the character of Archibald Carlyle quite interesting. Mr. Edwin Bennett's Francis Levison is an admirable and impressive embodiment; and Mr. Thomas Snow as Lord Mount Severn gives a very good idea of the aristocrat. Mr. Lloyd Townrow as Justice Hare supplies another capital character-study; and Richard Hare is ably portrayed by Mr. James Storey. Lawyer Dill is well played by Mr. C. Archer Brown, who gives a touch of welcome drollery to the character. Miss Beatrice Storey is Barbara Hare, Miss Alice Jordan is an acceptable Cornelia Carlyle; Miss Dorothy Mackenzie makes a sprightly Joyce; Miss Olive King appears as Wilson; Miss Elsie Green represents Little Willie; and the cast also includes Mr. Harold Scott, who makes a smart detective.

THE STANDARD.

On Monday, April 29, the Drama, entitled
"TOMMY ATKINS."

Tommy Atkins, a piece of considerable interest, has been attracting large audiences to the Standard this week, and much pleasure has been afforded to those present by the highly commendable performance provided. Full of exciting situations, comic incidents, and pathetic passages, the play is produced on a scale of great completeness. Every minor detail has been well attended to, and the acting leaves nothing to be desired. The true military spirit is conspicuous throughout the performance, the mounting is admirable, and the dresses and uniforms are fully in keeping with the nature of the piece. Mr. Albert Ward plays with power and very apparent ability as Harold Wilson. His efforts in declamatory elocution are of a high order, and his acting all through well deserves the appreciation shown him. Miss Wilton Reed successfully impersonates Stephen Raymond; and Mr. Harry White does all that is possible as Ebenezer Skindle. The rôle of Captain Richard Maitland finds a most desirable interpreter in Mr. Frank Adair; he plays with ease and skill, and is withal powerful and impressive. Mr. Paige Laurence enacts the part of Captain Bob Sparrow with care, and proves of decided value. Mr. Keino Johnson must be complimented on his excellent performance as Colour-Sergt. Paddy Molloy; and every praise is due to Mr. Fred Morgan for his natural and very attractive embodiment of Private Mason. Mr. Sydney Ternshaw is all that could be desired as Colonel Hardwick; and the part of Sir Simon Redgrave receives suitable handling at the hands of Mr. Paul Peters. The same may be said of the rôle of Private Harris as pictured by Mr. Harry Bristowe. Little Miss Florrie Green displays ability as Jack, a drummer boy; and Miss J. Edwards ably performs her duties as the choir boy, Thomas Trotman. Miss Helen Parton carefully depicts Rose Selwyn; whilst Miss Marjorie Murray performs with distinction as Elsie. The Martha of Miss Daisy Marshall is good; and Miss Florence Dalton supplies a capable delineation as Margaret Maitland. Miss Agnes Paulton gives great satisfaction as Kate Perkins; and praise is due to Miss Theresa Osborne for her life-like and decidedly effective portrayal of Ruth Raymond.

GRAND THEATRE, ISLINGTON.

On Monday, April 29, the Drama, entitled,
"THE SOLDIER'S WEDDING."

Islington this week has its first opportunity of witnessing Mr. Walter Melville's latest production, and excellent business has been the result. Mr. Wingold Lawrence as Jack Brown submits a manly and pleasing performance, and makes himself very popular; Mr. Beresford Whitcomb as Colonel Graham presents a capital study of great value to the production; Mr. Raymond Wood as Courtenay is excellent; Mr. A. Gambier Melford as Spratt supplies some acceptable humorous relief, and finds a valuable ally in Miss Ellie Carlisle. Little Albert as Teddy Munro proves precocious, and is altogether to be commended for his smartness; Mr. D. J. Hennessy as Marks gives a neat little character-sketch; and from Mr. Fred Yarnold comes an effective study of the old farmer. Miss Marie Macaulay in the heavy rôle is distinctly good, and makes much of her opportunities; Miss Maggie Burton as Mrs. Hatherton is to be commended; Miss Georgie de Lara gives a very clever portrayal of Peggy Munro, acting with power; and Miss Jessie Winter as Nancy Lee is very pleasant and natural. A special word of praise should be extended to Mr. Frederick Biron for a strong and convincing performance of David Munro. The remaining parts in a long cast are all adequately dealt with. The incidental music by Mr. E. Reeves is of service to the production, and the dressing and mounting, as usual, leave nothing to be desired, the last scene of the first act being remarkably well done.

LYRIC OPERA HOUSE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, April 29, the Drama,
"THE CONVICT."

Miss Winifred Maude's company is here this week with the above drama, and it is proving a good attraction at the Lyric, where the audience seem to be particularly fond of dramas introducing prison life. Miss Winifred Maude herself enacts the rôle of Nellie Seaforth, the sweetheart of the hero, George Britton, and the object of the unwelcomed attentions of Captain Hurley. Miss Maude plays her part well and with excellent restraint, making Nellie a most attractive character. George Britton is made a manly hero by Mr. William Maxwell, and Mr. W. Bradford is a powerful Captain Hurley. Mr. Victor Du Cane doubles the characters of Sergeant Holmes and Alphonse Godin, a French convict, investing both parts with a fund of quiet humour. Mr. Norton Shields as Mike Larne, an Irish convict, causes more fun. Mr. Leonard S. Harrison is good as Mr. Britton, the bank manager. Miss Marion Holly in a masculine part, Harry Seaforth, does well; and Miss Ethel Tinsley makes the most of the part of Miriam Goldberg. Miss Jenny Hackett is a lively Jenny Wright, and sings in capital style "The Zuyder Zee." The play is well staged, and especially effective are the Haunted Churchyard and the Harbour scenes. Mr. Victor du Cane directs proceedings on behalf of Miss Maude.

GRAND, FULHAM.

On Monday, April 29, the Play, in Four Acts, by Seymour Hicks and Cecil Raleigh, entitled
"SPORTING LIFE."

Melodrama continues its career at the Fulham, but this week there has been a stronger piece. The play is full of "sporting life," both on its light and dark sides, and a good company play it for all it is worth. The part of Lord Woodstock demands an actor of considerable versatility, and such a one is found in Mr. Henry Doughty, who shines both in high society and in the ring with the gloves. His was a good representation of a high-minded gentleman, with a fine sense of honour. An equally genuine performance is that of Mr. H. C. Cooper as Andread, the moneylender—also a sportsman with a sense of honour. Mr. Cooper did well with this attractive rôle, playing with strength and excellent restraint. Philip Cavanagh was played with quiet force by Mr. Edwin Fergusson; and Mr. H. H. Barrington showed power and tenderness as Miles Kavanagh. Mr. H. J. Barrett contributes an excellent study of the peppery old General Molyneaux; and Mr. Bert Morley was very amusing as Sergeant Doney. Mr. Edward Chester also, as Joe Lee, had good chances to show dramatic skill, and used them well; Mr. Raymond Dudley must be commended for his finished study of the scheming financier, De Carteret (he was an admirable villain of the quiet and effective sort), and Mr. Frank Woodville's representation of the bookmaker, Cleary, is a telling study in character. Miss Ida Phillips acted with charm and sympathy in the part of Norah Kavanagh; and Miss Nellie Lucas acquitted herself well in the very trying part of Kitty Kavanagh—a part so trying to actress and audience that a good deal of it might be omitted with advantage to all concerned. As Olive de Carteret, Miss Hilda Beverley scores a success with a brilliant representation of the type of woman that brings men to ruin. With so long a cast it is impossible to particularise further, but all played up well. The scenery is unusually elaborate and varied, but is very well done, and "shifted" with commendable celerity.

BROADWAY THEATRE, S.E.

On Monday, April 29, was presented the Musical Play, in Two Acts, by A. M. Thompson and Robert Courtneidge, entitled
"THE DAIRYMAIDS."

Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company are appearing here this week in the charming musical play, entitled *The Dairymaids*, which enjoyed so successful a run at the Apollo Theatre. The cast is an exceptionally good one, and the play goes merrily from start to finish. Miss Edith Blanche is a delightful Lady Brudenell, and her nephews, Sam Brudenell and Lieutenant Brudenell, R.N., are capitally acted by Mr. E. Statham Staples and Mr. George Desmond. Captain Fred Leverton is well represented by Mr. Alec Fraser, whose rendering of the part is very popular. Mr. Forbes Dawson is excellent as Dr. O'Byrne; Mr. Harry Dent is a very amusing Joe Mivens; Mr. Harry Cottell is good as Tim Capus, as is Mr. Fred Foster as Todgers, and Mr. Rupert Mar an earnest Lieutenant Bereton. Miss Violet Lloyd is a delightful Peggy, and her rendering of "The Sandow Girl" and "Do you remember?" is very pleasing. Miss Rhoda Gordon is a pretty Winifred, and sings tastefully "A little boy of to-day." Miss Beryl Vaudrey is an attractive Helene; Miss Madge Avery presents an excellent portrait of the austere Governess, Miss Penelope Pychase. The numerous dairymaids, schoolgirls, &c., have very charming representatives in Mesdames Cissie Sephton, Maisie Clark, May Casson, Katie Bartlett, Kathleen Sinico, D. West-Collins, Jeannie Laminiere, Muriel Gordon, Gay Silvani, and Rose Campbell. The scenery and dresses are new and attractive, the chorus well trained, and the orchestra, under the able direction of Mr. Albert Bartlett. Mr. John Tully is the experienced and courteous manager of the company.

One of the most interesting of the many presentations made to Miss Edna May on the occasion of her retirement from the stage on Saturday last was a handsome solid silver manicure set, suitably engraved, subscribed for by the boys of Stedman's Choir who have been appearing with her throughout the run of *Nelly Neil*.

"LADY TATTERS."

A Romantic Light Opera, in Three Acts, written by Herbert Leonard, Lyrics by Roland Carse, and Music by Walter Slaughter, produced at the Shaftesbury Theatre on Wednesday, May 1.

King Charles II.....MR. SIDNEY BROUGH.
Lord Rochester.....MR. HERBERT SPARLING.
Earl Ludlow.....MR. OSCAR ADYE.
Captain Walter Sommerville....MR. IVOR FOSTER.
Sergeant Tom Gurney.....MR. JOHNNY DANVERS.
Matthew Scraby .....MR. POWIS PINDER.
Landlord Simon.....MR. ALGERNON NEWARK.
Seth Lewys.....MR. WALTER PASSMORE.
Dick Harrold.....MR. COURTICE POUNDS.
Poll Merrie.....MISS MARIE GEORGE.
Isabel Scraby.....MISS LOUIE POUNDS.
Tatters .....MISS CLAUDIA LASELL.

The Shaftesbury Theatre—too long untenanted—opened its doors to a brilliant throng on May-Day, when was produced for the first time on any stage the light romantic opera *Lady Tatters*, written by Mr. Herbert Leonard—a practised craftsman in melodrama—the music being by Mr. Walter Slaughter, the composer of the scores of *Marjorie*, *Alice in Wonderland*, *Dandy Dan*, *Gentleman Joe*, *The French Maid*, and others too numerous to mention. The action is placed in the Restoration period—1660-62—when our bright little island became "Merrie England" once more, and the sour-visaged Puritan no longer banned the amusements of the people. Mr. Leonard chooses his chief characters from among the show-folk—the booth actors of the period—rogues and vagabonds without purse or scrip; and we are plunged into the regions of romance when we learn that Tatters, the leading lady of the troupe, bears a marvellous resemblance to the dead daughter of a proscribed regicide—Earl Ludlow. For purposes of his own, the Earl bribes her father, Seth Lewys, the jester of the little company, to allow Tatters to change her identity and become Lady Betty Ludlow, of Gilchrist Hall. The bargain being concluded, the nobleman has to make a rapid flight—disguised in the comedian's cloak—in order to escape arrest, and when the officers of the King are about to take prisoner the supposed Lady Betty, her innocence is declared by Captain Walter Sommerville, who had been a favoured suitor for her hand in the days when she was a strolling player.

By the appearance of Lady Betty, as chatelaine of Gilchrist Hall, in the next act, the outlawed Earl gains control of his estates. Tatters, in borrowed plumes, welcomes her old companions of the booth, and also, without knowing it, the Merrie Monarch himself, who is in search of a mysterious talisman which belongs to him. Charles the Second comes with my lord of Rochester in disguise, and both sustain their historic reputations as gallants. Lady Betty, as we may now call her, makes preparations for her wedding, and is dressed in bridal veil, but the bridegroom, Captain Walter Sommerville, on his arrival, seeing her seated on her father's knee, casts her off. She then confesses that she has been masquerading, and that she is only Tatters, the "lowly player maid." The King immediately exclaims: "As Lady Ludlow's title thou dost disown, Henceforth as Lady Tatters shalt thy name be known."

In the third act the gallant captain is arrested for treason, but is allowed to escape. Tatters secures the favour of the King by returning the talisman, and the way is finally cleared for the happiness of the lovers, the curtain falling to the strains of a spirited chorus "Long Life Unto His Majesty."

The opera is at present too long, and a rigorous compression of the first and second acts would concentrate the dramatic interest. The music is exceedingly bright and captivating, and engaging melody and richly embroidered orchestration mark the progress of the work from the rise to the fall of the curtain. The cast includes such eminent Savoyards as Mr. Walter Passmore, Mr. Courtice Pounds, and Miss Louie Pounds. Mr. Passmore has a rich fund of humour at his command, and plays Seth Lewys, the barnstormer tragedian, with true Hogarthian quaintness. He made the hit of the opera on Wednesday evening with his number "The Fiddler and His Dog," in which he accompanied himself on an ancient spinet. In this number, which has a jodelling refrain, the writer of the lyrics, Mr. Roland Carse, puns in rhyme, following at a respectful distance the poets Hood—Tom and Basil. Miss Marie George is the vivacious delineator of Poll Merrie, the serving wench of Yet Red Lyon, and scores not only in the duet with Mr. Walter Passmore, "The Folly of Flirtation," in the second act, but in a special number, "Charity," in which her dancing is delightful to watch. Miss Louie Pounds, as Isabel Scraby, is a pretty advocate of the sway of cavalier, and sings "A lady of fashion" with her accustomed charm. She finds an excellent foil in Mr. Powis Pinder, who makes an unmistakable hit as the Puritan steward, Matthew Scraby, and to him chiefly may be attributed the success of the duet "Puritan and Cavalier," one of the best numbers in the opera. Mr. Ivor Foster's fine voice and artistic method serve him well in the stirring song, "Boot, Saddle, to Horse, and to Duty," and again in "Captive Am I," and he makes an interesting figure of the hero, Captain Walter Sommerville. Mr. Courtice Pounds is not too well provided with opportunities for singing, but his sweet and well cultured voice is heard to advantage in "Would'st Thou Recall the Past?" and "Never Laugh at Love." Mr. Sidney Brough plays with gaiety and distinction as the Merry Monarch; Mr. Herbert Sparling is a gallant Rochester; and Sergeant Tom Gurney, a surly Cavalier, who eschews love in his devotion to duty, is admirably portrayed by Mr. Johnny Danvers. Mr. Oscar Adye, as the Earl of Ludlow, is well placed. Miss Claudia Lasell distinguishes herself by her gaiety and grace as the heroine, Tatters, and her opening number "O'er the Country Side We Wander" was encored on the night of the production. The dresses, designed and supervised by Comelli, and executed by B. J. Simmons and Co. and Alias, are beautiful in the extreme. The dances have been cleverly arranged by Espinosa, and the scenery by Bruce Smith, Harry Potts, and W. Raphael, is extremely pretty. The composer conducted the opening performance, which was received throughout with a great show of enthusiasm. There should be much popularity in store for *Lady Tatters*.

A CONVALESCENT HOME.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Having spent a month at the Charing Cross Convalescent Home, after a severe illness, I can strongly recommend the place to any actor or actress who happens to be run down from overwork or other causes. The home was built for Charing Cross Hospital at the expense of Mr. J. Passmore Edwards, and is situated at Limpsfield (near Oxted), and stands in its own grounds, 532ft. above the level of the sea.

To those whose means will allow it, there are six private rooms, the charge of which is two to two and a half guineas a week; but to those who are not so fortunate there are men's and women's wards of about eighty beds, the price being only 12s. 6d. a week. The meals are excellent, consisting of breakfast (meat), dinner, tea, and supper. The surrounding country is beautiful, and four counties (Surrey, Sussex, Kent, and Hampshire) can be seen from the home.

Dr. Black, M.D. (of Charing Cross Hospital and Clarges-street), the president of the home, and his wife take a great interest in the place, and continually visit it. The matron (Miss Leese), who does all that is possible for the comfort and welfare of the patients, I feel certain would be pleased to answer all inquiries.—Yours faithfully,

A RETIRED NAVAL OFFICER.

London, May 1, 1907.

NEW PLAYS AT HASTINGS.

Two new plays were produced at the Public Hall, Hastings, on Wednesday, April 24. The most important was a farcical play, in three acts, adapted for the English stage by Emily Fräderdorff, entitled

"GOOD OLD GADESBY."

Colonel Grantham.....MR. A. J. FRADERSDORFF
Captain Fred Grantham .....MR. J. OLDFIELD
Sir William Mowbray .....MR. R. COLLIS
Percy Rothwell .... } MR. A. E. FRADERSDORFF
Cabman ..... }
Morton .....MR. F. OOSTERVEEN
Mrs. Grantham .....MISS G. HART
Lillian .....MISS E. MACNAB
Mrs. Pearson .....MISS G. ELWES
1st Officer .....MR. DRAWBRIDGE
2nd Officer .....MR. OOSTERVEEN
Gadesby .....MR. W. B. GARRETT

The scene is the garden room of Col. Grantham's house. The Colonel himself is absent arranging a marriage between his daughter Lillian and Sir William Mowbray, the son of an old friend, now deceased. Capt. Fred. Grantham, stationed at Colchester, has assaulted his Major in an after-dinner quarrel, and has been summoned to attend before his general, but fails to do so. He hits upon the device of impersonating his uncle, Col. Grantham, whom he closely resembles, and arrives at the garden room attended by Gadesby, his soldier servant. Fred secretly loves his cousin Lillian, and learns from his sister (Mrs. Pearson, a widow) of the approaching marriage. He at once avows his love for his cousin, and Gadesby suggests a plan of action: has master shall continue to act the part of his uncle, and announce to his aunt in his assumed rôle that the marriage between Lillian and Sir William is impracticable. A letter is to arrive from Fred declaring his love for his cousin. After giving his consent to the union, he can disappear on a supposed Government mission, and then, reappearing in his proper personality, the couple can become publicly affianced before the real Sir William's return. Mrs. Pearson agrees to assist, and the ruse succeeds with Mrs. Grantham. At this juncture the Colonel, accompanied by Sir William, returns, and he and his household are very soon at cross-purposes. In the second act Lillian speaks to Sir William of her approaching marriage, believing him to be merely a friend of her father's, and he learns it is to her cousin Fred she refers. Sir William gives Fred the assurance of his assistance in winning Lillian if he assists him in return in gaining the affection of Mrs. Pearson, of whom he has become enamoured. Gadesby mistakes the real Colonel for his master, and thus reveals to the Colonel the cause of the inexplicable sarcasm of Mrs. Grantham and the topsy-turvy condition of affairs generally. In the third act, Gadesby communicates with the police, who telegraph to Colchester. Two officers appear and arrest the Colonel, and the party depart for Colchester. Gadesby accounts to Mrs. Grantham for the Colonel's absence by telling her he has departed for St. Petersburg on a mission. Fred gains his aunt's consent to his marriage with Lillian; the Colonel again returns, he having been seen at the station by a friend of Captain Grantham, Percy Rothwell, who had informed the officers that the charge against the Captain had been withdrawn by the Major. Eventually peace is restored by Sir William being accepted by Mrs. Pearson, and the Colonel's acquiescence in Fred and Lillian's engagement. He is about to thrash Gadesby to appease his wrath when he hears Gadesby's wife outside calling her husband, and tells him to go to her for the punishment his prevarications deserve. There are many amusing situations in the course of the play, and its successful production by amateurs is very creditable to all concerned.

The other production was a dramatic episode in one act, by Mr. W. G. Burnett-Garrett, entitled

"POOR PUNCHINELLO."

Punchinello.....MR. W. G. BURNETT-GARRETT
Tonio .....MR. R. COLLIS
Netta .....MRS. R. COLLIS

The scene is a garret, and sounds of music are heard through an open window, a rural fête being in progress close at hand. Punchinello, an elderly man, is a clever modeller of figures; his hunchback has obtained him the nickname he is known by. His wife, Netta, is young and giddy, and repines that their poverty keeps her from attending the fête. To gratify her Punchinello leaves off working at a masterpiece of sculpture by which he hopes to win fame and fortune, and goes out to raise money that she may attend the fête. Then enters Tonio, their mutual friend; he is well-to-do, and has secretly wooed the young wife. He now urges her to elope with him. She consents, and leaves her husband a letter of farewell. Punchinello returns with money, gladly anticipating the pleasure of his wife, reads the letter, and in a fit of ungovernable rage, curses his false friend, and, seizing the work which has occupied him for years, dashes it to fragments upon the floor.

The seductive Tonio was capitally embodied by Mr. Collis; the frivolous and pleasure-seeking Netta had a charming and convincing exponent in Mrs. Collis; the author himself played Punichinello with much fidelity to detail and strong dramatic feeling.

Four performances were given, the proceeds being for the benefit of the local hospital. An efficient orchestra was arranged and conducted by Mr. Charles Fawcett, sub-conductor of the Hastings Pier.

"THE SIMPLE (?) LIFE."

A Play, in One Act, by E. Oswald Brooks and R. C. Jenkins, produced, for the First Time, at the Grand Theatre, Swansea, on Monday, April 29.

Lord Rawlinson .....MR. HARRY BARTLETT
Hon. Fitzherbert de Beauchamp .....MR. HARRY KENNY
The Earl of Gower .....MR. HAL BENTLEY
Bettis .....MR. D. W. COX
Marquis of Halesworth .....MR. R. C. JENKINS
Lady Violet Chippendale ..MISS WINNIE SMITH
Hon. Gladys Warrener.....MISS ETHEL WILSON

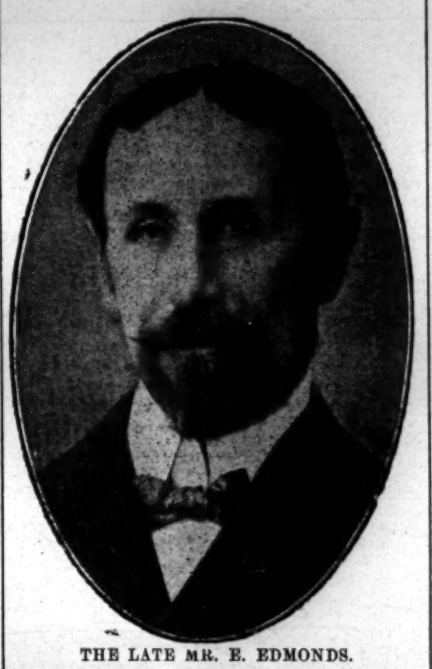
(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

This short play was produced on Monday evening last with great success. The curtain rises to the accompaniment of stentorian snores from within the tent of a riverside encampment. The Hon. Fitzherbert de Beauchamp crawls out sleepily and informs his friends that it is 10.30, and his father and Lady Violet Chippendale are expected at 11. A quarrel ensues as to who is to cook the breakfast that morning, and Beauchamp goes fishing to avoid the task. The Marquis appears with the two ladies, and surveys the scene with scorn and disgust. Beauchamp causes great merriment in his frantic efforts to hook his fish. The whole party eventually decide to leave for home and "the complex life" except Rawlinson, who has been very busy preparing the breakfast, and just as all the others are leaving for the Marquis' steam launch he calls them back with the exclamation: "Breakfast is served." The curtain descends, and on again being raised discloses the whole party discussing a rough-and-ready meal. Interest is also centred in some pretty love passages between the ladies and Gower and Beauchamp. At the production the piece was received with loud applause, although it naturally suffered a little owing to it being a "first night." Mr. Kenny as Beauchamp was intensely funny; Messrs. Bartlett, Bentley, and Jenkins quite kept up the spirit of the piece; and Mr. Cox as Bettis caused yells of laughter with his lugubrious and plaintive "Take me back to London Town." The ladies, who had little to say, said that little well, and looked charming in their picturesque dresses.

DEATH OF MR. E. EDMONDS.

Mr. E. Edmonds, the well-known stage-manager, passed away peacefully at eleven o'clock on Sunday night, after a long and painful illness. Mr. Edmonds was born in 1837. He was apprenticed to Messrs. Samuel Brothers, engineers, but joined Mr. Morris Abrahams at the East London Theatre as a member of his stock company in 1856. After the usual vicissitudes of an actor's life he was engaged by Charles Calvert as stage-manager during the memorable Shakespearean revivals at the Prince's, Manchester. He then went into management for himself, becoming lessee of the Queen's Theatre, Manchester. Subsequently he joined Mrs. John Wood at the St. James's Theatre, London, following with a tour with John Coleman's *Henry V.* company. Then he returned to Manchester to join Captain Alfred Thompson. Mr. Edmonds remained there many years, producing fifteen pantomimes, which are still remembered by Manchester men as the finest of their time.

Mr. Edmonds opened the St. James's Theatre, Manchester, as manager, but gave up that position to become Miss Mary Anderson's stage-manager at the Lyceum Theatre. Latterly he produced successful pantomimes at Birmingham, Glasgow, and Edinburgh, the Grand Theatre, Islington, and four Christmas annuals for Mr. Chute



THE LATE MR. E. EDMONDS.

at Bristol. His last associations with Manchester were his appearance in Robert Courtneidge's revival of *As You Like It* at the Prince's and as producer of *Henry VIII.* and *Dante* for Richard Flanagan.

Mr. Edmonds has been ailing for some time; it was during the time he was playing Calaban with his son's *Woman and Wine* company that a serious breakdown occurred. He was removed to St. Peter's Hospital, where he underwent an operation. It was discovered that cancer was the trouble, and his case hopeless. He was removed to a private nursing home on Clapham Common, where he laid for six weeks waiting the end, which he knew was near, and sent many loving messages to the dear friends he had known in the profession in which he had served so long and faithfully.

MARTIN HARVEY ON ACTING.

Some reflections upon the art of acting were made by Mr. Martin Harvey at the Masonic Hall, Birmingham, on Wednesday afternoon, before a crowded audience, in aid of the organ fund of the Presbyterian Church of England, Chantry-road, Moseley. The Lord Mayor of Birmingham, introducing Mr. Harvey, paraphrased Shakespeare's conception of life as a stage, and told how each one of us had his own part to play, the way it was played depending upon the individual. We were to do our best before the audience, because when the curtain fell and we returned to the green room reflections and regrets were too late.

Mr. HARVEY reminded his audience of the saying that in proportion as a man understood his art he ceased to talk about it. Either, therefore, he knew very little about it, or they would spend a dull hour if he knew much about it and was silent, which, as Euclid would say, is absurd. Mr. Harvey ridiculed the popular idea that frequent repetition of a part rendered its expression mechanical and flat. An interpretation did not become mature until it had been repeated many times. It had its birth, its adolescence, its maturity, and in obedience to the law of nature, alas, its decay. A great deal of the success of an actor depended upon the quality of the audience and the degree of sensibility or sympathy possessed by them. An audience generally got the acting it deserved. It was only when an actor and his audience were fused together that the spontaneous flashes of sensibility, the importance of which Talma emphasised, were emitted. An audience must be willing and prepared to be impressed, to give as well as to receive. Also they should not let their intelligence be obfuscated by the process of digesting a heavy dinner.

No matter how deeply moved an actor might be in a certain part and at a particular moment, his sub-consciousness, or his intelligence—call it what they would—was trebly alert, and the oneness of soul which he desired with an audience was one of the most precious consolations in his work. An actor could express nothing but himself, and personal experience was, perhaps, the greatest teacher of all. The heights of tragedy could never be scaled save by those who broke from the placid comfort of a middle course; never by those who walked the comfortable, well-fed paths. Acting, after all, was only the understanding of humanity, but to say that the actor simply interpreted the ideas of others, as a critic recently put it, was the stupidest of views to take.

Mr. Harvey's lecture was highly appreciated, and he was accorded a hearty vote of thanks.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, the Comedy, entitled

"SOWING THE WIND."

Mr. Peter Davey, the enterprising manager of the Royal County, produced this charming comedy on Monday evening under the happiest auspices. The play was staged with more than usual effectiveness in the matter of scenery and costumes, and the whole production was a distinct artistic success. Chief honours were carried off by Miss Ella Daincourt as Rosamond, by Miss Irma Foldi as Maud Fretwell, by Mr. George Mudie as Mr. Brabazon, and by Mr. Lytton Grey as Sir Richard Cursitor, all of whom gave a fine impersonation of the part allotted to them. Excellent assistance was also rendered by Miss Sheila Leigh as the Hon. Mrs. Fretwell, by Mr. Frank Harding as Lord Petworth, by Mr. Franklin Graham as Neil Annesley, and by Mr. George Mallett as Mr. Watkin. The comedy was received by an appreciative audience with open arms.

MR. GRANVILLE BARKER ON REFORM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—I beg to forward you a letter which I have sent to a friend, who has written objecting to my policy:—

(COPY.)

"MY DEAR F——, Thank you for your letter. That upon the electing of the twelve of us who have been called the Reform Party you should have rejoined the Association is a great encouragement; a few more such reaccessions we should count as a most satisfactory reform.

"But now you believe that the success of our policy involving any member engaged in management in loss of the privileges of membership will deal the Association a fatal blow. What is the real difference between us, the difference in principle which cannot be compromised? We think the Association should be what its name purports it to be, an Association of Actors. You think that somehow or other it should represent and govern the whole profession of the theatre. I thought that, too, three or four years ago, and went so far as to say so, demanding, among other things, regulation of the entrance to our profession and of its conditions of employment. I was told that the Association already had such matters in hand, and very justly I was invited to come and help. That was three years ago. Since then I have been busy about other things, but I return to be triumphantly confronted with the partial negotiation of a scheme for payment of rehearsals. Have you seen that scheme? If anything were needed to convince me of the Association's impotence in all vital matters, that would do it.

"I see, of course, now that I demanded impossibilities, and that you are demanding impossibilities. The only means by which the Association could become a governing body would be by the acquisition of a Charter, and, moreover, of a Charter which conferred strict disciplinary powers. Do you see a British Government giving to any body of actors and theatre managers such a Charter? Not in the next fifty years. But the problems remain, these and others, more urgent for solution than ever. How is the Association to grapple with them?

"Let us remember that, without the unattainable Charter, strictly speaking we are not a 'Profession.' Individually we may be artists; collectively, economically, we are a trade. This, though a technical, is a very important distinction, and cannot be too clearly insisted upon. For how are well-organised trades regulated? By committees formed from the representative bodies of employers and employed.

"In most trades the line between employer and employed is easy enough to draw. In our calling the situation is complicated by the existence of the actor-manager. His inclusion in the Association has been from the first an anomaly. Is he qualified as a manager; then why are other managers excluded? (There is now, of course, a logical though little favoured proposal to include them). Then he qualifies as an actor, as an artist? Now, once for all, is the Association's duty towards the artistic or the economic side of our calling? There can be but one answer. What can the Association, any association for that matter, have to do with artistry? And economically, that is financially, are an actor-manager's interests those of an actor or manager? No answer is needed. For twenty-one hours out of the twenty-four he is a manager and nothing but a manager.

"Let a third thing be quite clear. An association composed of conflicting interests is a body foredoomed to impotence and mischief. There must be suspicion on one side, resentment on the other, and constant secession. Suspicion may be unfounded and secession uncalled for, but associations are composed of human beings, not of archangels. Look at our own body. In any quarrel between actor and manager is not the bias avowedly in favour of the actor, though as members both have equal claims on our consideration? It says a great deal either for the chivalry or carelessness of managers towards the Association that they have not all resigned long ago. So much for the mischief. For the impotence, what proof is needed? How many schemes have been strangled, delayed, neglected, because of confliction of interests, for mortal fear of giving offence? I say again, for it is the most important thing I have to say, that the Actors' Association, composed as it is now, is doomed to deal with nothing more vital than the cleanliness of the dressing-rooms at the Theatre Royal, Blanktown.

"So the Association has now to make its choice. One course entices it to be a governing body without the power to govern, and a representative body, representing nothing but divided interests. On the other hand we see—the Actors' Union.

"Here, I think, is the determining factor in our decision. If the Union had done nothing else, it forces us to make up our minds without more delay. The work that we ought to have done from the first it has now undertaken to do. The work we have done it will leave us to continue, though whether it will leave us any income to continue it with is another matter. Quite clearly the Association and the Union cannot long continue to exist profitably side by side. Up to now we have officially behaved towards their members with that perfect dignity which is the refuge of the nonplussed. Their behaviour towards the Association has been—well, by this time probably no one is more anxious to forget those few enthusiastic indiscretions than the utterers of them. Personally, I have said and done everything I could to heal such breach as exists between us, and I hold most strongly that the policy of the Association at this juncture is to reform and modify its constitution that the Executive of the Union may have no excuse for not bringing over their members to us in a body. We have much to offer them, but let us own gracefully that they have much to offer us. Separation may bring disaster to both.

"I have left to the last two arguments against 'depriving' the managers which seem to find some favour. I am told that in their absence from the counsels of the Association fewer disputes will find their way to arbitration and more to the law courts. It would be quite easy to prove the opposite, but it is shorter to remark that a manager's possession of common sense does not depend on membership of any Association. I am also told that after all the financial help given by managers to the Association this treatment of them will appear ungrateful; sometimes that it will be so, usually only that it will appear ungrateful. No one regrets more than I that charitable help was ever begged, no matter from whom. Each member of the Association should only think of that as a personal affront offered him by those who were responsible for the appeal. No one is more anxious than I to make it impossible for such a thing ever to occur again. But I do not find it difficult to believe that the men who were generous with their money then will be no less generous now, if they are convinced it is for the Association's good, when what is asked of them is a little self-effacement. I do find it impossible to believe that they would ever taunt the Association by a reference to their gifts freely given. Has anyone seriously suggested such a thing?

"These are the arguments of a convert, and I hope that therefore they may effect your conversion. I once looked to the Association to be what the Medical Council is to Medicine and the Law Society to Law. I perceive that is impossible. I now look to it to become the economic conscience of the actor's calling. To that end I welcome my own exclusion. Speaking, if I may, for the first time as a manager, I assure you that I would far rather bargain for the services of an actor within the strictest limits than an Association might impose than I would, as now, argue my way through the possible petty frictions of each individual agreement.

"Well, Monday must decide.—Very sincerely yours,

"H. GRANVILLE BARKER.

"Court Theatre, April 29."

A. A. SOCIAL.

The "monied amateur" was the subject of some very scathing comments at the social gathering of the Actors' Association on Friday afternoon last week, when, under the chairmanship of Mr. Fred Morland, a discussion on "The Elimination of the Amateur" took place.

The Chairman stated that this subject had aroused intense feeling in the profession, and was naturally one in which actors and actresses took a keen interest. The name "amateur" did not in the theatrical sense, necessarily mean a beginner, either with or without means, the general acceptance of the term being applied to those who did not receive a fair rate of payment for their labours. It was their desire and their duty as actors to eliminate such persons from the ranks of the profession.

Mr. Francis Chamier remarked that there could be no possible objection to people learning acting so long as they started at the beginning. What they did object to was the engaging of amateurs for leading parts at such sma'l salaries that experienced actors could not accept them.

Mr. Robert Castleton suggested that the Actors' Association should evolve a charter by which managers should be compelled to limit the number of amateurs they engaged. To his way of thinking the amateur problem was a far more serious one in the West End of London than it was in the provinces.

Miss Gladys Ffolliott delivered a long speech, which fairly bristled with caustic epigrams, and had any poor wretch of a monied amateur been present he would surely have hidden his head for very shame. Thus, "the monied amateur is like the horse-radish. Once planted in the garden, it sprouts out until one day you find it under the dining-room window, then at the end wall, then in the centre bed, and so on." Again, "the monied amateur is like the rabbit in Australia. He is taken by the manager to enable the latter, with small finances, to take out a play and bolster up the number of his cast by amateurs going for no salary or who have paid premiums, so spoiling the business for other companies who may be paying proper and adequate salaries. The amateurs come, like the rabbits in Australia, and ruin everything." Proceeding, Miss Ffolliott said that everyone had a right to enter the theatrical profession, whether he had money or not; but it should be made compulsory on those who had money to deal fairly. The monied amateur should not be permitted to under-price the beginner, and the members of a company should refuse to act with such a person. Some people might say, "Suppose a manager has not enough money to pay the whole cast, and that by engaging a few paying amateurs he is enabled to give others work, should he be prevented from engaging those amateurs?" But the answer to that was that only a man who had the means to meet all reasonable expenses, entailed by the payment of fair and equitable salaries should be allowed to go on tour. Then, as to the Actors' Association. That body had admitted, simply for the subscription, people who, though they had entered the profession ten years or two years ago, had had practically no experience. It was like the case of a child who at ten years of age went on the stage as a turnip and at seventy said he had had sixty years' experience. The Association had ignored its chances. It was like the remittance man in the colonies, who went out with everything in his favour, but missed his chances and collapsed entirely through his own fault, and saw others succeed where he failed. The Actors' Union had now stepped into the breach, and new members were joining every day. The Union would ensure good behaviour both on the part of managers and actors.

Mr. William Devereux expressed the opinion that fully one-half of the profession were not getting more than £2 a week, if they could only be persuaded to admit it. On that hypothesis, therefore, there was no necessity for the establishment of a minimum salary of £2.

Mr. Cecil Raleigh made a stirring appeal to the meeting to take immediate action to protect themselves against the blacklegs in the profession.

"PRISCILLA AND THE PRESIDENT."

A Farcical Romance, in Three Acts, by Charles Heslop, produced, for the first time on any stage, at the Royal Opera House, Wakefield, on Wednesday, April 24.

William Bassendyne .....MR. ARTHUR HARE
General Laranagas .....MR. DEAN WILLIAMS
Captain O'Hara .....MR. SAM ROBERTS
Mr. Crayford .....MR. CHARLES LOCKE
Loftus .....MR. ERNEST TREVOR
Duchess of Knightsbridge..MISS HETTA BARTLETT
Lady Mary Mildrith .....MISS LILLIAN TWEED
Annabel Crayford .....MISS VIOLET SIMMONS
Priscilla .....MISS MARY DEVERELL

The plot of this new farcical romance presents a good many complications, which, however, are cleverly contrived. In the penniless William Bassendyne, secretary to the Grand Slam Ladies' Club, General Laranagas discovers the lost son of the late President of Mauritania, in Central America, and carries him off to perform duties of State at so many thousand pesetas per annum. But Bassendyne's valet, Loftus, happens to be the arch-conspirator in a plot to set a Queen over the Mauritanians, and he arranges for the capture of a missing Princess, who chances to be Priscilla, the only girl William loves out of the many who try to win him. The plotters, however, secure the Duchess of Knightsbridge by mistake, and she is found crowned Queen on Bassendyne's arrival, in the second act. A series of revolutions follow, and when Priscilla and the other ladies turn up in search of him, the President has been incarcerated in prison. The arch-conspirator, to smooth over matters, contrives a blindfold marriage between the real Queen Priscilla and Bassendyne, whereupon the fair sex take flight back to England, while the President, imagining he has married the Duchess, remains to amass a fortune before presenting himself at the Duchess's country house, in the third act, and finding a solution to all his difficulties.

Mr. Arthur Hare as William Bassendyne played throughout with a force and dramatic power which stamped him as an artist of exceptional merit. Mr. Ernest Trevor as Loftus gave an able rendering of the character. Mr. Dean Williams made the most of the part of General Laranagas, the head of the Revolutionary Army in Mauritania; and Mr. Charles Locke played in bright style as Mr. Crayford. Mr. Sam Roberts did good work as Captain O'Hara. The part of Priscilla was prettily acted by Miss Mary Deverell; Miss Hetta Bartlett submitted a clever impersonation as the Duchess of Knightsbridge; and Miss Violet Simmons and Miss Lillian Tweed, as Annabel Crayford and Lady Mary Meldrith (the married daughters of the Duchess), were good in their respective rôles.

A CHAMPIONSHIP Toy Dog Show will be held at the Crystal Palace on Tuesday and Wednesday. There are 249 classes in all, and in addition to money prizes over 400 specials, including cups, bowls, plate, &c., are to be given.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

MR. BEERBOHM TREE raised the enthusiasm of his audience on Saturday to a boiling-point by the announcement that the last day of his Shakespeare Festival coincided with the tenth anniversary of his management of His Majesty's. During that time, he said, he had produced some thirty-two plays, and although he might regret the production of some of them from a financial point of view, he was ashamed of none. In the success he had experienced in his theatre without State aid—and he was glad to say he had not yet fallen upon the rates—he had more than realised some of his dearest ambitions.

MR. TREE'S managerial career has actually extended to twenty years. He first started for a brief season at the Comedy Theatre, and in 1887 went to the Haymarket Theatre. From thence he crossed the road to the magnificent Temple of Thespis to which playgoers so consistently flock. Mr. Tree is now busily engaged with rehearsals of Oscar Wilde's comedy, *A Woman of No Importance*, which is to be seen at His Majesty's in about three weeks' time. Miss Ellis Jeffreys is coming from America to sustain a prominent part in the revival.

MISS ELLEN TERRY'S countless admirers will be delighted to hear that recently she has completed her autobiography. The task of recording, as she says, "an eventful life, packed full of incident," was begun last year, as a fitting commemoration of her stage jubilee. The reminiscences are to be given through the medium of *M.A.P.* under the title, "The Story of My Life," and the first instalment will be published on June 6. Miss Terry confesses that at first the difficulties of her undertaking appalled her, having, in her fifty years of stage life, accumulated enough material for fifty books. Her recollections go back to dim days passed in a Glasgow attic in the time before she had seen a theatre.

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR, who opened the *Tribune* Photographic Exhibition in the Rendezvous, Bouverie-street, on Wednesday, remarked in the course of his speech that it was almost as painful to a public man to see a photograph of himself in a newspaper as it was to hear his voice in a phonograph. No man, however great, however powerful his imagination, however strong his inspiration, could get the materials for human life out of his own brain or experience. He must keep in touch with other men and keep his ears wide open. Let them not either despise the talk of the markets. Socrates, after all, only went about in the market-place of Athens, and yet those exchange of talk had become the dialogues of Plato, one of literature's most immortal productions, just as the talk of the Roman mob, reproduced by the imagination of our great genius, had become the Coriolanus of Shakespeare.

MR. E. S. WILLARD has accepted Sir Squire Bancroft's invitation to be one of the judges to award the Bancroft Gold Medal at the performance given by the students of the Academy of Dramatic Art, at the St. James's Theatre, on Monday next. During the last week of Mr. Willard's American tour he was presented with a three-handled silver loving-cup by the members of his company. The cup, which stands 10½in. high and weighs 49oz., was specially designed, and bears the engraved signatures of all the members of Mr. Willard's company, from the leading lady to the assistant property-man.

THERE are exceptionally few pictures of theatrical interest on the walls of the Royal Academy this year. The most important is an oil painting by Mr. Oswald Birley of Miss Irene Vanbrugh (Mrs. Dion Boucicault). It is full length, and represents the popular actress in a graceful and characteristic position. She is seated, leaning against a big cushion the colour of old gold, with one hand lightly resting on her side and the other arm stretched along the back of the lounge, a small red-covered book having apparently just slipped from her fingers. Her evening dress is a peculiar shade of blue, drawn together at the corsage with a purple *chou*, the same colour being seen in the narrow sash, and a long scarf of spotted net is falling round her shoulders. A portrait of Mrs. Brown Potter, by Mr. William B. E. Ranken, is among the "skied." It possesses a somewhat wild and windy effect, with its vivid-coloured hair, the black plumes of an enormous hat, and sable muff. Miss Una L. Taylor exhibits a tiny statuette of Mlle. Adeline Genée, in ballet dress; Mr. Kaye Bruce has a little bronze statuette of Mr. Granville Barker, very happily posed; and a capital chalk drawing of Mrs. George Alexander, the work of Mr. Charles E. Ritchie, will be found in the black-and-white room.

"ECONOMICS FOR ACTORS" is the subject of a lecture to be delivered by Mr. Bernard Shaw at the next social of the Actors' Association on Friday next at 4.30. Mr. Cecil Raleigh will take the chair.

MISS EDNA MAY bade farewell to the stage on Saturday amid an enthusiastic display of goodwill. The Aldwych Theatre was crowded in every available space, and Miss May was greeted with loud and prolonged cheers, the song "Follow on," which the popular actress had introduced into *Nelly Neil*, being redemanded again and again. At the end of the performance the audience joined those on the stage in the singing of "Auld Lang Syne," and in answer to the demands for a speech Miss May stepped forward bearing a beautiful bouquet, one of many showered upon her.

EVIDENTLY deeply affected, Miss May said: "I thank you so much for your kindness this evening, which has made my task in saying good-bye all the harder. But I am very happy that I am not leaving England, and, although I am taking my farewell of you, I am glad that I am going to remain amongst you, and I hope to come to the theatre and see you all. My life during the last nine years has been very, very happy owing to the kindness I have met with at the hands of all, and I only hope the next nine years will be as happy. I thank you all very heartily once again. Good-night!" A pleasing little ceremony brought the eventful evening to a conclusion, Mr. Joseph Coyne presenting Miss May with a silver rose bowl as a gift from the stage staff, and with a silver loving-cup from the company which came specially from America to support her in *Nelly Neil*.

THE annual meeting of the Rehearsal Club will be held at the St. James's Theatre (by kind permission of Mr. George Alexander) on Tuesday afternoon, at three o'clock, when H.R.H. the Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein has graciously consented to be present. The chair will be taken by Mr. Edward Terry, and the meeting will be addressed by Mr. Allan Aynesworth, the Rev. Canon Holmes, Mr. Frederick Kerr, Mr. James Welch, Miss Lilian Braithwaite, Miss Alexandra Carlisle, Miss Gertrude Kingston, and Miss Eva Moore. Tickets of admission may be obtained (on application by letter only) of the Honorary Treasurer, Mrs. Mayne, 101, Queen's-gate, S.W.

ANOTHER donation has been made by the executors of the late Mr. J. L. Toole from the residue left at their discretion for charitable institutions. The latest establishment to benefit from the late comedian's munificence is the Maternity Charity and District Nurses' Home, Plaistow, E., to which the sum of £135 has been allotted.

IN the House of Commons on Thursday Mr. Kennedy asked the Secretary for Foreign Affairs whether the views of the Japanese were consulted in withdrawing the licence for *The Mikado*, on whose advice did the Lord Chamberlain act, and would he state what were the considerations which prompted the action in this matter; whether the responsibility for the decision rested solely with the Lord Chamberlain; and would he generally reconsider the whole question as affecting the case of this play with a view to withdrawing the prohibition and limiting, by legislation or otherwise, the power of the Lord Chamberlain.

SIR E. GREY replied:—"The Lord Chamberlain acted on his own responsibility. With regard to the last part of the question, if my view had been asked for, it would have been entirely in accord with the action which the Lord Chamberlain has taken for reasons which are obvious in this matter. I should not be prepared to reconsider the question, even if it were in my province to do so." Mr. Kennedy further inquired who was responsible in the House for the action of the Lord Chamberlain, but Sir E. Grey asked for notice of the question.

LEADERS of the profession are agreed that the extinction of *The Mikado* would be a national loss. Sir Charles Wyndham declares the prohibition is "beyond my humble intelligence." Mr. Beerbohm Tree thinks it is Gilbertian, to say the least of it, to disallow *The Mikado* and allow La Milo. Mr. Cyril Maude cannot help thinking a mistake has been made somewhere, because, surely the Japanese are the most sensible nation in the world. Mr. Arthur Bourchier considers that permanent withdrawal would most certainly be a national loss. Mr. George Grossmith, sen., writes: "Will a faithful English public tolerate it? I think not. Cave canem." Mr. Fred Terry is of opinion that the withdrawal of the opera will mean a great loss to the lyric stage, and a pleasure denied to young and old alike.

DESPITE the Lord Chamberlain's prohibition, the opera was given on Thursday at the Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield, by Mrs. D'Oyly Carte's company, before a crowded and enthusiastic audience. Some doubt existed up to the last as to whether the opera would be produced, but the management of the theatre received no notification whatever from the Lord Chamberlain's office that the licence had been suspended, and consequently decided to proceed with the performance. The work was also given at the Norwood Public Hall by amateurs on Wednesday; but an intended representation at Cripplegate was stopped, and a charity performance announced for next week by the Middlesbrough Operatic Society has also come under the ban.

THE will of Mr. James Davis, LL.B., better known as "Owen Hall," author of *Florodora*, *The Geisha*, *The Girl from Kay's*, *A Gaiety Girl* and *The Greek Slave*, has been proved. Mr. Davis left an estate valued at £200 gross, with net personalty nil.

A COMIC football match was played at Burnden Park, Bolton, on the 24th ult., between Fred Karno's comedians and Messrs. Baines and Hales' *Pet of the Embassy* Co., who were last week appearing at the Grand and Theatre Royal respectively. Keen interest was evinced in the match in Bolton and district. Miss Ethel Dunford, the "Pet," kicked off, and Fred Kitchen for Karno's Comedians and Witty Wattie Walton for the *Pet of the Embassy* Co. were prominent in keeping the fun going fast and furious. As an exposition of the art of football the game was evidently something new to the habitués of this famous ground, and the referee also learnt much during the afternoon of the weird and wonderful possibilities of "footer" as played by members of the profession. The amount taken at the gate and collected on the ground by ladies of the two companies was over £15, which, together with the result of tickets sold beforehand, will make a very satisfactory sum to be handed over to local charities.

THE Lyceum Theatre, which has been launched on the flowing tide of prosperity through the medium of good and wholesome melodrama, is to follow out the traditions of houses devoted to such work, and have a pantomime at Christmas, when a finely-mounted production may be anticipated. Mr. Charles Penrose, who is making such a pronounced success on the halls as a silly, overgrown boy, has been engaged by Mr. Carpenter for a principal comedy part in the forthcoming annual.

THE best interests of theatrical art are manifestly being served by the Academy of Dramatic Art, at the entrance examination of which on Tuesday nearly 50 per cent. of a large number of candidates were rejected on the ground of not possessing sufficient qualification for being advised to adopt the stage as a profession. This means that the Examining Board, which consisted of Sir Squire Bancroft, Mr. John Hare, Mr Cyril Maude, and Mr. Pinero, refused a year's tuition fees of no less a sum than £500.

MR. ARTHUR COLLINS has concluded arrangements for a short summer season at Drury Lane Theatre, commencing in the week before Whitsuntide. The attraction will be the strong romantic Indian drama, *The Last of His Race*, by Donald Maclaren, which has already had an enormous success in America. Several important engagements are pending with well-known artists, and the cast, when completed, will be one well worthy of a Drury Lane production. The drama, the peculiarity of which is that all the characters are Redskins, but are played by whites, was introduced to this country at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, on April 8.

MISS LILY BRAYTON was present at the annual meeting of the Edinburgh Needle and Thimble Guild, held in the Oak Hall on the 25th ult., and conferred badges on the two members who had been most successful in their efforts for the good of the guild. In the course of her remarks Miss Brayton said that no profession had a greater number of blanks than the theatrical profession, and a noble work was being done by those who were aiding by practical help their poorer sisters. Lady Dunedin proposed a vote of thanks to Miss Brayton, and the meeting, over which Miss S. Mair, a great-grand-niece of Sarah Siddons, presided, passed it enthusiastically.

MR. FRED W. PERMAIN, having produced for Messrs. B. and F. Wheeler's Comedy Company in South Africa *The Walls of Jericho*, *Beauty and the Barge*, *Mr. Hopkinson*, *His House in Order*, and many other London successes, is returning to England by the s.s. Norman, which is timed to arrive to-day. By the same steamer come Mr. Wilfred E. Payne, Mr. Herbert Greville, Mr. Talbot Homewood, Mr. Rule Pyott, Mis Marie Housley, Miss Violet Greville, and Miss Florence Le Clercq.

MR. W. PAYNE SEDDON celebrated, on the 24th ult., his third year as owner of the Derry Opera House. Every available seat was booked long before the date, and a record audience gathered to witness *Charley's Aunt*, which was in the programme. Mr. Seddon, who had an enthusiastic reception, in the course of a speech, alluded to his work of providing healthy amusement as "a mission," and in thanking the public for their increasing support referred to his share of the undertaking as not only a means of earning his own living, but as an important duty in that state of life to which it had pleased God to call him.

MR. EDWARD COMPTON sent a characteristically witty letter of apology for his absence from the opening ceremony of the May fête at the Leeds Town Hall on Wednesday, at which the Lord Mayor (Mr. Joseph Hepworth) officiated. Mr. Compton acknowledged a kind of "Nelson" sense of "duty." "The play I am detained here rehearsing," wrote the popular actor, is "*Delicate Ground*, which I have had great pleasure in especially reviving for your fête, and I am feeling with Nelson that I must do my duty by it and your public. Please accept my daughter, Miss Mackenzie, in my stead. She is, as Touchstone feelingly remarks, 'a poor thing, but mine own,' and she thinks, I believe, that she looks very nice in her new tailor-made gown! Your opening ceremony being graced by so distinguished a soldier as Sir H. Leslie Rundle cannot be but distinctly military; but we poor players will, at four o'clock, endeavour to be equally effective in the Civil Court, and if your patrons will only muster there in overwhelming numbers we will show them that we, too, can 'stand the fire' of their 'volleys' of applause, and though mere 'civilians' will yet 'face the music' and show them that 'Peace' (or rather our two pieces) have 'their victories as well as war.'"

MR. SEYMOUR HICKS and Miss Ellaline Terriss will follow up their present tour of *The Beauty of Bath* with a month of flying matinées. The repertory will consist of the triple bill, *You and I*, *Scrooge*, and *Papa's Wife*, and, with the exception of three days each at Oxford and Harrogate the company will play a fresh town every day.

THE real lions with which Mr. Distin Maddick hoped to embellish his production of *The Judgment of Pharaoh* at the Scala Theatre are to be denied to the public. The kingly animals had already been obtained and put into training; but the Lord Chamberlain has stated definitely that it would be impossible to grant permission for wild animals to appear on the stage.

MISS FANNY COLEMAN'S farewell matinée is to take place, by kind permission of Mr. George Alexander, at the St. James's Theatre on Thursday, the 30th inst. Mr. Jerrold Robertshaw has undertaken the arrangements of the programme, which will be a most attractive one, and include Mr. John Hare in *A Quiet Rubber*.

MR. DOUGLAS GORDON will conclude, on May 21, a fourteen months' engagement in South Africa with Messrs. B. and F. Wheeler's Comedy Company, in which he has been playing leading parts, including that of Hilary Jesson in *His House in Order*. Mr. Gordon is taking a holiday trip back, returning by the East Coast route, visiting Cairo, Alexandria, Rome, Venice, Lucerne, &c., and expects to arrive in England about July 17.

THE Muncaster Theatre, Bootle, will be run on the two-houses-per-night system during the month of July. Mr. Fred Willmot is to be the director of amusements.

AT Hastings Police-court, on Monday, Miss Florence Glossop Harris was the prosecutor in a case in which Emily Rogers, of Marina-street, St. Leonards, was charged with stealing jewels valued at £100. In January, when performing at St. Leonards, Miss Harris stayed at the prisoner's house, and later on missed several valuable articles. In March the prisoner sold a gold brooch belonging to Miss Harris for £10, and ultimately this led to her arrest. The accused, who expressed her sorrow, was committed for trial, and on Tuesday was sentenced to three months' imprisonment in the second division.

MR. J. H. SAVILE, of the Paisley Theatre, has instituted popular prices at his house for the spring and summer season, during which smoking is permitted in all parts of the theatre. The results of the innovation have been up to the present most gratifying.

THE O.P. Club closed its season on Sunday with a lecture by Mr. Alfred F. Robbins on "The Value of Ballet in Dramatic Art." The address was illustrated by Mlle. Genée, who, without the aid of scenery or music, executed a ballet interlude, originally shown by Mr. Vincent Crummles in Dickens's "Nicholas Nickleby," entitled "The Indian Savage and the Maiden." Mlle. Genée took the part played in the original by the "Infant Phenomenon," and Miss D. Craske that of Mr. Folair, and the two ladies gave an artistic performance of the little episode, which was followed by some further examples of the art of terpsichore by Mlle. Genée. Messrs. Cecil Raleigh, Cyril Maude, Fred Wright, E. F. Spence, J. B. Mulholland, and Sidney Dark contributed to the discussion which followed.

MR. STUART ALEXANDER, who was engaged as principal tenor for the revival of Savoy opera, but was obliged to relinquish his parts at the beginning owing to a slight stroke of paralysis, has now, we are glad to state, quite recovered after an illness of thirteen weeks. Mr. Alexander is at present singing with Mr. Albert Chevalier's company, and hopes to be back in a West End production in the autumn.

MR. LEONARD WILLIAMS has been specially engaged for his original part of Royal Keene in *The World's Great Snare*.

IN a contemporary it was stated last week that "Friends of Mr. John Nolan will learn with regret that he has been ordered into the London Hospital." As several people have been under the impression that this must be Mr. John Nolan, the eldest of theatrical agents, and father of Mr. Philip Nolan, the latter gentleman wishes to point out that his respected father, who attains his seventy-seventh birthday this week, is at home well and hearty.

MR. HARRY YOUNG, the courteous and respected manager of the Muncaster Theatre, Bootle, on Tuesday won the first prize—a gold watch—in a billiard handicap, which took place in connection with the Muncaster Theatre and hotel. Mr. Young was heartily congratulated on his success.

MME. JANE HADING and Mrs. Patrick Campbell will both appear next week with their respective companies at the Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne, now so ably managed by Messrs. Murray King and Clark that packed houses are the rule. The following week Mr. Walter Passmore will produce a new piece, with Miss Agnes Fraser and Mr. M. R. Morand in the principal parts. The music for this is composed by Miss Marjorie Slaughter, who will herself conduct on the opening night.

MR. HERBERT BOYLE, we regret to learn, has been seriously ill for some months, and is now an inmate of the Grand National Hospital for Consumption, at Ventnor, Isle of Wight (Block 7).

MR. ACTON BOND has had a busy time during the Shakespeare Memorial Festival. In addition to playing Gratiano in *The Merchant of Venice* with Mr. Arthur Bourchier at Stratford-on-Avon, he has been engaged with work in connection with three branches of the British Empire Shakespeare Society. At Stratford-on-Avon he directed a reading of *As You Like It*, at Leamington supervised the first full meeting of the members in that centre, and at Worcester produced *A Winter's Tale* with new scenery and a double cast for six evening performances and two matinées. All those taking part in the latter were members of the Society, including Mr. and Mrs. Carlton, and the houses were so good as to have resulted in a record week.

MR. ERNEST CARPENTER, of the Lyceum, has signed with Mr. Luscombe Searelle to produce his musical and poetical drama, *Mizpah*, in September next. The play, under Mr. Charles Frohman's management, in America achieved a phenomenal success. The play is taken from the Book of Esther, and has been licensed by the Lord Chamberlain. It is said to be the first play licensed which has been taken direct from the Book of Books.

THE usual weekly meeting of the Council of the Actors' Association was held on Tuesday last, when there were present:—Mr. A. E. Drinkwater (in the chair), Mr. Henry W. Mote (solicitor), Misses Kate Bishop, Fanny Brough, Clare Greet, Georgina Hamilton, and Kate Phillips, and Messrs. J. Cooke Beresford, Cecil Brooking, C. F. Collings, Burton Cooke, C. Hayden Coffin, H. Athol Forde, Frederick Morland, Kenyon Musgrave, Frederick Volpe, and Chas. Cruikshanks (secretary). The hon. solicitors reported they had advised several members, and also that they had commenced proceedings to enforce the payment of a member's claim for arrears of salary, &c.

A LETTER addressed to "The Reform Party" was opened at the request of some of the members of the Council by the chairman, and being, in his opinion, and in the opinion of the hon. solicitors, of such a nature as not to be worthy of consideration, and being also written by an anonymous writer, it was agreed that the letter should be destroyed, and the chairman carried out the wishes of the Council by putting it in the fire. A case of alleged insanitation at a provincial theatre was under consideration, and further particulars of the original complaint having been supplied by the complainer, the whole matter was placed in the hands of the hon. medical officer of health to the A.A., with a request that he would give the subject his attention.

THE report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee was given, and a further rule for the governance of committees, prepared by them, was approved and adopted by the Council. The Commissioners' Committee's report did not come before the Council, owing to the fact that there was no quorum upon the last Monday of the month, at the time when their meeting should have been held. Miss Kate Turner was nominated for election, and seven former members were reinstated. The suggestion-book was considered, and an entry made.

MR. CHARLES FROHMAN has selected a powerful cast for *A Royal Family*, with which the Duke of York's reopens this evening. Mr. C. M. Lowne will be the King of Arcacia, Mr. Henry Ainley the Crown Prince, Miss Alexandra Carlisle Princess Angela, and the other members of the company will consist of Messrs. Philip Desborough, Herbert Bunston, Herbert Ross, Lyall Swete, B. Forsyth, Drelincourt Odlum, Alexander Cassy, H. G. Bentley, Charles Wellesley, G. Courtney, Sidney Hamilton, Master Andrews, and Misses Nella Powys, Dolores Drummond, and L. Bilbrooke.

ANOTHER American success is to be found next week at the neighbouring theatre, in *Strongheart*, which is to be introduced to an English audience at the Aldwych on Wednesday. The play, which has for years met with continuous prosperity in America, deals with the distinctions of race between the North American Indian and the Whites, and possesses besides an interesting love story, which should prove engrossing apart from the problem which is propounded. Mr. Robert Edeson, the original Strongheart, appears in the rôle with which his name has long been associated, and Mr. Edmund Breese and Mr. Richard Bennett, who appeared here in *The Lion and the Mouse*, will also be in the cast.

AT the Royalty Theatre, Llanelly, on Whit-Monday, Mr. H. F. Maltby will produce a new drama, in four acts and eleven scenes, entitled *A Miser's Legacy*, written by himself. The principal parts will be played by Mr. Wyn Weaver, Mr. Stuart Willson, Miss Mara Maltby, Miss Grace Richardson, and the author.

MR. ARCHIE SELWYN has been re-engaged by M. Auguste Van Biene to stage-manage *The Broken Melody* during a short suburban tour, starting May 13. With this engagement Mr. Selwyn will enter upon his fifth consecutive year of tour with the piece, and he has also been retained for the autumn.

MISS GERTRUDE LE SAGE, who is playing in South Africa under the management of Messrs. B. and F. Wheeler, has received two offers by the latest mail, but has been re-engaged by Messrs. Wheeler. Miss Le Sage, whose last appearances previous to her departure for the Cape were in *What the Butler Saw*, at Wyndham's and the Savoy, has been absent upwards of a year. She is happily in the best of health, and is enthusiastic about the courteous management, the lovely climate, and the success which has attended her work.

MISS LALLIE FORSYTH has been engaged by Mr. W. Alexander Dallas for lead in *The World's Great Snare*, which opens at Blackburn on Whit Monday.—Miss Dutchie Forsyth is playing the part of Tinavina, and is also understudy for that of Europina, in *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch*, which has entered upon a successful career at Terry's.

MR. E. H. SOTHERN and Miss Julia Marlowe, whose season at the Waldorf has excited such marked interest, will give one of their most remarkable productions on Monday in the play *When Knighthood was in Flower*, founded by Mr. Paul Kester, author of *Sweet Nell of Old Drury*, on Mr. Charles Major's novel bearing the same title. Fame has attended the piece in America, where its run extended to over 500 performances. The period is 1513-1514, and the story deals with the loves of Mary Tudor and of Charles Brandon, a young English nobleman, impersonated respectively by the two accomplished principals of the company.

MISS TITA BRAND has been engaged by Mr. Benson to play Hero in *Much Ado* on Monday, at Stratford-on-Avon, when Miss Wynne Matthison appears as Beatrice and H. Ainley as Benedick. Miss Brand is also playing Mrs. Page in *The Merry Wives* on the last night of the Festival.

MR. G. H. SNAZELLE, the distinguished Professor of Elocution at the Guildhall School of Music, is a decidedly welcome addition to the many attractions at the Crystal Palace, where he now gives performances every evening at six o'clock in the Concert Room. Mr. Snazelle calls his entertainment *A London Club Night*, a monologue of music, song, story, and travel, and he is ably assisted by Miss Blanche St. Clair, a clever pianist. Mr. Snazelle has been three times round the world, and has obtained some remarkable views and incidents relating to our colonies which he proposes to present to the Palace audiences next week.

AS the present season of the Jewish Operatic and Dramatic company is terminating at the end of May, the management of the Pavilion Theatre, in order to show the appreciation of the particular and valuable services rendered by the courteous and urbane Yiddish manager, Mr. J. W. Rosenthal, have decided to accord him a well-deserved benefit on Tuesday, May 14, when the whole of the company, including Mr. Sigmund Feinman and Mr. Charles Natansohn, have promised to appear.

MR. ALBERT CHEVALIER, who is winning flattering eulogies on his tour with a triple bill consisting of *Atonement*, *The Dream of His Life*, and *Pantaloon*, has received a gratifying appreciation of his work in a letter which has been addressed to his manager, Mr. Charles Ingle, by Mr. Percy Percival, manager for Messrs. E. H. Bull and Milton Bode's Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton. Mr. Percival writes: "Dear Mr. Ingle,—Permit me to congratulate you, as manager, on the all-round excellence of Mr. Chevalier's triple bill. To praise Mr. Chevalier's performance of the different characters is like an attempt to paint the lily, but his genius and versatility have never been more strikingly exemplified than in this programme. A remarkable fact is the splendid company that Mr. Chevalier has engaged to support him; each part is played for all it is worth. I wish you the great success your programme so richly deserved."

"HER MARRIAGE VOW," which Messrs. Garside and Knowles tour this coming autumn, and for which they hold some important contracts, is a striking emotional drama with a unique railway sensation. An extensive plant of printing has been acquired, and the entire production will be carried. A strong cast, including some well-known artists, is being engaged.

MR. W. HENRY HARGREAVES has been engaged by Mr. J. A. Thomson for lead in his stock season at Paignton.

MISS GRACE MURIELLE, who was enthusiastically received at Bradford and Liverpool recently in *The Great Awakening*, has met with a temporary check in her work in the form of a sharp attack of influenza and loss of voice. Her indisposition may possibly be attributed to the fact that she rushed straight away on receipt of a wire notifying Miss Hildyard's indisposition, arriving at Liverpool only just in time to go on, without rest or rehearsal, and continuing the whole of the week following in the very exacting rôle of Lola. Miss Murielle endows the part with a personality of her own, a certain seductive charm that contrasts well with the fire and passion of her more dramatic moments. Miss Murielle, who received six offers for Whitsuntide, will not now book that week.

MR. HOWARD TEMPLETON has been specially engaged by Mr. Wentworth Croke, to play John Storm in *The Christian*, and opened with considerable success last Monday at the Opera House, Leicester.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, Barrow-in-Furness, will close after this week for entire rebuilding. During their year and a half of management the enterprising lessees, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge, have achieved really remarkable results, and the success which they have met with has continued right up to the last. For the penultimate week they were fortunate in securing Mr. George Alexander's company in *His House in Order*, which packed the theatre nightly; while Mr. Albert Chevalier is this, the closing week, being received with the utmost enthusiasm. The new theatre will open Aug. 5 with a play now running in London.

THE elegant opera house in Kidderminster of which Mr. James P. Moore is part proprietor and manager has enjoyed a very prosperous season, which terminates at the end of Whit-week. The theatre will then be entirely redecorated, re-opening on August Bank Holiday with *Home*, *Sweet Home*.

THE Mayor of Oxford and the Pageant Committee gave a most successful Press luncheon at the Town Hall on Thursday, when some sixty members of the Press from London and the provinces attended. Speeches were delivered by the Mayor and by Mr. Beerbohm Tree, who, in proposing "Success to the Oxford pageant," said it was an inspiring thought to him as an actor that the University should so identify itself with the drama by taking part in this pageant, and concluding his speech with the remark that the radiant figure of Charity walked in the wake of the pageant.

MR. CHARLES SANTLEY had a large and distinguished audience, which included the Princess of Wales, at his jubilee concert at the Albert Hall on Wednesday. The programme was one worthy of the occasion, and included all the available "stars" of the musical world. Mesdames Albani, Suzanne Adams, Clara Butt, and Ada Crossley; Messrs. John Coates, Ben Davies, Edouard de Reszke, and Kennerley Rumford provided vocal solos; Miss Fanny Davies, Herr Fritz Kreisler, and Mr. W. H. Squire played instrumental pieces; and the London Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Mr. Landon Ronald, also performed. The famous baritone himself sang "O, ruddier than the cherry," "Bid me to love," and "Simon the Cellarer," with all his well-known inimitable art.

THE Earl of Kilmorey, the chairman of the Executive Committee, who said that Mr. Santley had been known throughout his career as a man sans peur et sans reproche, announced that the subscriptions to the testimonial fund and the receipts from the concert would total £2000, but the fund would remain open until June 1 for any further contributions. He also handed Mr. Santley an album containing the portraits of the singers and the organising committee. Mr. Santley thanked all those present for the great honour they had conferred upon him, and spoke in feeling terms of a letter he had received from the Archbishop of Westminster, in which the Pope had sent his Apostolic blessing and best wishes for a successful concert. Mr. Santley added that he was not in any sense taking a farewell, but hoped, with God's blessing, to be able to sing to the public whenever they desired him, and for as long as his voice remained.

A CONCESSION has been made at the New Grand Theatre, Southampton, by virtue of which smoking will, after Monday next, be allowed in the upper portions of the house (dress circle, amphitheatre, and gallery), but not on the ground floor—stalls and pit. The use of the fragrant weed, moreover, is not permitted at matinées.

IN the Court of Bankruptcy, on the 26th ult., meetings of creditors and shareholders were held under the winding-up order made against the Winter German Opera, Ltd. The accounts showed unsecured liabilities £7264, and assets estimated at £966. The deficiency as regards contributories was returned at £13,498. The company was formed in July, 1906, for the purpose of producing German opera at the Covent Garden Theatre, primarily in the months of January and February, 1907. The nominal capital was £10,000, of which £7200 was allotted and paid up in cash. Mr. Ernest Van Dyck was engaged as manager of the company, and he appeared as principal tenor in certain of the performances. The venture was not a financial success, and came to an end on Feb. 16. The proofs of debt included claims by relatives of members of the company who perished in the steamship Berlin disaster. The liquidation was left in the hands of the Official Receiver.

MR. BERT COOTE'S *Fatal Wedding* company had a narrow escape of losing all their scenery on Sunday last on their journey to Lancaster. Just as the train was nearing Crewe Mr. Arthur Law Raynor, his manager, discovered that a spark from the engine had sent fire to the scenery, which was promptly put out by the aid of the officials, but not before some of the cloths had been destroyed.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Religion and the Drama.

MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER has written to the *Daily Mail* as follows:—"When so much that is written against the stage is ventilated in the columns of many newspapers, it is good to find someone holding a brief on the other side, and willing and brave enough to write as 'Inventus' has done in the current issue of the *Christian Commonwealth*, on the present condition of the drama and on the character of the plays presented of late in some of the London theatres. I enclose you extracts from the article, to learn from your readers that these sentiments are shared (as I believe they are) by a large proportion of the public.—GEORGE ALEXANDER."

ONE of the quotations is as follows:—

"The attitude of modern religious people to the theatre is strangely inconsistent. As an institution, the theatre is never in religious circles officially—and rarely openly—recognised or commended, and by the religious Press it is, as a rule, either denounced or ignored. Yet a large proportion of ministers of the Gospel, editors of religious newspapers, and ordinary church members attend the theatre frequently or occasionally. Is it not rather unfair of so-called religious people to enjoy the delights of theatre-going without frankly admitting their indebtedness to the dramatic profession?

"Miyo Sama."

APROPOS of a statement made by Mr. Arthur Diosy, who claims to have suggested to Mr. Richard Temple the air that used to accompany the Mikado's entrance in the celebrated opera, Mr. W. S. Gilbert writes to the *Morning Leader*:—"Mr. Diosy may have suggested the air to Mr. Temple for anything I know to the contrary; but, as a matter of fact, the words and music were suggested to Sir Arthur Sullivan and myself by the gentleman who was then Mr. Bertram Mitford, and who is now Lord Redesdale. Mr. Mitford, whose knowledge of Japan was 'extensive and peculiar,' very kindly offered to assist us in the production, and it was at one of the rehearsals at which he was present that I, personally, asked him if he could suggest an effective Japanese air with native words that would suit the Mikado's entrance. He at once suggested 'Miyo Sama,' and Sir Arthur Sullivan, who jumped at the idea, took down the notes as Mr. Mitford hummed them, and I took down the words from his dictation. Lord Redesdale will, no doubt, recollect the circumstance."

Acting and Audiences.

AUDIENCES generally get the acting they deserve, said Mr. Martin Harvey in his lecture on the Art of Acting at Birmingham last Wednesday. Perfect representations were only possible when the actor and his audience were so fused with sympathy that he could convey his flashes of sensibility. Therefore, the audience should be prepared to be impressed, to give as well as receive, and should not allow its intelligence to be obfuscated by the process of digesting a too heavy dinner. The actor could express nothing but himself in his characters, and, ceasing to do that, his acting became the unmeaning mouthing of certain words which carried no conviction.

Othello's "Language."

AT the performance of *Othello* given by Mr. Lewis Waller at the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre, Stratford-on-Avon, on Tuesday, two interested members of the audience, says the *Daily Mail*, were Mme. de Navarro (Miss Mary Anderson), who as everyone knows is a Roman Catholic, and her son. The boy is ten years old, and a great friend of Mr. Waller's. There are words and passages in *Othello* which even when spoken by his friend, were not, Mme. de Navarro thought, "quite the thing" for a boy, and so whenever such passages occurred she tried to distract the little fellow's attention. At ten years of age, however, a boy's notice is not easily diverted from something that interests him; and that was the case at the performance of *Othello*, for at last, when the boy did catch hold of something very "emphatic," he turned his head and said, "Mother! . . . I think Mr. Waller will have to go to confession very soon."

A Mixed-up Marriage.

"A MARRIAGE OF REASON," a comedy in four acts, by J. Hartley Manners, which was recently produced at Wallack's Theatre, New York, and withdrawn after a fortnight's run, has an odd story. Mr. Kyrle Bellew enacted the part of Lord Delcombe, who has been married and divorced, and, being in an impecunious condition, is seeking another wife with a fortune. He meets Rita Forrest, a Chicago heiress, and proposes to her at Goodwood. Rita declares that if a certain horse wins she will trade her millions for a title. The horse comes in with a length to spare, and the couple shake hands on "a marriage of reason." Little Tony, Lord Delcombe's son by his first wife, is thrown from his pony, and badly hurt, and Rita sends for his mother. The third act finds the first and second Lady Delcombe not only under the same roof, but on intimate terms with each other. Finally, Lord Delcombe and his wife discover that they are in love with each other, and Tony having recovered, it is disclosed that the first Lady Delcombe has taken a second husband and will now return to him. If the treatment and construction resembled the story, the brevity of the run is easily accounted for.

Yes or No?

MR. ROBERT EDESON, the American actor, who is to play Strongheart in the play of that name at the Aldwych Theatre, on Wednesday, says it is a drama of human interest out of which arises the problem, "Should the Indian marry the white girl?" Mr. Edeson has played the part nearly a thousand times, and, familiar with the circumstances as he is, cannot, he tells the *Daily Express*, satisfy himself whether the Indian would be right in marrying the girl of his heart. "The emotions are so conflicting," he says. "Sometimes on the stage I think he has every right to do so; a little later in the piece the objections appear so obvious that it seems it would be better to abandon his love and go back alone to his tribe, who are awaiting their chief. London audiences will have an opportunity of seeing it both ways—three nights 'Yes,' and three nights 'No'—in some week to be fixed later."

MR. WILLIE CLARKSON writes:—"The discussion in the Press of the lions at the Scala Theatre has just reminded me of a little experience I had at the opening of the last circus at the Theatre Royal, Covent Garden. The lion they had was quite a young one, and his mane had not commenced to grow. As the posters represented him with a huge mane, the management hardly knew what to do, and the idea came to them at last to have a false mane made. One evening, a few days prior to the performance, I was sent for, and Mr. Philadelphia took me to the cage where the lion was. He unbarred the door and went in to take the measurements; but he was only able to speak German, and I not being very conversant with the language, there was some difficulty in getting the right ones. He then opened the door and beckoned for me to come in and take the measurements myself, but, naturally, I objected to this. After all the mane was made and fixed on the elastic so as to go over the animal's head. The lion seemed quite pleased with it, and wore it all through the season." It was unfortunate that, unlike Mme. Sarah Bernhardt, the lion could not give Mr. Clarkson a "testimonial."

"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."

A Comedy, in Three Acts, adapted by Anne Crawford Flexner, from the book of the same name by Alice Hegan Rice, played for the first time in England, at Terry's Theatre, on Saturday, April 27.

Mrs. Wiggs	MRS. MADGE CARR COOK
Lovey Mary	MISS BESSIE BARRISCALE
Miss Hazy	MISS LOUISE CLOSSER
Miss Lucy	MISS FLORENCE BUSBY
Mrs. Eichorn	MISS GRACE GRISWOLD
Mrs. Schultz	MISS BERTHA LIVINGSTON
Asia	MISS LORETTA HEALY
Australia	MISS EDITH STORY
Europena	MISS PEARL EGAN
Mr. Stubbins	MR. FREDERICK BURTON
Mr. Wiggs	MR. FORREST ROBINSON
Mr. Bob	MR. FRANK CONOR
Billy Wiggs	MR. THOMAS KELLY
Chris. Hazy	MR. GUS WILKES
Tommy	MISS DOLLY SOMMERS
H. Hunkerdunkus Jones	MR. RICHARD ALLEN
Deputy Sheriff	MR. GEORGE PARKER
Brother Spicer	MR. K. RIVINGTON
Deacon Bagby	MR. ROBERT DOWNING
Mr. Eichorn	MR. T. SWEM
Joe Eichorn	MR. FRANK BYRNE
Micky Viney	MASTER RICHARD STOREY
Tina Viney	MISS DOROTHY FORSYTH
Lena Krasmier	MRS. STOREY
Postman	MR. G. HOWARD
Eddie	MASTER CHARLES BARRISCALE

It is astounding how far a little "study from life" goes even with audiences who have never seen the particular phase of existence that is represented. There is an instinct which tells us when the art we are inspecting is "observed," not invented. Very few of those present at Terry's Theatre on Saturday evening could have sworn to the truth of the picture in *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch*; but all felt that Mrs. Wiggs must have existed in the flesh. There was no resisting her; she simply triumphed all along the lines of laughing faces. An old song used to tell us of one Rosalie, who was the light of a certain "prairie" home." Mrs. Wiggs in the good angel of a little ramshackle colony alongside of a railroad track in Kentucky. In the old times, "Kentuck" was chiefly famous for its horses and its hunters. The horses still wax strong on the "blue grass," but the farmer has taken the place of the emigrant with his long rifle. On the "cabbage patch" are located a Miss Hazy, a descendant of Mrs. Gummidge in "David Copperfield," and Mr. Stubbins, an old soldier. Mrs. Wiggs has been matchmaker to this curious pair, and the wedding is to be in her cottage. We see her making all the necessary preparations—calming her troublesome children, and supplying Mr. Stubbins with a pair of her late husband's pants, and Miss Hazy with a wedding-veil made of a pair of window-curtains. Mrs. Wiggs is a grass-widow. Wiggs has run away from his wife with a circus-rider, by whom he has had a child. "Lovey Mary," a winning young woman with chestnut hair, arrives at the cottage. She has run away from an orphanage with a baby boy named Tommy, to save him from being taken away by a stranger who has come to claim him; and Billy Wiggs has invited the fugitives to shelter with his mother. Wiggs, who is the father of the child, comes in search of it; but is put off, and persuaded to go away by Mary, the first act ending with a screamingly funny wedding scene and a dance.

In the second act, the Hazy-Stubbins marriage is such an utter failure owing to Miss Hazy's absolute ignorance of her domestic duties that Stubbins takes to drink in despair; and Mrs. Wiggs determines to "lose" him. He is placed, while in a drunken sleep, in a freight waggon bound for some distant town, provisions being laid by his side to sustain him when he recovers consciousness. Mrs. Stubbins poses as a widow until she hears that Stubbins, as a wounded soldier, has come into a belated pension. He returns somewhat depressed by his experiences, but decides to continue to live with Mrs. Stubbins, the housekeeping difficulty being solved by his expressed intention of hiring a cook. A more pathetic note is struck by the arrival of Wiggs with the Deputy-Sheriff to arrest Mary on a charge of kidnapping. He is unaware that it is his wife's house that he is coming to. In the end, all is explained and forgiven. Mrs. Wiggs has not a word of reproach for the man who has treated her so badly. She says "Come right in."

This sketch only gives a faint idea of the quaint comicality of this delightful piece. Mrs. Madge Carr Cook's Mrs. Wiggs is one of those complete and finished character-studies which carry the absolute conviction that they are drawn from life; the multitude of little touches that go to make them up are too odd and original to be invented. It is true that a great deal of the part is business. But it is all significant business; business which illustrates and develops the "root-idea" of the creation. The great merit of Mrs. Cook's performance is unconsciousness. She has got under the skin of the personage; and, while she is on the stage, Mrs. Wiggs is actually before us. Mrs. Cook's facial play, which is eloquent, natural, and spontaneous, is another striking feature of her embodiment. Mrs. Wiggs is a middle-aged woman with the remains of youthful attractiveness; grey hair, in which an ordinary comb is sometimes allowed to linger, and which is occasionaly embellished with the added attraction of a most undeceitful "front." The latter Mrs. Wiggs is always losing, it being discovered, on a "great occasion," in the horse's manger. It is difficult by description to do justice to Mrs. Wiggs; she is the result of a combination of details which it would be tedious and ineffectual to enumerate. As a whole she is irresistible. The extraordinary stature of Miss Grace Griswold, the representative of Mrs. Eichorn, savours of caricature; but the "gimlet" gaze, the relentless rigidity, and the spiteful sourness are as characteristic of the over-worked American woman of a certain class as are the extraordinary adornments in which Mrs. Eichorn indulges; and Miss Griswold may be credited with a quite intelligent and clever performance. Miss Louise Closser's Miss Hazy is unique. The "floppy," anæmic female is another familiar feature of the struggle for life in the States, and Miss Closser does full justice to the eccentric oddity of the rôle. Miss Bessie Barriscale looks very pretty as Lovey Mary, and acts with much feeling and at times with real earnestness; Miss Florence Busby is attractive in appearance and bright and pleasant in style as Miss Lucy; and Miss Bertha Livingston represents a corpulent, irascible, Americo-German woman with much comic unction. The three children are intelligently embodied by Misses Loretta Healey, Edith Story, and Pearl Egan. Mr. Frederick Burton contributes a carefully-studied and drily humorous rendering of the part of Mr. Stubbins, the dull deliberation and stolid conceit of the man being admirably hit off. Mr. Forrest Robinson handles the serio-comic character of Mr. Wiggs with great tact and discretion; and Mr. Frank Conor is manly and easy as Mr. Bob, Mr. Thomas Kelly and Mr. Gus Wilkes being excellent as the two lads, Billy Wiggs and Chris Hazy. Mr. Richard Allen contributes a neat bit of acting as H. Hunkerdunkus Jones; and Mr. George Parker is satisfactory as the Deputy Sheriff, Mr. Robert Downey doing well as Deacon Bagby. The piece, produced by Mr. Hugh Ford for Mr. Gaston Mayer, under whose management is the "season," goes with great smartness and smoothness. The interior of a down-South "shanty," which is the scene for the first act, is very realistic, and every detail of the production is carefully and cleverly attended to.

MARRIAGE OF MISS EDWARDES.

That considerable public interest was evinced in the wedding on Monday of Mr. George Edwardes's eldest daughter, Miss Dorothy Edwardes, to Mr. Cuthbert Arthur Sherbrooke, was fully evidenced by the crowd that assembled outside the church at least a couple of hours before the ceremony took place. The bridegroom is the third son of the Rev. Neville Sherbrooke, of Clifton, Bristol, and of the late Lady Lilias Sherbrooke, daughter of the first Earl Cairns, at one time Lord Chancellor.

St. James's Church, Spanish-place, where the marriage was solemnised, presented an exceedingly pretty spectacle, the elaborate floral decorations harmonising with the large and fashionably-dressed congregation. The sides of the sanctuary were embanked with masses of Annunciation lilies, white hydrangeas, spirea, marguerites, and foliage, towering above which were tall palms, while the aisle was over-arched with palms. The Rev. Canon Gildea, D.D., rector of St. James's, officiated, and in a very beautiful address exhorted the bridegroom to "love and cherish her as the very core of your heart, as the very apple of your eye." The Rev. Father O'Shaughnessy assisted, and Professor Douce presided at the organ. During the interval of waiting Handel's "Largo" and Elgar's "Pomp and Circumstance" were played, the "Cornelius March" being performed as the bridal couple entered the church, the special music from *Lohengrin* during the formalities in the vestry,

[*Photo by Lallie Charles.*

MISS DOROTHY EDWARDES.

while the strains of *Tannhäuser* filled the church at the conclusion of the ceremony.

The bride, who was conducted to the altar by her uncle, Major J. E. Edwardes, wore a long trained Romney gown of soft white satin, draped with old Brussels lace, which was included among other handsome presents from her mother. Her bouquet consisted of white roses and white heather, and she wore a beautiful pearl and opal necklace, the gift of the bridegroom. Her two sisters, Miss Nancie and Miss Norah Edwardes, accompanied her as bridesmaids, wearing white satin striped Chambéry gauze gowns with Romney blue sashes and broad Tuscan straw hats tied under the chin with pale blue ribbons. Their bouquets were of pink roses, and they wore enamel pendants with their initial "N" in diamonds, the present of the bridegroom. Captain Hugh Sherbrooke, R.H.A., attended his brother as groomsman. Mrs. George Edwardes, who was escorted by Mr. Sass, wore a charming gown of Wedgwood blue silk voile, the skirt plain and the bodice fihished with purely white net and lace embroidery on the voile and little silk tassels. She wore a black hat trimmed with a bird's head and long black and white tail feathers. There were many

[*Photo by Lambert Weston, Folkestone.*

MR. CUTHBERT SHERBROOKE.

well-known people in the church. Miss Mary Moore was seen wearing a gown of very soft clinging material in a rich shade of carnation-pink, the bodice finished with lace. Over it was a long loose souple black cloth coat faced with pink and white embroidery. A black chip hat was worn, trimmed with black tulle and ostrich feathers and with silver galon. With Mr. and Mrs. George Grossmith, jun., was Miss Gertie Millar (Mrs. Lionel Monckton), who wore a dress of aluminium grey soft silk, the skirt falling in long pleats from the waist and the bodice finished with lace and embroidery. Her grey hat was trimmed with a fantasy of feathers shaded from grey to dark blue. Mr. and Mrs. Cosmo Gordon-Lennox (Miss Marie Tempest) were also present, the latter wearing a dress of grey-blue soft silk bordered round the hem with a narrow band of fur; a long loose three-quarter length black cloak was worn, and a smart black velvet toque trimmed with ostrich feathers, a sable wrap was carried. Others present were Lord and Lady Herbert Scott, relatives of the bridegroom, and Miss Jessie Bond.

Mrs. George Edwardes held a largely-attended reception at Claridge's after the ceremony, and here the many beautiful wedding presents were displayed. Among those in attendance were Major Edwardes, Sir Squire Bancroft, Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Maude, Mr. Robert Emmett, Miss Isabel Jay, Miss Evie Green, Mr. W. Maude, Mr. Luther Mundy, Mr. and Mrs. Sass, Mr. Percy Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. William Boosey, Mr. Paul Rubens, Major and Mrs. Franklyn, Mr. and Mrs. Francklin, and Miss Carr Shaw. Later on the happy couple left for Devonshire, where the honeymoon is being spent.

Among the wedding presents were the following:—From Mr. George Edwardes, entire furniture for flat in satinwood and old oak; from Mrs. George Edwardes, lace and a set of sables, and to the bridegroom a gold cigarette case; from the Rev. Nevile and Mrs. Sherbrooke, a cheque; the Earl and Countess Cairns, a cheque; Mr. Alfred de Rothschild, diamond brooch; Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Stuart, dessert knives and forks; Major J. E. Edwardes, cheque; the Dowager-Countess Cairns, cheque; Miss Braddon, pearl brooch; Mr. W. B. Maxwell, gold bracelet set with various stones; Sir Forrest and Lady Fulton, Japanese ivory statuette; Viscountess Sherbrooke, cheque; Lieutenant and Mrs. Sherbrooke, cheque; Sir Squire and Lady Bancroft, silver framed mirror; Lady Meux, silver bowl and silver dish; Mrs. D'Oyly Carte, silver candlesticks; the Dowager Lady Sempill, cheque; Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Wingfield, silver mustard-pot; Miss Evie Greene, cheese and butter tray; Lord and Lady Herbert Scott, oval mirror; Mr. and Mrs. Lionel Monckton, silver egg-cups and spoons; Mr. and Mrs. George Grossmith, jun., silver salver; Sir John Runtz, silver tea service; Mr. Paul Rubens, porcelain lamp; Mr. Percy Anderson, Boule clock; Lady White, lustrine jug; Mr. Alfred Cellier, silver crumb scoop; Mr. and Mrs. Penn Sherbrooke, cheque and photograph frame; Sir Charles and Lady Wyndham, silver muffineers and mustard-pot; the Rev. Edward and Lady Kathleen Eliot, cheque; General Sir George and Lady French, gold bangle; Sir Alfred and Lady Newton, silver bowl; and Mr. and Mrs. P. Edwardes, silver centrepiece and salver.

CHARLES WYNDHAM AND THE COLONIALS.

One of the pleasantest of all the entertainments offered to the Colonial Premiers in London was the supper given to them by Sir Charles and Lady Wyndham, at the Hyde Park Hotel, last week. It was only natural, considering the high position held by actors in Great Britain and her Colonies, that one of the hospitalities given to the representatives of the latter should be a banquet at which they might meet some of the most gifted of our theatrical artists; and it is safe to say that, amongst all the fêtes which the Premiers have attended in the course of their visit, none will be remembered by them more agreeably than the Charles Wyndham supper on the 25th ult. Sir Charles held, of course the seat of honour, with Lady Laurier upon his right hand; and amongst those present were Mr. Beerbohm Tree, Mrs. Tree and Miss Viola Tree, Mr. and Mrs. George Alexander, Mr. and Mrs. John Hare, Mr. George Edwardes, Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Maude, Mr. Lewis Waller, Miss Irene Vanbrugh, Miss Marie Tempest, Miss Marion Terry, Miss Edna May, Mr. Lawrence Irving, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Bourchier, Miss Mary Moore, Miss Evelyn Millard, Mr. Herbert Waring, Mr. Granville Barker, Mr. George Grossmith, Mr. and Mrs. H. V. Esmond, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Terry, Mr. Henry Ainley, Mr. Gilbert Farquhar, Mr. Henry Kemble, Miss Constance Collier, Miss Granville, Mr. H. H. Davies, Miss Nina Boucicault, Mr. and Mrs. Hayden Coffin, Mr. Arthur Chudleigh, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Kerr, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Webster, Miss Marie Illington, Mr. R. Harding Davis, Mr. Comyns Carr, Mr. Howard Wyndham, Mr. and Mrs. Graham Brown, Mr. Eille Norwood, Mr. Norman Forbes, and Mr. Sam Sothern.

Sir CHARLES WYNDHAM, in proposing the health of the Premiers, said: I am sure that you will be relieved when I tell you that, notwithstanding the subject of this toast, I do not intend to indulge in politics myself to-night. We actors are so given to expressing the thoughts of others that we rarely care in public to express our own. But for me I feel it is doubly necessary that I should be careful, lest the idea might come to me of following the admirable example of my friend George Alexander and standing for the London County Council; and finding then that some ill-considered words of mine were being used against me. I have, therefore, to be very cautious. I have to imitate, in fact, the caution of those inhabitants of the Scotch village of whom some of you may have heard, who, when on an autumn Sunday they heard their clergyman prophesy the speedy end of the world, promptly countermanded their order for a winter stock of coals—not because, under those possible circumstances, they begrudged the unnecessary expense for the coals, but because, in their caution, they did feel that if the world should come to an end with the winter stock of coals on hand the coals might be used against them. I, therefore, will content myself to-night with greetings, and I greet, first, the Prime Minister of our youngest colony, General Botha—who is prevented from being here to-night by the simple limitations of physical endurance. But he has most graciously sent two charming representatives in the persons of his daughter and his sister, and to them I tender the greetings for all three. Next, I greet you, Premiers of the older colonies. The great French actor Talma used to boast that at a certain period of his life he had played before a pit full of Kings; but what is that compared to the great historical drama now enacted on a stage which is world-wide, and by a company which has been gathered from three corners of the globe—a drama full of meaning, stirring in its situations, and far-reaching in its appeals to the heart of man? It was a very beautiful custom of the old Greeks, when they set out to found a colony, to take with them some of the living fire from the altars of the mother city, and with that fire to kindle the altars of their new homes beyond the seas. Years ago Englishmen left the English shores, taking with them the sacred fire of our national spirit, and we know well that when they return to their distant homes they will return not only to altars, but to hearts blazing brightly with the fire they took from England. I raise my glass, gentlemen of my profession, and when I do I ask you to drink upstanding to the health and prosperity of the Premiers of our self-governing colonies, their Ministers and their families, whose presence here to-night is our honour, and whose company is to us a delight.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER, in responding, referred to Sir Charles Wyndham's remarks about Mr. George Alexander. He (the speaker) did not know whether Sir Charles might not improve upon Mr. George Alexander's departure and go upon the wider stage of the House of Commons. The supper would be one of the very pleasantest recollections of a very pleasant sojourn.

Sir JOSEPH WARD, the Prime Minister of New Zealand, said Sir Charles Wyndham was known throughout New Zealand as one who had been a great ornament to an honoured profession, and he sincerely hoped that Sir Charles would accept an invitation to come to New Zealand, when he would receive a right royal welcome.

Mr. COMYNS CARR, in proposing the health of Sir Charles and Lady Wyndham, said Sir Charles was one of the greatest representatives of our stage in England. Acting was the great art which held the separate nationalities which had sprung from Britain together.

Sir CHARLES WYNDHAM briefly and pertinently replied, thanking Mr. Carr for his kind references to Lady Wyndham and himself.

DALLIMORE'S BAND, "the old British Guards," will start the summer season in the Royal parks on Sunday Afternoon, at three o'clock, and will play twice every week-day and each Sunday afternoon throughout the season.

"BREWSTER'S MILLIONS."

A Comedy, in Four Acts, by Winchell Smith and Byron Ongley, dramatised from a story by George Barr McCutcheon, produced at the Hicks Theatre, on Wednesday, May 1.

Montgomery Brewster	MR. GERALD DU MAURIER
Charlie Harrison	MR. J. L. MACKAY
Archie Golding	MR. LOUIS GOODRICH
Joseph McCloud	MR. F. PERCIVAL STEVENS
Frank Bragdon	MR. GEORGE LESTOCQ
Tommy Smith	MR. COURTENAY FOOTE
Horace Pettinghill	MR. VERNON DAVIDSON
Jack Gardiner	MR. ARTHUR MINTON
Mr. Grant	MR. EDWARD SASS
Colonel Drew	MR. CLARENCE BLAKISTON
Rawles	MR. ARTHUR B. MURRAY
Thomas	MR. W. FAZAN
Monsieur Bargie	MR. GEORGE BELLAMY
Captain Perry	MR. WEBB DARLEIGH
First Officer	MR. W. HEWETSON
Quartermaster	MR. ERIC LENNARD
First Sailor	MR. H. ATTWATER
Second Sailor	MR. STEWART DAWSON
Third Sailor	MR. A. DALLAS
First Office Boy	MR. C. HERBEE
Second Office Boy	MR. R. ALLISTONE
Swearengen Jones	MR. GEORGE SPELVIN
Mrs. Dan de Mille	MISS MOLLIE LOWELL
Janice Armstrong	MISS EVELYN D'ALROY
Barbara Drew	MISS HAZEL THOMPSON
Trixie Clayton	MISS KITTY MELROSE
Miss Boynton	MISS JANE MAY
Margaret Gray	MISS BEATRICE AGNEW

It is difficult to find any fresh idea for a farcical or semi-farcical comedy, and we must welcome with cordiality the appearance of a new motive in *Brewster's Millions*, which Messrs. Winchell Smith and Byron Ongley have dramatised from the story by Mr. George Barr McCutcheon. It is necessary, for the full enjoyment of the fun of the piece that its foundation shall be firmly laid, and this was duly done at the Hicks on Wednesday, not only in the preparatory scenes, but by a neat little printed "note," which was distributed amongst the audience. Montgomery Brewster, one of a club of impecunious young men who call themselves the "Little Brothers of the Rich," suddenly inherits a fortune of half a million. When he returns home to enjoy it he is visited by a solicitor, who announces to him that a much larger inheritance—one of two millions—is his, on "conditions." By the will of a deceased uncle, he can only come into this second property if he manages to expend legacy No. 1 in the course of a year. Easy enough, one would say; but there are restrictions. Brewster is forbidden indiscriminate gambling, and must confine himself to ordinary extravagance; and he is, besides, prohibited from disclosing to anyone the conditions of the will. At first he is inclined to rest content with the "bird in hand," and not to run any risks; but he finally decides to "go for" the larger sum. And then the fun begins. His friends, who are not, of course, let into the secret, are horrified by what seems to them his insane folly. He takes an office, and puts them all into lucrative positions of trust. He has already arranged to finance a young chorus lady, who believes that she is destined to become a prima donna, and to find the capital for her appearance in the provinces in an opera written by one of his "pals." He puts twenty thousand into a bank kept by a certain Colonel Drew, which he is delighted to hear is "shaky." The proprietor of the bank declares, with tears in his eyes, that the sum will be his salvation. For a moment, Brewster is tempted to withhold the assistance; but his better nature triumphs, and he hands Drew the notes. The absolute bewilderment of the friends throughout is screamingly comical. They, of course, cannot understand Brewster's delight at his losses and his chagrin at the gains, which Fortune, out of pure "cussedness," showers upon him. He invests heavily in timber with a falling market, which, to his disgust, immediately rises. He backs a rank outsider for a race, and it comes in the winner, and so on. At the background of the farcical business runs the love-interest between the hero and a charming young girl, called Peggy Gray, to whom, of course, he cannot explain the reason of his extraordinary conduct, and who, very naturally, becomes jealous of his apparent infatuation for the female vocalist. But time is getting on; and still the bulk of the fortune has to be expended. Brewster charters the most expensive steam yacht that is to be had, and takes his friends on a tour round the world. While they are in southern latitudes he arranges with the Mayor of a coast town to pay the expenses of the festival of a certain Saint, which will be tremendous. But this brings matters to a climax. The crew of the yacht, who have been grumbling at being too luxuriously fed, rise in mutiny, and order the captain to return to England. Then a storm comes on, the vessel is in distress, and the captain is only prevented from running up a signal to that effect by the thought that assistance will mean salvage to the tune of £40,000. Brewster sees his chance. He rushes to the signal halliards, and runs up the flag. The £40,000 is lost; the first fortune is gone; and he is able to return and offer himself "utterly penniless," as a fit inheritor of fortune No. 2. An unwelcome loan from a friend of £10,000 threatens to spoil all; but Brewster gets rid of it by paying it to the executor of the will as his fee.

It was a happy thought to engage Mr. Gerald Du Maurier for the part of Montgomery Brewster. His style, quiet but full of authority and self-possession, gave reality and conviction to the extravagant incidents of the play; and, throughout, he acted with an amount of earnestness and sharpness that were very valuable in this respect. His quick and subtle facial play, his alert and decided method, and the admirable flexibility of his resources, combined to make his Montgomery Brewster altogether prominent and effective. Mr. Du Maurier was seen to excellent advantage, too, in the little love scenes, which he treated with pleasant lightness and tenderness. Without being obtrusively active, he never let the fun flag for a moment, and was always refined, well bred, and natural. Miss Beatrice Agnew played Margaret Gray very prettily, and endowed the character with delightful simplicity and sound commonsense; and Mr. J. L. Mackay introduced a really strong and deep bit of acting as the well-meaning embezzler, Charlie Harrison, his performance in the second act being commendably firm and sincere. Mr. Clarence Blakiston, too, was earnest and emphatic as the anxious and embarrassed Colonel Drew; and Mr. Arthur B. Murray contributed an unimpeachable performance as Rawles, Mr. George Bellamy's character-acting as Monsieur Bargie being neat and finished. Mr. Webb Darleigh did good work as Captain Perry; Mr. George Spelvin was satisfactory as Swearengen Jones; and Mr. Edward Sass was entirely efficient as Mr. Grant. The "Little Brothers of the Rich" were carefully and creditably represented by Messrs. Louis Goodrich, F. Percival Stevens, George Lestocq, Courtenay Foote, Vernon Davidson, and Arthur Minton; and though it is impossible to particularise certain of their efforts, it may be said that they were uniformly sound and successful. Miss Evelyn d'Alroy contributed a clever sketch of a modern masculine young woman, who believes in platonic love until convinced of her error by a male "friend"; Miss Hazel Thompson was very praiseworthy as Barbara Drew; Miss Kitty Melrose was a pleasing and attractive Trixie Clayton; and Miss Jane May was brightly humorous as a typewriter. Roars of laughter were created by *Brewster's Millions*, and the success of the piece was undeniably well deserved.

COURT THEATRE.

On Monday, April 29,
Revival of the Comedy, in Four Acts, by
St. John Hankin, entitled
"THE RETURN OF THE PRODIGAL."

Samuel Jackson ..... Mr. Eric Lewis
Mrs. Jackson ..... Miss Florence Haydon
Henry Jackson ..... Mr. Dennis Eadie
Eustace Jackson ..... Mr. A. E. Matthews
Violet Jackson ..... Miss Amy Lamborn
Sir John Faringford ..... Mr. Cecil Rose
Lady Faringford ..... Miss Fortescue
Stella Faringford ..... Miss Dorothy Minto
Doctor Glaisher ..... Mr. James Hearn
Rev. Cyril Pratt ..... Mr. Norman Page
Mrs. Pratt ..... Miss Mary Barton
Baines ..... Mr. Edmund Gwenn

Mr. St. John Hankin was admitted into the slowly increasing cohort of "Court" playwrights on the strength of his unconventional treatment of the characters and conversations of very ordinary people in *The Return of the Prodigal*, which strongly recommended itself to the younger quidnuncs among the critics on its original production at the Sloane-square Theatre on Sept. 26, 1905, and the revival of the comedy on Monday at the same house was followed with much laughter by a very large audience. There is not much story to tell, but the difficulties encountered by an ambitious father of the *haute bourgeoisie* in his dealings with a ne'er-do-well are treated with a freshness that appeals to the most hardened playgoer in quite irresistible fashion. The author skilfully avoids striking a false note, and he puts a humour into every-day life that shows keen powers of observation, which are always guided, but never overpowered, by the instinct of the theatre. The powerful original cast has not been altered in any essential particular for the present revival, which has the immense advantage, in the first place, of the help of Mr. A. E. Matthews as the prodigal and of Mr. Dennis Eadie as the elder brother. Eustace is a most interesting bounder, and his ingenious arguments in favour of a policy of drift are listened to with unfeigned amusement as advanced by Mr. Matthews, who is the very personification of coolness and nonchalance. Mr. Dennis Eadie realises to a nicety the fussy activity and priggishness of Henry Jackson, whose thesis of worldly prosperity is listened to by pretty Miss Dorothy Minto, who plays pleasantly enough as Stella Farringford. Mr. Eric Lewis takes the part of Samuel Jackson (originally presented by Mr. Jack Barnes), and plays with perfect finish and a sure touch. Miss Florence Haydon's picture of the fond, silly mother, Mrs. Jackson, is a "slice from life," so true is it in every phase. The scheming, ambitious Lady Faringford is acted by Miss Fortescue with the necessary acerbity and hauteur. The baronet's wife is perhaps the most conventional character in the comedy, but she has some daring things to say, especially when she talks of the fecundity of the poor, who have an irritating habit of adding to the population and the burden of the rates at the same time. Mr. James Hearn furnishes an excellent sketch of the country practitioner, Dr. Glaisher; Mr. Edmund Gwenn is discretion itself as the butler; and Mr. Norman Page and Miss Mary Barton as the clerical couple bring into agreeable prominence small parts, the cast being completed by Mr. Cecil Rose and Miss Amy Lamborn, the lady being responsible for a finished interpretation of Violet Jackson.

MR. ARTHUR VERNE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—May I encroach upon your kindness and space to present to your readers and friends the sad case of Mr. Arthur Verne, comedian? Mr. Verne joined my *Dare-Devil Dorothy* company in December, 1902, as principal comedian, and played the part till March, 1906, when, through weakness in the legs, he was compelled to relinquish his engagement. He was under medical treatment at his home till May, when he went into hospital as an in-patient till July. He was discharged, and rejoined the company, Aug. 13; but in September, four weeks after, at Manchester, was suddenly stricken with paralysis in the right side, leaving him entirely helpless, and, of course, had to resign his part again. Since then, to the present time, he has been totally incapacitated, and although a very prudent and well-living man, his savings are quite exhausted.

Mr. Verne's previous engagements were:—Four years with *The Prodigal Parson;* he also toured with *The Days of Cromwell, Our Irish Visitors*, &c.; pantomimes at Standard Theatre, London; Princess's, Glasgow (two seasons); Theatre Royal, Manchester; Grand Theatre, Cardiff; Theatre Royal, Plymouth, &c.

I should like to say that during the long period Verne was under my management I always found him sober, industrious, and a splendid comedian and dancer, and always willing to help brother artists in distress.

I feel sure there are many old friends who would be glad to help poor Verne now he is unable to help himself.

Subscriptions will be gratefully received and acknowledged by Henry Swinerd, Royal Artillery Theatre, Woolwich; or by J. W. Cordiner, *Dare-Devil Dorothy* Company, en route.—Yours truly,

HENRY SWINERD.

Royal Artillery Theatre, Woolwich, S.E.
April 12, 1907.

	£	s.	d.
Subscriptions already received:—			
Henry Swinerd	5	5	0
J. W. Cordiner	5	5	0
Horace Stanley	2	2	0
Nellie Harcourt	1	1	0
George Brooks	1	1	0
Bert Edwards	0	7	6
Deane Cliffe	0	5	0
W. C. H.	0	5	0

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Many old frineds of Arthur Verne will be sorry to learn the sad news, and I am certain that a good fellow like Arthur will not be forgotten now he is entirely helpless. He was always one of the first to help anyone in distress. I have collected the following from the members of Messrs. Power and Kirby's *Man's Enemy* company, and am forwarding the same to Mr. Cordiner at Northampton:—John Power, 5s.; Hartwell J. Kirby, 5s.; Clara Reid, 5s.; Martin Comstock, 5s.; George Biddall, 5s.; Constance Medwyn, 2s. 6d.; May Grayce, 2s. 6d.; Fred Owen, 2s. 6d.; Charles B. Johnson, 2s. 6d.; Norman A. Overton, 2s. 6d.; T. Arthur Ellis, 2s. 6d.; L. Fred Tenaur, 2s. 6d.; Mrs. Goddard, 2s.; Evelyn Geldard, 2s.; Frank Hedley, 2s.; Arthur Hill, 1s.; Jack Johnson, 1s.—Total, £2 10s. 6d.—Yours faithfully,

MARTIN COMSTOCK,

Theatre Royal, Cardiff, May 1, 1907.

Paris Profits.

The figures of the gross receipts taken at the principal Paris theatres during the year 1906 have just been published, showing the startling total of £1,728,320, an increase of £40,000 against the preceding year, the highest figure ever reached except in 1900 (the exhibition year), when the receipts swelled to £2,316,000. Since 1850, when the takings amounted to about £320,000, the figures show every year a steady increase. The worst time for Theatres was, of course, 1871, the year of the Franco-German war, whilst Paris was besieged. The Germans were bombarding the city, yet something like £200,000 was taken at the doors.

We shall be obliged if our readers will send us any amusing anecdotes they may hear, or accounts of any quaint incidents they may witness while acting or rehearsing.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, April 29, for the First Time in the London district, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Charles Freeman, entitled
"A WHITE DEMON."

Dr. Richard Leyton ..... Mr. Charles Freeman
Robert Elliott ..... Mr. Charles Lodge-Percy
Coney Brown ..... Mr. G. K. Ashley
Professor Simpson ..... Mr. W. E. Griffiths
Jeremiah Twinkle ..... Mr. Frank Coston
Frank Wilson ..... Mr. Will McNallie
P.C. Bobbin ..... Mr. A. Wilkinson
Hallad ..... Mr. Jack Railton
Dick ..... Miss Florrie Driver
Mary de Bean ..... Miss Lilly Walker
Lucy Elliott ..... Miss Henrietta Schrier
May Elliott ..... Miss Florence Tench

The revival of *A White Demon*—written and produced in the provinces some ten years ago—at the Stratford Theatre Royal this week is very opportune, inasmuch as public attention has lately been riveted on a notorious murder case in America, and the plot of *A White Demon* has many points in common. This is evident when we make the acquaintance of May Elliott, happily living with a devoted husband, who, when told that Dr. Richard Leyton is coming to stay with them, recoils with affright at the prospect. For Dr. Leyton, a morphia maniac of the worst type, but, withal, a man of culture and ability, had irreparably wronged the girl in her younger days as a hospital nurse, and a black and banished past appears to be opening up again for her. There is mutual recognition when the two meet, and Leyton threatens to expose May unless she will consent to renew their former intercourse. Terrified, she consents; but better counsels prevail, and she determines to write to the villain that she will make a clean breast of the past to her husband, defying Leyton to do his worst. Whilst writing Robert Elliott appears, and inquires whom the letter is to; but May, instead of then and there explaining everything, entreats her husband to trust her and not to read the note. He, however, does, and puts the worst construction upon it. Thrusting his wife from him, he passionately exclaims, "Begone to your paramour!" Elliott has extracted the name of May's betrayer, and vows vengeance. His opportunity occurs when he meets Dr. Leyton at the lodgings which a kind-hearted friend, in Lucy Elliott, has taken for homeless May. Leyton had followed her to pursue his unwelcome attentions, and her husband, repentant of his hasty words, meets her persecutor man to man. A well-administered horse-whipping falls to Leyton's lot; but the miscreant is not done with, for, while Elliott has left the room, he injects morphia into the half-fainting May, which sends the girl into a death-like trance, and on the return of the husband he is accused by Leyton of murdering his wife. How May is taken to the hospital, where a wonderful cure is effected by the aid of electricity, how she is once more at the mercy of Leyton, and finally rescued at the point of death from a huge diabolical cutting contrivance, and Leyton's death from burning, provide some very thrilling moments, and it is a matter for general satisfaction when, ere the curtain falls, husband and wife are again united.

The representation of the piece by Mr. Charles Freeman's company is most satisfactory. Mr. Freeman essays the part of Dr. Richard Leyton with every success. He acts throughout with admirable restraint, and with an ease and fluency which makes the character particularly obnoxious to the more susceptible of the audience. Miss Florence Tench's prepossessing appearance and genial manner make her a very popular heroine as May Elliott, and her acting is always sympathetic and charming. Mr. Charles Lodge-Percy plays in manly and buoyant style as Robert Elliott, and speaks his lines convincingly. Mr. G. K. Ashley submits a sound performance as Coney Brown; and Mr. W. E. Griffiths makes the most of the part of Professor Simpson. Mr. Will McNallie smartly enacts the detective, Frank Wilson; and Mr. A. Wilkinson is well placed as P.C. Bobbin. Miss Henrietta Schrier does exceedingly well as Lucy Elliott; and Miss Florrie Driver's acting has the true ring of pathos in the death-scene of the newspaper-boy, Dick. Comic relief is provided by the exuberances of Jeremiah Twinkle in the safe hands of Mr. Frank Coston, who works unflaggingly and is always successful in his efforts to amuse. He is ably assisted in the fun-making by Miss Lilly Walker, a very bright and vivacious Mary de Bean.

FREEMASONS AT PLAY.

The closing session of the Genesius Club of Masonic Instruction on Sunday last was celebrated by a dinner at the Hotel Cecil, Strand, the chair being occupied by Mr. James W. Mathews, preceptor of the club. The guests of the evening were Dr. Achard and Mr. J. Percy Fitzgerald, preceptor and secretary respectively of the Logic Club, with which the Genesius harmoniously works. After the toasts of the King and the Duke of Connaught, the M.W. Grand Master, the toast of "The Club" was proposed by Mr. J. Percy Fitzgerald, and replied to at some length by the chairman in the absence on business on the Continent of Mr. W. H. Marler, the secretary. He gave some very entertaining statistics with regard to its growth, and also dwelt upon the fact that when the club was founded by Mr. Harry Nichols, W. Lestocq, Sam Johnson, H. Reynolds, and F. H. Macklin, they met in a very small room in Bedford Park, and the first two members to join were Mr. Danby and himself. The increase of members had been large, and they now numbered nearly ninety. They had to remove twice, as they outgrew the accommodation at their disposal.

It fell to the lot of Mr. Danby to propose the toast of "The Visitors," which he did in that humorous manner for which he is celebrated.

Dr. Achard replied, and stated how much pleasure it gave him, as the principal of the Logic Club, to be present. He alluded to the interchanging of courtesies that took place during the session between the two clubs, and said he felt sure that it was a source of gratification to their members.

Mr. W. S. Lyon proposed the health of the chairman, and alluded to his (the chairman's) many well-known virtues, which he practised not only in Masonic circles, but with all with whom he came in contact. He referred the company to the columns of *The Era* from January of one year to January of the next, and stated that if they searched the fifty-two numbers they would find references to many a good deed recorded in them.

Mr. Mathews responded, and took the opportunity of thanking the officers.

The assistant-secretary of the club expressed his regret that a business appointment had prevented their worthy and popular secretary, who had never missed a meeting, being present that evening.

A delightful musical programme, under the direction of Mr. Tom Clair, assisted by Miss Annie Bartele, who received quite an ovation, was contributed to by Mr. Charles Capper, Mr. Charles Pond, and Mr. Walter Churcher.

We understand that to-morrow the Genesius Club pay a return visit to the Logic Club, and thus end their Masonic work until the last Sunday in September next, when they will again meet at Wycombe Hall, Hammersmith, as usual.

The fact that if a person is deprived of the use of one sense the others become more keen was curiously demonstrated the other evening. A blind man was seen in the circle of the Oxford New Theatre listening intently to Mr. Maundy-Gregory's company in *Lights Out*, and it was noticed that he took up all the points long before the other members of the audience.

NEW PLAYS OF THE MONTH.

London.

April 1. *Alfonso the Noble*, historical operetta in Yiddish, by Jacob Gordin—Pavilion.
" 2. *The Palace of Puck*, fantastic comedy, in three acts, by William J. Locke—Haymarket.
" 3. *Auntie of "The Finger Post,"* monologue, by Bertha N. Graham—Cripplegate Institute, E.C.
" 3. *A Snake in the Grass*, episode, by Leonard Stanley Hughes—Cripplegate Institute.
" 5. *Die Condottieri*, romantic drama, in four acts, by Rudolf Herzog (opening of German season under the direction of Hans Andresen)—Great Queen-street Theatre.
" 6. *The Truth*, comedy, in four acts, by Clyde Fitch—Comedy.
" 6. *Wee Willie Winkie*, nursery rhyme pantomime, music by Frederick Leeds, produced by amateurs—St. Peter's Hall, Brockley.
" 8. *The Pick of the Bunch*, musical comedy, in two acts, music by Louis Laval and Harry W. Wellmon, lyrics by Buckstone Clair and Charles Wilmott, libretto founded on the farcical comedy *After the Ball*—Royal County Theatre, Kingston.
" 8. *When It Was Dark*, play, in four acts, by S. Buchanan Rogersen, founded on Guy Thorne's novel, produced for the first time in London—West London.
" 8. *Le Petit Duc*, comic opera, book by Meilhac and Halévy, music by Charles Lecocq (originally produced at the Paris Renaissance on Jan. 25, 1878; English version, *The Little Duke*, by Clement Scott and B. C. Stephenson, produced at the Philharmonic, Islington, April 27, 1878), produced by M. Réné Debrenne's French company—Coronet.
" 9. *Votes For Women*, dramatic tract, in three acts, by Elizabeth Robins—Court.
" 15. *Die Biberpelz*, comedy, in four acts, by Gerhart Hauptmann (translated under the title of *The Thieves' Comedy*, and produced at the Court Theatre on March 21, 1905), German season—Great Queen-street Theatre.
" 15. *A Boatswain's Mate*, play, in one act, by W. W. Jacobs and Herbert C. Sargent—Wyndham's.
" 15. *La Fille de Madame Angot*, comic opera, by Lecocq (played by M. Réné Debrenne's French Company)—Coronet.
" 16. *Clancarty*, slightly revised version of *Lady Clancarty; or, Wedded and Wooed*, play, in four acts, by Tom Taylor (originally produced at the Olympic Theatre, March 9, 1874)—Lyric.
" 16. *Teddy Travers*, comedy, in three acts, by O. Percy Martin (produced by amateurs)—Ladbroke Hall.
" 17. *Tales of Hoffmann* (*Hoffmann's Erzaehlungen*), fantastic opera, in four acts, by Jacques Offenbach, in a prologue, three acts, and epilogue, played for the first time in England (originally produced at the Paris Opéra-Comique, Feb. 10, 1881), produced by Herr Hans Gregor's German company from the Komische Oper, Berlin—Adelphi.
" 17. *Tom Jones*, comic opera, in three acts, founded upon Henry Fielding's novel, book by A. M. Thompson and Robert Courtneidge, lyrics by Charles H. Taylor, music by Edward German (originally produced at the Prince's Theatre, Manchester, March 30, 1907)—Apollo.
" 17. *Die Von Hochsattel*, comedy, in three acts, by Leo Stern and Ludwig Heller (German season)—Great Queen-street Theatre.
" 18. *The Giftie*, comedy, in three acts, by Margery Stanley Clark (produced by amateurs)—Ladbroke Hall.
" 20. *The Judgment of Pharaoh*, drama, in four acts, by Alfred C. Calmour (originally produced as *Jevan, the Prodigal Son*, at the Queen's Theatre, Manchester, on Oct. 30, 1905)—The Scala.
" 22. *The Sunken Bell*, fairy play, in five acts, freely rendered into English verse by Charles Henry Meltzer from Gerhart Hauptmann's play *Die Versunkene Glocke* (Mr. E. A. Sothern and Miss Julia Marlowe's season)—Waldorf.
" 22. *Hans Huckebein*, farce, by Oskar Blumenthal and Gustav Kadelburg (this piece was the source of Burnand's *The Lady of Ostend*, produced at Terry's on July 5, 1899), German season—Great Queen-street Theatre.
" 23. *The Duel*, play, in three acts, adapted by Arthur Bourchier from the drama by Henri Lavedan, entitled *Le Duel*, (Comédie-Française, April 17, 1905)—Garrick.
" 24. *Jeanne D'Arc*, play, in five acts, by Percy Mackaye (Mr. E. A. Sothern and Miss Julia Marlowe's season)—Waldorf.
" 25. *Mr. George*, comedy, in three acts, by Louis N. Parker—Vaudeville.
" 25. *Jemmy*, play, in one act, by Louis N. Parker—Vaudeville.
" 26. *Otello*, opera, in four acts, libretto by Arrigo Boito, music by Giuseppe Verdi, the Italian version originally produced in London at the Lyceum July 5, 1889; English version, by Dr. Franz Hueffer, given for the first time in London by the Carl Rosa Opera Company—Marlborough.
" 27. *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch*, comedy, in three acts, by Alice Hegan Rice and Anne Crawford Flexner, dramatised from the first lady's story of the same name and from the companion book, "Lovey Mary" (originally produced in America). Season under the direction of Mr. Gaston Mayer by arrangement with the Century Company—Terry's.
" 29. *A Tight Corner*, light comedy, in three acts, by Herbert Swears (originally produced at the Theatre Royal, Portsmouth, May 9, 1906)—Coronet.
" 30. *Tom's Second Missus*, play, in one act, by M. E. Francis (Mrs. F. Blundell)—The Playhouse.
" 30. *The Finding of the Sword*, play, in two scenes, by the Countess of Cromartie—The Playhouse.
" 30. *Grey Domino*, play, in two scenes, by Agnes and Egerton Castle, founded on the authors' story of "The Incomparable Bellairs"—The Playhouse.

Revivals.

April 4. *Patience; or, Bunthorne's Bride*, æsthetic opera, in two acts, by W. S. Gilbert and Arthur Sullivan (originally produced at the Opera Comique April 23, 1881)—Savoy.
" 13. *The Liars*, comedy, in four acts, by Henry Arthur Jones (originally produced at the Criterion Theatre on Oct. 6, 1897)—Criterion.
" 26. *Twelfth Night*, Shakespeare's comedy, in five acts (Mr. E. A. Sothern and Miss Julia Marlowe's season)—Waldorf.
" 29. *As You Like It*, Shakespeare's pastoral comedy (Mr. E. A. Sothern and Miss Julia Marlowe's season)—Waldorf.
" 29. *The Return of the Prodigal*, comedy, in four acts, by St. John Hankin (originally produced at the Court Theatre on Sept. 26, 1905)—Court.

Provinces.

April 1. *The Free Lance*, drama, in five acts—Theatre Royal, Leamington.
" 1. *Second to None*, drama, in four acts, by Walter Howard—Grand Junction Theatre, Manchester.
" 4. *The Millennium*, musical extravaganza in prologue and two acts, by Harvey de Montmorency (produced by amateurs)—Market Hall, Appleby.
" 5. *The Girl Who Went Astray*, drama, in four acts, by William Hibbert and Fred Bulmer—Theatre Royal, Hyde.
" 8. *The Last of His Race*, Indian romance, in four acts, by Donald McLaren, produced for the first time in Great Britain—Theatre Royal, Glasgow.
" 8. *The Dream of His Life*, fantastic musical play, in one act, by Albert Chevalier, music by Alfred H. West—Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne.
" 15. *Visions of the Past*, musical playlet—Grand Theatre, Brighton.
" 18. *Atonement*, drama, in one act, by Albert Chevalier—Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne.
" 19. *For Her Sake*, drama, in four acts, by Wm. Roberts and Ben Landeck—Opera House, Cheltenham.
" 19. *The Coping Stone*, play, in four acts, by Gerald Lawrence—Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne.
" 18. *The Risin' o' the Moon*, melodrama, in four acts, by H. Gerald Ransley—College Hall, Liverpool.
" 20. *The Lancashire Sailor*, play, in one act, by Brandon Thomas—Theatre Royal, York.
" 22. *The End Crowns All*, comedy-drama, in four acts, by Augusta Tulloch—Theatre Royal, Ilkeston.
" 24. *Priscilla and the President*, farcical romance, in three acts, by Charles M. Heslop—Opera House, Wakefield.
" 26. *After Seven Years*, dramatic sketch, by Mario Muggeridge—Theatre Royal, Belfast.
" 30. *The Enchanted Rose*, play, in one act, by E. Harcourt Williams, founded on a story by Hans Anderson (for copyright performance)—Theatre Royal, Manchester.
" 30. *Sappho and the Phaon*, tragedy, in three acts, by Percy Mackaye (copyright performance)—Theatre Royal, Manchester.

Paris.

April 4. *Madame la Douane*, play, in four acts, by A. Dinter and J. La Rode—Déjazet.
" 12. *Timon d'Athènes*, play, by Emile Fabre, in three acts—Antoine.
" 17. *La Légende du Point d'Argentan*, in one act, by Henri Cain and Bernède, music by Félix Fourdrain—Opéra-Comique.
" 17. *Circé*, lyric poem, by E. Haraucourt, music by Hillemacher—Opéra-Comique.
" 18. *La Française*, comedy, in three acts, by M. Brieux—Odéon.
" 18. *Les Goujons*, comedy, in one act, by M. Bénière—Odéon.
" 18. *Les Deux Madame Delauze*, play, in three acts, by Mme. Gabriel Mourey—Réjane.
" 19. *Papillon*, comedy, in three acts, by René Peter and R. Danceny—Bouffes.
" 20. *La Marjolaine*, play, five acts, in verse, by Jacques Richepin—Porte-Saint-Martin.
" 22. *Le P'tit Mitron*, play, in five acts, by Henri Demesse—Ambigu.
" 23. *L'Enfant gatée*, comedy, in three acts, by Alexandre Debray—Molière.
" 23. *La Maison à l'envers*, play, in three acts, by Ferri-Pisani and Charles Marcel—Molière.

Berlin.

April 6. *Der Dieb*, three-act play, by H. Bernstein—Neues.
" 9. *Don Carlos*, opera, in three acts, by Verdi (Monte Carlo Opera season)—Royal Opera.
" 11. *Jung Fritz*, three-act play, by F. Bonn—Berliner.
" 11. *Theodora*, musical drama, in four acts, by Leroux (Monte Carlo Opera season)—Royal Opera.
" 15. *Die Rabensteinerin*, four-act play, by V. von Wildenbruch—Royal Schauspielhaus.
" 16. *Trilby*, play, in four acts, drawn from Du Maurier's novel by P. M. Potter (Mr. Tree's season)—New Royal Opera.
" 16. *Aglavaine und Selysette*, four-act tragedy, by Maeterlinck—Deutches.
" 20. *Am Grünen Weg*, three-act comedy, by H. Lee—Schiller, N.
" 20. *Wo die Liebe wohnt*, musical farce, by MM. Kren and Lippschitz—Thalia.
" 20. *'S Katherl*, five-act volks play, by M. Burckhardt—Kleines.
" 23. *Das Kuckuk's Ei*, four-act volks play, by O. Franz—Kleines.
" 26. *Die Sittennote*, play, in four acts, by A. Schwayer—Berliner.
" 27. *Heimkehr*, three-act volks play, by Rudolph Hawel—Kleines.
" 27. *Thetje Egger's Brautnacht*, three-act burlesque, by MM. Drucker and Buchholz—Central.

"THE ERA."

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The Princess of Wales, accompanied by the Duke and Duchess of Teck and suite, witnessed the performance of *The Liars* at the Criterion Theatre on Thursday.

"The Era" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

ON THE ROAD, MAY 6

All-of-a-Sudden Peggy.—Empire T., Southend.
Amasis.—Theatre Royal, Nottingham.
An Unwedded Wife.—T. R., Jarrow.
Anna of the Plains.—Hastings.
Ascher, Oscar.—T. R., Birmingham.
Assassin.—Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton.
Beauty of Bath.—Prince's T., Manchester.
Benson, F. R. (N.).—Lyceum T., Ipswich.
Benson, F. R.—Stratford-on-Avon.
Benson, F. R. (S.).—Woking and Surbiton.
Between the Lights.—Carlton T., Birmingham.
Charley's Aunt.—Shakespeare T., Liverpool.
Christian, The.—Theatre Royal, Halifax.
Claudian.—Grand Theatre, Swansea.
Compton Comedy Co.—Theatre Royal, Bradford.
Conscript, The.—Muncaster T., Bootle.
Dairymaids, The.—Cambridge and Bedford.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—Grand T., Luton.
Destroyer of Men.—Grand Theatre, Derby.
D'Oyly Carte.—Grand T., Leeds.
Dr. Wake's Patient.—T. R., Middlesborough.
Face at the Window.—T. R., Whitehaven.
False Wife.—Theatre Royal, Bilston.
Fight for Millions.—Colosseum, Oldham.
Geisha.—Borough Theatre, Stratford.
Girl Behind the Counter.—New Theatre, Oxford.
Go-Won-Go-Monawk.—Athenæum T., Lancaster.
Great Awakening.—Theatre Royal, Bristol.
Grip of Iron.—Theatre Royal, Hyde.
Hearts Adrift.—Opera House, Coventry.
Heart's Desire.—Theatre Royal, W. Bromwich.
Her Luck in London.—Theatre Royal, Castleford.
Her Marriage Vow.—T. R., Rotherham.
Her One Great Sin.—O. H., Perth.
Hero of the Flag.—Grand T., Rawtenstall.
His House in Order (S.).—Broadway T., New Cross.
His Sister's Honour.—Metropole T., Glasgow.
Home, Sweet Home (Green and Hinton).—Grantham.
Home, Sweet Home.—T. R., Wednesbury.
Honeymoon, The.—Queen's Theatre, Farnworth.
Honour Thy Father.—Star Theatre, Swansea.
Hour of Her Triumph.—T. R., Sunderland.
Ian Maclaren's Repertoire.—T. R., Huddersfield.
Irving, H. B.—Empire Theatre, Oldham.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Carnarvon and Portmadoc.
Lights Out.—West Pier, Brighton.
Lion and the Mouse.—Victoria T., Broughton.
Little Breadwinner.—Prince's T., Portsmouth.
Little Vagrant.—Grand Theatre, Brighton.
London Fireman.—Theatre Royal, Rotherham.
Love that Women Desire.—Lyric T., Hammersmith.
Lucky Durham.—Theatre Royal, Sheffield.
Lucky 'Liza.—Chorlton-cum-Hardy.
Man's Enemy.—Grand Theatre, Islington, N.
Manxman.—Theatre Royal, York.
Martin Harvey.—Theatre Royal, Portsmouth.
Master Criminal.—Theatre Royal, Blyth.
Midnight Mail.—H. M. T., Aberdeen.
Midnight Wedding.—Theatre Royal, Stockport.
Mollison, William.—T. R., South Shields.
Monsieur Beaucaire.—P. G. T., Folkestone.
Monte Cristo.—H. M. T., Dundee.
Moody-Manners (A.).—Coronet Theatre, W.
Moody-Manners (B.).—Crystal Palace Theatre.
Morals of Marcus.—Camden Theatre, N.W.
My Darling.—Opera House, Cork.
Napoleon the Great.—T. R., Rochdale.
New World.—Theatre Royal, Glossop.
Otto the Outcast.—Bury.
Perfect Lover.—Southport.
Peter Pan (No. 1).—Prince's T., Bristol.
Peter Pan (No. 2).—P. O. W., Birmingham.
Peter's Mother (N.).—Glasgow.
Peter's Mother (S.).—Wakefield.
Pick of the Bunch.—P. G. T., Eastbourne.
Price of Her Soul.—P. O. W. T., Nuneaton.
Prince of Pilsen (Harris).—T. R., Norwich.
Private Secretary.—Gaiety T., Manchester.
Prodigal Parson.—Metropole T., Birmingham.
Raffles (Dance).—T. R., Lincoln.
Royal Divorce.—Opera House, Dudley.
Sapho.—Grand Theatre, Eccles.
Second to None.—Court T., Liverpool.
Sergeant Brue (N.).—H. M. T., Blackpool.
Shulamite.—New Theatre, Aberdare.
Sin of Her Childhood.—Alexandra T., Hull.
Somebody's Sweetheart.—East Oxford T., Oxford.
Still Alarm.—Aquarium, Great Yarmouth.
Swiss Express.—Shakespeare T., Clapham, S.W.
The Woman Pays.—T. R., Rochdale.
Tommy.—Theatre Royal, Hull.
Triumph of Truth.—St. James's T., Manchester.
Trumpet Call.—Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.
Two Little Drummer Boys.—Alex. T., Birmingham.
Two Little Vagabonds.—Osborne T., Manchester.
Tyrant, The.—Grand Theatre, Walsall.
Uncle Tom's Cabin.—O. H., Tunbridge Wells.
Under the Russian Flag.—T. R., Dewsbury.
Village Blacksmith.—Prince's T., Bradford.
Warning to Women.—Queen's T., Gateshead.
What the Butler Saw.—Royalty Theatre, Chester.
When a Man Hates.—Theatre Royal, Crook.
When Other Lips.—Junction T., Manchester.
When the Lights are Low.—Palace T., Newcastle.
Wilkie, Allan, and Co.—O. H., Harrogate.
Woman's Past.—County Theatre, Reading.
Wrecker of Men.—Theatre Royal, Barnsley.
Youngest of Three.—Theatre Royal, Bath.
£1000 Reward.—Theatre Royal, Leicester.

FIFTY YEARS OF THE DRAMA.
1850—1900.

(COPYRIGHT.)

In these columns it is proposed to give a strictly alphabetical arrangement of the titles of plays produced during the last fifty years. It will be the most complete list ever published, and should prove invaluable to authors desiring to discover whether a certain title has ever been used, and when. To members of the dramatic profession it will be useful in determining the dates of plays in which they have achieved successes. Our readers are politely requested to advise us of any omission or inaccuracy which they may notice.

This list as soon as complete will be published in cheap book form.

Widow Bewitched, Gallery of Illustration, Aug. 14, 1865.
Widowers' Houses, Royalty, Dec. 9, 1892.
Widows Bewitched, Britannia, Dec. 11, 1854.
Widow's Cap, Ladbroke Hall, April 7, 1888.
Widow's Son, Theatre Royal, Paisley, May 1, 1868.
Widow's Weeds, Strand, March 19, 1870.
Widow's Wooing, St. Albans, Oct. 23, 1893.
Widow, The, Battersea, Feb. 4, 1889.
Widow Winsome, Criterion, Nov. 27, 1888.
Wife for a Day, Theatre Royal, Whitehaven, June 20, 1873.
Wife of Dives, Opera Comique, Nov. 26, 1894.
Wife of Scarli, Prince of Wales's, Birmingham, Sept. 9, 1897.
Wife or No Wife, Haymarket, July 23, 1855.
Wife or Widow, Grand, Feb. 15, 1886.

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

INDEX.—The Stowaway, *by Fred Bowyer, music by J. S. Baker, was taken from the late Arthur Matthison's story in verse, and was produced at the Paragon on July 1, 1889, with Miss Jenny Hill in the title-part. The sketch was afterwards remodelled, and the part of the Captain made one of considerable importance in the dramatic scheme.*

MANXMAN.—The New Mephisto *was produced in London at the Brixton Theatre, Oct. 4, 1897. When first produced at the Grand, Leeds, on March 29 of the same year it was called* The New Mephistopheles.

J. K.—*Sir Henry Irving's first Lyceum performance of* Hamlet *was on Oct. 30, 1874. He continued playing it for two hundred nights.*

N. N.—*Mrs. German Reed (Priscilla Horton) died March 18, 1895, aged 77.*

VENUS.—*When Edward Rose and Augustus Harris's* Venus *was produced at the Royalty, July 14, 1879, Psyche was played by Miss Emilie Copsey.*

C. P.—(1) *Greenwich Fair was abolished in 1857.* (2) *No.*

JUVENILE.—Mr. Hopkinson *was first produced at the Avenue on Feb. 21, 1905. The piece was transferred to Wyndham's about a fortnight later. At the Avenue Mr. Hopkinson was played by Mr. James Welch; Duke of Braceborough, Mr. F. Kerr; Earl of Addleton, Mr. Henry Kemble; Thyra, Miss O'Malley; Eliza Dibb, Miss Annie Hughes; and the Duchess of Braceborough, Miss Compton.*

CAPE TOWN.—*The Royal Albert Hall, Kensington, was opened by Queen Victoria on March 29, 1871.*

T. R.—*Consult Lodge's "Defence of Stage Plays," published in 1580; Colley Cibber's "Apology"; and Cathcart's "Defence of the Stage."*

S. B.—"*The Wail of a Banner Bearer*" *will be found in Wagner's "Humorous Readings and Recitations"* (*Warne*).

BAYSWATER.—*Mr. and Mrs. Kendal first produced* The Ironmaster (*adapted by Mr. Pinero from Ohnet's play* Le Maître de Forges"), *at the St. James's, April 17, 1884.*

E. D. M. JENKINS.—*In* Little Dr. Faust *the pas de quatre was danced by Edward Terry, Kate Vaughan, Nelly Farren, and Miss Amalia.*

GEO. TAYLOR.—*It had been sung on the concert stage.*

C. F. WRIGHT.—*We should say that they were of little value. Write to French, theatrical publisher, Southampton-street, Strand.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a Birth or Death or an "In Memoriam" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is One Shilling and Sixpence, every additional word One Penny.

The charge for a notice of Marriage, not exceeding forty words, is Two Shillings and Sixpence, every additional word One Penny.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

DEATHS.

CARR.—Sarah Carr, the beloved mother of Miss Annie Howe (Mrs. Harry Lester), who passed away at the age of 70 years, after long and painful illness, at Thornaby-on-Tees, April 28. Interred at Thornaby Cemetery, Middlesbrough, May 3. R.I.P.

EDMONDS.—April 28, E. Edmonds, stage-manager, aged 70.

FELL.—April 23, 1907, at his residence, 76, Clifford-street, Ibrox, Glasgow, and late of the American Museum, 101, Trongate, Glasgow, C. C. Fell, in his sixty-fifth year.

LYONS.—On May 1, Annie Lyons passed peacefully away, after a long and painful illness. She was sister to the late Mrs. Chittock. Funeral on Sunday, May 5, at the Cemetery, Plymouth, at 9 a.m., from 2, Arundel-crescent.

MYERS.—April 28, at No. 1, Lynndock-street, Liverpool, Rosaltha Myers, widow of James Washington Myers, formerly circus proprietor, aged 63.

RUSSELL.—On April 16, after a long and painful illness, Kenna Russell passed away, deeply mourned by her sorrowing family.

IN MEMORIAM.

HUNT.—In loving memory of my dear Maggie, who passed away May 6, 1904. Never forgotten by her only sister, Violet Hunt. R.I.P.

HERBERT.—In loving and affectionate memory of my dear husband, Arthur Herbert, who fell asleep May 3, 1906. Never to be forgotten by his loving wife Jenny, and little son, Henry.

FOR SYMPATHY.

CURRY.—Mrs. Henry James Curry and family desire to express their grateful thanks for sympathy in their bereavement. Gordon House, Grimsby, April, 1907.

CURRY.—Mr. and Mrs. Joseph H. Curry and family desire to express their grateful thanks for all kind messages and tokens of sympathy in their bereavement. Thespian House, Hainton-avenue.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Doris Myddelton—Saturday, May 4.
Howard Brenan—Saturday, May 4.
Herbert Ralland—Saturday, May 4.
Ailsa Douglas—Sunday, May 5.
Bertha St. Ruth—Monday, May 6.
Douglas White—Monday, May 6.
Amy Tempest—Tuesday, May 7.
Lilian Beszant—Tuesday, May 7.
Charles Carte—Tuesday, May 7.
Harry Blake—Tuesday, May 7.
J. Norton Wilson—Tuesday, May 7.
Sophie Harriss—Wednesday, May 8.
Madge O'Neill—Wednesday, May 8.
Eugene Stratton—Wednesday, May 8.
Ethel Mars—Wednesday, May 8.
May Jocelyn—Wednesday, May 8.
Victoria Stratton—Wednesday, May 8.
Arthur Hales—Wednesday, May 8.
J. M. Barrie—Thursday, May 9.
Mabel Garden—Thursday, May 9.
Dorothea Mapleson—Thursday, May 9.
May Warden—Thursday, May 9.
Tom G. Warren—Friday, May 10.
G. D. Fox—Friday, May 10.
Sid Cotterell—Friday, May 10.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.
No Circulars or Parcels admitted to this list.

Albert, Mr.
Alberto, Mr. Fred
Alec
Alexander, Miss J.
Alwyn, Mr. Roger
Artois, Mr. Jack
Atherton, Miss Daisy
Austa, Miss Amber
Banks, Miss Flo
Banvard, Mr. Carl
Barker, Mr. John
Barnet, Mr. W.
Bartlett, Mr. Frank
Bassett, Mr. Tom
Bateman, Mr. Edgar
Bee, Mr. E.
Besant, Sir Walter
Biddle Brothers
Black, Mr. Joe
Bonheur, Mr. Theo.
Bosanquet, Mons.
Bostock, Mrs. N. C.
Brough, Mr. Harry
Burgon Opera Co.
Burke, Miss Billie
Bury, Mr. Sam
Cardac, Mr. H.
Carlton, Miss Minnie
Carte, Mr. Chas.
Carter and Gale, Messrs
Cattle, Mr. William
Cedrics, The
Chaplin, Mr. Sidney
Church, Miss L.
Clements, Mr. Fred
Cliff, Little
Clifton, Miss Connie
Collings, Mr. C. P.
Collins, Miss Lottie
Conan, Mr. Charlie
Connor, Mr. T. W.
Correze and Keith
Cosgrove and Burns
Cotter, Miss Nell
Courtney, Miss Maud
Cranston, Mr. W. J.
Cribb, Mr. Ted
Cronin, Mr. Morris
Crossley, Miss Ada
Crossley, Miss Violet
Cumberland, Mr. G. C.
Dainton, Miss Maisie
Daly, Mr. C. M.
Dalymple, Mr. Leonard
Danvers, Mr. James
Davis, Miss Fay
Deane, Mr. A. J.
Delome, Miss
Denham, Mr. Aubrey
Devereux, Capt.
Dolan, Miss W.
Donaldson Bros.
Dover, Mr. Cliffe
Durant, Mr. F. D.
Earl, Miss Kate
Edwards, Miss Jessie
Elsie, Miss Lily
Eltons, The Two
Erle, Miss Godwynne
Field, Mr. Harry
Ferari, Brothers
Foldi, Miss Irma
Fowler, Miss Francis
Fredericks, Mr. Harold
Garbois, Mr. Wm.
Garrick, Mr. Esca
Goldin, Mr. Horace
Godfrey-Turner, Miss M
Goutts, Mr. Henry
Grafton, Madam Louise
Graham, Mr. Gerard
Grieve, Miss Dora
Green, Mr.
Haisan, Mr. C. H.
Hall, Mr. Tom
Halling, Miss Daisy
Halstan, Miss M.
Handle, Miss Z.
Harcourt, Miss Eva
Hardy, Mr. Fred
Harliem Bros.
Harvey, Mrs. Frank
Hawthorne, Mr. Frank
Hayden, Miss B.
Hazell, Mr. W. E.
Howard, Mr. G. W.
Howard, Mrs. George
Howard, Mr. Walter
Hylton, Miss Florence
Ishmael, Prince
James, Miss Daisy
Jardine, Mr. A.
Jarman, Mr. Herbert
Jazon, Mr. Edwin C.
Johnston, Mr. J. C.
Keene, Mr. Billy
Kendall, Miss Marie
Kerr, Mr. G. C. V.
Kilner, Sisters
King, Mr.
Kioto, Mr. N. Jakedo
Le Grand, Mr. H.
Leicester, Mrs. G. F.
Leonze, Mr.
Lennard, Mr. Leo
Le Roy, Mr. Servais
Lethbridge, Miss Alice
Levey and Caldwell
Linwood, Mr. Lance
Loftus, Miss Kitty
Mackintire, Mr. T.
Macknay, Mr. A.
Maddison, Mr. Bates
Manders, Mrs. Emma
Martin, Mr. Philip
Mersano, Prof.
Mitchelson, Mr. Angus
Moore, Miss Carrie
Moore, Mr. Marshall
Morgan, Mr. H.
Mortimer, Miss Maud
Morton, Miss Effie
Mozart, Mr. Ernest
Nero, Mons. Michel
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Pearson, Mr. Bob
Pease, Mr. S. T.
Penley, Mr. Fred
Peterman, Mr. J. B.
Placide, Madam
Plumpton, Mrs. E. A.
Polson-Turner, Mr. G.
Pryde, Miss Peggy
Pyrquins, Mr. F.
Randall, Mr. Claude
Ray, Miss Belle
Rehan, Miss Ada
Riley, Mr. Tom
Ringham, Mr. Mark
Robinson, Mr. F. S.
Rogers, Mr. Frank
Russell, Mr. Harry
Saville, Mr.
Schoolden, Mr. John
Scorey, Mr. H.
Seaton, Mr. R. G.
Shallard, Mr. Dillon
Shine, Mr. Wilfred
Smart, Miss E.
Smart Set Entertainers
Smith, Mr. Will
Somerset, Mr. C. W.
Stafford, Mr. H. A.
Stanert, Mr. Frank
Stanford, Miss Mary
Steuart, Mr. Charles
St. Quentin, Mr. Ed.
Thorpe, Miss Dora
Trevor, Mr. Vaughan
Urquhart, Mr. David
Vicat, Miss Grace
Vyner, Mr. Leslie
Vyvyan, Mr. Herbert
Walden-Taylor, Miss F.
Warmeley, Sisters
Weight, Mr. Chas.
White, Mr. Arthur
Willard, Mr. George
Wingate, Mr. C. L.

FOOTBALL.

BRISTOL X.L.C.R. AND HARRY HARE'S ORCHESTAL BAND ATHLETIC CLUBS v. MUSIC HALLS AND THEATRICALS.

Played on Clifton Downs, Saturday, April 27. Result: Bristol X.L.C.R., 1 goal; Music Halls and Theatricals, 4 goals. J. Aubrey, J. Lacey, J. Leonard (2), and P. Reardon scored the goals for their respective sides.

CRICKET.

BRISTOL X.L.C.R. AND HARRY HARE'S ORCHESTAL BAND ATHLETIC CLUBS v. BRISTOL EARLY CLOSERS XI.

Played on Clifton Downs, Wednesday, April 24. H. Belding, A. E. Bailey, and J. Leonard batted and bowled well for their respective sides. Scores:—

Bristol X.L.C.R.—H. Edwards, b Leonard, 0; E. Belding, b Leonard, 11; H. Hare (captain), b Leonard, 0; A. Mattock, b Leonard, 0; A. E. Bailey, b Hedges, 39; S. Richards, lbw, b Hedges, 2; S. Carter, b Leonard, 1; Miss Lilla Carter, b Leonard, 0; Miss Ivy Bowman, b Hedges, 3; J. Aubrey, not out, 16; H. Belding, b Leonard, 25; extras, 5; total, 102.

Bristol Early Closers C.C.—B. Green, b Bailey, 0; T. Ferris, c Mattock, b Bailey, 5; H. Taylor, b Bailey, 0; J. Leonard, b H. Belding, 13; H. Jennings, b H. Belding, 0; G. Hedges (captain), b Bailey, 19; T. Rossiter, b Hare, 22; W. Vowles, c Aubrey, b Hare, 1; B. Yandell, b H. Belding, 0; A. Lucas, b Hare, 18; Miss Minnie Leonard, not out, 0; extras, 9; total, 87.

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Mr. A. A. Strong has compiled an exceedingly useful volume dealing carefully, intelligently, and fully with the law bearing upon things theatrical. As a book of reference this excellent digest will be found invaluable.—*The Era.*

DEATHS OF THE MONTH.

APRIL 1. Bennett Darrell.
" 3. John Champ, aged 74.
" 4. Christine Garland Nicholls (Christine Lanscar), aged 22.
" 6. Mrs. Ellen Dowsett, aged 46.
" 7. Henry George Kelso, aged 34.
" 8. Harry Jackson Martin, aged 39.
" 9. James Davis (Owen Hall), aged 53.
" 11. Mrs. Clara Maxam, aged 38.
" 12. William Hamilton, aged 69.
" 13. Beatrice Worth (Mrs. Sam Shipley).
" 16. Kenna Russell.
" 22. Henry James Curry, aged 61.
" 22. William Morgan, aged 77.
" 23. C. C. Fell, aged 54.
" 24. Mme. Alzar (Mrs. T. Stephens), aged 43.
" 28. E. Edmonds, aged 70.
" 28. Mrs. Sarah Carr, aged 70.
" 28. Mrs. Rosaltha Myers, aged 63.

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
"The Era" Dramatic and Musical Annual for 1907 will be cordially welcomed by the profession, as well as by all who are interested in the modern theatre and concert-hall. It contains some racy little sketches by Miss Ellen Terry, Miss Pollie Emery, Mr. Charles Collette, and other well-known artists; much useful information and many illustrations.—Leicester Daily Post, Jan. 23, 1907.

ROYAL ALBERT HALL.
Miss ELSIE FOGERTY'S CLASSES.
Re-open THURSDAY, MAY 2nd.
DRAMATIC SCHOOL, MONDAY, MAY 6th.
President and Examiner, F. R. BENSON, Esq.
Dramatic Recital, May 23,
(West Theatre), 3.30.
For particulars of classes, apply,
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THE ERA

SATURDAY, MAY 4, 1907.

PROHIBITING "THE MIKADO."

The prohibition of the performance of *The Mikado* by the Lord Chamberlain is an incident which cannot be allowed to pass without comment. In England, we are all of us wisely reverent of old institutions, and it is our practise to tolerate them as long as they do not reduce themselves to utter absurdity. On the whole, the Lord Chamberlain's office has performed its functions in the licensing of plays of late with judgment and discretion. When it has forbidden the presentation of a piece, it has usually been the case that the general public has not felt the deprivation, while the special minority which wanted to see the work was always able to gratify its desire by a "private" performance. But the most recent action of the office takes us back to the old days when the Censorship was exercised in a manner obviously ridiculous. Thus, in Charles II.'s day, the performance of BEAUMONT & FLETCHER'S *Maid's Tragedy* was prohibited, because "the murder accomplished by the heroine, Evadne, might supply a dangerous example to the Evadnes then shining at Court in the same rank of royal distinction." Later on, the Master of the Revels insisted on the whole of the first act of *Richard III.* being expunged from COLLEY CIBBER'S version, lest the distresses of King Henry VI., who is killed by Richard in that act, should "put weak people too much in mind of King James, then living in France." It must be admitted that there was more excuse for the objection of the authorities to FIELDING'S *Pasquin*, a satire on the political corruption of the day, in which Sir ROBERT WALPOLE was represented silencing noisy patriots with bribes, and even joining with them in a dance. This led to the introduction of the Licensing Act, which made it law that, for the future, every dramatic piece, including prologues and epilogues, should, previous to performance, receive the licence of the Lord Chamberlain; and that, without his permission, no London theatre, unprotected by a patent, should open its doors.

Coming down to later times, we meet with the celebrated *Happy Land* case. On February 3rd, 1873, a piece called *The Happy Land* was submitted for licence from the Court Theatre to the Reader of Plays. It contained a good many political allusions; but as they were generalities and not pointed at individuals, the licence was granted. It was afterwards pointed out to the then Lord Chamberlain that three members of the Government were actually represented in person on the stage. The Lord Chamberlain himself visited the theatre; and finding, on inquiry, that these personalities were not in the MS. submitted, gave orders that the licence should be suspended. This was mentioned to the manager of the old Court Theatre, who expressed regret; and the piece was allowed to be played on the understanding that the details objected to were removed. The real cause of the Lord Chamberlain's interference was that three of the characters, Ethais, Phyllon, and Lutin, were made up as Messrs. GLADSTONE, LOWE, and AYRTON respectively. Considering the license allowed to the caricature of public individuals in the illustrated press, the prohibition was marvellously inconsistent.

Its absurdity, however, is far surpassed by the forbidding of performances of *The Mikado*. The opera, instead of being a satire on Japanese government, is simply a piece of amusing whimsicality, the essence of its fun being general, not at all particular or national. Where is the harm in Mr. GILBERT'S libretto? We are all familiar with the story and characters of the "book"; and it is difficult to imagine where the "offence in't" lies. Is it possible that, by some curious coincidence, an incident in *The Mikado* has been paralleled in the recent history of Japan? We knew that Ko-Ko, having been a cheap tailor, was promoted to be Lord High Executioner; can it be that in Japan at the present day some prominent official has risen from the ranks, and that he has taken Mr. GILBERT'S satire as aimed at himself? Or is it that Ko-Ko's arguments to Nanki-Poo to induce him to be beheaded are held by the Japanese authorities to be a sly hit at their practice of public executions? "Observe," says Ko-Ko, "you have a month to live, and you'll live like a fighting-cock at my expense. When the day comes there'll be a grand public ceremonial. You'll be the central figure; no one will attempt to deprive you of that distinction. There'll be a procession—bands, dead march, bells tolling, all the girls in tears. Then, when it's over, general rejoicings, and a display of fireworks in the evening. You won't see them; but they'll be there all the same." Or is that some neglected Court lady has found a resemblance between herself and Katisha, and takes Mr. GILBERT'S allusions to her elbow as personally objectionable? It is difficult to imagine that the name-part in the piece is in any way offensive to the loyalty of the Japanese. The Mikado is represented as all that is dignified and regal; and the absolute wisdom and justice of his desire to make "the punishment fit the crime" is as admirable as it is famous. We feel certain that Mr. RICHARD TEMPLE'S Mikado was more truly reverend and gorgeous than any real Mikado who ever reigned in Japan. We are again thrown back upon the supposition of personal sensitiveness in Japanese subjects. But is it fair because some plump pluralist in the "Flowery Land" may have felt the part of Pooh-Bah "touch him up a little" that such a deduction from the gaiety of the English nation should be made? Where is this sort of thing to stop? Soon, we suppose, we shall have the Chinese objecting to a revival of *The Geisha* on the ground of the cut at the national character contained in the personage who was so comically embodied by Mr. Huntley Wright. We shall have Portia's description to her French suitor left out, by the Lord Chamberlain's order, to avoid any possible diminution of the *entente cordiale;* and *Henry V.* entirely tabooed on account of the war episodes which might be unpleasant to the French Ambassador. All plays based on Russian methods of government—including that invaluable melodramatic item, transportation to Siberia—will be out of the question; and the Prince of Monaco will insist on the gambling scene in *The Prodigal Son* being eliminated as reflecting on the main source of his revenues.

THE LATE DICK MANSELL.

Mr. Edward Compton, in sending a contribution to the "Dick Mansell Widow Fund," writes:—"I send you my cheque for one guinea. I only knew Mansell slightly, but I read with much regret of the straits to which he was reduced at the last, and the sad position in which the widow has been left. In regard to his meteoric career, and the many things he has been connected with, I have been surprised that no one has mentioned the fact that some thirty-five years ago (or it may be thirty-six or thirty-seven), he and (I think) his brother produced at the old Holborn Theatre a very literal, bald translation of the play of *Kean*, by Alexandre Dumas the elder. I was one of a very thin house on one night of its brief career, having, as a mere boy, stolen out and gone to the play; and, although there was very little to recommend the piece to English audiences, it yet lived in my memory so vividly that some dozen years ago I commissioned the late T. Edgar Pemberton to do me a very free adaptation of the piece, which he and I practically wrote together, though only his name appears. This I have been playing continuously in my répertoire since then, and am nearing the 300th performance.

"I may mention that in Mr. Mansell's cast the late Tom Swinburne played the part of Kean, and E. J. O'Dell—now still alive, and nearly ninety, I suppose—played the part of the old Prompter, created in my version by the late Lewis Ball. It is also interesting to note that in the original French play the part of Anna Danby was sustained by Mme. Sarah Bernhardt; she thus, I believe, making her first appearance on the regular stage. Both Salvini and Rossi played the piece in Italy a great deal, but, I believe, with the exception of the disastrous production of the Mansells which I have alluded to, I am the only English actor who has produced the work and played the part. I may say it is a great favourite with my audiences."

The following gentlemen have kindly consented to act on the Committee of the Dick Mansell's Widow Fund:—

Sir Charles Wyndham,
Mr. Lewis Waller,
Sir William Bull, M.P.,
Mr. T. P. O'Connor, M.P.,
Mr. G. R. Sims,
Mr. Jocelyn Brandon, L.C.C.
Mr. E. G. Saunders,
Mr. J. Bannister Howard,
Mr. E. Lockwood,
Mr. E. Graham Falcon,
Mr. Bertie Crewe,
Mr. Austin Melford,
Mr. A. F. Henderson,
Mr. Rollo Balmain.

LIST OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

	£	s.	d.
Frank Curzon	5	5	0
Stafford and Co.	5	5	0
G. M. Polini	5	0	0
Frank Maitland	5	0	0
Alfred Sutro	3	3	0
W. H. Kendal	3	3	0
Henry Arthur Jones	3	3	0
W. S. Gilbert	3	3	0
Rev. Frank Heath	2	2	0
Martin Harvey	2	2	0
Eccentric Club	2	2	0
Ernest Dottridge	2	2	0
Mrs. D'Oyly Carte	2	2	0
Wm. Bennett	2	2	0
Edward Compton	1	1	0
E. C. Stafford	1	1	0
J. F. Elliston	1	1	0
J. Bannister Howard	1	1	0
Fred Terry	1	1	0
A Sympathiser	1	1	0
W. W. Keely	1	1	0
Austin Melford	1	1	0
Henry Taylor	1	1	0
Basil Young	1	1	0
Vernon Cowper	1	1	0
Mabel Love	1	1	0
Miss Emma and Percy Hutchison	1	1	0
James Welch	1	1	0
R. Redford	1	1	0
Alfred Bishop	1	1	0
Oswald Stoll	1	1	0
Dion E. Boucicault	1	1	0
Milton Bode	1	1	0
M.	1	0	0
Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Harrington	0	10	6
Frederick Merer	0	10	6
Edyth Olive Applin	0	10	0

The Hon. Treasurer, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, will be pleased to receive and announce further subscriptions to this Fund.

"MY STATUE OF GRACE," a new sketch, but not a nudeparture, will shortly be produced. It is from the pen of Mr. Alfred M. Loader, and will introduce Miss Adele Levey as a statue of the Galatea order. The cast also includes Mr. Fred Haming and Miss Jeannie Weston. The initial tour has been booked by Mr. Will Dalton

THE SOTHERN-MARLOWE SEASON.

On Friday, April 26,
Revival of Shakespeare's Comedy, in Five Acts,
"TWELFTH NIGHT."

Orsino	MR. LEWIS
Sebastian	MR. ERIC
Antonio	MR. CROMPTON
Valentine	MR. ASPLAND
Curio	MR. HOWSON
Sir Toby Belch	MR. BUCKSTONE
Sir Andrew Aguecheek	MR. CRAWLEY
Malvolio	MR. SOTHERN
Fabian	MR. VIBART
Feste	MR. REICHER
Olivia	MISS KRUGER
Viola	MISS MARLOWE
Maria	MISS PHILLIPS

Twelfth Night, though it aims at the ludicrous rather than the ridiculous, is full of sweetness and pleasantry. As Hazlitt says: "Shakespeare's comic genius resembles the bee rather in its power of extracting the sweets from weeds or poisons than in leaving a sting behind it." How ingeniously planned is the Garden scene, wherein Malvolio is fooled to the top of his bent by the mischievous Maria. And with this wonderful bit of comedy may be contrasted the exquisite charm and poetry of the character of Viola, whose confession of her love to Orsino is a passage on which one always loves to dwell. This charm and poetry were fully realised in the revival of the Shakespearean comedy at the Waldorf Theatre on the evening of the 26th ult. by Miss Julia Marlowe, whose sentimental, romantic girl had all the shrinking timidity that one would expect in the duel scene with the fatuous Sir Andrew Aguecheek. The reception accorded to the actress proclaimed the enjoyment felt by Shakespearean lovers in an impersonation at once so interesting and so thoroughly in accordance with the best traditions. Mr. Sothern's embodiment of Malvolio was as sound a rendering of the character as the critic's mind has had to cope withal. Olivia's steward is a somewhat complex character. Naturally a coxcomb, with a lofty contempt for the humour of the tankard, he has something of the complacent noodle, and is yet armed with a show of dignity on occasion, as when his persecution grows in violence. Mr. Sothern makes the Malvolio of the Garden scene an exquisitely conceited fool, but his Malvolio of the madhouse closely approaches the regions of pathos, and his indignant yet tempered protest when released from durance vile insensibly excites a sympathy which removes the character altogether from the realms of comedy. Mr. Sothern moves us to the heartiest laughter in the famous cross-gartered scene, and the reading, if a trifle too grave in parts, is informed by the spirit of true comedy.

A delightful surprise was the appearance of Miss Kate Phillips as Maria. No better choice could have been made for the serving maid to Olivia. Her laughter became infectious, and the audience, by their reception of the popular actress, were in evident agreement with Sir Toby when he pronounced Maria to be "an excellent wench i' faith." Mr. Rowland Buckstone did not underestimate the value of the bibulous pranks of Sir Toby, and played with a breadth and drollery that his distinguished father might have put into the character. In the Garden scene Sir Toby was exceedingly funny. The fatuousness of Sir Andrew Aguecheek was excellently simulated by Mr. Crawley; the Sebastian of Mr. Eric made an excellent double of Viola; Miss Kruger's Olivia was somewhat lacking in distinction; and Mr. Reicher was a robust and mellow-voiced Feste. The music of the songs was sung to a mandolin and guitar accompaniment, but there was nothing very special in the rendering.

On Monday, April 29,
Revival of Shakespeare's Comedy,
"AS YOU LIKE IT."

Duke	MR. MAWSON
Frederick	MR. REICHER
Amiens	MR. ASPLAND
Jaques	MR. CRAWLEY
Le Beau	MR. HOWSON
Charles	MR. ASPLAND
Oliver	MR. ERIC
Jacques	MR. HAMPDEN
Orlando	MR. LEWIS
Adam	MR. CROMPTON
Dennis	MR. KELLY
Touchstone	MR. VIBART
Sir Oliver Martext	MR. HOWSON
Corin	MR. REICHER
Sylvius	MR. ANDERSON
William	MR. BUCKSTONE
Rosalind	MISS MARLOWE
Celia	MISS LAMISON
Phebe	MISS CLEMENT
Audrey	MISS ALEXANDER

The revival of *As You Like It* at the Waldorf for two nights only was specially interesting, as it gave London playgoers an opportunity of seeing Miss Julia Marlowe in the character of one of the most popular of Shakespearean heroines. In the past a series of great actresses—among them Mrs. Pritchard, Peg Woffington, Mrs. Jordan, and Mrs. Siddons—played this favourite part, and distinguished modern actresses who have achieved success as Rosalind include Mrs. Kendal, Ada Cavendish, Adelaide Neilson, Mrs. Langtry, Rose Coghlan, Miss Litton, Ada Rehan, Julia Neilson, Dorothea Baird, and Lilian Braithwaite.

That such a highly accomplished actress as Miss Marlowe would present an interesting and attractive Rosalind could of course be taken for granted, and she did not disappoint her many admirers. Without attempting anything strikingly novel in her treatment of the character, Miss Marlowe succeeded in delighting the audience by a performance that was distinguished by many merits. It had in the first place the essentially feminine element of charm, added to which were those indispensable aids to success in such a part—high spirits, and a roguish enjoyment of the innocent deception which Rosalind practises on her lover. The scene where the supposed youth is overcome by the recital of Orlando's encounter with the lions and the sight of the blood-stained handkerchief proved one of the most effective of the evening, the sudden change from thoughtless gaiety to trepidation and faintness being depicted with all the skill and artistic finish of the experienced actress. Mr. Lewis was a youthful and handsome Orlando, and gave excellent support in the delightful forest scenes with Rosalind, bearing himself gallantly, and delivering his lines in good elocutionary style. Mr. Crawley did very well as Jaques; he played the part of the melancholy lord naturally, and was duly applauded for his delivery of the famous "Seven Ages" speech. Mr. Vibart as Touchstone showed a keen appreciation of its humorous points, with an occasional American intonation. Miss Lamison was a girlish and pleasing Celia; Miss Clement was well placed as Phebe; and Miss Alexander was a sufficiently awkward, uncouth Audrey. Adam was excellently embodied by Mr. Crompton; Mr. Mawson was a dignified Duke; Mr. Reicher successfully doubled the parts of Frederick and Corin; and Mr. Buckstone was an amusingly loutish William. Sylvius had a good exponent in Mr. Anderson; and other rôles were ably acted by Messrs. Aspland, Eric, Kelly, and Howson. Mr. Aspland, in the character of Amiens, sang in excellent style "Under the greenwood tree" and "Blow, blow, thou winter wind." The wrestling match between Le Beau and Charles in the first act was cleverly done. At the final fall of the curtain Miss Marlowe and Mr. Lewis were called in front of the curtain and loudly applauded. The Forest scenery was pretty, and the general production reflected credit upon the management.

On Wednesday, Revival of Shakespeare's Tragedy,
"HAMLET."

Claudius	MR. MAWSON
Hamlet	MR. SOTHERN
Polonius	MR. CROMPTON
Laertes	MR. ERIC
Horatio	MR. LEWIS
Osric	MR. HOWSON
Rosencrantz	MR. ANDERSON
Guildenstern	MR. TAYLOR
A Priest	MR. ROBERTSON
Marcellus	MR. ASPLAND
Bernardo	MR. KELLY
Francisco	MR. TOWER
Reynaldo	MR. TURNLEY
First Player	MR. REICHER
Second Player	MR. CRAWLEY
First Gravedigger	MR. BUCKSTONE
Second Gravedigger	MR. KAUFMAN
Ghost	MR. VIBART
Fortinbras	MR. NICHOLS
Gertrude	MISS KRUGER
Ophelia	MISS MARLOWE
Player Queen	MISS ALEXANDER

Another of Shakespeare's works was staged at the Waldorf on Wednesday evening, *Hamlet*, not only the most famous play in the English language, but the one which has been the subject of more critical comment both at home and abroad than any other of the great dramatic creations bearing his name. "The figure of Hamlet," aptly remarks an eminent critic, "as it shaped itself in Shakespeare's imagination and came to life in his drama, is one of the very few immortal figures of art and poetry, like Cervantes' Don Quixote, exactly its contemporary, and Goethe's Faust." All the leading English actors of tragedy have played Hamlet, and the character has been portrayed by them in accordance with their various readings of it. In the representation of the most popular rôle in the whole range of the drama much must of necessity depend upon the actual personality of the actor, and whether he is in any degree handicapped in the successful accomplishment of his difficult task by disabilities which are of a physical nature, and therefore beyond his control. In the case of Mr. Sothern, the American actor now in our midst happily possesses the advantages of a good figure and presence, added to which he has expressive features and a fine, resonant voice. Speaking generally, we are disposed to give Mr. Sothern every credit for a thoroughly sound embodiment of the Prince, that satisfies the critical judgment as a whole, while at the same time it never quite reaches the dividing line between stage-work of very high quality and actual inspiration. In other words, it is a careful, interesting, and sincere exhibition of the actor's art without that touch of real genius which renders the portrayal of such a part as Hamlet a truly great performance. Mr. Sothern does not indulge in new readings of the most notable passages, and introduces but little novelty in the ordinary business. The "To be or not to be" speech was delivered naturally, without any striving after effect, and this remark also applies to other well-known passages. The scene with the Queen Mother was given with much passion and feeling. Miss Julia Marlowe's impersonation of Ophelia was chiefly distinguished by its quiet but wholly effective pathos. The poor girl's madness was shown by many subtle indications, finishing with the wild laugh of the maniac as she rushes off. Mr. Crompton, in his admirable rendering of Polonius, carefully avoided exhibiting the senility with which some actors endow the character, and he spoke his lines with point and due effect. Mr. Lewis was seen to considerable advantage as Horatio; and Mr. Eric deserves commendation for his manly Laertes. Miss Kruger as the Queen distinguished herself in the closet scene with Hamlet, the poignancy of Gertrude's feelings being expressed by heartrending fits of weeping. The lines allotted to the Ghost were sonorously rendered by Mr. Vibart; and the humours of the First Gravedigger were done full justice to by Mr. Buckstone, ably supported by Mr. Kaufman as the Second Gravedigger. Rosencrantz and Guildenstern had satisfactory representatives in Mr. Anderson and Mr. Taylor; and Mr. Howson was well placed as Osric. Mr. Aspland as Marcellus, Mr. Kelly as Bernardo, and Mr. Tower as Francisco all rendered good service. Mr. Reicher as the First Player spoke his lines forcibly, and able work was done by Mr. Nichols as Fortinbras and Mr. Turnley as Reynaldo. Miss Alexander appeared as the Player Queen. The play was excellently staged.

Romeo and Juliet was revived on Thursday evening, and a large and enthusiastic audience was attracted to witness the performance of Shakespeare's tragic play. Naturally, the chief interest centred in the Romeo of Mr. Sothern and the Juliet of Miss Marlowe. Those who had seen the American actress in other famous Shakespearean heroines were fully prepared for an admirable rendering of Juliet; and Miss Marlowe more than fulfilled their expectations. She struck the right note from the very beginning, expressing with rare art the passion and fervour of real love, the growth thereof quickened by romantic surroundings. There were many charming imaginative touches, which showed how much earnest study had been bestowed on the character. In the love scenes in the balcony the actress gave unbounded delight by her natural, unaffected rendering of the lines in which Juliet expresses with such "simple honesty the first passion of love." In the scenes with the nurse she gave further evidence of an exquisitely feminine perception of the character; while in the death scene she thrilled the house by the tragic intensity of her acting. As Juliet's lover Mr. Sothern quite upheld his reputation as an actor who can always be depended upon to go far, no matter what character he may undertake. His Romeo was marked by many excellent qualities, prominent amongst these being his admirable delivery of the passionate pleading of the lover. Very powerful, too, was Mr. Sothern's acting in the last scene of the third act. Mr. Lewis's Mercutio was made very acceptable by reason of its freshness, and the earnestness and sincerity displayed throughout. Mr. Crompton scored as Friar Laurence, and as the Chorus spoke the prologue with fine effect. Mrs. E. H. Brooke was specially engaged for the part of the nurse, a part that she played in delightful style. Miss Kruger did well as Lady Capulet, Mr. Eric was a capable Tybalt, and Mr. Anderson gave a satisfactory account of Benvolio. Deserving of praise also was the Capulet of Mr. Mawson, and the Montague of Mr. Reicher; Mr. Vibart appearing as Escalus, Mr. Howson as Paris, and Miss Clement as Lady Montague.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR.

Your book will, I am sure, be a valuable aid to all managers and actors.—SIR HENRY IRVING.

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Mr. A. A. Strong has compiled an exceedingly useful volume dealing carefully, intelligently, and fully with the law bearing upon things theatrical. As a book of reference this excellent digest will be found invaluable.—*The Era.*

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

On Tuesday night the Covent Garden season of grand opera opened with *Das Rheingold*, the prologue to Wagner's great work, *Der Ring des Nibelungen*, and, in spite of the dismal weather, there was a splendid house; hardly a vacant seat was to be seen in the stalls, while the upper parts of the house were crowded. Dr. Hans Richter received a warm welcome on taking his place, and after the opening bars of the National Anthem, all lights were extinguished in the auditorium, and the curtain rose on the first performance of the season. Although *Das Rheingold* is the least popular number of the Ring, it is important as giving the key-note to the rest of the wonderful music-dramas, and it clearly shows how the thirst for gold is as fatal in its effect on gods as on man.

The highest power is given to him who shall forge a ring from the gold guarded by the Rhine maidens, but to do this he must renounce love and all pure ideals. Alberich, the ungainly dwarf, succeeds in doing so, and when it is wrested from him, curses the ring and its owner. This forms the chief motive in the story of the Ring. The performance of *Das Rheingold*, which was given without any interval on Tuesday night, was well up to the Covent Garden standard; many of the artists who sang in this work last season again greatly distinguished themselves. Herr C. Whitehill made a dignified Wotan and Herr Zador an entirely successful exponent of the dwarf, Alberich; while the weird characteristics of Mime were most skilfully undertaken by Herr Bechstein. Mme. Kirkby Lunn on this occasion sang the music of Fricka, and her beautiful voice was heard to great advantage. The part of Erda was successfully sung by Mme. Edna Thornton, and the three Rhine Maidens, Woglinde, Wellgunde, and Flosshilde, gracefully enacted by Mme. Agnes Nicholls, Fräulein Fiebiger, and Frau Tolli. Herr Stockhausen was an effective Donner, and Herr Jörn an entirely satisfactory Loge, while Herr Nietan, Herr Knüpfer, and Herr Raboth proved of great service in the parts of Froh, Fasolt, and Fafner. The scenic effects were capitally managed, and worked with great smoothness and certainty, and in the first scene—the bottom of the Rhine—the maidens gliding about as they guarded the gold and the strange plants growing in the bed of the river made up a picture that did the greatest credit to the stage-management at Covent Garden; and the fine orchestra, under the watchful care of Dr. Richter, deserved hearty praise. H.R.H. Princess Louise Duchess of Argyll sat in the Royal box, and among the host of distinguished visitors were Lady Charles Beresford, Lord and Lady Aberdare, Sir E. Hamilton, Sir Julius and Lady Wernher, Countess Fedora Gleichen, Countess of Derby, Lady Lister Kaye, Mr. Lionel de Rothschild, Lady Alexander Paget, and Lord Colebrooke.

Die Walküre, the second and most favourite portion of the Ring was given on Wednesday evening. The performance attracted a large audience, and was additionally honoured by the presence of their Royal Highnesses Princess Christian, Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein, and the Duke and Duchess of Connaught. The same plan was adopted as last season, the performance commencing at five in the afternoon, with a break of an hour and a half before the second act. From the opening scene in Hunding's dwelling, where the beautiful duet between Siegmund and Sieglinde occurs, while the dawn is breaking in the forest outside, until the passionate and dramatic close, the musical interest in *Die Walküre* never flags, and the performance on Wednesday under Dr. Richter was in many respects masterly. Herr Kraus, who appeared as Siegmund, has for some years been in Wagnerian rôles a favourite at Covent Garden. He has a powerful voice and clear enunciation, and if his singing in the dawn duet lacked somewhat of delicacy and charm, his impersonation of Siegmund on the whole deserved great praise. The Sieglinde of Mme. Fleischer Edel was charmingly sung and admirably acted; while the reappearance of Mme. Gulbranson, an artist of experience, lent additional attraction to the part of Brünnhilde. Herr Whitehill proved a dignified exponent of Wotan; and Herr Knüpfer greatly distinguished himself in the character of the uncouth Hunding. Mme. Kirkby-Lunn made the utmost out of the small part of Fricka; and it is interesting to note that no less than six English vocalists were in the cast, Miss Gleeson-White taking the part of Ortlinde, Mme. Agnes Nicholls that of Helmwige, while Mme. Edna Thornton, Miss G. Lonsdale, and Miss Maud Santley were responsible for the characters of Siegrune, Grimgerde, and Rossweisse. The scenery and stage effects were of that high standard to which the Syndicate have accustomed its patrons, while the performance all round of Wagner's masterly conception deserved great praise.

The first production in German in England of Mozart's *Bastien und Bastienne* was given on Thursday night, followed by the revival of Humperdinck's *Hänsel und Gretel*. Mozart's youthful work was first performed at the private theatre of Dr. Anton Meszaner, a rich citizen of Vienna, the libretto being an imitation of Mme. Favart's parody of Rousseau's "Devin du Village," and in the music Mozart preserves the simple pastoral character. It was produced in Paris in 1753, and became at once popular. The story is simple in the extreme. Bastienne, who is in danger of losing her lover, Bastien, seeks the aid of a fortune-teller, Colas, who informs her that Bastien is still true, but has been attracted by a fine lady, Bastien meanwhile wants to return to his old love, and after a time succeeds in making his peace with the heroine, and all ends happily.

Although Mozart's little one-act opera seemed somewhat lost on so large a stage, it was daintily mounted, and the pretty music skilfully sung, and when we consider that the work was composed by a boy of twelve years old, it is wonderful how well the music sounded. Fräulein Hempel made a charming Bastienne, and Herr Nietan acted and sang well in the part of Bastien; while Herr Zador imparted humour to the little part of Colas, the fortune-teller; the conductor's piano accompanied the recitatives, and the well-painted scene of a village made a pleasing setting for the little opera.

Humperdinck's delightful opera, *Hänsel und Gretel*, followed Mozart's work, and proved a most welcome revival; it was well acted and mounted, and the scenic effects in the second act admirably managed. Never before, perhaps, have the changes of scene in this opera been so silently done, with no more sound (as regards the audience) than a passing cloud, and it added greatly to that beautiful portion of the forest scene where the angels are seen descending and guarding the sleeping children, and amply deserved the hearty applause which followed. Fräulein Fiebiger and Fräulein Hempel acted and sang the parts of Hänsel and Gretel with great spirit, Fräulein Hempel singing Gretel's music with no little charm; while Herr Zador made a capital Peter, imparting considerable humour to the character of the jovial broom-maker. Frau Tolli appeared as the wife, and Frau Reinl made an excellent witch. Miss Hatchard and Mme. Edna Thornton both sang well in the parts of the Dewman and Sandman, and the Bellew and Stock Choir were heard to advantage in the forest scenes. Mr. Percy Pitt was the conductor of both operas, and much of the charming musical effects in the forest scene were due to his care and skill.

MME. JANE HADING and her entire Parisian company will give a flying matinée of *Frou-Frou* at the Grand Theatre, Nottingham, on Thursday, June 6.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

The final meeting with the Arbitrator was held on Thursday. It is anticipated that Mr. Asquith's award will be made in about a fortnight. The adjourned general meeting of the Variety Artists' Federation will be held at the Empire, Camberwell, on the first Sunday succeeding the publication of the award.

Messrs. Klaw and Erlanger, who opened their variety palace in Philadelphia on Monday, April 22, are threatened with a flank move on the part of Messrs. Keith, Proctor, and Williams, who promise them great opposition in the legitimate. Messrs. Klaw and Erlanger have combined with the Shuberts, who direct the Waldorf Theatre here.

"La Carmencita," a Spanish episode, adapted by Louis Cohen, with music by Herman Finck, will be produced by Mr. Sidney Watson for Miss Amy Augarde at the Oxford on Monday, May 13. The title-rôle should be particularly well suited to Miss Augarde's style.

Mr. Charles Wilson, who was for a number of years responsible for the scenarios and the staging of Alhambra ballets, and who for nearly a year has occupied a similar position with Mr. Oscar Hammerstein in New York, returned to London on Thursday. It is hoped that he may be induced to remain in England.

Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales and family were present at the Hippodrome on Tuesday afternoon. The Royal party were highly delighted at the intelligence displayed by De Gracia's elephants in their games of football and cricket. One of the pachyderms, either by chance or for the purpose, kicked one of the footballs into the box occupied by the Royal children, who quickly threw it out again. The balls only weigh two ounces, and are covered with silk.

Minstrelsy, it is understood, will be revived in London by the largest minstrel organisation in the States, which is to be brought over here by John W. Vogel, Mr. Robert Deeley being the manager. The Haverley Combination and the Mastodon Minstrels were famous predecessors of this aggregation, and from the former troupe the famous Bohee Brothers seceded and became a very popular turn in the eighties at the London Pavilion.

Mr. Albert Chevalier, we are given to understand, contemplates a London season in the autumn. If he can find a suitable theatre, he will possibly produce thereat a musical play from his pen, and revive *Pantaloon*, Mr. J. M. Barrie's piece, in which he scored such a triumph at the Duke of York's Theatre at its revival in June last year. He may also include *Atonement*, a one-act play from his pen recently produced.

The first of the Saturday musical matinées at the Palace, which were successfully instituted last year, will recommence next Saturday, the 11th inst., when the orchestra, under Mr. Hermann H. Finck, will render Offenbach's beautiful and impressive Barcarolle from *The Tales of Hoffman*, now being presented at the Adelphi nightly by Herr Gregor's company from Berlin. Mr. Finck's pot-pourri of "Musical Memories" will not, however, be discarded; but, on the other hand, will be brought thoroughly up to date.

Miss Edna May went to Tottenham on Monday with her fiancé, Mr. Oscar Lewisohn, to present the handsome trophy known as the Southern Charity Football Cup, with the accompanying medals, to the famous Spurs. Crowds turned out to pay homage to the belle of New York. Other "star" turns included George Robey and Fred Wright, jun., who played the onerous parts of linesmen with particular credit. The utmost good humour prevailed, and George Robey delighted the crowds with some amusing "gags."

The latest recruit to the variety stage is Miss Kitty Gordon, who has recently been playing the part of the Anarchist Countess in *Nelly Neil*. Released on Saturday night from the Aldwych, she was promptly snapped up by Mr. Frank Glenister for the London Pavilion, where she has scored greatly by her fine presence and admirable singing of that pretty trifle, "The cigarette song."

The production of *Sir Roger de Coverley*, the new Empire ballet, is now fixed for Tuesday evening next. It is interesting to note that this is the very first ballet from the pen of that accomplished writer, Adrian Ross, who did so much to add to the gaiety of London in *The Shop Girl* and *My Girl*. His collaborator in the music is Dr. Osmond Carr, a former artistic comrade. The ballet is designed and produced by Mr. C. Wilhelm, and the dances and actions are arranged by Mme. Katti Lanner. Lady Dolly will be played by Mlle. Adeline Genée; Captain Fancourt, her suitor, by Miss Dorothy Craske; Mr. Fred Farren will appear as the Hon. Tom Vallancy; and Mlle. Zanfretta will return to the Empire stage to impersonate Lady Vallancy, a widow. The character-part of Rube Lee, a gipsy, will be in the hands of Mr. P. Sundberg. The period will be that of Queen Anne, and the three scenes into which the production is divided have been painted by Messrs. R. McCleery and J. Harker.

Mr. Charles Urban, with a large staff of assistants, on Friday cinematographed the whole of the impressive naval demonstration given at Portsmouth before the Colonial Premiers and members of both Houses of Parliament, and the complete series of animated scenes, including the "rushing" of Whale Island by a naval brigade, the manœuvres of the submarines, the torpedo attack on the Dreadnought, and the inspection of that mighty battleship by our visitors, will be seen at the Alhambra on Monday.

Mr. Wilkie Bard earned 25s. a week a dozen years ago as a clerk. Now he is the star turn in every programme in which his name appears, and tops the bill at the Hackney Empire next week. He "took to the profession" with a line of "talking songs, quite an idea of his own, and his first real engagement was at Morecambe, where a Yorkshire landlord engaged him for his free-and-easy concerts for a month at the rate of 30s. per week; but he was paid off first night with the words:—"Here, lad, is two half croons for tha'. Noo push off." And this being at a time when there were no contracts, the now famous Wilkie Bard pushed off.

As all the variety world knows, Mr. Bard is married to Miss Nellie Stratton. On one occasion the talented couple were engaged to play in a theatre where a variety entertainment was sandwiched between the acts of a drama. This is how the management billed his goods:—

"Rogues and Vagabonds."

Wilkie Bard and Nellie Stratton.

The latest quotations of music hall shares are as follow:—Alhambra, 1½; Canterbury, ½; Empire 12s. paid) 1½, ditto (10s. paid) 1⅜; London Pavilion Ordinary 4½, ditto Preferred 5; London Coliseum, ½; Metropolitan, ½; Moss' Empire 4½, ditto 5 per cent. Preferred 4½; Oxford, 6½; Palace, 12s.; Tivoli, 5½; and Variety Consolidated Theatres, 12s. 6d.

Miss Lelia Rozz, who should have been appearing at the Pavilion, Glasgow, this week, has had to stay in Edinburgh, being indisposed.

The Palace-by-the-Sea, Clacton, opens on the 20th inst. with a first-class variety company, booked by Mr. David Hart, who is sole agent for this well-appointed place of amusement. Mr. Hart has had some noted artists call on him at Overcliffe, Gravesend, during the week to fix up dates.

The Licensing Committee sitting at Chelmsford confirmed the licence granted to the Palace-by-the-Sea, Ltd., Clacton, but readjusted the monopoly value. The Justices had fixed this at £1500, to be paid in fifteen yearly instalments of £100; but the confirming committee arranged for £75 to be paid yearly so long as the licence is used.

Whitsuntide will see an addition to the Scarborough Aquarium in the shape of a new theatre with a holding capacity of 1,000. Cantilevers holding up a spacious balcony will do away with obstructive pillars; and electric lighting, tasteful decorations, and tip-up seats in the pit and stalls will add to the comfort and elegance of the place, in which it is intended to have musical comedy, comic opera, and high-class variety.

The proprietors of the Manchester music-halls were invited to meet the Watch Committee on Monday, and were asked to consider the advisability of discontinuing living statuary. With two exceptions, the proprietors agreed to discontinue the exhibitions. The chairman of the committee intimated in regard to the exceptions that the committee was not prepared to sanction the continuance of such performances.

The versatile and deservedly popular Mr. Thornley Dodge, who for the nonce is on tour with the Zancigs, met with a particularly warm reception on Wednesday last, when the company gave a flying matinée at the Grand Theatre, Blackpool. Mr. Dodge's contributions to the programme consisted of songs and lightning-sketching, although he made his reputation in the Brighton of the North as coach and producer to the local operatic society.

Preparations are being made towards the erection of the new variety theatre in Lodge-lane, Liverpool, which is to be called the Pavilion, a name that has never before been used in the town. The demolition of the property on the site will be commenced very shortly. Messrs. Broadhead, of Manchester, hope to erect a handsome structure that will be a credit to the city, and the inhabitants and shopkeepers of the district hail the scheme with the warmest approval, an attitude that is in direct contrast to that shown by some religious fanatics, who exhibited a bitter feeling against the proposal when it was before the magisterial bench.

No words can describe that opposition, which, coming from alleged Christians, was of the most un-Christianlike character. Even the parish magazine published by one of the churches, in referring to the death of Mr. Broadhead, went so far as to assure its readers that the sad event "was a message from God to those who were agitating for the music hall"! These words, read out in Court, caused an expression of disgust to pass over the faces of the magistrates. The "Christians" defeated their own efforts by such shameful conduct.

In contradistinction to such bigotry, the words of the Rev. D. B. Kitterminster, chaplain of the reformatory ship Akbar, which is stationed in the Mersey, spoken last week at a conference between clergymen and teachers, are worthy of note. That gentleman, who knows something about the upbringing of youths, said he protested against any wholesale condemnation of the music halls, because he believed they provided a wholesome, clean entertainment. His conclusion was that the influence of betting and gambling was wholly bad, degrading, and character-destroying, but that of the music hall not necessarily so. They need not look upon the music hall as found in Liverpool as antagonistic to their work, but betting and gambling were emphatically so.

A new company, under the name of Hippodrome (Sheffield), Limited, has just been registered with a capital of £20,000 in £1 shares to acquire property for the erection of a new music hall in Barker's Pool or Cambridge-street. The subscribers to the company, the registered office of which is Grainger-street West, Newcastle-on-Tyne, are:—Thomas Barrasford, 11, Leicester-place, London, theatre proprietor, one share; William Sley, 41, Oxford-street, Manchester, theatre proprietor, one share; A. L. P. Belleville, Raikes-parade, Blackpool, managing-director, one share; J. R. Hall, 8, Grainger-street West, Newcastle-on-Tyne, solicitor, one share; J. Willmot, Ash Villa, Deane-road, Liverpool, music hall director, one share; Edna J. K. Savage, 101, Earlham-grove, Forest Gate, music hall proprietor, one share; and A. L. Taylor, 116, Whitehall-road, Gateshead, clerk, one share.

During the recent cold weather hot dinners have been given on the stage of the Palace, West Hartlepool, to about 4,000 poor children. Mr. Macnaghten and his popular manager, Mr. Julius Simpson, inaugurated the scheme and set it afoot by supplying the first 300 dinners. The local tradespeople were not long in bringing up the number to the figure stated.

Mr. Julius Simpson was recently the recipient of a handsome 18ct. gold hunter watch with monogram and inscription. The presentation was made by Councillor Boanson at a smoker held in the Grand Hotel, when about 150 guests, presided over by Guardian R. W. Simpson, testified in many kindly speeches to their appreciation of his good work.

The Hants County Licensing Committee at Winchester on Tuesday, Mr. R. A. Bayford, K.C., presiding, considered an application made by Mr. Percy St. Gerrans on behalf of Mr. Clarence Sounes and others, for a provisional ale-house licence for the Hippodrome which he proposed to erect at the corner of Birchett and Station-roads, Aldershot. The licence, which was the subject of confirmation, had been conditionally granted by the Aldershot magistrates.

Mr. Clarence Sounes said the estimated cost of the Hippodrome was about £10,000, and it was proposed to have only one bar in each part of the house. As a matter of fact more non-intoxicants would be sold than intoxicating liquors. He did not look upon that as a means of revenue. The dividend he hoped to obtain was by the money paid for admission. Replying to the Chairman, he said a music hall could not be carried on successfully in a place like Aldershot without a licence. If the licence were not confirmed he would not build the Hippodrome. He put the monopoly value at £25 per annum.

Mr. F. W. King said the monopoly value would be worth £2,000, and any brewer would be glad to pay £100 a year for it. The Committee decided not to confirm the licence.

Miss Florence Elliott and Chicklets have been presenting with conspicuous success this week their vocal, comedy, and dancing act at the Duchess, Balham, and Mr. Walter Gibbons is fortunate in having secured them for his circuit.

Mr. J. L. Graydon has resigned his position on the board of the Brighton Alhambra, Ltd., after having sat as a chairman and director since the formation of the company in 1893. The company will retain the advantage of the contracts made with artists by the popular proprietor of the Middlesex.

Mr. David Day paid a flying visit a few days since to Falmouth, and was agreeably surprised to find the good progress made by his partner, Mr. William Francis, towards health. Grave fears were at one time entertained as to his recovery, but he is fast recuperating, and is now able to partake of solid food.

The services of Miss Louie Freear have been secured by Mr. Donald Arthur for a nine weeks' concert tour, or rather for a series of flying matinées and performances at towns on the South Coast. At these performances Miss Freear will present her quaint characters and irresistibly funny songs. The droll little comedienne has proved quite a mascot to more than one theatre, notably the Royalty, Duke of York's, and the Strand, and it is to be hoped that her proverbial good fortune will follow her during this tour.

The Benevolent Fund dinner is tentatively fixed for Sunday, June 9, at the Trocadero. It is understood that the chairman will be a popular music-hall artist. This does not establish a precedent, as Mr. Arthur Roberts, whose appeal secured the record sum of £1,000, presided in the early days of the Fund. The late Mr. Dan Leno also took the chair a few years ago, with his friend Herbert Campbell in the vice-chair; but unfortunately the popular comedian was not so well backed up by the profession as he should have been.

Owing to indisposition, Little Tich was unable to appear at the Empress, Brixton, this week, but the audience had an excellent deputy in Miss Daisy James, who was repeatedly recalled for her singing of "Melinda." Miss Daisy opens in New York on June 3 at a very large salary.

Miss Marie Lloyd has just accepted from Messrs. John P. Harrington and Jas. W. Tate two new songs, entitled "As they come" and "Washing day," which she now has in active study, with a view to production in the near future. The same author and composer's "Customs of the country" is going strong at Bath this week, in the hands of the gifted "queen of comedy."

Miss Edith Cruikshanks, who is winning golden opinions by her performance of Mrs. St. Ozier, at Sheffield this week, in *The King's Minister*, has been specially engaged by Mr. John Lawson to create the part of Mrs. Norman in his production of *The Unwritten Law* on Monday at the Holborn Empire.

The verdict of the special jury in the action for libel brought by Archdeacon Thomas Colley, of Stockton Rectory, Rugby, against Mr. J. W. Maskelyne, the famous illusionist, of St. George's Hall, was in favour of the plaintiff. On Tuesday, when they had arrived at their verdict, the jury handed in the written questions given to them by Mr. Justice Jelf, the judge trying the action, with the answers arrived at. These were read by his lordship, and were as follows:—(1) Are the words complained of libellous?—Yes; (2) Are they true?—No; (3) What damages do you find?—£75; (4) Is Mr. Maskelyne entitled to the £1000?—No. Mr. Ralph Bankes asked for judgment for the plaintiff with costs, to which his lordship immediately assented.

Mr. George Lashwood's Dublin admirers so highly appreciated his kindness in taking part on the evening of the 25th ult. in the successful concert, held in the Round Room, Rotunda, in aid of the improvement fund of St. Patrick's Church, Ringsend, that they presented him with a solid silver cigar case. Mr. Thomas Doran, who made the presentation, said the necessary subscriptions were contributed individually by Mr. Lashwood's friends He sincerely thanked that gentleman for his great kindness.

Mr. Lashwood, in reply, stated all he could say was, that if ever it was considered necessary for him to do so, he would travel 100 miles to do the same thing over again. The cigar case would be always a pleasing reminiscence of dear old Dublin.

Mr. Leo Fritz, the variety agent, wishes it to be known that in future the telegraphic and cable address of his agency will be "Evelyncia: London."

The attractive programmes at the Bristol Empire during the past twelve months have brought their own reward to Mr. B. Pearce Lucas in the shape of well-filled houses, and it was hardly necessary to announce "extra turns" to attract large attendances to the anniversary on the 26th ult. It is interesting to recall that on the opening performance, in November, 1893, the programme included Little Tich (who was appearing for the night only), the McNaughtons, Carrie Stewart, and Lotto, Lilo, and Otto. The programme this week is an interesting one, and John Humphries, Miss Clarice Mayne, and Burt Sheppard have seldom been better appreciated. The lengthy programme, as may be imagined, took some time to go through, and it was close upon midnight when the second performance concluded.

Miss Lottie Bray will produce an entirely new scena, entitled *Summer and Winter*, at Collins's on Monday next.

"When the Clock Went Wrong" is the title of a funny sketch that was "spotted" by the ever-alert Will Oliver in last November, and through his commendation it was very soon secured for the Moss and Stoll circuit. The sketch, which has for subsidiary title, "The Tale of a New-Laid Egg," is written by Mr. E. C. Matthews, and it is played admirably by Matthews and Cooper.

The usual monthly meeting of the committee of the Music Hall Sick Fund will be held at the York Hotel, York-road, on Wednesday next, at 2 p.m.

Mr. Arthur Royce on his return to town will produce at the Granville, Walham Green, an entirely new and original musical comedy monologue at the piano, entitled "A Motor-Car Honeymoon," which has been written for him by Mr. Henry Carlton.

A most original "turn" at the Palace is Will Rogers, the Cowboy Lassoist. He is another Mr. Stubbins, of Cabbage Patch fame. "There is my show," says he in eloquent gesture; "what do you think of it?" Owing to the fact that his horses and assistants did not arrive in London from America in time for the opening, Will elected to "breeze on" (to quote his own expression) and give an exhibition with an array of ropes. He lassoed the stage manager's messenger, he lassoed himself, he made knots in the air with a swing of the arm that would take two hands some hours to untie, but, above all, he circled and circled a rope one hundred yards in length until it became one huge ring stretching over the stage.

All Masonic members of the profession who belong to the Chelsea Lodge will be glad to hear that the charter for their chapter has been granted by Grand Lodge.

"The Unwritten Law," Mr. John Lawson's new episode, will be produced on Monday at the Holborn Empire. The mounting will be carried out with Mr. Lawson's usual thoroughness, several novel scenic effects having been designed by Mr. Francis Bull.

The many friends of Mr. Henry W. Garrick, who has controlled the Press department of the Hippodrome since the opening of the fine house in Cranbourn-street in January, 1900, is about to sever his connection therefrom. His departure will be hailed with a chorus of regret from his confrères on the staff and the numerous newspaper representatives with whom he has had such amicable relations. His position is to be filled by Mr. Will Bennet, late the director of the Press bureau at the Coliseum—another very popular man.

Miss Julie Mackey's appeal, in which she sought to establish her right to sing the song "Under the bamboo tree," was resumed on the 26th ult., when Mr. R. J. Willis intimated that Mr. Edwardes had no intention of interfering further with Miss Mackay singing the song, and was willing to give an undertaking to that effect. This undertaking was accepted by Mr. Crawford, on behalf of the popular artist, and the appeal was therefore dismissed.

Miss Jessie Preston must feel flattered at her great reception each night at the Paragon, where on Wednesday night (May 1), her birthday, she was highly gratified at receiving a large horseshoe of lovely flowers with a card on which was written: "To our Jessie. With many happy returns from the Girls." The popular lady long since endeared herself to the hearts of the East-Enders by her unobtrusive charity, and that she still has a warm place in their affections is proved by this pretty tribute.

Dr. Walford Bodie finished on Saturday a most successful two weeks' stay at the Grand Theatre, Brighton, where he has been performing to record business. During his stay in Brighton the doctor has treated over 300 cases of paralysis, all of them having been discharged as hopeless and incurable from the local hospitals. The doctor, after showing many of his cures, and successfully treating several fresh cases, was simply inundated with bouquets of flowers, the stage resembling a garden. This week he is playing to packed houses at the Grand Theatre, Luton, and opens Monday next at the Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield.

Mr. George Leyton, who has been doing so remarkably well with Messrs. John P. Harrington and Jas. W. Tate's scena, *The Wreck of the Birkenhead*, has this week accepted from the same author and composer a new and original dramatic sketch, in two scenes, of a military nature, which will be specially produced at one of the Stoll halls in Manchester on May 27, and will later be seen in London at a leading West End establishment.

Mrs. John Lawson and company can congratulate themselves on the business they have done this week at the Canterbury and Euston. There is no mistaking the vitality of *The Devil's Sunday*, the most successful sketch of the year. Mrs. Lawson's reading of the difficult part of Fay Faber is as finished as ever, and, judging by the reception given to this clever lady at the above-mentioned halls, it is evident the public endorse this opinion.

Mr. W. Selkirk has accepted from Messrs. John P. Harrington and Jas. W. Tate a new and specially-written dramatic spectacle, in two scenes, entitled *Egypt*, which will have a special production at the Empire, Sheffield, on May 13, and will be represented by four principals and a host of auxiliaries, afterwards going on an extended tour of the Stoll Empires.

The Stavordale Quintette, who have been on tour in the provinces since last August, return to London next week to open on the Gibbons' circuit. This unique and clever quintette have been topping the bills everywhere and making a great name for themselves, with the result that foreign managers and agents are now on their track.

Roma and Romani, whose refined musical act is being received with great enthusiasm everywhere, are the happy possessors of date books with two or three returns at almost every hall of note in the kingdom. Spot Oliver is responsible for this state of affairs.

Mariedl, the giantess, has become a great favourite with many distinguished, if youthful, people who have visited the London Hippodrome since Easter. In consequence, Mr. Louis Weirter, R.B.A., has been specially commissioned by an eminent personage to paint her portrait in oils. The picture, it is understood, will be presented to Mariedl prior to her departure from the Hippodrome in two weeks' time.

Mr. Geo. Manners, the brother of the celebrated operatic singer, Charles Manners, has been appointed manager of the Glasgow Empire, Sauchiehall-street. Like his brother, George had an inclination towards things martial in his youthful days, and at the age of twenty entered the Army. After five years' service, mostly spent abroad, his already successful brother persuaded him to enter the theatrical world. John L. Shine gave George his first "shop" as front of the house manager with his *Don Juan* company. He then joined the staff of the Empire Theatre during the run there of *The Lady of the Locket*, in which Mr. Hayden Coffin made his first professional début.

Next Mr. Manners went on tour with *The Beggar Student*, *Dorothy*, and *The Red Hussar*, extending over a period of five years. His brother then placed him in charge of a répertoire operatic company, which toured right through South Africa, just concluding before the outbreak of the war. After a short season at the Lyric Mr. Geo. Manners was appointed assistant-manager at the Palace Theatre. On the death of Mr. Charles Morton he joined Miss Ethel Irving's company in *What Pamela Wanted*, and stayed with it during its run at the Criterion. Since then he has been indulging in land speculation.

In reference to the case of Sam De Voy's widow, Mr. Will Oliver writes:—"Two amounts were left out of my last week's list of subscriptions: Ernest De Vere, 5s.; A Lady Sympathiser, 2s. 6d. The fund will close to-day (Saturday), as in spite of your kindness in giving such publicity to the case and my earnest appeal, the profession generally have turned a deaf ear, with the exception of Harry Clifford, who gave 5s., and Mr. Joe Elvin, who, I believe, paid all funeral expenses. I thank you and those who subscribed."

"Araminta's Lovers" is the title of Mr. Walter Graham's latest scena for his human marionette theatre. It made an instantaneous hit at Olympia, Liverpool, at its recent production there, and when Mr. Graham returns in a few weeks' time to the London Pavilion, where he is such a favourite, it will form the chief item in his répertoire. Araminta is played by Miss Mollie Seymour, but the characters of the policeman, the soldier, and the fireman are all impersonated by Mr. Graham himself. The words and music are by Mr. Arthur Thomas, the musical clown.

Mr. Albert Toft, whose statue of "Spring" ornaments the Birmingham Art Gallery, is to direct a series of living statuary representations at the Hippodrome on Monday, May 13. The well-known A.R.A., who gained a National Scholarship at the Newcastle-under-Lyme School of Art at the age of 17, will present in a very novel fashion replicas from works in the British Walhalla—Westminster Abbey, and the show will therefore be of great national interest. The necessary introductory matter is being written by Mr. Fred Bowyer.

"A Country Flirtation," with its pretty farmyard and waving cornfield, realises the rustic romance of Lubin and Phyllis, and its popularity, therefore, when played by such accomplished people as the Prinellas, may be readily guessed.

The comedy duologue, *How to Hypnotise*, which is an amusing skit on the second-sight craze, was most successfully presented at the Duchess, Balham, on Wednesday, by Miss Kate Randolph, who was well supported by Hyland Shea. The skit is from the pen of E. C. Matthews.

The Netherlands have just returned from a thirty-six weeks' tour in the States, where their success was so great that they worked four return dates and ten weeks in New York. Their act was featured on the Empire Circuit, and they have nothing but good to say of their treatment on the other side.

Mr. Harry Dacre, the author of "Daisy," the heroine of "The bicycle made for two," added much to the musical delights of the nation when he wrote such favourites as "As your hair grows whiter," "The Lads in Navy Blue," "I can't think ob nuthin' else but you, Lulu," "Could we recall," "I'll be your sweetheart," "I want to see the old home again," "Good-bye, Mignonette," "While London's fast asleep," and these are still being sold in scores of thousands every year.

The pirates, however, got hold of them, and their author was so much disgusted by the unchecked depredations of these gentry that he determined not to write any more. The dawn of his emancipation from such a vow came with the passing of Mr. T. P. O'Connor's Copyright Bill, and since then Mr. Dacre has been busy.

That he is again in sympathy with the trend of modern science is shown by his latest number, "We're all going to fly," which, of course, refers to the latest invention for utilising air currents for locomotion—namely, "The Aeroplane."

Though Mr. Dacre lays no claim to the divine afflatus, he is morally certain that were he to sit down with the deliberate intention of writing a taking melody he would fail ignominiously. Sometimes both words and music strike him simultaneously, but more frequently a happy phrase is hit upon, and the words are dovetailed afterwards.

Though not a lover of night work, he confesses that some of his best ideas have come to him between the hours of 2 and 4 a.m. He adheres to the popular class of song, because he appreciates the pecuniary results that accrue from lightly titillating the palate of the greater public. In "We're all going to fly" he considers he has a melody nearly as rollicking as "The man that broke the bank at Monte Carlo," sung by Charles Coborn in the old Oxford days.

Miss Margaret Ashton, who at the Standard last week filled the place of Miss Ella Shields, has this week been singing at the Coliseum, Glasgow, meeting with an enthusiastic reception. Both the new songs and French costumes of the popular American soprano are greatly admired.

Mr. Augustine Birrell, the Chief Secretary for Ireland, approves of variety entertainments. At a recent dinner given to him by the Bradford Liberal Association he said, so far as concerned the acting parts of the entertainments at music halls, such as were to be found in London, he was sure the people would find in them more education than sitting boozing in the public-house. This assertion savours of antiquated ideas, and is not highly complimentary to the modern artistic aspirations of the halls; but, coming from a former Minister of Education, it is something.

Among the novelties to be presented at the Empire on Monday will be the Le Pages, from America, who will appear in their sensational jumping act; and Mme. Graziella, with her troupe of performing birds. A second series of pictures will also be added to the Biograph, depicting the motor-racing track at Brooklands, Weybridge. These pictures, which are excellent in their completeness, will give motorists some idea of the enormous advance made in the work at Brooklands and the vast extent of this fine track.

"Medley" Barrett, who is already located at Whitley Bay preparing for the delectation of visitors, has this week published with Messrs. Francis and Day his song, "Home-made hunting," which has been secured for seaside purposes by many prominent entertainers, as it lends itself to much amusing business for "omnes."

The 509th meeting of the Executive Committee of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association was held on Wednesday afternoon, when the following were present:—Messrs. J. W. Cragg (Hon. Trustee), Douglas White (Hon. Treasurer), Jeff Vendome, Harry Blake, Fred Harrison, Harry Wright, Pat Carey, and C. Douglas Stuart (Secretary). Mr. Cragg presided. Questions of refunds and insurances having been dealt with, Mr. William Warren, of the North-Western Hotel, Northampton, was appointed as agent in that town. Mr. Macarthy, accountant, read the financial statement from Oct. 1 to April 30, which showed that the funds in hand were as follows:—Reserve fund, £522 6s. 6d.; deposit account, £150; petty cash, £20; and current account, £315 0s. 6d., making a total of £1,007 7s.

John Guest, the composer of "Only a face at the window," a song-melody that appealed strongly to Sims Reeves, who brought it into popularity forty years ago, recently died at an advanced age. He had hereditary gifts, derived from his ancestors, Ralph Guest and George Guest, both of them organists, a profession that John followed, though he commenced life as a stationer. The song mentioned was sung in a number of melodramas by Mme. Celeste, Mrs. Keeley, and Mrs. Stirling.

The Clapham Assembly Rooms, Gauden-road, have at last obtained a licence from the L.C.C. for music and dancing. The hall has a seating capacity of 340, an dit is situated in a most advantageous position opposite three railway stations. In order to give the new venture a start, the proprietors are making a sporting offer to artists to run a hall of their own without any risks or expense whatever.

On several occasions reference has been made in these columns to the Paris Music Hall Trust, of which M. Ruez is the head. He had the Folies-Bergère at a yearly rental of £4080, and the Olympia for £6000 a year. Moreover, he had to pay MM. Isola £18 per day for the Folies-Bergère, and £6 per day for Olympia. The contracts M. Ruez made with MM. Isola and with M. Dumien were not to his advantage, and he has not been able to keep his engagements. MM. Isola have applied to one of the Paris civil courts for an order of ejection. This order has been granted, but cannot be put into force before June 11, so as to give M. Ruez time to "turn round."

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

HARRY DACRE is receiving letters and wires from all parts of the United Kingdom to the effect that his new song, "Mending nets for father," is one of the greatest hits he has ever written. Mr. Dacre has now completed all the songs he is likely to issue this season. They range from pathetic to gay. "The prayer at mother's knee" should be secured by every singer who sang his "As your hair grows whiter." Some enthusiastic vocalists write to say that the new song goes even better than the old, but Mr. Dacre will be quite satisfied if it reaches the same high water-mark of success.

THE most elaborate preparations are already in progress—much to the satisfaction of certain sections of the printing profession—for the successful issue on June 17 to the expectant music trade of the enormous first editions already ordered of Messrs. Francis and Day's Twenty-Sixth Song Annual and Twenty-Sixth Dance Album. Each volume will consist of seventy-two pages of well-printed music, and the contents of the books conclusively prove them to be the "last word in 1907" for astounding value.

THE twenty-sixth Song Annual will comprise the following popular numbers: "We parted on the shore," "The king of the house is baby," "Mr. Tootle," "Tiddley-om-pom," "Let me sing," "I can see red roses blooming," "At a minute to seven last night," "Home again, my cherry blossom," "Billy Muggins," "The rose of my heart," "The galloping major," "Good-night, Mr. Brown, I'm out," "Would you mind passing the salt?" "Hello, old man!" "There's a man in Manitoba," "Boy blue," "Leave her alone with them," "When love comes knocking at the door," "The song without a name," "You'll get on in England," "Keep on doing it, Sandy!" "The preacher and the bear," "In the Hielans," duet (as sung in *The New Aladdin* at the Gaiety Theatre), and "For King and Sireland" (the new Imperial anthem).

THE contents of the Dance Album will include "Record" and "Catch of the Season," lancers; "Old Belfry," "Mascarade," and "Rose of my heart," waltzes; "King Pantomime," quadrilles; Veleta-circle, a new waltz dance; "Her Royal Highness," waltz-cotillon; "Imperial," new round dance; "Devotion," valse lente; "Waiting at the church," barn dance; and "Different girl again," medley two-step. As in former years, the foregoing pieces have been composed or arranged by such past masters of melody as Warwick Williams, Karl Kaps, Bernard Phelps, J. Powell, H. Hucke, Theo. Ward, Harry Wood, Arthur Morris, and H. E. Pether.

BERT H. DELMAR'S song, "Iona," with a most melodious refrain, is in great demand for the seaside. The number is published by Price and Reynolds, 41, Berners-street, W., and copies can be had from them or from Mr. Delmar.

MR. HERBERT SHELLEY has collaborated with that well-known musician Mr. Ernest Bucalossi in a fine song, entitled "Mona May," which has been included by Mr. Dennis Drew in his successful military scena, *Back to Barracks*, which now embraces a trio of the finest marching songs of the time. The new numbers, and likewise Kenneth Lyle's "Beat of the drum" and Leslie Stiles' "Come and be a soldier," are all published by Messrs. Francis and Day, the latter two being also included in the "Sixpenny Pops."

MR. ARTHUR LENNARD has secured from Harry Adams and Ernée Woodville a song of the greatest promise, entitled "Number Nine (Love Dove lane)." It was written and composed on Wednesday of last week, snapped up by the popular singer the same day, and accepted for publication by Mr. David Day's firm the day following. It was rehearsed at the Camberwell Palace on Monday.

AMONG other songs just acquired and shortly to be issued by Messrs. Francis and Day are two, by George Arthurs and C. W. Murphy, entitled respectively "Firelight" and "The wedding in the jungle," and "Don't let it go any farther," by E. A. Searson and Will Edwards, who is, as may be guessed, the singer of the ditty.

THE Monte Carlo Publishing Co. are issuing a limited number of music hall permissions for their song, sung by Mr. George Lashwood, entitled "Georgie from Georgia," by Pelham, McGhee, and Rule; and are also making a speciality of the same song for pierrot work during the forthcoming season.

THE same company are this week issuing four new numbers, viz: "Ain't you goin' to let me say 'Good-bye'?" by Paul Knox, sung by Miss Daisy Mayer; "Won't you drop me just one line?" by Barnes and Weston, sung by Miss Rosie Lloyd; "Kitty Brady," by J. F. Lambe, sung by Miss Madge Temple; and the new *valse lente*, by Julian W. Kandt, "Toujours à Toi," which will be extensively played by seaside and society orchestras during the coming season.

MR. FELIX MCGLENNON'S vocal gem, "Wait for me, Fritzy dear," is being eagerly snapped up by all the leading pierrot troupes, and during the past few weeks the publishers—the Monte Carlo Publishing Co.—have been simply inundated with demands for permission to sing it. Only a limited number of music hall permissions will, however, be granted. Miss José Collins will specially feature the number at the London Pavilion, and Miss Rosie Bartlett in the provinces, on the Barrasford tour.

MISS VESTA TILLEY produced at Manchester this week a new song, entitled "When the right girl comes along," by Worton David and Kenneth Lyle, which proved an instantaneous hit. The Shapiro, Von Tilzer Co. have secured the publishing rights.

MISS MAUD ESMOND is scoring heavily with a capital little song, "I'd like to call you Sweetheart," written by Milwood and Jerome, and the melody by a very promising new Australian composer, Joe Slater. The Shapiro, Von Tilzer Co. are the publishers.

THE Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Co., Ltd., have secured the publishing rights of Miss Daisy Dormer's latest success, "Can't you take the baby over there with you?" which is from the pen of Charles Collins and Harry Castling. This looks like being one of the winners of the year.

MR. BILLY WILLIAMS on Thursday evening, at the Granville, Walham Green, and the Star, Bermondsey, introduced with considerable success a new chorus song, by Hyde and Heath, entitled "The taximeter car." His other new song, by Castling and Godfrey, "Poor old England isn't in the picture," is already a favourite, and has been published by Messrs. Francis and Day.

MISS DAISY MORELL, in a new line of business, has been scoring in Glasgow with some big numbers from the pens of Alfred Glover and John Glover. Mr. E. H. Bostock secured her for a special week at Kilmarnock, and on Monday she opens at the Palace, Dundee.

CHAT WITH MR. NELSON FRANCIS

What a thin line it is that divides the Church, as a profession, from the Stage! How often does one hear of an actor who was "originally intended for the church," and how many budding actors, at the eleventh hour, when the choice of a life's calling has to be decided, and can no longer be delayed, having cast their lot for Holy Orders?

Mr. Nelson Francis, the able and popular manager of the Empress Theatre, Brixton, is one of those who relinquished a theological training to take up stage work. And as Mr. Francis's action in this respect has been justified by success we may presume that his early decision was the best and wisest under the circumstances. He has been associated with the Empress, Brixton, since the day it was opened, when he was engaged as secretary and treasurer to Mr. E. V. Page, whom three years ago he succeeded as manager. Mr. Francis early in life gave evidence of much aptitude for mathematics, and takes a keen interest in the commercial aspect of theatrical affairs. He will be long remembered for the successful way in which he organised and managed the concert entertainments known as the Pilgrims, among which troupe were the late Charles Godfrey, George Beauchamp, Tom Costello, and other celebrities. His pianist then was Mr. Willie Benn, who now has charge of Park's Eton Boys.

One of Mr. Francis's daughters, Miss Maudie Francis, is an accomplished comedienne and dancer. She has been appearing at Mr. Walter Gibbons's hall, and is now going the round of Mr. George Adney Payne's circuit. Last year she had a great success at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin, as Dolly in the pantomime *Cinderella*, and was to be seen at the Grand Theatre, Glasgow, as Tommy Tucker in *The House that Jack Built*. A younger daughter of Mr. Francis—Gladys—whose forte is low comedy, gives promise of great things in the future.

Mr. Francis was born in Woolwich, 1850, and was educated at King William's College, Isle of Man, where he obtained first prize for mathematics. He made good use of his education, for he was in one well-known banking firm for upwards of twenty-four years. If you want to know something about the professional and amateur boxers of the past thirty years, get into conversation with Mr. Francis, for he is an authority on all matters pugilistic. He will tell you all about the old Charlton fairs, near his birthplace, when he used to put the mittens on with all comers in the booths, take on the soldiers who fancied themselves a bit, and he has on many occasions had a round or two with Jerry Hawks, Jack Hartley, and other well-known pro.'s, always coming out well. He used to be a regular sparrer at Jemmy Welsh's house, The Marquis of Granby, in the New Cut, and Billy Richardson's, The Blue Anchor, Shoreditch. In 1871 and 1872 he won the amateur feather-weight 9st. championship, promoted by the City Gymnastic Club, beating in the final C. T. Hobbs, the Queensberry 10st. champion, that weight being the lowest allowed by that society. Francis was also a member of the West London Boxing Club when Jack Angle, Tom Anderson,

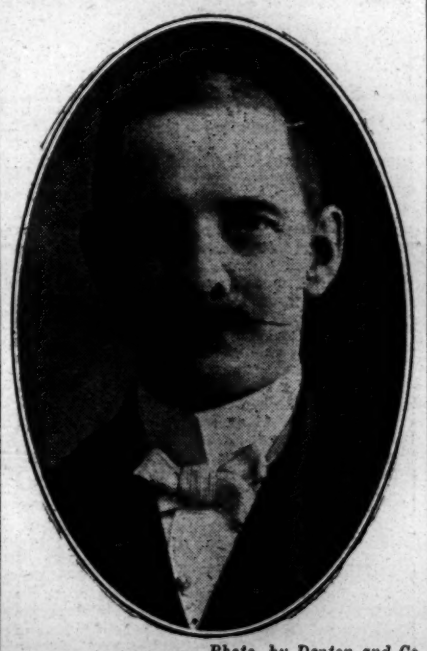

Photo. by Denton and Co.

MR. NELSON FRANCIS.

Talbot, Frost Smith, and a host of good sports belonged to it. He won the 10st. competition, besides cups, medals, and any number of prizes. Somebody, without his consent, inserted a challenge in *Bell's Life* for Francis to fight any one in the world at 8st., but it was never responded to. He was a member of the Dreadnought Swimming Club, and swam second in a ninety yards' handicap to Professor Loscombe. He is also an excellent billiard player, and as active as a kitten in spite of his having passed the half-century.

"THE SMART SET."

A Musical Playlet, in One Act, produced at the Empire, Camberwell, on Monday, April 22.

Ethel .....MISS CORA DUNCAN
Arthur .....MR. ALBERT BRASQUE

Smartly written, elegantly staged, and remarkably well acted, this musical duologue is a scathing indictment of the many alleged foibles of society's "Smart Set," and was received with every mark of approval by a most appreciative audience. Returning from one of the Smart Set functions with his fiancée, Arthur appeals to her to give up the company of scandalising matrons, gilded popinjays, and feather-head dudes, and marry him and settle down. Ethel is obdurate, and only laughs at him, and tells him not to lecture her, and she supposes that, like all actors, he really is only playing a part. Arthur is hurt, and tells her that he only seeks to advise her, and that even actors have hearts, and that the Smart Set is full of "bluff." Ethel loses her temper, and says she will not be preached at, and that he can consider the engagement broken off. She gives him his ring and the key of her desk, so that he can take his letters and go. Arthur makes a final appeal to her better nature, and tells Ethel that there is many a better sermon comes from the mouth of an actor than a preacher. He opens the desk, and finds his letters and also a revolver. He takes both, and bids Ethel farewell, quickly switching off the electric light as he goes out, and firing the revolver. The girl is convinced that her lover has taken his life, and cries, with many expressions of endearment, for him to come back, as she did not mean what she said, &c. The light is suddenly switched on, and Arthur is seen in the doorway unhurt, with the revolver in his hand, and in answer to his fiancé's appealing enquiries, says that he was only acting a part. Ethel is overjoyed, and promises to give up the Smart Set, and live the simple life with her lover. Miss Cora Duncan is simply bewitching as the wilful Ethel, and in her song "Bluff, bluff, bluff," proved that she possessed a good voice. As the actor, Mr. Albert Brasque acted in capital style throughout.

CHAT WITH BENNETT SCOTT.

Mr. Bennett Scott, the managing-director of the Star Music Publishing Co., Ltd., who in a few days sails for New York on business and pleasure intent, has been good enough to give us his views on certain phases of the song-selling business.

"I would like to say a few words in reference to that much-abused but still flourishing institution, the free song," says Mr. Scott. "Even the most rabid objectors are forced to admit that there is a good argument in its favour. The variety profession is continually in a state of evolution, and the free song is only one of the many changes from the old order of things which we may note everywhere. The modern system of one week's engagement when formerly artists were engaged for four, six, or even twelve weeks at the same hall is one of the reasons for the free song. We have few enough really popular refrains each year, and they would dwindle away altogether but for the new system by which a number of artists agree to sing the same ditty. I quite allow that the system is open to abuse. What system is not? But matters soon right themselves, for when the public tire of a thing

[Photo by Russell.

MR. BENNETT SCOTT.

they have an unmistakable way of showing their disapproval. Meanwhile, it would seem that the only objection to the free song is the petty pride of certain artists who aim at being the first to sing this or that number, quite ignoring the fact that the second or third artist to exploit the song at a given hall is the one who usually makes the most emphatic success. The public are slow to learn, and soon forget. Amongst high-class singers one never hears a complaint that 'The Holy City' or Tosti's 'Good-bye' was sung by another artist a few weeks previously at the same concert hall.

"I should say that there are not half a dozen music-hall singers to-day who can individually make a song a popular craze in six or eight months, so the free song is a necessity created by the modern system of short engagements and frequent change of business. After all, popular songs always have been and always will be among the main attractions at variety establishments. They are still acceptable when lions, tigers, and tight-rope dancers begin to pall. It seems part of our nature to join in the chorus of a really catchy song, and this is a fact that most managers are astute enough to recognise."

It is just six months ago that the Star Company commenced operations, and Mr. Scott tells us that it has been the busiest six months of his life. The results have far exceeded his highest anticipations. In the short space of time referred to his firm has built up a catalogue of some three dozen numbers, each one having been most carefully selected, with the gratifying result that they have had a large proportion of song hits. From the first their No. 1 ("Sailing in my balloon") caught on, steadily grew, and is still growing, in popularity. This number alone has enabled them to open accounts with the leading music-dealers throughout the United Kingdom, whilst colonial inquiries and orders are now beginning to roll in. Another pleasing feature of the firm's success is the fact that pierrots and al fresco performers have been induced to take up and "feature" their publications at the various seaside and holiday resorts. Amongst the numerous artists who have helped to popularise their early songs may be mentioned the Misses Annie Purcell, Florrie Forde, May Mars, Gladys Huxley, Florrie Gallimore, Maud Esmond, Hilda Jacobson, and Messrs. Tom Costello, Whit Cunliffe, Harry Claff, Harry Bancroft, and George Leyton.

The Star Company's method all along has been to prevent artists clashing by comparing the engagements of each from the lists supplied. This idea has been found to work most satisfactorily; at any rate, Mr. Scott has not, so far, heard of any complaints. "On the Isle of Anglesey," another of the firm's publications, written by Mr. Harry Castling and composed by Mr. C. W. Murphy, has been sung by Miss Annie Purcell and Miss Florrie Forde with the happiest results. Another still, "Has anyone seen a German band?" written by Mr. A. J. Mills and composed by Mr. Scott, is being sung by Miss Forde in the provinces and Miss Ella Retford in London; and a third which has just been issued, "Swing me higher, Obadiah," is the joint work of Mr. Alf. Rick and Mr. Maurice Scott, the latter a brother of the interviewee.

The subject of this sketch has won many laurels as a "popular" composer. "Zuyder Zee," "Hello, hello, hello!" and "I've made up my mind to sail away" have helped to make his name famous in the song world. He informs us that he has received many applications from artists and others desirous of taking shares in the Star Company, but at present it is not proposed to call up any further capital.

ZARINA, première danseuse, has been presenting during the week at the Queen's, Poplar, her speciality, a quick-change dance scena, in which she has given successful examples of Hungarian, Spanish, and Turkish dances.

MRS. ELIZABETH HOWELL, the widow of a clergyman, has been awarded, in the Court of King's Bench, damages for injuries caused through being bitten by the St. Bernard dog of Mr. Fred McNaughton, now in America. Plaintiff was purchasing flowers in Mash's shop, Atlantic-road, Brixton, when defendant came in with his dog—a magnificent fawn-and-white St. Bernard. She patted the animal on the head, remarking, "You are a beauty," when it sprang up at her and bit her on the face so severely that she was in bed for three weeks, and afterwards had to go to the seaside for three months, entailing medical and other expenses amounting to £58. Counsel on behalf of Mr. Fred McNaughton expressed deep regret at the occurrence.

DR. BODIE AT LUTON.

AMAZING BLOODLESS SURGERY.

No small sensation is being caused in Luton this week by Dr. Walford Bodie, the far-famed bloodless healer, who, as far as the onlooker can judge, is working some marvellous cures at the Grand Theatre. Nightly, before crowded houses, the so-called incurable victims of paralysis are carried on to the platform for treatment, and, in an incredibly short space of time, not only stand erect on their stricken limbs, but use them in a way that is more eloquent of Dr. Bodie's treatment than any words could be. It is a marvellous exhibition. Indeed, were such cures related in the pages of a popular novel, the "Doubting Thomases," who form so large a portion of the public, would hasten to the next page with a cynical smile. But here there seems to be little room left for doubt. The sceptical may criticise, and the scientist who declines to quit the beaten track and follow the doctor into the higher regions of electrical science may question the efficacy or the permanence of his cures, but deeds are more than words, and it will take more than mere scepticism to break down the whole-hearted belief in the doctor that has inspired the hundreds of people who have seen him this week. When Master Weedon, the Luton boy who was cured by the doctor last November, walks on to the stage as a living example of what has been done, and when people who have been known to Lutonians for years as "hopeless incurables" are cured in full view of the audience, as an example of what can be and is being done, it is not surprising that people find their doubts vanish.

Rousing cheers greet the doctor as he steps nightly on to the stage to work further wonders. Immediately the cheering has subsided he speaks to the audience of what he is doing and why he is doing this work. It is, of course, unusual for an apostle of such revolutionary methods of treatment to use the stage as a means of converting the public. But Dr. Bodie has his own way, and there can be no gainsaying the fact that it is a remarkably successful one. His speech is brief and to the point, and no one can go away with the impression that the doctor poses as a worker of miracles. He simply makes use of one of Nature's least understood and most potent forces, and he is candid enough to say when he expects a cure. But where a cure is promised there appears to be no failure. Before treating his patients, the audience is offered ample means of proving whether a genuine electrical current is employed, and a number of electrical experiments that are more or less uncanny show the tremendous power of the current he employs. By years of practice he has accustomed himself to the use of currents that few men would dare to play with. Lighting a cigarette with a spark from his finger is one of his more daring experiments. But once this amusing part of the performance is over, real business begins. The patient is wheeled or carried on to the stage, a few passes suffice to induce a hypnotic state, and the doctor then breaks down the stiffened joint.

Photo. by Laird, Aberdeen.

DR. WALFORD BODIE.

It is a gruesome process, and the audience utter an involuntary "Ugh!" as the joint gives way. But the patient never moves or winces; he feels nothing. Then the lights are lowered, the orchestra plays, the powerful electric current is turned on, and the process of quickening the nerve centres begins. But it is brief. A few moments later the lights are turned up, the quondam "incurable" steps forward, uses his limbs freely, and retires amidst cheers.—Vide *Luton News*, May 2, 1907.

"VARNA'S REVENGE."

Sketch, in one scene, produced at the Empress, Brixton, on Monday, April 29.

Captain Richard .....MR. F. S. JENNINGS
Marie .....MISS ROSE PRADINE
Varna Vildaire .....MISS VIOLET FULTON

Varna Vildaire is a celebrated musical comedy actress, whose popularity is, however, abating. It has just come to her ears that Captain Richard, has become engaged to be married. She had once been an honoured wife, but the unscrupulous Captain, by promising her marriage after her husband had divorced her, had induced her to become faithless. The shock was too much for the husband, and so affected him that he soon died. The Captain never fulfilled his promise of marriage, and Varna took to the stage for a living. Rather than the Captain shall marry another Varna determines to poison him. Captain Richard appears and tells her that he is forced to make a wealthy marriage, as he is hopelessly in debt, and that only by this means can he expect to keep his place in society. During his absence Varna puts some poison into one of the empty glasses on the tray, and on his return asks him where their child is. The scoundrel explains that it is dead, and goes on to say that it could only be expected to be so, as he had paid a large sum to some baby farm for its keep, with the instructions that it would not be inquired after any more. Such callousness completely upsets Varna, who pours out a torrent of wrath, declaring that she is what he has made her, and finally telling him that he is a murderer. Richard's offer of money is refused, but Varna consents to join him in a glass of wine. She gives him the cup containing the deadly drug, and after he has drunk tells him that his wine is poisoned, and that he is a doomed man. The Captain declares he will kill her, and succeeds in getting her by the throat, but the poison has been slowly doing its work, and ere he can accomplish his aim he falls dead. Miss Violet Fulton is to be credited with a faithful representation of the part of the actress, and Mr. F. S. Jennings was a powerful exponent of Captain Richard.

THE French Chamber of Commerce have booked all the reserved seats at the Empire Theatre for a gala performance on Friday, May 10th.

"SPECTRES OF THE SANCTUM."

A Theosophical and Spiritualistic Sketch, by Mr. J. N. Maskelyne, produced at the St. George's Hall, Langham-place, on Wednesday afternoon, May 1.

Doctor Cunningham .....MR. J. N. MASKELYNE
Madame Cunningham ..MISS HELEN MCCULLOCH
Kitty Fay .....MISS CASSIE BRUCE
George Smith .....MR. EDWARD MORRHEN
Slocombe .....MR. J. B. HANSARD
Dick Sage .....MR. CHARLES GLENROSE

Ghosts are furnished on the most up-to-date principles in the new sketch which Mr. Maskelyne, the resourceful wizard of the West, produced at his depôt of mysteries on Wednesday afternoon. In view of the fact that the verdict in the action concluded the day before was given against Mr. Maskelyne on the ground that the illusion had not been wholly accomplished, it was determined to reproduce the phenomena exactly as required; but a letter was received from Archdeacon Colley's solicitors, in which the rev. gentleman withdrew his challenge, and in making the announcement Mr. Maskelyne leaves the public to form its own conclusions. A full house attended the production on Wednesday of the new sketch, in which a droll travesty of a spiritualistic séance is presented. The chiefs of the mystic circle are a clerical-looking individual called Dr. Cunningham, and Mme. Cunningham, his accomplice. They have designs on the money of George Washington Smith, an American millionaire, known as "the tripe king," who has recently lost his wife, and his appearance in the séance room is shortly expected. As he is a dipsomaniac, a confirmed inebriate named George Smith, who comes to tune the piano, is easily mistaken for the millionaire, and after he has been chased round the room by the piano, he is entertained by Mme. during the Doctor's absence to some spirit-rapping and other occult manifestations, in the course of which she pretends to convey messages from his wife. The sights and wonders are reserved for the arrival of the Doctor, who prevails upon a "Mahatma" to appear, and undertake to produce "Mrs. Smith" from Spiritland. The Doctor himself then goes into a trance, and from out of his side emerges a cloud of vapour, which speedily resolves itself into a living woman. Smith is not quite convinced that it is his "Lou," but he accepts the lady's assurance that she really is his wife, and clasps her in his arms. It is not until the Doctor demands his fee of ten guineas that the pianotuner's identity is revealed, and Smith departs derisively.

The effects obtained by Mr. Maskelyne are of a more than usually weird character, and cause unlimited astonishment. The "£1000 ghost" is introduced in an amusing form, with the added advantage that the "materialised spirit" seems to disintegrate and pass through solid objects to invisibility. Mr. Maskelyne gives quite a clerical cut to his impersonation of the designing Dr. Cunningham, and executes his marvellous illusions with his customary neatness and despatch. Miss Helen McCulloch plays skilfully as the equally unscrupulous Madame; and Miss Cassie Bruce, besides making a vivacious young lady of Kitty Fay, an accomplice, gives a realisation of the "spirit-wife" that is instinct with grace and charm. Mr. Edward Morehen furnishes unmistakable proof of his ability as a comedian, and excites roars of laughter by his embodiment of a "beery" piano-tuner; and Mr. J. B. Hansard is as droll as ever as an old Irish servant; Mr. Charles Glenrose being an impressive and awe-inspiring Mahatma.

"A DARK SECRET."

A dramatic sketch, in five scenes, by John Douglass, produced at the Queen's, Poplar, On Monday, April 29.

Jonas Norton .....MR. HENRY HERNE
Stephen Norton .....MR. BERNARD MERVYN
Martin Brooke .....MR. NEVILLE GRAHAME
Mme. La Fontaine .....MISS ANNIE BRUNEITE
Nelly Norton .....MISS LILLIAN EARLE
May Joyce .....MISS IDA MILLAIS

Jonas Norton and his son Stephen are indeed a wicked couple. Jonas himself is the uncle and guardian of his brother's daughter, pretty Mistress Nelly Norton, who is yet, we learn, in her teens. But, apparently, in his stewardship of the girl's property Jonas has not been as scrupulous as his confiding brother expected him to be. And now matters have come to something approaching a crisis, for, in the language of his dutiful son, we hear that Jonas is "broke to the wide." And as, when the devil drives, needs must, so a way must be found to avert a catastrophe which looms large and threatening in the perturbed imagination of the elder Norton. In a pleasant, confiding, fatherly sort of way, he tells his unsophisticated niece that her marriage with his son would meet with his warm approval. Incidentally, it would also meet with the son's, who, with a wonderful access of filial gratitude expresses his pleasure at the thought that his father will not live very long to enjoy the fortune of which he is attempting to rob the girl, and that then everything will find its way into the younger man's possession. How the schemes of father and son are frustrated by Nelly's step-sister, and by the family solicitor, and how the girl is saved from a watery grave, is all dramatically told by Mr. Henry Herne and Miss Ida Millais' company. Mr. Herne gives us a striking study of the evil-minded old uncle, and to Miss Millais credit is due for a pleasing and well-acted representation of the step-sister. Miss Lillian Earle has the youth and personal attractiveness necessary to such a part as that of the heiress, and it is a very sympathetic and charming characterisation that we get from her. Mr. Neville Grahame as the solicitor, Mr. Bernard Mervyn as Stephen Norton, and Miss Annie Brunette as a French governess all play their parts in capable fashion. Special care seems to have been taken in the matter of the scenery, the last scene, representing a backwater of the Thames, and in which is introduced a large tank of water, being very realistic.

MR. AND MRS. LENNARD CHARLES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—In a recent issue of *The Era* was an announcement that Miss Helen Charles (Mrs. Harry Burns) would become twenty-one years of age on April 22. Her age at that date was twenty-four, as she was born on April 22, 1883. By the misstatement pointed out her younger brother's birth is made to seem to have taken place in 1887, long after her father's death, which took place in 1886. Her parents are not correctly named when they are referred to as "Mme. Lennard and Tom Charles." They were Thomas Charles and his wife Margaret (Mahoney before marriage), who were professionally known as "Mr. and Mrs. Lennard Charles"—the "Lennard" was never used as her mother's surname. By publishing this letter of correction and explanation you will greatly oblige—Yours truly,

J. THOS. CHARLES,
29, St. Ann's-road, Brixton-road, April 29.

HARRY REYNOLDS' MINSTRELS IN HASTINGS.

Harry Reynolds' Minstrels have a claim to be called celebrated. They are always well received in Hastings, where their annual visit to the pier is very much appreciated by the large public who have a liking for a first-class minstrel entertainment, such as Mr. Harry Reynolds always provides, &c.—*Hastings Observer*, April 27, 1907.

Harry Reynolds' Minstrels are always a favourite attraction in Hastings, &c.—*Era*, April 27, 1907.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

"THE ERA"

SHILLING FUND

FOR THE

MUSIC HALL HOME.

Mr. Barrasford and Miss Vesta Victoria join in a strenuous appeal for the generosity of the profession in support of *The Era* Shilling Fund. When, twelve months ago, we brought before our readers the claims of this deserving charity, a very considerable sum of money was collected in separate shillings. That last year's appeal, however, and most of the money obtained by it, are, as Miss Marie Lloyd would say, "a thing of the past, old dear."

Subscribed to date, 2426½ shillings.

FIRST LIST OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

	£	s.	d.
Edinburgh theatrical and vaudeville sports, per Walter P. Wells	40	0	0
Contents of collecting-box at the Hippodrome (late Tivoli), Leeds, one of Mr. Barrasford's halls, per Charles Weldon	5	7	9
Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Mannering	1	5	0
Leoni Clarke	1	1	0
Collecting-box, Palace of Varieties, Ltd., Manchester, per Nelson Barry	1	0	0
Fred Arthur	1	0	0
Miss Alexandra Dagmar		10	0
Bros. Webb	0	10	0
Geretti	0	5	0
Belford and Mars	0	5	0
A. Lazarus	0	2	0
A Gus Elen Autograph	0	0	6

Collected by Mr. Horace Wheatley, £3 11s.

Horace Wheatley	40	Anthony	1
Terrance Wheatley, jun.	1	Claire Romaine	1
Catherleen Wheatley	1	Sydney James	1
Norah Wheatley	1	Gilbert Fernie	1
Eileen Wheatley	1	Harry Edson	1
Horace Wheatley, jun.	1	Leslie Romani	1
Grandma	1	Lizzie Kirk	1
Auntie	1	Emmie Romani	1
MacWheatley the Dog	1	Frank Turner	1
Edgar Marriott	1	Mrs. F. Turner	1
Frank Leon	1	J. G. Henderson	1
Ted Waite	1	C. Pastor	1
Edgar Romaine	1	Sister Marion	1
Robert Robertson	1	M. Egerton	1
Florence Lambeth	1	Fred O'Malley	1
		George Harvard	1
		Gus W. Blake	1

Collected by Mr. Harry Conlin, Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, £4 7s.

Bros. Egbert	10	Us again, again	1
Us again, again, again, again	7	Us again, again, again	1
Albert Egbert	5	Gladys Cooper	1
Harry Conlin	5	Doris Cooper	1
Rosie Coleman	5	Vera Elvey	1
Mark Sheridan	5	M. Claire	1
Gwladys Elvey	5	Mr. Whitehead	1
Edna Loftus	5	Ian Lloyd-Mackenzie	1
Daisy Dormer	5	Herbert Darnley	1
S. Egbert and Mac.	5	Harry Nelson	1
Mark's Room	4	Erchie Mitchell	1
Mac's Bar, 3 Rose-street, Edinburgh	3	Harry Bendon	1
Harry Lupino	2	A. R. Pole	1
Us again	2	Us	1
Betty Green	1½	Cade Burnett	1
		Deane Tribune	1
		Estella Tribune	1

Collected by Mr. Gus Elen, £2.

Gus Elen (V.A.F.)	10	Edith Villa	1
Mrs. G. E.	1	Cruet	1
The Chickens	1	Boots	1
The Pheasants	1	The Dustman	1
Buller (St. Bernard)	1	Mrs. Carter	1
Major (Pomeranian)	1	Found	1
The Cook (16st.)	1	The Postman	1
The Housemaid	1	Admission	1
The Motor	1	Lizzie C.	1
The Gardener (Bob)	1	Meriah	1
The Parrot	1	Our Tyke	1
The Canary	1	New Pyjama 'At	1
Inky (Black Cat)	1	Luggage Man's (tip)	1
Four-Pots-a	1	Book-Boy's (ditto)	1
Twelve Coppers	1	Cab to *Era* Office	1
Two Sixpences	1		

Collected by Mr. Tom Fancourt, 15s.

Tom Fancourt	1	Margaret Ruby	1
Alf Selby	1	Queenie Clements	1
Harry Ray	1	Lottie Cora	1
Lillie Caldon	1	Florrie Cora	1
Arnold Richardson	1	Mrs. Howarth	1
Jennie Rubie	1	Anon.	1
B. Elton	1	Ernest Laws	1
T. Elma	1		

Collected by Regan and Ryan, Court Theatre, Liverpool, £1 14s.

Malcolm Scott	5	H. Brockbank	2
Fanny Fields	5	Patty Yole	2
Regan and Ryan	5	M. R. M.	1
Harry Tate	5	Doris Dean	1
Hetty King	5	Poppy Wilkinson	1
Fanny Dango	2		

Collected by Mr. Billy Williams, £2 19s. 9d.

Billy Williams	5	E. I. S.	1
Miss Du-Roche	5	A. Hanson	1
Miss M. Sealby	5	W. Marshall	1
Andre Avocat	5	J. B.	1
Miss M. Langdon	2½	B. B.	1
Oliver Round	2½	J. Kelly	1
Roze and Calvert	2½	W. E. D. V.	1
W. W. Walton	2½	W. Clarke	1
Churnell	2½	O. L. Rendell	1
F. E.	2	Wirson Kurat	1
J. K.	2	T. Dare	1
Miss Mab Paul	2	Geo. W. Thorpe	1
Adelaide	2	H. B.	1
King	1½	I. B.	1
W. E. R.	1	Maxwell	1
F. D. B.	1	Graham	1

Collected by Rich and Rich, 11s.

Rich and Rich	5	W. Fullbrook	1
Smarte Bros.	2	Charles Homer	1
H. O. Wills	1	Lola Patey	1

Collected by Carl Hertz, £1.

F. Bernard	1	Wartemberg Bros.	1
Fred Poplar	1	J. Wilson	1
Sinclair and Whiteford	1	H. Osborn	1
Edgar Romaine	1	Carl Hertz	1
Edgar Romaine	1	Carl Hertz	1
Little Tich	1	Carl Hertz	1
Little Tich	1	Mrs. Carl Hertz	1
Little Tich	1	Mrs. Carl Hertz	1
Little Tich	1	Mrs. Carl Hertz	1
Little Tich	1		

Collected by Bliss and Bliss, £1 12s.

George Bliss	1	Pushfoot	1
Leo Bliss	1	Nellie Bailey	1
Jack Cromo	1	Gerald	1
W. Stewart	1	Charlie Hardup	1
Ruby Aiston	1	Kitty Chic	1
Arthur Aiston	1	Zena Page	1
Billy Hoofum	1	Kathleen Tremayne	1
James Kiddie	1	May St. Pierre	1
Tom Kelso	1	Lena Arnold	1
E. Bernhardt	1	Aline Goldsmith	1
Harold Batt	1	Edie Graham	1
Mr. Skimps	1	Minnie Grey	1
Mr. Skopes	1	Eva Mountcastle	1
Ben De Freece	1	M. Maquade	1
Kitty Kildare	1	Nellie Bailey	1
Nellie Bailey	1	Marie Beresford	1

Collected by Fred Land, 16s.

Fred Land	1	Dick Cruikshanks	1
Mrs. Land	1	Carl Rosine	1
Charlie, Stage-Manager	1	H. Harwood	1
Harry Vardon	1	Grant and Grant	1
Dora Lyric	1	Counsel Louie	1
Yukio Tani	1	Mills, Oscar	1
Walter Bentley	1	Harry Dean	1
Wilfords	1	Effie Stuart	1

Collected by Dale and Vale, £1.

F. V. St. Clair	2½	Charlie Williams	1
De Biere	2½	Bert Williams	1
Lillian Victoria	2	Herbert Madden	1
Shoe Black Hero	1	Stylo	1
T. M. Paul	1	Laurie Stuart	1
Charles Lilburn	1	George and Lelia	1
Dick and Dorothy	1	Coro Corina	1
Kyoto	1	Dale and Vale	1

Collected by Tom Vine, £1 2s. 6d.

Tom Vine	2½	George Bernard	1
Sisters Grovini	2	Pichel Troupe	1
Jessie Harper	1½	Brothers Story	1
Fred Leighton	1	Famous Henderson	1
Arnold H. Colmer	1	Brothers Austin	1
Arthur Arscott	1	Lucy Coventry	1
George Arscott	1	F. R. Griffiths	½
George Neale	1	Joe Huds	½
H. F.	1	Mimic Maston	½
Carl Bernardo	1	Tony Rallis	½
Lee's Marionettes	1	J. C.	½

Collected by W. Kloof, Kloof and Field's *Aladdin* Co., £1 1s 6d.

Verona Quartette	2	W. Kloof, jun.	1
Bros. Shetland	1½	Harold Kloof, jun.	1
Harry Gold	1	Harry J. Nelson, Fleetwood	1
Bert Goldin	1	T. R. Bennett, Fleetwood	1
T. M. Lee Isor	1	T. P. Hornby, Fleetwood	1
Vulo	½	G. Taylor, Grimsby	½
Sisters Simmons	1	W. H. Betney, Grimsby	½
Fred Fields	1	Elephant (Potted Meat)	½
Florence Lewis	1	Dog (Karno)	½
Master Freddy Fields	1	May Florence	½
Allan Grey, Musical Director	1		
W. Kloof	1		
Cissie Ramsay	1		

Collected by Mr. T. S. Lonsdale, £1 13s.

W. Pratt	2	Sydney James	1
Velvero	1	R. Gilbert	1
T. S. Lonsdale	1	E. Pherson	1
Mr. Cragg	1	Andreassen Bros.	1
Mill May	1	Toch and Tard	1
Johnny Dwyer	1	Mike Cray	1
Frederic Culpitt	1	The Marconis	1
E. H. Williams	1	Clarions	1
F. Lauteron	1	E. Ameda	1
The Panamas	1	Ben Hur	1
Delornes	1	Carter Livesey	1
B. Stavordale	1	Lillian Rosebery	1
Jock Whiteford	1	Espinosa	1
G. Chamberlain	1	Amber Austa	1
Herbert Shelley	1	Will E. Haines	1
Frank Shelley	1	Robbie Roy	1

Collected by Carl and Carr, 11s.

Carl and Carr	2	A. Lotto	1
W. Brown	2	E. Lotto	1
Emily Custance	2	B. Roberts	1
E. Davey	1	V. Kingdon	1

Collected by Miss Nellie Christie, Argyle Theatre, Birkenhead, £1 3s.

Nellie Christie	5	George de Lara	1
B. N.	2	The Bassos	1
Ella Lane	1	Julian Ross	1
Eida Burman	1	Jack Charman	1
Herbert La Martine	1	S. de Groot	1
Sylvia du Barry	1	Maude Courteney	1
Eva Lumley	1	Mabel Bardine	1
Bertha Woolcote	1	Pattie Verner	1
May Fallowfield	1	Josie Mooney	1

Collected by Miss Sable Fern, £2 16s.

Malcolm Scott	10	Fred Wood	1
Sable Fern	5	George Peel	1
W. H. Galpin	2	Josh Dixon	1
J. E. Grist	2	Johnnie Whiteman	1
Frank Leo	1	Carrie Kenyon	1
Will Rags	1	Leah Ardell	1
W. Griffin	1	Dolly Moore	1
E. Dubois	1	Bee Cycles	1
Mrs. Dainton	1	Butcher	1
Marie Dainton	1	Hal Forde	1
The Allisons	1	Bill Manning	1
Geo. H. Brooks	1	Joe	1
Kenneth Macleod	1	Claire Romaine	1
A. Jennings	1	Ernest Rees	1
Belles in Orient	1	Will Poluski, jun.	1
Jock Whiteford	1	Edgar Romaine	1
Samuel Lloyd	1	Herbert Coltesmore	1
Alma Gray	1	Laurence Rutledge	1
George Kirby	1	J. McCabe	1
Neil Kenyon	1	H. J. Edwardes	1
Will Lambert	1		

Collected by Albert and Edmunds, 18s.

Mr. E. Edmunds	5	Fred Barnard	1
Patrick Playfair	1	Harry Weston	1
Miss Bella	1	Miss Blanche Albert	1
Mrs. Albert	1	C. Maude	1
Miss Rose Hamilton	1	Winnie Edmund	1
Mr. K. Hamilton	1	James Dunlop	1
A. Martini	1	Mr. J. Albert	1

Collected by Sisters Chester, £1 7s.

Florrie Chester	1	H. Horner	1
Leslie Chester	1	Great Hughes	1
Mrs. Chester	1	Albert Phanto	1
Ethel Condor	1	James Osmond	1
Fred Regina	1	Charles Mildare	1
Cliff Ryland	1	J. Allison	1
F. Picitt	1	Tom E. Conover	1
J. Kellino	1	Lester Carey (Three Careys)	1
Albert Kellino	1	Lennie and Hast	1
Will Kellino	1	Butterflies	1
John Kellino	1	E. W. Manning	1
Stacey and Williams	1	Henry Hilton	1
Mendel	1	W. H. Wallis	1
W. Meyer Sarnthaler	1		

Collected by Miss Lillie Lassah, 10s.

Mr. W. Onda	1	E. Sharpe	1
Charles Constant	1	J. McCarthy	1
J. B. Howard	1	Nobbler	1
G. Lambert	1	Jerry	1
Fred Bowyer	1	Lillie Lassah	1

Collected by Mr. Geo. Rapley, £1 1s.

Sandy and Carl	2	Edwin Zarac	1
Nellie Moore	1	Fred Lloyd	1
Beatie Moore	1	Tom Shenton	1
Marion May	1	Syd Russell	1
Bertha St. Ruth	1	Chas. Denman	1
Cissie Conyers	1	Fred Bentley	1
The Sydney Girls	1	W. Parker	1
F. J. Little	1	Geo. Rapley	1
Chas. Zarac	1	Mrs. Geo. Rapley	1
Ernest Zarac	1	Baby Rapley	1

Collected by Alley and Hart, 6s.

Harry Allan	1	Llewelyns	1
Rose Hart	1	Grosvenors	1
Olga Romanow	1	Robertys	1

Collected by Newham and Latimer, 11s.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Medhurst	2	J. A. Thomson	1
George Newham	1	Pulo	1
Fred Latimer	1	Fred Boulton	1
Prof. T. Howard	1	Mlle. Bartenelli	1
Lillian Howard	1	Albert Victor	1

Collected by Tom Hearn, Esq., £2 17s.

Geo. Robey	20	Arthur Reece	1
Tom Hearn	13	T. A. Shale	1
Millie Lindon	5	A. Haytor	1
Valli Valli	3	Edward Lewis	1
Nat Clifford	2	James Smith	1
M. W. King	1	J. H. Whittaker	1
L. Collingwood	1	Walter Stanley	1
George Formby	1	Helina Cecile	1
Carlton	1	Griff	1
Frank Haytor	1		

Collected by Jen Latona, 10s. 6d.

Frank and Jen Latona	5	Chas. Robinson	1
Jas. Holden	2½	Hardeen	1
		Marie Kendall	1

Collected by Mrs. Johnny Holland, 35s.

Johnny Holland	5	Miss Ruby Aiston	1
Mrs. J. Holland	1	Mr. Postlethwaite	1
Miss Janett Reynolds	1	Lois Du Cane	1
Miss Cissie Coman	1	Ethel Netherton	1
Miss Marion Scott	1	Maisano	1
Mr. Abe Smith	1	Ida Kathrena	1
Edwards and Dacre	1	George Formby	1
Hal Verdo	1	Chee You Say	1
Anonymous	1	E. W. Edmonds	1
F. Hurst	1	C. Schuberth	1
J. A. Thompson	1	Bert Brantford	1
Mr. Boulter	1	Lillie Soutter	1
W. W.	1	Winnie Derson	1
Mrs. Jones	1	Mona McDonald	1
Mr. Lapworth	1	Madge Daly	1
George Hall	1		

Collected by Terry and Bentley, 11s.

Marie Terry	1	Percy Wood	1
J. S. Bentley	1	Lily Tabrar	1
Tom Stuart	1	Royston Keith	1
Bohemian	1	Talwing	1
E. J. Wilkins	1	Three Bros. Huxter	1
Will C. Jones	1		

Collected by Miss Minnie Mace, 20s.

F. Warburton	1	Allen, H.	1
G. W. Taylor	1	Copper Coin Penny	1
Harry T. Freeman	1	Berty	1
Harry T. Freeman	1	Paint and Dimples	1
B. G. Thompson	1	Frank Ford	1
C. M'Fee	1	Tharp	1
J. Boulting	1	Likeum	1
C. Tharp	1	Lord Push	1
Morley	1	George Camp	1
F. Prince	1	Minnie Mace	1

Collected by Mr. Harry Taft, 5s.

Meier and Mora	1	Harry Taft	1
Allan and Hart	1	Bert Barnard	1
Doody and Wright	1		

Collected by Sterling and Love, 25s.

Sterling and Love	2	Clifford Morgan	1
Carney and Armstrong	2	Janet H. Reynolds	1
Happy Attwood	1	May Marton	1
J. Le Hay	1	Ethel Wilson	1
Tom Owen	1	Royal Welsh Singers	1
Wm. Stephens	1	Frank Farr	1
Silbon	1	E. R. Beaumont	1
T. Diacoff	1	Sisters Lytton	1
D. W. Watson	1	Phil Luck	1
Walter Cranch	1	Johnny Danvers	1
Tommy Nelldon	1	Carson Hicks	1
		Tom Lloyd	1

Collected by My Fancy, 50s.

My Fancy	20	W. C. Jeapes	1
H. Bawn	3½	Percy Ford	1
A. Macey	2½	H. Jeapes	1
Edward Bawn	2	W. R. Pillanders	1
J. Sparrow	1	E. Bridgen	1
G. P. R. Burgess	1	W. R. M. Neill	1
E. C. Webb	1	W. E. Stephenson	1
Fred Leslie	1	F. Neiman	1
H. Balding	1	W. Johnson	1
Mrs. H. Balding	1	W Gassert	1
C. J. Doughty	1	W. Hollis	1
Dot Kemp	1	Will Oliver	1
Geo. H. Dyball	1	W. E. Samuels	1

Collected by Baker and Balfe, 16s.

Baker and Balfe	2	H. Elton	1
Harry Leybourne	2	Horace Jones	1
C. Wynn	2	Leo Derenda	1
Freeman and Tudor	2	George Green	1
Bros. Hayes	1	M. H. D.	1
A. C.	1	John Paxton	1

Collected by Mr. Pat Carey, 14s.

Mrs. Pat Carey	2	G. Gilbey	1
Sam Elton	1	Hans Mensel and others	1
Boyd and Gilfain	1	Alice Maydue	1
H. A. Meymott	1	W. H. J.	1
Mrs. H. A. Meymott	1	J. C. Brindley	1
Cambrian Trio	1	M. S. Richards	1
Mr. Pat Carey	1		

Collected by Mr. Geo. Antill, 11s.

Geo. Antill	1	C. E. Stelling and Dog	1
A. Monte Myro	1	Nobbler	1
A. Holland	1	Jerry	1
H. S.	1	Dave Poole's Figure	1
Ted Thomas	1	Dan Crawley	1
Geo. Newburn	1		

Collected by Rappo and Ella, 13s.

Rappo and Ella	2½	The Vyponds	1
C. Curlette	2½	The Lashmars	1
Chas. Denton	1	W. G. Webber	1
Chas. Banks	1	Mr. Morimura	1
Clyo and Rochelle	1	Alec Aubrey	1

Collected by the New Macs, 36s.

J. P. McNally (of New Macs)	5	Will Johnson	2½
John James	5	T. Ardell	2½
George MacNally	2½	Fred Donaldson	2½
C. Parsons	2½	J. J. McNally	2
J. G. Taylor	2½	Jack Denton	2
W. H. Kirby	2½	H. G.	2

Collected by Arthur Melrose, 19s.

Madge Grey	2½	C. W. Payne	1
P. Montagu	2½	Navadatha	1
Schenk Bros.	2	Harry Lawson	1
W. Bellonini	2	Princess Pauline	1
A. Melrose	1	H. Bellonini	1
Lyd, M.	1	Marguerite Broadfoote	1
Caldwell	1		
Chas. Johnston	1		

Collected by Johnny Dwyer, 6s.

Johnny Dwyer	1	Walter Graham	1
David Allis	1	Will Cornish	1
James Eadie	1	Lew Lake	1

Collected by Miss Ethel Ra-Leslie, 8s.

Ethel Ra-Leslie	1	Billy Brown	1
F. Travis	1	Madge Grey	1
Mrs. A. Scoble	1	Collins and Rice	1
Mrs. Percie Brown	1	Lileth Leyton	1

Collected by Mr. Fred Arthur, 20s.

Fred Arthur	3	Haidee Hemsley	1
Florence Calile	1	G. H. Snazelle	1
Gus Walker	1	Olive Tempest	1
Tom Finglas	1	Marjory Tempest	1
Cecil Kingsley	1	May Beatty	1
C. Hunt	1	Lily Pimmer	1
Gracie Persse	1	Edward Lauri	1
Nina Osborne	1	Mrs. Lily Vansburg	1
Agnes Gunn	1		

Collected by Bosanquet, 2s.

E Bosanquet	1	G. Bosanquet	1

Collected by Hanvarr and Anna Lee, 36s.

Anna Lee	2	Alec Huline	1
Hanvarr	2	Will Onda	1
Mr. and Mrs. Ganly	2	Dusty Rhodes	1
Walter Emerson	2	Roze and Calvert	1
W. J. Williams	1	Oh Yes	1
Leslie Romain	1	Charlie Rich	1
Zeta Grey	1	Elsie Roby	1
W. Howgate	1	Mina Lee	1
T. W. Warden	1	Tommy Downie	1
For our "Anna," F. K.	1	Richie Hanvarr	1
Mrs. Matthews	1	"Dunter"	1
R. Lee	1	Paul Duster	1
Tom Le May	1	J. Crawford	1
Robbie Roy	1	McAndra	1
George Tacius	1	A. S. Farrill	1
Lill Soutar	1	F. G. Murdoch	1

Collected by Mr. Frank Coyle, 5s.

Frank Coyle	1	Miss Violet Coyle	1
Will Murray	1	Mrs. Frank Coyle	1
Arthur Lynch	1		

Collected by Miss Gertie Gitana, 22s.

Arthur Prince	5	Miss Beatrice	1
Hill and Whitaker	5	S. Baskerville	1
Gertie Gitana	2½	Ivy Ongar	1
Prince's "Mac"	2½	H. Fletcher	1
J. O'Connor	1	Mabel La Blanche	1
Mabel O'Connor	1		

Collected by Fred Herbert, 26s.

Edgar Stebbings	5	W. J. Williams	1
The Howes	2	J. Warden	1
Sisters Hall	2	Harry Luck	1
Fred Herbert	1	La Rochelle	1
Will Leslie	1	A Friend	1
Three Ettenas	1	Madge Temple	1
Two Wiltons	1	Steve McCarthy	1
Fred Leslie	1	Ruby Emmerson	1
E. Cooke	1	H. D. Wills	1
Vowles and Bryan	1	The Howards	1

Collected by Lambert and Glover, 12s.

Geo. Wood (Junction Hotel, Selly)	5	J. Heppell	1
Vandinoff	2	W. Wilson	1
Lambert and Glover	2	Lambert and Glover	1

Collected by Elliotts and Savonas, 60s.

Mrs. J. B. Elliott	10½	Mrs. Ralph Elliott	1
Tom Elliott	5	Milner Verren	1
James Elliott	5	Ralph Elliott	1
Pauline Elliott	5	Senorita Eloina	1
Matthews Elliott	5	May E. Savona	1
Annie Elliott	5	Miss Florence	1
Harry Elliott	5	Annie Savona	1
May Elliott	5	Violet Elliott	½
Edwin Brett	2½	Bedford Elliott	½
Emmeline Orford	2½	Hazel Elliott	½
Rose Harvey	1		

Collected by Will Johnson, Esq., 35s. 6d.

Fred Griffiths	2½	Syd Smith	1
Johnson and Bert	2	Harry Freeman	1
Mayvilles	2	G. Fioni	1
Royal George, Grimsby	2	Fred Neiman	1
Joe Elvin	2	Fred Ginnett	1
Tom Costello	1	Miss Latham	1
Bert Byrne	1	Nance	1
Steve McCarthy	1	Harry Liddle	1
Douglas Stuart	1	Ryder Slone	1
Maud Lavern	1	Geo. D'Albert	1
Daisy Martell	1	Tom Hughes	1
David Crombie	1	Chas. Evans	1
Frank Gerald	1	Harry Bawn	1
Graham	1	Edwin Boyde	1
V. L Granville	1	Clemart	1

Collected by Daunton-Shaw Troupe, 5s.

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Ted Wootton	1	C. Daunton-Shaw	1
A. Shaw	1		

Collected by Mr. Bransby Williams, 19s.

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Mrs. B. W.	2	Johnny	1
W. F. Frame	2	Mrs. Jones	1
Bransby, jun.	1	Cameron	1
Eric Williams	1	A. G. Chalmers	1
Ida Williams	1	Lena Grahame	1
Winnie Williams	1	McQuaid	1
A. Flint	1		

Collected by Mr. Morny Cash, 6s.

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Mrs. Morny Cash	1	George Cosman	1
Mark Leslie	1	Fred Alakarno	1

Collected by Miss Gladys Mavius, 10s.

Gladys Mavius	1	W. Emerson	1
Peggy Pryde	1	W. Musgrave	1
Mrs. Mavius	1	Hymack	1
Charlie Moore	1	George Gray	1
Bill Newhouse	1	G. Green	1

Collected by Woolmer Young, Esq., 9s.

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Winnie Derson	1	Nellie Randall	1
Fred Heath	1	Harry Anderson	1
Mrs. J. Holland	1		

Collected by Bros. Obo, 20s.

Bros. Obo	2½	Mr. Barnes	1
Albert Bushell	2½	Tommy Wright	1
Alice Maydue	2	Fred Barnes	1
Bessie Butt	2	Geo. Green	1
Syd Sylvester	1	William Jackson	1
Gladys Clare	1	Louie Lunelle	1
Bert Wilson	1	Nellie Lunelle	1
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Tom Branson	1	Brother Terrier to W. Morras	1
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Charles Snell	2½	Fred H. Halliday (Preston)	1
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B. Monti	1	Mike Cray	1
Francis	1	"Trip to Coon Town"	1
Harry Speakman	1	Hayman and Franklin	1
Walter Keen	1	Fred Neiman	1
V. Elliman	1	Joan Deering	1
Millie Howell	1	Fred Webb (operator)	1
J. K. Orde	1	Nell Cotter	1
Wild Willie and West	1	W. H. Farley	1
Jack Fields	1	Geo. D'Albert	1
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AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SYDNEY, March 26.—Mr. J. C. Williamson has transplanted his pantomime *Mother Goose* to Her Majesty's Theatre after a thirteen weeks' successful run in Victoria. It is highly effective as a spectacular production, and surprise follows surprise, the swing septette and the airship being specially notable. The cast, too, is a very strong one. First and foremost comes the shapely Miss Florence Young, who makes an admirable Colin. Then we have Miss Celia Ghiloni, an ideal Heartsease, Queen of Fairies. From London comes Miss Olive Morell, a comely Jill, with a good voice. With Miss Florence Redfern (a pretty Lady Ida), Miss Mabelle Morgon (a stately Eric), and Miss Pressy Preston (an Australian-Dutch Gretchen) the list of principal ladies is complete.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES

THE SURREY.

"LUKE SHARP OF LONDON."

A Musical Comedy-Sketch, by W. P. Sheen, produced at the Surrey Theatre, on Monday, April 29, 1907.

Lazarillo .....MR. WALTER FORTH
La Belle Marie .....MISS CISSY CLEVELAND
Lieut. Eric Kingston, R.N.
MR. COURTENAY COMBER
Luke Sharp .....MR. GEORGE PAYNE
Mrs. Luke Sharp .....MISS GWEN CLIFFORD
Marmaduke Mugg .....MR. WILLIAM P. SHEEN

Set in a strikingly pretty scene, full of light and colour, representing the Market-place at Valencia, Spain, this charming musical comedy is brimful of tuneful music, patriotic songs and duets, fascinating dances, and uproarious fun and merriment. Unlike most pot-pourris of its kind, *Luke Sharp of London* has a tale to tell and a story to unfold. La Belle Marie, the pride of Valencia, found when a baby one morning on the beach, has been adopted by Lazarillo, a Spanish innkeeper. Now grown to womanhood, Belle Marie is loved by and loves Lieut. Eric Kingston, R.N. Luke Sharp, a cockney adventurer, one time in the service of Sir Peter Paulton, comes to Valencia, and hears that the ship Oceana was wrecked, having on board Sir Peter and Lady Paulton and their child. Sharp soon guesses that La Belle Marie is their child saved from the wreck, and as she is heiress to a large fortune, hopes to reap a rich reward. Marmaduke Mugg, a broken-down tragedian, is Sharp's companion, and these worthies determine to get Belle Marie away. But Mrs. Selina Sharp has come in quest of her faithless husband, and both Muggs and Sharp assume various disguises to put her off the scent. Eventually all is found out, and when Sharp tells Marie who she is, and wants to take her to England. The Lieutenant, however, claims her. Messrs. William P. Sheen and George Payne as Muggs and Sharp cause a good deal of fun. Mr. George Payne scores first honours in a smartly-written topical song, "Tweedledum and Tweedledee," while this merry couple's travesty of *Hamlet* is excruciatingly comical. Miss Gladdys Warry makes an exceedingly charming Marie in her picturesque Spanish costume. Miss Emily Hope as Mrs. Sharp is good with her Connie Ediss style. Mr. Courtney Comber makes a manly and sincere Lieutenant Kingston; and both in his love song, "I wish the girl I love loved me," and the patriotic ditty with its swinging chorus, "England is England still," is admirable. Mr. Walter Forth makes the most of the Spanish innkeeper Lazarillo; while the small but efficient chorus and Maitland's quartette of dancers add their moiety to the general success of *Luke Sharp of London*.

"THE LADY SUFFRAGETTIES" AND "THE POLICEMEN'S BALLET."

Another exhilarating absurdity was produced here on Monday evening by Freddie French and his company of comedians. Outside the Houses of Parliament comes a group of grotesquely-attired suffragettes, guarded by two stalwart constables. The principal lady sings a ditty, "We mean to have our votes," and gives off a violent diatribe against man and his perverse ways, and tells her hearers that the first thing they mean to do when they get into Parliament is to abolish honeymoons. A working man comes strolling along; she appeals to him as to his views on women's votes, and he tells her plainly her place is at home looking after her children. A street gamin next appears on the scene, and he gets a very bad five minutes at the hands of this virago, and is eventually rescued by the police, who return with an inspector and more of their comrades and arrest the whole body of suffragettes.

The scene changes to the stage of a municipal variety theatre, where the *corps de ballet* have struck. The manager comes on and asks for the kind indulgence of the audience, and whether they would accept a ballet by a body of police who are in the house. Assent by the audience is readily given, when some dozen policemen in uniform come on and indulge in a splendid burlesque of a ballet. A special word of praise is due to the juvenile comedian who assumes the character of the street gamin, and the Massim Quartette, who, under the guise of suffragettes, give pleasing evidence of well-trained and tuneful voices.

CAMBERWELL EMPIRE.

With Mr. Jesse Sparrow and Mr. Harry Bawn as managing-directors of a variety Empire, success is assured. It is a pleasure to record the fact that once again that old-time favourite comedian T. W. Barrett has returned to the sphere of his former triumphs, and the Empire patrons—although a generation younger—have recognised and endorsed, with no uncertain voice, the artistic abilities of a comedian who in the past century topped the bill at all the principal variety theatres. His quaint style is still in evidence in his two humorous songs, "Tommy, let me be," and "I shall never go back again." Mabel Bright and her youthful company are here in their bright musical mélange *Girls will be Girls*. In this pot-pourri Miss Bright takes most of the hard work on her shapely shoulders, and in both song and dance scores throughout, her efforts being loyally supported by the Misses Lottie Thorne, Dolly Lorne, Grace Zalska, Marie Dale, and Gwen Zalska. A very lively fifteen minutes is provided by the Mannon Troupe of acrobatic pantomimists in their pantomimic sketch, *Uncle Yank*. This clever combination, by the aid of trick scenery and furniture, keep the audience in a constant roar of merriment, and reap their reward in unlimited approbation. A smartly played little farcical comedy sketch is that entitled *Watch the Chalk*, presented by the Goodfellow Trio. The theme is a modernised version of *Taming the Shrew*, which always appeals to an audience. Quite a novelty is Frederica's collection of well-trained terriers and poodles. The last word in animal intelligence is demonstrated when their charming mistress joins in a cake-walk with a pretty miniature black pony. Her twelve docile and obedient dogs indulge in jumping, table spinning, turning somersaults, barrel rolling, skipping, vaulting, and parading in male and female attire. Princess Pauline, a dainty comedienne, charmingly attired in a dress of scarlet and old gold, sings a stirring song set to pretty music, entitled "The Grand Old Flag." This artist has the rare gift of being both heard and understood, and arouses a furore of patriotic fervour. Clester, a skilful and fearless American gymnast, does all manner of balancing on a slack wire, while baton swinging. Carson Hicks, the white coon, receives warm applause for his clever, quaint, and comical dancing. Smartly attired in a glittering costume, Miss Nellie Neil attempted a motto song, "Look after your pennies," and a coon song. Fields and Lewis, in singing, dancing, and comedy, keep their audience in a merry mood. Jeape's pictures first created much amusement with "The Animated Hoarding" and "The Nervous Kitchen Maid," and afterwards showed a most exciting picture of "The Desperate Footpad." Mr. Frank Hurst deserves a warm word of praise for the excellent work of his small but efficient orchestra.

RICHMOND THEATRE.

On Monday, April 29, a new Duologue, entitled

"THE SIDE-SLIP."

Jack Manners .....MR. LESLIE HOLLAND
Dolly Denholme .....MISS VERA VERE

An unambitious trifle that found immediate favour is the verdict that may be passed on this merry little sketch, which the author dubs—for want of a better description—"a racy duologue." The lady of the house is in a dilemma; she is left without servants at a moment when they are most needed, but resolves to prepare the dinner herself. At this moment enters a gentleman somewhat the worse for wear. He is at once mistaken for the gardener, and is pressed into the service to help in preparing the viands. Anon Jack Manners makes furious love to Miss Denholme under the impression she is the cook. Not to be outdone, Miss Denholme plays up to the part, and the usual misunderstandings follow. Miss Denholme retires, and Jack, who has met with an unexpected immersion, seeks refuge behind a screen, where he dons the only habiliments procurable, viz., a lady's skirt. Of course, all ends happily. Miss Dolly Denholme returns, and all ends *comme il faut*. Mr. Leslie Holland was delightfully droll as Jack Manners, and kept the house in a bubble of merriment. Equally clever, and not one whit less charming, was Miss Vera Vere as Dolly Denholme. Although it can hardly be said of *A Side-slip* that it bristles with humour, yet is it sufficiently amusing in the capable hands of Mr. Leslie Holland and Miss Vera Vere.

Apart from the sketch, the programme at the Richmond is quite up to the average. Miss Alice Maple sings prettily of flowers and love, and wins the approval of the audience. She is quite a clever little dancer, too, and was heartily applauded. As an actor-vocalist, Mr. Fred Bronte may lay full claim to the distinction; his "Vanity Fair" is admirably interpreted. He has a fine voice, and uses it to distinct advantage. The rage for juveniles seems just now fairly acute. Of Mr. Claude Fieldman's Beau Ideal Troupe of Prize Juveniles it may be said that they vocalise pleasantly, and are altogether an attractive "turn." A hornpipe in true nautical style arouses the house to enthusiasm. *Au reste*, they will do better things later. Little Zola dubs himself "an unusual comedian," and quite merits the appellation. His methods are quite unique, and his song, "Two and a bit," quite tickles the audience. He further evidences his drolleries in "Nursery Rhymes," and proved one of the favourites of the evening. The orchestra—always a pleasing feature here—gives a capital selection from *The Casino Girl*. A dainty little comedienne is Miss Daisy Stratton, whose contributions prove as refined as they are tuneful; quite a ravishingly pretty Dutch maiden she makes, and she deserves every plaudit bestowed on her charming efforts. Messrs. Hinton and Wooten get through some wonderful trick-riding in their bicycle football match, and replay the Cup-tie to the apparent satisfaction of everybody. "The Suffragette" gives Miss Lily Esplin an opportunity to exhibit her comic abilities, and there is much to be said in favour of *The Belle of Bonn*—a breezy, boisterous sketch, dealing with the German beer-gardens. There be worse places than Bonn if one half the things depicted by Moreton and Heath's company be true. The music of the sketch is both tuneful and catchy. The Bioscope leaves nothing to be desired.

NEW CROSS EMPIRE.

La Milo heads the bill here this week, and is drawing large audiences to each performance. This lady's speciality has been noticed and discussed so fully during the period she has been before the public that it is unnecessary to say more here than that she appears with her usual success, first in a series of Bioscope pictures, in which she looks very charming in outdoor dress, and afterwards as the living representative of some famous masterpieces of statuary. Ross and Grayson appear in a musical singing and dancing mélange which causes much amusement, and is warmly applauded; clever Miss Millie Lindon makes a welcome reappearance, and sings two songs in her own charming style, entitled "Mary" and "The angel of my dreams"; Mr. Lonnen Meadows presents a new version of a favourite old farce, which he calls *Kiss Your Father; or, The Irish Doctor*, in which he impersonates the O'Callaghan with great spirit and energy; Mr. Horace White is a clever and successful ventriloquist, his entertainment containing several novel features, which were duly appreciated; the Five Osranis are clever pantomime burlesque artists, and their turn is an exceedingly attractive item; Linden's Vaudeville Company presents a little contribution, entitled *Monks at Play*, and the singing of these artists is very pleasing, especially in "The monk may sigh," and their dancing is excellent; the American Bioscope pictures of the great football event and the capital little story entitled *Trapped by Pinkerton* are interesting in the extreme. Mme. Marzella's birds are a wonderfully trained collection of pigeons, parrots, macaws, and giant ravens whose marvellously clever tricks reflect the greatest credit on their fair teacher; Gintaro is a very clever Japanese equilibrist and top-spinner whose skill and dexterity delight everybody. La Milo has the advantage of Cruickshanks' lightning caricatures to fill in the short (but necessary) waits between the various subjects represented by her. Mr. Louis la Rondelle conducts the capital orchestra with his customary ability, and gave a fine rendering of a selection from *Lohengrin*. Mr. Ernest Bridgen is evidently the right man in the right place as manager of this handsome hall, where he looks after the comfort and enjoyment of the visitors most successfully.

ROYAL ALBERT.

From the rise of the curtain to the fall thereof merriment reigns supreme this week at the comfortable and popular house presided over by Mr. Arthur G. H. Hurst in Canning Town. Especial interest attaches to a new musical comedy sketch, entitled *Duck Hunting*, produced by Mr. Arthur Aiston and company. The scene is laid in a farmyard—an effective and realistic set. The simple story deals with an irascible old farmer, a pretty daughter, a sportsman of the "dude" description, lovers welcome and unwelcome, a drawwell, a duck, and a diamond ring. The dialogue throughout is of a smart nature; the songs, agreeably written and set to catchy music, are well sung; and the whole piece, on its first performance on Monday, went with perfect smoothness. Mr. Arthur Aiston's clever company played with the requisite "go," which kept the audience in a perpetual simmer of amusement. Altogether, *Duck Hunting* is one of those lively, bright, and inoffensive sketches that should be welcome at houses the patrons of which are pleased with a pretty, neat, and clean performance, and do not wish to be troubled with psychology or nerves.

A great favourite at Canning Town is Mr. Charles Bignell, whose ringing voice and comical manner give every possible effect to "The happiest man alive" and "Only Twenty-One"; while in the popular "Are we down-hearted?" the audience in every part of the house join in the emphatic "No!" with a heartiness that reverberates through the auditorium. Miss Billie Barlow, looking, if possible, younger and brighter than ever, throws every atom of her art and skill into the amusing "Oh, Nursie!" and, garbed as a principal boy of burlesque, brings the house down with "The Christmas Pantomime." Mr. Dan Filmer is an eccentric who knows how to fetch a popular audience, and his song "The Lady-Killer" goes with a shout. His extraordinary dancing, too, is received with thundering applause. Miss Ivy Adelaide sings prettily and dances with dainty footsteps. A very clever act is forthcoming from La Belle Maie, whose dancing on the wire is watched with breathless interest and rewarded with rounds of cheering. Another turn that keeps the house in loudly-expressed amusement is contributed by the Two Dominos, clown and donkey. The clown has plenty of ready patter at command, while the pure Arabian talking moke shows an amount of intelligence that might be envied by many of his human prototypes. Of course, his "talking" is not of the articulate order, but he is readily understood, and, what is more, evidently understands.

A second sketch, of a most laughable nature, is *The Topsy-Turvy School*, played by Mr. J. Collinson and his company. This is not inaptly described as "a screamingly farcical comedy." Mr. Collinson himself is irresistibly comical as the schoolmaster; and when, towards the end, he returns to his class after looking upon the wine not wisely but too well his acting reaches a high point of art, and, at the same time, steers clear of anything like vulgarity. The principal is capitally supported by a company of young people, who sing and dance with evident pleasure in their work. Raymond's Bio-Tableaux show some interesting films, which are well received. The orchestra, under the direction of Mr. J. Starck, plays a popular overture. Mr. A. G. Everitt proves himself an excellent stage-manager; and Mr. Alfred Levy, assistant-manager and secretary, looks well after everybody's comfort.

CROUCH END HIPPODROME.

This handsome and commodious place of entertainment continues to receive liberal patronage. The proprietors may be well content with the prosperity which has attended their well-judged enterprise, which has been a success from the commencement, and this week's bill amply proves their determination to retain a firm hold of popular favour, and the large audiences give expression of their approval of the liberal manner in which their requirements are catered for by the popular and business-like manager, the ever-amiable and energetic Mr. Henry de Groot. The performance commences with a well-rendered overture by the band, under the direction of Mr. J. H. Hutchinson. Miss Lily Stewart, a young and good-looking singer, follows with a ditty entitled "Cheer up, Mary," after which she contributes a well-executed dance. Mill, May, and Teresa follow in a novel entertainment of quick-change, song, and dance. The rapid changes are made in front of the audience, and meet with a decidedly favourable reception. Mr. Tom Yorke is an excellent exponent of coster comedy, and indubitably scores with his two songs, "Cutting down expenses" and "Half a loaf." A strong attraction is the burlesque business of Fields and Lewis. Their skit on an up-to-date drama is screamingly funny and entirely original, and ensures for them an enthusiastic recall. Miss Maudie Macdonald has many merits as a vocalist, and gives a tasteful rendering of "The Old Green Isle" and "Angus Macdonald," and is loudly acclaimed. Stave is a musical eccentric comedy artist of no mean order. A dummy cannon is displayed, which "goes off," and Stave comes tumbling from the interior, grotesquely made up as a Red Indian. He commences with an exhibition of his talent on the banjo; some amusing stories and patter follow, and a dummy lion suddenly appears, to the head, tail, and limbs of which are attached bells, and Stave plays a solo to the accompaniment of the orchestra. He concludes his clever turn with a long-boot dance. Mr. Chas. Sloman has an enthusiastic recognition of his abilities after his really good comic song, entitled "Who am I?" followed by some humorous patter, which causes hearty laughter. The Bates-Maddison company evokes enthusiastic applause in the well-known farcical sketch *Charley's Uncle*, and are followed by an artistic and acceptable turn, contributed by Miss Barbara Babbington, whose winning style, sweet voice, and prepossessing appearance have a most exhilarating effect. She sings "Somebody care for you" with commendable expression, and puts a praiseworthy amount of feeling into her rendering of "Will you love me in December as you did in May?" Mr. Leo Stormont's stirring rendering of "The Young British Soldier" excites the patriotism of his hearers, after which he gives a recitation, entitled "England for the English." He well deserves the hearty plaudits he receives. Statues are cleverly represented by Mlle. Rita, Walter and Max Seldom, and Franz de la Paix. Their contribution to the programme is keenly appreciated. An excellent entertainment ends with an exhibition of Bioscope pictures.

WOOLWICH HIPPODROME.

The management of this handsome house should be well satisfied with the first results of their efforts in placing before their patrons such excellent fare. Fully aware, however, that to enjoy good entertainment one must partake of it in comfort, they are leaving no stone unturned to provide suitable accommodation. The fauteuils and stalls, which comprise practically the whole of the floor, have been replaced by comfortable tip-up seats, which not only adequately fulfil their mission, but add greatly to the appearance of the house. With regard to the stage appointments, nothing further could be desired, the new scenery in use this week being very effective. Judging by the large and appreciative audiences that nightly fill the hall, it is evident that Mr. Walter Gibbons' endeavour to provide a high-class entertainment at popular prices is meeting with all the success it deserves.

A feature of the current bill is Mr. Paul Martinetti, who, supported by a strong company, introduces his sensational play without words, entitled *A Night Attack*. Mr. Martinetti as the intrepid travelling merchant who is successful in repelling the onslaught made by a band of Indians on a miners' settlement, has fine scope for his pantomimic abilities, and his adventures with various scalp-hunting Indians cause much amusement. The piece is well mounted, the scene of the Mining Settlement, with its rocks and mountain torrent, forming a realistic picture.

Mr. George Gilbey, the clever football comedian, is exceedingly funny in his sketch of the ups and downs (particularly the latter) of a professional goalkeeper, and deserves the flattering reception that is accorded to him. Mr. Will English, the popular coon comedian, keeps the house in roars of laughter with his quips and cranks and eccentric dancing, and in answer to further demands gives his ideas of different walks—such as the "Conservative Walk," the "Liberal Walk," and "the Woolwich to London Walk." Duval and Maguire shine in a novel vocal episode, their fine voices being heard to advantage in the duet "If a girl like you love a boy like me." Miss Gertie Gitana is a charming and dainty singer and dancer, and her rendering of "It seems to me" is highly appreciated. Mr. Joe Archer introduces some clever patter, and explains what would happen "If we hadn't any women in the world." The Two Bees (Henry and Flora Blake) supply a comical turn in their allegorical scena, *The Man in the Moon*. Mr. Ted Cowan, a noteworthy comedian, and Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope complete a varied and in every way excellent entertainment.

THE PALACE, STOKE NEWINGTON.

There is little need to wonder at the continued success of the Palace, Stoke Newington, seeing the excellence and variety of the programmes that Mr. Albert Gilmer puts before his patrons week by week, the present being no exception to the general rule. Although the last item of the performance, by no means the least important attraction in the present week's bill is the appearance of Mr. Arthur Conquest and his clever company of pantomimists in the North American sketch entitled *The Sioux*, an episode dealing with life in the backwoods. In this Mr. Conquest's performance of Chadi, the gorilla, is quite equal to any other of his marvellously clever animal imitations. He is well supported by the large and hard-working company he has gathered round him, and the sketch goes with a swing from start to finish, the reception accorded to it being cordial to a degree. Mr. Lloyd Morgan is a comedian with an irresistibly bright and breezy style that instantly appeals to his audience, and the go and dash with which he sings his two songs make one long for a third. The Palace Pictures, which are a standing dish in the Stoke Newington menu, are this week showing two very amusing films—the first depicting the rough handling meted out to a desperate footpad by an angry crowd, which finishes by his being thrown into some water, and the second, entitled "When We were Boys," shows two old gentlemen recalling to each other the mischievous pranks of their boyhood, their supposed conversation being interspersed by the showing on the screen of the various escapades they are calling back to memory. Miss Ruby Helder, a young lady with an extraordinary voice of a baritone quality, sings "When Other Lips," her second contribution being "The Boys of the Old Brigade," accompanying herself on the piano for the latter song. A most prominent part in the evening's amusement is taken by Mr. George Mozart, who can always be relied upon to keep his listeners laughing the whole time he is before them. It is an exceedingly quaint and droll turn in which he is at present appearing, which he seems to enjoy as much as his audience enjoy watching it. His imitation of a German band on a clarionet, his imitation of a conductor of a Hungarian band, and his impression of Mr. James Glover controlling the Drury Lane orchestra are a few of the most amusing of the many excellent items he contrives to crowd into his most enjoyable contribution to the programme. A comedy act entitled *Pipple from Poppleton* is presented by Cullane's Comedy Four, in which the low-comedian works very hard, and the two ladies and remaining gentleman furnish some effective singing in the sort of a musical mélange with which the act concludes. Mr. Ted Cowan is a comedian with a style of his own, and he scores well with the two songs in which he is heard. The Cecilias, a couple of clever lady instrumentalists, add to the general enjoyment of the evening, the cornet playing of one of the ladies being a specially noteworthy feature. Mr. Fred Durnstone's comic songs, the duets and dances of the Two Graces, and Miss Edie Veno's song and dance complete the entertainment. It is almost unnecessary to say that under the skilful direction of Mr. Norfolk Megone the orchestra is all that can be desired, and Mr. T. J. Robinson continues to provide for the comfort of the visitors to this hall with all his customary care and consideration.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.

Walthamstow folk are being entertained here with a very fine programme, upon which Mr. Arthur J. Barclay may be congratulated. After the spirited overture, "Zodiack," a mirth-provoking scene is enacted by Cole and Rags, who are full of fun; their excellent fooling meets with and merits the most cordial approval. Nothing more genuinely comical has been seen here for a long time. It may be difficult to decide which is Cole and which is Rags, but the combination is irresistible. Miss Maud Courtney sings charmingly "Wouldn't that be a dream," and enlivens her turn with some agreeable patter. A distinct novelty is provided by Mr. C. Emlyn Jones and his Ladies' Quartette. The gentleman takes his place in the conductor's chair in the orchestra and sings, facing the audience, while his quartette of ladies join in the chorus from one of the private boxes, with a strong limelight thrown on them from the "prompt" side. Mr. Jones sings "Memories" charmingly, and the melodious quartette do ample justice to the chorus.

There is plenty of humour of the rough-and-tumble order in the performance of the Seven Wulfrunas with their *Fun in a Café*. Miss Lilian Lowe, possessed of a fine appearance and a beautiful voice, sings artistically "Loch Lomond" and "I never knew before how much I loved you." The singer is rapturously applauded.

Mere words can hardly convey the pleasure derived by the appearance of Henry de Vry's "marble statuary" act. It is something altogether above and beyond the usual run of living statuary. The grouping is splendid, and suggests the time when Phidias was at his best and the bas-reliefs of the Parthenon were fresh from the sculptor's chisel. If one can imagine the Grecian Gallery of the British Museum with all the groups in their original purity of white marble, one can conjure up these admirable representations. Nothing more refined and artistic is possible. Maidens and young men, all of whom are exquisitely formed, pose themselves in various groups that give the immediate impression that they have just been carved out of the living marble. Out of the nine tableaux presented it would be impossible to select any for conspicuous praise, but "Peace," "Music and Dance," and "The Runners" might be selected as especial triumphs.

Mr. Fred Eustace and his company appear with the greatest success in that interesting sketch *The Amber Light*. The piece is one of the cleverest little dramas seen for a long time, thrilling in its story and witty in its dialogue. The plot is dovetailed most adroitly, and the situations are exciting without being forced. Mr. Fred Eustace himself is simply superb as the imperturbable Hyram G. Fletcher, displaying a wealth of dry, incisive humour; Mr. Walter Graham is admirably cool as the cold-blooded "villain of the piece," James Dalton; Mr. Charles Gordon is a dignified Sir John Montague; and Mr. George Butler is capital as the servant, John. Miss Mary Eustace makes good use of her opportunities as Mary Montague, her fine presence aiding her greatly. The sketch goes to the accompaniment of continual laughter and applause. For the stage-management of a busy evening the warmest praise is due to Mr. Joseph Grant. In Mr. Arthur J. Barclay's enforced absence at "another place" much credit is due to the management of Mr. Geo. F. Slatter, who is untiring in his efforts to make everybody comfortable and happy.

LONDON MUSICIANS.

A movement of considerable importance to musicians is on foot in London. Recent events have shown the necessity for more unity among the ranks of all engaged in theatres and music-halls. While new unions are being formed, the older organisations are coming into closer touch to gain greater strength, and it is to be hoped that the efforts now being made to establish an agreement between the Musicians Union and the Orchestral Association will be successful.

A conference has been arranged to take place in the smaller Queen's Hall on Sunday evening, Mal 12, for the purpose of considering the following resolutions, which will be submitted in the name of the committee of each society:—(1) "That the members of both societies present hereby instruct their respective executives to draw up a working agreement for joint action by both societies." (2) "That both societies bind their members not to play for less than 36s. per week of six performances. Extra performances to be paid pro rata." (3) "That after a date to be agreed upon by the executives of both societies the members of both societies agree not to play with any musician in any Metropolitan theatre or music-hall who is not a member of either society."

A TERRIFYING scene was witnessed in Paris on Tuesday at the Apollo, in the Rue de Clichy. A turn, described as "Mr. Wood and the Sisters Rosie in a sensational scene on the tight-rope," was in progress. The sisters, who had to walk along a tight wire over an open cage containing two lions, and their trainer, Mr. Wood, were about halfway across when the wire broke, and they fell into the den. The lions became infuriated, and before the trainer could do anything, Mlle. Elsie Rosie had received a long wound extending from the shoulder to the thigh, and causing abundant hemorrhage. The other girl, who fell full length into the den, was, thanks to the trainer's courage, preserved from any very serious injury. Mlle. Elsie is slowly recovering.

TREE-FELLERS AND COLONISTS.

Mr. Fred Trussell, in introducing Messrs. H. H. Jackson and Peter McLaren, in their clever and novel tree-felling act at the London Hippodrome on Monday in the presence of Mr. Winston Churchill, the Under-Secretary for the Colonies, and several representatives of Britain overseas, made the following admirable speech:—

Ladies and Gentlemen, before introducing to you the two exponents of the art of tree-felling and wood-cutting, who have been brought by us from the Antipodes, I propose, with your kind indulgence, to say a few words about this remarkable and entirely novel exhibition, which will, I think, be interesting. We were influenced by a variety of motives in incurring this expense and risk. First, of course, was the desire to place before our patrons an entirely novel entertainment, but we were also moved by strong Imperialistic leanings. We thought that to lift an entire scene, with its living actors, from the depths of the bush, and place it bodily in the Hippodrome arena, could not fail to make one more of the all-too-desirable links in that consummation so devoutly to be wished, complete union between the Mother Country and her Colonies (great applause), and a unity of sympathy and interest between those who like ourselves, pass our lives in the heart of London, and our brothers in flesh and blood and speech, who are toiling away "down under" making Empire for us. (Applause.)

We were at the outset faced with enormous difficulties. First, it was necessary to find someone who would make the journey to the Bush and obtain the services of the two champions of the Colony, to make them such an offer as would induce them to leave their homes, and give up their business surroundings for some considerable time; and, finally, to have some one hundred tons of the actual trees felled and shipped to England.

All these details were successfully accomplished—I need not say at enormous expense—with the result that you have here before you the actual scene, painted from photographs, at which the trees were felled, here around me are the men who felled them, and these are the actual trees, known as the Blue Gum or Messmate.

This wood is exceedingly hard, almost iron-like, and in order that you may be able to appreciate this to the full, I will have trays of the chips passed round after the exhibition, in order that they may be inspected by you or taken away as souvenirs.

I beg to point out to you that wood-chopping and tree-felling in our great Australian Colony is nothing short of a national sport, just as is cricket, golf, football, &c., and in all great popular assemblies there is always a grand tree-felling competition. The two men we have with us have met in such competitions as rivals times without number, in the presence of Government and municipal authorities, and of practically the entire population.

Ladies and gentlemen, the Hippodrome has had the honour of welcoming within its walls every crowned head that has visited London, and our own Royal Family are constant patrons; but the gathering this evening is quite unique in that we have amongst us every one of the Agents-General of all the Governments of the Australian Commonwealth, as well as the Prime Minister of Victoria, and many important Government officials. On the part of my directors I desire to thank those gentlemen for their presence and support, and for the great assistance we have received from some of them in arranging the details of the act and the scene in which it is set. I desire also to tender our thanks to the Imperial Government for the support given to our enterprise by the Colonial Office, through the personal patronage of the Right Hon. Winston Churchill, M.P.

I will now introduce to you the two men, Henry Horrocks Jackson and Peter McLaren. Jackson is the undisputed champion of Australia, both with the axe and saw, and jointly with McLaren with the double-handed saw. McLaren is the man who has run Jackson closest, though it singularly happens that he has created a record in tree-felling, having succeeded in cutting through a log 65in. in girth in the extraordinary time of 1min. 8sec.

They will first cut through this log, measuring 63in. in circumference. The record time for this act is, I believe, 26secs. Then they will cut through these two 60in. logs with the axe, which will be an actual competition, and may the best man win; and that, ladies and genlemen, will conclude the exhibition this evening, which will, however, be varied as far as possible at future performances.

STAFFORD SMITH'S new dramatic sketch, *Across the Continent*, will be produced on Monday at Richmond Theatre.

CLARENCE DELANEY, a young man, describing himself as a labourer, and giving no address, was convicted by Mr. Marsham, at Bow-street, of exposing and offering for sale a pirated copy of a musical work entitled "When the sunset turns the ocean's blue to gold." Prisoner, when seen offering copies of the pirated music for sale outside the Gaiety Theatre, was taken into custody, and while on the way to the police-station the constable was tripped up by some men, who succeded in taking away all the music in question, with the exception of one copy. Delaney, who had been prtviously convicted of a similar offence, was fined £5; in default, twenty-one days' imprisonment.

FEW persons are aware, points out the *Daily Telegraph*, that the departed wheel at Earl's Court was anticipated by Shakespeare. In the third act of *Hamlet*, scene 3, Rosencrantz remarks:—

It is a massy wheel,
Fix'd on the summit of the highest mount,
To whose huge spokes ten thousand lesser things
Are mortis'd and adjoin'd; which, when it falls,
Each small annexment, petty consequence,
Attends the boist'rous ruin.

THE ninth annual dinner and prize distribution has just recently taken place at the Perseverance Hotel, Vassall-road, Brixton, of the Stockwell Angling Society, the flourishing body which includes so many well-known members of the profession. The musical part of the evening was in the hands of Mr. Harry Payne, amongst the artists appearing being Miss Nellie Beare and Messrs. St. John Long, Bob Angus, Victor Lodge, and Virto, Mr. Charles Hardy and Master Fred Payne being the "turns" at the piano. Messrs. C. Powell and Jack Higham were chairmen.

ENTHUSIASM reigned supreme, especially among the prize-winners, some heavy lots going as a result of long hours on the bank. The heaviest fish weighed in during the season was a 16lb. pike by the president, Mr. Fred Redfern, who, being on tour with the New York Nippers, was unavoidably absent. Mr. A. Jenkins secured the first point for the Perseverance Cup with a Thames roach of 1lb. 6oz.; and Mr. William Eyke (of Messrs. Francis and Day's staff) was the heaviest scorer with no fewer than eleven prizes, followed by Messrs. C. Powell, A. Ansty, R. Harvey, J. Higham, &c. The total gross weight for the season was 843lb., all the fish being of the Society's standard, so it is evident that the humorous text for anglers which was recently improvised by a well-known fisherman does not apply to any member of the Stockwell. It was, "Behold! he riseth up early in the morning and disturbeth the whole household. Mighty in preparation, he goeth forth full of hope; when the day is far spent he returneth, smelling of strong waters, and the truth is not in him."

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

Fairs Ahead.

THE Fairs ahead for next week are:—Abingdon, on the Great Western; Alnwick, on the North-Eastern; Chester, on the London and North-Western, Great Western, and Cheshire lines; Cornhill-on-Tweed, on the North-Eastern; Dudley, on the London and North-Western and Great Western; Heckmondwike, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Ivinghoe, on the London and North-Western; Lewes, on the London, Brighton, and South Coast; Looe, on the Great Western; Macclesfield, on the London and North-Western and Great Central; Morpeth, on the North-Eastern and North British; Pleasley, on the Midland and Great Northern; Ipswich, on the Great Eastern; Kirkhampton; Leintwardine, on the London and North-Western; Maldon, on the Great Eastern; Braintree, on the Great Eastern; Colne, on the Midland and Lancashire and Yorkshire; Hereford, on the North-Western, Great Western, and Midland; Market Bosworth, on the Midland and London and North-Western; Swaffham, on the Great Eastern; Bildesdon, on the Great Eastern; Blyth, on the Great Northern; Dorking, on the South-Eastern and London, Brighton, and South Coast; Kirkby Lonsdale, on the London and North-Western; Loughborough, on the Midland, Great Central, and London and North-Western; Mirfield, on the London and North-Western and Lancashire and Yorkshire; Newbury, on the Great Western; North Walsham, on the Great Eastern, Midland, and Great Northern; Orpington, on the South-Eastern; Soham, on the Great Eastern; Stamfordham, on the North-Eastern; Wigan, on the London and North-Western, Great Central, and Lancashire and Yorkshire; Beaconsfield, on the Great Western; Farnham, on the London and South-Western; Stonehouse, on the Great Western and Midland; Clun, on the London and North-Western; Chelmsford, on the Great Eastern; Congleton, on the North Staffs; Haverhill, on the Great Eastern; Holmfirth, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Lambourn, on the Lambourn Vale; Leicester, on the Midland, North-Western, and Great Northern; Lowestoft, on the Great Eastern; Lymington, on the London and South-Western; Much Wenlock, on the Great Western; Richmond (Yorks), on the North-Eastern; Spalding, on the Great Northern, Great Eastern, and Midland; Staines, on the Great Western and South-Western; Sturminster Newton, on the Midland and London and South-Western; Totnes, on the Great Western; Wadebridge, on the Great Western and South-Western; Worsted, on the Great Eastern; Yaxley, on the Great Northern Railways.

IN Scotland:—Aberdeen, on the Caledonian, North British, Great Northern of Scotland, and Deeside Railways.

IN Wales:—Crickhowell, on the North-Western and Great Western; Llanidloes, on the Cambrian and Great Western; Llanelly, on the Great Western; Pen-y-groes, on the London and North-Western Railways.

Knutsford May Fair.

IN connection with the crowning of the May Queen there is always a great pleasure fair on Knutsford Heath. This year (despite the inclement weather) there has been an unusually large aggregation of shows and other novelties. Amongst the larger concerns were George Green's cinematograph theatre and Relph and Pedley's electrograph. A particularly interesting feature of the fair, however, was the excellent variety of smaller shows. These included Professor Ruby's demonstration of occult mystery, Haydn and Clytie's second sight séance, Messrs. Styles, Campbell, and Rayner's Divers beneath the sea exhibition; T. Wortley's model colliery exhibition, C. Relph's freak show; E. Ball's midget show, Hughes' school of boxers, and Wortley's novelty booth.

Machine Novelties.

THE long length of the centre of the ground was occupied by the following machines:—John Whiting's Japanese cars, George Green's motor cars, John Collins's gallopers, T. Hurst's racing birds, Royle's steam horses, Relph and Pedley's whirling the whirl, Isaac Richard's steam yachts, and Dyson's oscillator. The smaller machines included Whiting's motor cars, Mercer's motor cars, and Mrs. Massey's gem swings.

All the Fun of the Fair.

AMONGST the other caterers of amusements were Messrs. George Cornwell, Hughes and Martin, White, Jewell, and Marsden, with shooting concerns; S. Walker, with emma sheets and aerial flight; S. Mercer, A. Whatmore, R. Harrington, G. Murphy, J. Jones, White, J. Harrington, J. H. Royle, Jones, Dillon, Mitchell, and Mrs. Whiting, with throwing games and varieties. The excellent photographic concerns of Messrs. Barker and Gunthorpe finished the list of things at Knutsford Fair.

Spring Fairs in Yorkshire.

AT Birstall were Harry Ashington's cinematograph and marionette theatre, Tower's freak show, Goldthorpe Marshall's motor cars, Burgin's steam swings, Houldsworth's Winchester range, and Tower's bottle smasher; throwing games, &c., by Barker, Burgin, Lloyd, Johnson, Guthrie, Blackborn, and Bassett. At Bowling were Testo's cinematograph, Waddington's motors, Corrigan's steam yachts, Jameson's Winchester range and bottle battery, Burrell's rifle saloons, Rhodes' bottle smasher, and stalls and novelties by other caterers. At Great Horton were Professor Gibson's second sight show, Texas Bill's ranche exhibition, W. H. Marshall's gondolas, and galloping horses, the shooting concerns of Messrs. Barker, Houldsworth, and Proctor, with the usual attendant throng of throwing games, stalls, &c.

South Shields.

THIS fair has for its entertainers William Wilson, with cinematograph theatre; J. Murphy, with motor-car set; Claude Hamilton and Walker Hoadley, with steam horse sets; E. Morali, with helter-skelter lighthouse; and George Gray and W. Spencer, with swings.

Lincoln Great Fair.

THE Cathedral city lends itself admirably to the modern development of the show business. Lasting as it does for eight days, it attracts some of the best concerns on the road. This year the principal shows were Randall Williams' (Monte Brothers) cinematograph theatre, Tuby and Sons' coliseum, E. Farrer's cinematograph, J. Procter's cinematograph, and Holland's similar concern. Prince Samouda, in his temple of magic and second sight, was an interesting and successful novelty at the fair. The machine list included motor-cars, switchbacks, steam horses, and swings by Messrs. Warren, A. Martin, Tuby, Smith and Warren, Cox and Sons, and Ben Howden and Sons. The Winchester ranges, rifle saloons, and bottle batteries were provided by Messrs. Ward, Eva, Atkins, Holland, Barwick, Bland, Chapman, Smith, Richards, and Wallser. The throwing games and variety stalls were provided by Messrs. Gillett, Smith, Wallser, Angus, Barwick, Cornwell, Ball, and Eva.

Alton Fair.

ALTON in Hampshire has its fair on the last Saturday in April, and the lessee of the ground, W. Matthews, the well-known Hampshire showman, provides the principal novelties. These include steam horses and ostriches, Winchester ranges, rifle saloons, and bottle batteries. With Mr. Matthews are associated Messrs. Odam and Coates, with swings and throwing games.

Hatfield Fair.

THIS interesting Hertfordshire fixture was, as usual, under the management of Mr. Harris, the local showman, who provided the following interesting novelties:—Motor-cars, two novelty booths, rifle saloon, bottle smasher, and swings. With Mr. Harris were associated Messrs. Brinkley, Ridley, and Shaw, who exhibited steam horses, ostriches, shooting concerns, swings, and throwing games. The big show and principal novelty was Mrs. A. Barker's cinematograph theatre.

Bracknell Fair.

THE principal concerns at this fair were Biddall's royal bioscope and theatre of varieties, Thomas's steam horses and park swings, Andrews and Saunders' shooting concerns and throwing games, variety stalls and novelties by Slaney, Davis, Thomas, and other caterers.

Bridgnorth Fair,

held on the old recreation grounds under terribly bad weather conditons, was this year maintained by Sol. Reader's two novelty shows, S. Shepherd's racing motor-cars and switchback, Gottheimer's three-abreast galloping horses, throwing games by Messrs. Dobson Bros., and shooters by Morris and W. Dobson.

WE call our showmen readers' attention to the very important notice in our advertising columns of a special meeting of the Roundabout Proprietors' and Showmen's Union at Salford on Monday next. The proposed alteration in railway rates would seriously injure the show business in every branch.

The Return of Summer.

GLORIOUS sunshine blessed the May-Day revels at Knutsford. For once the croakers of weather disaster were found false prophets, and the Knutsford May pageant proved a glorious success. Just before mid-day the excursion trains began to roll in from all parts, and the thousands of visitors gleefully made their way through the town, adding to the scheme of decoration in the streets with their many-coloured adornments. Knutsford itself was a picture of brightness, flags and streamers waving welcome to all. Round the Heath the bustle was at its greatest. Here the May-Day Fair, under John Wheiing's banner—with such shows as Green's and Relph and Pedley's cinematograph theatre, occultists like Profs. Ruby and Haydn, and side shows by Messrs. Styles, Campbell and Co., Wortley, Ball, C. Relph, and Hughes—delighted the multitude. The machine novelties of George Green, Whiting, Hurst, Richards, Royle, J. Collins, Mercer, Relph and Pedley, Massey, and Dyson in a real sense kept up the whirligig of joyous merriment, and all the fun of the fair was in full swing.

Nursery Rhymes Pictured.

CHEERING crowds lined the route from the Town Hall to the Heath. The procession was long, an achievement in dress and style, a marvel in colouring and decoration, and a decided accomplishment in the arrangement of spectacular detail. Nothing pleased the juvenile element so much as the dainty characterisation of nursery rhymes. Almost last of all, following her crown-bearer, Master Sedyric S. Newton, and her maids of honour, came the Queen, Miss Ethel Todd, in her beautiful Royal carriage. As Wendy in *Peter Pan* would say, it was all "frightfully fascinating."

The Coronation Ceremony.

BY this time the sun was triumphant, and the enjoyment was in keeping with the conditions. After the procession had left the Town Hall the hundreds who watched it start made the shortest cut to the Heath, where the scene was extremely picturesque. The crowds inside the ring waited with patience until the leading items in the procession appeared. They were greeted with plaudits, and the ringing cheers broke out with renewed and redoubled fervour when Her Majesty's equipage entered the arena. Bowing, she was driven round her kingdom so that all might behold the people's elect. Then, with a pretty grace, she was escorted to her throne, which was draped in Royal purple and threaded with gold. When the Queen was crowned the honour was acclaimed with much enthusiasm by her subjects. Round the Maypole her admirers danced merrily, and the day's event was a brilliant and gorgeous success.

It is just exactly twenty years since their present Majesties, then Prince and Princess of Wales, witnessed, and were highly pleased with, the celebrations, and accepted from the May Queen of that year a bouquet, subsequently giving to the committee the title to use the prefix "Royal."

Each year witnesses some important and interesting feature added to the pageant. The novelties this year included, amongst others, thirty or forty girls, in dainty frocks, who danced along the route from the Town Hall to the Heath. Then there were the Crewe Morris Dancers, always an integral part of the procession, royal jesters, and tableaux founded on nursery rhymes. These evoked the admiration of a great crowd of people. There were also the ancient sedan, a representation of King Canute, statue dancers, Maypole dancers, boys and girls of different nationalities, Grace Darling and her father, lady hornpipe dancers, Maid Marian, foresters, &c.

The Show World at the Academy.

IT is interesting to note that the only picture exhibited this year by Mr. Byam Shaw, R.I., deals with the show world. It is an evening scene by an old green drinking-fountain, and it shows a captivating columbine, in pink tulle, kissing harlequin under the trees, while pantaloon peeps at them slily over his fingers, the clown roars with laughter, and a serious policeman "stands by."

Redskins and Cowboys.

THIS film, one of Pathé Frères, is very effective and sensational, and should be added to every showman's collection. It depicts the Redskin flogged by the white man; he swears revenge, and steals the white man's wife from the old coach. There is a rescue by the white men through the intelligence of a dog, who takes them a message from the wife. It is illustrated by gorgeous scenery.

Carmarthen.

THIS week Messrs. Fossett's circus paid a visit to the town, and was liberally patronised by the inhabitants. The entertainment provided was abundant, and the audience were highly pleased with the various performances.

Sad Death of a Circus Artist.

A PRIVATE telegram from New York announces the death of Mme. Gaertner, who seven weeks ago was starring as a trick rider as Hengler's Circus, London. Though performing her tricks with thorough success, the lady was in ill-health, and when a good offer came from America, where her husband is a prominent juggler, she accepted it, hoping the voyage would benefit her, but she grew worse, and died immediately after landing. Her last message was to her four-year-old daughter at Blackpool, who has been constantly asking for her mother, who was only twenty-four years of age. Mme. Gaertner was a pupil for many years under Mr. William Tudor, who is now performing in London, and whose family have run circuses in Great Britain and on the Continent for four generations. Black Bess, the famous mare known in Cook's Circus for the Turpin Ride, was used for years by the late Mme. Gaertner, to whom the intelligent animal was obedience itself. The horse is now resting at Hengler's Cirque.

The "Zancigs" of the Fairground.

PROFESSOR HAYDN and Clytie have created a great deal of excitement at Moss Side, a suburb of Manchester. The Professor, with his miniature temple of magic, had a short season at the Moss Side Fair, organised by Mr. William Holmes, and a correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian* visited the fair and thus speaks of Professor Haydn and Clytie's performance of telepathy:—"A woman sat on a chair facing the audience; she was blindfolded. A man went quickly among the people, asking questions with great rapidity. 'What is this?' 'A gold chain.' 'How many links?' 'Fourteen.' 'This?' 'An Indian coin.' 'This?' 'An enamelled bracelet with Maltese cross design.' 'This?' 'A silver watch with the little finger broken'—and so on. The performance lasted not more than six or seven minutes, but certainly not less than fifty or sixty questions were asked and correctly answered. I am a close student of music-halls, but I have never seen anything so quick, so sure, so startling. The answer was in each case given immediately the question was put. A verbal code was out of the question, and it was impossible for the woman to see the objects indicated."

THE rapidity and smartness with which Haydn and Clytie do their business has been well known for years past to frequenters of our fairs. We have also seen Prince Samouda and his accomplished wife the Princess in their second-sight business, and we are compelled in all fairness to confess that the second-sight experts who travel from fair to fair exhibit a proficiency and marvellous certainty in their business that equals the very best telepathic exhibitions of recent date, and we compliment Professor Haydn and Clytie on the deserved success of their extremely interesting and expert performances.

Moss Side Fair, Manchester,

held on a spare piece of ground at the end of Lloyd-street, and under Mr. Holmes's management, has been very successful. The exhibitions were: George Green's coliseum of animated photography (acting and speaking pictures, illustrator and elocutionist, Mr. Styles) and empire of varieties, Professor Haydn and Clytie's thought-reading show (two minds with but a single thought), Hague's school of boxers, Mitchell's motor cars, Hurst's poultry farm, Holmes's galloping horses, Richards's steam yachts, Houldsworth's helter-skelter, Brierley's gem swings, and Shuttleworth's big wheel. There was the usual aggregation of minor novelties.

"The Hero."

ONE of the latest and most effective films produced by the Vitagraph Company of America is that of "The Hero: a Story of Everyday Life." As our illustration indicates, it depicts a thrilling rescue from a burning building. The scene opens in front of an apartment house, with pedestrians passing to and fro, when suddenly a commotion occurs, the doors are burst open, and several excited people rush out. Out of the door, from which smoke begins to pour, dashes a lady shrieking wildly for her little girl, and at the same instant at one of the topmost windows a child appears. The distracted mother tries to rush back into the burning house, but she is prevented by bystanders, who know that it would be certain death to re-enter. Suddenly the crowd is parted,

and a young man, throwing off his coat and hat, commences to climb up the iron leader pipe on the corner of the building, and finally reaches the top story. Carefully reaching out and steadying the little child as she climbs over the window sill, he begins his perilous descent. As he passes each successive floor the flames and smoke from the windows almost blind him, but at last he reaches the ground in safety, and delivers his precious charge to the joyful mother. The film, which is 250 feet in length, in copyright.

A New Motor Switchback.

THE Selby Motor and Engineering Company, Ltd., have just completed for Mr. Holland, the well-known roundabout proprietor, a motor switchback, consisting of eight motor cars, each car holding nine passengers, the machine only occupying 41ft. in diameter, yet having the same earning capacity as a 52ft. diameter machine. A successful run was made a week ago, starting without a hitch and attaining great speed, with intense sensation owing to the small circumference and steepness of the track. Mr. Holland is delighted with the all-round excellence of his machine. Its success solves the problem that has much occupied the minds of riding masters, as to the possibility of manufacturing on a track of such a small diameter as 41ft., a machine compact enough to travel on five loads by road or rail. Mr. Holland has not only accomplished this important working fact, but claims also that his machine creates a record.

IN connection with their carnival, Messrs. Delmar, the managers of the Palace at Bridlington, have introduced a novelty to this popular place of resort in the person of Sacco, the celebrated fasting man, who on Monday last was sealed up in his 10ft. glass house, where he is to fast for twenty-five days.

MR. GEORGE BURTON, the old-established South Yorkshire gala caterer, has been entrusted with the management of the great Hallam hire carnival, which takes place on August 5, 6, and 7. The "Royal" caterer has also been appointed director of the revels at the "Olde English Merry-makeing," to be held in July at the historic Bolsover Castle.

DEATH OF MR. C. C. FELL.

On Tuesday, the 23rd ult., there passed away, in the person of Mr. C. C. Fell, one of Scotland's most respected and highly-esteemed amusement caterers. Twenty-three years ago Mr. Fell forsook commercial life in Lancashire and took over the American Museum, 101, Trongate, Glasgow. From the first Mr. Fell's ideal was to provide an entertainment free from reproach. His uninterrupted run of twenty years in the same building shows how well he accomplished his purpose. It was Mr. Fell's greatest pride to know that his entertainment was regarded as an exhibition to which parents could bring their families without fear of offence. He was an untiring worker, thoroughly honest and punctual in all his dealings, and a considerate employer. He went into retirement three years ago, and his many friends both in this country and abroad will regret that his period of leisure has been so soon cut off. He was sixty-four years of age, and his remains were interred in the Glasgow Cathcart Cemetery, the grave being covered with floral tokens of the high esteem in which the deceased was held.

THE SHOWMEN'S GUILD AT KNUTSFORD.

Continuing his interesting itinerary of the British Fairs, the Rev. T. Horne organised and carried through two important meetings at Knutsford May Fair. As already indicated in *The Era*, Mr. Horne had the sanction and co-operation of the Vicar of Knutsford. The afternoon meeting, strictly confined to show people, took the form of a conference on the present aspect of the show business and the means to be taken to combat local authorities adverse to it. In spite of the inclement weather the attendance at the meeting was a representative one, the showmen present and taking part in the proceedings including Mr. George Green, V.P., Mr. John Whiting, V.P., Mr. R. Newall, V.P., Mr. G. H. Cornwell, V.P., Mr. S. Mercer, member of Committee, and the following members and friends of the Showmen's Guild:—Mr. I. Richards, Mr. A. Whatmore, Professor Ruby, Professor Haydn, Mr. Styles, Mr. Pablo, Mr. Rayner, Mr. Campbell, and others.

TRADE DEFENCE.

In opening the conference the Rev. T. HORNE dwelt upon the important work of the Showmen's Guild in defending the trade interests of amusement caterers, and in fostering a right and just public opinion with regard to the open-air amusements of the British public. He particularly urged upon the showmen present the duty of taking an active part in the work of trade defence. He urged upon them that as they travelled through the country they should take notice of all attempts to injure the business of the fairground, and whenever the fair ground business is attacked in the public Press forward a copy of the local papers to the office of *The Era*, and the matter would be immediately dealt with.

He assured them that as regards the attack on their business, in Private Bill Legislation the Guild executive, through its Parliamentary defence work were in a position to completly safeguard their interests. It was not so with regard to the equally important question of proposed bye-laws. They had no means of getting to know in many cases when bye-laws inimical to showmen were being put forward. This was why he urged showmen, as they travelled the country, to give some time and attention to the local Press, for it was mostly in the out-of-the-way corners of the country that successful efforts were being made to damage their business.

It was quite true, he said, that as regards the great towns and the great industrial counties they were able to obtain information without depending upon the vigilance of the individual members of their organisation. They had nothing to fear from these great Corporations. He instanced the negotiations of the Guild with great public bodies like the County of Lancashire and the County of Cheshire. These great public authorities had accepted the reasonable amendments which the organised showmen, through the Guild, had put before them. It was extremely satisfactory that throughout the length and breadth of the County of Cheshire, in which the present fair was located, the fairs, wakes, feasts, and festivals of the people are exempted in full from the restrictions of very inimical bye-laws.

Referring to another important branch of their work on its Parliamentary side, he showed how important it was that the machinery for scrutinising and opposing Private Bill legislation should be kept in full working vigour. The latest instance of this was the well-known Rawtenstall Corporation Markets Bill. Their society had been compelled to petition against that Bill because they could not get a satisfactory definition of its power and scope from its promoters.

It is a curious point in English law that there is no legal definition of the difference between a fair and a market. In many instances fair and market are interchangeable terms, and unless it is specifically set out in a charter that a fair is for the purposes of pleasure as well as business there is considerable legal doubt as to whether a market may be held at the same time as a fair, or a fair at the same time as the market.

Our Guild had to go through the expensive procedure of opposition by petition and pleading by counsel before the Parliamentary Committee of the House of Commons in order to compel the Corporation of Rawtenstall to confess that when their Bill said markets they did not mean it to include fairs. The conference, he added, would readily perceive the importance of the definition, for it was settled for all time that whilst the Corporation by their private Act obtained full power of control over all markets within the Borough, they had no power to prohibit showmen opening up private land within the Borough for fairground purposes.

In opening the discussion Mr. STYLES warmly commended the work of the Showmen's Guild, and expressed his full appreciation of the good work done by their friend and champion, the Rev. T. Horne. He also expressed the general opinion of showmen when he said that as a body they owed a debt of gratitude to Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, of *The Era* newspaper, who had consistently defended the business of amusement caterers not only in the United Kingdom, but throughout he world.

SUPPORT THE GUILD.

Mr. PABLO, as an old showman, and as one who was concerned in the very early days of the formation of the Showmen's Guild, urged upon the conference the duty of supporting its work with ample funds. He very much feared that whilst other societies representing sectional interests were dividing travellers into class against class, the work of the old van-dwellers' society was being injured in the cross purposes and jealousies of the new organisation. Here, he said, was a society that rose above party divisions and defended them from every attack and endeavoured to raise them and their calling in life in public esteem and popularity.

Mr. JOHN WHITING heartily agreed with the previous speakers as to the necessity of maintaining the working efficiency of the society. He was glad to think that he had never faltered in his adherence to the old society, and he was proud to be identified with its good work.

RAILWAY CHARGES.

Mr. GEORGE GREEN also warmly commended the work of the Guild to his fellow showmen, and warned them that unless they were united, the various interests opposed to them would seriously cripple their enterprise. He instanced the extremely serious nature of proposed additional charges for railway transit by the combined railway companies. These charges, affecting all show goods travelling by rail, would so increase the cost of carriage as to make it impossible for the great bulk of the concerns to trade with the companies. They had an important deputation to represent the combined interests of the fairground, and that deputation would go before the Railway Clearing House during the next week, and he trusted with some confidence that they would be able to convince the railway companies that their proposed charges would constitute too great a strain for the show business to bear.

The other speakers joining in the conference were Messrs. Ruby, S. Mercer, George Cornwell, and Haydn.

THE GUILD SERVICE.

The gathering in the evening took the form of a Guild Service, and, like the conference, was held in Mr. George Green's spacious cinematograph theatre, Mr. Green and his whole staff co-operating to make the gathering the success it was, both the outside and the inside of the theatre were brilliantly illuminated by electric light. The Chaplain was assisted in the service by Captain Weston, of the Church Army, and the full strength of the choir from the Parish Church Mission Hall. Through the pouring rain the people came to the church in the show booth on the fairground, and showpeople and townsfolk joined heartily in the rousing hymns used in the Guild service. The Rev. T. Horne, the Guild Chaplain, conducted the service throughout and preached the sermon, based upon the subject of the Church's Epistle for the Sunday, "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of Light, with whom is no variableness nor shadow of turning."

The congregation was sincerely devout ard deeply attentive to the Chaplain's words. In a striking passage the preacher pointed out that the talent and ability to amuse and entertain the people was a good gift from God, that all gifts of poetry, music, oratory, painting, and all good things that made life brighter and fuller were gifts from Above, and came down from the Father of all good gifts.

As at Wrexham Fair, there was a numerous gathering of the showpeople at the Guild Service, and it was exceedingly gratifying to notice the hearty manner in which the people of Knutsford appreciated the service and joined in fellowship of Christian worship with the van-dwellers.

THE IRREPRESSIBLE SHOWMAN AT BLACKPOOL.

It is a dozen years ago since the Blackpool Corporation started its crusade against the showmen on the sands. This mistaken policy of clearing the sands of the extremely interesting and amusing crowd of itinerant entertainers ended in a virtual triumph for the displaced showmen and traders on the sands. The Lancashire people were so disappointed at the lack of attractions on the sands that the Corporation had to invite the entertainers to return and to afford special facilities for them. During the time that the entertainers were driven off the sands, some of the local showmen discovered the possibility of a fair-ground at the South Shore end of the great Blackpool promenade. The business ability of men like Mr. Ellis, Mr. Grange, and others by private enterprise completely turned the tables on the Corporation, and the narrow-minded fanatics who desired, evidently, to make a week at Blackpool a week of Sabbath days. The fair at South Shore has grown with such tremendous rapidity that it is fast becoming one of the chief features of interest to Blackpool's many visitors.

Our Blackpool correspondent has forwarded to us some interesting details of the fight which has raged around the question of the fair-ground at South Shore. At a recent by-election to the Borough Council, the question of fair-ground or no fair-ground was the principal theme of public interest. A Puritan candidate was nominated with the direct purpose of testing the question, and in his election address made use of the following observations against the fair:—

"The election resolves itself into a contention between the ratepayers of Waterloo Ward and the Fair-ground syndicate and its supporters on the Council, as to the future of South Shore. It is not a personal contest, it is not a political contest, it is your contest against this *dumping of the roughest possible type of entertainment in your midst to the very detriment of you all.*"

To champion the cause of the showmen, one of the proprietors of the Fair-ground was nominated, and in his election address thus explains his position in the contest:

"As one of the freeholders of the Pleasure Ground, I am very anxious that its future development should be conducive to the best interests of the whole of South Shore. Its rapid growth and popularity prove that if the Pleasure Ground is conducted under proper restrictions it is certain to become, in the near future, a favourite and successful resort of pleasure, enhancing the well-being and prosperity of the southern end of the town."

Supporting the candidature of the showmen's champion there have been several interesting letters in the Blackpool papers. From one of these we quote; it is written above the signature "One of the Despised Showmen":

"There is one thing that I must congratulate Mr. Lawson upon, and it is that he states distinctly that 'this is not a personal contest' (though how a contest of this kind can be anything but personal, passes my comprehension); 'it is not a political contest, but it is your' (why your?) 'contest against the dumping of the roughest possible type of entertainment in your midst.'

"So far, so good. But let us examine Mr. Lawson's claim to be voicing your sentiments. Might there not be two opinions on this vexed question of the Fair-ground? I would ask every conscientious voter to test the truth or otherwise of the extravagant assertions of Mr. Ernest Lawson.

"Mr. Lawson, in September last, published in the local journals a letter from which I now quote (remember the language is his, not mine). He charged those employed upon the Fair-ground with being 'a dirty conglomeration of pomona' (I always thought that she was a goddess) 'and a menace to the future morality of Lancashire.' He even went so far as to insult the visitors to the Fair-ground; and, again quoting this pragmatical gentleman, 'without any disparagement (!) a much rougher and rowdier lot of people, men and women, lads and lasses' (thank goodness, he leaves those scoundrels, the babies, out), 'whose homes and social surroundings are not such as tend to diminish a vulgar rowdyism when upon holiday bent.'

Well, if that is not disparagement, what is? After that, all I can say is, if they (the visitors) are as bad as all that, those working on the Fair-ground have not much chance of making them any worse.

"My sole object, sir, in writing to you upon this subject is to raise a protest against the unjust insinuations and charges that Mr. Ernest Lawson has brought against us, the showmen on the Fair-ground.

"My employers pay me for the services I give them, but in so doing I do not for one moment give up my right, my character, and that of my wife and family.

"I challenge Mr. Ernest Lawson to substantiate his statements, and in conclusion would like to thank the great number of Blackpool residents and visitors for the sympathy they have expressed to us in our severe losses during the recent gale."

Another evidence of showman talent is the following interesting verses, by a local showman:

"THE DESPISED SHOWMAN."

When the busy mill is silent,
When the tools are packed away,
When from factory or counter
Off you go on holiday;
As with joy upon your features
You prepare yourself for fun,
Just remember the old showman,
For *his* work has just begun.

It may be perchance he travelled
Through the long and weary night,
And while you were soundly sleeping
He'd the elements to fight.
But he's ready to provide you,
After working might and main,
With some rollicking amusement,
Giving pleasure, scouting pain.

Hear the little children shouting,
As they ride around with glee
On the dear old hobby horses,
Seated safe on daddy's knee.
Watch the youths and pretty maidens
Spellbound gaze upon the stage—
Here is virtue shown victorious,
Whilst the villain's hissed with rage.

Next the sportsmen, young and hearty
(If in years not over-ripe),
Take a great delight in smashing
Poor old Aunt Sally's pipe.
Just beside them, strapping fellows,
Who'd stand by you in a hole,
To their comrades proudly proving
How they always kick a goal.

Shooting jungles, Roaring Lions,
Circus Riders, Two-Faced Cat—
All is bustle for the moment,
To-morrow's worktime—what of that?
Round and round the Razzle Dazzle,
Up and down the swings so high,
Happy peals of honest laughter
Rise in pæans to the sky.

Afterwards, the fair-ground silent,
And a change comes o'er the scene.
Poor old showman, rather weary,
For his supper's somewhat keen.
Has he earned it? Well, I think so,
But he has no time to waste.
Packing up, another fair-ground
He must reach in eager haste.

'Tis next morning, getting ready,
In perhaps some distant town,
Stands our showman on the platform,
Smiling, for he must not frown.
Hark, the crowd comes laughing, cheering,
His hand he lays upon his heart,
Low he bows and shouts his loudest,
"Walk up! Walk up! It's time to start."

WALTER STENNING.

60, Burlington Road, Blackpool.

GUILD subscriptions:—Per Rev. T. Horne, Isaac Richards, 10s. 6d.; per Mrs. Whiting, Mr. Kirkham (Salford), 10s. 6d.; per Mrs. Whitney, Prof. Haydn, 10s. 6d.

THEATRICAL PATENTS.

The concise descriptions that we give below of recent applications for patents are specially contributed by Messrs. Howard and Co., Patent Agents, 57 and 58, Chancery-lane, London, W.C., who will assist readers in all patent matters:—

APPLICATIONS:

8991. Joseph John Williams, of St. Vincent-street, Glasgow, for means for producing aerial gymnastic performances.

9090. Horace Goldin, of 17, Torrington-square, London, W.C., for improvements in valises, dressing cases, and the like, convertible into dressing or other tables.

COMPLETE SPECIFICATION:

8. Stage Illusions. Goldin, Horace, 17, Torrington-square, London, W.C. The performer, preferably a lady, is sustained in a reclining position above the floor by a skeleton support, so that a ring can be passed along the whole length of the body. A socket of the support is fitted over a stud of a vertical rod, which passes through the floor, is concealed by the attendant, and is raised and lowered by a handle, worm gearing, a drum, and a wire rope, passing over a pulley. The lady is raised into position in a boat or receptacle which is afterwards removed.

The concise description that we give below of a recent application for a patent is specially furnished by Messrs. Howard and Co., patent agents, 57 and 58, Chancery-lane, London, W.C., who will assist readers in all patent matters:—

688. Illusion apparatus. Jaeger, C. H., Central Park South, Manhattan, New York, U.S.A. Relates to an apparatus for producing on the occupants of a stationary motor-car the impression that they are travelling at a high rate. The car is caused to rock violently by a roller attached to it, riding upon a rotating drum having an undulating periphery. To produce variety of motion the drum is moved laterally by a screw. Panoramic scenes, wound upon rollers, travel past the car so as to create the impression of motion. A travelling roadway is arranged similarly. The perspective is exaggerated by inclining the scenes to one another. Several cars may be employed in compartments separated by curtains. When the scenes have been completely unwound from the rollers, the position of the cars and the inclination of the scenes are reversed and the scenes rewound upon the rollers. The curtains are raised and others again are lowered.

AMUSEMENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

DURBAN, NATAL, April 5. — HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—The new theatre in West-street, which has been christened His Majesty's, was opened on Saturday, March 30, the play chosen for the opening being *Rob Roy*, which was produced under the auspices of the Natal Caledonian Society. Miss Florence Perry, an experienced professional artist, took the part of Diana Vernon, and her acting and singing were excellent throughout the play. She had to respond to encores for both "Flora Macdonald's Lament" and the "Bonnie Banks o' Loch Lomond." Miss Findlay as Helen Macgregor looked the part, and spoke with dramatic emphasis. Miss A. Buchanan as Mattie played neatly; Jean McAlpine and Martha were efficiently sustained by Mrs. Barrett and Miss M. A. McAffer respectively. Mr. John Morley appeared in the title-rôle; and Bailie Nicol Jarvie was taken by Mr. R. White with much humour. Other parts were satisfactorily rendered.

PRIMAVESI, who is still suffering from acute rheumatism, desires through our columns to thank all friends for their kind inquiries.

MR. CHARLES MUSSETT, after two years, has resigned the management of the Empire, Glasgow, and is now in London. Letters c/o *The Era* will reach him.

A MEETING of the Provisional Committee of the Bioscope Operators will be held next Friday, when a draft of the rules will be considered, and the regulations of the London County Council relating to the duties of operators of cinematographs in music-halls will also come under discussion.

A SITE has been secured, with a licence attached, in one of the principal streets of Maidstone, and a new compeny is now being formed with a capital of £25,000, to be called the Maidstone Winter Garden Palace and Exhibition Company. Plans are being designed by a well-known architect of Ipswich. A small arcade with eight shops is to form part of the scheme.

MR. E. J. DEXTER, manager of the Palace Theatre, Dundee, has been presented by Mr. Georg Hackenschmidt with a massive silver tobacco-box as a token of esteem, and in remembrance of the enjoyable time spent in the marmalade town during his recent engagement at the Palace. The box, which is of an exceedingly beautiful design, bears the following inscription: "E. J. Dexter, from Georg Hackenschmidt, April, 1907."

BEFORE Mr. Registrar Linklater, a sitting was appointed to be held on Tuesday for the public examination of Julien Davis Solomon, described as of the Kilburn Empire, Belsize-road, Kilburn, music hall proprietor, but as the accounts had only just been lodged, the hearing was adjourned for a month. The unsecured debts are returned at £494, and debts fully secured £6000, against assets £8, in addition to the debtor's interests, of uncertain value, under his late father's will, and in certain Australian property. He states that he has been in the theatrical profession for many years.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"DIE SITTENNOTE."

Play, in four acts, by Alfred Schwayer. Produced at the Berliner Theatre, April 27, 1907.

Uller	HERR MERTEN
Frau Uller	FRAULEIN SCHLOSSER
Hanna	FRAULEIN ALBRECHT.
Felix	HERR DONNER
Erna	FRAULEIN TROST
Meta	FRAULEIN WALDORF
Frau Fabrie	FRAULEIN RETSLAG
Wuest	HERR KORNER
Gruber	HERR NESSLER
Zenta	HERR DE BRUYN
Kloss	HERR STOLZENHAYN
Schulzer	HERR SCHMASOW
Haengler	HERR SCHRADER
Dr. Waldrich	HERR KURTH
Schnalke	HERR PICHA
Paul	HERR WEINSCHENK
Lisi	FRAULEIN BRASSON
Jacob	HERR FELD

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, May 2.—This latest production at the Berliner is said by some to be the work of the actor-manager, Herr Bonn, who has once or twice produced his own plays under a pseudonym. Be that as it may, the piece had a genuinely cordial reception, which was, moreover, well merited. It is termed a "schoolboy's tragedy," and there is more truth and less caricature in it than in several similar pieces that have had successful runs here. The unfortunate hero is one of the elder boys in a large grammar school; his name is Felix Uller, and his father—a clerk in the Government service—is a despot and domestic tyrant. Felix has secretly filled his head with all sorts of romantic notions, from books that are too old for him, and he cherishes wild dreams of liberty and greatness. Nobody sympathizes with him, and he gradually becomes bitter and as obstinate as everyone declares him to be. His master in the school has a spite against Felix, preventing his progress, and to crown all Frau Uller—who would love her son if circumstances would let her—has been for so many years the victim of her husband's evil temper that her health breaks down. She never cared for the man she married, but had given her heart in early years to another, from whom a contrary fate separated her. Physically and morally weak, the woman leads a life of misery, and her troubles are increased by the frequent violent scenes between her husband and son. Finally—after an act of insubordination in school—the master gives Felix the worst "nota" that it is in his power to bestow. This will prove an insuperable obstacle to the career for which Uller has destined his son, and a terrible scene ensues. Smarting under his father's blows, and still more from the unloving atmosphere with which he has been surrounded, the boy upbraids his mother in cutting words. She, poor creature, is so agitated that the action of her heart fails and she dies, while Uller turns upon his son, denouncing him as the murderer of his mother. The lad, with a wild and bitter cry, throws himself from the window of the fourth floor, and thus ends his own life. The trace of dramatic talent are distinctly visible, and the characters are drawn with great fidelity to life. The author should, in time, do better work, and doubtless will do so. In some of the scenes the acting might have been better, but, all in all, the cast was commendable. One scene is particularly skilfully drawn—the conference held by the grammar school masters, and special praise must be accorded to Herr Donner for his clever and natural impersonation of the unhappy hero. The reception of the piece was very cordial. Herr Bonn, by the way, is contemplating giving up the reins of government at the Berliner as soon as he can find someone to take the lease over. This step has come upon us as a surprise, and the immediate reason is probably the unpleasantness connected with the production of *Der junge Fritz*, recently mentioned in your columns. Herr Bonn, from the time he commenced business at this theatre, has had to put up with a good deal of animosity, not on the part of the public, but of the local Press, and he will scarcely regret resigning managership.

SIGNOR D'ANDRADE is proving, as usual, a powerful attraction at the Komische Oper, where the company of the Theatre des Westens is holding the boards in the absence of Herr Gregor. The excellent baritone loses none of his popularity as the years pass, and his "Don Giovanni" is as good an impersonation as ever. He made a capital hit this week as Figaro, in *The Barber of Seville*, Frau Heymann-Engel singing the part of Rosina. The house was crowded, and the two favourite artists were called before the curtain repeatedly.

THE Lessing Theatre Company has returned from a highly successful tour in Austria-Hungary and Bavaria, and recommenced work here on Saturday with a revival of Gerhart Hauptmann's social drama, *Florian Geyer*. This is one of the author's earliest works; it has many very powerful scenes, and the strong plot is admirably developed. At the same time, some scenes are so overnoisy that the nerves of many of the listeners are unnecessarily tried. The piece was splendidly acted and met with an enthusiastic reception. Herr Rittner, in the name-part, achieved a well-merited success. It is one of the versatile actor's finest rôles. Herr Sauer and Herr Bassermann gave first-rate renderings of Löffelholz and Tellermann, while Fräulein Orloff scored in the part of Marei.

A HAMBURG company from the Ernst Drucker Theatre has opened a season at the Central. They play in Low German, and the initial piece selected is entitled *Thetje Egger's Brautnacht*. The plot is too coarse to be detailed, but the interpretation was good; the wild humour of the piece—a volks-burlesque—caught the taste of a great part of the audience, and laughter and applause were loud and hearty. It remains to be proved whether the apparent success will be a lasting one.

"DIE RABENSTEINERIN,"

Play, in Four Acts, by Ernst von Wildenbruch, produced at the Royal Schauspielhaus, April 15.

Hilpold	HERR MATKOWSKY
Bersabe	FRAU WILLIG
Dietburg	FRAULEIN VON ARNAULD
Welser	HERR KRAUSSNECK
Atony	HERR ZEISLER
Felicitas	FRAU BUTZE
Bartolome	HERR STARGHMANN
Ursula	FRAULEIN VON MAYBURG
Von Freyberg	HERR PATRY
Baumkircher	HERR NESPER
Geider	HERR EICHHOLZ
Afra	FRAULEIN ABICH
Nunnenmacher	HERR POHL
Von Westpale	HERR MOLENAR
Frischhaus	HERR MANNSTADT
Henker	HERR ARNDT
Priester	HERR PARIS
Kerkermeister	HERR WINTER

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, April 25.—This work of our famous dramatist is particularly effective; the scenes are full of colouring and warmth, many being exceedingly dramatic. The action passes in the period of the predatory knights, and the plot is partly romantic, partly bloodthirsty, as consistent with the times. Hipold Jeronimus is Knight of Rabenstein and as thieving an old scoundrel as any of his compeers. His daughter Bersabe, "die Rabensteinerin," is as gentle and good as her sire is the opposite. Hipold sets out to meet and rob Bartolome Welser, son of a wealthy Augsburg merchant, who is on the way to his bride-elect laden with jewels. A fight ensues, and the old knight is killed, while Welser—badly wounded—is carried to the fortress and nursed back to health by Bersabe. That the young people lost their hearts to each other is a matter of course, but young Welser is forced to return home to his duty. The stolen jewels are to be kept for Bersabe, so her aunt Dietburg decrees; but the girl will none of them, and takes them back herself to Welser, sen. The elder man now besieges Rabenstein, his son being forced to take part, and the hard-hearted Ursula, Bartolome's affianced bride, looks on at the work of destruction with scoffing laughter. This so enrages the otherwise gentle Bersabe—already not a little jealous of her rival—that she aims an arrow at her so skilfully that Ursula falls dead. Matters now look very serious for the lovers. Welser, sen., is furious with Bersabe, but his wife loves her for saving Bartolome's life, and although condemned to die, Bersabe is snatched from the executioner's grip by her lover. Thus the end is a happy one, the curtain falling on the union of the lovers. The piece was carried along with the verve necessary to it, the renderings of Herren Matkowsky, Staegemann, and Kraussneck, and those of Frau Willig, Fräulein von Mayburg, and Frau Butze, being the best in a very good cast. Herr von Wildenbruch—who was a long time responding to the calls for him—was most warmly applauded after each act.

MR. TREE played *Hamlet* before a densely-crowded house on Wednesday evening. It proved one of the greatest successes of the famous actor's season, even the most captious of Berlin critics being compelled to acknowledge Mr. Tree's original and convincing impersonation of the Danish Prince. The mounting of the play without scenery was an unprecedented event in German theatrical annals, and was anticipated with much interest. The results proved that it was quite possible to perform Shakespeare without an elaborate apparatus, and not one of the vast audience missed the customary scenery. Many of the scenes provoked enthusiastic applause, and at the close of the play the audience rose *en masse* to cheer the great English actor. Hamlet's affection for Ophelia came to the critics as a surprise, and not a welcome one. The Germans—as we know—look upon Shakespeare as almost their own property, and any deviation from their own readings of his characters—and these are all very much alike—they consider an infringement of their rights. Consequently, Hamlet's kiss and his display of poignant grief at Ophelia's grave met with scant appreciation from the German contingent. Unanimous praise, on the other hand, is accorded to the Court Theatre Scene, Mr. Tree's acting being pronounced magnificent. The cast was as faultless a one as it has ever been my happy lot to witness. Miss Viola Tree's sympathetic rendering of Ophelia took the audience by storm, and she was recalled a number of times. Mr. Fisher White, Mr. Basil Gill, and Mr. L'Estrange gave particularly fine readings of Polonius, Horatio, and Laertes respectively, while Mr. Henry Neville was excellent as the King. The impersonation of the Ghost by Mr. Lyn Harding was far and away the best we have ever seen here, and Mr. Fred Lewis and Mr. Nigel Playfair were equally good as the First and Second Gravediggers. Miss Alice Crawford looked very handsome as the Queen, and acted the part splendidly, while Miss Hilda Moore gave an admirable account of the Player Queen. Mr. Charles Quartermaine and Mr. Clive Currie, in the rôles of the First and Second Actors, made their mark, and the Rosencrantz and Guildenstern of Messrs. Hine and Beresford were skilfully given. Mr. Robert Atkins and Mr. Alfred Goddard as the Officers, Marcellus and Bernardo, Mr. Imeson (Francisco), Mr. Smithson (Jester), and Mr. Grimwood (Priest) completed the representative cast. The Court box was again full, the Crown Prince and Princess and others of the Imperial Family being present.

HERR BONN'S latest lapse from the path of conventionality—the performance of his play *Der junge Fritz* before an invited audience—will be dealt with by the rigid hand of the law. It is necessary here to obtain the consent of the Kaiser before any member of the Prussian Royal family may be impersonated on the stage, and this consent was for "young Fritz" (Frederick the Great) withheld many years ago It may be that the director of the Berliner Theatre had forgotten this circumstance, or that he attempted to get the better of the authorities by inviting an audience to see the production of his play; but be that as it may, the consequences are the same. The result will be—at the least—a heavy fine, and Herr Bonn will lose favour at the Imperial Court.

THE "Chamber Plays" of the Deusches Theatre have just concluded Maeterlinck'c tragedy, *Aglavaine und Selysette* in the repertory. It was an experiment not crowned with success, and neither the play nor its interpretation met with the favour of the audience I do not fancy the piece will see many repetitions.

MME. CHARLES CAHIER, the excellent American singer, has been engaged for a term of three years at the Imperial Opera House, Vienna. In June Mme. Cahier will come to Berlin for four performances at the New Royal Opera (Krolls), under the management of Herr Ferenczy. *Carmen* and *Cavalleria Rusticana* are the works in which the welcome guest will be heard.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

THOSE interested in and willing to help in organising the annual theatrical sports are invited to send their names to the honorary secretary, Theatrical Sports Committee, 29, Wellington-street, Strand. The sports, it may be added, will not be given in conjunction with the celebration of Federation Day organised by the variety artists for June 27 in the Crystal Palace.

THE arbitrator sat again on Thursday in the St. Bride Foundation Institute, there being present Mr. Payne, Mr. Rutland, and Mr. Tozer, representing the Entertainment Proprietors' Association, and Mr. William Johnson, representing the National Association of Theatrical Employees, Mr. J. B. William and Mr. C. Jesson representing the Musicians' Union. Mr. Johnson made a statement in reply to the managers' witnesses, and the questions of a period of time for the observance of the award and the length of notice in the event of either party desiring to vary the terms or suspend the award were discussed. The musicians and stage employees submit that no period of time in either case should be inserted in the award. No decision was arrived at, and it was agreed a further conference should take place next week.

LADIES AT HOCKEY.

MISS CECILIA FOWLER'S XI.
v. MISS WINNIE BRADLEY'S XI.

Played near Clifton Downs on April 20, when, owing to Miss Ethel Bowman's and Miss May Fisher's gallant defence, no goal was scored by either side. The following were the teams:—

Miss Fowler's XI.—Miss Ethel Bowman, goal; Miss Lilla Carter and Miss Ivy Bowman, backs; Miss Cecilia Fowler (captain), Miss Lillie Belding, and Miss Nellie Bailey, half-backs; Miss Rosie Davies, Miss Bertha Godfrey, Miss Lillie Clayton, Miss Grace Leonard, and Miss Minnie Leonard, forwards.

Miss Bradley's XI.—Miss May Fisher, goal; Miss Alice Gibbs and Miss Nell Stephens, backs; Miss Nellie Lawrence, Miss Edie Lawrence, and Miss Gertrude Thomas, half-backs; Miss Alice Mitchell, Miss Florrie Hooper, Miss Irene Bradley, Miss Winifred Bradley, and Miss Minnie Hamilton, forwards. Referee, Miss Lucy Norris

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS.
ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

This Scale does not apply to "Trade" Advertisements in these Columns.

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"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.
For the convenience of Advertisers, Replies to Advertisements are received. They can remain until called for, or be forwarded by Post, FREE OF CHARGE.

NO STAMPS.

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THE PUBLISHER,
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"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4,747, Central.

IN case of the non-delivery of "THE ERA" by the First Post, the Publisher will be greatly obliged if Advertisers will forward their Postal Wrappers with the time of delivery marked upon them.

COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.,
May 27, Aug. 5, 12, Sept. 9, Oct. 28, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING,
Aug. 5, 12, 19, 26, Sept. 9, 16, Oct. 14,
Nov. 4, 11, 25, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER,
May 27, Aug. 5, 12, Dec. 2, 9, Feb. 10, 17, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER,
Aug. 5, 12, 19, Sept. 9, Oct. 14, 21, 28, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON,
May 20, Aug. 12, 19, 26, Sept. 2, 16, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD,
June 3, Aug. 19, 26, Sept. 23, Oct. 7, 28, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON,
June 3, Sept. 2, 30, Oct. 21, Nov. 18, 25, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER,
May 20, June 3, 24, Aug. 5, 12, 19, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON,
Sept. 2, 9, 16, 23, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, THEATRE, READING.

WANTED, First-Class Company, for Dalston Theatre, May 27.
Wire, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE,
May 13 (wire), July 29, Aug. 12, Sept. 9; 1908, April 6, 27, onwards.
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATEHEAD,
June 3, 10, Aug. 5 26, Sept. 2, 9, 23, Oct. 21, Nov. 25.
QUEEN'S THEATRE, GATESHEAD.
Aug. 12, 19, 26, Sept. 16, 23, 30, Nov. 4, 18, Dec. 16, 23.
Address, SIDNEY BACON, Metropole T., Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-Class Companies for
COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
May 13, 20, 27, Aug. 5, 12, 19, onwards.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON.
Aug. 5, 19, Sept. 30, Oct. 7, 14, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY,
May 20, 27, Aug. 12, 19, 26 (three nights only).
E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
May 13, 20, 27.
E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Company, May 13.
Wire,
FALCON, Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Company, May 20 (three nights), for Theatre Royal, Canterbury.
E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions for the following dates, May 13, 20, 27, June 3 and 10.
Apply, Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR, 24a, Regent-st., S.W.

WANTED, Absolutely First-class Attraction only,
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH.
May 20 (Whit Week).
Apply, F. MOUILLOT,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

OPERA HOUSE, LONDONDERRY.
Proprietor, W. PAYNE SEDDON.
WANTED, Companies, Aug. 19 and on; those able to play three nights 'Derry and neighbouring towns preferred.
THEATRE ROYAL, DUMFRIES, and
NEW THEATRE, HAWICK.
Wanted, Companies, Aug. 12, and on, three days each town.
THE SPA, WHITBY.
Wanted, Comedy or Musical Companies, Whit Week, one or two June dates, Aug. 25 and Sept. 15. All other dates filled.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, The Spa, Whitby.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for weeks of June 24 and July 1.
Wire or write,
W. W. KELLY,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, Sound Attraction, for Aug. 5 (Bank Holiday) and onwards, with exceptions.
Address,
THOS. SWINTON.

WANTED, First-class Company, share or certainty, June 17; also Big Attraction Wanted for Xmas Week. Musical preferred. All communications,
J. F. ELLISTON, Bolton.

GRAND THEATRE, CROYDON.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, Musical Comedy preferred, for May 20, Whit Week.
Address, LAWSON LAMBERT.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, Big Dramatic Attraction, or Star Combination, May 27 (to oblige Jas. A. Campbell, Esq.).
E. H. PAGE.

BRIDLINGTON SPA THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.
Thoroughly Up-to-date, Re-opens July 29.
Electricity throughout; new scenery; large stage dimensions.
WANTED, First-class Attraction for Grand Opening Week (no Dramas), July 29.
Holds £100 at ordinary prices.
Only few vacant dates, July 29, week (three or six nights), at Liberty. Wire or write immediate re this date; also Aug. 8, 9, 10; 26, 27, 28; and Sept. 5, 6, 7; must be the best Attractions on the road.
HENRY HAGUE, General-Manager.

ROYAL CLARENCE THEATRE, PONTYPRIDD.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, June 17, 24, and Aug. 5.
Wire or write, CHARLES TRENCHARD,
Royal Clarence Theatre.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, Aug. 5, 12, 19, Sept. 2, Oct. 21, Dec. 2, 16, Feb. 10, March 2, 16, 30, April 13, and onwards.
Address, T. ALLAN EDWARDES.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies, for May 20 (Whit Week and Big Holiday Date), June 17, and onwards. Address, E. B. GOULDEN.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, Big Dramatic Attraction, or Big Star Combination, July 1 and 8.
E. H. PAGE.

WANTED, good Company, for Whit Week (May 20), and onwards.
FRANK PAYNE, Avenue Theatre, Kettering.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-Class Companies,
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER,
Vacant July 8, 15, 22, onward, with exceptions.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH,
Vacant Aug. 5, 12, 19, onward, with exceptions.
(Last three nights of each week).

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY,
Vacant May 20, 27, June 3, onward, with exceptions.

METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY,
Vacant Aug. 5, 12, 19, onward, with exceptions.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE,
Vacant May 6, 13, 27, onward, with exceptions.

"THE LOST CHORD,"
Vacant Aug. 5, 26, onward, with exceptions.

"SPAN OF LIFE,"
Vacant Aug. 12, Sept. 2, onward, with exceptions.

"IN SIGHT OF ST. PAUL'S,"
Vacant May 13, 20, onward, with exceptions.

Companies "Farmed" through Fit-ups.

To Let, on Royalty, "THE PRAIRIE FLOWER" and "OUR BRITISH EMPIRE."

Excellent Plants Printing.

All communications to
ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

GRAND OPERA HOUSE,
MIDDLESBROUGH.
Proprietor, ALBERT SMITH.
Holding Capacity, 3,500.
One of the
Premier Theatres of the North.
Success, Success.
Success, Success.
Success, Success.
Success, Success.
See Mr. Charles Manners' letter in "The Era" of April 6.
WANTED, June 17, all July, and onwards, with exceptions.
No. 1 Attractions only.
Still vacant,
Aug. 5 (Bank Holiday).

WANTED, Special Attraction, Aug. 19 (Race Week).
Managers Please Note,
To anything Really Big
the latter is one of the Best Dates in the Year, being recognised as a General Holiday in the Town and District.
Share or Certainty.
Special terms to Special Attractions.
Open to negotiate for Easter Pantomime, 1908, to run two weeks.
Address, JNO. ED. JOWSEY,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE,
MIDDLESBROUGH.
Telegrams, "Magnet," Middlesbrough. Telephones 413, 426, 500.
Silence a polite negative.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
Sole Lessee, JULIAN MALVERN.
WANTED, Big Attractions, July 8, 22, Aug. 5 (Musical only).
Address,
CH. M. JULIAN, General-Manager.

OPERA HOUSE, KIDDERMINSTER.
One of the Best-equipped Midland Theatres.
Holding capacity nearly £100.
WANTED, Best Musical and Dramatic Companies. Vacant Sept. 2, 16, Oct. 7, 21, December. Few others in Spring. Pantomimes required. Bookings include F. R. Benson, "White Chrysanthemum," "The Dairymaids," "Home, Sweet Home," "Charley's Aunt," "Raffles," "Prince of Pilsen," "Little Breadwinner," &c. All communications, JAMES P. MOORE, Kidderminster.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLYTH.
WANTED, First-class Companies, May 13, June 3, 10.
Also one or two really good Pantomimes.
Will Mr. H. Levy communicate?
Bookings include: William Mollison in "Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush," "Florodora," "Christian," "Eternal City," "The Breed of the Treshams," "Claudian," "The New Barmaid," &c., &c.
Apply, A. C. MOODY, Lessee.

PALACE THEATRE,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
WANTED, Big Musical Attraction, August Bank Holiday week (Aug. 5), also July 29 (Drama).
Apply, T. W. ROWE.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, T. R., York, Musical preferred, June 3 and 17; later date, Great Yorkshire Gala Week, Town En Fête.
WADDINGTON, Stonegate.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, First-Class Musical Attractions, May 20, Aug. 5, 19.
JAMES BELL.

WANTED, big Attractions, May 20 (through cancelling), also Aug. 5, re-opening Grand, Chorley. Address, SANTE, Radcliffe.

WANTED, Musical or Farcical Comedy, Sketch or Drama, one night May 18, Santé's Benefit. Lowest terms (certainty), SANTE, Theatre, Radcliffe.

WANTED, Strong Attractions, Whit week and Autumn.
King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield.

GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
WANTED, Powerful Attraction, Whit Week, May 27, June 3, 10, 17, on, and Autumn Dates. FRED GRANVILLE, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

WANTED, good Companies (Musical or Farcical Comedy), for Royal Victoria Theatre, Ramsgate, for May 30 (three nights), June 3, 24. Note.—Only vacant dates this season. JAY, 10, Jermyn-street, S.W.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions. Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec.
Wanted, a First-class Pantomime. "Forty Thieves" preferred.
Apply, Owner and Manager, JAMES KIERNAN.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, June 3, 10, 17 (Tennis Tournament Week), and 24.
Address, P. A. SMITH, Marina Theatre, Lowestoft.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for Pavilion Theatre, St. Leonards, Musical or Farcical Comedies preferred, May 13, 20, on, with exceptions.
ELVEY THOMAS.

WANTED, First-Class Companies, for Royal Pier Pavilion, Aberystwyth, May 20, onwards. Apply, ROWE, Durban House, Queen's-rd., Aberystwyth

WANTED, best Companies, May 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, on, with exceptions. For vacant dates apply, PHILLIPS, Coliseum, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, Good Company, to play two pieces nightly, for important South Coast Theatre, May 13, week.
Address,
Box 4,774, "The Era."

WANTED, Stars or Musical Comedies, for July 22, 23, 24, and Sept. 16, at Grand T., Llandudno. Address, HALDANE CRICHTON, Royalty T., Barrow.

COMPANIES WANTED.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

Lessees and Managers,
Mr. and Mrs. CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.

The Leading Theatre of the Town.
The only theatre in the town lighted by electricity.

April Bookings:
April 1 "UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
April 8, "THE IDLER" (Local Amateurs).
April 15, MR. GEO. ALEXANDER'S CO.
"HIS HOUSE IN ORDER."
April 22, "MISS LANCASHIRE LIMITED."
April 29, MR. ALBERT CHEVALIER, in
"PANTALOON," &c.

Notice. Notice. Notice.

Owing to the
Continual increase of prosperity
at this Theatre,
the Proprietors
have decided to entirely
Rebuild and Reconstruct
the property,
which, when completed,
will be not only the most
Comfortable and Up-to-Date Theatre
in the Provinces, but will have
A HOLDING CAPACITY
A HOLDING CAPACITY
A HOLDING CAPACITY
SECOND TO NONE
SECOND TO NONE
SECOND TO NONE
in the town.

Re-open Aug. 5, 1907.
The only Theatre in the town allowed to advertise on the electric cars.

The only Theatre in the town
lighted by electricity.

WANTED, Exceptional Attractions,
Aug. 12, 19, 26, Sept. 2, 16, 23,
Oct. 7, Nov. 4, 25, Dec. 16, 30, Jan. 30, onwards.

CALVERT ROUTLEDGE, H. M. T., Barrow.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
The Premier Theatre in the Furness District.
Holds £90 at ordinary Prices.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions,
Vacant all July, also Aug. 12, 19, 26,
and various on.
The following, amongst others, are future Bookings for the above Theatre:—
Allan Wilkie, Lingford Carson's Companies, Mr. and Mrs. Godfrey Tearle, "In Holy Russia," "Her Luck in London," "A Little Vagrant," "A Destroyer of Men," "The Breed of the Treshams," "Life of a Showman," Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's Companies, The D'Oyly Carte No. 1 Répertoire Company (tenth visit), "Raffles," F. R. Benson's Co. (third visit), Baron H. Harriss's No. 1 Company, "The Prince of Pilsen," Mr. Percy Hutchison's Companies, including "Peter's Mother," Mr. George Edwardes' own Company, in "See-See," Silvanus Dauncey and M. V. Leveaux's No. 1 Company, in "The Walls of Jericho," "The Girl from Japan," "The Sign of the Cross," &c., &c.

All applications for dates to
HUGH ROBERTSON,
T. R., Jarrow.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, ACCRINGTON.
WANTED, First-Class Musical Comedies, for the Autumn.
JOS. B. ORMEROD.

WANTED, Strong Attraction,
Whit Week,
now Booking Autumn.
New Grand Theatre, Mansfield.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity. Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, onwards, Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. COTTON.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE GIRL WHO TOOK THE WRONG TURNING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres.
May 13.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE SOLDIER'S WEDDING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, May 13, 20.
Apply,
WALTER MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 12, Sept. 30.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 5, 12,
and Dec. 23, 30.
FREDERICK MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 9, 23, Dec. 23.
FREDERICK MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"IN A WOMAN'S GRIP."
WANTED, Aug. 26, Sept. 2, 9, 16.
ANDREW MELVILLE,
Metropole Theatre, Birmingham.

"DRIVEN FROM HOME."
WANTED, Aug. 26, Sept. 2, 9, 30.
ANDREW MELVILLE,
Metropole Theatre, Birmingham.

"SCALES OF JUSTICE."
WANTED, Oct. 14, 21, Nov. 4, 11.
ANDREW MELVILLE,
Metropole Theatre, Birmingham.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, May 13, Sept. 30.
TOM H. TAYLOR,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Aug. 12, 19,
Dec. 23, 30.
DOUGLAS BRUCE, Grand Theatre, Islington, N.

"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY."
The Most Successful Play Produced during the year 1906.
WANTED, Sept. 2 and 9, in First-Class Theatres only. Wire or write,
W. W. KELLY,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, Weeks of June 17 and July 1, Scala Production.

Wire or write,
W. W. KELLY,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres, July 1, on, with exceptions. We carry all the Scenery; big Company; full Chorus; Negro Specialities; beautiful Printing.
CHARLES HARRINGTON, New T., Tunbridge Wells.

The Greatest of all Irish Productions.
MR. and MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY'S
"ROLLICKING RORY," Autumn, 1907.
Bookings complete for 1907.
WANTED, Theatres, now booking Spring, 1908 Vacation, Ashdale, Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancs.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
June 10 (South), 24,
July 1, 8, 15, 22.
Address, J. W. CORDINER,
May 6, Grand Theatre, Luton.
See Companies' Advertisements, Page 2.

MISS MARY NEIL and MR. GEORGE KIRK'S
"HER LUCK IN LONDON" CO.
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Big Theatres,
July 29, Sept. 9, 16, Oct. 7.
CHARLES A. LEICESTER, this, Alex., Hull;
next, T. R., Castleford.

THEATRES WANTED.

Mrs. ANN HUGHES' COMPANY,
in the
New Comic Opera,
"THE YOUNG LIEUTENANT"
(a Story of 1805, Nelson's Glorious Days).
The Company engaged includes the following:—

Miss NELLIE WIGLEY	Mr. FRED PAYNE
Miss KATHLEEN EMMETT	Mr. CAMPBELL BISHOP
Miss MAUD ESDALE	Mr. RICHARD CUMMINGS
Miss MADELINE STONE	Mr. DOUGLAS PHILLIPS
Miss VIOLET BRAHAM	Mr. L. C. HUGHES
Miss MABEL SPENCER	Mr. A. E. DRINKWATER, JUN.
Miss MADGE FERWIN	Mr. F. TREVELYAN
Miss CISSIE HIBBERT	Mr. E. B. DAVIES
Miss ALICE TABERNER	Mr. GEO. ROBERTSON
Miss ELSIE MARION	Mr. ARTHUR RICHER
Miss ADA PELTON	Mr. O. H. McKIERNON
Miss DOROTHY SHAW	Mr. BERT BURTON
Miss ROSALIE SHAW	Mr. W. RAVENSCROFT

A Numerous Chorus of Well-trained Voices.
Dancing arranged by Miss Rosalie Shaw.
Magnificent scenery and properties, including a Deck Set, the Most Complete Representation of one of Nelson's Line-of-Battle Ships ever Presented on any Stage (Field and Hart).
Gorgeous dresses (Clarkson); splendid new special printing (David Allen and Son).
Summer Production, Whit Week, R. A., Woolwich.
May 27, Grand, Croydon.
WANTED, June 3 and 10.
Producer and Stage-Manager,
Mr. A. F. ALLEN-TOWER.
Musical-Director, Mr. ALEXANDER HUMPHREYS.
Particulars to Mrs. ANN HUGHES,
Selattyn, 38, Thurleigh-road, Balham, London.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN."
WANTED, July 1, Aug. 5 and 12, Sept. 9, and few later.
Mr. CROSS as PETE.
Miss WATERSFORD (Mrs. Cross) as KATE.
Continued Success.
"DIVORCED."
A New Powerful, Emotional, and Modern Domestic Drama. Can be played in conjunction, or booked separately. New Plant of Printing, Scenery, and Effects. May 6, T. R., York.

"THE MARRIAGE OF KITTY."
The Principal Parts are in the capable hands of Miss MARY THORNE as Kitty.
Miss KATHLEEN RUSSELL as Mme. de Semiano.
Mr. EDGAR KENT as Sir Reginald Belsize.
Mr. THOMAS SIDNEY as Travers.
WANTED, Theatres.—Mr. Sidney is desirous of filling May 13, 20, 27, June 10 and 17.
All July and August are Booked.
Tour starts April 29 at Hastings.
Address, 16, Long Acre, W.C.

LINGFORD CARSON'S REPERTOIRE CO.
"A MODERN ADVENTURESS."
"THE HEART OF A HERO."
"THE TICKET-OF-LEAVE MAN,"
"THE OCTOROON,"
and "THE SHAUGHRAUN."
Everything carried. Finest and largest plant of pictorials ever used. The most perfect Dramatic Combination touring. Business enormous. Refer.
WANTED, Theatres, Vacant Aug. 26, Sept. 2, 23, onwards. Apply at once, CHARLES DRAYCOTT, Lyceum Theatre, Crewe.

Miss FRANCES DELAVAL'S CO.,
"HER LOST SELF," by Nita Rae.
"THE BIGGEST SCAMP ON EARTH,"
by F. A. Scudamore. Vacant Aug. 5, Xmas.
Queen's Theatre, Gateshead-on-Tyne.
WANTED, June 24, Aug. 5. Wire, FRANCES DELAVAL, 23, Cromwell-road, Whitstable.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
Continued Success. Third Year.
WANTED, May 27 (follow Birkenhead).
Wire for May 27, May 27. Wire.
June 10, July 22.
Aug. 12, follow Alexandra, Birmingham.
FRANK AYRTON,
Prince of Wales' Theatre, Salford.

WANTED, Known, "Bluebell in Fairyland," No. 2 and 3 Rights to Let.
E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Known, "Rich and Poor of London" (répertoire if required). Miss Dora Dench and full Company. Supers, Real Horse and Hansom Cab. A play that never fails to please. Vacant May 27, June 3, 17, Aug. 5, Sept. 9. All coms., 140, Rumford-street, Manchester.

FRANK M. THORNE'S CO'S.
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
WANTED, June 10.
Summer Production of "The Octoroon."
Wanted, June 10.
F. M. T., Theatre Royal, Rochdale.

ROBERT PERRIS'S CO.

"A FIGHT FOR MILLIONS."
Great Production.
Big Success Everywhere.
WANTED, Whit Week, May 20.
Address, Collosseum, Oldham.

"THE PICK OF THE BUNCH."
"THE PICK OF THE BUNCH."
WANTED, Theatres, Vacant May 27 and June 3 (between London and Glasgow),
Aug. 5, and New Year's week.
CHARLES CAREY, Opera House, Tunbridge Wells.

WYBERT CLIVE'S CO.,
"THE BRANDED WOMAN."
WANTED, for this money-maker, June 3 (between Jarrow and Manchester), 17, 24, and July 15 (to follow Woolwich), and Aug. 5. Apply, WALTER STEELE, General-Manager, to-day, O. H., St. Helens; next, Muncaster T., Bootle.

"SAPHO."
"SAPHO."
WANTED, First-Class Theatres,
June 3, 10, 17, 24.
Wire, JAMES BELL, T. R., Darlington.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, First-Class Theatres.
FRED BULMER, c/o "The Era." Vacation add.

"THE SUPERIOR MISS PELLENDER."
As played by Cyril Maude at Waldorf Theatre.
WANTED, May 20 (follow Exeter).
WM. FRASER-BRUNNER,
Brixton T.; next week, Opera House, Torquay.

Mr. and Mrs. JOHN E. TOMLINSON'S
Tour of Max Golberg's
Successful Oriental Musical Drama,
"SECRETS."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Aug. 5, onwards, with exceptions. This week, T. R., Seaham Harbour; next week, C. T., Spennymoor.

MISS BONWIN CARLTON'S CO.
"THE PLUCKY NIPPER."
WANTED, May 13, 20, June 3, 17. Wire for Whit. EDWARD SURREY, King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield.

WANTED, May 13, 20, Miss Bonwin Carlton's Co., "The Plucky Nipper." To-day, Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield; next, T. R., Ton-y-Pandy (return).

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, June 3 and 10,
the Brightest and Funniest Show on Tour.
DICKIE CLARE, Pavilion, Chorlton-cum-Hardy.

"THE LITTLE EARL."
WANTED, May 20, 27, and on, for this Successful Musical Drama. Specially Selected Company of Comedians, Vocalists, and Dancers. Printing by Allen. Special Eng. of Master Sidney, the Marvellous Boy Comedian and Vocalist. Managers with vacant dates, T. R. NUGENT, Shakespeare T., Altrincham.

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"HIS SISTER'S HONOUR."
WANTED, June 10, 17, 24,
to precede Alex., Sheffield.
Lavishly staged, beautifully dressed,
and played by a Cast far Above the
Ordinary Drama Standard.
Another Success scored at Junction T., Manchester, this week. Refer P. Broadhead, Esq.
Wire, E. A'DELL, to-day, Junction, Manchester; next, Met., Glasgow.

Managers looking for money book this special mint.
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WANTED, Good Theatre, June 3, 10, 17, Aug. 5. HENRY L. OSMOND,
Metropole, Glasgow,
Monday, T. R., Blyth.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN."
"THE SORROWS OF SATAN."
"THE SORROWS OF SATAN."
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, May 27 (follow T. R., Sheffield), on, with exceptions.
[COPY.]
Theatre Royal,
Cardiff,
April 20, 1907.
Miss LOIE ESMOND.
DEAR MADAM,
I am very pleased with the performance of "The Sorrows of Satan." It is capitally played, and the receipts have gone up each night. Wishing you every success,
Yours faithfully,
R. REDFORD.
Again opened to excellent house at Blackpool Monday. Tuesday, nearly £6 better. Wednesday, doubled Monday. Refer Mr. Sergenson.
Special perfo mance every Friday of the great Parisian Play, "NANA."

LOIE ESMOND, Grand Theatre, Blackpool.
May 6, Theatre Royal, Hanley.

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"HER NAMELESS CHILD?"
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A beautiful Play, played by a Company of Recognised Artists.
Drawing enormously.

Last week, Prince's, Blackburn; Monday the worst house. Immediately booked at Accrington and Burnley after seeing show.
This week, Coliseum, Oldham.

Magnificent business. Monday excellent, and in spite of big opposition going up nightly. Ask Mr. Eastwood. Absolutely the entire production carried. Managers wanting an Attraction that draws Dress Circle as well as Gallery book this Magnet. Just the play that is wanted. A strong Domestic Story of Home Life, beautifully written, well played, and magnificently mounted.
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SAM DUCKWORTH, Theatre Royal, Ton-y-Pandy.

Mr. and Mrs. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.
"A SISTER'S SIN."
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"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
Wanted, May 20 and June 10 for this Great Drama Band of Drums, Fifes, and Bugles for Parade.
"A SOLDIER'S HONOUR."
Wanted, Aug. 5, through transferring, for the above.
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WANTED, for this Successful Attraction, Aug. 12,
Sept. 23, 30, Oct. 7, 14,
Nov. 25, Dec. 2, on.

T. R., Leicester, May 6.

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WANTED, Big Theatres only,
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Thanks J. C. Imeson, Esq., for Contract.
A clear stage only required.
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"THE ROAD TO FORTUNE,"
the Strongest Military Play on the Road.
Uniforms by Hyman.
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WANTED, Aug. 12 (to follow Star, Liverpool), also Aug. 19, Sept. 2, 16, Xmas.
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First-Class Theatres for Autumn;
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Managers and Proprietors communicate at once and secure this. Box Office success.
If you have the building, we have the show to fill it.

All letters,
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Enormous success.
THE FAMOUS JAMAICA CHOIR,
all escaped from the recent terrible earthquake. London, Lincoln (return visit), Blackpool (three dates, return visits), Middlesbrough, Ryde, Herne Bay, Folkestone, Dover, Ramsgate, Rhyl, Liverpool, &c.
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This week, Carlton T., Birmingham; next, Palace Theatre, Rhyl.
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PANTOMIMES.
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Can play two houses nightly if required.

Managers in want of a Money Magnet for Christmas and New Year's weeks secure the above.
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WANTED, First-Class Theatres,
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"THE CORSICAN BROTHERS."
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WANTED, Nov. 4 (between Liverpool and Newcastle), only Open Date this year. Offers invited, 1908. SANTE, Theatre, Chorley.

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WANTED, for Musical Comedy and Light Opera, Town and Tour, Principal Artists in all Lines; also Chorus Ladies and Gentlemen; the latter must be young, of good appearance, and good voices. Send particulars at once to KELSON TRUEMAN, Regent House, 233A, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, capable Shakespearean Actors, for "Merchant of Venice," to be acted on Elizabethan Stage in London, May 27 to June 1. Please send photo, with particulars, stamped envelope. Interview by appointment necessary before engaging. As the whole play is acted, preference given to those who have not played parts before. Address (letters only), W. POEL, 5, Amersham-road, Putney, S.W. Description of Characters: Antonio (lead), noble presence, fine voice; Bassanio, well built, manly lover, with passion, fire; Gratiano, military bearing, big voice, hearty laugh; Morocco, to look like Othello; Arragon, a short man, light comedy fop; Portia, brightness with emotion.

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Apply, JOHN DARLISON, Resident-Manager.

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Dancing Academy under direction of Signor Rosi.

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MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, concluding 4½ years as Leader, West Pier Orchestra. Address, MASON, Leader, West Pier Orchestra, Brighton. Private address, 42, Belle Vue-gardens, Kemp Town, Brighton.

WANTED, Engagement, Musical-Director, Violinist, Palace, Bath; also wife, Piano; above finishing season; any business. J. ANDREWS, 21, New King-street, Bath.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by experienced Conductor (Violin), Music Hall or Theatre. WELDON, 36, Thorncroft-road, Fratton, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Known, Madame Helen Godfrey, Conductress, Royalty Theatre, Llanelly, Disengaged shortly for Summer Season; experienced Pianiste, Violinist, Compose and Arrange, Musical Speciality. 2, Pembrey-road, Llanelly.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced First Violin, combine Solo Viola or Solo Euphonium in Good Orchestra; reliable, sober; references. Add., Box 4,677, "The Era."

WANTED, by Violin and Viola, Engagement or Deputising; late Theatre Leader; young, strictly sober; disengaged. VIOLIN, 68, Pritchard's-road, Hackney, London.

WANTED, Seaside Engagement, as First Violin. HECTOR TULKENS, Pump Room Orchestra, Bath.

WANTED, Sit. as First Violin, late leader of Military String Band; best of refs; Yorkshire preferred. 17, Cromwell-terrace, Halifax.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Violinist; reliable; good references. J. H. DIXON, 218, Every-street, Nelson, Lancs.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, First or Second Violin. Apply, SUTTON, Theatre Royal, Bath.

WANTED, Engagement, as Violin; can combine Clarionet; good refs. H. SMITH, West Pier Orchestra, Brighton.

WANTED, Known, Lady Violinist (Solo and Orchestral), Good Leader; every experience; Disengaged July and August. Box 4,638, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by experienced Violinist, Leader or otherwise, Variety Theatre or Seaside. Terms moderate. MACKENZIE, 12, Herbert-rd., Stockwell, London.

WANTED, Engagement, as Second Violin; could combine Viola, any class of work; young and reliable; good refs. Wire or write. At Liberty Monday.

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady Violinist, First or Second. Address, Miss B. CHAPMAN, 28, Caldecot-street, Newport Pagnell, Bucks.

WANTED, Engagement, by Young Lady Violinist, Soloist and Orchestral, tour or permanent; good appearance. Box 4,769, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Young Violinist; good Seaside Orchestra preferred; experienced in Concert and Variety; refs., &c. Apply, Box 4,780, "The Era."

WANTED, good Summer Engagement, by experienced Violinist, any business, up-to-date Library. Apply, MUSICAL-DIRECTOR, His Majesty's T., Barrow-in-Furness.

WANTED, by Violinist, experienced, immediate Engagement in London; would play Second Violin; life abstainer. Address, H., 134, Haverstock Hill, Hampstead.

WANTED, through unexpected closing, Engagement, by experienced and reliable Cornet, transpose Trumpets; age 30; good refs. FRITZ, Pavilion Theatre, Greenock.

WANTED, Known, G. Howard, Solo Cornet, West Pier, and two years Hippodrome, Brighton, at Liberty, any business. 1, Newport-street, Brighton.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, in any Business; steady and reliable; good refs. NORTON, Palace, Carlisle.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, First-Class Cornet, Flute, Piccolo, Double Bass and Drums. Dancing or Variety preferred; highest references. LORRIMAN, Flautist, Purston, Yorks.

WANTED, an Engagement, as First Cornet, any Business; can commence at once; sober and attentive. Address, VILLING, 14, Crewe-street, Chester.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced, reliable Cornet Player, through ceasing; good references, any business; can join at once. SKYRME, Empire, Greenock.

WANTED, Known, Miss Lilian Smith, Cornet and Vocalist, Disengaged; also Double Bass (Lady). 35, Leighton-road, Kentish Town, N.W.

WANTED, by good Solo Clarionet, Engagement (Military or Orchestral); good refs., &c. Address, D. SHEEHAN, 99, Queen's-road, Plaistow, London, E.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by good Clarionet. Orchestral or Military; good refs. E. WATTS, Theatre Royal, Bolton, Lancs.

WANTED, by Clarionet, experienced any business; Seaside or deputy preferred, at Liberty Whit. Address, CLARIONET, 4, Marshall-buildings, Webber-street, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement as Clarionet, any business, last five years as Clarionet on West Pier, Brighton. Address, C. NEWCOMBE, West Pier, Brighton.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, First-class Solo Clarionet, Orchestral or Military Band; five years present shop. G. HARRISON, T. R., Belfast.

WANTED, by Clarionet, Engagement, reliable, any Business; distance no object; first-class references. GEORGE, c/o P. T. Cooke, Swindon-road, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Engagement by good Basso, through Theatre closing, 28, steady, good references; Variety preferred. UNSWORTH, 1, Southgrove, Sale, near Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Bassoon, Orchestral, at Liberty May 11; first-class references. J. P. HALLAM, 139, Willow-street, Leicester.

WANTED, by Bassoon, Engagement, experienced; excellent refs.; season or permanency. F. HIRE, 2, Royal-parade, Hunstanton, Norfolk.

WANTED, by String Bass or Bombardon, competent and experienced, Summer Engagement; Liberty after May 25. Hemingway, Royal Court Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, by String Bass, thoroughly experienced, Theatre, Variety business, Disengaged June 8; requires Seaside Hotel or Pier. 70, St. Dunstan's-road, Fulham.

WANTED, by good Bassoonist, Engagement, any business; well experienced. Write, BASSOON, 50, Merrion-street, Briggate, Leeds.

WANTED, by experienced Bass (String) Situation for Season, Military or Orchestra; combine Clarionet; good refs. SHORT, Basso, Grand T., Luton.

WANTED, Known, Contra Bass, Disengaged May 11, any Business; experienced. 20, Huntsmoor-road, Wandsworth.

WANTED by Bassoon, Engagement for Summer Season; ex-Guardsman; Opera or Tour; excellent references. AMOS, 92, High-street, Thornton Heath.

WANTED, Season Engagement, by experienced Double Bass, Concert or Variety; steady and reliable. GEORGE, Queen's Theatre of Varieties, Castleford, Yorks.

WANTED, Engagement, for good Trombone; steady and thoroughly reliable; good refs.; abstainer; South Wales preferred. TROMBONE, 14, Clift-terrace, Carlisle.

WANTED, by Trombone, Engagement, any business; good references. ORCHESTRAL, 3, Exon-street, Walworth, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, First-class Trombone, at Liberty, any Business; abstainer, strictly attentive to business, and reliable. Box 4,768, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by good Euphonium or Double Bass; good refs.; long experience JOHN STONE, 20, Old Orchard-street, Bath.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, Bombardon, any business, can join at once; steady and attentive to business; good refs. H., 100, Bedford-street, Darlington.

WANTED, by French Horn Player, Engagement, through reduction in Theatre Orchestra. Address, MIDGLEY, 11, Bell-street, Old Swan, Liverpool.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice, for Little Girl, on 'Cello; also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. CASSELLS, 35, Granville-square, King's Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, Engagement, as 'Celloist, any Business. R. SORTIN, Grand Theatre, Cambridge.

WANTED, Engagement, by 'Cellist; experienced in any line of Business; highest references. Address, GEO. HIRST, Melbourne-street, Lee Mount, Halifax.

WANTED, Known, 'Cellist, Disengaged; experienced in Orchestral and Solo Work; seaside preferred; good references. Address, 'CELLIST, 48, High-street, Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, by 'Cellist, Engagement; young, steady, experienced, reliable; can play Solos; any business; moderate salary. M. B., 123, Delaware-road, Maida Vale.

WANTED, Engagement, by 'Cellist; good reader; any Business. 'CELLO, 11, Cottage-place, New-road, Leigh-on-Sea.

WANTED, Known, 'Cello and Clarionet, Disengaged; highest refs. S. IRWIN, 37, Badlis-road, Walthamstow.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-Class 'Cellist, Hotel or First-Class Orchestra; good experience; can supply good references. Address, 'CELLIST, 18, King Alfred's-place, Birmingham.

WANTED, Engagement, Lady, Solo 'Cellist, A.R.C.M., and Lady Violinist, First or Second. Box 4,773, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, at once, Lady 'Cellist, very good; young and experienced. Apply, Box 4,771, "The Era."

WANTED, by Viola, Permanent or Summer Engagement; thoroughly experienced in Variety and Concert Business; good refs.; at Liberty May 20. Apply, 29, Khyber-rd., Battersea, London.

WANTED, by Viola, combine Second Violin, Re-engagement, London preferred; any Business; good refs.; bonus for comfortable shop. Apply, Box 4,747, "The Era."

WANTED, by Young Lady, Engagement, Viola or Violin. E. STEVENS, 40, Hilldrop-road, Camden-road, London, N.

WANTED, by First-Class Viola (Lady), reliable Orchestral Engagement; thoroughly experienced; excellent references. Miss PAMELA CHANDLER, Herbert-street, Mansfield, Notts.

WANTED, Engagement, Oboe, first-class, any business; references. OBOE, 41, Margravine-gardens, West Kensington.

WANTED, Maud Estlin Grundy, Solo and Orchestral Harpist, Summer Season Engagement. 58, Antrim-mansions, England's-lane, Hampstead, London.

WANTED, Known, Miss Hilda Coe, Solo Harpist, at Liberty Concerts, Receptions; as a Soloist stands unequalled. Mount Sion, Tunbridge Wells.

WANTED, Engagement, by young Lady Harpist; Hotel or Tea Rooms, Orchestra, in London. Apply, J. FIELD, 39, Camberwell-road, London.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo Soloist, Engagement, any Business; excellent refs., and good répertoire of Solos. FLAUTIST, 17, Lamb-street, Coventry.

WANTED, Seaside Engagement, by Flautist. References. J. WALLWORK, 21, Stafford-road, Swinton.

WANTED, Engagement, by Variety Pianist, Lady, at Liberty Whit Monday; Soloist, Accompanist, Sight-reader, MSS., &c.; Al-fresco preferred. Letters only, with terms, to M. SUTTON, 16, Ashfield-road, Sneinton, Nottingham.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Orchestral Pianist and Vocalist. Café preferred. GRACE GOODWIN, 12, Juer-st., Park-rd., Battersea.

WANTED, by Lady Pianist, Summer Engagement, brilliant, good sight reader, and accompanist; Concert Party, Orchestral, or Dance. 358A, King-street, Hammersmith.

WANTED, Known, A. De Gabriele, Pianist, at Liberty; highest references. 15, Sirdar-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement by Lady Pianist, thoroughly experienced in Dramatic, Variety, and Orchestral; good offers only. SILVESTER, 46, Langney-road, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Known, Miss Maud Hummerston, Pianist and Accompanist, Disengaged for Concert Party or Orchestra. Offers. 1, Forburg-road, Stamford Hill, N.

WANTED, Engagement, week or fortnight, by experienced Pianist, Dramatic or Variety; good reader and accompanist; would deputise. FISHER, Priory-place, Doncaster.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, for Piano, Violin, and 'Cello; highest-class music and references; can provide Band. J. REILLIE, Croydon.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Pianist; at Liberty May 11; good references; any Bus. RIVETT, P.O., Ludgershall, Wilts.

WANTED, Engagement, Drums, all effects; thoroughly experienced; sober, reliable; any business; at Lib. now. W. POOLE, Poste Restante, Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED, Known, Shikissimma Band, Ladies' Japanese Orchestra, all Soloists; magnificent costume, for vacant dates. Apply, CONDUCTRESS, Glenthorpe, Chesterfield-road, Newbury.

WANTED, Engagements for Scarlet Domino Ladies' Band, Ladies' Salon Quartette and Florentine Quartet, at home or abroad. Apply, BUREAU, 8, Bedford-terrace, Kensington.

WANTED, Engagement, by the Marguerite Ladies' Orchestra, introducing Vocal, Solos, and Duets, Recitals, Banjo Songs, Cornet, 'Cello, and Violin Solos. CONDUCTRESS, 17, Exeter-road, Walthamstow.

WANTED, Engagements for the Albion Ladies' Orchestra. DIRECTOR, 86, Mantilla-road, London, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Orchestral Double Drummer, Summer or Permanency; experienced, reliable. DRUMS, 177, Ball's Pond-road, Islington, London, N.

WANTED, Engagement, for String or Brass Band, any Business; good répertoire. Terms, FRANK FISHBURN, Musical Director, 55, Brentnall-street, Stockport.

WANTED, Engagements, for Orchestra, any number, smart uniform, up-to-date répertoire; highest references. LOUIS METZ, 62, Wellington-road, Charlton, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Old English Quartette (Ladies), Disengaged, pretty costumes, good répertoire; combine Vocalist. CONDUCTRESS, 35, Leighton-road, Kentish Town, N.W.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty in June, Instrumental Quartette, with an Up-to-date Répertoire of Music and Solos, for Hotel, &c.; seaside preferred, but inland offers invited. Box 4,707, "The Era."

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by Orchestra of three or more, brilliant artists, up to all kinds of business; also first-rate Cornet wants Engagement. Apply, CORNET, 50, Young-street, Nottingham.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

ALEXANDRA CIRCUS, Tenting Season, 1907.

WANTED, for the above good Equestrians, with or without own horses; also one or two Novel Speciality Acts. Address, D. TAYLOR, Skating Rink, Worcester. Coma communicate again.

WANTED, May 20, week, Fêtes, Cycle, Animal, High Wire, and Speciality Acts all Lines. Lithos., memos., GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, First-Class Wire or Rope Act, for Garden Fête, August Bank Holiday week, two Acts preferred. C. ELDERTON, T. R., Hebburn.

WANTED, Stephenson's Circus, Ireland, Useful People; also Bioscope that can do Act as well; also Sober Agent and Cornet and Euphonium Players. Lowest terms, F. STEPHENSON, Post Office, Dublin.

WANTED, a good Tumbling Agouste, for long Engagement. Send lowest. FRED DURHAM'S Agency, 1a, Loughborough-road, Brixton, London, S.W.

WANTED, a Young Man that can Tumble a little. Age, height, and weight. Box 4,783, "The Era."

WANTED, a Trampoline Tumbler, one that can also do a little Ground Tumbling. All particulars, Box 4,789, "The Era."

WANTED, Parachute Descent, for Gala, near Castleford, Whit Monday and Tuesday, hot-air; gent. first day, lady second, preferred. Wire lowest, BEANLAND and EMERSON, Queen's T., Castleford.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty shortly, for Stage or Ring, Tudor's Four Performing Ponies, twice daily. Hengler's Circus, London. A good Agent required.

WANTED, Monday, also 13th, 20th, The Maros, Quaintest Three-Bar Act. This, Palace, Porth; after Saturday, 126, Porter-street, Hull.

WANTED, Known, through Change of Dates, The Fitzroys, Society Gymnasts are Vacant, May 20 and 27. Hippodrome, Scarborough.

WANTED, by Ariel and Astarte, Smartest of all Lady and Gentlemen Triple Bar and Aerial Trapeze Pot-Pourri Act, free May 20, 27, June 3. Monday, Hippodrome, Lancaster.

WANTED, Known, Managers and Agents requiring a big Attraction, the Marvellous Zenobias, Kings of the Lofty Globe, new Sensational and Original, just arrived in England after a most successful tour. The only Artists in the world that propel a rolling Globe across a telephone wire without the aid of balances.

Communications,

Care Hurrell Belmont, Stoke, Devonport.

WANTED, Known, George Davilla, fully Booked for High Wire at Open Air Exhibitions in Kent and Sussex, till July 1, last two weeks Westerham and Sevenoaks; next week, Morley. Permanent, Forest View, Honey-lane, Waltham Abbey.

WANTED, Known, The Otines, Double Trapeze and Juggling Wire Act, Comedy, at Liberty. 26, Clayton-buildings, Kennington-rd., S.E.

WANTED, Known, Pauletti, Cycling Act; Le Volla, Silver Hoop Gymnasts; free for a few Galas. POOLE'S Myriorama, Treharris, S. Wales.

WANTED, by Lad, Situation, with Trick or Comedy Cyclists, fair knowledge of the business, own machines. Address, Box 4,745, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, a First-Class Second Mounter and Tumbler, open to join good Troupe of Acrobats. FRED LEGLERE, "Span of Life" Co., Gaiety, Burnley.

Balloon Ascents.

WANTED, Engagements, by Lieut. Lempriere, the Popular Reliable Aeronaut. Address, LEMPRIERE, Handsworth, Birmingham.

Parachute Descents.

WANTED, Gala Secretaries seeking big Attractions to engage Lieut. Lempriere and his charming Lady Pupils for Parachute Descents or Races; together or separate. One still open for Whit week. LEMPRIERE, Handsworth, Birmingham.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for the Hippodrome, Coventry, Variety Artists of every Description. Big Top Liners, Sensational Attractions, Novelties, and in fact everything that will draw and please a British Public.

We are prepared to Pay the Best Prices in Full. We ask for no Reductions.

Always an Opening for a good £150 turn.

Apply by letter only, SYLVESTER, 217, Piccadilly, London.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES and THEATRE ROYAL.

WANTED, First-class Variety Artists, all Lines.

ARTHUR CARLTON, Palace, Worcester.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, big Acts, or Comedy Sketch, on percentage, for combination, all dates May and June. State actual lowest price, or useless. Consider silence a polite negative.

All communications address, C. CLIQUOT, 26, Wakefield-road, Dewsbury.

WANTED, Variety Artists all Lines, May 13, Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest. Hall small. P. REYMOND, as above.

Scarborough.

WANTED, Monday, May 13, and onwards, Variety Artists in all Lines. Nothing too Big. Full particulars to KITCHINGMAN, Aquarium.

WANTED, for South Shields, May 27, Variety Artists, all Lines. Address, lowest terms, &c., GREAT HUGHES, 63, Belmont-avenue, Blackpool.

WANTED, Variety Artists, for Tour, must play parts in big Sketch. Sharing terms. MANAGER, 21, Railway-street, Jarrow.

WANTED, Variety Artists, in all Lines, May 13, and onwards. A. E. PICKARD, Britannia, Glasgow.

O. MAUS DAYTON'S VAUDEVILLE CO.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, June 3 and on, Good Comedy Act Wanted, for Monday next, at Rochdale; must be absolutely new to town. Thanks all artists for letters, wires, &c. Impossible to answer all. Silence polite negative. Lowest combination terms essential. Apply, DAYTON FAMILY, this week, Queen's Theatre, Castleford; Monday, Hippodrome, Rochdale.

IMPERIAL VARIETY AGENCY, 19, Green-street, Leicester-square. Under the Direction of F. F. Wade (late Manager of Collins's Music Hall) and H. J. Stowe, jun. Proprietor, H. J. Stowe.

WANTED, good Artists, original Acts and Specialities. Call or write. 'Phone 14,252 Cen.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates. WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, coming North, to send dates and terms. ANDERSON'S Agency, 6, Great Clyde-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines. Give full particulars, vacancies, and lowest terms, first letter, WARBURTON'S Agency, 350, Gibbet-street, Halifax.

WANTED, through Releasing, for Whitby and Saltburn, Al-Fresco Artists in all Lines, including Baritone, Soprano, Comedians; rehearse May 13, open 17th. Particulars, photos, imperative, GEO. DAVIS, Marine Hotel, Whitby.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, two weeks, May 13, 27, June 13. CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin.

WANTED, good Al-Fresco Artists, for Whit Week, for New Stand, South Shore, Blackpool; Pianist write in. Also Artists to complete Season Troupe, commencing July 15; must be young, refined, and used to Concerted Numbers. Lowest terms to J. WALTERS, 78, Warley-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Monday next and Monday following continuously. State lowest Monday next terms, London and Provinces. Top Liners Wanted for Summer Dates, Seaside. CAVILL'S Agency, 127, Clapham-road, London, S.W. Telegrams, "Dramatical, London."

DREW BAYLEY'S AGENCY.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, big and small. Those coming North write; I can give you Contracts for all towns up North. I want big Tops for Hippo., Perth, May 20, and on. Notice.—I have made 100 Contracts this week. Keep me posted and good Turns sure to be Booked. Can be seen only by appointment. 170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists for Al Fresco Entertainments (Forfarshire, N.B.), all Lines. Lowest Terms. Apply, GEO. MELVIN, Theatre, James-st., Arbroath, N.B.

WANTED, Known, Artists wishing to be booked for First-class Music Hall Engagements, communicate with BROOKS'S Agency, 35, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines. Will Artists already Booked kindly send full bookings. Watty Griffen send address. NOBLE'S Agency, Grand, Falkirk.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, for Chappell's Concerts, Yarmouth, commencing June. Apply HARRY BARKER'S Entertainment Bureau, 6, Harley-road, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, First-class Artists Only, for First-class Variety Theatres, immediate and future dates, also Pantomime. JESS VERNO'S Agency, 16, Elizabeth-st., Liverpool. Telegrams, "Merriment." 'Phone, 2076 Royal.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, nothing too big, for immediate dates, for England, America, France, Spain, &c. Contracts waiting for Lynch's Illustrated Songs, communicate. DEERICH'S Vaudeville Bureau, 31, Islington, Liverpool.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, new to Wigan, Dewsbury, Wakefield, Hull, Morecambe, Hartlepool, &c., May 6, 13, 20, 27, June and July. WILL ONDA, Hippodrome, Wigan.

WANTED, Aug. 15, Variety, Wire, or Japanese Artists, outdoor Fête. State terms, length of Turn. C. HEBBLETHWAITE, Sec., Knaresborough Water Carnival.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME, ROCHDALE.

WANTED, Known, Rehearsal Monday next, 2 o'clock, for: The Dayton Family, Palette, Harry Sansom Trio, Lindsay and Harte, Geo. Gulliver, Fitzgerald and Stanley, Vernon's Bioscope, W. Bellian and Co. Letters, SMITH and Co., Red Lion Hotel.

COVENTRY HIPPODROME.

Proprietors, COVENTRY HIPPODROME CO., LTD.

WANTED, Agents and Artists to please Note that from Dec. 23, 1904, no Contracts will be recognised unless signed by the Secretary and Manager. T. M. SYLVESTER, Manager; G. E. WRIGHT, Secretary.

WANTED, for May 13, 20, and 27, Stars in all Lines. Stars in all Lines. Full up for Smaller Items. Can always Fix Big Numbers any Odd Weeks. CADLE'S Agency, 105, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Variety Stars, Specialities, May 20, on. Terms, bookings, lithos., &c. Required Japanese Troupe, for Pantomime. EDGAR STEBBINGS, Agent, 23, Egerton-st., Manchester. Telegrams, "Stebbing, Manchester." 'Phone, 09261.

VENTOM SWIFT'S AGENCY, Alhambra, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Stars and Startling Attractions, May 13 and onwards; First-class small Turns also communicate. Summer terms.

WANTED, all the Greatest Stars in the Profession to send full Bookings, Terms, Lithos. AINSWORTH'S Agency, 120, Preston-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, for Hancock's New Palace, and Living Pictures, a Variety Turn, Double-handed people preferred; Engagement for two or three weeks certain. Send lithos. and lowest price, first letter. Apply, HANCOCK, Fair Ground, Looe, Cornwall, until next Wednesday.

STALYBRIDGE HIPPODROME.

WANTED, Talent all Lines, JAMES FIONI'S Agency, 21, Norton-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool." Telephone 1686 Royal.

DUNDAS'S AGENCY.

WANTED, Talent of Every Description, May 20, and onwards. Absolute lowest terms in first letter. Old clients write. 52, Rosthwaite-road, West Derby, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Leo Fritz's Variety Agency, 40, Glenshaw-mansions, Brixton-road, S.W. Telephone, 457 Brixton. Telegraphic address, "Evelyncia, London." The Greatest Acts in all Lines. I will give any suitable act a written guarantee of twelve months' solid work. Wire for May 13, and onward.

WANTED, for Gloucester, Porth, Worcester, Glasgow, Portsmouth, Variety Acts in all Lines. I can book you. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, Good Gala Acts, for Aug. 5 and 6, Leeds. Send full particulars, with May and June bookings, to WALTER WORMALD, Secretary, 3, Park-square, Leeds.

WANTED, Big Speciality Acts, Stars, on sharing terms; good business with Turns that Draw. Particulars, MANAGER, 13, Catherine-st., Macclesfield.

WANTED, good Acts for the North, Star Comedians especially. Terms and full list of bookings, to FRANK LYNNE, 12, Cranworth-gardens, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Gala Acts of every Description. Send lithos., lowest terms, ELBOURN, Agent, 22, Queen's-road, Tidal Basin, London.

HARRY L. SKIVINGTON'S AGENCY.
HARRY L. SKIVINGTON'S AGENCY.
48, Brisbane-street, Greenock.

WANTED, Big Tops and Reliable Turns, must be known to me, for Glasgow and District.

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, late Manager Blackpool, Morecambe, &c. Address, 46, Coram-st., Russell-sq., W.C. Appointments only.

WANTED, Musical Speciality, and other Artists, for Whit Week. Photo and full particulars, with absolute lowest terms (no fancy prices), to WALLER JEFF'S, Permanent Offices, Curzon Hall, Birmingham.

WANTED, Good Speciality, for Whit Week (twice daily), that can work on a stage 30ft. wide and 10ft. from floor to borders; no vocalists. Bradford Original Al-Fresco Pavilion, Frizinghall, Bradford.

WANTED, Specialities, Whit Week, in Erith Park Band Stand; also Lady Vocalists for Season. Terms low. HAYES TRAVERS, Thrapston, Northants. Next, P. O., Dartford.

WANTED, Speciality, Work Beach with Ventriloquist (fifth season); open Whitsuntide; good Vent. write, young, refined. Terms, refs., WINN, Ventriloquist, Scarborough.

WANTED, for Idle and Thackley Carnival, June 22, 1907, good Outdoor Variety Show, limit £7. No agents. Reply, P. DAVY, Lenton Villas, Idle, Bradford.

WANTED, Acrobats, Gymnasts, Comedy Acts. People with more than one Act preferred; Bioscope, one night only, Saturday, May 18, Santé's Benefit. SANTE, Theatre, Radcliffe.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

HENRY KEMBLE'S AGENCY.
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WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Big Specialities,
Big Specialities,
Big Specialities,
Animal Shows, Illusions,
Animal Shows, Illusions,
Animal Shows, Illusions,
for May 20, and onward.
for May 20, and onward.
for May 20, and onward.
Send full list of Bookings, Terms, Lithos., &c.

WANTED, the Solid Cream
of the
Whole World's Attractions,

High-class Specialities,
Sensational Numbers,
Meritorious Novelties,
for
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Seasides,
and
Galas.

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JAMES FIONI'S Agency,
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Telephone, 1686 Royal.

WANTED, Sensational and Attractive Variety Troupe,
for
August Bank Holiday.

Write, stating terms and performances to SECRETARY, Sports, Lydney.

WANTED, Good Troupe Dancers, able to Sing. Letters only, with all particulars, GEO. NORMAN, Holborn Empire.

WANTED, Baritone, Comedian, and Pianist (Sight-reader), for First-class Al-Fresco, Special Week (Whit); suitable Artists may be retained for Season, commencing June 24. Artists in neighbourhood of Manchester and Liverpool preferred. Full particulars, photo. (stamp), to ARTHUR ALSTON, 43, Southfield-rd., Bedford Park, London, W.

WANTED, Minstrel Tenor and Male Alto, both must read; also First-class Comedian. Apply, with song, Clapham Assembly Rooms (facing Booking Office, R.R. Station, L.B. and S.C.), off Clapham-road, at 12 o'clock Monday next, May 6.

WANTED, Lady Soprano, First-Class Tenor, and Comedian, refined, and capable of high-class Al Fresco; knowledge of piano preferred. Refs., &c. MANAGER, 4, Felix-av., Crouch End, N.

WANTED, good Lady Vocalist, for Singing Pictures; also useful Stage Acts; for Touring Ireland, commencing May 17. Bosco, 3, Winsley-road, Bristol.

WANTED, Lady, for Musical Act; must play Piano and one other Instrument.
Address,
Box 4,782, "The Era."

WANTED, by Smart Young Lady, age 20, Engagement in Sketch; excellent Soprano Voice; good experience. Apply, G., 35, Upper Bedford-place, W.C.

WANTED, a few Smart Young Ladies, for Music Hall Sketch, over 16; no previous experience necessary if of good appearance; long tour, good salary. Send photo., which will be returned to LEONARD, 56, Sandmere-road, Clapham, London, S.W.

WANTED, Smart and Refined Lady, for Al-Fresco. Terms and full particulars,
Box 4,784, "The Era."

WANTED, smart-looking young Lady, with stage experience, for new Act. Address, ARISTON, 35, Great James-street, Theobalds-road.

WANTED, refined young Al-Fresco Comedians; must be experienced; also good Pianist and Baggage Man, to open Whit, for long season. Lowest terms and photos. to GRAPHO and JACKSON, Abington Park Hotel, Northampton.

WANTED, smart Youth, for Eton Boy, "Casey's Court," good voice and appearance; also Boy and Girl Vocalists, Dancers, good voices, over 14, and small. CADLE'S Agency, 105, Strand.

WANTED, Boy, Dance and Sing; rehearse immediately; must be over 14. Write, with particulars, TONY IVESON, Barnard's Theatre, Chatham.

WANTED, a Coloured Boy, age about 15 years; must be a good Singer and Dancer. Good money and three years' Engagement if suitable. HARRY INSTONE, Royal Varieties, Oldham.

WANTED, immediately, thoroughly clever Musical Assistant, for Well-known Act; youth, sobriety essential. Fullest particulars, photos., ARMSTRONG, Tivoli, South Shields.

WANTED, Reliable Operator for Whit week; must be abstainer. State lowest salary and references. W. H. PALLISTER, Pavilion, Leicester.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Wanted, Known, the Great Aerial Mystery, LILITH, in her beautiful Palace of Roses. The prettiest and most sensational mystery ever presented. Also LILIAN WARREN, the Popular Pictorial Songstress, with beautiful Dissolving Effects; Liberty May 13, 20, and 27. Proprietors and Managers requiring a sure draw should secure the above.

Communications, LILIAN WARREN, Palace, Glasgow; May 6, Hippodrome, Paisley.

WANTED, Known, Magna, Magna, Magna, the beautiful Statuary Poseuse, an Act that can follow all others. Complimented by the clergy as a most beautiful classical and artistic act. Great success, Hippodrome, Spennymoor. Vacant dates, address, 9, Margaret-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Gracie Bard, a few Offers, to follow May 6, Hippodrome, Chorley. Thanks to Dave Hart for Contracts.

WANTED, by Nellie Nora, Musical Act Monday next; also May 13, to precede Dudley. Wire, Gaiety; or 10, Richard-st., Waterloo, Blyth.

WANTED, Known, Little Dorretta, Liberty May 13 one week only, in or near London, Poole's Myriorama, Watford.

WANTED, May 13, 20, on, by Stelfane, Lady Conjurer; Al Fresco offers invited. Address, 174, Victoria-street, Grimsby.

WANTED, by Mlle. Sylvesto, Lady Contortionist, May 27, June 10, 17, 24. Big Success, Hippo., Huddersfield. Write, 206, Lambeth-road, London.

WANTED, by Sisters Truro, Ballad Harmonising Duettists, Monday next; pretty dress, good voices; also Miss Laura D'Estrail, Ballad Vocalist; two good turns. 3, Corporation-street, Middleton, Manchester.

WANTED, by The Grosvenors (Three Sisters), Singers of Popular Melodies in Harmony, Monday next and 13th. Wire, Hip., Stoke.

WANTED, Known, Trippello, "Ze leetle funny foreign fluter," who makes the funny music (and adverts.), thanks Messrs. Richmond, Beardmore, and Reynolds for offers. Full up now till October. Address, 53, Gregory-boulevard, Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, George Brown, the Yorkshire Dialect Comedian, is at Liberty for the season for good Al Fresco, on account of licence being refused; well up in concerted numbers, sketches, &c. Last three seasons Southport. 7, Wesley-street, Southport.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Les Rallis, the Artist and his Monkey, May 6, one week.
Wire, Hippodrome, Ealing.

WANTED, Known, Stylo, wonderful Hoop Juggling Effects, vacant May 6 and 13. Wire, Empire, Sheffield.

WANTED, by J. H. Carney, Humorist, Mimic, and Dancer, vacant Monday next, also May 13, 20. After Sat., 30, Ney-street, Green-road, Leeds. Pavilion, Leicester.

WANTED, Monday next, also Whit week, Barney Stuart, Character-Actor, Vocalist, and Mimic. Coms., 50, Bloomsbury-street, Saltley, Birmingham.

WANTED, May 6, 13, Jack Sheppard, World's Greatest Handcuff King and Prison Breaker; also Miss Ruby Vesta, in the Greatest Trunk Mystery on the Stage. Sure draw; big top; challenges. Wire, Palace, Oldbury.

WANTED, Known, Harry Clifton, the Quaint Comedian, at Liberty May 13, for one week. Address, 15, Guildford-road, South Lambeth, S.W.

WANTED, Whit Week and Summer Dates, Palette, The Lightning Artist Extraordinary and his dog Max; a First-class Act. Big Success with Dayton Family. Monday, Circus, Rochdale.

WANTED, Known, Boy Hackenschmidt thanks Managers for offers. Sensation and talk of Glossop. Vacant May 13, 20. 34, Margaret-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Morimura, the Marvellous Japanese Illusionist, unexpectedly vacant from May 13, onwards, for several weeks; first vacancies this year. Wire or write for a sure success to Temperance Hall, Merthyr; or G. and F. PELL.

WANTED, by Rozel, Sensational Speciality Gymnast, May 6, 13.
32, Providence-street, Stockport.

WANTED, May 27, onwards, First-Class Al Fresco Engagement, huge rep. of Vent. Sketches (one figure to nine), Vocal Comedian, Farmyard Mimic, Sketches, Concerteds, and Harmonised; experienced. GULLIVER, Ventriloquist, Circus, Rochdale.

WANTED, May 27, June 3, 10, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist; and De Lil, Illusionist; two smart Acts. Monday, Hippodrome, Paisley.

WANTED, Monday next, Le Brun and Irene, Double Jugglers; also Little Edie, Marvellous Child Vocalist. Wire, Assembly Rooms, Great Malvern.

WANTED, May 6, onward, Kyoto, Great Comedy Japanese Contortionist, &c., May Geraldine, Vocalist, Comedienne, Dancer. Two distinct acts. Success, London, nightly. Wire, 25, Devonshire-house, Bath-terrace, London, S.E.

WANTED, Neddy Vokes and Jessie Marshall, Comedy Musical Artists, Liberty May 6, 13, 27. Wire, 16, Moreton-street, Strangeways, Manchester.

WANTED, June 3, on, follow Crystal Palace, The Monckton, in their Screamingly Funny Musical Comedy Episode, "Are Wives Dummies?" Thanks Ventom Swift, Esq., Alhambra, Edinburgh for Return Contracts. This, Middle Bill and Usual Success, Pavilion, Greenock, May 6, Palace, Dundee.

WANTED, May 6 and 13, by Will and Roze, Comedy Acrobatic Conjurers, and Alvar, Sensational Gymnast; two First-Class Specialities, at Liberty Halls or Galas. Wire, Co-operative Hall, Dudley, Northumberland; after Sat., 6, Dolly-lane, Leeds.

WANTED, Monday next and May 13, Sardou's Illusionists, Marvellous Mystifiers; also Marie Riviers, Comedienne. Wire, Hippodrome, Barrow-in-Furness.

WANTED, Known, Rezene and Robini, Liberty May 13, 20, and 27. New Show, "Army and Navy." Big Success. Coms. until Mon., Half Moon, Holloway. Mon., Palace, Sunderland.

WANTED, by Bros. Shephard, Cross Talk Comedians, June 10, on, with exceptions. Thanks Leo Fritz, Esq., for Contracts. All coms., Care of "The Era."

WANTED, Monday, by Chant and Chant Refined Comedy Vocalists; Dewsbury to follow, third return. Wire, 87, Wollaton-st., Nottingham.

WANTED, by Malone and Conley, smart Comedy Boxing Act, May 13, also 27. Monday, May 6, Palace, Oldbury.

WANTED, Known, Sterling and Cashen, Military Comedy Duo and Dancers, want May 6, 13, 20. Wire, Palace, or 11, Victoria-street, Bradford.

WANTED, May 13, 20, 27, by Mac and Hill, Speciality Patter Comedians. Finish tonight, Hippo., Bury; Monday, Hippo., Preston.

WANTED, Known, Stebbing Brothers, vacant May 20, onwards, Galas; also May Isabelle, Comedienne. Address, next, Theatre Royal, Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED, Monday next, May 6, 13, by Titan, Strong Show, Wyllie, Musical Act. Wire for Monday to TITAN, Hippodrome, Blyth.

WANTED, Monday next, Savaro (Mimic), and Lillian and Clown, Contortionist. Offers. Till Sunday, Amphitheatre, Ramsgate; then, 654, Ellen-street, London, E.

WANTED, May 6 and 13, by the Ringling Trio, Eccentrics, Original Comedy Act. Wire, Palace, Perth, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Comical Cranks, Cyclists and Motorists; New Act, Halls, Galas, vac. Whit Monday. Cycling, Motoring. Cycling, Motoring. Add., see Cards.

WANTED, by Cameo Troupe, Comedy Acrobats, Halls, Fêtes, Galas, &c., &c. Address, 1, Upper Duke-st., Manchester; or STEBBINGS, Agent.

WANTED, Known, Emma Don and Her Black-and-White Comedy Team, vacant June 3, 10, 17, 24, and July 8, 1907. Address, May 6, Empire, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, by The Marconis, Electric Wonders, Liberty Monday, also May 13. Wire, 23, Colnbrook-street, London-road, S.E.

WANTED, Engagements, three distinct turns, Zancig and Thought-reading, Conjuring, and Bioscope. 251, Seven Sisters-road, N.

WANTED, May 6 and on, with exceptions, for the screamingly funny Farcical Comedy Episode, entitled "Jack's Uncle." Big hit last week at the Palace, Plymouth, same here. Vide Bristol Echo, April 30, 1907: A favourite visit to Bristol is always that of Geo. Davis and Co., and they again give that diverting and ludicrous sketch, "Jack's Uncle," which will make a confirmed dyspeptic laugh continually, &c., &c. Wire, wire for May 6. Address, GEO. DAVIS, Palace, Bristol; next, Holywell, St. Ives, Hunts.

WANTED, Known, The Cecilians (S.A.T.B.) have a few Vacant Dates for Piers and good Al Fresco; Solos, Duets, Part Songs; whole or part programme. 35, Burma-road, Clissold Park, London, N.

WANTED, Known, what a draw Cecilians are, Musicians, Vocalists, Expert Dancers, refinement, Speciality. Victoria Hall, Sunderland. May 6. Vacant 13th and 27th.

WANTED, Known, how Cecilians storm these places, make enquiries. Empress, Hartlepool; Tivoli, High Shields; Aquarium, Scarboro'; Palace, Gloucester; Queen's Theatre, Castleford.

WANTED, Known, Cecilians always pack your Halls and storm the people. Enquire Dayton Family, seven dates, return visit, Sunderland, in two months.

WANTED, Managers to give Cecilians a trial; you will have money's worth; three smart young ladies and one gentleman.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ella's Lion Show Vacant Monday next and May 27, onwards, with exceptions.

Communications till May 12,
104, Moor-street, Burton-on-Trent.

WANTED, Known, Caban's French Circus. Ponies, Donkeys, Goat, and Dogs, at Liberty May 13, 27, on, with exceptions. Address, 4, Charles-street, Gloucester.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, near London, May 20, Dainez Famous Animals.
Address, Pitsea, Essex.

WANTED, Known, Devereux's Great Comedy Troupe of Dogs, the Four-footed Animals with Human Brains, Liberty May 13 to 27. Royal Albert, Canning Town.

WANTED, Fêtes and Galas, Fontainbleau's Great Troupe of Canine Marvels; her famous Rolling Globe Speciality. Whit Monday, Shrewsbury Fête. Address above.

WANTED, Known, Alice Fontainbleau's Famous Troupe of Dogs. Great Success, Broadhead's Tour. May 6, Hippo., Ashton; 13th, Queen's Park, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Two Dominos, Clown and Comic Donkey, Finish to-night most comfortable Engagement with Proprietor Hunt, Royal Albert, Canning Town. Monday, T. R., King's Lynn. No immediate dates open. Com., 131, Fonthill-rd., Holloway, London, N.

WANTED, The Dunlops, Comedy Cyclists; also Lillian Sivado, Lady Gymnast; two distinct acts. Vacant May 27. Two Big Acts for Galas, &c. Two kinds of lithos. Monday, Albert T., Brighouse.

WANTED, Known, Bros. St. Clair, Comedy Cyclists and Football Match on Bicycles, Liberty May 13. Wire or write, Alexandra Theatre, Widnes.

WANTED, Engagement, Acrobatic Pantomimist, Knockabout, Animal Impersonator; height 5ft. 4in., weight 9st, age 22. MOREL, 7, Inkerman-street, Collyhurst-road, Manchester.

WANTED, by Boy 18, Engagement, as Apprentice to Juggler, or Musical Troupe (Instrument Piano); no salary required for beginning. Box 4,744, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Public or Private, Harmon's Bioscope, Marionettes, also Royal Punch and Judy, with Toby. 326, Earlsfield-road, Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, Whit Week and onwards, Engagement for First-class Cinematograph, 20 min. to 2 hours' show, electric or lime, all latest subjects, including Grand National, Football Final, Latest Glove Fight, Niagara Falls, Black Beauty, Terrible Kids, and hundreds of other Films; also good Comedy Conjuring Act. MANAGER, 3, Lebanon-gardens, Wandsworth, London.

WANTED, Engagements for Bioscope, twenty minutes each night, £3 per week; forty minutes ditto, £4 10s. MORRIS, 18, Tweed-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Travers' Bioscope, at Liberty; moderate terms for Summer Engagement; Latest Films. TRAVERS, 154, High-st., Clapham.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, Tom Norman, Silver King (regd.), Auctioneer, Valuer, Expert and Authority, Auctioneer to Lord George Sanger (England's Greatest Showman), and Leading Showmen of Great Britain. Sales and Commissions conducted in any part of the World. If you want to Buy or Sell anything connected with the Business, consult TOM NORMAN, Auction Dept., "The Era" Office, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand. Change of address. Wanted to purchase or engage, all kinds of Novelties and Curiosities (alive or dead), if suitable for exhibition.

WANTED, Known, .22 "R" and "D" cartridges, Globes, Balls, Winchester and New Military Repeaters, Pistols, and all repairs done. GREENE, 74, Falmouth-road, London, S.E.

Auctioneers.

WANTED, Known, Great Value Offered in Secondhand Silver Watches.
Auctioneers only supplied.
Write to-day for full particulars,
C. G. CLACHER, 22, Argyle-street, Glasgow.
Try one of my famed parcels, containing
Ten English Lever and Twelve Silver Geneva Watches. Best Value ever Offered.
In great demand. Price, £5 5s.

WANTED, Showmen to Know that the Gourock Ropework Co., Ltd., Largest Tent Manufacturers in the World, have a large stock of New and Second-hand Circus Tents made from their famous Rotproof and Waterproof Tent Canvas, Birkmyres Cloth." The most durable and waterproof Canvas for Showmen's Tents, &c. Buy from Manufacturers and save middlemen's profit. GOUROCK ROPEWORK Co., LTD., Lancaster-place, Lowestoft.

WANTED, Known,
Messrs. LIMONAIRE BROTHERS,
Mechanical Organ Builders, of
166, Avenue Daumesnil, Paris (France),
beg to inform their Old and New Customers that, as from this Date, they have appointed Mr. ARTHUR RIGHINI, of Manchester, as their Sole Agent and Representative for Great Britain, to whom in future all inquiries for their Organs or Music must be made.

WANTED, Known, all Kinds of Showmen's Painting Undertaken; Oil Paintings, Scenery, Letter Cloths. ROCHE, Artist, 22, Lansdown-road, Lee, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Doncaster Butterscotch, with Fortune, 3s. gross. J. PODMORE, 36, Tatton-street, Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancs.

WANTED, Known, to Showmen, Fair-keepers, Rifle Range, &c., STACEY and Co., 17, Settles-st., London, E. (established 60 years), supply everything at bottom prices. Ammunition, Guns, &c., a Speciality.

WANTED, all Showmen to Know, Alfred Smith, jun., Address, 66, Stanbury-road, Peckham, London, S.E., Artist, Figure, Animal, Landscape, and Flowers, Writing, Gilding, and Decorations of every description to suit all travellers.

Letters will receive prompt attention.

WANTED, Good Waxwork Exhibition, on shares or rental; also Photography and Palmist, for Summer Season, commence Whit Monday, at Seaside; good position; Victoria Hall, High-street, Lowestoft. Particulars to MANAGER, Sea View Exhibition, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, for Blackpool, The Great Wheel, Eleventh Annual Summer Carnival, Whit to Oct., Good Side-shows and Novelties; central position, adjoining Winter Gardens.

Side-shows

WANTED, for week ending June 30, for Bon Secours' Bazaar, Cork.
Please address replies to the
HON. SECS., 80, Patrick-street, Cork.

DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE.

WANTED, First-class Shows, Oct., Nov., and Dec. Address, MURRAY KING.

WANTED, Novelties, Specialities, nothing too big. Lithos., terms, and Vacancies to CHARLES THOMPSON, 31, Lord-street, Manchester. Interviews by appointment only.

WANTED, Novelties, Freaks; can open at once. Sale of Books and Postcards allowed. CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin.

WANTED, Novelties, with good Show and big Flash, for Wonderland, Sheffield. Shares or Rental; fine position, big Stage; Scenery. Address, SAMSON.

WANTED, Novelty for both salary or shares; good Midgets write.
COLLENA, 14, Woodbine-street, South Shields.

WANTED, for the season, at Southport, a good, quick-showing Novelty or Illusion, for Booth, on Sands, on Shares, supplied with Electric Light. Apply, A. WILDEN.

WANTED, Bioscope Marionettes, Quick-showing Novelties, Conjurer, &c., for three Good Shops; open Monday. MANAGER, 335, High-st. North, Manor Park.

WANTED, for Summer Season, to commence Whit Monday, two Gentlemen Parasers, Clowns Tumblers, Jugglers, Dancers, or Roosters, suitable for Cinématograph Show Front, must be good Attraction. Mention abilities, experience, and salary. Apply early, NORTHERN CINEMATOGRAPH Co., Bishop Auckland.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Showmen to Know that the following is a complete
COPYRIGHT LIST OF FAIRS, FEASTS, WAKES, AND CARNIVALS IN ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, AND WALES FOR MAY.
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ENGLAND.

May 4. Bishop's Castle (1,400)
May 4. Boston (15,700)
May 4. Bramley Carnival (9,000)
May 4. Gosport (29,000)
May 4. Guildford (16,000)
May 4. Northallerton (4,000)
May 4. Wooler (1,500)
May 6. Abingdon (6,500)
May 6. Alnwick (6,700)
May 6. Chester (36,000)
May 6. Cornhill-on-Tweed (600)
May 6. Dudley (49,000)
May 6. Heckmondwike (10,000)
May 6. Ivinghoe (1,300)
May 6. Lewes (11,300)
May 6. Looe (2,000)
May 6. Macclesfield (34,700)
May 6. Morpeth (6,200)
May 6. Pleasley (1,500)
May 7. Ipswich (66,600)
May 7. Kirkhampton (500)
May 7. Leintwardine (1,500)
May 7. Maldon (5,600)
May 8. Braintree (5,300)
May 8. Colne (23,000)
May 8. Hereford (21,400)
May 8. Market Bosworth (911)
May 8. Swaffham (3,400)
May 9. Bildesden (5,000)
May 9. Blyth (1,629)
May 9. Dorking (7,709)
May 9. Kirkby Lonsdale (1,600)
May 9. Loughborough (21,500)
May 9. Mirfield Feast (3,867)
May 9. Newbury (11,000)
May 9. North Walsham (4,000)
May 9. Orpington (4,000)
May 9. Soham (4,200)
May 9. Stamfordham (900)
May 9. Wigan (70,000)
May 9. Beaconsfield (1,600)
May 10. Farnham (6,124)
May 10. Stonehouse (1,800)
May 11. Chelmsford (12,000)
May 11. Clun ((1,700)
May 11. Congleton (10,800)
May 11. Haverhill (5,000)
May 11. Holmfirth (9,000)
May 11. Lambourn (900)
May 11. Leicester (211,600)
May 11. Lowestoft (30,000)
May 11. Lymington (4,200)
May 11. Much Wenlock (2,300)
May 11. Richmond (Yorks.) (4,000)
May 11. Spalding (9,400)
May 11. Staines (6,700)
May 11. Sturminster Newton (2,000)
May 11. Totnes (4,000)
May 11. Wadebridge (2,300)
May 11. Worsted (800)
May 11. Yaxley (1,300)
May 13. Haslemere (1,000)
May 13. Hindon (500)
May 13. Kirkby Stephen (2,000)
May 13. Long Sutton (2,400)
May 13. Pembridge (1,100)
May 13. Spilsbury (1,500)
May 13. Stow-on-the-Wold (1,900)
May 14. Arundel (2,800)
May 14. Bicester (3,300)
May 14. Bodmin (4,400)
May 14. Burwell (Cambs.) (2,000)
May 14. Chertsey (12,806)
May 14. Haltwistle (12,000)
May 14. Hartlepool (22,800)
May 14. Nuneaton
May 14. Stafford (20,275)
May 15. Over (Cheshire) (6,200)
May 16. Louth (9,500)
May 17. Ashford (Kent) (13,000)
May 17. Brentford (15,200)
May 17. Earlestown (8,000)
May 17. Maryport
May 17. Newton-le-Willows (15,708)
May 18. Caister (Lincs.) (2,000)
May 18. Carlisle (25,500)
May 18. Clayton-le-Moors (8,200)
May 18. Egremont (Cumb.) (8,000)
May 18. Leek (15,500)
May 18. Malton (4,800)
May 18. North Shields (50,000)
May 18. Preston (113,000)
May 18. Redruth (10,500)
May 18. Rothbury (1,300)
May 18. Runcorn (16,500)
May 18. Southwell (3,425)
May 18. Sutton (262)
May 18. Stagshawbank (14,000)
May 18. Tyldesley (1,400)
May 18. Wellington (7,300)
May 20. Amersham (3,000)
May 20. Appleby (1,800)
May 20. Bakewell (3,500)
May 20. Barrow-in-Furness (57,600)
May 20. Biggleswade (5,000)
May 20. Bilston (24,000)
May 20. Birkenhead (111,000)
May 20. Blackheath (21,000)
May 20. Blockley (1,463)
May 20. Brierfield (7,300)
May 20. Carmel (400)
May 20. Castleford Feast (15,650)
May 20. Cheltenham (49,800)
May 20. Clevedon (6,000)
May 20. Cockermouth (6,400)
May 20. Coltishall (900)
May 20. Dalton-in-Furness (13,000)
May 20. Doncaster (29,000)
May 20. Evesham (7,100)
May 20. Garston (17,300)
May 20. Great Harwood (12,000)
May 20. Hampstead Heath
May 20. Helston (3,000)
May 20. Hendon (Welsh Harp) (17,000)
May 20. Hinckley (11,300)
May 20. Horbury Feast (5,678)
May 20. Jarrow-on-Tyne (31,300)
May 20. Lichfield (9,125)
May 20. Malvern (16,500)
May 20. Melton Mowbray (7,500)
May 20. Methley Feast (5,000)
May 20. Middlesbrough (91,300)
May 20. Morecambe (12,000)
May 20. New Brighton (10,000)
May 20. Newcastle-on-Tyne (214,803)
May 20. Newmarket (10,700)
May 20. Northampton (87,000)
May 20. Northwich (17,500)
May 20. Oulton Feast (1,684)
May 20. Portsmouth (189,000)
May 20. Reigate (26,000)
May 20. Richmond (Surrey) (31,000)
May 20. Rushden (12,500)
May 20. Ryde (11,000)
May 20. Salford (Trinity Markets) (221,900)
May 20. Sheffield Fair (361,000)
May 20. Southport (48,400)
May 20. South Shields (97,300)
May 20. Stafford (20,275)
May 20. St. Ives (Hunts.) (6,700)
May 20. Taunton (21,600)
May 20. Thornaby (16,000)
May 20. Torksey (400)
May 20. Torquay (33,600)
May 20. Tunbridge Wells (33,400)
May 20. Wanstead Flats (9,200)
May 20. York Fair (75,560)
May 21. Alford (2,500)
May 21. Bognor (6,200)
May 21. Fakenham (200)
May 21. Halesworth (2,300)
May 21. Hitchin (10,000)
May 21. Ipswich (66,600)
May 21. Leighton Buzzard (6,400)
May 21. Longton (35,000)
May 21. Penrith (9,200)
May 22. Askam-in-Furness (3,300)
May 22. Barnard Castle (4,300)
May 22. Bedworth (5,000)
May 22. Bolton (162,220)
May 22. Broadway, Worcester (1,539)
May 22. Broughton-in-Furness (1,100)
May 22. Elmley (1,400)
May 22. Felling (32,500)
May 22. Truro (11,562)
May 22. Workington (26,000)
May 23. Adwalton Feast (1,650)
May 23. Bacup (22,500)
May 23. Bingham (1,500)
May 23. Birmingham (522,182)
May 23. Bristol (329,849)
May 23. Buckingham (3,400)
May 23. Camborne (14,300)
May 23. Cambourne (8,200)
May 23. Long Melford (3,300)
May 23. Mickleton (729)
May 23. Standish (6,300)
May 23. Ulverston (10,000)
May 24. Chipping Campden (1,700)
May 24. Deptford (110,000)
May 24. Derby (106,400)
May 24. Haslingden (18,600)
May 24. Skipton Fair (10,800)
May 25. Ashford (663)
May 25. Brackenfield (344)
May 25. Cowes (8,700)
May 25. Craven Arms (1,525)
May 25. Kendal (14,200)
May 25. Keswick (4,500)
May 25. Grimesthorpe (4,750)
May 25. Lancaster (40,300)
May 25. Littlehampton (7,400)
May 25. Snowshill Wakes (242)
May 25. Southampton (104,911)
May 27. Bidford-on-Avon (1,466)
May 27. Ossett Feast (5,562)
May 27. Crowle (2,800)
May 27. Hounslow (6,790)
May 27. Millom (10,400)
May 27. Pool (1,600)
May 27. Southwold (3,400)
May 28. Bridgnorth (6,000)
May 28. Brixton (11,000)
May 28. Fiskerton
May 29. Iron Bridge (3,000)
May 29. Thorpe (Surrey) (600)
May 30. Alston (Cumb.) (2,300)
May 30. Ely (5,000)
May 30. Messingham (1,300)

SCOTLAND.

May 6. Aberdeen (19,288)
May 14. Jedburgh (2,222)
May 14. Renfrew (9,299)
May 16. Langholm (3,142)
May 16. Paisley (79,353)
May 18. Kilmarnock (34,151)
May 21. Alyth (3,000)
May 24. Inverness (31,162)
May 28. Airdie (19,288)
May 31. Berwick-on-Tweed (13,437)

WALES.

May 4. Lydney (3,000)
May 6. Crickhowell (12,000)
May 6. Llanidloes (3,792)
May 9. Llanelly (23,000)
May 10. Penygroes
May 13. Knighton (3,000)
May 13. Monmouth (5,000)
May 13. Talgarth (1,200)
May 14. Abergavenny (5,000)
May 20. Cardiff (164,000)
May 20. Flint (5,125)
May 20. Merthyr Tydfil (26,500)
May 20. Mold (4,000)
May 20. Newport (Monmouth) (67,000)
May 20. Risca (8,000)
May 21. Denbigh (6,000)
May 25. Treorchy (12,000)

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, a Descriptive Vocalist or a Comedian, as Planksman, to travel with Auction Mart; a man used to the business preferred. Apply to R. WILLIAMS, Auction Mart, Llanhilleth, Monmouthshire.

WANTED, Auctioneer, Whit Week and Season; also good Floorman.
Apply, FARR, Promenade, Blackpool.

WANTED, Palmist and High-Class Side Show, for Trades Exhibition, May 18 to 25, inclusive. Apply, MANAGER, Exhibition, Subscription Rooms, Stroud.

WANTED, Phrenologist; terms, shares; Grand Opening in good Exhibition. Apply for particulars, Box 4,715, "The Era."

WANTED, Lady Gold Wire Worker, for White City, Manchester,
6 months.
Address, Mr. HIMPOR, 36, Canal-walk, Southampton.

WANTED, smart Wire and Electric Engraving Worker, for Seaside; good wages and commission to right party
Apply Box 4,749, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Minni Letta's Wonderful Rolling Stage Side Show at Liberty for First-class Exhibition or Gardens; will work on Salary or Sharing Terms, but must have a guarantee. Address, 11, Addison Park-mansions, Kensington, London, W.

WANTED, Engagements, Carcass's Superior Punchinello, introducing Novelty Acts, Boxing Kangaroo, &c., and only one from Berlin. Thanks Wilder and Burton for offers; always working. 5, Old Elm-street, Ardwick, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, P. Mariand's Royal Punch and Judy, with Champion Dog Toby, at Liberty Fêtes, Galas, &c. 142, Cheetham-rd., Bury.

WANTED, Known, Harry Mathews, Watchmaker, Planksman, Comic Singer, and Handseller, and Reggie, the Boy Vocalist; 32s. 6d. At Liberty. C/o PARSONS, Chorley.

WANTED, Situation, by smart young Auctioneer; steady and reliable; understands business thoroughly; knows good firms; undeniable references; disengaged. Box 4,781, "The Era."

Railway Rates.

WANTED, Known, to all Members of the British Roundabout Proprietors' and Showmen's Union, the Secretary of the above Union having been in communication with the Railway Clearing House (re Railway Rates), has received a communication from the Railway Clearing House that the managers of the various railway companies will meet a Deputation from the above Union in London on May 9, at 2 p.m. A Special Meeting will be held at the Black Lion Hotel, Salford, on Monday, May 6, at 2 p.m. sharp, to appoint the Deputation to go to London to meet the Railway Managers, and to discuss the matter with them. This being one of the most important questions that has ever come before the Union, all members are requested to attend.
Signed, T. HURST, Secretary.

BLACKPOOL SANDS.

WANTED, Known, the South Shore Pleasure Beach is the only site in Blackpool for Open-air Attractions.
The grounds are forty acres in extent, right on the sea front, and are situated immediately next the Promenade at the Electric Tramway Terminus. From April 1 to Dec. 31, 1905, 4,000,000 passengers were carried on these tramways. The permanent attractions now include the "River Caves of the World," "Maxim Flying Machine," "Sea Circus," &c. Great Canadian Water Chute and Scenic Railway from Coney Island now being erected for next season, commencing at Easter. For sites and concessions for really good Novelties apply personally. Office on grounds. Letters only, 14, Balmoral-road, Blackpool.

WOLVERHAMPTON WHITSUNTIDE FAIR.
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WOLVERHAMPTON WHITSUNTIDE FAIR.

WANTED, to Let, Land,
Wanted, to Let, Land,
Wanted, to Let, Land,
Wanted, to Let, Land,
Wanted, to Let, Land,
Wanted, to Let, Land,
Wanted, to Let, Land,
Wanted, to Let, Land,
Wanted, to Let, Land,
Wanted, to Let, Land,
opposite
Molineux Hotel.
Molineux Hotel.
Molineux Hotel.
Molineux Hotel.
Molineux Hotel.
Molineux Hotel.
Molineux Hotel.
Molineux Hotel.
Molineux Hotel.
Molineux Hotel.

Early application should be made to the
MARKETS INSPECTOR.

UPPER WELSH HARP FAIR GROUNDS, HENDON.
To Switchback, Roundabout, and Amusement Proprietors and Caterers.

WANTED, to Let, for the Whitsun, or for all holidays, the above Fair Grounds, adjoining the "Upper" and "Lower" Welsh Harps. These grounds are situated on the main Edgware-road, with a frontage of over 500ft., covering an area of 3½ acres, and is the best-known Holiday Resort around London, being only five miles from Marble Arch, and has always been a most profitable investment for Showmen and Amusement Caterers for over a century; centrally situated for Fêtes, Galas, Menageries, and Fair Novelties.
For particulars apply to
H. D. KRUSE,
"Upper Welsh Harp," Hendon, N.W.;
or to
L. F. JACOBS,
Solicitor, Hendon.

WANTED, to Let, Land for Stalls and Shows. Apply, ALBERT ELAIS, Secretary Starr Estate Fairground Co., 81, Central Beach, Blackpool.

WANTED, to Let, for any class of Show, 1½ acres of land, in well situated part of Reading, the property of the Reading Corporation. Terms moderate.
Application to be made to
HENRY L. DANIELS,
Superintendent,
Corporation Cattle Market, Reading.

WANTED, all Parties requiring Ground for all Kinds of Amusements for Redruth, Whit-Monday (other places en route to follow), apply, HANCOCK, Fair Ground, Looe, Cornwall, until Wednesday next; then, Bodmin.

ST. ANDREWS and STONEHAVEN TRADES EXHIBITIONS.
July 15 to Aug. 15.

WANTED, to Let, a few Spaces at these Exhibitions on moderate terms (with sole rights). For terms and particulars, appl- Box 4,779, "The Era."

WANTED, to Let, the Wonderland, Sheffield, suitable for Auctioneers, Bazaars, or Cheap Entertainments, on Shares or Rental, from Whit onward. Address, PROPRIETOR.

WANTED, to Let, Shutter Booth, 28ft. by 12ft., suitable for Photographing, on Share or Rental; best position in London. Apply H. Cox, Steam Circus, Vale of Health, Hampstead Heath.

WANTED, to Let, Sea View Exhibition, Great Yarmouth, Gold Wire and Electric Engraving; finest position. BARRON, Exhibition, The Square, Richmond.

WANTED, Pitch, 14ft. frontage, at Popular Seaside Resort, for Season, for Ring, Joint, or Bird Game. SPARK, 29, Cumberland

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, I have for Immediate Sale, a Secondhand Gavioli, 89 keys, paper organ, in splendid condition, practically new, with latest improvements of Effects of Spanish Castanets and Triangle, in addition to the usual Drums. The sizes of Organ are 16ft. high by 16ft. long. Can be seen by special appointment in my shop in London.
This is a first-class opportunity for Show Proprietors.
Apply to J. WENTWORTH,
29, Gibson-square, Islington, North London.

WANTED, to Sell, Cheap, Steam Roundabout, thirty-six Horses, two Carriages, two Figure Organ, on Trolley, and Trucks, complete, all in good working order, fit for the road. Apply to JOHN PENFOLD, Offham Green, West Malling, Kent.

WANTED, to Sell, a perfectly new Caravan, fit for an Auctioneer, Travelling Shop, Sale and Manufactory of Sweets, in fact built suitable for any purpose, built with the very best material, completely fitted with acetylene lighting plant, arc lamps, for outside, &c, front of Van opens and forms a perfect Shop; inside beautifully fitted with all necessary fittings; size 6ft. by 14ft.; height 6ft.; also nineteen Penny-in-Slot Machines. No reasonable offer refused, going out of business.
Apply, 302, Commercial-road, Portsmouth.

WANTED, to Sell, a Shuttered Boxing Booth, complete, 22ft. by 30ft., with three thorough good paintings, £12. LITTLEFIELD and BREACH, 2, Prince-street, Deptford.

WANTED, to Sell, Booth 16 by 20, complete, £3 10s.; Fortune Machine and Picture, £1 10s. MARWOOD, 6, Robert-street, Thornaby, Yorkshire.

WANTED, to Sell, immediately (always on view), Exhibition, the Lilliputian City of Living Wonders, £3 a day has been taken. Price, complete, £5. E. ANDERSON, 90, Aubrey-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, to Sell, Waxworks Exhibition, Best Position in the North of Great Britain. Full particulars and low price for cash. Principals only dealt with. Apply Box 4,772, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Steam Set Gallopers and Organ, by Gavioli, with up-to-date Tunes, and Trucks, to carry everything, ready to take money; also two Sets Swings, and other Side Shows. Reasons for selling, giving up business. ASHTON, 196, Harwood's-road, Watford.

WANTED to Sell, Automatic Machines, Husbands, Babies, Love-Letters, Palmistry, Lunatics', Marriage, and Liars' Licences. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every description, best and cheapest. WORMALD, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London. Established 1887.

WANTED, to Sell, Slot Machines; Genuine bargain, large stock; Fortune, Love Letter, Photo., Postcard, Sweetmeat, Electric, &c. MASON, Settles-street, London, E.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, 30s.; delivers sweets with phrenological head, 6s. gross. GEORGE ROSE, 97, Graham-rd., London, N.E.

WANTED, to Sell, Photographic Flashlight Apparatus, Kodak; Singer's Motor Tricycle; Automatic Piano. GEORGE ROSE, 97, Graham-rd., London, N.E.

WANTED, to Sell, a Harper 70-guinea Automatic Piano, with 6 rolls of music; lovely instrument, and as good as new. DOUGHTY and SONS, Windmill-street, Gravesend.

WANTED, to Sell, Grand Electric Piano, penny in slot, secondhand, almost like new, with tunes, cheap. GULDMAN and Co., 7, Sugar-lane, Manchester.

WANTED, to Sell, Topsy Turvey House, portable, been exhibited on Blackpool Sands three seasons. Particulars, apply BRADLEY, Billington, Whalley, Lancs.

WANTED, to Sell, the Haunted Swing, now at the Alexandra Palace. No reasonable offer refused. WALCOT, 1, Duncan-ter., Angel, Islington, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Camera Obscura, one of the best in country, in best position, at greatly rising watering-place; well fitted up, room at back; does real good business. Rare opportunity. Box 4,751, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Leon Gould's Illusion Exhibition, 24ft. by 36ft., Orton make, everything complete and perfect, ready to open. Success last season Scotland. LEON GOULD, Relph and Pedley, Macclesfield.

WANTED, to Sell, Electric Targets, Running Animals, Flying Birds, for Jungle Rifle Ranges. Write MINIATURE TARGET APPARATUS Co., LTD., 41, Newington-butts, S.E. Telephone 2747 Hop. Established 1887.

WANTED, to Sell, a large Auctioneer's Tent, in First-Class condition, 50ft. by 55ft.; also eighteen Shutters, 7ft. square, to be sold cheap. Apply, R. WILLIAMS, Auction Mart, Llanhilleth, Monmouthshire.

WANTED, to Sell, Toboggan Skittle Table, 6ft. by 2ft. 6in., complete; sure money-taker, £2. ALBERT, 46, Aston-road, Raynes Park, S.W.

WANTED, to Purchase, a Novelty in Show Line, as long as it is no more than about 7 tons, and compact to travel, and not too high to go under the small tunnels here. State all particulars to O. V. REDAELLI,
Milano Villa, Arncliffe, Sydney, Australia.
Roundabout or otherwise will do.

WANTED, to Buy, Handsome Pullman Carriage, cash. Send photos. FRED SAYCE, Post Office, Chard.

WANTED, Wanted, to Buy, Waxwork Figures, quantity required. Condition immaterial.
State characters and if costume included.
Lowest prices for cash.
Box 4,757, "The Era."

WANTED, Traction Driver, used to Dynamo or Engine, do small repairs, easy shop, two months in one town. HODSON, Electric Theatre, South Normanton, Alfreton, until Monday; then Clay Cross.

WANTED, experienced Traction Driver, for new Burrell Compound Engine, must be single, sober, and reliable. State age, terms, abilities, &c., in first letter. TAYLOR'S Coliseum, Enfield Wash, Middlesex.

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Showmen who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any Railway Bookstall to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell or to Let, Garrick Theatre, Hereford. For further particulars, apply, SECRETARY, Garrick Theatre, Hereford.

WANTED, to Sell, Lease, or Share in Spec., Site for Hall or Theatre, Popular South Staffordshire town. BENNETT, Theatre, Coventry.

WANTED, to Sell, Furniture and Contents of newly, artistically-furnished first-floor Flat of five rooms, near Kennington Park. Cost over £100 recently; will accept £65. Purchaser could continue tenancy (optional), weekly rent only 15s.; very central, rare opportunity. No dealers. Write Mr. BAER, Poste Restante, Charing Cross, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Secondhand, 60ft. Circus Tent and Wallings, also Cinematograph Show, 40 by 21, with Blue Tilt and two Paintings. Cheap. ARTHUR SAUNDERS, Tent Maker, Wisbech.

WANTED, Scenery Contracts, Productions. Our Paint Frames, 40 by 24; Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. FRED WILKINS and BRO., LTD., 54, Whitechapel, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

WANTED, to Sell, Million Rays' Productions, "Aladdin," "Beauty and the Beast," "Dick Whittington," and "Robinson Crusoe," with scenery, dresses, properties, book, and music. Also Musical Comedies, "Hot Night" and "Don Quixote," complete, and the Drama "Fair Play." A large Assortment of Armour and Soldiers' Dresses, and a quantity of Comedy Heads. Further particulars of above Productions may be had from JOHN ROARK, 24, Guildhall-street, Preston.

WANTED, to Sell, Scenery and Properties. A very useful stock of excellent Scenery and Properties for Sale, lately used in the Avenue Theatre. Can be viewed by appointment.
All communications to
CHAS. E. MACHIN, Avenue Theatre, Sunderland.

"THE LITTLE STOWAWAY."
WANTED, Known, owing to expiration of Lease, for Sale, a most realistic ship scene, uniforms, guns, &c., suitable for Nautical Sketch, Drama, &c. No reasonable offer refused. Apply, this, COLIN BRYCE, Empire, Cardiff; next, Palace, Bath.

WANTED, to Sell or Hire, Pantomime, "Cinderella," complete.
Apply, Box 4,767, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Large Stock of Films, majority good as new, from 1d. per foot; fresh consignments of New, Up-to-date Subjects are being received at frequent intervals from the Myrioramas. Send for up-to-date List. POOLE, Palace, Gloucester.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap, and Films for Hire.
BENDON, 301, Cathcart-road, Glasgow.

WANTED, to Sell, 20,000ft. of Up-to-date Films, all Latest Subjects, 1d, 1½d, and 2d. per foot. State wants. REYNOLDS, 3, Lebanon-gardens, Wandsworth, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, this year's Grand National, 445ft., £4; 'Varsity Boat Race, 175ft., £1; and several other subjects. BOLTON, Pontefract.

WANTED, to Sell, Trick Musical Instruments, for Stage purposes, Electric and otherwise; Professionals' Baskets every description supplied; Luggage stored at moderate terms. LISLE, 5, Cuthill-road, Camberwell.

WANTED, to Sell, Large Lined Travelling Basket, with tray; Lady's Black Satin Evening Dress; Robust Gentleman's Boating Suit. Seen by appointment. DUNCAN, 5, Camberwell New-road. No dealers.

WANTED, to Sell, Stage Proscenium with Fluted Columns, &c., secondhand, suit Theatre or Music Hall alterations, and other ornamental work. Low price, having to clear. Sketch sent. Apply 12 to 4, or by appointment. BRADWELL, 112, Great Portland-street, W.

WANTED, to Sell, Electric Lime Apparatus, Street Cloth, 24 by 18, Wings, Borders, Electric Battens, &c. PH. BENNETT, 82, Clecthorpe-road, Grimsby.

WANTED, to Sell, Animal Dresses, Tights, Symmetrical Paddings, Properties, &c. H. J. BOXALL, Tight Maker, 166, Waterloo-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, to Sell, Flying Rings, 7s. 6d.; also Barbell, 12in. balls, 80lb., loaded 400lb., 16s. J. B., 100, Chobham-road, Stratford.

WANTED, to Sell, Original Sensational Stage Illusion, also Mystic Cross Illusion; can be worked anywhere. ILLUSIONIST, 45, Hitherfield-rd., Streatham.

WANTED, to Sell, about 25 Welsh Ponies, from 30in. to 13 hands.
DAINES, Pitsea.

WANTED, to Sell, Splendid Brilliant Heart Pendant, pledged £18, cost 35 guineas; Half-hoop Ring, £13; Half-hoop Brilliant and Sapphire Bracelet, £12. Advertiser, in great need, will sacrifice Contracts for 50s. Urgent.
BETA, 102, Gayford-road, W.

WANTED, to Sell, new Musical Comedy Sketch. New Dresses, Music, Properties, and Full Set. MANAGER, 4, Felix-avenue, Crouch End, N.

WANTED, to Sell, several Original Sketches. Send requirements.
W. HOWARD, 9, Berwick-st, All Saints, Manchester.

WANTED, to Sell, "Ingomar," Dramatic Sketch, £1 1s.; four pictorials, Stock Dramas, Sketches. HAL COLLIER, 26, Woodland-avenue, Gorton, Manchester.

WANTED, to Sell, Full Military Band Journals, Boosey, Chappell, &c.; also tripod iron bandstands. LA CAMERA, 112, Osborne-road, Brighton.

WANTED, to Sell, Music for a new good Musical Comedy.
Apply, Box 4,786, "The Era."

The Publisher, "The Era,"
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, London, W.C.
"Dear Sir,—I ordered the following advertisement to appear in your paper for two insertions.

"WANTED, to Sell, Self-acting Pianoforte, two barrels, twenty tunes, perfect condition, cost £44; what offers? MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square, W.C."

"Kindly do not insert my advertisement again, as the self-acting piano which I had to sell has been sold to Mr. Jack Woolf, of Wonderland fame, Whitechapel-road, E. I had also ten other applicants through my advertisement in 'The Era.'
Yours faithfully,
J. H. MEURICE.
"39, Argyle-square, W.C. Oct. 9, 1906."

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, a very First-class Jockey Horse.
Send price and particulars,
Box 4,754, "The Era."
Must be First-class.

WANTED, to Buy, Extra Small Ponies, not over 30in. high, and not under 3 years; will buy from two to six if price not too high. Box 4,765, "The Era."

WANTED, to Buy, 100 Al Fresco Chairs, also Acetylene Gas Lamps, cheap for cash. Lowest price, SAMSON, Hippodrome, Sheffield.

WANTED, to Buy, 65 Secondhand Tip-up Stall Chairs; must be in good condition. Give description, measurement, and state lowest price and where can be seen.
HAGUE, Spa Gardens, Bridlington.

WANTED, Quantity of Chairs (wood or iron), for Outdoor Use. State price and full particulars, BEARD, Havelock-rd., Luton.

WANTED, immediately, a Quantity of Chairs, for Al-Fresco, rush-bottom and otherwise; must be cheap and in good condition. Apply, V. C., Corn Exchange, Watford, Herts.

WANTED, to Purchase, cheap for cash, seating of any description, tip-up chairs, forms, &c. Write, giving full particulars, to SEATING, 41, King William-street, London.

WANTED, Set of Chimes, good condition.
State lowest price.
M., Theatre Royal, Preston.

WANTED, Green Baize Stage Cloth, about 24ft. square, in good condition. Lowest price to LAZERN, 8, Rupert-court, London.

WANTED, to Buy, Cheap for Cash, Flats, in good condition, any Quantity. Full particulars to DEAN, Post Office, Northampton.

WANTED, to Purchase, cheap for cash, "Aladdin" Costumes; must be in first-class condition. Box 4,746, "The Era."

WANTED, to Buy, a young Black French Poodle Dog, good on hind legs walking. J. G., 24, Macfarland-road, Shepherd's Bush, London.

WANTED, to Buy, Good Secondhand Films, up-to-date. Hodson's Theatre, South Normanton, until Monday; then, Clay Cross.

WANTED, Duets, Small Sketch, &c., anything to suit Lady and Gentleman; good price given. Apply, DERBY, Golddiggers' Arms, Albert-road, Peckham.

WANTED, to Buy, Advertising Rights, Curtains or Programmes, London and Provincial Theatres. Write, Box 4,760, "The Era."

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

WANTED, Lessee,
Wanted, Lessee,
Wanted, Lessee,
Wanted, Lessee,
Wanted, Lessee,
Wanted, Lessee,
Wanted, Lessee,
Wanted, Lessee,
Wanted, Lessee,
Wanted, Lessee,
Wanted, Lessee,
Wanted, Lessee,
Wanted, Lessee,
for the
ST. JAMES'S THEATRE, MANCHESTER.
Reasonable terms.
Apply,
ESTATE OFFICE, C.P.A., LTD.,
50, Mosley-street, Manchester.

WANTED, to Let,
EMPIRE MUSIC HALL, SOUTHAMPTON,
with Bar and Dwelling-house.
Fully Licensed.
Very low rent.
PERKINS and SONS,
The Auction Mart,
Southampton.

WANTED, Known, arrangements could be made for this Theatre to be Let at a reasonable rental for a Summer Season, from May to Aug. Responsible Managers only dealt with. Address, LAWSON LAMBERT.

EMPIRE THEATRE, HANLEY.
WANTED, to Let, on rental for First-class Picture Shows or other Entertainments (not theatrical or variety). Apply, CHAS. ELPHINSTONE, Theatre Royal.

WANTED, to Let, Victoria Rooms, Cheltenham, seat 1,000, vacant Whit Week onwards. Silence polite negative. Dramatic licence.

WANTED, to Let, large Hall, at Victoria Rooms, Cheltenham. Summer Terms for 6½d. Bazaar or Entertainment.

WANTED to Let (Rental), Bycullah Athenæum, Enfield. Any kind of Entertainment. Scenery Address, MANAGER, as above.

Co-operation Offer to Smart Men. You Provide the Show. We Find the Hall, &c., and halve the gate with you.

WANTED, to Let, Share or Rental, Clapham Assembly Rooms, Gauden-road, seating 300, fully licensed, opposite Clapham-road Station.

WANTED, to Let, for the Summer commencing from Whitsun, The Victoria Hall, High-street, Lowestoft, size 50ft. by 25ft. Rental £20. Particulars, MANAGER, Sea View Exhibition, Great Yarmouth.

To Pierrots, Concert Parties, &c.
WANTED, Known, the Douglas Town Council are prepared to receive applications for the use of a Site on the Foreshore, for Entertainments. Applicants to state rent they are prepared to pay for the Season.
Further particulars and conditions can be had on application to
A. ROBERTSON, Town Clerk,
Town Hall, Douglas, Isle of Man.

WANTED, to Let,
Advertising Curtain at
THEATRE METROPOLE, DEVONPORT,
from July 25 next.
Tenders should be addressed,
B. BAGNALL, 43, Chancery-lane, London, W.C.

WANTED, to Let, the Advertising Rights on Curtain and Programme at the Hippodrome, Stoke-on-Trent, commencing Aug. 5; now in the third year of present successful management. For sample programme and terms address, T. A. EDWARDES, Temple House, Derby.

WANTED, to Let, Excellent Safe, Dry, and Clean Scenery Storage, very central for England, 4s. per week. BENNETT, Theatre, Coventry.

WANTED, to Let, Illusion or Bioscope, large Side Show, cheap, for season, Sea View Free Exhibition, premier position, Marine Front, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, a piece of Ground for good Al Fresco Show, Seaside town preferred; a thoroughly experienced London company guaranteed.
Address, TOMLYN and SCOTT,
1, Aberfeldy-street, Poplar, London, E.

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Fred Storey and Co., Venie Clements, George Westland, Rezene and Robini, Billy Hobbs, John Grun Marx, The Palace Pictures, Nat Clifford.

KING'S THEATRE, GATESHEAD.
Captain Gruber's Elephant, Horse, and Pony, Charles Ashdowne, Maud and Sidney Wood, Dunningarto, Vowles and Bryan, Eme Gordon, Billy Tucker, Vernon's Bioscope, Ike Scott and Son.

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PALACE THEATRE, ABERDEEN.
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Bill matter must be sent two weeks in advance.
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CALL for Monday, May 6, 1907.
7. Twice Nightly. 9.
Rehearsal at 11 o'clock for:—
Harry Ford, Sisters Tinsley, Sibb and Sibb, Will Godwin, Van Allen, Regan and Ryan, Willie Gardner, Tom Lloyd.

GREENOCK PAVILION.
Kindly Note.—The Directors of the above Theatre have decided to Close for the Summer Months. Artists holding Contracts may have their dates transferred should they so desire, otherwise please consider them cancelled.
All bill matter must be sent to Glasgow fourteen days ahead. Failing this, Artists will run the risk of having their Contracts cancelled. By order,
SAMUEL LLOYD, General-Manager.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, NEW HIPPODROME.
CALL, Monday, May 6. Rehearsal 12.30.—Royal Banzai Family, Auto, Phil Rees, Eva Rosslyn, Neil Hardy, Florodora Girls, Lavelle Brothers, New Operascope.
Artists requiring immediate dates apply Sole Booking Representative:—
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General-Manager, Mr. FRED LEIGHTON.
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Emmie Milstead and Joe Bell, Lily Foy, Carl Howard, Clara Victor, The Flying Peritas, Billy French, Laurie Wallis, Nellie Ridgway. Band Rehearsal, Monday, 1 p.m.

CHESTER, ROYALTY THEATRE.
CALL for Monday next, May 6. Bob Hutt and West End Co. in "Welcome Home," Walter Munroe, Virto and Vincta, Sam Redfern, Max Merlin, Josie Mooney, Ernie French. Bioscope. Rehearsal, 2 o'clock. All must attend. No excuses. (Signed) BOB HUTT.

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CALLS.

FOR WEEK COMMENCING
MONDAY, MAY 6, 1907.

PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT.

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Rehearsal at all Halls, Monday, at 12.0 sharp.

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Tiny Arnold, Joe Dale, Fred Moule and Co., "Husband's Vengeance" Co., Pictures, Idento Bros., Lottie Bray, Beale and Broadway.

PALACE, LINCOLN.
Sisters Marion, Edna Lotonne, Johnny Dwyer, Walker and May, Four Herberts, Raymond's Bioscope, Tom Kelso and Co., Cambo.

PALACE, BATH.
Selkirks, Sisters Hall, Ben Albert, Bonnetti Torri, the Pirmans, Charlie Williams, Connie Milton, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Victoria Monks, A. P. Boswell, Mike Cray, Three Macdonalds, Maude Ford, Rhedone, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, McDonald and Huntington.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Tenji Troupe, Rell and Butt, Three Transfields, Harry Anderson, Winnie Derson, Bertha Winda, the Katos, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Sisters Sprightley.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, HALIFAX.
The Fourteen Black Hussars, Lloyd Morgan, La Belle Mail, Lauri Wylie, Rosa Rosetti, P. C. Jacques, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Richard and Taylor, Jack Lane.

PALACE, W. HARTLEPOOL.
Tribune Trio, Walter Emmerson, Gold and Sterling, Leo King, Harry Morgan, Laurence Leonard, Marie Neilson, Arthur Croxon, Raymond's Bio.

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Matinée Monday.
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The Hon. Treasurer, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, will be pleased to receive and announce further subscriptions to this Fund.

"YOURS MERRILY."

John R. (Yours Merrily) Rogers came bustling into the town the other day, says the *San Francisco Dramatic Review* in an amusing article, looking as young, as chipper, as volubly entertaining as a boy just out of college, and as he registered the fact that he hadn't been here in twenty years, he stopped a running fire of comments long enough to say that he was turning over a new leaf and would not be interviewed—and then from the deluge of wit and wisdom, reminiscence and philosophy that came again in a steady flow, we enjoyed one of the most entertaining talk feasts, cuddled up in the big chair, that it has ever been our good fortune to experience. And, afterwards, as we were making up copy for *Dramatic Review* readers, this is what several pages of spasmodic notes seemed to say: "Feel that," he commanded. The protruding muscle almost rent the sewing of the sleeve. There was a bulging bicep, as hard as nails. John R. Rogers thrust out a leg. "Feel that," he repeated. Again we felt. It was as hard as nails. "Feel that," he said once more. He indicated the place under his waistcoat. It was as hard as nails, too. "Punch it," said John R. Rogers. The punch was meant to be vicious. Hard muscles and not a flinch met the onslaught. A man of sixty-seven had no business to be doing athletic stunts of that sort. It was against all precedent. "That's my abdominalis," he said, proudly, sitting down again. "And I'm all over like that. Hard as nails, healthy as a bull, cheerful as a spring morning, and sixty-seven last birthday. Been seven times around the world, ninety-eight times across the Atlantic, sixteen times across the Pacific, forty-two years in the theatrical business, made and lost three fortunes—and still going strong. Don't hurry, don't worry, don't eat white bread. That's how I've done it. That's my philosophy. And here I am now representing Klaw and Erlanger, well in the race with the youngest and the best of them." Then the silver flow of thought jumped back to his youth, and he touched upon the thing that directed his steps theatreward. "When I was eighteen I was a law student in Cincinnati. I used to make speeches at mock trials. George Dixon, an actor, heard me and told me my voice would make a fortune for me on the stage. I believed him. I went to Barney Macaulay, who had the Woods Theatre, and asked for an engagement. He mistook me for Johnny Rogers, a new comedian, who had made a hit in Buffalo. After he saw me on the stage he told me my place was in the box-office. And in the box-office I've been ever since. Making fortunes for other people and working and losing them for myself. I started the star system. Had Sir Charles (late Charles) Wyndham's first tour in this country. Set McKee Rankin on his feet. Had J. K. Emmett for five years; also Edwin Booth, Lawrence Barrett, Denman Thompson, and Fanny Davenport." The constellations blazed out in myriads. "And Imogen; that great Imogen." He sighed at the splendid memory of Imogen. "There was a stage-struck woman for you! Amy Louise Knowlton, she was. Wife of Woodward, city treasurer of Boston. Somehow, she stole a million from the Treasury. Woodward was accused. Suspected, but could not explain. Shot himself. Mary Anderson I rescued at Providence, R. I., in 1879, when her company was stranded. I coined the title 'Our Mary.' And I gave Mary Anderson to a grateful world. And there was Minnie Palmer—my only sweetheart—and Wilson Barrett; Eugene Sandow, the strong man. Henry Irving was a friend of mine. And J. L. Toole. So many of them gone, and here am I still. Sixty-seven last Saturday and going strong. Feel that bicep." It was still as hard as nails. "Don't hurry, don't worry, and don't eat white bread. That's the secret." And he picked up the silk tile and in a near-by cosy corner, where the masculine needs are catered to, we each took our measure—he with the rule of life, "Don't hurry, don't worry, don't eat white bread," and we, with the sincerest wish in our heart, that long years may yet be in store for "Yours Merrily." The cheerful good nature of his life is what this cold-blooded world can never get enough of. And although, as you have found out, we didn't get our interview (perhaps it was a monologue), still we had a bully good hour and a half.

THE demoralising effects of headache are known to all who live the nervous and strenuous life of the stage. Emerson's Bromo-Seltzer is warranted quickly to cure headaches from whatever cause proceeding, and to give that brightness and vivacity so essential to a successful career. Its influence in nervousness, insomnia, neuralgia, and other disorders is also effective.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

Siegfried was performed at Covent Garden on Friday, May 3, before a large audience. Next to *Die Walküre* this work is extremely popular, and with reason, as the beautiful forest music, the dramatic forging of the famous sword, and the fight with the dragon all combine to render *Siegfried* interesting. The performance on Friday was of high merit. Herr Kraus admirably sustained the title-rôle, giving a manly and buoyant rendering of the part, and, being in excellent voice, sang with great fervour and expression until the grand closing scene. He was splendidly supported by Mme. Gulbranson, who as Brünnhilde deepened the favourable impression she made in *Die Walküre*; while Herr Whitehill sang the music of Der Wanderer with complete success. In the weird characters of Mime Herr Bechstein made a great and striking feature by his ability as an actor; and the Alberich of Herr Zador was capitally impersonated. Mme. Kirkby Lunn sang the music of Erda beautifully; and Mme. Agnes Nicholls sang the bird melody in a most artistic manner. Herr Raboth was the dragon, Fafner, but in his great fight proved a somewhat weak opponent, and fell an easy victim to the impetuous Siegfried in spite of his fearsome aspect.

The scenic effects were as admirably managed as on other nights this season, and the orchestra, under Dr. Richter, played the difficult music in the most perfect manner. Owing to the need of more rehearsals for *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *Bastien und Bastienne*, followed by *Hansel und Gretel*, was performed for the second time on Saturday, May 4, with the same cast as that on the first night, the performance being honoured by the presence of His Majesty the King and Her Royal Highness Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein, the Duchess of Connaught, and Princess Patricia of Connaught.

The first cycle of the Ring ended on Monday night with a really fine performance of *Die Götterdämmerung*, in many respects the most striking section of this great music-drama. On Monday the performance began at half-past four in the afternoon, a somewhat trying time for opera-goers, and the first act lasted close upon two hours; and, after an interval of an hour and a half, the second act began. There was also a long wait between the two last acts. This, no doubt, was unavoidable, as the opera was given without cuts, and included the scene of the Norns and that between Brünnhilde and Waltraute. The performance of this great work on Monday was in many respects even finer than that given last season. Herr Kraus again repeated his fine embodiment of Siegfried; and Mme. Gulbranson imparted great dramatic intensity to the trying part of Brünnhilde; while Mme. Kirkby Lunn as Waltraute, Mme. Agnes Nicholls as Woglinde, and Mme. Knupfer-Egli in the part of Gutrune were entirely successful. The somewhat unthankful part of Gunther was skilfully undertaken by Herr Stockhausen; and Herr Zador again made a capital Alberich. Herr Raboth appeared as Hagen; and Fräulein Fiebiger and Frau Tolli represented Wellgunde and Flosshilde. The scenery was managed to perfection, and the fine orchestra under Dr. Richter most ably rendered the complicated score.

Nicolai's opera *Die Lustigen Weiber von Windsor* was given at Covent Garden on Tuesday night, and formed a strong contrast to the storm and stress of the Ring. Nicolai's lively work was provided with new scenery, painted by Mr. Harry Brooke, and new costumes by Signor A. Comelli; in fact, every care had been taken to render the revival a success. The opera was sung in German by the German vocalists who have lately been singing with such success in the Ring performances. Herr Knüpfer appeared as the jovial knight Sir John Falstaff, and sang the drinking song in the second act with great spirit, while his acting throughout was consistent and quite in keeping with the part, although no doubt an English artist would have imparted more fun to the scene where Sir John hides in the basket. Herr Knüpfer's make-up was excellent, and he looked the portly knight to perfection. Fräulein Hempel sang the florid music of Mrs. Ford brilliantly, and the lively finale in the second scene of the first act went admirably. Frau Tolli acted with no little skill the part of Mrs. Page; and Fräulein Fiebiger sang the music of Anne Page charmingly, particularly in the melodious duet with Fenton in the second act. Herr Jörn as Fenton also sang with great intelligence and expression; and that clever, versatile artist Herr Bechstein made all that was possible out of the little part of Slender. Herr Zador gave quite the right contrast by his serious acting of Ford; and Herr Stockhausen made Dr. Caius quaint and amusing. The costumes were picturesque and evidently in keeping with the period, and the pretty scene of the first act, a street in Windsor with the Castle in the background, did Mr. Brooke great credit. The Garter Inn as well as the Garden at Ford's house were very effective. The music of Nicolai is delicate and expressive; and Mr. Percy Pitt, who conducted, gave a spirited rendering of the bright, sparkling overture.

The second cycle of *Der Ring des Nibelungen* commenced on Wednesday night with a fine performance of *Das Rheingold*. Herr Van Rooy appeared for the first time this season, and in the part of Wotan sang with his accustomed power and dramatic expression, and by his dignified bearing added greatly to the success of the representation. The rest of the cast was the same as on the opening night of the season, Herr Zador again showing his great ability as an actor in the character of Alberich, while Herr Bechstein made Mime as weird and striking as possible. Madame Kirkby Lunn and Madame Edna Thornton both sang delightfully, and the stage effects and steam curtain were worked admirably. The orchestra under Dr. Richter was perfect, giving the utmost importance to the leading themes, and never throughout the performance overpowering the vocalists. A large audience were present.

THE Great Eastern Company announce cheap excursion bookings on Friday, May 17, from Liverpool Street and Great-Eastern suburban stations to North-Eastern stations and Scotland; and on Saturday, May 18, to the principal towns in the Eastern Counties, Lincolnshire, Yorkshire, and Lancashire. A special booking office will be opened at the Liverpool Street Station from May 13 to 18 for the issue of tourist, fortnightly, Friday to Wednesday, and other tickets to the seaside and the "Broads" district; also for cheap Saturday to Monday or Tuesday tickets between any two Great Eastern stations, with a few exceptions, for use on forward dates.

AMONGST the long list of entertainments being prepared for Whit Monday at the Crystal Palace one of the most welcome will be the military concert by massed bands and the great organ. In the programme will be included Tschaikowsky's Grand Overture, "1812," which will be given with drums, side-drums, organ, and full effects. Two variety shows will be given on Whit Monday and during the week, and will include the famous Bob Hanlon Troupe, the Brothers Phillippi, the Brothers Webb, Marjutti, and Lavater Lee. There will be balloon ascents, and the children's *Forty Thieves* company pantomime from Drury Lane, and, in addition to the enormous number of other shows both indoors and out of doors, there will at night be a grand display of Brock's fireworks.

MRS. RUSS WHYTAL ends a very successful tour at the Tyne Theatre, Newcastle, this week.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDARE.—NEW THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Z. Andrews.—The attraction here this week is *The Shulamite*. Mr. Algernon F. Hicks gives an excellent portrayal of the Boer farmer Krillet; Mr. Charles Fancourt is a fine, manly Robert Waring; Mr. Geo. Rammell does full justice to the rôle of Jan Vanderberg; Mr. J. L. Rilings as Klaus is worthy of mention; Miss Ruth Shepherd as Deborah is powerful; Miss Emily Levettez as Tante Anna is also a success; and Miss Chrissie Bickerstaff as Memke, a Kaffir slave girl, is deserving of much praise.

ABERDEEN.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—*The Midnight Mail* is presented this week. Mr. George Harvard plays very effectively as Harry Steyne; and Miss Ada Oakley gives an excellent portraiture of Mary Steyne. Mr. Fred Evison's powerful rendering of the part of Billy Brewer is enlivened by many touches of humour; and all the other members of the large company play most capably.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—Countess Romanow's series of statuary poses as "Iris" is one of the most graceful and most genuinely artistic exhibitions ever witnessed here; Alexandre and Hughes appear in a delightful and entertaining musical turn; the Moxons are exceedingly clever acrobats; Miss Lily Flexmore goes through some extraordinary contortions; Miss Raie Walters is a smart comedienne; Miss Doris Middleton a good vocal character impersonator; and other artists who appear with success are Mr. Harry Taylor, comedy warbler, Sandy and Carl, comedians, and Musical Howard.

ACCRINGTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—Mr. Percy Norman and company opened here on Monday with *A Woman Worth Winning*. Mr. A. B. Mackay gives a clever representation of Fergus; Mr. Percy Norman is a good General Borinski; Colonel Mashemoff is well presented by Mr. J. Corlass; Miss Maud Buchanan is an artistic Roma, Miss Ida Mackay a successful Katerina, and Miss Leighton a capable Lola.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Willmot, Potter, Vandy, and Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Parsons.—An excellent company of artists is appearing here. The Kurios are seen in their droll *Koncoctions*; the Kimberley Boys keep the house in good humour; Max Duffex is a wonderful contortionist; Jules Kiora a smart hand-jumper; Arthur Woodville a versatile comedian; Ethel Dove is duly appreciated; and F. S. Peak and company have a good sketch. The Hippo. pictures complete the bill.

ALDERSHOT.—THE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin. — The ever-popular pantomimical farce *His Majesty's Guests* is being played here by Mr. Fred Karno's company. Mr. George Hestor is a mirth-provoker of peculiar attraction, and his success as the irresistibly funny Sergt. Lightning is great; Miss Leonora Castelle is clever as Lady Maud, and she, with the last-named, scores in a burlesque duet. Miss Edith Ager (Dolly) uses a tuneful soprano voice to advantage; and Mr. Frank Morton effectively displays a good baritone. Messrs. Harry Howe and Tom Manardo are side-splitting as Bunker and Selina respectively; whilst Mr. Chas. Usher and Mr. Sid Kearns are able exponents of the amusing rôles of Miffin and Minks. Miss Kitty Brunton is a vigorous Miss Manley; and there are many in smaller parts who do well.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—Mr. Arthur Carlton's company is here with *The Span of Life*. The Stebbing Brothers are remarkably alert and expert acrobats, and create added interest by their clever and daring gymnastic feats; and the specialities of Miss Kitty Russell and Mr. Walter Dale are also warmly appreciated. The acting is satisfactory all through. Mr. Sanderson Moffatt scores as Dunston Leech, the villain; Mr. R. S. Trelawney as Richard Blunt is a fearless, manly hero; Mr. Walter Dale is comical as Nutty Brown; effective interpretation is also given by Messrs. J. Jarrett and the Brothers Stebbing to other characters; Miss Guinevere Shilton as Kate Heathcott, the heroine, gives a sympathetic touch to the character; Mrs. Phyllis Hamilton is a suitable Mrs. Jelf; and Miss Phyllis Grahame is also good as the child.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—The bill here includes Roy Bevis, in a clever conjuring act; May and Ruby, tuneful vocalists and dancers; Martin Conway, comedian; the Vequeys, banjoists; Les Zelovas, graceful Continental acrobats and balancers; Mlle. Réne, the girl juggler; Mlle. Fontainbleu's performing dogs; the Rinaldo Trio of comedy acrobats; and Ellwanger and company, in a comedy sketch, entitled *The Peacemaker*.

ATTERCLIFFE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaughton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chris. A. Wordsworth.—Animated pictures and illustrated songs are still the attraction here, with Miss Nellie Burke, the popular comedienne, as vocalist.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. T. E. Owen.—A bright and varied programme is submitted here, headed by Weiland, aptly described as the king of comedy jugglers, who is paying a welcome return visit. The Donnas Trio give a novel balancing trapeze act; Mr. Clayton's Attergraph pictures include "A Trip to New York"; Le Diable Rouge receives hearty applause for a ventriloquial act; Mr. Woolmer Young, character vocalist, is pleasing; the Franko Midgets, illusionists, submit a turn of much merit; Mr. Hesketh Meade, vocalist, is highly appreciated; and the Sisters Ford are two smart comediennes.

AYR.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry W. Day.—A variety company, in conjunction with the Anglo-American Bioscope Company, is occupying the theatre this week. The pictures shown are of the finest, and are perfect in every detail. Amongst the variety turns are several very clever and gifted performers. Clarke's Nippers, with their speciality dancing, ball punching, and club juggling, are well received; Ted Curtis and his piccaninnies supply a popular turn; Bianchi, the barrel king, proves a good thing; the Five Saxonias, in a clever and very novel musical speciality act, create a deal of enthusiasm; G. W. Walker, baritone vocalist, is popular.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Mr. Godfrey Tearle, Miss Molly Malone, and company, in *A Soldier of Fortune*, are here. Mr. Godfrey Tearle is a capital Lieut. Rupert Clive; Mr. Alfred Gray a good Earl of Annandale; Mr. Baliol Holloway a capable Sir Stephen Cunningham; and Mr. Thorn is well presented by Mr. William Lowe, Harry Steel having a smart exponent in Mr. Alec Wilson Wynne. Miss Molly Malone is a winning Lady Phyllis, Miss Ethel Matthews a capital Mistress Culign, and Miss Violet Barnett a pleasing Grace.

BATH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—A pleasing attraction is this week provided in *The Youngest of Three*, in which the author, Mr. H. F. Maltby, is seen to advantage as the old country squire, George Wendover. Mr. Wyn Weaver impersonates his son, Gerald, with capital results; Mr. W. Reginald Favell as the family friend, Philip Radford, is another well-enacted character. Miss Mara Maltby as the youngest sister, Lucy Dulley, is bright and engaging; while the two elder sisters, Anne and Florence Dulley, find excellent representatives in Miss Janet Hodson and Miss Grace Richardson. Several smaller parts are satisfactorily enacted. A tragic episode, also writen by Mr. Maltby, entitled *Hounslow Heath*, precedes the comedy, and the quartet of male rôles are capitally acted by Mr. Maltby, Mr. F. Stuart Willson, Mr. R. Seath Innes, and Mr. Wyn Weaver.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—W. Selkirk's juvenile spectacle, *All Scotch*, in which scores of local children are engaged, has been received with genuine applause by large audiences. The Three Pirmans, in their gymnastic and pantomime act, put such go into their work that success is assured; Fyne and Hurley, the swell and coster comedians, provide a turn full of fun; Bonnetti and Corri, comedy jugglers, never fail in their efforts to create amusement; the Sisters Hall, duettists, are once again winning approbation with new numbers; Connie Milton gives a series of imitations cleverly; Charlie Williams gains great applause for his top-boot dancing; Raymond's Bio-Tableaux are showing excellent pictures.

ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—The Pygmies have held four receptions daily here this week. On Wednesday Miss Phyllis Dare appeared both afternoon and evening, and, assisted by Miss Blanche Belsham (soprano), Mr. W. A. Peterkin (bass), Miss Hilda Barnes (violinist), Mr. Vivian Foster (humourist), and Miss Belle Green (imitations), met with a cordial reception from fashionable audiences.

BEDFORD.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—*The Importance of Being Earnest* was staged here the first three nights of the week. Mr. J. Graeme Campbell was a capital John Worthing, M.P.; Mr. Monckton Hoffe was decidedly good as Algernon Moncrieff; Mr. Ralph Hutton was responsible for much merriment as the Rev. Canon Chasuble; Miss Phyllis Manners was an excellent Lady Bracknell; Miss Hester Newton as Gwendoline Fairfax proved herself a clever actress; and Miss Nona Hope was a vivacious Cecily Cardew. The rôle of Miss Prism was undertaken in an admirable manner by Miss Amy Lloyd-Desmond.

BELFAST.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—This week the City Amateur Operatic Company occupies this theatre, the piece selected for presentation being Planquette's tuneful opera, *Les Cloches de Corneville*.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Warden, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General-Manager, Mr. J. De Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Harris.—The inimitable Mr. Sam Mayo is the star here this week. A sensation has been created by the Three Demons, in their aerial whirling performance; Mr. Francinio Ollam, xylophonist and concertinist, gains much approval for his musical display; Cremo and Hamilton appear to much advantage in their comedy sketch *Artful Aladdin*; and a hit has been made by Miss Addie Dorina, the clever protean artist, in *Spot's Patients*. The delightful McNulty Sisters have been accorded a capital reception; and also here are Mr. Ted Cowan, comedian; Mr. W. B. Rabey, parodist; and the Palace pictures.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Hippodrome Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Will Sley; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs. — The chief feature of the bill here is the tableaux vivants, supplied by Henriette De Serris and company, a beautiful exhibition, which has been very successful. Mr. Tom Maxwell and Miss Virginia Francis appear to the utmost advantage in their smart comedy act; and a hit of no small magnitude has been made by Roland, whose illusions are quite marvellous. Conway and Garland create much amusement with their burlesque absurdity, *Left in Charge;* and the performance of Lieut. Chard's troupe of high leaping dogs is received with applause. Onda and Leon display much cleverness in their horizontal bar performance; and the sweet vocalism of Miss Anita Wayman has been loudly applauded. Also here are the Fitzgeralds; Mr. Fred Hastings, comedian; and new pictures on the Hipposcope.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John A. Walker.—Mr. Mike S. Whallen tops the bill, and this clever comedian has been most successful with his new budget of funny tales, which have created much merriment. The Villiar Troupe of acrobatic cyclists perform some extraordinary feats; and Frank Bernard and company stage a merry piece, entitled *Hello*. The Delevines appear in their latest mélange, *Flipp and Flopp;* and Miss Gwennie Hasto, a charming comedienne, is a clever *danseuse*. The Eight Emerald Gems repeat their success of last week with their tuneful vocal items and smart dancing; and Miss Nellie Coleman appears to much advantage in her well-rendered character songs. Also here are Miss Fanny Erris, character comedienne; and Dome, the clay modeller.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Sinclair Neill.—The Alhambra Dramatic Company is presenting this week the drama entitled *The Wicked City*. Mr. Horace Denton appears with success as Harold Stanton; and Miss Nina Blake Adamas' impersonation of Doris Hope reflects the highest credit on her. Mr. Cyril Grier furnishes a skilful embodiment of Simon Slocum; and Miss Kathleen Magee deserves much praise for her interpretation of Cora Lascelle. Mr. Edward M. Heanley, as the villainous Robert Marsden, supplies a powerful impersonation; the humour of the piece is entrusted to Mr. Tom H. Solly, who is very good as George McClery; Miss Kathleen Osborne exhibits exceptional talent in her graceful assumption of Lena Stanton; and Miss Mattie Crawford's portrayal of Bertha is excellent. Mr. Elmore Frith scores as Sir Harry Bumper; and Mr. Ed. Smythe, in the dual rôle of Dr. Strangeways and P.C. Fox, is all that could be desired. Miss Alice Clarke appears to the utmost advantage as Clementina; and Mr. J. E. Davies as Marconi completes the cast.

BILSTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Battersby; Musical-Director, Mr. J. E. Machin.—*A False Wife* is being played this week. Miss Florence E. Florence shows great histrionic ability in the heavy part of Estelle; and Miss Annie Hylton plays Agnes Weyland with tact. At the head of his own company, Mr. F. Marriott-Watson is seen to advantage in the part of Joan Beraud; whilst first-class work is done by Mr. F. H. Constable as George Mansfield. The "Ratler" and Bessie have good representatives in Mr. Elton Morgan and Miss Ivy Chandos.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant; Secretary, Miss Isabel Morris.—A series of performances of Mr. H. V. Esmond's comedy *When We Were Twenty-One* has been given here by members of the Birkenhead Dramatic Society, in aid of the funds of local charities.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—Miss Kate Carney meets with a big reception; the Matthews and Cowper company in their amusing sketch *When the Clock Went Wrong* have made a decided hit; and Foreman and Fannan, smart and entertaining patterers, are received with delight. The Marsumas are smart bicyclists; and Les Voces, operatic duettists; Miss Madge Osmond, male impersonator, Mr. Mark Leslie, coon vocalist, and Brown's Royal Bioscope are all attractive items.

BIRMINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—Mr. Oscar Asche and Miss Lily Brayton commenced a fortnight's engagement here on Monday in *The Taming of the Shrew*, which drew a full house and roars of laughter. Both Mr. Asche and Miss Brayton made tremendous successes with their fine and vigorous acting as Petruchio and Katharina respectively; while Mr. Alfred Brydone as Baptista, Mr. H. R. Hignett as Lucentio, Mr. Caleb Porter as Gremio, Mr. R. I. Penny as Hortensio, Mr. R. F. Anson as Biondello Mr. Henry Kitts as Grumio, and Miss Agnes Brayton as the fair Bianca must be mentioned as outstanding characters. On Tuesday *The Virgin Goddess* revealed Mr. Asche's remarkable virility and versatility in the rôle of Haephestion, while Miss Brayton, as Althea, won loud tributes of admiration for her beautiful and stately acting. Mr. Alfred Brydone plays the King of Artis in a grand manner; Miss Elsie Chester portrays the grief of the blind Cleite with much dignity; and Mr. Reginald Ian Penny, Mr. H. R. Hignett, Mr. G. Kay Souper, and Miss Leila Norris are worthy of the highest praise. *Othello* was down for Wednesday.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Rodgers, Limited; Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—Mr. Charles Frohman's company pays a long-looked for visit here with *Peter Pan*, which, to the general delight, has been secured for a fortnight. Miss Pauline Chase bears the title-rôle with ineffable charm and skill; Miss Hilda Trevelyan acts as Wendy in a perfectly natural and delightful manner; Mr. Loring Fernie is recognised cordially as the Pirate; Mr. George Shelton lends effective aid to the picture as Smee; the two little darlings, John Napoleon and Michael Nicholas, have clever representatives in Masters George Hersee and Herbert Hollom; Miss Mary Mayfren is successful as Mrs. Darling; and Mr. Loring Fernie also appears as Mr. Darling; Panther and Tiger Lily afford delight in the hands of Mr. Douglas Vigors and Miss Evelyn Stuart respectively; Mr. B. Sillward is a diverting figure as Nava; and Miss Gladys Herris as the Mermaid and Miss Dorothy Le Marchand as Liza are able supporters. The piece is mounted on a most elaborate scale, and the music, by Mr. John Crook, and conducted by Mr. Victor Champion, is another source of delight.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Bernarde.—*Two Little Drummer Boys* meets with its accustomed success here, Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley being of the company, and receiving gratifying recognition; Miss Lottie Addison (Mrs. Kimberley) portrays the rôle of Meg Rivers in her usual clever manner; Mr. F. G. Kimberley is seen to fine advantage as Quinery O'Quirke; the two little drummer boys, Eric Carsdale and Jack Smith, are enacted in a pleasing style by the Misses Maggie English and Douglas; Miss Beatrice Shirley is prepossessing and sympathetic as Alma Kingsley; Mr. Edward Bikher appears with conspicuous success in his original part of Gen. Kingsley; Mr. Fred Somers as Capt. Frank Carsdale and Mr. H. Harleigh as Capt. George Darrell realise these rôles admirably; and Miss Lizzie Chambers scores as Molly Meadows.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Andrew Melville; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—*The Prodigal Parson*, which Messrs. Northway and Garrod are presenting here with every success, is a play of strong human interest, well staged. Mr. W. V. Garrod as the Rev. Tom Godley acts in a satisfactory manner; Mr. Alfred Northway receives unmistakable recognition of his skill as Enoch Jaggins; and Mr. William Hayward as Ben Jaggins and Mr. Walter Vincent as Ned Kettlepin are highly successful. Miss Gwen Stewart creates much sympathy for Fern Godley; Miss Violet Jefferys acts cleverly as the blind child, Myrtle; Mr. Owen Redmonde invests the rôle of Phil Drive with fine humour; Miss Lydia Hart is vivacious as Gretchen; and the other characters are well sustained.

CARLTON THEATRE, SALTLEY.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—*Between the Lights* is presented here with vivid realism by Messrs. Fred Acton and H. C. Nash's company. Mr. Bartram H. Ross makes a very popular and manly hero; Miss Eileen Bamford shows charming sympathy as the betrothed Violet Warren; Miss Fanny Williams is very attractive as Madge Armley; Mr. William R. Winning impresses the audience visibly as Stanley Crofton; Mr. Frank Orchard is highly efficient both as Oswald Warren and Ben Armley; and Mr. Fred Acton leads in the fun-making as Jimmy Tickle, being well supported by Miss Milly Doris as Kitty.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles.—Mr. Charles H. Lester's company is eminently successful here in *The Bank of England*. Mr. G. Clifton Boyne as Stephen Hartley gives a fine exposition of stage villainy; Mr. Chas. H. Lester invests the detective's rôle, Sherlock Holmes, with an absorbing personality; Mr. Harry T. Wood gains good opinions as Eric Dane; Mr. F. Ernstone is successful as Godfrey Dane; Miss Dorothy Riddell does credit to the part of Sylvia Barraclough; Mr. W. R. Stanley as Sprouts and Mr. Edmond O'Grady as Isaacs are good; Miss Marjorie Davenport is admired as Margaret Dane; and Miss Lallah Davis has the audience entirely with her as Aminta J. Beane.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham.—The chief attraction this week is the Three Golden Graces, whose artistic representations of bronze statues call forth volumes of applause; Mr. Arthur Lennard, the popular actor-vocalist, is also a great success; St. John Denton and George Rowland's company of juveniles give a bright and clever turn; Billy Farrell, coon comedian, is distinctly quaint; Stevens and Rennior are very amusing; and Cissie Curlette, mimetic vocalist, creates a favourable impression; the Bros. Dean, whistling and dancing team; Forest and King, contortionists; and Lizzie Fletcher, comedienne, complete the programme.

GAIETY.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—The leading item of the programme is *'Appy 'Ampstead*, in which the inimitable Joe Elvin is supported by a company numbering over one hundred. Miss Mabel Thorne is very successful with two catchy songs; Fancourt and Ruble, in *Nipper, the Messenger Boy*, are very amusing; Rappo and Ella are graceful gymnasts; and Mack Ollive, assisted by Daisy Ballary, presents the whistling scene from *The Belle of New York* very acceptably; Zanfretti and Napio have an eccentric musical turn; Chas. Jerome, coon vocalist, and the Eugene Family, aerial gymnastic performers, are very well received.

HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—Arthur Roberts and company hold the premier position with the sketch *The Woman Who Was*. Mr. Roberts is in his best form, and the entertainment goes with a swing from start to finish; the Bros. Griffiths are as funny as ever with their motor-car and duel scene. Martelloni, the Sivronis, Andrews and Thompson, Bennett and Martell, Evilo Comedy Trio, the Three Sisters Thurlean, and Cherry Lass are also responsible for acceptable turns.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Foster.—Heading the bill are the Leopolds, in their comedy sketch *The House boat*, which proves irresistible. Collins and Rice display their well-known ability in a pleasing sketch; the Strads give a musical speciality, "The Night Before the Concert," in a manner which evokes a great deal of applause; Miss Minnie Merry poses as a male comedian with excellent success; the Three Rubeys have a clever gymnastic performance; Chorley and Connor are funny comedians and good dancers; and Clito Clifford is a coon who sings and dances effectively.

BISHOP AUCKLAND. — EDEN THEATRE. — *A Sister's Sin* is being played here this week by Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company. The character of Harold Raymond is manfully depicted by Mr. H. Arnold Allen; Mr. Edward Warden is very good as George Oakley; whilst Walter Hastings is ably undertaken by Mr. T. G. Warry. In her rôle of Minnie Hastings Miss Lottie Addison (Mrs. F. G. Kimberley) gives a sympathetic rendering of the part; and Miss Augusta Franks makes a typical gipsy, Charzel. Miss Violet Langley scores as Redempta; little Isa Lyndon does exceedingly well as May Raymond; and Master Harry Warden shows excellent ability as Jack. The comedy is ably supplied by Mr. Larry McGowers as Larry Murphy, Mr. Harry Lyndon as Theophilus Hope, Miss Edie Macklin as Floss Perks, and Miss Effie Mackintosh as Nell Stubbs.

BLACKBURN. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor, Mr. Harry Yorke; Manager, Mr. Reginald C. Yorke.—At this theatre Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company is appearing in the P.C. Bullock version of *East Lynne*. Miss Julie Kennard acts very convincingly in the dual parts of Lady Isobel and Mme. Vine; Mr. Alfred Beaumont is seen to advantage as Archibald Carlisle; and Mr. Frederick Harker is powerful as Francis Levison. In the juvenile part of Little Willie and Little Isabel Miss Jessie Byes and Miss Ethel Roy show themselves to be clever children. Mr. Alfred Tate is exceedingly funny as P.C. Bullock; and Miss E. Hardman fills the part of Cornelia Carlyle excellently.

PRINCESS THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page. —Mr. Montague Beaudyn's company is appearing here in the drama *A Beautiful Fiend*.

PALACE THEATRE. — Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—The Ten Ji Troupe of Japanese jugglers head the bill here, and are supported by an excellent company, including Bertha Winder, dancer; the Three Sisters Sprightly, the Three Transfields, lady musicians, and Rell and Butt, comedians.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone. — Mr. Robert Crossman's company is performing *Sergeant Brue* here this week, and meeting with merited success. The title-rôle again finds an excellent exponent in Mr. Arthur Reynolds; and Mr. T. A. Shale plays Crookie Scrubbs in a manner that is likely to enhance his reputation as a comedian. A good account of Michael Brue is given by Mr. J. H. Goldsworthy; and Mr. Charles Sims contributes a clever sketch of Mr. Crank, the magistrate. Lady Bickenhall is admirably represented by Miss Cissie Raymond; and Miss May Hay is quite satisfactory as Aurora Brue.

GRAND THEATRE.—Owner and Manager, Mr. T. Sergenson.—*The Lady of Ostend*, played by Mr. Lawrence Brough and company, is paying another visit here this week. Mr. Brough is excellent in his depiction of the French baron; and Mr. Henry Hampson demonstrates his cleverness as Dick Whortles. Mr. Percy Marshall is a comedian of outstanding merit, and his performance of Joseph is of great value. The title-part is played by Miss Roberta Svendon, and both she and Miss Kate Milford, who plays Dorothy, meet with the most cordial reception. *At the Risin' o' the Moon* is the title of a very interesting little curtain-raiser.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—The place of honour in this week's bill is occupied by the Ten Loonies, a remarkably clever troupe of eccentric musicians. Schenk Brothers, head and hand balancers, are also a popular turn; and Marie Gibson quickly sings herself into favour. Charles Lilburn, comedian; Keir and Kempton, duettists; Baldur, animal imitator; Will Driscoll, comedian and dancer; Sisters Melba, singers and dancers; and Janet H. Reynolds, vocalist, also add to the pleasure of the audience.

BLYTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. A. C. Moody.—Miss Winifred Chalmer's company opened here on Monday with the melodrama, entitled *The Master Criminal*. In the title-rôle Mr. Henry L. Osmond presented a powerful and highly artistic impersonation; and Miss Chalmers gave a pleasing portrayal of the part of Cecil.

GAIETY.—Lessee, Mr. George E. Good.—A good variety programme includes Bu-Val, the happy Dutchman, with a charming performance on the concertina; a good conjuring act by Leon Ardo; the Two Clarkes, a lady and clown; pictorial songs by Lennard and Vereker; and the Bioscope.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. William Tudor.—A pictorial entertainment continues to draw here. Variety is also well presented by Paddy Sloan, comedian; Smith, the singing boiler cleaner; and Rose Langtry, a pleasing artist.

BOLTON.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Melvin.—*Held Apart* is this week being presented here by Mr. A. Clifton Alderson and company. The principal characters are sustained by Miss Ruby Loncraine as Sybil Grey, Miss Ethyle Murray as the Countess de Castre (alias Quinta Garcia), Mr. A. Clifton Alderson as James Douglas (alias James Barlow), Mr. Leonard Lawrence as John Douglas, Mr. A. W. Norman as Capt. Ford, and Mr. Ernest G. Batley as Hugh Trevor.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon. —At the top of the bill this week appear the Yuilians Family of Risley acrobats. Other turns in the bill are Miss Maude Rodney, vocal comedienne; Harley and Melton, "merriment manufacturers"; Bird and Arnold, song illustrators; W. H. Clemart, ventriloquist; The Smythsons, in their laughable novelty sketch, *The Lie-Alarm;* Walter Stanley, comedian; Beau and Belle, in a novel and artistic singing scena; the Great Vincent, acrobatic table expert; the Davenports, illusionists; Sid Bandon, character comedian; Frazer and Mack, comedy entertainers; and Vernon's Imperial Bioscope.

BOOTLE.—MUNCASTER THEATRE — Proprietors, Messrs. Pennington; Manager, Mr. H. Pennington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Young.—*The Conscript* is the attraction here this week, played by Mrs. J. Wybert Clive's company. Mr. H. Creagh Hunt is a capable Karl Truevitch, and Mr. C. Clarke is seen to advantage as Ivan Manfoff; Miss Lillian Ross plays wells as Nadia Truevitch, and Mr. Walter Steele makes a powerful Count Paul Hardiski; Mr. Harry Liddle is an amusing Tretch Trotoff, and other characters are in safe hands.

BOSCOMBE.—HIPPODROME.—Joint Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Ball.—Miss Marie Dainton is the star turn this week. Florence Gaymen is diverting in her coon songs; Orpheus again shows his wonderful versatility in his musical scena, entitled *The Solitary Rehearsal;* Henry Cazman does well with his "one-man music hall"; the Sisters Lytton are pleasing in their vocal turn; the Brothers Lester excel as dancers; Frank Gee is a quaint comedian, with some good songs; and the pictures conclude a good bill.

BRADFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—A very welcome return visit of the Compton Comedy Company this week forms the attraction here, and on Monday night Mr. Compton's reception in his familiar rôle of Davy Garrick was very hearty. The support accorded the eminent actor was, as heretofore, admirable. Miss Mackenzie displayed considerable emotional power as Violet Gresham; Mr. Henry Crocker was convincing as Alderman Gresham; in displaying the vagaries of the Hon. Tom Tallyhaut, Mr. Dennis Clough was amusing; and there was a fund of humour in Mr. Philip Gordon's Rumbelow, Mr. G. W. Johnston's Sowerberry, Mr. Vernon O. Crabtree's Simpkins, Miss Marie Hassell's Mrs. Rumbelow, and Miss Barbara Pigot's Selina. *Delicate Ground*, with Mr. Compton as Citizen Sangfroid, Mr. Crabtree as Alphonse de Grandier, and Miss Phyllis Relph as Pauline, was a charmingly-acted curtain-raiser. The plays also billed are *The School for Scandal, She Stoops to Conquer, Edmund Kean*, and *The Gentleman in Grey*.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Francis Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—Messrs. Dottridge, Longden, and Livesey's company are again here with *The Village Blacksmith*. Mr. Sam Livesey's assumption of John Strong, the blacksmith, is a fine character-study; and Miss Bertha Hanbury wins her audience in the part of the child, Harry Strong. In his assumption of the confirmed scoundrel, Captain Leo, Mr. Joseph Carter acts with force and effect; and Mr. George V. Campbell's Billy Twigg is a capable effort. The part of the much-tried Kate Strong is cleverly portrayed by Miss Maggie Edwards; Mrs. T. C. Livesey is good as Sal Parkins; and other impersonations of note are those of Ruth Parkins (Miss Cissie Le Grande), Jeremiah Parkins (Mr. T. E. Marshall), and Lucas Marler, Leo's cat's-paw (Mr. E. Maydew).

THE EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig. — Densely packed audiences here are loud in praise of the artistic statuesque posings by the beautiful La Milo, who is here this week, accompanied by Cruikshanks, the clever "sheet-lightning caricaturist"; and another prominent feature of the programme is the acting by Victor Newman in imitation of Mr. Beerbohm Tree and the late Sir Henry Irving. *Tranquillity* is a smart protean sketch, given by Alice May and company; Goggin and Davis submit a pleasing comic acrobatic turn; in their sketch of *The Bullfighting Showmen*, the Two Bostons are amusing; the Three Amaranths present a smart and clever acrobatic dance; a very charming equestrian turn by Tina Clementa, who also introduces some cleverly-trained dogs, wins applause; comic songs are rendered in acceptable style by James Brady and Dan Leno, jun.; and there are some fine up-to-date pictures shown by the American Bioscope.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. R. Ralli. — Victoria Monks, the comedienne, is again a strong attraction here, winning great applause with her popular songs; and Maudie Ford, a charming exponent of the "coon" type of comedienne, is very successful. In their *Musical Garden* sketch, the Three McDonalds are very entertaining; A. P. Boswell, in a "nigger" turn as a "furniture shifter," exhibits muscular power; a smart and clever speciality by McDonald and Huntingdon wins unstinted applause; Phedona submits many novel features in a pretty musical act; Mike Cray, grotesque comedy juggler, is very clever and immensely funny; and Raymond's Bio-tableaux produce some amusing pictures.

BRIDLINGTON. — ROYAL PRINCE'S PARADE.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—Mr. Joseph Sainton and his fine orchestra are still delighting the large audiences which gather nightly in the Grand Pavilion on the Parade, the various soloists being highly applauded at each appearance. Mr. Wilfred Virgo, the vocalist this week, possesses a fine tenor voice which he uses with great taste.

NEW SPA AND GARDENS.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. H. Hague.—The season opened at this fashionable resort on Monday, when Mr. Will Catlin and his Royal Pierrots gave a capital entertainment. Mr. Catlin is always a favourite here, and he has brought a really clever company with him. Mr. Victor Ainley scores with some well-rendered songs; Mr. W. Ambro gives coon songs with good effect; and the various items contributed by Messrs. Ernie Preston, Tom Catlin, and K. Scott-Barrie keep the audience in constant amusement.

THE PALACE.—Managers, Messrs. W. H. and J. W. Delmar.—Sacco, the fasting man, commenced the second week of his twenty-five days' fast here on Monday.

BRIGHTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. H. Cecil Beryl; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harcourt M. Beryl.—The Brighton and Hove Operatic Society are performing *Merrie England* in aid of local charities. Mr. Reginald Hobson submits a sterling impersonation of the Earl of Essex; Mr. E. Wallis Long is admirably suited as Sir Walter Raleigh; Mr. W. A. Lauder as Walter Wilkins and Mr. Harry E. Taylor as Silas Simkins are entertaining; and are well supported by Mr. Arthur Blackman as Long Tom and Mr. J. Horton-Stephens as Big Ben. Miss Florence Donovan makes a charming Bessie; Miss E. A. Over's Jill and Miss Dorothy Dapp's May Queen are capitally enacted; and the remaining characters are ably sustained. The dances, arranged by Mme Jessie Hogarth, are a prominent feature of the performance. Miss Blanche Cole submits a graceful solo dance, and joins Mr. S. H. Jones in a warmly-appreciated hornpipe. Mr. W. A. B. Russell, Mus.Bac. Oxon, is the conductor, and Mr. Harry Drury stage-manager. At Thursday's special matinée Mme. Jane Hading and company appeared in *Frou-Frou*.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter.—Mr. Harry Roxbury's company opened on Monday in *A Little Vagrant*. Mr. Stanley Radcliffe was powerfully effective as Eric Arden; Miss Vashti Wynne achieved great success as Poll; Mr. Cecil A. Collins submitted a capital character-study as Jim Harris; Mr. Richard Bosco displayed marked ability as Thomas Whitworth; Miss Alice Bowes gave a good enactment of Arthur, "the Little Vagrant"; and much amusement was afforded by Mr. J. W. Gallagher as Slideaway Bates, Miss Bella Moody as Hannah Smithers, and Miss Caroline Fenton as Julia Pilbeam.

ALHAMBRA.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. L. Graydon; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Ernest Lepard. — The Eight Palace Girls display very clever dancing; Bar

Thieves. Master Jack Frost makes a dashing and popular Abdallah; Miss A. McDonald is a sprightly Lieutenant; Miss Florrie Clarke's Morgiana and Miss Jessie Evans's Ganem are delightfully enacted; Master W. Bishop as Ali Baba, Master Teddy Gordon as Cassim Baba, and Miss L. Randall as Cogia Baba also merit warm praise. Miss Gertie Button is a graceful Fairy of the Cave; and Miss Vickie Hogben dances herself into great favour.

BRISTOL.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—*Peter Pan* continues for the second week to draw crowded houses. Mr. Charles Frohman's company is an admirable one all round, Miss Zena Dare being an especial favourite, and well deserving of the appreciation she obtains for an exceptionally clever and interesting exposition of the title rôle. The play is staged very effectively.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry C. Alty.—Miss Maud Hildyard and company are here this week, in *The Great Awakening*, an interesting and effective drama by Miss Hildyard and Mr. Russell Vann. Miss Maud Hildyard displays much power in her exposition of Lola Selby; Mr. A. C. Hardie gives a good account of James Selby; Mr. Bernard Copping acts in acceptable style as Sir Henry Merton, and also as Jack Merton; Mr. Stephen Langton is consistent in the heavy part of Guy Rogan; Mr. Gordon McLeod is effective as Capt. Harry Lambert; Miss Doris Digby is pleasing as Molly Merton; and the comic parts of Billy Brass and Selina Worts are capitally taken by Mr. Willie Scott and Miss Lilla Nordon. The play is liberally staged, some of the sets being very pretty.

PALACE THEATRE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—Fred Karno's *Mumming Birds* heads the bill this week, and the efforts of the company are the cause of much hilarity. Pat Rafferty, Irish comedian, is highly successful; Tom and Florrie Poole do a good song, patter, and dancing act; Stellings and Revell present a clever comedy bar performance; Hans and Lux are smart knockabouts; Madge May is a pleasing comedienne; and Little Ganty is very amusing. The performance concludes with a good exhibition of Vernon's animated pictures.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—Terry and Lambert, American burlesque artists, present an amusing and novel act, and obtain much appreciation; Minnie Hunt and Rhys Thomas score with their musical sketch, *Her Birthday*, Miss Hunt's fine voice being heard to much advantage in her songs; Miss Mill Emerald, French-American comedienne and dancer, is exceptionally clever; Dan Thomas, eccentric comedian and dancer, is amusing; Joan Deering is a pleasing vocalist; Vittorio and Giorgetto do some smart acts in the way of athletics, walking on their hands, &c.; Grant and Allen are amusing; and Charles Harvey, comedian, obtains applause. The performance concludes with some fine films projected by the Empire Bioscope.

BROUGHTON.—VICTORIA THEATRE, LTD.—Manager and Licensee, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—*The Lion and the Mouse* is being presented by Mr. Walter Maxwell's company.—Mr. Leslie Carter as John Birkett Ryder (the lion) portrays the masterful millionaire to perfection; and Miss Nita Faydon is an excellent Shirley Rossmore (the mouse). The son, John Ryder, is ably sustained by Mr. Martyn Roland; the Confidential Secretary is cleverly portrayed by Mr. Herbert Chown; and Mr. Douglas West makes a good James Rossmore. The legal adviser, Alfred Stott, is successfully presented by Mr. Geoffrey Hall; Mr. John Wheatman does good work as J. Whitmore Roberts, M.P.; the nervous wife of the millionaire is finely enacted by Miss Elspeth Dudgeon; Miss Margaret Nybloc makes a vivacious Kate Roberts; and the part of Mrs. Rossmore is well played by Miss Maude Townsend. *Nearly Severed* is a pretty curtain-raiser.

BURNLEY.—VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—An excellent picture exhibition is given here this week, the chief feature being Pathé Frères' "Passion Play." Signore Bertani performs wonderful feats on an unsupported ladder; Maston is a clever mimic; and Little Violet sings acceptably.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—A good reception is accorded the Eight Lancashire Lads for their singing and dancing; the Egertons give a clean trapeze performance; Minnie Fenton, Scotch comedienne, is applauded; and Wee Jessie is much admired. The Selwyns are excellent vocalists and dancers, and Charles Banks, with his dog "Woof," gives a pleasing turn. One of the best of sketches is performed by Flocton, Foster, and company, entitled *Ferdie's Ma-in-Law*. Whimsical Walker and Molly Moore are also good in a short sketch, and "Distress" by the Empire Theatroscope is excellent.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. H. Dudley Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jno. Waller.—Some capital variety turns are presented here this week. The Banzac Family of real Japanese head the bill in their clever performance. The Three Florodora Girls are well received in their singing turn, entitled "Rival Sweethearts"; a quaint and clever show is given by the Lavelle Brothers; Eva Rosslyn soon sings herself into favour; Auto proves himself a finished performer on various musical instruments; Phil Rees, double-voiced vocalist and mimic, scores; and Neil Hardy is well received in his songs. The Operascope is in evidence with some of the latest pictures.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Eade Montefiore.—Mr. W. Penrhyn Forster's company, in *The Officer's Mess*, is drawing good houses here. Mr. Harry Emeric's performance of Tommy Rugg is remarkably good; a like remark applying to Mr. George Ellis as Captain Melville. Mr. L. Cadwaldr is successful as Major-General de Beaune; and Mr. Chas. Cleveland's sketch of the harassed stage-manager, Wilkins, is distinctly clever. Miss Nellie Sheffield as Rose is delightfully piquant; Sybil Carruthers is daintily impersonated by Miss Edith Harmer; Miss Clara Nicholls makes good use of her opportunities as Lady Constantia; and Miss Essie Perrin, as Première Danseuse, fairly brings down the house. The novel dances by the Alston Troupe, and the lavish way in which the piece is mounted, are worthy of mention.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—The Stavordale Quintette, in their banjo and harp speciality, head the bill here. Miss Beatrice Willey sings flower songs with winning charm; Arthur Stacey's singing and dancing are first-class; and other turns are Willie Fauder, comic vocalist; Jury's pictures; and the Three Clarions, in a laughable sketch, *The Would-be Tenor*.

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company, with *The Dairymaids*, met with a most cordial reception on Monday. Mr. S. Statham Staples made an instant success of Sam Brudenell; Mr. Harry Dent was very funny as Joe Mivens, A.B.; Mr. George Desmond was excellent as Lieut. Brudenell, as was Mr. Forbes Dawson as Dr. O'Byrn, R.N., and Mr. Alec Fraser impersonated Captain Liverton; Miss Violet Lloyd was a charming and lively Peggy, and Miss Rhoda Gordon a sweet and dainty Winifred; Miss Beryl Vaudrey has a tuneful voice, and as Helene was effective; Miss Cissie Sephton as Eliza danced and sang in a pleasing style; Miss Edith Blanche was sufficiently dignified as Lady Brudenell. The chorus was excellent, and was well handled by Mr. Albert Bartlett.

CARDIFF.—NEW THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robt. Redford.—Cardiffians have this week the rare opportunity of witnessing a London West-end company in an attractive répertoire of plays. On Monday night T. W. Robertson's comedy, *David Garrick*, was presented. Mr. Gerald Lawrence, in the title-rôle, was admirable, and won enthusiastic applause; a capital performance was Mr. Chas. Cartwright's Simon Ingot; while Mr. Charles Collette was particularly good in his portrayal of Squire Chivy. A special feature of the production was the appearance of Miss Fay Davis in the rôle of Ada Ingot. Miss Davis gave a really pleasing delineation, and displayed fine histrionic abilities, which the audience did not fail to appreciate. Two clever renderings were those of Miss Helen Vicary's Miss Araminta Browne and Miss Ethel Sarjient's Mrs. Smith. The humorous part of Mr. Jones was in the capable hands of Mr. A. B. Tapping. The comedy was preceded by the laughable farce, *Vandyke Brown*. On Tuesday evening *David Copperfield* was the bill of fare; while on other nights *The Coping Stone* was staged.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—*Man's Enemy* is being presented here by Messrs. Power and Kirby's company. Mr. John Power undertakes the portrayal of Tom Drake, submitting a powerful rendition; Harry Stanton is admirably performed by Mr. Norman A. Overton; Mr. Wm. Jeans is an excellent General Stanton; and Mr. Fred Owen is a characteristic Isaac Barnett. Mr. T. Arthur Ellis, a clever actor, well portrays the Rev. Fred Lisle; and Mr. Chas. E. Johnson adds to his embodiment of Bill Saunders the responsibility of stage-manager. Miss May Grayce is a winsome and sympathetic Grace Lisle; and Miss Constance Medwyn as Sarah Drake plays throughout with power and effect. Miss Clara Reid as Polly and Mr. L. F. Tenour as the Frenchman make a cheery couple; and Mr. H. J. Kirby as Count Lanski and Miss Evelyn Geldard as Mrs. Saunders deserve special mention for well-rendered parts.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. W. Lea; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. S. Dring.—Good sketches are always acceptable at the Empire, and *Three of a Kind*, as presented under the direction of Ethel Arden and Geo. Abel, Ltd., has been most successful this week. The Kellinos are as wonderful as ever in their Risley performance; a couple of smart patter comedians and good dancers are Woodhouse and Wells; Genaro and Theol are clever contortionists; Boswell's stage circus is a great attraction; Daisy Jerome, a captivating comedienne; Starr and Leslie, in their club-swinging turn; Walter King, "the doleful one"; Ian Colquhoun, a fine baritone; and the American Bioscope, complete the programme.

CARLISLE.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Mr. Thos. Courtice and Mrs. R. Stewart McKim; Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—*In Holy Russia* is the attraction here this week, and Mr. J. Rice Cassidy, who is responsible for the production, is to be congratulated, both on his company and the completeness with which he has staged a most interesting piece. Col. Richard Forrest, a capital and popular character, is played with great skill by Mr. Arthur Stratton; Mr. Frank Copeland is seen to considerable advantage as the English Ambassador; Mr. Martin Sands contributes a sound performance as Count Petrolski, and Mr. J. O. Cuthbertson's, Chief of the Russian Police is a capital study of a thankless part. A careful characterisation of the Nihilist leader is given by Mr. Carl Rovenilli; Mr. J. Rice Cassidy's Micky Nolan is a comical impersonation, which amuses the audience immensely; Mrs. J. Rice Cassidy as the heroine has a difficult part, which she handles with rare skill and tact; and Cateka Lavolski, the spy, has a capable representative in Miss Florence Creagh. The humorous minor characters are well played, and the whole performance gives the greatest satisfaction to a large audience.

THE PALACE.—Proprietors, the Palace Theatre, Carlisle, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Rino Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—An interesting and popular turn is given this week by Mr. and Mrs. Edward H. Lucas, whose "Scenes from Dickens" are remarkably well presented. Mr. Edward E. Ford's facial business is wonderfully comic; Sable Fern, the dainty and refined coon singer, is repeatedly encored. One of the best comedy cycling acts seen here is contributed by the Narow Brothers; the Bendons, in a comedy duo; Little Tim, a smart miniature comedian; and Miss Bessie Benson, vocalist and sand-dancer, are also popular turns.

CASTLEFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Councillor Henry Masterman.—Mr. George Kirk and Miss Mary Neil's company is appearing here—a third visit—with *Her Luck in London*. Miss Mary Neil, an emotional actress of considerable ability, must be complimented on her undoubted success as Nellie Harbourne; Mr. Chas. A. Leicester gives a capital rendering of the Hon. Fitzgerald O'Connor; Mr. George Heath is admirably suited to the part of the scheming Richard Lenowen; Mr. Douglas Tremayne as the Rev. Lionel Strong gives an effective performance; Mr. Tyrone Power submits a sound and meritorious portrait of Stephen Harbourne; Mr. Bruce Clapham is successful as the dude, Algie; Lilian Harbourne is capably portrayed by Miss Frances Bruce, while the Mme. Gabriel of Miss Marie Clavering leaves nothing to be desired. Angelina is played with effect by Miss Pamela Hodson. The comic element is in the hands of Mr. J. Terry Dillson as Jerry and Miss Florrie Groves as Maud Gladys.

QUEEN'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Charles Beanland and W. H. Emerson; General-Manager, Mr. Will. H. Emerson.—Topping the bill here is Johnny Holland and company in laughable absurdities, *My Friend Boots* and *Our Betsy*. Another popular turn is Oliver Conroy as an eccentric comedian; Gilroy and Cross achieve popularity as comedy artists and dancers; Miss Gertrude Lytton, vocalist, is fully appreciated; Yorkshire Tom, mimic, scores a decided success; Mozetto, the juggler, and his comical assistant, are well worth seeing; Harry Raley, boy vocalist, is much appreciated. Animated Pictures by the Loyal Dominion Company conclude a well-arranged programme.

CHATHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard; Secretary, Mr. Geo. G. Ridley.—Mr. Ernest R. Abbott's company is here this week, opening on Monday evening with *Sapho*. In the title-rôle Miss Ada Abbott gives a very popular portrayal, and able assistance is rendered by Mr. Ernest R. Abbott as Jean Gaussin, Mr. W. H. Garbois, and Mr. C. Douglas as Flamant; while Mr. Edwin Keene contributes some musical and humorous items. On Wednesday afternoon Mrs. Patrick Campbell and company appeared in *Magda*.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Wilson and Waring top the bill, and get a reception; Mr. Hymack is back again, and is as popular as ever; *A Humorous Episode* is being cleverly played by a carefully-selected company; Tony Iveson, the aristocratic rag-man, has some amusing business; Le Fleurs give spirited dances to everyone's satisfaction; Master Carr, comedian, and Marie Empress, comedienne, complete the variety turns, while Lacey's Erascope keeps up to date.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Capt. H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. Frank J. Dorme.—Here we have Edgar Curtis, comedian; Violet Nunn, a pleasing singer of coon songs; Thornbury, the lightning painter; the Five Sisters Warwick, who perform some graceful cycling manœuvres; R. H. Douglass the amusing and versatile monologue artist; Lillian Lowe, whose singing calls forth loud applause; and the Robertys Family, in an admirable equilibristic act; while the Edisonograph has a capital film, entitled "The Valet's Legacy."

CHESTER.—ROYALTY THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—The top of the bill for the opening week of the variety season is occupied by Bob Hutt and company in *Welcome Home*. Mr. Hutt appears to advantage as Jack Dudley, and is ably supported by an admirable company, including Miss Ida Hetherington as the slavey, Jane Anne Jones; Max Merlin is a clever contortionist; the Sisters Hampell find much favour as cross-patter comediennes; and Virto and Venita present a good musical show; Miss Josie Mooney is a smart comedienne and dancer; Sam Redfern's nonsensical songs and clever patter hit the popular taste at once; other turns are submitted by Ernie French, eccentric comedian; Walter Munroe, Irish comedian; and the Royal Bio-tableaux.

MUSIC HALL.—The Vita Animated Picture Company opened here on Monday for six nights.

CHORLEY.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. G. T. Santé; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Hemingway.—Mr. Fred Ginnett's excellent vaudeville company is the attraction here this week. An exceptionally strong bill is headed by the equestrian spectacle, *Turpin's Ride to York*, which deservedly gains enthusiastic applause. *Rejected Remounts*, another admirable sketch, also wins an enviable reception. Other turns included are Miss Beattie Mayer, a capital comedienne; Donald Macdougall, a decidedly clever Scotch comedian; Fred Villars, a successful actor-vocalist; Charles Wilson, the champion all-round jumper of the world; and the Brothers Allison and Gracie Bard, who are also good in their respective efforts.

COLCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Charles Macdona; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. C. Upton.—Mr. George Henry presented Wilson Barrett's domestic drama, *The Sledge-hammer*, here on Monday evening. Mr. David Hamilton gave a realistic rendering of the part of the aged Matthew Derrick, and his three strangely-assorted sons were ably represented by Messrs. Alfred Burrows, Arthur Chisholm, and Hardy Macro; Mr. Frank Litchfield gave a capital display as the foreman smith, Tom Walker, and quite a fund of humour was displayed by Mr. Victor Rolfe as the rural constable. Miss Jessie Hope was well placed as Rose, and Miss Lottie Davis and Miss May Douglas nicely played the respective parts of Martha Derrick and the maidservant Catherine. Special mention should be made of the really clever way in which Messrs. Arthur Chisholm and Hardy Macro reproduced the hammer fight in the smithy, this being quite the feature of the show.

HIPPODROME.—Joint Proprietors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. Jack de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—The Geni Family, ten in number, and accompanied by a trio of well-trained ponies, are the principal turn this week, and well deserve the applause they receive nightly; John Henderson and company, including Miss Millie Henderson, introduce a realistic melo-logue, entitled *Under the Maple-leaf*, the acting and staging of which is extremely fine; Stuart and Evans shine as cross-talk comedians and dancers; and Lilian Elfreda is particularly welcome with her mimicry of well-known stars. The Melroses, erstwhile pantomime favourites, are accorded a flattering reception, and Dave Laird, swell comedian, is also cordially received; Hetty Hall, in a musical mélange, goes well, and Beattie Benson is a promising young dancer who excels with the sabot.

CONSETT.—NEW THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance.—Mr. Wm. J. Miller and his company are here with the French romantic play, *The Throne of Terror*. As Maximilian Robespierre Mr. Wm. J. Miller acquits himself with commendable ability, and as Capt. Eugene de Lisle Mr. Gerald Bryne is entirely satisfactory; as Comte de Roquefort Mr. Edwin Turner does well, whilst Mr. Bert Ellis is very good as Jou Jou; Miss Katherine Maud Davies is an attractive Marguerite de Roquefort; and as Victoria D'Almonte Miss Isabel Marte deserves praise; Miss Georgie Whyte is a thoroughly capable Poppietta; and as Sister Lucette Miss Irene Vane is well received.

CORK.—OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. John Horgan.—*My Darling* is being presented here this week. Miss Marie Studholme, as Joy Blossom, has had an enthusiastic reception; her dancing is graceful, and her singing delights the audience. The part of Daphne Bell in the hands of Miss Barbara Deane is admirably filled; Mr. J. F. McArdle as Sir Henry Heldon causes much laughter; Mr. Will Bishop as Sir James Jagg is extremely clever, and he displays great skill in his dances. Mr. Henry A. Lytton as the Hon. Jack Hylton, Mr. Armand Kaliz as Maurice Le Blanc, Mr. Tom Graves as Oddy, Miss Marguerite as Sylvaine, Miss Alice Barth as Lady Heldon, Miss Helen Kinnaird as Mrs. Pomeroy P. Green, and Miss Alice Hollander as Gabriel Renee are all successful in their several parts.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD. — Manager, Mr. Henry Kemble.—Mlle. Rosa's performing dogs have been exceedingly well trained; Maurin's Fountains provide a fine scenic entertainment; Dainty Maggie Rimmer, comedienne and dancer, is very pleasing; Great Scott is applauded for a clever ladder act; the Testo Brothers give an original musical act of much merit; Mabel Moss, vocalist, sings some good songs; Charlie Craston, comedian, is successful; and the cinematograph shows some entertaining pictures.

COVENTRY.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Dance.—De Gracia's elephants perform some clever tricks; the Warsaw Brothers as musical comedians are well received; and Howard and St. Clair give a pleasing comedy sketch. Tock and Tard are very clever on the horizontal bars, and one of them gives an amusing and clever imitation of wrestling; the Sisters Trentavoni are capable gymnast performers; Little Tichbourne amuses the audience with his comedy, and is also a very clever dancer; Effie Stuart is a capital Scotch comedienne and a dainty dancer; and Herbert Rule is successful as a comedian.

HIPPODROME THEATRE.—Mahatma, the queen of second-sight, does some extraordinary things, and her performance is very much appreciated; the Three Seabornes provide a good acrobatic entertainment; Miss Kitty Traney's juggling is quite out of the ordinary; Miss Lily Burnand is a favourite comedienne, and sings some very catchy songs. Other artists are the Ten Dixie Girls, Mr. Fred Poplar (comedian), Misses May Carter, Queenie Atkins, and Minnie Kemble, Miss D'Auhyn, Miss Kitty Wager, and Mr. Chas. Slomon. The Animated Pictures are excellent.

THE OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—*Hearts Adrift* is being played here this week. The characters are all well chosen, chief amongst whom are Mr. Henry Bedford, who gives a capital account of himself as Captain Teddy; Miss Nellie Clyde wins admiration for her impersonation of the flower girl; Miss Irene Ross is seen to advantage as Little Tim, a cripple. The difficult rôle of the villain, Edmund Gerne, is in the capable hands of Mr. Fred Terriss. All the other characters are excellently portrayed.

CRADLEY HEATH.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Morton.—Messrs. Chas. H. Phelps, Harry Tilbury, and company are appearing here in *His Dishonoured Wife* and *The Blind Foundling*. In the first of these plays Mr. Chas. H. Phelps gives a capital performance as Frank Lindon, ably assisted by Miss Belle Tilbury as Florence Lindon, and by Miss Mabel Hall as Mabel Lindon. We cannot speak too highly of Mr. Frank Harvey for his Neil Locksley, nor of Mr. A. George Fry for his Lord Devant. Mr. Harry Tilbury is extremely funny as Mickey Doolan, and he is well assisted by Miss Trixy Toole as Ariminta Dustpan; Mr. Bernard Webb is quite at home as Tom Redman, and as Geoffrey Harvey Mr. Harrison Weir deserves praise. Mr. A. S. Goring has a part to his liking as Arthur Cooper, and Mr. George Rufus is a lifelike Bobby Peel; Miss Arline T. George also scores as Alice Harvey.

CREWE.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Taylor, J.P.—Mr. Lingford Carson's No. 1 Company is here this week with a series of plays, including *A Modern Adventuress*, *The Shaughraun*, *The Octoroon*, and *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*. In the first-named piece Mr. Charles Draycott gave a masterful performance as Pietro Donelli; Mr. Sydney C. Cranston scored a success as Harry Delby; Mr. Ernest J. Fare submitted a clever portrayal of Wallace Danton; Mr. Will White as John Crompton was a typical Yorkshireman and a general favourite; and Mr. David Curtis as William Delby merited approval. Miss Muriel Thompson thoroughly deserved the success she achieved as Violet Meredith; Miss Marie Robson as Vivette Delby was highly appreciated; and Miss Nellie V. Warden gave an amusing rendering of Sally Hodges.

CROYDON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Lawson Lambert.—The attraction here is *The Amateur Socialist*, in which Mr. George Mudie makes a big hit as Sir Hubert Pennefeather; Mr. Percy Carlton just touches the right note as the Hon. Philip Wykeham; Mr. John W. Deverell is capital as Spencer Goldwaith Pennefeather; Mr. E. Y. Rae does well as Sergeant Fell; Mr. Bruno Holmes contributes a good piece of acting as Inspector Bott; and Mr. James Martin is good as Mr. Moberly. Miss Marie Hudspeth's rendering of Lady Pennefeather would be hard to improve upon; Miss Edith Deverell makes a charming Evelyn Rivers; Miss Kate Holmes is graceful as Cora Moberly; Miss Ada Gordon makes the most of Lady Mabel Wriothsley; and Messrs. E. F. Saxon and J. Fredericks complete the cast as Gibson and Pryce. The curtain-raiser, *Jealousy*, is commendably rendered by Mr. Henry Ainsworth as Cyril Beacham and Miss Blanche Stewart as Violet Ulmar.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Herrick.—A variety show here includes a capital Ju-Jitsu exhibition by Frank Long and Omoyo San; Lily Lassah is an entrancing comedienne and dancer; Fred Lawrence's company, in the sketch, *My Landlord*, is successful; the animated pictures are well worth seeing; and Constance Juno, Edwards and Darce, and Norman Grant deserve praise.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—Delightfully fresh is the entertaining Dutch operetta, *Happy Holland*, admirably staged here by clever Jake Friedman's company; the inimitable comedian H. O. Wills brings down the house with his oddities. Fred Barnes, comedian, is much liked; Harry Clifford sings a good song; the Morton Comedy Trio are excellent in mirth and melody; Nina Gordon is a smart and charming mimic and society entertainer; Grace Langley is a favourite; Helene Rose, comedienne and vocalist, is applauded; Lux's dogs are well trained; and the Haunted House on the Imperial Bioscope is capital. Crowded houses are being obtained.

DARLINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—The attraction this week is Mr. J. Bannister Howard's No. 1 company in *Florodora*. Miss Daisy Lake makes an attractive Dolores, singing with much charm; Mr. H. V. Crofton as Frank Abercoed is well placed; Mr. Alf. E. Passmore as Tweedlepunch keeps the house in roars; to the part of Cyrus W. Gilfian full justice is done by Mr. Stanley White; Mr. Harold Perry is good as Capt. Arthur Donegal; and Mr. Edwin Oxlee shines as Leandro.

DARWEN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. A. M Loader; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. J. Robinson.—Miss Maude Western and company are this week presenting the military drama, *The Prodigal Son*, in which Miss Western appears as Dick, the outcast, doing full justice to the part. She is ably supported by Miss Helen Thomson as Nellie Burke, and Miss Ada Hender as Margaret Marsden; Miss Connie Meadows as Mary and Mr. Robert Earl as Larry cleverly fill the comedy rôles; Mr. John Levey (Bill Burke), Mr. Alf. Siretton (Ralph Marsden), Mr. W. A. Buckstone (Jack Fanshaw), and Mr. Claude Seaton (Capt. Fanshaw) capably sustain their respective parts.

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Denley; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Langley Wyatt.—Mr. James Hare's company is here this week with the Servian drama, *A Destroyer of Men*. Miss Irene Clifford is notably successful in her assumption of Olga Mischla, and Mr. James Hare's Karl Maschla is exceedingly well done; Mr. C. P. Wentworth plays Count Starevitch very acceptably; and Mr. Charles Bicknell does well as Michael Mischla; while Miss Jessie Yatman as Vida Ravel makes a pleasing heroine. Mr. Ross Warren as Coco Tatchoski, with the able assistance of Miss Alice Buckland, who takes the character of Nina Pattakake, supplies the comedy element most creditably. Other parts are well sustained by Messrs. Hill Cremer, Charles Coventry, Arthur Swain, Arthur Conroy, and Alfred Minns.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. T Allan Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Herbert Taylor.—Messrs. Norburn and Campling's company is starring here this week in a dramatic episode, entitled *A Winter's Eve*; Roma and Romani provide a talented musical act, which is thoroughly appreciated; Stelling possesses a wonderfully intelligent dog in Kiswaski, whose various tricks are loudly applauded; Snowball and Miss Dolia, American comedy artists, are responsible for some clever rag-time stepping; Chris Masters, character vocalist, renders his tuneful songs in excellent style; Percy Curry, comedian, soon makes himself popular; and the Bioscope, with humorous films, concludes a well-varied programme.

DEVONPORT.—METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. G. S. King.—*Lady Godiva* is this week presented by Mr. Woulfe's well-balanced company. Especially worthy of mention are Miss Ethel Griffies, who gives a graceful representation of a difficult part; and Mr. F. B. Woulfe, who submits a finished study of the madman, Tom o' Coventry.

DONCASTER.—GRAND THEATRE AND EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—Billy Bretton, comedian, heads the programme, followed by Frank Senior, descriptive vocalist; a capital turn is provided by the St. Johns, musical instrumentalists, comedians, and dancers; Mlle. Roseltha is a charming danseuse, and Curtis Leo, the magical marvel, is mystifying; Odeyne Spark, comedienne, furnishes a delightful presentation; and the Cumberlands, acrobatic cyclists, create a furore, their agility and prowess never having been equalled here; Harry Zetter, comedian and eccentric dancer, pleases immensely; and Fred Ramsdale's musical comedy company in the sketches, *The Squire's Daughter* and *What the Butler Did*, are most entertaining.

DOVER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Dover Theatres, Ltd.; Chairman of Directors, Mr. B. Carter; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—Mr. Harry Kardoc's company is presenting an excellent programme. At the top of the bill is Amurat, who displays his wonderful strength in a most pleasing and effective manner; next comes Rosie, an intelligent little canine thought-reader, introduced by Gipsy Ann; and White and Jerome, who appear in an original sketch, *The Coster's Wedding Rehearsal*; Mlle. Rossini's miniature menagerie show evidence of skilful and kindly training; the Genden's statuary act is good, and Johnny Wilson sings a couple of humorous songs successfully. A series of fine pictures is shown by Jury's Biograph.

DUBLIN.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Directress, Mrs. Michael Gunn; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Hyland.—Mr. Arthur Hardy's company, in *Beauty and the Barge*, is meeting with a good reception from full houses. Mr. Blake Adams causes no end of laughter by his capital impersonation of Captain James Barley; Miss Dido Drake submits a charming portrayal of Ethel Smedley; an oddly amusing characterisation is the Major Smedley of Mr. Walter Pemberton; the part of Lieutenant Seton Boyne has a capable exponent in Mr. Edmund Coventry; and Miss Mary Pemberton submits a careful study of Lucy Dallas. Comedy in abundance is provided by Mr. Charles A. White as John Dibbs, and Miss Ruby Wyndham is an excellent Mrs. Baldwin; Herbert Manners is successfully played by Mr. Aubery Mallalieu; and Mrs. J. W. Braithwaite is admirable as Mrs. Porter; Mr. Ewart Drake makes the most of the part of George Porter; and Miss Mona Robin is good as Mrs. Smedley. The remaining parts are satisfactorily filled. The curtain-raiser, *Jerry and a Sunbeam*, in which Mr. Aubrey Mallalieu and Miss Mary Pemberton appear, is capitally presented.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—Miss Juno May, champion lady wrestler, heads the bill here this week, and proves a popular attraction; Charles Kitts and Rhoda Windrum afford much acceptable amusement in their sketch, *The Cuckoo*; and C. Randolph King, a clever impersonator, scores a success; as do also Mezetti and Mora, comedy triple bar artists; Queenie May, the juvenile prize packet, makes a decided hit; the Bros. Egbert, "the original happy dustmen," provide a mirth-provoking turn; Chas. Dillon is a comedian of more than ordinary merit; Parker and Parr, Welsh comedy vocalists, are greatly in evidence; Charles Robinson, the popular baritone, who remains over from last week, is still scoring, and the Empire pictures are, as usual, interesting.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Parrington.—The Dublin Amateur Operatic Society opened here for a short season, and on Monday *Carmen* was presented before a large and appreciative audience. Miss Tessa Byrne was charming in the title-rôle; Mr. W. Jones scored a success as Don José; and the Michaela of Mrs. Bowman was also a creditable performance. Mr. Jay Ryan was capital in the rôle of Escamilla; and Miss Lilian Flood was seen to advantage as Mercedes; Mr. Eugene Leahy did full justice to Le Dancaire; and the rôle of Frasquita was well filled by Mrs. Fagan. The staging and scenery were excellent, and the chorus and orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Barton McGuckin, was all that could be desired.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Secretary, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—Barton and Ashley, who pay a welcome return visit with *Canal Boat Sal*; the Woodwards' exciting cycle act calls forth much applause; an interesting item, which is well received, is supplied by Silbon's American Vaudeville Circus; and George Leonard is an acceptable comedian; Atroy, society juggler and hoop roller, scores; Violi displays ability as a lady instrumentalist; Harry Briggs, triple-voiced vocalist, is highly amusing; and other excellent turns are provided by Leslie Race, vocal comedian, and Bob Nicol, mimic. The Tivoli Bioscope completes the programme.

WORLD'S FAIR AND MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. Charles James.—The following artists are appearing here this week: Syd Mountford, conjuror, and his educated dog; James Rogers, comedian and dancer; Rosie Young, serio and dancer; James Dunne, musical comedian; Yew and Deare, comedy couple; and the cinematograph is also an attraction.

SAMUELS' EXHIBITION PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. S. Samuels.—The company engaged here includes:—Hubert Davis, eccentric comedian; Isa Bernard, vocalist and dancer; Harry May, vocal comedian; Hall and Lane, speciality artists; Daisy Clowser, comedienne and dancer; and the Raymonds, in their comedy act, *The Warrior's Return*.

DUDLEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—Mr. W. W. Kelly's company, in *A Royal Divorce*, is once more paying a welcome visit here, and met with the usual cordial reception. Miss Edith Cole, in the principal rôle of Josephine, proves as popular as ever, and her clever and artistic rendering calls forth hearty and prolonged applause; Miss Agnes Imlay shines conspicuously as Marie Louise, and Miss Helen Richmond is a pretty and engaging Stephanie de Beauharnais; Mr. Frederick Victor gives a forcible and effective rendering as Napoleon, and richly deserves the applause accorded; Mr. Graham Woods merits special mention for his well-played part as Marquis de Beaumont, and Mr. Alfred Grenville gives a very energetic rendering of General Augereau. All the other parts are well filled, and the dresses and scenery are exceptionally good.

"BABY AND I."

At what age should parents begin to clean their little children's teeth? A serious question for every young mother.

Here is a practical answer by Miss Ellaline Terriss (Mrs. Seymour Hicks), who refutes the still popular idea that children's temporary teeth may be left more or less uncared for as they have to be shed. From the time her baby cut its first tooth she began to use Odol in the water with which the little one's mouth was washed, and now the sweet little teeth are cleaned consequently twice a day with Odol.

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"cannot all have perfect teeth, but we can
"all have a perfect mouth wash, and that
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EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. B. Peberdy.—The Ashley Team, clever pantomimic skaters, are causing endless amusement here this week; Lambert and Hands, character duettists, are in great request; the Three Careys, Australian entertainers, are very lively; and Cosgrove and Burns are excellent comedy duettists. Bob Best is a really eccentric comedian with good songs; Lila Lingard is a first-rate male impersonator; Ern Weslyn is well described as the vocal wonder; and the Empire Pictures still prove an attractive item of the programme.

DUNDEE. — PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. E. J. Dexter.—The Modern Venus' reproductions of classical statuary are very artistic and beautiful; the Montalbos contribute a clever equilibristic act; while the Mayfair Trio appear in their delightful singing and dancing scena; George Ray is a capital Scotch comedian, his eccentric dancing being exceptionally good; Daisy Morell completely brings down the house with her catchy and well sung ditties; and Alf Chester, as usual, is a warm favourite; the Maitland Trio score a decided success with their Naval absurdity, *The Picture*; the Monckton, in their musical comedy act, get a great reception; and Bert Bowden causes much amusement with his quaint ditties. Vernon's Imperial Bioscope completes a capital bill of fare.

GAIETY THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. A. P. Williams.—Charles Majilton and Co. are here in *The Scotchman in Paris*. As the detective Mr. Charles Majilton proves as amusing as of yore, while the adventures of Duncan McPhee (Mr. Jim Bond) and Zac Brown (Mr. Herbert Ashmore) cause screams of laughter. Miss Maddie Majilton has a congenial part as Zula, and her sister Amy scores as Mrs. McPhee; Miss Nora Christie appears with conspicuous success as Marjory Blundles. The entertainment concludes with the Gaiety Electro-Motorscope.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Percival.—*The Trail of the Serpent* is staged by Miss Nana Cameron's company. As Rachael the Gipsy Miss Nana Cameron plays with fine power and telling effect, while as Gerald Kingston, the hero, Mr. A. Campbell Kelly plays with quiet dignity; Mr. J. B. Tyrell and Miss Jenny Risely are very amusing in their comedy parts.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Devonshire Park and Baths Co.; Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clark.—When the attractions include in one week the appearances of Mme. Jane Hading and Mrs. Patrick Campbell it is no wonder the houses are crowded with fashionable audiences. On Monday evening *Frou-Frou* was staged, and the acting throughout attained a perfection which excited general admiration. Mme. Jane Hading as Gilberte held the audience spellbound and throughout compelled admiration; Mlle. Laure Sureau was a fine Louise; and Mlle. Alcime-Leblanc, too, was most effective as Baronne de Cambri. M. Arnaud, handsome and attractive, was a polished and fascinating Valreas; M. Luguet was a delightful Brigard; M. Hauterive handled the part of Satorys with extreme skill and judgment; and M. Alcime-Leblanc as Baron de Cambri completed an excellent cast. On Tuesday afternoon Mrs. Patrick Campbell, Miss Stella Campbell, Mr. Lawrence Irving, and company appeared in *Magda*, and on Wednesday evening Mme. Hading appeared in *La Chatelaine*. During the latter part of the week the stage is occupied by Messrs. Hoffe and Campbell's company in *The Importance of Being Earnest*.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Mr. Charles Cary and Mr. Harold Wantage's company is appearing here in *The Pick of the Bunch*. Miss M. Sadie as Nancy is very diverting, and her brisk enthusiasm carries all before her; Miss Madge Christopher, a pretty and sweet-voiced lady, is an ideal Nellie; Miss Eva Ellis sings and dances charmingly as Ruth; and Miss Nellie James is a highly amusing Wilhelmeina. Mr. Algernon W. Lee sings and acts admirably as Halliwell; Mr. Percy Baverstock, bold and humorous, provides genuine fun as Colonel Joseph; Mr. Buckstone Clair is a successful Martin; and Mr. Harold Wantage is satisfactory as Dick.

THE HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; General-Manager, Mr. H. Day; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Smith.—Mr. Alf Gibson in his amusing and irresistible style is again a great favourite. Mr. Frank Elliston and company pay a return visit with *Aunt Matilda* and again cause roars of laughter; Miss Audry Wykeham quite charms the audience with her exceptionally fine violin playing; Charlton is a very clever and smart illusionist; Miss Lottie Albert makes a hit with her patriotic song; Eustace and Eyre are good dancers and clever ventriloquists; Jock McKay succeeds as a piper and singer; and excellent films are shown.

ECCLES.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. C. Hamilton Baines; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert Orton.—Miss Annie Bell and specially selected company are this week presenting *Sapho*. Miss Bell gives a very realistic and emotional portrayal of the title-rôle, and is well received. Mr. Otto Minster plays a strong part as Jean Gausin, a young provincial; Mr. Oliver Rogers is funny as Father le Grande; Mr. George Antley makes a clever character as Cesaire le Fenat; Eugène Flamant is well impersonated by Mr. H. Langford; and Mr. St. John Medley makes a good Paul Dechelette.

EDINBURGH.—ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; General Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Minshull.—The talented combination of local amateurs, the Southern Light Opera Company, occupies the Lyceum this week, presenting on alternate evenings, *The Emerald Isle*, and *Princess Ida*. The performances, as usual, are marked by painstaking and successful effort on the part of all concerned.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—Mr. Walter de Frece continues to present more than usually attractive programmes here. Miss Marie Loftus heads the bill this week, and by her remarkable vivacity and undoubted dramatic power, evokes the enthusiastic applause of her audiences. Miss Daisy Davidson conveys, by her tasteful singing and acting, a very fair impression of the garden scene in *Faust*; Les Sarsloffs give an exhilarating and graceful exhibition of whirlwind dancing; Mr. Charles F. Best, in his sketch, *McBunker the Mountebank*, shows himself not only to be a skilled acrobat, but a capable burlesque actor; the Three Zaracs, in their clever horizontal bar act, are droll, smart, and effective; and the Ladderites evoke admiration by their extremely daring feats; Mr. Ford Williams employs a capital bass voice in his rendering of "The Wolf," and other ballads; and Holden's Mannikins provide a treat especially adapted to the juveniles. Ryde and Beemon, in their comedy acrobatic turn, are amusing and original gymnasts; and Mr. Peter Bermingham, Scotch comedian, and a thrilling story shown by the Bioscope, complete a varied entertainment.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Parham Wells.—The emphatic turn this week is provided by Mrs. John Lawson and company, with their tirade, *The Devil's Sunday*, in which Mrs. Lawson, as Fay Faber, acts with much ability. Mr. and Mrs. Harold Finden appear in an entertaining duologue, *Two to One;* and a musical duologue, played by Miss Margory Clark and Mr. Percy Haydon, is extremely amusing; the blind pianist, Mendel, gives his well-known display of skill and memory; the part-singing of the Eisteddfod Prize Vocal Sextette is delightful to hear; Miss Gladys Mavius, assisted by "Dot," presents a charming scena, *Rosie is Waiting;* the Jonghmann Sisters sing most agreeably; and Miss Margaret Ashton proves herself a pleasing vocalist; Mr. Charles Norton is remarkably successful in his imitations of music hall celebrities; and Mr. Russell Wallett's *Lady in Black* is a comical turn. The Bioscope completes a long and attractive programme.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Ventom Swift.—The attractions here are well maintained. An outstanding item is the humorous sketch, *The Scotsman's Visit to London*, by Pete and Minnie Lee; Mr. Bert Raynor and Miss Cissie Reece appear with great acceptance in a little comedy scena, entitled *Early Closing Day;* and the Cavalotti Brothers give an interesting display of skill in playing a variety of musical instruments. Clever comedian turns are contributed by Cade Burnett, J. H. Harris, and the Brothers Hannaway; Dennis Glover is heard to advantage in several songs; and animated pictures conclude the list of entertainments.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Folkestone playgoers had a very special treat on Saturday in the shape of Mme. Jane Hading and full Parisian company in *Frou-Frou*. Mme. Hading's acting as Gilberte was superb; Mme. Laure Sureau as Louise was excellent; the difficult rôle of M. Sartory's was splendidly taken by M. Hauterive; and the other characters were all good. Mr. Norman Macowan and company are here this week in *Monsieur Beaucaire* and *A Marriage of Convenience*. In the first-named piece Mr. Norman Macowan plays the title rôle in his usual brilliant style; Mr. Murray Hathorn is seen to advantage as the Duke of Winterset; Mr. Arthur Somers as Major Molyneaux deserves praise; Miss Violet Sterne is an ideal Lady Mary; and Miss Mary Masters is a charming Lucy Rellerton.

LEAS PAVILION.—Manager and Musical-Director, Mr. D'Arcy Clayton.—The performances of *The Gipsies and their Jester* will be continued for a short season. The scenic effects are especially fine and deserving of mention. Miss Muriel Fane as Maritana charms her audience with her bright songs; Miss Florence Croft (Carmen) has a melodious voice; Mr. Eric Davidson as Don Carlos is a special favourite; Mr. Robert Tattersall (Rinaldo) mystifies his audience, and also gives some smart ventriloquial sketches; Mr. Will Gane as the Jester cracks some good jokes and scores a success in his humourous songs.

GAINSBOROUGH.—KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Stear.—Gustave's Pierrots opened here this week on the two-houses-a-night system. Mr. Cecil Webb, Mr. Charlie Arnett, Mr. Arthur Collins, Miss Ida Conway, and Miss Dorothy Vernon contributed some pleasing songs, and in the second part Mr. Fred Terry, a clever card and coin palmist; Mr. Gustave, musical eccentric; Mlle. Alberta, on the telephone wire, appeared.

GATESHEAD. — KING'S THEATRE — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harold Arnold.—Starring here this week we have Capt. Max Gruber's elephant, horse, and pony, a most enjoyable turn. Ike Scott and Son in their comedy scenas are warmly praised; Dunningarto is a youthful and smart sleight-of-hand artist; Esme Gordon makes a hit with the song, "Don't tell the world your troubles"; Vowles and Bryan, in a song scena, are seen to advantage; Billy Tucker, ball-puncher, is popular; Maud and Sidney Wood, duettists and dancers, find much favour; and Charles Ashdown, legmania dancer, and pictures by Vernon's Bioscope are also in the bill.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Councillor Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas Frarce—Mr Chas. F. Cooke's company, in *The Trumpet Call*, is doing good business here. Chief honours go to Mr. Leonard Yorke, who impersonates Cuthbert Cuthbertson; Mr. Freddie Bentley Deserves praise for his work as Tommy Dutton; Mr. John Dennis is a capital Richard Featherstone; Miss Helena Millais is to be heartily congratulated upon her performance as Constance; Miss Doris Gilham is forcible as Astrea; and Miss May Forster is a diverting Lavinia Ginnifer.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Councillor Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas Smith.—Mr. C. Watson Mill's company in *A Warning to Women* appears at this house. Mr. Mill delights everyone by a capital impersonation of Shaun; Mr. Richard Vane, as Dr. Dread, does well; Mr. N. Carter Slaughter is an amusing Lord Eversleigh; Miss Grace Barton makes the most of her opportunities as Sheila; and Miss Rosalind Tate supplies a capable embodiment of Moira.

GLASGOW.—ROYALTY, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie.—The bright and merry entertainment provided by the Follies has proved a wonderful hit here, and the rich humour of Messrs. H. G. Pélissier, Lewis Sydney, and Norman A. Blumé, the vocal ability of Mr. Dan Everard, and the dainty style in songs, dances, and musical selections of Misses Gwennie Mars, Dollis Brooke, and Lily Walbrook combine to provide a first-rate evening's enjoyment. The burlesque operas and song cycles à la Wagner or Liza Lehmann are richly funny; and the extravagant pantomimic skit, *Bill Bailey*, hits off in neat style the principal weaknesses of that popular style of piece.

KING'S, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. H. Macfarlane.—Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company is appearing here this week in *Peter's Mother*. A considerable share of the credit is due to Miss Ruth Mackay, whose appearance and acting in the title-rôle leave nothing to be desired. Mr. Percy Hutchison is highly successful as Peter, his portrayal of the selfish young soldier being quite a study in temperament; the Sir Timothy Crewys of Mr. Charles Harley is a splendid effort, and stands out in bold relief; Mr. Stanley Pringle plays John Crewys, Q.C., with much polish and distinction; as Canon Birch Mr. F. G. Thurstans gives a touch of humour to the scenes; while the more serious Dr. Blundell is played with sufficient weight by Mr. Townsend Whitling. The part of Sarah is charmingly represented by Miss Hilda Honiss; Miss Mary Griffiths as Lady Belstone and Miss Florence Harwood as Miss Crewys are well suited in their respective parts; and in the rôle of Mrs. Hewell Miss Violet Ley gives a dignified impersonation. The comedy is preceded by the one-act play, *Her Dearest Friend*.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—Messrs. Felix Pitt and Fred Sandy's company remains here this week in the ever-welcome favourite, *East Lynne*. Miss Maud Linden gives a tenderly pathetic rendering of Lady Isobel; and Miss Doris Lorraine is a pleasing Barbara Hare. Mr. Clavering Craig gives a good interpretation of Francis Levison; and Mr. David Phillips is excellent as Justice Hare. Mr. Felix Pitt as Archibald Carlyle acts the good-natured husband admirably; and Mr. Frederick Sandy is equally good as Lord Mountsevern. The boy, Willie Carlyle, is effectively played by Miss Gwen Ashdown; Cornelia Carlyle is well portrayed by Miss Jenny Macintyre; and Miss Enid Wilde as Joyce, Miss Kate Johnstone as Wilson, and Miss Amy Anson as Susanne are well-drawn characters. Mr. Philip Darien as Richard Hare does full justice to the character. Other parts are suitably filled by Messrs. Herbert Young as Mr. Dill and Mr. Thomas Barry as Policeman X-Rays.

METROPOLE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Gordon Jefferson.—The musical comedy-drama, *His Sister's Honour*, is here this week. The play is exceedingly interesting from start to finish, and the principals, who include Miss Kathryne Eckart as Dora Stanley and Miss Ethel Ashleigh as Ivy Merton, along with Messrs. E. A'Dell as Frank Stanley and Lincoln Calthorpe as Sir Richard Redvers, are seen to much advantage, their clever acting being greatly applauded. A word of praise is also due Mr. Gibson Brooke as Dr. Godfrey; while the comedy parts are successfully filled by Mr. Sydney Dean and Miss Bessie Dean. A splendid show of animated pictures is also given at the conclusion.

LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—The renowned Hackenschmidt is at the head of a good company here. A. J. Gamble has made a successful appearance as a Scotch comedian and dancer; Mabel La Blanche, a smart comedienne, and Patty Yole, a clever singer and graceful dancer, also do well. Henry Carlton and a party of clever artists evoke hearty laughter in *One Night Only;* the Four Juggling Geraldos are applauded; and the Bioscope pictures are a big part of the show.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners.—Auguste Van Biene, the famous actor-musician, returns to Glasgow after a lengthy absence, and in a clever playlet finds opportunity for proving that his 'cello-playing is still that of a *maestro*. Lil Hawthorne shares the honours, and her latest songs are smart and tuneful. Drew and Alders, in a new scena, *The Coastguards*, are, if possible, funnier than ever; Boyd and Gilfain repeat their smart musical turn; Daisy Mayer's coon songs and dances are particularly good; the Gems give a varied turn of song, mirth, and dance; Tambo and Tambo are wonderfully smart in their speciality; La Danseuse is a neat little dancer; and Mella and Mozarabar contribute a clever wire-walking and trained bird act.

ZOO-HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd., and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—A big attraction is provided here this week in George Gray and company with the successful sketch entitled *Parson Gray, V.C.* The variety company also includes Tom Owen, Welsh comedian; Walton and Lester, the world's worst wizards; Russell Brandow, coloured comedian and dancer; Enzer, soldier juggler, assisted by Clarice, lady ju-jitsu expert; J. Alexander Sketch company, in a smart sketch, *Brown in Paris;* David Poole, ventriloquist; Sydney James's Strolling Players; and the Bioscope, with an interesting set of pictures.

PAVILION, LTD. — General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—That excellent comedian Harry Ford heads the bill this week; Grahame and Harrington have been retained for another week; Tom Lloyd has humorous new songs; Regan and Ryan are old favourites; Will Van Allen, "the musical tramp," tells funny stories; Sibb and Sibb go through some thrilling evolutions on the double trapeze; Will Godwin sings catchy songs; and the Five Merry Maids sing and dance cleverly.

COLISEUM. — Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Sam Gething; Acting-Manager, Harry Burdette.—Large houses rule this week, Eugene Stratton being the prime attraction. Johnson and Wells, vocalists and dancers, ingratiate themselves into favour; Mr. Charles Hargreaves has a fine baritone voice; the Wartenburg Bros. are marvellous acrobats; the fine solo singing by Libby Blondell, and the quartette singing by her "English Johnnies" is quite a novelty; Dennis Drew and assistants, in the military scena *Back to Barracks*, submit an enjoyable item; and in *Dan, the Outlaw*, Mr. Herbert Shelley proves a versatile and able actor. Gladys Mavius and Bugler Carr are also in the bill.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—Mme. Ada Colley tops the bill here, and her phenomenal voice rouses the audience to a great pitch of enthusiasm; Harrigan and Holt, in a clever bit of business, keep the house in roars of laughter; Gorman's Juveniles are a smart lot, and their turn proves most enjoyable; Ted Young and Ada Twibell give excellent turns, and receive the welcome due to old and tried favourites; the Musical Schaffers score well in a musical turn, with some new and novel instruments; Wyndham and Waters take well in a smart musical and comedy act; Charles Fanning is a clever comedian, and is assisted by Lotto Charles. The Bioscope concludes a varied and attractive bill.

GAIETY, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Harry Bowerman.—The Four Louberts top the bill here in their sketch, *Uninvited*, a clever and amusing bit of work, which was much enjoyed. The Thomson Combination, in *A Fight for a Fiver*, is an attractive item; Carney Brothers are clever comedians; and Carlotto Lunn sings several songs in fine style. George Bernard elicits much applause for his songs; the Rubos, lady musicians, charm everyone, and Harry Bent does well as a mimic.

BRITANNIA, PANOPTICON.—Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickard.—Mi Marom shines as a comedienne, her songs being well rendered; Harry Montane, vocalist, is applauded; Walter Ross, comedian, Annie Rose, comedienne, the Chromophone, and the Bioscope complete the programme, and the permanent attractions always command their crowd of interested spectators.

GLOUCESTER.—PALACE.—Owners, Messrs. C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr. R. T. Rea.—Those clever entertainers, Ted and May Hopkins, are delighting audiences on their initial appearance here. The Brothers Obo excel as humorists; the Claymores are expert dancers and club jugglers; a good turn is provided by the Sisters Terry, baby mimics; Les Valdos are agile and eccentric acrobats; the Days give an exhibition of thought-transmission; Helene and Emilon are smart novelty gymnasts; Elton and Edwin are clever banjoists; Mr. Harry Bold scores as a comedian; Miss Winnie Scott sings a popular song; and the Bioscope concludes the performance.

GREAT YARMOUTH. — ROYAL AQUARIUM. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—Messrs. Matthew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's company is here this week with *The Still Alarm*. Jack Manley finds an excellent exponent in Mr. Matthew H. Glenville; Mr. Geo. Arthur is effective as Robert Bird; Willie Manley is cleverly played by Mr. Tom Beasley; Mr. Fred Osmond is admirable as Doc. Wilber; and Franklyn Fordham is ably represented by Mr. Lewis Gordon. Elinor Fordham is sweetly and sympathetically represented by Miss Maud Warburton; Miss Hettie Zillwood is a vivacious lad, Wilber, and Miss Mabel Veriton makes a capital Mrs. Manley.

GREENOCK.—EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry L. Skivington.—The staff here took their annual benefit on Monday evening, when an attractive programme was presented to crowded houses. Mr. J. Cummings opened on Tuesday for a short season, with a first-class picture show. Variety turns are also provided by Alice Golding, a pleasing vocalist; Bandoni, instrumentalist, who submits a clever and very effective musical turn; and W. H. Smart, comedian.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. J. H. Curry.—Miss Mary Austin is fully maintaining her popularity here in a répertoire of plays. On Monday and Saturday *Passion's Power* was staged. Miss Austin played Zorah in her well-known style, and was admirably supported by Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds as Michel Laski and Mr. Fred W. Goddard as Prince Kandos, whilst Mr. John S. Haydon gave a dignified representation of Rudolph Laski. Others who took prominent parts in this and other plays presented were Mr. J. Milne Taylor, Mr. George P. Lester, Mr. Harry Harrop, Miss Ethel Vinroy, Miss May Grimshaw, and Miss Anna Beaumont. On Tuesday and Thursday *Shall We Forgive Her?* was presented, and on Wednesday and Friday the domestic drama, *The Cotton Spinner*.

CURRY'S TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North.—Crowded houses nightly are welcoming the appearance of Mr. George Lashwood, who is delighting the audiences with his engaging style and excellent songs; Billy Williams, Australian comedian, scores a success; Selby and Myers accomplish smart dancing; Boden and Bell are a couple of clever juvenile artists; the Mezettis are seen in a good comedy gymnastic turn; Will Cornish presents a novel bell act; and J. P. Carroll displays skill as a tambourine specialist.

THE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. A. Edwardes; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. C. Shread; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. V. Allton.—The Romsakoff Guards give a smart exhibiton of military drill and wall scaling, combined with music; Picitt and Lizette present a novel act, *The Crazy Cook*, in which a series of excellent illusions is introduced; the Alskarno Trio are smart acrobats; Cyclo is a clever trick cyclist; J. S. James gives a special act as a bone soloist; Nellie Chandos is a pleasing comedienne; Sade Henderson has good songs; and the Britannia Comedy Four combine high-class vocal numbers with original comedy.

HALIFAX. — THEATRE ROYAL, LTD. — General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Mr. Wentworth Croke's company is here in Mr. Hall Caine's play, *The Christian*. Miss Grace Chalmers gives a meritorious interpretation of the title-part; Mr. Howard Templeton infuses a spirit of reality into his enactment of the Hon. John Storm; while Mr. Charles Hill makes the most of the character of Parson Quayle; Archdeacon Wealthy has a capable representative in Mr. Charles E. Dering; and Mr. Frank Beresford gives a bright conception of Horatio Drake. A quaint simulation of a music hall manager is submitted by Mr. Fern Pounds; Miss Molly Hayden as Mrs. Callander and Miss Vashti Wellborne as Polly Love are commendable.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Harrison.—The musical novelty, *The Fourteen Black Hussars*, is presented by Lasky Rolfe and company; Jack Lane has some really funny patter; another worthy of praise is La Belle Maie, queen of the silver thread; while Lauri Wylie and his Mimicking Mannikins are seen in unique business; and Lloyd Morgan entertains in good style; Richard Taylor, whistling ventriloquist; and Rosa Rossetti, the musical girl, are also capable artists.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Sam Winks.—Grais' baboons are given prominence here this week. The American episode, *The Girl and the Tough*, is strikingly presented by Mr. John Brandon, Mr. H. A. Lyons, and Miss Pearl Gardiner; Florence Esdaile enchants her listeners with a couple of well-chosen songs; A. G. Spry proves as eccentric as ever; while Ina Lorrimer is a most accomplished comedienne and dancer; Valvo is a painstaking military ventriloquist; and Leo. Trainor is successful as a character-vocalist; while the Bioscope series of pictures prove acceptable.

HANLEY. — ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Douglas Elphinstone.—Miss Loie Esmond's company opened here on Monday in a version of *The Sorrows of Satan*. Mr. Edward Neville as Prince Lucio contributes a good reading; Mr. Coleman Davies as Lord Lynton is well placed; Mr. J. McCaigh works hard as Geoffrey Tempest; Mr. G. H. Nisbett makes a capital Amiel; Mr. Fred White as Charley Grimes does well in the part; Morris is amusingly played by Mr. Fred Cherry; and the Earl of Elton finds a good representative in Mr. J. Le Fleming. Miss Cecila Dare shows ability as Lady Sybil; Mr. Loie Esmond gives a smart portrayal of Diana Chesney; Miss Cecil Bryne as Mrs. Grimes is satisfactory; and Miss Rosie Neville is seen to advantage as Mavis Clare.

GRAND, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. James Wynes.—Another capital programme is submitted this week. At the head is Mr. R. A. Roberts in his successful sketch, *Dick Turpin's Ride to York*. John E. Coyle returns, and scores his usual success, his patter being most amusing; the Sisters Gasch, in their acrobatic performance, contribute a novel and clever performance; Harry Claff has a fine song in "Nelson from his monument"; Rich and Rich are always pleasing; Elsie Robey, in her sketch, *The Slavey's At Home*, is entertaining; Hughes and Elliott are good vocalists and dancers; and the pictures are capital.

HARROGATE. — GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting Manager, Mr. C. F. Smith.—This week we have the first visit here of Mr. Allan Wilkie's company in Shakespearean plays and old English comedy. On Monday *Hamlet* was given. In the title-rôle Mr. Wilkie gave a good account of himself; Mr. G. Alex. Marsh was an excellent Laertes; Mr. John Paley a good Claudius, and Miss Carrie Baillie a capable Gertrude; Mr. Geo. Munro was well placed as Polonius; and Mr. Digges was a satisfactory Horatio; Miss Ine Cameron was a pathetic Ophelia. *The Merchant of Venice, The School for Scandal, Romeo and Juliet, Othello, David Garrick*, and *The Bells* are also in the répertoire.

HARTLEPOOL.—EMPRESS.—Proprietors, Messrs. Councillor Everton and J. W. Cragg; Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Charlie Ferrier.—An excellent bill is topped by Billy McClain, "Nature's own Comedian," in *The Hottest Coon from Dixie*, the dancing in which is exceptionally good; Takio, the Japanese mimic, is amusing and clever in his imitations; a novel and sensational aerial act is smartly done by La Vails; unbounded laughter is the result of the drawing-room entertainment by the Jackley Trio; novelty in juggling feats is well done by Correze and Keith; and Mark Merry, comedian, Sisters Varley, vocalists, and the Bioscope pictures add entertaining items to the list.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Scutt.—Miss Dorothey Cacey and company are here in the charming comedy, *When We Were Twenty-one*. The rôle of Richard Carewe was finely acted by Mr. Riddell Robinson, and he was ably supported by Mr. Edward J. Coyne as the jovial Waddles, by Mr. Frank Powell as the matter-of-fact Soldier-man, and Mr. L. Rutledge as the genial Doctor. Mr. Gerald Henson quite realised the hot-headed Richard Terence Miles Audaine. The character of Phyllis was well played by Miss Mildred Hodson; Miss Dorothey Cacey did well as Kara Glenesk; her maid, Babette, was skilfully played by Miss Susie Oak; David Hurst was ably depicted by Mr. A. E. Coleby; and other character-sketches were cleverly supplied by Messrs. Loris Lorell (Herbert Corrie), F. Moorgate (Wallis Brundall), and Miss Ainslie as Budgie Culpepper. Miss Flo Preddy, as Mrs. Ericson, completed the cast. A special flying matinée was given on Tuesday by Mme. Jane Hading and company, when they appeared in the well-known play *Frou-Frou*.

PIER PAVILION.—Pier-Master, Mr. R. Turner; Entertainment-Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—*Our Flat* is being presented here by Mr. Thomas Sidney and company. Mr. Edgar Kent gives a natural impersonation of Sylvester; a telling embodiment of Glover is contributed by Mr. Thomas Sidney; Mr. Philip Williams is equally successful in the part of Clarence Vane; a characteristic sketch of MacCallum is supplied by Mr. H. J. Hooker; a winsome Margery Sylvester is found in Miss Kathleen Russell; and Lucy, by Miss Ada Clarke, is a delightful impersonation. Miss Josephine Rae acts the part of Bella with a great deal of brightness and cleverness.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Norman.—The comic effusions of Mr. Harry May are thoroughly enjoyed here; a singular exhibition of original dancing is shown by the Royal Russian Troupe; some excellent films are seen on the Bioscope; Miss Bessie Butt, a pleasing songstress, is much applauded; a laughable comedy sketch by the Fimans makes a decided success; Miss Lucy Coventry shows exceptional ability; a well-acted comedy sketch is introduced by R. Cameron Mathews and company; and Cairns and Lynch score a hit with their American buck and step dancing.

ST. LEONARDS PAVILION THEATRE.—Pier-Master, Mr. Sidney Thomas.—*The Vagabonds* are still holding the boards here, and Mr. Harold Montague is associated in his selection of songs, duets, &c., with Miss Ethel Mayaffre, Leslie Burgiss, Marie Longmore, and other excellent artists.

HUDDERSFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Andrews.—Shakespeare lovers are offered a rare treat this week by Mr. Ian Maclaren and his company, who are billed to play *Hamlet, The Merchant of Venice, Othello, Twelfth Night, Romeo and Juliet, As You Like It*, and *Macbeth*. Monday's performance of *Hamlet* was highly satisfactory. Mr. Hamilton's Prince of Denmark was entirely free from irritating mannerisms, and showed complete evidence of a cultured study of the text; Miss Katherine Harrington was attractively sweet as Ophelia; Mr. G. Westland's King was a dignified personage; Mr. Frank Royde was an excellent Laertes; Mr. Arthur Fayne a didactic old Polonius; and Mr. George Powell played with discreet humour as the Gravedigger. Miss Edith Coleman showed much ability as the Queen of Denmark.

HIPPODROME, LTD. — Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—The bill is topped by Duncan's Royal Collies, a real triumph of animal training. Other turns are by Rowland Hill, comedian; Miss Marie Beresford, a neat male impersonator with a sweet voice; Brothers Corcoran, in a well-planned musical act; the Sisters Pine, a pair of smart comediennes and good singers; the Leonards (Bob and Jennie), duettists and dancers; Blake and Grundy, in a diverting sketch, *The Man in Possession;* Burnells, in a bustling acrobatic bit of fooling; and new pictures on the Bioscope.

HULL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. Morton; Resident-Director, Mr. W. F. Morton.—Miss Annie Hughes, in Jerome's pretty play, *Tommy*, is a sound attraction at this house, and the patronage accorded has been very good. Tommy is just the sort of part which suits Miss Hughes, and she is exceedingly happy in her delineation of the editor's daughter; as Dick Danvers Mr. Rupert Lister meets with much approval; in the rôle of the adventuress, Miss Winifred Pearson achieves a great success; and the inwardness of newspaper life is cleverly caught by Mr. Willie Hartill.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hunt; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—*The Angel of Unrest* fills the bill at this house. As Mme. Renaudot Miss Pattie March reveals many histrionic gifts; the Bompasse of Mr. Henry Belding is a striking figure in the picture; Julie is a clever impersonation on the part of Miss Florence Tressilian; and Julie's father receives justice at the hands of Mr. Laurence Vining. A Napoleon of much distinction is Mr. Alec Flood, who, with Mr. Aubrey Fitzmaurice, shares the cares of management.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Mortons, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—*The Sin of Her Childhood* is a drama admirably adapted to meet the wants of the patrons of this house. The Mary Haysel of Miss Mary Fulton is a fine character-study; as the Vicar, Mr. J. Duncan reaches a high plane of excellence; the comic relief has an excellent exponent in Mr. Hugh Brady; as youthful artists Little Dorothy and Miss Lisa Young gave much promise.

HYDE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. R. Feather.—*The Grip of Iron* is being presented by Messrs. E. H. Knight and George Denham's company. The central figure, Jargon, is played with fine dramatic force by Mr. Fred Powell; Mr. A. G. Polson-Turner capably portrays the rôle of the despicable Lorentz de Ribas; Mr. Wallace Curnock makes a manly Paul Blanchard; Miss Maggie Steward creates a favourable impression as Marie Guerin; Miss Rosabell Dodd displays exceptional histrionic ability as Cora Simmonet; and Miss Florence Trevoir as Sophie Blanchard adds materially to the success of the play. Mr. George Denham is very quaint and humorous as Loustalot; and the humour of the piece is also ably contributed to by Mr. W. T. Riley as Alphonse de Coucou, Mr. John Brittain as Dodet, and Miss Cissy Hayes as Barbette.

IPSWICH.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Leonard Grey.—Mr. F. R. Benson's company commences a week's engagement here on Monday in *Hamlet*. Mr. Henry Herbert as the Prince of Denmark displayed considerable power in his portrayal, his elocution in the famous soliloquies evoking general applause; Miss Dorothy Green, a pleasing and pathetic Ophelia, proved herself an accomplished young actress; Mr. E. Spencer Geach was most effective as the King; and Miss Mary Webb scored as the Queen. The character of Polonius received due justice at the hands of Mr. Ross Shere; and Mr. Gerald Ames was an awe-inspiring Ghost. During the week *The Merchant of Venice* and *Romeo and Juliet* have also been produced.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—A most attractive item here is submitted by the Wakeman Quartette, high-class vocalists; Peggy Pryde, the well-known music-hall favourite, is as vivacious as ever; the Ellimans, in their instrumental selections, are highly appreciated; and a novel turn is Vandenoff, whose "lightning" oil-pictures are executed on a revolving canvas. The Two Wallys contribute expert juggling; Julian Mack sings a laughable song about the suffragettes; and Harry Taft (whistler) and Floretta and Elly (jugglers), with the Hippodrome pictures, complete the bill.

JARROW.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr Jerrold E. Reed.—*An Unwedded Wife* is being presented here by Miss Ethel Van Praagh and Mr. J. Edward Whitty's company. In the title-rôle Miss Van Praagh is seen to advantage; Mr. E. St. Clair Forbes makes an effective Philip Blakestone; as John Hawthorne and Frank Armstrong Messrs. Logan Darra and Valentine Henry are well placed; Miss

Gáy is highly successful in the title-rôle; and Mr. James Hawker is deserving of hearty praise for his interpretation of Captain Lovebury.

KIDDERMINSTER. — NEW OPERA HOUSE.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. James P. Moore; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. C. Gudgeon.—The boards here are occupied by Mr. Harry Rogerson's company in the musical absurdity, entitled *Jacko*. MR. J. H. Booth as the Professor is amusing; Mrs. Zerio is well played by Miss Jessie St. Clare; Miss Bessie Herbert in the rôle of Ada Zerio is good; and Mr. Chas. Leverton is a clever Fred Fitzgerald.

KING'S LYNN.—NEW ROYAL THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. J. Bannister Howard, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Herr B. Pareezer.—A good programme this week includes Julia Kent and Alex. Keith in a sketch, *A Village For Sale*. Harry Tomps, comedian, is heartily received; Chester and Lee's marionettes are especially good; Tom D. Odlin proves a popular comedian; the Two Dominoes introduce a well-trained and intelligent donkey; Gertie Douglas appears as a comedienne; and Jury's pictures complete a highly-satisfactory bill.

LANCASTER.—ATHENÆUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alfred Hook.—Miss Go-Won-Go-Mohawk is again proving a big atraction with her company in *Wep-Ton-No-Mah*. Miss Go-Won-Go-Mohawk appeared with success in the title-rôle.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. John Porter and W. G. Fergusson.—At the top of the bill this week is Miss Florrie Gallimore, who is paying a welcome return visit. The reception accorded her was great. The Royal Tokio Troupe of Japanese equilibrists are really smart, and Miss Josie Delaine sings and dances nicely; Miss Georgina Leonard, comedienne, Chas. Bayman, comedian, Crosby and Walker, patterers, and Ariel and Astarte, gymnasts, complete a first-rate entertainment.

LEAMINGTON.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Manager, Mr. Harry Hunter.—Mr. and Mrs. Kendal paid their annual visit to Leamington on the first three nights of this week, when they appeared in a triple bill. On Monday, the opening night, *The Housekeeper* was played before a large audience. Mr. Kendal appeared with conspicuous success as Colonel Lionel Trent; and Mrs. Kendal displayed her art in a most delightful manner as Lady Audrey Whitby. As William Hickson Mr. Ernest Hendrie was exceedingly droll; and Mr. Bassett Roe's portrayal of Lord Runswick was a good all-round performance. Mr. Metcalfe Wood, one of the authors of the piece, gave an exceedingly amusing impersonation of Chippenham Berkeley; and another clever little study was Mrs. A. B. Tapping's Lady Robertson. Miss Jessica Thorne was charming as Mrs. Pennington Greene; and Miss Dora Fellowes played Mrs. Rillington in a capable manner. Other excellent performances were given by Mr. C. W. Standing, Miss Marie Lohr, Mr. F. Charles Pool, and Mr. W. M. Rutherford. On Tuesday evening *A Tight Corner* was played for the first time in Leamington, and *The Ironmaster* on Wednesday.

LEEDS.—GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Edward Cadman.—A most welcome visit is being paid this week by the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company, with the usual Gilbert-Sullivan répertoire, and on Monday evening the theatre was the scene of a rare show of enthusiasm when the much talked-of and threatened *Mikado* was played to a house full to overflowing. Mr. Pacie Ripple was in fine voice as Nanki Poo, and also acted his part with rare fervour; Mr. Fred Billington still plays Pooh-Bah in inimitable style; Mr. Albert Kavanagh is perfect in the rôle of the Mikado; and Mr. Charles R. Walenn is a decided acquisition, his Ko-Ko being a clever and unaffected performance. The fine vocal abilities of Miss Theresa Rassam are heard to advantage in the part of Katisha; a refreshing effort is that of Miss Lulu Evans as Pitti Sing; and the other maids are played in pleasing style by Miss Mabel Burnege and Miss Mabel Graham. *The Gondoliers, The Yeomen of the Guard, The Pirates of Penzance,* and *Iolanthe* are also announced.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—Mr. Arnold Bell once again brings a capital company to this theatre with *Paul Kauvar*. The name-part gives Mr. Bell great scope for his histrionic abilities, and some very effective work is forthcoming; Mr. Lister Bunting lends admirable assistance as the brusque General Kleterre; and the General Delaroche of Mr. Arthur T. Lennard is also a capital effort. Those accomplished actresses Misses Frances and Violet Campbell are in the leading female parts, and present them with rare fidelity; whilst the Scarlotte of Miss Lillie Sandland is a well-sustained and convincing effort.

EMPIRE.—Moss Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—The Elliott-Savonas are this week presenting their marvellous musical enteranment *the Palace of Orpheus*, and the act compels a great show of demonstrative appreciation nightly; Chris. Richards, "the man with the hat," is original and vastly amusing; the clever Lukushima Troupe arouse much enthusiasm with their wonderful Japanese performance; uproarious comedy is supplied by the Karno Four; the Four Royal Welshmen are very popular with vocal contributions; Herbert Darnley's Dots do a clever coon speciality turn, which is much enjoyed; Frobel and Ruge, with comic aerial act, have a good time; and the Kirkbys, comedy duo, and Frank Couch, comedian, are also well liked.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter De Frece.—*The Sioux* is the leading feature of the week's entertainment here, and in the principal figure—that of a tamed gorilla—Mr. Arthur Conquest acts with realistic effect; Galetti's Monkeys are a source of much merriment; Frank Cass, the popular vocal comedian, stands high in public favour; whilst J. C. Morris and Walter Wallis, comedians, are also appearing with good success. That clever comedienne and dancer Mignonette Kokin is having a successful week; Rene Ring, the lady juggler, does a novel turn; and the pictures are again entertaining.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Thos. Barrasford; Managers, Mr. Chas. Weldon and Mr. Claude Shayler.—Another of Mr. John Tiller's musical extravaganzas, *A Trip to Paris*, is the outstanding feature here, and a lively presentation is much enjoyed; a feast of fun is provided by the comedians, of whom there are three in the bill, Lawrence Barclay, Walter Wade, and Charles Somers, and all have a good reception; Sam Spira does a novel and enjoyable turn at the piano; Bert Williams is a ventriloquist of more than average ability; Carl Lynn is very successful with mimicry; the Brontes are to the fore with a capital comedy sketch; and Satsuma, a juvenile magician, effectively mystifies his audience.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Jones.—Those very smart patter comedians and dancers Sanford and Lyons top the bill here, and are extremely popular; the La Faille Troupe are a wonderfully fine company of equilibrists, their feats arousing much enthusiasm; Little Cliff is an entertaining juvenile, his eccentric dancing being specially good; Sterling and Love present a vocal and instrumental comedy act with good success; the Three Sisters Kilner are very attractive in song and dance; Bromley and Fontein do a mirthful turn; Frank Coyle is a smart and popular comedian; and Irene Rose, comedienne, completes the bill.

LEICESTER.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; General and Business-Manager, Mr. Henry Dundas.—Mr. Edmund Tearle and company in a round of classical plays is the attraction this week. On Monday, in *The Three Musketeers*, the gifted actor was a most pronounced success as D'Artagnan; Miss Kate Clinton as Miladi displayed histrionic ability; as Cardinal Richelieu, Mr. Bernhardt Turner was very good; and both Mr. G. T. Greig as King Louis XIII. and Mr. Clifford Marle as George Villiers were responsible for excellent portrayals. Miss Mary Campbell was all that could be desired as Ann of Austria; and Miss Esther Tearle as Constance may be congratulated on an excellent performance. As Athos, Porthos, and Aramis, Mr. Alfred D. Adams, Mr. Ernest Lodge, and Mr. R. H. Lace were well placed; and as Boniface Mr. Joseph Keogh proved most amusing. *Othello, Macbeth,* and *Julius Cæsar* are also underlined for presentation.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. E. R. Beaumont.—The favourite detective drama, *£1,000 Reward*, is being presented here this week by Messrs. Frank J. Pitt and Charles Halling's No. 1 Company. Mr. Charles Halling scores a success as Vincent Rainsworth; Mr. Frank Dallis is good as Inspector Gilbert; Mr. Fred Wilberforce as Gilbert Lisle plays well; and Mr. Frank J. Pitt as Fred Ingleford is excellent. Miss Daisy Halling is deserving of high praise as Mme. Sanson; both Miss Crissie Francess as Kitty and Mr. George Scully as Dick Springthorpe are popular and amusing; Miss Lynn Darlington is a capital Meg; Mr. Arthur Merton merits praise as Fighting Jepps; and Mrs. Sidney Halling as Mrs. McCarthy and Mr. J. Newton Cowling as Fred Ingleford, sen., should also be commended.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Bertram G. Iles.—The usual enthusiasm is being accorded here this week to Vesta Tilley, whose popularity never seems to wane. The charming and talented little lady is introducing two new songs, entitled "When the right girl comes along" and "Part of a policeman's duty," which allow for the display of her great versatility. She also gives, to the accompaniment of the heartiest applause, the old favourites, "Jolly good luck to the girls" and "Following in father's footsteps." On Monday the popular idol was the recipient of a handsome bouquet from her admirers. The Howes (Rowland and Kitty) astound the audience with their mental telepathy; the Brothers Horne create roars of laughter; Mlle. Vonetta, lady illusionist and protean artist, scores a well-deserved success; Olive Tree sings exceedingly well; Allis and Cassati are amusing in comedy and dancing; Lady Fauntleroy is an entertaining ventriloquist; May Evans an excellent character comedienne; and the Bioscope is also a feature.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joe Lawrence; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Samson.—The utmost merriment is extracted by Fred Moule and E. D. Nicholl's company from the comic tragedy, entitled *The Battle of the Belles*. The dramatic sketch, entitled *A Husband's Vengeance*, is also being played. Tiny Arnold, a diminutive, but exceedingly clever and versatile, artist, makes a big hit. Other artists giving good "shows" are Beale and Broadway, comedians; the Brothers Idento, speciality artists; and Joe Dale, character vocalist. Walter H. Pallister's pictures still remain a special feature.

LEIGH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Cragg; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Rousby.—Miss Florence Baines and company are paying a successful return visit with *Miss Lancashire, Limited*. Miss Baines continues to score as Mary Ellen Thompson; Miss Kitty Jones makes a captivating Eva Lancashire; Mr. Bert Burton gives a good rendering of Isadore Moses; Mr. David Donaldson is an excellent John Higgins; and Mr. Walter Hicks deserves great praise as Grant, Mr. Hall Menzies presents a neat character-sketch of William Henry Thompson.

LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—The successful drama, *An Abandoned Woman*, well played by Mr. Harry Foxwell's company, provides very interesting entertainment here. Miss Octavia Noel, in the leading rôle of Ninon, gives a very powerful and artistic interpretation; the male villain is vigorously and convincingly portrayed by Mr. Richard Ferris; and the parts of the hero and heroine are capably acted by Mr. Walli Spinner and Miss May Richardson. Mr. Will Glaze gives invaluable aid as Sammy Sharp; and the comic relief is cleverly developed by Mr. Jim K. Woods as Paddy Boyle and Miss Elsie Deane's Sally Sloper. Praiseworthy work is also done by Mr. George Gormerly as Sir Marmaduke Seaton, Mr. Charles Grant as Sergeant Stubbles, Mr. P. Morton Wright as Robert Saunders, and Miss Lily Addison as La Celeste.

LIVERPOOL.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—*The Belle of New York* has been the attraction here this week. In the title-rôle Miss Empsie Bowman exercised much versatility; Mr. Frank Lawton raised endless laughter with his Blinky Bill; an amusing Bronson came from Mr. Paddy Dupres; the Fifi of Miss Lily Maxwell was eminently pleasing, both her singing and acting winning loud applause; Miss Winnie Browne made a stately Cora; Mr. J. R. Tate was clever as the polite lunatic; and the dancing of Miss Hersee earned for that able artist much appreciation.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE. — Managing-Directors, Messrs. E. Stevens and R. C. Buchanan; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—*Charley's Aunt* is here again. Mr. Spencer Trevor with his Babberley raised screams of laughter, as of yore; Mr. Richard B. Mason and Mr. Hastings Lynn were his conspiring companions; Miss Lena MacNaughton played most successfully as Donna Lucia; Mr. Walter Beaumont submitted an excellent Spettigue; and Mr. Sydney Compton knew his work well in the rôle of Colonel Chesney. *The Lancashire Sailor*, also by Brandon Thomas, was a curtain-raiser.

ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—*Second to None* has made its initial appearance in Liverpool, and done good business. Included in Mr. T. Edward Ward's company are Mr. Jerrold Heather, who does exceedingly well as Harry Wilding; Miss Ward, a charming Nell Greystone; Miss Violet Ennis Lawson, who gave an admirable interpretation of May Greystone; Mr. James Stillwell, a typical scoundrel by the name of Captain Mannering; Mr. J. G. Maine, from whom came a capital portrait of Sergeant Horseman; Mr. Lewis Norman, a dignified Sir Reginald Greystone; Mr. Horace Booth (Frank Wilding), and Miss Maudie Grayson, a humorous Norah.

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—*The Power of the Cross* has been presented here this week. Mr. George De Gray, the author, plays with telling effect the rôle of the mysterious Curzola; Mr. Charles E. Linney does justice to Gerald Fairfax; Mr. Alexander J. Haviland handles the rôle of Dr. Fairfax with discretion; Miss Marie Menzies affords every satisfaction as Margaret Seaton; the part of Rita Lascelles is in the able keeping of Miss Cicely Desmonde; and good support comes from Messrs. Frank Stephens (Benjamin Hawke), R. E. Nugent (Timothy O'Dowd), and Miss Phyllis Vaughan (Blanche Kingsley).

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—Edwin Boyde's songs and business have been hugely enjoyed; another acceptable turn is that given by Harry Brown, a coloured comedian, with quaint ways; Will Vay's Juveniles supply a neat comedy scena, entitled *Life in the Slums*; some clever playing on xylophones comes from the Five Vernons; much laughter follows the efforts of Ernest Recco in showing "How to become an acrobat"; though blind, Mons. Slippere exhibits remarkable ability as a pianist, and sings well; Hope and Wayho submit popular scenes from the works of Dickens; an exceedingly humorous trifle, entitled *Cockie*, is played by Roxborough and Wright; Bertha Zander renders several acceptable illustrated songs; Roze and Calvert are a smart comedy couple; and Lillie Soutter earns the hearty reception she has for her songs.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. W. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—The "Royal" Stock dramatic company are putting on well-known pieces each week. *A Day Will Come*, written by W. J. Mackay, was given on Monday. Mr. Cecil Ravenswood was a dignified Sir Geoffrey Thornhill; Mr. Harry Tresham filled the rôle of Walter Barclay most efficiently; as the villainous Marsland, Mr. Sydney Grant played with dramatic strength; Mr. Robert Wilton well suited Nickson; and endless laughter followed the humorous work of Mr. Percy Boucher; Miss Nellie Bonser was a sweet Violet Thornhill; and Miss Beryl Ravenswood did justice to Mabel Murray.

PADDINGTON PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. N. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Edwards.—The "Royal" Stock company are here this week staging *On Circumstantial Evidence*, by Charles Clifford. Mr. Wallace Campbell plays with undoubted ability the rôle of Lieut. John Ogilby; Mr. Frank S. Strickland makes Captain Hamilton sufficiently villainous; Mr. H. G. Brandon raises endless laughter as Jeremiah Tobin; a well-rendered character is that of General Garibaldi by Mr. Hesslegrave; as the spy Antonio, Mr. Francis E. Wybert acts with distinction; Miss Lina Nazeby undertakes the rôles of the sisters Olga and Mary Brandoni with credit; Miss Gladys Hastings-Walton gives a capital representation of Violet Ogilvy; and in the lighter part of Polly Smithers, Miss Florence Barnes is very merry.

PARK PALACE.—Proprietors, Lancashire Vaudeville Syndicate, Ltd.; General-Director, Mr. Walter De Frece.—*A Woman Adrift*, from the pen of William McClellan, is being produced here by the able stock company in charge of Mr. Albert Sember. That efficient actor, in the rôle of Roderic, affords the utmost satisfaction, and comes in for a large measure of applause; Mr. Walter Foster, as Pedro, adds strength to the play; Mr. Hugh Carmichael is well placed with the character of Sir John Ingleby; Mr. Will Percy does credit to Dennis; and useful work also comes from Miss Lilian Burns (Cora Leigh), Miss Violet Barley-Clarke (Molly), and Miss Nelson-Ramsay (Stella). The Park Palace bioscope has the latest pictures.

HAYMARKET.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. Edwin W. Smith.—Harry Calden and company, whose dramatic sketches have occupied the stage here for months with great success, are this week giving *A Soldier's Luck*; Billy Richardson, who for a generation was the famous stump speaker in Liverpool of the celebrated Hague's Minstrels, has had a hearty re-welcome; Fred Roden proved exceedingly funny; and several appreciated songs came from May Oldfield.

WESTMINSTER.—Lessee, Mr. Fred E. Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—Shang Hia is mystifying everybody with his strange illusions; Emmie Ames, the popular comedienne, with her Christmas tree, is given a most complimentary reception; Renee Walton, and her clever boy comedian, Master Willie, render some taking songs and duets; as dainty duettists and dancers, the Sisters Brooks are a good turn; the Adderley Bros. prove exceedingly diverting with their patter and mimicry; and also in the list are Harry Bancroft, character vocalist; and Arthur Richards, comedian. The bioscope is up to date.

OLYMPIA, LTD.—District-Manager, Mr. Albert Bulmer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wighton.—*Tally Ho*, the water spectacle, puts in a third and last week. Chas Fulbrook and company have an exceedingly funny sketch in *Astronomy*; Nipper Lupino Lane, the clever little comedian, commands the close attention of his audience, all of whom he pleases immensely; the lifelike impersonations of leading variety artists by D'Arc's Marionettes is an uncommonly smart show; the wonderfully rapid dancing of the Molassos is watched with interest; an appreciated musical and animal act is provided by the Lupino Bros.; Edie King sings and dances with taste; the Howards (Ralph and Nellie) have a capital musical turn; and Kitty Marion is a comedienne with taking songs.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Marie Lloyd is pleasing everybody with her old and new successes. Herbert Darnley's Comedians, with their *Moving In*, were a source of much fun; the singing and dancing of the Szarvasi Ferency troupe was pretty and pleasing; one of the most appreciated turns was that of Theo Bouwmeester and company with the sketch, *Who is Guilty?* in the course of which that agile artist presents seven distinct characters; some smart work as an equilibrist comes from Kioto; as comedians and patterers, the O'Gorman Bros. keep their audience in a merry humour; and also in the list are Fred Keeton, eccentric comedian; Madge Temple, comedienne; and Bob Hamilton, comedian.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors, Liverpool Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. James Marks.—Jan Rudenyi has made himself popular with his wonderful playing of the violin. He is ably assisted by Dora De Winton and Joan Saunders. Arthur Reece has a hearty reception for his taking songs, especially "When there isn't a girl about"; Hanvaar and Anna Lee present an excellent juggling and acrobatic speciality, *The Golfer and the Maid*; Bliss and Bliss prove themselves popular comedians; J. H. McCann gives a smart exhibition on roller skates; and others in the list are Florence Deighton, vocalist; Johnson and Pelham, with a comedy pot-pourri; and Amy Sullivan, comedienne.

LLANELLY.—ROYALTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Z. Andrews; Acting-Manageress, Miss Alice Rocheforte.—One of the greatest attractions of the season is the visit of the celebrated Fred Karno's Troupe of comedians, who appear with unbounded success in *The Mumming Birds* and *The Early Birds*. Included in the company are the clever and charming Sisters Lavender, singers and dancers; the Miltons, a good comedy pair; Charles Denton, a first-class comedian; Lillie Stuart, an attractive comedienne and dancer; and Lincoln and Warren, trick cyclists.

LOWESTOFT. — HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert; Manager, Mr. Frank Freeland.—Splendid business continues to be done at this establishment, which is always distinguished by an entertainment of a high order of merit. The pictures are most attractive, and the variety performances are full of interest. The inimitable Leo Tell, master mimic, heads the bill, and, amongst others, Miss Ada Gatley and Mr. Geo. Young, champion concertina player, score heavily.

LUTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Manager, Mr. Louis J. Beard.—Mr. Swinerd's company in *Dare-Devil Dorothy* is paying a return visit here this week. Miss Desmond sings and plays well as Dorothy; Miss Nellie Harcourt as Judith captivates the audience; Miss Mabel Blake and Miss Lillie Blake are clever dancers; Mr. Bert Edwards as Silas Crump causes great merriment; Mr. W. Ashley ably personates Captain Geo. Fielding; and Mr. H. C. Ward successfully portrays Captain E. Dudley.

MACCLESFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Gatley.—Packed houses nightly testify to the popularity of the Royal Star Pierrots and Vaudeville Company, which is here for a short season, Miss Eva Barlow, in illustrated songs, being quite a favourite; Mr. James Mackenzie, coon singer and dancer, is enthusiastically received; Taylor Snowball is most amusing; Miss Flo Varley is a pleasing vocalist; and Master Eugene Maccabe, boy vocalist, uses a fine voice to good effect. The Mills-Farren turn is smart; and the Four Verona Girls, vocalists and dancers, are entertaining.

MAIDENHEAD.—PAVILION PLEASURE GARDENS.—Proprietor, Mr. G. Gude.—A season of al fresco concerts opened here on Monday last, when an excellent entertainment was given to a good audience by the troupe of Pavilion Cadets, Miss Adelaide Twort (soprano vocalist), Miss Gertie Lovedale (comedienne and dancer), and Mr. Alec Tyson (solo pianist and accompanist), who were all accorded the hearty reception due to old friends. The new members are Leo Fallowfield, a capital versatile comedian; Wallace Bosco, baritone; and Phil Rabey, comedian. The concluding item this week is a laughable sketch, entitled *The Coming Man*.

MAIDSTONE.—HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. S. Baskerville.—A good programme is headed by Diamond and Beatrice, clever instrumentalists; Fred Elton is a popular society entertainer; Miss May Marton, on a return visit, is as successful as ever; the Brothers Bright are in the front rank of acrobats and equilibrists; and Mlle. Yetta, on the tight wire, does some clever and skilful feats. The Clarion Trio, in their comedy sketch, *The Would-be Tenor;* and Mr. Harry Sims, comedian, together with the Bioscope, complete the bill.

MANCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmondstone Shirra.—Mr. John Hart presented here on Monday *A Message from Mars*. A very clever company includes Mr. Arthur Holmes-Gore in a distinctly good interpretation of Horace Parker; Miss Joan Ellis plays Minnie Templar in a natural and convincing style; Mr. William H. Brougham is excellent in the difficult rôle of the Messenger from Mars; Mr. Bruce Lindley is capital as the Tramp; and as Dicey, the American, Mr. Thomas Holding contributes a notably good performance. Among the remainder of a long and adequate cast Miss Flora Hastings makes a very acceptable Miss Parker.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, the United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—A huge audience was attracted here on Monday by the appearance of Miss Ellaline Terriss and Mr. Seymour Hicks in their successful musical comedy, *The Beauty of Bath*. The enjoyment of the audience was great, and manifested itself by most enthusiastic appreciation of the charming acting and singing of Miss Terriss and the unflagging gaiety and resource of Mr. Seymour Hicks. The company, as a whole, is fine, and among many who made their mark during the evening special mention is due to the very smart comic acting of Master Valchera and the really excellent comedy of Miss Sydney Fairbrother as Mrs. Goodge. Miss Florence Lloyd was quite successful as Alington's mother; Miss Maudi Darrell made a lively Truly St. Cyr; Mr. Stanley Brett acted well as Beverley; Mr. Laurence Caird was amusing as Lord Quorn; and Mr. E. W. Royce filled the rôle of the Earl of Orpington in capable style. The staging of the piece is, of course, brilliant.

GAIETY THEATRE. — Proprietors, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. M. Thorburn.—Mr. Eugene C. Stafford's company is playing here this week in *The Private Secretary*. The old comedy has lost none of its power to amuse, and it is rendered in excellent spirit from first to last. Miss Dora Gray is conspicuously good as Edith Marsland, and Mr. Donald Price-Evans is very entertaining as the Rev. Robert Spalding. Others of the company—notably Mr. W. E. Torrington—have opportunities also in the one-act curtain-raiser, *Good for Nothing*.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—Hardie and Von Leer's company are doing good business here this week with *Two Little Vagabonds*. Miss Edie Martin and Miss Josie Beltram play the title-parts cleverly; and the essential business of the story is vigorously carried on by Mr. Arthur Melbourne as George Thornton, Mr. Sidney Vautier as Captain Darville, Mr. Lionel Ellis as Mullins, Miss Grace Haywood as Marion Thornton, and Miss Rosslyn Vayne as Barbara Scarth, all of whom act with excellent effect. The play, as a whole, is exciting and well staged.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hearn.—Hayley's latest production, *The Garden of Girls*, is a delightful scena, introducing some sweet singing and excellent dancing; Simbri, the Burmese magician, is very clever with wonderful illusions; the Lombartis, five gymnasts, give a smart display; and the Gentrys, in a refined comedy and acrobatic speciality, are good. Greener, the pit lad, sings well; Kendrick and Laura, singers and dancers, prove very popular; the Jollions are sweet harmonising vocalists; Victor Courtney in *The Boots' Lament* is entertaining; and other enjoyable items are those of the Spangelettis, with their well-trained animals; and George Hyam, comedian. The pictures are interesting.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE—Lessee, Mr. Richard Flanagan; Manager, Mr. P. Ryan Smith.—In *The Triumph of Truth*, a strong drama, French in interest, played by Mr. Roland Yorke's company here this week, Mr. Henry Lonsdale as Count D'Orville and Miss Gertrude Bonser as the twin sisters Anstruther have excellent opportunities for the display of their abilities, and their efforts are ably seconded by Mr. Frank King as Captain Jack Eversleigh, Miss Gertrude Hunt as Blanche le Croix, Miss Florence Halton as Coralie, and Mr. Fred de Vere as Tommy Woodhead. The drama is thoroughly interesting and well played.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Dry.—Mr. T. Arthur Jones and company are the attraction here this week in *Life's Sweetest Sins*. The story is interesting, and the staging includes the novel spectacle of a submarine boat afloat—a highly successful scene. The company is thoroughly capable. Mr. T. Arthur Jones plays Captain Marston in heroic style, and Miss Marie Daventry is excellently sympathetic in the corresponding rôle of Doreen Rivers. Other good parts are cleverly handled by Mr. Oswald Douglas, Mr. Edgar Morgan, Mr. George Bignell, and Miss Marion Armitage.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Berry.—Mr. Flanagan's company are playing *The Corsican Brothers* successfully this week. It is preceded by *The Area Belle*.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—The top star here this week is Queenie Leighton, who gives several character songs with capital effect. Dutch Daly occupies also a prominent position, and repeats his well-known patter and musical entertainment. Very good turns are added by May Henderson, the merry coon song-and-dance artist; Harry Grey, the Australian comedian; Olive Armidale, comedienne; Lola Patey, a burlesque actress with a nice singing voice; Lilleth Leyton and John Spurling, in *The Order of the Bath;* the Kroney Brothers "the lazy coalmen"; and the Cambrian Trio of lady vocalists.

HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—Mme. Alice Esty remains here another week, with great success. Chung-Ling-So is highly entertaining in his conjuring act, and meets with a flattering reception; the Gothams are excellent singers, and are refreshingly funny with quaint business; the charming Sisters Geretti, graceful gymnasts, are well received; and the wonderful performance of Belloni's cockatoos is much appreciated. Other capital items are provided by Ethel Ra Leslie, who sings nicely; Lilian Dundas, in a dramatic episode, entitled *The Doom of Delilah;* and Bert Byrne, comedian. Two enjoyable vocal items by the choir and funny pictures on the Bioscope complete the programme.

KING'S (Longsight).—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. B. Taylor.—Mr. B. Crabtree's company is very funny here this week in a sketch, entitled *The Village Free-and-Easy*. A gorgeous spectacular transformation scena, "The Enchanted Glen," is introduced with great success by the Zerbini's Troupe of seven Continental musical speciality artists; Howell Webb and company are good in a dramatic sketch, *The Galley Slave;* and other excellent turns are provided by Marie Blythe, a popular contralto; J. H. Dundas, actor-vocalist; Shavo, juggler; Landon Brothers, novel comedy acrobatic contortionists; and Walter Curtis, humorous entertainer.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter de Frece; Secretary, Mr. Peter Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—Clark and Hamilton, top of the bill, provide an excellent turn here this week; and the Tom Davies' Trio present their sensational act, motoring in mid-air. The Melton Ray's company of comedians are seen in *The Cruise of the Calabar;* Kartelli performs wonders on the wire; Dan Robans, operatic vocalist, sings well; Rosie Archer, lady mimic at the piano, is very well received; and other enjoyable turns are Daisy Martell, comedienne and dancer; Alburtus and Miller, the smart juggling eccentric and lady cornetist; and Will Johnson, comedian. The Palace pictures portray latest events.

TIVOLI. — Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Dan Crawley, the popular eccentric comedian, tops the bill here this week, and is vastly amusing; Evelyn de Worms is a charming vocalist, and is deservedly well received; Fred Casy is a funny comedian of the eccentric order; Webb and Edna Branston, duettists, sing well; Charles Santon, a clever double-voiced vocalist, is good; Dorothy Clarke is a delightful singer; good dancing is done by Newco and Sullo, comedians; and enjoyable turns are offered by Edie Stewart, comedienne and dancer; and the Three Tivoli Girls, vocalists and speciality dancers.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—Miss Agnes Molteno and company are seen here this week in a novel song-scena, entitled *An Old-time Story; or, A Dolly and a Coach*, with living tableaux, beautiful scenery, and excellent lighting effects. Cliff Ryland, the "stolid man," is as funny as ever; Herbert Lloyd, the well-known Diamond King, is good, as usual; and Lily Gaston is an excellent top-boot dancer. Adams and Rouse are good in their new-style singing playlet; Mme. Sims Reeves is an accomplished vocalist; and smart items are contributed by Fame and Fortune, acrobats and dancers; Cleland, "earthquake juggler"; and Vinnia Loftus, Tyrolean singer. "Wanted, a Husband!" the subject of the pictures, is amusing.

HIPPODROME (HULME).—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Kay.—Messrs. Sydney Dooley and Charles Seymour's company is here this week in that delightful musical comedy, *A King for a Day*, in which Will Letters makes a big hit as Senor Carrara. The piece is well staged, the dresses are pretty, and the chorus, under the direction of the author and composer, Mr. George Sheldon, is good. Derenda and Green give a smart juggling turn, and La Troupe Espagnole Juanitos are clever in their acrobatic act. Alf. Ripon is a Scotch ventriloquist of merit; Guy Ryder is an efficient whistler; Fred Dornon, actor-vocalist, is well received; and other good turns are those of Juan and McQue, eccentric comedians; J. C. Scatter, comedian and dancer; and Taylor and May, coloured artists. The pictures are very interesting.

RUSHOLME PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Leslie; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles North.—An excellent programme here this week includes the following popular artists:—Little Dott Moss, toy comedienne and dancer; Tommy Nelldon, comedian; Arthur Beasle, comedian; Jake Dayle, coon singer and dancer; Charles North, baritone; Lena Percival, soprano; and Lucy Wilson, at the piano.

MANSFIELD.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, Mansfield, Sutton, and District Theatres, Ltd.; General-Manager, Captain Cecil Clayton. — Miss Lena Stanton and Mr. Harry Josephs' company is here this week with the musical play, *The Bluecoat Boy*. Miss Lena Stanton (a great favourite here), in the rôle of Billy, was very successful; Miss Nora Neville scored as Dolly Dickory; Mr. Bruce Green was an amusing Dame Dickory; Mr. Harry Joseph was well placed as Squire Longacre; and Little Keeno did well as the Page.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Herbert Darnley; Resident-Director, Mr. Tom Jennings; Acting-Manager, Mr. Mark Lorne.—Mr. Samuel James's company is here in *As Good as Gold*. Mr. Fred Lloyd plays the part of Lieut. Jack Stanton in a satisfactory manner; Mr. Jackson Hayes powerfully portrays the villainies of Sir Richard Wharncliffe; as Mark Williams, Mr. Clinton Baddeley is successful; Miss Isla Garnet Vane, in the exacting part of Nora Williams, gives evidence of ability; Miss Agnes Collier as Kate D'Arville is well placed; Miss Bertha Baker wins great appreciation; and Mr. Joseph Rowlands is quite at home in the rôle of Timothy Nias. In the comedy parts of Horatio Spanks and Madge Merry, Mr. Herbert Fuller and Miss Maud Merrick respectively are very successful.

MARGATE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr Edward Michael; Stage and Business-Manager, Mr. A. Austin-Leigh.—This week the Margate Stock Company has been playing the comedy *The Prude's Progress*. Miss May Saker played the title-part exceedingly well; Mr. Robert Grey has been well placed as Ted Morris; while the part of Mr. Ben Dixon, L.C.C., M.V.A., was admirably sustained by Mr. H. G. Mason. Mr. A. Austin-Leigh works hard as Jack Medbury, the young artist; Mr. Wallis Clark gives a capital impersonation of the character of Adam Cherry; Mr. H. W. Wells is good as Theodore Travers; Miss Emmie O'Reilly played particularly well on Monday evening as Mrs. Wheedles, the

BUCHANAN'S
"BLACK & WHITE"
THE WHISKY OF WORLD WIDE REPUTE

Bloomsbury lodging-house keeper, but owing to an unfortunate accident on Tuesday a substitute had to be found for the remainder of the week in Miss Mary Ford, who undertook the part at two hours' notice; Miss Mabel Archdall made a charming Nellie Morris; and Miss Belle Travers was a success as Primrose Deane.

THE HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtree.—The bill is headed by the Brothers Luck in their side-splitting pantomime sketch *The Hotel Grande*. In a second appearance they are equally as mirth-provoking with *The Demon of the Cellar*; Gladys Warren, comedienne and dancer, has been well received; Charles Ulrick, foot equilibrist, is again welcomed heartily; and Fred Hallam is an amusing entertainer. Benson and Geoffrey, in their comedy duologue *A Little Piece of Bacon*, and the Hippodrome pictures conclude.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Albert Jackson.—The Harvey Boys head the bill here in their boxing act; Robins and Collier successfully appear in a musical comedy scena, *The Lady and the Porter*; Mountford and Wallace, society entertainers, are pleasing; and other good turns are provided by Edie Gray, Bessie Travers, Lester May, Adey Spencer, and Kisbey.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—Graig, Rose, and Graig, dental athletes, are paying a return visit; Morimura, Japanese illusionist, proves entertaining; Mlle. Bartenelli is a clever lady gymnast; and others who contribute are the Boultons, speciality artists; Charles Clifford, harpist; and Kay and Miles, eccentric jugglers.

DRILL HALL.—Mr. Charles Poole's Myriorama is here this week. The pictures are up to date, and the variety programme forms a pleasing feature of the entertainment.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. H. Melton.—Ediscope and Barnum's Animated Picture Company is this week presenting here a capital series of films, including the Ediscope singing pictures. In addition, a number of first-class variety turns are given by Vic Verney, whistling comedian; the Two Vervains, coon singers and dancers; Queenie Vane, comedienne; Mlle. Corletti, vocalist; Stilvo, American stilt performer; Mons. Reni, with a wonderfully intelligent dog; the Cedrics, refined comedy speciality artists; and Vela, in a daring wire act.

MIDDLESBROUGH. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Charles Imeson.—*Dr. Wake's Patient* is being played here this week by Mr. Charles Macdona's company. The part of Dr. Forrester Wake, which is assigned to Mr. Lawrence Grant, is sustained in a way that leaves nothing to be desired; Miss Fyfe Alexander makes a charming Lady Wyn-Charteret; and the rôle of Andrew Wake finds a capable exponent in Mr. Alfred Ibberson. Miss Georgie Trewnean is exceedingly pleasing and vivacious as the Countess Olbyn; and Mr. Paul Lovett is very effective as Earl Olbyn. Miss Kathleen Ferrers is sprightly as Janifer; and Mr. Allan Pollock does full justice to the rôle of Duff Winterden. Miss Kate Osborne is good as Mrs. Wake; and as the Bishop of Selby Mr. Adam Alexander is very successful.

OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Ker Chatto.—Though the Lord Chamberlain has precluded the performance of *The Mikado* at this place of amusement this week, it did not prevent the people of Middlesbrough according a hearty welcome to the members of the Middlesbrough Amateur Operatic Society on Monday night, when they presented *The Yeomen of the Guard*.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Brill; Manager, Mr. Charles Rembges. — The Courtiers provide the star turn here this week, and they score a great success; Erneste, the human orchestra, makes a great hit; and Mark Melford and company cause roars of laughter in a sketch entitled *Non-suited*. Francis and Alfred give a clever juggling turn; and Farrell and Miller, comedy artists, are well received. Belle Harcourt, vocal comedienne, pleases; and other acceptable items are given by the Three Luna Girls, vocalists and dancers; and Arthur J. Hill, in his lilliputian act.

OXFORD PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Alf. Graham; Manager, Mr. R. L. Griffiths.—An entertaining programme is presented here this week. Harry Tate's company, in their sketch *Fishing*, create roars of laughter; as do also Farley, Rennie, and Farley, in a sketch entitled *Fun at a Railway Station*. *The Phantom Ship*, presented by the Three Phantos, is also very good; and Frank Cass, vocal comedian, is accorded a favourable reception. George Prince, a "crazy comic," pleases; and other turns are provided by Flo Banks, Baker and Balfe, and George Prince.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—Mr. C. St. John Denton's company appear at the Royal this week in the popular musical comedy, *Kitty Grey*. In the title-rôle Miss Hilda Guiver displays charming vivacity, her songs being rendered with much taste; Miss Eily Helene is a delightful Lady Benfield; and Mr. Leslie Harris, in the rôle of Lord Plantagenet, arouses the greatest merriment. As Sir John Benfield, Miss Josie Hatton plays the part of the lover with skill; and Mr. Robert Whyte, jun., as the King of Illyria, is very good. All the subordinate parts are ably undertaken.

TYNE THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessees, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe.—Mrs. Russ Whytal and company commenced a week's engagement here on Monday with *Twelfth Night*. Mrs. Russ Whytal, with a stage presence entirely effective, a pleasant voice, and an excellent facial expression, was pathetic as Viola and a gentle and timorous Cesario. In the rôle of Olivia, Miss Ada Marcus was conspicuously successful; whilst Mr. G. S. Titheradge as Malvolia well rendered the conceit and vanity of the swollen-headed steward. Mr. Eardley Turner's Toby Belch had many claims for recognition; and the general support to the artists mentioned was very sound. Other plays announced for the week were *The Merchant of Venice, The School for Scandal, Romeo and Juliet, Much Ado About Nothing*, and *As You Like It*.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon.—Witty Wattie Walton, one of the oldest and most popular of comedians in Newcastle, bears the lion's share of the work in *The Pet of the Embassy*, which is being well received by large audiences at this theatre this week. As Hilda Graham, the Pet of the Embassy, Miss Ethel Dunford acts gracefully; and all the other characters are ably presented by the members of Messrs. C. Hamilton Baines and H. Keates Hales's company.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—George Kirk and company in a sensational drama, entitled *Grip; or the Fatal Hand*, a piece absorbing the complete attention of the house during the time it occupies the stage, hold a leading place in the programme at the Empire. Amy Russell is a charming comedienne, singing with great power and culture; and Arthur Gill's imitation of the different parts in glee singing is quite remarkable. Miss Madge Grey causes much amusement with her dialect recitations; and an established favourite in Tom Costello commands both laughter and plaudits. Others in a good bill of fare are Spry and Monti, in *The Dandy Guardsman*; the Dorell Sisters, duettists and dancers; the New Macs, comedians and patterers; and "Lively" Lily Langtry.

PAVILION THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. Will H. Boardman.—A capital burlesque on the suffragette movement, entitled *The Policeman's Ballet*, is presented by Freddie French and company, and much appreciated by large and enthusiastic audiences. George D'Albert's songs prove very acceptable; and Frederic Voelker, a remarkably clever violinist, provides a good turn, in which he is well assisted by Mrs. Voelker as piano accompanist. Ted Lowen, described as the "new style comedian," is very quaint and funny; and George Antil is also a popular turn. In trick bicycle riding the Wetswoods are exceptionally clever; and a drawing-room entertainment by Miss Helen Charles is one of the best items of the programme. The Meymotts, in a diverting comedy duologue, entitled *Semi-Detached*; Pyck, Tholl, and Taylor, in *The Dancing Master*; and the Two Kays, in a scena named *The Nightingales*, all meet with well-deserved recognition.

NORTHAMPTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Seddon.—Mr. Eade Montefiore is here this week presenting *The Streets of London*. Mr. William Rokeby is an excellent Badger; and Mr. Gerald Kennedy is very good as Gideon Bloodgood. The Puffy family are well represented by Mr. Joe Bracewell, Miss Helena Rigby, and Miss Florence Moore. Miss Dorothy Mayhew appears to advantage as Alida Bloodgood; and Miss Violet Hammersley makes an excellent Lucy Fairweather.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Thos. A. Evans.—Heading the bill are the Seldoms, in their "nudeparture"; another pretty and popular show is A Ba Be, a series of living postcards, excellently arranged; Mephisto gives a clever turn; Mabel Sinclair is an engaging and talented ventriloquist; Francis and Stewart appear in a sketch, *The 100 to 1 Chance*; Edith Manley gains applause for her extempore versification; Leslie Digby furnishes comic songs; and Clement Vincent shows some popular views of Canada.

NORTH SHIELDS. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—A large audience assembled here on Monday evening to welcome Mr. Tom H. Taylor's company with *The Female Swindler*. As Jack Coulson, Mr. John Millane gave an able rendition of the character; and Mr. John Belton was a capital Abraham Mikestein. Mr. J. Knox Orde made the most of Geoffrey Warden; and Mr. A. Keynon Gray was good as James Oliver. Mr. Guy P. Ellis was effective as Harold Travers; Mr. Henry Wright was smart in the dual rôles of Lord Hitchitt and Billy Binks; and Mr. D. Winstone successfully portrayed Detective Dixon. As Lu Valroy, Miss Grace E. Leslie made a decided hit; Miss Florence Kelsey was all that could be desired as May Andrews; Miss Edith Gray made a satisfactory Mrs. Poppem; Miss Mary Dawson was successful as Mary Ann Mee; and the other parts were well sustained.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—Messrs. Abel and Welsh, eccentric comedians, are the chief attraction here, and cause much amusement; Miss Fanny Robina comes in for a hearty reception; and Messrs. Lord, Murray, and Lord, in *The Intruder*, have made a great hit. Miss Florrie Cooper renders her songs in good style; Mr. Ormonde Penstone, assisted by Isaanco, are smart illusionists; Silly Billy Elliott is a funny comedian; Mr. Alex Robson, clog-dancer, is popular; and the Bio-photoscope is still attractive.

NORTHWICH. — PIERROT PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. Glanmore Jones; Manager, Mr. Lindon Wyatt.—A crowded audience assembled for the purpose of testing the abilities of the new company, brought together by the popular proprietor, Mr. W. Glanmore Jones. Items of a varied and attractive character, presented by Messrs. Lindon Wyatt, Barry Gilmore, and Charles Howarth, comedians; Miss Flo Holroyd, contralto; Mr. Fred Temple, tenor; and Mr. Glanmore Jones, followed by illustrated songs and a series of animated pictures by the Raymond Bio-tableaux Company, resulted in a pronounced success. The enlargement of the Pavilion, and the increased comfort of tip-up seats, are much appreciated.

NORWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Baron H. Harriss's company in *The Prince of Pilsen* opened here on Monday. Mr. Harry Kilburn as Hans Wagner created much amusement; Mr. Frank Crimp was very good in acting and singing as the Prince; Miss Sophie Harriss was a charming Mrs. Maddison Crocker, her dresses being much admired; Miss Alice Nixon was successful as Nellie Wagner; Miss Connie Leon was much appreciated as Sidonie; Mr. Bernard Russell was very good as the Earl of Shrimpton; and Mr. Roy Sydney deserves praise as Lieut. Tom Wagner; Miss Ada Watson did well as Edith Adams; Mr. Ernest Gifford created fun as Francois; and Miss Mollie Wynne was well placed as Jimmie.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Coun. F. W. Fitt.—The Three Royal Dreadnoughts (Lillian, Vera, and Major Charles) create a great impression by their skill in shooting; Oswald Williams and company in mysteries and illusions are well received; Miss May Moore Duprez as the "Merry Little Dutch Girl" creates fun; Millie Payne as a comedienne is very successful; the Stanley Damerell and Cecil Rutland company in their sketch *House Full* are very amusing; J. A. Cassels, Scotch comedian, is a good turn; Harry Thurston proves a capable impersonator; and Carson Hicks pleases as a singer and dancer. The Hippo-Bio has some humorous pictures this week.

NOTTINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—Continuous laughter and applause greeted the presentation of *Amasis* on Monday last. Miss Constance Drever makes an ideal Princess, and her glorious voice and dainty acting charmed all; Mr. Roland Cunningham's fine bearing and cultured singing was well employed in the part of Prince Anhotep; the vocalism of Mr. Whitworth Milton is a real musical treat, and he acted effectively as the love-lorn scribe; Miss Madge Vincent made a sprightly exponent of Natis, whose efforts to obtain a husband were distinctly amusing; owing to the illness of Mr. Norman Salmond, the part of the High Priest was taken by Mr. Perfitt with notable success; Mr. Rutland Barrington's dry humour and quaint style of singing provided a fund of amusement; Mr. Lauri de Frece as Sebak and Mr. Reginald White as Ptolemy made an exceedingly comical pair, and their drollery excited the greatest hilarity. A solo dance by Miss Winifred Hart-Dyke also formed an attractive item, and the chorus numbers were admirably rendered under the bâton of Mr. J. Van Heuvel.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Chas. P. Cooke.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company are presenting *At Cripple Creek*. Miss Agnes Verity sustains the part of Dynamite Ann in a very commendable manner, and is ably assisted by Mr. Stanley Bedwell, who as Joe Mayfield enacts the rôle of the hero of the piece in a manly and spirited manner. Little Rosie Hopkins shows great promise of becoming a capable artist in the character of Tatto, and Miss Lily Beagle deserves special mention for her sweetly sympathetic acting as Belle Gordon. Much of the comedy of the play revolves round the persons of Reggie Harwood and Maggie Mason, and Mr. Will Hook and Miss Daisy Carlton are to be congratulated upon their clever acting of these parts. Mr. Eric Hudson realises the temperament of Martin Mason to a nicety; and is ably assisted in his villainous schemes by Mr. Oscar Power as Manuel Alvarez; whilst Mr. Arthur D. Layland is quite at home as Wahketah, the faithful Indian; and Mr. Harry Leander does well as the negro bartender. Messrs. Charles Watson, Tom Sharp, Alfred Cooper, and Edward Rochester, with Miss Norah Dillon, all work well in their respective parts.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles H. Bowmaker.—One of Mr. Harry Castle's Casey-court series, *The Casey Circus*, occupies premier place here this week, and is received in the usual uproarious fashion; Lockhart's elephants are rare specimens of clever animal training, and apparently obey Captain Taylor's slightest wish; Rosa Loader is a mimic of ability, and, at the same time, a pianist of no mean order; the Boccaccio Trio of minstrels provide entertainment of a very high standard, the mandoline solos of Signor Francia being exceptionally enjoyable; Frank Bertram and company present a very funny farce, entitled *The Chaperon*, which is well acted, and the comic interlude of O'Malley and Brown is highly appreciated. Burns and Burns in the laughable speciality, *Fun in a Museum*, score a decided success; the comical antics and humorous songs of Little Zola evoke loud and continuous applause; Jeannie Mackay adds to a fine appearance an excellent voice; and the programme is completed by a good series of films on the Bioscope.

NUNEATON.—PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE AND ENTERTAINMENTS CO., LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter J. R. Bryan.—Messrs. J. B. Shinton and Alexander Greenwood's company is here with *The Price of Her Soul*. Mr. Shinton appears with success as Lord Rolf Mandeville; Mr. Archie Gear is capital as General Demetrius; as the Hon. Algy Fraser, Mr. George Marriett is exceptionally good; and the Countess Inez Steinmetz of Miss A. M. Ryder is a praiseworthy performance.

OLDHAM.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—Mr. H. B. Irving and his company appeared here on Monday evening, and a hearty welcome was accorded them. *The Lyons Mail* was selected for the opening night, and Mr. Irving, in the dual rôle of Joseph Lesurques and Dubosc, was a great success, earning several recalls. Mr. E. Harcourt Williams was smart as Courriol, the dandy; and the comedy of Mr. Chas. Dodsworth and Mr. Tom Reynolds as Choppard and Fouinard was excellent. Mr. Frank Tyars was very good as Jerome Lesurques; Miss Sybil Noble was pleasing as Julie; and Miss Ada Mellon made a capital Janette. *King René's Daughter*, in which Miss Madge MacIntosh appeared as Iolanthe and Mr. E. Harcourt Williams as Count Tristan in a pleasing manner, preceded the drama. *The Bells* and *Charles the First* are also in the bill, the proceeds of to-day's matinee being set apart for the benefit of the Oldham Infirmary.

COLOSSEUM THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. W. Eastwood.—*A Fight for Millions* is staged here this week by Mr. Robert Perris's company. Mr. Wm. Macready as the hero, Tom Manley, plays the part well; Mr. J. Schofield is very good as Hudson Rivers; and Mr. Alec Knowles as Richard Dudley is quite capable in the heavy work he has to do. Mr. Karl H. Edwards is quickly on good terms with the audience as Willie Neverwork; and Mr. Harold Turner is capital as Soloman Moses. Miss Elma C. Turner is responsible for some fine acting as Helen Dudley, being well supported by Miss Cissie Kent as Little Madge; Miss Winifred Symons is successful as Pearl Rivers; as is Miss Edith Hook as Mrs. Rivers. Miss Rosie Kearns is also very good at Betty; while Mr. Nicolas Conway makes a capital Harold Hobbs. Mr. Tom Jones, Welsh comedian, introduces his specialities; and the remaining parts in the play are ably sustained.

ROYAL THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. Howgate.—Phil and Nettie Peters, comedy entertainers, head the bill, and provide a capital turn; Signor and Mme. Borelli give a clever and humorous entertainment which is heartily enjoyed; as a mimic, Herbert Clifton is a great success; the Brewsters contribute several items, including exercises with lance, sword, and Indian club, and some capital dances; Eva Chadwick is a good soprano vocalist; and Arthur Slater whistles with his usual success. Richards and Salving prove themselves to be marvellous equilibrists; Mr. B. Maddison's comedy company is very funny in a farcical sketch; and a good picture is depicted by the Dottoscope.

HIPPODROME. — Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. Nuttall.—Talberto and Douglas are very good in their absurd acrobatic feats; Miss Yolande Noble, chic comedienne, sings her songs in a pleasing manner; Mlle. Sylvesto, contortionist, performs some smart feats in a neat style; Drum and Major cause much laughter with their funny patter; Dene and Dawson, comedy sketch artists, have a capital skit; Chas. Beanland is a good comedian; and Golden and Grey are effective in vaudeville. New pictures are being shown by the Dottoscope.

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Lucas, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. C. Dorrill.—This week Mr. Mouillot's company in *The Girl Behind the Counter* is proving a tremendous attraction here. Mr. Arthur Cartwright plays Chetwynd in a simple, manly fashion that is highly effective; Mr. E. Holland scores a big success in his most diverting performance of General Willoughby; Mr. H. Cridland is wonderfully good as Viscount Gushington; Mr. F. Park clever as Adolphus Dudd; Mr. G. Allsopp makes an imposing Commissionaire; and the two waiters are played in quaint and amusing fashion by Messrs. A. M. Moore and W. Amery. Miss Nora Brocklebank is a handsome and interesting Winnie Willoughby, singing her songs agreeably; Miss Florence Lee scores heavily as Millie Mostyn; Miss Doris Langdon is a *chic* and bright Ninette; and Miss Rose Helen a great favourite as Susie.

EAST OXFORD THEATRE.—Lessees, Miss Winifred Stuart and Mr. C. Watson Mill; Manager, Mr. Frank Stuart.—Mr. Edward Marris's company is here with *Somebody's Sweetheart*. Mr. Cecil W. Parke makes a smart Stanton Ashleigh; and Mr. Percy Maitland is an able Stephen Leverton. Mr. Reginald Hamber does good work as Lem Lee; Mr. Frank Gala is a capital negro as Old Joe; and Mr. George Brentwood shows undoubted ability in his comical rendering of Martin Blabbs. Miss May Norris is natural as Freddie Ashleigh; and Miss Dora Hargreaves is successful as Miss Ainsley. Miss Dolly Payne as Norah and Miss Rosie Chandler as Molly contribute some effective dances. Miss Maisie Jerrad achieves great success as Zora, and sings with great taste; and Miss Elfie Vincent is winsome as Lulu.

PAISLEY.—PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—*The Corsican Brothers* is the attraction here, presented by Messrs. Metcalfe and Bland's company; Mr. Sydney Bland assumes with ability the dual rôle of Fabien and Louis; a masterly performance of Chateau Renaud is submitted by Mr. Leonard Cheetham; Mr. Robert Pittard merits praise for his impersonation of Montgiron; Mr. Arthur W. Jones fills the character of Martelli with credit; as M. Favrolles Mr. Arthur Hallet is to be commended; Mr. Ashmore Vincent makes a capital Alfred de Meynard; and a deal of humour is provided by Mr. Alfred Harvey as Colona and Mr. George Fielding as Orlando. The part of Emilie de Lesparre is faithfully and capably portrayed by Miss More-Dunphie; and Miss Katharine Herbert gives a sympathetic rendering of Mme. del Franchi.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Douglas F. Bostock.—At the head of the bill here this week is the miniature musical comedy sketch, *A Japanese Love Story*, which is performed by eight of a company; M. de Lil gives an exhibition of smart conjuring; the Sisters Cora are dainty dancers; Lilith is a mystifying illusion; Keen and Waller are a couple of original and novel eccentrics; Lilian Warren scores with her illustrated songs; Ray and Calden contribute an exceptionally clever number; Professor Hulbert, ventriloquist, has a good reception; and the Hippodrome Bioscope presents capital pictures.

PERTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. H Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge.—Miss Lydia Donovan's company is giving two performances nightly of *Her One Great Sin*. Miss Lydia Donovan is a huge success as Grace Warhurst. Mr. C. Quinton Fulford (Arnold Thornhill), Mr. G. Edward Hall (Ruben Warhurst), and Miss Nellie Lambert (Nancy Wimpenny) lend her valuable assistance in their prospective parts; Mr. Fred Hodson is a great success as Jerry Jumble, and creates great laughter throughout the entire play.

PETERBOROUGH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. A. Darville Vernon.—Messrs. Travis Green and Arthur Hinton's company is here in *Home, Sweet Home*. Mr. Arthur Hinton's impersonation of Stephen Armitage is exceedingly effective; Mr. Frank Hudspeth gives a capital portrayal of David Armitage; the Duke of Ancaster is in the capable hands of Mr. Arthur Lowry; and Mr. Wilton Drury leaves nothing to be desired. Miss Leila Zillwood's interpretation of the part of Joan is cordially received; and Miss Jennie Clare is good as Sybil Fay.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—Mr. Lewis Waller's company in *Robin Hood* made its first local appearance on Monday, and was accorded a good reception. The principal interest naturally centres round Robin Hood and Maid Marian, the former being admirably played by Mr. Robert Minster, who gave a characteristic representation of the bold, lawless forester; while Miss Marie Poloni submitted a graceful study of the part of Lady Marian de Vaux. Mr. Augustus Wheatman was intensely amusing as the unfortunate Friar Tuck; Mr. E. C. Vaughan was dignified as King Richard; Mr. Bellenden Clarke capably filled the rôle of the contemptible Prince John; and Mr. Ethelbert Edwards was a musical Allan-a-Dale.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—Boxing forms the leading attraction at the Palace this week, Gunner Moir delighting large audiences with some tough encounters with local professionals. Hall and Earle accomplish remarkable contortionist feats with amusing ease and abandon; Duncan and Godfrey present the popular little sketch, entitled *Me and 'Er*; the Norman and Leonard Trio intermingle well-executed harp and violin solos with laughable buffoonery; and Brull and Hemsley utilise their sketch, *Fun in a Music-Shop*, as a means of introducing some rapid step-dancing. Vernon's Bioscope and Mollie Woolstenhulme complete an attractive bill.

PONTYPRIDD.—ROYAL CLARENCE THEATRE.—Owners and Proprietors, Mrs. Trenchard and Miss L. Jones; Manager, Mr. Charles Trenchard.—The attraction this week is a variety entertainment with two houses a night. Included in a very strong list of artists are Mlle. Lumiere, "the Human Butterfly"; Les Henris, equilibrists and gymnasts; Gladys Wells, comedienne; the Ashburns, in their cabinet mystery; Kingsley, handbell soloist; Vulcaris, the Scottish Grossmith; Clack and Clack, in *Fun in a Laundry*; Harry Keeble, character comedian; and Hoozee, society ventriloquist.

PORTH.—THE PALACE (LATE OPERA HOUSE).—General-Manager, Mr. C. W. Poole; Acting and Stage Manager, Mr. Walter Bynorth.—The programme, an exceedingly good one, includes the following turns: Nellie Duval, American comedienne and dancer; Barney Vox, a great success with his ventriloquial entertainment; Maggie Walsh, the original singing Mill Girl; the Hartley Wonders, in their marvellous jumping speciality; Amy Anderson, extremely popular in her great success, "The Banana Queen"; Florrie Bray, a charming girl with a dashing style, who fairly captivates her audience; Joe Humphries, eccentric comedian; the Smalleys, with song, dance, burlesque, and sensational feats on the bars; and George Barron, comedian, with capital songs. The pictures are up to date.

PORTSMOUTH. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—Mr. Martin Harvey and company are this week presenting *The Only Way*. Mr. Harvey as Sydney Carton is admirable, and created an impression in the part that will long be remembered. Mr. Charles Glenney is well fitted with his rôle of Ernest Defarge; and Mr. Lorry and Mr. Stryver are excellently well sustained by Messrs. P. Alexander and Philip Hewland; Dr. Manette is also extremely well taken by Mr. Fred Wright, sen., and Mr. Leonard Craske is quite satisfactory as Charles Darnay. The Vengeance was played by Miss Mary Rorke very ably; Miss Coleridge gave a charming presentation of the gentle Lucie Manette; and Miss N. de Silva made a pathetic and devoted Mimi. For Friday night *A Cigarette Maker's Romance* was billed.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's company is here with *The Little Breadwinner*. Lord William Dorrington is well and effectively played by Mr. Eugene Santley; Richard Lawrence is most creditably taken by Mr. Matthew Boulton; the rascally Joseph Prior is depicted by Mr. Alfred Maurice with force and conviction; Mr. Stanley Leedham is most diverting as Charles Prior; Miss Emil Leslie as Margaret Daventry acts with great commendable ability; the pathetic part of the Little Breadwinner is charmingly portrayed by Little Emmie Thomas; Miss Nellie King makes a capital companion as Bobbie Trot; and Miss Nellie Thorne-Hallam as Kate Cherry and Miss Kitty Melville as Ruth Cherry do excellent work; and Miss Jenny Bostock is most humorous as Bridget O'Flanaghan.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—Miss Lottie Lennox heads the bill, and her well-rendered ditties are highly appreciated; Stacy and Williams are a smart pair of speciality artists; Arthur Albert scores heavily with his bright and taking songs; Fields and Lewis, vaudeville entertainers, are clever and amusing; Hanid Alexander is very dainty in her piano playing and dancing; Sisters Brenton are very capable duettists and dancers; Dan Conroy is well received for his excellent songs and patter; Billie Burford, vocal comedienne, has a pleasing style that is very commendable; Harry Edson, with his dogs, Doc and Tige, who show wonderful sagacity, is a capital turn; Payne's Bio-photoscope, with quite up-to-date pictures, completes the programme.

PRESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Executors of the late Mr. W. Johnson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Stephen Pritt.—Mr. Albert Chevalier is appearing here with his own company in three plays, *The Atonement, The Dream of His Life*, and *Pantaloon*. As Professor Pinder in the first-named piece, Mr. Chevalier gives a versatile performance, displaying delightful humour and undoubted dramatic ability. Other leading characters are ably represented by Mr. Isidore Marcil, Mr. Stuart Alexander, Mr. Julian Cross, Miss Keith Lytton, Miss Dorothy Gardner, and Miss Maud Davis.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. E. J. Linsdell.—At the head of this week's bill is Vanando, whose sketch, *The Ventriloquial Barber*, gives him full scope for the display of his powers; Fred and Maud Vypond maintain their position as favourites, entertaining in a highly refined manner; the Lillian Bros. give an exceedingly smart acrobatic display; and the Glenroy Troupe in their character dances are very good; rounds of applause are accorded Halma, the comedy juggler; the Five M.P.'s meet with an enthusiastic reception; and the singing of Mr. Godfrey James is well appreciated; Mac and Hill amuse with their patter; and songs by Mr. T. C. Edwards, Australian baritone, and Bioscope pictures complete an enjoyable programme.

RADCLIFFE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Santé; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jas. Boothman.—A good variety entertainment is provided this week. It is contributed by Prince Bendon, the Scotch ventriloquial comedian; Scotch Kriss, a comical conjurer; Miss Margot Johnston, a good soprano; J. C. Lawrence, a refined Scotch comedian; and the Lindsays, clever musical comedians. The animated pictures play an important part in the show.

RAMSGATE. — AMPHITHEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Bowman.—An admirable variety programme has been put on at the Amphitheatre during the past week, twice nightly, the chief item being Mr. Glaud Ginnett's equestrian scenas, *Dick Turpin's Ride to York* and *Rejected Remounts*. These are particularly good, the finely-trained mare, "Bonnie Black Bess," giving a very clever performance. In addition there are turns by a talented variety company, which includes Mr. Charles Wood (an old Ramsgate favourite), chapeaugraphist; Nita Carmen, comedienne; the Dunvilles, in an amusing musical act; and Marie Tilley, a smart dancer; and Dave Wallace, comedian. Animated pictures of interesting events and comic scenes are shown by means of James and Gorham's Bioscope, which also gives pictorial aid to the story of Turpin's exploits, connecting the various scenes of Mr. Ginnett's show.

RAWTENSTALL. — GRAND THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. George Dickinson.—Mr. Edward McLean's company appeared here on Monday evening in *The Hero of the Flag*. Miss Gladys Vernon was a clever Mabel Forrester; and Miss Lillian Beaumont was exceedingly good as Ruth Clifford. Miss Amy Randolph was an excellent and vivacious Jenny Stubbs, her songs being thoroughly enjoyed; Mr. Edward McLean as Jack Lawrence gave an artistic and manly impersonation; and as Captain Hilliard Mr. Vernon Sansbury was equally effective. Mr. Ernest Wingfield gave a thoroughly capable portrayal as the villain of the play, Paul Mansfield; and Mr. Leslie Vyner was a capital Stephen Clifford. Mr. Johnnie McElroy as Johnny Truckle was most successful.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Milton Bode.—Mr. George Dance's variety season; Business-Manager, Mr. E. J. Macdermott.—A strong company is again engaged this week, comprising Cole and Rags, expert comedy jugglers; Speedwell, the lightning painter; Little Agnes Tina, with some clever impersonations of popular artists; the Jagos, in *The Burglar and the Première Danseuse*; Little Don, "the mirthful mite"; and Frank and Jen Latona, comedy couple. Pictures are shown by Vernon's Bioscope.

RHYL.—QUEEN'S PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Will Smith. — The famous choir from Jamaica prove a great attraction here, their refined and humorous selections being a source of much pleasure.

PIER PAVILION. — Messrs. Adeler and Sutton's Pierrots commenced their summer season on Monday last, the following being billed: Charley Harvey; Tubby Edlin, comedian; Harriett Greene, soprano; W. G. Desmond, comedian and dancer; Forshaw Kershaw, accompanist; and Jack Macdermott, the manager.

ROCHDALE. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Hague.—*Napoleon the Great* occupies the boards here this week. Mr. Hugh Montgomery impersonates the leading part of Napoleon with conspicuous ability; Mr. Oliver Birrell cleverly portrays the part of Colonel Lavarennes; Mr. Phil Harper does full justice in the rôle of Colonel Jules Meuron; Mr. Frank M. Thorne makes a most effective Pierre Pomplanet; and Mr. Albert Sinclair leaves nothing to be desired as Sergeant Choupin. Miss Leslie Warner enacts the part of Marie Walewska with success; Miss Maud Russell acts with charming grace the part of Mlle. Leonic Marboeuf; and Miss Marie Harcourt acts to the life the part of Marcelle Choupin.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. Smith and Co.—Mr. O. Maus Dayton with his company of ten members of the Dayton Family are here with the amusing sketch, *Le Rendez Vous*; Bellian and company, in a comedy sketch, *A Night's Frivolity*, create roars of laughter; Geo. Guiliver, ventriloquist; Palette, in *A Busy Time in the Studio*; Harry Sansom Trio, speciality artists; Lindsay and Harte, Scotch comedy duo; Fitzgerald and Stanley, comedians; the Eltons, comic skating act; and Vernon's Imperial Bioscope complete a capital programme.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thomas Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Har-

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greaves.—The Three Laurels submit a remarkable and daring exhibition of balancing and somersaults on a ping-pong table; Zeta Grey and company, in their musical comedy act, *The Lancashire Lass*, are highly amusing; the lady member also contributes some excellent vocalism; Mlle. Pollo, gymnast; Will Freedo, comedian and dancer; the Ettenas, globe speciality artists; Nash and Noel, comedians and dancers; and the Empire Bioscope also contribute to a most enjoyable evening.

RUGBY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geoffrey Fulton.—This week Mlle. Florence and company are appearing here. Mlle. Florence's descent from a great height on a rolling globe is very intrepid; the Ottawas, in their musical variety act, are excellent; Fred Ace, novel instrumentalist, is good; Marie Liston, descriptive vocalist, gives satisfaction; Maud Clifton, comedienne, is clever; Abex, the miniature Hercules, gives a wonderfully clever exhibition of weight-lifting; and other good turns are those of R. Lomas as man monkey, Erom and Carlotta in their cabinet mystery, the Weetons in their novelty act, and Professor Wallace, ventriloquist.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden. Mr. Frank Ayrton and company opened on Monday in *The Power of Gold*. Miss Amy McNeill gives a powerful embodiment of the adventuress, Lady Brandon; and Hadji Zombra, a Malay doctor, is excellently played by Mr. George Lyttleton. Mr. H. F. Stacey makes a manly Paul Judson; and Mr. Richard Harris ably portrays Mark Harley. Mr. Frank Ayrton as Sammy Smudge, assisted by Miss M. Seymour as Norah Donelly, make much fun out of their characters; Little Prudence made a good impression as the waif, Paddy Blake; and Miss Lily Prescot acted the part of Meg Judson with due care and ability.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. J. C. Patterson.—The sketch, *Sally in Our Alley*, is ably presented by Mr. John Lawson's company. Harry Rogerson in *The Studio* keeps the house in roars, and shows his smart acrobatic act. The Davis and Gledhill Trio of cycle riders, the Pates (Frank and Violet) in comedy duologue *Black and White*, the Sisters Reno (smart acrobatic dancers), Gregson and Goodfellow (comedy artists), Clifton and Gibson (eccentric comedians and dancers), J. C. Morris (comedian and raconteur), and the Lurins (Frank and Alice) in *Cinders* also do excellent work.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Wentworth.—Derenda and Green, with their comic juggling, are much applauded; Payne Clarke's tenor songs are very enjoyable; the Wedburns, comedians, instrumentalists, and jesters, in their comedy act *The Duke and the Jester*; the Three Henriques, novel comedy acrobats; Alvina Mining, assisted by Dan Mining, in *A Modern Shylock*; Baker and Lindsay, in musical comedy; Baddow, ventriloquist; Mlle. Vanda, juggling and rolling-globe act; the Brothers Robson, comedians and eccentric dancers; and Douglas and Gordon, in singing, dancing, and patter act, *Scotch and Polly*, give most acceptable turns.

STRETFORD PAVILION. — Proprietor, Mr. Sidney Weatherhilt; Manager, Mr. Fred Erick.—This week *Maritana*, *The Rose of Castile*, and *The Daughter of the Regiment*, presented by the Balf-Auber Operatic Company, are being enjoyed by good houses. The variety turns include Bromley Carter and Fred Erick.

SEACOMBE.—IRVING THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiernan.—Miss Winifred Maude and her London company are appearing here this week in *The Sins of a City*. Sandy McDonald is earnestly portrayed by Mr. William Maxwell and Donald McIvor receives an excellent rendition from Mr. Leonard Harrison; Mr. Norton Shields does some capital work as Joe Woodleigh and Jasper Woodleigh, his playing of the latter part deserving the highest commendation; Mr. William Bradford plays the villain, Ralph Blackwater, K.C., in a manner calculated to show up all the salient points, and receives yeoman support from Miss Ethel Tinsley as Lesbia, his supposed wife; Mr. Victor Du Cane does some clever and amusing character acting as Isaac Levi; Miss Jenny Hackett is a really clever comedienne, her depiction of Miggs causing a continual roar; Miss Winifred Maude gives an artless portrayal of Seaweed; and the minor parts are all capably handled.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. C. Harrison.—The American Bioscope is the principal attraction here this week. The entertainment is pleasantly relieved by a number of capital turns. In the company are Jack Clifford, an ideal coon; the Sisters Cooke, duettists; Mona Clark, ballad vocalist; Baby Blythe, clog dancer; the Sisters Daun, song and dance artists; and Master Harrison, whistler.

SHEERNESS.—THE PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Phil Reymond.—Miss Gordon, the popular balladist, is a firm favourite; Mr. Will Thorne is a singer, dancer, and instrumentalist of no mean order; and the refined turn of Miss Amy Cecil is loudly applauded. Phil Reymond, as usual, is well to the fore with his excellent comedy character songs; the Byrons, champion banjoists, supply a rare musical treat; Miss Topsy Levane, character comedienne and dancer, is an established favourite; and an amusing sketch, *In Strange Company*, concludes the entertainment.

THE HIPPODROME.—General Manager, Mr. F. Leighton.—Amongst the principal items of a well-arranged programme are Emmie Milstead and Joe Bell in the comedy scena *The Belle of Arizona*; Clara Victor, comedienne, is paying a welcome return visit; Nellie Ridgway submits a neat performance on the slack wire; the Flying Peritas, in their graceful trapeze act, are well received; Agnes Taylor, descriptive vocalist, sings with pleasing effect; and other turns include Mr. Billy French, comedian and dancer, Laurie Wallis, character dancer, and Lily Foy, comedienne.

SHEFFIELD. — LYCEUM THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—Mr. John Hart's company opened on Monday in *San Toy*. Mr. Horace Mills reappeared as Li, and kept the house in a continuous ripple of merriment; Mr. Colin Coop was a humorous Yen-How; and Mr. W. J. Manning repeated his alert impersonation of Sir Bingo Preston. Miss Lulu Valli made a pretty and graceful Dudley; Miss Sylvia May was charming as Poppy; and Miss Gertrude Gilliam was a vivacious and tuneful San Toy. In the second act Miss May Gould gave a refined terpsichorean display.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—*Lucky Durham* was played on Monday by Messrs. Armitage and Leigh's company. Mr. Edmund Kennedy repeated his fine performance of the well-drawn character of John Durham; all the other characters were carefully played, and the effective scenery and appointments were thoroughly appreciated.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—This week we have had a variety company, with Dr. Walford Bodie as the principal attraction. The doctor's wonderful electrical demonstrations and his thrilling bloodless surgery operations have been watched with keen interest and loudly applauded; Mr. T. Norman Mills sang with great verve three rousing patriotic and motto songs; a funny sketch, called *Billy's Blunders*, was smartly performed by Russell and Reed's company; Belford and Mars were successful; and Miss Bella Skene, serio comedienne, Little Dolly, vocalist and dancer, and the Acmes, refined musical humorists, were cordially received.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Moss Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—Mr. George Leyton is appearing here in the song-sketch *The Boys of the Chelsea School*; and other favourites this week are Miss Ray Wallace, the pretty and refined mimic and pianist; Fred Sinclair and Gracie Whiteford, in a very amusing comedy sketch; Mr. J. Shields, an old Sheffield favourite; Messrs. Hinton and Wooton, clever trick bicyclists; the Vasilescu Troupe, in an agile pantomimic bar act; the Great Northern Troupe of Dancers; Mr. Allan Hanbury; and the principal comedian of the Royal pantomime, Mr. Jack Pleasants. The programme winds up with splendid animated pictures.

GRAND THEATRE. — Proprietors, The Vaudeville Syndicate; Manager, Mr. David Warwick.—A good entertainment is provided by the following artists:—Mr. Edward Ranier's company in a dramatic sketch, Lang and Beal, Harvey and Holt, the Lovelaces, the popular Courtnay Family, and the "Grand" Bioscope with up-to-date humorous and fantastic films.

MONTGOMERY HALL.—The artistic coloured photography entertainment known as the Modern Paris Theatre is having a prosperous season here under the direction of Mr. Gustav Gooes.

SHREWSBURY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Licensee and Business-Manager, Mr. W. C. Dornton. — *A Noble Brother*, the acceptable fare here this week, is well enacted by Mr. Charles Carte and company. Mr. Carte acts with considerable talent and power as Jerry the Tramp; Miss Doris Brookes as Nana Leigh sings sweetly and acts with care and ability; Miss Nora Kingsley is successful as Mrs. Leigh; Miss Payliss Brent merits praise as Rosie Rapid; Miss N. Faithful acts creditably the part of Miss Claire Florence; Mr. Howard Thorne is good as Col. Richard Leigh; Mr. Arthur A. Tomlin as the polished villain of the piece plays in a highly satisfactory manner; Mr. G. W. Hewittson makes a good hero as Jack Elsworth; Mr. Gerald Weston as the Strange Preacher makes the best use of his oportunities; and Mr. Payne Reynolds as a Policeman merits encomiums.

SMETHWICK.—ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—Fred Karno's comedians have scored greatly with *Saturday to Monday*. Mr. Rolando Martin is the life and soul of a very strong company; Miss Amy Rogerson is the charming bride; Miss Daisy Stone is a great success as Violet Blake, her singing being much appreciated, as is also that of Mr. C. Herbert Summers, as Violet's lover. Other parts are in good hands.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Conquest; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power.—Messrs. Lionel Glenister and Wood-Ingram gained well-merited receptions the first three nights of the week for their admirable presentation of *All-of-a-Sudden Peggy*. Mr. Glenister, in the rôle of the Hon. Jimmy Keppel, gave a characteristic study that appealed to all; Mr. Alfred S. Barber imparted humour to the part of Anthony, Lord Crackenthorpe; while Mr. Henderson Bland was well suited as Major Archie Phipps. Lady Crackenthorpe found in Miss Kate Wingfield an admirable exponent; and a striking impersonation of Mrs. O'Mara, by Miss Naomi Neilson, elicited admiration. Miss Decima Moore, who was responsible for the title-rôle, evoked intense enthusiasm by the sterling abilities of her acting. Others who ably sustained their respective parts were Messrs. J. Edgar Stevenson, Harry Phillips, and Patrick Fitzgerald, and the Misses Eva Lonsdale and Estelle Despa. *The Lady Who Dwelt in the Dark* preceded.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. J. and F. Coulson.—Mr. William Mollison and company are here in *Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush*. Mr. Mollison adds to his great reputation by his pathetic and powerful acting as Lachlan Campbell; William MacClure was well sustained by Mr. W. A. Mackersy; Mr. Alec F. Thompson makes the most of his opportunities as Wee Postie; the Rev. John Carmichael was well enacted by Mr. Henry Deas; and Mr. Whitford Kane as the Earl of Kilspindie and Mr. Archie W. Chappell as Lord Hay were also excellent in their respective rôles. Miss Evelyn McNay is a charming Flora Campbell; and Margaret Howe receives a good interpretation at the hands of Miss Josephine Woodward. Miss Elsie Vron is a decided hit as Kate Carnegie; and Annie is well portrayed by Miss Edith Blair-Staples. Georgie by Miss E. Hermina Black and Jeannie by Miss Jeannie Fitzgerald display marked ability.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, The South Shields Empire Palace, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson. Nellie Wallace, with a budget of new songs and patter, creates much merriment. The graceful and daring feats of the Trapnell Family of acrobats arouse hearty applause; the Musical Jees, in their amusing speciality, *The Scarecrow*, add to the general enjoyment; Gertrude Rutkowsky, ballad vocalist, renders her numbers in a pleasing manner; Edwin Barwick, comedian, mimic, and actor-vocalist, has a good reception; and Ryder Slone, in a song-scena, scores heavily. Other excellent turns are contributed by Boy Glenn, a versatile raconteur; Lottie Lonsdale, juvenile comedienne and dancer; and the Bioscope.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. K. Hall and Joseph Sweeney; Business-Manager, Mr. Harry Burns.—Tate's Prize Juveniles, in songs, choruses, and dancing, create a good impression; Phern and Phern, in a drawing-room act, also appear to great advantage; a novel sketch, *In the Days of Old*, is ably contributed by Cedar and Elgar; Zenora is a clever contortionist; and Pueblo and Cropp, Creole artists, submit refreshing comedy and dancing. Other strong attractions are Percy Johnson, comedian, and the Tivoli Bioscope.

SPENNYMOOR.—CAMBRIDGE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; General-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—In Max Goldberg's Oriental drama, *Secrets*, a capital race-day attraction is provided by Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Tomlinson's capable company. An exceedingly winsome and picturesque impersonation of Ismailia is submitted by Miss Lizzie Palmer; Zuleika is cleverly handled by Miss Nellie Navarro; Mr. Reginald Brown gives a vigorous sketch of Herbert Markham; Mr. Victor T. Raymond as the Hon. Cecil Cholmondeley is intensely amusing; Mr. Wilton Richards is a powerful Caliph; whilst Mr. Tomlinson submits a clever delineation of Ibraham. Mr. Herbert Woodin and Miss Madge Palmer as Peter and Winnie Wilkins are a pair of really amusing comedians; and the Verona Troupe of dancers submit several clever turns.

STALYBRIDGE.—GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Fioni; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. A. Jackson.—This week the programme includes Jack Hylton, comedian; Renson and Waite, gag tellers; the Six Æolians; Giles, comedy juggler; the Shamrock Trio, vocalists and dancers; the Gladenbecks, gymnasts; and Ronald Bayne and Miss Evelyn Hope in a duologue, *The Emperor's Divorce*.

ST. HELENS.—THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader. — *The Gametser of Metz* is the attraction here this week. Mr. F. Aldworth gives a capital impersonation of the General; Mr. Wilfred Protheroe is excellent as Captain Badaire; Mr. George Paget is successful as Lieut. Horne; and Mr. George Harle as Louis Badaire gives a creditable representation of the part. Miss Una Lane submits a pleasing presentation of Lucia. The comic element is provided by Miss Cissy Haighton as Gwendoline, Mr. Thorpe Tracey as Goliath Grou, and Mr. J. W. Millar as Ferdinand, who work together with excellent results. Mr. Chas. March fills the title-rôle in a most effective manner; he is a clever quick-change artist and a versatile actor.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Wilmot; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Vic Carnell.—Undoubtedly the most popular turn this week is Miss Madie Scott; she has a style which captivates her audience. *The Topsy-Turvey School*, an amusing farce, is presented by Jack Collinson's company; Van Adams and Ivy Hall are humorous musicians; Josh Dixon infuses plenty of dash into his turn; J. B. Athol, actor-vocalist, scores a big success; Fay and Fay, in a comedy boxing act, complete an excellent programme.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Revill, jun. —*The Midnight Wedding*, admirably presented by Messrs. Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's company, has interested large audiences here this week. Mr. Alfred Paumier gives a powerful impersonation of Paul Valmar; and the Crown Prince Leopold had a capable representative in Mr. Fredk. W. Freeman. As Captain Rudolph von Scarsbruck Mr. Ernest E. Imeson is thoroughly efficient; and Mr. Algie Spalding as Private Bobo and Miss Ada Champion as Kathie create plenty of merriment. Miss Annie Saker acts with charm and effect as Princess Astrea; and Mr. James E. Page as Sergeant Max, Mr. Vernon Vane as Corporal Otto, and Mr. Edward Fletcher as Lieut. Eugene von Strelsburg fill their parts creditably.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, the Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black. —Marie Santoi and company in *A Japanese Tea Garden* are a pleasing chief attraction here this week. Among others, are Lloyd's Gondolier Glee-Singers, who meet with marked appreciation; Rosie Coleman, comedienne and a smart sand dancer; the Brothers Ethairien, highly amusing comedians; Alf. Levaine, who displays ability in a tight-wire act; the Jumels in an acceptable musical entertainment; and the Leotard Brothers, comical clowns, clever acrobats, and expert hat throwers.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—HIPPODROME THEATRE. —General-Manager, Mr. Robt. A. Nicholson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Stainton. — Jordan and Harvey, Hebrew comedians, are here this week; Cavalli gives a good display of ventriloquism; the Brothers Venola are greatly appreciated in their acrobatic feats; the Greys, operatic vocalists, have become favourites; Babs Lloyd deserves special mention for her coon songs; Seves, a young lady of fifteen years, is successful in her exhibition of telepathy; Halam and Stanton present a sketch, *The Broken Journey*, combining comedy and good singing; Andy Fagan, comedian, is well received; and Joe Boganny's Lunatic Bakers cause great laughter. The pictures are very amusing.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Councillor J. Batty; Manager, Mr. W. Batty.—Howard and Harris, who head the bill this week, cause roars of laughter. Russell Carr is an ideal ventriloquist; Chas. Whittle is greatly appreciated; the Three Royal Temples are worthy of mention for their high-class singing; Sisters Brooklands are an exceedingly clever pair of dancers; and Bros. Zampa are greatly admired in their jumping feats. Prince Tobin delights with his feats of Japanese juggling; and the pictures conclude a capital programme.

STOKE.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr T. Allan Edwardes; Manager, Mr. H. Miller.—Mr. Frank E. Burnett's company in *Mutiny* heads the bill this week. The sketch is well played throughout; Cline and Clarke, coon singers and dancers, meet with marked approval; Welda and Wynne in their turn, consisting of juggling, dancing, and tumbling, are well received; the Reays on the trapeze and rings are excellent; Bensley Evans and company in *Sally's Dilemma* are capital; Merton and Rydon provide a pleasing turn; Blanche Marion is a pleasing comedienne and dancer; and Arthur Boyne is a successful comedian. The pictures are good.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Ernest Stevens and R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry L. Carlo. —The local Operatic Society is here this week in *Merrie England*.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Sunderland Theatre Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Jas. Hemingway. —Mr. Fred J. Webb's company is appearing here in *The Hour of Her Triumph*. Mr. Leslie Hawkins makes the most of his opportunities as Harold Clavering; Mr. T. O. Stephenson is a manly Jack Vernon; Mr. Fred J. Webb a capital Eugene Harbury; Mr. Louis Nanton scores by his songs as Ben Brodie; Miss M. Danvers Smith is sympathetic Nellie; Miss Barbara Gott a capable Rose Denton; Miss Mamie Stanton a pleasing Linda Denton; and Miss Hetty Gale a mirthful Jennie Jinks.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessees, The United County Theatres, Ltd.; Acting-Managers, Messrs. A. Browne and S. B. Stringer.—The chief attraction here is Fred Storey and company in *Rip Van Winkle*, in which Mr. Storey gives a touching and humorous portrayal of the title-rôle. The programme also includes John Grun Marx, the modern Hercules; George Westland, Scotch comedian; Rezene and Robini, in their sketch, *Army and Navy*; Venie Clements, comedienne and dancer; Billy Hobbs, coon comedian; the Palace Pictures, and Nat Clifford.

SWANSEA.—GRAND.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Brooks and Woodbridge; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Oswald Brooks.—Full houses welcomed back to Swansea that popular drama, *Claudian*. Mr. Maclaren's impersonation of the great Roman was beyond criticism; Miss Lily C. Bandman's delineation of Almida compelled the admiration of the audience; and the others parts in the long cast are in able hands.

THE EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. A. Mitchell; Assistant-Manager, Mr. P. C. Rowe.—*The Bloomsbury Burglars*, as enacted by Mr. Lew Lake's comedy company, is creating roars of laughter here this week, Mr. Lake as Mobbler fully justifying his reputation, and Bob Morris being also clever as Jerry. The American Comedy Four are, as usual, excellent; Thos. E. Finglass, an imitator above the ordinary, appears in the rôle of Eugene Stratton very successfully; Lena Verdi scores similarly in her impersonations of Vesta Tilley and Vesta Victoria; the Marcante Sisters provide an excellent turn, consisting of musical selections, dancing, and wire walking; Dion Wade, comedian and mimic, soon established himself a favourite; Frank Leslie scores heavily in his latest success, "I've been dreaming," as does also Tom H. Wood in illustrated songs. Some pretty songs, prettily sung by Millie Howard, and the Bioscope selection finish an excellent programme.

THE STAR.—Manager, Mr. William Coutts.—*Honour Thy Father* is presented here by Mr. T. Morton Powell's company this week, and, as usual, proves a big draw. Mr. Walter M. Cameron had a great reception, his Farmer Garth being a clever impersonation; as is also the Jack Halyard of Mr. Robert Gilbert. Mr. Howell Travis as Duncan Bly was very successful; the humour of the play is provided by Mr. Conynghame, who, as Mike Copplestone, is irresistible. Of the ladies, Miss Kate Newton as Mrs. Garth thoroughly deserves the applause which greeted her efforts; Miss Mabel Coleman was also excellent as Lilian Garth, and the rest of the parts are in capable hands.

TORQUAY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—Mr. Fraser-Brunner's company, in *The Superior Miss Pellender*, is here this week. Miss Beatrice Fitzhugh gives striking proof of her abilities as Mrs. Pellender; Miss Queenie Fraser-Brunner is a delightful representation of the haughty and superior Miss Pellender; as Edith and Nancy respectively Miss Marie Ault and Miss May Staples both do exceedingly well; Mr. William Fraser-Brunner as Mr. Tister is highly successful; and Mr. Ellis D. Carlyle as Noel makes a characteristic schoolboy. Each evening the performance is preceded by a comedietta, entitled *Violets*.

WAKEFIELD.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Sherwood and Co. — Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company opened in the charming play *Peter's Mother* on Monday night. Mr. Ernest Ruston submits a finished portraiture as Sir Timothy Crewys; Mr. E. P. Meads gives a really fine embodiment of Peter; Mr. Henry Renouf is a huge success in his polished rendition of the part of John Crewys, Q.C.; Miss Lilias Earle in the title-rôle submits a delightful portrayal; Miss Hilda Sims is bright and effective as Sarah, and the paris of Lady Belstone and Miss Crewys are cleverly and amusingly filled by Miss Evelyn Smellie and Mrs. Mallalieu.

HIPPODROME. — Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—Messrs. Kreamer, Braun, and Boynette give a startling and interesting exhibition of motor-paced cycle racing; J. G. Aitken, comedian, proves popular with Scotch songs; Sandove, a strong man, performs clever feats of strength; Leon and Leoni are an entertaining couple of musicians; the Levans, illustrated song vocalists, provide a pleasing turn; George Russell, eccentric comedian, is funny; the Two Sydneys, vocalists and dancers, and Miss Kitty Lascelles, comedienne, merit favour.

WALSALL.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES. —Proprietors, the Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—The top place on the bill is deservedly occupied by Mr. J. W. Rowley, who is well received; Fred Frampton scores as a burlesque actor; Topsy and Usher are good comedy artists; Leicester Cooke and Co. appear in *Zululand*, a dramatic incident of the late rising in Natal; Lieut. Travis, ventriloquist, proves remarkably clever; Carlos Menard, clever trick violinist, submits an excellent turn; Fred and Pauli, gymnasts, meet with warm approval; and the American Bioscope is again showing some interesting pictures.

GRAND THEATRE. — Proprietors, the Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—*The Tyrant* is being presented here by Miss Marie Dagmar and Mr. Fred C. Somerfield and company. Miss Marie Dagmar plays with much power the part of Tisbe; Mr. Somerfield in the rôle of Homodei stands out prominently; Mr. Lionel Atwill makes a capital Rudolph; Mr. Roy Fortescue does well as Angelo; and as Pan, Mr. Alec Mayhew is well placed.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—GRAND.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Manager, Mr. Herbert E. Feather. —*Juno* is being performed this week by a company under the direction of Mr. Julian Graham. A conspicuous success is achieved by Miss Edith Barnes in the rôle of Mrs. Marie Strong; Miss K. Graham Beck is an ideal Juno; and Mr. Harry Walsh as Timothy Twinkle keeps the fun going briskly.

PALACE. — Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—Special trial performances for amateurs from all round the district within a radius of thirty miles are being given this week. The enterprise is resulting in houses packed with enthusiastic audiences. The list of competitors is supplemented by a programme which includes the names of some excellent professional artists. The Deane Tribune, in a screamingly funny sketch, *Applicants*, introduce some exceptionally clever quick-changing; the mimicry by Arthur Croxon is well done; the comedy scena, *The Welsh Girl and the Artist*, by Gold and Sterling, is refined and interesting, some capital painting being executed during the performance; comedy has a capable exponent in Harry Morgan, whose turn has a most gratifying reception; Walter Morgan's efforts are provocative of hearty laughter; and the remaining attractions are provided by Florence Leonard, comedienne; Marie Nelson, comedienne; and Leo King, a splendid baritone vocalist.

WIDNES.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. James Kiddie.—This week a capital variety show on the two-houses-a-night system is being given here. Les Frères St. Clair, trick cyclists, do a good comedy turn; Marion Black is a comedienne of merit; Lytton, ventriloquist, with his "owd pal" is clever; Burton and Trent are a quaint couple; Eric Graham, in a pathetic scena, touches the emotions of the house; and Mlle. Onra is a wire artist of merit.

WIGAN. — ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Co.—Mr. Harry Foxwell's company have been playing this week in *A Broken Heart*, by Mr. Chas. E. Clarke. Mr. Henry Wolston as John Barnard, Mr. Will Lindsay as Tony Tibbets, and Mr. Henry Earlesmere as Stephen Rayton display conspicuous ability in their respective parts. Mrs. Harry Foxwell as Mrs. Kellett and Miss Grace Fanshame is most successful in the dual part; and Miss Nancy Mitchell as Lally Tavner and Miss Florrie Sorsby as Little May are also well received.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Co.—The Maritana Operatic Company give, in a most artistic manner, selections from *Maritana* and *Il Trovatore*, and are exceedingly popular. Tom E. Hughes, comedian, delights the audiences; and other capital comedy turns are provided by Fred Tenby, Pearce and Ward (boxers), Will Onda's party, and Clyo and Pochelle. Jimmy Holland, the Wigan singing collier; Lilian Rigby, musical artist; John Ross, double-voiced vocalist; and Ara, Zebra, and Vora, in *Indian Pastimes*, all win warm appreciation.

WOLVERHAMPTON. — GRAND THEATRE. — Lessees and Managers, Mr. E. H. Bull and Mr. Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Percival. —A great attraction is provided here this week by Mr. Lionel Rignold's company, in *What the Butler Saw*. The part of Pink, the butler, is taken by Mr. Lionel Rignold himself, and his artistic performance keeps the house in continual titters from start to finish; Miss Ada Blanche appears as Mrs. Barrington, and invests the character with a humour which leaves nothing to be desired; the part of Jack Barrington has an excellent exponent in Mr. Charles Fawcett; Mr. Louis Lingard is good as Sir Charles Foden; Mr. Victor Widdicombe is a capable General Dunlop; Mr. H. H. Rignold is efficient as Abraham Weinstein; and other characters are ably filled by Mr. Leo St. Clair, Mr. Alec Alves, Mr. Roy Byford, Mr. George Ascot, Miss Clara Russell, and Miss Jennie Wigney.

EMPIRE PALACE.—At the top of this week's bill is Imro Fox, who is a very entertaining magician; George Formby, comedian, is also a great attraction. A good programme also includes Emma Don and company; Judge's well-trained parrots, &c.; Charles Deane, vocal comedian; Beatrice Willey, ballad singer; Blarney and Kennard, comedians and dancers; and Rosie Revel, character comedienne.

THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Mr. Augustine Knight's company is presenting *The Assassin* here this week. The principal characters are well portrayed by Miss Ella Vane, Mr. Augustine Knight, and Mr. Edward E. Ashby; while other parts are ably sustained by Mr. Theo Balfour, Mr. Chancy Morris, Mr. Edwin Jenner, Miss Frances Waring, Miss Hettie Senior, Mr. Cecil H. Raymond, Mr. Tom J. Taylor, and Miss Marie E. Robinson.

WORKINGTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Manager, Mr. Falconer Jackes.—Large and appreciative houses have witnessed Mr. B. Coote's production of *The Fatal Wedding*. Mr. E. Owttrim is painstaking as the hero; Mr. C. H. Hughes is humorous as Yoto; Miss K. Clarke secures sympathy as the heroine; and Miss L. Marlborough is excellent as Cora. Miss M. Wilson cleverly performs the interesting part of Jessie; and equally so Master F. Hockling as Frank. The songs and acting of the young additions are enthusiastically received. The piece is artistically staged.

WORTHING.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Herr C. Adolf Seebold.—The London Comedy Company was here for three nights in *A Fool's Paradise*. As Sir Peter Lund, Mr. Cecil Wynne put in some clever work; Mr. Arthur Claremont left nothing to be desired as Lord Normantower; Mr. Henry Turyford capitally enacted the part of Philip Selwyn; Mr. Wylie A. Thompson did well as the Hon. Tom Verinder; Miss Margery Chard was an interesting Kate Derwent; Miss Hilda Stericker did well as Mildred Selwyn; and a really fine performance was that of Miss Laura Hansen in the character of Beatrice Selwyn. On Thursday Mr. Harry Ward's No. 1 Company appeared in *No Wedding Ring*.

YORK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington, Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—*The Manxman* is a strong attraction this week, Pete being admirably played by Mr. A. B. Cross, who gives an ideal rendering of a sympathetic and popular rôle. As Kitty Miss Minnie Watersford is sympathetic and interesting, and her success is undoubted. Mr. Sydney C. Kearns deserves commendation for a capital performance of Philip Christian. The remaining parts have full justice done to them, and the play is elaborately staged.

OPERA HOUSE AND EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brooke.—F. V. St. Clair is once more here, delighting all with his racy songs; Carlton's Mysterious Cross is a wonderful illusion; Carr and Rose give a capital little sketch; and the Four Hearns are acrobats of great merit. Andie Caine sings and dances in first-class style, and maintains his reputation; Percy Farrimond sings himself into favour; Ryan and Hall are expert acrobats; and Miss Georgette Thierry's company in *Nancy Sikes* is well received. Madge Allan and the Bioscope complete the bill.

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, May 6, the Play, entitled
"THE GIRL WHO TOOK THE WRONG TURNING."

A drama by Mr. Walter Melville forms an interesting interlude in the season's fare provided at the King's. On Monday night the theatre was crowded, particularly in what are called the popular parts, and the occupants by their attitude showed how keenly they appreciated both the pathos and humour contained in the "play of the people we meet every day." The piece is excellently cast, and fully upholds the Melville policy. Mr. Roy Redgrave, as Willie Mason, is about as real a British sailor as one can imagine. His performance has all that breeziness and vigour one usually associates with the Navy, and the house readily appreciated Mr. Redgrave's acting. Another clever impersonation which meets with approbation is that of Mr. Sydney Sarl as Bill Slater, the man with a past but a reformed present. Mr. Frank Robertson acts excellently as Jack Fenton; and Mr. Kenneth Black is a successful Richard Fenton. Screams of laughter greet Mr. Willie Reid's efforts as Johnny Walker, particularly in a scene where he is set to undress and bathe an infant. Mr. Walter Thornton scores as the undiscovered criminal, James Harcourt, whose schemes and plots meet with ultimate failure to the delight of the audience. As Sophie Coventry, whose conduct gives the title of the play, Miss Frances Ruttledge meets with conspicuous success; and Miss Hilda Baynton as Lucy Fenton acts with delicately expressed sincerity and earnestness. Miss Nannie Mead as Vesta Le Clere, the evil genius of the play, is excellent. She fairly revels in her villainous and infamous career, but all the time Miss Mead earns the goodwill of the audience by the force of her acting. The freshness and humour of Miss Marie Kildare's characterisation of Poppy Slater, afterwards Poppy Fitzgerald, the music hall star, are delightful, and she lends valuable support to the drama. The smaller parts are in capable hands, and the scenery is good.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, May 6, the Play, in Four Acts,
"RAFFLES."

This week suburban London is being introduced for the first time to *Raffles*, "the Amateur Cracksman," a work of much literary and artistic merit, which is admirably presented by Mr. Leonard Boyne and company. The production is lavishly mounted and staged, and reflects great credit upon Mr. Stage-Manager Arthur Fitzgerald. Capital houses have been the rule throughout the week. Mr. Leonard Boyne as A. J. Raffles brings all the necessary comedy, pathos, and power to the character, his ripe experience enabling him to add delicate touches of business which in less skilful hands would be wanting. Miss Jane Savile as Gwendoline Conran plays throughout with judgment; and Miss Jean Morrison skilfully handles the part of Lady Ethel. Mr. E. W. Thomas is to be congratulated on his assumption of the intricate rôle of Curtis Bedford, the ex-detective. Much credit can be accorded Mr. Arthur Willoughby for his performance of the Earl of Amersteth; and Mr. Edmund Breon creates considerable amusement in the rôle of Viscount Crowley. Miss Elaine Inescourt exhibits much skill and emotional power in her delineation of Mrs. Vidal; Mr. Lewis Edgard is seen to advantage as Harry Manders; and Mr. Dalziel Heron scores an unqualified success as Crawshay. Miss Alys Rees assumes the part of Lady Melrose in a pleasing manner; and Miss Jean Harkness is admirably cast as Marie. Goldby, Morton, and Barraclough are ably impersonated by Messrs. Charles Kean, W. Henty, and A. Fitzgerald. *Raffles* is preceded by a capital curtain-raiser, *A Lesson in Shakespeare*, by Mr. Eric Lewis, the parts being ably undertaken by Miss Jane Savile, Dalziel Heron, and Edmund Breon. Mr. J. Murray Horiott looks after the front of the house, and shows in an unmistakable way that his genial manner, together with the discretion which he has displayed in the management of this house, has won for him a host of friends.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, May 6, the Play, entitled
"THE MORALS OF MARCUS."

Mr. Arthur Bourchier's company is here this week, presenting Mr. W. J. Locke's clever play, *The Morals of Marcus*, which is meeting with a very cordial reception from good audiences. The company, which is under the direction of Mr. M. V. Leveaux, is a very well chosen one, and at the head of it is Mr. H. Nye Chart, who fills the rôle of Sir Marcus, which he plays in a finished and thoughtful manner, presenting an admirable study of the philosopher who finds himself suddenly called on to deal with a phase of life which is entirely foreign to him. Miss Hilda Antony, a clever young actress, plays the difficult character of Carlotta in a praiseworthy manner. Miss Antony acts in a fresh and winning way, and makes a great success in the part. Mrs. Nye Chart impersonates Mrs. Mainwaring with much force and ability, and acts throughout with skill. It is an arduous part, and requires very delicate handling; but Mrs. Nye Chart is quite equal to her task. Mr. David Domville is particularly good as Sebastian Pasquale, the evil spirit, as it were, of the story, and he infuses a considerable amount of humour into his acting, which is very acceptable. Miss Mary Weigall makes a very dignified Mrs. Ordeyne; and Dora Ordeyne is charmingly played by Miss Gladys Purnell. Antoinette, the French housekeeper, is capitally portrayed by Miss Eleanor Gilbart; and Mr. Cecil Brooking is to be commended for his neat sketch of the butler, Stenson. Mr. A. H. Leveaux, who is responsible for the excellent stage-management, appears as Hamdi Effendi; and Mr. W. G. Swinburne is good as Bobby Tremlett. Miss C. Radcliffe is seen to advantage as Mrs. McMurray; and Miss Mary O'Neill is successful as Lady Elmira Wynn. Miss E. Summers as Miss Lestrange, and Miss Hilda Saxe as the maid, complete the cast. The play is splendidly mounted, and the dresses are tasteful and pretty. Mr. Henry Howard is the acting-manager for the company; and Mr. Wilfred Stanford is Mr. Robert Arthur's manager for the theatre.

THE CORONET.

On Monday, May 6, Nicolai's Opera,
"THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR."

The Moody-Manners Opera company are charming habitués of the Coronet in a selection of grand operas in English during a fortnight's season. Nicolai's charming opera, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, which was produced in Berlin in 1849, was performed at Her Majesty's Theatre in 1864 with such artists as Giuglini (Fenton), Santley (Ford), and Titiens (Mrs. Ford) in the cast. The English version, which embraces all the best-known dramatic and comic incidents of the piece, is by Percy Pinkerton. The three particular vocal gems of the opera are the duet between Mistress Ford and Mistress Page, "Dotard, now in cunning fashion," admirably sung by Miss Kate Anderson and Mlle. de Lussan; "The Drinking Song," effectively rendered by Mr. Charles Manners as Falstaff; and the sweetly pretty trio, "Darling, I adore you," in which all three join forces. Fenton's serenade, "Hear the bird on yonder bough," is capitally rendered by Mr. John Child. The ballet music in the last scene by Herne's Oak, in Windsor Forest, at midnight, is delightfully melodious and tuneful. This scene is excellently staged. Mlle. Zelie de Lussan as Mistress Page and Miss Kate Anderson as Mistress Ford divide the honours of the performance, and, quite apart from their exquisite vocalisation, act in the true spirit of comedy. These merry wives bubble over with innocent fun and frolicsome good humour, and together they give a charming and delightful exposition of character. Miss Burns is a very graceful and vivacious Sweet Anne Page, and avails herself of all her chances. Mr. Charles Manners as the ponderous, bibulous, and amorous knight, Sir John Falstaff, acts with a fine sense of proportion and a rich, unctuous humour, and his singing is quite unexceptionable. Many quaint little extravagances he introduces into the part, and his fat woman of Brentford set the house in a roar. Mr. Charles Magrath is in fine voice as Mr. Page; and Mr. Lewys James gives a realistic asumption of furious, unreasoning jealousy as Mr. Ford. Mr. John Child sings exquisitely as Master Fenton; and Mr. Bailey and Mr. Moppett cut very droll figures as Master Slender and Dr. Caius. The chorus is well drilled, and much credit is due to Mr. T. C. Fairbairn as stage-manager. This week's programme also includes *Tannhäuser* on Tuesday, *Faust* on Wednesday, *Il Trovatore* on Thursday, *Cavalleria Rusticana* on Friday, *Lohengrin* at to-day's matinée, and *Carmen* this evening.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.

On Monday, May 6, Wagner's
"LOHENGRIN."

No doubt should exist as to the popularity of high-class music in London when one finds such a large and enthusiastic audience as that assembled to enjoy the performance of the Moody-Manners Opera company at the Crystal Palace on Monday, when there was scarcely a vacant seat anywhere. Prior to the overture, Mr. Harrison Frewin appeared before the curtain and indulged in an explanatory chat with the audience on the argument and inner meaning of the play, which made the plot quite clear, and added considerably to the pleasure of those not already familiar with Wagner's opera. The overture was perfectly rendered by a largely augmented orchestra, the Introduction to the first act being finely executed, and throughout full justice was done to the exacting music. Mr. Charles Carter as the Knight of the Swan was fully equal to all the demands made upon him, and should have been well satisfied with the reception accorded to his singing and acting. His appearance and bearing were also much in his favour. As the Herald Mr. Marshall's fine voice was greatly admired in the declamatory passages; and Mr. George Neilson's clear rendering of the King's part was excellent. Frederick of Telremund, the villain of the piece, was finely acted by Mr. Frederic Erle, who is possessed of a powerful and sympathetic baritone. Miss Enriquita Crichton, as the persecuted Elsa of Brabant, gave a sympathetic interpretation, and her more important solos were heartily applauded; Miss Marion Broom gave a spirited touch to the part of the wicked Ortrud. There was an exceptionally large number of Nobles and Ladies, to whom much praise is due for their interpretation of the choruses, to which so much of the continuity of the play attaches. The company is giving a different opera each night, Mr. Charles Manners being announced to appear on Friday as Mephistopheles in *Faust*.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, May 6, the Play entitled
"SPORTING LIFE."

Mr. R. A. Beaton's company is a combination as strong in talent as it is in numbers. The various artists enter with zest into their respective parts, with the result that full advantage is taken of the many powerful situations which the drama contains. Ample scope is afforded in *Sporting Life* for striking stage effects, and these are readily forthcoming. The race for the Derby in the last scene, in which genuine racers dash across the boards, arouses the enthusiasm of the onlookers to a high pitch. Mr. Henry Doughty scores a big triumph as the Earl of Woodstock, making a fine manly hero. That gifted actress Miss Hilda Beverley has a difficult rôle to enact as Olive de Carteret, the adventuress, but she performs it with infinite skill and cleverness. She is especially fine in the death scene. Another great scene is the reconciliation between Miles Cavanagh, the trainer (Mr. H. H. Barrington), and his erring daughter Kitty (Miss Nellie Lucas), which is powerfully played. Mr. H. J. Barrett makes a very good General Molyneaux, delineating the peppery old soldier to the life. As Malet de Carteret, the somewhat unorthodox type of villain, Mr. Raymond Dudley does unusually well. It is by no means an easy character, but Mr. Dudley sustains it with great ability. Mr. H. C. Cooper deserves a full meed of praise for his interpretation of the rôle of Andread, the money-lender; and Miss Ida Phillips proves herself an accomplished actress as Norah Cavanagh. Comic relief is amply provided by Mr. Bert Morley as Sergt. Doxey, and Miss May Marcus and Miss Veronica Brady deserve mention as Jessie and Clara. Mr. Edward Chester gives a forceful representation of the part of Joe Lee, a young pugilist, and the other characters are all well sustained.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, May 6, the Drama entitled
"THE NEW MAGDALEN."

The New Magdalen, one of Wilkie Collins's *chefs d'œuvres*, has been secured by Mr. R. W. Allum to fill the programme here this week. Mr. Edward Sorley has engaged a strong company in this very interesting and highly-dramatic play, which has a great hold on the audience from beginning to end. Mr. W. S. Hartford gives a clever rendering of the really delightful clergyman Julian Grey; he fully realises the humorous side of the character, at the same time investing the part with a strong sympathetic interest. Miss Yvonne Orchardson as Mercy Merrick plays cleverly, and acquits herself with distinct success. The part is one which calls for highly emotional acting, and Miss Orchardson throughout claims the utmost interest and sympathy of the audience. Mr. Stanley Logan as Horace Holmcroft plays effectively in a trying rôle; he ably depicts the rage and grief necessary in the later scenes of the play. Miss Bartle Frere is stately and motherly as Lady Janet Roy. Miss Rachel Donne as the wronged Grace Roseberry is sufficiently vindictive and unforgiving; Miss Donne's clear enunciation is a distinct advantage in a part of many long lines. Mr. W. T. Lloyd is a satisfactory Ignatius Wetzel, the German army surgeon. Mr. Lawrence Ardale is effective as Captain Arnarlt. Other characters are ably sustained by Messrs. Frank Harper and James Black as servants, Mr. Frank Storey as Surgeon Saville, and Mr. Arthur Terris in a somewhat eccentric make-up as a detective. The preceding farce, *Rats*, by W. A. Mackesy, is well acted by Miss Bartle Frere as a nervous Mrs. Birdlove and Mr. Ivan Gore as Jim, a humorous rat-catcher. Mr. Ivan Gore is business-manager for Mr. Edward Sorley. The orchestra, under the direction of Mr. George Carter, enliven the intervals with some capital selections.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, May 6, the Drama, entitled
"DRIVEN FROM HOME."

This week, after a succession of novelties, the management falls back upon the old dramatic favourite, *Driven From Home*, and the wisdom of their choice has been shown by excellent audiences. The members of Mr. Andrew Melville's company acquit themselves most creditably. Mr. Fred A. Marston gives a capital rendering of the hard-hearted Anthony Raybrook; Mr. Francis Everard is a good representative of the ill-fated Walter Hatherleigh; Miss Rose Ralph acts with grace and feeling as the unhappy Laura; Mr. Percy Dawsone is impressive as the poor outcast, Willie; Mr. Harry Cornwall ably impersonates the faithful Jabez Thomas; Mr. Arnold Winters is responsible for merriment as the bibulous Tom Mortlake; and Miss Bella Power does well as Barbara Ashdown. Mr. G. M. Montanini makes a malignant Geoffrey Waring; and Mr. Edward Finlay supplies a good character-study of Dick Sanders. Miss Amy Corelli is a lively Margaret Bailey, and Miss Effie Dane a sympathetic Walter Hatherleigh. The scenery is most appropriate, and the episode of the rescue from death of young Hatherleigh in the saw-mills is realistically managed. Mr. Francis Everard is acting-manager, and Mr. Fred C. Himbert stage-manager for the company.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, May 6, the Domestic Drama, entitled
"A WOMAN'S PAST."

Messrs. A. Hamilton Warden and Charles V. Sandford's company is appearing this week at the Dalston Theatre in the domestic drama *A Woman's Past*. The piece is well staged, and can claim to grip the attention of the audience from start to finish. The acting all round is good. Mr. Horace E. Herbert, as David Heath, demonstrates what keen interest can be imparted to a character-study; and the same can certainly be said in regard to Mr. Charles V. Sandford as Frank Dellannoy; Mr. A. Hamilton Warden is another decided success as Clement Harper; Mr. G. Moreton-Williams' Uriah Craven is also an interesting piece of work; and others in the male cast include Mr. Philip Nailor, Mr. Frank Hayling, Mr. Wilson Munroe, and Mr. Cecil Dainton. Miss Maisie Hanbury, as Bessie, enlists sympathy from all parts of the house. Miss Hanbury's acting is worthy of all praise. Miss Eva Bertram as Clara Darrel, Miss Mary Mallalieu as Dorothy Heath, and Miss Phyllis Moncton as Kate are all well placed.

THE STANDARD.

On Monday, May 6, the Drama, entitled
"HER LOVE AGAINST THE WORLD."

Mr. Walter Howard's plays have gained such wide popularity that it is not surprising that his latest success from the Lyceum Theatre should have been responsible for full houses at the Standard during this week. *Her Love Against the World* is a piece full of absorbing interest, crowded with incidents of an exciting nature, and crowned with a pathetic and heart-touching story. The presentation of the piece is safely entrusted to the capable body of players employed, and the scenery and minor effects have all been chosen to give the best result. Foremost in the cast is the author himself, who plays throughout with much sincerity and power. His embodiment of Eric, Earl of Strathmere, is a carefully-balanced one, and he is to be congratulated on his really excellent performance. Nello, the Earl's brother, is carefully and cleverly portrayed by Miss Rossie St. John, who has thoroughly grasped the full meaning of her lines. Mr. Mayor-Cooke plays with considerable force as Ulric, Prince of Ravensberg. He gives due prominence to the selfish and cowardly nature of the man, and at the same time imparts to the character all the brutality and heartlessness that is necessary. A capital rendering of Prince Othmar is supplied by Mr. W. H. Hallatt, whose excellent reading of the rôle is fully convincing, while he speaks his lines clearly and well. As Prince Maurice of Saxonia, Mr. Alec Alexander plays with manliness and vigour; and as the fiery, war-loving General Gessler, Mr. Richard Webb is perfect. Sergeant Kasper is suitably portrayed by Mr. Arthur J. Moss; and the lighter scenes are well attended to by Mr. Henry B. Lewis and Mr. Herbert Passmore, as Henrick and Fritz respectively. Miss Blanche Steele does all that is possible as Shulah; and Miss Julie De Esco thoroughly performs her duties as Corona. As Katinka and Gretchen, Miss Lizzie Lennon and Miss Hettie Ferguson are well placed. Miss Ellen Snow supplies a truly pathetic portrayal of Iris, Princess of Idala. Her performance is full of feeling, and she thoroughly deserves the appreciation accorded. The minor parts are adequately filled by other members of the company. Mr. H. A. Chappell, Messrs. Melville's energetic and courteous acting-manager, is happily once more at his post, after a long and severe illness, and we trust he will quickly recover his full health and strength.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, May 6, the Pantomimical Comedy, entitled
"THE SWISS EXPRESS."

The visit of this popular musical pantomimical comedy is meeting with its usual success at the Shakespeare Theatre this week, and at each performance the house has been well filled. With Messrs. Charles and Fred Renad, supported by an excellent company doing full justice to the comicalities, the whole performance is one carnival of laughter. Messrs. C. and F. Renad, in the rôles of Dr. Gull's eccentric servants, are a host in themselves, and their clever fooling and knock-about business keeps the fun going fast and furious. Mr. Wilfred E. Brandon, in the part of Dr. Gull, proves himself a comedian of no mean order, and scores a decided success with his droll antics and witty remarks. Mr. Alex Wylie gives a humorous picture of Dudley Green, a dude of the first water, and Mr. Basil Reynolds as Bob Rollingstone puts in some excellent work. In their respective parts Mr. Harry H. Vernon as Rhino and Mr. Harwood Cooper as Jack Gadabout render good support; and mention should also be made of Mr. Charles Gray as Mr. Septimus Squeeze and Mr. Cecil Barrett as the Gendarme. Miss Celestine Brandon as Virginia is a charming and sprightly bride, sings and acts with vivacity, and contributes greatly to the enjoyment of the piece. Miss Blanche Vernon, in the part of Mrs. Septimus Squeeze, creates a favourable impression. Miss Lottie Stone's Palace Quartette of vocalists and dancers are deserving of special mention for their clever dancing. The orchestra, under the direction of Mr. H. E. J. Nation, renders valuable assistance, and the stage management is well looked after by Mr. Harry H. Vernon. Mr. E. De Hague Body is the acting-manager for Mr. H. G. Dudley Bennett.

THE PRINCE'S, POPLAR.

On Monday, May 6, the Play, by Arthur Shirley and Sutton Vane, entitled
"THE SPIDER AND THE FLY."

A full house on Monday night gave a hearty reception to Messrs. Carpenter and Cooper's company, who presented Messrs. Arthur Shirley and Sutton Vane's drama, *The Spider and the Fly*. Since its production on Aug. 6 last at Kennington this piece has achieved a continuous success, which is not in any way surprising, considering that it is a well-written play full of vitality and dramatic freshness, with a well thought out story which develops with remarkable straightforwardness. The patrons of the Prince's keenly relished the situations, which they followed with direct attention, while the play is performed with a vigour and verve that reflects high credit upon the whole of the company. Mr. Benson North is to be complimented for his natural and realistic delineation of the hero, Cyril Girdlestone, and a powerful impersonation of the unscrupulous Welby Girdlestone is given by Mr. Ellis J. Preston; while a capable portrayal of the pastor, the Rev. Mr. McAllister is seen in Mr. H. C. Lanceley. Miss Amy Venimore commands attention, and gives a consistent rendering of the treacherous and vindictive Stella Grey, known as the Spider, and Miss Nina Vaughton presents a conception of Edith McAllister, which is marked with care and consistency and gains the full sympathy of the house. Miss Lucy Murray makes a charming and ingenuous Molly Blake, and a neat character-sketch of the lodging-house keeper, Jane Ellen Scriver, is found in Miss Ada Palmer. Miss Winifred Barton is exceptionally good as the mudlark Flips, and the two fisher girls, Polly and Abigal, are competently enacted by Miss Kate Parker and Miss Nellie Burgess. Mr. Arthur H. Hill invests David Strong with the necessary breeziness, and Mr. Charles Russell is amusing as the eccentric Romulus Roe, being ably supported by Mr. Charles A. Preece as Remus Roe. Mr. G. H. Thomas scores as Sergeant Blatchet, and Mr. Robert Castle is efficient as Jack Naylor. The play is exceptionally well-staged and mounted, the final scene calling for special mention.

THE PAVILION.

On Monday, May 6, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Jacob Gordin, entitled
"THE WILD MAN."

Unabated interest is still being shown by the Yiddish patrons of the Pavilion, who throng the theatre at all performances in large numbers, thus testifying their appreciation of the good fare provided. On Monday night the stage-manager, Mr. Joseph Fineberg, was accorded a benefit, and on this occasion Mr. Jacob Gordin's drama, *The Wild Man*, was played by the Jewish Operatic and Dramatic Company. The piece affords many opportunities for strong, virile acting, and was given with that all-round completeness which has characterised every production this company has presented. Mr. Charles Natansohn, who had evidently well studied the part, is incisive and telling as Lemech, rising to great intensity in the final scene; while the villainous Schmuel Leiblich is depicted by Mr. J. Fineberg with a graphic strength that holds the house. Mme. Natansohn, with her well-known dramatic abilities, makes the very trying and arduous rôle of Lizah stand out with much distinctness; and as the second wife, Zelde, Miss R. Bryh is exceedingly praiseworthy. Mr. M. Gusofsky is a clever exponent of Simon, rendering his lines with refreshing vigour, while the not over strong comedy element is made the most of by Mr. J. Scherman, who portrays Alexander in his usual finished style. Mme. Goldstein sustained Schifre with commendable effect, and Mr. Fischman was natural as Vladimir Vorobeichick. The scenery and effects were in the best possible taste. Performances have been given during the week of *Deborah*, *The Jewish Hamlet*, *The Jewish Zaza*, and *Holy Sabbath*.

GRAND, FULHAM.

On Monday, May 6, H. J. Byron's Comedy,
"OUR BOYS."

Is *Our Boys* to become immortal? It would seem so from the reception given to H. J. Byron's comedy this week at the Fulham Theatre. Mr. Russell Rosse, who has got together a good company, takes the leading rôle of Sir Geoffrey Champneys, giving a good representation of the stiff-necked old aristocrat. Mr. Norman Clark plays capitally as Perkyn Middlewick, and makes the most of the rich humour of the butterman, being an excellent foil to Sir Geoffrey. Mr. J. Edward Fraser does well as Charlie Middlewick, playing the part with all the necessary youthful vigour; Mr. George Mudie, jun., must be voted a success as Talbot Champneys, getting plenty of fun out of the part. Miss Rachel de Travis is an amusing Clarissa Champneys, and Miss E. Nolan O'Connor a properly dignified and stately Violet Melrose; Miss Edith Hesketh as Belinda gives a good study of the lodging-house "slavey"; and Miss L. Kingston must be given warm praise for her work as Mary Melrose. Her acting is full of life and spirit. *Our Boys* is preceded by Theyre Smith's *A Happy Pair*, which afforded amusement, the parts of the newly-married couple being capitally played by Mr. George Mudie and Miss L. Kingston.

THE LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, May 6, the Drama, entitled
"THE LOVE THAT WOMEN DESIRE."

A crowded house on Monday night witnessed this interesting play, and the audience followed with keen interest the evolution of the plot. Mr. Carlton Wallace has got a most capable company together. Mr. H. Bonhote Wilson has an excellent part in Philip Carnaby, the hero, and he acquits himself admirably in it. Philip's sweetheart, Sybil Thorburn, is prettily played by Miss Lalla Stanhope. Mr. J. O. Stewart is a good Squire Abingdon, the unscrupulous guardian of Sybil, and his villainous son, Richard Abingdon, is well portrayed by Mr. Alfred Brandon. Mr. Graham Winsford makes Frank Hardy a most interesting character; Miss Gladys Murray plays Madge Abingdon with good effect; Dennis O'Rourke is capably portrayed by Mr. John Hignett, who keeps the audience thoroughly amused in his comic scenes, and he is just as good in Act 3 when for a while he has to be serious. As P.C. Sowerburry, Mr. J. W. Wilkinson is excellent, and is the cause of much merriment; Miss Emmie Litchfield is a smart Pattie Swift; Miss N. Griffiths is clever as Mariquinha, an Indian maid; and other parts are well filled by Mr. Hugh Wallace as the Rev. Arnold Cathorne, Mr. Charles Franklin as Adam Frere, Mr. B. Morris as Amos Gibson (the squire's bailiff), Mr. Oliver Turnbull as Sammy Hogg, and Mr. James Heath, Mr. Bert Butler, Mr. S. Bale, and Mr. Stephen Willis (an Indian brave). The play is well mounted, the Brazilian scenes in Act 3 being particularly effective.

THE TERRISS.

On Monday, May 6, the Drama,
by Fred S. Jennings, entitled
"WHY WOMAN SINS."

Mr. Ashley Page brings all his well-known ability to bear with the most successful results upon the character of the hero, Lieut. Harry Maxwell, R.N., in *Why Woman Sins*. Miss Marion Denvil plays with distinction and true womanly feeling as Nell Desmond; Mr. J. C. Aubrey well illustrates the villainy of Captain Herbert Carlson. Mr. Johnny Chippendale gets many a laugh as Sam Spavins, and Mr. Gerald Morgan helps the fun materially as Bobby Beans. Miss East Robertson supplies a powerful impersonation of the adventuress, Ida Valetta; and Miss Mollie Percival is a pert and prepossessing Nancy Nibble. Miss Mattie Everett gives an excellent interpretation of the music hall star, Lily De Vere; Mr. John Sargent is forcible and realistic as the ne'er-do-well, Jim Rainbird; Mr. Tom Taylor, the able stage-manager at this theatre, is a dignified Admiral Headfast; and Mr. Weldon Atherstone does all that is possible with the rôle of Major Algy Belton. Mr. David Noble is good as Cecil Spencer; while Miss Elsie Jezzard makes a pathetic sketch as Jack Smith, the cabin boy. The scenery and effects are quite adequate. On Friday last week and at a matinée on Saturday a special performance was given of *The Merchant of Venice*, with Mr. Ashley Page as Shylock and Miss Marion Denvil as Portia, the production being very favourably received.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, May 6, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Walter Howard, entitled
"MAN AND WIFE."

A capital representation of the absorbing play *Man and Wife* is being given this week in Marylebone by the talented members of Mr. T. Edward Ward's carefully-selected company. As Paul Revere Mr. John F. Traynor puts in some highly-effective work, his earnest methods and robust activity being peculiarly suitable to the part; Mr. Ambrose Horton decisively portrays Sergeant Jacques; Mr. Edward Van Biene is alertness itself as Colonel Latour; and Mr. Wilson Coleman plays with such deliberate brutality and harshness as Captain D'Esparre that the indignation of the West Londoners is deeply stirred. As Bimbo and Bambo Mr. Sydney Bryant and Mr. Val Gully are agile and versatile, their comicalities being much appreciated. The important rôle of the crippled boy, Jean, is sustained by Miss Ethel F. Greene with much emotional force, her performance being a thoroughly sound one; Miss Pollie Denville is a bright and cheery Rosette; Miss Kate Hallam as the long-suffering Marcelle brings tears to many eyes. The minor characters are all carefully played, and the interest in the piece is well maintained throughout.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

An extraordinary general meeting of the members of the Actors' Association was held on Monday afternoon, at the Passmore Edwards' Settlement, Tavistock-place, W.C., for the purpose of considering, and, if thought fit, of passing, certain resolutions affecting the constitution of the Association. Mr. George Alexander, at the desire of the meeting, took the chair, and others in a numerous gathering included Miss Carlotta Addison, Miss Victoria Addison, Miss Barbara Allison, Mr. Arthur Applin, Mr. Henry Armstrong, Mr. H. Granville Barker, Mr. W. Barnett-Parker, Mr. John Beamish, Mr. Chas. B. Bedells, Mr. Henry Bute, Mr. Edmond Beresford, Mr. J. Cooke Beresford, Miss Marian J. Bird, Mr. Acton Bond, Mr. Archie Bradshaw, Mr. John H. Brewer, Mr. Cecil Brooking, Miss Fanny Brough, Mr. M. Stanley Burt, Miss Lydia Busch, Mr. William J. Butler, Mr. V. Willox Cadogan, Miss Elsie Carew, Miss Ethel B. Carlton, Mr. Lewis Casson, Mr. Robert Castleton, Mr. Cyril Cattley, Mr. H. Nye Chart, Miss Beatrice Chester, Mr. C. Hayden Coffin, Mr. C. F. Collings, Miss May Conrade, Miss Italia Conti, Mr. Burton Cooke, Miss Mildred Cottell, Mr. Percy Crawford, Mr. F. Cremlin, Miss Edith Cuthbert, Miss Beatrix de Burgh, Miss Blanche de Lorme, Mr. William Devereux, Mr. Ernest A. Douglas, Miss Mary Douglas, Mr. A. E. Drinkwater, Mr. George Dudley, Miss Barbara Fenn, Mr. Ben Field, Mr. Lindsay Fincham, Mr. H. Athol Forde, Mr. Vere Gerald, Mr. C. Robertson Gibbon, Miss Eleanor Gilbart, Mr. Ernest Gosset, Miss Clare Greet, Mr. Fred Grove, Mr. John Hames, Miss Georgina Hamilton, Miss Florence Harcourt, Miss Ada D. Hatchwell, Miss Hilda Hatton, Miss Maude Henderson, Mr. Gwynne Herbert, Mr. A. T. Hilton, Mr. Roy Horniman, Mr. Walter Hubert, Mr. Frederic Jacques, Mr. S. Major Jones, Mr. Philip Knox, Miss Amy Lamborn, Miss Stella Leigh, Miss Vera Leslie, Mrs. L. L'Estrange, Miss Rose Macdonald, Miss Nora Mahone, Mr. D. Lewin Mannering, Miss Mary Mannering, Mr. George Mallett, Mr. A. E. Maskell, Miss Rose Mathews, Mr. Herbert Maule, Miss Evelyn Maxwell, Mr. Gerald Maxwell, Miss Kate Maynard, Miss Rosamond Mayne-Young, Miss Winifred Mayo, Miss Beatrice Mervyn, Mr. Chas. McLagan, Mr. Archibald McLean, Miss Agnes Miller, Miss Irene Moncrieff, Miss Louise Moodie, Mr. Edward Morgan, Mr. F. Morland, Mr. Arthur Morris, Miss Margaret Murch, Miss M'Aimee Murray, Mr. Kenyon Musgrave, Mr. Russell Norrie, Miss Theresa Osborne, Mr. Edward Ouston, Mr. Norman Page, Mr. Robson Paige, Miss Margaret Parker, Miss Lala Pelham, Miss Joan Pereira, Miss Kate Phillips, Mr. Cecil Raleigh, Miss Evelyn Raymond, Miss Alys Rees, Mr. Edward Rigby, Mr. Reginald Rivington, Mr. Stanley Roberts, Mr. Stanley Ronalds, Mr. Walter Russell, Miss Gertrude Scott, Mr. C. Aubrey Smith, Mr. Adnam Sprange, Miss Blanche Stanley, Miss Marie L. Stevens, Miss Rosie Stevens, Miss Emma Stockley, Mr. Algernon Syms, Mr. James C. Taylor, Miss Agnes Thomas, Mr. Brandon Thomas, Mr. F. Topham, Miss Lilian Tweed, Mr. Arthur Vezin, Miss Gracie Vicat, Mr. Frederick Volpe, Mr. Allan Wade, Mr. Franklyn Walford, Mr. Albert Ward, Miss May Warley, Mr. T. Gideon Warren, Mr. Ben Webster, Mr. M. Davies Webster, Mr. Stephen Wentworth, Mr. Arthur Whitby, Miss May Whitty, Mr. Frank Withers, Mr. Arthur Wontner, and Mr. Charles Cruikshanks (secretary).

Fully 800 members of the Association did not take part in the voting, either personally or by proxy, but others had sent in their proxies or had appointed Mr. Charles Cruikshanks, the secretary, to vote on their behalf.

After the Secretary had read the notice convening the meeting,

Mr. Cecil Raleigh said that the Council had issued an inaccurate document, and that, as this document was therefore invalid, he begged to propose that the proxies also be considered invalid. He begged to challenge those proxies on the ground that they were illegal and unjust.

It transpired that the inaccuracy to which Mr. Raleigh referred concerned a paragraph on the question paper as follows:—

"Do you agree that in future the President and Vice-Presidents be elected for life by the Council, but that they shall be members of Council unless elected as ordinary members?"

The latter part of the sentence should have read, "but that they shall not be elected as members of Council," &c., the word "not" having been omitted.

The Chairman said that he did not think that anyone had been misled by what was a clerical error.

After some discussion it was agreed that the question should be adjourned.

The following resolutions, which were before the meeting, were then dealt with:—

That the Articles of Association be amended as follows:—

To Article IV. add—

"But no Manager shall be qualified to become President, Vice-President, or Member of the Association, and any such office-holder or Member becoming a Manager shall *ipso facto* vacate his office and be suspended from all privileges of membership so long as he shall remain a Manager.

"The term Manager is to be held to include all responsible Managers of Theatres, or Theatrical Companies, and their General, Business, and Acting Managers."

At the commencement of Article IX. add the words—

"The Council shall elect a President and shall have power to elect Vice-Presidents. The President and Vice-Presidents shall be or shall have been actors, and, subject to the provisions of Article IV., shall hold office for life or till they resign."

To Article IX. add the words—

"The provisions of Article IV. shall not apply to Life Members elected before January 1, 1907."

Delete Article XI. and replace by—

"The Association shall be governed by a Council consisting of 25 Members, who shall hold office for one year and shall retire at the time appointed for the Annual General Meeting, any retiring member being eligible for re-election. The Council shall have power to transact all the business of the Association, five to form a quorum.

"Any two Members whose subscriptions for the current year are paid may give to the Secretary a notice or notices signed by them nominating any qualified member or members as a candidate or candidates for the Council. Such notices shall contain the name and address of the proposed candidate or candidates, and shall be signed by him or them. Such notices shall be sent to the Secretary not less than 21 days before the date of the Annual General Meeting. If the candidates are not more in number than are required to fill the vacancies they shall be declared to be elected at that Meeting. But if a greater number of candidates are nominated than there are vacancies to be filled, voting papers shall be issued by post to all the Members of the Association containing the names of the candidates. The voting papers shall be sent out by the Secretary 14 days prior to the date of the Annual General Meeting, and must be filled in and signed by the Members and returned to the Secretary before the commencement of the Annual General Meeting."

Article XV. to read—

Delete from "time when the term" to the end of Article, and add the words "next Annual General Meeting."

Article XXIII., Delete "President, Vice-Presidents, and"

Article XXIV., Delete.

Article XXV., Section 2, Delete from "But if a greater number" to "hereinafter provided."

Article XXV., Section 3, Delete section and substitute "If the election has been by voting

papers the members present shall elect four scrutineers who shall examine the voting papers, and after the same have been counted the result shall be published at the Offices of the Association."

That Articles 7 and 8 be deleted and be replaced by the following :—

SUBSCRIPTION.

7. The Entrance Fee shall be Five Shillings.

8. The Annual Subscription shall be Fifteen Shillings payable in advance on January 1 in each year, or Eighteen Shillings payable in advance by equal instalments on January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1 in each year, and only those Members whose Subscriptions are paid shall be entitled to vote at any Meeting.

Should a Member fail to pay his Subscription within seventy days after it is due his membership shall cease, but he may be re-elected by the Council upon payment of arrears and a re-instatement fee of One Shilling.

The Subscription of any person elected on or after April 1 shall be regulated by the quarterages for the remainder of the year.

The Council may, at their discretion, suspend payment of Subscription by Members travelling Abroad.

MR. GRANVILLE BARKER, in proposing the first resolution, said there were people who thought that the Association should be the representative body of the theatre, and there were other people who thought that it should be an association of actors. A profession should be governed by a body acting under a charter which gave them the power to say to anyone, "If you do not agree to that, you cannot practise in our profession." The professions of medicine and law had that power. The Actors' Association had not, and he did not see any possibility of their gaining it. The other alternative was that the profession should be regulated by agreement between employers and employed. But the Association, consisting, as it did, of employers and employed, did not contain the proper mechanism for arriving at an agreement. What they required as actors was an association that could do collective bargaining with managers. They should bring their Association into line with the objects of the Actors' Union, so that those who had already joined that body would come back to the Association.

MR. AUBREY SMITH thought that the exclusion of managers would be tantamount to opening the door to strikes. The presence of the actor-manager had not been detrimental to the interests of the actor, and it was a hostile action to attempt to drive the managers away. If they removed the actor-managers, to whom would the public have to look to as the representative body of the theatrical profession?

MR. ACTON BOND said that Parliament and the London County Council had from time to time appealed to them as the representative body of the theatrical profession. Artists should remember that the actor-managers had always been on their side against the trusts. The name of the Actors' Union had been mentioned. He would point out that that Union charged £1 a year for doing something less than the Actors' Association did for 15s.

MR. A. E. DRINKWATER stated that during several years' experience he could not recall one instance where the interests of the actor in any degree suffered by the presence of the manager among them.

MR. CECIL RALEIGH said affairs could not be satisfactorily carried on by master and man working together; they must be dragged apart by their separate interests.

MR. BRANDON THOMAS said he had served on the Council, and if the resolution was passed and his service was not required any longer, it would afford him the utmost pleasure to have two days in the week to himself. He wished the new *régime* every success.

The CHAIRMAN said he could not see why the members of the Actors' Association should be in the least alarmed because this new association had been formed. They could not possibly object to that new association; in fact, they should do all in their power to help it. He had heard a good deal about the employer and the employed. As far as the actor-manager was concerned, he did not think it was possible to ask the actor and the manager to feel towards each other in the ordinary manner of employed and employer. He knew that Mr. Cecil Raleigh was a very practical man, but he had heard Mr. Raleigh talk about matters which were not wholly connected with the position of the actor and of the manager. Mr. Barker had said that there was no chance of getting a charter from the Actors' Association, but Mr. Bolton (their solicitor) would tell them that the charter was a perfectly possible and a perfectly safe thing to obtain. He entreated them not to destroy the fabric of the Association without giving it another trial. He did think that the actor-managers of London had done a great deal for the welfare and comfort of members of the profession, and he was fully of opinion that the Association could exist on its present basis, and that the question of trades unionism could be discussed and dealt with in another association.

The meeting then divided on the proposition, and of those present

71 voted in favour, and
61 voted against.

The Secretary announced that

93 proxies were in favour, and
75 were against,

the total voting showing

164 in favour of exclusion of managers from the Association, and
136 against.

The figures were received by the "ayes" with considerable enthusiasm, which somewhat abated when they were told by the Secretary that the resolution was lost, as there was not a three-quarters majority, which, according to the rules of the Association, was necessary to the carrying of any proposition affecting the constitution of the Articles of Association; 265 out of the 300 votes would have been required to pass the resolution, and there were only 164.

It was decided not to proceed with the resolutions concerning Article IX.

MR. LEWIS CASSON, in proposing the next resolution, said that there had been 3500 names on the books of the Association, but at the present time there were only 1200. They had lost by resignations 2000 members, and that meant that they were losing members at the rate of 125 a year. There were members of the Council who had not attended a single meeting, and the contention of these transgressors was, that as there were as many as forty-two on the Council, it would not make much difference if a few kept away from the meetings. It was thought that if the number were reduced to twenty-five every one of the twenty-five would feel an obligation to attend.

MR. ACTON BOND stated that it had always been their endeavour to get as many members of the Council to meet as they possibly could, so as to be thoroughly representative of the provinces, and all the circumstances did not favour a better condition of things with the reduced membership.

On a division being taken, it was found that there was a preponderance of those present in favour of the resolution, in addition to 111 of the proxies, there being only 59 proxies against.

The resolution was therefore declared to be carried.

The second portion of the resolution, taken as a separate item, was proposed by MR. CECIL BROOKING, seconded by MR. AUBREY SMITH, and carried.

MR. MORLAND proposed, and MR. FREDK. TOPHAM seconded, the resolutions in regard to Articles XV., XXIII., XXIV., and XXV. Carried.

MR. AUBREY SMITH proposed, and MR. WM. DEVEREUX seconded, the concluding resolution in regard to the subscription.

MR. TOPHAM proposed an amendment to the effect that the subscription, payable by instalments, be 16s., and not 18s.

MR. RALEIGH seconded the amendment.

The SECRETARY stated that he held 149 proxies in favour of the original resolution and 17 against.

The amendment was lost, and the resolution was carried.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the proceedings.

The resolutions passed at this meeting are to be confirmed at another extraordinary general meeting to be held on the 27th inst., at two o'clock, at the Passmore Edwards' Settlement.

A REPLY TO MR. BARKER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—I beg to enclose you a reply to Mr. Barker's open letter of last week :—

(COPY.)

MY DEAR BARKER,—I have to thank you for your most interesting letter to me published in *The Era* of to-day's date. Should the suggestions of the "Reform Party" of the Actors' Association be approved of at next Monday's meeting, the greatest loss that will accrue will be in your self-enforced exclusion. There are only two points where I differ from your views—this is one of them.

The other is that, in my humble opinion, the existing state of affairs in the Actors' Association does not permit of the managers being requested to withdraw. You say "I am also told that, after all the financial help given by managers to the Association, this treatment will appear ungrateful."

I am afraid it decidedly will. All actors who have an independent spirit will echo your words, "No one regrets more than I that charitable help was ever begged, no matter from whom."

But that charitable help *was* solicited and accepted. When one has been living, practically rent free, in the house of a friend, one cannot well shut the door in his face. If the obligation has become irksome, surely the more dignified way out of the difficulty is to give up the tenancy, while thanking our friend for his hospitality, and take a house on our own account.

I quite agree with you that the Reform Party of the Actors' Association and the newly-organised "Actors' Union" should join forces and start housekeeping.

They would begin with the respect and goodwill of the public, of managers, and of actors, for, having solicited no man's charity, they could not be reproached with benefits forgot.—Yours always sincerely,

W. F.,

May 4, 1907.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—The result of Monday's meeting is unsatisfactory. The actor-managers of London, whose goodwill to us has never been doubted, have naturally sent in their resignations, and yet the Association has not barred out any actor-manager who does not choose to resign—so no parties are satisfied.

Mr. George Alexander, Mr. Tree, Mr. Frank Benson, and others of our actor-managers belong to the A.A., and have helped it most generously, because they are actors first and managers afterwards, and have always said publicly if it were for the good of the Association for them to retire they would retire at once, so that they probably cannot understand the strong feeling against the presence of managers in the Actors' Association that exists among the rank and file of the profession. I, and many others, have absolutely failed to get anyone to join the Association this year, though I have tried my hardest to gain recruits, and in every case the answer was the same: "What's the good of it? You've got managers belonging to it." And to Mr. Aubrey Smith's argument that "the presence of managers has never been in any way prejudicial to the Association and that managers' and actors' interests should be identical," the answer was: "Why have the managers an Association for the protection of their interests to which actors are not eligible if the actors and managers interests are identical?"

The fact that the membership of the A.A. has decreased from a possible total of 3,000 to 1,200 speaks for itself as to there being something radically wrong. That is why the Reform Party was so loyally supported at the last election, and that is why I, and many others who think like me, voted for the Reform Party last Monday. We supported the motion for the exclusion of managers as the lesser of two evils, but, at the same time, we do consider it an evil to lose the comradeship and "association" of our actor-managers. Is there not the possibility of a compromise?

Apart from the unfortunately large body of actors, both inside and outside the A.A., who take no interest in their profession, and who if they belong to the A.A. do nothing but vilify it on every possible occasion, there are three distinct parties at present in the Association :—

1st. The Radicals, or whole-hoggers, who say every manager must go;

2nd. The Moderates, who object to managers as managers, but think the actor-manager has a claim as an actor, and do not wish to lose the most distinguished members of the profession through excluding actor-managers entirely, but wish to limit their power;

3rd. The Conservatives, who wish to admit managers of every description, whether qualified as actors or not.

I venture to say many of the members of the reform movement are Moderates, and feel that the Actors' Association should be primarily an Association for the furthering of the interests of actors, exactly on the same principle that the Managers' Association exists to protect managers' interests. But the actor-manager is an anomaly. He combines in his person the employer and the employee. If we lost him the Actors' Association ceases to be representative; we lose the flower of the dramatic profession, and, moreover, we lose the men whose sound business instinct and whose experience and respected position are of incalculable value to us. Yet if we retain him we lose the confidence of the rank and file of the profession, and probably the A.A. will come to an end of its existence owing to the leakage in its membership increasing. I, therefore, suggest a compromise.

Could we not have two forms of membership and two Councils—Lords and Commons, or members and associates? The members should be actors only, and should elect their own Council of members. The associates to be actor-managers and hon. members, and to be eligible (with the members) for the General Council of the Actors' Association.

The Council of Members should have sole power to control the finances of the Association and to deal with all matters that referred to the employment of the actor by the manager, or of the conditions under which the actor worked on the form of contract between actor and manager. These matters could be discussed and decided by the Members' Council alone, and if any member became a manager (temporarily or otherwise) during his term of service he should automatically retire from the Council and lose his vote for so long a time as he remained a manager.

The General Council should consist of the president, vice-presidents, and an elective body of associates and members elected by the members and associates of the A.A., and should deal with all the matters that the old Council have dealt with so ably, in the past—such as Actors' Day, the Irving Memorial, sanitation of theatres, &c.—but should have no power over the finances and no power to discuss the relations of actor and manager.

Will our actor-managers hold their resignations over until this scheme has been fully discussed?—Yours faithfully,

ITALIA CONTI.

THE ACTORS' UNION.

LONDON.

The enthusiasm of the members of the Actors' Union was put to a severe test on Tuesday, when, despite a heavy downpour, a good muster attended the weekly meeting at 3, Bedford-street, Strand. Mr. H. Tripp Edgar occupied the chair, and those present included Mr. Arthur Bawtree, Mr. W. Ruddle Brown, Mr. James C. Taylor, Miss Gladys Ffolliott, and Messrs. Charles Sugden, Robson Paige, Oswald Marshall, William Lockhart, Frederic Jacques, H. Paulton, jun., Edward Petley, P. Howard Sturgess, Edwin J. Collins, Roy Barraclough, Edward Chester, Gifford Reynolds, Arthur St. John, Edwin Palmer, Edwyn Wolseley, Stanley Roberts, Henry Nelson, Harry Scott, W. H. G. Wynne, Reynolds, E. Y. Rae, Fred Prior, Robin Shiels, James Manning, F. H. De Quincey, Geo. H. Child, Hugh Mewburn, H. Carlyle Pritchard; Mrs. Marshall, Misses May Conrade, Beatrice Lloyd, Mabel Syringa, May Bessle, Nellie Howitt, Agnes Paulton, Lily Crammonde, and Dorothy Mackenzie.

The CHAIRMAN, whose speech was warmly applauded throughout, said they were not there for the purposes of pleasure, but on business. They had a set purpose before them—that of the advancement of actor unionists. He thought that no person there was at all pessimistic as to the ultimate result of their efforts, that the Actors' Union had not only arrived, but had come to stay. Why? Because they were fighting earnestly in a good cause, and a good cause needed no recommendation. They were vigorously prosecuting their work, and he believed in the end they were bound to achieve a success. One great thing they should all bear in mind was that they should be practical in everything they did. Sentiment had too long ruled their councils, and they must be more businesslike in the future. Their Union was to be ruled on democratic lines, for they all knew that the age of democracy had arrived, and the days of privilege were numbered. They should have every legitimate protection that they could get by combination, and he believed that if they succeeded as they felt they were bound to succeed, they would soon see on the stage reputable and decent companies instead of the retrograde combinations that were simply clearing out audiences from the theatres and driving them into the music halls. Then would they return to fair percentages and to the respectable salaries that they remembered in the far-off days. He would, if he might, give an idea of the percentages that existed. Last year he was playing in a certain theatre a very good piece with a company every one of whom had a reputation and a well-known name. The manager took £100, and the company got £82 gross for seven shows. He would take them for a moment to the question of chorus girls, to whom their sympathies were given. They were often called upon to rehearse for five weeks, and the play did not run more than five or six. They had to pay perhaps a £2 fare, and they would get at the very most £2 per week—that would mean that they would have a sovereign a week during the run. Could they expect girls to lead a respectable life on £1 a week and possibly send a little home to their mothers and families? They would endeavour to remedy these things, and get for these girls a minimum wage of £2 a week, and payment for rehearsals. Referring to "Actors' Day," the speaker said they had given their performances that night very willingly. He had the pleasure of giving a night's salary, and several other members of the company—not all, but several—contributed; but he believed that, to this day, the Actors' Benevolent Fund had not received one farthing. The money still laid in the hands of three trustees. They were not there to discuss other societies' affairs; but, he asked, were those funds to still lie there idle? If they were in trouble as to how to allocate the funds they might call in the council of the Actors' Union. It was suggested to him the other day that one or two people had crept into their Union and were calling themselves "Fellows," when they could only qualify for "Associates." They did not want anybody to occupy that position who had only served eight or ten months. They should be very careful to nominate only those who had had the necessary five years' experience. Should there be any members who were made "Fellows" when they should only be "Associates," they should very seriously consider their position. Mr. Edgar, referring to the unfair competition of premium paying unpaid people, thought it was something of an anomaly that actor-unionists should hold their meeting in an academy for the incubation of anæmics. He recalled the fact that after making what he would bluntly call a hit in a part in a London theatre, he rather anticipated and hoped that he would have had the honour of being asked to play it on tour; but a raw amateur was engaged instead. The man did his best in the part, and when he returned he said, "My dear Tripp, that part was built for you—and me!" Referring to advertisements in the newspapers, Mr. Edgar quoted an extract from one in which artists were required for a sketch on the halls to give a week's rehearsal, then play for a week, on the chance of being afterwards engaged if the sketch was sold or produced. The subject of payment for rehearsals, continued Mr. Edgar, should be approached very, very seriously, because it established a principle. Rules and regulations were sometimes altered, changed, or rescinded, but principles they must leave alone. There was a very scarce amount of equity in their profession, despite the fact that the law distinctly states that there must be consideration given to every contract. What consideration did they get for the amount of rehearsals that they gave? No material consideration and very little of the other. The law distinctly told them there must be consideration for a man's work. They maintained that an actor does work, and that he is entitled to be paid. If he was rehearsing, and the manager said, "You must not only attend in the morning, but must come in the afternoon," and he replied that he was very sorry, but he had got a concert on, no Court in this country would give the manager a verdict. He had a little plan of his own which he would unfold presently, but before doing so he would ask them seriously to consider their standpoint. What was the basis of their profession? It had a very slender foundation. The stage was essentially a luxury and not a necessity. It was built entirely on speculation, and anything that they did to thwart that speculation might be to their ultimate disadvantage. He would suggest that they should be careful not to do anything that would check the sources of supply. They wanted to tap the sources of supply, not restrict them. They must be very careful, therefore, not to upset the equation of supply and demand. The great majority of plays produced were distinct failures; therefore, if they did anything to pile up the sum of monetary speculation on the managerial shoulders they might be checking that speculation. His plan with regard to payment for rehearsals was that advance monies should be paid to artists per week at the rate of half salaries, recoverable on the salaries after production. A manager might rehearse them for a couple of months, but the play only run for a week. He, therefore, stood to lose, and that, he maintained, was the consideration as demanded by law. He wanted managers to feel that there was no animus in their proceedings. There was nothing more pleasing to notice than that, although they had been suffering under bitter wrongs, they never allowed the waters of bitterness to flow. They wanted to look upon managers as the same right-minded men as they hoped to be by an adherence to principles that were right, fair, and just. Finally, he trusted they would be inspired with the belief that the stage was a great and noble calling, not a mean and grovelling thing to travel through as you may, but an elevated and lofty destiny.

Mr. J. C. TAYLOR said the Actors' Union was not formed with the idea of being antagonistic to anybody. Their idea was to organise a body of artists for the protection of one another. Several organisations had already been formed, and certain grievances settled; but the only occasion on which they had attempted to do anything for the profession they had given way in favour of the managers. In a properly organised body it would never have been possible for the Actors' Day Fund to be collected without knowing beforehand what was to be done with the money. They had formed their Union because they felt that they wanted to be able to meet freely and without being spied upon by the people they had difficulties with. They wanted to try and right some of their wrongs, and to hear all sides of the question. He would like it to be clearly understood that it was not necessary to have a five years' qualification to be eligible for membership; that period referred only to the position of a "Fellow" as distinguished from an "Associate." Referring to the remarks of the chairman with regard to payment for rehearsals, he thought that theatrical performance was a matter of public demand. If the public wanted a performance, and the manager saw a way of making money, then he would have the show, whatever he had to pay for it. They had decided that it was necessary to unite. Let them stick to the principles of unity, and not split at any time on minor points.

Miss GLADYS FFOLLIOTT said that first of all, before they could do anything, they must increase their numbers, and remember that their watchword was "Unity." It was by absolute unity that the Japs licked the Russians. They should go by the majority, and it was only by sinking personal feeling that reforms were achieved. The V.A.F. had achieved a very good thing for the variety artists; but theatrical people differed from those of the music halls from the fact that the latter were very often their own managers, while the former were dependent one upon the other. Miss Ffolliott deprecated any tendency towards a strike. If they showed their teeth, let them show them properly. She thought they might do without ladies on the committee for the first year. There was some hard work to be done that really required men to do it, and she thought they would be doing right in having a "he" committee. Payment for rehearsals would, no doubt, come in time. They should endeavour to winnow out those terrible moneyed amateurs. They should re-enact the story of St. George and the dragon, with the Union in the part of St. George. Then the performances would improve, and percentages would go up.

Mr. CHARLES SUGDEN, who was very cordially received, said he had been advised to answer some advertisements in a contemporary, and he would read two of the replies from the advertisers. He had used the name of "Violet Fanshawe," as being a likely draw. One was from a theatrical and musical comedy company, and said "Yours received. Will call on Monday between 6 and 6.30." But at 7.30 a gentleman rushed up to Mrs. Sugden and asked how much her daughter would be likely to find! He also had a letter from a lady which said, "Dear madame, thanks for your favour received. I require a lady to understudy my part and play small part also. The premium would be £50, to be returned at £1 per week for twelve months. I guarantee a very long engagement." His reply was to the effect that arrangements could be made with Mr. and Mrs. Charles Sugden to produce the drama *The Last Drop of the Mug*, and that the rights could be had on very favourable terms. Mr. Sugden referred to the letter in *The Era* in which it was suggested that the Actors' Union should go in a body into the Actors' Association, but he hoped that the Association would have to come to them in a body. His advice to them was not to argue about trifling things until the Actors' Union was settled. Let them get two or three thousand people, and then make rules and argue.

Mr. EDWARD BEECHER read the report of the Hull meeting last week, which was enthusiastically received. With regard to payment for rehearsals he referred to an incident in his own experience. After rehearsing eight hours on Friday, and seven on Saturday, there was a call for Sunday, which read, "Everybody at two o'clock on Sunday, and no waiting, *as the stage hands have to be paid!*"

Mr. W. RUDDLE BROWN said that last week Mr. Hamilton Deane got up a meeting in Manchester, when thirty joined out of the ninety present. They wanted better salaries, but they could do nothing unless 75 per cent. of the profession joined. If they got one set of actors fighting against the other it would be absolutely impossible to create any minimum, or do anything else to improve their position. Mr. Deane, he added, pointed out that if this Union were allowed to drop, never in their time would another Union be started.

Mr. ROBSON PAIGE declared they were not going to allow the Union to drop. He advocated payment for rehearsals, and said there should be a minimum of £1 and a maximum of £5.

Mr. ARTHUR BAWTREE said there were one or two knotty points to be decided. The meeting at which the rule with regard to sketch artists had been passed consisted of only about sixty, or one-fourth of the membership. The executive committee had therefore decided to send out, in the course of a few days, papers asking for "Yes" or "No" with regard to sketch artists having the protection of the Union, and whether ladies should serve on the committee. He personally thought that a member of the Actors' Union should be entitled to every protection from the Union. If he were acting at the Vaudeville one week, and the next week stepped over to the Tivoli, he maintained that while playing on the boards of the music hall he should be entitled to protection from the Union.

Mr. OSWALD MARSHALL drew attention to a clause in a contract of a company which read: "The artist agrees to allow the manager, should he so require, to deduct a sum not exceeding 10s. from his or her salary at any time to cover insurance under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906."

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that 3s. would cover the insurance, and advised the members to resist the charge, which in the opinion of many was illegal.

Among the speakers were also Mr. EDWIN PALMER, Mr. HARRY PAULTON, jun., and Mr. FREDERIC JACQUES. In closing the meeting the chairman urged those present to bring as many as possible to next Tuesday's assembly when Mr. Hamilton Deane would be in the chair.

LIVERPOOL.

A meeting of the Actors' Union took place last Friday, May 3, on the stage of the Royal Court Theatre, Liverpool, and was attended by the following:—E. D. Allen, Percy Bourchier, Robert Wilton, Cecil Ravenswood, Leo Montgomery, H. Armitage, Bernard Hishin, Hamilton Deane, Ruddle Brown, Campbell Goldsmid, Violet Thorold, H. Lewis, D. Hayes, Eric Campbell, Herbert Belmore, A. M. Watson, H. Hodgkins, Carl Mora, Ronald Bayne, H. M. Dayne, G. B. Murray, Mrs. C. Wybert, Mrs. H. Hesslegrave, J. Winter, Miss Seymour Hodges, Miss Gladys Gardener, Miss Irene Greville, Miss Nellie Moore, Mr. Sidney Russell, H. Newburn, Mr. T. Benson, Mr. Cole Aspinall, Miss Hughes, C. Medwin, Miss Ethel Russell, Miss Maude Grosvenor, Miss Nellie Howell, A. Lesham, Miss K. Russell, Leyton Cancellor, J. English, F. Strickland, Miss G. Walton, H. G. Brandon, F. E. Wybert, Miss Winifred Hart-Dyke, R. White, Miss White, William Matthews, V. Smith, Milner Noble, Leslie Rolfe, B. Rush, Mrs. N. Langford, G. Goodwin, G. Fox, C. Herbert, Mr. Mackarness, Wallace Campbell, Guy Buckland, W. E. Brandon, A. Wilie, E. Reynolds, Miss L. Nazeby, Fred Carroll, Mr. Barrett, F. Stanhope, F. Maxwell Stewart, Montague Corri, Miss Corri, Bert Byrne, Edwin Adeler, S. James, F. Lister, Kennedy Allen, A. Sember, W. Percy, Miss Madge Vincent, Ada Dunville, S. Grant, H. Tresham, and F. Bates. Of these some forty were members already, and about twenty were members of the V.A.F.

Mr. Hamilton Deane was proposed to the chair by Mr. Ruddle Brown, and seconded by Mr. Campbell Goldsmid.

Mr. DEANE said he was sure there was one subject upon which they were all agreed—and if it was only one that was something—and that was the absolute necessity for unity. Suppose, Mr. Deane continued, the A.U. to be in full working order, in what way will it affect the artists of our time? In the first place, the mere fact of his being an A.U. man will imply five years' experience. If a man can point to this, it stands to reason he will be worth a salary of £2 per week. There had been many objections to this minimum clause, but in his opinion it was necessary to have it or nothing. If at the end of five years a man were not worth his £2 a week, then he had no right in the business at all. He further contended that the A.U. would give the actor a definite position in the social scale. At present the profession was being used as a dumping ground for all and sundry who had a desire to paint their faces and pretend they were someone else. Why should this be? Why did it exist? Because there was no body of appeal to put an end to it. The only way to stop it was by the introduction of the minimum wage. How would the introduction of the £2 minimum affect the touring manager? He thought for good. By the raising of the standard of his artists, by the employment of A.U. artists, his percentage would, he thought, be bettered. Now, said Mr. Deane, as regards the benefits you are to derive from this Union. You pay 2s. 6d. entrance fee, and 6d. per week for 40 weeks, thus allowing 12 weeks for illness, loss of work, or holidays. You can pay weekly, quarterly, half-yearly, or yearly. Although many ideas are on the agenda of the Provisional Committee, I think one of the most laudable is the establishment of the loan fund, old age pension fund, &c. If there be a profession requiring the latter it is ours. If for no other plank in the platform except this one, the A.U. is worthy your consideration. Mr. Deane then read a letter from Mr. Rutland Barrington expressing sympathy with and interest in the movement. There must be a good deal in the idea, he said, when men like Mr. Ben Webster, Mr. Frank Cooper, Mr. Charles Sugden, Mr. Arthur Bawtree, and others were in it. If the A.U. is going to be a success, concluded the speaker, it will be a gigantic success; but do not let it fizzle out, as so many other attempts have done. If you do, I can see that this will be the last attempt of actors to combine within the limits of memory of any of us. It behoves you, then, not to let this chance slip, but to come forward and subscribe your names. (Cheers).

Mr. RUDDLE BROWN said that he and his wife were glad to be starters, in a measure, of the A.U. It was bound, in his opinion, to have far-reaching effects. The only way to get at the root of the evil was by the sanctioning of the £2 minimum salary—it would fix a standard of merit which no manager dare go under. If a travelling manager could not afford the £2 minimum, he should not have a company out. We wanted 75 per cent. of the actors of to-day inside the Union.

Mr. H. ARMITAGE said the £2 minimum seemed to be the stumbling-block for most of them. As a proprietor, he could not become a member of the Union, but he claimed the privilege after being twenty years in the profession to speak at any actors' meeting. He urged them not to be afraid of this minimum wage. If an actor were a real actor, he was worth £2 a week, whatever managers might say to the contrary, and no decent manager would scruple to pay this amount. If, on the other hand, an actor was not worth £2 a week, he had no right at all to be in the business, and under the minimum clause would not obtain this sum. He would fail to earn a living in the profession, and so would automatically cease to be a burden, and would make way for a better than he who had the instincts and talents of an actor.

Mr. ADELER, a prominent member of the V.A.F., said he was glad to see that actors were at last making a move. He perceived that in some respects the new Union was being formed on V.A.F. lines, and he assured them they could not do better.

Mr. RUDDLE BROWN said that the £2 minimum would drive the bogus manager and the small manager off the road.

Mr. PERCY BOURCHIER replied that it was inadvisable to drive the small manager off the road. If that were done, we should have the travelling companies governed by a few big syndicates. The small manager was a safeguard.

Mr. RUDDLE BROWN replied that he did not refer to the small manager apart from the bogus manager.

Mr. MAXWELL STEWART said he thought something should be done, as the actor at present was at the mercy of the syndicate, who could not only bar him a company, but a whole country, say, Scotland. With regard to commission, that was one of the evils which should be fought.

The objects were then read, and passed unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN called upon all to sign who were not members, and the following responded :—

Effie Bartlett, Wallace Campbell, Francis Wybert, Sidney Thomas Russell, George Goodwin, Mrs. C. Wybert, Leyton Cancellor, H. G. Brandon, Florence Barnes, Frank Strickland, Percy Bourchier, Charles Herbert, James English, Herbert Belmore, Charles Medwin, Lena Nazeby, H. Victor Smith, Sidney Grant, Ada Dunville, Hubert G. S. Buckland, Fred Carroll, Henry Hodgkins, Muriel Seymour Hodges, E. D. Allen, Gladys Gardener, J. Michael Watson, Joseph Winter, Ruby White, Reginald White, and Samuel Spencer.

A vote of thanks was proposed to the chair.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—I was sorry to read of the decision of the members to admit sketch managers into the Union, there to work and shape the rules and regulations. It is no personal objection; on the contrary, many a good man among them we want, but we are running in direct opposition to the very principle which makes us feel so confident and proud of our Union. The democratic vote, "controlled and developed by actors for actors," is demonstrably impossible while there are managers there, however small they may be.—Yours faithfully,

J. TELLY DILLSEN.

Royalty Theatre, Barrow-in-Furness.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—With all due respect to Mr. J. L. Stein and one or two others, we do not want the manager in the Union at all. They are employers of labour. The Union, if it is going to succeed, *must* be governed by actors only. The manager must have no influence. If we get him on the Council dissension is sure to ensue. I trust all actors and actresses will vote *for* the actor, and strongly against those associated with management in any way.—Yours faithfully,

CHARLES STIRLING.

April 8, 1907.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

Mr. Beerbohm Tree, who is a life member of the Actors' Association, has sent the following letter to the Council, as a result of the voting at the special general meeting of the Association, on Monday, by which a majority decided that in future managers should not be eligible for membership:—"I have just heard of the result of your meeting this afternoon. Although I believe your constitution does not allow you to exclude me, I feel that in the face of the majority I can no longer remain on the Association. I feel sure that you have good reason for the course that you have taken. Probably the Actors' Association is strong enough to stand by itself, and I am glad that we may at least have been useful in helping it over the initial difficulties."

Referring to the publication of the above letter and the announcement of the subsequent decision of managers to retire from their membership of the Actors' Association, Mr. Tree writes:—"Would you kindly allow me to state that a number of my brother managers had independently formed the same conclusion as I had, and were in no way influenced by my individual action. In taking this step I know that their action, like my own, was prompted solely by a desire to defer to the view expressed by the majority of the members who voted at the meeting of the Association."

Sir Squire Bancroft, Mr. John Hare, and Mr. W. S. Gilbert were among the brilliant gathering at the Royal Academy Banquet, at Burlington House on Saturday, at which the Prince of Wales was present. Music had eminent representatives in Sir Hubert Parry and Mr. Charles Santley.

Mr. George Alexander will not be long absent from London this autumn. He begins his provincial tour with *His House in Order* at Blackpool, on September 9, following on to Manchester, Liverpool, Birmingham, Glasgow, and Edinburgh, and will return in October. August Bank Holiday will see Mr. Edward Compton installed for a brief season at the St. James's.

Mrs. D'Oyly Carte has now received official notice of the withdrawal of the licence of *The Mikado*, and, in consequence, will not be able to give any further representations of the opera. She has very generously sent a cheque for £25 as a subscription to the local charity funds, in aid of which the Middlesbrough Amateur Opera Company were to have given a performance of *The Mikado* this week, but were prevented by the Lord Chamberlain's prohibition.

Two of our foremost dramatists helped to swell the number of presents which marked the occasion of Sir Henry and Lady Norman's marriage this week. Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Barrie gave a set of buttons, and Mr. Henry Arthur Jones's gift took the form of a Rhodian pot.

Mr. Arthur Williams has arranged with Mr. Tom Craven to revive the celebrated comedy *Milky White*, which will be reproduced at Mr. Davey's charming County Theatre, Kingston, during Whit Week. Subsequently, Mr. Williams will produce other pieces from Mr. Tom Craven's pen at an outlying London theatre. Mr. Williams will sustain the title-rôle in *Milky White*, and Mr. Fred Emney will represent the stolid Dick Duggs. Mr. Tom Craven will appear in the first piece, the authorship for which he is responsible, but the title is to be kept a secret until the last moment.

May Day witnessed the wedding of Miss Dorothy Minto, the pretty Prunella of the Court Theatre, to Mr. Shiel Barry. The bridegroom is the son of the veteran actor whose performances of Gaspard, the miser, in *Les Cloches De Corneville* ran into such a lengthy record, and is playing the part of Gille in *Clancarty* at the Lyric. Miss Minto attracted notice some three or four years ago as the child-Juliet in the Elizabethan Stage Society's boy-and-girl production of Shakespeare's tragedy. She has since appeared in nearly the whole series of the recent Court plays, and will be particularly remembered as the suffering little Salvation Army girl in *Major Barbara*, as the youthful suffragette in *Votes for Women!* and as the pretty ingénue in *The Return of the Prodigal*. Apart from the Court, her appearances in *Robin Hood* at the Lyric and in *A School for Husbands* at the Scala will be recalled with pleasure.

Mr. Charles Cruikshanks, the secretary of the Actors' Association, has been signally honoured by the Grand First Principal of the Royal Arch, receiving from the hands of Field-Marshall H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught and Strathearn, K.G., &c., the collar and rank of a Past Grand Assistant-Director of Ceremonies in the Grand Chapter of England. Mr. Cruikshanks has received the congratulations of a host of Masonic friends.

At the congratulatory dinner to be given by the Playgoers' Club in celebration of Mr. Beerbohm Tree's recent artistic success in Berlin in the Grand Hall of the Hotel Cecil to-morrow, Mr. Hall Caine, the president, who has just returned to this country, will preside, and will propose the toast of "Our Guest," to which Mr. Tree will respond. Mr. J. T. Grein will give the toast of "The Visitors," and Miss Constance Collier will reply on behalf of the ladies present.

Mr. Henry Arthur Jones has for some time past been engaged in his country retreat upon the play which he has been commissioned to write for Messrs. Klaw and Erlanger, and which is to be seen for the first time in America during next autumn. Within the next few weeks Mr. Jones will go to New York with the completed manuscript of the play, which is said to be one of modern character, and, having read it to the American producers, will return to this country later in the summer.

Mr. Martin Harvey's welcome return to London will be made at the Adelphi on Monday June 3. The season will be limited to four weeks, during each of which a different play will be presented. The first week will be devoted to *The Breed of the Treshams*, the second to *Great Possessions*, the third to *The Corsican Brothers*, and the fourth to *The Only Way*.

Great Possessions, it should be noted, is the title selected for the play by Karl Rossler, which has hitherto been called *The Rich Youth*. The scene, as already stated, is placed in Palestine, about the year A.D. 31, and the setting will be from the brush of W. Telbin. The costumes, which will be on a very complete scale, have been chiefly reproduced from the drawings of Tissot, and Mr. Harvey has derived much assistance from several well-known artists, including Mr. William Hole, R.S.A., and also acknowledges hints from Professor Margoliouth, of Oxford.

Mr. Beerbohm Tree will revive *Julius Cæsar* this evening, and next Saturday will see *Trilby* in the bill at His Majesty's. The cast of *A Woman of No Importance*, which is to be revived on the following Wednesday, the 22nd, will consist, in addition to Mr. Tree, of Messrs. J. Fisher White, Langhorn Burton, Charles Allan, Edmund Maurice, Charles Quartermaine, Clive Currie, F. Cowley Wright, Mrs. Charles Calvert, and Misses Kate Bishop, Kate Cutler, Ellis Jeffreys, Viola Tree, Hilda Moore, and Marion Terry.

Mrs. Patrick Campbell started her *Magda* tour at the Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne, on Tuesday with Miss Stella Patrick Campbell and Mr. Laurence Irving in the cast. A brilliant audience filled the theatre, which has also this week been full for Mme. Jane Hading's charming representations. Messrs. Murray King and Clark are so encouraged by the success of their venture here that they have arranged to keep open every night throughout the whole year.

Mr. W. S. Penley has given up his beautiful residence at St. John's, Woking, and at a meeting of the shareholders of the local Public Hall Company last week it was decided to leave the popular comedian's place on the board of directors unfilled. A hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Penley, who was always to the fore in good works in the town, was accorded. Our information does not say to what part of the country Mr. Penley has transferred his habitation, and it may be hoped that he is contemplating a return to the London stage. If our memory serves, the famous exponent of the Private Secretary and Charley's Aunt was some little time ago engaged in the writing of a comedy in which he was to make his reappearance at his own theatre in Great Queen-street. Can it be that that welcome promise is about to be realised?

An interesting little function took place on Tuesday last, at the usual monthly meeting of the Suburban Theatre Managers' Association. Mr. J. B. Mulholland, the principal founder of the Association, which was started about three years ago, and the hon. secretary since its inception, having found it necessary to resign that position, in consequence of his numerous other engagements, the members presented him with a loving cup, inscribed as follows: "This loving cup is presented by the following members of the above Association to J. B. Mulholland, Esq., as a token of goodwill and good-fellowship, in appreciation of his invaluable work in the founding of the Association, his excellent services as Honorary Secretary since its inauguration, and to congratulate him and ourselves, upon his first appointment as our chairman. Robert Arthur, William Bailey, William Bennett, Milton Bode, Arthur Carlton, Edward Compton, Peter Davey, H. D'Esterre, Frederick Fredericks, Frederick Melville, Frederick Mouillot, Cecil Paget, F. W. Purcell, Ernest Stevens, Clarence Sounes, Walter Melville (Chairman), H. G. Dudley Bennett (Hon. Treasurer)."

The cup was presented on behalf of the members by Mr. Frederick Melville, and, after a brief response by Mr. Mulholland, was duly filled and emptied in honour of the donee. The position resigned by Mr. Mulholland, as secretary, has been taken over by Mr. Moverley Sharp, of Criterion Chambers, to whom all communications with reference to the Association should in future be addressed.

An athletic carnival was carried out on Wednesday by the members of the *Peter Pan* company, which is this week playing at Birmingham. The first event, a two-mile walk for ladies, was won by Miss Winifred Geoghegan in the excellent time of 22min. 26sec.; Miss Marie Ashe finished in 22min. 42sec.; Miss Lytton (third) in 23min. 45sec.; Miss Pauline Chase 24min. 25sec.; and Miss Evelyn Stuart, 24min. 27sec. A two-mile walk brought out Messrs. Vigors, Kelt, and Hersee, the last-mentioned winning in 30min. 8sec.; Vigors doing the distance in 30in. 18sec. A tug of war between Mr. Kirby's Staff v. Actors ended in a win at the third pull for the former. A one-lap running event saw Mr. W. Anderson (scratch) the winner, he doing the 397 yards in 1min. 4 2-5sec.; Master Hollom with 50 yards start, was second; and W. Scott (scratch), third.

"The Mikado" was again the subject of inquiry in the House of Commons on Monday, when Mr. Gladstone, replying to Mr. Trevelyan, said that the order of the Lord Chamberlain applied both to London and the provinces, and to all public performances of the opera, the order being operative from the date of issue, which was March 26. No compensation was payable under the Act. As to the reasons for the prohibition, he could add nothing to the answer given by the Foreign Secretary on the previous Thursday, but he was informed by the Lord Chamberlain that it would be a matter for consideration whether, after certain modifications in the text, the present restriction could be subsequently removed.

The ninth bi-monthly meeting of the members of the Actors' Association was held in the saloon at 10, King-street, Covent Garden, on Thursday, the 9th inst. Mr. Adnam Sprange was elected chairman. There were also present Mesdames May Conrade, Florence Harcourt, Louise L'Estrange, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary). The secretary read the minutes of the previous meeting, and also the minutes of meetings of the Council dealing with matters arising out of the resolutions passed at the last bi-monthly meeting. A vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the proceedings

The health of Miss Topsy Sinden's mother is causing great anxiety. Miss Sinden is taking a rest for a week in order to nurse the invalid.

Mr. Maundy-Gregory has taken up the position of acting manager at the Waldorf Theatre. His touring enterprise will, however, continue as usual.

Owing to the sudden collapse of the late Mr. Paul Belmore, whose illness terminated fatally on Monday, his part of Kleschna had to be undertaken last week by Mr. Armitage, who, however, lost his voice on the third night, whereupon Mr. Campbell Goldsmid (Schram), had to assume the lead. Another distressful event occurred on the Friday evening, when Miss Bessie Rignold (Mrs. Belmore), who during the week had paid several flying visits to her husband, gave way at the close of the second act. The curtain was lowered, and a statement made to the audience, but in the course of a few minutes Miss Ethel Russell, a member of the company, took up the rôle of Leah, and finished the play. On Saturday Miss Haidee Wright was given the title part, and Mr. William Clayton has been engaged for Kleschna.

"What the Butler Saw" company has been doing phenomenal business this spring. At Bolton, Cardiff, and Cheltenham the capacity of the theatre was tested to its utmost, return dates being at once offered and accepted. Mr. Lionel Rignold and Miss Ada Blanche's tour, which has been akin to a triumphal march, will finish a forty-three weeks' run by paying a return visit to the Kennington Theatre early in June, after only a week or two to recuperate. Their autumn tour will start early in July, and extend to the middle of June, 1908. The company, it may be added, has had enticing offers from American and Australian managers for an extended tour in 1909

The Shakespearean Festival at Tunbridge Wells was exceedingly successful, and Mr. Norman V. Norman has been the recipient of numerous requests that the performances may be repeated next year. Mr. Norman finished the week by giving performances of *David Garrick* and *Robin Hood* on the Friday and Saturday, the house being crowded in every part.

Miss Tita Brand has opened a stall at the Home Industries Exhibition, held this week at the Albert Hall, where the materials woven by her "Brema Loom" girls, which on a previous occasion gained several awards, may be seen.

Mr. Lewis Waller is prepared with another production to follow *Clancarty* should it be necessary, though the excellent houses being drawn to the Lyric renders it unlikely. The novelty consists of a play by Mr. William Somerset Maugham, author of *A Man of Honour*, entitled *The Explorer*, in which an interesting problem is presented. A headstrong youth who, through his own foolish misconduct, comes to grief, moral and social, is afforded an opportunity, by the man who loves and is beloved by his sister, of rehabilitating himself in the eyes of the world, albeit at the risk of his life. At the supreme moment his nerve fails, and he dies, the victim of his own cowardice. The horror of the sister when she is led to believe that it was the man she adores who sent her brother to a premeditated doom is intense, and the working out of the situation in Mr. Maugham's play is bound to be engrossing.

The usual weekly meeting of the Council of the Actors' Association was held last Tuesday; there were present:—C. Aubrey Smith (chairman), A. E. Drinkwater (deputy chairman), Henry W. Mote (solicitor), Carlotta Addison, Fanny Brough, Clare Greet, Georgina Hamilton, Edith Wynne Matthison, Kate Phillips, J. Cooke Beresford, Acton Bond, Cecil Brooking, Burton Cooke, C. Hayden Coffin, William Devereux, H. Athol Forde, Fredk. Morland, Kenyon Musgrave, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary).

The secretary reported that in connection with the meeting held on Monday last he had issued 1,080 notices, with questions and proxies, that he had received back 223 proxies out of the 1,080 sent out, of which 17 were disqualified owing to want of signature or stamps, or being received during the meeting or on the day after, and 34 of such proxies were not used, the senders being present at the meeting. It was proposed by Mr. Cecil Brooking, seconded by Mr. Burton Cooke, and carried unanimously, "That a special vote of thanks be tendered to the secretary, Mr. Charles Cruikshanks, for the highly satisfactory manner in which he had carried out his arduous duties in connection with the extraordinary general meeting of the members, held on May 6, 1907, and the Council's appreciation of his efforts, especially in a particularly difficult position with regard to the recording (by proxies) of the votes of members absent."

The hon. solicitors reported they had advised several members. Four former members were reinstated. The report of the Social and Library Committee was given. A question arising out of the proposal for payment of subscriptions by instalments was under consideration, and was referred to the Finance and General Purposes Committee, for them to furnish the basis of the estimate upon which the increase was founded, and an explanation of the reasons for such increase.

The Finance and General Purposes Committee held a meeting on Tuesday last; there were present Messrs. Acton Bond (chairman), J. Cooke Beresford, A. E. Drinkwater, H. Athol Forde, C. Aubrey Smith, and Chas. Cruikshanks (secretary). Mr. William Devereux was unanimously elected a member of this committee. The committee, dealing with the question referred to them by the Council, supplied the following estimates of increased expenditure entailed by the payment of subscription by instalments:—(1) Additional cost of insurance per member, at least 6d.; (2) ascertained additional cost of postage per member, 3d.; (3) *estimated* additional postage per member, 6d.; (4) cost of additional printing, and of four sets of account books, stationery, &c., together with the cost of extra clerical labour at times of collection, 1s 3d.; (5) there will inevitably be sundry additional expenses which cannot be estimated at the moment, but for which a margin must be allowed. Rules governing the Library Committee were drawn, and it was agreed they should be submitted to the Council. It was also agreed that the question of separating the "Social" from the "Library" Committee be brought before the Council, with a recommendation that two separate committees be formed.

Mr. Alfred Northway and Mr. W. V. Garrod's tour of *The Prodigal Parson* has proved so successful that they have purchased the play outright, and with the exception of the smaller towns, now hold the entire rights for Great Britain and Ireland. Several new posters are now being struck which will bring the plant of printing up to 350 sheets without a repeat. The play has been written up by Mr. Garrod, more incident introduced, and the comedy strengthened. It is now played in three acts, and the innovation of presenting drama with only two intervals has proved very popular.

Mr. Henry Dundas, the painstaking general manager of the Royal Opera House, Leicester, will take his first benefit on Thursday, May 30. It will be under distinguished patronage. The Leicester Amateurs will present *Captain Billy*, which will be followed by a miscellaneous concert, and the entertainment will terminate with the sketch *Maria and Baby*, in which the beneficiare will appear.

By special arrangement with Mr. Ernest Dare Messrs. J. McLeod Foster and Clarence Napier will shortly tour the well-known drama, *The King of Thieves*, by Mr. J. M. Loader. The tour will commence, under the personal direction of the author, on the 20th inst.

Mr. Fredk. Mouillot has secured from Mr. Charles Frohman the provincial rights of Clyde Fitch's successful play, *The Truth*, in which Miss Marie Tempest is drawing crowded houses to the Comedy Theatre. The rights include all theatres which Miss Marie Tempest does not personally visit. Miss Decima Moore will play Miss Tempest's part on tour.

Mr. William Haviland and his wife (Miss Edyth Latimer) are due in England by the Kinfauns Castle on Saturday next. The talented couple have had a most enjoyable and successful holiday diamond digging on the Phiel (Vaal River) Estate since their big tour out there.

Mr. and Mrs. Chalmers Mackey entertained the members of their company to supper on the 3rd inst. in celebration of the farewell performance of the almost phenomenal success, *The Wearin' o' the Green*. The company drove from the Opera House, Blackpool, after the performance, to Mr. and Mrs. Mackey's charming home, "Ashdale," Poulton-le-Fylde, where a sumptuous supper was spread in the private theatre, beautifully decorated for the occasion, attached to the house. A souvenir of the final performance in the form of a replica of the programme printed on emerald green satin, with the story of the play in verse, written for the occasion by Mr. Frank Dalton, was presented to each guest. An enjoyable drive back to Blackpool terminated a most pleasant and interesting function. Mr. and Mrs. Mackey will take a well-earned holiday prior to the production of their new play, *Rollicking Rory*, at the Theatre Royal, Preston, on August 3.

Mr. William A. Armour will produce at the Colosseum Theatre, Oldham, on Monday, the new domestic drama, entitled *The Best of Her Sex*, by William A. Armour and Robert Cheval. A strong company has been engaged, including Miss Dora Price and Mr. Edward M. Hamilton. The very fine tour, which has been booked embraces most of the best dramatic houses, and extends up to November, 1908.

Mr. Arthur Collins has selected a brilliant cast for *The Last of His Race*, the Indian drama, which is to be produced at Drury Lane next Saturday. Miss Constance Collier will be the heroine, and Mr. Lyn Harding and Mr. Basil Gill will have interesting studies of the dusky race. The rest of the cast will consist of Messrs. Reeves-Smith, Austin Melford, Arthur Poole, Richard Norton, L. Ashton-Jarry, Alec Davidson, Gregory Clark, and Henry White; and Misses Esmé Beringer, Robertha Erskine, Winifred Ingham, Minnie Terry, and Beatrice Hodson.

Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison will finish both tours of *Peter's Mother*, which has been playing to remarkable business throughout the spring, at Oxford and Blackpool respectively in Whit week, and will restart for the autumn early in August. The third company of *Peter's Mother*, which Mr. Hutchison is now organising, also opens at Margate in July. Two companies of *The Stronger Sex* have been fully booked by this enterprising and energetic management, which will control no less than five different companies of the above plays. Negotiations are now pending for another London success, which Mr. Hutchison intends sending out in September.

The first tour of *The Stronger Sex* opens at Scarborough on August Bank Holiday, and the second on September 9 at the Coronet Theatre, London. *The Stronger Sex* has more than once outrun its allotted period at a London house, and so continuous is its success that its transference to a more permanent home seems inevitable. The work possesses all the elements of lasting popularity, and playgoers in all parts of the country will no doubt eagerly avail themselves of witnessing a piece that is proving so remarkably attractive in the Metropolis.

Mr. Allan Wilkie and his company paid their first visit to the Theatre Royal, Blackburn, last week, when crowded houses were the rule. On the Friday evening the performance was under the patronage of the Mayor and Mayoress of Blackburn, Lord and Lady Ribblesdale, and several other distinguished persons. The advance booking for this particular night was well over £45, and half-an-hour before the rise of the curtain the "House Full" cards were displayed in front of the theatre. The performances were witnessed, during the week, by over 800 pupils and teachers from the various schools. The new and elaborate scenery for *The Merchant of Venice*, used for the first time, was the subject of high commendation.

Mr. Edward Marris, the popular new lessee of the Jersey Opera House, has scored a gratifying success with his stock company, the booking having gone up by leaps and bounds. The engagement terminated last evening (Friday, 10th), when His Excellency, Major-General H. S. Gough, Lieut.-Governor, and Colonel H. Ringwood, with the officers of the 1st East Surrey Regiment were announced to attend to witness the popular musical comedy, *The Orchid*. Mr. Marris, by the way, intends reopening the bar, which has now been closed for about two years.

Mr. E. Graham Falcon, we understand, is interested in the new comic opera, entitled *The Silver Stick*, written by Mr. Alfred England, and supplied with music by Mr. Carl St. Amory, which recently had a very successful trial week at Northampton. The play deals with the superstitions which die so hard in Cornwall, and in the second act there is a picturesque representation of "the Furry dance," a quaint spring festival, which from time immemorial has been held at Helston, in Cornwall, annually on May 8.

At the West London Theatre, on Thursday next, Mr. James Sinclair, the popular acting-manager there, takes, by the courtesy of Mr. William Bailey, his third annual complimentary benefit. In addition to the drama, *A Woman's Revenge*, several other items will be introduced, and amongst those who have promised to assist are George Robey, Wilson Hallett, Albert Le Fre, Joe O'Gorman, Harry Tate, Rose Hamilton, Kitty Malone, and Amy Clevere.

"The Palace of Puck," which is to be withdrawn in a few weeks from the Haymarket will be followed by Mr. Michael Morton's adaptation of MM. Paul Garault and Robert Charvay's comedy, *Mademoiselle Josette, Ma Femme*, produced at the Paris Gymnase last November. The title chosen for the new piece, which is to be to some extent Anglicised, is that of *My Wife*, and Mr. Weedon Grossmith will rejoin the Haymarket company to take up an eccentric comedy rôle, which should be admirably suited to his style. Miss Marie Lohr, a young actress of great promise, is to be entrusted with the rôle of the heroine.

The Fanny Coleman testimonial matinée, which is to take place at the St. James's on Thursday, the 30th inst., is assuming interesting proportions. Mr. Jerrold Robertshaw has already succeeded in securing the services of Mr. John Hare and Mr. Charles Groves, in *A Quiet Rubber*, and of Mr. Cyril Maude and Miss Winifred Emery in a new duologue; while Miss Constance Collier and Mr. Robertshaw himself will appear in an adaptation entitled *The Mummer's Wife*, which the latter produced a few months ago. Songs and recitations by Mr. Lewis Waller, Mr. Hayden Coffin, Miss Helen Mar, Miss Irene Vanbrugh, and Miss Marie Tempest, will also figure in the programme.

A marked improvement is manifest in the Grand Opera House, Middlesbrough, since it was taken over by new management some few weeks ago. Mr. J. E. Jowsey, the popular managing-director, has left no stone unturned to secure the comfort of his patrons, and it is pleasant to notice that his efforts are being highly appreciated. The Opera House is a first-rate up-to-date provincial theatre, and as a number of the latest London companies are booked for the coming autumn, there is a treat in store for the Tees Side public, which we venture to predict will be taken full advantage of.

"Don Juan in Hell," the dream from Bernard Shaw's *Man and Superman*, will be included in the next series of Vedrenne-Barker matinées at the Court Theatre, which begin on June 4, and continue on each Tuesday and Friday of the month. The part of Don Juan will be played by Robert Loraine, that of the Devil by Mr. Norman McKinnel, the Statue by Mr. Michael Sherbrooke, and Donna Anna by Miss Lillah McCarthy. The programme will be made up by the same author's *Man of Destiny*, in which Mr. Dion Boucicault, Miss Irene Vanbrugh, Mr. Trevor Lowe, and Mr. H. de Lange will appear.

Miss Violet Ley (Mrs. Townsend Whitling) played with success the title-rôle, Lady Mary Crewys, in *Peter's Mother* at the Opera House, Southport, last Saturday.

Mr. Cecil Klein, while on his way recently to a rehearsal of *Hearts Adrift*, was an interested spectator of an amusing scene in an overcrowded Vanguard, of which the passengers were principally ladies. When the 'bus stopped at Tottenham Court-road, one of the ladies gave a shriek, and cried, "Mouse!" Instantly there was a stampede for the door, and the vehicle was quickly emptied with the exception of Mr. Klein and a small boy, who had been standing for some distance. The lad calmly collected three little white mice and placed them in his pocket, and then took up his position in the most comfortable corner of the 'bus. Judging by the expression on the boy's face, he had tried the ruse before.

Baron Harriss, who is ever to the fore in the cause of charity, during the visit of his *Prince of Pilsen* company to Aldershot, last week, organised an entertainment on Wednesday afternoon on behalf of the inmates of the Cambridge Hospital, which was attended with most gratifying results. The programme, arranged by Miss Sophie Harriss, who rendered a dainty number of her own composition in charming style, was contributed to by Misses Ada Watson, Connie Leon, Mollie Wynne, Ada Vincent, Violet Orme; Messrs. Frank Crimp, Lindon Lang, Albert Rhodes, G. F. Hume, Harry Kilburn, and Albert Vernon.

Miss Sophie Harriss celebrated the anniversary of her birthday at Norwich on Wednesday, when from an early hour in the morning wires, cablegrams, letters, and registered packets were literally showered upon her. The gifts from the company, in addition to a Marie Antoinette riviere in diamonds from Baron Harriss, included a magnificent basket of orchids from Mr. and Mrs. Harry Kilburn, bouquets from Misses Vincent and Orme, panel photograph frame in embossed silver from Mr. and Mrs. Albert Vernon, a quaint cut crystal case of Venetian design, containing rare Eastern perfumes, from Hugh Fleming, a gigantic floral trophy from the company en masse, and a simple basket of primroses and violets from the Nottingham gallery boys. After the performance in the evening Miss Harriss entertained the principals of the company to a recherche supper at the Opera House Hotel.

The company of Drury Lane children who recently gave a highly successful series of performances of their pantomime, *The Forte Thieves*, at Bexhill-on-Sea, have been secured by Mr. Bannister Howard for his Whitsuntide attraction at the Crystal Palace Theatre. These young people have been in the habit for several years of having a performance on their own account at Drury Lane during the run of the annual pantomime, in which they all appear, and the success they achieved at the charity performance at Bexhill was so great that the company was engaged for the entire week. The proceedings on each opening night are prefaced by a speech giving a short history of the combination. The flying matinée of Whit week will be furnished by Mrs. Patrick Campbell, who will appear on Thursday, May 23, in *Magda*.

The Balkan Exhibition at Earl's Court was opened on Saturday last by the Lord Mayor, who was supported by Lord Fitzmaurice, on behalf of the Foreign Office; M. Nicola Pachitch, the Servian Prime Minister; M. Stoyanovitch, Servian Minister of Commerce; M. Planenatz, of the Montenegrin Home Office; M. Ghenadieff, Bulgarian Minister of Commerce; M. Militchevitch, Servian Minister; and the diplomatic agents of all the Balkan States. Mr. P. Cremieu-Javal presided at the luncheon which followed, Sir William Treloar proposing "The Balkan States Exhibition," which was responded to by the Servian Minister. Few, if any, of the side-shows are as yet in working order; but the minor attractions which will soon be open to the visitors to Earl's Court are interesting and numerous.

The gold medal annually presented by Sir Squire and Lady Bancroft is awarded by the judges, Sir Charles Wyndham, Mr. E. S. Willard, and Mr. Dion Boucicault, to Mr. H. C. Bentley for his performance of the Prince of Morocco in the matinée last Monday at the St. James's Theatre, given by the students of the Academy of Dramatic Art. Miss Beatrice Smith, Miss Pauline Straus, and Miss Sheba Brozel are "honourably mentioned."

Mr. John R. Rogers, "Yours merrily," writing from America, says:—"I get my *Era* regularly, but sometimes it has a great chase to catch me. The last copy I received chased me over 9,000 miles, and caught me here in Pittsburg, Penn."

Little Miss Minnie Mills, the "baby mermaid" of the *Peter Pan* company on tour, doubled the part with that of Michael last week owing to the sudden indisposition of Master Phillip Tonge. Miss Mills, who is continuing in the rôle this week, is the daughter of Mr. Stratton Mills, the Gentleman Starkey, and is to be congratulated on her cleverness.

At the Muncaster Theatre, Bootle, on the 3rd inst., some excitement was caused by the fusing of a defective electric wire in the cinematograph box, which is situated in the pit. The theatre staff promptly quelled the outbreak before the arrival of the local fire brigade, and after a short delay the drama was proceeded with.

Mr. Frederick Melville will produce his new play, entitled *The Root of Her Ruin*, at the Terriss Theatre on Whit Monday, May 22. The company already engaged includes: Misses Eva Moss and Maude Stewart Drewery and Messrs. Ernest E. Norrie, A. B. Imeson, Jack Denton, Dave Clarke, and J. R. Aubrey.

Miss Agnes Verity, who concludes a successful ten months' engagement as Dynamite Ann in Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's *At Cripple Creek* company, has been re-engaged for the autumn by the same management.

Miss Lilly Lewis, the popular young actress, was the original of Mr. C. Perugini's "Woodland Symphony," the painting of a dainty maiden listening to the birds trilling in the trees, which has been so much admired in this year's Royal Academy Exhibition. Miss Lewis also sat for Mr. Stuart Davis's picture, entitled "Vanity," which is hung on the line in the New Gallery, Regent-street.

Dr. Distin Maddick is so much encouraged by the improved business at the Scala that he has every intention of running on for some weeks. The "lions" have now learnt their duties thoroughly and perform them excellently; and *The Judgment of Pharaoh* has drawn a number of the clergy to witness it. Though every seat in the house can be booked, it is curious to note that the public still cling to the queue, each waiting his turn for entry, and ignoring prominent posters announcing that "Seats can be booked in any part of the theatre."

Mrs. S. Brereton Douglas's pupils recited at the Portman Rooms on the 2nd inst. for a benefit performance for the Vicar of St. Mark's Institute, and met with a flattering reception. The young ladies who thus reflected so creditably on their accomplished teacher, were Misses Thelwall, Jean Pécriaux, and Mary Hope, the last-named having just concluded a successful engagement on tour as the official mother-in-law in *A Chinese Honeymoon*.

Mr. Hamilton Deane, who has met with such success in recruiting members for the Actors' Union, will take the chair at 2.30, on Tuesday next, at the London meeting, held in the Rehearsal Room, 3, Bedford-street, W.C. Mr. Goldsmid, who has so ably assisted him, will also be present.

Miss Cissie Du Cane, the young actress who has been playing the part of Prince Valiant at Hengler's, has resigned her position, and will resume her musical studies under Mr. Alderson. Miss Du Cane is the fortunate possessor of a fine voice, and a career of great promise is evidently before her.

A new four-act costume play, entitled *The Song of the Torch*, by Ion Hanford, will be produced at the Theatre Royal, Brighton, on Monday.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER has authorised the *Daily Mirror* to state that there is no truth in the rumour that he contemplates an early retirement from active theatrical management in order to have more time to devote to his London County Council duties. "I am most certainly not thinking of any immediate retirement," said Mr. Alexander yesterday. "I am not quite played out yet, and though my life is full, I have time to dispense both my duties faithfully. So why should I give up my first love—the theatre? As to my taking up politics seriously and entering Parliament, well, I always have regarded politics seriously, and about Parliament—there's plenty of time yet."

Hard on Rosalind.

"A STUDENT of the A.D.A." writes:—"Dear Sir,—I should like to point out to you that not one of the daily papers has taken any notice of the non-appearance of the Duke in the second scene in *As You Like It* at the St. James's Theatre yesterday afternoon. When Rosalind cried 'Here comes the Duke!' no duke appeared—the actor had completely forgotten to return, and had gone to his dressing-room to prepare for his part in *The Merchant of Venice*. Thus Rosalind and Celia were done out of the only part in *As You Like It*, wherein they could have an opportunity of showing any talent they might have possessed. It was particularly hard on Rosalind, as she had no other part in the performance."

A Little Behind.

MR. MARTIN HARVEY says he is at present preparing a play for production some time in June, under the title of *Great Possessions*. The period of the play is A.D. 30, the scene is laid in Palestine, and the principal figure is the rich youth who was commanded to sell his possessions for the benefit of the poor. Some time ago Mr. Harvey had sent to him by a clergyman in Australia a play dealing with Joseph and his brethren, and, in the ordinary course, submitted it to the Censor, who decided that, as the story was avowedly adapted from the Scriptures, it was not eligible for licence. Mr. Harvey, however, is of opinion that Mr. Redford carries out his duties with admirable discretion. "I think," he said, "he moves slowly in the direction of public opinion, though somewhat behind it."

That Finished It.

MR. CHARLES HANNAN tells the following story against himself. One of his earliest literary efforts, long before he took to playwriting, was a story called "From the East of Time," which neither the author himself nor any of his friends could understand when it was finished. So he sent it to the theosophical magazine, which was then in its earlier numbers. It was at once accepted, and ran as leading serial for a number of months. After it had been appearing for some months, the author wrote, politely reminding the editor that no honorarium for his services had, so far, been received. The following was the reply:—"Dear Sir,—I regret to say that since the commencing of your serial, 'From the East of Time,' the magazine is no longer on a paying basis."

Realism and Rain.

DURING the visit of a certain realistic "water-tank" drama to a certain provincial theatre, the following incident occurred. The long-suffering lessee had frequently cause to complain to the proprietor that the rain came in through the roof, and begged him to come and see for himself, and have it repaired. During the second act of the drama a sailor is "marooned" on a desert island—"abandoned to the mercy of the storm"—and the scene, which is vividly realistic, culminates with the stage being deluged with "real rain," worked from a number of overhead water-tanks, concealed in the flies. It was a pouring wet night outside as well as in. This was the crucial moment the proprietor chose for his visit. He strolled leisurely past the check-taker, and entered the auditorium as the second act neared its stormy end. "Good Heavens!" exclaimed he, and rushed from the theatre. The next morning at 6.30 a.m., a gang of workmen appeared before the astonished night-fireman demanding admittance. "What do you want?" said he. "To repair the roof," said they. And they did.

Not a Bad Harlequin.

MR. LAURENCE LEVEY, who once owned the Garrick Theatre, Whitechapel, was the type of the good-humoured Israelite. Somebody asked him one Christmas Eve—"Aren't you having a pantomime this year, Mr. Levey?" "Vell," was the reply, "I don't know, my boy, whether I sha'll or not; I'm going to think it over to-morrow!" "But—the company, the harlequin, the——" "Oh," replied Levey, "I've got a thplendid 'Arlekin!" "Who is he?" said the enquirer. "Who? Vhy, Sol Jacobs!" "Oh; but he can't dance!" "No, I know that; but he's a damned good 'Arlequin though!" It was he of whom it is reported that when an actor wanted to play *The Admirable Crichton* the manager said—"All right! But you'll have to find your own Admiral's coat. I haven't got von!"

Bread for the Prince.

MR. EDWARD SIDNEY tells a tale of how one night in the provinces at a certain Prince of Wales's Theatre they were about to ring up the last act of a piece when it was suddenly discovered that a loaf of bread which should have been on the table was not there, the property-man having left the getting of it to his assistant, who had forgotten to obtain it. The entr'acte music had ceased, and the audience was getting impatient, so Sidney—who was dressed as a rough sailor—rushed out of the stage door across the street into a baker's shop, and, to the astonishment of the elderly lady shopkeeper—a new comer—said, snatching up a loaf and bolting off with it, "It's all right! It's for the Prince of Wales!" At the end of the play, and when he had dressed himself in his street clothes, he went across the road to pay for the loaf, but found the shutters up, the door open, and the old lady talking therein to a police officer with his pencil and notebook busy telling him how—"a mad sailor had rushed into her shop, stole a loaf, and said it was for the Prince of Wales!"

The Fat Seventh.

JOHN HUDSPETH the elder was a capital low comedian of a very comfortable rotundity. The play was *The Forty Thieves*, but, being short of supernumeraries, the company—John included—helped them out by walking across the front of the stage from left to right, crossing behind the scenes at the back and coming on again as before as the "Forty." This went on all right for a time, until a voice from the gallery exclaimed—"I say, Bill, every seventh's a fat 'un!"

Mr. Compton at Leeds.

MR. EDWARD COMPTON, in an address to the students of the Leeds College of Dramatic Art last Saturday, told the story of an actor who played the Duke in *The Merchant of Venice*, but had an unfortunate memory. His first speech was rather difficult, because he commenced before anyone else, with blank verse: "Shylock, the world thinks, and I think so too," &c. The Duke had the book there, and, not knowing the words, he had to refer to it. Unfortunately someone had turned the book over to another page, and, instead of his part he found himself confronted with *Romeo and Juliet*, which so upset him—though he did his best to look unconcerned—that he began, "Shylock, the world thinks, and I think so too," and then suddenly slammed the book down, with the words, "We all expect a gentle answer, Jew."

"STRONGHEART."

The American Comedy-Drama, by William C. de Mille, played for the first time in England at the Aldwych Theatre, on Wednesday, May 8.

Taylor	MR. HARRISON FORD
Ross	MR. RICHARD STERLING
Reade	MR. DAVID TODD
Thorne	MR. SYDNEY AINSWORTH
Fred Skinner	MR. F. A. TURNER
Frank Nelson	FRANCIS BONN
Dick Livingston	MR. RICHARD BENNETT
Billy Saunders	MR. FRANK J. MCINTYRE
Siegfried	BY HIMSELF
Soangataha	MR. ROBERT EDESON
Mrs. Nelson	MISS AMY RAVENSCROFT
Molly Livingston	MISS MARJORIE WOOD
Betty Bates	MISS GIULIA STRAKOSCH
Maud Weston	MISS GERTRUDE THORNTON
Dorothy Nelson	MISS MARY BOLAND
Tad	MR. JOHN WARREN
Josh	MR. GUS LANZ
Denton	MR. CLAY BOYD
Buckley	MR. EDMUND BREESE
Farley	MR. PAUL DICKEY
Butler	MR. F. A. TURNER
Black Eagle	MR. EDMUND BREESE

The expectations aroused by the preliminary announcements of Mr. Robert Edeson's appearance at the Aldwych in *Strongheart* have not been disappointed. To a certain extent the romance of the Red Indian has been discredited in the States. Artemus Ward, in one of his works, remarks, "Injuns is pizen, wherever found"; and a misconception on the part of some Western settler of the meaning of the famous line—

Lo, the poor Indian whose untutored mind,

has led to the Redskin being alluded to, with tolerative humour, as "Mr. Lo." But Catlin and Fennimore Cooper still exercise influence on English estimation; and we are quite willing to accept an Indian as an interesting hero, especially when he is represented as admirably as he is by Mr. Edeson in *Strongheart*.

The plot of the play deals with the passion of a copper-coloured youth for a fair American girl, and with the struggle between love and racial obstacles. Soangataha, known as Strongheart, has been sent to Columbia College by general subscription of his tribe. He falls in love with Dorothy Nelson, the sister of Frank Nelson, one of his college "chums." A bad undergraduate named Thorne plots with a sporting man, Fred Skinner, to ruin Nelson by throwing upon him suspicion of having betrayed to the college team which is shortly to oppose that of Columbia the code signals by which the captain directs his men when in action on the field. A copy of the signal code is sent to the captain of the opposing team; but he honourably returns it to his adversaries on the day of the match without reading it. Suspicion falls on Nelson; but Strongheart takes the blame—at any rate temporarily—upon his shoulders, and is accordingly forbidden to play till his character is cleared. Left behind in the dressing-room, which is the scene of the second act, and viewing the game from a window, he gives a vivid description of its progress to a wounded footballer lying on the floor in anguish. The team returns victorious; and, in the third act, Strongheart pursues investigations into the fraud, and discovers the real culprit. One of the footballers has hurt his right hand, and, at Strongheart's request, Thorne is induced to write down in a pretended telegram the principal words in the copy of the signal code. By comparing the handwriting of the latter—which was penned by the scheming Thorne—with that of the "wire," Strongheart proves him to be guilty; on which the latter turns on the Indian, and threatens to denounce him to Nelson for having made love to his sister. When the brother learns of this, he is furious at the idea of an alliance with a Redskin, and reproaches Strongheart bitterly with his "treachery." The latter refuses to accept the decision of the brother, and says he will only take his *congé* from the lady herself. But, in the end, he, too, is made to see that such a union would be impossible. A messenger from the tribe arrives, and reminds Strongheart solemnly that his first duty is to his people, especially as his father is now dead and he has become their chief. So, in spite of Dorothy's offer to risk all and go with him as his wife, the Indian refuses to accept her sacrifice, and, after a scene of deep distress, the lovers separate for ever.

Mr. Robert Edeson's performance as Soangataha is undoubtedly a very strong one. He has evidently studied with care the manner and speech of the educated Indian; and doubtless the deliberately accentuated enunciation and the slightly foreign accent are reproductions from life. In the emotional scene in the third act, Mr. Edeson makes the inherited savagery of Strongheart shine out most vividly. For the moment Soangataha is the child of his ancestors; on other occasions he is the adopted son of civilisation. His love-making is excellent in its tenderness and devotion, and his firm and gentle friendliness makes the character interesting and sympathetic. The intensity of his interpretation kept the house in hushed attention on Wednesday during the times when he held the stage. His description of an imaginary combat—an old familiar theatrical effect—was remarkable for the muscular vigour and physical endurance it displayed; and his fine features lent themselves well to the embodiment of the picturesque and highly "original" hero. Miss Mary Boland was a handsome, gracious, and expressive representative of Dorothy Nelson, and played well up to Mr. Edeson in the scenes between them, her outburst of grief on Dorothy's finding that she and Strongheart must part being very touching and natural. Mr. Frank McIntyre as Billy Saunders was unctuously comic and very portly and vigorous, making himself a great favourite by his adipose drollery. Mr. David Todd as a spectacled student of mild character was quaintly amusing; and Mr. Edmund Breese delivered the frantic appeals of the "head coach" with overpowering earnestness and energy, and was nobly oratorical as Black Eagle. Mr. Paul Dickey made the most of his single chance as the manager of the visiting team; Messrs Harrison Ford, Richard Sterling, and David Todd were entirely efficient as college men of various classes; Mr. F. A. Turner played Fred Skinner neatly; and Mr. Richard Bennett gave a very agreeable and effective embodiment of Dick Livingston. Miss Amy Ravenscroft was thoroughly satisfactory as Mrs. Nelson. Miss Marjorie Wood was a charming representative of Molly Livingstone; Miss Giulia Strakosch played Betty Bates very sweetly and prettily; and Miss Gertrude Thornton gave a delightful performance as Maud Weston. The minor rôles all had competent exponents.

The production will be memorable by reason of the remarkable realism of the football scenes, in which all the details of a club dressing-room in an interval in a college match are supplied. The care of the wounded, the angry expostulations of the "coach," the dilapidations in dress caused by the struggle, the dirt, and the wild devotion to the sport on the part of its devotees are shown with a realism which leaves nothing to be desired, and is valuably instructive as to the methods of our footballing brethren across the Atlantic. *Strongheart* had a most enthusiastic reception at the Aldwych on Wednesday from a highly-pleased house, and can hardly fail to be as successful in England as it has already been in America.

MARRIAGE OF ELLEN TERRY.

Miss Ellen Terry entered for the third time into the bonds of matrimony at Pittsburg on March 22, the bridegroom being the leading actor of her company, Mr. James Carew. The wedding, to avoid demonstration, was a very quiet one, and took place before a magistrate, who consented to keep the event a secret, Mr. Gordon Craig, who was in Italy, being the only person informed of it. The news was made public by Mr. Carew in New York on Saturday night. He and Miss Terry, it appeared, had been engaged for several months.

Mr. Carew's parents were Alsatians, and emigrated to Indiana, where he was born. At a suitable age he became a clerk in a Chicago bank. He saw Miss Terry act with Sir Henry Irving in Chicago, and immediately conceived a passion for the stage.

Mr. Carew, who is thirty-one years of age, has only been on the boards in America and London for nine years. He early distinguished himself by excellent performances as Tom Stafford in *Sweet Kitty Bellairs* at the Belasco Theatre, New York; in Clyde Fitch's play, *The Climbers*, and as Sam Coast in *Her Own Way*, sustaining the latter part with Miss Maxine Elliott when she came to the Lyric Theatre on April 25, 1905. After fulfilling an engagement with Messrs. Vedrenne and Barker at the Court, he appeared at the Criterion in *The Little Stranger*. He also played Frank Bruce in *An Angel Unawares*

[*Photo by Ellis and Walery.*

MISS ELLEN TERRY.

at Terry's on September 12, 1905; and his reputation as an actor of ability was secured when he came in contact with Miss Terry as Captain Hamlin Kearney in *Captain Brassbound's Conversion* at the Court Theatre in the March of 1906. He accompanied Miss Terry on her provincial tour, supporting her in such parts as Shylock and Benedick. He was the leading man in the company which Miss Terry took to America early last January. *Captain Brassbound's Conversion* proved a great success in the States; and Mr. Carew was unable to resist the combined fascinations of Miss Terry's genius and personality, and fell in love, "first with her art and then with herself." Miss Terry sailed from New York on the Minnetonka on Saturday, and it is Mr. Carew's intention to join his wife in England very soon.

Miss Terry's first husband was Mr. G. F. Watts, the artist, and her second Mr. E. A. Wardell, known on the stage as Charles Kelly. He died in 1885. By him Miss Terry had two children, Miss Ailsa Craig, who has concerned herself with such excellent effect with costume, and Mr. Gordon Craig, whose innovations in scenery and stage lighting are famous.

[*Photo by Bassano.*

MR. JAMES CAREW.

Some doubt having been thrown upon the report of Miss Terry's marriage, a *Tribune* correspondent succeeded in communicating with her by means of wireless telegraphy to and from the Minnetonka. Miss Terry wired in reply: "Please ask my leading man, Mr. James Carew."

Mr. Campbell, Justice of the Peace at Pittsburg, has admitted that he officiated at the marriage.

The *New York American* publishes an interview with Mr. James Carew. "She is my senior by many years," said Mr. Carew, "but I can think of her only as a young and charming woman."

It appears that the judge who married them at Pittsburg asked Miss Terry if she had ever been married before. "Yes, twice," she replied.

"What became of your first husband?" he inquired, and Miss Terry replied: "It was a most unhappy marriage, and we obtained a divorce. It was a great mistake."

To the judge's question, "How old are you?" she said, laughingly, "Good gracious, must I tell that, too? I am fifty-nine. Please don't tell anyone."

The judge agreed to keep the marriage a secret, as the parties did not desire publicity to be given it, fearing that it might be imagined they wished to make advertising capital out of it.

THE REHEARSAL CLUB.

A fashionably-dressed crowd, mainly composed of ladies, had possession of the St. James's Theatre on Tuesday afternoon, when the annual meeting of the Rehearsal Club was held. Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, the president of the Club, attended, and was accompanied by Princess Victoria. Their Royal Highnesses were presented with bouquets by Master Esmond, the small son of Miss Eva Moore. Mr. George Alexander was detained at a meeting of the London County Council, but Mrs. George Alexander occupied a seat on the right of the chairman, Mr. Edward Terry acting in that capacity. Others on the stage were the Rev. Canon Holmes, Miss Lilian Braithwaite, Miss Eva Moore, Mr. Allan Aynesworth, Miss Phyllis Broughton, Miss Gertrude Kingston, Miss Marie Tempest, Miss Helen Ferrers, and Mr. F. Kerr.

The report for 1906 was as follows:—

The committee, in issuing their fifteenth annual report (with duly audited accounts), deem it almost unnecessary to dwell upon the need of such an institution, since the keen appreciation of its advantages, displayed by the members, must be a proof that it supplies a real want.

The Rehearsal Club was founded in 1892, with the view of furnishing a quiet retreat to which minor actresses might resort between the hours of rehearsals and matinées and the evening performance. Many of these actresses live too far from their work to admit of their returning home during the intervals, and, in such cases, warm, cheerful rooms, where rest and shelter from inclement weather can be obtained, together with refreshments at moderate charges, must be an invaluable boon.

Among those accustomed to view the theatre only from the auditorium, and who derive pleasure from the gay scenes on the stage, few perhaps realise the amount of hard work involved in the rehearsal of a play, or can imagine the strain on nerves, brain, and body necessary to produce the precision of "ensemble" and brilliancy of effect which they have so much admired. It has been the endeavour of the Rehearsal Club to afford the much-required repose and shelter to those for whom health means livelihood.

Is it not the duty of each and all of us to assist the hardest-worked members of a hard-worked profession, and endeavour to make their lives less difficult, remembering that their exertions have often helped to distract our minds from our own cares and anxieties.

It must be evident to all that the Club can never be self-supporting, and that a central position is an imperative necessity and a costly one, so the committee are obliged to depend on outside help.

The annual subscribers' meeting was held on May 8, at St. James's Theatre, thanks to Mr. George Alexander's unfailing kindness in helping the Rehearsal Club. The meeting was honoured by the presence of the president, H.R.H. Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, who found time, among her numerous engagements, thus to show her kindly interest in the Club; H.R.H. Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein also honoured the meeting by her presence.

The committee thank very heartily Sir Squire Bancroft, who presided at the meeting; also Viscount Halifax, Mr. George Alexander, Mr. A. W. Pinero, Mr. Edward Terry, Miss Lena Ashwell, Miss Constance Collier, Mrs. Jopling-Rowe, Mrs. Cecil Raleigh, and Mrs. Beerbohm Tree, who all spoke warmly of the great benefits conferred by the Club on those who have joined it. Warm thanks are also tendered by the committee to the many kind friends who, by special gifts, have shown personal interest in the Club.

The members' subscription is 2s. per quarter. The Club is open from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., and contains comfortable reading and refreshment rooms, the former well supplied with books, papers, and magazines. Anyone wishing to see the Club will be gladly shown over it by one of the committee or by the matron.

Fifty-eight new members joined during the year; the attendances amounted to about six thousand.

Subscriptions and donations may be paid to the Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. Mayne, 101, Queen's-gate, S.W.; or into the Victoria-street Branch of the London and Westminster Bank, "to the credit of the Rehearsal Club."

THE CHAIRMAN, in a brief opening statement, remarked upon the success of the Club, and to the fact that there was a greater access of new members in 1906 than in any previous year. The Club had inestimable advantages to the younger lady members of the profession, inasmuch as they would find a happy and comfortable refuge there between matinées or rehearsals, and the evening performances. He felt sure that everybody present would do all in his or her power to assist such a useful and entirely commendable institution.

MR. ALLAN AYNESWORTH proposed a vote of thanks to Princess Christian, and voiced the gratitude of everybody present for the kindly interest which Her Royal Highness took in the Club.

MISS EVA MOORE seconded the vote of thanks in a graceful little speech.

CANON HOLMES, in proposing a vote of thanks to the committee, said that the Club was run for the benefit of minor actresses. He himself was a minor actor in the great play of life. It was just these minor people to whom they should stretch out a helping hand. The idea of these minor people was to become what so many in that theatre had already become, and it was in the processes of that "becoming" that great difficulties had to be encountered. He concluded by an appeal for funds.

MISS LILIAN BRAITHWAITE, in seconding, said that as a member of the profession for whose benefit the Club was founded she was glad to have an opportunity of thanking the ladies who were responsible for its management. Especially did she feel grateful to the indefatigable hon. treasurer, Mrs. Mayne. The Club was of inestimable benefit to the girl who had to fill up her time between the day rehearsal and the evening performance. She had a place wher she could rest and obtain refreshments at a small cost. It was their ambition that the Club should be self-supporting, but this was not possible if the present low subscription was to be maintained, and it was the privilege of all present to subscribe to the institution.

THE CHAIRMAN said that it required no words of his to advocate that vote of thanks.

MRS. MAYNE, in responding, said that the committee did not want to be thanked. She was voicing the ideas of every one of its members when she said that it was a pleasure for them all to do any work for the Rehearsal Club. The committee, on their part, desired to return thanks to Princess Christian, the Press, and all the other people who had helped. They had never had so many new members as they had last year, which seemed a very satisfactory state of things.

MR. FREDERICK KERR, proposing a vote of thanks to Mr. George Alexander, expressed the opinion that it was a great joy to them that their leaders in the profession were not spoiled by prosperity. Mr. Alexander was no exception to that rule. In spite of his strenuous labours in various directions, he still managed to take an interest in such institutions as the Rehearsal Club. Mr. Alexander had worthily upheld the best traditions of the stage. He had given the public the best plays and the best actors. Many famous actors and actresses had made their triumphs on that stage, notably Mrs. Patrick Campbell and Mrs. John Wood. Mr. Alexander, too, had taken a delight in bringing forward the most promising young actresses of the day—Miss Irene Vanbrugh, Miss Gertrude Kingston, Miss Eva Moore, Miss Lilian Braithwaite, and others. They owed him a deep debt of gratitude for his work in connection with the Rehearsal Club. The Club was as dignified as any ladies' club in London. He (Mr. Kerr) would ask Mrs. Alexander to tell her husband how grateful they were to him for his kindness and generosity.

MISS PHYLLIS BROUGHTON, in the absence of Miss Alexandra Carlisle, briefly seconded the vote.

MISS GERTRUDE KINGSTON proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Edward Terry for presiding, and it was announced that Mr. James Welch, who should have been present to second the vote, was unable to attend, but had sent a couple of guineas.

The chairman's reply brought the meeting to a close.

THE IRVING MEMORIAL.

The following subscriptions to the Irving Memorial Fund have been made:

Greta Morritt, £30; Fredk. Harrison, £25; H. B. Irving, £25; J. M. Barrie, £21; Mr and Mrs. Gerald Lawrence, £20; Marion Terry, £12; Weedon Grossmith, £10; Mabel Hackney, £10.

The following have sent £5 5s. each:—Oscar Asche, Lily Brayton, Lionel Brough, W. Graham Browne, Miss Compton (second donation), Mr. and Mrs. H. V. Esmond, Gaston Mayer, E. Harcourt-Williams.

The following have sent £5 each:—Geo. Arliss, J. W. Boughton, Phyllis Broughton, Sir A. Conan Doyle, Geo. R. Foss, Robt. Hichens, and the Northern Theatres Co., Limited, per Otto C. Culling.

Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Cookson, £4 4s.; Mr. and Mrs. Edmund Maurice, £4 4s.; Mr. and Mrs. Murray Carson, £3 3s.; Kenneth Douglas, £3 3s.; Sarah Brooke, £2 10s.; *Dairymaids* company (per Geo. Desmond), £2 8s. 6d.; *Beauty of Bath* company (Geo. Dance, per Leslie Holland and Edith Cruikshanks), £2 7s. 6d.; and Mr. Wm. Mollison's company, £2 5s. 6d.

Subscriptions of £2 2s. have been sent by:—Morris Abrahams, A. E. Benedict, Tita Brand, Matthew Brodie, Elsie Chester, Albert Chevalier, Leslie Faber, J. J. Farjeon, Winifred Fraser, Basil Gill, Henry Hamilton, Geo. Horgan (on behalf of the Cork Opera House company), Roy Horniman, Eric Lewis, Madge McIntosh, Kate Mills, Maud Milton, Harry Nicholls, W. R. Staveley, Courtenay Thorpe, Lottie Venne, Sybil Ruskin, John Shrubb; an anonymous donor, £1 11s. 6d.; and members of Mr. Chas. Macdona's *Gay Parisienne* company, £1 2s.

Subscriptions of £1 1s.:—G. W. Anson, Stanley Ashworth, Roxy Barton, Esmé Beringer, Vera Beringer, Ada Blanche, Richard Brennand, Mary Brough, Alfred Brydone, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Buckstone, Sir F. C. Burnand, Fanny Calhaem, Alfred C. Calmour, Edith Cole, Fanny Coleman, Amy Coleridge, J. F. Cooke, Horton Cooper, Alice Crawford, Philip Cunningham, David Danville, Ivo Dawson, Dolores Drummond, Bessie Elder, Beatrice Ferrar, E. King Fordham, Chas. Glenny, Herbert Grimwood, Rudge Harding, Lucy Hare, Owen Hall (the late), Florence Haydon, Mrs. Cameron Hillman, Robert Horton, Clara Jecks, Cyril Keightley, Nora Lancaster, C. Leveson Lane, Stanley Lathbury, Wm. Lugg, J. L. Mackay, Norman McKinnel, Geo. F. Mackness, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Maclaren, Mrs. Henry Mayhew, May Pardoe, Alfred Paumier, Sydney Paxton, Edgar B. Payne, Cecil Raleigh, Mrs. Cecil Raleigh, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Ralland, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Rivers, Mary Rorke, W. Payne Seddon, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Shepherd, Arthur Shirley, Geo. R. Sims, Roper Spyers, Henry Stephenson, Athol Stewart, Howard Sturge, James T. Tanner, Hilda Trevelyan, Frank Tyars, Henry Vincent, Mr. and Mrs. T. Ed. Ward, May Warley, and Maud Wynter; subscriptions of £1 from Sybil Carlisle, Daisy Clinton, Miss Paton, Claire Pauncefort (second donation), and Frances Wetherall; Miss B. Wilson, 15s.

Subscriptions of 10s. 6d.:—Chas. Cameron, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Campbell, Albert Cavanagh, W. J. Dobell, Stanley Drewitt, Courtenay Foote, John Glendinning, Ethel Hallé, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Harrington, Mabel Innes, Florence Le Clercq, John Macfarlane, C. F. Manley, Frank Parfitt, F. W. Permain, "H. R.," Owen Roughwood, Agnes Thornton, Geo. Traill, and Carlotta Zerbini.

Subscriptions of 10s.:—Pat Alexander, Napier Barry, Joan Blair, Katherine Brandon, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Cane, Malcolm Cherry, F. Cremlin, A. B. Cross, Miss M. E. Ellis, Lawrence Grant, Clare Greet, Madeline Hicks, A. T. Hilton, Lillian Hingston, A. S. Homewood, Ralph Hutton, M. R. Morand, Ada Neilson, Thos. Pauncefort, Walter Russell, John R. Turnbull; *The Spider and the Fly* company (per Ada Palmer), 9s.; Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Young, 7s. 6d.; and Lawrence Leyton, 5s. 6d.

Subscriptions of 5s.:—Victoria Addison, Ethor Aicken, Fred Annerley, Robt. Atkins, C. B. Bedells, Alfred Bristowe, "B. C.," Cyril Cattley, Henry Chichester, Beatrice Constance, L. Craske, Reeve Denbigh, "Dromio," Elspeth Dudgeon, Mabel Durrant, Grace Edwin, Dorothy Firmin, Edith Fitzgerald, George Fitzgerald, C. Franckenstein, Dorothy Green, W. A. Haines, Hubert Harben, Alfred Harris, Rose Hélène, Mr. and Mrs. Dalziel Heron, Herbert Hewetson, Ethel G. Jacobs, Mary Jerrold, Gerald Kennedy and Beatrice Shirley, Vera Leslie, William Luff, Mr. and Mrs. George Machett, William Martin, Richard B. Mason, Jennie Maynard, Winifred Mayo, members of the Court Theatre, Goodwin Nock, Winifred Ollis, Edward Ouston, Percy D. Owen, Ethel Patrick, Emily Patterson, Katherine Reynolds, Kathleen Rind, Christine Silver, Gwen Stewart, Mary Tennyson, and Raymond Thomas; Maud Stanley Burt, 3s.; Millie Henderson, 3s.

Subscriptions of 2s. 6d.:—Orlando Barnett, Percy Baverstock, Nancy Beresford, May Cooper, Hylda Denison, Chas. Doran, Frank Elvey, Lucie Evelyn, Eleanor Gilbart, Hilda Gregory, Eugenie Kemble, Robson Paige, Ethel Stalman, Harry Turner.

Subscriptions of 2s.:—Chas. Aldridge, Matthew Boulton, Edwin C. Buffum, Harry Duff, Stanley Leedam, Alfred Maurice, — Nelson, Eugénie Santley, and Godfrey Turner; Anonymous, 1s. 6d.

Subscriptions of 1s.:—Muriel Avron, Wilford Bailey, Carl Beechey, Edwin Bennett, W. J. Butler, "M. C.," Marjory Chard, V. Willox Cadogan, Dorothy Dawson, Arthur Dennis, Mabel Gill, Irene Harrison, "M. M.," Ruby Miller, Cecil Knox Niven (Miss), Phena Powell, Harry Pritt, George Robinson, G. W. Thorne, James Turner, Cecil Wynne, Donald Young; Kathleen Royce, 6d. Total, £2,336 8s.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, May 6, the Comic Opera, by Planquette, entitled

"LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE."

Kingston playgoers assembled in considerable force at the riverside theatre on Monday, and again gave a hearty reception to this favourite comic opera, which, like good wine, seems to improve rather than grow stale with age. Mr. E. St. Alban, who is producing, plays Gaspard, which he has depicted now some eight hundred times, and it may suffice to say that he gives a picture of the avaricious old man worthy of the best traditions. Mr. Wm. Everard makes a commanding Marquis de Corneville, and gives evidence of culture in the numbers allotted to him. The part of Gremcheaux is agreeably filled by Mr. Charles Rose; Mr. Fred Dark makes a typical Baillie; and Mr. Richard Martin an amusing Gobo. Encomiums are bestowed from all parts of the house upon Miss Marion Ayling for her Germaine; and Miss Madge Roberts is equally successful as Serpolette, the singing of both ladies being much enjoyed. Miss Nellie May acquits herself well as Christophe. There is a numerous and well-trained chorus, which is kept well under control by Chevalier Legrand, the chef d'orchestre. In the matter of scenery, costumes, and stage appointments nothing is wanting.

THE ENGLISH DRAMA SOCIETY.

Under the direction of Mr. Nugent Monck, the English Drama Society opened a season at the Bijou Theatre, Bayswater, on Monday evening, when two new pieces were produced. The first was a play in one act by Arthur Symons, entitled

"CLEOPATRA IN JUDÆA."

Herod ..... Mr. Arthur Goodsall
Pheroras ..... Mr. Geoffrey Saville
Costabaras ..... Mr. Edward Landor
Hyecamus ..... Mr. Frederick Morland
Phanuel ..... Mr. Gordon Bailey
Sohemus ..... Mr. Tom Shelford
Officer ..... Mr. Edgar Playford
Cleopatra ..... Miss Esmé Beringer
Charmion ..... Miss Ina Royle
Iras ..... Miss Hilda Bruce Potter

Cleopatra in Judæa is one of those plays that strike one as being more suitable for the study than the stage. The plot is thin, and there is a long, tedious opening scene before the entrance of Cleopatra, King Herod and his councillors being assembled in the palace in solemn conclave. The arrival of Cleopatra is the topic which occupies their attention, and the councillors have some very uncomplimentary remarks to make concerning the queen. One of them refers to her as the "Egyptian plague," while another strongly advises Herod not to grant her an interview, as it is well known that she casts her spell upon all men she comes into contact with. The discussion, however, is interrupted by the entrance of Cleopatra, and her interview alone with Herod is the only interesting part of the play. Cleopatra's evident intention is to add the King to the list of her lovers, and she begins by hinting that Herod's wife is like all other women—capable of deceit and treachery. The King, however, expresses the firmest faith in his wife's virtue. Then Cleopatra shows him the portrait of his wife, which has been sent to Antony, the superscription being in her handwriting. The King is furious at this convincing proof of his spouse's perfidy, and next he learns that Antony has designs against his life. Believing that Herod will now fall in with her desires, she tells him that she can make him more powerful than Antony. He momentarily yields, but finally quits the Queen's presence, bidding her a long farewell. Her attendant, Charmion, enters, and her mistress indulges in a furious fit of temper at her failure with Herod. The play concludes with the departure of the Queen from Judæa.

Miss Esmé Beringer gave fresh evidence of her ability as an actress by her admirable embodiment of the leading character, the imperious, passionate Egyptian queen. An excellent elocutionist, she gave the poetic lines their due value, and the outburst of passion, when Cleopatra exclaims to her attendant, "I have failed, Charmion—and with this Jew!" was most effectively done. Altogether, Miss Beringer may be congratulated on her very clever and artistic creation. Mr. Arthur Goodsall deserves every credit for his dignified impersonation of Herod; Mr. Gordon Bailey did well as Phanuel; and the other councillors were ably played by Messrs. Geoffrey Saville, Edward Landor, Frederick Morland, and Tom Shelford. Miss Ina Royle was a satisfactory Charmion; and Miss Hilda Bruce Potter as Iras and Mr. Edgar Playford as an officer completed the cast. The play had a favourable reception, and was followed by a comedy in three acts, by Nugent Monck, entitled

"THE HOUR."

Rev. Matthew Lane ..Mr. Frederick Morland
Roy Lane ..... Mr. Arthur Goodsall
Esta Lane ..... Miss Lucy Wilson
Dennis Hinton ..... Mr. Gordon Bailey
Miss Kate Brett ..... Miss Clare Greet
Charles Craddock ..... Mr. Edward Landor
Jane Abbott ..... Miss Armine Grace

In his so-called comedy Mr. Monck has tackled a problem that borders on the tragic. The Rev. Matthew Lane, Rector of Winterton, is a benevolent clergyman of the simple Vicar of Wakefield type. He is always more or less in pecuniary difficulties, and this is not surprising seeing that he never refuses those who apply to him for assistance. Besides, the college education of his son Roy, who is intended for the Church, has drained his slender resources, and his daughter Esta is driven to despair in her attempts to keep up appearances and to satisfy the demands of the village tradespeople, whose little accounts have been long outstanding. A climax is reached when the local grocer, who combines the Socialist with the Methodist, presses for payment in the presence of Dennis Hinton, a wealthy young man, and one of Roy's college chums. Roy confesses to his sister that he has been studying theology and philosophy, and has come to the conclusion that the atheists are right; he cannot, therefore, enter the Church. This avowal drives Esta to desperation, and she announces her intention of running away with Dennis Hinton, whose proposal she had just previously rejected. The eccentric conduct of the young lady in refusing to wed her lover when the opportunity comes, kills all the sympathy that the audience might otherwise have felt for Esta in her difficulties and trials, and one is not inclined to take a deep interest in her subsequent adventures. Regarded as a whole *The Hour* does not exhibit those qualities which combined go to make a successful modern play.

The new production was fairly well acted. Mr. Frederick Morland played naturally as the benevolent, unworldly Rector of Winterton. Mr. Arthur Goodsall undertook the part of Roy Lane with considerable success; and Mr. Gordon Bailey was good as Dennis Hinton. Miss Lucy Wilson made capital use of her opportunities in the part of the Rector's daughter with unconventional views on the subject of marriage; and Miss Clare Greet rendered excellent service as Kate Brett, one of the objects of the good Rector's charity. Mr. Edward Landor as Craddock, the plain-speaking grocer, and Miss Armine Grace as Jane Abbott, were well placed. In the somewhat long intervals a programme of music was played on the pianoforte by Miss Constance Schultz.

Presentation.—There was a crowded audience at the Blackburn Theatre Royal on Friday evening, the 3rd inst., when Mr. Reginald Yorke, the popular manager of the theatre, took his benefit. Mr. Allan Wilkie's company appeared in the plays, *David Garrick* and *The Bells*. At the conclusion of the performance of *David Garrick*, Mr. "Reggie" Yorke was presented with a silver clock and silver candlesticks, the former article bearing the inscription, "Presented to Mr. Reginald Yorke by the staff of the Theatre Royal and a few friends." Mrs. Yorke was presented with two silver brushes and a silver looking-glass. The presentation was made by Mr. J. W. Carter, who observed that Mr. Yorke was a "chip of the old block," and a worthy successor to his father, Mr. Harry Yorke. Mr. Yorke briefly replied; and Mr. Harry Yorke, the proprietor of the theatre, in a short speech, announced that next year he intended to rebuild the Theatre Royal. He had purchased property on the Cliveworth-street site which would give them an increased width of 80ft., and when completed they would have a theatre well worthy of the town. When the theatre was rebuilt he intended to keep to the popular prices.

The professional musicians of the Orchestral Association and the Amalgamated Musicians Union are to meet together in general meeting on Sunday evening, at the small Queen's Hall, to decide as to their common action in the future, and to fix a minimum salary at the various music-halls of London. They will also take into consideration the position of non-members of either society, and their attitude towards them.

THE COURT.

On Tuesday afternoon, May 7, revival of the Pierrot Play, in Three Acts,
by Laurence Housman and Granville Barker,
Music by Joseph Moorat, entitled

"PRUNELLA;
OR, LOVE IN A DUTCH GARDEN."

Pierrot ..... Mr. W. Graham Browne
Scaramel ..... Mr. James Hearn
Kennel ..... Mr. Trevor Lowe
Callow ..... Mr. Allen Wade
Mouth ..... Mr. Edmund Gwenn
Hawk ..... Mr. Kenelm Foss
Tawdry ..... Miss Dorothy Marsdin
Doll ..... Miss Margaret Busse
Romp ..... Miss Mary Hamilton
Coquette ..... Miss Hazel Thompson
A Light Baritone ..... Mr. Julien Henry
Prim ..... Mrs. Charles Maltby
Privacy ..... Miss Amy Lamborn
Prude ..... Miss Agnes Hill
Queer ..... Miss Clare Greet
Quaint ..... Miss Agnes Thomas
First Gardener ..... Mr. Jules Shaw
Second Gardener ..... Mr. F. Cremlin
Third Gardener ..... Mr. Edmund Gurney
Boy ..... Mr. Norman Page
Statue of Love ..... Mr. Lewis Casson
Prunella ..... Miss Dorothy Minto

Originally produced at Christmas, 1904, *Prunella* was revived at the Court Theatre last spring for a short season. This dainty and charming little play has always been much appreciated by Court audiences, who enjoy its fantastic love story, its delightful humour, and delicate pathos. It will be remembered that the plot is based on an episode in the life of Pierrot, and the moral which one can draw from the story is that, after all, selfish love is but vanity, and that the love that is ready to prove itself faithful even to death is the only real and abiding joy. The picture of the Dutch garden, with the gossiping gardeners, and its suggestions of a place remote from the toil and turmoil of cities, is delightful, and the authors of the piece, fully aware of the value of contrast, bring the first act to a close by the intrusion of Pierrot and his noisy, romping crowd of followers, who suddenly transform the peaceful scene into one where the fascinating elements of the world of love and pleasure are first brought under the notice of youth and innocence, with the result that the girl Prunella takes flight from the nest which has sheltered her from childhood.

The part of Prunella, originally played by Miss Thyrza Norman, is now undertaken by Miss Dorothy Minto, who also portrayed this leading character at the revival last year. She is just the simple, childlike little maiden that the authors evidently had in mind, and Miss Minto again won the favourable verdict of a critical Court audience. Mr. Granville Barker was the original Pierrot. His successor in the part, Mr. W. Graham Browne, appears by kind permission of Mr. George Alexander, and his performance throughout reaches a high level of excellence. Mr. James Hearn also deserves commendation for his capital embodiment of the Mephistophelian-like Scaramel. Mr. Trevor Lowe is good as Kennel; and Callow, Mouth, and Hawk, also members of Pierrot's motley company, are capitally portrayed by Messrs. Allen Wade, Edmund Gwenn, and Kenelm Foss. Miss Dorothy Marsdin does well as Tawdry; Miss Margaret Busse is vivacious as Doll; Miss Mary Hamilton ably plays Romp; and Miss Hazel Thompson deserves mention as Coquette. Mrs. Charles Maltby gives a neat sketch of Prim; Miss Amy Lamborn supplies an effective portrait of Privacy; and Miss Agnes Hill's Pride is a meritorious piece of work. Miss Clare Greet as Queer and Miss Agnes Thomas as Quaint do justice to their respective parts. Mr. Jules Shaw makes good use of his opportunities as the First Gardener; and the Second and Third Gardeners have capital exponents in Mr. F. Cremlin and Mr. Edmund Gurney. Mr. Norman Page puts humour into his clever embodiment of the Boy; and Mr. Lewis Casson represents the Statue of Love. Mr. Julien Henry, as "a light baritone," sings the serenade to Prunella in charming style.

"MISS SELINA OF K."

A New Musical Comedy, book and lyrics by E. C. Mabel Leeds, music by Claude Blakesley-Yearsley, produced for the first time on any stage at a matinée at the Royal County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames, on Saturday, May 4.

Major Walker ..... Mr. Alec Davidson
Colonel Wyatt ..... Mr. E. Christopher
Billy Bligh ..... Mr. Charles Bradley
Professor Septimus Stanhope ..... Mr. Gilbert Dewar
Duke of Camden Town ..... Mr. Ernest Crespan
Lieutenant Twiggs ..... Mr. Leslie May
Sergeant O'Reilly ..... Mr. Patrick Duffy
Lieutenant Warbler ..... Mr. Lewis Morgan
Evan Evans ..... Mr. Seph Jones
Captain Blake ..... Mr. R. Mugliston
Nancy Gay ..... Miss Marjorie Seymour
Mrs. Catch ..... Miss Bertha Allanson
Georgina Catch ..... Miss D. Ainsworth
Joyce Gay ..... Mrs. Cassie Campbell
Suzanne ..... Miss Violet Gould
Gwen ..... Miss Re Stephanie
Gladwys ..... Miss Nellie Hilton
The American Girl ..... Miss Madeleine Holt
The Spanish Girl ..... Miss A. Allanson
The Dutch Girl ..... Miss Florence Simmons
The Japanese Girl ..... Miss L. Percival
The Turkish Girl ..... Mrs. Dorothy Eldridge
"Molly," Lady Selina ..... Miss Emily Taylor

There was a numerous audience at the Royal County Theatre on Saturday afternoon, when the joint efforts of Miss Leeds and Mr. Blakesley-Yearsley was presented for the first time, and obtained a favourable reception. The plot has to do with the adventures of a certain young lady, the wayward daughter of the Duke of Camden Town. For a bit of fun apparently, she dresses up as a cockle girl, and in that capacity makes the acquaintance of a Captain Blake, who happens to be in the bay of Bryncawl, South Wales, when "Molly," as Lady Selina calls herself, is there. The Captain, of course, falls in love with her. He confesses that he is not worthy of her, being only the captain of a schooner, but he explains that he had once occupied a much more responsible and lucrative post when he was the captain of a liner, which he lost through running down a yacht and drowning a duke and his son and grandson. In due course the amorous captain finds out that the seeming cockle girl is really a lady of title, and he feels that his chances of winning her are smaller than ever, until he meets her father, who learns for the first time that the young man, in sending his ducal ancestor to a watery grave, was the potential agency that had brought the dukedom and the vast estates connected with it into his hands. For this service he bestows his daughter's hand upon him. There was an abundance of lyrics, some of them set to rather tuneful airs, and all cleverly written, but they appeared to have no connection with the plot.

The play was performed by a company of amateurs, of whose efforts it would not be fair to speak in terms of strict criticism. Suffice it to say that the part of "Molly" was charmingly portrayed by Miss Emily Taylor, that Mr. Ernest Crespan made a very good Duke of Camden Town, whilst admirable assistance was also given by Mr. Alec Davidson as Major Walker, by Mr. E. Christopher as Colonel Wyatt, by Mr. Gilbert Dewar as Professor Septimus Stanhope, and by Miss Marjorie Seymour as Nancy Gay. The play was produced by Mr. A. F. Alfen Tower.

DEATH OF PAUL BELMORE.

We regret to record the death of Mr. Paul Belmore, at the early age of thirty-four, from cerebro-meningitis and heart disease. The deceased was a member of the *Leah Kleschna* company, playing the part of Kleschna, originally created by Mr. Charles Warner. While the company was in Sunderland Mr. Belmore was taken seriously ill, and had to be left behind. He passed away on Sunday last, at 5 p.m., after an illness of only ten days' duration. His devoted wife, Miss Bessie Rignold, who played the title-part in *Leah Kleschna*, made three journeys from Seacombe (where the company was engaged last week) to Sunderland and back to visit her husband, but the terrible strain proved too much for her strength, and on Friday night she broke down in the second act of the play, her part having to be taken at a moment's notice by Miss Ethel Russell. Mr. Belmore was known chiefly in the provinces as an actor of genuine ability, and he was held in high esteem by all those with whom he was associated. He was a prominent member of the late Wilson Barrett's company for six years, up to the time of Mr. Barrett's death, playing such parts as Jaikes in *The Silver King*, Reggie Mount-fallon in *Lucky Durham*, &c. He was well known and popular, both in America and Australia. He also enacted Svengali in Mr. Beerbohm Tree's *Trilby* company, and was excellent as Levison in *East Lynne*. Deep and general sympathy will be felt for his widow in the severe bereavement she has so suddenly sustained.

The funeral took place at Norwood Cemetery yesterday morning. The chief mourners were Mr. Wm. Belmore Garstin (brother), Mrs. Cooper Cliffe (sister), Mr. George Belmore (nephew) son of the late George Belmore, Mr. Wm. Cooke (son of the late proprietor of Astley's), Mr. Claude Cooke, and Mr. Victor C. Cooke (uncle). There were also present Miss Rignold, Mr. J. Finighan, and others. The funeral service was conducted by the Rev. W. S. Mathews, the cemetery chaplain. The polished oak coffin, which bore the name of the deceased (Paul Belmore Garstin) and his age, was covered with many floral tributes of affection and respect from relatives and friends, including the widow (Miss Bessie Rignold), Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Belmore, Mr. and Mrs. Cooper Cliffe (brother-in-law and sister), Mrs. Belmore (mother), George and Edward Belmore (nephews), Miss Ettie Carlyle (cousin), Agnes and Doris Cliffe (cousins), Alf and Lilley Cooke (cousins), Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Gay, Mr. Arthur Leigh, Francis Wolverton, Mr. Harold Armitage, Mr. Stanley Harrison, Mr. J. Finighan, Miss Dora Green, Miss Emmerson, Miss Eunice Newey, Mr. Harry Rutland, Mr. Chatterton, Mrs. Deley, and Mrs. Heginbothom; also from members of the *Leah Kleschna* company, the *Lucky Durham* company, and Frank Lloyd (*East Lynne* company).

The funeral arrangements were satisfactorily carried out by Messrs. W. Garstin and Sons, of Wigmore-street, W.

MADAME KATE FLINN'S CONCERT.

At Steinway Hall on Thursday afternoon Mme. Kate Flinn gave a highly-successful concert, attended by a large and fashionable audience. Mme. Flinn was assisted by Mr. David Bispham, Mons. Léon Sametini, and several of her advanced pupils, who did great credit to their gifted teacher. The programme, which was interesting and varied, commenced with Lane Wilson's duet, "At dewy morn," cleverly sung by two of Mme. Flinn's pupils, Miss Barbara Battishill and Miss Ruby Cobbett. Miss G. von Jaysen also was intensely successful in two songs from Landon Ronald's "The cycle of life." The songs are set to verses of Mr. Harold Simpson's; the second proving pleasing in melody and with a most artistic accompaniment. Miss Margaret Webster, another of Mme. Flinn's pupils, gave a capital rendering of "The bee's courtship," by Guy d'Hardelot. A song with dance, entitled "Good-night at the Zoo," by Lionel Monckton, was well sung and most cleverly danced by Miss Elaine Hawkins, a pupil from Brighton; this being encored, Miss Hawkins responded with another song and dance. Miss Barbara Battiskill, who has a very high soprano voice, sang with no little delicacy, Liszt's "Comment disaient-ils" and "L'Amour captif," by Chaminade. M. Léon Sametini played Vieuxtemps' "Romance" for the violin, and Lederer's "Bourrée" with much grace and expression, and in the second part of the programme "Witches' Dance" (Paganini). Mme. Kate Flinn, who had a most hearty reception, sang "Le Crépuscule" of Massenet and Gounod's "Chanson de la Sorcière (Mireille) with great success, and being, of course, encored, responded with a little English and American song, given by desire. Mr. David Bispham, who was in excellent voice, sang Clara Schumann's "Liebst du un Schönheit," and "L'Heure Exquise," by Reynaldo Hahn, with delightful phrasing and perfect intonation; being encored, Mr. Bispham sang "Ich grolle Nicht." Other successful pupils of Mme. Flinn were Miss Ruby Cobbett, who greatly pleased the audience by her rendering of "La Cieca" from Ponchielli's "La Gireonda," and for her encore, singing the Gavotte from *Mignon*; Mlle. Sowinska, heard in Auber's "Nina, Jolie et sage"; Miss Leah Barnato, a daughter of the late Barney Barnato, and a very handsome girl, proved a great credit to her clever instructress, Mme. Kate Flinn. The young lady has a golden voice, and her enunciation was perfect in a recitation, entitled "The Little Breeches," one of Col. John Hay's clever sketches. In the second part the Misses Hayden-Price sang the duet, "A Madrigal in May," and Mr. Bispham was again heard in "The Irish Kings" (H. F. Gilbert) and "The stuttering lovers" (old Irish air by Mr. Herbert Hughes). Miss Xenia Greville performed a graceful skirt dance and song (by Lionel Monckton), and the concert concluded with Cowen's trio, "In our boat," in which Miss Battishill, Mlle. Sowinska, and Miss Cobbett were heard. The accompanists were Miss Adami and Mr. Russburg.

INSURANCE OF ARTISTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—At a meeting held by the Touring Managers' Association to-day (Friday) the attention of the members was drawn to a paragraph in the Press in which it was said that a certain manager was already attempting to deduct the amount to cover the insurance from his artists' salaries. I have been requested by the Touring Managers' Association to say that such a course is quite foreign to their views, and they consider it undignified.—Yours faithfully,

G. B. LAMBERT, Hon. Sec. T.M. Assoc.
Savoy Mansions, W.C., May 10.

At the Theatre Royal, Wednesbury, Mr. Frank Lindo and company in the interesting drama *Home, Sweet Home*, are proving a great attraction this week. Mr. Lindo achieves marked success in his impersonation of Steve Armitage; and as David Armitage Mr. Lawrence Doyle leaves little to be desired; Mr. Gerald Gambier's portrayal of the Duke of Ancaster is received with hearty applause; the rôle of Lucas Lyle is artistically rendered by Mr. F. M. Hodgson; Mr. Geo. Overs is responsible for some clever work in the part of Dick Redmayne; Miss Marion Wakeford proves herself a highly capable artist in her interpretation of Joan; Miss Cecil Ward as Lady Summerton and Miss Ray Rochefort are seen to advantage in their respective parts.

The King, Princess Christian, Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein, the Duchess of Connaught, and Princess Victoria Patricia of Connaught were present at the performance of *Bastien und Bastiene* and *Hansel und Gretel* at the Royal Opera, Covent Garden, on Saturday.

"ORDERED TO THE FRONT."

A Dramatic Sketch, by William Bourne, Produced at the Stratford Empire, on Monday, May 6.

Capt. Harold Montrevor ..... Mr. Chas. Boult.
James Woodruffe ..... Mr. Arthur Rodney.
Rev. Arthur Graham ..... Mr. Harry Crane.
Mike Kavanagh ..... Mr. Allan Wye.
Helen Montrevor ..... Mrs. Bennett.
Jennie ..... Miss Alys Eden.

The ancient Romans had a warning to those who wrote which is even more applicable to-day than it was over two thousand years ago. That warning was *Litera scripta manet*. Had the wife of Harold Montrevor remembered that warning some years previously, in her irresponsible early womanhood, she would not, perhaps, have written a note to one James Woodruffe, asking him to meet her. On the other hand, she could not have foreseen that Handsome Jim, as he was then called, would turn out such a despicable cad as to convert what was, at the time it was written, a perfectly innocent missive into, some years later, a most incriminating document. Captain Harold Montrevor is on the eve of sailing for South Africa—the period is the late Boer War—and he is visited by Woodruffe, formerly a brother officer of Montrevor, but now a disreputable character. Woodruffe offers to sell certain Boer papers to Montrevor, who declines to purchase them, and, as apparently the former is unable to obtain money from the gallant captain, he indulges in threats. Mrs. Montrevor enters the room during the quarrel. She is recognised by Woodruffe, who impudently calls her by her Christian name. In the hope of causing further mischief the unwelcome visitor hides behind a screen, the others believing that he has gone. When Montrevor leaves Woodruffe sneaks from his hiding place, and is confronted by Mrs. Montrevor. There is a violent scene in which the ruffian throws the lady to the ground, and then departs, after placing the old letter on a table. Captain Montrevor sees the letter, suspects his wife of a guilty relationship, and renounces her. He goes to the front, and it is reported that he is making every effort to get himself killed. In the dangerous enterprise of fusing some of the Boer ammunition he is rendered blind. Mrs. Montrevor has gone out to South Africa as a nurse. She hears of her husband's misfortune, and she must tend him herself. When he finds out who is nursing him, there is a reconciliation, he regains his sight, and the curtain falls upon the announcement of peace just as the renegade Woodruffe and some Boers are setting fire to the cottage which is being used as a nursing shelter.

Mr. Charles Boult cuts a fine figure in his handsome full Highland "regimentals," and he acts with considerable forcefulness. It is in a very able manner that he typifies the gallant soldier and the man of honour, who feels that he has no further use for life after what he believes to be the unfaithful conduct of his wife. In the somewhat pathetic rôle of Helen Montrevor Mrs. Bennett plays with fine feeling and emotion, and admirably sustains her reputation for tragedy. Mr. Allan Wye is amusing as an Irishman, and Mr. Arthur Rodney furnishes a good character study of a desperate ne'er-do-well. Mr. Harry Crane, as a military chaplain and Miss Aldys Eden as a maid perform their parts in an adequate manner. The little piece is admirably staged.

MR. ARTHUR VERNE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—May I encroach upon your kindness and space to present to your readers and friends the sad case of Mr. Arthur Verne, comedian? Mr. Verne joined my *Dare-Devil Dorothy* company in December, 1902, as principal comedian, and played the part till March, 1906, when, through weakness in the legs, he was compelled to relinquish his engagement. He was under medical treatment at his home till May, when he went into hospital as an in-patient till July. He was discharged, and rejoined the company, Aug. 13; but in September, four weeks after, at Manchester, was suddenly stricken with paralysis in the right side, leaving him entirely helpless, and, of course, had to resign his part again. Since then, to the present time, he has been totally incapacitated, and although a very prudent and well-living man, his savings are quite exhausted.

Mr. Verne's previous engagements were:—Four years with *The Prodigal Parson*; he also toured with *The Days of Cromwell*, *Our Irish Visitors*, &c.; pantomimes at Standard Theatre, London; Princess's, Glasgow (two seasons); Theatre Royal, Manchester; Grand Theatre, Cardiff; Theatre Royal, Plymouth, &c.

I should like to say that during the long period Verne was under my management I always found him sober, industrious, and a splendid comedian and dancer, and always willing to help brother artists in distress.

I feel sure there are many old friends who would be glad to help poor Verne now he is unable to help himself.

Subscriptions will be gratefully received and acknowledged by Henry Swinerd, Royal Artillery Theatre, Woolwich; or by J. W. Cordiner, *Dare Devil Dorothy* Company, en route.—Yours truly,

HENRY SWINERD.

Royal Artillery Theatre, Woolwich, S.E.
April 12, 1907.

Subscriptions already received:—

	£	s.	d.
Henry Swinerd	5	5	0
J. W. Cordiner	5	5	0
Messrs. Power and Kirby's *Man's Enemy* Co. (per Martin Comstock)	2	10	6
Horace Stanley	2	2	0
Nellie Harcourt	1	1	0
George Brooks	1	1	0
Bert Edwards	0	7	6
Deane Cliffe	0	5	0
W. C. H.	0	5	0
Arthur Hartley	0	5	0
Walter Ashley	0	5	0

At a special session of the Aldershot Licensing Bench, held on the 3rd inst., Mr. Clarence Sounes, in applying for a renewal of his stage licence for Aldershot Theatre Royal and Opera House, which holds both a theatrical and music hall licence, asked that in Clause 20 of the licence there should be inserted a stipulation that no smoking should be permitted in the auditorium when the theatre was being used for the production of stage plays, but that smoking be permitted when variety performances were being held. There was no intention whatever of allowing smoking during the production of stage plays. No objection was raised to the concession, and the licence was renewed.

On the evening of the 3rd inst, at Stratford-on-Avon in connection with the Shakespeare Festival, was produced a play in four acts, constructed by G. E. Marrison and R. P. Stewart, written by G. E. Morrison, and entitled *Don Quixote*. In spite of certain drawbacks, the result of imperfect rehearsal, the piece had a cordial reception. The principal incidents of Cervantes' novel were utilised; and there was much pathos in the incidents when, at the conclusion, the Don's mind cleared, and in the scene of his death. Mr. Benson gave a fine performance of the part of the Don; and Mr. G. R. Weir was excellent as Sancho Panza. Miss Helen Haye acted creditably as Antonia; and Mr. E. A. Warburton was effective as the villainous Palamque, Miss Leah Hannan winning applause in a picturesque dance.

"The Era" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

ON THE ROAD, MAY 13.

All-of-a-Sudden Peggy.—O. H., Blackpool.
Amasis.—New Theatre, Cardiff.
An Unwedded Wife.—Alexandra T., Hull.
Asche, Oscar.—T. R., Birmingham.
Assassin.—Prince's T., Portsmouth.
Beauty of Bath.—Prince's T., Manchester.
Belle of New York.—T. R., Newcastle.
Benson, F. R. (N.).—P. G., Folkestone.
Benson, F. R.—New Theatre, Cambridge.
Benson, F. R. (S.).—Sutton and Surbiton.
Between the Lights.—Theatre Royal, York.
Charley's Aunt.—King's Theatre, Glasgow.
Christian, The.—T. R., Huddersfield.
Claudian.—Theatre Royal, Portsmouth.
Compton Comedy Co.—Grand Theatre, Hull.
Conscript, The.—Queen's T., Workington.
Dairymaids, The.—New Theatre, Oxford.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—T. R., Hanley.
Destroyer of Men.—Metropole T., Birmingham.
D'Oyly Carte.—T. R., Manchester.
Face at the Window.—Prince's T., Preston.
False Wife.—Theatre Royal, Aston.
Fight for Millions.—Palace T., Newcastle.
Floradora.—Metropole T., Gateshead.
Girl Behind the Counter.—Boro' T., Stratford.
Go-Won-Go-Mohawk.—New T., Ilkeston.
Great Awakening.—Grand T., Brighton.
Grip of Iron.—Theatre Royal, Bilston.
Her Lost Self.—Queen's T., Gateshead.
Her Luck in London.—Royalty T., Barrow.
Her Marriage Vow.—Theatre Royal, Leeds.
Her One Great Sin.—H. M. T., Aberdeen.
Hero of the Flag.—Star T., Liverpool.
His House in Order (Howard).—Crystal Palace Theatre.
His Sister's Honour.—Opera House, St. Helens.
Home, Sweet Home (Green and Hinton).—Aldershot.
Home, Sweet Home.—Metropole T., Glasgow.
Honeymoon, The.—Prince's T., Llandudno.
Honour Thy Father.—Star Theatre, Swansea.
Hour of Her Triumph.—Victoria T., West Stanley.
Ian Maclaren's Repertoire.—Grand T., Blackpool.
Irving, H. B.—Royal Court T., Liverpool.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Llanfairfechan.
Lights Out.—Kennington Theatre, S.E.
Lion and the Mouse.—T. R., Blackburn.
Little Breadwinner.—Stratford.
Little Vagrant.—Dalston Theatre, N.E.
London Fireman.—Theatre Royal, Leeds.
Love that Women Desire.—T. R., Croydon.
Man's Enemy.—Theatre Royal, Edmonton.
Manxman.—Grand Theatre, Nottingham.
Master Criminal.—Theatre Royal, South Shields.
Midnight Mail.—H. M. T., Dundee.
Midnight Wedding.—T. R., Ashton-under-Lyne.
Mollison, William.—T. R., Bolton.
Monsieur Beaucaire.—Gaiety Theatre, Hastings.
Monte Cristo.—Grand Theatre, Newcastle.
Moody-Manners (A.).—Coronet Theatre, W.
Napoleon the Great.—Theatre Royal, Stockport.
My Darling.—Opera House, Belfast.
New World.—Metropole T., Manchester.
Norman V. Norman.—T. R., Bournemouth.
Otto the Outcast.—T. R., Dewsbury.
Peter Pan (No. 2).—P. O. W., Birmingham.
Peter's Mother (N.).—Edinburgh.
Peter's Mother (S.).—Harrogate.
Pick of the Bunch.—Brighton.
Power of Gold.—Theatre Royal, Leigh.
Price of Her Soul.—Theatre Royal, Bury.
Prince of Pilsen (Harris).—Lyceum T., Ipswich.
Private Secretary.—Theatre Royal, Preston.
Prodigal Parson.—Star Theatre, Swansea.
Raffles (Dance).—Grand Theatre, Doncaster.
Royal Divorce.—Grand Theatre, Derby.
Second to None.—Prince's T., Bradford.
Sergeant Brue (N.).—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
Shulamite.—Lyceum T., Newport.
Sin of Her Childhood.—Royalty T., Llanelly.
Still Alarm.—Marina T., Lowestoft.
Swiss Express.—O. H., Tunbridge Wells.
The Woman Pays.—T. R., Stockport.
Tommy.—Tyne Theatre, Newcastle.
Triumph of Truth.—Carlton T., Birmingham.
Trumpet Call.—King's T., Sunderland.
Two Little Drummer Boys.—Queen's T., Longton.
Two Little Vagabonds.—Junction T., Manchester.
Tyrant, The.—P. O. W., Grimsby.
Uncle Tom's Cabin.—Theatre Royal, Chatham.
Under the Russian Flag.—T. R., Rochdale.
Village Blacksmith.—Alexandra T., Birmingham.
Warning to Women.—Grand T., W. Hartlepool.
What the Butler Saw.—O. H., Southport.
When a Man Hates.—Theatre Royal, Seaham Hbr.
When the Lights are Low.—T. R., Sunderland.
When We Were Twenty-one.—County T., Kingston.
Wilkie, Allan, and Co.—Grand T., Wolverhampton.
Woman's Past.—Opera House, Northampton.
Wrecker of Men.—T. R., Darlington.
Youngest of Three.—Grand T., Swansea.
£1000 Reward.—Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

MISS WANDA RADFORD'S RECITAL.

At Steinway Hall, on Monday evening, Miss Radford gave a highly successful dramatic recital, this being her first appearance in London. Miss Wanda Radford, who is only ten years old, is an Australian, and has had already some stage experience, having played the part of Oliver Twist in the provinces with Mr. Beerbohm Tree's company. Miss Radford is a pretty and graceful child with a confident and collected style that at once won the hearts of her large audience, and if her programme was somewhat ambitious, it is certainly due to the little lady to state that her greatest success was in some of Shakespeare's scenes. Miss Radford was assisted by Mr. C. Ganz, who sang "She alone charmeth my sadness" and Gounod's "Maid of Athens." Mr. C. Ganz was accompanied by Mr. Wilhelm Ganz. The first recitation was a selection from Dickens's "Oliver Twist"—"Mr. Brownlow's House," "Fagin's Den," and "Fagin's Cell," and Miss Radford, being encored after these, gave "The Skinners," a domestic aside, with no little skill and comedy feeling. She was also successful in the Potion Scene (*Romeo and Juliet*, Act iv., scene 3), and especially so in "Portia and Nerissa" from *The Merchant of Venice* (Act i., scene 2), the youthful reciter causing a laugh by saying "by Shakespeare." Miss Radford was also much applauded for Lehmann's "Fairies on the Lawn" and "An Orphan's Address to Her Doll," the audience being much amused at the close of this recital by a real doll, as well as flowers and sweets, being presented to the reciter by her friends and admirers. Other items included in the programme were "Henry before Harfleur" (*King Henry V.*, Act iii., scene 1), and "Shylock Vows Vengeance," from *The Merchant of Venice*, both rather too trying examples for so youthful an artist.

Dr. Hans Richter celebrated on Tuesday (May 7) the thirtieth anniversary of his first public appearance in London. He has never mastered quite the intricacies of our language; but a man who devotes his life to solving the orchestral difficulties of Wagner's titanic scores has no time to become a linguist.

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The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

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Notice to Advertisers.

Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week, and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances, payable to "THE ERA," LTD., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

Address,
The PUBLISHER,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(two doors off Wellington Street)
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephone, 4747, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

M. C.—*Miss Zena Dare made her début at the Coronet in* The Babes in the Wood, *produced at Christmas, 1899. Her first leading part was in* The English Daisy, *by Seymour Hicks and Walter Slaughter, produced Aug. 11, 1902.*

H. H.—*The Drury Lane pantomime, 1888-89, was* The Babes in the Wood.

PAT.—*The Irish Exhibition in 1888 was held at Olympia.*

NEW YORKER.—*She made her first appearance on the stage as a child in* Alice in Wonderland, *Prince of Wales's, Christmas, 1886.*

J. RICHARDS.—The Duchess of Dantzic *was produced at the Lyric, Oct. 17, 1903; and was withdrawn from that theatre June 11, 1904.*

G. TAYLOR.—*Since replying to your question last week we have ascertained that the song "Queen of my heart" was first sung at the Coventgarden Promenade Concerts.*

K. P.—The Master, *by G. Stuart Ogilvie, was produced by Mr. John Hare at the Globe on April 23, 1898.*

J. E. W.—*To secure copyright for the United States of America, simultaneous publication in England and America is necessary.*

LEX.—*If you can prove what you state decline to do anything of the kind. If sued, tell the court what you have stated to us.*

BICUSPID.—*The late Mr. Herbert Campbell first sang "At my time o' life" in the spring of 1896.*

FELIX PITT.—*Write to Samuel French and Co., theatrical publishers, Southampton-street, Strand.*

R. W.—*Violet Gray,* Belle of New York, *New York Casino, Sept. 28, 1897; same part, Shaftesbury Theatre, London, April 12, 1898; Gabrielle Dalmonte,* An American Beauty, *April 25, 1900 (same theatre); Olga,* The Girl from Up There, *Herald Theatre, New York, Jan. 7, 1901; same part, Duke of York's, London, April 23, 1901; Baroness de Trégue,* Kitty Grey, *Apollo, Sept. 7, 1901; Edna Branscombe,* Three Little Maids, *May 10, 1902 (same theatre); Lillian Leigh,* The School Girl, *Prince of Wales's, May 9, 1903; same part, Daly's, New York, Sept. 1, 1904; Alesia,* La Poupée, *Prince of Wales's, April 12, 1904; Angela Crystal,* Catch of the Season, *Daly's, New York, Aug. 28, 1905; Julia Chaldicott,* Belle of Mayfair, *Vaudeville, London, April 11, 1906; title-rôle in* Nelly Neil, *Aldwych, Jan., 1907.*

V. SHERRINGTON CHINN.—*The executors of the will were Mr. Edward Yeats Lowne, of Streatham, and Mr. John L. Lyell, of Balham.*

OLIVER DODDS.—*We do not keep a record of the dates of the production of music-hall sketches, and are, therefore, unable to give you the information.*

ASPERDAN.—*We have been unable to discover the date.*

F. E. SLIPPER.—The New Boy *was produced at the Vaudeville Theatre in 1894.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a Birth or Death or an "In Memoriam" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is One Shilling and Sixpence, every additional word One Penny.

The charge for a notice of Marriage, not exceeding forty words, is Two Shillings and Sixpence, every additional word One Penny.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

CADLE.—On the 8th inst., at "Hempstead," 109, Clapham-road, S.W., the wife of Ernest Cadle, of a son. Both doing splendidly.

ROSAIRE.—On May 7, at Marlow Villa, Gwendoline-street, Merthyr Tydfil, wife of Will Rosaire (née Marie Tissot), of a fine boy; both doing well.

MARRIAGES.

BARRY—MINTO.—May 1, Shiel Barry, actor, to Dorothy Minto, actress.

CAREW—TERRY.—March 22, at Belleview, Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, James Carew to Ellen Terry.

DEATHS.

BELMORE.—May 5, at Sunderland, of cerebro-meningitis and heart disease, Paul Belmore, actor, aged 34.

BUSH.—Mrs. Charles Bush (Florence Charles) passed peacefully away at her residence, 6, Cross Flatts-drive, Leeds, May 6, 1907.

FLAKEY.—May 5, at the Consumption Hospital, Armley, Leeds, after a long illness, James Birdsall, professionally known as James Flakey, acrobat.

KENYON.—On May 6, Harry Kenyon (late of the Four Burnells and Moore and Burgess Minstrels), at Fulham, of pneumonia, aged 37, leaving wife and four children totally unprovided for.

LESLIE.—At his residence, 162a, New City-road, Glasgow, on May 6, Jas. Orr Leslie, aged 70, tenor vocalist, late Rogers and Leslie, duettists. Deeply regretted by his family and friends.

THORP.—In loving memory of Flora Lumiere Thorp, who sweetly fell asleep April 28, 1907, aged 4 months. Interred in Brunswick-square Cemetery, Bristol.

IN MEMORIAM.

GILES.—In loving memory of Thomas Charles Gilleno Giles, who died May 14, 1905, at Bangkok, Siam. Never will be forgotten by his loving wife and children.

A faithful husband, tender, true;
A loving father; life's labour o'er;
Not dead, but gone before.

HARCOURT.—In loving memory of Sidney Harcourt, who passed away May 11, 1906.

TOFT.—In affectionate remembrance of our dear mother, May Toft, who departed this life May 10, 1905. Never forgotten by her loving children.

PRESENTATION.—At the close of the performance of *The Lion and the Mouse* at the New Gaiety Theatre, Ayr, on the 27th ult., Mr. Harry W. Day, the genial manager, was presented by the staff of the theatre with a chastely designed silver cigarette case, with initials and inscription thereon, and with a handsome silver fish-knife and fork in case for Mrs. Day. Mr. Day thanked them one and all on behalf of his wife and himself for the marks of good fellowship which had been displayed by these gifts, and expressed the hope that the same good feeling would continue.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

No Circulars or Parcels admitted to this list.

Albert, Mr.
Alberto, Mr. Fred
Alec
Allen, Mr. G. Grant
Alwyn, Mr. Roger
Artois, Mr. Jack
Atherton, Miss Daisy
Austa, Miss Amber
Baines, Miss Florence
Banks, Miss Flo
Barker, Mr. John
Barnet, Mr. W.
Bartlett, Mr. Frank
Bassett, Mr. Tom
Bateman, Mr. Edgar
Bedford, Mr. Harry
Bee, Mr. E.
Bertram, Mr. E. V.
Besant, Sir Walter
Biddle Brothers
Black, Mr. Joe
Bonheur, Mr. Theo.
Bosanquet, Mons.
Brough, Mr. Harry
Burgon Opera Co.
Bury, Mr. Sam
Byron, Mr. Arthur
Carlton, Miss Minnie
Carson, Mr. Murray
Cattle, Mr. William
Chanti, Mrs. G.
Chaplin, Mr. Sidney
Chard, Mr. F. W.
Church, Miss L.
Cliff, Little
Clifton, Miss Connie
Clyo and Rochelle
Collings, Mr. C. P.
Collins, Miss Lottie
Conan, Mr. Charlie
Connorton, Mrs.
Cosgrove and Burns
Cotter, Miss Nell
Courtney, Miss Maud
Cranston, Mr. W. J.
Cronin, Mr. Morris
Crossley, Miss Violet
Dainton, Miss Maisie
Daly, Mr. C. M.
Daly, Mr. Chas. M.
Dalymple, Mr. Leonard
Danvers, Mr. James
Davis, Miss Fay
Dawe, Mr. Arthur J.
Deane, Mr. A. J.
Denham, Mr. Aubrey
Dolan, Miss W.
Donovan, Miss Lydia
Dorris, Miss Ruth
Duncan and Godfrey
Earl, Miss Kate
Edwards, Miss Jessie
Edwards, Mr. Tom
Elsie, Miss Lily
Field, Mr. Harry
Fowler, Miss Francis
Frasettis, Les
Fredericks, Mr. Harold
Ganthony, Miss Nellie
Gardner, Mr. Peter H.
Garrick, Mr. Esca
Gerard, Miss Blanche
Goff, Mrs. Chas.
Goutts, Mr. Henry
Grafton, Madam Louise
Graham, Mr. Gerard
Greenwood, Mr. F.
Grieve, Miss Dora
Haisan, Mr. C. H.
Hall, Mr. Tom
Halling, Miss Daisy
Halstan, Miss M.
Handle, Miss Z.
Harcourt, Miss Eva
Hatherley, Mr. A.
Hayden, Miss B.
Hazell, Mr. W. E.
Hearne, Mr. Richard
Herman, Dr. Carl
Hill, Miss J.
Hill, Mr. Hamilton
Howard, Mr. G.
Howard, Mr. G.
Howard, Mr. Walter
Huxley, Miss
Hylton, Miss Florence
Ishmael, Prince
Jazon, Mr. Edwin C.
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Kerr, Mr. G. C. V.
Kioto, Mr. N. Jakedo
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Linn, Miss L.
Linwood, Mr. Lance
Lloyd, Mr. F.
Loftus, Miss Kitty
Mackintire, Mr. T.
Macknay, Mr. A.
Magrath, Mr. Chas.
Manchester, Mr. Harry
Manders, Mrs. Emma
Martin, Miss Sylvia
Martin, Mr Philip
Mitchelson, Mr. Angus
Molloy, Miss Ruth
Moore, Miss Carrie
Mortimer, Miss Maud
Morton, Miss Effie
Mozart, Mr. Ernest
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Norman, Mr. A. W.
Norman, Mr. (Collier and Child)
Olga and Elgar, Messrs.
Oliver, Mr. J. C.
O'Neill, Mr. Frank
Osborne, Mr. Will
Page and Edwards
Paull, Miss Ethel G.
Pearson, Mr. Bob
Pease, Mr. S. T.
Penley, Mr. Fred
Peterman, Mr. J. B.
Placide, Madam
Potter, Mrs. Brown
Priest, Mr.
Pryde, Miss Peggy
Pyrquins, Mr. F.
Randall, Mr. Claude
Reed, Mr. Fred
Riley, Mr. Tom
Ringham, Mr. Mark
Robinson, Mr. F. S.
Rowe, Mr. Jack
Sartella, Miss Rose
Scott, Mr. W.
Sealby, Miss Mabel
Seymour, Miss Sadie
Shallard, Mr. Dillon
Shine, Mr. Wilfred
Sinclair, Mr. Tom
Singhi, Mr. D.
Smart, Miss E.
Smart Set Entertainers
Smith, Mr. Phil
Stanford, Miss Mary
Steuart, Mr. Charles
St. Quentin, Mr. Ed.
Thorpe, Miss Dora
Trevor, Mr. Vaughan
Vansittart, Mr. C. E. B
Vendome, Mr. and Mrs.
Vezin, Mr. H.
Vyner, Mr. Leslie
Vyvyan, Mr. Herbert
Warmsley, Sisters
Watson, Mr. Dock
Weight, Mr. Chas.
Weightman, Mr. J.
Willard, Mr. George
Willard, Mr. P. W.
Wingate, Mr. C. L.
Wood, Miss Dora

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Lily Stewart—Saturday, May 11.
Sid Cotterell—Saturday, May 11.
W. A. Buckstone—Saturday, May 11.
Florence Tench—Sunday, May 12
Lytton Grey—Sunday, May 12.
Clara Earle—Sunday, May 12.
Dennis Harvey—Sunday, May 12.
Henry Masterman—Sunday, May 12.
Vesta Tilley—Monday, May 13.
Wilfred Draycott—Monday, May 13.
Sir Squire Bancroft—Tuesday, May 14.
T. Hall Caine—Tuesday, May 14.
Hilda Spong—Tuesday, May 14.
Frank Gillmore—Tuesday, May 14.
Carl Hertz—Tuesday, May 14.
Mrs. Brown Potter—Wednesday, May 15.
Maude Western—Wednesday, May 15.
Charles Alpha—Wednesday, May 15.
Alfred Poynton—Thursday, May 16.
George Howard—Thursday, May 16.
Shaun Glenville—Thursday, May 16.
Ida Rene—Thursday, May 16.
Auguste Van Biene—Thursday, May 16.
Frank Thornton—Thursday, May 16.
H. Naylor Grimson—Friday, May 17.
Frank Cumminger—Friday, May 17.
Ellis Jeffreys—Friday, May 17.

CRICKET.

MR. H. F. MALTBY'S "YOUNGEST OF THREE" CO. V. BATH POLICE.

Played at Bath on Thursday, and resulted in a win for *Youngest of Three* company by 65 runs. Scores:

Youngest of Three Company.—R. Favell, 10; H. L. Dobree, 3; F. S. Willson, 3; H. F. Maltby, 5; Wyn Weaver (not out), 40; F. Stoney, 20; Tyne, 0; S. Clegg, 5; Lewis (not out), 31; total, 124 for seven wickets (innings declared).

Bath Police, 59, all out. The fielding of Mr. Maltby's company was very good, four of the P.C.'s being run out. Mr. Favell was very smart at the wicket.

THEATRICAL INVENTIONS.

The concise descriptions that we give below of recent applications for patents are specially contributed by Messrs. Howard and Co., patent agents, 57 and 58, Chancery-lane, London, W.C., who will assist readers in all patent matters:—

APPLICATIONS.

10,035. Elizabeth McEvoy, of Strand, London, for attachment to theatre and other seats or chairs for the reception of hats and other articles.

10,078. Emil Gottlieb Homes, of Chancery-lane, London, for improvements in kinematographs or the like for preventing accidents through fire.

THE Santley jubilee celebration began many hours before three o'clock in the Albert Hall on Wednesday, the 1st inst. For early in the morning of that day the eminent baritone (to say nothing of his neighbours) was aroused from sleep by the strains of an itinerant German band, which, after regaling him with, roughly speaking, a potpourri of airs appropriate to the man and the occasion, finally blew "Auld Lang Syne" and the National Anthem under his very windows. Such is fame!

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GREAT EASTERN RAILWAY.
NEWMARKET RACES.
SECOND SPRING MEETING.
May 14, 15, and 16, 1907.
NEWMARKET STAKES, May 15.
First and Third Class Trains will run as under:—

Down Trains.	a.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	noon	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.
		A	B						C	D	D	
Liverpool-street, depart..	8.40	9.50	10.20	11.5	12. 0	2.35	4.15	4.30	5.12	8.20		
St. Pancras, „		..	9.45	10.18	..	12.20	2.40	4.10	..	..		
Newmarket, arrive..	10.33	11.45	12.10	12.50	2.20	4.48	6. 5	6.19	7.17	10.18		

Up Trains.	a.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.
										D	D	
Newmarket, depart..	8. 3	8.56	10.42	2.25	12.30	3.57	6.10	6. 3	..	5.30	5.56	6.15	7.47	
St. Pancras, arrive..	10.23	11.15	...	2.40	2.4	6.10	7.47	7.35	8. 0	..	8.35	..	
Liverpool-street, „	10.15	10.56	12.40	2.33	2.47	6. 3	..	7.28	7.45	8.25	9.57		

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To-night, Saturday, at 7.45,
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General-Manager, FRED MILLER

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Business.—To receive the report and the balance-sheet for 1906; to elect the necessary officers; to determine the election by voting papers of the Executive Committee to serve until May, 1908.
Mr. EDWARD TERRY will take the Chair.
Tickets may be obtained from A. J. AUSTIN, Hon. Secretary, 20, Gower-street, Bedford-square.

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Copyright confusion is, like the poor, always with us, and as it seems likely to remain so until at least the crack of doom, it were well for all concerned, or likely to be concerned, to take immediate steps to secure a copy of Mr. Albert A. Strong's new work, entitled "The Law of Copyright." Mr. Strong is already favourably known to the profession for his text-book on "Dramatic and Musical Law," which, like his latest production, is published at "The Era" Office. "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" essays to make clear to the non-legal mind what is—or, in some cases, what probably is—the law as to musical and dramatic copyright. The chapters on the Berne Convention and on the Chase Act, passed by the United States Congress last March, are full of interest.—Referee.

Mr. A. A. Strong has published a book on "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," which should be in the hands of everyone who is obliged to know about this perplexing subject. Dramatic copyright in England is in a particularly unsatisfactory state, and it is much to be hoped that ere long some more rational method of securing protection for a play may be devised than the slovenly and sometimes costly "production for copyright purposes," which is at present required.—St. James's Gazette.

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, MAY 11, 1907.

CHURCH AND STAGE.

Mr. George Alexander has done good service by drawing the attention of the public to an article on the above subject in the *Christian Commonwealth* and giving quotations from the same. The writer pointed out that while a large proportion of ministers of the gospel, editors of religious newspapers, and ordinary church members attended the theatre frequently or occasionally, it was never officially and openly recognised or commended, and was either denounced or ignored by the religious Press. He also bore testimony to the fine morality of most modern plays, and to the excellent lessons taught by their stories. It is somewhat curious that almost at the same time we find the Lord Bishop of Birmingham at St. Paul's, Knightsbridge, last Sunday, in a special service under the auspices of the Actors' Church Union, protesting against the attitude of the Church towards the Stage. Said the Bishop in his address: "The Church has been in constant alliance with the Army at its worst times as well as at its best. I ask, 'Is there any reason in the world why exactly that same charity should not have been exhibited by the Church towards another great profession which holds a great place in the imagination of men?' There is, also, surely the greatest reason why the Church should show the most generous charity towards those whose lives are so very often uncomfortable, hard, isolated; who need the charity of religion in the sense that they need that large love which we show to all persons who minister to human convenience under circumstances which must put the greatest strain on nerve and patience and endurance. Priests and actors are playing their part in mutual succour, and should keep one another constantly in mind of the largeness and dignity of our nature, and the depth and thoroughness and largeness of Divine Grace."

The real difficulty of the *rapprochement* between Church and Stage lies in the unreality of much of what is called Religion. It is unfair to make sweeping statements regarding any class; there are always exceptions to every rule, and it is easy to make out a case for the average by pointing to the exceptional. But it is notorious that, broadly speaking, Religion and church or chapel-going are two entirely different things. Attendance at a "place of worship" is in most cases simply a ceremonial observance, like wearing a high hat or having one's doorstep whitened. The sermons are carefully planned so as to avoid attacking the besetting sins of the patrons. A man may be a grinder of the poor, or a cheat, or an adulterator of human food, and yet go to church and sit there every Sunday without hearing anything to ruffle his self-complacency. Father Vaughan's recent Sermons to Society were a tremendous novelty, something altogether unknown; and who ever hears from a Dissenting pulpit denunciations of the false weight and measure, the under-feeding and over-working of employees, and all the scampish "tricks" of trade?

Church-going, as usually practised, is merely a manifestation of Respectability. Now, the artistic class to which the actor and actress belong have an entirely different set of temptations from those of the middle classes. An actor has nothing to gain by being what is called Respectable. If there are two grocers in a village, and one is a regular church-goer and the other an open Atheist, other things being equal, the sales of the former will exceed those of the latter. The late Mr. Whiteley told an interviewer that he attributed his early success in business to attracting the attention of his employers by his attendance as a teacher in a Sunday school. But if an actor leads a religious life he has only the approval of his conscience as his reward; it will not increase his chance of engagements. If he has the religious instinct, he prefers to gratify it in private and carry it out to its logical conclusion in practice. But no manager will pay an actor any the more because he "professes religion." The tendency of the Church is to ignore the respectable vices and attack the disreputable ones. The tendency of the drama is to fall into exactly an opposite error. The Bishop makes a shrewd hit when he says, "We are living under a reaction from Puritanism. There is the Pharisaism of the publican who thanks God that he is not a Puritan." Charles Surface is loaded with approval, and marries the "nice girl" of the play; while Joseph is hounded out with scorn. But one is just as selfish and contemptible as the other. The rake and the cheat, the spendthrift and the "sweater," are all enemies of society. Still, for several generations there has been a steady levelling-up going on. The artist has become more respectable, and the Puritan has become more humane. And as Religion becomes more and more a matter of faith and feeling influencing conduct, so it becomes more and more possible for the two classes to meet on common ground. But the actor, having no inducement to deal in the imitation article, wants his Religion real.

And the actor is apt to be a little impatient of sermons; feeling, as he does in many cases, that he is "in the same business" himself. The higher drama, as the writer in the *Christian Commonwealth* notes, is a perpetual preacher, with a vast influence on human life. It is all very well to sneer at melodrama from an art point of view; the fact remains that for the hundreds who are unconscious of its artistic defects it represents a stimulant to goodness in the glorification of virtue and the denunciation of vice. And the virtues which the drama extols are not those of the old Puritan type, which is fast dying out, but the more humane and affectionate qualities which were recommended by the Founder of Christianity.

STUDENTS OF DRAMATIC ART.

Before a most sympathetic audience at the St. James's Theatre, kindly lent by Mr. George Alexander, a special performance was given on Monday afternoon by the students of the Academy of Dramatic Art, established at 62, Gower-street. The kind friends in front included many prominent actors and actresses. In a box were seated Sir Squire and Lady Bancroft and Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Maude; and in the stalls were Mr. John Hare, Mr. and Mrs. Cosmo Gordon Lennox (Miss Marie Tempest), Mr. James Fernandez, Miss Alexandra Carlisle, Mme. Cavallazzi, and a number of others. The matinée opened with a fencing salute by Miss Margaret Hollister, Miss G. Sinclair, Miss M. Sinclair, Miss Broadley, Miss Lewis, Miss Rhodes, Miss Roach, Miss Faith Celli and Miss Charity Cell (the handsome daughters of the late Frank Celli), Miss Carmichael, Miss Wootton, and Miss Dale. These young ladies are evidently benefiting by the instruction of that expert *maître d'escrime*, M. Bertrand, whose lessons in a graceful art have given them command of poise and also taught them something of the harmony of movement. Miss Vera Wilson, Miss Hilda Bewicke, and Mr. Swem interested one and all by their elegance and rhythmic grace in a *pas de deux* and *pas de trois*, and showed themselves to be apt and promising pupils of Mr. Louis Hervey d'Egville.

The three excerpts from the Bard which were played afforded eloquent testimony of the great value rightly set by the Council upon the early education of the student in Shakespearean characters. There is much to be said in praise of the performance of the first act of *As You Like It*, and there would have been more had not Mr. Edward Vernon entirely omitted to come on as Duke Frederick and banish Rosalind from his court. Miss Catherine Sedley showed intelligence as Rosalind, but has not yet learnt to manage her voice, and lacked distinctness. Miss Pauline Straus as Celia realised something of the playfulness of the part, and her delivery was admirably clear. Miss Dulcie Conroy rather overdid the affectation of the coxcomb, Le Beau, but her acting evidently amused the house, and she promises well in comedy rôles. Mr. E. V. Stuart was a passable Touchstone; Mr. Rowland an effective Charles; and Mr. Clifford a commendable Adam. Mr. Bertram Forsyth, a well-grown and graceful Orlando, and Mr. H. G. Bentley, a duly forbidding and scowling Oliver, both did exceedingly well in the Casket scenes from *The Merchant of Venice*, specially arranged by Sir Squire Bancroft, with appropriate music from the pen of Mr. William Robins. Mr. Bentley, indeed, made quite a hit as the Prince of Morocco. The beautiful lines "Mislike me not for my complexion" were given with much impressiveness, dignity, and no little tenderness by him. Mr. Bertram Forsyth's Bassanio was a lover-like young Venetian courtier, and he played with much grace and expressiveness. Both young actors possess fine voices, Mr. Bentley's being heavier in *timbre*, reminding one of Mr. Forbes Robertson. Mr. Edward Vernon compensated for the earlier disappointment by his success as the Prince of Arragon. Miss Muriel Dole did not quite catch the romantic spirit of Portia, though there was some tenderness in the fair châtelaine of Belmont's speech to Bassanio at the conclusion of his choice. Miss Bessie Boyle's Nerissa may be highly commended. There was nothing particularly striking in Miss Dulcie Conry's Devonshire recitation; but Miss Beatrice Smith's representation of Lady Macbeth in the sleep-walking scene electrified the house, and proved that we have in our midst a young tragedienne of considerable promise. The conscience-stricken queen has not often appealed with such strength of horror as depicted by Miss Smith, whose shuddering intensity awed her audience into a silence that might have been felt. She was effectively supported by Mr. Clifford as the doctor and Miss Margaret Omar as the gentlewoman. A recitation by Miss Daisy Goulden formed a prelude to *L'Ideal*, represented by permission of Lieut.-Col. Newnham-Davis, the author of the scenario. This pantomime, in one act, which was originally presented in 1896 at the Palace Theatre, concerns the jealousy of an artist's wife at his devotion to his art and to a portrait he has painted which he calls his ideal. Jealousy overmasters wifely devotion, and in her rage Evelyn destroys the picture. Reginald, heartbroken at the destruction of his *chef d'œuvre*, drinks heavily; but Evelyn raises him and herself from the depths of despair by a clever ruse. Donning a dress similar to that worn by the lady of the picture, she persuades him that she is his ideal. Miss Sheba Brozel distinguished herself by her eloquent gesture-play as Evelyn, and her resource and power are unquestionable. She is the clever pupil of Mme. Cavalazzi. In a recitation, "The Young Scottish Martyrs," Miss Jean M'Dougall showed considerable ability.

In a scene from *The Ambassador* Miss Beatrice Smith and Miss Pauline Straus again distinguished themselves as Lady Beaudevere and Juliet Gainsborough, and Mr. Gerald Bruce played with easy distinction as Lord St. Orbyn; but the rest of the cast did not show any particular merit.

The students were rehearsed by Sir Squire Bancroft, Mr. George Alexander, and Mr. A. W. Pinero, members of the Council, and by the permanent instructors, Mr. E. Lyall Swete and Mr. J. Fisher White. The Council are much indebted to Lady Bancroft, who rehearsed the Sleep-walking scene, and to Miss Violet Vanbrugh for valuable assistance in the preparation of the Ambassadors. Mr. George Alexander's great kindness in lending his theatre and costumes is also warmly acknowledged, as well as the valued help of Mr. Tree and Mr. Arthur Bourchier, who generously lent certain scenes. Neither must we overlook the hearty co-operation of Mr. C. T. H. Helmsley, Mr. H. R. Kimpton, and other heads of departments at the St. James's; the chef d'orchestre, Mr. W. Robins, being responsible for the music in the Casket scenes.

"A ROYAL FAMILY" REVIVED.

Mr. Charles Frohman on Saturday evening, in his revival of Captain Robert Marshall's *A Royal Family*, played a very safe card; for even that terrible person the hardened playgoer would find it difficult not to restrain his hilarity at the amusing way in which the author has treated the troubles and cares of a monarchy sufficiently fictitious and sufficiently actual to be applicable to any other country besides Arcacia. The company entrusted with the representation of the comedy romance, in three acts, at the Duke of York's Theatre, is as follows:—

Louis VII. ..... Mr. C. M. Lowne
Prince Charles Ferdinand ..... Master Andrews
Prince Victor Constantine .. Mr. Henry Ainley
The Duke of Berascon .... Mr. Philip Desborough
1st A.D.C. ..... Mr. Alexander Cassy
2nd A.D.C. ..... Mr. H. G. Bentley
3rd A.D.C. ..... Mr. Charles Wellesley
The Count Varensa ..... Mr. Herbert Bunston
Baron Holdensen ..... Mr. Herbert Ross
The Cardinal Casano ..... Mr. Lyall Swete
Father Anselm ..... Mr. B. Forsyth
Lord Stapleton ..... Mr. Drelincourt Odlum
Mr. Vanderdyke Q. Cobb ..... Mr. G. Courtney
Lord Chamberlain ..... Mr. Sidney Hamilton
Queen Margaret ..... Miss Nella Powys
Queen Ferdinand ..... Miss Dolores Drummond
Princess Angela ..... Miss Alexandra Carlisle
Countess Carini ..... Miss L. Bilbrooke

In the original production at the Court, on Oct. 14, 1899, the Princess Angela was played by Miss Gertrude Elliot, now Mrs. Forbes Robertson, whose successor at the Duke of York's is Miss Alexandra Carlisle. This young actress, who has migrated from one London theatre to another to endow with her sweet personality heroines of comedy since she appeared with Mr. Nat Goodwin in February last year in *A Gilded Fool*, has completely justified the good opinion we then expressed of her powers, and by her charm of manner, her winsomeness, her sensibility, in the character of Princess Angela, she carries the older playgoer back to the days of Robertsonian comedy at the old Prince of Wales's in Tottenham-street. She has an excellent and well-graced stage-lover in Mr. Henry Ainley, and the pair completely captivated the house on Saturday night in the love-making scenes in the idyllic glade painted by the artistic Mr. W. McCleery. The simple wooing of the unconventional couple and the poetry of it all evoked the heartiest approval of gods and pit. Mr. C. M. Lowne's reading of the character of Louis VII., King of Arcacia, is a shade more serious than that of Mr. Eric Lewis; but he never fails to give the necessary unction to the many good things put into the monarch's mouth by the author, and is irreproachably correct in his kingly dignity. Mr. Philip Desborough's Duke of Berascon is a neat embodiment of a court official who carries out his instructions with unquestioning and unhesitating obedience; Mr. Herbert Ross catches just the right tone of injured dignity in the part of the fussy and stupid Baron Holdensen, the chief of police—a remarkable discoverer of mares' nests; and nothing more finished and agreeable than the acting of Mr. Lyall Swete as the genial Cardinal Casano is to be found in the cast. Mr. B. Forsyth, we are given to understand, is, or was, a student of the Academy of Dramatic Art in Gower-street, and his appearance on the stage of the Duke of York's on Saturday in the part of Father Anselm (originally played by Mr. Marsh Allen) was his professional début. He played with considerable quiet strength as the young priest, whose asceticism is not proof against the love engendered in his heart by the kindness and sympathy of the Princess Angela; and in the little scene of parting in the third act Mr. Forsyth showed a restraint and tenderness that were wholly admirable. That ripe and experienced actress, Miss Dolores Drummond, finds a part after her own heart in that of the Queen Ferdinand, whose copious store of reminiscences and strong sense of her own importance enable her to score. Miss Drummond's utterances are invariably followed by laughter, and the roar of merriment that went up from the audience on Saturday at the simple words "I knew it" is a gratifying tribute to her diction and power of characterisation. Miss Nella Powys is an attractive Queen of Arcacia, and Miss Lydia Bilbrooke an adequate representative of the Countess Carini. Master Andrews realises intelligently his responsibilities as the royal *enfant terrible*; and Mr. Herbert Bunston does well as the Count Varensa. Mr. Alexander Cassy, Mr. H. G. Bentley, and Mr. Charles Wellesley as the aide-de-camps are smart and effective; and Mr. Drelincourt Odlum as the English Ambassador, Mr. G. Courtney as Mr. Vanderdyke Q. Cobb, and Mr. Sidney Hamilton as the Lord Chamberlain lend efficient aid in minor parts. The betrothal scene in the last act is brilliant, the ladies' dresses being a dream of elegance and beauty. Mr. Bruce Smith and Mr. W. Hann's interiors are, as usual, quite excellent. The play is produced under the experienced direction of Mr. Dion Boucicault.

BROADWAY THEATRE, S.E.

On Monday, May 6, Pinero's Comedy, entitled "HIS HOUSE IN ORDER."

Mr. Pinero's clever comedy is being thoroughly appreciated by the large audiences it is drawing here, and the story is followed with interest throughout. Mr. Frank Fenton is admirably suited to the character of Hilary Jesson, which he plays with great success. Mr. Cyril Harcourt gives an excellent rendering of Filmer Jesson; Miss Maisie Richardson as Derek Jesson is interesting and clever; Mr. George Fitzgerald submits an impressive performance as Sir Daniel Ridgely; Mr. George Silver is very good as Major Maurewarde; Mr. Lloyd Lowndes is excellent as Doctor Dilnott; Mr. A. E. Benedict is a capable Harding; and Mr. Cyril Battley gives a skilful portrait of the newspaper representative, Forshaw; Mr. W. Barnett Parker and Mr. Frank Elton are good as the Servants; Miss Auriol Lee is a very charming and attractive Nina; Miss Kemmis is well placed as Lady Ridgeley; Miss Audrey Campbell is pleasing as Geraldine Ridgeley; and Miss Lilli Kehr is very good as Mlle. Thome. Mr. A. P. Horne is the general manager for the company.

At the St. Bride Foundation Institute, Ludgate Circus, on Saturday evening last, a concert was held in connection with the London Association of Correctors of the Press, a crowded audience being attracted by a first-class programme which had been arranged by Messrs. E. Croft-Williams and W. A. Perkins, who acted as musical directors. Miss Kathleen Dwyer displayed a wonderful command of the pianoforte in a solo and in accompaniments; and Master E. A. Clarke (a young boy) showed promise of becoming a most proficient performer on the same instrument. Miss Ethel Sawyer gave an excellent violin solo, and Mr. J. T. Bailey surprised the audience by the skilful way he treated the bassoon. The vocalists included Misses Ethel Syrett, Helena Foxen, Muriel Stanton, and M. Butler, all of whom did well in their various selections, the voice of the last-named young amateur being specially admired. Mr. T. C. Bell's baritone songs were much appreciated; the whistling items of Mr. Fred Bishop formed a pleasing variation; and the comic element was in the safe hands of Messrs. Fred Edwards (well known at St. Bride Institute, and always welcome), George Buck (a rising South London concert artist), and Harry Good (whose efforts were accorded most hearty applause). Somerset dialect songs were contributed by Mr. W. A. Perkins, and recitations by Miss Daisy Fletcher and Mr. J. W. Harris. Altogether a delightful and successful evening.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

The new committee of the V.A.F. is decidedly representative, and the profession should have every confidence in their zeal, discretion, and administrative capacity. Arthur Roberts, who has represented the artists before Mr. G. R. Askwith, the arbitrator, unquestionably occupies his correct position at the head of the poll with 1,063 votes. Close up are Tom Costello, J. W. Cragg, the veteran acrobat, G. H. Chirgwin, F. V. St. Clair, Harry Freeman, Harry Blake, Cliff Ryland, and Edwin Barwick—men of ripe experience. A leaven of younger men is found in Neil Kenyon, Fred Sinclair, George Leyton, Tom Woottwell, J. Alexandre, Fred Ginnett, Carl Hertz, Horace Goldin, and other prominent performers.

We have, therefore, a happy combination of the older and newer generations of artists, and thus the praiser of times past will be impelled to "express" into his methods some of the juice of up-to-date opinion. The old coach of conservatism—an excellent vehicle in its way—will have to be progressively re-wheeled. But though the Federation may be congratulated on the choices made for its administrative body, we must express our regret at the non-success of Mr. Charles Coborn.

Mr. Coborn advocated co-operation or combination as far back as the eighties. Then his was like the voice of one crying in the wilderness of indifference or the wastes of apathy; but he never slackened his efforts to promote the wish nearest his heart—professional union. In season and out of season he pounded away trying to quicken by the spirit of union the lifeless insensibility into which the profession had sunk. From the seed that he sowed has grown the most powerful Federation of entertainers that the world has ever known.

Mr. Joe O'Gorman has been elected chairman of the Federation, and Mr. W. H. Clemart vice-chairman. Both these gentlemen gave evidence before the Arbitrator on the barring clause, and the prominent position of both in all the affairs of the Federation and during the strike need not be here insisted on.

Mr. Bransby Williams, it will be remembered, produced during his engagement at the Empire last year a sketch by Miss Beatrix de Burgh, entitled *The Last of His Race*. The same title is used for the drama to be produced immediately at Drury Lane Theatre; but Mr. Williams considers he has a prior right to it.

Mr. Williams has just been presented by an old admirer with a pen-and-ink sketch of the late Mr. J. L. Toole receiving the present King as Prince of Wales on the houseboat in Mr. J. M. Barrie's first successful stage piece, *Walker, London*. Another admirer has given him a picture which used to hang in Mr. Toole's bedroom, of the late Sir Henry Irving and his terrier, Fussy, carrying his stick. Mr. Williams starts on the Stoll tour next week, and will give up pantomime this year. He has just concluded his third engagement at the Empire, and is now recovering from an attack of pharyngitis.

America is not to have a monopoly of the revival of burnt cork minstrelsy. We are given to understand that Mr. Horace Livermore intends to resuscitate in the provinces, upon a very complete and up-to-date scale, the Court Minstrels founded by the family, and the famous combination will again be an actuality when the leaves begin to fall. The Vogel crowd, to which we referred last week, will tour the provinces for six weeks before commencing a season in London.

Miss Florrie Robina (Mrs. Reed Pinaud) has a daughter who, at her recent début at the Apollo Theater, Dusseldorf, showed considerable hereditary gifts. She appeared in the part of the saucy serio in that farcical sketch *Mumming Birds*, and delighted her father, Mr. Reed Pinaud (with whom she is travelling) by a performance full of promise of future excellence as an eccentric dancer. It is a curious coincidence that the débutante was born in Providence, Rhode Island, the same town as her sire, whom she strongly resembles.

Miss Connie Ediss, the favourite Gaiety actress, arrived at Southampton on Saturday morning. While in South Africa she longed for the Strand, and abandoned her intention of making a world tour. She was away only fifteen weeks, and played six weeks at Johannesburg and three weeks at Cape Town, getting a whole-hearted reception at each place. Connie says she created a record at the Cape. Well, of course!

The usual monthly meeting of the Management Committee of the Music Hall Sick Fund was held on Wednesday afternoon at the York Hotel, York-road, under the presidency of Mr. W. J. Wainratta. There were also present Messrs. Frank Hall, W. Brisco, W. West, and R. T. Baines (secretary). A letter was read from Mr. Frank Gerald, general secretary of the Variety Artists' Federation, calling attention to the celebration on June 27 next of "Federation Day." In London the celebration will take place at the Crystal Palace. His committee hoped that "Federation Day," which is to be celebrated thoughout the world, will be the means of placing all the music hall charities upon a sound financial footing, and he had been requested to write and ask for the hearty co-operation of the Music Hall Sick Fund in the movement.

It was unanimously agreed to co-operate, the members present pledging themselves to do all in their power to further the success of "Federation Day"; and the secretary was directed to forward a copy of the resolution to Mr. Frank Gerald. Some other business of a private character having been transacted, the meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

Mr. Horace Goldin, who is appearing at the Palace Theatre, relates a funny story of a mistake that might have been a tragedy for him if the audience had only known. He was performing his duck trick, in which he wraps up a duck in a sheet of newspaper, squashes the parcel up, and shows that the duck has vanished. One night the duck didn't vanish. He was busily crumpling the paper up, when suddenly a yell of laughter from the audience pulled him up. The duck was waddling around the stage, quacking with might and main. He told the people that he often did things in that way, and that the real trick was to follow. He then put the duck into a tub, clapped the lid on for a second, and showed that the solitary one had grown into a dozen. Mighty near thing, and a lucky "get-off," he thought it was.

The late Mr. James Chappell's will was proved on Saturday. Mr. Chappell left £24,973, and desired to be buried in his family grave at Bow. In one of the clauses of the will he requested that no woman mourner should attend his funeral.

Mr. Oswald Marshall, assisted by Miss Agnes Paulton, will produce at Richmond on Monday comic episode, entitled *A Hot Time*, by Mr. E. L. Furst.

On Friday evening there was a gala performance at the Empire, when the City of London International Commercial Association entertained the Comité Républicain du Commerce de l'Industrie et de l'Agriculture. Lord Strathcona and other distinguished men were expected to be present. Practically all the reserved seats in the house had been disposed of.

Mr. Clarence Sounes has arranged to run a season of variety at his Aldershot Theatre, commencing June 10, and later will make another application for the licence for his new hippodrome, which he will commence building shortly. Meantime, there will be an autumn dramatic season, reverting to variety business again about the end of November, should the present experiment prove successful.

By the departure of Mr. Charles Bush from the Palace Theatre, Leeds, that city's playgoers will miss a very genial and familiar figure; but regret will extend far beyond the boundaries of stageland, for his work in behalf of local charities will ever be remembered to his credit and distinction. Mr. Bush, however, will not leave Leeds immediately. The Parks and Watch Committee have granted him permission to give six concerts in the different parks, commencing in June, for the benefit of the Bush Consumptive Fund, and unless business should call him away he will remain to organise these recitals.

The Derby Palace, during the summer, is to undergo structural alterations and to be reseated throughout, and whilst that building is closed to the public, Mr. T. Allen Edwardes intends to run, experimentally, a short variety season at the Derby Grand Theatre at the prices which have made the Palace so popular. The greatly superior seating accommodation of the theatre will of course enable the management to present an entertainment which would be impossible at the Palace. The experiment will be first made on Whit-Monday. It is interesting to note that permission has been granted by the Derby Improvements Committee to smoke in the auditorium during the variety season. Happy Mr. Edwardes to be able to allow his patrons to smoke at a house with a theatrical licence, and no Lord Chamberlain to extinguish the fragrant weed!

A number of Mr. and Mrs. Leoni Clarke's friends in Northampton assembled together at the Mitre Hotel there on Sunday evening to wish them farewell. Mr. E. S. Dunkley presided, supported by Mr. A. Penn (general secretary of the Licensed Trades Association), and Mr. E. Abrahams (district secretary of the Northampton and District Licensed Trades' Association). Mr. Arthur Penn said he was sure all present that evening regretted the departure of Mr. and Mrs. Clarke. They had been in Northampton some eight or nine years, and had made many friends. He wished them every happiness in their tour. The chairman and Mr. E. Abrahams also spoke.

Mr. W. A. M. Bell, in presenting Mr. and Mrs. Clarke with a gold medal and gold chain and locket respectively, said he could only re-echo everything that had been said. The medal bore the inscription, "Presented to Leoni Clarke as a token of respect, by a few Northampton friends, May 4, 1907. Good luck." The locket was inscribed, "Presented to Mrs. Leoni Clarke by friends in Northampton, with best wishes. May 4, 1907." The presents were accompanied by an illuminated address, the work of Mr. W. H. Meredith. Both Mr. and Mrs. Clarke feelingly replied. Mrs. Clarke said she thought they could both say that they had made more friends than enemies. They were going away now in the hope that Mr. Clarke would get better health, and the time would come when they again would be at Northampton.

At the recent foundation-stone laying of the new Palace Theatre and Hippodrome in Warrington the Rector of Warrington, Canon Willis, at the subsequent luncheon, said he considered the stage a great and increasing power for good. People must and would have recreation, and it was the duty of the clergy to encourage the provision of innocent amusement. If the Church turned its back upon the profession of the stage, how could they be expected to take a higher tone? Sympathy and encouragement, on the other hand, might be the means of doing real good. Father Byrne also spoke of the educational value of the stage.

Mr. Frank Macnaghten, who has control of the new place of amusement, explained, in answer to the Rector, why he called the houses he was connected with hippodromes. It was to distinguish them from the music halls of former days, in which the bar was the chief attraction and the entertainment quite subsidiary. Their province was the stage, and it was their business to bring to the towns of England the best the world produced.

It is on the cards that Mr. Frank Macnaghten will add Burnley to his circuit, as it is understood that he has secured a site there, on which he proposes to erect a hippodrome built on similar lines that that now rearing its head at Warrington.

The executive offices of the Macnaghten tour are at present at Sheffield, but its increasing prosperity will soon make a London centre an essential to its smooth working, and we are not disclosing any secret in stating that a central position in town has been secured.

Mr. Tom Bush, of that popular professional hostelry, the Bee Hotel, Liverpool, with which he has been associated since 1890, is contemplating retirement. For years he has been in the van of any movement or scheme for the gathering of funds for local and theatrical and music-hall charities, and those who know him intimately can recall many acts of kindness to both professions. He will be much missed in the world of the footlights.

Mr. Charles Rembges, manager of the Empire Palace, Middlesbrough, in consequence of the Lord Chamberlain's withdrawal of the licence for *The Mikado*, wired to Lord Althorp for permission to play a selection from the famous opera. The reply was—"No objection to orchestra selections. Stage play only forbidden.—Lord Chamberlain." The telegram was immediately proclaimed by coloured posters, and *The Mikado* selection has been heartily applauded at the Middlesbrough house throughout the week.

Sheffield's beautiful Empire Theatre was crowded with a brilliant and representative audience on Saturday last, the occasion being the matinée given by the directorate on behalf of the Sheffield University. The performance was graced by the support of the nobility of the district, the local Members of Parliament, and the leading citizens, headed by the Master Cutler. A colossal and entertaining programme was gone through, artists from other towns strengthening the ordinary Empire company. The function was a great success, and Mr. Alan D. Dunbar deserves credit for his exertions on behalf of audience and artists alike.

Miss Josie Mooney introduced on Monday night a new comedy song, "Silly Sally," which made an immediate hit—due to the original methods of this interesting and fascinating artist.

"The Lady Suffragettes and Policemen Ballet and Burlesque," which probably owes its inspiration to the success of Miss Elizabeth Robins's dramatic tract, *Votes for Women*, recently produced at the Court Theatre, is to be given at the Palace, Manchester, on Monday next. Music halls do not take the question of women's franchise seriously, and the skit on it, which we noticed in our columns last week on its production at the Surrey, has a generous seasoning of obvious comedy that will commend it heartily to Mancunians.

The news of Mr. George Adney Payne's serious accident while motoring on Sunday near Tunbridge Wells, has caused widespread concern throughout the profession, among whom the managing-director of the Syndicate halls has many close personal friends. Mr. Payne was motoring with a number of friends from Herne Bay, and occupied a seat in the front car, driven by Mrs. Payne. That lady, when nearing Tunbridge Wells, in trying to avoid a cyclist steered quickly on one side. The suddenness of the movement caused the wheels to skid, and the car dashed into a ditch. All the occupants were thrown out, but no one was seriously hurt but Mr. Payne, who, besides several broken ribs, had a nasty scalp wound.

The sufferer was removed at once to the Royal Mount Ephraim Hotel, Tunbridge Wells, and a specialist telegraphed for. On Tuesday he was reported to be out of danger. He passed a fairly good night. Dr. Vise, a local medical practitioner, is in constant attendance. So far no serious internal injuries have been discovered by Dr. Lane, the London specialist, who remained with the sufferer the whole of Sunday night.

In response to our letter of sympathy, Mrs. Adney Payne writes to us from the Royal Hotel, Mount Ephraim, Tunbridge Wells, as follows:—"We had a fearful smash. We were coming to lunch here, and were within five minutes of our destination. I had already slowed down—as the people were coming from church and I did not want to leave our dust behind—when a cyclist who was coming towards us at a great pace, and was not looking, rushed right across our path, and then turned back again. It was an awful moment! I thought of his sure death, and in order to escape him I made a dash up Calverly Park Gardens. The wheels caught the kerb, broke off, and the car crashed over on top of us. My poor darling got the most awful injuries. We were all pinned beneath the car. I was mangled a bit, but, thank God, I am only bruised and shaken. Dr. Nill, the throat specialist, of Weymouth-street, was fortunately with us, and escaped with a cut lip, and the other friend was bruised and shaken. The car was smashed to atoms.

"When the accident happened we were right outside the house of Dr. Vise, from whom we received wonderful kindness and attention. My dear husband is suffering much, but, thank God, the specialist gives every hope of his recovery. I am on day duty this week, from 11 to 10 p.m., and it is glorious to be able to watch over and console the sufferer. He seems to feel the time very long. I think it will be at least three weeks before we leave here.

"Will you kindly convey through *The Era* my heartfelt thanks for the hundreds of letters and telegrams of sympathy from my dear friends? It has helped me to bear up in my terrible anxiety."

Banners and bunting were hung on the inner as well as the outer walls of the Alhambra on the evening of Tuesday, when an audience representative of international amity assembled at the gala performance organised by Mr. George Scott in honour of the Comité Républicain Du Commerce, de l'Industrie, et de l'Agriculture and the City of London International Commercial Association. The programme had been specially designed for the occasion in red, white, and blue, with the arms of the City of London tied to a shield bearing the monagram R.F.

A most popular turn was the exhibition of the series of films by the Charles Urban Co., recording the visit of Colonial Premiers to Portsmouth and the naval review held in their honour. This was the more appropriate, because all, or nearly all, the Premiers in question were in the house, and many of them must have had the amusing experience of recognising themselves on the Dreadnought—every action and gesture recorded by the ruthless camera.

Messrs. Bert Feldman and Bennett Scott had a good send-off on Tuesday morning, when they left Euston by the midday train for Liverpool, from which port they embarked, per s.s. "Carmania," for New York. Amongst those who assembled on the platform to wish the couple bon voyage were Miss Maude Mortimer, Miss Fifi Gordon, Mrs. and Miss Feldman, Mrs. B. Scott, Miss Scott, Mrs. Friedman, Mrs. Fish, and Mrs. Zucker; and Messrs. David Day, Julian Kandt, A. J. Mocatta, Herbert Mocatta, Ben Mocatta, Louis Sterling, Russell Hunting, Charles Dare, Simonson, Jack Wood, Chas. Montefiore, Tom Costello, jun., Fred de Lara Cohen, Fish, Percy Kebble, and David Comer; the song-writing world being represented by Messrs. A. J. Mills, Maurice Scott, George Arthurs, John Neat, Fred Godfrey, Harry Castling, and C. W. Murphy.

"The Unwritten Law" has proved a success, and Mr. John Lawson was booked to appear on Monday next at the Grand, Clapham, Putney Hippodrome, and Hammersmith Palace with this work. However, it was feared that five shows a night would prove too great a strain on the popular artist, so Mr. J. C. Coe has kindly postponed Hammersmith until May 27. The new sketch returns to the Holborn Empire again on May 20—surely a record in a quick return, just one week elapsing. Miss Buena Bent scored as Evelyn, and quite fulfilled all expectations.

Miss Buena Bent, whose striking performance as Evelyn Norman and great resemblance to Mrs. Thaw have been much commented upon during the week, was entertained to luncheon at Simpson's on Thursday. Among those present were Messrs. John Lawson, Marner, Harry Masters, and Charles Read. A company is being organised for the provincial production of *An Unwritten Law*.

Mr. Tom Pacey, the well-known dramatic and variety agent, who is ever on the alert to discover fresh talent, has put on his list Master Wheeler, a singer and dancer of considerable attainments, and Miss Angela Hope, who sings capably and dances particularly well. For these new turns he confidently anticipates most successful bookings.

Mrs. John Lawson has created quite a stir in Edinburgh with the powerful episode *The Devil's Sunday*, and this charming and clever actress will be seen this coming week at the Palace, Sunderland. *The Devil's Sunday* is booked well into 1908, thus putting all idea of a new production out of the question.

Miss Anna De Grey, the Secretary of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, desires to acknowledge with thanks donations of clothing from Miss Carlotta Levey and Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Stratton.

Miss Louisa Peach, who was playing Lady Isabel last week at the Dalston Theatre, has been engaged by Mr. Henry Dundas for the same part at the Opera House, Leicester, Whit week. Miss Peach is amusing audiences at the South London with her droll comedy sketch, *Taming a Husband*.

Mr. O. E. Lennon has been specially engaged by Messrs. Marcus and Mapleson for their forthcoming production of *The Balloonatics*, a musical revue in three flights.

Mr. L. Austin Millais's copyright productions, *The Stolen Duchess*, *The Modern Godiva*, and *The King's Favourite*, with Venus, the late Lord Leighton's model, in the title-rôles, bid fair to become even a bigger draw than the present act.

The London County Council, on June 5, will receive a deputation, led by the Bishop of London, from the National Vigilance Association in regard to the vexed question of the exhibition of the nude as living statuary. A counterblast is promised to this deputation; and Mr. Adolf Seldom, principal of the Seldoms Troupe, has received the following reply to his letter on the subject from the L.C.C.: "I am desired by the chairman of the London County Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, and to say that he feels sure that the Theatre Committee of the Council would be willing to receive a deputation from you—the artists engaged in the living statuary exhibitions themselves—should they wish to lay their views before the Council."

The managers of several Birmingham variety theatres have received an intimation from the local authorities that it is undesirable that the exhibitions of living statuary should continue after the existing engagements are fulfilled; and the Lord Mayor has received a promise that the performances shall cease after next week.

At the annual Court at Glasgow for licensing theatres and music halls, held on Monday, Bailie Stewart announced that the Court wished to come to an understanding with regard to certain nude figures appearing on the stage. The magistrates wished to know if a general undertaking would be given that that kind of entertainment would be stopped. Mr. Campbell, representing the majority of the variety theatres, promised that the proprietors would give an undertaking not to produce anything of the kind in Glasgow without the special consent of the magistrates.

La Milo is appearing at the Empire Theatre, Bradford, this week, and the other night the members of the Corporation's Licensing Committee, who in some instances were accompanied by their wives, witnessed the first performance. The committee afterwards met and passed a resolution that they had observed no breach of the regulations governing the licence of the theatre.

Miss Mollie Mack, an actress, on Saturday received the first licence issued to a woman in Chicago to drive a cab. She will have her stand in front of the Colonial Theatre. If she makes as pretty a picture of a *cochère* as a Palace girl her daily receipts should create a record.

The professional musicians of the Orchestral Association and the Amalgamated Musicians Union are to hold a meeting on Sunday evening, at the Small Queen's Hall, to decide as to their common action in the future, and to fix a minimum salary at the various music halls of London. They will also take into serious consideration the position of non-members of either society, and the attitude to be adopted towards them.

In Mr. Louis Cohen's delicately artistic sketch, *The Drummer of the 76th*, Napoleon writes a letter to the poor lad's mother, at the boy's dictation. As a rule, heavy breathing rules the scene, but on Wednesday night, at the New Cross Empire, just as the letter was about to be folded, the drummer (Miss Vivian) inadvertently overturned the Emperor's favourite claret, and the epistle was flooded. A titter started—with a guffaw from the gallery, but Mr. Brodie was equal to the occasion, for without moving a muscle and speaking quite conversationally, he placed his hand on the trembling boy's shoulder, and said, "Never mind, little comrade, your mother must now be convinced that this was indeed written with your heart's blood." A short pause—then a thunder of applause.

Twenty-five years ago Mr. George Leybourne (the George of "Champagne Charlie" fame) and a party of friends paid a visit to the beautiful ruins of Furness Abbey. Accompanying the party were a son (George) and a little daughter. Visitors, as a rule, like to leave some token behind them to record their visit, and in this case money was secreted in a crevice of the old walls. George, then about eight years of age, was lifted up in his father's arms and directed to deposit a penny, and his little sister a halfpenny, between two stones.

On Wednesday, May 1, Mr. George Leybourne and a party of friends, including Mr. Harry Brett, and Messrs. C. S. Nicholson and W. H. Secker, all members of Mr. Albert Chevalier's company on tour at Barrow, took a trip to the Abbey, George, en route, saying he was going for his money, an exclamation which the party treated as a joke. It was some time before the exact spot was discovered, but eventually, in a crevice about six feet from the ground, was found what might be the likely spot, and sure enough, with the aid of a knife, the money was exposed and claimed by Mr. Leybourne. Wind and rain had left their traces on the coins, which looked as if one hundred years had elapsed since their secretion. Needless to say Mr. Leybourne is proud of their recovery of the coins. The little girl who deposited the halfpenny is now Mrs. Albert Chevalier.

The 510th meeting of the Executive Committee of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association was held on Wednesday. Mr. Joe O'Gorman occupied the chair, and among those present were Messrs. Fred Herbert, Charles Coborn, Harry Wright, Jeff Vendome, Bernard Stavordale, Albert Voyce, Charles Pastor, Harry Blake, Fred Harrison, C. C. Bartram, and C. Douglas Stuart. The weekly statement showed that thirty-three new members had joined during the week, and that the total amount received was £34 11s.

A large gathering of Freemasons connected with the theatrical and variety professions is expected at Frascati's on Friday next, at 2 p.m., when Mr. Albert Le Fre will install Serpentello (Mr. Theodore Schreiber) as W.M. of the Chelsea Lodge for the ensuing year. Mr. Schreiber, who is an American by birth, traces his ancestry to Teutonic grandparents, and before entering the variety profession was trained for the ministry.

The latest quotations of music-hall shares are as follow:—Alhambra, 1½; Canterbury, ½; Empire (15s. paid) 1⅛, ditto (10s. paid) 1½; London Pavilion Ordinary 4⅜, ditto Preferred 5; London Coliseum, ⅛; Metropolitan, ⅝; Moss Empire 4⅞, ditto 5 per cent. Preferred 4½; Oxford, 6⅞; Palace, 12s. 6d.; Tivoli, 6; Variety Consolidated Theatres, 13s.

The friends of Mr. Charles Bush, late manager of the Palace, Leeds, will be sorry to hear that his wife passed away very suddenly on Monday morning. Much sympathy has been shown to the bereaved husband.

M. Auguste van Biene concludes to-night an enormously successful tour of the Moss-Stoll Empires with his original sketch, *A Master Musician*, which has been secured by the same management for several future tours. On Monday M. van Biene opens at the Standard Theatre with the evergreen *Broken Melody*, which has also been secured as the holiday attraction at the Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham; and in June Mr. Robert Arthur has arranged for a short suburban tour of the same play, starting at Kennington, and visiting the Camden and Coronet, so that M. van Biene's London admirers will thus have good opportunities of seeing and hearing the actor-musician. The business arrangements of these tours has for over two years been in the hands of the maestro's son, Edward van Biene.

PARIS VARIETY GOSSIP.

The first appearance of May has been indefinitely postponed, and in the meantime we are witnessing (for a limited number of days only, we hope) a special revival of January. Under these conditions, the Marigny opened its doors on Friday (the 3rd) with its summer Revue. Although decidedly better than that of last year, it suffers from a very common complaint, that of having all its good material in the first act, and nothing in the second. The chief success of the evening was the ballet of soldiers, with M. Cheron, as the Under-Secretary of War, as premier danseur. This number brought back memories of the ballet of policemen at the Folies-Bergère some years ago. An excellent biograph picture shows the building of the Channel Tunnel and the lost policeman all the way from the Gaiety, and the finale to the first act, "The Entente Cordiale," in which mingle the uniforms and dresses of England and France, forms a splendid picture.

The Marigny Girls are good, but they should certainly be given more opportunities. If not another song, at least they should have the stage to themselves in their one number, and not be surrounded by a crowd of chorus people. This year—doubtless owing to the bad weather—"Tout Paris," to whom the opening of the Marigny is an event, were conspicuous by their absence, and even La Belle Otero, smiling from her box, could not make up for their loss.

To-night will see the first performance of *L'Eglé* at the Moulin Rouge. The two principal rôles will be sustained by charming Mlle. Eva du Perrit, who will be remembered at the Alhambra, and who was so successful at the Chatelet in *Piff, Paff, Pouf*, and Morton, who made a big success as Li in *The Geisha* last year.

Miss Arlette Dorère, the fascinating Prince Charming in the Drury Lane *Cinderella* at the Porte St. Martin, the other day, while driving to the theatre, met with an accident. Her motor was caught between two trams and crushed. Luckily the fair Arlette escaped with a few scratches and a very bad shaking.

Negotiations are going on at the present moment for the taking over of the Casino de Paris by the Moulin Rouge management. Since its opening, last October, the Casino has been a rank failure, so we shall watch with curiosity the efforts of its new director to pull it out of the mire.

A really excellent programme is billed this month at the Alhambra. The Harmony Four are topping the bill, and the whole house is in a roar all the time they are on; the Mas-Andres, just back from the Palace, introduce their fine burlesque on a French revue; James Stuart, the tramp pianist, goes well; Hilda Jacobson, fresh from musical comedy, shows her fine voice off to advantage in a couple of songs; Meier and Mora do some good work; and Juno Salmo evidently believes in the motto "One good turn deserves another," as he seems to delight in turning and twisting himself into all kinds of knots. The Two Anartos rattle off their gags like a couple of Frenchmen; Martinetti and Grossi have a very original musical act; and Robert Ganthony, with his grotesque drawings, Celia Galley, in her imitations, the Sisters Klos, in a graceful gymnastic act, and Gicardo, a clever young juggler, are the other items which go to make up this exceptionally good bill.

The accident at the Apollo, the falling of the tight-rope walkers into the den of lions, did not have such serious results as was at first stated. Both the young ladies appeared on the stage the following evening, although they did not give their performance. The lions also seemed in excellent health.

The Apollo is now going in full swing, but the management give a little too much attention to the dancing part of the entertainment, and not quite enough to the stage performances. Not that any of the turns are bad, far from it, but we look to the Apollo to give us something out of the ordinary in shows as well as dancing floors.

On the present month's bill we have Miss Lorette and her statue dog, Ben. This show was a welcome relief from the many different varieties of Venus we have been seeing lately. Maude and James Thomas do an excellent wire act, some of the gentleman's tricks being very original indeed: Kioray, with a good comedy act, gets a lot of laughs, and a lot of applause for his clever work on the tight-rope (no lions this time!); the Wotpert Trio have a fine acrobatic show, in fact they are one of the best acts on the bill; and Trilby and Svengali are still causing much wonderment by their act in which the lady at the piano on the stage plays any melody the name of which is secretly given by a member of the audience to the gentleman in the auditorium with his back to the stage.

Tiller's Eight Snowdrops are dancing themselves into favour; the Piroscoffs present a capital juggling show with many novel tricks; and the remainder of the programme is made up of Allister, in impersonations of celebrities, Oterita, Spanish dancer, the Granadas, comedy gymnasts, and Mini Fritz, eccentric dancer.

The Cirque d'Hiver has closed its doors for the summer season. It will reopen in September.

Miss Marie Burnand and Gwen Zalska, newcomers to the Empress Theatre, Brixton, have been quite enthusiastically received by the packed houses which have been the rule this week. They are aptly billed as a "dainty duo," and quite captivate the audience by a sweet rendering of a ditty entitled "The moon has his eyes on you." They conclude a very pleasing turn with some smart step-dancing.

Mr. John Humphries will produce, at the Empire, Liverpool, on Monday, a new comedy sketch, by Herbert C. Sargent, entitled *Ancient Britons*. Mr. Humphries will be supported by Miss Iris Coley and Mr. Bay Russell.

Mr. Harry Instone, the popular stage-manager of the Royal Theatre of Varieties, Oldham, has in active preparation a grand juvenile musical and spectacular scena, which he intends to produce in the near future. Several offers have been made for the show, which is being booked by Mr. Dottridge.

The keynote of the entertainment presented by Miss Florence Elliott and Chicklets within the elegant environment of a Palace set is variety. Artistic vocalism is supplied by Miss Elliott herself, a young and handsome lady, radiant in pale blue and white, who is discovered seated upon a throne with her youthful court beside her. Descending from the dais, her majesty sings a pretty ballad in the refrain of which her attendants join. A tuneful duet and neat dance are afterwards rendered by a couple of maidens, and surpassing skill in clogs is exhibited by a lad who wins loud cheers for his efforts. Mr. Harvey Rayne, the "comedy chicklet," who has throughout been causing ripples of laughter with his drolleries, comes forward further to stimulate mirth with his ditty, "It's a girl"; and after Miss Elliott—now in pink—has sweetly sung another snatch of song, a clever quartet join in a rag-time dance which is very exhilarating. The troupe dress tastefully, sing well, and dance in finished style, and their reception at the Duchess Palace, Balham, all last week was very gratifying.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

HARRY ADAMS, in conjunction with Ernée Woodville, has just supplied Mr. Arthur Lennard with a capital chorus song, entitled "She's a dear good wife." Mr. David Day's firm will publish the number immediately. The same writers have fitted Mr. Whit Cunliffe with a ditty, named "Quite sufficient, thank you!"

FELIX MCGLENNON, the author and composer, whose return to the sphere of usefulness he so long adorned, has been hailed with satisfaction by artists and publishers alike, has just placed with Messrs. Francis and Day a delightful song, entitled "Good morning, little Daisy."

THE most recent acquisitions made by Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter include "The braw Scotch laddie and his sweetheart's daddy," by Charles Collins and Charles Ridgewell; "My only friend," by the same talented pair; "Scoot!" (to be featured by Miss Amber Austa and Miss Daisy Dormer), by Tom Mellor and Charles Collins, who were jointly responsible for "I wouldn't leave my little wooden hut for you"; "I've built a castle in the air," by Harry Leighton, Chas. Hilbury, and Orlando Powell; "Isn't it nice to be nice to a nice girl?" by C. W. Murphy and Dan Lipton; "If I had slept another minute" (sung by Will Bentley), by Alf. Davis and Pennystone Miles; "Nightingale" and "He's my military man" (the latter sung by G. H. Elliott), by Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford; "This is a melancholy tale," by Percy Ashdown; "A little bit of suger on the top" and "The broken-down sportsman" (both sung by Harry Bedford), by R. P. Weston; "A grain of help is worth a peck of pity" (featured by Miss Billie Burfoot), by Fred Godfrey and J. F. Lambe; "Take me with you," by Harry Castling and Fred Godfrey; and "There's room for you in my little canoe," by T. F. Robson and Fred Warwick.

MASTER MAX DAREWSKI, the gifted child pianist and composer, is sure of a large audience this (Saturday) afternoon at the Bournemouth Winter Gardens, when, in addition to playing Beethoven's Concerto, with orchestral accompaniment, he will perform five of his own compositions, including his Fantasie Impromptu, and will, moreover, accompany Miss Amy Castle in the song from his pen, entitled "I dreamed of a beautiful garden," a number published by Messrs. Francis and Day, and dedicated by special permission to that other great artist, Mme. Adelina Patti.

MR. A. J. MILLS, the well-known lyric author and director of the Star Music Company, Ltd., will take over the sole management of the business during Mr. Bennett Scott's absence in America. Artists who require something extra special for Whit-Monday would do well to call on Mr. Mills at his offices, 9, Charing Cross-road, when he will be pleased to try over the firm's latest tit-bits.

MISS AMY CLEVERE has been scoring tremendously with a pretty song, written and composed by A. J. Mills, entitled "Pearl." The London rights are reserved for the present, but the author-composer will grant a limited number of permits for the provinces. Needless to say, this number is published by the Star Company.

MISS FLORRIE GALLIMORE (on her provincial tour) is making a big hit with Murphy and Castling's pretty Welsh song, "On the Isle of Anglesey." This is one of the Star Music Publishing Company's real good things.

MISS MAY MARS intends to produce at the Oxford next week a new chorus song, entitled "In my aeroplane for two" ("A honeymoon in the sky"), another of Messrs. Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford's compositions. The Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Co., Ltd., are the publishers of same.

THE Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Co. have in preparation a new song, entitled "Oh, Matilda," written and composed by Cecil Lidden and Percy Edgar, which Frank Seeley is producing next week.

MISS MARIE KENDALL has just produced her new song, "Put that in your pipe and smoke it," written and composed by R. P. Weston. This song has been one of the features of the Oxford programme this week, and will shortly be published by the Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Co., Ltd. The same lady has also just accepted for production at the above hall a new chorus song, entitled "I want a home in old London Town."

MISS BESSIE BUTT tried a new march song during the week at the Hippodrome, Hastings, and the result has been so very satisfactory that the chorus is all over that town. It is called "Adieu, little girl," and it has a most catchy melody from the pen of that march master, John Neat. The words are by A. E. Sidney Davis. The publishers are Feldman and Co.

MISS ROSIE LLOYD has been "scoring" very heavily with the Monte Carlo Publishing Co.'s latest success, "Don't go back to Carolina," by Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford, which taking number Miss José Collins will also be specially featuring at the London Pavilion, in addition to an entirely new and original speciality scena, by Messrs. John P. Harrington and Jas. W. Tate, entitled "Sweet Cuban Girl," of which great things are expected. The Monte Carlo Publishing Co. are also publishing this novel morceau.

THE MONTE CARLO PUBLISHING CO., in addition to issuing Harrington and Tate's big "winner," "Rosie is waiting," now have in the press a new number, by the same author, composer, and singer, entitled "Kiss your own Scotch laddie."

Two of the most asked-for songs in the Monte Carlo Publishing Co.'s catalogue just now, so far as pierrots are concerned, are "Georgie from Georgia," by Pelham, McGhee, and Rule, and "Wait for me, Fritzy, dear," by the evergreen Felix McGlennon.

"AIN'T you gwine to let me say 'good-bye'?" written and composed by Paul Knox, has been a veritable triumph at every hall on the Stoll tour at which Miss Daisy Mayer has sang it, and the Monte Carlo Publishing Co. now have this coon novelty in the press, and will issue it at an early date, so that pierrots may not lose the chance of including so taking a number in their seaside répertoires.

A VERY smart song by Mr. Fred Godfrey, entitled "Gibraltar," will be issued by the Monte Carlo Publishing Co. at an early date. The number has been in the hands of the above firm for some eight or ten months past, but has been held back for a special reason.

A CHARMING new speciality song, by Messrs. Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford, entitled "Won't you come 'neath my sunshade, Lou?" will be produced at a leading West End music hall by a prominent artist at an early date. The Monte Carlo Publishing Co. are issuing this novelty in their "Sixpenny Successes" series.

MISS ISABEL DILLON has created a great impression at the London Tivoli with two of Messrs. Francis and Day's songs, namely, Kennedy Russell's "I'll be your golliwog" and "Pansy," by Chas. Wilmott and H. E. Darewski, jun., which latter number looks like becoming as popular as the same author and composer's "Home again, my cherry Blossom."

"SIR ROGER DE COVERLEY."

An Old English Ballet, in Three Tableaux, the Story by Adrian Ross, the Music by Osmond Carr, the Dances and Action by Mme. Katti Lanner, and the Ballet designed and produced by C. Wilhelm.

Lady Dolly	MISS ADELINA GENÉE
Sir Roger de Coverley	MR. A. HARDING
Lady Vallancy	MLLE. ZANFRETTA
Hon. Tom. Vallancy	MR. FRED FARREN
Ruffler	MR. T. WALLS
Captain Fancourt	MISS D. CRASKE
Peggy	MISS ELISE CLERC
Sir Geoffrey Townley	MISS F. JENKINS
Amanda	MISS E. COLLIER
Belinda	MISS G. TREE
Polly the Pedlar	MISS A. PETERS
Rube Lee	MR. P. SUNDBERG
Bisket	MR. LEWINGTON
Dame Dowlas	MISS B. COLLIER
Master of Ceremonies	MR. FORD

The lilt of old English melody and the old-world heartiness, vigour, and romance of the full-bodied days of Queen Anne—so admirably reflected throughout the new Empire ballet—should be catalogued among its claims to public favour; but the most powerful factor in its success—and the one that excited the most enthusiastic applause on the night of the production—is the last scene, which represents Vauxhall in the early years of the eighteenth century. At that period there were many similar public gardens, but Vauxhall held the pride of place. It was the arena of amusement for the wealthy and leisured classes, and the officers of Marlborough and the courtiers of St. James's mingled with a less reputable throng, and sought adventure in an atmosphere of distinction.

The wonderful picture at the Empire is not only brilliant and beautiful, but is full of life and character. The *grandes dames* of the period are brought to the gardens in the daintiest of Sedan chairs. They are not insensible to the flattery of the gallant young bloods, who dance with them the stately *pavane* with the grace of a day that is dead. The throng of gay revellers form an ever-changing kaleidoscope of colour, and the gaiety and sparkle of the scene are added to by a number of enchanting dances of the corps de ballet, which show that the practised eye of Mme. Katti Lanner has lost none of its sense of effect.

Then there is Adelina Genée! She represents an English young lady of the period, with that witchery of manner and nimbleness of foot which are beyond the vagueness of superlatives to describe. The fascinating Danish artist happens to be Lady Dolly, the daughter of Sir Roger de Coverley, immortalised by Addison, and she tells us in eloquent pantomime of her love for young Captain Fancourt and her profound indifference to the *parti* chosen for her by her father. All this occurs on the lawn in front of Sir Roger's country house, where the villagers gather to honour the Squire, and to sing "Here's a health unto Her Majesty, with a fallalla," and "He's a good old English gentleman—one of the olden time." The way of the lovers is made easy by the fondness of Tom, the Lady Dolly's chosen suitor, for her maid Peggy; and in the second scene, by the device of changing cloaks, the mistress gets clear away with her lover. But the maid is not so fortunate, for, after being fetched down the ladder by Tom, she is brought back with him by the watchmen, who are after Ruffler, Tom's friend, who gives a spice of villainy to the plot by stealing some of Lady Dolly's jewels.

In the third scene they are holding high festival in Vauxhall Gardens, where all the characters foregather. Dolly disguises herself as a gipsy, and foretells future happiness for Sir Roger and his old flame Lady Vallancy. The Baronet is afterwards rescued from an awkward situation by Captain Fancourt, and, learning that the young couple are married, he speedily bestows upon them his paternal blessing.

As the gipsy Mlle. Genée gets the necessary chance of letting herself go in a solo of exquisite grace; but it is in the duo—a Czech dance—with Mr. P. Sundberg that she makes the hit of the night. In red hessians she brings down the house by the irresistible abandon of her movements. We have never seen her do anything better. Mr. Sundberg rightly shares the honours of this perfect performance of a national dance. Mr. Fred Farren gives one of his characteristic solos, and joins Miss Elise Clerc in a very exhilarating *pas de deux*. Miss Dorothy Craske makes a gallant officer of Fancourt; and the dainty coquetry of the accomplished Mlle. Zanfretta is delightful to watch. Mr. A. Harding, a new comer to the Empire, is effective in his delineration of Sir Roger. The artistic work of Mr. R. M'Cleery is seen in the first typically English country scene; and Mr. Joseph Harker must be complimented on his brushwork in the Vauxhall scene. The wigs of Willie Clarkson admirably realise the period, and the costumes, executed by Miss Hastings and Morris Angel and Sons, make the fête in Vauxhall Gardens one of bewildering beauty.

Miss Ada Reeve, who has become an established favourite here, is reviving some of her earlier successes, among them "Love me just a little, Sue," in which she is as chic and charming as ever. A great hit is made by Le Page from America, a wonderful jumper, who in his flights is able to tread on eggs without breaking them. He is about as slick a performer as has been seen on this side, as he introduces a number of feats quite unparalleled. Mme. Graziella's cockatoos and macaws are obedient creatures, and make light of acrobatic difficulties on the bars; the Lumars include a lady who circles rapidly round a trapeze bar in a blaze of electric light; Miss Ruby Helder's baritone is heard to advantage in "When other lips"; and the Perezoffs, comedy jugglers, should be very popular with their show. Other attractions are the Biograph, and Margit and Lehner, eccentrics.

MR. HERBERT SHELLEY has been specially engaged to present his successful Gaelic protean play, *Dan the Outlaw*, at the Empire Theatre, Dublin, on Whit-Monday.

THE secretary of the Music Hall Benevolent Fund desires to acknowledge the sum of £4 5s. 8d. from Mr. Fred Miller, collected by him in the pence box at the Canterbury during the last month.

JAMES BIRDSALL CONSTANTINE, known as James Flahery, acrobat, died on the 5th inst. at the Consumption Hospital, Armley, Leeds, after a long illness, and was interred on the 8th. The deceased, who was a respected member of the Terriers' Association for eight years, was well looked after by that fraternity to the last.

OWING to a disappointment at the Palace, Holbeck, Leeds, on Monday, and with the permission of Mr. Wood, of the City Varieties, Leeds, where he was engaged, Mr. Frank Coyle filled in the vacancy with the greatest success, having to do three songs in each house.

MANXLAND will be ringing during the coming season with Felix McGlennon's new chorus song, "She lives in the Isle of Man," which has been placed on the market by Messrs. Francis and Day.

A DRAMATIC episode, in one scene, bearing the title, *A Christmas Storm*, was produced for copyright purposes at the Theatre Royal, Smethwick, on Saturday last. It will be in the programme next Wednesday afternoon at the Court Theatre, Wigan, on the occasion of the benefit matinée of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children.

MISS FLORRIE FORDE AT CARLISLE.

THE PALACE THEATRE.

Almost all the amusement seekers of Carlisle went to see Miss —— when she visited the Palace Theatre recently, but another of the favourite comediennes of the music hall stage, Miss Florrie Forde, who has this week been introduced to local audiences by Signor Pepi, has, if anything, gained an even heartier welcome, at any rate from all who have been to the theatre during the week. Miss Forde may not have the power of reflecting those sundry subtle flashes of humour which lightened the performance of Miss —— but she is far more fortunate in her songs, both in their character and in her own rendering of them. It is a primary duty of the music hall to supply the nation with its popular airs. That duty has of late years been partly relegated to musical comedy, whose authors are more anxious to supply tunes which everyone can whistle than was, for instance, the composer of the Savoy operas. But the music hall would still be able to fulfil that duty if it could get more songs of the type which Miss Florrie Forde sings. It is, moreover, a not unimportant duty. The music hall is first and foremost the haunt of the working class, and if that class can carry away a few tunes to relieve the tedium of the factory or the street they are quite justified in feeling duly grateful. One can, therefore, imagine that Signor Pepi's patrons will be clamouring for an early return visit from Miss Florrie Forde, for she has provided them with at least three new songs which will soon be whistled in all the local streets. Of these, unquestionably the best is "The Isle of Anglesey," a captivating tune, whose lilting refrain, introducing a few bars reminiscent of that delightful old air, "The Ash Grove," is quite ear-haunting. Miss Florrie Forde is an ideal embodiment of a broad, Anglo-Saxon type of songstress. Her style is robust, but never altogether meretricious. Robust is her personality, and yet her appearance is always tasteful, a slate-coloured velvet costume, with a picture hat, being succeeded by a handsome old-gold gown. Robust is her vocalisation, yet it never degenerates into the blatant bellow one too often hears on the variety stage. Robust are her

MISS FLORRIE FORDE.

songs, yet their tunes roll along with an easy swing which is irresistibly infectious. Signor Pepi has other exceptionally good artists in his programme this week, but it is Miss Florrie Forde whom his patrons will mainly go to see—to hear her songs, to hum them over in the intervals, and to carry them away for future use.—*East Cumberland News*, May 4, 1907.

Florrie Forde should be pleased with the reception she received in Carlisle. Signor Pepi personally complimented her, and said she was absolutely the first lady artiste whom his audience had sung with. They did sing with Mr. Geo. Lashwood, but not nearly so heartily as they did with Miss Forde. On Saturday night Signor Pepi presented her with a very magnificent basket of flowers.

MR. FRED BOWYER, who wrote that very successful song, "A little bit of sugar for the bird," in *The New Barmaid*, and *The Little Stowaway*, for Jenny Hill, is responsible for the following impromptu, which has caused considerable amusement among the author's brother Savages:—

WHAT'S IN A NAME, &c.—Shakespeare.

The names that I love are both simple and short,
Like Tom, Jack, or Charlie, or names of that sort;
But, oh! I've seen one which made me feel unwell,
'Twas Aubrey Llewelyn Coventry Fell.
'Twas marked on each tram with its workaday load—
All waiting *en bloc* in the Blackfriars Road.

I found 'twas the name of the secretar*ee*,
Of the trams which are owned by the London C.C.
I read it on each, and came over quite faint,
When I thought of the cost of the ratepayers' paint;
For it took quite a yard of big letters to spell—
Aubrey Llewelyn Coventry Fell.

I thought of the godfathers' anguish and shame,
Inflicting on one such a terrible name,
Whose use must have been for a hasty retreat,
In case of a fire to slide down to the street;
And if not successful, then hist'ry could tell,
How Aubrey Llewelyn Coventry Fell.

FRED BOWYER.

MESSRS. SPARROW AND BAWN, of the Empire, Camberwell, have secured Mr. Charles Dixton's admirable comedy sketch, *Uncle Obadiah*, as one of their principal attractions for Whit week.

MR. JOHN C. OLIVER deputised for Mlle. Yvette de Laabe at the Hippodrome, Hull, on Friday and Saturday last, and scored a success. It is only recently this clever illusionist, humorist, and vocalist completed a ten weeks' successful engagement at the Grand Circus, Hull, with the Globe Picture Company.

THE V.A.F. COMMITTEE.

As a result of the labours of the scrutineers, it has been discovered that the following forty-nine gentlemen have been elected for a period of three years to serve on the Executive Committee of the Variety Artists' Federation. The asterisks placed before names denote members of previous committees:—

No.	Name.	Votes.
1.	Roberts, Arthur	1,063
2.	Costello, Tom	1,041
3.	Kenyon, Neil	980
4.	Blake, Harry	964
5.	Cragg, J. W.	939
6.	St. Clair, F. V.	937
7.	Chirgwin, Geo. H.	935
8.	Freeman, Harry	904
9.	Leyton, George	839
10.	Wootwell, Tom	857
11.	Alexandre, J.	853
12.	*Herald, H.	838
13.	Kellino, Jas.	836
14.	*Leonard, Alf.	821
15.	Ryland, Cliff.	816
16.	Barwick, Edwin	812
17.	Ginnett, Fred	801
18.	*Godfrey, Arthur E.	800
19.	*Herald, A.	796
20.	Hughes, George	788
21.	Hertz, Carl	779
22.	Vox, Barney	768
23.	Goldin, Horace	753
24.	*Grace, Wal.	746
25.	*Monti, B.	726
26.	*Warsaw, Erne	723
27.	Wallis, W. H.	717
28.	Mildare, Chas.	715
29.	Maple, Fred.	714
30.	Sinclair, Fred.	709
31.	*Farley, W. H.	693
32.	*Latimar, Fred.	688
33.	*Alexander, S. King	684
34.	Vendome, Jeff.	682
35.	White, Horace	681
36.	*Newham, George	671
37.	*Howard, James	670
38.	Allison, James	661
39.	Laurel, Syd.	635
40.	*Halter, Frank	629
41.	Hallett, Wilson	623
42.	Bandon, Sid.	617
43.	Armstrong, Barney	613
44.	Bayly, Monte	601
45.	Millis, F. W.	596
46.	Bates, Maddison	590
47.	Gilmore, Johnny	565
48.	*Phillips, Harry	564
49.	*Spot	563

The following candidates were not elected:—

Wilson, J. W.	544
Mortimer, Leonard	542
High, H. E.	536
Leamore, Tom	505
Clifford, Nat	469
Preston, John F.	464
Friedman, Jake	461
Coborn, Charles	454
Butler, C. J.	446
Byrne, Bert	424
Atlas	405
Sinclair, G. B.	403
Dunning, Robert	393
Austin, Charles	386
Howard, Adderley	386
Hoffman, Maurice	373
Hindell, Gus.	346
O'Malley, Horace	345
Dale, Augustus	329
Holles, William	322
Collins, Tom	320
Herman, Phil	319
Baroni, Harry	315
Barton, D.	312
Permane, W.	312
Franklin, J.	306
Woelhaff, Fred	290
Kisbey, H. J.	282
Payne, Geo. E.	275
Mason, H.	274
Walker, Whimsical	272
Iveson, Tony	272
Cliquot, Chevalier	268
Lukos, Alix	264
Cyril, Herbert	237
Bernard, Fred	233
Gillin, W. E.	229
Jimson, J. C.	229
Brantford, Bert	227
Waldron, Joe	227
Reeves, George	221
Glenroy, Sam	217
Benn, Willie	210
Ward, E. A.	204
Belrose, George	201
Cochrane, Roy	191
Brough, Hal	185
Rhodes, Dusty	182
Wedburn, Harry	182
Benson, Frank	175
Munroe, Walter F.	173
Williams, Bert	173
Dillon, Charles	172
Stanley, O. B.	167
Obo, Ben	165
Lloyd, Herbert	161
Barnard, Fred	153
Obo, Jim	147
Elvo, Jim	134
Myers, Ernie	134
Anthony	131
Burnetti, Tom	129
Primavesi	127
Wayho, Jack	126
Couch, Frank	121
Crawley, Jack	106
Harwood, Frank	104
Harris, Ben	104
Major, Tom	102
Weston, Bert	98
Ellison, J. W.	92
Cliffe, Tom E.	92
Abadaroff	92
Allan, Harry	88
Leybourne, Harry	82
Cotterill, Sid	81
Dale, Harry	80
Willis, H. O.	79
Zola, Little	72
Mack, Julian	72
Sylvester, Syd	70
Richards, Dick	68
Harwood, H. W.	67
Elton, William	57
Vetter, R. D. A.	50
Sivroni	50
Noble, Barney	47
Gribben, Harry A.	38
Marlow, Harry	31
Dunmore, Tom	22

"ON THE ISLE OF ANGLESEY."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—On reading your interviewer's "chat" with Mr. Bennett Scott in *The Era* of May 4, I note Miss Florrie Forde's name is coupled with that of Miss Annie Purcell as the singer of the popular song, "On the Isle of Anglesey," by Castling and Murphy. I think it should have read, Miss Annie Purcell and Miss Florrie Gallimore. As far as I am aware, Miss Florrie Forde is not singing the song in question, but even so, as I have made it very popular in the provinces, I think I am entitled to a little credit for same.—Yours faithfully,

FLORRIE GALLIMORE.

Hippodrome, Lancaster, May 7, '07.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

HOLLOWAY EMPIRE.

Still maintaining that high standard of excellence that characterises the programmes at this popular home of vaudeville, a really capital and well diversified evening's entertainment is provided for the delectation of its patrons during the week, and business, as a consequence, continues to be exceptional. Mr. Harry Roxbury and company top the bill in *The Prince of Monte Carlo*, described as a merry musical mélange, in three scenes. Messrs. Paul Knox and Harry Roxbury, who are jointly responsible for the book, lyrics, and music, have strung together a trifle containing the more familiar features of musical comedy, with a quick succession of song, dance, and gag. It is an amusing and vivacious production, and admirably serves its purpose. Mr. Roxbury submits a diverting portrayal of the irresponsible P.C. Longfellow. Mr. Edwin Dodds as the Count is a valuable ally in the laughter-making, and gives a clever character-study. Mr. Fred Davenporte as the Prince looks and acts well in a small part; and Mr. Alf. Clegg as James is commendable. Miss May Ross as Denise gives a semi-melodramatic performance, and does very well. Miss Ethel Bryant as Lady Carr proves a dainty exponent of the rôle, singing and dancing capably. A numerous chorus aids the production.

Mr. J. B. Preston, a Scotch comedian, gains a good reception in two songs. The Two Dixons, bâton swingers, vocalists, dancers, and banjoists, give a particularly good turn, their whole business being very smart and their reception most cordial. Mr. Lewis de Burgh presents a clever and mystifying illusion, "Dida," in which the production of two women from a tank of water is accomplished with neatness, much applause being accorded the act. Rapoli, a conjurer, gives an excellent performance, all his difficult feats being accomplished with considerable ease and finish, while a word is due to his assistant for his contribution to the amusement of the house. Maggie Bowman and Tom J. Morton in a comedy duo, *She Loved a Policeman*, make a good impression, the dance which concludes the piece being very clever. A popular feature of the programme is the Miles-Stavordale Quintette, in their well-known musical act, in which the human voice is reproduced with great skill on banjoes and harp. A very well-earned call greeted the end of their interesting act.

Mr. Larry Lewis, comedian, gains a good reception in two songs. The first, "Theres a silly remark to make," suits his quaint style admirably, and his second, "Tra la la," proves equally successful. The bottom of the bill is filled by no less an artist than Mr. Bransby Williams, in selections from his répertoire. For his first item he gives "An Old Man's Soliloquy to his Pipe," followed by "Uriah Heep," "A Humorous Story," and an impersonation of a penny showman announcing a performance of *Hamlet*. In all these character-studies Mr. Williams displays his well-known gifts, and a most flattering and well-earned tribute greets his efforts. Mention must be made of the admirable services rendered by Mr. Russell and his orchestra, the overture, "Grand Parade," proving a bright introduction to the evening's entertainment.

QUEEN'S, POPLAR.

"THE GARDEN OF GLITTER,"

An Egyptian Musical Comedy Extravaganza, by Kenney Allen, Produced at the Queen's, Poplar, on Monday, May 6.

Allsha	MISS RITA NARCELLI
B'Umptious	MR. WEBSTER PARTE
Frog-hi	MR. SAM MCCULLOUGH
Adolphus	MR. GEO. WINTOR
Miss Mamie Clancy	MISS MAY MCKENZIE
Billy Bunn	MR. JACK MCKENZIE

The Emperor of R'hadi, being informed by Frog-hi, the keeper of the sacred frogs, that one of these animals has been killed, wishes to put the law of the country—which is death for this offence—into force if the culprit can be discovered. The Princess Allsha, not knowing of this decree, has accidentally been the means of the frog's death, consequently her life is demanded as a propitiation. The people being disturbed look for a sign, when an aeroplane is seen, and Billy Bunn descends, in order to continue his search for a Miss Bunn, of Burton, whom he at once recognises in the Princess. The Emperor and keeper of the sacred frogs being determined to make the sacrifice of Allsha at all costs, conduct her to the temple of the god, there to await execution by the poisoned adder. At this moment the Sacred Frog dissents from the punishment, the people learn that the Princess has not really killed a frog, and everything is once more happiness and peace. This merry trifle is smartly written, and contains several very catchy airs, notably "Tight little island," "Barcelona girl," and "Come to the sacrifice," while it had been exceedingly well rehearsed, the strong chorus putting in some good work. The dresses were elegant, and the scenery in the best possible taste. As Billy Bunn, Mr. Jack McKenzie displayed plenty of humour, and was the life and soul of the piece. Mr. Webster Parte acquitted himself capitally as the Emperor; and Mr. Sam McCullough was good as Frog-hi. Miss Rita Narcelli was admirable as the Princess, her vocal contributions being rendered with taste and care; and Mr. George Wintor was efficient as Adolphus, Miss May McKenzie being energetic as Miss Mamie Clancy. Amongst the many excellent turns here this week we must mention Kurkamp, the singing conductor, who faultlessly renders "The Miserère" (*Il Trovatore*) and "In Love Land"; Miss Gertie Gitana, who charmingly sings "Always loved you" and "My dusky Princess"; and Mr. George Brooks, who is very funny in his songs, "The Fireman" and "Happy Sam." The able general-manager, Mr. Jack Woolf, with his usual energy, managed to finish on Monday a very long programme without a single omission five minutes under scheduled time, and Mr. Morris Abrahams is courtesy personified in his attention to the comfort of the patrons.

HAMMERSMITH PALACE.

On Monday, May 6, production of a new Dramatic Episode, entitled

"THE LION AND THE BEAR."

Prince Saratoff	MR. ROY JACKSON
Dora	MISS KITTY DOUGLAS
Lobenski	MR. FRED BENTLEY
Capt. Harold Vernon	MR. ALEX LUKOS

The scene is a room in the Prince's villa at Trouville, and as the curtain rises Lobenski is at the telephone explaining to his master that the English officer is expected that evening by his master's wife. While the servant is expressing his hatred of the English nation in rather forcible tones Capt. Vernon enters. The servant naturally changes his remarks into pleasant humble greetings, and announces that his mistress is expecting the Captain, and he will inform her of his presence. Vernon sings a song extremely well, and then seated in front of the fire, he talks to Dora's photograph. Dora and he love one another, but she has married the Prince, and Vernon, with difficulty, restrains the words of passion that constantly rise to his lips. He decides that he must not see her again. Dora enters, and they have just had time to greet one another when the Prince puts in an appearance and accuses the Captain of making love to his wife. Dora is ordered out of the room, and the Prince challenges Vernon to a duel. Swords and pistols are both suggested, but as the Captain is leaving for his hotel, the Prince suggests they should settle the matter there and then by playing cards, the loser to commit suicide. With reluctance, and after stating his preference for a fight, the Englishman agrees. The cards have been marked, but somehow this device fails, and they each win two

games, when the servant creeps in, and by aid of a looking-glass shows his master the Captain's hand. The Prince wins, and his opponent has a hour in which to kill himself. He decides there is nothing to gain by waiting the hour, and is about to shoot himself when Dora enters. She has seen the trickery with the looking-glass, and explains matters. The Prince re-enters, and drawing his sword, dashes at the Captain, who defends himself. The servant also joins in the fight, and two are beginning to get too much for one, when Dora grasps the revolver and threatens to shoot the first one that moves. At the same time she rings up the police, who arrive in time to arrest the servant, the Prince having been shot by Dora while he was trying to stab Captain Vernon.

It is a well-written sketch, and when the fight has been worked up it should be most successful. Mr. Lukos was excellent as the Captain; Mr. Roy Jackson was a most effective Prince. The servant was played with all the necessary cunning by Mr. Fred Bentley, and Miss Kitty Douglas was an attractive Dora.

BARNARD'S, GREENWICH.

This popular hall is doing excellent business under the admirable management of Mr. Bert Dent. The bill is selected with care and judgment, and each item is warmly applauded. After the overture, capitally rendered by the band under the direction of Mr. William Skerry, Albert St. Clair opens the ball, and is well received. Grogie, with his amusing ditties, "I never grumbled" and "It don't seem just right to me," creates laughter. Chummie La Mara, always a favourite here, is well applauded for her songs, "Boys in Blue" and "In the sweet by and bye." Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope exhibits some new and interesting pictures; Yjasma, assisted by Mlle. Delouie, appears in a scena, entitled *An Evening's Pleasure*, which consists of some clever and novel feats in weight-lifting by teeth, trapeze act, &c.

Edgar Forest and company appear in a well-acted and smart little sketch, *My Friend the Enemy*. Will Sergeant, who is billed as the "Anglo-American vocal comique," sang successfully "Behind the bar" and "A little bit knocked about," and gains well-deserved plaudits. Chris Baker sings of "Another one," and causes much merriment by his funny patter. The Kyasyas give a clever turn, consisting mainly of weight-lifting by teeth and hair; and Flow Carlow, comedienne, sings brightly and cleverly, and is well applauded. The Zaro Troupe give an exhibition of skill and dexterity, and prove themselves capital tumblers and acrobats. A good mimic is found in Will Carrol, who gives some clever imitations of Harry Ford and other well-known artists. Madge Bryce sings charmingly about "Days of old," and furnishes an agreeable number. Kemp and Harris contribute "I want to be a soldier"; the Leo Comedy Quartette appear in a clever and amusing comedy sketch; Archie Crag sings well in "What a funny little hat"; and J. P. Boston is also in the bill.

GRAND, CLAPHAM.

Capital houses gather here nightly. This week Manager Ketteman has arranged a very interesting programme, which is being received with every expression of satisfaction. The task of starting the evening's entertainment is entrusted to Mr. G W. Foster, a comedian, who sings a very amusing song entitled "I'm the best banana on the bunch." The Sisters Lee, always an interesting turn, are again here, and are repeating their former successes. Their many clever acrobatic feats evoke hearty rounds of applause, and they have many times to bow their acknowledgments. The Poluskis, Sam and Will, the popular comedians, who have not been seen here for some time, are causing much laughter with their clever patter and crosstalk. Miss May Mars, a charming comedienne, is exploiting with success a new song entitled "Swing me just a little bit higher Obadiah do." This is set to a tuneful melody, and the ready manner in which the chorus is taken up by the "upper ten" shows that it will soon become popular. Afterwards she gives her "In the shadows of the Pyramids," which is going as well as ever. A great success is achieved by Mr. Whit Cunliffe, who is singing a couple of numbers in his usual exhilarating fashion. His first song is that amusing one about "Poor Old Father," which is followed by "It's a different girl again," and judging by the vim that the house puts into the singing of the chorus, its popularity is not yet on the wane. A very interesting item is that which is being presented by Mr. Fred Ginnett's "Daily Mirror" army boys, and the finished way in which they do their work shows that the greatest pains must have been spent on their training. The clever manner in which they manage their mounts in the small amount of space at their disposal is deserving of great praise, and whether they are riding in single file or eight abreast their style is always perfect. They certainly earn the applause bestowed on them. The Sisters Aindow are presenting a very acceptable musical turn. Amongst other things they play a number of popular airs on the xylophon, on which instrument they show themselves to be quite expert. Spry and Austin are very amusing, and their clever song entitled "All Sorts" is quite one of the funniest imaginable. The Stella Troupe of Girls open with a Japanese song, and afterwards give "The Yankee Doodle girls." They bring their turn to a conclusion with some neat and clever dancing. A capital evening's amusement is brought to a conclusion with the Bioscope, which is most amusing. The series of films entitled "The Busy Man" is followed with the greatest interest.

THE STANDARD.

An excellent example of Mr. T. S. Dickie's skill in framing a popular entertainment is seen in the current bill at the Standard, which is being thoroughly appreciated by large audiences. Comedians of widespread popularity are included in the programme, prominent among them being Mr. Ernest Rees, whose amusing patter is the cause of many mirthful moments. Mr. Rees cuts a quaint figure, and rattles off his yarns, which embrace a wide series of topics, with inimitable drollery. Mr. Neil Kenyon, the Scotch comedian, is also responsible for much laughter. His numberless eccentricities include a new edition of travesties of Tennyson's "Charge of the Light Brigade." Mr. Kenyon gives many original touches to his impersonations, and so successful is he that he has to accede to an undeniable encore with a comic recitation in which some of the most ludicrous devices for obtaining laughter are introduced.

A specially cordial welcome is extended to Miss Daisy James, whose song with the refrain "Tell me, Jane, why do you love a soldier?" is already in possession of the populace, and the chorus was re-echoed vigorously by the audience. Miss James gives piquant point to the tale of the maiden who "kept a dainty little shop in the West," and her success is great. Lotto, Lilo, and Otto, with whose name is associated the earliest triumphs on the wheel, give a varied display of their skill, the beauteous young lady displaying agility and grace while careering round the stage. The cyclist policeman sets the house in a continual roar during his funny escapades with the bicycle, but when later on he performs a series of incredible feats, which include the riding of a tandem cycle on the back wheel without holding, enthusiasm is aroused in every part of the house. The cycle polo match has also features of interest, and the applause lavished upon the clever artists is unbounded.

A clear and ringing voice enables Miss Alice Maple to give admirable expression to her songs, the sentiment of which is thoroughly suited to the popular ear. Her first effusion takes the form of an acrostic in which the praises of the British Isles are sung in tuneful rhyme. To the ballad with the refrain "I love the lily" is added a skilful step dance, which forms a pleasant finish to an item that makes a decided hit. Shirley and Ransom have an agreeable interlude in the coster comedy episode *Art a Quid*, and a farcical frolic entitled *Flighty Flossie* is ably presented by Jack Denton and Miss Hettie Chattell. A novelty is found in the Twin Sisters Edwards, comediennes, dancers, and drummers; and Mr. Arthur Melrose, comedian and whistler; Burnetti, character musician, Miss Lily Lawrence, comedienne, and Mr. Gus Granville, comedian, are also in the bill.

The sketch of the week is *At the Stroke of Twelve*, played by Mr. and Mrs. Royston-Dene and company. The chief incident of a thrilling episode is that in which a lady who has fatally stabbed a former lover betrays herself during a sleep-walking scene by re-enacting the tragedy over again in the presence of her husband and a detective. The husband is determined to hand his wife over to justice, but the lady cheats the gallows by stabbing herself to the heart. The effect of the piece was obtained by sheer force of acting, Mrs. Royston-Dene exerting an intense influence as the modern Lady Macbeth, and Mr. Royston-Dene acting well and delivering his lines with excellent elocution as the husband. A new series of animated pictures, shown by the Edisonograph, completes an enjoyable entertainment, over which Mr. Maurice Volny presides genially.

THE BRITANNIA.

A programme of exceptional brilliancy is submitted this week at this popular place of amusement. Miss Jennie Venton, a smart comedienne and dancer, renders a tuneful ditty, and obliges with a neat dance as a second effort; the Lorrisons, who are billed as "the Cream of Crazy Comedy Teams," submit an act which causes the audience much amusement, including, as it does, some excellent singing and dancing; Milner Verren, whose voice is in excellent condition, receives well-merited applause for his singing of "Be as you used to be." The hit of the evening is made by Tennyson and Wallis, and the two comedians thoroughly deserved the applause that was bestowed upon them, for they kept the audience in continual merriment the whole time they occupied the stage. Another specially meritorious turn is that of the Sisters Lunelle. The pair are smartly dressed, and sing good songs, while their dancing is of the highest order. Miss Cissie Lupino presents some admirable samples of international dancing, amongst which are a fine step dance, an Irish jig, a Scotch reel, and a Dutch sabot dance. The sketch is provided by Mr. Leonard Mortimer and his company in *Dandy Dacre*, and is smartly played by Mr. Mortimer in the title-rôle, Mr. Reginald Weighill as Sir Michael Collyn, Mr. Edwin J. Collins as Richard Dacre, Mr. Arthur Bawtree as Paul Hiensen, Miss Edith Lewis as Alma Hiensen, and Miss Ida Clifford as Lady Eva. The sketch is well mounted, and the incidental music is very pretty. The remainder of the programme consists of the Waltons, a fine pair of acrobats; Horace Lade, a characteristic dancer; the Four Emilions, described as the "World's Novelty Acrobats"; and Raymond's Bio-tableaux pictures, including "The Coiner's Daughter."

THE £1,000 GHOST CASE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—I trust you will consider the following facts of sufficient interest to your readers to justify you in publishing them.

In the action at law arising from this challenge, it is evident that the jury arrived at their decision on the ground that they considered the effect in question had been only reproduced in part.

It was said that the complete effect was the production of a living form from the medium's side, and the subsequent re-absorption of that form into the person of the medium, whereas I had only exhibited the *production* of such a form.

I declared my intention to perform the re-absorption, and bring another action to recover the reward. The effect had only been omitted because, from the point of view of stage-craft, it formed an anti-climax to the production.

Shortly after the conclusion of the trial, however, I received from Mr. Colley's solicitor the following letter:— "55, Chancery-lane, W.C.

"April 30, 1907.

"COLLEY *v.* MASKELYNE.

"DEAR SIR,—

"My client instructs me to withdraw the challenges issued by him to yourself. Please take notice that same are hereby withdrawn.—Yours faithfully,

"E. R. SEROCOLD SKEELS.

"J. N. Maskelyne, Esq."

I am therefore prevented from prosecuting the matter further. I think I can claim to be victor, as I have been in every previous fight.

Allow me to add in conclusion that it was not a monetary consideration that induced me to enter into this contest. I have stated hundreds of times from my stage that had the reward been paid, it was my intention to return it.—Yours very truly,

St. George's Hall, W. J. N. MASKELYNE.

NEW MUSIC.

Messrs. Price and Reynolds, of Berners-street, have published Al Fresco songs, appropriately named for whimsical ditties supposed to be sung in the open air, and in some cases really thus interpreted. "On the pier by the sea" describes how paterfamilias takes his little one to the seaside once a year to build up sand castles and pick up shells. But more pungent ditties are included. For example, the convivial young lady who is carried home when she could carry no more, is said to have a "Yarmouth bloater" thirst, and indulges to such an extent that, according to the chorus, "They had to carry, Carrie," &c. Then the year 1910 is named as the year when the Germans are to invade us, and the women are to become members of the House of Commons. Far more comical ideas are in some of the ditties, as in the song called "What! What! What!" composed by Messrs. Will Letters and John A. Glover, in which one of the verses explains how

"A Jew asked a grocer for one halfpenny egg,
He got it, then said, 'This is small, Mr. Glegg';
Glegg got the needle, and said with a groan,
'For one halfpenny hens won't lay a foundation stone.'"

Another song, arranged by Mr. Arthur Stafford, tells of "Father's corporation." Mr. Alfred Glover writes about a girl we should all like to know, as she is the "Same girl on Sunday, same girl on Monday, same girl the whole year round." Some of the songs, such as "Iona, my Indian star," by Mr. Bert H. Delman, are more sentimental; and others like "Mister Gollywog, good-night" are written to please children. "My château in Barcelona" is composed by Mr. C. W. Murphy, and sung by Miss Ella Retford; and another song states as a fact that "All little girls are pretty." In Mr. Glover's song it appears that Monty Brown has "Another little girl in his eye"; and the ditty, "There's a maid in Germany" contains a more pleasing story than the "Made in Germany" we see every day. We can highly commend the songs for the pier or shore, and the way in which Messrs. Price and Reynolds have produced their Al Fresco songs we feel certain they will secure a great circulation in the music halls, and also be frequently heard this summer at the seaside.

MAKES THE SKIN AS SOFT AS VELVET.—Beetham's "LAROLA" preserves the Skin from the effects of the sun, winds, and hard water. Entirely removes and prevents all roughness, redness, irritation, tan, &c., and KEEPS THE SKIN SOFT, SMOOTH, and WHITE at all Seasons. INVALUABLE for the COMPLEXION, DELIGHTFULLY SOOTHING AND REFRESHING after walking, golfing, cycling, motoring, dancing, &c. Gentlemen will find it wonderfully soothing if applied after shaving. Bottles, 1s., 1s. 9d., and 2s. 6d. each, of all Chemists and Stores. M. BEETHAM and SON, CHELTENHAM.—[ADVT.]

"THE UNWRITTEN LAW."

The profligacy of man is depicted with unsparing hand in Mr. John Lawson's newest sketch, produced at the Holborn Empire on Monday. No concealment is made in the action of the motives of the leading representative of vice, whose evil propensities are still more vividly outlined in a series of cinematograph pictures which divides the scenes. A recent sensational trial in America is recalled in the sketch, and it is in that country that the plot is laid. An unscrupulous financier named Shepston has conceived an illicit love for the beautiful Evelyn Norman, who is betrothed to a young millionaire. In order to get Evelyn in his power Shepston secures some cheques for large amounts drawn by Mrs. Norman upon the Western Bank, in which, however, she has no more than fifty dollars to her credit. Under the threat of exposure, Shepston compels Mrs. Norman to bring her daughter to the offices of the bank, where the scene opens, and Evelyn is there plied with wine in order that the villain's purpose may be served. Shepston, who has just received with joy the news of his wife's death, promises to marry Evelyn, who rejects his offer with contempt, and she is presently rescued by her betrothed, who floors the rascally Shepston and takes Evelyn away in safety. The next scene is devoted to "an incident in Evelyn's life three years before marriage, in which the spectacle of a young girl struggling with a man in evening dress is portrayed on the cinematograph. The third scene is the Roof Garden Theatre, New York, where a number of lady singers and dancers do a "turn" and then mingle with the audience. Evelyn and the millionaire have been married that morning by special licence, and make their appearance in the theatre. Shepston thirsts for revenge, and whilst the bridegroom goes to see his mother, leaving his wife in charge of Mrs. Norman, he calls in a bailiff to demand of Evelyn payment of the fraudulent cheques. The villain has in his possession a revolver, with which he intends to shoot the millionaire, but Evelyn skilfully abstracts it from his pocket; and when the husband returns and finds Shepston annoying his wife there is a fight between the men. Chairs and other articles of furniture are utilised in the combat, until a pistol shot is heard, and Shepston is found lying dead. The question arises as to who fired the shot, and the millionaire declares it was he; but there appears to be no immediate consequences, as he is able to take Evelyn away, declaring, in defiance of the "unwritten law," that she will not be the only fallen woman who has made a good wife and mother.

The mounting of the sketch is in the sumptuous style that has for long years been associated with the productions of Mr. John Lawson, the Interior of the Bank being tastefully furnished and decorated, while the Roof Garden Theatre is reproduced in every detail. Mr. John Lawson has a part after his own heart in that of the young millionaire who delights in the exposure of "social leprosy," as it is described, and is especially strong in denunciation of the employment for sinister purposes of barmaids, typewriters, and others. Miss Buena Bent acted with a sympathetic appreciation of the rôle of Evelyn; and Miss Barbara Babington, who has the part of a lady of doubtful respectability, imbued the character with all the required vigour and abandon, her attack on Evelyn in the theatre scene being very telling.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

On Monday afternoon the students of the Royal Academy of Music gave a dramatic and musical performance of *The Moon Slave*, and a new fairy play, entitled *The Brownie and the Piano-tuner*. The performance commenced with Mr. Paul Corder's terpsichorean fantasy, *The Moon Slave*, founded on a tale by Barry Pain, "which relates how a young Princess is so passionately fond of dancing that she seeks a deserted maze in the palace garden, and dances to the light of the moon, and offers herself to it body and soul in return for the music. Her offer is accepted, and the Princess dances her life away to the moon music." Miss Olive Turner proved a most attractive Princess Viola, and both her dancing and that of Mr. Cecil Pearson, who appeared as the ghostly Moon Spirit, won hearty applause from the large audience, and did the greatest credit to their talented teacher, Mr. B. Soutten. The second item on the programme was a new fairy play, in four scenes, entitled *The Brownie and the Piano-tuner*, written, and with incidental music composed by L. E. Lomax. The story relates how an old-fashioned farmer and his wife have a smart son, who, in town, follows the profession of piano-tuner, and comes home full of modern ideas, and wants them carried out at the old farm. A niece of the old farmer, a dairymaid, had formerly been engaged to the piano-tuner, but after his town experiences this matter is "off," as the tuner is betrothed to a rich young lady in town. The old couple are firm believers in the brownies, a kind of elves who every night come in and clean the kitchen, and, as new milk is always put out for them at night by the niece, they are indignant at the way she is treated by the tuner, and determine to put matters right. Of course, then all ends happily, as a letter is found by the Brownies, in which the rich young lady refuses the piano-tuner. The little piece was well written and admirably acted, and some quite original comic business introduced, as when the Brownies discover a new carpet-sweeper in place of the old birch-broom, and drink bicycle oil left out instead of new milk. The audience also were much amused with the cuckoo-clock, which, as a note in the programme observes, strikes six or seven at half-past nine, and when striking the quarter it is ten o'clock, and four it is midnight. There are three scenes of the farmouse, and one of the Sussex Downs at night, where the Brownies disport themselves on a gigantic toadstool. Mr. Cecil Pearson made a capital Farmer Podder; and his wife was cleverly played by Miss Cecil Martin. Mr. Victor de Nevers appeared with success as the contemptuous piano-tuning son, Jem, who, as the Chief Brownie says, discourses such sweet music while tuning a piano; and Miss Olga Antony, although undertaking the part at short notice, made a charming Avice, the dairymaid. The three Brownies, Tom, Dick, and Harry, were cleverly played by Master Alfred Grover Quaife, Master S. de Groot, and Master V. Harris. The performance was under the able direction of Mr. Richard Temple, with the scenes and lighting effects arranged by Mr. Harold Hammond. A small orchestra, conducted by Mr. F. Corder and Mr. Paul Corder, proved effective, and the actors in, and the composer of, *The Brownie and the Piano-tuner*, were warmly applauded by the audience.

MR. AND MRS. LENNARD CHARLES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—*Re* letter anent the above in your last week's issue, perhaps it may interest Mr. J. Thos. Charles to learn that it was I who introduced his parents to the public as "Mr. and Mrs. *Lennard* Charles." They took part in my touring concerts for a considerable time. It was I who christened them "Mr. and Mrs. *Lennard* Charles," and advertised them as "the female baritone and operatic duettists."—Yours faithfully,

HARRY LISTON, Humorist.

May 8, 1907.

ONE of the artists who sailed for Africa on Saturday was the ever-popular Dolly Harmer, who had a host of friends to wish her success and "bon voyage," amongst them being Miss Queenie Leighton, Drury-lane's principal boy, and Malcolm Scott, who presented her with some lovely bouquets.

THE WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT, 1906.

EFFECT ON THEATRES AND MUSIC HALLS.

(Copyright.)

BY ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B.

(Author of "Dramatic and Musical Law.")

The immense importance of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906, to various members of the theatrical and music hall professions can hardly be over-rated. To many a trade and business the first Workmen's Compensation Act, namely, that of 1897, came as a revolution; and anyone who has had experience of the working of that Act knows what the new Act will mean to many a business which has so far been untouched.

Apart from any statute, under our Common Law, an employee, as a rule, cannot make the employer liable for an injury sustained in the course of his service. In certain cases, however, he can, *e.g.*, when the employer has not provided competent fellow servants.

Then came the Employers' Liability Act of 1880, which considerably increased the employee's right of action; but this left many accidents unprovided for. Another drawback to the Act was the fact that the servant might contract himself out of the Act. This "contracting out" was very common, and in many theatrical contracts will be seen conditions that the proprietor of the theatre is not to be liable for accidents under the Employers' Liability Act, 1880, &c.

For instance, in the recent case of Burr v. Theatre Royal, Drury-lane, Ltd., the contract contained a clause as follows:—"Notwithstanding anything contained in the Employers' Liability Act, 1880, or any Act continuing or amending the same, the artist shall not, nor shall the artist's legal personal representative, in case of the said artist's death, have any right of compensation or any remedy whatever against the company in respect of any personal injury which may be caused to the artist by reason of any defect in the condition of the ways, works, machinery, or plant connected with or used in or out the Theatre Royal, Drury-lane, or any other theatre or place of amusement wherein the artist may perform under this agreement: or by reason of the negligence of any person in the service of the company at the said Theatre Royal, Drury-lane (or any such theatre or other place of amusement as aforesaid), who has any superintendence entrusted to him whilst in the exercise of such superintendence: or by reason of negligence of any person in the service of the company whose orders or directions the artist at the time of the injury was bound to conform, and did conform, where such injury may result from her having so conformed: or by reason of the act or omission of any such person in the service of the company done or made in obedience to the rules or bye-laws of the company, or in obedience to particular instructions given by the management."

As will be seen, in future such a clause will not avail; the proprietor will be liable in spite of it.

This Act was followed by the Workmen's Compensation Acts, 1897 and 1900, which did not apply to theatres. Finally comes the Act of 1906.

The Workmen's Compensation Act of 1906 comes into force on July 1, 1907. It will affect almost everyone connected with theatres and music halls, from the wealthy proprietor, who will have to pay, down to the smallest call-boy who, if injured, will receive compensation.

The first section of the Act contains the essence of the new law, and is worded in an unexpectedly simple manner for an Act of Parliament. It says: "If in any employment personal injury by accident arising out of and in the course of the employment is caused to a workman, his employer shall, subject as hereinafter mentioned, be liable to pay compensation in accordance with the first schedule to the Act."

The term "workman" does not apply only to the horny-handed one in corduroys, but includes everyone, male or female, adult or infant, who is employed. In short, the Act applies to all employees, with the following exceptions:—

(1) Persons employed otherwise than by way of manual labour, whose remuneration exceeds £250 a year.
(2) Persons whose employment is casual, and who are employed otherwise than for the purpose of their employers' trade or business.
(3) Members of the Police force.
(4) Outworkers.
(5) Members of the employer's family dwelling in his house.

It is quite obvious that stage carpenters and other persons doing actual manual labour will come within the Act, and be entitled to recover, but the difficulties appear to be greater when we come to other theatrical employees. Clerks and domestic servants certainly come within the Act, and so does anyone employed who earns not more than £250 a year. A person who earns more than this amount does not come within the Act unless he is engaged in "manual labour." This gives rise to one of the difficulties of the Act, viz., what is "manual labour"? It has been held that where a person earns his money mainly through the confidence that his employer reposes in his honesty, skill, or knowledge, the fact that he does in the exercise of such confidence also execute manual work would not in itself constitute his engagement one of manual labour. For instance, it has been held in various cases that an omnibus conductor, a tramcar driver, a railway guard of a goods train, a grocer's assistant, and a hairdresser were not engaged in "manual labour." Apparently an actor or actress earning more than £250 a year would not be considered to be engaged in manual labour, and would have no claim in case of accident. But performers and the officials of the theatre not earning more than £250 a year will have a good claim for damages in case of accident.

As to casual employment, it appears that the employer will be liable where the employment is casual if it is for the purpose of his trade or business. Therefore, a super, casually employed, will be entitled to recover in case of accident.

While on the subject of what employees can claim, a difference at once will be apparent between theatrical and music hall artists. In the former case the performer as a member of the company is undobtedly a "workman," and will have a claim for damage by accident against the owner of the theatre, or of the company, as the case may be—that is to say, against the person who engages him. But music hall artists may possibly be in a different position. It may be held that they are "independent contractors" and not "workmen," and cannot, therefore, recover damages from the management for an accident while performing. This would not, however, apply to a member of a troupe or sketch company, who might still have a right of action against the owner of such troupe or company.

The word "accident" in the former Acts is used in the popular and ordinary sense of the word as denoting "an unlooked-for mishap or an untoward event which is not expected or designed," and it has been decided in former cases that the fact that the results of an accidental injury are more serious owing to the physical condition of the workman at the time is immaterial.

Nor does it matter what the cause of the accident is.

It must not be forgotten that in order to give the employee a right to damages for an accident it must be one arising "out of and in the course of the employment." It is somewhat difficult to apply decisions under the former Acts to possible cases arising in the theatrical profession. If an accident happened while the employee was engaged in his own business, or in recreation, the management would not be liable. A simple instance would be that of an accident happening to a member of a touring company who was driving, walking, or cycling for pleasure in the interval between rehearsal and the performance. Here the owner of the touring company would not be responsible. But if the accident happened while the artist was on his way to or from a rehearsal or performance the management might be liable. At any rate, the question that would have to be considered would be when the employment begins and ends. In cases under the former Workmen's Compensation Acts the question frequently arose as to whether a man's employment began until he reached the place where he was going to work, and generally it was held it had not so begun, but there are exceptions to this rule, and it may well be that the case I have given is an exception. It has been held that a workman injured in his dinner-time would be entitled to the protection of the Act, and could claim damages for an accident happening then.

Of course, it could hardly be expected that the employer would be liable when the employee was injured while acting for his own purposes as opposed to carrying out the business of his employer, but as has already been pointed out, the mere fact that he breaks off his employment temporarily for the purpose of personal convenience, such as having his dinner, will not usually debar him from obtaining compensation.

One very important class of case that is likely to arise under the Act is that of a troupe of acrobats. It would appear that in case of a member of the troupe sustains injuries, *e.g.*, falling from a trapeze, while performing or rehearsing, he would be able to get damages from the owner of the troupe. This is a very serious matter for all employer of that kind of labour. The same will apply to accidents happening in sketches, *e.g.*, where a pistol goes off accidentally, or where swords have to be used in the course of the play, and one of the actors is injured by an accidental stabbing.

In no case is an employer liable under the Act in respect of any injury which does not disable the workman for a period of at least one week from earning full wages at the work at which he is employed.

Another important point to which attention must be drawn is as to whether the injury to the workman is attributable to his serious and wilful misconduct. If such accident causes the death or the serious and permanent disablement of the workman, then the employer is still liable, notwithstanding that it is owing to such workman's serious and wilful misconduct. If the injuries, however, are not as serious as this then the employer will not be liable.

But this small crumb of comfort to the employers has been very much diminished by the construction the Court and juries put upon "wilful and serious misconduct." Direct disobedience to the orders of the employer is apparently not necessarily "serious and wilful misconduct," if we may judge by the decisions given on past cases. As one instance, there was a case decided in the House of Lords, where there was a notice prohibiting the use of a lift on the works by anyone not carrying a load, and a workman not carrying a load, in direct defiance of the notice, used the lift and was killed. The House of Lords held that this did not amount to "serious misconduct."

Mere negligence of the workmen will not excuse the master from being liable, even when the accident has been occasioned by such negligence, and he will also be liable for injuries caused to the workman by the negligence of a fellow employee or by a stranger. For instance, if some heavy scenery is being put up or moved, and an actor about to cross the stage is expressly warned not to do so, and in spite of this he does so, and is injured by the scenery falling on him, the management will in all probability be responsible. Certainly it will be if the actor is killed or is permanently injured.

Before an employee can recover under the Act he must give notice of the accident as soon as practicable after the happening thereof, and before he has voluntarily left the employment in which he was injured, and he must also claim the compensation within six months of the accident causing the injury, or, in case of the employee's death, his representative must claim within six months from such death. The failure to carry out these technicalities will not, however, necessarily be a bar to proceedings.

Anyone injured under the Act who has given notice of his accident is bound if required by his employer to submit himself for examination to a doctor provided and paid for by the employer.

"Contracting out" of the Act is not allowed. A form has already been given of the clause contracting out of the Employers' Liability Act, 1880. Such a clause will be useless in future, even if it is signed by the employee.

The amount of compensation payable by the employer under the Act is to be:—

(a) Where death results from the injury—
(1) If the workman leaves any dependents wholly dependent upon his earnings, a sum equal to his earnings in the employment of the same employer during the three years next preceding the injury, or the sum of £150, whichever of those sums is the larger, but not exceeding in any case £300, provided that the amount of any weekly payments made under this Act, and any lump sum paid in redemption thereof, shall be deducted from such sum, and if the period of the workman's employment by the said employer has been less than the said three years, then the amount of his earnings during the said three years shall be deemed to be one hundred and fifty-six times his average weekly earnings during the period of his actual employment under the said employer:
(2) If the workman does not leave any such dependents, but leaves any dependants in part dependent upon his earnings, such sum not exceeding in any case the amount payable under the foregoing provisions as may be agreed upon, or, in default of agreement, may be determined on arbitration under this Act to be reasonable and proportionate to the injury to the said dependents: and
(3) If he leaves no dependents, the reasonable expenses of his medical attendance and burial not exceeding £10.

(b) Where total or partial incapacity for work results from the injury, a weekly payment during the incapacity not exceeding 50 per cent. of his average weekly earnings during the previous twelve months, if he has been so long employed: but if not, then for any less period during which he has been in the employment of the same employer, such weekly payment not to exceed £1:

Provided that (a) If the incapacity lasts less than two weeks no compensation shall be payable in respect of the first week: and (b) As respects the weekly payments during total incapacity of a workman who is under twenty-one years of age at the date of the injury, and whose average weekly earnings are less than 20s., 100 per cent. shall be substituted for 50 per cent. of his average weekly earnings, but the weekly payment shall in no case exceed 10s.

This little pamphlet does not profess to be an exhaustive account of the new Act. It is hoped, however, that it will have the effect of drawing the attention of theatrical employers, on the one hand, to their grave responsibilities, and of their employees, on the other, to their new rights.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

Fairs Ahead.

THE fairs ahead for next week are:—Hindon, on the London and South-Western; Haslemere, on the London and South-Western; Kirkby Stephen, on the North-Eastern and Midland; Long Sutton, on the Great Northern; Pembridge, on the Great Western; Spilsby, on the Great Northern; Stow-on-the-Wold, on the Great Western; Arundel, on the London, Brighton, and South Coast; Bicester, on the London and North-Western; Bodmin, on the Great Western; Burwell (Cambs.), on the Great Eastern; Chertsey, on the London and South-Western; Altwhistle, on the North-Eastern; Hartlepool, on the North-Eastern; Nuneaton, on the London and North-Western and Midland; Stafford, on the London and North-Western, Great Northern, and North Staffordshire; Over (Cheshire), on the London and North-Western and Cheshire lines; Louth, on the Great Northern; Ashford (Kent), on the South-Eastern, and London, Chatham, and Dover; Brentford, on the London and South-Western; Earlestown, on the London and North-Western; Maryport, on the Maryport and Carlisle; Newton-le-Willows, on the London and North-Western; Caistor (Lincs.), on the Great Central; Carlisle, on the London and North-Western, North-Eastern, Midland, Maryport and Carlisle, North British, and Glasgow and South-Western; Clayton-le-Moors, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Egremont (Cumb.), on the London and North-Western and Furness; Leek, on the North Staffordshire; Malton, on the North-Eastern; North Shields, on the North-Eastern; Preston, on the London and North-Western, Great Western, and Lancashire and Yorkshire; Redruth, on the Great Western; Rothbury, on the North British; Runcorn, on the London and North-Western; Southwell, on the Midland; Sutton, on the Great Northern; Stagshawbank; Tildesley, on the London and North-Western; and Wellington, on the Great Western Railways.

In Bonnie Scotland.

JEDBURGH, on the North British; Renfrew, on the Glasgow and South-Western; Langholme, on the North British; Paisley, on the Caledonian, Glasgow and South-Western, and Glasgow and Paisley Joint; Kilmarnock, on the Glasgow and South-Western, and the Glasgow, Barrhead, and Kilmarnock Joint.

In the Principality.

KNIGHTON, on the London and North-Western; Monmouth, on the Great Western; Talgarth, on the Cambrian; and Abergavenny, on the Great Western and London and North-Western Railways.

Glossop May Fair.

THE fair-ground was well filled with caterers of amusement, and on Saturday and Monday last thousands of sightseers promenaded the market-ground. The principal novelties were Styles, Raynor, and Campbell's diving exhibition; Relph and Pedley's whirling the whirl; George Green's cinématograph theatre and motor-car set; John Collins's big boats and electric jumping horses; Hibbert's swings and steam horses; G. Cordwell's shooting galleries; A. Whatmore's emma sheets and cokers; Walter Shaw's striker and big swings; George Sothers's emma sheets; M. Thomas's cokers and emmas; and Messrs. Harrington and T. Glynn, with park swings, varieties, and throwing games.

Stockport May Fair.

UNDER the management of Mr. T. Hurst, for the Roundabout Proprietors' and Showmen's Union, this fair gave evidence of increasing importance and interest. The show list was headed by Captain Tom Payne, with his famous American bioscope, followed by Harry Wall's dime museum and freak show; Eagle Davis's knife-throwing experts and natural wonders exhibition; and W. Shaw's portable Royal academy. The local showmen, J. Hibbert and Sons, were again to the front with their combination of machine novelties. These included galloping horses, racing cockerels, and park swings. There were also motor-car sets and steam yachts by J. Green and J. Collins, the steam swings by W. Shaw, and the big wheel by Leiskie. The shooting concerns were provided by Messrs. Kitchen, and Jewell; juvenile horses and motors, by W. Chaplain and others. The variety stalls, throwing games, and other novelties were by Messrs. Deeks, Smith, Johnson, Ingham, Beckett, Clough, Lynch, Jewell, Thomas, Booth, and Chaplain.

Guisboro' Fair.

AMONGST the shows at this Yorkshire fixture were Mrs. S. Manders's Royal waxwork and cinématograph exhibition, and Pain's living picture show; Richardson Bros.' gondola set, Mrs. Crow's steam horse set, and big boats by Rich and Twilley; rifle saloons by Robson, Crow, Twilley; and the usual varieties and throwing games, by Smith, Watkins, Rich, and Hawker.

Stockton-on-Tees.

FOR this well-known fixture there was gathered together a capital array of shows, riding machines, and other novelties—Chipperfield's menagerie, Payne's cinématograph, Biddall's freaks, and Priest's two novelty booths; M. Murphy's switchback, Carriss and Carr's steam horses, Baker's steam yachts, Robinson's Winchester range, emma sheets, and cokers, Carriss's rifle saloon, and Sheeran's and Davey's throwing games.

Ollerton May Feast.

AGAIN this festival was under the banner of Twigdon, the Derbyshire showman, and with him were associated the usual attendant throng of caterers of minor amusements.

Switchbacks Preferred to Gallopers.

CHARLES HILL, a roundabout proprietor at Fulham, in the Greenwich County Court, on May 3, sued Mrs. Maksey, landlady of the Star and Garter, New Cross-road, and proprietress of the Deptford Fair Ground, for £48 damages for breach of contract. Plaintiff's counsel said his client took the ground for a fortnight, on the understanding that no other riding machines were to be allowed there. However, there was a switchback on the ground, and the youth of Deptford preferred this switchback to the galloper, of which plaintiff was the proprietor. He had therefore suffered special damage, because it was no use him setting up in the fair-ground when the switchback was present. Plaintiff further said that Deptford Fair Ground was one of the best in England for roundabouts, and that on the Saturday night when he should have opened he would have taken £16. Judgment for plaintiff for £15.

South Wales Notes.

THE chief attraction at Troedyrhiw are Mr. John Studt's motors and Scarrot's boxing saloon.

OUR old friend Jo Danters, with his galaxy of amusements, is at Merthyr.

AT Brecon are Messrs. Dooner and W. Haggar of Bioscope fame.

MESSRS. BOSTOCK AND WOMBWELL'S Menagerie is in the Swansea Valley.

THEY visit Neath on Saturday, when our South Wales correspondent will send a full report of this well-known exhibition.

Astwood Bank.

AT Astwood Bank we have Herbert's roundabouts, swing-boats, shooting saloons, cokernut sheets, &c.

Redditch.

AT the Royal Hotel Yard, Redditch, we have Mr. H. Ayers' fancy fair and carnival, steam roundabouts, racing cockerels, park swings, shooting saloons, &c.

Radford.

AT Radford Feast were Scarrotts' roundabouts, park swings, cokernut sheets, pipe-smasher, and other numerous fair-ground paraphernalia.

Wilton, Salisbury.

THE annual spring fair was held, as usual, in the Market-place; the chief caterer was James Bartlett, with galloping-horses, swings, &c. There were a large number of shooting saloons, throwing games, and stalls, and good business was done.

The Butts.

JOHN SCOTT'S Royal British Circus visited here on Saturday last, giving two performances to delighted audiences. Mr. Joe Hastings, the great jumper, proved a great attraction; Miss Flora Viola is a dainty equestrienne; and the bare-back riding of Mr. G. H. Scott and Mons. Biddall was very smart. Mr. W. Floyd provided a smart turn with barrels, tables, &c; Mlle. Flora and Master John delighted the audience with their wire-walking. The clowns proved to be highly amusing, and some good films were given on the Bioscope.

Chester.

THE Chester Race Carnival opened on Saturday last under the management of Mr. Pat Collins. The machines on the fair-ground include the racing cockerels of Mr. P. Collins, J. Collins's airship (a new edition of the old roley-poley), P. Collins, jun.'s twin yachts, P. Collins's motor-cars, the Newmarket gallopers of Miss M. Collins, and Hibberts' racing cockerels. Hayden's second-sight show, Harry Hughes' boxing saloon, and several fine art shows are amongst the attractions. Mrs. F. Collins' new show, with its magnificent organ front, is the chief object of interest. The inside is comfortably seated and decorated, and the Chronophone is being exploited with well-deserved success. Turner's photographic studio is located in its old place; Beech's topsy-turvy house and Mr. P. Collins's helter-skelter lighthouse complete the list of novelties. Shooters, cokers, Emmas are supplied by Messrs. Cordwell, Mercer, Wright, &c. This is the largest fair yet held in Chester, and the well-arranged ground reflects great credit on Mr. Pat Collins's ground manager.

Bishop's Castle Fair.

THE pretty Shropshire village that rejoices in being Bishop's Castle held its fair on May 3 and 4. The shows and machines present were Chipperfield's cinematograph, Herbert's novelty booth, Marshall Hill's switchback gondolas and range of park swings, Turner's rifle saloon, other varieties by the caterers on this ground.

Heckmondwike Fair.

HARRY ASHINGTON'S premier cinematograph theatre, "The World Day by Day, as Seen by the Camera" was here; the principal machine sets were provided by J. W. Waddington, who exhibited motor cars, the twin yachts in the air, and a farmyard set; Morley exhibited steam swings and gem motors; juvenile motor-cars by Houldsworth, and shooting galleries by Gledstone and Seed; emma sheets and pannum stalls by Blackburn and Joy; football frames and varieties by Ackroyd, Bassett, Hyde, Burrell, Cookshaw, Firth and Thomas.

Northallerton Fair.

THE shows and riding-machines at this fair were:—Randall Williams's (Monte Bros.) coliseum of varieties and up-to-date pictures; Walter Murphy's cinematograph theatre, Richardson Bros'.. switchback, Shipley's steam horses, and Crow's gallopers; shooting concerns and varieties by Messrs. Culine, Harker, Edwards, Crow, and Jeffries.

Wednesbury Fancy Fair.

FOR this fixture were P. Collins's motors (No. 3 set), W. Davies' three-abreast gallopers and swings, Sagor's portable variety palace, with the star turn, the great Waller from Olympia; Beaumont's varieties, and the usual minor novelties.

Leominster Fair.

AT this fair the shows included Wadbrook's electrograph, Felix Testo's cinematograph, Prince Samouda, second-sight and esoteric mysteries, Quest's boxing saloon, and a fine art gallery. Studt's motor-cars, Strickland's gallopers, Marshall Hill's slipping-the-slip, and varieties by North, Stevens, and others.

ON Friday, May 3, at Summers' Restaurant, Great Malvern, Mr. A. H. Towell, the popular musical director of Poole's No. 1 Myriorama, was presented with a silver-mounted bâton by the members of the orchestra as a token of their esteem and regard. Mr. Towell acknowledged the gift in a neat little speech. It is a noteworthy fact that Mr. Towell has not made a single change in the orchestra during the six months' tour.

SEDGWICK'S menagerie, with a large show of animals, including some well-trained lions and boarhounds, which are put through a great variety of evolutions by a clever trainer, Alphonzo, paid a visit to Bridlington on Thursday last, and were well patronised.

THE Spring Pleasure Fair will be held at Bridlington on Monday next, as usual—Monday before Whit Sunday.

THE RENARD ROAD TRAIN.

THE VERY THING FOR THE SHOWMEN.

The possibilities of the new method of road transit known as the Renard system are almost illimitable. The difficulties that attach to traction engines and in a less degree to motor wagons are completely overcome by the Renard road train. In France the invention has been as the solution of the vexed question of rapid and cheap transit of farm produce and passengers from the villages to the towns.

RAPID, SAFE, AND CHEAP TRANSIT.

With that part of its possible usefulness we do not wish to deal. Our object is to show that it meets the difficulty of rapid, safe, and cheap transit for shows, roundabouts, and other concerns of a portable character; that where the ordinary traction engine, as we know it, fails, the Renard train in every point succeeds.

WEIGHT.

First as to weight of engine. The engine complete weighs but three tons. It has enormous power; but the essential fact is that, unlike the steam engine or the road traction engine, it is not sheer pulling power.

DRIVING POWER.

The inventor calls the engine "The Factory." It makes the driving power, and that is applied to the driving wheels of every carriage unit of the train. These most obvious advantages meet the difficulties as to weight, dangers of crossing bridges, dangers of being bogged on soft roads, dangers of using the engine when entering fair grounds, or using soft land.

TESTED BY EXPERTS.

The Renard Road Train Co. have had the train thoroughly tested by the War Office and other Government departments, and with most satisfactory results.

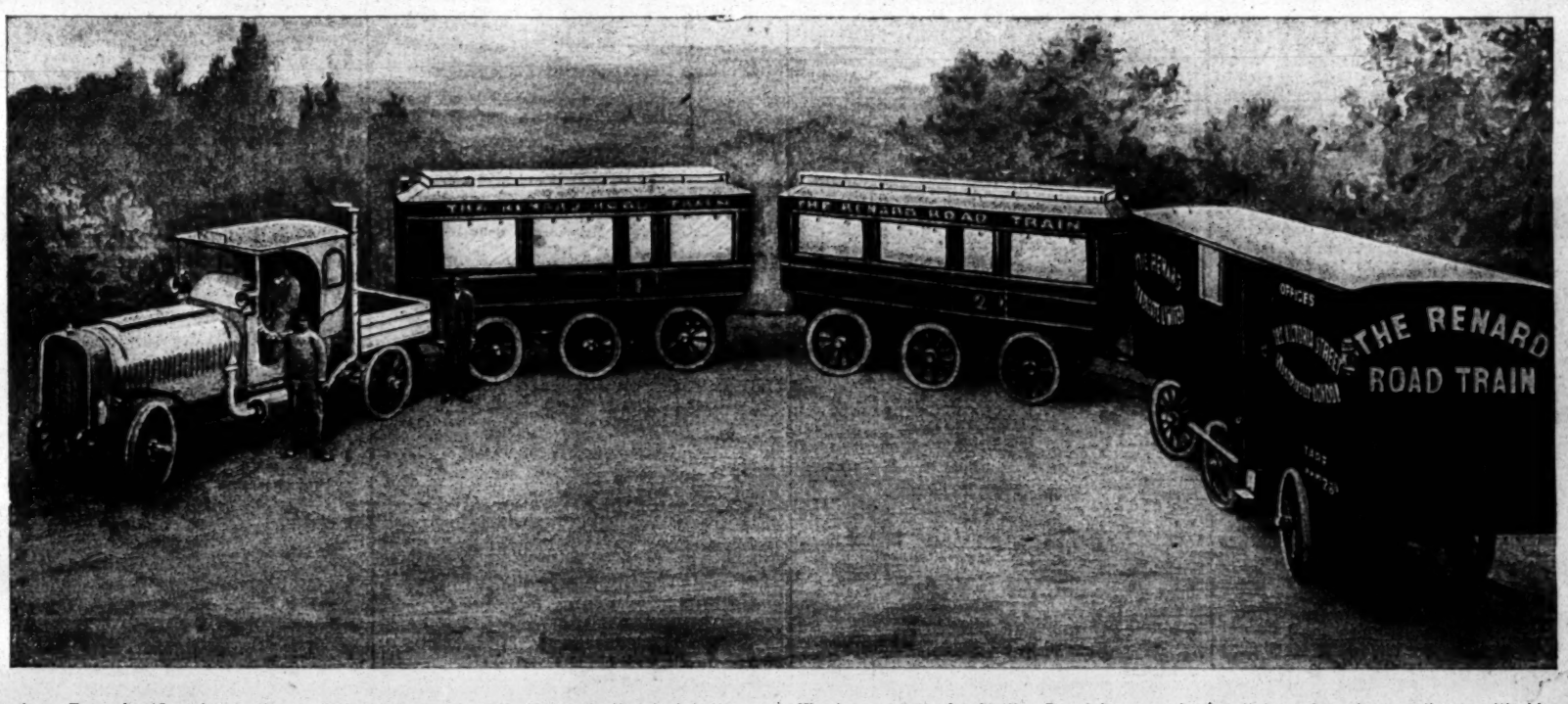
FLEXIBLE JOINTS.

One or two points more. The cars behind the engine are linked so closely with it by flexible joints that it is impossible for the carriages to deviate from the course travelled by the engine, and are completely controlled by the driver. The brake power acts automatically on the separate driving wheels of each car in the train. The driver has absolute power over the train as a whole, because each linked unit is a live and not a dead force.

PERFECT STEERING.

The train is as easy to steer backwards as forwards, the end car being as much under the driver's control as the engine itself.

The Renard Road Train may be seen at the Daimler Motor Works Coventry, and the Renard Train Co. are arranging to give a special demonstration of its working powers at the ensuing Coventry Whitsun fair. Showmen wishing to be present at the demonstration had better communicate with the Guild Secretary, the offices of *The Era*. Further particulars of this wonderful invention may be had of Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, Hon. Treasurer Showmen's Guild, at *The Era* Office.



Maidenhead.

"To the Moor! To the Moor!" is the cry of the people who flock from near and far to witness the grand carnival which is being held on the Moor, Maidenhead, and a host of travellers are in attendance, amongst whom are:—G. Beach's grand steeplechasers and racing motors, also his ostrich farm from South Africa; J. Edward's Gordon Bennett motor track, Edward's Royal shooting saloon, Beach's cocoanut shies; throwing and sporting games by J. Rose, Rawlings, Rowe, Beach, Edwards, &c.; Beach's Royal park swings, Walter Payne's new show, entitled "Dreamland by Bioscope," where some very good pictures are being shown, the exhibition being packed nightly. Free performances are given by Mons. Almero, the Man Monkey on the perch, and Norwegian Spar, who performs at 6 and 8 o'clock. Leoni performs on the high telephone wire at 7 and 9.30.

Llanelly.

THE Llanelly May Fair was held this week, and attracted immense crowds. Messrs. H. Studt and Sons, as usual, brought two of their largest machines. The attractions included no less than four great wheels, owned by Messrs. Booth and the Norths. The only big show was that of the evergreen Mr. William Hagger, who, together with his sons and daughters, are never satisfied unless they are up to date; their whole show is again a brand new one.

Showmen and Railway Charges.

PROPOSED 25 per cent. increase in rates. If proposal is put into force the showmen will make at least £10,000 less profit per annum.

IT is estimated that the traffic receipts from passengers attracted to the various fairs throughout the United Kingdom by the showmen amount to no less than £100,000.

IT seems quite a topsy-turvy state of things that a body of commercial men like the showmen, who are the cause of £100,000 being spent in railway fares, should be asked to pay £10,000 in increased rates. Under these circumstances one would think that the railway companies would be prepared to decrease rather than increase their rates to showmen.

THE showmen are determined not to pay increased rates, and will turn to road traction as a way out of the difficulty if forced to do so.

Guild Subscriptions.

PER Mr. Chaplin, S. J. Revill (Stockport), 10s. 6d.

ATTACK ON SHOWMEN AT HARROGATE.

Even after twenty years of strenuous work on the part of the Showmen's Guild to educate ignorant fanatics with regard to the show business we have still from time to time to deal with serious and ill-informed attacks upon the show business. The latest example of this occurred within the past few days at the Yorkshire spa—Harrogate. It appears that a respectable body of show people organised and carried through a fair at the pretty village of Bilton, now a suburb of the prosperous watering-place. The principal shows at this fair were Mrs. H. Waddington's motor track, under T. Farrer's management; Corrigan's steam yachts; Gabin's juvenile horses; Ratcliffe's shooting saloons; Turner's bazaars; Johnson's varieties; and Jameson's stalls and throwing games, the musical attraction of the fair being the magnificent orchestrion attached to Mrs. Waddington's machine.

To this fair ground, but not on pleasure bent, there came a gentleman of Harrogate, who, in an exceedingly critical and uncharitable mood, rushed into print and aired his views in a letter to the *Harrogate Advertiser*.

This letter was forwarded by the showmen on the ground to the Rev. T. Horne. It reads as follows:—

HARROGATE SCANDALISED: BILTON SPRING FAIR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HARROGATE ADVERTISER.

SIR,—Permit me through the medium of your columns to extend a cordial and pressing invitation to all lovers of quietness frequenting Harrogate for a complete change and rest to pay a visit to—King Edward's Drive, Skipton-road.

The intermingling noises (music some might call it) emanating from the various hooters and other instruments, whether the productions be selections from Wagner, Mendelssohn, Handel, Beethoven, Chopin, Bach, or "It's the same tune again!" are certainly idealistic, and would unquestionably make our eminent Kursaal conductor turn green with envy. Handel's "Largo" for organ and strings certainly cannot be placed in the same "field" for comparison!

For some considerable time past it has been the wish of Harrogate that if only our King would deign to honour us with his presence, instead of visiting Marienbad, Carlsbad, and other such foreign spas, the success of the town would be a foregone conclusion, and "Country Boy" might eventually have his dreamy prophetic vision of "A City Immortalised" turned into a stern reality.

What could be more appropriate than a circular tour, *vid* the Stray, Skipton Road, combining King Edward's Drive (the latter either in its present condition, or in November and December, when the surface of the road is at its best), Little Wonder, en route for Studley Royal by way of a diversion in the programme.

Personally, I am not aware as to whether any of the landlords of adjacent property have the letting or sub-letting of the land whereon this medley have pitched their tents. If so, can they wonder at always groaning both internal and external ejaculations relative to having too many houses empty? I do know, however, that one of them was approached through his medium, but the beautiful phraseology by way of an answer will certainly not stand publication, being of too clean a nature!

I believe I am voicing the sentiments of others in saying that no persons are particularly fond of paying rentals of, say, £25 to £35 per annum in order to have the pleasure of residing close to a nauseating fair-ground.

Surely something from a sanitation point of view can be done. What provision is there for these people? There is a fit place for everything, and certainly a site, calculated to give less offence, could have been selected.

Assuming a person is lying ill, in close proximity to the existing rowdyism, which I happen to know is the case, and the attendant physician emphatically states that the life of the patient is entirely dependent on careful nursing and extreme quietness, what is to be done? A removal might spell death instanter!

Adverting to the controversy that was prevalent some time ago relative to the stoppage of the day tripper, which was regarded in the light of lowering the dignity and aristocratic status of "Haughty Harrogate"—"comparisons are odious," particularly so in this case, and we can only shout "Desideratum" from this end of the town.

If any reader can throw light on the matter as to the best manner of having the policeman's "Move on" effectively carried out, he will be earning the indebtedness of many, and *statu quo* will become a prayer, hitherto uttered in vain, fulfilled.

Cannot our Councillors do something with a strong petition in their hands?

With apologies for occupying so much of your valuable space, believe me to be, dear Sir, a disgusted ratepayer and unavoidable listener to this infernal earsplitting pandemonium,

BERT SNAPE.

King Edward's Drive, Harrogate.

Mr. Horne's answer is as follows:—

BILTON'S SPRING FAIR.

AN ANSWER TO THE ATTACK ON THE SHOWMEN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HARROGATE ADVERTISER.

SIR,—The attack upon the showmen by your correspondent, Mr. Bert Snape, has been forwarded to me by members of the Showmen's Guild, with a request that the attack upon them and their avocation in life might be answered.

As a life-long friend of travelling show people, and the honorary organising chaplain of their Guild, I am able to speak with knowledge as to the character and the business respectability of the numerous class of traders and entertainers who supply the amusements of the people at their popular fairs.

It is, of course, very easy to draw comparisons between the music of Wagner, Mendelssohn, Handel, Beethoven, Chopin, Bach, and the popular melodies that appeal to, and please, a fair-ground crowd.

But, Sir, every man to his taste, and whilst the classic compositions that satisfy and appeal to men of the cultured taste of Mr. Bert Snape, there are others (and in a liberty-loving country like ours we must never forget that there are others) who need music, even though it be ground out for them upon mechanical organs, that help them when seeking amusement in the open air.

The orchestrion that offended Mr. Snape's musical ear is an instrument made by one of the best organ firms in Paris, at a cost of £600, and although it is played by electricity, it is capable of producing popular music of a most acceptable kind. In support of this part of the showmen's defence, I may mention the significant fact that a canvass was made of the residents in the immediate neighbourhood of the fair, and, with one exception only, approval was expressed of the fair and its music.

The great majority of the amusement caterers at the fair are well-known and highly-respectable caterers of amusement; they are part and parcel of an important class in the community, and, in fact, the industry of the fair-ground is of growing importance, and the extremely useful work that these itinerant providers of amusement do has been recognised and approved by both Church and State.

As a clergyman of the Church of England, working under the sanction of the Bishops and Parochial Clergy, it is my work to minister among these people. Knowing them as I do, it is also my duty to defend them when unjustly attacked.

There is a paragraph in your correspondent's letter in which he raises the question of sanitation; that I particularly wish to deal with fully. Show people are, because of the popular nature of their business, and the open-air life that they lead, a particularly cleanly and healthy class of people, and it ought to be widely known that the ordinary provisions of the Public Health Acts, the Imperial and local provisions for sanitation, apply as fully to the showman's home on wheels as to the permanent homes of town or village residents. The sanitary inspector has just as much power over a caravan as over the dwelling-house of a town resident.

One other point I should like to deal with, an extremely grave and alarming point—the assumed danger of anyone lying ill. My answer to that is, that any friend of such a sufferer requesting the lessee of the ground, either to modify or even to stop entirely the music, would have met with immediate and ready compliance with his request. I state emphatically that this is the invariable practice of travelling showmen.

I want also to clear away one other of Mr. Bert Snape's misapprehensions. The showman is a lawful trader. He is subject to all the restrictions of the law that govern other traders, but also he is entitled to the full protection of the law in carrying on his legitimate business. The show business may be to Mr. Snape an extraordinary business, but the people who carry it on are just ordinary people—law abiding, liberty loving, and loyal sons of the Empire, and citizens of the Commonwealth. They are not *gipsies*, or *aliens*, or *pariahs;* they are British folk, and entitled to just as much exercise of individual liberty in a lawful calling as Mr. Bert Snape himself enjoys.

The show and fair-ground industry employs 70,000 people, and there is a capital of a million and a half invested in the business. It is a trade and calling in life that has its trade unions and trade defence organisations. It is recognised by innumerable Acts of Parliament, and commands the respect and approval of the great mass of the people of the United Kingdom.

Surely the people of Bilton may be permitted to enjoy the popular amusements of the fair without let or hindrance of the inhabitants of King Edward's Drive, Harrogate.

Why should the gentlemen who are able to enjoy the classic music of the Kursaal envy the popular melodies of the little fair-ground at Bilton Village.

I appeal to Mr. Bert Snape to exercise that kindly and tolerant charity that thinketh no evil of his neighbour, even though for the nonce his neighbour be a travelling showman.—I am, Sir, faithfully yours,

T. HORNE

(Honorary Chaplain, the Showmen's Guild).

5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

It is high time that these bitter and injurious attacks on the music of the fair-grounds should be vigorously met, and steps taken to let the general public know that the loud and trumpet-organ music that for a time marked the adoption of machine-driven instruments at our fairs is a thing of the past, and that the music now in use, played by the very best modern organs, is of a character to delight and attract, and not to either disturb or annoy musicians in particular or the public in general. In fact, the splendid organs discoursing the best music supplied by such firms as Marenghi et Cie, Gavioli, and Limonère, of Paris, and Chiappi and Sons, of London, form a great element in the up-to-date attractions of our popular fairs.

With regard to the other points in Mr. Snape's letter, we can only re-affirm what we have been saying for many years past, that the showmen's business in every detail is subject to the ordinary restrictions and safeguards of the law of the land. It neither needs special legislation, nor does it desire any special privileges other than those that the common law secures to the organised and recognised industries.

SHOWMEN AND RAILWAY RATES.

The proposed new rates for the carriage of show goods by special train has caused widespread consternation in the showman. We have not the exact figures before us, but we understand that on heavier loads the increase asked by the railways is quite fifty per cent. If our information is correct, we venture to say that no business in the world could possibly stand so tremendous and so unsettling a strain.

The show and roundabout business has a turnover with the railways of over £50,000 per annum.

Transit by special train is, under existing conditions, a necessity of the business. For the purposes of this traffic the show proprietors have sunk enormous capital in providing low-wheeled carriages on which their concerns may be packed when pulled down, and run expeditionsly on to the rail trucks at the station. This traffic has grown with the growth of the show business, under existing conditions, and now to propose so great a change, and so enormous an increase, is to paralyse one of our most important home industries.

Not only does the direct traffic by special train exceed £50,000 per annum, but the enormous passenger traffic that our fairs and popular holidays bring to the railways cannot be estimated at less than £100,000.

We maintain that the pleasure and holiday traffic is the product of the fairs, feasts, and wakes, and that the sequence of these popular holidays makes it possible for the railways to grapple with this enormous business, therefore, we hold that instead of increasing railway rates for the show industry, the true policy would be to cheapen transit, and to encourage the trade that creates and regulates the enormous volume of pleasure and holiday traffic. The trade societies of the organised showmen have vigorously protested against the new rates, and a very important deputation has been in conference with the traffic manager at the Railway Clearing House this week. Everything possible has been done to bring home to the railway authorities the unreasonable nature of their new demands. The deputation consisted of Messrs. P. Collins (Walsall), George Green (Glasgow and Preston), H. Hibbert (Stockport), Wm. Mitchell (Heywood), Arthur Twigdon (Derby), Ben Howden (Boston), and Mr. Terry (Walsall).

Without prejudice to the outcome of these negotiations, we may say that whatever compromise may ultimately be arranged, we have quite satisfied ourselves from our inside knowledge of the show and fair ground business, that the existing rates are in all conscience heavy enough, and that any material increase will injure the business and inevitably lead the showman to seriously consider other means of transit from fair to fair.

Circus Pony Killed.

Alfred Brown, of York-road, Battersea, the owner of a circus pony named "Tiny," claimed £35 damages against Spiers and Pond (Limited) yesterday, in the City of London Court, for running over her. One of the defendants' three-horse vans was going over Chelsea Bridge when it ran into the plaintiff's pony, knocking it down and killing it. The defendants said the pony was trotting along by itself, and slipped in front of their van, but the plaintiff and his witnesses denied that, and said the pony was trained for circus work, and would stand gun-fire at performances. Judge Lumley Smith believed the van ran into the pony, and he found for the plaintiff for £35 and costs. Another circus pony, which was with the unfortunate animal at the time, was brought to the court for the Judge's inspection.

A Wagner Film.

The most recent proof of the utility of the cinematograph is furnished by its introduction into grand opera this season at Covent Garden, and it is safe to assume that never before in the history of cinematography has the application of animated photographs been witnessed by such representative gatherings of the élite of society. The Graphic Cinematograph Company, Charing Cross-road, were commissioned by the Royal Opera Syndicate, Ltd., to carry out the production and exhibition of the pictures which represent "The Ride of the Walkyries," a number of riders in long flowing robes, holding spears and shields, passing through the clouds on bare-backed, bridleless steeds. The apparition which thus takes up a thread in the story of the opera has been the subject of much favourable comment and discussion, and the success with which Mr. W. Cecil Jeapes accomplished the work entrusted to him proves conclusively that he and his staff know "something" more about the art of cinematography than "turning the handle."

Gawthorpe Spring Feast.

For this fixture the following concerns were on the ground: Testo's cinematograph theatre, Marshall's motor-cars; and bazaar, emma sheets, pannum stalls and varieties by Riley, Newell, Gledstone and Walker.

On the application of Mr. Woodford, business-manager of the Alhambra, Mr. Denman, at Marlborough-street, granted a licence for a boy named Urbani to perform with his father at that place of entertainment. The magistrate also allowed licences for two little girls to play in the Empire ballet.

In *Sir Roger de Coverley*, the new ballet at the Empire, there is every opportunity for Mr. Wilhelm to paint his living, dancing pictures in all shades of lovely colour. The curtain rises on the sunny scene of Sir Roger's garden, and the first merry crowd of girls and boys appear in old-fashioned costumes of grey and green, followed by a troupe of little damsels dressed in long white frocks, with Kate Greenaway bonnets, and carrying boughs of almond blossom.

Mlle. Adeline Genée, in the character of Lady Dolly, wears a charming dress of faintly flowered silk, the full skirt being composed of three deep flounces, edged with pink, the bodice of lace, with a sky-blue satin coatee, and with gold heels to her little shoes. Sir Roger de Coverley (Mr. A. Harding) is in brown and purple, and Captain Fancourt (Miss D. Craske) in a handsome suit of deep red satin, gold and black. In the second scene Lady Dolly elopes with her lover—Captain Fancourt—wrapping a big smoke-grey cloak over her pretty flowered silk, while her faithful maid (Miss Elise Clerc) hides her own mauve and purple dress under Lady Dolly's pink chiffon cloak—the moth and the butterfly changing wings—and a good effect is obtained in the midst of colour by the dark clothes and big lanterns of a party of night watchmen.

When the curtain rises on the last scene—in Vauxhall Gardens—it is hard to describe the sparkling beauty, the wealth of detail, and the brilliant colouring of the crowded stage. There are merry maskers, busy pages, gorgeous ladies in hood and hoop, in bronze and silver and pink; gallants in flame-coloured velvet and golden brocade; dainty revellers in silver tissue; a troupe of harlequins; a bevy of fair guests carried in sedan chairs; Lady Dolly's lover in ruby velvet, with lace ruffles, a silver sash, and jewelled sword; and Lady Dolly herself in golden gauze. Later on, to hide her bewitching personality, in the guise of a gipsy Mlle. Genée wears a poppy-red, accordion-pleated chiffon cloak over a dress of striped black and yellow, changing her soft satin shoes before the final duo with Mr. P. Sundberg—whose gipsy costume of many colours is a delight to look upon—for a pair of vivid red leather bessians.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS.
ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

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"Ring-up," 4,747, Central.

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TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E., May 27, Aug. 5, 12, Sept. 9, Oct. 28, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING. Aug. 5, 12, 19, 26, Sept. 9, 16, Oct. 14, Nov. 4, 11, 25, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER, May 27, Aug. 5, 12, Dec. 2. 9, Feb. 10, 17, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER, Aug. 5, 12, 19, Sept. 9, Oct. 14, 21, 28, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON, May 20, Aug. 12, 19, 26, Sept. 16, 23, Nov. 4, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD, Aug. 19, 26, Sept. 23, Oct. 7, 28, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON, June 3, Sept. 2, 30, Oct. 21, Nov. 18, 25, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER, June 3, 24, Aug. 5, 12, 19, Sept. 9, 30, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON, Sept. 2, 9, 16, 23, on.
Address, Milton Bode, THEATRE, READING.

WANTED, First-Class Companies for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD, May 27, Aug. 5, 12, 19, 26, Sept. 9, onwards.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON, Aug. 5, 19, Sept. 30, Oct. 7, 14, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY, May 20, 27, Aug. 12, 19, 26 (three nights only).
E. Graham-Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Company, May 27.
E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Company, May 20 (three nights), for Theatre Royal, Canterbury.
Address, E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, for weeks of June 24 and July 1.
Wire or write,
W. W. Kelly,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions, for the following dates:
May 20,
May 27,
June 3,
June 10,
and
June 17.
Apply to Mr. Robert Arthur, 24a, Regent-st., S.W.

STANDARD THEATRE.
WANTED, Important Attractions, Aug. 5, 19, 26.
Walter Melville, Standard Theatre, E.

TERRISS THEATRE.
WANTED, Important Attractions, Sept. 2, 9, 16.
Walter Melville, Standard Theatre, E.

GRAND THEATRE, ISLINGTON.
WANTED, Important Attractions, Aug. 19, Sept. 23, 30.
Walter Melville, Standard Theatre, E.

WANTED, First-Class Companies, for The Empire Theatre, Oldham, June 3, 10, July 1, 15, 29.
Address, Ernest Dottridge.

PALACE THEATRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
WANTED, Big Musical Attraction, August Bank Holiday week (Aug. 5), also July 29 (Drama).
Apply, T. W. Rowe.

BRIDLINGTON SPA THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.
Thoroughly Up-to-date, Re-opens July 29.
Electricity throughout; new scenery; large stage dimensions.
WANTED, First-class Attraction for Grand Opening Week (no Dramas), July 29.
Holds £100 at ordinary prices.
Only few vacant dates, July 29, week (three or six nights), at Liberty. Wire or write immediate re this date; also Aug. 8, 9, 10; 26, 27, 28; and Sept. 5, 6, 7; must be the best Attractions on the road.
Henry Hague, General-Manager.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, Sound Attraction, for Aug. 5 (Bank Holiday) and onwards, with exceptions.
Address, Thos. Swinton.

GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions, May 27, June 3, 10, 17, on, and few Autumn Dates.
Fred Granville, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

WANTED, First-class Attraction, for First Three Nights of Whit Week for Theatre Royal, Colchester. Communicate, Chas. Macdona, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, Big Dramatic Attractions or First-class Star Combinations, July 1, 8.
E. H. Page.

THEATRE ROYAL, HULL.
WANTED, June 24, July 1, and August Bank Holiday, High-class Plays or Musical Attractions.
Wm. Morton.

GRAND THEATRE, DOUGLAS.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for the two Season Dates, July 1 and 8.
Apply. Jas. Buck, 30, Brown-street, Manchester.

PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE, NUNEATON.
WANTED, High-Class Musical Attractions, for the following reserved season dates: Sept. 16, Jan. 13, Feb. 17, 24, March 9, 23. Now booking Autumn, 1908. A. F. Cross.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, KEIGHLEY.
WANTED, First-Class Musical and Dramatic Companies for the Autumn and Spring, 1908.
L. Carson, Keighley.

WANTED, Big Attraction, May 20, Grand, Chorley.
Address, Sante, Theatre, Radcliffe.

WANTED, good Pantomime, Dec. 16, 1907, onwards, once and twice a night. Apply, Percy B. Broadhead, Hippodrome, Manchester.

WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attractions, May 27 and onwards through June.
Apply. J. H. Savile, Paisley Theatre.

WANTED, Sound Attractions, May 27, June 3, 10, and onwards, with exceptions. Apply, Sherwood and Co., Opera House, Wakefield.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies for two nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. Ashton, Strand, Barnstaple.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-Class Companies,

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER,
Vacant July 8, 15, 29, onward, with exceptions.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH,
Vacant June 10, onward, with exceptions.
(Last three nights of each week).

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY,
Vacant May 20, 27, onward, with exceptions.

METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY,
Vacant June 3, onward, with exceptions.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE,
Vacant May 27, Aug. 5, onward, with exceptions.

"THE LOST CHORD,"
Vacant Aug. 5, onward, with exceptions,

"THE SPAN OF LIFE,"
Vacant May 27, onward, with exceptions.

"CINDERELLA,"
Vacant Feb. 24, onward, with exceptions.

Companies "Farmed" through Fit-ups.

To Let, on Royalty, "THE PRAIRIE FLOWER" and "OUR BRITISH EMPIRE."

Excellent Plants of Printing.

All communications to
Arthur Carlton, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.

Proprietor, Albert Smith.

One of the Handsomest and Best-equipped Theatres in the Provinces.

Nothing Succeeds Like Success.
" " " "
" " " "
" " " "

See Mr. Charles Manners' Letter in "The Era" of April 6.

WANTED, July, onward, with exceptions

No. 1 Attractions only.

Enormous Business, Large Holding Capacity.

Can offer
Special Terms,
" "
" "

Share or Certainty.
" " "
" " "
" " "

Nothing too Big.
" " "
" " "
" " "

Will Guarantee any Special Attraction.

Open to Negotiate for Easter Panto., 1908, 2 weeks.

All Communications, Jno. Ed. Jowsey, Grand Opera House, Middlesbrough.

Telegrams, "Magnet," Middlesbrough.
Telephones, 413, 426, 500.

Silence a Polite Negative.

Next week, "The Pet of the Embassy."

WANTED, First-class Companies, GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE, July 29, Aug. 12, Sept. 9, May 4, 1908, onwards.
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD, July 29, Aug. 5, 26, Sept. 2, 9.
QUEEN'S THEATRE, GATESHEAD. Aug. 12, onwards.
Address, Sidney Bacon, Metropole T., Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

QUEEN'S THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, the Best Dramatic Attractions Touring.
Vacant Aug. 12, 19, onwards, with exceptions.
Liberal terms to good shows.
Share or certainty.
Managers Note.—The "Queen's" is the Largest, Best-appointed, and most Centrally Situated Drama Theatre in Liverpool.
Re-dates, address, Fred Granville, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
Sole Lessee, Julian Malvern.
WANTED, High-class Attractions, July 8, 22.
Address,
Chas. M. Julian, General-Manager.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Salford, First-Class Companies, for June 17, 24, July, and Aug. 5. Address, E. B. Goulden.

THEATRE ROYAL, DOVER.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for June 3, 3 nights, June 10 (?), 17, and 24, July 1, and on, with exceptions. Also First-class Concert Parties, for Pier Pavilion, Dover, for June 10 (?), and Aug. 5 (?), Bank Holiday. Apply, Mr. F. C. Dew, Theatre Royal, Dover.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions, for Victoria Theatre, Kettering, under new management, Aug. Bank Holiday and Christmas vacant. Write, Bailey, Manager.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, First-class Attractionts, Aug. 5, 12, 19, Sept. 2, Oct. 21, Dec. 2, 16, Feb. 10, March 16, 30, April 13, and onwards.
Address, T. Allan Edwardes.

WANTED, Good Companies for the THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.
Apply to A. E. Abrahams, Theatre Royal, Stratford.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLYTH.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, June 3, 10, July 1 and 15, only vacant dates.
Bookings include William Mollison in "Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush," "Florodora," "Christian," "Eternal City," "The Breed of the Treshams," "Claudian," "The New Barnaid," &c., &c.
Mr. H. Warden please communicate, or date will be cancelled.
Apply, A. C. Moody, Lessee.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions. Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec.
Wanted, a First-class Pantomime.
"Forty Thieves" preferred.
Apply, Owner and Manager, James Kiernan.

THEATRE ROYAL, RUGBY.
WANTED, Known, Autumn Bookings include "Country Girl," "Dairymaids," "Charley's Aunt," "Three Little Maids," "Blue Moon," &c. Vacant Aug. 26, Sept. 9, 16, 30, Oct. 14, 28, Nov. 18, 25. Silence courteous, negative pro tem. A. F. Cross, P.O.W., Nuneaton.

OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, July 15, 22, and 29.
Address,
Stanley Rogers, 124, Warwick-road, Carlisle.

COMPANIES WANTED.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

Lessees and Managers,
Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.

The Leading Theatre of the Town.
The Only Theatre in the Town Lighted by Electricity.
The Only Theatre in the Town allowed to Advertise on the Electric Cars.
The Theatre which does the Business.

Now in Course of Rebuilding.
The Seating Capacity of each part of the House is being Largely Increased.

The Holding Capacity of the Theatre will be Second to None in the Town.
The Stage will be Capable of any Production Touring, will be able to fly a 36ft. cloth.
The Theatre will Re-open Aug. 5.
The Theatre will Re-open Aug. 5.
Autumn Bookings include
"The Dairymaids,"
Mr. James Welch's Co., in
"When Knights Were Bold,"
Miss Annie Hughes, in
"Tommy,"
Mr. Norman Macowan, in
"Monsieur Beaucaire,"
"The Little Stranger"
(including Master Edward Garrett),
"A Trip to the Highlands,"
Mr. Bannister Howard's No. 1 Company,
"The Eternal City,"
and other of the Principal Attractions Touring.

WANTED, Exceptional Attractions, Aug. 12, 19, and Various, onwards.

Calvert Routledge, H. M. T., Barrow.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions, QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH, June 10, 17, 24, July 1, 8, 15.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

WANTED, Comedy or Operatic Companies, Touring Scotland, to Book Theatre Royal, Inverness, vacant dates Oct. onwards. Mr. Cameron Burgess, Manager.

VICTORIA THEATRE, BROUGHTON.
Manager and Licensee, J. Fred Watson.
WANTED, Strong Attractions, for June 3, Aug. 5, 12, and 19, Oct. 14, 28, Nov. 11, and Dec. 2.
Must be good, sound attractions, or useless.

WANTED, Best Attractions only, May 27 June 3, June 10, 11, and 13, 14, 15. Wire, Phillips, Colliseum, Aberystwyth.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity. Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, onwards, Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. Cotton.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE GIRL WHO TOOK THE WRONG TURNING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres, Aug. 12, Oct. 7.
Walter Melville, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE SOLDIER'S WEDDING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 9, 23. Apply,
Walter Melville, Standard Theatre, E.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 12, Sept. 30.
Walter Melville, Standard Theatre, E.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 5, 12, and Dec. 23, 30.
Frederick Melville, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 9, 23, Dec. 23.
Frederick Melville, Standard Theatre, E.

FRED MELVILLE'S NEW PRODUCTION.
WANTED, Oct. 28, and on.
Frederick Melville, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 2, 30, Nov. 25.
Tom H. Taylor, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 16, Oct. 28, Nov. 4, 11, and Xmas.
Tom H. Taylor, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Aug. 12, 19, Dec. 23, 30.
Douglas Bruce, Grand Theatre, Islington, N.

"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY."
The Most Successful Play Produced during the year 1906.
WANTED, Sept. 2 and 9, in First-Class Theatres only. Wire or write,
W. W. Kelly,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, Weeks of June 17 and July 1, Scala Production.
Wire or write,
W. W. Kelly,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
The performance of the play given at the Theatre Royal this week is without exception the best we have seen.—Brighton Society.
WANTED, Theatres, July 8, on. Charles Harrington, Theatre R., Chatham (return).

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, June 10, 24, July 1, 8, 15, 22.
Address, J. W. Cordiner,
May 13, Theatre Royal, Hanley.
See Companies' Advertisements, Page 2.

MISS MARY NEIL and MR. GEORGE KIRK'S "HER LUCK IN LONDON" CO.
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Big Theatres, July 29, Sept. 9, 16, Oct. 7.
Charles A. Leicester, this, T. R., Castleford; next, Royalty, Barrow.

FRANK J. PITT and CHARLES HALLING'S CO.
"£1,000 REWARD."
"£1,000 REWARD."
WANTED, for this Successful Attraction, Aug. 12, Sept. 23, 30, Oct. 7, 14, Nov. 25, Dec. 2, on.
Rotunda, Liverpool, May 13.

MR. HAMILTON STEWART'S COMPANIES.
"SHERLOCK HOLMES."
by arrangement with Charles Frohman.
Only few Autumn Dates vacant.
"BOOTLES' BABY."
by Hugh Moss.
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, June 24 (to follow Tyne, Newcastle), July 1, and on, with exceptions.
Walter J. Bayliss, Brixton Theatre, S.W.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, First-Class Theatres.
Fred Bulmer, c/o "The Era." Vacation add.

WANTED, for "Second to None," Walter Howard's greatest and latest success, good Theatre, Christmas week, only equitable terms for this Premier Show entertained. Twelve Contracts signed within two weeks, and five refused. Address, T. E. Ward, Prince's Theatre, Bradford.

FRED GRANVILLE'S TOURS.
"DEFENDING HIS HONOUR."
WANTED, for this Most Successful Play, Whit Week, also July 1, 15.
Address, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

"LIFE OF A SHOWMAN."
WANTED, Nov. 4, between Newcastle and Liverpool), only open date this year. Offers invited 1908. Sante, Theatre, Chorley.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Dates,
"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
the Most Attractive Romantic Play Touring.
Magnificent Production.
Strong Cast, including
Miss Lilian Herries as Countess Steinback,
Mr. George Steele as Count Otto Steinback,
Mr. Percy Ballard as Baron Cratziaw,
Supported by Strong Company.
Vacant
June 3, July 15, 22, 29.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
WANTED, Dates, for this Wonderful Play,
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
Mrs. Morton Powell as Helena Byas,
Mr. Stanton E. Sharp as Rev. Basil Gertis.
Mr. Edward Valentine as Sir Robt. Llewellyn.
Mr. W. J. Butler as Constantine Schaube,
and
Miss HILDA BEVERLEY
as
GERTRUDE HUNT.
Vacant
July 1, 15, 29, Aug. 5.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton

"HONOUR THY FATHER."
WANTED, Dates, June 17, 24, July 1, 15, 29.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton

"GREED OF GOLD."
WANTED, Dates, Sept. 2, 23, Oct. 14, 21.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.
WANTED, Responsible Actor and Assistant Stage-Manager, rehearse Torquay, May 14 Wire, Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN."
WANTED, July 1, Aug. 5 and 12, Sept. 9, and few later.
Continued Success.

"DIVORCED."
A New Powerful, Emotional, and Modern Domestic Drama. Can be played in conjunction, or booked separately. New Plant of Printing, Scenery, and Effects. May 13, Grand Theatre, Nottingham.

F. WYBERT CLIVE'S CO.
"THE BRANDED WOMAN."
One of the greatest successes on tour. Last week at St. Helens beat the Monday's returns every night except Wednesday. Refer Mr. Loader. Thanks to Managers for offer of June 3. Now settled at T. R., Sunderland. Everything carried. Printing unequalled, and one of the strongest companies on tour.
WANTED, June 17 and 24 (between Manchester and Portsmouth), July 15, 21 (to follow Woolwich), and Aug. 5 and 26. An Attraction that never fails. Apply Walter Steele, General-Manager, to-day, Muncaster T., Bootle; next, Queen's O. H., Workington.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
Continued Success. Third Year.
WANTED, May 27 (follow Birkenhead). Wire for May 27, May 27. Wire.
June 10, July 22.
Aug. 12, follow Alexandra, Birmingham.
Frank Ayrton,
Theatre Royal, Leigh (return).

WANTED, June 10 and Summer Dates on, for "The London Fireman," to follow Prince's, Bradford, or could arrange first-class Theatre for good-class Stock, June 10, on. Garside and Knowles, T. R., Leeds (R.).

E. H. KNIGHT and GEORGE DENHAM'S CO.
"THE GRIP OF IRON."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 5, 12, Oct. 21, Nov. 25, and New Year's Week.
George Denham,
this, Royal, Hyde; next, Royal, Bilston.

"THE MASTER CRIMINAL."
WANTED, good Theatres, June 3 and 10.
Henry L. Osmond,
This, Blyth; next, T. R., South Shields.

"HIS SISTER'S HONOUR."
WANTED, Big Theatres, May 23 (3), June 10 (?), July 8.
Practically everything carried, and every sheet of printing new and specially cut.
Another Success scored at the Metropole, Glasgow, this week, and acknowledged one of the Best Played, Staged, and Dressed Dramas now Touring.
Refer Arthur Jefferson, Esq.
Wire, E. A'Dell, to-day, Met., Glasgow; next, O. H., St. Helens.

SHINTON AND GREENWOOD'S TOUR.
"THE PRICE OF HER SOUL."
WANTED, June 3, 10, owing to extension of Tour, between Grand, Newcastle, and Rotunda, Liverpool; also Aug. 12, 19, Sept. 2, fifth year of Tour. John B. Shinton, Theatre Royal, Bury.

"WHEN A MAN HATES."
"WHEN A MAN HATES."
WANTED, June 10, 17, July 1, 8, Sept. 9, onwards, now in third year of successful tour. Wire for June to W. Graham Arthurs, T. R., Seaham Harbour.

WANTED, Whit Week, for "The Corsican Brothers." Wire, George T. Metcalfe, to-day, Paisley; Monday, Wakefield.

A. CAMPBELL KELLY'S
"TRAIL OF THE SERPENT."
WANTED, May 20, to follow Lancaster. May 27, June 10, and onwards, with exceptions. Wire (to-day), Empire, Dundee; next, Athenæum, Lancaster.

"AN ABANDONED WOMAN."
WANTED, Good Theatres, May 27, June 17, and July.
There is no finer production Touring.
To-day, Harry Foxwell, Court Theatre, Wigan
May 13. Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.

"A BROKEN HEART."
"A BROKEN HEART."
WANTED, Big Theatres only, June 10, Aug. 5, and 26.
A clear stage only required.
To-day, Harry Foxwell, Court Theatre, Wigan.
May 13. Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.

"WHEN WE WERE TWENTY-ONE."
Miss DOROTHEY CACEY'S CO., including
Mr. RIDDELL ROBINSON.
WANTED, June 10, between Brixton and the New Theatre, Cardiff, also June 24.
Address, Frank Nelson, Royal County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames.

"NO WEDDING BELLS FOR HER."
WANTED, good Theatres, Sept. 2, 9, and 30, Nov. 4 and 11, also a few next Spring.
Stuart Lomath, T. R., Glossop.

WANTED, for "Her Lost Self," by Nita Rae; "The Biggest Scamp on Earth," by F. A. Scudamore; June 24, Aug. 5, Xmas. Frances Delaval, Queen's Theatre, Gateshead

"SAPHO."
"SAPHO."
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, Wanted. First-Class Theatres,
June 10, 17, 24.
June 10, 17, 24.
Miss Annie Bell as Fanny Le Grande.
Miss Annie Bell as Fanny Le Grande.
Wire, James Bell, T. R., Darlington.

"A BEAUTIFUL FIEND."
Always successful.
Miss Sydney Crowe in Title-rôle.
WANTED, June 10, 17, July 1, 8, 22, 29, Oct. 28, Nov. 11. Montague Braudyn, this, Prince's, Blackburn; next, T. R., Rugby.

MESSRS. ARMADALE AND WARREN'S CO.
"THE FACE AT THE WINDOW."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 7, 14, 21, 28, Nov. 4 (North), Dec. 23, 30, onward, for the above Attraction.
Address, F. Brooke Warren, 110, Woodvale, Dulwich, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Messrs. Elliman's Enterprises, "A Heart's Desire," unexpectedly vacant May 20. Wire for May 20. G. M. Hurst, T. L., West Bromwich.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, June 3 (to follow Birmingham), June 24 (follow Nottingham), and various onward dates, including Aug. 5.
(Copy.)
Theatre Royal, Cardiff, April 20, 1907.
Miss Lole Esmond.
Dear Madam,—I am very pleased with the performance of "The Sorrows of Satan." It is capitally played, and the receipts have gone up each night. Wishing you every success,
Yours faithfully,
R. REDFORD.
Excellent business right through at Blackpool last week. The receipts increased every night. Equally satisfactory this week at Hanley. Special performance every Friday of the Great Parisian Play "NANA."
LOIE ESMOND, Theatre Royal, Hanley.
May 13, Prince of Wales's Theatre, Salford.

MR. THOMAS SIDNEY'S COMPANY, in "THE MARRIAGE OF KITTY."
The Principal Parts are in the capable hands of Miss MARY THORNE as Kitty.
Miss KATHLEEN RUSSELL as Mme. de Semiano.
Mr. EDGAR KENT as Sir Reginald Belsize.
Mr. THOMAS SIDNEY as Travers.
WANTED, Theatres.—Mr. Sidney is desirous of filling May 20, June 10 and 17.
All July and August are Booked.
Address, 16, Long Acre, W.C.
Will Harry H. Hiller communicate?

LINGFORD CARSON'S REPERTOIRE CO.
"A MODERN ADVENTURESS,"
"THE HEART OF A HERO,"
"THE TICKET-OF-LEAVE MAN,"
'THE OCTOROON,"
and "THE SHAUGHRAUN."
Everything carried. Finest and largest plant pictorials ever used. The most perfect Dramatic Combination touring. Business enormous. Refer.
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 23, 30, Oct. 7, 14, 28, Nov. 11, 25, onwards. Address, CHARLES DRAYCOTT, Court Theatre, Wigan.

FRANK M. THORNE'S CO'S.
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
WANTED, June 10.
Summer Production of "The Octoroon."
Wanted, June 10.
F. M. T., Theatre Royal, Stockport.

Mr. and Mrs. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO'S.
"A SISTER'S SIN."
WANTED, May 27, for this Romantic Play; splendidly mounted and dressed, grand pictorials.
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS,"
Vacant June 10, through extending tour of this Successful Play. New uniforms and effects. Band of Drums, Fifes, and Bugles for Parade.
"A SOLDIER'S HONOUR."
Vacant Aug. 5, through transferring, for this Military Drama, the Success of the Year.
F. G. KIMBERLEY, Vauxhall, The Scotlands, Wolverhampton.

MR. WILLIAM A. ARMOUR'S COMPANY.
"THE BEST OF HER SEX."
Production at Colosseum Theatre, Oldham, May 13. Managers cordially invited. First-class Company of recognised Artists, including Miss Dora Price, Miss Alice Defoe, Miss Nell Ingram, Miss Lillain Rose, Messrs. Edward M. Hamilton, Charles Conway, Reginald Payne, Fred Rignold, Horace Buckley, H. De Ville, Herbert J. Walton, Tom Richardson, &c. May 13, Colosseum Theatre, Oldham; May 20, Grand Theatre, Doncaster; May 27, Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton; June 3, Vacant; June 10, Theatre Royal, North Shields; June 17, Palace Theatre, Newcastle.
WANTED, Theatres, June 24, and onward, with exceptions. Wire for June 3.
WILLIAM A. ARMOUR,
To-day and next week, Colosseum T. Oldham.

WANTED, First-Class Theatres, having large Stage and large Holding Capacity, for Christmas Production (two or three weeks) of JAMES KIDDIE'S JAMES KIDDIE'S JAMES KIDDIE'S PANTOMIMES. PANTOMIMES. PANTOMIMES. PANTOMIMES.
Can play two houses nightly if required.
Managers in want of a Money Magnet for Christmas and New Year's weeks secure the above.
A Sure Success.
Address,
JAMES KIDDIE, Alexandra Theatre, Widnes.

Pantomime.
WANTED, Theatre, Christmas, for First-Class Production. Address, G. BRYDON-PHILLIPS, Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, Strand.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, June 3, to follow Seacombe (return), fifty-fourth week of continuous tour.
DICKIE CLARE, Victoria Theatre, Broughton (return).

WANTED, Whit Week, Theatre, Hall, or Pier; Rental or Sharing; Animated Pictures and Refined Variety Show.
Address, Box 4,819, "The Era."

Enormous success.
THE FAMOUS JAMAICA CHOIR,
all escaped from the recent terrible earthquake. London, Lincoln (return visits), Blackpool (three dates, return visits), Middlesbrough, Ryde, Herne Bay, Folkestone, Bury St. Edmunds, Dover, Ramsgate, Rhyl, Liverpool, &c.
A Great Novelty. A Charming Entertainment.
WANTED, May 27, and onwards, with exceptions. Twelve performers. Can give whole entertainment. Three changes of costume.
Splendid lithos.
Sunday Concerts if desired.
At Southport 2,200 persons were present at the Final Performance, and over 1,000 Refused Admission.
Such a house and such enthusiasm seldom, if ever, witnessed in Southport.
This week, Palace Theatre, Rhyl; next, Central Hall, Lincoln (return visit).
Apply for booklet, terms, &c., Managers, Messrs. H. E. JONES and A. DOUGLASS, 21, Water-street, Liverpool.
Telephones 5650 and 2449 Central.
Wires, "Motherland, Liverpool."

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for Autumn Tours of Musical Comedy Principal Artists in all Lines, also for Australia, commencing early next year, long tour, absolutely First-class Musical Comedy Artists, Prima Donna, Soubrette, Comedian, Principal Baritone. Apply by letter, C. ST. JOHN DENTON, 34, Maiden-lane, Strand.

WANTED, for Musical Comedy and Light Opera, Town and Tour, Principal Artists in all Lines; also Chorus Ladies and Gentlemen; the latter must be young, of good appearance, and good voices. Send particulars at once to KELSON TRUEMAN, Regent House, 233a, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, good responsible Ladies and Gentlemen, capable of lines, Stock, open in "Unknown," Monday. Wire lowest terms. NEVILLE, 5, Ward-street, Burslem.

W. H. HALLATT and WALTER HOWARD'S CO.
"HER LOVE AGAINST THE WORLD."
WANTED, for Autumn Tour, an absolutely First-Class Recognised Leading Actress, to play Princess Iris. Address particulars, including age, height, reference, photos., &c. (interviews only by appointment), to WALTER HOWARD, 12, Bishop's-mansions, Fulham, S.W.

"ASSASSIN" AUTUMN TOUR.
WANTED, Gentleman, tall, of military appearance, to play Chief of Police and to Stage-Manage; everything found. Tour runs to Easter. AUGUSTINE KNIGHT, Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Summer Tour, rehearse T. R., Cardiff, Whit, tall young Juvenile Gent., capable power and pathos. Absolute lowest terms and full particulars, photos. (essential), CHARLES DRAYCOTT, Court Theatre, Wigan.

"A WRECKER OF MEN."
WANTED, Responsible Man, for Juvenile Heavy Part; rehearse Darlington, Wed. next; Special Week, May 20. Age, height, photo., &c., THOMPSON CARRUTHERS, T. R., Darlington.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Gentleman to play Small Parts, must be tall.
NORMAN V. NORMAN, Theatre Royal, Bournemouth.

"THE PRICE OF HER SOUL."
WANTED, Low Comedian for Pat Murphy, and Light Comedian for Algie Fraser. Summer terms and full particulars with photos. and last three references. JOHN B. SHINTON, T. R., Bury.

WANTED, Competent Young Gentleman and Lady, for Sketch (important parts), one week, May 20. Miss MADELLE, 140, Acre-lane, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, at once, Gentleman, small part Sketch; also Baggage Man, small parts. BELL, Cambridge Music Hall, London, E.

WANTED, for Long Tour, Young Lady, with exceptionally good voice, and able to play piano well; must have really good appearance on and off; preference given to one used to Musical Comedy, although beginner may write; good appearance and refinement essential. Send age, height, and full particulars and terms to Box 4,793, "The Era."

WANTED, several experienced Ladies and Gentlemen to give services, Production Dramatic Sketch, London Hall, next Friday; certain and long engagement. Letters only. SWINDON, 10, Harper-street, S.E.

WANTED, Beginners, Small Parts, sixteen weeks' tour; experience unnecessary; no premium; fares paid; progressive salaries. Box 4,816, "The Era."

WANTED, Refined Lady, two Gentlemen, Manager, for three new Sketches. Letters, EDWIN DREW, care of "The Era."

WANTED, First-Class Tenor, Baritone, Mezzo, Contralto, and Soubrette, for twenty weeks' Engagement, opening Whitsun. Apply, Box 4,804, "The Era."

WANTED, Sopranos, Tenors, Lady Pianist (Singer); long engagement; Al-Fresco. Apply between 2 and 4, LESLIE'S Agency, 6, Loughboro' Park.

WANTED, Baritone (opera), two Soprano, one Tenor. Choralists (Jeff Arthur write), must know "Faust." Lowest Summer Terms; commence May 18. SMITH, Palace, Rhyl.

WANTED, Gentleman Humorist at the Piano, or Brilliant Soloist and Accompanist, Engagement from June 24 until Aug. 17. Letters only to TOM J. MORTON, Empire, New Cross.

WANTED, Refined Humorists, Specialities, Contraltos, Baritones, &c., June 2 and 9, 7 days each. Lowest first letter, BENSON, Pier, Bognor.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Juv. Lead, Ingénue. Young Actress will accept nominal salary for immediate re-engagement in recognised Co.; excellent wardrobe. Box 4,812, "The Era."

MISS GEORGINA FISCHER,
Soprano,
Bronze Medallist L.A.M.
WANTED, Known, offers invited for Summer work. 10, Manor-rd., Richmond, Surrey.

WANTED, by young Character-Actor, Shop for Summer for new experience, or would partner for Music Hall Sketch. Replies to PROGRESS, 142, Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, by Tenor (large rép.), Summer Engagement, and Pianist, Silfleuse, and Vocalist (lady), joint, separate. ROBERT CRANNY, c/o Reuter's, London.

WANTED, Known, experienced Contralto (good range) requires Summer Engagement with Concert Party (Costume or otherwise), Seaside; can accompany. Press notices and refs. Commence Whitsuntide. M. NELSON, 17, Melton-road, West Bridgford, Notts.

WANTED, Engagements, Lady Vocalist, Mandoline, Guitar; also Spanish Gipsy Troupe. Box 4,758, "The Era."

WANTED, weeks June 3 and 10, at Pier or good Al Fresco, to follow Pier, Bognor, by Cuthbert Rose, Society Humorist, Mimic, and Monologuist, Versatility, Refinement, Experience; highest-class Répertoire; Serious Recitals for Sunday Concerts. Address, Albert Hall, Derby.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Pantomime Chorus and Show Ladies. Send photograph, age, height, and other measurements, lowest salary. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, Artists Disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas to send photos., terms, and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Scenery Contracts, Productions. Our Paint Frames, 40 by 24; Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. FRED WILKINS and BRO, LTD., 54, Whitechapel, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, CARLISLE.
WANTED, Known, Scenery Made, Painted, and Repaired. First-class Scenic Artist. Magnificent paint-frame; spacious carpenter's shop
Estimates free on application to THOS. COURTICE, H. M. T., Carlisle.

WANTED, Known, the Best and Cheapest Firm for Scenery and Properties is FIELD and HART, 9, Beardell-street, Upper Norwood, S.E. Write for Price List.

WANTED, Known, for Bright, Effective, Cheap Scenery, for Drama or Sketch. ROBERTS and Co., Blucher-st., Liverpool-st., Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, Effective and Artistic Work and good Joinery. Prices moderate. Large Studio and Workshop. CHARLES SAYER, Scenic Artist, 2, Clarendon-road, Croydon.

WANTED, Situation on the South Coast by Scenic Artist; combine Stage-Management; good references; low terms for permanency. Box 4,798, "The Era."

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, for the Theatre Royal, Jarrow, a Smart Young Gentleman as Acting-Manager; must have practical experience, and be Expert Typist and Shorthand Writer. The strictest sobriety indispensable. Apply, with copies of recent references and absolute lowest terms, to HUGH ROBERTSON, T. R., Jarrow.

WANTED, Young Gentleman, to learn duties of Acting-Management and Secretary; small premium; salary to commence. Address, BENNETT, 31, Platt-street, Moss Side, Manchester.

WANTED, Carpenter, capable of small parts. Age, height, references, &c., to W. GRAHAM ARTHURS, T. R., Seaham Harbour.

ANDREWS' ANIMATED PICTURE CO.
WANTED, for the above, First-Class Windowbiller, to make himself useful; open Monday. Lowest terms, refs., and full particulars first letter, ANDREWS, 8, King-gardens, Plymouth.

WANTED, steady, reliable Young Man, as Billposter. Apply, stating references and experience, SHEFFIELD BILLPOSTING COMPANY, Sheffield.

WANTED, at Once, Handy Youth, as Biller and Billposter; abstainer preferred; permanency. Apply, WORSWICK, Hippodrome, Wigan.

WANTED, for Season, Machinist, Embroider names on Handkerchiefs.
Address, FOWLER, The Tower, Great Yarmouth.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Cinématography.
WANTED, Dark-room Assistant, for printing and developing; also a man of experience and resource, for taking pictures, and a young man as improver. Good salaries and prospects. Write (in confidence), ROBT. W. PAUL, Animatograph and Film Works, New Southgate, London, N.

WANTED, Smart Young Ladies, at Once, for Light and Interesting Occupation. Good wages to the right persons. State age and height. Write, Box 287, Willings, 125 Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Known, W. C. Burns, vacant, twenty years' practical experience (management), any class concern, road, rail, or resident; expert advertiser and Pressman; well versed in two houses nightly, bars, and accountancy; life abstainer; highest refs. Cash guarantee for suitable situation. 15, Charlotte-street, South Shields.

WANTED, by an experienced Business-Manager, Re-engagement, thirty years' practical experience in all lines; security to any amount, with highest references. Z., 153, Lower Kennington-lane, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, Acting-Manager (resident or four), or Advance, six years Assistant-Manager Theatre Royal and Circus of Varieties, Bury. Highest reference. WALTER MOULD, Theatre, Bury.

WANTED, an Engagement as Manager, Provincial or London Music Hall or Theatre; sober and reliable; good references and appearance; well up in the twice a night business, understand refreshment bars and capable of booking if required. Address, Box 4,818, "The Era."

WANTED, Re-engagement as Manager or Advance Agent; long experience; excellent references. Summer Terms. Address, WENTWORTH, 9, Auckland-road, Kingston, Surrey.

WANTED, Engagement by S. C. Bonner, Advance Agent, Disengaged May 18.
62, Pear Tree-road, Derby.

WANTED, by Electrician, thoroughly experienced, charge in First-class Theatre, having held similar positions, &c., used to stage effects to any design, capable of installing entire installations for light and power. Box 4,814, "The Era."

WANTED, by Young Man, position in Theatre or First-class Dramatic Company, any capacity; knowledge of the business. Prem. given. Box 4,810, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, a capable Wardrobe Mistress; take Productions right through. Letters only. HORNER, 43, Rigault-road, Fulham.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Leaders, 'Cellists, and Contra Bass Players, for White Star and Cunard Services. Musical Duties Only.
State age, references, to Mr. C. W. BLACK, 19, Castle-street, Liverpool.

PIER PAVILION, SOUTHPORT.
WANTED, immediately, to open May 20, Conductor (Pianist). Terms and references to SAM L. BURY, 14, Panton-street, Haymarket, London, S.W.

COUNTY ASYLUM, MELTON, SUFFOLK.
WANTED, an Attendant, must be a good Violin-player; wages to commence at £32, with board, lodging, washing, and uniform. At the end of one year's service, £2 increase; afterwards rising £1 annually up to £42. Further increase according to ability as an Attendant. Applications to the MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT.

WANTED, immediately, Lady Violinists and 'Cellists; good players, no amateurs; principally for London engagements. Write D 216, Shelley's, Gracechurch-street, E.C.

WANTED, First Violin (Leader) and Flute Piccolo, for Exhibition, Ladies' Orchestra. State terms, permanency,
MANAGER, 80, Coleman-street, London.

WANTED, good Lady Violinist (Leader), long season able to sing preferred (not essential). Write, S. GEORGE, 27, Dynevor-road, Stoke Newington, N.

WANTED, for July, First Violin, Clarionet, French Horn, Oboe, Euphonium, Drums and Effects. FORD, Band Offices, Ilfracombe.

WANTED, good First Violin, combine Piano. FORD,
Band Offices, Ilfracombe.

WANTED, for Bosco's Circus, Tenting Ireland, Violin, Piccolo, Trombone, String Bass, Drums, Strings, Double, for parade, commence May 20. Apply, A. E. FINCH, 12, King-street, Rugby.

VENTOM SWIFT'S AGENCY,
Alhambra, Edinburgh.
WANTED, for Town Band in Canada, extra good Solo B Clarionet, also Solo Cornet; excellent opportunity; mechanics preferred; employment found, second-class passage paid.

WANTED, for Police Band, in Midlands, a Solo B Flat Clarionet Player,
height 5ft. 9in., age not over 28 years.
Apply,
Box 4,806, "The Era."

WANTED, ten weeks, seaside, Military Band, from July 8, First-Class Solo Cornet, Solo Euphonium, Bassoon, Bass Trombone, and First B Flat Clarionet; all must be good players, well experienced in best military journals, and consent to be tested. Apply with references to BANDMASTER, Box 4,794, "The Era."

WANTED, Whit Monday, Cornet, First-Class, twice nightly, 30s. weekly, permanency. References, also age, to MITCHELL, Conductor, Oxford Palace, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, Solo Cornet, for Pitching in West End London, terms shares. Amateurs save stamps. B. M., 69, Carlisle-street, Edgware-road, London.

WANTED, for Promenade Military Band, good First Clarionets, for two hours each evening, from May 18 till July 13, July 15 till Sept. 28; 4 hours each day. Lowest terms, J. H. ROWE, Bandmaster, Durban House, Queen's-road, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, experienced Double Bass (Lady), for First-Class Café; young, good appearance; permanency for suitable player. Write, Box 4,815, "The Era."

WANTED, to Open immediately, First-class Trombone and Cornet; must be thorough good Musicians, or no use; those used to Picture Shows preferred; permanent engagement if suitable. Lowest terms and full particulars to Box 4,817, "Era" Office.

WANTED, for Reading Professional Town Band, good Bombardon and Cornet; steady and reliable. Terms, shares. SEC., 12, Katesgrove-lane, Reading.

WANTED, Second French Horn, Third Clarionet, Trombone, String Bass, or E Flat Clarionet, Season, from May 30. ALEX. CORRISON, Conductor, Penzance Military Band.

WANTED, Good 'Cellist, for three months' Engagement in Manchester, hours 4 till 8, Saturdays 10.30 p.m. Lowest terms, references, to MAYOR, 73, Carlton-street, Moss Side, Manchester.

WANTED, Viola, to open May 13; and 'Cello, to open May 20.
Apply, MANAGER, King's Theatre, Manchester.

WANTED, good Viola, permanent Engagement to suitable performer. Apply, with references and lowest terms, WARWICK MOORE, Grand Theatre, Southampton.

WANTED, Oboe, ex-Army, R.E. Training, July 1, Aug. 24; enlist; discharge purchased if desired. BANDMASTER, Castle, Monmouth.

WANTED, First-Class Harpist (professional), to join Violinist (Soloist), Al Fresco, able to play from Piano or Second Violin parts; strictly sober and gentlemanly, commence Whitsun; age, experience, all particulars, to Box 4,798, "The Era."

WANTED, Flute, to join Harpist and Violinist, for Ireland; Hotel or Pleasure Boat. Terms, shares. Open May 18. STEWART, 2, Howden-terrace, Leeds.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Pianist, for Al Fresco, rehearse Monday, commence Whitsun; also Artists all Lines. Lowest terms. WILLIE HOES, Rock House, Portobello, N.B.

WANTED, at Once, Pianist, able to play Portable Harmonium, week, towns. Wire or write, summer terms, SILVESTER, Theatre, Portadown, Ireland.

WANTED, Good Pianist (male or female), used to Al-fresco Work; steady, good appearance, sing, or play another instrument preferred. H. LEVAINE, The Lawn, Withernsea.

WANTED, Pianist to accompany Violin, for Summer Work (piano found), Vocalist and Cornet write. Terms shares. Address, VIOLINIST, 133, Curzon-street, Leicester.

WANTED, Pianist-Vocalist, for Select Smoke-room; read and vamp.; live in; good terms. HURLSTON, Sloop Inn, Waterside North, Lincoln.

WANTED, Drums, with Effects, for Pavilion, Ramsgate, season from May 19 to Oct. 5. MICHAEL CONNELLY, Musical-Director, Pavilion, Ramsgate.

WANTED, Drummer, with full Effects, for Queen's Theatre, Castleford, open Monday. Full particulars, salary, &c., to BEANLAND and EMERSON.

LONDON COUNTY ASYLUM,
LONG GROVE, EPSOM, SURREY.
WANTED, Male Attendants, for this New Asylum, which will shortly be Opened. Wages, £29 a year for first six months, then, if satisfactory, rising to £31, and subsequently, by £1 annually, to £40 a year, with board, lodging, washing, and uniform. Either of the following will be regarded as qualifications:
1. Previous Asylum experience.
2. Ability to play some musical instrument.
Daily leave (subject to convenience of service), 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.; weekly leave, 1½ days; annual leave, first 15 months (after 9 months' service), 6 days; the following 12 months, 12 days; each successive 12 months, 14 days. Candidates must not be more than 35 years of age.
Applications, stating age, height, experience, and previous occupation, should be sent to the MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT, Long Grove Asylum, Epsom, Surrey.

WANTED, Musicians, to join 3rd Battalion The Buffs (East Kent Militia). Extra Band Pay is given to good men during Annual Training. Recruits must be under 35 years of age (ex-Army men under 45 years of age).
For information, apply to
THE ADJUTANT,
3rd Battalion The Buffs, Canterbury, Kent.

WANTED, Band and Entertainers, for Garden Parties, At Homes, &c., select and up-to-date programmes. Terms, &c., to
B. W.,
19, Shrub End-road, Colchester.

WINTER GARDENS, SOUTHPORT.
WANTED, Full Orchestra, for Ball-room (May 17) and Variety Theatre, June 3 (permanent). Lowest terms and two recent references, Mr. T. ALFRED-WEATHMALL, 24, Buckingham-road, Liverpool. Silence polite negative.

WANTED, good Family Band. State number, lowest terms.
ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, for the Summer Season, a Small Orchestra, Ladies or a Family.
Apply, F. C. DEW,
Pier Pavilion, Dover.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

FROM A MUSICIAN:—
To the Manager of "The Era" Advert. Dept.,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.
"Re Advertisement
"'WANTED, ENGAGEMENT BY CORNET.'
"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, "A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

FROM A BANDMASTER:—
"Re Advertisement, 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.'
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies, and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster,
"Littlehampton."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, First-class Engagement, either as Musical Director or Solo Pianist and Accompanist; excellent library. CONDUCTOR, The Carlton, Llandudno.

WANTED, Engagement, as Leader or First Violin, experienced, any Business. Apply, CHAS. BACON, Theatre Royal, Shrewsbury.

WANTED, Engagement by Conductor (Violin), thoroughly experienced, steady, excellent references; press notices; good library. MORRIS, care of 55, Portland-place, Carlisle.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by experienced Conductor, Violinist; extensive library; can supply First-class Orchestra; long-established. CONDUCTOR, 514, Kingsland-road, N.

WANTED, Engagement, Musical-Director, Violinist, Palace, Bath; also wife, Piano; above finishing season; any business. J. ANDREWS, 21, New King-street, Bath.

WANTED, Re-engagement as Musical Director, Leader, or First Violin, through closing; experienced, any business. BALL, Conductor, Opera House, Northampton.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Leader and 'Cello; together or separate. Grand Theatre, Croydon.

WANTED, Re-engagement, Conductor (Violin), experienced and reliable; library. WELDON, 7, Medway-street, Chatham.

WANTED, Joint Engagement, Soprano and Pianist, Gentleman Solo Violinist and Cornettist; experienced and reliable. WILSON, 141, Fawcett-road, Southsea.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Violinist, Leader or Otherwise, Variety. Dramatic, or Seaside. Terms moderate. MCKENZIE, 12, Herbert-road, Stockwell,, London.

WANTED, Engagement, as Second Violin, combine Viola, any class of work; young and reliable; good refs. VIOLINIST, c/o General Post Office, York.

WANTED, by Violinist, young, good répititeur. Summer Engagement at Seaside.
Address, Box 4,820, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by experienced Violinist, reliable, good references. J. H. DIXON, A.C.V., 218, Every-street, Nelson, Lancashire.

WANTED, by Ocean Bandsman, First Violin (Selection and Dance), accept First or Second, sea or shore. HIGHFIELD, Presburg-road, Malden.

WANTED, Seaside Engagement, by First Violin and Pianist, Ladies, Single or Combined; good sound orchestral players. SCHRODER, 128, Ravensbury-road, Earlsfield.

WANTED, Known, Lady Violinist (Solo and Orchestral), Good Leader; every experience; Disengaged July and August. Box 4,809, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, good Second Cornet, Orchestra or Military. H. ANGEL, 47, Stopford-road, Upton Manor, London, E.

WANTED, Engagement by experienced Orchestral Cornet Player. First or Second; highest refers. CORNETTIST, 47, East-street-buildings, Baker-street, W.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Miss Lilian Smith, Cornet and Vocalist, Disengaged, also Double Bass (Lady). 36, Leighton-rd., Kentish Town, N.W.

WANTED, Engagement as First Cornet, can commence at once, fifteen months last situation, Variety or Dramatic. PILLING, 14, Crewe-st., Chester.

WANTED, Engagement, by Solo Cornet; thoroughly experienced, any Business; excellent references; at Liberty May 11, 1907. W. NORTON, 8, Barrock-street, Carlisle.

WANTED, Known, Experienced Cornet, at Liberty for Summer Engagement, Military or String. HUTCHBY, Grand Theatre, Croydon.

WANTED, Engagement, by Reliable Cornet Player, can join immediately. Address, C. BURROWS, 7, Stone-street, Hastings.

WANTED, by Clarionet, experienced any business; Seaside or deputy preferred, at Liberty Whit. Address, CLARIONET, 4, Marshall-buildings, Webber-street, S.E.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, First-Class Clarionet, Orchestra or Military Band, five years present shop. G. HARRISON, Theatre Royal, Belfast.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Clarionet; any Business; late of Moody-Manners "A" Opera Co. GEO. E. GODDARD, 1, Chapel-street, Oadby, Leicester.

WANTED, by Bassoon, Engagement, experienced; excellent refs.; season or permanency. F. HIRE, 2, Royal-parade, Hunstanton, Norfolk.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Bass, Orchestra and Hotel; experience, late of Taj Mahal Orchestra, Bombay. Apply, L. CROSS, 2, Porthall-avenue, Brighton.

WANTED, by Bassoonist, Summer Engagement or permanent; good experience, &c. Write, BASSOON, 50, Merrion-street, Briggate, Leeds.

WANTED, Engagement by Contra Bass, Disengaged May 11; four strings, any business, experienced. 20, Huntsmoor-road, Wandsworth.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Bass; long experience, highest reference; at Liberty May 27. BASSO, Theatre Royal Orchestra, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Permanent Engagement for Trombone, ex Band-Sergeant, any business; good references. 47, Westgate-road, South Norwood, Surrey.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-Class Trombone, any business, five years' refs. Address, TROMBONE, 7, Team Valley-terrace, Gateshead-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Engagement, by Trombonist, thoroughly experienced. CHAS. TAYLOR, Palace Theatre; or 3, St. John's-place, Bath.

WANTED, by French Horn, Engagement, any Business; excellent refs. E. E. WATERMAN, Lennox-road, Worthing.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice, for Little Girl, on 'Cello; also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. CASSELLE, 35, Granville-square, King's Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, good Summer Engagement, as Second 'Cello in Ladies' Orchestra, Seaside preferred; experienced. Apply Box 4,801, "The Era."

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by Viola Player, any Business; excellent references. W. H. WHITE, 10, Paget-road.

WANTED, Engagement, by Young Lady Viola or Violin. E. STEVENS, 40, Hilldrop-road, Camden-road, London, N.

WANTED, Engagement as Oboe, just concluding 3½ years' West Pier, Brighton; high refs. Address, OBOE, Orchestra, West Pier, Brighton.

WANTED, Engagement as Oboeist; excellent references from Theatres; willing to Deputise. F. WARD, 178, Northbrook-rd., Bowes Park, N.

WANTED, Engagement, Oboe, First-class references.
OBOE, 41, Margravine-gardens, West Kensington.

WANTED, by Maud Estlin Grundy, Harpist, Brilliant Soloist. Summer Engagements; always re-engaged. 58, Antrim-mansions, S. Hampstead, London.

WANTED, Engagement by Young Lady Harpist, Hotel or Tea Rooms, Orchestra in London. Apply, J. FIELD, 39, Camberwell-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, good Seaside Summer Engagement, by experienced Flute and Piccolo, Orchestral or Military; good refs. FLAUTIST, 93, Flaxman road, Camberwell.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo, Engagement at once, eight years' First-class Army band; string and military; good ref. Terms low. BUSBY, 54, Cambridge-street, Leicester.

WANTED, Engagement, Seaside if possible, by experienced Accompanist, July 1 to 14. JAMES WILSON, 145, Stapleton Hall-road, Stroud Green.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, for Piano, Violin, and 'Cello; highest-class music and references; can provide Band. J. REILLIE, Croydon.

WANTED, Known, Pianist, Lib.; experienced Var., Dra., Al Fresco, Reader, &c., or as Conductor; good refs. GEO. HINCHCLIFFE, 68, Springvale, Middleton, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement by Young Lady, A.T.C.L., Solo Pianist, good accompanist, sight reader, sings. E., 11, Willoughby Park-road, Park, London, N.

WANTED, Engagement, by Young Lady, thoroughly accomplished Pianist and Accompanist, for Whit Week. T. B., Post Office, New Brighton, Cheshire.

WANTED, Engagement, week or fortnight, by experienced Pianist, Dramatic or Variety; good reader and accompanist; would deputise. FISHER, Priory-place, Doncaster.

WANTED, Engagement by Lady Pianist, thoroughly experienced in Dramatic, Variety, and Orchestral; good offers only. SILVESTER, 46, Langney-road, Eastbourne.

WANTED, by Pianist, Engagement, Orchestral or otherwise; experienced; good sight reader and accompanist; Orchestra preferred. STONE, 42, St. James'-street, Brighton.

WANTED, good Engagement, as Drummer, with Effects, for Theatre, Varieties, Seaside, or good Town Band, can combine Second Cornet, two seasons Skegness, two seasons St. Anne's-on-Sea, also Withernsea, just concluding twelve months Torquay; first-class refs.; can join immediately. Wire, JELFS, 44, Woodlands-road, Walthamstow.

WANTED, by Double Drummer, Engagement, or Deputy, Theatre or Music Hall; at Liberty now. DRUMS, 38, Marlborough-road, Chelsea, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement by experienced Double Drummer, Summer, or Variety business; reliable, good references. DRUMS, 177, Balls Pond-rd., Islington, London, N.

WANTED, Engagement, as Drummer with Tymp. and Glockenspiel. Orchestra or Military. W. J. BROWNRIGG, Grand Theatre, Croydon.

WANTED, Known, Madame H. E. Angless's Ladies' Pompadour Orchestra, just concluded Exhibition, Kingston-on-Thames; re-engaged. Next week, Royal Agricultural Hall, London; Westcliff-on-Sea to follow. Address, 78, Norwood-road, Herne Hill, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Shikissimma Band, Ladies' Japanese Orchestra, Disengaged for the season, three to twenty performers, all Soloists, magnificent costume or white dress, Piers, Hotels, Kursaals. CONDUCTRESS, Glenthorpe, Chesterfield-road, Newbury.

WANTED, Engagements for Scarlet Domino Ladies' Band, Ladies' Salon Quartette and Florentine Quartet, at home or abroad. Apply, BUREAU, 8, Bedford-terrace, Kensington.

LONDON BOHEMIAN ORCHESTRA.
WANTED, Known, this celebrated Orchestra at Liberty Whitsun, any business, thoroughly experienced in Theatre and Variety, seven to twelve Solo Instrumentalists; splendid Répertoire; over 1,000 pieces. For terms apply, WILHELM RUSSELL, Conductor, Grand Theatre, Mansfield.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagements, for Orchestra, any number, smart uniform, up-to-date répertoire; highest references. LOUIS METZ, 62, Wellington-road, Charlton, S.E.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty in June, Instrumental Quartette, with an Up-to-date Répertoire of Music and Solos, for Hotel, &c.; seaside preferred, but inland offers invited. Box 4,707, "The Era."

WANTED, by the Imperial Trio (Violin, 'Cello, Piano), Engagement, July and August; Hotel or Hydro. Address, ANGEL, Cary Lodge, Torquay.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for Skegness Pier, Novel Diving Turn, to give Swimming and Diving exhibitions from the end of the Pier; none but steady men need apply, stating where last employed. If Billy Thomason sees this will he write at once? A. A. CASH, Manager, Pier, Skegness.

WANTED, a Young Man, that can Tumble a little, as Improver, for Comedy Act; one that has been used to top-mounting preferred. All particulars, Box 4,821, "The Era."

WANTED, Sensational Diver, for ten weeks.
Apply, Claremont Pier, Lowestoft.

WANTED, a good Sober Groom, to Start at Once, who is able to look after an Elephant and Horses.
Wire or write,
CAPT. GRUBER, Hippo., Stockton-on-Tees.
Would like to hear from Frank Groves.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty shortly, for Stage or Ring, Tudor's Four Educated Ponies, twice daily Hengler's Circus, London. Agents should see this show.

WANTED, Circus Proprietors and Hippodrome Managers to Know that the Three Ohmys, Champion Lady Bare Back Riders, and Fearless Acrobatic Somersault Equestriennes, on three beautiful bare back trained horses, the only Act of the kind in the world, re-engaged at Tower Circus, Blackpool, commencing Whit Monday, where they can be seen doing the greatest and grandest riding Act ever seen. Managers and Agents see this wonderful Act. Will shortly be at Liberty. CLAUDE OHMY, Tower Circus, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Le Quips and Alfrano, Clowns and Comedians, in the Comic Laughable Sketches, Liberty Whit Monday, for Halls, Picture Shows, and Galas; also Combinations. Particulars, 42, Milbourne-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, The Fitzroys, Society Gymnasts, are at Liberty May 20 and 27, through change of dates. Hippo., West Bromwich.

WANTED, Vacant Whit, Galas, Circuses, Vaudevilles, &c., Turle and Turle, Comedy Gymnasts, two smart lively Acts. 39, Maskell-street, Manchester.

WANTED, May 13, onwards, Kyoto, Comedy Japanese Contortionist, &c.; May Geraldine, Comedienne and Dancer; two distinct Acts. 25, Devonshire-house, Bath-terrace, London, S.E.; after Saturday, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Known, George Davilla, Marvellous Wire Performer, High Wire, Maidstone, Kent. Permanent add., Forest View, Honey-lane, Waltham Abbey, Essex.

WANTED, Known, Pauletti, in a Daring and Funny Cycling Act, Le Volls, Eccentric Gymnasts. Thanks for Offers. POOLE'S Myriorama, Mountain Ash, South Wales.

WANTED, Known, few vacancies for Galas, for Percy Victor's Wonderful Dog Minstrels, the acknowledged Gala Act par excellence, May 20, 21, Longton; 23rd, Rushden. Panto. settled. Perm., 72, Farleigh-road, Stoke Newington.

WANTED, Known, First-class Second Mount and Tumbler, open to join good Troupe; can join immediately. FRED CASINO, Theatre Royal, Sheffield.

WANTED, Known, smart Boy, with slight knowledge of Tumbling, wishes to join Troupe of Acrobats. MACDONALD, 401, Gt. Eastern-road, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, a good Top Mounter and Tumbler, open to join First-Class Troupe of Acrobats. Letters to ARTIST, Box 4,807, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Good Posturer and Hand Balancer, open to join Troupe or Partner, age 22. MASON, 201A Southwark Bridge-road, London.

WANTED, by Lad, Situation, with Trick or Comedy Cyclists, fair knowledge of the business, own machines. Address, Box 4,745, "The Era."

Balloon Ascents.

WANTED, Engagements, by Lieut. Lempriere, the Popular Reliable Aeronaut. Address, LEMPRIERE, Handsworth, Birmingham.

Parachute Descents.

WANTED, Gala Secretaries seeking big Attractions to engage Lieut. Lempriere and his charming Lady Pupils for Parachute Descents or Races; together or separate. One still open for Aug. Bank. LEMPRIERE, Handsworth, Birmingham.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES and THEATRE ROYAL.

WANTED, First-class Variety Artists, all Lines.

ARTHUR CARLTON, Palace, Worcester.

Scarborough.

WANTED, Monday, May 20, and onwards, Variety Artists in all Lines. Nothing too Big. Full particulars to KITCHINGMAN, Aquarium.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, May 20, Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest. Hall small. P. REYMOND, as above.

WANTED, for Freeman's Olympia, Preston, Variety Artists of every description, Sensational and Novel.
Apply,
CLEM FREEMAN,
Talbot Hotel, Chapel-yard, Preston.

WANTED, Variety Artists all Lines, commencing May 20, new to Castleford. Address, BEANLAND and EMERSON, Queen's Theatre, Castleford.

WINTER GARDENS, BRIDLINGTON.

WANTED, Refined Variety Artists, Conjurers, Double Turns, Knockabouts, Vocalists, Whit Mon., on. Terms low, or no use. DELMAR, Manager.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, May 20 and onwards.
A. E. PICKARD, Britannia, Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, two weeks, May 13, 27, June 13. CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin.

WANTED, Artists, New to Wakefield, Halifax, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Dewsbury, Morecambe, May 20, June 3, 10, 24, July, on ONDA, Empire, Hull.

WANTED, First-class Artists Only, for First-class Variety Theatres, immediate and future dates, also Pantomime. JESS VERNO'S Agency, 16, Elizabeth-st., Liverpool. Telegrams, "Merriment." 'Phone, 2076 Royal.

IMPERIAL VARIETY AGENCY,
19, Green-street, Leicester-square.
Under the Direction of
F. P. Wade (late Manager of Collins's Music Hall) and H. J. Stowe, jun.
Proprietor, H. J. Stowe.

WANTED, good Artists, original Acts and Specialities. Call or write. 'Phone 14,252 Cen.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

O. MAUS DAYTON'S VAUDEVILLE CO.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, June 3 and on, all must be new to Wakefield.
Thanks all Artists and Agents for letters and wires; impossible to answer all.
Silence polite negative.
Lowest Combination Terms essential.
Apply,
DAYTON FAMILY,
Grand Theatre, Bolton.

THE PALACE, LIMITED
(CLACTON-ON-SEA).
Opens Saturday, May 18, 1907.

WANTED, Artists having May 18 vacant write. Comedians for Pierrots and Dog and Monkey Circus required for season.
Artists who have not yet received their return dates write, with vacancies.
Address,
MANAGING-DIRECTOR, as above.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, coming North, to send dates and terms.
ANDERSON'S Agency, 6, Great Clyde-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, First-class Artists, for Fête, near Hereford, Aug. 15; also other Dates. Terms, lithos., &c., TOM HAY and Co., Gloucester.

WANTED, for Seven or Eight Weeks Summer Season in Suburban London Theatres, First-class Artists in all Lines. Very lowest summer terms, photos., age, height, references, and last or present engagement, to MANAGER, 1, The Orchard, Bedford Park, London, W.

PIER PAVILION, SOUTHPORT.

WANTED, for the above, Artists in all Lines. Send full list of bookings and absolutely lowest terms in first instance. One performance nightly and one matinée only. SAM L. BURY, 14, Panton-street, Haymarket, London, S.W.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME, ROCHDALE.

WANTED, Known, Rehearsal Monday next, 2 o'clock, for Pringle's North American Animated Photo Co. and Varieties. Letters, SMITH and Co., Red Lion Hotel, Rochdale.

WANTED, for May 20, 27, and June 3, Stars in all Lines.
Stars in all Lines.
Full up for Smaller Items.
Can always Fix Big Numbers any Odd Weeks.
CADLE'S Agency,
105, Strand, W.C.

VENTOM SWIFT'S AGENCY,
Alhambra, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Stars and Startling Attractions, May 20, and onwards. First-Class Small Turns (North) also communicate; Summer terms. Alhambra, Edinburgh, General-Manager, Ventom Swift. Rehearsal 11 o'clock for Brothers Harrison, Lil O'Gorman, Sam Thomson, Gilroy and Gross, Max Merlin, James Toner, Alhambrascope, and Jack Easy.

WANTED, Variety Stars, Specialities, May 20, on. Terms, bookings, lithos., &c., EDGAR STEBBINGS, Agent, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester. Les Steckels send route. Telephone 09251.

WANTED, Stars, for immediate and future dates. Terms and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, all the Greatest Stars in the Profession to send bookings, terms, lithos. AINSWORTH'S Agency, 67, Oxford-lane, Siddal, Halifax.

WANTED, Refined Double Turn, Lady and Gentleman, with good Répertoire doing Musical Monologues and Single Turns, May 29 to June 14, Sheringham. Lowest terms and photos. to GUNDRY WHITE, Bank Plain Hotel, Norwich.

WANTED, Variety Turns of Every Description, for Hull and Wakefield, June 10 and 17. BRANDON'S Agency, 31, Thirsk-rd, Mitcham, London, S.W.

DUNDAS'S AGENCY.

WANTED, Talent, all Lines, for 20th, and onwards. Absolute lowest in first letter. 52, Rosthwaite-road, West Derby, Liverpool.

DREW BAYLEY'S AGENCY.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, for the North, the best of Talent, May, June, July, Aug. All good Turns write.
170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

WANTED, Gala Acts, all Kinds, Comedy Cyclists, Bars, Juggling Acts, May 21, 25, June, July, and Later. Those Artists work my Galas last year, please write. Send lithos. of acts, C. JACKSON, P.O., Liverpool.

WANTED, Acts all Lines, for Show Matinée at London Palace, Shoreditch, on Wednesday, May 22; will be booked if proficient.
SAM HART, Agent,
7, Lancaster-house, Rushcroft-road, Brixton.

WANTED, good Acts for the North, Star Comedians especially. Terms and full list of bookings, to FRANK LYNNE, 12, Cranworth-gardens, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Whit till Sept., Novel Acts, Bridlington Sands; splendid position, platform, covered; partner entertained. DEQUISTO, 128, Hildathorpe-road, Bridlington, Yorkshire.

WANTED, for Gloucester, Porth, Worcester, Glasgow, Portsmouth, Variety Acts in all Lines. I can book you. GANNON, Gannon Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Hugh Wiggleworth's Agency, late Manager Blackpool, Morecambe, &c. Address, 46, Coram-st., Russell-sq., W.C. Appointments only.

PALACE OF VARIETIES, OLDBURY.

WANTED, May 13, on, Novelties, Specialities. Doubles doing Singles. Hall small. Lowest terms. Lithos., WM. B. BOSTOCK.

CHAPPELL'S CONCERTS, GREAT YARMOUTH
(three Performances daily).

WANTED, Specialities, Refined Comedy Acts, June, July, Aug., Sept. Coms., HARRY BARKER, 6, Harley-road, Great Yarmouth.

PENARTH PIER PAVILION.

WANTED, Good Speciality, Whit Week, suitable for Al Fresco Concerts.
Terms must be moderate.
MILLS, Penarth Pier.

HARRY L. SKIVINGTON'S AGENCY.
HARRY L. SKIVINGTON'S AGENCY.
48, Brisbane-street, Greenock.

WANTED, Big Tops and Reliable Turns.
must be known to me,
for Glasgow and District.

WANTED, big Tops, Bottoms, Lady Wrestlers, small Comedian, for Speciality, Artists all Lines, London, Provinces, July onwards. EVENTIO, Agent, Palace, Greenwich.

WANTED, for Hancock's New Palace, a Lady Contortionist, also a Lady Juggler, and a Troupe of Performing Dogs, for three weeks. State terms in first letter, to join at once. Liskeard, Cornwall, on Saturday; Bodmin, Cornwall, Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday.

WANTED, Young Trick Cyclist (male or female). State age, height, tricks, and salary, F. BROUGHTON, 428, Gorton-rd., Reddish, Stockport.

WANTED, to open May 18, a Gentleman Artist, to do Double Turn, Wire Act, Juggling, &c., open-air gardens, long Summer engagement to suitable party; also Young Gentleman Vocalist, &c., Wire or write very lowest terms, which must be most moderate, to NEMO, Post Office, Bromborough, Cheshire.

WANTED, Humorist, Ventriloquist, and Comedienne, Pianist preferred, for select Concert Party. Full particulars, Box 4,808, care of "The Era."

WANTED, good Al Fresco Comedian, at once, well up in Gags, Concerteds, and Sketches. Photos., &c., to A. G. HART, Central Pier, Morecambe.

WANTED, a Smart Pantomimist Knockabout at Once. Letters, lowest summer terms, those in London preferred. WYS, 129 Stanhope-st., Regent's Park, London, N.W.

WANTED, Good Cinematograph and Films, for Whit Week, or Small Complete Show. Share or certainty. FREDRICK'S Assembly Rooms, Lytham.

PENARTH PIER PAVILION.

WANTED, good Bioscope Operator, own machine and films; change films twice weekly; no electric light. State terms (with or without finding gas), MILLS, Penarth Pier, near Cardiff.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, May 20, 27, and onward, Big Numbers, Sensationtal Attractions, Novelties. Big Illusion required, July, 4 weeks, Manchester.

Send full list of bookings, lithos. and terms, to HENRY KEMBLE'S Agency, Temporary Office till June, Palace, Cork.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known. Wanted, Known, LILITH,
in her Beautiful Palace of Roses.
The Prettiest and Most Sensational Mystery Act ever presented.
Starring this week, Hippodrome, Paisley.
Lilith, the Talk of the Town.
Also Lilian Warren's Vocal Pictures, with Beautiful Dissolving Effects. Two of the Most Successful Acts on the Variety Stage. Offers invited for July 1 and 8. All communications to the Sole Proprietress, LILIAN WARREN, 77, St. Mary's-street, Cardiff.

WANTED, May 13 and 20, Mlle. Lumiere's Original Electrical Fairy Grotto; share or cert. Single or with Vaudeville Co. Clarence T., Pontypridd.

WANTED, May 13, 20, 27, Babs Lloyd, Star Artist; also Nellie Vance, Comedy Artist. Wire for two of the best. Hippodrome, Stockton; after Sat., B158, Witton-road, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, by Signorine May Caville, May 27, the young Operatic English and Italian Vocalist. This week, Longton; next, Castleford. Wire or write, permanent, 14, Ellar-st., Salford.

WANTED, by Mlle. Sylvesto, Lady Contortionist, May 13, 20, June 10, 17, 24. Big success this week, Hippo., Oldham. Wire.

WANTED, May 20, 27, on, for Doris Myddleton, Comedienne, and Musical Howards Sketch, A Star's Dilemma." Big success. May 13, Pal., Dundee.

WANTED, Monday next, by Miss Eva Reed, Comedy Artist and Top-boot Dancer.
Wire, Palace, Worcester.

WANTED, May 20 and 27, by Edith Manley, England's Champion Extempore Artist. This week, Palace, Northampton; next, 36, Norfolk-road, Essex-road, N.

WANTED, Known, Sisters Nella, in their refined Speciality Pot-Pourri Act, vacant June 10, onwards. Address next week, Cooke's Circus, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Known, Three Transfields, Lady Instrumentalists, in their Refined Musical Speciality; splendid dresses and electric stage set, Vacant May 20, 27, June 10. Address, TINA TRANSFIELD, 6, Ann-place, Horton-lane, Bradford.

WANTED, Engagement, by Acrobatic Dancer, in Trio or Quartette; Splits, Cart-wheels, &c. IRIS, c/o Long, 4, River-road, Reading.

WANTED, by a Young Lady, who is considered a good Buck, Sand, and Step Dancer, an Engagement with Sketch Company or Troupe; has been comparatively recently with well-known family, possesses knowledge of Acrobatic Dancing; height 4ft. 11½in. in stockings, age 15½ years. Write in first instance, Box 4,797, "The Era."

WANTED, through misunderstanding, Summer Engagement by Joe Andy, Eccentric Comedian, England's Champion Bottler; experienced Al Fresco Artist, Sketches, &c.; refs.; at Liberty, offers. 9, Clarence-street, Leicester.

WANTED, May 27, June 3, Palette, the Lightning Artist Extraordinary, and his Statue Dog, Max, the Canine Artist's Model. Monday, Hippodrome, Wakefield.

WANTED, June 3 and 10, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist, and De Lil, Illusionist; two smart acts. Monday next, Hippodrome, Scarborough.

WANTED, Known, MacMannon, Illusionist, the Marvellous Mystifier, vacant from June 10, onwards. Sure draw. All communications, care of "The Era."

WANTED, May 20 and 27, the Musical Empires (James and Kate), smart funny Musical Act. Just returned from the Continent.
Wire offer.
Address, 28, Newnham-terrace, Hercules-road, Lambeth, London.

WANTED, Monday next, by Ted Young and Ada Twibell. Wire one or both, sure success, Palace, Glasgow.

WANTED, Monday, also 20th, by Will and Roze, Comedy Acrobatic Conjuring Pot-Pourri Act; and Alvar, Sensational Gymnast; two distinct Acts. Wire, 20, Sidney-street, All Saints, Manchester.

WANTED, June 3, on, The Moncktons, in Screamingly Funny Musical Comedy Episode, "Are Wives Dummies?" Thanks Rosen and Bliss for Contracts. Big Hit this week, Palace, Dundee. May 13, Palace, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Known, The Voldenes are open for Whit Monday, Fête or Gala, Double Trapeze Act. Address, 46, Devonshire-rd., Holloway, N.

WANTED, Galas, Fêtes, &c., by Kyoto, Comedy Japanese Contortionist, and Dog, or Principal Act. Address, care of "The Era" Office. 5, Tavistock-street, London, W.C.

WANTED, May 20, Sardou's Illusionists, Marvellous Mystifiers and Mirth Makers; also Marie Riviers, Popular Comedienne. Wire, Theatre Royal, Peterborough.

WANTED, Known, Stebbing Bros., Acrobatic Marvels; May Isabelle, Comedienne and Dancer; vacant May 27, onwards. Address, 3, Waverley-road, Walthamstow.

WANTED, Monday, May 13, Sterling and Cashen (J. F. and Minnie), Comedy Duo and Dancers. Wire, 11, Victoria-st., Bradford.

WANTED, Known, two Acts, vacant Monday, Lestree (Juggler), Amina Rinder (Illustrated Songs). Panto., Elliston, Esq. This, Aquarium, Scarborough. Wire, 15, Durham-street.

WANTED, Proprietors and Managers to note, from this date, Steeley and Dowton will be known as Probyn and Bates. Only Agent, WILL OLIVER.

WANTED, May 13, 27, Golden and Grey, American Duo. Audience unanimous at Dudley, Oldham. Wire, Hippo., Oldham.

WANTED, Known, Two Eltons, Comedy Triple Bars. Marbiesque Trio White Living Pictures, Liberty May 20. 40, Bath-row, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Conway and Garland have Whit Week vacant between Dublin and Newcastle, for their burlesque absurdity, Wire, this, Hip., Belfast; May 13, Tiv., Dublin.

WANTED, Known, Rezene and Robini vacant May 13, 20, 27, "Army and Navy" big suc. This week, Pal., Sunderland. Perm., 1, Fulford-mansions, Fairmead-road, Holloway, N.

WANTED, Engagements, three distinct turns, Zancig and Thought-reading, Conjuring, and Bioscope. 251, Seven Sisters-road, N.

WANTED, by The Faulkner Trio, in Screaming Absurdity; also Frew and Frew, Comedians, one week May 20. Wire, Palace, Worcester.

WANTED, Whit Week, also 27th, by Titan, Telka, and Wyllie (three Acts), Musical Act and Ballad Vocalist. T. R., Colne, Lancs.

WANTED, Monday next, also 20th, Cameo Troupe, Comedy Eccentric Acrobats; Great Laughing Success. 1, Upper Duke-street, Manchester. Agent, STEBBINGS.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagements, Whit Week, onwards, or for season, for the World's Animated Picture and High-class Concert Co. Can arrange for any length of programme. Shares, rental, or terms. Apply, ROBERT ARTHUR BROWN this week, Town Hall, Wellington, Salop; next, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

WANTED, Halls, Seaside preferred, for Byron's Historical Picture and Concert Company. All coms., B. HENRY, Manager, 23, Burchell-road, Leyton, E.

WANTED, Monday next, by Billy Ross and Co., Greatest Comedy Act on the Stage. Wire, 31, Thirsk-road, Mitcham, London, S.W.

WANTED, by Miss Ella's Lions (the Only Lion Show in this Country at the present time), May 27, June 3, 10, and 17; Midlands or North preferred.
Communications, week, May 13, Palace of Varieties, Worcester.

WANTED, Known, Spangeletti's Animal Pot-Pourri Speciality, includes one Lady, two Gentlemen, Dogs, Pony, and Baboon, vacant Whit Week, Galas, Fêtes, &c. Wire or write, 173, Queen's-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Caban's French Circus, Ponies, Donkeys, Goat, and Dogs, at Lib. May 27, June 4, on, with exceptions. Add. till Sunday, 4, Charles-st., Gloucester; after, Hippo., Yarmouth.

WANTED, Known, Fontainbleau's Canine Marvels, Talk of every Town they visit. Tremendous success this, Hippo., Ashton; May 13, Hippo., Queen's Park, Manchester. 20th, Shrewsbury Fête. Few vacant dates.

WANTED, Known, Gilbert's Dog and Cat Circus conclude big success T. R., Stanley; Liberty for Galas, &c., from Whit, on, with exceptions. Address, 8, Dorset-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Devereux's Troupe of Dog Marvels, the Four-footed Animals with the Human Brains, Liberty Monday, owing to mistake in date. Wire, Albert Palace, Canning Town, E.

WANTED, Known, Dominos, Two (Clown and Donkey), success everywhere. Putney, Mon. next. All coms., 71, Kennington-rd., London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Judge's Cockatoos, Vacant May 13, June 3, 10, 17.
Wire, Empire, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Known, The Dunlops, Comedy Cycle Act, also Lilian Sivado, Lady Gymnast, vacant May 20, 27; two distinct acts. Good Acts for Galas. Address, T. R., Peterboro' (3 nights), T. R., Grantham (3 nights).

WANTED, Whit Week and on, with exceptions, by Mlle. Fontain's Mannikins and Laurier's Comedy Conjurers. 125, Kent-st., Gt. Grimsby.

WANTED, by all-round Performer, Tumbler, Pantomimist, &c. Engagement in Sketch or Troupe. CAPEL, 37, Byron-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, assist Illusionist, any capacity, age 24, 6ft., smart, experienced, play parts. W. H. BLACKMAN, 12½, Fisher-street, Kingsway, London, W.C.

WANTED, Engagement, Public or Private, Harmon's Bioscope, Marionettes, also Royal Punch and Judy, with Toby. 326 Earlsfield-road, Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Travers' Bioscope, at Liberty; moderate terms for Summer Engagement; Latest Films. TRAVERS, 154, High-st., Clapham.

WANTED, Summer Dates, Piers, Pavilions, or High-class Al-Fresco, for Lambert's Animated Picture Land; every Picture Up-to-date; perfect projection, and flickerless; vacant May 20, on. Share or certainty. This, Drill Hall, Hinckley. Next, 32 Alma-st., Blackburn.

WANTED, Engagement, Bioscope, twenty minutes' show each night, per week, £3; forty minutes' ditto, £4 10s.; Song Slides, 8 Pal of Mine, 4s.; others. MORRIS, 18, Tweed-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Young Man, tall, smart, requires Situation, Bioscope or any entertainment Concern, do anything. TUNNICLIFFE, Hill Ridware, Rugeley.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, Tom Norman, Silver King (regd.), Auctioneer, Valuer, Expert and Authority, Auctioneer to Lord George Sanger (England's Greatest Showman), and Leading Showmen of Great Britain. Sales and Commissions conducted in any part of the World. If you want to Buy or Sell anything connected with the Business, consult TOM NORMAN, Auction Dept., The Era" Office, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand. Change of address. Wanted to purchase or engage, all kinds of Novelties and Curiosities (alive or dead), if suitable for exhibition.

WANTED, Known, .22 "R" and "D" cartridges, Globes, Balls, Winchester and New Military Repeaters, Pistols, and all repairs done. GREENE, 74, Falmouth-road, London, S.E.

Auctioneers.

WANTED, Known, Great Value Offered in Secondhand Silver Watches.
Auctioneers only supplied.
Write to-day for full particulars,
C. G. CLACHER, 22, Argyle-street, Glasgow.
Try one of my famed parcels, containing Ten English Lever and Twelve Silver Geneva Watches. Best Value ever Offered.
In great demand. Price, £5 5s.

WANTED, Known,
Messrs. LIMONAIRE BROTHERS,
Mechanical Organ Builders, of
166, Avenue Daumesnil, Paris (France),
beg to inform their Old and New Customers that, as from this Date, they have appointed Mr. ARTHUR RIGHINI, of Manchester, as their Sole Agent and Representative for Great Britain, to whom in future all inquiries for their Organs or Music must be made.

WANTED, Showmen to Save Money by sending for Leete's Catalogue of specially prepared Paints, Colours, Varnishes, Brushes, &c., and every requisite for decorating Caravans, Roundabouts, Swings, &c. Cheapest house in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, Known, to Auctioneers, Hand Sellers and Umbrella lost property depôts, Umbrellas ready for immediate sale, wholesale only. Write for particulars, Umbrella Depôt, 241, Great College-street, London, N.W.

WANTED, Known, Doncaster Butterscotch, with Fortune, 3s. gross. J. PODMORE, 36, Tatton-street, Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancs.

WANTED, Known, Giant Packets Swiss Milk Chocolate, Butter Scotch, and Everton Toffee, from 6s. gross. ROWLEY, 120A, Sherlock-st., Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, all kinds of Showman's Painting undertaken, Oil Paintings, Scenery, Letter Cloths. ROCHE, Artist, 22, Lansdown-road, Lee, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Stacey's Showmen and Travellers' Stores, still the Best for all Fair Goods, Specialities, Ammunition, Rifles, &c. Settles-street, London, E.

THE TWO-HEADED PATAGONIAN GOLIATH.
Admission One Shilling.

WANTED, Shows, &c., new to U.S.A. As our Attractions periodically play the same American Circuits, would Sell the Two-headed Giant Exhibiton (at close of London engagements), or exchange for Novelty new to the States.

All communications to permanent address,
KAP-DWA Co., 54, Shaftesbury-avenue, London.

WANTED, for Blackpool, The Great Wheel, Eleventh Annual Summer Carnival, Whit to Oct., Good Side-shows and Novelties; central position, adjoining Winter Gardens.

THE KURSAAL, SOUTHEND.

WANTED, Side Shows, Freaks, Fit-ups, Specialities, and Novelties of all kinds, for Whitsun and onwards. Write at once, ENTERTAINMENTS, Kursaal, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, Novelties, Freaks, Illusions, Lady Palmist and Tattooist; Living Van and Organ found. Address, RUSSELL, Living Van, Snowden-road, Middlesbrough.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Novelties, Present and Future Dates, for only Show Shop in London; shares or salary; or will let Shop for Mechanical Show or Automatics. PROPRIETOR, 100, Lower Marsh, Lambeth, London.

WANTED, Novelties, Freaks; can open at once. Sale of Books and Postcards allowed. CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin.

WANTED, at all Times, Novelties for Aberdeen, Edinburgh, and Glasgow.
HUMBER'S Permanent Exhibition,
112, George-street, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
WATER CHUTE ATTENDANTS
and
EXPERIENCED BOATMEN,
having had previous experience on Water Chute Boats.

Must be steady, reliable men.

Good salary and six months' engagement to the right people.

To commence immediately.

Address,
stating terms, and particulars of previous engagements, to
Mr. J. C. BROWN, Managing-Director,
White City, Manchester.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
20 DOORSMEN,
20 DOORSMEN,
20 DOORSMEN,
GOOD SIDE-SHOW TALKERS,
GOOD SIDE-SHOW TALKERS,
GOOD SIDE-SHOW TALKERS,
for the
WHITE CITY, MANCHESTER.
WHITE CITY, MANCHESTER.

All must be real live men, used to handling large crowds. Good salaries and six months' work to the right men. Commence Whit Monday, but must be in Manchester to attend rehearsals and Press Shows Thursday, May 16.

Address, stating qualifications, last employment, and full particulars, mentioning salary required, to Mr. J. C. BROWN, Managing-Director, White City, Manchester.

WANTED, Two Female Paraders, with or without own Dresses; also Two Good Tumbling Knockabouts; only single people who understand the business need apply. Also good Vocalist and Harmonium Player write. Long Engagements for suitable people. BIDDALL, Bioscope, Harefield, Middlesex.

WANTED, for Summer Season, to commence Whit Monday, two Gentlemen Paraders, Clowns, Tumblers, Jugglers, Dancers, or Rousters, suitable for Cinématograph Show Front, must be good Attraction. Mention abilities, experience, and salary. Apply early, NORTHERN CINEMATOGRAPH Co., Bishop Auckland.

WANTED, Competent Auctioneer, for Seaside Sale-rooms; also experienced Floorsman Wanted; good berth and first-class pay to reliable men.
Box 4,792, "The Era."

WANTED, smart Doorsman, can open to-day.
Wire, MANAGER,
Electric Studios,
43A, Yorkshire-street, Rochdale, Lancs.

WANTED, good, smart Doorsman and Describer for First-Class Picture Show. Preference given to man able to book a good round and well up in Fair grounds; must have first-class refs. Apply, PAYNE'S DREAMLAND, Maidenhead.

WANTED, Complete Staff of Men for Auction Vans. Apply, with full particulars, to HENRY WHITE, Bull and George Hotel, Dartford.

WANTED, experienced Doorsman, one used to Fair Ground, for Novelty Show; good Horsekeeper write in. PROPRIETOR, 100, Lower Marsh, Lambeth, London.

WANTED, Lecturer for Bioscope.
Lowest Summer Terms.
WILL SMITH, Palace, Rhyl.

WANTED, to travel with Bazaar in Ireland, a Pair (two sisters, brothers, or man and wife), must be strictly sober and steady; good steady business all the year round; half profits; average takings shooting from 6s. to 14s. nightly; a pair with any kind of musical instruments preferred to play for a short time at beginning. Anyone coming will pay own fare, which will be refunded on arrival. MAC'S Bazaar, Legan Lenamore, Edgesworthstown, co. Longford, Ireland.

WANTED, a good Palmist, must be used to the business; also a good in and out Side Show; Laughing Mirrors would do splendid. Write, MANAGER, Harbour House, Margate.

WANTED, Phrenologist; terms, shares; Grand Opening in good Exhibition. Apply for particulars, Box 4,802, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, P. Marland's Royal Punch and Judy, with Champion Dog Toby, at Liberty Fêtes, Galas, &c. 142, Chesham-rd., Bury.

WANTED, Known, Miss Lucy Moore, the American Fat Girl, concludes her Seventeenth Successive and Successful Week's Engagement at my Museum to-night. Freaks, Novelties, and Attractions desiring future dates should apply early. A. E. PICKARD, American Museum, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Very Important, that the Next Meeting of the
BRITISH ROUNDABOUT PROPRIETORS' AND SHOWMEN'S UNION
will be Held at the
Bright Eye Hotel, Wigan,
on Tuesday next, May 14, at 2.30 p.m.,
when Business of Importance will be brought forward, also Report from Delegates re Rail Rates
A Good Muster of Members is requested.
(Signed) T. HURST, Sec.

LUTON AND DISTRICT
TEMPERANCE AND BAND OF HOPE UNION.
Monster Demonstration at Wardown Park.
June 26, 1907.

WANTED, Known, Tenders are invited for the following:
One Roundabout, Two Sets Swing Boats, One Shooting Gallery, Two Cocoanut Stands.
Tenders to reach the Secretary not later than first post Friday, May 17, 1907.
The Committee reserve to themselves the right not to accept the highest or any Tender.

Letters, marked "Tender,"
J. H. HAWKES, Sec.,
96, Old Bedford-road, Luton, Beds.

GRAND EVENING FETE
at EDMONTON, MIDDLESEX,
on
July 13 next.

WANTED, to Let,
Spaces for
Good Roundabout,
Side-shows, &c.
Enormous Attendance last year.
Apply, H. STEPHENSON,
176, Wellesley-road, Ilford, Essex.

WANTED, to Let, Ground for Stalls, Pipe-breakers, and Side-shows, for Whit Mon., at Fête, High-street, Teddington. PRINT, Northumberland Arms, Isleworth.

WANTED, to Let, Land for Stalls and Shows. Apply, JOHN HARDMAN, Manager, Starr Estate Fairground Co., 16, King-street, Blackpool.

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"The Typhoon," Orford's Elephants, Rhoda Brothers, Martinecks, Aurora Troupe, Alfred Agoust, Li and Lou, Browning and Wally, Clement Trio, Speedy, Mariedl, Australian Woodcutters, Chronomegaphone, Columbias.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1.30, for :—
Queenie Leighton, Tom Costello, Lily Langtry, Trapnells, Edwin Barwick, Ryder Slone, Boy Glen, Ruby Dahl, Musical Jees, Geo. Kirk and Co.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for :—
Fred Storey and Co., Charles Norton, Sisters Grovini, Ambrose Thorne, Gladys Mavius, Eight Empire Girls, Bioscope, Cull Pitt, Fulbrook and Co., The Gothams.

ZOO AND HIPPODROME, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for :—
Pat Rafferty, Glenroy Troupe, Bert Byrne, Mendel, Bioscope, Stewart and Morgan, Kioto, Johnny Walker, Theo Bowmeester, Jonghmann Sisters.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for :—
"Parson Gray, V.C.," Little Zola, Illustrated Song, Florence and Lilian, Zaid, Eisteddfod Sextette, J. Alexander and Co., Bioscope, Tate and Tate, Szarvasi Ferencz Troupe.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
"The Little Stowaway," Jackley Trio, Lukushimas, Nellie Wallace, Margaret Ashton, Karno Four, Herbert Rule, Boccacio Minstrels, Frank Bertram and Co., Bioscope.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Lil Hawthorne, Tina Clementa, Northern Troupe, Frank Seeley, Alice May and Co., Victor Newman, Les Strads, Frank Couch, Bioscope, Dennis Drew and Co.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Karno's Co., in "The Bailiff," Kate Trail, New York Nippers, Burns and Burns, Nellie Martell, Hurley and Cole, Dan Leno, jun., Bioscope, Tambo and Tambo.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
R. A. Roberts, Bioscope, Three Amaranths, Goggin and Davis, Ian Colquhoun, David Poole, Boyd and Gilfain, La Danseuse, Gladys Huxley, Marie Loftus.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Ed. Cranston and Co., Sydney Lee, Bioscope, Harry Bedford, Two Bostons, Effie Stuart, Neilson Sisters, Bellew Stock's "Baby Burglar."

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Elliott Savonas, Sinclair and Whiteford, The Howards, Vasilescu Troupe, Edie King, Sylvesa, Billy McClain's Sextette, Hinton and Wootton, Bioscope.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Joe Elvin and Co., Four Royal Welshmen, Chris Richards, Wallace Selkirk and Co., Gasch Sisters, Bros. Lang, Will English, Lupino Bros., Bioscope.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Three Golden Graces, Minnie Merry, Tom Owen, Bioscope, Phil and Nettie Peters, Strolling Players, Kitts and Windrum, Wartenburg Bros., Mezzeti and Mora, Humphreys and Co.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Illustrated Song, Arthur Lennard, "The Skirmishers," Lizzie Fletcher, C. Randolph King, Bioscope, Bros. Egbert, Robb Gilmour, Melia and Mozarabar, Rosa Loader.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
"Casey's Circus," Josh Dixon, Flo Esdaile, Seeley and West, Ella Shields, Farley, Rennie and Farley, Cape Girls, Arabella Allen, Canty's Grotto, Launceston Elliott.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Wilkie Bard, Will Musgrave, George Ridgwell, Moulier Sisters, J. P. Ling, The Craggs, Frasettis, Sisters Morgan, Three Consol Girls, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Harry Roxbury and Co., Larry Lewis, Miles Stavordale, J. B. Preston, Dida, Rapoli, Two Dixons, Morton and Bowman, Bioscope, Nell Emerald.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
The Boissets, in "Wild West," Three Sisters Chester, Three Phydoras, Marguerite Broadfoote, Ross and Lewis, Powell's Marionettes, Grace Merton, Vetter Bros., Gus Garrick, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3, for :—
Matthew Brodie and Co., J. A. Wilson, Paul Conchas, The Motramos, Beattie and Blanche, Jennie Johns, Ellis Barrieton, Mlle. Von Etta, Bert Woodward, Bioscope.

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EMPIRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 3, for :—
Kellinos, Starr and Leslie, Daisy Jerome, Boswell's Circus, Walter King, Woodhouse and Wells, Genaro and Theol, The Howes, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 3, for :—
Lew Lake and Co., in "Bloomsbury Burglars," Frank Leslie, Thos. Finglass, Sisters Macarte, Dion Wade, Lena Verdi, American Comedy Four, Millie Howell, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Vesta Tilley, Billy Farrell, Bros. Dean, Three Rubys, Collins and Rice, Elsie Claire, Bioscope, Darnley's Dots, The Cumberlands, Enzer.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30, for :—
Paul Cinquevalli, Roma and Romani, Carter Livesay and Co., J. W. Rickaby, Ed. Arthur and Co., O'Malley and Brown, Cambrian Trio, L. A. Cooke and Co., Bioscope.

ARDWICK EMPIRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Marie Lloyd, May Evans, Bonnie Goodwin and Pices, Trentanovi Sisters, Bros. Horne, Lady Fauntleroy, Allis and Cassatti, Boden Bell, Fred Keeton, Bioscope, Harry Tate's No. 1 Co. in "Motoring."

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
"Tally Ho," Fred and Pauli, Kitty Marion, Illustrated Song, Venie Clements, D'Arc's Marionettes, Libby Blondell and Four Johnnies, Powell and Vesey, Bioscope, Molasso Quartette.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Paul Martinetti and Co., Ross and Grayson, Marzella's Birds, Millie Lindon, Horace White, "Kiss your Father," Five Osranis, Lindon's Vaudeville Co., Esta Stella, Bioscope

THE FOLLOWING ARE BOOKED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ABOVE:

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Mike S. Whallen, Kate Lynd, Nellie Coleman, Dome, Villon Troupe, Chas. Dixon, Gwennie Hasto, Pictures, Fanny Erris, Five Delevines.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1 for :
The Gems, Annie Casey, Drew and Alders, Queenie May, Chas. Chard, Daisy Mayer, Herbert Shelley.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Madge Grey, Sisters Dorrell, Spry and Monti, Pictures, David Gledhill Trio, Arthur Gill, New Macs, Amy Russell, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Finden.

RICHMOND THEATRE, RICHMOND.
Proprietor, Mr. George Dance.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
"Mick Whittingtun," Marie Empress, Bros. Mills, Hesketh Mead, Sisters Lytton, Carden and Haines, Rosamund Bury, Pictures, "Who s Sylvester?" "A Hot Time," Gibraltar Girls.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL
Rehearsal at 12, for :—
De Gracia's Elephants, Frank Maura, France and Stewart, Beatrice Willey, Bioscope, Kroney Bros., A. W. Scott, Johnson-and Wells.

THE GRANVILLE, WALHAM GREEN.
Rehearsal at 3, for :—
T. E. Dunville, Will Dalton, Frank Jee, Fred Dunstone, Lilian Lowe, Elsie Robey, Gertie Gitana, Decima Brooke, Virto, Laurie's Kindergarten Haytors, Tennyson and Wallis, Frank Sylvo, Martin Adeson and Co., Kier and Kempton, Bioscope.

THE PALACE, CAMBERWELL.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Both Performances.
The Leopolds, Jack Lorimer, Bert Brantford, Chas. Clark, Lilian Lowe, Marie Reeve, Maud Courtney, Four Golden Ayeshas, Poluskis, Verno and Voyce, Rich and Rich, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, COVENTRY.
Proprietor, Mr. George Dance.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Frank and Jen Latona, Spanish Goldinis, Hetty King, Carlos Menard, Topsy and Usher, Bioscope, Gintaro, Cruikshank.

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND
(Now in course of erection).
Artists and Agents please note that Bookings for the above Theatre have now commenced.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE, READING
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Mabel Bardine and Co., The Kirbys, Hartley Wonders, Maggie Walsh, Bioscope, Fred Frampton, J. W. Rowley.

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Artists must have Band Parts for at least Twelve different Instruments for the Orchestras. Matter for Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR ALL THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to CO-OPERATIVE OFFICES, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, or at least TWO WEEKS, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled.

IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to Opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced.

ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

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"FOR KING AND SIRELAND,"
The New Imperial Anthem (Edward Montagu).
Sung by Ian Colquhoun.

"THE BOY AND THE EAGLE" (E. W. Rogers), and "NUMBER NINE" (LOVE DOVE LANE), (Adams and Woodville), sung by Arthur Lennard.

"MAN AND WIFE SHOULD ALWAYS PULL TOGETHER" (Murphy and Lipton), and "SYMPATHY" (Kendis and Paley).
Sung by Miss Carlotta Levey.

"THE ONLY BIT OF ENGLAND THAT WE'VE GOT" (Castling and Godfrey), and "THE TAXIMETER CAR" (Hyde and Heath), sung by Billy Williams.

"IF THE MAN IN THE MOON WERE A COON" (Fred Fischer).
Sung by G. H. Elliott; also by Miss May Moore-Duprez.

"I'D RATHER LIVE IN ROGER'S ROW" (G. A. Stevens.)
Sung by Miss Kitty Rayburn.

"IF YOU DON'T WANT LOTS OF GOLD" (Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford), sung by Miss Daisy Dormer.

"THAT'S THE REASON NOO I WEAR A KILT" (Lauder and Kendall).
Sung by Harry Lauder.

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New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our District Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follows:—

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N.B.—Mr. OSWALD STOLL or Mr. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously.

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N.B.—INTERVIEWED BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS for MONDAY, MAY 13, 1907.

Rehearsals at 1 p.m.

PALACE THEATRE, PLYMOUTH.
Fred Karno's Co., "Early Birds," Francis O'Flynn, Little Ganty, Madge May, The Two Wiltons, Hettie Chattell, Bioscope, George Leyton's Scena, "Wreck of the Birkenhead."

PALACE THEATRE, BRISTOL.
Stein and Eretto Family, Norman and Leonard Trio, J. W. Hall, Edie Gray and Coons, Hector, H. O. Wills, Maudie McDonald, Bioscope, Duncan and Godfrey.

PALACE THEATRE, SUNDERLAND.
Mrs. John Lawson, "Devil's Sunday," Stelling and Revell, Sinclair and Parr, Vowles and Bryan, Three Tivoli Girls, Mignonette Kokin, Bioscope, Galetti's Monkeys.

KING'S THEATRE, GATESHEAD.
Dr. Carl Hermann, Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, Andy Fagan, Wright and Elton, Venola Brothers, Jock Walker, Bioscope, The Three Bostonians, Walton and Lester.

PALACE THEATRE, DUNDEE.
Gunner Moir, Musical Howard, Doris Middleton, Harry Taylor, The Moxons, Lily Flexmore, R. C. McGill, Brindall and Cooper, Bioscope, Alexandre and Hughes.

PALACE THEATRE, ABERDEEN.
Jock Whiteford, Alf Chester, The Maitlands, Daisy Morell, Rowland Hill, Ryde and Beeman, The Monckton, Kerr and Koe, Bioscope, Clark and Hayden.

N.B.—Artists will oblige by sending billing matter punctually.

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"WHEN? WHEN? WHEN?"
"FATHERLAND."
"TINY FIREFLY."
"ROSIE IS WAITING."
"BELLE OF THE DARDANELLES."
"MR. OCTOPUS."
"JOAN! JOAN! JOAN!"
"COME FOR A SAIL IN MY YACHT," &c., &c.

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Secretary and Manager, **Mr. C. Standfield.**

CALLS FOR MONDAY, MAY 13, 1907.

PALACE, DOVER.
Raymond, Jack Heath, Daisy Silcott, Raynor Trio, Carl Rosine, Gladys Warren, Bros. Ashley, Rosie Archer.

ALHAMBRA, SANDGATE.
Raymond, Oakley and James, Phil Bransby, Hulo Hodgson and Co., T. C. Callaghan, Sisters Allen, Mlle. Nathalia, Rhoda Burnhill, Nat Watkins.

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GLASGOW PAVILION.
CALL for Monday, May 13, 1907.
7. Twice Nightly. 9.
Rehearsal at 11 o'clock for:—
Dan Crawley, Miss Lottie Lennox, Raie Walters, Geoffrey and Benson, Janet Hall, Goodfellow and Gregson, Lilian Bishop, Keen and Waller, George Barron.

GREENOCK PAVILION.
Kindly Note.—The Directors of the above Theatre have decided to Close for the Summer Months. Artists holding Contracts may have their dates transferred should they so desire, otherwise please consider them cancelled.
All bill matter must be sent to Glasgow fourteen days ahead. Failing this, Artists will run the risk of having their Contracts cancelled. By order.
SAMUEL LLOYD, General-Manager

CALLS. CALLS.

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All Bookings are now made direct from above Hall.
All Contracts made on behalf of the Palace, Glasgow, on or before April 7, 1906, and delivered to the present Management, not yet completed, will be carried out
Bill matter must be sent two weeks in advance.
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Kelly and Gillette, Tom Lloyd, Elgars, Harry Varden, Leo Trainor, The Volmers, Pat Carey, Carlotta Levey, Tom Lowen, Athas and Collins.

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NEW HIPPODROME.
CALL, Monday, May 13. Rehearsal 12.30. Menotti, The Five M.P.'s, Daisy Almer, New Operascope, Tom Fancourt and Jennie Rubie, Marie St. John, Fred Mason, Susie and Protti. Artists requiring immediate dates apply Sole Booking Representative, H. PERCIVAL YOUNG, Shakespeare Theatre Offices, Clapham Junction, London, S.W.

SHEERNESS HIPPODROME.
General-Manager, Mr. FRED LEIGHTON.
CALL, Monday, May 13, 1907.
Edward Marris's Company, with "Somebody's Sweetheart."
Band Rehearsal, Monday, the 13th, at 1 p.m.

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CALLS.
FOR WEEK COMMENCING
MONDAY, MAY 13, 1907.

PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT.

SPECIAL NOTICE.
Rehearsal at all Halls, Monday, at 12.0 sharp.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Walker and May, Sisters Hall, Edna Latonne, Rose Elliott, Lang and Beal, Cambo, Pictures, Charles Banks.

PALACE, LINCOLN.
Deane Tribune and Co., Rose Cabani, Larola, Ben Albert, Charlie Williams, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Idento Brothers, Lily Curry.

PALACE, BATH.
"Three of a Kind," Sisters Marion, Four Herberts, Tiny Arnold, Joe Dale, Johnny Dwyer, Bert Danson, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Leoni Clarke, Madge Morley and Co., Brayne and Lloyd, Will Johnson, Daisy Martell, Les Zelovas, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, La Belle Maie, Arion Quartette.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Fourteen Black Hussars, Jack Lane, Maudie Forde, Gold and Sterling, Mike Cray, Richardson Taylor, Leo King, Bob Hutt and Co., in "Welcome Home," Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

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Victoria Monks, T. W. Rawson and Co., Sidney Dolf, Fred Herbert, Lily Stewart, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Bertha Winder, Letine.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Ernest Shand, Bonnetti and Corri, Three Pirmans, Three Brothers Huxter, Musical Silvo, Helen Charles, John E. Coyle, Madoline Rees, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

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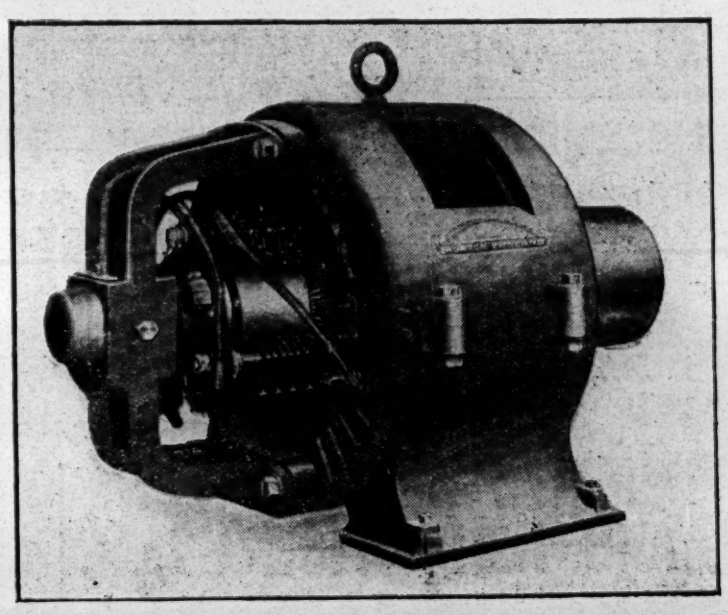

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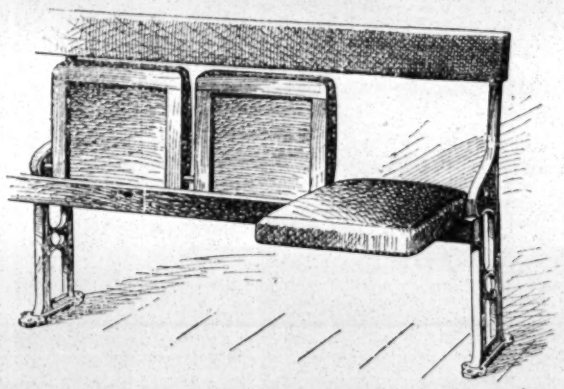

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GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

The second of Señor Carlos Sobrino's six pianoforte recitals was given on Tuesday afternoon, the programme being devoted to Beethoven's three Sonatas—the first in C Major, Op. 53 (L'Aurore), dedicated to Count Waldstein; the Sonata, Quasi una Fantasia, Op. 27, No. 2, C sharp Minor, known as the "Moonlight"; and the Appassionata, Op. 57, in F Minor. Señor Sobrino played with ample executive skill and keen appreciation of the great beauty of these noble works, being particularly happy in his rendering of the "Moonlight" Sonata; the splendid third movement, Presto agitato, was played with great brilliancy and expression. The recital was largely attended, and the talented Professor warmly applauded. Señor Sobrino's next recital will be devoted to the works of Schumann, Schubert, Weber, and Mendelssohn.

The students' concert on Wednesday evening commenced with an organ solo, "Fugue from Sonata No. 8," by Rheinberger, neatly executed by Mr. A. C. Rackham. Sullivan's song, "The Lost Chord," is seldom sung now, although at one time so popular, it makes a great demand on the vocalist, and Miss Florence Foote, therefore, deserves praise for her by no means unsuccessful attempt, and Mr. A. C. Rackham for his careful playing of the organ obbligato. In her violin solo of Borowski's "Mazur," Miss Hilda Laver was much applauded; and Miss Winifred Evans may be warmly commended for her intelligent rendering of Beethoven's solo for pianoforte, "Andante con variazioni from Sonata Op. 26." An apology was made for the non-appearance of Miss Christine Chabot, the young lady having been unfortunately knocked down by a motor-car. Mr. H. L. E. Lopresti, who has a pleasing and well-trained voice, may be warmly praised for his really artistic singing of Guy d'Hardelot's graceful song, "Because," and Miss Edith Harnden for her neat and finished execution in her harp solo of Thomas's "Study in F." Miss Dorothy Beal sung "Roses by summer forsaken" (Newton) skilfully, and Miss Edith Hays greatly pleased the audience by her singing of Woodforde Finden's "Temple bells." Miss W. Norman will no doubt in time become an able violinist, but Max Bruch's "Romance" proved on this occasion a somewhat too difficult solo for the young student; while Miss Edith H. Lockyer gave a clever but slightly unequal performance of Raff's piano solo, "Bolero" (Op. 111). In Roeckel's "The Storm Fiend," Mr. Andrew S. Webb's good bass voice was heard to great advantage. The concert concluded with a recitation, "Retrospection," by Sir Alfred Lyall, cleverly given by Miss Annie Walden, one of Miss Kate Rorke's pupils. The duties of accompanist were most ably performed by Miss Jenny Hyman.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

In the performance of *Die Walküre*, on Thursday night, May 9, a new tenor, Herr Cornelius, appeared in the character of Siegmund. Herr Cornelius has a melodious voice, and in the great duet with Sieglinde in the first act sang with no little tenderness and expression. The only other change in the cast was the impersonation of Wotan by that fine artist Herr Van Rooy.

On Monday Nicolai's *Merry Wives of Windsor* was repeated, with the same cast as on the first performance; and on Tuesday the Second Cycle of the Ring ended with a fine performance of *Götterdämmerung*.

A house crowded in every part witnessed the performance on Wednesday evening of Puccini's charming opera, *La Bohème*. It was unfortunate that Mme. Melba was unable to appear, but Mme. Donalda, who impersonated the part of the unhappy Mimi, sang and acted to the entire satisfaction of the large audience. A warm reception was given to Signor Caruso, who made his first appearance this season in the character of Rodolfo. The great tenor, who was in fine voice, sang magnificently, receiving quite an ovation for his splendid singing of the lovely solo in the first act. Signor Scotti, as Marcello, also received a warm reception; and M. Gilibert and M. Marcoux as Schannard and Colline were excellent in their respective parts; while Mlle. Zeppilli made a most attractive Musetta. The parts of Benoit was cleverly performed by Signor Gianoli, and Signor Zucchi played Parpignol with great spirit. The opera went with great *éclat*, under the skilful conductorship of Signor Campanini.

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PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—*Her One Great Sin* proves fairly popular this week. Miss Lydia Donovan, a very graceful actress, plays convincingly as Grace Warhurst; Mr. C. Quinton Fulford makes an admirable Arnold Thornhill; Mr. G. Edward Hall is good as Katen Warhurst; and Mr. Fred Hodson appears with admirable effect as Jerry Jumble. The minor parts are all well played.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—Mr. Jock Whiteford's welcome is rapturously enthusiastic, and his quaint Scotch melodies are more popular than ever; Miss Marjory Clark and Mr. Percy Hayden provide a clever and most amusing sketch, *By Appointment;* the Monckton give a capital humorous entertainment, *Are Wives Dummies?;* Mr. Rowland Hill is excellent as a character comedian; the Three Maitlands are responsible for much merriment; Mr. Alf. Chester is clever in his line; Miss Daisy Morrell is a charming comedienne and vocalist; and Kerr and Coe are successful as comedians.

ABERTILLERY.—METROPOLE.—Lessees, Messrs. Carlton and Duckworth; Manager, Mr. Geo. W. Ventom.—Mr. F. S. Gilbert's Opera Company is appearing here this week in *Maritana, Faust, Il Trovatore, The Daughter of the Regiment,* and *The Bohemian Girl.* Miss Elsie May is in splendid voice, and acts charmingly, receiving great applause. Miss Doris Gilbert, Miss Kate White, Mr. J. Kneale Campbell, Mr. H. Blagrave, and Mr. F. S. Gilbert are also delighting the large audiences which nightly assemble.

ACCRINGTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—Mr. Morton Powell's company appeared here on Monday evening in *A Woman Who Gambles.* Miss Lillian Harries was a clever Countess Natalie; Miss Lily Malvern was exceedingly good as Stella Melakoff; Miss Lillian Rignold was effective as Zila Zeylda; Miss Brenda May was clever in her impersonation of Zanetta; and Cora Gouldhart was well depicted by Miss Florence Halton. Mr. George Steele as Count Steinbach gave an artistic and manly performance; Mr. Percy as Baron Catzlaw was equally successful; Mr. Ernest H. Clark was efficient as M. Stambuloff; Mr. R. Fox was Lem Carl to the life; and Mr. Sam S. Wilford gave a good rendering of Peter Petreoff.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Willmot, Potter, Vandy, and Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Parsons.—A strong company this week comprises the Waldrons (Joe and Hetty), in *Our Sammy,* which is real fun; Ida Ross, dainty Tyrolean vocalist; the Four Juggling Geraldos, a particularly smart turn; Mabel La Blanch, comedienne; Zanfretta and Napio, musical eccentrics; Stacy and Williams, cross-talkers and dancers; Star and Jerome, vocal comedians and expert dancers, and the Bioscope.

ALDERSHOT.—THE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—*Home, Sweet Home* is capably played by Messrs. Travis Green and Arthur Hinton's company. Mr. Arthur Hinton gives a fine impersonation of the honest fisherman Stephen; and from Miss Leila Zillwood comes a very clever portrayal of Joan. Miss Dolly Turner shows considerable ability in the youthful rôle of Dora, and she sings very sweetly; Mr. Frank Hudspeth's old fisherman, David, is ably presented; and Mr. A. Lowry gives a good enactment of the Duke. The thankless rôle of Lucas is brought into prominence by Mr. Travis Green's able personation; and Messrs. Wilton Drury (Percy), and Victor Millard (Dick) do well. Miss Jennie Clare's is an amusing conception of Sybil; Miss Constance Cluer is the brandy-loving old woman, Sal; and Lydia Audre is Lady Somerton.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Revill.—Messrs. Paumier and Howard's company is here with Mr. Walter Howard's romantic play, *The Midnight Wedding.* The chief personages are Paul Valmar, a sword-master of the Red Hussars, which character is very powerfully depicted by Mr. Alfred Paumier. The leading lady of the story is Princess Astrea Von Strelsburg, and this imperious yet noble-hearted woman is admirably portrayed by Miss Annie Saker. The other persons of the drama are also very ably interpreted by Mr. Fredk. W. Freeman as the Crown Prince Leopold, Mr. Edwd. Fletcher as Lieut. Eugene Von Strelsburg, Mr. Ernest E. Imeson as Capt. Rudolph Von Scarsbruck, Mr. W. S. Hardy as Father Gerard, and Mr. A. Radford, Mr. J. Haringay, Mr. C. E. Dane, Mr. Stephens, Mr. Shelding, Mr. Bert Lewis, with Mr. J. E. Page, Mr. Vernon Vane, and Mr. A. Spalding, the last three as humorous comrades in war but rivals in love. Prominent figures, too, in every situation are Misses Ada Champion as Kathie, Prudence Lawrence as Marie, and Marion Fawcett as Rozel.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—Bob and Harry (Fame and Fortune) introduce into their act singing, acrobating and comic boxing; George Prince is a fair specimen of the singing grotesque fun-maker; Adams and Rous introduce into their turn a new style of singing playlet; Guy Ryder challenges attention as an expert vocalist, siffleur, and mimic; the Lombards give variety in adept acrobatism; jugglery of an adroit kind is seen in Shavo's performances; perhaps he most attractive turn of the programme is Hayley's latest production, *The Garden of Girls,* a very pleasing scena; as an equilibrist of the sensational order Durazcol's hand-balancing, &c., would be hard to beat; of the actor-vocalist kind of entertainer J. H. Dundas merits particular mention; and Marie Blythe has a fine voice as a contralto vocalist. The Bioscope pictures, as usual, are good.

ATTERCLIFFE.—PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. T. E. Owen.—This week we have Messrs. Norburn and Campling's company in a dramatic playlet, *A Winter's Eve,* which is admirably presented; Mr. J. S. James puts in some good work as a banjoist and trick bone soloist; a pleasing turn is that of the Raymond Trio, instrumentalists and dancers; Mr. E. C. Clayton's Attergraph pictures are still a popular feature of the programme; the Four Louberts combine plenty of fun with acrobatic skill; Mr. Dare Godfrey is a clever illusionist; the Edlins in a farcical sketch, entitled *Polly's Perfidy,* were well received; and Mr. Walter Wallis is a taking comedian.

AYR.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry W. Day.—The Anglo-American Bioscope Company, supported by a variety company, is responsible for the entertainment here this week. The Bioscope in itself is well worth seeing; the pictures are all very clever and entertaining. Termed "the World's greatest foot painter," Mons. de Henau sketches quickly, using his feet like hands; Dan Noble, comedian, has had a good reception; Aladina, with her performing cockatoos, has proved an acceptable turn; Marie Yorke, comedienne and speciality dancer, has made a good impression; and Harry Ray and Lillie Calden appear in the amusing comedy act, *Peculiarities.*

BACUP.—NEW COURT THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Denman-Wood.—Mr. Bert Coote's company is here with *The Fatal Wedding.* Miss Katherine Clarke, who now plays Mabel Wilson, is exceedingly clever as the deeply-wronged and long-suffering wife; Miss Leah Marlborough as Cora Williams, the evil genius of the play, acts with malignant intensity; Miss Julie Temple diverts the audience with her portrayal of the formidable cook; and Miss Marie Wilson as the little mother demonstrates what an exceedingly clever little girl she is. Mr. Ernest Owtrim as Howard Wilson acts with all the energy the part requires; Mr. Guy Hastings as Robert Curtis, in a very unpleasant part, does all that is necessary to make it repulsive; Mr. C. H. Hughes as Toto is responsible for much laughter; and Mr. Jack Waring's impersonation of the sympathetic policeman is good. Mr. Cyril Melton, too, as Schwartz is very amusing; and Mr. Arthur Law Raynor is well placed as the Rev. Dr. Launceford.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.—ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Mr. Geo. Kirk and Miss Mary Neil's company, in *Her Luck in London,* is here. Mr. Chas. A. Leicester is an excellent Hon. Fitzgerald O'Connor; and Mr. George Heath a capital Richard Lenowen. Mr. Douglas Tremayne makes a capable Rev. Lionel Strong; Miss Mary Neil a captivating Nellie Harborne; and Miss Marie Clavering a convincing Mme. Gabrielle. Miss Frances Bruce gives a good rendering of Lilian Harborne; and Mr. J. Telley Willsen is a humorous Jerry Gotobed.

TIVOLI.—Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Edgar Laban.—Mr. and Mrs. Lucas present a number of sketches from the works of Charles Dickens, and the pathos and humour of the pieces are excellently portrayed. Edward E. Ford, the Australian sundowner and facial expressionist, is a right good turn; the Brontes give a clever little comedy duologue, entitled *Saucy Maud;* and Bessie Benson (vocalist and sand-dancer), Harry Marte (comedian and dancer), the Sisters Selwin (duettists and dancers), are very good. The pictures by Vernon's Bioscope are still quite an attraction.

BATH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—Mr. Lewis Waller and company are here in *Robin Hood.* Mr. Robert Minster makes a great impression by his embodiment of the daring but loyal-hearted outlaw, Robin Hood; his bold ally, Will Scarlet, having an excellent representative in Mr. Laurence Tessier. Mr. Augustus Wheatman provided great merriment by his jovial enactment of Friar Tuck; another popular character being John Little, played in humorous style by Mr. Leslie Rea. The sterling vocal abilities of Mr. Ethelbert Edwards find full scope in the songs that fall to the minstrel, Allan-a-Dale. The usurper, Prince John, is ably portrayed by Mr. Bellenden Clarke, his compatriots being played by Mr. H. Elliott Ball and Mr. Val Glynn. King John is undertaken by Mr. E. C. Vaughan with discretion. Miss Marie Polini as Maid Marian brought to her part an irresistible charm of manner; Adela, the attendant, found a delightfully pert and piquant actress in Miss D. Moore Lane; Miss Lilian Lait did well as Alison Much; as also did Miss Mabel Young as the Dowager Queen.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—*Three of a Kind* causes immense hilarity. Mr. Colin Bryce as General Flareup leads in the funmaking, and is well supported by his companions. The Four Herberts, who were last seen in Bath in a circus ring, secure equal success upon the stage in their acrobatic work; Tiny Arnold, comedienne and dancer, is always sure of a warm welcome; Johnny Dwyer scores a big success with his "labourer" character song, "My little wife"; a fellow of infinite jest is Bert Danson; and Joe Dale, chorus comedian, is a favourite. Raymond's Bio-tableaux are exhibiting more excellent pictures.

BEDFORD.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—Mr. Frank Weathersby's company opened here on Monday in *The Liars.* Mr. Albert Ward as Sir Christopher Deering played most ably; Mr. Escott Robson was good as Edward Faulkner; Gilbert and George Nepean were impersonated respectively by Mr. Ernest Stidwell and Mr. Christmas Grose; Mr. A. J. Harding as Freddie Tatton and Mr. Edward S. Petley as Archibald Coke were alike thoroughly efficient. Miss Adah Barton was a capital Mrs. Crespin; Miss Agnes Bain an acceptable Beatrice Ebernoe; Dolly Coke found an able exponent in Miss Helena Parsons; and Miss Leila Russell and Miss Nancy Beresford were equally good as Lady Rosamund Tatton and Lady Jessica Nepean.

BELFAST.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—The new musical play, *My Darling,* was produced here on Monday by a very capable company, of which Miss Marie Studholme is the reigning star. The welcome accorded Miss Studholme on Monday was of the most flattering description. Her impersonation of Joy Blossom was bewitching, and her singing and dancing afforded much pleasure. Mr. J. F. McArdle was amusing as Sir Henry Heldon, and rarely has this capable comedian been seen to more advantage. A charming interpretation of Daphne Bell was submitted by Miss Barbara Deane, her singing being quite a feature; and Mr. Henry A. Lytton appeared to advantage as Hon. Jack Hylton, rendering his military song with fine effect. To Mr. Armand Kalisz, who interprets Maurice Le Blanc, much praise is due, his superb vocalism arousing unbounded enthusiasm. One could not desire a more charming exponent of Sylvaine than Miss Marguerite Leslie; Miss Alice Barth was admirable as Lady Heldon, and Miss Helen Kinnaird was amusing as Mrs. Pomeroy P. Green. Mr. Will Bishop scored as Sir James Jagg; and Mr. Tom Graves was exceedingly droll as Oddy. Miss Alice Hollander as Gabriel Renee sings exquisitely, and her reception has been flattering; and Mr. Archie McCaig made the most of the part of Squib. The play is produced by Mr. Seymour Hicks, the dances and choral effects being by Mr. Edward Royce. The specially augmented orchestra was under the skilful direction of Mr. Thomas M. Tunbridge.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Warden, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General-Manager, Mr. J. De Freece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—Mr. George Gilbey tops the bill, and has been accorded a terrific reception. Mr. Arthur Conquest, supported by a capable company, appears to great advantage in *The Sioux,* in which Mr. Conquest's impersonation of the Gorilla is really remarkable. Les Voces, operatic vocalists, sing with much taste; and a hit has been made by the Carina Sisters, who play a number of musical instruments artistically. Johnson and Pelham appear in their smart comedy act, in which some fine ball-punching by Kid Johnson is a feature. Miss Jeanie Hartley, comedienne and dancer; Bliss and Bliss, comedians; Miss Nellie Dunbar, comedienne and dancer; and the Palace pictures complete.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Hippodrome Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Will Sley; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The bill here is headed by the charming comedienne, Miss Annie Purcell, whose delightful rendering of several songs has been successful. Miss Henriette De Serris' artistic bas-reliefs with their effective tableaux have been retained from last week, and this beautiful entertainment has afforded the utmost pleasure. The Great Schiavonis Troupe, speciality comedy acrobats, are exceedingly smart; and Mlle. Violi plays a number of instruments perfectly. Atroy, society juggler and hoop roller, is surpassingly clever; and a hit has been made by Victoria and Georgetto in their unique speciality. Mr. Leslie Race, comedian; the Soho

Trio, in their song and dance scena; Mr. Harry Briggs, vocalist; and the Hipposcope, with new pictures, are also here.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John A. Walker.—The top of the bill is occupied by the Gems, who provide a most attractive entertainment with mirth and song. Mr. Herbert Shelley, the clever actor-vocalist, appears to the greatest advantage in his dramatic protean sketch, entitled *Dan the Outlaw*. Miss Daisy Mayer affords every possible satisfaction with her coon stories with music, in which she is ably assisted by Mr. Paul Knox; Mr. Charles Chard is a versatile comedian, with good songs; and Drew and Alders create amusement with their eccentric act, *The Coastguards*. Miss Annie Casey is a charming comedienne with good songs; and also here are Miss Queenie May, juvenile vocalist; and Mount and Corelle, who furnish a smart doulogue, entitled *The Master and the Maid*.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Sinclair Neill.—The Alhambra Dramatic Company, under the personal direction of Mr. M. Montgomery, produce here this week the fine drama, *Geoffrey Langdon's Wife; or, a Beautiful Criminal*. Miss Nina Blake-Adams appears to great advantage in the title-rôle. Mr. Horace Denton furnished a skilful impersonation of the dual rôle of Cyril Langdon and Geoffrey Langdon; and nothing but praise must be accorded Miss Kathleen Magee for her exceptionally clever interpretation of Elinor D'Arville. Mr. Edward M. Heanley furnished a powerful impersonation of Will Maynard; and Mr. Cyril Grier would indeed be difficult to surpass as Peter Miles. Mr. Elmore Frith was in every sense capable as Hingston; and Mr. Tom H. Solly was excruciatingly funny as James; Miss Mattie Crawford was a vivacious Rosina; Miss Alice Clarke an admirable Phœbe; and other rôles were adequately presented by Messrs. Ed. Smythe, J. E. Davies, and Miss Ada Arnott. The Alhambra Bioscope exhibits a fine picture entitled, "The Hero of the Fire."

BILSTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Battersby; Musical-Director, Mr. J. E. Machin.—Once more *The Grip of Iron* is played here, with Mr. Fred Powell as Jagon and Mr. George Denham as Loustalot. Messrs. Knight and Denham's company also consist of the following performers: Miss Rosabell Dodd, an able Cora; Mr. Wallace Curnock, a painstaking Paul Blanchard; Miss Florence Trevoir, an affectionate Sophie Blanchard; Mr. A. G. Polson-Turner, a despicable Lorentz; Miss Maggie Stewart, an attractive Marie Guerin; and Messrs. John Brittain and W. T. Riley as the humorous representatives of the old school and new school of detectives.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant; Secretary, Miss Isabel Morris.—Mr. Andrew Melville's company in *Driven from Home* is here. Mr. Fred A. Marston gives an effective performance of Anthony Raybrook; Mr. Francis Everard is an effective Walter Hathersleigh; Geoffrey Waring is well impersonated by Mr. G. M. Montanini; and Mr. Percy Dawsone plays Willie for all the part is worth. Miss Rose Ralph acquits herself with marked distinction in the important rôle of Laura Raybrook; and Miss Bella Power is a commendable Barbara Ashdown.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—Harry Tate in his side-splitting sketch, *Fishing*, heads an excellent company here. Mooney and Holbein, grotesque dancers, have made an undeniable hit; and Miss May Henderson is a big favourite. Miss Sable Fern, comedienne, is on a welcome return visit, and a strong combination also includes Hess and Lisbon, trick skaters; Miss Ethel Ra Leslie, descriptive vocalist; Mr. Charles Sloman, comedian, and Brown's Royal Bioscope.

BIRMINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—Mr. Oscar Asche and Miss Lily Brayton conclude their very pleasant and successful fortnight's engagement here to-night. In addition to *The Taming of the Shrew* and *The Virgin Goddess*, noticed last week, Mr. Asche has submitted his conception of Othello, which holds the audience spellbound with its masterly dignity and leonine rage. Mr. Alfred Bryden's subtlety as the fiendish Iago is another powerful factor in the production; Miss Lily Brayton acts as Desdemona with infinite tenderness, and portrays her affection for the Moor with deep sincerity; Miss Constance Robertson is pleasing as Emilia; Mr. H. R. Hignett is gallant and soldierly as Cassio; Mr. G. Kay Souper lends a little gaiety as Roderigo; and the other rôles are well sustained.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Rodgers, Limited; Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—*Peter Pan* continues till to-night to delight with the exquisitely-staged and admirably-acted fairy story of "the boy who wouldn't grow up." Miss Pauline Chase and Miss Hilda Trevelyan have received high compliments for their graceful and natural acting as Peter Pan and Wendy, and the rest of the company are much esteemed.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Bernardo.—*The Village Blacksmith* makes a welcome appearance here with Messrs. Dottridge, Longden, and Livesey's company. Mr. Sam Livesey, in the titular rôle, John Strong, is applauded to the echo, his assumption being most powerful and convincing; Mr. Joseph Carter, as that accomplished rogue and athlete, Captain Leo, plays on the audience's feelings admirably; Mr. Edwin Maydew acts well as the cat's-paw, Marler; Miss Maggie Edwards is regarded with much affection as the sorely-tried wife, Kate; Miss Bertha Hanbury elicits the utmost praise as the child, Harry; Mr. Thos. E. Marshall is a diverting character as Jeremiah Parkins; Mrs. T. C. Livesey is highly popular as Mrs. Parkins; and Miss Cassie Le Grande is commendable as Ruth Parkins. Mr. George V. Campbell, in the character of the half-witted country boy, Billy Twigg, is truly humorous, and deserving of the highest praise. The famous wrestling scene is given with every semblance of reality.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Andrew Melville; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—*A Destroyer of Men*, played by Mr. James Hare's company, is drawing good houses here. Mr. Hare's fine powers are well employed in the rôle of the exile, Karl Mischla; Mr. C. P. Wentworth gives a capital assumption of Count Starevitch; Mr. Hill Cremer is successful as Paul Starevitch; Mr. Charles Bickell lends himself admirably to the part of Michael Mischla; Miss Irene Clifford exercises a potent spell with her fine acting as Olga Mischla; Miss Jessie Yatman, a favourite here, is seen to advantage as the rightful heiress, Vida Ravel; Miss Alice Buckland is "all smiles" and vivacity as Nina Pattakake; Mr. Ross Warren adds to the humorous element with his clever acting as Coco Tatchoski; and the other rôles are well acted, including that of Strelitzke, the police-spy, which redounds to the credit of Mr. Chas. Coventry.

CARLTON THEATRE, SALTLEY.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—*The Triumph of Truth*, presented by Mr. Roland Yorke's company, succeeds capitally in sustaining the reputation of this well-known suburban house. Mr. Henry Lonsdale plays to excellent purpose as Count Raoul D'Orville; Miss Gertrude Hunt acts in fine style as Blanche Le Croix; Miss Gertrude Benser assumes the attributes of the twin sisters, Lilian and Violet Anstruther, with marked success; Mr. Roland Yorke is impressive and powerful as Vitteo Mascagni; Miss N. Hughes gives clever effect to the rôle of Little Lena; Mr. Leonard Maxwell lends much weight to the part of Inspector Danvers; and the comedy scenes are well portrayed by Mr. Fred De Vere as Tommy Woodhead. Miss Florence Halton is very good as Coralie; Mr. S. Crossley does well as Pierre Couppard; and Mr. Dudley Winton shines as Jack Eversleigh.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles.—*A False Wife* is doing well here with Mr. F. Marriott-Watson's company, Mr. Watson himself being conspicuous for his clever embodiment of Jean Beraud. Miss Florence E. Florence gives powerful effect to the part of Estelle de Lussan; Miss Annie Hylton is highly successful as Agnes Weyland; Mr. Fred H. Constable is a capable representative of Lieut. George Mansfield; Mr. Elton Morgan diffuses admirable comic relief as Ben Rattler; Mr. Allen Charles supports well as Archibald Brown Tee; Miss Ivy Chandos adds to the pleasantry as Bessie Blazer; and Mr. Harold Wallace appears as the mad wizard, Zorak.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham.—Mr. R. A. Roberts appears here this week in *Ringing the Changes*, in which he cleverly enacts eight varied parts. Marie Loftus is just as successful as ever, which is saying a good deal; and Ian Colquhoun is recalled several times for his excellent baritone songs; La Danseuse is a promising juvenile; Boyd and Gilfain are expert musicians and vocalists; and other good turns are provided by Gladys Huxley, comedienne; the Three Amaranths, speciality dancers; David Toole, ventriloquist; and Goggin and Davis, acrobatic dancers.

GAIETY.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—The representations of sculpture and famous pictures given by Mlle. Irma Classen's "living art bronzes" are of an artistic character, while the tableaux were free from any feature in the slightest degree objectionable. Harry Weldon is a good comedian, his burlesque on Dick Turpin and the modern coon being extremely funny; Carl Lynn is a remarkably clever mimic; and the gymnastic performance of the Jamsons is very good; Vere and Royal are a capable vocal comedy duo, while Wyze and Adna have a pleasing operetta. The Lancashire Sextette are expert dancers, and Muir and Bartlett present a laughable sketch.

HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—The chief turn here is Sam Elton, the silent comedian, who requires no words to convulse the house with laughter the whole of the time he is on the stage; Lillie Souter is a lively character comedienne with a strong, clear voice; Cordite and Buffalo manipulate lariats in a manner quite surprising; while Fred Cary's funny antics entract hearty laughs from the most serious; Jimson's sketch *The Burglar's Surprise* is extremely funny, and includes three very clever dogs; Miss Senwick's singing, in an electric scena, reveals a voice of great range and purity; while Hope and Wayho present some effective scenes from Dickens. Flo Warner, Keith and Merson, Ruby Bijou, Barney Armstrong, and Walter Wade complete an excellent programme.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Foster.—Few funnier sketches are to be found on the variety stage than *The Baby Burglar*, in which Master Edward Garratt, dressed as a child of six, is introduced into a household, and endeavours to clear off with the valuables. Edward Cranston and company, in an Irish racing sketch, *Terry*, are loudly applauded; the Two Bostons introduce a burlesque circus; and Sydney Lee is a mysterious conjurer; Effie Stuart, Scottish comedienne, gives an excellent turn; the Neilson Sisters are expert dancers, and Harry Bedford a clever comedian.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr. Lionel Glenister and Mr. Wood-Ingram's company is here in *All-of-a-Sudden Peggy*. Miss Decima Moore repeats her charming and sparkling impersonation of Peggy, and Mr. Glenister again does well as the Hon. Jimmy Keppel. Lord Crackenthorpe has a capable exponent in Mr. Alfred S. Barber; Mr. Henderson Bland carefully plays Major Phipps, and Mr. J. Edgar Stevenson contributes an excellent delineation of Jack Menzies. Miss Naomi Neilson most successfully impersonates Mrs. O'Mara; and Misses Kate Wingfield, Eva Lonsdale, and Estelle Despa give a good account of themselves in minor parts. *The Lady Who Dwelt in the Dark* is the curtain-raiser.

GRAND THEATRE.—Owner and Manager, Mr. T. Sergenson.—Mr. Ian Maclaren and company are appearing here this week in a round of Shakespearean plays. *Hamlet* was submitted on Monday night, when Mr. Maclaren very successfully essayed the rôle of the melancholy Dane, and Miss Katherine Harrington gave a satisfactory account of the fair Ophelia. Mr. Frank Royde as Laertes and Mr. J. V. Bryant as Horatio were also good. *The Merchant of Venice*, *As You Like It*, *Othello*, and *Twelfth Night* have a place in the week's bill.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Joe Boganny's Lunatic Bakers in their comedy risley act form one of the cleverest turns ever witnessed in Blackpool; whilst Mark Sheridan is in great form with new songs, and Fred Barnes is a comedian who is rapidly coming to the front. Sibb and Sibb, trapeze artists; La Tostia, mandolinist; Yolande Noble, comedienne; Hallam and Stanton, in a sketch; the Brothers Etharien, comedians, and the Sisters Reno, transformation dancers, are also well received.

BOLTON.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Melvin.—Messrs. Mollison and Cooper's company opened here on Monday with their first representation in Bolton of the late Ian Maclaren's *Beside the Bonnie Briar Bush*. Mr. William Mollison as Lachlan Campbell gives a masterly and powerful rendering, and Miss Evelyn McNay plays charmingly the character of Flora Campbell. The parts of Lord Kilspindie and Lord Donald Hay are ably filled by Mr. Whitford Kane and Mr. Eric Dane; equally good are the Rev. John Carmichael of Mr. Henry Deas and the Tammas Mitchell of Mr. Kendal Chalmers; Mr. Maclaren is successful as Sandy Macpherson; Mr. W. A. Mackersy does well as William Maclare; the parts of the children, Geordie and Jeannie, are ably taken by Miss E. Hermina Black and Miss J. McGaw Fitzgerald; Mr. Alec F. Thompson plays in a finished manner the part of Archibald McKittrick ("Wee Posty"); Miss E. Blair Staples is good as Annie; Kate Carnegie is well portrayed by Miss Elsie Vron; and Margaret Howe has a good exponent in Miss Josephine Woodward.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—A varied and interesting programme is submitted here by the following:—The Dayton Family (ten in number), in their latest creation, entitled *The Rendez-Vous*, an acrobatic novelty sketch; Eva Chadwick, ballad vocalist; Frank Coyle, comedian; the Vekeys, banjoists; Julia Kent and Alex. Keith, comedy duologue artists; Harry and Cissie Pleon, in a mélange of oddities; Wyndham and Waters, in their laughable act, *The Professor and His Pupil*; Sadie Seymour, comedienne; Forest and King, tumblers, &c.; the twin Sisters Melba, vocalists; the Balsamos, in a comedy gymnastic act; and Vernon's Imperial Bioscope.

BOOTLE. — MUNCASTER THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. Pennington; Manager, Mr. H. Pennington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Young.—Miss Maude Western and company are delighting the audiences here this week with the military drama *The Prodigal Son*. Mr. W. Buckstone as Captain Harry Fanshaw gives a fine impersonation; Mr. Claude Seaton in the titular part is well placed; Miss Ada Hender plays Margaret Marsden with power and pathos; and Mr. John Levey is a capable Bill Burke; Mr. Alf. Stretton does well as the villainous Ralph Marsden; Mr. F. Dudley is a capable Sir John Fanshawe; and Mr. Robert Earle, a droll Larry McGehan, is ably assisted by Miss Connie Meadows as Mary; Miss Maude Western is a bright and vivacious Dick; and Miss Helen Thomson makes a sympathetic Nelly Burke; songs and dances are introduced by Miss Connie Meadows, Miss Maud Western, and Mr. Robert Earl.

BOSCOMBE.—HIPPODROME.—Joint Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Ball.—A marvellous turn is submitted by Kartelli, with his equilibristic feats on the slack wire; Alec Kendal, comedian, causes much laughter with his droll stories; Chas. Deane, a clever comedian, is successful with his latest songs; Ailsa Douglas gains much applause for her singing; Chas. Johnson is a diverting coloured comedian; Ada Parker is a dainty comedienne and clever dancer; A. E. Clifford provides a good vocal turn; and the Hippodrome pictures maintain their popularity.

BOURNEMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, David Allen and Sons; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Manager, Mr. Rowland Stewart.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company is here in *Under Two Flags*. Included in a strong cast are Miss Amy Maitland, Mr. Wellesley Draper, Mr. Durmont Fitzgibbon, Mr. Charles Brooke, Mr. Arthur Elwyn, and Miss Mabel Mannering. Mme. Jane Hading and her Parisian company paid a flying visit on Monday, when a performance of *Frou-Frou* was given in the afternoon. There was a crowded audience, which gave the famous actress an enthusiastic reception.

SHAFTESBURY HALL.—West's pictures continue to attract large audiences. This week a long film depicting the Naval Review at Spithead is especially popular. Mr. Mackenzie Henderson is the raconteur, and Mr. George Hadon gives humorous recitals, which are much appreciated.

BRADFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—Mr. Richard A. Greene's historical play, *The Angel of Unrest*, is being presented for the first time here by Messrs. Alec Flood and Aubrey Fitzmaurice's company. Mr. Flood's impersonation of Napoleon has much to recommend it in the way of vigour; Mr. Henry Belding's breezy performance of Papa Bompasse earns well-merited applause; and Mr. Creagh Henry gives an excellent impersonation of Paul Brandt. Miss Florence Tressilian is a graceful Julie; Lisette is well played by Miss Nita Imeson; and other noteworthy efforts are the Col. Bernaise of Mr. R. A. Greene, the Captain Leblanc of Mr. G. Chase, and the M. Lepine of Mr. Lawrence Vining.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Francis Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—Mr. Walter Howard's military drama, *Second to None*, was given on Monday for the first time here by Mr. T. E. Ward's company. Mr. Jerrold Heather displays ability in the important part of Harry Wilding; as Nell Greystone, Miss Ward is effective; Captain Mannering is ably represented by Mr. J. Stillwell; Mr. L. Norman does full justice to the part of Colonel Greystone; and Mr. J. G. Maine's Sergeant Horseman is excellent.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—The Elliott Savonas Family of musicians are delighting audiences here with their clever instrumental work in their gorgeously-lighted "Palace of Orpheus"; and no little sensation is caused by Billy McClain and company (including Mlle. Cordelia), who do some clever work in their Southern scena, *The Hottest Coon from Dixie*. Edie King is a charming comedienne and dancer; *Getting Even* is an amusing duologue, successfully sustained by Sinclair and Whiteford; the Vassilescu Troupe of pantomimists are grotesque comedy triple-bar performers; a novel turn in the shape of football on bicycles is cleverly worked by Hinton and Wooton; Sylvesta (assisted by Miss Vera de Courtenay) gives a smart performance in magic; an excellent musical turn by the Howards (Ralph and Nellie) finds favour; and some fine pictures are shown by the American Bioscope

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. R. Ralli.—Leoni Clarke, with his wonderfully-trained cats and other animals, is on a successful return visit; Daisy Martell, a dainty comedienne and dancer, is very successful; the singing by the Arion Quartet is of good quality; Will Johnson submits a lively turn; in *The Tree of Truth* Brayne and Lloyd are diverting; Les Zelovas present a clever acrobatic and equilibristic turn; and on the "silver thread" La Belle Maie charmingly executes some clever feats. There is a good deal of amusement caused by Madge Morley and company in their sketch *After the Races*, and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux include some excellent pictures.

BRIDLINGTON. — ROYAL PRINCE'S PARADE.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—Mr. Fowler Burton, a good baritone vocalist, is nightly encored at the Promenade concerts; Mr. Sainton and his orchestra are now performing in the large Floral Pavilion.

NEW SPA AND GARDENS.—General Manager and Secretary, Mr. Henry Hague.—Mr. Will Catlin's clever troupe of pierrot entertainers are again a source of great attraction, and at the week-end Herr Simon Wurm and his celebrated Viennese orchestra make their appearance for the season.

THE PALACE.—Manager, Mr. J. W. Delmar.—The American animated pictures are the great attraction this week. Sacco, the fasting man, is still undergoing his voluntary imprisonment in his glass house, this being the third week of his fast.

BRIGHTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. H. Cecil Beryl; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harcourt M. Beryl.—Mr. Arthur Bourchier's company under the direction of Mr. M. V. Leveaux, is here this week with *The Morals of Marcus*. Mr. H. Nye Chart gives a masterly and convincing portrayal of Sir Marcus Ordeyne; Miss Hilda Antony makes a delightfully winsome Carlotta; Mrs. H. Nye Chart displays great skill in her telling impersonation of Judith Mainwaring; Mr. David Domville is thoroughly artistic as the polished villain, Sebastian Pasquale; Miss Mary Weigall makes a dignified Mrs. Ordeyne; Mr. A. H. Leveaux is admirably suited as Hamdi Effendi; Miss Eleanor Gilbart submits a clever character sketch as the French housekeeper, Antoinette; Mr. Cecil Brooking is well placed as the butler, Stenson; and the remaining characters are satisfactorily sustained. At Thursday's special London matinée Sir Charles Wyndham, Miss Mary Moore, and the Criterion Theatre company appeared in *The Liars*.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter.—Miss Maud Hildyard and company opened here on Monday with *The Great Awakening*. Miss Maud Hildyard achieved distinct success in her representation of Lola Selby; Mr. A. C. Hardie gave an excellent portrayal of James Selby Miss Doris Digby made a charming Molly Merton; Mr. Stephen Langton acted with great skill as Guy Rogan; Mr. Gordon McLeod was highly effective as Capt. H. Lambert; Mr. Bernard Copping did well in the dual rôle of Sir Henry Merton and Jack Merton; and much amusement was afforded by Mr. Willie Scott as Billy Brass, and Miss Lilla Nordon as Selina Worts.

ALHAMBRA.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. L. Graydon; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Ernest Lepard.—There is an excellent company here this week. Peggy Pryde is enthusiastically applauded for her songs; Robert McLachlan, baritone vocalist, achieves much success; Arthur Albert, actor-vocalist, is well received; Doody and Wright, Australian comiques, are very amusing; Harry Cotton is an eccentric character entertainer; Happy Attwood is a merry comedian; Clarice Lockstone, from *The Blue Moon*, contributes a good turn; the Ritchie Duo, the wheelwrights, win warm applause; Kathleen Cogan is a dainty comedienne and dancer; Alec Alex and George Lilly are pleasing juvenile cross-talk comedians; and the Alhambrascope pictures are interesting and amusing.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—A capital programme is sustained here this week. The Minstrel Maids introduced by Mr. John Kurkamp, submit a splendid turn, comprising singing, dancing, jokes, and instrumental pieces; Frederick Voelker, violin virtuoso, accompanied on the pianoforte by Mrs. Voelker, wins enthusiastic applause; the Tally Ho Trio are great favourites, and are as effective as ever in their singing and amusing by-play; the Elvio Comedy Trio, in *Those Troublesome Slaveys*, display good knockabout business; Charles Ulrick is clever as the barrel king and trancka wonder; Ernest Rocco is effective in "How to Become an Acrobat"; the Sisters Warwick are capital trick cyclists; Arthur Reece is an entertaining comedian; Louise Zeitland is a pleasing ballad vocalist; Fields and Lewis are diverting in a burlesque act; Charles Vincent, comedian, wins cordial appreciation; and the Barrascope pictures are interesting.

WEST PIER.—Secretary and Entertainment-Manager, Mr. A. D. Norman.—Mr. Charles Carey and Mr. Harold Wantage's company is here this week with *The Pick of the Bunch*. Miss M. Sadie makes a charming and vivacious Nancy; Miss Nellie James is very amusing as Wilhelmina; Mr. Algernon Lee is an admirable Halliwell Menit; Miss Madge Christopher is bright and winsome as Nellie Mather; Miss Eva Ellis is a capital Ruth Gay; and Mr. Percy Baverstock as Colonel Menit, Harold Wantage as Dick, and Mr. Will Evans as Martin also merit praise.

PALACE PIER THEATRE.—The London Comedy Company is here this week with *A Fool's Paradise*. Miss Laura Hensen achieves great success as Beatrice Selwyn; Mr. Cecil Wynne gives a capital impersonation of Sir Peter Lund; Mr. J. Henry Twyford submits a good enactment of Philip Selwyn; Miss Margery Chard makes an admirable Kate Derwent; and Miss Hilda Steriker's Mildred Selwyn, Mr. W. Vernon's Hon. Tom Verinder, and Mr. Arthur Claremont's Lord Normantower deserve commendation.

BRISTOL.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—Mr. James M. Chute's company is here for the week with *A Message from Mars*. Mr. Arthur Holmes-Gore acts cleverly as Horace Parker; Mr. William H. Brougham is sufficiently imposing and impressive as the Messenger; Mr. Bruce Lindley makes a good part of the Tramp; and Mr. Thomas Holding is effective as Arthur Dicey. Minnie Templer has a pleasing and unaffected exponent in Miss Joan Ellis; and Miss Flora Hastings is graceful and stately as Miss Parker. The performance commences with Holmes-Gore's amusing one-act comedy, *The Fatal Stockings*, in which he and Miss Joan Ellis distinguish themselves as Mr. and Mrs. Desmond Crawford.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry C. Alty.—*Life's Sweet Sins* is the attraction here, the drama being well played by Mr. T. Arthur Jones's company. The mechanical scenes in connection with the submarine boat are both interesting and effective. Mr. T. Arthur Jones acts well as Captain Harold Marston; Mr. Oswald Douglas displays considerable power as Doctor Colbrooke; Miss Mary Daventry is pleasing as Doreen Rivera; Miss Mary Ainsley and Mr. Percy Meads both do well in their respective parts of Fay Colbrooke and Mr. Burrows; and the comic parts of Bess Crayson and Bob Tanner are capitally taken by Miss Marian Armitage and Mr. Edgar Morgan, Miss Armitage also proving herself to be a very capable vocalist and dancer. Special attractions are announced for Friday evening, when there will be a presentation of the cup and medals to winners of the Bristol Bagatelle League.

PALACE THEATRE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Secretary, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman. — The Stein-Eretto Troupe of hand-jumping acrobats do a very clever and successful turn; Duncan and Godfrey amuse with their smart coster comedy, *Me and 'Er*; the Norman and Leonard Trio score in a musical incident, *The Itinerant*; Maudie Macdonald is a pleasing character-vocalist; Hector does some good work on the wire; H. O. Wills, comedian, obtains applause; Edie Gray and the Boys are harmonious vocalists; and J. W. Hall, comedian, is appreciated. The performance concludes with amusing animated pictures.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—Sam Mayo, comedian, occupies the leading position on the bill; Jack and Evelyn are highly successful in their speciality; Mabel Thorne, comedienne, has some good songs; the Royal Czar Troupe perform speciality dances in excellent style; the Sprees have a pleasing scena, *Twickenham Ferry*; Edie Anderson, comedienne, is successful; the Currie Trio are clever vocalists and dancers; and the performance concludes with animated pictures.

BROUGHTON.—VICTORIA THEATRE, LTD.—Manager and Licensee, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—*Lucky 'Liza*, smartly played by Mr. Dicky Clare and company, had a flattering reception on Monday, when they paid a return visit. Mr. Clare was exceedingly funny as Silas Slim; Miss Madge Brownie's singing and dancing as Eliza Bird were very good; the house was kept in roars by the clever work contributed by Mr. T. W. Benson, Mr. Syd Hynd, Mr. J. W. Forrest, Mr. Will Merry, Miss Bella Russell, and Miss Vesta Brownie. The expert dances by the Verona Poppies Troupe were also appreciated.

BURNLEY. — VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner. — Mr. Fred Karno's company of variety artists occupy this house this week, and are doing good business. The Æolian Troupe of singers and dancers are greatly appreciated; the Burnells are delightfully funny in an absurdity, *On the Links*; and Edgar Budden is clever on the roller skates. The Phillipi Brothers are highly diverting with their statue turn; and Henry Moore and George Rapley are greeted with laughter. Nora Noble sings well; and Frank and Free provide another excellent turn.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner. — Maisie Scott is first favourite here this week, and is heartily encored for her clever singing; the Brothers Schenk provide a capital hand-balancing turn; and the Brothers Curran, in a boxing act, are very funny. The Three Orros are a capital trio of acrobats; Harlow and Harden, knockabouts, create plenty of laughter; and Webb and Branston are popular in duets. Fanny Humber is a clever dancer; Eric Horne an acceptable tenor singer; and the Empire Theatroscope is good.

BURTON-ON-TRENT. — NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. H. Dudley Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Waller.—The variety turns here this week are excellent. Menotti, in his sensational cycle ride on a single wire, is watched with intense interest; Susie and Protti, in their original and graceful dances, are highly applauded; a clever and amusing musical sketch is given by Tom Fancourt and Jennie Rubie; an extremely good turn is that of the Five M.P.'s; Fred Mason is a good comedian and sifflеur; Daisy Almer and Marie St. John are talented vocalists and dancers; and amusing pictures are produced by the Operascope.

BURY (Lancs.).—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Walter Mould.—Mr. J. B. Shinton and Mr. A. Greenwood's company is playing *The Price of Her Soul* here. Miss Ada M. Ryder plays the difficult part of the Countess Inez Steinmetz with distinct success; Miss Eva Elves deserves great praise for her portrayal of Olga Lanovitz; Mr. John B. Shinton plays Lord Rolfe Mandeville with great earnestness; while Mr. Arthur E. Pringle is a capable villain in the part of Major Ivan Skoboloff.

CIRCUS OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant Manager, Mr. Walter Mould.—The chief attraction this week is Mr. Hymack, the chameleon comedian. The turn is very mysterious and exceedingly clever. Mr. Michael Quinn, a baritone singer, contributes songs which are beautifully illustrated and splendidly given; Miss Helen McGregor, a Scotch vocalist, is also good. The animated pictures are interesting.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Sons; Manager, Mr. Broadhead, jun.—This week we have Edwin Garth and company in a musical sketch, entitled *The Moated Grange*; the widow of Sims Reeves in a series of ballads; Gravetta and Parr, clay modellers; Martin Conway, comedian; Payne Clarke, vocalist; the Three Parzones, comedians; the Rinaldo trio of acrobats; and Marquis and Mignonette, in a comedy act, entitled *Little Willie*.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Eade Montefiore.—Mr. Chas. Constant's company in *Bluebeard the Bold* favours us with a return visit this week. Mr. Gus Danby's Bamboozlum has lost none of its rich humour; Mr. Mac Stuart (Skakabak) is received with enthusiasm; Mr. Morrice Holmes, a clever whistler, is mirth-provoking as Pimple; Mr. Chas. Lake looks the title-rôle to perfection; and Mr. Johnson Craig gives satisfaction as Sister Ann. Miss Isa Bowman plays Selim with fascinating grace and verve, scoring heavily with Miss Dorothy Dempster (a bewitching Fatima) in their duet "Come back to Fairyland." Miss Cissie Thompson is a dashing Cashim; and Miss Louie Danby makes a good impression as Noolah. The clever speciality dancing of Stuart and Stuart is a notable feature of the piece.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—The attractions here include Julia Kent and Alec Keith, in their sketch, *A Village for Sale*; the Two Dominos, clown and talking donkey; Gertie Douglas, a comedienne of high merit; Tom Odlin; Harry Tomps, a good comic singer; Jury's Pictures; and Chester and Lee's Marionettes, which are warmly applauded.

CAMBRIDGE. — NEW THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Benson and company are here this week. On Monday night *The Merchant of Venice* was given. As Shylock Mr. F. R. Benson was duly appreciated, while Mrs. Benson as Portia was equally fortunate. Mr. Percy D. Owen was good as the Duke; Mr. Clarence Derwent as Antonio was very satisfactory; as were Mr. Edward A. Warburton as Prince of Morocco, Mr. George Buchanan as Bassanio, Mr. G. F. Hannam Clark as Lorenzo, Mr. J. P. Wilson as Tubal; and Messrs. H. O. Nicholson, Murray Carrington, Stanley Howlett, and Mr. Reginald Davis. Mr. George R. Weir gave a splendid impersonation of Launcelot Gobbo; Miss Helen Haye was charming as Nerissa, as was also Miss Gwaladys Wynne as Jessica. *Don Quixote* was given on Tuesday, *The Merry Wives of Windsor* on Wednesday, *Macbeth* on Thursday, *The Country Girl* on Friday, *As You Like It* and *Hamlet* on Saturday.

CARDIFF.—NEW THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robt. Redford.—Mr. Louis Calvert's company opened on Monday night with *Amasis* to an unusually crowded house. Miss Constance Drever, in the part of Princess Amasis, has scored a tremendous success, her rich, powerful voice entrancing the audience; Mr. Rutland Barrington appeared in his rôle of Pharaoh, and though suffering from a severe cold, acted with his customary effect. As Sebak, Mr. Lauri de Frece gives a delineation that is the essence of fun, and the audience seemed never tired of laughing at his clever antics; Mr. Reginald White deserves equal praise for his rendition of Ptolemy, his grotesque dancing and make-up being exceptionally amusing; as Prince Anhotep, Mr. Roland Cunningham fills the character admirably; Mr. Whitworth Mitton, as the Scribe, is another artist with a fine voice; while Mr. Norman Salmond, as the High Priest, has ample opportunity to display his deep bass. Miss Madge Vincent's rendering of Natis is particularly charming and vivacious.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—*A Marriage of Vengeance* is presented here this week by Mr. Stanley Carlton's company. The leading character of Stella is effectively rendered by Miss Rubie Maude; as her companion in villainy (Geoffrey Vannock), Mr. Stanley Carlton is admirable; while the difficult part of Max Rheinhardt is cleverly impersonated by Mr. Marshall Meade. Miss Georgina Thames wins hearty applause as the heroine, Elsie Dean; and Mr. Arthur Dudley gives a good portrayal of Paul Earnscliffe. The rest of the cast is in capable hands.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. W. Lea; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. S. Dring.—At the top of the bill here is an historical sketch, presented by Matthew Brodie, entitled *A Drummer of the 76th*. Miss Dorothea Vivian is to be congratulated upon her rendering of the Drummer-boy. Paul Conchas' herculean juggling performance would be hard to beat, the tremendous applause accorded him being genuinely deserved. The quick-changes of Mlle. Von Etta, styled the world's only lady illusionist, are exceedingly clever. Tom and Marie Montramo are good musical comedy artists; while J. A. Wilson, comedian, is accorded a hearty reception, for which his well-trained dog is to a large extent responsible. Jennie Johns, a charming soubrette; Bert Woodward, a marvellous trick cyclist; Ellis Barrieton, vocalist; Beattie and Blanche, duettists and dancers; and the Bioscope complete a fine entertainment.

CARLISLE.—H. M. THEATRE.—Lessees, Mr. Thos. Courtice and Mrs. R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—For the first week of the stock

Harry Goodluck; Mr. Douglas Howard acquits himself with distinction as Harold Hawtree; Mr. Ernest Chesney presents the villain, Ferdinand Crayle, in true melodramatic colours. The dude, Johnnie Dyce Morris, is amusingly played by Mr. Douglas Hutchins; Mr. Dan Agar causes plenty of fun as Tommy Jinks, and he receives ample support from Mr. William J. Gould as Jacob Hardbake. Miss Maud le Ray makes a sprightly and piquant Bessie Goodluck. Mr. Arthur Lindley is capital as Forward.

QUEEN'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — Proprietors, Messrs. Chas. Beanland and W. H. Emerson; General-Manager, Mr. Will H. Emerson.—Heading the bill here are Craig, Rose, and Craig, who give a smart gymnastic show; an engagement that is meeting with much success is that of Picton Roxborough and Miss Fanny Wright in their farcical episode, *Cockie*. Mlle. Zelda displays much ability in her manipulation of many musical instruments; the Danbys are clever, and cause much fun as comedians and knockabouts; Ray and Miles are entertaining as comedy jugglers; Wal Owen pleases as the comedy man; Miss Minnie Moran is a good burlesque vocalist; Tom Laurel is a clever comedian and dancer; the Loyal Dominion company with some good pictures completes an enjoyable evening's entertainment.

CHESTER. — ROYALTY THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—The Dandies, in song and dance, are an attraction here; Lilian Hodge finds favour as a ballad vocalist; the funny parodies of James Alston win well-deserved applause; Harry Morris scores as a rustic comedian and farmyard imitator; the Royal Tokio Troupe do some daring feats of rope-walking and top-spinning; and Vernon's Bioscope is much admired. The Cymros, Welsh duettists, and Maisie Merry, also appear.

COLCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Charles Macdona; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. C. Upton.—Mr. W. Penrhyn-Foster's company presented *The Officers' Mess* here on Monday before a good house. Mr. L. Cadwaladi made an imposing Major-General, and used his powerful voice to the greatest advantage; Mr. Geo. Ellis looked wonderfully smart as the young Lancer officer; Mr. Harry Emeric was a conspicuous success as Rugg, the valet, his eccentric dancing being much applauded; and Mr. Charles Cleveland also added to the general hilarity by his portrayal of Antonio Wilkins. Miss Nellie Sheffield, the irrepressible lady's maid, danced in good style, her vivacity adding greatly to the success. The singing of Miss Edith Harmer as Sybil Carruthers was generally admired; and Miss Essie Perrin, as the *première danseuse*, was charming.

HIPPODROME.—Joint Proprietors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. Jack de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—The Six Brothers Luck in their original pantomime, *The Hotel Grande*, head the bill this week; Rochez Circus, fresh from a successful Continental tour, again contstitutes a big draw; Harry Wright, with his impromptu verses, goes well; Rosie Revell, on a return visit, comes in for a big reception; Nellie Gannon does full justice to some good chorus songs; Peggy Fame does well in song and dance, and an instructive series of pictures concludes.

CONSETT.—NEW THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance.—Mr. J. E. Tomlinson and company are here this week with the Oriental drama, *Secrets*. Miss Lizzie Palmer gives a highly creditable performance of the part of Ismaila; Mr. Reggie Brown is a manly Lieut. Markham; and as Cecil, Mr. Victor L. Raymond is highly amusing. Mr. Tomlinson gives an ideal rendering of the part of Ibrahim; and as Nouredin Ali, Mr. Wilton Richards is very good. Miss Nellie Navarro is an excellent Zuleika; whilst as Peter and Winnie Wilkins, Mr. Herbert Woodin and Miss Madge Palmer respectively keep the house in roars of laughter, their singing and dancing being very much appreciated. The Verona Troupe of Continental dancers are a great addition to the evening's entertainment.

CORK.—PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Henry Kemble.—The capital programme here includes the Six Proveanies, lady trick cyclists; Blarney and Kennard, smart dancers; Harry Drew, Welsh baritone; W. B. Raby, a clever comedian; the Arizonas, speciality artists, with a pleasing turn; Herbert Nicholls, character comedian; the Albano Instrumental Troupe; and the Cinematograph, with up-to-date pictures.

COVENTRY.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Dance.—In a well-varied programme one of the chief turns is that of Miss Hetty King, the clever male impersonator. The Two Latonas, a comedy musical couple, are received with applause. Cruikshank, the popular humorist, does well; Gintard is very expert as a Japanese equilibrist and balancer; Carlos Menard is very successful as a trick violinist; the Four Spanish Goldinis, whose show is introduced by the Bioscope, give a unique exhibition of carpet-spinning; Topsy and Usher are successful in some plantation songs and dances.

THE OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett. *Sapho* is being played here by a company which includes Miss Annie Bell, who appears as Fanny le Grande, and is soon successful in winning the applause of the audience. She is supported by Mr. Otto Minster in an able rendering of Jean Gausin. Mr. George Antley is amusing as Uncle Cesaire; Paul Dechelette is well portrayed by Mr. St. John Medley. Mr. H. Langord is successful as Flamant, and Miss Winnie Lindon as Mauchaume.

HIPPODROME THEATRE.—An interesting programme includes the sketch, entitled *Fishing*, which, played by Mr. Harry Tate's company, causes roars of laughter. Another very good item is the performance of Maud Rochez's monkeys; Hulme and Le May are a pair of clowns, whose clever musical contributions are much enjoyed. A weird performance is given by Graham, the human marionette. Other artists who give good turns are Miss Vera Mayne, vocal comedienne; Messrs. Harry Freeman and Harry Champion, humorists. Some first-rate pictures wind up a capital entertainment.

CRADLEY HEATH.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Jno. H. Morton.—Mdlle. Florence's Vaudeville Artists are giving eight turns this week to packed houses. Mdlle. Florence gives a very clever exhibition of her marvellous powers of globe walking; Abex astounds the large audiences by his feats of strength; Evom and Charlotta mystify everybody with their "She" illusion; Harry Keeble makes a smart character turn; Gladys Wells secures well earned applause in a comedy act; the Ottawas are up-to-date musical experts; Maude Clifton sings her way to the hearts of the people; Hoozee and Reggie give a capital ventriloquial turn, winning constant applause; Alton and Lois are born jugglers; and Fred Ace deserves special mention for his varied selections on musical instruments.

CREWE.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Taylor, J.P.—Mr. Charles March's company is here with *The Gamester of Metz*. Mr. March gives a realistic performance of Paul Baldot; Mr. Wilfred Protheroe's rendering of Captain Badaire is good; Mr. F. Aldworth is suitably placed as General de Monparasse; Mr. J. W. Millar cleverly sustains the rôle of Ferdinand du Basson; Miss Eva Lyndhurst as Countess Baldot makes a good impression; Miss Una Lane is a winsome Lucia Baldot; and Miss Cissy Haighton appears as Gwendolin Pearson. In Act III. Mr. March embodies a series of fourteen changes in a marvellously short space of time.

CROYDON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Lewson Lambert.—*The Importance of Being Earnest* and *Father Varien* are refreshingly played by Messrs. Monckton Hoffe and J. Graeme Campbell's company. Miss Phyllis Manners admirably fits the aristocratic rôle of Lady Bracknell; Miss Hestor Newton is bright and attractive as the Hon. Gwendoline Fairfax; Miss Nina Hope is delightfully fresh in the part of Cicely Cardew; and Miss Amy Lloyd-Desmond is quite suitable as Miss Prism. Mr. J. Græme Campbell's impersonation of John Worthing has many good points; Mr. Monckton Hoffe enacts the rôle of Algernon Moncrieff in the best possible manner; Mr. Ralph Hutton is appropriate as the Rev. Canon Chasuble; and adequate assistance is given by Messrs. Arthur Forbes Watts and W. H. Parker as Merriman and Lane.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Herrick.—Mr. Carlton Wallace's company, in *The Love that Women Desire*, is here. Mr. J. O. Stewart ably represents Squire Abingdon; Mr. Alfred Brandon gives a good rendering of Richard Abingdon; Mr. H. Bonhote Wilson as Philip Carnaby acts with ability and skill; Mr. Chas. Franklin excellently impersonates Adam Frere; Mr. John Hignett as Dennis O'Rourke creates much laughter; and Mr. J. W. Wilkinson as P.C. Sowerberry also contributes to the merriment. Miss Lalla Stanhope stands out prominently in her portraiture of Sybil Thorburn; Miss Gladys Murray is good as Madge Abingdon; Miss Emmie Litchfield as Pattie Swift is a success; and Miss N. Griffiths as Mariquinha appears to advantage.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES. — Proprietor, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—Fred Maxwell and company are causing a sensation here in the sketch, *Anarchy;* George Brooks is a quaint comedian; Fox and Melville, song illustrators, win plaudits; Verno and Voyce are singing comedians of ability; the Pasquali Brothers are great in their novel acrobatic and head-balancing act; the Sisters Aindow are clever musical speciality artists; Helen Martin has a fine voice; Florence is a smart mimic; and Dandy George and his intelligent dog, Rosie, receive quite an ovation.

DARLINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—Mr. Chas. Watson Mill's company opened here on Monday in the melodrama, *A Wrecker of Men*. Miss Ruth Zillwood in the title-rôle gives an excellent performance; Mr. Eric Campbell as Jim Murley affords the utmost satisfaction; Mr. Sidney Rennef as the Jew gives a capital representation; the part of the Egyptian is in the capable hands of Mr. Milner Noble; Mr. Miller Anderson merits praise as Railton; Mr. Jack Walker scores in the respective parts of a warder and Lomar; Miss Gwendoline Talbot secures a success as Doris Melville; Miss Beatrice Reynolds in the comedy scenes is excellent, as is also Mr. Leslie Ross. Mr. Thompson Carruthers acts well as Eric Melville.

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Denley; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Langley Wyatt.—Mr. W. W. Kelly's company is here again with *A Royal Divorce*. Miss Edith Cole's performance of the Empress Josephine is as highly successful as ever, and Mr. Frederick Victor as Napoleon as to be commended for a fine assumption. Miss Helen Richmond makes a charming and vivacious Stephanie; a creditable performance of General Augereau is submitted by Mr. Alfred Grenville; Mr. William Dexter's Talleyrand is capably depicted; Mr. St. George Frere plays well as Marshall Murat; the Marquis de Beaumont is ably accounted for by Mr. Graham Woods; and a humorous representation of Grimaud is given by Mr. George Hudson. Miss Agnes Imlay is to be commended for her impersonation of Marie Louise; and Napoleon's son is cleverly played by little Miss Maggie Cardiff.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. T Allan Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Herbert Taylor.—Gittins' Condensed Opera company forms the principal attraction here this week, the works produced being *Maritana, Bohemian Girl*, and *Il Trovatore*. The various characters are capably enacted by Messrs. Saxton Granville (tenor), Albert Chapman (baritone), Mlle. Adele Prescott (soprano), and Miss Nora Roy (contralto), and, needless to say, their efforts are meeting with an excellent reception. Among other capital items are the Sisters Geretti, lady gymnasts, whose clever and daring act is quite a feature; the Franko Midgets submit a pleasing conjuring entertainment; and Lade Henderson, character-vocalist, scores with his well-rendered songs. The Bros. Lavelle, comedy acrobats, are well above the average; and Harry Zetter, comedian, is responsible for some novel dancing. Blanche Marion, comedienne, is a favourite. The Bioscope continues to maintain its popularity.

DEVONPORT.—METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. G. S. King.—Mr. F. B. Woulfe's company is retained from last week, and presents an attractive répertoire, consisting of *Nell Gwynne, The Three Musketeers*, and *Jane Shore*. Mr. Woulfe furnishes a careful historical study of the gay and vivacious Charles II.; Miss Edith Griffiths presents the title-rôle in a manner which wins great favour; Mr. Clifford Rean is an aristocratic Rochester; and Miss Barnett cleverly enacts the Duchess of Portland. Other capable members of the cast are Mr. B. Anderson, Mr. H. Miers, and Miss Madge Nelson. The piece is particularly well staged.

DONCASTER.—NEW GRAND THEATRE AND EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—This week we have *Raffles*. The titular rôle is upheld with breezy aplomb by Mr. Reginald Dance; Mr. Edwin Irwin is extremely impressive as Mr. Curtis Bedford; Harry Manders comes well from Mr. Brisco Owen; and Mr. C. Rivers Bertram gives an interesting aspect to Crawshay. Dignity and honour mark Mr. Stanley Lathbury's interpretation of Lord Amersteth; and Mr. Edward Coutts has considerable fluency and accomplishment in the rôle of Lord Crowley; while Mr. Oswald Griffiths as Goldby is a refreshing number. A charming assumption of Lady Melrose is given by Miss Mildred Orme; and the Lady Ethel of Miss Constance Hamilton is calm and convincingly artistic. Miss Katie Yates makes a success of Gwendoline Conran, Miss May Brooke is pleasing as Mrs. Vidal, and exceptional ability adds lustre to the Marie of Miss Rita Ward.

DOVER.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Chairman of Directors, Mr. B. Carter; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—A clever company is this week presenting the recently-produced success, *The End Crowns All*. An arduous part and one requiring delicate handling is that of Vera Roumaine, but Miss Augusta Tullock's rendering is striking alike for its pathos and realism. Miss Amber Wyvillo's prepossessing personality and handsome appearance eminently fits her for the rôle of Lola Ivanwitch, but, suffering from a heavy cold, the lady was unable to sing the musical numbers allotted to the part. The rôle of Birdie Going is humorously depicted by Miss Nellie Fern; Miss Cora Linda is winsome and captivating, and succeeds in securing the sympathy of the audience for the trials of Enid. Miss Rosy Watson is a capital Mrs. Jubbs, and proves herself an excellent dancer. Mr. Roy Milton's impersonation of Prince Borinsky is a polished and distinctive piece of work; a striking character-sketch of a Russian, played with skill and judgment, is contributed by Mr. Hugh Travers; and Mr. Max Coutts acts with force and power the part of Ivan Spava. Particular mention should be made of the clever acting of Mr. Donald Stuart, in his one big mad scene. Two admirable studies of typical English gentlemen are given by Mr. Arthur Plummer as Lord Arthur Lyndhurst and Mr. Edward Vivian as Clifford Barrington. Mr. William de Lacy assumes the characteristics of an unsophisticated curate as to the manner born, and some really mirth-provoking comedy is introduced by Mr. George Byrne as John Jubbs.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Lessees, The Vaudeville Syndicate; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Holt; Secretary, Mr. C. R. Stanfield.—Miss Rosie Archer, mimic, easily takes honours this week in a strong bill; Carl Rosine, with his wonderful hoop trick, mystifies everybody; Gladys Warren is a charming comedienne and dancer; the Royal Raynors are to the fore with a great contortion act; the Brothers Ashley bring down the house in a comedy boxing sketch; and Jack Heath and Daisy Silcott, with the Bio. pictures go to make up a bill which fills the house.

DUBLIN. — GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Directress, Mrs. Michael Gunn; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Chas. Hyland.—The theatre is occupied this week by the Irish Theatrical Club, who are giving successful amateur performances, under the patronage of their Excellencies the Lord Lieutenant and the Countess of Aberdeen and party, of Gilbert and Sullivan's well-known opera, *The Pirates of Penzance*. The parts are excellently allotted, and the singing and acting are most creditable. Mr. Robert O'Dwyer conducts the orchestra and choruses in admirable style.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—An attractive programme is headed by Mr. Mike S. Whallen, whose quaint humour and funny tales provoke hearty laughter; the Villion troupe of acrobatic cyclists do some work that is intensely exciting; Nellie Coleman is eminently successful as a lady comedian, and Charles Dixon is popular, with his funny songs; the Delevines, in a humorous mélange, *Flipp and Flopp*, are full of merriment, and Miss Kate Lynd delights her listeners with her pleasant vocalisation. The turn submitted by Miss Gwennie Hasto is far above the average; Dome, comedy clay modeller, gives an interesting exhibition, and Fanny Erris scores successfully as a comedienne. The Empire pictures are up to the usual standard.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Parrington.—The Dublin Amateur Operatic Society continued their second week's engagement here on Monday. His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant and party were present when *Cavalleria Rusticana* and the second act of *Carmen* were played before a large and appreciative audience. The operas are under the musical direction of Mr. Barton McGuckin, who is to be congratulated on the successful performances.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Secretary, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—The chief item of this week's bill is Miss Addie Dorina, protean artist, in an amusing production, *Dr. Spot's Patients*, which is well received; the Sisters McNulty sing charmingly and dance gracefully; Ted Cowan wins favour as a comedian; Lieut. Chard's troupe of performing dogs go through a number of tricks in a wonderfully clever manner; Dan Robins is a capital vocalist; Conway and Garland provide great fun in their screaming absurdity, *Left in Charge;* the Saletos supply a smart equilibristic act; the Nelson and Thomas combination, in their sketch, *A Fight for a Fiver*, achieve success, as does also Will Driscoll, comedian and dancer The Bioscope, with new films, concludes.

WORLD'S FAIR AND MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. A. James.—The company engaged here comprises: Leopold and Sylvia, duettists and dancers; Florence Moore, serio and dancer; Harry Boland, comedian and dancer; Rose Cameron, ballad vocalist; Frank Vallance, entertaining magician; and the new Cinematograph.

SAMUELS' EXHIBITION PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. S. Samuels.—The artists appearing her this week include: The Alliance Musical Team, in song, dance, and story; Harry Powell, descriptive vocalist; the Sisters Rose, international dancers; W. C. McPherson, Scotch comedian; and Allen and Hall, sketch artists, in their refined comedy act, *I'm in Love*.

DUDLEY.—EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. B. Peberdy.—Bennett and Martell's scena, *The Lost Mariners*, causes endless laughter; Olga Fane is a lady who combines a fine contralto voice with a magnificent physique; Queenie West is a refined comedienne with good songs; Stephen Blythe is a good type of actor-vocalist; Hilda Wilson is a capital male impersonator; the Brothers Durant as grotesque acrobats give an excellent turn; Farrell and Millar, comedians and dancers, Vincent, Arab tumbler, and the Empire pictures complete the bill.

DUNDEE. — PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. E. J. Dexter.—Gunner Moir, England's champion boxer, gives an interesting exhibition; R. C. McGill, Scotch comedian, appears with great success in his new songs; and the Moxons, acrobatic comedians, show remarkable dexterity in their act, *Fun with the Tourist*. Lily Flexmore, a very dainty and handsomely-attired young lady, gives a marvellous exhibition of acrobatic dancing, and, in addition, sings very sweetly; Alexandre and Hughes are very cordially received; and Harry Taylor gets a capital reception for his quaint ditties. Brindall and Cooper score as comedians and dancers; and Doris Myddleton, a young and promising comedienne, gets a good hearing. Musical Howard, in the sketch, *A Star's Dilemma*, and Vernon's Imperial Bioscope, complete the programme.

GAIETY THEATRE — Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. A. P. Williams.—Mr. Charles Majilton and his company are here for another week. On Monday two large houses assembled to witness that screamingly funny musical piece, *The Plumber*. Mr. Chas. Majilton was most comical as Dr. Felix Syrup, and was capitally supported by Mr. Jim Bond as the Plumber. Miss Maddie Majilton as the Mad Slavey proved herself a veritable queen of comedy; and Miss Amy Majilton was likewise successful as Ethel Rosebud.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Percival.—We are being shown a host of up-to-date pictures, including "Foul Play," a capital film in eighteen scenes; "The Motor Thieves," "The Skyscrapers of New York," "Her Morning Dip," "The Night of the Party," and "The New Slavey." The variety turns include Ada Twibell, a vocalist of outstanding ability; and Ted Young, eccentric comedian, who sings several amusing songs in rollicking style.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Devonshire Park and Baths Co.; Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clark.—The entertainment here this week is of a varied and interesting kind. Mr. Claude Ginnett and company give an exciting account of *Dick Turpin's Ride to York*, and also cause much amusement with *Rejected Remounts*. Miss Agnes Fraser sings delightfully; Mr. M. R. Morland cleverly gives a recitation, entitled "In Vino Veritas"; Jury's animated pictures are excellent; and the new and original musical fantasy, *When Knights were Bolder*, a notice of which appears in another column, has started on its successful career.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Messrs. Leonard Pagden and Mr. G. M. Copping's company is appearing here in the ever-interesting drama, *Jim, the Penman*. Mr. Leonard Pagden, a clever and experienced actor, contributes a fine performance as Jim; Mr. Orlando Barnett as Baron Hartfield gives an excellent character-sketch; Mr. William Lockhart is a capital Louis; Mr. E. A. Douglas a smart, effective Captain Redwood, Mr. Max Montesole a bright George Ralston, and Mr. Arthur Vezin a satisfactory Drelincourt. Miss Alice Fairleigh again scores a great success with her extremely capable work as Mrs. Ralston, Miss Muriel Pope is an efficient Agnes, and Miss Rosalind Ross an able Lady Dunscombe.

THE HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; General-Manager, Mr. H. Day; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Smith.—Mr. Jake Friedman and company contribute one of the finest items seen here for a long time in *Happy Holland*. Mr. Friedman sings, dances, and acts to the great delight of the audience. Miss Florence Hunton has a quite exceptionally fine voice, and is an excellent Gretchen; Messrs. Cairns and Lynch are expert clog dancers; Miss Bessie Butt is a bright singer and dancer; the Firmans are very funny and very original; Mr. R. Matthews and company cause much laughter with *Honeymoon Baby;* Mr. Tom Dunmore is effective as a singing comedian; Wisper is an amusing juggler, and Miss Beattie Bloom is a pleasing comedienne.

EDINBURGH.—ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Carpenter.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company began a week's engagement here on Monday with the pleasant comedy, *Peter's Mother*. Miss Ruth Mackay, in the title-rôle, charmed her audience as much by the tenderness and power of her acting as by the grace of her bearing. Mr. Percy Hutchison, as the selfish Peter Crewys, brought out the characteristics of the part with singular ability; it was a life-like portrait. Mr. Charles Harley played with force and feeling as Sir Timothy Crewys, and was enthusiastically applauded for his fine acting at the end of the first act; Mr. Stanley Pringle's impersonation of John Crewys, Q.C., was easy and natural; a capital study of Canon Birch was given by Mr. F. G. Thurstans; and Mr. Townsend Whitling was a pleasant Dr. Blundell. The strongly-contrasted parts of Lady Belstone and Miss Crewys were played with a true sense of humour by Miss May Griffiths and Miss Florence Harwood; while the girlish grace of Miss Hilda Honiss as Sarah Hewell was of great service in the character; and Miss Violet Lee was effective and ladylike in the small part of Mrs. Hewell. The comedy was preceded by a smart one-act play, *Her Dearest Friend*, cleverly acted by Mr. Whitling, Miss Harwood, and Miss Ley.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—Mr. W. H. Downes, Australian vocalist, makes a very favourable impression; Mr. Henri Cazman includes in his versatile turn almost all the specialities of a music-hall programme; and Little Salvino shows considerable talent as a juvenile instrumentalist. Mr. Horace Wheatley creates great enthusiasm alike by his genial method in racy stories and songs and by his neat step-dancing. The Three Demons submit a sensational cycling performance on a circular platform about 14ft. in diameter, suspended in mid-aid and revolving at a speed of eighty miles an hour. Crib and Crib contribute an amusing turn as couple of idle fellows with idle thoughts and a topical song; Miss Florence Yaymen puts unlimited animation and almost as much facial expression into her coon caricatures; Mr. Ernest Rees, an old pantomime favourite, keeps the house in hilarity with his songs and drolleries; the Great Roland presents a marvellous series of magical problems and illusions, both new and second-hand; and Bioscope pictures, as usual, conclude the bill.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Parham Wells.—Mr. George Kirk makes a great hit with his dramatic sketch, *Grip;* and Miss Queenie Leighton wins unstinted applause for her latest and most successful songs. Miss Ruby Dahl and her merry life-sized mannikins provide mirthful entertainment; the Trapnell Family give a graceful display of acrobatic feats; and Boy Glen, a youthful raconteur, tells his stories with considerable humour and effect; while Miss Lily Langtry sings some catchy songs in lively style. The Musical Jees appear with much acceptance in their smart comedy speciality, *The Scarecrow;* Mr. Ryder Slone contributes an effective song-scena; Mr. Edwin Barwick well sustains his high reputation as a mimic and actor-vocalist; and Mr. Tom Costello fairly brings down the house with his amusing ditty, "The Suffragettes," and his clever character impersonation of "The Old Clown."

ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Ventom Swift.—An excellent programme here this week includes the names of Miss Lil O'Gorman, an attractive comedienne; the Harrison Brothers, in their entertaining sketch, *Quaint Conceits;* Mr. Max Merlin, "the human crocodile," a clever turn; Mr. Sam Thomson, an admirable Scotch comedian; Messrs. Gilroy and Gross, capital dancers; Mr. James Tower, an extremely capable mimic; and Mr. Jack Easy, comedian.

EXETER. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—The boards are occupied by Mr. William Fraser-Brunner and company in *The Superior Miss Pellender*. In the title-rôle Miss Queenie Fraser-Brunner is a distinct success; while Miss Beatrice Fitzhugh gives a capital rendering of the part of Mrs. Pellender. Mr. Ellis D. Carlyle as Noel, the mischievous schoolboy, is perfection, and he is ably assisted by Miss May Staples as Nancy. Mr. William Fraser-Brunner is excellent as Mr. Tister, the nervous lover; while Miss Marie Ault is all that could be desired as the sulky child of the Pellender family. The comedietta *Sweet Violets* is a pretty little curtain-raiser.

FALKIRK.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace W. Ebbutt.—The theatre has entered on a summer run of variety entertainments, and judging from the patronage extended by the public last week these promise to "catch on." The bill of fare this week is an attractive one, and is provided by the Anglo-American Bioscope and Variety Co., under the direction of Mr. E. H. Bostock, of the Zoo Hippodrome, Glasgow. The pictures are very instructive and entertaining, and the variety turns interesting. The latter include the Five Saxonias, in their clever musical speciality; Jack Neil, Scottish comedian; Archie Cameron, patriotic vocalist; the Sisters Howard, "rivals of the Zancigs"; Urquhart, the marvellous foot-equilibrist; and Frances Letty, the London star comedienne.

FLEETWOOD.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry J. Snelson.—The Scottish Animated Picture Company, supported by a company of musical artists, is here this week. The pictures are wonderfully clear, and include a descriptive series, entitled "A Trip to the Niagara Falls," which is particularly good. Pince Bendon gives a ventriloquial performance, and gains considerable applause; and Mr. J. C. Lawrance, as a refined Scottish comedian, keeps the house in roars of laughter. The Lindsays also help to make the performance a success; and Miss Margot Johnston's efforts are much appreciated. Scots Kriss, a capable conjurer and comedian, and Good Old Grannie, jumper, also provide plenty of amusement.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—The usual enthusiasm is being accorded here this week to Mr. F. R. Benson's (North) Shakespearean Company, who are billed to play *Twelfth Night, Henry the Fifth, Merchant of Venice, Macbeth, The Rivals, As You Like It*, and *Richard the Third*. Monday's performance of *Twelfth Night* was highly satisfactory. Mr. Gerald Ames filled the rôle of Orsino efficiently; Mr. E. Spencer Geach lent admirable assistance as Sebastian; Mr. Charles Francis was successful as Antonio; Mr. Ross Shore deserves high praise as Sir Toby; Mr. Esme Filmer was a capital Sir Andrew; Mr. Henry Herbert gave a good rendering of Malvolio; Miss Louise Graeme showed much ability as Olivia; Miss Ross Burgess was sprightly as Maria; and Miss Dorothy Green as Viola may be congratulated on an excellent performance.

LEAS PAVILION.—Manager and Musical-Director, Mr. D'Arcy Clayton.—A special treat was provided here on Monday in the form of "A Feast of Lanterns and Japanese Fête," and was well rewarded by a bumper house. Mr. Will Gane's dry humour and quaint style of singing provided a fund of amusement; and "the Gipsies and their Jester" rendered enjoyable items selected from their huge répertoire.

GATESHEAD. — KING'S THEATRE — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harold Arnold.—Dr. Carl Herman, with a costly electrical apparatus, occupies the top line here this week, and affords good entertainment; Walton and Lester, "the world's worst wizards," amuse with their mock illusionary business; Dolly, Agnes, and Maud are capital vocalists; Wright and Elton in a comedy act are popular; Jock Walker is a favourite Scotch comedian; the Three Bostonians contribute an acceptable item; and Andy Fagan, comedian and dancer; the Venola Bros., comedy gymnasts, and pictures by Vernon's Bioscope are also included in the programme.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Councillor Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas France.—Ever welcome, *Florodora*, beautifully staged by Mr. J. Bannister Howard, has caused the holding capacity of this house to be severely taxed this week. Mr. Howard has sent a truly excellent company, many of whom are well known to local playgoers. Tweedlepunch has had few better exponents than Mr. Alf. E. Passmore; and Gateshead has voted him excellent. Mr. Stanely White makes the most of his opportunities as Cyrus W. Gilfain; Mr. H. V. Crofton acts and sings with distinction in the rôle of Frank Abercoed; Mr. Harold Terry makes a capital Arthur Donegal; and Leandro receives the best of treatment at the hands of Mr. Ed. Omlee. Dainty Lily Gullick has delighted her auditors with a charming Angela; Miss Daisy Lake acts with skill and sings tastefully in the part of Dolores; a refreshing performance is that of Miss Kate Leicester as Lady Holyrood; and Miss Eleanor Barnwell is seen to advantage as Valleda.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Councillor Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stephen Smith.—Miss Frances Delaval's company in *Her Lost Self* is the attraction at this house. Miss Delaval supplies a finished portrayal of Philippine Marcel; Mr. Fred Emery embodies Wilfred Daventry skilfully; Mr. G. Osmond Tearle supplies a capital picture of Norman Esmond; there is much that is good in Mr. Robert Hall's Paule Kimberley; Mr. Wm. H. Burton makes an excellent Abraham Cohen; and other parts are in well-trained hands.

GLASGOW.—ROYALTY, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie.—The last week of the season at this house is devoted to the presentation of Irish plays by the National Theatre Co., Ltd., of Dublin. On Monday was given *The Riders to the Sea*, in which Miss Sara Allgood was very effective as the old mother, Maurya, the other leading parts being played with intense realism by Misses Maire O'Neill and Brigit O'Dempsey and Mr. W. G. Gray. The romantic play, *On Baile's Strand*, served to show the elocutionary talent of the company, in which line Mr. F. J. Fay as Cuchulain, Mr. Ernest Vaughan as Concobar, and Mr. Arthur Sinclair as Fintain shone conspicuously. In *The Rising of the Moon* good character work was done by Mr. W. G. Fay as the ballad singer, and Messrs. Arthur Sinclair, J. A. O'Rourke, and J. M. Kerrigan as policemen. In the concluding piece, *Hyacinth Halvey*, the principals of the company were seen to advantage in light comedy. The other plays billed for the week were *The Gaol Gate, The Hour Glass, Kathleen Ni Houlihan, The Jackdaw*, and *Spreading the News*.

KING'S.—Proprietors, Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, H. Macfarlane.—Mr. Brandon Thomas's company is giving fine performances of *Charley's Aunt*, which created as much mirth and hearty laughter on Monday evening as ever. Mr. Sydney Compton is a dignified Sir Francis; the Stephen Spettigue of Mr. Walter Beaumont is perfectly delightful; while Jack and Charlie, the two college chums, could not have better exponents than Messrs. Hastings Lynn and Richard B. Mason. As the quondam Aunt, Mr. Spencer Trevor simply revels in his work; Miss Lena MacNaughtan was stately and refined as the proper Aunt from Brazil; and Miss Annie Harpwaye was seen in a very suitable part as Ela Delahay. Kitty, the ward, and Amy, the niece, were played in charming style by Misses Bertha Northam and Ida Vynall. A pleasing one-act play, *The Lancashire Sailor*, by Brandon Thomas, preceded *Charley's Aunt*, the Martha of Miss Mollie Robinson being a part specially to be praised.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—The powerful drama, *Not Guilty*, is being played here this week. Mr. Felix Pitt acts strongly as the unscrupulous Nick Chaddox; Mr. Philip Darien is a manly young hero as Harry Grafton; and a sweet and sympathetic heroine is found in the Nellie Chaddox of Miss Maud Linden. Miss Doris Lorraine as the wronged Alice Clavering acts with quiet effect; Mr. Frederick Sandy gives incisive force to the part of Ernest Savile; and the scheming Oswald Brandon is carefully depicted by Mr. Clavering Craig. Mr. D. Austin as Job Smiley, Mr. Herbert Young as Jacob Grafton, Mr. Thos. Barry as a farmer, and Miss Enid Wilde and Mr. David Phillips in the comedy parts all give able support.

METROPOLE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Gordon Jefferson.—Mr. Frank Lindo's company in *Home Sweet Home* is always welcome to the patrons of this house. The company is well selected, and works well together. Mr. Frank Lindo again plays the part of Steve Armitage in fine style, and Miss Marion Wakeford gives a careful study of Joan. Mr. F. Miles Hudson figures as Lucas Lyle with much ability; as Duke Ancaster, Mr. Gerald Gambier makes a favourable impression; David Armitage has a good exponent in Mr. D. Lawrence Doyle; and Mr. George Overs acquits himself well as Dick Redmayne. Miss May Rochefort as Sybil Fay, Miss Cicil Ward as Lady Summermore, and Miss Daisy Rochefort as Dora are all excellent. The part of the Hon. Percy is capably filled by Mr. Jack Patrick; and Mr. T. Lewis does well as Solomon Kerry.

BUCHANAN'S
"BLACK & WHITE"
THE WHISKY OF WORLD WIDE REPUTE

LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—There is a good change in the variety programme this week, and Mr. S. King Alexander describes a series of very interesting pictures at intervals in the programme. Harrigan and Holt are comedians of ability and pantomimists of great resource. In a funny ventriloquial act Leslie Lynn has some novelties which take well; and the dancing of Ritta and Rex is clever. The Govan people take warmly to comedians, and they are well catered for by J. K. Macfarlane (Scotch), Ted Laurie (humorist), and Wilton and Ford, who patter strongly and dance well. In several well-chosen songs Anita Wayman, soprano, makes a successful appearance; and Lambeth and Robertson are admirable exponents of Scottish character.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners.—The Gothams head a strong programme this week, and get an enviable reception. Fred Storey, in a condensed version of *Rip Van Winkle*, give a clever portrayal of the title-rôle, and is well supported by a strong company; Charles Fulbrooke and company provide great amusement in a representation of the amusing sketch, *Astronomy*; Charles Norton is most successful as a mimic of well-known comedians; Cull-Pitt goes through some clever conjuring tricks, and keeps the audience in a constant state of laughter by his ready flow of humour; and other good items are provided by the Grovini Sisters, clever acrobats; Ambrose Thorne, comedian; the Eight Empire Girls, singers and dancers; and Gladys Mavius, in a song-scena, *Rosie is Waiting*.

ZOO-HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd., and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—Mendel, the blind pianist, is the great attraction here this week, and has a most flattering reception; a first-class sketch is provided by Theo. Bouwmeister and company, entitled *Who is Guilty?*; and the feats performed by Kioto, Japanese equilibrists, were loudly applauded. Pat Rafferty, the genial Irish comedian, continues a great favourite; and Stewart and Morgan are heard to much advantage in a vocal speciality, "Returning to Ireland." Other acceptable turns include Bert Byrne, comedian; Glenroy Troupe, clever dancers; Jonghmann Sisters, meistersingers; Johnny Walker, comedian; and the ever popular Bioscope.

PAVILION, LTD. — General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—Dan Crawley tops the bill here, and obtains a most enthusiastic reception at each performance. Lottie Lennox, with her catchy choruses, is another strong favourite; Goodfellow and Gregson contribute an amusing comedy turn; a clever sketch, *Spoofed*, is given by Geoffreys and Benson; Raie Walters again takes well in her "Fishing" song; Keen and Waller are a smart pair of knockabouts; Jeannette Hall, the lady baritone, possesses a good voice, with some exceptionally low notes; and Lillian Bishop (a taking serio), George Barron (comedian), and Carrie Joy (character vocalist) complete a first-rate programme.

COLISEUM. — Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Burdette.—The chief turn here this week is *Parson Gray, V.C.*, in which Mr. George Gray is ably assisted by a large company. The Szarvasi Terencz Troupe are capable singers, dancers, and risley acrobats; Little Zola is a funny little fellow with a pair of short, but very active, legs; Tate and Tate are clever comedy acrobats; the Welsh Eisteddfod Sextette a pleasing company of male voice singers who render good harmonies; Florence and Lilian give excellent performances on a variety of instruments; Zaid, assisted by Orienta, does picturesque feats on suspended rings; Johnny Alexander and company enact an amusing sketch called *Brown in Paris*; and Grace Moore is a charming singer whose songs are nicely illustrated on the screen. The Bioscope pictures are interesting.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—Tom Lloyd, with his latest ditties, is proving a big hit here; Carlotta Levey's handsome presence and vocal ability make her turn a most enjoyable one; Kelly and Gillette, with a new partner, give their smart billiard-table speciality, which goes better than ever. On Monday evening these clever artists were unable to appear, but Lambeth and Robertson ably deputised with their sketch, *Scots Folks' Wooing*. Albert Atlas and Lizzie Collins contribute a lively sketch, with songs and dances introduced; the Vollmers, a clever little boy and girl, get a hearty reception for a violin solo and a neat dance; the Elgars score well in a vocal turn; Pat Carey is a popular Irish comedian and dancer; Leo Trainor is a Lancashire humorist of much originality; Tod Lowen is a quaint comedian; and Harry Vardon's ventriloquism is smart.

GAIETY.—Manager, Mr. Harry Bowerman.—Regan and Ryan, the popular pantomimists, have a capital reception, which their singing and dancing well merit; and Patty Yole, comedienne, gives several songs in her inimitable style. Other members of a good programme include Doreen Day, talented mimic; R. C. Note, popular comedian; Daisy Devonport, comedienne and dancer; Dan Darrell, comedian and dancer; and the Bioscope, with a capital series of films.

BRITANNIA.—Proprietor and Manager, A. E. Pickard.—Large audiences are being attracted here. Will Candlish, well-known negro comedian, is the principal among the variety turns, his patter and musical items being heartily applauded. Another artist marked out for special appreciation is Charles Brampton, vocal mimic; and other members of the company include Nora Dey, comedienne and dancer; W. H. Smart, comedian; and Florence Knott, descriptive vocalist; while the Bioscope supplies an interesting set of pictures.

GLOSSOP. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—The Frank Bateman Dramatic Company (under the direction of Mr. Stuart Lomath) is presenting this week the popular drama *No Wedding Bells for Her*. Mr. Lomath as Frank Hatherleigh earns plaudits for his fine acting; Mr. Percy Shaw is seen to advantage as Dick Delver; and Mr. P. Beresford gives a good portrayal of Harold Trevelyn. Mr. Frederick Garton as Montague Blair submits a good reading; Mr. Charles Liddon displays ability in the rôle of Abney Stone; Mr. George Herbert acquits himself ably as Horatio Fane; Mr. Frank Daxies as Osric Gildenstein does well; Miss Lizzie Montague acts with power and skill the exacting part of Lola Delaspierre; Miss Dora Pass is a pleasing Doris; Miss Ellen Owen an effective Marie Flail; and Miss Patty Albery an amusing Mrs. Eastman. Mr. Barry Lupino (Simkins) and Miss May Lupino (Peggy), with songs and dances, supply the comic element.

GLOUCESTER.—PALACE.—Owners, Messrs. C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr. R. T. Rea.—Clever comedy cyclists are the Narow Brothers, who top the bill this week. Mr. Joe Humphries gets a capital reception for his two descriptive songs; and Miss Amy Bellwood causes laughter with her low comedy effusions. Gulliver is a good ventriloquist; and Fred Alberto is as agile as of yore in song and dance. Messrs. Burg, Haud, and Wyse present a smart comedy act, *Ye Old Brown Cow*; Hughes and Elliott are capable exponents of the sand dance; Marlow and Manton present a sketch, *Other People's Babies*; and the Bioscope is showing a laughable film, "The Short-sighted Cyclist."

GREAT YARMOUTH. — ROYAL AQUARIUM. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—Mr. Fred Karno's company occupies the boards this week with the musical extravaganza, *Saturday to Monday*. Mr. Roland Martin as John Willie Jaggs, the bridegroom, is excellent, and causes much laughter; Clarinda, the bride, is vivaciously played by Miss Amy Rogerson; and songs and dances are well rendered by members of the company.

GREENOCK.—EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry L. Skivington.—Mr. J. Cummings' pictures are still the chief attraction here, an entirely new set of films this week being greatly admired. Excellent variety is imparted to the programme by the appearance of Hargadon and Cole, in a popular musical sketch; Kitty Levigne, a dainty comedienne and dancer; and Russell Brandon, coon vocalist.

PAVILION THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Chas. A. White.—This favourite place of entertainment reopened on Monday for a season. Will Godwin heads an attractive bill, and scores with clever items. Success attends the efforts of the Sisters Cora, vocalists; the Gilbeys find a ready acceptance of their excellent musical turn; and Jack Hayworth proves a popular feature of the bill. Athol, ventriloquist, and Carl Volta, also entertain.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry.—The romantic Venetian drama, *The Tyrant*, is being presented by Miss Marie Dagmar and Mr. Fred C. Somerfield. Miss Dagmar appears as the actress, Tisbe, and gives a powerful dramatic conception of the character; Mr. Somerfield is seen as the mysterious Homodei, and is especially impressive in the emotional scenes; as the tyrannic governor, Angelo, Mr. Roy Fortescue is sufficiently grim; Mr. Lionel Atwill admirably realises the character of Rudolph; and Miss Millie Ford does excellent work in the part of Lady Katherine. Other prominent characters are taken by Mr. James Sherwin as Lieut. Traska, and Miss Lallah Shelton as Eulie; and the comedy is in the hands of Miss Olive Lloyd as Reginella, Mr. Percy Brown as Victor, and Mr. Willie Barrett as Nobbo.

CURRY'S TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North.—The Lorch Family give a risley performance that is as remarkable for the bright and attractive stage effect presented as for the smartness and cleverness of the feats accomplished. Ryan and Hall submit a highly-amusing wrestling burlesque; Baker and de Sales accomplish good vocal work, combined with comedy and dancing; Belrose and De Velin are a couple of artistic vocalists; the Smythsons present a funny sketch, *The Lie-Alarm*; Tatten Hall is a comedian with good songs; the Sisters Kilner are a trio of clever dancers; and Don Harradean is a pleasing comedian.

THE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. A. Edwardes; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. C. Shread; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. V. Allton.—Miss Florrie Gallimore retains all her former popularity, and her engaging style and tuneful songs are greatly delighting the audiences; the Great Weiland is a comedy juggler with business which is at once smart and amusing; the Donnas Trio are skilful acrobats; Josie Delaine is a charming comedienne and dancer; Bentley Evans's company submit a laughable sketch, *Sally's Dilemma*; Cline and Clark do some novel step-dancing; and Percy Johnson (comedian) and the Three Temples (operatic vocalists) also contribute to the programme.

HALIFAX. — THEATRE ROYAL, LTD. — General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling. — This week Mr. Lingford Carson's company has been seen in *The Power of the Cross*, chief parts being taken by the author, Mr. George A. De Gray, Mr. Chas. Linney, and Mr. A. J. Haviland, together with Miss Marie Menzies, each giving a fairly clever study of the parts allotted to them, while the staging is of the best.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Lessee, Mr. Fredk. Macnaghten. — The Ten Ji troupe of Japanese magicians and water jugglers, hold the high position in the programme, most of the tricks performed being of an astounding character. The Three Sisters Sprightly make a successful reappearance; and as a vocal comedian Harry Anderson meets with acclamation. A. P. Boswell, the Katos, Komical Kidgets, the Three Macdonalds in their musical garden, and Winnie Derson, a pleasing comedienne, present attractive items.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Sam Winks.—Mr. A. P. Huntley and Mr. Herbert Clayton's powerful company is here in *The Punch Bowl*. Winona, assisted by Col. King, presents an excellent shooting act; Walter Curtis is a capable Yorkshire humorist; Howard and St. Clair, bright comedy couple, in *Do You Want any Coke?* Sisters Urma, Mlle. Renee, and the Meynotts in farce, *Semi-Detached*, score well; while a series of interesting pictures are submitted on the Bioscope.

HANLEY. — ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Douglas Elphinstone.—Mr. Henry Swinerd's company opened here on Monday in the musical comedy, *Dare-Devil Dorothy*. Mr. Bert Edwards contributes a capital impersonation, his comedy, dances, and vocalism being excellent; Mr. Walter Ashley, as Captain George Fielding, plays well, and sings in a pleasing manner; as Captain Dudley Mr. Henry E. Ward is very successful; Miss Dorothy Desmonde, in the juvenile part, displays a nice voice and a pleasing manner; Miss Marie Vere does well as Ruth Montrose; and the other rôles are well sustained.

GRAND, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. James Wynes.—Heading a capital bill are Tom Foy and company in that remarkably funny sketch, *The Yorkshire Lad in London*. Jordan and Harvey, the Hebrew comedians, score a distinct success, their patter being clever and amusing; Miss Kitty Traney presents a pretty juggling and sporting act, which is excellent; Miss Nina Gordon contributes a turn of merit, her mimicry being admirable; Stanley's Urchins sing nicely together, and are also capital dancers; Mlle. du Roche has a good voice and appearance; a comedy speciality act, viz., *The Tea House; or, Pat in China*, is well enacted and mounted; the Mayvilles, in their lilliputian novelty, are better than ever; and the pictures are capital.

HARROGATE. — GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Smith.—For the first three nights of this week the theatre was occupied by Mr. Julian Graham's company in the musical play *Juno*. As Timothy Twinkle Mr. Harry Walsh worked hard; Miss Edith Barnes was well placed as Mrs. Strong, and sang several songs well; Miss Flo Wood was pretty as Priscilla Strong; Miss Kate Graham Beck appeared as the statue "Juno"; and the best-played part was that of the detective, John Murphy, by Mr. Richard Teasdale. For the rest of the week Miss Emma Hutchison's company, in *Peter's Mother*, occupied the theatre.

HARTLEPOOL.—EMPRESS.—Proprietors, Messrs. Councillor Everton and J. W. Cragg; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Charlie Ferrier.—The bill here is headed by the Warsaw Brothers in an irresistibly funny musical act; Coram, the favourite ventriloquist, occupies second place of honour, and delights all; Ike Scott and Son retain their popularity; and Zenora does some remarkable contortionist feats. *A Night in Japan* is being played again, Mr. S. Harland sustaining the part of Lieut. Vernon. Miss Tina Franks a vivacious Princess Gryson, Mr. W. S. Power a lively Wishee-Washee, and Mr. Fred Cooper is the Mikado. Some prettily executed dances are introduced by the Four Mikado Girls; and Madge Walton, comedienne and dancer, gains golden opinions. A return visit is paid by J. P. Carrol, the clever tambourine manipulator; and the pictures are interesting and amusing.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Scutt.—A well-filled house on Monday accorded Mr. Norman Macowan and company a warm welcome on their return visit in *Monsieur Beaucaire*, a rôle which that gentleman played with fine imagination and power. Lady Mary was well delineated by Miss Violet Sterne, who presented with charm and conviction the changing moods of that character; Mr. Arthur Somers as Major Molyneaux and Miss Mary Masters as Lucy Rellerton acted in an able manner; and the double rôle of François and the Marquis de Mirepoix had a capable exponent in Mr. Hans Schlesinger. The mean character of the Duke was ably depicted by Mr. Murray Hathorn.

PIER PAVILION.—Pier-Master, Mr. R. Turner; Entertainment-Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—A pleasing change from drama is being introduced this week in a series of animated pictures, on a return visit, under the direction of Mr. Gerald Hunt. Among many interesting scenes are those from the life of the unfortunate Marie Antoinette. To the variety, Miss Mabel Mavis contributes with solos on the glassophone; Mme. Amy Atkins, soprano, is well received; juggling feats are exhibited by Mlle. Ada Gatley, who also appears on the slack wire; and Mr. George B. Bohee, banjoist, and Karr and Kooney, are also among the attractions.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Norman.—A good programme is opened by Mr. Jock McKay, Scotch comedian and piper; Charlton, a clever conjurer, is quite up to date; Miss Lottie Albert is a dainty comedienne; a novel and skilful Liliputian performance is shown by Mr. Arthur J. Hill; "Building a Railway in Darkest Africa" is a remarkable film as seen on the bioscope; a romantic episode, *My Lady Betty*, is finely enacted by Miss Nellie Stevens, Mr. Frank Elliston, and company; Mr. Sid Bandon sings in spirited fashion; Luis Hardt is a remarkable strong man; and Miss Ray Maskell is a pretty and graceful dancer.

ST. LEONARDS PAVILION THEATRE.—Pier-Master and Entertainment-Manager, Mr. Elvey Thomas.—*Our Boys* is being presented here this week. Mr. R. Denman makes a dignified Sir Geoffrey Champneys; Talbot is well taken by Mr. James Hart; Mr. James Stevens is a capital Perkyn Middlewick; Mr. T. G. Davies a sturdy Charles; Clarissa is a capital sketch by Miss Gertrude Mitchell; a good impersonation of Belinda is submitted by Miss Louise Cooper; and Violet and Mary are admirably portrayed by Miss Sophie Campbell and Miss Lucie Victor.

HORWICH.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Oliver Wade; Manager, Mr. Alec Harcourt.—This week the theatre is open on the two-houses-a-night system—a new experiment in Horwich. The Gay Monaco Girls give an exceptionally fine show, their singing and dancing being highly successful; the performance of Miss Maidie Berker, society entertainer, is very artistic; Mr. Will Letters, vocal comedian and raconteur, is excellent; the *pièce de résistance* is Dooley and Seymour's No. 1 Company in *A King for a Day*. The cast is a good all-round one, and includes Mr. Fred Brampton as the Hereditary Prince of Polignac; Mr. Wm. Reed as Signor Carrara; Mr. Harry Buss as Septimus Tupper, Mr. Robert Barbour as Adolf, Miss Edith Barwell as Eliza Remnant, and Miss Maidie Berker as Elsie Remnant. An operatic chorus of nearly forty voices contributes to a very enjoyable entertainment.

HUDDERSFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Andrews.—*The Christian* is here. Miss Grace Chalmers plays Glory Quayle with great charm; Mr. Howard Templeton impersonates with much force the fervent John Storm; whilst the rest of the cast is filled in thoroughly capable manner.

HIPPODROME, LTD. — Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—The widely-discussed La Milo is here, in her beautifully artistic representations of statuary; Cruikshank's lightning caricature sketches agreeably bridge the intervals between La Milo's different impersonations. Other turns are provided by Rita and Roma, singers, with a clever and humorous dancing interlude; Fyne and Hurley, a distinctly clever pair of comedians, as the dude and the coster; Miss Ina Lorrimer, a bright little comedienne and nimble dancer; Frobel and Ruge, gymnasts, in their exciting turn, "Up the Pole"; Allan Hanbury, a quaint comedian; the Three Laurels, clever and daring acrobats; and humorous pictures on the Bioscope.

HULL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. Morton; Resident-Director, Mr. W. F. Morton.—Mr. Harold V. Neilson's company, in *The Perfect Lover*, is drawing big business. Very fine work is done by that talented artist, Miss Amy Sangster; Mr. Harold V. Neilson is sharing with Mr. Lemmon Warde the rôle of the two brothers—both furnishing the contrast that the author has suggested in his character. *The Perfect Lover* shares the week's bill with *The Money Spinner*, *A Bunch of Violets*, and *The Light That Failed*.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Local Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—The Compton Comedy Company, always an excellent draw in this city, is maintaining its tradition during the current week. Monday opened with the famous play, *Davy Garrick*, in the title-rôle of which Mr. Compton gave a reading which has made his work familiar from one end of Britain to the other. A clever and withal very pleasing Violet Gresham is Miss Mackenzie. *The School for Scandal* and other famed plays of this répertoire are down for production during the engagement.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Mortons, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—That pleasing actress Miss Ethel Van Praagh is appearing here in *An Unwedded Wife*, the merits of which are meeting with fit reward. Miss Van Praagh, in the title-rôle, displays to no small extent the histrionic gifts which she possesses; as the villain, Mr. St. Clair Forbes is all one expects of the heavy man; the comic relief is well furnished by Miss Jessie Gillette as Carraway Crumpet, and Mr. Will Carey as Napoleon B. Boomer.

THE PALACE.—Manager, Mr. Jno. S. Barnett.—Lil Hawthorne makes a welcome reappearance; Victor Newman gives some clever imitations of Dickens's characters; Frank Seeley is a big favourite; and other clever artists include Frank Couch, Northern Troupe, Tina Clementa, Alice May and company, and Les Strads.

THE HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Graham; Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—Howard and Harris top the bill with a clever act; the instrumental act of Sterling and Love meets with much applause; Flo Banks makes a welcome reappearance in a chorus song; Charles Faning is well received; the Three Phantos appear with success in *The Phantom Ship*; and Dan Thomas scores with his humorous songs.

THE EMPIRE.—Manager, Mr. Harry Slingsby.—Will Onda's comedians present a laughable sketch, *Hotel Comforts*; an excellent bill includes Gilian, Brothers Onda, Wallace Whitney, Sam Dalton, Beattie Foster, and Lillian Travellie.

THE CIRCUS.—Manager, Mr. E. Emerson.—Animated pictures are a big draw here.

ILKESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—*Wep-ton-no-Mah* is being put on here this week by Go-Won-Go-Mohawk and company. Go-Won-Go-Mohawk plays the title-rôle well; Miss Bessie Frank as Nellie Stockton secures attention; Mr. C. W. Charles is everything that can be desired as Col. Stockton; Mr. Pasco Bioletti finds a suitable part as Chief Ga-ne-Gua; Mr. Dan Ryan works hard as Carry Cullen, and, with Mr. Arthur Selwyn as Sam White and Miss Jessie Hart as Matilda Sniffles, enliven the piece considerably Mr. Edward Le Roy gives a good representation of Manuel Lopes.

IPSWICH.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Leonard Grey.—*The Prince of Pilsen*, the well-known musical comedy, is being presented here by Mr. Baron H. Harriss's company. Miss Sophia Harriss, as the New York widow, enters thoroughly into the spirit of the character, and sings and dances herself into the good graces of the audience; Mr. Harry Kilburn's assumption of Hans Wagner is humorous and effective; Mr. Frank Crimp as the real Prince plays with great credit, and his vocal efforts are in every way satisfactory; Mr. Lindon Lang, as Lieut. Wagner, is well suited; Miss May Yates admirably plays the part of Nelly Wagner; and Miss Connie Leon and Miss Ada Watson render able assistance.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—The principal item in the programme is Oswald Williams and company, whose clever tricks and illusions quite bewilder the audience. Another attractive turn is that of the Three Royal Dreadnoughts, who accomplish some expert rifle-shooting; May Moore, on a return visit, is well received; Millie Payne scores with her funny ditties; Harry Thurston is a clever impersonator of well-known artists; and J. A. Cassels rendered Scotch songs with effect. A sketch, called *House Full*, is well played by Stanley Damerell, Cecil Rutland, and company, and causes much amusement.

JERSEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Edward Marris.—That successful drama, *A Gambler's Daughter*, is doing good business here this week. Miss Hill's acting in the dual rôle of Mildred and Miriam Grant is exceedingly good. Miss Harriett Loydall is amusing as Auntie Zeb; Mr. Robert Ayrton appears as Desmond O'Dare, and Mr. A. Saunders as Solomon Solomons is a great success; Mr. Richard Pitt undertakes the part of John Grant, whose son is ably portrayed by Mr. George Vinning; Mr. W. H. Terriss is a dignified Ralph Gillman, and Mr. H. Barham acts well as Captain Stanhope.

LANCASTER.—ATHENÆUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alfred Hook.—*The Trail of the Serpent*, played by Mr. A. Campbell-Kelly's company, is very well presented. Much comedy is introduced by Miss Nana Cameron as Rachel and Mr. J. R. Tyrell as William Higgins. Mr. A. Campbell-Kelly appears with much success in the dual rôle of Gerald Kingston and Old Jack and as the Serpent, Ralph Hammond, Mr. Frank Lyndon does very well. Miss Phyllis Elton also gives a capital portrayal of Ethel Maynard. The scenic effects are well managed.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. J. Porter and W. J. Fergusson.—The Piccolinos, a couple of midgets whose height is only 35ins., are really smart dancers, sharpshooters, and equilibrists; Les Valdos, the eccentric "motor-bus man," cause roars of laughter; and the Marsumas are clever cyclists. Oliver Conroy (comedian), H. Pawson (illusionist), the Steinway Quartette (who sing well), and the Three Sisters Free (singers and dancers) complete a first-rate programme. "Mrs. Brown's New Hat" is shown on the Hippograph.

LEEDS.—GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Edward Cadman. — Mr. John Hart's revival of the ever-popular *San Toy* is the attraction here, and a first-rate company is engaged in the presentation thereof. Mr. Horace Mills is in his original part of Li, and the irrepressible Chinaman is vastly amusing. A very pleasing portrayal of the name-part goes to the credit of Miss Gertrude Gilliam; refreshing vitality is infused into the rôle of Dudley by Miss Lulu Valli; and Miss Sylva May is charming as Poppy. The mandarin, Yen-How, has a capital exponent in Mr. Colin Coop; Mr. Alfred Clark is effective as the Emperor; and Mr. W. J. Manning once again represents the peppery Sir Bingo Preston in his own inimitable style. Mr. Edward Sherrass sings and acts creditably as Capt. Bobby Preston; Mr. Frederick Hobbs is well placed as the student Yo-Hop, his duet with Miss Hebe Bliss in the second act being quite the vocal success of the evening. Miss May Gould dances the *pas-seul* with exceeding grace and celerity.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—*The London Fireman* is filling the house nightly. Mr. J. Forbes Knowles sustains the part of Col. Fleming in a commendable manner, and is ably assisted by Mr. Philip Renouf as Bill Stinger. Mr. Edward L. Garside gives a convincing character-study of Ratty, a miser and ex-convict; Miss Nellie Waddington evokes much enthusiasm by her fine acting in the part of Gladys Fleming; and special mention must also be made of Miss Beatrice Sinclair, whose Grace Curtis is a performance above the average.

EMPIRE.—Moss Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alex Galley.—An uproarious farcical sketch, presented by Fred Karno's company, entitled *The Bailiff*, has the inimitable Fred Kitchen in the big part, and is proving very popular. Tambo and Tambo manipulate tambourines with remarkable cleverness; an interesting engagement is that of Dan Leno, jun., comedian; the New York Nippers once again present their clever speciality *Bedtime* with success; Burns and Burns have an excellent comedy turn, which is amusing; Hurley and Cole achieve success with pleasing song-scena; Kate Traill entertains at the piano; and Nellie Martell is an attractive and popular comedienne.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter De Frece.—That clever comedian George Gilbey is vastly amusing in his eccentric character creations, and gets a big reception nightly; Henry Herne and company hold the tense interest of their audience in the dramatic river episode *Blackmail*; and Mr. and Mrs. Leonard are high in favour with an amusing comedy duologue. Ricardo and Salveng arouse interest with a marvellous equilibristic speciality; Robbie Roy, the Scotch comedian, is doing well; the vocal contributions of Godfrey James, the singing collier, are greatly appreciated; and Fred Horsfall also displays much vocal ability; the pictures complete.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Thos. Barrasford; General-Managers, Mr. Chas. Weldon and Mr. Claude Shayler. — Arthur Roberts, the famous comedian, is the star attraction here, and with a good company is most entertaining in the presentation of a successful farce. That popular vocalist George D'Albert is as strong a favourite as ever; and Harry Claff, another excellent character artist, is making a name for himself; the Two Kays are a popular line in vocal speciality; Roze and Calvert enhance a big local reputation as comedy entertainers; the vocal comedy by Parker and Parr proves acceptable; and we may also mention Bertha Zander, illustrated vocalist; Andrews and Thompson, in vocal comedy; and May Fallowfield, dainty soubrette, as being particularly successful.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Jones.—A clever juvenile artist, Wee Mona, is as popular as any turn here, her singing and dancing being of considerable merit. A comedy act by the Emmell Comedy Company goes well, as also do the acrobatic efforts of Talberto and Douglas. Max Duffek submits an original speciality with much success; the Bros. Hayes sing and dance in clever style; the Paolias are a striking example of muscular development; and meritorious turns are also subscribed by Maudie Vera, comedienne; Elton and Elma, in comedy acrobatics; and George Antill, eccentric comedian.

LEICESTER.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton.—Mr. St. John Denton's company, with the musical comedy, *Kitty Grey*, is the attraction here this week. The name-part is delightfully undertaken by Miss Hilda Guiver, whose unflagging spirits and vivaciousness win for her general approval; Miss Elly Helene as Lady Binfield scores a success, her songs being very popular; Miss Lena Denton displays much cleverness as the American heiress, Saide de Poulson; Miss Nellie Cozens is excellent as Mrs. Bright; Mr. Robert Whyte, jun., raises much laughter as the King of Illyra, his topical allusions being especially well received; Mr. Leslie Harris is very good as Lord Plantagenet; and Mr. Yorke-Hatton as Sir John Binfield makes an excellent impression. The chorus and augmented orchestra is under the direction of Mr. Otto Manns. The dressing and mounting is also a feature.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. E. R. Beaumont.—Mr. Eade Montefiore's company, with *The Streets of London*, is here. The play is in the hands of a good all-round company, portrayals of especial merit being those of Mr. Gerald Kennedy as Gideon Bloodgood, Miss Florence Moore as Dan Puffy, Mr. Frank Bradley as Mark Livingstone, Mr. Joe Bracewell as Jonas Puffy, Mr. Clifford Armitage as Captain Fairweather, Mr. Charles O'Connor as Paul Fairweather, Mr. William Rokeby as Badger, Miss Dorothy Mayhew as Alida Bloodgood, Miss Violet Hammersley as Lucy Fairweather, and Miss Helena Rigby as Mrs. Puffy.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Bertram G. Iles.—Paul Cinquevalli, who is aptly programmed as "the cleverest of all clever jugglers," stars here this week. His whole entertainment is carried through with a delightful smartness, which earns for him a most cordial reception. At the other end are Carter Livesey and Lilian Roseberry, in their uproariously funny skit, entitled *The Would-be Actors Rehearsing a Drama*, Miss Lilian Roseberry as the heroine, Mr. Albert Mason as the villain, and Mr. Carter Livesey as the hero, and other characters, being very good. Leicester Cooke and company present a dramatic incident, entitled *Zululand; or, With Royston's Horse*, in a most praiseworthy manner, the staging calling for especial praise. Edward Arthur and company give two scenes from *The Lily of Killarney*, in which Mr. Arthur as Myles-na-Coppaleen and Hardress Cregan acts and sings in commendable style; O'Malley and Brown score a success with their comedy sketch, *You're Still a Friend of Mine*; J. W. Ricarby is a clever character-comedian; Roma and Romani are talented and artistic musicians; the Cambrian Trio of lady vocalists sing harmoniously; the Bioscope is also a feature, with "Buster Brown."

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joe Lawrence; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Sansom.—Rose Elliott, a versatile comedienne, is the principal attraction here, and in connection with her turn a singing competition is being held; Walker and May, the blind comedian and expert dancer and American soubrette, are most successful; Edna Latonne, a capital vocalist, scores with a turn of exceptional merit; Charles Banks, a funny comedian, introduces a cleverly-trained dog; others who provide entertaining turns are Cambo, the musical monkey; the Sisters Hall, duettists; Lang and Beal, comedy musicians; and Walter H. Pallister's Bioscope.

ASSOCIATION HALL.—The Zancigs made their first appearance here on Tuesday afternoon, and their marvellous demonstrations created quite a sensation. They are supported by a first-class company of artists, including Miss Kate Moss, soprano and violinist; Miss Clara Alexander, in clever impersonations of plantation people; Mr. Thornley-Dodge, a popular society entertainer; Mr. Sidney Jarvis, baritone; Miss Ethel Grimes, soprano; Mr. David Brazell, operatic vocalist; and Mr. Harold E. Scott, solo pianist.

LEIGH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Cragg; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Rousby.—Mr. Frank Ayrton's *Power of Gold* company are here. Miss Amy McNeill furnishes a skilful impersonation of Lady Brandon; Mr. George Lyttleton is very effective as Hadgi Zambra; his accomplice, Mark Harley, being capably handled by Mr. Richard Harris. An admirable Paul Judson is seen in Mr. R. F. Stacey; Miss Lily Prescot gains admiration in the rôle of Meg Judson; the humour of the play is well brought out by Mr. Frank Ayrton as Sammy Smudge and Miss Madge Seymour as Norah Donelly, whose combined efforts do not fail to keep the house in good humour. Wednesday evening, the 15th inst., was specially set apart for the benefit of Mr. Harry Rousby.

LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—The performance of the Wilkie Collins' drama, *The New Magdalene*, by Mr. Edward Sorley's company, is, like the play itself, of sterling merit. Miss Yvonne Orchardson succeeds admirably in the difficult and trying rôle of Mercy Merrick; Mr. W. S. Hartford is delightfully fresh and unconventional as Julian Grey; and Mr. Horace Logan gives a careful and convincing study of Horace Holmcraft; while Miss Bartle Frere and Miss Rachel Donne respectively are artistic and effective in their impersonations of Lady Janet Roy and Grace Rosebery. The Ignatius Wetzel of Mr. W. T. Lloyd is done to the life; and other minor rôles are capably filled. An original dramatic episode by Mr. C. A. Clarke, and entitled *Trafalgar Day*, is put on as a curtain-raiser. This powerful little sketch, running on parallel lines to Sir A. Conan Doyle's *Waterloo*, gives Mr. Hartford opportunity for clever character-acting as an old boatswain; and a pair of young lovers find pleasing representatives in Miss Violet Simmons and Mr. James Storey. The piece is well adapted for production in the halls.

LIVERPOOL.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—A brilliant performance of *The Robbery of the Lyons Mail* was given on Monday evening by Mr. H. B. Irving and his company. The genuineness of the applause which greeted the work of the artists was unmistakable, while there appeared to be a consensus of opinion that it would be difficult to excel, or even equal, the finished manner in which the rôles of Joseph Lesurques and Dubosc were filled by the distinguished actor. Miss Madge McIntosh played with power in the part of the unfortunate Janette; a Julie, remarkable for its delicacy and tenderness, came from Miss Sybil Noble; Mr. E. Harcourt Williams gave a touch of light buffoonery to his Courriol; as Choppard Mr. Charles Dodsworth stood out with creditable prominence; Mr. Tom Reynolds handled the character of Fouinard with every care; as Jerome Lesurques Mr. Frank Tyars made a perfect picture of the accused man's distressed father; the small part of Joliquet was admirably undertaken by Mr. Arthur Curtis; and other noteworthy rôles were Dorval (Mr. Fewless Llewellyn) and the Postmaster (Mr. Frank Cochrane). The poetic *King Rene's Daughter*, richly enjoyed, was the curtain-raiser. Other plays of the week were *The Bells* and *Charles I.*

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE. — Managing-Directors, Messrs. E. Stevens and R. C. Buchanan; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—The frequenters

An admirable Food of the

of this popular theatre have this week had placed before them some capital fare. An able company, controlled by Messrs. Cartwright, Lawrence, and Tapping, has presented *David Copperfield*, *David Garrick*, and *The Coping Stone*. The first-named play, which was given on Monday evening, met with great popularity. As Dan'l Peggotty, Mr. Charles Cartwright acted with a naturalness that could not fail to impress; Mr. Charles Collette proved immensely diverting as Micawber; Uriah Heep, presented by Mr. A. B. Tapping, was a perfect study; Mr. Gerald Lawrence afforded satisfaction in the rôle of Steerforth; Mr. Lionel Belmore presented Ham with the required modesty and reserve; the grumbling Mrs. Gummidge was carefully portrayed by Miss Ethel Sarjient; Miss Lorna Lawrence showed a true appreciation of the character of Little Emily; and Miss Clarissa Selwynne as Rosa Dartle, Miss Helen Vicary as Betsy Trotwood, and Mr. Stanley Harrison as Copperfield, were also good. In *Garrick* Miss Fay Davis was Ada Ingot, and the same lady played Marjory Graham in *The Coping Stone*, which came to Liverpool for the first time.

ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery. —Messrs. Frank J. Pitt and Chas. Halling's company is here this week with *£1000 Reward*. Included in the cast are Messrs. Fred Wilberforce (Gilbert Lisle), Charles Halling (new school of Detectives), Frank Dallas (old school), Frank J. Pitt (Fred Ingleford), George Scully (Dick Springthorpe), Miss Daisy Halling (Madam Sanson), and Miss Lynn Darlington (Meg).

LYRIC — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—The popular Florrie Forde tops the bill here this week; Collinson's Troupe of juveniles with song and dance are a most acceptable turn, their sketch, *Topsy Turvy School*, proving most diverting; Alburtus and Miller, club experts, gained much applause; the Kimberley Boys caused great amusement; and others in the list were Arthur Slater, siffleur, Pete and Juno, coloured comedians, Ethel Dove, comedienne, and Elsie May, juvenile vocalist.

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—*The Hero of the Flag*, played by Edward McLean's company, has been the attraction here this week. Miss Gladys Vernon, as Mabel Forester, played effectively; Miss Lilian Beaumont did justice to Ruth Clifford; Miss Amy Randolph presented a humorous Jenny Stubbs; Mr. Edward McLean found favour as Jack Lawrence; Mr. Ernest Wingfield made a rascally Paul Mansfield; and Mr. Johnny McElroy raised much laughter as Truckle.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan. —Hackenschmidt, the famous wrestler, tops the bill here this week, and has proved a great draw; a funny pair of juggling jesters, Radford and Valentine, have afforded immense amusement; as vocalists, comedians, and dancers, the Society Quartet were received with enthusiasm; the Three Sisters Thurban sang sweetly, and exhibited skill on musical instruments; much applause was bestowed upon Louis Boumeester for his excellent violin playing; Cherry Lass sang and danced neatly; the sketch *Ferdie's Ma-in-Law* provoked endless laughter; and others who appeared were Dave O'Toole, comedian, Rosie Bartlett, refined comedienne, and Harry Taft, siffleur.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole. —*The New World* is the title of the dramatic work given here this week, by the "Royal" stock company. Among the principals are Messrs. Harry Tresham (Jack Hawley), Sydney Grant (Jim Rawlins), H. Hesselgrave (Joe Williams), Robert Wilton (Jose Alvarez), Cecil Ravenswood (Colonel Clayton), Percy Boucher (Brutus Brown), Miss Beryl Ravenswood (Samantha), and Miss Nellie Bonser (May Walton).

PADDINGTON PALACE.—Lessee, Mr M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Edwards.—The "Royal" stock company here this week is appearing in *A Sister's Honour*. Mr. H. G. Brandon makes a humorous Jonas Sparrowlegs; the Robert Bertin of Mr. Wallace Campbell is particularly fine; Mr. Francis E. Wybert is satisfactory as Giles; Miss Lina Nazeby plays powerfully as Jane Bertin; and Miss Gladys Hastings-Walton is a pleasing Lilian.

PARK PALACE.—Proprietors, Lancashire Vaudeville Syndicate, Ltd.; General-Director, Mr. Walter De Frece. — The stock company here is this week giving *The Best Must Win*. Mr. Albert Sember plays most effectively as Paul Dumaresq; Mr. Walter Foster affords much satisfaction as Sabretache; Mr. Archie Helsby is a capital Gaston; and worthy support comes from Mr. Hugh Carmichael (Juan Minos), Mr. Will Percy (Jacques Coverell), Miss Nelson Ramsey (Le Marquise and Therese), Miss Violet Barclay-Clarke (Sugette), and Miss Lilian Burns (Denise Sabretache).

HAYMARKET.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. Edwin W. Smith.—Harry Calden and company are still here, presenting this week, the sporting sketch, *Newmarket Life*; the Two Perkins (Louie and George), coloured vocalists and dancers, give a smart turn; George Christian, a silly singer of silly songs, proves very amusing; and Alf Freeman, vocalist, also appears.

WESTMINSTER.—Lessee, Mr. Fred B. Welsker; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—At the top of the bill here this week are Bates Maddison and company, with the exceedingly funny sketch, *Charley's Uncle; or, What Has She Got?* Miss Henriquette Maude, by means of the bioscope, relates her journey round the world, a story which is very interesting; Fay and Fay are particularly amusing as comedians and burlesque boxers; some taking songs come from Joe Freda; and others in the list are Bella Leaburn, comedienne, and Akbar, on the silver rings.

OLYMPIA, LTD.—District-Manager, Mr. Albert Bulmer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wighton.—Herbert Darnley's lively comedians are foremost here this week, with the laughable sketch, *The Skirmishers*; Arthur Lennard obtains a cordial reception for his latest songs, including "The Eagle"; roars of laughter follow the work of those smart comedians, the Bros. Egbert; a pretty and clever show with trained ravens and pigeons is given by Melia and Mozarabar; as the Happy Slavey at the Piano, Rosa Loader provides a popular turn; Robb Gilmore is a comedian with a distinctive style; and others in the list are Lizzie Fletcher, comedienne, C. Randolph King, the one-man programme, and Anna Hope, whose illustrated songs are appreciated.

EMPIRE. — Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd. — In big type here this week are the Three Golden Graces, presented by Madame De Vry. These ladies, posing as bronze figures, look exceedingly effective; John Humphries and company present a new farcical sketch, *Ancient Britons*, a special notice of which appears elsewhere; to Mr. Bransby Williams has been accorded a most gratifying reception for his charming character sketches from Shakespeare, including Cardinal Wolsey, Henry V., Hamlet, and Shylock; Tom Owen, the Welsh comedian, has a number of funny songs; Sydney James's Strolling Players have a capital all round entertainment of ventriloquism, singing, and dancing, with a burlesque of *Romeo and Juliet*; Phil and Nettie Peters are a smart comedy duo; a sparkling and funny military trifle, entitled *The Cuckoo*, is submitted by Charles Kitts and Rhoda Windrum; and the list also contains the names of Minnie Merry, the female Robey, Mezzetti and Mora, with a comedy act on the triple-bars, and the Wartenberg Bros., clever doublefoot novelty experts.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors, Liverpool Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. James Marks.—Foreman and Fannan are top of the bill this week, with their funny work; the Courtiers, under the direction of Mr. Paul Mill, give a pretty and much appreciated vaudeville entertainment; Sammy Shields causes endless laughter with his description of a football match; Billy Williams has some humorous parody songs; smart dancing is performed by the Bros. Lester; and others who appear are Charles Gardner, comedian, Daisy Davidson, soprano, and the Zampas, duettists and dancers.

LLANDUDNO.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Vaughan; Manager, Mr. J. Ritson.—On Monday and during the week Mr. Gilbert Payne and company appeared here in the farcical play, *The Honeymoon*. Mr. Alvin Sawyer is good as Colonel Vandyke Brown; Mr. Leslie Erle as Jack Armstrong is well received; Mr. Gilbert Payne in the comic part of Nathaniel Noodle is excellent, his drolleries causing roars of laughter; Mr. Fred Fulton as Archie Mashington is first-rate, his songs finding great favour; Miss Lilian Ramsdale as Emeretta Noodle is well placed; Miss Nellie Dyson as Stella Le Brunn and Miss Madge Roy as Sarah Slabb do justice to their respective parts; Miss Patty Fairley in the leading part of Madge Armstrong is exceptionally well received, her voice being much above the average; the Godfrey Girls contribute some good dancing.

PIER PAVILION, LTD.—Secretary, Mr. S. Hughes. —The orchestra, under Mr. A. W. Payne, A.R.A.M., has been augmented, and will be at full strength until the end of the season, the vocalist this week being Mr. Webster Millar.

LOWESTOFT. — HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert; Manager, Mr. Frank Freeland.—The programme submitted here during the present week has proved highly attractive. "The Great Naval Review," "The Cup Final," and other films have been much appreciated. Amongst the variety turns, the Musical Keiths have been warmly welcomed; Mozzetto, the juggler, and Harry Raby, the boy vocalist, are to be commended; and Miss Cissie Ferndale is a great favourite here.

MARINA.—Managing-Director, M. E. A. Smith.—Following a short interval, this place of entertainment opened for the season on Monday with the first performance locally of the drama, *The Still Alarm*. The fire scene, which introduces a couple of well-trained horses, is very effective. Another feature is the singing of the Lyric Comedy Quartette. Mr. Mathew H. Glenville presents a fine reading as Jack Manley; and Mr. Fred Osmond is equally successful as Doc Wilber. Mr. Geo. Arthur is well placed as John Bird; and another good performance is that of Mr. Tom Beasley as Willie Manley. Miss Hettie Zillwood is very entertaining as Carie Wilber; Miss Maud Warburton performs creditably as Elinor Fordham; while mention must also be made of the capital study of Mrs. Manley, submitted by Miss Mabel Veriton.

LUTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Manager, Mr. Louis J. Beard.—*The New Barmaid* was most cordially welcomed on Monday. Mr. Alexander Loftus as Bertie White was excellent; Mr. James Grant and Mr. Charles Adeson as William White and Mons. Bonsor respectively, supported him well; Colonel Claymore was in the capable hands of Mr. Frank Collins; Miss Maisie Gay as the New Barmaid charmed with her excellent singing; Mr. James Hawkes did well as Captain Lovebury; Miss Marian Vyner as Dora Heather was interesting; and other parts were well sustained by Miss Grafton (Brenda Louth), Miss Mabel Harrison (Lady Moulton), and Miss Jean Verner (Braddy).

MANCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr Edwardstone Shirra.—The D'Oyly Carte principal répertoire company opened here on Monday in a performance of *The Gondoliers*, which was accorded a deservedly enthusiastic reception by a well-filled house. Mr. Charles R. Walenn, in the comedy rôle of the Duke of Plaza-Toro, proved himself a worthy successor to the best of his predecessors; and as the Grand Inquisitor Mr. Fred Billington was as good as ever, and had a fine reception. The singing and dramatic work of Miss Mabel Graham as Gianetta, Miss Lulu Evans as Tessa, Mr. Albert Kavanagh as Guiseppe, and Mr. Pacie Ripple as Marco proved eminently satisfactory; and in the matters of chorus and staging no fault could be found. Tuesday's performance of *Patience* was also extremely good, affording Miss Theresa Rassam a notable opportunity as Lady Jane, among others who distinguished themselves by spirited and entertaining efforts; and on Wednesday an excellent performance of *The Yeomen of the Guard* was given, a very good house being attracted by this popular item in the répertoire. The week's programme includes also *H.M.S. Pinafore*, *Trial by Jury*, and *Princess Ida*. The company remains another week, and is sure to prove a popular holiday attraction.

GAIETY THEATRE, LTD.—Acting-Manager, Mr. H. M. Thorburn.—Messrs. Armitage and Leigh's company is here this week in *East Lynne*, which seems to have lost none of its power to excite both tears and laughter. P.C. Bullock figures in this version of the story in the person of Mr. Alfred Tate, who plays the part very well. Mr. Alfred Beaumont as Archibald Carlyle and Miss Julie Kennard as Lady Isabel are the principal figures in the story proper, which is well interpreted by the cast as a whole, and is embellished by excellent staging.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—Miss Emma Litchfield's company was welcomed here on Monday in Miss Litchfield's novelty drama, *A Clever Impostor*, which has previously found favour with local audiences. The authoress has capital scope for her talents in a triple rôle, and is well assisted by Mr. Stuart Cleveland, who plays the title-part with great skill, and by a capable cast, among whom Mr. Arthur Mervyn and Miss Florence Gomer are prominent. The piece is finely staged.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hearn. — Mr. Will White's company is the attraction here this week in the popular Western drama, *The New World*, a thrilling story of pioneer life in the land of the Rising Sun. Mr. Victor Rae as Jack Hawley, Miss Beatrice Moore as Jenny, and Mr. W. S. Stevenson as Rawlins of Nowhere have excellent opportunities for the display of their abilities; and ohers who do well are Mr. Albert Carlton as Alvarez, Mr. Albert H. Clarke as Joe Williams, Mr. Will White as Host of the "Home, Sweet Home," Miss Evelyn Robson as May Walton, and Miss Maud Leslie as Samantha. Much amusement is caused by Messrs. Willie Hicks, Will Bass, and Fred Guinness as Pete, Brutus, and Sam respectively, the two latter being particularly well received for their dance in Act III.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. R. Flanagan; Manager, Mr. P. Ryan Smith.—The attraction here is provided by Mr. Leonard Dalrymple's company in Edward Marris's sensational domestic drama, *As Midnight Chimes*. A very good performance is given, the principal parts being admirably done by Mr. Leonard Dalrymple as Dave Stannard, Miss Maud Hastings as Mary (his wife), Miss Marian Ryder as little Davy, Mr. Herbert Belmore as Luke Dezzard, and Miss Madge Beresford as Suzette, the French maid. In a strong humorous part Mr. James Salter is particularly successful. Capital scenery adds to the dramatic effect.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Day.—Messrs. Hardie and Von Leer's company is here in *Two Little Vagabonds*, after a successful week at the Royal Osborne Theatre.

QUEEN'S THEATRE. — Lessee, Mr. R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Berry.—This week Mr. Flanagan's company is playing *The Lady of Lyons* to good houses. Mr. William Calvert as Claude Melnotte, Miss Clara Cowper as Pauline, and Miss Egerton as the Widow Melnotte are conspicuously good in a cast which, as a whole, one need not wish to see improved. The play is followed by a recitation by Mr. Calvert of Henry Glassford Bell's poem, "Mary, Queen of Scots," illustrated by six tableaux, an example of excellent elocution.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—The particular star here this week is Marie Lloyd, who makes a big success, as usual, in a series of clever character-songs. Prominent also is the *Motoring* sketch by Harry Tate's company, an undoubted laughter-raiser. Considerable applause is excited by the smart coon dancing of Bonnie Goodwin's Apollo Piccaninnies and by the clever boxing sketch of the Brothers Horne and company; while other good turns are added by May Evans, comedienne; Boden and Bell, expert juvenile dancers and duettists; the Trentanovi Sisters, in their gymnastic transformation act; and Allis and Cassati, vocal and comedy duo. The Bioscope is highly entertaining.

GRAND.—Jasper Redfern's pictures continue to do well here, and are supplemented by a brisk and pleasing vaudeville programme.

HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—This week sees the revival here of *Tally-Ho!* the popular hunting sensation, in four elaborate scenes. The Molassos, cyclonic dancers, provide a wonderful turn; Pip Powell and Katie Vesey are duly applauded for their smart comedy act; D'Arc's Marionettes are entertaining; and other capital turns are provided by Venie Clements, comedienne and mimic; Fred and Pauly, gentlemen acrobats; Libby Blondell and her English Johnnies; Kitty Marion, comedienne; and the usual pleasing interludes by the choir. The Bioscope shows interesting pictures, and the entire programme reaches a high standard of excellence.

KING'S (Longsight).—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. B. Taylor. — After a very successful week at the Queen's Park Hippodrome, Miss Agnes Molteno and company are here this week in the delightful song-scena *An Old-Time Story*, and are warmly received. W. L. Murray, Britain's ideal of physical culture, gives an excellent turn; Vanando is particularly clever and entertaining in his ventriloquial speciality, *The Troubles of a Barber*; Annie Cohen sings nicely; some neat dancing is done by May and Ruby, vocalists, and Taylor and May, coloured artists; and very amusing are Stanley and Vandyke in the sketch *A Broken Promise*. Other smart turns are contributed by the Wedburns in *The Duke and the Jester*, and Baker and Lindsay in their bijou musical comedy. "The Electric Belt" is a funny subject of the Bioscope.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter de Frece; Secretary, Mr. Peter Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Tealor Wade.—George Lashwood, the popular vocal comedian, tops the bill here this week with his usual success. Quaintly funny is *The Policemen's Ballet*, presented in fine style by Freddie French and company of eccentric comedians; the Smart Set are vastly entertaining, and are deservedly well received; Nat Clifford, comedian and legmania dancer, is as popular as ever; Arthur Kenny is an exceptionally clever trick cyclist; Sydney and Maud are refined duettists and good dancers; Graham and Harrington are excellent in a dramatic episode, entitled *A Daughter of Pleasure*; Arthur Croxon is a capital mimetic comedian; and Maud Lessim is a pleasing vocalist. Up-to-date pictures complete a first-rate programme.

TIVOLI. — Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Prominent and well-received turns here this week are those of Alf Gibson, the popular quaint comedian; Ivy Velesco's Australian stage circus, introducing well-trained animals; Henry Curwen and Marie Belle, burlesque artists, in a capital sketch; and Row and Butt, comedians and dancers. Other enjoyable items are offered by Walter Emerson, comedian; Marie Beresford, smart male impersonator; Ethel Donna, comedienne and neat dancer; Simosa San, lady juggler; and the Attractas, in a refined musical scena. Raymond's Vivagraph shows several up-to-date films.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—The Romsakoff troupe of girls are to the fore here this week in a musical military drill, and go through the various evolutions with precision. Alvina Mining and Dan Mining are good in a dramatic sketch of the Smart Set, entitled *A Modern Shylock*; and Alf Ripon, the Scotch ventriloquist, scores with smart talk. Alice Fontainbleau introduces some well-trained dogs with success; Roy Bevis does good conjuring tricks; clever juggling is given by Mlle. Vanda on the rolling globe, and by Mlle. Renne, a juvenile artist; very successful also are J. C. Scatter, comedian, and Fred Dornon, actor-vocalist. "His Wife's Birthday" is shown on the Bioscope.

HIPPODROME (HULME).—Proprietors, Messrs. W H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Kay.—Herbert Lloyd, in his vaudeville burlesque, heads the bill here this week, and is well received. Gus Harris, the well-known Hebrew delineator, in his new scena, *'Tis Primrose Day*, portrays the late Lord Beaconsfield with success. Victor Courtney, in *The Boot's Lament*, is very good; a capital acrobatic turn is given by the Brothers Lillian; and a somewhat similar performance by the Landon Brothers is equally successful. The Three Lancashire Boys, assisted by Cliffe Dover, comedian, sing sweetly in vocal scena, *Home for the Holidays*; and well received are the Brothers Robson, comedians and dancers, and Harry Lee. The pictures are amusing.

RUSHOLME PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Leslie; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles North.—Another excellent variety programme is offered here this week.

MANSFIELD.—HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Herbert Darnley; Resident-Director, Mr. Tom Jennings; Acting-Manager, Mr. Mark Lorne. —Mr. Charles Carte's company is here in the play entitled *His Noble Brother*. Mr. Charles Carte scored a great success in the rôle of Jerry, the tramp; Mr. G. H. Hewitson was well placed in the part of Jack Elsworth; as Henry Travers Mr. Arthur A. Tomlin showed decided ability; Mr. Laurence Rutledge gave a good portrayal of the Strange Preacher; and Mr. Howard Thorne scored as Colonel Leigh. Miss Doris Brookes proved herself quite capable in the part of Nana Leigh; Miss Amy Lloyd Earle gave a good interpretation of Mrs. Leigh; and Miss Winnie Rose was quite at home as Rosie Rapid. Miss N. Faithful was successful as Claire Florence. A burlesque, entitled *Happyland*, followed.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—General-Manager, Capt. Cecil Clayton.—Mr. Charles H. Lester's company is here this week, *The Bank of England* being played on Monday and Tuesday, and *The Sorrows of Satan* on the following evenings of the week. In the first-named play Mr. Charles H. Lester sustained the rôle of Sherlock Holmes with marked success; the part of Stephen Hartley was finely portrayed by Mr. G. Clifton Boyne; and as Eric Dane Mr. Harry T. Wood was successful. Mr. Ernstone gave a good embodiment of Godfrey Dane; Miss Lallah Davies scored a great success in the part of Aminta J. Bean, as also did Mrs. Marjorie Davenport as Margaret Dane. Miss Dorothy Riddell did well in the rôle of Sylvia Barraclough; Mr. W. R. Stanley (Sprouts) and Mr. Edmond O'Grady (Isaacs) were also excellent. In *The Sorrows of Satan* Mr. Charles Lester depicted Prince Lucio, Miss Lallah Davies appeared as Lady Sybil, and Miss Dorothy Riddell as Mavis Clare.

MARGATE. — HIPPODROME.—Joint Proprietors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtree.—Ruby Aston, comedienne and dancer, makes a decided hit with her songs, and her dancing is excellent. The Melroses, comedy artists, provoke great merriment; Fred Lincoln, a clever character comedian, is vociferously applauded; Rose Harvey, who sings tastefully, has a flattering reception; Moore and Morris, comedians and expert dancers, are exceedingly good; and Henry A. Moore, actor-mimic, gives a clever show, which is highly appreciated; Datas gives evidence of a marvellous retentive memory. The pictures shown this week are most entertaining.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Albert Jackson.—Mr. Michael Nolan heads the bill, and is much appreciated for his songs, patter, and capital dancing; the clever whistling of Chas. Mildare is greatly admired; Cedar and Edgar give a good comedy show; and George Collins is successful with his songs. Other commendable presentments are those of Agnes Hazel, comedienne; Orpheus, musician; Kalm and Kooney, comedians; Dora Brown, comedienne; and the Theatre Bioscope.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—The Three De Veres present a novel acrobatic turn, which proves highly diverting; Ossi Souplessi is a marvellous contortionist; Percy and Wood are very entertaining with their patter and burlesque boxing; the Neays submit a smart gymnastic display; and the bill is completed by Fred Onby, comedian; Lillie Hales, comedienne and dancer; and the pictures, both amusing and entertaining.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE —Manager, Mr. W. H. Melton.—Miss Winifred Maude's company is presenting *The Sins of a City* here. Mr. Vincent Carlisle is a manly Sandy McDonald; the Ralph Blackwater of Mr. Wm. Bradford is a vigorously sustained effort; Mr. Leonard Harrison submits a pathetic portrait of Donald McIvor; Mr. Norton Shields is seen to advantage in the dual rôle of Joe Woodleigh and Jasper Woodleigh; Mr. Victor du Cane is an entertaining Isaac Levi; Miss Winifred Maude a sympathetic Seaweed; as Lesbia Miss Ethel Tinsley scores a success; and Miss Jenny Hackett is a lively and pleasing Midge.

MIDDLESBROUGH. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Charles Imeson.—*A Broken Heart*, by Charles E. Clarke, is being presented here this week by Mr. Harry Foxwell's company. Mr. Henry Wolstonholme is a manly John Barnard; Miss Marguerite Trevosfer makes a natural and womanly Mary Barnard; the rôle of Stephen Rylton is in the capable hands of Mr. Henry Cross; and Mr. Charles Vivian is an admirable Gash Gills. Miss Stella Walsh is all that can be desired in the rôles of Mrs. Fanshawe and Mrs. Kellet; and Miss Florrie Sorsby is good as Little May. The part of Rev. Mr. Staunton has an excellent representative in Mr. Roy Gordon; and Miss Julia Croft figures to advantage as Mrs. Barnard.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, The Middlesbrough Grand Opera House Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. Ker Chatto.—Messrs. C. Hamilton Baines and H. Keatis-Heale's company in *The Pet of the Embassy* is winning success here. In the title-rôle, Miss Ethel Dunford is charming; Miss Florence Watson makes a winsome Dorothy Stanley; Miss Julia Bassett is a clever Mrs. Bungs; Mr. Witty Watty Walton's ludicrous antics keep the audience in constant merriment; he is ably seconded by Mr. G. Sinclair Holden as the Hon. Percy Brassenton; Mr. Robert Hyett, a gifted vocalist, is a capable Eric Brown; Mr. Harry Fischer an exceedingly good Palatine Brown; and Miss Trilby Collier a pleasing Maud.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Brill; Manager, Mr. Charles Rembges.—The star turn here is provided by the Bros. Howards, who completely mystify audiences with their silent mental telepathy. Mabel Bright and company are exceedingly good in their characteristic dances; Picitt and Lizette provide a clever conjuring turn; Driscoll and Feline cause much laughter in *Paddock Life*; and Pueblo and Cropp are versatile. Fred Poplar and Kitty Wager also appear.

OXFORD PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Alf. Graham; Manager, Mr. R. L. Griffiths.—A delightful musical turn is provided here this week by Marie Santoi and company in *A Japanese Tea Garden*. Frank Cass, vocal comedian, maintains his reputation; Walter Munroe scores a great success; Maude Mortimer is an excellent comedienne; and Charles Cassell, vocalist, is all that can be desired. Lola Patey is a great favourite, and other turns are provided by Latsenna and Stave.

NEWPORT.—LYCEUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sidney Cooper.—*The Shulamite* is being accorded a warm reception here this week. Mr. Algernon Hicks plays Simeon Krilleth with appropriate force and simplicity; Miss Ruth Shepherd displays both charm and strength as Deborah Krilleth; and Mr. Charles Fancourt is an admirable Robert Waring; Mr. Geo. Rammell's Jim Vanderberg is excellent in its simplicity; Miss Emily Levettez portrays Tante Anna with credit; and Miss Crissie Bickerstaffe as Memke and Mr. Albert Rogers as Klass contribute humour to the piece.

EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Major Gallaghar; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Sage.—*The Bloomsbury Burglars*, in which the chief part is taken by Mr. Lew Lake, who is supported by a capable company, evokes roars of laughter from start to finish. Thomas E. Finglass gives a fine character performance; Dion Wade, a quaint comedian, scores a decided success; and the American Comedy Four contribute some delightful selections. The Macarte Sisters give a graceful performance on the tight wire; Millie Birrell sings a couple of acceptable songs; Frank Leslie does well with his song, "I've been dreaming"; and Lena Verdi, a popular comedienne and dancer, is warmly applauded. The Bioscope, showing a dramatic story, "The Corsican's Daughter," completes the bill.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—A welcome visit by Mr. George Musgrove's company is made here this week in *The Belle of New York*. In his original part of Blinky Bill, Mr. Frank Lawton, a versatile and clever artist, delights the audience. Violet Grey has a capable exponent in Miss Empsie Bowman, whose charming manner, cultured singing, and refined acting win constant plaudits. The part of the elder Bronson is given a lively and jocular interpretation by Mr. Paddy Dupres, who sings his songs excellently; and Mr. Joseph R. Tate is an amusing exponent of Karl Von Pimpernick. Others in the cast are Mr. John Doran, Mr. Alfred Sandoe, Mr. Walter Uridge, Mr. Lionel Yeoman, Mr. Roy L. Cody, Mr. Frank Green, Mr. C. W. Anson, Mr. Owen O'Brien, Mr. W. Vaughan, Mr. A. Fowler, Miss Lily Maxwell, Miss Florence Hesse, and Miss Winnie Browne.

TYNE THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessees, Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe.—Miss Annie Hughes and her company are here this week in an adaptation by Mr. Jerome K. Jerome of his own book, "Tommy and Company." Miss Hughes, in the part of Tommy, plays with a convincing naturalness that is altogether delightful, and in the merry pranks of the tom-boy "sub," and in the pathetic scenes, proves equally at home. Mr. Rupert Lester is excellent as Dick Danvers, and Mr. Willie Hartill gives a capital study of Clod; Mr. Evelyn Vernon as Peter Hope, Miss Winifred Pearson as "Mr. Morrison," Miss Ida Richardson as Honour, and Mr. Reginald F. Beach as Flipp complete a really excellent company.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon.—In a dramatised version of Dumas' *Monte Cristo*, Mr. Junius Booth and company prove the attraction at the Grand Theatre. In the rôle of Edmund Dantes, Mr. Booth gives a clever and finished performance, and is ably supported by Mr. C. W. Crowe, Mr. Beckett Bould, Mr. Walter Huron, Mr. Finn Doyle, Mr. Fred Martin, Mr. Percy Braithwaite, Mr. Sydney White, Miss B. Doyle, Miss Alice West, and Miss M. E. Ellis.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Nellie Wallace gives a unique and clever performance. An elaborately-mounted and excellently-played sketch, *The Little Stowaway*, gains a good reception. The Boccaccio Minstrels, including a celebrated mandoline soloist in Signor Francia, are very popular; and the Lukushima Troupe of Japanese entertainers receive plenty of applause in their fine exposition of Oriental dexterity and balancing. In a pantomime sketch, *The Dinner Hour*, the Karno Four are amusing and clever; and the Jackley Trio in an acrobatic speciality, and Frank Bertram and company in *The Chaperon* make decided hits; while Margaret Ashton, an American girl, sings with characteristic verve.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Will H. Boardman.—Mr. Harry Ford contributes three songs, which he interprets with a good deal of humour; Mr. Lawrence Barclay scores heavily in "Yes, verily yes"; and Mr. Fred Hastings contributes very droll songs. Jan Rudenyi, a brilliant violinist, appears with his company in a good sketch, *The Power of Music*, in which there is some fine acting by Miss Dora de Winton and Mr. John D. Saunders. "Life in the Slums" is the title of a clever comedy scena, which is presented by Mr. Will Vay's Juveniles, and in which there is some excellent singing. Wallace's juggling turn is one that always meets with much favour; and Percival and Morley, the Lurins, and Lottie de Abbey complete a good list of entertainers.

NORTHAMPTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Seddon.—Messrs. A. Hamilton Warden and Chas. V. Sandford's company are here in *A Woman's Past*. Mr. Horace E. Herbert admirably expounds the part of David Heath; Mr. G. Moreton-Williams is sufficiently fiendish as Uriah Craven; Mr. Chas. V. Sandford is amusing as Frank Dellannoy; and Mr. A. Hamilton Warden does capitally as Clement Harper. Miss Maisie Hanbury as Bessie is throughout excellent, and has always her audience with her; Miss Eva Bertram is seen to striking advantage as Clara Darrell; and Miss Mary Mallalieu plays vivaciously as Dorothy Heath. The piece is well staged.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Thos. A. Evans.—Frank Burnard and company are responsible for much mirth in their *Hello!* absurdity; the Three Seabornes are acrobats of merit; Mack Ollive is an experienced and able whistler, and is assisted in this turn by Daisy Baldry; Tom Leo is amusing as the Lazy Comedian; Parker and Parr employ their voices to good effect; and Lambert and Hands, duettists, on a return visit, are still highly appreciated. The Two Sparks, duettists and dancers, and the Palace pictures (which show a very clear film of the Cup Final) conclude the bill.

NORTH SHIELDS. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—Mr. Henry Foxwell's capable company, with *An Abandoned Woman*, has been warmly greeted here this week. Miss Octavia Noel gives an admirable interpretation of Ninon; and Mr. Richard Ferris as Philipe Malvoisin affords every satisfaction. As Captain Seaton Mr. Walli Skinner gives a capital impersonation; Mr. George Yarmley is well placed as Sir Marmaduke Seaton; Mr. F. P. Morton Wright as Robert Saunders acts with distinction; Mr. Will Gaze is good as Sammy Sharp; Mr. Jim K. Wood as Paddy Boyle and Miss Elsie Deane as Sally Sloper are responsible for much hearty laughter. Miss Lily Addison as La Celeste is clever; Miss May Rickardson makes an acceptable Eleanor Deane; and Miss Frances Maddocks is a pleasing Mona Deane.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould. — Topping the bill here we have the Ettenas, who are clever; the Four Cecilians, vocalists, musicians, and dancers, meet with a hearty reception; and Mr. James Brady, eccentric comedian, is popular. The Orchids, vocal comedy entertainers, have made a hit; Miss Sheila McNeill, Scotch comedy artist, goes well; Mr. Tom Flemino, one-legged athlete, is loudly applauded; and the Bio-Photoscope is still a prominent feature.

NORWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Closed for the season.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—Alexandra Dagmar's songs and patter are heartily appreciated; the Four Flying Eugenes display immense ability as aerialists, and are much applauded; Kitty Clover and company in their comedy-sketch, *Mr. There's Heir*, are greeted with much laughter; Bert Williams is a clever ventriloquist; whilst Gus Blake and Maude Granby, in their comedy duologue called *The Man in Possession*, create immense fun. Tom E. Hughes is good as a comedian; and Tony Iveson is very entertaining. The Hippo-Bio Pictures are interesting.

NOTTINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—*A Pair of Spectacles* is being played by Mr. Russell Rosse's company. Mr. David James essays the part of Mr. Goldfinch, and the dear old good-hearted fellow loses nothing in the hands of this experienced actor. The young wife is portrayed by Miss Ella Daincourt with a charm and naturalness that is irresistible, and she becomes a warm favourite from the first. Mr. Frederick Powell capitally describes the hard-headed, money-loving Uncle Gregory, and his work throughout is convincing; Mr. T. Boyd Pearson is satisfactory as Dick, and Mr. Howard Cochrane makes the most of his part as Percy; Miss Daisy Garrick acts with daintiness as Lucy Lorimer; and Miss Marion Williams is a smart parlourmaid. Minor parts are well sustained by Messrs. George Percy and Clarence Pelham. The play is preceded by a comedietta, *A Happy Pair*, smartly rendered by Miss Ella Daincourt and Mr. T. Boyd Pearson.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Chas. P. Cooke.—Mr. Alfred B. Cross and company present *The Man

capable actor as Philip Christian. Mr. Maurice Yorke does well as Ross Christian, and Mr. C. H. Mortimer as Dr. Mylcreest is favourably received. Miss Hazel Dent has all the dignity necessary for the part of Miss Christian, and Miss Kitty Livesby and Miss Nellie Freeland have all the capability necessary for their various parts. Mr. E. C. Howitt as Monty Missitt and Mr. F. Lynton as Professor Mawley are both well placed, and Messrs. Joe Wallace, W. Hargan, and H. E. Morton in minor parts complete the cast.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles H. Bowmaker.—Miss Vesta Tilley is accorded an enthusiastic reception upon her appearances here; Herbert Darnley's "Five Dots" present a turn both artistic and amusing, and the dancing of little Winnie Crisp is a revelation of juvenile ability; Enzer is a very clever juggler, and, in conjunction with Clarice, also gives an interesting exhibition of ju-jitsu. A clever performance is that of the Cumberlands, a troupe of trick cyclists and gymnasts who are above the average in their line of business; and a very commendable turn is given by the Three Rubys, lady acrobats and gymnasts of undoubted talent. Elsie Claire has a nice soprano voice, which she uses carefully; and the Bros. Dean join to a very dainty and pleasing appearance great cleverness as duo whistlers and dancers; Billy Farrell has a big budget of coon songs, plenty of humorous stories, and great aptitude in dancing, and gives a very pleasing show; whilst Collins and Rice convulse the audience with their witty repartee. The Bioscope Pictures are exceedingly interesting.

NUNEATON.—PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE AND ENTERTAINMENTS CO., LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter J. R. Bryan.—Mr. Harry Rogerson's company is here this week with *Jacko*. Mr. Rogerson gives a highly amusing impersonation of Dozey, the tired page; Mr. J. H. Booth is a good Professor Zerio; Mr. W. G. Wesley is an amusing Sinis Spotter; and Miss Bessie Herbert as Ada Zerio is good, and wins hearty applause for her song, "The Barmaid."

OLDHAM.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—Mr. Godfrey Tearle and Mis Molly Malone and company are here this week in *A Soldier of Fortune*. Mr. Tearle plays the hero, Lieut. Rupert Clive, in a stirring manner; Mr. Alec Wilson Wynne is quite equal to the part of the Earl of Annandale; and Mr. Alfred Gray is very good as the treacherous Sir Stephen. Mr. William Lowe is good as Dr. Thorn; Mr. Balliol Holloway is a sturdy Phineas Sturge, and Mr. Harry Blezard as Harry Steel is a smart Captain of the Guard. Mr. Edmond T. Sayers invests the part of Jerry Dobbs with much humour; Miss Molly Malone acts the Lady Phyllis in a graceful manner; and Miss Ethel Matthews is praiseworthy as Mistress Culign. Miss Violet Barnett makes a dainty Grace.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. Howgate.—Yiulian's Family are here in a marvellous acrobatic display. Grais' baboon prodigies give an interesting and clever performance; the Eight Lancashire Lads are very smart in song and dance, and gain much applause; as also does the unique show provided by Barnard's marionettes, which causes much laughter. Fred and Maud Vypond, society entertainers, were a great success; Little Maudie Ray is a smart comedienne and dancer; Julian Mack, comedian, caused roars of laughter with his funny patter; and the Custances are very good in a sparkling comedietta, *A Game for Two*.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. Nuttall.—Pete and Minnie Lee, in sketch *A Scotchman's Visit to London*, have a capital reception. The Wakeman Quartette, including Miss Nancy Bruce, are capital harmonisers; the Sisters Volbecque, in a comedy turn, are excellent; and Miss Mabel Kessler, vocalist and cornet soloist, is very good; Gertrude Moore is smart in her songs and big boot dances; Russell Carr is a ventriloquist of merit; and Conn and Davis, comedians and dancers, caught on. The Dottoscope concludes with some amusing pictures.

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Lucas, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. C. Dorrill.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company, *The Dairymaids*, commenced a most successful week here on Monday, the theatre being packed in every part. Mr. E. S. Staples was a very amusing Sam Brudenell; Mr. Forbes Dawson acted the part of Dr. O'Byrne in easy, taking fashion; and Mr. Harry Dent fairly carried away the house with his delightfully humorous performance of Joe Mivens. Miss Violet Lloyd made a delightful Peggy and Miss Rhoda Golden a fascinating Winifred; Miss Beryl Vaudrey was most satisfactory as Helene; Miss Rosie Campbell was a capital Bessie; Miss Madge Avery was well suited as Miss Pychase, and Miss Edith Blanche was natural and amusing as Lady Brudenell. The chorus was large and of excellent quality, and the scenery and dresses fresh and pretty.

EAST OXFORD THEATRE.—Mr. Stuart has closed this theatre this week so as to put in fresh cables and greatly improve the electric lighting.

PAISLEY.—PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—Mr. Howell Webb's company is here in *The Convent Bell*. Mr. R. Harris as Henri Carsella plays with conspicuous discretion and effect; a capital Philip Vauteir is provided by Mr. Paul E. Lenton; Mr. Howell Webb is a decided success in his interpretation of Pickle Pods; Mr. Newton Pearce's Jean is a most amusing assumption; Colonel Vautier is admirably played by Mr. C. E. Howell; and Mr. Michael Moore is capably cast as Captain Drummond, as is also Mr. Richard Fletcher as Huggins. Miss Magdalen Moore gives an excellent portrayal of Margaret Courier; Miss Nana St. George acts with force as Christine Valgrave; a very winsome Suzette is presented by Miss Pauline Desborough; Sister Gertrude is capably enacted by Miss Ivy Blanche; and Miss Emily Newton is successful as the Mother Superior.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Douglas F. Bostock.—Lady Mansel and Juveniles contribute a comedy act, *A Concert Rehearsal*; the Sousloffs are a couple of clever and original dancers; Henry Carlton, comedian, in a sketch, *One Night Only*, secures well-deserved applause; the Lizette Troupe are capital acrobats, singers, and dancers; mirth-provoking and entertaining is A. J. Gamble, Scotch comedian; Harvey and Holt, comedy duologue artists, furnish an excellent number; the Haverleys, American song illustrators, are well received; Molly Augarde's singing is keenly appreciated; Bassett and Clarke gain a gratifying reception as burlesque sketch artists; and the Hippodrome Bioscope concludes with some fine pictures.

PENTRE. — LYCEUM THEATRE.—Sole Owners, Messrs. Carlton and Duckworth; Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Counsell.—Miss Bonwin Carlton's company is here this week in *The Plucky Nipper*. Richard Vanbrugh is in the capable hands of Mr. W. Heilbroon; Mr. E. Surrey is happy in his impersonation of Bill Burgess; and Miss Bonwin Carlton is clever in the titular part.

PERTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. H Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge.—A variety company is this week giving two performances nightly. The pantomime favourite, Peter Bermingham, makes a welcome reappearance, and is well received with his Scotch songs and humorous patter; Yettmah, artist in Japanese magic, does some clever tricks; Tom Bliesmere, coon vocalist; Jack Foley, comedian; and Bul-Val, the happy Dutchman, all aid in making the programme a success.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. F. Williams; Manager, Mr J. Langdon Lee.—Miss Phyllis Dare and party were the attraction here on Monday and Tuesday, and large houses assembled at each performance. The talented young actress was in fine form, and rendered tit-bits from the leading musical comedies in the attractive and fascinating way that has already established her reputation. Accompanying her were Miss Hilda Barnes, who performed some difficult violin selections in highly creditable fashion; Mr. W. A. Peterkin, whose rich baritone voice was heard to great advantage in the old favourites, "The Yeomen of England" and "Off to Philadelphia"; Miss Blanche Belsham, the possessor of a clear soprano voice, the charm of which was fully appreciated by a critical audience; Miss Vera Beringer, who gave a couple of recitations characterised by particularly clear enunciation; and Mr. Vivian Foster, whose humorous ventriloquial entertainment and drawing-room performance created plenty of amusement. Mr. E. Brightwell was an efficient accompanist. Later in the week Mrs. Patrick Campbell, accompanied by Miss Stella Patrick Campbell and Mr. Lawrence Irving, performed *Magda* to large and fashionable audiences.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—Fred Karno's *Early Birds* form the leading attraction, the troupe of comedians being as smart and sprightly as ever, their forty minutes' turn passing only too quickly; George Leyton, in his scena, *The Wreck of the Birkenhead*, is popular as ever, and warmly applauded; Francis O'Flynn contributes a well-executed banjo number; and Hettie Chattell gives a couple of clever male impersonations. Other contributors are Madge May (comedienne), Little Gandy, the Two Wiltons, and Vernon's Bioscope.

PONTYPRIDD.—ROYAL CLARENCE THEATRE.—Owners and Proprietors, Mrs. Trenchard and Miss L. Jones; Manager, Mr. Charles Trenchard.—The attraction here this week is Mr. John H. Tomkinson's Royal Gipsy company. Heading the bill are the Rizarelis, lady gymnasts, and at the bottom are the Regars, Chinese eccentric acrobats. Included also are Walter Wallace, society entertainer; Frank Power, descriptive vocalist; Tweed Andrews, comedian and dancer; Miss Kitty Linda, contralto vocalist; the Two Dees, comedy vocalists; Eslie Rubina, princess of equipoise; Miss Minnie Richardson, the female Kubelik; Miss Annie Knowles, trombone soloist; Miss Daisy Vernon, descriptive vocalist; Miss Mona Clare, cornet soloist, and the Sisters Dudley, duettists.

PORTH.—THE PALACE (LATE OPERA HOUSE).—General-Manager, Mr. C. W. Poole; ActingManager, Mr. Walter Bynorth.—Wyndham and Kitty are admired for their daring wire jumping; the Four Jumels afford much pleasure in their musical act; the Sisters Terry, character comediennes and baby mimics, are very smart; Elton and Edwin, the magnets of harmony, score an all-round success; Fanny Elton proves herself to be an efficient banjoist; the Brothers Obo are responsible for some excellent amusement as the laughing duettists and patter comedians; Harry Bold is a good comedian and joke-teller; Chummie La Mara, comedienne, sings well; the Claymores, in buck dancing and club juggling, deserve a word of praise; Will Sergeant acquits himself creditably as a vocal comedian; and Helene and Emilion, continental novelty gymnasts, are exceedingly good. The Palace Electric Bioscope concludes.

PORTSMOUTH. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—*Claudian* is being played here this week by Mr. William Maclaren and Miss Lily C. Bandman and their company. As Almina, Miss Bandman gives a highly-finished and deeply-sympathetic performance; Miss Maud Garth makes a satisfactory Edessa; Miss Nellie C. Bilbe and Miss Lena Oswald are efficient as Hera and Galena; Alcares is suitably represented by Mr. Weston Hubbard; Belos is capitally embodied by Mr. Chas. T. Chaloner; Agazil is convincingly played by Mr. Douglas Earle; the part of Thariogalus is sustained by Mr. F. Owen Chambers with great ability; Mr. Edmund Grogan is excellent as Theorus; the Holy Clement is admirably portrayed by Mr. Ulick Burke; Claudian is personated by Mr. Maclaren in a strong and eminently successful manner. Mme. Jane Hading paid a flying visit and played *Frou-Frou* at a matinée on Tuesday.

PRINCE'S THEATRE. — Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Broughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate. — Mr. Augustine Knight, with his able company, is here for the week with the modern romantic drama, *The Assassin*. Mr. Knight gives a well-studied and powerful rendering of the despicable Prince Demetri; Ivan Ipanoff is played by Mr. Edward E. Ashby in a manly style; Mr. Theo. Balfour does good work as Duke Carl; Mr. Chauncy Morris makes a distinct success in the part of General Nicol; Messrs. Cecil H. Raymond, Tom J. Taylor, and George Kempt are all good in their several parts of Baron Alphonse, Peter, and Evangie respectively. Miss Frances Waring plays Nita with feeling and refinement; Miss Hettie Senior as Conie Jonathan acts cleverly; Miss Marie E. Robertson is pleasing as Katrina, and Miss Ella Vane in the name-part gives a meritorious impersonation of the much-tried Countess Wanda.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—A capital bill of fare here includes Albert Whelan, the Australian entertainer, who gives an exceedingly agreeable turn, which is highly appreciated. The Four Athos are a quartette of capable acrobats and wonderfully good ball manipulators; Lee and Kingston in the comedy sketch *The Only One I Love* are most diverting; Victor Travers, eccentric comedian, scores well; May Marton, a dainty comedienne, meets with approval; Walker and Lake, popular patter purveyors, are amusing; Mabelle May, a clever comedienne and danseuse, the Three San Remo Girls, a smart vocal and terpsichorean trio, are well received; A. Wyndham and company in a selection from *Shylock* are most praiseworthy; Payne's Biophotoscope with some pleasing pictures is also an attraction.

PRESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Executors of the late Mr. W. Johnson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Stephen Pritt.—Mr. Eugene Stafford's company is here with *The Private Secretary*. Mr. William Hargreaves gives an excellent impersonation of Mr. Cattermole; Edith Marsland has an attractive representative in Miss Dora Gray; Mr. Donald Price appears with success as the Rev. Robt. Spalding; Mr. Sydney Gibson is played in capital style by Mr. Vivian Gilbert; Mrs. Alfred Davis is well placed as Mrs. Ashford; Miss Cecily Wade is good as Mrs. Stead; Miss Mary E. Doverell portrays Eva Webster in a charming manner; Harry Marsland is in the capable hands of Mr. James Hussey; Mr. Randolfe Reade effectively depicts Douglas Cattermole; and Mr. Horatio Sinclair ably fills the rôle of Mr. Marsland, M.F.H. A comic drama, entitled *Good for Nothing*, precedes the comedy.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. E. J. Linsdell.—Derenda and Greene give a very smart juggling display; Robins and Collier, in a comedy scena, provoke roars of laughter; the droll manner in which Mr. Cliff Ryland rolls off his stories is quite amusing; Mr. E. explains some peculiar pictures in quaint style, causing much fun; an original playlet, called *A Society Butterfly*, presented by Miss Cora Duncan and Mr. Albert Brasque, is very refined and attractive; the Evalos are well received; the singing of Mr. Greener draws rounds of applause; as quick-change artists, the Three Behans hold the attention of the audience; and Miss Lily Garston's exhibition of all-round dancing is very good. Bioscope pictures complete an attractive programme.

PRINCE'S THEATRE. — Proprietor's and Managers, Messrs. Sawyer and Woodruff. — The boards are occupied this week by Messrs. Armadale and Warren's company, in the sensational drama, *The Face at the Window*. It would be difficult to find a more suitable actor than Mr. E. Hoggan Armadale for the part of Le Loup; Mr. T. W. Dunscombe as Paul Gouffet makes an ideal detective; De Brisson is in the capable hands of Mr. Alfred Warne; and Mr. Gilbert Hall as Lucian Cortier is capable. Miss Marie Barrett as Marie de Brisson is charming; much amusement is caused by Mr. C. Alan Hineson as Peter Pottlebury, with Miss Gladys Newcombe as Babette; and Mr. George Pythian as the Mad Doctor gives a skilful rendering of his part.

RAMSGATE. — AMPHITHEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Bowman.—At the Ramsgate Amphitheatre during the past week Mr. Bowman has provided a capital variety programme. A big feature in the bill is Amurat, the musical athlete, whose clever performance has been deservedly applauded; Mlle. Losini's miniature menagerie is another pleasing turn; the Lendens give a fine show in living statuary; excellent pictures are displayed by means of James and Gorham's Bioscope; and other acceptable items are contributed by Alf. Bishop, character comedian; Steve Cook, comedian; and the Clancy Girls, duettists and dancers.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Milton Bode.—Mr. George Dance's variety season; Manager, Mr. E. J. Macdermott.—This week's programme includes Mr. J. W. Rowley, the well-known comedian; Maggie Walsh, the singing mill girl; the Kirbys, comedy artists; Fred Frampton, burlesque actor; Mabel Bardine and company, in the sketch *Nell of the Halls*; the Hartley Wonders, barrel and speciality jumpers; and new pictures by Vernon's Bioscope.

ROCHDALE. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Hague.—*Under the Russian Flag* is being enacted here this week. Mr. C. Stafford plays with power the part of Ivan Romanoff; Mr. Jack Haddon cleverly portrays the villainies of Michael Romanoff; Mr. Sydney Arnold and Mr. W. Wilson are both effective as Captain Demetrius and Colonel Souveroff respectively; the humorous element is in the safe hands of Mr. Templer Ellis as Alexis Skopolopki; and Miss Molly Hackett as Ogarita; Miss Violet Lytton sweetly enacts the part of Vera Vassiloff; and Miss Marie Rayner is a powerful Luka Marischla.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Smith and Co.—Pringle's North American Animated Picture Company is once again fulfilling a welcome visit here with a capital series of films, interspersed with variety turns by Fred Ramsdale's company in *The Squire's Daughter*; Mr. T. C. Jaques, comedian; and Testo Brothers, acrobats.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thomas Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Hargreaves.—The Tennesse Guards head the bill here this week, their military manœuvres creating a most favourable impression. Hauptmann Marquis Jtoyne, in an athletic equilibristic act, performs some astonishing feats. Other artists include Dunning, ventriloquist; Kahn and Kahn, magicians; Selby and Myers, comedians; Three Coopers, vocalists; and the Bioscope.

RUGBY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geoffrey Fulton.—This week Mr. Montague Beaudyn's company is presenting *The Beautiful Fiend*. Miss Sidney Crowe as Wanda Lulimoff is excellent; Miss Violet Ingram is well placed as Nadine Karateff; and as Patty Woodlands Miss Mario Fontaine is clever. Mr. Herbert Skardon is a manly Ivan Paulovitch; Mr. Matt Russell is a satisfactory Sergius Strogoff; Mr. Dick Seddon an amusing Christopher Crackles; Mr. Pat Quin a capable Malachi; and Mr. Julian Mitchell makes the most of his opportunities.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—*The Sorrows of Satan* attracted a good audience on Monday. The piece is being presented by Miss Loie Esmond's company. As Prince Lucio Rimanez Mr. Edward Neville is seen to advantage; Miss Cecilia Dare makes an excellent Lady Sybil; Mr. Conrad Heywood carefully plays Geoffrey Tempest; and a charming Mavis Clare is found in Miss Rosie Neville. Miss Loie Esmond's Diana Chesney is a finished piece of work; Mr. J. Le Fleming as the Earl of Elton and Mr. Coleman Davies as Lord Lynton give good studies.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. J. C. Patterson.—Little Cliff, a young comedian of great promise, gives a smart turn in song and dance; *Repairs* is an amusing skit on the British workmen by Wal Pink's acrobats; Jack Martin, baritone, gets much applause for his songs. The other items include Dunn and Major, comedy couple; Daisy Cordelia, comedienne and dancer; Nash and Noel, versatile comedians and dancers; Walter Stanley, comedian; and Belle Harcourt, comedienne.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Wentworth.—Montague Beaudyn's company take up about thirty minutes twice nightly with a dramatic episode of modern Russian life, entitled *Jealousy*. A smart performance is given by La Troupe Espagnole Jannitos; and excellent work is done by the Four Sisters Victoria, instrumentalists. Simbri, the Burmese magician, with his clever illusion; the Gentrys, in an acrobatic speciality; Kendrick and Laura, singers and dancers; and May De Rowse, comedienne and dancer, also get well received.

STRETFORD PAVILION. — Proprietor, Mr. Sidney Weatherilt; Manager, Mr. Fred Erick.—Alf Maynall, comedian, heads this week's programme with eccentric business. Some enjoyable songs are given by Miss Millie Dixon, soprano; patter and comic songs by Phil Lee go well; Lily Arden, expert dancer, is a favourite; Sydney Granville's songs are well rendered; and Fred Erick, eccentric comedian, and the sketch, *The Coming Man*, by Maynall, Lee, and Arden, are also in the bill.

SEACOMBE.—IRVING THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiernan.—Mr. Edmund Kennedy and company are here this week with *David Garrick*. The title-rôle is played with considerable ability by Mr. Edmund Kennedy, and Mr. Robert Forsyth is seen to distinct advantage as Simon Ingot; Miss Alice Esther Belmore presents a charming Ada Ingot, and Mr. A. E. Walker depicts a lively Squire Chivey; Mr. W. F. Clitherow, Mr. John Hartt, and Mr. Reginald Martock all do well as Mr. Smith, Mr. Brown, and Mr. Jones respectively; Miss Lilian Mason as Mrs. Smith and Miss Florence Dulhunty as Miss Araminta Brown add considerably to the general hilarity.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. C. Harrison.—Mr. W. Graham Arthur's company is here in the drama *When a Man Hates*. Mr. Arthurs appears as Pietro Dornelli, a part he portrays with consummate skill; Lawrence Hastings is effectively drawn by Mr. Arthur Jarvis; Sir Rupert Treharne is well played by Mr. F. A. Lester; Mr. Herbert M. King as Paul is noticeable for a piece of fine acting; Detective Smart is skilfully presented by Mr. Fred A. Lewis; Mr. Ernest Turner is delightfully fresh in the comedy part of Peter Pimple; Miss Mabel Liston wins much sympathy by her portrayal of Lettie; as Olga Gwynne Miss Maud Burleigh is entirely satisfactory; Miss Jennie Halworth is a vivacious Dolly Dimple, and a pleasing vocalist.

SHEERNESS.—PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Phil Raymond.—The company this week includes Miss H. Gordon, the popular balladist; Mr. W. Thornhill, comedian and dancer; the Sisters Finlay, a pair of smart duettists and dancers; Mr. Phil Reymond, in new songs; the Byrons, in their comical skit, *A Note Higher*; Miss Topsy Levane, whose "suffragette" song by Mr. Reymond, is loudly applauded; and a laughable comedy sketch, *Preferential Treatment*, by the Arundel company.

SHEFFIELD. — LYCEUM THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—*Sergeant Brue* is again being played to good houses by Mr. Robert Crosseman's company. In the title-rôle Mr. Arthur Reynolds causes general hilarity; and plenty of fun is also provided by Mr. T. A. Shale in the part of Scrubbs. Miss Mary Hay is very successful as Aurora; and the humour of the piece is well maintained by Miss Cissie Raymond, Mr. J. H. Goldsworthy, Mr. Ernest Moyar, and Miss Marion Hargreaves. There is a good chorus, and Mr. Sydney Shaw is an efficient conductor.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—*The Span of Life* was presented on Monday by Mr. Arthur Carlton's excellent company. The exciting incident which gives the title to the play was smartly performed by the Three Stebbings, who were loudly applauded. Mr. R. S. Trelawney was a bold, manly, and sympathetic hero as Dick Blunt; and Mr. Walter Dale caused unrestrained laughter as the irrepressible Nutty Brown. The scheming Dunstan Leech was cleverly represented by Mr. Sanderson Moffatt; Miss Guinevere Shelton won the sympathetic applause of the house as Mary Heathcote; Miss Phyllis Hamilton did well as Mrs. Jelf; and Miss Kitty Russell showed talent and vivacity in a soubrette part.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—Dr. Walford Bodie began his second week here on Monday, when a large audience gave demonstrations of enthusiastic approval of the doctor's work. Dr. Bodie's variety company includes Mr. T. Norman Hall, with good motto and patriotic songs; and Mr. Henry Russell's company in *The Strolling Musician*, a well-constructed and cleverly-acted dramatic episode.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Moss Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—Mr. Joe Elvin appeared in the comic sketch, *The Hansom Cabby*, supported by a competent company. The name of Selkirk has for many years been associated with national spectacles, and *Egypt*, produced by Alexander of that ilk, was received with loud applause. Mr. Chris. Richards, a droll of the eccentric order, sang some laughter-provoking ditties; and Mr. Will English submitted coon songs, and proved an acceptable turn. The Borellis were good in their duets; some first-rate pictures were depicted by the American Bioscope; the Sisters Gasch are pretty and accomplished artists; and others who meet with success were the Lupino Brothers, in a smart comedy pantomimic absurdity; the Four Loyal Welshmen, vocalists; and the Langs, knockabouts.

GRAND THEATRE. — Proprietors, The Vaudeville Syndicate; Manager, Mr. David Warwick.—Whimsical Walker appears in *Captain Hamilton, V.C.*, supported by his special company; Mr. Edward Ranier and company are very successful in the exciting dramatic episode, *The Bank Robbery*; the Sisters Bronson are pleasing duettists; Miss Lill Hartley is a chic comedienne; and the "Grand" Animated Pictures are a popular item in the programme.

MONTGOMERY HALL.—M. Gustav Gooes' Modern Paris Theatre Photo Exhibition finishes a successful season.

SOUTHAMPTON. — GRAND THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Weston.—The smoking innovation has apparently caught on, judging by the crowds which nightly throng the upper parts of the house. This week Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's excellent company is successfully appearing in the picturesque American drama, *At Cripple Creek*, which is well acted and admirably staged and mounted. Mr. Stanley Bedwell (Joe Mayfield) and Miss Agnes Verity (Dynamite Ann) are both excellent, and they are supported by a capable company. Mme. Jane Hading and her full Parisian company gave a matinée performance of *Frou-Frou* on Wednesday.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. William Trussell.—John E. Coyle and Ernest Shand, two excellent comedians, are the top liners here, and both win golden opinions for their whimsical and clever turns. Musical Silvo submits a very novel and well-liked show, and Madoline Rees scores as a singer. The Three Bros. Huxter are smart jumpers and acrobats, and Tom Burges excels as a coon delineator and big boot dancer. Others who appear are the Three Pirmans and Bonnetti and Corri.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. P. Howell.—The Bros. Griffiths, in their funny burlesque wrestling act, are topping a bill of exceptional excellence; G. H. Elliott, the chocolate-coloured comedian, is a neat dancer; and Terry and Lambert, comedy duo, are very popular. The Tom Davis Trio in their cycling sensations and the Athlones are both strong turns which appeal to the taste of the audience; the Sisters Belmont, Flo Cecil, Amy Neild, and Zertho's wonderfully-trained dogs all submit well-appreciated turns.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Conquest; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power.—On Monday Messrs. Carpenter and Cooper commenced a week's engagement in their successful drama, entitled *The Spider and the Fly*. A powerful study of Cyril Girdlestone is presented by Mr. Benson North; Welby Girdlestone has a capable exponent in Mr. Ellis J. Preston; Mr. H. C. Lanceley is eminently suited as the Rev. McAlister; Mr. Arthur H. Hill ably impersonates David Strong; the Brothers Roe provide real good merriment, having talented impersonators in Messrs. Charles Russell and Charles C. Preece; Miss Lucy Murray as Molly Blake is humorous; Miss Nina Vaughton wins admiration as Edith McAlister; Miss Winifred Barton proves successful as Flips; and Stella Grey has a striking and fascinating representative in Miss Amy Venimore.

PIER PAVILION.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley E. Angless.—Mr. F. T. Studd and his able company give delightful programmes twice daily. Mr. Studd, in both his magic seance and ventriloquial absurdity, is immensely popular; and Messrs. Hickman Smith and Arthur Stafford are no less successful. The Misses Marie Westcott and Cissie Harcourt also maintain their reputation as vocalists

SOUTHPORT.—OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS.—Proprietors, the Southport Opera House and Winter Gardens Co., Ltd.; Secretary, Mr. R. Singleton.—Lionel Rignold's company opened on Monday in *What the Butler Saw*. The title-rôle was undertaken by Mr. Lionel Rignold with irresistible humour; Miss Ada Blanche enacted the part of Mrs. Barrington very effectively and successfully. Mr. Charles Fawcett was highly commendable as Jack Barrington; Sir Charles Foden was well played by Mr. Louis Lingard; Mr. Victor Widdicombe capitally portrayed the character of General Dunlop; Abraham Weinstein had a good representative in Mr. H. H. Rignold; Miss Ella Russell as Miss Foden and Miss Jennie Wigney as Nora were very satisfactory; whilst other good character-sketches were presented by Mr. Leo St. Clair, Mr. Alec Alves, Mr. Roy Byford, and Mr. George Ascot respectively.

ALBERT HALL, WINTER GARDENS.—Lessee, Mrs. Charles Parker; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Mertz.—Marie Jones, quick-change artist, assisted by Ernest Munro, is presenting an amusing quick-change duologue, entitled *The Way to Win a Bet*. Other prominent items are supplied by the Alberto Troupe, head, hand, and wire equilibrists; the Juggling Fitzgeralds, in a novel club-swinging and juggling act; Baker and Balfe xylophone team, including G. M. Baker's marvellous dancing; Ern Weslyn, vocalist; Edie Endon, comedienne, sand and acrobatic dancer; Stan Aubrey, eccentric comedian; Mark Merry, quaint comedian; and the Bioscope, with the latest films.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees and managers, Messrs. J. and F. Coulson.—Miss Winifred Chalmer's company, including Mr. Henry L. Osmond, occupies the boards here in *The Master Criminal*. Mr. Henry L. Osmond commands the attention of the audience by his impressive and powerful acting in the title-rôle; Miss Winifred Chalmers hits off the part of the adventuress, Cecile, in good style; Mr. John C. Carlyle as the detective, Ben Beaudy, is a popular favourite; and the rôle of the hero, Philip Manners, is cleverly sustained by Mr. Harold C. Macartney. Miss Kate Somerville is a sympathetic and pleasing Mabel Manners; and Miss Mabel Tremere does well as Peggy Perks. Excellent comedy is supplied by Mr. Ernest Noble as Gentleman Jim and Mr. Harry Cooke as Tommy Dala. The Winifred Manners of Little Lizzie Power is an exceedingly clever performance.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, The South Shields Empire Palace, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—A rousing reception is accorded to the Boccaccio Minstrels, who appear to great advantage in a sparkling musical entertainment; Mr. and Mrs. Harold Finden in the duologue *Two to One* prove as entertaining as ever; a unique turn, "Man *versus* Motor," contributed by the Davis Gledhill trio of cyclists, is arousing interest; Arthur Gill, the man of many voices, is enthusiastically applauded; the patter of the New Macs is still effective; and other excellent attractions are submitted by Spry and Monti in their speciality, *The Dandy Guardsman*; Amy Russell ballad vocalist; the Sisters Dorrell, duettists and dancers; and the Bioscope.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. K. Hall and Joseph Sweeney; Business-Manager, Mr. Harry Burns.—The top of the bill is occupied by Corman's Juveniles in their musical scena, "The Waif." A graceful gymnastic entertainment is contributed by Rappo and Ella; Harry Nelson, comedian, is a decided hit; the dogs and cats exhibited by R. Gilbert show clever animal training; Earle and Melville, patter comedians, are diverting; and Trixie, vocalist and dancer, and the Tivoli Bioscope conclude a good bill.

SPENNYMOOR.—CAMBRIDGE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; General-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—The Star Vaudeville Company supplies the amusement here this week. Included in the programme are the following turns:—Miss Nellie Vance, comedienne; Harry Keeble, character comedian; Hoozee, society ventriloquist; the Ashburns, handbell soloists; Vulcaris, the Scottish Grossmith; and Miss Gladys Wells, comedienne.

STALYBRIDGE.—GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Fioni; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. A. Jackson.—The following artists, amongst others, contribute a very excellent programme at this house:—Raynor and Reece, the comedy couple; Ethel Lonsdale, comedienne; Royal troupe of international dancers; Sisters Clare, duettists and dancers; the Sinclairs, in a duologue; Welda and Wynne; the Woodwards, in an astonishing bicycle balancing act; the Bouncing Dillons, comedy gymnasts, &c.

STOCKPORT. — THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE. — Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Revill, jun.—Marked appreciation has been bestowed upon Mr. Frank M. Thorne's company, appearing here this week in *Napoleon the Great*. Mr. Hugh Montgomery's impersonation of Napoleon is a powerful one; and Mr. Phil Harper acts the part of Colonel Jules Meuron with pleasing effect. Colonel Lavarennes is creditably played by Mr. Oliver Birrell; Mr. Bartlett Garth gives a thoroughly satisfactory portrayal of Paul Laczinski; and Mr. Frank M. Thorne amusingly fills the character of Pierre Pomponnet. Miss Leslie Warner makes a stately and charming Marie Walewska; Mlle. Leonie Marbœuf is sympathetically depicted by Miss Maud Russell; and Miss Marie Harcourt is highly commendable as Marcelle Choupin.

EMPIRE, LTD.—Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—Peter Bannon, the wrestler, occupies the pride of place among a company of exceptional merit. Standing out prominently are Cullen and Carthy and Little Cluley, comedians, who are genuinely funny; Bob Hamilton, Scotch comedian, is a popular favourite; and Billy Richardson, the stump orator, has had a gratifying reception. Rastus and Banks, coloured American entertainers, achieve great success; Dolly Denver, vocalist and dancer, is pleasingly received; and U. C. Ugo, in his magical scena, *Mirthful Mysteries*, commands much interest.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—HIPPODROME THEATRE.—Captain Gruber, with his elephant, horse, and pony, presents a very enjoyable equestrian act; Cissy Curlette delights her audience with demonstrations of mimicry; Leonard Bean's basso songs are greatly appreciated; Barney Stuart is a great success in his song-scena, *The Miser*; and Great Scott, the London fireman, presents a novel juggling act on a mounted ladder. George Westland is a Scotch comedian of high repute; Reed and Stevens cause great amusement in their sketch, *Married or Photographed*; and Chas. Diamond and Miss Beatrice, instrumentalists, and the pictures complete.

GRAND THEATRE.—The Kremo Family, who head the bill this

and lively as Tommy Dutton; an exceedingly strong interpretation of the rôle of Astrea is submitted by Miss Doris Gilham; Miss Helena Millais charmingly portrays the part of Constance; and Miss May Foster is pleasing as Lavinia Ginnifer.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. Jas. Hemingway.—Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson's *When the Lights are Low* company occupies the boards here this week. Mr. George Daiper scores with an able rendition of Guy Goldsworthy; Mr. Stephen E. Scanlan is effective as Roland Goldsworthy; Messrs. Francis Serle, James E. Abbot, and Russell Boqui supply plenty of comedy as Willie Wilkins, Tim Wilkins, and Donald McPherson respectively; Miss Violet Carlyle, as Nancy Christie, is charming; and Miss Amy Ellam creditably fills the rôle of Violet Christie; Miss Cissie Podmore is bright and lively as Kathleen Kerry; Mr. Ernest Raymond is responsible for Admiral Goldsworthy; and Mr. Lance Usher supports the part of Ikey Isaacson.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessees, The United County Theatres, Ltd.; Acting-Managers, Messrs. Browne and Stringer.—Chief honours this week go to John Lawson's tirade against smart society, *The Devil's Sunday*, with all its sensational incidents, that are closely followed by the audience; Mignonette Kokin is a smart comedienne and dancer; Galetti's monkeys and dog also occupy a conspicuous place on the bill; other turns include Vowles and Bryan, duettists; the Three Tivoli Girls, vocalists, dancers, and skipping rope artists; Sinclair and Parr, actor vocalists; Stilling and Revell, comedy bar performers; and the Palace animated pictures.

SWANSEA.—THE STAR.—Manager, Mr. William Coutts.—*The Prodigal Parson* is played by Messrs. Northway and Garrod's company here this week. As the Prodigal Parson Mr. W. V. Garrod is excellent, and as Fern Godley, his wife, Miss Gwen Stewart has a part for which she is admirably adapted; and Myrtle Godley, the parson's blind child, is sympathetically played by Miss Violet Jeffries. As the villain of the play Mr. Alfred Northway excels; Mr. William Hayward as Ben Jaggers, Mr. W. Vincent as Ned Kettlepin, and Miss Lydia Hart as Gretchen provide excellent support. The humour of the piece is in the hands of Mr. Owen Remonda, a first-class comedian.

THE GRAND.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Brooks and Woodbridge; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Oswald Brooks; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Dean.—An admirable interpretation of that charming costume play, *The Youngest of Three*, which is preceded by *Hounslow Heath*, is given at the Grand this week by Mr. H. F. Maltby and company. As George Wendover Mr. Maltby has a part admirably suited to his temperament, and displays exceptional ability. The part of Gerald Wendover is also excellently taken by Mr. Wyn Weaver; Philip Radford, an East India merchant, has an able impersonator in Mr. W. Reginald Favell, as has also Samuel Johns in Mr. Franc Storey. Mr. F. Stuart Willson makes an excellent Joshua Pynne; Loke, Hickey, Paul, and Perkins (Wendover's servants) are capably played by Messrs. R. Seath Innis, Harris Fraser, Hugh Leslie Dobree, and Tod Mawden. Of the ladies, Miss Mara Maltby as Lucy Dulley plays with a grace and winsomeness that charms her audience, whilst as the maiden sisters, Ann Dulley and Florence Dulley, Misses Janet Hodgson and Grace Richardson are clever. For the latter part of the week *Sir George of Almack's* is announced.

THE EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. A. Mitchell; Assistant-Manager, Mr. P. C. Rowe.—An extraordinary entertainment of thought transmission is provided by the marvellous Howes; the Kellinos, in their Risley act "Venetia," give a clever display. A really taking turn is submitted by Daisy Gerome, who has good songs and is a clever dancer; Star and Leslie also do well, the club-swinging being exceptionally good. A novel turn is given by Genaro and Theol, who by their marvellous contortions justly deserve their title, "The Indiarubber Pair." Boswell's stage circus is as entertaining as ever. The dancing of Woodhouse and Wells is good and their patter amusing; Walter King is very successful; and the Bioscope Pictures are interesting, as usual.

TON-Y-PANDY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Carlton and Duckworth; General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth.—The current attraction is provided by Fred Karno's Vaudeville company. The Sisters Lavender sing nicely, and Messrs. Lincoln and Warren do some smart trick cycling; Geo. Mackintosh and Tina Royal are clever clog dancers. The hits of the programme, however, are the two sketches, *The Mumming Birds* and *The Early Birds*.

TORQUAY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—*Robin Hood* is being presented here this week by Mr. Norman V. Norman and principal company, and on Monday was accorded a warm reception. Mr. Norman V. Norman is a great favourite here, and in the title-rôle he fully maintained his reputation. He was well supported by Miss Beatrice Wilson, who did excellently as Maid Marian. As Richard, Mr. Kenneth Bruce acted with characteristic dignity; Sir William Trusty was also well taken by Mr. Bremner Wills; Lord Guy was admirably represented by Mr. Norman Leslie; Mr. Francis Hope as Friar Tuck caused general hilarity; Mr. S. Wilkinson, jun., as the Sheriff, and Mr. Aubrey Mather as Little John both did well.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Welton Dale.—The Renads, in *The Swiss Express*, are paying a return visit this week to the Opera House, of which Mr. Welton Dale has resumed the management.

WAKEFIELD.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Messrs. George T. Metcalf and Sydney Bland's company is here in *The Corsican Brothers*. The dual rôle of M. Fabien dei Franchi and M. Louis dei Frenchi is powerfully delineated by Mr. George Bland; M. de Chateau Renaud is capitally portrayed by Mr. Leonard Cheetham; Mr. Robert Pittard is good as Baron les Montgiron; and Mr. Arthur W. Jones does justice as Baron Martelli. Miss Katherine Herbert acts with ability as Mme. dei Franchi; and Miss More Dunphie ably fills the part of Emilie de Lesparre. Other characters are well depicted by Messrs. Ashmore Vincent, Arthur Hallett, and Misses A. Barker, Rita Sponti, and N. Murray. A one-act comedy, entitled *A Young Man*, precedes.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—An attractive programme is provided this week. The Venturinis present a clever mystifying water-tank illusion entitled *So-da*; Hector and Sultan are a pair of versatile comedians; the Carney Brothers, comedy duo, are very popular; Tom Garland is a good ventriloquist; the Sauteron Wonders' smart trick jumping evokes hearty applause; Bert Anderson, conjurer; Will Palette, sketch artist; and Will Hughes, boy coon vocalist, give most acceptable turns.

WALSALL.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, LTD.—General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Heading the bill here, Gracia's elephants prove a great attraction; Beatrice Willey, with a medley of songs; France and Stewart, in their racing comedy, *The 100 to 1 Chance*; Johnson and Wells, vocalists and dancers; Frank Maura, Mexican foot equilibrist; A. W. Scott, coon singer; and the Bros. Kroney, the lazy coalmen, are all well received. The American Bioscope concludes a capital programme.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Mr. Edmund Tearle and company are appearing here this week. The programme on Monday and Thursday evenings consisted of *The Three Musketeers*, with Mr. E. Tearle as D'Artagnan and Miss Kate Clinton in the rôle of Miladi. On Tuesday evening *It's Never Too Late to Mend*, on Wednesday *Jeanie Deans*, and on Friday *Othello* were played, all the characters being well sustained.

WARRINGTON.—ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr. F. Willmot.—An exceptionally fine turn by the Lavalis heads the bill here this week; they are experts in the gymnastic art. Sumki and Johnson are entertaining vocalists, and Martinett and Wallace, smart musical artists; L. B. Athol scores well with good songs, and Jimmy Shields is nightly encored for his songs and one-leg dancing. Jackio, the Chinese mimic, is original in all he does; and Lily Vane is a dashing comedienne. The Royal Bioscope pictures are all good.

PARR HALL.—Lessee, Mr. J. Lyon Whittel.—Miss Florence Baines and company are reappearing here this week in the musical comedy, *Miss Lancashire, Limited*. Unfortunately, Miss Baines was unable to appear in the title-rôle on Monday evening through indisposition, but a capable understudy was forthcoming in Miss Reaney, who scored a big success. The rest of the company maintain the high pitch of excellence which characterised their work on the last visit.

WEST BROMWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. Harding Thomas; Manager, Mr. Richard Nightingale.—Mr. Chas. H. Phelps and Mr. Harry Tilbury and company are here with *The Blind Foundling*. Mr. Phelps as Gerald Dalton is good; Mr. Frank W. Harvey is capital as Parson Ray; Mr. A. Geo. Fry as Mark Redman is a typical adventurer; Mr. Bernard Webb makes a fine Squire Waterford; Mr. Harry Tilbury as Dick Robbins is remarkably funny, his songs being very clever; as Viola Waterford, Miss Aline T. George is very charming; Miss Mabel Hall as the blind foundling makes a pathetic figure; and Miss Belle Tilbury is excellent as Isabel, while Miss Trixie Toole as Winnie Dobbins introduces some fun and some capital songs.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Resident-Manager, Mr. W. H. Player.—Emlyn Jones and his International Quartette are excellent; Clarice Sefton is a dancer and comedienne of more than ordinary ability; Will Van Allen as the musical tramp is capital, and Ouida Macdermott provides a fascinating turn. Austin Rudd well maintains his reputation as a comedian; Ante provides some delightful musical items; the Fitzroys are remarkably clever trapeze artists; while the Hippodrome pictures are most interesting.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—Victoria Monks is a host in herself, her songs receiving quite an ovation from large audiences. The topical vocalist Fred Herbert is exceedingly popular, and gains persistent encores. The charming performance of Bertha Winder, "the dancing marvel," wins abundant appreciation; Lily Stewart, clever in song and dance, pleases all. An amusing sketch, *The Would-Be Actors*, is well played by T. W. Rawson and company, including Miss Lily Bertram. A pleasing vocal and musical entertainment is submitted by Sidney Dolf; Letine, female impersonator, and Pictures more than usually interesting are also in the list.

GRAND.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Manager, Mr. Herbert Feather.—Miss Rosalind Tate is appearing here in the romantic drama, *A Warning to Women*. Mr. C. Watson Mill, in the rôle of Shaun, acquits himself excellently; Mr. Richard Vane makes a telling impression in the character of Dr. Marcus Dread; creditable work is done by Mr. Norman B. Cannon as Fergus McNaughton; Mr. H. Carter Slaughter is amusing as Lord Eversleigh; Miss Rosalind Tate, in the character of Moira Kenion, deserves unstinted praise. Others who ably discharge the responsibilities are Mr. Henry Rutland, Mr. George Harvey, Mr. Henry P. Kennedy, Miss Ellen Beverley, Miss Elinor Glover, and Miss Grace Barton.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.—VICTORIA HALL.—Manager, Mr. E. W. Sully.—Miss Phyllis Dare's concert party (under the direction of Mr. Donald Arthur) opened here on Saturday to a crowded and most enthusiastic audience.

KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—The Pygmies are here this week, and these very quaint people are interesting large audiences four times daily.

WIDNES.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. James Kiddie.—This week another vaudeville bill is presented. The chief item is the appearance of Mr. J. Gar Kiddie and company in a new comedy sketch, entitled *The House of Tinn*. On Monday evening the house greatly enjoyed the humour of Mr. Gar Kiddie as Jeremiah Jinks, and Mr. J. W. Groves as Mrs. Arabella Tinn. Mr. Walter Clarke cleverly supported the comedians as Augustus Hobbs; and Mrs. Gar Kiddie (Miss Lizzie Payne) sang charmingly as Dolly Tinn. The dancing of the Misses Annie Cryer, Maggie Lohrenz, Sophie Danson, and Nellie Leigh was excellent. The new playlet ought to do well at the "halls." The Deroneys are responsible for a clever turn. Arthur Woodville's eccentric dancing was one of the features of the evening; Wyman gives a smart turn; the marvellous muscular development of Attilla and his huge "lifts" won much applause. The Bioscope filled up intervals very entertainingly.

WIGAN.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Co.—On Monday and Tuesday Mr. Lingford Carson's latest and most successful play, *A Modern Adventuress*, was produced by that gentleman's company under the direction of Mr. Charles Draycott. The part of Pietro Donelli was portrayed with powerful effect by Mr. Charles Draycott, and Miss Muriel Thompson as Violet Meredith, the adventuress, was also very successful; Mr. Will White, as John Crompton, a Yorkshireman, and Mr. Sidney C. Cranston as Harry Delby, represented those characters with remarkable fidelity; Miss Nellie V. Warden, as Sally Hodges, and Miss Marie Robson, as Vivette Delby, played the parts with much humour and pathos respectively. On the other nights of the week were presented *The Octoroon*, *Ticket of Leave Man*, *The Shaughraun*, and *The Heart of a Hero*.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Co.—Chung Ling Soo, the marvellous conjurer, and the Royal Zerbinis in a spectacular musical fantasia, are the chief turns this week, and are exceedingly popular; Les Rallis, as the artist and his monkey, are capital tumblers; Austin and Cowan are excellent singers and society entertainers, and Iris Banfield is also a charming vocalist, with a fine voice, which she uses artistically. Other pleasing turns are furnished by Jack Hylton, comedian; Vasey and Ramsey, singers and dancers; Three Whirligigs, whirlwind dancers; the Forrest Comedy Company, in a sketch; Wild, Willie, and West, bouncing navvies; and Martine and Son, in illustrated songs.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. E. H. Bull and Mr. Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Wenman.—This week's attraction consists of Mr. Allan Wilkie and company in a round of Shakespearean plays. On Monday *Hamlet* was presented, and on Tuesday *The Merchant of Venice*. Shylock was portrayed by Mr. Wilkie in a masterly manner; Mr. G. Alexander Marsh was an excellent Bassanio; and Mr. John Paley did capitally as Gratiano. As Portia Miss Carrie Baillie quite captivated her audience. She had a charming supporter in Miss Doris Horrocks as Nerissa, and Miss Ine Cameron did well as Jessica.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Captain Taylor and his trained elephants are the principal attraction this week; La Faille Troupe of acrobats give a good show. Other interesting items are Hanvarr and Lee, "the golfer and the maid"; the O'Gorman Bros., dancers; Phillips and Terry, in duologue; Dolly Golden, danseuse; and Dolly Denton, comedienne.

THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—The Wolverhampton Amateur Comedy Operatic Society occupies the boards here this week, and on Monday gave a successful performance of *H.M.S. Pinafore*.

WORKINGTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Manager, Mr. Falconer Jackes.—Mrs. F. Wybert Clive's company are presenting *The Branded Woman*. Mr. H. C. Hunt is vigorous as the hero; as Zarka, Mr. W. C. Clarke plays with force and discrimination; Mr. W. Steele presents the Baron in strong relief; Mr. H. Liddle displays alertness and humour as the street artist; Mr. E. Lourie is satisfactory as Daroc; Miss L. Ross is excellent as Luroche; and is well supported by Miss Hunt, Miss M. Elliott, Miss A. Campbell, and Miss R. Franklyn.

WORTHING.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Herr C. Adolf Seebold.—Mr. J. M. Glover's clever combination of juvenile artists from Drury Lane Theatre are here for the first part of the week presenting *The Forte Thieves*. The energy evolved by each individual of the company makes the pantomime go with a commendable swing, to the great delight of the audiences. On Thursday Mr. W. Penrhyn Forster's company, including Miss Nellie Sheffield, were announced in *The Officers' Mess*.

YORK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—Acton and Nash's company is here this week with *Between the Lights*. As Captain Hinton, Mr. Bertram H. Ross is quite successful; no more sympathetic Violet than Miss Eileen Bamford could be wished for: she is extremely graceful and natural; the villaines of Stanley Cofton are fully accentuated by Mr. W. R. Winning, and Madge Armley has a delightful representative in Miss Fanny Williams. The comedy element is in the safe hands of Miss Mollie Doris, Mr. Frank Orchard, Mr. F. Daleno, and Mr. Fred Acton.

OPERA HOUSE AND EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brooke.—Bob Selvidge, Harold Wardroper, Teddy Gibbs, and Barney Dixon are a quartette of comedians of the drollest kind, and *High Jinks* has proved a most diverting item. Mr. Selvidge as Jesmond Deane gets through a wonderful amount of hard work; Jessie Templeton is a fascinating Mrs. Deane, and Lizzie Hay gives a clever character-sketch of Mary Ann. In addition to the above, the ordinary turns include Polo and Florence, Monmura, and Snowball and Miss Dolia.

"THE SONG OF THE TORCH."

Play, in Four Acts, by Ion Hanford, produced for the first time at the Theatre Royal, Margate, on Monday, May 13.

Count Von Habsfeldt	MR. WALLIS CLARK
Capt. Von Rosnitz	MR. ROBERT GREY
Herr H. Toledano	MR. J. POOLE-KIRKWOOD
Franz Hartman	MR. A. AUSTIN LEIGH
Koppe	MR. DANE SCOTT
Dr. Lentz	MR. H. G. MASON
Dr. Spielman	MR. W. P. WELLS
Heinrich	MR. RICHARD TRIEVE
Countess Von Habsfeldt	MISS MURIEL CURREY
Madeline Rosenthal	MISS KATE TURNER
Fernande	MISS INEZ BENSUSAN
Mme. Favelle	MRS. CULLING
Esther	MISS BELLE TRAVERS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Produced by the Répertoire Theatre Association, and under the stage direction of the author and Mr. A. Austin Leigh, this new costume play deals with the oppression of the Jews in Prussia, in the early days of the last century, the story being laid at Konigsberg, about the year 1808. It is undoubtedly well written, is political as well as social in tone, but is so complicated that it seems rather above the average theatre-goer. The interest chiefly centres in Toledano, a young lawyer of the Jewish persuasion, who is secretly in love with the Countess Habsfeldt, she, too, whilst endeavouring to keep her feelings within bounds, being also in love with Toledano. Her husband, having squandered his own fortune, would probably serve his wife's in the same way but for the fact that her companion and secretary Madeline Rosenthal, uses every means to prevent it. Toledano is also directing his attention towards averting the loss of the Countess's money, and it is whilst studying her interests that he finds himself in love with her. Matters become still more involved with the appearance of Fernande, an adventuress, who makes no secret of her hatred of the Countess. Act II. takes us to an apartment in the Habsfeldt mansion, the same evening. Here there is much plotting and counter-plotting. The Countess's jewels have disappeared, and she shrewdly suspects her husband of having appropriated them to pay his gambling debts, and for that reason cannot make any disturbance about the theft. It is in this act that the revolutionary "Song of the Torch" is sung by the populace outside the mansion, and subsequently Toledano, who has been entrusted with some important State papers, is betrayed by the Count as a conspirator and is arrested. Fernande, in the next act, gains admission to Mme. Favelle's house, induces the servant to exchange clothes with her, and is able to learn what is going on, and that through the influence of Steyn, a Minister of State, Toledano has been released. The Countess is sent to Castle Habsfeldt, where she is virtually a prisoner, to cure her of her infatuation for Toledano, and in the grounds here the Count and Toledano meet, by arrangement, to fight out a duel the Count has provoked. Scarcely, however, have they crossed swords than Fernande rushes from her concealment and stabs the Count in the back. The young lawyer has to clear himself of the accusation of causing the Count's death, which he successfully does, and the play closes, leaving to the imagination of the audience what does or should follow.

Mr. Wallis Clark played well as Count Habsfeldt, and Mr. J. Poole-Kirkwood was excellent as Herr Toledano. The latter was particularly good in his scenes with the Countess, a rôle capitally sustained by Miss Muriel Currey. Miss Inez Bensusan was effective as the adventuress, Fernande, who, like Toledano, is a Jewess of Spanish origin. Mr. A. Austin Leigh put in some good work as Franz Hartman, a student; and Mr. Robert Grey was seen to advantage as Capt. Von Rosnitz. Koppe, a member of the Tugenbund, was in good hands with Mr. Dane Scott; Miss Kate Turner was a charming Madeline Rosenthal; and Mrs. Culling played Mme. Favelle, Toledano's mother, admirably. Other characters successfully portrayed were those of Esther, a Jewish servant, by Miss Belle Travers; Dr. Lentz, a specialist, by Mr. H. G. Mason; Dr. Spielman, an alienist, by Mr. W. P. Wells; and Heinrich, a butler, by Mr. Richard Trieve. The play was well staged.

PRESENTATION.—Last Tuesday night, which had been set apart for the benefit of the energetic Yiddish manager, Mr. J. W. Rosenthal, at the Pavilion Theatre, was selected as a suitable opportunity to present the popular acting-manager, Mr. Fred Brown, with an illuminated address. The proceedings took place in the saloon, and Mr. Cecil Paget, on behalf of the subscribers, made the presentation in his usual pleasing manner, at the same time handing to Mrs. Brown a diamond brooch. Mr. Isaac Cohen, in an eloquent speech, eulogised the past thirty years' work of Mr. Brown at the Pavilion, and both recipients replied in brief but well-chosen words.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"HEIMKEHR."

Volks-Play, in Three Acts, by Rudolf Hawel, produced at the Kleines Theatre, April 30.

Altmann	HERR JULES
Franz	HERR EMERICH
Max	HERR BLUM
Lene	FRAULEIN MARTINELLI
Schönhofer	HERR STRASSMEYER
Florian	HERR MILLMANN
Rosenstein	HERR WEIDINGER
Leopold	HERR SEITZ
Gusti	HERR BERGER
Burgermeister	HERR HOELLER
Gendarm	HERR LEPPA
Totengräber	HERR NOSKE
Wetti	FRAULEIN KOSCH

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, May 9.—In the absence of the Kleines Theatre company, the company from the Bürger Theatre, Vienna—under the management of Herr Oscar Franz—have been giving a season, producing chiefly volks-plays. The undertaking has not proved so great a success as many anticipated; the acting was better than were the pieces selected. *Heimkehr* was received with cordiality. Herr Hawel is an Austrian Board-schoolmaster. The Viennese authorities think so highly of his dramatic ability that after awarding a prize to *Heimkehr*, they granted the author six months' leave of absence—with full salary—in order that he might have leisure to write another play. We trust it will prove better than the prize work, which is very lacking in originality, notwithstanding undeniable traces of talent in the drawing of the characters and in the dialogue. L'Arronge has written a volks-play, entitled *Mein Leopold*, which has served as a model for many authors during the last quarter of a century, and *Heimkehr* is built on the same lines. The sacrifice made by a family for one member—usually a youth of expensive tastes—is an old theme. In this case it is Altmann, a tradesman of small means, who has contrived to get his smart son Max into the army, and who has bitter cause to regret it. The young fellow is good-hearted enough, but temptations beset him on every side, and he finds it an impossibility to keep up appearances on his slender pay. His sister Lene sacrifices all her chances in life for the gay young lieutenant, and his brother Franz—an industrious fellow who works hard to increase his father's business—has to help, too, although he is secretly disgusted with the whole hollow pretence of the thing. Up to his eyes in debt, Max at length sees no way out of his difficulties. There is one, but that he scorns. Franz is engaged to a girl with a big dowry, whose father would like her to turn her affections to the shower brother and become "Frau Leutnant." We are in doubt as to whether Wetti would allow herself to be persuaded, but Max declines to put her to the test, and finally commits suicide, shooting himself at his mother's grave. It is a gloomy play, the humour that is one of the acknowledged requisites of a volks-piece being conspicuous by its absence. The interpretation was an all-round good one, the best renderings being those of Fräulein Martinelli and Herren Jules, Blum, and Emerich.

A FEW weeks before the close of this season the Thalia has produced a farce-burlesque, which, if one may judge by its enthusiastic reception, will run well into the next. The title is *Wo die Liebe hinfällt*; the authors are the popular collaborators, MM. Kren and Lippschütz; Herr Schönfeld has written the words to the up-to-date couplets—a great feature of the piece—and Herr Max Schmidt has furnished the bright incidental music. It will be unnecessary to detail the plot beyond saying that the central figure is an elderly, simple-minded "provinzler" named Vollman, who is an avowed enemy to the practice of duelling. He takes an active part in the opposition movement, whereby he makes many enemies. Later on he falls in love, and the members of his family who have reckoned on a legacy do their best to prevent the course of his affection from running smoothly, but all to no purpose. Good old Vollmann with the golden heart comes out of every difficulty with flying colours, and all ends satisfactorily. There are all kinds of incidental episodes which add to the fun, and one and all of the excellent cast deserve mention did space permit. Herr Thielscher—of *Charley's Aunt* fame—was splendid in the rôle of Vollmann, full of his own irresistible humour, yet imparting to the character touches of pathos that were very convincing. Artists, authors, and manager were all called in turn before the curtain at the end of each act and applauded till the house rang again.

ONE of the finest actors on the German stage, Herr Rudolf Rittner, of the Lessing Theatre, has taken a final farewell of the public—to the regret of all lovers of great and genuine art. Herr Rittner—who is still in the prime of life—is tired of the profession, and is going to live the simple life, carrying on his father's farm. He created the rôles of Fuhrmann Henschel, Florian Geyer, and others in Hauptmann's dramas, while in Ibsen—notably as Oswald in *Ghosts*—he had few rivals. Rittner's acting is so absolutely natural and convincing that while he is on the stage his hearers forget the theatre and all accessories and are face to face with life. He closed his career on Saturday night with Florian Geyer, after which the entire house—which was packed—"rose at" the beloved actor with a spontaneous burst of feeling. After several minutes of unbroken tumult the manager appeared to thank the audience on the part of Herr Rittner, who was too deeply moved to come forward. Then, slowly and sadly, the audience dispersed, the hope, however, being expressed by all that some day Herr Rittner will come back.

ANOTHER farewell was celebrated on Saturday evening, but in a more festive manner—in the form of a banquet in honour of Herr Sigismund Lautenburg, who is leaving us for Vienna. He was the founder of the Residenz Theatre, and is still its owner, Herr Alexander being lessee. Herr Lautenburg brought the pretty little house up to its present pitch of perfection by dint of hard work and clear perception. The Residenz is the home of French farcical comedy, and it is here that *Madame Mongodin*, *Die Beiden Champignols*, *Der Selige Toupinel* (the late lamented), and other screaming farces have enjoyed their well-earned triumphs. For a time Herr Lautenburg has rested; now he has become the manager of the Raimund Theatre at Vienna, one of the best theatres in the capital. At the banquet in the Mozart Hall 300 persons of distinction were present, including the Austrian Ambassador, the Mayor, Dr. Reicke, Herr Hase, Herr Barnay, and all the shining lights of the dramatic and literary worlds.

THE Figaro company will perform during the coming season in the Folies Caprice Theatre. This is a new house, small and bijou in character, and just the right sort of building for the "intime" nature of the Figaro productions.

HERR GREGOR has, it is stated, let his theatre—Die Komische Oper—to the American company now at the Waldorf Theatre. Their season will be in the beginning of June, and will last a fortnight.

Two stars of the Royal Opera have left us to go on tour. Fräulein Emmy Destinn has gone to Paris to sing the part of Salome, whence she goes to London, while Fräulein Hiedler is pledged for various Wagner rôles at the Landes Theatre, Prague. The Lessing company leaves us again this week for a season, and the Deutsches company is in Budapest. The Royal Theatres close at the end of June for the customary eight weeks' holiday.

"DER BETTELGRAF."

Operetta, in two acts and an epilogue, by Leo Ascher, produced at the Lessing, May 9, 1907.

Tobias	HERR GLAWATSCH
Kitty	FRAULEIN RETTICH-PIRK
Malona	FRAULEIN WIRTH
Bogumil	HERR TREUMANN
Blackwell	HERR STREITMANN
Dick	HERR WEISS
Slippel	HERR SACHS
Jessie	FRAULEIN GUNTHER
Trunky	HERR PIRK
Crab	FRAULEIN ROLAND
Der Kleine Graf	FRAULEIN WOLFF
Erster Herr	HERR KREISLER
Zweiter Herr	HERR ROTT
Dame	FRAULEIN ZIEGLER
Diener	HERR KAISER
Policeman	HERR MORIN
Pennyman	HERR ALBIN

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, MAY 16.—This latest Viennese novelty, performed by the guests within our walls—the company from Theater an der Wien—met with the most cordial reception of any work produced as yet. Victor Léon is responsible for the book, which is at times almost dramatic, while Ascher's music—though not very original—fits the libretto extremely well. There is plenty of fun, too, and if the jokes and "situations" are not exactly new, they serve their end in provoking genuine mirth. A few words will suffice for the description of the plot, the scene of which is laid in New York. Count Bogumil Karinsky—the hero—is a species of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde. He possesses a dual existence, being by turns a member of the Beggars' Club and the son-in-law of Tobias Stephenson, the wealthy and powerful Chief of Police. The Count is about to give up his life of adventure and depart for Europe to turn over a new leaf and settle down to respectability, when his secret becomes public property. This is chiefly brought about by the jealousy of Kitty, daughter of Mr. Slippel, the president of the Beggars' Club. She considers she has a right to Bogumil's affection, and her suspicions being roused that all is not as it should be, she contrives to gain an entrance into the Count's luxurious home. Jimmy Blackwell, a journalist, who loves Malona, the young Countess Bogumil, manages the rest, hoping to separate the pair and gain his own ends. Malona, however, who loves her husband, decides to stay with him and live down the scandal, or, rather, help to disprove it by her presence. The Count, of course, is a reformed character, and all ends happily. There is a good deal of superfluous padding; incidental incidents are scattered about that would have been better omitted, but the capital acting atoned for the faults of the work. The best renderings were those of Herr Streitmann and Herr Treumann. Herr Ziegler conducted, and the chorus and orchestra did their work efficiently, while scenery and costumes were very effective.

AT the Luisen Theatre a sensational piece from the English of Walter Melville was produced last week with very satisfactory results. The German title is *Das Mädchen ohne Ehre*; the adapter is V. Lutz. It is a story of a pair of swindlers, Captain Caversham and his former mistress, Marian Franklyn. The criminal couple are determined to get the fortune of a wealthy heiress into their hands. The guardian of Rosa, the intended victim, is Charles Sutton, a most worthy and esteemed member of society, but who has one dark spot in his past. This dread secret has been found out by Caversham, who uses it as a means for blackmail. Driven to desperation, the wretched man is about to give his consent to the villain's marriage with Rosa, when Nemesis in the form of Molly Vernon, an earlier victim of Caversham's, turns up just in the nick of time. This delightful young woman proves the good angel of the piece, and both virtue and vice are rewarded according to their several merits. The development of the plot was followed with breathless attention by a large and appreciative audience, the excellent acting of the principal rôles adding much to the success of the piece. As to the mounting, it was above all praise, being one of the best things this enterprising little theatre has yet done. The setting of the scenes, "Die alte Kirche in Essex" and "Winternacht auf der Strasse," was especially tasteful, each tableau calling forth a perfect storm of applause.

SPEAKING of English plays, Oscar Wilde's drama, *Ein Idealer Gatte*, has just passed its 200th performance at the Kleines Theatre. This has proved one of the most successful draws within my recollection.

The "Kammerspiele" (chamber plays) of the Deutsches Theatre not having had any very great success with Maeterlinck's *Aglavaine und Selysette*, have now included *Gyges und sein Ring* in the bill. This powerful tragedy of Friedrich Hebbel was first produced by the Royal Schauspielhaus, affording Herr Matkowsky an excellent opportunity for the display of his special talents. It was one of the famous actor's best rôles, according to some of the critics. The cast was altogether so good as the Schauspielhaus that the production at the Deutsches suffered considerably by comparison, notwithstanding all the pains bestowed upon it.

AT the Royal Opera the "Niebelungen Ring" is being given for the fourth time this season, and, despite the abnormal heat, is filling the house from floor to ceiling. A chronological cycle of Wagner's operas is drawing largely, for the performance of *Lohengrin* on Thursday last not a vacant seat being left. Herr Fritz Trostorff, from the Stadt Theatre at Breslau, sang the title-rôle with good results, and the remainder of the admirable cast included Fräulein Hiedler, Frau Goetze, Herren Berger, Griswold, and Bachmann. Herr Leo Blech conducted. Keinzl's melodious work, *Der Evangelimann*, was performed after a long interval on Friday, and was very cordially received.

THE popular little opera by Adam, *Czar und Zimmermann*, served as an agreeable contrast to the heavier works of the Opera House bill last week. Herr Bronsgeest, of Hamburg, sang the part of Peter, creating a favourable impression. His voice, though hardly equal to the demands of the large house, is musical and sympathetic.

THE Lessing company proper returned to Berlin last week from a tour in Hungary. They gave a few performances at the Lessing of Ibsen's *Pillars of Society* and Hauptmann's *Versunkene Glocke*, after which they abdicated again in favour of the Viennese artists from the Theatre an der Wien. The Lessing company, after this brief season, have gone to Vienna, and will not return here until the summer holidays are over.

THE season of the Deutsches Theatre Company at the Court Theatre, Budapest, is proving most successful. Herr Wedekind's morbid, unhealthy play, *Fruhlingserwachen*, provoked some opposition, but the applause overpowered it, and the remaining pieces of the German repertory have been received with acclamation.

AT the Royal Schauspielhaus Herr von Wildenbruch's latest play, *Die Rabensteinerin*, is still holding a place in the bill, though, I fear, not a permanent one. This week it is being given three times, Fräulein Wachner acting the name-part, and Herr Matkowsky taking the chief male rôle, the latter being a particularly fine impersonation.

ONE of Berlin's most famous operetta singers, Carl Schulz, has just passed away in the prime of life. He made his mark as tenor-buffo in the Central Theatre company, and held a warm place for many years in the hearts of the Berliners. Herr Schulz had been of late a victim to serious nervous disease, and his death can only be looked upon as a release. In New York, by the way, the late actor was also very popular.

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, May 13, the Play, by E. W. Hornung and E. W. Presbury, entitled
"RAFFLES."

With such a fine actor as Mr. Leonard Boyne to represent Raffles, the cricketer cracksman, it is hardly necessary to say more than that complete success is attained. In the scene where Raffles faces death at the mouth of a loaded revolver in Crawshay, the burglar's, hands, his acting was admirable, and he was well rewarded by vociferous applause from all parts of the crowded theatre. Mr. Arthur Willoughby made a picturesque and dignified Earl of Amersteth, and Viscount Crowley was capitally impersonated by Mr. Edmund Breon. A hit was scored by Mr. E. W. Lewis as the American detective, Curtis Bedford, who so cleverly gets on the track of Raffles' misdeeds. Mr. Lewis Edgard feelingly and successfully represented Harry Manders, and Mr. Dalziel Heron effectively rendered the burglar, Crawshay. Goldby, Merton, and Barraclough were capably impersonated by Mr. Charles Kean, Mr. W. Henty, and Mr. Arthur Fitzgerald. Lady Melrose was charmingly enacted by Miss Alys Rees, and Lady Ethel found a bright and intelligent performer in Miss Jean Morrison. Miss Jane Saville's acting as Gwendoline Conran was a combination of grace and refinement, and Miss Jean Harkness as the French maid, Marie, won praise. Special commendation was richly deserved by Miss Elaine Inescourt for her spirited and able performance of Mrs. Vidal, a part requiring very careful handling. A one-act play by Mr. Eric Lewis, entitled *A Lesson in Shakespeare*, was also given, in which Mr. Dalziel Heron, Mr. Edmund Breon, and Miss Jane Saville acted merrily. Very artistic scenery and appointments were provided.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, May 13, the Musical Comedy,
"THE BLUE MOON."

The second visit of *The Blue Moon* is proving wonderfully attractive. It is being presented on this occasion by the North London Operatic and Dramatic Society, with all the original scenery, costumes, and effects as so successfully played at the Lyric Theatre. The delightful music of this bright piece is done ample justice to by the company. Great care has been exercised in the selection of the artists, and all do justice to their respective characters. The chorus forms a special feature, and is vocally quite up to the average. Miss Katherine Craig, in the title-rôle, plays with appropriate fascination, and sings in fine voice and telling style. Mr. Douglas C. Ingram plays the part of Captain Jack Ormsby very cleverly, his acting being natural and pleasing, and he is to be congratulated on his vocal abilities. Mr. Charles G. Dickenson gives a clever assumption of Major Vivian Callabone, quite the best performance of all, and Mr. Will Stamp as Bobbie Scott acts throughout with dash and heartiness. Mr. Fritz E. Yates must be credited with a capital performance of the Prince Badahin Sanatsinghjhi of Kharaka, and Mr. Fred Buchanan (Abdul), Mr. Montague Oakes (Hefez), and Mr. Douglas Hale (Hon. Archie May) are deserving of praise for their respective portrayals. Mr. Murray Short works indefatigably as Private Charles Taylor, and is immensely funny, his comic rendering of the song, "Mother," being especially good. Mr. Short is admirably "played up" to by Miss Nellie Craig, who is smart, vivacious, and fascinating as Millicent Leroy. She is good as a singer, and also in the calisthenic art shows great ability. Mr. Percy Short creates much amusement as Moohaj, and Mr. Thomas Martin is suitably cast as Clive Mansfield. The Lady Brabasham of Miss Netta Neville is praiseworthy, and Miss Alice M. Grimsdick deserves favourable mention for her assumption of Evelyn Ormsby. Miss Violet Williams (Oma) and Miss Anna Macdowall (Ramah) render valuable aid, and the remainder of the long cast is adequate. Mr. Arthur Roby, the Society's musical director, must be congratulated upon the excellence of the choral work, the singing being spirited and well-balanced.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, May 13, the Drama, entitled
"SPORTING LIFE."

A drama which is full of sporting interest, with racehorses and a boxing match at the National Sporting Club, cannot but fail to interest all lovers of exciting melodrama, and *Sporting Life*, which is being played at the Camden this week, has all these attractions to offer, and is drawing good audiences. The company is under the direction of Mr. R. A. Beaton; the play is well staged, and there is a stud of fine racehorses which create quite a sensation; while the scene at the boxing match is well managed and most exciting. The sporting peer, Lord Woodstock, is admirably played by Henry Doughty; he portrays the real sportsman, who can meet defeat with a stout heart, to the life. Miss Constance Elgin gives a very vivid picture of the adventuress, Olive de Carteret, and scores a great success in the character, which she depicts in a bold style. Mr. Raymond Dudley is likewise good as the villain of the play, Malet de Carteret, who plots and schemes throughout the story, but eventually meets with his deserts. Miss Ida Phillips is a charming Norah Cavanagh; while Miss Nellie Lucas is very sweet as Kitty, her sister. Mr. H. H. Barrington appears as Miles Cavanagh, and he gives a fine delineation of the large-hearted old Irish trainer; Mr. Ashton Winslow is good as Jordan, the head stable lad; and Mr. Edward Chester does well as Joe Lee, the young soldier who becomes a pugilist. Much humour is supplied by Mr. Bert Morley as Dan Doxey, the police officer, who generally seems to be making trouble for himself; and Miss Veronica Brady is very bright and entertaining as Doxey's fiancée, Clara; and these two appear in several scenes which are most amusing. Mr. George Claremont is seen to advantage as George Gale; and Geoffrey Pilgrim is quite safe in the hands of Mr. J. P. Dryden. Philip Cavanagh is played in an earnest manner by Mr. Edwin Fergusson, who is also responsible for the excellent stage-management of the play, which includes many big scenes that require careful handling. Mr. H. C. Cooper is particularly good as Isidore Andread, a money-lender, who is not so grasping as most of that class; Mr. H. J. Barrett is amusing as the old Colonel Molyneux; and there are many other minor characters which are capably filled. During the intervals Mr. G. F. Ford's orchestra add greatly to the evening's enjoyment with their melodious selections.

THE TERRISS.

On Monday, May 13, the Drama, entitled
"NOT GUILTY."

South London audiences have been attracted to the Rotherhithe house this week to witness the above sensational drama. Miss Marion Denvil has an arduous task as the sorely-tried Nelly Chaddox, from which she emerges triumphantly. The heroine's struggle in the snowstorm in the last act with the villain is most realistically portrayed. Mr. Ashley Page has a part which fits him like a glove as the manly young miner, Harry Grafton; and Mr. J. C. Aubrey gives a capital impersonation of the grim and cruel Nick Chaddox. Mr. Johnny Chippendal and Miss Mattie Everett supply some agreeable comic relief as Timothy Sprouts and Nancy Lee, and their love-making causes infinite amusement. Mr. Weldon Atherstone is a calm and gentlemanly Oswald Brandon; and Mr. Edwin Wilde is pathetic and dignified as old farmer Grafton. Mr. Gerald Jordan is well placed as the lawyer, Ernest Saville; and Mr. John Sargent makes good use of his scanty opportunities as James Smiley. Good bits of character-acting are also supplied by Miss East Robertson, Mr. Tom Taylor, and Miss Maggie Lindsay. The scenery and effects are quite adequate, and the trial scene, where the hero is condemned to death for murder, is excellently stage-managed, and rouses the audience to a great pitch of excitement.

THE CORONET.

On Tuesday, May 14,
"CARMEN."

The Moody-Manners Opera Company have now nearly completed their second week's stay at the Coronet, much to the regret of opera-lovers, who have crowded the theatre and evinced their enthusiasm in no uncertain manner during the last fortnight. On Monday *Faust* was given, and this melodious and dramatic opera was splendidly interpreted by Mesdames De Vere-Sapio (Marguerite) and Mildred Bryan, and Messrs. Wilson Pembroke (a fine Faust), William Dever, and Charles Manners (a powerful, impressive Mephistopheles). The rest of the week's programme comprised *Lohengrin* on Wednesday (Mr. Wilson Pembroke in the title-rôle), *Cavalleria Rusticana* and *Pagliacci* on Thursday, *Tannhäuser* on Friday, and *Il Trovatore* to-night will complete a delightful fortnight's season. Mme. Zelie de Lussan is seen quite at her best as the beautiful wayward, capricious, and cruel gipsy girl employed in the cigarette factory, Carmen by name, and her fascinating coquetry, the witchery of her glance, and her contemptuous indifference, unscrupulous abandonment, and haunting fear are graphically and picturesquely set forth. Her rendering of "Near to the walls of Sevilla," with its haunting refrain, is exquisitely rendered. Mr. Joseph O'Mara as Don José acts with a fire and fervour eminently suited to the part; all the throbbing emotion of the highly-strung nature of this young soldier, driven to despair and madness by unrequited love and mental anguish, are set forth with glowing intensity. His singing is magnificent. Mr. Lewis James as Escamillo makes a fine virile character of the triumphant Toreador, and one can readily understand how his tinselled grandeur would appeal to such a shallow nature as Carmen's. His rendering of the world-famous "Toreador" song provokes an undeniable encore, and throughout he acts with judgment and ability. Miss Kate Anderson displays her wonted charm and experience in the pathetic part of Michaela, and her singing of "For tell I must" and "Here is the place" brings down the house. Mr. Bailey is a first-rate Il Remendado; and Mr. Moppett very good as Il Dancairo. Miss Burns as Frasquita and Miss Alvord as Mercedes are well in the picture, and sing "Shuffle and cut" delightfully. Mr. Carter and Mr. Halpin enact the parts of the Dragoons quite satisfactorily. The chorus and dancers and the augmented orchestra, conducted by Signor Romualdo Sapio, deserve high praise, and the scenery is appropriately picturesque.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, May 13, the Play, in Five Acts, by C. M. S. McLellan, entitled
"LEAH KLESCHNA."

A rare dramatic treat is provided this week at the above theatre, where a powerful company, under the direction of Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh, is presenting *Leah Kleschna*. Great care has evidently been taken to obtain thoroughly suitable artists to fit the various characters, and their interpretation of the piece is in every way so successful that the audience are roused to the greatest enthusiasm, prolonged applause awaiting the fall of the curtain. Miss Haidee Wright is a great success in the title-rôle. Thoroughly grasping the character, Miss Wright, by her excellent impersonation, quickly wins sympathy, and her acting, good throughout, reaches a high plane of excellence in the scene where she finally breaks away from her father and his nefarious enterprises. Mr. William Clayton brings out the main characteristics of Kleschna with convincing force, faithfully portraying, with consummate skill, the varying emotions of the part. Another good performance is that of Mr. William F. Grant in the rôle of Paul Sylvaine. An actor of marked ability, Mr. Grant holds the attention of the audience throughout, and fully deserves the applause accorded him. Mr. Hamilton Deane's impersonation of the dissipated Raoul Berton is thoroughly satisfactory, and he is to be congratulated for a sterling performance. The part of Schram is excellently enacted by Mr. Campbell Goldsmid; and Mr. Roland Daniel makes the most of the part of the excitable journalist, Valentine Favre. Miss Violet Thorold is a charming Sophie Champonniere; and Miss Ethel Russell as Mme. Berton, and Miss Helene Belgrave as Claire Berton, are satisfactory in their respective rôles. Mr. Bernard Hishin is business-manager for Messrs. Armitage and Leigh.

GRAND, FULHAM.

On Monday, May 13, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Mark Melford, entitled
"FLYING FROM JUSTICE."

The piece this week at Fulham is a melodrama of the robust type, relying more on human interest than any particular stage sensationalism. Mr. Wilson Blake is a whole-hearted and vigorous hero as John Lacarsey, and does not spare himself in the least. But the best acting in the piece is undoubtedly the performance of Mr. Fred Morgan as Haldane Gully, a criminal of the polished type. He impersonates the character with a fine restraint, diversified with sudden flashes of passion. Mr. Harry Brandreth is good as the broken-down Major Parkes; and Mr. Paige Laurence makes the most of the short part of Charles Bearing. Mr. Teddy Coleman is amusing as Pearly Tanner; and Mr. C. C. Thornhill is quietly effective as Woodruff. Miss Dorothy Clifton plays well as Mildred Parkes, if at times a trifle overweighted with the part. Miss Florence Nelson puts plenty of power into her representation of Mrs. Bearing; and Miss Mary Ralz is excellent as Winnie Bradley, the adventuress and former lover of Gully, being equally at home in the humorous and the tragic episodes. The whole company play with considerable vigour, and do their best to make the piece go.

THE LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, May 13, the Drama, entitled
"MAN AND WIFE."

Mr. Ward has got together an excellent company and the performance of Mr. Walter Howard's popular drama is in every way a success. Mr. John F. Traynor as Paul Revere makes a good impression, and plays throughout with excellent restraint, retaining the sympathetic interest of the audience until the end. As Paul's wife, Marcelle, Miss Kate Hallam is particularly good; Mr. Wilson Coleman acquits himself well in the heavy part of Capt. D'Esparre; and Messrs. Edward Van Biene and Ambrose Horton as Col. Latour and Sergeant Jacques respectively are both good. Mr. Edward Leslie is a satisfactory Father Coupe; Miss Violet Temple as the blind mother of Paul invests the part with all the necessary pathos; Miss Ethel F. Greene creates an excellent impression as Jean, a cripple boy; plenty of fun is introduced by Miss Pollie Denville as Rosette, who rejoices in two lovers—twins—named Bimbo and Bambo, humorously played by Mr. Sydney Bryant and Mr. Val Gully. Other parts are well filled by Mr. Angus Phillips, Mr. Harcourt Ralph, and Mr. R. Stone. The drama is elaborately staged and is drawing excellent houses.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, May 13, the Musical Play
"THE GIRL BEHIND THE COUNTER."

The visit of Mr. Mouillot's company in *The Girl Behind the Counter* is proving a very welcome event at the Stratford Borough Theatre this week, and large audiences are being attracted. Miss Nora Brocklebank makes a very fascinating Winnie Willoughby, and her delightful vocalism wins vociferous applause; Mr. Arthur Cartwright looks and acts the part of Charles Chetwyn most suitably, and he sings in manly and pleasing style; Mr. Ellis Holland as the brusque General Willoughby plays with a keen sense of humour, and his "Sir Walter Raleigh" song is highly popular; Mr. Howard Cridland contributes a most amusing and exceedingly clever portraiture of aristocratic amiable inanity as Viscount Gushington; and M. Jules Charnettes plays M. Duval very appropriately. Mr. A. M. Moore as a waiter at the Exhibition has a difficult task in following in Mr. George Barrett's footsteps, but he manages to extract plenty of mirth from the part; as Joseph, the "silent" waiter, Mr. William Amery cuts a very droll figure; Miss Florence Lee is a very prepossessing Millie Mostyn, and her demure rendering of "The Vicar's Eldest Daughter" gives much point to the song; Mr. Frederick Park is always amusing and energetic as the office boy, Adolphus Dudds, most of his work being in conjunction with Miss Rose Helene, who plays Susie very brightly, and the "Kate Greenaway" duet by these two easily remains a favourite item. Miss Doris Langdon is a chic and vivacious Ninette, and Lady Willoughby is admirably delineated by Miss Winifred Knightly. Mr. Geoffrey Allsop is excellent as the commissionaire, Rudolph, and is, besides, responsible for the production and stage management of the piece, the very efficient chorus and augmented orchestra being under the able direction of Mr. George M. Saker.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.

On Monday, May 13, Pinero's Play,
"HIS HOUSE IN ORDER."

"The best play of the year" has proved to be the best play of Mr. J. Bannister Howard's present season, which is now drawing to a close, and Mr. George Alexander's company gave an admirable rendering of Mr. Pinero's great work. Mr. Frank Fenton never allowed the interest to flag in the all-pervading part of Hilary Jesson, and excelled especially in the long speeches. Mr. Cyril Harcourt as Filmer Jesson, M.P., afforded an excellent contrast to his brother's more tolerant attitude to human weakness; the pompous rectitude of Sir Daniel Ridgely was excellently delineated by Mr. George Fitzgerald; and he was ably supported by Mrs. Kemmis as Lady Ridgely and Mr. George Silver as the priggish Pryce Ridgely. Major Maurewarde was cleverly acted by Mr. Lloyd Lowndes, whose dramatic skill was sufficient to remove the unpleasant flavour of deceit attaching to the betrayer of a friend's honour. Miss Henrietta Leverett was good as Geraldine Ridgely, playing the part with mordant precision; and little Miss Moyna Hill made a distinct success in her rendering of the child Derek, her boyish appearance and demeanour being most convincing. As Nina, Miss Auriol Lee divided the honours of the evening with Mr. Frank Fenton, her impersonation of the much-tried wife being excellent. She received a demonstration of approval at the end of the second act which temporarily interrupted the action of the piece. Miss Lilli Kehr as Mlle. Thomé, the governess of Derek, was very much at home in the part, her accent and appearance being all that could be desired; Dr. Dilnott, the provincial Mayor, was a clever little sketch in the hands of Mr. A. E. Benedict; Mr. Reginald Besant was a gentlemanly secretary and factotum; and Mr. Cyril Cattley was earnest as Forshaw, a newspaper representative in search of "copy." The company, it may be added, carries all its own scenery, and many pieces of valuable and appropriate furniture are included in its equipment.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, May 13, the Drama, entitled
"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."

Good audiences have been flocking to the Crown during the present week to witness the favourite drama, *The Worst Woman in London*. Mr. Tom H. Taylor's company gives a rendering of the unconventional and exciting play, which is in every respect thoroughly enjoyable. Miss Olga Audre is fortunately at hand to play the leading rôle of the fascinating adventuress, Frances Vere, the part with which her name has so long been associated. Needless to say that Miss Audre's impersonation, thrilling in its realism, fascinating in its softer moments, and ripened by time, is one that it would be difficult to beat. Mr. George Gaisford makes a spirited young hero as Jack Felton, and Mr. Paul Barry-Lewers is seen to much advantage as the unscrupulous Vincent Lyle; Mr. F. Vernon Travers is a handsome and aristocratic James Milford; and Bob Goldfinch, in the capable hands of Mr. Willie, is a most amusing creation. Miss Polly Marsh causes roars of laughter as the irrepressible Matilda Parker, who is determined to win a husband. Miss Elizabeth Watkins is pathetic as Ruth Milford; Mr. Leonard Booker successfully supplies a grim character-sketch as the ruined gambler, Philip Armstrong. The remaining characters in a long cast are all adequately acted. The scenery and effects are excellent, especially worthy of mention being the escape of Ruth Milford across the telephone wire in the last act. Mr. F. Vernon Travers is the general-manager for the company.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, May 13, the Drama, entitled
"HER LOVE AGAINST THE WORLD."

Messrs. W. H. Hallatt and Walter Howard's principal company is here this week in the current Lyceum success, *Her Love Against the World*. The company has been well chosen, all of the numerous characters receiving able treatment. Mr. Walter Howard is a perfectly convincing hero in the character of Eric Earl of Strathmere, and he is capitally supported by Miss Rossie St. John, a talented actress, as Neilo, his brother. The character of the brutal Ulric, Prince of Ravensburg, is successfully portrayed by Mr. Mayor Cooke, who makes all his points tell. Mr. W. H. Hallatt gives a capital study of the generous-hearted Prince Othmar, and Messrs. Alec Alexander and Richard Webb make the most of the characters of Prince Maurice of Saxonia and General Gessler. Sergeant Kasper finds an able representative in Mr. Arthur J. Moss, and Mr. Curtis Groves is a jovial Surgeon-Captain Helgar. The rather unthankful part of Shulah Countess of Rassellyn is undertaken by Miss Blanche Steele, who makes the most of the few opportunities afforded her; and Miss Ellen Snow is a charming and sympathetic Iris, Princess of Idalia, her emotional scenes being natural and realistic. The comic relief is supplied by Messrs. H. B. Lewis and W. Passmore in the characters of Heinrick and Fritz Pimpernickle. Mention must be made of the excellent way in which the drama is staged, the first scene in the third act, viz., Headquarters of Prince Maurice, being a striking representation.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, May 13, the Drama
"THE LITTLE BREAD WINNER."

A capital attraction is provided this week for the numerous patrons of Mrs. Ellis-Fredericks' popular melodrama theatre by the engagement of Mr. J. A. Campbell's company in *The Little Bread Winner*, and on Monday night the large audience present followed the interesting story with rapt attention. Mr. Eugene Santley plays in dignified and convincing style as Lord William Dorington, and Mr. Matthew Boulton acts with all the necessary virility and fervour as his adopted son, Richard. Mr. Alfred Maurice submits an intense an incisive portraiture of Joseph Prior, who is made a cringing schemer of the Uriah Heep type, and the frequent execrations hurled at him from the gallery are eloquent testimony to his ability. Mr. Stanley Leedham makes a jovial and amusing Charles Prior, and Mr. Wallace Carey is an impressive Doctor Chadwick. Miss Emil Leslie plays with much charm and expression as Margaret Daventry, and enlists the sympathies of the audience throughout; Miss Nellie Thorne-Hallam portrays Kate Cherry very skilfully; and Ruth Cherry is smartly enacted by Miss Kitty Melville. Bridget O'Flanagan has a natural representative in Miss Jenny Bostock; and Miss Nellie King makes an alert Bobby Trott. Little Emmie Thomas as Meg, the Little Bread-Winner, is a very clever and versatile young maiden, and shows considerable promise.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, May 13, the Drama, entitled
"THE LITTLE VAGRANT."

Members of Mr. Harry Roxbury's company are greatly interesting Dalston audiences this week with representations of the domestic drama, by Fred Moule and E. W. Avery, entitled *A Little Vagrant*. Two of the most prominent characters in the cast are Jim Harris, proprietor of The Fly Club, and Poll, who is described as "a daughter of sorrow." The latter part is sustained by Miss Vashti Wynne in a way which causes the audience to become greatly interested in the various phases of her career, and that she enlists sympathy is proved by the hearty applause accorded. The Jim Harris of Mr. Cecil A. Collins is an embodiment full of individuality, and also has some acceptable touches of quaint humour. Mr. J. W. Gallager as Slideaway Bates, one of Jim's gang, has his amusing points; and Snatcher, another of the gang, is played by Mr. Douglas Campbell. Thomas Whitworth finds a suitable representative in Mr. Richard Bosco, who acts with much care; and Mr. Brian Henry, Miss Bella Moody, and Miss Caroline Fenton represent some of Mr. Whitworth's servants, who play rather prominent parts in the story. Arthur, the little vagrant, is represented by Miss Alice Bowes; and the vagrant's half-brother, Eric Arden, is portrayed in interesting style by Mr. Stanley Radcliffe, who is also stage-manager. Mr. Ernest Ralston, as Signor Pascall, a musician; and Mr. J. L. McWilliam as a policeman complete the cast.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, May 13, the Drama, entitled
"LIGHTS OUT."

Kennington is especially favoured this week with a visit from one of the best of companies in the thrilling drama, *Lights Out*. The difficult part of Klara Volkhardt was entrusted to Miss Frances Davie, who displayed admirable tact and ability in dealing with it. Mr. Arthur Stone as Captain Von B. Bannewitz was particularly good, and bore himself in fine soldierly style, as also did Sergeant Volkhardt, the regimental veteran, a part happily entrusted to Mr. Wilton Reed. Mr. Charles Esdale embodies Lieutenant Von Lauffen with skill; and Mr. Kenneth Brampton in the character of Lauffen's friend and confidant, Lieutenant Von Howen, was equally good. Mr. George Hanbury was extremely funny as Major Paschke, of the 18th Alsatian Artillery; Capt. Febdenburg, of the 10th Palatinate Cuirassiers, as presented by Mr. Lambert Plummer, was particularly fine, especially in the Court Martial scene; Corporal Helbig, by Mr. Richard Fielding, was powerfully enacted; and Messrs. Francis J. Bithell and Mr. F. Higton evoked considerable mirth by their quaintness; while Mr. Frederick Clifton as Private Michael was irresistibly droll. The rôles of Lieut. Hagemeister, of the 186th Infantry, the Doctor, and the Orderly, were ably enacted by Messrs. W. Victor, Alex Housemans, and J. Lister; while Messrs. Strickland and Hemming as members of the Court Martial are also worthy of mention.

GRAND THEATRE, ISLINGTON.

On Monday, May 13, the Drama, entitled
"SCALES OF JUSTICE."

Good business continues to be the rule here in spite of outdoor attractions, and Monday found a capital audience assembled to witness the performance of the above drama. The plot is similar to *Proof* so far as the main incident is concerned, and much skill has been shown in weaving an interesting story round it. An experienced company has been engaged for the production, which embraces many old favourites, and warm praise must be accorded their joint efforts. Mr. George Mitchell as Captain Duncan acted with dignity and effect, and gave a very good performance. Mr. Jack Denton as Tom Duncan was buoyant and manly, and made a very good impression; Mr. Ernest E. Norris as Harry Maxwell again submitted a character-study of great value. Mr. Norris has done some very good work here, and his latest effort in quite as excellent. Mr. Will Corrie as the Bos'un played a comedy part with all his old success, and found a valuable ally in Miss Kate Carter. Mr. G. H. Asquin as Tony gave another of his humorous performances, which appeared to be quite to the taste of the audience. Mr. Douglas Bruce as Antonio Cordova gave a portrayal of that highly unpleasant individual that is entitled to warm commendation, his make-up being good. Mr. Harold Wayne as Mendoza was good; and Mr. H. N. Grimson as Hartwright gave a neat character-study of the warder. Miss Grace Lester as Inez gave a powerful reading of great value to the production. Little Elsie Jezzard as Jennie was natural, and is to be praised for a promising performance. Miss Ethel Bracewell in the dual rôle of the wife and the daughter gave a sympathetic touch to her portrayal, and is altogether to be congratulated on artistic labours of value to the production. The scenery and mounting leave nothing to be desired. Mr. Gallagher is very courteous in the discharge of his duties in the front of the house; and Mr. Gliddon's orchestra still remains a feature of the evening.

THE PAVILION.

On Monday, May 13, the Drama, by S. Feinman, entitled
"THE LIFE IN NEW YORK."

Although one of the leading incidents familiarised in *East Lynne* is found in Mr. S. Feinman's play, *The Life in New York*, yet the author has constructed an effective and interesting story, in which the dramatic fibre is strong and fresh in tone, and on account of its domestic simplicity, appeals thoroughly to a popular audience. The clever Jewish Operatic and Dramatic Company, whose present engagement at the Pavilion is rapidly drawing to a close, give a highly finished rendering of the drama, which is well staged and mounted. Mme. J. Kayzer is an accomplished actress who is able as Klara Feien to display all the varying phases of her art, while her poignant and emotional scenes, particularly those with her children, are depicted with intensity and strength. Mr. M. Gusofsky proved himself fully capable of sustaining the part of Dr. Feien, which was well conceived and portrayed with vigour; while the Gustaff of Mr. N. Hamburger was elaborated to good purpose. Mme. Josephson puts plenty of life and vivacity into her acting as Jane; and Lizzah is earnestly delineated by Miss Lubritski. Mr. J. Scherman scores a hit, and his performance of the sport, Schpitzman, is decidedly droll, and causes much laughter; while his song and eccentric dancing win for him an enthusiastic recall. The character of the teacher, Goothertz, by Mr. S. Feinman had been carefully studied both in make-up and acting, and his exposition is full of by-play which, to a large extent, is very successful. Miss R. Bryh is all that can be desired as Sophia; and Mme. Goldstein represents a patient. During the week *Woman Against Woman*, *The Jewish Priest*, *Shulamith*, and *The Wild Man* have been played.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, May 13, the Comedy, by H. V. Esmond,
"WHEN WE WERE TWENTY-ONE."

This delightful and refreshing production, permeated as it is with a wholesome sentiment, has attracted good audiences to the cosy little riverside playhouse, notwithstanding the lengthening days and the allurement of the river. The play is presented by a most capable company. Mr. Riddell Robinson gives a fine picture of the sympathetic Richard Carewe; and Miss Dorothy Cacey, who, as Kara Glenesk, shows that she possesses histrionic gifts of a high order. A pretty and graceful impersonation of Phyllis comes from Miss Mildred Hodson; and Miss Susie Oak makes a successful appearance as Babette. Good work is also put in by Mr. Gerald Henson as The Imp; and by the Misses Ainslie and Preddy, and Messrs. Edgar Coyne, Frank Powell, L. Rutledge, Loris Lorell, F. Moorgate, and A. E. Coleby, in the various parts allotted to them. The comedy, which occupies the boards for the week, is admirably mounted in every particular.

PRINCE'S, POPLAR.

On Monday, May 13, the American Comedy-Drama, entitled
"HEARTS ADRIFT."

Hearts Adrift is a drama in which the dialogue is good, the situations thrilling and exciting, while it is judiciously sandwiched with scenes of broad comedy and picturesque sentiment. Since its production at Birmingham in February, 1905, it has met with striking success, and on Monday was received at Poplar by a large house with unqualified approval. Mr. Frank Bertram has got together a strong company, who give an excellent interpretation of the piece, while the mounting and scenery are in every way satisfactory. Mr. Henry Bedford is capitally cast as Captain Teddy, and furnishes a vivid picture of a man with a past, being fresh and breezy in the opening, and displaying impressive realism in the condemned cell. Mr. Cecil Klein is admirably suited as Robert Darney, a part that he portrays in an easy and at the same time effective manner; and Mr. William Taversham as the inventor, Pidgeon, presents a neat and clever study of a difficult part. Mr. Fred Terriss, who enacts the villain, Edmund Gerue, well earns the execrations of his audience; Mr. R. Gwyn-Richardson appears successfully as John Lane; while every praise is due to Miss Irene Ross for her depiction of the little crippled Tim. Miss Nellie Clyde wins golden opinions, and brings an attractive personality to bear on her impersonation of Rosie, playing with charming persuasiveness and sympathy; and Miss Marion Walker supplies a striking and consistent sketch of Mother Hagslow. The abhorrent qualities of the designing Julia Lane are brought out with great skill by Miss Gertrude Harrison; and Mr. Brian Daly is a witty and amusing Simeon Green. Miss Beatrix A. Bell is seen to advantage as the energetic and forcible Bowery girl, Energy Mugs; and Mr. William Gomer is a capable Sam Redway. The remaining characters are well handled by Messrs. Harry Glover, Henry Loney, John Ward, William Smith, and Miss Kitty Kirwan.

THE STANDARD.

On Monday, May 13, the Play, by Herbert Keith and J. T. Tanner,
"THE BROKEN MELODY."

The return visit of Mr. Auguste Van Biene to the Standard has met with distinct approval, and the performance of the well-known play, *The Broken Melody*, is this week proving a decided draw. In spite of the number of years this piece has been before the public, it appears to retain its great popularity, and on Monday the reception accorded to it was indeed gratifying. Every praise is due to Mr. Van Biene for his excellent portrayal of Paul Borinski. His acting shows the result of careful study, and his style and manner of speech are particularly pleasing. During the evening he plays his 'cello in a masterly fashion. A character of considerable interest is General Ivanoff, to whom due prominence is given by Mr. Henry Ludlow. A capital embodiment of Mr. Dickson is supplied by Mr. Henry Bute; and Mr. Dudley Stuart does all that is possible as Beaujour. Mr. Herbert Colley is an amusing Mortimer; and Mr. Archie Selwyn is well placed as the Hon. Richard Spinnaker; Mr. W. Thomson is particularly good as Dr. Magrath; and Miss Rosemary Rees, who is well known here, undertakes in an able manner the rôle of the Duchesse de Verviers. Miss Kate Robberds is well placed as Mrs. Dickson; and Miss R. Pulleyne plays satisfactorily as the Hon. Mrs. Spinnaker. A charming portrayal of Mabel Borinski is supplied by Miss Sylvia Morris, who enacts the part with much feeling. *The Broken Melody* is preceded each evening by the comedietta entitled *An Awkward Dilemma*, which is ably represented by Mr. Archie Selwyn as Mr. Flipper and Mr. Herbert Colley as Mr. Nobbler.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

The Play, entitled
"SAPHO."

Sapho is paying a visit to Brixton this week, and large crowds have been flocking to see, as the bills say, "Parisian life as it really is." Mr. Ernest R. Abbott and a very capable company give a clever rendering of the stage version of Daudet's famous novel. Miss Ada Abbott is seen in the title-rôle, and does well in this difficult and exacting part, giving a forcible delineation of the character; Mr. Ernest R. Abbott as Jean Gaussin, the young provincial, who falls in her toils, plays with much spirit, and in scenes of love, jealousy, and hatred is equally successful; Uncle Césaire is capitally impersonated by Mr. Douglas C. Phelps, his performance of Jean's gay old uncle being an outstanding feature of the performance; Mr. Weedon Ross scores a success as old Legrand, and raises much laughter; Mr. Charles Tring as Flamant, Mr. John Lester as Caoudal, and Mr. W. H. Garbois as Henri Dechelette all do good work. The turbulent child Joseph is played with much spirit by Miss Hetty Jones; Miss Louise Gilmore as Aunt Divonne, in a somewhat strange costume, is successful; Hettema and Mme. Hettema are capitally portrayed by Mr. W. H. Davis-Brown and Miss Marjorie Tennant; Miss Dorris Dent acquits herself with much credit as Lucy. Mr. Philip Layton is acting-manager and Mr. W. H. Davis-Brown stage-manager for Mr. Ernest R. Abbott.

BROADWAY THEATRE, S.E.

On Monday, May 13, the Comic Opera, entitled
"LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE."

Mr. E. St. Alban's company is appearing here in the evergreen comic opera *Les Cloches de Corneville*, and the pretty story and delightful music are as attractive as ever. Mr. St. Alban plays the part of the miser Gaspard cleverly, and with an evident understanding of the character. Mr. William Everard looks well, sings well, and acts well as the Marquis, and keeps the interest in the story alive throughout. Mr. Charles Ross is very good indeed as Grenicheux; Mr. Fred Dark is an amusing Bailie; and Mr. Richard Martin is excellent as Gobo. Miss Marion Ayling is an attractive and sweet-voiced Germaine; Miss Nellie May is a bright and pleasing Christophe; and Miss Madge Roberts sings delightfully as Serpolette, and invests the character with irresistible charm. Miss E. Lawton as Gertrude, Miss E. Humphries as Jeannie, Miss F. Mears as Hanette, Miss F. Wellbourne as Susane, Miss W. Kirby as Catherine, and Miss M. Yorke as Marie, all look very pretty and sing tunefully. The large and well-trained chorus is judiciously chosen, the orchestra is under the skilful direction of Chevalier Legrand, the dresses are handsome and costly, and the entire production is looked after by Mr. E. St. Alban.

MR. EDITOR,—SIR,— In your notice of the performance of *Lady Selina of K* at the County Theatre, Kingston, you state that Mr. Claude B. Yearsley was the sole composer of the music. I beg to inform you that I am part-composer of the song "Love, oh Love," and the duet "Surely setting here together," am also the composer of "The captain of the schooner," "Come o'er the sea," and the trio, "The love-lorn professor."—Yours faithfully, HENRY WARREN, Hicks'-Theatre, Shaftesbury-avenue, W., May 13, 1907.

THE ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

The usual weekly meeting of the Council of the Actors' Association was held on Tuesday, when there were present Mr. Kenyon Musgrave (in the chair), Mr. Henry W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Mr. Henry Warburton (standing counsel), Mesdames Clare, Greet, and Georgina Hamilton, and Messrs. C. F. Collings, H. Athol Forde, Fredk. Morland, and Chas. Cruikshanks (sec.). The hon. solicitors reported they had written letters on behalf of two members and had interviewed and advised two others.

Reference was made to a letter received from a member *re* a suggested clause in a certain contract, whereby the actor agrees to the manager deducting 10s. in the course of a tour from the actor's salary to meet the cost of insurance by the manager against claims, if any, under the Employers' Liability Act. This was, in the opinion of the hon. solicitors, not equitable, and they expressed their willingness to write their opinion on the subject if an agreement containing such a clause were sent to them.

With reference to the proposed alterations of the Articles of Association, the hon. solicitors expressed the opinion that "if the resolution is confirmed as to reducing the number of the Council to twenty-five, the present Council would remain in office until the next annual meeting, when the twenty-five members would be elected, the nomination being given in accordance with the proposed fresh article."

The report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee was given by Mr. Acton Bond, who attended the Council meeting for that purpose and then retired. The various rules, together with the report, were accepted and adopted upon the proposition of Mr. Athol Forde, seconded by Mr. Fredk. Morland.

The Chairman read a letter from Miss Italia Conti, dated May 14, 1907, together with a letter from Miss Conti which appeared in *The Era*. The secretary was directed to acknowledge the receipt of the letter, and to state that the Council would give it their fullest consideration.

The secretary reported that there were twenty-nine vacancies on the Council, the president, nine of the vice-presidents, and nineteen of the ordinary members of the Council having resigned. The resignations were as follows:—Sir Squire Bancroft (president), Messrs. George Alexander, F. R. Benson, Arthur Bourchier, John Hare, H. B. Irving, Cyril Maude, Edward Terry, H. Beerbohm Tree, and Sir Charles Wyndham (vice-presidents), Mr. C. Aubrey Smith (chairman of the Council), Mr. A. E. Drinkwater (deputy-chairman of the Council), Mr. Acton Bond (chairman of the Finance and General Purposes Committee), Mesdames Carlotta Addison, Kate Bishop, Fanny Brough, Maud Milton, and Kate Phillips, Messrs. Cecil Barth, J. Cooke Beresford, Clarence Blakiston, Burton Cooke, C. Hayden Coffin, Thalberg Corbett, William Devereux, Alfred Kendrick, Algernon Syms, Brandon Thomas, and Fredk. Volpe. Mr. Henry Warburton also resigned his position as hon. standing counsel to the Actors' Association.

Mr. Rich. Waldon, of the Princess Theatre, Glasgow, having resigned, his resignation was accepted.

It was proposed by Mr. Fredk. Morland, seconded by Mr. H. Athol Forde, and agreed, that the resignations of the president and the vice-presidents be accepted with extreme regret, and that they be cordially thanked for their kindness in the past. The same gentlemen moved that the resignations of the ordinary members of the Council be accepted, and they be thanked for their valuable services. They also proposed that the resignation of Mr. Henry Warburton be accepted with the deepest regret, and that he be accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his services in the past. Both resolutions were agreed to. Mr. Henry Warburton acknowledged the vote.

The secretary was directed to issue a "Whip" for Tuesday week to consider the "filling of vacancies."

Dr. Reginald Hayes, of 93, Cornwall-gardens, Queen's Gate, S.W., and Dr. D'Arcy Hamilton, of 239, Fawcett-road, Southsea, were elected hon. medical officers to the A.A.

The secretary gave a report of the proceedings of the ninth bi-monthly meeting, and stated that it was attended by three ladies and one gentleman, making, with himself, an assemblage of five.

Upon the proposition of Mr. Fredk. Morland, seconded by Mr. H. Athol Forde, it was agreed that the Agency should not provide artists for "walking on."

It was agreed that the offices should be closed on Whit-Monday next, but that a Council meeting should be held on Tuesday next.

The secretary, having reported that seven out of the twelve members of the Finance and General Purposes Committee had resigned, was instructed to issue a "Whip" for 5.30 next Tuesday to elect their successors.

The Suggestion Book was considered and an entry made. It was agreed that a question raised by Miss Rose Mathews in the Suggestion Book be referred to the Social Committee, who should be asked to try and arrange that none of their meetings should take place in the same week as the bi-monthly meeting. It was decided that the question be also referred to the Finance and General Purposes Committee and to the Commissioners' Committee for suggestions as to the method of increasing interest in the bi-monthly meetings.

The secretary suggested, and it was agreed, that the minutes of the Council and of the Finance and General Purposes Committees as drawn by him be submitted the following day after the meeting to someone appointed by the Council, who should strike out those portions which he considered could not be published.

The meeting lasted from 2.30 to 5.30 p.m.

The following resolution, passed at the last meeting of the Council, was omitted from the report of last week's proceedings in *The Era*: "That it be a by-law of Council proceedings, that no communication concerning any proceedings of the Council shall be made to the Press except by the secretary or by direct instruction of the Council."

Lucie Milner was nominated for election to the A.A., and six former members were reinstated.

The Finance and General Purposes Committee held a meeting on Monday last, when there were present Messrs. Acton Bond (chairman), J. Cooke Beresford, Lewis Casson, William Devereux, H. Athol Forde, and Chas. Cruikshanks (sec.).

Miss Rose Mathews attended, and there was a lengthy discussion as to the proposed library rules and also as to the general working of the scheme, and the names of Miss Rose Mathews, Miss Winifred Mayo, and Miss Sybil Ruskin, and Messrs. Laurence Irving, Lewis Casson, and Robert Castleton were submitted as members to be appointed as a Library Committee to be formed, and it was recommended that the title of the "Social and Library" Committee be altered to the "Social" Committee. It was also agreed that, instead of Rule 2—"The librarians should be invited to attend the Finance and General Purposes Committee to give information upon disbursements and all other matters concerning the library on being discussed"—as settled at the last meeting of this committee, the following be submitted to the Council for approval:—"The librarians shall attend the Finance and General Purposes Committee to give particulars as to proposed disbursements."

The consideration of the matinée performance was postponed.

The meeting of this committee lasted from 11.30 to 1.40.

A.A. REFORM PARTY.

Mr. Kenyon Musgrave presided at a meeting of the Reform Party of the Actors' Association at 3, Bedford-street, Strand, last Sunday, amongst those present were Misses Edith Wynne Matthison, Rose Mathews, Rosamund Mayne Young, Barbara Fenn, Clare Greet, Georgina Hamilton, Lilian Tweed, Joan Pereira, Marion J. Bird, Florence Harcourt, Vere Gerald, Nellie Clyde, Agnes Thomas, Evelyn Raymond, Winifred Mayo, Beatrice Chester, and Sydney Keith; Messrs. Lewis Casson, Alfred Harding, Arthur Applin, Charles F. Collings, Frederick Morland, Frederick Jacques, F. Topham, Stanley Roberts, Clive Currie, Athol Forde, W. Hubert, and C. C. Gibbon.

Mr. Frederick Morland proposed that a committee of twelve should be formed, consisting of six members of the Council and six non-members. He suggested also the election of two secretaries, one to be a councillor and the other a non-councillor.

It was suggested that one secretary would meet all requirements, and the Chairman submitted the following resolution, which was carried unanimously:—

That the members of the Reform Party be enrolled; that the committee should consist of twelve, six to be members of the Council and six to be non-members of the Council; that the committee be elected annually; and that one secretary be elected.

Mr. Lewis Casson proposed that the committee should draw up a programme, recommending that it should embrace (1) the exclusion of managers, (2) the minimum wage, (3) the financial reform of the Association, and (4) the publication of Council proceedings. He said the Association had depended too long upon the charity of the managers, and that if it could not be made self-supporting it was time it came to an end. Publicity should be given to all Council proceedings.

Mr. Charles F. Collings seconded Mr. Casson's motion.

A resolution that the Association should consider the possibility of establishing provincial centres, or organise and promote provincial meetings, was carried unanimously.

The following six non-Council members of the Committee were then elected:—Miss Rose Mathews, Miss Rosamund Mayne Young, Mr. F. Topham, Mr. Arthur Applin, Mr. Alfred Harding, and Mr. Roy Horniman.

Mr. Arthur Applin moved: "That this meeting protests with indignation against the recent bye-law passed by the Council with regard to communications to the Press." This was carried with one dissentient vote.

THE FUTURE OF THE A.A.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—May I venture in your columns to appeal to those 800 odd members of the A.A. who did not take the trouble to record their vote, or to express any opinion at the important meeting of May 6 last?

If the Actors' Association is allowed to collapse because of the apathy of its members, it will be a lasting disgrace to our profession. I am sorry the old Councillors who have worked so well for us in the past should have seen fit to resign at this crisis in our affairs, just because their views are the views of a minority.

Cannot we sink our personal feeling, and try and find some scheme which will meet the views of the old and new party in the A.A., and which would leave our Association still the representative body of our profession, and yet assure the actor a Council in which his point of view is considered, and his interests are protected? This can be done by two forms of membership and two councils—the General Council and the Actors' Council. I feel sure our actor-managers would meet us in every way possible. We must stand shoulder to shoulder, and work for the common good if we are to pull through. What a tremendous piece of irony it will be for actors to raise a memorial to Sir Henry Irving, and at the same time to let collapse the Association that he loved, and to whom he sent his last public message of goodwill.

Yours faithfully,
ITALIA CONTI.

A.A. SOCIAL.

Mr. George Bernard Shaw addressed a large gathering of members of the Actors' Association on the subject of "Economics for Actors" on Friday last week. Mr. Cecil Raleigh presided.

Mr. Shaw pointed out that actors had to consider not only the value of their talents, but the value of their parts. A man might be engaged for a part who was a perfectly presentable actor, but was not a special attraction, and his name in the cast would not make any difference in the number of people going to the theatre. They might pay that man a certain salary, and he would probably not be worth more to the management. On the other hand, there was the actor that the people went to see. If he brought another twenty pounds to the house it was worth the manager's while to give him an additional £19; but if that actor demanded £20, the manager would be perfectly justified in saying, "Well, if you want £20 there will be no advantage to me in engaging you." There was one unfortunate thing in their profession. In every other profession a man had a "rent" for some excellence that he enjoyed. In their profession a man might get a rent for his defects. Those who were acquainted with the music-hall profession knew that it was possible to get an exceptional salary because a man possessed something of the nature of a physical deformity. And sometimes an actor or an actress would do something on the stage that nobody else would do. It was desirable that the theatrical profession should be a very strongly organised one. There were no barriers at the doors of the profession as there were at the doors of other professions. No man could get into the Church unless he persuaded the bishop of his personal fitness; in the medical profession examinations were necessary, and a similar state of things ruled one's admission to the bar. In their profession, however, no examination was necessary, and some got into it because they were not qualified for any profession in the world. In France there was a society of authors and composers, and no one could have a play performed without the consent of that society. That made the French author a very much respected person. There was another side to the question. Most people would not do work unless they were paid for it. The theatrical profession was an exception to that. The only remedy lay in organising in such a way as to checkmate the unpaid actors, or amateurs. If the latter had real talent they would be paid. Fortunately, it was not possible to get a play performed in London unless there was some little talent on the part of some of the cast. If the members of a company playing in one of his (Mr. Shaw's) plays told him that there was a single member of the cast playing for nothing he would immediately withdraw his play. Authors should insist in their agreements with managers that no unpaid actors should be engaged to perform their plays. But actors and actresses should immediately organise their own profession. If an actor was a member of a union he could go to a manager and say, "Well, I am perfectly helpless. The rules of my profession will not permit me to do this." In saying that the actor would be speaking in an impersonal manner. There should be a definite agreement not only as to a minimum wage, but also as to hours of employment."

Mr. Cecil Raleigh, in proposing a vote of thanks to Mr. Shaw, urged the meeting to combine for their own protection. They should not be afraid of the term "trade union."

DEATH OF MR. HENRY DUNDAS.

We regret to record the death of Mr. Henry Dundas, manager of the Leicester Opera House, which occurred suddenly on Monday morning at his apartments, 1, Pelham-street, Leicester. Mr. Dundas, who was apparently in good health and the best of spirits, dined only a few hours before his death with Mr. Edmund Tearle, after which he took a short stroll before going home to supper. Seemingly, something which he took at this meal disagreed with him, for early on Monday morning he complained of feeling unwell, and was afterwards found dead in his bedroom.

Mr. Dundas, who had been manager of the Leicester Opera House ever since Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton became proprietors of it, was well-known in the theatrical world, both as manager and actor. He commenced his career in the theatrical calling in 1878, in a small company, touring Devonshire and Cornwall, under the management of Mr. James Davis. He next entered on a stock season at Yarmouth, and then joined the late James Elphinstone at Douglas, Isle of Man. A season followed at the Queen's, Dublin, where he had the pleasure of meeting as brother actors J. B. Mulholland and Edward Sass. After this came a tour with Osmond Tearle, till that gentleman went to America and made his great success; a stock season at West Hartlepool, and two tours with Mr. John Dewhurst, playing juvenile business. He was then engaged by the late Wm. Sidney for the productions at the Court, Liverpool, under the Bain-

THE LATE MR. HENRY DUNDAS.

bridge management, after which he had several tours with Mr. John Coleman, playing juvenile lead in his répertoire. Mr. Dundas had several seasons with the late Andrew Melville at Swansea, Bristol, Cardiff, Newport, and Birmingham. He was engaged by Miss Sarah Thorne for lead at Margate, and managed some of that lady's pantomime tours, and he was then engaged by Mr. John Douglass to play lead and to stage-manage in the Standard drama *Glad Tidings*. About eighteen years ago he commenced his managerial career with some members of the profession, who subsequently became famous, including Miss Janet Achurch. They played a répertoire, and, fortunately, *The New Magdalen* formed one of the attractions. It was so successful that Mr. Dundas continued playing it for two years, himself enacting the rôle of Julian Gray, with which his name became identified in the provinces. *Confusion* being in the market, Mr. Dundas took the famous Vaudeville farcical comedy on tour, and was very successful as Mortimer Mumpleford. Later, he purchased Miss Fannie Leslie's production of *Jack in the Box*, and ran the play for over two years, playing Toroni, the Italian organ-grinder, a part which suited his robust style very well. Subsequently, Mr. Dundas took over the lease of the Reading theatre. During his management there Sir Augustus Harris sent *Human Nature* to the biscuit city, it being the end of the tour. The Drury Lane manager intended to let the play, but Mr. Dundas induced Harris to allow him to continue touring it. Mr. Dundas successfully toured the play for over nine years, himself taking the part of Captain Temple. In consequence of the success of this piece Mr. Dundas became closely associated with Sir Augustus Harris in connection with the touring of the Drury Lane dramas, *A Life of Pleasure*, *The Derby Winner*, *Cheer, Boys, Cheer*; also the Lane pantomime at the Court, Liverpool, and Theatre Royal, Birmingham. Thirteen years ago the Reading theatre was destroyed by fire, and as Mr. Dundas was unable to rebuild in consequence of the site being condemned, he purchased the playhouse at Leamington Spa, from which, for a time, he directed his speculations, and which was taken over by Messrs. Bode and Compton. In 1889 he produced a version of *East Lynne*, in which he appeared as Archibald Carlyle, with Miss Maud Elmore as Lady Isabel, many hundreds of times in London, suburban, and provincial theatres.

An inquest was held on Tuesday evening at Trinity Schools, Leicester, before the Borough Coroner (Mr. E. G. B. Fowler), Mr. Milton Bode, among others, being present. Dr. Dodd, who was called in to attend the deceased early on Monday morning, stated that an examination of the body showed that death was due to failure of the heart from a reflex of the pain in the stomach, the heart being weak and degenerated. The deceased had informed him that he had eaten a large amount of cucumber, and the doctor was of opinion that that was the cause of the pain. The jury returned a verdict of "Death from natural causes."

The funeral took place on Wednesday at Milverton Cemetery, Leamington, whither the body was conveyed from Leicester. The service was conducted by the Rev. H. B. Streatfield, vicar of St. Mark's, Milverton, and the chief mourners were Mrs. Dundas (widow) and the Misses Jessie and Elsie Dundas. Others present included Mr. and Mrs. Neame (Kent), sister and brother-in-law; Mr. C. E. Scutt (Hastings), formerly a manager at the Leamington Theatre; Mr. Harry Hunter (representing Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton); and several members of the local theatre staff and friends of deceased. The coffin was of polished elm, with brass fittings, and bore the following inscription:—

Arthur Harrison Dundas,
Died May 13, 1907.
Aged 48 years.

Many beautiful wreaths were sent. Some of these were:—"In ever-loving memory, from your sorrowing wife," "In loving memory, from Jessie" (sister), "In memory of my dearest father, from Elsie," "In loving memory of dear father at peace" (Jessie, daughter); and from Mr. Milton Bode, Mr. Edward Compton, Mr. St. John Denton, the management and staff of the Theatre Royal, Leamington, the stage staff of the Royal Opera House, Mr. W. Brown, the staff and friends at Royal Opera House, and Mr. C. E. Scutt. The funeral arrangements were in the hands of Messrs. R. Morley and Sons, Leicester.

THE ACTORS' UNION.

LONDON.

Mr. Hamilton Deane presided over the weekly meeting of the Actors' Union, held on Tuesday afternoon at the Bedford Head Hotel. There were present Mr. Cecil Raleigh, Mr. Robson Paige, Mr. Rawson Buckley, Mr. Ruddle Brown, Mr. Arthur Bawtree, Miss Gladys Ffolliott, Miss Nellie Howitt, Mrs. Robson Paige, Mr. Harry Paulton, jun., Miss Joan Pereira, Miss Violet Sims, Miss Italia Conti, Mr. Edgar Wolseley, Miss Marion J. Bird, Miss Beatrice Lloyd, Mr. G. A. Kirby, Mr. Dudley Stuart, Mr. John Coghlan, Mr. Campbell Goldsmid, Mr. W. Tripp Edgar, Mr. Fred Bentley, Mr. Roy Barraclough, Mr. Alfred Bennett, Miss Mary Bessle, Miss Edith Chalmers, Mr. Geo. H. Child, Mr. Arthur Chisholm, Mr. Fred Clive, Mr. Richard Cowell, Miss Beatrice Chester, Miss Elsie Carew, Miss May Conrade, Miss Hylda Denison, Miss Mabel Durrant, Miss Lena Delphini, Mr. T. Arthur Ellis, Mr. Percy Everard, Miss Adelaide Gracey, Mr. Wm. Guilbert, Miss Louise Gourlay, Miss Vere Gerald, Mr. S. Hamilton, Mr. Grahame Herington, Miss Jennie Hardy, Mr. Albert Hayzell, Mr. Frederic Jacques, Mr. J. Carl Lyle, Mr. Hugh Mewburn, Mr. Edward Mervyn, Miss Bella Moody, Mr. H. P. Owen, Mr. Fred Prior, Mr. Gifforde Reynolds, Mr. Alfred Richards, Mr. Stanley Roberts, Mr. Dan F. Roe, Mr. Stanley Radcliffe, Mr. J. W. Ryder, Miss Ethel Russell, Miss Dot Scilby, Mr. W. E. Shine, Mr. Archie Selwyn, Mr. Robin Shields, Miss G. Trewman, Miss Violet Thorold, and Mr. Robert M. Taylor.

Mr. Deane, in opening the proceedings, said that the general working rules of the Union had been drawn up by a body of men who had considered the matter in every particular, and for a provisional arrangement he thought that the objects and the rules were very adequate. It was advisable as a body that they should not split or divide over small clauses that some of them did not agree with. If they agreed as to the general objects of the Union, they should stick to it. The two things they needed most at the moment were big names and half-crowns. If they secured the big people, many of the smaller people would soon come in. They should also put aside the question of individual good in favour of the general welfare. It was desirable that they should be in a position to deal with the small manager who paid salaries that would not be offered to an ironworker. They must demand a salary which was commensurate with an all-the-year-round working. The manager who paid decent salaries was their best friend, and he would recognise that they were his best friends when the Union was in proper working order. The Actors' Union would bring about a general improvement of affairs in the profession, and would eliminate the paying and unpaid amateur and the "rotten manager." It was a strong point that they had no managers in the Union, and now that they were on the road to success they should stick tightly together, hold on, and bring other people into the Union.

Miss Gladys Ffolliott said that the more people who joined the Union, the sooner would be the consummation of their wishes. She would point out that everybody who became a member would be assisted by old-age pension and provident funds. If any member died, his nearest relatives would benefit by the sixpenny levy on every member of the Union. They had all got to get old, and it was very nice to think that they would be able to draw upon a provident fund which they themselves had assisted to accumulate. On another point, if the managers were compelled by the Union to pay a decent wage, the "slum" manager would disappear, and the better managers would benefit by the action of the Union. She could assure them that the provisional committee was determined that the thing should now go through.

Mr. Robson Paige made eulogistic references to what Mr. Deane had done for the Union in bringing in new members in the provinces. Mr. Deane would be holding another meeting at Liverpool next week, and it is hoped that everybody who could would attend. He trusted they would stick together, as the committee had done throughout.

Mr. Campbell Goldsmid remarked that one advantage to be gained by joining the Union would be the raising of their own self-respect. There were young women who all the year round cleaned doorsteps, and at Christmastime appeared in pantomime, who called themselves actresses whenever they got into disgrace. The Union would put a stop to that kind of thing by deciding who was and who was not an actress.

Mr. Oswald Marshall here asked for a couple of volunteers to act as scrutineers of the voting papers, and to meet the solicitor of the Union on Tuesday next. Messrs. Fredk. Prior and Fredk. Jacques offered their services.

Mr. Ruddle Brown stated that he desired to explain what he had on several previous occasions complained about as to the conduct of a certain class of manager. The manager he had referred to was the person who started on a capital of £20 or £30, and who took the first opportunity of pouncing down upon and underselling another manager. The Union would be the means of eliminating this class of individual.

Mr. Cecil Raleigh, after paying a high compliment to Mr. Hamilton Deane for his work in connection with the Actors' Union, said that it was desirable they should make up their minds to what precisely that Union was to be. He understood that an actor was one who earned his living in a licensed theatre. If during the time he was "resting" he chose to be a dentist that was his affair. Suppose that Mr. John le Hay gave a ventriloquial entertainment in a music hall, the Actors' Union could not interfere between him and his manager should any dispute arise. He considered that the Variety Artists' Federation was a wonderful organisation. As to the Actors' Association, the actor-managers were going out at one end and sketch-managers were coming in at the other. It was to be hoped that there would be some combination between the Association and the Union. He would now explain to them his provident scheme. It was this: Wherever a non-copyright play was performed, the manager should pay a fee to a fund which would keep actors in their old age. Putting the matter at the very low rate of 1 per cent., and assuming the receipts were £100 a week, that would mean a contribution to the fund of £1. When they were strong enough, they should insist that every theatre that was open in the United Kingdom should pay £1 a week as a contribution to the Actors' Provident Fund. At a low estimate there would be 250 theatres in the United Kingdom, who would each send £1 a week to the fund. That in the aggregate would mean £10,000 a year to give away in pensions to their deserving poor.

Miss Italia Conti said the Actors' Association gave the actors every opportunity of protecting their interests, if only they would avail themselves of it. The Association could and should be governed by the majority of its members, but in the past it had been governed by the minority. If it had not done in the past everything that the actor could have wished done it was the members' fault, for they had been apathetic. The A.A. had lasted for sixteen years. When the Actors' Union had lasted for that period it would be at liberty to throw stones. The effect of the Actors' Union had been to stir up an interest in the Association among its members. For the two bodies to exist apart meant that they both would be weak. The Reform Party meant work, and if their reforms were carried they—the Reform Party—and the Union would be working to an extent to the same end. Why could they not come together? She asked the meeting to remember that the Association and the Union were both working for the benefit of their calling.

Mr. Arthur Bawtree thought that much good would result if some members of the Reform Party of the Association would meet some members of the Committee of the Actors' Union and discuss how some agreement or combination of interests could be arrived at.

Votes of thanks to Mr. Deane for presiding and to Mr. Raleigh concluded the proceedings. Several new members joined after the meeting.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I should like it clearly understood that the small managers I referred to in my remarks at the Actors' Union meeting at Liverpool were gentlemen who start a company with £10 or £20 and a back-cloth or two and a few broken flats, and drag unfortunate artists about the country (this week, T. R., Slusham-on-Mud; next, "T. R., Off-the-Map"), on the chance of getting decent dates by under-selling better managers. His maximum salary is possibly £2.

I should like to see an Actors' Union composed of actors and actresses, and no actor-managers; a Touring Managers' Association, composed of touring managers only; and a Local Managers' Association composed of local managers, then we could all pull together for the good of the public. Let us have the survival of the fittest, and not the survival of the cheapest.—Yours faithfully,
W. RUDDLE BROWN.

A PLAYHOUSE MATINÉE.

A matinée performance in aid of the endowment of a cot at the Great Ormond-street Hospital for Children was given at the Playhouse on Thursday. Every seat in the house was sold, the programme consisting of many attractive and well-varied items. It opened with Mr. Keble Howard's delightful little play, "Compromising Martha," in which Miss Florence Hayden gave her very natural and humorous portrayal of the old village dame, who is much too artful for the curate and his pretty sweetheart, characters that were very brightly played by Mr. E. W. Tarver and Miss Dagmar Wiehe, Miss Lydia Rachel again successfully appearing as the friendly neighbour. Then, as Miss Phyllis Dare had not arrived, her sister, Miss Zena Dare, appeared in her place, and sang with charming effect Miss Carrie Moore's song from *The Blue Moon*. However, before the final fall of the curtain Miss Phyllis Dare, who had travelled all the way from Exeter to attend the matinée, made her appearance, and gave a delightful rendering of "To-morrow," from *The Belle of Mayfair*. Miss Vera Le Fleming, who is only six years of age, is well described as "the wonder child." She sang "The gay tom-tit," followed by a pretty dance, and she also gave a remarkably clever imitation of Miss Camille Clifford in "Why do they call me a Gibson Girl?" Little Miss Vera met with a big reception. François Coppée's one-act play, *Le Passant*, first produced in 1869, was excellently acted by Miss Rita Jolivet as Sylvia and Miss Aimée Lowther as Zanetto. Miss Kitty Cheatham, who is new to London audiences, did well in a selection of children and negro songs; and then came Mr. Harry Lauder, in his well-known impersonation of "The saftest o' the family"; the audience thoroughly enjoyed the Scotch comedian's humour, and he was recalled again and again. A notable feature of the afternoon's programme was the Screen Scene from *The School for Scandal*, Mr. Cyril Maude repeating his clever portrayal of Sir Peter and Miss Winifred Emery delighting the house by her artistic embodiment of Lady Teazle. Mr. Ben Webster as Joseph and Mr. Fred Terry as Charles were also excellent, both having caught the true spirit of the fine old comedy. Miss Margaret Cooper, who was received with much applause, contributed a couple of her well-rendered ditties, and the performance concluded with Mr. E. F. Benson's rather weird play, *The Friend in the Garden*, which was produced at the Savoy Theatre on March 6, 1906. Mr. Dennis Eadie acted with earnestness and sincerity the part of Jack, and Mr. Athol Stuart was good as Lord Accrington. The friend, "Death," was impressively played by Miss Gertrude Kingston, and Miss Irene Rooke was a vivacious Lady Accrington.

"WHEN KNIGHTS WERE BOLDER."

A New and Original Musical Comedy Fantasy, in One Act, by Messrs. Wimperis, Davenport, and L. Godfrey-Turner, Music Composed and Arranged by Miss Marjorie Slaughter, produced at the Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne, on Monday May 13.

Lady Lavinia Mostyn .....Miss Agnes Fraser
Sir Roland Stone .....Mr. Harry Scott
Reuben Pryer .....Mr. M. R. Morand

In this bright, amusing musical fantasy the writers have combined the humour of the modern, twentieth century policeman with the charm and picturesqueness of a hundred years ago. Into the haunted chamber of an old manor house comes at midnight a modern policeman, in search of a gang of coiners. In the room are two large, ancient oil-paintings, one of a Lady Lavinia and the other of Sir Roland Stone. Midnight chimes, and the lady walks out of her picture and converses freely with the policeman. She tells him of her love for Sir Roland—she relates the incident of their unsuccessful attempt to elope, she describes her knight as being cast in a noble "mould," and as a man of "metal," and Reuben Pryer, the policeman, feels sure he is on the track of the coiners. Sir Roland now steps out of the other picture, and, finding the policeman dancing a minuet with Lady Lavinia, challenges him to a duel with a pair of huge pistols. The policeman, terribly frightened, makes all kinds of excuses to avoid the encounter, and to his appeal for help there is no response from his companions outside, and he is reluctantly compelled to proceed with the duel. The fatal shots are about to be fired, when one o'clock strikes—the hour the lovers are compelled to return to their frames and canvas. Reuben Pryer now realises to his horror that he has been talking to a couple of ghosts, and his companions rush in to find him half-fainting from fright at his unusual experience. The music is both pretty and appropriate. The introduction cleverly suggests the weird surroundings, the policeman has a very amusing song, "Little Boy Blue," and the duet between Lady Lavinia and Reuben is delightfully pretty, quaint, and novel. Miss Agnes Fraser, very graceful and charming, was an ideal Lady Lavinia, singing and acting in a truly delightful manner. Too much praise cannot be given to Mr. M. R. Morand for his genuinely funny and clever work as Reuben Pryer; while Mr. Harry Scott was a very appropriate and effective Sir Roland Stone.

GOLFING ON TOUR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Might I suggest, through the medium of your columns, that actors on tour, who are members of recognised golf clubs, should be allowed to play at a reduced green fee at all clubs? A fee of say 2s. 6d. a day for a single round becomes very expensive when one is on tour for fourteen or twenty weeks. It should be remembered that actors usually play from eleven to two, when the courses are not crowded, and I feel sure that if the matter were taken up by some leading manager, secretaries of all golf clubs would willingly co-operate, and a real benefit would accrue to the golfer on tour.—Yours faithfully,
WYN WRAYER.

Grand Theatre, Swansea, May 14, 1907.

"The Era" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

MISS ELLEN TERRY returned from New York on Monday, and was met on her arrival at Tilbury by a crowd of admirers, who greeted her with affectionate congratulations upon her recent marriage. From all parts of the dock officials, clerks, and labourers gathered to catch a glimpse of the actress, and a lady handed a beautiful bouquet through the window of the railway compartment just before the train started. Miss Terry will not be seen again on the stage until the autumn, when she will tour the provinces. She is now engaged in writing her autobiography, which may be expected to appear about a month hence. Mr. Carew, it is understood, will come to England in about three weeks, and will spend the summer vacation with his wife in the country until she goes on tour.

MISS TERRY is delighted with the results of her tour, and expresses her satisfaction at the success attained by her daughter, Miss Ailsa Craig, who has had the unique distinction, for a woman, of being the stage-manager all through the tour. The popular actress is of opinion that a new life for women is thus opened up. Miss Terry is credited with a witty observation at a reception in New York, when she referred to the innumerable women who asked her to help them to get on the stage. "The fact is," she said, "every woman under thirty believes she is an actress, and every actress believes she is under thirty."

MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER has been able to secure for his brief autumn tour, the services of Miss Irene Vanbrugh, who will play her original part in Mr. Pinero's piece, *His House in Order*. Later on Miss Vanbrugh will appear at the St. James's in the leading part of *The Thief* as Mr. Cosmo Gordon Lennox's version of Henry Bernstein's drama, *Le Voleur*, is named. The part, it may be of interest to add, was originally sustained in Paris by Madame Simone le Bargy.

THE net proceeds of the matinée at Drury Lane Theatre, given recently in aid of the Lord Mayor's Cripples' Fund, reached the generous total of £687 5s. 5d. Miss Annie Hughes has also given a donation of five guineas to the Fund, which has benefited to no inconsiderable extent by the efforts of members of the profession.

THE Actors' Benevolent Fund continues to derive considerable benefit through the demand of the public for the autographs of our actors and actresses. The secretary is daily receiving postal orders from Sir Charles Wyndham, Mr. Beerbohm Tree, Mr. George Alexander, and Miss Mary Moore, which have been sent to the Fund, in acknowledgment of their autographs. Mr. C. H. Workman has forwarded £2 5s., Mr. Frederick Wright 4s. 6d., and Mr. Rutland Barrington 3s. 6d. Mr. Arthur Lawrence has forwarded 20s. from the fines imposed at the Royal Court Theatre, Liverpool, during the run of the pantomime. A further sum of £1 17s., collected for the Fund in the box at the Camden Theatre, has been sent by Mr. Wilfred Stanford.

MR. BEERBOHM TREE will reduce the size of the proscenium of His Majesty's when *A Woman of No Importance* is revived on Wednesday. The alteration, by which the opening is decreased 6ft. in width and 7ft. in height, is effected at the expense of the gallery, which, as on a former occasion, will be entirely shut off, but the line of sight in the other parts of the house is in no way affected, a clear view of the stage being secured to all.

MR. SEYMOUR HICKS and Miss Ellaline Terriss return to the Aldwych in September, when they will be seen in a new piece from the pen of Mr. Hicks himself, the music being supplied by Mr. Frank Tours. The action takes place entirely in Scotland. Mr. Hicks plays the part of a young Scottish soldier. Miss Ellaline Terriss will have the rôle of a high-spirited American girl, and Miss Zena Dare, Miss Rosina Filippi, Miss Sydney Fairbrother, and Miss Barbara Deane will also be in the cast.

MR. CYRIL MAUDE is preparing an attractive programme for the annual fête in connection with the Actors' Orphanage Fund, of which he is president. The fête will be held on Friday, July 5, in the gardens of the Royal Military Hospital, Chelsea, and several distinct novelties are promised. The new and original play which invariably forms a feature of the entertainment is to be written in collaboration by Alfred Sutro and Robert Marshall.

THE ERA Challenge Shield is now on view at *The Era* offices. The shield, which will be again competed for at the approaching theatrical sports at Stamford Bridge, was presented by the proprietors of *The Era*, Ltd., to the National Association of Theatrical Employees as a trophy in perpetuity for the "tug-of-war" competition at their Annual Sports. It will be remembered that the redoubtable team from the Empire, Dublin, were the winners last year. The team was composed of D. Griffin, M. White, R. McKeon, C. Griffin, E. Buckley, and J. White (coach). May the best team win this year.

THE Managers' Club was quick to seize the opportunity of congratulating their Majesties of Spain on the birth of an heir, and on receipt of the joyful news, despatched the following telegram:—"May your Majesty be pleased to accept the congratulations of the Managers' Club, Savoy Mansions, London." To this felicitous message came the answer: "Theatrical Managers' Club, Savoy Mansions, London. Thanks from his Majesty. Andino."

MR. E. S. WILLARD will be the guest of the Olympian Dramatic Club of Oxford University at the annual dinner on Monday next, and will respond to the toast of the drama. Few members of the profession equal Mr. Willard in fluency of speech, and his address should prove of engrossing interest to all students of the drama.

THE last performance of *The Judgment of Pharaoh* at the Scala Theatre took place on Friday evening, Dr. Distin-Maddick not feeling disposed to continue the run in view of the great expense of the production.

"IOLANTHE" will be revived at the Savoy on Tuesday, June 11. The cast will consist of Messrs. C. H. Workman, Frank Wilson, Harold Wilde, Overton Moyle, and H. A. Lytton; and Misses Louie Rene, Jessie Rose, Violette Londa, Beatrice Meredith, Violet Frampton, and Clara Dow.

MR. LEWIS WALLER and Miss Lily Hanbury are among a number of well-known artists who have promised their services for a concert in aid of the poor parish of St. George-in-the-East, to be held at the residence of Mrs. Henry Simmons, Russell-square, W.C., on Thursday afternoon, May 30.

MR. CHARLES FROHMAN inaugurated his system of free rides to the theatre on Wednesday, when a number of Balham playgoers were conveyed by motor-bus to the Hicks Theatre, to witness the performance of *Brewster's Millions*. The passengers had booked seats in advance for the theatre, and this qualification entitled the holders to be taken free of charge to the theatre and home again. On Thursday night the suburb of Wood Green was similarly favoured, and last evening the theatre 'bus was to tour in the neighbourhood of Lewisham.

THE usual London weekly meeting of the Actors' Union will be held at the Bedford Head Hotel, Maiden-lane, at 2.30, on Tuesday. A meeting, arranged by Mr. J. Telly Dillsen, will be held at Birmingham during next week; and another will take place at the Court, Liverpool, on Friday next, at 1.30, with Mr. Hamilton Deane in the chair.

MESSRS ERNEST STEVENS and R. C. Buchanan have availed themselves of the option acquired by them some time ago to purchase from Howard and Wyndham, Ltd., six provincial theatres for the sum of £160,000, and the following houses now accordingly come under their control:—The King's, the Royal, and the Royalty, Glasgow; the Lyceum and the Theatre Royal, Edinburgh; the Tyne, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Mr. Stevens, who is the managing-director of the Marlborough Theatre, Holloway, is also interested in several Scottish theatres, and the Shakespeare, Liverpool; while Mr. Buchanan already controls theatres at Glasgow, Edinburgh, and Sunderland.

THE Theatrical Rowing Clubs hold their annual regatta at Putney on Sunday, June 9. The president of the regatta is Mr. Cyril Maude, and many eminent actors figure among the list of patrons. The numerous events are invariably well contested, and given propitious weather, an interesting day's sport should be assured.

MRS. HENRY DUNDAS, widow of the late much-lamented Henry Dundas, was the daughter of the late Miss Sarah Thorne, and played under the stage-name of Bessie Macknight. Her father was editor of the *Belfast Northern Whig*, and a personal friend of the late Lord Dufferin, and his "Life of Burke" and "Ulster As It Is" brought him into direct contact with all the great statesmen of the day. Mr. and Mrs. Dundas's eldest daughter has taken the stage name of Miss Jessica Thorne, and has just concluded a tour with Mr. and Mrs. Kendal, playing successfully as Sophia Blossom in *The Elder Miss Blossom*. She is re-engaged for the autumn; and her younger sister, Miss Elsie Dundas, will shortly make her début under the banner of Mr. William Greet.

MRS. DUNDAS desires to tender heartfelt thanks on behalf of herself and daughters for the kind sympathy shown them in the painfully sudden death of her husband, Mr. Henry Dundas, manager of the Opera House, Leicester. She is particularly grateful for the kindly sympathy shown by Mr. Milton Bode, and his unwearying attention in the time of her anxiety and distress. Mr. Dundas was quietly interred in the beautiful cemetry at Milverton, Leamington, on Wednesday afternoon. Last week's *Era* contained an announcement of a proposed benefit to Mr. Henry Dundas, of the Opera House, Leicester, but within a few hours of its appearance the inexorable hand of Death caused its abandonment. A sad, but striking coincidence is the fact that a benefit arranged for the late Miss Sarah Thorne, his mother-in-law, was cancelled for the same reason.

MR. CLAUDE KING writes under date April 11, from the Theatre Royal, Calcutta:—"One very gratifying feature in connection with a most bewilderingly-interesting tour is the fact that we have so far beaten all records for a theatrical company travelling east at Bombay, Rangoon, Hong Kong, Shanghai, and Tientsin. The audiences here are practically 'West End,' for in spite of the great distance there are a vast number who go home every year or two years, so that many of the plays we are doing are familiar to a lot of them. *Raffles* is our most successful piece, with *His House in Order* a very good second, and we change the bill every night, which makes pretty hard work of it."

MR. AUSTIN MELFORD will make his fifth appearance in a separate part at Drury Lane this evening, when he takes up the rôle of an Indian warrior in *The Last of His Race*. In his previous assumptions at the National Theatre Mr. Melford has achieved some of the most striking successes of his career.

MR. ROBERT GANTHONY has succeeded in amusing French audiences in their own language in Paris this month. Similar success attended his efforts in New York and Montreal, where the popular entertainer's talents were widely appreciated.

THE stage-pictures in *The Girls of Gottenberg* at the Gaiety Theatre are a feast for the eye. The set for the second act is a delightful reproduction of the market-place of an old-fashioned German town, and Messrs. Joseph and Phil Harker have certainly excelled themselves in this scene, which, besides being most picturesque and artistic, bears the stamp of absolute reality. The same may be said of the Gardens of the Red Hen Inn, near Gottenberg, with its finely-painted landscape of river and hill. Mr. Alfred Terraine, too, has furnished an agreeable picture of the gateway of the Rottenberg Barracks. The designs for the dresses have been freely idealised from German national costumes, the result being exquisitely pretty, without any garish excess of colour. There is, however, no want of brilliancy in the stage pictures, the uniforms of the college girls, with their wealth of gold lace against a deep rich green, striking a very effective note.

MR. CECIL BROOKING, who has played Stenson in *The Morals of Marcus* since his return from South Africa, is under contract for the autumn season with Mr. Charles Frohman. Mr. Brooking, however, is a firm believer in the adage, "the actor should act as often as he can," and is eager for work in the interim.

BEFORE the present season of the Jewish Operatic and Dramatic Company terminates at the Pavilion Theatre, Mile End, the management are according a well-deserved benefit on May 23 to Mr. and Mme. Charles Natansohn in recognition of the strenuous and artistic work these well-known Yiddish histrions have put in during their engagement. For this occasion Mr. and Mme. Natansohn will present an entirely new play by Zolotarevsky entitled *The Oath in the Temple*.

MR. MAYOR-COOKE, who has just concluded his 230th performance of Ulric of Ravensberg in *Her Love Against the World*, has been re-engaged by Messrs. Hallatt and Howard for the same part on their autumn tour.

MISS JULIE TEMPLE, who is so well known for her clever interpretation of Bridget, the Irish cook, in *The Fatal Wedding*, concludes on May 26 at Dover her fourth engagement, when the tour ends. Miss Temple has been successfully identified with the late Rosina Brandram parts.

MR. LESLIE HEATHERINGTON, of Mr. Chas. Macdona's *Gay Parisienne* company, contested 800 up at billiards with Mr. W. J. Randall, of Luton, at the Grafton Hotel, Bedford, on Saturday. After an interesting game and an exciting finish Mr. Randall was declared the winner by 26. The highest breaks were a 56 by Mr. Randall and a 50 by his opponent. Billiards was followed by a snooker pool match, the best of five sets being Mr. Leslie Heatherington, who won by three to two.

MR. WILLIAM MACLAREN and Miss Lily C. Bandmann will produce "in front" of *Claudian*, at the Prince's Theatre, Bristol, on Friday, a one-act play by Miss Dorothea Wilson Barrett (daughter of the late Wilson Barrett), entitled *Heber Sayell*, appearing themselves in the leading parts.

MR. MARTIN HARVEY terminated his spring tour last week at Portsmouth, and has been spending the major part of this week in the reading-room of the British Museum searching out matter appertaining to his new play, *Great Possessions*, the period of which is A.D. 31. The piece will be produced on an elaborate scale during Mr. Harvey's forthcoming season at the Adelphi.

THE production at the Haymarket of Mr. Michael Morton's adaptation, entitled *My Wife*, of MM. Gavault and Charnay's three-act comedy, *Mlle. Josette, Ma Femme*, has been fixed for Tuesday, the 28th inst. The cast will comprise Messrs. Aubrey Smith, A. E. Matthews, E. W. Tarver, Fred Lewis, H. de Lange, Athol Stewart, P. Clark, Holman Clark, P. Curwin, Philip Knox, Marsh Allen, and J. R. Glass, and Misses Marie Löhr, Millie Legarde, Marcelle Chevalier, J. Chatwyn, and Adelaide Burt. An interesting curtain-raiser will be provided in *Martha Plays the Fairy*, a sequel to *Compromising Martha*, the comedietta by Keble Howard, which has already enjoyed a prolonged run at the Haymarket.

MISS GLADYS ARCHBUTT, at Clerkenwell County Court on Monday, sued the Grand Theatre, Islington (1905) (Limited), for £34 5s. 4d., as damages for alleged breach of contract. A letter from Messrs. Walter and Fred Melville, the present lessees and managers of the Grand Theatre, stated: "The enclosed summons has been left on these premises, and does not concern us. We are unaware of the whereabouts of the late Grand Theatre, Islington (Limited). The managing-director of the company may be found at the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith." Plaintiff, replying to her counsel, said she entered into a contract with Mr. James, on behalf of the defendant company, as principal girl at Terry's at a salary of £8 per week for six weeks from December 26, 1906. She had been paid £16 14s. 8d., but defendants declined to fulfil the remainder of the contract. Judgment was given for the amount claimed, with costs.

THE Broadway Theatre, New Cross, is the latest to come under the two-houses-a-night system, and on Monday a month's experiment will be started with *The Red Coat*, which will be presented twice every evening. The following week will be devoted to *Saved from the Sea*, and other strong dramatic attractions are announced. Half the usual prices to all parts of the house will prevail.

MR. FRED BULMER has secured the sole rights for Great Britain and Ireland of that well-known drama *From Scotland Yard*, by the late Frank Bateman and John Douglas. Mr. Bulmer sends out the play with a strong company next autumn, introducing several new features, and bringing the piece up to date in every respect. The drama will be elaborately mounted, and a new plant of printing will be struck off, &c. *From Scotland Yard* had a most successful run when toured by the late Mr. Bateman, and equal prosperity may be anticipated for Mr. Bulmer's venture with the original "Yard" drama.

MR. WILLIAM LOCKHART, for so many years associated with *The Sign of the Cross*, *A Message from Mars*, and *Sunday*, has been engaged by Mr. James Welch for his No. 1 tour of *When Knights Were Bold*.

MR. PETER DAVEY, the energetic manager of the County Theatre, Kingston, has made arrangements by which Mr. Arthur Williams and Mr. Fred Emney, supported by a company including Mr. Lytton Grey, Miss Emily Spiller, Miss Emily Taylor, Miss Sylvia Morris, Mr. Franklyn Graham, Mr. Charlie Clarke, and Mr. Wilson Blake will appear next week at Kingston in *Milky White, Funnibone's Fix*, and other one-act pieces. The famous artists mentioned thus make their first appearance on the Kingston boards in a programme eminently suited to the theatrical requirements of the season and the locality. The opening piece each evening will be a charming little one-act drama, with music, *A Burmese Idol*, written and composed by Mr. Leslie Stiles, in which Mr. Lytton Grey will play the part of a shipwrecked British tar.

MR. GORDON BAILEY and Miss Lucy Wilson have acquired from Miss Ina Leon Cassilis a romantic highwayman play, which they will produce on June 3 at the Royal County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames. Miss Wilson and Mr. Bailey will create the leading parts.

THE Grand Theatre, Swansea, which is leased and managed by Messrs. Brooks and Woodbridge, will, we understand, at the end of the year pass into the sole managership of Mr. E. Oswald Brooks, Mr. J. J. W. Woodbridge having sold his share in the theatre to Mr. Brooks as from Dec. 18 next. Mr. Brooks is arranging a further ten years' lease of the building.

AT the New Theatre, Cambridge, on the 10th inst., two new plays entitled *An Old Master* and *Sister Monica*, by Betty Brandon, were produced for copyright purposes.

MR. J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S second successful spring season at the Crystal Palace Theatre will terminate at the end of next week, during which, by arrangement with Mr. Arthur Collins, the children from Drury Lane will perform the pantomime, *The Forte Thieves*. On Thursday Mrs. Patrick Campbell and company will give a special flying matinée of *Magda*. During the summer months the directors of the Crystal Palace have again arranged with Mr. Howard to provide the Café Chantant, which will this year be held in the North Tower Gardens, twice daily, commencing on May 27.

"THE BELLE OF MAYFAIR" continues her triumphal progress throughout the States, and one of the foremost organs of Cleveland, Ohio, the *Plain Dealer*, eulogises it thus: "For real music-lovers its melodies and choruses are a delight from beginning to end. It is worthy of Leslie Stuart, and the libretto is full of fine workmanship. The whole work is one, long, good-natured medley of music and humour and song, with continual variety, and good features enough to supply half-a-dozen ordinary operas. This is the sort of piece that fills the boxes and crowds the pit to the doors. The whole show leaves a pleasant taste in the mouth, and in the mind the memory of tripping melodies and cheerful choruses. There is no disagreeable 'hangover.' *The Belle of Mayfair* is a riot of song."

AT the Royal Artillery Theatre, Woolwich, on Whit Monday, Mrs. Ann Hughes presents the new comic opera *The Young Lieutenant*, by Herbert Dawson, A. F. Allen Tower, and Robert A. Smith. The story relates to the time of Nelson, and one of the chief scenic effects is a complete representation of one of Nelson's line of battleships. The opera is excellently cast, and the voices for the large chorus have been carefully selected. The play goes on tour at once.

IN the Court of Chancery on Thursday, on behalf of the Greet Theatrical Company, an injunction was granted, until trial or further order, to restrain the proprietor of a portable travelling theatre, named Mr. Landon, from performing *The Sign of the Cross*. The defendant did not appear, and counsel stated that he had written from Durham saying he was very sorry, but as they were hard up they wanted something to start with. His lordship said he thought as it was intended to perform the piece on two nights only, a perpetual injunction was out of the question.

THE question of the copyright in the play *East Lynne* came up in the Edinburgh Court of Session on Thursday, when an action was brought by Mr. John Pitt Hardacre against the Metropole Theatre, Glasgow, Ltd. Mr. Hardacre complained that the defenders had produced the play without his permission, and asked for £250 damages and an injunction. He stated that in 1866 John Coleman Chute wrote a dramatic version of Mrs. Henry Wood's novel, for which he invented the character of a comic policeman named Bullock, and assigned the rights of the play to the plaintiff. In May last, however, it was stated, a version of *East Lynne* was produced at the Metropole, Glasgow, also with a comic policeman.

ASKED what evidence he had that the part of Bullock as claimed by him now was that played in 1866, the witness said that at a trial in London on the same question all the antediluvian actors in creation were raked up, and the thing was proved there. For the defence, Mr. Arthur Jefferson, the managing director of the Metropole, said there were innumerable versions of the play, in which a comic policeman always occupied a prominent part. Mr. Robert C. Buchanan said he knew many versions, and had played in half a dozen. Stage policemen all spoke of cooks, and asserted that their life was not a happy one. The case was adjourned.

ON May 16, 1867, there came to London a youth of 15 with his 'cello under his arms and the princely fortune of £3. His resources were soon exhausted, and after wandering about London trying to get engagements he was at length obliged to play in the streets, where he was discovered by the late Sir Michael Costa, who installed him as one of the 'celloists at Covent Garden. From that time Auguste Van Biene has never looked back, and last Thursday, the occasion of his birthday, he completed exactly forty years, domicile in England. Mr. Van Biene is now known all over the world as the actor-musician, and has played "The Broken Melody" for nearly 5000 nights. We offer the celebrated performer our hearty felicitations.

MEMBERS of the profession playing in or near Newcastle, we are informed, can have an excellent round on Town Moor links, about five minutes' electric tram ride from all the theatres. The course consists of eighteen holes, and nine holes links for ladies, and is free to all.

THE production by the Pioneers of two new plays is fixed for Sunday, May 26, at the Imperial. The programme will open with *A Man's Foes*, a play in one act, by Miss Diana Cholmondeley, with Mr. Edmund Gurney, Miss Clare Greet, Miss Nora Lancaster, and Mr. Athol Stewart in the cast. The second novelty will be *Clothes and the Woman*, a light comedy in three acts, by George Paston, the cast of which will comprise Misses Wynne Matthison, Darragh, Muriel Ashwynne, Emmerson, Florence Haydon, Kate Harwood, and Irene Edwards; and Messrs. Trevor Lowe, Reginald Eyre, Charles Maude, Wilfred Draycott, and Donald Calthorp.

FINDING the combined duties of general-manager and secretary of such an onerous nature, Mr. J. H. Cozens has resigned his position as general-manager of the Crystal Palace, and has been appointed business-manager and secretary. The post of general-manager has been given to Mr. George O. Starr, who has had an extensive experience in organising and successfully carrying out great shows and exhibitions all over the world. It is understood that a working arrangement has been arrived at by which through trams will be run from Croydon to the Crystal Palace and Penge. The long-needed improvement in the service of trains between Beckenham and the Crystal Palace on the South-Eastern and Chatham Railway has been made, and there are also rumours of a new motor-bus service and an extension of tubes, which augurs well for the future success of the historic building at Sydenham.

MR. FREDERICK HARRISON has concluded arrangements to produce in due course, in conjunction with Mr. Louis Calvert, Mr. David Belasco's play, *Sweet Kitty Bellairs*, adapted from Captain and Mrs. Egerton Castle's popular novel. A version of the novel by the authors themselves, it may be remembered, was produced at the charity matinée at the Playhouse on April 30, under the title of *Grey Domino*. Among Mr. Harrison's other possessions, recently acquired, is that of an adaptation by Jerome K. Jerome, of Jules Lemaitre's piece, *La Massière*, the plot of which deals with the rivalry of a father and son for the affection of a young girl—a subject that is treated with so much delicacy that the most sensitive scruples are untouched.

MISS NINA CARLTON has been engaged by Mr. J. A. E. Malone to play Mai Yai in *See-See* in the autumn.—Miss Grace Lester is re-engaged by Mr. Frederick Melville to create the part of Mary Dawson in his new play, at the Terriss Theatre, on Monday next.

MR. BLAKE ADAMS finishes on June 3 his fourth tour as Captain James Barley in *Beauty and the Barge*—two under Mr. Cyril Maude's management, and two under Mr. Arthur Hardy. Mr. Adams has already played the part 530 times.

MR. CHARLES STEUART'S company, in *The Little Stranger*, is to be the Whitsuntide attraction at the Camden Theatre. The farce will be preceded by *Citizen Marat*, a one-act play by Alice Clayton Greene, originally produced at the Grand, Fulham, in the April of 1904. A strong company has been engaged for the curtain-raiser, the principal characters being played by Miss Frances Dillon, Mr. George E. Bellamy, Mr. H. Asheton Tonge, and Mr. Edwin H. Wynne.

THE Queen's Theatre, Liverpool, will be re-opened on August Bank Holiday, when it is proposed to present first-class drama at popular prices. Mr. Fred Granville, a former proprietor of the place, and now lessee of the Royal, Hyde, and the Grand, West Hartlepool, will be at the head of affairs.

THE British Empire Shakespeare Society will give during this month three dramatic readings of *Macbeth*, under the direction of Mr. Acton Bond, in connection with the educational section of the society. The first will be given at Wycombe House School, Brondesbury, on the 23rd inst., the second at Graham-street High School, S.W., on the 27th, and the third at Holy Trinity Schools, Kentish Town, on the 30th.

AT the New Theatre Royal, Loughborough, on the 1st inst., a farewell benefit was given Mr. Lindsey Edwards, the acting-manager, who is leaving Loughborough for Long Eaton, where he opens his new theatre in September.

IN the Court of Bankruptcy on Monday the first meeting of creditors was held before the official receiver, in the case of Mr. S. T. T. James, theatrical manager. The debtor stated that his insolvency was due to depreciation in the value of leasehold and freehold property in which he had invested at the East End and suburbs, where houses had dropped in value to the extent of 50 per cent. He estimated that he had derived an income of about £400 per annum from the management of theatres, and in touring pantomimes. The statement of affairs showed liabilities £4778, and no available assets. The matter was left in the official receiver's hands.

THE close of the Shakespeare Festival at Stratford-on-Avon was marked by extraordinary scenes of enthusiasm on Saturday. The final performance in the Memorial Theatre was *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. Hundreds of persons were unable to obtain admission, and at the end over 50 bouquets, baskets of flowers, &c., were presented to the performers, who had assembled on the stage, Mrs. Benson being quite overwhelmed with her floral load. Mr. Flower, chairman of the Shakespeare Memorial Association, thanked Mr. and Mrs. Benson and company and the distinguished London artists who had given their services at this year's commemoration.

MR. BENSON, who was enthusiastically greeted, said it was impossible suitably to acknowledge the great compliment—the greatest compliment that could possibly be paid to any actor—which had been given him, apd to thank them for endorsing Mr. Flower's all too-flattering remarks. He was tempted, in the words of Coriolanus, to say, "I will go wash; and when my face is fair, you shall perceive whether I blush or no." As Mr. Flower said, the Festival is celebrated. The initial chapters of volume three were noteworthy for the artists who had kindly given their services, the critics, and the men of the pen who had come from over the seas in order to encourage the development of that fair flower which was planted many years ago. One other point seemed to make the Festival noteworthy. All the world was Shakespeare's stage, all time was his canvas, all voices were his orchestra; and he was glad to see in the scheme of decoration that a place was found for the flags of all nations. He hardly wished to say farewell. The last flowers had been given, the last kind words spoken, and he would not say farewell, but catch up the kindly note of the gallery, and say "Encore."

HERR RAIMUND PECHOTSCH, the musical director of the Lyceum Theatre, has composed a march to which he has given the title of "Marjorie," after Mr. Ernest Carpenter's little daughter, and which he has dedicated to that gentleman. It is a very pleasing number, and is played between Acts 3 and 4 of *Her Love Against the World*.

THE "Fanny Coleman" matinée, which was to have taken place at the St. James's on the 30th inst., has been postponed until Thursday, June 13. To the attractive list we have already given of those who have kindly undertaken to contribute to the entertainment are to be added Miss Eva Moore, Miss Margaret Cooper, Miss Ada Reeve, Miss Helen Mar, Mr. H. V. Esmond, and Mr. Harry Fragson.

"AN ENGLISH GIRL; OR, A TALE OF INDIA," by Mr. E Crapton Bryant, with music by Miss Mabel Goyder (Mrs. Herdman Porter), was produced by amateurs at the King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield, on Wednesday, May 8.

THE management of the Royal Prince Regent Theatre, the celebrated home of Wagnerian opera in Germany, is concerned in a case for libel now proceeding at Munich. The editor of the *Bavarian Courier* is accused of libelling Baron von Speidel, the director of the Royal Theatre, Herr Felix Mottl, the famous conductor of the Munich symphony orchestra, Herr Heine, the stage-manager, and Fräulein Wimmer, the leading lady. The editor's defence was that he could not assume responsibility for the construction which people put upon his statements. Frau Cosima Wagner, Dr. Richard Strauss, Herr Ernst von Possart, Baron von Ompteda, and Count von Moy, the Lord Chamberlain of the Bavarian Court, figure among the witnesses.

MESSRS. FOSTER AND NAPIER commence a lengthy tour with *The King of Thieves* on Whit Monday, by special arrangement with Messrs. Haddon and Loader.

MR. LEONARD AARDALE has again been engaged for entire heavies for the stock season at the Metropole, Devonport, this making his third engagement.

MISS GEORGIE DE LARA has been re-engaged for the autumn by Mr. Walter Melville to sustain her original part, Peggy Munro, in *The Soldier's Wedding*, which she is playing in the coming week at the Grand Theatre, Fulham.

OWING to the success of Mr. Allan Wilkie's present tour (now in its fortieth consecutive week), and the numerous applications for dates, it is Mr. Wilkie's intention to send out a No. 2 company in the autumn, to visit the smaller towns. The company will have the use of the whole of the new and magnificent plant of pictorial printing, specially cut by Messrs. D. Allen and Sons, which has created such a sensation in every town Mr. Wilkie has visited. Each play will be produced under the personal supervision of Mr. Wilkie, and will be a replica of the No. 1 company in every detail.

AT Clerkenwell County Court on Monday Miss Mara Collings sued Messrs. H. Theodore and Charles Fancourt for £50, as damages. Counsel for plaintiff said at the end of last year his client was engaged to play a part in *The Shulamite* at a salary of £2 10s.; but was put off from time to time until in the end his client felt bound to put the matter in her solicitor's hands. Plaintiff said that when the offer was made by Mr. Fancourt to play "Tant Anna" she accepted because she was told there would be a long tour. In awarding plaintiff £12 10s. and costs, Judge Edge said the contract was in the correspondence, in which plaintiff says, "I will take your terms, £2 10s. Let me know when you want me to rehearse, and where." He did not, however, think that she could set up that her engagement was for the entire tour. It was stated that Mr. Fancourt had not been served, and judgment was entered against Mr. Theodore.

MR. SYDNEY BARRACLOUGH, the young actor and singer, who some time ago was threatened with consumption, underwent the open-air treatment for the malady with excellent results; but assistance is required to make the cure complete, and a benefit matinée is accordingly being organised to take place at a theatre yet to be named on Monday, June 24. The promoters of the matinée are already assured of influential support, many leading managers and artists having promised to assist.

MISS MAY YOHE, who, a few years ago, was a favourite actress on this side of the Atlantic, has entered the marriage state for the third time. On April 24 in New York she became the wife of Mr. J. Newton Brown, who is engaged in commercial pursuits. Miss Yohe, a lady of acknowledged personal attractions, and possessing a contralto voice of unusual compass, made her first appearance in the States as a lady of the chorus. Having worked her way into the front ranks of the profession, she appeared at the Avenue Theatre (now The Playhouse) some twelve years ago. Her greatest success, however, was in *Little Christopher Columbus*, in which she sang a catchy coon-song. In the late 'eighties she was married to Lord Francis Hope, but the union was dissolved. Then she became the wife of Captain Bradlee Strong, a son of a former Mayor of New York, but the couple soon separated. Miss Yohe's present husband is said to have been a childish playmate of hers.

MISS BETTY CASTLE was called upon suddenly last Monday evening to take up Miss Cecil Cromwell's part in *The Judgment of Pharaoh* at the Scala Theatre, owing to the latter lady being called away by serious family bereavement. Miss Castle's part of Rachel was played by Miss Warre.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Wyndham's Wit.

An actor, says a writer in the *Daily Mirror*, was worrying Sir Charles Wyndham the other day for an engagement; but Sir Charles was still more worried by the loss of his keys, which he was unable to find, in the absence of his valet, and was pacing the room with the well-tamed temper of one of the "lions" at the Scala. "Come to me again in a fortnight, when I shall know my plans. Besides, I shall have found my keys by then," added the famous actor-manager. To a journalist who brought him the proof of an article prophesying his knighthood six months before it happened, Sir Charles looked at the bold headline in surprise, and then said, in an aggrieved tone: "Can't you make it a lord?"

Tree Anecdotes.

MRS. GEORGE CRAN, in "Herbert Beerbohm Tree," in Mr. John Lane's "Stars of the Stage" series, edited by Mr. J. T. Grein, has several anecdotes in connection with the eminent actor's career. On one occasion Mr. Tree was "blaguing" away to a dramatic critic, when the pressman snapped: "You cannot deceive me; you are arguing in circles)" With absolute readiness Mr. Tree snapped back: "I am above you. Like the eagle, I always circle before I swoop!" Once, while he was producing *Hamlet* in Manchester, on tour, he tried to introduce a little colour into his costume, to find himself involved in a discussion with the artist who designed the costumes, and who pointed out that the red silk lining Mr. Tree wanted was not mourning, adding: "Hamlet himself refers to his inky cloak." "I know," said the tiresome petitioner, "but perhaps he meant red ink."

"Julius Cæsar."

DURING the run of *Julius Cæsar* at His Majesty's Mr. Tree, with his artistic appreciation of detail, a touch of the genius which has been defined as "an infinite capacity for taking pains" (other peoples'), insisted on the real body of the murdered Cæsar being present on the stage during Antony's long speech. Although the body was buried in the robes almost all the time, he would not have a dummy. Mr. Charles Fulton, who took the part of Julius Cæsar, protested garrulously at this somewhat inhuman treatment, saying "I often have colds in the winter, and the stage is very draughty; what will people say if the corpse sneezes" Mr. Tree was undisturbed: "They will only call you Julius Cæsar!" And Mr. Fulton was obliged to parry his colds, and add his item to the realist beauty of the play. It is the same passion for realism which made Mr. Tree insist on having hairs on the shins of his flesh-coloured tights in Antony—a trick of stage-costume which was entirely unknown till he invented it, and which was provocative of many bets among the audience as to the bareness or otherwise of the actor's legs.

Miss Terry and Her Train.

ELLEN TERRY'S creativeness in "business," says Mr. Christopher St. John in "Stars of the Stage," is the envy of her profession; but it is always so natural and true, perhaps because her imagination always works harmoniously with her sincerity, that the general public hardly perceive her elaboration of a hundred little details, although they do understand and appreciate the effect. In *Sans-Gêne*, as in other plays, she grew more fertile in "business" as she grew more familiar with the part. When the duchess-washerwoman, wearing a long-tailed riding-habit, a good makeshift for a court train, took a lesson in dancing, innumerable were the touches which Ellen Terry added to her assumption of ungainliness. One night, long after the original production in London, she was playing the part in a great manufacturing city in the North. When she came to the dancing lesson, she made a great deal, as usual, of the "business" of throwing back the train awkwardly over her arm when it got in her way. Once, as it flopped back, it twisted itself into the suggestive form of a clout just out of the wash-tub. Ellen Terry is always as swift in thought as in doing. Directly she found the fat coil of stuff across her arm, she began to *wring it out!* The response of the audience was electrifying. Everyone who had ever seen a wash-tub recognised the sincerity of the action. Naturally, that bit of "business" was repeated every time the part was played.

Barking a Refrain.

MR. WALTER PASSMORE, says the *Mail*, is in trouble at the Shaftesbury Theatre because he cannot find a dog sufficiently intelligent to bark the refrain of his popular song, "The Fiddler and His Dog," in the second act of *Lady Tatters*. Mechanical devices have been tried for imitating the bark of a dog, but they were found worse than useless, and none of the dog-dealers have procured an animal that will bark when it is wanted and stop when it is told. It is not necessary, Mr. Passmore explains, that the dog shall ever be seen by the audience. It's business is to bark in the chorus, "a ghostly sort of bark," and the management at the Shaftesbury Theatre—if it cannot get a dog from "the trade"—wants to beg, borrow, or hire one from a private individual.

MR. PASSMORE has had men calling to see him who have had their dogs shaved because the dog in the lyric was shaved. Some of these applicants wanted to act with their dogs. One lady writes to say that her dog "if shown a bone will not cease barking until you hide the bone. Has a contralto bark." Another says: "If you promise Chippy a good home and pay me six shillings a week you can have him for the season." "Our dog is a great pet," runs one letter, "but if I can come with him to the theatre every night I will lend him to you." There was an application from a man to be allowed to give his imitation of a terrier's bark. He writes: "I can bark with a chorus, either mournful or otherwise."

Theatres and Tourists.

A LADY writing to the *Daily Mail* to urge that the whereabouts of theatres and music halls in London should be made clearer to strangers visiting London, says:—"In a City omnibus last summer I had for my fellow-travellers some Americans who wanted to go to a particular theatre, but had no idea where to find it. I could not assist them, as I did not myself know the exact position. They searched their newspaper, and I thought, 'You won't find it there, my good people.' In shrill, but pleasant, tones one of the ladies asked of the conductor, whose answer was, "I don't know, ma'am; somewhere in the West End, I know.' There was a good deal of discussion, and at last a lady passenger timidly vouchsafed the information, but by this time they had decided to go to another theatre, the address of which they remembered from a former visit."

Dead-head Statistics.

LET us say, writes Mr. M. V. Leveaux in the *Express*, that twenty theatres send out each one hundred tickets a day to combat their failures, and this is not an excessive estimate when one remembers that it is based on seats given away in boxes which hold four people, stalls, circles, pit, and gallery. Let us take it that on the average the value of each ticket is 5s. Then the tickets given away for one night in London would number two thousand at a face value of £500 per night; or, based on a week of six performances, twelve thousand free tickets would be given away in this city at a nominal value of £3000. This in a year of forty-five weeks would mean 540,000 free tickets of the nominal value of £135,000, or £6750 per annum per theatre.

"THE GIRLS OF GOTTENBERG."

A Musical Play, written by George Grossmith, jun., and L. E. Berman; music by Ivan Caryll and Lionel Monckton, lyrics by Adrian Ross and Basil Hood; produced at the Gaiety Theatre on Wednesday, May 15.

Otto	MR. GEORGE GROSSMITH, JUN.
Brittlbottl	MR. ROBERT NAINBY
General The Margrave of Saxe-Nierstein	MR. EUSTACE BURNABY
Colonel Finkhausen	MR. A. J. EVELYN
Fritz	MR. T. C. MAXWELL
Hermann	MR. HAROLD THORLEY
Franz	MR. SOMERS BELLAMY
Karl	MR. GEORGE GRUNDY
Albrecht	MR. J. ROBERT HALE
Burgomaster	MR. GEORGE MILLER
Kannenbier	MR. ARTHUR HATHERTON
Adolf	MR. CHARLES BROWN
Policeman	MR. BLACKMAN
Waiters	MESSRS. GRANDE AND HILL
Corporal Riethen	MR. J. R. SINCLAIR
Private Schmidt	MR. S. HANSWORTH
Max Moddelkopf	MR. EDMUND PAYNE
Elsa	MISS MAY DE SOUSA
Clementine	MISS VIOLET HALLS
Lucille	MISS OLIVE MAY
Kathie	MISS KITTY MASON
Hana	MISS EDITH LEE
Hilda	MISS KITTY LINDLEY
Minna	MISS JEAN AYLWIN
Freda	MISS OLIVE WADE
Anna	MISS MARY HOBSON
Eva	MISS GLADYS COOPER
Lina	MISS JULIA JAMES
Katrina	MISS KITTY HANSON
Barbara Briefmark	MISS ENID LEONHARDT
Betti Berncastler	MISS TESSIE HACKNEY
Mitzi	MISS GERTIE MILLAR

The Girls of Gottenberg is one of the prettiest and pleasantest musical plays that have ever been done at the Gaiety. The book is based on a really comic "notion"; the lyrics are smartly and neatly written; and the piece is cast with admirable judgment and liberality. The Koepenick incident has been artfully utilised, and woven with skill into the thread of story necessary for an entertainment of this sort. An excuse is found for the imposition practised on the inhabitants of Gottenberg in the desire of the Blue Hussars, who are quartered at the dull and girl-less town of Rottenberg, to be transferred to a more lively locality. This favour is, however, conferred on their rivals, the Red Dragoons, and the Blues are correspondingly disappointed and annoyed. They are joined by Otto, Prince of Saxe-Hildesheim, a "carpet-soldier," who is greatly dependent upon his valet, Max Moddelkopf, a hairdresser. Otto makes Max dress up as an Envoy from the Kaiser and hand to the Colonel of the Blues an order to proceed to the more desirable town, the market-place of which is the second scene of the first act. On one side is the entrance to the girls' college, to which Elsa, the daughter of General the Margrave of Saxe-Nierstein, comes as a pupil. She meets Mitzi in the market-place; and as the innkeeper's daughter would like to be a lady, while Elsa wants to gain time to meet Albrecht, a captain of Dragoons, the two girls exchange costumes and identities. The Blue Hussars enter the town, and Max, in one of his master's gorgeous uniforms, gives himself all the airs of a representative of Royalty, exacting loans, making love to the Burgomaster's buxom daughter, and putting people under arrest in the most high-handed and arrogant style. In the end the lovers pair off suitably, and the merry tale comes to a congenial conclusion.

The authors have given Mr. Edmund Payne a part quite in his line in that of Max Moddelkopf. He is irresistibly droll and comical, and his appearance in the extravagantly sumptuous uniform of the Envoy in the second scene is only equalled in absurdity by that which he makes in the second in a Tyrolese dress, as a "simple nobleman on his wedding tour." Mr. Payne's song, "The Special Envoy," is rendered by him in a style which brings down the house; and the burlesqued self-importance of the Envoy, his fatuously conceited methods of love-making, his "leery" familiarity, and his general self-satisfaction and impudence, make up an intensely amusing and diverting creation. Mr. Payne has seldom been seen to greater advantage than in this part. Mr. George Grossmith, jun., has rather a subordinate rôle in that of Otto, Prince of Saxe-Hildesheim, but gets a great deal out of it by his imperturbable coolness, his absolute ease and confidence, and especially by his dancing. He makes one of the palpable hits of the evening with "Otto of Roses," a song with a catchy air and an effective refrain, written by himself, and composed by Mr. Ivan Caryll. Miss Gertie Millar is sprightliness and cleverness personified as Mitzi, and shows no traces of her late lamentable accident. Her acting is the essence of crisp vivacity and dainty elegance. Her song descriptive of a barmaid's duties and difficulties does not err on the score of over-subtlety; but the air by Mr. Lionel Monckton is light and lively, and the words come trippingly off Miss Millar's tongue, the result being enthusiastic applause. Mr. Robert Nainby has scope for his talent for eccentric and grotesque impersonation in the rôle of the Sergeant of Hussars, Brittlbottl, whose brusque audacities are developed by Mr. Nainby with his accustomed acerbity and acuteness. Mr. A. J. Evelyn puts plenty of military bluffness and gruffness into his rendering of Colonel Finkhausen; and Mr. J. Robert Hale as Albrecht gives a neat little character-sketch of a self-satisfied and foppish Captain of Dragoons. Mr. George Miller, well made up, acts ably as the Burgomaster and Mr. Arthur Hatherton does excellent work as the short-sighted innkeeper; Mr. Charles Brown, with a remarkable make-up and a quaintly inane and reposeful manner, contributes a strikingly comic representation of the town clerk, Adolf. The young officers of the Blue Hussars have alert and able representatives in Messrs. A. J. Evelyn, T. C. Maxwell, Harold Thorley, Somers Bellamy, and George Grundy, to Mr. Maxwell being allotted a capital song, "Fritz," which he renders with great skill and spirit. Miss May de Sousa's attractive appearance and winning ways charm all from the commencement, and she endorses her claim to the suffrages of the audience by her delightful rendering of one of the best numbers in the score, "Kleine Madel," which was undeniably encored. Miss Violet Hall's fine figure and handsome features well fit her to represent the Burgomaster's daughter, Clementine, and she plays up to Mr. Payne throughout with a tact and pleasantness that are very valuable, giving full point to the allusions in her song about "Tina Strauss." Miss Olive May is duly smart and pert as the maid Lucille; and Miss Jean Alwyn, by her distinct delivery and humorous feeling, gets every ounce of effect out of the satire in the song about the Rhine Gold, which is made the excuse for some sharp hits at German girls and their habits. Miss Kitty Mason's dance is simply delightful; Miss Kitty Hanson takes full advantage of her opportunity in the first act as the "only girl in Rottenberg"; and the minor rôles all have capital and careful exponents.

Very bright, clever, and agreeable were the lyrics and music; and Mr. Ivan Caryll and Mr. Lionel Monckton, the composers, and Mr. Adrian Ross and Mr. Basil Hood, the librettists, must be warmly congratulated on the success of their efforts. The swing and spirit of some of the airs are irresistible, and the audience showed its appreciation on Wednesday by repeated attempts to obtain encores. *The Girls of Gottenberg* is deservedly a great success; and the uproarious applause which greeted Mr. George Edwardes's appearance at the conclusion of the performance prophesied a long and prosperous run for this amusing, entertaining, and artistic piece.

"THE HEARTHSTONE ANGELS."

A Play, in Three Acts, by Alison Garland. Produced at the Imperial Theatre, Westminster, on Tuesday, May 14.

The Rev. Augustus Butler	MR. HARRY ASHFORD
The Rev. Arnold Luke	MR. ARTHUR C. CHAPMAN
Mr. Guy Rigby	MR. R. CALVERT HAWS
Mr. Cyril Fergusson	MR. WILSON GUNNING
Mr. Soothem	MR. CHARLES BEDELLS
Mr. Corder	MR. CHARLES SEYMOUR
Jim Gubbins	MR. ADRIAN SILAS
Hardy	MR. J. SAUNDERS
Voters	MR. WILLIAM HOBBS, MR. T. H. SPRAGG
The Hon. Mrs. Rigby	MISS MOUILLOT
Olive Gwynne	MISS EDYTH OLIVE
Iris Colman	MISS HARRIET TRENCH
Miss Nicholson	MISS KATE WHITE
Miss Bird	MISS DORA GREGORY
Mrs. Smith	MISS EILY MALYON
Mrs. Butler	MISS ISABEL GREY

An audience, consisting largely of ladies who are supporters of the Suffragette movement, thoroughly enjoyed the many good things contained in Miss Alison Garland's play, which was produced for one night only. The authoress, as well as the members of the company, were called at the conclusion, and, in response to loud cries of "speech," Miss Garland was brought forward by Miss Mouillot, the producer of the play, and made a few remarks. She said that she preferred to call the piece a sketch rather than a play, and as an excuse for imperfections she pleaded that she was almost entirely unacquainted with the ways and means of the theatre. She hoped, however, to do better at her next attempt. She had had very little idea of the difficulties presented by a one-night production. In conclusion, she expressed her warm thanks to Miss Mouillot, who had produced the piece in the short period of ten days, and to the other members of the company for their excellent performance.

The weak points in the new play, which deals lightly with one of the burning questions of the day, are those evidently due to a lack of experience in play-writing, and there is no reason why Miss Garland should not be encouraged by the measure of success which attended her first essay as a playwright to try again.

Spinsterville is a quiet country town, and when a Woman's Suffrage Society is formed the Rev. Augustus Butler, the vicar, is a good deal disturbed at the prospect of the Suffragette being an active force in the neighbourhood. He never did like "a woman with views." The Hon. Mrs. Rigby is the president of the new Society, Miss Olive Gwynne, a young lady who is an orphan with £500 a year, is the secretary, while the post of treasurer is filled by Miss Iris Colman, a lady with a very sharp tongue. Guy, the son of Mrs. Rigby, thinks it would be a capital piece of fun if his college chum, Cyril Fergusson, were to dress up in the plain, unadorned garb of a new woman, and thus secure an entrance to the committee meetings of the Society. It does not require much persuasion to induce Cyril to carry out the idea, and upon promising a donation of £20 towards the funds of the Society, "Miss Cynthia Fergusson" is elected a member of the committee. But the joke has unforeseen results. Cyril is much impressed by the evident sincerity and self-sacrifice shown by the Suffragette ladies, and, moreover, he falls in love with Olive Gwynne. All unconscious of his real sex, she kisses the so-called Cynthia, and, when in due course Cyril makes a full confession, Olive is very angry indeed, and refuses to forgive him. It is resolved at a committee meeting to support Mr. Soothem, the Liberal candidate for Spinsterville, he having promised to promote their objects if he is returned to Parliament. Through the exertions of the ladies he wins the seat, but he votes against the Suffrage Bill when it is brought forward in the House, and, on being called to account, alleges that the measure only went half-way. However, when he puts up again for Spinsterville, he has no assistance from the ladies, and is defeated by a large majority. Cyril Fergusson becomes an enthusiastic supporter of the right of women to the Parliamentary franchise, and contests a borough on these lines, but is defeated by five votes only. This would not have happened, he believes, had Olive attended his meetings and addressed the electors. However, she eventually forgives him, and promises to become his wife. The women of Spinsterville organise a strike; they attend neither church, chapel, nor mothers' meetings and make things so awkward for the vicar and the other ministers in the town that they are compelled to capitulate. The dialogue is pointed, as, for instance, someone remarks, "The New Woman is more to dreaded than the New Theology"; and a Suffragette exclaims, "There is only one man for whom I have any respect, and that is Guy Fawkes."

Mr. Harry Ashford very neatly and naturally depicted the Vicar of Spinsterville; and Mr. Arthur C. Chapman as the new curate, the Rev. Arnold Luke, also did exceedingly well. Mr. R. Calvert Haws won deserved success by his capital portrait of Guy Rigby, his tackling of the deceptive M.P. in the last act being a good piece of acting. Mr. Wilson Gunning as Cyril Fergusson represented the "new woman" with admirable discretion, and without the slightest trace of vulgarity. Mr. Charles Bedells was appropriately suave as Mr. Soothem, whose agent, Mr. Corder, had a smart and business-like exponent in Mr. Charles Seymour. Mr. Adrian Silas was amusing in the part of the office-boy, Jim Gubbins, who follows the example of Cyril Fergusson, and dons woman's clothes. Miss Edyth Olive played in charming style the part of Olive Gwynne; Miss Harriet Trench was quite life-like as the sharp-tongued Iris Colman; Miss Eily Malyon scored one of the hits of the evening as Mrs. Smith, a Lancashire lady with a delightful brogue; Miss Mouillot rendered valuable assistance as the Hon. Mrs. Rigby; other members of the committee being ably represented by Miss Kate White and Miss Dora Gregory. Miss Isabel Grey was a matronly Mrs. Butler, the Vicar's wife; and Mr. J. Saunders was good as an agricultural labourer, who is one of the voters brought to the poll by the energetic lady canvassers.

THE ARTHUR VERNE FUND.

Subscriptions already received:—

	£	s.	d.
Henry Swinerd	5	5	0
J. W. Cordiner	5	5	0
Messrs. Power and Kirby's *Man's Enemy* Co. (per Martin Comstock)	2	10	6
Horace Stanley	2	2	0
Nellie Harcourt	1	1	0
George Brooks	1	1	0
Lyn Harding	1	1	0
Bert Edwards	0	7	6
Deane Cliffe	0	5	0
W. C. H.	0	5	0
Arthur Hartley	0	5	0
Walter Ashley	0	5	0
H. C. Ward	0	5	0

Subscriptions will be gratefully received and acknowledged by Henry Swinerd, Royal Artillery Theatre, Woolwich; or by J. W. Cordiner, *Dare-Devil Dorothy* company, en route.

MR. BURTON, a well-known Doncaster amusement caterer, has just concluded negotiations with the Doncaster Corporation for the continuation of amusement upon the Hexthorpe Flatts. The structure, a wooden one, will undergo some alterations, and the place will be re-opened next week under the alluring title of "The Cosy Corner," with a popular company of artists

DINNER TO MR. TREE.

Mr. H. Beerbohm Tree was the honoured guest of the Playgoers' Club on Sunday evening at the Hotel Cecil, when a dinner was given for the purpose of congratulating him on the success of his visit to Germany. MR. HALL CAINE, the president of the Club, presided over a large gathering of ladies and gentlemen, among whom were Herr Hans Andresen, Mrs. Bennett, Mr. René Bull, Mrs. Caine, Mr. Louis E. Calvert, Mr. W. Clarkson, Mr. W. Cobbett, Miss Constance Collier, Miss Margaret Cooper, Sir E. Cornwall, M.P., Lady Cornwall, Miss Alice Crawford, Mr. H. Dana, Mr. Bernard Davis, Mr. G. S. Edwards, Mr. H. Passmore Edwards, Mr. P. M. Faraday, Mr. J. T. Grein, Mr. W. Grossmith, Mrs. Grossmith, Mr. Lyn Harding, Mr. H. Hart, Herr von Bethmann-Holweg (representing the German Ambassador), Mr. G. P. Huntley, Mrs. Huntley, Mr. C. E. B. Kibblewhite, Mr. H. Leigh, Mr. J. L'Estrange, Mr. H. Lowenfeld, Mrs. Lowenfeld, Col. Mapleson, Mr. Tito Mattei, Mr. J. Matsui, Mlle. S. Morival, Mr. Geo. Mozart, Mr. J. Murdock, Mr. Henry Neville, Mr. H. S. Nye, Mr. W. Payne, Mr. Courtice Pounds, Mr. Malcolm Scott, Miss Viola Tree, Mr. Auguste Van Biene, Miss F. Venning, Mr. James Welch, Mrs. Welch, Mr. Fredk. Whelen, Mrs. Whelen, Mr. Bransby Williams, and Mrs. Williams.

The CHAIRMAN, in proposing the toast of the King, stated that his Majesty had once remarked to him that in his (the King's) opinion Mr. Tree's Falstaff was one of the finest things he had ever seen.

The CHAIRMAN, in proposing the toast of Mr Tree, asked the company to drink to the health of the great artist who had so often delighted them with so many beautiful productions, who had created for them so many characters that had become as real as their closest friends, whose laughter had made them laugh, whose tears had overflowed their eyes, and whose recent success in a foreign country had been almost as much their own success as if they had won it for themselves.

MR. TREE, who was received with loud and continued applause when he rose to reply to the toast, said, in the course of an eloquent and interesting speech: Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen,—After listening to the words which have been spoken by you, my dear Hall Caine, and the generous manner in which you, my kind friends, have received those words, I feel that I should like to let the beginnning, the middle, and the end of my speech be only thanks, thanks, and again thanks. We had many experiences, pleasant and exciting, during our stay in the German capital, and one of the pleasantest was the arrival, in the midst of a night of storm and stress, of a message from the Playgoers' Club inviting us to the feast of which we are partaking to-night. We went not to teach the Germans what they should do, but to present to the German public what interests the English public at His Majesty's Theatre.

A high official of the German Court is visiting London, and on the occasion of his coming to the theatre last week I had a long conversation with him. He expressed the greatest admiration for the performance of a comparatively small part by Mr. Lyn Harding—that of a Russian cavalry general in *The Red Lamp*. He said, "What deep study and acute observation Mr. Lyn Harding must have brought to his remarkable study of that cavalry officer. I know the type well, and the actor gives a performance which reflects all the traits and tricks of that type." I told him that I believed Mr. Lyn Harding had never set eyes on a Russian cavalry officer, and that the merit of his performance was based on a far deeper thing than mere knowledge—it was based upon instinct, which is inherited knowledge. I will tell you the counterpart of the story. A young Irish cavalry officer became a member of my company, and he essayed the part of an Irish cavalry lieutenant. This was his début. It took place in Dublin. An influential Irish critic remarked that "It was a pity that the young gentleman who played the part of an Irish cavalry lieutenant could not pay a visit to the barracks to see something of the habits and manners of an Irish cavalry officer." Thus we see, again, what a small thing mere knowledge is. The drama is a powerful engine for good or ill. This fact has been recognised by the greatest rulers of the earth, including Elizabeth of England, Frederick the Great of Prussia, and Napoleon of France. The Emperor of the Sahara, too, once extended an invitation to me to visit the desert with Shakespeare. The desert is now being prepared.

In the theatre world some things are more happily ordered to-day than they were when I first started out on my career as a manager. One of the most marked changes is in first-night audiences. They are now much more kind than they were some few years ago. Perhaps they understand our difficulties better than they used; and to understand is to forgive, as the French say. The long run is a feature which continues. Personally, I must admit that long runs, though commercially useful, are not in the best interests of the art of the theatre. Most actors are much happier, and, indeed, more competent, when they frequently change their work. In my experience I find that it is not pace, but boredom that kills. When runs are long, art is apt to be short. A great change has come over our stage in the way of elocution during the last thirty years. The days of the barn-stormer are numbered. Shouting was then the first duty of the actor, and sometimes his last accomplishment. I remember a cabman dropping me at my destination, and with the familiarity which a double fare is apt to engender, saying in a husky voice, "Ah! Mr. Tree, you little dreamed that you were being driven by a brother 'pro.' I have done a bit of shouting myself in my time." I have often heard it whispered that I am the victim of a syndicate, who may not call his soul his own. You will perhaps pardon my assuring you that this does not happen to be. I enjoy governing and managing my theatre free from the intervention of even the wisest outsiders. There are two great things in life—the one the enjoyment of power, the other the power of enjoyment. As to the future of the stage, I confess to you that my view is optimistic. In the religious and intellectual development of our time the stage will, I believe, hold an ever increasing place. Its field is widening hourly. You remember when Disraeli came from Berlin after the famous Congress—I remember seeing him myself at Charing Cross Station with Lord Salisbury—he said, "I bring back peace with honour." I hope that in our modest way, if we have not brought back peace, our art has at least not aggravated the tension between the two great and friendly nations. If only our visit to Berlin has in some small measure helped towards this end, and if it has only carried us half an inch towards that happy consummation of the universal entente, our efforts will not have been in vain.

MR. H. PASSMORE EDWARDS proposed the toast of "The Club," and Mr. J. T. Grein that of "The Visitors," responses being made to the latter by Miss Constance Collier, Mr. Charles Bond, and Herr Hans Andresen.

During the course of the dinner a delightful programme of music was performed by the string band of the Royal Horse Guards (Blue) under the conductorship of Mr. Manuel Bilton. To the concert which followed pleasing contributions were made by Mlle. Morival, Miss Margaret Cooper, Miss Aileen Hodgson, Miss Florence Venning, Signor Tito Mattei, Mr. Thorpe Bates, Mr. Harrison Latimer, Mr. George Mozart, Mr. Henry Neville, Mr. Malcolm Scott, Mr. Richard Temple, and Mr. Bransby Williams, Mr. W. Mansell Stevens acting as accompanist.

"WHEN KNIGHTHOOD WAS IN FLOWER."

A Play, in Four Acts, by Paul Kester, Dramatised from the novel of the same name by Charles Major, played for the first time in England at the Waldorf Theatre, on May 13.

Henry VIII.	MR. MAWSON
Francis d'Angouleme	MR. REICHER
Thomas Wolsey	MR. CROMPTON
Duke of Buckingham	MR. VIBART
Duke de Longueville	MR. CRAWLEY
Charles Brandon	MR. SOTHERN
Sir Edwin Caskoden	MR. LEWIS
Master Cavendish	MR. ANDERSON
Sir Adam Judson	MR. ERIC
Will Somers	MR. REICHER
Captain Bradhurst	MR. BUCKSTONE
Host	MR. ASPLAND
Officer	MR. ROBERTSON
Servant	MR. KELLY
Officer of the Ship	MR. TAYLOR
First Adventurer	MR. HOWSON
Second Adventurer	MR. ANDERSON
Third Adventurer	MR. WALSH
Fourth Adventurer	MR. HARRIS
Queen Katherine	MISS KRUGER
Mary Tudor	MISS MARLOWE
Lady Jane Bolingbroke	MISS LAMISON
Mistress Anne Boleyn	MISS BAIRD
Mistress Jane Seymour	MISS CLEMENT
French Lady	MISS ALEXANDER
Page	MISS WILSON

The repertory of Mr. E. H. Sothern and Miss Julia Marlowe is comprehensive and various; and, in the course of their visit to the Waldorf Theatre, they have given their admirers samples of widely differing styles of dramatic art. *When Knighthood was in Flower* belongs to the order of picturesque "historical" dramas. Its date is 1513, when Henry VIII. was planning a marriage between his sister, Mary Tudor, and Louis, the moribund King of France. The first act opens at a river landing in Windsor Park, with a view of the Castle and the Thames in the background, and, as foreground figures, a bevy of pretty ladies of the Court, who have assembled to welcome the coming of Mary, a wilful girl of impulsive temperament, who has very little of the princess in her manner and behaviour. In confidential chat with her friend, Lady Jane Bolingbroke, Mary reveals her fancy for Charles Brandon, a soldier of fortune in the King's Guards, who is about to seek his fortune in New Spain. Brandon has fallen deeply in love with the Princess; but, feeling the danger of yielding to such a passion, he has determined to fly from her perilous vicinity to foreign climes. But the imperious Mary will not let him off so easily. She exacts his presence, and orders him to instruct her in a new dance just imported from Paris; and, what with scolding him and begging his pardon, what with meaning glances and provocative hints, she leads the unhappy adventurer on to a profession of love, which she very heartily reciprocates. The Duke of Buckingham, who is "watching the case" for his own crafty purposes, has in leash a notorious duellist, Sir Adam Judson, who has already slain Brandon's younger brother on the "field of honour," and is perfectly ready, for a consideration, to pick a quarrel with Brandon himself. Mary has been to a fortune-teller in London and has obtained from him her horoscope, written on green parchment. She also has in her possession a perfectly respectful, but rather compromising, letter from Brandon; and she leaves both these documents on a seat near the river landing, Judson securing the parchment and Buckingham the epistle. To save the honour of the Princess Brandon insists that the documents shall be given up to him. Judson refuses, and swords are drawn. Finding that the duellist wears a coat of mail under his clothes, Brandon grapples with him, and wounds him fatally in the throat with a dagger; and for this, at the instance of Buckingham, he is arrested and sent to the Bridewell prison, the Duke deceiving Mary into the belief that he is on the lover's side.

The scene of the second act is laid in Mary's apartments in Bridewell House, London. The Princess believes that Brandon has been pardoned and has left for New Spain, whereas he is condemned to death by means of Buckingham's intrigues. However, he escapes from prison, and comes to meet the Princess, who insists on accompanying him in his flight to the New World. They get away through a window while the guards are hammering at an outer door, and ride hard to Bristol, where they halt at an inn close to the quay before embarking on the vessel which is to bear them to "foreign parts." The captain of the ship insists on inspecting his second passenger, and Mary's sex is discovered, the result being a scuffle in which Brandon bears himself bravely. The combat is put a stop to by the entrance of Henry VIII. and his soldiers; Brandon is again placed under arrest, and Mary is packed off to Paris, where we find her in the last act, the bride—but "only in name"—of the dying Louis, and persecuted by the attentions of the Dauphin, whose licentious overtures she is resisting when Brandon enters by a secret panel, disarms the royal libertine, and hurries Mary away with him, the end being the happy union of the lovers, Brandon being created Earl of Suffolk.

Miss Julia Marlowe put a liberal amount of energy and activity into her performance of Mary Tudor, depicting very vividly the violent temper and generous impulsiveness of the headstrong girl, and doing full justice to the Princess's fiery nature and nervous irritability. In the few scenes of tender sentiment which the author has allowed to Mary Tudor Miss Sothern played with artistic earnestness and refined emotionality. By the influence of her vivid personality and unsparing energy she "kept things moving" spiritedly while she was on the stage—which was "nearly all the time." Mr. Sothern gave a very fine reading of the rôle of Charles Brandon, the elevation and reserve of the shrewd soldier melting to passionate love under the advances of the Princess being shown with keen skill and sound judgment. Mr. Sothern must also be praised for his share in one of the best sword fights we have ever seen on the stage, and for the warmth and earnestness of his love-making and the vigour of his acting generally. Little attempt was made to "visualise" Henry VIII. and Wolsey; and, indeed, the nature of the play did not permit of this; but a very graphic embodiment of the Duke of Buckingham was supplied by Mr. Vibart, who made a fine figure as the crafty intriguer—tall, subtle, and well restrained. Mr. Crawley gave a highly finished portrait of the Envoy of France; and Mr. Lewis was very firm, steady, and serious as Sir Edwin Caskoden, Miss Lamison making a charmingly sweet and simple Lady Jane Bolingbroke. Mr. Eric as Judson supplied a strongly-marked sketch of a saturnine duellist; and there was some very quaint character-acting in Mr. Howson's First Adventurer, Mr. Taylor's mediæval Captain being a bold, burly, and deep-mouthed creation. Miss Kruger did well in the small part of Queen Katherine; and Mr. Reicher was admirably clear and distinct as the Jester, and quite graphic as the Dauphin; Mr. Aspland being efficient as the host of the Bristol inn. The remaining characters were all ably interpreted; and the piece was very liberally and tastefully mounted, the scenery and dresses being extremely picturesque. *When Knighthood was in Flower* gave great satisfaction to the audience at the Waldorf on Monday.

FIFTY YEARS OF THE DRAMA. 1850—1900.

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In these columns it is proposed to give a strictly alphabetical arrangement of the titles of plays produced during the last fifty years. It will be the most complete list ever published, and should prove invaluable to authors desiring to discover whether a certain title has ever been used, and when. To members of the dramatic profession it will be useful in determining the dates of plays in which they have achieved successes. Our readers are politely requested to advise us of any omission or inaccuracy which they may notice.

This list as soon as complete will be published in cheap book form.

WIFE'S DEVOTION, Liverpool, May 6, 1889.
WIFE'S EVIDENCE, Britannia, May 1, 1872.
WIFE'S PORTRAIT, Haymarket, March 10, 1862.
WIFE'S REVENGE, Surrey, Nov. 23, 1857.
WIFE'S SACRIFICE, St. James's, May 25, 1886.
WIFE'S TRAGEDY, Standard, Dec. 10, 1870.
WIFE'S VICTORY, Amphitheatre, Liverpool, March 28, 1879.
WIFE, THE, Pavilion, Nov. 9, 1892.
WIFE WELL WON, Haymarket, Dec. 30, 1867.
WIFEY, Strand, Nov. 10, 1885.
WIG AND GOWN, Globe, April 6, 1874.
WILD DUCK, Royalty, May 5, 1894.
WILDFIRE, Alhambra, Dec. 24, 1877.
WILDFIRE NED, Britannia, Dec. 19, 1866.
WILD FLOWER OF THE PRAIRIE, Elephant and Castle, Sept. 8, 1877.
WILD FLOWER, THE, Theatre Royal, Brighton, March 5, 1900.
WILD GOOSE, Haymarket, April 29, 1867.
WILD LOVE, Old Theatre Royal, Bristol, April 18, 1881.
WILD OATS, Criterion, May 18, 1891.
WILD CHARLEY, Britannia, Oct. 28, 1867.
WILD PRIMROSE, Novelty, Feb. 7, 1891.
WILD RABBIT, Wolverhampton, Jan. 23, 1899.
WILD VIOLET, Theatre Royal, Colne, Sept. 13, 1894.
WILD VIOLETS, Parkhurst, Sept. 1, 1891.
WILD WEST, Theatre Royal, Woolwich, June 6, 1887.
WILFRED'S CHOICE, Maidstone, Dec. 14, 1894.
WILFUL BEAUTY, St. George's Hall, Nov. 14, 1885.
WILFUL MURDER, Theatre Royal, Woolwich, April 2, 1888.
WILFUL WARD, Novelty, Jan. 5, 1884.
WILHELM TELL, Drury Lane, June 9, 1881.
WILL AND THE WAY, Avenue, May 21, 1890.
WILL HE COME AGAIN, Princess's, May 28, 1892.
WILLIAM, Parkhurst, May 12, 1892.
WILLIAM AND SUSAN, Drury Lane, March 7, 1859.
WILLIAM SIMPSON, Olympic, Dec. 16, 1872.
WILLIAM TELL, Sadler's Wells, Oct. 19, 1867.
WILLIAM TELL, Burlesque, Strand, April 13, 1857.
WILLIAM TELL TOLD AGAIN, Gaiety, Dec. 1, 1876.
WILLIAM TELL WITH A VENGEANCE, Strand, Oct. 5, 1867.
WILLIE'S MRS., Strand, March 20, 1900.
WILLIE THE WANDERER, Marylebone, Aug. 6, 1866.
WILLING SLAVE, Theatre Royal, Bristol, July 13, 1883.
WILL OF THE WISE KING KINO, Princess's, Sept. 13, 1873.
WILL OF WISE KING KINS, Princess's, Sept. 13, 1873.
WILL O' THE WISP, Hanley, Sept. 27, 1869.
WILLOW MARSH, Sadler's Wells, Oct. 8, 1862.
WILLOW PATTERN PLATE, Strand, Dec. 26, 1851.
WILLOW POOL, Grecian, Nov. 14, 1870.
WILL PONTYPRIDD, Cambrian, Merthyr, March 9, 1875.
WILL WITH A VENGEANCE, Globe, Nov. 27, 1876.
WILLY REILLY, Adelphi, Glasgow, March 29, 1875.
WILLY REILLY AND HIS OWN DEAR COLLEEN BAWN, Marylebone, May 5, 1861.
WIND AND WAVE, Theatre Royal, Nottingham, March 30, 1868.
WINDSOR CASTLE, Strand, June 5, 1865.
WINGS OF THE STORM, Globe, Oct. 5, 1891.
WINGS OF WEALTH, Willenhall, Oct. 25, 1894.
WINIFRED'S VOW, Novelty, March 19, 1892.
WINKHOPPER'S PLOT, Novelty, June 7, 1897.
WINNING A WIFE, Great Yarmouth, Nov. 12, 1888.
WINNING CARD, Haymarket, Oct. 14, 1867.
WINNING DEFEAT, Novelty, May 30, 1891.
WINNING HAND, Surrey, Sept. 9, 1895.
WINNING SUIT, Princess's, Feb. 16, 1863.
WINONA THE SIOUX QUEEN, Park, Feb. 2, 1881.
WISDOM OF THE WISE, St. James's, Nov. 22, 1900.
WISE CHILD, Prince of Wales's, Liverpool, July 31, 1882.
WISE ELEPHANTS OF THE EAST, Astley's, Dec. 5, 1853.
WISHING GATE, Effingham, Sept. 3, 1866.
WISHING GLEN, Britannia, June 22, 1863.
WISHING OAK, Portsmouth, Jan. 27, 1898.
WITCH, THE, Princess's, April 26, 1887.
WITCH'S BOON, Ladbroke Hall, Sept. 11, 1888.
WITCHES' WEED, Pavilion, Sept. 26, 1868.
WITH HAND AND HEART, Highgate, July 21, 1888.
WITHERED LEAVES, Theatre Royal, Sheffield, April 5, 1875.
WITH FLYING COLOURS, Adelphi, Aug. 19, 1899.
WITHOUT A HOME, Theatre Royal, Cardiff, May 24, 1880.
WITHOUT ENCUMBRANCE, Strand, Aug. 12, 1850.
WITHOUT LOVE, Olympic, Dec. 16, 1872.
WITHOUT MONEY OR FRIENDS, Prince's, Portsmouth, Sept. 7, 1874.
WITH THE COLOURS, Opera House, Leicester, Aug. 14, 1886.
WITNESS, Prince of Wales's, Southampton, May 24, 1889.
WIVES, Vaudeville, March 8, 1883.
WIZARD OF THE NILE, Shaftesbury, Sept. 6, 1897.
WIZARD OF THE WILDERNESS, Gaiety, March 8, 1873.
WOGGLE'S WAXWORKS, Surrey, June 2, 1879.
WOLFE TONE, Dublin, Dec. 26, 1898.
WOLF OF THE PYRENEES, Britannia, April 13, 1868.
WOOLGATHERING, St. George's Hall, June 26, 1888.
WOLVES, Theatre Royal, Blackburn, March 16, 1870.
WOLVES AND WAIFS, Brighton, July 20, 1891.
WOMAN AGAINST WOMAN, Theatre Royal, Portsmouth, March 9, 1883.
WOMAN AND THE LAW, Theatre Royal, Hull, July 28, 1884.
WOMAN AND WINE, Pavilion, Oct. 11, 1897.
WOMAN FROM THE PEOPLE, Music Hall, Hastings, May 29, 1882.
WOMAN HATER, Theatre Royal, Newcastle, Sept. 2, 1887.
WOMAN HE LOVED AND THE WOMAN THAT LOVED HIM, Grecian, July 8, 1872.
WOMAN, HER RISE AND FALL IN LIFE, Britannia, Nov. 13, 1871.
WOMAN I ADORE, Haymarket, Oct. 9, 1852.
WOMAN IN BLACK, Standard, Dec. 2, 1895.
WOMAN IN MAUVE, Prince of Wales's, Liverpool, Dec., 1864.
WOMAN IN RED, Victoria, March 30, 1864.
WOMAN IN WHITE, Surrey, Nov. 3, 1860.
WOMAN OF BUSINESS, Adelphi, Aug. 29, 1864.
WOMAN OF NO IMPORTANCE, Haymarket, April 19, 1893.
WOMAN OF PLEASURE, Southampton, Nov. 22, 1900.
WOMAN OF THE PEOPLE, Amphitheatre, Liverpool, Feb. 17, 1877.
WOMAN OF THE WORLD, Surrey, Nov. 22, 1858.
WOMAN; OR, LOVE AGAINST THE WORLD, Lyceum, Aug. 19, 1861.
WOMAN OUTWITTED, Novelty, Nov. 16, 1886.
WOMAN'S CAPRICE, Prince of Wales's, April 13, 1895.
WOMAN SCORNED, Workington, Oct. 10, 1898.
WOMAN'S ERROR, Theatre Royal, Shrewsbury, May 1, 1876.
WOMAN'S FREAK, Music Hall, Chester, Dec. 15, 1882.
WOMAN'S GUILT, Novelty, Oct. 12, 1896.
WOMAN'S HEART, Theatre Royal, Richmond, July 11, 1881.
WOMAN'S IDOL, Theatre Royal, Margate, July 20, 1891.
WOMAN'S LOVE, Elephant and Castle, May 8, 1875.
WOMAN'S PERIL, Victoria, July 23, 1877.
WOMAN'S PROPER PLACE, St. James's, June 29, 1896.
WOMAN'S REASON, Shaftesbury, Dec. 27, 1895.
WOMAN'S REVENGE, Ladbroke Hall, March 18, 1882.
WOMAN'S RIGHTS, Britannia, April 3, 1876.
WOMAN'S SACRIFICE, St. George's Hall, June 3, 1899.
WOMAN'S SECRET, Watford, May 9, 1894.
WOMAN'S SIN, Sadler's Wells, July 21, 1888.
WOMAN'S TEARS, Comedy, June 27, 1889.
WOMAN'S TRUST, Pavilion, Sept. 2, 1872.
WOMAN'S TRUTH, Grand, Nottingham, Dec. 24, 1886.
WOMAN'S VENGEANCE, Standard, May 28, 1888.
WOMAN'S VICTORY, Comedy, July 8, 1885.
WOMAN'S WHIM, St. George's Hall, Dec. 3, 1867.
WOMAN'S WIT, Abbey Road, N.W., July 20, 1893.
WOMAN'S WORLD, Court, Dec. 8, 1896.
WOMAN'S WRONGS, Toole's, Sept. 12, 1887.
WOMAN TAMER, Brompton Hospital, March 10, 1896.
WOMAN WHO WOOED WHILE THE WEALTH WOBBLED, Queen's Hall, Dec. 13, 1897.
WOMEN AND MEN, Theatre Royal, Manchester, May 22, 1871.
WON AT LAST, Theatre Royal, Scarborough, Sept. 13, 1869.
WON BY A HEAD, Queen's, March 29, 1869.
WON BY A NECK, Theatre Royal, Exeter, Aug. 16, 1879.
WON BY HONOURS, Theatre Royal, Brighton, April 21, 1882.
WON BY WIT, Islington, Oct. 16, 1895.
WONDERFUL COUSIN, Theatre Royal, Brighton, Aug. 18, 1874.
WONDERFUL DUCK, Opéra Comique, May 31, 1873.
WONDERFUL VISIT, Hastings, April 8, 1896.
WONDER WORKER, Theatre Royal, Margate, June 1, 1894.
WON, NOT WOOED, Bijou, Bayswater, April 16, 1877.
WOODBARROW FARM, Comedy, June 18, 1888.
WOODCOCK'S LITTLE GAME, St. James's, Sept. 28, 1864.
WOOD DEMON, Grecian, Dec. 24, 1873.
WOODEN SPOON, Trafalgar Square, Sept. 26, 1892.

CHATS WITH DRAMATIC AUTHORS.

MR. ARTHUR SHIRLEY.

Mr. Arthur Shirley has tasted of the "sweets" and the "bitters" of dramatic authorship. He has written a play that has run for 6,000 nights and another that has run for one night. What a host of recollections of the Adelphi, Surrey, Princess's, and Pavilion Theatres his name brings to the mind! And what recollections, too, of other popular dramatic authors—George R. Sims, Tom Gallon, Ben Landeck, Fred Leslie, Sutton Vane, and George Conquest—with whom in collaboration he wrote a number of successful melodramas, including, *Two Little Vagabonds*, *Tommy Atkins*, *The Boom of Big Ben*, *Woman and Wine*, *The Absent-Minded Beggar*, *The Better Life*, *Mrs. Othello*, *Straight from the Heart*, *Saved from the Sea*, *Tatterley*, and *A Grip of Iron*. These plays, of course, do not by any means indicate the extent of his labours, for, in addition, he is the author of fifty dramas, farces, and comedies.

Mr. Shirley, who is a native of London, and was born in the year 1853, commenced his business career in the British Museum. He was prepared for the stage by M. Edmond Got, in Paris, and first appeared as an actor in 1872, with the Comédie-Française company at the old Opera Comique Theatre in the Strand, playing a utility part in *Mercadet*. Naturally enough, it was as an actor that he learned all about the intricacies of stage technique, and the knowledge thereby acquired has been of immense service to him in writing plays.

Mr. Shirley is very hopeful as to the future of drama in this country. "Things dramatic, like other phases of life, run in cycles. Each class has its period of success, and its period of somnolence, and he is wise who recognises the signs of the times, and holds himself prepared for the changes that are bound to come. At the present moment there are indications that the taste of the public is once more veering round to drama. I do not mean the melodrama of the sanguinary murders, but drama of a less lurid type. A modern audience will not accept those hair-raising situations—such as the marvellous rescue of the heroine by the hero just as the steam hammer is about to fall upon her prostrate body—over which their fathers shrieked themselves hoarse with excitement. I admit that I have written that sort of stuff myself, but then it was wanted, and when you have to write to order you must not allow your critical judgment to exercise too much influence over you. What is now required to give drama a fillip is the production of a really first-class serious play, something that everybody will go to see, and after that there will be plenty of opportunities for other plays of a similar kind.

"It is rather unfortunate that at the present moment we have no theatre in the West End of London devoted to drama, but perhaps when the time is ripe some enterprising individual will secure a long lease of one of our famous playhouses—or will it be an entirely new theatre, not yet built?—and give a helping hand to the romantic play, for which I believe the average playgoer still cherishes some affection, in spite of the fact that musical comedies have during the past few years possessed an extraordinary attraction for him."

Mr. Shirley has just completed a new drama (with Mr. Eric Hudson), to which they have given the title, *The Gayest of the Gay*, and which is to be produced by Mr. W. W. Kelly at Liverpool at Easter, with Miss Edith Cole in the principal feminine part—a particularly strong character, we understand, and one well suited to Miss Cole's style and individuality.

DEATH OF CAPTAIN RODGERS.

We regret to announce the death, on the 9th inst., of Captain James Rodgers, who in 1890 succeeded his father, Mr. James Rodgers, in the management of the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Birmingham. Captain Rodgers was originally intended for the sea, and had occupied a prominent position in the merchant service. Although he exercised absolute control over the theatre, he never took any practical part on the stage itself. Under his régime the Prince of Wales's continued to prosper; but in 1898 he decided to retire from active management, and leased the house to a company under the title of Rodgers and Co., in connection with which Mr. J. F. Graham became the manager. Captain Rodgers was, however, proprietor of the theatre up to the time of his death. On his retirement from management he removed to Broadway, in Worcestershire, where he continued to live until a few months ago, when he removed to Rednal.

Captain Rodgers was singularly tactful in his management of his employees. On one occasion a strike was threatened in connection with the stage hands, who objected to wearing the stage armour which was provided, more particularly the helmets, the complaint being that they "cut their ears off." At a rehearsal a gaunt figure was seen moving across the stage wearing one of the helmets. It was Captain Rodgers, who had adopted this means of satisfying himself and the stage hands that no serious hardship was being inflicted upon them.

He was on very friendly terms with the late Sir Henry Irving, and was personally intimate with the theatrical stars who visited the theatre. Captain Rodgers took an active part in the promotion and carrying out of the Theatrical Charity Sports. These owed their inception to the Broadstreet house, and were first held in connection with the Aston Villa Football Club. Later the Captain realised that there was room in Birmingham for two rather than one such meeting, and he invoked the aid of the Small Heath Football Club, and for years these efforts on behalf of charity were maintained, with the result that thousands of pounds were raised for the local medical charities.

Captain Rodgers used to tell a story of the late Mr J. L. Toole, between whom and the Captain a close personal friendship existed. On one of his visits to the theatre Mr. Toole was far from well, and Captain Rodgers invited him to take a drive with him before appearing on the stage in the evening. It was a glorious afternoon, and they went a pleasant drive through the leafy suburbs of the west end of Birmingham. "Well, Johnny, what did you think of the drive?" asked the Captain. Toole expressed himself delighted, and praised the scenery, then remarking drily, "But you haven't billed it much!"

Captain Rodgers was at one time a prominent Freemason, and among his outdoor pursuits cycling found much favour.

The deceased manager had not enjoyed robust health for some time past, but his death, which took place in his sleep, was sudden and unexpected. He leaves a widow and four children.

THE musical-director of the Lyceum has written a very pretty march, and has dedicated it to Marjorie, the eleven-year-old daughter of Mr. Ernest Carpenter. Miss Carpenter is a clever little pianist and recitress.

PRESENTATION.—A silver-mounted bâton has been presented to Mr. Alexander Humphreys by Miss Marion Denvil and Mr. Ashley Page, in recognition of the admirable music which he composed for the recent production of *Romeo and Juliet* at the Terriss Theatre.

IN our issue of Saturday last, in our notice of *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, we mentioned Miss Burns as appearing as Sweet Anne Page. Miss Hélène J. Garland played the part on the evening in question.

"THE BEST OF HER SEX."

A Drama, in four acts, by Wm. A. Armour and Robert Cheval, produced for the first time at the Colosseum Theatre, Oldham, on May 13.

Lieut.-Colonel Sir Stanton Faringdon ..... MR. HERBERT I. WALTON
Philip Faringdon ..... MR. REGINALD PAYNE
Leslie Verney ..... MR. CHARLES CONWAY
Vera Delorme ..... MISS ALICE DEFOE
Ruth Raeburn ..... MISS DORA PRICE
Rev. Stephen Maxwell ..... MR. EDWARD H. HAMILTON
Jake Smith ..... MR. H. DE VILLE
P.C. Peter Jorkins ..... MR. FRED RIGNOLD
Holy Joe ..... MR. HORACE BUCKLEY
Polly Perkins ..... MISS NELL INGRAM
Simon Downy ..... MR. HERBERT ASHTON
Warder ..... MR. TOM RICHARDSON
Little Phil ..... MISS LILLIAN ROSE
Detective Grey ..... MR. VINCENT HALES

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

A large audience was present when Mr. Wm. A. Armour's company appeared for the first time on Monday evening in a new domestic play, which had a good reception. The play opens at the library at Coombe Hall, where Lieut.-Colonel Sir Stanton Faringdon sends for his grandson Philip, as he intends to make a will in his favour, on condition that he marries Vera, another grandchild. Philip refuses to conform to his grandfather's wishes, as he is already secretly married to Ruth, Sir Stanton's ward. Leslie Verney, another grandson of the baronet, plots with Vera to obtain possession of the estates and money. Despite Leslie's promise to make Vera his wife, he makes love to Ruth, but she repels his advances, and he is attempting to kiss her when Philip appears, and knocks the villain down. Verney is accused by Sir Stanton Faringdon of having stolen two hundred pounds out of the allowance to Philip. Angry words ensue, and finally Verney shoots the old man dead. Philip is accused of the murder of his grandfather, and conceals himself at the Haunted Mill, where Holy Joe, a poacher, promises to keep his enemies off the scent. Verney, however, tracks Philip to his hiding-place, and shoots him while he is trying to escape. The hero is sentenced to penal servitude for life; but the two cousins, Leslie and Vera, determine to put him out of the way by paying a warder at the gaol to allow him to escape, and shoot him in doing so. Philip escapes without being shot, and the warder is killed by Verney, and his clothes changed for a convict suit. The body is thrown into the river, and discovered later, when it is supposed to be that of Philip.

The last act opens at a shop in the East End, kept by Joe. Ruth and Little Phil, her son, live with him, the former getting her living as a nurse, and Philip, who has been abroad, now returns a wealthy man, and is invited by the villain Leslie to his house to play cards; but Vera refuses to allow them to play, and Verney brutally knocks her down. The woman thereupon tells Faringdon of Verney's guilt, and dies; while Verney is marched off to pay the penalty for his crimes.

Mr. Armour has a strong company, Miss Dora Price playing the part of Ruth Raeburn in a highly efficient manner. Mr. Edward H. Hamilton, as the Rev. Stephen Maxwell, acts in manly fashion and with great success. Mr. Charles Conway plays the heavy part of Leslie Verney with judgment; and Miss Alice Defoe works well with him as Vera Delorme. Mr. Herbert I. Walton as Lieut.-Colonel Sir Stanton Faringdon has not much to do, but he does it well; and Mr. Reginald Payne is all that can be desired as Philip Faringdon. Mr. H. de Ville, as Jake Smith, Verney's accomplice, proves himself a sound actor; and Mr. Vincent Hales is good as Detective Grey. Miss Lillian Rose is a capital actress as Little Phil. Abundance of comedy is furnished by Miss Nell Ingram as Polly Perkins, Mr. Fred Rignold as P.C. Peter Jorkins, and Mr. Horace Buckley as Holy Joe, and they contrive to convulse the "house" with merriment. Mr. Herbert Ashton also does well as Simon Downy, and Mr. Tom Richardson makes a good Warder. The drama is well dressed and mounted, the Haunted Mill and the Old Bridge being especially fine, and a successful future may be predicted.

"THE TIGER'S DEN."

A Drama, in Four Acts, by Charles Freeman, Produced at the Theatre Royal, Stratford, on Monday, May 6.

Fifty Fafty ..... MR. CHARLES FREEMAN
Capt. Alfred Roper .. MR. CHARLES LODGE-PERCY
Capt. Dodd ..... MR. WILL GRIFFITHS
Dick Herring ..... MR. WILL MCNALLIE
Samuel Gog ..... MR. FRANK COSTON
P.C. 95 ..... MR. JOHN HAYES
Jack Fafty ..... MR. G. K. ASHLEY
Detective Moss ..... MR. MARK GRAYLAND
Jennie Jenkins ..... MISS LILLY WALKER
Mother Fafty ..... MISS HENRIETTA SCHRIER
Ella Heatherington ..... MISS FLORENCE TENCH

Mr. Charles Freeman has given us an exciting melodrama in *The Tiger's Den*. We learn that twenty years previous to the opening of the play Fifty Fafty, a notorious scoundrel in North Shields, had murdered a man and his wife at the goldfields in Australia after an unreciprocated attempt at making love to the woman. He takes charge of their baby girl and brings her up as his child, and she later finds employment in North Shields as a barmaid. Fafty's own son, Jack, has been separated from his father from boyhood. Having for several years followed the life of a sailor, he now returns home, hoping to give his parents a surprise visit. He begins to celebrate his home-coming in the usual Jack Tar style at the public house where his foster-sister, Ella, is employed. He tells her who he is, and adjures her to keep his identity secret from his people for the time being. Unrecognised by the latter, he obtains lodging at the "den" kept by Fifty Fafty, and is murdered during the night by that worthy and his amiable spouse. Subsequently Ella comes to them and inquires after the stranger, discovers the foul deed that has been committed, and then informs them that they have killed their own son. Then sensation follows sensation in the attempt by Fafty to evade justice. Mrs. Fafty is eternally haunted by the apparition of a black dog, the form she believes the ghost of her dead son has taken. The elusive Fafty escapes from the detectives on several occasions, and when he finally calls in the aid of a taxidermist, who hides him in the stuffed body of an elephant to be shipped to a foreign port, it looks as if the law were to be deprived of a victim after all. But things turn out differently, and the wicked people in the play meet with their deserts.

Mr. Charles Freeman works wonderfully hard depicting the villainies of Fafty, who is a very terrible person in his hands. Miss Florence Tench gives quite a pleasing presentment of the heroine, Ella, and one realises that here is an actress of exceptional worth, who would make a success of a superior part. Miss Henrietta Schrier as Mother Fafty gives us a most objectionable old hag, and acts well in the rôle. Mr. Will McNallie as Dick Herring and Miss Lily Walker as a maid-of-all-work are extremely amusing; and Mr. G. K. Ashley furnishes a spirited Jack Tar as Jack Fafty. Mr. Mark Grayland as a detective, Mr. Charles Lodge-Perry as the gallant Capt. Roper, Mr. Will Griffiths as an old Salt, and Mr. Frank Coston as the taxidermist sustain their characters in commendable fashion.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

ON THE ROAD, MAY 20.

ALL-OF-A-SUDDEN PEGGY.—Grand Theatre, Douglas.
AMASIS.—Theatre Royal, Portsmouth.
AN UNWEDDED WIFE.—T. R., Sunderland.
ASCHE, OSCAR.—Theatre Royal, Manchester.
ASSASSIN.—Theatre Royal, Barnsley.
BEAUTY OF BATH.—Opera House, Leeds.
BELLE OF NEW YORK (HOWARD).—O. H., Blackpool.
BENSON, F. R. (N.).—D. P. T., Eastbourne.
BENSON, F. R.—Assembly Rooms, Malvern.
CHARLEY'S AUNT.—Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh.
CHRISTIAN, THE.—Shakespeare T., Liverpool.
CLAUDIAN.—Prince's T., Bristol.
COMPTON COMEDY CO.—Theatre Royal, Nottingham.
CONSCRIPT, THE.—Theatre Royal, Whitehaven.
COUNTRY GIRL (MACDONA).—Tunbridge Wells.
DAIRYMAIDS, THE.—Grand Theatre, Southampton.
DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY.—Opera House, Weymouth.
DESTROYER OF MEN.—Grand Theatre, Luton.
D'OYLY CARTE.—Theatre Royal, Manchester.
DR. WAKE'S PATIENT (MACDONA).—Cambridge and Colchester.
FACE AT THE WINDOW.—Metropole T., Gateshead.
FALSE WIFE.—Stourbridge.
FLORODORA (HOWARD).—O. H., Southport.
GAY PARISIENNE (MACDONA).—Palace Pier, Brighton.
GEISHA, THE.—Aquarium, Great Yarmouth.
GIRL BEHIND THE COUNTER.—Brixton Theatre, S.W.
GIRL FROM JAPAN.—Opera House, Weymouth.
GO-WON-GO-MOHAWK.—O. H., Dudley.
GRIP OF IRON.—Dalston Theatre, N.E.
HEART'S DESIRE.—Hippodrome, Mansfield.
HER LOST SELF.—Theatre Royal, Colne.
HER LUCK IN LONDON.—Metropole T., Birmingham.
HER MARRIAGE VOW.—Portsmouth.
HER LOVE AGAINST THE WORLD.—O. H., Northampton.
HER ONE GREAT SIN.—H. M. T., Dundee.
HERO OF THE FLAG.—Athenæum T., Lancaster.
HIS SISTER'S HONOUR.—New Theatre, Loughboro'.
HOME, SWEET HOME (GREEN AND HINTON).—Leith.
HONEYMOON, THE.—Lyceum Theatre, Crewe.
HONOUR THY FATHER.—Prince's T., Preston.
HOUR OF HER TRIUMPH.—Cambridge T., Spenny more.
IAN MACLAREN'S REPERTOIRE.—Londesboro' T., Scarborough.
IRVING, H. B.—Theatre Royal, Bradford.
LA COMEDIE ANGLAISE.—Prestatyn and Ruthin.
LIGHTS OUT.—T. R., Exeter.
LION AND THE MOUSE.—Theatre Royal, Preston.
LITTLE BREADWINNER.—Smethwick.
LITTLE VAGRANT.—Prince's T., Bradford.
LONDON FIREMAN.—Prince's T., Portsmouth.
LOVE THAT WOMEN DESIRE.—Prince's T., Poplar.
LUCKY 'LIZA.—Theatre Royal, Bilston.
LUCKY MISS DEAN.—T. R., Colchester.
MAN'S ENEMY.—Cradley Heath.
MANXMAN.—Royalty Theatre, Morecambe.
MASTER CRIMINAL.—Miner's Theatre, Ashington.
MIDNIGHT MAIL.—Theatre Royal, Workington.
MIDNIGHT WEDDING.—P. O. W., Grimsby.
MOLLISON, WILLIAM.—T. R., Blyth.
MONSIEUR BEAUCAIRE.—West Pier, Brighton.
MONTE CRISTO.—Grand Theatre, Hartlepool.
MORALS OF MARCUS.—Coronet Theatre, W.
MR. POPPLE (MACDONA).—Lyceum Theatre, Newport.
MY DARLING.—Court Theatre, Liverpool.
NAPOLEON THE GREAT.—Alexandra T., Birmingham.
NEW WORLD.—Theatre Royal, Scarborough.
NORMAN V. NORMAN.—O. H., Torquay.
OTTO THE OUTCAST.—Theatre Royal, Ashton.
PERFECT LOVE.—Opera House, Buxton.
PETER'S MOTHER (N.).—Oxford.
PETER'S MOTHER (S.).—Blackpool.
PICK OF THE BUNCH.—Amphitheatre, Ramsgate.
POWER OF GOLD.—Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.
PRICE OF HER SOUL.—Grand T., Newcastle.
PRINCE OF PILSEN (HARRIS).—T. R., Hanley.
PRIVATE SECRETARY.—Theatre Royal, Belfast.
PRODIGAL PARSON.—Metropole T., Abertillery.
PRODIGAL DAUGHTER.—Gaiety T., Dublin.
RAFFLES (DANCE).—Theatre Royal, Shrewsbury.
ROYAL DIVORCE.—Theatre Royal, Birmingham.
SECOND TO NONE.—Prince's T., Accrington.
SERGEANT BRUE (N.).—Cambridge.
SHULAMITE.—Gaiety Theatre, Dublin.
SIN OF HER CHILDHOOD.—New Theatre, Aberdare.
STILL ALARM.—Theatre Royal, Norwich.
SWISS EXPRESS.—Gaiety Theatre, Hastings.
THE WOMAN PAYS.—Alexandra T., Birmingham.
THREE LITTLE MAIDS (MACDONA).—Pier, Eastbourne
TOMMY.—King's Theatre, Glasgow.
TOREADOR (MACDONA).—Lowestoft.
TRIUMPH OF TRUTH.—Albert T., Brighouse.
TRUMPET CALL.—Opera House, Middlesbrough.
TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS.—Theatre Royal, Leeds.
TYRANT, THE.—Alexandra T., Hull.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN.—Theatre Royal, Aston.
UNDER THE RUSSIAN FLAG.—T. R. Bury.
VILLAGE BLACKSMITH.—O. H., Coventry.
WARNING TO WOMEN.—Theatre Royal, S. Shields.
WHAT THE BUTLER SAW.—Theatre Royal, Dublin.
WHEN A MAN HATES.—Grand Theatre, Radcliffe.
WHEN THE LIGHTS ARE LOW.—T. R., Jarrow.
WHEN WE WERE TWENTY-ONE.—Lyceum T., Ipswich.
WHEN OTHER LIPS.—T. R., Bristol.
WHITE CHRYSANTHEMUM (MACDONA).—T. R., Brighton.
WILKIE, ALLAN, AND CO.—Weston-super-Mare.
WOMAN FROM SCOTLAND YARD.—Osborne T., Manchester.
WOMAN'S PAST.—Theatre Royal, Consett.
WRECKER OF MEN.—Queen's Theatre, Gateshead.
YOUNGEST OF THREE.—Royalty T., Llanelly.
£1000 REWARD.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.

"SIR ROGER DE COVERLEY."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Our attention has been called by our client, Mr. A. F. Cross, the managing-director of the Prince of Wales Theatre, Nuneaton, to the notice which appeared in your paper of the 11th inst. of a ballet de action, entitled *Sir Roger de Coverley*, which is being produced at the Empire.

From this notice it appears that the ballet infringes the copyright which our client has in a comedy of the same title, which received the Lord Chamberlain's licence in February, 1902, and was produced shortly afterwards.

Although we are aware that in the production at the Empire there is no dialogue, the characters, scenes, and incidents bear a remarkable resemblance to those in our client's piece, and he will take such action as he may be advised to enforce his rights.

Yours truly,
CLAY AND ATKINS.

Nuneaton, May 16, 1907.

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BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR

Your book will, I am sure, be a valuable aid to all managers and actors.—SIR HENRY IRVING.

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Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephone, 4747, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

THE ROMANY.—*Gerald Griffin's story of "The Collegians" was originally adapted for the stage by Egerton Wilks, whose play, entitled* Eily O'Connor; or, The Bride of Killarney, *was produced at the City Theatre, Milton-street, Cripplegate, in 1831. Dion Boucicault's popular version,* The Colleen Bawn, *was acted for the first time at Laura Keene's Theatre, New York, on March 27, 1860.*

GEO. SANDERS.—*Mr. Paul Potter's address is Holland House, New York City, U.S.A. Mr. Wilson Barrett and Mr. Leopold Lewis are both dead. Write to T. French and Co., theatrical publishers, Southampton-street, Strand.*

KOKO.—Business is Business, *an adaptation, by Mr. Sidney Grundy, of "Les Affaires sont Affaires," was produced at His Majesty's Theatre by Mr. Tree, May 13, 1905.*

W. D.—*Horace Wigan died Aug. 7, 1885; Arthur Cecil (in private life Arthur Cecil Blunt), April 16, 1896.*

T. JACKSON.—*Miss Ada Reeve was one of the earliest to sing the song in this country.*

E. P.—*The Islington Empire seats about 3,000.*

J. L.—*Write to Mr. Alfred Butt, at the Palace Theatre.*

FRED.—The Mikado *was first revived at the Savoy, June 7, 1888.*

PARKHURST.—*Mr. Edward Rigby played the Buttons in* What the Butler Saw *when the piece was produced at Wyndham's.*

LINO.—*She first appeared at the Royal Aquarium, Jan. 29, 1894.*

E. A. M.—*The late Mr. Wilson Barrett commenced his tenancy of the Olympic, Dec. 4, 1890. He revived* The Silver King *there on Jan. 3, 1891, and* The Lights o' London *on Feb. 9, 1891.*

W. DAVIES.—*The last revival of* The Corsican Brothers *at the Lyceum was on May 12, 1891.*

C. F. G.—*The principals were Messrs. Charles Cartwright, Arthur Faber, W. L. Abingdon, and Charles Faber, Miss Lingwood, and Miss Edith Morley.*

D. T.—*Nothing of the sort has been published for some years.*

PRO.—*Grimaldi, the famous clown, died May 31, 1837.*

SUBSCRIBER.—*Mr. Thomas German Reed died March 21, 1888, aged seventy; Mrs. German Reed (Priscilla Horton) died March 18, 1896.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a Birth or Death or an "In Memoriam" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is One Shilling and Sixpence, every additional word One Penny.

The charge for a notice of Marriage, not exceeding forty words, is Two Shillings and Sixpence, every additional word One Penny.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

BORIE.—May 13, at 15, Boyton-street, Earle-road, Liverpool, the wife of H. O. Borie, juggler, of a fine daughter. Both doing well.

ELLISTON.—On May 7, 1907, the wife of Harry Elliston, of a daughter. Both well.

LEO.—On May 11, at 30, Park-road, Preston, Mrs. James Leo, of a son.

SCHUBERTH.—May 12, at 14, Crescent-gardens, Bath, the wife of Charles Schuberth, a son.

WINN.—On May 3, at 63, Salford-road, Streatham, Kate Turner, wife of Fred Winn, of a daughter. Both doing well.

MARRIAGES.

GALL—WARD.—At Ecclesall Registry, C. Gall, 17, Alderson-place, Sheffield, and care of May's Dye Works, Little London-road, Heeley, Sheffield, to Bertha Ward, Fitton End, Wisbech.

FORTHCOMING MARRIAGE.

A marriage is arranged to take place the first week in June between Chauncy Morris, stage-manager *The Assassin* Co., and Nellie, younger daughter of R. E. Sargent, Esq., 2, Golden-grove, Douglas-road, Cork, and late Agent, Bank of Ireland, Bandon.

DEATHS.

BOURN.—On Tuesday, May 14, Miss Emma Bourn (Circus Artist) passed peacefully away at her residence, 31, Croft-street, Deptford. Funeral May 18. Deeply regretted by her sisters, Ella and Helen.

DUNDAS.—May 13, at his residence, at Pelham-street, Leicester, Henry Dundas (Arthur Harrison), theatrical manager, aged 47.

GAERTNER.—Mrs. E. Gaertner (Becky Daniels), age 26, after undergoing four operations for peritonitis at the New York Hospital, April 24. Deeply mourned by her loving husband and baby girl.

LEICESTER.—May 16, at Barrow-in-Furness, through a bicycle accident, Charles A. Leicester, actor.

NICHOLSON.—May 9, at Stockton-on-Tees, George Nicholson, part owner of the Hippodrome, Stockton-on-Tees, aged 73.

PAYNE.—May 15, at the Royal Hotel, Mount Ephraim, Tunbridge Wells, George Adney Payne, music-hall director, aged 60. Deeply regretted.

RACKSTRAW.—On May 11, Mary Jane Rackstraw, eldest daughter of G. W. Moore, of Moore and Burgess Minstrels. Interred at Brompton Cemetery on May 15. Foreign papers please copy.

SCOTT.—On May 6, at Maesteg, S. Wales, Mrs. W. Scott, beloved wife of Capt. Scott, circus proprietor. Deeply mourned by her sorrowing husband and children. Her end was peace.

SPENCER.—May 12, at her residence, 60, Burley Lodge-road, Leeds, Hannah, aged 77, relict of the late Councillor J. H. Spencer, and mother of Mrs. Walter Curtis.

THIEL.—May 9, Miss Nellie Welling (Mrs. Leonard Thiel), aged 27.

WEBB.—Arthur Cecil Webb, on May 8, at Sheffield, of pneumonia.

IN MEMORIAM.

BROUGHTON.—In affectionate remembrance of my husband, Fred W. Broughton, dramatist, who died May 16, 1894.

FOR SYMPATHY.

RIGNOLD.—Bessie Rignold sincerely thanks all kind friends for many wires and letters of love and sympathy. Too numerous to answer individually. Rejoining "Leah Kleschna," May 20. Address, 93, South View West, Byker, Newcastle.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

No Circulars or Parcels admitted to this list.

Alberto, Mr. Fred
Alec
Allen, Mr. G. Grant
Alwyn, Mr. Roger
Armitage, Mr. A.
Arnold, Miss M.
Artois, Mr. Jack
Ashby, Miss Nettie
Asherton, Mr. Bert
Atherton, Miss Daisy
Austa, Miss Amber
Baines, Miss Florence
Ball, Mr. Ed. George
Banks, Miss Flo
Barker, Mr. John
Barron, Mr. George
Bartlett, Mr. Frank
Bateman, Mr. Edgar
Bedford, Mr. Harry
Bee, Mr. E.
Belmore, Mr.
Belmore, Mrs. Paul
Ben, Susan, Miss Inez
Bernar, Prof.
Bertram, Mr. E. V.
Besant, Sir Walter
Biddle Brothers
Blythe, Miss Marie
Bonheur, Mr. Theo.
Bosanquet, Mons.
Bowman, Mr. Fred
Bradford, Miss Lulu
Bunce, Mr. Thomas
Bury, Mr. Sam
Byron, Mr. Arthur
Cameron, Mrs. M. R.
Carlton, Miss Minnie
Carlysle, Mr. S. W.
Carson, Mr. Murray
Chanti, Mrs. G.
Chaplin, Mr. Sidney
Charteris, Mr. Hugh
Chipperfield, Mr. H.
Cliff, Little
Clifton, Miss Connie
Clyatt, Mr. C.
Collings, Mr. C. P.
Collins, Miss Lottie
Conan, Mr. Charlie
Connorton, Mrs.
Coppee, Mr. Oscar
Cossart, Mr. Ernest
Cotter, Miss Nell
Crossley, Miss Violet
Dainton, Miss Maisie
Darrell, Mr. L. F.
Dallas, Mr. J. H.
Daly, Mr. Chas. M.
Danvers, Mr. James
Dawe, Mr. Arthur J.
Denham, Mr. Aubrey
Dolan, Miss W.
Doreen, Miss Lillian
Duncan and Godfrey
Duprez, Miss M. M.
Earl, Miss Kate
Ediss, Miss Connie
Edwards, Miss Jessie
Edwards, Mr. Tom
Elton, Mrs. Stanfield
Ergotti Messrs., and King Luis
Fischer, Mr. H.
Fox, Mr. Chester
Frasettis, Les
Ganthony, Miss Nellie
Gardner, Mr. Peter H.
Garrick, Mr. Esca
Gerard, Mr. Ernest
Gilbey, Mr. George
Goff, Mrs. Chas.
Gouriet, Mr. Victor
Goutts, Mr. Henry
Graham, Mr. Gerard
Gratton-Clyndes, Miss A
Greenwood, Mr. F.
Grieve, Miss Dora
Griffies, Miss Ethel
Gully, Mr. Vincent
Haisan, Mr. C. H.
Halston, Miss M.
Handle, Miss Z.
Hayden, Miss B.
Hearne, Mr. Richard
Herman, Dr. Carl
Hill, Miss J.
Hill, Mr. Hamilton
Hollister, Mr. Herbert
Houseley, Miss Edith
Howard, Mr. Walter
Hudson, Miss F.
Huxley, Miss
Hylton, Miss Florence
Johnston, Mr. J. C.
Karno, Mrs. Ted
Kerr, Mr. G. C. V.
Laing, Mr. A.
Lalor, Mr.
Lambert, Mr. W. H.
Lenton, Miss Olive
Le Grand, Mr. H.
Leicester, Mrs. G. F.
Leonze, Mr.
Leopold, Miss Geraldine
Le Roy, Mr. Servais
Lethbridge, Miss Alice
Levaine Mr. Harry
Levey and Caldwell
Lloyd, Mr. F.
Loftus, Miss Kitty
Lovatt, Mrs. A.
Magrath, Mr. Chas.
Manchester, Mr. Harry
Manders, Mrs. Emma
Martin, Mr. Alfred
Martin, Mr Philip
Mayor, Miss Queenie
McCullock, Mr. A.
McNaughton, Mrs. Clas.
Milian, Mr. Max
Molloy, Miss Ruth
Moore, Miss Carrie
Moseley, Mr. W. G.
Moxon, Mr. Edwin
Mozart, Mr. Ernest
Nelson, Mr. Harry G.
Nero, Mons. Michel
New York Comedy Four
Norman, Mr. A. W.
O'Neill, Mr. Frank
Orrors, The Three
Osborne, Mr. Will
Pearson, Mr. Bob
Pease, Mr. S. T.
Penley, Mr. Fred
Peterman, Mr. J. B.
Pettigrove, Mr. B.
Potter, Mrs. Brown
Priest, Mr.
Pryde, Miss Peggy
Ramsden, Miss Marie
Ray, Miss Belle
Renouf, Mr. Henry
Richards, Mr. Chas.
Rolfe, Mr. Syd
Rooke, Miss Irene
Rosino, Miss May
Saker, Mr. George
Sartella, Miss Rose
Scott, Mrs. Veretta
Scott, Mr. C. W.
Scott, Mr. W.
Sealby, Miss Mabel
Selkirks, The
Selman, Mr. Ernest
Seymour, Miss Sadie
Shallard, Mr. Dillon
Shelford, Mr. T.
Siegenberg, Miss Lottie
Silver, Miss Christine
Skelton, Mr. Arthur
Smart, Miss E.
Smart Set Entertainers
Smith, Mr. Phil
Stanford, Miss Mary
Stanley, Mr. J. Briant
Steuart, Mr. Charles
Stiles, Mr. Leslie
St. Quentin, Mr. Ed.
Trevor, Mr. Vaughan
Vansittart, Mr. C. E. B
Vendome, Mr. and Mrs.
Verner, Mr. Chas. E.
Vezin, Mr. H.
Warmsley, Sisters
Warsaw Bros.
Weightman, Mr. J.
Wells, Mr. Adolph
West, Miss Marion
Willard, Mr. P. W.
Wilson, Mr. R.
Wingate, Mr. C. L.
Winn, Mr. J. H.
Zedora, Mr. Leo

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Sylvia Grey—Saturday, May 18.
Lucy Beaumont—Saturday, May 18.
G. F. Neville—Saturday, May 18.
W. E. Brandon—Saturday, May 18.
Cissy French—Sunday, May 19.
Mme. Melba—Sunday, May 19.
May Scott—Sunday, May 19.
Elsie Capell—Sunday, May 19.
Vivian Foster—Sunday, May 19.
Henry Carlton—Sunday, May 19.
May Yates—Sunday, May 19.
Dorothea Baird—Monday, May 20.
T. B. Thalberg—Monday, May 20.
Chas. M. Julian—Monday, May 20.
Arthur Prescott—Tuesday, May 21.
C. Douglas Stuart—Tuesday, May 21.
Morny Cash—Tuesday, May 21.
F. Kemble Cooper—Wednesday, May 22.
J. K. Murray—Thursday, May 23.
Dallas Welford—Thursday, May 23.
John F. Traynor—Thursday, May 23.
"My Fancy"—Thursday, May 23.
Charles Stanford—Friday, May 24.
Joe O'Gorman—Friday, May 24.
Joseph Knight—Friday, May 24.
Gertie Sinclair—Friday, May 24.
A. W. Pinero—Friday, May 24.
May Howard—Friday, May 24.
Gerald Mount—Friday, May 24.
Jas. Leo—Friday, May 24.
Lady Mansell—Friday, May 24.
Gertrude Vere—Friday, May 24.
Kate Maynard—Friday, May 24.

AN appeal on behalf of the Hospital for Consumption will be made at a meeting over which the Lord Mayor will preside at the Mansion House on May 31, at three o'clock. The pressing needs of such an invaluable institution should recommend themselves to all classes of the community, among whom such good work has been achieved. The committee of management do not plead for help to pay off existing debts, as the hospital has no liabilities, but for increased income, which is sadly needed, mainly for the maintenance of their sanatorium at Frimley for open-air treatment and for convalescent patients. The income of the hospital has very materially decreased since the institution of King Edward's Fund, as is shown by the fact that in the ten years previous to its inauguration £295,458 was received from subscriptions, donations, and legacies, while for the last ten years, since its existence, only £256,875, including £8,291 from the King's Fund, has been received from the same sources, approximately a difference of £40,000, or an average of £4,000 a year. Proof that the utmost economy is practised in the management is shown by the fact that the average cost per bed in 1905 was only £73, the lowest of any of the leading London hospitals. Notwithstanding the addition of 110 beds in the Sanatorium to 318 in London, the ever-growing demands on the parent hospital have not decreased, there being at the present time no less than 400 patients, the largest number at any one time in the history of the hospital, waiting their turn to be admitted.

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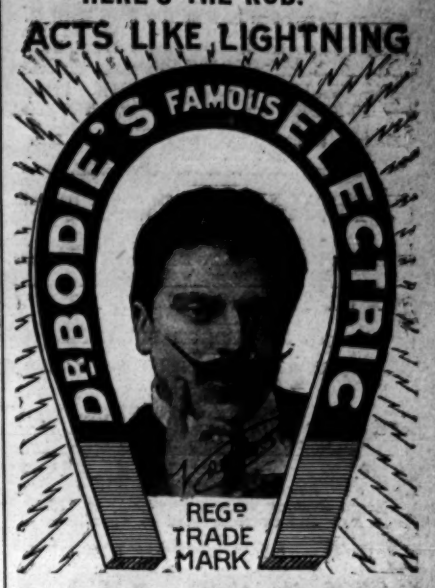

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Whit Monday, May 20, Grand Holiday Co.:—Wm. Holles, Nannie Goldman and Co., S. Mayo, J. Lorimer, Frederica's Terriers, Breton Troupe, A. Aldridge, Russian Troupe of Dancers, L. Lowe, Liddon and Hayward, B. Brantford, The Daintons, A. Asher, Kathleen Cogan, Will Farrell, The Woolhaffs, Daisy Hicks, The Lindons, Harry Milton, Edisonagraph. Rehearsal, Monday, 1 o'clock. Doors open 6.45 Whit Monday; 7 o'clock Tuesday and Saturday; commence 7.10 Monday, Tuesday, and Saturday. Other days open 7.30, commence 7.45. Assist.-Manager, Mr. MAURICE VOLNY.

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May 20, Whit Monday.—Geo. Robey, Tom Leamore, Frank Boyce, Orpheus, Sisters Wingrove, The Carlyles, Sanford and Lyons, Selby and Myers, Sylvia Cavalho, Madame Natalia, The Dalwoods, Marquis and Mignonette, Minnie Darrell, Lily Arthur, Winfield and Maude Amber, The Kirbys, Cinexelli, Ruffell's Pictures. Half-time 9.30. Matinée every Wednesday at 2.30 p.m. Prices, 4d. to 2s. Seats may be booked. 'Phone 41 Brixton.
Manager, NELSON FRANCIS.

ROYAL ALBERT PALACE OF VARIETIES, CANNING TOWN, E. Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. ARTHUR G. H. HUNT. Assistant-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Alfred Levy. Twice Nightly at 6.30 and 9.15. Monday, May 20, 1907, for six nights, Tom Herman, The Three Transfields, The Four Herberts, J. H. Carney, Lilian Rigby, The Charnleys, Florence Smithers, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Harry Wys.
Musical-Director, Mr. J. Starck;
Stage-Manager, Mr. A. Everitt.

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Varieties by MARIA VINENT, URBANI AND SON, MILLMAN TRIO, DE BIERE, the Mysterious CARL LYNN, Urbanora, NAVAL REVIEW, &c., and "L'Amour."
Doors 7.45. Manager, GEORGE SCOTT.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square).
Whitsun Attractions.
New Ballet, SIR ROGER DE COVERLEY.
by Adrian Ross. Music by Osmond Carr.
Mlle. ADELINE GENEE (Premiere Danseuse).
ADA REEVE.
THE PEREZOFFS, Comedy Jugglers,
THE GREAT LE PAGES.
GRAZIELLA'S BIRDS.
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Open 7.15. Saturday, Matinées 2.15.
Manager, Mr. BLYTH PRATT.

THE TIVOLI.
Harry Lauder, Little Tich, George Robey, Annie Purcell, Gladys Huxley, Will Van Allen, John Kurkamp, Dan Crawley, Laurie's Juveniles, The Three Newsomes, Tom Woottwell, Jenny Burns, Lee and Kingston, and Fragson.

Open, 7.30.
Saturday Matinées, 2.15.

THE METROPOLITAN,
EDGWARE-ROAD, W.—Henry De Vry, John Le Hay and Co., Will Evans, Chas. Fisher and Co., May Belfort, Tally Ho Trio, Michael Nolan, Ernest Rees, Little Ganty, Sisters Silcott, Agnes Hazel, Katie Butler, Ethel Ra Leslie, Nora Moore, A-Ba-Be's Picture Postcard Album, Jeapes' Graphic. Open 7. Manager, J. W. EDGAR. Tel. No. 194, Pad. Box Office from 11 All Artists must send their full bill matter in two clear weeks before opening. Rehearsal, 1 o'clock, Mondays.

CANTERBURY.
Whit. Monday, May 20, and during the week. Matinée (the last of the season), Saturday, May 25. The Saturday matinées will be resumed in the Autumn. Grand Holiday Programme. Extra special engagement of John Lawson, in the new sensational play in three incidents, "The Unwritten Law," Tom Wootwell, La Danseuse, Mme. Fougere, Three Laurels, "The Runaway Motor," portrayed by Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope, Cole and Rags, Kurkamp, Major Newell, Selby and Meyers, G. H. Elliott, Will Van Allen, Geo. Newburn, Animated Pictures, Dan Crawley. Doors open 7.15. Doors open on Saturday at 6.45. Telephone, 726 Hop.

CANTERBURY.
SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY.
Geo. Robey has (by permission of the directors), invited the Sheffield Wednesday Football Team (that won the English Cup at the Crystal Palace) to be his guests, and they will appear at the Canterbury on Thursday and Friday, May 23 and 24. Geo. Robey, who has scored many goals on the field and on the stage, is expected to surpass himself on this special occasion.

PARAGON, Mile End-road, E.
Grand Holiday Co.—Fred Eustace and Co., in "The Amber Light," Harvey Boys, Daisy Dormer, Annie Purcell, Harry Weldon, Katie Butler, Edward Cranston and Mrs. Bennett, in Comedy Sketch, Arthur Lennard, Lily Arthur, Musical Schaffers, Rich and Rich, George H. Elliott, The Three Newsomes, Harry Harris, Nora Noble, Ruffell's Bioscope, Big Ben, Brown and Little Geo. Le Clerq, in "Black Justice." Doors open 7 o'clock. Commence 7.15. Telephone 165 East. Seats may be booked.

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KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA.
Twice Nightly, at 6.40 and 9.10.
Charles Raymond's Living Study in Sculpture, Clito, Dan Crawley, May Belfort, Jordan and Harvey, Daisy Dormer, Little Ganty, Marquis and Mignonette, Millie Payne, Avrignys, Will Evans.
Manager, EDWARD SWANBOROUGH.

EMPIRE, Camberwell Green.
Managing-Directors,
JESSE SPARROW and HARRY BAWN.
Twice nightly, 6.30 and 9 o'clock.
Fred Conquest and Co., in "The Freak's Revenge," Marie Elsie, Piccitt and Lizette, in Magical Act, "The Crazy Cook," Dan Kirton, The Four Gondoliers, Hans and Lux, Burt Shepard, The Poachers' Lucky Day, by Jeape's Animated Graphic, and Charles Dixon and Co., in screaming concoction, "Uncle Obadiah."

HAMMERSMITH PALACE.
Proprietor, Mr. J. C. COE.
Monday, May 20, 1907.
Happy Fanny Fields, The Claymores, Idalia May, Arthur Lennard, Tom Lloyd, The Edisonograph, Dandy George, Madoline Rees, Victor Travers, F. V. St. Clair, Miss Billie Burford, Siems, Coram, Boyd and Gilfain, Wilton Heriot and Co., Dale and O'Malley, Harry Randall. Tel. 106, Hammersmith.—Manager, LEWIS VINCENT.

SOUTH LONDON PALACE,
LONDON-ROAD, S.E.
Twice Nightly, at 6.30 and 9.10.
Alec Hurley, Sisters Wingrove, Lieut. Travis, Lava and Ella, Amy Clevere, Michael Nolan, Ruffell's Bioscope, The Haytors, Sandford and Lyons, Margaret Parker and Co.
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Manager, FRED McAVOY.

EAST HAM PALACE,
HIGH-STREET, EAST HAM.
Twice Nightly, at 6.30 and 9.
Band Rehearsal, Monday, at 4 o'clock.
Little Tich, The Paragon Trio, May Marton, W. Purvis and Co., Gus Hindell, Sisters Reno, Lily Sharplin, Dudman Bromwich and Co., Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope.
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HIGH-ST., POPLAR. Telephone, 714 East. Proprietors, Messrs. F. and M. ABRAHAMS. Special attractions for Holiday Week:—Important engagement of Arthur Conquest and Co. in "The Sioux"; The Gilberts, wire act; Sisters Breton; Billie Bint; New Bioscope; Fanny Robina; Cadogan and Wingrove; Florrie Cooper; Pyck, Tholl, and Taylor; Dot Hewsons and her Parisians, 6 in number. Important engagement, John Kurkamp, Ltd., presents his artistic Musical Act, "The Harmonius Shell," including 6 charming ladies.
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London. Proprietor, Mr. J. L. GRAYDON. Monday, May 20. Whitsun Holidays.—Jane Moore and Co., "White Slavery," Tennis and Laune, Harry Willats, Dale and O'Malley, Rose Harvey, Percy Johnson, Harry Walker, Cliff and Kean, Sable Fern, The New Bioscope, Claude Ginnett's Rejected Remounts, Queenie Dell, Nat Watkins, The Daunton-Shaw Troupe, Collings Trio, Nathella, The Two Pimms, Marie Stoll, Leo Dryden, Daisy Hicks, Martell Trio, Coram. Commence 7.15. Saturday one hour earlier. Popular prices.

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Twice Nightly at 6.30 and 9.
Band rehearsals at 3 p.m. on Mondays. All artists must attend.

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PALACE OF VARIETIES, LTD.
Manager, A. F. LOVESY.
Twice Nightly at 6.10 and 9.0.
Monday, May 20, Geo. M. Marriott and Co., in "Knights of Hampstead Heath," Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope, Arthur Wilson, Two Bees, Amy Marsden, Bros. Smarte, Katie Lawrence, Caselli, Les Belles Americaines, Jack Lorimer, R. Cameron Matthews and Co., in "Honeymoon Baby," Luis Hardt.

Artists are notified that they must send their full Bill Matter in two clear weeks before opening. Rehearsal, 1 o'clock Mondays. All must attend. Artists not complying with the above rules are subject to having their contracts cancelled at option of Management.

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Commences 7.15. Great Organ and Massed Bands of Coldstream Guards, 1st Suffolk Regiment, 2nd Northumberland Fusiliers, Drums and Fifes of 1st Coldstream Guards and 1st Scots Guards, Pipers of 1st Scots Guards, 4th V.B. R.W. Surrey Regt., 4th V.B. East Surrey Regt., C.P. Military Band, Norwood Prize Band, &c. By special desire, Tschaikowsky's Overture, "1812." Conductor, Lieut. J. Mackenzie Rogan.
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THE ERA

SATURDAY, MAY 18, 1907.

MISS TERRY'S MARRIAGE.

The fierce light which beats about the "stars" of the stage does not allow them to take the important step of matrimony without publicity and comment; but the interest which is felt in actresses' marriages is fully warranted by custom. Even ordinary people are anxious to advertise their weddings; and the practice of proclaiming them in advance, and having them described in print afterwards, is too general for any observations on a theatrical marriage to be considered impertinent. It was quite natural, however, that Miss ELLEN TERRY and Mr. JAMES CAREW should have preferred to keep private the fact of their union in America. Reporting in the United States is done very thoroughly; indeed, some may think it is even overdone, and the enterprise of the American interviewer is apt to invade the honeymoon unpleasantly to those not inured to the methods and ways of the Transatlantic Press. It must be admitted that curiosity as to Miss TERRY'S third marriage is excusable and natural. We are all so anxious that she should be happy, we all feel so much affection for her personally, that we were anxious to know all that could be known concerning her third —and probably last—choice of a husband.

Each of Miss TERRY'S matrimonial experiments is calculated to increase our sympathy and regard for her personally. Miss TERRY has recently stated that her union with GEORGE FREDERICK WATTS was a "most unhappy one." The matrimony of a frank, impulsive girl in her teens with a serious painter more than thirty years her senior was one of those "mistakes," however, which do the errormakers more credit than many wiser arrangements; and when we remember how great an artist WATTS was, and when we look upon Miss TERRY'S portrait in the said teens, we can easily understand the "mistake"—and the unhappiness. For there is, perhaps, no such purgatory as the legal connection of two people who appreciate each other's qualities, but find that it is just those qualities which, being essentially antagonistic, make life together impossible. GEORGE ELIOT, in "Middlemarch," depicts such a union in the history of Dorothea Brooke and Mr. Casaubon; but the "real inwardness" of the WATTS-TERRY marriage will never be described. The friends who are in possession of the facts are faithful and discreet; and we can hardly expect Miss TERRY to open long-closed wounds in an autobiography in order to supply "documents" for realistic fiction.

And what better choice could have been made by the coldest and most prudent person than Miss TERRY'S second marriage, when she became the wife of Mr. CHARLES WARDELL, known to playgoers as CHARLES KELLY? An officer in a crack cavalry regiment, and the son of a clergyman, he was thirty-eight and Miss TERRY twenty-nine when they took each other "for better or worse" in 1877. Mr. KELLY was no trifler with histrionic work, but a sound and talented actor, with a thorough knowledge and experience of his profession. He had already been nine years on the stage, and had appeared at most of the leading London theatres. He was the original Richard Arkwright in TOM TAYLOR'S drama *Arkwright's Wife*; and appeared at the old Court Theatre as Lord Melton in Mr. CHARLES F. COGHLAN'S drama *Lady Flora;* and was also the Mr. Sullivan in the adaptation of *La Partie de Piquet*, called *A Quiet Rubber*. It seems almost incredible that the stage could have done without Miss TERRY for seven years; but that was the period which elapsed between her temporary retirement and her reappearance at the Queen's Theatre, in the February of 1874, as Phillippa Chester in a revival of CHARLES READE'S *Wandering Heir*. Mrs. GEORGE CRAN, in the recently published Life of ELLEN TERRY in Mr. JOHN LANE'S "Stars of the Stage," has some interesting remarks on this period of retirement. Mrs. CRAN writes: "Here there seems to be fresh proof of that curious want of ambition to which ELLEN TERRY confessed later on. She had played each part as it came in her way as well as she knew how, but each part was not to her as a battle won to conquer an empire. She did not see that empire in her dreams. She never had the slightest craving for glory. She renounced her career at the age of twenty without any suspicion that she had anything to renounce. For six years she lived in the country, putting all that energy and vitality which she was afterwards to devote to her art into her life.

"It is said that CHARLES READE, when hunting in Hertfordshire, met her by chance in a country lane, and told her in his rough yet kindly way that she was a fool to have left the stage. 'Why don't you go back?' 'I don't want to.' 'You will some day.' 'Never.' Then, mindful of certain financial troubles threatening her rural peace, ELLEN TERRY added: 'At least, not until some one gives me £40 a week.' 'Done!' said CHARLES READE. 'I will!'" READE thus recorded the event in his diary: "ELLEN TERRY. A young lady highly gifted with what VOLTAIRE justly calls *le grand art de plaire*. Left the stage for some years. . . . Her expression *kills* any pretty face you see beside her. . . . She is a pattern of fawn-like grace. . . . A very charming creature."

Upon Miss TERRY'S marriage to Mr. JAMES CAREW the only comments can be congratulations. Age is not to be estimated by years, but by character; and there are some natures—and Miss TERRY has one of these—which never grow old. There can be no better chance of married happiness than when both parties to the contract are in complete sympathy in aims, tastes, and temperament. Mr. CAREW has stated that he "first fell in love with Miss TERRY'S art, and then with herself." A sounder foundation for a life of married happiness could hardly be made.

DRESSES AT THE PLAY.

The dresses are a leading feature of *Strongheart* at the Aldwych. In the first act Miss Boland as Dorothy Nelson wears a grey tailor-made cloth gown, with a little tight-fitting coat, the strappings of which are carried round the shoulder. With it the actress wears a grey-brown shot straw, relieved by an electric blue ostrich feather and loops of bluish-grey shot ribbon. Miss Boland's evening gown in the third act is of shell-pink mousseline-de-soie, which is worn over a slip of mauve satin, the contrast softened by folds of pink and white chiffon. The plastron in front, which widens out from the Empire bodice, shows an embroidered design in ivory blonde. Tiny pink chiffon rosebuds and leaves are festooned round the skirt by strands of pink ribbon.

Miss Marjorie Wood also wears a handsome evening dress of delicate blue crêpe-de-chine, the corsage relieved by a berthe of white point lace. Beneath the full kimono sleeves show undersleeves of very pale pink chiffon, and the skirt has the spaces between the pleats adorned with enormous appliqué lozenges of blue panne, of which the waistband is also composed. The green cloth morning gown worn by Miss Wood in the first act is embellished with a silk roll collar and enormous pearl buttons, while the hat is of warm yellow straw trimmed with a cluster of green cherries and ribbon of the same hue.

Miss Ravenscroft's wine-red gown of mousseline-de-soie is worn over a slip of soft pink satin and lightened with ribbon of the same colour, whilst a chic note of contrasting colour is struck by the sailor hat with its black wings and lace veil and bold touch of blue. The gown worn by Miss Thornton is a dainty creation in blue frieze, trimmed with alternating rows of black and silver braid, to which the vest of cream net supplies an acceptable relief.

SAD DEATH OF MR. CHAS. A. LEICESTER.

We regret to record the death, through a regrettable bicycle accident, of Mr. Charles A. Leicester, an actor well known throughout the profession. On Wednesday afternoon, accompanied by Miss Florrie Groves and Mr. J. Terry Dillson, all being members of the *Her Luck in London* company, he was cycling back to Barrow-in-Furness, having been on a visit to Mr. and Mrs. Kirk. As the party were passing through the village of Gleston, near Dalton, about three and a half miles from Barrow, they had to mount a very steep hill. The brakes attached to Mr. Leicester's machine failed to act; he thereupon called to Miss Groves to keep clear, and ran into the wall which bounds one side of the road. He was violently thrown against the brickwork, and fractured his skull. Mr. Leicester was conveyed to the hospital at Barrow, and remained unconscious until his death at five minutes to eight on the following morning. The house-surgeon, Mr. Douglas Tremayne, and his friend and fellow-actor, Mr. Chas. Stirling, were with him to the end. The deceased, who was playing the part of the Hon. Fitzgerald O'Connor in *Her Luck in London* on tour, was honoured and esteemed by all who knew him, and regarded as a son by the family for whom he had been manager for just over twelve months, the anniversary having been celebrated only a fortnight ago, at the Alexandra, Hull. He was to have been married during the vacation to Miss Florrie Groves, daughter of Mr. Kirke, and it was being arranged that the banns should be called on Sunday at Birmingham, his native town.

THE *Musical Journal* tells a capital anecdote, which it attributes to Dr. Zechariah Buck, the famous organist of Norwich Cathedral. A family of the name of Waters was always late for the cathedral service. On a particular Sunday they all trooped in just as the choir was beginning to sing the Psalm appointed for the day. The opening words were: "Save me, O God! for the waters are come in."

"THE DRUMS OF DOOM," a drama in one act, by Gerald Villiers Stuart, and *The Bread-Winners*, a musical comedietta in two scenes, by Gerald Villiers Stuart and Howard Cochran, were produced for copyright purposes at Wyndham's Theatre on May 9.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"LE CŒUR ET LE RESTE,"

Comedy, in Three Acts, by MM. Jacques Monnier and G. Montignac, produced at the Athénée on May 3.

Line Martorin ..... MLLE. DULUC
Nichette des Horizons ..... MLLE. TEMPLEY
Miss Nampton ..... MLLE. PRINCE
Cécile Puymorand ..... MLLE. CORCIADE
Emma ..... MLLE. AUBERGAT
André Martorin ..... M. LE GALLO
Le Commissaire ..... M. BULLIER
Robert Decoq ..... M. ANDRE LEFAUR
Le Juge ..... M. CLEMENT
Puymorand ..... M. CAZALIS
Pidoule ..... M. ANDER

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, May 9.—The plot of the new farcical comedy brought out at the Athénée is not particularly novel, which accounts for the fact of the work having scored only a moderate success. The story is as follows:—André and Line Martorin have been married four years. They are rich, they love one another, but suddenly a calamity befalls them. The banker who manages their fortune absconds, and the young people are left penniless. Dunned by the tradespeople, harassed from every side, misery stares them in the face, when Line is informed that her maiden aunt has died, leaving her all her fortune. But the old lady—a man-hater—has stipulated that her niece could not enter into possession of the property if she had a husband. "That's easily settled," says Robert Decoq, André's lawyer and friend; "all you have to do is to divorce, and the moment Line receives her money you marry again." André and Line do not quite approve that scheme, but the creditors become so threatening that they resolve to follow Decoq's advice; and the obliging Decoq suggests that André is to make a rendezvous with a lady, whereupon Line will come with the police commissary to capture them *flagrante delicto*, and thus obtain her divorce. But who is to be the lady—the co-respondent? Here, again, Decoq overcomes the difficulty by giving them the address of a certain Nichette des Horizons, an amiable demi-mondaine. Husband and wife agree to this, the former swearing that he will not give way to temptation, and that everything will only be *pro forma*. André makes an appointment with Mlle. Nichette, but his jealous young wife, who does not want to run any risks, takes the place of the chambermaid in the apartment where her husband meets the lady, and, by coming into the room at inopportune moments, prevents things from taking another turn than the one originally arranged. Mlle. Nichette, who is not in the secret, cannot understand what all this means. In fact, she is rather indignant, and walks away in a huff. But, just as she takes her departure, the police commissary comes, and instead of Mlle. Nichette finds Line, and is bamboozled into the belief that Line is Nichette. He also informs André that he has just arrested a banker, the same who ran away with André's money; and as the property was found intact André and Line are once more rich and no longer require the old aunt's legacy. The play might, and ought to, have ended here; but the authors foolishly added a third act, wherein we see Line wanting to divorce her husband because he showed himself too enterprising with Mlle. Nichette. That act is a fatal mistake. The farce was well acted, especially by M. Le Gallo in the rôle of André.

"LA CLEF,"

Play, in Four Acts, by M. Sacha Guitry, produced at Réjane's on May 4.

Camille Bourly ..... M. TARRIDE
Michel de Maubourg ..... M. SIGNORET
Chainon ..... M. NOIZEUX
Jehan de Pierresec ..... M. LAUZERTE
Philippe ..... M. SAINT-BONNET
Charles ..... M. PUYLAGARDE
Germaine Schneider ..... MME. REJANE
Comtesse de Perelles ..... MLLE. LYSES
Mme. Moblieu ..... MME. BARELLI
Nina ..... MLLE. LAVIGNE

M. Sacha Guitry, the author of *La Clef*, son of the famous actor-manager of the Renaissance, is a witty, talented youth of whom we had reason to expect great things. Unfortunately, like many young men of the day, he pretends to take a cynical view of life, and the personages he presents to us are so revolting that we ask ourselves whether he ever came across such creatures, and, if so, whether it was worth while to parade them before us. For humanity's sake, we hope that the story he tells us is an inexperienced boy's improvisation. His hero, Camille Bourly, a Montmartre singer, is the lover of a rich Society woman, or, rather, what the author calls by that name. One night she informs him that she intends to divorce her husband, and that the moment she is free she will marry Camille. For the out-at-elbows Camille this is good news, and he readily consents to become her husband. Their marriage will take place in a couple of months, but Camille is so eager to leave his miserable garret that he asks his "fiancée" to give him the key of her apartment, and let him come there whenever it suits him; but Germaine refuses. She says it would not be "proper"; but, in reality, she wants to retain her freedom. She already looks upon Camille as her husband, and has a new lover in view—Michel de Maubourg, a young fool, who has a *liaison* with a little Countess. The Countess, having wind of the affair, warns Camille that Germaine betrays him, and hands him a closed envelope: "If you want to know with whom Germaine deceives you all you have to do is to open this envelope." But Camille is not at all anxious to know. He does not want any trouble that may prevent his marrying Germaine, and, with the unopened envelope in his pocket, he starts with Michel and Germaine on a yachting cruise. Once out at sea and, as Camille thinks, far from the seducer, he breaks the seal, and to his horror reads that the lover in question is the man now sitting alone with Germaine in the latter's cabin. What happens? Nothing. Michel returns to his Countess, and Camille does not become the husband, but will remain the fiancé, of Germaine, who now gives him the much-coveted key. We would have preferred to see Mme. Réjane in another rôle than that of a pseudo-society lady wherein she has no opportunities of displaying her talent. M. Tarride, too, did all he could with the unpleasant part of Camille. M. Signoret and the others also worked with a will, but they could not save the piece.

"ARIANE ET BARBE-BLEUE."

Lyric Story in Three Acts. By M. Maurice Maeterlinck. Music by M. P. Dukas. Produced at the Opera Comique, on May 10.

Ariane ..... MME. GEORGETTE LEBLANC
La Nourrice ..... MLLE. THEVENET
Sélysette ..... MLLE. BROHLY
Mélisande ..... MLLE. DEMELLIER
Ygraine ..... MLLE. BAKKERS
Bellangère ..... MLLE BERG
Barbe-Bleue ..... M. VIEUILLE
Un Vieux Paysan ..... M. AZEMA

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, MAY 16.—Maurice Maeterlinck is not only a poet, he is a philospher, and the pretty story of Ariadne and Bluebeard contains a deep moral. Bluebeard has married for the sixth time, and he takes his new wife, Ariadne, to his castle, where he hands her six silver keys and a small gold one. The latter opens a closet which he forbids her to enter. But Ariadne does not trouble about the silver keys, and goes straight to the forbidden closet. She is not prompted by curiosity. She objects to being a man's slave, and hopes that with the help of the golden key she will know what has become of the other five wives, and will come to their assistance if they are not dead. When Ariadne opens the door of the closet she hears the plaintive cries of the five women, but at that moment Bluebeard arrives and reproaches her for her disobedience. Nothing daunted, Ariadne tells him that she performed her duty. When, however, Bluebeard wants to punish her for her temerity, the mob, hearing her cries, storm the palace. They seize Bluebeard, and his life hangs by a thread. At that moment Ariadne interposes, and at her bidding the mob withdraw. Overcome by Ariadne's generosity, Bluebeard leaves the castle without saying a word, and Ariadne takes a lamp, enters the secret closet, and perceives five human forms, the unfortunate wives. Their names are Sélysette, Mélisande, Ygraine, Bellangère, and a fifth, Alladine, who speaks a strange language which nobody understands. After much trouble Ariadne guides the women out of the enchanted room. They are happy, and adorn themselves with the beautiful clothes and jewellery with which the rooms are filled. Suddenly a loud noise is heard. It is Bluebeard, who has been set upon by the mob. Wounded and sore, he is carried into the palace, where the five wives crowd round him. Ariadne, anxious to leave that terrible place, calls upon her companions in misfortune to follow her into freedom; but the five women shake their heads. To them freedom and independence are meaningless words. They kneel down before Bluebeard, preferring to remain the slaves they were before. M. Dukas has written some appropriate music to this story, but it is lacking in charm. The subject might have inspired him more. The interpretation was in every way satisfactory.

The Comédie-Française has placed *Monsieur Alphonse* on its répertoire, and revived the work with great success. It is one of Alexandre Dumas fils' best productions. Brought out in 1873, at the Gymnase, it met with an excellent reception, but, for some unknown reason, it was cast aside, although the expression "Monsieur Alphonse" is still commonly used for a man living at a woman's expense. The plot is very simple. Octave, a good-looking, unprincipled scoundrel, has seduced a young girl of good family, who has given birth to a child, Adrienne, put out to nurse with a farmer's wife. The affair has been kept very quiet, and the young girl has married M. de Montaiglin, a retired naval officer. Octave has taken a fancy for his child, and under the name of Monsieur Alphonse, pays the farmer's wife an occasional visit. But Octave, in want of money, becomes engaged to a Madame Guichard, a woman much older than he, an ex-servant, whom her master married *in extremis*, leaving her a considerable fortune. In fact, Octave has already borrowed several sums from her, and not being able to repay her offered her his name. Unfortunately little Adrienne is in the way, and Octave does not know how to deal with her. But Madame de Montaiglin, listening to the dictations of her heart, confesses to her husband the fault she committed when she was a girl, and he not only forgives her, but consents to adopt the child. As to the handsome Octave, his elderly fiancée is so disgusted with him that she breaks off the engagement, and leaves him to look for another victim. The piece was magnificently acted by Mme. Kolb, Sorel Bovy, and MM. Duflos and Grand.

The Comédie-Française also gave us *Les Fresnay*, an amusing one-act trifle by M. Fernand Vanderem, wherein the author ridicules those of the "smart set," who, disregarding duty, hold that we are justified to live our own lives as fancy takes us. Imbued with these ideas, Edmond Fresnay advises Yvonne Dumontier to leave her husband, whilst Jacqueline Fresnay counsels Raoul Dumontier to desert his wife; but all they attain is that the Dumontiers, drawn closer together, turn their backs for ever on the dangerous Fresnay couple.

L'Otage, a comedy in three acts, by M. Gabriel Trarieux, produced at the Odéon, has been the cause that M. Antoine and M. Gémier (his successor at the Théatre Antoine) have become sworn enemies. This comedy, originally called *La Robe Blanche*, had been accepted by M. Antoine while still manager of the little playhouse in the Boulevard de Strasbourg. M. Antoine had asked M. Gémier to take it over, but the latter refused to do so, alleging that he had already accepted a work on the same question by M. Paul Hyacinthe Loyson. M. Antoine was very much annoyed, and when he heard that his successor was about to hold the dress rehearsal of M. Loyson's play, he made up his mind to produce M. Trarieux's *L'Otage* before his opponent was ready. It was a big effort, but M. Antoine, setting to work rehearsing day and night, won by a neck, *i.e.*, by four-and-twenty hours. All this is no doubt very amusing, but truth compels me to state that the game was not worth the candle. *L'Otage* is a dreary problem play, wherein we asist at a grave misunderstanding arising in Serge Santeuil's family, owing to his being virtually a freethinker, whilst his wife is somewhat priest-ridden; and the worst feature about the work is that the author carefully refrains from expressing an opinion, leaving it to the audience to decide the question. This is a grave mistake. Audiences, as a rule, leave what brain they possess in the cloak-room with their coats and umbrellas. They will listen and look, but the author must do the "thinking." Moreover, M. Trarieux does not explain his ideas very clearly, and when the curtain drops, we are not quite certain whether he means to prove that a man will never be able to shake off the religious tyranny of his wife.

M. Paul Hyacinthe-Loyson's play, *Les Ames Ennemies* resembles *L'Otage* in so far as it deals with the same question. The author is the son of the famous preacher Father Hyacinthe, who once created a great sensation by throwing up his cassock and marrying an American lady. His son is not devoid of talent, but he has neither skill nor the knowledge of dealing with such a difficult problem.

RICHARD STRAUSS'S *Salome*, which shocked the gentlemen who protect the morals of New York, has been produced here, and scored a distinct success. I am afraid that many of the beauties in M. Strauss's score were not sufficiently appreciated by the fashionable crowd that filled the Châtelet Theatre; but they pretended to be interested, and applauded the admirable interpretation. The work itself has already been described by your Berlin correspondent, and the artists, among whom is that splendid singer, Mlle. Destinn, are known on your side of the water. It only remains for me to say that we owe a deep debt of gratitude to the organisers of this performance, who afforded us an opportunity of listening to a truly great composition. Moreover, it is gratifying to see that "jingoism" here is dying out, and that German artists can now sing on a Paris stage in their own language. A few years ago this would have been impossible.

H. LAZARUS AND SON, the well-known theatre furnishers, of Great Eastern-street, E.C., supplied 1000 tip-up chairs for the best reserved seats at the Military Tournament, Olympia. The chairs are made on a new principle to suit the purpose required—viz., for taking to pieces and refixing quickly, the standards being white enamelled, and the upholstery is in art colour green pegamoid. The enterprising firm have also increased the extensive pit seating at the Lyceum, the work being carried out without interfering with the performances. Among other undertakings of Messrs. Lazarus is that of supplying the Bishopsgate Institute with their celebrated movable tip-up seats, luxuriously upholstered in velvet.

SANGER'S Amphitheatre, Ramsgate, will be again open this season, under the management of Mr. Henry Bowman, who is arranging for some excellent touring attractions.

"HER LOVE AGAINST THE WORLD."

50TH PERFORMANCE.

Mr. Walter Howard's stirring romantic military play has fully justified the anticipations created by its triumphant production at the Lyceum by Messrs. H. R. Smith and Ernest Carpenter. At the fiftieth performance last Saturday the whole of the house was closely crowded. This, surely, should be a good augury for the future of London's West-End popular drama house, and it must be a matter of intense gratification to the present lessees that they have succeded, by their enterprise, in converting a theatre that has been regarded as a "white elephant" into a successful and popular establishment.

Mr. Norman Partriege continues to command our admiration for his portrayal of the brave and sorely-tried Eric Strathmere. His acting throughout is marked by forceful expression, vigorous enunciation, and clear delivery, and the character, heroic and self-sacrificing as it is, cannot fail to interest one's sympathies, especially when presented in such able fashion by Mr. Partriege.

Miss Valli Valli cuts a very pathetic figure in the rôle of Lionel Strathmere. The affection of the audience goes out to the boy, who is prepared to run almost any risk on behalf of his noble brother. Miss Valli enacts the part of the manly, straightforward little Englishman with a fervour that is felt by everyone in front of the house, and in the death scene she is particularly affecting.

Miss Nora Kerin's Princess Iris is a fine study in tragedy. Her portrait of the woman who witnesses the degradation of her lover by a man who would usurp his place, who agrees to her lover's death rather than disappoint his hopes and enter into a dishonourable alliance with the blackguardly Prince Ulric, is convincing, and is never carried to an excess of emotion. It is a brilliant piece of work.

Mr. Eric Mayne has a sound reputation as an actor, and there is no denying that in the part of Prince Ulric of Ravensburg he furnishes a character which is uncompromisingly strong in its baser qualities. In Mr. Mayne's hands Prince Ulric is purposeful in everything to which he turns his attention. Villain though he be, one can hardly help admiring him for his soldierly definiteness of determination and his promptness in action, and Mr. Mayne may be congratulated upon carrying out the author's ideas in a most creditable manner.

Mr. Frederick Ross, as Prince Othmar, treats us to a really capital performance. We seem to be introduced to something that is far more than a mere simulacrum—this Prince Othmar, a brave man in a predicament, constantly attempting to divert the unscrupulous intentions of his shameless cousin and superior, is a thing of flesh and blood, realistic to the very sound of the voice which gives an indication of his age. It is a highly commendable presentment.

Mr. Scott Craven, in the part of Prince Maurice of Saxonia, has not so much to do as the members of the company to whom we have already referred, but what he does is done well. He may be said to fulfil one's preconceived ideas as to the manner in which this foreign prince should conduct himself, and Mr. Craven bears himself with quiet dignity, his whole demeanour savouring of the aristocrat.

Mr. Fred Grove causes some amusement as the peppery old General Gessler, whose "no-surrender, keep-on-fighting" instincts are so much at variance with the wishes of his brother officers. His sudden but short quarrels with Colonel Esterhazy, a part ably played by Mr. Lionel Gadsden, cause a good deal of gentle merriment.

Miss Marie Rignold presents the arts and wiles of the scheming Shulah in a most effective way. There is no ranting, no shrieking, no ultra-feminine outbursts of fury against the Princess, whom she is trying to drag into dishonour. No; Miss Rignold's Shulah seems the least excitable of her sex, and, indeed, arranges her wicked plans in an almost matter-of-fact manner, which is quite as effective, and, we should imagine, much more natural than the style to which we have alluded.

Miss Maude Aston and Miss Lulu Louden as the Princess's maids and Mr. Harry Barford and Mr. Gus Oxley as the servants to her highness afford a considerable portion of the comedy, and act well in their respective parts, as do also Mr. Edmund Waller as the military surgeon and Mr. S. Major Jones as the friendly Sergeant Kaspar. Miss Madge Beresford adequately fulfils the requirements of the rôle of Corona, the Princess's "double."

AMUSEMENTS IN ROTTERDAM.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ROTTERDAM, MAY 15.—A series of performances has taken place at the Grand Theatre here of *Der Ring des Niebelungen*, with its prologue, *Das Rheingold*, by the opera company of the Elberfeld Stadtheather, under the management of Herr Julius Otto.

THE last weeks of the regular season at the Grand are devoted to a succession of benefits for the most promising members of Manager Van Eysden's Dramatic Company. The beneficiary of this week has been Fritz Tartaud, the popular leading man of the company. The play revived for the occasion was *Haar Terugkeer* (Her Return), a Dutch version of Bernstein's *Le Bercail*. Mr. and Mrs. Tartaud repeated their clever impersonations of the two leading characters.

THE Royal Dutch Dramatic Company of Amsterdam played a version of Tolstoi's novel, "Anna Karénine," at the Tivoli Theatre last week.

MR. FRED KENTON, on the 10th inst, at the Salford County Court, recovered £8 for breach of contract from the Regent Theatre and Assembly Rooms Company, Ltd. The contract was to the effect that the plaintiff should appear at the Regent Theatre, in Salford, for a week's engagement beginning on Jan. 20 last., but at the last moment the defendant company raised a question as to the performance of a previous contract; but this, his Honour considered, had nothing whatever to do with the matter.

ONE of the last, if not *the* last, contract signed by the late Mr. G. Adney Payne was L. Austin Millais' wordless playlet, *The Stolen Duchess*, which, owing to his sad death, has been confirmed by Mr. Henri Gros.

MISS ANNA DE GREY, Secretary of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, desires to thank the Huxter Bros. and the Craggs for donations of clothing and Mr. F. H. Pedgrift for letter for the Consumption Hospital.

HARRY CLYO'S variety company is meeting with success at the Theatre Royal, Colne, this week. The company comprises Abel and Welsh, Arthur Richards, Renee Walon and Boy Willie, Titan, Mlle. Telka, Nellie Nora, Joe Cookson, and Clyo and Rochelle.

MISS FRANKIE NEWCOME, comedienne, who has been playing in serious pieces at the theatres, has returned to the variety stage, and is appearing this week at the Pavilion, Leicester, where she is scoring by her vivacity in new songs.

THE installation meeting and banquet of the Chelsea Lodge was held yesterday at Frascati's, the principal duty of the Lodge being to instal Theodore Schreiber ("Serpentello") into the Worshipful Master's chair.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

Mr. Adney Payne's remains were enclosed after the inquest in a shell, and brought to the deceased gentleman's residence at 127, Bedford Court-mansions, W.C. The funeral will take place to-day. Prebendary Glendinning Nash will conduct a service at Christ Church, Woburn-square, at 10.45, and at the conclusion the mourners will at once proceed to Finchley Cemetery, where the interment takes place. The coffin, which is of oak, bears the inscription :—

George Adney Payne,
Died 15th May,
1907,
Aged 60 years.

Miss Marie Lloyd, who has always taken a deep interest not only in the Music Hall Benevolent Fund, but in all schemes of professional charity, will occupy the chair at the Fund's annual dinner at the Trocadero on Sunday, June 9, when she hopes to have the whole-hearted support of her brother and sister artists. On this occasion ladies will for the first time be invited to attend. The appeal of the popular chairwoman will have the official support of the Variety Artists' Federation, whose committee, secretary, and chairman are working heart and soul with Mr. Horace Marriott in the good cause. It is pathetic to note that the circular is signed by G. Adney Payne, who had been elected president of the year. It was being posted as the sad news of the "guv'nor's" lamented death became current. The Fund had no greater friend.

Sir Edward Moss, while en route (motoring) to his Middleton estate on Tuesday last, paid a flying visit to the Palace, Carlisle, and expressed himself much pleased with the Palace structure and the entertainment. He witnessed two turns that have served the Moss-Stoll combine so often, Mr. Fred Elton and Mr. Frank Leon, whose agent, Will Oliver—a very old associate of the famous firm—was present. Signor Pepi was naturally very pleased at the surprise visit and the complimentary remarks passed by Sir Edward.

Mr. Fred Baugh has received a notification from the Lord Chamberlain that the composite form of entertainment at Hoxton's own theatre, the Britannia, does not comply with the conditions attached to the licence. Drama and varieties flourished for thirty years during the sole régime of Sarah Lane, and for a quarter of a century before that under various Lord Chamberlains. Why the fiat has now gone forth to discontinue at a working-class house a wholesome form of entertainment that supplies the necessary diversion for thousands of toilers it is impossible to surmise. Mr. Baugh, who is managing the house for the Macnaghten Circuit, we fear will have to close down—at any rate for a time.

"When Knights Were Bolder," a musical comedy fantasy by Messrs. Wimperis, Davenport, and L. Godfrey-Turner, was produced at Devonshire Park Theatre on Monday, with Miss Agnes Fraser (Mrs. Walter Passmore) in the rôle of Lady Lavinia Mostyn. The idea of the sketch is similar to the little play written by Mr. W. S. Gilbert thirty years ago for the German Reeds, entitled *Ages Ago*, the chief situation being further elaborated in the comic opera *Ruddigore*.

Mr. John Le Hay comes to the Metropolitan on Monday next, without the historic "rotten cotton gloves," but with the farcical episode, *Poor Beggar*, which has not been seen yet up West. He is supported by Miss Mary Duggan and Mr. Charles Cautley.

Miss Evie Greene, like Miss Marie Tempest and Mr. Hayden Coffin, will make the Palace Theatre the arena of her début in variety, and will commence an engagement on Monday with Mr. Alfred Butt, who has also obtained permission for Miss Greene to sing during her engagement at the Palace any of the songs that she sang when she was at Daly's. She will, therefore, have an excellent répertoire from which to choose.

Coster songs are spoken of as likely to be a big boom in the States presently, and already the advent of Mr. Gus Elen is being awaited with interest, and now that the American ear is getting well attuned to the Cockney accent, many of the celebrated comedian's numbers are bound to be foregone conclusions as to popularity there—notably the songs of that great melodist the late George Le Brunn. Miss Kate Carney, it is estimated, would make a stupendous hit with one or two of her low-life scenas, like "The Brighton Promenade" and "The Blue House Laundry."

The bioscope operators of the Palace Theatre have been extremely busy during the past week. The Royal visit to the City was presented to the audience the same day, and owing to the excellent weather a splendid record has been obtained of the race for the Jubilee Stakes.

Among the attractions of the Oxford Whitsuntide programme are Alec Hurley, Will Evans, Sam Mayo, Lily Burnand, The Gothams, Tom Foy, My Fancy, Sandford and Lyons, Geo. H. Elliott, Herbert La Martine, Datas, Resua Trio, Foreman and Fannan, The Three Laurels, and others.

Mr. Joseph Wilson announces another strong Whitsuntide programme at the Tivoli. Mr. Harry Lauder, Fragson (the entente cordiale comedian), and George Robey remain to delight their many admirers. Little Tich and Miss Annie Purcell are the newcomers. Miss Purcell will sing a new military character song, "The gay Hussar." Tom Wootwell, Dan Crawley, Kurkamp, Will Van Allen, and others complete the bill.

It is said that M. Victor de Cottens, who, with the assistance of Mr. Arthur Shirley and Mr. Roland Carse, wrote the successful Revue for the Coliseum produced last year at Easter, is in London arranging for the production of a new Revue. The house of its production is not yet settled.

As we are going to press the Euston is celebrating its sixth anniversary. One performance only is being given, and five hours' continuous show is announced by Mr. Fred M'Avoy.

The Variety Artists' Federation will hold a special general meeting at the Empire Theatre, Camberwell, on Sunday, June 2, at 4 p.m., when the principal business will be a revision of the rules.

"Sir Roger de Coverley" has been considerably strengthened since its successful production at the Empire, and is sure to be enormously popular with Whitsuntide holiday makers. Miss Ada Reeve remains in the programme with the brilliant Americans, the Le Pages.

The twenty-second anniversary of the Paragon will be celebrated on Friday, June 7, when a programme of vast proportions will be presented to a crowded house under the direction of Mr. Charles Beecham.

The Royal Standard Whit-Monday company will include the following artists :—Mr. Wm. Holles and Miss Nannie Goldman and company in Mr. Arthur Shirley's sketch, *The Stepmother*, Sam Mayo, Jack Lorimer, Fredrica's dogs and pony, the Breton Troupe in *The Tramp's Pic-nic*, Lilian Lowe, Arthur Aldridge, Bert Brantford, Lidden and Hayward, Agnes Asher, the Daintons, Kathleen Cogan, Will Farrell, the Woolhaffs, Daisy Hicks, and many others.

Miss Marie Tempest was invited by Mr. Walter de Frece to lay the commemoration stone of the new Portsmouth Hippodrome on Friday (yesterday). The new house opens on Monday on the twice-nightly plan.

Mr. Ben Parks, formerly conductor at the Palace, Southampton, leader at the Hippodrome, Southampton, under Mr. Shackleton, and conductor at the Palace, West Bromwich, will succeed Mr. Shackleton as conductor at the Southampton Hippodrome next Monday. Mr. Parks is well known in musical circles, and his appointment is a popular one.

Mr. A. H. Burdett, of the box office, and assistant to Mr. Howell, at the Hippodrome, Southampton, has been given the appointment of assistant-manager at the new Hippodrome, Portsmouth. Mr. Burdett was very popular in Southampton, and on leaving he was rewarded with a purse of gold, subscribed for by a few admirers, including the staff of the Hippodrome. Mr. Fred Ball, from Boscombe, is the new assistant-manager at the Hippodrome, Southampton.

Mr. Chas. Schuberth, the popular resident-manager of the Palace Theatre, Bath, has been the recipient of hearty congratulations this week, Mrs. Schuberth having presented him with a son on the 12th inst.

Mr. R. A. P. Williams, lessee and manager of the Gaiety, Dundee, has invested in a very handsome and elegant motor-car. After a few lessons from an experienced chauffeur he is now quite an adept in its working. If he only manages his car half as well as he does the Gaiety there is no fear of serious consequences.

Mr. George Nicholson, part owner of the Hippodrome, Stockton-on-Tees, who was seventy-three years of age, succumbed on Thursday, May 9, to acute bronchitis, after a few days' illness. He was highly respected by his many friends, and universally admired for his genial disposition and amiable manner. Great sympathy is felt for his widow and his son, Mr. Robt. A. Nicholson, the present owner and general manager. The interment took place on Sunday at Stockton-on-Tees. Deceased, who was a prominent Freemason, was buried according to Masonic rites.

The negotiations by the company controlling the Grand Theatre, Nottingham, with Mr. Walter de Frece, as we announced some time since, fell through. Now Mr. Oswald Stoll has stepped in and bought up sufficient shares in the house to control the voting power in the company, so that the theatre will remain as at present, and not be brought into competition as a music hall with Mr. Stoll's Nottingham Empire Palace.

The subscription list of the Palace Theatre and Hippodrome, Burnley, Ltd., will close on Monday. The capital is £15,000 in 15,000 ordinary shares of £1 each, of which 12,000 shares are offered for public subscription. The company has been fortunate in securing the services of Mr. Macnaghten, who has agreed to act as managing-director for a period of five years, and all bookings will be made in conjunction with the Macnaghten Vaudeville Circuit. Popular prices will be the rule, with two complete performances nightly. Building operations will commence immediately, and it is anticipated that the theatre will be ready for opening not later than the middle of December next. The site in St. James-street (commonly called Munn's Corner) has been agreed to be purchased from the Burnley Corporation by Mr. Macnaghten for the sum of £7,633, at which price the same will be transferred to the company. It is estimated that the cost of erection, including the price to be paid for the land and promotion and other expenses, will be £24,000.

At the Salford Police Court on Tuesday, William Spearman, formerly manager of the Islington Empire, was charged with absconding with £34, the belongings of Mr. Matt Raymond, 56, Great Queen-street, W.C. Prisoner was managing Mr. Raymond's picture show at the Royal Assembly Rooms, Salford, and was trusted with the amount named. He absconded in March, and was arrested in Liverpool. The Magistrate sentenced him to three months' hard labour.

Mr. Henry Kemble, the genial and popular manager of the Palace Theatre, Cork, is to be the recipient of a handsome testimonial at the end of the month. The subscriptions are being headed by the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, the ex-Lord Mayor, and the élite of the town.

At the Palace, Manchester, on Friday, the 10th inst., a most success matinée performance was given in aid of the Crimean and Indian Mutiny veterans by the directors of the Manchester Palace of Varieties, Ltd., the following artists kindly giving their services : Mr. H. B. Irving, Mr. Frank Cochrane, Mr. Harry Rogerson, La Troupe Espagnole Juanitos, Kendrick and Laura, the Jollians, Leslie Paget, Lou Langley, the Attractas, Frank Hale, Monaco Girls, Alf. Ripon, Guy Ryder, Marie Blythe, J. C. Scatter, Gregson and Goodfellow, J. C. Morriss, Minnie Sharratt, Baker and Lindsay, A. Magnus, Nancy Wagstall, Helen McGregor, and Harry Willatts. Mr. Nelson Barry, late manager of the Palace, delivered, with touching effect, "Lest We Forget," lines specially written for the occasion by Mr. H. Ross Clyne.

Tom Owen, the popular Welsh comedian, will re-open the Kursaal, Mumbles, on Monday with a strong variety company.

Mr. Fred Coles' friends and admirers have resolved to recognise in a substantial manner their great appreciation of his sterling qualities and unfailing courtesy on the occasion of his regrettable retirement from the Lyric Theatre, Liverpool, owing to ill-health. An influential committee has been formed, and Mr. Joseph Barton, of 22, Walton-road, Kirkdale, is the hon secretary

Miss Florence Somers, comedienne, has been specially engaged to appear in her latest success, "The sunshade girl," at the London Pavilion and the Granville, Walham Green, on May 20.

Notwithstanding the fact that it is the week before the holidays, packed houses have ruled at the Grand, Clapham, where Mr. John Lawson is presenting *The Unwritten Law*. Miss Buena Bent repeats her triumph as Evelyn. Holborn Empire and the Canterbury see this money-maker next week.

That excellently written and admirably staged musical comedy sketch, *A Lost Coon*, terminates its present tour this week, at the Palace of Varieties, Hammersmith, and on Friday next Miss Dinah Morris and her company leave England to fulfil an engagement at the Coliseum, Vienna.

Olrac and Milton's classical gymnastic act will be seen in London in December, having been secured for the Gibbons halls.

The joint meeting of the members of the Amalgamated Musicians' Union (London branch) and the London Orchestral Association, held last Sunday in the Queen's Hall, was addressed by Mr. Harry Mountford, and among the other speakers were representative members of both societies, including Mr. Orcherton, secretary, L.O.A., Mr. J. B. Williams and C. Jesson, A.M.U. Mr. Taylor presided.

Mr. Jos O'Gorman, with his characteristic generosity, has subscribed £10 to the Harry Grell Fund.

Mr. R. G. Knowles will make his reappearance in this country at the Palace on June 3. It is Mr. Butt's intention to give Mr. Knowles an opportunity of elaborating his humorous lecture, "Old Worlds Through New Eyes," at a series of special Palace matinées.

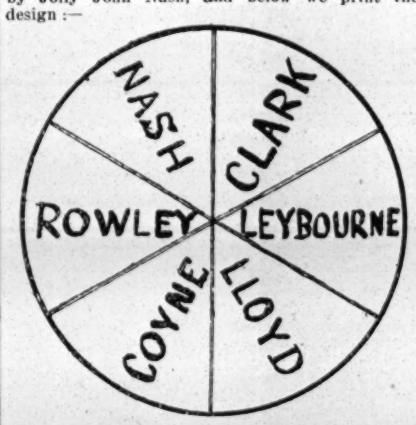
Mr. Fred W. Millis, the popular ventriloquist, we are sorry to hear, has had to undergo rather a critical operation this week at the Gordon Hospital, Vauxhall Bridge-road, where he would be pleased to see any of his friends next week. The visiting days are Thursdays and Sundays from two to five p.m.

Miss Vesta Victoria still continues to "make good" in the States with Harrington and Tate's wonderfully popular "sequel" song, "I've told his missus all about him," and the sales of the American edition are "very fine and large," to the mutual satisfaction of the owners of the copyright, the Monte Carlo Publishing Co., and Mr. Fred Day (representing Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter in America).

Mr. Horace Goldin relates an amusing experience of his visit to the Chinese Theatre in San Francisco. In the lobby were a number of Chinese pedlars. From one of them the conjurer bought an orange and cut it open. With an exclamation of delighted surprise he drew a five-dollar gold piece from the pulp and held it up to the Chinaman. The latter's eyes bulged from their sockets, and a pained look of disappointment crossed his expressionless face. Goldin bought three more oranges, and from each he drew a shining fiver. By this time the perspiration rolled in beads down the Celestial's face, and when Goldin wanted to buy another half-dozen for a dollar he gathered up his stock, muttering, "Me no wantee sellee." A few minutes later he retired into a corner, and, with the air of a conspirator, began to cut up the oranges. One after another they went, and his look of disappointment became so tragic that Goldin had to solace him with a dollar.

Only a privileged few of the public have ever heard Mr. J. W. Rowley sing "The Village Blacksmith." For him, however, it is a peculiarly appropriate song, for he swung "his heavy sledge" forty years ago for the last time when he left the forge to get his living behind the footlights of the Alhambra Music Hall, Wakefield. Later—in 1872, as a matter of fact—he was billed at the Canterbury as one of the leading star comics of Great Britain.

The design of the bill was circular in form, and from the centre to the circumference the names of the six leading stars were printed, each name forming, as it were, a radius, so that none could predominate. The artists were George Leybourne, Arthur Lloyd, Henri Clark, Jolly John Nash, Fred Coyne, and J. W. Rowley. The bill was made out by Jolly John Nash, and below we print the design :—



As Mr. Rowley reflects, thirty-five years is a fair spell for a head-liner, though he can go much further back; for at the age of ten he sang and danced "The Perfect Cure" for the late J. H. Stead at the Casino, Leeds, where the Theatre Royal now stands. Even more remote than that, was his first appearance on the stage when he was just over one year old. He was carried on to the stage in Bradford in the famous legitimate play *Pizarro*. Jack Rowley is heading the bill this week at the County Theatre, Reading.

The latest additions to the Palace programme are Mr. R. H. Douglass, in his clever monologue entertainment, and Mr Jack Lorrimer, Scotch comedian. On Whitsun Monday a special matinée will be given, in which all the present features of the already crowded programme will be included, and also Miss Daisy Dormer and Frank and Jen Latona; but it is noteworthy to add that the "Musical Matinées" which were such a great feature last season, are now being repeated each Saturday, with a special selection from the well-trained orchestra.

Mr. Mark Sheridan, who is the chief attraction at the Hackney Empire next week, has played many rôles, and that of raconteur fits him exceedingly well. He tells a story of a Grantham theatre proprietor's farewell which will bear repeating, though it needs the quaint personality, the gestures, and expressions of the comedian to fully appreciate its humour. The little wooden theatre had existed a season, but the box-office had not been over-worked. The final night came, and the broken-hearted owner made his farewell speech. "I must thank you," he said, "for the way you have rallied round this temple of Thespis. It is not a great theatre, I admit, but it is the best I could afford. I thank you, people of Grantham, for the way you have patronised me; but, Heaven help me, if I had built this place on the Goodwin Sands I should have had more support from the shipwrecked sailors."

Miss Sable Fern, who is pursuing a triumphant tour in the provinces, has to do much strenuous work on account of the immense popularity of her songs—mostly from the pen of her husband, the clever song-writer, Mr. Frank Leo. Recently at Signor Pepi's house at Carlisle she was singing no fewer than eight songs each night

Very pleasant were the duties of the Brethren who were commanded by W.M. E. Golding, St. John's Lodge No. 795, to attend their duties at the regular Lodge held at the Roebuck Hotel, Tilehurst, on Wednesday last. Brother Golding is a director of the Camberwell Palace. All the Brethren attending the Lodge assembled under the clock at Paddington Station at 11.50 a.m., and proceeded by saloon carriage to Tilehurst. After a good lunch had been partaken of, the business of the Lodge was proceeded with. W.B. J. W. Martin, P.A.G.D.C., the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, was present. After the labours of the Lodge had ended, the Brethren went for a three hours' trip up the river, returning to dinner at 7 p.m. After an excellent repast an entertainment was provided by Bro. Frank Neiman, of the Chelsea Lodge, at which was introduced Mr. Ernest Leathly and Mr. Tom Mellor. A very pleasant evening having been spent, the Brethren returned by saloon carriage to Paddington Station.

A satisfactory and marked daily progress towards convalescence is reported from Falmouth of Mr. William Francis, Mr. David Day's partner being once more able to get about after his long and serious illness.

We hear of many cases of dire distress in the music hall profession, but of none sadder than that of the widow and children of the late Harry Kenyon. The poor fellow had been ailing for a long time, and his slender resources had become exhausted. He died last week of double pneumonia, leaving a widow and three children, and one about to be born, totally unprovided for.

The Music Hall Benevolent Fund came to the rescue, and buried poor Kenyon, and the Music Hall Ladies' Guild's Secretary, Miss Anna De Gray, has taken charge of the wife, and will look after her during her confinement. Miss De Gray is also doing what she can for the three children. The late Mr. Kenyon was a Brother of the St. George's Masonic Lodge, Glasgow, the Brethren of which, we hope, will come to the assistance of the widow and children. No reader of this paragraph who loves deeds of charity should pass it by without determining to help this deplorable case. Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, of *The Era*, will see that any contributions sent to him will be faithfully applied.

A great achievement was accomplished by the Empire Theatre with their Biograph at Kempton, when twelve operators took the whole of the race for the Jubilee, showing every incident of the struggle from start to finish. The picture is being shown every evening at the Empire.

Mr. Frank Fillis, the circus entrepreneur of South Africa, is about to float a company in the Rand for the erection of a hippodrome similar to the building in Cranbourn-street. As at the famous Moss house, aquatic spectacles will form part of the scheme of entertainment, and the floor of the arena will therefore be made to sink, and tanks will be arranged for the production of waterfalls.

Mrs. Brown-Potter, who has been so prominent in the music halls of late, in her sketch *Mary, Queen of Scots*, sails by the "Guika" from Southampton to-day, opening in Cape Town on Saturday, June 15. The engagement is for twenty weeks, and will take Mrs. Potter up to her engagement with Mr. Stoll, opening at the Hackney Empire in November next. Miss Dorothy Rundell is a prominent member of the company.

Mrs. Potter's répertoire includes *The Duel*, now running at the Garrick Theatre, and *The Great Conspiracy*, from the Duke of York's Theatre, both of which will be seen later on the Moss-Stoll tour. The Union-Castle authorities have given the popular actress special facilities for rehearsing on board, for which excellent arrangements have been made by Mr. Gibb.

Disappointment has been rife this week in Birmingham at the absence of Miss Marie Loftus, who was to have been at the Empire, but was unable to appear through severe hoarseness. Miss Loftus may take comfort from the fact that her absence has been keenly felt by the Birmingham public, who have never wavered in their support and admiration of the popular comedienne.

Mr. Pony Moore has suffered a severe bereavement in the death of his eldest daughter, Mrs. Mary Jane Rackstraw, who passed away on Saturday last after a long illness, which she bore with great patience. The remains of the deceased lady were interred in the family grave in Brompton Cemetery on Wednesday. Among those at the graveside, and who also sent wreaths were :—Geo. Rackstraw, sen. (husband), Mr. G. W. and Mrs. Moore, Mrs. Eugene Stratton (sister), Mr. and Mrs. G. Rackstraw, jun., Miss Rackstraw, Mrs. Charles Mitchell (sister), the Misses Sharpe, Miss Lancaster, Mr. and Mrs. Youngman, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Nutt, Mr. Geo. Newman, Mr. John Hannow, and Mr. and Mrs. Joe Elvin.

The Chief Constable of Hull made three visits to the Hull Hippodrome on the occasion of a recent exhibition of living statuary there, and as a result of his conversation with Mr. Graham (the manager), that gentleman volunteered to withdraw the exhibition.

It is with much regret that we have to chronicle the death, which occurred on May 6 at Maesteg, South Wales, of Mrs. W. Scott, the wife of Captain Scott, of circus fame. The deceased lady was one of the oldest of the circus stock, and within a few days of her demise took a very prominent part in the management of their circus, now touring through Wales.

The funeral took place at Maesteg, South Wales, and was attended by the bereaved family and a large circle of friends. A number of beautiful wreaths were sent, including one from her daughters, Mrs. E. Hanneford, Mrs. C. Beckett, and Mrs. R. Yelding; the Bros. Scott; artists and band of Scott's Circus; artists and band of Hanneford's Circus; manager and staff Poole's Theatre, Maesteg; Mr. and Mrs. Sanders; Mrs. Kinder; Mrs. Lewis; L. Williams and staff.

English and French business men cordially fraternised at the Empire on Friday night (the 10th), when was given a great gala performance, to which the City of London International Commercial Association had invited the Comité Républicain du Commerce de l'Industrie et de l'Agriculture. Everywhere reigned merriment and goodwill and enthusiasm. Beautiful flowers in the French national colours embellished stalls, boxes, and circle; the Union Jack and the Tricolour were on all sides. It was a memorable scene—an evening to remember with gratitude, and when the first few bars of the "Marseillaise" were heard one felt indeed that another milestone on the road to complete understanding had been passed.

The latest quotations for music hall shares are as follow :—Alhambra, 1½; Canterbury, ½; Empire (15s. paid) 1⅝, ditto (10s. paid) 1½; London Pavilion Ordinary 4¾, ditto Preferred 5; London Coliseum, ⅜; Metropolitan, ⅝; Moss' Empire 4⅞, ditto 5 per cent. Preferred, 4½; Oxford, 6¾; Palace, 12s. 6d.; Tivoli, 6; and Variety Consolidated Theatres, 13s.

Mr. Fred Winn is now out of all danger, and desires through our columns to return thanks to his friends for the many letters and telegrams of congratulation and inquiry sent to him. *The Light in the Window* is still burning.

The 511th meeting of the Executive Committee of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association was held on Wednesday afternoon, when the following members were present : Messrs. Joe O'Gorman, W. H. Clemart, Harry Blake, Harry Bancroft, Charles Coborn, J. W. Cragg, Chas. McConnell, Arthur Rigby, Bernard Stavordale, Albert Voyce, Jeff Vendome, and C. Douglas Stuart (secretary). Mr. O'Gorman presided for a portion of the proceedings, and Mr. Harry Blake afterwards. On the proposition of Mr. Clemart, seconded by Mr. McConnell, it was unanimously decided to send telegrams of condolence from the committee to Mrs. Payne, Mr. Walter Payne, and Mrs. Walter Gibbons on the sad death of Mr. George Adney Payne. The offer of the Variety Artistes' Federation to share in the expenses of the Association's offices in Glasgow was accepted. Mr. A. Dieppie, of the Deerhound Hotel, Coatbridge, was appointed as agent of the Association in that town.

Miss Daisy James, the popular variety comedienne and representative of the Gibson girl on the lesser stage, is sailing for America on Saturday next, from Southampton.

Mr. J. C. Coe has been holding an amateur carnival this week at the Palace of Varieties, Hammersmith, and several excellent new turns have been discovered. To-night (Saturday) the final trial will be heard, and prizes distributed to the successful competitors.

"The Unwritten Law," is the chief attraction of the Canterbury Whitsuntide bill. Mr. John Lawson will appear with Miss Buena Bent in the sensational sketch, which is said to depict, "with the utmost fidelity, the unparalleled prodigality of man."

Mr. Alec Hurley has postponed the production of his forthcoming Jap-coster musical comedietta, by Messrs. Harrington and Tate, entitled *Cockneys in Japan*, till a few weeks after Whitsun, so that this important production may be adequately rehearsed and the "business" fully worked up before presentation in the West End.

Mr. Augustus Greco has now recovered from his indisposition, and on Monday his many friends will be pleased to see him again in the conductor's chair at the Stratford Empire. During his illness the orchestra has been directed by his brother, Walter Greco.

Miss Ethel Ra-Leslie, who finishes to-night her sixth Moss and Stoll tour, commences her London season on Monday. Her tour has been one continued success. After fulfilling her London engagements Miss Ra-Leslie will take a well-earned rest on the Continent, previous to rehearsing her great scena.

We regret to announce the death, on Thursday morning, May 9, of Mrs. Thiel, known professionally as Miss Nellie Welling, wife of Leonard Thiel, at Milford, Surrey. The deceased lady was a niece of Mr. H. T. Brickwell, formerly of the Garrick Theatre, and had starred as Lady Holyrood in *Florodora* with the late E. J. Lonnen. She had also considerable experience of the halls. She was connected with Thiel's "Pom-Poms" up to last Christmas, at which time she was taken ill, death being due to consumption. The funeral took place on Tuesday from 13, Anhalt-road, Albert Bridge road, S.W., the body being interred at Brompton Cemetery. Much sympathy will be felt for Mr. Thiel, who was called hastily from an engagement in the North, only to arrive two hours after his wife's death.

Mr. James McCarthy, the resident-manager of the Britannia, by the courtesy of Messrs. Barrasford and Macnaghten, was accorded a well-deserved benefit on Friday, May 10. At both houses crowded audiences testified to the popularity of the manager. Mr. Thomas Barrasford, although present, delegated to Mr. Fred Baugh the duty of making the presentation of numerous tokens of esteem, amongst which were a gold watch and medal, presented by Messrs. Barrasford and Macnaghten, a handsome gold Albert by the staff, a gold ring by Mr. Fred Baugh, a silver-mounted umbrella by the supers engaged, an umbrella from Messrs. Seaman and Hayes, and a substantial cheque running into three figures as the result of the benefit. "Mac" received telegrams from a large number of the leading professionals who were unable to be present. Amongst the extra turns who appeared were Mr. Charles Austin, Mr. and Mrs. St. John, Messrs. Seamen and Hayes, the Boy Kennedy, Mr. David O'Toole, and several others.

Miss Nellie Ridgway, who has just arrived from a tour round the world, is styled a comedienne in mid-air. She sings and dances on a wire in various costumes, and her novel methods have made her a very great favourite at the Empire, Camberwell. Messrs. Neiman and Co. are to be congratulated on obtaining so clever a client.

Mr. Fred Lindsay, who is to appear at the London Hippodrome on Monday, is to give a display of what in Australian parlance is called "whip-cracking." Mr. Lindsay is an Australian born and bred, and is not in any way connected with the stage; but the Hippodrome management have induced him, solely on account of the great interest taken in Colonial affairs at the moment, to give an exposition of the handling of the Australian stock whip. Nowhere in the world can another man be found who can even approach the skill of this gentleman. With his whip at twenty-five feet distance Mr. Lindsay can cut in half a cigarette, held in the mouth of an attendant. At a similar range he can extinguish a lighted candle, and then with a different crack cut the candle in half. He takes the ash off a cigar whilst it is being smoked, but his lash is nevertheless quite harmless when he wishes to make it so. For instance, he flogs a man with terrific force without hurting him. Then he can tie his whip in a knot round a man's arm. This act, if unskilfully performed, would cut the arm off. As it is, the man does not even feel it. The whip wielded by Mr. Lindsay cuts an ordinary wine bottle in two as cleanly as though it had been done by machinery.

Mr. Albert Toft, the eminent sculptor, has prepared for the London Hippodrome a series of representations of living statuary, entitled "Makers of History." Historical episodes in the lives of soldiers, sailors, statesmen, politicians, and actors will be realised by living models amidst appropriate surroundings. For instance, Lord Beaconsfield's immortal phrase, "Peace with Honour," will be dealt with in a very original way; and the late Sir Henry Irving, whose genius raised the actor's art to a glorious position in all English-speaking countries, will receive at Mr. Toft's hands one of the most remarkable appreciations on record.

Up to the present time Britain has neglected to raise a monument to the memory of one of her most gallant and illustrious sons. Mr. Toft will rectify this grave omission. "He gave his country an Empire and the people of that Empire peace and justice." The hero of this tribute is, of course, Lord Clive, maker of British India. But it is not only with makers of history in the past that Mr. Toft will deal. Men of the present time whose work the newspapers of to-day immortalise will have a share of his attention. The Right Hon. John Burns, for instance, will be portrayed marching at the head of a procession of London dockers to Trafalgar-square on the afternoon of the ever-memorable Nov. 13, 1887. The various stage settings in which the statuary will be shown are the invention of Mr. Frank Parker.

Mr. Albert Toft, whose statue of "Spring" ornaments the Birmingham Art Gallery, has three exhibits—the greatest number allowed—in this year's Academy. Born at Birmingham forty-five years ago, Mr. Toft gained a National Scholarship at the Newcastle-under-Lyme School of Art at the age of seventeen. He then studied at the Royal College of Art, London, and was shortly after apprenticed to Josiah Wedgwood and Sons at Etruria as a pottery modeller. Mr. Toft's works have places in the permanent collections of Birmingham, Newcastle, Liverpool, Leamington, Nottingham, and Bamra, India. His busts include those of the late W. E. Gladstone, Cunningham Grahame, Seymour Hicks, Ellaline Terriss, Winifred Emery, and many others. The necessary introductory matter for Mr. Toft's act has been written by Mr. Fred Bowyer.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

If anything was further needed to show the tenacious hold that Messrs. Francis and Day's songs now have on the great American music-loving public, the encomiums everywhere of the Press of that country would be a clinching settlement to doubters, and that important organ the Chicago *Sunday Examiner*, in a recent issue, prints the following remarks on the subject:—

"The new vogue of comic songs started in with 'Waiting at the Church,' which Miss Vesta Victoria introduced with such tremendous success, and which she has more than duplicated this year with her famous 'Poor John.' Both songs are published by Francis and Day, who also issue the story song, with its delicately pointed finish, as introduced by Miss Alice Lloyd, typified by her 'Tourist and the Maid,' 'May, May, May,' &c. But the greatest surprise of all to the publishing world was that Francis, Day, and Hunter should capture a purely American 'hit' in the new song written by the famous American team of Jerome and Schwartz, entitled, "My Irish Rosie.' It was conceded that the English house might introduce English novelties successfully, but that they should by American methods make an American song famous in Chicago, New York, and Boston within the space of a few weeks was the unexpected—which happened."

On Monday last Miss Ruby Helder, the lady with the phenomenal voice, created quite a sensation at the Empire by her rendering of Edward Montagu's "For King and Sireland," the new Imperial Anthem. From so delicate and frail-looking an artist the great house expected nothing more out of the ordinary than a thin soprano voice, and the astonishment can be better guessed than imagined when the powerful tones of a pure baritone filled the vast auditorium. At the conclusion of the stirring number, specially written in honour of the visit of the Colonial Premiers to the Motherland, Miss Helder was recalled twice, and in response to an imperative recall appeared before the curtain yet again. On the Stoll tour that splendid artist, Mr. Ian Colquhoun, is singing the song with acclamation. It is published by Messrs. Francis and Day.

Mr. Harry Randall's latest songs, "No More gardening out of the house for me!" and "All he's left me is the old cracked basin that we strain the 'taturs in," the latter by T. W. Connor, are about to be published by Mr. David Day's firm. Mr. Randall is now safely installed in a new and beautiful home West Hampstead way.

Mr. Mark Sheridan has acquired three songs from the pens of Alf Rick and Maurice Scott, to wit, "There's no harm in kissing a lady," "Out came my little box of ointment," and "Song Mixtures." The chorus song written by the same writers entitled "Swing me higher, Obadiah," is going great in the hands of Miss May Mars and Miss Mabel Thorne. It is published by the Star Music Publishing Company.

Among the latest songs acquired by the Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Co., Ltd., are "He's one of the boys in our Police Force" and "Mary from Tipperary" (Percy Edgar and Kenneth Lyle), both of which will be introduced by Miss Katie Butler; "Boys will be boys," by Cecil Liddon, which is being featured with great success by Miss Mabel Thorne; and another song by those prolific writers, Lawrance, Mellor, and Gifford, entitled "Way down the old canal."

"Let Me Return to Dreamland" is the title of a new ballad written and composed by Percy Edgar and Cecil Lidden. Arthur Aldridge will shortly introduce this song at the London Pavilion. This charming number is of the "free" variety, and will be published by Shapiro, Von Tilzer.

Miss May Mars has been scoring nightly at the Oxford with her new song, "In my Aeroplane for two" (a honeymoon in the sky). The Shapiro, Von Tilzer Co. have secured the publishing rights.

Miss May Mars has also been scoring heavily this week with Castling and Godfrey's dainty Indian song, "You shall have a Shalimar." The Star Music Co. are the publishers.

At the Palace, Stoke Newington, Miss Dora Lyric, the popular comedienne, made a really big hit with Harry Castling and Maurice Scott's ditty, "What's the good of knocking at an empty house?" This is another of the Star Music Co.'s successful sixpenny editions.

Miss Nell Emerald, who has been delighting Metropolitan audiences by her vivacious rendering of Messrs. Francis and Day's coon number, "Push off, Mr. Johnson," is about to essay an entirely new number, published by the same house, the music by Herman E. Darewski, jun., the name of which is "This coon ain't a-gwine home no more," an exemplification of the Shakespearean line, "Conscience doth make cowards of us all."

Mme. Patti on Wednesday last, just prior to her departure for Paris, was, at her hotel, presented by little Max Darewski with a specially printed copy on thick art paper of "I dreamed of a beautiful garden," the song specially composed for the great *diva* by the youthful genius, and embellished with a reproduction of the portrait of herself presented by the cantatrice to the boy. The song is published by Messrs. Francis and Day.

Herr Julian W. Kandt's charming *valse lente*, "Toujours à Toi," will be played constantly by the composer's band at Weston-super-Mare during the present season, and the publishers, the Monte Carlo Publishing Co., who are issuing this number in their "Sixpenny Successes" series, are to be congratulated on having secured one of the potential musical "winners" of the present year.

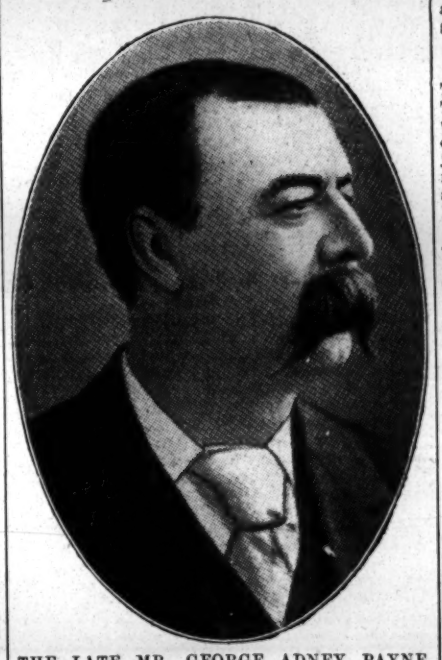
Messrs. John P. Harrington and Jas. W. Tate, who have supplied Little Tich with his new character study, "The General," which this talented artist purposes producing at all his engagements next week, are busily engaged on several other novelties for the same performer, particularly on a successor to the "Serpentine song, "My sweetheart had been in the sun" (also written by Mr. Harrington), which Mr. Tich so long found an admirable vehicle for his vocal and terpsichorean eccentricities.

No. 74 of the Monte Carlo Publishing Co.'s "Sixpenny Successes" series is a most novel song of the Swiss Tyrol, recording the adventures of a young English tourist, who, encountering a beautiful "Switzer" maiden tending her goats in the picturesque land of William Tell, is so captivated by her jödelling powers that he straightway proceeds to fall in love with her, and proposes marriage, with (to him) most satisfactory results. This daintily romantic number, which is certain to be one of the "hits" of the coming season, is entitled "Dear little Tyrolese," and is written and composed by Messrs. John P. Harrington and Jas. W. Tate.

The Monte Carlo Publishing Co. have, during the past week, accepted from Messrs. Ballard Macdonald and Donovan Meher (who were responsible for the same firm's sterling success, "My tiny firefly") no fewer than four new songs, two of which they are issuing immediately, viz., "Will of the wisp" (an old title in a new setting), and "Goo, Goo," which latter is being specially "featured" by Misses Dorothy L. Clarke and Clarice Mayne.

DEATH OF MR. ADNEY PAYNE.

The news of the death of Mr. George Adney Payne was read with consternation and keen regret in the evening papers on Wednesday; and artist and proprietor must equally deplore the great loss the world of the halls sustains in the death of one who has been in the forefront of variety enterprise for the last thirty years. Though the deceased gentleman met with such severe injuries in the motor accident of Sunday, May 5, at Tunbridge Wells, it was felt that his splendid constitution would pull him through; and Mrs. Payne, who nursed him to the end, in her letter to us last week was able to write both hopefully and cheerfully of the rapid improvement he was making. This continued until Wednesday morning early, when, in Mrs. Payne's own words in her last touching letter to us, "He was looking so well that the doctor had promised he should be put on a couch which was being prepared for him in the adjoining room. I was saying how lovely it would be to see him sitting up, and he was quite like his dear old self. His breakfast came up about twenty minutes past nine, when he ate and enjoyed a bit of sole. After he had finished breakfast I was sitting by his side eating mine when he commenced to breathe heavily and rapidly got worse. The doctor was summoned immediately, and he saw at once that my poor darling was sinking. Ten minutes afterwards he passed away peacefully with his hand in mine. I am sure that was his one wish—to die quickly and peacefully. I cannot realise he is dead. We were so happy! I seem to hear his little whistle calling me, as he did not like me to move from his side. All his relatives had been to see him, and all his children. I am so thankful to think of this.



THE LATE MR. GEORGE ADNEY PAYNE.

I do pray that I shall bear up. God rest his soul, his end was peace."

It is with a profound sense of the distress that is universally felt in the world of entertainment that the writer pens some particulars of the striking and strenuous career that has been cut short so tragically. George Adney Payne, who was born in 1846 in the camp at the Curragh, was the son of a soldier, his father being a quartermaster-sergeant in the Scots Greys, a famous regiment in which the son enlisted. The commercial instinct, however, caused him to feel the irksomeness of barrack life, though he loved regimental athletics, and became an excellent boxer and an expert swordsman. He therefore left the Army, and joined his father in the wine trade at Greenwich. Here he met Charley Crowder, who had been running the Rose and Crown (purchased by him from J. F. Emmerton in 1870) as a superior free-and-easy. Mr. Crowder persuaded young Payne to join him, and, the Greenwich hall being sold to Mr. A. A. Hurley, the two purchased for £25,000 from Mr. William Lusby the "winter and summer palace" named after that gentleman that he had built on the Eagle Gardens in the Mile End-road. This was in 1878. Lusby's was the largest music hall in the East, and when burnt down in 1884 it was immediately rebuilt, and renamed the Paragon. In 1882 Crowder and Payne bought the Canterbury, which they re-opened on Nov. 20 of that year. The Canterbury had been in a bad way since the departure of Mr. Edwin Villiers. It was secured by a company, for which Mr. James Guiver was manager. That gentleman resigned on July 2, 1881, and was succeeded by Mr. John Baum, who was responsible for some excellent productions of ballet. The Crowder and Payne régime undoubtedly brought prosperity to it. Mr. Crowder's health failing, the Canterbury and Paragon were turned into a company, with Mr. Payne as managing-director.

In the early nineties Mr. Payne became associated with Mr. Henry Newson-Smith, who may be said to have conceived the germ of the Syndicate, when he assisted Mr. Edwin Villiers in the formation of a company to purchase the London Pavilion. The music hall boom, as it was called, had just begun to make its influence felt, and there was a good deal of reckless speculation. With the popularity of the halls growing apace it was not to be wondered at that the Strand—the great amusement thoroughfare—was chosen for the site of the Tivoli, built and opened on May 24, 1890. The new establishment, placed under the management of Mr. F. J. Potter, who came from the Gaiety, was not a success, and was sold by the order of the mortgagees at the Mart in 1891, when Mr. Adney Payne and Mr. Newson-Smith purchased it. A company was formed under the title of the New Tivoli (Limited), and the hall was reopened on July 4, under a working agreement with the London Pavilion, Mr. Charles Morton being chosen as the manager.

In 1892 Mr. James Kirk, a prominent licensed victualler who had bought in October, 1890, the nineteen years' lease of the Oxford for £27,100, obtained a considerable extension of that lease, and then disposed of the property to the Syndicate governing the Tivoli and London Pavilion. The old Oxford was pulled down, rebuilt, and reopened on Jan. 31, 1893. Thus was established the foundation of the Syndicate, a combination destined, in London at least, to work a revolution in the conduct of variety establishments and in the style of entertainments given thereat.

The retirement of Mr. Newson-Smith in 1895 brought Mr. Payne into greater prominence, and his business capacity, energy, experience, and strong personality singled him out as the guiding spirit of modern music hall enterprise. It is singular, therefore, to read at the present day an account of an extraordinary general meeting of the Oxford, Limited, specially convened to consider a resolution for the removal of Mr. Payne's name from the list of directors. The motion was very properly rejected by a large majority.

In January, 1897, special honour was paid to Mr. Payne by proprietors and the profession on the occasion of his jubilee. On the 26th of that month he gave a large party at his residence at Tulse Hill, and was presented with a fine collection of books, the presentation being made by Mr. Henri Gros. The enterprise of the deceased gentleman in the suburbs has been shared by others; and we need only refer to it by mentioning that at the time of his death he was managing-director of the Oxford, the Tivoli, the Canterbury, and the Paragon, and was joint managing-director with Mr. Henri Gros of the Chelsea Palace, the Euston, the South London Palace, the Walthamstow Palace, and the East Ham Palace. In addition, he was chairman of the company owning the Metropolitan, and a director of the Empress, Brixton.

His name recently came prominently before the public in connection with the music hall war, the group of houses controlled by the syndicate of which he was the head being picketed by the V.A.F. on the night after those of his son-in-law, Mr. Walter Gibbons, had received similar treatment. He was twice married. When he came of age he wedded Miss Marian Ford, the daughter of a gas engineer, by whom he had one son, Mr. Walter Payne, and three daughters, the eldest of whom is Mrs. Walter Gibbons. In November, 1898, he married Miss Ethel Earle.

He was once questioned by an interviewer about his hobbies. "Work," was the reply. But Mr. Payne always loved his days of training with the Hertfordshire Yeomanry, of which he was a member for seventeen years, and was proud of being the winner of thirty prizes for the best turned-out man and horse. Of late years he had taken much interest in horticulture and fruit-growing, and was a keen picture buyer, as the walls of his beautiful house, St. Malo, Herne Bay, testify. He was on the best of terms with his managers, whom he met every Friday at his offices at Durham House-street, and the kindness and consideration of "the guv'nor," as he was affectionately called by them, will be never forgotten.

The inquest on Mr. Adney Payne was held on Thursday evening at the Mount Ephraim Hotel, Tunbridge Wells, where the deceased gentleman was taken after meeting with a motor-car accident last Sunday week. Although severely injured, he had made very fair progress until Wednesday morning, when he suddenly passed away at breakfast. Mr. T. Buss was the Coroner, and Mr. Philip Ellis was chosen foreman of the jury.

The widow, Mrs. Ethel Adney Payne, said that on the 5th inst. she, in company with her husband and some friends, left Herne Bay in a motor-car. Witness was driving.

The Coroner: Have you any experience of driving motor-cars?—I have driven about 11,000 miles.

Continuing, Mrs. Payne said that nothing happened on the road down to Tunbridge Wells.

The Coroner: When you were approaching the point at which the accident occurred, did anything happen to distract your attention?

Witness replied that she was coming by Kingswood estate when a cyclist came out of a road on the left-hand side. In trying to avoid him she ran into the bank. She saw it would be sure death for the cyclist if she did not run into the bank. The car turned over, and her husband was pinned underneath.

The Coroner: Was your husband riding behind you?—He was sitting at my side.

What part of the road were you in?—I was in the middle of the road. I had already slowed up, because I was very particular about not making a dust for the people coming from church.

Did you notice any other traffic at the time?—No; there was nothing to confuse me.

And the car answered to your movement?—Yes. I had to take the car round rather quickly to avoid the cyclist. I tried to avoid him, with the result that the car overturned on the bank.

Your husband was pinned under you, and could not extricate himself?—I could not tell you that. I was on my back. I could not move.

You had taken that road before?—Yes, we had been there a dozen times.

You were not at all confused at that time?—Oh, no.

Your husband was brought here, and was going on well until yesterday, when he unfortunately died?—Yes.

The Foreman: You had already reduced speed before you saw the cyclist?—Yes.

Had you not reduced speed you would have gone into the people who were walking at the time?—Well, I do not say we should have done that. I was blowing the hooter at the time.

Continuing, the witness said she was going at nine miles an hour when the car turned over. One of the wheels broke.

John Ernest Jewell, who was in the car at the time, said that nothing happened on the way until they got to Pembury-road. The pace was about eighteen or twenty miles. He had driven with Mrs. Payne on several occasions, and had never known her to have an accident before. He was sitting behind the driver. Witness did not see the cyclist because he was talking to Dr. Hill at the time. The outer cover of the wheel broke when the car turned over. Mrs. Payne increased the speed of the car just before the accident to avoid the cyclist.

William Bridger, the cyclist, said he was riding out of Kingswood-road into Pembury-road at about eighteen miles an hour. He did not see the car until it was close on him, and did not hear any hooter sounded. The angle was rather dangerous at that spot. The car escaped him altogether. He did not ring his bell at the corner, but had done so previously half-way down the road.

Thomas Scott deposed to hearing a shout, and looking up saw the car almost on top of him. He was sitting on a seat close to the corner at the time. He heard no sound of a hooter.

Police-constable Taylor stated that he saw the car coming down the road, and noticed the cyclist proceeding from Kingswood-road. The car, in turning to avoid the cyclist, was completely overturned on the bank. The cyclist appeared to have lost his nerve.

Dr. Vise gave medical evidence. He rendered first aid to Mr. Payne, and subsequently found that he had broken three ribs and had internal injuries. He attributed the sudden death of Mr. Payne, after making several days' satisfactory progress, to a clot of blood on the heart.

A verdict of accidental death was recorded.

"ADIEUX."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—The loss of Mr. George Adney Payne will, I am sure, come as a great blow to the majority of artists. To me this week in May, 1907, will not readily be forgotten, for in it I have lost poor Henry Dundas and George Adney Payne, the two men who first brought me forward as a writer, viz., in *The Daughter of England*, at the Canterbury years ago. *C'est ainsi qu'en partant, je vous fais mes adieux.* HERBERT SHELLEY.

Empire Theatre, Dublin, May 16.

Miss Maud Buchanan, lately playing leads with Mr. Percy Norman and Mr. J. A. Campbell, and Mr. Charles R. Hann, nephew of Walter Hann, the well-known scenic artist, and late of the Adelphi Theatre, &c., will shortly produce for the halls an entirely new and original comedy sketch, abounding in humorous situations, entitled *Ghosts*.

Mr. Sydney Payne, who has been touring on the Moss and Stoll circuit during the winter as conductor for *Betta the Gipsy*, has been specially engaged by Mme. Esty to conduct her *Trovatore* scene at the opening of the Portsmouth Hippodrome on Monday next.

Sandy McNab, Scotch comedian, and his company, in their Scotch sketch *The Egyptian Mummy*, open on the Stoll tour on the 27th inst.

THE BIOSCOPE IN EDUCATION.

When first introduced to the public notice the cinematograph was very much regarded as a scientific device by means of which an audience, old or young, could be amused for a more or less brief period. And if the apparatus had been confined to the purposes of amusement its popularity might, perhaps, have waned; but new uses have been found for it. In a little book just published by Mr. Charles Urban, F.Z.S., there are set forth a variety of the uses to which the instrument may be applied to "science, education, and matters of State." This seems a pretty wide claim, but it is perfectly justified by Mr. Urban's book. Former cinematographic exhibitions of individual scientific subjects in places of amusement were intended as an introduction, and served their purpose in attracting and compelling the attention of scientists and experts. So, when a demonstration is made of some elaborate physical or chemical experiment, if a series of photographs be taken by suitable apparatus, we can have endless reproductions of experiments, many of which are so costly or intricate as to preclude their production on ordinary lecture tables. The perfected cinematograph of to-day secures 1920 pictures a minute, thus recording the very slightest motion of the demonstrator and his subject, and the processes, magnified and projected with absolute accuracy, and with a sharpness unexcelled by any still photograph, are invaluable to students who have no opportunities of witnessing the actual demonstrations or phenomena.

Even in elementary education the possibilities are enormous. Let us take the subject of geography, for instance, which used to consist simply of the assimilation by the pupil of long series of

[*Photo by Hana.*

MR. CHARLES URBAN

names and figures. By the use of the cinematograph the teacher can in very truth carry his scholars round the world from China to Peru. Instead of learning dry, unmeaning facts, every lesson is linked on to a living representation of the country and the people to which the lesson applies. So also with history. With films as varied as a library of books, pupils need not read about historical scenes: they can see them actually in progress. All the advantages of a well-mounted historical play, or such pageants as those of Sherborne and Warwick, Jeanne d'Arc, the Passion Play, &c., can be placed at the disposition of every child in our public schools.

Again, there is a wide field in the scientific world as applied to our naval and military matters. Thus, the launching of a great battleship is a matter of extreme study on the part of her designers. By means of the cinematograph an absolutely accurate record can be obtained of the movements of the hull from the time the dog-shores are knocked away until she is water-borne. To effect this, two cameras, at least, are trained on the vessel to be launched, one covering a sweeping view of the vessel from the bow end, and the other from the stern; both cameras are located so that every movement attending the work is covered as much as it possibly can be, so that in case of accident the blame, if any, may be properly placed.

As regards the Army, the authorities, recognising the advantages of the cinematograph as a powerful agent in recruiting, have subsidised one or more of the caterers for public amusement who exhibit pictures of both services, and the importance of the cinematograph in demonstration of cadet training, firing, and physical exercises is fully recognised by Field-Marshal Earl Roberts, who encourages its adoption in every possible way, as a means of improving the soldier's knowledge of his calling.

The field of medical science, too, promises to afford a wide scope for the use of the apparatus. One of the most important parts of the training of a doctor is the witnessing of operations. The cinematograph now renders it possible to reproduce endlessly, under circumstances which permit of most close and leisurely study, scenes which formerly could only be witnessed in the operating theatres of our hospitals.

The secrets of the microscopic world are gradually being revealed, and the wonderful influence which bacteria exercise on our everyday existence is being brought home to us. Utilised in conjunction with the cinematograph projector, germs and microbes, magnified to gigantic dimensions, are shown in full activity. The magnification varies from 2,000,000 to 76,000,000 times, according to the extent of magnification on the film, which varies from 25 to 850 diameters. In its application to the study of the life history of insects the cinematograph is of the first importance to the Board of Agriculture, to horticulturists, and to agriculturists. By its means are recorded, not only the transformations from the egg to the perfect stages of the insect's existence, but also can be witnessed the manner in which, at different stages, it attacks crops. Great facility is given, too, by its means, to the study of the movements of insects and plants in relation to special adaptation and environment.

These, then, are a few of the very interesting developments of the fascinating study of the use of the cinematograph to which Mr. Urban directs attention in his book. And those immense educational spheres which have been hitherto confined to individual students will be now brought realistically before large audiences.

Mr. W. V. Frame, known as "Hoochay," opens his Stoll tour on Monday at the Empire, in "Auld Reekie," and then crosses the Border to Manchester.

Miss Amy Marsden, who has been dangerously ill with peritonitis, is progressing favourably, and will resume business on June 10, on the Stoll tour.

"The Era" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

"CARMENCITA" AT THE OXFORD.

Musical Tragedietta, adapted from the French of Prosper Merimée by Louis Cohen, incidental music and songs composed by Herman Finck, produced at the Oxford, on Monday, May 13.

Don José .....Mr. Sidney Watson
Garcia .....Mr. Wilfred Howard
Dancaire .....Mr. Jamie Dallas
Lucas .....Mr. E. A. Hill-Mitchelson
La Carmencita .....Miss Amy Augarde

Even before the days of Æschylus and Euripides the elemental human instincts of love, hatred, and revenge were favoured subjects for tragic drama; and if the moderns, in their treatment of the triad of passions, have lost much of the dignity of the ancient Greek authors, they have added something of picturesqueness and romance. These qualities are to be found in Prosper Merimée's story of *Carmen*, the strength of which is well reflected in Georges Bizet's score, the beauty of which alas! was only fully recognised after his death. Mr. Louis Cohen, taking the last phase of the story apparently, has called his adaptation of it *Carmencita*, and this was produced with undoubted success at the Oxford on Monday evening. The volatile and reckless cigarette-maker, who trifles with man's love as a mere plaything, has come under the malign influence of Garcia, a hideous one-eyed gipsy, who uses her as a decoy to rob victims, and then shares with her the lucre acquired by her ill-regulated seductiveness. While she is bargaining with the Romany for her share of the plunder Don José, the erstwhile smart officer, stands apart, a sullen figure. He is roused from his apathy by the taunts of Carmen and the gipsy, and sits down to cards. A fierce quarrel results in a knife duel between the latter and Don José, who returns the victor in time to witness an interview between Carmencita and her latest lover, the bull-fighter. The latter escapes, and with the entrance of the discarded one upbraidings and imprecations fill the air. Don José, roused to fury by Carmencita's declaration that she hates him, stabs her to death, the bull-fighter rushing in too late to save her. On this tragic ending the curtain falls.

In the name-part Miss Amy Augarde has a part entirely after her own heart. The seductiveness and recklessness of Carmencita are admirably limned in the earlier phase of Mr. Cohen's powerful sketch, and the passion and fury which precede the final catastrophe are no less insisted on by the actress, who looks very charming in a picturesque Spanish costume. As a singer Miss Augarde does complete justice to the two numbers written for her by Mr. Herman Finck, in whose score we find the true Iberian lilt and entrain, and especially is this the case in the opening number. The melody of the card song, in which Carmencita foresees her doom, is plaintive in character. Mr. Sidney Watson as the moody lover capably handles a difficult part; Mr. Wilfred Howard makes a truculent Garcia; Mr. Jamie Dallas a humorous Dancaire, and Mr. E. A. Hill-Mitchelson an effective Lucas. The little tragedy is well mounted, and its production under the capable direction of Mr. Blyth-Pratt was a complete success on Monday, the strong situations holding the audience completely. Mr. Louis Cohen, who has learnt how to write melodrama in that best of all schools—experience—has added another to the limited number of good sketches with music, and, if we mistake not, we have in Mr. Herman Finck a promising young composer, who only requires his opportunity to turn out a very successful comic opera. The music of the piece was well directed by Mr. George Burgess, the orchestral chief at the Oxford.

"IN AT THE FINISH."

Frace, by Nagi Laczi, produced at Hammersmith Palace of Varieties, on Monday, May 13.

Mlle. D'Alberg's great success in a speechless drama has apparently tempted her to try a similar experiment with a farce, and a large amount of success attended the production of the above sketch on Monday last. The action takes place in an actress's boudoir, in which a bath is hidden by a screen. The lady has two fervent admirers, one a Count and the other a Pierrot. Her maid intimates to the Count that he can only hope for some encouragement from her mistress if he gives her (the actress) something substantial in the way of presents. He departs, and the Pierrot enters and receives a similar suggestion—this time from the actress herself. The Pierrot, being left alone, partially attires himself as a female and hides in the bath-room. The Count returns, bringing with him a bouquet and several rings and bracelets. The Pierrot's hands appear from between the curtains, and on them the Count, thinking they are the actress's, places the rings and bracelets. A knock at the door causes the Pierrot to come out, and he hides the Count in the bath-room. As the actress appears Pierrot dashes forward and presents her with the jewellery he has just collected from the Count, and the curtain falls on the Pierrot receiving the reward of the actress's love, while the Count is discovered in the bath with the sprinkler showering water upon him.

Mr. Cecil Kyrlie makes a humorous and grotesque Count, and Mr. Stephen Hall is a smart Pierrot. The actress is capably performed by Miss Ethel Eden, and Miss Berenice Maxwell makes a pert and vivacious maid. Mr. Algernon H. Linde has composed the incidental music, which is most appropriate, the music fitting in excellently with the action of the sketch.

THE HARRY GRELL FUND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Will you kindly grant us space in your valuable paper to put the following case before our brother and sister artists?

Mr. Harry Grell, formerly of Grell and Gray, has been unable during the past year to work through illness. This illness culminated on Friday, April 26, in paralysis of the brain, which has necessitated his removal to Brook-street Infirmary. He has a wife and two daughters, aged five and ten respectively, entirely dependent on him. We appeal most earnestly to our brother and sister artists for help for this very sad case. We realise that of late the pressure of contributing to charities has been very great, but we have gone thoroughly into this case, and can assure "all" that it is most deserving and "urgent." Contributions will be thankfully received and duly acknowledged in *The Era*.

(Signed) JOE O'GORMAN,
FRED GRAY (late partner),
ALBERT LE FRE.

The Era, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C., May 17.

Miniature Marie was quite delighted with the sheaf of cable messages from her brother and sister artists on her twenty-first birthday (April 12). She thanks them all for their kind wishes. Marie had a large birthday party, at which her African friends drank her health and wished her long life, and she was presented with a pretty birthday cake 3ft. high. Around the base were written these words: "To our jolly little English girl, Marie." She also had many presents, among them being a handsome diamond ring, a gold necklace with a gold-mounted green-stone drop, a gold photo frame, a gold-mounted belt, a miniature silver clock, a gold and ruby brooch, and a silver fitted dressing-case.

We regret to hear that Mr. Andie Caine was taken very ill at the Empire, Burnley, and was immediately ordered to Blackpool by his medical adviser. He is suffering from an attack of influenza and tonsilitis.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

SADLER'S WELLS.

One of the leading attractions in the current programme at Sadler's Wells is the appearance of Miss Dolly Elsworthy and company in the Parisian sketch entitled *Nana*. The plot is suggestive of the well-known David Garrick story, and also of the episode in the life of the famous actress Nance Oldfield, and on which the one-act play of that title was founded. Armand Duval, a young Frenchman of good family, has fallen in love with the actress Nana, and is quite prepared to make her his wife. When his father discovers that his son has become infatuated with a woman whose past comes under the description of "shady" he pays a visit to the actress in her dressing-room at the Olympian Theatre, where she is engaged, and begs her to give up Armand, as such a marriage would be fatal to the young man's prospects in life. Nana has a real love for Armand, and for his sake she resolves to sacrifice her own feelings. When the young man next visits her he finds her engaged in writing a letter to the Count de Varville and obtains possession of it. Nana declares that it is her intention of becoming the Count's mistress, and Armand, furious at her apparent duplicity, bitterly denounces her conduct and leaves her. The actress falls ill, and Armand's father having informed him of the plot by which the separation with Nana was brought about, they visit the dying young woman. After a scene charged with deep pathos throughout Nana expires in the presence of the man she loves. Miss Dolly Elsworthy plays with much feeling the part of the actress, the dying scene proving very effective. Mr. J. Wilson displays the requisite earnestness in the rôle of Armand Duval; and Mr. J. Howard is well placed as Duval père. Mr. N. Grimson furnishes a telling sketch of Alphonse Prudhomme, an unfortunate dramatist whom Nana assists by the purchase of one of his comedies. Mr. M. Storey as the Count de Varville and Miss C. Rivers as Louise, Nana's maid, complete the cast.

Mr. Herbert Clifton, in the character of a ragged street urchin, mimics Harry Lauder, and by clever management of a falsetto also gives excellent imitations of Miss Gertie Millar and other well-known musical comedy actresses. Mulvey and Miriam appear with success in their comedy act, *The Studio*, the gentleman appearing as an artist, who patters much more than he paints, and the lady representing his model. They conclude their lively turn with a song and dance. The Lynches score with a picture-song, "Just for the sake of society," the chorus being heartily taken up by the audience, led by the lady vocalist. Mr. Milner Verren is also well received for a sentimental song; the Nettas, duettists, win appreciative applause; Miss Cissy Lupino, a young quick-change artist, affords evidence of her ability as a dancer; the Sisters Edwards, vocalists, dancers, and drummers, and Miss Jennie Venton, comedienne and dancer, meet with deserved success.

To lovers of the romantic drama *Dandy Dacre*, which is being played by the author, Mr. Leonard Mortimer's, No. 1 company, cannot fail to afford complete satisfaction. Mr. Mortimer himself as the hero, Joseph Willin, does justice to the part, and he is excellently supported by Mr. Reginald Weighhill as Sir Michael Collyn, Mr. Edwin J. Collins as Richard Dacre, and Mr. Arthur Bawtree as Paul Hiensen. Good work is also done by Miss Edith Lewis as Alma, Paul's sister, and Miss Ida Clifford as Lady Eva Collyn. The piece is admirably staged, and the plot, which illustrates the maxim that "a true soldier sacrifices all for his country's cause," was followed with close interest. The bill also includes a series of pictures entitled "The Haunted Motor," shown by Raymond's Bio-Tableaux. The "model orchestra" is conducted by Mr. Payne, and Mr. Pete Murray efficiently fulfils the duties of acting-manager.

THE SOUTH LONDON.

Local amateurs have had an excellent chance of distinguishing themselves this week at the South London, where the enterprising manager, Mr. Wm. Payne, has organised a competition for the best rendering of any of Mr. Tom Leamore's songs. South Londoners are evidently a little coy, for at the second house on Wednesday Mr. Payne had to lament the lack of competitors. He pointed out that ten prizes were offered, including three from the management, consisting of a sovereign, ten shillings, and five shillings, the remainder being from local tradespeople, and urged the members of the audience to make an effort. A response was forthcoming in three aspirants for the promised reward, one of whom, however, succumbed to an attack of stage fright and put off his appearance. The other two, one of whom displayed no little talent in "The Park Keeper," were chosen to compete in the final last (Friday) evening. Mr. Tom Leamorg, who received a hearty welcome, had himself contributed two selections. One is always sure of some novel creation from Mr. Leamore, and in "What a friend" he touched a caustic note that struck home, while in "The Old-fashioned story" there are happily pauses for laughter, which were duly filled in by the audience, who also found the refrain sufficiently tuneful to take it up with heartiness.

Love-lilts of "Louisa" and of "Liddy" are sung with infinite zest by Mr. Herbert La Martine, who receives the reception reserved for an old favourite. The difficult and intricate steps with which his singing is accompanied are executed with amazing neatness and grace, and the artistic turn is greeted with long and loud cheers. Thunderous applause is also lavished upon Lotto, Lilo, and Otto, whose intrepid feats on cycles are watched with delight. The humours of the policeman are highly relished, while the cleverness of his escapades are also recognised. Great fun is made out of the polo match, and when in the end the chief performer mounts to the handlebars of a tandem machine, standing on its back wheel, and at this precarious height rides without holding, round the stage, the applause is tremendous. Carrie Laurie's Juveniles have to respond to many recalls for their clever singing and dancing, and the continuous comicalities of the youthful scholar cause unlimited mirth.

A pretty appearance and dainty style recommend Miss Queenie Essex to favour, and she pleases with her song, in which the query, "Isn't that a girl all over?" is asked. Later on, Miss Essex utilises her tuneful soprano in a cultivated rendering of the ballad, "Dear heart," which gains great appreciation. Cole and Rags have innumerable devices for creating mirth, in which they thoroughly succeed. Their comedy juggling is distinguished by not a little skill, which is deservedly recognised. Miss Maud Courteney, to whom reference is made in the notice of another hall, appears with equal success at the South London; Mr. Bert Terrell, a double-voiced vocalist, sings jödels in the character of a Swiss and a Dutch boy; and Ruffell's Bioscope depicts a thrilling fight between Indians and white men in the backwoods as well as the amusing adventures of a man with a ladder. Mr. Charles E. Howells leads his musical forces with credit, and also accompanied the competitors on the piano when the band parts were not forthcoming.

RICHMOND THEATRE.

As usual here, a good bill has attracted greatly increased audiences. The Sisters Lytton are clever duettists, and sing their way into public favour. Mr. Oswald Marshall is droll enough in his sketch, *A Hot Time;* he is efficiently assisted by a lady, but as her name is not on the bill we are unable to give her the honour which she merits. Miss Marie Empress, always a favourite here, sings with good effect "The British Girl"; her second contribution, "Just a little bit," evokes much applause, and merits it all. Then the Gibraltar Girls, managed and conducted by Mr. Frank Somerville, take the stage, and vocalise pleasingly and fence better; their sword exercises are done quite smartly; Mr. Somerville may be complimented on the liberal way he has costumed his company. Mr. Hesketh Meade's fine voice is heard to especial advantage in "The Village Blacksmith," the song being cleverly illustrated by the Biograph. The Gordon Leicester Sketch company rattles through the comedy (in point of fact, it should be called a farce), *Who is Sylvester?* This little piece, from the pen of Mr. Frank A. Morgan, consists of a series of complications and innumerable disguises. By far away the best work is done by Miss Cecile E. Anson, who, as a garrulous maid-of-all-work, Maria Timms, causes screams of laughter; Mr. Claude Dampiere is especially good as a fire-eating Colonel Horton; and Miss Grenville is distinctly humorous as Julia. Miss Irene Vene is charming as Dolly; and everyone works indefatigably and wins the hearty applause of an amused audience. Messrs. Carden and Haines, announced as Australia's vocal entertainers, prove that our colonial artists can turn out of a lot of good work. Very charmingly does Miss Rosamund Bury sing "Whispers of Love," and she is enthusiastically applauded. The Bros. Mills display their undoubted ability on the trapeze, and work admirably together. Mr. Harry Cadle's productions are always amusing and often interesting, his latest, described in the language of Cockayne, "The most gorjus pantermime, *Mick Whittintun.*" It may be said of Mr. Cadle's company of juveniles that they are as precocious as they are clever. They act, sing, dance, and fool around generally to the manifest delight of the audience. Vernon's Bioscope concludes an exceptionally entertaining bill.

CAMBERWELL PALACE.

Food for laughter is provided in abundance for the residents of Camberwell, who this week find *The House Boat* moored at the palatial hall so ably administered by Mr. P. A. Lennon. The vessel is manned by Mr. John Leopold's company, which throughout long years has held an enviable reputation for acrobatic skill combined with humour. The best efforts of the troupe are put forth in their present production, and audiences are twice nightly sent into throes of merriment as well as admiration at the extraordinary feats performed on board the house boat up the river. The famous family fully sustain their reputation, and loud cheers are showered upon them. A concession to the craze of the hour is made by the engagement of the Four Golden Ayeshas, who furnish a series of nude statuary in bronze. The poses are graceful and effective, while a figure which reclines on a shelf at the base remains rigid right up to the end.

The mirth of the evening is largely contributed to by Rich and Rich, who supply a wealth of humour in their cross-talk, their ornithological encounter taking the ear of the house, which is highly appreciative throughout. Verno and Voyce give their "Admiral and Newsboy" duet, which is quite a romantic tale in song. Mr. Verno's robust baritone still rolls majestically in his songs, and the newspaper medley rendered by Mr. Voyce is loudly cheered. A cordial welcome awaits the Poluskis, who, by desire of the management, as they assert, present a new show. Their method of procedure is very diverting, and the duet which they profess to render is highly relished by the audience.

Ballads of well-won popularity are submitted by Miss Lilian Lowe, who gains loud tokens of admiration for her delivery of the old-time refrain, "I never knew till now how much I loved you," and for the equally familiar "Song that reached my heart." Miss Lowe has a powerful voice and excellent enunciation, but if she took her songs a little quicker it would improve their rendering. Miss Maud Courtney engages the attention of all with a number of yarns, and has also a topical song with the refrain, "Wouldn't that be a dream?" The young lady has a piquant Yankee twang and an ingenuous smile that speed her in favour, and her tasteful costume adds to the attractiveness of a turn that is greatly enjoyed. Mr. Bert Brantford's impersonation of a sweep who is mistaken for a coon has the welcome element of novelty, and the step-dance with which it is embellished is very cleverly executed, and thoroughly deserving of the plaudits it obtains. Vernon's Imperial Bioscope depicts a series of startling adventures which befall the purchaser of a ladder; and other contributors to a well-filled bill consist of Mr. Jack Lorimer, the jovial Scotsman; Miss Marie Reeve, and Mr. Charles Clark. The excellent orchestra controlled by Mr. Leon A. Bassett performs its duties admirably.

EMPRESS, BRIXTON.

Mr. Nelson Francis, the popular manager here, has arranged for his patrons this week an exceptionally interesting programme, which is being enjoyed by well-filled houses. A prominent place must be accorded to George Mozart, a real Brixton favourite. It is his first visit to the hall since his return from the land of the almighty dollar, and on the evening of our visit he was in his happiest vein. In his humorous impersonations he imitates ladies of different ages buying tickets for the theatre, and he shows his observation of character and his experience of life when he contrasts the young man waiting for his sweetheart with the husband waiting for his wife. His "Mudlark village band" also adds considerably to the hilarious nature of his turn. The mimicry of Mr. George Newburn includes faithful imitations of several of our leading comedians. Amongst others may be mentioned Walter King, Mark Sheridan, R. G. Knowles, George Lashwood, and Harry Lauder. Lily Lonsdale, a charming vocalist, sings a couple of numbers with capital effect, being heard to special advantage in "Dreams." Loud and prolonged applause rewards her efforts. A couple of fine acrobats are the Picquays, husband and wife, who are presenting a number of most difficult tricks, which they accomplish with an ease that is surprising. Their work is neat and facile in the extreme. Their turn concludes with some clever hand dancing by the gentleman. Katie Butler, a fascinating comedienne, is causing roars of laughter by the drollery of her numbers, which are entitled "Oh, aye" and "He comes out again to-day." The latter especially is a clever song, and its scoring power is greatly enhanced by the whimsical way in which it is rendered. Farr and Farland are full of funny patter, which is smartly given, and they fairly make the house roar. The way they work up their different sallies is smart, and they have a most enthusiastic reception. As a finish to their doings they play on banjoes with much facility and charm that popular overture, "Poet and Peasant."

Hardeen, the handcuff king, is fairly mystifying Brixtonites by the rapid manner in which he succeeds in releasing himself from any hand or legcuffs that may be placed upon him. Dan Hendy, an acrobatic dancer, is scoring well, and Kathleen Gray is heard to advantage in a couple of numbers. Percy Hannan is the possessor of a good voice; and Isabelle Dillon sings with excellent effect a couple of songs, and increases her attractiveness by some neat dancing, and shows herself to be no mean exponent of the art of terpsichore. The McConnell Trio have a very amusing number; and Fred Eustace and company are presenting their thrilling and entertaining sketch, *The Amber Light*, of which we have already written favourable notices in these columns. A capital evening's amusement is brought to a conclusion by a most interesting series of pictures on the Bioscope, entitled "The Automobile Thieves."

THE PARAGON.

The destruction of Pompeii was the fascinating theme on which was founded one of the most popular of the late Bulwer Lytton's novels; and the well-known athlete known as Ben Hur has availed himself of the opportunities for highly effective spectacular display which the grim story of destruction and death presents. A tableau represents the Eruption of Vesuvius; and the audience are led to assume that there was only one survivor of the terrible catastrophe, Glaucus, a man of immense strength. In this character Ben Hur introduces an interesting exhibition of Græco-Roman poses, affording convincing evidence of the truly remarkable degree of physical perfection that can be attained by a course of training assiduously pursued. The play of muscles in the back and shoulders is quite wonderful. In the scene representing the Villa of Glaucus eight Roman gladiators and centurions, in the imposing and picturesque costumes of the period, make their appearance, and take part in the subsequent performance. Ben Hur then gives an exhibition of weight-lifting. One of his feats is to lift and bear aloft with one hand a gladiator clad in armour. He follows this up by lifting two of the warriors of the period; and finally he bears a load consisting of heavy weights and six men in armour. A sack-lifting competition also excites considerable interest as well as amusement. Members of the audience are invited to take part in the competition, Ben Hur offering the sum of £5 to any man who succeeds in performing the same feat with the sack of sand that he himself accomplishes, three prizes being also given by the management for the best attempts by those who enter into the competition.

Mr. John Le Hay is appearing here in the farcical musical episode, entitled *Poor Beggar*. In the leading part the well-know comedian gives a most laughable embodiment of the beggar, whom the lady is compelled to kiss. The unpleasant-looking mendicant sets a value upon the kiss, and makes a bargain with the lady, but is saved the ordeal by the timely arrival of her sweetheart. The lovers are well played by Miss Mary Duggan and Mr. Charles Cautley.

The masses appreciate good music, and selections from Verdi's opera, *Il Trovatore*, presented by Mr. Charles Fisher's "Pocket Opera" company, are listened to at the Paragon with evident delight. All the favourite melodies are introduced. Mlle. Zelle Lucano successfully doubles the parts of Azucena and Leonora, singing the music with excellent effect. She is admirably supported by Mr. Michael Dwyer as the Count di Luna and Mr. Charles Fisher as Manrico. A very acceptable turn is given by the Selbinis, who are expert cyclists, and also perform many difficult feats, consisting of head-to-head balancing, juggling, acrobating, and posturing. Every member of the troupe contributes to the success achieved, and the performance generally wins the warm approval of the audience. Miss Lily Burnand, one of our most popular comediennes, has made a big hit with her latest song, "Up we'll go; or, the beautiful flying-machine," which foretells of the delights of a mode of travelling which our successors will doubtless enjoy. Miss Burnand wears a charming costume, and puts plenty of spirit into her rendering of her new ditty. Miss Queenie Essex, a refined comedienne, sings "Isn't that a girl all over?" and meets with a good reception. The Mysterious Mr. "C." has a budget of funny stories to relate, some old and some new; he also scores as a vocalist by his rendering of "Killarney" and other songs. Mr. Harry Conlin and Mr. Frank Boyce, comedians, are welcome contributors to the evening's entertainment; and other attractions include Miss Daisy Stratton, a pleasing comedienne; "The Hooligans of the West," portrayed by Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope; and the Paragon Pictures. During the interval a selection, "Echo Des Bastions," is played by the orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Arthur Grimmett, a xylophone solo by Mr. J. Ball being worthy of mention. Mr. Charles Beecham, the manager here, fulfils his duties with the utmost care and courtesy.

"THE RED LETTER."

An Episode, in Three Scenes, performed at the Chelsea Palace, on Monday, May 13.

Samson Whyte .....Mr. H. Leslie Bell
Harry Shaw .....Mr. Fredk. Wilson
Cecil Bartnell .....Mr. Frank Chapman
Constable .....Mr. George Harrison
Evelyn Shaw .....Miss Lilly Pearl

The dramatic elements of a notorious case have been cleverly extracted and compressed into an exciting sketch from which objectionable features have been eliminated without disturbing the thrilling effect of the whole. The audience on Monday were deeply engrossed in the skilfully connected incidents, and thoroughly appreciated the terse and epigrammatic dialogue, in which no taint of offence could be found. The names of the principals have been slightly altered, but it is easy to discover in Harry Shaw the resemblance to the unhappy man now awaiting trial for murder. The millionaire visits Samson Whyte in his office in the Roof Garden Theatre, and agrees to lend him a sum of money on condition that he leaves New York. Shaw is on his way to Pittsburg, and takes an affectionate farewell of his wife Evelyn, who is appearing at the theatre. Whyte induces Evelyn to allow him to escort her home, and the ride in a cab to Shaw's residence is depicted on the cinematograph. During the journey Whyte kisses the young wife, and on arriving at the house in Madison-square he reminds the girl of their former relations, when the sound of a footstep is heard and Whyte makes his escape through the window into the arms of a police-officer. While Whyte is endeavouring to persuade the constable that it is his own house Shaw suddenly returns, having missed his train, and Whyte declares that there is a burglar in the house, and that Mrs. Shaw is in danger. Meanwhile Whyte's secretary, who is a member of a gang of thieves, has entered the house for the purposes of robbery, and having secured a case of jewels is about to decamp when his exit is barred by Mrs. Shaw. The thief soon disposes of her by strangling, so that when Shaw and Whyte enter they find Evelyn lying dead. Shaw accuses Whyte of the murder and also of stealing the banknotes which he lent him. Whyte produces the red envelope containing the notes, and asserts that Shaw gave them to him, also declaring, with a sneer, that he had accompanied Evelyn home at her own wish. He is in the midst of his taunts when Shaw, suddenly producing a pistol, shoots him dead and is taken into custody by the policeman, who has been a witness of the scene. The success of the sketch was due in a large measure to Mr. H. Leslie Bell, who carried himself well in the part of the unscrupulous Samson Whyte, playing with cool assurance, and causing no little amusement by the cynical humour which he imported into the rôle. Miss Lilly Pearl made a pretty Evelyn, and acted the trying part with delicacy and grace; and Mr. Fredk. Wilson's vigour and intensity were invaluable in his portrayal of the millionaire. All the characters had a hearty recall at the close of the sketch, which is effectively mounted, the interior of Shaw's house being furnished in artistic style.

Two disappointments occurred in the ordinary programme on Monday, but Mr. J. Norman Berlin, who has for so long been discharging the managerial duties of the hall, had the fact prominently placarded, and secured very efficient deputies. Little Tich, unable to appear through indisposition, was replaced by Mr. Percy Honri, who won a veritable storm of applause for his selections and imitations on the concertina, as well as for his fine singing and humorous patter. Mr. Jock Whiteford's place in the programme was taken by Burns and Danvers, who made an unmistakable hit with the ballad singing by the lady and the diverting eccentricities indulged in by her partner at the piano. A hilarious time was furnished by the McConnell Trio in their musical sketch, in which some good singing was also contained; and Mr. Wilson Hallett touched the chord of pathos as well as the springs of laughter by his child mimicries. Miss Elly Adair sings tunefully and dances in excellent style; and contributions to the current bill are also made by Mr. Tom Lytton, comedian; Miss Marie Elsie, burlesque actress; Miss Nora Moore, comedienne; and Jeapes' Animated Graphic.

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE.

Mr. B. G. Maclachan, as usual, has a capital programme to offer his patrons at this handsome hall. Heading the bill is that famous pantomimist, Paul Martinetti, who, supported by an excellent company, appears in *A Night Attack*. Amongst those who specially distinguish themselves in addition to Mr. Martinetti are Mr. Alfred Martinetti, Miss Clara Martinetti, and Mr. John Heard. A very pleasant turn is provided by the Lindons, vaudeville entertainers, in *Monks at Play*. The company includes one lady and three gentlemen, all possessing good voices. An unusually good film is shown by the American Bioscope this week It is entitled "The Blind Beggar's Dog," and is a series of pictures which tell a pathetic story. Esta Stella is a dainty singer and dancer; this clever lady has an enthusiastic reception. Marzella's Birds provide an interesting quarter of an hour; the collection contains pigeons, parrots, macaws, and ravens, and the tricks they perform are wonderful. Horace White is responsible for a clever ventriloquial turn; and the Five Osranis appear very successfully in a rough-and-tumble burlesque. Millie Lindon, always a great favourite, and deservedly so, sings three songs in her own delightfully clever manner; Ross and Grayson provide a musical, singing, and dancing *mélange*, and cause roars of laughter. The programme is completed by Lonnen Meadows and company, in a very funny farce, entitled *Kiss Your Father*. Mr. Meadows appears as Felix O'Callaghan, and receives good support from Miss Ada Tilley and Miss L. Leslie and Messrs. F. Fenton, J. Joyce, and W. Dunlop. Mention should be made of the excellent orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Henry W. May. In front Mr. Maclachlan is as kindly and courteous as ever.

THE PORTSMOUTH HIPPODROME.

The new Portsmouth Hippodrome in Commercial-road, to be opened on Monday next, has been erected at a cost of about £40,000. It is one of the most sumptuous, beautifully fitted and artistically decorated places of public amusement in the country. In the designs Mr. Bertie Crewe, who was responsible for the new Lyceum, seems to have studied at every turn the comfort of those who will in the future visit the building for the purpose of obtaining an evening's amusement conducted on rational and up-to-date lines.

Entering by the stage-door in Salem-street, one is at once struck with the magnificence of the entire interior. On either side of the house are four commodious boxes, two in a tier. Above the lavishly-upholstered stalls is the grand circle, with its promenade; and higher still is a huge gallery stretching back to the very end of the building, with no fewer than fourteen rows of seats arranged in a semi-circle and placed high above one another, so that everyone can see and hear. The stage is 30ft. deep by 62ft. 10in. wide, and at the back there is a block of dressing-rooms, eight in number, splendidly fitted, heated with hot water, and lighted by electricity. The stage is cut off from the auditorium by a fire-proof curtain of double asbestos, fitted with a patent automatic sprinkler, and, as a further precaution against fire, there is a good supply of hydrants on either side.

The scheme of decoration is white picked out in gold, and the delicacy and artistic beauty of the work is naturally one of the features of the building. The ceiling is quite a work of art in itself. In the centre is a grand circle panelled by four exquisitely painted pictures, and surrounding these are innumerable hanging electric lights. The boxes are hung with rich scarlet hangings, and the seats throughout are of similar colour. The stalls are covered with a rich Wilton carpet, and the plush-covered tip-up seats are so arranged as to enable people to walk comfortably along between the rows without disturbing those who have already taken their seats. On each side of the stalls, too, there is an elaborate marble balustrade, highly polished and giving a worthy finish. At the rear of the stalls is the pit, with its continuous row of seats upholstered in plush, and with its wood floor covered with cork lino. Here, too, fine exits are provided.

The main entrance, with its beautifully polished steps, its mosaic floor, its three massive doors of mahogany, and its clouded ceiling picked out in gold, has on either side of it the pay-boxes, and from the vestibule entrance is made to the foyer by a flight of steps. This part of the building is also artistically decorated, and the floor is covered by Wilton carpet. On the right is the stalls bar fitted with a public telephone call office, and replete with lounges. From the foyer another staircase leads to the circle level, backed by a wide promenade, separated from the seats by a fine barrier of polished mahogany, and the entire floor is covered with a Wilton carpet, the tip-up seats being of scarlet plush.

The circle saloon is a very fine apartment, measuring 40 feet by 20 feet, and magnificently fitted. The windows are of stained glass, and the hangings and decorations are of a most costly character. In the centre of the circle is a specially-fitted biograph box with a fire-proof chamber.

In the gallery, too, the convenience and comfort of audiences have been a first consideration.

At the Pierrot Pavilion, Northwich, Mr. Glanmore Jones is presenting a goodly array of talent this week. Miss Lou Langley is a winsome soubrette; Mr. Walter Sutton has some clever laughing songs; Mr. Barry Gilmore's eccentricities still find great favour; Mr. Fred Temple's sweet tenor voice is heard to advantage in well-chosen songs; and Mr. Darren Llewellyn, the Welsh baritone, who came here with a great reputation, has most worthily maintained it. The items provided by the popular duo, Messrs. Glanmore Jones and Lindon Wyatt, also much enhance the value of a highly entertaining programme.

At the Aberystwyth Coliseum during this week Mr. Catlin's Royal Pierrots are occupying the boards previous to commencing their season in the Castle grounds, for which they have been engaged by the Corporation. The company provides a first-class entertainment, the artists being Messrs. Archibald Gervase, Fred Taylor, Coningsley Brierley, Wal Kent, Chas. Tyers, Thomas E. Witty, and Mr. T. W. Johnson, together with his piccaninnies.

The Rev. Ethelred Luke Taunton, a Roman Catholic clergyman, living at Coram-street, Russell-square, was seized with an attack of angina pectoris while attending Messrs. Maskelyne and Devant's entertainment at St. George's Hall on Thursday afternoon, the 10th. He fell from his seat, apparently in a fit, and was removed to hospital, where it was found that he was dead. A verdict was returned of death from natural causes at the inquest.

"THE ERA" SHILLING FUND FOR THE MUSIC HALL HOME.

Mr. Barrasford and Miss Vesta Victoria join in a strenuous appeal for the generosity of the profession in support of *The Era* Shilling Fund. When, twelve months ago, we brought before our readers the claims of this deserving charity, a very considerable sum of money was collected in separate shillings. That last year's appeal, however, and most of the money obtained by it, are, as Miss Marie Lloyd would say, "a thing of the past, old dear."

Subscriptions announced 2426½ shillings.

Collected by Miss Raie Walters, 18s.

Arthur Lennard	5	Thomas Brooklyn	1
Fred Stafford	1	Raie Walters	1
Sam de Wynne	1	Cleland	1
Chas. de Wynne	1	Louie Shand	½
Prince Kokin	1	Ernest Shand	1
Will Murray	1	Horace Jones	½
M. Trébini	1	Arthur Saxon	1
C. Vincent	1		

Collected by Bishop and Vale, 11s.

Bishop and Vale	1	Fip Gordon	1
Vone	1	R. Strother Stewart	1
Charlie	1	N. Sinclair	1
Tod Squires	1	A. Meredyth	1
Thos. Berry	1	Geo. Green	1
Tom Collins	1		

THE ALHAMBRA IMPROVEMENTS.

How has it all been done without any closure, or without the public having the faintest notion of the alterations, constructive and decorative, that have been going on, as it were, under their very nose? These are the questions that Mr. Alfred Moul, the managing-director of the Alhambra, and Mr. George Scott, its manager, have had to answer scores of times during the last week, when the habitués of the oldest home of ballet in Leicester-square have gazed with wondering eye at the combination of beauty and luxury that presents itself to the eye of the spectator gazing at the vast and lovely house from the back of the conductor's chair. The same house, but how different! Every tier, from the grand circle upwards, has been improved almost beyond recognition. In addition to being wholly redecorated, a new installation of seats with arms has been made, the rake of the amphitheatre being treated so as to afford an unobstructed view of the stage from any position. To this part of the house access is gained now by two much-improved entrances and staircases, both having been entirely rebuilt in accordance with the specifications of the London County Council.

A conspicuous improvement has been made in the balcony, a very popular part of the house. The Mauresque style of architecture lends itself admirably to rich schemes of embellishment, and the decorative display in the splendid lounge, now practically remodelled, at once strikes the visitor as being superb. Especially tasteful are the electroliers, which are modelled like the hanging branch of a pear tree, with the incandescent bulbs to represent the fruit. Another immense improvement is to be found in an elevated and a spacious cinématograph chamber, with an electrical equipment which is believed to be without its equal in the world, and which is in all respects commensurate with the standard excellence of the "Urbanora" exhibitions. The old balcony entrance which previously led to this part of the house has been completely demolished, and an entirely new and much-needed entrance hall and staircase, the latter leading to the arcaded annexe which opens directly on to the balcony tier, have been created.

The exit accommodation has been materially augmented by the conversion of a staircase, which had for some time been used as a temporary entrance, into a second new balcony exit; and there is now a pass staircase to the grand circle, for the use of visitors wishing to transfer.

The sighting facilities of sitters in the grand circle left something to be desired, and this part of the house has been reformed altogether, structuarlly and decoratively. While the front has been considerably lowered, the altitude of the risers of each row of seats has been readjusted, thus greatly improving the view of the stage, as well as enhancing the acoustic properties. Here in the buffet bar the decorative design and the Mauresque scheme of ornamentation, carried out in cream and blue lustre tiles, have reached the last word in ornate richness. A most valuable appanage of the Leicester-square entrances is the equipment of a new vestibule, which enables the visitor to go direct to the stalls from the Square without climbing the staircase to the grand circle and descending therefrom. The fauteuils have been sumptuously reupholstered in dark blue velvet, a lovely contrast to the rich red carpeting; but while the comfort of the richer patrons of the house has received special attention, the proletariat in the pit have not been in any way neglected. A new entrance, 9ft. wide, with a spacious lobby, leads directly into this part of the theatre, and in a comfortable tip-up chair the pittite will now take his pleasure gladly, contentedly, even enthusiastically.

The entire work has been carried out under the supervision of Mr. W. M. Brutton, the Alhambra Company's architect.

"ANCIENT BRITONS."

A New Sketch, Written by Herbert C. Sargent.

Obadiah Bates .....Mr. John Humphries
Jessie .....Miss Iris Coley
Dr. Jack Beaumont .....Mr. Bay Russell

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

This smartly-written trifle, which was originally produced about a month ago, has throughout the week shaken audiences with laughter at the Empire Theatre, Liverpool. The theme is altogether out of the common, which fact, no doubt, explains why it has been so well received. Briefly, the story is that a well-to-do though somewhat eccentric old man named Bates nurtures the notion that people are not as perfect, or circumspect, as they should be, claiming that the ancient Britons were the "correct thing." He displays some antipathy to a young doctor named Beaumont, who has avowed his regard for Jessie, the old man's daughter, and threatens him with pains and penalties should he dare to make further advances. Although the scheme propounded by Beaumont to "sicken" his desired father-in-law of his bias in regard to ancient Britons is somewhat far-fetched, it causes screams of laughter, and makes a happy twenty minutes' turn. The doctor supplies Jessie with a drug, which, slipped into the old man's whisky, causes him to become dazed and drunken, and whilst in that condition Beaumont undresses him behind a screen and attires him in the "garb" of an ancient Briton. The doctor and Jessie appear in similar "costumes," when Bates awakes, and, on being threatened with injury by his fellow "Britons," consents to the marriage of his daughter with his enemy, Beaumont. Wherever presented the merry little sketch is bound to prove an acceptable item, particularly when to Mr. Humphries is allotted the rôle of Bates. His opening remarks, contemptuous of the present-day mode of living and dressing, were extremely funny. Then, again, Mr. Humphries' work in indicating the gradual effects of the potion dropped into his liquor was particularly well done. Mr. Russell did excellently as the amorous doctor; and Miss Coley's efforts were of great value in the successful interpretation of the sketch.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

Fairs Ahead.

THE fairs ahead for next week are: Amersham, on the Metropolitan; Appleby, on the Midland and North-Eastern; Bakewell, on the Midland; Barrow-in-Furness, on the Furness; Biggleswade, on the Great Northern; Bilston, on the Great Western; Birkenhead, on the London and North-Western and Great Western; Blackheath, on the South-Eastern and Great Northern; Blockley, on the Great Western; Brierfield, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Cartmel, on the Furness; Castleford, on the Great Northern and North-Eastern; Cheltenham, on the Great Western, Midland, and Midland and South-Western Junction; Clevedon, on the Great Western; Cockermouth, on the Cockermouth, Keswick and Penrith, and Maryport and Carlisle; Coltishall, on the Great Eastern; Dalton-in-Furness, on the Furness; Doncaster, on the Great Central, Midland, Great Northern, and Great Eastern; Evesham, on the Great Western and Midland; Garston, on the London and North-Western and Cheshire lines; Great Harwood, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Hampstead Heath, on the North London; Helston, on the Great Western; Hendon (Welsh Harp), on the Midland; Hinckley, on the Midland and North-Western; Horbury, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Jarrow-on-Tyne, on the North-Eastern; Lichfield, on the London and North-Western; Malvern, on the Great Western and Midland; Melton Mowbray, on the London and North-Western, Midland, and Great Northern; Methley, on the Midland, Great Northern, and Lancashire and Yorkshire; Morecambe, on the Midland and London and North-Western; New Brighton, on the Wirral; Newcastle-on-Tyne, on the North-Eastern; Newmarket, on the Great Eastern; Northampton, on the London and North-Western, Midland, and Great Northern; Northwich, on the London and North-Western and Cheshire lines; Oulton, on the Midland; Portsmouth, on the London, Brighton, and South Coast and London and South-Western; Reigate, on the South-Eastern; Richmond (Surrey), on the South-Western, North London, Metropolitan, and Metropolitan District; Rushden, on the Midland; Ryde, on the Isle of Wight, Isle of Wight Central, London, Brighton, and South Coast, London and South-Western; Salford (Trinity Markets), on the London and North-Western and Lancashire and Yorkshire; Sheffield, on the Great Central, Midland, North-Eastern, and Cheshire lines, Lancashire and Yorkshire, Great Northern and Great Eastern Joint, and Hull, Barnsley, and West Riding Junction; South Shields, on the North-Eastern; Stafford, on the London and North-Western, Great Northern, and North Staffordshire; St. Ives (Hunts.), on the Great Eastern and Midland; Taunton, on the Great Western and Midland; Thornaby, on the North-Eastern; Torksey, on the Great Central; Torquay, on the Great Western; Tunbridge Wells, on the South-Eastern and London, Brighton, and South Coast; Wanstead Flats, on the Great Eastern; York, on the North-Eastern, Great Northern, London and North-Western, Great Eastern, Midland, and Great Central; Alford, on the Great Northern; Bognor, on the London, Brighton, and South Coast; Fakenham, on the Great Eastern, Midland, and Great Northern; Halesworth, on the Great Eastern; Hitchin, on the Great Northern and Midland; Ipswich, on the Great Eastern; Leighton Buzzard, on the London and North-Western; Longton, on the North Staffordshire; Penrith, on the London and North-Western; Askam-in-Furness, on the Furness; Barnard Castle, on the North-Eastern; Bedworth, on the London and North-Western; Bolton, on the London and North-Western and Lancashire and Yorkshire; Broadway (Worcester), on the Great Western; Broughton-in-Furness, on the Furness; Felling, on the North-Eastern; Truro, on the Great Western; Workington, on the London and North-Western, Carlisle, Keswick, and Penrith, and Cleator and Workington Junction; Adwalton, on the Great Northern; Bacup, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Bingham, on the London and North-Western and Great Northern; Birmingham, on the London and North-Western, Great Western, and Midland; Bristol, on the London and North-Western, Midland, and Great Northern; Buckingham, on the London and North-Western; Camborne, on the Great Western; Long Melford, on the Great Eastern; Mickleton, on the Great Western; Standish, on the London and North-Western; Ulverston, on the Furness; Chipping Campden, on the Great Western; Deptford, on the London, Brighton, and South Coast, London, Chatham, and Dover, South-Eastern, and East London; Derby, on the Midland, Great Northern, London and North-Western, and North Staffordshire; Haslingden, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Skipton, on the Midland and Lancashire and Yorkshire; Ashford, on the South-Eastern and London, Chatham, and Dover; Brackenfield, on the Midland; Cowes, on the Isle of Wight Central, London, Brighton, and South Coast, and London and South-Western; Craven Arms, on the Great Western and London and North-Western; Kendal, on the London and North-Western; Keswick, on the London and North-Western, Workington, Carlisle, and Penrith; Grimesthorpe, on the Great Northern and Midland; Lancaster, on the London and North-Western and Midland; Littlehampton, on the London, Brighton, and South Coast; Snowshill, on the Midland; Southampton, on the London and South-Western, Midland, and South-Western Junction, South-Western, and Great Western railways.

Scotch Fairs.

ALYTH, on the Caledonian, and Inverness, on the Highland Railways.

Welsh Fairs.

CARDIFF, on the Great Western, Rhymney, Taff Vale, and London and North-Western; Flint, on the London and North-Western; Merthyr Tydfil, on the Great Western, London and North-Western, Brecon and Merthyr, Taff Vale, and Rhymney and Cambrian; Mold, on the London and North-Western; Newport (Monmouth), on the London and North-Western, Great Western, Brecon and Merthyr; Risca, on the Great Western; Denbigh, on the London and North-Western; and Treorchy, on the Taff Vale.

Leicester.

THE Great May Fair opened its season here on May 9 for six days. The ground is, as usual, under the proprietorship of Messrs. P. Collins and Son, with Messrs. Syd Jefferys and J. H. Humphrey acting as ground managers. Among the new additions to this popular fixture are P. Collins' Gordon-Bennett racing motors, P. Collins' helter-skelter lighthouse, J. Collins and Sons' racing motors. Other roundabouts are P. Collins' racing cockerels, J. Collins' horses, J. Collins, jun.'s, twin yachts, and Arthur Twigdon's gondolas. The shows comprise Procter's circus, A. Twigdon's cinematograph exhibition, Barker's electric coliseum, Hasting's midget show, Professor Lenard's natural history exhibition, Professor Cullis's boxing booth, and others. We have the usual variety stalls, shooters, throwing games, cokers, &c. The business has been very good.

Colne Fair.

THE amusements at this fair were provided by Mr. Wm. Shuttleworth, the well-known Lancashire showman, who exhibited miniature motor cars, juvenile horses, park swings, and throwing games.

Congleton.

IMMEDIATELY following Macclesfield is Congleton Fair. The shows continuing this round were Relph and Pedley's, with their cinématograph and razzle-dazzle; Edmund Holland, with gallopers; Charles Relph, with freak show; John Whiting, with Japanese cars; Hurst's three-saddle birds; W. Chaplain, with miniature horses; Marsden, White, and Jewell, with shooters; and the attendant throng of amusement caterers, with throwing games, some thirty in number, from Macclesfield and other fairs on this round.

Mitcham Fair.

ONE gratifying result of the return of a progressive majority on the Mitcham Parish Council is the recognition by that body of the fact which the Showmen's Guild has so persistently kept before the public, that the people of Mitcham have rights which can neither be ignored or stolen from them without a vigorous protest and struggle. In pursuance of the policy of the Guild to keep the matter well before the people of Mitcham, and to fight for the retention of the fair, the following letter has been sent to the Parish Council by the Executive Committee of the Showmen's Guild.

May 15, 1907.

To the members of the Mitcham Parish Council.

GENTLEMEN,—As representing the organised showmen we venture to lay before you reasons for continuing Mitcham Fair. We frankly recognise the very obvious reasons for removing the venue of the fair to a better site. We wish to emphasise the fact that during the agitation last year, that culminated in the High Court proceedings, that the showmen have never opposed the removal of the fair; but that their objections have been to its practical abolition at the fiat of the Mitcham Conservators.

The showmen, in protesting as they did against the action of the Conservators, defended not only their trade interests, but also the rights of the people of Mitcham in their ancient pleasure fair.

Recognising as they do that all pleasure fairs exist at the will of the people, and that for the purpose of their trade, as caterers of popular amusement, they must always carry with them the good opinion of the general public, they made an appeal to the people of Mitcham on the Sunday of the last Mitcham fair. At that meeting, attended by four or five thousand persons, a popular expression of opinion was obtained, and although an opportunity was afforded for the expression of the contrary opinion the vote of Mitcham was unanimously in favour of retaining the fair. The showmen also recognise that the people's fairs should be under popular control, and that the profits arising from the letting of the fair ground should go to the easement of public burdens, and they are hopeful that your council may be able to come to an arrangement with the Conservators whereby the fair may be continued on that portion of the common lands known as "The Three King's Common."

Briefly, the showmen submit the following points for your considerations:—

1. The fair has not been abolished, and cannot be without the consent of the people of Mitcham constitutionally obtained.

2. That the powers vested in the Conservators are primarily intended for the preservation of the common rights of the people of Mitcham, and all that the Conservators, by their special Act of Parliament, obtained was powers to carry out improvements for the benefit of Mitcham. Of necessity, valuable vested interests, such as those held by the Lords of the Manor, had to be provided for, and this was done by the clauses in the Act providing for compensation to vested interests.

3. There is a statute which properly provides for the abolition of fairs. In that Act full provision is made for the expression of public opinion, and the showmen submit that until the machinery of that Act is set in motion by your Council, and public opinion properly expressed, the Conservators have no power to practically stop the people's fair at their own will and pleasure. They, therefore, submit that you, as the custodians of the people's rights, should ask the Mitcham Conservators to remove the fair to the "Three King's Common," and either accept the customary tolls for the benefit of their own funds, or pass over such tollage to the relief of the rates.

The Showmen's Guild is prepared to give to the Conservators and to you full guarantees as to the good order and government of the fair, the respectability of the amusement caterers, the up-to-date, interesting, and modern character of the entertainments. They will provide for, and maintain, perfect sanitary arrangements, and guarantee to leave the ground perfectly clean and free from all litter. They are ready to submit prior to the beginning of their business every show and form of amusement on the fair ground, and to accept the decision of any properly-appointed representatives of the people and the Conservators as to the satisfactory nature or otherwise of the shows and entertainments.

The great desire of the Guild is to co-operate with public bodies in conserving the rights of the people in their pleasure fairs and local holidays, and, at the same time, to raise the tone and character of the show business, so as to merit popular approval, and to keep the shows and entertainments thoroughly up to date.

Signed, on behalf of the Executive of the Showmen's Guild,

President, GEO. SANGER.
Hon. Chaplain, T. HORNE.
Hon. Treasurer, F. H. PEDGRIFT.
Hon. Secretary, T. HURST.

Morpeth May Fair.

THE shows, riding machines, and other novelties at this Northumbrian fair included Cotterell's Coliseum of up-to-date living pictures and varieties, Millar's cinématograph theatre, Westrow's freak exhibits and novelty booth, Murphy's switchback, rifle saloons, bottle smashers, emma sheets, and cokers by Messrs. Lane, Toogood, Newsome, and Millar.

Swaffham Fair.

THE amusements at this fair included hobby horses and swings by the local caterer known as "Uncle Toby." There were toy stalls and throwing games by other local providers. We have a note from the courteous clerk to the District Council informing us that the July and Harvest Fairs are the most popular with the people of Swaffham, and that there is but little interest manifested in the May or November fairs.

Macclesfield Fair.

IMMEDIATELY following the May Festival at Knutsford is Macclesfield, on the Cheshire round. Many of the concerns therefore found at Knutsford go on to Macclesfield. The shows included Relph and Pedley's and Colonel Clarke's cinématograph theatres, and Charles Relph's freak exhibition. The riding machines were J. Whiting's Japanese cars, Relph and Pedley's razzle-dazzle, E. Holland's galloping horses and swings, T. Hurst's racing birds, and I. Richards's steam yachts. The providers of shooting concerns were G. Marsden and Mrs. Jewell; gem horses, miniature motor cars, by Chaplain and Whiting; throwing games, variety, and other stalls were provided by Messrs. Harrington Bros., Jones Bros., Omerod, Beckett, White, Jewell, Lynch, and Whiting.

Aylesbury Fair.

CHIEF among the attractions at Aylesbury were C. Thurston's helter-skelter, or slipping the slip, and Messrs. Smith and Whittle's No. 1 grand star switchback; both of these machines did excellent business. Prof. Elliott's boxing saloon was also accorded a fair share of public patronage.

Abingdon Fair.

THE amusements were provided by the local caterers, Messrs. Jennings, Spurritt, Smart, Buckland, Clarke, Barnard, and Attwell, who exhibited galloping horses, roundabouts, swings, rifle saloons, emma sheets, cokers, and throwing games.

Hereford Fair.

LIKE most of our old English cities, Hereford welcomes the travelling showmen. This year the May fair attracted the very best novelties on the Welsh and Border rounds. These were the magnificent cinématograph theatres of Messrs. Wadbrooke, Jacob Studt, Chipperfield, and Testo; Prince Samouda, with temple of magic; Buckley, with trained animals and birds; Barber's freak show; and the boxing and athletic saloons of Messrs. Taylor and Frank Gess. The riding machines were a record aggregation:—Jacob Studt's motors, switchback, and steam horses; H. Studt and Sons' motor cars, Marshall Hill's steam horses, Purchase's and S. White's big boats, Freeman's juvenile motors, White's helter-skelter, and Hill's slipping the slope and park swings. The fair-ground varieties and throwing games were by Messrs. Stevens, Stanley, Butlin, J. North, Taylor, and Davies.

Wishaw, N.B.

A GREAT crowd of Scotch concerns were at this popular fair. Paulo's circus, Macknay's illusion, Salvonias' grand circus, Hutin's rifle experts, Prof. Moore and school of boxers, the Welsh colliery exhibition, J. Wilmot's steeplechasers, W. Wilmot's leaping horses, Howard's steam boats, and manual swings by Messrs. Thomas and Wilmot. The photo. booths of Messrs. Kelly and Gowdard, the shooters of Messrs. Strand, McIndo, Carrick, Wright, Day, Dawson, Blake, Brockley, Kennedy, Smith, Morris, Freeman, Stevenson, Anderson, Matchett, Thomas, Horne, Knowles, Knight, and Ratliffe. The ground was admirably planned and set out by the town surveyor, Mr. Rogers, whose courteous treatment of the showmen has made him a universal favourite.

North Walsham.

THURSTON AND SONS visited this town, and afforded abundant delight by their magnificent set of electric motor cars. The other caterers included Mr. Stocks, with steam horse set, high flyers, and bottle battery.

The Servian Baby.

A TINY scrap of humanity peeped into existence at the Balkan States Exhibition in the dawn of Friday last. It was a little Servian lady, the daughter of Stana Z. Zodorowich (gipsy mother) and Zivoin (peasant dancer). Already elaborate preparations are being made for the christening, to which a large number of invitations will be issued in the Balkan Village.

President Kemp.

AT the Temperance Hall, Leicester, this week, the above is paying a first visit with the Chrono-Megaphone (Gaumont's patent) singing and talking machine. The entertainment is a capital one.

The Showmen's Guild.

WITH the consent and co-operation of the Vicar of Preston (the Rev. H. S. Butler, Honorary Local Chaplain), the Rev. T. Horne, the Organising Chaplain of the Guild, will hold a meeting in the afternoon, and conduct a service in one of the shows on the fairground at Preston Whitsun Fair next Sunday. The afternoon meeting will be for showmen only, and an address on the work and present position of the Guild will be delivered by the Rev. T. Horne. The chair will be taken at 3.30 prompt, and matters of importance will be brought before the meeting. All showpeople, whether members of the society or not, are invited to attend.

Active Defence Work.

STILL pursuing the active propaganda of Trade Defence on the fairgrounds of the country, the Showmen's Chaplain, after Preston, will hold meetings at Birmingham Fair on the Sunday after Whitsunday. If his annual visit to hold meetings in Wales permits, Mr. Horne purposes paying a flying visit to Penzance and rouse up the West of England showmen to a proper sense of their duty and privileges in the great movement of defending the trade interests of the Showman World.

Boston Fair.

As usual, the local showmen—Messrs. Ben Howden and Son—with Aspland's magnificent motor and gondola machine, were the big attraction of the fair. To everyone's regret, Ben Howden and Son's colossal and grand cinematograph theatre was not ready for its anticipated opening night at the "Home Fair" of the Howden's. The Mayor and Corporation had consented to honour their distinguished townsmen by patronising the opening performance of the new Howden and Son's cinematograph, and its place on the fairground was transferred by Mr. Howden to Crighton, whose cinematograph show is a well-known feature at the Lincolnshire fairs. The other big shows were Tuby and Sons, Enoch Farrer's, Dr. Lawrence's and J. Proctor's cinematograph and variety theatres. These concerns put before the public a splendid variety of up-to-date films. On the machine list were, in addition to the Aspland's set, Councillor Tuby's motors and four abreast gallopers; Smith and Warren's jumping horses; Houldsworth's whirling the whirl; sideshows, varieties, and throwing games by Messrs. Ling, Shaw, Webb, Farrer, Lewis, and others.

Staines Fair.

AT this south country fixture were Biddall's Royal Bioscope, Professor Elliott's assault-at-arms, and several novelty booths. The riding machines were J. Gale's switchback, J. Thomas's three sets gallopers, steam-horses, ostriches. Park swings and shooting ranges were provided by Messrs. Andrews, Thomas, Gwilliam, Mrs. Saunders, and other caterers. On the principal day of the fair business was considerably marred by a sharp thunderstorm.

Leintwardine Fair.

THIS interesting village festival was in the hands of the local showman, Strickland, who provided roundabouts and other fairground varieties.

Private Business at Evesham.

SHOWMEN visiting Evesham for business at other times than the Hiring Fair, must bear in mind that a resolution has been passed by the Evesham Town Council that all music must cease at ten o'clock, except on the "Mop" night and the night following. This new regulation is the outcome of a series of complaints by residents around Merstow Green, the chief complainant being the Vicar of Evesham. Of course, this resolution can only be enforced if it is embodied in the terms of agreement accepted by showmen when taking sites on Merstow Green, or on other land controlled by the Corporation. On private land the new regulation cannot have any force.

Maidstone Fair.

PURCHASE'S world-famed menagerie, with M. Marco, Captain Beaumont, Miss Lawrence, and Albert Williams, in animal taming and training, with lions, wolves, hyænas, serpents, and sea lions, formed the chief attraction. The machines were provided by J. Pettigrove and Sons, boxing booth by Bonniface and Adams, shooters and varieties by Messrs. Penfold, Bishop, and the Pettigroves.

Stafford Fair.

AT this old pleasure fair the principal show was Sagar's palace of delight. The machine novelties were P. Collins's motor-cars; W. Davies's four-a-breast horses, twin yachts, juvenile horses, midget boats, and park swings; J. Humphreys, jun.'s, variety stalls, Hayes's overboat, Stokes's Aunt Sallies and coker sheets, and other fair-ground varieties by various caterers.

Maidenhead Fair.

OWING to the great success, the grand carnival, which was reported last week on the Moor, Maidenhead, is held over for another week. The élite of the town assemble every evening, and join in the "fun of the fair."

"White City" Licence.

MR. J. CALVIN BROWN, managing-director of the "White City" at Old Trafford, has stated that the management will not at present press their application for an excise licence. The directors have considered the opposition brought before the magistrates, and have decided to allow time for the justices to observe the class of entertainment it is intended to provide. An application will be made at a later date, when they hope the conduct and the class of the place will weigh with the Bench.

Neath.

MESSRS. BOSTOCK AND WOMBWELL'S Royal No. 1 double menagerie paid Neath a visit after about six years' absence. Some of the finest collections of lions, tigers, hyænas, wolves, zebras, giraffes, camels, elephants, monkeys, birds, &c., were to be seen at this well-known exhibition. The performing Polar bears, the only ones in Great Britain which perform, was alone worth a visit. Another worthy exhibit is the largest dog and smallest pony travelling. The magnificent band well known as Wombwell's Box Hat, played some excellent selections at intervals. The management are to be congratulated upon the clean and healthy condition of the animals.

AFTER an absence of four years, Messrs. Bostock and Wombwell's Royal Menagerie opened a four days' visit at the Veitch Field, Swansea, on Wednesday, and are getting large audiences.

THE annual statute fair was held at Grimsby on Tuesday, but was spoiled to a large extent by the rain, which fell nearly all day. However, there was, in the circumstances, a fair attendance of the public, and the various attractions, though not so busy as was hoped, had a fair amount of patronage. In the old market were Messrs. G. T. Tuby and Sons' motor-cars, and Mr. Lock's roundabouts, and in the Bull Ring Messrs. Tuby's roundabouts were pitched, besides the usual array of swing boats, shooting galleries, &c.

IT is with deepest sympathy we have to record the death of Mrs. Scott, wife of Mr. W. Scott, the well-known circus proprietor, who died very suddenly at Maesteg on May 7. The funeral took place at the cemetery on May 10. Among the floral tributes were beautiful wreaths from her sons and daughters, "to our beloved mother"; Mrs. James Scott, a wreath; from her grandchildren, a wreath; Mr. and Mrs. Hanneford, a wreath; Mr. and Mrs. Yelding, a wreath; from the band of Scott's Circus, a wreath; orchestra and artists, Hanneford's Circus, a wreath; manager and staff, Poole's Theatre, Maesteg, a wreath; artists, Hanneford's Circus, Ireland, a cross; the staff of W. Scott's Circus, a wreath; Mr. and Mrs. Blatt and Della Walsall, a wreath; Mr. and Mrs. Sanders, a wreath; Mr. Williams, auctioneer, and members of his staff, Maesteg, a wreath.

ANSWERS TO SHOWMEN.

W. S.—*We have made full enquiries, but, unfortunately, there is a considerable element of doubt. It all depends whether the competition or the game comes under the Lottery Act, and it would materially help us in making further enquiries if you sent particulars of the game for which you desire to give away cigarettes as prizes. It is quite clear that you cannot sell cigarettes without a licence, and it is also clear that you cannot hold a travelling licence. Licence-holders must have a fixed place of business. There is a temporary licence granted for seven days, and this would have to be applied for, for each place where you set up business. Tobacco licences and all information concerning them are obtainable at any Post Office.*

MITCHELL AND KENYON (Blackburn).—*We regret to say that we do not know of an agency of the nature you specify. It is the usual custom for firms dealing largely with the fairground business to send an agent to the principal fairs for all the purposes of their trade.*

THEATRICAL INVENTIONS.

The concise descriptions that we give below of recent applications for patents are specially contributed by Messrs. Howard and Co., patent agents, 57 and 58, Chancery-lane, London, W.C., who will assist readers in all patent matters:—

APPLICATIONS.

10,512. Walter Tyler, Ltd., and Edgar Holman Bishop, 48, Waterloo-road, London. Improvements relating to optical magic lantern slipping slide.

10,716. Henry William Hamblin Palmer, St. Martin's-lane, Charing Cross, London. Improvements in cameras and apparatus for photographing and exhibiting cinematograph mutoscopic and ordinary pictures.

10,718. Henry William Hamblin Palmer, St. Martin's-lane, Charing Cross, London. Improvements in three-colour photography, and the projection in natural colours upon a screen in animation.

COMPLETE SPECIFICATION.

1,483. Fire-proof curtains. McCloud, E. H., Columbus, Ohio, U.S.A. To protect the spring rollers of fire-proof curtains or blinds, they are enclosed in a casing of sheet metal surrounded by another casing and separated from it by metal rings, a filling of asbestos or other heat-resisting and non-conducting material being inserted between the casings.

A monster programme has been arranged both indoors and out for the Whitsuntide attractions at the Crystal Palace. In the Centre Transept there will be three grand variety shows, including the Phillipi Brothers (acrobats and equilibrists), the Brothers Webb (musical clowns), the famous Bob Hanlon Troupe, Lavater Lee, the droll, with his dogs and highly-trained mule, and Marjutti, the graceful bender. In the theatre, Mr. Bannister Howard has secured what should prove to be a remarkably interesting novelty, in the children's *Forte Thieves* pantomime, from Drury Lane. In the Centre Transept a military concert will be given by the grand organ and massed bands, and the many attractions in the grounds will include the third Annual Tradesmen's Horse Show and Parade for challenge cups presented by the Crystal Palace Company. A balloon ascent by Mr. Spencer will take place at 2 o'clock, and the Anerley Bicycle Club's athletic and cycling meeting an hour later; all the best riders will compete. The ostrich farm is also among the vast aggregation of shows, and Messrs. C. T. Brock and Co. will give a magnificent display of fireworks at night.

MR. EDITOR.—SIR,—In your report of the Hippodrome, Wigan, last week, you mention us as Clyo and Pochelle. It should have been yours faithfully, CLYO and ROCHELLE, Theatre Royal, Colne, May 14.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps. *The Era* is posted on Saturday in time to reach London Subscribers by the *first* Town Delivery, and Country Subscribers should receive their Papers by the *first* London Post. Address, the PUBLISHER, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

THEATRICAL EMPLOYEES' BENEVOLENT FUND.

The dissolution last year of the Dramatic and Musical Fund led to the termination of the Benevolent Fund, which that society maintained from year to year by the proceeds of the annual dinner that in past times received very influential support from the theatrical profession at large and members of the kindred professions. Considerable sums of money were raised and distributed from year to year, and while, in recent years, the fund rendered less services, it did, no doubt, confer valuable assistance to sections of employees not otherwise able to obtain help in time of need. The dissolution of this Benevolent Fund induced the committee responsible for the Theatrical Sports to arrange to set aside any balance derived from the sports to form the nucleus of a National Benevolent Fund, to be used "to assist employees, men or women, in need, whose case is recommended by a subscriber to the prize fund of the sports, or donor of a prize, or by any theatrical or music-hall association unable, by reason of restrictions imposed by its rules, to assist such cases."

It was also decided to transfer the balance derived from the annual concert given in the Royal Opera House last December by the National Association of Theatrical Employees, to this national fund.

The fund is a charitable fund, pure and simple; and while any employee whose case is recommended as above, may obtain assistance from it, the fund is primarily intended for those who are not eligible to join any existing association, and who, by reason of irregular employment and other adverse circumstances, are not able to provide against the day of sickness or other cause of want.

The fund will be administered, free of cost, by the National Committee of the National Association of Theatrical Employees, under whose auspices the sports will be conducted. This committee is a thoroughly representative body. Mr. James Cullen, master carpenter, St. James's Theatre, is the president, and the committee includes representatives of all sections of the working staff.

Having regard to the purpose of the fund, and to the fact that there is every reason to believe that it will be properly administered and every precaution taken to guard against imposition, it is to be hoped that the sports will have a greater measure of support than has been the case in previous years, although in recent years the events comprising the programme have been keenly contested by a numerous body of competitors.

The committee which will arrange this year's sports is being completed, and Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, of *The Era*, has kindly consented to act as the honorary treasurer, to whom donations for the prize fund may be sent. It is probable that the date selected will be Tuesday, July 9, or the 16th, and the ground will be, as last year, the Stamford Bridge Sports Ground, Fulham-road, as this ground is more convenient, and, in many respects, the most up to date as regards the necessary accommodation for both competitors and spectators.

A meeting of the Sports Committee will be held next week, and it is desired that those who will assist the committee will send in their names to the honorary secretary, at 29, Wellington-street.

The sports are open to theatre managers and their assistants, actors, and theatre and music-hall civilian employees, the term "employee" to mean anyone employed in any stage department, musicians, attendants, and dressers, and who have been engaged in any such capacity for at least thirteen complete weeks during the past twelve months. Entry fee for one event, 1s.; for every additional event, 6d. Competitors entering two or more events, free admission to the grounds. Tug-of-war team, 2s. 6d.

SUGGESTED LIST OF EVENTS.

100 Yards Running Handicap.
100 Yards Veterans' Running Handicap.
Quarter-Mile Running Handicap.
Half-Mile Running Handicap.
One Mile Running Handicap.
50 Yards Blindfold Race.
Quarter-Mile Obstacle Race.
120 Yards Obstacle Sack Race.
Four Lap Relay Race. Open to three men from any theatre or music hall (eligible to compete)—one to run, one to walk, and one to cycle. For a Challenge Trophy presented by Mr. C. Aubrey Smith, and medals. Holders:—The Daly Theatre team.
One Mile Walking Handicap.
Half-Mile Cycling Handicap.
One Mile Cycling Handicap.
Five Mile Cycling Championship. If more than fifteen enter, the best fifteen may be selected. For the Championship Shield, presented by Sir Thomas Dewar, M.P. To be won three times in succession. Holder:—S. F. Bailey, Borough Theatre.
Tug-of-War Competition. For Challenge Shield and ten medals. Open to teams of five men from any theatre or music hall. One reserve man allowed to be entered with the team. Weight of team limited to 60st. Holders:—The Empire, Dublin team.
50 Yards Boot Race.
100 Yards Scratch Consolation Race. Open to those competitors who have not won a prize in the other events.

Any suggestions regarding the competitions to be finally selected will be considered.

The "Era Challenge Shield" for the Tug-of-War competition, is now on view at *The Era* office. The holders of this shield—the famous Dublin team—will not compete this year.

Donations for the prize fund, or prizes for competitions, will be much appreciated by the committee, and a copy of last year's balance-sheet sent on application to the honorary secretary.

LONDON MUSICIANS.

As was intimated in these columns a week ago, the joint meeting of the Orchestral Association and the Amalgamated Musicians Union, held on Sunday evening, in the (small) Queen's Hall, unanimously endorsed the resolutions submitted on behalf of the committee of each of the two Societies.

Mr. S. Taylor, of the Orchestral Association, presided.

Among the speakers were Mr. J. B. Williams, general secretary of the A.M.U., Mr. C. Jesson, L.C.C., London secretary of the A.M.U., Mr. Orcherton, secretary of the London Orchestral Association, and Mr. Harry Mountford, with whom was Mr. Fred Harrison, of the V.A.F.

The resolutions were as follows:—

1. That the members of both Societies present do hereby instruct their respective executives to draw up a working agreement for joint action by both Societies.
2. That both Societies bind their members not to play for less than 35/- per week of six performances. Extra performances to be paid pro rata
3. That after a date to be agreed upon by the executives of both Societies, the members of both Societies agree not to play with any musician in any Metropolitan theatre or music-hall who is not a member of either society

There was a large attendance.

MANY of our readers who have friends in Canada and who like to send to them English newspapers will be glad to know that a new postal rate has come into force, by which newspapers can be sent to Canada at the rate of one penny per pound.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

The death of Mr. G. Adney Payne will be much regretted by music-hall employées, as he was known to them as a considerate and kind-hearted employer, and, probably, the most popular manager connected with the syndicate halls.

The arbitrator's award may be delayed a few days in consequence of the death of Mr. G. A. Payne, as there were several small points to be further considered with Mr. Walter Payne, who, naturally, will be engaged in other matters. The award may, however, be expected in a few days, and in connection therewith the following correspondence will be found interesting. The representative of the National Association of Theatrical Employées and the witnesses brought to support the claims of the employees in the electricians' department laid stress upon the responsibility and the duties of the electrician in charge, the County Council regulations were referred to during the hearing, and the point in dispute is decided by the letter from the L.C.C., and supports the contention of the employees and their representatives:—

National Association Theatrical Employees,
29, Wellington-street,
Strand, London, W.C.
May 4, 1907.

Dear Sir,—I am desired by my Committee to ask if you will kindly inform me whether, in Clause 54 of the Council's regulations relating to "The Protection of Theatres, &c., from Fire," the words "an electrical installation" means the ordinary electric light apparatus used in Music Halls for stage effects and to light the building; and also, whether the words, "a properly qualified man," mean a qualified electrician?

The clause referred to reads as follows:—

(54) The generating plant and switching gear shall be in the hands of thoroughly competent manipulators, and the engine-room (if any) shall be inaccessible to the Public, and shall have at least one independent entrance. Where there is *an electrical installation a properly qualified man must be in charge.*

Yours sincerely,
William Johnson,
General Secretary.

Mr. G. L. Gomme,
Clerk of the London County Council,
Spring Gardens.

London County Council,
County Hall, Spring Gardens, S.W.
May 14, 1907.

T.M.C. 8/5 (20).
28309.

Sir,—In reply to your letter of the 4th instant, regarding the intepretation of No. 54 of the Electric Lighting Regulations of the Council, I have to state that the regulation in question is intended to apply to all premises in which there is an electrical installation, whether the generating plant is on the premises or not. The expression, "a properly qualified man," means an attendant who would be able to deal with any urgency repairs and alterations, such as are required almost daily in Theatre installations.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
G. L. Gomme,
Clerk of the Council.

The General Secretary,
National Association of Theatrical Employees,
29, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C.

The annual financial statement of the No. 1 branch of the N.A.T.E. is now published; the gross receipts, with the balance carried forward, were £1626 13s. 8d. The total payments, including £80 in death benefits, £25 17s. 6d. in sick benefits, and £23 12s. in grants from the Benevolent Fund was £544 10s. 1d., leaving a balance of £1082 3s. 7d.

A meeting for the benefit of the widow and children of George Clarke, late property dayman at the Comedy Theatre, will be held on Sunday evening at the Salisbury Hotel, St. Martin's-lane, when those who have subscription lists in aid of this fund are requested to report. Mr. Dion Boucicault, who has previously taken great interest in the welfare of the dependents of men who have been in his employ, will administer the fund. The application for subscription in aid of the widow and the five children, who are unprovided for, is under the patronage of Mr. Dion Boucicault, Mr. Arthur Chudleigh, Miss Marie Tempest, Mr. Leonard Lillies, Mr. J. Clifford Brooke, Mr. Buchanan McRae, and the ladies and gentlemen of *Truth* company. The committee of the N.A.T.E. have voted £2 2s. from the National Benevolent Fund, and regret that the state of the funds will not permit them to donate a larger sum. Messrs. A. Palmer, (master carpenter) and T. Morgan (property master of the Comedy Theatre) are joint hon. secretaries. Mr. Palmer will be the chairman of the meeting on Sunday, and will be supported by Mr. W. Pullinger (master carpenter of the Garrick Theatre), Mr. J. Fraser, Mr. T. Morgan, and Mr. F. Darby.

The committee of the Bioscope Operators' Association met on Tuesday at 29, Wellington-street, Strand, and dealt with a number of applications for membership. The rules are being drafted, and will be submitted to the next meeting of the committee on Tuesday. Cards of membership will be issued in a few days to all candidates who have been elected.

The West Ham and East London Hospital benefited by a charity matinée at the Stratford Borough Theatre, on Thursday, under the immediate patronage of Her Grace the Duchess of Marlborough. In an interval Dr. P. J. S. Nicoll, J.P., the president, with members of the Hospital Aid Committee, appeared on the stage to return thanks to all who had proffered their services, and Mrs. Ellis Fredericks was also thanked for generously lending the theatre, Mr. Fred Fredericks, the general manager, and Mr. Frank Rothsay, the acting manager, being included in the expressions of gratitude, as were Mr. Ben Barrow, the musical director, and the members of the orchestra and the staff at the back and front of the house. The artists, who gratuitously contributed towards the splendid entertainment provided, included Miss Ada Reeve, in selections from her répertoire, which were keenly enjoyed and vociferously applauded; Mr. Malcolm Scott, whose occupancy of the stage was accompanied to a continuous ripple of mirth; Mr. Arthur Cartwright, the Charlie Chetwynd of Mr. Mouillot's *Girl Behind the Counter* company, who was in fine voice with "The Bandelero"; and Miss Louie Collier, who gave a magnificent rendering of "Il Bacio." From the Stratford Empire, by permission of Mr. Stoll, came Miss Marguerite Broadfoote, whose delightful contribution was warmly appreciated; and Miss Grace Merton, who sang "Dear heart" very nicely. Miss Claire Romaine, a great Stratford pantomime favourite, was most cordially received in "Keep away from the girl" and "I'm getting a big boy now"; Miss Rose Hamilton scored heavily in a Chinese ditty. Mr. Ottley Cranston rendered the "Toreador" song from *Carmen* in brilliant style; Mrs. L. Simpson sang very charmingly; and Mr. Edgar Romaine was well to the front with a motor scena, *Come Along, Little Girl.*

Valentine Merelli, who won ephemeral fame by her flight with Jean Gallay, the forger, on board the yacht Catarina, had a narrow escape at Alfortville on Monday. La Merelli during the rehearsal of a piece with the sensational title of *Le Boudoir des Fauves* (The Boudoir of the Wild Beasts), was lying on a divan between two lionesses, when one of the latter got out of hand, attacked her, and inflicted a severe wound. The lion-tamer, Marck, arrived in time to save her life.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(from our own correspondent.)

SYDNEY, April 2.—Mr. William Anderson brought his dramatic company to the Criterion Theatre on Easter Saturday, inaugurating a season with *The Village Blacksmith.* Miss Eugenie Duggan was, as usual, the leading lady, and as Kate Strong she won the sympathies of the audience. Mr. George Cross had been specially trained for the interpretation of John Strong by a series of lessons in horseshoe-making and in wrestling. His acting was excellent throughout. Miss Ada Guildford's embodiment of the girl victim was full of pathos, and she scored an artistic and popular success. Mr. Laurence Dunbar was the scoundrel, Captain Leo, and with Mr. Edmund Duggan as the catspaw, Lucas Marler, a pair of downright stage villains were presented. Mr. Bert Bailey made Billy Twig most amusing, ably assisted by Miss Lena Langridge; while Mr. Temple Harrison and Miss Georgie Leighford did well as the ultimately repentant old couple. Mr. Rege Robins painted the scenery.

"Mother Goose" at Her Majesty's and *Robin Hood* at the Royal are attracting record business. On Saturday *Raffles* will be staged at the last-mentioned house, with Mr. Julius Knight as the venturesome cracksman, a much less romantic thief than Robin Hood. In this production Miss Marion Grey will make her first appearance in the Australian metropolis.

"Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace," with its finished acting and up-to-date humour, is filling the Palace. Miss Beatrice Day, Miss Bessie Major, and Mr. Herbert Flemming being cordially appreciated. Next week *Dr. Wake's Patient* will be revived.

The Tivoli's bill includes little Eileen O'Neil, a clever juvenile instrumentalist; Miss Ida Ingersoll and Miss Brightie Smith, serios; Harry Sadler, comedian; Charlene and Charlene; Master Joseph Dewhurst; Arthur Sharples; Fred Bluett; Fanny Powers, and a host of others in a capital Eastertide programme.

The National Amphitheatre has a long list of artists, including the Brothers Bovis, Carden Wilson, Charles Pope, the Stacpooles, Dick Stead, Lily Hulbert, and others.

Wirth's Circus seats 5,000, and is crowded at every performance. Foley's Circus is doing well. The Haymarket Hippodrome has a sensational drama, *Hands Up,* founded on the Kelly Gang's career, and Edison's popular pictures are shown at the Queen's Hall. The Oxford Theatre has pictures and vaudeville.

MELBOURNE, April 2.—Her Majesty's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson; Business-Manager, Mr. George Tallis.—*Parsifal* is proving a strong attraction at this theatre, the house being filled nightly. Miss Brune as Kundry has ample opportunity of displaying her talent, and is ably supported by Mr. Kingston and the rest of the company. The production is lavishly mounted, and bids fair to have a record run.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. Bland Holt; Business-Manager, Mr. Christie Simonsens.—The stirring melodrama *Revenge* was staged for the first time on Saturday evening, and drew a large house. Mr. and Mrs. Bland Holt and the rest of the company met with a most enthusiastic reception, this being their first appearance in Melbourne for over twelve months. Mr. Baker and Miss Ross in the leading parts do excellent work, while the comedy is supplied by Mr. Bland Holt. Some fine scenery has been specially painted for the piece, and, taken on the whole, *Revenge* is quite up to Mr. Holt's previous productions.

Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Aydon.—The Bicknells, whirlwind dancers, made their reappearance on Saturday evening, and were accorded a good reception. The bill just now contains a number of interesting turns, including Brinn, the cannon manipulator; Cassie Walmer, singer and dancer; Frank Hartly, juggler; Gracie Graham, serio; Signor Antonio and his clever animal act; Miss Eileen Lyons, vocalist; and a host of others. The business during Easter week has been exceptionally good.

Gaiety Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Joe Solomons.—A complete change of programme was submitted for Saturday evening, and included the Volteens, Clara Keating, Claude Sullivan, Blutch Jones, Nellie Hill, Son Sapir, Olive Newman, Frank Yorke, Charles Naylor, and Harry Hill.

MELBOURNE, April 9, 1907.—Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Aydon.—The chief attraction at this theatre just now is Bonita, lady rifle shot. This young lady possesses extraordinary skill, firing from a number of difficult positions with remarkable accuracy. She is assisted by Carlo, the human target. Another turn which meets with great approval is that of Cleopatra, snake enchantress.

SYDNEY, April 9.—*Raffles* was revived by Mr. J. C. Williamson at Her Majesty's Theatre on the 6th, with Mr. Julius Knight in the title-rôle. It is a one-part play, yet Mr. Harry Plimmer made a big hit with his Crawshay. Mr. Julius Knight was in his element at Raffles; and Miss Elbert Orton was a fine Mrs. Vidal. A new-comer, Miss Marion Grey, made a fairly favourable impression, but Gwendolin Couson is a most unsatisfactory part to play. Lady Melrose was played in dignified style by Miss Mary Godfrey; and Miss Elsie Wilson made all possible capital of the French maid, Marie. The foiled, self-satisfied detective, Carter Bedford, was done justice to by Mr. Robert Willis. Perhaps the most consistently-played part was the difficult one of the foolish old Lord Amersteth by Mr. Leslie Victor.

"Dr. Wake's Patient," with Mr. Herbert Flemming as the big-hearted Farmer Wake, filled the Palace Theatre on Saturday. Several changes in the cast were discovered, Mrs. Brough, Miss Emmie Temple, and Mr. Phillip Leslie being replaced by Miss Madeline Meredith (Countess of St. Olbyn), Miss May Milward (Mrs. Murdoch), Miss Ellen Gaynor (the gipsy), and Mr. Gregor McMahon (Duff Wynterdon). The dear old wife and mother, Mrs. Wake, was again represented by Miss Bessie Major. Miss Beatrice Day sustained her erstwhile success as Lady Geranier; and Mr. Carter Pickford was, as before, the Dr. Wake.

"Mother Goose" is doing phenomenal business at Her Majesty's, and Mr. J. C. Williamson deserves every success because of the thorough manner in which he stages his productions. Miss Olive Morell, Miss Florence Young, Miss Celia Ghilom, Mr. Harry Phydora, and Mr. Harry Shine keep the fun and harmony going at record speed, and the scenic and other effects are as fresh as ever.

The Tivoli has a novelty in the shape of an interesting Japanese sketch, entitled *My Yokohama Queen,* written by Mr. Johnny Johnson, the music is by Mr. Bert Clark (of Clark and Hamilton); King and Benson do the chief fun-making, and a capital chorus is engaged. Mr. Jack Willis, a Scotch comedian, has been welcomed. Brinn, the cannon lifter, Charlene and Charlene, Boy Dewhurst, Fred Bluett, the Gibson Girls, Fanny Powers, Nellie Kilburn, little Eileen O'Neill, Claude Lepeastrier, and Harry Sadler are still here.

Nelson's Newsboys are now at Moscow, where they were re-engaged for fifteen days after their second performance. They are going on to St. Petersburg. They tell us that a number of English and American turns are doing well in Russia. They return to London in October.

Miss Jeannie Holmes has arranged with Mr. T. E. Rawson for the entire rights of the very successful duologue, *Peculiar Julia,* and will shortly produce the skit at a London variety theatre.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR
MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS.
ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS.

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Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

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WANTED, First-class Companies, for
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.,
June 3, 10, Aug. 5, 12, Sept. 9, Oct. 28, Dec. 16, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING
Sept. 9, 16, Oct. 14, Nov. 4, 11, 25, Dec. 2, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER
May 27, Aug. 5, 12, Dec. 2, 9, Feb. 17, 24, Mar. 2, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER
Aug. 5, 12, 19, Sept. 9, Oct. 14, 21, 28,
Nov. 11, 18, 25, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Aug. 12, 19, 26, Sept. 16, 23, Nov. 11, 18, Feb. 10, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
June 10, 17, Aug. 19, 26, Sept. 23, Oct. 7, 28,
Nov. 25, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
June 10, Sept. 2, 30, Nov. 18, 25, Dec. 2, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
June 3, 24, Aug. 5, 12, 19, Sept. 9, 30, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON.
Sept. 2, 9, 16, 23, on.
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, Important Attractions, Standard Theatre, Aug. 26; Terriss Theatre, Sept. 2 and 9; Grand Theatre, Aug. 19 and Sept. 30.
Walter Melville, Standard Theatre, E.

GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE.
WANTED, First-class Companies.
July 29, Aug. 12, April 6, 1908, onwards.
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD.
Aug. 26, Sept. 23, Jan. 6, April 6, 1908, onwards.
Address, Sidney Bacon, Metropole T., Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-Class Companies for
COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
Aug. 5, 12, 19, 26, Sept. 9, onwards.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON.
Aug. 5, 19, Sept. 30, Oct. 7, 14, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY,
May 27, Aug. 12, 19, 26, Sept. 2 (three nights only).
E. Graham-Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, for weeks of
June 24 and July 1.
Wire or write,
W. W. Kelly,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

BRIDLINGTON SPA THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.
Thoroughly Up-to-date, Re-opens July 29.
Electricity throughout; new scenery; large stage dimensions.
WANTED, First-class Attractions.
Holds £100 at ordinary prices.
Only few Vacant Dates,
Sept. 5, 6, 7;
must be the best Attractions on the road.
Henry Hague, General-Manager.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, Sound Attraction, for Aug. 5 (Bank Holiday), Re-opening, and onwards, with exceptions.
Address,
Thos. Swinton.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for the following dates: May 27, June 3, 10, and 24.
Apply, Mr. Robert Arthur, 24a, Regent-street, S.W.

PALACE THEATRE,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
WANTED, Big Musical Attraction, August Bank Holiday week (Aug. 5), also July 29 (Drama).
Apply, T. W. Rowe.

RAMSGATE THEATRE
(Lord George Sanger's Amphitheatre).
This Old-established and Popular Place of Theatrical Entertainment is the only Two-Tier Building in the Town and is capable of staging any production travelling.
WANTED, No. 1 Companies only (Musical Comedies preferred), for the few remaining Season Dates.
Strong Attraction for August Bank Holiday.
Address, Henry Bowman.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Salford, First-Class Companies, for July 1, 15, 22, and Aug. 5. Address, E. B. Goulden.

WANTED, First-Class Musical and Dramatic Attractions, for the Autumn and Spring, 1908. L. Carson, Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

WANTED, Powerful Attractions, for Grand Theatre, West Hartlepool, May 27, June 3, 10, 17, on, and a few Autumn Dates. Fred Granville, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

WANTED, for the Theatre Royal, York, First-Class Attraction, June 3, Musical preferred. Telegrams, Waddington, Stonegate, York.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies for two nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. Ashton, Strand, Barnstaple.

WANTED, Sound Attraction, June 3, vacant for First-Class Pantomimes, January and February. Apply, Sherwood and Co., Opera House, Wakefield.

KNIGHTSTONE PAV. AND OPERA HOUSE, WESTON-SUPER-MARE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, June 3, 10, 24, also July. Sharing terms. W. Payne.

WANTED, Best Attractions, May 27, June 10, 11, 12, and 14, 15, July 8. Wire, Phillips, Coliseum, Aberystwyth.

STANLEY DURHAM NEW ROYAL, LTD.
WANTED, Big Attraction, June 10, Dramatic, Musical, or Variety.
Apply, Mark H. Lindon.

WANTED, Big Dramatic, Musical or Variety Attractions, May 27, June 3, Grand, Chorley. Address, Sante, Theatre, Radcliffe.

OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, July 15, 22.
Address,
Stanley Rogers, 124, Warwick-road, Carlisle.

THEATRE ROYAL, HULL.
WANTED, June 24, July 1, and August Bank Holiday, High-class Plays or Musical Attractions.
Wm. Morton.

THEATRE ROYAL, SHREWSBURY.
WANTED, Attractions, May 27 and June 3, only First-Class Companies. Wire or write,
W. C. Dornton, Business-Manager.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-Class Companies.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant July 15, 22, onward, with exceptions.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Vacant June 10, 24, onward, with exceptions (Last three nights of each week).

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant May 20, 27, June 3, onward, with exceptions.

METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant June 3, 10, 17, onward, with exceptions.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
Vacant May 27, June 3, 10, onward, with exceptions.

"THE SPAN OF LIFE."
Vacant May 27, June 3, 10, onward, with exceptions.

"CINDERELLA,"
Vacant Feb. 24, March 2 and 9, onward, with exceptions.

Companies "Farmed" through Fit-ups.

To Let, on Royalty, "THE PRAIRIE FLOWER" and "OUR BRITISH EMPIRE."

Excellent Plants of Printing.

All communications to
Arthur Carlton, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

GRAND OPERA HOUSE,
MIDDLESBROUGH.
Proprietor, Albert Smith.
One of the Handsomest and Best-equipped Theatres in the Provinces.
Nothing Succeeds Like Success.
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Nothing Succeeds Like Success.
Nothing Succeeds Like Success.
See Mr. Charles Manners' Letter in "The Era" of April 6.

WANTED, July, onward, with exceptions
Wanted, July, onward, with exceptions,
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Wanted, July, onward, with exceptions,
Wanted, July, onward, with exceptions,
Wanted, July, onward, with exceptions,
Wanted, July, onward, with exceptions,
No. 1 Attractions only.
Enormous Business, Large Holding Capacity.
Can offer
Special Terms,
Special Terms,
Special Terms,
Special Terms.
Share or Certainty.
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Share or Certainty.
Share or Certainty.
Nothing too Big.
Nothing too Big.
Nothing too Big.
Nothing too Big.
Fast Booking Autumn Dates.
Will Guarantee any Special Attraction.
Open to Negotiate for Easter Panto., 1908, 2 weeks.
All Communications, Jno. Ed. Jowsey,
Grand Opera House, Middlesbrough.
Telegrams, "Magnet," Middlesbrough.
Telephones, 413, 426, 500.
Silence a Polite Negative.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessees and Managers,
Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.
The Leading Theatre of the Town.
The Only Theatre in the Town Lighted by Electricity.
The Only Theatre in the Town allowed to Advertise on the Electric Cars.
The Theatre which does the Business.
Now in Course of Rebuilding.
The Seating Capacity of each part of the House is being Largely Increased.
The Holding Capacity of the Theatre will be Second to None in the Town.
The Stage will be Capable of any Production Touring, will be able to fly a 36ft. cloth.
The Theatre will Re-open Aug. 5.
The Theatre will Re-open Aug. 5.
Autumn Bookings include
"The Dairymaids,"
Mr. James Welch's Co., in
"When Knights Were Bold,"
Miss Annie Hughes, in
"Tommy,"
Mr. Norman Macowan, in
"Monsieur Beancaire,"
"The Little Stranger"
(including Master Edward Garrett),
"A Trip to the Highlands,"
Mr. Bannister Howard's No. 1 Company,
"The Eternal City,"
and other of the Principal Attractions Touring.

WANTED, Exceptional Attractions, Aug. 12, 19, and Various, onwards.
Calvert Routledge, H. M. T., Barrow.

THE PAVILION, ESPLANADE, FLEETWOOD.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, (not Dramatic), July, Aug., and Sept.
Share or certainty.
Particulars to H. J. Snelson, Fleetwood.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions for QUEEN' STHEATRE, FARNWORTH, June 17, 24, July 1, 8, 15.
Morton Powell, Opera House, Torquay.

THEATRE ROYAL, MIDDLESBROUGH.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for July 1, 8, 15, 22.
Terms and particulars,
J. Chas. Imeson,
as above.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
Sole Lessee, Julian Malvern.
WANTED, Good Attractions, July 15 (?), 22 (?), and Sept. 30.
Address,
Chas. M. Julian, General-Manager.

WANTED, Comedy or Operatic Companies, Touring Scotland, to Book Theatre Royal, Inverness, vacant dates Oct. onwards. Mr. Cameron Burgess, Manager.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions, for Victoria Theatre, Kettering, under new management, Aug. Bank Holiday and Christmas vacant. Write, Bailey, Manager.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, Sept. 2, 9, 16, Oct. 7, 14, 21, Dec. 2, 16.
Wanted, Pantomime, Dec. 30.
Apply to Mr. James Kiernan.

COMPANIES WANTED.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
The Premier Theatre in the Furness District.
Holds £90 at ordinary Prices.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, Vacant July 15, 22, 29, Aug. 12, 19, 26, and various on.
The following, amongst others, are future Bookings for the above Theatre:—
Allan Wilkie, Lingford Carson's Companies, Mr. and Mrs. Godfrey Tearle, "In Holy Russia," "Her Luck in London," "A Little Vagrant," "A Destroyer of Men," "The Breed of the Treshams," "Life of a Showman," Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's Companies, Mrs. D'Oyly Carte's No. 1 Répertoire Company (tenth visit), "Raffles," F. R. Benson's Co. (third visit), Baron H. Harriss's No. 1 Company, "The Prince of Pilsen," Mr. Percy Hutchison's Companies, including "Peter's Mother," Mr. George Edwardes' own Company, in "See-See," Silvanus Dauncey and M. V. Leveaux's No. 1 Company, in "The Walls of Jericho," "The Girl from Japan," "The Sign of the Cross," &c., &c.
All application for dates to
Hugh Robertson,
T. R., Jarrow.

THE SPA THEATRE, WHITBY.
WANTED, Musical Attractions, July 22 (week), Aug. 26, 27, and 28, and Sept. 12, 13, and 14. Bookings include "Mr. Popple," "White Chrysanthemum," "Toreador," "Chinese Honeymoon," "Raffles," "Little Stranger," Miss Annie Hughes, Mr. Edward Terry, Mr. F. R. Benson, &c.
W. Payne Seddon, Spa, Whitby.
DUMFRIES AND HAWICK THEATRES.
Wanted, Companies (not Drama), three nights each town.
OPERA HOUSE, LONDONDERRY.
One or two vac. dates between Aug. 5 and Oct. 28.
W. Payne Seddon, The Spa, Whitby.

GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
WANTED, First-Class Company, June 3, could Book really good Drama.
Reply
H. W. Rowland, Theatre, Folkestone.

WANTED, Best Attractions Touring, for Oct. 28, Dec. 9, 16, 23, 30.
Andrew Melville, Metropole T., Birmingham.

WANTED, Good Companies, for May 27, June 3.
Wire,
Abrahams, 26, Gt. Eastern-road, Stratford.

MARLBORO' AND KING'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, for June 3, Marlboro' T., and June 10, King's Theatre.
Address, J. B. Mulholland, King's Theatre, Hammersmith.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLYTH-BY-SEA.
May 20, WILLIAM MOLLISON AND CO.
WANTED, Good Companies, with money-drawing powers, June 10, July 1, 15 (the latter date (Miners' Picnic week), also First-class Musical Attraction, Aug. 19 (Flower Show week). Apply, A. C. Moody, Lessee.

WANTED, Really Strong Drama, GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON, July 8, 15, 22.
Apply,
F. Mouillot, 1, King-st., Covent Garden, W.C.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity.
Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, onwards, Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. Cotton.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE GIRL WHO TOOK THE WRONG TURNING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres, Aug. 12.
Walter Melville,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE SOLDIER'S WEDDING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 23.
Apply,
Walter Melville,
Standard Theatre, E.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 12, Sept. 30.
Walter Melville,
Standard Theatre, E.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 12, 19, Sept. 23, and Dec. 23, 30.
Frederick Melville,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 9, 23, Dec. 23.
Frederick Melville,
Standard Theatre, E.

FRED MELVILLE'S NEW PRODUCTION.
WANTED, Oct. 28, and on.
Frederick Melville,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 30, Nov. 25.
Tom H. Taylor,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 16, Oct. 28, Nov. 4, 11, and Xmas.
Tom H. Taylor, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Aug. 19, Dec. 23, 30.
Douglas Bruce, Standard Theatre, London, E.

"IN A WOMAN'S GRIP."
WANTED, Sept. 2, 9, 16, 30, Oct. 21.
Andrew Melville, Met. T., Birmingham.

"DRIVEN FROM HOME."
WANTED, Aug. 26, Sept. 2, 9, 30.
Andrew Melville, Met. T., Birmingham.

"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY."
The Most Successful Play Produced during the year 1906.
WANTED, Sept. 2 and 9, in First-Class Theatres only. Wire or write,
W. W. Kelly,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, weeks of July 22 and Aug. 26.
Scala Production.
Wire or write,
W. W. Kelly,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
The performance of the play given at the Theatre Royal this week is without exception the best we have seen.—Brighton Society.
WANTED, Theatres, July 8, on. Charles Harrington, Theatre R., Aston, Birmingham.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, June 10, 24, July 1, 8, 15, 22.
Address, J. W. Cordiner,
May 20, Opera House, Weymouth.
See Companies' Advertisements, Page 2.

MISS DOROTHEY CACEY'S CO.
"WHEN WE WERE TWENTY-ONE."
including Mr. RIDDELL ROBINSON.
and strong Cast.
The original Scenery carried; only one interior required.
WANTED, June 10, to precede New Theatre, Cardiff, also 24th, and various onwards.
Frank Nelson, Lyceum Theatre, Ipswich.

FRANK M. THORNE'S CO'S
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
WANTED, June 10.
Summer Production of "The Octoroon."
Wanted, June 10.
F. M. T., Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham.

MESSRS. ARMADALE AND WARREN'S CO.
"THE FACE AT THE WINDOW."
WANTED, Oct. 7, 14, 21, 28, Nov. 4 (North), for the above Attraction.
Address, F. Brooke Warren,
116, Woodvale, Dulwich, London, S.E.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted Dates,
"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
June 3, June 3,
July 15, 22, 29, Sept. 23, 30,
Magnificent production,
Strong Cast.
Miss Lillian Herries as Countess Steinback.
Mr. George Steele as Otto Steinback.
Mr. Percy Ballard as Baron Cratzlaw,
supported First-class Company.
MORTON POWELL, Opera House, Torquay.

"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
WANTED, for this Attraction,
July 1, 15, Aug. 5.
A Mammoth Production.
A Great Play.
Miss Hilda Beverley
as
Gertrude Hunt.
Mr. Edward Valentine as Sir Robert Llewellyn.
Mr. W. J. Buller as Constantine Schwabe.
Mr. Stanton E. Sharp as Rev. Basil Gortre.
Mrs Morton Powell as Helena Byars.
MORTON POWELL, Opera House, Torquay.

"HONOUR THY FATHER."
WANTED, Dates, for this Powerful Play,
June 10, 24, July 1, 8.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"GREED OF GOLD."
WANTED, Dates, for this Proved Success,
Sept. 23, Oct. 7, 14, 21.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN,"
"THE MANXMAN,"
By Hall Caine and Wilson Barrett.
WANTED, July 1, Aug. 5 and 12, Sept. 9,
and few later.
Continued Success.

"DIVORCED."
A New Powerful, Emotional, and Modern Domestic Drama. Can be played in conjunction, or booked separately. May 20, Royalty, Morecambe (third visit).

LINGFORD CARSON'S REPERTOIRE CO.
"A MODERN ADVENTURESS,"
"THE HEART OF A HERO,"
"THE TICKET-OF-LEAVE MAN,"
"THE OCTOROON,"
and "THE SHAUGHRAUN."
Everything carried. Finest and largest plant of pictorials ever used. The most perfect Dramatic Combination touring. Business enormous. Refer.
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 23, 30, Oct. 7, 14, 28,
Nov. 11, 25, onwards. Address, CHARLES DRAYCOTT, T. R., Cardiff.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
Continued Success. Third Year.
WANTED, June 3 (owing to transfer).
Wire for June 3. Wire.
June 17, July 22.
Aug. 12, follow Alexandra, Birmingham.
FRANK AYRTON,
Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN."
WANTED, First-class Theatres,
June 3 (to follow Birmingham),
June 24 (follow Nottingham),
and various onward dates, including Aug. 5.
Perfectly cast. Exquisitely dressed.
Crowded with electric and mystic effects.
Beautiful printing, specially reserved.
Scenery fireproofed. Bookings extend well into 1908. A few of the dates booked, played, and rebooked:—O. H., Torquay; T. R., Exeter; T. R., Croydon; West Pier, Brighton; Prince's, Portsmouth; O. H., Middlesbrough; Grand, Derby; Pier, Hastings; Grand, Nottingham; T. R., Hanley; O. H., Harrogate; T. R., York; T. R., Belfast; T. R., Cardiff; Grand, Blackpool. In practically every Theatre receipts have increased nightly. Special Performance every Friday of the Great Parisian Play, "NANA." Wire, to-day, LOIE ESMOND, P. O. W. Theatre, Salford. May 20, Theatre Royal, Sheffield.

MR. WILLIAM A. ARMOUR'S COMPANY,
"THE BEST OF HER SEX."
Production on Monday an emphatic success. Local management, public, and press unanimous in praise of Play, Cast, Scenery, and Dresses. Many thanks to the many friends who wired good wishes. Managers are cordially invited to witness show. Dates booked and pencilled at most of the best melodramatic theatres.
WANTED, Theatres, June 3, 10 (between Wolverhampton and Newcastle), 24, and onwards, with exceptions. WILLIAM A. ARMOUR, today, Colosseum, Oldham; next, Grand, Doncaster.

"HIS SISTER'S HONOUR."
WANTED, Big Theatres, May 23 (three, wire), July 15, Aug. 12, to precede Alex., Sheffield, the Dramatic Success of 1907. Refer McLeod Loader, Esq., O. H., St. Helens. Wire, E. A'DELL, to-day, St. Helens; next, T. R., Loughboro'.

MR. SYDNEY SPENSER'S SUMMER TOUR,
with a bright and up-to-date version of
"MY SWEETHEART."
WANTED, June 10 (between Whitby and Birmingham). Vacant, June 10 (between Whitby and Birmingham). Brand new Scenery; all Properties travelled. Musical-Director; specially-trained Children.
Address, SPENSER, T. R., Glosop.

MONTAGUE BEAUDYN'S COMPANY.
"A BEAUTIFUL FIEND."
WANTED, Theatres, June 10, July 1, 8, 22, 29, Sept. 2, Oct. 28, Nov. 11, Miss Sidney Crowe as Fiend, and Powerful Company. MONTAGUE BEAUDYN, to-day, T. R., Rugby; next, P. O. W., Nuneaton.

"FROM SCOTLAND YARD."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Aug. 5, onwards. FRED BULMER, Box 4,832, "The Era" (vacation address).

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, First-Class Theatres.
FRED BULMER, c/o "The Era." Vacation add.

Miss BONWIN CARLTON'S CO.
"THE PLUCKY NIPPER."
WANTED, May 27, June 3, 10, 24. Wire for May 27, EDWARD SURREY, to-day, Theatre, Pentre; next, Coliseum, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, June 3, First-class Theatre, for "New Frivolity" (Lancs. or Yorks.); also June 24.
JOHN LEOPOLD, JUN., Theatre Royal, Dewsbury.

"LIFE" and "EAST LYNNE."
WANTED, June 10, 24 (follow Leicester), and July. "WANTED BY THE POLICE," vacant Aug. 5, Sept. 9. HERBERT BARRS, Theatre Royal, Wednesbury.

WANTED, June 17, July 1, on, for "A CLEVER IMPOSTOR."
STUART CLEVELAND, Gaiety Theatre, Burnley.

MR. JERRARD GRANT ALLEN'S CO.,
including
MR. LEON M. LION
in
"THE NEW BOY."
WANTED, May 27, June 20 (three), July 22, and onwards, with exceptions.
Ad., JERRARD GRANT ALLEN, Prince's T., Llandudno.

"THE CORSICAN BROTHERS."
WANTED, May 27. Wire, GEORGE T. METCALFE, to-day, Wakefield; Monday, O. H., Burnley.

A. CAMPBELL KELLY'S
"THE TRAIL OF THE SERPENT" CO.
WANTED, May 27, June 10, onwards, with exceptions. Wire to-day, Athenæum, Lancaster; next, T. R., Batley.

Mr. GEORGE D. DAY'S COMPANY.
"THE PRODIGAL SON."
WANTED, Oct. 21 (North).
Adelphi Theatre, W.C.

"BOOTLES' BABY."
H. Hamilton Stewart as Bootles.
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, June 24 (to follow Tyne. Newcastle). July 1, and on, with exceptions. Address, WALTER J. BAYLISS, Brixton Theatre, Brixton, S.W.

"THE LITTLE EARL."
WANTED, May 27, June 3, on, with exceptions, Wire, to-day, T. R. NUGENT, Shakespeare, Altrincham; after, T. R., Darwen.

"THE MASTER CRIMINAL."
WANTED, Good Theatres, June 3, 17, 24, Aug. 5 and 12. HENRY L. OSMOND, T. R., South Shields; next, Miners' T., Ashington.

THEATRES WANTED.

Important to Managers.
Mrs. ANN HUGHES presents
the New and Original Comic Opera,
"THE YOUNG LIEUTENANT,"
by A. F. Allen Tower, Herbert Dawson, and R. A. Smith.
The Best Money-making Attraction on the Road.
Cast includes

Miss Nellie Wigley,	Mr. Fred Payne
Miss K. Emmett,	Mr. Campbell Bishop
Miss Maude Esdaile,	Mr. R. Cummings
Miss M. Stone,	Mr. Douglas Phillips
Miss Madge Frewin,	Mr. L. C. Hughes
Miss M. Davies	Mr A. A. Drinkwater, jun
Miss D. Shaw	Mr. Wilfred Norman
Miss R. Shaw, &c., &c.	Mr. E. B. Davies, &c.

and Full Operatic Chorus of Specially Selected Voices.
Musical Director, Mr. ALEXANDER HUMPHREYS.
The Opera produced by Mr. A. F. ALLEN TOWER.
Acting-Manager, Mr. E. C. HOWITT.
Stage-Manager, Mr. A. F. ALLEN TOWER.
Advance Representative, Mr. B. FLEMING.
New scenery, Field and Hart. New printing by Allens.
Dresses by Clarkson.
Grand Production, May 20, 1907,
at Royal Artillery Theatre, Woolwich.
WANTED, Future and Autumn Dates.
Now fast booking.

Apply, A. F. ALLEN TOWER,
This week, 14, Lyme-street, Camden Town;
next, Artillery Theatre, Woolwich.

Miss ANNIE HUGHES.
WANTED, Dates, for the Successful Play,
"TOMMY,"
by Jerome K. Jerome.
Miss ANNIE HUGHES as "TOMMY."
"Tommy" is a great play. Annie Hughes is a great actress.
Aug. 5 (3 nights, follow Whitby), Sept. 2, 30, Oct. 28, and onwards, with exceptions.
Address, Miss ANNIE HUGHES, King's T., Glasgow.

WANTED, Theatres for
Mr. ARTHUR WILLIAMS
and
Mr. FRED EMNEY,
supported by a Company of West End Artists,
in
"MILKY WHITE"
"MILKY WHITE"
"MILKY WHITE"
and
FARCES.

Open to entertain immediate dates.

This exceptional Attraction will be at the ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON, ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON, Whit Week,
to which Managers are cordially invited.

All Scenery and Properties carried, and everything done as at Kingston.

Communicate immediately with
PETER DAVEY.

MR. AND MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COS.
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
WANTED, June 10 and 17, for this great Play. New Uniforms and Effects; Band of Drums, Fifes, and Bugles for Parade.
"A SISTER'S SIN."
Wanted, July 29, for this Romantic Drama. A happy blend of Comedy and Pathos; picturesque Dresses; splendid Scenery and Pictorials; powerful Company.
"A SOLDIER'S HONOUR."
Wanted, August 5, through transferring, for this great Military Play, the acknowledged success of the year.
F. G. KIMBERLEY,
Vauxhall, The Scotlands, Wolverhampton.

MISS MARY NEIL and MR. GEORGE KIRK'S
"HER LUCK IN LONDON" CO.
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Big Theatres,
July 29, Sept. 9, 16, Oct. 7.
CHARLES A. LEICESTER, this, Royalty, Barrow; next, Queen's Theatre, Liverpool.

FRANK J. PITT and CHARLES HALLING'S CO.
"£1,000 REWARD."
"£1,000 REWARD."
WANTED, for this Successful Attraction,
Aug. 12,
Sept. 23, 30, Oct. 7, 14,
Nov. 25, Dec. 2, on.
Alex., Sheffield, May 20.

SHINTON AND GREENWOOD'S TOUR.
"THE PRICE OF HER SOUL."
WANTED, June 10 (to precede return visit to Rot., Liverpool, 2 weeks), also Aug. 12 (to follow Star, Liverpool), Aug. 26, Sept. 9 and on, with exceptions. Thanks Chas. Barnard, Esq., for Contracts. Refer Lester Collingwood, Esq., Wm. Morton, Esq., M. Montgomery, Esq., or any Theatre visited. Look out for new Production, Rotunda, Liverpool, June 24. JOHN B. SHINTON, to-day, T. R., Bury; Monday, Grand, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

"HER ONE GREAT SIN."
WANTED, for the above excellently-played and staged Attraction, Good Theatre for August Bank Holiday. Miss LYDIA DONOVAN, this, H.M., Aberdeen; next, H.M., Dundee.

Miss SUSIE CAMPBELL'S CO'S.
"A MASTER OF ARTIFICE,"
by W. Campbell Maxwell.
WANTED, for this Gigantic London Production, Aug. 5, 12, 19, and on; only First-class Theatres booked. Wire or write, 132, Kennington Park-road, S.E.

"A HEART'S DESIRE."
WANTED, good Theatres, for this strong Attraction, now in full tide of success, June 3 (to follow Colosseum, Oldham), 10 (to precede Burnley). Wire for June 3 and 10, en route, or Messrs. ELLIMAN, 5, Vernon-street, Dublin.

WYBERT CLIVE'S CO., "THE BRANDED WOMAN." The Success of the Season.
WANTED, July 15, 22, 29, and Aug. 5, an Attraction that never fails. Apply, WALTER STEELE, General-Manager, to-day, O. H., Workington; next, T. R., Whitehaven.

WANTED, Known, to Managers of Theatres, Halls, Pier Pavilions, &c., &c.
Do you require a distinct Novelty, and a really Charming Entertainment?
Something out of the beaten track.
THE NATIVE CHOIR FROM JAMAICA,
all escaped from the recent terrible earthquake, have a few vacant dates for their enormously successful entertainment,
May 27,
June 10,
June 17,
July 22 (three nights),
Aug. 12,
Sept. 9,
and onwards, with exceptions.
The Jamaicans have appeared before Lord Elgin, Colonial Secretary, Lord and Lady Derby, Earl Roberts, Lord Brassey, Sir Alfred Jones, and many other notabilities, and caused a furore in every case. At Southport 2,200 persons were present at the final performance, and over 1,000 refused admision. Such a house and such enthusiasm seldom, if ever, witnessed in Southport. Last week at the Palace Theatre, Rhyl, great success. Every item encored. Twelve performers. Can give the whole entertainment and Sunday Concerts if desired. Three changes of costumes. Splendid lithos., &c. Booked for London (ninth visit), North Pier, Blackpool (three dates, return visits), Grand Opera House, Middlesbrough, Pavilion and Winter Gardens, Bournemouth, Pier Pavilions, Ryde, Herne Bay, Plymouth, Folkestone, also for Dover, Ramsgate, Southport, Liverpool (return visits).
Apply for booklet, terms, &c., Managers, Messrs. H. E. JONES and A. DOUGLASS, 21, Water-street, Liverpool. Telephones 5650 and 2449 Central. Wires, "Motherland, Liverpool."

WANTED, Theatres, Halls, Piers, or Al Fresco Engagements, for the Original "World's" Pictures and High-Class Concert Co., Proprietor, Robert Arthur Brown. An entertainment right away from all others. Thanks to Mr. Elphinstone Stafford for releasing this week. Monday, Town Hall, Kidderminster.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for Autumn Tours of Musical Comedy Principal Artists in all Lines, also for Australia, commencing early next year, long tour, absolutely First-class Musical Comedy Artists, Prima Donna, Soubrette, Comedian, Principal Baritone. Apply by letter, C. ST. JOHN DENTON, 34, Maiden-lane, Strand.

WANTED, for Musical Comedy and Light Opera, Town and Tour, Principal Artists in all Lines; also Chorus Ladies and Gentlemen; the latter must be young, of good appearance, and good voices. Send particulars at once to KELSON TRUEMAN, Regent House, 233a, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, for week of June 8, in London, capable Actors, for
"The Merchant of Venice."
Antonia (Lead), noble presence, fine voice; Bassanio, well built, manly lover, with passion; Gratiano, military bearing, big voice, hearty laugh. Interview by appointment before engaging. Address letters only, W. POEL, 5, Amersham-road, Putney, S.W.

"THE SPORTING KING" CO.
WANTED, Juvenile Actor, tall, Character Old Man, Character Actor, Boxer (heavy-weight preferred); Child Actor, over 14; Carpenter, tall, small part; Chambermaid, young and smart. month certain, probable long tour. Address, WHITLOCK and RUTTER, Metropole T., Gateshead.

"THE LANCASHIRE LAD."
"THE LOVE THAT WOMEN DESIRE."
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, for Autumn Tours, including Lancashire dialect, Comedian and Chambermaid; all must be thoroughly experienced and earnest workers. G. CARLTON WALLACE, Prince's Theatre, Poplar.

WANTED, for three weeks, commencing May 27, rehearse 21st, London, Character-Actor, for Danny Mann, Corrigan, and tall Heavy Lady, Sketch. HENRY HERNE, letters only, 8, Rectory-lane, Tooting, S.W.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE, LEITH.
Managing-Director, R. C. BUCHANAN.
WANTED, Known, Applications invited from Leading Ladies to Star for one or two Special weeks in Parts and Plays, for which they can arrange rights. Wanted, Dramas for Stock Season, with good printing, must be Royalty Dramas, with a reputation. Send terms and particulars to JOHN DARLISON, Gaiety Theatre, Leith.

WANTED, Leading Lady, young, handsome, powerful (big struggle), immediately. Send photo., reference, or call. CLEMPERT, Pavilion, H. Broughton, Manchester. Good terms.

"WHY MEN LOVE WOMEN."
WANTED, for Autumn Tour, commencing July 29, absolutely First-class Recognised Leading Man for Gerald Fielding.
Photographs, terms, height, references, &c., to ELLEN SNOW, Grand Theatre, Northampton.

ROBERT PERRIS'S CO.
WANTED, First-Class Heavy Man, must be tall (five-foot-nothings save stamps); also Aristocratic Old Lady, rehearse Manchester, open London May 27. Those having played parts before wire Palace, Newcastle. Write, with lowest terms, &c., to 6, Grafton-street, Manchester, S.E.

WANTED, to join immediately, good Responsible Gent., capable of Line. Age, height, refs., and lowest terms for long tour. DOUGLAS, Victoria Hall, Pocklington, Yorks.

WANTED, Young Actor, capable of strong character parts; must be slim, medium height. All particulars, HARRY STARR, Theatre Royal, Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED, experienced Lady, one disengaged in or near Birmingham, for production of Sketch. State height, &c., write immediately, PULLIN, 34, Thimble Mill-lane, Nechells, Birmingham.

WANTED, for "Mysteries of London" Sketch, Special Week, London, May 27, probably five weeks; Rehearse May 21, Surrey Theatre; Character Gent. (short), Jew Gent. (tall), Res. Gent. LEWIS GILBERT, Chalons Villa, Netley Abbey, Hants.

WANTED, Vocalists (High-class only), for Sunday Sacred Concerts at Prince's Theatre, Llandudno. Send full particulars, terms, and photo., also Vacant Dates, to MANAGER, 3, Drury-lane, Liverpool.

WANTED, good Baritone and Pianist, to open at once, no open air.
Wire, MINSTRELS, Kursaal, Bexhill.

WANTED, two young clever Pianists and Vocalists (first-class Chorus Lady and Gentleman entertained), capable of working original Quick-change Novelty, already produced for copyright purposes, and success assured; Lady must be able dancer; essential both be of good education and appearance. Replies clearly state full particulars. Address, Box 4,826, "The Era."

WANTED, to complete "The Jollies," Nos. 1, 2, and 3, Soprano and Contralto, who can Accompany and Sing Chorus or Light Comedy Songs, Smart Pianist-Humorist, Tenor, Baritone, and Versatile Comedian. Particulars, photo. if possible, and lowest summer terms to HARRY HEATH, 62, Dundonald-road, Wimbledon, S.W.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known,
an
American Gentleman
of Means,
alone in London,
desires introduction
to
Theatrical Society.
Liberal terms.
Please write fully to
Box 4,823,
"The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.

WANTED, by Signorina May Caville, May 27 and on, the young Operatic English and Italian Vocalist, the coming Star of Operatic Singers. Wire, perm. address, 14, Ellar-st., Salford.

WANTED, Known, Celebrated London Star Actress desires to join High-class Concert Party for Flying Matinées and Seaside Engagements. Write, CONTINENTAL AGENCY, 4, Brixton-rd., London.

WANTED, Engagements, Lady Vocalist, Mandoline, Guitar; also Spanish Gipsy Troupe.
Box 4,758, "The Era."

WANTED, by Soprano and Baritone, offers for High-class Concert Party or Al Fresco; well up in Concerteds. Perm., 101, Coaltart-road, Prince's Park, Liverpool.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Pantomime Chorus and Show Ladies. Send photograph, age, height, and other measurements, lowest salary. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, Artists, Disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas, to send photos., terms, and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

PETER THOMPSON'S
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
WANTED, really First-class Dame, clean make-up, Sing and Dance. Photos., references, terms, and where to be seen working, to PETER THOMPSON, 88, Monton-road, Eccles, Manchester.

WANTED, good Ballet Mistress, for Pantomime. Lowest terms, names and addresses of last two references. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, Effective and Artistic Work and good Joinery. Prices moderate. Large Studio and Workshop. CHARLES SAYER, Scenic Artist, 2, Clarendon-road, Croydon.

WANTED, Known, Edmund A. Swift, First-class experienced Scenic Artist, shortly at Liberty for Resident or Special Work. Address, T. R., Bury St. Edmunds.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Scenery Contracts, Productions Our Paint Frames, 40 by 24; Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. FRED WILKINS and BRO. LTD., 54, Whitechapel, Liverpool. Telegrams "Theatrical."

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, CARLISLE.
WANTED, Known, Scenery Made, Painted, and Repaired. First-class Scenic Artist.
Magnificent paint-frame; spacious carpenter's shop
Estimates free on application to
THOS. COURTICK, H. M. T., Carlisle.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Scenic Artists, Theatre Managers, &c., to write for Leete's Catalogue of colours, varnishes, painting brushes, and every requisite for scene painting and theatre decoration. The fullest range of colours in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Manager,
to Take Charge
of
Theatrical Agency Dept.
Apply, BARONET,
63, Charlotte-street, W.

WANTED, at once, smart young Assistant-Manager, for large Variety Enterprise.
Must deposit £150 cash security.
Previous experience not necessary.
State salary required,
Box 4,840, "The Era."

WANTED, Stage-Manager, must be experienced in Music-Hall work and have own tools. Those who have applied kindly apply again.
Apply, J. WOOLF, Wonderland, E.

WANTED, good smart Advance-Agent, to open at once.
Bosco, Circus, Ormond Cottage, Sydenham, Belfast.

WANTED, Advance Agent, used to working Institutions and Smalls; preference to one who can play Piano. BANYARD, Ballyconnell, Cavan, Ireland.

WANTED, good Line Man, build Up-to-date Stage Illusions; quick, cash; only reliable men entertained. References. Box 4,839, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, W. C. Burns, vacant, twenty years' practical experience (management), any class concern, road, rail, or resident; expert advertiser and Pressman; well versed in two houses nightly, bars, and accountancy; life abstainer; highest refs. Cash guarantee for suitable situation. 15, Charlotte-street, South Shields.

WANTED, Engagement, Acting-Manager (resident or tour), or Advance, six years Assistant-Manager Theatre Royal and Circus of Varieties, Bury. Highest reference. WALTER MOULD, Theatre, Bury.

WANTED, smart Young Gent. as Acting-Manager, must have practical experience, and be Expert Typist and Shorthand Writer. The strictest sobriety indispensable. Apply, with copies of recent references and absolute lowest terms, to HUGH ROBERTSON, T. R., Jarrow.

WANTED, by an experienced Business-Manager, Management of Halls, Theatres, Piers, &c.; 30 years' practical knowledge; could superintend Bars, &c.; security to any amount. Z., 153, Lower Kennington-lane.

WANTED, Engagement, by Harold G. W. Beale, Management, Advance, Parts; just concluded with own Stock Co. Offers, 112, Moor-street, Burton-on-Trent.

WANTED, by Electrician, experienced, Charge in Theatre, used to Stage Effects; capable of installing; good references. E., 70, Talbot-road, Bayswater.

WANTED, Situation by Practical Billposter; abstainer; 8 years' reference from last situation.
CLARE, 40, Middle-street, Pontypridd.

WANTED, by Young Man, Situation as Working Bill Inspector; good Brush Hand; good references. H. J. P., 82, Asylum-road, Peckham, S.E.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Leaders, 'Cellists,
and Contra Bass Players,
for White Star and Cunard Services.
Musical Duties Only.
State age, references, to
Mr. C. W. BLACK, 19, Castle-street, Liverpool.

THE MACNAGHTEN CIRCUIT.
WANTED, at once, good reliable Variety Leader. Write, stating lowest salary and latest references, to CONDUCTOR, Palace, Southampton.

WANTED, to open June 10, thoroughly experienced Musical-Director (Violinist); must be used to Variety Business. Lowest terms and references to J. GLADWIN, Manager, Theatre Royal, Aldershot.

WANTED, First Violin (Leader) and Flute Piccolo, for Exhibition, Ladies' Orchestra.
State terms, permanency,
MANAGER, 80, Coleman-street, London.

WANTED, First Violin (Leader), and Pianist, for Small Orchestra, Touring Trades Exhibition; permanency; competent and steady men only. Address, MANAGER, Exhibition, Y.M.C.A. Hall, Carnoustie, N.B.

WANTED, good Orchestral Violinist, Pianist, Flautist, July 14, nine weeks, Seaside. Send lowest; trial essential. 92, West End-lane, N.W.

WANTED, First and Second Cornets, for a First-Class Variety Theatre; permanency; last reference only. CONDUCTOR, 198, Shipley-street, Byker, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, for Duffy's Circus, Leading Cornet, also Euphonium, to join at once. Wire or write. State terms. Cloyne, Saturday; Queenstown, Monday; Cork, Tuesday.

WANTED, good Cornet, at once, for Town Band. Shares; permanent.
PHILLIPS, Richmond-avenue, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, good Cornet, Clarionet, and Drums, for Town Band, Shares. PHILLIPS, Richmond-avenue, Southend-on-Sea.

HIPPODROME, BLACKPOOL.
WANTED, to open Monday next, good Clarionet for one week, also for season, July 1 to Sept. 28, Variety Business. Wire lowest terms, experience; evening dress. A. PARKER, Conductor.

WANTED, two Clarionets, Flute and Piccolo, capable and sober, four weeks, commencing July 1 (A.M.U.). WILKINSON, 68, Old Market-st., Bristol.

WANTED, Clarionet, for East Oxford Theatre, open all year round; comfortable shop. Lowest terms, age, and refs., POWELL, 25, Temple-st., Oxford (East).

WANTED, experienced Double Bass (Lady), for First-Class Café; young, good appearance; permanency for suitable player. Write, Box 4,815, "The Era."

WANTED, First-Class Trombone, Cornet, and Drummer (with effects); must have good refs., and be thoroughly efficient in Variety business. Apply, NORMAN LATHAM, Albert Hall, Southport.

WANTED, Oboe, for Special Week, commencing May 27. Lowest terms and particulars to STEPHEN PRITT, Theatre Royal, Preston.

WANTED, Lady 'Cellist, fourteen weeks' Seaside Engagement.
CONDUCTRESS, 24, Bradstone-avenue, Folkestone.

WANTED, 'Cello and Clarionet, Disengaged from 19th inst.; highest refs. 'CELLIST, 45, Jubilee-place, King's-road, Chelsea.

WANTED, Pianist, Humorist, up in Concerted Numbers and Musical Sketches, also good Specialities. Lowest terms, CURTIS, 27, Fortess-road, N.W.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Pianist, for Season commencing June 22, '07, to play with noted Small Orchestra; no vampers. THOS. BENN, Grand Hotel, Scarborough.

WANTED, Smart Pianist; Sight-reader, and used to Variety Business. State age, references, and lowest summer terms. H. BATTERSBY, T. R., Bilston.

WANTED, Double Drummer, must have own Tymps., Glockenspiel, &c., well up in Variety. Age and references, BRAHAM, Regent Theatre, Salford.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

FROM A MUSICIAN:—
To the Manager of "The Era" Advert. Dept.,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.
"Re Advertisement
"'WANTED, ENGAGEMENT BY CORNET.'
"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, "A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

FROM A BANDMASTER:—
"Re Advertisement, 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.'
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies, and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster,
"Littlehampton."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, William T. Gliddon, M.D. Grand, Islington, is prepared to compose and arrange Music for Dramas, Sketches, &c., scoring of every description, perfection of Orchestration, to Let, new two-act Musical Play, small cast, full of situations and business for Comedians. 30, Aytoun-road, Stockwell, S.W.

WANTED, Known, James Hargreaves, Conductor, Hippodrome, Colchester, will be open for good Engagement on June 1, through misunderstanding.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by Smart Young Musical-Director (Violin, Piano), Composer, Arranger; large library. Theatre, Variety. MUSICUS, 22, Knowle-road, Brixton.

WANTED, Engagement, as Bandmaster, Cornet, with or without Band; good répertoire; any business. Address, FRANK FISHBURN, 55, Brentnall-street, Stockport.

WANTED, First-class Engagement as Musical Director or Solo Pianist and Accompanist; excellent library. CONDUCTOR, The Carlton, Augusta-street, Llandudno.

WANTED, Re-engagement by First-Class Conductor (Violin), experienced all lines; library. CHAS. WELDON, 42, Highfield-road, Dartford.

WANTED, Engagement, by Leader, Viola, 'Cello, Bass, Clarionet, Cornet, Trombone, and Drums. Write, Grand Theatre, Croydon.

WANTED, by Leader (or as First Violin), Summer Engagement, any business; finishing season. J. WILDE, Leader, Palace Theatre, Bath.

WANTED, Known, Répititeur seeks Summer Engagement. Terms moderate. Address, WARD, Opera House, Tunbridge Wells.

WANTED, Re-engagement by experienced Violinist, as First Violin in First-class Orchestra; London, permanency. WILLIAM G. BUDD, Holland, Paignton, Devon.

WANTED, Engagement, by Violin and Viola, late Theatre Leader; young; Disengaged. VIOLINIST, 39, Marian-square, London, N.E.

WANTED, Engagement by experienced Violinist (combine Clarionet), reliable; good refs.; any business. Apply, F. FISHER, Violinist, Street, Somerset.

WANTED, Engagement, by Young Lady Violinist and Double Drummer; well experienced in Orchestra; good references. F. S., 81, Cephas-street, Mile End.

WANTED, Engagement, by smart young Violinist (with diploma), experienced in Orchestra; good Seaside Orch. preferred. For full particulars, &c., apply, Box 4,833, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Violinist, young, good repetiteur, from June 1, owing to Theatre closing. Address, 86, Colvestone-crescent, Dalston, N.

WANTED, Known, Lady Violinist (Solo and Orchestral), Good Leader; every experience; Disengaged July and August. Box 4,809, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, good young Second or First Cornet; Orchestra or Military Band. ANGEL, 47, Stopford-road, Upton Manor, London, E.

WANTED, Known, Solo Cornet, Disengaged, any Business. H. CAPRON, 7, Dewsbury-crescent, Chiswick-road, Chiswick London, W.

WANTED, Engagement as Solo Cornet, any business, Liberty May 27. REUBEN BARBER, this, P.H., Mountain Ash; next Hip., Ton-y-pandy.

WANTED, by experienced Cornet, Engagement; at Liberty for Summer; Military or String. HUTCHBY, Grand Theatre, Croydon.

WANTED, Engagement, by good, experienced Cornet, any Business. H. HASHRILL, 54, John-street, Luton.

WANTED, Engagement by Cornet, strictly reliable and efficient, at Liberty May 27. A. CUTHBERT G. FAILEY, 8, Watergate, Perth, N.B.

WANTED, Engagement by experienced Orchestral Cornet Player, First or Second; highest refs. CORNETTIST, 47, East-street, buildings, Baker-street, W.

WANTED, by good Clarionet, Engagement, any business. Apply,
F. HEWSE, 4, Regent-place, Ilfracombe.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarionettist; exp. in any Business; best references given; deputy or seaside preferred. Address, MUSICUS, 118, Borough-rd., S.E.

WANTED, by experienced Clarionettist, total abstainer, permanent Engagement, Variety business preferred; present place closing. HANCOCK, 237, High-street, West Bromwich.

WANTED, Engagement, by good experienced Clarionet, at Liberty May 27. Address, CLARIONET, 7, Arncliffe-terrace, Legrams, Bradford, Yorks.

WANTED, by Clarionet, Engagement, Military or Orchestral; finishing last 5 years as Solo, on West Pier. 21, Tillstone-street, Brighton.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Clarionet; any Business; late of Moody-Manners "A" Opera Co. GEO. E. GODDARD, 1, Chapel-street, Oadby, Leicester.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by experienced Clarionettist, Military or String. H. E. JACKSON, Grand Theatre, Croydon.

WANTED, Known, First-class Clarionet, at Liberty, any Business; strictly attentive to business, and reliable. Address, SKILTON, Opera House, Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Bass, Orchestra and Hotel; experience, late of Taj Mahal Orchestra, Bombay. Apply, L. CROSS, 2, Porthall-avenue, Brighton.

WANTED, Engagement, by Contra Bass, four string; Liberty May 27, termination of H. and E. Poole's Tour. BASSO, 24, East-hill, Wandsworth.

WANTED, by experienced Double Bass, Engagement for Summer, London or Suburbs; would deputise. J. SCOTT, Grand Theatre, Croydon.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Bassoonist, with all-round experience. Write, BASSOON, 50, Merrion-st., Briggate, Leeds.

WANTED, by String Bass or Bombardon, competent and experienced, Summer Engagement, Liberty May 25, Theatre closing. HEMINGWAY, Court Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, Bassoon, Summer; at Liberty June 1. LOUIS CHAPMAN, 6, St. Philip's-terrace, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Engagement, First-Class Trombone, experienced. High-class Concert, Variety, Dramatic, and Military Band. Good offers only. 103, Askew-road West, Gateshead-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Known, Trombone, Disengaged, any Business. H. J. FULLER, 81, Well-st., Hackney, London.

WANTED, by Trombone, Engagement any Business; good references; could combine Euphonium. E. W., 3, Exon-st., Walworth, London.

WANTED, Engagement, Trombone, experienced, Theatre, Music Hall, or Summer Season. Now at Lib. Address, TROMBONE, 4 Percival-street, Blackburn-road, Accrington.

WANTED, Known, First-class Trombone, at Liberty, any Business; strictly attentive to business, and reliable. TROMBONE, Opera House, Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Trombone; Dis.; highly respectable and steady; commence at once. S. SMITH, 88, Lavender-hill, London, S.W.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice, for Little Girl, on 'Cello; also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. CASSELLE, 35, Granville-square, King's Cross-road. W.C.

WANTED, by Lady 'Cellist, Evening Engagement in London, Sundays excepted. Address, 118, Elgin-avenue, Maida Vale, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced 'Cellist. Disengaged through theatre closing. 88, Netherwood-road, W. Kensington.

WANTED, by experienced 'Cello, Engagement, any business. Address, 'CELLO, 17, Macdonald-road, Forest Gate, London.

WANTED, by Viola, Engagement, for 9 weeks, from 27th inst. SYKES, 5, Lambrook-terrace, Fulham Palace-road, Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, by Viola or Second Violin, Shop, London or Suburbs preferred, £1 weekly. Box 4,837, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by experienced Viola; any business; deputising not objected to. WHITE, 14, North Denes-road, Newtown, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Engagement, Oboe, for Summer, Seaside preferred, any Business; steady, reliable. S. MORSE, 34, Walcot-square, S.E.

WANTED, by First-class Oboe Player, Engagement, or to substitute, during the month of June. OBOE, King Alfred's-place, Birmingham.

WANTED, Engagement, by Young Lady Harpist, Hotel or Tea Rooms Orchestra, in London. Apply, J. FIELD, 39, Camberwell-road, London.

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady Harpist; experienced, orchestra, utilise second violin parts: Summer Engagement, Exhibition, &c. BARRY, 337, Thorold-road, Ilford.

WANTED, Engagement, by Flute and Piccolo Player (Manager's reference), for Variety, &c. E. EVERETT, 22, Cuthill-road, Denmark Hill, Camberwell.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo, Soloist, Engagement, Military or Orchestral; excellent references; good répertoire of Solos. FLAUTIST, 9, Upper Aberdyberthi, Swansea.

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady Flute and Piccolo, Solo and Orchestral. Disengagod June 1. DAISY TOOTILL, 25, Cathles-road, Balham.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by Flautist; references. J. WALLWORK, 54, Stafford-road, Swinton, near Manchester.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, as Flute and Piccolo, also Bass (4 strings); both experienced and reliable. D. NEEDHAM, 76, Marlboro' road, Bedford.

WANTED, Engagement by reliable Flautist, experienced any business. Member A.M.U. C. T. NUTTALL, Alexandra Theatre, Widnes, Lancs.

WANTED, Seaside Summer Engagement, by experienced Flute and Piccolo, Orchestral or Military; just finished five months Crystal Palace; good refs. FLAUTIST, 39, Leipsic-road, Camberwell.

WANTED, by Pianist (Young Lady), Summer Engagement, Concert Party, Orchestral or Dance; brilliant, good sight-reader. 358A, Kingstreet, Hammersmith.

WANTED, Engagement, week or fortnight, by experienced Pianist, Dramatic or Variety; good reader and accompanist; would deputise. FISHER, Priory-place, Doncaster.

WANTED, Joint Engagement, Soprano (Pianist), Gentleman (Solo Violinist-Cornettist), experienced and reliable. WILSON, 141, Fawcett-road, Southsea.

WANTED, First-class Engagement, by Pianist (L.R.A.M.), exceptionally good Accompanist and Sight-reader, with Orchestra or Solo; well acquainted with best Violin and 'Cello Solos. Box 4,824, "The Era."

WANTED, by Double Drummer, Summer Engagement, thoroughly experienced Theatre, Variety, Orchestral; good Variety Turn. Box 4,822, "The Era."

WANTED, by good smart Double Drummer, own Tympani, &c., Summer Engagement. Address, DRUMS, 4, Hill-cross, Coventry.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Drummer, through closing, any Business; young, abstainer; reliable; good reference. HERBERT WADE, 36, Clow Bridge, near Burnley.

WANTED, Re-engagement, as Drummer; own Drums, Tympani, &c.; good reference. W. S. MILLS, 136, Ashford-street, Shelton, Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, Engagement by Drummer, with Tymp. and Glockenspiel, Orchestra or Military, would deputise. W. J. BROWNRIGG, 114, Penshurst-road, Thornton Heath.

WANTED, Engagement early in June, by First-Class Lady Drummer, thoroughly experienced; best refs.; also by First-Class Pianist. 35, Henrietta-street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED, Engagement, as First-class Drums; permanent or season; open 20th. N., 149, Tennyson-road, Stratford, E.

WANTED, Engagement, by good, experienced Drummer, any Business. DRUMS, Grand Theatre, Luton.

WANTED, Known, Shikissimma Band, Ladies' Japanese Orchestra, Disengaged for the season, three to twenty performers, all Soloists, magnificent costume or white dress. Piers, Hotels, Kursaals. Glenthorpe, Chesterfield-road, Newbury.

WANTED, Engagements for Scarlet Domino Ladies' Band, Ladies' Salon Quartette and Florentine Quartet, at home or abroad. Apply, BUREAU, 8, Bedford-terrace, Kensington.

WANTED, by the Imperial Trio (Violin, 'Cello, Piano), Engagement, July and August; Hotel or Hydro. Address, ANGEL, Cary Lodge, Torquay.

WANTED, Engagements, for Orchestra, any number, smart uniform, up-to-date répertoire; highest references. LOUIS METZ, 62, Wellington-road, Charlton, S.E.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

HIPPODROME, SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED, July, Aug., and Sept., First-class Attractions in all Lines that can be worked in Ring;
also Wanted, Useful People for Water Panto.
Apply, with lowest terms, GEO. ZALVA.

WANTED, Smart Tumbler, open Monday. Wire terms. DOUGLAS, 25, Eagle-street, Oswaldtwistle, Lancs.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Aug. 5, Japanese Troupe of Rope Walkers and Speciality Acts, with lithos. Immediate application requested. GANNON, Westgrove, Bristol.

WANTED, Young Lad, good Tumbler and Knockabout, to join Partner. Add., c/o Post Office, Walsh Hay. H. COSTELLO.

WANTED, a Sensational Diver and Tank Performer (lady preferred); also a Small Select Concert Party, South Coast Pier. FRED DEW, Theatre Royal, Dover.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Circus Proprietors and Hippodrome Managers to Know that the Three Ohmys, Champion Lady Bare Back Riders, and Fearless Acrobatic Somersault Equestriennes, on three beautiful bare back trained horses, the only Act of the kind in the world, re-engaged at Tower Circus, Blackpool, commencing Whit Monday, where they can be seen doing the greatest and grandest riding Act ever seen. Managers and Agents see this wonderful Act. Will shortly be at Liberty. CLAUDE OHMY, Tower Circus, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty Shortly, for Stage or Ring, Tudor's Four Educated Ponies, Hengler's Circus, London, Twice Daily. Agents should see this act.

WANTED, Known, Mlle. Rosini's Miniature Menagerie, represented by Highly-trained Dogs; also Gipsy Anna and her Thought-reading Dog Rosie. This, Amphitheatre, Ramsgate; next, Britannia Pier, Yarmouth. Vac. May 27.

WANTED, Known, Olrac and Milton, Classical Gymnasts, Sanger's Hippodrome, on Tour. Communications, BERT OLRAC, 193A, Brixton-road, London, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Fitzroys, Society Gymnastic Speciality, are Vacant May 27. Add., Hippodrome, Burton-on-Trent.

WANTED, Engagement, by smart young Comedy Triple Bar Performer; have good idea for Novelty Gymnastic Act. MORA, 61, Holland-rd., Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Known, George Davilla, Marvellous High-Wire Performer, next week, Orpington and Bostal Heath. Address, Forest View, Waltham Abbey, Essex.

WANTED, by De Cora Bros., Equilibrists; also Danvers Trio, Muscular Marvels; Whit Tuesday and Wednesday. Wire, Tamworth Castle Fête, Monday next. Permanent address, Langdon-street, Sheffield.

WANTED, Known, Pauletti, Funny and Daring Cyclist, thanks F. Mayer, Esq., Poole's Myriorama, for comfortable six weeks' tour. May 20, Shrewsbury Gala. May 22 to 25, Abergavenny Gala.

WANTED, Known, Comical Cranks, Cyclists and Motorists, New Act; big for Galas, Galas wanted; vacant Whit, wire. Add., see Cards.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES and THEATRE ROYAL.
WANTED, First-class Variety Artists, all Lines.
ARTHUR CARLTON, Palace, Worcester.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, New for Halifax, for June 10.
Big Acts, or Comedy Sketch, on percentage.
Also Wanted, Lady Serios, Pair of Sisters, new for Castleford, June 3.
State absolute lowest terms. Apply to C. CLIQUOT, 26, Wakefield-road, Dewsbury.

WANTED, Variety Artists, in all Lines, May 27 and onwards.
A. E. PICKARD, Britannia, Glasgow.

PAVILION, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, Variety Artists, in all Lines, May 20, 27, and onwards.
PRINGLE, Pavilion, Sunderland.

Scarborough.
WANTED, Monday, May 27, and onwards, Variety Artists in all Lines. Nothing too Big. Full particulars to KITCHINGMAN, Aquarium.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, May 27, Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest. Hall small. P. KEYMOND, as above.

WANTED, Variety Artists all Lines, for Monday onwards; Lady Juggler write again. address mislaid. JARVIS, Manager, Hancock's Coliseum, Redruth.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, June 3 and on.
Comfortable Engagements,
Sure money.
Lowest combination summer terms essential.
Artists having written before, please write again, and state permanent address.
Silence polite negative;
impossible to answer all.
Apply, The DAYTON FAMILY, Castle Fête, Dudley.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, coming North, to send dates and terms.
ANDERSON'S Agency, 6, Great Clyde-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, for July, August, and onwards, Horizontal Bar turns and Living Donkey Acts. WILL TEMPLE, Entertainment Contractor, Wilford-grove, Nottingham. Telephone, 248 X 5.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Charity Gala, July 20; all Artists give 2 weeks' address. Apply, F. E. LUMB, Theatre Royal, Yeadon, near Leeds.

WANTED, First-class Al-Fresco Artists, all Lines (males only), for Long Engagement at Weston-super-Mare; open May 27. Terms &c., JESS TEMPLE, 23, Union-place, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Gala Artists, for Grimsby, July 18, 1907 (one-day show). Apply, GEO. NORTON, 10, Somersby-street, Grimsby.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, from now onwards.
Apply, Mr. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, two weeks, June 10, 24, July 8, 22.
CHARLES JAMES, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin.

PALACE OF VARIETIES, OLDBURY.
WANTED, Artists, all Lines, May 27, onwards, Specialities, Doubles (each doing Singles). Lowest summer terms, W. B. BOSTOCK, General-Manager.

WANTED, Artists known to W. Ainsworth, late Manager Oxford, Middlesbrough, Hippodrome, Stockton, to send bookings, terms, lithos. Heath Villa, Stockton-on-Tees.

IMPERIAL VARIETY AGENCY,
19, Green-street, Leicester-square.
Under the Direction of
F. F. Wade (late Manager of Collins's Music Hall) and H. J. Stowe, jun.
Proprietor, H. J. Stowe.
WANTED, good Artists, original Acts and Specialities. Call or write. 'Phone 14,252 Cen.

WANTED, for Derby, Grimsby, Attercliffe, and Stoke. Artists in all Lines, for immediate Summer Dates. Big Stars entertained, on salary or sharing terms. Apply, T. A. EDWARDES, Grand Theatre, Derby.

WANTED, Artists (Ladies and Gentlemen), for Outdoor Stage Performances on August Bank Holiday, in connection with the Swindon Lifeboat Saturday Fund Great Demonstration in the G.W.R. Park at Swindon. Send particulars of business, lowest terms, &c., to WILFRID L. S. HACK, Secretary, 24, Milton-road, Swindon.

WANTED, for the Autumn, First-Class Artists in all Lines of Business.
L. CARSON, Keighley.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Refined Pierrot Artists, experienced in Concerted Numbers, Sketches, &c., Felixstowe (seventh season), Shares. Harry Edwards write. FRERE, Guards' Hotel, Leamington Spa.

WANTED, First-class Artists Only, for First-class Variety Theatres, immediate and future dates, also Pantomime. JESS VERNO'S Agency, 16, Elizabeth-st., Liverpool. Telegrams, "Merriment." 'Phone, 2076 Royal.

WANTED, Al-Fresco Artists, all Lines, for Season; good young Tenor or Baritone, and Specialities. Reply to H. J. SNELSON, Fleetwood.

WANTED, Good-Class Artists willing to take Shares pro rata instead of fixed salary. Box 4,838, "The Era."

COVENTRY HIPPODROME.
Proprietors, COVENTRY HIPPODROME CO., LTD.
WANTED, Agents and Artists to please Note that from Dec. 23, 1904, no Contracts will be recognised unless signed by the Secretary and Manager. T. M. SYLVESTER, Manager; G. E. WRIGHT, Secretary.

WANTED, all Artists holding Contracts with Wilder's, Fête Agents, Birmingham, for Whit Week, to be at the various Fêtes in good time on Monday to fulfil Contracts.
The Dayton Family, Three Milfords, Ando Japanese Troupe, Leopold Leglere Troupe, Marlands Trio, Conn and Conrad, Cee Mee Family, Pablo Diaz, Mlle. Fontainbleau, Mlle. Alecia, Vandyke Troupe, Aerian and Ostara, Decars and Deleres, Onda and Leon, Sauteron, W. Hughes, Two Leons, Sedons, Victor's Dogs, Swift Trio, Mlle. Onra, Two Reays, Four Parisienne Girls, Lack and Ford, Mlle. Maie, Deronery, Hurley and Late, Wyman, Ino and Uno, Durney, Sefton Bros., Two Leros, Lizzette Troupe, Elsie Rubina, Wambas, La Belle Lily and Albert, Elton and Elma, Two Rays, Pauletti, Le Brun and Irene, Bros. Bailey, Profs. Codman and Trevori.

WANTED, Known, Call, Circus and Hippodrome, Rochdale, Rehearsal Monday next, 2 o'clock, for Pringle's Pictures and Varieties. Letters, SMITH and Co., Red Lion Hotel.

TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN.
WANTED, for the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Dublin,
All the Greatest Stars in the Profession,
Acts New in Dublin, for the above,
the Premier Variety Theatre in Ireland,
Direct or through Agents.
All communications to WILL SLEY,
41, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone, 09144.

WANTED, for May 27, June 3 and 10, Stars in all Lines.
Stars in all Lines.
Full up for Smaller Items.
Can always Fix Big Numbers any Odd Weeks.
CADLE'S Agency,
105, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Variety Stars, Specialities, May 27, on. Terms, Bookings, Lithos., &c., EDGAR STEBBINGS, Agent, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester. Bert Harrow and Les Steckels write. Telephone 09261.

VENTOM SWIFT'S AGENCY,
Alhambra, Edinburgh.
WANTED, Stars and Startling Attractions, May 27, June 3.
First-class Small Turns, North, also communicate.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities, for immediate and future dates. Lithos., terms, and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.C.

WANTED, for Bijou Theatre, Bayswater, Big Stars and Novelties, Sept. 2, on; also First-Class Attractions for Principal Tours and Leading London Halls; Artists vacant Panto. write, ALFRED SAKER and Co., Variety Agents, 17, Cranworth-gar., Brixton. 'Phone 194 Brixton.

HENRY KEMBLE'S AGENCY.
HENRY KEMBLE'S AGENCY.
HENRY KEMBLE'S AGENCY.
HENRY KEMBLE'S AGENCY.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Big Speciality Acts,
Jugglers, Comedians, Illusions,
for immediate dates and onwards.
for immediate dates and onwards.
for immediate dates and onwards.
for immediate dates and onwards.
Lowest terms,
Lithos., and Open Time, to
Palace, Cork.

WANTED, good Acts for the North, Star Comedians especially. Terms and full list of bookings, to FRANK LYNNE, 12, Cranworth-gardens, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, First-Class Variety Acts, for France. Can book you immediate date for Paris. Lowest terms. FLORIA, Palace, Northampton.

WANTED, Speciality Acts, for Summer Dates at Seaside.
FORTUNE and GRANVILLE, 115, Strand, London, W.C.

WILLIE BURNETT'S AGENCY.
WANTED, at once, First-Class Acts in all Lines, for Top and Bottom of Bills; nothing too big. State where can be seen. WILLIE BURNETT, 6, Jackson's-row, Manchester.

WANTED, June, July, Aug., Good Gala Acts. Bills, lithos. Beham, Cissy Dawes write. TOM WOOD, Caterer, Whitehall-road, Bristol.

DREW BAYLEY'S AGENCY.
WANTED, for the North, Talent in all Lines. May 27, and on; all must send full list of bookings and open dates; Artists out for Monday, write at once, or wire. It's worth your while to keep me posted. 170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

STALYBRIDGE and WORCESTER.
WANTED, Talent all Lines.
JAMES FIONI'S Agency,
21, Norton-street,
Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool." 'Phone 1686 Royal.

CHAPPELL'S CONCERTS, GREAT YARMOUTH.
WANTED, Specialities, July 8, 29, Sept. 2, 9, 16. Terms, permanent address, to HARRY BARKER'S Bureau, 6, Harley-road, Gt. Yarmouth.

WANTED, for one week, May 20, Speciality. If suitable, can arrange for Tour, commencing Sept. Wire, TOMKINSON, Theatre, Pontypridd.

HARRY L. SKIVINGTON'S AGENCY.
HARRY L. SKIVINGTON'S AGENCY.
48, Brisbane-street, Greenock.
WANTED, Big Tops
and Reliable Turns.
must be known to me,
for Glasgow and District.

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, late Manager Blackpool, Morecambe, &c. Address, 46, Coram-st., Russell-sq., W.C. Appointments only.

HIPPODROME, NEW BROMPTON.
Proprietors, F. MONTI and Co.
WANTED, Big Variety Combination, Sept. Would entertain First-Class Stock Company for immediate dates. Population 75,000. W. J. MACKAY, 26, Agate-road, W.

WANTED, Ladies and Gentlemen wishing to enter the profession. Tuition given. Before going elsewhere, write BOB GRAHAM, Assembly Rooms, Clapham.

WANTED, Sisters, Comedians, Specialities, and Top Liner, Whit and on. GEO. AYTOUN, Variety Agent, 120, Kennington Park-road, London, S.E. Wires, "Antics, London." 'Phone, 1949 Hop.

WANTED, Lady for Sketch; good appearance, London tour. Send photo., terms, to GORDON LEICESTER SKETCH COMPANY, Whitehall House, Charing Cross.

WANTED, for Reuben More's Concert Party, Piers, Soprano, young and good appearance. Particulars, lowest terms, Pier, Ventnor.

WANTED, First-class Variety Turns, one week, June 17. Hippo., Wakefield.
Must state last appearance,
with lowest terms, to
O'CONNOR and BEADY,
83, The Crescent, South Tottenham, London.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Big Variety Turns,
Big Variety Turns,
Big Variety Turns,
Something New and Up to Date,
Something New and Up to Date,
Novelties and Sensational Acts,
Novelties and Sensational Acts,
For Immediate and Future Dates, for
London, Liverpool,
Birmingham, Leeds, Newcastle,
Glasgow, Belfast,
Dublin, Manchester, Bolton,
Wolverhampton, Oldham,
Hartlepool, Shields, Barrow,
Carlisle, Darlington,
Hull, Middlesbrough, Stockport,
Blackpool, Morecambe,
Brighton, Boscombe, Margate,
Portsmouth, Southampton,
Bath, Lincoln, Leicester, Bradford,
Halifax, Sheffield, Blackburn,
Lancaster, Stockport, Burnley, Derby,
Attercliffe, Stoke, Grimsby.
St. Helens, Accrington, Warrington,
Bury, Hanley, Stockton, &c., &c.
Send, at once, terms, dates, and lithos.
Those having a good act can rely on getting Immediate Work.
WILL SLEY,
WILL SLEY,
41, Oxford-street,
41, Oxford-street,
Manchester.
Manchester.
Telephone, 09144.
Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."

WANTED, Lady Wrestler, capable turn; also Small Comedian, for Eventio Troupe. Stars, smaller items wanted, London, July. EVENTIO, Palace, Greenwich.

WANTED, May 27, June 3, Comedians, Comediennes, all Lines, Panto. Artists. Send all particulars, lowest photos.
GEO. AYTOUN'S Agency,
120, Kennington Park-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, funny Al Fresco Comedian, for Dunoon, Scotland; well up in Sketches; rehearse May 28. LEE and ARDEN, 14, Rosamond-place, Upper Brook-street, Manchester.

WANTED, good Comedians and small Specialities, from May 27, on. Artists new to the town preferred. GEO. ZALVA, Hippodrome, Scarboro'.

WANTED, Comedian and Vocalist (small preferred), open Monday, 20th, for Summer Tour, Picture Co. Lowest terms, MOORE, 12, Cannon-st., Wisbech.

WANTED, Knockabout Pantomimist, for Tramp; rehearse Sunday. Summer terms. Wire, WYS, 129, Stanhope-street, London, N.W. Sunday, Albert, Canning Town, E.

WANTED, Baritone or Tenor (good appearance, extensive répertoire), Comedian (singing), and Soprano, refined, nine weeks, for High-class Concert Party, Hall on South Coast. Apply, stating lowest terms, refs., age, height, GERRARD'S Agency, 4, Radnor Park-gardens, Folkestone.

WANTED, at Once, Gentleman for Comedy Sketch; must have a good voice, and Dance a little. Lowest terms to Box 4,836, "The Era."

WANTED, to Open Sunday, First-class Baritone Vocalist and Powerful Lecturer, for Picture Show; must be competent, or useless; long engagement to suitable man. Wire lowest terms and particulars to ANDREWS, 8, King-gardens, Plymouth.

WANTED, Smart Small Boys, Good Voices, Dancers, and Acrobats.
CADLE'S Agency, 105, Strand.

WANTED, a Lad or Girl Trick Cyclist, one used to Tea-Cup Track preferred.
Full particulars, Box 4,830, "The Era."

WANTED, Bioscope, all Latest Pictures; sharing terms. Artists, all descriptions. Long Tour. Lowest terms, VIVIAN, Chester-road Post Office, Macclesfield.

WANTED, Picture Show or Pictures and Variety, for Hippo., Kidderminster, May 27, onwards, only place amusement in town, 30,000 inhabitants.

WANTED, good complete Bioscope Show, for Season, at Greenwich Theatre. Send best terms, specimen programmes, ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, reliable Operator, open Monday first. Wire,
PALLISTER, Theatre Royal, Chesterfield.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Queenie Lolo, Lady Gymnast, Graceful Trapeze and Teeth Speciality; also Little May, Juvenile Speciality Dancer and Contortionist. Address, 127, Upper Aughton-road, Birkdale, Southport.

WANTED immediately, by May Drew, Soprano, offers for High-class Al Fresco; well up in Cencerteds. Next week, Town Hall, Worksop.

WANTED, Whitsun Week, by Marie Leonard, American Song Illustrator.
Wire, 29, Ecclesburn-road, East Park, Leeds.

WANTED, Monday and 27th, Babs Lloyd, Star Artist; also Nellie Vance, Comedy Artist. Wire for two good turns. Theatre, Spennymoor.

WANTED, by Miss Frankie Newcome, Actress and Comedienne, June 3 and 10. Agents and Proprietors, Note.—Own Songs, Good Voice. Address, Pavilion, Leicester.

WANTED, Monday, onwards, by Sisters Roze, Duettists and Dancers; Roza, Pianiste and Mandolinist; Cissy, Comedienne; extensive répertoire of songs and duets; medallists; suit Al-fresco. Wire or write, 14, Priory-terrace, Sunbury, Middlesex.

WANTED, Known, Sisters Nella, in their Refined Speciality Pot-Pourri Act, vacant June 10, onwards. Address, next week, Italian Circus, Olympia, Sunderland.

WANTED, Known, Florence and Lillian, in their Artistic Musical Act, Disengaged May 27, June 3. Address, 83, St. Augustine's-road, Camden-square, London, N.W.

WANTED, weeks June 3 and 10, at Pier or good Al Fresco, to follow Pier, Bognor, by Cuthbert Rose, Society Humorist, Mimic, and Monologuist, Versatility, Refinement, Experience; highest-class Répertoire; Serious Recitals for Sunday Concerts. Address, Curzon Hall, Birmingham.

WANTED, by Barney Stuart, High-class Character Actor, Vocalist, and Mimic, May 27; also the month of June. Communications, Hippo., Accrington.

WANTED, May 27 and June 3, by Zelda, Expert Performer on Musical Novelties; also Wal Owen, Novel Eccentric. Hippodrome, Stockton-on-Tees.

WANTED, Monday next (one week only), through hall closing, Cambo, the Musical Monkey; big novelty Musical and Acrobatic Act; also Ventriloquial Show if required. Wire for a draw. Pavilion, Leicester; London halls to follow.

WANTED, Monday next, May 20, 27, Hal Croueste, Refined Light Comedian, Halls, Piers, Al-Fresco; thoroughly experienced. This week, big success, Royal Albert, Canning Town (second time in three months). Open to Buy good Pierrot Pitch. Wire, above.

WANTED, 20th, 27th, Jack Sheppard, World's Greatest Handcuff King and Prison Breaker; also Miss Ruby Vesta, in the Greatest Trunk Mystery on the Stage. Sure Draw; big Top; Challenges. Wire, Empire, Halesowen, Worc.

WANTED, by Stave, Musical Eccentric Speciality Artist, May 27, June 3. Wire or write, Empire, South Shields.

WANTED, Whit Week, 27th, and June 3, Mons. Savaro, famous Bird Imitator and Equilibrist. Wire, 65A, Ellen-street, London, E.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Allan Hanbury is one of the smartest pattering comedians we have seen here for some time.—Vide Huddersfield Daily Chronicle.

WANTED, May 27, onwards, James Brady, Comedian, 25 weeks comfortable Moss and Stoll Tour. Big success, Lyceum Theatre, Govan, Glasgow.

WANTED, Whit Week, by Amurat, the Musical Athlete, the only Act of its kind. This week the absolute hit of the programme. Wire, Amphitheatre, Ramsgate.

WANTED, Known, Rodin, Eccentric Knockabout Cycle Act. Monday, Gala, Wigan. Lib. May 21, and later. Add., 9, Margaret-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, good Light Comedian; offers invited for Autumn. GEOFFREY CHATE, all coms., 7, Woodville, Gravesend.

WANTED, June 3 and 10, by Hulbert (Ventriloquist) and De Lil (Illusionist), two smart Acts. Monday next, P.O.W. Theatre, Mexboro'.

WANTED, Great Scott, the Juggling Fireman, Vacant May 20, also June 3. Wire, Hippodrome, Stockton.

WANTED, May 27 and June 10, by Lytton, Lancashire Ventriloquist an' his owd Pal. Permanent address. 21, Wigan-lane, Wigan.

WANTED, by Tom Garland, Vent. and Conjurer, May 27. Great success this, Hip., Wakefield; next, Hipp., Dewsbury; North preferred.

WANTED, by Wishart, June 10, follow Kursaal, Harrogate, also 17th, with his Double Box and Giant Bottle Mystery. Invented by himself. Only Act of its Kind performed in Arena. Monday, Hippodrome, Gt. Yarmouth.

WANTED, May 20. Wire, 19, Walcot-square, Kennington-road, London, S.E.; after Sat., 508, Stockport-road, Manchester. Kyoto, Original Comedy Japanese Contortionist, Juggler, Conjurer, and Dog. A truly laughing and applauding Hit. Also, Dainty May Geraldine, a refined Vocalist and Dancer, with Catchy Chorus Songs. Two Sure Successes. Also Vacant May 27, onward, with exceptions.

WANTED, Vokes and Marshall (Neddy and Jessie), Refined Comedy Musical Artists, Liberty May 27, June 3. Address, Franklin's Gardens, Northampton.

WANTED, Monday, May 20, Sardou's Illusionists, Marvellous Mystifiers, Great Laughter Show; also Marie Riviers, Comedienne. Wire, T. R., Grantham.

WANTED, Known, Will and Roze, Comedy Acrobatic Conjurers, and Alvar, Sensational Gymnast, are vacant May 27, June 3 and 10 (to precede Dublin); two Big Acts for Galas. This week, big success, Assembly Rooms, Leigh; next, Temperance Hall, Merthyr.

WANTED, by The Kyasyas, Lady and Gentleman, New Style Athletes, Dental and Hirsute, unexpectedly vacant Whit Week, also 27th. Wire, Empire, Camberwell, London, S.E.

WANTED, by Ariel and Astarte, smartest of all Lady and Gentleman Gymnastic Pot-Pourri Acts, free June 3, 10, 24, on, with exceptions. Monday, Palace, Barrow.

WANTED, Monday next, May 20, also 27, Musical Empires (James and Kate); Smart, Funny Act. Wire, 28, Newnham-terrace, Lambeth, London.

WANTED, June 3 (follow Grimsby), 17 (follow York), by Cadogan and Wingrove, "A Clerical Complication" (Muir and Bartlett's). Queen's, Poplar.

WANTED, Monday, 20, 27, Doris Myddleton, Mimic, Musical Howard, Sketch, "A Story of Waterloo" big hit. Wire, Palace, Dundee.

WANTED, by The Attractas (Mabel and Charles), refined Musical Act, Monday next and on. This week, Tivoli, Manchester, wire.

WANTED, May 27, June 3, 10, Stuart and Evans, Comedians and Dancers, May 20, Empire, Dudley. Per., 3, Saltoun-road, Brixton.

WANTED.—Proprietors and Managers, Please Note. Steeley and Dowton are now working as Probyn and Bates. Sole Agent, W. OLIVER.

WANTED, Monday, Whit Week, Hector and Sultan, the World's Greatest Comedy Act, Halls or Galas. Wire, Hippodrome, Wakefield.

WANTED, June 3 and 10, The Moncktons, in Screamitngly Funny Musical Comedy Episode, "Are Wives Dummies?" May 20, Gaiety, Glasgow.

WANTED, May 27, June 10, by The Two Daniels, Laughable Negroes and Expert Dancers. Wire, Blisworth Hotel, Blisworth.

WANTED, May 27, by the Two Eltons, Triple Bar Comedians, Marblesque Trio, White Living Pictures; two Star Acts. T. R., Wednesbury.

WANTED, Known, The Voldenes, on the Double Trapeze, are Open May 20 and 27. 46, Devonshire-road, Holloway, N.

WANTED, Monday next, Cameo Troupe, Comedy Eccentric Acrobats; Great Laughing Success. 1, Upper Duke-street, Manchester. Agent, STEBBINGS.

WANTED, Known, Cecilians, vacant May 20 and 27. We will Pack your Halls. This, Central Palace, N. Shields; packed nightly. Make enquiries.

WANTED, Known. What a draw Cecilans are. Best All-round Act on Variety Stage; Refinement a Speciality. Musicians, Vocalists, Expert Dancers.

WANTED, Known, Cecilians, Vacant for Pantomime, including the Smartest and Smallest All-round Child on Variety Stage. This, Palace, N. Shields.

WANTED, May 27, Ringling Trio, Original Comedy Act. This week, Temperance Hall, Merthyr Tydvil; Whit Monday, Tuesday, Peel Park Gala, Bradford; after, 5, Cosgrove-st., Cleethorpes.

WANTED, Known,
The Ettenas,
Unique Globe Pedallists,
are at Lib. Monday, 20th,
to precede Empire, Camberwell.
Wire, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Galas, &c., for Walker's Comedy Nippers; Reklaws, Globe Speciality; two turns, vacant 22nd. Address, 40, Dicconson-street, Wigan.

WANTED, by The Florias, Celebrated Continental Novelty Equilibrists and Dutch Comedy Wire Artists, May 27, June 3. Palace, Northampton.

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WANTED, Known, Lillie Le Bretons, Lady Trapeze, vacant Whit, for Galas or Hall, near London. Wire for Monday, Hippodrome, Crouch End. London.

WANTED, by The Pygmies, few weeks' Engagement after May 25, before returning Ituri Forest. JAMES HARRISON, Oxford and Cambridge Club, London.

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WANTED, Mr. W. H. Fields, of "Mr. Robin Hood" Company, to kindly communicate at once with JNO. ED. JOWSEY, Grand Opera House, Middlesbrough. Important.

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WANTED, Known, T. Diacoff, of Blanche and Diacoff, wishes it Known to Friends, &c., that he is about again after his serious illness.

WANTED, Known, the Idle and Thackley Carnival Committee thank all Artists for tenders for June 22, 1907, and have fixed up. P. DAVY, Hon. Sec.

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EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1.30, for:—
"The Little Stowaway," Arthur Gill, New Macs, Dorrells, Amy Russell, Spry and Monti, Nellie Wallace, W. F. Frame, Madge Grey, Bert Byrne.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for:—
"Happy Holland," Darnley's Dots, Jackley Trio, Ryder Slone, Esta Stella, John Humphries and Co., Minnie Merry, Boy Glen, Bioscope, Claire Romaine.

ZOO AND HIPPODROME, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for:—
"The Suffragettes," Frank Darwin, Gertrude Bradshaw, Lily Langtry, Trapnell Family, The Jees, De Wynne Bros., Ian Colquhoun, Bioscope, "Three of a Kind."

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for:—
Tom Costello, Steve McCarthy, Trentanovi Sisters, Bud Snyder, Edwin Barwick, S. A. Cooke and Co., Slippere, Lady Fauntleroy, Bioscope, Marie Kendall.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
"The Devil's Sunday," The Findens, New York Nippers, J. W. Rickaby, Frank Seeley, Nellie Martell, Stelling and Revell, Percy Honri, Ruby Dahl's Mannikins, Bioscope.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
The Savonas, Vasilescu Troupe, Sinclair and Whiteford, Signor and Mme. Borelli, Leonie Dixon, Gasch Sisters, Kitty Marion, Dan Leno, jun., Bioscope.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Vesta Tilley, Fred Poplar, Kitty Wager, Tina Clementa, Alice May and Co., Northern Troupe, Allan Hanbury, Victor Newman, Les Strads, Bioscope.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Karno's Co., in "The Bailiff," Fred Keeton, The Howards, Edie King, Bros. Egbert, D'Arc's Marionettes, Lena Verdi, Bioscope, Bros. Lang, George Formby.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
"Retribution," Arthur Astill, American Comedy Four, Twin Andersons, Graham, Ruth Lytton, Bioscope, Chris Richards.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Lil Hawthorne, Donaldson Bros. and Ardell, Neilson Sisters, Will English, Ray Wallace, Kitts and Windrum, Mezzetti and Mora, Four Royal Welshmen, Lupino Bros., Nora Emerald.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
La Milo and Cruickshank, The Boy Army, McConnells, Emily Adair, Howard and Collinson, Harry Freeman, Margaret Ashton, Wartenburg Bros., Bioscope, Frank Couch, F. W. Purcell's Co., Tom Edwards.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
R. A. Roberts, Dome, Nellie Coleman, Chronophone, The Delevines, Bonnie Goodwin and Piccs., Fred and Pauli, Les Uniques, Eisteddfod Sextette, Pat Raffety.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Bransby Williams, Gwennie Hasto, Dennis Drew and Boys, Eugene Family, Cullane's Comedy Four, Carlos Menard, Bioscope, Fanny Erris, "The Punchbowl," Chas. Kay.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
Mark Sheridan, Spry and Austin, Ella Retford, Harry Tate, Francis and Alfred, Fielding and Hull, The Mezzettis, "Kiss Your Father," De Gracia's Elephants, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
"Casey's Circus," Josh Dixon, Flo. Esdaile, Seeley and West, Ella Shields, Farley, Rennie, and Farley, Cape Girls, Arabella Allen, Canty's Grotto, Launceston Elliott, Will Collins.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
Wilkie Bard, Will Musgrave, George Ridgwell, Moulier Sisters, J. P. Ling, The Craggs, Les Frasettis, Sisters Morgan, Three Consol Girls, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
H. Roxbury and Co., Larry Lewis, Miles Stavordale, Queenie Leighton, J. B. Preston, Dida, Two Dixons, W. J. Ashcroft, Morton and Bowman, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3, for:—
Mariedl, Ross and Grayson, Gintaro, Marzella's Birds, Browning and Wally, Horace White, Billy McClain's Co., Neil Kenyon, Frank Cumminger, Lindon's Vaudeville Co.

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EMPIRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 3, for:—
Paul Conchas, J. A. Wilson, The Motramos, Beattie and Blanche, Jennie Johns, Ellis Barrieton, Mlle. Von Etta, Bert Woodward, Matthew Brodie and Co.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 3, for:—
Kellinos, Starr and Leslie, Daisy Jerome, Boswell's Circus, Walter King, Woodhouse and Wells, Genaro and Theol, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
Paul Cinquevalli, Frank Leslie, Thos. Finglass, Sisters Macarte, Dion Wade, Carter Livesey and Co., Kate Trail, Punch and Judy Girls, Sisters Sprightly, Bioscope.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30, for:—
Lew Lake and Co., Billy Farrell, Sylvesta, Marie Santoi and Co., Collins and Rice, David Poole, Illustrated Song, Bioscope

ARDWICK EMPIRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Alfred Agoust, Robb Gilmore, Bioscope, Rosa Loader, Selkirk and Co., L. Bantock and Co., Lee and Bentley, Hinton and Wootton, Theo Bowmeester, "Girl with the Golden Hair."

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m.
Artists please note, Matinée Whit Monday.
"Tally Ho," Tom Owen, Illustrated Song, Kioto, Mayvilles, The Payens, Johnson and Wells, C. Randolph King, Bioscope, Amy Augarde and Co.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
The Boissetts, Three Sisters Chester, Three Phydoras, Marguerite Broadfoote, Ross and Lewis, Powell's Marionettes, Grace Merton, Gus Garrick, Vetter Bros., Rochez's Monkeys, Bioscope.

THE FOLLOWING ARE BOOKED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ABOVE:

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
The Gems, Lily Foy, Carl Howard, Annie Casey, Daisy Mayer, Pictures, Drew and Alders, Chas. Chard, Rumbo Austin, Herbert Shelley.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1 for:
Geo. Kirk and Co., H. E. High, Gladys Mavius, Chas. Norton, Sisters Jonghmanns, Alexander and Co., Elsie Bernard, Mendel.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Lukushima Troupe, Harry Bedford, Karno Four, Pictures, Frank Bertram and Co., Herbert Rule, Stave, Maudie Macdonald, Boccaccio Minstrels.

RICHMOND THEATRE, RICHMOND.
Proprietor, Mr. George Dance.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Master Carr, Treshams, Bessie Butt, Mysteria, Pictures, Hal Hughman, Claymores, Frank Bernard and Co., Nelly Neil, The Cumberlands.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL
Rehearsal at 12, for:—
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THE GRANVILLE, WALHAM GREEN.
Rehearsal at 3, for:—
Joe Elvin and Co., "Casey's Panto.," G. W. Hunter, Bert Brantford, Arthur Rigby, Harry Champion, Leo Dryden, Victor Travers, Grace Langley, Little Dott Moss, Flo Summers, Two Bostons, Doody and Wright, Royal Sovereign Quartette, Rich and Rich, Pictures.

THE PALACE, CAMBERWELL.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Both Performances.
Joe Elvin and Co., Laurie's Kindergarten, Ernie Mayne, G. W. Hunter, Peggy Pryde, Little Dott Moss, Athas Troupe, Doody and Wright, Pictures, Carl Barello, Master Wheeler.

EMPIRE, COVENTRY.
Proprietor, Mr. George Dance.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Mike S. Whallen, France and Stuart, Frank Maura, Jimmy Shields, Wilson and Waring, Leo Stormont, Little Zola, Oswald Williams, Bioscope.

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(Now in course of erection).
Artists and Agents please note that Bookings for the above Theatre have commenced.

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Rehearsal at 2, for:—
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IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to Opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced.

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"I'LL BE YOUR GOLLIWOG" (Kennedy Russell),
Sung by Miss Isabel Dillon.

"THE BOY AND THE EAGLE" (E. W. Rogers), and "NUMBER NINE" (LOVE DOVE LANE), (Adams and Woodville), sung by Arthur Lennard.

"MAN AND WIFE SHOULD ALWAYS PULL TOGETHER" (Murphy and Lipton), and "SYMPATHY" (Kendis and Paley).
Sung by Miss Carlotta Levey.

"THE ONLY BIT OF ENGLAND THAT WE'VE GOT" (Castling and Godfrey), and "THE TAXIMETER CAR" (Hyde and Heath), sung by Billy Williams.

"IF THE MAN IN THE MOON WERE A COON" (Fred Fischer).
Sung by G. H. Elliott; also by Miss May Moore-Duprez.

"I'D RATHER LIVE IN ROGER'S ROW" (G. A. Stevens.)
Sung by Miss Kitty Rayburn.

"IF YOU DON'T WANT LOTS OF GOLD" (Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford), sung by Miss Daisy Dormer.

"THAT'S THE REASON NOO I WEAR A KILT" (Lauder and Kendall).
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Artists employing Agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents.

New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our District Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follow:—

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N.B.—INTERVIEWED BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS for MONDAY, MAY 20, 1907.
Rehearsals at 1 p.m.

PALACE THEATRE, PLYMOUTH.
Mr. Frank Long, Omoyo San and Co., Bert Danson, Albert Wyndham and Co., Edie Gray and the Boys, Hector, Alix Lukos, Bioscope, The Stein Eretto Troupe.

PALACE THEATRE, BRISTOL.
Gunner Moir, Ernest Montefiore and Co., The Two Wiltons, Billy Hobbs, Gertrella, Hettie Chattell, Three Clarions, Bioscope, Herbert Clifton.

PALACE THEATRE, SUNDERLAND.
The Modern Venus, Geo. Bernard, The Eight Palace Girls, Walter Munroe, Duncan and Godfrey, Maitland Trio, Ambrose Thorne, Bioscope, Three Demons.

KING'S THEATRE, GATESHEAD.
Lottie Lennox, Charles Gardiner, Rappo and Ella, The Zampas, Sinclair and Parr, The Brontes, Brull and Hemsley, Bioscope, The Bensons.

PALACE THEATRE, DUNDEE.
Jock Whiteford, Amina Rinder, Kerr and Koe, Albert Windsor, Ryde and Beeman, Raie Walters, Charles Lestree, Bioscope, Clark and Hayden.

PALACE THEATRE, ABERDEEN.
Marino, Brindall and Cooper, R. C. Note, Florodora Girls, Daisy Devonport, Otto and Olga, Whizzing the Whirl, R. C. McGill, Bioscope, Scottie's Waifs and Strays.

N.B.—Artists will oblige by sending billing matter punctually.

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"MY CHATEAU ON THE RHINE."
"WHEN? WHEN? WHEN?"
"FATHERLAND."
"TINY FIREFLY."
"ROSIE IS WAITING."
"BELLE OF THE DARDANELLES."
"MR. OCTOPUS."
"JOAN! JOAN! JOAN!"
"COME FOR A SAIL IN MY YACHT," &c., &c.

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"WAIT FOR ME, FRITZY DEAR!"

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CALLS. CALLS.

THE VAUDEVILLE SYNDICATE.
Secretary and Manager, **Mr. C. Standfield.**

CALLS FOR MONDAY, MAY 20, 1907.

PALACE, DOVER.
Raymond, Saxo, Two Sprees, T. C. Callaghan, Sisters Allen, Bert and Dora, Horace Olga, Sisters Lunelle.

ALHAMBRA, SANDGATE.
Raymond, Jack Heath, Daisy Silcott, Raynor Trio, Mollie Seymour, Gladys Warren.

CRAND, SHEFFIELD.
Edna Latonne, Leoni Clarke, Ted Wooten, Pictures, Clara Victor, Letine.

THEATRE ROYAL, DOVER.

THEATRE ROYAL, CRO DON.
Nellie Montague, Kemp and Harris, Bros. Mills, Astley's Circus, Pictures, Wake and Dean, Wal. Robbins, Ruby Norton.

THE PALACE, GLASGOW.
Sole Proprietor and Manager, RICH. WALDON.

All Bookings are now made direct from above Hall.
All Contracts made on behalf of the Palace, Glasgow, on or before April 7, 1906, and delivered to the present Management, not yet completed, will be carried out.
Bill matter must be sent two weeks in advance.
CALL for Monday, May 20, 1907. at 12 o'clock.
Rachael Lowe, Dave O'Toole, Wright and Elton, Sisters Coolville, Howe and Ardie, Andie Caine, Three Sisters Grosvenor, Thorpe and Coe, Horace Wheatley.

CALLS. CALLS.

GLASGOW PAVILION
CALL for Monday, May 20, 1907.
7. Twice Nightly. 9.
Rehearsal at 11 o'clock for:—
Marie Lloyd, Ella Lane, Will Driscoll, Astarte, Frank Leon, Lizzie Kirk, Marie Kendall, Steve MacCarthy.

GREENOCK PAVILION.
Kindly Note.—The Directors of the above Theatre have decided to Close for the Summer Months. Artists holding Contracts may have their dates transferred should they so desire, otherwise please consider them cancelled.
All bill matter must be sent to Glasgow fourteen days ahead. Failing this, Artists will run the risk of having their Contracts cancelled. By order,
SAMUEL LLOYD, General-Manager

BURTON-ON-TRENT.
NEW HIPPODROME.
CALL, Monday, May 20. Rehearsal 12.30. Spangeletti Circus, Prof. Earle, Welda and Wynne, Frank Zara, Katie Eplett, New Operascope, Los Rupertos, The Fitzroys.
Artists Requiring Immediate Dates apply.
Sole Booking Representative,
H. PERCIVAL YOUNG, Shakespeare Theatre Offices, Clapham Junction, London, S.W.

SHEERNESS HIPPODROME.
General-Manager, Mr. FRED LEIGHTON.
CALL, Monday, May 20, 1907.
Dusty Rhodes, Harry Mayville, Carrie Victoria, Seven Wulfrunas, Daisy Reed, Kathleen Radford, Talbot and Pearce. Matinée Whit-Monday, May 20, 1907, at 2.30 p.m. Band Rehearsal at 12 midday.

HIPPODROME, BLACKPOOL.
CALL FOR REHEARSAL,
Twelve o'clock, for Austin Rudd, Ted Young, Ruth Doris, Dale and Vale, Lozelle, Musical Sylvo, Ada Twibell, Howard's Royal Bioscope.

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CALLS.
FOR WEEK COMMENCING
MONDAY, MAY 20, 1907.

PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT.
SPECIAL NOTICE.
Rehearsal at all Halls.
Monday, at 12 0 sharp.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Rhoda Burnhill, Lil Hartley, Pictures, Frankie Newcombe, Pichel Troupe, Carlotta De Yousen Co.

PALACE, LINCOLN.
Fasola, Leotard Bros., Maidie Scott, Adey Spencer, Kisbey, Maples, Oakdene Raymond's Tableaux, Will Bacchus, Sisters Thurbani.

PALACE, BATH.
John E. Coyle, Winnie Derson, Larola, Rose Cabani, Harry Anderson, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Will Bacchus, Sisters Thurbani.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Florrie Forde, Bonnetti and Corri, Leo King, Rell and Butt, Gold and Sterling, Abdy and Bushman, Marvelle and May, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Victoria Monks, Ted and May Hopkins, Williams and Warden, Fred Herbert, A. P. Boswell, Sidney Dolf, Martelloni Troupe, The Smythsons, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, HALIFAX.
Ernest Shand, Les Zelovas, Brayne and Lloyd, Maudie Ford, Will Johnson, Daisy Martell, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, "Capt. Hamilton, V.C."

PALACE, W. HARTLEPOOL.
Bob Hutt and Co., Richardson Taylor, Sisters Bronson, Bros. Dean, Three Bros. Huxter, Mike Cray, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Ten Ji Troupe, Frank Elliston and Co., Johnny Dwyer, Tiny Arnold, Joe Dale, Friscari, Ben Albert, Howard and Harris, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PARR HALL, WARRINGTON.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Picture Entertainment.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
Grand Variety Company.

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THE BRITANNIA.
Matinée Monday.
Frank Hardie and Co., George Marriott and Co., Arthur Watson and Co, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

FORESTERS.
Matinées Monday and Thursday.
The Peritas, F. V. St. Clair, Nana Sketch Co., Tom Yorke, Jessie Jukes, Rene Graham, Geo. Phillips, Clown Barker, Arthur Norton, Raymond.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday.
Three Pirmans, Florrie Bray, Four Emilions, Ernest Rees, Amy Anderson and Co., the Lorrisons, Alice Blandford, Leonard Mortimer's Sketch Co., Horace Sade, Lytton and Bland, Raymonds.

SURREY THEATRE.
All Artists engaged for Surrey Theatre must bring 14 Band parts.
Matinée every Monday.
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"IF I WERE YOU" (Boden & Ford). Sung by Harry Ford.
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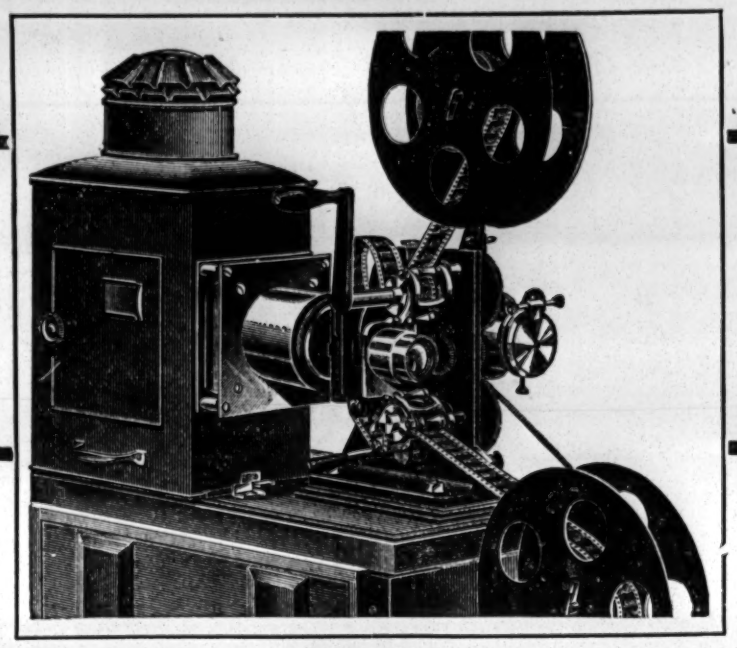

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PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—The play this week is *Flying from Justice*. The part of Haldane Gully is well played by Mr. Sterry Gofton; Mr. William Blake gives a very good portraiture of John Lacarsey; Miss Mary Raby acts most effectively as the adventuress; Miss Florence Nelson makes a success as Mrs. Bearing; and Miss Dorothy Clifton is an attractive Mildred Parkes. All the other members of the company play capably.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—Marino's daring feats are followed with breathless interest, the show being one of the most thrilling that has been seen on the local stage. Scottie's Waifs and Strays appear in a capital sketch, depicting *Life in the Streets*; Mr. R. C. McGill, Scottish comedian, is warmly applauded; the Three Florodora Girls make a decided success with their latest sketch-comedietta, *Rival Sweethearts*; and Otto and Olga excel as instrumentalists. Among the others artists whose turns prove enjoyable are Brendall and Cooper, clever comedians; Mr. R. C. Note, an exceptionally talented vocalist; and Miss Daisy Devonport, a vivacious comedienne and graceful dancer.

ABERTILLERY.—METROPOLE.—Lessees, Messrs. Carlton and Duckworth; Manager, Mr. Geo. W. Denton.—Th attraction for Whitsun week- (*The Prodigal Parson*) is provided by Messrs. Northway and Garrod's company. The name-part is excellently portrayed by Mr. W. O. Garrod; the acting of Miss Gwen Stewart as Fern Godley is excellent; little Miss Violet Jeffries as Myrtle Godley shows promise; Mr. Alfred Northway acts the villain forcibly; Mr. Owen Remonde as Phil Drive and Miss Sybil Hammersley as Gretchen bring the humour of the piece into strong relief; and Mr. William Hayward as Ben Jaggins and Mr. W. Vincent as Ned Kettlepin fill their rôles satisfactorily. Miss Dot Russell's dancing is generally admired.

ACCRINGTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—On Monday Mr. T. E. Ward opened in *Second to None*. Mr. Jerrold Heather as Harry Wilding is responsible for an artistic reading of that character; Mr. James Stillwell must be complimented on his impersonation of Capt. Phil Mannering; Sergeant Jack Horseman is well presented by Mr. J. G. Main; Mr. T. Sinclair is a funny Private Flutter; Mr. Louis Norman a good Sir Reginald Graystone;; Miss L. Ward a capital Nell Graystone; Miss Maudie Grayson a satisfactory Norah; and Miss Violet Ennis Lawson an ideal May Graystone.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Willmot, Potter, Vandy, and Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Parsons.—An excellent bill is presented here this week. It includes the Geni Family in their clever Risley performance; Walter Wade, comedian; the Bros. Adderley, who are heartily received; the Bros. Diamond in their pot-pourri act; Barney Stuart, in character delineations; Tackio, who is very smart; and Martinetti and Wallace, in a pleasing musical turn. The "Hippo" pictures conclude.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—*The Unseen Power* was presented on Monday night. As Fred Granville, the wronged husband, Mr. Harry Starr is most convincing; Mr. William Miller played the part of Harold Granville with marked ability; Mr. William Firth, as Antonio Romane, was sufficiently crawling and venomous. The lighter parts were entrusted to Mr. F. W. Graham as Horatio Cracklesby, an actor, and Miss Lizzie Jacobs as Jennie Shrub, a barmaid, and their genial buffoonery made the audience laugh. Miss Madge Blundell as the passionate but faithful Anita Romano, Miss Kate Norris as the unfaithful wife who, through brandy and the schemings of the villain, sinks to the streets, Miss Dolly Starr as Chris Granville, and Mr. Will Hee as George Granville all bore their parts very satisfactorily. Other subordinate characters were taken by Miss Lye Jeffries, Messrs. Bernard Mostyn, William Gossett, and Fred Astley. *Otto the Outcast* was to be performed on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—The Empire bill includes the Three Parzones in a knockabout act, *The Troubles of an Elephant*; Lindsay and Harte, kilted baritone singers; Drum and Major, comedy duo; the Henriques, a trio of clever acrobats of the comic order; Cliff Ryland, "the stolid man"; Mlle. Flora Lumière, the "Human Butterfly," in her fairy grotto; Mr. Edgar Forrest's comedy company in *My Friend the Enemy*; and the Romsakoff troupe of girls, who give a display of their skill in military drill, and they sing and dance well. "Catch the Kid" is shown on the Bioscope.

ATTERCLIFFE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chris A. Wordsworth.—The management here relied on picture entertainments for the holiday attraction, and the result has been highly satisfactory. Miss Nellie Burke still continues popular in her songs, which are beautifully illustrated.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. T. E. Owen.—Mr. H. Leslie Bell and Miss Lily Pearl and company appear to great advantage in the sketch, *The Red Letter*. Mr. Ormonde Penstone, assisted by Tsaou-Ngo, a clever lady illusionist, gives an interesting conjuring display; the Three Royal Temples, operatic vocalists, are paying a welcome return visit; the Brassos, burlesque acrobats, are responsible for some clever work; Miss Blanche Marion is a delightful comedienne and dancer; a most amusing comedy act is given by the Sivanes; Mr. Percy Curry, in his song-scenas, proves highly diverting; and Mr. E. C. Clayton receives well-merited approval with his Attergraph pictures.

CENTRAL HALL.—Mr. Jasper Redfern, assisted by his courteous acting-manager, Mr. Frederick W. Holmes, has provided an excellent holiday programme, and crowded houses at every performance give proof of the popularity of Mr. Redfern's spirited enterprise. In addition to a splendid series of up-to-date animated pictures, the entertainment is contributed to by Miss Nellie Moore, who cleverly gives impersonations of Dickens' characters; the Cheers, in a comedy speciality act; Mr. Bob Best, comedian; and Miss Lila Lingard, male impersonator.

AYR.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry W. Day.—The two-performances-a-night arrangement was inaugurated here on Monday night, when the Anglo-American Bioscope and variety company provided the entertainment. The bioscope is always attractive, but more especially when the films shown are of first-class quality and absorbing interest, and the reproducing machine up to date. These qualifications were all apparent in this show of the Anglo-American Bioscope Co. Frances Letty made a great hit with her coon singing and dancing; Archie Cameron did well with his pleasant singing and refined humour; the Boston Twins were particularly smart; Jack Neil's turn was well received; Lambeth and Robertson, in their Scotch sketch, *Scots Folks' Wooin'* were capital.

BACUP.—NEW COURT THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Denman-Wood.—Messrs. P. McLeod Foster and Clarence Napier's company is here this week with the *King of Thieves*. The drama contains some strong situations, and is not without a series of humorous interludes. Mr. Frank Eaglesfield furnishes a good impersonation of James Galston, being ably supported by Mr. W. Coltman as Luke Kanley and Mr. Percy Dalroy as Dick Perry. Mr. George Wyley gives a manly rendering of Harry Travers; Mr. Tom Robertson appears as the villainous Sir Gilbert Redville; Mr. Rob Lempriere as Arthur Redville makes the most of that character; Mr. Harold Bath is decidedly amusing as Joe Ricketts; Miss Beatrice Balfour acts with much feeling as Mary Galston; Miss May Florance shows considerable ability in her delineation of Maud Desmond; Miss Lucy White is a lively Polly Puff; and Miss Fanny Wallace a successful representative of Mrs. O'Brien.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.—ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Mr. J. Rice Cassidy's company in the drama *In Holy (?) Russia* is the holiday fare this week. Mrs. J. Rice Cassidy gives an admirable portrayal of Renee Rubinoff, and receives well-merited applause; Miss Florence Creagh sustains the character of Catsha Lavotski excellently; Mr. Martin Sands gives a very effective interpretation of Count Petrolski; Mr. Arthur Stratton as Col. Richard Forrest (Uncle Dick) is a constant source of amusement; the Micky Nolan of Mr. J. Rice Cassidy is a true Irish character drawn to nature.

TIVOLI.—Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edgar G. Laban.—An excellent programme is being presented here this week. The Bellonis top the bill with their wonderful performing cockatoos; Fred Elton, in his speciality piano scena, *On Board an Ocean Liner*, gives a musical treat; Zeta Grey and company appear in an exceedingly humorous sketch; "The Phanton Ship" is a cleverly manipulated and novel spectacle; Ariel and Astarte, aerial artists, give a clever performance; Edith St. Clair's songs are quickly taken up by the audience; the pictures by Vernon's Bioscope are most interesting.

HIPPODROME.—The British Empire Picture and Variety Company is here this week. The programme is a particularly attractive one, and the pictures are a pleasure to witness.

BATH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—*The Importance of Being Ernest* is being presented by Messrs. Hoffe and Campbell's company. Mr. J. Græme Campbell and Mr. Montague Hoffe themselves appear as John Worthing and Algernon Moncrieff, and each enacts his character with excellent results. Miss Hester Newton and Miss Nona Hope as Gwendoline Fairfax and Cecily Cardew make a pleasing pair. Miss Phyllis Manners' talents find scope for some delightful comedy acting in the rôle of Lady Bracknell; Miss Amy Lloyd-Desmond makes a quaint study of Miss Prism; Mr. Ralph Hutton is propriety itself as the Rev. Canon Chasuble; the butler, Merriman, is carefully played by Mr. Arthur Forbes Watts. A well-written playlet, entitled *Father Darien*, is the curtain-raiser, the parts of a Priest and an Actress being admirably acted by Mr. Ralph Hutton and Miss Hope. The theatre closes after tonight until August, excepting for two flying matinées in June.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—John E. Coyle, the popular comedian, has had a great reception, and to that veteran of song, Harry Anderson, more ovations have been accorded. One of the best single-handed turns seen for a long time is that given by Larola. Will Bacchus still maintains his position as a coster actor-vocalist of the front rank; Winnie Derson and Rose Cabani are comediennes who gain many admirers; the Players give a turn that secures them much applause. Raymond's Bio-tableaux are showing the best and latest films.

SYDNEY GARDENS.—On Whit-Monday Mr. T. R. Gannon gave his eighth successive fête at these charming gardens. In addition to the daring performance of De Ora, three stage entertainments were provided that greatly pleased the crowds assembled.

BEDFORD.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—The above place of amusement was packed on Monday night, when Mr. George Mudie and a specially-selected London company presented *The Amateur Socialist*. As the lovable old baronet Mr. George Mudie was eminently successful; Mr. E. Y. Rae appeared in his original part as Sergeant Fell, in which his acting was all that could be desired; Inspector Bott was capably presented by Mr. Bruno Holmes; Miss Marie Hudspeth as Lady Pennefeather gave evidence that the part had been carefully studied; a compliment which may be similarly applied to the acting of Mr. John W. Deverell as Spenser Goldwaith Pennefather. Miss Edith Deverell was a handsome and convincing Evelyn Rivers; Mr. Percy Carlton a capital Phillip Wykeham; and Mr. James Martin as Mr. Moberley, and Miss Kate Holmes as Cora Moberley, were extremely good. Lady Mabel Wriothsley was admirably portrayed by Miss Ada Gordon; and Mr. J. Fredericks gave a clever assumption of Pryce.

BELFAST.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr James M. McCann.—Mr. Eugene C. Stafford and company opened here on Monday in the evergreen comedy *The Private Secretary*, which met with a capital reception. Mr. W. Hargreaves, who for so many years has played the rôle of Mr. Cattermole, was as usual inimitable in the part; in the title-rôle Mr. Donald Price-Evans was decidedly amusing, presenting an unexaggerated impersonation of the meek clergyman; Miss Dora Gray, a charming actress, made a delightful Edith; Mr. James Hussey was in every sense capable as Harry Marsland; Miss Mary E. Deverell was conspicuous for her skilful impersonation of Eva Webster; Mr. Randolfe Reade was a manly and convincing Douglas Cattermole; Mr. H. Sinclair ably played the part of Mr. Marsland; Mr. V. Gilbert was all that could be desired as Sidney Gibson; and Mrs. Alfred Davis and Miss Cecily Wade appeared to advantage as Miss Ashford and Mrs. Stead. *My American Admirer* forms a capital curtain-raiser.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Warden, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General-Manager, Mr. J. De Freece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—La Pia tops the bill, and her statuary productions have been the theme of the greatest admiration; Athas and Collins, the popular duo, appear in their droll act, *The Organ Girl and the Monkey*, which has taken well; the Wakemann Quartette, harmonious vocalists, provide a most enjoyable entertainment; Mr. Godfrey James, "the singing collier," has delighted numerous admirers; and Blarney and Kennard, the capital comedians, introduce their clever waltzing dog. The remarkable cycling feats of Mr. Arthur Kenny have created the utmost wonder; and other attractions are the Bros. Lester, the dancing dandies, Miss Sadie Seymour, comedienne, and the Palace Pictures.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Will Sley; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—Mr. Jas. Mooney and Miss Ida Holbein top the bill, and this clever comedy duo have been very successful. The Bros. O'Brien execute some smart feats on the triple bars; Mr. Ford Williams's fine voice has been heard to the greatest advantage; the Les Montaldos, equilibrists on the slack wire, introduce their highly-trained parrots and cockatoos; Fred and Maude Vypond appear with success in their comedy act; the clever Albano Troupe play a number of musical instruments perfectly; Fyne and Hurley are a most entertaining duo; and other attractions are Harry Russon, *The Coon's Revelry*, by Barnard's Mannikins, Satsuma, Japanese conjuror, and the new pictures on the Hipposcope.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John A. Walker.—The leading attraction here is provided by Mr. George Kirk and Co., who present, with every degree of success, their sensational sketch, entitled *Grip, or the Fatal Hand*; Mendel, the wonderful pianist, returns with his entertaining performance at the piano; the Sisters Jonghmans delight all with their vocalism; Miss Gladys Mavius, assisted by Dot, appears to advantage in her song scena, "Rosie is waiting"; a capital reception has been extended to Mr. Chas. Norton, mimic; Messrs. J. Alexander and Co., create laughter with their merry sketch, *Brown in Paris*; and the bill is completed by Miss Maude Jester, balladist, and Mr. H. E. High.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Sinclair Neill.—The attraction here this week is the fine drama, *East Lynne*, presented by the Alhambra Dramatic company. The rôle of Lady Isabel is sustained by that charming actress, Miss Nina Blake Adams, with great success; the part of Lord Mountsevern is presented by Mr. Elmore Frith is a dignified manner; Mr. Horace Denton acquits himself admirably as Archibald Carlyle; Miss Kathleen Magee appears to advantage as Barbara; and a humorous interpretation of Dill is submitted by Mr. Tom H. Solly. Francis Levison is realistically portrayed by Mr. Edward M. Heanley; Mr. Cyril Grier as the Policeman could not easily be surpassed; Miss Alice Clarke distinguishes herself as Cornelia Carlyle; Miss Nattie Crawford sustains the double rôle of Joyce and Susanne creditably; and Master Cedric is clever as Willie.

BILSTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Battersby.—Mr. Dicky Clare, who is the comical Silas Slim in *Lucky 'Liza*, made his welcome appearance here to a big house on Monday, and caused much hilarity. He was supported by Messrs. J. W. Forrest, T. W. Benson, W. Merry, and S. Hynd. As Eliza Bird Miss Madge Brownie was prominent in song and dance; whilst Miss Vesta Brownie and Miss Bella Russell added to the success of the piece, which was appropriately interpolated with special dancing by the Verona Poppies Troupe.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant; Secretary, Miss Isabel Morris.—Mr. Frank Ayrton's company opened here on Whit Monday in *The Power of Gold*, a piece which appeals strongly to the susceptibilities of the popular parts of the house. Mr. George Lyttleton is conspicuous with a powerful performance of Hadgi Zambra; Mr. R. F. Stacy appears to advanatge as Paul Judson; Mr. Richard Harris gives a vivid picture of the rascalities of Mark Harley; Miss Amy McNeill submits a fine rendering of Lady Brandon; and Miss Hettie Laytine is commendable as Sister Marie.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. D J. Clarke.—Mr. George Lashwood, the popular comedian, heads an excellent company, and is renewing previous successes; Mr. Carl Hertz, in his popular illusionary entertainment, is also a prominent feature, and Binns and Binns, clever musical comedians, are in great demand; Mr. Walter Stanley, comedian; Mlle. Alcide Capitaine, gymnast; Mr. Joe Humphries, topical vocalist; Miss Mamie Iris, comedienne; and Brown's Royal Bioscope are also attractive turns.

THE TOWER, NEW BRIGHTON.—Manager, Mr. William Holland.—John Tiller's company of comedians, vocalists, and dancers are here, and present a series of terpsichorean extravaganzas, vocal ballets, and spectacular productions. The performances are given twice daily, at 3.30 and 8 p.m., and the first piece to be staged is *Harvest Home*, a pastoral vocal spectacular ballet by J. H. Hickory Wood and John Tiller. Several well-known artists take part in this, the company numbering nearly 100 performers.

BIRMINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—Mr. W. W. Kelly's company in *A Royal Divorce* is here. Miss Edith Cole's impersonation of the hapless Josephine holds the audience rapt as ever; Mr. Frederick Victor gives the Napoleonic lines and gestures with splendid effect; Miss Agnes Imlay assumes the repellant character of Marie Louise with conspicuous success; Miss Helen Richmond acts with pretty effect as Stephanie de Beauharnais; Mr. Graham Woods delivers himself in a distinguished manner as the Marquis de Beaumont; and Mr. Alfred Grenville acts in a very fitting style as General Augereau. Mr. William Dexter as Talleyrand, Mr. St. George Frere as Murat, Mr. Geo. Hudson as Grimaud, Miss Helen Meadows as Mother Lomas, and Miss Maggie Cardiff as the little King of Rome act in good style.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Rodgers, Limited; Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—*San Toy* is the attraction presented by Mr. John Hart's company, chief among which is Mr. Horace Mills with his excruciatingly funny and successful portrayal of Li. Mr. Colin Coop purveys the humours of Yen-How to the utmost advantage; Mr. J. W. Manning acts with due "fire" as Sir Bingo Preston; Miss Gertrude Gilliam acts with artless humour and sings with delightful charm and vivacity as San Toy; Miss Lulu Valli comes in for much applause as Dudley; Miss Sylvia May proves a prepossessing Poppy; Mr. Edmund Sherras is a manly and tuneful lover as Captain Bobby Preston; and complete success attends the efforts of Mr. Alfred Clark as the Emperor. Mr. Alfred Majilton as Lieut. Harvey Tucker, Mr. Frederick Hobbs as Fo Hop, Miss May Gould as Rose Tucker, and Mis Madge Quest as Lucy Stanhope. The *pas seul* in Act II. by Miss Gould is much admired, and the orchestra, under Mr. Harry Rushforth, does excellently well.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Bernardo.—This week we have Mr. Frank M. Thorne's production of *Napoleon the Great*. The titular rôle is invested with striking dignity and ability by Mr. Hugh Montgomery; Mr. Oliver Birrell lacks nothing as Colonel Lavarennes; Mr. Phil Harper comes out finely as Colonel Meuron; Mr. Frank M. Thorne fills the rôle of Pierre Pompennet to satisfaction; Miss Leslie Warner gives an able and glowing portrayal of Marie Walewska; Miss Maud Russell acts with charm and distinction as Mlle. Leonic Marbœuf; Miss Marie Harcourt appears with exhilarating effect as Marcelle; Mr. Albert Sinclair imbues the Sergeant's rôle with an agreeably robust and humorous spirit; and the other characters are cleverly acted.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Andrew Melville; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—*Her Luck in London* displays Miss Mary Neil in her superlatively clever and pathetic presentment of the wayward heroine, Nell Harborne, supported by Mr. George Kirk's company. Miss Florrie Groves repeats her deliciously humorous impersonation of Maud Gladys, aided by Mr. J. Terry Dillson's comicalities as Jerry; Angelina is well presented by Miss Pamela Hodson; Miss Marie Clavering pictures gaiety and remorse successfully as Mme. Gabriel; Miss Frances Bruce realises the prim, unbending character of Lilian admirably; Mr. Bruce Clapham is successful as the dude, Algie; Mr. Tyrone Power acts with rugged force as the unyielding father, Stephen Harborne; Mr. George Heath draws much opprobrium on the rôle of Lenowen by his clever acting; and Mr. Douglas Tremayne now scores with his manly attitude as the hero, O'Connor.

CARLTON THEATRE, SALTLEY.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—Mr. F. B. Woulfe and Miss Ethel Griffies and company opened here

on Monday with a fine répertoire programme, consisting of *Lady Godiva*, *Nell Gwynne*, *Claud Duval*, *Robin Hood*, and *Jane Shore*. In the principal parts Miss Griffies and Mr. Woulfe have been well appreciated, and excellent support has been forthcoming from Mr. Clifford Rean (a well-known favourite in these parts), Mr. Bob Anderson, Mr. Claud Aymond, Mr. Henry Ernestine, Mr. E. Holland Day, and the Misses Victoria Douglas, Gertrude Lucas, and Edith Lorraine.

Theatre Royal, Aston.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles. — *Uncle Tom's Cabin* is performed here by Mr. Charles Harrington's combination. The Plantation Festival scene gives a splendid variety of turns, including Row and Holden, the Tennesseans, Rich and Moore, Ben Rowe, and Sylvia Stella (Topsy). Mr. J. Carr impersonates the trusty and trustful Tom with all fidelity; and Mr. Chas. Harrington is responsible for a clever and true embodiment of St. Clair. Mr. Leslie Beaufort gives a manly impersonation of George Harris; Mr. J. H. Rogers assumes the brutal character of Legree with considerable success; Mr. Walton Langford is successful as Marks; Miss Hero Hathaway invests the rôle of Eliza with womanly tenderness; and Miss Holly Hazlewood is pathetic and withal fascinating as Eva.

Empire Palace.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham.—Fred Kitchen, better known as Sergeant Lightning, is at his best in Fred Karnos' new sketch, *The Bailiff*, and in this rôle is literally in possession of all the fun. George Formby, "the odd fellow from Lancashire," is very funny; the Brothers Egbert, in their clever and amusing farce, *The Happy Dustmen*, provoke roars of laughter; the Brothers Lang also provide much amusement. The humorous Fred Keeton, D'Arc's Marionettes, and the Howards in a comedy-melody are exceedingly clever. Luia Verdie and Edie King command the comedienne and dancing turns respectively.

Gaiety.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—Cruickshank, "the fool of the family," easily leads the programme at this house, although he has a strong opposition in a totally different entertainment provided by the Six Yiulians, who, as acrobats are scarcely to be equalled, while the former may appropriately be named "Chirgwin the Second." Geoffreys and Benson, in the sketch *Spoofed*, give a capital entertainment; while the Ten Dixie Girls give a good show of singing and dancing. Schek Bros., Mill May and Theresa, Fred Land, Cull-Pitt, Two St. Johns, and Beatrice Willey complete a good all-round programme.

Hippodrome. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—The world's champion wrestler, Hackenschmidt, tops the bill. Sammy Shields appeals strongly to the football enthusiast with his representations of the excited spectator; Rose and Calvert, in their sketch, are extremely funny; the Sisters Warwick are remarkable trick cyclists; and the Kays present a very pretty scena, entitled *The Nightingale*. Bertha Lander, in illustrated songs, reveals a sweet and expressive voice; Harry Taft is a splendid natural whistler; and the Jollions, Dolly Golden, Bonmeister, and Goodfellow and Gregson complete a fine programme.

Bordesley Palace.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Foster.—Herbert Terry's company present a dramatic Russian playlet, entitled *Retribution*; Mr. Herbert Terry as Prince Ordinoff, and Mr. James Peters and Miss Jessie Danvers as Richard Kirby and his wife respectively, are distinctly good. Chris Richards, who "keeps on moving," creates a good impression; the American Comedy Four are clever vocalists; Ruth Lytton is an excellent Scotch comedienne; Graham, the human marionette; the Twin Sisters Anderson, duettists and dancers, and Astill, the farmyard mimic, are also responsible for capital turns.

BLACKPOOL.—Her Majesty's Opera House.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company is paying another welcome visit here this week with *The Belle of New York*. Mr. Frank Lawton again presents his quaint impersonation of Blinkey Bill, and Miss Empsie Bowman scores a great success in the part of Violet Grey. Ichabod Bronson finds a capable representative in Mr. Paddy Dupres; Harry Bronson is well sustained by Mr. John Doran; Karl Von Pimpernick is ably accounted for by Mr. Joseph R. Tate; and Mr. Alfred Sandoe has a part that suits him completely in Doc Snifkins. Miss Lily Maxwell as Fifi, Miss Florence Hersee as Kissie Fitzgarter, and Miss Winnie Brown as Cora Angelique also act, sing, and dance in a manner that gives the utmost satisfaction.

Grand Theatre.—Owner and Manager, Mr. T. Sergenson.—Mme. Jane Hading appeared here at a matinée on Saturday last in *Frou-Frou*, and aroused the enthusiasm of a large audience to a remarkable extent, the gifted actress being recalled half a dozen times at the close. The Whitsun attraction is *Peter's Mother*, played by Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company. Miss Lilias Earle makes an ideal Lady Mary Crewys, and Mr. E. F. Meads has caught the right spirit in his assumption of the selfish Peter. Mr. Henry Renouf contributes a powerful reading of John Crewys, Q.C., and Mr. Ernest Ruston makes an admirable Sir Timothy. The Canon Birch of Mr. William Mallalieu and the Dr. Blundell of Mr. Drew Mackintosh are also very capable character sketches; and Miss Hilda Sims as Sarah Hewell, Miss Evelyn Shelley as Lady Belstone, and Miss Mallalieu as Miss Crewys likewise merit high commendation. *Chalk and Cheese* is the curtain-raiser.

Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—The holiday-makers are assembling here in full force twice daily this week, and at every performance they show warm appreciation of the excellent programme provided. The three important places on the bill are respectively occupied by Mlle. Irma Casen's company in an exhibition of living art bronzes, Joe Boganny's Lunatic Bakers in an immensely entertaining comedy risley act, and Mr. and Mrs. Edward H. Lucas in *Scenes from Dickens*. Other clever turns are contributed by Alexandre and Hughes, musical comedians; Tom Stuart, in character-sketches from famous plays and novels; Flockton-Foster's comedy company in a sketch; Venie Clements, comedienne; Little Cluley, minature comedian; Lily Black, comedienne; and Ida Kathrena, in a pleasing scena. Vernon's Imperial Bioscope continues to interest and entertain.

Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. T. P. Duigan.—A capital holiday bill is set forth here, the place of honour being held by Austin Rudd in his latest successes; the Howards, mental telepathists, are also a favourite turn. Norah Desmond sings old Irish ballads very tunefully; Ruth Dorris dances gracefully; Ada Twibell is a favourite comedienne; Dale and Vale appear in their artistic dancing turn with quick changes; Sylvo plays musical glasses; and Ted Young is a clever comedian.

Winter Gardens Pavilion.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—The week's attraction here consists of a grand ballet divertissement, entitled *At the Ball*, together with a capital variety entertainment supplied by Imro Fox, the comic conjuror; Margaret Bell, ballad vocalist; the Four Magnanis, in an eccentric musical act; Prece and Riwost, in a tumbling performance; the Idanis Family, gymnasts; the Palace Girls, in their latest creation, entitled *The Parisian Lady Cabbies;* and Scener and Fridkins' Imperial Russian Troupe of singers and dancers, in their national costume.

Tower Circus.—General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop.—"House Full" has been the notice posted up here at almost every performance during the holidays. Some excellent talent has been engaged, including George Bonhair's troupe of risley acrobats; Claude Ohmy, the daring jockey; the Three Orros, in feats of strength and skill; Lotto, Lilo, and Otto, cycle experts; the Sisters Deering, acrobatic equestriennes; the Egertons, in a trapeze act; Herr Addison's troupe of performing fox-terriers; Jim and Jenny Lee, wire walkers; the Warsaw Bros., musical comedians; August and September, aptly described as laughter-raisers; and the Piccolinis, liliputian wonders, in acrobatic and cycle feats.

North Pier.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. James Walker.—An excellent entertainment is provided here this week by Mr. Sydney James's Royal Strolling Players. Their répertoire consists of songs, dances, and sketches, and is contributed to by Misses Madeline Rossiter, Seymour James, and Clarice May, and Messrs. Victor Wallace, G. W. Desmond, and Sydney James. Their efforts have met with the most cordial reception at every performance.

Victoria Pier.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. Geo. Roberts.—The artists engaged here this week are Mme. Annie Walker, soprano vocalist; Teddy Whittle, humorist; and George Rozle's troubadours. Herr Blome's orchestra concerts are given twice daily.

BLYTH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. A. C. Moody.—The engagement of Mr. Wm. Mollison and company in *Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush* has proved a great success. Mr. Mollison, in his powerful impersonation of Lachlan Campbell, had an enthusiastic reception on Monday; Mr. W. A. Mackeray sustained the part of William MacClure in a commendable manner; the Wee Postie of Mr. Alec F. Thompson won favour; and Miss Evelyn McNay made a charming Flora Campbell.

Gaiety.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. G. E. Good.—Appearing here with success are the Frohmans, patterers and dancers; J. H. Heffron, character comedian; and Leslie Bennett in *Living Characters from Dickens*. The Bioscope is also an attraction.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. William Tudor.—A capital holiday programme is submitted here, consisting of pictures and good variety turns.

BOSCOMBE.—Hippodrome.—Joint Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Ball.—Terry and Lambert submit a clever turn with their imitations of different street characters; Arthur Reece is successful with his latest songs; the Melroses, old pantomime favourites, gain much applause for their humorous turn; the Athlones, Sandow's models, submit some classical poses and feats of strength; the ponies and dogs of Rochez' Circus give evidence of careful training; Flo Cecil and Amy Sullivan are dainty comediennes. The Hippodrome Pictures conclude a good holiday bill.

BRADFORD.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—a crowded audience on Monday night greeted, with much enthusiasm, Mr. H. B. Irving and company in *The Bells*. Mr. Irving as Mathias held his audience spellbound in a performance which was powerful and striking. He was finely supported by Mr. E. Harcourt Williams as Christian, Mr. Charles Dodsworth as Father Walter, and Mr. Tom Reynolds as Hans. Miss Ada Mellon was admirable as Catherine, and Miss May Holland gracefully filled the part of Annette. At the termination of the piece Mr. Irving was called again and again before the curtain. In the charmingly-staged one-act play, *King René's Daughter*, which preceded the drama, Mr. Harcourt Williams as Count Tristram and Miss Madge McIntosh as Iolanthe earned distinction. *The Lyons Mail* and *Charles the First* are billed for representation during Mr. Irving's stay here.

Prince's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Francis Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—Mr. Harry Roxburgh's company is here with Messrs. Fred Moule and E. W. Avery's stirring drama, *A Little Vagrant*, as the holiday attraction. Mr. Cecil A. Collins gives a capital character-study of the brutal Jim Harris; Poll, "the daughter of sorrow," affords Miss Vashti Wynne fine scope, and she makes the most of her opportunities; in the title-rôle Miss Alice Bowes is effective; Mr. Stanley Redcliffe plays the villain, Eric Arden, with force; and Mr. J. N. Gallacher as Slideaway Bates and Miss Bella Moody as the servant bring out the comic relief well.

The Empire.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—The charming comedienne, Lil Hawthorne, is the bright particular star here this week, graceful and captivating as ever. The Neilson Sisters submit a good turn as duettists and dancers; in a comedy act on the triple-bar Mezzetti and Mora are smart and entertaining; Will English is a quaint comedian of pleasing originality; Charles Kitts and Rhoda Windrum submit a most effective sketch; Ray Wallace, the charming mimic, is on a return visit; the Lupino Bros. are again diverting the audience with capital pantomime and comedy; there is some excellent vocalism by the Four Royal Welshmen; Nora Emerald, comedienne, submits an acceptable turn; and Donaldson Bros. and Ardel, the clever pantomimists, are responsible for roars of laughter with their "Zoological Comedy."

Palace Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten, Resident-Manager, Mr. R. Ralli.—Florrie Forde, comedienne, of recent pantomime fame here, is very popular this week. A clever comedy juggling turn by Bonnetti and Corri finds much favour; Leo King, baritone, submits songs in good style; with their wonderfully-trained dogs and ponies and a revolving table Ardy and Bushman entertain largely; Bell and Butt are diverting comedians; Gold and Sterling are highly amusing with a musical comedy scena, *The Welsh Girl and the Artist;* Bertha Winder is a charming and clever dancer; Marvelle and May's wonderfully-trained birds are entertaining; and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux show some fine pictures.

BRIDLINGTON. — Royal Prince's Parade.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—The vocalist this week is Miss Violet Ludlow. In the Grand Pavilion Mr. Flockton-Foster's "Costume Entertainers" are a great attraction, the various members of the company being warmly applauded for their various songs and concerted pieces.

New Spa and Gardens.—General Manager and Secretary, Mr. Harry Hague.—Herr Simon Wurm and his Imperial Viennese Band have caught on at the Spa, and their performances have drawn crowded audiences. Special programmes were provided for the Whitsuntide holidays, the programmes on Sunday and Monday being especially attractive. The vocalist for the week is Miss Mary Fielding, a very pleasing soprano, whose singing is highly appreciated Mr. Sydney James's "Rustic Scholars" have been delighting the Spa patrons with their capital programmes, the charmingly rendered duets and dances of the Misses Aileen and Doris Woods, the New Zealand Twins, being a source of great delight; Mr. Alfred Wooton and Mr. Harker Nicholls are capital entertainers, and Mr. Gilbert Fernie is highly amusing.

The Palace.—Managers, Messrs. J. W. and W. H. Delmar.—The company this week includes the Dewars, comedy sketch artists; J. C. Oliver, illusionist; Wallace Whitney, eccentric comedian; Miss Beatie Foster, comedienne; and Gus Fowler, society entertainer. The Parisian Animated Picture Company shows some fine pictures.

Summer Gardens.—Lessees, Messrs. Beanland, Bath, and Danton; Manager, Mr. Charles Beanland.—That popular combination, the Waterloo Pierrots, opened their season on Monday, when they delighted large crowds. The lessees, who are great favourites with the visitors, have secured some new talent, in addition to the old and well-tried hands, and the programme submitted was evidently to the liking of the patrons of the Gardens.

BRIGHTON.—Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. H. Cecil Beryl; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harcourt M. Beryl.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company is here this week with *The White Chrysanthemum*. Miss Muriel George gives a charming enactment of the title-rôle; Mr. Langdon Bruce is highly successful as Lieut. Reginald Armitage; Mr. H. E. Garden acquits himself admirably as Chippy; Mr. St. John Hamund sustains the part of the Admiral in good style; Mr. Richard Telford is very amusing as Sin-Chong; Mr. Harry Paulton, jun., makes an entertaining Private Perks; Miss Wilmot Karkeek is vivacious as an American heiress; and Miss Dorothy Sephton is a winsome young widow. The choruses are well sung, and the duties of conductor are in the able hands of Mr. J. M. Hutchison. At Thursday's special London matinée Mr. Cyril Maude and his entire Playhouse company gave a performance of *Toddles*.

Grand Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter.—Messrs. Ernest Carpenter and Cooper's company opened here on Monday with *The Spider and the Fly*. Mr. Ellis J. Preston gave a powerful impersonation of Welby Girdlestone; Mr. Benson North achieved great success as Cyril Girdlestone; Miss Amy Venimore submitted an artistic portrayal of Stella Grey; Miss Nina Vaughton made an excellent Edith McAlister; Mr. H. C. Lanceley as the Rev. Mr. McAlister presented a fine character-study; Mr. Charles A. Preece as Remus Roe and Mr. Charles Russell as Romulus Roe were entertaining; Mr. Arthur H. Hill's David Strong was a capital enactment; and Miss Lucy Murray's Molly Blake and Mr. Robert Castle's Jack Naylor were well played.

Alhambra.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. L. Graydon; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Ernest Lepard.—An excellent bill of fare is provided here this week. The Davis and Gledhill Trio are highly successful in their latest sensation, *Man* v. *Motor*; James Eadie and Cissie Ramsden win hearty applause in their comedy duo, *Charlie's Visit*; the Brothers Poluski evoke much laughter and enthusiasm by their drolleries in *The Prevaricator;* the Three Amaranths are clever acrobatic dancers; Bernard and Weston, comedians, are cordially received; Sid Bandon gives his songs in capital style; Frances Manners is an accomplished ballad vocalist; Edith Sylvesto is a clever contortionist; Lottie Govell is a neat comedienne and dancer; and the Alhambrascope pictures are amusing.

Hippodrome Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—There is a capital company here this week. Fred Karno's company, including Mr. Rolando Martin, achieve distinct success in the musical pantomimical extravaganza, *Saturday to Monday;* Edwin Boyde, comedian, keeps the house rippling with laughter; Lillie Soutter, character comedienne, is also highly amusing; the San Remo Girls are charming singers and graceful dancers; the Five Vernons are accomplished xylophonists; C. Rozel, speciality gymnast, is well received; Nellie Chandos, comedienne, is very effective; Cherry Lass is a dainty comedienne and dancer; and the Barrascope pictures are interesting and amusing.

West Pier.—Secretary and Entertainment Manager, Mr. A. D. Norman.—Mr. Norman Macowan's company opened here on Monday with *Monsieur Beaucaire*. Mr. Norman Macowan in the title-rôle displayed easy and convincing acting; Miss Violet Sterne gave a charming portrayal of Lady Mary Carlisle; Mr. Murray Hathorn was highly successful as the Duke of Winterset; Mr. P. Ramsey Forman submitted an admirable impersonation of Captain Badger; and the remaining characters were ably sustained. The programme for the week also includes *A Marriage of Convenience*. The band of the Hon. Artillery Company gives morning, afternoon, and evening performances on the pier, which prove very attractive.

Palace Pier Theatre.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company is here this week with *The Gay Parisienne*. Miss Alice Nixon is a pleasing and vivacious Mlle. Julie Bon-Bon; Mr. Clifford Seyler is well suited as M. Pompier; Mr. William Harman's Ebenezer Honeycombe is a droll enactment; Miss Madge Soutter makes a quaint Ruth; Mr. Squire Day is capital as the peppery Major Forsdyke; and the minor characters are satisfactorily represented. The Imperial Glee Singers add to the enjoyment of the audience.

BRISTOL.—Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—Mr. William Maclaren and Miss Lily C. Bandmann's company is here in a revival of *Claudian*. Mr. Maclaren presents a fine exposition of Claudian, playing the part with power and dignity; Miss Bandmann is in every way admirable as Almida; Miss Rosa Webster is pleasing as Serena; Mr. Edmund Grogan does full justice to Theorus; Mr. Ulik Burke displays elocutionary ability as the Hermit; Belos and Edessa are capitally taken by Mr. C. T. Chaloner and Miss Maud Garth; Mr. Owen Chambers is sufficiently powerful as the Tetrarch; and Mr. Douglas Earle does well as Agazel. The remaining parts are all carefully played, and Miss Amy Hardcastle introduces a skilful dance.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry C. Alty.—*Hearts Adrift* is being performed here by Mr. Frank Bertram's company. Mr. Henry Bedford presents a telling impersonation of Captain Teddy; Mr. Fred Terriss makes a good part of Edmund Gerne; Mr. Gwyn-Richardson makes the most of John Lane; Mr. Cecil Klein acts well as Robert Darney; Mr. S. Feversham is effective as Pidgeon; Miss Gertrude Harrison displays considerable power as Julia Lane; Miss Nellie Clyde and Miss Irene Ross are pleasing as Rosie and Little Tim; Miss Kitty Kirwan acts capitally as Peggy McGuire, scoring also in song and dance; and Miss Beatrice A. Bell and Mr. Bryan Daly are amusing as Energy Mugs and Simeon Green, their burlesque boxing match causing hilarity.

Palace Theatre.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—Gunner Moir is giving successful exhibitions of boxing here; Harry Mansfield, a local boxer, tried conclusions with him on Monday evening, and the bout between Moir and Tiger Smith is shown by the Bioscope. Others meeting with success are Herbert Clifton, who successfully mimics well-known lady vocalists; Gertrella, soubrette and gymnast, in her scena, *Near the Zuyder Zee;* Ernest Montefiore and company in the dramatic and musical sketch, *The Little Colonel;* Harry and Lucy Wilton, duettists and dancers; Hetty Chattell, character burlesque artist; Billy Hobbs, coon comedian; and the Three Clarions, in a musical absurdity, *The Would-be Tenor*. The performance concludes with amusing animated pictures.

Empire.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—Hymack, quick-change comedian, submits an attractive turn. Other appreciated items are those of Les Molasses, Continental cyclonic dancers; Frederick Maxwell and company in the sporting episode, *Lord Harkaway;* Fred Cary, comedian; the Firmans, in their speciality, *The Fire Station;* Madge Osmond, male impersonator; Joe Archer, comedian; Nellie Lewis, comedienne; and a new series of animated pictures.

Zoological Gardens. — Superintendent, Captain E. W. B. Villiers.—Mr. Tom Wood, of Whitehall-road, Bristol, provided the variety entertainment for the Whitsun holiday fête, the artists being the Ashley Team of American Pantomime skaters; Marie Tilley, coster comedienne and top-boot dancer; Dave Wallace, comedian; Sylvene, in a strong show; Brothers Selbo, comedy acrobats; Pattie Brooks, serio and dancer; France and Francis, comedians; and Richard Evans and company in the sketch, *A Fight for a Fiver*. Mr. Tom Weymouth's excellent band played selections.

Colston Hall.—The St. Louis Animated Pictures are here for a short season with a highly satisfactory holiday programme, including films of the visit of the Colonial Premiers to Bristol, and a large selection of interesting subjects.

BROUGHTON.—Victoria Theatre, Ltd.—Manager and Licensee, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—Miss Violet Osmond's company in *The New Barmaid* is here. Miss Maisie Gay is delightful in the title-rôle; Miss Violet Osmond as Dora Heather sings and dances well; Mr. Alex. Loftus as Bertie White is capital, and with Mr. James Grant as William White and Mr. Charles Adeson as Mons. Bonsor much laughter is evoked; a fine old colonel is portrayed by Mr. Frank Collins; and Mr. James Hawkes is a good Captain Lovebury; Miss Graham as Brenda and Miss Mabel Harrison as Lady Moulton are seen to advantage.

BURNLEY. — Victoria Opera House. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—*The Corsican Brothers* is being capitally performed here this week by Messrs George T. Metcalf and Sidney Bland's company. The dual rôle of Fabien and Louis Franchi is in the capable hands of Mr. Sydney Bland. The villainous character of Chateau Renaud is well brought out by Mr. Leonard Cheetham; and Mr. Robert Pittard is excellent as Baron Montgiron; Miss Katherine Herbert is praiseworthy as Mme. Franchi; and Miss More Dunphi gives a clever performance as Emilie Lesparre; Mr. Ashmore Vincent does well as Alfred Meynard; and Mr. Arthur W. Jones makes the most of his opportunities as Baron Martelli. The play is preceded by a clever one-act comedy, *A Young Man*, which is greatly appreciated.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—A brilliant programme is submitted here this week. The Royal Banzai Family give an exciting display of balancing; the Leslie Bros. keep the house in roars of laughter with their gags and grotesque antics; and Emma Don, on a return visit, produces some charming melody; Talberto and Douglas are a funny couple in a ball walking act; and Farr and Farland are a smart pair of humorists; the Three Rubys give a pleasing acrobatic turn; Gladys and Alber are clever tumblers; Winnie Scotts provides an acceptable turn; and the Empire Theatrescope, with the Cape to Cairo Railway, is greatly appreciated.

BURTON-ON-TRENT. — New Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. H. Dudley Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Waller.—The Fitzroys are extremely clever trapeze artists; Welda and Wynne, in their threefold capacity of jugglers, dancers, and tumblers, are well received; the amusing patter of Frank Zara comes in for a large share of applause; Los Rupertos are responsible for some wonderful feats of balancing; Katie Eplett sings and dances well; the conjuring tricks of Professor Earle are skilful and interesting; the miniature circus of The Spangeletti is greatly enjoyed; capital pictures are produced by the Operascope.

BURY (Lancs.). — Theatre Royal and Opera House, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Walter Mould.—Mr. Jack Haddon's company is playing the drama *Under the Russian Flag* here this week. Mr. Haddon is capital as Michael Romanoff, and is well assisted by Miss Marie Rayner as Luka Marischla. Mr. Charles Stafford as Ivan Romanoff, Mr. Sydney Arnold as Captain Demetrius, and Miss Violet Lytton as Vera Vasiloff are all well placed. Good fun is provided by Miss Molly Hackett as Ogarita, Mr. Templer Ellis as Alexis, and Mr. Hal Forde as Peter Pouski.

The Circus.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Walter Mould.—The Ottograph display of pictures is being continued again this week. Variety turns are given by Flo Chevalier, vocalist, and Master May, vocalist.

The Hippodrome. — Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Sons; General-Manager, Mr. H. Broadhead, jun.—A good programme here includes Squire Wyndham and Tom Waters, in an amusing act, entitled *The Professor and His Pupil;* J. H. Darnley and Company in a farcical play, *What a Night;* Mlle. Collard and her wonderful dog; Wilfrid Gregory, contortionist; Greener, singing pit lad; Ella Beaumont, singer and dancer; Adams and Rouse, in a vocal playlet; and the Edwards Trio of vocalists, who sing charmingly.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS. — Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Eade Montefiore.—The famous native choir from Jamaica forms the holiday attraction here. On Monday an excellent programme, consisting of humorous and sentimental songs, choruses, &c., were presented to an appreciative audience.

BUXTON.—Opera House.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. Arthur Willoughby.—For Whit week we have Mr. Harold V. Neilson and company in *The Perfect Lover* and *The Glass of Fashion*. On Bank Holiday there was a full house to witness Mr. Sutro's clever play, and it was thoroughly enjoyed. Mr. Harold V. Neilson's Joseph Tremblett is a clever study; and Mr. W. Lemmon Warde was admirably suited as William Tremblett. A perfectly natural Lord Cardew came from Mr. Bernard Limpus; and Mr. H. Gomer May gave a well-studied rendition of John Collis. Miss Edith Dent acted in talented fashion as Mrs. Joseph Tremblett; and Miss May de Launey plays sympathetically as May. A really capital picture of the ready-tongued Hon. Susan Lesson is submitted by Miss Lucy Sibley; and Miss Amy Sangster plays with commendable restraint the character of Lilian Tremblett.

CAMBRIDGE. — New Theatre. — Managing Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company opened here on the Bank Holiday with *Dr. Wake's Patient*, and it proved a very interesting play. Mr. Arthur Burne as Dr. Forrester Wake gave a capital study of the part; and Miss Fyfe Alexander fairly captivated the audience as Lady Gerania. Mr. Alfred Ibberson was also very good as Andrew Wake; whose wife was finely given by Miss Kate Osborne. Mr. Tom Macfarlane as Duff rendered the part quite satisfactorily; the Earl of St. Olbyn (Mr. George Newton) and the Countess (Miss Georgie Trewman) played naturally; and Miss Beatrice Fitzgerald made a charming Harriet Bronson.

CARDIFF.—New Theatre.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—Mr. Lewis Waller's company, under the direction of Mr. Arthur Whittaker, is here in *Robin Hood*. Mr. Robert Minster fills the title-rôle with much vigour, and makes a commanding impersonation; and Miss Marie Polini as Lady Marian de Vaux presents a charming and thoroughly convincing delineation. The hearty Little John is enacted with much skill by Mr. Leslie Rea; Mr. Augustus Wheatman's Friar Tuck is a rendition brimful of genuine mirth; while clever representations are most correctly filled by Mr. E. C. Vaughan (King Richard), Mr. Bellenden Clarke (Prince John), Mr. Arthur Willerby (Fitz-Alwynne), and Mr. H. Elliott Ball (Hugo de Longespee). As Adela, Miss D. Moore Lane is quite at her ease with the difficulties of the part; Miss Mabel Young acts Queen Eleanor with considerable power; while other parts which deserve special mention are Sir Aymer le Boteller by Mr. Val Glynn, the Abbot of Mr. C. Bruce Winston, the Will Scarlet of Mr. Laurance Tessier, the Miller by Mr. Ben Lewin, and the Aleson Much of Miss Lilyan Lait.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—On Monday and Tuesday *A Modern Adventuress* was presented by the author, Mr. Lingford Carson. Mr. Charles Draycott as Pietro Donelli gives a capital delineation; while Miss Muriel Thompson as Violet Meredith enacts the trying part of the adventuress with undoubted ability and skill. Miss Marie Robson makes a charming heroine as Yivette Delby; and Mr. Will White as John Crompton is responsible for some clever acting. On Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*, *The Octoroon*, and *The Shaughraun* were respectively performed, while for the remaining night *A Modern Adventuress* was again billed.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. W. Lea; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. S. Dring.—The famous Tyrolean giantess, Mariedl, is delighting the hugh audiences. Neil Kenyon, Scotch comedian, is being accorded a hearty reception, his wit and patter being decidedly fresh. Another pleasing turn is Billy McClain and company, including Mlle. Cordella, in a Southern scena, *The Hottest Coon from Dixie*. Ross and Grayson, a quaint couple, in a musical, singing, and dancing act, are very good; Gintaro is a clever Japanese equilibrist and top-spinner; while Lindon's vaudeville entertainers in a comedy *mélange*, *Monks at Play*, are extremely pleasing. Browning and Wally give a refined acrobatic and dental act; Marzella's troupe of wonderfully-trained birds are astonishing to behold; Frank Cumminger is a splendid sand dancer; and Horace White is certainly a novel and clever ventriloquist.

CARLISLE.—H. M. Theatre.—Lessees, Mr. Thos. Courtice and Mrs. R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—*Trilby* is being played by the new stock Company. Mr. William J. Miller depicts Svengali in a manner worthy of high praise; his make-up and business were cleverly effective, and evoked genuine appreciation. Miss Mabel Rose in the title-rôle also contributes a performance full of dramatic power; Mr. Gerald Byrne is popular as Taffy, and Mr. Edward Beecher makes an amusing Sandy. Little Billie is nicely played by Mr. Harry Douglas; and Zou-Zou has a capable representative in Captain A. E. Winnington-Barnes. Miss Emma Rainbow, Miss Georgie Whyte, Mr. Frank Fuller, and Mr. Phil Davis, make the most of smaller parts.

The Palace.—Proprietors, The Palace Theatre, Carlisle, Ltd; Managing-Director, Signor Rino Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—One of the most interesting items is C. Emlyn Jones and his quartette of lady international singers, who appear in a vocal scena which is exceptionally well staged, beautifully dressed, and sung in a manner which provoked the utmost enthusiasm. A clever cycling act is that provided by the Villions, their acrobatic work being neat, daring, and original. Mr. Harry Claff sings a capital song with a rousing chorus in first-rate style; a few minutes of singing, comedy, and dancing accurately describes a smart and well-worked act by Allis and Cassati; Lieut. Albini performs some amazing feats in the way of illusions, which are warmly received; the Sisters Darnton, duettists, and Dot Hardy, character comedienne, give pleasing turns, and some capital new pictures by the Pepiscope conclude.

CASTLEFORD.—Queen's Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, Messrs. Chas. Beanland and W. H. Emerson; Business-Manager, Mr. W. H. Emerson.—The current programme here offers excellent entertainment, the bill being headed by the Venturinis in their illusion of "Creating Two Women Out of Nothing," and the audience are truly mystified. Miss May Zant and her Royal Juveniles sing and dance in sprightly style; Winckler, Continental conjurer, is well received; Le Warren is an accomplished ventriloquist; the Danas work well, and thoroughly deserve the applause accorded them; and Mr. Harry Hayton's abilities as a humorist are fully recognised. New series of films by the Loyal Dominion Co. meet with a hearty reception.

CHATHAM. — Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard; Secretary, Mr. Geo. G. Ridley.—Mr. Edmund Tearle's company opened here on Monday with *The Octoroon*, Mr. Tearle giving a powerful and popular impersonation of Salem Scudder. Mr. A. D. Adams made a capital Jacob M'Closky; Mr. R. H. Lace was a pleasant Mr. Sunnyside; and one of the hits of the piece was Mr. J. A. Keogh's amusing antics as Pete. Other appreciated performances were Paul (Miss Ellen Armor), Wah-no-Tee (Mr. Ernest Lodge), Zoe (Miss Esther Tearle), Dora Sunnyside (Miss Mary Campbell), and George Peyton (Mr. Bernhardt Turner). The programme for the remainder of the week includes *It's Never Too Late to Mend*, *The Three Musketeers*, and *Othello*.

Barnard's Palace of Varieties.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Here we have Harry Luck, comic vocalist; the Elvio Trio, in a funny knock-about absurdity; Edie Anderson, whose songs are principally of the coon order; Windermere and Manifield, in a neat duologue; Little Tich Bourne, a diminutive singer and dancer, who displays much ability; the Six Lancashire Lasses, all smart dancers; Walker and Lake, quaint patter comedians; and Max Waldon, a brilliant female impersonator. Lacey's Erascope has a good film in "The Squatter's Daughter."

Gaiety Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Capt. H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. Frank J. Dorme—Captain Davis's holiday bill of fare includes Little Dando; Jolly Crissie Cross, singer of smart songs; Marco, illusionist and conjurer; May Henderson, who, as usual, scores a brilliant success; Will Lynn, vocalist; Probyn and Bates, who cause plenty of fun; Park's Eton Boys, who are prime favourites, and pictures by the Edisonograph.

CHELTENHAM.—Opera House.—Manager, Mr. Oswald Redford.—*Raffles, the Amateur Cracksman*, is meeting with enthusiastic appreciation here this week. Mr. Leonard Boyne as Raffles simply revels in his work, and drew forth unstinted praise from a large and enthusiastic audience. Curtis Bedford, the detective, is powerfully represented by Mr. E. W. Thomas; Harry Manders ("Bunny"), as played by Mr. Lewis Edgard is a fine study; Mr. Arthur Willoughby well fills the part of the Earl of Amersteth, as does Mr. Edmund Breon that of Viscount Crowley. The burglar of the "Bill Sikes" type is artistically played by Mr. Dalziel Heron; Miss Jane Savile gives us a pretty and charming impersonation of Gwendoline Conran; Miss Elaine Inescourt admirably sustains the part of Mrs. Vidal; Miss Alys Rees and Miss Jean Morrison both play neatly the parts of Lady Melrose, and her daughter, Lady Ethel respectively. Miss Jean Harkness does well as Marie; and other characters are ably filled by Messrs. Charles Kean, W. Henty, and Arthur Fitzgerald.

CHESTER. — Royalty Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—The chief item on this week's programme is May Lillian Levey, comedienne, who meets with a great reception. Phil Bransby, coster comedian, is highly successful; Tate and Tate, in a comedy acrobatic act, are responsible for much merriment; Eustace and Eyre submit a novel ventriloquial act; the Currie trio appear in song and dance; W. L. Murry, the Roman gladiator, astonishes everyone with his skill; Rawson and Bertram present the skit, *The Would-be Actors*, with success; Dolly Denver gains favour as a buck and wing dancer; and Vernon's Bioscope, with "The False Coiners" and "The stormy winds do blow," completes a capital bill.

CHORLEY (Lancs). — Grand

CLACTON-ON-SEA.—PALACE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. P. W. Willard.—The Palace opened its doors for one week over the holidays, and has been doing big business. Lilith, the aerial mystery, tops the bill, and makes a great impression. The rest of the company is made up of the Brothers Allison, a couple of cross-talk comedians; Edwards and Dacre, in a comic sketch; Miss F. Preis, contralto; Mr. Edgar Berte, comedian; Miss Katie Marsh, comedienne and mimic; the Danbrooks, who give a smart musical turn; Probyn and Bates, singers and dancers; and Miss Lillian Warren, who sings to some pretty pictures. Happy Attwood, comedian; Miss Peggy Fame, comedienne and dancer; Carden and Hayes, society entertainers; Miss Nellie Gannon, descriptive vocalist; and Harry Wright, extempore singer, also entertain. The Lunar Quintette, consisting of Misses Blanche Woodford, Adelaide Chadwick, and Florence Forester and Messrs. Norton Greenop and Eustace Cleeve, give al fresco entertainments in the grounds.

OPERETTA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. Bertram C. Ross; Manager, Mr. A. Sargant.—Mr. Ross, from the Duchess, Balham, has taken this place for the season. Redecorated and with the electric light it is now a thoroughly smart little place. Variety entertainments are to be given, and this week the following company have been playing to good houses: Bosanquet, with his Bosanquephone; Ernest Bull, a smart actor-vocalist; Fred Bishop, siffleur and bird mimic; Sisters St. Clair, duettists and dancers; Edgar Budden, a clever roller skate dancer; Mme. Di Cashello, an operatic singer with a fine voice; Geo. Lennard, comedian; Miss Cissie Avondale and Miss Ena May, in a song-scena, *The Garden of Roses;* and Jury's Bioscope.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessee, Harold Montague; Manager, Mr. E. J. Barrett.—Mr. Montague, with his troupe of "Vagabonds," has opened here, and smart shows are given by the following: Mesdames Olive Spark, Leslie Lulu, Marie Longmore, Messrs. Leslie Burgiss, Claude Montague, and the Chief Vagabond himself.

WESTCLIFF GARDENS.—Proprietors, Messrs. Graham, Russell, and Bentley.—This ever-popular place of entertainment opened last Saturday. Several good alterations have been made, and record business has been done over the holidays. The three proprietors are practically their own star artists, each of them being an excellent comedian. This week they have had the assistance of Miss Amy Snow-Page, a sweet singer; Mr. Owen Clark, a clever conjurer, and Mr. Hubert Baker, a fine baritone. Mr. Jefferson is an accomplished pianist.

AL FRESCO entertainments on the beach are those of Claud North, near the pier, and a new show this year—Harry Frewin's White Coons—on the west beach near the jetty. The Volunteer band played when they could on the Council's bandstand.

COLCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Charles Macdona; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. C. Upton.—A packed house assembled on Monday to witness the farcical comedy, *In the Soup*, by Mr. Leigh Lovell's company, with Mr. Lovell himself in the rôle of Horace Gillibrand. Miss Octavia Kenmore was eminently successful as Judith Gillibrand; and the parts of Mme. Moppert and her step-daughter were nicely taken by Miss Kate Maynard and Miss Dora Levis respectively. Mr. Arthur McCulloch made an ideally irate Anglo-Indian, Judge Ruppershaw; and the peculiarities usually associated with excitable Frenchmen were admirably depicted by Mr. Calvert Haws. Mr. Laurie Hunter was well placed as the butler; and the part of Paul Hemming was taken by Mr. G. Saville. The latter portion of the week was allotted to Mr. Charles Macdona's company in the comedy *Dr. Wake's Patient.*

HIPPODROME.—Joint Proprietors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. Jack de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—The chief turn here is that amusing up-to-date absurdity, *Motoring*, enacted by Mr. Harry Tate's competent company. Mahatma pleased and mystified everyone; Mr. J. Wright, Aitken, and company, in the playlet, *The Devil's Hand*, proved an attractive turn; Gwennie Gwynne, chic comedienne, was much admired; and the eccentricities of Mark Lane caused screams of laughter. Harry Cotton scored as a comedian; Bessie Travis proved a very entertaining young ventriloquist; and Vesta Fay did well as a male impersonator.

CONSETT.—NEW THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance.—Messrs. A. Hamilton Warden and Charles V. Sandford's company, with *A Woman's Past*, is here this week. Mr. Horace E. Herbert is successful as David Heath; and as Frank Dellamy Mr. Charles V. Sandford is highly amusing. Mr. Hamilton Warden is an able Clement Harper; and as Uriah Craven Mr. G. Moreton Williams is sufficiently villainous to merit the disapprobation of the audience. Miss Maisie Hanbury soon wins the favour of the house by her careful acting of Bessie; and as Clare Darrell Miss Eva Bertram is well placed. Miss Mary Mallalieu is very pleasing as Dorothy Heath; and the remaining characters are well filled by the other members of the company. The drama is excellently staged.

CORK.—OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. John Horgan.—Mr. Rollo Balmain and Miss Sara Mignon opened a week's engagement here on Monday in *Our Flat*. It was well received and caused genuine amusement. Miss Sara Mignon as Margery Sylvester gave an interesting rendering; Miss Miriam Holt as Lucy McCullum acted with much grace; and the part of Bella was humorously taken by Miss Louie West. Miss May York as Madam Volant was successful. Mr. Rollo Balmain in the rôle of Nathaniel Glover gave a capital reading; as Reginald Sylvester, Mr. Sydney Leyton acted with great skill; Mr. Langford Reed as Clarence Vane also acquitted himself well; and Mr. J. W. Braithwaite as Mr. McCullum fitted the part admirably. *East Lynne* is also in the répertoire. At the close a capital cinematograph exhibition was given.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Henry Kemble.—There is a capital bill of fare provided here this week. Harry Maynard, character comedian, renders his songs in good style; Letta and Minnie introduce a novel hand-jumping and musical act; Madge Daly, comedienne, pleases; Kahn and Kahn quite mystify the audience; Johnny Worman, comedian, sings catchy songs; the Brooklands perform pretty dances; Frank Newbury pleases with his whistling selections; Stanley and Vandyke, in a sketch, entitled *A Broken Promise*, cause much laughter; R. Dunning, in a laughable ventriloquial performance, uses five figures, and the cinematograph shows the latest pictures.

COVENTRY.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Dance.—Mike S. Whallin, who was to have appeared here, was prevented by a serious accident, and his place was ably filled by Will Rogers, lasso expert, with his cowboys and ponies; Wilson and Waring are successful as comedy artists; Oswald Williams gives some clever sleight-of-hand tricks; Leo Stormont gives a clever recitation; Little Zola creates roars of laughter; Frank Maura, the Mexican equilibrist, is expert as a table balancer; and Jimmy Shields is successful as the one-legged comedian.

THE OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—Large houses are being attracted by a visit of *The Village Blacksmith*, which is presented by Messrs. Dottridge, Longden, and Livesey's company. The piece contains many thrilling episodes, including the great wrestling match. As the title-rôle Mr. Sam Livesey gives a clever piece of acting; Miss Maggie Edwards as Kate Strong being very successful. Mr. Joseph Carter gives a good representation of Captain Leo; Miss Cassie le Grand is successful as Bertha Hanbury; and Mr. George V. Cramp does well as Billy Twigg.

HIPPODROME.—The chief turn this week is the performance of the Sylvester Kremo family, whose clever feats receive rapturous applause. Bell and Bowden, juvenile comedians, contribute eccentric dances; a humorous sketch is given by Bromley and Fontein; Spencer and Marks as the "Stage-struck Waifs" are funny; and other artists are Frank Cass, actor vocalist; Charles Uherick as the barrel King; and Harry Zetter.

CRADLEY HEATH.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Jno. H. Morton.—A special holiday attraction is provided by Power and Kirby's company with *Man's Enemy*. Mr. Norman A. Overton as Harry Stanton gives a finished piece of acting; Mr. Fred Owen as Isaac Barnett is very funny; Mr. William Jeans throws much energy into his impersonation of General Sir Arthur Stanton; Mr. T. Arthur Ellis deserves special mention for his Fred Lisle; Mr. Chas. E. Johnson makes a capital Bill Saunders; Mr. Hartwell J. Kirby is responsible for a first-class Count Lanski; Mr. Jno. Power shows talent as Tom Drake; Miss Constance Medwyn scores as Sarah Drake; Miss Evelyn Geldard as Mrs. Saunders acts with grace and feeling; and Miss May Grayce as Grace Leslie wins the sympathies of the audience.

CREWE.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Taylor, J.P.—Mr. Gilbert Payne's company opened on Monday in *The Honeymoon*. Mr. Payne gave a highly humorous rendering of Nathaniel Noodle, and was ably assisted by Mr. Fred Fulton as Archie Mashington. Mr. Leslie Erle capably sustained the rôle of Jack Armstrong; Mr. Alvin Sawyer was suitably placed as Colonel Vandyke Brown; and Mr. Harry Hoyland appeared successfully as Victor L'Estrange. Miss Lilian Ramsdale was irresistibly funny in the character of Emeretta Noodle; Miss Patty Fairley was delightful as Madge Armstrong, her vocal numbers being excellently rendered; and Miss Nellie Dyson charmed everyone with her captivating manner as Stella Le Brunn. Some clever dancing was executed by the Four Sisters Godfrey.

CROYDON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Lawson Lambert.—The Whitsun attraction at the Grand is *Sporting Life*, played by Mr. R. A. Beaton's company. Miss Constance Elgin makes much capital out of the rôle of Olive de Carteret; Miss Veronica Brady is quite suited to the part of Clara; Miss Nellie Lucas wins sympathy as Kitty; and Miss Ida Phillips gains all hearts in the rôle of Norah. Mr. Henry Doughty gives an admirable rendering of the Earl of Woodstock; Mr. Wentworth Fane is excellent as Sir Charles Braybourne; Mr. Rowland Hope is commendable as the Hon. Dudley Stanhope; Mr. H. J. Barrett submits a capital portrayal of General Reginald Molyneaux; Mr. H. C. Cooper acts with effect as Isidore Andread; Mr. Bert Morley is humorous as Sergeant Dan Doxey; Mr. Raymond Dudley is well placed in the character of Malet de Carteret; Mr. H. H. Barrington displays excellent judgment as Miles Cavanagh; Mr. Edwin Fergusson is good as Phillip; and a word of praise is due to Messrs. J. P. Dryden, Edward Chester, Frank Woodville, and G. Robinson in minor parts.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Herrick.—Astley's American Circus heads the list here this week, and meets with great applause; Nellie Montague is a fine vocalist; Kemp and Harris score a success; Miss Ruby Norton's songs are well rendered; Wake and Dean are talented comedians; the Brothers Mills give an excellent gymnastic display; Wal Robins is a good vocalist and instrumentalist; and some pleasing pictures are shown by Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES. — Proprietor, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay. — Hardeen, the handcuff king, is causing quite a sensation; Dora Lyric is an enchanting comedienne; the Stavordale Quintette, vocalists and instrumentalists, are deservedly given an ovation; the Sisters Bartholomew are neat duettists and dancers; William Gourlay is interesting in "a new version of *Hamlet*"; Hector and Paulus are clever comedy acrobats; Syd May, mimic, is applauded; Harry Conlin is an entertaining comedian; and Sid Cotterell is well received in his comedy production, *The Substitute.*

DARWEN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. A. M Loader; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. J. Robinson.—Appearing here this week are Mr. T. R. Nugent and his company in *The Little Earl*. As Billy Barton Mr. Nugent provides much amusement; Mr. H. Compton acquits himself well in the villainous part of King Ashton; as Harry Dare Mr. W. Dewhurst shows considerable ability; Mr. A. Martin gives a clever study of Reggie Clavering; and Master Sydney as Little Victor is a favourite. Miss Gladys Greet gives a careful rendering of Claire Sydney; Miss Maggie Gardiner is capable in the heavy rôle of Belle Langrist; and as Elsie Woodford Miss Myra Lois sings and dances nicely.

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes.—The top-line turn this week is provided by Eugene Stratton, whose popular numbers are highly appreciated. Weiland fully maintains his reputation as a comedy juggler; the Raymond Trio of instrumentalists and dancers are very entertaining; as also is Madge Northcote, a charming soprano vocalist. Brady and Johnson cause great amusement in their farcical sketch *My Uncle;* Walter Wallis scores well as a comedian; the Four Matullas submit a smart conjuring act; and J. S. James, banjo soloist, renders some pleasing selections. The Bioscope concludes a well-arranged holiday programme. Florence Deighton, whose name is shown on the bills and programmes, is not appearing, owing to indisposition, and at the last moment the services of Madge Northcote were secured. Crowded houses are the rule.

DEVONPORT.—METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. G. S. King.—Molesworth's and Blow's company with *Cripple Creek* are here. Mr. Stanley Bedwell is manly and accomplished as Joe Mayfield; and Miss Agnes Verity gives a creditable rendering of Dynamite Ann; Mr. Will Hook is entrusted with the comic business, and fully justifies the trust bestowed; and Mr. Eric Hudson acts well as the villain.

DOUGLAS.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Grand Theatre Company, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Hemming.—Mr. Hemming inaugurated his season on Monday evening, when Mr. Lionel Glenister and Mr. Wood Ingram's company presented *All-of-a-Sudden Peggy*, which was received by a large audience with discriminating applause. Miss Decima Moore is charming in the name-part. The house laughs heartily at her delivery of the many witty lines entrusted to her, and in the stronger situations of the piece she is equally successful. The Hon. Jimmy Keppel affords Mr. Glenister endless opportunities for distinction, of which he takes full advantage. Lord Crackenthorpe is amusingly portrayed by Mr. Alfred S. Barber; Mr. Henderson Bland is quite in his element as Major Archie Phipps; and Mr. J. Edgar Stephenson is a dashing Jack Menzies. The two servants are capably enacted by Messrs. Phillips and Fitzgerald. Miss Naomi Neilson is bright and vivacious as Mrs. O'Mara; Miss Kate Wingfield is a dignified grand dame as Lord Crackenthorpe's mother; and Miss Eva Lonsdale and Miss Estelle Despa play with sincerity in less important parts. The scenery and appointments are all that can be desired.

THE GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Gray.—Mr. Herbert Ralland produced *The Liars*, which is received with much laughter and applause by representative houses. Mr. Charles Boult, a sterling and versatile artist, is the Sir Christopher Deering, and plays with elegant *bonhomie*. Mr. F. Pennington Gush works gallantly to make a passable hero out of the character of Edward Faulkner; Mr. Arthur Gibbons' Gilbert Nepean is a strong characterisation; and Mr. W. Barnett Parker does all that is possible as George Nepean. The Freddy Tatton of Mr. Leon Simkin is a quaint performance, which never lapses into caricature; and Mr. Dennis is clever as Archibald Coke. The waiter of Mr. Bertie Ralland is a little study. Miss Kitty Cavendish presents the many-sided Lady Jessica with gaiety, and scores a great success; Miss Chrissie Ralland plays well up to her as Lady Rosamund Tatton; Miss Irene Vivian is bright and amusing as Dolly Coke, and Miss Victoria makes the most of her one emotional moment as Mrs. Ebernor. Miss Avis Graham is well suited as Mrs. Crispin. The mounting and appointments of the production fully justified Mr. Ralland's reputation.

THE PALACE.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brittain.—This place of amusement opened on Saturday night and secured its full share of patronage. The chief attraction is, of course, dancing to the witching strains of Mr. Harry Woods' orchestra. In the Opera House the bright particular star is Miss Hetty King, and her songs have been strenuously encored. Other excellent turns are C. F. Best, comedian; Minotti, the cycling wonder; the Rivialdo Trio, comedy acrobats; Edwards and Espinosa, instrumentalists and dancers. Vernon's Bioscope is to the fore with up-to-date animated pictures. A special and popular feature is the singing of the Manx Male Choir.

DOVER.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Chairman of Directors, Mr. B. Carter; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—The ever-popular *Fatal Wedding* is here this week. A highly emotional rendering of the unfortunate Mabel Wilson is given by Miss Katherine Clark, and both she and Mr. Ernest Owttrim as Howard Wilson score a big success in the leading rôles. Miss Marie Wilson as the Little Mother entirely captivates her audience. Miss Leah Marlborough assumes with apparent ease the characteristics of the villainous Cora Williams; Mr. Guy Hastings' portrayal of Robert Curtis is powerful and convincing; and Mr. Cyril Melton is a satisfactory Schwartz. The really excellent comedy introduced by Mr. C. H. Hughes as Toto and Miss Julie Temple as Bridget is deserving of all praise; and Mr. Arthur Law Raynor is noteworthy for his distinctive and impressive acting in the small part of the Rev. Dr. Lanceford.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Lessees, The Vaudeville Syndicate; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Holt; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. Chas. R. Standfield.—The magnificent staging of Horace and Olga's miniature dog circus lends much attractiveness to a turn of exceptional merit. The Sisters Lunelle, charming vocalists and smart dancers, meet with a hearty reception. The Two Sprees in *Twickenham Ferry* prove their cleverness; and Saxo makes music from many instruments; Bert and Dora's comedy is good; the Sisters Allen sing excellent duets and dance skilfully; T. C. Callaghan, character-comedian, scores well; and Raymond's Bio-tableaux complete the programme.

PIER PAVILION, DOVER PROMENADE PIER.—Lessees, The Dover Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—Miss Adela Crispin is a singer and dancer of much cleverness; Miss Lilian Crispin gives a decided touch of individuality to her character-impersonations and quaint stories; and Miss Vera Neville, a brilliant pianist, also sings in a most pleasing manner. An interesting performance is given by Miss Dorothy and Mr. Howard Crispin, who introduce a series of experiments in mental telepathy, the gentleman also winning much applause for his capable and amusing sketches at the piano. Mr. George Neilson's cultured bass voice is heard in a fine selection of songs; and Signor Isidore Corelli gains unanimous approval for his clever spectacular conjuring.

MISS AGNES BECKWITH and her troupe of lady swimmers give exhibitions of fancy and ornamental swimming in the sea daily, and also in the Crystal Aquarium on the Promenade Pier.

DUBLIN. — GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Directress, Mrs. Michael Gunn; General-Manager and secretary, Mr. Charles Hyland.—By arrangement with Mr. William Greet, *The Shulamite* is being presented here. Mr. Algernon J. Hicks appears as the Boer farmer, Simeon Krillett, and gives a most powerful and dramatic reading; and as his wife, Deborah Krillett, Miss Ruth Shepherd enacts the part in a pathetic and effective manner. Mr. Charles Fancourt displays his abilities cleverly as Robert Waring; a capital performance of the Kaffir servant, Klass, is given by Mr. Albert Rogers; Miss Emily Levettez submits a very good portrayal of Tanta Anna Vanderberg, and Miss Chrissie Bickerstaff as Memke and Mr. George Rammell as Ian Vanderberg acquit themselves creditably.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—Herbert Shelley in the sketch, *Dan, the Outlaw*, wins hearty and unstinted applause; Lily Foy, comedienne, contributes a capital song in good style; Rumbo Austin, with his acrobatic navvies, is highly amusing; a clever turn is presented by the Gems, in mirth, play, and song; Drew and Alders win approbation for a smart comedy act; Daisy Mayer is warmly applauded for her coon stories; Charles Chard is a droll comedian; Carl Howard, in a grotesque conjuring act, causes much laughter; and Annie Casey, comedienne and dancer, scores successfully. The Empire pictures are also interesting.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Parrington.—Mr. Lionel Rignold's company opened here on Monday in *What the Butler Saw*. In the amusing character of the Butler (Pink) Mr. Lionel Rignold proves most successful, and keeps the audience in the best of spirits with his clever and humorous conception. Miss Ada Blanche submits a most effective and charming portrayal of Mrs. Barrington; Mr. Charles Fawcett acts the part of Jack Barrington splendidly; and as Sir Charles Fowden Mr. Louis Lingard is very good. A capital representation of General Dunlop is given by Mr. Victor Widdicombe; Miss Clara Russell acts delightfully as Miss Foden, as does Miss Yenie Wigney as Nora. Mr. Roy Byford furnishes a very successful reading of Prof. Shale; and as the child Sophonisba Hake, Miss May Hart is excellent. For Friday a special matinée is announced, when Mme. Jane Hading and her Parisian company will appear in *Frou-Frou.*

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Secretary, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—Nat Clifford, in song and story, meets with a cordial reception; Vittorio and Giorgetto submit with success a clever Continental comedy act; the Soho Trio are refined vocalists and pleasing dancers; the Sisters Urma perform cleverly on the triple trapeze; Leo Tell is entertaining as a mimic; Stidder and Dunbar are seen to advantage in *The Sport and the Gipsy Girl;* Maude Kay is an excellent comedienne and dancer; the Grays are accomplished vocalists; and the Bioscope is also an attraction.

WORLD'S FAIR AND MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. A. James.—The programme includes Harry Boland, comedian; Florence Moore, serio and dancer; Frank Vallance, entertaining magician; Rose Cameron, ballad vocalist; and the new Cinematograph.

SAMUELS' EXHIBITION PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. S. Samuels.—This week we have Allen and Hall, sketch artists; Harry Powell, descriptive vocalist; the Sisters Rose, international dancers; W. C. McPherson, Scotch comedian; and the Alliance Musical Team.

IRISH INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION (Balls Bridge).—Secretary, Mr. James Shanks.—The attractions for the week are Herr Moritz Wurm and his Viennese Blue Band and the band of the Royal Engineers. Mr. Neville Flux, the bandmaster, arranges selections which are greatly enjoyed. Organ recitals by Mr. Brandon J. Rogers are also well patronised. The amusements comprise the Indian Theatre, Eastern juggling performances, the native Africans in their Somali village, the Canadian water-chute, switchback railway, helter-skelter, and the Cinematograph.

PAVILION (Kingstown).—Manager, Mr. Fred R. Heley.—This pleasant resort opened for the season on Monday with the John Riding Opera Company, when the operetta, *Old Knockles*, was produced at the mid-day performance. In the evening *Maritana* was presented to a full house, and was well received. Miss Kitty Brownless was charming in the title-rôle; the part of Alcade was well sustained by Mr. Arthur Hyde; Miss Jessie Dennis was capital as Lazarillo; Mr. Arthur Fisher was good as the Captain of the Guard; Don Jose was in the capital hands of Mr. John Riding; and the rôles of Charles II. and Don Cæsar de Bazan were well filled by Messrs. Frederick Clendon and Charles Le Suer respectively. The Bioscope concluded the entertainment.

DUDLEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—Miss Go-Won-Go-Mohawk, the American Indian actress, and her company, in her drama, *Wep-Ton-No-Mah*, are paying a return visit here this week.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. B. Peberdy.—The brilliant talent provided here includes the following:—The Brothers St. Clair, in a comedy cycle act; the Four Figaros, international vocalists and dancers; Helm and Cozens, in *The Doctor and the Patient;* the Rochesters, society entertainers; Fancourt and Ruby, in *Nipper, the Messenger Boy;* the Sisters Clifton, comediennes and dancers; Stuart and Evans, swell comedians; Little Hatch, comedian and dancer; Edith Manley, extempore vocalist; Nellie Nora, with an instrumental act; and Daisy Dashwood, comedienne.

DUNDEE.—PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Manager, Mr. E. J. Dexter.—Jack Whiteford tops this week's bill, and acquits himself admirably as a Scotch comedian. Clark and Hayden contributes some excellent singing, and are also exceedingly good as trick pianists; a clever juggling turn is given by Charles Lestree; and an equally entertaining acrobatic and posturing performance is contributed by Ryde and Beeman. Amina Rinder has a flattering reception for her illustrated songs; Raie Walters, a dainty comedienne, likewise charms with a pleasing turn; Albert Windsor, comedian and dancer, scores a big success; and the patter and eccentric dancing of Kerr and Koe prove most exhilarating. The Bioscope, as usual, completes a good all-round bill.

GAIETY THEATRE — Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. A. P. Williams.—Top liners are the Narrow Brothers, whose trick comedy cycling is extremely clever; they are also capital comedians. Chorley and Connor pay a welcome return visit; Yettmah, Japanese magician, contributes a neat and clever act; and Bella Leaburn has had a capital reception. George Melvin, Scotch comedian, gets a good reception; Akbar, in a novel and clever turn; a Photo Competition, and the Electro Motorscope, with a capital selection of films, completes the bill.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Percival.—This is the last week of the animated photographs; but, judging by the huge houses on Monday, Mr. Percival's patrons have not tired of this class of entertainment. Among the many pictures shown this week is a very fine film, in twenty-five scenes, entitled "The Dumb Man of Manchester." A descriptive tour round London is a very popular item, Mr. Percival assuming the rôle of guide. Pleasant variety is supplied by Amy Bathurst, serio and dancer; Harry Lamb, quaint Scotch comedian; and Philip Sefton, baritone singer.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Devonshire Park and Baths Co.; Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clark.—Mr. F. R. Benson's Shakespearean company is attracting excellent houses. On Monday *The Taming of the Shrew* was well staged. The work of Miss Dorothy Green as Katherina was quite artistic; Miss Louise Graeme did very ably as Bianca; and Miss Mary Webb sang and acted satisfactorily as the Widow. A sound and interesting performance was that given by Mr. Henry Herbert as Petruchio; Mr. Gerald Ames made a handsome and distinguished Lucentio; Mr. E. Spencer Geach caused much fun as Tranio; Mr. Ross Shore, too, did excellently as Grumio, and the remaining characters were well represented.

THE PIER.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—On Monday afternoon before a crowded house Mr. George Robey appeared for the first time in Eastbourne. He had a gratifying reception. Mr. G. H. Snozelle, in his own inimitable manner, was another of the successes of the afternoon; Miss Winifred Thomas sang charmingly; Mr. Aubrey Standing possesses a capital voice; Miss Decima Brooke is a clever juvenile; and Mr. Harold Craxton was the skilful accompanist. The attraction for the current week is *Three Little Maids*, and Mr. Charles Macdona's company is an excellent one. Miss Vera Vallis, Miss Daisy Sylverton, and Miss Gertrude Melville are dainty maids; Miss Grace Desmond is a bright and appropriate Lady St. Malory, and Miss Laura Wright an amusing Gretchen. Mr. Victor Kerr is responsible for able work as Lord Cheyne; Mr. Eric Barrington is a delicate and artistic M. de L'Orme; and Mr. J. F. Bishop a funny Cupid.

THE HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; General-Manager, Mr. H. Day; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Smith.—Roland startles audiences here with his interesting illusions; Miss Nell Emerald delights as a singer and dancer; the Buchanan Brothers sing, patter, and box to the accompaniment of much laughter; Miss Ray Maskell brings down the house with her fine dancing; Mr. Will Lytton is a successful comedian; the Five Bombays are entertaining; Clifford and Monti do well; and new pictures complete the bill.

EDINBURGH.—ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Minshull.—Mme. Jane Hading appeared, with her full Parisian company, in *Frou-Frou* at a flying matinée on Monday. The play was superbly acted, alike in the comedy of its earlier scenes and in the pathos of its close; and all her associates shared with Mme. Hading the plaudits and recalls after every act. M. Hauterive was excellent as the Sartorys; M. Arnand made an admirable Valréas; M. and Mme. Alcime-Leblanc were quite typical as the Baron and Baronne De Cambri; Mme. Laure Surean ably portrayed the elder sister Louise; and M. Luguet was delightful in the part of the gay old butterfly Brigard. Mr. Brandon Thomas and company occupy the theatre with *Charley's Aunt*. Mr. Thomas, of course, is again at his best in his old part of Colonel Chesney; Mr. Walter Beaumont is an amusing Stephen Spettigue; Jack and Charlie are happily played by Mr. Hastings Lynn and Mr. Richard; Mr. M. A. Wetherell puts much humour into his acting as Brassett; and Mr. Spencer Trevor personates the leading "lady" with his well-known fun and exuberance. The feminine rôles are all in good hands, with Miss Lena MacNaughton a dignified Donna Lucia; Miss Amy Harpwaye and Miss Ida Vynall very bright and winsome as Kitty and Amy; and Miss Marjory Murray quite a sweet Ela. A one-act play, *The Lancashire Sailor*, also by Mr. Brandon Thomas, prove a very interesting curtain-raiser.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—The Courtiers, nine performers, sing with expression and vivacity, and their business is carried through with grace and dash. Hillman and Russell are successful in their sketch, in which the clever singing and playing of the lady are distinctly good; Miss Lily Flexmore, a remarkable acrobatic dancer, gains much applause for her turn; the Westwoods are daring and expert trick cyclists; Johnson and Pelham give a varied act, comprising singing, dancing, and ball-punching; and Susie and Protti are admirable "whirlwind" dancers, the Pirouttes of Protti being exceptionally smart; Miss May Newall sings with considerable culture; the Alaskarno Trio are brisk and entertaining acrobats; and the Bioscope portrays several recent films. The programme also includes the first appearance in Britain of "Captain" Niku, a diminutive performer with handcuffs and chains.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Parham Wells.—This week we have Mr. Fred Bowyer's miniature drama, *The Little Stowaway*. Miss Eva Lumley, in the name-part, makes good use of the opportunities for pathetic acting which the rôle affords. The New Macs are smart in their patter, and smarter still in their step-dancing; while another clever terpsichorean display is given by Spry and Monti, in their diverting comedy act, *The Dandy Guardsman*. Mr. Frame, as popular as ever, contributes one of his characteristic turns; Mr. Jock Mills sings several amusing songs in a most entertaining style; and Miss Nellie Wallace imparts much vigour and individuality to her uncommon impersonations as a burlesque artist. Songs are effectively rendered by Miss Amy Russell, a pleasing vocalist; by Mr. Bert Byrne, a lively comedian; and by Mr. Arthur Gill, the man of many voices, each of which he uses to good advantage; and the Dorrell Sisters, with duets and dances, complete a good bill.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Ventom Swith.—A popular turn here is that of the Days, in a clever thought-reading performance. Horgadon and company present a sketch, entitled *A Lucky Mistake*, in which some capital singing is given. Amongst other artists of merit are Mr. Charles Leighton, pianist; Titan, a strong man; Miss Janette Alexander, a child vocalist and dancer; Mlle. Thekla, vocalist; and Wyllie, "the musical tramp."

EXETER. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—Mr. J. Maundy-Gregory presents this week the German military play, *Lights Out*, with a powerful company. Miss Francis Davie as Klara Volkhardt is excellent; Mr. Charles Esdale in the part of Lieut. von Lauffen is decidedly good; Mr. Wilton Reed as Sergt. Volkhardt is the old veteran of the regiment to the life; while Mr. Richard Fielding as Corporal Helbig secures the sympathies of the audience. The fantastic one-act play, *A Hundred Years Hence*, is a smart curtain-raiser.

FALKIRK.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace W. Ebbutt.—The Anglo-American Bioscope still forms one of the chief attractions at this place of entertainment. In addition thereto there are very clever turns by Ted Curtis and his celebrated piccaninnies, a trio of dancers and singers, Mena Brae (comedienne and dancer), Clarke's Nippers in their acts of ball-punching, club juggling, &c., Downes and Langford (burlesque artists, vocalists, and dancers), and G. W. Walker (the popular Scottish vocalist).

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—The holiday attraction was Mrs. Patrick Campbell in *Magda* and *Hedda Gabler*. Large houses assembled at each performance. Mrs. Patrick Campbell, Miss Stella Patrick Campbell, and Mr. Laurence Irving played their respective parts with their customary finish. On Thursday Mr. W. Penrhyn Forster's company was announced in *The Officers' Mess.*

LEAS PAVILION.—Manager and Musical-Director, Mr. D'Arcy Clayton.—An attractive programme is submitted here this week by "The Gipsies and their Jester." Mr. Robert Tattersall, in sleight-of-hand and ventriloquism, is immensely popular; the Misses Muriel Fane and Florence Croft have a capital reception; Mr. Eric Davidson is recalled several times for his excellent baritone songs; and Mr. Will Gane (the jester) is responsible for drollery.

VICTORIA PIER.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Forsyth; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Forsyth.—This favourite place of entertainment reopened on Monday for the season. The bill is headed by Bert H. Delmar, and the Comets, who prove most diverting. Mr. Charles Cardle is received with enthusiasm; Miss Ethel Lonsdale is a smart comedienne; Mr. Hayden Parker gives some excellent musical sketches; Miss Florence Elliott is a pleasing soprano; Mr. Harvey Rayne and Mr. Edward

LITTLE TICH TAKES OFF HIS HAT TO ODOL.

"You'll perceive," said the great little comedian, "that I have acquired what the girls call 'the Odol smile.' I've sometimes been 'sold' with things I've bought, but in this case I got all I bargained for—and more. Instead of a bottle of simple, playful smiles such as you make love with, I found I'd struck a bottle of laughs that will do for any time, and it struck back at me, in the most agreeable manner possible. That's why I take my hat off to it."

"Things in bottles have always had a peculiar sort of fascination for me, and when this bottle of Odol loomed upon my sight my mouth began to water at once. I felt a decided leaning towards that bottle. Instinctively, as they say, I wanted to get some of its contents into my mouth. Generally, my friends tell me, I put my foot into my mouth when I open it, but this time, in went Odol."

"I felt a decided leaning towards that bottle."

"Oh, what jolly times my teeth have had since I first surprised them with Odol! They've been laughing ever since. My teeth are worth something now. Odol has cleaned out the basilisks—I mean bacilli—and put health and sweet breathing in their place. I owe much—much more than I am ever likely to pay—to Odol for what it has done for me. Observe my expression—Odol. Note the fluency of my speech—Odol. And you should mark my appetite—Odol again. You never know the lusciousness of a beefsteak until your teeth have been odolised."

"Some friends asked me what was the matter with me the other day, I was looking so pleased with myself. I said 'Odol.' And we all laughed the Odol laugh. Yes, although I don't swear as a rule, I'm prepared to swear by Odol all the time."

Headlam provide capital turns; and Miss Rose Telfer's Rosabel Ladies' Quintette is a great attraction.

GATESHEAD. — KING'S THEATRE — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harold Arnold.—Lottie Lennox proves quite worthy of the top place on the "bill" submitted here this week; the Bensons are also here with a fund of real comedy and new songs and dances; Sinclair and Parr are a pair of polished comedians and excellent singers; Brull and Hemsley, in an excellent comedy act, named *Fun in a Music Shop*, are highly successful; the Brontes have a capital comedy duologue, entitled *Saucy Maud;* the Zampas, duettists, speciality dancers, and bâton manipulators, make a deep impression; Charles Gardner, an eccentric comedian, scores; Rappo and Ella, gymnasts, and pictures by Vernon's Bioscope, complete the show.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Councillor Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas France.—*The Face at the Window*, by Messrs. Armadale and Warren's company, is here. Le Loup has an accomplished representative in Mr. E. Hoggan-Armadale; Mr. T. W. Dunscombe plays Gouffet in a perfectly easy and natural manner; Mr. Gilbert Hall fills with credit the part of Lucian Cortier; Mr. C. Alan Hineson brings to the part of Peter a deal of quaintness; Marie de Brisson is ably represented by Miss Marie Barrett; and Miss Gladys Newcombe is excellently placed as Babette.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Councillor Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stephen Smith.—Mr. C. Watson Mill's company is presenting *A Wrecker of Men*. Mr. Eric Campbell, in the rôle of Jim Murley, does the part full justice; and Miss Ruth Zillwood displays much talent in the exacting part of Risca Mallison.

GLASGOW. — KING'S, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. Hugh Macfarlane.—After an absence of some years, Miss Annie Hughes was accorded a hearty welcome here when she opened on Monday, with Mr. Jerome K. Jerome's play, *Tommy*. As the light-hearted young lady journalist of the earlier scenes, Miss Hughes was excellent, and imparted a depth of pathos to the touching scene which concludes the play. Mr. Rupert Lister acted with much ability the part of Dick Danvers; Mr. Evelyn Vernon gave a quiet study of the old editor, Peter Hope; and in striking contrast was the bustling manager, Clodd, particularly well played by Mr. Willie Hartill; Mr. Reginald F. Beach imparted a humorous touch to the rôle of the office boy, Flipp; Miss Winifred Pearson in the character of the adventuress, "Mr. Morrison," expressed the worldly and vindictive feeling suitable to the part; Miss Ida Richardson was well placed as the young girl, Honour. Buckstone's old play, *Good-for-Nothing Nan*, was given in front, in which Miss Annie Hughes submitted a humorous portrayal of the title-part. On Tuesday Madame Jane Hading gave a matinée performance of MM. Meilhac and Halevy's *Frou-Frou*, ably supported by her French company.

PRINCESS'S. — Sole Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—Messrs. Pitt and Sandy are pleasing South-side patrons with their stock productions. This week they present a very satisfactory revival of the popular drama, *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*. Mr. Felix Pitt gives an admirable reading as Bob Brierley; and as Hawkshaw Mr. Frederick Sandy is reliable and convincing, both being able actors. Mr. C. Craig as James Dalton makes a strong and resourceful villain; Mr. D. Phillips as Melter Moss, a typical Jew money-lender; and Bill Broker Gibson is in suitable keeping with Mr. Philip Darien. Miss Jenny Macintyre is once more the Mrs. Willoughby, and very acceptable is she in the part, and undoubtedly good as Sam is Miss Enid Wilde. In Miss Maud Linden is seen a fine May Edwards, sympathetically acted; Miss Doris Lorraine and Mr. Herbert Young are good as Emily and Green Jones; while the Maltby and Sharpe of Messrs. Barry and Austin complete a capital cast.

METROPOLE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—Wilkie Collins's interesting play, *The New Magdalen*, is well staged here this week by Mr. Edward Sorley's company. Miss Yvonne Orchardson gives an exquisite rendering of the part of Mercy Merrick; and Miss Rachel Donne is strongly impressive as Grace Roseberry. A finely-portrayed character is that of the young clergyman, Julian Grey, by W. S. Hartford; Mr. Horace Logan gives a satisfactory interpretation of the rival, Horace Helmcraft; Miss Bartle Frere as Lady Janet Roy impersonates the old lady charmingly. Other parts are well filled by Mr. W. Simpson as a German Army surgeon, Mr. H. Ainley as a French officer, Mr. Charles Edwards as a French Army doctor, Mr. Arthur Tarris as a detective, with Messrs. Frank Harper and James Black as servants.

LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—Variety business still holds the boards here, this week's company including Ray and Calden, in their humorous and clever turn; James Brady, the vocal joker, is another strong favourite; Alice Golding is a serio with a taking style and good songs; J. A. Cassels, Scotch comedian, is accorded a hearty reception; Signor Bandoni gives his "one-man band" speciality; Cleland contributes a novel turn; and the latest films are shown on the Bioscope.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Manners.—Jake Friedman and his company top the bill here in *Happy Holland*. John Humphreys and company are very amusing in *Ancient Britons;* Esta Stella, always a strong local favourite, wins fresh laurels this week; Herbert Darnley's Dots give an attractive item; and Ryder Slone is a clever vocalist; Claire Romaine is worthy of praise for her songs; the Jackley Trio do well in their acrobatic absurdities; Boy Glenn, juvenile raconteur, and Minna Merry, "the female Robey," also contribute to a good programme.

ZOO-HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd., and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—Freddie French and company present an amusing sketch, entitled *The Suffragettes*. Freddie French is very humorous as the leader of the suffragettes; Lily Langtry sings her songs in a sprightly manner, and is well applauded; the Musical Jees are funny in their musical speciality, *The Scarecrow;* the Trapnell Family are a combination of graceful and talented acrobats; the De Wyne Bros go through some startling head and hand balancing work without the least apparent effort; Gertrude Bradshaw sings her songs in a very pleasing manner; Ian Colquhoun, baritone, and Frank Darwin, actor-vocalist, complete a successful programme.

PAVILION, LTD. — General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—Excellent houses are again rewarding the management for their enterprise in securing Marie Lloyd for the top of their bill, and the popular comedienne is in the best of spirits and good humour. Her Spanish song and the old favourite, "The coster's wedding," go well. Marie Kendal is another prime favourite here, and her latest songs are as catchy as ever; Barney Armstrong gets a hearty welcome; and the step-dancing of Frank Leon is wonderfully neat; Astarte, the aerial nymph, is an interesting revival of a clever feat. Steve Macarthy is an expert dancer, Lizzie Kirk is a young comedienne of ability, Will Driscoll's songs are up-to-date, and Ella Lane contributes a smart medley.

COLISEUM. — Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Burdette.—Tom Costello and Lady Fauntleroy unfortunately could not appear here on Monday, owing to indisposition. However, very capable substitutes were found in Ethel Arden and George Abel's company in the amusing farce, *Three of a Kind*, and the popular negro comedian Will Candlish. Marie Kendall's catchy chorus songs pleased the audience greatly; and Edwin Barwick's life-like imitations of theatrical stars were also much appreciated; the laughable sketch, *The Lady Doctor*, was cleverly presented by Stanley Cooke and Amy Francis; Mons. Slippère, the blind pianist and singer, gave a refined performance; the acrobatic act of the Trentanovi Sisters was exceedingly smart; Bud Snyder's cycle feats were neat and dexterous; while step-dancing had a nimble exponent in Steve McCarthy.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; General-Manager, Mr. Harry M'Kelvie.—An attractive programme is submitted here this week, and includes Rachel Lowe, comedienne, whose success was assured. The audience also derived much enjoyment from Horace Wheatley's turn; Harry Thorpe and Zoo Coe are highly successful in their amusing sketch, *The Burglar*. The Sisters Coolville, duettists and dancers; Wright and Elton, comedy artists; Howe and Ardic, acrobats and gymnasts; the Three Sisters Grosvenor, harmony vocalists; Dave O'Toole, comedian; and the Bioscope, with a new set of pictures, are also in the bill.

GAIETY, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Harry Bowerman.—Maxford and O'Neill, Irish comedians, top the bill here; a capital comedy sketch is given by the Monckton, entitled *Are Wives Dummies?* Bessie Stratton is a fascinating comedienne; the efforts of Nellie Hughes as a top-boot dancer are far above the average. Other turns include Keane Harker, comedian, Winnie Wentworth, dainty comedienne, Ted Waite, character comedian, Mark Mooney, the "loonie" comedian, and the Gaiety Bioscope.

BRITANNIA.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. E. Pickard.—The company here includes the following artists:—W. H. Smart, Irish comedian; Kitty Larigne, comedienne; Neil Gow, Scotch comedian; Lillie Benson, artistic dancer; Minnie Osborne, coon vocalist. Mention should also be made of a capital selection of new films on the Bioscope, concluding with the Chronophone new singing and talking pictures.

GLOSSOP. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—Miss Bessie Elma's company in *The Power and the Glory* is here this week. Mr. Geo. Edwin Clive is seen to great advantage as Harry Goodluck; Mr. D. Howard submits a good reading as Harold Hartree; Mr. Ernest Chesney stands out prominently as Ferdinand Crayle; and Mr. Douglas Hutchins is well placed as Johnny Dyce Marris. Mr. Arthur Lindley is conspicuous as Forward; Miss Elma gives a finished performance of the character of Kate Goodluck; Miss Olive Fulton as Lizzie Medwin wins the sympathies of the audience; Miss Fanny Olive as Mar Goodluck is diverting; whilst Miss Violet Chamier is good as Lady Gwendoline Dyce Morris; Miss Flo Florence shows histrionic ability as Linda, a blind girl; Mr. Dan Agar (Tommy Jinks), Mr. William J. Gould (Jacob Hardbake), and Miss Maud Le Ray (Bessie Goodluck) supply the comedy relief of the drama.

GLOUCESTER.—PALACE.—Owners, Messrs. C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr. R. T. Rea.—The holiday bill has for the top line that clever troupe of risley acrobats, the Lorch Family, who are cordially received. Living statuary makes its initial appearance here in the person of Venus, the late Lord Leighton's model. *The Collar Stud* is well rendered by the Edith Muir and Bartlett company; Miss Chummie La Mara sings in taking style; and Mr. George Menva is an efficient sleight-of-hand expert. The Four Jumels are good in their musical act, and a duologue, entitled *The Lady and the Lunatic*, is an entertaining item. Will Sergeant, comedian, also appears with good results, and the Bioscope proves as amusing as ever.

GRAVESEND.—NEW PUBLIC HALL AND THEATRE.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. R. Feaver Clarke.—Messrs. H. and F. Poole's Myriorama occupies this place of entertainment this week, and has been doing good business. Among the variety turns are Houston, a clever magician and illusionist; the Snow Family, a troupe of expert acrobatic cyclists; Miss Florence Hamilton, a cultured soprano, and Learto, with his marvellous dog Babs, all of whom come in for a fair share of applause.

GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. David Hart.—The special engagement of that bright and vivacious comedian has been attracting large audiences this week; and Mathews and Cowper, in the sketch *When the Clock Went Wrong*, have been decidedly popular; Minnie D'Aubyn has done well as a burlesque artist, and as an original quick-change character musician Burnetti is a good turn. The well-known comedian, Charles Lilburn; the South American vocalist, Sylvia Du Barry, and the original comedian, Harry Sims, all contribute to a good programme.

GREAT YARMOUTH. — ROYAL AQUARIUM. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—Mr. Mouillot's principal company is here with *The Geisha*. In the title-rôle Miss Louie Collier gives a very artistic interpretation, and wins many encores for her expressively-sung songs. Mr. Cyril Thompson is admirable as Reginald Fairfax, the patriotic number, "Jack's the boy," gaining unstinted applause. Miss Florrie Saunders is a lively and enchanting Molly Seymour; Miss Violet Kenyon is excellent as O Juliette Diamente; Lady Constance Wynn is admirably portrayed by Miss Aubrey Ashton; Captain Katana is ably played by Mr. J. Masel Stringer; Mr. Lionel Braham is pompously humorous as the Marquis Imari; and the oddities and eccentricities of Wun Hi are depicted with extraordinary success by Mr. Edward Carlton.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert.—A capital programme has been provided for Whitweek, including Zenora, an expert hand equilibrist and jumper; the Princess Fazette, in a pretty driving act; Ray and Miles, in a diverting juggling turn; Wishart, the marvellous handcuff expert; Mons. Caban, with his clever troupe of ponies; Craig, Rose, and Craig, a wonderful trio of gymnasts; Stelling's dog Kiswaskhi, in a novel act; Little Jim, a clever child mimic; the Proveanies, exceptionally daring cyclists; Wee McGregor and his troupe of performing animals, and Doodles to help the fun-making.

BRITANNIA PIER PAVILION.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—Mlle. Rosina's miniature managerie gives an exceptionally interesting show; the Strassburger Lilliputians appear in singing, dancing, conjuring, athletic, and wrestling acts; songs are provided by Miss Nora Beverley, and comedy by Mr. Steve Cook, Miss Rae Rosenthal, and Little Don.

WELLINGTON PIER PAVILION.—Proprietors, Great Yarmouth Corporation; Manager, Mr. Harry Tunbridge.—The Gaieties provide a capital programme here, and the songs, music, and comedy provided by the members of the company—Miss Beatrice Jeffreys, Miss Ruby Wilson, Miss Lois Barker, Mr. Wilson James, Mr. Conyers, and Mr. Percy Watson—are much appreciated, and win hearty recognition.

GREENOCK.—EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry L. Skivington.—Mr. J. Cumming's animated pictures continue to attract large audiences here. Variety turns are provided by A. J. Gamble, comedian, who meets with a most cordial reception; the Brothers Hannaway, comedians, who patter strongly and dance well; Leslie Lynn, a clever ventriloquist; Annette Gray, comedienne and vocalist; and Douglas Thorn, a pleasing baritone.

PAVILION THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Chas. A. White.—A crowded house on Monday manifested their approval of the favourite comedian Will Godwin, who received an ovation; Harvey and Holt, in a comedy act, are entertaining; Jack Easy, Scotch comedian, is also popular; Doreen Day is to be congratulated on her efforts as a comedienne and mimic; and the graceful dancing of Little Norah Bremner is much admired. The Paviscope pictures are entertaining.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry.—Mr. Walter Howard's romantic military drama *A Midnight Wedding* is admirably sustaining the author's reputation as a writer of popular plays. It is played by a company under Mr. Alfred Paumier and Miss Annie Saker, who themselves take prominent parts. Mr. Paumier admirably realises the chivalrous swordmaster, Paul Valmar, and Miss Saker invests the part of the Princess Astrea with charming dignity; whilst the remaining numerous important characters are all excellently acted.

CURRY'S TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. H. J. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North.—The national songs and dances of the Szarvasi Ferenz troupe of Hungarians are greatly pleasing, but it is their wonderfully clever acrobatic work which forms the main feature of their performance. Addie Dorina, a smart protean actress, appears in a new sketch, *Dr. Spot's Patients;* Russell Wallett, as the lady in black, is a capital female impersonator; the Paolias present an excellent combination of athletic feats and artistic poses; Fatmah Diard accomplishes good vocal work; whilst others appearing are Andy Fagan, comedian; Harry Marlow and May Manton, in *Other People's Babies*, and Austin Lenton and company, in *The Bigamist*.

THE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. A. Edwardes; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. C. Shread.—An especially attractive entertainment is provided by Bert Coote's Kiddies, a smart and well-trained troupe of juvenile artists. The Sisters Geretti give an acrobatic performance remarkable for the rapidity with which the feats are accomplished; another capital gymnastic turn is given by the Du Gros Trio; Roma and Romani contribute a refined musical entertainment; Oliver Conroy is a popular comedian; the Three Coopers are pleasing vocalists; Le Diable Rouge has a novel ventriloquial act; and the Sages present good burlesque.

THE EMPIRE, CLEETHORPES. — Proprietor, Mr. J. Carter White.—This popular house reopened on Whit Monday, the programme being headed by Georgina Leonard, burlesque actress; whilst others appearing are Pertram's Marionettes; Frank Clarke, tenor vocalist; Francis O'Flynn, banjo soloist; Fred Hadley, comedian; Amy Elcock, comedienne; the Brothers Ralston, character duettists; and Flo St. Roy, acrobatic dancer.

PIER PAVILION, CLEETHORPES.—Manager, Mr. W. T. Bolland.—The holiday programme is being provided by Mr. Charles Parker's Æolian Opera Singers. The party includes Miss Rose Alderman, soprano; Miss Lilian Payne, contralto; Mr. Will Fern, baritone; Miss Doris Langdon, soubrette; Mr. Hubert Connorton, society entertainer; and Mr. Charles E. Browne, humorist and instrumentalist.

GUERNSEY.—THEATRE ST. JULIAN.—Lessee, Mr. Ed. Marris.—On Monday Miss Lena Stanton and Mr. Harry Josephs' company opened a week's engagement in *The Blue-Coat Boy*. As Dame Dickory, Mr. Bruce Green sings well, and is irresistibly amusing; Mr. Harry Josephs is a dashing Squire; and Mr. Will Terry causes much merriment as Lawyer Copale. Miss Nora Neville, a pretty and charming Dolly, is also a skilled dancer; and a sprightly Billy is Miss Lena Stanton. A hit is made by Little Keeno; and the Orient troupe of lady dancers foot it with much grace.

HALIFAX. — THEATRE ROYAL, LTD. — General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—On Monday the Northern Theatres, Ltd., stock company opened their season with *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*. Foremost in an exceptionally strong cast was Mr. Cyril Austen-Lee, who gave a consummate interpretation of the much-wronged Robert Brierley; a plausible Dalton was found in Mr. Bernard Mervyn, his acting throughout being sound and convincing; it would be difficult to find a more worthy exponent of Hawkshaw than Mr. J. Cook Hinton, who brought out the salient points of the detective's methods with fidelity; Mr. John Hames cannot be too highly commended as Melter Moss; Miss Winnie Tempest was successful in the rôle of May Edwards; and Miss Mabel S. Carr never failed to win approval as Sam Willoughby; while Miss Jessie Belmore was conspicuous as Emily.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Ed. Harrison.—Ernest Shand has a splendid répertoire of quaint songs, and keeps his audience in exuberant spirits; another queer comedian, with a good style of his own, is Whimsical Walker, whose gags are both original and contagious; Will Johnson is as lively as ever, and a welcome visitor; Maudie Ford sings well and dances vivaciously; as does Daisy Martell, who has a very exhilarating song; Brayne and Eland, in *The Tree of Truth*, meet with approval; while Les Zelovas, in a continental equilibrium act, give a sensational pyramid performance.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—The Mahomed Ben Mohamed Troupe of eight Sousa Arabs present a startling somersault act, for which they are vociferously applauded; a neat sketch is given by Mr. and Mrs. Leonard entitled *Coming Home*, the fun going merrily while these artists occupy the boards; one of the finest sopranos heard here is undoubtedly Ghita Corri, her magnificent singing earning prolonged applause; Harry Wenburn is more than a little humorous; while Ripshaw's ball bouncing act is quite a novelty. Mabel Bright and company, in an immensely popular scena, *Girls Will be Girls;* Alexander Prince, a unique concertina soloist, and Libby Blundelle and her Johnnies all meet with approbation.

HANLEY. — ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Douglas Elphinstone.—Mr. C. St. John Denton's company opened here on Monday in that popular musical comedy, *Kitty Grey*. The company consists of practically the same principals as upon its previous visit. Miss Hilda Guiver is once more seen as Kitty Grey, and her performance, if possible, is better than ever. Miss Elly Helene, the Lady Binfield, is all that can be desired, her conception of the part being admirable and her singing capital. Mr. Leslie Harris causes much merriment as Lord Plantagenet; Miss Lena Denton scores as Kitty's dresser; Mr. York Hatton makes a capital Sir John Binfield; Mr. Robert Whyte as the King of Illyria is, as of yore, decidedly successful.

GRAND.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. James Wynes.—A packed house greeted Chung-Ling-Soo on Monday in his wonderful conjuring performance, which is much appreciated. Mr. Chas. Diamond and Miss Beatrice, in their musical turn, are accorded a hearty welcome; J. W. Hall returns, and scores his usual success; the Bros. Redmond are clever and amusing acrobats; Martine and Son in their illustrated songs are well received; Miss Marion Scott is a dainty comedienne; Baroni and Kemp, character quick-change artists, are capital; Jack Lane, the Yorkshire rustic, does well; and the pictures are, as usual, excellent.

HARROGATE. — GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Smith. — This week we have a two-houses-a-night show, and on Monday night the theatre was filled in all parts. Morimura is a good Japanese conjurer; Sandes and Vincent are very funny in a comedy act; and Donna's Trio are remarkably clever balancers. The top of the bill was supplied by *High Jinks*, John Tiller's company, which occupies the major part of the programme. Bob Selvidge as Geo. Jesmond Dene is very good and creates much laughter; he has great support from Messrs. Teddy Gibbs and Barney Dixon. Miss Jessie Templeton is well placed as Mrs. Dene; and Miss Hay proves herself an excellent dancer in the part of Mary Ann. The Tiller Troupe are distinguishing themselves as dancers.

HARTLEPOOL.—EMPRESS.—Proprietors, Messrs. Councillor Everton and J. W. Cragg; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Assistant-Manager, Mr. C. Ferrier.—Belrose and De Velin, in excellent operatic duets; Conan and Doyle, comedians and dancers; the Juggling Geraldos, in some clever specialities; and Mabel Le Blanche a sprightly comedienne, are favourites who attract as well as ever. A sketch, *Brought to Her Senses*, affords those clever artists the Forestiers an opportunity of exhibiting some smart protean work; Lydney Lee's conjuring is cleverly done; Hall and Earle in eccentric comedy gain great laughter; and the Bioscope concludes an excellent programme.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Scutt.—After a long interval, a welcome return visit is paid here this week by Messrs. C. and F. Renad's famous pantomimical comedy *The Swiss Express*. Excellent fooling is displayed by Messrs. Charles and Frederick Renad as Dr. Gull's eccentric servants; and Mr. Basil Reynolds as Bob Rollingstone, Mr. Harry H. Vernon as Rhino, Mr. Wilfred E. Brandon as the quack doctor, and Messrs. A. E. Cooke and G. Mason as the guests at the inn also assist the scheme of rollicking fun. Miss Celestine Brandon as Virginia is a dainty bride; and Miss Lottie Stone's "Palace" Quartet dance well.

HASTINGS PIER PAVILION.—Pier-Master, Mr. R. Turner; Entertainment-Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—On Whit-Tuesday a flying matinée visit was paid here by Mr. Harry Fragson, who gave a selection from his French and English songs. The clever artist received abundant applause. As to the ordinary programme, Miss Jessica Brooke is a dainty little comedienne and dancer; Mr. Charles Clifford is very skilful on the harp; some remarkable feats of illusion and magic are shown by Prince Ishmael and Mlle. Valeria; Nelson Hardy's ventriloquial performances are singularly original. A very laughable sketch, *The Belle of the Kitchen*, is introduced by Mr. J. D. Hunter's comedy company. The part of the Belle is delightfully played by Miss Blanche Bayley; Miss Eva Bayley gives a touch of distinction as the mistress; while Mr. J. D. Hunter (in the police force) creates great laughter by his incomparable gift of humour. The Army is well represented by Mr. Howell Sequin and the milkman by Mr. Charles Hawker. Miss Lalie Brooke sings some pleasing songs. Some quiet and superior acrobation is shown by the Bros. Bright, and some new and novel pictures are seen on the Bioscope.

HASTINGS HIPPODROME AND THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Norman.—With the garb and antics of the monkey, Mr. Aldro Lukos exhibits some original gymnastic feats; Farrell and Miller are droll in dialogue and entertaining in song and dance; Beau and Belle, in *A Pierrot's Serenade*, score a complete success; an attractive comedienne is seen in Miss Violet Stockelle; and some special films by the Hippodrome Bioscope make a welcome variation. A new farcical comedy sketch, *My Braces*, is well acted by Messrs. Leonard Robson, Alec Chrichton, and Miss Eileen Concanon. Later on these clever artists are associated in another similar entertaining sketch. The Paulo Brothers gain much applause for their acrobatic antics; the impersonations given by Mr. Richard Teinberg are remarkable for their vital realisation; and Miss Lily Eyton charms all by her pleasing manner and style of singing.

ST. LEONARDS PAVILION THEATRE. — Pier-Master and Entertainment-Manager, Mr. Elvey Thomas.—Messrs. Clark and Gallimore's San Francisco Coloured Minstrels are giving great delight here this week. They are artists of great ability, and in their dancing and singing, in their part-songs, and humorous ditties they quite excel. A selection of ballads and comic songs comprises the first part of their entertainment; this is followed by miscellaneous items—quartettes, trios, and sketches. Their interlocutor is Mr. Lawrence, and besides the proprietors the company include the Great-Little Thomas and Messrs. Alma Priestley, Steve Louch, G. Richins, the Two Chandons, Sadie Gold, and Edward Camplin.

HORWICH.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Oliver Wade; Manager, Mr. Alec. Harcourt.—This week the Imperial Electric Animated Picture Company provide the entertainment, and exhibit some very fine pictures. Varieties are introduced by Miss Marie Rivers, a very pleasing serio; Mr. Frank Dandy, an excellent comedian; the Dunlops, comedy cyclist and roller skaters; Miss Sivado, lady gymnast; Mr. H. Watson, swell comedian; and M. Sardou, in an exciting illusion entertainment.

HUDDERSFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Andrews.—That good old drama *The Streets of London* is proving a satisfactory attraction for the holiday crowds. A clever cast includes Mr. William Rokeby as Badger, Mr. Gerald Kennedy as Bloodgood, and Mr. Charles O'Connor as young Fairweather, Miss Dorothy Mayhew is the banker's haughty daughter Alida and Miss Violet Hammersley a sympathetic Lucy. Mr. Joe Bracewell, a sterling comedian, appears as Puffy, Miss Helena Rigby as his better half, and Miss Florence Moore as Puffy Junior. The evergreen play is well mounted and staged.

HIPPODROME, LTD. — Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—A well-varied bill is headed by Radford and Valentine in their clever and humorous medley of juggling and burlesque. Other turns are by Charles Russell, character vocalist; Winona, an expert handler of the rifle; Rossi Ashton, a clever caricaturist; Howard and St. Clair in their smart medley; Judge's well-trained troupe of cockatoos; Alf Hurley and Maud Cole, duettists; La Berat, in a brilliant and richly coloured series of illuminated dances; and an interesting film on the Bioscope.

HULL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. Morton; Resident-Director, Mr. W. F. Morton.—It is a pleasant change which brings into our midst Mr. Albert Chevalier, no longer as the singer of those ballads with which his name is ever associated, but as an actor. His programme consists of a triple bill. Two of the plays are products of his own pen—*Atonement*, a powerful one-act drama, the second, *The Dream of His Life*. The third item, a beautiful Barryesque little play, *Pantaloon;* in the title-rôle Mr. Chevalier portrays the old man to perfection. In this little play he has excellent support from Miss Mabel Garden and that clever actor, Julian Cross. A notable performance is that of Little Dorrit, the clown. Remarkably fine is Mr. Chevalier's picture of the Rev. Philip Cartwright in *Atonement*.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—The summer season has opened this week, carrying with it the right to smoke, which is much appreciated. The play selected is *Sapho*, in which Miss Annie Bell takes the name-part. Mr. Otto Minster gives a fair representation of Jean Gausin. The company loyally supports Miss Bell.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Morton's, Ltd.—*The Tyrant*, a strong Venetian drama, is a play just suited to the tastes of a Bank Holiday audience. Miss Marie Dagmar gave a clever reading of the rôle of Thisbé, and added by her conception of the part a new claim to recognition as an actress of much talent. As the hero, Mr. John Cecil was an effective representative; Mr. Percy Brown is an excellent comedian, and in developing the humorous side was assisted by Mr. Willie Barrett and Miss Olive Lloyd.

HYDE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. R. Feather.—Mr. Lingford Carson's drama, *Defending His Honour*, is appealing to holiday-makers this week. Mr. John Davidson makes an excellent Douglas Bryce, and the numberless disguises he adopts demonstrates his versatility; Mr. C. Earle plays the difficult part of Stephen Graid with much discretion; and as George Duncan, alias Cyrus Wentworth, Mr. J. D. Geddes is most effective. Mr. Evan Roland in his original part of Jack Damish displays histrionic powers of a high order; Mr. Fred L. Arthur as Richard Verison, and Mr. Haughton Macaulay as Dick Verison, keep the house in a roar of laughter; and they are ably assisted in their efforts by Mr. Edmund Lyons as Mrs. Theresa Verison (her original part) and Miss Sybil Haughton as Trixie Lucien. Miss F Melrose Millett is a statuesque Ethel Bryce, and plays a highly-emotional part with much distinction; the two boys, Harry and Jack Bryce, are depicted with real feeling and sympathy by Miss Massie Angus and Miss Dorothy Vaughan. Other parts are capably interpreted by Mr. Fred Carroll (David Pellar), Mr. G. F. Roberts (Captain Hampton), Mr. T. W. Russell (Henri Vidame), Mr. Sam Hoggarth (P.C. Emerson), Mr. H. Melville (Jean Baptiste), Miss Norah Egerton (Nurse Sugden), and Miss Agnes Norton (Jane).

ILKESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—*Under the Czar*, by Mr. Fred Jarman's company, is the attraction for the holiday week. In the rôle of Nicholas Yeroslaff, Mr. Wilson Howard displays ability; Sonia Gregorovitch is ably portrayed by Miss Caroletta Anson; Mr. George H. Doyle figures well as Count Nesseldorf; Mr. Fred M. Best does capable work as Nikon; Egor Gregorovitch and Michael Granoviski are well sustained by Messrs. J. Leicester and R. Merring; Mr. Carl Vallender presents a quaint interpretation of Alexis Petroff; and Mr. Arthur Weston makes an amusing Paul Ignat.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. James Morley.—The Le Grays head the bill; and other artists are Victor, refined entertainer; Flo Grant, balladist; Little Jacko, eccentric patter comedian; May Mills, comedienne and dancer; and Ted Evans, eccentric comedian.

IPSWICH.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Leonard Grey.—*When We were Twenty-one* is being played here by a good all-round company, under the management of Miss Dorothy Cacey. Mr. Riddell Robinson enacts Richard Carew in a forcible and sympathetic manner; Mr. Edgar J. Coyne is capable as Sir Horace Plumely; Mr. George Henson is quite at home as the Imp; and Miss Dorothy Cacey in the part of the Firefly is quite successful. Miss Mildred Hodson also scores as Phyllis.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—Miss Alexandra Dagmar, who is heading the bill here, has been received with enthusiasm by crowded audiences. Another effective turn is that of the Three Bounding Pattersons, American acrobats, with wonderful somersaults and feats on the triple bar. Other items include Bert Williams, ventriloquist; Tony Iveson, vocalist and pianist; Tom E. Hughes, with amusing songs; Gus W. Blake and Maude Granby, clever duologue artists, who appear in a sketch, entitled *The Man in Possession;* Kitty Clover and company in an interlude, *Mr. There's Heir;* and Minnie Mace, a graceful dancer.

JARROW.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson.—Mr. E. Hill Mitchelson's company is here with *When the Lights Are Low*. Mr. George Daiper gives a manly portrayal of Guy Goldsworthy; Mr. S. E. Scanlon plays with force as Roland Goldsworthy; Ikey Isaacson is ably looked after by Mr. Lance Usher; Mr. Francis Serle, Mr. James E. Abbott, and Mr. Russel Bogue are highly amusing as Willie Wilkins, Tim Wilkins, and Donald Macpherson, and they are well supported by Miss Cissie Podmore as Kathleen Kerry; Miss May Ediss is a capable Stella; Nancy Christie is carefully presented by Miss Violet Carlyle; and Miss Amy Elham does full justice to the part of Violet Christie.

JERSEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Edward Marris.—*Are You a Mason?* is the holiday attraction here. Mr. Tom Payne is a mirth-provoking George Fisher; Mr. George Blunt an excellent Amos Bloodgood; Mr. Walter B. Nugent a particularly good Frank Perry; the North-country accent of John Halton is excellently rendered by Mr. Robert Barton; Mr. C. B. Williams does well as Hamilton Travers, and Mr. Arthur Ingle is well placed as Ernest Morrison. Miss Emily Stevens gives an especially graphic presentation of the suspicious and jealous Caroline; Miss Ethel Ward is a charmingly attractive Eva; whilst Annie and Lulu are prettily represented by Miss Josephine Preece and Miss Norah Melton, and Lottie is amusingly played by Miss Beaumont Collins.

KEIGHLEY.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Carson and Kendall.—Mr. Lingford Carson's company in *The Power of the Cross* has drawn crowded audiences nightly. The play was first produced here, and several of the artists are local favourites. Mr. George A. De Gray (the author) is seen in the principal character, Baron Curzola, and displays marked ability. Gerald Fairfax, in the hands of Mr. Charles E. Linney, receives admirable treatment; Mr. Alexander J. Haviland does full justice to the part of Dr. Leslie Fairfax; Mr. Richard E. Nugent brings plenty of humour to bear on the part of Timothy O'Dowd; Miss Cicely Desmonde's capabilities are shown in the handling of the part of Rita Lascelles; Miss Marie Menzies displays much ability as Margaret Seaton; Miss Phyllis Vaughan is a successful Blanche Kingsley.

KETTERING.—AVENUE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Payne.—The attraction this week is a variety entertainment, to which excellent turns are contributed by Ruth Cattello and Fritz Reiff, the Tkatchas, Li Chang Hi, the conjurer; the Four Sisters Sligo, musical entertainers; the Camerons, Warden Reed and Miss Stevens, Staffo, and the Sisters Carlton.

KING'S LYNN.—NEW ROYAL THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. J. Bannister Howard, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Herr B. Pareezer.—A. G. Spry is responsible for some excellent songs, and is enthusiastically received; Ruby and Laws give a superior vocal and humorous act, *In Old Madrid;* and Miss Kate Avey is a fascinating vocalist and dancer. Newham and Latimer give a farcical turn; the Musical Keiths are clever; and some good pictures by Jury complete an excellent programme.

LANCASTER.—ATHENÆUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. S. Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alfred Hook.—The present week brings the season to a close, and Mr.

is a marvel. He is ably assisted by Miss May with some smart patter and dancing. The Martulla Troupe win hearty applause; as also do Hyde and Cody, eccentrics. George Bendon, the white coon; Nancy Renshaw, comedienne and bone soloist; George Edney, character vocalist; and the Hippograph, complete the bill.

LEAMINGTON. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Manager, Mr. Harry Hunter.—Holiday-makers are well provided for at Leamington. Messrs. Ediscope and Barnum's animated picture and variety company being the attraction at the theatre. The pictures include some excellent films of a pathetic and amusing character. A very good variety company includes the Cedrics, speciality artists; Mr. Loder Lyons, ventriloquist; Lulu, lady musician; and Vela, an expert wire walker.

LEEDS.—GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Edward Cadman.—A crowded and enthusiastic house gathered here on Monday to welcome that brilliant young couple, Mr. Seymour Hicks and Miss Ellaline Terriss, in their new play, *The Beauty of Bath*. Beautifully dressed and lavishly mounted, the piece was an instant success. Briskness and vivacity is the keynote of Mr. Seymour Hicks's performance of Lieut. Alington, and his dashing presence and effective by-play proved most entertaining. Miss Terriss delighted all by her artistic portrayal of Lady Betty; the company contains a juvenile comedian of great ability in Master Valchera, who is provocative of much merriment at every appearance; Miss Sydney Fairbrother is also very successful with the low-comedy part of Mrs. Goodge; Mr. Lawrence Caird is effective as Lord Quorn; Mr. Stanley Brett acts well as Mr. Beverley, Alington's double; Miss Florence Lloyd is seen in a charming portrayal of Alington's mother; and Miss Nell Carter and Miss Maudi Darrell also acquit themselves well. The remaining parts are all in good hands.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—*Two Little Vagabonds* is once again filling this theatre to overflowing, being excellently presented by Hardie and Von Leer's company. The juveniles, Dick and Wally, are very cleverly played by Miss Edie Martin and Miss Josie Beltram; and Mr. Lionel Ellis also finds favour for a powerful conception of Gaffer Bill Mullins. The cast includes Mr. Arthur Melborne and Miss Grace Heywood, in leading parts; whilst Mr. Sidney Voiture and Miss Rosslyn Vane are also prominent.

EMPIRE.—Moss Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alex Galley.—That popular idol, Vesta Tilley, is once again in evidence here, and the warmest and most demonstrative welcome is her nightly portion. Tina Clementa introduces a most interesting animal show, both horse and dogs displaying rare intelligence; the Strads are warmly applauded for their musical act; the Northern Troupe of dancers are very expert in their exhibition of various styles; Victor Newman impersonates leading actors with rare fidelity; Alice May and company hit the public taste with a clever protean sketch; and of the rest, Kitty Wager, comedienne; Fred Poplar, an old favourite; and Allan Hanbury, comedian, acquit themselves specially well.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter De Frece.—Marie Loftus tops the bill at the popular Palace, and the clever lady gets a big reception nightly; Charles Deane is a big favourite, his smart songs being received with acclamation; Ingram and Irving are doing well with their comedy act; the popular coloured vocalist, W. H. Downs, again comes in for a hearty reception; Charles Clark is a comedian of merit; and interesting turns are also done by Rosie Reval, comedienne, and Sisters Belmont, duettists.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Thos. Barrasford; General-Managers, Mr. Chas. Weldon and Mr. Claude Shayler.—Harry Ford is at the head of a strong holiday bill, and his items are much to the liking of crowded houses. Other popular comedians appearing are Harry Brown and Fred Hastings. Percival and Morley do an enjoyable comedy sketch with success; Jimsons' uproarious sketch, *Burglar's Surprise*, is well to the liking of the audience; whilst Fulbrook and company are no less successful in their mirthful *Astronomy* burlesque. The Brothers Lavelle are very entertaining with comedy acrobatics; Frank and Alice Lurin contribute an acceptable comedy act; and Ben Hur, renowned athlete; Flo Warner, vocalist; and Lottie D'Abbey, comedienne, complete an attractive programme.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Jones.—The Six Æolians head the list here with a capital vocal and dancing act; Tennyson and Wallis, the favourite comedians, are doing well at the bottom of the bill; Recco, burlesque acrobat, is vastly amusing; Winifred Ward scores a good success as male impersonator; and the Sisters Hall, duettists; G. W. Foster, comedian; Mozzetto, juggler; H. Pawson, in pot-pourri act; and the Wilfords, equilibrists, are also popular entertainers.

LEICESTER.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton.—The holiday attraction here consists of a special production of the evergreen *East Lynne*, adapted by Mr. Herbert Shelley, in which the late Mr. Henry Dundas was to have appeared as Archibald Carlyle. An excellent representative company have been engaged, who are to be commended for a good all-round performance. Mr. G. P. Polson as Archibald Carlyle maintains his reputation as a sound actor; and as Lady Isabel, Miss Louise Peach plays convincingly. Mr. E. W. Maule Cole as Captain Francis Levison does well; and Mr. W. J. Mitchell makes a capital Inspector Johnson. Both Miss Marie Scharning as Barbara Hare and Miss Esther Carthew as Miss Corny Carlyle give portrayals of much merit. The other characters are in safe hands, and the play is staged in good style.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. E. R. Beaumont. — Mr. Leonard Dalrymple's company is presenting the sensational drama, *As Midnight Chimes*, to crowded houses. Mr. Leonard Dalrymple makes an excellent impression as Dave Stannard; and as the evil genius, Luke Dezzard, Mr. Herbert Belmore plays well. Miss Maud Hastings is very good as Mary Stannard; and as the Hindu girl, Zamora, Miss Mary Swires is capital. Both Miss Madge Beresford as Suzette, the French maid, and Mr. James Salter, as Pat Spavvin, give popular and amusing portrayals. Miss Marion Ryder as Little Davy is deserving of much praise; and Mr. Herbert Pearce as Ezra Gamble is commendable.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Bertram G. Iles.—Record holiday audiences are kept in a continual ripple of merriment by Mr. Lew Lake and company, in the *petite* comedy-drama, *My Pal Jerry*, which forms the principal attraction here. Mr. Lew Lake as Nobbler Nolan and Mr. Bob Morris as Jerry Jackson are particularly good; and are aided in excellent style by Mr. Harry Lavers as Justice Downs and Mr. Charles Graydon as K.C. Curtis. Marie Santoi presents a delightful vocal novelty scena, entitled *A Japanese Tea Garden*, which receives a good reception; Sylvesta, assisted by Miss Vera De Courtenay, scores a well-deserved success as a magician; one, Billy Farrell, maintains his popularity as a clever coon artist; Anna Hope, who possesses a good contralto voice, is warmly welcomed for her illustrated song, "My ain folk"; David Poole is a capable and amusing ventriloquist; Collins and Rice, the gagging rhymesters, create hearty laughter; and the American Bioscope is also a feature of the programme.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joe Lawrence.—A crowded house and a warm welcome awaited Carlotta de Yonson and her popular sketch company here on Monday, when they presented *Crime and the Criminal*, the leading parts being well played by Mr. Charles A. Carlile, Mr. C. Douglas Carlile, and Carlotta de Yonson. The Pichel Troupe of Risley acrobats are making a deservedly big hit with a performance of exceptional smartness; Walter H. Pallister's Bioscope is still a very popular feature; and other capital turns are contributed by Rhoda Burnhill, speciality dancer; Frankie Newcombe, vocalist; Lil Harpley, comedienne; and Jock Mackoy, Scotch comedian.

LEIGH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Cragg; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Rousby.—Mrs. S. Duckworth's company is appearing here this week in the stirring drama, *Her Nameless Child*. Mr. J. W. Evelyn's impersonation of Anthony Ford is one of great excellence; Mr. Eilerslie Pyne wins execration as the unscrupulous Lord Henry Woodville; Mongrove is ably represented by Mr. Fred Griffiths; and as Arthur, Mr. Herbert Evelyn gives a successful rendering. Miss Pattie Hastings is entirely in sympathy with the character of the unfortunate Phyllis Ford; Miss Grace Jones acts with distinction as Lady Sibil Woodville; and Mr. Fred Danvers as Tom Rivers and Miss Florence Hall as Bessie Brooks ably represent the humour of the piece.

LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—Mr. Frank Lindo's drama, *Home, Sweet Home*, has a theme always sure to enlist sympathy, and the interest is well maintained. The author himself appears to advantage in the rôle of Steve Armitage, ably supported by a good company, including Miss Marion Wakeford, who brings both charm and talent to her impersonation of Joan. The Duke of Ancaster finds a dignified representative in Captain Gerald Gambier; Lucas Lyle, the evil genius of the play, is well acted by Mr. F. Miles Hodgson; David Armitage is consistently portrayed by Mr. D. Lawrence Doyle; and the smaller parts of Dick Redmayne and Solomon Kerry are effectively rendered by Mr. George Overs and Mr. T. Lewis. The comedy element, not unduly predominant, is mainly in the hands of Mr. Jack Patrick as the Hon. Percy, Miss May Rochefort as Sybil Fay, and Mr. Lionel Ray as an old Rustic; while Mr. Ernest E. Owens and Miss Cecil Ward, as aristocratic types, provide further amusement. Mr. Danvers gives a pleasingly natural sketch of a village doctor; and more than a word of praise is due to a very juvenile actress, Miss Daisy Rochefort, for her acting in the child's part of Dora

LINCOLN.—ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Frank King.—*The Soldier of Fortune* is being presented by a company under the direction of Mr. Haldane Crichton, in which Mr. Godfrey Tearle and Miss Molly Malone cleverly take the leading parts. Mr. Alfred Gray as Stephen Cunningham, Mr. William Lowe as Dr. Thorn, Mr. Cyril Este as Colonel Ferrars, and Mr. E. T. Sayers as a jovial innkeeper, add to the effect of the play.

PALACE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Sydney Arthur.—Always welcome to Lincoln is Maidie Scott, who is accorded a flattering reception nightly. There is no warmer favourite at this hall, and her demure "Amen" song, and her newest success, "Carrots," create a furore. Oakdene has a smart ventriloquial act; Fasola's illusions are astounding; and the Maples present a very entertaining duologue. The Leotard Brothers have lost none of their dexterity; and Adey Spencer, Kisbey, and Raymond's Bioscope, complete the bill.

LIVERPOOL.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—On Monday the new musical play, *My Darling*, made its first appearance in Liverpool, and to Miss Marie Studholme, the principal in the really charming work, was accorded a most hearty welcome. As Joy Blossom she sang and danced with her well-known grace and sprightliness, receiving encores for her songs, "The glow-worm," and "Flirting." Mr. J. F. McArdle stood out prominently as the humorous Sir Henry Heldon, arousing much enthusiasm with his song, "Nobody"; Mr. Henry A. Lytton afforded great support as the military Hon. Jack Hylton, scoring in the duet, "Do you follow me?"; Mr. Armand Kalisy's vocalism in the rôle of Maurice Le Blanc earned for that artist general appreciation; Miss Barbara Deane was a charming Daphne Bell, her singing calling forth loud applause; as Gabriel Renee, Miss Alice Hollander earned considerable appreciation; Miss Alice Barth made an admirable Lady Heldon; the rôle of Mrs. Pomeroy P. Green was most amusingly presented by Miss Helen Kinnaird; in the character of Sir James Jagg Mr. Will Bishop introduced with effect two unique dances; Mr. Tom Graves proved exceedingly funny as Oddy; Miss Marguerite Leslie was a sweet Sylvaine; and Mr. Archie McCraig did his best as the page boy. After this week the theatre closes for the summer season.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE. — Managing-Directors, Messrs. E. Stevens and R. C. Buchanan; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—*The Christian* paid a return visit here this week, with Mr. Wentworth Croke's No. 1 Company. Mr. E. Howard Templeton played with considerable effect the part of John Storm; Miss Grace Chalmers earned the affections of her audience by her fine portrait of Glory Quayle; Mr. F. Scarth did his utmost with the rôle of Lord Robert Ure; Mr. Frank Beresford capably interpreted the character of Horatio Drake; and other strong supporters were Messrs. Edwin Ling (Father Lamplugh), Charles Hill (Parson Quayle), Wilfred Noy (Brother Paul), Mr. Charles E. Dering (Archdeacon Wealthy), Miss Vashti Wellborne (Polly Love), and Miss Molly Hayden (Mrs. Callander). On Thursday afternoon Madame Jane Hading and company paid a flying visit with *Frou-Frou*.

ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—The public have not been slow to appreciate the excellent fare offered at the north-end theatre this week, with the result that *Leah Kleschna* has done good business. The company sent by Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh is the best that has been seen here for years, including as it does Mr. William Clayton (who assumes the late Mr. Paul Belmore's part of Kleschna), Mr. William F. Grant (a capital Sylvaine), Mr. Hamilton Deane (Raoul), Campbell Goldsmid (a powerful Schram), Miss Ethel Russell (Madame Berton), and Miss Haidee Wright (whose rendering of Leah was watched with breathless interest). Messrs. Ronald Daniel (Valentine), Frederick Bauerman (Baptiste), and Miss Violet Thorrold (Sophie) afford worthy support.

LYRIC — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—The popular Florrie Gallimore heads the bill here this week, and, being a favourite, has a hearty reception for her taking songs; Chanti, as a protean artist, affords the utmost satisfaction; Ike Scott and Son present two neat scenas, *The Blind Coster* and *The Military*; Adams and Ward are a particularly funny couple; the singing of the Steinway Glee Party is listened to with evident pleasure; Josie Delaine has some artistic songs and dances; McDonald and Huntington raise laughter; and Canard, contortionist, also appears.

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg. — Walter Howard's stirring drama *Man and Wife* has proved a strong attraction here during the week, the company presenting it being that of Mr. T. Edward Ward. Mr. John F. Traynor affords the utmost satisfaction as Paul Revere; Miss Kate Hallam presents a most sympathetic Marcelle; Mr. Wilson Coleman gives a telling representation of the villainous Captain D'Esparre; Messrs. Edward Van Biene and Ambrose Horton acquit themselves well as Latour and Jacques; great laughter follows the work of Messrs. Sidney Bryant and Van Gully as the twins; and Miss Pollie Denville as Rosette, Miss Ethel F. Greene in the character of Jean, and Miss Violet Temple as Ruth are excellent.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—The Ministrel Maids, a number of good-looking girls, make their first appearance in this country. They provide the old-time nigger show, with nice songs, choruses, and smart jokes. A harp solo by Mr. Harry Chapman adds to the enjoyment; a much appreciated turn is the marvellous juggling of the Morris Cronin Troupe; the Dillons executed difficult and amusing feats as gymnasts; the Carina Sisters have a refined and pleasing musical mélange; Helen Charles has a pretty drawing-room entertainment; much laughter is aroused by Keith and Merson, with their hunting absurdity, *The Meet*; Dan Thomas is as funny as ever; a clever show is given by Wylies's dogs; and also in the list are Stan. Aubrey, eccentric legmania comedian, and Tod Lowen, comedian.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—*Queen of the Night* is being played here by the "Royal" stock company. Mr. Percy Boucher makes a humorous Adolphus Briskett; Mr. Harry Tresham is a manly Frank Featherstone; Mr. Sydney Grant plays powerfully as Philip Stoneleigh; and Mr. Robert Wilton handles the part of David Pentreath with effect. Miss Nellie Bonser distinguishes herself as Maude Sylvester; and Miss Beryl Ravenswood in the name-part does excellently.

HAYMARKET.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. Edwin W. Smith.—Harry Calden and company still head the bill here, giving this week *The Harvest; or, Back to Dear Old Erin*. The Hallwood Four, gentlemen athletes, provide an interesting gymnastic scena; little Marie Dane pleases with her songs and dances; Jake Euston, coon vocalist and dancer, is a good turn; and some capital pictures are shown on the Bioscope.

WESTMINSTER.—Lessee, Mr. Fred B. Welsker; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—Regan and Ryan are at the head of the programme here this week, keeping their audiences in the best of humours; Russell Carr gives a novel ventriloquial turn; as a comedienne and acrobatic dancer Edie Endon is most acceptable; Brennan and Dewey are a couple of lively rag-time singers and dancers; some remarkable conjuring and illusions are performed by the youthful Val Vair; and Patty Yole, comedienne and dancer, also appears.

OLYMPIA, LTD.—District-Manager, Mr. Albert Bulmer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wighton.—Mr. Bransby Williams tops the bill here this week, and is working hard by presenting a different set of characters at each performance throughout the week; *The Punch Bowl*, an old English musical scena, presented by F. Wood, G. Ide, Sidney Eracey, Robert Selby, Millroy Cooper, and Ralph Nairn, affords much pleasure; the Five Eugenes perform some marvellous acts on the flying trapeze; the trick violin playing of Carlos Menard showed a deal of skill; a pretty musical, military scena, *Back to Barracks*, comes from Dennis Drew; a deal of merriment is occasioned by Fred Cullane's Comedy Four; and also in the list are Fanny Erris, character comedienne, Charles Kay, with plenty of excellent patter and songs, and Gwennie Hasto, chic comedienne and fancy dancer.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.—A capital all-round programme is provided here this week, at the top of it being the name of R. A. Roberts, the wonderful protean actor, who has been delighting large audiences with his *Ringing the Changes*; Pat Rafferty has a hearty reception for his Irish songs; the Delevines bring their latest mélange *Flipp and Flopp*, which is particularly funny; Fred and Pauly go through some astonishing head-and-hand balancing; Nellie Coleman, the "female comedian," pleases immensely; Bonnie Goodwin's Apollo Piccaninnies earn loud applause for their smart dancing; the Cronophone is witnessed with deep interest; the Eisteddfod Vocal Sextette bring down the house with their charming singing; and others who appear include Les Uniques, ladder balancers, and Dome, comedy clay modeller.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors, Liverpool Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. James Marks.—Heading the bill this week is the successful sketch, *Sally in Our Alley*. Walter George's smart set of entertainers are loudly applauded for their work; Albert Le Fre renders several very taking songs; Cribb and Cribb raise much laughter; Les Voces sing tastefully several operatic selections; Nellie Dunbar proves popular as a comedienne and dancer; and others who appear are Arthur Croxon, mimetic comedian, Sydney and Maud, duettists and dancers, and Jeanie Hartley, a popular juvenile comedienne and dancer.

LLANDUDNO. — GRAND THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. A. G. Pugh.—Mr. Louis Calvert's company is here this week in *Sunday*. In the title-rôle, Miss Margaret Fareleigh is seen to great advantage; Mr. Leonard Pagden as Colonel Brinthorpe acts with telling effect throughout; Tom Oxley is in the capable hands of Mr. Ernest A. Douglas; and Towser (Mr. Wm. Lockhart), Davey (Mr. Sidney Rennef), and Lively (Mr. Cecil Yapp) all do exceedingly well, a special word being due to Mr. Cecil Yapp. Mr. Arthur Vezin as Jacky is excellent; and Miss Rosalind Ross as Mrs. Naseby and Miss Maude Ashley as a nun, are well placed.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Vaughan; Manager, Mr. J. Ritson.—Mr. Jerrard Grant Allen's company occupied the boards of the above theatre on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday with *The New Boy*. As Archibald Rennick, Mr. Leon M. Lion created fun throughout; Mr. Harry Ashford as Dr. Candy was good; Mr. George De Lara did well as Felix Roach; Mr. Wm. J. Rae did justice to the part of Theodore de Brizac; and Bullock Major was well played by Mr. Stanley Logan. Mrs. Rennick was in the capable hands of Miss Gertrude Bibby; and Miss Nellie Redwood as Nancy Roach was all that could be desired. *The New Boy* is preceded by a dramatic incident in one act, entitled *Meg the Mobswoman*, in which Misses Gertrude Bibby and Beatrice Manning, and Messrs. Stanley Logan and Harry Ashford, are conspicuous. On Thursday *The Idler* was played.

LOWESTOFT. — HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert; Manager, Mr. Frank Freeland.—The holiday programme here has proved highly attractive. An excellent series of pictures is supplemented by a variety combination of unusual merit. Harry Tomps is a capital comedian, and his quaint humour and patter established him at once as a favourite; the Alberto Troupe of acrobats are in great favour; and Miss Childie Stuart is highly successful.

MARINA.—Managing-Director, Mr. E. A. Smith.—For the Whitsun holidays we have a welcome return visit of *The Toreador*, presented by a capable company under Mr. Charles Macdona. Mr. Richard Adams does well as Pettifer; and Messrs. Fred Thompson (Sir Archibald) and J. H. Willis (Augustus Trail) are both admirably placed. Mr. Sydney Granville appears to advantage as Carajola; and Mr. Hy. Arthur is praiseworthy as the Governor of Villaya. Mr. Robt. Rous provides a genuine fund of humour as Sammy Gigg; and Miss Leah Howard appears successfully as Susan. Dora Selby and Nancy Staunton find charming representatives in the Misses Florence Ward and Mabel Gregory; Miss Gwen Clifford is suitably placed as Mrs. Malton Hoppings; and Miss Nina Carlton as Donna Teresa finds plenty of admirers.

MAIDENHEAD.—PAVILION PLEASURE GARDENS.—Proprietor, Mr. G. Gude.—Although an immense marquee is erected, Mr. Gude's resources were taxed to their utmost limits to accommodate his patrons on Whit Monday. The entertainment is of the usual high order, and the individual efforts of the troupe of cadets are enthusiastically applauded.

NORTHWICK HOUSE GROUNDS. — Messrs. Redfern and Richards have opened here for the season with their pierrot concert party. Numbers were turned away on Bank Holiday. Their programme is smart and varied, and they have every prospect of doing good business.

MAIDSTONE.—CORN EXCHANGE.—Manager, Mr. J. W. Beslee.—On Monday Mr. Frank Morrison's company opened in *Dandy Dick*. The piece was excellently staged, and well acted, those deserving of special mention being Mr. Philip Swinnerton as the Dean of St. Marvells, and Miss Florence Crundall as Georgina Tidman. These two characters were excellently played.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. S. Baskerville.—The principal items on a good holiday programme are *Vengeance*, a well-written dramatic sketch, excellently played by the Deane-Jennings company; Charles Coverdale, a very popular comedian and raconteur; Goggin and Davis, smart comedy acrobats; the Lennons excel as pedestal dancers; the Sisters Russell, duettists and dancers, are popular.

MANCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmondstone Shirra.—A second week of the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company includes the attractive répertoire of *The Yeomen of the Guard*, *Iolanthe*, *The Gondoliers*, *Patience*, and *The Pirates of Penzance* and *Trial by Jury*. These popular pieces are presented in thoroughly entertaining style, the company being excellent and the staging equally fine. Good houses have distinguished the fortnight's stay.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, LTD. — Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—A visit of Mr. Oscar Asche and Miss Lily Brayton to Manchester was welcomed with marked enthusiasm by a capital house here on Monday. The play presented was *The Taming of the Shrew*, and, in addition to Mr. Asche's powerful, easy depiction of Petruchio, a delightfully intelligent rendering of Katharina—a rendering which amounted to inspiration, and communicated a genuine thrill to the house at the last critical moment of her conversion—compelled the admiration of the audience for the bold, yet delicate, art of Miss Lily Brayton in this exacting character-part. The company supporting these two distinguished players is well chosen and highly capable, and includes Mr. Alfred Brydone, Mr. H. R. Hignett, Mr. G. Kay Souper, Miss Leila Norris, Miss Elsie Chester, and Miss Agnes Brayton among others who have occasional opportunities to shine. On Thursday *Othello* was presented with remarkable success, and on Friday Rudolf Besier's play, *The Virgin Goddess*. Manchester hopes for more frequent visits of the company.

GAIETY THEATRE, LTD.—Acting-Manager, Mr. H. M. Thorburn. — An interesting répertoire, including *David Garrick*, *David Copperfield*, and *The Coping Stone*, is offered here this week by a smart combination of players, headed by Mr. Chas. Cartwright, Mr. Gerald Lawrence, Mr. A. B. Tapping, and Mr. Charles Collette. Monday's matinée of *David Garrick*, with Mr. Gerald Lawrence in the title-part and Miss Fay Davis as Ada, was well received; and in the evening a good interpretation was given of *David Copperfield*, in which Mr. Charles Cartwright played Peggotty in consistent fashion; Mr. Lionel Belmore was excellent as Ham; Mr. A. B. Tapping made a life-like Uriah Heep; and Mr. Charles Collette presented an unctuous and finished comedy impersonation of Micawber; Mr. Gerald Lawrence being seen to good effect as Steerforth, and Miss Lorna Lawrence figuring satisfactorily as Little Em'ly. Other characters were well played, notably the Mrs. Gummidge of Miss Ethel Sarjient. Among the scenery, the home of the Peggottys—The Ark—is well put on, and the Dickens atmosphere is appreciable throughout. *The Coping Stone*, played on Thursday, is by Mr. Gerald Lawrence.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hearn.—The programme here this week comprises Montague Beaudyn's company, in a highly dramatic episode called *Jealousy*; Gus Harris, the Hebrew delineator (also figuring prominently at the King's, Longsight); Marie Blythe, a popular contralto vocalist; J. H. Dundas, actor-vocalist; the Olympian Lady Ju-jitsu Troupe, demonstrating the Japanese art of self-defence; Baker and Lindsay, in a bijou musical comedy; the Four Sisters Victoria, instrumentalists and dancers; and a series of amusing pictures.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. R. Flanagan; Manager, Mr. P. Ryan Smith. — An interesting domestic drama, *For Her Husband's Sake*, is offered here this week by Mr. Millar Anderson's company. The principal parts are played by Mr. Ernest G. Batley as Jack Seymour, Miss Gladys Lloyd as Maria, Mr. Charles Burdon as the licentious Herbert Grey, and Miss Ethyle Murray as Estelle Beaudit, a demi-mondaine, and the clever work of this essential quartette is neatly supplemented by the efforts of the remainder of a wholly capable cast.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Dry.—Mr. Robert Perris's company is presenting here the American drama *A Fight for Millions*. A well-staged and exciting play, the chief honours of its interpretation are earned by Mr. William Macready as Tom Manley, the inventor; Miss Winifred Symons, as Pearl Rivers, a true-hearted girl; Mr. Monson Thorpe, as the determined Richard Dudley, who is fighting for millions; and Miss Elma C. Turner as Helen Dudley, the deserted wife; while among other incidental characters, more or less interesting and amusing, some capital fun is contributed by Mr. Tom Jones, a Welsh comedian, as Clara-ap-Morgan, and Mr. Karl H. Edwards as Willie Neverwork, a tramp. Miss Dorothy Kent acts nicely as Little Madge.

QUEEN'S THEATRE. — Lessee, Mr. R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Berry. — This week sees the revival of *Joan of Arc*, a play originally produced here by Mr. Flanagan. It is elaborately staged, and made interesting by the clever acting of Mr. William Calvert as the Bishop, Mr. A. Clifton Alderson as Beauvais, Miss Ruby Loncraine as the Maid of Orleans (a very fine impersonation), Miss Clara Cowper as the Countess of Torrento, and Mr. J. H. Atkinson as Valianto. It is intended to run the play for a month or more, but its chances would be better were its three acts compressed into fewer scenes than fourteen. The staging, however, is fine.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—Full houses appreciate an excellent programme here this week. Alfred Agoust, in his juggling act, is exceedingly clever and amusing; Theo Bouwmeester is very smart in his portrayal of seven characters in his protean act, *Who is Guilty?* Miss Fenwick, who presents a novelty entitled *The Girl with the Golden Hair*, is gifted with an excellent voice; and the stage effects are impressive; strikingly effective is the military spectacle, *Egypt*, produced by Wallace Selkirk, and introducing a number of local children; Daley Cooper and company present a very human act, *Only a Clown*; William Lee and Helen Bentley are very amusing in their sketch, *A Friend in Need*; as also is Rosa Loader, aptly described as the happy slavey at the piano; while Robb Gilmore, a quaint comedian; Hinton and Wooton, in a football match on cycles; and the American Bioscope complete a capital entertainment.

HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—*Tally Ho!* remains here another week, to the delight of large audiences; Miss Amy Augarde and company present in fine style a Spanish episode, entitled *La Carmencita*; and Miss Lucie introduces Pavan, the mysterious gymnast, a turn novel and clever. Another notable turn is that of Kioto, the Japanese equilibrist; C. Randolph King is vastly entertaining in a protean act; Tom Owen, a capital Welsh comedian, makes a hit; the Mayvilles, in their Lilliputian act, are exceedingly good; and Johnson and Wells are smart vocalists and dancers. "Strike the lyre" is nicely rendered by the choir; and "Costumes of the Different Centuries" is a delightful film shown on the Bioscope.

KING'S (Longsight).—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. B. Taylor.—Gus Harris, the popular Hebrew delineator, is here this week in his new scena, *'Tis Primrose Day*, after a most successful week at the Hulme Hippodrome; Haley's delightful scena, *The Garden of Girls*, is greatly enjoyed; Duncan and Brasque present with success a playlet, entitled *A Society Butterfly*; and the Brothers Lillian go through a neat performance on the silver chain. Entertaining turns are provided also by Douglas and Gordon, the Scottish comedy couple; Simbri, the Burmese magician; Guy Ryder, an excellent siffleur; May De Rowse, comedienne and dancer; and Fred Dornon, actor-vocalist. The animated pictures are very amusing.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter de Frece; Secretary, Mr. Peter Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Tealor Wade.—*A Trip to Coontown* is the top star attraction here this week. It is an American musical mélange, played in characteristic style by a smart company of eighteen genuine coloured artists, and is greatly appreciated. Sam Elton is also to the front, and his clever business in the kitchen with tarts, eggs, and plates is productive of much laughter; Galetti's monkey comedians are almost human in intelligence; Bliss and Bliss prove very popular comedians; Mack Ollive whistles in a pleasing manner; the eccentric dancing of Mignonette Kokin is followed with interest; and Georgette Thierry and company are seen to advantage in an episode from "Oliver Twist," entitled *Nancy Sykes*. Other smart turns are those of Billy Williams, comedian; Dolly Denton, comedienne; and George Antill, "the shadow." Pictures complete.

TIVOLI. — Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Messrs. Hjorvard and Cantley's Bijou Opera Company top the bill here this week in *The Fatal Cup*, a dramatic operetta of merit, in which Mlle. Esse Viden and Messrs. Eos Clwyd and Charles Cantley are heard to advantage. Another excellent turn is that of Julie Kent and Alex Keith, in an exceedingly smart protean act, *A Village for Sale*; Hal Forde, the well-known comedian, makes a decided hit with his new "Doomsday Book" song; and Minnie Fenton, Scotch comedienne, is deservedly well received. Florence Leonard sings "I can see red roses blooming" in a pleasing style; Margarette Radcliffe is a burlesque artist with a fine presence, which is enhanced by the smart costumes she wears. Miss Radcliffe is well-known in Manchester, having taken a prominent part in local pantomime successes. She gives her songs with much spirit, and deservedly obtains a most cordial reception nightly. Capital items are also contributed by Ernest Fuller, a neat sleight of hand artist; Kloof and Ramsey, in a delightful comedy musical act; Sewell, the human marionette; and Harry Morgan, coon singer and dancer.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—Here this week Messrs. Sidney Dooley and Charles Seymour and company are to be seen in that capital musical comedy *A King for a Day*. It is ably played by Messrs. Will Letters, Harry Buss, Fred Brampton, and the Misses Edith Barwell and Elsa Brittingham. The dresses, scenery, and electrical effects are excellent. Robbins and Collier are exceedingly smart in their scena, *The Lady and the Porter*; and in a successful sketch, *The Peacemaker*, Mr. W. T. Ellwanger, Mr. Alfred Wellesley, and Miss Beatrice Webb, gain great applause. Shavo is an expert juggler with comic business; May and Ruby are sweet juvenile singers; the Brothers Robson sing and dance in a pleasing manner; Harry Lee sings in good style; the Landon Brothers are original contortionists; and the pictures, "Sports in Galway," are interesting.

HIPPODROME (Hulme).—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Kay.—*Gay Ostend* is a farcical musical extravaganza, presented with considerable success by Ernest Adrim (a wonderful knockabout) and company of comedians; Wee Mona Vivian, an exceedingly smart juvenile, makes a decided hit; and the Lombards, up-to-date speciality acrobats, go through a surprising performance. Mme. Sims Reeves sings well; Mayme Cannon, a novel trick pianist and comedienne, is good; and enjoyable turns are also offered by Doyle and Gibson, comedians and dancers; Olms and Carbeth, juggling comedians; Kendrick and Laura, a capital duo; and Payne Clarke, the well-known tenor. "Rescued in Mid-Air" is the subject of the bioscope, and is followed with interest.

MANSFIELD.—HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Herbert Darnley; Resident-Director, Mr. Tom Jennings; Acting-Manager, Mr. Mark Lorne.—The boards are occupied this week by Messrs. Elliman's company, in *A Heart's Desire*, and great crowds have attended each evening. Mr. Frank V. Fenn in the rôle of Lord St. Ives, alias Beautiful Jim, displays marked ability; Mr. Walter Kenion enacts the part of Luke Forrest in a very powerful manner; Mr. Roy Gordon is an acceptable Eric May; David McCullock is capably enacted by Mr. Charles King; in the part of Coombes, the butler, Mr. Eddie Vane causes great amusement; and the comedy of Mr. Sydney Claydon and Miss Ida Irving, in the respective parts of the Hon. Bertie Beresford and Gwendolen Ross, cause roars of laughter. Miss Enid Edoni plays with great pathos as Oiya; as Elsie Beresford, Miss Amy Dalby gives a very artistic rendering; and the part of Julie, the maid, is in the capable hands of Miss Emaline Resselle. The scenery is excellent and the staging praiseworthy.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, Mansfield, Sutton, and District Theatres, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Cecil Clayton.—An al fresco theatre was provided

BUCHANAN'S

"BLACK & WHITE"

THE WHISKY OF WORLD WIDE REPUTE

at the rear of the building, and it was proposed to commence open-air variety performances on Whit Monday evening; but the weather prevented this, and the show took place inside. Harry Josephs' Pagoda Pierrots were entertaining, and much appreciated. Among other successful turns was that of Mr. Charles Coborn, who received great applause; the performance of Lenton and Bertram was clever and mystifying; Prof. Lenton gave a skilful conjuring entertainment. Other good turns were provided by Marie Duncan, comedienne; Herbert Rogers and Arthur Burgoyne, comedians; and others. Good pictures were depicted on the theatre Bioscope. Excellent houses are the rule.

MARGATE.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr Edward Michael; Stage and Business Manager, Mr. A. Austin-Leigh.—Mrs. Patrick Campbell and company paid a flying matinée visit here on Saturday, and gave two performances to crowded houses. At the afternoon performance *Magda* was played, and in the evening *Hedda Gabler* was performed. The holiday attraction has been the appearance of Mr. Harry Paulton and Miss Annie Esmond, supported by the Margate stock company, under the direction of Mr. Austin-Leigh, in the comedy, *Niobe*. The part of Peter Amos Dunn has been, during the week, amusingly sustained by Mr. Harry Paulton, Miss Annie Esmond taking the rôle of Niobe charmingly. Capable support has been given by Mr. Robert Grey as Cornelius Griffin, Mr. Wallis Clark as Hamilton Tompkins, Miss Emmie O'Reilly as Helen Griffin, Miss Inez Bensusan as Caroline Dunn, Miss Belle Travers as Hattie Griffin, and other members of the company.

The Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtree.—Heading the bill here is Clown Zertho, with his wonderful performing dogs; Mlle. Haydee's Mannikins, a novel entertainment, is cordially received. Evie Hamilton, comedienne and dancer; Forest and King, in their clever speciality act; Mabel Thorne, comedienne; Harry Carsdale, the farmyard mimic; and the Five Casino Girls, a clever troupe of instrumentalists, all add to the enjoyment of the entertainment. The pictures again provide interest and amusement.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Albert Jackson.—*The Sledge Hammer* is being presented by Mr. George Henry's company. Mr. Alfred Burrows effectively undertakes the part of Everard Derrick; whilst Mr. A. B. Croucher and Mr. Hardy Maros are good as Jacob Derrick and Simon Derrick respectively; Mr. David Hamilton is excellent as Matthew Derrick; Miss Jessie Hope is natural and sympathetic as Rose Maywell; and Miss Ethel Stuart ably sustains the part of Maria Derrick.

Temperance Hall.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—This week we have Helene and Emilon, clever Continental gymnasts; an amusing pot-pourri act by Will and Rose; the Lovelaces, song illustrators; Mabel Kessler, musician; Borie, comedy juggler; and Alvar, and a new series of interesting pictures.

MEXBOROUGH.—Prince of Wales' Theatre—Manager, Mr. W. H. Melton.—A variety company provides the Whitsuntide attraction here. A capital programme is provided by Mr. Retsil, the excollier, and his child, thought-readers; the Boultons, speciality artists; Miss Ivy Gallard, comedienne; Professor Hulbert, ventriloquist; E. W. Selman, comedian; Mlle. Bartenelli, lady bender and gymnast, in her contortion act; Mons. De Lil, conjuror and illusionist; the Sisters Ely, duettists; Sam Shipley, comedian; and Crosby and Walker, comedians, patterers, &c.

MIDDLESBROUGH. — Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Charles Imeson.—*Miss Lancashire, Ltd.*, is the holiday attraction here. On Monday night Miss Florence Baines was unfortunately prevented through indisposition from taking the rôle of Mary Ellen Thompson, but a most capable substitute was found in Miss Kitty Jones. Mr. Burt Burton was amusing as Isadore Moses; and Mr. David Donalson was all that could be desired as John Higgins. Miss Gertie Douglas made a winsome Eva Lancashire; and Miss Nellie Birchenough was pleasing as Bridget Thompson. William Thompson had a clever representative in Mr. Hall Menzies; Mr. Patrick Evans as Harry Higgins and Miss Muriel Johnston as Bertha Higgins did full justice to their respective rôles; and Mr. Richard C. Hicks scored as Herbert Fox. Mr. Walter Hicks (Grant), Mr. Robert Turley (Smithson), and Mr. Charles Reeves (Morgan), also did well.

Opera House.—Proprietors, The Middlesbrough Grand Opera House Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. K. Chatto.—Mr. Charles F. Cooke's company, in *The Trumpet Call*, occupies the boards here this week. In the leading rôle of Sergeant-Major Milligan Mr. Charles F. Cooke is very good; and as Cuthbert Cuthbertson Mr. Leonard Yorke shows himself to be possessed of considerable dramatic ability. Miss Doris Gilham as Astrea plays a part full of fine emotional effort; and Miss Helena Millais is a clever representative of the part of Constance. Mr. J. B. Selby does full justice to the character of Flash Bob, his whistling solo in the third act being well received; Miss May Foster is good as Lavina Ginnifer; and Mr. Freddie Bentley is amusing as Tommy Dutton. Mr. David Beattie as Prof. Ginnifer is all that can be desired; while the parts of Richard Featherstone, Sir William Barton, and Mrs. Wicklow are well portrayed by Mr. John Dennys, Mr. J. Betterton, and Miss Amy Wood.

Empire Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Brill; Manager, Mr. Charles Rembges.—An excellent holiday programme is presented here this week. Hayman and Franklin provide the star turn, and create roars of laughter with their smart conversational turn; Dene and Dawson present a very funny sketch, entitled *Stage Aspirants;* and Webb and Branston are good as operatic duettists. Ina Lorimer, the juvenile Scotch comedienne and dancer, obtains a great reception; and the Selwyns contribute some pretty songs and dances. A clever exhibition of athletics is given by the Lafaille Troupe; and Sibb and Sibb perform some smart tricks on the trapeze. Other turns are provided by Marie Neilson and the Empire pictures.

Oxford Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Alf. Graham; Manager, Mr. R. L. Griffiths.—Harry Grey, the Australian nugget, delights crowded houses here this week, and his comical and original style causes much merriment. Wallan is an exceedingly clever juggler; and Montague Biggs is an excellent female impersonator. Charles Faning, assisted by Miss Lottie Charles, presents a quaint and mirth-provoking turn; and Percy Ferrimond, the famous singing collier, does well. Other artists who add to the attractiveness are Little Cliff, the boy wonder, and Olive Arundale, dainty comedienne.

MORECAMBE. — Royalty Theatre and Opera House.—Sole Lessee, Lieut. Julian Malvern; General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Julian.—Mr. Alfred B. Cross and company have been giving a fine interpretation of Hall Caine's story *The Manxman*. Mr. Cross is excellent as the fisherman Pete; Miss Minnie Watersford (Mrs. Cross) makes a charming Kate Cregreen; Mr. Sydney C. Kearns plays Philip Christian with much taste; and Mr. Frank Etheridge's Cæsar is sufficiently hard and un-Christian. On Friday evening the emotional play *Divorced* was given.

Winter Gardens.—Manager, Mr. Tom Atkinson.—The Marvellous Howards have been topping the bill here, and mystifying thousands with their silent thought transmission. The original Six Brothers Luck, in *The Hotel Grande*, have caused roars of laughter; comedy acrobatic business extraordinary is a term which might well be applied to the Cattaneos; and the eccentricities of those whirlwind dancers, Les Sousloffs, are away from all ordinary things. The Four Maisanos are smart musical clowns; Bob Hamilton is an amusing Scotch comedian; Dan Robans sings good songs; Florrie Conolly's Irish ballads are taking; Johnson and Bert have some novel things in their act, *A Queer Customer;* and the Sisters Marion are clever little duettists.

Central Pier. — Manager, Mr. E. Hill.—The Dandies, as presented by H. J. Corner, have met with a big success in their musical mélange; the Hulo Hodgson and Harry Lowther company, in the farcical episode *Barmaids* have caused great amusement; Wild, Willie, and West, in their trampoline and trap business, are excellent; Jules Kiaro holds his own against all hand-jumpers and pyramidists; Mme. Annie Grew has sung with much charm favourite songs; Simosa San is seen in a pretty juggling and balancing act; Mlle. Renee plays various instruments with equal ability; and Julian Mack is always an amusing dame.

Alhambra Palace. — Manager, Alderman John Gardner.—That wonderful trick and acrobatic cyclist, A. D. Robbins, has topped the bill here, and won golden opinions from all who have seen him during the week. The original Schiavonis have given a remarkable comedy acrobatic show; and Miss Olla is paticularly good. Carpet spinning, with electrical effects, has been specialised by the Spanish Goldinis. The other items have included Gillin, ventriloquial humorist; Zanfretta and Napio, musical eccentrics; Johnny Walker and Arthur Woodville, comedians; Kelby's Comedy Company, in an absurdity, *Midnight Visitors;* the Belmore Sisters, comediennes and dancers; and Arthur Goodman, tramp juggler.

West End Pier.—Secretary, Mr. Bastow.—Dale's Opera Company has met with a big reception here, as well as Ricardo and Salving, the unique acrobats.

NEATH.—Castle Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Will Hagger, jun. — The pantomime *Aladdin* is the attraction here. Miss Giddings is a charming Princess; Miss Jenny Lindon makes a capital Aladdin; Mr. Will Haggar is a stately Emperor; and Mr. Jack Desmond is good as Abanazar. The comic element is well supplied by Messrs. A. Stanley and E. Meadows as P.C's. Te-to-Tum and Te-to-Tim; Mr. G. Stanley as the Vizier is also good; Widow Twankey is in the capable hands of Mr. Fred Haggar. The pictures shown each night on the American Bioscope are well received.

NELSON.—Grand Theatre.—Proprietress, Mrs. T. Greenwood Croft; Business-Manager, Mr. Geo. E. Mudd.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company have occupied the boards here during Whit week with *A Sister's Sin*. A charming presentation of Winnie Hastings is given by Miss Violet Addison; Charzel, the revengeful gipsy, is capitally portrayed by Miss Augusta Franks; and the part of Redempta, the fallen gipsy, is entrusted to Miss Violet Langley. Mr. Edward Warden makes an impressive villain; and Mr. Arnold Allen acts well the rôle of Harold Raymond. As the rival lovers, Miss Edie Macklen and Miss Effie Mackintosh create plenty of amusement; Mr. McGowers as the happy Irishman being exceedingly funny.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—The farcical comedy, *Tom, Dick, and Harry*, played by an excellent company, is proving a great attraction here this week. Mr. George Unwin is a decided success as General Stanhope, a part he has now played over five hundred times, and Miss Violet Ellicott gives a very clever impersonation of Daisy Armitage. Other parts are capably taken by Mr. Fred Conyers, Mr. T. Brown-Elliott, Mr. John P. Jordan, Mr. Fred Manners, Mr. Paige Lawrence, Mr. Charles Ashby, Mr. William S. Foley, Miss Maud Arnold, Miss Dorothy Lambert, and Miss Evelyn Marrable.

Tyne Theatre and Opera House.—Lessees, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe.—Mr. Arthur Hardy's company occupies the boards here in *Beauty and the Barge*. The general lover and romancist, Captain Barley, is given an impersonation by Mr. Blake Adams convincing and complete in every detail. The company supporting is equal to all demands, and especial mention should be made of Mr. Fred Knight as Tom Codd, Miss Dido Drake as Ethel, Miss Mary Pemberton as Lucy, Miss Ruby Wyndham as Mrs. Baldwin, Mr. Edward A. Coventry as Lieutenant Boyne, and Mr. Aubrey Mallalieu as Herbert Manners.

Palace Theatre.—Manager, Mr. T. W. Rowe.—Instead of the usual drama, a vaudeville company provides the programme at the Palace this week. Chief on the bill is Dr. Walford Bodie, whose exhibition of his much-discussed bloodless surgery, hypnotism, the magic electric-chair, and other electrical apparatus form so remarkable and enjoyable an entertainment. A capital variety company includes Bella Skerne, burlesque actress and vocalist; Little Dolly Robson, one of Dr. Bodie's cures; Belford and Mars, comedy singers and dancers; Tom M. Mills, actor-vocalist; T. Durlah, comedian; the Musical Acmes; and Russell and Reed's company in a farcical sketch, entitled *Binks' Blunder*.

Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon.—The Russian drama, *The Price of Her Soul*, is being played here this week by Messrs. Shinton and Greenwood's company. The leading parts are taken by Mr. J. B. Shinton and Miss Ada M. Ryder. An attraction also is an entertainment entitled "Codology," in which the "Great Hughes" claims to expose all the tests, tricks, methods, and business of the hypnotists, and manages in the process to evoke a good deal of laughter.

Empire Theatre.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Mrs. John Lawson and company in the Tirade, *The Devil's Sunday*, provide one of the best turns at the Empire Theatre this week. A funny pair are Stelling and Revell, and Frank Seely, the popular eccentric comedian, wins hearty applause. Mr. and Mrs. Harold Finden present an exceedingly humorous duologue, *Two to One;* and other turns are the Boccaccio Minstrels, including Signor Francia; J. W. Rickaby, burlesque character comedian; the New York Nippers, in their scena, *Bed-Time;* and Percy Honri, the joking wind-jammer.

Pavilion Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Will H. Boardman.—A bold bid is made for favour this week by the management of this popular hall. Mr. Arthur Roberts and Miss Ruby Celeste appear in their well-known sketch, *The Woman Who Was*, in which the famous comedian has full scope for displaying his comic powers, both in respect to facial expression and power. Old favourites at the Pavilion in Hill and Whitaker give an excellent musical turn, and Miss Carlotta Levey proves as popular a serio as ever. Quaint comic songs are contributed by Mr. George Gilbey, and as great a turn as ever is the billiard-table act of Messrs. Kelly and Gillette. Others appearing are Mr. Pat Carey, Miss Maude Vera, the Elgars, and Mr. Harry Vardon.

NEWPORT.—Lyceum.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sidney Cooper.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company, in *Mr. Popple (of Ippleton)*, made its first appearance here on Monday, and throughout the holidays commanded big houses. Miss Millie Hylton, a star on the variety stage, is even more attractive in musical comedy. She has humour, personal charm, and acts admirably, singing her songs with point and daintiness; Mr. Arthur Longley, who appears as Freddy Popple, is an actor of exceptional cleverness, and kept the house in a roar with his quiet humour; Mr. J. S. Durrant scores as Norman Popple; and Mr. Robt. MacLachlan sang well as Jacques Kenyou. Mr. Tom May is humorous in the part of Platt; Miss Nellie Hodson makes a bright Louise; and Miss Cora Lingard is an excellent Violet Brinton.

Empire.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Major Gallaghar; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Page.—A capital holiday bill is provided here. The Kellinos perform some clever acrobatic feats; Boswell's Circus introduce well trained ponies, dogs, and a donkey; and Walter King (the doleful one) displays much humour in his patter; Daisy Jerome, in song and dance, has had a cordial reception; Woodhouse and Wills create a good deal of amusement; and Genaro and Theol, the india-rubber pair, evoke hearty applause; while Star and Leslie provide a speciality turn with novel effects. The Bioscope, showing some interesting pictures, completes the bill.

NORTHAMPTON.—Opera House.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Seddon.—*Her Love Against the World* is being presented here. Mr. Walter Howard, the author, plays the part of Eric, Earl of Strathmere, splendidly, while sincerity and power are always prominent; Mr. W. H. Hallatt puts in some capital work as Prince Othmar; Mr. Mayor-Cooke gives a forcible reading of the part of Ulric, Prince of Ravensberg, and brings out the evil traits with due significance; Mr. Alec Alexander is a manly and vigorous Prince Maurice; Miss Ellen Snow portrays the rôle of Iris, Princess of Idalia, with artistic success; Nello is admirably played by Miss Rossie St. John; Miss Blanche Steele is good as Shulah, as is Miss Julie de Esco as Corona; Fritz, Henrick, Katinka, and Gretchen (representing the lighter side of the drama) have able exponents in Messrs. Herbert Passmore, H. B. Lewis, Misses Lizzie Lennon, and Hettie Fergusson. Mr. Arthur Groves (Surgeon Capt. Helgar), Mr. Arthur J. Moss (Sergt. Kasper), and Mr. Richard Webb (General Gessler) give capital assumptions. The remainder of the long cast do well. The drama is produced by the author, and Mr. Richard Webb is the stage-manager.

Palace of Varieties.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Thos. A. Evans.—A capital programme of excellent variety is provided here this week. Les Valdos, in their absurdity, *The Eccentric Motor 'Bus Men*, and Hyram Travers (the "Pearly King") are at the head of affairs, and both score heavily. Other attractive items in the interesting holiday programme are supplied by the Florrias, the Custances, Milsted and Bell, Billy French, Fields and Lewis, Cosgrove and Burns, and the Sisters Melba, each being received with deserved applause. The Palace Pictures are of especial interest this week.

NORTH SHIELDS. — Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—On Monday evening Mr. Samuel James presented Miss Helen Vigor's company in *As Good as Gold*. Mr. Clinton Baddeley gave a capital renedering of Mark Williams; Mr. Jackson Hayes scored a success as Sir Richard Wharncliffe; and Mr. Fred Lloyd was much appreciated as Lieut. Jack Stanton. As Captain D'Arcy James Mr. Victor Rowlands made a decided hit; Mr. Herbert Fuller was well placed as Horatio Spanks; and Mr. Joseph Rowlands made the most of Timothy Nias. As Norah Williams, Miss Isla Garnet Vane won high praise; Miss Agnes Collier did well as Kate D'Arvile; Miss Bertha Baker made a satisfactory Kipper; and Miss Gertie Reid was a pleasing Madge Merry.

Central Palace.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—The Three Sisters' Troovies, acrobats, perform some very smart feats; Babs Lloyd, juvenile vocalist and dancer, is a great favourite; and Miss Daisy Morell, comedienne, has had a hearty reception; Mr. Charlie Vosper, mimic, has many admirers; the Harveys, comedy artists, go well; Messrs. Conway and Garland, entertainers, gain much approval; Mr. Bert Lytton, swell comic, has made a hit; the Bio-Photoscope shows interesting pictures.

NORTHWICH. — The Pavilion. — Proprietor, Mr. Glanmore Jones; Manager, Mr. Lindon Wyatt.—Walter Sutton in his laughing songs keeps the audiences in a continual roar of laughter; Mr. Rob Graham and Miss Millicent Davis are well received, both in song and humorous sketch, *My Husband;* Mr. Glanmore Jones and Mr. Fred Temple are again to the fore; the Raymond Biotableaux conclude a fine entertainment.

NORWICH.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Messrs. Matthew Glenville and Fred Osmond's company, in *The Still Alarm*, opened here on Bank Holiday for the week. Mr. Glenville was excellent as Jack Manby; and Mr. George Arthur equally good as John Bird. Mr. Tom Bensley scored as Willie Manby; and Mr. Fred Osmond was amusing as Dr. Wilber. Mr. Lewis Gordon gave a powerful rendering of the part of Franklyn Fordham; and Mr. Joe Jones was successfully portrayed by Mr. J. Sutton Pateman. Miss Maud Warburton was charming as Elinor Fordham; and Miss Hettie Zilwood was an attractive Carrie Wilber, her song receiving a hearty encore. Miss Mabel Veriton deserves praise as Mrs. Manley. The fire scene, in which the trained horses appear, caused hearty applause. The dresses and scenery are very effective.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—A good programme is presented this week and appreciated by large audiences twice nightly. Lockhart's Elephants, under Captain Taylor, are prime favourites here, and exhibit remarkable training; Tom Davis's Trio, in their turn, "whirling the whirl," create much excitement in their hazardous performance; Clemart proves a clever ventriloquist; and Stephens and Rennior, comedians and sand-dancers, are well received. Frank Coyle is a good comedian; and Harry Friskey is also successful. The Driscoll and Beattie Sketch Company is appreciated; and Onida Macdermott receives applause for her singing and dancing. The Hippo. Bioscope is most interesting.

NOTTINGHAM.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—The Compton Comedy Company pay a welcome return visit this week with a répertoire of plays, which includes *She Stoops to Conquer, Edmund Kean, The School for Scandal, The Gentleman in Grey*, and *David Garrick*. The last-named was staged on Monday night, when Mr. Compton again delighted the house with his fine impersonation of the title-rôle. Miss Mackenzie made a good impression as Violet, being both earnest and vivacious as required; the gruffness and asperity of Alderman Gresham were well depicted by Mr. Henry Crocker; and Mr. Dennis Cleugh made an amusing Tom Tallyhaut. The audience thoroughly enjoyed the humour of Misses M. Hassell and Barbara Pigott, and Messrs. Philip Gordon and G. W. Johnston. *She Stoops to Conquer* on Tuesday brought out the comedy talent of Mr. Compton, who created the greatest diversion in the rôle of Tony Lumpkin; Miss Phyllis Relp played Miss Neville in commendable style; Miss Mackenzie charmingly interpreted Miss Hardcastle; and Miss Marie Hassell was a diverting exponent of Mrs. Hardcastle.

Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Chas. P. Cooke.—*A Wife's Triumph* filled the house to overflowing on Monday night, and Mr. E. R. Abbott's company had a rousing reception. Mr. Abbott gave a fine example of the erring, but repentant, husband, Frank Wilton, eliciting much sympathy. As the loving and faithful wife, Bessie, Miss Ada Abbott called forth the heartiest appreciation; Mr. W. H. Garbois was excellent as the knavish Ellis Jordan, receiving capable assistance from Mr. Weedon Ross as Julius Hartman. The genial nature of Robert Dewhurst was well portrayed by Mr. Douglas Phelps; and Mr. T. Wilson made the most of his small part as the Family Lawyer. Miss Doris Drew (Alice Wilton), Miss Hetty Jones (Frank), and Miss Marjorie Tennant (Margery Crib), supplied acceptable interpretations; and other parts were capitally filled by Messrs. Edwin Keene, D. Pentland, and P. C. Douglas.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles H. Bowmaker.—Paul Cinquevalli's wonderful tricks prove as exciting and attractive as ever, and the comedy element also is capitally worked in by his smart assistant; an excellent farcical skit is introduced by Carter Livesey and Lilian Roseberry, to the accompaniment of hilarious laughter; a really graceful and artistic exhibition of wire-walking is provided by the Macarte Sisters; and a popular item is that of Kate Trail, who accompanies her catchy songs in inimitable style. The terpsichorean art is well illustrated by a troupe of girls headed by Little Marjorie Lawrence; the Sprightly Sisters gain applause for their comedy work as dancing dolls; and Thomas E. Finglas gives a quaint delineation of negro life. Dion Wade proves an excellent mimic and comedian; and Frank Leslie is duly rewarded for his song. The Bioscope interests with some new films.

NUNEATON.—Prince of Wales Theatre and Entertainments Co., Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter J. R. Bryan.—Mr. Montague Beaudyn's company is paying a return visit with *A Beautiful Fiend*. Miss Sydney Crowe again wins distinction as Wanda Lubinoff; Mr. Herbert Skearsdon is a good Ivan Paulovitch; Mr. M. Russell makes a capable Sergius Strogoff; while a capital Count Karatoff is found in Mr. C. Hardy. Deserving of praise are Miss Violet Ingram (Nadine), Miss Marie Fontaine (Patty Woodlands), and Messrs. P. Quin and Dick Sidden as Christopher Crackles and Malachi.

OLDHAM.—Empire Theatre.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—A capital holiday programme is provided by Miss Mary Austin and company. For the first three nights *Shall We Forgive Her?* was selected, under the direction of Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds. Miss Austin as Grace West was highly successful; and Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds was excellent as Paul Elsworth; Mr. Fred W. Goddard as Oliver West gave a painstaking rendering of his part; Mr. J. Milne Tyalor made a capital Neil Garth; Mr. George P. Lester creditably filled the part of James Stapleton; Mr. Harrop Harrop as Reggie Walton left nothing to be desired; and Mr. John S. Haydon as Dr. M. Kerrow gave a successful portrayal; Miss May Grimshaw as Joanna Lightfoot acted in a capable manner; and Miss Ethel Vinroy as Nellie West and Miss Anna Beaumont as the outspoken Aunt Martha were quite successful; Mr. Albert Franks made a good Jerry Blake. *The Cotton Spinner* and *Passion's Power* were also staged during the week.

Colosseum Theatre.—Manager, Mr. W. Eastwood.—Mr. Harry Foxwell's company opened here on Monday in *A Broken Heart*. Mr. John Clyde gave a creditable impersonation of John Barnard; Miss Lillian Harrios as Mary quickly won sympathy; Stephen Rayiton was well presented by Mr. Scott Leighton; and Gast Gills was ably played by Mr. Chas. Vivian. Mrs. Harry Foxwell capably doubled the parts of Miss Grace Fanshame and Mrs. Kellett; Miss Florrie Sorsby was successful as little May Barnard; and Miss Helen Grahame made a capital Mrs. Barnard. Miss Nancy Mitchell as Sally Tavner, and Mr. Will Lindsay as Tony Tibbits were responsible for the humour.

Royal Theatre of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Howgate.—Walter Bellonini heads the bill in his fine juggling act; Stewart and Morgan sing exceedingly well; the Merrions are a capital trio of entertainers; the Sisters Cora, duettists and dancers, in their latest success, "Sweethearts," are excellent; Sam Redfern causes hearty laughter; Miss Violet Ray is heard to advantage in 'cello solos and songs; Miss May Fallowfield is a dainty soubrette; and C. Tamamoto is a clever Japanese rope performer. The Dottoscope concludes.

Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge, Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Nuttall.—Silbon's Miniature Circus tops the bill; Max Duffek is an original musical contortionist; J. G. Aitken, Scotch comedian, has some funny songs; and the Bros. Curran present a good boxing act. Miss Florence Wood is a smart comedienne; and the Three Behans are capital quick-change comedy artists; Cordite and Buffalo are neat rope spinners; and some capital films are shown by the Dottoscope.

OXFORD.—New Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Lucas, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. C. Dorrill.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company opened here on Bank Holiday with *Peter's Mother*, which met with the most decided approval from a packed house. Mr. Charles Harley has never been seen to better advantage than as Sir Timothy Crewys; Mr. Percy Hutchison is wonderfully good as Peter; Mr. Stanley Pringle contributes a capital representation of the successful barrister, John Crewys; while Canon Birch and Dr. Blundell find excellent exponents in Messrs. F. G. Thurstans and T. Whitling; Miss Ruth Mackay scores a big success in the title-rôle; Sir Timothy's sisters find amusing representatives in the Misses Mary Griffiths and Florence Harwood; and Miss Hilda Honiss is an attractive Sarah. *Peter's Mother* was preceded by a curtain-raiser, *Her Dearest Friend*, admirably performed by the Misses Violet Ley and Florence Harwood, and Mr. T. Whitling.

East Oxford Theatre. — Lessees, Miss Winifred Stuart and Mr. C. Watson Mill; Manager, Mr. Frank Stuart.—Mr. Travis Green and Mr. Arthur Hinton's company opened here on Whit Monday to a crowded house with *Home, Sweet Home*. Mr. Arthur Hinton acts the principal rôle of Stephen Armitage with considerable power and pathos; while Mr. Travis Green, as the villain, Lucas Lyle, is a great success; Mr. Frank Hudspeth deserves high praise for his very natural rendering of David Armitage; Mr. Arthur Lowrey is effective as the Duke of Ancaster; and Mr. Victor Millard does good work as Dick Redmayne; Mr. Wilton Drury is humorous as Hon. Percy Ashfield; as Sybil Fay Miss Jennie Clare is simply delightful; while Miss Constance Cluer is convincing as Sal; Miss Leila Zillwood sustains Joan with commendable effect; and Miss Dolly Turner is well placed as Dora.

PAISLEY.—Paisley Theatre.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—*The Price of Pleasure* is being staged here this week by Miss Emily Huby's company. Mr. Albert Guyon plays Gilbert D'Armand admirably; as Sir James Featherstone Mr. Howell Webb is to be complimented on a sound performance; Mr. Charles E. Howell essays, with considerable success, the part of Charles Mordaunt; a capital impersonation of Sidney Roberts is furnished by Mr. J. P. Marsden; Mr Newton Pearce is very funny as Tatters; and capital are the assumptions submitted by Mr. Ben Fletcher as John Blake, Mr. Arthur Manville as Inspector of Police, and Mr. J. Williams as P.C. X49. Miss Magdalen Moore as Lilian plays with conspicuous ability as Alice River; Miss Nana St. George acts in an intelligent and powerful manner; Miss Caroline Desborough makes a most amusing Polly Wilson; and Little Mabel Rose enacts Claire in capital style.

Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Douglas F. Bostock.—A strong attraction here this week is provided by Mr. George Gray and company, in *The Fighting Parson*, which is enthusiastically received. The excellent company also includes Rale Walters, comedienne; Bob Pueblo and Katie Cropp, versatile artists; W. B. Raby, comedian; Shirley and Ransome, in a coster comedy episode entitled *'Arf a Quid;* Will Cornish, instrumentalist; and the Hippodrome Bioscope.

PERTH.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. H Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge.—The twice-nightly performances are being continued this week with much acceptance. Henriette and Selina, society entertainers, are favourably received; the Three Moxons, acrobatic comedians, in their latest production, *Fun with the Tourist*, also obtain a warm reception. Other notable turns are Harry Leaton, vocal comedian; Carlotta Lunn, descriptive vocalist; Harry Bent, mimic; Mi Narom, in character comedy; and the Orchida (Violet and Harry). The Theatrescope, with an entirely new set of films, is also much appreciated.

PLYMOUTH. — Theatre Royal. — Lessee, Mr. C. F. Williams; Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—The Russell Rose Répertoire company opened on Monday with *Captain Swift*. Mr. J. E. Fraser undertakes the title-rôle with creditable ease and ability; Mr. Charles Kenny is genuinely humorous as an eccentric elderly gentleman, by name Mr. Seabrook; Mr. W. P. Lipsombe furnishes a realistic study of a Queensland farmer; and Mr. G. Mudie, jun., is a youngster of promise to whom is entrusted the part of the boy, Harry; Miss Nolan O'Connor is powerful as Mrs. Seabrook; and Miss R. De Travis deserves commendation for her representation of Lady Staunton. *Confusion, The Guv'nor*, and *Caste* are also being staged.

Grand Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. C. F. Williams; Manager, Mr. P. Williams.—*The Road to Fortune* is played this week, and includes two very popular Plymouth favourites in the caste, Victor Vernon and Greene Taylor, to whom much of the success on Monday may be attributed. Other noticeable members of a well-balanced company are Mr. Cecil A. Melton (Jack Clinton), Mr. Gerald Spencer (Morris Chanter), Miss Elaine Vanbrugh (Edith Breezley), and Miss Ada Waugh (Jerry Weasel).

Palace of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—Some clever exhibition ju-jitsu forms the leading attraction, and is well carried out by Mr. Frank Long and his pupil, Ajax; a clever item is furnished by the Stein-Eretti Troupe, who perform some astonishing acrobatic feats; Edie Grey has some attractive coon songs; Hector is an experienced wire-walker; and Alix Lukos furnishes a welcome contribution. Other turns are Albert Wyndham and Co., Bert Danson, and Vernon's Pictures.

PONTYPRIDD.—Royal Clarence Theatre.—Proprietors, Mrs. Trenchard and Miss L. Jones; Manager, Mr. Charles Trenchard.—The Whit week attraction is Mr. Sidney Dench's company in *The Rich and Poor of London*. Chief interest is centred in Miss Dora Dench's capable portrayal of May Braithwaite; the Earl of Ravenswood is well sustained by Mr. F. Danner; Mr. Fred Beckett scores as Mark Stanley; Mr. Grayham Arthurs shines as Dr. Leonard Morton; Mr. Arthur Gilbert could not be improved upon as the rascally lawyer; Mr. Sidney Dench is a host in himself as Spider Jack; Miss Ethel Denville is successful as Seadrift; Master Bert Dench ably impersonates Dixie; and Miss Emily Wood, Miss Violet Layton, and Miss Sybie Vane are worthy of high praise in their respective rôles.

PORTH.—The Palace (late Opera House).—General-Manager, Mr. C. W. Poole; ActingManager, Mr. Walter Bynorth.—Topping the bill is Horace Jones, the Welsh comedian, in song and story. Others are Sisters Hula, vocalists and smart dancers; Fred Alberto, quaint character comedian; Frank and Violet Payne, in their successful racing duologue, *Also Ran;* the Mays, burlesque artists, vocalists, and dancers; Orrell Park, in songs with sweet refrain; Hughes and Elliott, in singing, dancing, and comedy; Amy Bellwood, comedienne and dancer; Gulliver and the Liliputians; and the celebrated Albert and Edmunds' comedy troupe, in their absurdity, *Two Up a Tree*. The Palace Electric Bioscope shows new pictures.

PORTSMOUTH. — Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—Mr. Louie Calvert's excellent company is here for Whitsun with the comic opera *Amasis*, and meeting with well deserved success. Mr. Rutland Barrington, playing Pharaoh in his intensely humorous manner, quite convulses the audience with laughter; Mr. Roland Cunningham as Prince Anhotep sings well and plays in most effective style; Mr. Whitworth Mitton scores as Cheiro, his singing being much admired; Mr. Reginald White is a capable and amusing Ptolemy; Mr. Lauri De Frece is exceptionally quaint and diverting as Sebak; Mr. Norman Salmond is a dignified High Priest; Miss Constance Drever as the Princess Amasis is very charming and graceful, singing her numbers in delightful fashion; and Miss Madge Vincent is a dainty and vivacious Natis. The chorus and instrumentalists, under the direction of Mr. J. Van Heubel, are highly appreciated.

Prince's Theatre. — Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate.—For the holidays Messrs. Garside and Knowles, with a good company, are presenting the popular drama, *The London Fireman*. The leading rôles are taken by Mr. J. Forbes Knowles as Colonel Fleming, afterwards Hal Curtis, a young fireman, and Mr. Edward L. Garside, as Hal Curtis, alias "Ratty," who give eminently successful and characteristic impersonations. Mr. Herbert S. Humber acts the part of Viscount Fleming most creditably; Mr. Lionel Thompson as Abel Fortnum acts consistently and well; Nixey Stinger is ably taken by Mr. Fowler Thatcher; Miss Nellie Garside as Polly Bramble is excellent; Miss Nellie Waddington makes the best use of her opportunities as Countess Fleming; Miss Beatrice Sinclair in the part of Grace Curtis plays with judgment; and Miss Nellie Shirley as Ida Curtis, the fireman's wife, shows great histrionic ability.

Empire Palace.—Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—A long and varied programme was submitted to the Whitsun holiday folk here. Harry Tate's No. 1 company, in the piscatorial pleasantry, *Fishing*, was responsible for some boisterous fun; Vasey and Ramsey, speciality artists, are good patterers and capital dancers; King's College Boys, in harmony and song acquitted themselves to the satisfaction of the audience; Branda Leslie, in classical and refined poses, meets with success; Emmie Ames, comedienne, has a charming manner, and scores well; Morten and Martell do amusing work in the comedy sketch, *Miss Bunn of Bath;* Harry Bancroft, actor-vocalist, sings songs with good rousing choruses; the Two Madges, juvenile duettists and dancers, do well; Bertha Norwood, a pleasing and painstaking soubrette, scores; Chas. R. Whittle, comedian, is a capable artist; and Payne's Bioscope pictures,

Alburtus and Millar, juggling eccentrics and lady cornetist, are highly diverting; Miss May Mars presents a vocal scena, "In the Shadow of the Pyramids," with great effect; and Jack and Evelyn meet with success. The Hippodrome pictures finish a highly meritorious programme.

PRESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Executors of the late Mr. W. Johnson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Stephen Pritt.—Mr. Walter Maxwell's company is appearing here this week in *The Lion and the Mouse*, which meets with an enthusiastic reception nightly. Mr. Leslie Carter is thoroughly effective in the rôle of John Burkett Ryder; and Miss Nita Faydon gives a natural and charming portrayal of Shirley Rossmore. Jefferson Ryder is admirably impersonated by Mr. Martin Roland; Mr. Herbert Chown is quite successful as the Hon. Fitzroy Bagley; Mr. Douglas West capably depicts James Rossmore; Alfred Stott has an excellent representative in Mr. Geoffrey Hall; Mr. John Wheatman is well placed as J. Whitmore Roberts, M.P.; Miss Elspeth Dudgeon's embodiment of Mrs. Ryder is very clever and entertaining; and Miss Margaret Nybloc is seen to advantage as Kate Roberts.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. J. Linsdell.—The chief attraction here is an admirable exhibition of tableaux vivants and statuary by Henriette de Serris and company. Edwin Garth and company present an amusing vaudeville, entitled *The Moated Grange*; the Four Netherlands appear in a beautiful song-scena, called "Dutch Pastimes"; Martin Conway scores a great success with his humorous songs and patter; the Gentrys give a clever comedy and acrobatic display; Alf. Ripon submits a smart ventriloquial sketch; and successful turns by Victor Courtney, in "The Boot's Lament," and J. C. Scatter, Tyneside comedian and dancer, complete a first-rate programme.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Sawyer and Woodruff. — Mr. J. Morton Powell's company occupies the boards here in the popular drama, *Honour Thy Father*.

FREEMAN'S OLYMPIA.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Clement Freeman.—A capital variety entertainment is presented here twice daily.

RADCLIFFE. — GRAND OPERA HOUSE. — Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Santé; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jas. Boothman.—This theatre was reopened last Saturday night, and the installation of the electric light throughout the house is a great improvement. The genial and popular owner held his eighth annual benefit, and Mr. Santé's success can be well judged by the host of friends who came to patronise him. The programme was of an excellent and varied character, including Spangelettis, with dogs and pony; Ben Goldberg, baritone; Brown and Spink, eccentric comedians; Zoven, equilibrist; George and Edwards, clever comedians; M. Hamilton's statuary, and the Santégraph electric pictures, together with other interesting items. Mr. W. Graham Arthur's company is here this week with *When a Man Hates*. Mr. W. Graham Arthur is strong as Pietro Danelli; and Mr. Arthur Jarvis good as the Curate. Mr. Herbert M. King displays ability as Paul, the half-witted; Mr. Ernest Turner as Peter Simple and Miss Jennie Hallworth as Dolly Dimple both work hard in the comedy parts; and Mr. Fred A. Lewis is creditable as Detective Smart. Miss Maud Burleigh is excellent as Olga, and Miss Mabel Liston winsome as Letty.

RAMSGATE. — AMPHITHEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Bowman. — Mr. Gerald Hunt makes a welcome re-appearance with the Biograph, splendid films being exhibited; and the variety turns include a most popular performance by Andie Bing, comedian, vocalist, and dancer; and the Courtney family, a clever quartette, who appear with marked success in the scena, *Our Brother*.

ROYAL VICTORIA PAVILION.—Proprietors, Ramsgate Corporation; Lessee and Manager, Mr. Jules Richeux.—The "PAV." has re-opened with Messrs. Charles Carey and Fred Wantage's company, in *The Pick of the Bunch*. Mr. A. W. Lee, as the chief figure in the plot, acts and sings in good style; and Mr. Percy Baverstock gives a clever impersonation of a fire-eating old Colonel; Miss Eva Ellis is charming as Ruth Gey; and Miss M. Sadie scores in a rôle suggestive of Louie Freear. Others who contribute to the success of the production are Miss Nellie James, Mr. Will Evans, and Mr. Harold Wantage.

MARINA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albert Levy. — The new lessee of the Marina has put on during the week a popular variety programme.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Milton Bode; Lessee, Mr. Geo. Dance; Manager, Mr. E. J. Macdermott.—The house was crowded at both performances on Monday, a first-class programme being presented. Miss Lilian Dundas, ably supported by Mr. Harry Kendal nd Mr. Lawrence Leyton, appears very successfully in the dramatic episode, *The Doom of Delilah*. The Crown Trio of speciality vocalists gave some very tuneful part-songs, and Mabel Sinclair, lady ventriloquist, gives a clever performance. Rosina Castelli's performing dogs display marvellous intelligence; the Bohemians (Will and Madge) give an excellent musical turn; the Scotch nigger, Charlie Williams, shows ability as a big-boot dancer; and some new living pictures are presented on Vernon's Bioscope.

A GRAND FETE was given on Whit-Monday in aid of the Reading Football Club's funds. In the course of a good stage performance, Ali Ben Hassen showed great dexterity in juggling and balancing feats; and Will Belmont (trick cyclist), Reklaw (the tramp on the slack wire), the Arnold Renays in a capital gymnastic and acrobatic show, La Belle Violette and D'Henri on the double trapeze and flying rings, and Raven Cloud, the champion lasso-thrower from the Wild West Show, were also in the bill.

THE PIERROT PAVILION.—Mr. Hamilton Baines has commenced his second season here in the Pavilion, near Caversham Bridge. Mr. J. H. Weeks (humorist), Mr. Harry Reynolds (basso), Miss Elsie Earl (vocalist), and Mr. J. Jelf (comedian) all appear to great advantage.

RHYL.—PALACE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Will Smith.—This week *Pepper's Ghost* and *Spectral Opera Company* have been presented by Mr. Fred Smith. Selections from *Faust* are given with special spectral effects. The company consists of Miss Nina Leslie, who as Marguerite sings and acts with expression; Mme. Constance Bellamy, as Siebel, proves eminently satisfactory; as Mephistopheles Mr. Arthur Segeley's basso voice is heard to advantage; and Mr. Albert Felton as Faust and Mr. A. German as Valentine acquit themselves creditably.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler and Sutton; Manager, Mr. Jack Macdermott. — Fred Walmsley, comedian, makes his first appearance here, and is accorded a hearty reception; Billy Stephens is popular with his funny songs; Mildred Bryan, whose delightful rendering of several songs has been successful; Jack Macdermott retains all his former popularity, and his tuneful songs greatly delight the audiences; Byden Currie, ventriloquist; Forshaw Kershaw provides attractive items with his pianoforte solos and musical monologues.

ROCHDALE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; General Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Hogue.—*The Worst Woman in London* occupies the boards here this week. The play is finely staged, and finds great favour with the popular parts of the house. Mr. George Gaisford is powerful in his impersonation of Jock Felton; Mr. Paul Barry-Lewers does well as Vincent Lyle, Mr. F. Vernon Travers makes a dignified and imposing James Milford, Mr. H. W. Monte as Hugh Drayton leaves nothing to be desired, and Mr. Leonard Booker is effective as Philip Armstrong. Much amusement is created by Mr. Willie Garvey as Bob Goldfinch, and Miss Mysie Monte as Jane Nogood. Miss Elizabeth Watkins enlists sympathy in the part of Ruth Milford, and Miss Olga Audre in the central figure acts with telling effect as Francis Vere.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thomas Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Hargreaves.—Haley's Juveniles top the bill here this week; prettily attired, the youngsters execute some stately and spirited dances. Graham and Harrington act with realistic force *A Daughter of Pleasure*; George M. Schilling gives an interesting sketch of his walk round the world; Snowball and Miss Dolia, American comedy artists; Ruby Bijou, in a series of dances; Joe Conway, pocket comedian; and the Empire Bioscope complete a capital entertainment.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Smith and Co.—Pringle's North American Animated Picture Co. continues a second week's engagement with a set of new and interesting films. Variety turns are given at intervals by Tom White's Arabs and Allen MacAskell.

ROTHERHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Holbery Hardy.—Mr. Fred Ginnett's company is here for the holiday week with *Dick Turpin's Ride to York*, Mr. Ginnett appearing in the title-rôle, and exhibiting the excellent qualities of the highly-trained Black Bess. A number of up-to-date films are exhibited by the Peters Premier Co., other specialities being Mr. J. H. Hawtrey, a pleasing actor-vocalist, and Mlle. De Rose, an accomplished lady baritone vocalist. The programme is completed with the amusing skit, *Rejected Remounts*, which is responsible for much fun and amusement.

RUGBY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geoffrey Fulton.—Mr. Harry Rogerson and company are here with *Jacko*. Mr. Harry Rogerson as Dozey, the tired page, is an unqualified success, and his sleepy dance is exceedingly clever. Mr. J. H. Booth as Professor Zerio is very amusing; and as Fred Fitzgerald Mr. Charles Leverton works hard, and contributes materially to the success of the piece. Mr. W. G. Wesley, as the Policeman, is very smart; and Mr. Anthony Gordon as Dr. Samuel Smith does well. Miss Bessie Herbert as Ada Zerio is very well placed, and has a charming presence, great ability, and a good voice; Miss Jessie St. Clare is good as Mrs. Zerio; and other characters are ably played by Mr. Mark Lupino (James Jimson), Mr. George Ely (Dick Dot), Mr. Jack Allen (Robert Ray), Mr. John Ossif (Ben Benson), Mr. Aubrey C. Cheshire (Tom Titas), Mr. Fred Hall (Pete Palmer), Mr. H. Reeves (Soloman Cyphon), the Brothers Norris as the elephant; Miss Alice Thornton (Mary Martin), and Miss Hilda Gordon (Jane Jones). *Jacko* is preceded by the burlesque *Herne the Hunter*.

RYDE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. H. E. Arkwright; Manager, Mr. F. B. Farrant.—The visit of Mr. Charles Constant's company opened here on Monday evening for three days, with *Blue Beard the Bold*. Miss Iso Bowman gave a particularly dashing display as Selim, and used her splendid voice to fine effect; Mr. Gus Danby's clever and amusing efforts received their full measure of appreciation; Miss Dorothy Dempster's charming display in the part of Fatima was one of the successes of the evening, her bright singing being very popular; Messrs. Charles Lake, Morrice Holmes, MacStuart, and William Collard admirably sustained the comic element of the piece; and the dancing of the Two Stuarts was excellently accomplished. The remaining characters were filled with distinct credit, and the finished character of the musical part of the entertainment contributed largely to its success.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessee, Mr. J. Herbert Jay; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. L. Furst.—The Scotch Boys' Highland Band has proved itself a first-class combination. The company includes juvenile instrumentalists, dancers, and comedians of remarkable ability, and it is excellently conducted. The Brodie Troupe of Scotch dancers are a speciality.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Kimberley's company on Monday opened with *Two Little Drummer Boys*, under the general-management of Mr. E. Bikker, who makes an excellent General Kingsley, V.C.; Mr. A. Knight gives a manly performance as Captain Frank Carsdale; Mr. H. Harleigh forcibly portrays the villainy of Captain George Darrell; Eric Carsdale is well played by Miss M. English; and Miss M. Douglas ably represents Jack Smith. Mr. Michael Madden as Quincy O'Quirk, Mr. C. Locke as Timothy Trimmer, and Miss Lizzie Chambers as Molly Meadows, are very comical, and contribute a large amount of amusement. Margaret Rivers is a good study by Miss M. Eversleigh; and Miss B. Shirley is a charming Alma Kingsley. Mr. G. Sutherland is good as Lieut. Allen Kingsley; and Mr. P. Redgrave as Major Kilkereen, and Mr. Frank Hoyd as Jim Barker, are well placed.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. J. C. Patterson.—Harriett Vernon's "When we are saying good-bye" and "Sunshine and shadow" are very enjoyable songs; the Waldrons, in their absurdity, *The Silly Burglar*, are excrutiatingly funny; Percival, in "All through the christening," is very clever, and gets much applause; Jack Pleasants keeps the house in roars with his comic songs; a most laughable act is presented by Burns and Burns, American comedians; other smart turns are given by Mlle. Pollo, a charming lady gymnast; Macdonald Trio, in their musical garden; Vi Carlyle, in her scena, *My Mountain Maid*; Hallam and Stanton, in *A Broken Journey*; and Leslie Race, actor-vocalist.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Wentworth.—This week's programme is headed by the Brothers Luck's company, in their pantomime, *Hotel Grande*; Fame and Fortune, in singing, acrobating, and comic boxing, do well; the sensational act, *Indians of the Past*, is a very interesting series of tableaux by the Deer Family; smart work is done by Roy Bevis, the merry magician; Lily Gaston, male impersonator and clever dancer; Will Doran and company, in absurdity, *The Inventors*; Three Lancashire Harmony Boys, in vocal scena, *Home for the Holidays*; and Mlle. Renne, girl juggler, also gave smart turns.

STRETFORD PAVILION. — Proprietor, Mr. Sidney Weatherilt; Manager, Mr. Fred Erick.—This week we have Nellie Mascott, a dainty comedienne; Bert Holmes, instrumentalist; Fred Erick, comedian; Sidney Parker and Frank Parry, Welsh vocalists and duettists; Ethel Dunville, comedienne; and Carrie Wallace, comedienne.

SCARBOROUGH.—LONDESBOROUGH THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Waddington and Son; Manager, Mr. J. T. Carpenter.—Mr. Ian Maclaren and his Shakespearean and Old English Comedy Company is here this week. On Monday evening *David Garrick* was given, Mr. Maclaren taking the title-rôle with his well-known ability, and winning enthusiasm. Mr. Arthur Fayne as Alderman Brackson acted with great precision; Miss Edith Coleman acted very capably as Mabel; Mr. Frank Royde as the Hon. Bob Fairby had a part that fitted him exactly, and he put plenty of life into it. The play was preceded by the curtain-raiser *Delicate Ground*. During the week *Othello*, *Hamlet*, *Twelfth Night*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *Macbeth*, and *As You Like It* were billed.

PEOPLE'S PALACE AND AQUARIUM.—Manager, Mr. Walter Kitchingman.—The twelve hours' continuous programme commenced this week. Mme. Marie Levante's Ladies' Orchestra is a combination of instrumentalists that is well known and appreciated here; Levy and Cardwell's Juvenile Musical company produce a sketch, entitled *Little Paul Pry*, the chief part of which is sustained by Wee George Wood, who is a most remarkable comedian and mimic, and is attracting crowded houses. The sketch was produced for the first time on Monday, and the manner in which it was performed was highly satisfactory, and showed that care had been bestowed on its preparation. The company includes a chorus and ballet, and some excellent singers; but the whole sketch is nicely woven round Wee George Wood, who sings his songs to perfection, and receives innumerable encores. The other artists include Henry Foden, who is well-trained in hand-jumping; J. H. McCann is a dexterous roller skate dancer; the Saletos' turn is a pleasing one; the Calcots are clever instrumentalists and dancers; Cara Magda, lady gymnast, executes her tricks with great ability; Renson and Waite sing comic duets, and Fenton Cross is pleasing as a speciality entertainer. The side-shows include Vernon's Bioscope and Jennion's Electric Fantoches. Miss Ada Webb and her troupe of ladies also give exhibition swims during the day.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Mrs. Henry Mayhew; Manager, Mr. Fred P. Morgan.—Mr. Will White's strong company in *The New World* is here this week. Miss Beatrice Moor as Jenny is excellent; Mr. Victor Ray admirably sustains the part of Jack; Mr. Fred Guiness as Sam Smart is pleasing, and Mr. Will Bass as Brutus Brown supplies plenty of fun. As Pete, Mr. Wm. Hicks pleased everybody. Mr. Will White as Colonel Clayton has a part that suits him admirably; Mr. W. S. Stephenson is effective as the villain, and Mr. Albert Carlton as the Mexican adds to the success of the play.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Geo. Zalva.—Ford and Hanson, musical specialists, are the special attraction here this week, and are very popular. Belle Ray, with illustrated songs, is well received; Sheila and McNeil are entertaining as comedy artists; the Seves are a great attraction in their thought-reading; the Metropole animated pictures are as entertaining as ever.

NORTH SIDE KIOSK.—Mr. Will Catlin's second troupe of pierrots gave their first performance on Saturday night to a large audience. The troupe is a strong one, and each individual member has his own speciality. Mr. H. Lowell is in charge, and is assisted by Mr. Harold Franklin, Mr. Geo. Castrey, Mr. Leslie Furness, Mr. Bert Freer, Mr. Jackson Brown, Mr. Eddie Forden, and Mr. Harrison as pianist. Mr. Catlin has also his troupe on the South Sands.

SEACOMBE.—IRVING THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiernan.—Messrs. Chas. H. Phelps and Harry Tilbury's company opened here on Whit Monday with the comedy-drama *The Blind Foundling*. Gerald Dalton was strongly played by Mr. Chas. Phelps, and Parson Ray received adequate treatment from Mr. Frank Hervey. Mr. A. George Fry did well as Mark Redman and Mr. Bernard Webb gave a good sketch of Jasper Waterford. Miss Trixie Toole caused plenty of fun by her rendering of Winnie Dobbins, and Mr. Harry Tilbury presented a drily humorous Dick Bobbins; Miss Aline T. George made a sympathetic Viola and Miss Mabel Hall was nicely fitted in the title-rôle; Miss Belle Tilbury played the unenviable part of Isabel with commendable skill.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. C. Harrison.—There was a full house on Whit-Monday to witness the entertainment provided by a strong company of variety artists, prominent among whom were Harry Burns' Juveniles, who were warmly applauded for their performance of the scena, *The Waif*. The Brothers Corcoran, musicians, scored heavily; George Westland gave some humorous Scotch songs in pleasing style; Halma contributed a smart juggling turn; Cavalli gave a successful ventriloquial performance, and some first-class pictures were shown by the Bioscope.

SHEERNESS.—PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Phil Reymond.—Miss Nellie Lomas is a pleasing balladist; and *The Lady Suffragette* is a very popular act. Mr. Phil Reymond, vocal comedian, is exceedingly clever in his characters from "Everyday life"; Miss Topsy Levane continues to score as a first-rate burlesque actress and dancer; Miss Lillie Thomas is a capital serio and ballad vocalist; and a laughable sketch, *In Black and White*, by the Crown Sketch company, concludes a good show.

THE HIPPODROME. — General-Manager, Mr. F. Leighton. — A capital holiday programme comprises the Seven Wulfrunas, comedy acrobats, who gain hearty applause for their skilful and daring performances; Dusty Rhodes, aptly described as the comedy merchant; Talbot and Pearce, in a pleasing duologue; Kathleen Radford, comedienne and dancer, with a pleasing style; Daisy Reed, comedienne and speciality dancer; Harry Mayville, tenor vocalist; and Carrie Victoria, comedienne.

SHEFFIELD. — LYCEUM THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—*A Message from Mars* is being acted to a large and appreciative audience. Mr. Arthur Holmes-Gore as Horace Parker repeats an impersonation marked by ease and finish; Mr. William H. Brougham as the Messenger acts with his wonted earnestness and dignity; a good character-study is Mr. Bruce Lindsay's old tramp; Miss Joan Ellis makes a charming picture of sweet young womanhood as Minnie Templar; and Miss F. Hastings as Miss Parker and Mr. Thomas Holding as Arthur Picey are first-rate. All the other characters are cleverly represented, and the scenery and electrical effects are admirable. The curtain-raiser was *The Fatal Stocking*, which was received with hearty applause.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—The original adaptation of Marie Corelli's *Sorrows of Satan*, introducing the thrilling yacht scene, was performed to a good house on Monday by Miss Loie Esmond's company, Miss Esmond herself appearing as the beautiful Diana Chesney. Mr. Edward Neville made an impressive Prince Lucio; Miss Cecilia Dare was a graceful and alluring Lady Sybil; and a contrast to the selfish "smart" characters was the Mavis Clare of Miss Rose Neville. Mr. Coleman Davis was good as Lord Lynton; and other characters were well played by Messrs. J. McCaigh, Fred Cherry, Fred White, G. H. Nisbett, J. le Fleming, and Miss Cecil Byrne.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—*£1,000 Reward* drew a house packed from floor to ceiling on Monday, and cheered Messrs. F. M. Pitt and C. Halling's company to the echo. Miss Daisy Halling was welcomed with enthusiastic applause on making her entrance as the handsome adventuress, Mme. Sansom. Mr. Frank M. Pitt was successful as Fred Ingleford; and other clever impersonations were Miss Darlington's Meg, Mr. George Scully's Dick, and Mr. Chas. Halling's detective. Mr. Frank Dallas caused much amusement as a detective of the old school, and the rest of the cast were in competent hands.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Moss Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—The spacious auditorium of the Empire was totally inadequate for the crowds that struggled for admittance on Whit-Monday. The principal contributors to the present programme are Milo, the animated statue, in classical studies and poses from the antique; Cruikshank, a clever lightning cartoonist; Mr. Harry Freeman, an old-established Sheffield favourite; Ginnett's Boy Army, in military exercises; the McConnells; the Bioscope, with capital films; Miss Eily Adair, a pleasing artist; Miss Margaret Ashton, an accomplished vocalist; the talented Wartenburg Brothers in a novel and popular act; Mr. Frank Crouch, variety entertainer; the McConnell Trio, sketch artists; and Mr. F. W. Purcell's comedy company in a diverting farce, entitled *That Brute Simmons*.

GRAND THEATRE. — Proprietors, The Vaudeville Syndicate; Manager, Mr. David Warwick.—Mr. Leoni Clarke's wonderfully-trained cats, rabbits, &c., are causing much amusement to the many patrons of this cosy theatre; and other artists appearing for the holiday week are Miss Edna Latonne, Mr. Ted Wootten, Miss Clara Victor, and Mr. Letine, in addition to the Grand Animated Pictures.

FITZALAN THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Edward Ranier.—Mr. Edward Ranier opened here with a well-selected stock company on Monday, and there were crowded houses. The place has been "done up," and under the new regime the "little playhouse in the Square" should continue its prosperous career.

SHREWSBURY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Licensee and Business-Manager, Mr. W. C. Dornton.—*Raffles* is being played here this week by a thoroughly capable company, under the management of Mr. Reginald Dance, who himself undertakes the title-rôle with conspicuous success. Mr. Edward Irwin is a clever Mr. Curtis Bedford; Mr. Briscoe Owen makes a smart Harry Manders; Mr. C. Rivers Bertram as Crayshay is a picturesque and formidable-looking cracksman; and other male parts are in capable hands. Miss May Brooke plays the part of Mrs. Vidal in a talented fashion; Miss Kate Yates is competent and effective as Gwendoline Conran; the Misses Mildred Orme and Constance Hamilton are alike capable in the respective parts of Lady Melrose and Lady Ethel; and Miss Rita Ward acts with ability as Marie. The comedietta, *Jerry and a Sunbeam*, is the pleasing curtain-raiser.

SOUTHAMPTON. — GRAND THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Weston.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's excellent company is this week proving highly attractive with *The Dairymaids*. It is seldom that two such clever comedians as Mr. Harry Dent (Joe Mivens) and Mr. E. Statham Staples (Sam Brudenell) are seen together. Both of them keep the fun going fast and furious. Miss Violet Lloyd is a fascinating Peggy; Miss Rhoda Gordon a charming Winifred; Miss Edith Blanche a delightful Lady Brudenell; and Lieut. Brudenell, R.N., is capitally acted by Mr. George Desmond. Miss Madge Avery gives an excellent portrait of the austere Miss Penelope Pychase, and Miss Beryl Vaudrey is attractive as Helene. The chorus is good, and the staging gorgeous.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. William Trussell. —Typical Bank Holiday audiences have assembled here during the week, the principal attraction being the Ten-Ji Troupe of Japanese magicians, who submit a really wonderful show. Ben Albert and Johnny Dwyer are a couple of droll comedians; Billy Howard and Kathryn Harris are successful in *The Adventures of a Happy Tramp*; and Frank Elliston and company create roars of laughter with their sketch, *Aunt Matilda*. Tiny Arnold, the diminutive comedienne and dancer; Joe Dale, chorus vocalist; and Friscari, hat manipulator and juggler, also do well.

HIPPODROME.—Joint Proprietors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. P. Howell.—Fred Karno's *Mumming Birds* is creating hearty laughter; Kartelli is a truly wonderful wire-walker; Honvarr and Anna Lee do well with their speciality, *The Golfer and the Maid*; and others who agreeably entertain are Alec Kendall, a smart patter comedian; Osborne and Brooks, musical comedy duo; Fred Lincoln, comedian; Ailsa Douglas, ballad vocalist; and Frobel and Ruge, with "fun on a pole."

PIER PAVILION.—Acting-Manager, Mr. H. C. Sait. —The holiday attraction has been provided by *The Scarlet Mr. E.'s and Their Jester*, which has attracted good houses here. Mr. Walter Dowling is responsible for the fun, and his humour is always refined.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Sole Owners, The Southend Theatre Company; Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Conquest. — Mr. Fred Karno's company is paying a return visit with *His Majesty's Guests*. Many new dances and songs have been introduced, and the farce maintains its enviable reputation.

THE KURSAAL. — Secretary and Manager, Mr. P. T. G. Bacon.—The holiday attractions commenced on Whitsun Eve, when a programme of a popular character met with unbounded success. The chief interest is centred in the theatre, where a capital diversified programme is heartily received; Mlle. Nina Terri pleases immensely as a vocalist and danseuse, and also appears with the ballet of Six Coventry Girls; a table act and jumping feats by Cosselly are smart; and Zaro and Amo are exceedingly clever acrobats. The Cosmans are comic vocalists, whose patter and quaint dancing meets with favour; and Herry Martell is equally success as a comedian and expert dancer. Miss Mamie Finbow contributes in a delightful manner; Blondin's great act creates quite a sensation when Herman and his lady assistant give a graceful and daring wire-walking turn. Capital pictures are furnished by the Bioscope. A full complement of artists appear in the Cafe Chantant, where yet another successful programme is contributed by Frank and Alice Basso, with a comedy creation entitled *Medley*; Frank Lamont, quaint descriptive vocalist and dancer; Will Belasco, Spanish bandola and tubaphonist; and Semmel, champion czimbolum soloist. Ariston and Groves' grand circus and vaudeville company entertain in style in the Hippodrome, where the performing cats, and Jacko, the man-monkey, prove distinct features. Mme. Thelma, clay modeller, and Grovini and Groves, clever and humorous artists, also prove popular. Wrestling matches find most enthusiastic followers.

PIER PAVILION.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley E. Angless.— The return visit of Mr. Harry Liston and his talented company is a most welcome one for the holiday week. Mr. Liston keeps the audience thoroughly enraptured by his quaint and humorous methods, his impersonation of a Lancashire lad proving an intensely interesting item, and all his contributions are effusively applauded; Mr. Jack Vincent has to respond to quite an ovation for his concertina selections; Miss Lord Lumley is a charming young actress, and appears to great advantage in sketches with the proprietor; Miss Marie D'Alcourt and Mr. Jack Vincent appeared in their operatic costume sketch, *Il Trovatore*, their singing being a notable feature.—Miss Phyllis Dare and party drew exceptionally large audiences to the Pavilion on Whit-Sunday, when two concerts were given under Mr. H. Bernhardt's Philharmonic Concert direction, and the popular lessee, Mr. H. E. Angless, is to be complimented on providing such an attraction. The evening performance proved even more successful than that of the afternoon. Miss Dare had a rousing reception on each appearance; J. Dorasmi, Indian violinist, gained coveted honours for his unique and really clever renderings; Miss Kathleen N. Jones, in her contralto songs, was heard to advantage; as also was Mr. Festyn Davies, a Welsh tenor of good repute; Miss Frances Kapstowne thoroughly delighted with songs at the piano; Mr. Charles Pond entertained in first-class style in "Glimpses of life"; Miss Ethel Robinson accompanied with commendable skill.

PIER HILL BANDSTAND.—Lessee, Mr. H. E. Angless. —The season opened on Saturday, when the popular lessee presented Mr. Ballard Brown and his talented entertainers. The programmes are of a refined and first-class character, and well maintain last season's reputation.

SOUTHPORT.—OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS, LTD.—Secretary, Mr. R. Singleton.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's No. 1 company in the popular musical comedy, *Florodora*, provides an attractive entertainment for the Whitsuntide holiday week. The part of Anthony Tweedlepunch is capitally portrayed by Mr. Alf E. Passmore; Miss Daisy Lake plays Dolores with charming abandon, her vocal numbers being tastefully rendered; Angela Gilfain has a dainty and clever representative in Miss Lily Gullick; Miss Kate Leicester depicts the part of Lady Holyrood very artistically; Mr. Stanley White is an admirable exponent of Cyrus Gilfain; Mr. H. V. Cropton is distinctly successful in every way as Frank Abercoed; Mr. H. Perry is a commendable impersonator of Captain Arthur Donegal; Leandro is well played by Mr. Edwin Oxlee; and Miss Eleanor Barnwell scores as Valleda. The favourite songs are all excellently rendered, and the staging and dresses much admired.

ALBERT HALL, WINTER GARDENS.—Lessee, Mrs. Charles Parker; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Mertz. —Capital business is being done at this popular variety hall, which is being run on the two-shows-a-night principle during the holiday week. The bill is headed by Mr. George Leyton, comedian, in the dramatic episode, entitled *The Wreck of the Birkenhead*. Other prominent items are supplied by Max Gruber, with his elephant, horse, and pony; Berenda and Green, the creative juggling comedians; the Burnells, in their amusing sketch, *On the Links*; Mollie Doon, dainty comedienne; the Brothers Obo, laughing comedians and duettists; Nellie Merton and George Rydon, vocal comedy duo; and the Bioscope, with the latest films.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. J. and F. Coulson.—Crowded houses are welcoming Mr. C. Watson Mill's company, in the romantic Irish drama, *A Warning to Women*. Mr. Mill makes the part of Skaun stand out convincingly; the Dr. Marcus Dread of Mr. Richard Vane is a powerful performance; Moira Kennion is gracefully portrayed by Miss Rosalind Tate; Fergus McNaughten and Sheila Kennion receive justice at the hands of Mr. Wm. Vane and Miss Grace Barton; Squire Kennion is well represented by Mr. Henry Rutland; and Mr. N. Carter Slaughter is an amusing Lord Eversleigh. Miss Edith Rutland as Mike O'Moore and Miss Ellen Beverley as Molly O'Moore are both excellent.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—The Lukushima Troupe of Japanese Risley performers and acrobats delight enthusiastic audiences by their daring feats; Ruby Dahl and her merry life-sized mannikins are another sound attraction; Frank Bertram and company, in a comedy sketch, *The Chaperon*, are very entertaining; a pantomime sketch is presented to great advantage by the Karno Four; Harry Bedford, comedian, is a popular favourite; and Maudie Macdonald, ballad vocalist, renders her numbers pleasingly. Other strong attractions include Stave, the original electric musical comedian; Herbert Rube, quaint comedian; and the Bioscope.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. K. Hall and Joseph Sweeney; Business-Manager, Mr. Harry Burns.—An excellent impression is created by the Fergana Troupe of lady and gentlemen society acrobats; Vowles and Bryan, in song and story, receive hearty applause; Read and Wright, comedy duettists and dancers, make a decided hit; a clever ventriloquial entertainment is contributed by Hilton; Sadler and Ross, Irish comedians and dancers, are laughable; and the remaining popular items are Master Smith, boy vocalist; and the Tivoli Bioscope.

SPENNYMOOR.—CAMBRIDGE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; General-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—Mr. Fred. J. Webb's company is here in Mr. William Hibbert's play, *The Hour of Her Triumph*. Each part is filled with the greatest success. Miss Barbara Gott as Zeila Claremont, Miss M. Danvers Smith as Nellie Clavering, and Miss Mamie Stanton as Linda Denton, each submit sound and attractive impersonations. Messrs. Webb, Leslie Hawkins, and T. O. Stephenson fill the rôles of Eugene Harbury, Harold Clavering, and Jack Vernon with conspicuous success. Mr. Louis Nanton as Ben Brodie is a prime favourite, with droll patter and smart dancing; Miss Lallah Price as Martha Winks renders her part in a delicious brogue; and Miss Hetty Gale is piquant as Jennie Jinks. Mr. James Stuart causes much fun as Rosenis Montmorency.

(*Continued on page 16.*)

LONDON.

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LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, May 20, the Drama, entitled
"TOMMY ATKINS."

Mr. J. M. East's company forms the attraction for the holiday week in the above drama, its enduring popularity being proven by the large and enthusiastic audiences that have greeted it nightly. Mr. Albert Ward, who is starring, finds the rôle of Harold Wilson entirely to his liking, and the part being entrusted to so accomplished an actor an eminently sound and interesting performance was assured, his success never being for a moment in doubt. Mr. Paul Peters is responsible for a clever portrayal of Colonel Hardwicke. As Stephen Raymond Mr. Maurice Drew acts with discretion and effect. Mr. Fred Morgan as Captain Maitland contrives to make the character as repulsive as possible, and gives a strong and virile reading. Mr. Harry Bristowe as Sir Simon is always in the picture, and is to be commended. Mr. Charles Cecil as Perkins does very well; as does Mr. Paige Laurence as Captain Sparrow. Mr. H. Robertson as Ahmed is satisfactory, and looks well. Mr. Keino Johnston as Molloy is mirth provoking, and finds allies in Mr. W. P. Sheen and Miss Agnes Paulton, who both work very hard, and with success. Miss Ruby Edgerton as Rose Selwyn acts pleasantly; and Miss Marjorie Murray as Elsie submits a good performance. As the unfortunate Margaret Maitland Miss Lena Flowerdew acts with great power and conviction, her portrayal of the rôle being very good. Miss Teresa Osborne as Ruth also gains a cordial reception for a well-conceived study of the rôle. Miss Florrie Green as Jacks acts with ability and intelligence; and the remaining smaller parts are satisfactorily embodied by the remainder of the company. The scenery and mounting leave nothing to be desired, the last set being very good.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, May 20, the Comedy, entitled
"THE LITTLE STRANGER."

Mr. Robert Arthur could not have found any play more to the liking of the holiday audiences which filled the Camden Theatre than Mr. Michael Morton's amusing play, *The Little Stranger*, for it kept everybody in continual laughter and gave immense pleasure to all the holiday-makers. This is not the first visit of this mirth-provoking play here, and Master Edward Garratt is again to be found in his dual rôle of the Baby and Tom Pennyman, and the various exploits of Tom, when he assumes the character of the Baby, are as funny as ever, and the clever little actor received a hearty welcome. Mr. Charles Stewart, under whose direction the company is being toured, appears as Captain Allenby, and plays in his usual easy and finished manner. Mrs. Allenby is delightfully impersonated by Miss Frances Dillon, and her various encounters with the Baby are capitally played. Mr. E. H. Wynne is excellent as the fiery old General Allenby; while Miss Mary Stuart is seen to advantage as the General's wife. Sir George Peacock is portrayed in a very diverting manner by Mr. Hubert Druce; and Lady Peacock finds a charming representative in Miss A. C. Greene. Mr. Murri Moncrieff gives a clever impersonation of Paul Vronsky, the spiritualist; Mr. H. Asheton Tonge is excellent as Alec Howard; Miss Christine Rayner is very charming as Effie; and Miss Louie Tinsley again displays her powers as a comedienne as the Nurse. Eames, the butler, is very neatly presented by Mr. Fred Epitaux. There is also being presented a new and original one-act play, entitled *Citizen Morot*, which is from the pen of Miss Alice Clayton Greene, who appears in the play which it precedes. The story deals with an episode of the French Revolution, and the tale of revenge is well told and with much dramatic force. Mr. G. E. Bellamy appears as Morot, and he fills the character admirably; while Miss Frances Dillon gives a particularly clever rendering of Michelle de Cresney. It is a very fine piece of emotional acting, and splendidly played. The Marquis de Cresney is portrayed in a skilful manner by Mr. H. A. Tonge; and Mr. Fred Epitaux as Lucien and Mr. E. H. Wynne as the Governor, also lend valuable assistance. The play was accorded a very hearty reception, and the authoress is to be complimented on the success it achieved.

CORONET THEATRE.

On Monday, May 20,
"THE MORALS OF MARCUS."

During this Bank Holiday week *The Morals of Marcus* have supplied food for reflection to the frequenters of the pretty Notting Hill Gate theatre, so admirably managed by Mr. Edward Lytton for Mr. Robert Arthur. Mr. W. J. Locke's clever and original play proves very interesting indeed as expounded by Mr. M. V. Leveaux's well-chosen company. Mr. H. Nye Chart's easy polished manner is eminently suited to the part of the self-absorbed historian who finds himself suddenly confronted with a strange and difficult problem, which is further complicated by the dawn of love on the horizon of a hitherto tranquil and philosophic nature. He enacts the part with earnestness and sincerity. Miss Hilda Antony fills the part of Carlotta, the child of impulse, in a most convincing fashion, and with a pretty and picturesque appreciation of the character. The somewhat thankless and unpleasant part of Mrs. Mainwaring is admirably limned by Mrs. Nye Chart, and she imparts to it just the delicate air and deft handling which are necessary to prevent the character from being altogether unsympathetic. Mr. David Domville acts with a nice sense of humour as the unscrupulous adventurer Sebastian Pasquale, who acts as the evil genius of the Marcus *ménage*, and he keeps the saturnine scheming of his mind most acceptably veiled. Miss Mary Weigall as Mrs. Ordeyne is appropriately severe; and Dora Ordeyne, her slangy, good-natured daughter, is prettily played by Miss Gladys Purnell. The part of the excitable, garrulous, and good-hearted French housekeeper Antoinette is cleverly portrayed by Miss Eleanor Gilbart; and Mr. Cecil Brooking gives a clever and concise character-sketch of the butler Stenson, a life-like and vastly-amusing silhouette, illustrative of the author's wit and observation. Mr. A. H. Leveaux, who acts as stage-manager, contents himself with the small part of Hamdi Effendi; Mr. W. Swinburne is good as Bobby Tremlett; Miss C. Radcliffe is well in the picture as Mrs. McMurray; and a capital performance is given by Miss Mary O'Neill as Lady Elmira Wynn. Miss E. Summers and Miss Hilda Lane, who are quite satisfactory in the parts of Miss Lestrange and the Maid, complete the cast. Mr. Henry Howard is acting-manager for the company.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, May 20, the Drama,
by Arthur Shirley, entitled
"THE GRIP OF IRON."

The sensational, but really interesting drama, *The Grip of Iron*, is once more at the Dalston Theatre, where it is quite taking the fancy of holiday audiences. Mr. Fred Powell still appears as Jagon, alias Simmonet (the strangler), and the way in which he depicts the startling events in his double life, culminating in the dispatch of the murderer of his daughter, Lorentz de Ribas, holds onlookers spellbound at different periods of the story. Mr. Powell has lost none of his old power, notwithstanding the fact that he now impersonated the strangler some 5000 times. Mr. Wallace Curnock, as Paul Blanchard, a gardener, who becomes falsely accused of a murder committed by Jagon, effectively enlists the sympathy of the audience. Lorentz de Ribas, a courtly Spanish adventurer, who marries Jagon's daughter, has a most effective representative in Mr. A. G. Polson-Turner. Mr. W. T. Riley and Mr. John Brittain, as detectives of the new and the old school, are distinctly amusing. Mr. George Denham undertakes two parts, appearing alternately as M. de Beaudin and Loustalot, the Smiler, the latter being a really mirth-provoking impersonation. Cora Simmonet is played by Miss Rosabel Dodd with commendable effect; Miss Florence Trevoir is Sophie Blanchard; and other ladies in the cast include Miss Maggie Stewart, Miss Cissie Hayes, and Miss Pope Royal.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.

On Monday, May 20, the Pantomime, entitled
"THE FORTÉ THIEVES."

A unique attraction has been secured by Mr. Bannister Howard for the final week of his present season at the Palace in the company of children from Drury Lane, in their own pantomime, *The Forté Thieves* (*Played Piano*), written by Bruce Smith, and arranged by Mr. Ernest D'Auban. It has long been the custom of the juveniles engaged at the National theatre to give a production for the amusement of their friends, but this year they have emerged into publicity. On the invitation of Mr. J. M. Glover, the musical director at the Lane, under whose management the troupe is travelling, they went recently to Bexhill-on-Sea, of which Mr. Glover is Mayor, and gave a series of performances, which were so successful that arrangements were made to extend the field of their operations. The reception of the clever band at the Crystal Palace has been a most flattering one, and the excellence of the performance has been heartily recognised. The leading spirit of the pantomime, in which the adventures of the famed Forty are brought up to date, is Master Jack Frost, whose talents as a comedian are made evident in the rôle of Abdallah, the Captain and Chairman of the Forté Thieves, Limited, purveyors of every household requisite. Abdullah is a tireless punster, and his efforts in that direction are very effective. He is seen and heard at his best in "Let's sing a song, boys," with a clever dance, in which he is supported by the band. In his capacity of traveller for the firm, Abdallah has also a humorous selection, with the refrain, "For orders I will call another day," which goes well. Ali Baba has a merry exponent in Master W. Bishop, who shares with Master Frost the success of a duet on "Nothing," supplemented by a dance of great comicality. Master Bishop is also responsible for "It's only a question of time," a topical song which is repeatedly encored. A winsome Morgiana is found in the dainty person of Miss Florrie Clarke, who made a hit in singing, acting, and dancing. Her rendering of "I don't want to be a lady" was thoroughly enjoyed, and applause in abundance were showered upon the clever little lady. Miss Vickie Hogben is to be complimented on her efforts as principal dancer. Her song and dance, in which she was assisted by a couple of coons, was among the most highly approved items of the evening. Hassarac, the trusty lieutenant of the Forty, is well presented by Miss A. Macdonald, whose version of "Hello, hello, a different girl again," is one of the smartest of many smart selections. The character of Ganem is entrusted to Miss Jessie Evans, who joins with Morgiana in a diverting parody on "Zuyder Zee." Master Teddy Gordon makes the most of Cassim Baba; and his wife, Cogia, is vivaciously represented by Miss L. Randall, whose singing of "How would you like to spoon with me?" gains cordial approbation. The responsibilities of the donkey are undertaken with credit by Master Middleditch and Master Burton, the ramping of the quadruped causing great laughter. Miss Gertie Britton is a commendable Fairy of the Cave. The scenery, of which there are six sets, is on an elaborate scale, a transformation being provided in The Coming of Spring, in which the resources of the scene-painter's art are agreeably revealed. A shadow pantomime gives an appreciable finish to the production.

THE STANDARD.

On Monday, May 20, the Drama, in prologue and four acts, by Arthur Jefferson, entitled
"LONDON BY DAY AND NIGHT."

A powerful holiday attraction is being placed before the patrons of the Standard this week. *London by Day and Night* is a play full of interest and excitement, and on Monday a crowded house showed its appreciation of the good work done. The piece is presented by a most capable body of players, and the scenery and minor effects are all of the best. The Standard favourite, Mr. Ashley Page, is seen to great advantage as Richard Thorneycroft. He plays throughout with power and skill, and his style of acting is, as usual, very convincing. Much praise is due to him for his splendid performance. Mr. Tom Taylor ably enacts the rôle of Edgar Thorneycroft, a sea captain. His embodiment is both interesting and impressive. Miss Ida Taylor proves herself to be possessed of much ability, and plays with great taste and decided success as Richard Edgar Thorneycroft, alias Dick, a waif. Little Miss Elsie Jezzard as Sybil Langton does all that is required of her exceedingly well. A very satisfactory portrayal of Jack Hainsworth is supplied by Mr. Fred Ellerton; and Mr. John Sargent scores a success as Major Godfrey Snake. Mr. Weldon Atherstone is worthy of special commendation for his fine impersonation of Gideon Snake. He carefully depicts the callous nature of an ex-solicitor of shady reputation, and his performance meets with due appreciation. The part of George Flemming is safely entrusted to Mr. Wilson Gunning, who performs with a fine display of decided histrionic talent. Much fun is created by Mr. Johnny Chippendale as Nicodemus Sneezer. He effectively seizes every opportunity to raise a hearty laugh, and is substantially assisted by Miss Maggie Lindsay as Emily Ann Sneezer. Miss East Robertson plays with considerable force as Olga Snake, and is to be congratulated on her fine embodiment; whilst Miss Mattie Everett is well placed as Maria Pink, and proves of much value. Miss Marion Denvil carefully and cleverly enacts the rôle of Beatrice Thorneycroft, and plays throughout with sincerity and feeling. The minor characters receive adequate attention at the hands of other members of the company.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

A triple bill was presented to the patrons of the Royal County Theatre on Monday, the principal item of the programme being H. T. Craven's two-act drama *Milky White*. Mr. Arthur Williams gives one of the finest bits of character-acting as the cowkeeper, Daniel White, that have been witnessed in Kingston for some time. It quite captured the audience, who were not slow to appreciate Mr. Williams's fine picture of an old curmudgeon familiar in life. Another success was that of Mr. Fred Emney, who appeared as the cowboy, Dick Duggs, with a stolid, bucolic vacuity that was almost real; Miss Emily Taylor made a charming Annie White; and a meritorious effort was that of Mr. Franklyn Graham as Archibald Good. Miss Emily Spiller gave a good account of herself as Mrs. Saddrip. The artists had to make reappearances at the end of each act in response to the applause evoked. Mr. Arthur Williams was seen in the title-rôle of his own comedietta *Funnibone's Fix*, the other parts being taken by Mr. Lytton Grey, Mr. Fred Emney, Mr. Charles Clarke, Mr. Franklyn Graham, Miss Blanche Doris, and Miss Sylvia Morris. The programme also contained a one-act drama, with music, written and composed by Leslie Stiles, entitled

"A BURMESE IDOL."

Kishnatu ..... MISS SYLVIA MORRIS
Putra ..... MR. FRANKLYN GRAHAM
Tom Bowline ..... MR. LYTTON GREY

The scene of this morceau, which was produced at Kingston as a curtain-raiser, is laid on the seashore in sunny Burmah. A young and pretty peasant woman, Kishnatu, is married to a by no means prepossessing snake-charmer called Putra, who is a good man, and loves his wife dearly. In this place, far from home and friends, Tom Bowline, a British tar, finds himself stranded and in bad health. Kishnatu and her husband give him an asylum, and the former nurses him back to health and strength. In time she comes to love him, and when the tar has completely recovered, never loses an opportunity of declaring her passion, much to Tom's embarrassment, who, though he is not averse from a mild flirtation, by no means encourages the girl. Matters get serious, however, when Kishnatu announces her resolve to leave her husband and child and to fly with him over the sea. Tom therefore decides to end the painful situation, and he is strengthened in his intention by witnessing, when he was supposed to be asleep, a stormy scene between the woman and her husband, who had not been oblivious of what was going on. The end of this matrimonial quarrel is that Putra leaves his wife and takes the baby with him. Tom decides to slip away, and writes a note saying farewell. Kishnatu sees the note, which she is allowed to think is a love-letter, and Tom, not wishing to witness her grief, sends her off to the bazaar to have it translated, and then, leaving all the money he has in the empty cradle, quietly quits the scene. Kishnatu's grief is very great when she discovers the contents of the note, and it is intensified when she hurries back to find not only the sailor, but her husband and child, gone. Alone in the world, she thinks only of death. Before her stands a box containing a cobra capella, which her husband could charm, but whose sting was death. She flies to the box to take the deadly reptile to her breast, and is about to remove the lid, when Putra returns with the child in his arms. Then follow penitence and reconciliation.

Too much praise cannot be bestowed on Miss Sylvia Morris for the fine impersonation she gave of the impulsive Kishnatu. It was a masterly performance, especially touching being the picture of her grief at the close of the play. Mr. Lytton Grey made a breezy Jack Tar; and the sombre part of the snake-charmer was ably filled by Mr. Franklyn Graham. The play received a sympathetic reception.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, the Drama, by Walter Howard, entitled
"A LIFE'S REVENGE."

Large audiences have this week been interested by Mr. Howard's story of Russian life. The beautiful Princess Vanda Idyala has her portrait painted by Paul Storovitch, an artist. They fall in love, and are married secretly in order to thwart the designs of the villainous Prince Boris Strogoroff, who is anxious that the Princess shall become his wife. The Prince hears of their attachment, but does not know of the marriage, and seeks a means whereby he may get his rival into his power. Storovitch is betrayed by Michael Orloff (who afterwards turns out to be his father) to the Prince as a serf, and, according to the laws of the land, he is, therefore, the servant of the Prince, and all his belongings are the Prince's property. The play follows out the torture undergone by this Paul Storovitch at the hands of the callous and revengeful Prince, who hopes to bring about the Princess's submission if her lover's life be the penalty of her refusal. As the cowardly Prince Boris Strogoroff Mr. Chas. A. East does his best, and works extremely hard. Mr. Rawson Buckley as Paul Storovitch, the artist hero, is earnest throughout, portraying this trying character with much effect. The part of Maurice Trevor, his friend, is successfully undertaken by Mr. Herbert Hewetson, who has some pretty speeches to make, and who takes advantage of his opportunities. Michael Orloff finds an able exponent in Mr. Algernon Syms; and Mr. Frank Harrison causes much amusement in the character of Colonel Tumbleoff. Mr. Bertie Wright is really funny as Nicholas Bobolinskroff, and proves himself a clever comedian. The character of General Micklioff is played by Mr. T. J. Waller, and Mr. H. Royce is a capable Lieutenant Semoloff. Miss Lindsay Fincham acts realistically in the part of Marcia Vittoria, an adventuress; and Miss Kathleen Russell looks and plays the characters of the noble-minded Princess Vanda Idyala to perfection. Miss May Audrie is a pleasing Aconlina, and Miss Florence Harcourt contributes towards the humour of the play as Daphne Dashaway.

GRAND THEATRE, ISLINGTON.

On Monday, May 20, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Walter Melville, entitled
"THE GIRL WHO TOOK THE WRONG TURNING."

For the holiday attraction at this theatre the management have selected this latest production from Mr. Walter Melville's pen, and this being the first visit to this theatre, audiences that packed every part of the theatre assembled on the holiday to make its acquaintance. Mr. Melville preaches his old sermon of human frailty, and makes his points with ease and force, and a capital company is responsible for the performance. Mr. Roy Redgrave as Willie Mason gives an admirable portrayal of the much-tried sailor, and speedily enlists the sympathy of the audience. Mr. Sidney Sail as Bill Slater is to be commended for a well-balanced performance. Mr. Frank Robertson as Jack Fenton submits a pleasant and attractive impersonation and makes himself popular. Mr. Willie Reid as Walker is an entertaining comedian who can be relied on to make the most of his opportunities, and the audience enjoyed to the utmost his whimsical enactment of the rôle. Mr. Kenneth Black as Richard Fenton is to be commended for a thoroughly sound piece of acting. Mr. Walter Thornton as James Harcourt succeeds in making that unpleasant gentleman as repulsive as possible. Miss Nannie Meade as Vesta le Clerc plays the heavy rôle with skill and effect, and looks very well. As Poppy Slater, Miss Marie Kildare acts with great spirit, and supports Mr. Reid capitally. Miss Hilda Baynton as Lucy Coventry acts sympathetically, and proves an admirable foil to Miss Ruttledge. As the more foolish sister, Sophie, Miss Frances Ruttledge is quite excellent, all phases of a very difficult character being artistically delineated, and she scored a great personal success. Numerous other smaller parts all found capable exponents among the remaining members of the company. The scenery, by Messrs. Melville Brothers, is very elaborate, and excellent examples of their skill; and Mr. Edward Reeves's incidental music is appropriate. The whole has been produced by Mr. Walter Melville himself, and there can be no doubt but that a prosperous career awaits it in the provinces.

GRAND, FULHAM.

On Monday, May 20, the Play, in Four Acts, by Walter Melville, entitled
"THE SOLDIER'S WEDDING."

Walter Melville's recent production is the Bank Holiday week attraction at Fulham, and has been received with the customary favour by pit and gallery. The British Army on its best behaviour looms large in the play, and its representatives get the best of things generally. Mr. Wingold Lawrence made an admirable hero, acting his part in a bold and frank manner as becomes the wearer of the King's uniform. Mr. Beresford Whitcomb was forceful and dignified as the Colonel; and Mr. Frederick Biron showed power as David Munro. Mr. Raymond Wood (as Charles Courtenay) is an able and businesslike villain, and carried through his schemes with such naturalness and energy as to provoke the high compliment of hisses from the gallery. Little Albert is responsible for a great deal of fun by his quaint rendering of the part of Teddy Munro, and scores a decided success; while the humorous element is also kept well to the fore by Mr. A. Gambier Melford as Tommy Spratt. Mr. James Fielding shows both humour and tenderness as the old man Nathaniel Lee. Of the ladies, Miss Marie McAuley plays with considerable power as Julie de Beauvrais, the adventuress; and Miss Georgie de Lara's rendering of the part of Peggy Munro is full of womanly feeling and tenderness. The responsible rôle of Nancy Lee devolves upon Miss Jessie Winter, who acquits herself exceedingly well therein; she possesses the charm of good looks as well as the gift of dramatic power, and her bright and winning manner helped much to ensure the success of the play. The scenery is quite up to the mark. In addition to some handsome interiors, there are some particularly pretty country sets in the neighbourhood of King's Langley, and the farmyard scene, with pigeons and poultry, is a good piece of stage realism.

LYRIC OPERA HOUSE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, May 20, the Drama, entitled
"A WOMAN'S REVENGE."

This week a very capable stock company is giving an excellent presentation of this well-known drama. Miss Florence Dalton submits an admirable interpretation of the part of Mabel Wentworth, the adventuress. Mr. C. F. Collins as Frank Drummond, the young barrister, is good; and Mr. H. H. Barrington presents one of his usual finished performances as John Overston, a merchant. Mr. Percy C. Lodge makes Robert Overston appear a sufficiently villainous character. Mr. A. P. Kaye gives a satisfactory rendering of Dick Chilton. Miss Winnie White is a graceful and attractive heroine, Mary Lonsdale, whose companion, Lottie Bromley, is played with plenty of life by Miss Lucy Beaumont. Miss Winnie Webster, a clever little girl, is good as Mary, Drummond's child. Other parts are well filled by Mr. Ashton Wilson as Sir J. Blacklock, K.C.; Mr. E. Malone, the Judge; Mr. James Culver, Mr. F. Maple, and Mr. E. Johnston, and Miss Agnes May. The play is ably staged, Mr. Harry Drury being responsible for some excellent special scenery.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, May 20, the Comedy Drama, entitled
"THE BROKEN MELODY."

Judging by the large audiences that have assembled at the Shakespeare Theatre this week, and the enthusiastic reception accorded Mr. Auguste Van Biene's company, in *The Broken Melody*, it is very evident, notwithstanding the many years it has been before the public, that this comedy-drama is as popular as ever, and is a sure draw. Mr. Van Biene, in the rôle of Paul Borinski, the musical composer, is given the opportunity of displaying his skill on the 'cello, and his solos are listened to with rapt attention. His acting, too, is excellent, and he fully deserves the applause which greets him at the final fall of the curtain. Mr. Henry Ludlow gives a capital portrayal of the Russian police spy, General Ivanoff, and acts with commendable restraint. Mr. Henry Bute is eminently satisfactory as Dickson, the lodging-house keeper, who proves such a faithful friend in adversity; and Mr. Herbert Colley, as Mortimer, causes considerable amusement by his delineation of the energetic theatrical agent. Mr. Dudley Stuart capably sustains the part of Beaujour, a concert impresario; Mr. W. Thomson is satisfactory as Dr. Magrath; and Mr. Archie Selwyn, who is also stage-manager, makes the most of his opportunities as the Hon. Richard Spinnaker. Miss Lena Burnleigh as Mabel contributes a sterling performance, and acts throughout with feeling and pathos; Miss Rosemary Rees is to be congratulated on a powerful delineation of the scheming Duchess de Verviers, in which rôle she scores a distinct success; and Miss Kate Robberds as Mrs. Dickson and Miss R. Pulleyne as the Hon. Mrs. Spinnaker render good support. Mr. Gilbert Heron is business-manager and Mr. Percival Goffin musical-director for Mr. Auguste Van Biene.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, May 20, the Drama,
by Walter Melville, entitled
"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."

No better fare for holiday makers could be provided than Mr. Walter Melville's exciting and exhilarating play, *The Female Swindler*, and therefore it was not surprsing that the Crown, Peckham, was crammed to overflowing at both performances last Monday, many persons having to be turned away. Mr. Tom H. Taylor's company worked their hardest to gain applause, and were abundantly successful. Miss Grace E. Leslie makes a striking figure of Lu Valroy, and is warmly cheered for her fine impersonation of the woman in whom all good is not yet dead. Mr. Joseph Millane scores well as the detective, Jack Coulson; Mr. Henry Wright is funny as the ubiquitous and ambitious Billy Binks, whose various strange disguises evoke much merriment; Mr. D. Winstow does all that is possible with the character of Dixon; and Mr. A. Kenyon Gray is excellent as James Oliver. Mr. J. Knox-Orde brings out the rascality of Geoffrey Warden; and Mr. Gup P. Ellis plays well as Harold Travers. May Andrews is capably enacted by Miss Florrie Kelsey; and Miss Mary Dawson is amusing as Mary Ann Mee. Mr. John Belton contributes a good character-sketch of Abraham Mikestein; and the remaining parts are in good hands.

THE PRINCE'S, POPLAR.

On Monday, May 20, the Drama, entitled
"THE LOVE THAT WOMEN DESIRE."

The Whitsuntide attraction at the Prince's, Poplar, is G. Carlton Wallace's drama, *The Love that Women Desire*, which was presented on Monday to a house packed in every part. The play had the advantages of the services of a company capable in every respect, together with first-class scenery and mounting. Mr. J. O. Stewart works with great energy as Squire Abingdon, and Mr. Alfred Brandon submits an admirable interpretation of Richard Abingdon; while Mr. Bonhote Wilson enters thoroughly into the part of Philip Carnaby, the result being a praiseworthy performance. The Rev. Arnold Cathorne is represented by Mr. Hugh Wallace with an outspoken earnestness; and the outcast, Frank Hardy, receives an impressive rendering from Mr. Graham Winsford. Miss Lalla Stanhope impersonates Sybil Thorburn, playing the character with power and eloquent pathos. Madge Abingdon is acted with great spirit and determination by Miss Gladys Murray; and Miss Emmie Litchfield displays aptitude as Pattie Swift. Mr. J. W. Wilkinson is amusing as P.C. Sowerburry, which he enacts in good-tempered and jaunty style, keeping the audience in the best of humours; and Mr. S. P. Clewton is convincing as Dr. Brandeth. Mr. Charles Franklin is acceptable as Adam Frere; and Mr. B. Morris is well fitted as the bailiff Amos Gibson. Mr. Bert Butler and Mr. S. Bale are duly truculent as the Brazilian desperadoes, Miguel and Pedrille; while the Indian brave, Arango, is made the most of by Mr. Stephen Willis. Mr. John Hignett is funny as Dennis O'Rourke; and efficient work is contributed by Mr. Oliver Turnbull as Samuel Hogg, Mr. James Heath as a Postman, Miss Violet Haye as Molly, and Miss N. Griffiths as Mariquinha. The comfort of the patrons is well looked after by the genial and courteous business-manager, Mr. C. Melville Lurring. After this week the theatre closes for the summer vacation, re-opening in August.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, May 22,
"THE GIRL BEHIND THE COUNTER."

Overflowing houses have been receiving *The Girl Behind the Counter*, played by Mr. Mouillot's strong company with much enthusiasm here this week. Mr. Arthur Cartwright as Charles Chetwyn acts and sings in a finished manner; Miss Nora Brocklebank as Winnie Willoughby wins golden opinions by her delightful rendition of the songs allotted her and by her easy, graceful action; Mr. Ellis Holland as the frivolous Gerald Willoughby is entirely successful, his "Sir Walter Raleigh" song, with much patter, being a great favourite; his wife, Lady Willoughby, is carefully played by Miss M. Bartlett; Mr. Howard Cridland gives a richly humorous portraiture of the easy-going, lackadaisical Viscount Gushington; M. Jules Charmettes is excellent as the excitable Mons. Duval, introducing a clever pot-pourri of English popular songs, which is much applauded. Mr. Fred Park works indefatigably as Adolphus Dudd, the office boy, and with Miss Rose Helene, who plays Susie very daintily, scores a great success in the "Kate Greenaway" duet. Miss Florence Lee as Millie Mostyn is a vivacious manageress of the Maison Duval, singing with great effect the pretty ditty, "The Vicar's eldest daughter." As a very fascinating Ninette Miss Jessie Lonnen, with a delightful French accent, dances and sings well; a clever character-study is that of Mr. A. M. More's as the supercilious waiter; and Mr. William Amery as the silent waiter, Joseph, evokes much merriment. Mr. Geoffrey Allsopp gives a forcible and clever rendering of the Commissionaire Rudolph, and he is also responsible for the production and stage-management of the piece. Mr. George M. Saker has under his direction the well-trained chorus and the very efficient augmented orchestra.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, May 20, the Drama, entitled
"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."

Mr. Robert Arthur presented as his Whitsun attraction here Mr. Herbert Hollister's powerful dramatic company, in George R. Sims's popular drama, *The Lights o' London*. That this play still retains a strong hold upon the theatre-going public was amply manifested, inasmuch as it was received with great enthusiasm by crowded houses. Harold Armytage was most admirably portrayed by Mr. C. G. Calvert; as was also the part of Bess by Miss Kate Randolph, Miss Jeanne Burgoyne having met with an accident shortly previous to the performance. These two deserved the highest praise for their clever acting. Mr. Maurice Hoffmann made a great hit as Clifford Armytage, the villain of the piece. Mr. Herbert Hollister was seen to great advantage as Seth Preene; as was also Miss Renee Douglas as Hetty Preene. Jarvis (Mr. Maitland Marler), Mrs. Jarvis (Mrs. Edwin Palmer), and their son, Shakespeare Jarvis (Miss Rita Wallis), added a quaint touch of humour to the play, which gained for them well-deserved applause. Among the others in a wonderfully strong cast may be mentioned Mr. Sydney N. Hallows (Squire Armitage), Mr. F. V. Lloyd (Marks, lodge-keeper at Armytage Hall), Mr. H. W. Forster (a solicitor), Mr. H. Gray Dolby and Mr. John Willis (detectives), Mr. George Wallace (Philosopher Jack), Mr. F. H. Waters (Percy Vere de Vere, Esq.), Mr. E. H. Dolby (Trotters), Mr E. M. Wells (Superintendent of Police), Messrs. Waghorn and Elliston (constables), all of whom gave excellent interpretations of their various parts. The staging was excellent.

BROADWAY THEATRE, S.E.

On Monday, May 20, was Presented the Play, in Two Parts, by Barry Williams, entitled
"THE RED-COAT."

This interesting Georgian play was a judicious selection as a holiday attraction. The plot is not too intricate to be grasped thoroughly in the course of the two hours allotted to it at each performance, under the new system of two houses nightly, and the audience applauded enthusiastically each of the exciting situations. The play is beautifully staged, each scene being worthy of a West-end house, and the costumes are rich and appropriate, while the stage-management is excellent. Mrs. William Giffard presents an admirable study of the gentle, loving, womanly Violet Darnley. Miss Rose Faith gives excellent support as Harriet Marl; and a very pretty and natural Edith is that of Little Josephine. Miss Helen Edwins is an amusing Popsey; and Miss Kate Bratby as Miriam and Miss Russell as Clotilde are both good. Mr. Henry Watson is a manly and earnest Guise Darnley; Mr. Frank Dalton gives a fine representation of Lord Ledbury; Mr. Henry Danson as Clifford Marl is a most unscrupulous villain; Mr. Harry Belford is very good indeed as Gibson; Mr. E. C. Lilly is a capable and convincing Finch Fernleigh; and Mr. C. Ommanney contributes a clever little sketch of Digston Bull. The remaining male parts are in the capable hands of Messrs. Cecil Barclay, Walter Dexter, Arthur Riley, and George Dark.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, May 20, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck, entitled
"SAVED FROM THE SEA."

For his Whitsuntide attraction Mr. William Bailey staged that powerful drama *Saved from the Sea*, with the result that the discerning Marylebone playgoers have attended in full strength all the week to show their appreciation of the fine work done by the members of Miss Helen Vigors' excellent company. As Dan Ellington, Mr. Douglas Vigors plays in a thoroughly convincing fashion, his conception of the part being admirable and never in the least overdrawn. Mr. Percy E. Lodge is most realistic as the scheming rascal Richard Fenton; whilst Mr. Edward Chester deserves every credit for his discerning portrayal of Peter Scalcher. Mr. William Skelton provides plenty of merriment with his lively impersonation of Billy Snooks; and good assistance is given him by Miss May Seton as the blithe and lively Polly Blake. Miss Maude Harris is pleasingly intelligent as Jack Ellington; Miss Florence Lovell is sympathetic as the lodging-house keeper, Mrs. Blake; and Miss Marie Auckland makes a deep impression with her fine handling of the trying rôle of Nancy Ellington. The piece is mounted and staged in irreproachable style, reflecting the greatest credit on Mr. Samuel James, whose general-manager is Mr. F. H. Waters.

THE ARTHUR VERNE FUND.

Subscriptions already received :—

	£	s.	d.
Henry Swinerd	5	5	0
J. W. Cordiner	5	5	0
Messrs. Power and Kirby's *Man's Enemy* Co. (per Martin Comstock)	2	10	6
Horace Stanley	2	2	0
Nellie Harcourt	1	1	0
George Brooks	1	1	0
Lyn Harding	1	1	0
G. Howard Watson	1	1	0
Bert Edwards	0	7	6
Deane Cliffe	0	5	0
W. C. H.	0	5	0
Arthur Hartley	0	5	0
Walter Ashley	0	5	0
H. C. Ward	0	5	0
Marie Vere	0	5	0

Subscriptions will be gratefully received and acknowledged by Henry Swinerd, Royal Artillery Theatre, Woolwich; or by J. W. Cordiner, *Dare-Devil Dorothy* company, en route.

THE LATE CHARLES A. LEICESTER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—As an impression seems to have gained ground that the late Mr. Charles A. Leicester was a member of the Actors' Union, and therefore entitled to a death levy on all the members, I beg to state that this impression is quite incorrect. Mr. Leicester had signed at one of the meetings, expressing his desire to become a member, but had not paid his entrance fee.—Yours faithfully,

ROBSON PAIGE.

10, Ospringe-road, N.W., May 23.

OWING to the sudden illness of Mr. Charles Fawcett during the performance on Monday evening at the Theatre Royal, Dublin, the part of Jack Barrington, the genial Irishman in *What the Butler Saw*, was played by Mr. Alec Alves, who immediately established himself a favourite with the audience and won the congratulations of the management.

THE ACTORS' UNION.

LONDON.

MISS GLADYS FFOLLIOTT presided at Tuesday's meeting of the Actors' Union, held at the Bedford Head Hotel, Maiden-lane, and amongst others present were Mr. Arthur Bawtree, Mr. W. Farren, Mr. Chas. Sugden, Mrs. Sugden, Mr. Robson Paige, Mr. Fred Dent, Mr. Fred Wright, sen., Mrs. F. Wright, Miss A. Gracey, Miss Maud Stoner, Miss Mapleson, Mr. Wilfred Shine, Miss Denison, Miss A. Bain, Miss A. Lester, Miss Conrade, Miss Beatrice Lloyd, Miss Syringa, Mr. E. Collins, Mr. H. Naylor Grimson, Miss Magda Wildenburg, Miss Lena Penrose, Miss Daisy England, Miss Lena Delphine, Miss Dorcas Digby, Miss Grace Lester, Miss Constance Groves, Mr. W. H. G. Wynne, Mr. Ruddle Brown, Miss Marion J. Bird, Mr. Alfred Bennett, Mr. F. Cline, Mr. Oswald Marshall, Miss Lily Crammonde, Mr. Frank Dalton, Mr. Cyril Barclay, Mr. Harry Townley, Mr. H. Carlyle Pritchard, Miss Patterson, Miss Stanley Burt, Mr. J. W. Ryder, Mr. Du Cane, Mr. Robert M. Taylor, Mr. Harry Scott, Miss Belle Douglas, Miss Rene Douglas, Mr. J. Newburn, and Mr. Edwyn Wolseley.

MISS FFOLLIOTT said that the work of the Union was going on in the provinces with as much success as in London. Many new members were joining. She thought that the best thing everyone could do was to stick to the original intention to join, get as many recruits as possible, and argue afterwards. The more who became members the sooner would come the consummation of their old age fund and the ousting of that plague-spot, the paying or unremunerated amateur. A very bad case of the latter had recently been brought to her notice. A girl had worked very hard indeed in a London theatre, playing a small part and understudying a big one, and she had been promised the important part when the piece went on tour. The piece did go on tour, and the part was given to a girl in the chorus, who had paid something like £100, but who was totally unfitted for the work. The money was not paid to the manager, but to his representative, and she (Miss Ffolliott) did not think that the manager was aware of the incident. With a strong union such a thing as that would not have happened. It was advisable that artists should inform the executive committee of the Actors' Union whenever they heard of similar circumstances, as in such a case as this not only would the actress lose her work but also her artistic reputation. It was advisable, too, that every member of the Union should attend the meetings while on tour. It was nonsense for anybody to suggest that they should not go into public-houses to buy their stamps. Had they not rehearsed in public-houses at the wish of managers? The committee were going to keep on the little rooms in Bedford-street in order to save money for the benefit of the members. It would be an excellent thing if every unionist were to send to the Union week by week a small sum, even 2d. or 3d., so that they might rapidly have in hand the nucleus of an old age pension fund. A very small percentage of their salaries was all that was required to effect this object, and the money thus collected would be a valuable adjunct to Mr. Raleigh's scheme. It would, too, make them all feel that they had a right to claim some of the money not as charity, not as a privilege, but as money they had themselves assisted to amass. It was also within the bounds of possibility that they would eventually form a sick fund. She was glad that only men were to act on the committee, as that was an assurance that the affairs of the Union would be conducted on business-like lines, although there might be a sub-committee of ladies to deal specially with feminine matters.

MR. ROBSON PAIGE expressed the opinion that meetings should be held on the stage of the theatres all over the country. This week meetings would be held on the stages of Liverpool, Manchester, and Birmingham, and they hoped to benefit to the extent of eighty or one hundred additional members. Some managers seemed to think that ladies ought to be paid smaller salaries than men; but they seemed to overlook the expenses a woman had to meet in the way of dresses, &c. It was the intention of the Union to right woman's wrongs.

MR. RUDDLE BROWN said he was glad that the question of the £2 minimum salary had been dropped. He thought that it was a reasonable sum to suggest as a minimum; but the fact was they wanted better salaries all round. Salaries to-day were much lower than they were six or eight years ago. It was high time that they had better pieces and better companies on the road.

MR. ARTHUR BAWTREE stated that the present provisional committee was about to issue a balance-sheet, and it was desirable that they should get in as many subscriptions as early as they possibly could.

MR. OSWALD MARSHALL said that every member of the Union should send in his or her name and permanent address, together with a description of the individual line of business, so that applications from managers for artists could be dealt with.

MR. FARREN and MR. ROBERT M. TAYLOR also spoke very briefly, and MISS FFOLLIOTT concluded by suggesting that the Union should inaugurate a "self-denial day" for the benefit of their funds. She understood that a performance was already arranged as a means of getting money.

NEWCASTLE.

A meeting in connection with the Actors' Union was held on Tuesday, the 14th inst., in the club-room of the Bridge Hotel, Newcastle. Amongst those present were Miss Florence Creagh, Miss Rosie Kearns, Miss Gwendolen Thorpe, Miss Winifred Symonds, Messrs. William Macready, Monson Thorpe, Kendrew Milson, Geo. H. Organ, and Frederick Loyd.

The chair was occupied by Mr. LOYD, who, after referring to the rapid growth of the Union during the past few weeks, stated it had been formed, not in any antagonistic spirit towards the touring manager, but with the idea of improving the condition of the actor, and in the belief that the actor who helped himself would be helping his manager. Several managers had expressed themselves heart and soul with the movement, and he was sure all whom he might term "white managers" would support it. It had been said "actors would never organise." He thought that had already been proved to be an old-fashioned untruth. They had organised, and were grateful to the Variety Artists' Federation for having shown them the way. After stating the suggested minimum wage of £2 could not be enforced until the bulk of the profession were members, Mr. Loyd asked all present who had not already done so to send in their names for membership at once, in order that they might be entitled to vote at the forthcoming election of the first council. He referred to the death levy, which could not fail to abolish the regrettable appeals for charity which we saw only too frequently in theatrical organs. How often did we read of a widow and children totally unprovided for. He concluded by saying:—"Ladies and Gentlemen,—We are going to change all that, and I ask you, if for this alone, not to hesitate, not to deliberate, not to delay, but to join the Union to-day."

The clauses were then taken one by one. On clause 2 Mr. MACREADY asked if carpenters playing parts were eligible for membership.

The CHAIRMAN replied the question had been put at another meeting, and would have to be decided by the council. He should say anyone speaking lines on the stage would consider himself an actor.

On clause 5 Mr. MONSON THORPE, seconded by Mr. MACREADY, carried a motion that a member should be allowed a month's grace for arrears, before being put out of benefit.

Nos. 6, 7, and 8 having been carried unanimously, a question was asked on clause 9, as to whether it was necessary for anyone joining now to pay from the commencement of the financial year.

The CHAIRMAN replied that members could begin their payments from time of joining, but no one would be in full benefit until he had paid for six months. They would no doubt see the advantage of making payments in advance.

Objects 1, 2, and 3 were carried unanimously. Some discussion followed on Nos. 4, 5, and 6. After explanations from the chairman *re* the provident fund and legal protection, these were carried, as were Nos. 7 and 8.

Mr. MONSON THORPE said it would be an excellent idea if the Union could in time to come obtain the three-quarter fare for those members travelling to and from engagements.

A further suggestion was made by Miss GWENDOLEN THORPE that this might be arranged in a similar way to that employed by commercial travellers, viz., the name and small photograph attached to the back of membership card, for purposes of identification.

The CHAIRMAN said he would mention the suggestion to the provisional committee.

Mr. MACREADY said it had been explained this Union had been formed with no animosity towards touring managers. This was a point on which he would like to drive a few nails home. Ten years made a great difference in this profession. An actor was an actor to-day and a manager to-morrow, and *vice versa*. Managers had their own Association. The time had now come for actors to unite and become strong enough to manage their own affairs. It was not the touring manager the Union would fight, but the syndicate, who, being able to possess themselves of a number of theatres, could thus force the touring manager to accept unfair percentages. If we fought them, we should assist the touring manager to obtain better terms. After a reference to the suggested £2 minimum wage as being rough on the small manager, Mr. Macready concluded by saying: "Put down your names to-day, pay in your subscriptions at once, and vote for your representative council." To paraphrase Shakespeare, he would say in conclusion:—

"Come all the troubles in the world in arms,
And we will shock them. Naught shall make us rue,
If actors to their Union rest but true."

After the usual votes of thanks, the meeting terminated, all present who had not already done so signing to join the Union.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA

SIR,—I have carefully read most of the reports concerning the Actors' Union, and I gather that no one except actors are to have anything to do with it. This being so, one naturally wants to know when Mr. Cecil Raleigh became an actor. We know him as an author and an agitator, but hardly as an actor. Does the Union realise the absurdity of proposing that *managers* should give a percentage of receipts from non-copyright plays in order to form a provident fund for *actors*? This seems the idea of Mr. Raleigh. As to the minimum wage of £2, the idea is right enough if it could be carried out; but I wonder if these actors realise the hundreds who get employment for the greater part of the year from managers who run small dramas, and who can only pay their way by giving small salaries? If only the Union would realise that it is the local manager who is the cause of these small salaries, they would be on the right track. Till the travelling manager can get equitable terms, he cannot pay good salaries; and every year his expenses increase. Items which, in all fairness, are local items, he is forced to pay, and before long the ordinary travelling manager must be swept off the road. This having been accomplished, will the Actors' Union send out companies; and, if so, will it then become a Managers' Union. While the supply is double the demand, as it is in the case of professional actors and actresses, no "strike" could ever be of effect. It seems to me that the Reform Party and the Actors' Union are merely breaking up the A.A., which, in spite of many mistakes, has done much good, more than it has ever got credit for.—Yours faithfully,

A. GIFFORD STACEY.

New Theatre, Cardiff, May 20, 1907.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Many of the members of the above Union are kind enough to say that the founders and Provisional Committee have done excellent work. May I say we shall be amply rewarded if they will pay their subscriptions in advance as far as lies in their power, and so enable us to hand over a good banking account to the Executive Committee on our retirement.—Yours faithfully,

ROBSON PAIGE.

49, Bedford-street, W.C. May 20, 1907.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC

On Friday evening, May 17, a performance was given by the students of the Royal Academy of Mozart's *Cosi Fan Tutte*. It was a happy idea, as the opera does not require a large stage, nor is the music beyond the reach of a clever student. *Cosi Fan Tutte, Ossia la Scuola Degli Amanti*, to give the full title, was composed in January, 1790, to the libretto of Da Ponte, and although written at perhaps the most unhappy period of Mozart's career, the lively music shows no trace of sadness. The scene of the opera, which is in two acts, is laid at Naples. Ferrando and Gratiano offer to lay a wager with Don Alfonso, a confirmed doubter of woman's fidelity, that their mistresses will stand any test of constancy. Don Alfonso agrees, and after informing the ladies that their lovers are ordered off to the war, afterwards, with the help of Despina, the waiting-maid, introduces the officers, disguised as foreigners, to Isidora and Dorabella. The supposed strangers make violent love to the two ladies, and on being rejected pretend to take poison. When they seem on the point of death Despina, disguised as a doctor, restores them by mesmerism. In the second act they continue their efforts, and the ladies at last yield, Dorabella first and then Isidora, and a notary is sent for to draw up a marriage contract, the notary, of course, personated by Despina. At the wedding banquet Alfonso gives the alarm that the true lovers are coming, the false ones depart, and the real ones enter, see the marriage contract, and unmask the pretended notary. The mystery is cleared up. Alfonso reconciles the lovers, and wins his wager. The little opera was brightly acted, and Mozart's charming music cleverly sung, the quintette in the first act and the duet between Isidora and Dorabella being remarkably well rendered. Miss Mary J. Fielding made an attractive Isidora, singing her long solo in the second act with considerable fluency of execution; while Miss Josephine Ottlee acted and sang gracefully in the character of Dorabella. Miss Isabel H. Rawlins acted in a most sprightly fashion as the artful and intriguing maid Despina; and Mr. Cecil Pearson deserves hearty praise for his acting in the part of the cynical old bachelor, Don Alfonso. Mr. F. Percival Driver and Mr. Thomas Gibbs appeared with success as Gratiano and Fernando. Miss Dorothy E. Ivens, Miss Gertrude E. Newson, Miss Margaret Ismay, and Miss Elaine Von Pirch made graceful pages; while the chorus of servants sang with intelligence. The performance was under the direction of Mr. Edgardo Lévi, who conducted; and Mr. Richard Temple admirably performed the duties of stage-management. Miss Mary Burgess at the pianoforte and Mr. Redgewell Dansie at the organ both deserve praise; and the costumes and properties lent by the Royal Opera Syndicate proved attractive and picturesque. Mention must also be made of the dialogue, cleverly adapted from the Italian by Mr. Henry S. Sanders.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

Señor Carlos Sobrino gave his third pianoforte recital in the concert room of the Guildhall School on Tuesday afternoon before a large audience. The first part of his programme was devoted to Schumann's "Arabeske," Op. 18; "Romanza," No. 2, Op. 28; and "Papillons," Op. 2. In these Señor Sobrino greatly pleased the audience by his playing of the clever "Arabeske" and graceful "Romanza"; while the talented professor's treatment of the delightful "Papillons" was particularly happy. Schubert's "Impromptu," Op. 142, No. 2, and "Moment Musical," No. 3, also proved very attractive features of the recital; and Señor Sobrino's brilliant execution was admirably displayed in Weber's lively Rondo ("Perpetuo Mobile"), from Op. 24. Mendelssohn's "Songs Without Words," No. 18 (duetto), No. 30 ("Spring Song"), and No. 34 ("Spinning Song"), received expressive treatment, and the audience were greatly pleased with the pianist's rendering of the same composer's Presto, "Leicht und Luftig," Op. 7, No. 7, and his popular "Rondo Capriccioso." At the close of the recital Señor Sobrino was warmly applauded, and recalled several times to the platform.

Instrumental music formed the chief feature in the concert given by the students of the Guildhall School on Wednesday evening, the first item in the programme being Miss Winifred Percy's neatly-executed piano solos, "Tarantelle" (Julian Clifford) and Döhler's "Etude in D minor." Master Leonard A. Connabeer was much applauded, and deserved great praise for his intelligent and careful playing of Mendelssohn's violin solo, "Andante from Concerto in E minor"; and Miss Ethel Wynne's piano solo of Schumann's "Novelette in E" may also be heartily commended. Miss Violet Cobb gave a painstaking rendering of Chopin's "Scherzo in B flat minor," but the music is at present somewhat too difficult for the young performer. Bach's "Concerto" for two violins, played by Mr. A. Tschaikov and Miss Yathe Mandiebom, was on the whole a success. The youthful executants were at first somewhat uncertain in their attack, but they quickly recovered, and gave a careful and finished performance of the fine slow movement and lively finale, the pianoforte accompaniment being well played by Mr. Mischa Levin. In the pianoforte solos of "Auf Flügeln des Gesanges" (Mendelssohn-Heller) and Chopin's "Valse in E minor" Miss Dorothy Holden was eminently successful. The vocal items included Handel's duet, "The Lord is a Man of War" ("Israel"), well sung by Mr. William Lee and Mr. A. Chappell-Haverson. In two old English folk-songs, "Early one morning" and "Cupid's Garden," Miss Gladys Gilderoy Scott was particularly happy in her singing of the quaint old-world melodies; while Mr. Edwin Lewis sang "The Sailor's Grave," by Sullivan, with capital intonation and real artistic feeling. Two uninteresting songs, "A Lyke-wake Dirge" and "Fear no more the heat o' the sun," by H. Walford Davies, did not display Miss Bertha Lansdell's pleasing voice to the most advantage; and the difficult florid music in Proch's "Thema und Variazionen," "Woher dieses Sehnen," although sung with intelligence, proved too exacting a task for Miss Hilda Morris. A clever recitation of "The music in our street," by R. C. Lehmann, was given by Miss L. S. Cruden, who, in the flower-girl's dialect, with expressive action and the little touch of sentiment introduced, showed the true instincts of a born actress, and did the greatest credit to her experienced teacher, Mr. L. Cairns James. The sketch was given in costume, which added greatly to the effect. The success of the concert owed not a little to the clever accompanist, Miss Jenny Hyman.

On Wednesday afternoon an organ recital was given in the concert-room of the Guildhall School by Mr. H. Weatherly, F.R.C.O. The programme commenced with Faulkes' "Concert Overture in E flat," followed by Lemare's pleasing "Romance in D." The organist also was much applauded for his playing of Bach's famous "Prelude and Fugue in D major" and Bossi's quaint and original "Scherzo in G minor." A showy "Fantasia in E major," by Wolstenholme, Hollins' "Intermezzo," and Widor's "Toccata" from his "Fifth Symphony," completed the recital, Mr. Weatherly being at the close warmly greeted. One noticeable feature at these organ recitals has been the great preponderance of the sterner sex among the audience.

MISS ELLEN TERRY

WHOSE AUTOBIOGRAPHY COMMENCES IN NEXT WEEK'S "M.A.P."

Copyright photo] [*Lallie Charles.*

EVERYBODY will be delighted to hear that Miss Ellen Terry has just completed her autobiography, and that its publication in serial form commences in next week's *M.A.P.*

"The Story of My Life," as her reminiscences are entitled, is a story of absorbing interest. It will rank as one of the most important biographical works of recent years. It is at once the story of the astonishing career of the greatest of actresses, the story of the stage for the last fifty years, and the story of a woman whose friends are as the stars in number, who has held enthralled the hearts of all who have known or seen her by her beauty and by her charm.

"The actress is great, but the woman is greater than the actress," a famous critic once wrote, "and in the final analysis of Miss Terry's acting it will be found that her enchantment is that of a unique personality."

And this personality breathes through every line of the autobiography. "To read it is to hear her speak and see her smile," said a friend who has been privileged to see the manuscript. Just as she charms when she appears in public or in private, so does she charm through her pen. As a brilliant writer, an incomparable story-teller, Ellen Terry is now to shine in a new part.

"For years," she confesses, "I have contemplated telling this story, and for years I have put off telling it. When it was suggested to me that I ought to write down my recollections in the year of my Jubilee, all the difficulties of the undertaking began to frighten me. I could not deny that I had had an eventful life, packed full of incident, and that by the road I had met many distinguished and interesting men and women. I could not deny that I had been fifty years on the stage, and that this meant enough material for fifty books."

So, appalled at the task, but inspired by the knowledge that her story would be warmly welcomed by the great public that had proved so loyal to her through fifty years, she began to write of her eventful life.

"What is the first thing I remember?" she asked herself, and began with that—a picture of herself as a baby in a Glasgow attic asleep on the floor, clinging all night to her father's hand. And then the rest of the story flowed from her pen: the recollection of her first appearance on the stage as a little girl of eight, in the year 1856—the history of her famous brother and sisters, Kate, Marion, and Fred—of her associations with the Keans and Henry Irving—and of those parts with which her name will ever be associated—her triumphs as Ophelia, as Portia, as Beatrice, and as the Margaret of Goethe's "Faust." . . .

Our readers will be well advised on no account to miss the opening chapters of Ellen Terry's "Story of My Life," appearing in next week's *M.A.P.*

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

MR. E. S. WILLARD was unable to attend the dinner of the Olympian Dramatic Club of the Oxford University on Monday, and his place was taken by Mr. Alfred Sutro, who responded to the toast of "The Drama." Mr. Willard, it may be added, has accepted the invitation of the City of London College to be the Honorary Examiner in Elocution at the annual examination on June 20.

THE sixty-second anniversary dinner in aid of the Royal General Theatrical Fund will take place at the Whitehall Rooms, Hôtel Métropole, on Thursday. The Lord Mayor will preside, and it is hoped that an earnest effort will be made on behalf of so beneficent an institution. The musical entertainment, which will be under the direction of Chevalier Wilhelm Ganz, will be contributed to by Mme. Alice Esty, Miss Florence Monteith, Miss Suzanne Morival, Miss Edith Clegg, Mr. Hamilton Earle, and Mr. Gregory Hast.

MR. ARTHUR BOURCHIER will revive *The Walls of Jericho* at the Garrick in the first week in June. Many of the original cast are fortunately available, and the special engagement has been made of Mr. Eric Lewis to play the part of the decadent Marquis of Steventon. Owing to the success achieved by Mr. Alfred Sutro's fine play on tour last year, it will be taken out again this autumn, with Mr. Bourchier and Miss Violet Vanbrugh again in the chief rôles. As Mr. Bourchier will be playing more than one week in some of the large towns, he will include in his répertoire *Macbeth*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *The Duel*, *The Bishop's Move*, and *The Arm of the Law*, some of which, it is hoped, will be given at the Garrick before the end of the London season.

MR. CYRIL MAUDE, having carried *Toddles* prosperously along to its 300th night, has chosen a successor in *The Earl of Pawtucket*, a piece written by Augustus Thomas, which has been a great hit in America. The chief part is that of a certain Lord, who, wishing to conceal his identity, takes the name of his friend, the Earl of Pawtucket. He goes to New York, and falls in love with his friend's divorced wife, and from that situation arises many amusing complications. When the comedy is produced at the Playhouse, in the course of a few weeks, another novelty will be found in a one-act play, entitled *The Changeling*, adapted from one of Mr. W. W. Jacobs' short stories by the author and Mr. Herbert Sargent.

THE Actors' Church Union is to benefit by an entertainment, to be given in the afternoon of Tuesday, June 4, in the picture gallery of Bridgewater House, by permission of the Earl and Countess of Ellesmere. An extensive programme, in which many popular artists will take part, has been arranged. The hon. sec. is Mrs. Edward Compton, 1, Nevern-square, S.W., from whom all particulars can be had.

MR. MARTIN HARVEY'S four weeks' répertoire season at the Adelphi will begin on June 3 with *The Breed of the Treshams*, which will on that occasion register its 425th performance. The cast will consist of Mr. Harvey and Miss N. de Silva in their original parts, and of Messrs. Charles J. Cameron, Charles Glenney, Albert E. Raynor, Fred Wright, sen., Philip Hewland, Alfred Mansfield, Denholm Muir, Leonard Craske, Vincent Sternroyd, George Cooke, Leslie Palmer, P. Alexander, H. Graves, and Misses Bessie Elder, Coleridge, Maud Milton, and Maud Rivers.

THE second week of the season will witness the production of *Great Possessions*, which bids fair to be Mr. Harvey's most ambitious work since he has been in management. The scenery has been painted by Telbin, and the piece will be embellished by novel lighting effects. Miss Suzanne Sheldon has been specially engaged to augment Mr. Harvey's already strong cast for this production. The third week will be devoted to *The Corsican Brothers*, and for the fourth and last week *The Only Way*, which will reach its thousandth performance on June 29, will fill the bill.

MR. HARVEY has accepted an invitation to deliver a lecture to the members of the Cork Literary and Scientific Society, entitled "Some Reflections on the Art of Acting," during his forthcoming visit to Cork in the autumn.

MISS EDNA MAY'S wedding is fixed for Tuesday, June 4, before a registrar. In view of the important event, Messrs. H. and M. Rayne, the well-known theatrical and fancy shoemakers of Waterloo and Charing Cross-roads, are busy on Miss May's trousseau boots and shoes, which aggregate about fifty pairs. There are dainty evening shoes in all the popular actress's favourite colours; boots of Parisienne cut and style (but wearable), and all of gossamer weight, just suited for the fairy feet they are made to encase.

MISS JEANNIE BURGOYNE was the victim of a serious trap accident on the 8th inst. She was driving through the picturesque village of Colne Engaine, Essex, when the horse, a very spirited animal, took fright at a traction engine, and, swerving on one side, upset the trap, the occupants of which were thrown out. Miss Burgoyne sustained a fractured wrist and contusion of the ribs; but medical attendance was soon procured, and the injured lady, who bore the intense pain with the utmost fortitude, is now approaching convalescence. Miss Burgoyne was unable to fulfil her engagement to play her old part of Bess in *The Lights of London* at the Kennington Theatre this week, but we trust her reappearance will not be long deferred.

To the number of interesting weddings recently recorded has to be added that of Miss Nancy Price and Mr. Charles Maude, who tied the silken knot on Friday, last week. The marriage was a very quiet one, only about ten people being present at the ceremony. Mr. Maude is a first cousin of Mr. Cyril Maude, whom he is understudying in *Toddles* at the Playhouse as well as sustaining the part of the journalist, Freddy Gunner. Miss Price created the charming and resourceful Mrs. Bowler of *Toddles*, and it was the association of the happy couple in the successful comedy that led to the felicitous result that we record.

THE influence of the feminine pen in the dramatic world is evident in the number of plays which have recently enjoyed, or are still enjoying, popularity in the West-end. *The Scarlet Pimpernel*, which has served Miss Julia Neilson and Mr. Fred Terry so well, is by Baroness Orczy; *Peter's Mother*, an equally successful piece, is the work of Mrs. Henry de la Pasture; *Mr. Sheridan* was written by Miss Gladys Unger; *When Knights were Bold*, one of the hits of the present season, came from the pen of Miss Harriet Jay; and *Votes for Women* was supplied by Miss Elizabeth Robins. Mrs. Madeleine Lucette Ryley, who adapted M. Pierre Berton's *The Great Conspiracy* at the Duke of York's, is well known as a writer of original plays; and the charming little curtain-raiser, *The Peacemaker*, played before *The Stronger Sex*, was also the work of a lady—Miss E. M. Bryant.

THE Royalty will be reoccupied by the Follies on Monday, June 3, when the first part of the programme will consist of a new vaudeville entertainment. In the second section will be found the amusing skit, *Baffles; a Peter Pantomime*, and the excruciatingly funny music-hall travesty, into which several fresh items are to be introduced, will form the third part.

A GENERAL meeting of members of the Actors' Union will be held on June 14 for the purpose of handing over affairs to the new Executive Committee. Meetings are being arranged for next week in Manchester and Liverpool. Miss Daisy Halling is organising the meeting in the former town, and the one in Liverpool is being arranged by Mr. Fredk. Lloyd.

"THE LADY DANDIES" bade farewell to Daly's on Saturday, and the occasion was enlivened by a good deal of additional fun on the part of the principals, upon whom floral offerings were lavished. *The Merry Widow*, the new musical play from Vienna, may be expected in about a fortnight. Mr. George Edwardes is getting together a superb cast, which will include Messrs. George Graves, Louis Bradfield, W. H. Berry, Fred Kaye, Lennox Pawle, and Joseph Coyne, and Misses Maggie May, Lily Elsie, and Elizabeth Firth.

MR. EDWARD COMPTON concludes to-night at the Theatre Royal, Nottingham, another long and consistently successful tour. All the old plays have been rapturously received, *Davy Garrick* (which Mr. Compton plays to-night for the 1373rd time) being exceptionally honoured; while the revival of *Edmund Kean*, *Tragedian*, has been a marked success. The great triumph of the tour, however, has been Mr. Compton's presentation of his elder son, Mr. Montague Compton's, comedy, *The Gentleman in Grey*, which has scored heavily in every town. Mr. Compton, who wittily describes himself as "the author of the author," does not intend to open with this play at the St. James's Theatre in August, though it is quite probable that he may present it to Londoners further on. Meantime, the friends of both father and son will be glad to hear that Mr. Montague Compton is now convalescent from his attack of scarlet fever, and is already busy over his next play for his father.

THE annual meeting of the Green Room Lodge of Freemasons, held at the Imperial Restaurant, was well attended. Mr. Akerman May was installed Master of the Lodge, the ceremony being undertaken by Mr. Harry Nicholls, P.G. Standard-Bearer, first Master of the lodge, Mr. Herbert Leonard, the Master of the past year, being prevented by professional duties from attending. Mr. H. Nye Chart and Mr. E. H. Bull were placed in the minor chairs; Mr. W. S. Penley, P.G. Treasurer, was invested as Treasurer, and Mr. Charles Cruikshanks, P.A.G., Director of Ceremonies, as Secretary. Other offices were conferred upon Messrs. Charles Macdona, Hubert Willis, J. H. Ryley, J. W. Mathews, P.M., Stanley Pringle, Blake Adams, E. Vivian Reynolds, Frank Vernon, and C. Patrick (Tyler).

THE Incorporated Stage Society's next productions will be those of *David Ballard*, a play, in three acts, by Charles McEvoy, and a translation of Wedekinds *Der Kammersanger*, which will both be given at the Imperial on June 9 and 10.

THE Pavilion Theatre will close after Saturday night until August. Jacob Gordin's drama, *Alfonso the Noble*, with its real water scenes, was the Whitsuntide attraction at the popular East End house, Mr. and Mme. Charles Natansohn repeating their successful impersonations. As this week the present season of the Jewish Operatic and Dramatic Company terminates, the management have been putting forward some of the principal plays with which the Yiddish tragedian and dramatist, Mr. Sigmund Feinman, is associated, such as *Solomon Scharlatan*, *The Jews in Morocco*, *Woman Against Woman*, and *Holy Sabbath*. Other pieces presented have been *The Oath in the Temple*, *The Witch*, and *The Wild Man*.

MESSRS. VEDRENNE AND BARKER will revive *Man and Superman* at the Court Theatre on Monday. In the cast of Mr. Bernard Shaw's play will be Messrs. James Hearn, Lewis Casson, Robert Loraine, Edmund Gwenn, Dennis Eadie, and Edmund Gurney, and Misses Lillah McCarthy, Florence Haydon, Agnes Thomas, Sarah Brooke, and Mary Hamilton. When the *Don Juan in Hell* scene is produced at the Tuesday and Friday matinées, commencing on Tuesday, June 4, the revival of *Man and Superman* in the evening will give playgoers an opportunity of seeing the complete work.

"THE SPORTING KING," a new drama by Charles Whitlock, will be produced for the first time at the Metropole Theatre, Gateshead-on-Tyne, on Monday, by Messrs. Whitlock and Rutter. The cast will include the North Country heavy-weight, Tom Lancaster, who has met and defeated some of England's best pugilists.

MR. CHARLES GOOLD, we regret to learn, is lying ill with heart trouble at his residence, 64, Harpenden-road, Manor Park, E., and his medical attendant says he must not work for six months. Mr. Goold would be pleased to see or hear from old friends.

THE cast of *A Knight of the Road*, the four-act romantic play by Ina Leon Cassilis, which will be produced at Kingston by Gordon Bailey on Monday, June 3, is completed, and will include Gordon Bailey, Arthur Goodsall, Frederick Morland, Tom Shelford, Reginald Rivington, Edward Landor, Robert Bottomley, Miss Violet Cecil, Miss Lola Duncan, and Miss Lucy Wilson.

MR. GEORGE DICKINSON, the general-manager of the Grand Theatre, Rawtenstall, took his benefit on Saturday, when a crowded house gave him a hearty reception on his appearance to return thanks for the patronage accorded him. Mr. Dickinson, who has made himself very popular in Rawtenstall, is now, we understand, leaving for the close season.

A FUND is being organised for the purpose of perpetuating the memory of the late Mrs. Craigie ("John Oliver Hobbes"), and among the sums already received are £15 from Miss Ellen Terry, and £10 from Mr. George Alexander. Sir Squire Bancroft is also included in an imposing subscription list. It is proposed to erect a memorial plaque in University College, London, with a replica in the United States, and to institute scholarships for the study of modern English literature, to be given annually in Great Britain and America.

MR. ROBERT CROSSMAN has entered into an agreement with Mr. H. Cecil Beryl to arrange and conduct his tours, two of which, *The Lady Slavey* and *Sergeant Brue*, will start this autumn. Many old favourites will be included in the casts of both plays.

IN the absence of Mr. Arthur Bourchier, who was lecturing at the Royal Institution on "The Drama," the part of Father Daniel in *The Duel*, at the Garrick Theatre, was taken at Saturday's matinée by Mr. C. B. France. This was the first occasion on which Mr. France had appeared for Mr. Bourchier in this character, but he gave a finished study of the rôle, and was enthusiastically brought before the curtain at the end of the second act.

THE Lyceum pantomime is to be *Robinson Crusoe*, with Miss Dorothy Craske as principal boy. Meanwhile, the autumn season is to begin with a revival in August of Mr. Hall Caine's *The Christian*, to be followed by *Mispah*, a lyric-drama founded on the book of Esther, by Ella Wheeler Wilcox and Luscombe Searelle, which has already enjoyed great popularity in America.

MR. WILLIAM HAVILAND, despite his popularity on the stage, has evidently found the diggings quite as profitable as the drama. Interviewed at Cape Town recently Mr. Haviland related that at the end of his season in Johannesburg he was presented with some shares in a diamond company, and he and his wife, requiring a change, resolved to work the claims. They lived in tents at the diggings, which were 22 miles from Kimberley, from January to April, and found their new life both profitable and enjoyable. Mr. Haviland showed a packet of diamonds worth £125, which represented a fortnight's work.

MR. LEWIS WALLER as Coriolanus and Miss Genevieve Ward as Volumnia will head the cast of a dramatic reading of *Coriolanus*, to be given under the auspices of the British Empire Shakespeare Society at the Lyric Theatre in the afternoon of Tuesday, June 11. Half prices will be charged for the occasion.

MR. WILLIAM LOCKHART is evidently a firm believer in the strenuous life. After playing a special week in Llandudno with *Sunday*, he is devoting the next three weeks to *Jim the Penman* in Manchester, Bradford, and Sheffield. After a week's rest in town Mr. Lockhart tours in *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray*, prior to commencing rehearsals for the autumn tour of *When Knights Were Bold*.

MISS MARIE STUDHOLME, who recently played to an enormous week's business at the Cork Opera House, wrote a most complimentary letter to Mr. John Horgan, the courteous manager, expressing her satisfaction with all the arrangements, and saying that she would be only too pleased to pay a return visit. Miss Studholme, by the way, has ordered an Irish jaunting car from a Cork firm, and is having it painted green in commemoration of her visit to the city by the Lee.

MR. T. EDWARD WARD'S preliminary spring tour from Easter to Whitsun of Walter Howard's latest play, *Second to None*, has surpassed the highest hopes entertained for its success, proving itself to be a big artistic triumph and a strong financial draw. A gratifying feature of the tour is the fact that return dates have been offered all along the route without one exception.

MISS LUCY SIBLEY returns to town on Monday, having concluded six weeks' special engagement with Mr. H. V. Neilson, with whom she has been playing Lady Marchant in *A Bunch of Violets*, Hon. Susan Lesson in *The Perfect Lover*, and Mrs. Stockmann in *The Enemy of the People*. On her return Miss Sibley will resume her duties as Hon. Secretary of the Social Committee of the Actors' Association.

MR. SEYMOUR HICKS' production *My Darling* will be at the Kennington Theatre next week, with Miss Marie Studholme in the title-rôle of Joy Blossom. Included in the cast are Messrs. J. F. McArdle, Henry A. Lytton, Armand Kalisz, Tom Graves, and Will Bishop, and Misses Barbara Deane, Helen Kinnaird, Alice Barth, Marguerite Leslie, and Alice Hollander. The entire production is being transferred from the Hicks Theatre, and should prove a powerful attraction.

MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM MACLAREN finish to-night at the Prince's Theatre, Bristol, a most successful tour of thirty-six weeks with the late Wilson Barrett's *Claudian*. After a three months' rest they start out again with the same play, the bookings running far into next year.

MISS DORIS GILHAM, who concludes to-night at the Opera House, Middlesbrough, her second tour as Astrea in *The Trumpet Call*, has been engaged by Mr. John Darlison for the stock season at Leith, commencing on June 3.

MISS LULU EVANS, who is appearing in the principal parts of the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company on tour, met with a painful accident during the performance of *Iolanthe*, at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, on Tuesday night. Miss Evans in the title-rôle makes her first appearance through a trap-door in the stage, and was just visible above the stage, when one of the pulley ropes carrying the door gave way. Fortunately the stage hands prevented Miss Evans sustaining a serious fall, but, though she struggled through the first act bravely, a substitute had to take the rôle during the second.

MR. CHARLES FRY will start his thirteenth Shakespearean season at the Great Queen-street Theatre on Saturday afternoon with *Troilus and Cressida*. The play will be given, as usual, in costume on a draped stage. During the following week *A Comedy of Errors*, *Winter's Tale*, *As You Like It*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, and *King Henry VIII.* will be given respectively on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday evenings and Wednesday and Saturday matinées.

MR. PERCY PERCIVAL, who has for the last six years been manager of the Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton, concluded his engagement there last week, and was the recipient of many tokens of goodwill. Before the performance on the Saturday Mr. Percival was presented with an 18ct. gold watch, bearing a monogram inscription, subscribed for by thirty-four ladies of Wolverhampton, and at the conclusion of the business of the night the members of the orchestra and the employees in front of the house and on the stage gave the retiring manager, as a mark of their regard, a handsome smokers' cabinet, bearing a silver plate suitably inscribed and the recipient's initials. The day previous Mr. Percival was the object of another testimony to his popularity from the members of the Wolverhampton police force, who presented him with a silver cigarette-case as "a token of esteem." Mr. Percival now enters upon a fresh sphere of activities, and has taken up the position of manager at the Hackney Empire.

TWO new one-act pieces will be in the programme of a matinée to be given at the Royalty on Monday, June 10, in aid of the funds of the Ladies' Work Association. One is *The Extra Shilling*, a comedy by J. Francis Toye, and the other *The Daughter of Herodias*, a dance drama, words by Brinsley Treham and music by Granville Bantock. François Coppée's *Le Passant*, played by Miss Rita Jolivet and Miss Aimée Lowther, will constitute the third item of the entertainment.

MR. J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S second spring season at the Crystal Palace terminating to-night, the theatre will remain closed until the beginning of September. A very strong list of attractions have been arranged for the autumn. Mr. Howard commences his second Café Chantant season at the Crystal Palace on Monday, and performances will be given every afternoon and evening right through the season. The café chantant will be held in the North Tower Gardens as soon as the weather permits, but meantime the performances will be given in the concert hall at the Crystal Palace.

MR. NORMAN V. NORMAN will shortly commence his season of pastorals, in the course of which he will produce two new plays. Several important engagements have been made for the series.

MR. AND MRS. FORBES ROBERTSON, with their company, including Mr. Ian Robertson, arrived at Liverpool on Wednesday on the Majestic. By the same liner Mr. James Blakeley and Miss Carlotta Neilson also returned.

DISTINGUISHED American visitors will bid London good-bye within the next fortnight. Mr. Sothern and Miss Marlowe close their season at the Waldorf Theatre on the last day of the month with a farewell performance of *Twelfth Night*, and the following day the entire company sail for New York to fill their farewell Shakespearean engagement together at the Academy of Music. *Strongheart* will terminate at the Aldwych on June 7, Mr. Robert Edeson having to return to America to appear in a new play at the Hudson Theatre.

MEMBERS of the Savage Club will combine in the composition of a new revue which will form an important feature of a matinée organised by members of the Club in aid of the Lord Mayor's Cripples' Fund, which will take place at His Majesty's Theatre on June 4. The revue, which is called *Hands Up*, is written by Messrs. Fred Bowyer, Mostyn T. Pigott, and Adrian Ross, the music being by Messrs. A. H. Behrend, Seymour Dicker, Albert Fox, Walter Hedgcock, John W. Ivimey, and Leslie Stuart. The programme will also include *Mr. Steinmann's Corner*, by Alfred Sutro; *The Marchioness*—an episode founded on Dickens's "Old Curiosity Shop"—by B. W. Findon; and Mr. Robert Ganthony's *Dessins Humoresques*. Many well-known actors, actresses, and singers will take part in the matinée, which is under Royal patronage.

MR. CHARLES FROHMAN has made an offer to purchase the Joan of Arc house at Orleans, which is about to be pulled down. If his offer is accepted, Mr. Frohman will give the building to London in the name of Miss Pauline Chase, and erect it, if he is allowed to do so, at his own expense in Kensington Gardens. "I take a sentimental interest in the gardens," says Mr. Frohman, "because Mr. J. M. Barrie tells us that Peter Pan lived there. Well, I take an interest in Joan of Arc also, and I would like, if I can, to have her house there."

MESSRS. FELIX PITT AND FREDERICK SANDY bring to a conclusion to-night a most successful five weeks' stock season at the Princess's Theatre, Glasgow. Mr. Pitt returns to Mr. Andrew Melville for the autumn.

A PLEASING little ceremony took place on Monday evening at Mr. Robert Arthur's theatre in Dundee, when the pretty and talented actress, Miss Lydia Donovan, who is this week visiting Her Majesty's Theatre with her company, was, at the fall of the curtain, presented with a magnificent bouquet of flowers by the officers, non-commissioned officers, and men of the Edinburgh University Volunteer Artillery Corps, who filled the boxes and stalls. In a neat little speech Mr. Spence, who was specially chosen as being the youngest recruit, asked Miss Donovan to accept the bouquet as "a small token of our affection."

MR. WILLIAM J. MILLER has just concluded his first tour of seventy-six weeks with *The Throne of Terror*. Mr. Miller will now play "lead" for the summer stock season at Her Majesty's, Carlisle, resuming his tour in the autumn.

A NEW domestic drama, entitled *Love Rules the World*, by Sydney Rennef, will be produced at the Star Theatre, Liverpool, on July 1.

MR. KENNETH BLACK, who is engaged by Mr. Martin Harvey for his new play at the Adelphi, will be well remembered as a member of Sir Henry Irving's company for some years at the Lyceum. He has previously appeared, under Mr. Harvey's management, at the Prince of Wales's Theatre as Don Diego Tenorio in *Don Juan's Last Wager*, and as Dr. Manette in the last revival of *The Only Way* at that theatre.

MR. CHARLES CAREY will shortly produce the musical comedy, *The Girl Next Door*, the mounting of which will be on a lavish scale. Mr. Carey is also sending out a répertoire company, which will play two musical comedies, two farcical comedies, and two more serious plays. *The Pick of the Bunch*, which terminates a successful spring tour to-night, reopens on Monday under the sole control of Mr. Harold Wantage, with Mr. Wilfred Chilton as his manager.

BARON HARRISS'S *Prince of Pilsen* company's cricket team, of which Miss Sophie Harriss is patroness, has been giving an excellent account of itself since the start of the season. Last week the secretary, Mr. Frank Crimp, in a contest with a local team, was top scorer with 35, whilst the previous week Mr. Albert Vernon, musical-director of the company, who is captain, made 46. Miss Harriss was the donor of a magnificent cup at the opening match.

MR. CECIL KLEIN concludes to-night, at Bristol, his second tour of *Hearts Adrift*, playing Bob Barney, the juvenile lead, a part which he created two years ago at the Grand, Birmingham. This makes Mr. Klein's fourth engagement under Mr. Frank Bertram's management, two tours being with *The Breed of the Treshams*, in which he played the part of Tresham no fewer than 447 times.

"A ROYAL FAMILY" will give place, at the Duke of York's, to a new version of Sardou's comedy, *Divorçons*, which will be produced on June 10. The company playing the piece will be that of Miss Grace George, and will include Mr. Frank Worthing and Mr. Richard Bennett, now appearing in *Strongheart*. *A Royal Family* will be played up to June 7.

THE National Theatre Society of the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, are again coming to London, and will give a week of performances at the Great Queen-street Theatre, commencing on June 10. The works to be performed are J. M. Synge's *The Playboy of the Western World* and *Riders to the Sea*, Mr. W. B. Yeats' *The Shadowy Waters*, *On Baile's Strand*, and *Kathleen ni Houlihan*, Lady Gregory's *Spreading the News*, *The Jackdaw*, *Hyacinth Halvey*, and *The Rising of the Moon*, many of which have already been seen in London.

AN orchestral concert is to be given in aid of the Benevolent Fund of the Amalgamated Musicians' Union, at the Queen's Hall, on Sunday evening, when 200 instrumentalists will give their services, in order that the fee which the National Sunday League, under whose auspices the entertainment is to be given, are paying for the orchestra may be devoted to the Fund. Among the conductors on this occasion will be Mr. Hamilton Harty, Mr. J. M. Glover, Mr. J. Skuse (leader of the Royal Opera Orchestra), Mr. H. Godfrey, Mr. L. Chalk, and Mr. Arthur Wood.

THE results of the elections of the Executive Committee of the Actors' Union are now made known. There were thirty-six candidates, and a selection of twenty-four had to be made. We give the names of the gentlemen elected, along with the number of votes given to them, as follows:—Arthur Bawtree, 160; Robson Paige, 158; Hamilton Deane, 156; Oswald Marshall, 155; Rawson Buckley, 153; W. Ruddle Brown, 150; Harry Paulton, jun., 148; Wm. Farren, jun., 146; Harry Paulton, sen., 143; W. Tripp Edgar, 142; E. Howard Templeton, 140; E. Y. Rae, 128; Edward Petley, 126; J. C. Taylor, 122; Francis Chamier, 121; Chas. Allan, 105; J. L. Shine, 100; Fred Bentley, 98; Frank Lacy, 91; Cecil Calvert, 90; Campbell Goldsmid, 87; Wm. Clayton, 84; Edward Chester, 75; and Bruce Lindley, 68. The honorary scrutineers were Mr. Fred Jacques and Fred Prior.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Short Speeches.

"I AM strongly of opinion," says Mr. Tree to a *Daily News* interviewer, "that *A Woman of No Importance* shows its age less than any play of which I know. It seems to me to have been written before its time. I consider it more modern, more in touch with the actual spirit of the age, than it was when I first produced it in 1893. Why, even the suffrage question is touched on." Miss Marion Terry, however, said: "I think it will appear a little old-fashioned. The speeches are longer than an audience to-day is accustomed to. I don't think they will bore one for a single moment; the only thing is that the present-day dramatist has trained his audience to short speeches." Miss Terry believes the present-day audiences are intellectually an improvement on those who flocked to see *A Woman of No Importance* in the early nineties.

A Standard Oil Drama.

"MY hero," writes Mr. C. M. S. McLellan, of his new play, *Judith Zaraine*, "may be said to typify the Standard Oil Company in his capacity of financial wizard magnified to superhuman dimensions. On the other hand, my military monster, a character tremendously important in the piece, is more European than American. The purely personal part of my drama lies in the fact that Judith, believing that the military monster is her enemy and the persecutor of her beloved people, gradually discovers that he is only a figure-head of infamy. This is the personal and theatrical part of the play, and does not seem to me so interesting or important as the spiritual idea that something so fiendishly unromantic as the Standard Oil Company may be prompted to self-renunciation by religious suggestion."

Too Æsthetic for Hamlet.

"IT is utterly untrue," writes Mr. G. K. Chesterton, in the *Daily News*, "that the people do not like Shakespeare. That part of the people that does not like Shakespeare is simply that part of the people that is depopularised. If a certain crowd of cockneys is bored with *Hamlet*, the cockneys are not bored because they are too simple or stupid for *Hamlet*. The cockneys are bored because they are too complex and ingenious for Hamlet. They feel that the excitement of the saloon bar, of the betting ring, of the halfpenny paper, is more complex and ingenious than *Hamlet*; and so it is. In the absolutely strict sense of the word, the cockneys are too æsthetic to enjoy *Hamlet*. They have goaded and jaded their artistic feelings too much to enjoy anything simply beautiful. They are æsthetes; and the definition of an æsthete is a man who is experienced enough to admire a good picture, but not inexperienced enough to see it. But if you really took simple people, honourable peasants, kind old servants, dreamy tramps, genial thieves, and brigands to see *Hamlet*, they would simply be sorry for *Hamlet*. That is to say, they would simply appreciate the fact that it was a great tragedy."

Free Rides to Theatres.

Dr. E. Distin-Maddick writes:—"May I trespass upon your space with a small contribution to the very interesting question of free rides to theatres? If they are to come at all, I would suggest that they should be called 'co-operative' rides. But really does not a free ride look very much like a present given away with half a pound of tea? The principle of making visits to theatres cheaper is one which I have for a long time been strongly in favour of; in fact, I have already put it into force at the Scala, only in a different way—viz., by reducing the ten-and-sixpenny stalls to seven shillings and the other seats in proportion. The difference enables our patrons to hire their own conveyances, which, in my opinion, is much more dignified both to the profession and to the public. Mr. Beerbohm Tree has already pronounced himself in favour of reduction, and I am delighted to see no less a theatrical authority than Mr. Frohman himself admitting the necessity of reducing the expense of visits to the theatre."

Oscar and the Aspirants.

MR. OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN, says the *Tribune*, has had a busy time on his visit to London, seeing—and hearing—aspirants. "I have been here three days, and of would-be operatic stars," he says, "I must say their name is legion. I have had little peace since I came to London. I have had to say 'No' to hundreds since I arrived in England. It may seem humorous, but really it is pathetic to see young ladies who have learned to sing with a piano, who have been applauded by their teachers and probably at home by their aunts, inspired by the thought that they have qualified for grand opera."

The Shakespeare-Rutland Theory.

HERR CARL BLEIBTREU is still of opinion that Rutland wrote Shakespeare's plays. "In 1564," he says, "the year when Shakespeare was born, a Gyldenstjerne went to England as Ambassador of Erich XIV., King of Sweden (not Denmark), to propose a matrimonial union with Elizabeth Tudor. And this Gyldenstjerne studied notoriously at Wittenberg, quite an unusual occurrence, because all the other 'Rosenkranzs and Guildensternes' studied at Padua, where Rutland also studied. But we come even nearer to the mark when we find that a Holger Rosenkrands, born 1586—quite a young man, like the courtier in the play—went to England as ambassador of Denmark at the coronation of James I. This nobleman was married to Lena Gyldenstjerne, born 1588. The poet's idea, to combine 'Rosencranz and Guildenstern,' was evidently suggested by his knowledge of the above-mentioned facts.

"The poet must have been a man of the highest circles, unusually versed in all matters of Court life and politics. The Stratfordian being out of the question, there is not the slightest evidence of any connection Bacon might have had with Scandinavian nobility and political life. It is only concerning Rutland that we have such evidence. Since he was chosen ambassador to Helsingör (Elsinore), this task was evidently given to him because he had personal connections with the Danish nobility, most probably becoming acquainted at Padua with his fellow students Rosencranz and Gyldensterne. Why did the poet choose the uncommon name Polonius? A statesman named Plönnies lived at the time of Gustav Wasa, and Polonius is purely the Latinised version of this name. We may ask again how a simple actor could have got such a knowledge of Scandinavian history?"

Patti not Fatty.

MADAME PATTI has been telling the *Echo de Paris* how she manages to keep from corpulency. "Up to forty," she says, "I stinted myself in nothing, and ate and lived as I chose. After forty, however, I took to a comparatively strict way of living. Since then I have eaten no red meat, and have drunk only white wine and soda. When I feel weak a glass of champagne picks me up. I never touch spirits or liqueurs. My diet consists of light food and white meat, chiefly sweetbreads, sheeps' brains, fowl, and vegetables. I always sleep with the window wide open in summer, and partly open in winter, so as not to get the cold air straight on my face. I never get to bed early, hardly ever before half-past twelve or one. A severe hygiene and an elaborate toilet before bed are absolutely necessary to any woman who does not want to get fat."

"A WOMAN OF NO IMPORTANCE."

Revival of the drama by Oscar Wilde at His Majesty's Theatre on May 22.

Lord Illingworth .....MR. TREE
Sir John Pontefract .....MR. J. FISHER WHITE
Lord Alfred Rufford ..MR. LANGHORNE BURTON
Mr. Kelvil, M.P. .....MR. CHARLES ALLAN
The Ven. James Daubeny, D.D. MR. EDMUND MAURICE
Gerald Arbuthnot ..MR. CHARLES QUARTERMAINE
Farquhar .....MR. CLIVE CURRIE
Francis .....MR. F. COWLEY WRIGHT
Lady Hunstanton .....MRS. CHARLES CALVERT
Lady Caroline Pontefract ..MISS KATE BISHOP
Lady Stutfield .....MISS KATE CUTLER
Mrs. Allonby .....MISS ELLIS JEFFREYS
Hester Worsley .....MISS VIOLA TREE
Alice .....MISS HILDA MOORE
Mrs. Arbuthnot .....MISS MARION TERRY

Revivals are always interesting. Every theatrical entertainment more or less "dates"; and it is curious to note how Time tries dramatic work, as it tries all art products. The fourteen years or so which have elapsed since *A Woman of No Importance* was produced at the Haymarket Theatre have put the author's talent through a sieve, and separated the wheat from the chaff. The really brilliant wit, the happy and genuine humour of the play are as effective as ever; the parts of it which were merely transient affectations—the mechanical paradoxes, the assumption of superior wickedness, and the audacious sillinesses, are instinctively rejected by audiences who are not influenced by a vanished "vogue." It says a great deal for the real merits of the piece that, now that the fashion of which it was an example has passed away, it stands so well the test of reproduction.

The illegitimate son, his position, rights, and duties, constitute the theme of the piece. Lord Illingworth, a blasé *roué* with a fine flow of epigram, has seduced, in time past, a certain Mrs. Arbuthnot, and Gerald Arbuthnot is the result of the *liaison*. Gerald, who has a place in a bank, is staying with his mother at Hunstanton Chase, the country seat of Lady Hunstanton, an amiable Dowager. Mrs. Arbuthnot is opposed to any friendship between her son and Illington; but the latter has taken a fancy to the young man, and attempts to "form" him on his—Illingworth's—own model. A lively married woman, Mrs Allonby, has "dared" Illingworth to kiss Miss Hester Worsley, a young American girl of pure instincts, with whom Gerald is in love. When Illingworth, in defiance of Mrs. Allonby's opinion, embraces the young lady against her will, she screams out. Gerald comes to her assistance, and is about to attack Illingworth when Mrs. Arbuthnot interposes with the cry, "He is your father!"

The question is discussed in the last act, "Ought a seduced woman, years after her fall, to obtain or accept an offer of marriage from her betrayer?" Gerald is of opinion that his father should be forced to marry his mother; but Mrs. Arbuthnot takes a less conventional and more elevated view of the matter, and refuses to become the wife of the man she now utterly detests and despises. Having convinced her son by her arguments, she dismisses him to pursue his love-making with Miss Worsley, and joins issue, alone, with the dissolute peer, who is now anxious that Gerald shall become his private secretary. Mrs. Arbuthnot so enrages Illingworth by her opposition to this project, and by her scornful refusal of his offer of marriage, that he alludes to her as "his cast-off mistress." Mrs. Arbuthnot strikes him across the mouth, and he goes out, abashed, if not ashamed. The epigrams with which the piece is garnished became so famous at the time of its production that some of them—notably the definition of a fox hunt as the "unspeakable riding after the uneatable"—are still remembered; and the pleasant characteristics of the personages—Lady Hunstanton, with her habitual vagueness of reminiscence, Lady Caroline, with her stern, old-fashioned, reprobatory spirit, and her loving tyranny over her meek husband, Hester Worsley with her generous enthusiasm and Quixotic attempts to reform English society, Mr. Kelvil, the self-important M.P., and the Venerable James Daubeny, unctuous, mild, and always amenable, make *A Woman of No Importance* a most agreeable entertainment, apart from its dramatic and ethical interest. The piece, in its fine comedy and knowledge of the society depicted, is superior to anything of its kind which has been produced in London for years past.

Most interesting memories of the acting in the original performance were evoked by the revival. Only two members of the Haymarket cast were available, Mr. Tree and Mr. Charles Allan. At the Haymarket in 1893 Mr. Fred Terry was the Gerald Arbuthnot, Mrs. Bernard Beere the Mrs. Arbuthnot, Miss Rose Leclerq the Lady Hunstanton, Miss Le Thiere the Lady Caroline Pontefract, and Miss Julia Neilson the Hester Worsley. Mr. Tree's style has ripened and matured since *A Woman of No Importance* was produced, and the air of leisured ease and cynical calmness with which he played Lord Illingworth in 1893 is even more perfectly polished and perfected. From first to last, he presents a finished picture of the luxurious libertine, the easy, indifferent observer, the ready wit, and the imperturbable man of the world. It is hardly necessary to say that in the stronger passages of the part Mr. Tree is absolutely and entirely convincing and impressive. Miss Marion Terry is not only intensely dramatic and deeply expressive as Mrs. Arbuthnot; her irresistible charm, her bewitching sweetness and delicate sincerity, win warm sympathy for the unfortunate woman, the pathos of whose position Miss Terry fully emphasises. Miss Viola Tree is a delightful representative of Hester Worsley as far as appearance and personal gifts go, and does full justice to the young American's spirited attacks on English immorality. Mrs. Charles Calvert gives quite an original reading of the rôle of Lady Hunstanton, endowing the character with a flavour of quaint individuality and making all the points of the part with accomplished skill. Miss Ellis Jeffreys is the acme of attractiveness as Mrs. Allonby and gives a performance of the part which is sparkling, vivacious, and archly humorous. That excellent actress, Miss Kate Bishop, is quite at ease in the rôle of the severely sententious Lady Caroline Pontefract, and delivers that lady's authoritative utterances with admirable repose. Mr. J. Fisher White supplies a neat little character-sketch as Sir John Pontefract; Mr. Langhorne Burton displays decided talent in a quietly clever impersonation of Lord Alfred Rufford, and Mr. Charles Allan's Mr. Kelvil is as comical and natural as ever. Mr. Edmund Maurice is unimpeachable in every way as the Ven. James Daubeny, the part originally sustained by Mr. Kemble. Mr. Clive Currie is thoroughly efficient as Farquhar; and Mr. F. Cowley Wright is careful and commendable as Francis. Miss Kate Cutler contributes a deliciously ingenuous performance as the "sweet simpleton," Lady Stutfield, and Miss Hilda Moore does useful work well as the maid Alice. The play is mounted in the splendid style which we always expect at His Majesty's. Mr. Tree, on the original production of the piece, said at the end of the evening, "I am proud of being connected with this work of art." At the close of the revival on Wednesday, being summoned before the curtain, he briefly expressed his gratitude for the favourable reception given to the play.

"THE LAST OF HIS RACE."

Romantic Drama, by Donald MacLaren, played for the first time in London, at Drury Lane Theatre, on Saturday, May 18.

Lonawonda .....MR. REEVES-SMITH
Sheanagua .....MR. LYN HARDING
Niatawa .....MR. BASIL GILL
Matawagnon .....MR. AUSTIN MELFORD
Cagawicka .....MR. ARTHUR POOLE
Gangwar .....MR. RICHARD NORTON
Wangosh .....MR. L. ASHTON-JARRY
Medicine Man.....MR. ALEC. DAVIDSON
Toscamela .....MR. GREGORY CLARK
Kolonek .....MR. HENRY WHITE
Adulola .....MISS CONSTANCE COLLIER
Lashota .....MISS ESME BERINGER
Tana-Mongosh .....MISS ROBERTHA ERSKINE
Fawn .....MISS WINIFRED INGHAM
Hara .....MISS MINNIE TERRY
Tanoi .....MISS BEATRICE HODSON

Mr. Arthur Collins has made quite a new departure at Drury Lane. Instead of the excellent dramas of Mr. Hall Caine, the scenes of which are generally laid in Iceland or the Isle of Man, he now presents to his patrons a play dealing with the life of the Red Indian in the palmy days of his prosperity, before railways and civilisation had driven him into reservations, and made him a degenerate being, dependent upon the "Pale-faces" for supplies of beef and blankets. There is a sombre dignity, a picturesque romance about the piece which Mr. Donald MacLaren has written and Mr. Collins has produced with so much liberality and taste. *The Last of His Race*, which was first performed at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, on April 8, is conceived in a purely poetical spirit. From the time when the curtain rises on the tribe of the Ockotchees in council, with their stern and silent chieftain sitting motionless in the firelight, to the last act, which is almost entirely pictorial, we are in an atmosphere of melancholy dignity, earnest passion, and deep, primitive sentiment. Let it be said at once that this "atmosphere" would have been entirely destroyed by any treatment less complete and adequate than that given to the play at Drury Lane on Saturday. The step from the sublime to the ridiculous might easily have been taken but for the intense carefulness and conviction of all concerned, for the exquisitely-beautiful scenery, and for the attention given to every detail of the costumes and "business." As it was, *The Last of His Race* held the attention of the audience from beginning to end; and the applause which greeted the author at the conclusion was as unmistakably genuine as it was enthusiastic.

Mr. Collins had thoughtfully provided his patrons with a *resumé* of the play on the programmes, and also with some interesting observations on the piece itself. Lonawonda, great chief of the Ockotchees, feeling blindness coming upon him, decides to abdicate in favour of the warrior whom his fair-skinned daughter, Adulola, shall choose for a husband. After announcing this decision to his council, Lonawonda is taunted by Matawagnon, a crippled warrior, who casts reflections upon the parentage of Adulola on account of her fair complexion. Enraged, the old chief kills his tormentor and hides the body. The warriors appear before Adulola, but she refuses all of them. She loves the son of the murdered Matawagnon, Niatawa, a huntsman. Lashota, the faithless squaw of Sheanagua, chief counsellor, loves Niatawa, who is discovered with her in the Great Cave of Many Spirits. He is about to be burnt at the stake, but Adulola saves his life, and the old chief confesses to the murder of Matawagnon. Sheanagua, infuriated at the disclosures regarding his squaw, insists on taking the place of the chief in the single combat decreed by the laws of the Ockotchees. Niatawa, foreseeing perpetual unrest with the woman he loves, the daughter of his father's murderer, allows himself to be killed, but prevents Adulola from following him by suicide, as the soul of a life self-taken can never reach the Happy Hunting Ground. Then follow three scene-pictures showing the death of Adulola and her meeting with Niatawa. As the Indian maiden dies, a canoe slowly drifts down stream. She stretches out her arms and calls upon her lover, whereupon a mystic light appears in the canoe, beckoning her to the land of the Great Spirit.

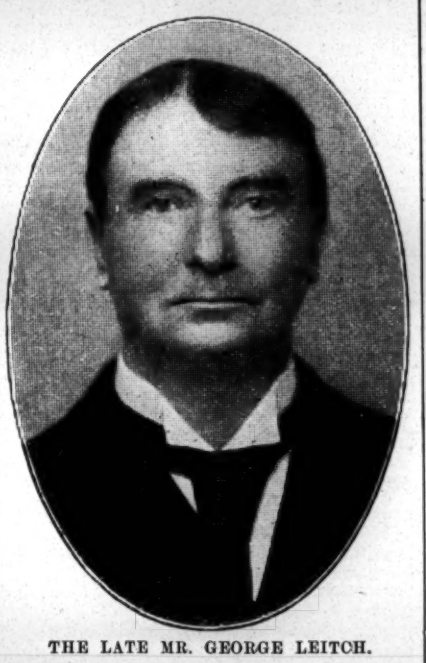
The important part of Lonawonda was played by Mr. Reeves-Smith with a stern, emphatic dignity, a sonorous and impressive grandeur, and a nobility of port and presence which were admirably effective. Clad in a most picturesque garb, fringed with fine eagle feathers, Mr. Reeves-Smith's aquiline features and piercing gaze magnetised the audience when he was upon the stage, and gave weight and reality to all the situations in which he was concerned. Mr. Lyn Harding played the stern warrior, Sheanagua, very strongly and steadily, and entirely without exaggeration. The vigour of his share of the knife duel, and the gloomy intensity of his acting throughout, did him very great credit. A better reading of the rôle could not have been desired. Mr. Basil Gill made a manly, interesting, and winning Niatawa, putting an immense amount of earnestness and expression into his delivery of the lines of the part, his conception of which was imaginative, poetic, and full of strenuous energy and artistic freedom. Mr. Austin Melford's Matawagnon was such a fine and forcible bit of character that his early exit from the play was regrettable. Like all that this finely experienced actor does, it was sharp, graphic, and original. Mr. Arthur Poole contributed a quaint embodiment of the conceited Cagawicka; and the other chiefs of the Ockotchees had able and intelligent representatives in Mr. Richard Norton and Mr. L. Ashton-Jarry. Mr. Alec. Davidson was the ideal of solemn mystery as the Medicine Man; Mr. Gregory Clark was good as Toscamela; and Mr. Henry White did careful work as Kolonek. Miss Constance Collier made a beautiful picture in the costume of the Indian maiden, Adulola, and acted with a naturalness, animation, and graceful tenderness, which charmed the audience from the first. Her triumph was completed by the dramatic power which she put into her delivery of the more serious passages of the part. Miss Esmé Beringer gave a bold and spirited performance of the rôle of Lashota, her acting in the cave scene being very vivid and intense. Miss Robertha Erskine made the most of her brief opportunity as the old squaw, Tana-Mongosh; and Miss Winifred Ingham was duly pert and playful as Fawn. The two Indian maidens who bathed in a pool amongst the rushes were archly and amiably embodied by Miss Minnie Terry and Miss Beatrice Hodson. We have already paid tribute to the beauty of the scenery. The second scene of the first act, The Lily Pool of Namabin, was a marvel of picturesqueness; and the last of the "scene-pictures," a forest with moonlit lake in the distance, was lovely in the extreme. Mr. Arthur Farwell's incidental music was delightfully appropriate; and the attentive stage-management of Mr. Ernest d'Auban secured the perfect smoothness of the production.

DEATH OF MR. GEORGE LEITCH.

With regret we record the sudden death of Mr. George Leitch, actor and playwright. He passed away in his sleep in the small hours of Saturday morning last from syncope.

It was in 1868 that Mr. George Leitch, abandoning the profession of civil engineer, adopted the stage, and within a year he occupied the position of prompter and eccentric character-actor at the Theatre Royal, Plymouth, in company with E. D. Beveridge, George Rignold, Edward Terry, Nelly Rollaston, Bessie Foote, Sully Turner, and others. From Plymouth he travelled Devon and Cornwall with Mr. Edward Terry, enduring many vicissitudes. A brief association with Chas. Rice at Oldham was followed by a long engagement with Chas. Calvert at the Prince's, Bristol. After short seasons with Chas. Rice, John Coleman, and H. J. Byron, Mr. Leitch again met Mr. Calvert at the Alexandra, Liverpool, and toured Scotland with him. A season at the new Londesborough Theatre, Scarborough, followed; and then for several seasons Mr. Leitch was at Brighton, playing the principal comedy rôles with most of the eminent actors and actresses of the period. Leaving Brighton, he toured with the Chippendales in leading old comedy characters.

His first appearance on the London stage was at the Standard Theatre as Pierre in *The Two Orphans*, with William Rignold and the Olympic company. After a series of engagements at the Crystal Palace with Chas. Wyndham the comedian's services were secured by Mr. Chatterton for the Adelphi, where he appeared as Conn the



THE LATE MR. GEORGE LEITCH.

Shaughraun. Next he was seen at the Strand Theatre as the Judge in *Trial by Jury*, with Lottie Venne, M. Marius, W. S. Penley, Harry Cox, &c. Then in the comic opera *The Lancashire Witches*, produced at Manchester, he created the part of Hopkins the Witchfinder. Later Mr. Leitch accepted a company at the Cape. The small-pox was raging when the company reached Cape Town, and the management had many difficulties to face. From South Africa Mr. Leitch sailed for Australia, under contract with Messrs. Williamson, Garner, and Musgrove. He made his first colonial managerial venture at Hobart, Tasmania, converting the old theatre into one of the most charming in the colonies, and, in partnership with Jas. M'Mahon, ran a long and brilliant season. The partners next visited New Zealand with *The Silver King*, *The Lights o' London*, and *The Librarian*, a free adaptation of Von Moser's *Der Bibliothekar*, from which Mr. Hawtrey adapted *The Private Secretary*. While on tour Mr. Leitch met with a serious accident on the stage through the carelessness of an employee. Against medical advice, and often in great pain, he continued to play in *The Harbour Lights* and *Human Nature*, the strain resulting in a necessary operation, which incapacitated him for eighteen months. His next appearance was in the opera of *Paul Jones*, which ran for many months in Melbourne and Sydney. After fulfilling other successful engagements in Australia, Mr. Leitch returned to England, but played only occasional engagements, chiefly with Mr. Edward Terry, whom he represented in London during the latter's absence on tour. Later, Mr. Leitch's valuable services were secured by Mr. W. S. Penley as his general representative.

As a dramatist Mr. Leitch produced his first play, *Coming Home; or, Scithors to Grind*, at the Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, Mr. Pinero appearing in one of the principal characters. It was afterwards staged at the Globe Theatre, London, with great success. At the same house he produced *Twine the Plaiden*, a romantic drama, and in the provinces during a long tour *Uncle Zac*, *The Madman* (afterwards called *A Touch of the Sun*), *Money Down*, *The Coming D—*, &c. He was also author of *The Pearl Divers*, a sensational drama produced at Auckland with most elaborate effects, and several other successful plays.

The interment will take place on Monday. The cortège will start from the Necropolis Station, Westminster Bridge-road, at 11.50 for the "Actors' Acre," at Brookwood.

DRESSES AT THE PLAY.

Two strikingly handsome dresses are worn by Miss Claudia Lasell, the heroine of *Lady Tatters*, at the Shaftesbury. The more elaborate gown has a petticoat of rich ivory-white satin, embroidered with a scroll-work of leaves, worked in shades of green, and in a conventional design. The upper part of the skirt, which is draped high on the hips in panier fashion, is of green shot satin with a broad border of green embroidery, while the close-fitting bodice, which comes to a long point in front, is made entirely of lace, and arranged with lace basques, a draped fichu of lisse, and a number of bows of soft satin ribbon. The sleeves are of white lisse, finished with pearl tassels, and in the hair a drapery of green satin is worn, with pearl drops and a little cap of lisse and lace. The other costume is a harmony in white and gold. It is carried out in white soft silk, embroidered with a handsome design in gold tissue, which appears upon the petticoat, as well as upon the fully-draped over-skirt. The upper part of the bodice is prettily filled in with white lisse, while the short sleeves are also of lisse, caught with bands of gold tissue and finished with gold tassels. A quaint little head-dress of white satin embroidered with gold is worn with this gown, finished at the back with a drapery of lisse and lace.

THE King, the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, Princess Victoria Patricia of Connaught, the Duchess of Albany, and Princess of Bentheim Steinfurt were present at the performance of *Die Meistersinger* at the Royal Opera, Covent Garden, on Wednesday night.

THE Theatre Royal, Hyde, closes this week-end for the summer recess, and will reopen in August.

MR. BOURCHIER ON DRAMATIC ART.

Members of the Royal Institution were interested on Saturday afternoon last in following a lecture by Mr. Arthur Bourchier on the subject of "The Limits of the Dramatic Art." This was the first of a series of two addresses, the second of which is to be delivered this afternoon. Mr. Bourchier began by explaining that by the word "limits" he did not mean limitations, though the latter would prove a very interesting and entertaining subject. But it would take too long to try to determine the limitations of so vast a subject, of so great an art as the drama. It should not be the part of the busy actor to pretend to discourse upon the limitations and shortcomings of the drama, but to try and discuss, however inadequately, that which lay within its scope. What would be the most correct definition of the word drama? Did it need to be defined? It was a waste of time and labour to define a thing that one knew and understood, and without any learned definition they knew what the drama was. It began in prehistoric times, and had its inspiration where every art had its inspiration—in religion. It was probably the first of the arts to be practised. Before his tongue had much speech or his hand much cunning, man wished to give formal expression to the feeling within him that he and the world about him were governed by a Deity, and he found this expression in dance. He no doubt from the very first felt unworthy of his Creator, and wished in his worship to get out of himself. This dancing, which was at once man's first impulse towards worship and his first feeling of the dramatic art, survived in the ritual of the Church and the ballets of the stage. Soon the dancing became pantomimic, he gave a meaning to each of the actions in his dance, expressing by gesture what he could not express by language. Later, words came, and literature was called in to help man raise himself, in worship if not in everyday life, nearer to his Deity. Music came, and songs accompanied the actions of the dancers. The power to carve out of stone representations of ideals followed, and altars and temples were built to the glory of the Deity, and sculpture adorned them. Then, last of all, came painting, and the religious man found the fullest expression of the beauty with which worship inspired him. The history of the drama began with the time of the Greeks, early Greek drama being a dance in honour of one or other of the forms which the Deity took in the Greek mythology. The dancers spoke or sang as they moved, to make the acted story intelligible, and there was to be found the beginning of the chorus. A leader of the chorus was necessary, and later the leader had independent lines to speak. In that way dialogue and character found a place in the drama. Gradually it ceased to be a religious ceremony, but until the Reformation it remained under the patronage of religion. All mediæval drama, one might say, was given to us by the Church, which told its stories and pointed its morals in this way. It spoke much for the simple strength of some of those mediæval plays that they were still able to appeal to playgoers in a time when the most popular form of dramatic art seemed to be the mechanical musical comedy. In England, the divorce of the drama from the Church was almost immediately followed by the period during which the greatest of all dramatists, William Shakespeare, lived and worked, and it seemed as if the drama had gained by its emancipation; but a little later, when religion and the play got at loggerheads, the drama fell on evil days again. Little by little during the eighteenth century Shakespeare came into his own, and gradually the idea grew of once more representing the decent side of life, more or less faithfully, upon the stage. The first plays in England were little more than dramatic touches introduced at such times as Easter or Christmas into the celebration of the Mass. Soon the little plays became so elaborate that they had to be transferred to the churchyard, and, some of the parts being acted by laymen, the spirit of fun was introduced. The churchyard plays developed into pageants, acted in the streets on movable wooden structures, the authors still being the clergy, but the actors were drawn from the various trade guilds. It was in vain that an effort was made to keep out any comic relief, and it was allowed that humorous scenes and characters had their value. The demons, and such persons as Cain's ploughboy, Noah's wife, and the Shepherds, nearly always supplied the comic business. Noah's wife would not see the necessity for the Ark, and, wanting to remain with her friends on land, would not go aboard till her husband and sons carried her away by main force, while the poor old patriarch lamented that the building of the Ark was but a trifle compared with the task of getting her inside. The earliest form of drama with which all were familiar was the old friend, "Punch and Judy." Italy was undoubtedly the land of its birth; but its origin was uncertain, and the earliest notice of its appearance in England occurred in the overseers' books of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields in 1666 and 1667, which contained entries of the receipt of moneys for erecting the booths. Light and ephemeral as a single play might seem, the drama as a whole gave history, for plays reflected the age in which they were written, and from them, perhaps better than from anything else, could be learnt the manners and customs of a period. The play of *Henry V.* was full of the patriotism that was roused in every English heart at the time of the Armada. Than it there was no finer lesson in patriotism, and Mr. Bourchier wished that it were read and reread in all English schools. In Shakespeare's days one did not have to be anti-English to be respectable; it was still permissible to love one's own country better than other countries, to love one's own race better than other races; and the play throughout boasted of this love. Yet there was not a line in it that need offend a foreigner. It was surely better that a man should write such words as those of John of Gaunt in *Richard II.*: "This precious stone set in the silver sea," and "This blessed plot, this earth, this realm, this England," than that he should abuse his country as so many writers did to-day. After reading the libels party men now wrote of poor old England it was a relief to turn to *Henry V.*, and in the reading of it learn with what modesty, as well as pride, England bore herself in the hour of a great victory. The Elizabethan dramatists were frankly rivals, and to that rivalry much of the greatness of the Elizabethan drama was due. There was everything to spur on the genius of Shakespeare, and he probably did better work in that time of great men than he would have done in an age of less brilliant writers. One might say that the modern drama was realistic; but by that he did not mean that it was coarse and brutal, for surely life was not so bad that realism on the stage must be offensive. It was sometimes forgotten that realism must have the support of art. Ophelia must be shown as a woman driven mad by grief and not as a village idiot. Realism without taste was almost worse than artificiality, and the man who wished to present real life on the stage should be very careful what subjects he chose. That realism had a bad name was because the realist had an idea that he did best when treating unpleasant subjects. In that he was mistaken. Above all things the realist should remember that it was not the absence of clothes but the presence of innocence that gave its charm to the Garden of Eden. To actors it hardly mattered that the past 300 years had not produced one great play; Shakespeare wrote for all time, and in him was a drama that was inexhaustible.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

The usual weekly meeting of the Council of the Actors' Association took place on Tuesday, when there were present Mr. H. Athol Forde (in the chair), Mesdames Clare Greet, E. Wynne Matthison, and Messrs. Cecil Brooking, C. F. Collings, Fredk. Moriand, and Chas. Cruikshanks (secretary).

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The chairman read a letter from Mr. Henry W. Mote (May 17, 1907), and the secretary was directed to have 100 copies of the special resolutions printed and a short advertisement inserted, as he suggested, in *The Era*.

A report on the subject of Hon. Medical Officers was given by Mr. Cecil Brooking, and on his proposition, seconded by Mr. C. F. Collings, it was agreed that Dr. H. J. Walker, of The Priory, Springfield-road, Brighton, be elected an Hon. Medical Officer to the Actors' Association.

The secretary reported that Mr. D'Arcy Hamilton, L.A.H., of 239, Fawcett-road, Southsea, applied for appointment as an Hon. Medical Officer to the Actors' Association in succession to Mr. Edwin J. Norris, M.R.C.S., &c., deceased, and was duly elected at the last meeting, and upon the secretary informing him of his appointment he replied that he was much obliged, but had he known or understood the position was so purely an honorary one he would not have made application for it, and he asked that his appointment might be cancelled. It was agreed that the appointment of Dr. D'Arcy Hamilton as an Hon. Medical Officer to the Actors' Association be cancelled.

A member disputed her liability to pay a fee upon her engagement. The secretary was directed to reply to the lady by sending her the agency clerk's report on the case. A letter from the Rev. T. G. Crosse, Vicar of Faversham, was read, in which it appeared that the reverend gentleman had lent £2 to an actor to help him out of the town, and the money had not been repaid. The secretary was directed to reply that the actor in question was not a member of the Association, and that the Council were unable to do anything in the matter.

Questions were raised as to the financial condition of the A.A., and the secretary was asked whether he could furnish particulars. He stated that all moneys received had been paid in and no payments were made except by cheques or under the head of petty cash, and therefore it was easy to furnish particulars. The statement laid by him before the Finance and General Purposes Committee always showed the balance at the bank. There were no liabilities beyond debentures and the running accounts with the printers and stationers, rent, wages, &c. He was asked whether he could estimate the expenses to the end of the year and show the assets and liabilities, and replied that roughly they could be ascertained.

The secretary of the A.A. read the report of the Social Committee, and was requested to ask its secretary for further information.

Mr. Henry Ainley tendered the resignation of his seat on the Council. The resignation was accepted with regret. Miss Hilda Hatton (a manageress) tendered her resignation. The secretary was directed to reply pointing out that the articles regarding managers remain unchanged, and there was no obligation upon her to resign, and asking her to reconsider the matter. Six former members were reinstated.

The Council then proceeded to deal with matters in which the Finance and General Purposes Committee were concerned, inasmuch as there was no likelihood of there being a quorum owing to the recent resignations of members of the Council.

A letter from Miss Rose Mathews to the Finance and General Purposes Committee was read by the Chairman of the Council, and it was agreed that a copy of the letter be sent to the Social Committee.

The matter of repairs was also considered, and it was agreed that the specification made out by Messrs. Drinkwater and Casson, together with three estimates obtained thereon, should be sent to the Hon. Consulting Architect, asking him to prepare a specification of the work which he deemed absolutely necessary to be done, at the same time pointing out to him the fact that the Association were desirous of incurring as little expense as possible.

"THE MISER'S LEGACY."

Play, in four acts, by H. F. Maltby, produced for the first time at the Royalty Theatre, Llanelly, on Monday, May 20.

Maud Forrest .....MISS JANET HODGSON
Amy Forrest .....MISS MARA MALTBY
Sarah .....MISS DOROTHY COUSIN
Scraggy .....MISS GRACE RICHARDSON
Henry Forrest .....MR. F. STUART WILLSON
Andrew Wimpole, M.D. MR. W. REGINALD FAVELL
William Hoskyn .....MR. WYN WEAVER
Yarrow .....MR. HUGH LESLIE DOBREE
Stingy Simon .....MR. R. SCATH INNES
Alfred Kendal .....MR. CHARLES HOYLAND
Toby Parker .....MR. H. F. MALTBY

Mr. Maltby's new drama, which was well received on its production at Llanelly on Monday last, is well written, and abundantly provided with exciting incidents, and it possesses besides a vein of broad humour. Having discovered the hiding-place of a miser's gold, two coiners enter the hut, gag the occupant, and substitute their counterfeit gold for his hoard. Six years after an inventor, whose family, owing to the failure of his inventions, are starving, goes to the miser's hut to make an end of his troubles by committing suicide; but, overcome by mental anguish, falls against the wall, and thus discovers the counterfeit money. Thinking the money is good he uses it to relieve his own necessities, and is subsequently arrested and imprisoned for passing bad money. The coiners by this time have become prosperous, one buying up a quantity of houses, and the other acting as his rent collector. Amongst the property owned by the precious pair is a slum called Plantagenet-street, where the inventor's wife and family now reside. Turned out of there, the family seek shelter in the old miser's hut. To this wretched abode the two coiners repair to get back the metal they had deposited there, and are startled by the ghost of the miser, which so terrifies one of them that he confesses his guilt. The confession is heard by the inventor's family and a Dr. Wimpole, with the result that the coiners are arrested, and the inventor released to perfect his inventions and to enjoy his just reward.

In Toby Parker, the counterfeiter, Mr. Maltby supplies a really original character, to which he did full justice. An equally good impersonation is that of William Hoskyn (Parker's pal), which was played with much cleverness by Mr. Wyn Weaver. Andrew Wimpole, M.D., the brusque, kind-hearted doctor, was well impersonated by Mr. W. Reginald Favell. Mr. F. Stuart Willson has a good conception of the part of Henry Forrest, the inventor, which he played with distinction. Much amusement was caused by Mr. Hugh Leslie Dobree as Yarrow, Parker's butler. Stingy Simon (the miser) and Alfred Kendal (of Scotland Yard) lost nothing in the hands of Messrs. R. Scath Innes and Charles Hoyland; whilst the way in which the onerous duties of policemen were carried out by Messrs. Tod Mawden, C. Onsett, S. Pennymoor, and C. Radley Heath was lifelike. Miss Mara Maltby as Amy Forrest, the inventor's daughter, has a part admirably suited to her, which she played with her accustomed grace, and was one of the greatest successes of the play. As Maud Forrest (Henry Forrest's wife) Miss Janet Hodgson acted in finished style; Sarah (Forrest's servant) and Scraggy ("a child of the slums") received careful treatment at the hands of Miss Dorothy Cousin and Miss Grace Richardson.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(Continued from page 11.)

STAFFORD.—Lyceum Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Elphinstone.—For Thursday, Friday, and Saturday of last week this theatre was occupied by Mr. Julian Graham's company, in the musical play, *Juno*. Mr. Harry Walsh was a versatile and mirth-provoking Timothy; Miss Florence Wood an effective and dainty Priscilla; a good study was submitted by Mr. F. Carrington as Samuel Strong; and as Juno, the acting and singing of Miss K. Graham Beck was in every way a success. This week the attraction is *The Sorrows of Satan*. As Prince Lucio, Mr. Francis Everard portrays the part in his usual capable and impressive manner; the rôle of Geoffrey Tempest is well sustained by Mr. Cecil Grey; Mr. Edwin Turner makes the most of the part of Amiel; excellent comedy is supplied by Mr. Arthur Ferris as Morris; Miss Edith Leslie makes a vivacious Diana Chesney; and a charming Mavis Clare is found in Miss Isabel Marte. Miss Ethel May is well cast as Susan; Miss Vera Fordyce gives a telling impersonation of Lady Sybil; and Mr. Morley Canal as Lord Linton and Mr. Tom Handley as Lord Elton provide good studies.

STALYBRIDGE.—Grand Theatre and Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Fiori; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Jackson. — Maggie Walsh, the original singing mill girl, tops the bill this week, and is well received; the Sisters Poole are very clever duettists and dancers; the Hartley Wonders, barrel jumpers, are loudly applauded; Lord, Murray, and Lord, in a comedy gymnastic mélange; Barney Vox, the Irish ventriloquist; Hughes and May, speciality artists; Lilian Victoria, male impersonator; the Edlins, in a comedy duologue; and the Bioscope, complete a very effective programme.

ST. ANNE'S-ON-SEA.—Pier Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Leslie.—The season proper was started at St. Anne's with the appearance of Mr. Lawrence Brough and company, in *The Saucy Sally* and *The Lady of Ostend*. The company was a good all-round one, and highly pleased good audiences. For this week Mr. Leslie has the Comedy Cadets, a troupe of talented artists, consisting of Jack Lennel, Dick Tubb, Jim Pullin, J. V. Noble, Miss Ethelle Shapley, Fred Shepherd, Miss Jessie Buckle, George Curzon, and Master Joe Smith.

ST. HELENS.—Theatre and Opera House.—General-Manager, Mr. A. McLeod Loader.—For the Whitsuntide attraction at the theatre we have Messrs. Armitage and Leigh's company in *East Lynne*. Miss Julie Kennard, who plays the rôle of Lady Isabel, gives one of the most effective representations ever submitted to local audiences; Mr. Frederick Harker submits a polished study of Captain Levison; Archibald Carlyle is in the safe hands of Mr. Alfred Beaumont; Lord and Lady Mountsevern are well represented by Mr. S. Goodwin and Miss H. Lowther; Mr. Alfred Tate as P.C. Bullock brings out all the humorous points with telling effect; and Miss Jessie Bayes makes a pathetic picture as Little Willie.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Wilmot; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Vic Carnell.—Large audiences are assembling at the Hippodrome, where a programme of all-round excellence is submitted. The chief attraction is Mr. Frank Lister, in a new American episode, entitled *No. 99*; this stirring sketch is greatly appreciated. An original and clever act is that of the Four Kurios; the Kimberley Boys prove a great attraction with their eccentricities; Smith and Johnson, the coloured duo, are exceedingly popular. Other enjoyable items are submitted with success by Arthur Slater, Queenie May, and Ethel Dove.

STOCKPORT.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Revill, jun.—The Whitsuntide attraction here is the Frank Bateman's company, under the direction of Mr. Stuart Lomath, appearing in *No Wedding Bells for Her*. Mr. Stuart Lomath capably impersonates the character of Frank Hatherleigh; Mr. Percy Shaw displays his versatility as Dick Delver, a detective; Abney Stone is effectively portrayed by Mr. Charles Liddon; Mr. P. Beresford is admirable as Harold Trevelyn; and Mr. Frederick Garton satisfactorily fills the part of Montague Blair. A comedian of undoubted talent is Mr. Barry Lupino, who, as Simkins, causes genuine and hearty laughter; Miss Lizzie Montague as Lola Delaspierre acts with much feeling and power; and Marie Flail is excellently presented by Miss Ellen Owen.

Empire, Ltd.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Black.—A capital holiday programme is provided here for the entertainment of the numerous patrons of this establishment, a pleasing spectacle in Maurin's marvellous fountains being the chief attraction. Others engaged include the Norman and Leonard Trio, who are accomplished musicians; E. R. Daincz's admirably trained animals give a clever performance; Pete and Minnie Lee, in a sketch, *The Scotchman's Visit to London*, provoke plenty of laughter; Ada Parker sings and dances in able style; Nash and Noel are amusing patterers; George Prince is a comical comedian; and A. E. Clifford is a successful vocalist.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—Hippodrome Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Robt. A. Nicholson; Assistant-Manager, Mr. G. Stainton.—Fred Storey and company, in *Rip Van Winkle*, head the bill this week, and give an effective display of dramatic skill; Janet Hall, female baritone vocalist, is greatly appreciated; Phil Rees gives some delightful impersonations of well-known artists; Bennett and Martell, "the shipwrecked mariners," cause great amusement in their comedy act; Copeland and Son, champion clog-dancers, are well received; and the Danbys are very funny in their patter. The Pictoscope completes the bill.

Grand Theatre.—Proprietor, Councillor J. Batty; Manager, Mr. W. Batty.—Albert Whelan heads the bill here, giving skilful impersonations of popular artists; the Eight Lancashire Lads are very clever in their dancing act; Sterling and Love are entertaining with their musical comedy; and Ed. Ford, the Australian sundowner, is very amusing as well as skilful. Eldra and his dog present a refined show, and are well received; and Ryan and Hall, comedy acrobats, cause great amusement. Miss Maud Mortimer sings sensible songs in good style; and the pictures, as usual, are interesting.

STOKE.—Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr T. Allan Edwardes; Manager, Mr. H. Miller.—The *Maritana* Opera Company heads the bill here. On Monday two scenes from *Maritana* were presented. The company includes Miss Norah Roy, Mr. Saxon Granville, Mlle. Adele Prescott, and Mr. Albert Chapman. Miss Marie Berresford is a male impersonator of much ability; Johnny Holland and company are seen in a very funny sketch, *New Milk for Breakfast*; Curwen and Belle, in a clever sketch, provide a smart turn; the Four Louberts are acrobats who are irresistibly funny; the Franko Midgets are seen in a smart conjuring turn; and Lade Henderson and Albert Saxon are both excellent character vocalists. The pictures are good.

SUNDERLAND.—King's Theatre.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Ernest Stevens and R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry L. Carlo.—Messrs. C. Hamilton Baines and H. Keates Hales' company is appearing here this week in *The Pet of the Embassy*. Hilda Graham finds an apt exponent in Miss Ethel Dunford, a vocalist of considerable ability; Miss Florence Watson is a bright and charming Dorothy Stanley, and Miss Julia Bassett causes much mirth by her clever impersonation of Mrs. Pamela Bung; Mr. Witty Watty Walton as John William Bung keeps the audience in good humour; as the Hon. Percy Brassington Mr. G. Sinclair Holden is most amusing; Mr. Robert Hyett is a pleasing Eric Brown, and scores by his vocal efforts; and Mr. Harry Fischer is a capital Palatine Brown.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, The Sunderland Theatre Co.; Manager, Mr. Jas. Hemingway.—Ethie Van Praagh and J. Edward Whitty's company, with *An Unwedded Wife*, is drawing crowded houses here.

Palace Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—Acting-Managers, Messrs. Alfred Browne and Syd. B. Stringer.—The Modern Venus, in a living statuary act, heads the bill this week, and gives some artistic reproductions of classical statuary; the Three Demons, in a sensational cycle race in mid-air, provide another excellent turn; the Eight Palace Girls are singers and dancers of considerable ability; Duncan and Godfrey score in the coster comedy, entitled *Me and 'Er*; the Maitland Trio, in a naval absurdity, are heartily appreciated; George Bernard, actor-vocalist; Walter Munroe, Irish comedian; and Ambrose Thorne, comedian, also contribute to the programme. There is, in addition, an admirable show of pictures by the Palace Bioscope.

SUTTON-IN-ASHFIELD.—King's Theatre.—Proprietors, Mansfield, Sutton, and Districts Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Captain Clayton; Manager, Mr. Edward Gray.—For the holiday week a capital variety programme is being submitted. Abex, in his feats of strength, fully sustains his reputation as the miniature Hercules; Mlle. Florence on the rolling globe wins much applause; and among other turns are Fred Ace (instrumentalist), Alton and Lois (comedy jugglers), Maud Clifton, and Marie Leston.

SWANSEA. — The Grand.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Brooks and Woodbridge; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Oswald Brooks; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Dean.—*The Lady of Ostend* is here this week. As the amorous Baron Mr. Laurence Brough is at his best; Mr. Harry Hampson utilises his opportunities as the luckless Dick Whortles in excellent style; Joseph Carbury, Dick's father-in-law, is cleverly impersonated by Mr. Percy Marshall; Toby Kroskutt could scarcely be in better hands than those of Mr. Watkin Wynne; the Lady of Ostend is cleverly taken by Miss Roberta Svendson; as Dorothy Whortles, the humiliated wife, Miss Kate Milford is all that could be desired; as is also Miss Bessie Harrison as Dick Whortles' mother-in-law.

The Star.—Manager, Mr. William Coutts.—Miss Grace Warner and company, in a répertoire consisting of *The Scarlet Clue*, *East Lynne*, and *Lady Audley's Secret*, are drawing big houses to the Star this week. In the former piece, as Scarlet Sal, Miss Warner's work must rank with the best seen at the theatre. Another excellent impersonation is that of Mr. George Gordon as Flash Mick; Mr. Arthur Page as Crazy Jim is in every way excellent; and in the dual rôle of Jack and H. Esmond Mr. J. Armitage is equally successful. Miss Doris Graham as Little Polly is one of the successes of the evening; Messrs. R. Boyd, Jack Clarence, F. Heywood and Misses Phyllis Massey, K. Stewart, Kathleen Cranston, Annie Corri, and Esther Dean give excellent support.

The Empire, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. A. Mitchell; Assistant-Manager, Mr. P. C. Rowe.—The chief attraction this week is the historical sketch, *A Drummer of the 76th*, played by Matthew Brodie and company. As Napoleon Mr. Brodie gives a fine character-study; and Miss Dorothea Vivian as the Drummer plays very effectively. Paul Conchas goes through his performance in a way that easily explains his title of "The Kaiser Wilhelm's Military Hercules"; Mlle. Von Etta gives a first-class illusionary and quick-change turn; Tom and Marie Motramo are musical comedy artists of far above the ordinary; Jennie Johns is as talented as she is pleasing; J. A. Wilson is very successful in his sketch, in which he is ably assisted by his dog "Towser"; a turn out of the common is provided by Bert Woodward, the steeplechasing cyclist; Ellis Barriston has good songs, which he renders with great effect; and the song and dance of Beattie and Blanch are also much appreciated.

TON-Y-PANDY. — Theatre Royal. — Lessees, Messrs. Carlton and Duckworth; General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth.—Mr. Stanley Carlton's company, in *A Marriage of Vengeance*, is here. Mr. Stanley Carlton gives an excellent performance of Geoffrey Vannock; the part of Paul Earnscliffe is in the safe hands of Mr. Arthur Dudley; Mr. Marshall Meade is well placed as Max Rheinhardt; the part of Glynne Earnscliffe is excellently played by Mr. Edwin Beverley; Mr. Edward Garth makes a powerful Hans Ponpole; Miss Rubie Maude is captivating as the Parisian adventuress, Stella.

Hippodrome. — This week the Joseph Poole's latest myriorama pays its welcome annual visit. The pictures are well up to date, and the strong variety company adds brilliancy to the entertainment. The Pantasto Troupe are justly given first place on the variety programme. Mlle. Juanita, M. Di, Olivera's cockatoos are well trained, and Collin and Irene, the illusionists, are very smart. Felix Somers, the facial king, is well received.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—Opera House.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Welton Dale.—A crowded Bank Holiday audience gave Mr. Welton Dale a cordial welcome back to the resident-management on Whit Monday, when Mr. Macdona's company presented *A Country Girl*. Miss Ellaline Thorne gave a charming interpretation of the title-rôle; Miss Violet Leslie was excellent as Marjorie Joy; and Miss Desborough as the dusky Princess proved a sprightly exponent. Mr. Roy Sidney was in excellent voice as Geoffrey Chaloner; Mr. Mansel Fane gave a very humorous study of the Rajah of Bhong; and Mr. Arthur Staples gave a capital impersonation of Barry. Mr. Billington as Sir Joseph Verity, Mr. Besley Beltran as Douglas Verity, and Mr. Willis as Lord Anchester, all contributed their share to a good all-round performance. It may be added that for the concluding performance of the Renads, Mr. Welton Dale kindly entertained a number of old Army veterans. The theatre closes for the season after this week.

TYNEMOUTH.—Palace and Winter Gardens.—Proprietor, Mr. J. H. Graham; Manager, Mr. Lindon Travers.—This favourite resort of entertainment is now open for the season, and, judging by the performance on Monday night, the management are sparing neither trouble nor expense in providing first-class attractions. The place of honour is this week held by Ara, Zebra, and Vora, who please by their novel act, entitled *Indian Pastimes*; the Four Royal Magnets, vocalists, dancers, &c., prove a most acceptable turn; Lloyd Morgan proves himself to be a vocal comedian of more than usual ability; Sandy and Carl, burlesque comedians, are paying a welcome return visit; Baker and Balfe, Xylophonists, and M. Lockyer, mimic, also contribute to the programme. The evening's entertainment winds up with an admirable show of up-to-date animated pictures.

WAKEFIELD.—Royal Opera House.—Proprietors, Messrs. Sherwood and Co.—Messrs. Fred Acton and H. C. Nash's company opened here on Monday with *Between the Lights*. Mr. Bartram H Ross makes a fearless and manly Captain Hinton; Miss Eileen Bamford is a sympathetic Violet Warren; Mr. Fred Acton a comical Jimmy Tickle; Miss Milly Doris a droll Kitty; Mr. William R. Winning is seen to advantage as Stanley Crofton; and Mr. Frank Orchard is capable in the dual rôles of Oswald Warren and Ben Armley. Miss Fanny Williams fills with charm the part of Madge Armley.

Hippodrome. — Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—The programme here this week comprises the Brothers Onda, in a smart triple bar act; Mlle. Du Ruche, a charming ballad vocalist; Mr. Will McIvor, vocalist, who proves popular; Mlle. Violi, lady instrumentalist; Stanley's Urchins, who contribute a capital vocal and dancing turn; Atroy, a clever juggler and hoop manipulator; and Will Onda's comedians, in an amusing sketch, entitled *Hotel Comfort*.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—Grand.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Manager, Mr. Herbert E. Feather.—The engagement of Mr. Junius Booth and company in *Monte Cristo* is resulting in satisfactory business. Mr. Booth endows the rôle of Edmond Dantes with consideable dramatic intensity; and a capital delineation of the character of Mercedes is that given by Miss B. Doyle. Others who creditably portray their respective rôles are Mr. Beckett Bould as M. Nortier, Mr. Augustin Bowerman as Fernaud Mondego, Mr. Walter Huron as Villefort, Miss M. Elles as Sophie Danglers, and Miss Alice West as La Carconte.

Palace. — Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—The holiday list is proving an attractive one. Bob Hutt and his company, in an absurdity, *Welcome Home*, keeps the fun going fast and furious, their performance being greeted with one continuous scream of laughter. The dancing by the Brothers Dean is done with remarkable precision; a pleasing ventriloquial exhibition is contributed by Richardson Taylor; the Sisters Bronson are smart comediennes; the juggling by Mike Cray is well done, his clever dog "Dooley" shows evidence of careful training; and some smart tumbling and leaping by the Three Brothers Huxter, and interesting films are acceptable items.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.—Knightstone Pavilion and Opera House.—Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—Mr. Allan Wilkie's Shakespearean company is paying another return visit here this week. On Monday *The Bells* was presented. Mr. Wilkie gave an intensely tragic interpretation of Mathias; Mr. Paul Lovett was decidedly good as Christian; that talented and experienced actor, Mr. John Paley, gave a very fine impersonation of Hans; Mr. Gordon Phillott was excellent as Walker; so was Mr. G. Alexander Marsh as the Judge. Mr. Ernest Digges did well as Dr. Zimmer; and Mr. Ian Fleming's Mesmerist is entitled to praise. Miss Carrie Baillie looked very handsome as Annette, and acted with distinction; Miss E. O'Dempsey made the most of Catherine; and Miss F. Hunter Watts was good as Lozel. The week's programme includes *The Merchant of Venice*, *As You Like It*, *She Stoops to Conquer*, *The School for Scandal*, and *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*.

Grand Pier Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. John H. Stevenson.—The Middies and Maids opened here on Monday to a crowded and enthusiastic audience. Miss Mabel Ashton sang "Arrah Wanna" artistically; and Miss Nellie Taner's song, "Within your heart," was loudly applauded. Mr. D. Marrs sang with effect, "When the birds go North again"; Mr. Bert Williams gave a humorous rendering of "My time is all my own"; Mr. Walter Forder was excellent in his comic sketch, *Pops*; and Mr. Arthur Randall proved himself a good comedian in his humorous interlude. Herr Kändt's Austrian Blue Band has commenced the fourth year of their engagement; and some excellent pictures are shown on the Lens Bioscope.

WIGAN. — Royal Court Theatre.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Co.—Mr. Andrew Melville's drama, *Driven from Home*, has been presented by a strong company.

The Hippodrome.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Co.—The Juanitos prove themselves marvellously clever acrobats; and Verno and Voyce, in character songs, are also most popular. Marie Jones, quick change artist; Floretti and Elly, in a jumping performance; and the Durants, contortionists, are all well received; and good comedy is provided by Adey North, the Bros Ashley, Terry and Bentley (including a sensational rope ascent), Lily Vane, and Paddy Boston.

WORTHING.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Herr C. Adolf Seebold.—Mr W. Penrhyn Forster's company is here for the first three nights, presenting *The Officers' Mess*. Mr. L. Cadwalader does excellently as Major-General Sir A. de Beaune; Mr. George Ellis is seen and heard to advantage as Captain the Hon. Claude Melville; Mr. Charles D. Cleveland and Mr. H. Vyvian are both well placed as Antonio Wilkins and Rienzi Poorpoori; the Rose Smith of Miss Nellie Sheffield is beautifully enacted; the remaining characters are in highly capable hands. The chorus is good and well balanced, while the dancing, ably arranged by Miss Ina Alston, leaves nothing to be desired.

WREXHAM.—Empire Music Hall.—Proprietor, Mr. J. J. Scott; Manager, Mr. C. W. Collings.—This popular place of amusement was reopened on Monday evening, after being closed for extensive alterations and re-decorating. The greatest improvement is a commodious dress circle, fitted with richly-upholstered tip-up chairs, and this part of the house is sure to be well patronised. There were two crowded houses on the opening night, and business has been good during the week. That great Wrexham favourite, Miss Ella Dean, made a welcome reappearance, and was as enthusiastically applauded as ever. She sang several new songs, as well as some of the old favourites. Mr. J. W. Rowley, who is one of the most popular of the better-known comedians now on the boards, also renewed his acquaintance with Wrexham audiences, and had a right royal reception; the Two Jays, clever patter comedians, made a first appearance here, and were well received; as were also Queenie West, a songstress of considerable merit; and Miss Hilda Wilson, an entertaining male impersonator.

YORK.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—*The Prince of Pilsen*, presented this week by Baron H. Harriss's company, has proved a great attraction. On Monday this fine theatre was crowded in every part, and the greatest enthusiasm prevailed. Miss Sophie Harriss as Mrs. Maddison Crocker was in every way a success; as Hans Wagner, Mr. Harry Kilburn was intensely funny, and his energies never seemed to flag; as the real Prince, Mr. Frank Crimp created a most favourable impression, his easy, natural style and excellent vocalisation were much enjoyed; Mr. Bernard Russell caused much amusement as the Earl of Shrimpton; and Mr. Linden Lancy was satisfactory as Tom Wagner. Mr. Ernest Gifford was lively in the extreme as François; as Sidonie, Miss Connie Leon was at once a favourite, her Dutch song and dance being heartily encored; Miss Ada Watson as Edith Adams contributed in no small degree to the success of the play; and a delightful impersonation of Nellie Wagner was seen in Miss May Yates, an actress who sings very sweetly.

Opera House and Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brooke.—Fred Earle heads the bill here this week; Gerhardi Mohr is an agile jumper who is much applauded; and the Emmel Comedy Company gives a sketch brimful of humour. Burton and Trent cause amusement; L. B. Athol is a refined vocalist; and Lola Patey, a Dutch comedienne of more than average merit. R. A. Speedwell is a portrait painter of pronounced ability; and Mr. Picton Roxborough and Miss Fanny Wright, in a neat little sketch, render a good account of themselves.

Makes the Skin as Soft as Velvet.—Beetham's "Larola" preserves the Skin from the effects of the sun, winds, and hard water. Entirely removes and prevents all roughness, redness, irritation, tan, &c., and Keeps the Skin Soft, Smooth, and White at all Seasons. Invaluable for the Complexion, Delightfully Soothing and Refreshing after walking, golfing, cycling, motoring, dancing, &c. Gentlemen will find it wonderfully soothing if applied after shaving. Bottles, 1s., 1s. 9d., and 2s. 6d. each, of all Chemists and Stores. M. Beetham and Son, Cheltenham.—[Advt.]

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

A meeting of the Theatrical Sports Committee was held at 29, Wellington-street, Strand, on Tuesday last. There were present Mr. J. Cullen, St. James's Theatre, presiding; Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, hon. treasurer; Mr. W. Barbour, St. James's; Mr. A. Palmer, Comedy; Mr. P. Sheridan, Crown; Mr. Wilton, Vaudeville; Mr. Stow, Savoy; and the hon. secretary, Mr. William Johnson.

A letter was read from Mr. C. Aubrey Smith accepting the invitation of the committee to act as the chairman of the Sports Committee. It was decided that the sports should take place on Tuesday, July 9, and the secretary was instructed to engage the Stamford Bridge Sports Ground. The secretary read a letter from Mr. White, of Dublin, in which it was stated that the Dublin Empire tug-of-war team would not compete at the sports this year.

The list of events was considered, and the final decision thereon deferred to next meeting. It was decided to invite the patronage of all theatrical and dramatic clubs and associations. The secretary was instructed to make arrangements for the services of a band on similar terms as last year. It was arranged the next meeting should be held to-day (Saturday) at 5.30.

The concert in aid of the Musicians' Union Benevolent Fund will be given to-morrow (Sunday) evening in the Queen's Hall. There will be an orchestra of 200 instrumentalists provided by the Union. Tickets, 2s., 1s. 6d., and 1s., may be obtained at the doors, from the A.M.U., or from the Sunday League, in co-operation with whom the concert is being given.

At the last meeting of the executive committee of the National Association of Theatrical Employees it was decided to recommend the branches to agree to being represented at the Annual Trade Union Congress, to be held in Bath in September, and to affiliate with the General Federation of Trade Unions.

On Friday, the 17th, the staff of the Theatre Royal, Rotherham, held their annual benefit performance, when *Black-Eyed Susan* was staged, together with a number of interesting items, a special sketch being presented by members of the staff.

The staff of the Opera House, St. Helens, held their fourteenth annual outing on Whit Sunday. The party, numbering thirty-six, journeyed by special saloon to Blackpool, arriving there at 11.45 a.m. Dinner was served at the Winter Gardens, and after the loyal toasts, the St. Helens Theatre, coupled with the name of Mr. McLeod Loader, was proposed and drunk with enthusiasm. In the absence of Mr. Loader Mr. Jack Bradley, stage-manager, responded in suitable terms. Sailing, driving, &c., were then the order of the day. The return journey was commenced at 8.45, and home was reached at midnight after a most enjoyable day. The whole arrangements were carried out by Mr. Jack Bradley, to whom a hearty vote of thanks was accorded.

MISS NANCY PRICE'S MARRIAGE.

"It is the best contract I ever had, or ever shall have."

The speaker was Miss Nancy Price, and the joyful animation with which she uttered the words at once repulsed the ordinary reasonable assumption that the lady referred to a contract in which a theatrical manager figured and in which certain terms were mentioned. There could be nothing so commonplace, in the business sense, as a theatrical manager, nor so prosaic as a mere money calculation in this contract! For, surely, as Antony whispered in the ear of his Eastern enchantress, "There's beggary in the love that can be reckoned!" Of course, it was a marriage contract, the high contracting parties being Miss Nancy Price and Mr. Charles Raymond Maude.

The ceremony took place before the Registrar, at Broad-street, New Oxford-street, at 9.45 a.m. on Friday, 17th inst. Only personal friends were present, and after the signing of the registers a party of ten adjourned to the Russell Hotel for breakfast.

Miss Price commenced her theatrical career some eight years ago with Mr. F. R. Benson, and she made her first appearance on the London stage in the early part of 1900 in *Henry V.* at the Lyceum Theatre. While at the Lyceum she played her first important part—that of Olivia in *Twelfth Night*. Subsequently she was seen in the parts of Calypso and Athene in *Ulysses* at His Majesty's Theatre, the former rôle bringing her into prominence. Also under Mr. Tree's management she enacted the rôle of Olivia in *Twelfth Night* and Princess Bellini in *The Eternal City*. These engagements were followed by leading parts in *A Snug Little Kingdom* and *The Road to Honour* at the Adelphi, as Rosa Dartle in *Em'ly*, as Hilda Gunning in *Letty*, at the Garrick; as the heroine in *The Lady of Leeds*, at Wyndham's; as Helga in *The Prodigal Son*, at Drury Lane; Mrs. Bowler in *Toddles*, at the Duke of York's; and Kitty Montmorency in *Mr. Sheridan*, at the Garrick. Miss Price spends her leisure in painting, music, writing, and collecting old weapons and curios. Her great ambition now is to play a good part in a piece in which her husband also has a good part.

Mr. Charles Raymond Maude is a cousin of Mr. Cyril Maude and a grandson of Jenny Lind. He is a graduate of Oxford, and has been on the stage for the past two and a half years. His first stage experience was "walking on" in *The Walls of Jericho* at the Garrick Theatre, and later he appeared in *Lady Ben* at the Comedy and Little Billee in *Trilby* with Mr. Tree at His Majesty's. He also played in *An Angel Unawares* and *The Alabaster Staircase*, following which he joined Mr. Cyril Maude in *The Heir-at-Law*, a revival of *The Second in Command*, and *Toddles*, in which Mr. Charles Maude is still appearing. He is extremely fond of ballooning, and has experienced some very interesting descents.

It was while playing in *Toddles*, by the way, that Miss Price and Mr. Charles Maude first met each other. That was only ten months ago, and it was a case of love at first sight.

"Freddie" Carlton has again got together a capital company at his popular corner at St. Anne's-on-Sea. Reg. Bolton is back again, and along with Tommy Nelldon and Dick Thomas looks well after the comedy of the programme. Lincoln Taylor, humorist; John A. Austin, tenor; H. V. Morgan, baritone; Will Bailey, pianist; and Freddie Carlton, who is as entertaining and popular as ever, make up a show that bids fair to be as big a success as the previous ones.

Miss Gertie Gitana concludes to-night a two months' season in London, where she is booked for six months next year. She has been favoured with offers for America and the Continent at a phenomenal salary. This clever lady has become a great favourite at the Tivoli, and is undoubtedly making rapid strides.

At the Star Theatre, Liverpool, on July 1, Mr. Sidney Rennef will produce a new drama, *Egypt*. Eight special scenes have been painted for the production.

"Lynch Law," a dramatic sketch, in three scenes, by Sara B. Von Leer and E. P. Clift, was produced for copyright purposes at the Theatre Royal, Leeds, on Wednesday.

ON THE ROAD, MAY 27.

All-of-a-Sudden Peggy.—O. H., Southport.
An Unwedded Wife.—Grand T., Newcastle.
Asche, Oscar.—Buxton and Oxford.
Assassin.—P. O. W., Grimsby.
Benson, F. R. (N.).—Gaiety T., Hastings.
Benson, F. R.—O. H., Cheltenham.
Between the Lights.—P. O. W., Mexboro'.
Charley's Aunt.—Tyne Theatre, Newcastle.
Christian, The.—O. H., Tunbridge Wells.
Conscript, The.—Theatre Royal, Jarrow.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—Grand T., Southampton.
Destroyer of Men.—T. R., Colchester.
D'Oyly Carte.—T. R., Preston.
Face at the Window.—Theatre Royal, Rochdale.
False Wife.—Smethwick.
Girl From Japan.—Grand T., Southampton.
Go.-One-Go-Mohawk.—Scarborough.
Guilty Gold.—Alexandra T., Birmingham.
Heart's Desire.—Colosseum, Oldham.
Her Marriage Vow.—Lyric T., Hammersmith.
Her One Great Sin.—T. R., South Shields.
His Sister's Honour.—Osborne T., Manchester.
Home, Sweet Home (Lindo).—N. Shields.
Honeymoon, The.—Theatre Royal, Chesterfield.
Honour Thy Father.—Hippodrome, Mansfield.
Irving, H. B.—King's Theatre, Glasgow.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Bala and Malpas.
Liars, The.—Grand T., Blackpool.
Lights Out.—Prince's T., Bristol.
Little Breadwinner.—Blackburn.
Little Vagrant.—T. R. and O. H., Barrow-in-F'n'ss
London Fireman.—Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith.
Lucky 'Liza.—Irving Theatre, Seacombe.
Manxman.—Court Theatre, Wigan.
Master Criminal.—Gaiety Theatre, Dundee.
Midnight Mail.—Grand Theatre, Fulham.
Mollison, William.—Lyceum T., Newport.
Monte Cristo.—Opera House, Wakefield.
My Darling.—Kennington Theatre, S.E.
Napoleon the Great.—Prince's Theatre, Preston.
New World.—Theatre Royal, York.
Otto the Outcast.—Theatre Royal, Stockport.
Perfect Love.—Birmingham.
Power of Gold.—T. R., Ton-y-Pandy.
Prince of Pilsen (Harris).—Oxford and Camb'dge.
Private Secretary.—Gaiety T., Dublin.
Prodigal Parson.—Maesteg and Treherbert.
Prodigal Daughter.—T. R., Belfast.
Royal Divorce.—O. H., Northampton.
Second to None.—Star T., Liverpool.
Sergeant Brue (N.).—Theatre Royal, Portsmouth.
Shall We Forgive Her?—Douglas.
Shulamite.—Theatre Royal, Belfast.
Sin of Her Childhood.—T. R., Aston.
Somebody's Sweetheart.—O. H., Jersey.
Step-Mother.—Crown T., Peckham.
Swiss Express.—Elephant and Castle Theatre.
The Woman Pays.—Princes T., Preston.
Tommy.—Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh.
Trilby.—T. R., Hull.
Triumph of Truth.—Queen's T., Longton.
Two Little Drummer Boys.—Alexandra T., Sheffield
Two Little Vagabonds.—T. R., Nottingham.
Under the Russian Flag.—Victoria T., Broughton.
What the Butler Saw.—O. H., Cork.
When a Man Hates.—Muncaster T., Bootle.
When the Lights are Low.—King's T., Manchester.
When Other Lips.—Great Yarmouth.
Wilkie, Allan, and Co.—O. H., Torquay.
Woman from Scotland Yard.—Junct. T., M'chester.
Woman's Past.—Theatre Royal, Blyth.
Wrecker of Men.—Grand T., Nottingham.
£1000 Reward.—Palace Theatre, Newcastle.

THE AMERICAN ACTORS' FUND.

The Actors' Fund Fair, recently held at the Metropolitan Opera House, New York, was formally opened by Mark Twain, after President Roosevelt (in Washington) had given the signal by pressing a golden button. The actors held their last fair fifteen years ago, and took about $200,000. This year, it was announced, they wanted to raise $250,000. Messrs. Marc Klaw and A. L. Erlanger purchased the first tickets of admission at $750 each. "A fool and his money is the root of much laughter" was the motto of the fair, and everyone was eager to be a "fool," remembering the main object of the Fund and the words of its founder, who said to the actor incapacitated by age or misfortune: "You shall not become a penniless wanderer or the inmate of an almshouse; but we invite you to be an honoured guest in our charming home on Staten Island, where you may preserve your dignity and self-respect, and composedly await your final curtain-call amid peace and comfort and congenial companionship." Leading players unable to be present sent messages of goodwill, accompanied by liberal contributions. Other donations, none less than $50, came from devotees of the drama and favourites of the stage. But the management looked to the "booths" and the "gate receipts" for the profits, and the pocket-books of the public were considerably depleted after a stroll through the mimic village of Stratford-on-Avon, where the Professional Woman's League stood guard at the entrance, and a voting contest for the most popular actress, actor, and non-professional lady caught the last remaining penny at the exit. Prominent society people presided at the flower and candy stands, and did a "roaring trade." Matinée "idols" and dignified leading men were willing to do anything in the cause of charity. Mr. Wilton Lackaye undertook to trim a hat, and turned out a "creation" which, according to an expert in such matters, "looked like an animated hawk's nest." An eloquent refutation of the charge that stage people are deficient in the culinary art was contained in the "All-star Cook Book," of which there was only one copy in existence, and the price of that was $1,254. This unique publication was compiled by Miss Alice Fischer, a number of notable players having each contributed a page of parchment on which was written the recipe of their favourite dish. A "chance" for the book cost anything from $1 to $100, and there were plenty of "takers." At the booth of the Twelfth Night Club the crowd gazed at a dagger used by a popular tragedian, and there were buckles and ornaments which had once graced such illustrious players as Fanny Kemble, Laura Keene, and Charlotte Cushman. The Professional Woman's League conducted a doll bazaar, and favourite actresses in wax fetched fabulous figures. The Green-Room Club had a "side show," with Walter Jones as the fat boy, Jules Garrison as the human glass-eater, Tod Sloan as the giant, Gene Hughes as the rubber-faced man, and Neil MacNeil as the bearded lady. Mr. William A. Brady gave another exhibition of his remarkable versatility by acting as one of the "barkers." One of the most interesting features of the Fair was a daily newspaper, of which a second edition frequently had to be published to meet the demand.

FIFTY YEARS OF THE DRAMA.

Owing to pressure on our space, we have been compelled to hold over the weekly instalment of the above. The series will be continued next week.

The clever little comedian attached to the Three Danbrooks, in their musical comedy act, is the only brother to Geo. Mozart. The trio made a hit at the entertainment given on Saturday at the Palace, Clacton-on-Sea.

Mr. Ernie Myers and Miss Lily Lonsdale have been making a big success in London for the last six weeks at the Syndicate halls with new songs, dresses, and business, and were immediately rebooked at each hall they appeared.

Owing to his enormous success at the Alhambra, Carl Lynn is engaged for two weeks longer. The weeks are June 17 and 24.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

Notice to Subscribers.

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Notice to Advertisers.

Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week, and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances, payable to "THE ERA," LTD., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

ANNIE WILSON.—*The two letters O.P. signify opposite prompt—that is, opposite that side of the stage where the prompter, according to custom, always stands.*

C. G. JOHNSTONE.—*We should think it highly improbable, as such high salaries were not paid at the time the late George Leybourne was in his prime.*

BUXTONIAN.—*Miss Marie Lloyd visited America in 1894, appearing on Oct. 15 of that year at Koster and Bial's, New York. She has also been to Africa and Australia.*

HELEN CHARLES.—*The date you require is Nov. 11, 1895, and the article appeared in* The Era *of Nov. 16. With the exception of the file copy we have no Era of that date.*

W. T.—*Miss Marie Tempest was the original San Toy on the production at Daly's, Oct. 21, 1899.*

G F. L.—*The comedy entitled* The Undercurrent *was produced at the Criterion Theatre on Sept. 14, 1901. Miss Violet Vanbrugh played the part of Lady Shelmerdine.*

RIP.—Rip Van Winkle, *romantic opera, libretto by William Akerman, music by Franco Leoni, was produced at Her Majesty's, Sept. 4, 1897.*

J. F.—*A very complicated matter. See a solicitor.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth** or **Death** or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny.**

The charge for a notice of **Marriage**, not exceeding forty words, is **Two Shillings and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny.**

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

BARCLAY.—May 16, at 4, Greenfield-place, Newcastle-on-Tyne, to Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Barclay, a daughter (Eileen Florence May).

BRANTFORD.—May 21, Mrs. Bert Brantford (Agnes Asher), wife of Bert Brantford, at 8, Park-hill-gardens, Clapham, of a son. Both doing well.

FRISCARI.—On May 15, to Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Friscari, a daughter. Mother doing well.

MARRIAGES.

WATTS—RALPH.—On the 16th, at Brixton Registrar's Office, by special licence, W. Watts, of Ellis and Watts, comedians, to Maud Ralph, professionally known as Maud Montrose, daughter of Mr. J. Ralph, Covent Garden Market, granddaughter of the late R. Ralph, J.P., of Sandwich.

MAUDE—PRICE.—May 17, Charles Maude, actor, to Nancy Price, actress.

DEATHS.

ELTON.—Willie Elton, the loving son of Wright and Elton, died May 21, age 2 years. Gone, but will never be forgotten by his sorrowful parents. R.I.P.

LEITCH.—May 18, suddenly, George Leitch, actor and playwright.

RODGERS.—May 9, Captain Rodgers, theatre proprietor.

STANSFIELD.—Passed away, at Hobart, Tasmania, April 14, after a long illness, the beloved mother of Myra Stansfield (Mrs. Fred Elton).

IN MEMORIAM.

ELLIOTT.—In loving memory of James Bedford Elliott, husband of Maggie Elliott, father of the Elliott Savonas, who died May 22, 1906. Never forgotten by his wife and family. Rest in peace.

ELLIOTT.—In affectionate remembrance of J. B. Elliott (Papa), who died May 22, 1906. Never forgotten by his old friend, Charles Wood.
"We ne'er shall look upon his like again."

LANGTON.—In loving memory of my dear husband, Charles Langton, who died May 27, 1906. Deeply mourned by his wife and daughter.

LEVEY.—In cherished memory of my dear husband, Joseph Levey (Sanger's), who passed away May 21, 1899.

TAPPENDEN.—In ever-loving memory of William Tappenden (father of Lizzie Melville), who died on May 24, 1894. Gone, but not forgotten by his wife and daughter.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

George Miller—Saturday, May 25.
Edward Cranston—Saturday, May 25.
P. George Beresford—Saturday, May 25.
Roland Yorke—Saturday, May 25.
Beatrice Western—Sunday, May 26.
Marie Kildare—Sunday, May 26.
Robert Hyett—Sunday, May 26.
W. Travis Greene—Sunday, May 26.
Kenneth Black—Sunday, May 26.
Hilda Foster—Sunday, May 26.
Edith Cole—Monday, May 27.
M. May Murray—Monday, May 27.
J. W. Cragg—Monday, May 27.
Harry Starr—Monday, May 27.
Mrs. H. H. Barrington—Monday, May 27.
Reginald Payne—Monday, May 27.
Lottie Venne—Tuesday, May 28.
James Fernandez—Tuesday, May 28.
H. T. Brickwell—Tuesday, May 28.
John L. Shine—Tuesday, May 28.
H. Gomer May—Tuesday, May 28.
Bessie Harrison—Tuesday, May 28.
Henry C. Ward—Tuesday, May 28.
Winifred Ord—Tuesday, May 28.
Calvert Routledge—Wednesday, May 29.
Walter Curtis—Wednesday, May 29.
Chas. Wood—Wednesday, May 29.
Maude Vera—Wednesday, May 29.
Kittie Rayburn—Wednesday, May 29.
Sybil Thompson—Wednesday, May 29.
George Wright—Wednesday, May 29.
Ernest E. Norris—Thursday, May 30.

MRS. JOHN LAWSON, in *The Devil's Sunday*, will be seen at the Argyle Theatre, Birkenhead, during next week. This strong episode has made a huge success at Newcastle.

OLRAC AND MILTON have reluctantly had to postpone their Keith Circuit engagement in the States till 1909.

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THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

At all holiday times the thoughts of Londoners turn towards the palatial edifice at Sydenham, where, at whatever season of the year, and under any conditions of weather, they can find pleasure in abundance. It formed a haven of refuge on Monday for many thousands, who took full advantage of the opportunities for enjoyment. A vast aggregation of attractions had been secured, the Ostrich Farm, where the habits and customs of the species are displayed, and the champion lady rider bestrides the ungainly bird, creating especial interest. In the theatre was the Drury Lane children's pantomime, *The Forte Thieves*, to which detailed allusion is made in another column, and a variety performance, given three times daily, included the famous Bob Hanlon Troupe, the Brothers Phillipi, the Brothers Webb, Marjutti, and Lavater Lee. The Australian giant, Darril, and Colibri, "the smallest man on earth," became the centre of admiring assemblies, and large crowds of the curious went to look at a "man in a trance," who having been thrown into the hypnotic state on Monday by Morritt, does not wake again until to-day.

In the evening there was a performance by massed bands, including those of the Coldstream Guards, 1st Suffolk Regiment, 2nd Northumberland Fusiliers, drums and fifes of the 1st Coldstream Guards, drums and fifes of the 1st Scots Guards, and the 4th V.B. West Surrey Regiment. The programme included Tschaikowsky's "1812," and a composition by Jullien, portraying a day in the soldier's life. The camp at daybreak, the réveillé, the morning parade, the march of infantry, the trot, canter, and charge of cavalry; then tattoo and lights out, the false alarm, the call to arms, and troops advancing from a distance were all realistically suggested.

The fun of the Old English Fair was maintained throughout the day, the water chute and switchback had many patrons, and all the other attractions were liberally appreciated. A balloon ascent and a horse show and parade figured among the excitements, and a grand display of fireworks brought an eventful day to a close.

The general management of the Crystal Palace is now in the hands of Mr. George O. Starr, whose extensive experience includes several years with the Barnum and Bailey show. Mr. Starr has many schemes for restoring prosperity to the Palace, and will introduce the latest novelties and attractions from America, Paris, and Berlin. It is satisfactory to learn that festivals and high-class concerts will be ever foremost in the programme, and at the "Elijah" concert, shortly to be held, 3500 voices will take part.

MISS KATIE MARSH was specially engaged for the opening of the Palace, Clacton-on-Sea, last Saturday night, but owing to her great success she was engaged by the directors for the full Whit-week.

MR. FRANCES O'FLYNN, the well-known banjoist, who is now touring the provinces, is considering an offer from America.

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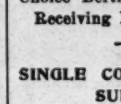

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Monday, May 27, 1907, and during the week, Miss Sylvia Cavalho in "The Husband of Peggy," Tom Woottwell, Orpheus, The Boar Hunt, portrayed in Animated Photography, Anna Kenwick, Musical Schafers, Lily Soutter, Kurkamp, Rich and Rich, Katie Butler, G. H. Elliott, Harry Weldon, Ruffell's Bioscope, Daisy Dormer, Fred Eustace and Co. (including the favourite actress, Miss Mary Eustace) in Comedy-Drama, "The Amber Light." Doors open 7.15. 'Phone, No. 726 Hop. General-Manager, FRED MILLER.

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Dated this May 21, 1907.
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Dated May 23, 1907,

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, MAY 25, 1907.

AMERICAN DRAMAS.

Mr. WILLIAM ARCHER has come back from America full of information concerning the condition of the drama there, and has commenced a series of articles on the subject in the *Tribune*. We are not altogether without knowledge on the subject already, as the London stage of late has been pretty well supplied with samples of the work of American playwrights—good, bad, and indifferent. Of course, a distinctively American drama does not have quite a fair chance when presented to an English audience. In order to appreciate a picture, one must have seen the objects it represents; and the realism which commends certain Transatlantic dramas to New Yorkers cannot possibly appeal with equal strength to the "Britishers." How can we wax enthusiastic over the accuracy of the representation of a famous restaurant if we has never been inside that establishment? How can we appreciate the dramatic depiction of a character the original of which does not exist in this country? A really excellent play like *The Lion and the Mouse* fails on "this side" because it deals with a society which is strange to us, while to Americans it is vitally interesting. Unfortunately, in most of the American plays which have been produced in London of late the conception and the craftsmanship have been inferior; and, without the "local colour" to buoy them up, they could not keep their heads above water on their intrinsic merits alone.

Mr. ARCHER is inclined, we think, to take too rosy a view of the American stage. He is somewhat inclined—on the principle, perhaps, that "any stick will do to beat a dog with"—to hold it up as an "object-lesson" to the naughty British public that does not properly appreciate IBSEN and Mr. BERNARD SHAW. Now the essence of the American public, as far as art is concerned, is its superficiality. The first impression created in an Englishman by the Americans is one of wonder at the number of educated people he meets in America. The American seems to know something about everything. The newcomer to the States feels something of the surprise which thrilled the Japanese gentleman who was a guest at one of the late Mr. GLADSTONE'S famous breakfasts. Mr. GLADSTONE had been holding forth, uncriticised and uncontradicted, of course, on various subjects, including the great Oriental nation which has lately made such an advance in importance. "Wonderful man, Mr. GLADSTONE," said the Japanese to a friend afterwards; "he knows something about everything—except Japan." After a longer residence in America, the immigrant realises that much of this American omniscience is the result of rapid surface-cramming, of skimming articles which themselves only skim subjects, and of the American genius for the retention of convenient phrases. The superficial interest which the Americans give to everything except business makes them appear extremely broad-minded and hospitable to ideas; but with regard to the latter their cordiality rather resembles the hearty welcome given to a guest who, one knows, is to leave us next morning. The American manager and the American dramatist have, however, one great advantage: they are not society-ridden. Of course, in New York, as in London, there is an idle class, and an aristocracy—of sorts; but they are a feeble folk, and most of the rich and well-to-do people are still too little removed from the soil, the office, and the "store" to have acquired the "fine old crusted" conceit and the imperturbable self-assertion which make the upper class in England so formidable and so influential, even in its decline. The Americans have not had time to be de-humanised by centuries of established title-worship. "That's what I call a lord!" said the "common man" in DU MAURIER'S *Punch* picture to his companion, pointing to a nobleman riding past in Rotten Row. "He would think no more of you and me than dirt under his feet!" It is this extraordinary acquiescence of the middle and working classes in the estimate of their inferiority which makes it so difficult for the English manager and the English dramatist to escape from certain bounds. As Mr. PINERO once remarked in an interview, "You find, if you try to write drama, not only that wealth and leisure are more productive of dramatic complications than poverty and hard work, but that if you want to get a certain order of ideas expressed or questions discussed you must go pretty well up in the social scale. I have often tried to keep my characters down, as it were, and found I could not. They forced me, in spite of myself, to lift them up in the world."

There is evidence, however, that things are taking a different turn. The height of the society cult had reached its climax in 1895, when *The Princess and the Butterfly* was produced at the St. James's. Mr. PINERO was then fooling his public to the top of their bent. Not only were we allowed to associate with a princess; we were actually permitted to see her in bed. The piece, for the most part, consisted of aristocratic atmosphere, and the sorrowfulness of being past forty. Would it "revive" well now? We doubt it. Another example of "attitude" was supplied in the dialogue of many of the OSCAR WILDE plays. The languid affectations which the author used, to apologise, as it were, for his possession of very real dramatic genius, were the theme of almost fulsome admiration. Indeed, so thoroughly was theatrical success thought to depend on the favour of "smart" society that when Mr. ARTHUR BOURCHIER brought out Mr. SUTRO'S denunciation of its foibles in *The Walls of Jericho*, it was feared that he might not be able to fill his stalls and dress-circle for long. The success of that piece, and of *His House in Order* at the St. James's, seems to show that the tide is on the turn, and that we are "in" for a return to elemental comedy and drama—which are the most democratic art-products on earth.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, May 23.—We have had a quiet week, and the Théâtre de l'Œuvre took advantage of this to launch its novelties. The first was a French adaptation of Oscar Wilde's *A Florentine Tragedy*, a cruel but cleverly written one-act. I noticed that the adapter has slightly altered it. Simon, a grey-haired merchant, is married to the lovely Bianca. One night, returning home, he finds there the young nobleman Guido Bardi making love to Bianca. Simon, concealing his jealousy, offers Guido some of his expensive wares, and Guido proposes to pay him a large sum of money in exchange for Bianca. "She is not for sale, my lord," replies Simon; "she's only a humble tradesman's wife!" But he knows that the only way to save his honour is to kill Guido, and, in a clever, subtle way, challenges him to fight. Bianca is delighted, for Guido is young and her elderly husband is no match for him. "Kill him!" she whispers to the youth as the two stand sword in hand. But it is Guido who is killed. And Bianca stands by and watches the boy's death struggle with a smile, looking admiringly at her husband. "Why did you not tell me you were so strong?" she asks her husband. "Why did you not tell me you were so beautiful?" he answers. And they fall into one another's arms. The difficult rôle of Simon was superbly played by M. Jehan Adès.

NEXT came a two-act play by MM. Camille Lemonnier and Pierre Soulaine. It is called *Le Droit au Bonheur*, and the scene is laid in a small Norwegian town. Annah, a pretty young woman, is married to Dideri Gerpach, a feeble, inoffensive creature. His father was a rich shipowner, but by his indolence and laziness Dideri has lost his fortune. His days are passed in smoking and idling the time away between his wife and his friend Jorg Sange. The latter is the reverse of Dideri. Intelligent and active, he has a bold scheme, which is to build dwelling-houses for the poor where at a low price they can be comfortably lodged. Annah is filled with admiration for him, and has become his mistress. Dideri does not know this, but when he attempts to kiss her she repels him. Dideri cries and moans, and asks his friend Peetersen for advice, for Peetersen's matrimonial life has not been a happy one, and he has some knowledge of women. The fact is that Peetersen's first wife betrayed him shamefully, whereupon he divorced her and married again. Since then the woman has gone from bad to worse, and Peetersen never leaves off thinking of her, and accusing himself with being the indirect cause of her ruin, because he, too, was not blameless. Peetersen has no advice to offer to Dideri, and both men look at one another with pitiful eyes. But Jorg Sange, a straightforward man, will not deceive Dideri any longer, and tells him bluntly that he loves Annah and that she is his mistress. Dideri staggers. He suffers cruelly, and for a moment thinks of putting an end to his life. But he has not the courage to do so. Fate is against him, and he bows his head before the inevitable. The interpretation was excellent in every way.

THE Comédie-Française made a decided hit with the revival of *Marion Delorme*, which brings in every night the maximum, *i.e.*, £360, and seats are booked three weeks in advance. The rehearsals are in full swing of Henry Kistemacker's four-act play *La Rivale*, likely to be produced towards the 10th of next month. The strong cast will include Mlle. Piérat, Mlle. Berthe Cerny, Mlle. Mitzy-Dalti, and MM. Grand, Delaunay, Siblot, Numa, and Croué.

MME. DUDLAY and M. Baillet will leave the house of Molière at the end of the year with the pension to which they are entitled. They asked the committee whether, after January 15, they might accept engagements at other Paris theatres, and obtained the necessary consent.

AN interesting novelty at the Opéra-Comique next month will be *Le Chandelier*, founded on Alfred de Musset's famous comedy. The libretto is by MM. de Caillavet and R. de Flers, for which M. André Messager has written the music. There will be five tableaux: the promenade in a small provincial town, Jacqueline's room, the garden of the notary André, a supper at André's, and Jacqueline's room. MM. Fugère, Dufranne, Jean Périer, Francelle, and Mme. Marguerite Carré will appear in the principal rôles.

THE Théâtre de la Gaîté management has given us a revival of *La Fille de Madame Angot*. Despite the new dresses and elaborate mounting, it appeared woefully old-fashioned, and although in the French provinces the operette still retains its hold upon the public, here in Paris it is not likely to have a very long run, unless the strangers—of whom the city is very full—come to the rescue.

Now that so many of Alexandre Dumas fils' old works are revived, it seems strange that his heirs do not allow his *Route de Thèbes* to be produced. It was almost finished when the author died; in fact, there are only a few scenes wanting, which M. Paul Hervieu has kindly offered to add. The play contains a violent attack on journalism. Dumas, who liked good Press notices, was not over-anxious to have it produced, and, probably for that reason, did not finish it.

THE WOMAN FROM SCOTLAND YARD

A Drama, in Four Acts, by George Edwin Clive and Alex C. Grant, played for the first time on any stage at the Royal Osborne Theatre, Manchester, on Monday, May 23.

Sir James Stanhope .....MR. CHARLES GRAHAM
Harry Stanhope ....MR. GEORGE EDWIN CLIVE
Paul Obanoff .....MR. ALEX C. GRANT
Ivan Vassilietch .....
Algernon Fitzmaurice .....MR. WALTER CLARKE
Jack Brown .....MR. ROBERT CROMWELL
Sergius Strogoff .....MR. FRANK LESTER
Inspector Marsh .....MR. JAMES BARON
James Farren .....MR. ARTHUR E. KENTO
Antonio Bartoldi .....MR. JOHN ROBERTS
Boris Isaacowitch .....MR. FRANK CONGREAVES
Sergeant Hill .....MR. ERNEST FAULKNER
Lady Mary Stanhope .....MISS EMILIE MONEY
Mary White .....MRS. SIDNEY BARRISFORD
Edith Mayne .....MISS CHRISSIE DUNBAR

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Messrs. Clive and Grant's play, *The Woman From Scotland Yard*, which was introduced to the public for the first time at the Royal Osborne Theatre, Manchester, on Monday last, is compounded of the usual elements which go to the making of conventional melodrama. It purports to confound vice and exalt virtue, after a series of more or less strenuous encounters of the one against the other. Like most dramas, it is not overburdened with probability as a working condition, or it could not exist; but its sensations are at least as acceptable as those of a large number of current plays of its kind. To begin with, there is a murder in a storm at night on the Devon cliffs, the victim being the father of Harry Stanhope, the absentee son, who is thus to be robbed of his inheritance, and who subsequently moves through the story in the rôle of hero. The culprits are Paul Obanoff and—by implication—Lady Mary Stanhope, the latter being, in fact, a spurious wife of the dead Sir James, and in reality a very questionable personage known elsewhere as Marie La Rouge. Her real husband is in evidence, a stupid dude named Algernon Fitzmaurice, "whom all the girls call Goo-Goo"; but his doings have no influence in affairs until, nearly at the end, he lets out the secret of his relationship to Lady Mary Stanhope, and afterwards, when villainy is confounded, announces Harry Stanhope's right to the family wealth. The function of "the Woman from Scotland Yard" is to attempt to do, by means conveniently slow, what a man from Scotland Yard would have done at the end of the first act—namely, arrest Paul Obanoff on suspicion of having murdered Sir James Stanhope. In the course of the play she makes one bold attempt to do this, and actually handcuffs Paul, but he easily gets the best of it, and is only prevented from doing away with the lady by the lucky but inexplicable appearance of Harry Stanhope on the scene. In short, the lady is more useful in the "curtains" and the rather slender love interest than formidable on behalf of Scotland Yard. She is, neverless, a vital figure by reason of the expectation that waits upon her movements; and, besides, she is very well impersonated by Miss Chrissie Dunbar, who makes the most of the lines and business with which the part provides her. As Harry Stanhope Mr. George Edwin Clive has the right tone and attitude; but it is not easy to understand why he should connive at a meeting of Nihilists in his rooms, unless it be to suit the authors' purpose of making him contribute to the heroic climax, in which the woman-detective saves him from the shooting of the unmasked Obanoff, who has penetrated the Nihilists' haunt in disguise. Later, he is chloroformed by Obanoff's creatures, and conveyed to a crypt, where he is chained up and ill-used by means of the Russian knout. From this terrible plight Lady Stanhope would save him, she having the key of his chains; but the condition is that he shall return her love for him, which he cannot do; he knows, moreover, that Edith Mayne, the ubiquitous woman-detective, is concealed behind a pillar at his elbow, and that she—or the police who are somewhere at hand—will get him out of it. A fight for the key ensues between the two women. It is not a graceful struggle, but virtue triumphs; and the upshot is the union of the lovers in the presence of the defeated and handcuffed Obanoff. The latter has a big share of the sinister work to do; in appearance he is extremely villainous (in a handsome and gentlemanly way); and his foreign accent is quietly and well conveyed. As Lady Mary Stanhope Miss Emilie Money shows herself possessed of dramatic power; and in addition to the follies of Algernon Fitzmaurice, portrayed effectively by Mr. Walter Clarke, light interest is contributed very smartly by Mr. Robert Cromwell as Jack Brown, and cleverly enhanced by Mrs. Sidney Barrisford as Mary White. The remaining parts are small, but adequately done; and the play, on the whole, seems likely to have a vogue.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

An interesting performance of Puccini's pathetic opera, *Madama Butterfly*, was given on Friday, May 17, with the same cast as on its first production at Covent Garden in July, 1905. Mlle. Destinn again gave a striking and artistic impersonation of the unhappy Japanese girl; while Signor Caruso as Pinkerton sang with his wonted charm, giving a most impressive and beautiful rendering of the great love duet with Mlle. Destinn in the first act, and singing with passionate fervour in the tragic closing scene of the opera. The part of Sharpless, the kind-hearted Consul, was admirably undertaken by that clever artist, Signor Scotti; and Mme. Lejeune, as the devoted attendant Suzuki, deserved the warmest praise. In the unthankful part of Pinkerton's wife Mme. Paulin did all that was possible; and the minor parts of Goro, Il Principe, Yamadori, Lo Zio Bonzo, and Yukusidé were cleverly sustained by Signor Zucchi, Signor Gianoli, Signor Marcoux, and Signor Galetti. The scenery and stage effects were excellent, and Signor Campanini secured a capital interpretation of the charming orchestral numbers in Puccini's delightful score.

On Monday Wagner's opera, *Tannhäuser*, was given for the first time this season, and great interest was manifested in the production, as the invaluable services of Dr. Richter had been secured as conductor, and a fine performance of the opera was given. Frau Fleischer-Edel proved a dramatic and vocally interesting Elisabeth, singing beautifully the invocation to the Hall of Song, and acting with considerable power and expression in the great scene of the second act, where Elisabeth intercedes for Tannhäuser. Herr Knote's Tannhäuser was acted with conviction, but vocally the artist was somewhat disappointing. The Wolfram of Mr. Whitehill was superbly sung and acted; and Herr Knüpfer made a dignified and picturesque figure of Hermann. Herr Neetan, Mr. John Harrison, Mr. Frederic Austin, and Herr Raboth were entirely successful in the parts of Walther, Heinrich, Biterolf, and Reinmar; while Mme. Agnes Nicholls sang the music of the Shepherd charmingly. The opera was handsomely mounted, and the orchestra, under the famous conductor, gave a fine performance of the great overture. Mlle. Destinn appeared as Venus and sang most artistically, and mention must also be made of the intelligent acting and singing of the chorus.

On Tuesday night Mme. Melba made her first appearance this season in the part of Mimi in Puccini's *La Bohème*, and received a most enthusiastic welcome from a brilliant house. The great prima donna sang with her accustomed charm, although evidently sparing herself owing to her recent indisposition. Signor Caruso repeated his splendid performance in the character of Rodolfo, and the rest of the cast was the same as on a former occasion, Signor Campanini again conducting.

"HER ROAD TO RUIN."

A Drama, in four acts, by Frederick Melville, produced at the Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, on Monday, May 20.

Frank Temple .....MR. ERNEST E. NORRIS
Tom Wells .....MR. A. B. IMESON
Phillip Hardy .....MR. J. C. AUBREY
Mr. Derwent .....MR. WILLIAM LYNTON
Fritz .....MR. HARRY WIMPENNY
Karl .....MR. HARRY A. CLARKE
Dicky Gerald .....MR. F. C. BROOKE
Inspector Homewood ....MR. WILLIAM BROOKE
Billy Boots .....MR. FRED INGRAM
Bill Grimes .....MR. THOMAS HENRY
Sir John Lewis .....MR. WILLIAM DEMPSEY
May Willoughby..MISS MAUDE STEWART DREWRY
The Bishop .....MR. DANE CLARKE
Charles Cholmondeley .....MR. JACK DENTON
Sal Briggs .....MISS MAY MORDAUNT
Lottie Baker .....MISS JESSIE STEVENS
The Scorcher .....MISS MARY HALSTEAD
Clara Seaweed .....MISS LUCY BENTLEY
Wardress .....MISS VIOLET CANE
Jennie Crackling .....MISS MARIE WRIGHT
Mary Dawson .....MISS GRACE LESTER
Jess Willoughby .....MISS EVA MOSS

Mr. Frederick Melville's latest production met with the unqualified approval on Monday evening of a Bank Holiday audience. *Her Road to Ruin* is a play in which there is a wealth of incidents, tragic and comic, and the scenes are adequately staged and lavishly mounted. The play opens in a scene entitled "The Bishop's Palace." The Bishop has a ward, May Willoughby, whose sister Jess is acting as a secretary in the palace. May Willoughby marries Frank Temple, the curate of Brandon, and as to Jess—well, there seems some little uncertainty about her love affairs. Phillip Hardy, a nephew of the Bishop, is supposed to be her lover, but his love is of the kind that requires financial encouragement to keep it warm. He induces the girl to commit an act of dishonesty, by way of interference with a cheque book, which gets her dismissed. In the meantime a local girl named Mary Dawson has been taken advantage of by Phillip Hardy, and there is a child. Mary Dawson disappears, and Phillip attempts—and succeeds for the time being—to throw the blame upon the curate. The Bishop believes the false story, and orders Frank Temple to leave Brandon for ever. May refuses to believe that her husband is guilty of the charge laid at his door, and she asserts her intention of accompanying him wheresoever he goes. We are next taken to London, where Jess Willoughby has a flat. She is interviewing an elderly gentleman and she arranges to meet him later on the Embankment. And here it can be mentioned that she is merely the decoy of a party of thieves and forgers, of whom Philip Hardy is the head. As the old gentleman leaves her, Jess is visited by Tom Wells, who, we are told, is a poor journalist, and who, it must be admitted, cuts a rather dismal figure in the play. He is heart and soul in love with Jess, and he is anxious that she should give up her wicked life. However, as might be expected, his well-meant warnings only meet with scorn from the girl, who, after his departure, disguises herself with the aid of a mask and man's cloak, and ventures forth in search of her victim, whom she meets under the shadow of the Sphinx, and dispossesses him of his wife's jewels and his money by threatening to shoot him. Immediately afterwards Phillip comes upon the scene, assists her to change her disguise, and together they adjourn to the Savoy Hotel for supper. In the restaurant are the curate's wife and Tom Wells, who are joined by Frank Temple. Frank is on the point of giving Phillip Hardy a thrashing when the latter calls for the protection of the police, and two constables and an inspector enter. The appeal to the law proves to be the undoing of Jess, and of at least one of Phillip's schemes, for the stolen jewels are discovered in the girl's possession, and she is promptly placed under arrest. Questioned by the police, Phillip renounces the girl, escaping justice in that way. May pleads for her sister, but it is, of course, hopeless. The following scene is given up to hearty, boisterous comedy. One Billy Boots, who is in love with a pretty chambermaid, is putting the damsel through a rehearsal of a part he has secured for her in a sketch, and the efforts of the couple are intensely funny. We are now shown the cold, grim gateway of Holloway Prison. It is the day for Jess's release on ticket-of-leave. Tom Wells is here, so is Charles Cholmondeley, acting on behalf of Phillip Hardy. The girl has to choose with whom she will go, and she elects to go with Tom. Unfortunately, however, Jess returns to her old life, and we see her in Piccadilly Circus, where she meets with another of Phillip's victims—Mary Dawson, now a human wreck. Mary warns her of the life she is leading, and attempts to dissuade her from pursuing it. The scene ends with the death of Mary Dawson, surrounded by the Bishop, the curate, and May. Before the poor girl dies she exonerates Frank Temple from the charge which had been made against him, and inmplicates Phillip Hardy. In the last act retribution comes to the guilty parties, and reparation and reward to the innocent.

Mr. Ernest E. Norris, as the curate, typifies the manliness and the bravery of a man passing under the shadow of another's crime in an interesting and thoroughly capable manner; and Mr. A. B. Imeson enacts the rôle of the poor journalist with an intelligent realisation of the author's ideas. We have seen a few journalists in our time, but we do not recollect having met with one quite so humble, so meek of spirit, and so miserable as this Tom Wells. Miss Eva Moss distinguishes herself in the tragic rôle of Jess Willoughby, and acts with an intensity that gives to her impersonation a convincing realism. Miss Grace Lester also does much good work in the pathetic rôle of Mary Dawson, and her death scene is particularly affecting. Mr. J. C. Aubrey is a vigorous Phillip Hardy, and imparts the necessary brutality of speech and manner to the part; and Mr. Dane Clarke is dignified and reserved as the Bishop. Miss Maude Stewart Drewry charms everyone with her engaging characterisation of the part of May Willoughby, the curate's wife, and she is sweet, pretty, and sympathetic throughout. Mr. Fred Ingram is extremely amusing as Billy Boots; and Miss May Mordaunt as Sal Briggs and Miss Marie Wright as Jennie Crackling also work hard and successfully in their respective rôles. Mention should likewise be made of the able performances of Mr. Jack Denton as Charles Cholmondeley, Mr. William Dempsey as Sir John Lewis, Mr. William Lynton as the lawyer, and Mr. F. C. Brooke as Dicky Gerald.

CASTLE THEATRE, RICHMOND.

Under the direction of Mr. Eric Lane, a clever company of lyric entertainers have held the boards here this week with gratifying results. The programme offered is one of sterling excellence. Special mention may be made of Miss Beatrice Wellings, a delightful soprano; of Mr. Harry Bennett, a humorist of no mean ability; of Mr. St. Clair Edwards, a distinctly talented baritone. Miss Adie Lewis adds considerably to the success of the evening; as does also Mr. Will Mayne, a comedian of refined order, whose contributions are keenly appreciated. In addition to the onerous duties of manager, Mr. Eric Lane is a host in himself, and does much to enhance the excellence of a really admirable programme. His song, "Good-night, No. 1," with a chorus of the company in night attire, quite tickles the risible faculties of the audience.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

"THE YOUNG LIEUTENANT."

A Comic Opera, in Two Acts, written by Herbert Dawson and A. F. Allen Towers; music by E. A. Smith; lyrics by Herbert Dawson; produced at the Royal Artillery Theatre, Woolwich, by Mrs. Ann Hughes' company on Monday, May 20.

Admiral Sir Stoke Newington .....MR. CAMPBELL BISHOP
1st Lieut. Charles Layhurst .....MR. WILFRED NORMAN
2nd Lieut. Reginald Greenlaws.MR. E. B. DAVIS
3rd Lieut. Harry Summers .....MR. DOUGLAS PHILIPS
Duke of Bowminster.....MR. L. C. HUGHES
Bill Barnacle .....MR. RICHARD CUMMINGS
Jack Plane .....MR. GEORGE ROBERTSON
Bob Bruiser .....MR. BERT BURTON
Jem Fellowes ....MR. A. E. DRINKWATER, JUN.
Dick Bouncer .....MR. FRED PAYNE
Dowager Lady Harlington.MISS MADELINE STONE
Lady Winifred Archer ....MISS MADGE DAVIES
Lady Evelyn Archer ....MISS MADGE FERWIN
Mother Price .....MISS MAUD ESDAILE
Marjorie Playfair ....MISS KATHLEEN EMMITT
Kitty Green .....MISS VIOLET CAMPBELL
Nellie Brown .....MISS VIOLET BRAHAM
Polly Price .....MISS NELLIE WIGLEY

This pretty little theatre—the gunners' playhouse—under the able management of Mr. Henry Swinerd, was filled on Monday evening last by an appreciative throng desirous of making the acquaintance of *The Young Lieutenant*, and wish him success on his first cruise, and we may here state that the harbour-bar was crossed not only in perfect safety, but with much éclat. The play, which is of a nautical type and well written, brings us back to the time of "Nelson's glorious days," when the wooden walls of Old England were the pride of the nation. It deals with the two forcible human arguments—love and duty. The plot, as is customary in plays of this description, is of slender design, but of sufficient strength to carry the interest of the audience to the happy finale. The music is lively and well suited to the theme, particularly the songs "Love or duty," "The beautiful, beautiful sea," "Tell me, oh, tell me," and "Nelson's glorious days." Several of the choruses were also most effective.

In the first scene, "Outside the Mermaid's Tavern, Portsmouth," we are introduced to 3rd Lieut. Harry Summers (the Young Lieutenant), whose ship is on the eve of sailing, but whose mind is much perturbed at the thought of leaving his lady-love, Marjorie Playfair, who has been affianced to a nobleman against her wish. Harry utters the thought that Friday is an unlucky day to sail, and is overheard by Dick Bouncer, the rat-catcher and landlubber. Dick has refused to join either the army or the navy, although his pretty Polly Price "has a decided leaning towards a man in uniform," but he is eventually taken—much against his will—by the press gang. Thereupon he attempts to delay the departure of the ship by getting the men to mutiny, telling them the remarks of his officer which he had overheard.

In the second scene—the quarter-deck of H.M.S. Britannia—we find that Harry has been accused of raising the mutiny, and is sentenced by Admiral Sir Stoke Newington to be court-martialed. Marjorie intercedes for him, but to no purpose; but Polly insists on Dick confessing his hand in the affair, which he does reluctantly. A signal being received that Trafalgar has been won, there is no need for the ship to weigh anchor, so all ends happily.

Mr. Douglas Philips as the Young Lieutenant has a part which suits him particularly well, and the songs, "Love or Duty" and "Queen of my dreams," are well rendered. Mr. Fred Payne as Dick Bouncer provides the merriment of the evening, being a comedian of high merit. He makes the most of his opportunities, his song, "Work, work, work," being sung in a very droll manner. Mr. Campbell Bishop as the light-hearted Admiral sustained his rôle with distinction, and was particularly amusing in his love-making scene with Lady Harlington. Mr. L. C. Hughes was well fitted with the part of the Duke of Bowminster, his song, "The foibles of Society," being well received. Bill Barnacle was well portrayed by Mr. Richard Cummings, his rendering of the robust song, "In Nelson's glorious days," meeting with hearty approval. Mr. Wilfred Norman and Mr. E. B. Davis as 1st and 2nd Lieutenants respectively sustained their parts admirably. Miss Nellie Wigley made a charming Polly Price, and scored greatly in both acts, her rendering of the songs, "The beautiful, beautiful sea," and the duet with Dick, "The cult of jealousy" (by A. F. A. Towers), being received with well-merited applause. Miss Kathleen Emmitt represented Marjorie Playfair with much dramatic skill, and was delightful in her songs, "Tell me, oh, tell me," and in the duet with Harry, "If admirers thou hast many." Miss Maud Esdaile made an excellent Mother Price, her efforts affording much amusement. The part of the Dowager Lady Harlington was in the capable hands of Miss Madeline Stone, her song of "Love matured" giving her an opportunity for the display of her fine contralto voice. Miss Madge Davies as Lady Winifred Archer and Miss Madge Ferwin as Lady Evelyn Archer gave great assistance; as did Miss Violet Campbell and Miss Violet Braham. Miss Dorothy Shaw in a pas seul danced herself into favour. Mr. George Robertson, Mr. Bert Burton, and Mr. A. E. Drinkwater, jun., gave great assistance in their respective parts. The powerful chorus and orchestra were under the direction of Mr. Alex Humphreys. A word of praise must be given to Mr. A. F. Allen Towers, the producer and stage-manager.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.

The usual Bank Holiday amusements attracted large numbers to the People's Palace on Muswell Hill. Notwithstanding the unsettled state of the weather, a successful hot-air balloon ascent and parachute descent were undertaken, followed later by a right-away balloon ascent, M. Auguste Gaudron, the aeronaut, being responsible for the arrangements. In the Central Hall, three variety entertainments were given. In the Bijou Theatre, Mr. Athelstane Lee's Pall Mall Entertainers submitted humorous and refined performances. The zoological section in the Conservatory had fresh additions, and visitors were constant throughout the day. Side-shows in the Corridor Hall and Industrial Hall apparently were all doing good business. Messrs. James Pain and Sons gave a firework display on the lake island, and the brilliancy of the rockets, which introduced every known colour in pyrotechny, evoked general admiration. In the theatre, Mr. Charles W. Poole's myriorama and variety entertainment, with animated pictures, were very welcome. Miss Daisy Graham, with her collection of trained birds and her pretty little baby dog Nap, won much favour. The Almo Trio, including Miss Myria Almo, introduced a clever comedy bar act. Leonard and Mac kept everyone in good humour by their witticisms. Mr. Harry Stewart did well as a protean artist. Little Doretta, acrobatic dancer, proved to be delightfully entertaining. Massona, the comedy juggler, showed originality. Kitty Woodford's dog circus and orchestra provoked much mirth; and the sketches and scenes introduced by the myriorama were of the greatest excellence. It remains throughout the week.

AT the annual meeting of the Touring Managers' Association, held on March 27 at their club premises, at Savoy Mansions, Strand, the subject of certain resident managers' contracts was fully discussed, and it was decided to call a meeting of the touring managers running dramas for Friday next at 12.30. The Association has offered the use of their offices, and all touring managers, whether members or non-members, are invited to attend the meeting.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

THE widow and the family of the late Mr. G. Adney Payne ask us to express their thanks for the kind sympathy which has been shown to them in their recent sad bereavement, and regret that the large number of letters and telegrams they have received prevents them from acknowledging each individually.

A LADIES' committee is being formed to support Miss Marie Lloyd at the Benevolent Fund dinner at the Trocadero, on Sunday, June 9. The novelty of a lady chairman is regarded with much favour by the profession, and the absolute necessity of immediate help should add immense force to the special pleading of so popular a queen of variety. We may call attention to Mr. Horace Marriott's letter in another column.

MESSRS. FRED AND M. ABRAHAMS, the proprietors of the Queen's Palace, Poplar, are giving the proceeds of the two performances on Friday evening, May 31st, in aid of the exchequer of that most deserving institution, the Poplar Hospital, which is much in need of funds. Mr. Jack Woolf, who is taking great interest in the matter, will be glad to hear from artists disposed to offer their services in this good cause.

THE annual concert in aid of the Benevolent Fund of the Amalgamated Musicians' Union will take place on Sunday at the Queen's Hall, commencing at 7 p.m. A picked orchestra of about 200 performers will play a selected programme, under the directorship of Mr. J. M. Glover, L.P., Mayor of Bexhill, and musical director Drury-lane Theatre; Mr. Frank Tours, late conductor, Prince of Wales's Theatre; and others.

SWIMMING will form part of the entertainment at the Crystal Palace in connection with the V.A.F. Sports on June 27. There will be a 100yds. championship, the entrance fee to which will be 2s. 6d. Also a 50yds. handicap, entrance fee 1s. An exhibition of high diving has also been arranged. It is proposed to give a six-guinea silver cup for the championship and three gold medals for the handicap. The second and third are being presented by Miss Agness Hazel and Mr. Michael Nolan.

FURTHER donations towards the prizes have Mildare, 10s.; Tom Woottwell, 10s.; Orpheus, 2s.; G. Collins, 2s. The swimming is being organised by Chas. Mildare, and owing to the fact that Tom Woottwell will be in Hull, and therefore unable to compete, he has been appointed handicapper. Entries will close on Monday, June 17, and should be sent to the Handicapper, Mr. Tom Woottwell, 63, Claremont-road, Highgate, London, N.

THE appointment of Mr. George O. Starr as general-manager of the Crystal Palace shows that the directors of the establishment on the Sydenham slopes are alive to the necessity of securing a man of vast experience in the acquisition of novelties. Mr. Starr, who is an American, was originally in the medical profession, and in his early life made a study of insanity. This led him to recognise the important part played in the life of the worker by public amusements, and his experiences therewith brought him into contact with Phineas T. Barnum. Eventually he became attached to "the greatest show on earth," succeeding in time to the active-management of the business. Mr. J. H. Cozens, late general-manager, has been appointed business-manager and secretary.

MR. GEORGE ROBEY, in introducing the Sheffield Wednesday Football team to the audience at the Canterbury on Thursday evening, said, in winning the English Cup—which the audience could see was not a very large or imposing article—only those who competed for the possession of this coveted prize had any idea of the hard work it entailed. By the side of the English Cup was the Robey Challenge Cup, which was only competed for "for sweet charity's sake." It was at present held by the Aston Villa team. He was proud to say that the Robey Cup had already won the modest sum of £3000 for charities, and he hoped it would long continue the good work—a sentiment that was heartily endorsed by a packed house.

A STARTLING incident happened during the performance by Mr. Conquest and company of *The Freak's Revenge* at the Metropolitan on Saturday night. In the scene a kitchen table is thrown across the stage. On Saturday night the table rebounded into the orchestra, alighting full on the head of a member of the band, and then falling into the stalls. The musician fortunately was not severely hurt, as, after an interval, he pluckily resumed his duty; but the blow must have been a severe one.

ON another page will be found a full account of the Installation Banquet of the Chelsea Lodge, 3098, which has quickly become one of the most important Masonic Lodges connected with the profession. American Masons are accorded a cordial welcome at the monthly meetings of this Lodge.

THE prohibition of the Lord Chamberlain of variety business at the Britannia, Hoxton, to which we referred last week, placed Mr. F. Baugh in a momentary dilemma, from which, however, he extricated himself by putting on three sketches all of which are stage plays duly licensed by the Lord Chamberlain. They are Arthur Watson's *Cruise of H.M.S. Victory*, Frank Hardie's *For the Honour of the Regiment*, and G. M. Marriott's *Oliver Twist*. Arthur Watson's *Cruise of H.M.S. Victory* proved such a success that Mr. Baugh at once offered to engage him for the two following weeks, but owing to previous bookings he was unable to accept.

CHIEF CONSTABLES throughout the country are, so Mr. Herbert Gladstone says, to draw the attention of managers of places of entertainment to the undesirability of permitting anything on the stage that may conduce to casting ridicule on the wearers of His Majesty's uniform, or which may have a tendency to interfering with recruiting. The comic policeman, we hope, is not threatened.

MESSRS. TOM BURROWS (the club-swinger) and Henry Burton, both of whom are Australians, have accepted the challenge thrown out by Messrs. Jackson and McLaren, the Australian tree-fellers, now appearing at the London Hippodrome. The contest, which is for £100, will be decided at the Hippodrome during the evening performance on June 7.

MR. ALFRED LESTER, the Lost Policeman of *The New Aladdin*, who has finished his engagement in *A Restaurant Episode* at the Palace Theatre, commences a twenty weeks' tour of the principal provincial variety houses on June 3. He has just received an offer for the leading comedy part in a new musical comedy to be produced under a well-known management in London next Easter, but his engagement to Mr. George Edwardes, to whom he returns in the autumn, has prevented his acceptance.

WHILE lowering the fireproof curtain of the London Pavilion recently, a scene-shifter unfortunately came into collision with the counter-weight. This started swinging from side to side, and finally struck a fire tap, deluging the stage and flooding the orchestra. Musicians stood knee deep in the impromptu pond, and Whit Cunliffe had to make his stage entry through a box, singing in front of the fireproof curtain.

THE new Grand Pier, Weston-super-Mare, was opened there on Thursday, the 16th. Entertainments commenced on Whit-Monday, when the popular festival was kept up by crowded audiences of trippers enjoying music, fun, and gaiety.

THE New Hippodrome, Portsmouth, an important addition to South Coast variety theatres, was opened on Monday on the twice-nightly system, with Mr. Nelson Barry as resident-manager for the company. Miss Alice Esty sang the Miserere scene from *Il Trovatore*, under the conductorship of Mr. Sydney Payne; and other turns included the Brothers Griffiths, Miss May Moore Duprez, Mr. Jan Rudenyi, Mr. Henry A. Moore, Alburtus and Millar, Miss May Mars, Mr. Charles J. Johnson, and Jack and Evelyn.

MISS MARIE TEMPEST received the heartiest of welcomes from her Portsmouth admirers when she went to the famous naval port on Friday, the 17th, to lay the commemoration stone of the New Hippodrome for Mr. Walter de Frece. That gentleman met her at the Town Station, and presented her with a lovely bouquet of pink carnations and white roses. Miss Tempest's appearance on the stage of the new house on the arm of Mr. Walter de Frece was the signal for an outburst of hearty applause. She was accompanied by her mother. Also of the party were Mr. Jack de Frece (chairman of directors) and Mrs. de Frece, Mr. de Frece, sen., and Mr. Mouillot (directors), and Mr. Bertie Crewe (the architect) and Mrs. Crewe.

ADDRESSING the audience, Mr. Walter de Frece, after speaking of the house and its entertainments, said he was in great hopes at one time or another of welcoming Miss Tempest there in a more artistic capacity. He then presented a silver trowel to Miss Tempest, on behalf of Mr. Bertie Crewe, the architect, and an ivory mallet from the contractors, and expressed his extreme appreciation of her kindness in coming down from London to perform that ceremony.

WHEN the applause had subsided, Miss Tempest stepped smilingly forward and delivered herself of a pretty little speech. She could not tell them, she said, the pleasure it gave her to come down for that ceremony, and she thanked them from the bottom of her heart for the very royal reception they had given her. She hoped that before long she would be able to appear in that theatre. She could not promise them, but sincerely hoped that in the future she might be able to. The speech-making over, Miss Tempest proceeded to the foyer, and, with the presentation implements, duly declared the suitably-inscribed stone well and truly laid, adding her best wishes for the success of the undertaking.

AT Glasgow on Monday Moss's Empires, Ltd., applied to the Sheriff for an interdict to prevent Miss Marie Lloyd from appearing at the Pavilion, their contention being that she was under contract not to appear at a rival establishment in any town where Moss's possessed a hall. The case was continued till Wednesday, when, after a discussion on its pros and cons it was intimated that it was likely to appear in another form in a higher Court, and on this understanding Moss's Empires withdrew their petition for interdict, and the case was thus taken out of Court. Miss Marie Lloyd has duly appeared at the Pavilion each evening during this week.

WE are informed by Moss' Empires, Limited, that they have issued a writ in the High Court of Justice, claiming an injunction to restrain Miss Marie Lloyd from committing breaches of her contract with them, and also for damages.

MISS MARIE KENDALL is appearing at two halls in Glasgow this week, as owing to some confusion of dates, she had been booked for both the Pavilion and the Moss-Stoll Coliseum.

MR. HENRY KEMBLE, manager of the Palace Theatre, Cork, takes his farewell benefit there for a whole week from Monday next to June 1st, by kind permission of the proprietors. He is leaving after three years of solid work, during which he has introduced to Cork exceptionally good programmes. A committee of leading residents are anxious to make the presentation as handsome and as representative as possible, and many of the artists who have appeared under Mr. Kemble's management have responded right royally. There is every probability that the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, the ex-Mayor, and the Parliamentary representatives will lend their valuable co-operation to the project of doing honour to Mr. Kemble. Mr. Wm. Frank Allen, the hon. secretary of the Testimonial Fund, will be pleased to receive donations.

A MOST interesting foursome was played on Friday, the 17th, at Watford on the West Herts Golf Club's beautiful links. The players were C. Ralph Smith (West Middlesex Golf Club) and A. Tingey (West Herts), winners of the John Dewar Challenge Shield, and Dusty Rhodes and Frank Lynne. Lynne and Ralph Smith played against Rhodes and Tingey. After a well-fought game, Lynne and Smith were "one up" when the last green was reached, but Dusty Rhodes cleverly managed to hole a 12-foot put, thus winning the hole and making "all square." Both sides used the new "H.O." ball, which gave every satisfaction.

DESPITE the cold weather and the showers at the commencement of the proceedings, there were 5000 persons present on Tuesday at the Aston Villa grounds to testify to the success of the organisation of the Birmingham Theatrical and Music Hall Sports. A good deal of interest was shown in the procession, and one of the most effective tableaux was "A Peace Conference," picturing the disastrous results of a Saturday night's argument at home. At the sports the Brothers Egbert—always conspicuous in their comic exertions for the sake of sweet charity—created great amusement on the field. They competed in the Hundred Yards' Costume Race, getting into second and fourth places. The Hundred Yards' Theatrical Managers' Race was won by Mr. Philip Rodway, acting-manager of the Theatre Royal. Mr. Edward Foster, of the Bordesley Palace, was second; and third place was secured by Mr. A. W. Matcham, resident-manager of the Empire.

ON Thursday, when the curtain was rung down for the night at the Hackney Empire, the whole of the staff and some privileged visitors assembled on the stage to do honour to Mr. J. Christie, who, after five years' service at that hall, has obtained a well-deserved promotion at Mr. Stoll's hands. Mr. W. Earle Charles, the assistant-manager, in very well-chosen phrases, commented on the good feeling of the staff towards Mr. Christie, and their regret on the one hand that he was leaving them and their delight that his undoubted abilities had been recognised by Mr. Stoll in a substantial way. In asking Mr. Christie's acceptance of a case of cutlery and silver and an illuminated address, he wished both that gentleman and his wife every happiness and prosperity in the future. Mr. Christie's reply was possibly the briefest on record, as his emotion merely enabled him to thank those present for their kindness. Mr. Johnson, the musical-director, next commented on the happy relations that had always existed between Mr. Christie and his staff, and how pleasant a task it had been to work for him and the success of the theatre. He called upon the staff to extend the same loyalty to the in-coming manager, Mr. Percy Percival, late of the Grand, Wolverhampton.

MISS DOROTHY CHASER, who has played courtly gallants to Miss Adeline Genée's heroines at the Empire for so long, has been secured as principal boy at the Lyceum, and will play the title-rôle in *Robinson Crusoe* at Christmas. An excellent choice indeed!

THE adventures of a ten-pound note was the subject of one of Mr. Tom Costello's most original songs, and scarcely less extraordinary is the story of the loss and recovery by Mr. Sam Poluski of two "flimsies." He had a breakdown recently in his motor-car opposite Portland-road Station, and while remedying matters he guesses that he must have accidentally pulled two "fivers" from his pocket and dropped them. He found out his loss at Camberwell, and, returning to the spot, found the missing notes in the gutter—a wonderful piece of luck indeed!

THE Wanderers, an operatic trio, composed of principals from the Grand Opera, Covent Garden, join the Tivoli programme on Monday. All three have fine voices and a good appearance. They prefer, however, not to disclose their names or identities to the public, so will sing masked. The numbers are to be presented in quite a novel manner, and with something new as regards lighting and effects.

MR. FRED NIBLO, the American raconteur, so popular at the Palace, was on Sunday evening initiated into the Grand Order of Water Rats, King Rat, Mr. James Allison, performing the ceremony. There was a large gathering of the fraternity at the initiation. Mr. Niblo, like Mr. George Golden, belongs to the White Rats of America, who have a new club-house, 1553, Broadway.

MISS EVIE GREENE, who made her variety début at the Palace Theatre on Whit-Monday afternoon, has been chatting with a press representative on her experiences. "I shall never forget my first journey to America, two years ago last December," Miss Greene said; "I found it was extremely cold at night, and somehow, in selecting my wardrobe, I hardly guessed the elements correctly, so I borrowed my brother Frank's pyjamas and a very thick dressing-gown, and one morning I went to my bath in these clothes. When my sister-in-law, Mrs. Frank, came to look for me, she found an array of bath stewards complaining that one of the lads had dared to take a bath in the ladies' bath-rooms. Of course, it was a great joke round the ship, and I was called 'The Laddie' long after we arrived at New York."

MR. WILL OLIVER was at one time a well-known figure on the cinder path, and has several records. Some years ago at Stamford Bridge he walked in a mile handicap for the late Sir Henry Irving's bag, and the late Gus Leach, Will himself, and another competitor breasted the tape together. They all appealed to Bob Watson (referee) for the victory, but to their dismay were informed that the winner (the late Herbert Campbell) who started a few yards from the tape, had already been in and dressed. During a recent visit to Carlisle "Spot" combined business with pleasure, accepting the invitation of the hospitable Signor Pepi for a day's shooting at the popular proprietor's place situated a few miles from Carlisle. Here Oliver and two of his clients—Fred Elton and Frank Leon—had capital sport, over 200 birds falling to their guns the first day. Much surprise was caused by the way the rejuvenated William toppled them over.

AS a writer of popular songs in the early days of the music halls the late Mr. G. W. Hunt became famous, and his friends Mr. Harry Rickards, Miss Fanny Leslie, Mr. Harry Randall, Mr. Felix McGlennon, and Mr. Charles Wilmott have subscribed the necessary sum for erecting a monument to his memory. The following words, which emanate from the Nibs, will be inscribed on the obelisk:—

"IN MEMORY OF G. W. HUNT.

"He wrote many of the People's Songs, and one that during the Russo-Turkish War of 1878 so stirred public enthusiasm as to greatly strengthen the policy of the British Government of the day, and may, therefore, justly claim some influence on the disposal of power in Eastern Europe.

"Not always Kings and Cabinets
Shall guide a people's fate;
A rhyme may wreck an Empire—
A song may save a State."

MR. GEORGE LASHWOOD, the Beau Brummel of the variety stage, who comes to the Hackney Empire next week, is generally endowed with a good chorus song, and one of them, "Don't be shy, girls," nearly converted George into a matrimonial agent. In one of the verses he invites all young girls and fellows who would like introductions to others to confide their difficulties to "Uncle Jarge." In one of the larger towns this had quite an unexpected result. Many letters were received asking for introductions to a "nice young man" or "a dear girl." This correspondence greatly embarrassed Mr. Lashwood, and his first thought was to cut the verse out. Then the idea occurred to him to see the young people one by one. This was done, and in no less than five cases couples were brought together and marriages resulted. "I gave 'em each a wedding present," says he, "and in three cases the grateful couples have named the first arrival after Uncle George, and my latest little 'niece' is called Georgina."

MR. MAC COLLINSON, author of many of the successes played by the Collinson Combination, is engaged on a sketch which should prove of absorbing interest, dealing as it does with the present panic in the wheat pit. The subject is not a new one dramatically, as a drama in four acts entitled *The Wheat King*, produced at the Apollo on April 16, 1904, had for its chief situation a panic in the "pit"—a very fine scene in which Mr. Murray Carson added much to his reputation as an actor.

"MY STATUE OF GRACE," described as a mythical muddle, written and produced by Mr. Alfred M. Loader, introduces once more Miss Adèle Levey to variety audiences. She is supported by Miss Jeannie Weston and Mr. Fred Haming. The sketch made an instantaneous success at Leeds and York, and comes to London in the autumn.

THE Empire Theatre includes in its programme just now one of the most remarkable athletic turns that have ever come to us from America. This is the jumping act of the "Le Pages," in which the gentleman cuts an apple in half on the head of a lady, rings a bell with his feet while leaping over her, and does other things which are equally startling. Miss Ada Reeve concludes her engagement at the Empire this week, but may be confidently looked for again here at no distant date. It should be added that the beautiful opening scene of *The Débutante*, the Empire's recent ballet, has been incorporated in the programme, which includes, of course, the new ballet, *Sir Roger de Coverley*.

JEN LATONA, who was a child wonder as a trick pianist playing under the name of Jennie Gabrielle, is now the wife of the American musical humorist, Frank Latona. They have circumnavigated the globe three times, have played in the Antipodes, in Egypt, in South Africa, all through the British Isles, on the Continent, in Russia, and through the Asiatic countries. Mrs. Latona was born in Birmingham, her home being but two or three houses distant from that of Joseph Chamberlain, and her family frequently attended the garden parties which the Chamberlains gave at Highbury.

MISS CLARA VANCE will, at the Palace Theatre on June 3, give Londoners an opportunity of hearing how the nigger, or coon, of the Southern States of America really talks and acts. Miss Vance hails from Kentucky, the country of "blue grass, horses, pretty women, and moonshine whisky." She is a complete mistress of the buck-step, and has known the characteristics of the coon from her childhood. Her numbers will include "Nothing from nothing leaves you" and "Mariar," but her principal song is likely to be "He is a cousin of mine," by Cecil Mack, of "Teasing" fame, the music being by Chris Smith and Silvio Hein, who has been responsible for many popular Trans-atlantic ditties. Messrs. Francis and Day are publishing this last number.

MR. GUS ELEN appeared with his own company at the Royal Victoria Hall on Saturday evening. Since the strike, he states, there has been a change in the attitude of certain managers towards him, and it is for this reason that he has decided to fill the gaps between his still numerous engagements by running his own companies at halls in different parts of the country.

MR. BERT H. DELMAR and the Comets have scored a success at the Victoria Pier, Folkestone, this week. The local Press, speaking of Mr. Delmar's original programmes, pronounced them to be the best in their line seen on the pier for many seasons past. Mr. Robert Forsyth is to be congratulated on his smart re-booking of the combination for June 17.

ERNESTO, the well-known equilibrist, has left for Australia to fulfil an engagement made by Tom Pacey with Mr. Harry Rickards. Miss Annie Laurie, through her great success in Australia, has been re-engaged through Tom Pacey by Mr. Harry Rickards for a further eight weeks, making a twenty-four weeks' engagement.

MR. JAMES W. GLOVER, the Worshipful Mayor of Bexhill-on-Sea and the popular conductor of Drury Lane Theatre, is the managing-director of the new Winter Gardens, which are to be a centre of musical effort as they are at Bournemouth. A freehold site at Brockley-road, overlooking Egerton Park, has been secured on favourable terms. The capital of the company is to be £10,000.

JAMES E. HARDY, the well-known high-rope performer, appears to be making a "go" of it on the other side of the Atlantic, and has proved that it is not always safe to assert that "a prophet is never honoured in his own country." His act proved so attractive last summer, both in Canada and the States, that his date-book for the coming season was filled long before the snow was off the ground. He will appear again this year at several of the most important amusement parks and exhibitions.

THE search for a real Welsh comedian goes on apace. The Harry Lauder of the Principality has yet to arrive, though unless some excellent judges are mistaken, he is on his way. Tom Jones—no relation to Fielding's hero—who appears at the Camden Theatre next week, has all the Welsh quaintness of character, a fine voice, and—most important thing of all—English audiences can understand what he says.

MISS VIRGINIA FRANCES (Maxwell and Frances) is getting better, but she is still confined to her bed, suffering from a very serious attack of ptomaine poisoning, caused by something she ate on her journey from Belfast to London on Sunday, May 12.

THE amateur competition at the Palace of Varieties, Hammersmith, was concluded on Saturday night last. The competition has brought forward some clever turns. The winner of the first prize was Mr. Murray Moore, a comedian, who gave an excellent original comic song. The second prize was won by the Starlings—a male whistler and a lady barefoot dancer; the third by a clever child, Little Sunbeam; and the fourth by Wm. Terry, a swell comedian. A consolation prize and a pair of boots were given to Billy Hobbs, a street singer, who proved a great favourite with the gallery, but, having been in a theatrical troupe at one time, was not considered an amateur, and therefore not eligible.

MR. DAN HENDY, eccentric acrobatic comedian, is now the professional title of Harold, late of the Henderson and Stanley quartette. He is the son of the late Frank Henderson, and has considerable hereditary talent. He opens at the Queen's, Poplar, on Monday.

PERMISSION has been given to Mr. Mendel, the blind pianist, by Messrs. Schott and Co., of Regent-street, W., to have their "Coquetuela," by J. Larregla, arranged as a pianoforte solo with orchestra. The arrangement of it was placed in the capable hands of Mr. W. B. Moore, of the Empire, Glasgow, and produced by Mr. Mendel for the first time at the Empire, Belfast, on Monday with pronounced success.

THE 512th meeting of the Executive Committee of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association was held on Wednesday afternoon, when the following were present: Messrs. J. W. Cragg, C. C. Bartram, Jeff Vendome, Bernard Stavordale, Fred Neiman, Harry Tate, F. Slingsby, Harry Blake, Frank Gerald, and C. Douglas Stuart (secretary). The minutes having been read and confirmed, questions of refunds were dealt with. Mr. F. Massey, of the Cestrian Hotel, Chester, was appointed agent in that town. The weekly statement showed that the amount received was £53 3s., and the number of new members was 54. On the proposition of Mr. Fred Neiman, seconded by Mr. Frank Gerald, it was unanimously decided that the Association give the sum of £60—at the rate of £15 per week for one month—to the Music Hall Benevolent Fund, for the immediate purpose of paying the pensioners of that fund.

THE latest quotations for music-hall shares are as follow: Alhambra, 1½; Canterbury, ½; Empire (15s. paid) 1⅛, ditto (10s. paid) 1⅛; London Pavilion Ordinary 4⅜, ditto Preference 5; London Coliseum, ½; Metropolitan, ⅜; Moss Empire 4⅞, ditto 5 per cent. Preference 4½; Oxford, 6¾; Palace, 12s. 6d.; Tivoli, 6s.; Variety Consolidated Theatres, 13s.

THE flags which decorated the exterior of the Euston on the evening of the 17th inst. were an outward and visible sign that the sixth anniversary of the opening of this popular place of amusement was being celebrated within. The entertainment started at seven o'clock, and it was close on the midnight hour ere the curtain finally fell; so that the closely-packed audience could not complain that they did not get their money's worth as regards quantity. And the quality of the entertainment was equally satisfactory, as the following list of artists who appeared conclusively proves:—T. E. Dunville, Laurie's Juveniles, Hardeen, Wilson Hallett, H. Scott-Leslie, Queenie Essex, Celest, Isabelle Dillon, Mr. and Mrs. Royston-Dene, Frank Harwood, Dorothy Drew, the Brothers Brooks, May Mars, Frank Wood, Kitty Malone, Jennie Alexander, the Ten Loonies, Gertie Gitana, Syd May, G. W. Hunter, the Sisters Anderson, the Stella Troupe, Katie Butler, Jessie Preston, Ernest Montefiore and company, Walter Purvis and company, and Lotto, Lilo, and Otto. The programme concluded with an exhibition of pictures by Ruffell's Bioscope. The arrangements in front of the house received the careful supervision of Mr. Fred McAvoy, the manager, and Mr. E. Rendle, acting-manager.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

MISS EVIE GREENE has scored an unmistakable hit at the Palace Theatre with Paul Rubens's charming song, "The Queen of the Philippine Islands," from *Florodora*. Mr. David Day's firm publish this choice number.

MISS MAY BELFORT, fresh from her American triumphs, has been delighting Chelsea and Metropolitan audiences with her vivacious rendering of Cobb and Edward's march-song, "When Tommy Atkins marries Dolly Gray." Mr. David Day's house has the number in the press.

OTHER songs just acquired by Messrs. Francis and Day include "The dear little lady I took for a walk" (sung by J. W. Ellison), by Chas. Collins and Chas. Ridgewell; "When the orange-blossoms bloom once more," by George Arthurs and C. W. Murphy; "Pretty maid of the Pyrenees," by J. F. Lambe and T. W. Thurban; "Sweet Mary from Dublin," by Felix McGlennon; "I'd be happy in a wigwam with you," by Harry and Fred Godfrey; and "There's a dear little place called England" (Frank Harwood), by H. F. Greenfield.

MISS MABEL GREEN, at the Holborn Empire, has scored a great success with two new songs, published by Messrs. Francis and Day, and the denizens of Olympus take up both choruses heartily. One is C. Wilmott and H. E. Darewski, jun.'s, "Lavender," the other, "When you know you're not forgotten by the girl you can't forget," by Cobb and Edwards.

MR. HARRY LAUDER, who has been an absentee from the Tivoli owing to throat trouble, has published two more songs with Messrs. Francis and Day, the joint productions of Gerald Grafton and himself. They are entitled, "Mrs. Jean McFarlane" and "Is that you, McCallister?" In the current issue of *London Opinion* the eminent comedian has an amusing article on Scotsmen and their appreciation of humour.

AT the Oxford Miss Isabel Dillon is adding further laurels to her already good record with her two dainty songs, "I'll be your Golliwog," by Kennedy Russell, and "Pansy," by Charles Wilmott and Herman E. Darewski, jun., who have just published with Messrs. Francis and Day yet another song of great promise, entitled, "In the valleys of Switzerland."

THE "Sixpenny Pops" issued from Messrs. Francis and Day's Denmark-street branch are steadily progressing towards the four hundredth item, the two new numbers which Manager John Smith is just issuing being Mr. Tom Costello's "Poor old clown" and "When the mocking-bird is singing in the wildwood," a charming song, hailing, we believe, from across the Pond.

MISS FLORRIE FORDE'S latest success is entitled "My silver sunbeam," written and composed by Fred Vypond, which Miss Forde produced this week at the Palace, Bradford. This song proved a very big hit with Bradford audiences on Monday, and will be published by the Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Co.

ANOTHER number which will shortly be published by the same firm is entitled "Your number's up" (Godfrey and Lyle), which Miss Esta Stella is scoring heavily with.

MISS ANNIE PURCELL will produce at the Tivoli next Monday a new song by Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford, entitled "Way down the old canal." This is a novelty number, and is certain to prove an instantaneous hit with this popular artist. The publishing rights have been secured by the Shapiro, Von Tilzer Co.

WHAT is likely to be one of the biggest march songs of the year is "Adieu, little girl," which is being sung all round Hastings and Eastbourne, where it has been introduced by Miss Bessie Butt. The music, by John Neat, is most easily acquired, and the words, by A. E. Sidney Davis, appeal to the sentimental. Feldman and Co., the publishers, have great faith in this number.

THE Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Co., Ltd., have supplied Miss Jennie Johns with a delightful new song, entitled "In my home among the snow," which Miss Johns intends to produce shortly.

A BROADLY humorous duet of a domestic nature, in which the wife is tenderly and sentimentally reminiscent and the husband is brutally sarcastic, has been acquired by Mr. Wallis Arthur, and it will be worked by prominent members of the companies with which he is associated during the seaside season, notably at Mr. Paul Mill's select concerts at Lowestoft. It is called "Do you remember?—Can I e'er forget?" is by H. F. Greenfield, and will suit equally well a drawing-room audience or low comedian and dame in the Christmas season.

LITTLE TICH will open at the Tivoli and Euston on Monday next in a specially-written new "Serpentine" song, entitled "Little Miss Turpentine," by Messrs. John P. Harrington and Jas. W. Tate, who have also equipped the same talented artist with two other comedy numbers, entitled "The General" and "The girl got off at Clapham."

MR. GEORGE LEYTON purposes producing at the Empire, Liverpool, on Monday next Messrs. John P. Harrington and Jas. W. Tate's new military sketch in two scenes, entitled *Lucknow*, which will be produced on a scale of great magnificence, and will shortly be seen at a leading West End music hall.

THAT charming "principal girl," Miss Phyllis Yorke, and Mr. A. Weston will shortly produce a new musical comedy sketch, written and composed by Messrs. John P. Harrington and Jas. W. Tate, entitled *The Dairymaid*. Truly, Messrs. Harrington and Tate seem to be kept remarkably busy with sketch-writing just now.

THAT charming young comedienne, Miss Jose Collins, has been the recipient of much applause from Bank Holiday audiences at the London Pavilion, for her dainty rendering of Messrs. Harrington and Tate's tuneful song-scena, *My Cuban Girl*, which the Monte Carlo Publishing Co. have in the press, and also scored heavily with her successful song, "My tiny firefly," published by the same firm.

THE success achieved by Mr. Wallace Selkirk's naval and military spectacle, *Egypt*, by Messrs. Harrington and Tate, on its original production at the Empire, Sheffield, has been duplicated during the present week at the Ardwick Empire, Manchester, where it has been nightly received with intense enthusiasm by crowded houses.

BOTH Miss Barbara Babbington and Miss Kathleen Gray have been singularly successful at all their London turns during the holiday week with Messrs. Mellor, Laurance, and Gifford's "taking" Dutch song, "I'm going back to the Fatherland," which successful Monte Carlo Company's publication is standing charming Miss Lena Verdi in good stead in the provinces on the Stoll tour.

"IONA," Bert H. Delmar's catchy composition, is becoming popular all round the seaside resorts. This week, at the Pavilion, Folkestone, Mr. Chas. Cardle is being encored nightly for the number. Music-hall permissions may be had from the original singer. The publishers are Price and Reynolds, 41, Berners-street, London, W.

THE "BARRING" CLAUSE.

A stranger visiting the County Buildings, Glasgow, on Tuesday, might have supposed he had inadvertently stepped into a meeting of the members of the music hall profession. Stage celebrities were present in large numbers, several "star" artists being included. That the business on hand was of considerable importance was apparent from the serious manner in which the parties were discussing some points of dispute. Prominent among the foot-light favourites was the well-known comedienne Miss Marie Lloyd, who was accompanied by Mr. Sam Lloyd, manager of the Pavilion Theatre. Sheriff Boyd's chambers were the rendezvous, and there proceedings were resumed in an application at the instance of Moss' Empires, Ltd., against Miss Marie Lloyd, to interdict her from appearing in the Pavilion Music Hall, Glasgow, this week.

Petitioners were represented by Mr. Angus Campbell, who stated to his Lordship that Marie Lloyd had signed a contract in favour of Moss' Empires, Ltd., at a salary of £130 per week, to appear in Glasgow in April, 1908, with the proviso that she would not enter into another engagement within a radius of ten miles up to that date. Notwithstanding the princely salary and the prestige which attached to her, respondent had deliberately entered into another contract with the Pavilion to appear this week. He therefore asked his Lordship for interdict.

Mr. Connell, for the respondent, contended that in the petition there was no reference to any specific loss sustained by the complainers in respect of the engagement by that artist.

The Sheriff: I suppose the loss they apprehend is simply that the public who wish to see this lady will go to the Pavilion and not to their theatre?

Mr. Campbell: That is so.

Mr. Connell (proceeding) said that his point was that this contract with Moss' Empires was not to be implemented until October 13, 1908—or eighteen months hence. He held that the whole contention was most unreasonable, as there could be no loss or injury for such a prospective engagement. There might be a breach of contract, but that was a different matter. What was the artist to do in the interval of the eighteen months? She must get some other engagement or starve. The lady, it was alleged, had signed the contract in September, 1906, but the contract was not to be implemented until October, 1908. There surely could be no loss sustained with such an interval.

The Sheriff: This may be a very harsh condition indeed, but has that condition not been subscribed to by this lady with open eyes?

Mr. Connell replied that that might be, but his Lordship's colleagues had decided against that clause, upon the ground of its unreasonableness.

The Sheriff said he could fancy an artist objecting to sign a document of that sort that contained a clause in those terms, because *prima facie* it sounded unjust and unreasonable; but if the lady did sign, how could she escape?

Mr. Connell admitted that the profession was notoriously lax in business matters.

Mr. Campbell pointed out that Harry Lauder was bound until 1914.

Mr. Connell pointed out further that the Pavilion Theatre had a prior contract with Marie Lloyd, which was not implemented owing to illness. Her present engagement was in fulfilment of that contract.

In pronouncing judgment, Sheriff Boyd said there was quite a sharp point which he could deal with. The desire of the petitioners was to stop a week's engagement actually progressing at the Pavilion because of the week's engagement for next year by Moss' Empires. He was asked for interdict, which was a strong proceeding; but the question for him was quite proper—whether or not that was a reasonable request. Looking at the circumstances broadly and plainly, he did not think it was. He thought the arrangement which was said to have been made was so one-sided as to amount to positive injustice, and was so unreasonable as to make it unlikely that the full effect of that clause was apprehended by this lady when she signed the agreement. Accordingly he did not think that it would be a safe proceeding to grant interdict at this stage. He came all the more readily to the conclusion because he had been told by Mr. Campbell that there was now an instant intention of having the rights of parties tried in an action which might be much more carefully and thoroughly considered than in that day's proceedings.

In view of his Lordship's statement, Mr. Campbell then withdrew his application for the interdict, to which the Sheriff remarked that he thought that was the simplest way, as there was a very large question behind it all.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.

An immense crowd filled every inch of the auditorium on Monday evening, and lustily joined in the airs they knew comprised in that tuneful overture, "Holiday Echoes," written by Mr. H. Petersen, and swingingly played by the orchestra under his direction. A fine beginning of the stage entertainment was made by Prof. McCann's performing dogs. These intelligent and splendidly-trained bow-wows have been seen here before, and on Monday were received with deafening applause. Mr. Percy Hannan, a young American baritone with an excellent voice, at once made himself popular. The young gentleman has a highly-cultivated vocal organ and an easy and agreeable manner. Much approval attended the efforts of the Eight Stella Girls, whose dancing is most attractive, and their rendering of the "Yankee Doodle Girls" most fetching. Miss Jessie Preston long ago made herself a big favourite with Walthamstow audiences, but it is questionable if the accomplished comedienne ever made a bigger success than she is doing this week. Her first song, "Be advised by your dear old father," is rendered in her best style; but she fairly brings down the house with "I love a laddie," a most amusing reply to Harry Lauder's famous "I love a lassie," which, strange to say, that comedian gave on the same boards only last week. The audience seemed reluctant to let Miss Preston off, and she was recalled at least three times. Our old friends, Brown and Le Clerq, once more keep their admirers in a riot of laughter with wildly funny *Black Justice*, which seems to go better, if possible, every time it is witnessed. Mr. Ernie Myers is a comedian who, making his first appearance here, at once establishes himself in popular favour. His "Go away" song is brimful of amusing properties. A couple of artists of whom the Palace audience never tire are Clark and Hamilton, and a perfect roar of applause went up when their number was displayed. They are both in excellent form this week, and their acting in their well-known scena shows no deterioration by frequent repetition; it is as artistic and as laughable as ever. The couple afterwards renew our acquaintance with the graceful melody and dainty dancing of "My Yokohama Queen," which possesses the power of perfect pleasing. The merry, bright, and mirth-provoking sketch, *The Belle of the Orient*, makes a fine wind-up to a good programme. Mr. Joe Peterman repeats his capital impersonation of that amusing Hebrew, Ike Novinski; and is well supported by Messrs. Robert Comber, James Learmouth, Charles Hylton, Joe Beull, and Alex. Chentra—a young actor with a very agreeable singing voice—Miss Dora Langham, and Miss M. Webster. The piece is brightly staged and handsomely

[*Photo by Hana.*

ALBERT LE FRE.

(I.P.M. Chelsea Lodge, No. 3098).

dressed, and is received with every mark of satisfaction. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope show some excellent films.

THE great fête organised by Messrs. J. Wells and Son, of London, on Whit-Monday, at the Castle Grounds, Berkhampsted, proved an immense success. It was well organised, a continuous round of amusements running from two o'clock till past ten at night. The selections of the Band of the 2nd Herts V.B. Bedfordshire Regiment, under the direction of Mr. J. Hager, were much appreciated, and to the two variety performances at 3 and 6 o'clock, under the direction of Mr. George Manning, the following performers contributed:—The Two Weimars, on the elevated wire; Charles Grey, in his high pedestal act and hoop manipulating; the Bennetts (Walter and Tom), eccentric dancers and jugglers; Harry Cardoe, the acrobatic marvel; the Franklins, comedy juggling, tumbling, and knockabout artists; also Frank Lane, comedian, whose name did not appear on the programme. A new innovation, and one very popular, was a large enclosed dancing space. Brightly decorated with Venetian masts and flags at dusk, it was illuminated with a canopy and festoons of Chinese lanterns and large powerful limelights, and was quite a feature.

THE Gordons produced a new farcical sketch, written by J. H. Brownson, entitled *Feathers to Fly With*, on Thursday, at the Empire, Birmingham. The sketch provides fifteen minutes' genuine fun, and should prove a draw. A well-known agent immediately undertook bookings.

MASONS AT WORK.

THE CHELSEA LODGE, No. 3098.

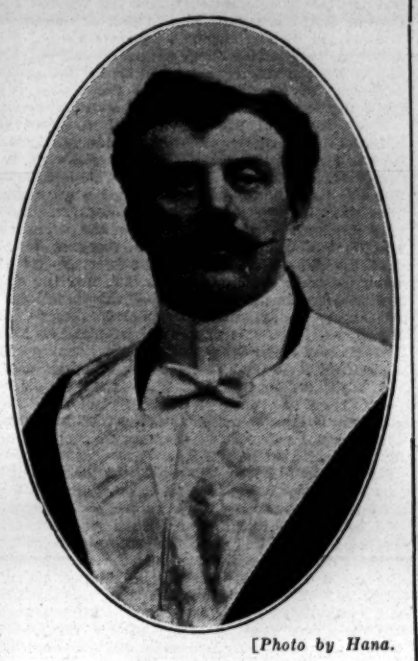
Chelsea Lodge, No. 3098, held its annual meeting on Friday afternoon at Frascati's, Oxford-street, when Mr. Theodore Schreiber (Serpentello) was installed Master for the ensuing year by Mr. Albert Le Fre, who retired from the governorship of the Lodge. The ceremony, which was witnessed by a large gathering of the members and visitors, was most impressively performed by the retiring Master. The Master then appointed and invested his officers, to support him during the forthcoming year, as follows: Mr. G. H. Cobley (Baroni), S.W.; Mr. Walter H. Hitch, J.W.; Rev. H. Heriot Hill, chaplain; Mr. W. S. Lyon, P.M., Treasurer; Mr. C. J. Doughty, secretary; Mr. Harry Bawn, S.D.; Mr. W. F. K. Walton, J.D.; Mr. J. W. Mathews, P.M., D.C.; Mr. Angelo Asher, organist; Mr. G. H. Dyball, I.C.; and Messrs. Clay, Bigny, Sharp, and Lester, stewards; and Mr. J. H. McNaughton, Tyler. At the subsequent banquet, after the usual loyal and Masonic toasts had been duly honoured, Mr. Albert Le Fre, the I.P.M., proposed the health of the worshipful Master, a toast which was rapturously received by all present. Serpentello was received with great cheering. In the course of his reply, he stated that, although, like Othello, he was rude in speech, his heart was in his work, and assured those present that nothing should be wanted on his part to maintain the reputation and usefulness of the lodge. He then retired from the festive board for a short period, during which time Mr. J. W. Mathews occupied the chair, and in proposing the health of the immediate Past Master, took the opportunity of enlightening those assembled on the remarkable growth of the lodge during the short time it had been in existence, showing that it must have been needed by the members of the profession, who had taken advantage of its existence by becoming members, and mentioned that it must be a very proud day for Mr. Lyon, from whose idea the lodge emanated. Amongst statistics, he stated that the lodge had paid away in two years no less a sum than fifty guineas to the Masonic charities, forty odd guineas to its own benevolent fund, and still had a balance, after paying all expenses of every description, of sixty odd pounds. He concluded his remarks by calling upon those present to drink to the health of the I.P.M., wishing him long life and a successful career, and took the opportunity of presenting him with a very massive and handsome silver-gilt cup, emblazoned with the arms of the lodge and suitably inscribed.

Mr. Albert Le Fre expressed his gratitude to the brethren for the handsome cup and jewel which had been presented to him, and assured them that he had only one regret connected with his year of office, and that was that distance had prevented him attending his duties once or twice during the time. The toast of the Visitors was proposed by the W.M., and responded to by the Rev. C. E. I. Wright, P.G.D., Mr. Harry Nicholls, P.G.S.B., and Mr. W. Lestocq, P.M., of the Asaph Lodge. The artists, who appeared under the direction of Messrs. F. Neiman and G. H. Dyball, were Miss Julia Leslie, Miss Linda Dale, Miss Agnes Hansom, Miss Alma Murray, Messrs. Albert Christian, Jimmy Prior, Leo Tell, Tom Mellor, Charles Penrose, E. Leathley, and Miss Viola Russell at the piano. The following members were present: Mr. Albert Le Fre, Mr. T. Schreiber (Serpentello), Mr. G. H. Cobley (Baroni), Rev. H. Heriot Hill, Mr. W. S. Lyon, Mr. C. J. Doughty, Mr. Walter H. Hitch, Mr. Harry Bawn, Mr. A. A. Asher, Mr. G. H. Dyball, Mr. B. A. Bigny, Mr. L. G. Sharpe, Mr. Fred Clay, Mr. James W. Mathews, Mr. J. H. McNaughton, Mr. G. H. Hill, Mr. W. Permané, Mr. T. H. Parker, Mr. Leo Tell, Mr. Fred Neiman, Mr. R. W. Duce, Mr. W. Atlas, Mr. Edwin Brett, Mr. R. E. Wilding, Mr. Frank Hardie, Mr. W. Collinson, Mr. Dan Lipton, Mr. T. S. Burnett, Mr. A. E. Nicklin, Mr. Douglas White, Mr. James Prior, Mr. H. T. Bingham, Mr. Albert Christian, Mr. Hal Chapter, Mr. Fred Farren, Mr. H. K. Ramsden, Mr. Herbert Austin. The visitors were Rev. C. E. L. Wright, P.D.G., Mr. Harry Nicholls, P.G. Std.; Bro. Chas. Cruickshank, A.P.G. Std.; Mr. W. Lestocq, Asaph; J. J. Kern Mozaré, 1929; J. J. Orr, Earl's Court 2765; H. Chenery, Knightsbridge 2978; H. Lindsay, St. Andrew 110; W. H. Wolsey, Kennington 1381; T. Davis, London Welsh 2867; Mr. L. Carson, Savage Club 2190; J. M. Fortune, Sir Walter Raleigh 2432; T. W. Rumble, Caledonian 134; W. H. Goy, Bolingbrook 2417; J. H. Smith, Earl's Court 2765; N. S. Lyon, Joppa 188; G. W. Peachey, Fulham 2512; M. H. McDowell, Skelmersdale 1658.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE PALACE.

Miss Evie Greene, whose delightful personality has for so long lent lustre to the musical-comedy stage, has followed the example of Mr. Hayden Coffin, Miss Marie Tempest, and other theatrical celebrities, and is just now winning immense popularity at the Palace Theatre. From the night in April, 1899, when she appeared at the Lyric as Prince Carlo in *L'Amour Mouillé*—one of the finest impersonations of manly youth that has been contributed to the London stage since the early days of Nellie Farren—until she showed us the *gaucherie* of Sans-Gêne in *The Duchess of Dantzig*, Miss Greene has been the heroine of many histrionic triumphs; and the freedom of her engaging style, her artistic perception, her native wit are all qualities that have contributed thereto. In her new environment she is merely a vocalist, richly gifted, and cultured in the highest degree of a certainty, but without the glamour of a



[*Photo by Hana.*

SERPENTELLO.

(W.M. Chelsea Lodge, No. 3098).

luxurious stage entourage, without the interest imparted by character, dialogue, and plot. And yet how charmingly *distinguée* she is! How sweet are her renderings of simple songs! And what a pretty brogue she has in "The Ninepenny Fidil," a quaint little ditty, in which she assures her audience that "my father and mother were Irish, and I am Irish, too." To "I think," from the graceful pen of the lady who elects to call herself "Guy d'Hardelot," the actress gives a particularly attractive interpretation; and as a reminiscence of one of her most engaging characters—that of Dolores in *Florodora*—she introduces "The Queen of the Philippine Islands," written by Mr. Paul Rubens. In this number her *mezza voce* effects are beautiful. Miss Greene will be

[*Photo by Fradelle and Young.*

Installation Banquet of the Chelsea Lodge (No. 3098) at Frascati's, Friday, May 17th, 1907.

singing several of Moore's Irish melodies, not only because she loves them, but because she considers it her duty as an Irish girl. Some of her most prominent numbers in comedy opera and musical play are listed in her vocal répertoire by permission of Mr. George Edwardes. Of "The Ninepenny Fidil," to which we have referred, Miss Greene has tender recollections. It was one of her earliest efforts as a tiny child, when her father, who fostered his daughter's musical tastes, taught her her songs and accompanied her on the flute.

Acrobatism, if it is to be popular nowadays, must be made funny. The Leopolds recognised this truism when they adapted their tumbling activities and somersaulting proclivities to the exigencies of *Frivolity*. Later came the Craggs, with *Laughter Land*; and we might quote the Hanlon-Voltas, the Renads, and the Lauris in further support of our argument. Spissel Brothers and Mack, whose original fun is based on acrobatic tricks, have labelled their act *Scene in a Café*, in which, in its earlier phase, a stage fowl and a collapsible table and various properties, cleverly manipulated, contribute largely to the fun. Then come table feats of great ingenuity, and the comic antics and expression of cool unconcern on the part of the waiter are only equalled by the anxiety and surprise so clearly shown by his companion. We are convulsed by the unexpected in acrobatic tricks of surprising smartness and skill, and it is rare to find such genuine comedy gifts in an acrobatic performance, which, besides eliciting our astonishment, provokes our hearty laughter.

Early in the bill Mr. R. H. Douglass keeps the audience intensely amused by a most interesting and cleverly presented monologue; Miss Daisy Dormer has the quality of indefinable charm in her coon song and dance; and other Palace favourites are Chirgwin, Jack Lorimer, the Dumonds, Miss Margaret Cooper, Mr. Horace Goldin, and Les Trombetta. Mr. Frank and Miss Jen Latona are newcomers to the Palace, and their immediate success testifies to the astuteness of Mr. Alfred Butt in engaging them.

HACKNEY EMPIRE.

A well diversified programme is submitted this week for the delectation of the patrons of this hall, and packed and enthusiastic audiences are enjoying to the full the attractive fare provided. Francis, the cannon-ball king, opens the programme and proves himself to be a juggler of more than ordinary ability, a very great deal of humour being extracted from the turn, for which his assistant Alfred is principally responsible. Fielding and Hull, in a medley, make a favourable impression, the lady having a good voice. Lonnen Meadows and Company present what is billed as a farcical tabloid comedy, entitled *Kiss Your Father*. The plot, which is slight, centres round the assumption of the rôle of a doctor by an Irishman, who is called in to render professional aid to a supposed invalid. The trifle affords Mr. Meadows abundant opportunity of proving his capabilities as a comedian, and he receives adequate support from the Misses Ada Tilley and L. Leslie, and Messrs. F. Fenton, J. Joyce, and W. Dunlop, who all do very well. Miss Ella Retford, a comedienne in both Dutch and coon songs, scores a great success. Her dancing is quite excellent, and three calls were accorded her by an audience anxious for an encore. The Mezzettis, in a comedy act on the triple bars, are responsible for a smart performance. Their business is remarkably skilful, and the comedian of the pair manages to extract a considerable amount of humour during his display. Mark Sheridan is one of the star artists on the bill, and he gives two songs with all his usual success. His second, "The good time coming by and by," affords him abundant opportunity for amusing patter, and his dancing displays all his well-known ability. His success is emphatic and complete. Spry and Austin, in a turn that includes patter, singing, and dancing, are well received. Another item that commands immediate interest is Harry Tate and Company in *Motoring*. As soon as his number went up it was warmly greeted, and the whole of the mirthful incidents gained their customary accompaniment of hearty laughter. Mr. Tate himself works hard, and with the greatest success, in depicting the trials of the unhappy amateur motorist, and not a little praise is due to the members of his company for their admirable support. Another act that appeals to the audience is De Gracia's Elephants, who, in the course of a lengthy act, prove the patience and skill that has been expended on their tuition, a very cordial welcome being accorded their performance, which fully deserved it. The American Bioscope is, as usual, very entertaining; and Mr. Walter Johnston's fine orchestra are heard to great advantage in a spirited overture. Mr. John Christie, the acting-manager, and Mr. D. Earle Charles, his assistant, are courtesy itself in the discharge of their duties in front of the house.

THE GRANVILLE.

The latest addition to Mr. Harry Cadle's "Casey Court" series of productions is entitled *Mick Whittingtun*, and is described as "a street urchin's idea of producing a pantomime." Staged here for the first time on Monday, a holiday audience gave the novelty a very cordial welcome, and it has been successfully repeated every evening since. Mrs. Casey (Mr. Bob King) is induced not only to lend the clothes, &c., that will be required in the performance of the "gorjus pantermime," but also to appear as the Good Fairy. The scenery suggests a period in the history of the stage when the various scenes were indicated by written inscriptions, such as, for instance, "This is a castle"; and the "dresses kindly lent by Mrs. Casey from her wardrobe shop," are equally primitive. The part of the hero is played by a youth with legs of abnormal size, but who shows plenty of energy; while the heroine, for the most part, takes a back seat and looks on, only emerging from her obscure position to join in a duet. The famous Cat has its representative, but is a very sedate and silent feline. However, a good deal of fun and frolic is introduced, and in the last scene—supposed to represent the Palace—the usual procession of illustrious personages and the ballet are amusingly burlesqued. The new production serves its purpose of making the audience laugh heartily, and acting as the director of the revels is Mr. Bob King, who, as of yore, makes a comical Mrs. Casey, a very small comedian appearing as Mr. Casey. Some of the youthful company engaged sing well, but a little more dancing might with advantage be introduced.

Doody and Wright, described as the Australian comedy couple, are appearing here with success this week. The male member of the firm, who in appearance and style is not unlike the late Dan Leno, is brisk and humorous, while the lady ably supports him, vivacity being her distinguishing quality. They conclude with a smart dance. A cordial welcome awaits Mr. Joe Elvin and company, who are appearing in that favourite old sketch, *Touched*. It is sufficient to record that Mr. Elvin is just as funny as ever in the character of Billy Bangem, the new attendant at the asylum, and his encounters with the several patients evoke some of the heartiest merriment heard during the whole evening. All the other characters are in good hands. Mr. G. W. Hunter has a capital budget of songs, and his patter is as amusing as ever; Mr. Arthur Rigby scores with "Things I shall never see again" and another ditty; Miss Flo Somers is a dainty comedienne, and her songs, "The sunshade girl" and "My cherry-blossom," are charmingly rendered;

the Royal Sovereign Quartette appear in the guise of sailormen, and their excellent singing of a number of popular sea-songs is greeted with much applause; Rich and Rich are comedians whose cross-talk is very smart and effective; Mr. Harry Champion rattles through his ditties at his usual rapid rate, and with the usual successful results; Mr. Leo Dryden, the well-known actor-vocalist, continues to make a highly favourable impression; the Two Bostons, as the humorous showmen, are most favourably received; Bert Brantford, comedian, is an old favourite; Little Dott Moss, child comedienne, deserves a word of encouragement; and the contributions of Mr. Victor Travers, the new coon, and Miss Grace Langley, comedienne, are also commendable. It is worthy of note that the selection played by the orchestra under the direction of Mr. R. E. Wilding is from that much-discussed comic opera, *The Mikado*. Mr. William H. Lennon is the capable acting-manager at this hall.

LONDON PAVILION.

Mr. Frank Glenister has "listed" an excellent company for the Whitsuntide holidays, and audiences taxing the capacity of the house have been hearing his artistic corps at its full strength. The names of old favourites loom largely in the bill; but among the new candidates for variety fame we find the dainty Kitty Gordon, a comedienne of supreme distinction—an *élégante* of the musical comedy stage, who brings with her a cleverly-written number by Ivan Caryll, entitled "Cigarette," which was such a success during the run at the Aldwych Theatre of *Nelly Neil*, in which Miss Gordon played the part of the adventuress. She imparts to its interpretation considerable fascination and undeniable charm. She is perfectly gowned in evening dress—in a confection far too beautiful for the writer to attempt any description in black and white.

Early in the bill is presented a singing and dancing sketch, entitled *Willie Off His Yacht*. Willie is apparently a gay sort of a husband, who has uttered vows of a kind to Marie and Jane. They quarrel about getting him tea, and his arrival is a prelude to Marie singing a serenade to the moon. Willie himself puts plenty of expression into a love lilt; and Jane poses very prettily as a Gibson girl. The musical mélange—as it is correctly termed—has been arranged by Stanley Adams, and it is brightly played by Mr. Lionel Vaughan, who has a good voice and an engaging style, Miss Cora Williams, a fascinating soubrette, and Miss Hylda Lyss, who figures to advantage as a Gibson girl. Mr. Austin Boyd and Miss Trixy Gilfain appear to advantage in a duo, in which the gift of humour and considerable musical talent are exhibited. It is entitled *Sunny Spain*, and possessing as it does all the gaiety and sparkle suggested by the title, it should prove a most successful number everywhere. A genuine hit is made by Vesta and Minnie Pine, who appear in an amusing duologue between a slavey and a smart parlourmaid. Each gives off sentences from a story, and the "interruptions," if we may call them so, are fitted in with a good deal of humour. The young people, who evidently possess the hereditary gift of comedy, make a genuine hit. They are the daughters of the popular couple, Bob and Jennie Leonard. The Glenroy troupe of dancers put much neat and clever work into their scena, *The Lads of the New Brigade*, bearing themselves smartly in a number of evolutions, and delighting everyone by their Highland and Hibernian dances. Mr. George Mozart is still here with his absurdity, "The Mudlark Village Band"; Rich and Rich give the audience a hilarious time by their cross-talk and patter; Mr. Malcolm Scott's observations as "the woman who knows" betray a considerable sense of humour; Mr. T. E. Dunville bravely risks the wrath of the Home Secretary by his "policeman" song; Miss José Collins, the pretty daughter of Lottie Collins, renews the very favourable impression she created on her début at this house; Miss May Rawlinson sings "Daddie" with no little charm; and other turns in the bill are Arthur Aldridge, Seldoms' Venus, Whit Cunliffe, the Four Regals, Pasquali Brothers, Miss Alice Lawton, Mr. Tom Leamore, and Miss Florence Somers.

THE BEDFORD.

Mr. B. Pearce Lucas has provided a capital programme for the holiday week, and he is being well repaid for his efforts, for this comfortable and well-managed hall of amusement is being filled to the utmost twice nightly. One of the leading attractions is a romantic and sensational episode, entitled *The Knights of Hampstead Heath*, which title of course adds to the interest in the neighbourhood of Camden Town. It is a very exciting little play told in three scenes, and the story is of some highwaymen who endeavour to rob a young bridegroom, but their scheme is thwarted by the bride, who dons male attire and secures the freedom of her husband and the capture of the robbers. Mr. G. M. Marriott and Mr. F. Conyers acquit themselves well as the highwaymen; while Mr. Eardley Howard is good as the bridegroom. As the young bride, Miss Edith Finlay is most successful, and when she masquerades as a man she plays in capital style; and the scene in which she holds up the knights of the heath with their own weapons is excellently played, and there is a deal of humour in the situation. The play is well received, and those appearing in it receive a flattering reception. Among the comedians, Mr. Jack Lorrimer undoubtedly stands out most prominently. He is a Scotch comedian with a distinctive style of his own, and his methods are not so slow as some we have seen in that line, which is a great advantage. He has two very catchy songs, while he finishes up with a very quaint dance which brings down the house, and the audience are loth to part with him. That very popular favourite, Miss Katie Laurence, is here this week, and, as usual, she is well supplied with songs which have catchy chorus refrains that are soon taken up. Her first, entitled "Arthur," is a decidedly fetching song, while her second contribution is in a more serious vein, but is none the less successful. Luis Hardt, billed as the Boy Samson, gives a wonderfully clever exhibition of muscular development, while his feat of lifting five men caused great enthusiasm. Mr. R. C. Matthews and Miss Maggie Byron appear in a very amusing sketch, *The Honeymoon Baby*, which causes screams of laughter. Mr. Harry Walker is a comedian of much merit, and makes a hit with his clever and amusing patter. Some clever and very neat acrobatic dancing is provided by a quartette of charming young ladies called Les Belles Americaines, who are also very well received for their song, "My Little Esquimaux." Rene Ring is a smart comedienne; and Casselli is a first-class musician who is a master of the banjo, which he handles with great dexterity, and his playing of the overture to Suppe's "Poet and Peasant" was greatly appreciated. An eccentric acrobatic turn is that given by the Brothers Smarte. The Two Bees—Harry and Flora Blake—also hold a good position on the bill, and appear in a new scena, entitled *The Man in the Moon*, which serves as an opening for Harry Blake to work off endless topical jokes which are most amusing, and he keeps his hearers in a perpetual state of hilarity, for his witticisms are quite up to date and to the point. The programme is brought to a conclusion by Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope, which, as ever, is up to date. During the evening the orchestra do splendid service under the bâton of Mr. G. R. Hatley, the musical director. Mr. A. F. Lovesey is ever to the fore in discharging his duties as manager, and is indefatigable in his endeavours to look after the comfort of his patrons and the welfare of this deservedly-popular resort.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

THE MIDDLESEX.

The race for popularity is well run this week at Mr. J. L. Graydon's prosperous hall in Drury-lane, and no small share of the laurels are taken by the Daunton-Shaw Troupe, whose daring exploits on the bicycle elicit enthusiastic cheers. One intrepid rider is able to bestride two machines at once, and afterwards he is seen mounted on a huge unicycle some 10ft. in height, which he propels rapidly round the stage. The feats on the wheel include the changing from saddle to saddle by a couple of riders, and the various tricks, which are shared by a trio of prepossessing young ladies, are lavishly applauded. Miss Sable Fern is heartily greeted when she appears in a scarlet suit to sing a series of topical rhymes, which bid the hearer to "read between the lines," and her tuneful voice is also heard in an "Echo of an old, old tale," a ballad of sentiment which rings true. The titles of two popular West-End successes furnish Mr. Leo Dryden with the bases for a couple of effective songs. The first relates to "His House in Order," and has up-to-date references, which the vocalist renders in striking style. A still greater impression is exercised by Mr. Dryden's appearance as "The Prodigal Son," which opens with a recitative. Acting as well as singing are required for the proper rendering of the selection, and the cheers that greet the song are thoroughly deserved.

The progress of Claude Ginnett's *Remounts* is followed by loud peals of laughter, and a hilarious time is also passed in the company of Coram, the exceptionally clever ventriloquist, who is able to make his lay figure smoke and shed tears during their droll interview. Mirth also arises in abundance during the presence of Dale and O'Malley, who have developed the art of cross-talk to its most diverting limits. The comedy man has an ingenious smile which is irresistible, and the dignity, so frequently outraged, of the "straight" performer, is artistically assumed. Dale and O'Malley enjoy a vast amount of popularity. Miss Rose Harvey sings the praises of "Ballooning" in fascinating style, and is the centre of admiration; Nat Watkins's droll methods in dancing and delivery exert a comic influence; and Mr. Ted Saunders mimics popular artists with cleverness, Mr. George Lashwood, in his "Key" song, being presented with great fidelity.

Pictures on the New Bioscope hold the audience engrossed; Tennis and Laune have an interesting vocal scena in "Chapters from life"; Nathella's pot-pourri act includes the lifting of heavy weights with his hair; and the programme, which numbers Mr. Percy Johnson and Mr. Harry Willats, comedians, Cliff and Kean, comedy artists, Frank and Free, diverting duettists, and Queenie Dell, comedienne, is brought to an exciting conclusion by the sketch, played by Miss Jane Moore and company, entitled *White Slavery*, the feature of which is a fight between a man and woman, in the course of which the combatants roll from top to bottom of a staircase.

EALING HIPPODROME.

Mr. George Mozart and a wintry Whitsuntide formed a dual-alliance on Monday evening to attract a huge holiday crowd to the beautiful house over which Mr. E. W. James so ably presides. Mr. Mozart's melodrama, with five hundred supers, is one of those "side-splitters" which he knows so well how to exploit. With the aid of a hat, a beer-can, and a policeman's helmet, he is in possession of all the "properties" he needs to make his scena a triumph of fooling. The "20th Century Comedy Cycling Act" of the Three Merrills proves the clever performers to be not only wonderful wheelmen, but also marvellous and fearless acrobats. The humour of the turn is also agreeably apparent. Clifton and Gibson's cross-talk is of the merriest, and the quaint couple keep the house in a continuous roar of laughter. A happy notion of the well-associated pair is the introduction of a short seance, *à la* Zanczig. From gay to grave is but a step, and Mr. Tom Lloyd in his "Gravedigger" takes it. Both in his first number and in his second, "When wintry winds blow," the artist contrives to mingle more than a grain of pathos with his humour, and he is successful in obtaining a flattering reception.

Rauschle, in his character impersonations of the great men of history is most happy, and his realisation of Mr. John Burns is startlingly lifelike. Brett and Orford have a sparkling vaudeville in their scena, *The Love Birds*. Princess Pauline, winsome of figure and exquisitely costumed, trills melodiously of "Alice, where art thou going?"; while in her second number, "The Union Jack," her appeal for love for the old flag is irresistible, and a triple outburst of cheering salutes the "Jack" as it is lowered upon the stage. Miss Ida Brophy, comedienne and dancer, is fortunate in the possession of two popular numbers, "When father was out of work" and "I wish I were you"; she is, besides, a remarkably expert quick-step dancer. The Imperial Bioscope presents a most attractive film, entitled "Moving Day." Mr. E. W. James and his invaluable "aide," Mr. Westcott Hicks, have their hands full this week in marshalling the holiday crowds.

"MY BRACES."

A farcical comedy sketch by Leonard Robson, produced at the Hastings Hippodrome on Monday, May 20, 1907.

Geoffrey Canning ..... MR. LEONARD ROBSON
Edwards (butler) ..... MR. ALEC CRICHTON
Mrs. Canning ..... MISS EILEEN CONCANON

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

This is a light-hearted trifle, but it serves to show the good dramatic abilities of Mr. Leonard Robson, the author, the intelligent acting of Mr. Alec Crichton and the sweet artistic gifts of Miss Eileen Concanon. The curtain rises upon a pretty drawing room, where the young and fond wife is anxiously awaiting the return of her husband, who has been away three days on a visit to an aunt in Somersetshire. In the meantime a parcel arrives, and is brought in by the manservant. Her womanly curiosity is aroused, and still more excited by the servant directing her attention to something which is seen from the torn corner. Their interest and inquisitiveness is arrested by a letter for her husband from the Bristol Hotel, Paris. Burning with curiosity, she opens it. It refers to the contents of the little package, a pair of braces, which had been left by her husband during a few days' stay at the hotel. Mrs. Canning, expecting he had been to see the aunt, feels somewhat upset, and treats him on his return with coldness and disdain. There is a great deal of prevarication on his part in his attempt to prevent her gaining knowledge as to his visit to Paris. She is apparently appeased, and requests him to change his coat and don his dressing gown and slippers. By the assistance of the butler and his wife he is reluctantly compelled to divest himself of his coat. Upon his wife's inquiry as to his braces (a birthday gift from her) he affirms that he left them at Aunt Margaret's. After a time the mystery is cleared up. He explains that just on the point of starting for Somersetshire his firm wished him to go to Paris on important business. His wife is angry, will not be pacified, and declares her intention of returning to her mother. At this moment a letter arrives from his firm enclosing a cheque for a considerable sum, with thanks for the ability he had just displayed in transacting their business in Paris

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A MOST successful entente cordiale concours musical has been held in Jersey this week. Fifty-six French bands took part in the contests, and the visitors, who numbered about 4000 persons, had a most enjoyable time. The hotels were naturally packed, the principal French one putting up 500. On Monday evening there was a battle of confetti, and on Tuesday night a military tattoo with a torch-light procession.

"AN ACTOR'S ART."

A Sketch, by J. L. Shine, presented at the Euston Theatre of Varieties on Wednesday, May 22.

J. L. Shine (an actor) ..... BY HIMSELF
A Lancashire Farmer ...
Gerald Guinness .....
An Irish Apple-woman .
A Scots Elder .....
George Grant .....
A Coster ..... } MR. J. L. SHINE
Gerald Guinness ..... MR. RICHARD PURDON
George Grant ..... MR. J. F. SHINE
M. Gustave ..... MR. ERIC ALBURY
Mary Russell ..... MISS BLANCHE COLMER

Mr. J. L. Shine's amusing sketch is rightly named, for in it we realise what a wonderful thing an actor's art really is, and by it, too, we realise Mr. Shine's transcendental versatility. The story the playlet tells may be briefly recapitulated. J. L. Shine, the actor, visits two old schoolfellows, Gerald Guinness (a solicitor and an Irishman) and George Grant (a barrister and a Scotsman), who have started an inquiry office in the Strand. They are not, perhaps, as successful as they anticipated, and in one case they have in hand it is found that their own detective, who has risen from the rank of police-constable, has not the ability to effectually disguise himself for the keen intelligence necessary to the successful handling of delicate matters such as private inquiry men are so often called upon to deal with. The actor urges all these considerations upon the minds of Messrs. Guinness and Grant, and points out that in so far as the disguises and the simulation of different characters are concerned the work could be best done by an actor. Very daringly he offers to back up his assertion by undertaking to lose £500 if he does not call upon them that very day and they fail to recognise him. The offer is accepted, and Shine leaves them. A few seconds elapse, and there enters the inquiry office a sturdy Lancashire farmer, who desires that a search shall be made for his daughter, who has run away with a parson. He is prepared to spend any sum of money for the purpose of tracing the fair delinquent, and pays £50 on account. He goes, and Gerald Guinness temporarily leaves the office to make a call on the telephone. But Guinness, seemingly, and to the surprise of his partner, returns almost immediately with the tale that he has settled everything satisfactorily. Exit Guinness, but re-enter Guinness with a story which is sadly at variance with that just told. His telephone inquiry has proved unsuccessful, and his Scottish partner is not unnaturally annoyed at the contradistinctive statements. In fact, this shocking inconsistency gives rise to what is commonly known as a row, and when a Scotsman and an Irishman have a row the turmoil is generally sufficient to abash even a loud-lunged bull of Bashan. The contretemps is—excuse the paradox—momentarily disturbed by the appearance of a voluble old Irish apple-woman, who has come upon an absurd quest. They have hardly got rid of her than in there steps an elder of the kirk. His parishioners have entrusted him with some money for a scheme in connection with the church, and he now contemplates going away to "furrin parts"—with the cash, of course. Some of his trusting flock have been so abominably uncomplimentary to their meenister as to publicly evince anxiety as to what has become of their donations. That would not matter so much were it not for the unhappy fact that a few of the "sheep" had been so absurdly cautious as to cross their cheques, and on this head a touching appeal is made to Grant. Will a brither Scot come to the aid of the elder by cashing the cheques? Exit elder unceremoniously. Exit George Grant. Enter "George Grant." More complications. Reverse stage directions. Partners together. Enter coster. Blimey, he can tell them how they have been duped. A pal of his does jobs for M. Gustave, the costumier, and Shine, the bloomin' hactor, has bin made up by the pal's guv'nor. 'Arf a quid's dirt cheap for the information. Exit coster. Enter M. Gustave. No "hank" this time. The partners are up to the dodge. It is Shine, the actor! M. Gustave is indignant. Is this the way foreigners are treated in perfidious Albion? Enter Shine, the actor, to the astonishment of Messrs. Grant and Guinness, who admit the clever deceptions of the actor's art.

Even the audience is for a time completely "taken in" by Mr. J. L. Shine's varied impersonations of the seven different characters. The changes in dress and make-up are effected with surprising rapidity. Mr. Shine seems to have at command unusual talents in the direction of voice dissimulation, for he speaks the Lancashire, Scottish, and coster dialects and Irish brogue with the greatest ease and fluency. It is a series of impersonations we shall be most happy to see again. Mr. Richard Purdon, a sound and experienced actor, enacts the rôle of the real Gerald Guinness with all the necessary Irish touch and it is a capital piece of work, as is also the George Grant of Mr. J. F. Shine. Miss Blanche Colmer gives a pleasing study of the part of Mary Russell, and Mr. Eric Albury enters into the spirit of the part of Gustave.

EAST HAM PALACE.

The Paragon Trio have the honour of starting the entertainment. Their singing is greatly admired, especially their excellent rendering of the Soldiers' Chorus from *Faust*, which resulted in the clever trio receiving a well-earned round of applause. Miss May Marton, a dainty comedienne, who possesses a pleasing figure and an admirable voice, which she knows how to use, has a very good number in "You never know," following which she sings in a most pleasing and effective style the popular song, "I want no other little girl but you," the chorus of which the audience take up with great gusto. W. Purvis and Co. present a pleasing trifle in *Cauliflower Joe*. As there are no names given on the programme, no special mention can be made, but all work well together, with the result that the house is kept in a very merry mood. Little Tich's first number, "He's only just found it out," in which there is much funny business, keeps the house in a merry mood. His second number, "The park-keeper," wins even greater applause, so much so that he gave yet another, in which, appearing in flowing draperies, he sang of the vagaries of a sweetheart, who had been "in the sun." Miss Lily Shaplin gives us some capital imitations of popular music-hall artists, of which her best is without a doubt that of Miss Vesta Victoria, in her famous song, "Waiting at the church." The Sisters Reno greatly enhance their reputation with their very clever Continental dances and high kicking.

Gus Hindell receives his full share of the honours of the evening, his first number, "Dear old pals," being a capital song, and sung with that feeling which fetches the audience from the start. His second item is an amusing monologue, in which some very clever imitations are given. Dudman Bromwich and Co. find a place in the bill with a very powerful sketch, entitled *In Old Madrid*. Owing to the fact that no cast is given, personal praise must be lacking. However, all worked hard, and gained the unstinted plaudits of a very satisfied audience. Ruffell's Bioscope brings the entertainment to a close, with some very clear and instructive pictures, depicting the French Army airship, "La Petrie." Mr. W. S. Bassett continues to conduct an orchestra which performs its duties admirably. A special word of thanks is justly due to Mr. Albert E. Hill for his kind, untiring efforts for the benefit for those friends in front, whilst the ever-increasing number of patrons is the best and strongest proof of the popularity of both Mr. Arthur J. Barclay and the East Ham Palace.

FUNERAL OF MR. ADNEY PAYNE.

The simple dignity of the Church of England burial service was never more touchingly or beautifully expressed than at the obsequies of Mr. George Adney Payne, whose tragic death last week sent a thrill of sorrow through the music hall world, both before and behind the footlights; and the universal esteem in which the deceased director was held was strikingly illustrated by the crowded state on Saturday morning of Christ Church, Woburn-square, where the first part of the service was conducted by the vicar, the Rev. Prebendary Glendinning Nash. While the congregation was waiting for the coming of the casket, the organist played one of Mendelssohn's most plaintive *lieder*, following it with a beautiful rendering of that most affecting sacred solo by the same composer, "O, rest in the Lord," from *Elijah*. After the opening sentences and prayers, "Thy will be done" was sung by the choir, and at the conclusion of the prayers came the well-known hymn, "Now the labourer's task is o'er," very sweetly rendered by the boys. While the casket was being borne from the centre aisle, the solemn harmonies of Handel's "Dead March" in *Saul* rang through the church. Outside the sacred building, a reverent crowd of sympathisers gazed with admiration at the immense number of floral trophies of rare beauty, which filled the first five carriages preceding the hearse (itself filled with lovely blooms), in its progress through the northern suburbs of Highgate and Muswell Hill, to St. Pancras Cemetery, East Finchley.

The service at Christ Church was attended by Mrs. Adney Payne (widow), Mrs. Walter Gibbons (daughter), Mrs. Jewell (daughter), and Miss Ida Payne. Immediately following the casket as it was taken up the aisle were Mr. Walter Payne (the deceased's only son), Mr. Walter Gibbons (his son-in-law), Mr. Tebbutt (his brother-in-law), and Mr. Henri Gros (his fellow managing-director). These, besides the ladies mentioned and Mr. Horace Marriott, the deceased gentleman's brother-in-law, were the chief mourners. The deceased gentleman's associates on the directorate of the Syndicate and the Variety Theatres Consolidated were represented by Messrs. Henry Tozer, Henry Sutton, H. H. Wells, and Joseph Davis. Among others who were in the sacred building were Messrs. Horace Marriott, St. John Brenon, Willie Clarkson, Major Spencer Tyler, Oswald C. Wylson, J. A. Harrison (representing the Eccentric Club), E. A. Pickering, Ben Nathan, Hugh J. Didcott, Philip J. Rutland, J.P., John Hart, W. J. Grimes, B. P. Lucas, Harry Day, George Ridout, J. L. Graydon, Nelson Francis, Laurie Graydon, Paul Martinetti, Harry Masters, Tom Claxton, Fred Miller, Charles Beecham, Joe O'Gorman, Fred McAvoy, W. D. Courtney (Westminster City Council), Leon Zeitlin, Jack Somers, D. M. Trytel, William Law.

Round the grave listening to the impressive committal sentences were a large number of those who had attended the church. In addition were Messrs. W. H. Burney (of the L.C.C. halls), T. S. Dickie (Standard, Pimlico), J. C. Coe (Hammersmith Palace), George Scott (Alhambra), Joseph Wilson (Tivoli), Hugh Astley (London Pavilion), Charles Blyth-Pratt (the Oxford), Charles Relf, Henry Hart (late of Raglan and Bedford Music Halls), Tom Shaw, Fred Higham, Harry Bawn, H. W. Wieland, George Mozart, Louis Reeder, Angelo Asher, Harry Fragson, Arthur J. Barclay, Mackett (Herne Bay), W. F. Brushfield, Charles Chapman, Tom Pacey (representing the Music Hall Benevolent Fund), and H. A. Wilkes. The Rats were represented by Messrs. Paul and Alfred Martinetti, James Allison, Lee, and J. W. Cragg; the Variety Artists' Federation by Messrs. Frank Gerald, Joe O'Gorman, Wal Pink, and W. H. Clemart; the Terriers by Messrs. C. Russell and T. E. Cliffe; and the International Artists League by Messrs. Schafer and Max Rose. Prominent in the congregation and at the graveside were the scarlet uniforms of four members of the Herts Yeomanry, with which the deceased gentleman was connected for seventeen years. They were Quarter-Master Buck, Sergeant Sanderson (A Troop), and Sergeants Scott and Reed (B troop).

Mr. George Adney Payne's remains were laid to rest in a large grave, where repose his first wife, who died on Aug. 17, 1897, aged forty-seven; his two infant children, who died in 1882 and 1883, aged two and five respectively; and his grandchild, Ida Mary Gibbons, who was born on May 7, 1903, and died on Dec. 30, 1904. Taken with the present year, the frequency of the figure seven, in dates, perhaps attracts the attention as coincidence. At the head of the grave stands a handsome red granite monument, about 10ft. in height from the level of the soil to the summit of the cross, and the red granite border bears the inscription:—"The family grave of George Adney Payne, of Forest Lodge, Tulse-hill, and St. Malo, Herne Bay."

Among the floral offerings was a lovely cross of scarlet geraniums with a centre cross of blue violas, sent by Mr. Payne's co-directors, together with crosses from the Entertainments Protection Association (of which the deceased was vice president), and from Mr. Walter Gibbons, whose beautiful floral trophy, over six feet in length, was composed of cattleya and odontoglossum orchids and lily of the valley. It came from the well-known Phil Garcia, of Central-avenue, Covent Garden, a personal friend of the deceased. Mrs. Payne's tribute was in the form of a bleeding heart, the card attached bearing the words, "From his sorrowful wife, Ethel." The Variety Artists' Federation sent a floral harp, actual size; and noticeable for its remarkable beauty was a pillow of orchids from Mr. Walter Payne. Miss Ida Payne sent a harp of cattleya and odontoglossum with forget-me-not strings. Wreaths were sent by Messrs. Bass, Ratcliffe, and Gretton (Ltd.), Mr. Henri Gros, Mr. H. Wells, Mrs. Payne, Mrs. Jewell, Mrs. Walter Gibbons, Miss Payne, Mr. and Mrs. Horace Marriott and Miss Marriott, Mr. and Mrs. Wal Pink, Mr. and Mrs. Tich, Marie, Alice, and Rosie Lloyd severally, Tom Dunville, Oswald Stoll, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Tozer, Sir Edward and Lady Moss, Mr. and Mrs. H. Sutton, Alec Hurley, the M'Naughtons, Tom Granville, Phil Ray, Harry Lauder, W. H. Clemart, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Martinetti, Joe O'Gorman, Harry Fragson, Carl Hertz, Arthur Roberts, Joe Elvin, George Robey, Ernest Edelsten, Tom Shaw, John Tiller, Will Evans, Maud Courtney, the Alhambra, the Oxford, the Metropolitan, the London Pavilion, the Canterbury, the Chelsea Palace, Tivoli, the Newcastle-on-Tyne Pavilion, Palace Theatre directors, Eccentric Club, Boys' Club, Music Hall Artists' Railway Association, Chelsea Palace, Grand, Clapham, the South London, Holborn Empire, Paragon, Variety Agents' Association, East Ham Palace, Ealing Hippodrome, Walthamstow Palace, Grand Order of Water Rats, *The Era* staff, Birmingham Gaiety, Stratford Empire, the Euston, the Herts Yeomanry, the Palace Theatre directors, and others. The Rev. Prebendary Glendinning Nash conducted the proceedings at the grave.

MISS FLORRIE BRAY, the singer of chorus songs, has in preparation a new song, entitled "Poor man," which has been especially written for her. This number is likely to excel her great chorus song, "Mary on the pier at Blackpool," which was written for her by Messrs. Keith and Merson.

MR. B. KENNEDY, of Ediscope and Barnum's Pictures, is running a short variety season twice nightly, at the Empire, Doncaster, on June 24.

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"THERE'S A JACK FOR EVERY JILL" (Wincott & Staunton). Sung by Joe Archer.
"THE SEASIDE SMILE" (Lyle & David). Sung by Miss Vesta Tilley.
"THEY ALL LIVED HAPPILY AFTERWARDS" (Mills & Arthurs). Sung by Whit Cunliffe.
"PRESENTS" (Nat Clifford & Medley Barrett.) Sung by Fred Earle.
"FUNNY LITTLE BOB-TAILED COAT" (Gorman, Lowen & Champion). Sung by Harry Champion.
"STROLLING ALONG THE SANDS" (Godfrey & Lyle).
"IRIS" (Mellor, Lawrance & Gifford).
"SUNRAY" (Worton David & Kenneth Lyle).
"THE POLICEMAN" (David & Mayo). Sung by Sam Mayo.
"I'M GOING TO SING A SONG TO YOU THIS EVENING" (David & Mayo). Sung by Sam Mayo.
"HERE WE COME GATHERING FLATS AND JAYS" (E. W. Rogers). Sung by George Lashwood.
"BY THE BANKS O' ALLAN WATER" (Lamb & Moore). Sung by Jock Whiteford.
"I WONDER" (Boden & Ford).
"IF I WERE YOU" (Boden & Ford). Sung by Harry Ford.
'WHEN THE RICHT CIRL COMES ALONG,' (Worton David & Kenneth Lyle.) Sung by Miss Vesta Tilley.
"JUST MY LUCK" (Alf. Ellerton).
"DOWN WHERE THE BRINY BREEZES BLOW" (Alf. Ellerton). Sung by T. E. Dunville.

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"BY THE LIGHT OF THE HONEYMOON," "DEARIE,"
"ALL LITTLE GIRLS ARE PRETTY," "FOL-OL-THE-DIDDLE-OL,"
"JUST YOUR HEART OF GOLD," "MY SCHOLARS,"
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THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

FAIRS, FEASTS, AND WAKES IN ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, AND WALES, FOR JUNE.

ENGLAND.

June 1. Kirkburton (3,162)
June 1. Astwood Feast
June 1. Outwood Feast (5,000)
June 1. Redruth (10,500)
June 1. Rugeley (7,181)
June 3. Normanton Feast (13,000)
June 4. Hayle (1,000)
June 6. Tiverton (10,400)
June 7 Southrapps (1,800)
June 8. Prescot (7,590)
June 11. Cranbrooke (3,500)
June 13. St. Austell (3,477)
June 14. Rawtenstall (31,000)
June 15. Dore and Totley (1,650)
June 17. Taunton (21,600)
June 17. Tetney (800)
June 17. Thorne (Yorks.) (3,400)
June 19. Falmouth (11,800)
June 19. Lambert Castle (Dorset)
June 20. Abingdon (6,500
June 20. Coleford (2,600)
June 20. Kidderminster (24,700)
June 20. Maidstone (33,500)
June 22. Astwith (74)
June 22. Coal Aston (1,000)
June 22. Dronfield (6,500)
June 22. Hardstaff (190)
June 22. Marbury Park (689)
June 22. Mexboro' (10,000)
June 22. Newport Pagnell (4,000)
June 22. Selby (8,000)
June 22. Shipton-on-Stour (1,700)
June 22. Staveley (6,372)
June 22. Staveley Woodthorpe (9,000)
June 22. Tydeswell (2,600)
June 22. Hunston (1,700)
June 22. Wadebridge (2,300)
June 24. Bromsgrove (8,500)
June 24. Cambridge (38,400)
June 24. Farnham (6,124)
June 24 St. Just (Hunts.) (6,000)
June 24. Willersey (356)
June 25. Bridgewater (15,200)
June 25. Newcastle-on-Tyne (214,000)
June 26. Halifax (98,000)
June 26. Yeovil (10,000)
June 28. Andover (6,500)
June 28. Bolton-by-Bolland (600)
June 28. Folkestone (31,000)
June 28. Saltash (3,400)
June 28. Belper (11,300)
June 29. Brampton (6,914)
June 29. Duckmanton (525)
June 29. Eckington (16,653)
June 29. Edensor (6,235)
June 29. Elmton (675)
June 29. Winster (842)
June 29. Fareham (5,000)
June 29. Reedham (1,200)

SCOTLAND.

June 11. Alyth (3,000)
June 14. Selkirk (5,500)
June 15. Largs (3,300)
June 26. Frazerburgh (9,000)
June 28. Renfrew (9,300)

WALES.

June 1. Caerphilly (16,000)
June 3. Carmarthen (10,000)
June 10. Llandovery (2,300)
June 12. Brynmawr (7,000)
June 12. Merthyr Tydfil (27,000)
June 14. Ferndale (10,300)
June 17. Llangefeloch
June 17. Usk (1,500)
June 24. Lydney (3,000)
June 29. Ton-y-Pandy (6,000)

Fairs Ahead.

THE fairs ahead for the remainder of the present month are Bidford-on-Avon on the East and West Junction; Ossett on the Great Northern; Crowle on the Great Central; Hounslow on the London and South-Western; Millom on the Furness; Pool on the Great Western; Southwold on the Great Eastern; Bridgenorth on the Great Western; Beeston on the Midland and Great Northern; Fiskerton on the Midland; Ironbridge on the Great Western; Thorpe (Surrey) on the London and South-Western; Alston (Cumbs.) on the North-Eastern; Ely on the Great Eastern; Airdrie on the North British and Caledonian; Berwick-on-Tweed on the North British; Messingham on the Great Central; Penzance on the Great Western Railway.

York Whitsuntide Fair.

ASPLAND'S new bioscope show is a great feature here. The splendid front and grand organ are a theme of general admiration; whilst the interior puts many of our local halls into the shade. The same firm's motors, Shipley's horses, Fisher's swing-boats, and a host of minor attractions have drawn together large numbers of holiday-makers.

Redruth Fair.

IN glorious weather the annual Whitsuntide pleasure fair was held at Redruth on Saturday and Whit-Monday, thousands of people visiting the show grounds and enjoying the bill of fare provided. In the fair meadow stood Anderton's and Rowling's exhibition of pictures, gondolas, Brewer's horses, stalls, &c.; whilst in Moore's fields were Hancock's pictures, hobby horses, motor-cars, helter-skelter, Lawrence's marionettes, fat lady, boxing saloons, with the usual number of swings, shies, stalls, &c. R. Fossett's circus occupied the recreation ground, and gave two performances to large audiences, the horsemanship giving especial satisfaction.

Carlisle Hirings.

THIS Whitsuntide fair had many show novelties for its crowds of eager patrons. Amongst the attractions were Manders's waxwork exhibition, A. Biddall's cinématograph, Prof. Ruby's occult mysteries, Westray's freak exhibits, Bounds's novelty show, and Prof. Wood's athletes and boxers. The riding machines were James Wilmot's racing motors, Relph and Pedley's wheeling the whirl, J. Wingate's air ship, T. Day's steam horses and big boats, M. Mitchell's steam roundabouts and big boats, and similar concerns by Palmer, Biddall, Keys, Broughton, and J. Wilmot. The shooting novelties, always a big attraction at this fair, included the well-known concerns of Messrs. Strand, Black, Dawson, M. Mitchell, J. Day, J. Hughes, A. Palmer, S. Biddall, W. Slater, and A. Broughton. A great aggregation of throwing games and varieties were provided by Messrs. J. Macintosh, W. Strand, G. Black, Foster, Gibson, Dandy, Slater, Irvin and Sons, Palmer Bros., and other caterers. The weather was good, and everyone did good business.

Maryport Hirings.

THE exhibitions and machines at this fair included the cinématograph shows of Messrs. Relph and Pedley, Cotterell, and S. Biddall, and the riding machines of Messrs. Cariss, Relph and Pedley, and Cross; Lawrence's shooting concerns, and minor amusements by various caterers.

Cockermouth Fair.

THIS Cumberland hiring fair had for its entertainment Cotterell's cinématograph theatre, Relph and Pedley's Coliseum, Prof. Ruby's X-ray exhibition, and side shows by Biddall, Collens, and Ruby; Relph and Pedley's motor cars and wheeling the whirl, Cariss's switchback, Keys' roundabout, Cross's steam horses, and park swings by Cross and Lowther; shooting saloons by Irvin, Lawrence, Slater Bros., Merritt, Morris, and Leavson.

Penrith Fair.

A MORE than usually attractive crowd of fairground novelties were at this fair, and included George Biddall's cinématograph theatre, Wilmot's motor cars, Day's steam horses, Broughton's big boats, and park swings by Sam Biddall and Mrs. Palmer; Winchester ranges and rifle saloons by Day, Hughes, Broughton, and Biddall; Emma sheets, cokers, and roll-up boards by Hiscoe, Macintosh, Broughton, the Palmer Family, Ganzy, and Kelly; striking machines by Messrs. Palmer and Day Bros.

Kirkby Stephen.

THIS fair was well maintained by Manders, with cinématograph theatre and novelty booth; Carr, with steam horses; George Newsome, with bottle smasher, park swings, and coker sheets; Tim Newsome, with swings and Emma sheets.

Wigtown Hiring Fair.

AT this Cumberland fixture were Manders's waxwork exhibition, Mitchell's steam horses and swings, and Black's varieties and fair-ground amusements.

Cleethorpes Fair.

FOR the Whitsuntide crowds at Cleethorpes splendid entertainment was provided upon the fair-ground by Tuby and Sons' Coliseum and Henderson's cinématograph theatre, Squire's fine art exhibition, Dowey's whale show, the Cleethorpes Co., Ltd., switchback, Beel's bicycle track, Lock's steam horses and high-fliers, Warwick's slipping the slip, and juvenile horses by Taylor and Wilkes; park swings and variety games by Barwick, Winchester range by Westley, throwing games and varieties by Willis, Hawkley, Cooke, Simpson, Webb, Clayton, and Levi.

Caistor Fair.

THE local showmen, Messrs. Smith and Warren, and with them Mr. W. Duck, provided the fair-ground novelties of this Lincolnshire fair. These included galloping horses, Winchester range, rifle saloons, Emma sheets, and roll-up boards.

City of Coventry.

THIS ancient fair is now carried out under most up-to-date and modern conditions by the City Corporation, the fair-ground being set out in splendid style by the courteous superintendent of fairs, Mr. A. E. Stuart. Chief amongst the shows and machine novelties were Manders's menagerie, H. Thurston and Sons' cinématograph theatre, S. Braham's performing birds and Miss Braham in feats of magic mirth and mystery; P. Collins, with three first-class machines—motor cars, steam yachts, and big boats; H. Thurston and Sons, with gallopers; A. Twigdon, with switchback and motors; and steam horse sets by Messrs. Lowe, Neal, and Ford; swings by J. Lowe; shooting concerns by Parkin, Ford, Lowe, Shaw, Neal, and H. Parkin; variety games, Emma sheets, stalls, &c., by Messrs. W. Houldsworth, Campfield, Walser, Lowe, Parkin, Powell Bros., and other caterers.

Dorking Fair.

QUITE a representative crowd of Metropolitan showmen attended this fair, the principal show being Biddall's Royal bioscope; and the minor exhibitions were Hussey's boxing booth, novelty show, and Biddall's side show. The machine list included T. Harniess's switchback gondolas, W. Wilson's Venetian gondolas, C. Odam's steam horse set, and the juvenile roundabouts of Messrs. Pickard, Skelton, Laing, and Wilson, with park swings by W. Stenning, Winchester ranges and rifle saloons by Matthews and Odam, and throwing games and varieties by Ayrs, W. Davies, Stenning, Knighton, and Marney.

Looe (Cornwall).

THIS fair, under the control of Messrs. Hancock (Plymouth), had for its entertainers Hancock's cinématograph company, their well-known up-to-date machines, and crowd of minor varieties and side shows.

Birmingham Fair.

THE Rev. T. Horne, organiser and chaplain of the Showmen's Guild, will address two meetings at Birmingham Fair on Sunday next, the first meeting at 3.30 in the afternoon, and the second at 8 o'clock. Both gatherings will take place in Collins's Coliseum, on the fair-ground.

Clun (Shropshire).

THE chief attraction at this fair was R. Fossett's circus. The other show novelties were Charles Farrell's two sets of galloping horses, and one set each of big boats and swings. The rifle saloons, bottle smashers, and minor novelties were provided by Messrs. Wright, Turner, and Farrell.

President Kemp.

OWING to the success of last week the above well-known showman, who is deservedly held in great respect at Leicester, of which town he is a native, is staying over Wednesday in Whit-week. The entertainment provided at the Temperance Hall has received unstinted praise, consisting of the chronomegaphone (Gaumont's patent) singing and talking machine, and a really first-class series of humorous, dramatic, and coloured pictures, which are lucidly displayed by the proprietor. The Excelsior Prize Band also give selections.

Llanelly Fair.

AT the Llanelly fair-field, Messrs. Studt are still holding high revels, and Mr. Wm. Haggar with his magnificent bioscope show is doing well. Without the slightest doubt, Mr. Haggar's show is the very finest of its kind travelling Wales. The veteran proprietor is backed up in keeping the show right in front by his energetic sons and daughters, to say nothing of his good wife, who is always hard at work raking in the shekels.

Todmorden.

LORD JOHN SANGER AND SONS' Hippodrome company gave two fine performances here last Thursday in the Holme Field. The representation of *Dick Turpin's Ride to York* was most realistic, every detail having been carefully thought out. A unique feature of the show was Cyclo, the modern Hercules, who with the greatest ease bore the weight of a heavy motor-car, which he allowed to ride over him whilst stretched at full length on the floor of the ring.

Mansfield Whitsun Holidays.

ON Whit Monday in the Mansfield Market-place Messrs. Hazard, with swing-boats, and Bishop, with rifle saloon, catered for the crowds of outsiders who came to the Mansfield Agricultural Show. A good business was done.

Longton Borough Fête.

THE annual Borough Fêtes were held in the Queen's Park, Longton, on Whit Monday and Tuesday, nearly 80,000 people attending. The programme included the Japanese Ando troupe of acrobats in their sensational performance; Mr. Percy Victor's exceedingly clever dog minstrels; the Lizzette troupe of lady acrobats, in a charming turn; the Seddons, grotesque jugglers, who caused great laughter with their funniosities; Miss Elsie Rubina showed wonderful agility as a wire-dancer; the Swift trio of cyclists were attractive; La Belle Lily and Albert gave a finished performance on the aerial trapeze; and the Leros, the Sefton Bros., and the Wambas also ably contributed to the programme. Messrs. W. and J. Wilder, of Birmingham, the well-known pyrotechnists, provided the magnificent display of fireworks, which included many attractive novelties, notably "The Avalanche of Snow," which had a most beautiful and dazzling effect, "The Grove of Silver Palms," the amusing cock fight, and the concluding devices of the Russian bombardment and the eruption of Mount Etna. The daylight fireworks were productive of great amusement and many scrambles for the prizes dropped from the skies.

Lichfield Greenhill Bower

was celebrated on Whit-Monday with the usual old-day honours. Fortunately, the day, although cold, was fine, consequently the attendance was very large. The Old English fair element was catered for by Mr. C. Farrell, Mrs. Shepherd, Mrs. Weir, and others. The Bower procession was on a very elaborate scale, containing excellent military bands, tableaux, trades and civic items, Court of Array, including the men in armour, and a very picturesque presentation of the visit of Queen Elizabeth to the ancient city of Lichfield. The management are to be congratulated on a very successful festival.

York Whitsun Fair.

THE great event of this fair was the magnificent cinématograph theatre of Aspland Howden, the very last and greatest thing in grand organ-front, and the most up-to-date display of films. Ben Howden and Sons' (Aspland's) motor switchback also headed the list of machines, the other machine novelties being roundabout sets by Shipley, Warrington, small over-boats by Culine, and park swings by Fisher and Sons. Shooting concerns, football frames, varieties and throwing games, were provided by Gallaghar, Fisher, Watcon, Kelly, Baynes, Coline, Mrs. Johnson, and local caterers.

Whitsun Holidays at Middlesbrough.

THE amusement on the market ground was provided by Mr. A. Crow, who exhibited cinématograph theatre, galloping horses, and rifle saloons. Big boats were provided by Turton; swings and high-fliers by Rich and Twilley; Winchester ranges, rifle galleries, bottle batteries, throwing games, and varieties by Messrs. H. O'Brien, Harker, Twilley, Barugh, Watkins, W. Watkins, Nicholls, Rowley, and Rich.

News from Wales.

BOSTOCK AND WOMBWELL'S menagerie did excellent business at Mumbles Head; Wadbrooke's electrograph is taking private business at Abergavenny; Stone's cinématograph exhibition is at the Public Hall, Pembroke Dock; and at Haverford West are Taylor Bros'. boxing saloon, Danter's galloping horses, swings, shooters, and throwing games; T. Hill's steam horses, swings, Winchester range, bottle battery, and emma sheets, and North's Winchester range.

Horbury Feast.

THIS Whitsun Week fair was, as usual, attended by the immensely popular Yorkshire showman, Harry Ashington, whose cinématograph theatre is so great a favourite in the towns and villages of the county. Harry Ashington's entertainments, always up to date, met with a most well-deserved success. The other novelties included H. Waddington's gondolas, Thomas's motor car set and park swings, Barker's big boats, Proctor's high-fliers, Blake's swings and bottle battery, Houldsworth's rifle saloon, and shooting concerns by Barker and Rhodes. The principal providers of throwing games and varieties were Lorenzo, Bassett, Gladstone, and Tomlinson.

Castleford Fair.

ANOTHER capital fixture on the Yorkshire round is Castleford. The showmen and fun-makers at this fixture included Testo, with living picture show, Crighton with cinématograph, Gal Hague's black and white boxers, Prof. Gibson with temple of mystery, Tower's freak show and novelty booth, J. W. Waddington's gondolas, Goldthorpe Marshall's motor switchback, Crampton's galloping horses, Harniess's steam horses, Burrell's steam yachts, Morley's steam swings, Corragan's flying steam boats, and Richards's steam boats, Houldsworth's Alpine glissade, manual swings by Hyde and Hayes, Winchester ranges, shooting saloons, and bottle batteries by Jameson, Goodall, and Thomas, throwing games and varieties by Brogden, Doubtfire, Cookshaw, Turner Joy, Jones, Morley, Riley, Walker, Rhodes, and Lloyd.

Trade Defence Work.

AN important meeting of the Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen's Union is convened for next Tuesday at Bolton. Matters of urgent importance to the members of this Union and the interests of the showman world in general, will be discussed, and all necessary action taken. For place of meeting see our advertisement columns.

The White City.

THE old Botanical Gardens, at Old Trafford, Manchester, has been the site of many shows, of both national and local importance. The Art Treasures Exhibition of the early sixties, and the Great Jubilee Exhibition of the later nineties, will be well remembered by old showmen. Yet another change, and this time one of a possible permanent character. The White City, although it takes its name and a certain amount of its inception from the enterprise of American showmen, is quite distinctly a Manchester, and an entirely British, concern. Whilst the splendid grounds of the gardens have been clothed entirely in white, and most beautiful and original architectural novelties have changed the appearance of the place, it is gratifying to know that all that is worth preserving of the old ground still remains, such as the greenhouses, palm-houses, camellia house, and beautiful flower-beds.

THE outside appearance from the main entrances have been entirely repainted and decorated. The central arch is ornamented with a colossal figure of Britannia, and the side arches surmounted with statuary. It is truly a white city, for white paint artistically relieved with green paint and gold is all over the buildings. As we enter the gardens we find a broad promenade circling the grounds, and on the outer edge of this great circle are the variety shows, side shows, and entresol novelties. The fine old avenue of hawthorns has been preserved, and forms a portion of this magnificent promenade. There is, however, a large lake, and in this lake most charming fairy fountain effects are produced. The banks of the lake are bright with rich rhododendrons and other flowering shrubs; indeed, the flowers, shrubbery, and trees, as might be expected, in the metamorphosis of the Botanical Gardens, forms a most beautiful and abiding attraction.

Shows at the White City.

THAT enterprising British showman, Captain Tom Payne, has opened most interesting side shows. These include his unique collection of artistic pottery, and the ever-certain "draw," the midget pony. There is the Maxim airship, and another big show, entitled *Fighting the Flames*, a realistic representation of a burning street and the attack upon the fire by the gallant fire brigade, with dramatic rescues from burning houses, and other startling pyrotechnic effects. There is a helter-skelter, constructed to represent the fiery dragon rampant; an American box-ball show, and a distorting mirror exhibition, known as the "fun factory"; Hales's cinématograph, "Tours of the World"; a novel switchback, running on a track in the form of a figure eight; a watershoot, a subterranean river with grottos, caves and mazes, and the usual attendant novelties, varieties, and stalls.

FROM all that we have been able to learn, the White City has had a most successful opening week, and bids fair to take a distinguished place in the permanent attractions of the great cotton city.

Walsall Fair.

The principal attractions at this fair were—Sagar's palace of delight, with animated pictures; Proctor's circus; Holloway's ghost illusion; Warwick's living-picture show; Leonard Harris's novelty booth; P. Collins's motor-cars; T. Jervis's steam yachts; Mrs. Hayes's overboats and big swings; Caddick's park swings; S. Dobson's juvenile motor-cars, midget boats, shooting saloon, and throwing games; J. Caddick's juvenile horses; Montgomery's juvenile horses and motor-cars; shooting-ranges, throwing games, and minor amusements by Stokes, Cooper, Beach, Humphries, J. Humphries, Hughes, Walton, Groome, Turner, and Wright,—altogether making a splendid aggregation of fairground attractions, and resulting in good business to all concerned in the enterprise.

SUBSCRIPTION Guild Fund:—Per Mr. Shuttleworth, J. Smith, 5s.

THE SHOWMEN'S GUILD AT PRESTON FAIR.

As announced in *The Era* last week, the Honorary Chaplain, the Rev. T. Horne, conducted a Guild service for the showpeople on the fairground in Colonel Clarke's cinematograph theatre (kindly lent for the occasion by the proprietor). The beautifully-decorated and comfortably-seated pavilion was well filled, not only by showmen, but by their friends and neighbours, who gladly availed themselves of the opportunity of joining in Christian fellowship with the men and women of the fairground. The singing was led by junior members of the Parish Church choir, whose rich treble voices greatly assisted the singing of the popular hymns from the Guild service book. The Honorary Chaplain was assisted by the Rev. H. S. Butler, Vicar of Preston, and for many years past one of the honorary local chaplains of the Guild. The Chaplain read the service, and the lesson from Holy Scripture was read by the Vicar.

The Rev. T. Horne preached a sermon on the theme of the Church Festival of Whitsun, during which he explained the object of the Showmen's Guild services. It was an effort to bring the Church to the people of the fairground. The difficulties of the showman's life, on its mental and spiritual side, could only be properly met and sustained by the spiritual force that his business in life necessitated being brought to his very door. In the ordered and stately services of the Church of God they were attempting to bring to the needs of the showman the means of spiritual grace. The Showmen's Guild did not attempt either extraordinary mission work nor did they avail themselves of revivalistic methods—it was the quiet and sober worship of the Church of God on the fairground, within ready reach of the people to whom the Church, through the Showmen's Guild, desired to minister. The theme of the day—the Church's lesson for the high festival of Whit-Sunday—was the birthday of the Church, and the coming down in all fullness of spiritual power of the Holy Ghost, to abide in the Church for all time, to illuminate the intelligence, to give energy and power to all good and holy movements, and to raise the world into closer communion with God Eternal. Those of his hearers who had been with him at the Parish Church that day must have noticed that the Altar of God was vested in red—red, the symbol of the Holy Ghost.

Therefore it was a beautiful thought of the early church that interpreted the word "Whitsun" as signifying "tongues or darts of flame." When upon the first Whit Sunday the Holy Ghost bestowed upon the infant church the gift of tongues, the symbol of that gift was a little dart or flame of fire that rested upon the head of every member of the Church gathered in the upper chamber at Jerusalem. Every one in that congregation, he said, has this gift from God—a tongue, the power of speech; that sometimes unruly member could be used to bring either laughter or misery, to speak blessings or curses, to lead to peace, or exhort to war, such was the power of human language. Showmen made use of the gift of tongues to entertain the people. Showmen as a class should be thankful to God for the gift of tongues, the ability so to use that gift that they not only earn a livelihood, but also help to brighten and sweeten life for the toilers and the brain-workers who came to them for entertainment.

The afternoon meeting and conference did not take place as announced, owing to the unfortunate clash of dates with a prearranged visit of a number of the showpeople to breezy Blackpool. Many of these visitors, however, were back in time for the service, which was not held until after Festal Evensong at the Parish Church, at which the Rev. T. Horne was the preacher.

FILM GOSSIP.

ONE of Mr. Robt. W. Paul's latest productions is that of the misadventures of a broker's man, who endeavours to carry out his duties in a cottage, the occupant of which is a poor, but muscular, woman. The resourceful lady covers the interloper with dust, smothers him with flour, drenches him with water, and empties a pail of whitewash over his head. Finally, with the assistance of the husband, the unfortunate man is ducked in a neighbouring pond, with the whitewash pail still clinging round his neck. As a piece of ludicrous portraiture the film would be hard to beat.

AN amusing study of facial expressions is provided in "The Bookmaker," in which the "sport" is depicted following the race through his field glasses with mingled feelings of hope and despair, which turn to chagrin and disgust when, after paying out all his money, he is subjected to a severe mauling at the hands of his unpaid clients. The operations of a burglar at work are also represented in another of Mr. Paul's pictures. Interrupted in his work, the thief fortifies himself with a drink, and resumes business, but is disturbed, and eventually arrested by two policemen. The film is short (98ft.), but very dramatic.

ANSWERS TO SHOWMEN.

W.S.—*Since our answer to your inquiries last week we have been able to get more definite information. We have been in communication with a travelling showman who exhibits penalty football games and variety frames at our principal fairs. He gives cigarettes as prizes, but in order to do this he has to hold a regular tobacconist's licence, and in addition to this yearly licence he is compelled to take out a temporary seven days' licence for every fair he attends. The material point of the additional information is that you cannot get a temporary licence without producing your yearly licence, so that for the purposes of your business you must take out a full licence and also obtain a temporary one for every separate place you attend.*

G. W. (Leighton Buzzard).—*We have not the address you ask for, but advise you to try a letter addressed to the person you desire to find, care of* THE ERA *letterbox.*

J. Jennings (Battersea).—*We are much interested in your letter concerning the increase of tolls for stalls in the streets at Maidstone Fair. We shall make full inquiries and do all that is possible to safeguard the stallholders' interests in this matter. Could you tell us if there is a properly-published schedule of tolls for Maidstone Fair?*

Ashford Hill, Berks.

ASHFORD HILL Club and Fete was held on Wednesday, and a host of travellers were in attendance, amongst whom were—Baker's motors and gallopers; Samuel Stoke's gallopers; swings by Baker and Stokes; cocoanut shies by Stokes, Baker, Hicks, Piper, and Williams; globe and bottle shooters by Tathler, Baker, Piper, Stokes, and Webb; sporting games by Marco, Hicks, O'Brien, Allen, Piper, and Stokes; doll frames by Marco, O'Brien, G. Webb, Stokes, and Baker; and cake stalls, welks, and confetti by others too numerous to mention. Walter Payne's new show, "Dreamland by Bioscope," was also in attendance.

MR. LEWIS WILLOUGHBY is producing at the Palace, Greenwich, a farcical absurdity, entitled *An Artist's Dilemma*, on June 3.

MRS. BENNETT has been specially engaged by Mr. Harry Rickards for Australia to play lead in Mr. Edward Cranston's sketches. The popular actress will leave England on June 28.

BRITAIN'S HISTORIC FAIRS.

BY THE REV. T. HORNE.
(Copyright.)

PRESTON FAIR.

Historically, Preston rose up on the ruins of Ribchester, a Roman station farther up the river Ribble, upon which Preston is situated. It derives its name, Pres-ton, from "Priests' Town," because of the large number of religious houses that obtain in mediæval times, and are still perpetuated in its large number of churches. There are very few towns in Lancashire with so interesting a record and so important a part in the development of the great staple industry—cotton-spinning. Sir Richard Arkwright, the inventor of the spinning machine, was a native of Preston, and in the year 1777 the first cotton mills were set up in Preston, and gradually superseded the manufacture of linen which had been its principal product. Cotton-spinning, particularly the finer qualities, still remains its chief industry, although there are iron and brass foundries and steam boiler and engineering works. Quite recently it has developed a very large electrical engineering and tramcar building industry. There is also a considerable sea-going trade, and its facilities as a port have been greatly developed by the building of docks and deepening of the bed of the river at a cost of over £1,000,000.

Preston has no less than fourteen charters, and prior to the Corporation Acts enjoyed many valuable and peculiar privileges. Arising out of these charters was the world-famous "Guild Merchants," with its historical pageant, "The Preston Guild," celebrated every twenty years. There are a number of fairs for trading purposes; but the principal pleasure fair is held every Whitsun-week. This fair is one of the very best in Lancashire, and its great popularity is owing to the fact that every Whitsun-Monday the streets of Preston are given over to a series of most delightful street pageants. Lancashire, like Yorkshire, is famous for its Sunday schools. Some of these schools in Preston have a member roll of over a thousand scholars, and so great is the number of children and adults walking in procession that it takes between two and three hours for each procession to pass any given point. In the morning the Roman Catholic schools and guilds, with hundreds of banners and religious emblems, and thousands of scholars and guild members, taking part in the procession, pass along the streets, affording a sight to the tens of thousands of people who journey from all parts of the country to witness it. In the afternoon the Church of England schools, with their banners and school regalia, also perambulate the thronged streets, many thousand strong. The clergy and the choir of the Preston Parish Church head the procession, and at appointed places in the line of route the other church schools join the procession. There are, of course, with both the processions (the Roman Catholic and the Church of England schools) bands of music at proper intervals, and the general effect—the banners waving, the bands playing, the bonny children marching—is one that fixes itself upon the mind and carries home the conviction that English men and women have not lost either the joy of life or the love of colour and music that so many would have us believe.

The Fun of the Fair.

After the processions comes the abundant joy and life of the fair. It is, indeed, a fair, both as regards the number and the high-class quality of the entertainments provided, and also the excellent arrangement and order of the fair-ground. Great credit is due to the market superintendent, Mr. John Hardman, for the admirable plan of displaying the various novelties at Preston Fair. The big shows are arranged under the glass roof of the covered market, with the outside parades and fronts to the central and side avenues of the Market-square. Amongst these big concerns were President George Kemp's Dreamland, Capt. Tom Payne's bioscope, George Green's coliseum of varieties, and Colonel Clark's cinematograph theatre; Chipperfield's French menagerie, Le Neve and Norah Sullivan's physical culture show, E. Ball's midgets, Senator James Leo's willow plate illusion and fairy head, T. Wortley's ground booth, with Eagle Davies' knife-throwing entertainment, Charles Relph's freak show, Walter Shaw's fine art exhibition, and Wortley's novelty booth.

Machine Novelties at the Fair.

Upon the large Market-square were seen George Green's electric motors and Scotch roly-poly, John Green's electric motors and jungle gallopers, Wm. Mitchell's electric motors, B. Mitchell's electric motors, H. J. Wallis's electric over-head jumpers, E. Holland's razzle-dazzle, J. Hibbert's original hobby-horses, R. H. Williams's tunnel railway, East's overhead jumpers, Mitchell's steamboats, Harrison's helter-skelter, Mrs. John Cornwell's overboats; juvenile and gem horses by Messrs. Wilson, Humphrey, John Sharpe, Peter Parr, and Joseph Brierley; juvenile swings by Sharpe and Brierley, and park swings by Harrison.

Shooting Concerns.

Winchester ranges, egg and bottle shooters, and rifle saloons by George Cornwall, John Sharpe, J. D. Humphrey, R. H. Williams, W. A. Harrison, W. H. Taylor East, and Mesdames John Cornwell and A. Jewell. There were pannum stalls and refreshment booths by the following caterers; Butterworth, Jennings, Harrison, Ingham, Hunter, Ormrod, and other caterers.

Throwing Games and Varieties.

There were avenues and streets of fair-ground games, variety stalls, football penalty frames, cokernut sheets, ring and dart boards, and other games of skill. These were provided by the following caterers and stall-holders: J. Richmond, Lorenzo Crick, J. Taylor, the Garlick Family, John Ingham, Wm. Grant, jun., W. H. Jennings, T. Taylor, T. Forshaw, John Wilson, Walter Hoyle, J. Mitchell, R. Richmond, Herbert Johnson, J. D. Humphrey, Isaac Harrison, Wm. and Charles Wright, C. Malone, W. Dearden, John Boss, Joe Leonard, J. Freer, G. Chadwick, and Mrs. Lorenzo.

Preston, as the home of street pageant and merchant guilds, has a warm heart for the travelling showman, and the Corporation gives every facility at the time of the fair for the showman to exercise his historic craft. It is no wonder, therefore, that Preston has produced many notable showmen. Amongst these, Messrs. George and John Green and the Forshaw family take high rank. Mr. John Hardman, the courteous and obliging market superintendent, takes an especial interest in the well-being of the show tenants of the fair-ground, and is an honorary member of the Showmen's Guild.

Crickhowell.

THE entertainers at this fair were the local showmen, Evans and Sons, with galloping horses and shooting concerns. Side shows and varieties by Messrs. Gaze, Clarke, and Cloger.

Sir Robert Fossett at Penzance.

This celebrated circus and hippodrome, after performing to crowded houses throughout Cornwall, has been at Penzance during Wednesday and Thursday of this week. The popularity of this show is well evident by the enthusiastic patronage it has received at Penzance, every item of the programme being attended by well-deserved applause. Amongst the artists were the well-known members of the Fossett family—Miss Fossett, Robert Fossett, jun., and Thomas Fossett; the Two Rennys; Miss Hilda; Mlle. Emmie; Ida Evile; Master Thomas; Miss Masie; Comic Alfo; Jacky O'Clown; and, of course, the trained horses and elephants. An interesting item in the programme was the introduction of Gaumont's latest Bioscope.

THE HIPPODROME.

The uncommon attractions of the Whitsun Hippodrome programme to which we drew our readers' attention last week have secured large holiday houses at the fine building in Leicester-square. It is, indeed, an *embarras de richesses* that Mr. Fred Trussell is presenting in a show that is both instructive and amusing. The best educational authorities insist that the youth of the country should be trained to think imperially, and surely Mr. Albert Toft's series of representations, entitled "The Makers of History," should be instrumental in accomplishing something towards this most desirable consummation. Historical episodes in the lives of soldiers, sailors, statesmen, politicians, and actors are shown by means of statuary, which has the sense of real art, as posed by the famous sculptor, whose chosen models are admirably trained. There is nothing commonplace; every group shown is dignified, impressive. The personalities of Imperial history date from Lord Clive, the conqueror of India, to whose memory an ungrateful country has hitherto denied a statue. He is seen at the Hippodrome posed in a beautiful vista of the nave of Westminster Abbey. Politics might have been a drawback to these groups; but the audience recognise just as cheerfully John Burns in his bowler as they do Lord Charles Beresford, who is credited with saying that "battleships are cheaper than battles." William Ewart Gladstone, the enthusiastic friend of Bulgaria, is represented in a characteristic attitude; and Lord Beaconsfield figures in a very interesting way, his famous phrase "Peace with Honour" being dealt with in an original manner by the sculptor. The popular Joe Chamberlain may be said to excite the enthusiasm of "party" exceedingly well. Sir William Treloar, the genial Lord Mayor, is also a much-applauded figure. Sir Henry Irving and his art rise above the shibboleth of political strife, and the "chief" has been treated with a profound dignity and reverence that do honour both to the imagination and the heart. "Makers of History" is altogether a delightful entertainment, and the introductory matter has been well written by Mr. Fred Bowyer.

Cracking a whip may appear comparatively simple to the uninitiated, but when the thong is over 24ft. in length, and the stock 18in., precision of eye, the greatest delicacy of wrist play, and muscular strength are required to, say, take a bullock out of a mob of wild cattle on the left side of the horse without touching his ears or injuring him. With his whip at 25ft. distance, Mr. Lindsay, an Australian, cuts a cigarette in half, held in the mouth of an attendant. He extinguishes a lighted candle at a similar range, and then with a different crack cuts the candle in half. He takes the ash off a cigar whilst it is being smoked, with his deadly lash, which is, nevertheless, quite harmless when he wishes to make it so. For instance, he seemingly flogs a man with terrific force without hurting him, and ties his whip in a knot round the man's arm without raising the slightest mark. The whip wielded by Mr. Lindsay smashes an ordinary wine bottle, and with the thong he can disarm a man. Perhaps his most effective display is when he brings down the whip with full force upon a lady's bare arm, and she skips in the coils of the whip with him.

Another Australian turn of surpassing interest is that of the tree-fellers, Henry Horrocks Jackson and Peter McLaren, who are presented in a very fine scene of an Antipodean forest, with pioneers or axemen at work. In these cases axes are ground for Imperial aims, and the music of the woodmen is an agreeable prelude to the strenuous contest between the two men, each of whom hack in most skilful fashion at a log measuring 60in. in circumference. Enthusiasm is displayed at the conclusion of the contest, which is exceedingly close. Other turns on a bill of surpassing interest are the Martinecks, in a wonderful human doll show, the Columbias, the Auroras, Li and Lou, Orford's elephants, the Jackson Family, Rapoli, Speedy, and *The Typhoon*.

DUCHESS PALACE.

Many changes have taken place at this popular hall. Mr. L. Westcott Hicks, who was acting-manager here for some time, before he went to Ealing, has returned in the capacity of manager, in place of Mr. Bertram C. Ross, who has taken over the Operetta House, at Clacton-on-Sea. Mr. Blight, the late acting-manager, has gone to Ealing to fill the position lately occupied by Mr. Hicks, and in his place we have Mr. Arthur F. Vernall. Then we have a new *chef d'orchestre* in place of Mr. Hulley. This week a most interesting programme has been arranged, and is being witnessed twice nightly by delighted houses, the holding capacity of the hall being taxed to its very utmost. A prominent place in this week's bill is occupied by Whit Cunliffe, who sings a couple of songs in his usual exhilarating manner. How he has won the hearts of Balhamites is proved by the hurricane of applause that greets the signalling of his appearance. He is exploiting, with every sign of success, a new ditty, entitled, "As soon as she gets home," and it is most favourably received. This has a most taking chorus, and bids fair to take rank with his many other successes. Afterwards he sings "Poor old father." In response to an undeniable demand, he gives "Hello, hello, hello." An interesting number is supplied by Les Fleurs d'Orange, a troupe of Dutch singers and dancers. Their turn consists principally of singing and dancing. Afterwards they sing in English "The Zuyder Zee," and do a sabot dance, which proves most acceptable. Rosie Archer, a clever mimic, is giving imitations of Harry Lauder, Kate Carney, Vesta Victoria, Daisy James, and Connie Ediss, all of whom are faithfully impersonated. Rastus and Banks, two Darktown entertainers, are well to the fore. They introduce into their turn some exceptionally clever dancing, the male member especially proving himself a wonderful exponent of this art. Frank Sylvo, comedy juggler, is doing a number of original tricks, and shows himself to be a thorough master of his work. Gertie Gitana, a sweet-voiced comedienne, is heard to advantage in the tuneful ditty, entitled "Nellie dear." She brings her turn to a conclusion with some capital dancing, and is rewarded with hearty and prolonged applause. Oakley and James are presenting what is described on the programme as a "tit-bit of everything." Whatever they do, be it singing or tumbling, is performed in a finished manner. John F. Preston, supported by a capable company is here again with the racing episode, entitled *Rogues of the Turf*. They have a most flattering reception. A most enjoyable evening is brought to a conclusion by some interesting pictures shown by the Bioscope. They are viewed with every sign of interest and approval. The orchestra is excellent, and by its performance of the incidental music, considerably adds to the enjoyment of the evening. Mr. Westcott L. Hicks does not allow himself to be worried by the tremendous business he is doing, and smilingly greets his friends and patrons.

RICHMOND THEATRE.

The wretched weather which prevailed on Monday had a favourable effect on the treasury here, and long before the curtain rose the house was packed to its utmost capacity. The Claymores display wonderful skill with their clubs, and dance with conspicuous ability. The Treshams vocalise cleverly in a comedy act, entitled *Roads Up*; this mainly is a display of the antics indulged in by a band of youthful hooligans. Very talented, too, are these lads of the pavement, and one of their number brought down the house with the ever-popular air, "Sally in our alley." Miss Bessie Butt charms the audience with a dainty nautical ballad, "Adieu, little girl"; her methods will improve with experience. Her second contribution, "Rosie," is admirable, and thoroughly satisfied the audience; not only did she succeed vocally, but danced a coon ditty with much grace. Mr. Frank Bernard's company, in a telephonic skit, entitled *Hello*, do well. The plot turns on the ruse adopted by an impecunious lawyer, who "raises the wind" by means of a mock public telephone. Roars of merriment greeted the cleverly-sustained sketch, and everyone in the company worked loyally to win the success achieved. Mr. Max Guy's always-capable orchestra delight the audience with a selection from *Florodora*, after which Mr. Hal Hughman, who hails from the other side, proves himself a mimic of no inconsiderable ability; his imitations are simply wonderful. Especially may this be said of the youthful tyro on the jew's harp; nor should his mimicry of chanticleer pass unnoticed. *Mysteria*, introduced by Lazerne, the mystic, is an exceptionally interesting turn. In proof that Lazerne has not assumed a fictitious appellation, it may be said he produces from apparently nowhere watches, flags, handkerchiefs, and innumerable other items A quick change from a drawing-room to a tastefully-decorated garden is one of the hits of the evening. Miss May MacCrystal adds to the success of *Mysteria* by her tasteful piano solo. Mr. Charlie Carr is a young comedian who sings of the trials of Cupid, and has an *affaire* with a fickle maiden known as his "Jersey Lily," after which comes a coon song. The Cumberlands, quite a clever troupe of trick cyclists, evidence their ability and amazing dexterity in some really wonderful feats; the midget of the company deserves special mention. Vernon's Bioscope finishes an excellent show with an amusing episode, "Baby's First Outing." The *première* is not a success—so far as baby is concerned.

HOLBORN EMPIRE.

Mr. John Lawson's new sensational sketch, entitled *The Unwritten Law*, which we fully noticed when it was produced here three weeks ago, still retains its position in the programme. Quite a triumph of stage realism is the scene which comes last—the desperate fight between Shepston, the unscrupulous betrayer of young girls, and Evelyn's husband, who finally produces a revolver and shoots the villain. The careful attention to matters of detail as well as to general effect, so characteristic of all Mr. Lawson's productions, is again discernable in the new sketch. The acting is also on a high level of excellence. Mr. Lawson displays the requisite earnestness and determination in his embodiment of the young millionaire who rescues Evelyn Norman, and so eloquently denounces that particular form of vice, the victims of which are young girls, who in many cases have no one to take their part or avenge their wrongs. Miss Buena Bent plays exceedingly well the part of Evelyn, and Miss Barbara Babington and others give adequate support.

A valuable recruit from the theatres appears in the person of Miss Mabel Green, who, after appearing in small parts in *The Cherry Girl* and *The Cingalee*, displayed so much charm and vivacity that Mr. George Edwardes decided to give her a chance, and she appeared with Miss Adrienne Augarde as one of the little Michus, scoring a notable success. She subsequently played the part on tour with equal acceptance. Her engagement at the Holborn Empire adds considerably to the strength of the bill. Easy and graceful in every movement, she sings a song of no great distinction with a charm of manner that renders it most acceptable. According to the programme, Little Victoria is "making her first appearance in the West End." She is a pretty little girl, of about eight years of age, and she comes on in the character of an Irish lass, bearing a tray containing bunches of shamrock. She sings in pleasing style, and finishes with an Irish jig which evokes loud applause. Mr. Harry Leybourne, announced on the bills as a comedian and double-voiced vocalist, scores an undoubted success, opening with a clever imitation of the rendering by several voices of "Hail, smiling morn." Next he gives a duet, as sung by an old man and his wife; and finally, by a startlingly rapid change of dress, done in full view of the audience, he appears as a nervous young lady, in full evening costume, who sings a popular ballad, her effort being marred by laughable awkwardness in the management of her arms. The Ongars are a couple who work hard as quick change dancers. They give various national dances, concluding with a cleverly done Russian one. The Tally Ho Trio appear in an act in which one of them disguises himself as a waiter, and so plays a trick upon his companions. They possess good voices, and know how to use them to the best advantage. Jordan and Harvey, Hebrew comedians, with their ditties and very amusing patter, obtain a good reception, which they certainly deserve. The Selbinis are in the front rank as trick cyclists, and their clever performance is watched with the closest interest. All the members of the troupe are experts in their business. The three Sisters Lee distinguish themselves as vocalists, dancers, and acrobats. Mr. Phil Ray, comedian, continues not only to sustain his popularity, but to increase at every appearance the number of his admirers. Miss Ruby Emmerson sings in winsome style, and is rewarded by loud applause. Mr. Mark Leslie is a coon vocalist who makes a hit by his smart dancing; and Mr. Tom Collins, comedian, is also well received. The Imperial Bioscope, with new films, remains an attraction. The excellent orchestra, under the direction of Mr. James Sale, deserves mention, as also do the services rendered by Mr. Claude Marner, as manager, and Mr. William A. Salmond as acting-manager.

THE M.H.B.F. DINNER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—The fact that Miss Marie Lloyd has graciously consented to preside at the annual dinner at the Trocadero on Sunday, June 9, in aid of our funds is proof enough that she at least takes the high position of advocating the claims of the poor above all commercial questions which for some time past have agitated the professional world, during which the income of this fund has been disastrously affected. Indeed, we are at such a low ebb that it has been necessary for us to appeal for immediate assistance to other music hall associations, to which it is to be trusted they will not lend a deaf ear.

Miss Marie Lloyd has been for years one of our most sympathetic supporters, and has not only given us generous help herself, but his induced her friends to do the same.

It behoves every artist, both lady and gentleman, to rally round their chairman on such an occasion, and show that although vital questions are at issue they can bury all feelings of animosity and discord in their desire to help their poorer brother and sister artists. I feel confident that proprietors, managers, agents, and all interested in the music hall world will only be too glad of the occasion to spend a pleasant evening where all other thoughts may be forgotten in their mutual desire to look after the poorer members of their large and growing family. Artists especially should make a point of being present, even if they have to come from the country, to show they are not unmindful of the call of Charity. We have had many splendid gatherings with leading and well-known gentlemen presiding, but I trust the departure we have made in inviting a lady to preside will make the occasion not only unique in that respect, but also in the financial announcement at the dinner, when in the interest of the "Pensioners" and the "Weekly Relief Fund," I may be able to announce a record of both attendance and donation list.

To those who cannot possibly come, let me say that the spirit of their goodwill shall be in attendance if they send me a donation in advance.

Faithfully yours,
HORACE MARRIOTT.
Secretary, Music Hall Benevolent Fund.
18, Adam-street, Adelphi, May 22.

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ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS.

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MILTON BODE'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies for DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
June 3, Aug. 5, 12, Oct. 28, Dec. 16, Jan. 20, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Sept. 9, Oct. 14, Nov. 4, 11, 25, Dec. 2, Feb. 3, 10, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
Aug. 5, 12, Dec. 9, Feb. 10, March 2, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
Aug. 5, 12, 19, Sept. 9, Oct. 14, 21, 28, Nov. 11, 18, 25, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Aug. 12, 19, 26, Sept. 16, Nov. 11, 18, Dec. 9, Feb. 10, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
June 24, Aug. 19, 26, Oct. 7, 28, Nov. 25, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
June 10, Sept. 2, Nov. 18, 25, Dec. 2, Feb. 3, 10, on
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
June 24, Aug. 5, 12, 19, Sept. 9, 30, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON.
Sept. 2, 9, 16, 23, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, THEATRE, READING.

WANTED, First-class Companies.
GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE.
July 29, Aug. 12, May 4, '08, onwards.
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD.
July 22, Sept. 23, April 6, '08, onwards.
Address, SIDNEY BACON, Metropole T., Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-Class Companies for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD.
Aug. 12, 19, 26, Sept. 2, 9, onwards.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON.
Aug. 19, Sept. 30, Oct. 7, 14, 21, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY.
Aug. 12, 19, 26, Sept. 2, 9 (three nights only).
E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Attractions for QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH.
June 17, 24, July 1, 8, 15.
Business excellent.
Everything done to ensure success.
MORTON POWELL, Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, for weeks of
June 24 and July 1.
Wire or write,
W. W. KELLY,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for the following dates:
June 3, 10, 17, 24, and July 1.
Apply, Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR,
24a, Regent-street, S.W.

WANTED, Important Attractions, Standard Theatre, Sept. 23 (?), Terriss Theatre, Sept. 2 and 16; Grand Theatre, Aug. 19 and Sept. 23.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE WIDNES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for Aug. 12, 19,
Sept. 2, 9, and onwards, with exceptions.
Required, High-class Musical Shows.
Address,
THOS. SWINTON.

BRIDLINGTON SPA THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.
Thoroughly Up-to-date, Re-opens July 29.
Electricity throughout; new scenery; large stage dimensions.
WANTED, First-class Attractions.
Holds £100 at ordinary prices.
Only Vacant Dates,
Sept. 5, 6, 7; 12, 13, 14; 19, 20, 21.
Must be the best Attractions on the road.
HENRY HAGUE, General-Manager.

OPERA HOUSE, JERSEY.
ST. JULIAN'S, GUERNSEY.
WANTED, through transferring, First-Class Musical Comedy Companies, Aug. 5 and 12, and various onwards; also good Dramas.
Business excellent in both Islands.
Bookings include Mrs. Patrick Campbell, "The Dairymaids," "The Blue Moon," "The Duchess of Dantzic," "Girl from Kay's," "The Orchid," "The Cingalee," "Raffles," "Are You a Mason?" "The Dandy Doctor," "Sapho," &c. Arrangements can be made to open Guernsey Tuesdays (five nights and matinée), open Jersey Mondays (five nights and matinée). Cross and return from anywhere at reduced fares. Write me for particulars. EDWARD MARRIS, Lessee.

OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, July 15, 22.
Address,
STANLEY ROGERS, 124, Warwick-road, Carlisle.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.
WANTED, First-Class Dramatic Companies, for July 1, 8, and 15.
Address,
CHARLES REVILL, Theatre Royal, Stockport.

GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions, June 3, 10, 17, 24, on, and a few Autumn Dates. FRED GRANVILLE, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

WANTED, for the Theatre Royal, Jarrow, First-Class Attraction, through disappointment, for June 24 (Race Week), big holiday date. Apply, HUGH ROBERTSON, Jarrow.

WANTED, Sound Attraction, June 3. SHERWOOD and Co., Opera House, Wakefield.

WANTED, Good Company, Aug. 19 (3 nights).
Apply, J. W. CHAPMAN, Grand Theatre, Doncaster.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, LONGTON.
WANTED, Good Attraction, June 17.
H. SHERRIFF HOWARD, General Manager.

WANTED, No. 1 Co's., Autumn and onwards.
Grand Theatre, Mansfield.

WANTED, good Strong Attraction for June 3.
Wire, HORNER,
Victoria Theatre, Burnley.

WANTED, Something Good for June 3, Grand, Chorley.
Address, SANTE, Theatre, Radcliffe.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, Aug. 5, 12, 19, Sept. 2 (Race Week), Dec. 2, 16, April 13, and onwards.
Address, T. ALLAN EDWARDES.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies,

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER,
Vacant July 15, 22, 29, onward, with exceptions.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Vacant May 27, June 3, onward, with exceptions.
(Last three nights of each week).

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY,
Vacant June 3, 10, 17, onward, with exceptions.

METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY,
Vacant Aug. 5, 12, 19, onward, with exceptions.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE,
Vacant Aug. 5, 12, 19, onward, with exceptions.
"THE LOST CHORD."
Vacant Aug. 5, onward, with exceptions.

"THE SPAN OF LIFE,"
Vacant July 22, 29, onward, with exceptions.

"CINDERELLA,"
Vacant Feb. 24, March 2, onward, with exceptions.

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ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

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Nothing Succeeds Like Success.
Nothing Succeeds Like Success.
See Mr. Charles Manners' Letter in "The Era" of April 6.

WANTED, July 15, onward, with exceptions.
No. 1 Attractions only.
Enormous Business, Large Holding Capacity.
Can offer
Special Terms.
Share or Certainty.
Nothing too Big.
Fast Booking Autumn Dates.
Will Guarantee any Special Attraction.
Open to Negotiate for Easter Panto., 1908, 2 weeks.
All Communications, JNO. ED. JOWSEY,
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Telegrams, "Magnet," Middlesbrough.
Telephones, 413, 426, 500.
Silence a Polite Negative.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
Sole Lessee, JULIAN MALVERN.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, July 15 (?), 22 (?), Sept. 30, and 1908.
Booking: Mr. Lewis Waller's "Robin Hood," "The Blue Moon," "The Earl and the Girl," "Raffles," "The Girl Behind the Counter," "Peter's Mother," "Mr. Popple," "The Breed of the Treshams," &c.
Address, CHAS. M. JULIAN, General-Manager.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, Sept. 2, 9, 16, Oct. 7, 14, 21, Dec. 2, 16.
Wanted, Pantomime, Dec. 30.
Apply to Mr. JAMES KIERNAN.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, KEIGHLEY.
WANTED, First-Class Musical and Dramatic Attractions, for Autumn and Spring, one of the finest buildings in Yorkshire, and a Theatre where big money is taken. Apply, L. CARSON, Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLNE, LANCS.
WANTED, Good Attraction, Aug. 12.
Share or Certainty.
Address, GERALD HARDING.

STANLEY, DURHAM, NEW ROYAL, LTD.
WANTED, Good Dramatic, Musical, or Variety Companies, June 17 (to oblige Sidney Bacon, Esq.), and Autumn. Apply, MARK H. LINDON.

COLISEUM, ABERYSTWYTH.
WANTED, Best Companies only, May 30 31, June 1, 10, 11, 12, and 14, 15, June 17 and 24, onwards. vacant. Apply, PHILLIPS.

WANTED, Good Dates for Principal Musical Attractions, from Aug. Bank Holiday, onward. Communicate immediately, CHARLES MACDONA, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies for June 24, July 1, 8, 15, 22, Aug. 5. Address, E. B. GOULDEN.

PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE.
WANTED, Good Company, June 24, unexpectedly vacant.
ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

RAMSGATE THEATRE
(SANGER'S AMPHITHEATRE).
WANTED, First-class Companies, for the few remaining Season Dates, also Jan., Feb., and onwards.
Address, HENRY BOWMAN.

WANTED, Powerful Attractions, Princess's, Glasgow, July 29, Aug. 5, Sept. 23, 30; also Lyceum, Govan, Aug. 5, 12, Nov. 4.
Address, RICH. WALDON.

THEATRE ROYAL, PLYMOUTH,
WANTED, Special Attraction for June 10.
June 10.
Apply, Mr. C. F. WILLIAMS,
T. R., Plymouth.

MARINA THEATRE, LOWESTOFT.
WANTED, First-Class Attraction (not Drama), for June 10.
Address, E. A. SMITH.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies for two nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. ASHTON, Strand, Barnstaple.

WANTED, Comedy or Operatic Companies, Touring Scotland, to Book Theatre Royal, Inverness, vacant dates Oct. onwards. Mr. CAMERON BURGESS, Manager.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions, for Victoria Theatre, Kettering, under new management, Aug. Bank Holiday and Christmas vacant. Write, BAILEY, Manager.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTHEND.
WANTED, 3 nights, July 4, 5, 6; week, July 29, and Bank Holiday, Aug. 5, also 3 nights, Sept. 25, 27, 28, for musical and good class companies.

KNIGHTSTONE PAV. AND OPERA HOUSE, WESTON-SUPER-MARE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, June 10, 24, also July. Sharing terms. W. PAYNE.

WANTED, First-class Co.'s, for Treherbert and Maesteg, three nights or six nights each, June 10, on. Those who have written lately, please send present address. Good Co.'s can rely on good Business. Apply, C. W. POOLE,
Palace Theatre, Gloucester.

COMPANIES WANTED.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessees and Managers,
MR. and MRS. CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.
The Leading Theatre of the Town.
The Only Theatre in the Town Lighted by Electricity.
The Only Theatre in the Town allowed to Advertise on the Electric Cars.
The Theatre which does the Business.
Now in Course of Rebuilding.
The Seating Capacity of each part of the House is being Largely Increased.
The Holding Capacity of the Theatre will be Second to None in the Town.
The Stage will be Capable of any Production Touring, will be able to fly a 36ft. cloth.
The Theatre will Re-open Aug. 5.
The Theatre will Re-open Aug. 5.
Autumn Bookings include
"The Dairymaids,"
Mr. James Welch's Co., in
"When Knights Were Bold,"
Miss Annie Hughes, in
"Tommy,"
Mr. Norman Macowan, in
"Monsieur Beaucaire,"
"The Little Stranger"
(including Master Edward Garrett),
"A Trip to the Highlands,"
Mr. Bannister Howard's No. 1 Company,
"The Eternal City,"
and other of the Principal Attractions Touring.
WANTED, Exceptional Attractions, Aug. 12, 19, and Various, onwards.
CALVERT ROUTLEDGE, H. M. T., Barrow.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
The Premier Theatre in the Furness District.
Holds £90 at ordinary Prices.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, Vacant July 15, 22, 29, Aug. 12, 19, 26, and various on.
The following, amongst others, are future Bookings for the above Theatre:—
Allan Wilkie, Lingford Carson's Companies, "In Holy Russia," "A Little Vagrant," "A Destroyer of Men," "The Breed of the Treshams," "Life of a Showman," Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's Companies, Mrs. D'Oyly Carte's No. 1 Répertoire Company (tenth visit), "Raffles," F. R. Benson's Co. (third visit), Baron H. Harriss's No. 1 Company, "The Prince of Pilsen," Mr. Percy Hutchison's Companies, including "Peter's Mother," Mr. George Edwardes' own Company, in See-See," Silvanus Dauncey and M. V. Leveaux's No. 1 Company, in "The Walls of Jericho," "The Girl from Japan," "The Sign of the Cross," &c., &c.
All application for dates to
HUGH ROBERTSON,
T. R., Jarrow.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLYTH-BY-SEA, NORTHUMBERLAND.
Monday, May 27, and during the week,
"A WOMAN'S PAST."
Huge success of Mr. William Mollison and Co. in
"BESIDE THE BONNIE BRIER BUSH."
Managers in doubt please note, and refer to Wm. Mollison, Esq.
WANTED, First-Class Companies; must have splendid drawing powers, June 10, July 1, 15 (latter date Miners' Picnic Week), also Aug. 19 (Flower Show Week), Musical preferred July 15 and Aug. 19.
Apply,
A. C. MOODY, Lessee.

PUBLIC HALL, COLWYN BAY.
WANTED, good Attractions, June 3, on, with exceptions. Share or rental. Apply, CHAS. R. CHAPLIN.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity. Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, onwards, Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. COTTON.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE GIRL WHO TOOK THE WRONG TURNING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres, Aug. 12, Oct. 7, Nov. 18.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE SOLDIER'S WEDDING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 23.
Apply,
WALTER MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 12, Oct. 7.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 12, 19, Sept. 23, and Dec. 23, 30.
FREDERICK MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 9, 23, Dec. 23.
FREDERICK MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

FRED MELVILLE'S NEW PRODUCTION.
"HER ROAD TO RUIN."
WANTED, Oct. 28, and on.
FREDERICK MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 30, Nov. 25.
TOM H. TAYLOR,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 16, Oct. 28, Nov. 4, 11, and Xmas.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Aug. 19, Dec. 23, 30.
Douglas Bruce, 13, Howitt-rd., Haverstock-hill, N.W.

"IN A WOMAN'S GRIP."
WANTED, Sept. 9, 16, 30, Oct. 21.
ANDREW MELVILLE,
Metropole Theatre, Birmingham.

"DRIVEN FROM HOME."
WANTED, Aug. 26, Sept. 2, 30, Oct. 21.
ANDREW MELVILLE,
Metropole Theatre, Birmingham.

"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY."
The Most Successful Play Produced during the year 1906.
WANTED, Sept. 2 and 9, in First-Class Theatres only. Wire or write,
W. W. KELLY,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, weeks of July 22 and Sept. 2, Scala Production.
Wire or write,
W. W. KELLY,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN." The performance of the play given at the Theatre Royal this week is without exception the best we have seen.—Brighton Society. Grand Revival of the "OCTOROON," with all the Scenery, own special Printing, Negro Specialities, &c.
WANTED, Theatres, July 8, onwards.
CHARLES HARRINGTON, Metropole Theatre, Devonport.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, June 10, 24, July 1, 8, 15, 22.
Address, J. W. CORDINER,
May 27, Grand Theatre, Southampton.
See Companies Advertisements, Page 2.

WANTED, Good Theatre, for Xmas Week, for Walter Howard's Latest Play, "Second to None." No certainties. Address, T. E. WARD, S. T., Liverpool.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Dates for
"WHEN IT WAS DARK,"
"WHEN IT WAS DARK,"
"WHEN IT WAS DARK,"
"WHEN IT WAS DARK,"
the Most Powerful Dramatic Attraction Touring.
Splendid Cast.
Miss HILDA BEVERLEY
as
GERTRUDE HUNT.
Mrs. Morton Powell as Helena Byars,
Mr. Edward Valentine as Sir Robert Llewellyn,
Mr. W. J. Butler as Constantine Schaube,
Mr. Stanton E. Sharpe as Rev. Basil Gortire,
Mr. H. B. Lewis as Harold Spence.
A Magnificent Production.
Vacant
July 15, Aug. 5, Sept. 9, 23.
MORTON POWELL, Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth.

"GREED OF GOLD."
WANTED, for this Money-maker,
Sept. 23, Oct. 7, 14, 21.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"HONOUR THY FATHER."
WANTED, Dates for this
Great Domestic Drama,
June 17, June 17,
Aug. 5, 12, 19, 26.
MORTON POWELL, Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth.

"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
WANTED, Dates,
July 15, 22, Sept. 23, 30,
the Finest Romantic Play Touring.
No Clap-trap Situations.
A Great Heart Play.
Goes Like Wildfire.
Draws the Money.
Star Cast,
Miss Lillian Herries as Countess Steinback.
George Steele as Count Steinback.
Percy Ballard as Baron Cratzlaw.
Brilliant Production.
MORTON POWELL, Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN,"
WANTED, July 1, Aug. 5 and 12, Sept. 9, and few later.
Continued Success.
"DIVORCED,"
A New Powerful, Emotional, and Modern Domestic Drama. Can be played in conjunction, or booked separately. May 27, Court T., Wigan.

MR. AND MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COS.
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
WANTED, June 10 and 17, for this great Play. New Uniforms and Effects; Band of Drums, Fifes, and Bugles for Parade.
"A SISTER'S SIN."
Wanted, July 29, for this Romantic Drama. A happy blend of Comedy and Pathos.
"A SOLDIER'S HONOUR."
All dates this year filled.
F. G. KIMBERLEY,
Vauxhall, The Scotlands, Wolverhampton.

LINGFORD CARSON'S REPERTOIRE CO.
"A MODERN ADVENTURESS,"
"THE HEART OF A HERO,"
"THE TICKET-OF-LEAVE MAN,"
"THE OCTOROON,"
and "THE SHAUGHRAUN."
Everything carried. Finest and largest plant of pictorials ever used. The most perfect Dramatic Combination touring. Business enormous. Refer.
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 23, 30, Oct. 7, 14, 28, Nov. 11, 25, onwards.
DRAYCOTT, L. T., Newport.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
Continued Success. Third Year.
WANTED, June 3 (owing to transfer).
Wire for June 3. Wire.
June 17, July 22.
Aug. 12, follow Alexandra, Birmingham.
FRANK AYRTON,
Theatre Royal, Ton-y-Pandy.

MESSRS. ARMADALE AND WARREN'S CO.
"THE FACE AT THE WINDOW."
WANTED, Oct. 7, 14, 21, 28, Nov. 4 (North) for the above Attraction.
Address, F. BROOKE WARREN,
110, Woodvale, Dulwich, London, S.E.

MISS DOROTHEY CACEY'S CO.
"WHEN WE WERE TWENTY-ONE."
including Mr. RIDDELL ROBINSON.
and strong Cast.
The original Scenery carried; only one interior required.
WANTED, June 10, to precede New Theatre, Cardiff, also 24th, and various onwards.
FRANK NELSON, Pier Pavilion, Eastbourne.

FRANK M. THORNE'S CO'S
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
WANTED, June 10.
Summer Production of "The Octoroon."
Wanted, June 10.
F. M. T., Prince's Theatre, Preston.

Mr. WILLIAM MOLLISON'S TOUR.
WANTED, Sept. 30 (?), and Nov. dates, Feb. 10, 17, and 24.
See advt. in Companies Column.
Address, SIDNEY COOPER,
Lyceum Theatre, Newport, Mon.

GARSIDE and KNOWLE'S PRODUCTIONS.
WANTED, Theatres. "The London Fireman," vacant June 10; "Her Marriage Vow," vacant Sept. 16, 23, 30. Address, Lyric T., Hammersmith.

MISS BONWIN CARLTON'S CO.,
"THE PLUCKY NIPPER."
"THE PLUCKY NIPPER."
WANTED, June 3, June 3, June 10, July 1.
Wire for June 3. Wire.
EDWARD SURREY, to-day, Coliseum, Aberystwyth; next, T. R., Shrewsbury.

"THE NEW WORLD."
WANTED, June 17, Aug. 5, onward, with exceptions, excellent Cast and Musical Numbers. Re show refer to F. P. Morgan, Esq., this week, or any Manager visited. WILL WHITE, T. R., Scarboro'; next, T. R., York (Race week).

"BENEATH THE STARS."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Aug. 5, on, above Sensational Spectacular Success. Magnificent pictorials. Wire, COLEMAN DAVIES, to-day, R., Sheffield; next, Carlton, Birmingham.

MIDLAND SYNDICATE'S CO'S.
WANTED, June 10, 24, and July, for Musical Versions, "LIFE" and "EAST LYNNE."
"WANTED-BY THE POLICE." Powerful New Drama by Ronald Grahame. Magnificent plant pictorials by Allens. Autumn and Spring fast filling. HERBERT BARRS, P. O. W. Theatre, Nuneaton.

"THE MASTER CRIMINAL."
WANTED, good Theatre, June 3, unexpectedly Vacant through obliging, Paisley. Wire, OSMOND, Miners' T., Ashington.

E. HILL-MITCHELSON'S CO.
"WHEN THE LIGHTS ARE LOW."
Played by Star Artists selected from all his Companies for Summer Tour.
WANTED, July 8, July 8. S. E. SCANLAN, King's T., Longsight.

"THE MYSTERIES OF THE THAMES,"
by F. Brooke Warren.
WANTED, May 4, 1908, to follow Palace, Newcastle, and on, Whit. all June.
Played by an All-Star Cast.
AUGUSTINE KNIGHT, P.O.W., Grimsby.

"THE FRENCH SPY."
WANTED, Aug. 5, 12, Sept. 30, Oct. 7, Jan. 6.
FRED BENTON, 8, Balmoral-grove, Rhyl.

"A HEART'S DESIRE."
Playing to record houses.
WANTED, June 3 (to follow Colosseum, Oldham), also June 10. Wire, wire, for this great Attraction. G. M. HURST, Hippo., Mansfield.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, First-Class Theatres.
FRED BULMER, c/o "The Era." Vacation add.

"RICH AND POOR OF LONDON."
WANTED, Aug. 5, Sept. 2, 16, 30. Playing to record business at Pontypridd, stock season, St. James' Theatre, Manchester. Wanted, dates, grand autumn production, "A Prince of Rogues." All coms., 140, Rumford-street, Manchester.

JUNIUS BOOTH'S CO.,
"MONTE CRISTO."
WANTED, Theatres, Vacant June 3, June 3. Coms. to H. G. GRIFFIN,
O. H., Wakefield.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN."
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, June 3 and 17, on, with exceptions, including Aug. 5.

Phenomenal reception at T. R., Sheffield, Monday. Stalls and Circle fully booked up by midday. Rest of Theatre packed at Early Doors.

Tuesday, a repetition of Monday, absolute.

Wednesday, only four Stalls and a few Circle seats vacant.

Money refused before 7 p.m. every night so far.

Advance Booking for Thursday and Friday enormous.

A Wire to Mr. Hart will verify these facts.

Complimented by Management after First Act. Again at Final Fall of Curtain.

Columns of highest possible praise in local Press.

Wire to-day.
LOIS ESMOND, Theatre Royal, Sheffield.
May 27, Carlton, Theatre, Birmingham.

Miss ANNIE HUGHES.
WANTED, Dates, for the Successful Play, "MISS TOMMY," by Jerome K. Jerome.
and
"SWEET NANCY," by Robert Buchanan.
Three nights of each play.
Miss ANNIE HUGHES as "MISS TOMMY."
"Miss Tommy is a great play; Annie Hughes is a great actress."
Aug. 5 (3 nights, follow Whitby), Sept. 2, 30, Oct. 28, and onwards, with exceptions.
Address, Miss ANNIE HUGHES,
Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh.

Success. Success.
Mrs. ANN HUGHES' Production of the New Comic Opera,
"THE YOUNG LIEUTENANT,"
by Herbert Dawson, A. F. Allen Tower, and R. A. Smith.
Successfully produced at the Royal Artillery Theatre, Woolwich, on Whit Monday, May 20, 1907 Powerful Cast, Operatic Chorus. New scenery by Field and Hart. Costumes and wigs by Clarkson. Special printing by Allens.
WANTED, Future and Autumn Dates. Apply, A. F. ALLEN TOWER, this, R. A., Woolwich; next, Grand, Croydon.

HILL AND AYRTON'S COMPANIES.
Now in Fifteenth Year of Tour.
WANTED, Good Theatres, June 24, July 22, Sept. 2 and 9 (through transfer), for their latest success,
"A GAMBLER'S DAUGHTER."
Address,
Empire Theatre, Southend-on-Sea,
May 27 (six nights).

EDMUND TEARLE'S TOUR.
Shakespearean and Classical Répertoire.
Also "It's Never Too Late to Mend," "The Three Musketeers," &c.
WANTED, June 17, onwards.
Address, Theatre Royal, Chatham.

MISS EMMA LITCHFIELD'S COMPANY,
"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR."
WANTED, June 17, July 1, on, for this established success.
Refer James E. Culleen, Esq.
"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR."
"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR."
Twelve in Cast, and a Trained Horse.
Add., STUART CLEVELAND, Alexandra, Hull.

"THE LITTLE EARL."
WANTED, June 3, 10, and on, with exceptions, for this successful Musical Drama. This week's attraction at the Theatre Royal is the successful Musical Drama "The Little Earl." From beginning to end of the piece there is not a dull moment, whilst the plot is a good one, and the various characters splendidly portrayed by a capable company of artists.—Darwen Gazette, May 22, 1907. Address, T. R. NUGENT, this, Darwen; next, R., Peterboro'.

MR. WILLIAM A. ARMOUR'S CO.,
"THE BEST OF HER SEX."
The enormous success of production at Colosseum Theatre, Oldham, last week fully confirmed at Doncaster this week. Refer J. W. Chapman, Esq. First-Class Company, including Miss Dora Price in title-rôle and Mr. Edward M. Hamilton as the Reverend Stephen Maxwell. Beautiful scenery by McCulloch and Co., Sheffield.
WANTED, June 3 (between Wolverhampton and Blyth), June 24 (follow Palace, Newcastle), July 1, and onwards, with exceptions. WILLIAM A. ARMOUR, to-day, Grand, Doncaster; next, T. R., Wolverhampton.

E. H. KNIGHT and GEORGE DENHAM'S CO.
"THE GRIP OF IRON."
WANTED, Aug. 5, 12, Sept. 2, Oct. 21, and New Year's Week.
No other Autumn Vacancies; a few open dates in the Spring. GEORGE DENHAM, this, Dalston; next, Lyric, Hammersmith.

KATE CLINTON'S TOUR.
"EAST LYNNE," "JEANIE DEANS,"
"LEAH," "GREEN BUSHES."
WANTED, June 17, onwards,
Add., EDMUND TEARLE, T. Royal, Chatham.

"A FOOL'S PARADISE,"
By Sydney Grundy.
WANTED, Theatres, July 1, to follow Lowestoft, on, with exceptions.
Great success Brighton. Strong Cast, including Miss Laura Hansen, Miss Margery Chard, Miss Hilda Storicker, Mr. Cecil Wynne, Mr. J. Henry Twyford, Mr. Arthur Claremont, Mr. Wylie A. Thompson.
WYLIE A. THOMPSON, Theatre Royal, Lincoln.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
WANTED, a few Autumn Dates, for the above Attraction. Refer Milton Bode, Esq.
All communications re dates.
LEONARD DALRYMPLE, 38, Sutton Ct.-rd., Chiswick, W.

HARDIE AND VON LEER'S CO.,
"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."
WANTED, First-Class Theatre, June 3, between Nottingham and London.
E. P. CLIFT, 110, St. Martin's-lane, W.C.
'Phone, 7504 Gerrard. Wires, "Vagancy, London."

"THE GIRL FROM CHICAGO."
WANTED, for this successful Musical Farce, good Theatres, Aug. 5 and onwards, with exceptions. Address, J. SCOTT, 51, Bridge-road, Hammersmith, W.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, June 3, Aug. 19 (Lancs.), Sept. 9, follow Palace, Newcastle.
DICKIE CLARE, Irving, Seacombe (return).

"FROM SCOTLAND YARD."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Aug. 5, onwards. FRED BULMER, Box 4,832, "The Era" (vacation address).

"AN UNWEDDED WIFE."
WANTED, Large Theatres, Aug. 5 and Xmas, for this Ideal Holiday Attraction.
The Royal was packed to excess last night, and crowds were turned away.—Sunderland Daily Echo, May 21, '07.
This week at Sunderland every record of the Theatre Royal broken.
Mon., £71; Tues., £61; Wed., £41.
Refer Management, also to Arthur Jefferson as to business at Met., Glasgow, Spring Holiday Week, also Wm. Morton as to business last week at Alex., Hull.
Address, May 29,
J. EDWARD WHITTY,
Grand Theatre, Newcastle.

WANTED, Managers of Theatres with large Stages and Money-holding Auditoriums, who have vacant dates for First-Class Pantomimes, with really expensive salary list, to communicate with J. F. ELLISTON, Bolton.

WANTED, First-Class Theatre, for June 24,
Midlands or North,
for New Musical Comedy,
"CUPID'S MARKET,"
by Charles James and Waldo Warner.
Wire or write best terms to
KELSON TRUEMAN, Regent House,
233a, Regent-street, W.

THEATRES WANTED.

SHINTON and GREENWOOD'S TOUR.
"THE PRICE OF HER SOUL."
WANTED, June 10, to precede Rotunda, Liverpool, Aug. 12, 19, Sept. 9, and on, with exceptions.
Exceptional Cast, including
Miss Bessie Rignold as Olga,
John B. Shinton as Rolf,
Miss Ada M. Ryder as Inez,
Arthur E. Pringle as Skoboloff,
Willie Scott as Pal.
Look out for New Production, Rotunda, Liverpool, June 24.
Many thanks to Managers for unsolicited offers of dates before seeing production.
Address, JOHN B. SHINTON,
to-day, Grand Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne; next, Elm Dene, Victoria-rd., Tuebrook, Liverpool.

MISS MARY NEIL and MR. GEORGE KIRK'S
"HER LUCK IN LONDON" CO.
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Big Theatres,
July 29, Sept. 9, 16, Oct. 7.
Communications to GEORGE KIRK,
46, Aldred-road, Crookes, Sheffield.

FRANK J. PITT and CHARLES HALLING'S CO.
"£1,000 REWARD."
"£1,000 REWARD."
WANTED, for this Successful Attraction, Aug. 12, to follow Brighton,
Sept. 23, 30, Oct. 7, 14,
Nov. 25, Dec. 2, 9,
Dec. 23, 30.
Now booking Spring and Autumn, 1908.
Refer M. Montgomery, Esq.,
and W. D. Forsdike, Esq.
Palace Theatre, Newcastle, May 27.

MR. GEORGE D. DAY'S COMPANY.
"THE PRODIGAL SON."
WANTED, Oct. 21 (North).
Adelphi Theatre, W.C.

WANTED, Known, to Managers of Theatres, Halls, Pier Pavilions, &c., &c.
Do you require a distinct Novelty, and a really Charming Entertainment?
Something out of the beaten track.
THE NATIVE CHOIR FROM JAMAICA,
all escaped from the recent terrible earthquake, have a few vacant dates for their enormously successful entertainment.
June 10,
June 17,
Aug. 12,
Sept. 9,
and onwards, with exceptions.
The Jamaicans have appeared before Lord Elgin, Colonial Secretary, Lord and Lady Derby, Earl Roberts, Lord Brassey, Sir Alfred Jones, and many other notabilities, and caused a furore in every case. Twelve performers. Can give the whole entertainment and Sunday Concerts if desired. Three Changes of Costumes. Excellent Lithos., &c. Booked for London (ninth visit), North Pier, Blackpool (two dates, return visits), Grand Opera House, Middlesbrough, Pavilion and Winter Gardens, Bournemouth, Pier Pavilions, Ryde, Herne Bay, Plymouth, Folkestone (two dates), also for Dover (two dates), Ramsgate, Southsea, Southport (two dates), Liverpool (return visit).
Apply for booklet, terms, &c., Managers, Messrs. H. E. JONES and A. DOUGLASS, 21, Water-street, Liverpool. Telephones 5650 and 2449 Central. Wires, "Motherland, Liverpool."

WANTED, Theatre, Clark and Gallimore's San Francisco Minstrels. Hit of the Season. Each and Every Artist a Star. Vacant June 3, to follow T. R., Dover. Pleased to hear from First-class Piers, Theatres, Halls.
Address, Pier Pavilion, St. Leonard's.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for Musical Comedy Autumn Tours, Principals in all Lines, also good Musical-Director; have vacancies for abroad early next year for well-known Musical Comedy Artists, also for coming Autumn for First-Class Baritone; Star Artists vacant for Pantomime in London please write in. C. ST. JOHN DENTON, 34, Maiden-lane, Strand.

WANTED, for Musical Comedy and Light Opera, Town and Tour, Principal Artists in all Lines; also Chorus Ladies and Gentlemen; the latter must be young, of good appearance, and good voices. Send particulars at once to KELSON TRUEMAN, Regent House, 233a, Regent-street, W.

LINGFORD CARSON'S PRODUCTIONS.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for Autumn. Send photos. and full particulars to L. CARSON, Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

WANTED, Artists for Stock and Répertoire Tour, capable of Musical Comedy, with good voices.
Only those known personally please write.
CHARLES CAREY,
Opera House, Burnley.

"THE BREED OF THE TRESHAMS."
WANTED, for Autumn Tour, commencing July 29, Artists in all Lines, used to Costume Plays preferred; also Actor of Repute for The Rat. Send photos., state lowest terms, experience, height, references, and address for the next three weeks. Interview in London imperative in each case. BERTRAM, Killarney, Lewisham, S.E.

"THE CONVICT'S DAUGHTER."
WANTED, for Autumn Tour, open Aug. 5, Aristocratic Old Lady and Gent., Gent. to Stage-Manage, Smart Soubrette, Heavy Gent., Juv. Lady and Gent., also Irish Comedian. Send photos., state height, experience, references, and lowest terms. BERTRAM, Killarney, Lewisham, S.E.

"THE YOUNG LIEUTENANT."
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, for Comic Opera: Principal Tenor, Robust Baritone, Character Comedy Actors for Admiral and Bo'sun, Comedy Old Woman, small part Baritones, Chorus Ladies and Gents.; all must be capable, young, and of good appearance. Lowest summer terms (good tour), refs., photos., to Mrs. ANN HUGHES, this, R. A., Woolwich; next, Grand, Croydon.

WANTED, Special Production, rehearse June 24, open July 1, Star, Liverpool, Leading Lady, Heavy Lady, Romantic Leading Man, Heavy Man, Strong Character Actor, Juvenile Man, to look 18, two Responsible Actors, good Chambermaid. Character Actress for Hag. Terms, photo., SIDNEY RENNEY, Grand Theatre, Nottingham.

WANTED, Artists, for Tour of "The Private Secretary," commencing Aug. 5. No notice will be taken unless age, height, references, and lowest terms are stated, and ladies' photos sent.
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Charles Carey is willing to arrange with one or two Amateur Ladies and Gentlemen for a Seaside Holiday Tour, starting in July,
Opera House, Burnley.

WANTED, Juvenile Leading Lady, must have certain amount of power and pathos, dress well. Terms, references.
MORTON POWELL, Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth.

WANTED, for Stock Season, First-Class Leading Lady, Chambermaid, Heavy Man, and one or two Responsible Men, rehearse June 3. MAINE, Prince's T., Accrington.

WANTED, Known, possible vacancy powerful Leading Man, eight weeks, rehearse Monday, Newcastle. Wire summer terms, SILVERSTONE, Crown, Peckham.

WANTED, Gentleman to play Responsible Parts; must be tall. W. H. ASHLEY, West Pier, Brighton.

WANTED, good Leading Gentleman, for Répertoire.
Send photos.,
full particulars,
SECRETARY, 49, Binfield-road, Clapham.

WANTED, Gentleman, for Sympathetic "Man of Forty" part, in High-class Refined Sketch; good appearance essential; probable long tour. Write at once, enclosing photo., which will be returned, to REYNOLDS, 34, Birchington-road, West Hampstead. Appointment only.

WANTED, smart young Gentleman, for well-known Music Hall Comedy Act. Continuous engagement. State age, height, and particulars, Box 4,866, "The Era."

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, First-Class Soprano Vocalist, High-class Open-air Concerts; also Humorist. References, Photo., Répertoire, STRACHAN, 43, Almaroad, St. Albans.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Superior Girls, for Operatic Parts, Chorus, ten girls, knowledge Violin, Mandoline. Write Box 4,872, "The Era."

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Actress, Re-engagement, Character, Juveniles, Boys, Comedy, Drama, Costume Play; would assist Secretary; well-known management only. Moderate salary. Box 4,862, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Sandy engaged for Special week, "The Jew's Revenge," Dis. June 3. Management (tour or res.), Stock, &c.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by Flora Macdonald, A.L.C.M., powerful Soprano; young, large répertoire; experienced, Al Fresco or Concert Party. 56, Drayton-road, Harlesden.

WANTED, High-class Summer Concerts, Piers and Pavilions, by good Soprano; experienced. Address, VOCALIST, 18, Albert-place, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Engagement, by Mr. G. Haddon, Dramatic and Humorous Tales, concluding with West's Pictures. Shaftesbury Hall, Bournemouth.

WANTED, by Baritone, perm. Engagement at Seaside, for Summer Season; low terms; high-class Songs. Address, F. B., 36, Park-road, Portway, West Ham, Essex.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Pantomime Chorus and Show Ladies. Send photograph, age, height, and other measurements, lowest salary. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, Artists Disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas to send photos., terms, and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE, GLASGOW.
PANTOMIME, 1907-1908.
WANTED, Principal Comedian, for Leading Comedy Part in next Pantomime.
Address, RICH WALDON.

WANTED, for "Robinson Crusoe," Artists in all Lines, including Stage-Manager, to produce, Troupe for Speciality and Harlequinade. No notice will be taken unless age, height, references, and lowest terms are stated, and ladies' photos. sent.
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Scenic Artist, for permanency, begin £5 per week, and rising. Only those willing for strictest enquiries need apply.
MOODY-MANNERS STORES,
The Hyde, Hendon, London.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Scenery Contracts, Productions. Our Paint Frames, 40 by 24; Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. FRED WILKINS and BRO. LTD., 54, Whitechapel, Liverpool. Telegrams "Theatrical."

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE,
CARLISLE.
WANTED, Known, Scenery Made, Painted, and Repaired. First-class Scenic Artist. Magnificent paint-frame; spacious carpenter's shop
Estimates free on application to
THOS. COURTICE, H. M. T., Carlisle.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, Effective and Artistic Work and good Joinery. Prices moderate. Large Studio and Workshop. CHARLES SAYER, Scenic Artist, 2, Clarendon-road, Croydon.

WANTED, by A. G. Betts, Contracts for Scenery of every description, good work at moderate charges, just completed Scenery for New Theatre, Cardiff. Address, County Theatre, Reading.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Business Manager.
WANTED, for Travelling Concern, on lines of "Sequah," a thoroughly competent Manager, able to undertake Advance Work, Posting, Advertising, &c.; good introducer; gentlemanly appearance essential. Salary, 70s. per week and commission. Must have good references.
Box 4,845, "The Era."

WANTED, Local Advertising Manager who knows Liverpool well.
Apply, stating previous experience, qualifications, age, salary required, and references, to Box 4,854, "The Era."
5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

WANTED, for the Hippodrome, Coventry, First-class Electrician;
must be well experienced in the Variety Business, able to do own Repairs,
and not afraid of work;
join at once.
Apply by wire, stating wage required, to T. M. SILVESTER,
217, Piccadilly, London, till 12 o'clock noon, Saturday; after, Hippodrome, Coventry.

WANTED, for Hippodrome, Douglas, I.O.M., commencing in July,
Competent Electrician,
to look after Gas Engine and Dynamo.
Apply, with copies of references and stating salary, to FRED J. CONNOR.

WANTED, Head Electrician; must be thoroughly used to Music Hall Work and have London references. Apply,
J. WOOLF, Wonderland, Whitechapel, E.

WANTED, Billposter. Apply, stating wages and references, to BILLPOSTING CO., St. George's Hall, Cheltenham.

WANTED, smart young Billposter, to travel with Circus Agent; comfortable shop. FRED LEWIS, c/o Carlin, 30, Great George's-st., Belfast.

WANTED, Known.—To Let, W. C. Burns, manager, 20 years' practical experience, circus, theatres, variety halls, &c., road, rail, resident. Well versed 2 houses nightly, bars and accountancy. Expert pressman and advertiser. Life abstainer. Exceptional refs. 15, Charlotte-street, Shields.

WANTED, Known, the Advertiser, a well-known Manager with a Large Connection in the Provinces, is Open to Book New Productions, or to assist Young Managers to secure Dates. None but genuine concerns, which can give good references, entertained. Apply, Box 4,874, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, a Manager of thirty years' experience, with influence with Provincial Managers, is open to book tours on reasonable terms. Plays produced and advice given. Letters only in first instance to A. A., 50, Copthall-avenue, E.C.

WANTED, Engagement, immediate or Autumn. Acting-Management (resident or tour), or Advance, late Theatre Royal and Circus of Varieties, Bury. WALTER MOULD, Theatre, Bury.

WANTED, Engagement, Management or assist, Young Man; smart Book-keeping, correspondence; 4 years West-End Agency; first-class testimonials. Box 4,851, "The Era."

WANTED, by Young Man, Re-engagement as Acting-Manager in a Theatre or Music Hall; premium or security; smart and energetic. Box 4,864, "The Era."

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Known, Ernest Phillips, at Liberty (late Manager "Dronza," England and America), as Manager, any Concern requiring Pushing, Live Methods; 18 years' experience every branch Exhibition Work; capable Organiser, Variety Work, Illusions, Advertising, &c.; exceptional refs., smart appearance; age 38. 66, Doddington-grove, S.E.

WANTED (Bonus £10), Post as Resident-Manager; bonus given for introduction (after settlement completed); good security deposited. Advertiser experienced. Box 4,879, "The Era."

WANTED, by Young Man (21), position Assisting Management of Theatre; at present managing small Provincial Theatre; used to Paybox; not afraid of work; Disengaged July 31. Communications, Box 4,875, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, Charles Herman, Advance Representative just concluded successful season with the W. F. Jury's Imperial Pictures, late Barnum and Bailey, C. W. Poole's Myriorama, &c.; Offers invited. Coliseum, Leeds.

WANTED, Engagement, by Stage Carpenter, Bench and Properties; London shop preferred; good refs. CARPENTER, 64, Dongola-road, Philip-lane, London, N.

WANTED, Engagement, by Poster Painter, eight years' experience in America; good ideas; has fairly good knowledge of Scene Painting. Box 4,876, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, as Permanent Wardrobe Mistress; take productions right through. MITCHELL, 12, Sunnyside, Waldegrave-rd., Teddington.

WANTED, by a Young Lady, Situation as Programme Seller. Address, T. KIRBY, 1, Sharsted-street, Kennington, London.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Leaders, 'Cellists, and Contra Bass Players, for White Star and Cunard Services.
Musical Duties Only.
State age, references, to
Mr. C. W. BLACK, 19, Castle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Musical Director (to play Violin), good répertoire of music indispensable, and must be experienced in Variety business; also First Violin. Address with lowest terms and references, T. A. EDWARDES, Grand Theatre, Derby.

WANTED, Violin Musical-Director, to commence Monday, May 27, Pavilion, Leicester. Apply personally or by wire. FREDERICK BAUGH, Foresters' Music Hall, Cambridge-road, E.

WANTED, a good Violinist, used to Pitching, for the Happy Valley Minstrels.
Wire, CHURCHILL, Llandudno.

WANTED, Orchestral Violinist, Flautist, Piccoloist, playing Solos, July 14, nine weeks. Send lowest; trial essential. 92, West End-lane, N.W.

WANTED, First Violin, to combine First Clarionet, Orchestra and Military; Seaside, Scotland. Terms, refs., CONDUCTOR, 38, Princes-st., Southport, Lancs.

WANTED, for First-class Seaside Engagement, Lady Violinist (Leader), about June, for 14 weeks, Small Orchestra experience and Solo-playing required. Must play trial in London by appointment. Stamped letters, X., 146, Shepherd's Bush-road, London.

WANTED, good Solo Cornet, refined tone essential, for Permanent Engagement at the Royal County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames, to a steady, suitable Musician; comfortable engagement all the year round; preference given to a man prepared to come and reside in the town. Apply, with terms and references, to Mr. PETER DAVEY, or to Mr. HUGO RIGNOLD, Musical-Director, Royal County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames.

WANTED, good Solo Cornet, experienced in Variety, strictly sober, or no use, twice nightly and Saturday matinée, 30s. weekly, permanency to right man. SYDNEY DAVIES, Hippodrome, Ipswich.

WANTED, Cornet, Trombone, Drums, Season at Portobello, open June 3. Terms and particulars to K. RITCHIE, Proprietor, Theatre, Musselburgh, N.B.

WANTED, for Glasgow, to open June 3, First Cornet. Apply, stating age, variety experience, and salary required, with copies of recent testimonials, to OSWALD STOLL, Cranbourn-mansions, London, W.C.

WANTED, immediately, for Rhyl Municipal Band, Clarionet, Cornet, Flute and Piccolo, and Horn. Terms, 35s., or shares and subsidy. BEN JULIEN, Bandmaster, Rhyl.

LORD JOHN SANGER and SON'S, LTD.,
ROYAL CIRCUS.
WANTED, good Double Bass, to combine Bombardon. Salary, 32s. 6d.; join at once. Wire, BANDMASTER, to-day, Accrington. Mon., Blackburn.

WANTED, Euphonium and Trombone, for Season, opens June 24, ten or twelve weeks, Councils, small Military; terms, refs. BELLERBY, Deneholme, Ilkley.

WANTED, excellent First Horn, for Summer Season, must be good appearance, thoroughly steady; commence Monday next, May 27. State wages and references to WURMS, Musical-Director, New Spa Gardens, Bridlington.

WANTED, to Open June 3, good Flute and Piccolo; permanency if suitable. Terms, age, references, to CHAS. ELPHINSTONE, Grand T., Hanley, Staffs.

WANTED, for Palace, Bath, First-Class Pianist, commence Monday, June 3. Terms, references, and age, to C. WRIGHT, Conductor, Palace, Lincoln.

WANTED, Lady or Gentleman Pianist (Singer), Comediennes, Comedian, Al Fresco; long engagement. Apply between 2 and 4, LESLIE, Agency, 6, Loughboro' Park.

WANTED, Drums and Effects, for Tenting Season, commence immediately. BANDMASTER, Circus, Lyme Regis, Saturday; Bridport, Sunday and Monday.

WANTED, for Skegness Pier, Ladies' Orchestra, to open June 1 to 10, with option to book month of June. State terms for combination of six or eight Artists, to perform three times daily.
A. A. CASH,
Manager, Pier, Skegness.

WANTED, good Family Band for a permanency. Send lowest terms, full particulars, ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

FROM A MUSICIAN:—
To the Manager of "The Era" Advert. Dept.,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.
"Re Advertisement
"'WANTED, ENGAGEMENT BY CORNET.'
"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, "A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

FROM A BANDMASTER:—
"Re Advertisement, 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.'
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies, and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster, "Littlehampton."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS, WANTED.

WANTED, Bandsmen,
B flat Clarionet,
Cornet,
and also E flat Clarionet Players,
for Militia Training, at Once.
Apply to
Band-master BRODIE,
3rd Royal Sussex Regiment, Chichester.

Cavalry Band.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
for Travelling Concern,
on Lines of "Sequah,"
twelve, inclusive of Conductor;
must be good players and good buglers.
Must tend horses and help round as required.
Salary 35s.; references.

Box 4,844, "The Era."

WANTED, Piccolo, Clarionets, Cornets, and Drums, for Pitching in West-End London. Terms, shares. B. M., 69, Carlisle-street, Edgware-road, London.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by experienced Musical-Director (Violin), Engagement, Theatre, Variety, or Season; thoroughly steady; excellent references; own library. Box 4,859, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Conductor (Violinist), or as Leader-Repet., Variety preferred; experienced and reliable. MUSICUS, 18, Landseer-street, Stranmillis, Belfast.

WANTED, Engagement as Leader or First Violin, through closing; thoroughly experienced, good refs., any business. TRAVERS, Theatre Royal, Blackburn.

WANTED, Engagement as Leader or First Violin; good references. Address, CHALDER, Leader, Grand Theatre, Croydon.

WANTED, by James Hargreaves, Conductor, Hippo., Colchester, good Engagement, Dramatic or Variety, fourteen years' experience, during which I have only worked for three firms, Willmot, Barrasford, De Frece, only been disengaged six months, during that time through illness. Recognised youngest Conductor in the business; age 24.

WANTED, through closing, good Summer Engagement, by experienced Leader (Violin). L. S. ROGERS, Opera House, Tunbridge Wells.

WANTED, Known, good young Repetiteur will shortly be Open to accept Seaside Engagement for few months. Address, Box 4,853, "The Era."

WANTED, by Violinist, reliable, Summer Engagement; experienced in Orchestra; highest references. Apply, LEWIS, Training College, Winchester.

WANTED, Engagement, as First Violin or Leader, any Business; reliable, at Liberty June 3. E. TAYLOR, Grand Theatre, Falkirk.

WANTED, by First-class Violin and Viola, Engagement; can open; 7 years last place. Highest references. WAITE, 106, Stratford-road, Plaistow, E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Brilliant Violinist, good Variety Theatre or other business; stock of Music, &c. Address, J. C., 11, Glipin-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, by Violin and Viola Player, Engagement, late Leader Theatre, London or Seaside preferred; young; strictly sober. W. B., 68, Pritchard's-road, London, N.E.

WANTED, Engagement by Young Lady Violinist, Soloist and Orchestral, Tour or Permanent; good appearance. Box 4,871, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Lady Violinist (Solo and Orchestral), Good Leader; every experience; Disengaged July and August. Box 4,809, "The Era."

WANTED, by Lady, good Violinist and First-rate Accompanist, Engagement, middle of July to end September; with Ladies' Orchestra preferred. Box 4,867, "The Era."

WANTED, by Cornet, Engagement, any distance, Military or Orchestra; good refs. A. R. ELLIS, 14, Dudley-road, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Engagement, Second Cornet or Solo Tenor Horn, used to Circus. CORNET, 3, Evans-court, Water-st., Neath, Glamorgan.

WANTED, Engagement, good young Second or First Cornet (Orchestra or Military). H. Angel, 47 Stopford-road, Upton Manor, London, E.

WANTED Summer Engagement, by reliable Cornet, first or second. Address, ELLIS, 23, Tunnel-road, Tunbridge Wells.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Cornet, also slight knowledge of Violin, young and abstainer. CORNET, care of Sneil, 4, Bourne-rd., Bexley.

WANTED, Engagement, as Clarionet, Solo or otherwise, Military or String; experienced, all Lines. H. GARNER, The Porches, Rainhill, near Liverpool.

WANTED, by experienced Clarionettist, late Corporal Marine Band, permanent Engagement. Variety Theatre preferred. HANCOCK, 25, Eresby-road, West Hampstead, London.

WANTED, Engagement, as Clarionet, experienced in all Business; finishing last 5 years as Solo, West Pier, Brighton. C. NEWCOMBE, 21, Tillstone-street, Brighton.

WANTED, by Good Clarionet, Engagement, Violin and Viola combined, any Business. F. HEUSE, 4, Regent-place, Ilfracombe.

WANTED, Engagement, as Clarionet; Disengaged June 1. Address, J. RYAN, Band Gloucester Imperial Yeomanry, Chepstow, Mon.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-Class Clarionettist, Military or Orchestra; thoroughly experienced; also by First-Class Pianist. 35, Henrietta-st., Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by experienced Clarionettist, Military or String.
H. E. JACKSON, Grand Theatre, Croydon.

WANTED, Engagement, Bassoon, Summer; at Liberty June 1.
LOUIS CHAPMAN, 6, St. Philip's-terrace, Cheltenham.

WANTED, by Bassoon, Engagement, experienced; excellent ref.; season or permanency. F. HIRE, 2, Royal-parade, Hunstanton, Norfolk.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by Double Bass or Bombardon, Orchestral or Military; experienced. TOM PLANT, 13, Chestnut-street, Lower Broughton, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, as Double Bass, String or Military; experienced and reliable; references. GEORGE, Airedale House, Church-street, Castleford, Yorks.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Bassoonist, any Business; well experienced. Write, BASSOONIST, 25, Wade-lane, Leeds.

WANTED, by experienced Double Bass, Engagement for Summer, London or Suburbs; would deputise. J. E. SCOTT, Grand Theatre, Croydon.

WANTED, Known, First-Class Trombone, at Liberty, any business, abstainer, strictly attentive to business and reliable. TROMBONE, 11, Grecian-road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

WANTED, Engagement, Euphonium (J. Anthony) and Cornet (James Marginson), together or separate; good references; reliable. Address, Royal G. Hussars Band, Chepstow.

WANTED, Engagement, by French Horn Player; good references. Address, HORN, 6, Hildas-grove, Sculcoates-lane, Hull, Yorks.

WANTED, by French Horn, Engagement; good refs.
E. E. WATERMAN, Lennox-road, Worthing.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice, for Little Girl, on 'Cello; also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. CASSELLE, 35, Granville-square, King's Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, Engagement, at Once, Lady Cellist, Solo and Orchestra; young and experienced, for Café, Seaside, &c. Apply, Box 4,857, "The Era."

WANTED, by Experienced Lady 'Cellist, evening engagement in London, Sundays excepted. Address, 'CELLIST, 118, Elgin-avenue, W.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by 'Cello or Viola, lady, Engagement in Orchestra, for Wakes Week (Aug. 11 to 20). Box 4,848, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, 'Cellist, at Liberty June 1, any Business; good references.
'CELLIST, Palace Theatre, Belfast.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced 'Cellist, through closing of Theatre; would also deputise. 88, Netherwood-rd., W. Kensington.

WANTED, by experienced 'Cello, Engagement, any business. Address, 'CELLO, 17, Macdonald-road, Forest Gate, London.

WANTED, Engagement as 'Cello, any business, or would deputise, London, suburbs if possible. Box 4,873, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement in Ladies' Orchestra, as Second 'Cello.
Experienced.
Seaside preferred.
Apply, Box 4,868, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by 'Cello and Clarionet; Disengaged from 19th inst.; highest refs. 'CELLIST, 45, Jubilee-place, King's-road, Chelsea.

WANTED, Engagement by experienced Viola; any business; deputising not objected to. WHITE, 14, North Denes-road, Newtown, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, by Viola, Engagement, any business, reliable, willing to travel.
OLDFIELD, 10, Neate-street, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, by First-class Oboe Player, Engagement, or to substitute, during the month of June. OBOE, King Alfred's-place, Birmingham.

WANTED, Engagement, by Oboe, Orchestral or Military Band, or deputising; experienced. WOLFE, 16, Hodson-st., Crampton-st., S.E.

WANTED, by Flautist and Piccolo Soloist, Situation, thoroughly experienced in Variety business; at Liberty June 1; good references. W. L. GLOVER, 204, Bucknall-road, Hanley.

WANTED, Known, Flute and Bassoon, thoroughly experienced, at Liberty June, deputising or any business. Box 4,846, "The Era."

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo, Soloist, Engagement, Military or Orchestral; excellent references; good répertoire of Solos. HURN, 9, Upper Aberdyberthi, Swansea.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by experienced Flute and Piccolo; good references; at Liberty June 8. W. MARSHALL, 11, Clarence-st., Leicester.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, steady, reliable Flautist; excellent references. HOWIE, 22, Cambridge-road, Southampton.

WANTED, Engagements, Seaside or Town, by experienced Vocalist and Accompanist (Senior R.A.M.); quick reader; Blüthner Grand. Box 4,861, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, June 1 to 15, by experienced Pianist, Dramatic or Variety; good reader and accompanist; would deputise FISHER, Priory-place, Doncaster.

WANTED, Engagement, Town or Country, by Solo Pianist; good accompanist; highest references. Miss L. W., 34, Castle-road, Kentish Town, N.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Pianist; 12 years' experience in Concert, Pictures, Variety, &c. Highest references. Wire for Monday. CONDUCTOR, Hippodrome, Ton-y-pandy.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Orchestral Pianist and Vocalist, Hotel or Café preferred. GRACE GOODWIN, 12, Juer-street, Park-road, Battersea.

WANTED, by Pianist, young lady, Summer Engagement, Concert Party, Orchestral or Dance, brilliant, good sight reader. 358A, King-st., Hammersmith.

WANTED, Engagement, by Orchestral Pianist, thoroughly experienced in Music Hall and Theatre Business. Miss LIZZIE SPEARING, (cert. R.A.M.), 75, St. John's-hill, Clapham Junction.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Drummer; own Tympani and Glockenspiel; First-class for Theatre, Variety, and Concerts. BARBER, 123, Wardour-street, W.

WANTED, by Drummer, Tymps., &c., any Business; permanency preferred; Liberty June 3. WILKES, Opera House, Cheltenham.

WANTED, an Engagement, for Double Drums, Liberty June 3 (through closing), permanency preferred; first-class refs. TOM BURT, Tivoli, Grimsby.

WANTED, Engagement, by good, smart Double Drummer, own Tympani; also by Solo Clarionet. Address for both, 4, Hill-cross, Coventry.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Drummer, with Effects, through closing; young, abstainer, reliable, any Business. Add., HERBERT WADE, 36, Clow Bridge, near Burnley.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Double Drummer; thoroughly experienced, Variety preferred; steady, reliable; good references. DRUMS, 11, Ritson-road, Dalston, London.

WANTED, Engagement as Drums, own Tymps. and Glock; Seaside or London.
NEVILL, 149, Tennyson-road, Stratford, E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Bass Drummer, Army Man, height 5ft. 11in., age 25, disengaged July; permanent preferred. Box 4,847, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Shikissimma Band, Ladies' Japanese Orchestra, Disengaged, three to twenty performers, all Soloists, magnificent costume or white dress, Piers, Hotels. Glenthorpe, Chesterfield-road, Newbury.

WANTED, Engagements for Scarlet Domino Ladies' Band, Ladies' Salon Quartette and Florentine Quartet, at home or abroad. Apply, BUREAU, 8, Bedford-terrace, Kensington.

WANTED, by the Imperial Trio (Violin, 'Cello, Piano), Engagement, July and August; Hotel or Hydro. Address, ANGEL, Cary Lodge, Torquay.

WANTED, Engagements, for Orchestra, any number, smart uniform, up-to-date répertoire; highest references. LOUIS METZ, 62, Wellington-road, Charlton, S.E.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Gent. Barebacked Rider, Ground Acts in all Lines, Mat Clown, used to Fair Business. Lowest terms, DENNIS, Circus, Rawtenstall, Lancs.

Trick Riders.
WANTED, Six Horsemen,
for Travelling Concern,
on Lines of "Sequah,"
must be expert Riders, and able to give exhibition.
Must tend horses and help round as required.

Salary 35s.; references.

Box 4,843, "The Era."

WANTED, for Bosco's Circus, four nights, commencing May 29, couple of Acrobats.
Bosco, Ormond Cottage, Sydenham, Belfast.

WANTED, for Buff Bill's Circus, good Trapeze Performer, also good Wire Walker, Tight-rope Dancer, Horizontal Bar Performers, any useful people for the Circus Ring. Lowest terms, Poste Restante, Limerick.

WANTED, Known,
Joe Boganny
has always
an Opening for good Tumblers.
All coms. to Hippodrome, Ipswich.

WANTED, Jugglers, Equilibrists and Novelty Gymnasts. Continental Turns write. State tricks or send litho. G. V., 140, Mowbray-house, Red Cross-street, Southwark.

WANTED, a smart Young Man, good Second Man and Hand Balancer, for Comedy Act; must be good. Address, LAURENS, Tivoli, Barrow-in-Furness.

WANTED, a Fine-built Lady Gymnast, about eighteen years, first-class performer can lead to a long engagement. State height. Apply, with photo, to O. V. ESTRELLA, 132, Kennington Park-rd., London.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Comedian, one used to Second Mount and Throwing, for Acrobatic Work. Apply, J. L., Bull Hotel, Bull-lane, Gloucester.

WANTED, Young Man, able to Tumble a little, for Comedy Act; one that has done Top Mounting preferred. Box 4,869, "The Era."

WANTED, a Trampoline Tumbler.
All particulars,
Box 4,870, "The Era."

WANTED, Smart Girl, age 14 to 16, join Good Troupe; able to tumble, or Gymnast.
6, Wynne-road, Brixton.

WANTED, for Skegness Pier, Novel Diving Turn. None but good Swimmers need apply. State lowest terms. CASH, Pier, Skegness.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty shortly, for Stage or Ring, Tudor's Four Educated Ponies, Hengler's Circus, London, Twice Daily. Agents should see this Act. Address, FRASER, Printer.

WANTED, Circus Proprietors and Hippodrome Managers to Know that the Three Ohmys, Greatest of all Lady Bareback Riders, on three Beautiful Trained Horses, have made the Greatest Success ever Known at the Tower Circus, Blackpool. Re-engaged after first appearance. The talk of Blackpool. Wardrobe, picture posters, and lithos. second to none. Will shortly be at Liberty. For full particulars, address, CLAUDE OHMY, Tower Circus Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, The Two Jacks, Quips and Alfrano, Eccentric Clowns and Comedians, in their Screaming Comic Sketch, "The 12.95 Midnight Express." Liberty for Halls, Piers, or Galas. 42, Milbourne-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Webb Bros., the Musical Clowns, vacant May 27, nine weeks. Address, 4, Speenham-road, Stockwell, London.

WANTED, Fêtes and Galas, The Holmars, Comic Acrobatic Boxing Clowns, Alex and Jolly, Comedy Three-Bar Act, two good Acts. 34, Highfield-st., Beeston Hill, Leeds.

WANTED, Known, Olrac and Milton, Novelty Gymnasts, Sanger Tour. Communications, 193A, Brixton-road, London, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Zaro, Danish Blondin, is open with High-Rope for Fairs and Galas. 144, Ethelred-street, Lambeth, London.

WANTED, Known, Pauletti, Novelty Cycling Act, big success Shrewsbury, and Abergavenny Galas; free June 17, 24, July 1; two Acts. 106, Bigland-street, Salford, Manchester.

Balloon Ascents.
WANTED, Engagements, by Lieut. Lempriere, the Popular Reliable Aeronaut. Address, LEMPRIERE, Handsworth, Birmingham.

Parachute Descents.
WANTED, Gala Secretaries seeking Big Attractions to engage Lieut. Lempriere and his charming Lady Pupils for Parachute Descents or Races; together or separate. One still open for Aug. Bank. LEMPRIERE, Handsworth, Birmingham.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES
and THEATRE ROYAL.
WANTED, First-class Variety Artists, all Lines.

ARTHUR CARLTON, Palace, Worcester.

WANTED, Variety Artists all Lines, Doubles doing Singles, for the Empire, Doncaster, June 24, onwards. Say when last there. B. KENNEDY, Theatre, Leamington.

Scarborough.
WANTED, Monday, June 3, and onwards, Variety Artists in all Lines. Nothing too Big. Full particulars to KITCHINGMAN, Aquarium.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, May 27, Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest. Hall small. P. REYMOND, as above.

WANTED, Variety Artists, open immediately, summer terms. Mark Anthony write. ELLIS, Herbert House, High Laver, near Ongar, Essex.

WANTED, First-Class Variety Artists in all Lines, June 3 and onwards, with a few exceptions. A. E. PICKARD, Britannia, Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists all Lines,
June 3 and on.
Comfortable Engagements,
Sure Money.
Lowest Combination Summer Terms essential.
Silence polite negative.
Impossible to answer all.

Apply,
THE DAYTON FAMILY,
Theatre Royal, Macclesfield.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Artists all Lines (no Sketches), June 17, week, near London. Lowest terms, letters only. W., 132, Kennington Park-road.

WANTED, First-class Artists in every Line to send in full list of bookings and permanent address to FRANK LYNNE, 12, Cranworth-gardens, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, from now onwards.
Apply, Mr. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, open Monday, onward, for Army Service and Cavalry Theatres. Brougham found. BAKER, 41, Union-street, Aldershot.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for High-class Al-Fresco Pavilion, Good Soprano, Pianist; also good Bass, Pianist; open Monday next. JONES, Pavilion, Northwich.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, two weeks, June 10, 24, July 8, 22.
CHARLES JAMES, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin.

WANTED, Al-Fresco Artists, for Private Ground, Hexham, in all Lines; good Pianist, Violin, Cornet, Bass, Piccolo, Drums, all to Open. Address, HOUGHTON, P.O.

WANTED, Artists known to William Ainsworth, late Manager Oxford, Middlesbrough, Hippodrome, Stockton, to send vacant dates, lithos., Heath Villa, Stockton-on-Tees.

WANTED, First-class Artists Only, for First-class Variety Theatres, immediate and future dates, also Pantomime.
JESS VERNO'S Agency, 16, Elizabeth-st., Liverpool. Telegrams, "Merriment." 'Phone, 2076 Royal.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, coming North, to send dates and terms.
ANDERSON'S Agency, 6, Great Clyde-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Gala Artists, both Star and Useful Double Act Turns, June 10, 11 (North), also July 15 (East). Quote lowest first letter if business desired. LEMPRIERE and GREEN, Midland Agents, 70, Holloway Head, Birmingham. Lithos. may help.

WANTED, Artists of all Descriptions,
Call, or Write Fully,
J. W. JOHNSON,
Variety and Pantomime Agent,
86, Waterloo-road, S.E.

GRAND THEATRE, CHORLEY.
WANTED, Known, Rehearsal Monday next, at 2 o'clock, for the Eugene Family, Miss Doris Middelton Geo. Grenville, Howard and Casselli, Sisters Ford, Ellis and Dale, Two Daniels, Miss Dorothea, The Mays, and Chevalier Cliquot. Still Wanted, Big Act for June 10, for Halifax, on Sharing Terms; also Artists in all Lines, must be new. All applications address, CLIQUOT, 3, Park-road, Chorley.

WANTED, Big Star Vocalist, June 3; also Turns for immediate Dates, Derby, Grimsby, Attercliffe, Stoke. T. A. EDWARDES, Grand Theatre, Derby.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Big Variety Turns,
Big Variety Turns,
Big Variety Turns,

Something New and Up to Date,
Novelties and Sensational Acts,
For Immediate and Future Dates, for
London, Liverpool,
Birmingham, Leeds, Newcastle,
Glasgow, Belfast,
Dublin, Manchester, Bolton,
Wolverhampton, Oldham,
Hartlepool, Shields, Barrow,
Carlisle, Darlington,
Hull, Middlesbrough, Stockport,
Blackpool, Morecambe,
Brighton, Boscombe, Margate,
Portsmouth, Southampton,
Bath, Lincoln, Leicester, Bradford,
Halifax, Sheffield, Blackburn,
Lancaster, Stockport, Burnley, Derby,
Attercliffe, Stoke, Grimsby.
St. Helens, Accrington, Warrington,
Bury, Hanley, Stockton, &c., &c.
Send, at once, terms, dates, and lithos.
Those having a good act can rely on getting
Immediate Work.
WILL SLEY,
41, Oxford-street,
Manchester.
Telephone, 09144.
Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."

WANTED, good Double Turn, must be funny and refined; also Single Turns in all Lines, for twelve weeks certain. Lowest terms, PRINCE BENDON, 3, Albert-road, Glasgow, S.S.

TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN.
WANTED, for the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Dublin,
All the Greatest Stars in the Profession,
Acts New in Dublin, for the above,
the Premier Variety Theatre in Ireland,
Direct or through Agents.
All communications to WILL SLEY,
41, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone, 09144.

WANTED, Stars and Novelties in all Branches, for immediate dates.
Acts with Showy Lithos. Write.
Wanted, Big Novelties, with Drawing Powers, for HENGLER'S CIRCUS, W.
Wanted, Complete Entertainments, Dramatic or Variety, with Good Printing, for
BIJOU THEATRE, BAYSWATER, LONDON, W.
Wanted, Big Dramatic and Operatic Co's. and First-class Entertainments, for
VICTORIA HALL, HALIFAX.
Wanted, Entire Circus Co's. and Minstrel Shows, for DRILL HALL, BATH.
Wanted, High-class Picture, Variety, and Dramatic Co's. for ASSEMBLY ROOMS T., DURHAM.
CENTRAL HALL, DARLINGTON, &c., &c.
ALFRED SAKER and Co., Dramatic and Variety Agents, 17, Cranworth-gardens, Brixton, S.W.
'Phone, 194 Brixton.

WANTED, for June 3, 10, and 17,
Stars in all Lines.
Stars in all Lines.
Full up for Smaller Items.
Can always Fix Big Numbers any Odd Weeks.
CADLE'S Agency,
105, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Variety Stars,
Big Specialities, Novelties,
June 3, onwards, Booking, Terms, &c.
Japanese Troupe required for Pantomime.
EDGAR STEBBINGS,
23, Egerton-street, Manchester.
'Phone 09.61. Telegrams, "Stebbing, Manchester."

WANTED, Stars and Specialities, for immediate and future dates. Lithos., terms, and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

PERTH THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.
WANTED, Good Variety Combinations, two houses nightly, June 10, onwards. SAVILE, Paisley Theatre.

WANTED, Star Seaside Attraction, for Race Week, June 24.
J. H. GRAHAM, Palace by the Sea, Tynemouth.

DREW BAYLEY'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
June 3, and on, for the North,
Talent, Talent, Talent,
Summer Terms, sure to be booked.
Every Artist should write me.
170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

DUNDAS'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Talent, May 27 and onwards. Absolute lowest terms. Artists Disengaged Pantomime write in. 52, Rosthwaite-road, West Derby, Liverpool.

STALYBRIDGE AND WORCESTER.
WANTED, Talent all Lines,
JAMES FIONI'S Agency,
21, Norton-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool."
Telephone, 1686 Royal.

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, late Manager Blackpool, Morecambe, &c. Address, 46, Coram-st., Russell-sq., W.C. After Tuesday, Douglas Hotel, Corporation-street, Manchester.

DEETRICH'S VAUDEVILLE BUREAU,
31, Islington, Liverpool.
WANTED, always, the Best Acts in the Market, for immediate and future dates, nothing too big nor too small. Artists written before please keep me posted. Send lowest terms, posters, photos, list of bookings in first instance to save time.

WANTED, Variety Acts all Lines, Vocalists and Speciality Artists, for Pierrots, on Shares, Monday onward. RAYNE, Theatre, Hetton-le-Hole, co. Durham.

WANTED, Big Gala Acts.
Zolas write.
MANAGER, Grand Theatre, Mansfield.

VENTOM SWIFT'S AGENCY,
ALHAMBRA, EDINBURGH.
WANTED, Startling Attractions and First-class Small Turns, June 3.

HENRY KEMBLE'S AGENCY.
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HENRY KEMBLE'S AGENCY.
HENRY KEMBLE'S AGENCY.
HENRY KEMBLE'S AGENCY.

WANTED, Big Novelties.
Wanted, Big Novelties.
Wanted, Big Novelties.
Wanted, Big Novelties.
Wanted, Big Novelties.
Wanted, Big Novelties.

Open time
and lowest terms
to
Palace,
Cork.

WANTED, Aug. 5, Sensational Novelty or Speciality, with lithos. Good price for suitable acts. GANNON, West Grove, Bristol.

CHAPPELL'S PROMENADE CONCERTS,
YARMOUTH.
WANTED, Specialities, July 8, 29, Sept. 2, 9, 16. Lowest terms, perm. address, HARRY BARKER'S ENTERTAINMENT BUREAU, 6, Harley-road, Great Yarmouth.

PALACE OF VARIETIES, OLDBURY.
WANTED, June 3, on, Specialities, Novelties, Comedy, Double Acts (each doing Singles), Sisters, anything drawing power. Lowest Summer terms, litho., W. B. BOSTOCK, Manager.

WANTED, Specialities of all Kinds, now and onward; must have full list of Bookings.
MARTINO'S Agency, Barcroft-street, Grimsby.

HENRI CAZMAN'S AGENCY,
Denmark-hill, London.
WANTED, May 27, June 3, 10, 17, 24, Head-lines and Stars for Principal London and Provincial Halls.
For my own Combinations, June 24, Accrington; July 8, Liverpool; July 15, St. Helens. I want New and Novel Turns to these towns, and with a view to being booked in London and the Country through this Office.
Letters, lithos., full list bookings, lowest terms, to HENRI CAZMAN, Palace, Manchester.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
for
Halls,
Seasides,
and
Galas,
the Solid Cream of the World's Attractions,
the Solid Cream of the World's Attractions,
First-Class Specialities,
First-Class Specialities,
Clever Comedians,
Clever Comedians,
Meritorious Novelties,
Meritorious Novelties,
Gifted Instrumentalists,
Gifted Instrumentalists,
Brilliant Vocalists, &c.
Brilliant Vocalists, &c.
in fact, in a word, nothing too big.
JAMES FIONI'S Agency, 21, Norton-st., Liverpool. Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool." 'Phone, 1686 Royal.

WANTED, for the Grand Music Hall, Bolton, Real Top Liners; full up for years with all others; nothing too big.
Address, J. F. ELLISTON, Bolton.

WANTED, Known
The Canterbury Chamber of Commerce
is desirous of arranging with a
First-class Company, to provide
Good Outdoor Musical Entertainment
during the coming Cricket Week
Aug. 5 to 10.

Send terms and particulars to
the Secretary, Mr. BEN TWYMAN,
Guildhall-chambers, Canterbury.

WANTED, Young and Pretty Girls.
Apply, DARRELL and Co.,
415, Strand, W.C.
between 11 and 1, Saturday only.

WANTED, First-Class Illustrated Song Lady Vocalist, with good Répertoire, to open at once. Long Tour.
Lowest terms and references.
A. ROSEBERY, National Animated Pictures, Assembly Rooms, Bath.

WANTED, Girl for Vaudeville Stage, to learn Gymnastic and Dancing Act, age about 14-16; experience not necessary, but must be refined, healthy, well formed, attractive appearance, about 4ft. 10in. high, and weight about 95-100lb. A good home and small salary will be given from the start. Good opportunity for an ambitious girl for rapid advancement in the First-class Theatres. Address, or call between 1 and 2 p.m.,
J. D. MILLMAN,
c/o Mrs. Bartram,
49, Rupert-street, Leicester-square, W.

WANTED, Young Lady, good Figure, pretty, capable Speciality, and Londoner preferred, open July 1, London. Age, particulars. Variety Artists write (London). Box 4,865, "The Era."

WANTED, Pierrot Comedians, Lady and Gentleman, Double-handed, used to Sketches, Concerteds. Lamberts write. Terms, photos., &c., BURTON, 5, Milner's-chambers, Sheffield.

WANTED, a few Knockabout Pantomimists, also Lady, must be young, for Special Week, if suitable Tour to follow. Apply by letter to E. G., 8, Wilby-road, Camberwell Green, London, S.E.

WANTED, Comedians, Dumb Shows, one night, Monday, June 3, Boothman's Benefit. Address, BOOTHMAN, Theatre, Radcliffe.

WANTED, Funny Refined Low Comedian, for Fred Pullan's Yorkshire Pierrots, Clacton-on-Sea, commence July 1. Terms must be stated. FRED PULLAN, Comedian, Bradford.

WANTED, a Comedian, must have good voice, must be reliable. State experience and terms for long engagement. Box 4,878, "The Era."

WANTED, Smart Young Trick Cyclist (male or female). State age, height, salary. Particulars, F. BROUGHTON, 428, Gorton-road, Reddish, Stockport.

WANTED, Smart Boy, between 13 and 14, as Apprentice to well-known Acrobat Troupe. Address, LEVETT, 22, Ashted-row, Birmingham.

WANTED, twenty smartly-dressed Young Ladies, for Cinématograph Pictures. Apply Monday, 2 to 4. GRAPHIC CINEMATOGRAPH Co., 154, Charing Cross-road, London.

WANTED, good complete Bioscope Show, for Season, at Greenwich Theatre. Send best terms, specimen programmes, ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, six First-Class Operators, immediately, must be able to fit up Shows and have at least two references; good money and permanent engagements to suitable men.
Wire, Box 4,853, "The Era."

WANTED, 1½ hours' complete Show. Latest Animated Pictures, Gas or Electric; long tour. Open Monday. Wire terms, DAVIES, Post Office, Exeter.

ANDREWS' ANIMATED PICTURE CO.
WANTED, for above Company, First-Class Operator thoroughly competent in electric, to open to-day (Saturday), long engagement if suitable. Wire, ANDREWS, Town Hall, Folkestone.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Queenie Lolo, Charming Lady Gymnast, Graceful Trapeze and Teeth Speciality Artist; also Little May, Juvenile Speciality Dancer. Private address, 127, Upperaughton-road, Birkdale, Southport.

WANTED, by Mlle. Sylvesto, Graceful Contortionist, Monday 27th, June 10, 17, 24. Big success this, Alhambra, Brighton, where wire.

WANTED, Known, Sisters Nella, in their refined Speciality Pot-Pourri Act, Vacant June 10, onwards. Declared by Press and Public to be the Most Original, Refined, and Charming Performance ever seen in the Profession. Address, next week, Italian Circus, Olympia, Sunderland.

WANTED, 27th and June 3, Jack Sheppard, World's Greatest Handcuff King and Prison Breaker; also Miss Ruby Vesta, in the Greatest Trunk Mystery on the Stage. Turning hundreds away every night. Refer Manager. Topping Bill everywhere. Sure draw; big challenges. Wire, Alexandra Theatre, Widnes, Lancs.

WANTED, Agents and Managers to see my "Extra Turn" at the London, Shoreditch, on Saturday afternoon. VULCARIS, The Scottish Grossmith.

WANTED, by Barney Stuart, Character Actor, Vocalist, and Mimic, Monday next; also the month of July. Coms., 146, Blackburn-road, Accrington.

WANTED, by Stave, Eccentric Musical Speciality Act, Monday next, May 27.
Wire, Empire, South Shields.

WANTED, Monday next, also June 3, by Seves, Mental Telepathist, now working third engagement in twelve months, Hippo., Scarboro'. Wire, SEVES, Hippo., Scarboro'.

WANTED, Known,
Richardson Taylor,
The Whistling Ventriloquist,
Liberty June 3.
Letters, &c., Empress, Brixton.

WANTED, Known, Tom Garland, Ventriloquist, the Masterpiece, wants Monday. Big success this Hippo., Dewsbury; wire, wire, wire.

WANTED, June 3 and 10, by Hulbert (Ventriloquist) and De Lil (Illusionist), two smart Acts. Monday, Lyceum, Govan, Glasgow.

WANTED, May 27, June 3, onward, with exceptions, the Original Kyoto, a refined Comedy Japanese Contortionist, Comic Conjurer, Juggler, and Dog; also Miss May Geraldine, Comedienne, Vocalist, Dancer, with Chorus Songs; two sure hits. Wire or write quick. 506, Stockport-road, Longsight, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Chas. Dixon, Kate Lynd, want June 3, July 22, 29, big hit Empire, Dublin. Dublin Telegraph, May 14: Kate Lynd was very warmly encored. Letters, 69, Roan-street, Greenwich.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, 27th, June 3, by Bassett and Clarke (Tom and Meta), High-class Burlesque Sketch Artists. Only Act of its Kind. We stand alone. Great Success, Hippo., Paisley. Thanks E. H. Bostock, Esq., for most comfortable week. Wire for Sure Draw. BASSETT, The Cottage, Easterhouse, near Glasgow.

WANTED, by Ted Young and Ada Twibell, June 3 and 10; two Distinct Turns. Next week, Gaiety, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Wallace Whitney, Comedian, Beatie Foster, Comedienne, Lib. Mon., one or both. Wire, Pal., Bridlington. After Sunday to 62, Great Jackson-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday, also June 3, E. W. Selman, Comedian, Ivy Gallard, Comedienne. Wire for the Best on the Road, one or both. Theatre, Mexboro'.

WANTED, Monday next, also June 3, The Percys (Harry, Lillie), Duettists, Dancers, Speciality Performers; distance no object. Wire, Gaiety, Blyth.

WANTED, Monday, also June 3, by Will and Roze, Comedy Acrobatic Conjurers, and Alvar, Sensational Gymnast, two acts, three people. Starring with Big Success, Temperance Hall, Merthyr Tydvil. Wire.

WANTED, June 10, 17, The Monckton's (Fred and Lillie), in Original Successful Musical Comedy Oddity, "Are Wives Dummies?" An Artistic Performance in every Detail. Bottom Bill, Gaiety, Glasgow. Big Success. Re-booked by Harry Bowerman, Esq. May 27, Crystal Palace, Sydenham.

WANTED, June 17 (follow York), by Cadogan and Wingrove, "A Clerical Complication" (Muir and Bartlett's). Tivoli, Grimsby.

WANTED, Known, Lenton and Bertram, Zancig Thought-Reading and High-class Conjuring. A few Dates left for Summer. 251, Seven Sisters-road, N.

WANTED, July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, by Mueller and Coyne. Next, A., Edinburgh; June 10, E., Dublin; 17, E., Belfast; 24, S. Shields.

WANTED, by Bros. Shephard (Will and Bert), Cross Talk Comedians, June 10, onward, with exceptions. This, 16, Broad-street, Pendleton; next, Grand, Doncaster.

WANTED, Known, The Shermans, Character Comedians, vacant Monday first, near Glasgow, also June 10, 17. Wire, care of Carroll, 22, Balmano-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, by Rell and Butt, The Novel Comedians, June 24, July 1, 8. Only Vacancies this year. Agent, FRED HIGHAM.

WANTED, by Ariel and Astarte, Smartest of all Lady and Gent. Gymnastic Acts, free June 3, 10. Monday, Empire, Merthyr Tydvil.

WANTED, Monday and June 10, by The Two Daniels, Stilt Duettists and Big Boot Song and Dance. Wire, Salisbury-place, Sherborne-road, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Three Moxons, Acrobatic Comedians, Risley Performers, &c., vacant Monday and June 3. Wire, Theatre, Perth. Perm., 3, Winsley-road, Bristol.

WANTED, Known, Two Eltons, Triple Bars, Comedians; Mlle Sara's Marblesque Trio, White Living Pictures; two Star Acts, Liberty June 10. Hippo., Stalybridge.

WANTED, May 27, Ringling Trio. Original Comedy Act; greatest hit ever known, Peel Park Gala, Bradford. Wire or write, 5, Cosgrove-street, Cleethorpes.

WANTED, Monday next, also June 10, by Titan, Telka, and Wyllie (three acts), Strong Show; Musical Act and Ballad Vocalist. Alhambra, Edinburgh.

WANTED, June 3 and 10, by Atlas and Vulcana, Troupe of Society Athletes, including Marvellous Classic Poses by Vulcana, most beautiful and perfect model known. Complimented (not condemned) by the Authorities, Press, Public, and Artists of the Civilised World. Till Sunday, 17, Waterford-road, Fulham; Monday, Regent, Salford.

WANTED, Known, Lieut. Albini and his Charming Young Ladies reproduced their Sensational Act, "The Sailor and His Lass," with Marie Gautier and Rosie Majeska in their original characters. A huge success at Palace, East Ham and Palace, Carlisle. Lieut. Albini guarantees to prove to any Manager this Act is a huge draw in its new form. Address, TOM SHAW, or 125, Tufnell Park-road, London, N.

WANTED, Known, L. Austin Millais' great Wordless production, "A Modern Godiva" (Stolen Duchess), copyright 2-2,797. Sept. offers invited. Palace, Gloucester.

WANTED, Alice Fontainbleau's Canine Marvels and Highest Jumpers in England. Tremendous Success, and highly complimented, Shrewsbury Fête, Whit Monday. Next, Hippo., Salford; June 3, Hippo., Preston. Few vacant dates.

WANTED, Known, Devereux's Novel Dog Show, the Four-footed Animals with the Human Brains. Liberty June 10. Sure draw. Barnard's, Chatham.

WANTED, Known, the Three Spangelettis (one Lady, two Gentlemen), Great Animal Pot-Pourri, at Liberty June 3, also Fêtes, Galas; two Acts, Galas, &c. Address, Grand Theatre, Mansfield.

WANTED, Summer Dates, through great disappointment of sixteen weeks' tour falling through, Chard's Canine Hippodrome, the World's Greatest Troupe of Trained Dogs. Address, Care of "The Era."

WANTED, by The Pygmies, few weeks' Engagement after May 25, before returning Ituri Forest. JAMES HARRISON, Oxford and Cambridge Club, London.

WANTED, Known, Travers' Bioscope, at Liberty; moderate terms for Summer Engagement; Latest Films. TRAVERS, 154, High-st., Clapham.

WANTED, Engagement, Public or Private, Harmon's Bioscope, Marionettes, also Royal Punch and Judy, with Toby. 326. Earlsfield-road, Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, by Lambert's Animated Pictureland, Summer Dates, Piers, Pavilions, Al Fresco, &c., thirty minutes to two hours of the latest and best, Gaumont's Chrono, May 27, on share or certainty. This, Public Hall, Hucknall Torkard; next, 2, Whitbread-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, Cinématograph at Liberty, change pictures weekly, any length entertainment, Gramophone Recitals and Illusion, "Astarte," if required. LEWIS, 8, West-st., Colchester.

WANTED, Known, Skilled Bioscope Operator requires permanent Berth at low salary, seven years' experience principal London and Provincial Halls; abstainer. Box 4,856, "The Era."

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, Tom Norman, Silver King (regd.), Auctioneer, Valuer, Expert and Authority, Auctioneer to Lord George Sanger (England's Greatest Showman), and Leading Showmen of Great Britain. Sales and Commissions conducted in any part of the World. If you want to Buy or Sell anything connected with the Business, consult TOM NORMAN, Auction Dept., The Era" Office, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand. Change of address. Wanted to purchase or engage, all kinds of Novelties and Curiosities (alive or dead), if suitable for exhibition.

WANTED, Known, .22 "R" and "D" cartridges, Globes, Balls, Winchester and New Military Repeaters. Pistols, and all repairs done. GREENE, 74, Falmouth-road, London, S.E.

Auctioneers.

WANTED Known, Great Value Offered in Secondhand Silver Watches. Auctioneers only supplied. Write to-day for full particulars, C. G. CLACHER, 22, Argyle-street, Glasgow. Try one of my famed parcels, containing Ten English Lever and Twelve Silver Geneva Watches. Best Value ever Offered. In great demand. Price, £5 5s.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, Important, that the Next Meeting of the BRITISH ROUNDABOUT PROPRIETORS' AND SHOWMEN'S UNION will be Held at the Wheat Sheafe Hotel, Bolton, on Tuesday next, May 28, at 2.30 p.m., when all members are requested to attend. (Signed) T. HURST, Secretary.

WANTED, Known, Messrs. LIMONAIRE BROTHERS, Mechanical Organ Builders, of 166, Avenue Daumesnil, Paris (France), beg to inform their Old and New Customers that, as from this Date, they have appointed Mr. ARTHUR RIGHINI, of Manchester, as their Sole Agent and Representative for Great Britain, to whom in future all inquiries for their Organs or Music must be made.

WANTED, Auctioneers to send to Simons for Secondhand Watches and Jewellery of every description, also reproductions of Old Sheffield Plate. Rock Bottom prices only. 100, 101, 102A, Houndsditch, E.C.

WANTED, Showmen to Save Money by sending for Leete's Catalogue of specially prepared Paints, Colours, Varnishes, Brushes, &c., and every requisite for decorating Caravans, Roundabouts, Swings, &c. Cheapest house in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, Known, all kinds of Showmen's Painting undertaken, Oil-paintings, Scenery, Letter Cloths. ROCHE, Artist, 22, Lansdown-road, Lee, London.

WANTED, Known, to whom it may concern.

We have great pleasure to inform all Showmen of the letter received from Mr. P. Collins since the reception of his new large Organ (new system, with expression) that we have just supplied him with, and of which we are the manufacturers.

Walsall, April 25, 1907. Messrs. Charles Marenghi et Cie, Avenue de Taillebourg, Paris. Gentlemen,—A line to say I am delighted with the new organ you sent me to Wrexham for my show front. I think you have excelled all others. I consider it the finest orchestra that has ever been built; both for the music and the tone it is perfect. The workmanship is thoroughly well done, and the artistic work and decorations are magnificent. I may say that when we opened it, thousands stood around it daily to hear it, and it was the admiration of everyone, and brought people from miles around to hear it. It was the talk of everyone in the district. Thanking you for your prompt and safe delivery of the same, yours truly, P. COLLINS.

We hope this letter will be understood by all interested persons, and that it will defy all great talkers. All transactions for Great Britain to be done through our General Representative, J. WENTWORTH, 29, Gibson-square, Islington, London, N. We remain, yours truly, CH. MARENGHI ET CIE, Paris.

WANTED, Waxwork Exhibition or Quick-showing Novelty, on shares, for the Summer, start Monday, May 27, wires; also Two Spaces to Let, for Tattooing and Game Stall, &c. Shares or rental. BARRON'S Exhibition, Arcade, Lowestoft.

WANTED, High-class Side-shows, for Al-Fresco Gardens. Apply, MANAGER, Grand Theatre, Mansfield.

WANTED, Novelties, Freaks; can open at once. Sale of Books and Postcards allowed. CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin.

WANTED, Novelties, also Showman. Apply, B. COHEN, 63, Whitechapel-road, E.

WANTED, at once, Novelty and Side Shows of every description. For terms apply, HECTOR and NATION, Fun Village, Raynes Park.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, and Attractions to write in for future dates at my American Museum. A. E. PICKARD, American Museum, Glasgow.

WANTED, Freaks and Novelties, also Lady Palmist, for Seaside. BAGAN'S Waxworks, 48, North-street, Belfast.

WANTED, Known, the Original Touring Exhibition requires a Lady Hand Reader, to open at Town Hall, Burton, June 4. Letters only, EXHIBITION MANAGER, Town Hall, Stoke-on-Trent; Pavilion, Carnarvon, July 2 to 12.

WANTED, at Once, a good Palmist; must be used to the Business. Send photo. Write, MANAGER, Harbour House, Margate.

Exceptional Attraction.

WANTED, immediately, Engagements for the celebrated Continental Fasting Lady; this lady possesses a specially-built house for her Fasts, so constructed that the Public are fully satisfied that the performance is absolutely genuine. Arrangements for the Fasts to take place under the supervision of the local doctors. For full particulars, write, Box 4,855, "The Era."

WANTED, Galas, Bailey's Punch and Judy, and Champion Dog Toby; closed two Galas this week, and what a Success! Address, Buxton.

BLACKPOOL SANDS.

WANTED, Known, the South Shore Pleasure Beach is the only site in Blackpool for Open-Air Attractions.

The grounds are forty acres in extent, right on the sea front, and are situated immediately next the Promenade at the Electric Tramway Terminus. From April 1 to Dec. 31, 1905, 4,000,000 passengers were carried on these tramways. The permanent attractions now include the "River Caves of the World," "Maxim Flying Machine," "Sea Circus," &c. Great Canadian Water Chute and Scenic Railway from Coney Island now being erected for this season. For sites and concessions for really good Novelties apply personally. Office on grounds. Letters only, 14, Balmoral-road, Blackpool.

LIFEBOAT DEMONSTRATION, BRISTOL. SATURDAY, JULY 6, 1907. At THE ROVERS' FOOTBALL GROUNDS, BRISTOL. HIGH ROPE, STAGE PERFORMANCES, FIREWORKS.

WANTED, to Let, Ground for Riding Machines, Swings, Slipping the Slip, Sheets, and Side Shows of all descriptions, at moderate rental. This Fête will be the most gigantic held in Bristol for a number of years; already been billed since February last, and tickets now on sale at reduced fee of admission. The Procession, which consists of a number of Lifeboats and Tableaux Carriages, will enter the grounds from the streets, and not break up outside the grounds. For lettings apply the Sole Lessee, T. R. GANNON, West-grove, Ashley-road, Bristol. Telegraphic address, "Fêtes, Bristol." Tel., No. 2536X Nat.

ELEVENTH ANNUAL HORTICULTURAL SHOW AND FETE.

WANTED, Showmen, Roundabout Proprietors, Stallholders, First-Class Side Shows, Novelties, &c., to Tender for Spaces (on about 14 acres of ground), at the above Fête, to be held in the Hanley Park on Wednesday and Thursday, July 3 and 4 next; average attendance over 60,000. Further particulars may be had on application to the undersigned. No notice taken of applications for Space unless accompanied by a full and complete description for what required. Tenders sealed and endorsed "Tenders Fair Ground," addressed The Chairman, Horticultural Committee, must be sent in on or before Friday, the 31st inst. WM. POULSON, Secretary. Town Hall, Hanley.

WANTED, to Let, Land for Stalls and Shows. Apply, JOHN HARDMAN, Manager, Starr Estate Fairground Co., 16, King-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, to Place, various Automatic Machines; Seaside or Exhibition; Shares, Hire, or Rental. Letters, Box 4,860, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Large Distorting Mirrors to Let, on Hire or Share, Exhibitions, Bazaars. Address, "MIRRORS," 19, Seymour-grove, Old Trafford, Manchester.

WANTED, by well-known experienced Showman, to Hire or Purchase on Hire-Purchase Terms, large, up-to-date Travelling Show; or would take Sole Management of one on commission. TOURGENNE, 6, Southampton-st., Islington.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Spaces, in Exhibitions, Piers, Bazaars, &c., New Side Show, just invented, intelligent, amusing, continuous; will take big money. KING, Subscription Rooms, Stroud, Glos.

WANTED, Space at Rothesay or Dunoon, N.B., in prominent position, for Palmistry. Madame REDA, c/o Burnettie, 273, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Auctioneers, to Know that Simons, of 100, 101, 102A, Houndsditch, is still forging ahead with his up-to-date Lines in Jewellery, Clocks, Fancy Goods, &c.

Try me; I sell cheap.

WANTED, to Sell, the finest Pullman Living Carriage in England, road or rail, separate bedroom, beautifully fitted and gilded. Cost over £250; cheap. BLOOM, Haughton, Darlington.

WANTED, to Sell, Handsome Pullman Living Van, nearly new, silver-plated harness, nearly new, to match. Cheap. SPAIN, Clapham Hill, Whitstable.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, Husbands, Babies, Love-Letters, Palmistry, Lunatics', Marriage, and Liars' Licences. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Gold-framed Photographs, Future Husbands, Wives, &c., for Automatic Machines, marvellous productions. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square, London.

WANTED, to Sell, new and secondhand one- to six-drawers Card Delivery Automatic Machines; marvellous money-takers. MEURICE, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every description; best and cheapest. 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London, W. Established 1887.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, 30s.; delivers sweets with phrenological head, 6s. gross. GEORGE ROSE, 97, Graham-rd., London, N.E.

WANTED, to Sell, a Number of Working Models, Penny-in-Slot. JAXON, 64, George-street, Moss-side, Manchester.

WANTED, to Sell, Electric Targets, Running Animals, Flying Birds, for Jungle Rifle Ranges. Write MINIATURE TARGET APPARATUS CO., LTD., 41, Newington-butts, S.E. Telephone 2747 Hop. Established 1887.

WANTED, to Sell, two Taylor American Trunks, 28ft. wide, 21ft. deep; a larger one, 34ft. wide, 25ft. deep. Offers required. Mrs. CAMP, 27, Gairloch-road, Camberwell.

WANTED, to Sell, healthy pure White Pomeranian Bitch, twelve months old, born with three legs and fowl's wing. Apply, ELLEN TOURGENNE, 6, Southampton-street, Islington.

WANTED, to Sell, Photographic Flashlight Apparatus, Kodak; Singer's Motor Tricycle; Automatic Piano. GEORGE ROSE, 97, Graham-rd., London, N.E.

WANTED, to Buy, good Trumpet Organ, to work by hand. WOOD, 94, Kenbury-street, Camberwell.

WANTED, to Buy, Secondhand Stereoscopes and Pictures; also Hire or Buy, Barrel Organ. HENDERSON, Theatre, Goole.

WANTED, to Buy or Hire, a Caravan. State particulars and lowest price. C. SHARP, 20, New Park-road, Brixton Hill.

WANTED, Partner, for excellent Show, now working on Blackpool Fair Grounds for Season. All particulars given to genuine enquirer. Box 4,850, "The Era."

WANTED, Partner, for Open Air Bazaar, Ireland; must be performer. Address, SHOWMAN, care of Larken, Dunboyne, co. Meath, near Dublin.

WANTED, the address of a firm who build Portable Theatres, Booths, Shows, &c. Address, Box 4,842, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Showmen who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any Railway Bookstall to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, Scenery Contracts, Productions. Our Paint Frames, 40 by 24; Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. FRED WILKINS and BRO., LTD., 54, Whitechapel, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap, and Films for Hire. BENDON, 301, Cathcart-road, Glasgow.

WANTED, to Sell, Large Stock of Films, majority good as new, from 1d. per foot; fresh consignments of New, Up-to-date Subjects are being received at frequent intervals from the Myrioramas. Send for up-to-date List. POOLE, Palace, Gloucester.

WANTED, to Sell, New Panto. Costumes, suit "Whittington." Madam MITCHELL, 75, Gray's Inn-road, Holborn, London.

WANTED, to Sell, 18ct. five-stone Diamond Gipsy Ring, suit lady or gentleman. Worth £10 10s.; price £4 15s. BLOOM, Haughton, Darlington.

WANTED, Known, that Mrs. Jack Camp has several unpublished Songs for Sale. These songs must not be sung without her permission. Apply, 27, Gairloch-road, Camberwell.

WANTED, to Sell, Pit Seat Lengths covered Carriage Rep, First-class condition. Address, Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh.

WANTED, to Sell, Tight-rope Apparatus, two Running Globes, some Handsome Spanish Costumes for same, and other Dresses. Will sell cheap. 193, Brixton-hill, S.W.

WANTED, to Sell, Animal Dresses, Tights, Symmetrical Paddings, Properties, &c. H. J. BOXALL, Tight Maker, 166, Waterloo-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, to Sell, a Skip, good cane material, 36 long, 26 high, 28 across, 12s. 6d., bargain. ADEY, 95, Oxford-street, Bilston.

WANTED, to Sell, a Thought-reading Dog, young; very pretty, suitable for Conjurer, cheap. Address, HILL, 7, Medway-street, Chatham.

WANTED, to Sell, 36in. Ventriloquial Boy. Latest movements, winks, smokes, &c., as new, £1 5s.; some good Heads, cheap. QUISTO, 11, Lammermoor-road, Balham.

WANTED, to Sell, Strong Gymnastic Net, 3in. mesh, 40ft. long, 17 wide, in good condition, 18s. S. MILLS, White Lodge, Sunbury, Middlesex.

WANTED, to Sell, Musical Novelties every description, for Stage purposes, Electric and otherwise; also large Basket, suitable for Gymnastic Apparatus, Professionals' Travelling Baskets supplied; best workmanship guaranteed. LISLE, 5, Outhill-road, Camberwell.

WANTED, to Sell or Let, Sole Permit Park Band Stand, 1s. fare from London Bridge, including 100 Chairs, Piano, Fit-up, &c., all ready, 50s. weekly. HAYES and TRAVERS, 122, East-hill, Dartford.

WANTED, to Sell, Four Side Drums, Sticks, and Carriages, Dresses suitable for Troupe and Chambermaid, good Skull, and pair of Lady's Top Boots (size five). Mrs. LOWTHER, No. 6, Worcester-st., Wolverhampton.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell, Cornet, Bugle, Post Horn, Xylophone, Novelty Bells, complete, with electro-plate fittings; also massive electro-plate Easel, 8ft. high, with plush draping, a complete musical fit-up. Will sell complete or separately, as required. Illness cause, must sell. VIVIAN, 11, Circus-street, Greenwich.

WANTED, to Sell, Electric Lime, complete, with Resistance, flexible Cables and Colours, been used for Posers. E., 166, Liverpool-road, London.

WANTED, Lady or Gentleman interested in Juvenile Productions to write. Sterling Novelty for Disposal. W. HOWARD, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

WANTED, to Sell, full Military Band Journals, Boosey, Chappell; also tripod, iron bandstands. LACAMERA, 112, Osborne-road, Preston-drove, Brighton.

WANTED, to Sell, Brilliant Written Posters, from 1s. each; good lettering and coloured designs. LONDON POSTER CO., South Norwood, London.

The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, London, W.C. "Dear Sir,—I ordered the following advertisement to appear in your paper for two insertions.

"WANTED, to Sell, Self-acting Pianoforte, two barrels, twenty tunes, perfect condition, cost £44; what offers? MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square, W.C.'

"Kindly do not insert my advertisement again, as the self-acting piano which I had to sell has been sold to Mr. Jack Woolf, of Wonderland fame, Whitechapel-road, E. I had also ten other applicants through my advertisement in 'The Era.' Yours faithfully, J. H. MEURICE. "39, Argyle-square, W.C. Oct. 9, 1906."

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, to Buy or Hire, Gigantic Tent, suitable for large Circus Variety. Communications, with full particulars, O. MAUS DAYTON, Theatre Royal, Macclesfield.

WANTED, Reliable Bioscope Films, &c., and Operator. COOKE, 18, Church-street, Rhyl.

WANTED, 200 Al-Fresco Chairs, cheap; 20 Forms, Two Side-wings, and Centre, 9ft. high. WHITE, Poulton-le-Fylde.

WANTED, to Buy, a Conjurer's Spring-roller Card Frame, to throw Cards at Frame. Price, &c., WINGARD, Bradford-road, Southsea.

WANTED, Stage, Chairs, Seating, also good Acetylene Lamps, suitable Al-Fresco. Lowest cash price. Particulars, SILVESTER, 368, Moss-lane, East Manchester.

WANTED, to Buy, Sixty Tip-up Chairs, in first-class condition. State make, size, and price, and where can be seen. HAGUE, Spa, Bridlington.

WANTED, to Buy, a Swimming Tank, everything complete, in good condition. Send lowest price, size, and full particulars to W. TAYLOR, 35, Woolcomber-street, Dover.

WANTED, to Purchase, several good Cloths, 24ft. by 18ft., also Wings to match, also 200 Plush Tip-up Seats, must be in perfect condition; Electric Limes, Battens, &c. State lowest price, cash. HARRY MARVELLO, Proprietor, The Tower, Portobello, N.B.

WANTED, to Buy, or Hire for Summer Season, Secondhand Tent, to hold 1,000; also number of Chairs, must be cheap. LEONARD DALRYMPLE, 38, Sutton Court-road, Chiswick, London.

WANTED, Rights of good Musical Comedy, with established name; also a strong Play. CHARLES CAREY, Opera House, Burnley.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY.

WANTED, to Let or Sell, the Lease of the above Theatre, now fully licensed; none but principals or their solicitors dealt with. E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED to Let (Rental), Byculiah Athenæum, Enfield. Any kind of Entertainment. Scenery Address, MANAGER, as above.

WANTED, to Let, Share or Rental, Clapham Assembly Rooms, Gauden-road, seating 300, fully licensed, opposite Clapham-road Station.

WANTED, to Let, Hippodrome, Blyth Northumberland, from May 27, weekly or monthly. Address, FRASER, printer.

WANTED, to Let, the Hippo., Cambridge, for Monday, May 27, and on, with exceptions, rental only. PROPRIETOR, 77, Newmarket-road, Cambridge.

WANTED, to Let, large Hall, at Victoria Rooms, Cheltenham. Summer Terms for 6½d. Bazaar or Entertainment.

WANTED, to Let, Victoria Rooms, Cheltenham, seat 1,000, vac. June 3, on. Silence polite negative; Dramatic Licence. Christmas vacant.

WANTED, to Let, Rehearsal Room, dividing curtain, piano, gas, dancing floor. Terms moderate. F. BROWNING, 4, Pimlico-road (near Victoria).

WANTED, to Let, on Moderate Royalty, small Theatre and Fit-up Rights of my original version of "East Lynne," licensed and fully protected; splendid reserved pictorials and novel throw-aways; over £200 has been taken in three nights. HERBERT BARRS, P.O.W. Theatre, Nuneaton.

WANTED, to Let, the Coach and Horses Hotel (Free House), Stourbridge (Theatre House), connected and being part of the Theatre Royal property. Particulars, BENNETT, Opera House, Coventry.

WANTED, to Let, for Season, Studio Dark Room, Window, and Figures for photos, in best position; also Outside Space, for Flashlight Machine. Write, MANAGER, Harbour House, Margate.

WANTED, to Let, New Two-act Musical Play, "The Flower Girl," full of Situations and Business, for Comedians; Seven Principals and Chorus. For Sale, Sketches, Farcical and Dramatic. GLIDDON, 30, Aytoun-road, Stockwell.

WANTED, to Let or Sell, two good Dramas, with printing. H. G. BRANDON, 12, Kinglake-street, Paddington, Liverpool.

WANTED, to Hire, Hall for Byron's Historical Picture and Concert Company. All coms., B. HENRY, Manager, 23, Burchell-road, Leyton, E.

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, Lady or Gentleman, with £75, to join Advertiser in exploiting an entirely novel Riding Machine, working all summer at a crowded Exhibition; big money-maker, yielding splendid income. Write, DEVEREUX, 4, Duke-street, Adelphi, London.

WANTED, to invest in a genuine Theatre, or would join another as Partner in a Music Hall, &c. Box 4,863, "The Era."

WANTED, Partner, to take over Lease of established Provincial Theatre. Principals or Solicitors address, FREDK. LOVERIDGE, 219, Folkestone-road, Dover.

WANTED, Partner, help revive Musical Pantomime Sketch. Have music, scenery, lithos., &c.; played Moss Tour, &c. Partner to manage same after production; no time myself. Letters, REGINA, Manager Wal Pink's "Repairs" Co., 31, De Laune-street, Kennington.

WANTED, by Lady and Gentleman, Partnership in good Sketch; small capital, but good workers; Sketch must be a going concern. Box 4,877, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, in Sketch Troupe, or would join Partner; Musical Comedian, Piano, Piccolo, Drums, &c. Write, BERT GORING, 38, James-st., Oxford-st., London, W.

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, a Partner, with a Picture Show and few Variety Turns, to work under Canvas. I have Tent, Seating, &c. Full particulars by post. WALTER KENNEDY, Post Office, Dublin.

WANTED, Smart Balancer and Tumbler, weight about 8st, with experience preferred. Apply, Box 4,849, "The Era."

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING. Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Scenery Contracts, Productions. Our Paint Frames, 40 by 24; Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. FRED WILKINS and BRO., LTD., 54, Whitechapel, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

WANTED, Known, C. Kinch, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Theatrical and General Blacksmith. 17, St. Mary-square, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, F. G Wright, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Electrical Engineer, and Theatrical Blacksmith. 66 and 68, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, for Ventriloquial and Marionette Figures and Specialities, LE MARE and SON, 28, Coupland-st., Oxford-rd., Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Prompt Printing at Elphick's, Colour Printers, Biggleswade. Day Bills, ½ D.C., one colour, 10s. 6d. 1,000; two colours, 500 10s. 6d., 1,000 14s.; Handbills, 7s. 6d. 10,000; Posters, all sizes; Art Memos., 2s. 6d. 200; Roll Tickets, 6d. 1,000. Send for estimates. Telephone 22.

WANTED, Known.—Those who can influence Printing Orders will hear of something to their advantage by communicating to Box 4,852, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, that we do Picture Postcards, 100 5s. 6d., 250 8s., 500 12s., 1,000 16s. Send photo. and cash. SENIOR and Co., Cotham Hill, Bristol.

WANTED, Known.—For Original Sketches, Songs, Scenas, &c., apply, W. HOWARD, 9, Berwick-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Known.—Music composed for Dramas, &c., Band Parts arranged; Perfection of Orchestration and Tuneful Melodies. W. GLIDDON, 30, Aytoun-road, Stockwell.

WANTED, Known.—Band Parts, 3s. 6d.; Music Composed, Arranged, &c.; Band Books, 4s. 7d. 10. Lists free. COTTLE, 86, Coldharbour-lane, London.

Notice.

WANTED, Known, Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson wishes to state that he has no business relations or interest in an Artist bearing the same name.

WANTED, Father to send address for 30; cousin says I can come for month; brother better. CHARLOTTE CRACROFT.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Dan Noble and Miss Marie Yorke sincerely thank E. H. Bostock, Esq., for a most comfortable five weeks' tour, also for further bookings and recommenadtions.

WANTED, Known.—If the Tool Chest and Tools left at the Britannia Panopticon, Glasgow, Feb. 16, '07, are not claimed within 18 days by Mr. Dan Alexander, they will be sold to cover expenses. A. E. PICKARD, Britannia Panopticon, Glasgow.

HOTEL PROPRIETORS.

To Hotel Proprietors who regularly file "The Era." HANDSOME ILLUMINATED METAL TABLETS of "THE ERA" will be supplied gratis on application to the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

FAIRS, SHOWS, WAKES.

70,000 SHOWMEN OF THE UNITED KINGDOM

REQUIRED TO SEND FOR THE

SHOWMEN'S YEAR BOOK

FOR 1907. JUST OUT.

Edited by the Rev. T. HORNE. Entirely Re-arranged, Corrected, and Enlarged. 100 Pages.

PRICE - - ONE SHILLING.

PRINCIPAL CONTENTS.

British Shows and Showmen. Constitution and Rules of the "Showmen's Guild." List of Fairs. Local Feasts and Wakes. Synopsis of Bye Laws, &c., &c.

INVALUABLE TO ALL WHO FOLLOW THE FAIR

SOLD AT "THE ERA" BUILDINGS, 5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, LONDON, W.C.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907. "The Era" Annual for 1907 is out, published from the offices of "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, W.C. It is the usual complete record of doings in theatreland during the past year, and possesses a live interest in the number of excellent personal contributions by well-known managers, authors, actors, and actresses of the day.—Sportsman, Jan. 22, 1907.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907. A compendium of great value to all interested, professionally or otherwise, in music and the drama is "The Era" Dramatic and Musical Annual, the issue for 1907 of which has just been issued (London: 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, 1s.). Especially attractive are the stories told by some twenty artists, whose photographs and autographs are included.—Glasgow Herald, Jan. 31.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907. Another book which calls for attention is that excellent and almost indispensable work of reference, "The Era" Almanack and Annual. In this handy shillingsworth one has a complete record of the past dramatic year, and the arrangement is so admirable that no time is lost in finding the desired subject, title of play, revival, or new production, and all that appertains to the drama of the year. The same remark applies to the information concerning the stages of Paris and Berlin; and I should like to see next year the American stage included, because it is becoming so intimately allied with our own, by reason of the production of plays, the interchange of actors, and the comprehensive interests of managers. In addition to the solid pages of facts, there are included short tales and stories by well-known actors and actresses, and altogether the book is one which should find its way into the hands of all genuine lovers of the drama.—Morning Advertiser, Feb. 23, '07.

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD & STOLL COMPANIES SUBSEQUENT

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CALLS FOR MONDAY, MAY 27, 1907.

Wires: "Twigsome, London"

THE LONDON HIPPODROME.

"The Typhoon," Australian Woodcutters, Fred Lindsay, Toft's Statuary, Jackson Family, Aurora Troupe, Duncan's Collies, Rhoda Brothers, Orford's Elephants, Wyndham and Kitty, Martinecks, Rapoli, Chronomegaphone, Columbias.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1.30, for:—
Neil Kenyon, Johnson and Wells, Lukushimas, Frank Seeley, Boccaccios, Herbert Rule, Karno Four, Stelling and Revell, Frank Bertram and Co., Claire Romaine.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for:—
Nellie Wallace, Chas. Kay, Les Payen, Madge Grey, J. H. Cassell, Bishop and Vale, Bioscope, Cruikshank, C. W. Somerset and Co., Amy Russell.

ZOO AND HIPPODROME, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for:—
"The Little Stowaway," Spry and Monti, Rita and Roma, New Macs, Sisters Dorrell, Alf Gibson, The Woodwards, Illustrated Song, Borghetti Troupe, Bioscope.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for:—
"The Punch-Bowl," Kerr and Koe, Arthur Gill, Ruby Dahl, Lee and Bentley, Sandy McNab, Alec B. Thorne, Bioscope, "Happy Holland," Alfred Agoust.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Three Golden Graces, Bros. Egbert, Twin Andersons, Bessie Butt, George Formby, Guy Ryder, Collins and Rice, Les Strads, Bioscope, Dan Leno, jun.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Tom Edwards, Marie Santoi and Co., Lupino Bros., The Findens, McConnells, Eily Adair, Harry Freeman, Howard and Collinson, Margaret Ashton, Robb Gilmore.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Hymack, Lil Hawthorne, Vasilescu Troupe, Gasch Sisters, Signor and Mme. Borelli, Leonie Dixon, Will English, Sinclair and Whiteford, Donaldson Bros. and Ardell, Nora Emerald.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Bonnie Goodwin's Piccaninnies, "My Pal Jerry," Bioscope, Leo Stormont, Marie Empress, Kitts and Windrum, Tom E. Hughes, Mezzetti and Mora, Lieut. Travis.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
"Mick Whittingtun," Elsie Claire, Kioto, Bowman and Morton, Victor Travers, Ada Martine, Bioscope, Herbert Shelley.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Vesta Tilley, Fred Poplar, Kitty Wager, Tom Owen, Wartenburg Bros, Five Delevines, D'Arc's Marionettes, Rosa Loader, Gwennie Hasto, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Harry Lauder, Harry Bedford, Northern Troupe, Fred and Pauli, Roma and Romani, Hartley Wonders, Maggie Walsh, Carter Livesay and Co., Bros. Dean, Illustrated Song, May Audrey.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Kroney Bros., Darnley's Dots, J. W. Rowley, Trentanovi Sisters, Edie Reynolds and Co., Bioscope, George Leyton, Will Rogers, Lady Fauntleroy, Libby Blondell, and Johnnies.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Fred Storey and Co., David Poole, Vetter Bros., Dutch Daly, Daisy Mayer, Sidney Lee, Bioscope, Drew and Alders, The Gems, Russell Wallett.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
George Lashwood, Austin Rudd, Baker and Balfe, Rosie Archer, Jordan and Harvey, Empire Girls, Sylvesta, Amy Anderson and Co., La Berat, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
Mark Sheridan, Spry and Austin, Ella Retford, Harry Tate, Francis and Alfred, Fielding and Hull, Mezzettis, De Gracia's Elephants, Bioscope, "Kiss your Father."

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
"Casey's Circus," Josh Dixon, Flo Esdaile, Seeley and West, Ella Shields, Farley, Rennie, and Farley, Cape Girls, Canty's Grotto, Launceston Elliott, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
Wilkie Bard, Will Musgrave, George Ridgwell, Moulier Sisters, J. P. Ling, The Craggs, Les Frasettis, Sisters Morgan, Three Consol Girls, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3, for:—
The Boissetts, 3 Sisters Chester, Three Phydoras, Marguerite Broadfoote, Ross and Lewis, Powell's Marionettes, Grace Merton, Frank Couch, The Howes, Bioscope.

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EMPIRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 3, for:—
Mariedl, Ross and Grayson, Gintaro, Marzella's Birds, Browning and Wally, Horace White, Billy McClain and Co., Frank Cumminger, Lindon's Vaudeville Co.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 3, for:—
Paul Conchas, J. A. Wilson, The Motramos, Beattie and Blanche, Jennie Johns, Ellis Barrieton, Bert Woodward, Matthew Brodie and Co., Effie Stuart.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
"The Suffragettes," Starr and Leslie, Daisy Jerome, Boswell's Circus, Walter King, Ian Colquhoun, Woodhouse and Wells, Genaro and Theol, Kitty Marion, Bioscope.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30, for:—
Karno's "The Bailiff," Frank Leslie, Thos. Finglass, Sisters Macarte, Dion Wade, Lena Verdi, American Comedy Four, Bioscope.

ARDWICK EMPIRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
R. A. Roberts, Fanny Erris, Les Uniques, Stanley Cook and Co., Belrose and De Velin, Nellie Coleman, Dome, Sisters Poole, Bioscope, W. F. Frame.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2, for
Bransby Williams, Minna Merry, Illustrated Song, Lafaille Troupe, W. Fulbrook and Co., Chronophone, Ryder Slone, Boy Glen, J. B. Montague and Co., Cinquevalli.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
Harry Roxbury and Co., Larry Lewis, Miles Stavordale, Queenie Leighton, J. B. Preston, Dida, Two Dixons, Amy Clevere, Little Tina, Bioscope, Mabel Green.

THE FOLLOWING ARE BOOKED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ABOVE:

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
George Kirk and Co., Billy Farrell, Gladys Mavius, Jonghmann Sisters, J. Alexander and Co., Mendel, Chas. Norton, Pictures, H. E. High, Maude Jestor.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1 for:
Tom Costello, Lily Langtry, Trapnells, Edwin Barwick, Jackley Trio, Maude Leverne, Rumbo Austin, "Charley's Uncle" Co.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Hetty King, Percy Honri, New York Nippers, Nellie Martell, Luigi Salvino, Mario, Pictures, J. W. Rickaby.

RICHMOND THEATRE, RICHMOND.
Proprietor, Mr. George Dance.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Baldwin's "Bank Clerks," Percy Clifton, Pictures, Goggin and Davis, Ethel Baines, Edith Evelyn and Co., Sadie Mitchell, The Haverleys, Pyck, Tholl, and Taylor.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL
Rehearsal at 12, for:—
Rosina Caselli, Wilson and Waring, Geretti Sisters, Bioscope, Cecelia Maude, Johnny Walker, Arthur Astell, Tom H. Wood.

THE GRANVILLE, WALHAM GREEN.
Rehearsal at 3, for:—
Joe Elvin and Co., Bros. Horne, Chas. Vincent, Morny Cash, Herbert La Martine, Little Pete, Dora Lyric, Dolly, Agnes, and Maude, La Danseuse, Molly Macguire, Barton and Franklin, Boyd and Gilfain, Talbot and Pearce, Pictures, Royston and Royce.

THE PALACE, CAMBERWELL.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Both Performances.
Joe Elvin and Co., T. E. Dunville, Chris Richards, Vernando, Gus Garrick, Dora Lyric, Three Sisters Silcott, Four Avocas, Three Missouris, Bros. Leslie, Pictures.

EMPIRE, COVENTRY.
Proprietor, Mr. George Dance.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Kellinos, Ina Lorrimer, Cullane's Comedy Co., Barrett and Knowles, George Leonard, Pearce & Ward, Bioscope, Olive Tree, Anthony.

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND
(Now in course of erection).
Artists and Agents please note that Bookings for the above Theatre have commenced.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE, READING
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Poluski Bros., Burns and Burns, Chas. Dillon, Harold Hughman, Marie Weston, Bioscope, Harry Laybourne.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

ARTISTS ARE REQUESTED TO NOTE THAT THE ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON, IS WITHIN THE AREA ABSOLUTELY BARRED BY US.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.

Artists must have Band Parts for at least Twelve different Instruments for the Orchestras. Matter for Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR ALL THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Co-operative Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, or at least TWO WEEKS, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled.

IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to Opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced.

ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

N.B.—Silence in every case a polite negative. Artists are requested not to enclose stamped envelope. Letters marked "Private" will be delayed.
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Sung by Ian Colquhoun; also by Miss Ruby Helder, at the Empire, Leicester Square.

"PANSY" (By C. Wilmott, Rita Strauss, and H. E. Darewski, jun.), and "I'LL BE YOUR GOLLIWOG" (Kennedy Russell),
Sung by Miss Isabel Dillon.

"LAVENDER" (C. Wilmott and H. E. Darewski, jun.), and "WHEN YOU KNOW YOU'RE NOT FORGOTTEN BY THE GIRL YOU CAN'T FORGET (Gardenier and Relf).
Sung by Miss Mabel Green.

"THE BOY AND THE EAGLE" (E. W. Rogers), and "NUMBER NINE" (LOVE DOVE LANE), (Adams and Woodville), sung by Arthur Lennard.

"MAN AND WIFE SHOULD ALWAYS PULL TOGETHER" (Murphy and Lipton), and "SYMPATHY" (Kendis and Paley).
Sung by Miss Carlotta Levey.

"IF THE MAN IN THE MOON WERE A COON" (Fischer), and "BABY LUCIE" (Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford).
Sung by G. H. Elliott; the former also by Miss May Moore-Duprez.

"I WANT A GIRL" (Bateman and G. Collins), and "I'M GOING—I'M GOING—I'M GONE!" (Castling and C. Collins).
Sung by Miss Daisy Dormer.

"THAT'S THE REASON NOO I WEAR A KILT" (Lauder and Kendall).
Sung by Harry Lauder.

"WHEN TOMMY ATKINS MARRIES DOLLY GRAY" (Cobb and Edwards).
Sung by Miss May Belfort.

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All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office.

Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns.

Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier.

Artists employing Agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents.

New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our District Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follow:—

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LONDON DISTRICT.
MR. WILLIAM COLLINS,
The Empire, Shepherd's Bush, W.

N.B.—Mr. OSWALD STOLL or Mr. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously.

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All Billing Matter for the undermentioned Theatres to be sent to the Secretary at above address. All communications as to engagements for the Theatres to be addressed to Messrs. ROSEN & BLISS, Variety Agents, 56, Whitcomb-street, Leicester-square, London, W.C.
Telegrams, "Twopence, London." Telephone No. 7623 Gerrard.
N.B.—INTERVIEWED BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS for MONDAY, MAY 27, 1907.

Rehearsals at 1 p.m.

PALACE THEATRE, PLYMOUTH.

Marino, Ernest Montefiore's Sketch, "The Little Colonel," Billy Hobbs, Gertrella, The Three Clarions, Herbert Clifton, Venie Clements, Bioscope, John E. Coyle.

PALACE THEATRE, BRISTOL.

Bros. Horne, Eadie and Ramsden, Alix Lukos, Man v. Motor, Davis and Gledhill Trio, James and Lucy Allison, Albert Wyndham and Co., "Othello," Bioscope, Dusty Rhodes.

PALACE THEATRE, SUNDERLAND.

Dr. Carl Hermann, Little Cliff, Three Bostonians, Corman's Juveniles, Harry Briggs, Sisters Marion, Bioscope, Collinson Combination, "The Club Raid."

KING'S THEATRE, GATESHEAD.

Bob Hanlon Troupe, Harry Carmen, The Solari Duo, Chas. Russell, Daisy Lane, Maitland Trio, Sisters Selwyn, Alec Thomas, Bioscope, Smiler Lee.

PALACE THEATRE, DUNDEE.

Warsaw Brothers, R. C. Note, Raie Walters, Three Florodora Girls, The Cliffs, Evie Hamilton, Bioscope, Daisy Devonport, Otto and Olga.

PALACE THEATRE, ABERDEEN.

The Modern Venus, Nellie Vance, Charles Lestree, Amina Rinder, Will Cornish, The Florias, Babs Lloyd, Bros. Lawrence, Bioscope, George Rae.

N.B.—Artists will oblige by sending billing matter punctually.

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CALLS. CALLS.

THE VAUDEVILLE SYNDICATE.

Secretary and Manager, **Mr. C. Standfield.**

CALLS FOR MONDAY, MAY 27, 1907.

PALACE, DOVER.

Raymond, Molly Seymour, Harry Sims, Tom Bass, Ida Brophy, Wilton Herriott and Co., Seven Wulfrunas.

ALHAMBRA, SANDGATE.

Raymond, Two Sprees, Saxo, Chas. Ridgewell, Lily Watson, Nellie Montague, Sisters Lunelle, Four Herberts.

GRAND, SHEFFIELD.

Rhoda Burnhill, Pallister's Pictures, Nellie Nora, Ormonde Penstone, Matt Wilkinson and Co., Violet Beatrice, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard, Will Bacchus,

THEATRE ROYA', CRO/DON.

GLASGOW PAVILION
CALL for Monday, May 27, 1907.
7. Twice Nightly. 9.
Rehearsal at 11 o'clock for:—
John Tiller's Company, "Gay Paree," Tennyson and Wallis, Eight Lancashire Lads, Cee Mee Troupe, Susie Protti, L. B. Athol, H. Maynard, Fred Hastings.

GREENOCK PAVILION
Kindly Note.—The Directors of the above Theatre have decided to Close for the Summer Months. Artists holding Contracts may have their dates transferred should they so desire, otherwise please consider them cancelled.
All bill matter must be sent to Glasgow fourteen days ahead. Failing this, Artists will run the risk of having their Contracts cancelled. By order,
SAMUEL LLOYD, General-Manager

CALLS. CALLS.

THE PALACE, GLASGOW.
Sole Proprietor and Manager, RICH. WALDON.
All Bookings are now made direct from above Hall.
All Contracts made on behalf of the Palace, Glasgow, on or before April 7, 1906, and delivered to the present Management, not yet completed, will be carried out.
Bill matter must be sent two weeks in advance.
CALL for Monday, May 27, 1907, at 12 o'clock.
Arthur Roberts, Harvey and Holt, Florence Schuberth, The Calcotts, George Prince, Cleland, Bustace and Eyre, De Lil, Hulbert, The Brothers Hannaway, The Four Figaros.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.
NEW HIPPODROME.
CALL, Monday, May 27. Rehearsal 12.30. Mohamed Ben Mohamed Souasa Arabs, Palette, Winnie Stanhope, Leo King, New Operascope, Mabelle May, Ted Clifton, Mlle. Ada Gatley. Artists Requiring Immediate Dates apply Solo Booking Representative,
H. PERCIVAL YOUNG, Shakespeare Theatre Offices, Clapham Junction, London, S.W.

SHEERNESS HIPPODROME.
General-Manager, Mr. FRED. LEIGHTON.
CALL, Monday, May 27, 1907.
Dusty Rhodes, Harry Mayville, Carrie Victoria, Seven Wulfrunas, Daisy Reed, Kathleen Radford, Talbot and Pearce. Matinée Whit-Monday, May 20, 1907, at 2.30 p.m. Band Rehearsal at 12 midday.

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CALLS.

FOR WEEK COMMENCING
MONDAY, MAY 27, 1907.

PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT.

SPECIAL NOTICE.
Rehearsal at all Halls, Monday, at 12.0 sharp.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.

T. C. Callaghan, Peter Gotz, Pictures, Nat Watkins, Harry Morgan, Florrie Leonard, Clara Victor.

PALACE, LINCOLN.

Victoria Monks, Will Johnson, Gold and Sterling, Winnie Derson, Daisy Martell, Harry Anderson, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE, BATH.

The Maples, A. P. Boswell, Daisy Weston and Girls, Oakdene, Le Cren Trio, The Henres, Lily Stewart, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE, BRADFORD.

Jack Lane, Wake and Dean, Sidney Dolf, Three Bros. Huxter, Sisters Brooke, Walter Stanley, Three Sisters Kilner, "Ferdie's Ma-in-Law," Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.

Chung Ling Soo, Cissie Curlette, Georgina Leonard, Bob Hamilton, Austin and Cowan, Forrest Combination, Royal Zerbinis, Three Schaffers, Vasey and Ramsey, G. W. Foster.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, HALIFAX.

Bob Hutt and Co., in "Welcome Home," Bonnetti and Corri, The Smythsons, Jimson's Comedy Co., Rose Cabani, Sisters Edwards, Larola, Addie Dorina, Raymond's Bio-tableaux,

PALACE, W. HARTLEPOOL.

Clito, Maudie Forde, Leotard Bros., Bennett and Martell, Ted Wooton, Maidie Scott, Vay's Juveniles, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.

Karno's "Saturday to Monday," Walker and May, Ted and May Hopkins, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Rene Graham, May Tyler, and Beattie Fortune.

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"The Tyrant."

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Managers of touring companies are hereby notified that the Rotherham and Chesterfield Theatres are the premier places of entertainment in these respective towns, and that all other places of amusement are rigidly barred. All applications for dates at Leeds, Rotherham, and Chesterfield to be addressed to the Head Offices at Sheffield.

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PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday.
Capt. Hamilton, V.C. Co., Four Emilions, Leonard Mortimer and Co., Vere and Royal, Alice Blandford, Bessie Willow, Cissy Lupino, D. W Watson, Sisters Rayman, O'Doyle and Dempsey, Arthur Norton, Raymond.

THE BRITANNIA.
Matinée Monday.
Dolly Elsworthy and Co., Raymond's Bio-tableaux, L. Mortimer's Co., Josephine Colona and Co.

FORESTERS.
Matinées Monday and Thursday.
The Three Pirmans, Tatten Hall, Jas. Willard and Co., The Campeons, Tennis and Laune, Maxim Girls, Horace Sade, Jennie Venton, Daisy De Roy, Dandy George, Raymond, Six Bros. Luck.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday.
F. V. St. Clair, Barrington, George Phillips, Clown Barker, Mersano, Dandy Thieves, Florence Bell, Mdlle. de Rose, J. H. Hawtrey, Cambo, Carlotta De Yonsen Co., Raymond.

SURREY THEATRE.
All Artists engaged for Surrey Theatre must bring 14 Band parts.
Matinée every Monday.
Frank Hardie and Co., Augustin and Hartley, Rose Elliott, Florrie Bray, Pichell Troupe, Milner Verren, Mulvey and Miriam, The Lorrisons, Lade Henderson, G. W. Hunter, Raymond, Arnold Bell and Co.

Notice.—All artists carrying Scenery must have it Fireproof, according to L.C.C. regulations, otherwise it will not be allowed in the Halls.

All Bill Matter or Notification of Appearance must be sent in 14 days prior to opening. All Artists must attend Band Rehearsal, or their Contracts may be cancelled at the option of the Management.

N.B.—All Billing Matter, accompanied by Pictorials, and Business Communications relating to the Provincial Circuit, must be addressed to the

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"GOING, GOING, GONE,"
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"I WANT A GIRL,"
at the Palace, London, and Palace, Chelsea.

The THREE SISTERS CHESTER sing
"ALL ALONE IN OLD COLOGNE,"
at the Empire, Shepherd's Bush.

Miss MAY BELFORT sings
"WHEN TOMMY ATKINS MARRIES DOLLY GRAY,"
at the Metropolitan.

Miss NORA MOORE sings
"SYMPATHY"
and
"WHY DON'T YOU COME AROUND AND SEE ME?"
at the Metropolitan.

Miss KATHLEEN GRAY sings
"MY CASTLE IN SPAIN,"
at the Euston Music Hall.

Miss FLO SOMERS sings
"HOME AGAIN MY CHERRY BLOSSOM,"
at the Granville, Walham Green.

Miss ROSE HARVEY sings
"I'LL TELL TILLY ON THE TELEPHONE,"
at the Middlesex.

Miss ALICE PIERCE sings
"A PICNIC FOR TWO,"
at the Oxford.

Miss ISABELLE DILLON sings
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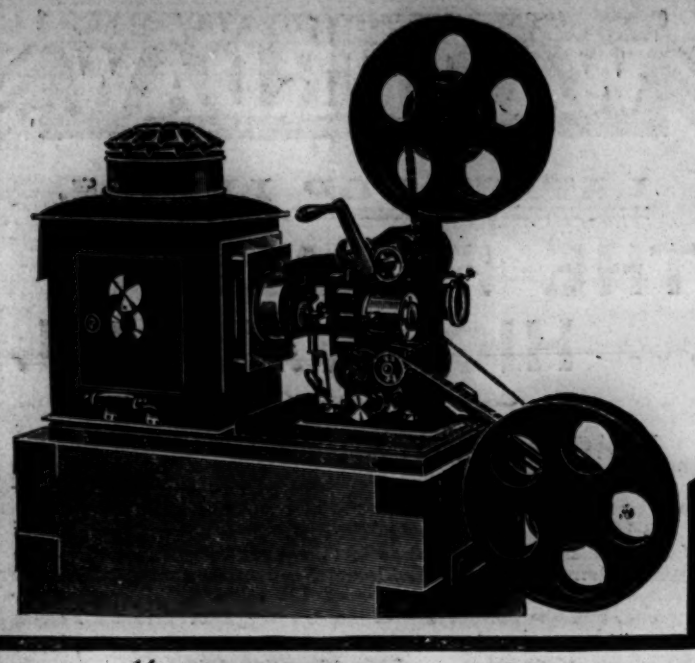

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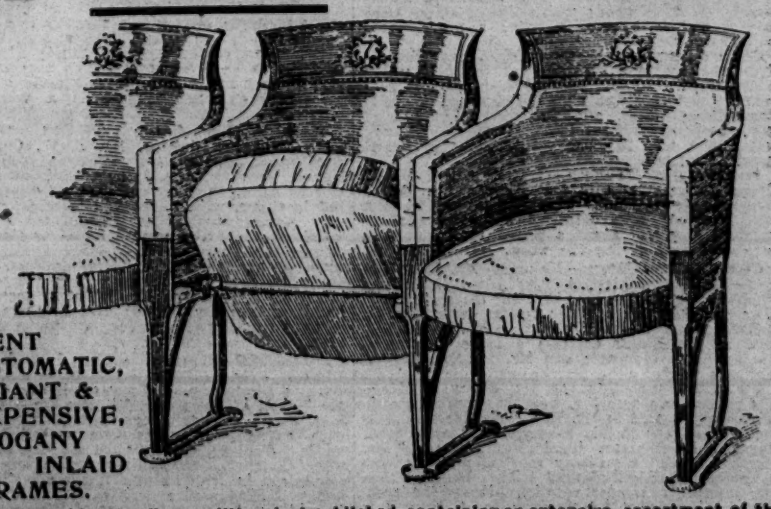

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PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—This week *Mice and Men* is well played by an exceptionally good company. Mr. W. H. Rotheram shows much reserved power as Mark Embury; and Miss Helena Parsons acts piquantly and vivaciously as Peggy. Other parts most capably filled are those of Roger Goodlake by Mr. Edmund Lee; Captain Lovell by Mr. Keene Orde; Mrs. Goodlake by Miss Mabel Ormonde; and Mrs. Deborah by Miss Amy Fanchette.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—The Modern Venus, statuary display, which is extremely artistic, is followed with the keenest interest; Mr. George Rae, Scottish comedian, contributes a delightful turn; and Mr. Will Cornish scores a big success with his musical bell act. The Florias excel as equilibrists, their performance on the slack wire being remarkably graceful as well as dexterous; and among other successful artists are Miss Nellie Vance, a vivacious comedienne and dancer, Mr. Charles Lestrec, a clever juggler, Miss Amina Kinder, a charming vocalist, the Brothers Lawrence, exceedingly smart dancers, and Miss Babs Lloyd, a piquante exponent of coon dancing.

ABERTILLERY.—THEATRE METROPOLE.—Lessees, Messrs. Carlton and Duckworth; General-Manager, Mr. Geo. W. Ventom; Stage-Manager, Mr. Fred Thomas.—Fred Karno's company is causing much merriment this week in the sketches, *Mumming Birds* and *Early Birds*. Messrs. Lincoln and Warren provide an amusing and clever cyclist turn; Mr. Geo. Mackintosh and Miss Tina Royal give an admirable exhibition of clog dancing; and the Sisters Lavender and Mr. Charles Denton are good in songs.

ACCRINGTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—The Elliotts top the bill here with their musical act (as the Savonas), which the house applauds to the echo. A society episode, presented by Mr. L. Bell and Miss L. Pearl and company, is well received; Oliver Conway is good; and The Jollions are pleasing operatic vocalists; Senorita Eloina is a graceful Spanish gymnast; H. C. Bori does a clever juggling act; and the Bioscope, with the latest pictures, is interesting.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Willmot, Vandy, Potter, and Weisker; Acting-Manager, Frank Parsons.—An excellent bill is provided here this week. Jack Collinson's company of juveniles presents an amusing turn, in *The Topsy-Turvy School;* Jack Rae, "the man with the hat," must be complimented; Ada Spencer is clever; Harrigan and Holt keep the house in a good humour; Alf Slater is well received; Queenie May is a refined vocalist; the Vekes are smart musical experts; and Kisbey is also here. The Hippodrome Pictures conclude.

ALDERSHOT.—ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—*The Gamester of Metz* is being played here this week by Mr. Chas. March's company. Mr. March takes the rôle of Paul, and goes through a series of quick changes. He is supported by a capable company.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—Mr. Percy Norman's company is presenting *A Woman Worth Winning*, a story founded on Russian military officialdom, here this week. Mr. Percy Norman as a cruel Governor of a Muscovite province, makes the character sufficiently hateful by his display of vindictive energy; the chief foil to the military scoundrel is the daughter of a well-to-do Russian, and of this character Miss Cissie Bellamy gives a fine and regal interpretation. Messrs. A. B. Mackay, Gilbert Standing, Sidney Barton, Carthage Balbolbugh, Jack Coriass, Wynne Davies, Hall Eldon, Edwards, and Misses Trixie Leighton and Ida Mackie lend able support.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—The chief feature of the "bill" here this week is the living art masterpieces of Henriette De Serris, with nine different tableaux in groups; the Deer Family, genuine North-American Indians, appear in sensational tableaux, Princess White Deer's songs and war dance being greatly applauded; Lily Gaston, male impersonator, introduces her speciality, top-boot dancing, in which she has held the championship of the world; Robins and Collier appear in a musical comedy scena, *The Lady and the Porter*; the tenor vocalism of Mr. Payne Clarke is a rich treat; the contortions of Wilfrid Gregory, the flexible marvel, are astounding; *Jealousy*, played by Mr. Montague Beaudyn and his company, forms a powerful dramatic episode; and the Bioscope pictures are greatly admired.

ATTERCLIFFE.—PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. T. E. Owen.—A special feature of this week's programme is the engagement of the Maritana Operatic Company, under the direction of Mr. Ernest C. Gittins. The principals are Mlle. Adele Prescott (soprano), Miss Norah Roy (contralto), Mr. Saxton Granville (tenor), and Mr. Albert Chapman (baritone). Their efforts are enthusiastically received; Burg, Haud, and Wise are responsible for a laughable acrobatic act; Mr. J. P. Carroll is a clever and versatile tambourinist; a smart display of conjuring is furnished by Adams and Ward (lady and gentleman); Mr. E. C. Clayton's Attergraph pictures include an interesting series, "Life on the Stage"; and other attractive turns are given by Mr. Albert Saxton in character songs; Miss Ada Parker, coon songstress and dancer; and Mr. A. E. Clifford, vocalist.

CENTRAL HALL.—Lessees, Jasper Redfern, Ltd.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Frederick W. Holmes.—A bright and attractive bill is presented here this week. There is a varied and interesting series of pictures, including "A Naval Attack on Portsmouth" and "South African Gold Mines." Variety turns are furnished by Retsell, the Yorkshire collier, and his daughter, in a display of thought reading; Kavados, in a good juggling act; Miss Flo Melville, a pleasing comedienne, and Mr. Phil Rees, double-voiced vocalist.

BARNSLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. A. C. Mitchell.—Mr. Harry Foxwell's company, in *A Broken Heart*, is here this week. The dual parts of Miss Grace Fanshawe and Mrs. Kellet are ably sustained by Mrs. Harry Foxwell; Mr. John Clyde is conspicuous with an interesting performance of John Barnard (a master blacksmith); and the part of Mary Barnard (John's wife) is sympathetically portrayed by Miss Marguerite Trevosper. Mr. Will Lindsay is an amusing Tony Tibbets; the villainous part of Stephen Roylton is forcibly enacted by Mr. Tom Leighton; and as his accomplice, Gash Gills, Mr. Charles Vivian is to be complimented. Miss Florrie Lorsby is a very clever child actress.

BARNSTAPLE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Bridge Trustees; Manager, Mr. Harry Ashton.—Mr. Fraser Brunner's company gave *The Superior Miss Pellender* on Monday. Miss Queenie Fraser Brunner excelled as the supercilious Miss Pellender; Miss Beatrice Fitzhugh richly deserved the praise bestowed on her portrayal of Mrs. Pellender; unctuous humour pervaded Mr. W. Fraser Brunner's Mr. Lister; and Mr. Ellis D. Carlyle as Noel, and the Misses Marie Ault and May Staples as Edith and Nancy respectively, worthily upheld the high character of the acting.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.—ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Mr. Harry Roxbury's company, in *A Little Vagrant*, is here. Mr. Cecil A. Collins is a capable Jim Harris, and Mr. Stanley Radcliffe is a sufficiently villainous Eric Arden. In the title-rôle, Miss Alice Bowes is a picturesque figure; and Miss Vashti Wynne makes a great success of Poll. Mr. Richard Bosco is a polished Thomas Whitworth. Mr. Brian Henry a smart Amos Browning, and Mr. J. W. Gallagher, Miss Bella Moody and Miss Caroline Fenton are effective comedians in the parts of Slideaway Bates, Hannah Smithers, and Julia Pilbeam respectively.

TIVOLI.—Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Edgar Laban.—C. Emlyn Jones' ladies' quartette of singers are the top of the bill here this week, and give some very effective numbers; Peggy Pride, the dainty comedienne, makes a welcome return visit, and is exceedingly well received; Pete and Juno are very smart dancing comedians, and Harry Cloff's descriptive vocal numbers quite take the popular ear; Will May and Theresa are remarkably clever in a Japanese quick-change scena, and Ruby Bijou, barefoot dancer, gives a novel and clever turn. Some excellent pictures by Vernon's Bioscope conclude.

HIPPODROME, ABBEY-ROAD.—The British Empire Picture and Variety Company are at this house under the management of Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge. They are receiving excellent houses, and the entertainment is much enjoyed.

BATH.—PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—For race week the management have provided an unusually bright programme, in which the turn given by the Mapies is an excellent example, and their reception is cordial in the extreme. The Heures are very smart juvenile club performers; Oakdene, in his nautical ventriloquial scena, supplies a capital entertainment; A. P. Boswell continues to present his furniture-shifting act with all his former precision and success; Daisy Weston and her quartet of lady dancers, display flexibility of limb as high kickers; Le Cren Trio give a grotesque speciality which secures them hearty applause; Lily Stewart, comedienne and dancer, meets with favour. Raymond's Bio-Tableaux are excellent.

ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—Manager, Mr. Lawson Howes.—On Monday and Tuesday the celebrated comedienne Miss Louie Freear was announced to appear here, assisted by a party of excellent artists, including Mr. Stephen Bond, raconteur; Mr. H. A. Gribbon, vocal comedian; Mr. Vivian Foster, comedian; Mr. Edwin Bennett, character-actor; Miss Bessie Coleman, serio; and Mr. Nelson Jackson, humourist. Miss Freear sang a couple of songs at the matinée on Monday, but did not appear at either the evening performance or on Tuesday. On Wednesday the National Animated Pictures commenced a season, introducing all the latest triumphs in animated photography.

BEDFORD.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—The new musical comedy, *Cupid's Market*, was presented for the first time in Bedford on Monday night. The piece was produced by Mr. Gray Murray, and the company was an excellent one in every respect. Delightful numbers abound in the play, which is most amusing, the antics of Mr. Mark Lester as the editor's clerk adding greatly to its success. The editor was cleverly impersonated by Mr. E. Sefton; and Mr. J. M. Hay was a capital Lord Soppington. Isabel Dash, an heiress, was charmingly presented by Miss Iris Hoey; and the part of the widow (Mrs. Arundale) was in the capable hands of Miss Nancy Hearne; Miss May Stevenson was good as Olive, and Miss Maude Stead as Miss Ethel de Vere impressed one with the fact that the part had been well studied. The clients of Wilesworth were numerous, and included both sexes, who took up the choruses briskly and brightly. The musical director was Mr. Ernest Hartmann.

BELFAST.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—*The Shulamite* is presented here this week. The rôle of Simeon Krillett, the Boer farmer, has been done full justice to by Mr. Algernon J. Hicks, his acting throughout being quite convincing; nothing but praise must be accorded Miss Ruth Shepherd for her remarkably clever delineation of Deborah Krillett; and Miss Emily Levettez is well placed as Tante Anna Vanderberg, acquitting herself with the highest possible distinction. For his fine manly impersonation of Robert Waring, an English overseer, Mr. Charles Fancourt deserves every credit; and it would certainly be difficult to surpass Mr. George Rammell's admirable impersonation of Jan Vanderberg. Miss Chrissie Bickerstaff furnishes an effective impersonation of Memke, a Kaffir slave-girl; and Mr. Albert Rogers is certainly very humorous as the Kaffir servant. The staging, for which Mr. Albert Rogers is responsible, is highly effective.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Warden, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General-Manager, Mr. J. De Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—Messrs. Clark and Hamilton opened here on Monday, and met with an unqualified success; the thrilling sketch, *Sally in Our Alley*, has been accorded a terrific reception; Mr. Walter George's light opera company, known as Smart Set, appear in their vocal scena, which is quite a feature of the bill; Mr. Billy Williams is a really funny comedian, with good songs; and the Alaskarno Trio are certainly first-class acrobatic comedians; Miss Gertie Gitana is a charming comedienne and fine dancer; and also appearing are Sydney and Maud, duettists and dancers; Moon and Morris, comedians and dancers; Mr. Will Driscoll, comedian and dancer; and the Palace Pictures.

ROYAL HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Will Sley; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The Minstrel Maids (twelve in number) have been most successful. The Cheers appear to the greatest possible advantage in the scena, *Dick Whittington*, and introduce some marvellous performing cats. The Three Sisters Urma display exceptional skill in their triple bar performance; and the extraordinary mimicry of animals which is so realistic of Mr. Leo Tell has aroused intense enthusiasm. A comedy act of much brilliance and exceeding merit has been provided by Stidder and Dunbar, a clever duo; and the splendid vocalism of the Greys has been appreciated as it deserves; Nash and Noel, comedians and dancers, take well; Mr. Arthur Goodman, tramp juggler; the new Hipposcope Pictures; and Satsuma, conjuror, are also included in the programme.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John A. Walker.—Mr. Tom Costello heads the bill, and this clever comedian has been most successful with his song, "The Suffragettes." The extraordinary acrobatic feats of the Trapnells have created much enthusiasm; and a big hit has been made by Mr. Edwin Barwick, the famous mimic and actor-vocalist; Mr. Bates Maddison's comedy company have created merriment with their farcical sketch, entitled *Charley's Uncle*. Miss Lillie Langtry is an accomplished and exceedingly vivacious comedienne; and Rumbo Austin, with his troupe, has been accorded a capital reception. The Jackley Trio appear in their acrobatic speciality; and the bill is completed by Miss Maude Laverne, comedienne.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Sinclair Neill.—The Alhambra Dramatic Company, under the personal direction of Mr. M. Montgomery, is here this week with *The New World*, by Fred Darcy. Mr. Horace Denton appears with the greatest possible success in the rôle of Jack Hawley; and Miss Nina Blake Adams could not easily be surpassed as May Walton, her acting being decidedly clever. Miss Kathleen Magee furnished a capable impersonation of Samantha Clayton, and rarely has this capital actress appeared to greater advantage. Mr. Edward M. Heanley appears with much success as Jim Rawlins; and the humour of the piece is in the safe hands of Mr. Tom H. Jolly, who was fairly irresistible as Brutus Brown. Mr. Cyril Grier acquits himself with distinction as Jose Alvarez, his acting being quite irreproachable; and Mr. Elmore Frith was as usual excellent as Joe Williams. Miss Mattie Crawford furnished an exceedingly charming impersonation of Jennie Williams; and Mr. J. E. Davies was admirable as Col. Bijah Clayton. Mr. Ed. Smythe rendered a good account of himself as Pete Sweet. The stage arrangements were in the excellent hands of Mr. Tom H. Solly, stage-manager. The Alhambra Bioscope, under the direction of Mr. W. E. Newlove, exhibits a splendid picture this week, entitled "A Mother-in-law's Race for a Son-in-law."

BILSTON.—AL-FRESCO PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Battersby.—The Imperial Pierrots opened their summer season again on Monday. A long programme included Miss May Hankinson, vocalist, Miss Brenda Leslie, vocalist, Mr. T. Griffiths, descriptive vocalist, Mr. Charles Bradford, comic singer, Mr. Syd Bazley, comic singer, Masters Frank and Harold Birkenhead, and Mr. J. E. Machin, who opened with a pianoforte selection. The indispensable Bioscope exhibits a change of pictures nightly.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant; Secretary, Miss Isabel Morris.—Mr. J. M. Glover's Juvenile Pantomime Company in *The Forte Thieves* forms an interesting entertainment. The various parts are filled by children from Drury Lane Theatre, and special mention is due of Master Jack Frost's spirited and clever rendering of Abdalla. Leading rôles are also admirably played by Masters W. Bishop, Teddy Gordon, and Misses Jessie Evans, L. Randall, A. McDonald, and Florrie Clarke.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—Mrs. John Lawson appears as May Faber in an effective sketch entitled *The Devil's Sunday*. Miss Florrie Gallimore, the popular comedienne, is on a welcome return visit; Miss Marie Blythe, an exceptionally talented contralto and descriptive vocalist, is a great favourite. The programme also includes Mr. Fred Elton, comedian; the Four Athos, in a smart acrobatic display; Miss Maude Mortimer, comedienne; Atlas and Casatti, variety artists; Miss Josie Delaine, vocalist and dancer; and Brown's Royal Bioscope.

BIRMINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—The annual promenade concerts instituted here two seasons ago recommenced last Monday, and will continue until June 15. Mr. Landon Ronald is again retained, and has under his bâton a full concert orchestra of seventy performers, while a rich array of solo instrumentalists and vocalists are engaged. Several new works are being produced, and the entire scheme appears to give the liveliest satisfaction. The concerts are held under the direction of Mr. Max Mossel.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Rodgers, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—*The Lady of Ostend* figures here, and, to the common gratification, introduces that general favourite, Mr. Lawrence Brough. As the Baron Mr. Brough fills his followers with glee, appearing at his very best, while his support is excellent. Mr. Harry Hampson is invaluable and truly amusing as Dick Whortles; Mr. Percy Marshall is to the fore with a clever impersonation of Joseph Carbury; Mr. Watkin Wynne adopts the characteristics of Toby Krockitt with eminent success; Miss Roberta Svendson scores with her vivacious acting in the title-rôle; Miss Kate Milford is successful as Dorothy Whortles; Miss Bessie Harrison acts smartly as Matilda Carbury; other rôles being filed by the Misses Evelyn Ormonde and Eva Boyne and Messrs. Reginald A. Hunt, H. Douglas, and Hewson Elliott. To-day (Saturday) *The Lady of Ostend* gives place to Mme. Jane Hading, who is to appear in *Frou-Frou* and *La Châtelaine*.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Bernardo.—*A Beautiful Fiend* preserves its popularity in the fullest degree, its engagement here with Mr. Montague Beaudyn's company proving eminently successful. Miss Sidney Crowe displays all the powers and fascinations ascribed to the titular rôle, Wanda Lubinoff; Mr. Herbert Skardon stirs up much enthusiasm with his vigorous acting as Ivan Paulovitch; Mr. Harry C. Robinson makes a thoroughly capable Fedor Karateff; Mr. Matt Russell proves his general utility as acting-manager and Sergius Strogoff; Miss Violet Ingram presents a clever portrayal of Nadine Karateff; Miss Marie Fontaine makes a prominent rôle of the maid, Patty; Mr. Dick Seddon acts in cleverly humorous style as Crackles; Mr. Pat Quin is all that is wanted as Malachi; and Mr. Julian Mitchell fills the rôle of Troiski admirably.

CARLTON THEATRE, SALTLEY.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—*The Sorrows of Satan* is well presented here by Miss Loie Esmond's company, under the capable direction of Mr. Edward Neville, who also assumes the rôle of Prince Lucio Rimanez with the utmost distinction. Miss Esmond is responsible for much of the success as Diana Chesney; Miss Rosie Neville gives a pleasing portrayal of Mavis Clare; Miss Cecilia Dare acts with eminently successful results as Lady Sybil Elton; Mr. J. McCaigh is admired for his finished style as Geoffrey Tempest; Mr. Coleman Davis scores as Lord Lynton; and the servant, Morris, is well represented by Mr. Fred Cherry. An entertaining comedietta, played by Miss Rosie Neville and Mr. Coleman Davis, entitled *Two Soft*, precedes the play.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittle.—*The Sin of Her Childhood* is represented here by Mr. J. A. Campbell's company. Miss Effie Bartlett as the grown-up heroine, Mary Haysel, secures much sympathy with her well-conceived efforts; Little Dorothy as Mary in the prologue and Eric in the play, is both natural and pleasing; Miss Clara Santley as the dipsomaniac, Maria Haysel, contributes a clever piece of realism; Mr. Wilson Summers emphasises the evil traits of Stephen Haysel with every success; Mr. Jas. Duncan acts in a desirable manner, and wins much respect as the Rev. Alan Grey; Mr. Frank Liston is well suited and clever as Capt. John Thornton; Mr. Hugh Brady is admirable in his assumption of the rollicking, good-hearted Irishman, O'Reilly; and the Misses Katie Lever and Lissa Young are very good as Eliza Muggins and Hannah Spry respectively.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham.—Lew Lake and company met with appreciation for their sketch, *My Pal Jerry*; the performance of Bonnie Goodwin's Piccaninnies is exceedingly interesting; Tom E. Hughes, the comedian, is as entertaining as ever; Leo Stormont, the popular baritone, meets with well-deserved success; while Meuzetti and Mora, triple bar performers, are very clever. Kitto and Windrum have a pleasing military sketch in *The Cuckoo*; Lieut. Travis is an excellent ventriloquist; and Marie Empress is a dainty comedienne.

GAIETY.—General Manager, Mr. Albert T. Bushell.—Hayman and Franklin figure in a sketch entitled *A Matrimonial Agency*, and keep the audience thoroughly amused; another laughable sketch is presented by Austin Lenton and company, who appear in *The Bigamist*; mystery enshrouds the performance of Prof. Fuller, with his aerial nymph Astarte. Other excellent turns are provided by Stanley and Greenop, expert banjoists; Sisters Hall, vocalists; Arthur Croxon, comedian; Ben Albert, and the Zampas, speciality dancers.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—Morris Cronin and troupe are clever jugglers; Cullen and Carthy, aided by that drollest little comedian Little Cluley, make the audiences rock with laughter; the Westwoods are wonderfully smart trick cyclists; Pat Lynch is an eccentric dancer from America with entirely new business; the Dillons, comedy gymnasts, are as popular as ever; and Wylie's dogs, Arthur Woodville, Bell and Butt, Percival and Morley, Wright and Elton, and Lottie D'Abbey contribute pleasing turns to a delightful programme.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Foster.—A street urchin's idea of producing a pantomime, *Mick Whittintun*, forms the principal feature this week. It is the latest of Mr. Harry Cadle's "Casey Court" series, and with Bob King as Mrs. Casey, in the part of the good fairy, proves most enjoyable. Herbert Shelley presents *Dan the Outlaw* in a manner worthy of the highest praise; Maggie Boman and Tom J. Morton are seen to advantage in *She Loved a Policeman*, a scena which creates plenty of mirth; Aida Martine is a very dainty comedienne and dancer; Victor Travers and Kioto are also responsible for excellent turns.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr. Albert Chevalier is paying a very welcome visit here this week. Besides contributing several songs in his own inimitable manner, he appears with equal success in Barrie's clever play, *The Pantaloon*, and also in *The Dream of His Life*, a quaint sketch written by himself. He is supported by a capable company, which includes Mr. Julian Cross.

GRAND THEATRE.—Owner and Manager, Mr. T. Sergenson.—A company of artists selected by Mr. Herbert Ralland and Mr. T. Sergenson is playing *The Liars* here this week. Mr. Charles Boult gives an intelligent rendering of Sir Christopher Dering; Mr. F. Pennington Gush earnestly plays Edward Falkner, and Mr. Leon Simkin brings out the idiosyncrasies of Freddie Tatton; Messrs. Arthur Gibbons and W. Barnett Parker as Gilbert Nepean and George Nepean respectively act their parts in the right spirit, and Mr. Arthur Dennis portrays Archibald Coke. Lady Jessica Nepean is charmingly presented by Miss Kitty Cavendish, and Lady Rosamund Tatton has a capable representative in Miss Chrissie Ralland; Miss Irene Vivian as Dolly Coke, and Miss Victoria Wray as Beatrice Ebernoe, are also painstaking actresses. *Jerry and a Sunbeam* is played as a curtain-raiser.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—The programme submitted here this week is more than usually attractive. The place of honour is occupied by Haley's Juveniles, who appear with very great success in their carnival scena. A no less popular turn is supplied by Kitchen and Lister's company in a dramatic sketch, entitled *No. 99*, which holds the audience spellbound. Besides these are Dale and O'Malley, clever comedians; Cline and Clark, in comedy and dance; Macdonald Trio, in their musical garden scena; Rossi Ashton, with his song-sketches; Sisters Caselli, duettists, and Alec Kendal, comedian.

NORTH PIER.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. James Walker.—A perennial favourite here is Harry Liston, the world-renowned entertainer, and his reappearance this week, along with his capable coadjutor, Miss Lora Lumley, has given the utmost delight to his numerous admirers.

VICTORIA PIER.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. Geo. Roberts.—Mlle. Nellie Teggin, soprano vocalist; Mr. Geo. W. Nicholson, humorist; and Mr. George Royle's Troubadours are responsible for the entertainments here this week.

BOLTON.—THEATRE ROYAL (Ltd.)—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Ettiston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Melvin.—Mr. Fred Jarman's company, under the direction of Mr. Wilson Howard, is here with *Under the Czar*. The part of Nicholas Yero-

slack is in the able hands of Mr. Wilson Howard, whilst Miss Carlotta Anson gives a sympathetic rendering of the part of Sonia Gregorovitch. Other characters are in capable hands.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon. Kartelli gives a marvellous performance on the slack wire, and other artists are Mollie Doon, a dainty soubrette; Maston, mimic; Tom Fancourt and Jennie Rubie, in comedy act, *Nipper, the Messenger Boy*; the Wakeman Quartette in a musical comedy sketch, with Miss Nancy Bruce as soloist; Miss Marie Jones, in her quick-change duologue, "The Way to Win a Bet," assisted by Mr. Ernest Munroe; Charles Lilburn, comedian; Agnes McKellar, a charming operatic vocalist; Henri Bekker, illusionist, assisted by Mlle. Mail; the Coolvilles, smart vocalists and dancers; Binns and Binns, in a comical musical act; and Vernon's Imperial Bioscope.

BOOTLE.—MUNCASTER THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. Pennington; Manager, Mr. H. Pennington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Young.—Mr. W. Graham Arthur's company is here in *When a Man Hates*. Mr. F. A. Lester in the rôle of Sir Rupert Treherne displays marked ability, and Mr. F. A. Lewis enacts the part of Detective Smart in a powerful manner; Miss M. Liston plays with great pathos as Letty, and Olga Gwynne is capably represented by Miss M. Burleigh; Mr. A. Jarvis is acceptable as Lawrence Hastings; As Pietro Donelli Mr. W. G. Arthurs gives a finished performance; Miss J. Hallworth plays with great dash as Dolly Dimple, while praise is due to Mr. H. M. King for his capable rendering of Paul, the half-witted.

BOSCOMBE.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Ball.—Lennie and Hast present a charming phantasy, entitled *The Sea Nymph*; Hanvarr and Lee are clever and amusing in their juggling speciality, *The Golfer and Maid*; Frobell and Ruge, aerial comedians, create roars of laughter with *Fun on a Pole*; a pleasing turn is submitted by Haydee's marionettes, imitating variety artists; Forest and King are a pair of particularly clever and agile dancers; Lilian Elfreda scores as a mimic; Fred Lincoln is a diverting comedian; Billy Burford, comedienne, sings good songs; and entertaining pictures are shown on the Bioscope.

BOURNEMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs. David Allen and Son; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Manager, Mr. Rowland Stewart.—Mr. George Mudie's company in *The Amateur Socialist* is paying a first visit here, and is proving a distinct success. As Sir Hubert, Mr. George Mudie keeps the audience convulsed with laughter. Among other performers who stand out prominently are Mr. E. V. Rae as the Sergeant, Mr. Bruno Holmes as the Inspector, Miss Marie Hudspoth as Lady Pennefather, Mr. J. W. Deverell as Spencer, Miss Edith Deverell as Evelyn Rivers, Mr. Percy Carlton as Philip Wykeham, Mr. James Martin as Mr. Moberley, and Miss Ada Gordon as Lady Mabel. This theatre closes at the end of the week for extensive alterations.

BRADFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—Mr. Thomas Sidney and his excellent company are this week responsible for much hearty laughter with Mrs. Musgrave's farcical comedy, *Our Flat*. Mr. Edgar Kent as the impecunious Reginald Sylvester, and Miss Kathleen Russell as Margery, his resourceful wife, making the most of their many opportunities. Mr. Sidney gives an excellent performance of the part of the exuberant manager of the Star Theatre, Nathaniel Glover; as the choleric Mr. MacCullum, Mr. H. J. Hooker is very diverting; and Miss Ada Clarke as Lucy MacCullum is charming. The other parts are in capable hands. *John Aylmer's Dream*, an excellent little one-act play, which precedes the comedy, is well represented.

PRINCE'S THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Francis Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—Mr. C. Watson Mill presents for the first time here this week his very successful and powerfully emotional drama, *A Warning to Women*. The part of Shaun, a wandering minstrel, is filled with much excellence by Mr. Mills himself. In her impersonation of the trying part of Moira Kennion, around whom the interesting plot is woven, Miss Rosalind Tate displays great power and dramatic skill; the villain, Dr. Marcus Dread, is effectively represented by Mr. Richard Vane; Molly O'Moore, "the wise woman," has an able exponent in Miss Ellen Beverley; Miss Grace Barton is good as Sheila Kennion; Squire Kennion is well represented by Mr. Henry Rutland; Mr. Norman B. Cannon's Fergus McNaughton is an able effort; there is much humour in Mr. N. Carter Slaughter's acting as Lord Eversleigh, the sprig of nobility; and general excellence marks the efforts of the rest of the company.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—In her ideal male impersonations Miss Vesta Tilley is again, this week, proving a powerful magnet, and great applause greets the popular artist; the smart and clever musical and dancing sketch, *Flipp and Flopp*, by the Delevines is again much relished by the audience; Kitty Wager, comedienne, submits a very acceptable turn; Tom Owen's Welsh humour is entertaining; double foot manipulation of a globe, and other balancing feats by the Wurtenberg Bros. are cleverly executed; D'Arc's Marionettes is a skilful and most amusing entertainment; a turn by Fred Poplar, comedian, finds favour; there is some charming and graceful dancing by Gwennie Hasto; Rosa Loader, as a "slavey at the piano," is responsible for a good deal of mirth; and the American Bioscope shows some fine pictures.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. R. Ralli.—Jack Lane, "the Yorkshire rustic," provides a humorous comedy turn here this week; and Mabel and Winnie Brooke find favour with acceptable vocalism and dancing; in an acrobatic and leaping act the Three Bros. Huxter are distinctly clever; Walter Stanley's comedy is good; a trio of artists, including Arnold Richardson, are responsible for much laughter with a smartly written sketch, *Ferdie's Ma-in-law*; and an excellent programme also includes the Players, dancers, the Three Sisters Kilner, speciality artists, Sidney Dolf, in a vocal speciality, and Raymond's Bio-tableaux, showing excellent pictures.

BRIDLINGTON. — ROYAL PRINCE'S PARADE.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—Mr. Joseph Sainton's magnificent municipal orchestra has been enlarged, and the talented conductor is placing some charming programmes before the frequenters of the Floral Pavilion. On Tuesday and Wednesday the Parade was the rendezvous of the officers and men of H.M. flotilla destroyer fleet, which is this week lying in the bay. Mr. Palmer, the popular manager for the Corporation, worked hard to secure the great success which was achieved both by Mr. Sainton's concerts and Mr. Flockton Foster's costume entertainers in the Grand Pavilion. Mr. Fowler Burton, the melodious baritone, is paying a welcome return visit, and his songs at the Promenade concerts evoke great enthusiasm.

NEW SPA AND GARDENS.—General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Henry Hague.—Special programmes have been given by Herr Simon Wurms' Imperial Viennese Band in honour of the visit of H.M. torpedo destroyer flotilla. Mr. Sydney James's Rustic Scholars continue to give their refined entertainments, to the delight of large audiences.

THE PALACE.—Managers, Messrs. W. H. and J. W. Delmar.—The company here this week includes the Leopold Legiere troupe, in their clever acrobatic act, and the Alveys, in an amusing musical absurdity entitled *Bertie's Birthday*; the Parisian Animated Pictures are a never-failing source of enjoyment; Sacco, the fasting man, emerged from his "hunger house" on Thursday last, after his twenty-five days' fast, and was given a hearty reception by a large audience. He was very pale and weak, but seemed to recover very quickly after a meal of veal and potatoes.

SUMMER GARDENS.—Lessees, Messrs. Beanland, Bath, and Danton; Manager, Mr. C. Danton.—In addition to the usual entertainment, the company are this week appearing in an amusing farce entitled *Our Alley*, in which they are assisted by a troupe of children. Messrs. Geo. Hyam, H. B. Coda, J. Bath, and other members of the company are very amusing in their parts, and the inimitable "Sammy" (Mr. C. Beanland) keeps the audience in a constant state of merriment.

BRIGHTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. H. Cecil Beryl; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harcourt M. Beryl. — A powerful company opened here on Monday with *David Copperfield*. As Dan'l Peggotty Mr. Charles Cartwright submitted a masterly impersonation; Mr. Lionel Belmore gave a capital rendering of Ham; Mr. Gerald Lawrence handled the part of Steerforth with artistic skill; Mr. Stanley Harrison was admirably suited as David Copperfield; Mr. Charles Collette was delightfully entertaining as Mr. Micawber; and Mr. A. B. Tapping was distinctly effective as the unctuous Uriah Heep. Miss Lorna Lawrence imparted great charm and sympathy to her enactment of Little Em'ly; Miss Lillie Cavanagh's Martha was well played; Miss Beatrice Kelston made a graceful Agnes Wickfield; Miss Clarissa Selwynne's Rosa Dartle was a fine piece of acting; and able support was given by Mr. J. Wemyss (Mr. Wickfield), Miss Helen Vicary (Aunt Betsy), Miss Ethel Sarjient (Mrs. Gummidge), and Mr. D. Bryan (Littimer). The programme for the week also included *David Garrick* and *The Coping Stone*, in both of which Miss Fay Davis appeared with great success.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter.—*Shadows of a Great City* is being performed here this week, and is the first of a series of revivals of well-known dramas which Mr. Carpenter has announced for the next few weeks. Mr. Roy Redgrave as Tom Cooper makes an ideal hero; Miss Daisy Scudamore is bright and charming as the heroine, Nellie Standish; Mr. E. J. Preston as the villainous George Benson is powerfully effective; Mr. Charles Russell's Abe Nathan and Mr. Charles Preece's Jim Farren are capitally enacted; Miss Lucy Murray makes a very entertaining Biddy Roonan; Miss Amy Venimore is a pleasing Annie Standish; and other parts are satisfactorily sustained by Miss Marie Tremayne, Mr. H. C. Lanceley, Mr. George Thomas, and Mr. Arthur H. Hill. The drama is finely staged.

ALHAMBRA.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. L. Graydon; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Ernest Lepard.—There is a capital company here this week. Arthur Lennard is enthusiastically applauded for his songs; Master Ernie Scovell is a pleasing vocalist; May Henderson, "the dusky comedy queen," is warmly received; Abel and Welsh are funny grotesque eccentrics; J. Dorasami, the Indian violinist, submits an excellent turn; the Kirbys, comedy and burlesque entertainers, achieve great success; Lizzie Fletcher is a charming comedienne; the Ellimans (Alice and Van) are refined musical entertainers; Carney and Armstrong, comedians, whistle and sing in good style; and the Alhambrascope pictures are interesting and amusing.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—An attractive programme is submitted here this week. May Edouin wins hearty applause for her charmingly rendered songs; the Brothers Griffith convulse the audience with laughter in their motor-car and wrestling scene; Fred Edwards and company provide plenty of fun in the sketch, *Kleptomaniacs*, Mr. Fred Edwards as Jack Hollister and Miss Bertha Northam as Dora Thorne meriting especial praise; Fred Cary is a quaint comedian; Radford and Valentine, "the jolly, juggling jesters," give a capital turn; May Mars makes a great hit in the scena, "In the Shadow of the Pyramids"; Geoffreys and Benson are amusing in the comedy-sketch, *Spoofed*; the Society Quartet, vocalists and dancers, are highly successful; Effie White's original kaleidoscope dance is warmly appreciated; Joe Chevers, "the lady cook," is cordially received; and the Barrascope pictures are amusing.

WEST PIER.—Secretary and Entertainment Manager, Mr. A. D. Norman.—Mr. Norman V. Norman and company opened here on Monday with *Nell Gwyn of Drury Lane*, and achieved great success. Mr. Norman V. Norman, a great favourite with Brighton audiences, gave a sterling impersonation of Charles II.; Miss Beatrice Wilson made a charming and winsome Nell Gwyn; Mr. Francis Hope as Adam Bareacres submitted a capital character sketch; Miss B. Stannard was highly effective as Rose; Mr. Kenneth Bruce's Lord Rochester, Mr. Norman Leslie's Lord Dellans, and Mr. Sam Wilkinson's Col. Blood were well played, and the remaining characters were ably represented. The programme for the week included *Robin Hood*.

PALACE PIER THEATRE.—Mr. Charles La Trobe's company is here this week with *Jedbury Junior*. Mr. A. W. Tyrer acquits himself admirably in the title-rôle; Miss Victoria Addison gives an excellent enactment of Dora Hedway; Mr. Geo. Percy as Mr. Simpson, and Richard Neville as Tom Bellerby are well suited; and Mr. Reginald Craven is very entertaining as Mr. Glibb.

CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE, MELLISON'S SKATING RINK, WEST-STREET.—Afternoon and evening cinematograph exhibitions are given here daily. The films are up to-date, and prove very attractive.

BRISTOL.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—Mr. J. Maundy-Gregory's company is here with the German military play, *Lights Out*, the staging and military uniforms being conspicuously good. Miss Frances Dare plays, with much grace and power, the difficult part of Klara Volkhardt; Mr. Charles Esdale acts excellently as Lieut. Von Lauffen; Mr. Kenneth Brampton does well as Lieut. Von Howen; Mr. Wilton Reed acts with much power as Sergeant Volkhardt, looking the part admirably; Mr. Richard Fielding is highly effective as Corporal Helbig; and the parts of Private Speiss, Corporal Queiss, and Captain Lebdenburg are capitally taken by Mr. F. Higton, Mr. Francis J. Bithell, and Mr. Lambert Plummer. The remaining characters are all in good hands, and the special German uniforms are by Messrs. Nathan, from Berlin. The performance commences with an amusing one-act play, *A Hundred Years Hence*, in which the parts of Astrea Dacre and Billy Windermere are cleverly taken by Miss Belle Donaldson and Mr. Lambert Plummer.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. H. Alty.—*The Woman Who Gambles* is the attraction here, the drama being adequately staged, and well played by Mr. T. Morton Powell's company. Miss Lillian Herries acts with much power as the Countess Natalie Steinbach; Count Otto Steinbach has a very effective exponent in Mr. George Steele; Mr. Percy Ballard acts well and consistently as Baron Cratzlaw; Miss Dorothy Haigh is pleasing as Cora Gouldhart; Miss Lily Malvern does excellently as Stella Malakoff; and other parts are carefully taken by Mr. Reginald Fox, Mr. Ernest H. Clarke, and Mr. Gibson.

PALACE THEATRE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman. — The Brothers Horne head the bill with their amusing comedy sketch, *The Biter Bit*; Dusty Rhodes, comedian, obtains considerable applause; Albert Wyndham and company are successful in their latest Shakespearean sketch, *Othello*; the Davis and Gledhill Trio score with their cycle and motor racing exhibition on their own patent track; Eadie and Ramsden (James and Cissy) have a smart comedy duologue, *Charley's Visit*; Alix Lukos is a successful vocalist; and James and Lucy Allison are pleasing comedy duettists and dancers. The performance concludes with a good display of animated pictures, projected by Vernon's Bioscope.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—Kate Carney is here with her famous coster scena, *'Liza Johnson*, and is very popular with all parts of the house. In connection with Miss Carney's visit, there are competitions for valuable prizes, for the best rendering of any of her songs. Ida Katherina, the Dolly Girl, presents a clever speciality, in which she scores both in song and dance; Mabel Le Roy is a pleasing comedienne; the Sivronis amuse with a burlesque scena, the lady being an acceptable vocalist; Cranston and Bennett have an amusing comedy duologue, *A Model Wife*; and Harry Walker, comedian, obtains considerable applause. The entertainment closes with interesting animated pictures.

BROUGHTON.—VICTORIA THEATRE, LTD.—Manager and Licensee, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—Jack Haddon's company is here with *Under the Russian Flag*. Miss Marie Rayner makes a great impression as Luka Marischka; General Romanoff is finely played by Mr. George Cecil Murray; Mr. Sidney Arnold and Mr. Charles Stafford as Michael and Ivan make the most of their parts; Mr. Jack Haddon ably presents Captain Demetrius, and Mr. Templar Ellis as Alexis Skopolopski, Mr. Hal Forde as Peter, and Miss Molly Hackett as Ogarita contribute the comedy business; Mr. W. Wilson leaves nothing to be desired in the study of Colonel Souvaroff, and a charming Vera Vassiloff is enacted by Miss Violet Lytton.

BURNLEY.—VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—A bright and sparkling entertainment is provided here in Mr. Charles Carcy's musical comedy, *The Pick of the Bunch*. Mr. Harold Wantage is very amusing in the rôle of Dick Seymore; Mr. Algernon W. Lee sings most acceptably as Halliwell Menit, and Mr. Percy Baverstock as Colonel Menit is admirable. Miss Eva Ellis is a charming Ruth Gay; Miss Elna C. Hilton is pretty, and sings well as Nellie Mather. The fun is kept going by the clever efforts of Miss M. Sadie as Nancy, her funny singing being heartily encored.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—The head of the programme is occupied here this week by Sam Elton, whose grotesque antics and marvellous tumbling call forth much laughter and applause. Les Rallis, in *The Artist and His Monkey*, are very clever, and are highly appreciated. The Cromwells perform a series of smart juggling feats; and Baroni and Kemp do some startling quick changes. Verno and Voyce are tuneful and pleasing in a duet, "The Butcher and the Baker"; Carney Brothers are received with applause for their comedy duets; J. H. Greener, singing collier, is good, and "The Haunted Hotel" is a clever fake by the Empire Theatroscope.

BURTON-ON-TRENT. — NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. H. Dudley Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Waller.—Some good variety turns are given here this week. The Sousa Arabs, eight in number, give a really astonishing acrobatic performance, and easily gain premier honours; Mlle. Ada Gatley is an extremely clever wire artist and juggler; Mabelle May excels as a singer and dancer; Palette produces some skilful artistic sketches, and includes in his turn Max, a statue dog; a musical monologue by Leo King is much enjoyed; Songs by Winnie Stanhope and Ted Clifton, with living pictures by the Operascope, conclude a capital programme.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS.—ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Eade Montefiore.—The strong bill here is headed by A. G. Spry, whose songs bring down the house; Miss Kate Avey is a pleasing vocalist of dainty appearance; the Keiths give a most enjoyable musical act; Ruby and Laws are favourites in their smart sketch, *In Old Madrid*; Newham and Latimar create much merriment; and Jury's pictures complete the programme.

BUXTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. Arthur Willoughby.—Mr. Oscar Asche and Miss Lily Brayton, with their admirable company, were enthusiastically welcomed for the first three nights of this week. On Tuesday evening Mr. Asche delighted the audience with his famous study of *Othello*, and Miss Lily Brayton was a delightfully sweet Desdemona. Mr. Alfred Brydone played Iago excellently; and Mr. H. R. Higgett was sound and efficient as Cassio. Mr. G. Kay-Soupe made Roderigo a rather amusing lover; and Mr. Reginald Ian Penny was dignified as Montano. Miss Constance Robertson as Emilia played with rare dramatic force; and the minor parts were filled admirably. On Monday and Wednesday *Taming of the Shrew* was played. The pieces are beautifully staged.

CAMBRIDGE. — NEW THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—*The Belle of New York* was played on Monday night by Mr. J. Bannister Howard and Mr. George Musgrove's company. Miss Empsie Bowman in the title-rôle was a very sweet and dainty Salvation Army lassie. Mr. Frank Lawton in his original part of Blinky Bill gave some remarkable whistling; Mr. Paddy Dupres as Ichabod Bronson worked hard and successfully; Harry Bronson was well played by Mr. John Doran; and Mr. Joseph R. Tate as the polite lunatic, Mr. Alfred Sandoe as Doc Snifkins, and Mr. Walter Uridge as Kenneth Mugg were all exceedingly good. Miss Lily Maxwell made a charming Fifi; Miss Winnie Browne was a remarkably fine-looking Cora, and Miss Florence Hessee put in some very dainty dancing.

CARDIFF.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—*The Scarlet Clue* was played here on Monday and Tuesday. Miss Grace Warner presents a striking delineation of Sal Scarlet, and the audience do not fail to show their appreciation. Mr. George Gordon is also responsible for a clever rendering of Michael Stanton; and as his accomplice in villainy, Edward Croker, Mr. L. Boyds is seen to great advantage; Mr. Charles Pitt in the dual rôle of Jack and Harry Esmond is very good; and the part of Sir Desmond Lisle could not be in more capable hands than those of Mr. Jack Armitage. Mr. F. Heywood as Billy, the burglar, is entertaining with his songs and comedy. Special mention should be made of Little Doris Graham, who as Little Polly gives a capital embodiment. On Wednesday and Thursday *The Little Widow* was staged, and *East Lynne* was presented on Friday.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. W. Lea; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. S. Dring.—Rowland and Kitty Howes are mystifying crowded houses at this popular house with their mental telepathy. The Boisset troupe are welcomed on a return visit with their funny sketch, *The Bricklayers*; Marguerite Broadfoote is a charming and refined comedienne. Others in the programme are Ross and Lewis, in their humorous dancing idiosyncrasy; the Phydoras, in an eccentric musical act; Powell's marionettes; Frank Couch, a popular patter comedian; Grace Merton, the original street-singer; the three Sisters Chester, dancers and instrumentalists; and a series of pictures on the bioscope depicting a boar hunt.

CARLISLE.—H. M. THEATRE.—Lessees, Mr Thos. Courtice and Mrs. R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager Mr. Thos. Courtice.—On Monday the stock company appeared in *The Corsican Brothers*. Mr. William J. Miller in the interesting dual rôle gives a highly creditable performance; the Chateau Renaud of Mr. Edward Beecher is excellent; Captain A. E. Winnington-Barnes sustains the part of Montgiron carefully; Mr. Gerald Byrne makes Maynard as prominent as possible; and Mr. Chas. Stone, Mr. Harry Douglas, and Mr. Phil Davis make the most of their comedy scenes; Emilie de Lesparre is cleverly depicted by Miss Ethel Bracewell; and a word of praise is justly due to the scenic artist, Mr. Phil Davis, his forest scenery being beautifully painted.

THE PALACE.—Proprietors, the Palace Theatre, Carlisle, Ltd.; Managing-Directors, Signor Rino Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—The first visit of George Gray and company in the well-known dramatic sketch, *The Fighting Parson*, has proved a huge success; Ryan and Hall give a particularly smart acrobatic act; the Gladenbecks are on a return visit with their feats of strength; Eldra and his smart little dog, Prince, contribute quite a sensational juggling act; the Sisters Grosvenor harmonise popular melodies with good effect; and the Pepiscope, with new pictures is a popular item.

CARMARTHEN. — ASSEMBLY ROOMS. — Public Rooms Co.; Secretary, Mr. Edward Baldwin.—This week Mr. Lawrence Brough and company (who were on a visit to Swansea for the week at the Grand Theatre) motored to Carmarthen—a distance of thirty miles—and gave a matinée performance at 2.30, of the *Lady of Ostend*. Mr. Lawrence Brough took the part of the amorous Baron with his usual conspicuous ability; Mr. Henry Hampson, as the luckless Dick Whortles, was exceptionally good; Mr. Percy Marshall portrayed the part of Joseph Carbury (the father-in-law) admirably; Mr. Watkin Wynne as Toby Krockitt, the prize-fighter, made all he could out of the character; as did also Mr. Reginald A. Hunt as the cinematograph manager, Mr. H. Douglas as Thompson, the clerk, and Mr. Hewson Elliott as James, the butler. The title-rôle was excellently impersonated by Miss Roberta Svendson; Miss Kate Milford cleverly portrayed the part of the humiliated wife, Dorothy Whortles; Miss Bessie Harrison as Dick's mother-in-law was really good; Miss Evelyn Armonde as Millie Grace was equally successful; and the same may be said of Miss Eva Boyne as Jane.

CASTLEFORD.—QUEEN'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Chas. Beanland and W. H. Emerson; General-Manager, Mr. Will H. Emerson.—An immense audience welcomed the advent of Mr. T. W. Rawson and Lily Bertram's sketch, *The Would-be Actors*, which causes much laughter; another smart turn is the Japanese juggling of Morimura, assisted by Miako; Miss Olga Fane, with a pleasant manner and telling voice, is loudly applauded; Mlle. Bartenelli is a clever bender gymnast, and comes in for her full share of applause; the Boultons (Fred and Ivy), as speciality artists appear with much success; Magna, in classic and artistic poses, proves a powerful attraction; Stephen Blythe, an actor-vocalist, has a well-trained voice; and Rodin exhibits much skill as a comedy knockabout cyclist. A new series of animated pictures by the Loyal Dominion Company are still an interesting feature.

CHATHAM. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard; Secretary, Mr. Geo. G. Ridley.—Messrs. Travis Green and Arthur Hinton, in conjunction with Messrs. Matthew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond, are this week presenting *A Soldier of France*. Mr. Arthur Hinton gives a powerful impersonation of Father Jean; Mr. Travis Green is seen to advantage as Judas Delara; Mr. Arthur Lowry does well as Duke D'Laval; Mr. Wilton Drury creates laughter as Pollyput Jollyboy; Mr. Victor Millard makes a popular Louis; Miss Jennie Clare is a vivacious Margot; Miss Lydia Andre a pleasing Rita; while Miss Leila Zillwood's Pauline is a very praiseworthy performance.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. B. B. Barnard.—The great Roland is topping the bill and mystifying the audience nightly with some neat illusions; Hettie Chattell's male impersonations are greatly appreciated; the Sisters Allen sing a lively ditty and indulge in a spirited tambourine dance; Will Polusk'i's comic songs are quite to the taste of Barnard's patrons; Devereux's dogs perform some clever feats, and wind up with the canine drama, *The Streets of London*; the dancing of Ellis and Watts wins admiration; Alex and Lilly, youthful comedians, and Violet Desmond, comedienne, complete the variety part of the programme, while Lacey's Erascope continues to provide fresh subjects.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Capt. H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. F. J. Donne.—Fred Ginnett's Boy Army form the leading attraction here, and for their smart military evolutions gain well-deserved applause; Burnetti scores in a quick-change musical act; the Schenck Brothers are very successful equilibrists; Ray and Calder's act, *Peculiarities*, goes well; Miss Sylvia Du Barry pleases with "Sing me to sleep"; Bertha Norwood, serio and dancer, and Happy Attwood, comedian, do well in their respective lines, while the Edisonograph has a fine film in "The Wreck of the Mary Jane."

CHELTENHAM. — OPERA HOUSE. — General Manager, Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—An excellent wind-up of a good season is provided this week by Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Benson's Shakespearean company. On Tuesday night *Don Quixote* was staged for the first time here. Mr. Benson in the title-role scored one of his greatest successes; Mr. Geo. R. Weir revels in the part of Sancho Panza, being at his best; Miss Gwladys Wynne is a tender and charming Antonia; Mr. Clarence Derwent is excellent as the Duke; Mr. George Buchanan as Nicholas the barber is very effective; Miss Leah Hanman as Maraquita is good. Garrick's version of Wycherley's *Country Girl* is down for Friday night.

MONTPELLIER PAVILION.—Manager, for the Cheltenham Corporation, Mr. Alfred W. Newton.—This week Cardow's Cadets are paying their first visit to Cheltenham. Messrs. Charles Cardow, Kenneth Scott, Colin Clough, J. T. Wilcox; J. L. Sutton, and Percy Stanhope (ventriloquist), form a remarkable sextet of talented performers, in whose entertainment humour reigns supreme. An excellent list of engagements has been arranged, and a particularly successful season seems assured.

CHESTER.—ROYALTY THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—The Edgertons, who hold premier position here, give a sensational exhibition on the flying trapeze; C. H. Charlton mystifies with a clever sleight-of-hand performance; Cosgrove and Burns are well received in a bright vaudeville act; the Tenessee Guards go through some smart military manœuvres; Ben Jackson is a clever trick banjoist; Harewood's Juveniles, in song and dance meet with success in scena, *A Children's Christmas Eve*; and up-to-date pictures are projected by Vernon's Bioscope. G. P. Newall, vocal comedian, and Lola Patey, the Dutch colleen, also appear.

CHORLEY (Lancs.). — GRAND THEATRE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. G. T. Santé; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Hemingway.—This week, which is the last of the season, the bill is "topped" by that fine artist, Chevalier Cliquot, sword swallower, who is capitally received; a clever item is furnished by the Four Eugenes, who perform astonishing gymnastic feats; the Sisters Ford win high praise; while Ellis and Dale, expert chain leapers; the Mays, eccentric dancers; Howard and Corelli, in a novel musical act; Mr. G. Grenville, comedian; Mr. Johnny Thompson, comedian; and Miss Maude Thelda, vocalist and dancer, are very successful in their respective performances.

CLACTON-ON-SEA.—OPERETTA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. Bertram C. Ross; Manager, Mr. Wm. A. Sargant.—The variety company here this week includes Ford and Barris, a couple of lads who dance well and are good bone players; Daisy Silcott, comedienne; Jack Heath, a good eccentric comedian; Bicknelle, comedy clay modeller; Ch. Butler, in song-scena, *The Bushranger*, in which he has the assistance of Miss Millicent Prince; Mme. De Castello, operatic singer; the Misses Cissie Avondale and Ena May, from last week; and Fred Land, comedian. Jury's Bioscope shows some good pictures.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessee, Mr. Harold Montague; Manager, Mr. E. J. Barrett. — The vaudeville troupe, The Vagabonds, are still here, and get a good share of the business being done. The troupe is made up of Mesdames Olive Spark, Leslie Lulu, Marie Longmore, and Ethel Mayaffré, and Messrs. Leslie Burgess, Claude Russell, and H. Montague.

WEST CLIFF GARDENS. — Proprietors, Messrs. Graham Russell and Bentley.—Mr. Owen Clark, conjurer, and Mr. Hubert Baker, tenor, are still here, and the bill has been further strengthened by the addition of Miss Emelie Hayes, a young lady with a beautiful voice.

COLCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Charles Macdona; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. C. Upton.—Mr. James Hare and company in the Servian drama, *A Destroyer of Men*, opened a week's engagement here on Monday. Mr. Hare himself essayed the exacting rôle of Karl Mischla, his magnificent physique, coupled with his undoubted ability as an actor, making his effort highly successful. Miss Irene Clifford played the part of Olga; whilst the popular rôle of Vida Ravel was nicely taken by Miss Jessie Yatman. Mr. Ross Warren as Coco and Miss Alice Buckland as Nina attended to the lighter side; whilst the respective parts of Count Starevitch, Paul (his son), and Michael Mischla were in the hands of Mr. C. P. Wentworth, Mr. Hill Cremer, and Mr. Charles Bickell.

HIPPODROME. — Joint Proprietors, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot and Mr. Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. Jack de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—Alfred Lester tops the bills this week with his humorous episode, entitled *The Scene-Shifter's Lament*. Miss Leah Adell, a lady possessing a highly-cultivated soprano voice of great compass, scores most decisively in a charmingly-arranged song-scena. Carl Rosine is well received as a magician; and Ted E. Box is a gigantic success as a comedian and bird imitator; Cribb and Cribb are very amusing on the Benches in the Park; Doris Lilian sings and dances in taking style, and Flo Wood is successful as a vocalist. A distinct feature of the programme is the excellent music provided under the bâton of Mr. James Hargreaves, who is this week severing his connection with this hall.

COLWYN BAY.—PROMENADE STAGE.—Proprietor, Mr. Charles Dare; Business-Manager, Mr. H. Bickley.—Chas. Dare has built a miniature stage on the promenade for his minstrel performances, and a most pleasing effect is obtained. George Leslie Buxton's character sketches from Dickens are exceptionally well received; George Snow, Dan O'Connor, and Harry Bickley are all clever comedians; the Musical Carlos give several imitations with great skill. Fred Esdale's whistling solos are well executed; whilst Wm. Llewelyn uses his baritone voice to good effect. Sam Morrison, female impersonator, is good; whilst James Carr, interlocutor and bass vocalist, gives a praiseworthy performance.

CATLIN'S PIERROTS.—Manager, Mr. Sydney Frere.—Sydney Frere is a comedian of the first water, whilst Chas. E. Lewis has proved himself to be a ventriloquist thoroughly up to his work. Chas. E. Lee, James Craig, and Donald Gilbert are all good comedians; whilst Chas. Marston is the possessor of a rich baritone voice which he uses to great advantage.

VICTORIA PIER PAVILION.—Secretary, Mr. W. H. Pryce Davis.—On Saturday Arthur Rix, entertainer, gave two musical sketches, which were well received; Miss Winifred Marwood was the vocalist, and was given a grand reception. She continues here during the week.

CORK.—OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. John Horgan.—Mr. Lionel Rignold, Miss Ada Blanche, and company are playing here in *What the Butler Saw*. Miss Ada Blanche, a clever actress, submits a delightful study of Mrs. Barrington; Mr. Lionel Rignold as the Butler extracts a large amount of humour from the part; and Mr. Charles Fawcett makes a capital John Barrington.

PALACE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Henry Kemble.—The programme here this week is given as a complimentary benefit to Mr. Henry Kemble, the courteous manager, on his retirement. Among other items, John Warren, illusionist, presents "The Magic Carpet," a military musical mystery, also a number of sleight-of-hand tricks; Beatrice Denvil, juvenile character vocalist, pleases the audience by her delightful singing; Joe O'Donnell is heard with pleasure in character songs; Rozene and Robini are an amusing pair of gymnasts; Hill and Long give a clever step-dancing turn; Fay and Fay cause great mirth as comedy boxers; the Bros. O'Brien are clever bar performers; Frank Newbury is capital in his whistling selections; John Warren gives an amusing ventriloquial turn; the Three Transfields submit a pretty musical turn; Bertha Stuart, Scotch character vocalist, sings with much feeling and expression; and the cinematograph shows some capital pictures.

COVENTRY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—A powerful domestic drama, by the late Wilson Barrett, entitled *The Sledge Hammer*, is winning considerable attention at this house of amusement. The hero, Everard Derrick, is ably represented by Mr. Alfred Burrows; the Brothers Jacob and Simon Derrick are well impersonated by Messrs. A. Bertram Croucher and Hardy Maros respectively; Miss Jessie Hope gracefully portrays the character of Rose Maywell; Miss Ethel Stuart creditably enacts the part of Maria Derrick; considerable humour is successfully introduced by Mr. Fred Best (Tom Walker), Mr. Victor C. Rolfe (Sammy Shaw), Harry Daniels (Ezra Walker), and Miss May Douglas (Catherine Hearis).

HIPPODROME THEATRE.—An enjoyable programme is provided here. The Claymores are novelty club jugglers of a high class; Great Scott provides a good turn in ladder balancing; Speedwell paints rapid portraits of famous men; Harry Ford pleases with his smart songs; and Arthur Reece is also a very lively comedian. Other artists that give excellent turns are Helm and Cozens, Amy Sullivan, and David Toole. There is also a capital set of pictures shown this week.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Dance.—The chief attraction here is the Kellinos, Risley artists; Fred Cullane's Comedy Four give a musical and mirthful turn; Barrett and Knowles are clever dancers; Pearce and Ward, comedy acrobats, get a warm welcome;

company opened on Monday in the late Frank Harvey's popular play *Shall We Forgive Her?* It attracted a large and well-pleased audience. Miss Ada Marius made quite a hit as Joanna Lightfoot; Miss Edith Anton Laing was pathetic and convincing as the much-wronged heroine, Grace West; Miss Ida Chapman played the ingénue part with sincerity and charm; Miss Nina Zambray was well placed as the old Aunt; Mr. T. Herbert Beaumont made a sympathetic Paul Illsworthy; Mr. Frank Bradley, who produced the drama, made the villain, Neil Garth, convincing; Mr. Charles B. Vaughan worked hard as Oliver West. Other rôles were well sustained by Messrs. A. C. Thornhill, Robert Averill, Charles F. Lloyd, and Frank Carlton.

DOVER. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Dover Theatres, Ltd.; Chairman of Directors, Mr. B. Carter; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—Mr. Edmund Tearle and company are meeting with a great reception on the occasion of their first visit to this town. *Ingomar, Never Too Late to Mend, The Octoroon, Cramond Brig,* and *The Three Musketeers* comprise the répertoire. As D'Artagnan in *The Three Musketeers* Mr. Tearle gives a performance both artistic and powerful. The dignity necessary to the rôle of King Louis is effectively assumed by Mr. G. T. Greig; Mr. Bernhardt Turner's subtle and expressive bye-play as Cardinal Richelieu is worthy of all praise; Mr. Clifford Marle makes a picturesque Duke of Buckingham; and the Three Musketeers are successfully played by Mr. R. H. Lace, Mr. Ernest Lodge, and Mr. A. D. Admas. Miss Kate Clinton makes a handsome Miladi; and Miss Mary Campbell contributes an excellent portrayal of Ann of Austria. Miss Esther Tearle acts with skill as Constance.

THE PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Lessees, The Vaudeville Syndicate; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Holt.—At the top of an excellent bill are the Seven Wulfrunas, in acrobatic antics; Molly Seymour is an expert violinist; Tom Bass causes much hilarity by his well-rendered songs and patter; Mr. Harry Sims is an effective light comedian; Ida Brophy sings exceptionally well; and Wilton, Heriot, and company, in *An Anglo-American Alliance,* and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux complete the programme.

DUBLIN.—GAIETY THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mrs. Michael Gunn; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Hyland.—Mr. Eugène C. Stafford's company is paying a return visit here this week with *The Private Secretary.* Mr. Donald Price-Evans gives an extremely laughable impersonation of the Rev. Robert Spalding; Miss Dora Grey acts the rôle of Edith Marsland in a clever and pleasing manner; Mr. W. Hargreaves is exceedingly droll as Mr. Cattermole; and Mrs. Alfred Davis makes the most of the part of Miss Ashford. Mr. H. Sinclair distinguishes himself as Mr. Marsland, and Miss Cecily Wade is an entertaining Mrs. Stead. The part of Mr. Gibson is in the capable hands of Mr. Vivian Gilbert, and Miss Mary E. Deverell is admirable in the rôle of Eva Webster. Douglas Cattermole has an able exponent in Mr. Randolfe Reade, and the part of Harry Marsland is well sustained by Mr. James Hussey. The farce, *My American Admirer,* capitally played by Mr. H. Sinclair, Miss Cecily Wade, Mr. James Hussey, and Miss Mary E. Deverell, precedes.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—A varied and interesting programme is submitted here this week. George Kirk and company are responsible for an important item, a dramatic sketch, entitled *Grip; or, The Fatal Hand,* which is produced in a highly artistic manner. Mendel displays extraordinary powers as a pianist, and is deservedly applauded; S. Alexander and company in their sketch, *Brown in Paris,* evokes roars of laughter; Billy Farrell is an exceedingly clever coloured artist, whose songs and dances are particularly well done; Gladys Mavius, assisted by Dot in a song-scena, entitled *Rosie Is Waiting,* is nightly recalled; the Sisters Jonghmanna are great favourites and are accorded a hearty reception; Charles Norton scores successfully in a series of clever imitations; H. E. High, the "swank comedian," has caught on; and Maud Lester with a sweet voice renders her numbers tastefully. The Empire pictures are up to the usual standard.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Secretary, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—The fare submitted here is again of a first-class character. Occupying the top line are Lanos and Monteo, Continental eccentrics, who are greeted nightly with continuous laughter and applause. *The Coons' Revelry,* by Barnard's Mannikins, is decidedly clever and interesting; Mack Ollive, assisted by Miss Daisy Baldry, in his whistling scena, *The Candy Store,* makes a decided hit; the Vyponds, society entertainers, are cordially received; Martine and Son, song illustrators, are well appreciated; Fyne and Hurley are an amusing pair of comedians; Sim Maree, Oriental wonder, contributes some smart work; Ford Williams is a good baritone vocalist whose songs prove popular; Harry Russon is a versatile artist; and the latest pictures are shown on the Bioscope.

WORLD'S FAIR AND MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. A. James.—The following artists are appearing here:—The Cashlings, duettists and dancers; Teddy Lennon, comedian; Rose Cameron, ballad vocalist; and Joe Cash, eccentric comedian. The new cinematograph is also in the bill.

ROUND ROOM ROTUNDA.—The Zancigs commenced a short season here on Monday. The Viceregal party and a large and fashionable audience were present at the afternoon performance. The tests, which were certainly bewildering and numerous, were gone through in a manner which won for M. and Mme. Zancig the hearty encomiums of the house. The programme was also contributed to by Miss Ethel Grimes, Mr. Sydney Jarvis, Miss Katie Moss, Mr. E. Thornley-Dodge, Miss Clara Alexander, Mr. David Brazell, and Mr. Harold Scott.

PAVILION (KINGSTOWN).—Manager, Mr. Fred R. Heley.—Sidney James' Strolling Players opened for a short season here on Monday. The company, which is an excellent one, and is well patronised by large audiences daily, includes Miss Madeline Bonstter, whose admirable dancing evokes hearty applause; Mr. Sydney James, in song and story, keeps the audience highly amused. Other turns which deserve mention are Mr. Victor Wallace, Miss Seymour James, Mr. G. W. Desmond, and Miss Clarence May. The Bioscope completes an enjoyable programme.

DUNDEE.—PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. E. J. Dexter.—Topping the bill this week are the Warsaw Brothers, who get a very enthusiastic welcome; Otto and Olga appear with immense success in their clever mock operatic act, and R. C. Note sings some good songs in capital style. That very dainty comedienne, Rais Walters, scores a terrific hit with her delightful "Fishing" song, and the equally popular "Camera" song; while Evie Hamilton, soubrette and dancer, likewise meets with well-merited success. The Two Cliffs are responsible for an exceedingly neat and clever equilibristic act; while Daisy Devonport, a sweet singer and accomplished dancer, and the Three Florodora Girls, in their new act, *Rival Sweethearts,* come in for a big share of applause. Vernon's Imperial Bioscope completes.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. A. Williams.—In place of the usual variety show, *The Master Criminal* is staged here by Miss Winifred Chalmers' company. Mr. Henry L. Osmond sustains the title-rôle in a masterly manner; as the hero, Philip Manners, Mr. Harold C. Macartney plays in an intelligent fashion; the Scotland Yard detective finds a good interpreter in Mr. John C. Carlyle; Miss Kate Somerville gives a good study of the part of Mabel Manners; Miss Alice Lloyd as Mrs. Manners is thoroughly successful, and the Cecile of Miss Winifred Chalmers is very effective.

HIPPIN THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Percival.—Minnie Osborne, a very clever coon singer and dancer, fairly captivates with her charming contributions, and has to respond to repeated encores. Walter Ross, an amusing eccentric comedian, has a capital budget of quaint ditties which he warbles in his own inimitable style; Philip Sefton displays his elocutionary ability in effective fashion. Several of the very latest pictures are shown on the Bioscope.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Devonshire Park and Baths Co.; Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clarke.—Mr. Murray King and company are amusing large audiences with *Jane,* to the success of which the comedy work of Mr. Murray King as William Tipkins is a great contributing factor. Charles Charleston is played by Mr. Charles Crawford in brisk and natural style; Mr. Ardene Linden is an amusing Mr. Kershaw; Mr. Edmund Bercesford, a satisfactory Pinion; and good help is given by Mr. Wilfrid Rocke as Claude. Miss Tessa Myers is a bright and attractive Jane; Mrs. Stanislaus Calhaem and Miss Sophie Jullans are suitable representatives of Mrs. Chadwick and Lucy; and Miss Pauline Straus is a very good Mrs. Pixton. *The American Widow* precedes, and in this Miss Lilias Waldegrave is a handsome and captivating Mrs. Vanbright; Mr. B. Beresford ably doing duty as the Earl of Somerville.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Miss Dorothy Cacey and company are appearing here in *When We Were Twenty-one.* As Kara Glenesk, Miss Cacey is a marked success; as Phyllis, Miss Mildred Hodson is full of brightness and charm; Miss Susie Oak is a pert and *chic* Babette; and Miss Flo Preddy does very well as Miss Ericson. A conspicuous triumph is achieved by Mr. Riddell Robinson as Richard Carewe; Mr. Edgar J. Coyne is an excellent Sir Horace Plumely; Mr. Gerald Henson as the Imp displays clever work in a difficult part; and Mr. Frank Powell and Mr. L. Routledge are capable as Colonel Grahame and Dr. McGrath.

THE HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; General-Manager, Mr. H. Day; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Smith.—At the head of a varied and interesting bill is Mr. Charles Austin, who keeps the audience in roars of laughter; the Four Olympian Stars are charming dancers; Mr. Luis Hardt serves up a strong man turn in a novel, attractive manner; Beau and Belle sing pleasing songs; Miss Violet Stockelle again scores as a comedienne; Mr. Richard Fineberg proves himself a capable actor; Grant and Allen are a couple of funny comedians; and new pictures are shown.

EDINBURGH.—ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Carpenter.—Miss Annie Hughes and company are here this week in the comedy *Tommy.* In the title-part, Miss Hughes plays with humour, simplicity, tenderness, and power; a capital study of the optimistic old editor, Peter Hope, is given by Mr. Evelyn Vernon; Mr. William Hartill displays valuable comedy gifts as William Clodd; and Mr. Reginald F. Beach is good as Flipp, the office-boy. Miss Winifred Pearson is well fitted with the part of Mr. Morrison; Mr. Rupert Lister's fine presence, graceful gestures, and resonant voice enable him to completely realise the character of Dick Danvers; and Miss Ida Richardson acts with pathos and charm the part of the young girl Honour. The play is preceded by the old farce *Good for Nothing,* in which Miss Annie Hughes acts with much cleverness as the tomboy Nan. She is admirably supported by Mr. Hartill, Mr. Vernon, Mr. T. A. Braidon, and Miss Vera Pole.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—Galletti's monkey comedians are prominent in this week's bill, with their wonderful display of almost human intelligence; and, oddly enough, their amusing antics find an echo in the clever duologue turn of Athas and Collins. Mr. Herbert Adams introduces with great effect his illuminated cycling novelty, *Cyclumina;* and the dancing of the Brothers Lester, as well as that of Mignonette Kokin, is a remarkable performance. Miss Winifred Ward's male character impersonations find great favour with the house; Farr and Farrland afford considerable entertainment with their somewhat new style of patter conversation and skilful banjo playing; and the Tokio Troupe of "happy little Japs" appear in quite sensational acts of juggling, balancing, and wire-rope climbing. The Black Hussars make their first appearance in Edinburgh with their American novelty, *The Bass Drum Trust.* The company consists of fourteen coloured artists. Bioscope pictures complete the programme.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Parham Wells.—Mr. Neil Kenyon, the star announced for this week, has unfortunately been unable through sudden illness to fulfil his engagement. His place is taken by Miss Amy Augarde and company, with the Spanish episode, *La Carmencita.* The operetta receives a spirited rendering at the hands of Miss Augarde, Mr. Watson, Mr. Wilfred Howard, Mr. Jamie Dallas, and Mr. E. A. Hill-Mitchelson. The Lukushimas troupe of Japanese entertainers, including Otara San, a clever lady artist, appear in a series of marvellous and sensational feats, very dexterously performed; smart knockabout business is contributed by the Karno Four in their comedy pantomime, *The Dinner Hour;* and also by Stelling and Revel, on the horizontal bars. Frank Bertram and company submit an amusing comedy sketch of the *Charley's Aunt* type, entitled *The Chaperon;* quaint and eccentric comedian turns are given by Mr. Herbert Rule, Mr. Frank Seeley, and Mr. Jock Mills; Miss Claire Romaine pleases the audience by her success as a male impersonator; the Boccaccio Minstrels, with whom is Signor Francia, the famous mandoline soloist, give a most acceptable scena; and the speciality dances of Johnson and Wells, a smart coloured couple, are characterised by unlimited vigour with no little novelty.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Ventom Swift.—Mr. Duse Mahomed and company appear in a one-act tragedy, entitled *The Jew's Revenge,* in which Mr. Mahomed makes a picturesque figure as Josephus, a rich Jew; Clarke's Nippers present an exhilarating turn, consisting of graceful performances with Indian clubs, expert ball punching, and neat dancing; the youthful Sisters Lotus sing their duets with expression; Akbar, a gymnast of more than average merit, gives a skilful performance on silver rings; Mueller and Coyne submit a pleasing sketch, in which the clever acrobatic dancing of the gentleman is a feature; Miss Bella Leaburn, descriptive vocalist; and films of a humorous and pathetic kind, shown by the Alhambrascope, complete a capital bill.

EXETER. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—Mr. Jerrard Grant Allen's company is here with *The New Boy.* Mr. Leon M. Lion in the title-rôle scores the chief success, together with Miss Katherine Harrington as Martha, who also plays her part in a spirited manner. Mr. Harry Ashford is good as Donald Candy, LL.D., and Mr. Stanley Logan portrays the part of Bullock major ably. Miss Beatrice Manning is all that could be desired as Susan. *Meg the Mobswoman* proves a good curtain-raiser.

FALKIRK.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—This, the last week of the present season, proved a very successful one. The programme was of an exceedingly entertaining kind. Chorley and Connor provided some clever comedian work; and Corelli gave a most entertaining side-light on trickery, while J. K. Macfarlane, Scottish comedian, convulsed the house with his humorous Scotch songs. A funny sketch, entitled *Three of a Kind,* was given by a party engaged from the Coliseum, Glasgow. There were the usual instructive and laughable films from the Anglo-American Bioscope.

FLEETWOOD.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry J. Snelson.—"Wonderland," under the personal management of Mr. Harry J. Snelson, is the attraction here this week. The programme includes the Animated Picture Company, with a series of pictures, and the Royal Court Pierrots, represented by Miss Florrie Coyne, whose violin playing causes much satisfaction; and Miss Violet Varcoe and Miss Rosie Coyne, whose singing and dancing also earn considerable applause. Mr. Jack Cardiff and Mr. Frank Shepherd supply the humour, and Mr. Stenson Liddard, baritone, is a great success. Miss Jessie Anderston is an accomplished musician, and her illustrated songs were well received.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Mrs. B. M. Croker's new play, *Terence,* is the attraction here this week. Mr. C. B. Bedells' impersonation of Sir Greville Fanshawe is excellent; Mr. Hugh Ardale is well placed as Bertrand Lovell; Mr. Henry Austin capably interprets the part of Simon Foulcher; Mr. A. Austin-Leigh as Terence displays marked ability; Mrs. Culling gives an excellent portrayal of Lady Nita Fanshawe; Miss Nance Beresford does full justice to the part of Maureen D'Arcy. Other rôles are well filled by Miss Mabel Archdale as Mrs. Duckett, Miss Eugenie Vernie as Sally O'Hara, and Mr. Arthur Hane as the Judge.

LEAS PAVILION.—Manager and Musical-Director, Mr. D'Arcy Clayton.—The Gipsies and their Jester are concluding a nine weeks' season here this week. This high-class comedy company has nightly attracted large and appreciative audiences; their entertainment is refined, clever, and sparkling. Their Japanese fêtes have proved a great attraction, many being unable to obtain admission on these special occasions.

VICTORIA PIER.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Forsyth; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Forsyth.—On Monday Miss Phyllis Dare, supported by Miss Nellie Barnes (soprano), Miss Blanche Holsham (violinist), Miss Belle Green, Mr. Wilfrid Virgo (tenor), Mr. W. A. Peterkin (basso), and Mr. Edward Brightwell were well received by an enthusiastic audience. On Tuesday and the remainder of the week the Dagonets occupied the boards.

GATESHEAD. — KING'S THEATRE.—Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harold Arnold.—The Bob Hanlon troupe is here in a sensational throwing act; Smiler Lee, with a budget of new stories, pays a return visit; the Maitland Trio have an excellent comedy act, entitled *The Picture;* Harry Carmen, described as a "vocal polyglot comedian," is a great success; refinement is the chief characteristic of the vocal and instrumental act of the Solari Duo; the Sisters Selwin excel in song and dance; Alec Thomas, comedian; Charles Russell, vocalist; Daisy Lane, comedienne, and pictures by Vernon's Imperial Bioscope complete.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Councillor Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas France.—*The Sporting Ring,* a new drama by Mr. Charles Whitlock, was produced here on Monday. A descriptive notice appears in another column.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Councillor Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stephen Smith.—The New York Picture Co., with forty miles of films, provides the attraction at this house. Miss Nessie Nairne, a youthful comedienne, is also included in the programme.

GLASGOW.—KING'S, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. H. Macfarlane.—Mr. H. B. Irving and his company are paying a return visit here this week, and on Monday the young actor-manager again received a very cordial welcome from his Glasgow friends. In *The Lyons Mail* Mr. Irving's impersonation of the rôles of Lesurques and Dubosc was a masterly performance; as the dandy robber Courriol, Mr. E. Harcourt Williams gave a careful study; the other members of the gang being amusingly represented by Mr. Charles Dodsworth and Mr. Tom Reynolds. The part of old Lesurques gave scope for the sterling qualities of Mr. Frank Tyars; Mr. Fewlass Llewellyn made a dignified Magistrate; the parts of Didier and Joliquet were capitally filled by Mr. Eric Maxon and Mr. Arthur Curtis; Miss Madge McIntosh's Janette was an exceedingly effective rendering of the part; and as Julie, Miss Sybil Noble was graceful and winning. *King Réné's Daughter* was played as a front piece, the part of Iolanthe being interpreted with great expression by Miss Madge McIntosh; Mr. Frank Tyars made an imposing King Réné; and fine romantic acting was seen in the Tristran of Mr. E. Harcourt Williams, and in the Sir Geoffrey of Mr. Arthur Curtis. The other plays billed for the week are *The Bells* and *Charles the First.*

METROPOLE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—A good play, particularly well acted, was the verdict of the Metropole patrons on *The Price of Her Soul,* as presented by Messrs. Shinton and Greenwood's company. As the hero, Lord Mandeville, Mr. John B. Shinton acts with excellent effect; and a sweet and sympathetic heroine is the Countess Inez of Miss Ada M. Ryder. The villainy of the play is also in first-rate hands, Mr. Arthur E. Pringle as Major Skoboloff and Miss Maude Yorke as Olga Stanavitz being specially noteworthy. Humour is plentifully supplied by Mr. Larry Clements as Pat Murphy and Miss Ethel Rainforth as Polly; ably seconded by Mr. George Marriott, jun., as the Hon. Algy Fraser and Miss Grace Garside as his eccentric, but good-hearted, mother. Mr. Archie Gear as General Lanovitz, Mr. Ernest Regent as the vengeful Petruski, Miss Olive Chesman as the wronged Nadine, Little Mabel Ronald as Vera, and Mr. Maurice Lesage as Alphonse, all contributed to the success of the play, which was specially well staged.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Manners.—A good company is booked here this week, the chief attraction being the engagement of Nellie Wallace, burlesque artist, who has had a most flattering reception. An exceptionally clever sketch is submitted by C. W. Somerset and company, entitled *The Great Poison Case;* and the efforts of J. A. Cassells, Scotch comedian, are appreciated. Cruikshank, designated "the fool of the family," is extra clever; and the performance of ? Payen?, gymnast and autopierrot, is marvellous. Other good turns include Madge Grey, comedienne; Bishop and Vale, acrobatic dancers; Amy Russell, vocalist; Chas. Kaye, topical talker; and the American Bioscope, with interesting pictures.

ZOO-HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd., and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—The pathetic sketch, *The Little Stowaway,* forms the principal item this week, and is well played, Miss Eva Lumley as the Stowaway, Mr. John K. Walton as the Captain, and Mr. Hugh Metcalfe in the singing part of the Bos'un taking chief honours. The Borghetti Troupe give some sensational displays of acrobatic work; Alf. Gibson proves as quaint as ever; Spry and Monti are particularly good in their clever turn, *The Dandy Guardsman;* the New Macs are neat dancers and smart patterers; the Woodwards give a striking ladder-balancing turn; Rita and Roma do well in a vocal and gymnastic act; the Sisters Darrell are clever duettists; and the illustrated songs of David Stewart catch on at once.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd. — John Tiller's company, in *High Jinks,* again provides a merry entertainment, and Messrs. Bob Selvedge, Teddy Gibbs, and Barney Dixon, and Misses Jessie Templeton, Nellie Rodney, and Lizzie Hay all distinguish themselves in the leading parts. The Cee-Mee Family contribute a clever and daring trapeze performance, which is heartily applauded; the Eight Lancashire Lads, in their smart step-dancing, prove strong favourites; Shirley and Ransome make a decided hit in a homely coster sketch; L. B. Athol gives a dream-song with dramatic effect; Tennyson and Wallis are smart talkers and neat dancers; Susie and Protti, acrobatic dancers; Harry Maynard, character vocalist; and Fred Hastings, comedian, complete a varied programme.

COLISEUM.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Burdette.—Alfred Agoust heads the programme this week in *Jugglomania,* a happy blend of fun and clever juggling; Kerr and Koe keep up a rattling salvo of amusing dialogue in *Yards and Houses;* Ruby Dahl manipulates the strings of her marionettes openly, and with good effect; William Lee and Helen Bantley enact a comedy, called *A Friend in Need; The Punch Bowl* is an amusingly clever bit of musical comedy, presented by a capable company; Sandy M'Nab, as *The Egyptian Mummy,* evokes roars of laughter; Arthur Gill is a singer with a remarkable compass of voice; Alec B. Thorne is a promising Scotch comedian; Jack Friedman's operetta company presents *In Happy Holland* with good solo and chorus effects; and the Bioscope pictures form a pleasing variety.

PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Richard Waldon; General-Manager, Mr. Harry M'Kelvie.—Mr. Arthur Roberts. Miss Ruby Celeste, and a smart company, are drawing large audiences at every performance of their breezy farce, *The Woman Who Was;* in songs and dances of the Spanish, Swiss, and Dutch order, the Four Figaros come next in favour; as a juggler, Cleland is clever, but it is in eccentric versatility he excels; a fine turn is given by Florence Schuberth, a vivacious comedienne; *Rags and Tatters,* a smart dancing and high class musical turn by the Calcotts, brings a recall nightly; Mons. De Lil gives an illusion display, clever and most mystifying; George Prince is aptly billed "the crazy comedian"; the Brothers Hannaway are good in song and patter, and are notably smart dancers; Eustace and Eyre do well in a ventriloquial absurdity, and the lady is neat and expert as a dancer; Harvey and Holt are speciality artists of ability.

GAIETY, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Harry Bowerman.—The programme here is varied and interesting. Blanche and Diacoff, cyclists, are the principals, and their clever display is thoroughly appreciated; Vosper, facial mimic, makes a capital appearance; and Ada Twibell, burlesque actress, is also well received. The other members of the company include Harry Bentley, eccentric comedian; Dan and Max, dancing experts; Ted Young, vocal comedian; and Jack Easy, Scotch comedian. The Bioscope presents a novel series of pictures.

BRITANNIA.—Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickard.—Kitty Lavigne, comedienne and top-boot dancer, submits a pleasing turn; and Bandoni is a concertina player of exceptional merit. Flexo Beaufort, contortionist; W. H. Smart, comedian; and Nellie Stratton, comedienne, add to an excellent programme.

GLOSSOP.— THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—For the first three nights this week we have had the Native Choir from Jamaica in songs, plantation choruses, and humorous quartettes, duets, and dances. The artists were as follows:—Conductor, Mr. T. Ellis Jackson; solo pianist, Mr. Henry Nation; tenor, Mr. Emanuel Blake; bassos, Mr. Carlton Bryan, Mr. Geo. Alex. McCormack, Mr. C. Lipscombe Barnes; dancer and coon delineator, Mr. Frank Weaver; contralto, Miss Beatrice Blackburn; sopranos, Miss Adeline McDermot, Mrs. Ambrosine Lawrence, Miss Hannah Welsh, Mrs. Florry McCormack. The theatre will be closed until the middle of August.

GLOUCESTER.—PALACE.—Owners, Messrs. C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr. R. T. Rea.—The Albert and Edmunds Troupe present a laughable sketch, *Two Up a Tree.* Miss Hetty Lee is a very dainty soubrette and graceful dancer; Mr. Horace Jones is the recipient of much applause for his "Welshman at the Football Match"; and the Falcons are quietly humorous, and clever acrobatic equilibrists; Frank and Violet Payte give a racing duologue, *Also Ran;* and Miss Orrell Park is a good vocalist; Mr. Harry Nation sings a laughing song excellently; and the Lovelaces introduce some very popular illustrated songs; Allsopp and Beckwith sing, patter, and dance; and the Bioscope provides the finale of a good programme.

GREAT YARMOUTH. — ROYAL AQUARIUM.—The engagement of the week at this popular house is Mr. T. Arthur Jones and his specially-selected No. 1 company in W. A. Brabner's drama, *Life's Sweetest Sins.* The leading parts are in the exceptionally able hands of Miss Marie Daventry as Doreen Rivers, and Mr. T. Arthur Jones as Captain Harold Marston. The strong rôle of Dr. Colebrooke is capably played by Mr. Oswald Douglas, who is well supported by Mr. Robert Sawin and Mr. Clem Horlock as the Confederates. Miss May Anslie is excellent as Fay Colebrooke; and Bessie Crayson is well taken by Miss Marion Armitage.

GREENOCK.—EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry L. Skivington.—There was a good house on Monday to welcome Mr. Charles Majilton and company in *She Would Be a Widow; or, The Plumber.* Mr. Majilton scores as the Doctor; Mr. Jim Bond as the plumber causes endless amusement; and Mr. J. Randle Wilson is a capital Willie; Miss Amy Majilton is successful as Ethel, and Miss Maddie Majilton does well as the slavey; Miss Christie is a charming Katie.

PAVILION THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Chas. A. White.—Frank Leon, who tops the bill here, is a clever and accomplished clog dancer; Jack Neil, Scotch comedian, is as popular as ever; and other excellent turns include Harry Seaton, refined vocal comedian; Lizzie Kirk, comedienne and dancer; Doreen Day, who is retained from last week; and Yettmah, juggler. The Pavilion pictures complete.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry.—*The Assassin* is being presented. Mr. Augustine Knight appears in the sinister character of Prince Demetri, and invests it with sufficient grimness; Miss Ella Vane gives a very dramatic representation of the Countess Wanda; Mr. Edward E. Ashby is a satisfactory exponent of Ivanoff; whilst others taking prominent parts are Mr. Edwin Jenner as Captain O'Neil, Mr. Cecil Raymond as Baron Alphonse, Mr. Tom J. Taylor as Peter, Mr. George Kempt as Evangie, and Miss Hettie Senior as Conie Jonathan.

CURRY'S TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North.—A capital combination of cycling feats, acrobatics, and jugglery is given by the Selbinis; Charles R. Whittle's quaint songs greatly please the audience; a highly refined musical entertainment is contributed by Florence and Lilian; the Fimans introduce amusing business in a fire brigade burlesque; Helene and Emilon give a novel gymnastic performance; Cadogan and Wingrave appear in a laughable sketch; and others on the programme are Wisper, comedy juggler; Beattie Bloom, comedienne; and T. W. Barrett, comedian.

THE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. A. Edwardes; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. C. Shread; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Houghton.—Eugene Stratton is attracting crowded houses at every performance, and is received most enthusiastically. The Steinway Quartette contribute an excellent vocal act, their speciality being a series of sea songs; the Franko Midgets are a couple of smart juvenile illusionists; the Brady and Johnson combination submit an amusing sketch; Elton and Elma accomplish a good triple bar performance; and others appearing are Snowball and Dolia, duettists and dancers; Blanche Marion, dancer; Phyllis Melville, vocalist; and Percy Curry, comedian.

GUERNSEY.—THEATRE ST. JULIAN.—Lessee, Mr. Edward Marris.—The Russell Rosse Répertoire Company is here this week. On Tuesday *Our Boys* was presented. Mr. George Mudie, jun., enacted Talbot Champneys with tact and skill; Mr. M. Russell Rosse creditably represented Sir Geoffrey; Mr. J. Edward Fraser successfully hit off the character of Charles Chiddlewick; and Mr. Norman Clarke was responsible for an effective portrait of Perkin Middlewick. Mary Melrose was brightly and engagingly played by Miss L. Kingston; in the hands of Miss E. N. O'Connor was an acceptable Violet; and as Belinda, Miss Ethel Hesketh was of signal service. *Captain Swift, Confusion* and *Caste* are also billed.

HALIFAX.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—The Northern Theatres stock company entered upon a second week here on Monday, staging the late Mr. Frank Harvey's ever-popular play, *The Wages of Sin,* which met with an enthusiastic reception. Mr. Cyril Austen-Lee made an instantaneous success as Parson Brand, his fine stage presence and effective declamatory powers being of every assistance; a formidable Stephen Marler was Mr. Bernard Mervyn, whose vigorous style and acting was very effective; Mr. J. P. Lannen played with virility and refinement as Josiah Deane; and Mr. J. Cooke Hinton presented a spirited interpretation of Harry Wentworth. A capital conception of a ne'er-do-well emanated from Mr. Henry C. Gilpin as Ned Drummond; and Mr. Jack Hames was again to the front with a quaint simulation of a constable; a delightful study of the much-afflicted Ruth Hope was given by Miss Winnie Tempest; Miss Vera Meacham made the most of the part of Barbara Dale; and Miss Jessie Belmore gave a charming assumption of an actress.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Ed. Harrison.—An excellent vaudeville programme is again put on here this week. Bob Hutt and company furnishing the star turn with *Welcome Home,* which has met with phenomenal success; Larola, the clever man with funny ways, enhances his reputation; the Smythsons, in *Love Germs,* make a big hit; Addie Dorina, a protean artist, gives some very painstaking character-studies; and Rose Cabani displays much gaiety in well-rendered songs; a neat episode, entitled *The Burglar's Surprise,* is submitted by the Jimsons; the Sisters Edwards (comediennes), Bonnetti and Corri (comedy jugglers), together with an artistic selection of scenes finely presented on the Raymond Bio-tableaux, complete an excellent bill.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Sam Winks.—The original Leopolds are appearing here twice nightly in *Frivolity* with striking success. Oliver Buckwheat has a worthy representative in Mr. Watson Hume, whose delineation of the volatile stockbroker in search of life is irresistibly comical; a new Samuel is found in Mr. Willie Leopold, who gives a lively representation of the flighty Collegian, his dancing in particular being smart; Mr. Tom Leopold is as clever as ever in the rôle of the Professor; Miss Amy Hall is a winsome Lucy, and sings well; while Miss Cathleen Kavanagh makes a popular Madame Cobweb. The statuary and pyramid performances of the Bros. Leopold are startling and clever, and meet with well-earned plaudits.

HANLEY. — GRAND, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. James Wynes.—The Julians Family head the bill here in a wonderful risley acrobatic performance; Chanti, quick-change artist, dancer, &c., scores a brilliant success; Bert Williams is a clever and entertaining ventriloquist; Fields and Lewis, burlesque actors, contribute an excellent turn; Gladys and Alber are seen in a capital act, the tumbling of the male member being quite extraordinary; Charlie Jerome has a good voice, and sings his coon songs cleverly; Talberto and Douglas are a very amusing pair; Rose and Calvert, in a capital sketch, meet with success.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Smith.—On the first three nights of this week Mr. Godfrey Tearle and company appeared in *A Soldier of Fortune.* Mr. Tearle is a capable young actor, and has a fine presence and youth on his side, and his performance of Rupert Clive was excellent; Miss Malone was good as Lady Phyllis; Mr. A. W. Wynne made a dignified Earl of Anandale; and Mr. Alfred Grey scored as the treacherous Sir Stephen Cunningham. Mr. Lowe as Dr. Thorn made the most of meagre opportunities; Mr. Baliol Holloway was admirable as the Roundhead captain, Phineas Sturge; Mr. Edmond Sayers was amusing as the landlord, Jerry Dobbs, and had able assistance from Miss Barnett as Grace.

HARTLEPOOL. — EMPIRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. Councillor Everton and J. W. Cragg; Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Charlie Ferrier.—Jack Pleasants, the inimitable, has been enthusiastically welcomed this week; Earle and Melville, comedians and dancers, are also old favourites, as are Rappo and Ella, graceful gymnasts, and the Cattaneos troupe of smart comedy acrobats; Bob Pueblo and Katie Crop, in their latest success, *The Swell and La Belle,* are expert sand dancers; Allan Hanbury discourses most amusingly on "The Sorrows of a Spinster"; and some interesting pictures are shown.

PROMENADE.—The Pierrot season has commenced here. Mr. Horace East's Red Rose Entertainers are here. The troupe consists of Horace East, comedian; Frank Roy, baritone; Stanley Liston, light comedian; Robert Lord, humorist; Harry Talbot, comedian; and Gladys Clare, soubrette.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Scutt.—Mr. F. R. Benson's Shakespearean Répertoire Company opened here on Monday in *Twelfth Night.* Miss Dorothy Green played charmingly as Viola; Mr. Henry Herbert was exceptionally good as Malvolio; Miss Louise Graeme's pleasing study of Olivia and Miss Rosa Burgess's bright and sparkling rendering of Maria captivated the audience; Mr. Gerald Ames' Orsino was a fine piece of acting; and much laughter was created by the amusing Sir Toby of Mr. Ross Shore and the Sir Andrew of Mr. Esme Filmer. On Tuesday *Henry V.* was presented.

PIER PAVILION.

ILKESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—*The Good Samaritan* and *The Shaughraun* are being played here this week by Mr. Butler Stanhope and company. In the former piece the rôle of Frank Wyndham received justice at the capable hands of Mr. Ed. Warden; whilst that of Margaret Wyndham was very effectively taken by Miss Lalla Stanhope. Mr. Stanhope himself was seen as Col. Granville, his efforts being duly appreciated; Mr. Sidney Wood gave a humorous impersonation of Tim Fowler, and the same remark applies to Miss Marie Douglas as Kitty Hart. The villain, Roderick Blackstone, had a good representative in Mr. V. C. Biscoe, and his accomplice, Helen Coventry, in Miss Helen Raymonde.

IPSWICH.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock. — Lockhart's elephants is the big attraction here this week, and their marvellous docility and intelligence have created a great impression. Other attractive turns include Ouida Macdermott, a pleasing comedienne and dancer; Harry Frusker, an American juggler; Frank Coyle, a quaint singer and patterer; Stephens and Rennoin, clever dancers, the Driscoll Family, and the Five Bogannys.

JARROW.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson.—This week's attraction is Mr. F. Wybert Clive's company in *The Branded Woman*.—Miss Lilian Ross is an excellent Genevieve; Mr. H. Creagh Hunt a manly Philip Maurice; Mr. Cowell Clarke an excellent Zarka; Mr. Walter Steele a powerful Prince; and Mr. E. Lowrie an able Louis. Mr. F. Wybert Clive gives a clever portrayal of Paul Fleuret; Mr. Harry Liddle causes much amusement as Dick Brown, being well supported by Miss Isabel Hunt as Jacqueline; Rudolph is in the capable hands of Miss May Warden; and Miss A. Campbell is good as the Countess Daphne.

JERSEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Edward Marris.—*The Blue Coat Boy* is being played here. Mr. Bruce Green as Dame Dickory is very amusing; Miss Lena Stanton as Billy is exceedingly good, her fine voice being heard to advantage; and Miss Neville is a pretty Dolly Dickory. Little Keeno as Jack Lively is one of the features of the pantomime, and has numerous encores. Mr. Will Terry enacts the rôle of Lawyer Copall; and Mr. Harry Joseph appears as Squire Longacre.

KING'S LYNN.—NEW ROYAL THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. J. Bannister Howard, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Herr B. Pareezer.—A full programme here this week includes Chyio in a clever slack-wire act, and the Five M.P.'s, whose musical speciality is well received. Florry Cooper has made a great impression as a vocalist ; Alfred E. Passmore makes a hit as an eccentric comedian; Haig and Russell keep the fun going very smartly in their duologue, "Aunt Amelia"; Fanny Robina as a vocalist is successful; C. Tamamoto displays much skill and agility in a perpendicular rope performance, and Daisy Palmer gave a smart dancing turn.

LEAMINGTON. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, Messrs Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Manager, Mr. Harry Hunter.—Ediscope and Barnum's Animated Picture and Variety company still continue their run of success at the theatre. An entirely new programme of most interesting pictures is presented, and new turns by a very capable variety company includes the Cedrics, Continental comedy and speciality artists; Lode Lyons, ventriloquist; Vela, a clever wire walker; and Lulu, a lady instrumentalist, in her illuminated garden scene.

LEEDS.—GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Edward Cadman.—*A Message from Mars* is warmly welcomed at the Grand this week. Mr. John Hart's company is an admirable one, and includes that fine actor, Mr. Arthur Holmes-Gore, who repeats his masterly delineation of the self-satisfied and caustic Horace Parker; Mr. William H. Brougham is a powerful and convincing Messenger; the old tramp of Mr. Bruce Lindley is a fine bit of character acting; a sweet and charming Minnie Templar indeed is Miss Joan Ellis; and Miss F. Hastings is capital as Aunt Parker. The rôle of Arthur Dicey is a satisfactory effort by Mr. Thomas Holding; and the remaining characters are all effectively presented. The lighting and stage effects peculiar to the piece are admirable.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—*The Tyrant* holds the stage here, and is proving a successful draw. Miss Marie Dagmar and Mr. Fred C. Somerfield, whose company it is, are seen in the leading parts of Tisbe and Homodei, and their excellent acting wins much appreciation. The name part affords Mr. Roy Fortescue scope for some effective dramatic work, of which full advantage is taken; whilst the Tyrant's wife is a capital embodiment by Miss Margaret Frame; good assistance is also rendered by Mr. John Cecil, Mr. Alec Mayhue, Mr. Percy Brown, and Miss Lallah Shelton in leading parts.

EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd; District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—A novel and interesting turn is that of Mr. Hymack, described as the "chameleon" comedian, who during his discourse effects some marvellous changes of apparel. Charming Lil Hawthorne, with taking new songs, is as great a favourite as ever; the Borellis find appreciative acceptance of their musical burlesque specialities; Donaldson Brothers and Ardel are doing their screaming zoological speciality to the accompaniment of much mirth; and Sinclair and Whiteford score a big success with a comedy sketch; the Vasilescu troupe's acrobatics are both clever and amusing; Will English, the coloured entertainer, provides a mirthful ten minutes; whilst the Sisters Gasch, graceful expert acrobats. Leoni Dixon, soubrette and dancer, and Nora Emerald, comedienne, are very popular in their respective lines.

PALACE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Walter De Frece.—Fred Earle, the clever comedian, is prominent on an attractive Palace bill; the ever-green Horace Wheatley is a great favourite; Burns and Bentley contribute an acceptable vocal and dancing speciality; Hillman and Russell are doing their screaming absurdity, *The Somnambulist*, with great success; Hurmann, a novelty juggler, makes a successful appearance; and Alf Davis, comedian, and Alice Ormonde, vocalist, are also well liked.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietor, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; General-Managers, Mr. Chas. Weldon and Mr. Claude Shayler.—That clever lady Rachel Lowe is achieving great success here this week; George Gilbey is a rare fun purveyor, and his reception is demonstrative and hearty; Bouwmeister gives a musical interlude which is enjoyable; the dancing of Enid Errol is the chief feature of a fantastic episode by her company; a fine electrical scena is shown with vocal and musical effects; that clever young juggler, Wallan, is again in the bill; Keith and Merson are vastly amusing in a comedy episode; Rosie Bartlett, comedienne. Harry Vardon, in ventriloquial speciality, and the Elgars, vocal entertainers, also contribute good things.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam Jones.—Claude Feldman's Beau-Ideal Troupe of Juveniles prove a pleasing top of the bill turn this week, the youngsters being very clever in song and dance; Narow Bros. score a big success as comic cyclists; Sammy Shields is a comedian and raconteur of merit; Hallam and Stanton please with a neat comedy sketch; Mabel Sinclair is a clever and popular lady ventriloquist; the eccentricities of the Bros. Harrison are provocative of merriment; and Montague Biggs, comedian, and Kendrick and Laura, in their refined speciality, are also popular entertainers.

LEICESTER. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. E. R. Beaumont. —The attraction is provided this week by Mr. Carr Loates' company, under the direction of Mr. Charles Hermann, in the musical comedy drama *At the World's Mercy*, in which Miss Cissie Milford, the Lancashire clog dancer and quick-change soubrette, scores a well-deserved success in the dual rôles of Skittles and Kitty Knott, a music-hall star. As the hero, Capt. Charles Manly, Mr. Carr Loates is also to be complimented on a very good portrayal. Miss Maud Devereux as Alice Lloyd is seen to advantage; and Mr. Jess Boxer as Charlie Smart is also a success. The other parts are in good hands, and the play is staged in commendable style.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, M. Bertram G. Isles.—Roars of laughter resound throughout the auditorium here at Mr. Fred Karno's latest production, *The Bailiff*, the efforts of Mr. Fred Kitchen as the man in possession being especially funny. The whole sketch, which is done in an elaborate manner, is a thorough success. Mr. Fred Kitchen is aided and abetted in a most praiseworthy manner by Miss Jessie Grammonde, Miss Aggie Morris, Mr. Albert Bruno, Mr. Herbert Landeck, Mr. Harry Lappo, and Mr. T. Ellis Buxton. A popular and delightful turn is given by Thomas E. Finglas, a smart coon vocalist and dancer, who has the assistance of a pretty young lady. The American Comedy Four of vocalists and humourists are making their usual big hit with a turn brimful of merriment. The Sisters Macarte, besides giving a skilful and clean display on the wire, are successful in their dancing and instrumental selections; Dion Wade shines as a mimic, and scores a well-deserved success; Frank Leslie renders a song in an acceptable style; Lina Verdi is a dainty and clever comedienne and mimic. The American Bioscope is throwing the usual entertaining films on the screen.

PAVILION THEATRE. — Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joe Lawrence.—The principal attraction here is Peter Gotz, the light-weight wrestler; Nat Watkins is an exceedingly funny comedian, who creates the heartiest laughter; Florrie Leonard is a charming vocalist; T. C. Callaghan repeats his usual success as a mirth-provoking comedian; Harry Morgan is a capital coon artist and dancer; Clara Victor is a vocalist with a good voice; Walter H. Pallister's Bioscope is retained, and is delighting all with the excellence of the pictures shown.

LEIGH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Cragg; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Rousby.—Variety again holds the boards here this week, and is supplied by Mr. Leo Dryden's company. Los Rupertos, equilibrists and jugglers, score a great success; Mme. Ada Colley sings three pretty songs with her wonted charm and refinement; Mr. Martin Conway, comedian, creates much laughter, as does also Comical Walker with his nippers. Globella is clever in his globe-walking entertainment; a really fine turn is given by Mr. Leo Dryden; Miss Mollie Nolan, comedian and dancer, is very neat; and a farce, entitled *Charlie's Indian*, is most amusing.

LIMERICK.—ATHENÆUM HALL.—Proprietors, the Corporation.—Excellent houses have patronised the Elster-Grime Grand Opera Company. On Monday night *Maritana* was produced, when Miss Elsie Lynham sustained the title-rôle with great vocal ability. Miss Olive Westwood, a clever contralto, sang sweetly the part of Lazarillo; and Miss Madge Quilliam was good as the Marchioness. Mr. Alfred Bowyer was in excellent voice as Don Cæsar; that excellent baritone, Mr. Frank Lande, appeared as Don José; Mr. Gilbert King was the King, and Messrs. Wheatley, Cook, and Partridge were clever in their respective rôles of Captain of Guard, Alcade, and Marquis.

LINCOLN.—ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Frank King.—The London Comedy company are playing Sydney Grundy's comedy, *A Fool's Paradise*, this week. Miss Laura Hansen as Beatrice Selwyn grips her audience completely, and is very fine in the part; Sir Peter Lund, as represented by Mr. Cecil Wynne, is a very striking part; and Mr. J. H. Twyford does well as Selwyn; Mr. Wylie A. Thompson scores as young Verinder; Mr. A. Claremont is capital as Normantower; and Miss Margery Chard is seen to advantage as Kate Derwent. Miss Hilda Stericher is prettily effective as Mildred.

PALACE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Sydney Arthur.—Victoria Monks, in "Moving Day," is earning vociferous applause twice nightly; Harry Anderson is always a big favourite here, as is Will Johnson; and Gold and Sterling accomplish success in song and lightning painting. Winnie Derson, Daisy Martell, and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux are very successful.

LIVERPOOL.—SHAKESPEARE THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. E. Stevens and R. C. Buchanan; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—A very fine production of *Beauty and the Barge* has been given here during the week by Mr. Arthur Hardy's company. As the frolicksome, good-hearted Captain Barley, Mr. Blake Adams richly deserved the hearty reception accorded him, the curtain having to be raised several times in each act. Miss Dido Drake presented the part of Ethel Smedley in a simple, bewitching manner, which met with approval; Mr. Walter Pemberton made an admirable Major Smedley; Mr. Edward A. Coventry acquitted himself creditably as Lieut. Boyne; Mr. Charles A. White in the rôle of John Dibbs provoked great laughter; Miss Ruby Wyndham adequately depicted the wretched Mrs. Baldwin; Mr. Ewart Drake as a busy and humorous publican's assistant caused much laughter; Mrs. J. W. Braithwaite was a perfect type of the indignant beerseller, and the rest of the company afforded excellent support. *Jerry and a Sunbeam* was the curtain-raiser. After this week the theatre closes for the summer season.

ROTUNDA THEATRE—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—*Dan the Rake* pays a first visit to this theatre. Mr. J. Rice Cassidy is seen to advantage in the title-part; Mrs. Cassidy makes a capital Madge; as Lieut. Kavanagh, Mr. Frank Copeland is eminently successful; Mr. Arthur Stratton fills the part of the athletic Captain Cooper with much satisfaction; every justice is done to the manly rôle of Colonel Flamer by Mr. Jerold E. Reed; Mr. J. Cuthbertson is well placed as Achille, the French cook; Miss Florence Creagh presents a sweet Helen Flamer; and Miss Alice Marsden does excellently as Dan's mother.

LYRIC.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—The clever Geni Family (ten in number), with their three ponies, present an exceptionally good turn in the risley and acrobatic line; the smart songs and eccentric dancing of Edie Veno earn for that able artist much approval; great laughter follows the work of Frank Purcell's comedy company in the sketch, *Three Husbands*; some remarkable cycling feats are executed by Arthur Kenny; the Bros. Diamond, one-legged jumping experts, show wonderful agility; Merton and Rydon provide a neat turn as vocal and comedy speciality artists; and also in the list are Billy Burns, the singing pit lad, and Minnie Fenton, vocalist.

STAR THEATRE. Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—*Her Wedding Day* is the big attraction here this week, a capital all-round company presenting it. Miss Ward gave a powerful and sympathetic rendering of the part of Madge Conway; Mr. John F. Traynor was a manly Harold Saxby, with a good delivery; as Weedon Kenyon, Mr. Wilson Coleman played with much effect; and Miss Violet Temple as Mrs. Caccles, Miss Pollie Denville as Dolly Klink, and Miss Kate Hallam in the rôle of Dora rendered valuable assistance.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan. —Allowing a motor-car, weighing two tons, and carrying six people, to run over his body is the principal feat undertaken by Apollo, the athlete, who is foremost in the bill presented here this week. Hal Ford, a comedian who has proved popular, meets with a most cordial reception; as trick cyclists, the Sisters Warwick display high accomplishments, and are deservedly applauded; Henri Abdy and his canine hippodrome, who show their careful training on a revolving table, are a good turn; the Lurins prove themselves diverting comedy duettists; several smart coon songs come from Maude Vera; as juvenile acrobats and equilibrists, the Nirdas acquit themselves with credit; Mlle. Marvelle presents a neat turn with her cockatoos and macaws; and Pat Carey, Edna Latonne (vocalist), and Chas. Faning (comedian) also appear.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES. — Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole. —Here this week the Royal stock company are producing the drama, *On the Stroke of Twelve*, from the pen of Joseph Le Brandt. Among the principal artists are Messrs. Percy Boucher, Harry Tresham, Robert Wilton, Sydney Grant, Cecil Ravenswood, Miss Beryl Ravenswood, and Miss Nellie Bonser.

PADDINGTON PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Edwards.—The stock company here is this week presenting the excellent drama, *Queen of the Night*. Included in the principal artists are Messrs. Wallace Campbell, H. Hesslegrave, H. G. Brandon, Francis E. Wybert, Miss G. H. Walton, Miss Sara Blumenthal, and Miss Lina Nazeby.

PARK PALACE.—Proprietors, Lancashire Vaudeville Syndicate, Ltd.; General-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece.—The able stock company engaged here is doing capital business with the drama, *Every Inch a Man*. Mr. Walter Foster affords a fine portrait of Alderman Barnet; Mr. Albert Sember distinguishes himself as Dick Barnet; Miss Lilian Burns acquits herself well as Vera Maxwell; Miss Violet Barley-Clarke presents a pleasing Martha; Mr. Will Percy is humorous as Teddy Edwards; an admirably-drawn type of old soldier is shown by Mr. Hugh Carmichael as Ben Brown; and Mr. Archie Helsby affords satisfaction as Daniel Barnet. The Bioscope has some capital pictures.

HAYMARKET.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. Edwin W. Smith.—The popular Harry Calden and company are this week giving *The Deserter; or, the Gipsy's Warning*. Joe Humphreys has a cordial reception for his popular songs; Lina and Wells are a smart pair of comedy artists; and Alice Mahew sings some acceptable pieces.

WESTMINSTER. — Lessee, Mr. Fred E. Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—Principal here this week is Albini, an equilibrist, who performs some remarkable acts on the slack wire; Lilian Victoria, a talented young male impersonator, who has rapidly come to the front, meets with an ovation; Maimie Iris has some popular chorus-songs; as a comedian and dancer Arthur Croydon is a good line; Rozeltha provides some novel transformation dances; and the Bioscope shows the latest pictures.

OLYMPIA, LTD.—District-Manager, Mr. Albert Bulmer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wighton.—Top of the bill here this week is Fred Storey and company, who present *Rip Van Winkle*, a well-arranged and capably-rendered sketch; the ever-popular Dutch Daly, with his concertina and funny stories, is immensely enjoyed; Russell Wallett, "the lady in black," proves as diverting as ever; Daisy Mayer, with her coon songs and patter, assisted by Paul Knox, pleases her audience; the merry entertainment of jokes and songs provided by the Gems is refreshing; a neat ventriloquial turn comes from David Poole; Drew and Alders have a new and very funny act, *The Coastguards*; and the remainder of the list includes Sydney Lee, comedian, and the Vetter Bros., with their vocal and equilibristic scena, *The Page's Recreation*.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.—George Leyton is here this week with his well-presented naval scena, *Nelson's Name*, in which he is assisted by a chorus of local boys; some remarkable work is done by Will Rogers, the American cowboy lassoist; J. W. Rowley brings new songs; Libby Blondell has a smart singing speciality; Herbert Darnley's Dots in the pretty scena, *Helping Mother*, meet with general approval; endless laughter follows the antics of the Kroney Bros. the lazy coalmen; a novel sketch, *The Girl in Grey*, comes from Edith Reynolds and company; and the list also contains the names of the Trentanovi Sisters, with a capital gymnastic transformation act, and Lady Fauntleroy.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors, Liverpool Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. James Marks.—Top of a most attractive bill here this week are Les Piccolinos, whose really clever entertainment as rifle shots, cyclists, balancers, dancers, &c., is richly enjoyed; Edwin Boyde causes his audiences to hold their sides with laughter; the Jolly American-Dutch girl, May Moore Duprez, has some capital songs and business; J. T. McMillan is a comedian whose work is always appreciated; Blarney and Kennard, with their waltzing dogs, are extremely funny; Dolly Denton is a dainty comedienne; and others in the list are Godfrey James, the singing collier, and Sadie Seymour, comedienne and dancer.

LOWESTOFT. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietor, Mr. George Gilbert; Manager, Mr. Frank Freeland.—The success of this establishment is now assured, and big audiences assemble nightly to enjoy an entertainment always bright and up-to-date. "A Trip to the Land of the Midnight Sun" has been a great attraction during the week, and other subjects of equal charm and merit have sufficed to fill the house nightly. An original sketch by Mr. Nelson Hardy, entitled *£1000 Reward*, is well staged, and shows Mr. Hardy at his best in various characters; his versatility is certainly exceptional. Mr. Wilfred Heath's baritone singing is much admired, and the other turns are well received.

MAIDENHEAD.—NORTHWICK HOUSE GROUNDS. —Situated directly in the line of route from the railway station to the Royal Counties Agricultural Show, which is held here this week, the pierrot concert party are exceptionally well placed, and are consequently doing good business. Messrs. Redfern and Richards, the proprietors, not only are good themselves, but have been successful in gathering round them a talented troupe of artists. As pierrette, Miss May Davis, both in her appearance and in her work, is dainty and winsome; Mr. Redfern as Billy has a particularly droll way with him; and he is ably seconded by Mr. Fred Richards, who is well received. Mr. Wilfred Brydge is a careful accompanist, and sings in good style; Mr. Tom Ducen possesses a fine bass voice; Mr. Will Harris is always sure of an enthusiastic encore; and speciality turns include Miss May Davis (mandoline) and Mr. Bob Morgan (sand-dance).

PAVILION PLEASURE GARDENS.—Proprietor, Mr. G. Gude.—The entertainments here continue to be well patronised, the spacious marquee being particularly useful during the present cold weather. Mr. Wallace Bosco's baritone songs are well sung; Mr. Leo Fallowfield creates much merriment with his impersonations; and Mr. Phil Raby is successful with descriptive songs. Miss Gertie Lovedale dances delightfully; and Miss Adelaide Twort's ballads are much appreciated. Mr. Alec Tyson works hard and well at the piano.

MAIDSTONE.—CORN EXCHANGE.—Mr. F. R. Benson's Shakespearean Company (South) occupied the boards here on Saturday and Monday with *Hamlet* and *The Taming of the Shrew*. Mr. Arthur Phillips' Hamlet was a powerful piece of acting all through; Mr. Walter Bentley made a good King; Mr. Leo Briggs was successful as Lord Chamberlain and as the First Gravedigger; Mr. Frank Darch gave a spirited reading of Laertes; Mr. John Cairns' appearance and declamation as the ghost were impressive; Mr. C. Maunsell as Horatio was well placed, and Mr. Ed. Harrison did well as First Player. Ophelia was played with much skill by Miss Christie Laws, who did her exacting part well; Miss Lucy Hare as the Queen appeared to combine dignity with sorrowful abasement. Other members of the cast were Mr. Bernard Merefield as Rozencrantz, Mr. Ernest Bodkin as Guilderstern, Mr. Manning Sproston as Osric, Mr. H. Somerset as the Priest, Mr. Walter Plinge as Marcellus, Mr. William Krasm as Bernardo, Mr. Mount as Francisco, Mr. Otho Hazlewood as Second Gravedigger, Miss Kate Ogilvie as Prologue, and Miss Kathryn Stocks as Player Queen. Mr. Alban B. Limpus is the acting-manager, and Mr. Darch the stage-manager. In the comedy the company were equally successful. Mr. Walter Bentley as Petruchio was a host in himself, causing roars of laughter; Mr. F. Darch as Gremio was excellent, so was Mr. Leo. Briggs as Grumio. The Biondella of Mr. Arthur Phillips and Mr. C. Maunsell's Lucentio were distinctly praiseworthy; and Miss Christine Laws as Katharina and Miss Kathryn Stocks as Bianca were full of fun, the other members of the company ably assisting. The dances were much admired.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. S. Baskerville.—Harry Tate's company in *Fishing* is as popular as ever. Others are the Daunton Shaw troupe of expert trick cyclists; J. G. Aitken, Scotch comedian; Tony Iveson, the ragman at the piano; Bertha Duckett, male impersonator; Miss Nell Brough, siffleuse; and the Cardigans, duettists.

MANCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmondstone Shirra. — On Monday and Tuesday Mme. Jane Hading appeared here in *Frou-Frou* and *La Châtelaine*. On Wednesday and the remainder of the week the stage was occupied by the Hoffe and Campbell Comedy company in a smart and entertaining performance of *The Importance of Being Earnest*.

GAIETY THEATRE. — Proprietors, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. M. Thorburn.—*Jim the Penman* was given here on Monday by Messrs. Leonard Pagden and G. M. Copping's company. Mr. Leonard Pagden's interpretation of James Ralston, the forger, was excellently and impressively done. Considerable skill and adaptability was manifest also in the Baron Hartfield of Mr. Orlando Barnett. As Mrs. Ralston Miss Alice Farleigh acted with sympathy and power, Miss Muriel Pope and Miss Rosalind Ross playing well as Agnes Ralston and Lady Dunscombe. Strong work was added by Mr. William Lockhart as Percival, Mr. Ernest A. Douglas as Capt. Redwood, and Mr. Arthur Vezin as Drelincourt.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—Messrs. O'Dell and Chabot's company, in *His Sister's Honour*, opened on Monday. Miss Ethel Ashley gives a clever and womanly portrayal of the cripple, Ivy Merton; Mr. Evelyn A'Dell deserves great praise for his manly impersonation of Frank Stanley; while Mr. Lincoln Calthorpe as the unscrupulous Redvers, the financier, acts with distinct power, and Miss Kathryne Eckart is excellently suited as Dora Stanley. Much amusement is caused by the comedy of Mr. Sydney Dean as Timothy Timid and Miss Bessie Dean as Maria, while Miss Winnie Kennedy gives a clever rendering of the Dutch girl Gretchen. Among the remainder of a good cast Mr. G. Brooke and Mr. Harry Mitchelson particularly distinguish themselves in useful parts.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hearn.—Two big turns here this week are the Brothers Luell in their brisk and amusing pantomime, *The Hotel Grande*; and Mr. Henry Herne and company in the romantic episode, *The Colleen Bawn*, a well-played little drama. Other clever business is supplied by J. C. Scatter, a smart dancing comedian; Les Yelovas, expert equilibrists; Mme. Sims Reeves, widow of the famous tenor, in a répertoire of old-time ballads; Dene and Dawson, smart burlesque artists, in *Stage Aspirants*; and Bert Danson, eccentric patter comedian.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. R. Flanagan; Manager, Mr. R. Ryan Smith.—*The Rich and Poor of London* is being played by Mr. Sidney Dench's company. Miss Dora Dench plays conspicuously well as May Braithwaite, Mr. Sidney Dench contributes much to the total success as Spider Jack, the one-man band, and Mr. C. Laurence shines as Dr. Leonard Morton. Other interestng parts are cleverly handled by Miss Beatrice Annersley as Auntie Scrimp, Miss Lona Trehearne as Ruby Redgrave, Miss Ivy Rocheforte as Seadrift, and Mr. W. B. Sommerville as Mark Stanley. The smaller rôles are also well done, and the staging is highy effective.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Dry.—The stage here is occupied by *The Woman from Scotland Yard*, an effective drama produced last week at the Royal Osborne Theatre.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall. — Than R. A. Roberts in *Ringing the Changes* nothing smarter in the way of character-acting and protean dexterity could be imagined or desired. Next in point of prominence is W. F. Frame, the Scotch comedian, whose patter songs are diverting; while Nellie Coleman contributes some clever low-comedy male impersonations; Dome, the comedy clay-modeller, gives a good show; Stanley Cooke and Amy Francis are amusing in their sketch, *The Lady Doctor*; Geo. Belrose and Maud De Velin are excellent vocalists; Les Uniques are deservedly applauded for their skill and gracefulness in a ladder-balancing act; the Sisters Poole, society entertainers, dance well; and Fanny Erris, character comedienne, sings pleasingly. The Biograph, as usual, is up to date.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—There are two big magnets here this week, Bransby Williams and Paul Cinquevalli. The Lafaille Troupe go through a marvellous gymnastic and equilibristic act, and are well received; Ryder Slone scores in his latest vocal scena; Boy Glenn is a juvenile raconteur of merit, with a quiet and effective style; and Minna Merry, the female Robey, is amusing. "Angus Macdonald" (illustrated song) is rendered beautifully by Miss Gertrude Howarth of the Choir, who is warmly received; the Gaumonts' Chronophone is a wonderful machine; the Choir render Pinsuti's "The Silent Tide" well; and up-to-date pictures are shown by the Bioscope.

KING'S, LONGSIGHT.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, J. B. Taylor.—Messrs. E. Hill-Mitchelson's company are here in *When the Lights are Low*—two performances nightly. Mr. George Daiper is particularly good as Guy Goldsworthy, and Miss Cissie Podmore as Kathleen Kerry is decidedly effective. Excellent support is rendered by the Misses Amy Ellam, Violet Carylye, May Ediss, and Messrs. Stephen E. Scanlen, Lance Usher, F. Serle, Ernest Raymond, James E. Abbot, and A. Freeman. The scenery and dresses are satisfactory.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter de Frece; Secretary, Mr. Peter Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Tealor Wade.—The Kremo Family are wonderfully smart Risleyists; the Three Demons are very daring and clever trick cyclists; and the Courtiers, under the direction of Paul Mill, are vastly entertaining in song and dance. Florence Yaymen, the well-known coon caricaturist, contributes two songs, and amuses in a style quite her own. Jan Rudenyi, the celebrated Hungarian violinist, supported by Dora de Winton and Joan Saunders, present in excellent style a musical romance, entitled *The Power of Music*; Henri Cazman, the One Man Music Hall, is a capital turn; the Sisters Belmont are graceful dancers; and excellent items are offered by Charles Deane, vocal comedian; Harry Carsdale, farmyard mimic; and the Soho Trio of Dancers.

TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes. — La Belle Aurora Castillo provides the top star attraction here this week, her dancing being something exceptional. Others are the Brothers Redmond, acrobatic comedians of "Willie, come here" fame; Nell Richardson, a delightful comedienne and sweet singer; George Barron, eccentric comedian; and Stan Aubrey, leg-mania comedian. Other enjoyable items are those of Kitty Malone, smart burlesque artist; Gertie Manson and Harold West, who "tell the tale"; Arthur Page, comedian; and Tom Leo, the lazy comedian. Raymond's Vivagraph pictures are good.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—*Nancy Sikes*, a dramatic episode from "Oliver Twist," is being played successfully here this week by Georgette Thierry, supported by Bernard Liell, Henry Deane, Willie Black, and Florrie Sorsby. The Royal Hungarian Szarvaci Ferencz troupe excel in acrobatic feats, and sing and dance well; Haley's latest production, *The Garden of Girls*, is an effective and pleasing scena; Duncan and Brasque are good in *A Society Butterfly*, a capital playlet on the "Smart Set"; the Jentry's do some clever tumbling, and amuse with smart patter; and the Musical Keiths display ability in an up-to-date speciality; Madge Allan is a charming comedienne and graceful dancer; and Olms and Garbeth are successful and amusing jugglers. "The Naval Attack on Portsmouth" is an interesting film on the Bioscope.

HIPPODROME (HULME).—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Kay. —Harriet Vernon is very successful in an effective scena, "Sunshine and Shadow." Her dresses are superb. Squire Wyndham and Tom Waters, comedy vocalists, give a laughable drawing-room act; So-da proves himself to be a most wonderful illusionist, his turn being exceptionally smart; and a good pot-pourri act, entitled *There's Going to Be a Show*, is offered by Gravetta and Parr. May Newall, a pleasing singer, has a sweet voice; Mlle. Rennie, the girl juggler, is clever; the Emmell Comedy company, including Adele Levey, Jeannie Weston, and Fred Haming, are excellent in a mythical muddle, entitled *My Statue of Grace*; and acceptable turns are also contributed by Leslie Race, swell comedian; and Roy Bevis, the merry magician. The pictures are amusing.

RUSHOLME PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Leslie; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles North.—A most delightful al-fresco performance, consisting of Dutch songs, dances, sketches, &c., in quaint Dutch costumes is the attraction here this week, given by the Hollanders, under the direction of Misses Leslie Gaze and Hayes, including Miss Mary Powell, Miss Muriel Lillington, Miss Isabel Powell, Mr. Dick Henty, Mr. Fred Lyne, and Mr. Leslie Gaze, all first-rate artists.

MANSFIELD.—GRAND THEATRE AND GARDENS.—Proprietors, Mansfield, Sutton, and District Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Capt. Cecil Clayton.—Harry Joseph's Pierrot Troupe continue their successful visit here, and good houses have been the rule. An entirely new and up-to-date series of pictures is given on the theatre bioscope.

HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Herbert Darnley; Resident-Director, Mr. Tom Jennings; Acting-Manager, Mr. Mark Lorne.—During this week Mr. Morton Powell's company, in *Honour Thy Father*, has occupied the boards here. In the rôle of Gabriel Garth, Mr. Walter M. Cameron is greatly appreciated; Mr. Robert Gilbert is well placed in the part of Jack Halyard; as Duncan Bly, Mr. Howell Travis scores; and in the dual rôles of Job Merry and George Bloggs, Mr. Claude Merton shows ability; Miss Mabel Coleman is an admirable Lilian Garth; Miss Winnie Donovan a capable Mercy Merry; and Miss Ada Salmon a satisfactory Poppy Cornleigh.

MARGATE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Edward Michael; Stage and Business-Manager, Mr. A. Austin-Leigh.—The Margate stock company is to be congratulated on the successful production this week of *Mr. Hopkinson*. Mr. G. W. Elton is in his element in the title-rôle; Mr. Ernest Cossart makes a richly-humorous Earl; as the Duchess of Braceborough, Miss Edith Grenfell is amusingly impassive and placid; Miss Maud Saker plays Lady Tyra Egglesby with all the *aplomb* and *savoir faire* of the ultra-modern girl; as Eliza Dibbs, Miss Belle Travers makes the most of a small part; and Mr. H. G. Mason gives a careful representation of the Duke of Braceborough. Mr. Robert Grey does well in the thankless rôle of the Hon. Otho Dursingham; and Mr. Wallis Clark imparts a touch of colour and characterisation to the aristocratic *roué*, Lord Cawthorpe; Mr. W. P. Wells being effective as Mr. Smethurst.

HIPPODROME. — Joint Proprietors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtree.—Tom Birchmore's Californian Minstrels, even in number, combine harmony and comedy in their efforts; May Kent, comedienne; Dot Hardy, comedy artist; and Dave Laird, comedian, are each successful. Burley and Burley are clever comedy acrobats; and Chas. J. Johnson, the swell coon, is above the average. In the absence of Jock King, billed as "the refined speciality artist," Rudge Whitworth, society entertainer, has been filling in the blank.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Albert Jackson.—Mr. Charles Maclonna's company is appearing here this week in *The Gay Parisienne*. As Ebenezer Honeycombe, Mr. Will Harman keeps the audience amused by his droll impersonation; Mr. Squire Day is the source of much merriment as Major Fossdyke; and Mr. T Kennard acted in good style as Tom Evereigh; and Mr. Clifford Seyler is in every way successful as Pompier. As Julie Bon Bon, Miss Alice Nixon is pleasing as a vocalist, and her acting is full of vivacity; Miss Madge Soutter an enjoyable Ruth; as Mrs. Honeycombe, Miss Holford Beringer gives a creditable display; and Miss Nance O'Neill is a bright and animated Norah. The Imperial Glee Singers are a great acquisition.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—At the head of this week's bill are Ari

entertaining work, which goes far to ensure the complete success of the piece. Mr. Frank Dallas, the exponent of the "old school" of detective, is a fine contrast to Mr. Halling; Miss Daisy Halling plays the part of Mme. Sanson with delicacy and refinement; and other leading rôles are filled by Mr. Fred Wilberforce, Mr. J. Newton Cowling, and Mr. Arthur Merton.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon.—The stirring drama, *An Unwedded Wife*, is being staged here this week, the company being a well-balanced one, under the direction of Miss Ethel van Praagh and Mr. J. Edward Whitty. In the title-rôle, Miss Ethel van Praagh acts impressively and convincingly, and excellent support is given by Mr. J. Edward Whitty, Mr. E. St. Clair Forbes, Mr. Logan Darva, Mr. Wilton Bedford, Mr. Valentine Henry, Miss Elsie Walton; Miss Jessie Gilette, and Little Doris.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Audiences reaching a record in numbers assemble to bid welcome to Mr. Harry Lauder, who can make strong claim to be Newcastle's greatest present-day favourite. With an amusing song of a widow whose husband "was very kind to me," a droll sailor's song, and "I love a lassie," Mr. Lauder again scores heavily. Roma and Romani contribute a clever musical act; Miss Gracie Moore, with a ballad with pictorial accompaniment, proves popular; and other turns are the Hartley Wonders, in a jumping act; the Northern troupe of dancers; Fred and Pauly, acrobats; Harry Bedford, comedian; Maggie Walsh, the Lancashire singing mill-girl; the Brothers Dean, whistlers and dancers; and Livesey and Rosebery in a really funny "rehearsal sketch."

PAVILION THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Will H. Boardman.—Miss Marie Kendall wins rounds of applause in her latest success, "In Demerara," and other songs. Harry Brown, coloured comedian, in quaint songs and novel dances, is a real laughter-maker; and Stacey and Williams, in duet, amusing patter, and neat and comical dance, are very popular; Conway and Garland, both clever humorists, are seen to great advantage in a sketch, *Left in Charge*, their rehearsal business being grotesquely funny; and a capital sketch, too, is *Cockie*, as given by Roxborough and Wright; M. and Mme. Karsy present their great musical novelty, the giant myriophone; the Carina Sisters, good musicians, contribute a musical mélange; Miss Flo Warner is a sweet vocalist, and Steve McCarthy a clever dancer.

NEWPORT.—LYCEUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sidney Cooper.—Mr. Chas. Draycott's company in *The Stolen Birthright* is fulfilling a week's engagement here. Mr. Chas. Draycott, as Count Marco Taddeo acts with great force; Mr. A. C. Holmes makes the most of the part of Prince Andrea Celsi, and in the difficult rôle of Stefano Mr. Harry Scratchard is seen to advantage. The humorous side of the piece is entrusted to Mr. Harry Harrop as Pedro and Miss Ethel Vinroy as Nita, who do well; while Miss Muriel Thompson as Princess Miranda is very powerful. Other minor parts are well sustained, and the play is capitally mounted.

EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Major Gallagher; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Page.—*The Drummer of the 76th*, which heads the bill here, is a very interesting sketch, in which Mr. Matthew Brodie and Miss Dorothea Vivian are the principals. Paul Conchas gives a more than ordinary display of strength in his juggling; Bert Woodward performs some clever feats on his bicycle; and Tom and Marie Motramo are a smart pair of musical comedy artists; Jennie Johns sings a couple of songs in good style; Effie Stuart is popular in singing and dancing; and J. A. Williams and his trained poodle Towser provide a really smart turn. Ellis Barrieton, a fine vocalist, and Beattie and Blanche, duettists and dancers, complete a good all-round programme.

NORTHAMPTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Seddon.—*A Royal Divorce* is paying another visit, with its usual success. Miss Edith Cole continues her exceptionally fine performance of Josephine; Mr. Frederick Victor's Napoleon is again a praiseworthy portrayal; Mr. Wm. Dexter is good as the wily Talleyrand; and Mr. G. M. Montanini is excellent as De Beaumont; Mr. Alfred Grenville is well placed as Augereau; and Misses Helen Richmond, Agnes Imlay, and Gertrude Entwistle are well placed as Stephanie, Marie Louise, and Blanche. The remainder of the long cast lend adequate support.

PALACE OF VARIETIES. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Thos. A. Evans.—The Avrigny Trio, who head this week's bill, are clever jugglers and equilibrists; Bosanquet, on a very welcome return visit, entrances all by his brilliant violin solos; Daisy Cordelia (comedienne), Hans and Lux (comedians), the Four Olympian Stars (burlesque vocalists and dancers), Ted Cowan (comedian), and Emily Eyre (comedienne and dancer), are also among the contributors to this week's entertaining programme. The Palace pictures are as good as usual.

NORTH SHIELDS. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—Mr. Frank Lindo's company is here with *Home, Sweet Home*. As Stephen Armitage, Mr. Frank Lindo gives an admirable portrayal; and Captain Gerald Gambier displays much ability as the Duke of Ancaster; Mr. F. Miles Hodgson submits a capital impersonation of Lucas Lyle; Mr. D. Lawrence Doyle makes a satisfactory David Armitage; Mr. George Overs as Dick Redmayne is effective; Mr. Jack Patrick makes the most of the part of the Hon. Percy; and Mr. Ernest E. Owens is good as Lord Silvermore. As Joan, Miss Marion Wakeford gives an impressive rendering; Miss Cecil Ward cleverly typifies Lady Sommerton; Miss Ray Rochefort as Sybil Fay and Miss Daisy Rochefort as the child give praiseworthy performances.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—Ford and Hanson, American musical millionaires, present an enjoyable act; Messrs. Sandy and Carl, comedians, cause much hearty laughter; and Messrs. Sinclair and Parr, in *Keeping an Appointment* win favour. Miss Kitty Irvin, a local vocalist of some repute, makes a distinct hit; Miss Lala Vereker in pictorial songs is popular; Mr. George Kernard, actor-vocalist, renders his ditties in good style; and the Bio-photoscope shows interesting pictures.

NORTHWICH.—THE PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. Glanmore Jones; Manager, Mr. Lindon Wyatt.—Miss Evans possesses a pure soprano voice, which she uses to great advantage in her several songs; Miss Nellie Mascot has, with her cleverly rendered and popular selections, gained enthusiastic and well-deserved encores nightly; Mr. Walter Sutton, now in his third week, is highly amusing in his laughing songs; and Mr. Glanmore Jones seems as welcome as ever; whilst Messrs. Parker and Parr's songs and patter are both clever and unique. The pictures still prove a most popular item.

NORWICH.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. R. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—The principal attraction here is Arthur Watson, Flo Stanley, and company in *The Cruise of H.M.S. Victory*. George C. Doughty and company in their sketch, *Captain Cupid*, are also amusing; Ernie Mayne creates much laughter; Frances Lotty is a successful comedienne; Ray and Miles are clever comedy juggiers; Craig, Rose, and Craig are skilful acrobats; Hinton and Wooton as football bicyclists are great favourites; and the Hippo Bio has some interesting pictures.

NOTTINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robt. Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—Hardie and Von Leer's company in *Two Little Vagabonds* has had a gratifying reception here. Mr. Arthur E. Melborne is a forceful exponent of George Thornton, and is well supported by Miss Grace Heywood as Marion, her sweet manner and tender expressiveness being particularly suitable to the part; Mr. Sidney Vautier is responsible for the portrayal of the villainous Captain Darville, and acquits himself excellently; Miss Edie Martin as Dick and Miss Josie Bertram as Wally are exceedingly clever, and the necessary comparison between the two is well maintained; Mr. Lionel Ellis as Mullins and Miss Evelyn Shaw as Biddy contribute the comic relief in an able manner; and Messrs. Frank Gordon and Dick Winslow give an admirable realisation of the criminal confederate class; Miss Hilda Leslie, Miss Lena Vernon, and Miss Rosslyn Vayne do well in their respective parts, and a very clever company is completed by Messrs. Dunstan Hayé, Harry Wright, Moor, Blakeman, Holliman, and Buckland.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Charles P. Cooke.—Mr. C. Watson Mill's company gave a capital rendering on Monday of his melodrama, *A Wrecker of Men*, and the house was held spellbound by the stirring situations. Mr. Eric Campbell played the burglar, Jim Murley, with telling effect; Mr. Percy Horton acted the hero, Guise Strange in a thoroughly capable and manly way, and the mysterious Pharasophus was consistently portrayed by Mr. Milner Noble; Mr. Miller Anderson made a grim and determined Railton, and a light touch of comedy was introduced by Mr. Leslie Ross as Reggie Verincourt; Miss Ruth Zillwood impersonated Risca with a force and vigour that carried conviction; a charming and winsome Doris Melville was seen in Miss Gwendoline Talbot, and Miss Beatrice Reynolds evoked hearty laughter in her depiction of the untidy servant, Varasole Slopper. The troubles of Eric Melville were well sketched by Mr. Thompson Carruthers, and Mr Sydney Renouf made an excellent Jew.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. H. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. Howgate.—James Mooney and Ida Holbein are recalled several times after their smart turn; the Robertys Family balance various articles in clever style; Nellie Moore is a character impersonator of ability; Fred S. Peake and company appear with success in *The Gambler;* Maxford and O'Neil are heard in funny patter; George Antill, eccentric comedian, takes well; Francis O'Flynn plays banjo solos in clever style; and Harry Taylor, comedian, also sings well. The Dottoscope again provides some good pictures.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. Nuttall.—The Three Orros give a clever gymnastic exhibition on the silver chains; the Days present some very interesting tests in second sight; Sidney Dooley's Three Tivoli Girls sing and dance excellently; Ward and Davis are smart in their musical comedy duologue, *Wanted, a Typist;* Chas. Banks, comedian, with his clever dog, Woof, is good; Miss Gladys Williams is a smart comedienne; Fred Hallam, comedian, contributes funny songs; and the Dottoscope depicts humorous pictures.

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Lucas, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. C. Dorrill.—Mr. Baron H. Harriss's company is here with *The Prince of Pilsen*. Mr. Harry Kilburn earns many a hearty laugh with his clever and humorous performance of Hans Wagner; Mr. Frank Crimp sings agreeably and acts with spirit as Carl Otto; Mr. L. Lang is well suited as Lieut. Wagner; Mr. Bernard Russell makes an agreeable and polished Earl of Shrimpton; and Mr. E. Gifford works hard and successfully as François. Miss Ada Watson is a bright and pleasing Edith Adams; Miss May Yates captivates all hearts with her delicate and refined acting as Nellie Wagner; Miss Connie Leon acts with any amount of "go," and dances most exquisitely as Sidonie; and Miss Sophie Harriss makes a most imposing and handsome Mrs. Crocker. Both chorus and orchestra are admirably directed by Mr. A. Vernon. The latter half of this week Mr. Oscar Asche and Miss Lily Brayton are appearing here in *Othello, The Virgin Goddess*, and *Taming of the Shrew*, and the seats for the first play are already all booked.

EAST OXFORD THEATRE.—Lessees, Miss Winifred Stuart and Mr. C. Watson Mill; Manager, Mr. Frank Stuart.—Mr. Rollo Balmain and Miss Sara Mignon's company is here with *Our Flat*. As Reginald Sylvester, Mr. Sydney Leyton is easy and natural, while Mr. Langford Reed is bright and effective as Clarence Vane. Mr. Rollo Balmain gives a vivacious rendering of the part of Nathaniel Glover; and Mr. J. W. Braithwaite is also a success as Mr. McCullum; Mr. Wilfrid Compton makes the most of Pinchard; Miss Miriam Holt acts gracefully as Lucy McCullum; Miss May York is a good Madame Volant, and Miss Louie West is highly amusing as Bella; while Miss Sara Mignon shows ability and experience as Margery Sylvester.

PAISLEY.—PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—Mr. Harry Foxwell's company is here in *An Abandoned Woman*. Mr. Walli Spinner plays admirably as Capt. Herbert Seaton: as Sir Marmaduke Seaton Mr. George Gormley is capital; Mr. P. Morton Wright displays ability in the character of Robert Saunders; Philippe Malvoisin is powerfully portrayed by Mr. Richard Ferris; Mr. A. Abott does excellently as Pierre; mirth-provoking is the assumption of Paddy Boyle by Mr. Jim K. Woods; and Mr. Will Glaze is clever and entertaining in his portraiture of Sammy Sharp. Miss Edith Blande as Ninion Malvoisin plays with histrionic ability; Miss May Richardson furnishes an excellent embodiment of Eleanor Deane; and Miss Elsie Deane is amusing in the part of Sally Sloper.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. R. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Douglas F. Bostock.—Georg Hackenschmidt is displaying his powers in a convincing and scientific manner. Others of an exceptionally good bill are Daisy Morell, comedienne and versatile vocalist; Aladina and her wonderful troupe of performing cockatoos; Dan Noble, comedian and vocalist; Marie Yorke, comedienne and dancer; Mons. de Henan, lightning foot painter and manipulator; the Brontes, in an amusing comedy sketch, *Saucy Maud;* Rolland Hill, vocalist and comedian; and the Hippodrome Bioscope concludes.

PLYMOUTH. — GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. C. F. Williams; Manager, Mr. Percy Williams.—A comedy-drama of great local popularity, *Shadows of a Great City*, is being played here this week. Mr. Cecil A. Melton works hard as the much-persecuted hero, Tom Cooper; Mr. Victor Vernon makes an ideal villain as Abe Nathan, and receives material assistance from his second-in-command in the business, Mr. Gerald Spencer, as George Benson; Mr. Fred Hill is a characteristic detective; and Messrs. Greene Taylor (Jim Farren), Fred Baines (Hammond), and Bert Beswick (Crouch) capably fill smaller parts. Miss Elaine Vanbrugh displays commendable ability as the heroine, Nellie, and Miss Edith Stevenson is acceptable as Biddy.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—Marino is the leading attraction, and concludes a most exacting turn by permitting a 40 h.p. motor-car to be driven over him; Herbert Clifton has an attractive voice and admirably mimics many leading theatrical stars; Gertrella is a popular favourite, combining some nice singing with graceful trapeze work; John R. Coyle has a rousing reception for his comic contribution; and Ernest Montefiore and company appear successfully in a sketch entitled *The Little Colonel*. Other attractive numbers are Billy Hobbs, the Three Clarions, and Vernon's pictures.

PONTYPRIDD.—ROYAL CLARENCE THEATRE.—Owners and Proprietors, Mrs. Trenchard and Miss L. Jones; Manager Mr. Charles Trenchard.—A decided attraction here is the first visit of Mr. Ernest R. Abbott in a répertoire of popular plays. On Monday *A Wife's Triumph* was staged. Robert Dewhurst was admirably portrayed by Mr. Abbott; Mr. Frank Stephens capably assumed Frank Wilson; Ellis Jordan was in the able hands of Mr. W. H. Garbois; Mr. Weedon Ross left nothing to be desired as Julius Hartman; Ben Bradford was ably impersonated by Mr. Edwin Keene; Miss Ada Abbott scored a distinct success as Bessie Dewhurst; Miss Edith Knight very prettily played Alice Wilson; and Miss Marjorie Tennant was decidedly good as Margery. *Lady Audley's Secret, Trilby*, and *East Lynne* are also in the week's scheme of amusement.

PORTH.—THE PALACE (late Opera House).—General-Manager, Mr. C. W. Poole; Acting and Stage-Manager, Mr. Walter Bynorth.—The Lorch Family of risley acrobats give a performance which is thoroughly appreciated; Professor Thornbury, in a new painting act and a novel ventriloquial chalk talking act, displays much ability; Frank Elliston and Co., in *Aunt Matilda*, are responsible for roars of laughter; Dan Kino, a clever young versatile comedian, contributes some good songs; George Menva, sleight-of-hand expert, gives an excellent account of himself; Ella's lions furnish an attractive performance; the Palace pictures are a rare treat; Harry Nelson is a capital comedian.

PORTSMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Bell.—Mr. R. Crossman's No. 1 company in *Sergeant Brue* is here. Mr. Arthur Reynolds in the name part makes an excellent impression; Crookie Scrubbs as impersonated by Mr. T. A. Shale is a genuine piece of comedy acting; Mr. Goldsworthy as Michael Brue does capital work; Mr. Crank is well sustained by Mr. Chas. Sims; Lady Bickenhall is well portrayed by Miss Cissie Raymond; Aurora Brue is satisfactorily taken by Miss Mary Hay; Daisy is ably played by Miss Marion Hargrave. Mr. Cyril Maude and company travelled from London on Tuesday to give a special matinée of *Toddles*.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate.—The powerful play *When it was Dark* is being presented here this week by Mrs. Morton Powell and her company. Mr. E. Stanton Sharp as the Rev. Basil Gortre is intense in his impersonation; Constantine Schuabe is played by Mr. W. J. Butler in a telling manner; Sir Robert Llewellyn is well sustained by Edward Valentine; and Mr. Ernest St. John ably fills the part of the Rev. Mr. Byas; Mrs. Morton Powell is pleasingly natural as Helena Byars; and Miss Hilda Beverley is a sympathetic Gertrude Hunt.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—The Andos Troupe of Happy Japs, jugglers and equilibrists, are gaining much applause for their successful entertainment here. Dale and Vale, clever step dancers, score well; the Sisters Sprightly are a trio of brisk up-to-date comediennes; Blake and Granby, in a comedy duologue, *The Man in Possession*, are well received; Fred Herbert, topical vocalist, had a capital reception; Sid Bandon, character comedian, secures a warm greeting for his songs; Minnie D'Aubyn, burlesque artist, is successful; the Sisters Wingrove are a graceful pair of duettists and dancers; Jay W. Winton, Australian ventriloquist, presents McGinty to an appreciative house; Daisy Hicks is a smart comedienne; and Payne's pictures bring a bright programme to a close.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Portsmouth Hippodrome Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry. — The Athlones (Sandow's lecture models), with their graceful ring act, create lively satisfaction here. Mr. Johnny Fuller as the "cat on the wire" evokes applause; Osborne and Brooks are a pleasing musical duo; Walton and Lester, "the world's worst wizards," are responsible for much mirth; the George Bonhair-Gregory troupe of Risley acrobats are responsible for many clever tricks; Zertho's dogs are truly named "canine comedians"; and Fred Karno's company of comedians in *Mumming Birds* are the jolliest combination of farceurs that we have seen. Miss Beattie Benson, comedienne and dancer; Mr. Tom Collins, topical comedian, and the Hippodrome pictures are other attractions.

PRESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Executors of the late Mr. Wm. Johnson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Stephen Pritt.—The D'Oyly Carte principal répertoire company is here this week. On Monday *The Gondoliers* was presented with great success. *The Yeomen of the Guard* attracted a good house on Tuesday, and was accorded an enthusiastic reception. Sir Richard Cholmondeley had an excellent representative in Mr. Leicester Tunks; Colonel Fairfax was admirably impersonated by Mr. Paul Ripple; Mr. Albert Kavanagh ably sustained the part of Sergeant Meryll; Mr. Fred Billington displayed grim humour as Wilfred Shadbolt; Mr. Chas. R. Walenn gave a faultless portrayal of Jack Point; Miss Mabel Graham sang and acted excellently as Elsie Maynard; Miss Lulu Evans made a captivating Phœbe Meryll; Miss Theresa Rassam was seen to advantage as Dame Carruthers; and others who contributed to the success of the performance were Miss Marie Carveth as Kate and Mr. H. Blake Johnson as Leonard Meryll. The programme for the week also includes *Patience, Iolanthe*, and *Princess Ida*.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. J. Linsdell.—The chief attraction here is La Troupe Espagnole Juanitas, who give a fine acrobatic performance. The Olympian Jiu-Jitsu Troupe ably demonstrate the Japanese art of self-defence; W. P. Ellwanger and company present an amusing sketch, entitled *The Peacemaker;* the Four Sisters Victoria are clever instrumentalists. Good turns are also supplied by the Brothers Robson, versatile comedians and eccentric dancers; May and Ruby, vocalists and dancers; Doyle and Gibson, comedians and dancers; Wee Mona Vivian, child vocalist, actress, and dancer; and Fred Dornan, characteristic actor-vocalist. Bioscope pictures complete an excellent entertainment.

RAMSGATE. — AMPHITHEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Bowman.—On account of its popularity with holiday audiences last week, Mr. Gerald Hunt's exhibition of biograph pictures has been re-engaged this week, with a capital variety programme. The Nettas (Will and Dot) render admirable duets; the Sisters Valli give a much-appreciated musical and big-boot dance turn; and Wal Robbins is extremely popular.

ROYAL VICTORIA THEATRE.—Proprietors, Ramsgate Corporation; Lessee and Manager, Mr. Jules Richeux.—On the first three nights of the week here Mr. Edward Marriss's company gave excellent performances of *Somebody's Sweetheart*. The musical numbers with which the dramatic passages are interspersed, were admirably rendered, Miss Effie Vincent and Mr. Cecil W. Parke being in good form. Mr. Geo. Brentwood made a most amusing Valet; and the Misses Dolly Payne and Rose Chandler danced smartly. On Thursday, Mr. Leigh Lovell and Miss Octavia Kenmore's company commenced a three-nights engagement.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietor Mr. Milton Bode.—Mr. George Dance's variety season.—Manager, Mr. E. J. Macdermott.—Another attractive programme is presented this week. The Poluski Brothers appear in a new "laughter creator," entitled *The Prevaricator;* Mr. Harold Hughman is an accurate mimic; Harry Leybourne appears to advantage; Marie Weston gives a pleasing and dainty turn; Charlie Dillon's eccentricities are well received; Burns and Burns, burlesque comedians, appear with success in the sketch, *Fun in a Museum;* and some new pictures are shown on Vernon's Bioscope.

RHYL.—PALACE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Will Smith.—Mr. Fred Smith's company appear this week in Dickens's *Christmas Carol*. The principal parts are taken by Miss Nina Leslie, Mme. Constance Bellamy, Miss Wright, Mr. Arthur Segeley, Mr. Edwin Chatham, Mr. Albert Victor, and Mr. Albert Felton.

WORLD'S FAIR.—Manager, Mr. Will Smith.—Adjoining the Palace is the World's Fair, which has proved a great attraction. The numerous entertainments provided consist of the Drolls and Demures, a concert party, under the direction of Mr. Arthur Davies and Mr. Derick Knowles; a Dahomey Village, a Wild Man from Borneo, and several interesting side shows.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler and Sutton; Manager, Mr. Jack Macdermott.—The current programme offers excellent entertainment, and includes Clifford Grey, patter comedian; Clarence Ibbotson, comedian; Mamie Gould, soprano; Percy James, baritone; Billy Stephens, comedian; Jack Macdermott; and Forshaw Kershaw.

Mr. A. Cheetham's animated pictures at the Central Hall continue popular, and at the Victoria Hall the Australian Bioscope Company also do good business. Mr. Gilbert Rogers and his jovial jesters perform three times daily on the sands.

ROCHDALE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; General Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Hague.—*The Face at the Window* is here once again, and continues to draw good houses. Mr. E. Hoggan Armadale as Le Loup submits a most striking impersonation; Mr. T. W. Dunscombe plays in able fashion as Paul Gouffet; Mr. Gilbert Hall is well placed as Lucian Corier, and Mr. George Phythian is effective as the mad doctor. The humorous element is in the safe hands of Mr. C. Alan Hiveson as Peter Pottleberry, and Miss Gladys Newcombe, who is bright and pleasing as Babette. Miss Marie Barrett acts with feeling and power the part of Marie de Brisson, and Miss Marie Tennant makes a favourable impression as La Pinou.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Thomas Hargreaves; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Hargreaves.—Leoni Clarke's numerous cats, rats, mice, rabbits, monkeys, canaries, &c., are really wonderful. Ike Scott and Son, comedians, kept the audience convulsed with laughter; and other turns are submitted by W. B. Raby, "Burlesque La Milo"; Smarte Bros., novel acrobat eccentrics; Harry Taft, comedian; Colpitt, in tricks, talk, and travesty; and the Empire Bioscope.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. Smith and Co.—For the third week in succession Pringle's North American Animated Picture Company occupies the boards here. "Marked for Life," "The Blackmailer," "Willie's Dream," &c., are amongst the répertoire shown on the screen. Singing pictures, representing scenes from *The Mikado*, are faithfully produced; and variety turns by Walter Munro, Irish comedian; and Jessie Mooney, comedienne, complete a capital programme.

ROTHERHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Holbery Hardy.—Miss Mary Austin and company are here with *Shall We Forgive Her? The Cotton Spinner*, and *Passion's Power*. Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds gives an excellent portrayal of the part of Paul Elworth; and Mr. Fred W. Goddard is highly successful as Oliver West. Mr. George P. Lester is seen to advantage as George Stapleton; and Mr. J. Milne Taylor scores as Neil Garth. Messrs. Harry Harrop as Reggie Walton and John S. Haydon as Dr. M'Kerrow, are also deserving of special mention. Miss Mary Austin as Grace Oliver gives a highly-finished and human rendition of the part; and Miss May Grimshaw is very successful in a most difficult part as Joanna Lightfoot. Miss Ethel Vinroy is a sprightly and pleasing Nellie West; and Miss Anna Beaumont gives a clever representation of the part of Aunt Martha.

RUGBY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geoffrey Fulton.—Mr. Francis Everard's company is presenting on Monday and Tuesday *The Streets of London*, and on Wednesday and Thursday *The Sorrows of Satan*, on Friday and Saturday *The Shadows of a Great City*. In the first-named, Mr. Francis Everard scored an unqualified success as Badger; Mr. Edwin Turner gave a very able rendering of Gideon Bloodgood; Mr. James Fox was manly and artistic as Paul Fairweather; and Mr. Ronald Douglas was good as Mark Livingstone; Mr. Arthur Ferris caused much amusement by his clever acting as Puffy. Miss Vera Fordyce was very good as Lucy Fairweather, and appealed strongly to the sympathy of the audience by her clever acting; Miss Isabel Marte as Alicia Bloodgood made a great success of a difficult part; Miss Ethel May does well as Mrs. Fairweather; Miss Edith Leslie was very natural and amusing as Mrs. Puffy. Mr. Morley Carroll as Captain Fairweather, Mr. F. D. Fane as Edwards, and Mr. Charles Ring as Daniells all did good work.

RYDE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. H. E. Arkwright; Manager, Mr. F. B. Tarrant.—A first-class variety company has drawn large audiences here this week. Miss Isa Bowman appears successfully, her "Jewel song" being perhaps her best number; Miss Dorothy Dempster sings "Bashful moon" with remarkable effect; Mr. Gus Danby presents a laughable sketch, entitled *A Day at the Agents;* Mr. Morrice Holmes' whistling solos are enthusiastically received; and Stuart and Stuart combine in their eccentric songs and dances with great effect.

SEACOMBE.—IRVING THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiernan.—Dickie Clare's company of comedians provides an excellent entertainment here this week with the musical farcical comedy, *Lucky 'Liza*. Miss Madge Brownie presents a vivacious and clever interpretation of the title-rôle, and Mr. Dickie Clare does excellently in the triple rôle of Silas Slim, the judge, and the French waiter; Peter Pettitoe is smartly played by Mr. T. W. Benson, and his son Paul is well handled by Mr. Syd Hind; Mr. J. W. Forrest causes plenty of fun as William Bimns; and Mr. George Minto is decidedly comic as P.C. McGurke. Miss Vesta Brownie does well as Virginia Blathewick, her father Barnaby Blathewick being admirably depicted by Mr. A. W. Thompson; Miss Bella Russell is austerity itself as Marie Pettitoe; and the Verona Poppy Trio give some excellent examples of the terpsichorean art.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. C. Harrison.—Animated pictures are being shown by the King's Own Animated Picture Co., and are of a very good standard.

SHEERNESS. — THE PALACE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Phil Reymond.—An excellent company appears here this week, and includes Mr. Will Valson, comedian and mimic, who is also a clever instrumentalist; Miss Florrie Laurel, a smart and up-to-date comedienne; Mr. Phil Reymond, the ever-welcome comedian; The Sakerbonners, the popular entertainers, in a musical act; Miss Topsy Levano, the well-known burlesque actress; and the Crown Sketch company, with a screaming sketch, *Spooks*.

SHEFFIELD. — LYCEUM THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—*The Three Musketeers*, a new adaptation of Dumas the Elder's famous novel, was played here on Monday under the direction of the author, Mr. Ernest E. Morris, and kept the large audience thoroughly interested. Mr. Morris was first rate as the dashing, chivalrous D'Artagnan; and the three gallant swordsmen, Athos, Porthos, and Aramis, found trusty representatives in Messrs. Walter Gregory, A. Brown, and Harold Wagner. A characteristic portrait of Richelieu was submitted by Mr. E. S. Petley; the character of Louis XIII. was carefully impersonated by Mr. Fred Tyrrell; and Mr. Richard Noble as the Duke of Buckingham kept in the picture. The wit, cleverness, and fascinating qualities of Miladi were ably depicted by the popular and accomplished artist, Miss Vera Berenger; Miss Enid Rosa was a charming Constance; and Miss Dorothy Mackenzie's Kitty was a delightful sketch. The scenery was good, and the dresses correct.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—A well-constructed drama of Indian frontier life is *The World's Great Snare*, which is being played here by an excellent company under the management of Mr. Alexander Dallas.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike.—*Two Little Drummer Boys* was again acted to a large audience on Monday by Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Kimberley's company. The Misses M. English and Mr. Douglas were bright and sympathetic as the drummer-boys. Miss B. Shirley made a pretty and interesting Alma Kingsley; Miss Eversleigh was a graceful representative of Margaret Rivers; and the vivacity of Miss Lizzie Chambers was very welcome in the part of Molly Meadows. A careful make-up and excellent acting made Mr. Edward Bikker's General Kingsley, V.C., stand out prominently; and other well-considered character-studies were Mr. A. Knight's Frank Carsdale, Mr. M. Madden's O'Quirk, Mr. C. Locke's Tim Trimmer, and Mr. H. Harleigh's Captain Darrell. The minor parts were well filled, and the play was mounted in thoroughly artistic manner.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—The bas-relief and statuary entertainment given by the Three Golden Graces proves attractive; those deservedly favourite artists, the Bros. Egbert, the "Happy Dustmen," are loudly applauded; Mr. George Formby proves that a distinctly original method, with humour behind it, is bound to bring success; the twin-sisters Anderson dance with great energy, and receive hearty applause; Dan Leno gives a clever imitation of his lamented father in "Mrs. Kelly." A refined and amusing couple of musical-comedy performers are Lee Strade; Miss Bessie Butt is a young, pretty, and engaging vocalist and dancer; Collins and Rice cause general laughter; Mr. Guy Ryder whistles cleverly; and the Bioscope, with humorous films, concludes.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Vaudeville Syndicate; Manager, Mr. David Warwick.—This favourite resort, which has recently been overhauled, and now presents a comfortable and bright appearance, is doing big business with Matt Wilkinson's company, in a comic sketch; Miss Nelly Nora, instrumentalist; Miss Violet Beatrice, comedienne; Miss Rhoda Burnhill, danseuse; Mr. Ormonde Penstone, entertainer; Pallister's Bioscope; the Leonards, sketch artists; and Mr. Will Bacchus, the popular coster comedian.

FITZALAN SQUARE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Edward Ranier.—*Siberia* and other favourite dramas have been the attraction here.

SHREWSBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Business-Manager, Mr. W. C. Dornton.—*The Plucky Nipper* is being played here by Miss Bonwin Carlton's company. Mr. William Heilbronn acts with ability the rôle of Richard Vanbrugh; Mr. H. J. Butler is good as Colonel Fenwick; Mr. Claud Kingston makes a successful Banker; Mr. Morris Maud acts spiritedly as Capt. Frank Leslie; Mr. Frank Dalem is capable as a Detective; Mr. Edward Surrey sustains in a praiseworthy manner the part of Bill Burgess; and Mr. Syd H. Morton is a capital Tommy Atkins, entertaining with songs and dances. Miss Bonwin Carlton is bright and smart in the title-rôle; Miss Esther Lamont merits encomiums as Ina Fenwick; and Miss Kitty Maynard acts with conscientious care the part of Daisy Paget.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—EMPIRE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Conquest; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power.—Miss Adria Hill and Mr. Robert Ayrton, in their play, entitled *A Gambler's Daughter*, provides an attraction of exceptional interest. In Mr. Robert Ayrton, the Irish emigrant (Desmond O'Dare) has an exponent of considerable skill, whose unassuming methods win him especial praise; Mr. Alfred Sanders is well suited as Solomon Solomons; Dick is ably sustained by Mr. Harry Barham; Mr. Charles Yorke gives the rôle of Stephen Brand, the villain, a masterly portrayal; Mr. George Vinning plays excellently the part of Jack Grant; Miss Lizzie Gordon scores as Carmen Sancho; Miss Harriett Loydall wins great favour as Auntie Zeb; Miss Adria Hill undertakes the dual rôles of Mildred and Miriam Grant, and her impersonations prove successful.

PIER PAVILION.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley E. Angless.—A highly delightful programme is given by Mr. Charles Parker's Æolian Opera Singers, a company of talented artists. Mr. H. Connorton sings in a droll and pleasing manner, and Mr. C. E. Browne entertains most successfully with songs, mandoline solos, &c.; Miss Doris Langdon wins especial favour in her fascinating songs; Miss Rose Alderman also captivates with her singing; Miss Lilian Payne is an able accompanist, and contributes good songs. A smart juggling act by Mozzetto is an additional feature.

SOUTHPORT.—OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS, LTD.—Secretary, Mr. R. Singleton.—Mr. Lionel Glenister and Mr. Wood-Ingram's excellent company is this week presenting the amusing comedy *All-of-a-Sudden Peggy*. In the title-rôle Miss Decima Moore has ample scope for displaying her versatility, and depicts the wayward Peggy with charming piquancy; Mr. Lionel Glenister acts with earnestness, and is eminently successful in the character of Jimmy Keppel; Mr. Alfred S. Barber submits a diverting portraiture of Lord Crackenthorpe; Mr. Henderson Bland creates much merriment as Major Archie Phipps; Jack Menzies is capitally portrayed by Mr.

The top of the bill is occupied by the Great Hughes, who presents "Codology," a burlesque exposure of hypnotism; an excellent comedy act, *The Amorous Lawyer*, is introduced by Billy Bland and the Nono Girls; another good sketch, *The Tramp in the Nursery* is submitted by the Forsyths, humorists and comedy duettists; Little Rose Pink sings and dances charmingly; Will Mackay, versatile comedian and dancer, is also well received; and other excellent turns are Anna Hannah, characteristic comedienne; and the Tivoli Bioscope.

STALYBRIDGE.—GRAND HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Fioni; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. A. Jackson.—The excellence of the entertainments is worthily maintained, this week's programme comprising the Bros. Obe, laughing comedians; Norah Desmond, pictorial songstress; Billy Richardson, the evergreen stump orator; Vera Mayne, comedienne; the Eltons, a trio of triple-bar comedians; Mlle. Sara's statuary tableaux; Julian Mack, female impersonator; Peter Bannan, champion middle-weight wrestler; and a couple of extra turns.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill, jun.—*The Unseen Power*, a musical drama, in which Mr. Harry Starr as Fred Granville displays his versatility to great advantage, has commanded the interest of large audiences here during the first three nights of this week. Among those supporting the popular comedian in principal characters are Mr. Wm. Miller, who is exceedingly good as Harold Granville; Mr. Edwin Firth, a thoroughly capable Antonio Romano, Mr. Will Hee effective as Geo. Granville, Miss Dolly Starr delightful as Chris Granville, Mr. F. W. Graham pleasing as Horatio Cracklesbury; with Miss Madge Blundell as Anita Romano, Miss Kate Norris as Lucretia Granville, and Miss Lye Jeffries as Lucy Romano, each filling their parts with much credit. *Otto the Outcast* formed the attraction for the remaining three nights of the engagement.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Black.—The first visit here of the popular comedienne, Miss Florrie Forde, has been an unmistakable success, her efforts giving immense pleasure to large audiences. Others appearing are the amusing Columbia Comedy Trio in their operatic and humorous absurdity; the Five Martellonis, smart lady acrobats; the Gregson Comedy Trio, who provide plenty of mirth in their sketch, *The Dummy*; Kitty Kearns, a pleasing vocalist; Bros. Barker, amusing patterers; and the Saletos, in a clever equilibristic act.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—HIPPODROME THEATRE.—General-Manager, Robt. A. Nicholson; Assistant Manager, Geo. Stainton.—Wilbur Hill and Whillet Whitaker head the bill here, with a high-class musical entertainment, which is greatly appreciated. Vance Harder sings her songs in capital style; and Allan McAskell provides great amusement as a talking conjurer. Chas. Ulrick, the barrel king, is greatly appreciated in his act. The Bensons are old favourites here, and are extremely humorous in their musical comedy act; Sadler and Ross are a funny pair of comedians and dancers; and Hector and Sultan cause great mirth as knockabout comedians. Ronald Bayne and Evelyn Hope are interesting in their scena, *David Garrick*. The pictures complete the programme.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Councillor J. Batty; Manager, Mr. W. Batty.—Bellonini, comedy juggler, is here this week, and is well received; Patti Yole is a smart comedienne and dancer; and Beatrice Willey is greatly appreciated in her flower songs; Regan and Ryan are a funny pair of comedians; and Hall and Earle cause great fun in their comedy act. Lilian Warren sings some delightful illustrated songs; The Mayvilles, Lilliputian actors, are very clever and amusing; and Lilith is very sensational in an aerial act. The pictures are very interesting.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Ernest Stevens and R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry L. Carlo.—Miss Violet Osmund's company, with *The New Barmaid*, is drawing crowded houses here this week. The cast, which is an exceptionally strong one, includes Mr. Alexander Loftus, whose humorous rendition of Bertie White could not well be improved upon. Mr. James Grant also causes much mirth by his clever impersonation of William White; Mons. Bonsor finds an apt exponent in Mr. Charles Adeson; while Mr. James Hawkes as Capt. Lovebury proves himself to be a vocalist of considerable ability. The title-rôle is in the able hands of Miss Maisie Gay, who does it ample justice, her vocal efforts being heartily appreciated. Miss Marian Vyner is a charming Dora Heather, and contributes some excellent dances; Mr. Frank Collins is well placed as Colonel Claymore, and the minor parts are all well filled.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Lessees, The United County Theatres, Ltd.; Acting-Managers, Messrs. Alfred Browne and Syd B. Stringer.—Dr. Carl Hermann, electrician, &c., heads the bill this week, and is accorded a flattering reception. Another capital turn is that of the Collinson combination, in *The Club Raid*; the Three Bostonians, vocalists and dancers; Harry Briggs, triple-voiced vocalist; Corman's Juveniles, in scena; Little Cliff, comedian and dancer; Sisters Marian, duettists; and the Palace Bioscope complete the programme.

SWANSEA.—THE GRAND.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Brooks and Woodbridge; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Oswald Brooks; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Dean.—Mr. Norman Macowan opened an eight weeks' engagement at Swansea on Monday with *A Marriage of Convenience*. Mr. Norman Macowan as the Comte de Candale fully came up to expectations, his handling of the part being masterly to a degree. Excellent support was given by Miss Violet Sterne, who as the fickle Comtesse de Candale acted with delightful piquancy and grace, being recalled again and again. A high degree of excellence was also reached by Mr. Arthur Somers as the amorous Chevalier de Valclos; a good impersonation of the General was given by Mr. Murray Hathorn; and the Marton of Miss Mary Masters called for the warmest praise. Mr. S. E. Palfrey, Mr. Arthur Linay, Mr. P. Ramsay Forman, and Mr. Erik Rorke contributed largely to the success of the production. The Screen Scene from *The School for Scandal*, which followed, was also excellently put on.

THE STAR.—Manager, Mr. William Coutts.—A fine performance of Mr. Fred Benton's *A Life Story* is given this week by Mr. Stanley Carlton's company. As Tom Berger, the leader of the League of Death, Mr. Carlton plays with his usual ability; and the Zieka of Miss Ruby Maude is very fine. A clever study is the Beatrice of Miss Marjory Armstrong; and Mr. Percy Darrell appeared successfully as Frank Clifford, the bank manager. Captain Jack Temple, Beatrice's lover, was in the capable hands of Mr. Arthur Dudley. Good impersonations of their various parts were also given by Messrs. Edwin Beverley, F. Bulmer Pitt, Fred Rose, Geoffrey Chate, Arthur Betts, Harry Vincent, Walter Capewell, and Fred Conway, Mrs. Edward Garth, and Miss Susie Beavan.

EMPIRE. — Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. A. Mitchell; Assistant-Manager, Mr. P. C. Rowe. — Mariedl, the Tyrolean giantess, made her initial appearance here this week; an excellent turn is contributed by Billy Maclean and company, including Mme. Cordelia, who introduce some original dancing; Ross and Grayson combine excellent humour with music, Ross's pianoforte playing being extraordinary; in *Monks at Play* Lindon's vaudeville entertainers provide a very pleasing turn; Marzella introduces a troupe of wonderfully-trained pigeons, &c., who give a good show; Horace White, in his ventriloquial turn, is very successful; Frank Cumminger's sand dancing is marvellous; a first-class acrobatic act is provided by Browning and May; and Gintoro fully justifies his claim to be one of the cleverest Japanese equilibrists and top spinners.

TON-Y-PANDY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, Messrs. Carlton and Duckworth; General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth.—This week the boards are occupied by Mr. Frank Ayrton's company in *The Power of Gold*. The part of Dr. Saunders is well placed in the hands of Mr. Frank Holyoake; Mr. R. F. Stacy is a capital exponent of Paul Judson; Mark Harley is ably played by Mr. Richard Harris; an excellent rendering of Hadji Zambra is given by Mr. George Lyttleton; Mr. Frank Ayrton is extremely funny as Sammy Smudge; Miss Lily Prescott is good as Meg Judson; Miss Madge Seymore as Norah Donelly adds to the comedy of the piece.

TORQUAY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—Mr. Allan Wilkie and company in a répertoire of Shakespeare's plays are here this week. As Hamlet, Mr. Allan Wilkie was excellent, his acting in every scene being quite in keeping with the part; as the Ghost, Mr. Paul Lovett was very good; and as Laertes, Mr. G. Alexander Marsh introduced much vigour and energy; Mr. John Paley as the King acted with regal dignity, and he was well supported by Mr. George Munro as the Lord Chamberlain; whilst Horatio was well taken by Mr. Ernest Digges. In the rôle of the Queen, Miss Carrie Baillie did extremely well, and won much appreciation; and Miss Ine Cameron also gave a successful representation of the somewhat trying part of Ophelia. The other plays to be given this week are *The Merchant of Venice, The School for Scandal, Romeo and Juliet, She Stoops to Conquer, As You Like It, David Garrick*, and *The Bells*.

TYNEMOUTH. — PALACE-BY-THE-SEA.—Proprietor, Mr. J. H. Graham;; Manager, Mr. Lindon Travers.—Miss Dorothy Carlton, a sweet and cultured soprano, heads the bill here this week; Mr. Arthur Hill, living marionette entertainer, is paying a welcome return visit; Angeline, lady juggler, performs many clever feats; the Four Hearnes, acrobats; Zanfretti and Napio, musical eccentrics; and Fred Barnes, light comedian, all contribute acceptable turns. The Palace Orchestra please with their various well-rendered selections, and the evening's entertainment winds up with an admirable show of animated pictures.

WAKEFIELD.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Sherwood and Co. — The attraction here this week is *Monte Cristo*, in which Mr. Junius Booth gives a realistic performance as Edmond Dantes; Mr. Beckett Bould is effective as M. Nortier; Mr. Augustin Bowerman does full justice to the part of Baron Danglers; Mr. C. W. Crowe scores as General Mondego; Mr. Walter Huron as M. Villefort, and Mr. Fina Doyle as Lieut. Morcef fill their respective rôles ably; and Mr. Percy Braithwaite is good as Caderousse; Miss B. Doyle as Mercedes creates a favourable impression; Miss Alice West does well as La Carconte; and Miss M. E. Ellis is pleasing as Sophie Danglers.

ARTHUR WOOD.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—The Ottawas, two cowboys, give a clever musical turn; Mlle. Florence performs notable feats on the rolling globe; Abex, the miniature Hercules, proves popular; Erom and Charlotte are mystifying in their cabinet mystery, *She*; Professor Wallace, ventriloquist, Miss Marie Liston, comedienne, J. F. Ellis, comedian, Fred Ace, comedian, and Miss Maude Clifton, vocalist, win appreciation.

(*Continued on page 16.*)

AMALGAMATED MUSICIANS' CONCERT.

The members of the London Branch of the A.M.U. gave their annual concert in aid of their Benevolent Fund at the Queen's Hall on Sunday, under the auspices of the National Sunday League.

The following is taken from the programme of the concert:—

GRAND ORCHESTRAL CONCERT.
Sunday, May 26, 1907, at 7 p.m.
Specially Selected Orchestra (200 performers).
Conductors:—Mr. L. Chalk (Musical Director, Lyric Theatre, Shaftesbury-avenue), Mr. J. M. Glover, J.P. (Mayor of Bexhill, and Musical Director, Drury Lane Theatre), Mr. H. Godfrey (Conductor, Crystal Palace Band), Mr. Hamilton Harty (Conductor of the British Symphony Orchestra), Mr. J. Skuse (Leader Royal Italian Opera, and Sub-Conductor, Drury Lane Theatre); Mr. Arthur Wood (late Conductor, Apollo Theatre).

HAMILTON HARTY, Conductor.

Leader—Mr. George Leipold.

Vocalists—Miss Florence Collingbourne and Miss Clara Evelyn.

The orchestra for this evening's concert is supplied by the Amalgamated Musicians' Union (London Branch), in aid of its Benevolent Fund, and the musicians are giving their services entirely free. The Musicians' Union is an organisation of professional musicians, with branches in nearly every important centre in the United Kingdom.

One of the objects of this Society is to assist its members during sickness and in times of distress. The whole of the fees paid by the National Sunday League for the services of the orchestra this evening will be devoted to this fund.

The concert is under the patronage of Mr. Geo. Alexander, L.C.C., Mr. C. W. Bowerman, M.P., Mr. W. Crooks, M.P., L.C.C., Mr. J. A. Dawes, M.A., J.P., L.C.C., Mr. G. Dew, L.C.C., Mr. H. Gosling, L.C.C., Mr. J. Hodge, M.P., Mr. J. O'Grady, M.P., Mr. W. C. Steadman, M.P., Mr. H. R. Taylor, J.P., L.C.C., Dr. P. Vosper, L.C.C., and Mr. Lewis Waller.

The Committee desire to thank Mr. George Alexander for a gift of £5.

There was a crowded attendance, and it is anticipated the fund in question will materially benefit by the concert, which opened with Elgar's march, "Pomp and Circumstance," under the direction of Councillor J. M. Glover, J.P., who roused the audience to a high pitch of enthusiasm by his conducting of this well-known march. At the conclusion, Mr. Glover had to bow his acknowledgments repeatedly of the continued applause. The demand for an encore was very wisely resisted, owing to the length of the programme. Mr. Glover then took the orchestra through the well-known "Zampa" overture. Here again he showed his remarkable skill. Mention must be made of the playing of the beautiful clarionet solo by Mr. J. Hughes, R.A.M.

After a song by Miss Florence Collinbourne, Mr. L. Chalk, the musical director of the Lyric Theatre, conducted Dvorak's graceful morceau, "Humoreske." Mr. Chalk brought out the grace and charm of this little work with great taste, and would undoubtedly have won an encore had it not been understood that time would not permit of repetitions. The next item was the introduction to the third act of *Lohengrin*, which gave the brass their first chance of the evening, to which they nobly responded under Mr. Chalk's inspiring bâton.

The next item was the first movement of Schubert's beautiful "Unfinished" symphony. With Mr. Hamilton Harty at the conductor's desk, an effective rendering was given. The quality of the strings was remarkable, and everyone seemed to realise the composer's mood. The delicate lights and shades, which Mr. Harty knows so well how to obtain from an orchestra under his control, were admirably marked.

Micäëla's song from *Carmen* was sung by Miss Clara Evelyn, after which came three movements from Massenet's suite, "Scenes Pittoresques," with Mr. J. Skuse as the conductor. Mr. Skuse is the leader at the Royal Opera, and Mr. J. M. Glover's right-hand man at Drury Lane. The three movements given were No. 1, "Marche," No. 3, "Angelus," and No. 4, "Fête Bohème." The orchestra was now in its best form, and Mr. Skuse, after the beautiful "Angelus," roused all to enthusiasm by his reading of the "Fête Bohème." Mr. Skuse next took the orchestra through the well-known "Salute d'Amour," by Elgar, which was beautifully played.

The Hungarian march from Berlioz's *Faust* served to introduce Mr. H. Godfrey, of the Crystal Palace Band, to the concert, and his piloting through this inspiriting march acted as an agreeable tonic.

The next orchestral item was the evergreen *William Tell* overture, with Mr. Arthur Wood as the conductor. "Mr. Wood is a born conductor" was the general comment. The points were admirably drawn out by Mr. Wood, who came in to conduct at very short notice, owing to the unavoidable absence of Mr. Frank Tours. Special mention must be made of the 'cello solo by Mr. Edgar Fawcett, the cor Anglais solo by Mr. W. S. Hinchcliffe, R.I.O., and the flute obbligato by Mr. S. Redfern, R.I.O. Then followed the *Egyptien* ballet music, by Luigini, in which the orchestra again demonstrated its remarkable efficiency, under Mr. Wood's control. Mr. Hamilton Harty concluded his share of the programme by conducting the march movement from Raff's "Leonora" symphony. The orchestra gave a fine rendering, much of which was due to Mr. Harty's personality, and the audience, judging by the applause at the conclusion, thoroughly enjoyed the performance.

The programme was brought to a conclusion with a fine rendering of the ever-popular *1812* overture, with Mr. H. Godfrey wielding the bâton. He marshalled his forces admirably.

Between the afternoon rehearsal and the evening performance the orchestra were entertained to tea at the Amalgamated Musicians' Club, in Great Newport-street. All the arrangements for the concert were under the direction of Councillor C. Jesson, L.C.C., the London secretary of the A.M.U., and Mr. A. Cotton, assistant secretary of the A.M.U. The following is a list of the orchestra:—

First violins: Leader, Mr. G. Leipold; F. A. Windeatt, Haydn Allan, F. Barnard, Mm. Beckovitch, S. Benavente, Boatwright, L. Van Boolen, E. Brazier, A. C. Breedon, H. Burdee, P. Burgess, S. Cudworth, V. Denti, H. Dickinson, S. Dribbell, C. Essen, A. Evans, A. L. Gray, G. Hatley, F. Hill, A. Jaeger, M. Lazuras, W. E. Lawrence, Norris, W. B. Norris, W. Gazzard, F. Peters, W. Piercy, A. Rattray, H. Rignold, D. Ross, Tchaikow, F. Tipper, L. Walker, Weaver, C. Windeatt, and Ryle. Second violins: Principal, Mr. J. C. Henwood; W. Matthews, C. Allman, W. Bacon, H. Brown, W. Brown, J. H. Burch, W. Catley, W. G. Cummings, A. R. Doughty, C. Dunbar, W. F. Ellis, D. Franks, A. Hoare, E. Howard, R. J. Hill, H. King, A. Marsh, E. B. Moss, T. Montangees, A. Popplesdorf, Schilling, G. Sharpe, G. Smith, J. Spencer, C. Wareham, P. M. Woodward, and F. Ziele.

Violas: Principal, Mr. R. Turrell; H. Willoughby, J. R. Balfour, W. Bassett, H. Brand, E. H. Brazier, J. T. Burton, J. Egan, A. Flower, H. Groscheim, H. Kent, W. Laubach, A. C. Matthews, A. MacLoughlin, M. Nabarro, and W. Shaw.

'Cellos: Principal, Mr. A. E. Fawcett; S. Taylor, L. Bilton, J. Burrows, G. Cleaver, H. Charnock, T. Dowton, M. Fonseca, R. Hainton, F. Hulley, J. G. Harris, E. Matthews, H. Matthews, G. de Mauny, D. MacLoughlin, E. Rumbold, C. W. Smith, A. E. Tyler, and F. Woodfall.

Double basses: Principals, Messrs. S. Sterling and F. Winterbottom; T. Aldridge, E. Cruft, W. M. Coxill, A. Cooke, J. Cleveland, Dare, R. Hawkins, H. Jones, J. Miller, F. Roberjot, W. Stevenson, H. Sterling, H. Sylvestre, F. Underhay, J. G. Winder, and W. Wolfe.

Principal flute, Mr. S. Redfern, R.I.O. Second flute, Mr. G. Hardy. Piccolo, Mr. S. Oliver.

Oboes: Firsts, G. Foreman and W. S. Hinchcliffe, R.I.O. Seconds, Church and L. Fitzgerald.

Cor Anglais: W. S. Hinchcliffe, R.I.O.

Clarionets: Firsts, J. Hughes and W. Hall. Seconds, G. Henderson and J. Parry.

Bassoons: Principal, Herr Wichl, R.I.O. and Cox. Seconds, R. H. Williams and W. Burns.

Horns: Principal, Mr. P. Senft; M. Dominico, Barrow, B. Davin, C. Adams, and H. Hoeck.

Trumpets: Principal, Mr. P. Anderson, and A. Holland.

Cornets: G. Hann, H. Skinner, and Hoggett.

Trombones: W. T. Barker, A. Holfert, H. Mallinson, P. Jones, and T. Mayhew.

Tubas: A. Farren, sen., and A. Farren, jun.

Tympani: G. G. Cleather.

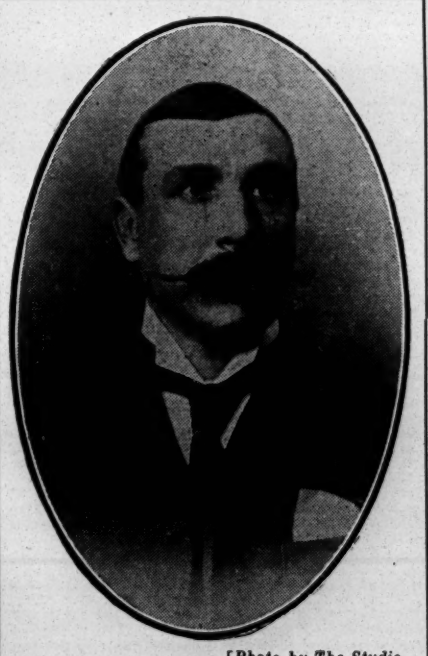
Drums, bells, cymbals, triangle, and tambourine: Principal, Mr. E. Jessop, McCarthy, W. Clegg, W. Colson, F. Farmer, Geiss, Farrell, Goldberg, G. Mitton, P. Lombardini, J. Kelly, M. Sparano, and Warren.

Harpist: Mr. R. F. Buckmaster.

J. M. GLOVER, J.P., Conductor.

HERBERT GODFREY, Conductor.

C. JESSON, L.C.C., London Secretary A.M.U.



[*Photo by The Studio.*

JOSEPH SKUSE.

THE PSYCHOLOGY OF THE ACTRESS.

A deep discourse on "The Actress: A Psychological and Æsthetic Study" was given by Dr. Angelo S. Rappoport on Wednesday at the headquarters of the Amateur Players' Association in Victoria-street. The lecturer, who admitted to having delivered the address to the Playgoers' Club a year ago, but urged that since then he had had occasion to study the actress more closely, gave expression to his opinions through the mouth of an actress he had seen adorning a picture-post-card on sale in a shop window in Fleet-street, who was suddenly endowed with speech. The actress claimed to be a "priestess of the modern world ministering in the Temple of Art." According to her, the priestesses of Dionysius or Bacchus, the bacchantes who did honour unto the ancient God, the God of joy and of rejuvenescence, were the first actresses of antiquity. In the early mediæval days actresses had no place in the mystery and miracle plays. But in the fifteenth century the spirit of the Renaissance began to move its wings. The rays of the Renaissance had tinted with Orient hues the sombre mediæval sky. Forth from Italy came the poetry of the Hellenic world, beginning its triumphant march over Europe. With the classic rejuvenescence and the cult of Dionysius the rule of the ancient priestesses came again into being, only in a different shape. Actresses appeared on the European stage. The priestesses of the Pagan world were the actresses of antiquity, the actresses of the Christian world are the priestesses of modernity; priestesses in the Temple of Art."

The suppositious speaker scorned the imputation that the art of the actor is nothing but the development and training of the faculty of imitation. "Histrionic art," she maintained, "is not the result of a conscious exercise of the power of imitation. Just as little as the priestesses of Bacchus, in their Dionysian exuberance—*himmelhoch jauchzend*—are we imitators or conscious performers. We are moved by the spring of intuition and emotion. What is required of us, what really is the *sine qua non* of our art is *transfiguration*. When we thrill the audiences, when we carry their sympathies with us and with our sufferings, or excite their anger at our wicked deeds, then we are no more playing, we are not acting, we are transfigured, we have become for the moment a different personality—our own has disappeared. This only few of us can achieve. We are not imitating the external peculiarities of the character we impersonate; no, like any other artist, we have grasped the very soul of the person we represent. The very passions that dictate the actions of the character we are acting are raging in us; for the time being we are actually capable of wicked deeds and of generous actions. The process of histrionic production is based upon suggestion and hypnotic power. Every artist works under the influence of suggestion, of auto-suggestion.

"In the case of the histrionic artist, it is the playwright who exercises the power of suggestion over the former. The dramatic character drawn by the playwright has the power to suggest and to hypnotise the artistic nature and nervous temperament of actor and actress, to make them relegate their own will-power into the background, and to assume a different personality. The day will come," added the actress, "when pleasures will be more refined and delicate, more æsthetic. Every pleasure will be beautiful and every agreeable action artistic. The æsthetic and the moral lives, so distinguished in the lower beings, will be one. The beautiful and the agreeable, Art and life and existence, will be merged into one. Then we shall again enjoy the veneration due to priestesses, whose work it is to stir the emotions and feelings of our audiences, to give pleasure to the many. But," she concluded, "even now there are many who know how to appreciate us and our work. Does not our great and noble doyenne—the venerable priestess Ellen Terry—enjoy the esteem of thousands? Thousands are eager to pay to her their tribute of appreciation and gratitude for the noble and æsthetic pleasure she has given them. She looks back upon her life's work, upon the work of half a century, and feels that her life has been well spent."

A critical analysis of the paper was given in the amusing discussion which followed.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

"THE EVE OF HER WEDDING."

A Domestic Play, in Four Acts, by C. Watson Mill, produced for the first time at the Theatre Royal, Sunderland, on Monday, May 27.

George Tremaine .....MR. WILSON BENGE
Squire Leverton .....MR. ARTHUR KEAND
Dick Leverton .....MR. CHARLES H. GALLIER
Rudolph Earle .....MR. CHAS. DIGBY
Giovanni .....MR. DAVID BEATTIE
Dean Clifton .....MR. LOUIS HECTOR
Paul Cairshaw .....
Hyram P. Younger ..... MR. CHAS. GROVES, JUN.
Jack Herne .....MR. NORMAN B. CANNON
Bill Groggins .....MR. K. ARTHUR
Rev. A. Goodman .....MR. ALEXANDER GEORGE
P.C. Lockup .....MR. JOE ENGLAND
Renie de Telle .....MISS ADELINE RABY
Gwendoline Younger .....MISS SYBIL HARE
Mavis Leverton .....MISS SADIE SMITH

Founded on fairly conventional lines the above new play contains many fine situations and stirring incidents. The story opens at Treeton Towers, the residence of the Squire of Merton, a quaint old-fashioned village, hidden in a southern county. The squire's only daughter, Mavis, loves, and is beloved by one George Tremaine, an English gentleman, who is afterwards renowned as Nemo (the Hand that Helps the Poor), a young man of considerable wealth and affluence. The squire's land agent, Dean Clifton, who is also in love with Mavis, is an unprincipled scoundrel, and is in league with Paul Cairshaw (the Man with the Scar), who has stolen some Italian fortification plans, and is "wanted" by Giovanni, a Secret Service agent of the Italian Government. The precious pair of schemers plot to defame the character of the fair Mavis, with a view to the prevention of her marriage with young Tremaine, and on the eve of the wedding, owing to their well-laid scheme, strengthened by ocular demonstration, manage to convey to the mind of Tremaine that his fiancée is unfaithful to him. Tremaine, accepting the seeming overwhelming evidence brought under his notice regarding Mavis, vows revenge on the man and retribution on the woman, and on the wedding morn, when all are assembled outside the church, he declines to go on with the ceremony, denouncing his fiancée as a wanton. Mavis's brother Dick asks for satisfaction from Tremaine, and demands that her companion in vice be produced, when Cairshaw is thrust forward, and in the struggle which takes place discloses the scar on his breast, and is discovered by Giovanni as the man required for the theft of the Government plans. Mavis, taken ill after the foul charges levied at her at the church door, is carried to the village inn. George Tremaine, deciding to leave the village with its host of bitter memories, first has an interview with the squire, who calls upon him to substantiate his statements. The facts are repeated to the squire, who upholds Tremaine's actions, and both lover and father denounce Mavis. Mavis overhears the conversation, and decides to leave the village at once, and afterwards becomes a wanderer in London. Cairshaw manages to elude his captor; but soon after dies, leaving a full confession regarding Mavis's innocence. Then commences a long search for the wandering Mavis, who has now lost her reason. She is finally discovered by Nemo, and placed in the care of her brother Dick. The latter has become a victim to the wiles of Renie, an unscrupulous adventuress, and Clifton, to whose rooms Dick now takes his sister; but Nemesis, in the shape of Nemo, is on their track, and in the very "nick of time" Mavis is saved from Clifton's clutches, whereupon she regains her reason. The State papers are at the same time secured by Giovanni, and the recovery of Cairshaw's confession of the part he played to part the lovers leads to the total discomfiture of the schemers and to the ultimate reconciliation and the usual happy ending. The piece is adequately staged, and the audience closely followed the story from start to finish.

Mr. Wilson Benge's company submits a highly intelligent rendition of the absorbing play. Mr. Wilson Benge as George Tremaine plays throughout with well-sustained dignity and power, bringing out with emphasis the many fine points in the character of Nemo, the Good. Mr. Arthur Keand brings ability to bear on his portrayal of the rôle of Squire Leverton, leaving nothing to be desired. Mr. Charles H. Gallier gives an interesting interpretation of the part of Dick Leverton. Mr. Charles Digby is eminently successful, as well as amusing, as Rudolf Earle. Mr. David Beattie's impersonation of Giovanni is expressive of the fiery and ardent Italian nature. Mr. Louis Hector, in the disagreeable part of Dean Clifton, supplies a strong and incisive rendition of the scheming land agent. Mr. Charles Groves, jun., has an important rôle as Paul Cairshaw, and his assumption has some really fine characterisation, that stamps him as an artist who will go much farther in the histrionic profession. He is also responsible for the rôle of Hiram V. Younger, an American millionaire. Another sterling piece of work is submitted by Mr. Norman B. Cannon, who wins the plaudits of the house for the cripple, Jack Hearne. Mr. K. Arthur is fully adequate as Bill Groggins; and Mr. Alex. George and Mr. Joe England are respectively responsible for the Rev. A. Goodman and P.C. Lockup. Miss Sadie Smith has a difficult rôle in that of Mavis, the fiancée of Tremaine, but she manages to surmount the ordeal with credit. The charm of her earlier scenes is well contrasted by her pathetic portrayal of the later stages of the rôle, and she shows evidence of strong emotional power. Miss Sybil Hare is pleasingly refreshing as Gwendoline Younger (Kinkie). Playing with a strong American twang, she is full of vivacity and brightness, and adds in no small measure to the lighter side of the play. Miss Adeline Raby, in the less pleasing rôle of the adventuress, Renie de Telle, assumes with frank abandon the wily allurements of the clever accomplice of the male schemers, showing up the worst parts of an unscrupulous woman's character with great cleverness. The new piece will, without doubt, prove an acceptable addition to the list of domestic dramas, which always prove popular in the provinces.

THE Pavilion Theatre, which has latterly been devoted to performances by the Jewish Operatic and Dramatic Company, will in August next pass into the hands of Mr. S. Feinman, the leading actor of the company, he and a small syndicate having taken over a lease of the house, which will in future be carried on under Yiddish auspices. After the performance on Saturday, when the season ended, Mr. Cecil Paget addressed the audience in eloquent terms, thanking them for their unqualified support. Subsequently, Mr. Feinman presented Mr. Fred Brown—who, we understand, will continue in his position as acting-manager—with a solid gold watch and chain. Mr. Brown, in thanking the donors for their handsome gift, stated that this was the first occasion on which he had ever appeared before the footlights during his thirty years' work in that place, and that his one desire had been to do his duty to his directors, ensure comfort for the patrons, and give every attention to the requirements of the artists. Mrs. Fred Brown, on behalf of the "Pavilion boys," then gave Mr. Feinman (who had already been the recipient of many floral offerings) a laurel wreath, wishing him every success in his venture.

A NOVEL item in the programme of the matinée being given by the Savage Club at His Majesty's on June 4 in aid of the Lord Mayor's Cripples Fund, is a policemen's chorus (introduced into the original *revue*, entitled *Hands Up*), by a sextet of well-known black and white artists, viz., Douglas Almond, Tom Browne, J. Hassall, L. Raven-Hill, Penrhyn Stanlaws, and Lance Thackeray.

"THE STEPMOTHER."

Drama, in Four Acts, by Arthur Shirley, Produced at the Crown Theatre, Peckham, on Monday, May 27.

Bob Bristow .....MR. WILLIAM HOLLES
Amy Bristow .....MISS EDITH WALLIS
Johanna Jones .....MISS FLORENCE HARCOURT
David Blake .....MR. HENRY W. HATCHMAN
Timothy Yapp .....MR. CHARLES DANVERS
Abraham Wiggins .....MR. FRANK HARRISON
Luke Trixell .....MR. ALFRED HOLLES
Anna Vickers .....MISS MARGARET MURCH
Clara .....MISS FREDA GREEN
Zike .....MR. W. HAYES
Danny .....MISS NANNIE GOLDMAN

The deft hand of Mr. Arthur Shirley has again been at work, with the result that a music-hall sketch, produced some months back at Camberwell, now makes its appearance as a four-act play at Peckham. Strengthened by many extra touches of pathos, a liberal infusion of comedy, and a constant succession of thrills, the new drama made an irresistible appeal to the patrons of the Crown on Monday, and much cheering arose at frequent intervals. The main theme of the story has undergone but little change since we last sailed in company with Captain Bristow, who has to go on a long voyage, leaving behind him his sick wife and their boy Danny. The invalid is ministered to by Anna Vickers, a designing woman whose purpose is to expedite Mrs. Bristow's death in order that she may marry the Captain. The fact that she is already married to the dissolute Luke Trixell appears to be of little moment, until the husband himself appears and claims recognition in the shape of money. Bristow's departure is hindered by his arrest for having on board his ship a cargo of arms intended for Russian revolutionaries. The Captain declares that he was unaware of the nature of the cargo, which was shipped by a Mr. Abraham Wiggins; but that worthy, who is an accomplice of the artful Anna, denies all knowledge of the consignment, until Luke produces a paper he had extracted from Abraham's pocket, which convicts him on the spot.

A term of imprisonment is served by Abraham in the interval between the first and second acts, but he turns up again at Bob Bristow's cottage, where the wily Anna has not yet succeeded in disposing of Mrs. Bristow. The fell act is soon accomplished by Wiggins, who has become aware that Mrs. Bristow has inherited a fortune, and arranges that she shall be induced to sign a paper making over the money to Anna; but just as the invalid is about to put her name to the document Detective Blake makes his appearance, and Abraham snatches up the paper and tears it to pieces. Mrs. Bristow realises that she has inherited the fortune and collapses; and Abraham, borrowing Anna's handkerchief and saturating it with water, places it over the fainting woman's face until she breathes no more. On his return home Captain Bristow finds his wife dead, and is easily persuaded by Anna to make her his wife in order that the boy Danny may be taken care of. The wedding duly takes place, but the detective has his suspicions, and has an interview with Luke Trixell, who is about to reveal the fact that Anna is already his wife, when a pistol shot fired through the window lays him low. The detective takes the extraordinary proceeding of having himself arrested as the murderer in order that "all Scotland Yard" may be brought on the scene to discover the real perpetrator; but the ruse has no result. Subsequently Captain Bristow is called away to his ship, leaving his wife with strict injunctions to be a second mother to his boy. She acquits herself of her charge by cruelly ill-treating him, using a formidable whip to enforce obedience. When the Captain shortly after pays a flying visit to his cottage he finds his son weak and ill; but Anna declares that the boy is vicious and unruly, and the Captain, believing his wife, angrily returns to his ship. Broken-hearted, Danny makes his way to his mother's grave, and there meets an old pensioner, who takes him to the regimental doctor. Meanwhile, Anna has planned to get away to Canada with Abraham Wiggins, who has purloined the funds of a slate club. Bristow suddenly returns, and learns from Anna's little girl that she is going to have a new "dadda." He seats himself in an armchair, and Anna, thinking it is Abraham, makes known her duplicity. The pensioner, who turns out to be the detective, induces the woman to save herself by giving evidence against Abraham, who is arrested for the murder both of Mrs. Bristow and of Luke Trixell, and Anna departs in a rage, leaving Captain Bristow and his son reconciled.

A judicious selection of the cast has been made by Mr. William Holles, by whom the piece was produced. Mr. Holles himself was the jolly dog of a sea captain to the life, infusing all heartiness and joviality into the rôle, while his depiction of Bristow's just anger against his unfaithful wife was strong and impressive. Miss Nannie Goldman succeeded in moving the audience to complete sympathy as the lad Danny, her display of grief in the churchyard scene being very affecting. The malevolent Anna Vickers was sustained with artistic skill by Miss Margaret Murch, whose tigerish ferocity was well assumed, but kept within proper limits. The spoilt and ill-mannered Clara was thoroughly her mother's daughter, except when taking compassion on Danny she gave him a share of her cake; but her greatest claim to favour was made by the drollery attaching to some of the lines, which were delivered with a keen sense of humour by Miss Freda Green, who acquitted herself with conspicuous ability. Miss Edith Wallis's treatment of the disease-stricken Mrs. Bristow was thoroughly sympathetic, while her death scene was quite ghastly in its realism. The David Blake of Mr. Henry W. Hatchman had all the requisite smartness which properly belongs to the rôle of a detective, and his appearance as the old pensioner was a piece of rare dissimulation. Mr. Frank Harrison as the plausible villain, Abraham Wiggins, made the best of his opportunities, merriment as well as execration resulting from his efforts. Similar manifestations were aroused by Mr. Alfred Holles, who took a humorous view of the besotted Luke Trixell that was much to the taste of the audience. The comic episodes of the play were chiefly in the hands of Timothy Yapp, a policeman, constantly courted in vain by Johanna Jones, a prepossessing parlour-maid, who at length succeeds in capturing him by his own handcuffs. In the hands of Mr. Charles Danvers and Miss Florence Harcourt the parts exercise a hilarious influence, and roars of laughter rang through the house again and again. The piece, which is mounted effectively, was preceded by *The Little Charwoman*, a sketch which has for some time served Mr. William Holles and Miss Nannie Goldman with advantage in the music halls.

AT the Licensing Sessions at Edinburgh on the 24th ult. the licence for the Lyceum Theatre was renewed. It was officially reported that the conduct of the theatre was in every way satisfactory, but it was made a condition of the granting of the licence that the bars should close at ten o'clock. The licence of the Theatre Royal was renewed, with the same condition, and that for the King's Theatre was granted on the understanding that there should be no Sunday concerts.

THE cast of *Don Juan in Hell*, the Dream scene from Bernard Shaw's *Man and Superman*, which will begin a series of matinées at the Court on Tuesday, will consist of Mr. Robert Loraine, Miss Lillah McCarthy, Mr. Michael Sherbrooke, and Mr. Norman McKinnel. *The Man of Destiny* will be sustained by Mr. Dion Boucicault, Mr. Herman de Lange, Mr. Trevor Lowe, and Miss Irene Vanbrugh.

NEW ZEALAND MANAGER.

CHAT WITH MR. JOHN FULLER, JUN.

Mr. John Fuller, jun., of John Fuller and Sons, theatre proprietors and managers in New Zealand, is on a tour round the world, his object being to gather information as to the way in which theatres are conducted—the arrangements as to the stage and auditorium, mechanical contrivances, and general business principles — in the different countries. Mr. Fuller has just spent six weeks exploring the Continent, and is now in London, where he intends to remain about a month, and he has made *The Era* office his address for business communications. He will visit the provincial towns before proceeding to America, and thence home *vid* Japan and China. But let Mr. Fuller speak for himself.

"First let me explain," he says, "that New Zealand has a population of 900,000. The four principal towns are Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch, and Dunedin, all within twelve hours' journey of each other. Each has an average population of 60,000, equal to a town of 120,000 in England, as the spending power of the New Zealand people is much greater than in this country. We owe a great deal to our splendid labour laws, which cause a more even distribution of wealth. Well, each of the towns mentioned possesses two first-class theatres and a music hall. The firm of John Fuller and Sons own all the music halls as well as a first-class theatre in each town. We run vaudeville entertainments in the four centres of New Zealand all the year round, and although up to now we have never

MR. JOHN FULLER, JUN.

directly imported any talent from England, we intend to do so in the future. That accounts partly for my visit here at present. We are about to erect two first-class theatres on the site of our older houses. I have come to have a look round, so that the New Zealand people shall have theatres carried out in the very best style. We have engaged many notable artists at princely salaries, including Le Roy, Talma and Bosco, La Milo, the Uessems, Tom Nawn, and the Musical Johnstons (American act). If you ask them what New Zealand is like they will generally tell you it's 'Fuller's earth.' Theatrically speaking, that is exactly what it is. Somehow or other, in the case of every theatre we have gone into, we soon got tired of paying rents, and now we buy all the thatres that are purchasable. New Zealand has gone ahead with leaps and bounds during the last ten years, and, taking into consideration the increase in value of the properties we own, I am inclined to the opinion we have had all our theatres presented to us.

"Now just a few words as to the personnel of the firm of John Fuller and Sons. Mr. John Fuller, my father, was a tenor singer in London some years back, and practically started his stage career with his old chum, Mr. Harry Randall. For many years he appeared at the minor music halls, and afterwards was associated with the famous Mohawk Minstrels at Islington, and it was while there that he set London, or, for the matter of that, England, singing 'Wait till the clouds roll by, Jenny.' After my father's engagement terminated at the Agricultural Hall he appeared at the Oxford music hall for some six months. Subsequently he accepted an engagement to go to Australia with Jolly John Nash, and he has remained in the Antipodes ever since. Messrs. Ben and Walter Fuller were long associated in England with Joseph Poole's Myriorama. As to myself, let me show you a programme of an entertainment in which I appeared as a juvenile performer at the Holloway Hall on May 5, 1891, when such well-known artists as G. H. Chirgwin, Herbert Campbell, Austin Rudd, Harry Randall, and the original Leopolds appeared, so you can imagine with what pleasure I return to the land of my birth. My stay in London will last about four weeks, after which I shall 'do' the principal towns of the British Isles. I leave for New York during the first week of August, returning to New Zealand *vid* San Francisco, Japan, China, and Australia, and arriving home about the beginning of December."

It may be of interest to mention that Messrs. Fuller and Sons employ over 80 artists on their circuit. They own four variety theatres, each with a seating capacity of 1,300, and three legitimate theatres, which are taken by the first-class travelling companies. The head office is at the Theatre Royal, Wellington.

The subject of this sketch takes a great interest in municipal affairs in Dunedin, where he resides. He was responsible for the initial steps in founding in that city a Hospital Saturday Fund, which has proved of immense benefit. His wife, by the way, was for some time an actress under the name of Gertrude Fraser, and played juvenile parts with Charles Warner during that gentleman's first tour in Australia. Mrs. Fuller retired from the stage upon her marriage, five years ago. Mr. Fuller informs us that it is extremely probable that his father will visit London next year in connection with the business.

ALL the costumes, wigs, &c., for Mr. Gordon Bailey's production of *A Knight of the Road* were expressly supplied by Mr. W. Clarkson, the "Royal" costumier and perruquier.

AT the Royal Academy of Music the Charles Rube Prize (string quartet playing) has been awarded to Samuel Robinson (first violin), Eric Coates (viola), Raymond Jeremy (second violin), and Edgar Fawcett ('cello). Highly commended were: Henry C. Parsons (first violin), Thomas Morgan (viola), Jessie Bowater (second violin), and Edith J. Evans ('cello). The adjudicator was Mr. John Saunders.

THE Theatre Royal, Croydon, which was offered at auction at the Mart, Tokenhouse Yard, on Monday, was withdrawn at the sum of £8,000.

"THE SPORTING KING."

A Drama, by Charles Whitlock, Produced at the Metropole Theatre, Gateshead, on Monday, May 27.

Joe Brave .....MR. CHARLES WHITLOCK
Squire Stamford .....MR. HARRY RICHARDSON
David Stamford .....MR. ARTHUR CHISHOLM
Renard ....MR. LEONARD YORKE
Stephen Basilk .....MR. E. LOVELL
Bill Bruiser .....MR. FREDERICK BIRON
John Jones .....MR. ARTHUR PROCTOR
Jack Sharpe .....MR. ALFRED TERRIS
Governor of Dartmoor .....MR. BAY TELFORD
Little Harold .....MISS BABY BLYTHE
Tom Tyne .....MR. MIKE CRAWLEY
Joan Brave .....MISS GEORGINA V. FRANCE
Steena Basilk .....MISS LILLA WILDE
Jessie Lane .....MISS EVA REED

Mr. Whitlock's latest venture is a modern domestic drama. David Stamford, the squire's son, is enamoured of Joan, the prizefighter's daughter, and is successful in gaining her hand in marriage. The old squire is very much annoyed at this proceeding, and plainly tells Joe Brave that the latter's daughter is not a fit person to become his son's wife. Following the betrothal, the villain, in the person of Renard Stamford, appears. He, too, is a lover of Joan, and when he hears from her that she has given herself to David he swears revenge. On the other hand, Steena Basilk loves David Stamford. She accuses the latter of trifling with her affections, and when she learns of David's engagement to Joan she swears to be revenged upon Joan. Renard and Steena meet, and devise a plot to blind Joan as the latter is returning from the marriage ceremony. Steena hands to Joan a bouquet containing poison, and the curtain is rung down upon the first act with the villain and villainess content and the squire disowning his son. Three years elapse, and we learn that David has been killed whilst fighting for his country. He leaves a child, Harold. Renard, Steena, and her father are found plotting the child's destruction. Renard proposes marriage to the widow, but is rejected, an incident which is witnessed by Steena, who is the mother of an illegitimate child by Renard. Joan's child and Steena's are very much alike, and Steena conceives the notion of changing the children, intending that, should the squire repent and take his son's wife back to his heart, her (Steena's) child will be brought up in luxury as the heir to the estates. She reckons without Renard, who hires a ruffian (Bill Bruiser) to murder Joan's child. Bruiser murders Steena's offspring instead of Joan's. Jack Sharpe manages to regain possession of Joan's child. Poor Joan is tried for the murder of the child, and is remanded on bail. We next see her in Brave's cottage. At a crucial moment the Bruiser enters, and Joan recognises his voice as the one she heard in the room on the night of the tragedy. The law, however, refuses to notice her protestations of innocence and her accusation against Bruiser, and she is about to be retaken into custody when her father declares that he murdered the child. Six years intervene, and in Act 3 the squire is murdered by Bill Bruiser. Next, we see the inside of Dartmoor Prison, where a pathetic scene between Joe, his daughter, and the latter's child is enacted. Aided by Jack Sharpe, Joe makes his escape from the prison disguised as the Governor of the gaol. In the last act David Stamford returns to his native home, after having been announced dead nine years ago. The shock of his sudden reappearance restores the sight to the eyes of his wife, and all things come right at the final fall of the curtain.

Messrs. Whitlock and Rutter have got together an excellent company, which does full justice to the play. Mr. Whitlock himself fills the important rôle of Joe Brave. His work throughout was characterised with an attention to care and polish which we are wont to expect from an actor of his repute. He depicts with much cleverness the light-heartedness of the successful prizefighter, and also the dejection of a man condemned to prison for life. Mr. Leonard Yorke portrays vividly the scoundrel Renard, who, in his desire for wealth, stops at nothing. Mr. Harry Richardson ably fills the part of Squire Stamford, the overwhelming rage of the old man on learning that his son is about to marry the daughter of the prizefighter being depicted with excellent effect. Mr. E. Lovell as the mean and despicable Stephen Basilk is quite successful; Mr. Frederick Biron could not be improved upon for the part of Bill Bruiser, his brutal tone of voice being excellently suited to the almost animal appearance; Mr. Arthur Chisholm as David does justice to a small, but important, part; Jack Sharpe, a Cockney with a very primitive wit, is well embodied by Mr. Alfred Terris; Mr. Arthur Proctor makes the most of his opportunities as John Jones, the policeman and warder; and Mr. Ray Telford as the Governor does his little well. Miss Georgina V. France is admirable as Joan, her grief upon realising that her eyes are sightless being portrayed with a poignancy which stamps the lady as a gifted actress. Miss Lilla Wilde makes a capital picture of Steena, the accomplice and mistress of Renard; Miss Eva Reed is a highly diverting Jessie Lane; Miss Baby Blythe in the part of Harold gives evidence of much histrionic ability, and she was loudly praised for her efforts. Mr. Mike Crawley, the professional pugilist, appears with success as Tom Tyne.

THE ARTHUR VERNE FUND.

Subscriptions already received :—

	£	s.	d.
Henry Swinerd	5	5	0
J. W. Cordiner	5	5	0
Messrs. Power and Kirby's Co. (per Martin Comstock)	2	10	6
Horace Stanley	2	2	0
Sam Livesey	2	2	0
Nellie Harcourt	1	1	0
George Brooks	1	1	0
Lyn Harding	1	1	0
G. Howard Watson	1	1	0
Mrs. Hy. Mayhew	1	1	0
Bert Edwards	0	7	6
Deane Cliffe	0	5	0
W. C. H.	0	5	0
Arthur Hartley	0	5	0
Walter Ashley	0	5	0
Henry C. Ward	0	5	0
Marie Vere	0	5	0
Collected by Roy Fortescue from *The Tyrant* company :—			
Marie Dagmar and Fred Somerfield	0	10	6
Roy Fortescue	0	5	0
Miss Ford	0	2	6
Miss Shelton	0	2	6
Miss Loyd	0	1	6
Mr. Mahew	0	2	6
Mr. Warne	0	2	6
Mr. Atwill	0	2	6
Mr. Brown	0	2	6
Mr. Curry	0	2	6
Mr. Sherwin	0	1	0
Mr. Wave	0	1	0

Subscriptions will be gratefully received and acknowledged by Henry Swinerd, Royal Artillery Theatre, Woolwich; or by J. W. Cordiner, *Dare-Devil Dorothy* company, en route.

THE dramatic season at the Prince's, Poplar, practically terminated on Saturday, but the management have decided to keep the theatre open for the present at reduced prices, and are giving a Bioscope entertainment, at which several excellent films have been exhibited. A good house witnessed the performance on Monday night, and the acting-manager, Mr. C. Melville Lurring, has every reason to be well pleased with the result.

"THE MAID AND THE MOTOR MAN."

A New Musical Comedy, in Two Acts, written by J. Hickory Wood; music by Signor A. Romilli; additional numbers by Ernest Bucalossi, Produced at the New Theatre, Cardiff, on Monday, May 27.

Hon. Dudley Newark .....MR. HORACE MILLS
Sir John Warrington, Kt. .....MR. COLIN COOP
Alys Warrington .....MISS SYLVIA MAY
Mrs. Shepperton .....MISS WYNIFRED MORICE
Suzanne Shepperton .....MISS OLIVE CRELLIN
Lady Newark .....MISS HEBE BLISS
Dick Hastings .....MR. EDMUND SHERRAS
Jack Bolter .....MR. W. J. MANNING
William Binns .....MR. ALFRED CLARK
Percy Sly .....MR. GEORGE CARROLL
Mr. Robert Gregory.....MR. R. SEDGWICK
Tom .....MR. JOCELYN HOPE
Martha Pottle .....MISS ANNIE AINSLIE
Kate Wicks .....MISS LULU VALLI
Jane .....MISS MAY GOULD
Sadie .....MISS MADGE QUEST
Mamie .....MISS MADGE SINCLAIR
Silas .....MR. H. JOCELYN
Rueben .....MR. W. H. BERNARD

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

This new musical comedy was produced by Mr. Victor Stevens, assisted by Mr. Alfred Beers, while Mr. Harry Rushworth has command of the full chorus of forty voices. The piece is staged in Cardiff for this week only, and was received on Monday by a critical audience most favourably. Next September it is to be produced at Manchester, and it should certainly achieve success. It is a decidedly pretty play, and it has a very strong vein of romance running through it. Dick Hastings, a gentleman by upbringing and instinct, is chauffeur to Sir John Warrington, and becomes enamoured of Sir John's charming daughter, Alys. The lady reciprocates. There is a scene when Sir John discovers chauffeur and daughter in the act of love-making, and Hastings is ordered from the house. He goes to America determined to win wealth, runs a farm, strikes oil, becomes a millionaire, returns to England just in time to save Sir John from financial ruin, and, of course, weds his daughter. The artist who made the greatest impression upon Monday's audience was Miss Lulu Valli, whose impersonation of Kitty was as captivating as could be desired. Miss Valli is a clever comedienne, and scored both with her singing and dancing. Mr. Horace Mills as the Hon. Dudley Newark made the most of his opportunities, and achieved merited success; as Dick Hastings, the gentleman chauffeur, Mr. Edmund Sherras was well placed, his good voice being much in evidence; Mr. Colin Coop acquitted himself with much credit as Sir John Warrington; Mr. W. J. Manning scored as Jack Bolter; Mr. Alfred Clark was well received as the butler, Wm. Binns; while Mr. George Carroll, who impersonated Percy Sly, proved to be a very amusing comedian. Miss Sylvia May represented the heroine, Alys Warrington, and the management have secured a very charming lady to undertake this part. Miss Hebe Bliss filled the rôle of Lady Newark with her usual ability; Miss Annie Ainslie submitted a good delineation of Martha Pottle; and other characters were capably filled by Miss Wynifred Morice as Mrs. Shepperton, and Miss Olive Crellin as Suzanne Shepperton. With regard to the music, the best numbers are "Busy little Lizzie," "Oh, those bells" (a duet), "Details" (sung by Mr. Mills), and the costume song of Miss Valli; Sir John's opening song is also good. The dresses and staging are all that could be wished. Mr. Harry Rushworth is the conductor of the augmented orchestra, and the scenery is by Mr. R. C. Oldham.

FUNERAL OF MR. GEORGE LEITCH.

The funeral of Mr. Geoge Leitch, the well-known actor and playwright, whose death we recorded last week, took place on Monday, the remains of the deceased gentleman being laid to rest in the Actors' Acre at Brookwood Cemetery.

The little party, who travelled by the Necropolis Company's special Monday train from Westminster Bridge-road to the beautiful "city of the dead" just beyond Woking, were Mr. J. S. C. Denton (nephew of the deceased), Mr. Edward Terry and Mr. Henry Charles (executors and old friends), Mr. Charles J. Tabor (also an old friend).

The service (Church of England) in the cemetery chapel as well as at the graveside was conducted by the Rev. Mr. Kerswell. The coffin, which was of oak, with handsome brass fittings, bore the inscription :

GEORGE GOODYEAR
(George Leitch-Walker),
Died 18th May, 1907,
Aged 65.

Mr. and Mrs. J. S. C. Denton and family sent a pretty bunch of arum lilies and white flowers, inscribed "From James, Sally, and their boys, in affectionate remembrance. 'And the weary are at rest.'" From Mr. and Mrs. Edward Terry came two beautiful wreaths, the one bearing the message, "In loving memory of my old friend George. —Edward Terry"; and the other, "In loving memory of an old friend, from E. Terry." Another handsome floral tribute was sent, "To the memory of an old friend, from Mr. and Mrs. H. Charles and family." Mr. and Mrs. Charles J. Tabor sent a subscription to the Actors' Benevolent Fund in lieu of a wreath. It was owing to the thoughtfulness and instrumentality of Mr. Edward Terry that a final resting-place was found for George Leitch in the Actors' Acre at Brookwood. Mr. Terry had for a long time past taken a very close interest in the personal welfare of his old friend, and the arrangement of the funeral was the culmination of a long series of acts of kindness on the part of Mr. Terry.

Leitch is buried beside the graves of George Fisher (who died in 1864) and William Yardley, the author. Actors' Acre holds many who were once the public favourites, and among them may be mentioned the Renad family, the Cooke family, the Clarksons, Samuel May (the famous costumier), the Renwicks, Samuel Forster, and Samuel Johnson, Mrs. Jane Stephens—who reached eighty-three years and was affectionately nicknamed "Granny"—the Empson and Guyer families, Rebecca Francisco Isaachi, and John William Anson.

We have to confess, however, that Actors' Acre does not compare favourably with other portions of the cemetery set aside to other classes. All the graves of the players who have passed away bear the aspect of having been sadly neglected, and the ground itself, from the gardening point of view, needs as much attention as the graves. Up to a few years ago funds were found for this purpose, and Actors' Acre was then as pleasing to the eye as any other part of the cemetery. A sum of three guineas a year is all that is required to keep this plot of ground in decent order—to plant shrubs, trim the grass and foliage, &c. We commend what we have here set down to the consideration of members of the profession, in the hope that a sufficient amount will be collected to effect the desirable improvements, and to maintain them for at least a few years.

MR. ALFRED HOOK, acting-manager at the Athenæum Theatre, Lancaster, took his first annual benefit on Wednesday, the event proving highly successful. The Athenæum reopens on August Bank Holiday.

AN important engagement, for one night only, of the celebrated French actress, Mme. Jane Hading, and her Parisian company, in *Frou Frou*, is announced to take place at the Marlborough Theatre, Holloway, on Monday, June 10.

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

KING'S, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, May 27, the Play,
"TOMMY ATKINS."

A safe card to play is *Tommy Atkins*. It is the right kind of drama, with an inspiriting and quickly-moving story, which appeals directly to all classes of playgoers. Therefore, when Mr. J. M. East brought his well-selected company to the King's on Monday night he was assured of a hearty welcome, which was accorded in the shape of a crowded and enthusiastic audience, who followed with sympathy the trials of the cruelly-deceived heroine, Ruth Raymond, and the career of Harold Wilson, the heroic clergyman turned "ranker." For the part of Harold Wilson Mr. East had made a wise and excellent choice in Mr. Albert Ward. He gave a very spirited rendering of the Curate, and altogether created a most favourable impression on the audience, who vociferously cheered and recalled him at the end of each act. Mr. Maurice Drew played the stony-hearted father, Stephen Raymond, with much effect; and Mr. Page Laurence was a pleasant Capt. Bob Sparrow. A laughable performance was that of Mr. W. P. Sheen as Ebenezer Skindle, which served to keep the audience in good humour. The scoundrelly conduct of Capt. Richard Maitland was made sufficiently impressive by the cool and debonair acting of Mr. Fred Morgan; while that experienced actor Mr. Algernon Syms was completely successful in the important part of Private Mason. As Colour-Sergeant Paddy Malloy Mr. Keino Johnston was really funny, and his love-making scenes with Kate Perkins brought forth a goodly number of laughs. Very satisfactory was the Sexton of Mr. Charles Cecil; Mr. Harry Robertson made a dignified Arab chief; and Mr. Harry Bristowe was a capable Sir Simon Redgrave. Miss Florrie Green impersonated cleverly the little drummer-boy, Jack. Miss Theresa Osborne essayed the trying part of Ruth Raymond with every success, her earnestness gaining much favour; Margaret Maitland enabled that talented artist Miss East Robertson to again assert her undoubted superiority in the acting of such characters; a lively and fascinating Kate Perkins was Miss Agnes Paulton; and Miss Madeleine Birkbeck made an entertaining Elsie Wilson. The stage pictures were skilfully arranged, as would be expected under the guidance and stage-management of Mr. J. M. East, and the scenery was most appropriate.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, May 27, the Musical Comedy, entitled
"KITTY GREY."

For this week's attraction the management have secured Mr. C. St. John Denton's company in *Kitty Grey*. All the artists are thoroughly capable and well-chosen, and the production is staged in a lavish manner. The title-rôle is exceedingly well played by Miss Hilda Guiver, who sings the songs allotted to Kitty Grey in tuneful style. Mr. Yorke Hatton has few opportunities as Sir John Binfield, but he contrives to make the most of them. He plays the part in an easy and natural style that makes his rendering of the character very enjoyable. He has a capital voice, and is successful with the numbers allotted him, especially "Blue moon in the sky." Mr. Robert Whyte, jun., makes a hit in his delineation of the King of Illyria; in the part of Lord Plantaganet, Mr. Leslie Harris is quite equal to the demands made upon him, and he keeps the audience in a state of continual merriment; Miss Nellie Cozens also provokes much amusement by her humorous interpretation of Mrs. Bright. She scores well with her vocal contributions, too—"Zozo," "The feeling's just the same" (for which she is encored at least five or six times), and in a successful duet with Mr. Harris, "Will you come?" Miss Eily Helene charms everyone by her artistic acting as Lady Binfield. She both plays and sings well, her "Queen of Sahara" being a successful contribution for which an encore is insisted upon. Little is required of the part of Sadie de Poulson, but Miss Lena Denton does that little well. Mr. L. Winning (Comte de Trenitz), Mr. Leslie Steward (Ponbrichel), Messrs. Roberts and Minster (King's attendants), Messrs. Fincham and Denbigh (Joseph and Robert), and the Misses French, Jennings, Harrison, Desmond, Courtenay, Guiver, Ronayne, Yarrand, French, and Rose Snell in minor parts are all capable exponents of the various characters they represent. The choruses and instrumental parts, under the direction of Mr. Otto Manns, are rendered with spirit, and deserve high commendation.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, May 27, the Drama, entitled
"A FIGHT FOR MILLIONS."

Mr. Robert Perriss' company is paying a second visit with the stirring American play, *A Fight for Millions*, which has for its chief incidents an attempt to wreck a train in a tunnel, the escape of the hero in a submarine, and the bringing of the villain to justice by means of a wonderful type of electric instrument and wireless telegraphy. It is undoubtedly a very attractive play of its kind, and the company all work hard to ensure success. Tom Manley, the hero, is played in capital style by Mr. William Macready; and Mr. Marson Harper is successful in his embodiment of Richard Dudley, the villain, playing in a finished style. A pathetic picture of the ill-used Helen Dudley is presented by Miss Elma C. Turner; and Little Madge is prettily played by Miss Daisy Kent. Miss Rosie Kearns is vivacious as Betty, the maid; while in the later scenes of the play she is equally successful as Mag Baby. Willie Neverwork, a very amusing character, is capitally played by Mr. Karl H. Edwards, who keeps the humour of the story well to the fore when he is around. Miss Winifred Symons is good as Pearl Rivers; and Miss Gwendoline Harper does well as Mrs. Rivers. Hudson Rivers is skilfully portrayed by Mr. Kendrew Millson; and Mr. Harold Turner causes many laughs as Moses, the pawnbroker. The other characters are well sustained. Quite the most novel item of the play is the introduction into one of the scenes of Mr. Tom Jones, the Welsh comedian, who makes his appearance as Clara Ap Morgan. His turn is something distinctly fresh, and he has a rich fund of humour, which he evidently by no means exhausted on the night of our visit. The comedian from the Land of Leeks is very welcome, and he should certainly before long make his mark in London. The play is well staged, and Mr. Karl H. Edwards stage-manages with excellent results.

THE CORONET.

On Monday, May 27, the Farce, entitled
"THE LITTLE STRANGER."

Mr. Charles Steuart and company are at the Coronet this week with Michael Morton's bustling farce, *The Little Stranger*, which keeps the audience in one continuous roar of laughter, more by token of the weird antics of the supposititious infant, who is an *enfant terrible* second to none. Mr. Edward Garratt enacts his original dual rôle of the Baby and Tom Pennyman, and most mirth-provoking is his performance. The surprise and terror of all and sundry at the uncanny sapience of this infant phenomenon are irresistibly droll. The clever little actor was called before the curtain again and again. Mr. Charles Steuart contents himself with the small part of Captain Dick Allenby, and glides through it in easy and finished manner. Mr. Edwin H. Wynne as General Allenby, with his rooted antipathy to excitement, acts discreetly and well. Mr. Asheton Tonge is seen to advantage in the rôle of the young illusionist, Alec Howard. Mr. Hubert Druce very quaintly and divertingly portrays the part of Sir George Peacock. Mr. Murri Moncrieff quite realises the spirit of the idea as the charlatan clairvoyant and spiritualistic fraud, Paul Vronsky; and Mr Fred Epitaux is very amusing as the old butler, Eames. Miss Frances Dillon enters thoroughly into the business of Mrs. Dick Allenby, the ultra-intense and idyllic "soul hunter." Miss Louie Tinsley contrives to extract the essence of fun out of the small part of the Nurse, rendered distraught by the sudden metamorphosis of "the baby." Miss Christine Rayner is a charming and attractive Effie Peacock; and Miss Mary Stuart is graceful and refined as Mrs. Allenby. The part of Lady Peacock is rendered full justice at the hands of Miss Alice Clayton Green. In the curtain-raiser, *Citizen Morot*, Miss Frances Dillon acts with great tragic intensity as Michelle de Cresny; Mr. George E. Bellamy plays with saturnine cynicism and incisive skill as the renegade aristocrat of the title-rôle; and Mr. Fred Epitaux (who stage-manages both productions) as the murderous jailer, Lucien, and Mr. Edwin H. Wynne, as Governor of the Conciergerie, are both well in the picture. Mr. Cecil S. Lamb is acting-manager for Mr. Steuart.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, May 27, the Musical Play
"MY DARLING."

Mr. Robert Arthur's Kennington patrons doubtless have pleasant recollections of Miss Marie Studholme's previous visit to the Princess of Wales's Theatre, when, as Lady Madcap, she won the hearts of all who saw her in this rôle. Miss Studholme's second visit to this convenient South London playhouse has proved, if possible, even a greater success than before, if one is to judge by the tremendous ovation which greeted her in Seymour Hicks's musical play *My Darling*. Supported by a large and powerful company, Miss Studholme, charming and vivacious as ever, was the recipient of much applause, her rendering of the part of Joy Blossom being admirable in every way. As Daphne Bell Miss Barbara Dene scored a triumphant success, her excellent singing gaining for her repeated encores. Miss Marguerite Leslie's impersonation of Sylvaine marked her as an actress of no small merit; Miss Alice Barth as Lady Heldon and Miss Helen Kinnaird as Mrs. Pomeroy P. Green were two highly-amusing characters, and the performance of their respective exponents won well-deserved appreciation; in the part of Sir Henry Heldon, Mr. J. F. McArdle was distinctly funny, his dry humour keeping the house in a constant ripple of laughter; Mr. Henry A. Lytton cleverly acted the part of the Hon. Jack Hylton, singing his songs with great effect, for which he received several recalls; Mr. Armand Kalioz gave a most striking representation of Maurice le Blanc, the most notable among his songs being "On the shady side of Bond-street," which was heartily encored; and Messrs. Will Bishop (Sir James Jagg), Tom Graves (Oddy), Archie McCaig (Squib), Mervyn Dene (Hon. Mutty Farrell), George Castles (the MacSporan of Sporan), Maddison Rich (Hon. Charles Dunsdale), Kenneth Maclaine (Lieut. Taff Davies), George Paulton, Harold Barrett, Alfred Lloyd, Alfred Haines (French officers), Francis Court, and Charles Caffery (waiters) all played their several parts in excellent style. The scenery and dresses were effective and picturesque.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, May 27, the Drama, in Four Acts, entitled
"THE MYSTERY OF A HANSOM CAB."

The first of a series of popular plays, under the direction of Mr. Frank Adair, which Mr. G. H. Dudley Bennett is presenting during the summer season, was produced here on Monday evening, and met with instant success. The piece chosen was an adaptation of Fergus Hume's famous novel, "The Mystery of a Hansom Cab." Excellently enacted by a very capable company, and staged with a completeness that excited general admiration, the interest of the audience was fully sustained throughout, and at the close of the performance the principals met with a very cordial reception from a well-filled house. Mr. Wingold Lawrence made a fine, manly Brian Fitzgerald, his vigorous manner and earnestness being admirably suited to the rôle. A convincing embodiment of the villainous Roger Morland was given by Mr. Frank Adair, and he is to be congratulated on a sterling performance. Mr. George Mitchell gave a meritorious delineation of the much-harassed Mark Frettlebury; Mr. Fred Withers as the solicitor put in some excellent work; and the parts of the two detectives, Gorby and Kilsip, were capably enacted by Mr. Chris. Mason and Mr. Hugh Mewburn. The necessary comedy was contributed by Mr. George H. Asquin, whose clever acting in the rôle of Felix Rolleston provoked roars of laughter. He received much valuable support from Miss Daisy Maynard as Dora Featherweight. Miss Louie Adair acquitted herself with success in the part of Madge Frettlebury, and made the most of her opportunities. In the rôle of Sal Rawlins Miss Lydia Mannington was eminently satisfactory, and played her part with much expression, gaining the sympathetic applause of the audience. Miss Nellie Daly caused much merriment by her excellent impersonation of the talkative landlady; and Miss Florence Lovell gave a good character-sketch of Mother Gutter-snipe, a drunken hag.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, May 27, the Melodrama, entitled
"A SISTER'S SIN."

Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company are appearing this week at the Dalston Theatre, in the drama, by Mrs. Kimberley, entitled *A Sister's Sin*. Mr. H. Arnold Allen plays Harold Raymond in a way which thoroughly sustains the interest in the character, and both this actor and Mr. Andrew Money, who appears as George Oakley, succeed in getting on the best of terms with the audience. Miss Violet Addison is Minnie Hastings, whose fate is so mixed up with the story that she becomes inseparable from it, and her acting is of such an earnest nature that she renders the character a most interesting one. Miss Lillian Radburn gives an impressive portrayal of Charzel, a revengeful gipsy; and Miss Violet Langley is also interesting as Redempta, another gipsy. Miss Tydfil Jones provides a good sketch of a young English lady as May Raymond; Miss Edie Mackin and Miss Effie Mackintosh appear as rival lovers; and Master Harry Warden is Jack, a youthful gipsy. Mr. Henry Heeler is Walter Hastings, a gentleman farmer; and Mr. Ernest Frere causes some amusement as Ikey Moses, a money-lender. Others who contribute to the lighter side of the business are Mr. Harry Lyndon, who impersonates Theophilus Hope, who is described as "a slippery slideaway"; Mr. Larry McGowers, who is all go as Larry Murphy, who sings some Irish songs; and Mr. F. Newburn as Billy Smart.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, May 27, the Farcical Comedy,
"BOOTLES' BABY."

Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart and his company have been made heartily welcome here this week by large audiences, who were very decided in showing their approval of this delightful play. With a plot of absorbing interest and a powerful cast of accomplished artists, the sympathy of all present was at once gained and retained. Mr. Stewart, with his fine presence and pleasing, manly voice, was an ideal Bootles; Miss Georgina Wynter charmed everyone with her sweet and pathetic impersonation of Helen Grace; Mr. Henry Wolston as Capt. Gilchrist was very successful in portraying a callous and brutal husband, who comes to a deservedly untimely end; the part of Capt. Lucy was admirably taken by Mr. Leslie Owen, whose interpretation of an apparently guileless officer with an eye-glass was exceedingly clever; Mr. Ernest Gray enacted a typical army doctor; and Mr. Hubert Purser was active and bolsterous as a mischievous young lieutenant. Private Philip Saunders, as rendered by Mr. John Mowbray, was an exquisitely droll fellow, and irresistibly amusing was his constant bickering with Humpty-Dumpty, the nurse, intelligently sustained by Miss Edith Ife. Miss Gladys Harvey, looking pretty and piquant, was bright and dainty as Laura Norris. Last on the programme and least in stature, but by no means diminutive in the estimation of the audience, came Miss Maisie Richardson, whose winning ways and sweet childish face made her a captivating Bootles' Baby.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, May 27, the Pantomimical Comedy,
"THE SWISS EXPRESS."

The Renards are here this week in their well-known pantomimical comedy. As Dr. Gondimar Gull, the quack doctor, on his honeymoon, Mr. Wilfred E. Brandon works extremely hard, and causes much amusement. He is ably supported by Miss Celestine Brandon as Virginia, his bride, her songs, "There's always a girl at the bottom of it" and "My nightingale," being greatly appreciated. Mr. Basil Reynolds is an ardent lover in the character of Rob Rollingstone; and Mr. Alex Wylie gives a fine character-study of the dude, Dudley Green. The two servants, James and John, are played respectively by the brothers C. and F. Renard, whose clever tumbling acts cause roars of laughter throughout. Some excellent dancing is supplied by Miss Lottie Stone's Palace Quartette. For real good, rollicking fun this production has few equals.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, May 27, the Drama, by Henry Pettitt and George Conquest, entitled
"QUEEN'S EVIDENCE."

Good houses have favoured a return this week to the Royal County Theatre of melodrama, a form of play that always commands sympathetic audiences in the riverside town. Mr. Arthur Williams, who made a successful appearance the previous week in a triple bill, sustains the rôle of Isaacs in the late Mr. Pettitt's clever piece with his well-known ability, and Miss Maude Stewart Drewry acquits herself with distinction in the part of Kate Medland. Miss Sylvia Morris as Laura Somers and Miss Emily Spiller as Ada Somers both give fine delineations of their respective parts; Mr. Frank Harding scores a great success as the villainous Matthew Thornton; as also does Mr. Douglas Vigare as Gilbert Medland. Valuable assistance is also rendered by Mr. Franklyn Graham, Mr. Francis Hawley, Miss Pelham, Mr Charles Clarke, and Mr. Wilson Blake in the parts allotted to them. The drama is preceded by a musical interlude entitled *A Successful Operation*, in which the parts are ably sustained by Mr. Tom Craven and Mr. Wilson Blake.

GRAND, FULHAM.

On Monday, May 27, the Drama,
"THE MIDNIGHT MAIL."

Melodrama still holds sway at Fulham, where Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's company, under the direction of Mr. James Willard, is playing in *The Midnight Mail*, a domestic drama of many thrills, by Arthur Shirley. There are some very capable artists in the company, and the piece is excellently staged. Mr. George Harvard impersonates the hero, Harry Steyne, with much force and sincerity, and makes an attractive figure. Some unusually good acting is contributed by Mr. F. G. Evison, in the character of a "work-shy," chronically thirsty and tired working-man. He acts as the evil genius of the play, and shows in a most convincing manner the baneful influence of the boon companion over a man endeavouring to shake off the drink habit. Mr. Charles Spencer enacts satisfactorily the part of Hassan Padisha, a Turkish adventurer; and mention may be made of the good work of Mr. J. Ingledew as Sergeant O'Flyn, Mr. Harry Emmerson as Donald Craig, and Mr. Dobell Lyle as the signalman. Miss Ada Oakley plays the part of Mary Steyne with considerable power, and her excellent work contributes a good deal to the success. Miss Mildred Carr as Nancy Brewer is very refreshing and amusing; and Miss Sandford plays well as Lady Phyllis Eustace.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, May 27, the Drama entitled
"SPORTING LIFE."

A very skilful representation of this exhilarating play has been given in Marylebone this week by the carefully selected members of Mr. A. Beaton's company. The important rôle of John, Earl of Woodstock, was handled by Mr. Henry Doughty in irreproachable style, all his methods being most convincing. Mr. Wentworth Fane made good headway as Sir Charles Braybourne; Mr. H. C. Cooper easily scored as Isidore Andread; Mr. Edward Chester was effectively earnest as Joe Lee; Mr. Frank Woodville was responsible for a good character study of the bookmaker, Cleary; Mr. T. Avery gave a capable delineation of Sergeant Dan Doxey; Mr. H. H. Barrington proffered a careful embodiment of Miles Cavanagh; Mr. Edwin Fergusson gave a most realistic portrayal of the easily-led Philip Cavanagh; whilst Mr. Raymond Dudley did well as Malet de Carteret. Miss Ida Phillips made many friends by her fascinating portrayal of Norah; Miss Nellie Lucas played with much pathos as Kitty; Miss May Marcus was well placed as Jessie; and Miss Constance Elgin sustained the trying rôle of Olive de Carteret with much force and realism. The rest of a long cast all did well, and every credit is due to all concerned.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

The students' concert on Wednesday began with a duet for pianoforte, "Grand March," by Flux, played by Miss Thirza Taylor and Mr. Francis Sutton. In Kinnison's air, "The love song of the mavis," Miss Nellie Barker was entirely successful; and Miss H. Cartwright, who is not only an associate of the Guildhall School, but a F.R.C.O., was warmly applauded in her organ solos, "Grand Rondo" (Schubert) and Silas's "Sonata in D minor," both of which being executed with much ability. Miss Elizabeth Weiss also played Weber's "Rondo Brillante" for piano with neatness and finish. Parker's song, "At my window," was sung with good expression by Miss Thirza Wall, but the young vocalist must be more careful in the matter of correct intonation. In her somewhat ambitious attempt, Beethoven's "Romance in G," for violin, Miss Blanche Kettle deserved praise for her careful and correct playing; while Miss May Davie's piano solo of Liszt's "Gnomenreigen" may also be heartily commended. Mr. John Britton used his pleasing voice with considerable skill in "O flower of all the world" (Findon); and Miss Isabel Breeze was loudly applauded in Clay's once very popular song, "She wandered down the mountain side." The piano solo of MacDowell's first and second movements from first Modern Suite enabled Miss Leah Abrahams to display her most promising command of the keyboard. The concert concluded with a mandoline solo, with mandoline orchestra, played by Miss Gertrude Macdonald, the orchestral accompaniment being given by the pupils of Mme. Waldahoff, the work performed being "Concert," by Seitz. Miss Jenny Hyman was the accompanist.

MR. F. FERGUSSON, late bandmaster of H.M. 1st King's Dragoon Guards, who will be remembered in connection with the opening of the Earl's Court Exhibition and with many National Sunday League concerts, has been appointed musical-director of the bands of the Egyptian Army.

THE M. D. Waxman Yiddish Dramatic Company, now playing at the Standard Theatre, will give a performance on Saturday, June 8, at the Marlborough Hall, Regent-street, in aid of the West Central Benevolent Society.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

An extraordinary general meeting of the members of the Association was held at the Passmore Edwards Settlement, Tavistock-place, on Monday afternoon. MR. F. MORLAND presided, and there were also present:—Mr. Adam Alexander, Mr. H. K. Ayliff, Miss Marian J. Bird, Mr. Sydney Bland, Mr. Cecil Brooking, Miss Stanley Burt, Mr. Chas. Caffrey, Mr. Lewis Casson, Mr. Robert Castleton, Miss Beatrice Chester, Mr. F. Clive, Mr. C. Hayden Coffin, Mr. C. F. Collings, Mr. David Denard, Miss Elspeth Dudgeon, Miss Daisy England, Mr. H. Athol Forde, Mr. James Gelderd, Mr. Vere Gerald, Miss Louisa Gourlay, Mr. Fred Grove, Mr. Walter Hubert, Miss Dorothy Hullah, Miss Stella Leigh, Mrs. Louise L'Estrange, Mr. George Mallett, Miss Rose Mathews, Miss E. Wynne Matthison, Miss Rosamund Mayne-Young, Miss Winifred Mayo, Mr. Archibald McLean, Miss Louise Moodie, Miss Alma Murray, Mr. Russell Norrie, Miss Margaret Nybloc, Miss Mildred Orme, Mr. H. P. Owen, Mr. Robson Paige, Miss Lala Pelham, Miss Ida Phillips, Mr. Cecil Raleigh, Miss Doris Regan, Miss Rosemary Rees, Miss Irene Ross, Miss Lucy Sibley, Mr. Adnam Sprange, Miss Blanche Stanley, Miss Marie L. Stevens, Mr. E. Howard Templeton, Miss Laurence Therval, Mr. Raymond Thomas, Mr. F. Topham, Miss Maude Townsend, Miss Helen Tytler, Mr. Frank Vernon, Miss Rita Ward, Mr. T. Gideon Warren, Miss M. Davies Webster, and Mr. Charles Cruikshanks (secretary).

The CHAIRMAN, in opening the proceedings, said that the business before the meeting was quite formal; it was to confirm the resolutions amending the Articles of Association passed at the meeting held on May 6 last.

MR. LEWIS CASSON then moved as follows:

Delete Article XI. and replace by—

"The Association shall be governed by a Council consisting of 25 Members, who shall hold office for one year and shall retire at the time appointed for the Annual General Meeting, any retiring member being eligible for re-election. The Council shall have power to transact all the business of the Association, five to form a quorum.

MR. C. F. COLLINS seconded the resolution, which was carried nem. con.

The SECRETARY said, in reply to the Chairman, that the proxies did not affect the question, as they were in favour of the resolution.

MR. CECIL BROOKING next moved the following resolution:—

"Any two Members whose subscriptions for the current year are paid may give to the Secretary a notice or notices signed by them nominating any qualified member or members as a candidate or candidates for the Council. Such notices shall contain the name and address of the proposed candidate or candidates, and shall be signed by him or them. Such notices shall be sent to the Secretary not less than 21 days before the date of the Annual General Meeting. If the candidates are not more in number than are required to fill the vacancies they shall be declared to be elected at that Meeting. But if a greater number of candidates are nominated than there are vacancies to be filled, voting papers shall be issued by post to all the Members of the Association containing the names of the candidates. The voting papers shall be sent out by the Secretary 14 days prior to the date of the Annual General Meeting, and must be filled in and signed by the Members and returned to the Secretary before the commencement of the Annual General Meeting."

MR. F. TOPHAM seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

MR. LEWIS CASSON moved:

Article XV. to read—
Delete from "time when the term" to the end of Article, and add the words "next Annual General Meeting."

Article XXIII., Delete "President, Vice-Presidents, and"

Article XXIV., Delete.

Article XXV., Section 2, Delete from "But if a greater number" to "hereinafter provided."

Article XXV., Section 3, Delete section and substitute "If the election has been by voting papers the members present shall elect four scrutineers who shall examine the voting papers, and after the same have been counted the result shall be published at the Offices of the Association."

MISS WYNNE MATTHISON seconded, and the resolution was then put to the meeting and carried.

MR. C. F COLLINS moved:

That Articles 7 and 8 be deleted and be replaced by the following:—

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

7. The Entrance Fee shall be Five Shillings.

8. The Annual Subscription shall be Fifteen Shillings payable in advance on January 1 in each year, or Eighteen Shillings payable in advance by equal instalments on January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1 in each year, and only those Members whose Subscriptions are paid shall be entitled to vote at any Meeting.

Should a Member fail to pay his Subscription within seventy days after it is due his membership shall cease, but he may be re-elected by the Council upon payment of arrears and a re-instatement fee of One Shilling.

The Subscription of any person elected on or after April 1 shall be regulated by the quarterages for the remainder of the year.

The Council may, at their discretion, suspend payment of Subscription by Members travelling Abroad.

MR. LEWIS CASSON seconded the resolution.

MR. TOPHAM asked a question with regard to those members who paid their subscription by instalments. Would the Council take into consideration the advisability of making the total annual subscription of these members 16s. instead of 18s. per annum? He believed it was the general feeling that this reduction should be made.

The CHAIRMAN said, in reply, that the resolution was passed at the last meeting that no amendment could now be submitted. They had only to confirm that resolution. Whether the Council would take any action to reduce the subscription of members who paid by instalments to 16s. per annum he was not in a position to say.

MR. TOPHAM said he quite understood that they would have to adopt the resolution as it stood on the agenda; but he wanted to elicit some expression of opinion that possibly the subscription would be reduced to 16s. Even the members who had been so insistent upon getting everything they could in the way of subscriptions had promised to take this point into consideration.

The CHAIRMAN said it was difficult to give any assurance of the kind, as the first thing the Council had to face in the future was the question of finance. He was afraid that the present financial position of the Association was very unsatisfactory indeed, and it required the co-operation and loyalty of all the members to place the society in a satisfactory condition. As soon as the finances of the Association would allow it, no doubt steps would be taken to alter the resolution in accordance with Mr. Topham's suggestion. After Jan. 1 next, those members who desired to do so could pay their subscriptions at the rate of 4s. 6d. per quarter.

The resolution, on being put to the meeting, was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN said that all the resolutions passed at the last meeting having now been confirmed, they would be included in the Articles of Association. The first resolution, which governed the election of the Council, would legally take effect at the annual general meeting next year; up to that time the Association would be run on the old lines. He had been entrusted with a resolution which he was sure they would receive with great pleasure. These frequent meetings and the carrying out of the alterations in the Articles of Association had of course entailed a great deal of extra work upon the staff, and he desired to propose a vote of thanks to Mr. Chas. Cruikshanks for his assistance to the Council in every possible way. A great deal of work had also devolved upon their hon. solicitor in getting the resolutions into exact legal form, so that no difficulties should arise after they had been adopted. The Council had received the most cordial and hearty assistance from Mr. Mote, and he desired to include him in the vote of thanks. With regard to the changes which had been made there were differences of opinion amongst the members, but in spite of these differences he thought that they should all work heartily together; and Mr. Mote had given them an example of the way in which such work should be done. It had taken up a great deal of his time, and their thanks and gratitude were due to him for the way in which the work had been done.

MR. ATHOL FORDE seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

MR. MOTE thanked the meeting for their kind appreciation of the small service he had been able to render the Association. He had been connected with it from the very beginning, and he hoped that the recent changes which had been made would be for the best. There was no doubt that the Association had been of immense benefit to the members of the theatrical profession.

MR. HAYDEN COFFIN, in moving a vote of thanks to the chairman, referred to the resignations of members of the Council, and said that, speaking for himself, he desired to assure the meeting he had no feeling against the Association. He should be very sorry if any changes came about that had any tendency to break up the Association, having had its interests at heart for many years past. If his services were considered of any value to the Council he should be quite willing to offer himself for re-election.

MR. TOPHAM, who seconded, asked a question with regard to filling up vacancies on the Council.

The resolution having been carried, the chairman thanked the meeting, and said he was glad to have the assurances of members that they did not intend leaving the ship—he meant the Council. With regard to Mr. Topham's question, the Council as it stood would continue in office until the next annual general meeting. Then a new council of twenty-five would be elected. Mr. Coffin and the others had resigned under a misapprehension. Their solicitor had taken counsel's opinion on the resolution.

MR. COFFIN said he was obliged to Mr. Topham for putting the question, as it solved a difficulty.

MR. CECIL RALEIGH asked how many councillors it was proposed to add to the remnant that remained.

The CHAIRMAN said that their duty was to elect twenty members to fill the places of the twenty who had resigned. There was, however, the difficulty of getting candidates for the Council at that time of the year, knowing that their term of office would terminate next February. He thought that the Council should be made as representative as possible. As to the president and vice-presidents, the articles of association as amended did not provide any means of electing those officers, and so far as he knew the intentions of the Council, it was not proposed to elect for the present any president or vice-presidents.

MR. RALEIGH said he was only partially satisfied with the reply to his question. It seemed to him that they intended to let things stand with regard to the Council, and raise it to its old ridiculous and cumbersome number. If they were going to drop overboard the president and vice-presidents why should they not drop overboard the unnecessary members of the Council as well? He thought that the Council should show a little more courage.

The CHAIRMAN was glad that Mr. Raleigh was supporting them to the extent of trying to give them a little more courage. There was, however, "a fool of a law," and they were bound to stand by the articles of association.

MR. RALEIGH said he did not like the extra members on the Council.

The CHAIRMAN said that Mr. Raleigh, to have prevented this, should have moved a resolution at the last meeting. How could they avoid electing them?

MR. RALEIGH: Forget them at the next meeting. You can easily go on to the next business.

The CHAIRMAN said he was surprised that Mr. Raleigh, with his well-known democratic tendencies, should advise such a course.

MR. RALEIGH: When a law becomes obnoxious that is the time to break it.

The meeting then separated.

The usual weekly meeting of the council took place on Tuesday, when there were present Mr. Kenyon Musgrave (in the chair), Mr. Henry W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Mesdames Clare Greet and Wynne Matthison, Messrs. Cecil Brooking, C. F. Collings, H. Athol Forde, Laurence Irving, Fredk. Morland, Frank Vernon, and Chas. Cruikshanks (secretary).

The hon. solicitors reported their opinion that all those persons who are already members of the Association, but who have not paid their subscriptions, would be bound by the rules under which they joined so far as their subscription is concerned. With regard to any new members joining the Association from this date, the annual subscription would be in accordance with the resolution confirmed on Monday.

The hon. solicitors reported they had had an interview with a member and advised him, and had written a letter on behalf of another member.

The secretary reported that there were no vacancies on the council owing to the fact that at the Extraordinary General Meeting, held the previous day, the resolution passed on the 6th inst., reducing the council to twenty-five, was confirmed.

The council before that date consisted of fifty-five members, one president, twelve vice-presidents, and forty-two ordinary members. The president and nine of the vice-presidents, and twenty of the ordinary members having retired, making a total of thirty, there thus remained twenty-five. The hon. solicitors stated there was no power to add to the twenty-five; but he would, if it be thought advisable, consult counsel on the point. It was agreed that the further consideration of the question be postponed until next week, and in the meantime counsel's opinion should be taken, and that Mr. Fredk. Morland should attend the conference.

It was decided that the secretary exhibit the following notice in the rooms of the Association:—"It having been reported to the council that certain articles have, from time to time, been found missing from the rooms of the Association, the council regret they have no alternative than to post a notice enumerating the various articles which may in future be missing."

It was agreed that a committee be appointed to approach the Variety Artists' Federation on the subject of members of the A. A. appearing on the music-hall stage, and to report to the council as soon as possible, and that Messrs. Cecil Brooking, Lewis Casson, and Kenyon Musgrave be elected on such committee. It was also resolved that the Finance Committee be requested to prepare a brief statement of the financial position of the A. A. at the present time and during the past ten years, and to lay the same before the council on Tuesday next.

The chairman read a letter from Miss Gracie Murielle, and the secretary was directed to reply acknowledging the receipt of the letter, and thanking the lady for her communication.

The resignations of Mr. H. Athol Forde and Mr. Lewis Casson as members of the Finance and General Purposes Committee were accepted. The secretary reported that under these circumstances there were only two members left on the commit-

tee, and that as it required three to make a quorum, it would be necessary to elect new members. The following seven gentlemen were accordingly elected to serve on the committee:—Messrs. Cecil Brooking, Lewis Casson, H. Athol Forde, A. Holmes-Gore, Fredk. Morland, Kenyon Musgrave, and Frank Vernon, Messrs. Laurence Irving and M. R. Morand remaining on the committee.

The report of the last social committee meeting was read by the secretary of the A A., and it was agreed that the council approve of the committee carrying on their "socials" during the summer, but must be furnished with further particulars. It was agreed that the social committee has no power to interfere with bi-monthly meetings.

The secretary read the minutes of the Commissioners' meeting, held on Monday, and was directed to inform the committee that it would be necessary for them to supply definite information as to the insanitations complained of at the various theatres.

The chairman having read a letter from Miss Hilda Hatton stating that she thought she might conscientiously withdraw her resignation, it was agreed that this lady's resignation might be withdrawn. Mr. Walter Maxwell tendered his resignation, and the secretary was instructed to write him a similar letter to that sent to Miss Hatton.

A letter from F. R. Benson, dated May 20, 1907, was referred to the Finance and General Purposes Committee for them to draft a reply.

The chairman read a letter from Mr. William Poel to Miss Rose Mathews, and it was agreed that the same be referred to the Social Committee for them to entertain the subject matter if they thought fit.

Five former members were reinstated.

The Finance and General Purposes Committee held a meeting on Tuesday last, the chair being occupied by Mr. Fredk. Morland. There were also present Messrs. Cecil Brooking, H. Athol Forde, Kenyon Musgrave, and Frank Vernon, and Chas. Cruikshanks (secretary). The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Consideration of the question of repairs referred to this committee by the council for suggestions as to the method of increasing interest in the bi-monthly meetings was deferred. The secretary reported that Mr. Woodrow, the hon. consulting architect, had prepared a specification of the necessary work to be done on the premises by way of repair, and had sent copies to four builders, and was awaiting the receipt of their estimates.

The preparation of accounts showing the income and expenditure for some years past was considered, and the secretary supplied information as to the probable income and expenditure for the remainder of the present year, and it was agreed that the further consideration of "ways and means" should be discussed at a special meeting of the Finance Committee.

A letter written to the secretary by Mr. F. R. Benson and referred to this committee to draft reply, was considered, and the suggested form prepared for the secretary's signature. The meeting lasted from five to seven.

A. A. SOCIAL.

MR. CECIL BROOKING presided at the social gathering of the Actors' Association on the 24th ult., when MR. WILLIAM POEL delivered a well-thought-out address on the conservatism which characterised the dramatic profession in regard to certain time-honoured conventions of the stage.

After tracing his twenty-five years' connection with the stage and humorously detailing the surreptitious manner in which his earlier visits to the theatre had to be made, Mr. Poel proceeded to demonstrate the surprise he felt in these early days at the difference he noticed between a Shakespearean play as produced on the stage and the text as he quickly perused it at home. Incidentally, one of his earliest recollections was the wonderful impression which Salvini made upon him. The growing love of the drama eventually decided his going on the stage, and there he found the prejudices of hide-bound conventionalism even more powerful than he could have believed them to be. Thus, in the play scene of *Hamlet*, it was apparently an immutable law that the King should be hurried off the stage long before the consummation of the scene, although the text would have led one to suspect that the King's discomfiture would have taken place at the conclusion of the scene. So also in the case of the scene of Ophelia with the flowers. In the original edition Ophelia is represented as playing a lute. Shakespeare, in the lecturer's view, did not intend Ophelia to use the flowers on the stage at all—the madness made her imagine that various trivial articles represented flowers. Another branch of modern stage art which Mr. Poel severely criticised was the stereotyped method of enunciation which actors thought it necessary to adopt in reciting Shakespeare's lines. This was only because it *was* Shakespeare—apparently oblivious of the fact that blank verse contained a large amount of matter which could be perfectly well slurred over. In this connection Mr. Poel gave some very interesting examples of different styles of reading several passages from Shakespeare. Referring to Mr. H B. Irving's recent lecture to the Elizabethan Stage Society, Mr. Poel pointed out that the aspect from which an Elizabethan audience regarded a play was essentially different from that of a modern audience. Then the audience did not look for scenery. They critically studied the author's words, and allowed the scenes to be conjured up by the suggestions of the text. As a matter of fact, in Mr. Poel's opinion Shakespeare would have actually resented the ignoring by the audience of the fact that his lines portrayed the scenery, and that such adventitious aids were at all necessary to the interpretation of his plays.

The chairman proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Poel for his interesting address. Miss Rose Matthews, in supporting the motion, expressed the satisfaction of the executive committee at the success attending these meetings, and also expressed the sense of gratitude which the Association felt towards the eminent authors and dramatists who had so strongly supported their efforts. She prophesied that a brilliant future lay in store for the Association if the members would throw aside all feelings of lethargic indifference and actively assist the executive in placing the Association in the van of art and progress. She concluded by announcing that that meeting would be the last of the present season.

SENOR SOBRINO'S RECITAL.

At the Guildhall School of Music on Tuesday afternoon Señor Carlos Sobrino, the Spanish pianist, gave his fourth recital before a very large audience. The recital on Tuesday was entirely devoted to the works of Chopin, the programme commencing with the great Polish composer's Fantaisie Op. 49. In the Preludes Nos. 1, 3, and 15, which followed Señor Sobrino gave a skilful and intelligent reading, while in the Ballade and Scherzo he simply revelled in the technical difficulties, to the evident delight of his hearers. The beautiful Nocturne Op. 37, No. 1, was also most sympathetically rendered by the pianist, while the quaint and characteristic "Mazurka" was capitally played. Other examples of the great master which proved instructive to students present were the famous Etudes Nos. 5, 12, 1, and 9, in which so much depends on style and execution. The programme also included the posthumous "Fantaisie Impromptu," the No. 2 Waltz, and the dashing "Polonaise." The professor, who was much applauded during the recital, received at the close a most hearty reception.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

ACTORS' UNION.

LONDON.

MR. ROBSON PAIGE presided at Tuesday's meeting of the Actors' Union, which was extremely well attended, among others present being Mr. Harry Paulton, Mr. J. L. Shine, Mr. Rawson Buckley, Mr. Arthur Bawtree, Mr. and Mrs. Oswald Marshall, Miss Gladys Ffolliott, Mrs. Robson Paige, Miss Beatrice Lloyd, Miss Winifred Symonds, Miss Marion Bird, Mr. Milsom, Miss Constance Groves, Miss Beresford, Miss Nybloc, Miss Townshend, Mr. Armitage, Mr. Porter, Mr. Wm. Ellison, Mr. Frederic Jacques, Miss Elsie Carew, Mr. Wm. Clayton, Mr. and Mrs. Booth, Miss Woolviston, Miss Lester, Miss Vere, Miss Thorne, Miss Tate, Mr. Dent, Miss Rosie Kearns, Miss Stanley Brett, Mr. Maine, Miss Le Clerq, Mr. J. Collinson, Mr. A. C. Grande, Mr. A. Bennett, Mr. Edwin Wolseley, Mr. Frank Lacy, Mr. H. Tripp Edgar, Miss May Conrade, Mr. Wm. Macready, Mr. Palmer, Miss Maud Shelton, Miss Marie Clavering, Miss Lilian Devine, Miss Adela Harvey, Miss Mapleson, Mr. Charles Ommanney, Miss Florence Groves, Mr. Troughton, Miss Phillips, Mr. A. J. Harding, Mr. C. A. Hann, Miss Hilda Dennison, Mrs. Paulton, Miss Massey, Mr. and Mrs. Alex Bradley, Miss Adelaide Gracey, Miss Nellie Moore, Mr. Owen Ducroy, Miss Florence Smithers, Mr. Campbell Goldsmid, Mr. Herbert Hewitson, Mr. Ruddle Brown, Mr. Francis Chamier, Miss Mary Bessle, Miss Edith Chalmers, Miss Nellie Cozens, Mr. George Child, Mr. E. J. Collins, Mr. F. Forde, Mr. William Gilbert, Miss Le Clerq, Mr. Arthur Leigh, Mr. H. Nelson, Miss Isa Patterson, Miss Agnes Paulton, Mr. Fred Permain, Mr. Pritchard, Mr. F. E. Petley, Mr. Fred Rolls, Mr. Wilfred Shine, Mr. Charles Sugden, Mr. Frank Stanmore, Mr. E. H. Templeton, Mr. George Tate, Mr. Watty Walton, Mr. Robert Whyte, jun., Mr. Percy Yorke, Mr. Cecil Calvert, Miss Stanley Burt, Miss Nellie Howitt, and Mr. Frank Elliott.

MR. PAIGE referred in eulogistic terms to the excellent work done in the provinces by Mr. Hamilton Deane, Mr. Campbell Goldsmid, Mr. Ruddle Brown, and others at a time when members were more difficult to get than now. He took this opportunity of thanking all the members who had assisted to return him second on the poll. As to the regrettable deaths of Paul Belmore and Charles A. Leicester, both of these gentlemen had expressed a wish to join the Union, but had delayed sending their entrance fee, and consequently were not entitled to the death levy. He would ask his hearers to pass in silence a vote of sympathy with the relatives of both these gentlemen. Coming now to deal with the poor salaries paid to the women in the profession, there was no doubt that the executive would do something for their professional sisters. He thought that, after all, it would be an advantage if they allowed ladies on the committee. Miss Gertrude Kingston had resigned on that score, and he had had complaints from ladies. However, it would be for the members of the Union to decide in January—possibly at the meeting on June 14. As to Mr. Cecil Raleigh, although that gentleman had put forth certain views which were not very popular, he (Mr. Paige) did not think Mr. Raleigh would lead them astray, so why should they go contrary to his wishes? At any rate, he intended to stand by Mr. Raleigh. He would most certainly resign himself, which he believed would be a small matter, but he would ask them to consider the effect Mr. Raleigh's renunciation would have. Mr. Raleigh was practically the founder of the Actors' Union, and he (Mr. Paige) and his coadjutors, Mr. Bawtree and Mr. Howard Templeton, had been unable to get anything like a following until Mr. Raleigh's name was connected with the movement. At the same time, he hoped that differences of opinion would not alter friendships.

MR. HARRY PAULTON said that they were all willing to admit that Mr. Raleigh had done a great deal for the Union, but apparently he wanted to run it entirely according to his own ideas, some of which were objected to by the majority of members.

MR. FRANCIS CHAMIER said that they were there to talk about the Union, and that discussions as to Mr. Raleigh's ideas were out of order.

MR. OSWALD MARSHALL said that the object of the meeting was to get members, and these totally irrelevant matters should be left out of consideration. There were other subjects of far more importance for them to consider, such as payment for rehearsals, payment of railway fares on joining and leaving a company, and various other reforms.

MISS GLADYS FFOLLIOTT urged that everyone should send a small contribution each week for the benefit of their old age fund. She also wished to draw their attention to the possibility of preventing plagiarism by members sending their plays to the Union and having them marked as having been read by the reading committee. On another point, she thought that actors and actresses should only be called upon to pay three-quarters fares; and an additional benefit might be gained by their having the assistance of a medical man.

MR. RAWSON BUCKLEY made a proposition in regard to an old age pension fund. At the end of six months the committee might put £50 aside for five years, no one for that period to be entitled to call for aid. At the end of five years they would be able to pay a pension of £10 a year. Then they might combine with Actors' Day and give one night's salary every year. He calculated that in ten years' time they would have a sufficient amount in hand to enable them to give twenty old actors pensions for life.

MR. WM. MACREADY complained that there were too many hangers-back. If actors would only be true to each other, to themselves, to their art, and to the Union, the Union would become the most colossal trade union of artists the world had ever known.

MR. FRANK LACY said that members of the Union should advertise its aims, verbally and otherwise, on every possible occasion. They all could afford to put aside sixpence a week when they considered that it would do pounds of good to their brothers and sisters and themselves.

MR. TRIPP EDGAR proposed a vote of thanks to the late provisional committee, coupling with it the names of Mr. Robson Paige, Mr. Oswald Marshall, and Mr. Arthur Bawtree.

MR. J. L. SHINE, in seconding, said that he was now a sketch manager as well as an actor, but he would be very pleased to withdraw from the committee if it was thought desirable that he should do so, although still retaining his ordinary membership. He pointed out that all of them were actors and actresses, and the Union should remain strictly an actors' union.

MR. OSWALD MARSHALL and MR. ARTHUR BAWTREE suitably acknowledged the vote of thanks.

MR. FRANK ELLIOTT mentioned the case of a manager who was in the habit of deducting ten shillings a week from artists' salaries to insure himself against possible loss under the Workmen's Compensation Act, and who also deducted ten per cent. for agent's commission, although he had made the engagement direct.

MR. WOLSELEY stated that a certain manager had offered him an engagement of thirteen weeks subject to his paying ten per cent. on the engagement for one year. He had declined.

MR. MARSHALL mentioned an instance of a manager's dishonest and disreputable dealing which had come to his notice. A company had been engaged for a tour, and towards the end of it the manager told the members of the company that they could have an additional week provided they accepted half salaries, as he was taking on a risk himself. The theatre manager informed one or other of the actors that the touring manager had been guaranteed £120 for the week.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the proceedings.

BIRMINGHAM.

At a special meeting in connection with the Actors' Union, held at the Metropole Theatre, Birmingham, on the 24th ult., Miss Marie Clavering took the chair, and the list of those present included Messrs. J. T. Dillsen, C. Sterling, Tyrone Power, G. H. Child, H. Clapham, Leslie Beauford, George Hudson, Walter Langford, and Miss Florence Hudson.

MISS CLAVERING, in her opening speech, argued the necessity for a union of actors. The medical profession, the lawyers, the working journalists, and members of the teaching profession, all had organizations for their protection. It was desirable that many abuses should be removed, and she hoped the profession would stand together to remove them.

MR. C. STERLING complained of the hardships to which actors were subjected through unscrupulous managers. For a manager to take a company on tour knowing that he was not in a position to pay their salaries at the end of the week ought, he said, to be a penal offence.

MR. G. H. CHILD said it was absolutely essential that something should be done to put the provincial stage on a better footing. They wished to abolish the unfair competition of underpaid or premium-paying actors, and to insist upon the decent and healthy structure of theatres. After this they would form a provident and an old-age pension fund. Nothing could be done, however, until three-fourths of the profession were in the Actors' Union. Although they had not amalgamated with the Reform Party of the Actors' Association, yet they welcomed the objects of that party, who were striving for the same ends.

MR. J. T. DILLSEN said actors wanted a fair price for their labour and a minimum wage. He denied that such a minimum would lower the salaries all round. Wherever it had been put in operation the result had been beneficial.

A resolution was carried affirming the absolute necessity for the Union.

LIVERPOOL.

MR. HAMILTON DEANE presided at a meeting held at the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, on the 24th ult. The attendance was moderate. Twenty of those present were members, and seven new members were enrolled. The meeting included Miss Haidee Wright, Miss Violet Thorold, Miss Ethel Russell, Mr. Jack Collinson, Mr. E. Howard Templeton, Mr. Hamilton Deane, Miss Gladys H. Walton, Miss Ida Mackay, Miss Cissie Bellamy, Miss Lena Nazeby, Mr. Bernard Hishin, Mr. Charles Herbert, Mr. Frank S. Strickland, Mr. A. B. Mackay, Mr. Campbell Goldsmid, Mr. and Mrs. Hesselgrave, Miss Madge Seymour, Mr. Frank Ayrton, Mr. Francis E. Wybert, Mr. Wallace Campbell, Mr. C. Hall-Eldon, Mr. H. E. Brandon, Mr. Francis Court, Mr. W. Nay, Mr. S. S. Pearse, Mr. Alfred S. Fry, Mr. Chas. Caffrey, Mr. Frank Harvey, and Mr. Harry Tilbury. A cordial vote of thanks was passed to Mr. John Gaffney for the use of the theatre.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Will you kindly make it known to all members of the above Union that I shall support Mr. Raleigh's views till a sounder adviser and a stronger personality comes to our aid? Mr. Cecil Raleigh really founded the Union, and has attracted most (if not all) of our members. To allow him to drop us at this critical moment would, in my opinion, be fatal.—Yours faithfully,

ROBSON PAIGE.

10, Ospringe-road, N.W.

WITH the object of directing attention to the advantages of the Elizabethan methods of representation, Mr. William Poel, of the Elizabethan Stage Society, will give some performances of Shakespeare's comedy *The Merchant of Venice* at the Grand Theatre, Fulham, from Tuesday, June 11, to Saturday, June 15. The play has been chosen because it is the one most often acted on the modern stage, and will be given in its entirety, on an open platform, and in Elizabethan costume, as was the custom in Shakespeare's time. Members of the dramatic profession will be invited to the matinée on Thursday, June 13, and on certain days, specially arranged for schools, clubs, and institutes, reduced charges of admission will be made.

MISS ELLEN TERRY

WHOSE AUTOBIOGRAPHY COMMENCES IN NEXT WEEK'S "M.A.P."

Copyright photo] *[Lallie Charles.*

EVERYBODY will be delighted to hear that Miss Ellen Terry has just completed her autobiography, and that its publication in serial form commences in next week's *M.A.P.*

"The Story of My Life," as her reminiscences are entitled, is a story of absorbing interest. It will rank as one of the most important biographical works of recent years. It is at once the story of the astonishing career of the greatest of actresses, the story of the stage for the last fifty years, and the story of a woman whose friends are as the stars in number, who has held enthralled the hearts of all who have known or seen her by her beauty and by her charm.

"The actress is great, but the woman is greater than the actress," a famous critic once wrote, "and in the final analysis of Miss Terry's acting it will be found that her enchantment is that of a unique personality."

And this personality breathes through every line of the autobiography. "To read it is to hear her speak and see her smile," said a friend who has been privileged to see the manuscript. Just as she charms when she appears in public or in private, so does she charm through her pen. As a brilliant writer, an incomparable story-teller, Ellen Terry is now to shine in a new part.

"For years," she confesses, "I have contemplated telling this story, and for years I have put off telling it. When it was suggested to me that I ought to write down my recollections in the year of my Jubilee, all the difficulties of the undertaking began to frighten me. I could not deny that I had had an eventful life, packed full of incident, and that by the road I had met many distinguished and interesting men and women. I could not deny that I had been fifty years on the stage, and that this meant enough material for fifty books."

So, appalled at the task, but inspired by the knowledge that her story would be warmly welcomed by the great public that had proved so loyal to her through fifty years, she began to write of her eventful life.

"What is the first thing I remember?" she asked herself, and began with that—a picture of herself as a baby in a Glasgow attic asleep on the floor, clinging all night to her father's hand. And then the rest of the story flowed from her pen: the recollection of her first appearance on the stage as a little girl of eight, in the year 1856—the history of her famous brother and sisters, Kate, Marion, and Fred—of her associations with the Keans and Henry Irving—and of those parts with which her name will ever be associated—her triumphs as Ophelia, as Portia, as Beatrice, and as the Margaret of Goethe's "Faust." . . .

Our readers will be well advised on no account to miss the opening chapters of Ellen Terry's "Story of My Life," appearing in next week's *M.A.P.*

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

Sir Charles Wyndham has generously lent his assistance to the matinée which Mr. Jerrold Robertshaw is organising on behalf of Miss Fanny Coleman, and, together with Miss Mary Moore and his company, will appear in an act of *The Liars*. The matinée, which is fixed for Thursday, June 13, at the St. James's, will also be graced by Mrs. Patrick Campbell and her daughter, Miss Stella Campbell, who will appear in Act II. of *Magda*; Mr. John Hare and Mr. Charles Groves in *A Quiet Rubber*; Miss Constance Collier and Mr. Jerrold Robertshaw in *The Mummer's Wife*; Miss Lottie Venne and Mr. Eric Lewis in a new duologue by the latter; and a host of other artists.

Mr. Beerbohm Tree celebrated Empire Day by inviting 150 delegates of the Federal Conference on Education to a performance of *A Woman of No Importance* at His Majesty's, and afterwards entertaining his visitors on the stage. Among those present at the reception were the Earl of Meath, the Vice-Chancellor of Glasgow University, Sir Charles and Lady Lyall, the Governor of the Falkland Islands, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Bourchier, Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Maude, Mr. and Mrs. George Alexander, Sir Charles and Lady Wyndham, and Miss Mary Moore.

In his speech of welcome to the delegates Mr. Tree said if a humble layman, taking advantage of his position as host, might interject an impertinence, he should say that it might be a national advantage if, in the general scheme of education, more attention were given to the rudimentary laws of happiness and of health. We most of us learnt the laws of health too late in life—and we forgot the laws of happiness too soon; indeed, we often forgot them before we went to school. When he was young, the educational conception of health was to kick a ball very, very hard, and the educational conception of happiness was to know the Athanasian Creed by heart, if possible in Greek. It might be a happy thought if some great poet could put those elementary rules of happiness into words, and if some great composer should set them to music, so that all ch might learn them by heart.

The marriage of Mr. Rupert D'Oyly Carte, the younger and only surviving son of the late Mr. R. D'Oyly Carte, to the Lady Dorothy Gathorne-Hardy is fixed for Thursday next, June 6, at St. George's, Hanover-square. Lady Dorothy, who is the youngest daughter of the Earl and Countess of Cranbrook, is only eighteen, and is tall and very pretty.

Sir Squire and Lady Bancroft were present at the drawing room meeting held at the Mansion House on Tuesday in aid of the children's guild in connection with the Royal Waterloo Hospital for Women and Children. Princess Alexander of Teck, the president of the guild presided, and among the speakers was Lady Bancroft, who made an earnest appeal on behalf of the little sufferers.

Mr. Arthur Bourchier will revive *The Walls of Jericho* at the Garrick Theatre on Tuesday. Besides Mr. Bourchier and Miss Violet Vanbrugh in their original parts, the cast will comprise Messrs. Sydney Valentine, Eric Lewis, Douglas Imbert, Cyril Keightley, Arthur Whitby, Alfred Bristowe, Frank Elliott, F. Cecil, William Burchill, Harrison Carter, and Stafford Hilliard, and Misses Pamela Gaythorne, Nora Greenlaw, Elfrida Clement, Mary Weigall, Eva Killick, Mary Sumner, and Annie Stuart.

Mrs. Beerbohm Tree has promised to perform the opening ceremony at the inauguration of the New Theatre and Opera House, which the Bridlington New Spa Co. are erecting to replace the one burnt down last autumn. The new building is being rapidly completed, and will be in every respect an up-to-date structure, Mr. W. S. Walker, the architect, having made a careful study of all the best models. Mr. Hayne, the manager of the Spa, is so sanguine of the contractors finishing their work in time that he has fixed July 29 for the opening.

Mr. George Alexander has generously forwarded £5 to the London Branch of the Amalgamated Musicians' Union.

Mr. Edward Terry and Mr. W. Graham Browne have the direction of an entertainment which is to be given at the Mansion House on Thursday, June 13, and two following days, in connection with the Queen's fête in aid of crippled children. The programme will be a most attractive one, among the numerous artists of eminence who will contribute being Mr. George Alexander, Mr. Lewis Waller, Miss Lilian Braithwaite, Mr. David Bispham, Mr. H. Fragson, and Mr. Wilhelm Ganz. The fête will be opened by Her Majesty.

Mr. Martin Harvey, who reappears in London at the Adelphi on Monday, will add another production to his programme during his brief season, which, despite the heavy advance booking, cannot be extended longer than the four weeks originally announced. The novelty will consist of a one-act play by Rosamund Langbridge, entitled *A Tragedy of Truth*, and will be staged on June 17 in conjunction with *The Corsican Brothers*. Mr. Henry Ainley has been specially engaged for the leading part, and the other members of the company will be Miss Maud Milton and Miss N. de Silva. The scene is laid in Ireland, and the play is practically accompanied by music throughout, specially written by Mr. Norman O'Neill.

Once again has exception been taken to the name of a character on the stage. Recently Mr. Martin Harvey received a letter from a Northampton man saying that his name was Tresham, and that he desired Mr. Harvey to change the title of his play, *The Breed of the Treshams*, to some other name. He further states that although he has not seen the play, he has heard that it was a sixteenth century play, that one of the characters was known as "the Rat," and that as he could trace his lineage back to Charles I. he felt it an insult to his family name.

Miss Marie Löhr, who has made such a success as Beatrice Dupré in *My Wife* at the Haymarket, is a daughter of Miss Kate Bishop. She has toured with Mrs. Kendal and played in *Colonel Newcome* at His Majesty's. Her first appearance was in Sydney, N.S.W., where she was born, and was made at the early age of three. Miss Löhr is only seventeen.

The funeral of Mr. Charles A. Leicester (Charles Albert Lewis) took place on the 22nd ult. at Witton Cemetery, near Erdington, just outside his native town, Birmingham. The cortége was a long one, numbering some fifteen coaches, and the floral tributes were very numerous, over forty wreaths, &c., coming from old friends in Birmingham, and from his comrades and fellow-workers in the profession. There was a large gathering of people at the cemetery, many of whom attended the ceremony in the church, afterwards following to the graveside. Miss Florrie Groves wishes to express her heartfelt gratitude to the many friends and sympathisers in her late bereavement, and the mother, brothers, and sisters also tender their sincerest thanks.

Mr. Allen Thomas, who has so successfully sustained Mr. Alfred Bishop's part in *Toddles* during the past two weeks, is now playing his original part of Haslett again. This experienced character actor concludes his engagement at the end of the present run of *Toddles*.

The first instalment of the autobiography of Miss Ellen Terry, which promises to be the most interesting theatrical story of recent times, will appear in next Saturday's issue of *M. A. P.* This popular weekly has always been strong in the personality of the artist, and its dramatic notes, under the title of "*M. A. P.* in the Green Room," and its occasional chapters of autobiography under the heading of "In the Days of my Youth," have provided the reading public with much interesting gossip on the private and public life of popular favourites.

A new one-act play by W. W. Jacobs and Herbert Sargent, founded on a story by the former, will be put on in front of *Toddles* at the Playhouse on Wednesday. The little piece is a comedy of humble life, the scene being laid in the living-room of a house in Bermondsey. Miss Pollie Emery will be seen in one of the chief parts, and other characters will be sustained by Mr. George Shelton and Mr. John Harwood.

Two matinées of *The Three Bears*, a musical play by A. S. Scott-Gatty, will be given by Mrs. Wordsworth's pupils at the Vaudeville Theatre on June 20 and 21, in aid of the League of Mercy. Nearly all the performers, it may be added, are children. Mrs. Carl Hentschel is lady president of the Strand District, and tickets may be obtained from her on application to 55-56, Chancery-lane, W.C.

Mr. J. H. Booth, who has just been appearing as Farmer Thompson, in *Miss Lancashire, Limited*, is engaged to play the same part on tour through Australia, New Zealand, and America. Mr. Booth sails from Liverpool on Thursday by the White Star liner Runic.

Miss Florence Harcourt, who is in partnership with Mr. William Holles and Miss Nannie Goldman in the production this week at the Crown, Peckham, and the forthcoming tour of Arthur Shirley's new drama, *The Stepmother*, is playing the part of Johanna Jones, and scored a great success on the opening night.

Mr. J. C. Williamson sailed from Australia on Tuesday last per ss. Mongolia, en route for England. Mr. J. A. E. Malone, of Daly's, is Mr. J. C. Williamson's trusty lieutenant, and to him all enquiries regarding Mr. Williamson should be addressed.

Mr. Charles Collette finishes his spring tour with Messrs. Cartwright, Lawrence, and Tapping's *David Copperfield* company to-night at Brighton, having won "golden opinions from all sorts of people" for his performance of Micawber. Mr. Cartwright has retained Mr. Collette for his autumn tour for Micawber and other parts in a Dickens' répertoire.

Mr. Leonard Boyne has left London for Grainingfoid, Billingshurst, where he will rest till August, when he resumes work again at the Opera House, Southport, with his company in *Raffles*. Mr. Boyne's tour, which has just concluded, has been exceptionally successful throughout.

Mr. Murray King and his own company will appear in *Niobe* at the Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne, on Monday, on the occasion of the visit of the Congress of Booksellers. The Mayors of Eastbourne, Boulogne, Dieppe, &c., will be present at the performance.

The British Empire Shakespeare Society gave a dramatic reading of *Macbeth* at the Graham-street High School for Girls on Monday, before a highly-appreciative audience, composed of a large number of the society's members and the school's mistresses and students. Mr. Acton Bond appeared as Macbeth, and Miss Celia Palo as Lady Macbeth, the remainder of the cast being filled by other well-known members of the dramatic profession. The reading was received with the greatest enthusiasm.

The Leith theatre has been closed this week for purposes of redecoration, and also for the final rehearsals of the new stock company, which starts its season on Monday with a production of *The Shadows of a Great City*. Among the performers engaged to appear, either permanently or in the course of the next few weeks, are Miss Doris Gilham, Miss Paulina Gear, Miss Adleston, Miss Constance Medwyn, and Messrs. Fred Freeman, Clavering Craig, James Chippendale, Barry Lupino, James Somerville, Percival Dye, and Nesbit. A series of high-class dramas, short farces, and bioscope pictures will be presented from week to week, under the able stage-management of Mr. John Darlison.

The annual pastoral plays will be given in the grounds of Downing College, Cambridge, on Tuesday, June 11, when *The Comedy of Errors* and *As You Like It* will be performed. The plays are under the management of Mr. W. B. Redfern, and are produced for the third year by Mr. O. Lewin-Mannering's company of pastoral players, with Mr. Mannering himself in the parts of Antipholus of Syracuse and Jaques.

Mr. Fred Knight has completed his fourth tour with *Beauty and the Barge*—two under Mr. Cyril Maude's management, playing Dibbs and Simmons, in *That Brute Simmons*, and two under the management of Mr. Arthur Hardy, playing Tom Codd.

Mr. Charles J. Cameron, who has just finished his sixth tour with Mr. Martin Harvey, has been re-engaged to appear in the répertoire of plays which Mr. Harvey is producing during his season at the Adelphi. Besides playing his old parts in this répertoire, Mr. Cameron will be seen in a strong character-part in Mr. Harvey's new play, *Great Possessions*. This will not only be Mr. Cameron's third season in London with Mr. Harvey, but will also complete his third year's work with that well-known actor-manager.

Mr. C. A. White concludes to-night his fourth consecutive tour with Mr. Arthur Hardy, having played the principal comedy parts in *The Little Stranger*, *'Twixt Axe and Crown*, and *Clancarty*. Mr. White has also completed two tours as Dibbs the gardener in *Beauty and the Barge*.

Miss Adela Bowen has been engaged by Miss Olga Nethersole for her season in Paris to play the Princess in *Adrienne Lecouvreur*, Ellean in *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray*, and other important parts.—Mr. W. T. Gliddon has been re-engaged by Messrs. W. and F. Melville as musical-director of the Grand Theatre, Islington, on the re-opening on August Bank Holiday.

Mr. Arthur Law Raynor, who has just concluded four-and-a-half years as manager for Mr. Bert Coote's *The Fatal Wedding*, has been engaged by Mr. Charles Macdona for business management for the autumn. Mr. Raynor had a very pleasant surprise at the fall of the curtain on the last night at Dover, being presented by the company with a dressing-case, all present joining in the singing of "He's a jolly good fellow."

Miss Edna May's wedding to Mr. Oscar Lewisohn will take place at Ascot on Tuesday. The bridal tour will take the form of a three months' motoring tour through France, Germany, Italy, and Spain, after which the couple return to London, to leave again in the late autumn for a journey to America, Australia, Japan, and many places in the East. Finally Mr. and Mrs. Lewisohn will settle down in a country home near London.

The Lyceum is to be put to the purposes of charity on Tuesday, June 11, when a matinée will be given in aid of the Children's Seaside Holiday Fund. The specially attractive programme will include, among others, Miss Evie Greene, Miss Constance Collier, Mrs. Lewis Waller, Miss Marie Lloyd, Mr. George Graves, Miss Billie Burke, and Mr. George Robey.

Members of the profession who are interested in motoring may be assured of a good afternoon's sport by entering their favourite car for the Southern Motor Club's hill climb on June 22, at Captain Kydd's Hill, East Grinstead, under the auspices of the Royal Automobile Club. Of the seven classes into which the competition is divided, one is specially arranged for lady drivers, and another for cars which competed in the Tourists' Trophy Race in the Isle of Man without alteration to gear or engines; while a novelty of the meeting will be the competition for motor 'buses laden with passengers or equivalent weight. Earl Russell has kindly consented to act as judge. The entry-fee is 2 guineas per car for all classes, and entries can be received by the hon. Sport Secretary, S. W. Phillpott, 18, Gosberton Road, Balham, up to June 10, after which date 3 guineas will be charged.

Mr. John Gaffney, the popular manager of the Liverpool Shakespeare Theatre, will take his nineteenth annual benefit on June 13. The event is regarded in the city as the red-letter night, and that hosts of artists are offering their services is evidence of the esteem in which they hold a gentleman who has most efficiently occupied the position of manager since the theatre was erected in 1868.

A short theatrical entertainment is to be a feature of the dinner to be given by the Prince of Wales at Marlborough House on Monday, June 10, in honour of the King and Queen of Denmark, at which King Edward and Queen Alexandra will be present. By the special desire of His Royal Highness the programme will consist of two one-act pieces, *Sixes and Sevens*, played by Mr. Arthur Bourchier and his wife (Miss Violet Vanbrugh), and Mr. Charles Brookfield's comedietta, *The Lady Burglar*, performed by Mr. Cyril Maude and Miss Alexandra Carlisle.

Miss Ellen Terry has been rejoined by her husband, Mr. James Carew, who arrived at Tilbury by the Minnehaha on Wednesday. On reaching St. Pancras Mr. Carew was met by the distinguished actress, and the pair immediately drove to their residence in Chelsea. During his voyage across the Atlantic the news leaked out that "Ellen Terry's husband" was on board, and in order to escape attention Mr. Carew found it necessary to seek the seclusion of his cabin for the rest of the journey.

Mr. Norman MacOwan brought his seventh tour of *Monsieur Beaucaire* to a most successful conclusion at the West Pier, Brighton, last Saturday, when Mr. MacOwan reached his 572nd performance of the title-rôle. In most of the towns on this tour the clever comedy made its fourth or fifth appearance, but the returns, nevertheless, beat all previous visits. Mr. MacOwan and Miss Violet Sterne are now playing an eight weeks' stock season at the Grand Theatre, Swansea. *Still Waters Run Deep*, *Bunch of Violets*, *Second Mrs. Tanqueray*, and other favourite pieces are included in the répertoire.

"What the Butler Saw" company returns to London this week, and finishes the present most successful tour at the Kennington Theatre. During their visit to Cork last week the performances were under the patronage and presence of the Lord Mayor of Cork, the High Sheriff of Cork, Rear-Admiral Geo. F. King-Hall, Rear-Admiral George le C. Egerton, C.B., Major-General L. W. Parsons, C.B., and the Members of Parliament for the city. Mr. Rignold and Miss Blanche were warmly congratulated on the excellence of their entertainment, and a special invitation was sent for themselves and their company to visit the Atlantic Fleet, which was then lying in Queenstown Harbour.

Miss Trixie Toole, having arranged with Mr. Harold Webb to tour that successful musical-farcical comedy, *The Girl from Chicago*, will start out in the early autumn. Miss Toole is sparing no expense to keep up the reputation of this bright little show, having new scenery, dresses, &c., and doing everything on up-to-date lines.

"Tommy," the play by Jerome K. Jerome, which Miss Annie Hughes has been touring with such favourable results, is to have its name changed to *Miss Tommy*, the former title having already been used for a play by Mrs. E. S. Willard, produced at the Olympic in 1891. The new title will manifestly be more appropriate to a charming impersonation in a most attractive play. After Miss Hughes has represented Miss Tommy at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, to which town the piece will then make its second visit, she starts rehearsals of *Sweet Nancy*, which she will play three nights in turn with *Miss Tommy*. Miss Hughes' tour, it may be added, extends to the second week in August.

Miss Ellen Snow, who has just concluded a long engagement with Messrs. Howard and Hallatt as the Princess Iris in *Her Love Against the World*, has secured from Mr. Walter Howard the rights of his successful romantic play, *Why Men Love Women*, with which she will start a tour at the Grand Theatre, Brighton, in July. Entirely new scenery, properties, and uniforms are being prepared for this play, which will be rehearsed and produced by the author.

A three-act farce, by a new author, will see the light at a matinée to be given at the Royalty on Friday, June 28, in aid of the Grosvenor Hospital for Women and Children. The piece is *The Pocket Miss Hercules*, and the author Mr. J. Storer Clouston, who has already achieved renown in the literary world with the novels "The Lunatic at Large" and "Count Bunker." The new piece will be followed by Messrs. Richard Pryce and Frederick Fenn's popular little play, *'Op o' My Thumb*.

Miss Julie Temple has just concluded a successful tour of eight months with Mr. Bert Coote as Bridget, in *A Fatal Wedding*. Miss Temple, who thus finishes her fourth engagement with Mr. Coote, can now be secured immediately and for the autumn either for character or musical comedy.

Mr. Charles Langley has returned from a most successful tour of the United States with Mr. Forbes-Robertson, and is re-engaged by that gentleman for an autumn tour of the English provinces, playing Polonius, Roger Goodlake, &c.

Baron Harriss's *Prince of Pilsen* company terminates its second successful tour to-night at Cambridge. After a month's vacation the company reopens at Douglas, with Scarborough, Blackpool, and the principal fashionable seaside resorts to follow. The *personnel* of the cast will remain practically unchanged, Messrs. Frank Crimp, Harry Kilburn, and Miss Sophie Harriss retaining the principal rôles, with Mr. Albert Vernon as musical director and Mr. Hugh Fleming as advance director. During the recess Baron and Mrs. Harriss will entertain relays of guests at their riverside retreat near Maidenhead, where they have had the good fortune to secure the Braemore, Mme. Melba's electric launch of last season.

"The Boy Wonder" is the latest description applied by a 'chic American journalist to Mr. John R. Rogers, universally known as "Yours merrily," who seems never to grow older, despite his forty-one years of actual life in the theatrical business. He has made seven tours around the world, crossed the Pacific Ocean fourteen times, the Atlantic ninety-eight times, and in June will start on his one-hundredth stretch. His record as the manager of Minnie Palmer in *My Sweetheart* will long remain in theatrical history.

How it is done is explained by the jovial John himself. He says: "I never worry, never hurry, never do an act to regret, and never eat white bread, as moisture in flour is only good to make paste with which to post show-bills on walls." Mr. Rogers is evidently an apostle of the "simple life," and it is little wonder that, while most of his old associates have long departed the scene, the enterprising entrepreneur still remains a youth.

Mr. Frank Bertram will send out three companies this autumn. *The Breed of the Treshams* (by arrangement with Mr. Martin Harvey) will commence in July; *The Convict's Daughter*, with Mr. Bertram in his old part of the Convict, opens on August Bank Holiday; while *Hearts Adrift* has done so well this spring and summer that it will be again toured, opening in September. Mr. Bertram is at present travelling with his sketch, *The Chaperone*, but the tour will terminate in Birmingham on August 3, so that he can open on the following Monday with his drama.

Mr. Sidney Dench and Miss Dora Dench were accorded a full house on Monday last at the St. James's, Manchester, where they started a stock season with *The Rich and Poor of London*.

Mr. Percy Hutchison finished a wonderfully successful tour with *Peter's Mother* (North company) at Oxford on Saturday, when the demand for seats was so persistent that a part of the pit had to be converted into stalls. The South company of *Peter's Mother* also finished a most successful tour at Blackpool, the receipts on the opening day coming within 6d. of the record for all previous Whit-Mondays. The advance booking for the two companies, it may be added, exceeded £400.

Mr. William Mollison's tour, which has just concluded, has been a brilliant success. In the course of his itinerary Mr. Mollison was seen in several Shakespearean impersonations for the first time in London, and the encomiums called forth by his admirable embodiment of Shylock, Macbeth, and other parts were in the highest degree flattering. Mr. Mollison is now enjoying a vacation preparatory to starting on his next tour, which begins at the Opera House, Blackpool, and embraces all the leading dramatic centres in the provinces.

At the recent competitive Musical Festival at the Alexandra Palace, the silver medal in the class for basses and baritones was awarded by the judge, Mr. Plunket Greene, to Mr. Mathers Atkinson, a pupil of Mr. Philip Ashbrooke.

Mr. Laurence Irving will appear at the Coronet during the week beginning June 24 in M. Brieux's play, *Les Hannetons*, of which a performance was given by the Stage Society a few weeks ago. The English title of the play, which will then have its first public performance, is *The Incubus*. In connection with these performances a new one-act piece will also be produced.

Miss Ada Marius, the daughter of the late famous actor, Mons. Marius, is shortly making her first essay in management, and will enter upon a provincial tour with her own company in the well-known society play, *As in a Looking-glass*, by F. C. Phillips and F. C. Groves, which enjoyed a long run in London. She will, subsequent to this revival, produce an entirely new costume drama. For some years past Miss Marius has enjoyed an all-round experience in plays of every kind, and has recently been enacting leading Shakespearean parts with Mrs. Russ Whytal, whom Mr. Tree has recently engaged for next season as his leading lady. As understudy to Mrs. Whytal, Miss Marius had the opportunity of taking her place on tour as Portia and Viola while Mrs. Whytal appeared at His Majesty's Theatre during the recent Shakespeare Festival.

Mr. J. Maundy-Gregory is extending his work in an appreciable degree. Besides his *Lights Out* companies he has taken over for the summer Mr. H. A. Saintsbury and company in *Anna of the Plains*, and will launch in the autumn a bigger production than he has as yet attempted of a London piece.

Something elaborate, strikingly novel, and up-to-date may be anticipated in the pantomime *Robin Rood*, to be produced on Boxing Day. The production is the result of the joint efforts of Leolyn G. Hart, the well-known scenic artist, and John Henderson, author-producer, whose experience and ability in this kind of seasonable attraction have gained him a sound reputation. The magnificent transformation, which will be a feature of the pantomime, will be of a beautiful and novel nature, as will be at once apparent when the title is made known. Costumes, scenic effects, and paraphernalia are being specially made, and the music will be under the bâton of a first-class conductor. Miss Millie Henderson is the principal boy, and other important artists are in negotiation. A full chorus and ballet will be travelled.

"The Merry Widow" is putting the finishing touches to her toilette, and her début at Daly's will not be long delayed after next week. The composer of *Die Lustige Witwe*, Franz Lehár, is little known here, but his work has had remarkable success on the Continent, the fascinating tunes finding a place in every household in Vienna, where the piece was originally produced. Miss Lily Elsie will appear in the title-rôle of the new piece, in the cast of which some changes are to be noted. Mr. Robert Evett, and not Mr. Louis Bradfield, is now to appear as the Marquis de Jolly Don; Miss Elizabeth Firth will have the rôle of the Marsovian Ambassador's wife, formerly allotted to Miss Maggie May, and Miss Nina Sevening has been added to the company.

Mrs. Langtry, having heard from Mr. David Belasco that he will not be able to stage her new American play in New York until Christmas, has decided to undertake a short season in London commencing in September, always providing she can find a play to her liking. To that end she is now spending most of her time reading manuscripts. Thus the rumour that the "Jersey Lily" intended to retire from the stage is obviously incorrect.

The *Medea* of Euripides, in Greek, will be performed under the direction of Professor Ernest Gardner, in the Botanical Theatre, at University College, on Thursday, June 13, and the following evening and afternoon. The cast will be drawn from the students of University and Bedford Colleges. Tickets will be sold to defray expenses, and should there be any surplus it will be devoted to academic purposes.

Miss Olga Nethersole has sent a cheque for five guineas to the Dick Mansel Fund.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Sweets to the Sweet.

Miss Ellen Terry has indeed gone through the theatrical mill. Mr. Christopher St. John, in "Stars of the Stage," referring to the little Ellen's appearance as Mamillius in *The Winter's Tale*, says, "The child's salary at the Princess's, which began at fifteen shillings a week, was, of course, handed over to her parents, and the financial results of her work were only represented to her by a weekly remittance of sweets, of which her dignity as an artist did not prevent her from being passionately fond. She had no holidays to speak of. She often rehearsed until long past midnight, and was scolded by Mrs. Kean if she showed the least sign of fatigue."

Would Shave if Necessary.

Mlle. Ghita Corri, the only vocalist of the present day whose range of voice extends from E in alto to G bass with no break in the voice, is an enthusiastic realist in the matter of make-up. "I leave," said she to a visitor from the *Halifax Courier*, "no single little detail missing. Many lady artists engaged in similar work I know sacrifice many essential details because it would detract from their personal appearance were they to adopt them. I know some who dress their hair one particular way because it suits them, and whatever character they were attempting to give their hair would remain as best became them. Now this is foolish in my opinion. Were it necessary to shave my head, to take a part properly, I would do so."

A Song of Spain.

Miss Corri is appearing as a Spanish girl, but up to a little while ago she had not real Spanish music. One day a Spanish friend called to see her and played an air on the piano which Miss Corri had not heard before. She was enraptured, and desired to secure the rights. There was only one way of getting this, viz., by sending to the author, who lived in Spain. It was eventually found that this would necessitate the despatch of a special messenger over the mountains; that it would occupy two-and-a-half months, as he could only travel at certain periods of the day owing to the heat, and that the cost would be great. The messenger was sent on his errand, nevertheless, and he took three months to accomplish the journey. Its title is "La Cigarrera," or "The Cigarette Maker." Miss Corri's punching blow is 350lb.

A Costly Move.

What is "claimed" to be the biggest building-moving ever undertaken is about to be begun in the case of the Montauk Theatre, Brooklyn, which is to be moved 300ft. from its present site to a new one, besides being turned round in the process. The first operation will be that of raising the building from its foundation to a height of one or more feet, when the moving will begin. This will be accomplished by means of about 1500 jacks and screws 2ft. in length, which will be worked by hand, seven revolutions of all the screws being required to raise the building 1in. The theatre, after being raised to the necessary height, is to be placed upon a steel structure directly under the ground floor. After the building has been raised and rests upon the steel framework it will be moved upon steel rollers, which will in turn revolve on tracks constructed of railroad iron.

About six weeks of preliminary work will be necessary to place the theatre upon this steel framework, and the moving will then be accomplished by fifty screws, each operated by one man, and requiring seven revolutions to each inch of progress made. The most difficult part of the entire undertaking will be to raise the theatre, owing to its thousands of tons of weight, the building being constructed entirely of brick and stone. The cost of the "move" will exceed 75,000 dollars.

Acting and Expression.

"An actress," says Dr. Emil Reich in an article in the *Express*, "makes a display of what is sweetest, deepest, and best. Expression, as infinite as the expressed sentiment or thought, requires a whole personality. A great actress, in bringing the adjectives, nouns, and verbs of her ankles, wrists, shoulders, and facial muscles to bear on the sentences of the text, writes thereby an immeasurably better commentary on the dramatic work than can any critic. Fascination is really nothing else than the art of expression. The female face, more mobile and more uncovered than the face of a man, allows of an endless variety of expression. And what power in expression! A great actress, like a great statue, reveals to you your own innermost secret, the one that has haunted you for years, and which you were unable to articulate. One switch of an agile muscle in her cheek, one turn of her head, or one movement of her eyebrows, may come like an electric flash over the abysses of Life."

Nice Curls.

"Always very jolly," says the *Bystander*, "and entirely without affectation, Mme. Melba takes little or no care of her voice. She possesses a Colonial accent, a peculiarly attractive laugh, fine eyelashes, and—her voice. Once, during one of her first seasons at Covent Garden, she was singing in *Lucia* when some false curls she was wearing fell unashamed to the ground. It was impossible to pick them up, so she went on singing, hoping that the then Prince and Princess, in their box near the stage, had not noticed. But afterwards the Princess said to her (very archly for Alexandra!), 'And they were such nice curls, too!'"

Shaw on Doors.

Mr. Bernard Shaw, in his recently republished "Dramatic Opinions and Essays," says:—"Stagecraft, after all, is very narrowly limited by the physical conditions of stage representation; but when one turns over the pages of *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray*, and notes the naïve machinery of the exposition in the first act, in which two whole actors are wasted on sham parts, and the hero, at his dinner party, is compelled to get up and go ignominiously into the next room to 'write some letters' when something has to be said behind his back; when one follows Cayley Drummle, the confidant to whom both Paula and her husband explain themselves for the benefit of the audience; when one counts the number of doors which Mr. Pinero needs in order to get his characters on and off the stage, and [notes] how they have finally to be supplemented by the inevitable "French windows" (two of them); and when the activity of the postman is taken into consideration; it is impossible to avoid the conclusion that what most of our critics mean by mastery of stagecraft is recklessness in the substitution of dead machinery and lay figures for vital action and real characters."

Mr. William Archer, in commenting on this in the *Tribune*, remarks:—"I do not deny that there are cases in which realism demands that the dramatist shall be content with one entrance to his scene, and no more. But where a room may quite naturally have two doors, or even two doors and a French window, it is mere folly to make it a technical point of honour to abstain from using them. Mr. Shaw's plays abound in rooms which have more than one door or other means of egress. In the cottage scene in *Mrs. Warren's Profession* there are two; there are three in the studio scene of *The Doctor's Dilemma*. I cite only those which I remember on the spur of the moment; but I remember no case in which Mr. Shaw, any more than Mr. Pinero, oversteps the limits of probability."

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.

ANNUAL DINNER.

The Lord Mayor (the Right Hon. Sir William Treloar, J.P.), presided at the sixty-second annual dinner of the Royal General Theatrical Fund, held in the Whitehall Rooms of the Hotel Metropole on Thursday evening. His Lordship was supported by Mr. Edward Terry, Mr. George Alexander, Mr. Martin Harvey, Mr. T. P. O'Connor, M.P., Sheriff Dunn, Colonel Clifford Probyn, Mr. H. J. Greenwood, Alderman Crosby, Mr. Theodore Lumley, Mr. J. C. Parkinson, Mr. A. Pulitzer; and others present were Mr. W. Ganz, Mr. C. T. Hemsley, Mr. H. Marriott, Mr. C. Cruikshanks, Mr. H. Evill, Mr. C. I. Coltson, Mr. F. Desprez, Mr. E. de Witt, Mr. C. J. Davies, Mr. Louis Roche, Mr. H. J. Loveday, Mr. C. Rock, Mr. H. Lazarus, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, Mr. T. Harris, Mr. W. H. Godfrey, Mr. P. Nash, Mr. C. Alias, Mr. C. Clarkson, Mr. Bannister Howard, Mr. H. Saintsbury, Mr. Basil P. Ellis, Dr. Allchin, Mr. T. Allchin, Mr. J. O. Schuler, Mr. Gordon Young, Mr. D. L. Mathias, Mr. H. J. Hughes, Mr. H. Hughes, Mr. D. Croker, Mr. W. Collier, Dr. Wilson, Mr. W. A. Blakemore, Mr. E. Morgan, Mr. H. Earle, Mr. G. Hast, Mr. B. Harris, Mr. C. N. Foreman, Mr. H. Le Forestier, Mr. H. Rabbetts, Mr. W. A. Collins, Mr. H. H. Oliver, Mr. W. J. Ebbetts, Mr. F. Blake, Mr. T. Maskall, Mr. W. Millwood, Mr. G. S. Edwards, Mr. C. C. Wakefield, Mr. A. H. Elliott, Mr. F. C. Marshall, Mr. W. Lumley, Mr. W. Whitehouse, Mr. C. Paget, Mr. F. B. O'Neil, Mr. P. Chatelant, Mr. Jules Ayer, Mr. J. T. Grundlay, Mr. J. W. Marchant, Mr. G. Scamell, Mr. E. Carpenter, Mr. H. R. Smith, Mr. S. Smith, Mr. D. Munroe, Mr. H. F. Smith, Mr. G. French, Dr. Grant, Mr. A. Warren, Mr. W. Hogg, Mr. C. K. Cooper, Mr. W. Borrodale, Mr. J. Bruce-Joy, Mr. S. Heilbut, Mr. E. Maddick, Mr. S. Butler, and Mr. M. R. Morand.

After the loyal toasts had been duly honoured,

The Lord Mayor, rising to propose the toast of "The Royal General Theatrical Fund," said:—There are two reasons why this fund should be supported. First of all, because it is not a charity—it is a fund which is instituted to help those who help themselves. It provides annuities for actors and actresses who subscribe to the fund; and it is a fund which appeals to all those who have so much enjoyed seeing actors and actresses on many occasions. No man in London knows better than I do how willingly actors and actresses assist the cause of charity. There is no one in London who has had a greater reason to thank actors and actresses than I have, and therefore it is with peculiar pleasure that I come here to-night to take the chair at this annual dinner. If by any word of mine I can induce any of you gentlemen to alter the amount which you have already put down I shall be very glad. The two reasons I have stated are quite sufficient to claim your attention to this toast, and there is no greater argument I can offer than that I have already given you. I am aware it does not want argument. Your coming here to-night has proved that you want to benefit this fund. I will ask you to drink the toast with enthusiasm, and to do the best you can to make it successful.

Mr. T. P. O'Connor, M.P., in submitting "The Drama," said: The toast of the drama is not a toast which requires any defence in an audience which consists of those who are either associated with the drama or are friends of it. The drama as an instinct in human life has existed in all times, and will exist to the end of all time. If I wanted a proof, I should find it in the fact that David danced before the Ark, and that the Lord Mayor led the "furry" dance in the streets of Cornwall, thus showing a natural and logical sequence between the wise man of the Jews and the present Chief Magistrate of London. The commentators of the time of the Greeks were constantly surprised at the fact that human beings who had enough of sorrow and trouble in their own lives were yet never so delighted as when they saw those sorrows and troubles represented in a most poignant fashion on the stage. That tendency also exists to-day. If you ask a large number of people if they have enjoyed a drama or not, the usual reply is that they had a good cry and they enjoyed themselves extremely. To-day, as in all time, the drama may be regarded as the most popular form of social, spiritual, and, I might even say, religious exhortation. A plea for a better life, for the kinder treatment of women, for a tenderer love and greater sympathy and indulgence between men, is not the less, but the more, effective because it happens to be couched in the form of a stage production which appeals to the desire for amusement as well as to a desire for exhortation. Therefore, I am rather surprised that even to-day some persons of a profoundly religious turn seem to think that the playhouse is still a trap for catching unwary and innocent souls. I hold to the gospel of Hamlet—

> The play's the thing
> Wherein I'll catch the conscience of the king.

By the king, I mean the masses of the people. If you take out three or four of the great epics of the world—Homer, Virgil, Dante, and Milton—and if you want to point to the masterpieces of literature, you come to the drama—Sophocles, Euripides, Shakespeare. These are the great names in the literature of the world, and these all were playwrights. There has never been in my experience an instance where a dramatist has presented a snobbish thing or a mean thing to the admiration of an audience. It may be that the ideas represented in melodrama are not true to life, but it is something for the dramatist that in the popular theatre he does try to bring that necessary consolation to us that virtue is always triumphant and vice is always defeated. The last fifty years of human history have been more remarkable for progress and achievements in many directions than any previous period. I have no doubt that the contemporaries of Shakespeare lamented the fact that instead of the sweet melodies of an earlier age they were content with such poor stuff as *Romeo and Juliet*, *Hamlet*, &c. Therefore, I do not attach too much importance to the jeremiads about the decay of the drama or literature. I am inclined to believe that the drama in this country and other countries in Europe is making enormous steps in advancement, and one of the steps is the greater broadening of the themes of the dramatist and the closer approach to life. I am not surprised that Ibsen has never been a great draw in this country. The ideas of the people of this country are normal and healthy. It is an excellent characteristic of the English people that they do not care to dwell on the morbid, or the unpleasant, or the diseased. But there is a fault of an opposite character, and that is a demand that life shall be described not as it is but as it should be. In my opinion, the drama, the novel, and every literary effort should describe life as it is, and not as it is supposed to be. The worst and the most demoralising of literature is "goody-goody." I am sure a greater number of people have been delivered over to the enemy of mankind by the Sunday-school literature than by the playhouse. I can scarcely consider myself a fanatical admirer of Shaw, considering the examples of Irish balderdash he presented in *John Bull's Other Island*. But everybody must acknowledge Mr. Shaw's claims—on his own behalf. And everybody must acknowledge that Mr. Shaw has done a great deal for the stage by enlarging its limits and by bringing into discussion on its boards many questions that had been hitherto avoided. Mr. Pinero, Mr. Jones, and Mr. Sutro have also done good work in a similar direction. Fifty years hence people will be lamenting that they did not live in our day. The drama is approaching more and more the mirror of human thought and human action which it is intended to be. I will now call upon to respond to this toast one of the ablest and most artistic actors of our time—Mr. Martin Harvey.

Mr. Martin Harvey, replying to the toast, said: I do not know why the genial secretary of this admirable Fund has singled me out for the honour of replying to this toast. I cannot conceive a more exquisite form of torture than to ask a man to reply to a toast when it has been proposed in such eloquent terms as only that speaker can command who has the good fortune to belong to the most eloquent race in the world. I can only suppose that Mr. Secretary Davis is having a tardy revenge upon me for my not being a member of this Fund. I will say at once that if I am still unregenerate it certainly is not for the want of efforts on his part to reform my constitutional improvidence. You all know La Fontaine's fable of the cricket and the grasshopper. The provident cricket (he who has joined the R.G.T.F.) has gathered together through the summer his little store for the winter, while the grasshopper, thoughtless of the cold days to come, has chirped his life away in the enjoyment of the summer days; and then the winter falls, and the cricket retires to his warm and well-lined quarters, and the grasshopper, feeling the chilly blast upon him, knocks at the door of the cricket for shelter and food. "And what have you been doing all the summer days," says the cricket. "I have sung," says the grasshopper. "Very well, then," comes the very proper retort, "now you can dance." And here we have the parable of the actor who does and the actor who doesn't join the R.G.T.F.; and the improvident old grasshopper looks about him when the door is shut in his face and finds that he is too old for Mr. George Edwardes to give him a dancing engagement. I am here to answer for the Drama; and a very serious duty it should be—because, of course, the drama is going to the dogs. It was going to the dogs when Marcus Aurelius was so bored with the comedies of his day that he read state-papers in his box. It was going to the dogs in the days of Shakespeare, who deplored, in the mouth of a player, the craze for the infant phenomena who were drawing the town. Garrick, in his day, saw no hope for its future, and the morning papers of our own time deplore the symptoms of its approaching demise. And who is to blame? The actor-manager, obviously. Is there not a conspiracy among actor-managers to keep out the untried dramatist? Does he not cut down every rôle in the play in order that his own may acquire the greater prominence? Is he not the worst judge of a play in this world? Preferring one which will give him a fine part, and which, though his own fortune may be at stake, he will prefer to play to empty benches rather than one which will afford him less opportunity as an actor but will fill the theatre? If he play Shakespeare, is it not because he refuses to encourage contemporary dramatic talent, and wishes to avoid author's fees? Shame on him! And if his artistic proclivities inspire him to attempt the noblest and the best, irrespective of cost and material reward, and if he then ruins himself and sees his theatre turned into a music hall, does it not serve him right for his unpardonable extravagance? Well, these are the arguments usually brought forward to account for this so-called decline of the drama. But let us not forget that, with few exceptions, all the remarkable and memorable plays of our time have been produced by this scapegoat, the actor-manager, and not infrequently what material rewards he has gained in their production have been swallowed up by the lack of support he has received when placing before the public work as carefully produced, as painfully considered, and as honestly believed in, as his more successful efforts. And may I venture to say that to please his public is not the actor-manager's sole aim. There is a worthier ambition than that. It is to please himself—*i.e.*, to be true to his own artistic conscience; to attempt the thing which he knows to be the great thing and the noble thing, and the thing which he knows is due to the calling he respects. And this, believe me, gentlemen, he often does, sometimes without much hope of material reward. I am claiming no sentimental halo for the actor-manager. It is only what every other art and profession demands, and which is one of the sovereign remedies against that very decline which we have been touching upon. I mean the work which every artist and every professional man does for the sake of the calling he belongs to, and in order to uphold what is best in that work, irrespective of personal reward. I will only say, in conclusion, that I see no reason why the drama should decline while we actor-managers have before us the splendid ideal which Sir Henry Irving upheld. But what I would plead for among the young and brilliant band of coming managers I see rising in our midst is individuality. I would venture to say, "Follow your own road to the ideal, and not another man's. Try to find a road which shall be your road, and not one upon which you must imitate the footsteps of those who have gone before." May I apply to the drama the prayer which Kipling addressed to the art of painting in his "L'Envoi"?

> When Earth's last picture is painted, and the tubes are twisted and dried,
> When the oldest colours have faded, and the youngest critic has died,
> We shall rest, and, faith we shall need it—lie down for an æon or two,
> Till the Master of all good workmen shall put us to work anew.
>
> And those that were good shall be happy: they shall sit in a golden chair;
> They shall splash at a ten-league canvas with brushes of comets' hair;
> They shall find real saints to draw from—Magdalene, Peter, and Paul;
> They shall work for an age at a sitting and never be tired at all.
>
> And only the Master shall praise us, and only the Master shall blame;
> And no one shall work for money, and no one shall work for fame;
> But each for the joy of the working, and each, in his separate star,
> Shall draw the thing as he sees it for the God of things as they are!

Mr. Edward Terry, replying to the toast of the Fund, said: As honorary treasurer of the Royal General Theatrical Fund, I rise to make my annual address. I must say that it has always given me the greatest pleasure to speak at these meetings, because we are all here in a very good cause. The fund has a grand history. Very many big men in the past have occupied the chair, as the Lord Mayor is occupying it to-night—when we remember the names of men like Dickens, who presided twice over the annual gatherings of this fund—and I can only wish that I had been old enough to have joined with him in the speeches and the receptions on those occasions. The fund has for many years been doing a great and good work, and every year the power to do good work increases by the assistance we receive from gatherings such as these. We are doing a great good to the members of our profession who have fallen by the way, and many of us were not provident in our young days. We thought we should never get old. It is a very difficult thing to impress upon the young mind that there may come a time when it will be a good thing to have a little money laid aside to call upon when it is wanted. Our fund now grants annuities on the high scale of £120 a year on a very small outlay. It not only grants an annuity of £120 at a certain age, but after only seven years' payment. Should an actor or an actress fall by the way and become incapable of performing his or her duties, he or she immediately comes upon the fund, whether old or young, and can claim the annuity for life. I am dead against new funds—there was an idea of another fund being started—because I think this one does all that is possible as a provident fund, and another I have the honour of belonging to, the Actors' Benevolent Fund, does all that is possible in the benevolent way. We have during the history of the fund lost many good friends, actors whom we have loved and admired. Our poor friend Toole was one of our trustees, and a great friend of the fund, and since his departure we have, I am sure, elected one who will be a worthy successor—I refer to Mr. George Alexander. We have, as usual, to express our deep thanks to the House of Rothschild for their continued kindness and benevolence to us. We have also to be grateful to our King and Queen, who have always been good friends of the fund, and who remain annual patrons. I have to announce a few items of the subscriptions. Mr. N. M. Rothschild sends us seventy guineas; the Duke of Bedford, £50; Mr. C. C. Wakefield, fifty guineas; Mr. Claude Watney, £25; and Lord Burnham, £20. The total amount resulting from the Lord Mayor's presence to-night is the very handsome sum of £800. Having got over the statistics, I have now to propose the health of our chairman, the Lord Mayor. Where charity is concerned his year of office will be memorable. He has spared himself no time or trouble in the cause of charity. My Lord Mayor, we thank you very heartily for your kindness in coming here and presiding over us this evening, and doing your level best to promote the interests of the Royal General Theatrical Fund.

The Lord Mayor's health was then toasted with musical honours. His lordship, after briefly acknowledging the vote of thanks, proposed "The Musical Artists," paying a high compliment to those ladies and gentlemen. Chevalier Wilhelm Ganz suitably responded.

A very delightful programme of entertainment was provided, under the conductorship of Chevalier Wilhelm Ganz, the artists contributing being Mme. Alice Esty and chorus, Mlle. Suzanne Morival, Mr. Gregory Hast, Miss Constance Milestone, and Mr. Hamilton Earle.

"MAN AND SUPERMAN" REVIVED.

The Comedy, in Three Acts, by George Bernard Shaw, reproduced at the Court Theatre, on Monday, May 27.

Roebuck Ramsden	Mr. James Hearn
Octavius Robinson	Mr. Lewis Casson
John Tanner	Mr. Robert Loraine
Henry Straker	Mr. Edmund Gwenn
Hector Malone	Mr. Dennis Eadie
Mr. Malone	Mr. Edmund Gurney
Ann Whitefield	Miss Lillah McCarthy
Mrs. Whitefield	Miss Florence Haydon
Miss Ramsden	Miss Agnes Thomas
Violet Robinson	Miss Sarah Brooke
Parlour Maid	Miss Mary Hamilton

For the present the performance of the philosophic episode of Don Juan (John Tanner) in hell, which includes a characteristic Shavian disquisition on the evolution of morality as a passion, is deferred by Messrs. Vedrenne and Barker; but the audience at the Court on Monday evening was well content with *Man and Superman* as it was originally presented at the same theatre on May 23, 1905. As we then stated, the play is Shaw *in excelsis*, Shaw on the stump, with a very riot of topsy-turvy morality always in the forefront. The irony of the whole thing is that John Tanner—considered by Mr. Granville Barker, the original interpreter of the character, to be Mr. Shaw himself—finds the iron walls of conventionality too much for him, and easily capitulates to the studied simplicity of the orthodox Ann Whitefield, who pretends to be very shocked at Tanner's loud assertion of the irregular doctrine that—possessing the maternal instinct—woman has a right to seek motherhood in the way that seems to her best. The performance on Monday introduced a new John Tanner in the person of Mr. Robert Loraine, a young actor who played the part for the first time at the Hudson Theatre, New York, on Sept. 5, 1905, with great succes. The encomiums of the American Press on the performance were quite justified, for Mr. Loraine gives the remarkably long speech to Octavius Robinson in the first act with much variety of inflection, and his style reminds one strongly of Sir Charles Wyndham. He occasionally drops into an American accent, but it is not strongly marked. He acts throughout with rare spirit and humour. Miss Lillah McCarthy is as insinuating and as caressing an Ann Whitefield as ever, and shares with Mr. Loraine the chief honours. Mr. James Hearn, who takes the place of Mr. Charles Goodhart, the original Roebuck Ramsden, imparts all the irritability necessary to the protests of that monument of respectability, his continual outbursts of indignation in the first act being exceedingly funny. Mr. Edmund Gwenn, as 'Enery Straker, the chauffeur—the best-drawn individuality in the piece—resumes his original character, and the representation derives great advantage therefrom. Miss Sarah Brooke's sketch of Violet Robinson has lost nothing of its sharpness of outline or of its complete freedom from coquetry or romance. Mr. Edmund Gurney makes a genial Mr. Malone; Mr. Dennis Eadie presents a capable study of Hector Malone; Miss Florence Haydon sketches the portrait of the tearful widow, Mrs. Whitefield, with many natural touches; and Miss Agnes Thomas as the conventional spinster of the stern type is admirable. Mr. Lewis Casson does well as the lachrymose poet, Octavius Robinson.

RE-OPENING OF MALVERN THEATRE.

After extensive alterations, the Malvern Assembly Rooms Theatre was re-opened on Whit-Monday with Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Benson's company, who inaugurated the annual Shakespearean week. One of the most striking improvements is the provision of a new gallery to seat 400. The house has been supplied with handsome red and gold tip-up seats and magnificent tableau curtains, and the structural alterations made on the stage will allow of full-size theatre scenery being taken. A complete installation of electric light has been put in, and powerful electric fans will ensure adequate ventilation. A permanent orchestra is also provided.

During the week crowded audiences attended the plays, the house on several occasions being packed. Mr. Benson's programme was *As You Like It*, *Othello*, *Coriolanus*, *The Tempest*, *Richelieu*, *She Stoops to Conquer*, *Richard II.*, and *Much Ado About Nothing*. At the conclusion of the performance on Saturday night laurel chaplets, bouquets, &c., were showered upon Mr. and Mrs. Benson and their company, who are paying their sixth visit to Malvern. Mr. Benson, in a farewell speech, referred to the improvements carried out by the new lessee, Mr. M. T. Stevens, and remarked he had transformed the building into a commodious and pleasant theatre, with every possible facility, an enlarged staff, and permanent orchestra.

For the summer season Mr. Stevens has arranged an attractive programme of promenade concerts, including the Follies, the Royal Strolling Players, &c., and excellent bookings have been made for the autumn.

Presentation.—In the saloon of the Pavilion Theatre on Saturday Mr. Charles Langdon, who for many years has ably directed the bars of the establishment, was presented with a purse of gold, which has been subscribed by many of the regular patrons. Mr. Cecil Paget made the presentation in his usual happy manner, and Mr. Isrgdon suitably responded, thanking all who had so handsomely contributed.

"MY WIFE."

Comedy, in Three Acts, adapted by Michael Morton from the French of Messrs. Gavault and Charnay, produced at the Haymarket Theatre, on Tuesday, May 28.

Gerald Eversleigh	Mr. Aubrey Smith
Hon. Gibson Gore	Mr. A. E. Matthews
Capt. Putnam Fuzby	Mr. E. W. Tarver
M. Dupré	Mr. Fred Lewis
Baron Granclos	Mr. H. De Lange
M. Valboure	Mr. Athol Stewart
M. Potin	Mr. P. Percival Clark
Davies	Mr. Holman Clark
Crocker	Mr. Patric Curwen
Head Waiter	Mr. Philip Knox
René Falandres	Mr. H. Marsh Allen
Beatrice Dupré	Miss Marie Löhr
Miriam Hawthorne	Miss Millie Legarde
Mrs. Denham Lane	Miss Gordon Walker
Baroness Granclos	Mlle. Marcelle Chevalier
Mme. Dupré	Miss Joy Chatwyn
Marie	Miss Adelaide Burt

MM. Gavault and Robert Charnay's comedy, *Mademoiselle Josette Ma Femme*, bears pretty well the process of adaptation; and the result of Mr. Michael Morton's manipulation of the amusing play—which is in the height if its prosperity after its production at the Gymnase Theatre last November—is a success. Certain requirements of the plot had to be met by introducing several French characters into the play; but the effect is advantageous, especially as the leading personage, the conscientious and honourable hero, is essentially British, and the Frenchmen in the piece are cleverly acted, and are not the mere caricatures of the "foreigner" which were once prevalent on the English stage. The pivot of the play is one of the most improbable that can be conceived; but the idea is so comically worked out that the effect is very droll, piquant, and agreeable. Beatrice Dupré, the ward of the almost middle-aged Gerald Eversleigh, is ordered by her parents to marry a man she detests, her affections being given to a certain youthful René Falandres, whom M. Dupré looks upon with unfriendly eyes. As "Trixie's" inheritance of a large fortune depends on her marrying before she is eighteen—which will be in two months—matters are urgent; especially as Falandres is suddenly called away to Morocco. So she proposes to Gerald that he shall contract with her a "marriage only in name." After a convenient time they can obtain a divorce, when she will be at liberty to marry Falandres. With great reluctance Eversleigh consents, and in the second act we find the happy pair staying at a Swiss hotel. A French lady-killer called M. Valboure makes love to Trixie in the romantic Gallic vein; but she gives him no excuse for advance, until a certain Baroness Granclos finds a letter from René to Mrs. Eversleigh full of the most ardent protestations. Emboldened by the discovery, Valboure attempts to embrace her, but is repulsed with indignation. Eversleigh enters, and the result is a duel, in which he is wounded in the little finger. At this juncture Monsieur and Mme. Dupré arrive unexpectedly from England, and, learning that their daughter and their son-in-law are occupying separate rooms, and finding Trixie in tears, they express their displeasure warmly. Exasperated by the "impossible" situation in which he finds himself, Eversleigh returns to London with the idea of resuming his old bachelor life; but Trixie, who has grown fond of him, and is cooling towards the absent Falandres, arrives and embarrasses him with endearments, which, bound by his agreement, he cannot honourably accept. The difficulty is removed by the arrival of Falandres, who has married while in Morocco, and is anxious to make amends to Eversleigh, who, on his part, considers himself in the wrong with regard to Falandres. There is an amusing scene when the two men, at separate tables, write out cheques for damages and present them each to the other. Eversleigh is the first to perceive his blunder, but refuses to accept compensation, and the play ends with Trixie becoming Eversleigh's wife in fact as well as in appearance.

My Wife was capitally acted at the Haymarket on Tuesday by a cast of considerable interest. The success of the evening was scored by Miss Marie Löhr, who played Beatrice Dupré in just the right tone and spirit, the impulsiveness of the charming ingénue being delightfully expressed, and the vivacious wilfulness of the "spoilt child" being made very winning and attractive. Miss Löhr's personal gifts were well suited to the character, and she enacted it very naturally and without effort or exaggeration. Mr. Aubrey Smith as Gerald Eversleigh was the ideal of a manly, conscientious English man-of-the-world, his solidity and firmness giving reality to the extravagant situations of the play. Mr. A. A. Matthews's Hon. Gibson Gore was exactly the type depicted; and so easy and accurate was the characterisation as to obscure the essential slightness of the part. Mr. E. W. Tarver was altogether satisfactory as Capt. Putnam Fuzby; and Mr. Fred Lewis's accent and manner as M. Dupré were admirable. He acted, too, with all the necessary energy, spirit, and humour. Mr. H. De Lange hit off the Baron Granclos cleverly; and Mr. Athol Stewart contributed a carefully-studied impersonation of a pale and polished Gaul as the aggressive M. Valboure, Mr. P. Percival Clark being easy and efficient as M. Potin. That always reliable artist, Mr. Holman Clark, supplied a pleasing portrait of a mild and benevolent butler; and Mr. Patric Curwen was commendable as Crocker, Mr. Philip Knox contributing a neat performance of the little rôle of the head waiter at the Swiss Hotel. Mr. H. Marsh Allen showed adaptability by the clever way in which he hit off René Falandres' nervous anxiety; and Miss Millie Legarde made an excellent impression by a very pleasing and intelligent embodiment of Miriam Hawthorne. Miss Gordon Walker was a praiseworthy Mrs. Denham Lane; and Mlle. Marcelle Chevalier gave a fine impersonation of a buoyant and buxom French-woman, Miss Joy Chatwyn being quietly effective as Mme. Dupré, and Miss Adelaide Burt excellent as Marie. Mr. Walter Hann's two scenes were fine examples of his practised art, the Mount St. Flat being exceptionally well furnished. *My Wife* had an enthusiastically favourable reception, and evoked very hearty laughter and applause. It was preceded, for the first time, by a comedy, in one act, by Keble Howard, entitled

"MARTHA PLAYS THE FAIRY."

Martha	Miss Carlotta Addison
A Neighbour	Miss Lydia Rachel
Monica	Miss Dagmar Wiehe
The Curate	Mr. E. W. Tarver
The Squire	Mr. Holman Clark

This was a kind of "sequel" to *Compromising Martha*, the loves of the Curate and Monica being further developed by the introduction of Monica's father, the Squire, who objects to the proposed match. He is, however, cleverly managed by Martha, who induces him to conceal himself in her cupboard, where he hears the Curate, prompted by the old woman, express the highest opinion of him. Pleased and flattered, the Squire is mollified; and when Martha threatens to make public in the village the cupboard incident, with certain ridiculous details, the Squire, to buy her silence, accepts the Curate as his son-in-law. Miss Dagmar Wiehe was vivid, alert, and prepossessing as Monica; and Mr. E. W. Tarver, Miss Carlotta Addison, and Miss Lydia Rachel were again unimpeachable as Martha, the Curate, and the Neighbour, personages revived from the earlier play. Mr. Holman Clark contributed a clever and unforced interpretation of the rather weak-minded magnate; and Mr. Bruce Smith's cottage interior was once more admired.

"CLOTHES AND THE WOMAN."

Comedy, in Three Acts, by George Paston, Produced at the Imperial Theatre, on Sunday, May 26th.

Robina Fleming	Miss Wynne Matthison
Mrs. Desmond	Miss Darragh
Ethel Warrender	Miss Muriel Ashwynne
Dr. Lomax	Mr. Trevor Lowe
Jim Bradley	Mr. Reginald Eyre
Claude Goring	Mr. Charles Maude
Colonel Brereton	Mr. Wilfred Draycott
Mrs. Henslowe	Miss Emmerson
Bob Henslowe	Mr. Donald Calthorp
Mrs. Pemberton	Miss Florence Haydon
Mrs. Pershore	Miss Kate Harwood
Maid	Miss Irene Edwards

"George Paston's" play, which was presented by the Pioneers at the Imperial Theatre on Sunday evening, is bright, lively, and amusing, with a dash of thought and theory thrown in. It is a satire on the influence of dress and appearance upon man's estimate of woman and on his attitude to her. "That's what you fell in love with!" says Robina Fleming to her admirers; and she pulls out of a cupboard her Parisian costume, her "switches" and transformation, and all the paraphernalia of female adornment. There is much to be said, of course, on the other side of the case. "The man who does not mind his belly," said Dr. Johnson, "will never mind anything else"; and the woman who does not try to make the best of her physical gifts may be convicted of a kind of egoism more offensive even than personal vanity. Robina has her excuses. She had to labour hard for her living as a compiler of trashy tales, and now that she has made money she realises that she has never "had her hour." Her old friend, Mrs. Desmond, a smart and slightly cynical widow, takes Robina in hand. She makes her change her mud-coloured blouse, her plain skirt, and her easy shoes for a radiant toilet from Dover-street and shoes some sizes too small for her. Her waist is compressed by a close corset; colour is given to her cheeks by a certain "invisible fluid"; and her hair is embellished by some expensive falsities. Then Robina is let loose on society, and soon turns the heads of all the eligible men whom she meets. A young artist who had formerly looked upon her only as a friend falls in love with her, and wants to break off his engagement to a pretty simpleton named Ethel Warrender for Robina's sake; and the noted explorer, Colonel Brereton, Mrs. Desmond's particular admirer, transfers his allegiance to the beautiful and witty newcomer. Both the women protest against this wholesale annexation; and Robina, whose heart is quite free, promises to cure the artist and the explorer of their infatuations. This she does by getting them to call upon her in her old apartments, where she appears to them as the old unadorned, dowdy hack novelist. The artist immediately returns to his Ethel, and the Colonel gives Robina a severe "talking-to" about her intellectual selfishness. The two suitors, however, are got rid of, and Robina ultimately accepts a shrewd and kindly young doctor, who, however, stipulates on a moderate amount of seemliness in her exterior. *Clothes and the Woman* is brightly and pleasantly written, and some of the lines are extremely neat; and though the tone of the play is appropriately light, there were touches here and there of serious ethical argument. It was very well acted, Miss Wynne Matthison heroically obscuring her charms by an effective make-up in the first act, to blaze out triumphantly in the second in a scarlet costume and a big hat. The part was an easy one for an actress of Miss Matthison's ability, and she played it with plenty of point and an entire absence of effort, which left nothing to be desired. Miss Darragh hit off exactly the good-naturedly indifferent Mrs. Desmond, looked the part quite well, and acted it *à merveille*. Miss Muriel Ashwynne did full justice to the half-affected sweetness and vapid simplicity of Ethel Warrender; and Mr. Trevor Lowe gave firm, clear, and decided interpretation to the rôle of Dr. Lomax. Mr. Reginald Eyre's Jim Bradley was a brisk, natural, and active embodiment; and Mr. Charles Maude suggested very cleverly the fanciful sentiment of Claude Goring. Mr. Wilfred Draycott was, of course, unimpeachable as Colonel Brereton; and Miss Emmerson was excellent as Mrs. Henslowe, Mr. Donald Calthorp doing good work as Bob Henslowe, and Miss Florence Haydon being quietly amusing as Mrs. Pemberton. Special praise is due to Miss Kate Harwood for her very happy creation of a genteel lodging-house keeper; and Miss Irene Edwards was efficient as the Maid. *Clothes and the Woman*, which was ably produced by Mr. Norman McKinnel, was preceded by a play in one act by Miss Diana Cholmondeley, given for the first time, and entitled

"A MAN'S FOES."

Daniel Pengelly	Mr. Edmund Gurney
Hannah Pengelly	Miss Clare Greet
Alison Pengelly	Miss Nora Lancaster
Will Marriott	Mr. Athol Stewart

This proved to be a condensed and powerful, if rather gloomy, little drama, and was chiefly remarkable for a clever sketch of a female dipsomaniac, Hannah Pengelly, the wife of Daniel Pengelly, a fine old Cornish fisherman, head of a lifeboat crew. Hannah has been induced by her husband, who is a total abstainer and very religious, to take the pledge; but, at the end of a year, she breaks out, and in order to obtain drink steals the contents of a bottle of whisky which is kept in the lifeboat shed. Jan, her son, comes home in a vessel which is cast on the rocks in the bay; and when the lifeboat crew arrive at the wreck they find him utterly exhausted. Stimulant might save him; but the bottle is empty, and the lad dies before they return to shore. When the mother learns what her indulgence has cost, she falls dead of the shock, Daniel proclaiming solemnly, "It was a judgment!" That excellent actor Mr. Edmund Gurney gave a very deep, strong, and serious representation of Daniel Pengelly; and Miss Claire Greet, in a part a little overweighted, perhaps, with "visions," supplied an acutely conceived and carefully worked-out picture of an inebriate recovering from a debauch—irritable, contentious, and despairing. Miss Nora Lancaster was a picturesque and gentle Alison Pengelly; and Mr. Athol Stewart was vigorously passionate and warmly emotional in the character of Will Marriott. The piece, produced by Mr. Charles Rock, went well, its dramatic qualities outweighing its gloom.

Presentation.—On Saturday last, Mr. W. J. Andrews, the resident-manager of the Theatre Royal, Huddersfield, was the recipient of a handsome silver cigarette-case and a thousand cigarettes from Mr. Eade Montefiore, whose company was playing at the theatre in the evergreen *Streets of London*. The case was suitably inscribed to commemorate a record week's business.

Mr. Wilhelm Russell, who has conducted the Mansfield Grand Theatre band since the opening of the place, has been appointed conductor of the orchestra at the new St. James's Theatre, Long Eaton.

At the Opera House, St. Helens, Lancs., on Tuesday, was produced for copyright purposes a play entitled *As Your Hair Grows Whiter*, by Herbert Fuller.

The King and Queen and Princess Victoria were present at the performance of *Die Meistersinger* at the Royal Opera, Covent Garden, on Thursday.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(Continued from page 10.)

WALSALL.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—The chief item here this week is Rosina Caselli and her midget canines, whose clever feats meet with loud applause; Johnny Walker, comedian, is well received; the Sisters Geretti give a clever and graceful gymnastic act; Tom H. Wood contributes songs illustrated by limelight pictures; Cecilia Maude is a sprightly comedienne; Arthur Astill, farmyard mimic, creates great amusement; and Wilson and Waring are seen in *A Bit of Nonsense*. "The Blind Beggar's Dog" series of Bioscope pictures is highly appreciated.

WARRINGTON.—ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr. F. Willmot.—Harry Thorpe and Zoe Coe, with their comic episode, *My Burglar*, have scored a big success; equally entertaining are the Kimberley Boys, their singing, dancing, and witty sayings making them especial favourites; Russell Carr is an accomplished ventriloquist, and Canard a weird contortionist. J. C. Crawley sings many military songs in capital style; and Ethel Dove is a charming comedienne. The pictures are good.

WEDNESBURY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee Mr. Harry Battersby; Manager, Mr. T. Kuner.—Miss Augusta Tullock and London company, in the drama, entitled *The End Crowns All* are here. Prince Borinsky is manfully portrayed by Mr. Roy Milton; Lord Arthur Lyndhurst is in the safe keeping of Mr. Arthur Plummer; Mr. Edward Vivian gives a clever interpretation of Clifford Barrington; Ivan Spava is effectively rendered by Mr. Max Coutts; and as John Stubbs, the circus clown, Mr. George Byrne evokes roars of laughter; Mr. Donald Stuart is well suited as Edwin Romaine; a well studied part is that of Lola Ivanwitch, ably presented by Miss Amber Wyville; and loud applause is accorded Miss Augusta Tullock for her clever representation of Vera Romaine.

WEST BROMWICH. — THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. Harding Thomas; Manager, Mr. Richard Nightingale.—The boards are occupied this week by Mr. A. Campbell-Kelly's company, in the drama, *The Trail of the Serpent*. Mr. Henry K. Penn does full justice to the part of Sir Gerald Kingston, whose son, Gerald, is ably sustained by Mr. A. Campbell-Kelly. As Ralph Hammond Mr. Frank Lyndon is all that could be desired; Mr. J. R. Tyrill does well in the character of William Higgins; Mr. John Cullen plays the part of Gipsy Jake with great force; Miss Jennie Risley makes a fine Rose Wilson; Ethel Maynard having a clever exponent in Miss Phyllis Elton; while Miss Nana Cameron scores in the part of Rachel.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—GRAND.—Lessee, Mr Fred Granville; Manager, Mr. Herbert E. Feather.—Mr. Fred J. Webb's company in *The Hour of Her Triumph* is here. Mr. Leslie Hawkins in the rôle of Harold Clavering plays well; the heavy work is ably performed by Mr. Fred J. Webb, in the part of Eugene Harbury; splendid character acting is executed by Miss Lailah Price in the somewhat difficult part of Sal Soaker; Miss Barbara Gott scores a success as Rose Denton; and some genuine comedy is served at the hands of Mr. Louis Nanton as Ben Brodie.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—Some artistic poses are introduced in Chas. Raymond's living study in sculpture; laughter uncontrollable is the result of Bennett and Martell's comedy play; Will Vay's Juveniles, in *Life in the Slums*, depict mirth and pathos; Madie Scott, a dainty comedienne, wins golden opinions for her quaint style; Leotard Bros. are clever staircase performers, but as hat throwers they excel; Ted Wooton, comedian, is amusing; Maudie Ford provides a clever turn in sand dancing; and the pictures are extra humorous.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE. — KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE. — Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—Mr. Wm. Fraser Brunner's company is here in *The Superior Miss Pellender*. Miss Gwennie Fraser Brunner gives an artistic interpretation of Miss Pellender; Miss Beatrice Fitzhugh is exceptionally good as Mrs. Pellender; Miss Marie Ault as Edith and Miss May Staples as Nancy are both entitled to unstinted praise; Mr. Wm. Fraser Brunner gives an exceedingly clever impersonation of Mr. Tister; and Mr. Ellis D. Carlyle evokes much laughter by his humorous delineation of Noel. The piece is preceded by *Sweet Violets*.

GRAND PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. John H. Stevenson.—The Gaieties are here once more, and are proving more popular than ever. Mr. Wilson James is an excellent comedian, and his song, "My Venice girl," is loudly encored; Mr. Charles Conyers greatly pleases the audience with his humorous sketch, *Euclid;* Mr. P. Watson sings with expression "Autumn love"; Miss B. Jeffreys possesses a beautiful voice which is heard to advantage in "A song of Andalusia"; Miss Wilson sings very prettily "Au revoir my little Hyacinth." An operatic burlesque entitled *The Rival Brigands* is given, in which all the above artists distinguish themselves. The Austrian Blue Band is a great attraction; and some new pictures are shown on the Lens Bioscope.

VICTORIA HALL.—Manager, Mr. E. W. Sully.—Miss Louie Freear and party, under the direction of Mr. Donald Arthur are here. Miss Louie Freear meets with quite an ovation for her songs, "P.C. Smith" and "The Twiddly Bits," and is screamingly funny in the farcical absurdity, *Snooks*. Mr. Harry A. Gribben is loudly applauded for his song, "Sympathy"; Mr. Edwin Bennett does well in his character sketches from Dickens's works; Miss Belle Green's imitations of children are well received; Mr. Stephen Bond's fine voice is heard to advantage in "Sally in our alley"; Mr. Vivian Foster is exceptionally good in his humorous sketch; Mr. Edward Brightwell's pianoforte solo finds great favour.

WEST STANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Mark H. Lindon.—Dr. Walford Bodie, supported by a fine variety company, is paying a return visit to Stanley this week, after an absence of three years. The doctor, who received quite an ovation on his appearance, moved the audience, first to tears, and then to laughter, and retired amidst great applause. Miss Bella Skene is a smart burlesque actress and vocalist; Little Dolly Robson well deserves the name of the Child Wonder; Belford and Mars give a refined and amusing turn, being singers and dancers of no mean merit. Mr. Tom N. Mills is a capital vocalist, and is correctly termed "The Real John Bull"; Mr. T. Duriah is a good comedian; The Musical Acmes are responsible for a highly amusing turn; *Binks' Blunder* is a funny comedy sketch, well played by Russell and Reed's company.

WIGAN.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Co.—*The Manxman* has been produced before sympathetic audiences during the week by Mr. Alfred B. Cross's company. Mr. Alfred B. Cross as Pete, and Miss Minnie Watersford as Kate Cregeen take premier honours for able expositions of their respective characters; and Mr. Sydney C. Kearns as Philip Christian, and Mr. Frank Etheridge as Cæsar Cregeen play the parts most commendably. On Friday Miss Minnie Watersford received a complimentary benefit, when a new emotional domestic play, entitled *Divorced*, was presented.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Co.—Menotti, "the Stockholm wonder," and the Waldrons, in the absurdity, *The Silly Burglar*, have an excellent reception; and Fox and Melville, in illustrated song, Boden and Bell, vocalists and dancers, Phern and Phern, in a musical mélange, and Louis Vincent, ventriloquist, are also capital turns. The Custances, in a comedy act, Great Reglus, juggler, Fred Roden, in character songs, the Wheelers, cyclists, and Hastings and Fields, dancers, &c., also contribute.

WORTHING.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Herr C. Adolf Seebold.—Mr. Claude Ginnett and company are here this week, presenting *Dick Turpin's Ride to York*. Mr. Ginnett as Dick Turpin does excellently; Mr. Richard Hull typically acts the character of Tom King; Mr. Sam Frantz does well as Simon Sharpscent, as does Mr. C. Ginnett, jun., as Sammy Sharpscent; Mrs. C. Ginnett deserves a full measure of praise for her excellent delineation of the character of Susan Truelove; Messrs. Frank Walker and Tom Keene are alike excellent as Jerry and Dare Darrell; Mr. R. Hulland admirably presents the character of Luke Rookwood. The following variety turns all add to the general enjoyment: Lasma and Mlle. Delouri, in a society gymnast act; Florence Carlow, comedienne and dancer; Dan Noble, comedian; the Bros. Palboni, patterers; Harry Pearson's Bioscope; Marie York, comedienne; and the sketch, *The Cockney Sportsman*.

WREXHAM.—EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. J. Scott; Manager, Mr. C. W. Collings.—This week the following have appeared:—The Three Behans, refined comedy artists, who are great favourites; Mr. J. H. Kavanagh, a clever descriptive vocalist; the Sisters Lingard, pleasing vocalists and dancers; Miss Zelda, in her up-to-date musical act; Mr. Wal Owen, "the comedy man," in *A Bit of Blarney;* and the Electric Animated Tableaux.

YORK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—Mr. Will White's company is here in *The New World*. Mr. Victor Rae as the old gambler gives a character-study full of human interest; Mr. Albert H. Clarke is excellent as Joe Wilhams; and the villainies of Jim Rawling is capitally portrayed by Mr. W. S. Stevenson. Miss Beatrice Moore is most interesting as Jenny, playing with much skill. Willie Hicks, and Bass and Guinness do some clever music hall turns.

OPERA HOUSE AND EMPIRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brooke.—Marie Loftus has delighted all this week by her clever sketches; Tery and Lambert have gained hosts of admirers for their clever business, and the dancing of Brull and Hemsley has been a notable item. George Westland is a really funny Scotch comedian, and Mayme Cannon is a great attraction. The Burnells, Adey North, Millie Gordon, and the Bioscope complete the bill.

"HEBER SAYELL."

A Play, in One Act, by Dorothea Wilson Barrett,
Played for the first time on any stage
at the Prince's Theatre, Bristol,
on Friday, May 24.

Heber Sayell .....MR. WILLIAM MACLAREN
Laurie Gates .....MISS LILY C. BANDMANN
Matthew Nash .....MR. F. OWEN CHAMBERS
Mrs. Sayell .....MISS PHENA POWELL

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

At the rising of the curtain the living room at Holt Farm is discovered, and we learn from a conversation between Mr. Sayell and Matthew Nash that, in consequence of a prolonged absence of rain, the crops on the farm are in great danger of being totally destroyed. Mrs. Sayell goes on to say that this has caused her son Heber to be fearfully despondent, they being on the verge of ruin, and that the loss of the crops which, in the event of rain, might possibly be saved, would prevent his marrying Laurie Gates, to whom he had been engaged for a considerable time. Laurie Gates now enters, and is warmly received by Mrs. Sayell, and, both Mrs. Sayell and Matthew Nash having left, Heber enters, evidently fatigued by hard work. The young people greet each other affectionately, and the conversation drifts into the all-absorbing topic of the continued drought. Heber, with much feeling, tells of his struggles to counteract the effect of his continued misfortunes in the loss of crops. Laurie tries to soothe him, and bids him pray and hope for success. He, however, becomes excited, and as nothing but a very heavy and continuous rain can possibly save him from bankruptcy, he in despair seizes a loaded gun standing conveniently in a corner, and is about to end his life. Laurie also seizes the gun, and while they are struggling we hear heavy rain pattering apparently on the roof of an adjacent shed or stable. Heber rushes to the door, and says it is only a passing shower, but the rain increases, and the sky is dark, and they kneel down to thank Providence for saving the crops, and thus enabling them to consummate their happiness by marriage. The little play is well written, and it is interesting so far as it goes.

Mr. Maclaren, made up capitally as a hard-working young farmer, acted with considerable power as Heber; Miss Bandmann depicted Laurie as a loving and unaffected country girl with much success; and the parts of Mrs. Sayell and Matthew Nash were cleverly taken by Miss Phena Powell and Mr. F. Owen Chambers. The staging of the room at Holt Farm was just what it should be, and the downpour of rain was very realistic. *Heber Sayell* is understood to be the first attempt of Miss Wilson Barrett, a daughter of the late eminent actor, and its success at the first performance should encourage her to try something more ambitious.

REGENT'S PARK FETE.

Under the patronage of Field-Marshal the Duke of Connaught an illuminated garden fête was held on the evening of the 24th (Empire Day) in the grounds of the Royal Botanic Society at Regent's Park in aid of the funds of the Legion of Frontiersmen. Sir Henry Seton-Karr, chairman of the executive committee, opened the fête, and, the weather being fine, the gathering proved a great success for all concerned. It was estimated that the attendance numbered upwards of 2000. The charming grounds were illuminated by thousands of lamps, the general effect being extremely picturesque. There was no lack of attractions, and some of them were of a novel and interesting character. Illustrations of "The Duel in all Ages," given under the direction of Captain Alfred Hutton and Captain Graham Hope, assisted by Sir Frederick Pollock, Bart., Mr. Egerton Castle, and some fifty other well-known swordsmen, attracted much attention. The duellists were in costume, and the weapons used included all kinds of swords and daggers. The contestants displayed great skill, and their mimic combats were conducted with great spirit. Another attractive display was by the Japanese School of Ju-Jitsu, under the direction of Mr. F. R. Wolseley.

Previous to her much-regretted illness Miss Lena Ashwell had organised a dramatic and musical entertainment to take place in the Conservatory Pavilion, and an excellent programme was contributed to by a number of well-known artists. The Bivouac and Camp Fire Concert, under the direction of Lieut-Col. D. P. Driscoll, D.S.O., proved one of the most interesting items in the programme. The horses having been picketed, the men of the Legion assembled round the cheerful camp fire; and, after supper had been served, tales were told and songs were sung. The audience was entertained by some distinguished artists, Mr. Richard Green receiving much applause for his fine rendering of a capital ditty entitled "Cheers," with a chorus that was taken up with enthusiasm. Mr. C. Stuart Edwards also did well with "The Song of Empire," and other vocalists included Mr. Leslie Stiles and Mr. Horace Burnage. Then came a sudden alarm, there was a sound of firing in the distance, and the men hurried to their horses. However, it was only a false alarm, and the troopers returned to camp to join in a stentorian rendering of the National Anthem.

Amongst minor attractions were a "Punch and Judy" show, "All the fun of the fair," with shooting galleries, "Aunt Sally," and other diversions. Music was supplied by the band of the Coldstream Guards, under the direction of Bandmaster Lieut. Mackenzie-Rogan, and Mr. Angelo Asher's string band, conductor Mr. J. H. Alexandra.

THEATRICAL PATENTS.

The concise descriptions that we give below of recent applications for patents are specially contributed by Messrs. Howard and Co., patent agents, 57 and 58, Chancery-lane, London, W.C., who will assist readers in all patent matters:—

APPLICATIONS.

11,296.—Georg Lindner and Oskar Heyda, of Chancery-lane, London, artificial snow man.

11,364.—Charles Arthur Rollason, Charles Hyatt, and William Studley, of Crystal Palace, Sydenham, London, improved form of amusements.

11,410.—Gerald William Sealy Poole, of Chancery-lane, London, improvements in, and connected with, scenery for stage interiors.

11,486.—Edward Charles Robert Marks, of Southampton Buildings, London, improvements in amusement apparatus. (Sidney J. Hart, United States.)

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

THE staff of the Gaiety Theatre, Glasgow, held their first annual outing on Sunday, the place selected being Inverkip. The party, to the number of sixty, travelled by special train from St. Enoch to Greenock, where coaches were in waiting, and the journey to Inverkip was completed by road. Magnificent weather favoured the trippers, and the drive was thoroughly appreciated. Dinner and tea were served in the Tontine Hotel, Greenock, and after dinner a drive took place to Wemyss Bay, the return home being begun at 6.30.

MR. IKE TROCHMAN, one of the Yiddish stage-hands at the Pavilion, was accorded a benefit on Monday night at St. George's Town Hall, Stepney, when the whole of the Jewish Operatic and Dramatic Company gave an entertainment under the direction of Mr. Sigmund Feinman.

THE staff and friends of the Pavilion Theatre held a supper, followed by a concert on Tuesday night, at the Duke's Head, Whitechapel-road, to mark the closing of the season. The guests, to the number of nearly fifty, sat down to a sumptuous repast, under the presidency of Mr. Fred Brown. The toasts of the Pavilion, Ltd., and the chairman were drunk with acclamation, and an excellent entertainment was given. Great praise is due to the hon. secretary of the affair, Mr. Chas. Briggs, for his energetic labours in bringing this function to its successful issue.

THE Sports Committee met last Saturday, and the list of events was finally completed. The list is as published in *The Era* of May 18, with the addition of a 100yds. running handicap for boys under twelve years of age, sons of employees eligible to compete in the sports. It has been decided that the price of admission to the ground shall be 6d. Tickets admitting to the ground, grand stand, and stand enclosure will be 2s. 6d., 1s. 6d., and 1s., and may be obtained at 6d. less in each case if purchased before the day. Entry forms and bills may now be obtained on application from the hon. secretary, at 29, Wellington-street, Strand. (Telephone No. 8753.) The committee are anxious to secure the assistance of members of the staff at every music-hall and theatre in the Metropolitan area.

THE Sports Committee hope that, in view of the fact that the Dublin team will not compete in the tug-of-war competition this year, the staff at every London theatre or hall will make up a team to compete for *The Era* Shield, which has not yet been won by a London team. The Sports Committee are inviting stage-managers to help to make this competition one of the most attractive items. Another team competition, which ought to have the support of each staff, is the "Relay Race," for the handsome silver challenge cup presented the year before last by Mr. C. Aubrey Smith. The present holders are the Daly's Theatre Team.

THE award has not yet been delivered to the Employees' Association, but it has been decided that a meeting of members will be held and the award printed for distribution as soon as possible.

AT a meeting of the General Staff Branch, N.A.T.E., on Wednesday, it was decided to hold the adjourned annual meeting of members as soon as possible after the issue of the Arbitrator's award, and to report thereon, and to proceed with the election of the committee and officers for 1907-8. Nominations for the committee and the various offices may still be sent in. It was decided to give all possible support to the Theatrical Sports.

PAYING THE CHORUS.

At Woolwich, on Wednesday, before Judge Willis, K.C., Mr. George Dance was the plaintiff in an action brought against Mr. Clarence Sounes, late proprietor of the Grand Theatre, Woolwich, which has now been converted into a music hall with the title of the Hippodrome, under the management of Mr. Walter Gibbons. Plaintiff was travelling with a company playing *The Beauty of Bath*, and he agreed to bring the company to the Grand Theatre, Woolwich, for last Easter week. Plaintiff was to have 65 per cent. of the gross takings for providing an "efficient company," and the defendant was to have the balance of 35 per cent. for providing the theatre and all the local expenses. The company were to have played at Swindon the week previously, but as it was Holy Week the local theatre proprietor cancelled the engagement. The company were, therefore, on the well-known theatrical custom of "no play no pay," not paid their salaries. On arrival at Woolwich on the Easter Monday the choristers of the company, twenty-three in number, were with difficulty persuaded to appear on the stage, as they claimed their salary for the previous week. On the following evening (Tuesday), when the house was packed and everything was ready to begin, the choristers "struck," positively refusing to fulfil their parts unless the previous week's money was paid. The audience showed signs of impatience, and as matters looked like becoming unpleasant, the defendant paid the chorus the money they claimed, £31 11s. 6d., and the play proceeded. At the end of the week Mr. Sounes, the present defendant, deducted this amount from the plaintiff's share. The total receipts for the week were £465 0s. 9d.

Mr. Dance now claimed the amount which he maintained had been improperly deducted. In his evidence he said that the defendant's proper course, if he felt that there had been any breach of the agreement, was to return the public their money, shut up the theatre, and sue for the breach of contract. When his manager, Mr. Newton, reported the circumstance to him, he said that he considered it was a piece of intimidation and blackmail on the part of the members of the chorus, and that he was a man of position and prepared to abide the consequences. For the defendant to pay the chorus was a piece of unwarrantable interference with his (plaintiff's) business. He was an employer of 1,000 theatrical people, and his business would be at an end if such interferences took place.

Defendant said that he was on the horns of a dilemma, and paid the chorus to prevent the theatre being closed.

The learned Judge said he was bound by the terms of the contract that the plaintiff was to receive 65 per cent., and he found for the plaintiff for the amount claimed.

CRICKET.

MESSRS. FRED CARY'S AND BROTHERS FIMAN'S EMPIRE XI. v. HARRY HARE'S XI.

Played on Clifton Downs, Saturday, May 25. Fred Cary batted and bowled well for his side. Scores:—

Mr. Cary's XI.—Webber, b Hare, 5; Conyers, b Hare, 0; Griffen, b Hunter, 0; Adams, lbw, b Hunter, 7; Fiman, b Hunter, 13; C. Howard, b Hare, 7; B. Clayton, b Hare, 1; F. Cary (captain), b Hunter, 53; Fiman, b Hunter, 5; H. Inch, b Hunter, 9; T. Inch, not out, 1; extras, 7; total, 108.

H. Hare's XI.—F. E. Cook, b Cary, 0; H. Hare (captain), b Cary, 3; E. Bowman, b Cary, 0; J. Lewis, b Fiman, 9; T. Arnold, b Cary, 0; A. English, c and b Cary, 1; A. E. Bailey, b Cary, 18; C. Hunter, b Cary, 25; F. Harrison, b Cary, 0; W. J. Horton, b Cary, 0; S. Carter, not out, 0; extras, 12; total, 68.

BRISTOL X.L.C.R. AND HARRY HARE'S ORCHESTRAL BAND ATHLETIC CLUBS v. MUSIC HALLS C.C.

Played on Clifton Downs, on Saturday, May 25. Result: Bristol X.L.C.R., 41; Music Halls C.C., 147. Jack Leonard batted and bowled well for Music Halls.

"GENIUS, LIMITED."

A Comedy, in Three Acts, by Mrs. W. Christie Gilmer, produced at the Byfeld Hall, Barnes, on Wednesday, May 29.

Gerald Beamish .....MR. EDWIN H. JEFFREY
F. Farquhar-Forestier ..MR. WERNAM S. RYOTT
James Dalziel .....MR. R. MUNRO
Miss Nelda Bouverie .....MRS. MACKINTOSH
Miss Jane Davis .....MISS ADA DRESSER
Mr. Felix Corcoran.....MR. WILLIAM MARSHALL
Mrs. Felix Corcoran .....MRS. PAUL GILMER
Sammy Corcoran .....MR. PHIL FAULKNER
Matilda .....MISS MARSHALL
Roso .....MRS. DANIELS
Winsome .....MISS DAPHNE HOGBEN
Mrs. Herbert .....MRS. W. CHRISTIE GILMER

Had we not been made acquainted with the identity of the author of *Genius, Limited*, it would have been quite apparent to us that it was written by a woman. The feminine note runs as a kind of main artery through the whole piece. Some of the sentiments and some of the phrases put into the mouth of one or other of the male characters, are so feminine that one can hardly believe a man could have uttered them. But, for all that, and in spite of certain defects, *Genius, Limited*, provides a pretty little story, although the three acts could with advantage be compressed into the limits of a sketch or curtain-raiser.

We are afraid that what we may call the personal equation has not been altogether absent from the writing and construction of Mrs. Gilmer's play. However, we can leave that point in order to indicate the tale the lady has to tell. Mrs. Herbert keeps a private boarding establishment at Brighton, where she has the assistance of Winsome, her niece and adopted daughter, whose real name is Davis. Mrs. Herbert writes plays under the pen-name of "Nemo," and these plays are negotiated, from the business point of view, by Gerald Beamish, a middle-aged lawyer, who is really in love with the middle-aged authoress. The bad man in the play is one F. Farquhar-Forestier, who, we are informed, is a wealthy amateur author, actor, and manager, who has exploited several of Mrs. Herbert's plays through Beamish. We are given to understand that Forestier has himself written plays, or, rather, passed other people's off as his own; but in order to prevent any secrets of this nature being divulged, an agreement is arrived at between the two men, whereby the person who reveals the authorship shall forfeit £1000. Forestier has brought to England an American actress, named Nelda Bouverie, who makes a great hit in Mrs. Herbert's latest play, entitled *David and Jonathan*. On the night of production the audience is so moved that there is a demand for the author. With the coolness and audacity which have characterised his conduct all along, Forestier appears before the footlights, and humbly bows his acknowledgments of the applause, taking credit for the work which has given evidence of such transcendental genius. He is, however, exposed, and his schemes in the direction of love-making and financial sharp practices, checked. The middle-aged heroine accepts her lawyer lover, and when one reaches such a happy stage as that, one need not go further into the story.

The presentation of the play by a company of amateurs, was, all things considered, satisfactory. Unquestionably, the best-acted character was that of Forestier, and great credit is due to Mr. Wernam S. Ryott for a really capital portraiture of the impudent, self-possessed, and conceited American "amateur author and manager." Mrs. W. Christie Gilmer, the authoress, was a quiet, unassuming, and affectionate Mrs. Herbert; and Miss Daphne Hogben acted with grace and charm in the rôle of Winsome. That young lady's lover, James Dalziel, as represented by Mr. R. Munro, was anything but graceful in his movements. Mr. Munro spoke his lines fairly well, but his attitudes were awkward and ungainly. Mrs. Paul Gilmer gave a spirited and amusing impersonation of a retired trademan's wife, with a distinct Irish brogue; and the part of the worthy lady's husband had a capable representative in Mr. William Marshall. Mr. Edwin H. Jeffrey simulated the lawyer-lover in commendable fashion; and Mr. Phil Faulkner was a vigorous, breezy, and sprightly Sammy Corcoran. Mrs. Mackintosh made a vivacious American actress; and Miss Ada Dresser as the governess, Miss Marshall as the housemaid, and Mrs. Daniels as the cook, capably sustained their rôles.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE dispute between Mlle. Trouhanowa, the ballerina who appeared in *Salomé*, and Herr Richard Strauss has caused great merriment in theatrical circles here. It should be remembered that in Paris it is against all etiquette for an author or composer to come before the curtain. But where strangers are concerned the line is not drawn so fine, and when Herr Strauss responds to the call nobody finds fault with him, and the French audience joins heartily in the applause. Now we learn that Mlle. Trouhanowa has tendered her resignation to Herr Strauss, and she gives her reasons in a letter reproduced by the Paris Press. It is as follows:—"Yesterday, at the fourth representation of *Salomé* M. Richard Strauss informed me that he would not allow me to make my bow to the public at the close of the performance. The danse, he says, is an *inferior art*, not worthy of such a distinction. I replied that it is less inferior than the 'pose' of a man of talent who considers it necessary to come every night before the curtain.—Trouhanowa." The opinion of the Paris Press is that whereas Mlle. Trouhanowa has talent and is pretty, and Herr Strauss only has talent, it is pleasanter to see her before the curtain than the composer of *Salomé*.

MLLE. GERALDINE FARRAR scored a genuine success as Elisabeth in *Tannhäuser*. For a long time we did not hear the rôle so well interpreted. MM. Alvarez and Noté shared with her the honours of the evening. I am informed that Mlle. Farrar has signed an engagement for next year with the new management of our Opéra.

"LA PATRONNE," writes our Paris correspondent, "is the title of a three-act play by MM. Spitzmuller and Geutton recently produced at the Théâtre Molière, Paris. Mme. Mezerel has lost her husband, who was at the head of a big manufactory, and she manages the business while devoting herself to the education of her son Oliver. When the story opens things look promising, for the concern is not only yielding large profits, but the lady is decorated with the Legion of Honour. Then follows trouble. The men demand higher wages, and go out on strike. Their leader, Barnin, comes to see Mme. Mezerel, and in the course of their interview she discovers that Barnin is her son—illegitimate, of course—the result of an intrigue she had whilst a girl. But Barnin does not clasp her in his arms, as we might have supposed. Barnin is a strike leader, and the fact that his employer happens to be his mother does not trouble him in the least. He represents the men's interests, and he informs the lady that unless she gives way the men intend to fight to the bitter end. Unfortunately for Barnin, Mme. Mezerel is quite as obstinate as he, and it is impossible to say what side would have won, when an unforeseen incident takes place. This incident takes the form of a violent scene between Barnin and young Oliver, who does not know that this man is his half-brother. A trouble between her two children is a thing on which madame has not reckoned, and this she must avoid at any price. She, therefore, gives in to the men and the secret leaks out. Having gained his point as a strike leader, Barnin no longer looks upon Mme. Mezerel as his employer, but, thinking of her as his mother, calls out "Mama!" and hugs her.

ON THE ROAD, JUNE 3.

ALL-OF-A-SUDDEN PEGGY.—T. R., Peterborough.
AN UNWEDDED WIFE.—Colosseum, Oldham.
ASCHE, OSCAR.—New Theatre, Cambridge.
ASSASSIN.—King's Theatre, Longsight.
AT DUTY'S CALL.—Gaiety T., Hastings.
AUSTIN MARY.—T. R., Scarborough.
BENSON, F. R. (N.).—Canterbury and Dover.
BENSON, F. R.—County Theatre, Bedford.
BETWEEN THE LIGHTS.—T. R., Sheffield.
BOOTLES' BABY.—King's T., Glasgow.
BRANDED WOMAN.—T. R., Sunderland.
CHARLEY'S AUNT.—Prince's T., Bristol.
CONSCRIPT, THE.—P. O. W., Salford.
DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY.—Aquarium, Great Yarmouth.
D'OYLY CARTE.—Royalty T., Barrow.
EVE OF HER WEDDING.—Metropole T., Gateshead.
GO-ONE-GO-MOHAWK.—Mexboro'.
GUILTY GOLD.—Alexandra T., Birmingham.
HER LOST SELF.—T. R., Worthing.
HER MARRIAGE VOW.—Prince's T., Bradford.
HER ONE GREAT SIN.—Theatre Royal, Ashton.
HIS SISTER'S HONOUR.—P. O. W., Salford.
HOME, SWEET HOME (LINDO).—Miners' T., Ashington.
HONEYMOON, THE.—P. O. W., Nuneaton.
HONOUR THY FATHER.—Crown T., Peckham.
HOUR OF HER TRIUMPH.—T. R., South Shields.
IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST.—T. R., Leeds.
IRVING, H. B.—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
LA COMEDIE ANGLAISE.—Kirkby Lonsdale.
LATE LAMENTED.—Gaiety T., Douglas.
LITTLE BREADWINNER.—O. H., Northampton.
LITTLE VAGRANT.—Theatre Royal, Leigh.
LONDON FIREMAN.—Prince's T., Bradford.
MAN'S ENEMY.—Grand T., Newcastle.
MANXMAN.—Theatre Royal, Leeds.
MIDNIGHT MAIL.—Camden Theatre, N.W.
MONTE CRISTO.—Theatre Royal, Preston.
NAPOLEON THE GREAT.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
NEW WORLD.—Gaiety Theatre, Burnley.
OTTO THE OUTCAST.—Court T., Wigan.
POWER OF GOLD.—Star Theatre, Swansea.
PRINCE OF PILSEN (HARRISS).—T. R., Hanley.
PRIVATE SECRETARY.—Opera House, Cork
PRODIGAL PARSON.—Clarence T., Pontypridd.
PRODIGAL DAUGHTER.—Lyceum T., Crewe.
ROYAL DIVORCE.—Elephant and Castle T., S.E.
SHALL WE FORGIVE HER?—Grand T., Blackpool.
SHULAMITE.—Lyceum Theatre, Crewe.
SIN OF HER CHILDHOOD.—T. R., Smethwick.
SOMEBODY'S SWEETHEART.—T. R., Aldershot.
STOLEN BIRTHRIGHT.—T. R., Merthyr.
STOWAWAY, THE.—Theatre Royal, Rotherham.
SWISS EXPRESS.—Pleasure Gardens T., Folkestone.
THE WOMAN PAYS.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
TOMMY.—Gaiety Theatre, Manchester.
TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS.—T. R., Birkenhead.
TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS.—Grand T., Fulham.
TYRANT, THE.—Theatre Royal, Bolton.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN.—T. R., Torquay.
UNDER THE RUSSIAN FLAG.—O. H., Wakefield.
WHAT THE BUTLER SAW.—Kennington Theatre.
WHEN A MAN HATES.—Court Theatre, Bacup.
WHEN THE LIGHTS ARE LOW.—Prince's T., Preston.
WHEN OTHER LIPS.—T. R., Leicester.
WILKIE, ALLAN, AND CO.—Grand T., Nottingham.
WOMAN FROM SCOTLAND YARD.—T. R., Stockport.
WOMAN'S PAST.—Alexandra T., Hull.
WRECKER OF MEN.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
£1000 REWARD.—Opera House, St. Helens.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"STAATSANWALT ALEXANDER,"

Play, in Four Acts, by Karl Schüler, produced at the Berliner Theatre, May 14.

Alexander, sen. .....HERR BENZINGER
Alexander, jun. .....HERR STIFT
Gerichtsrat .....HERR MERTEN
Erster Assessor .....HERR DONNER
Zweiter Assessor .....HERR NESSLER
Die blinde Mutter .....FRAULEIN TROST
Aennchen .....FRAULEIN WALDORF
Minna .....FRAULEIN ROTH
Gerichtsdiener .....HERR WEGNER
Zeuge .....HERR SCHULTZ
Arzt .....HERR FERNOW
Robert .....HERR FRANZ

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, May 23.—Ever since the triumphal advent of *Sherlock Holmes* criminal plays have been the vogue at many of our theatres, and *Staatsanwalt Alexander* is one of this type. Everything has been done by the author to make the plot "spannend," or to strain the nerves of the audience to the tightest tension of expectancy. Thus, through the whole of one act we wait for the sound of a fatal crack of a pistol which we have as good as been promised; but as the report never comes, and we have been kept on the rack for half an hour in vain, we have a right to feel indignant. In the first act the severity of the Staatsanwalt (public procurator) Alexander is depicted in glowing colours. His words to a certain criminal in the Court are sharp to the verge of cruelty; he declares to the prisoner's old blind mother that the parents are responsible for the depravity of the children, and we feel convinced that the tables will turn ere long against the speaker. Our suspicions are confirmed. Alexander, jun., is a young blood of the most rabid type and a thorough-paced scoundrel. He is up to his eyes in debt, and to avoid having to repay the loan of 10,000 marks to one of his infamous friends—a woman—he strangles her in the dead of night. The murderer is soon discovered, and led before his horror-stricken father, who in the first burst of righteous disgust gives his son a revolver and advises him to use it in an adjoining room. It is this scene to which I have already alluded. The young man has not the courage to take his life, and a friend of the miserable father explains that the best and right way after all is to let the law have its course, to which Alexander agrees. What particular form the law takes is left to the imagination, for at this juncture the curtain descends. The piece was well acted, author and artists being warmly applauded.

A NEW three-act drama, *Im Rausch des Lebens*, by Oscar Pitschel, has just been produced with considerable success at the Bernhard Rose Theatre (formerly known as the Carl Weiss). The action passes in the first act in a rural village, while in the last two acts the scene is laid in Berlin. The opening scenes are pastoral, and even poetic. Charlotte, the daughter of the village schoolmaster and organist at the little church, is engaged to be married to a worthy fellow named Franz in her own walk of life. She goes to Berlin to perfect herself in cooking and housekeeping, taking a situation in what is reported to be a respectable hotel. The house turns out to be one of ill-fame, and the girl is gradually drawn into the swamp, dazzled by the glittering prospects held out to her. Franz and Lotte's father implore her to return; but the life has a fascination for her which she cannot withstand. She has promised to "take up with" a certain baron, and will not go back from her word. The girl's would-be good angel is a lawyer of high moral character, who appeals to the seducer's better nature, and—in a well-written scene—receives the latter's word of honour not to allow Charlotte to visit him. The baron, however, breaks his word, and afterwards, overcome by shame and the general effects of a worthless life, shoots himself. At his side kneels the girl, full of remorse, and we are left to conclude that she has now been cured of the "Rausch des Lebens," and will return to the peace of her native village. The interpretation of the drama was satisfactory, the interest being kept up until the close, when the author was called repeatedly in response to vigorous applause.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth** or **Death** or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny.**

The charge for a notice of **Marriage**, not exceeding forty words, is **Two Shillings and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny.**

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

BARCLAY.—May 16, at 4, Greenfield-place, Newcastle-on Tyne, to Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Barclay, a daughter.

STANSFIELD.—At 28, Wilberforce-street, Hull, on May 29, 1907, Myra Stansfield (wife of Fred Elton), of a daughter (11lb). Both doing well.

TAYLOR.—On May 23, at 25, Flanchford-road, Ravenscourt Park, W., the wife of Tom H. Taylor (Grace Wilson), of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

ELTON—AVOLO.—May 12, at Philadelphia, Charles Elton, of the Kronemann Brothers, to Jenny Avolo, of the Four Musical Avolos.

DEATHS.

BROOKE.—May 29, suddenly, at her residence, The Rowans, Hutton Mount, Essex, Marie Brooke (Mrs. D. Scott-Dalgleish), musical composer.

DALE.—May 29, at Bradford, after a long illness, Brian Dale, Yorkshire comedian. R.I.P.

ROSENFELD.—May 27, at Karlsbad, Herr Theodor Rosenfeld, manager of the Passage Theatre, Berlin, aged 56.

SIMMONS.—On May 28, Asher Simmons, aged 60. Deeply mourned by Lily Burnand and Queenie.

IN MEMORIAM.

CROSSLAND.—In loving memory of my dear wife, Margaret Eastwood Crossland, who departed this life on June 8, 1904. Never forgotten by her loving husband, VICTOR GOURIET.

HAZLEWOOD.—In loving memory of my dear husband, H. C. Hazlewood, who passed away June 1, 1897. Never forgotten.

RELF.—In ever-loving memory of my dear husband, Robert S. Relf, who entered into rest May 31, 1905. Beyond the sea of death love lives, yesterday, to-day, and for ever.

STANLEY.—In loving memory of my beloved husband, Jean Stanley, who fell asleep at Leigh-on-Sea, May 31, 1904. Deeply mourned by his sorrowing wife Lillian. Peace, perfect peace.

WALTON.—When morning comes we speak of Our Lottie;
When noon comes we sigh for Our Lottie;
When night comes we dream of Our Lottie.
Can we ever forget when we all love her.
In loving memory of our darling,
Lottie Walton,
who was taken from us
June 4, 1904.
Never forgotten by her
mother, father, sisters, brothers;
ever loved by her little son.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

H. Kemble—Saturday, June 1.
Ben Webster—Sunday, June 2.
Alexander Fay—Sunday, June 2.
Frank Coyle—Sunday, June 2.
Marion Herbert—Monday, June 3.
Mrs. Charles Sugden—Monday, June 3.
Clo Graves—Monday, June 3.
Tom Vine—Monday, June 3.
F. L. Arthur—Tuesday, June 4.
May Seton—Tuesday, June 4.
James Fawn—Tuesday, June 4.
John M. Davidson—Tuesday, June 4.
Adeline Lester—Tuesday, June 4.
Egerton Gray—Tuesday, June 4.
E. P. Morgan—Thursday, June 6.
Leo Dryden—Thursday, June 6.
Walter Buccleuch—Thursday, June 6.
Bella Terry—Thursday, June 6.
Empsie Bowman—Friday, June 7.
Chas. Brady—Friday, June 7.
E. T. de Banzie—Friday, June 7.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

MELBOURNE. — APRIL 16.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson; Business-Manager, Mr. George Tallis.—*Parsifal* continues to attract large audiences, and will evidently run for some considerable time. Miss Brune and Mr. Kingston are ably supported by the rest of Mr. Williamson's company. The production is mounted on a most lavish scale, and taken altogether is quite in keeping with Mr. Williamson's previous productions at this theatre.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. Bland Holt; Business-Manager, Mr. C. Simonsens.—The powerful military melodrama, *Revenge*, is proving highly successful, the theatre being filled nightly. Mr Baker, Miss Ross, Miss Ireland, and the rest of the company acquit themselves admirably in their various parts. The production is lavishly mounted, and on the whole compares favourably with any of Mr. Bland Holt's previous undertakings.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Aydon.—Bonita, lady rifle shot, is still the leading attraction here; her season terminates next Thursday evening. Other "turns" which call for special mention include Cleopatra, snake enchantress; Frank Hartley, juggler; Gracie Graham, serio; Cassie Walmer, dancer and descriptive singer; Olive Robinson, dancer; and other interesting items are contributed by Lawrence Kenny, Fred Russell, Will Lochrane, the Bicknells, Leonard Nelson, Ethel Preston, George Warsaw, Art. Slaven, and Marjorie Bray.

SYDNEY, APRIL 16.—The Brough-Flemming company replaced *Dr. Wake's Patient* with *Peter's Mother* on the 13th inst., and an admirable representation was given. Miss Beatrice Day has secured a firm hold on those who value true acting, and her Lady Mary Crewys stands out as one of her many excellent impersonations. Mr. Carter Pickford's embodiment of Peter deserves commendation. Mr. Herbert Flemming's John Crewys is marked by manliness, and he makes every line tell. Miss Mary Milward is the sour Georgina Crewys to the life; and Miss Bessie Major presents another of her charming portraits as Lady Belstone. A monopoly of clerical characters falls to Mr. John F. Forde, and his Canon Birch is quite orthodox. Mr. Edgar Payne scores as Dr. Blundell; and Miss Kate Gair, handsome and careful, is Mrs. Hewell. In the hands of Mr. Norman McKeown the rôle of Sir Timothy Crewys is quite safe. Mr. Harry Whaite's beautiful scenery de-

AMUSEMENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PIETERMARITZBURG, APRIL 26. — SCOTT'S THEATRE.—The theatre here is again occupied by the Williamson and Wood's Dramatic Company, which opened on Monday with a dramatisation by Maud Williamson of Hall Caine's novel, "The Deemster," under the title of *The Gates of Bondage*. As Mona Mylrea Miss Williamson presented a capable rendering of a difficult part. Mr. Alfred Woods as Dan Mylrea reached a very high order of acting. The villain of the piece, Jarvis Kerris, was in the hands of Mr. Horace Hunter, who presented a very successful study. Mr. Hylton Warde as Hommey Beg caused no end of laughter. Gilchrist Mylrea, father of Dan Mylrea, and the Bishop of Barony, as enacted by Mr. Douglas Gordon, showed him to be a thoroughly finished actor; and the Deemster was played by Mr. W. F. White. The répertoire of the company during the week included *In the Palace of the King*, *The Garden of Lies*, and *Barabbas*

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

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(two doors off Wellington Street)
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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. E. R.—Pink Dominos, *adapted by James Albery from* Les Dominos Roses, *was first produced at the Criterion March 31, 1877. The principal members of the cast were Charles Wyndham, Herbert Standing, Henry Ashley, Augustus Harris, John Clarke, and Misses Fanny Josephs, Edith Bruce, Maria Davis, Nelly Bromley, and Eastlake.*

R. F. T.—*Miss Dorothea Baird's first appearance as Trilby was at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, Sept. 7, 1895. The first London production of the play was at the Haymarket, Oct. 30, 1895.*

KENTISH TOWN.—*The London Pavilion was rebuilt in 1887. Thirteen years later several structural alterations were made, and the present building was opened on Nov. 12, 1900.*

G. KNIGHT.—*We can find no record of this having appeared at the Pavilion Theatre. Mr. Isaac Cohen, the former manager, might be able to inform you.*

N. BENNETT.—*Oct. 27, 1906.*

J. L.—(1) Les Cloches de Corneville *was first produced at the Folies Dramatiques, Paris, April 19, 1877.* (2) *The Folly Theatre, Feb. 23, 1878.*

CON.—The Merry Duchess, *written by George R. Sims and composed by Frederic Clay, was produced at the Royalty Theatre, April 23, 1883.*

BEATRICE. — *Mme. Modjeska bade farewell to the stage at the Metropolitan Opera House, New York, on May 2, 1905.*

L. BEALE.—*Our authority is "Who's Who."*

PLAYLET.—*You cannot copyright a title in such a way as to secure it. The whole subject is discussed in the "Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," published at this office, price 3s. 6d.*

PETER.—(1) *Her first engagement was in a musical play called* The Rounders, *produced in America. She came to England in 1901, and played in* The Girl from Up There *at the Duke of York's Theatre.* (2) *We do not know.*

GEORGE ESS.—*We cannot find any record.*

WOOLWICH HIPPODROME.

The patrons of this house of entertainment continue to be amply provided for, and there is no Oliver Twist among them who could reasonably venture to "ask for more." The programme presented this week is particularly pleasing, combining, as it does, variety with excellence—invariably a prosperous partnership. One of the many capital turns is a spectacular episode entitled *Saved from the Harem*, an Oriental drama by Max Goldberg, in three scenes, the interest of which centres around the tribulations of a Christian girl, Ismalia Meleda, and her persecution at the hands of Murad Effendi, Caliph of Bolsora. Mr. Lionel D'Aragon as the lieutenant portrayed the part with distinction; Mr. Howard Barlow made a most acceptable Caliph; Mr. Dan F. Roe produced much laughter in the character of Peter Wilkins, who gains admittance to the harem attired in female costume; and Miss Eugenie Magnus as Ismalia sustained her rôle with much ability. Mr. W. Reynolds and Miss Revel gave great assistance in their respective parts.

The Sousloffs, wonderfully brilliant dancers, are received with the heartiest applause; Mr. Harry Thurston, in a burlesque of *The Silver King*, presents some very amusing business, and talks drolly; the Ten Dixie Girls, in their dainty song-scena, form a very pretty picture, their dances being particularly attractive; and Mr J. G Grahame and Zerlina Harrington, in a dramatic episode of Parisian life, acquit themselves well. The little play is of an exciting nature, which holds the interest of the audience. Mr. Bert Morland, in a clever song, describes the numerous complaints he suffers from, together with their remedies, and also burlesques whimsically the hero and villain in drama. The Four Jumels display marked musical attainments in their original musical speciality, their rendering of "The lost chord," with varying lights, being most effective. Miss Louise Zetland has a well-trained voice, which she uses to great advantage; the Sisters Julian sing and dance in dainty fashion; and Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope, which depicts "The Clown Doctor," completes a highly diverting evening's entertainment.

DESPITE the inclemency of the weather, large numbers of visitors assembled on the terraces and in the reserve spaces of the Crystal Palace on Thursday, when Messrs. Brock and Co. commenced their forty-third annual firework season. The brilliant display included some new features, which embraced an Empire set piece, 150ft. long and 60ft. high, representing a trophy of flags. The Union Jack is in the centre, flanked by flags springing from the Imperial crown, the whole being surmounted by an appropriate motto. Following close on this were colossal fire portraits of popular politicians, including Mr. J. Chamberlain. A beautiful sight was the white waterfall, falling from an immense height with an almost blinding intensity of brilliance, followed by a display of electric spray Roman candles, iridescent bubble Roman candles, with stars of unique beauty, and the Indian flashlight Roman candles. Towards the end of the programme was an illumination of the terrace fountains with coloured and silver spray, a grand final melée by multitudes of shells, coloured Roman candles, saucissons, gloworms, cobras, &c., and the "Fairyland Glimpse," caused by the discharge of large special shells. Among the novel mechanical devices were the "Corbeilles of the Riviera" and "The Pyramid Cascades," and Brock's newly-invented flying machine and gyroscopic wheels.

AN attractive feature has been designed for a matinée which is to be given at the Haymarket, on June 27, in aid of the Samaritan Free Hospital for Women. The whole of the parterre is to be cleared, and a number of small tables substituted, at which afternoon tea will be served by Miss Marion Terry, Miss Mary Moore, Miss Violet Vanbrugh, Miss Grace Lane, Miss Eva Moore, Miss Irene Vanbrugh, and Miss Marie Tempest. To such an agreeable variation will be added a two-hours' entertainment of the best quality.

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Ashby, Miss Nettie
Atherton, Mr. Bert
Baines, Miss Florence
Baker, Mrs.
Ball, Mr. Ed. George
Barker, Mrs. A.
Barker and Thurston
Barrington, Mr. Rutland
Bathurst, Mr. Pat
Beale, Mr. George
Bedford, Mr. Harry
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Duprez, Miss M. M.
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Edwards, Mr. Tom
Embley, Mr. Ted
English, Mr. Will
Ergotti, Messrs., and King Luis
Fane, Miss Ida
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"Gilleno," Mr. H. Giles
Goff, Mrs Chas.
Gordon, Mr. Anthony
Gouriet, Mr. Victor
Goutts, Mr. Henry
Graham, Mr. B.
Graham, Mr. Gerard
Gratton-Clyndes, Miss A
Greenwood, Mr. F.
Grieg, Mr. F. St. John
Grimes, Miss Ethel
Grummith, Mrs.
Gully, Mr. Vincent
Haisan, Mr. C. H.
Halston, Miss M.
Harcourt, Professor
Hartleigh, Mr. Chas.
Harvie, Mr. Geo.
Herman, Dr. Carl
Hill, Miss J.
Hill, Mr. Hamilton
Howard, Mr. T. M.
Hudson, Miss F.
Hudson, Mr. Eli
James, Mr. Sydney
Karno, Mrs. Ted
Laing, Mr. A.
Lalor, Mr.
Lambert, Mr. W. H.
Latimer, Miss Edyth
Lenton, Miss Olive
Leopold, Miss Geraldine
Le Roy, Mr. Servais
Levaine, Mr. Harry
Lloyd, Mr. E.
Loftus, Miss Kitty
Lonsdale, Miss Ada
Lovatt, Mrs. A.
Magrath, Mr. Chas.
Manchester, Mr. Harry
Mayor, Miss Queenie
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Millian, Mr. Max
Molloy, Miss Ruth
Monermann, Otto
Montague, Mr. J. B.
Morton, Miss Effie
Moseley, Mr. W. G.
Mount, Mr. Chas.
Norman, Mr. A. W.
O'Neill, Mr. Frank
Osborne, Mr. Will
Owen, R. W.
Paull, Miss Ethel G.
Pearce, Mr. Knight
Pearson, Mr. Bob
Peterman, Mr. J. B.
Pettigrove, Mr. B.
Pink, Mr. Wal
Potter, Mrs. Brown
Priest, Mr.
Pryde, Miss Peggy
Race, Mr. Leslie
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Revy, Miss Aurelie
Ringham, Mr. Mark
Roberts, Mr. R. A.
Rooke, Miss Irene
Rosino, Miss May
Sartella, Miss Rose
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Sevening, Miss Nina
Seymour, Miss Sadie
Shelford, Mr. T.
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Silver, Miss Christine
Stanford, Miss Mary
Stanley, Mr. J. Briant
Stansfield, Mrs.
Steale, Mr. Charles
Stiles, Mr. Leslie
Stoodley, Miss Ida
St. Quentin, Mr. Ed.
Stratton, Mr. Eugene
Studts, Mr. Jacob
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Vansittart, Mr. C. E. B
Vasco, Mr. W.
Verner, Mr. Chas. E.
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Villars, Mr. Fred.
Waldegrave, Miss L.
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White, Mr. W. J.
Wilcox, Mr. J.
Wilson, Mr. R.
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Winn, Mr. J. H.
"Winona"
Wolviston, Miss F
Wylie, Mr. L.
Zedora, Mr. Leo

PUTNEY HIPPODROME.

The programmes submitted continue to find favour with the habitués of this well-organised establishment, and consequently well-filled houses seem to be the rule. The entertainment commences this week with the overture to *The Bohemian Girl*, to which the orchestra do full justice. Following this item come a pair of droll musicians, Messrs. Martinett and Wallace, who cleverly render duets upon various musical instruments, the best being "Alice, where art thou?" which is played upon saxophones. Miss Maude Courtney, after recounting in racy style some amusing stories, concludes her turn with a topical song, "Wouldn't it be a dream?" Much amusement is caused by Howe and Ardie, comedy acrobats, one of whom makes his entry in the car of a balloon in mid-air, and is promptly brought down by a pistol shot from his partner. Although laughter-creating seems to be the main object, the pair put in some very smart tricks upon trapeze and rings, and secure a flattering recall at the conclusion. Miss Agnes Taylor's renderings of "Annie Laurie" and "Jock o' Hazeldean" prove equally acceptable. She is succeeded by the Matalla Troupe of Siamese jugglers, announced as making their first appearance in this country. Some of their tricks are very smartly done. Will Evans, who had a warm welcome, provides the star turn, and soon has the audience in roars. His introductory song, which may be called "Who am I?" provides material for a ludicrous attempt to sort out his origin from a peculiar family mix-up, and is done in the comedian's best style. His broad burlesque of a Spanish dancer is likewise extremely funny, and the "revival of the ballet," with Mr. Evans as the première danseuse, supported by six or eight masculine coryphées, is exceedingly comical. Princess Pauline, a dashing artist, gives, by way of introduction, a song written round the daughter of the American President, and afterwards raises her audience to a high pitch of enthusiasm by a ditty in praise of the "Grand old flag," appropriately terminated by the dropping of a huge Union Jack from the flies.

An unusually good sketch is presented by Minnie Hunt and Rhys Thomas, the title of which is *Her Birthday*. In the opening the lady sweetly sings "Love me, and the world is mine." Then she finds a wire which she imagines is addressed to her husband, and which embodies an invitation to dinner, presumably from a lady. The usual domestic storm is delightfully worked up; and there is a scene between husband and wife in which Mr. Thomas scores by reason of his admirable coolness, which strongly contrasts with the vehemence of the lady. Finally, the necessary explanations follow, and connubial bliss is happily restored. The entertainment is brought to a conclusion by the pictures of the Imperial Bioscope illustrating the laying of the Rhodesian railway. The films are remarkably sharp, and prove very interesting.

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
Once more, stuffed with good things, "The Era" Annual appears from its office at 5, Tavistock-street. The edition for 1907 is as nicely got up as its predecessors, and, in addition to a calendar and other theatrical memoranda, contains two lists of the year's productions, one arranged under the names of the theatres and the other alphabetically. In addition there are a number of striking or humorous contributions by leading actors and actresses—Miss Ellen Terry, Mr. Frank Cooper, Mr. Frank Curzon, Mr. Arthur Collins, Mr. Charles Collette, Miss Alma Murray, and Mr. John Lawson are among those who have contributed bright experiences to this up-to-date shilling theatrical handbook.—Star, Jan. 22.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
"The Era" Dramatic and Musical Annual for 1907 is up to its usual standard—in fact, it is, if possible, smarter than ever. There is an excellent budget of articles from the pens of Miss Ellen Terry, Miss Cicely Richards, Miss Pollie Emery, Messrs. Frank Cooper, Arthur Collins, Charles Collette, Frank Curzon, Edward German, Cliff Ryland, and many others. The illustrated obituary, the alphabetical list of plays produced in London and the provinces, and all the other valuable features of the Annual are as complete as ever, and make this handbook extremely useful not only to members of the profession, but to the infinitely wider circle interested directly or indirectly in the drama.—Whitehall Review.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
A welcome friend, with many old features as good as new, and with a selection of contributions in story form by theatrical celebrities.—Evening Standard and St. James's Gazette, Jan. 24, 1907.

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, JUNE 1, 1907.

TRUST WAR IN THE STATES.

The Americans, it is admitted, are a "go-ahead" people, and their habit of hurried advance is shown in the extreme development of the application of the Trust System to theatrical business. An impression prevails in this country that in the States the Trusts have conquered all along the line, and that, on the whole, their influence has been favourable to the American drama. English actors visiting the States have come back with stories of the convenience created by the wide-spread organisation of the trusts; and certainly the crop of advanced and realistic dramas in America is large enough to lead us to believe that the Trusts have not extinguished the artistic spirit in the Transatlantic playwright. Very startling, therefore, is the account given in the Philadelphian paper, the *North American*, of the desperate resistance to the Trusts which is being offered by the well-known manager and dramatist, Mr. DAVID BELASCO, and of the methods which he alleges have been employed in the warfare between him and a certain syndicate. Mr. BELASCO, we are told, is not bitter towards the SHUBERTS; but "when he speaks of KLAW and ERLANGER—especially ERLANGER—it is with wrathful, vengeful, implacable vehemence." Ajax defying the lightning was not a more picturesque personage than Mr. BELASCO throwing down the gauntlet to the Trusts.

"I wish to announce to the world," says Mr. BELASCO, "that it doesn't lie in the syndicate's power to break me. With all its superb business organisation, it is weaker to-day than it ever was. It is weaker because it has lost sight of art in the drama. It is weak because all its parts and factors think of nothing, are capable of thinking of nothing, but money. Their intellectual character will permit them to do nothing greater and more enduring than set up a dollar mark over their playhouses. They have given no attention to the development of stars and playwrights. The old stars with whom they began business are passing. They have throttled art for a temporary increase in the profits, and they are coming very near to the blank wall where they must change their methods and restore the stage to its former condition of independence and healthful competition."

Mr. BELASCO congratulates himself that he is beyond the power of the Trusts. When he left them, he says, he was virtually without a dollar. When he took the old Republic Theatre on a system of lease and mortgage, the Trusts, so Mr. BELASCO says, swore that they would drive him out of New York and "set him to digging ditches or running an elevator." After spending $260,000 in fighting the syndicate, Mr. BELASCO has paid off the mortgage, half owns the Belasco Theatre, Washington, and is making money. Is it not a little inconsistent in him, after having pointed to his financial success with so much pride, to attack the Syndicate Vaudeville Combination for endeavouring to make money, especially as he is going to turn his talent to working for the variety stage? At any rate, that is what one understands from the statement that he intends to write sketches for the Keith-Proctor-Williams-Hammerstein circuit, whose managers are banded together to fight the Syndicate Vaudeville Combination.

The bitter desperation which the Americans throw even into their athletic sports, and of which the football business in *Strongheart* at the Aldwych is an example, is shown in the way in which the war is being waged in the United States between the opposed entertainment interests. Messrs. KLAW and ERLANGER, it is said, have set aside between $200,000 and $500,000 for the fight in Philadelphia alone; and Mr. BELASCO states that his enemies have organised a system of annoyance calculated to send a less enduring individual out of his mind. Attempts have been made to get him into compromising positions, and then "blazon him forth as a pervert and a moral degenerate." His office windows have been broken, and the outside door smashed in. He has been frequently followed and waited for by men, who have loaded him with the coarsest abuse. When he took new offices he discovered that a plan had been laid to "sneak an opium outfit" into the place, and then have it raided by the police. So Mr. BELASCO never occupied his new premises, though he went on paying $65 a month for them. It seems, however, that the worst means employed to annoy him was bad language. A fellow would politely request to have a word with him, "Then it would come—that never-varying string of epithets, beginning with 'go to hell,' and ending with something in comparison with which the latter invitation would be sweetest music." One night as he was leaving the theatre in his carriage a man opened the door and aimed a heavy blow at him with a stick. Mr. BELASCO warded it off, the coachman whipped up his horse, and the manager escaped. "I felt," he says, "that there ought to be some other way of stopping the outrages; but what was I to do? If I reported the matter to the police, I would be laughed at by my enemies and joked about in the newspapers. No one would believe such a weird yarn. They would say 'BELASCO is bughouse,' and ask 'Why don't he carry a popgun?'"

It is evident that the modern American *entrepreneur* "lives in stirring times." As a man and a manager, we pity Mr. BELASCO; as a dramatist we congratulate him. In one of Mr. G. K. CHESTERTON'S droll stories he tells of a company which was formed to give ordinary people all the excitement of extraordinary and unexpected adventures. Actors and actresses were engaged to impersonate characters in little dramas of the *Sherlock Holmes* type, ingeniously concocted by hack playwrights. Then the subscriber, taken quite unawares, was involved in a series of "moving accidents." To an ordinary individual this was merely a pleasant change from the routine of everyday life; to a dramatist like Mr. BELASCO adventures must be intensely stimulating and suggestive. We may expect him to follow the example of the American playwrights who have dealt in their works with contemporary facts and phases, and bring out a piece about the Trusts, depicting the stage equivalent of Mr. ERLANGER with the "wrathful, vengeful" implacability with which the late CHARLES READE attacked Trades Unions and other institutions to him objectionable.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

Lohengrin was performed on Friday night, May 24, at Covent Garden, the complete work, without "cuts," being given. Herr Cornelius, the Danish singer, who as Siegmund on a former occasion made a good impression, appeared as the hero, but his Lohengrin, although vocally interesting, suffered to some extent by the singer's lack of strength as an actor. Mme. Fleischer Edel also, while singing the music of Elsa with much grace and womanly feeling, gave a somewhat mature reading of the part; the ideal Elsa is one that gives the impression of youth as well as innocence. In the part of Ortrud Mme. Kirkby Lunn, as usual, gave a striking and dramatic impersonation; while the Telramund of Mr. Whitehill was admirable, vocally strong, and full of dignity and sinister power, the American singer being at his finest in Telramund's impressive appeal to the King in the second act. Herr Knüpfer as Heinrich der Vogler, and Herr Stockhausen as the Herald completed the cast. Dr. Richter conducted, and secured a very fine performance of the prelude to the opera.

On Saturday last, May 25, in the presence of a large and brilliant house, *Traviata*, Verdi's melodious opera, was given for the first time this season. The opera has been entirely redressed, and Violetta and her companions are now seen in the costumes of 1850 instead of the incongruous dresses in which Verdi's early opera has for so many years been performed, and no doubt the work thereby gained in realism and interest. Although Mme. Melba was, through indisposition, unfortunately unable to appear, Mme. Donalda made a most acceptable substitute, and sang Violetta's music with considerable charm, being particularly happy in her rendering of the beautiful "Ah, fors e lui"; while Signor Caruso, who was in excellent voice, simply revelled in the melodious strains allotted to Alfredo. As the elder Germont Signor Scotti sang most artistically, making the utmost out of the part of the heavy father; and the minor characters of Flora Bervais, Annina, Barone Duphol, Gastone, and Marchese d'Obigny were adequately sustained by Mme. Paulin, Mme. Severina, M. Crabbé, Signor Venturini, and Signor Sampieri. The stage-management was most successful, and Signor Campanini conducted the orchestra with great ability. The performance was honoured by the presence of His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught.

Verdi's fine spectacular opera *Aida* drew a crowded house on Wednesday night to Covent Garden. No doubt the admirable cast, with Signor Caruso and Mlle. Destinn as the hero and heroine, accounted for much of the interest taken in the production, but the performance throughout of Verdi's Egyptian opera was as perfect in every detail as ever witnessed at Covent Garden. Signor Caruso made a splendid Radames, singing superbly and acting with great dramatic power. Mlle. Destinn, also being in excellent voice, gave a striking picture of the unhappy Aida, and her singing of the "Ritorna Vencitor," and her share in the great duet with Amneris, grandly sung and acted by Mme. Kirkby Lunn, roused the house to a display of unwonted enthusiasm. Signor Scotti, as on former occasions, made a most impressive Amonaero, picturesquely made up, and full of dignity as the captive King; while M. Journet as Ramfis sang finely, and received a most hearty welcome on his first appearance this season. M. Marcon, in the character of the King, completed the cast. The opera was handsomely mounted, the chorus excellent, and the ballets most effectively danced; while the scenery and stage-management alike deserve praise. Signor Campanini conducted, and may be warmly congratulated on one of the finest performances of *Aida* ever given at Covent Garden.

AMUSEMENTS IN BRUSSELS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Although our climate gives us now every other day a sample of winter, with cold winds and showers of hail, our principal theatres are closed or lent to touring companies. It is thus that Le Bargy has just given performances of *Le Demi-monde* and *Le Marquis de Priola*, and we are to have Mme. Sarah Bernhardt's visit at La Monnaie for five days.

Farce and melodrama are occupying our other theatres, such as the Molière with *The Ironmaster*, the Galeries with *Une Veine de . . .!*, the Alcazar with *La Nuit de Noces*, and the Vaudeville with *Le Cabinet Piperlin*.

The Alhambra, the Scala, and the Olympia are addicted to cinematographic views.

The Palais d'Eté, remaining faithful to its motto as a theatre of varieties, is giving a very good show, full of attractions. After the Parisian chanteuse, Léo Nesville, come those fine equilibrists, the Leigh Brothers, followed by Léo Rogée, a bird imitator; then the Five Whiteleys give a very creditable acrobatic and musical turn on the wire; and the creole Patti, Modjesko, is puzzling the audience with her fine voice, until at the final the boy removes his wig; Harry Alaskas keeps the people amused; and the eccentric MacWalter makes them roar with his quaint, silent wheezes. One admires the ease and strength of the Damm Brothers; and cheers up Gipsy Wolf with her five white piccanninies; and the enthusiasm of the public is brought to its climax by the "Globe Infernal," in which Wizard Stone and Miss Irene loop the loop several times on their bicycle and motocycle. Add to this the coolness of a fine hall, beautifully decorated, and no wonder all travellers from foreign parts are found there every night.

CECIL RALEIGH'S CAREER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Will you allow me to gratify the curiosity of your correspondent, Mr. A. Gifford Stacey, who says it would be interesting to know "when I became an actor."

The files of *The Era* will give him almost the hour if he turns back to the early eighties and traces the first tour of Le Cocq's opera, *La Petite Mademoiselle*. The proprietor of the company was the late Mr. Charles Bernard, of Glasgow, the general manager was poor Dick South, Mr. Auguste Van Biene was the musical director. I sang in the chorus to start with, and got my first lines given me because I could draw my sword and use it properly, an accomplishment with which the other male members of the chorus were not familiar. I go the "sack," together with Mr. Van Biene, because we spent a long wet afternoon in Edinburgh taking carefully to pieces the iron bedstead upon which poor Dick South habitually reposed. We propped it together carefully so that no trace of our handiwork was revealed, and when Dick jumped into bed rather violently, which was his custom, as we knew, the whole thing collapsed with an appalling crash; but the top end of the bedstead came down rather more heavily than we had anticipated, and it knocked all the humour out of the proceeding. We received our notice on the following Friday.

My first appearance in London was later on, at the Royalty Theatre, when I played in the revival of Frank Marshall's play, originally produced under the title of *False Shame*, and subsequently called *The White Feather*. The collaborator with whom I am at present working, Mr. Henry Hamilton, played in the same piece at the same time. In the same theatre I played in a musical piece called *Popsie Wopsie*, by Sidney Grundy and the late Edward Solomon, who conducted on the first night. The cast included the celebrated Maggie Brennan, Tippy Haynes, and Edward Righton. I sang a duet with Miss Kate Lawler, and on the first night we got a vociferous encore, much to the astonishment of poor Teddy Solomon, who put down his bâton and shook his head. When the show was over, I asked him why he would not let us take our encore. He said: "God knows how you got it; God help me if you had taken it." I played in other pieces at the Royalty, and even when a change in managerial arrangements took me to the front of the house, I still played nightly in the opening farce, for we began very early in those days. On one occasion I played in the piece of the evening for a period of ten nights. Tippy Haynes went down suddenly with rheumatic fever. No understudy was ready, so I went on and played Lambro the pirate in the burlesque of *Don Juan Junior* till a proper substitute for Mr. Haynes could be got ready. Miss Sylvia Grey was in the company at the time—just a slip of a girl. She stood with her back to the audience while I leant upon her shoulder in a graceful attitude and repeated after her the lines I could not commit to memory. At that period Miss Maggie Brennan was very fond of telling me that I was certain to succeed as an actor, because I looked exactly like Mrs. John Wood in trousers. This was gross flattery, I am certain. Whenever she said it, however, I used to swell with visible, and I still think pardonable, pride.

I wonder whether Mr. Stacey has an equally good credential!

Turning to a more serious matter, I should like to tell Mr. Stacey that he makes certain statements with which neither I nor a number of other people agree. He says, for example, that "managers would never pay fees for non-copyright plays." How does he know? The managers have never been asked. In France, for example, dramatic authors lead the way in the matter of unity. There they would not bother about *asking* the manager anything; they would simply tell him what he had to do, and he would have to do it. I do not see, however, why we should presuppose the hostility of managers to a charitable scheme. Personally, I take the reverse view. The strong support given to the abnegation principle by Mr. Bourchier, for example, in connection with Actors' Day, I think justifies the faith that is in me. No manager would grudge one per cent. of the gross upon certain occasions. For example, I wonder how much gross the plays of Shakespeare have drawn during the last twenty-five years? If one per cent. of that sum had been paid to the Actors' Orphanage it would not require any further endowment.

In conclusion, I should like to ask Mr. Stacey a question. He says, in effect, that the Actors' Union ought to put pressure upon the resident manager rather than upon the touring manager. Now this is an argument thoroughly worthy of the hopelessly impracticable turn of mind that distinguishes the actor when he attempts his own organisation. How, in the name of all that is wonderful, *could* the Actors' Union, or any Union, put pressure upon the *resident* manager? The actor is not employed by the resident manager, and has nothing whatever to do with him; but he is employed by the touring manager, and he can say to him, "I will not go out under £2 a week." If the actor sticks to his guns the touring manager will be forced to stick to his, and say to the resident manager, "If you do not give me decent terms you must go out of the business." The resident manager (who very often is nothing more than an unenterprising, inartistic syndicate) will then have to face the alternative of giving decent terms or shutting up his theatre. The resident manager is the root of much evil, as Mr. Charles Frohman told him very plainly in the columns of a contemporary last Sunday. It is the very short-sighted policy of the resident manager that starves the touring manager, until the touring manager has either to expire, or starve the actor. The result, a miserable mixture of the cheapest actors and of unpaid amateurs has disgusted the provincial public and half ruined the provincial business. As Mr. Charles Frohman says, a first-class show will always pay in the English provinces, but the resident manager himself makes the touring of first-class shows impossible. The net result of all these things is that many actors and actresses are literally starving. No educated human being can live decently on less than £2 a week, and therefore it is the duty of every actor and actress to unite at once in some association or union which will straightforwardly demand the £2 minimum wage, with the double object of properly feeding the hungry and squeezing out the useless amateur. When managers are compelled to give £2 per week to every person they employ they will give it to experienced actors, not to inexperienced beginners. If they are compelled to pay always the skilled worker's wage they will employ always the skilled worker.

Stage carpenters and theatrical managers have their strict and exclusive unions. Actors must have their exclusive union too.—Yours faithfully,

CECIL RALEIGH,
2, Brunswick-place, Regent's Park, N.W.
May 26, 1907.

IN the Court of Bankruptcy on Tuesday, before the Assistant Receiver, the first meeting of creditors was held under a receiving order made against Henry Thomas Brickwell, theatrical manager. The debtor states that he has done but little business, and that by way of commission, since a previous failure in February, 1905. The accounts had not yet been filed, but the liabilities were estimated at from £1,500 to £2,000. The debtor states that the assets consist of any surplus which may be derived from the assets under his previous failure, and he attributes his present position to the delay in realising that surplus and to his having had to borrow money. A trustee was appointed.

MR. BOURCHIER ON DRAMATIC ART.

Mr. Arthur Bourchier delivered his second and concluding lecture on "The Limits of the Dramatic Art" at the Royal Institution on Saturday afternoon. There was a good gathering of members and friends, who were evidently much interested in Mr. Bourchier's able symposium.

The lecturer, during the course of his remarks, said: It is difficult, when we look back at the theatre as it was in Shakespeare's time, to imagine how adequate performances could have been given of the great Elizabethan plays. There was not then, as there is now, a sharp line drawn between the stage and the auditorium, and the spectators sometimes crowded upon the stage itself. They brought their stools with them, and sat just where they liked; and probably the more they succeeded in interfering with the play the better they were pleased. Their chatter was incessant, and, when they took the trouble—which was not often—to attend to the performance, they loudly criticised the actors. Elsewhere in the house orange girls and apprentices exchanged inelegant jokes, or howls of disapproval rose to greet some unpopular player. All was noise and confusion, and the performers must have had to shout in order to make themselves heard. That they did make themselves heard we may rest assured, although there were no elaborate scenes, no pretty faces to attract the public. Scenery was, to all intents and purposes, unknown; female characters were represented by young men or boys, and only by the beauty of the lines to be delivered could the drama hope to appeal. Some such state as that, we are told, is the ideal state of the drama; but I cannot believe that all was well with the Elizabethan theatre. Nowadays the theatre is as sumptuous as of old it was barren. Some say that it is too sumptuous, and cry out for a return to the simplicity of the past. It is true that managers do vie with one another in the magnificence of their productions, but is this rivalry bad for the stage? I hardly think so. The plays we give and the actors we "present" are certainly better than those of a generation ago, when less attention was paid to the mounting of pieces than is paid now. Our acting may not have improved quite to the extent that our staging has, but it has improved, and plays certainly do create illusion now as they never did in the days when details were neglected. And let it be remembered that the most magnificent productions on the modern stage are probably those given to Shakespeare Is the public to blame for much that is wrong in the modern English drama? On that point the drama's doctors most certainly disagree; but I venture to think that most of them will allow that the majority of the public in this country does not take the drama seriously. What, then, is there to encourage the drama to take itself seriously? Perhaps dramatists and their interpreters should insist upon a better recognition of the drama as an art; but the public will have it that the drama is only an entertainment, and those who have their daily bread to win must needs follow the public. That "the drama's laws the drama's patrons give" is an old and true saying. If the public be frivolous, the drama must be frivolous, or those who are connected with the theatre will starve. The public wants to be entertained, and therefore the theatre honestly endeavours to supply just the entertainment that is wanted. It is easy to be piously shocked by this state of affairs, but before we condemn we must first ask ourselves, Why is the public so frivolous? The answer does not imply, as we might expect, a degeneration in taste. The public would, we may safely conjecture, still appreciate the best in art if only there were time. These are hustling days, more persons have to work for a living, and men are harder pushed to succeed in business than formerly, and the public comes tired to the theatre. More and more the office and the mart demand of our energies more and more strenuous work, and more and more we pray that we may not be asked to think when the day's work is over. It would be wrong to blame the man who, after eight or ten hours' worry in the City, rather resents being asked by the dramatist to solve some knotty moral problem. The English stage knows no standard, either of drama or of acting. In Paris there are two houses where the best traditions are maintained; but here we have no traditions. The theatre is in such a chaotic condition that only Englishmen could muddle through. It is not that we have no drama, no actors, but that we have no organisation. If an actor have talent, you may ask, what else does he want? I cannot answer too emphatically that he wants training, training, training. Talent is of little value until the proper use of it has been learned. True, we have here, in London, a school of acting, the Academdy of Dramatic Art, of which Sir Squire Bancroft is the honoured head; while Mr. Hare, Mr. Tree, Mr. Alexander, Mr. Maude, Mr. Pinero, Mr. Barrie, and myself are on the committee. It is an admirable institution, doing good work in a quiet, unobtrusive fashion, and it has already sent some promising recruits to the stage; but one swallow does not make an English summer, and one such school, or, for that matter, a score of them, does not form the ideal training for the actor. That, in my humble opinion, is only to be found in a revival of the old system of stock companies. Much good is done by some of the touring companies, with their extensive répertoires—Mr. Benson's, Mr. Ben Greet's, Mr. Compton's, to name but three—but until the old system is revived of stock companies in all the large towns of England, Scotland, and Ireland, the standard of acting in this country will not be greatly raised. Many of us have cherished dreams of a National theatre, and although I am told that such an institution is an impossibility, I believe that I shall live to see the dream fulfilled. This theatre would be a school as well as a stage, and there the young actors, who had been selected by the director, would be trained. They would earn a living wage, and the répertoire of the institution would be such that they would gain experience in all the best plays produced, both ancient and modern. This répertoire should not be confined to the works of Shakespeare, Sheridan, and Goldsmith, but the director would be free to select from established modern successes, and the co-operation of playwrights who looked for artistic rather than material success would be invited. The moment that a serious practical interest in the drama as an art, not as an entertainment, comes to the people, then, you may be sure, as great and as quick a change will be seen on the stage. It is seriously to be hoped that a deep sympathetic interest in the drama will spring from the performance of pageants and of village plays, all of which are means to cultivate the love of beauty and the dramatic sense.

THE ordinary general meeting of the Bath Theatre Royal Co., Ltd., was announced for yesterday (Friday) afternoon. The report states that the gross income for the year to the 15th ult. is £607 8s. 8d., the amount being slightly less than last year, as there are no unclaimed dividends to be added. Out of the sum of £238 5s. in the bankers' hands the directors propose to pay £104 15s. as the last instalment of principal and interest in connection with their loan, and to carry forward the balance of £133 10s.

THE living pictures which for so many months were a strong attraction at the Empire, were presented in New York on Monday with enormous success.

DRESSES AT THE PLAY.

The attractions of *A Woman of No Importance* at His Majesty's are due in no small measure to the brilliancy of the costumes. Miss Ellis Jeffreys makes her first appearance in a charmingly simple dress of fine white Irish linen. The long skirt is inset with graduated panels of white Spanish lace, horizontal bands of the same likewise decorating the hem. The kimono-shaped bodice is strapped with bands of linen, which outline the short cape-sleeves and define the V-shaped opening to the waist, the front being filled in with a vest of Brussels lace, which also forms the frilled undersleeves. Miss Jeffreys carries a sunshade square in shape, in palest blue crêpe de chine, delicately hand-painted, and supplemented with a deep cream silk fringe. Later Miss Jeffreys wears a remarkable gown of old-gold net entirely covered with massed gold paillettes. The foot of the long skirt is finished at the bottom with a thick ruche of the net, while folds of paillette tulle, draped in cross-over fashion over an underslip of cream silk spotted tulle, constitute the corsage. The sleeves consist of short flounces of the tulle, finished with a twist of pale blue satin, while a *chou* of the same and a single pink rose are tucked into the tulle on one side of the décolletage. Miss Jeffreys' dress in the last act is of voile, patterned with an almost invisible black and white check over white, the corsage of which is folded over a gilet of embroidered silver tissue, her deep swathed waistbelt being adorned at the back with three flat bows of the same. The skirt is finished at the hem with a wide band of lace in tone with the grey effect of the gown, whilst the hat which accompanies it is of pale Nattier blue straw, trimmed in front with two immense gull's wings in natural shades, the crown encircled with a band of blue satin ribbon.

Miss Viola Tree's first entry is made in an attractive dress of white silk voile, adorned with lovely embroideries and supplemented with a hem of pale turquoise blue velvet, headed with a massed border of Chinese roses in shaded tones of pink. The same decoration is repeated in the wide sleeves, which are mounted over white lace, the same lace forming the foundation of the bodice, which is supplemented with folded bretelles of voile, and finished back and front with heavy tassels, while the vest of lace is bordered with a wreath of shaded roses. A waistbelt, formed of soft folds of the material, is caught at the back with a large oval blue velvet buckle, bordered with a white silk ruching, and a sunshade of white embroidered lawn, inlet with insertion, supplies a delicate finish to the costume. Miss Tree's second gown has a basis of rich white satin, depending for effect on the severity of its Princess lines. The satin in soft draperies forming the bodice is embroidered in a design of feather fronds in minute silver paillettes, the folds being caught in front at the waist-line with a huge garnet buckle. The space back and front is filled in with bouillonnées of snowy white tulle, while the décolletage is outlined with a fold of black tulle, a huge *chou* of the same being fastened to the left side, and finished with a streamer of black tulle reaching nearly to the foot of the skirt. Tiny sleeves, composed of frills of white tulle, are worn off the shoulders, the latter being draped with glistening paillette tulle. A refreshing effect is made by Miss Tree's white muslin gown embellished with a corsage of lace and muslin. The folds of the latter are brought together on the shoulders with a row of buttons, the wide balloon sleeves to the elbow being inlet with blonde lace, whilst the skirt is embellished by two wide bands of embroidered lawn of gossamer fineness.

Miss Marion Terry—in the title-rôle—makes her first appearance in the second act in a gown of black net mounted over black taffetas, the trained skirt of which bears several vandykes of black velvet ribbon headed with narrow bands of jet, short tight undersleeves of paillette and jet-embroidered net being worn under epaulettes of the same, while the black tulle which drapes the bodice is finished with jet tassels. Miss Terry's gown in the last act is of soft satin-faced cloth in a pale shade of Marie Louise mauve. Wide bretelles of découpé and embroidered cloth are brought over the shoulders, and form, in addition, the wide cape-sleeves, decorated by two heavy silk tassels.

Miss Kate Cutler's first dress is of mauve voile, a deep band of filet lace, dyed to match, adorning the foot of the skirt, this being bordered with a band of narrow velvet ribbon to match. Her corsage of dyed embroidered silk filet is mounted over an under-bodice of soft creamy lace, the sleeves being bordered with velvet ribbon, whilst the hat which accompanies the costume is of straw, adorned with masses of jet black, crimson, and purple cherries, and pansies in yellow and pale blue, a long streamer of broad green shot ribbon depending from under the brim almost to the hem of the skirt. A sunshade of white silk, adorned with a lovely design of realistically hand-painted lilac, completes the picture. The evening dress worn by Miss Cutler is of pale blue of a most delicate tone, an over-dress of *mousseline de soie* being mounted over a foundation of the same shade, the latter sewn almost to the knees with large silver paillettes, whose hard metallic outline is softened by the soft transparency of the over-dress. The bodice of white lace is almost entirely covered with massed moonshine crystal bugles, the bugles being embroidered in horizontal fashion across the front of the bodice, and perpendicularly on the short wide sleeves, which are finished with frills of lace. Miss Cutler wears over her shoulders a scarf of *mousseline de soie*, the centre of which is adorned with the Greek key design, embroidered in black, whilst the curls of her coiffure are kept in place with a band of pale blue satin ribbon, the same forming a waistband to the gown.

AMONG the rapidly-rising ventriloquists is Mr. George Gulliver, who is scoring along the line at his provincial engagements. He should be very welcome at the West End.

SANDY MCNAB AND CO., in their Scotch sketch, *The Egyptian Mummy*, made an instantaneous hit on opening on the Stoll tour this week at the Glasgow Coliseum. Special bills were issued after the first night.

MEMBERS of the dramatic and musical professions should note the improved train service to the Norfolk coast effected by the Great Northern Company for June. A train will leave King's Cross each Friday at 5.45 p.m., arriving at Sheringham 9.36, West Runton 9.43, and Cromer 9.50 p.m.; and on Mondays a new train will leave Cromer at 9.50 a.m., and Sheringham at 9.59 a.m., arriving at King's Cross 1.55 p.m. Restaurant cars will be available on these trains between London and Peterborough, and the service will be a great convenience to passengers wishing to spend the week-end at Sheringham or Cromer. Special season tickets are issued from London (King's Cross) to the Norfolk coast resorts mentioned for periods varying from one to twelve months at rates which work out at only 1s. 9d. per day, and a handy folder containing particulars of these and other facilities can be obtained from the Chief Passenger Agent, Great Northern Railway, King's Cross, N.

AT the Standard Theatre, Bishopsgate, this week a series of Yiddish plays is being presented by Mr. M. D. Waxman's operatic and dramatic company. Each night the house has been packed to the extreme, and much satisfaction has been expressed.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

THE anxiously-expected award is not ready yet, and another week may elapse before it is made known by Mr. Askwith, the arbitrator.

MISS MARIE LLOYD has come to the conclusion that the present time is inopportune for the holding of the Music Hall Benevolent Fund dinner, and Mr. Horace Marriott has received a letter to this effect through the V.A.F. At the moment of going to press a meeting of the Joint Committee is being held at the Benevolent Fund offices, at which a later date will, it is hoped, be fixed. Meanwhile, we would impress upon our readers the fact that the charity is in great need, and that immediate funds should be forthcoming to keep the work going, especially that in connection with the poor pensioners. Intending donors would be doing an immense service to the Fund by sending on their cheques at once.

MR. AND MRS. RICHARD WARNER, who had been great personal friends of the late Mr. George Adney Payne for many years, sent a beautiful floral tribute in the shape of a harp, and Mr. Warner paid the last tribute of affection to his dead chum by being present both at the church and the grave.

THE hundreds of friends of Miss Dot Stephens will be surprised and delighted to hear that that talented young lady is returning to the stage. It will be remembered that last November, whilst Miss Stephens was journeying from Walsall to Glasgow, she fell out of the train and sustained such severe injuries that for a time her life was despaired of. Everyone imagined that her professional career was ended. Thanks, however, to the special medical treatment she has received, the young lady is now once again in the best of health, and is prettier and daintier, if possible, than ever. The wonderful surgical appliances she wears enable her to walk without the slightest suspicion of a limp, and it is good to know that a month from now Miss Stephens will once again be seen on the Moss-Stoll tour.

MR. FRANK PARKER will produce his fortieth consecutive spectacle at the London Hippodrome on or about June 17. It will be an ice carnival, the scenes of which are laid near the Hague. By new machinery, now being installed, Mr. Parker will be able to change the aspect of summer into that of winter, and the arena will become a cool pleasaunce, with a crowd of 150 people attired in the picturesque garb of the Netherlands, skimming the surface of the arena lake with something of the natural grace of Holland's most famous canal skaters.

MR. BERT GILBERT and Nipper Lupino Lane are secured for the principal male parts, and the famous skaters, Hess and Lisbon, and the Four Figaros, will be introduced. Scores of Tiller girls, whose Dutch clog dancing has long been popular, are now learning to skate for this carnival, and it will be interesting to watch these clever young ladies in a new rôle. Mr. Parker has been scouring England for weeks to find a principal lady who is at once pretty, a good actress, a singer, a dancer, and a skater. Surely the last qualification should not prove to be an insurmountable obstacle.

A MOST amusing sketch by Wal Pink, called *The King o' the Castle*, was produced at the Camberwell Palace on Monday by Mr. Joe Elvin's capital company. Those who are familiar with Mr. Elvin's drollery can imagine how irresistible he is as Peter, and how hearty is the laughter he evokes by his exquisitely unctuous and original humour. *The King o' the Castle* is one of the merriest sketches that have been seen in London for a long time.

MLLE. ADELINE GENÉE, the première danseuse of the Empire Theatre, has signed an agreement to appear in New York. She is not going there for ballet, but to play the part of the Fairy in *The New Aladdin*—a wordless part, but one that will provide opportunities to introduce many kinds of dancing. It will be remembered that recently, at the Playhouse, the popular mime and danseuse scored an emphatic triumph by her impersonation of the Dryad, in Miss Dora Bright's musical fairy fantasy.

LA SYLPHE, another favourite dancer, who was for two years at the Alhambra, sailed on Saturday, per the Walmer Castle, for Cape Town and Johannesburg, and will continue her globe-trotting experiences by sailing in September for Australia to fulfil an engagement of five months under the management of Mr. Harry Rickards. She will return through America to play the Orpheum Circuit, and does not expect to be back in Europe until 1909.

MR. WALTER GIBBONS, who has been obliged to keep his bed through a sharp attack of rheumatism, is rapidly getting better, and will return to business next week.

WITHIN six hours of the decision of the Derby on Wednesday the Alhambra will, by the expert aid of "Urbanora," present a full and complete cinematographic record of the classic race, as well as some animated scenes in the grounds of the historic Durdans, where Frederick, Prince of Wales and son of George II., resided during Epsom meetings in the eighteenth century, and where Amato, the "coughing pony" of Sir Gilbert Heathcote and the Blue Riband victor of '38 lies buried. The series of pictures is being taken by the courteous permission of the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Rosebery.

THE similarity of the title *When Knights were Bolder* to the successful farcical comedy by Harriett Jay, now running at Wyndham's, has been pointed out by Mr. James Welch, and as there is no wish on the part of the author or producer to create confusion in the minds of playgoers, the sketch is about to be renamed. The fantasy, which was successfully produced at the Devonshire Park Theatre a week or two ago, was primarily intended for the halls, and will be given for the first time in London at the Granville, Walham Green, on Monday, with a new title.

HYMACK, who returns to the Empire on Monday, is a Scotchman, and his turn is one usually described as protean. But he does not merely change his clothes: he discards coats, collars, neckties, walking-sticks, until the stage becomes a mere litter of personal attire. Yet the marvellous thing is that, in place of his old collar, half a dozen fresh ones are seen round his neck, and new walking-sticks seem to spring from the ground. The turn must be seen to be believed, for it took Hymack five years of steady, unremitting practice before he allowed himself to give it in public. Biograph pictures of the Derby will be shown on Wednesday night.

MISS MARGARET ASHTON, who this week concludes a highly successful provincial tour upon the Moss circuit, has been singing, with great success, Messrs. Cobb and Edwards's stirring "Hands across the sea" song, entitled "When Tommy Atkins marries Dolly Gray." The charming American soprano will, after enjoying a short holiday abroad, appear during July at the Oxford and other London halls, and subsequently at the Tivoli.

MR. HORACE COLE, formerly manager of the New Cross Empire, having been so completely successful in his management of the Liverpool Empire since the introduction of two houses nightly, has been selected by Mr. Oswald Stoll to take over the management of the oldest house of the company, the Empire Theatre at Edinburgh.

MR. ALBERT C. DUNCAN, one of Mr. George Dance's well-tried veteran managers, succeeds Mr. Cole. Last Saturday night Mr. Duncan finished touring with *Mr. Popple (of Ippleton)*, and will take up his duties at the Liverpool Empire on Monday. The new manager of the Lime-street house was brought up to the law, but it had no attractions for him. So he deserted parchments to become an Indian tea-planter. Malaria claimed him for its own, so he returned home, and when well started out in management with *A Chinese Honeymoon* company. Since then he has been in charge of companies playing *The Orchid, Three Little Maids*, and was with Mr. Weedon Grossmith's *Night of the Party*.

AT the Pavilion, Glasgow, the new underground waiting-rooms and lounge are proving a great success, more particularly in the wet or cold evenings to which we are unfortunately so liable. These rooms are beautifully fitted up, and as they accommodate the full seating capacity of the pit, and the greater proportion of the stalls and dress circle patrons, their advantage over the queue system outside is undoubted. Mr. Samuel Lloyd and his directors are to be heartily congratulated on their enterprise.

MR. RICHARD THORNTON celebrated the completion of his new Sunderland Empire by inviting the workmen and staff engaged, with some local gentlemen, to a dinner, on the stage of the new house, on the 24th ult. Mr. W. Milburn, who has designed the building, took the chair, and Mr. J. W. White, the builder, proposed the health of the proprietor, to which Mr. Sam Gething responded. In the course of his reply Mr. Gething mentioned that the new Empire is the largest music hall in England, having a slightly greater accommodation than the Coliseum. He also promised that Sunderland should see the cream of variety, and that the first artist to top the bill would be Miss Vesta Tilly, on July 1. Mr. Dick Thornton said a few words, as did Mr. Esden, the manager-elect. The proceedings closed with a very good concert. Some 400 were present.

THE marriage arranged between Mr. Frank Hargreaves, general-manager of the Empire Theatre, Rochdale, son of Mr. T. Hargreaves, proprietor, and Miss A. Dearden, daughter of the late Mr. B. Dearden, of Castleton, Lancashire, will take place at Baillie-street Chapel, Rochdale, on Wednesday, the 19th inst., at two o'clock.

BY permission of Mr. B. Pearce Lucas, Mr. Walter Norman, the popular manager of the Hastings Hippodrome, is taking his benefit on Wednesday next. A long and interesting programme is being arranged. Artists from London, Brighton, Eastbourne, and other parts have kindly volunteered their services, and a crowded house is expected.

MR. CHARLES MUSSETT, of the Empire, Glasgow, on Saturday night last, before leaving, was the recipient of a purse of gold, subscribed for by the patrons and staff of that house, together with several other presents. A hearty send-off awaited him at St. Enoch's Station, where the entire staff assembled at 11 p.m. to wish him godspeed.

MR. CHARLES STANSFIELD, of Dover, the secretary of the syndicate owning the Palace and Hippodrome, Market-square, Dover, has passed away, much to the regret of a large circle of friends. The cause of death was pneumonia.

MR. FRED LEIGHTON, the popular manager of the Hippodrome, Sheerness, has been seriously ill with influenza. We are pleased to state, however, that he is rapidly recovering and will soon be back at his post.

THERE was a great crowd at the Happy Valley, Llandudno, on Saturday afternoon to witness the first performance of Mr. W. J. Churchill's Minstrels. Mr. Churchill's company includes eighteen talented artists, of whose performances any seaside resort might well be proud. To celebrate the opening each occupant of a front seat was presented with a copy of a special programme, containing photographs of the Happy Valley and of Mr. Churchill.

AT Mr. Pickard's American Museum, Trongate, Glasgow, there is on view a dwarf called Tom Thumb, who stands only 23in. high, and weighs under 24lb. This little wonder was born at Stockport, Cheshire, in 1887, and is therefore twenty years of age. He is exactly 12in. shorter than the original General Tom Thumb, who was considered the smallest man on earth. The prodigy has been examined by many medical men, and one and all pronounce him to have a sound constitution, to be well developed, and to possess all his faculties. Crowds are flocking in daily from all parts to visit this wonderful phenomenon.

A SPECIAL meeting of the Justices of the Peace was held in the City Chambers, Edinburgh, on the 24th ult., for the purpose of dealing with the petitions for renewal of licences for various theatres in the city. Lord Provost Gibson presided. Mr. David Lyon, the Clerk, reported that the Firemaster had inspected the Empire, Lyceum, Royal, and King's Theatres, and that the fire appliances were all in a satisfactory condition. There were no objections by the police to the renewals.

COUNCILLOR BROWN asked if the Justices had power to make it a condition of the granting of the licence that the premises would not be open on Sunday for entertainments. That was, he said, an important question. Mr. Allan, who appeared for the licensees of the Empire, gave an undertaking, on the suggestion of the Justices, that the theatre would not be given on Sunday for other purposes than religious, charitable, or philanthropic. On the question of the bars, the resolution was carried to close them at ten o'clock.

STERLING AND LOVE have been booked to play two principal parts in the next pantomime at the Theatre Royal, Bristol, by their exclusive agent, Mr. Fred Reeves, who has also secured for Messrs. Frank and Free a Christmas engagement at the Grand Theatre, Brighton.

THE death has occurred at Watermouth Castle, Ilfracombe, of Lieutenant Walter Basset Basset, R.N., the inventor of the Great Wheel at Earl's Court, which has just been taken down. He was the eldest son of Mr. C. H. Basset, and grandson of the late Sir William Williams, first baronet, of Tregullow. He was an officer of the Bacchante during the cruise of the Prince of Wales and the late Duke of Clarence. He subsequently became a partner in the firm of Maudslay, Son, and Field, engineers.

MEIER AND MORA, with their new show, are a decided success at the Alhambra, Paris. They have been engaged for the following month as the feature attraction at the Jardin de Paris.

MISS MARIE EMPRESS wishes to contradict the report that she is about to be married. There is no truth whatever in the statement. This lady, who is gaining popularity wherever she goes, is appearing this week at the Empire, Birmingham, and on Monday will be at the Empire, Coventry.

MR. AND MRS. MICHAEL NOLAN (Miss Agnes Hazel) and their daughter, Miss Agnes Nolan, will sail for Australia on Friday next to fulfil engagements with Mr. Harry Rickards. The favourite Irish comedian's health has not been all that his friends could wish, and the voyage should set him up.

GREAT excitement is being caused by the challenge made by Miss Georgina Lennard to Mrs. Edgar Forrest to swim the Channel. These ladies have been tutored by Miss Gertie Wright, and both have turned out excellent pupils. The great event will take place this month.

MR. L. WESTCOTT HICKS has been appointed manager of the Duchess Palace, Balham, in succession to Mr. Bertram Ross, who has become lessee of the Operetta House, Clacton-on-Sea, which he is running during the summer season with variety business.

THE Elliotts-Savonas are by way of taking a fortnight's rest, and this will be their first holiday for years. The popular troupe is so fully booked up that in order to secure this much-needed recreation they have had to make special arrangements.

MR. HARRY TATE is not the only boy of the family who posseses the gift of comedy. He has a brother who has been successfully playing the famous sketch *Fishing* on the other side, both with Keith and Proctor and Klaw and Erlanger.

THE twenty-second anniversary of the reopening of the Paragon will be celebrated with a special entertainment on Friday next. Messrs. Fred Miller and Charles Beecham will present a festival programme. One figure will be missed from the gathering in the lounge—that of Mr. G. A. Payne, who always took an immense interest in the house that was associated with his first proprietorship.

MR. R. G. KNOWLES, after an absence of over two years from England, comes to the Palace Theatre on Monday, when he will bring with him new songs and patter. During his stay at the Shaftesbury-avenue house he will present his new entertainment, "Old Worlds through New Eyes."

MR. EDWIN BRETT and Miss Emmeline Orford, after a successful run of the halls, have arranged to return to the theatre stage for this coming autumn, when they will tour the No. 1 towns as Mr. Popple and La Bolero in the musical comedy *Mr. Popple*. Christmas will see Mr. Brett and Miss Orford as principal comedian and principal boy at the Theatre Royal, Hull.

THE Terriers, with their friends (ladies being specially invited), are now busy with the arrangements for the river outing and sports, which take place on Sunday, June 16. The party will meet at Waterloo at 9 a.m. sharp, departing at 9.10, and arriving at Hampton Court at 10 o'clock. They will then board the magnificent steam launch, La Burgoine, on which refreshments and luncheon will be served on the outward journey. Arriving at Old Windsor at 2 p.m., two hours will be allowed for sports, to take place in the meadows. The return journey will commence at four, when a knife and fork tea will be served on board. Hampton Court will be reached at 8.30, and the departure from there is fixed for 9.10, arriving at Waterloo at 10 o'clock. Tickets can be had from the secretary, Harry Lester. As the number is strictly limited early application is necessary.

A CRICKET match between the Terriers and the staff of the Empire, Camberwell, took place at Freeman's Grounds, Denmark Hill, on Wednesday. Tom Packer, Sidney Lawrence, James Elmo, Woolmer Young, Sid Barker, Leon Bassett, James Willson, Fred Barker, Ben Woodger, and Algar were found among the fraternal canines; and the "Imperialists" were represented by Harry Bawn, Sam Mayo, Teddy Webb, C. Shedden, F. Martin, Edgar Budden, Ted Cowan, and others. The latter team won after an enjoyable game.

THE 513th meeting of the Executive Committee of the M.H.A.R.A. was held on Wednesday afternoon, when the following members were present:—Messrs. Charles Coborn, Harry Blake, Jeff Vendome, Fred Neiman, Douglas White, Bernard Stavordale, Fred Harrison, and C. Douglas Stuart. Mr. Charles Coborn took the chair. The date for holding the river outing will be definitely fixed next week. A deputation of the committee was appointed to interview the Ocean Accident Company regarding the insurance premiums. The hon. treasurer's statement was submitted, also the weekly statement, which showed that thirty-five members had joined during the week, and the total amount received was £41 1s.

FAVOURED by excellent weather, the teams representing the London Pavilion and the Palace Theatre, enjoyed a capital game of cricket at the Grange, East Acton, on Wednesday afternoon, victory resting with the Palace by 46 runs. For the winners, Mr. L. Smith scored 30, Mr. Graham Harding 22, Mr. J. Tasker 21, and Mr. W. Hughes 14 (not out); and for the Pavilion, Mr. D. C. Clark contributed a well-compiled 39, which included four 4's, and Mr. C. Hart made 14. The total scores were:—The Palace Theatre, 131; London Pavilion, 85.

MISS DOLLY HARMER, the clever burlesque actress, has made a big success at the Empire, Johannesburg, and is already an immense favourite on the Rand.

MISS BERTHA STUART, the favourite Scotch character vocalist, is making a big hit at the Palace, Cork. She takes a short holiday next week before opening on the Moss-Stoll Empires. Her first vacancy is January, 1911.

THE latest recruit to the music-hall stage from the theatres, viz., Mr. Charles Penrose, has been specially engaged for a principal comedy part in the Lyceum pantomime by Mr. Ernest Carpenter. This engagement has been negotiated by Mr. Fred Reeves.

MR. CHARLES ELTON, of the Kronemann Brothers, and Miss Jenny Avolo, of the Four Musical Avolos, were married on Sunday, May 12, at Philadelphia.

SWAN AND VESTA, having concluded a nine months' starring engagement and Indian tour with their successful musical comedy extravaganza, *In Nelson's Days*, have left Bombay on the s.s. Malta and arrive home on Tuesday.

CALVERTO, the well-known Scottish agent, who numbers amongst his clients H.R.H. the Duchess of Fife and the élite of Scotland, is now in town in search of high-class entertainers for northern concerts, private parties, &c. Letters to 12, Euston-square, will receive attention.

MR. PETT RIDGE, in a recent article on the rapid improvement of variety theatres, writes:—"One can easily count the distance of years when decent women rarely went to a music hall, and when those who had been flatly denied the experience. Those were nights of comedians who came on with a hiccough and should have been sent off with a kick; of bulky ladies who generally had bitter words to say concerning the policy of Mr. Gladstone; and of songs with two verses having no meaning, and a last verse that possessed two."

MR. FREDERICK BAUGH announces that, in consequence of the action of the Lord Chamberlain in refusing to permit variety artists to appear at the Britannia, Hoxton, he is obliged to cancel all existing contracts for that theatre.

MR. PERCY PERCIVAL, the new manager of the Hackney Empire, for the past six years has been the manager of the Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton, and, prior to that, acted as business-manager to Mr. Milton Bode in London and the provinces.

OUR readers will regret to hear of the death on Tuesday, from a stroke of paralysis, of Mr. Asher Simmons, a popular frequenter of the halls, whose amiable disposition endeared him to a large circle of friends in and out of the profession.

CINQUEVALLI, the great juggler, will appear at the Hackney Empire on Monday. This is his final appearance prior to his next American tour. It was an accident in the most emphatic sense of the word that caused Paul Cinquevalli to turn his thoughts from flying through space as a trapezist to the art which he has brought to such perfection. Cinquevalli, then but a stripling, was performing in St. Petersburg, and had flung himself from one trapeze to another, which he caught, apparently, as usual. But through some mischance the bar was greasy, and Cinquevalli fell seventy-four feet. He was picked up a mass of broken limbs, and spent eight months in the hospital. In that time he had decided to give up the trapeze business. He always had a weakness for tossing everything handy in the air, so what more natural than that he should be a juggler? So a juggler he became.

MR. MALCOLM SCOTT has given us Catherine of "Arrogance," and in his own funny way has revived memories of the triumphs of Boadicea and her woad-stained hordes. His latest "woman of knowledge" is to be Nell Gwynne, whose poetic calling as a vendor of oranges at Old Drury may have suggested the dynasty of the same name. Mr. Scott gave Sweet Nell an airing on Monday at the entertainment given by Messrs. Adeler and Sutton's Pierrots at the Olympian Gardens, Harringay, and will deliver the Gwynne monologue during the week at the London Pavilion. The latest Nell will wear a beautiful Restoration frock by Harrisons, Limited.

MRS. BENNETT, the favourite actress, has just signed with Mr. Harry Rickards, through Tom Pacey's agency, to sail for Australia on June 28.

MR. HARRY THURSTON, a clever mimic, has struck out a line for himself which has proved successful—nothing less indeed than a burlesque monologue on *The Silver King*. Its future is to be steered to the harbour of prosperity by the original pilot of Mr. Harry Tate—no other than Spot Oliver.

MR. FRED DAY (the manager of Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter's New York establishment) sails from that city to-day (Saturday), per s.s. Lucania, for West Hampstead and Charing Cross-road (which is another name for England, home, and beauty), on a well-deserved holiday. What sort of welcome awaits him can be better imagined than described, and a red-letter day to be marked with a white stone will be a forthcoming Saturday this June when (at Wendover, we believe) the full strength of both London branches of the great house will welcome as honoured guests at their annual outing Messrs. William Francis—happily now convalescent—and David and Fred Day. The unparalleled and stupendous progress of the British firm in the land of the Stars and Stripes has been almost entirely due to Mr. Fred Day's business perspicacity and untiring energy, and yet the house styles itself in its cable address, "Playtime, New York"!

THE Emmell Comedy Company, in a mythical muddle, entitled *My Statue of Grace*, appeared at Messrs. Broadhead's Manchester Hippodrome with such success on Monday that Mr. Will Dalton, who has booked the initial tour of fourteen weeks, was immediately offered all Messrs. Broadhead's other establishments for this act, which is quite a distinct novelty in the sketch line. Mr. Alfred M. Loader, the author, has provided Miss Adèle Levey with a part which suits her admirably, and she is well supported by Miss Jeannie Weston and Mr. Fred Haming.

THE Haverleys, the well-known song illustrators, finish their engagement to-night at the Richmond Theatre, where they have been doing a "trial week" for Mr. Frank Allen with a view to the Moss and Stoll circuit, and have scored a success. They leave London for an extended provincial tour on Sunday.

MISS FANNY ROBINA and Miss Florrie Cooper, after sixteen weeks' successful tour, will return to London for one week's holiday. They hope to witness Slieve Gallion win the Derby on Wednesday. They will resume business on June 10 at the Hippodrome, Crouch End.

DOLLY, Agnes, and Maud, the Staffordshire factory nightingales, have just finished a record run of three years without a break in their unique vocal and original novelty, starring both in London and the provinces.

MR. AUSTIN BOYD and Miss Trixie Gilfain are meeting with a most flattering reception at the London Pavilion in their new operette, *Sunny Spain*.

MR. HARRY LESLIE, of the Leslie Concert Agency, Manchester, who again is the lessee of the entertainments on the St. Anne's-on-Sea Pier, means to keep things lively for the visitors this season. He has a capital list of bookings for the Pier Theatre. Mr. Leslie has produced a surprise this week in the person of Master Joe Smith, the boy soprano. He expects much from this gifted performer. Master Smith, who is thirteen years of age, is described by the adjudicator of a festival at which he won the soprano class last week as "without doubt the finest boy soprano England has ever produced."

THE Brook Green Skittle Club gave their annual dinner at the Holborn Restaurant on Friday, May 24. Mr. A. W. Bray, one of the directors of the Camberwell Palace, is the esteemed president. An appetising menu was provided, and the musical arrangements after dinner were under the direction of Mr. Fred Neiman. Amongst those who contributed to the harmony were Miss Forsyth (soprano), Mr. Harry Lynx (comedian), Miss Linda Dale, Gurney Russell (comedian), Miss Ethel Walker (with songs at the piano), Miss Ellen Rose, Tom Collins, B. Norton, Mr. Lewis Bennett, Harry Paul, and Maurice Garland.

HENRY JORDAN, 22, a naval stoker, was charged on Monday, at West Ham, with assaulting Arthur Hunt, lessee of the Royal Albert, Canning Town, and with damaging a silk hat, which was valued at 15s. 6d. Prisoner, who was sober but in merry mood, was dancing about in the music hall on Saturday night. Refusing to desist, he was ordered to leave. A policeman was sent for, and in the course of a melée Mr. Hunt's silk hat was knocked off and smashed. Mr. Hunt added that he had no desire to press the charge, and Jordan saying he would pay 15s. 6d. for the hat, Mr. Gillespie said he would allow the charge to be withdrawn.

NECESSITY invented stools, and convenience next suggested elbow-chairs; but it has been left to Messrs. Shoolbred to patent a chair seated in which ladies will no longer need be inconvenienced by holding fan or opera glass, nor the "mere male" worried as to the preservation of his expensive "topper."

HERR THEODOR ROSENFELD, manager of the Passage Theatre, Berlin, passed away on Monday at Karlsbad, in his fifty-seventh year. For many years he has been one of the most prominent and popular figures of the variety business in Berlin, and his death will be regretted by all artists of international reputation, who came within the circle of his acquaintance.

A SALE of work to raise funds for renovating the wards of the Gordon Hospital, Vauxhall Bridge-road will be held at the Hospital on Tuesday, June 11, and will be opened by Her Highness the Ranée of Sarawak, while T.R.H. Princess Victoria and Princess Louise of Schleswig-Holstein have promised to be present. The work of the Hospital is seriously hampered for lack of funds, and the occasion is one that must commend itself to all charitably-disposed persons. Mr. Fred W. Mills, who has recently undergone an operation, speaks highly of the skill and attention that are being shown to him at this excellent institution.

MRS. MEL B. SPURR desires through the columns of *The Era* to thank Mr. Nelson Jackson, Mr. Robert Reynolds, Mr. Walter Grace, Mr. George Robins (chairman), and Mr. Arthur Roberts (secretary), of the Concert Artists' Benevolent Fund for the great assistance they have been to her and her child. The long, weary waiting for the settlement of her late husband's affairs caused the widow acute distress, and brought her and her daughter to a dreadfully reduced position. As she says in her letter to us, "Everything seemed so hopeless for us, and but for them (the gentlemen mentioned above), I dread to think what we should have done."

MRS. CAMP has for sale the singing rights of several of her husband's unpublished songs. She also desires to warn unauthorised singers against infringement of her rights in her late husband's property. Those desirous of acquiring any of the numbers may communicate with Mrs. Camp, 27, Gairloch-road, Camberwell, S.E.

MR. ROBERT GANTHONY writes:—"A very happy company, with a number of funny recollections, terminates its engagement at the Alhambra, Paris, this week. The engagement has been made very comfortable by the sustained courtesy of Mr. Brookes, the stage-manager, who is always looking after the company in many ways, which is of great assistance in a foreign city, and always cheerful, pleasant, and unaffected. Mr. Neighbour imitates his courtesy, but naturally we do not see as much of him as we do of our stage-manager.® The stage hands, especially those born in the city, speak French very well, which is not to be wondered at, as they are always practising. Those who speak with a Yorkshire accent get on best with English artists.

"WHEN we arrived in France James Stewart, who did not wear his tramp's costume, was mistaken for an English nobleman, and the crowd of porters surrounded him, crying 'Pour boire!' 'What do they call me "poor boy" for?' he asked. 'I don't want their pity if I can't speak French.' It was explained that they wanted his pity, and were asking for a drink. We got into the *train de luxe* (the express), which of course provoked a lot of fierce talk and as much gesticulation when we showed our tickets as we should all use in a life-time. Some of the party, on arriving at their lodgings, found them full. Not speaking a word of French, they felt done till one took the cabman to an Alhambra bill displayed on a wall, and, slapping the address, returned to the cab, and, by this action, to the Alhambra, where they found friends who secured them apartments.

"ONE artist, after his show, went to the bar in front of the house and then remembered he didn't know how to ask for a drink in French, so walked up and down the corridor with a thirst that was inconvenient. Seeing Mr. Neighbour, he asked him what he should say. When asked what he wanted, he said, 'A bottle of Bass.' 'Then go to the bar and say "I want a bottle of Bass"—*they are all English girls.*' How easy it was after that! The general plan of living is to hire your apartment, and, beyond your morning *café au lait complet*—a bowl of coffee, rolls and butter—you look to the restaurants for your other meals. It has been intensely hot at times during the month—90 degrees in the shade—although we heard that the weather has been unsettled in England.

"THE route viâ Boulogne is the shortest sea trip and the longest train journey, and the excess luggage comes expensive. Mine cost as much as my fare. The route viâ Dieppe and Newhaven is the shortest train and longest sea trip, but the turbine steamers make the water journey pleasanter, the cost of excess luggage is not so alarming, and the fare is less. Luggage can be sent as freight, but this is only possible to those who have not to show soon after arrival. These few particulars may be useful to those contemplating a Continental engagement.

"ON our opening night there was a revolution in progress, and the crowds swarmed in the Place Republique, and the mounted soldiers galloped about the streets, which, as you were not allowed on the path, made pedestrianism more dangerous than is usual in Parisian highways, which is saying something. We didn't know if we should open, but after a soldier or so had been shot and one or two orators of the labouring classes quieted with a few bullets from the soldiers, things quieted down, and we showed to a packed house. We heard the shots from the stage-door, and saw the crowds following the bodies of the killed and wounded, which didn't give us the impression that Paris was quite as gay as it was represented. The "harmony" of our company was not confined to the Four in our programme, but was universal with the entire company during the entire month, and I don't think some of us will ever forget our month in Paris and our trouble with the vernacular."

VERSATILITY has not only its rewards and its penalties, but it demands no little strenuousness on the part of its fortunate possessor, as Mr. Fowler Thatcher has discovered during the last three months. Finishing as Tommy Green in pantomime one Saturday night, he opened as the Baron in a *Red Riding Hood* burlesque on the following Thursday, finishing on the Saturday. He opened on Monday for a special week as lecturer and ventriloquist. Travelling from London by the Saturday night mail, he arrived at Wednesbury, and, with one rehearsal on Sunday night, played the old man in Leo Dryden's sketch, *Charley's Indian*, during the week, besides doing a single turn. A telegram from Messrs. Garside and Knowles on the Tuesday necessitated his travelling from Huddersfield to Rotherham, to rehearse in the day-time. This travelling, rehearsing, and playing nightly occupied from 9 a.m. till 10.30 p.m., not leaving much time for study; but still, Mr. Thatcher opened perfect in the principal comedy part of over 500 lines on the next Monday night at the Theatre Royal, Leeds, in *The London Fireman*.

PARIS VARIETY GOSSIP.

THE *Revue* at the Ambassadeurs will be produced early in June. In the meantime there is an excellent company on the concert programme, including Mlle. Foscolo, M. Strack, and Mayol, with a good budget of new songs.

THE Alcazar d'Ete opened on May 17 with their summer *Revue* and a fine concert programme. Special items in the latter are Braatz's dogs, who made a big success here last year, and Rebla, the comic juggler. The Lorrison Sisters are also paying a return visit, and have several good numbers in the *Revue*.

MISS LAWLER, who has been for so long associated with the successes at La Cigale, and who is at present at the Variétés, has been offered an engagement at the Palace Theatre. If she accepts, this clever young lady will no doubt be seen in London about the month of July. It is also stated that Mr. Alfred Butt, on his recent visit to Paris, engaged Miss Maud Allen, who introduced her wonderful dance, "The Vision of Salome," into the Variétés' *Revue* a short time ago.

THE Marigny is doing excellent business. The *Revue* has been judiciously pruned, and now forms an excellent evening's entertainment. The principal attraction in the variety programme is the Sisters Hengler, who sing some well-chosen numbers from their répertoire of American successes. Little Allright, the Mascott Trio, and Paul Lacroix are also starring here.

MISS HANOKO, the celebrated Japanese artist, has made a big success at the Little Palace in the drama, *A Little Japanese Girl*.

BARRASFORD'S Alhambra will close on June 15 until Sept. 1. A new company is due on June 1. The Eldorado also announces its annual closing for May 30. At the Bal Tabaran, Bert Coote's Belles of New York have made a big hit, and their success is fully deserved, for they give an excellent entertainment.

Now that the hot weather has started, the Jardin de Paris is becoming the Mecca of the English and American visitors. A delightful evening may be spent there, as, besides the beautiful gardens, there is an excellent variety and circus show.

AT the Folies-Bergere the Madcaps are the latest addition to the bill. The musical piece, *Pretty Madge*, and Rider Stone in his daring cycling act still hold the chief positions on the programme.

AT the Olympia the *Revue Merveilleuse* is still drawing crowded houses. The principal rôles are sustained by Mlles. Lena Ruby, Lise Fleuron, Pompomette, and M. Leprince.

AT La Cigale, the new summer Revue is in active preparation, one of the chief rôles being played by M. Prince, of the Variétés.

THE STANDARD.

The old-established hall of which Mr. T. S. Dickie is the proprietor and manager, has been the scene of great excitement this week, caused by the performances given by the Yamato Trio of Japanese wrestlers. They are three in number, Yamato, the leader; Taiko, who is only eighteen years of age; and O-Fugi-San, a young English lady with a Japanese name. They are introduced to the audience by Mr. R. Voss, manager for Yamato, who explains that Japanese wrestling is different from all other kinds, and gives particulars concerning each of the contestants. Then follows an exhibition of "Kata," known as Ju-Jitsu self-defence, by O-Fugi-San and Yamato. This performance shows how a lady can defend herself against any attack on the part of a mere man, the assailant being quickly and effectually floored at each attempt to kiss her, or place his arm around her waist. After an exhibition of Ju-Jitsu wrestling by the young lady and Taiko in quick time, the various locks and holds are shown by the leader of the troupe, a member of the audience, who has been invited to come upon the stage, acting as assistant in this interesting illustration of how a man can be held quite securely, his struggles to release himself from the grip resulting only in a broken arm or leg. Lastly, come contests between the two Japanese and wrestlers who have accepted their challenges. It is these competitions that are responsible for most of the excitement. On the night of our visit Sailor Ditch wrestled with Taiko, and Jack Mittin with Yamato, and both contests proved to be of a very spirited character.

The quartet known as the Dandies are appearing here in their refined musical mélange, called "Song, Mirth, and Dance." The two ladies and two gentlemen, who form the troupe, sing excellently, more particularly Mr. Henry J. Corner, the leader, a baritone vocalist, whose fine rendering of "The Trumpeter" evokes quite a storm of applause. The ladies display much vivacity, and the whole entertainment is one that can be heartily commended. The Meymotts, in their comedy duologue, entitled *Semi-Detached*, represent a lawyer and a lady who lives in the adjoining flat. She calls to ask his advice on a legal matter, and he makes the discovery that his visitor is the pianiste and vocalist, who, by her poor playing and singing, has caused him so much annoyance and loss of temper. However, he also discovers that the lady is a widow with a large fortune, and the impecunious lawyer resolves to win her case and, eventually, her hand, too. The duologue is rattled through in capital style by Mr. and Mrs. Meymott, to the accompaniment of merry laughter. Mr. Harry Tate's No. 1 company, in *Motoring*, also adds to the gaiety of the audiences at the Standard. The sketch has been considerably elaborated since it was first produced, and the succession of funny incidents causes continual merriment. Mr. Laurence Barclay, comedian, opens with the ditty, "Oh! Ria," and quite wins the favour of the audience with his grotesque impersonation of a lady of the ballet. Little Zola, eccentric comedian, makes a palpable hit by his funny rendering of his songs, "Four feet two and a bit," and "Whoever would have thought it?" Zola's broad grin is a thing to remember; and his agility is quite marvellous. The Brothers Adderley, in their musical act, meet with deserved success; and Oakley and James, comedy duo, give a capital turn. Miss Ethel Ra-Leslie has an excellent voice, and sings in truly artistic style "Egypt" and another well-chosen song. Miss Arabella Allen's impersonations of characters from Dickens's novels are very good; Miss Ethel Yorke, comedienne, is well received; and so also are Mr. John Macauley, character vocalist, and Mr. Wal Phillips, comedian. The Katos, with their automatic theatre, is another commendable turn. Under the able direction of Mr. Frederick Allwood the orchestra performs a selection from *The Casino Girl*; and Mr. Maurice Volney performs the duties of assistant-manager with zeal and courtesy.

PRESENTATION.—Mr. Fred Ball, who is retiring from the position of assistant-manager of Boscombe Hippodrome to take up a similar post at Southampton, was the recipient, on the 26th ult., of a handsome 18c. gold watch and chain, given to him by a few personal friends as a mark of the esteem in which he has been held during his twelve months' stay at the Hippodrome.

MR. W. F. FRAME, "the man you know," was called upon on Monday night to appear at the Manchester Hippodrome in addition to his performance at the Ardwick Empire. Hooch Aye!

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

A CHARMING song just being issued by Messrs. Francis and Day, is entitled "I'd be happy in a wigwam with you." It is by Harry Castling and Fred Godfrey, and will be much in request at seaside resorts.

MR. GEORGE LASHWOOD will on Monday, at the Holloway Empire, sing a new song by Chas Wilmott and Max Darewski, jun., entitled "In the twilight." Mr. Lashwood has such a high opinion of the prospective popularity of this number that Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter, the publishers, are working their printing staff night and day to get an enormous supply ready for the trade.

MR. WOOLMER YOUNG has just published with Mr. David Day's firm a stirring song, by Harry Adams (of "On guard" fame) and Ernée Woodville, entitled "Don't you think it's time that you woke up, John Bull?"

MR. MARK SHERIDAN'S newest number, "There's no harm in kissing a lady," by Alf Rick and Maurice Scott, has just been secured by Messrs. Francis and Day.

MISS MAUD ESMOND is scoring a success this week with her two latest numbers, "My beautiful Avon rose," published by Francis, Day, and Hunter, and "I'd like to call you sweetheart," by Shapiro, Von Tilzer.

THE success of Mr. Sam Mayo's two songs, "The Policeman" and "I'm going to sing a song," is phenomenal, and both of them are in great demand for seaside work, and the publishers, Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Co., Ltd., are inundated with applications.

MR. GEORGE LASHWOOD will feature next week, at the Holloway Empire, his latest success, "Girls all love a soldier bold" (Bagley and Moore), of which he intends to make a special feature on the Moss and Stoll tour. The publishing rights have been secured by the Shapiro, Von Tilzer Co.

MISS MAUD ESMOND'S success in "I'd like to call you sweetheart," with which she scored an unmistakable hit in town, has been evoking much enthusiasm from Stoke-on-Trent audiences, and the publishers, Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Co., consider this one of the most promising of the season's numbers.

POSSIBLY the most successful song ever penned by that clever author-composer, Mr. J. F. Lambe, viz., "Queen of Old Samara," has been well "featured," both in town and country, this week, notably in *Kitty Grey* at the Marlborough Theatre, by Miss Eily Helene, also by Misses Lilian Lea and Margaret Radcliffe, and by Mrs. Fred Elton, on tour. This famous item in the Monte Carlo Publishing Co.'s "Sixpenny Successes" is being extensively sung everywhere by every pierrot troupe of note.

So great has been the success of "Little Miss Turpentine," by Messrs. John P. Harrington and Jas. W. Tate, both at the Tivoli and Euston, on its production this week by Little Tich, that that talented artist has given the same author and composer a practically unlimited commission for new songs and "business." The Monte Carlo Publishing Co. are including "Little Miss Turpentine" in their "Sixpenny Successes."

ON all hands it is conceded that the hit of both the London Pavilion and Holborn Empire programmes this week is that charming song-scena, "My Cuban Girl," by Harrington and Tate, wherewith Miss José Collins (a veritable replica of the charming and vivacious Lottie of that ilk) is scoring the biggest success she has ever yet experienced on the variety stage. The Monte Carlo Publishing Co. have already had many trade demands for this tuneful number, which will be ready for issue at the end of the coming week. No other music-hall permissions for this song will be granted for many months to come.

MISS MARGARET RADCLIFFE, most dashing of princi pal boys and burlesque artists, will open in town at the Palace, Camberwell, on Monday next, when she will attempt to repeat the success she has been achieving in the provinces with the same two songs that she has been singing all round her tour, viz., "I'm going back to the Fatherland," by Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford, and "Queen of Old Samara," by J. F. Lambe. Both of these successful numbers are published by the Monte Carlo Publishing Co.

WHEN Miss Vesta Victoria returns to England shortly, after her victorious American campaign, on her reappearance on this side she will make a special feature of her successful "sequel" song, by Harrington and Tate, "I've told his missus all about him," which has "caught on" so tremendously in the States. Miss Victoria will also sing, "I'm looking for a Don Juan," by the some prolific author and composer. Both songs are published by the Monte Carlo Publishing Co. in their "Sixpenny Successes" series.

"THE MOATED GRANGE."

Vaudeville, in One Act, written by Frederick Bowyer, Music by Carlotta Rowe,
Produced at the Royal Hippodrome, Preston, on Monday, May 20.

Jonah Tittlebit ..... MR. EDWIN GARTH
Maria Amelia ..... MISS ISSA STEELE
Adelina Fitzhohn ..... MISS HETTIE LIND
Rembrandt Oscar Smythers ..MR. J. MORGAN

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The writer of *The Moated Grange* has successfully availed himself of the humorous possibilities of his subject, and on Monday evening the vaudeville was received by a large audience with hearty laughter and applause. Jonah Tittlebit is the new tenant of the Moated Grange, and has just entered into possession prior to the arrival of his wife and her daughter, who shortly afterwards appear and express emphatic objection to their new home, with its dismal aspect and "creepy" occupants in the shape of beetles, &c. During the absence of the other characters, one Rembrandt Oscar Smythers, deposits on the floor of the hall a note stating that one murder has already been committed at the Moated Grange, and bidding the present tenants beware, as they are doomed to the same fate. This note is discovered by Mrs. Tittlebit, who is thrown into a state of terror thereby, and Jonah declares that under such circumstances her prejudices against their new abode is fully warranted. Rembrandt then presents himself before Jonah, whom he invites to join him in a draught of poisoned beer. Jonah makes a pretence of drinking the beer, and, with mock pathos bids "Good-bye for ever" to his "beloved sausages, his wife, and daughter." At this point Rembrandt sues for the hand of Adelina (Jonah's daughter), and on assuring her father that the liquor is not poisoned and confessing that he (Rembrandt) is the writer of the mysterious note, he is rewarded with the hand of the fair Adelina.

Mr. Edwin Garth provided abundant fun in the rôle of Jonah Tittlebit; Miss Issa Steele effectively portrayed Maria Amelia; Miss Hettie Lind sang and acted well as Adelina; and Rembrandt Oscar Smythers had an excellent representative in Mr. J. Morgan. Appropriate music has been supplied by Miss Carlotta Rowe, and the production as a whole should prove an acceptable item in any programme.

PALACE IMPROVEMENTS.

The lavish but masterly use of gold in the decorations, the lovely marble frame of the proscenium, and the quality of the scheme of ornament generally lend to the Palace Theatre the proud distinction of chaste magnificence, and its dazzling richness, elegant spaciousness, and sumptuous upholstery, have set a standard that, even in the present century, is rarely approached. But the theatre, regarded as perfect in 1891 by the L.C.C. of that date, did not quite satisfy the new authority at Spring Gardens. Since Mr. Calcott's terra-cotta façade reared its head in Cambridge-circus, the laws of theatre-structure have undergone much revision; new ideas have been formulated by successive committees; and the edict went forth from the L.C.C. to the Palace Board to set their house in order. Mr. Alfred Butt and his brother directors, Mr. T. Ernest Polden and Mr. Cremetti, have interpreted this edict in the most liberal spirit, and, under the direction of Mr. Emblin Walker, the company's architect, whose theatrical experience dates back forty years, for many weeks past, in the silent watches of the night, alterations of the most radical character have been carried out, both behind and in front of the footlights.

To alter the French apophthegm—*autres temps, autres chaises*: the fauteuils and stall seats have been entirely replaced with the "Shoolbred" patent chairs—new, luxurious, up to date, and resembling in appearance cosy and comfortable drawing-room chairs, which seem to spell "welcome" to all visitors. They are of dark polished mahogany, inlaid with satinwood, and are of the Sheraton type. The number of each seat is emblazoned in a medallion of marqueterie centred in the backs. They are upholstered in old gold frieze velvet. In the front of each row two polished mahogany shelves are ingeniously fitted—the upper one to accommodate fans, opera glasses, and so forth, and the lower to provide a safe place for gentlemen's hats. The simple elegance of the chairs is very striking, and the whole installation, which was carried through under the direction of Mr. George Ridout, of the famous firm in Tottenham Court-road, only occupied two days. The rich blue carpets and draperies are by Messrs. Maple and Co.

On the South side of the stalls a new direct exit has been created to the street; two doors have been fitted to this exit which, by an automatic arrangement, open instantaneously on the slightest pressure from the inside, whilst the double doors have the effect of keeping out any possible draught. From this new direct exit an entrance to the corridor has been made which leads directly to the refreshment buffets, and this, with the corridor on the other side of the house, to which an improved entrance has been made from the stalls on the North side, forms an ambulatory which is without rival in any other house of amusement. The new exit on the ground floor in direct communication with the street increases the number to seven.

That part of the stage which hitherto projected beyond the proscenium has been cut off, and a new ornamental shield has been put to the footlights. The floor of the orchestra has been raised several inches so that the music can be heard to better advantage.

Automatic-closing fire-resisting doors have been fitted throughout, so that not only the stage and its appurtenances, but the whole of the administrative departments, are now cut off from that part of the house used by the public.

Directly underneath the stage, and in a line with the proscenium opening, a solid concrete base has been installed, and when the iron curtain is lowered on this the stage is completely isolated from the front part of the house.

The gangways and exits on the ground floor have all been widened, and the pillars at the back of the promenade have been considerably reduced, so as to give a getter view of the stage from the promenade.

The whole of the electric installation in front of the house has been thoroughly overhauled, and a very considerable amount of new wiring has been done. An elaborate new switchboard has been installed on the stage, and three others in front of the house, thus enabling the lights on the stage and those in front of the house to be independently controlled. The auditorium lighting has been rearranged on a duplicate system, one service being kept constantly supplied by the theatre's own generating plant, consisting of four 140-horse power engines with three locomotive boilers, and a second supply from the Charing Cross Supply Company, thus completely guarding against any possible failure of current from either source, and ensuring certainty of light throughout.

It may be interesting to mention that the electric lights for the stage and auditorium number more than 5,000, the stage alone needing 1,700 32-candle power lamps.

The bioscope chamber, which is fireproof throughout, has been fitted with a most modern switchboard, and a new bioscope lamp, which is capable of taking 100 amps. This is the highest capacity of any bioscope lamp in London, and in a great measure is responsible for the steadiness and clearness of the pictures. In the event of a breakdown, the new switchboard immediately enables the operator to change over on to another circuit. The tableaux curtains have been remodelled and the scenery has been entirely repainted by Mr. Philip Howden. Everything on the stage has been chemically treated for the prevention of fire.

A private view of the alterations and improvements was afforded a select company on Tuesday afternoon, when Mr. Herman Finck's orchestra discoursed the following selections of excellent music:—Overture, "Di Ballo," Sullivan; suite de ballet, "Les Deux Pigeons," Messager; entr'acte, "La Colombe," Gounod; "Danse des Bacchantes," Gounod; three dances from *Nell Gwynne*, E. German; "Chant sans Paroles," Tchaikowsky; ballet music, *Faust*, Gounod; gavotte, "Yellow Jasmine" (from "The Language of Flowers"), Cowen; "Moonlight Dance," Finck; barcarolle, "Tales of Hoffmann," Offenbach; valse, "Caressante," Lambert; and incidental music to *The Tempest*, Sullivan.

MR. GUS ELEN AND PARTY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—A misstatement of facts appeared in various newspapers during the past week referring to Mr. Gus Elen becoming a variety artist-manager, and running his own company at the Royal Victoria Hall. Mr. Elen, with ALL the company, was engaged by Miss Baylis (for Miss Cons, hon. sec.) at a stipulated salary, and took no financial risk, neither did he engage any one of the company. I believe he asked Miss Baylis to bill him as Mr. Gus Elen and party, which she did. Mr. Elen's reasons assigned in various papers for running his own companies have caused great annoyance, and as we were appearing on the same programme, and were engaged and paid by the Royal Victoria management, I feel it my duty to dissociate myself from Mr. Elen's action, and in justice to myself to state the true facts.—Yours faithfully,

HARRY BLAKE,
(Of "The Two Bees.")

Broughton House,
14, Kennington-road, May 28.

MR. J. P. HARRINGTON, who has just recently moved into a larger Lyric Lodge at Bedford, had a pleasant surprise a few days since whilst plodding along the country road. A motor pulled up, and he was greeted by the voice of Miss Marie Lloyd, en route from Scotland to London.

FRANCIS, DAY, & HUNTER

PUBLISHERS OF LONDON'S HOLIDAY HITS.

A RECORD LIST OF WHITSUNTIDE WINNERS.

Miss EVIE GREENE sings
"THE QUEEN OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS,"
at the Palace, London.

Miss RUBY HELDER sings
"FOR KING AND SIRELAND,"
at the Empire, London.

Miss DAISY DORMER sings
"GOING, GOING, GONE,"
and
"I WANT A GIRL,"
at the Palace, London, and Palace, Chelsea.

The THREE SISTERS CHESTER sing
"ALL ALONE IN OLD COLOGNE,"
at the Empire, Shepherd's Bush.

Miss MAY BELFORT sings
"WHEN TOMMY ATKINS MARRIES DOLLY GRAY,"
at the Metropolitan.

Miss NORA MOORE sings
"SYMPATHY"
and
"WHY DON'T YOU COME AROUND AND SEE ME?"
at the Metropolitan.

Miss KATHLEEN GRAY sings
"MY CASTLE IN SPAIN,"
at the Euston Music Hall.

Miss FLO SOMERS sings
"HOME AGAIN MY CHERRY BLOSSOM,"
at the Granville, Walham Green.

Miss DORA LYRIC sings
"I'LL TELL TILLY ON THE TELEPHONE,"
at the Palace, Croydon.

Miss SABLE FERN sings
"READ BETWEEN THE LINES"
and
"THE ECHO OF AN OLD, OLD TALE,"
at the Middlesex.

Miss ALICE PIERCE sings
"A PICNIC FOR TWO,"
at the Oxford.

Miss ISABELLE DILLON sings
"PANSY"
and
"I'LL BE YOUR GOLLIWOG,"
at the Oxford.

Miss JEN LATONA sings
"ARRAH WANNA,"
at the Palace.

Miss MAUD ESMOND sings
"MY BEAUTIFUL AVON ROSE,"
at the London, Shoreditch.

Miss ETHEL RA LESLIE sings
"MY SUNNY EGYPTIAN HOME"
and
"I CAN SEE RED ROSES BLOOMING,"
at the Metropolitan.

Miss WYNNIE DARRELL sings
"UNDER A BIG UMBRELLA, ELLA,"
at the Empress, Brixton.

Miss MABEL GREENE sings
"LAVENDER"
and
"WHEN YOU KNOW YOU'RE NOT FORGOTTEN,"
at the Empire, Holborn.

Miss MILLIE LINDON sings
"MAISEY, MY MAISEY,"
at the Palace, Hammersmith.

Miss MARGUERITE BROADFOOTE sings
"FLY AWAY PETER, COME BACK PAUL,"
at the Empire, Shepherd's Bush.

Miss CORA WILLIAMS sings
"MY LADY MOON,"
at the London Pavilion.

Miss AGNES HAZEL sings
"LOOK BEFORE YOU LEAP,"
at the Metropolitan.

A RECORD LIST OF WHITSUNTIDE WINNERS.

Mr. HARRY RANDALL sings
"NO MORE GARDENING OUT OF THE HOUSE FOR ME"
and
"THE OLD CRACKED BASIN,"
at the Oxford.

Mr. G. H. ELLIOTT sings
"BABY LUCY"
and
"IF THE MAN IN THE MOON WERE A COON,"
at the Oxford.

Mr. SAM MAYO sings
"AT A MINUTE TO SEVEN LAST NIGHT,"
at the Oxford.

Mr. HARRY CHAMPION sings
"WHAT A MOUTH,"
at the Granville, Walham Green.

Mr. JACK LORIMER sings
"THREE JOLLY SCOTCHMEN,"
at the Palace.

Mr. STANLEY VAUGHAN sings
"FOR KING AND SIRELAND,"
at the London Pavilion.

Mr. HAL FORDE sings
"COME ALONG TO LONDON TOWN,"
at the Hippodrome, Ealing.

CADLE'S "CASEY'S COURT" introduce
"THERE'S A MAN IN MANITOBA,"
"SYMPATHY,"
and
"IT IS THE SCARECROW,"
at the Granville, Walham Green.

Mr. MICHAEL NOLAN sings
"KNOCK YOUR HEADS TOGETHER."
at the Metropolitan.

Mr. ALEC HURLEY sings
"YOU'RE MY DONAH,"
"THAT'S HOW WE DO IT IN THE MILE-END ROAD,"
and
"AT OUR OUTING,"
at the Oxford.

Mr. WHIT CUNLIFFE sings
"IT'S A DIFFERENT GIRL AGAIN,"
at the London Pavilion and Chelsea Palace.

Mr. DAN CRAWLEY sings
"YOU CAN'T DIDDLE ME"
and
"FATHER KEEPS ON DOING IT"
at the Tivoli and Chelsea Palace

Mr. WILKIE BARD sings
"YOU, YOU, YOU,"
and
"LET ME SING,"
at the Empire, New Cross.

Mr. ARTHUR LENNARD sings
"MATE, MATE, MATER,"
and
"NUMBER NINE, LOVE-DOVE LANE."
at the Palace, Hammersmith.

Mr. TOM COLLINS sings
"FLY AWAY PETER, COME BACK PAUL,"
at the Empire, Holborn.

CARRIE LAURIE'S JUVENILES sing
"I WANT TO BE A SOLDIER"
and
"WHEN THE BOYS GO MARCHING BY,"
at the Tivoli.

The Latest Comedy Opera Success,
"LADY TATTERS,"
Composed by WALTER SLAUGHTER. Produced at the Shaftesbury Theatre.

The Enormously Successful Musical Comedy,
"THE BELLE OF MAYFAIR,"
and all LESLIE STUART'S Compositions.

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LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE TIVOLI.

Masked singers have been for some years familiar objects of the seashore; and the air of romance engendered by hidden identity no doubt has had much to do with the general acceptance of the device by entertainers *sur la plage*. The latest vocalists secured by Mr. Joseph Wilson have adopted the same expedient, and appear under the broad designation of the Wanderers. They have strolled apparently from the opera stage, and are a trio of performers who sing with rare excellence. The baritone chooses "Dream in the twilight," by Strauss, and gives the solo the requisite tone-colour. The soprano chooses the very difficult air from Ambroise Thomas's opera *Mignon*, "Je suis Titania," making light of the scale passages and trills; and the contralto is heard to advantage in "Softly awakes my heart" from *Samson and Delilah*, by Saint-Säens. In conclusion, the three join with good effect in Henry Smart's trio, "Queen of the Night." The mysterious effect of the soloists' disappearance is cleverly heightened by the darkening of the stage, and they sing before a diaphanous curtain on which various coloured rays of light are thrown.

An enormous Tivoli favourite returned on Monday in the person of Little Tich, who is at the zenith of his popularity. "'I've only just found it out" is the prelude to a number that bids fair to be as successful as was the lamented Dan Leno's "Shopwalker." It is entitled "The drapery sale," and touches in the most humorous fashion on domestic economics. Our womankind love a bargain; and the weakness of the sex for securing something cheap is cleverly satirised. Screams of laughter greet the appearance of the great little comedian as the patient and long-suffering husband, loaded with responsibility and parcels as a result of his visit with Martha to a drapery sale where "things were cheap." "Little Miss Turpentine," a tuneful composition by J. P. Harrington and J. W. Tate, enables Little Tich to repeat his triumphs as a burlesque serpentine dancer, and he is assured of the immense favour he enjoys by repeated calls.

The American tramp comedian has long been a welcome turn on our stage; and Mr. Will Van Allen, who elects to sink his respectability in tattered garments, is an excellent banjoist—as well as a patter comedian. The comic man belonging to the combination, Cole and Rags—the latter fellow we presume—is also decidedly funny in his various juggling tricks, adopting the *dolce far niente*, indifferent manner that makes his seeming gaucheries so effective in the promotion of mirth. He is very alert, however, at the conclusion of the turn, when he catches a number of plates thrown at him with lightning-like rapidity.

Miss Annie Purcell introduces nothing new; but the absence of a turn on the night of our call let in the living encyclopædia, Datas, who kept the house interested by the accuracy of his marvellous memory. Mr. Harry Fragson has a clever new song, "Fairy Tales"; Miss Jenny Burns, being a Scotch balladist, chooses, like most of her countrywomen, "Annie Laurie," which always goes down; Kurkamp, the singing conductor, has a pretty song in "Loveland"; Mr. Tom Woottvell has an excellent vehicle for his humour in "Blowed if I didn't wake up"; and other turns in the bill are Carrie Laurie's Juveniles, George Robey, Dan Crawley, the Three Newsomes, fine acrobats, and Lee and Kingston. Mr. James Howell, "in front," is a popular assistant-manager.

THE SURREY.

Twice nightly, all the year round, Mr. Frank Macnaghten's patrons pack every part of the spacious variety theatre at St. George's Circus, sure of an entertainment full of infinite variety and enjoyment. The current programme is chock-full of good things, each item winning enthusiastic approval. *Sold to Slavery*, a condensed version of the old drama, *The Octoroon*, is admirably played throughout by Mr. Arnold Bell as Salem Scudder. Miss Frances Campbell as Zoe, Mr. Cuthbert Imrie as the slave dealer, Jacob McClosky, Mr. J. W. Henson as Pointdexter, Miss Dorothy Richardson as the lad Paul, and Mr. Arthur Lennard as the mute Indian, Wah-no-Tee, the last-mentioned in a capital character-study, full of clever points. Another attractive item is the strong military sketch, *For the Honour of the Regiment*, which proves of absorbing interest to the Surreyites. The chief characters are powerfully delineated by Miss Irene Carlton as the faithful Vera Dare, Mr. Henry Hillar as Captain Harry Dare, V.C., Mr. R. Crickshanks as the repentant renegade, Major Carr, Mr. Frank Hardie as the dude, Lieut. Clive, Mr. Fred Dobell as the Colonel, and Mr. A. N. Body as the smart (?) Private Jones. Both these productions are adequately staged and warmly received.

Mulvey and Miarim are a couple of clever artists, and in their bright and merry duologue, *In the Studio*, indulge in much original humorous cross-talk, coon songs, and decidedly unique dancing, which wins them much applause. G. W. Hunter still retains a firm hold on public favour, and keeps his audience laughing all the time with his merry song and patter on "Woman, their many faults and virtues," and one of his own smartly-written humorous songs on "The freedom of the Press." The Pichels are a troupe of three adults and two fearless youngsters, whose feats of hand and feet balancing, springs, and protean acrobatism, are all neatly executed and full of skilful precision. Lade Henderson, the actor-vocalist, hits the tastes of his audience in a song entitled "John Bull's Empire," a strong indictment of the present Government's Little England policy. Augustin and Hartley, in their wonderful barrel act, perform marvellous jumping feats that require coolness, judgment, and skill, while the young and graceful lady performer lends ready assistance.

Miss Rose Elliott has a cultured voice and the rare charm of being both heard and understood. Her song, "I'm wearing my heart away for you," is full of tender sentiment, and a equally happy theme is found in her second effort, "What's the good of worrying father?" The Lorrisons are a right merry couple, with much quaint and amusing business and unique dancing. Florrie Bray, bright and buxom, is charming in her rendering of "On the pier at Blackpool." Milner Verren's light tenor voice is heard to advantage in his song, "I love daddy"; and Raymond's Bio-tableaux depict incidents of the Thaw Trial. Mr. Charles Craig is the able manager of the Surrey, and Mr. Rattray's orchestra is efficient in every respect.

THE METROPOLITAN.

The Master Musician, the playlet by Thomas Broadhurst, which forms one of the leading attractions in the current Metropolitan programme, is an excellent specimen of the stage production which is just suited to the requirements of a variety theatre audience. The white-haired musician is a picturesque central figure, and the pathos of the story is direct and forcible without being in the least exaggerated. The devotion to the old man of the little slavey, Jenny, is touching in its sincerity, and the tragedy of the starving genius is brought home to the audience in so effective a manner as to arouse the keenest sympathy for old Heinrich Klein, the poor musician, dependent for a meal upon a good-hearted lodging-house drudge. But the sunshine of happiness and prosperity breaks through the dark clouds at last, and Jenny is duly rewarded for her unselfish loyalty. Mr. Auguste Van Biene puts real feeling into his embodiment of the title-rôle, and his selections on the 'cello, played in his own masterly style, are keenly appreciated by the audience. Miss Lena Burnleigh continues to play with marked success the part of Jenny, the slavey, whose sympathy for the half-starved musician takes such practical form. Miss R. Pulleyne is also well suited as the pupil, Miss Carlisle. Mr. Percival Goffin acts as musical director for Mr. Van Biene.

The Tally-To Trio are engaged here this week. They arrange to meet at an hotel; one arrives before his friends, and disguises himself as a waiter; but they knew him all the time, and so the joke misses fire. The trio give some excellent vocal selections, and the touches of comedy introduced are very welcome. Mr. Ernest Rees is correctly described as "a droll comedian." His patter excites much hilarity, more particularly his remarks concerning the ladies, and the contrast in their appearance when out for the evening and when next morning they are seen taking in the milk. Mr. Mike Nolan, the popular Irish comedian, also scores with his patter, which is richly humorous. He renders his songs in good style, and concludes with a funny recitation, "Murphy must not sing to-night." Mr. Harry Rogerson, known as "the tired comedian," appears in the character of a doctor's boy-in-buttons, who, when the curtain rises, is discovered asleep on a couch. He carries on an amusing conversation with one of his master's patients by means of a telephone, and so far conquers his desire for taking it easy as to indulge in a nimble dance. The Three Sisters Silcott, appearing in ordinary attire, sing with good effect a song about "Big brown eyes," and then, effecting a quick change, they reappear as smart naval officers, and give a lively ditty and dance, which evoke much applause. Little Ganty causes roars of laughter by his droll antics, first as a policeman and then as a soldier carrying a lance. His success in both characters is beyond question. Miss Ethel Ra Leslie, in the handsome costume of a bygone day, contributes a couple of songs in charming style; and Miss May Belfort, making her first appearance in the old country after her recent successful American tour, makes a hit with her song, "The story of a woman-hater," and another well-chosen ditty. Mr. Will Evans easily sustains his reputation as a comedian, and, as usual, he quickly gets on good terms with the audience. Marquis and Mignonette appear in their comedy act, entitled *Little Willie;* Miss Agnes Hazel has a good song in "Always look before you leap," and also well received are Miss Nora Moore, comedienne; Mr. Geo. W. Day, "the man from New York"; and Miss Katie Butler, character comedienne. In Mr. Henry De Vry's white marble statuary act are reproduced some famous groups, including "Peace," "By the Waters of Babylon," "The Runners," and other classical subjects. Jeapes's "animated Graphic" depicts "A Woodland Tragedy," a realistic poaching sensation; and during the interval the orchestra, under the direction of Mr. D. M. Trytel, plays a selection from Planquette's comic opera, *Rip Van Winkle*. The front of the house is under the careful supervision of the manager, Mr. J. W. Edgar.

ISLINGTON EMPIRE.

The first-class entertainment which is being provided at this hall during the current week is receiving good patronage; and not without reason, for the programme is sparkling with brilliant items, and not a dull moment is experienced from start to finish. Mr. Allan Holt's company, in the smart sketch, *A Society Woman*, holds a prominent position in the bill. The playlet is one of considerable interest, is well mounted and staged, and is represented by a capital cast. The story is sufficiently powerful in itself to hold the close attention of the audience from beginning to end, and the piece is brought to an exciting conclusion by means of a realistic and sensational nght between a man and a woman. Each character receives adequate treatment, and both players and playlet meet with much appreciation. Miss Nina Gordon proves herself to be a clever mimic, and is warmly applauded. She ably reproduces the style and mannerisms of such widely differing stars as Harry Lauder, Eugene Stratton, Connie Ediss, Vesta Victoria, and Gus Elen, and is to be congratulated on her excellent performance.

Mr. Arthur Pearl causes considerable laughter with the song, "She left her little brother at home," and his other contribution is also delivered in good style. Mr H. O. Wills is a comedian with the drollest of methods. His song, "I kept on waving my flag," savours of the essence of humour, and is ably rendered by this clever artist. Much praise is due to the King's College Boys, whose voices blend admirably in many operatic numbers. Particularly good is the rendering of Piccolomini's popular ballad, "Ora Pro Nobis," given by one of their number, and the applause they obtain is certainly well deserved. The Morton Comedy Trio dispense some admirable music, and infuse a good deal of eccentricity into their work, their efforts being appreciated to the full. An excellent performance is provided by Tray and Rich, a couple of song and patter comedians of a high order. The quaintness of their methods is very striking, and the ball of fun is kept merrily rolling whilst they occupy the stage.

Miss Daisy Stratton, a clever and charming comedienne, quickly places herself well up in public favour with her song, "In old Cologne." She uses her excellent voice to great advantage, and finishes with a neatly-executed dance. Several pictures of much interest are shown by the Imperial Bioscope. The Piccad Troupe appear in their pantomimical absurdity, entitled *The Burglars of New York*, in which some clever acrobatic business is freely introduced. Throughout the piece fun and frolic reign supreme, and the quaintness and originality of the act is much appreciated. Mr. A. Petersen, the musical director, leads his forces with his customary skill; and Mr. Harry Blight, the manager, ably attends to the front of the house, thereby ensuring the comfort of its patrons.

THE FORESTERS'.

A thoroughly enjoyable programme is provided this week, and the large appreciative audience on Monday evening welcomed each number in the most favourable manner. The principal item is the Six Brothers Luck, in their original pantomime, *The Hotel Grande*. In this the audience is kept continually in roars of laughter by the comicalities of the waiters. The Brothers also do some very clever tumbling. This very attractive scene is well staged, and beautifully illuminated by electricity. Soupsa's band playing in the balcony is a funny skit. Dandy George and his dog Rosie furnish an interesting turn. The canine has been trained to perfection, and the very difficult and catchy commands of her master she obeys immediately. Dandy George is also a neat and clever gymnast. The Misses Tennis and Laune are two bright little ladies, who sing admirably together "I want no other little girl but you." Their next item, "Life's three chapters," is a good song, in which youth, middle and old age are well described by the young couple.

The Three Pirmans (a lady and two gentlemen), in their comedy pantomime act, are specially good, for, combined with some clever tumbling, the males do some difficult feats on the horizontal bars, and their legmania business is capital. Mr. Tatten Hall, comedian, renders in delightful style a song describing how very lazy he is; and his next number, "Hang that eyeglass," is also popular. James Willard and company, in an amusing dramatic sketch, entitled *Did he Deserve It?* show the troubles the villain (capitally played by Mr. Willard) meets with in his endeavours to force his attentions on a pretty flower-girl, who is invited by his fiancée to her flat with the object of giving her a better position in life. Miss Mildred Carr plays well the character of the pugilistic lady; Miss Queenie Elliott as the flower girl is very pretty; the page-boy, Little Tony, is a funny little chap.

Miss Jenny Venton, comedienne with plenty of dash, sings "Cheyenne," and another pretty little song, "The poorest coon on earth," finishing with a quick-time neat little step dance. Mr. Horace Slade performs in neat style a top-boot dance. Miss Daisy de Roy, in very attractive dresses, submits two catchy numbers, "A castle on the sands" and "I wonder if the girl I'm thinking of is thinking of me!" much to the liking of the audience. The Campeons, nautical and coster duettists and dancers, sing a "natty" little song concerning Jack on his holidays, and the sailor concludes with a smart hornpipe. The Maxim Girls are seen in a couple of clever acrobatic dances. Raymond's Bio-Tableaux presents a fine film in "The Orphan Child." The orchestra is ably conducted by Mr. W. McDonald, and the very genial manager, Mr. Cochrane, is indefatigable in his endeavours to make everyone comfortable.

"THE KING O' THE CASTLE."

A Sketch, in One Scene, by Wal Pink, produced for the first time at the Camberwell Palace on Monday, May 27.

Peter Slowburn ..... Mr. Joe Elvin
Seraphina ..... Miss Nina Osborne
Mrs. Maggett ..... Miss Stafford
Dr. John Maggett ..... Mr. Harry Low
Amelia ..... Miss Grace Vicat
Mr. Briggs ..... Mr. Kenneth Altamont

The long list of "winners" which stand to the credit of Mr. Joe Elvin was added to in an unmistakable way on Monday by his creation of the title-rôle in the above-named playlet written by Wal Pink, with music by J. S. Baker. There is a welcome element of freshness in the idea conceived by Mr. Pink, who has done such good service for the popular comedian in times past, and has now fitted him with a rôle in which quite a new trait of his talent is developed. The regal hero of the piece is Peter Slowburn, an invertebrate individual who is at the mercy of his wife and his mother-in-law, not to speak of the brother, a medical man. The landlord of the house has announced his intention of raising the rent, despite the fact that a large sum of money has been spent by the tenant on improvements, and Peter has not sufficient energy to resist the imposition. The landlord refuses to discuss the matter with anyone but Peter, and Dr. Maggett determines to prepare a draught which will infuse new life into his brother-in-law for the space of ten minutes, during which he may meet the landlord and argue the matter out. The draught is administered to Peter under the persuasions of his wife and her relations, who stand round threateningly until the mixture is gone. Its effect is magical. From a passive lamb Peter changes into a roaring lion. He makes violent love to the housemaid; he belabours his mother-in-law with a walking stick; he destroys his wife's new hat and forces her to return the £20 note he had given her to pay for it; and finally he compels the doctor to swallow the contents of a bottle of ink. Then suddenly Peter undergoes another change. The ten minutes have gone by, and the effect of the drug passes off as quickly as it came. Peter is more limp than before, and when the landlord comes with his agreement Peter signs it without a protest, and allows his visitor to borrow the £20 note which is lying on the table and to annex a box of cigars. Finally, the "King o' the Castle" seated in a chair, takes the tongs for his sceptre and an inverted flower vase for a crown, and the curtain falls on a picture of abject imbecility.

The famous Cockney comedian has been suited with a part in which the opportunities for humour are illimitable, and Mr. Elvin takes the fullest advantage of his chances. The changes of expression which the face of the placid Peter undergoes are irresistible, and from the moment Mr. Elvin steps on the stage laughter never languishes. The sight of the popular Joe raging and ramping round the stage under the influence of his new-found energy is funny in the extreme, while the grotesque appearance of the limp and inanimate "master" of the house surrendering helplessly to his persecutors is a sight never to be forgotten. Mr. Elvin receives admirable support from Mr. Harry Low as Dr. John Maggett, by whom the "doping" process is performed; Mr. Kenneth Altamont plays the avaricious landlord in typical style; Miss Grace Vicat as the servant Amelia shares cleverly in a humorous scene with the "master"; and Miss Nina Osborne as Peter's wife and Miss Stafford as the dragon-like mother-in-law acquit themselves to the utmost advantage. Hearty recalls are bestowed on Mr. Elvin at the close of his latest production, which is to be ranked among the most successful of his career.

THE PALACE, STOKE NEWINGTON.

The programme that Mr. Albert Gilmer sets before the patrons of the Stoke Newington Palace certainly does not err on the side of brevity, the visitors to the second house on Monday evening last being treated to nearly two and a half hours' solid entertainment, each and every item of which appeared to give unqualified pleasure. First and foremost in popular approval, though last on the bill, is the sketch provided by Mr. Fred Karno's clever troupe of comedians and pantomimists in *The Dandy Thieves*. From first to last this is played to a running accompaniment of laughter due in the main to the efforts of Mr. George Hestor, a resourceful comedian, who by his many quaint gags and oddities, in the part of Sergeant Lightning, bears the burden of the sketch upon his shoulders. Good as he is throughout, it is in the shop scene that he especially distinguishes himself, and his performance is a tower of strength to the production. He is adequately and loyally supported by the other members of the company, notably by Messrs. Frank Morton and Charles Usher and Miss Leonora Castelle. Needless to say the song of "The six little burglars" remains as popular a number as ever. Miss Connie Milton contributes imitations of the late Miss Bessie Wentworth, Miss Vesta Victoria, and Mr. John Lawson. Wilde, Willie, and West in their act prove themselves clever and expert acrobats, and infuse into their turn a pleasing essence of comedy. One of the most interesting items of the programme is that provided by Mahatma. Although so-called thought-reading performances are no novelty, they have recently been brought very prominently before the public, and while claiming no supernatural powers, but frankly and freely admitting that their results are achieved only by code and sign, the lady and gentleman who work this turn provide as bewildering and perplexing a performance as any that has lately been seen in London. The whistling of Mr. Charles Mildare is a revelation, but why does he only contribute one song, and that of a somewhat sentimental order? He could surely find something in a rather lighter and more jocular vein in the style of "The whistling coon," for instance, for the audience would gladly welcome a second song from him. Little Tichbourne is a diminutive comedian who sings a song and afterwards dances in long boots after the style of another comedian with whom he is never likely to be confused, despite the similarity of the names. Mr. Gus Hindell gains applause at the conclusion of his scena, "Boys will be boys," and the vigorous acrobatic dancing of the Carlyles is certainly not the least attractive feature of the show. A genuine success is scored by Miss Helen Martin by her artistic and refined rendering of two ballads, and the comedy act of the Vivanes complete the programme.

We regret to hear of the death of Miss Marie Brooke (Mrs. D. Scott-Dalgleish), who passed away quite suddenly on Wednesday at her residence, The Rowans, Hutton Mount, Essex. She was the composer of "A Soldier's Wife," "Monkey on a Stick," "Love's Answer," and other numbers.

BIRMINGHAM WHITSUN FAIR.

When in ancient days two fairs were granted by Royal Charter to the Midland town of Birmingham the terms of the Royal grant were: "Two fairs for ever—one at the Holy Feast of Whitsun and the other at the high Festival of St. Michael and All Angels."

"Two fairs for ever." Yes; the centuries have rolled on, the whole of England has changed—politically, socially, industrially—yet the fairs remain. It is still "two fairs for ever." The proud monarch who assumed that his Royal word would abide for all time, the Lord of the Manor to whom the valuable privilege and profits of a fair were given, dived only their own day and played only their little drama of life, yet the fairs remain. Birmingham has changed scores of times, yet the fairs remain.

The fair of Whitsun, 1907 is the greatest, the best, and the most popular of the long line of Birmingham fairs—

"Broad based upon the people's will."

The fair endures because it is the will of the sovereign people. Would-be reformers and would-be dictators of the pleasures of the people have tried to kill it, still it remains, with an abiding force that prejudice, cant, and calumny cannot wreck—"two fairs for ever, one at Whitsuntide and one at Michaelmas."

Driven away from the centre of the town, it took root in the great industrial suburb of Aston, on the now famous Old Pleck Fairground, under the banner and enterprise of the Brothers Collins, showmen of national fame and celebrity.

Its Present Importance.

For its variety of show and machine novelties, for its side-show and other fairground attractions it certainly ranks amongst the best half-dozen of the great fairs of the kingdom. The big shows at the fair this time included—Menagerie, circus, two cinematograph theatres, an occult mystery show, boxing saloon, midget exhibitions, fat lady show, abnormal and freak exhibits, and novelty booths. The array of riding, whirling, racing, motoring, and glissading machines are amongst the best of their class in the world. Shooters of all kinds—ranges, galleries, jungles, and batteries—form a special feature, and the hundred and more throwing games, ring and dart boards, football frames, coker and Emma sheets, weighting-chairs and striking machines, pannum, toy, and other stalls, make a Birmingham fair that has no "Brummagem" about it, but is the real and lasting institution of the great life of the people of the Midland metropolis.

The People at the Fair.

In tens of thousands they crowd the Old Pleck, New Town-row, and all roads at fair-time lead to the fairground. There are no class divisions at the fair; the artisan and his family fraternise with the city clerk and his family. Even the city merchant and his family unbend at the fair. The joy and colour of it; the merrie sound of it; the articulate utterance of its throbbing, thronging, exuberant life; the comradeship, the common life and fellowship of tolerant humanity; the happy exchange of merry jest and joke; the perfectly harmless intercourse of all classes; in full, freedom, yet without vulgarity or rowdy clamour. This is the charm of the fair—this is the open secret of its increasing power as a means of common recreation and necessary relaxation from toil of hand or brain.

Proctor's Circus.

A real survival (the survival of the fittest) is this capital show. The dear old sawdust ring, the tight-rope, old-time business (ever new), the Proctor family giving the principal items of a most delightful programme, introduced by their father, George Proctor. There were Marie Proctor, Ena Proctor, the Proctor Sisters, Master Wm. Proctor, and with them Paul Minto, the tumbler, and no less than five clowns. In fact, the quick-change ability of the Proctor family is such that the audience sees double. The trained horses, ponies, mules, and donkeys introduced by Mr. Proctor are marvels of animal intelligence and expert training.

Prof. Haydn and Mystic Clytie.

This really marvellous occult show outclasses most of the second-sight demonstrations that are so popular with the general public. When we witnessed the Haydns and noted the rapidity of their business and the bewilderment of the audience we no longer marvelled at the phenomenal success of their show.

Harry Wall's Lilliputs.

The worthy and talented son of a great showman—the late Professor Wall—Mr. Hammersley (known professionally as Harry Wall) inherits the fine presence of his sire and the persuasive eloquence that made his father a power in his day. The great art of the doorsman is now almost a thing of the past. Mr. Hammersley is the young man eloquent, and we listened with great delight to his outside "patter." The show is of the *entresol* variety—always showing—and the little people are seen in the centre well of the booth.

Sagar's Palace of Delight.

This first-class cinematograph theatre and portable variety palace has been purchased from Mr. P. Collins by the present proprietor, formerly known as Collins's No. 1 Show, and will continue to travel the Midland circuit. The films exhibited are of the best and most up-to-date character, and a new feature of Mr. Sagar's management will be the variety turns, which he intends shall equal the best popular stationary variety shows run on the two-houses-a-night system. Mr. T. G. Humphries, late manager of the show with Mr. Collins, still remains, and will continue the high-class character of its entertainments.

Mander's Star Menagerie.

Still to the fore, this fine wild beast collection holds a deservedly high place in popular esteem. the trained lions, tigers, leopards, and wolves are special features of attraction. We are glad to know that travelling menageries like this one still supply a felt want in the show-loving community. Their educational value is still undoubted, and as an object lesson in the growth of Empire the animals from our Crown Colonies and our British free governing states—"Britain over seas"—must be of immense teaching force to the rising generation.

P. Collins's Coliseum.

The premier show of the fair, with its magnificent Marenghi organ-front and its thousands of electric multi-coloured lamps—a joy of sweet music, art, and light. There was a constant stream of eager patrons to this superb cinematograph theatre—living and talking pictures, with capital variety turns. In an age when things are moving so rapidly it is very difficult to say when perfection has been reached. The show business especially is subject to so many changing conditions, so many improvements are the direct result of previous experiments that in their day were counted, and justly so, perfect. Mr. P. Collins's new show, exhibited at Wrexham Fair five weeks ago for the first time and fully chronicled in our columns, is the very best of the Marenghi organ type now on the road. Mr. and Mrs. Collins are to be congratulated on their latest show enterprise. Mr. Patrick Ross Collins, their capable and energetic son, is closely identified with the management of the concern.

Fistiana at the Fair.

The recent observations of Sir Ralph Littler on the educational value of boxing as a fine old British institution are fully borne out by a visit to Harry Cullis's School of Boxing, and the manly art of self-defence—the science of Fistiana—found exponents in Cullis's show in both national and local champions.

Hastings' Two Abnormal Shows.

Hastings' Midgets, "the atoms of humanity"—two charming little people—held public receptions and gave much delight to crowds of patrons. Hastings' No. 2 concern—the giant lady, Mme. Lambert—fully justified her proud position as a great and weighty attraction.

Leonine Howard.

This extraordinary freak of nature, known as "the lion-faced lady," was a veritable centre of public notice. This remarkable physiological puzzle has been exhibited to the leading medical faculties of the world, and the leonine features of her dual nature still remain as great a problem as ever.

Warwick's Novelty Booth.

A good example of the side-show that still maintains a popular place on our fairgrounds.

P. Collins's Riding Machines.

Three grand motor-car sets, one set of racing cockerills, the wheeling-the-whirl machine, and the twin ships in the air.

John Collins's Machines.

Motor-car set, four-a-breast galloping horses, steam yachts, and whirling-the-whirl machine.

Children's Roundabouts.

These popular novelties at all our fairs were provided by Messrs. Mercer, Wm. Chaplin, Wright, Montgomery, Dobson, Ford, and Cordwell, and consisted of gem horses, ponies, and motor-car sets.

Shooting Tubes and Jungles.

A goodly array of these were provided by Messrs. Dobson, Ford, Whyatt, Wright, Stokes, and Humphries, jun

Throwing Games, Stalls, &c.

The ceaseless fun of the fair. The funmakers-in-chief were Messrs. Mercer, Cordwell, Chaplain, R. Deeks, J. Hall, Clayton, Horton, Ford, Dobson, Humphries and Son, Whisper, and many local caterers. Mr. Caddick, with his well-known photo van, was on his usual pitch for the first three days of the fair, and old-time swing-boats were provided by Mrs. S. Hayes. There were toy, pannum, and other stalls, ice-cream barrows, weighing chairs, and try-your-strength machines on every available pitch. Say we not well when we thus set it out in detail that the fair as illustrated at great Birmingham city of to-day has all the elements that justify the quaint words of its ancient Charter—"two fairs for ever," one at Whitsun and one at Michaelmas?

BIO OPERATORS' ASSOCIATION.

At a meeting of the committee on Tuesday, at the office of the Association, 29, Wellington-street, Strand, Mr. C. Catlin, of the Surrey Theatre, presiding, a number of applications were considered. Mr. A. Merritt, who has acted as hon. secretary *pro tem.*, having to take up a position in Dublin, was reluctantly compelled to notify the committee of his resignation. The committee have much appreciated Mr. Merritt's services, and unanimously passed a vote of thanks to him, expressing their best wishes for his success in the Irish capital. Mr. Weedon was appointed to succeed Mr. Merritt as hon. secretary.

The draft bye-laws were considered, and the following approved for the consideration of the members:—

DRAFT OF RULES.

1. That this Association shall be known as "The Bioscope Operators' Association," and shall consist exclusively of qualified operators of machines for the projection of animated pictures, and be Branch No. 10 of the National Association of Theatrical Employees.

2. The office of the Association shall be at 29, Wellington-street, Strand, London, or such other place as shall be fixed from time to time.

3. The objects of the Association shall be as follows:—

(*a*) To protect and promote the interests of qualified operators, and to raise the status of their profession.
(*b*) To encourage among its members a knowledge of the science of and new inventions affecting their business.
(*c*) To establish a standard of proficiency by a qualifying examination or otherwise.
(*d*) To secure the recognition of a minimum rate of pay for each class of work.
(*e*) To establish an employment register and such other benefits (Sick, Funeral, or Legal Aid) as may be hereafter agreed upon.

4. An applicant for membership must be over 21 years of age, and have had, at least, two years' experience in a theatre or music hall, or 18 months otherwise professionally exhibiting before the public. An operator who has not worked the above period, but is otherwise qualified, may be accepted by the Committee as a full member or a probationary member. Every application for membership shall be made on a form supplied by the Association, and submitted to the vote of the Committee.

5. Any person in sympathy with the objects of the Association may be elected an honorary member by the Committee on payment of 10s. 6d. per annum, but such honorary members shall not be entitled to take part in the management of the Association.

6. The entrance fee shall be 2s. 6d., payable with the application.

7. The contribution to the Management and General Fund shall be 1s. per calendar month, and due on the first Monday of each month.

8. The Association shall be managed by a Committee of 12, consisting of the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, three Trustees, and five other members, to be elected annually in January of each year, and to hold office until their successors are elected. After the first year no member shall be eligible for election to any office who has not been a member 12 months, or is two months in arrears with his contributions, or owes an equivalent sum, including fines, levies, or other dues. In the event of any vacancy in any office such vacancy shall be filled by the candidate receiving the next highest number of votes for such office at the previous election; vacancies not otherwise provided for shall be filled by the Committee until the next ensuing general meeting.

9. A general meeting of members shall be held in January of each year, when the election of officers, committee, amendment to rules, and the annual report and financial statement shall be dealt with.

HARRY GRELL FUND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Will you kindly announce the following subscriptions which, through the aid of your columns, I have received for the above fund?—Yours truly, ALBERT LE FRE.

Empire Theatre, Middlesbrough.

	£	s.	d.
Arthur Lennard	1	1	0
Bates Maddison	0	10	0
Percy Delevine	0	10	0
Harry Delevine	0	10	0
R. A. Roberts	0	10	0
"Dome"	0	5	0
Sam Delevine	0	2	6
E. Lanos	0	2	6
E. Montes	0	2	6
Jennie Hartley	0	2	6
Walter George	0	2	6
Sydney and Maud Wood	0	2	0
J. Burlington Rigg	0	2	0
Arthur Court	0	2	0
Cribb and Cribb	0	2	0
Nellie Dunbar	0	1	0
Arthur Croxon	0	1	0
	£4	8	6

Collected by Mr. Frank Calvert:—

Roze and Calvert	0	5	0
Goodfellow and Gregson	0	5	0
Geoffreys and Benson	0	2	6
D'Arcs' Marionettes	0	2	6
Harry Taft	0	1	0
George Green (Birmingham)	0	1	0
	£0	17	0

From a few of the Boys of the Argyle, Birkenhead	0	16	0

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

Fairs Ahead.

CARMARTHEN, on the L. and N.W. and G.W. Railways; Hoyle, on the G.W.; Tiverton, on the G.W.; Hayle, on the Great Western; and Prescot, on the L. and N.W. Railway.

Bacup Whitsun Fair.

HERE the shows and other novelties were Colonel Clark's coliseum, Bliss's aquatic wonders, Leo's fairy head and the willow plate mysteries, Mrs. S. Holden's ostrich farm, T. Holden's twin yachts, F. Makin's motor-car, Wm. Holmes' helter-skelter, Shuttleworth's juvenile motors and roundabouts, Makin's swings, Humphries' shooter, Sharpe's shooter, Ingham's games, and varieties by Messrs. F. Wood, Butterworth, Freer, Jephson, Humphries, and Middlebrook.

Leek Fair.

FOR this capital fixture were present the concerns of Clem Hackney, cinematograph theatre; machines by John Whiting, E. Holland, and Alf. Bates; shooting galleries, &c., by Jewell, Bates, Ormrod, Beckett, Jewell, jun., and Whiting.

Bakewell Holidays

WERE maintained with great enterprise by the local showmen, Messrs. Hall and Potts.

On the Lancashire Round.

BOLTON holidays follow closely on Preston school walk, and the best of the show and riding-machines on this circuit take both fixtures. Here were Kemp and Payne's picture shows, Le Neve boxers and lady wrestlers, E. Ball's midget show and novelty booth, the Mitchell family with their big machine aggregation, T. Hurst with racing birds, John Green with galloping-horse set, East's steam horses, Whiting's Japanese cars, Wingate's bicycles, and small machines by Messrs. Humphreys and Sharpe. The rifle galleries, ranges, &c., were provided by George Cornwell, Mrs. John Cornwell, and Mrs. Jewell.

AMONGST the caterers of minor novelties were Messrs. Taylor, East, Jewell, Forshaw, Holmes, Whiting Lee, Harrington, J. Taylor, J. Mitchell, Bliss, Wright, Waugh, and C. Wright, all set out and arranged by the market superintendent, Mr. Robert Pike.

The Westmorland Round.

THE chronicle for this week includes fairs at Kendal and Ulverston. The concerns on this circuit are those of Monte Brothers, Wilson, Wm. Murphy, Mrs. Hoadley, Carr, Casey, Rostron, Doughty Hives, Gray, Russell, Sheeran, Broughton, Newsome, Stockwell, and Bean.

On the Welsh Round.

ABERGAVENNY fair had for its entertainers Messrs. Jacob Studt, J. Dooner and Son, Wadbrook, Prince Samonda, Gess, Ford, John Studt, White, Odeley, Moore, Clarke, Fossett, Butlin, Winsper, Freeman, Jones, Davies, Scott, and Nail.

A Palace on Wheels.

A CORRESPONDENT sends us a most interesting account of the latest and best thing in showmen's living-vans. Built to the order of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Taylor, of cinematograph theatre fame, it fully shows that the outcry against showpeople and their homes on wheels arises from the prejudice of those who still refuse to see any difference between the ramshackle wagons of gipsies and the really perfectly healthy and admirably-fitted living carriages of real showpeople. To those mistaken faddists who scent danger to public health in the coming of show vans into their town, we commend the description we have great pleasure in giving of the real living carriage as used by our principal show proprietors. The designers and builders, Messrs. Orton and Sons, of Burton-on-Trent, have been engaged in show and living wagon building for many years. Mr. Taylor's palace on wheels is but the last and most perfect of its class, and we heartily wish continued success, health, and happiness to its owners, deservedly esteemed and popular both on and off the fair-ground.

Composite Sitting and Dining-Room.

ROOMY, well lighted, with polished mahogany fittings, silver-plated mountings, and an electric light installation, no expense has been spared towards making the "house on wheels" a palace rather than a mansion. The whole vehicle is 27ft. long, 8ft. wide, and 13ft. high, and the exterior is coloured deep red, with gold panels. Inside, a luxurious *mis en scène* presents itself, the door leading into a living apartment, replete with every contrivance tending to the comfort of residents therein. An Axminster carpet is on the floor, polished mahogany drawers and cabinets present themselves, while around the walls are seats upholstered in old gold velvet. Nearly opposite the door is a miniature cooking-range, in which are the most cunning devices for economising space. In a corner is a handily-arranged desk for writing purposes; while a folding table, also of polished mahogany, opens out for use when required. Every bit of space is utilised, triangular cupboards filling the corners, and there are drawers beneath every seat. A handsome electrolier is in the brilliant cut mirror panelled roof, and should electricity not be available from the tractor accompanying the show, light will be provided from tastefully-designed ruby-shaded lamps.

The Sleeping-Room.

THIS apartment is 13ft. long, and at one end a door opens into a bedroom, 7ft. 6in. long, of which the same story of tasteful fittings can be told. An ample-sized bed is placed behind the door, having a spring mattress, and beneath the mirror is a nicely-arranged dressing-table, with mirror complete. In a corner is a lavatory, and nothing has been overlooked to make for the comfort of the occupant. At the other end of the van is another bedroom, 6ft. 6in. long, which is furnished in a similar manner, with the addition of a cunningly-arranged wardrobe. The colour-scheme of the whole of the apartments is in pale green and pink, the whole of the walls being panelled in relief. These panels are fitted with hand-paintings, exquisitely executed, and representing a variety of subjects. In fact, the walls are a picture gallery in themselves. Here a glowing landscape, there a seascape, resplendent with varying effect; here a cluster of fruit tantalisingly represented; there a group of birds, glorious in brilliant plumage. Every variety of scenery is artistically depicted, and even the panels of the beds and drawers are effectively painted. The whole of the windows are of brilliant cut glass, and a clerestoried roof gives ample opportunity for additional ventilation.

In the Lions' Den.

DURING the performance of Mme. Ella and her lions at the Temperance Hall, Merthyr, Mr. Israel Price, the proprietor of the hall, entered the den and presented Mme. Ella with a gold medal. Upon emerging, Mr. Price was loudly applauded by the packed house which witnessed his feat.

Guild Subscriptions.

By Mr. Wm. Chaplain: John Whyatt, 10s. 6d.; Alfred Birch, 10s.; James Whiting, 5s.; J. Hastings, 5s.; John Sagar, 5s. By Mr. Mercer: S. Mercer, 10s. 6d.; G. Smith, 5s.; J. Mitchell, 5s.; Mr. A. Jones, 5s. By Mr. Shuttleworth: Messrs. Connell Bros., 10s. 6d.; W. Scott, 5s.; J. Cottam, 5s. By Mr. Harry Ashington: Joseph Joy, 5s.

THE FAIRGROUND CHURCH.

Of the series of Guild services held since Easter on the fairgrounds by the organising chaplain, the one held on the Sunday of Birmingham Fair was especially interesting. Both at Wrexham and at Knutsford the weather was cold and wretched, and although this fact did not deter the showpeople from attending the services, yet it did affect the outside attendance. A particularly interesting feature of the Birmingham Fair service was the clergy and choir (in their robes) from the parish church of the Fairground (St. Stephen's, Newtown-row). The vicar, the Rev. J. T. Jones, and the assistant clergy, the Revs. A. E. Heaton, F. S. Ployne, and H. A. Richings, were present, with the choir, and took part in the Guild service. The Vicar played the harmonium and read the Lesson. The Rev. T. Horne conducted the service and preached. P. Collins's splendid cinematograph pavilion was crowded from end to end. The choir and church workers from St. Stephen's occupied the three front rows of pit-stalls, and it was a most impressive sight, the white-robed choir and clergy giving dignity and reverent order to the service, as well as leading the congregation in the hymns and singing part of the Order of the Showmen's Guild.

The showmen, their wives and families were present, and in every way justified the scheme of the Guild in providing these services at the fairs. The Hon. Chaplain is attending to arouse interest in the trade defence work of the Guild. On all sides Mr. Horne hears the most gratifying and sincere appreciation of his work. He hopes to conduct similar services at Penzance next Sunday, at a suitable centre in Wales (yet to be determined) the following Sunday, at Mexboro' Feast, Halifax Fair, Burnley Fair, Burslem Wakes, Longsight Wakes, Hunslet Feast, Manningham Feast, Mitcham Fair, Holbeck Feast, Ayr Fair, Gloucester Fair, Hull Fair, York Fair, and at other centres yet to be fixed.

For many years past the Rev. T. Horne has conducted special services for showpeople during the Sundays of his holidays and at other times when his fixed clerical work was done for him by his brethren in the ministry. These opportunities—necessarily few in number—were so heartily embraced by his showmen friends that for many years past he has been looking forward to the time that he could entirely devote himself to this special work. The time has now fully come. From the commencement of the successful services at the World's Fair, Islington, and similar services at the Fun City, Olympia, West Kensington, last winter, when the enterprises left the tentative and experimental stage, Mr. Horne has entirely given his Sundays to the educational and religious side of the work of the Guild.

Last year services and public meetings in connection with the Guild were held with signal success at King's Lynn, Longsight, Gloucester, Hull, and Rotherham Fairs. In many parts of the country honorary local chaplains provided services at their own fairs, this being the direct result of the greater interest in show life arising from Mr. Horne's many years of persistent and self-sacrificing work.

The importance of this work is fully recognised by all our leading showmen, and every facility is afforded by the prominent proprietors and ground lessees for its development and permanence. Services have already been held in the magnificent show-booths of Messrs. Wm. Clark (twice), P. Collins (twice), Jacob Studt (twice), Captain Tom Payne, George Green, J. Dooner and Son, George Kemp, and Wadbrook's. The local clergy have not only welcomed the work in their various parishes, but have co-operated heartily in it. Many of them have also expressed delight at the admirable way in which a show-booth may be turned into a temporary church. The Rector of the Albert Memorial Church, Manchester, used this felicitous and most appropriate phrase to Col. Clark concerning the interior of his show at the recent Easter Fair:—"Your beautiful pavilion is the cathedral of the fairground." That apt phrase is true of all the shows, each in its own special perfection of interior decoration, that have been so freely and readily given to the use of the Guild for church purposes. This statement is true not only of the generous proprietors, but it is true also of the working staff of each show. Electricians, engineers, artists, and employees of every grade have given their generous services to mark their personal interest in the work of the Guild

Going Like Hot Cakes.

THE new film "Willie's Dream" is such a favourite with the showmen that the Sheffield Photo Company, who own the film, report that it is going so strong that they are unable to keep pace with the orders which are flowing in from all parts of the world for this subject. They anticipate having to make other negatives to cope with the demand.

Films in New Zealand.

MR. JOHN FULLER, JUN., a partner in the firm of John Fuller & Sons, of New Zealand, says that the cinematograph is in great evidence at their various halls. The Urban and Pathé films are those used by the firm.

Taylor's New Show.

THE fortunate owner of this palatial residence on wheels is Mr. W. Taylor, of London, for whom Mr. Orton is providing an absolutely new show, which in itself will be one of the finest in existence. The living-van above described is one of the largest in existence, and is fitted with ample brakes and devices for rounding corners. The accompanying show will, when fitted, contain a huge organ, having 4000 coloured electric lights. The truck when closed measures 31ft., and when opened out extends for 51ft. The whole train of vehicles is to be drawn by a specially-designed traction-engine of 8 h.p., from which also electric light is obtained by means of a dynamo.

MR. TAYLOR is now at Hendon for a short season with his coliseum of animated pictures. We understand that the new show will open for the first time at Cambridge Fair.

Ball's Bioscope.

MR. ALF. BALL and company, with up-to-date pictures and varieties, are having a most successful season at Tilbury Docks.

MR. WM. HAGGAR is this week at the Carmarthen Corporation fairground with his magnificent new bioscope and organophone, and is doing excellent business. The show is a remarkably fine one, and is considered one of the best travelling.

AT Treorchy Fair were the immensely popular cinematograph theatres of Harry Scard (Wadbrook's superb electrograph) and Dooner and Sons, both displaying the latest and best films, and affording delight to crowded audiences. Prince Samonda, in occult and second-sight mysteries, outrivalling the Dancigs in second-sight business and the Maskelynes in the disappearing trick; Ada Russell, giantess; and the boxing saloons of Scarrott and Frank Gess made up a big show list. T. Fossett exhibited shooters, photo booth, and other novelties; H. Studt and Son motor-cars; John Studt motors and ostriches; Wm. North, jun., big wheel, shooter, and sheets; Jacob Butlin shooters, juvenile gallopers, swings, and variety sheets; Winsper swings, shooter, and sheets; Matthews gem horses; Jones swings and sheets; John North with shooters and sheets; and throwing games, in endless variety, by the following:—North, Freeman, Winsper, Kinder, Wm. North, Jones, Butlin, and others.

THE MIKADO AND SIMPSON CROSS.

A felicitous sequel has been made to the visit of the Japanese sailors to Southport at Easter last year by the presentation to Mr. W. Simpson Cross, the well-known naturalist, of the Zoological Park, of a mark of appreciation from the Mikado himself of the hospitality extended to the honoured guests. It will be remembered that the Japanese, who came to this country to navigate back to Japan the battleship Katori, went to Southport on the Easter Saturday on the invitation of the then Mayor (Mr. C. H. B. Hesketh, J.P.), when the Katori was lying in the Mersey. The sailors were first entertained to luncheon at the Cambridge Hall, and subsequently proceeded to the Zoological Park, where they were present at the opening ceremony. The proceedings at the Zoological Park included the handing to Captain Yoko, the commander, of a fine specimen of the British bulldog, by name "Duke," as a present to the Mikado from Mr. Simpson Cross. The dog, which was the only present to the Emperor taken from England, reached Japan in excellent condition.

On the 14th ult. Mr. Cross received from Mr. Michinori S. Nagasaki, Chancellor of the Imperial Court, who is a member of the suite of Prince Fushimi, a telegram stating that his Highness would be pleased to see him at York House the following day. Accordingly Mr. Cross, accompanied by Councillor Trounson, who as Deputy-Mayor last year had a good deal to do with the carrying out of the arrangements for the Japanese visit, presented himself at the Palace, and was ushered into the presence of Prince Fushimi, who greeted him with a hearty handshake. His Highness was most gracious, and said the Emperor had desired him to express the great pleasure he had felt at receiving the bulldog, and wished him to present to Mr. Cross on his behalf a silver Cloisonné chrysanthemum vase. The Prince also said how delighted the Japanese sailors were with

[Photo by Vanderbilt.

MR. SIMPSON CROSS.

their visit to Southport, and the Emperor wished him to accept the vase as a souvenir of that occasion.

Mr. Cross, in accepting the gift, humbly expressed his gratitude to the Emperor for so handsome a present, which he said he would prize exceedingly. He added that the people of Southport had felt it a keen pleasure to entertain the officers and crew of the Katori in their midst. The conversation with the Prince was carried on through Mr. Nagasaki, who acted as interpreter, the Prince expressing his thanks for Southport's hospitality and the good time given the men at Zoo Park on April 14 last year in Japanese.

The Emperor's gift to Mr. Cross is a massive chrysanthemum bowl of solid silver, with Cloisonné enamel in typical Japanese design, which includes the imperial crest of Japan in three places. The vase is enclosed in a specially lined case.

In connection with the presentation of the bulldog to the Mikado the following letter was sent from Japan in December last:—

"Imperial Household, Tokio, Dec. 20, 1906.

"Sir,—I have received your kind letter, and it is my great pleasure to inform you that the British bulldog which you committed to the care of Commander Sakamoto when our man-of-war Katori anchored at Southport, was received in good health on the 24th of August, and immediately being laid before his Majesty, with its pedigree, it was graciously accepted.—I remain, sincerely yours,

"M. TANAKA.

"(Minister of the Imperial Household),

"P.S.—The beautiful postcards of garden were also received with thanks."

ANSWERS TO SHOWMEN.

SHOWMAN.—*Any of the films offered by the cinematograph manufacturers who advertise in these columns will be found suitable.*

IN DISTRESS.—*Send fuller particulars. Address your letter to the Rev. Thomas Horne, Chaplain to the Showmen's Guild.*

MESSRS. BOSTOCK AND WOMBWELL'S Royal No. 1 Aggregation is now touring West Carmarthenshire, and is receiving well-deserved patronage, the collection being an excellent one, and the performances by Captain Wombwell, Captain Fredericka, and Captain Daniels being most daring and sensational. On Saturday Carmarthen was visited; Monday, Whitland; Tuesday, Narberth; Wednesday, Tenby; Thursday, Pembroke; and Friday, Pembroke Dock.

WE hear that Mr. Haggar, jun., intends applying again to the Licensing Committee of the Carmarthenshire County Council for a licence for his portable theatre to be erected on the Carmarthen Corporation fairground. We wonder whether the committee have regretted their former decision, and will capitulate to public opinion.

THE Rev. T. Horne will be at Penzance Corpus Christi Fair this week-end. Mr. G. W. A. Norton, the hon. local agent for the Guild, is making all necessary arrangements for the meeting of the showpeople in the afternoon and Guild service in a show on the fairground on Sunday.

MR. W. C. DEXTER'S concert and pierrot party opened their season, to the delight of a large number of guests, at the Keswick Hotel, Keswick, on Whit-Monday. On Saturday and Sunday concerts were given at the Queen of the Lakes Pavilion, and large audiences assembled. Residents are delighted to have a permanent concert and pierrot company in their midst. Mr. Dexter's company is an excellent combination. Miss Bertha St. Ruth (operatic and ballad vocalist) sings in fine style, and Miss Madge Floyd possesses a beautiful contralto voice. Mr. J. Williams (baritone) is heard to advantage, and Mr. Albert Keighley (tenor) renders good support. Mr. Ellis Midgley is the solo pianist and accompanist, and Mr. W. C. Dexter conducts the string orchestra

THE SHOWMEN'S GUILD
AT BIRMINGHAM FAIR.

The most successful, from every point of view, of the fair-ground gatherings of showpeople this season took place on Collins's ground, the Old Pleck, Birmingham. The intention of the Executive Committee of the Guild is to arouse the interest and to obtain the necessary additional support, in order that the work of trade defence may be carried on effectively, and the usefulness of the Guild extended. The earlier meetings with this object beginning at Manchester in Easter week, and then at Wrexham, Knutsford, and Preston Fairs, have resulted in most gratifying results, both as regards increase of members and financial support. The highly-successful meeting at Birmingham took place in the afternoon, and was held in P. Collins's superb exhibition. Amongst the prominent showmen present were Mr. P. Collins (vice-president), who was unanimously voted to the chair; Mr. John Collins, V.P., P. Collins, jun., Messrs. Mercer and Chaplain, members of the Executive Committee, and Messrs. Manders, Proctor, Jeffery, Hammersley, Haydn, Culliss, Hastings, Howard, Harris, Warwick, Cordwell, Sagar, Humphries, sen., Humphries, jun., Ford, Wyatt, O'Flynn, Bailey, Gordon, Day, Wright, Dobson, Hayes, and Lewis.

Amongst the friends and local traders interested in the show business were Mr. T. Baird and Mr. A. Kirby, of Birmingham. The meeting was marked by considerable enthusiasm, and all the speakers succeeded in making a deep impression upon the audience. Mr. P. Collins briefly introduced the Rev. T. Horne, preferring, as he said, to speak after they had heard their reverend friend and champion.

The Work of the Showmen's Guild.

Mr. Horne, who was very warmly received, reminded the showmen present that the Guild was the mother of all trade societies dealing with the business of the fair-ground. For well-nigh twenty years the Guild had been actively and increasingly engaged in defending the showmen's business and avocation in life. Their work, broadly speaking, was divided into three great departments: Firstly, there was trade defence, both in Parliament as against Corporations or public bodies, or defeating Corporations and public bodies by opposing obnoxious and inimical bye-laws. Then, in the second place, they had to educate and foster a right and just public opinion, both with regard to the business of the fair-ground and the large and industrious class of the community that carried on that business. In the third place, and of necessity arising out of the other two great departments of their work, was the uplifting and betterment of the entertainments provided for the amusement of the people at our fairs, feasts, and wakes

Parliamentary Work.

Nine years ago, when they began their Parliamentary defence work, they were overwhelmed with the magnitude of the task at every point of view as it then confronted them. In their first year they had to deal with over twenty Corporations, who were proposing clauses in their Private Bills that would have directly injured and interfered with the show business. With the great majority of these they were able to deal without incurring Parliamentary conflict; but with five Corporations they had to deal and to oppose in the Committee Rooms of the House of Commons. In the first and second year of their Parliamentary work they secured three very important victories. The first was, as against the Mansfield Corporation, that no additional powers should be given to public bodies to regulate the opening-time or the closing-time of their shows and entertainments, other than the ordinary law of the land, that amply governed all other industries and trades. To put it very clearly, what was good enough for the "tinker and the tailor, the butcher and the baker, and the candlestick-maker," was good enough for the showman in his hours of business, and that he demanded the same liberty to carry on his lawful calling as any other trader or workman.

Free Trade in Fairs.

Their next great victory was over the powerful Corporation of Halifax, which, in a Private Bill, amongst other things, sought to gain a monopoly of fairs whin their borough boundaries. In other words, no private ground could have been opened by showmen within the Borough of Halifax for the carrying on of their trade and business without the consent of the Corporation. This signal victory of their trade organisation established free trade in fairs, and the Halifax decision has governed all similar cases since.

No Restraint of Trade.

Their third important victory was gained over the important Corporation of Eccles, who sought powers similar to those attempted by Mansfield, and also powers to prevent anyone, whether resident or a travelling trader, opening up a stall or exposing goods for sale, on private land, without the consent of the Corporation. This, the Guild submitted, was distinctly in restraint of trade, and if Eccles had gained these extraordinary powers other Corporations would have followed suit, and the opening up of new fairs, so important and so necessary a condition of their very life and being, would have been denied them. He asked them to bear in mind that every one of these great protective declarations governing their business were entirely gained by their trade society opposing, and continuing to oppose, all extraordinary and unreasonable proposals to regulate or to destroy their business whenever they were embodied in Parliamentary Bills.

Cost of Parliamentary Work.

The Showmen's Guild had spent over three thousand pounds in this particular branch of trade defence. Upon an average, one hundred Private Bills, promoted by public bodies, had to be scrutinised by their Parliamentary agent every year, and all proposals of a destructive character referred to the Executive Committee, and they were in this proud position that, either by private negotiations or by a fight to a finish in the Committee Rooms of the House of Commons, every proposal detrimental to their business has been successfully met and defeated. When they started this work of theirs they had a very useful balance of reserve funds in the bank; the end of their second year's work saw that balance exhausted, and it had been one of the urgent efforts of the organisation from Session to Session of Parliament to raise the funds to maintain this important branch of their trade defence in efficient working order. They had done it, but he felt sure that, as business men, they would see the paramount necessity of always having a substantial balance at the bank, in order to meet all emergencies, whether to fight Corporations in Parliament or to defend the popular holidays and fairs of the people.

Educating Public Opinion.

Perhaps, although comparatively a much less costly proceeding than Parliamentary work, to educate and foster a right and just public opinion is of equal importance to Parliamentary work. He was glad to realise that showmen all over the United Kingdom were taking pains to correct misconceptions and prejudices with regard to the show business. He found that correspondents from all parts of the country were sending to *The Era* for him to deal with all unjust attacks that from time to time appear in the newspapers upon the show business. He cited the most recent example of these unjust attacks that occurred at Harrogate, and which had been fully dealt with by himself in the Harrogate Press, and fully reported in the Showman World columns of *The Era*. Looking back upon the strenuous work of the past twenty years, he was proud and happy in the thought that some of the best work of his life had been to justify, to lift up, and to defend, whenever necessary, the travelling showman and his calling and business in life.

Increased Member Roll.

It was quite true that the showman industry touched the industrial life of seventy thousand persons, but it was lamentable to think that the member roll of the Showmen's Guild was as small as it at present existed, and one of the great objects he had set out to achieve was to increase that member roll, so that we should be able to speak of its membership by thousands. He was quite convinced that it was of the utmost importance to enlist every fair-ground trader, that by his own personal interest and responsibility, their united effort would have greater power and influence whenever they had to meet influential Corporations or prejudiced individuals. He had been dealing entirely with outside difficulties, the things that threatened to destroy their business from without. He recognised that there were difficulties within, that questions of great and immediate importance that distressed and divided them, existed within their own borders. Conscious as he was of the serious nature of these inside divisions, he begged them to remember that the enemy without their borders would not relax his effort to injure and to penalise their trade and business until they had settled their domestic difficulties. Other societies had arisen in their midst, and he had always held that, properly promoted and wisely carried on, there was room for such societies to do good work; in fact, he believed that a division of labour would be of great value to them as a body. The Showmen's Guild, from its start twenty years ago to the present day, had been their bulwark of defence against all outside attacks. The best brains and the best talent amongst them had been devoted to this necessary and ever-pressing work. Many, in fact nearly all, had devoted years of hard work and painfully-acquired expert experience to this work, without either fee or reward. Parliamentary and legal work of necessity meant big fees and costly expenditure, but on all other points of their work and enterprise the Guild had been carried on as the free-will offering of those who, either in the business itself, or who, like himself, for the love of the showman, had cast in their part and lot with the men and women of the fair-ground. He concluded with an eloquent appeal for more members, for more self-sacrificing work for the general good, and for increased funds, that the old Guild might continue its ever new and important work.

The Chairman's Appeal.

Mr. P. Collins referred to the difficulty that speakers at their meetings invariably experienced when they had to follow Mr. Horne. But he felt sufficiently inspired by what they had heard to join with their Chaplain in making an appeal to them to rally to the banner of the old Van-dwellers' Society. For twenty years, they had been told, this Society had worked to protect and defend them, and he knew, and they knew, all of them knew, that but for the protective work of the Guild their business would have been practically swept off the face of the earth. Let there be no mistake about it, that was the truth, and he was speaking with both knowledge and experience of the things of the past, and with a keen sense of what was before them. It was their duty to rally to the support of the Society, and to provide the sinews of war and the ways and means, not only for trade defence, but to lift up and extend their trade and business. Mr. Horne had been their champion, and he asserted that, without Mr. Horne to defend them in the way that he had done, and without Mr. Horne to encourage others to follow his lead, they would have been at the present moment in a most parlous position. He instanced the fact that before their Society came into existence nearly all the Corporations in the Midland Counties had obtained powers, either by bye-laws or private legislation, to sweep away the fairs, and to hinder or destroy their business. It was only by the creation of a good and just public opinion to shelter and defend them that he and other lessees had been able to open up new fairs, and to carry on their business. They might not know it, or they may have forgotten it, but he knew, that it was the public opinion which this Society had educated, both in the Press and before Parliament, and that they had brought to bear upon Corporations, that they were now able to carry on their business in the comparative freedom they enjoyed. He was so convinced of the importance of this work along all the lines so ably set out for their consideration by Mr. Horne, that he had determined to use all the influence he could bring to bear to increase the member roll of the Guild, and he desired them to know that both he and his brother (Mr. John Collins) were prepared to give preferential treatment to tenants who were able to show their certificate of membership when applying for ground at any of the fairs they controlled.

Other Speakers.

Mr. William Chaplain, member of the Executive Committee, in response to the chairman's request, addressed the gathering. As a committee-man, he said, he had been actively engaged in making new members, and he was proud to inform that meeting that he had met with considerable success, and had enrolled a goodly number of new members. Mr. Horne had rightly said that the work of the Society was to guard them from outside attacks and dangers. Both their chairman and Mr. Horne had referred to inside troubles, as well as outside attacks, but they all realised, he was confident, that, however urgent the inside troubles, it was their duty to rally as one man to the defence of their interests from outside attack, and to strengthen the hands of the executive officers of the Guild to carry on both Parliamentary and defence work. They had inside troubles and difficulties—he, for one, felt very keenly about them, but he could only add that the work of the Guild was urgent, immediate, and absolutely necessary to everyone engaged in the show business. He joined with the previous speakers in urging his fellow-travellers to become members.

Professor Haydn,

In ready response to the call of Mr. P. Collins, delivered a bright and telling speech, in the course of which he referred with pride to the fact that he had never wavered from his support of the Guild, that he had never lost his membership, or ceased contributing to its funds. He was, in a technical sense, "a wide traveller"—that is, he attended fairs all over the kingdom, and he was able to gauge the conditions of public opinion, and was quite sensitive of the petty annoyances, and, at times, serious hindrances, of prejudiced individuals and public authorities. These attacks upon them and their business could only be met by a strong defence Association, and he urged his fellow-showmen to strengthen their position, to stand shoulder to shoulder in defence of their just rights and privileges as entertainers of the people. With regard to the troubles from within, to which reference had been made, he, too, held strong opinions, and was in favour of reform. He trusted that all their troubles and all their difficulties, both within and without, would be brought to a peaceable and just conclusion. He begged them to rally round the old Society.

New Members.

The following were enrolled at the close of the meeting:—R. Manders, £1 1s.; S. Jeffery, 10s.; Mr. and Mrs. G. Procter, 10s.; G. Ford, 10s.; Mr. S. Mercer, 10s. 6d.; T. Beard, 10s.; H. Lewis, 10s. 6d.; H. Cullis, 10s. 6d.; Mrs. Hayes, 10s.; A. Kirby, 5s.; T. Day, 5s.; T. Dobson, 5s.; E. Howard, 5s.; J. O'Flynn, 5s.

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WANTED, First-class Companies, for DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E., Aug. 5, 12, Oct. 28, Dec. 16, Jan. 20, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Sept. 9, Oct. 14, Nov. 4, 11, 25, Dec. 2, Feb. 3, 10, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER,
Aug. 5, 12, Dec. 9, Feb. 10, March 2, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER,
Sept. 9, Oct. 14, 21, 28,
Nov. 11, 18, 25, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON,
Aug. 12, 19, 26, Sept. 16, Nov. 11, 18, Dec. 9, Feb. 10, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD,
June 24, Aug. 19, 26, Oct. 7, 28, Nov. 25, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON,
June 10, Sept. 2, Nov. 18, 25, Dec. 2, Feb. 3, 10, on
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER,
Aug. 5, 12, 19, Sept. 9, 30, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON,
Sept. 2, 9, 16, 23, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, THEATRE, READING.

WANTED, First-Class Companies for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD, Aug. 12, 19, 26, Sept. 2, 9, 16, onwards.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON,
Sept. 30, Oct. 7, 14, 21, Nov. 4, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY,
Aug. 12, 19, 26, Sept. 2, 9 (three nights only).
E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, High-class Attractions, for Aug. 12, 19, Sept. 2, 9, and onwards, with exceptions.
Required, Big Atraction for Xmas and New Year's Weeks.
Address,
THOS. SWINTON.

BRIDLINGTON SPA THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.
Thoroughly Up-to-date, Re-opens July 29.
Electricity throughout; new scenery; large stage dimensions.
WANTED, First-class Attractions. Holds £100 at ordinary prices.
Only Vacant Dates,
Sept. 5, 6, 7; 12, 13, 14; 19, 20, 21.
Must be the best Attractions on the road.
HENRY HAGUE, General-Manager.

CORK, OPERA HOUSE.
Vacant Dates.
June 17, 24, July 1, 8, 15, 22, Aug. 12, 19.
WANTED, a Strong Musical Attraction, for July 1, the great Horse and Dog Show week
Applications to Mr. JOHN HORGAN, Manager.

WANTED, Companies, for Mr. John Hart's Various Theatres, Aug. 5, 12, 19, 26, Sept. 9.
Apply, JOHN HART, Theatre Royal, Bradford.

WANTED, Really Strong Drama, GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON, July 8 and 22.
Apply, F. MOUILLOT,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

NORTHERN THEATRES CO., LTD.
WANTED, First-class Pantomime,
Theatre Royal, Halifax, Dec. 23, 30;
Theatre Royal, Bury, Jan. 6, 13.
Full particulars to
OTTO C. CULLING, Bury.

THEATRE ROYAL, PLYMOUTH.
WANTED, Special Attraction, for June 10, June 10, June 10.
Silence in all cases a polite negative.
Apply,
Mr. C. F. WILLIAMS, T. R., Plymouth.

PALACE PIER THEATRE, BRIGHTON.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Good Musical or Farcical Comedy,
June 17, week.
Wire, MANAGER.

OPERA HOUSE, JERSEY.
ST. JULIAN'S, GUERNSEY.
WANTED, through transferring, First-Class Musical Comedy Companies, Aug. 5 and 12, and various onwards; also good Dramas.
Business excellent in both Islands.
Bookings include Mrs. Patrick Campbell, "The Dairymaids," "The Blue Moon," "The Duchess of Dantzic," "Girl from Kay's," "The Orchid," "The Cingalee," "Raffles," "Are You a Mason?" "The Dandy Doctor," "Sapho," &c. Arrangements can be made to open Guernsey Tuesdays (five nights and matinée), open Jersey Mondays (five nights and matinée). Cross and return from anywhere at reduced fares. Write me for particulars. EDWARD MARRIS, Lessee.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, First-Class Attraction for June 24,
must be something Big.
Wire or write,
W. W. KELLY,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions,
QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNMOUTH.
QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNMOUTH.
QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNMOUTH.
July 1, 8, 15, 22,
Aug. 5, 12, 19,
Sept. 2, 16, 23,
Oct. 7, Nov. 11, 18.
Dec. 16, 23, on.
ALBERT THEATRE, BRIGHOUSE.
ALBERT THEATRE, BRIGHOUSE.
Aug. 26, Sept. 2, 16, 23, Oct. 7, 21, 28, Nov. 4, 11.
Musical Plays and High-class Attractions Wanted.
MORTON POWELL, Crown Theatre, Peckham, S.E.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Dec. 16, April 13, and onwards.
Address, T. ALLAN EDWARDES.

PALACE THEATRE, RHYL.
WANTED, First-class Co., July 14 21, and 28, Sept. 2, on. Bookings include "Raffles," "Toreador," "White Chrysanthemum," "Leah Kleschna," "Lucky Durham," "Marriage of Kitty," "Mr. Popple," "Gay Parisienne," &c.
Apply, WILL SMITH.

GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions, June 24, July 1, 8, on; also Big Atractions for August Bank Holiday and First-class Panto. for Xmas.
FRED GRANVILLE, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies,

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER,
Vacant July 15, 22, and 29, onward (with exceptions).

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Vacant June 10, 24, onward (with exceptions).
(Last three nights of each week).

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant June 10, 17, onward (with exceptions).

METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY,
Vacant Aug. 5, 12, 19, onward (with exceptions).

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
Vacant Aug. 5, 12, 19, onward (with exceptions).

"THE LOST CHORD."
Vacant onward (with exceptions).

"THE SPAN OF LIFE,"
Vacant July 22, 29, onward, with exceptions.

"IN SIGHT OF ST. PAUL'S."
Vacant onward (with exceptions).

"CINDERELLA,"
Vacant Feb. 24, March 2, 9, onward (with exceptions).

Companies "Farmed" through Fit-ups.

To Let, on Royalty, "THE PRAIRIE FLOWER" and "OUR BRITISH EMPIRE."

Excellent Plants of Printing.

All communications to
ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
The Premier Theatre in the Furness District.
Holds £90 at ordinary Prices.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions, Vacant July 15, 22, 29, Aug. 12, 19, 26, and various on.
The following, amongst others, are future Bookings for the above Theatre:—
Allan Wilkie, Lingford Carson's Companies, "When it was Dark," "A Little Vagrant," "A Destroyer of Men," "The Breed of the Treshams," "Life of a Showman," Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's Companies, Mrs. D'Oyly Carte's No. 1 Répertoire Company (tenth visit), "Raffles," F. R. Benson's Co. (third visit), Baron H. Harriss's No. 1 Company, "The Prince of Pilsen," Mr. Percy Hutchison's Companies, including "Peter's Mother," Mr. George Edwardes' own Company, in "See-See," Silvanus Dauncey and M. Y. Leveaux's No. 1 Company, in "The Walls of Jericho," "The Girl from Japan," "The Sign of the Cross," &c., &c.

All application for dates to
HUGH ROBERTSON,
T. R., Jarrow.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Proprietor and Manager, FRANCIS LAIDLER.

WANTED, well played, First-class Attraction, for Aug. 12,
which is vacant through obliging.

ROYAL CLARENCE THEATRE, PONTYPRIDD.
WANTED, First-class Companies, June 17 and 24, July 1, 8, and 15.
For dates, apply,
MANAGER, Theatre, Pontypridd.

OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON.
WANTED, First-Class Companies. July 15, 22.
Address,
STANLEY ROGERS, 124, Warwick-road, Carlisle.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-Class Dramatic Attractions, July 8, 22.
E. H. PAGE.

KING'S THEATRE, SUNDERLAND.
Owing to extension of season,
WANTED, First-class Attractions, June 10, 17, 24.
Wire, R. C. BUCHANAN, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.
Telegraphic address, "Bookings, Glasgow."

WANTED, good Companies of all descriptions June 17 and 24, all various Aug. and Autumn dates, Maesteg and Treherbert, three or six days each. Apply C. W. POOLE, Palace Theatre, Gloucester.

THEATRE ROYAL, NORTH SHIELDS.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for Aug. 5 and 19. Address,
STANLEY ROGERS, 124, Warwick-road, Carlisle.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies, for June 24, July 1, 8, 15, 22, and Aug. 5. Address, E. B. GOULDEN.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for the EMPIRE THEATRE, OLDHAM,
July 1, 15, 29, Sept. 2, Feb. 10.
Address, ERNEST DOTTRIDGE.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for T. R., Wolverhampton, June 17, and T. R. Chatham, July 1, 15, and 22. BARNARD, Chislett-road West Hampstead.

COLISEUM, ABERYSTWYTH.
WANTED, Best Companies (Musical preferred), June 10, 11, 12, and 14, 15, 17, onwards.
Wire, PHILLIPS.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTHEND.
WANTED, three nights, July 4, 5, 6, week July 29, and Bank Holiday, Aug. 5; also 3 nights, Sept. 26, 27, 28, and weeks Oct. 14 and 28, and week Dec. 16, for Musical Comedy or High-class Shows.
Apply, GEORGE CONQUEST.

WANTED, Big Dramatic Attraction, Aug. 5 (re-opening), Grand, Radcliffe.
Address, SANTE, Theatre, Radcliffe.

GRIMSBY, PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.
WANTED, Company, for July 15.
Terms, and copy of Day-bill, to
JOSEPH H. CURRY, as above.

KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION and OPERA HOUSE, WESTON-SUPER-MARE.
WANTED, First-Class Attraction, June 10 (three or six nights), also July; Sharing terms. W. PAYNE.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Peterborough, good Companies, Aug. 5, on.
A. D. VERNON.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, Sept. 2, 9, 16, Oct. 7, 14, 21, Dec. 2, 16.
Wanted, Pantomime, Dec. 30.
Apply to Mr. JAMES KIERNAN.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies for two nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. ASHTON, Strand, Barnstaple.

WANTED, Comedy or Operatic Companies. Touring Scotland, to Book Theatre Royal, Inverness, vacant dates Oct. onwards. Mr. CAMERON BURGESS, Manager.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions, for Victoria Theatre, Kettering, under new management, Aug. Bank Holiday and Christmas vacant. Write BAILEY, Manager

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
W. J. COTTON, Proprietor.
Seats 600. Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, share or rent. Sole Booking Agent, SIDNEY HAMILTON, Piccadilly-mansions, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Good Pantomime, Dec. 26, nine nights.
WADDINGTON, Theatre Royal, York.

WANTED, Responsible Manager, provide Stock Company, Royal, Ton-y-Pandy, open immediately; business excellent. Refer any company who have visited recently. CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

COMPANIES WANTED.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

Lessees and Managers,
MR. and MRS. CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.

The Leading Theatre of the Town.
The Only Theatre in the Town Lighted by Electricity.
The Only Theatre in the Town allowed to Advertise on the Electric Cars.
The Theatre which does the Business.

Now in Course of Rebuilding.
The Seating Capacity of each part of the House is being Largely Increased.

The Holding Capacity of the Theatre will be Second to None in the Town.
The Stage will be Capable of any Production Touring, will be able to fly a 36ft. cloth.
The Theatre will Re-open Aug. 5.
The Theatre will Re-open Aug. 5.
Autumn Bookings include
"The Dairymaids,"
Mr. James Welch's Co., in
"When Knights Were Bold,"
Miss Annie Hughes, in
"Tommy,"
Mr. Norman Macowan, in
"Monsieur Beaucaire,"
"The Little Stranger"
(including Master Edward Garrett),
"A Trip to the Highlands,"
Mr. Bannister Howard's No. 1 Company,
"The Eternal City,"
Mr. Walter Maxwell's Co.,
"The Lion and The Mouse" (third visit),
and other of the Principal Attractions Touring

WANTED, Exceptional Attractions, Aug. 12, 19 and Various, onwards.
CALVERT ROUTLEDGE, H. M. T., Barrow.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.

Proprietor, ALBERT SMITH.

One of the Handsomest and Best-equipped Theatres in the Provinces.

Holding Capacity, 3,500.

See Mr. Charles Manners' Letter in "The Era" of April 6.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
No 1 Attractions only.

July 22, 29, still open.

Special Terms to Special Attractions.

Share or Certainty.

Open to Negotiate for Easter Panto., 1908, 2 weeks.

All Communications, JNO. ED. JOWSEY,
Grand Opera House, Middlesbrough.

Telegrams, "Magnet," Middlesbrough.
Telephones, 413, 426, 500.

Silence a Polite Negative.

WANTED, Important Attractions, Terriss Theatre, Sept. 16; Grand Theatre, Aug. 19 and Sept. 23.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for July 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29.
Apply, Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR,
24A, Regent-street, S.W.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLYTH-BY-SEA, NORTHUMBERLAND.
Monday, June 3, and during the week,
"PICK OF THE BUNCH."
Huge Success of Mr. Wm. Mollison and Company, in
"BESIDE THE BONNIE BRIER BUSH."
Managers in doubt, please note, and refer to Wm. Mollison, Esq.

WANTED, First-class Companies; must have splendid Drawing Powers, July 1, 15 (latter date Miners' Picnic Week), also Aug. 19 (Flower Show Week), Musical preferred, July 15 and Aug. 19.
Apply,
A. C. MOODY, Lessee.

WANTED, Attraction June 10, through cancelling.
LINDON, Theatre Royal, Stanley, Durham.

WANTED, Attractions for Japanese Village and Tea Gardens, open July 1; Open-air and Covered Spaces to Let on Shares. Stamp for particulars. GREY, Tyn-y-Coed, Rhyl.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE GIRL WHO TOOK THE WRONG TURNING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres Oct. 7, Nov. 18.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE SOLDIER'S WEDDING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 9, 23.
Apply,
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 12, Dec. 2.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 12, 19, Sept. 23, and Dec. 23, 30.
FREDERICK MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 23, Oct. 14.
FREDERICK MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

FRED MELVILLE'S NEW PRODUCTION.
"HER ROAD TO RUIN."
WANTED, Sept. 30 and Easter, 1908.
FREDERICK MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 30, Nov. 18, 25
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 16, Oct. 28, Nov. 11, and Xmas.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Aug. 19, Dec. 23, 30, Jan. 6, 13, Feb. 3, 17, March 2, 23.
DOUGLAS BRUCE, 22, Upper Hagley-rd., Birmingham.

"IN A WOMAN'S GRIP."
WANTED, Sept. 16, 30, Oct. 21, 28.
ANDREW MELVILLE, Metropole Theatre, Birmingham.

"DRIVEN FROM HOME."
WANTED, Sept. 2, 30, Oct. 21, Nov. 18.
ANDREW MELVILLE, Metropole Theatre, Birmingham.

"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY."
The Most Successful Play Produced during the year 1906.
WANTED, Sept. 2 and 9, in First-Class Theatres only. Wire or write,
W. W. KELLY,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, Weeks of Sept. 16 and 23, Scala Production.
Wire or write,
W. W. KELLY,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN,"
"THE OCTOROON."
Every Scene carried; own Special Printing.
Negro Specialities.
WANTED, Theatres, July 8, onwards. CHARLES HARRINGTON, T. R., Torquay; Bristol next.

THEATRES WANTED.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
June 10, June 10,
June 10, June 10,
June 24, June 24.
June 24, June 24.
Wire to-day, J. W. CORDINER,
Grand Theatre, Southampton.
June 3, Aquarium Theatre, Gt. Yarmouth.
See Companies Advertisements, Page 2.

Miss ANNIE HUGHES.
WANTED, Dates, for the Successful Play, "MISS TOMMY,"
by Jerome K. Jerome.
and
"SWEET NANCY,"
by Robert Buchanan.
Three nights of each play.
Miss ANNIE HUGHES as "MISS TOMMY."
"Miss Tommy is a great play; Annie Hughes is a great actress."—Vide the Press.
Aug. 5, Sept. 2, 30,
Oct. 28, and onwards, with exceptions.
Address, Miss ANNIE HUGHES,
Gaiety Theatre, Manchester.

WANTED, June 10, Important Theatre, for MRS. ANN HUGHES' COMPANY, in the New Comic Opera,
"THE YOUNG LIEUTENANT,"
the latest and greatest Success.
Write or wire, A. F. ALLEN TOWER,
This, Grand, Croydon; next, King's, Hammersmith.

"SOMEBODY'S SWEETHEART."
WANTED, for this Successful Musical Play, with a Plot, July 25, 29, and November Dates. EDWARD MARRIS, O. H., Jersey.

HILL AND AYRTON'S COMPANIES.
Now in Fifteenth Year of Tour.
WANTED, Good Theatres, June 24, July 22, Sept. 2 and 9 (through transfer), for their latest success,
"A GAMBLER'S DAUGHTER."
Address,
Theatre Royal, Rochdale,
June 3, six nights.

"THE DANDY DOCTOR."
WANTED, for this always Successful Musical Something-to-laugh-at, Sept. 30, Oct. 7, and 14.
EDWARD MARRIS, O. H., Jersey.

MISS MARY NEIL and MR. GEORGE KIRK'S "HER LUCK IN LONDON" CO.
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Big Theatres, July 29, Sept. 9, 16, Oct. 7.
Communications to GEORGE KIRK,
46, Aldred-road, Crookes, Sheffield.

Mr. GEORGE E. MUDD'S CO., in the Charming Society Play, "The Idler," from the St. James's Theatre, London. By arrangement with Mr. George Alexander. Mr. PHILIP CUNINGHAM as MARK CROSS. Mr. STEPHEN T. EWART as SIR JOHN HARDING.
WANTED, Good Dates, June 17, July 15 and 22. Bookings include T. R., Hull; P. O. W., Grimsby; O. H., Harrogate; O. H., Buxton; and R., Morecambe. GEORGE E. MUDD, next week Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.

HARDIE AND VON LEER'S CO.
"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."
WANTED, First-Class Theatre, Aug. 5 (London or near).
E. P. CLIFT, 110, St. Martin's-lane, W.C.
Tel., 7504 Gerrard. Wires, "Vagancy, London."

"WOMAN AND WINE."
WANTED, Oct. 14, (between Derby and Portsmouth); Nov. 4, between Brighton and Dalston. Dec. 30, North.
Address,
E. VIVIAN EDMONDS,
Theatre Royal, Scarborough.

FRANK M. THORNE'S CO'S
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
WANTED, June 10
Summer Production of "The Octoroon."
Wanted, June 10.
F. M. T., Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

Mr. BERT COOTE'S CO.,
"THE FATAL WEDDING,"
WANTED, Theatres, for the Only Vacant Autumn Dates, Sept. 9, Oct. 21, and Nov. 4.
All communications re dates, &c., should be addressed to PERCY WILLIAMS, Grand T., Plymouth.

MESSRS. ELLIMAN'S ENTERPRISES.
"A HEART'S DESIRE."
WANTED, June 10, wire. All records broken at Hippo., Mansfield, last week. Refer Mark Lorne, Esq., Resident-Manager. House packed at early doors on Monday at Colosseum, Oldham; another packed house on Tuesday; refer Wm. Eastwood, Esq. Now booking Autumn for this marvellous production. Managers invited to see this enormous success. Vacant July 1, 8, Aug. 5 (?) onwards. Wire for June 10 to G. M. HURST, Colosseum Theatre, Oldham.

MISS SUSIE CAMPBELL'S CO.
In the Romantic French Military Play,
"A MASTER OF ARTIFICE,"
by W. Campbell Maxwell.
WANTED, Big Theatres, Aug. 5, 12, 19, and various on. Wire or write, 132, Kennington Park-road, London, S.E.

"THE HONEYMOON."
"THE HONEYMOON."
WANTED, for this Great Musical Attraction, Sept. 23 (North),
Oct. 14, 21, 28, Nov. 11 and 18.
Twenty First-class Artists.
Special Plant of Printing.
New Elaborate Scenery and Dresses.
Address, GILBERT PAYNE, Prince of W. T., Nuneaton.

"FROM SCOTLAND YARD."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Aug. 5, onwards. FRED BULMER, Box 4,832, "The Era" (vacation address).

CHARLES DRAYCOTT'S COS.
"A STOLEN BIRTHRIGHT."
Absolutely the Finest Production of this Great Success ever Toured.
New Scenery, New Costumes, New Printing, and Splendid Cast. Business Enormous.
Refer Sidney Cooper, Esq.
WANTED, June 24, July 8 and 22.
Wire for June 24, July 8 and 22.
CHARLES DRAYCOTT,
T. R., Merthyr.

"THE DANDY DOCTOR."
WANTED, for this always Successful Musical Something-to-laugh-at, Sept. 30, Oct. 7 and 14. EDWARD MARRIS, O. H., Jersey.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, First-Class Theatres.
FRED BULMER, c/o "The Era." Vacation add.

MR. GEORGE D. DAY'S COMPANY.
"THE PRODIGAL SON."
WANTED, Oct. 21 (North).
Adelphi Theatre, W.C.

"A FOOL'S PARADISE."
By Sydney Grundy.
WANTED, July 1 and onwards.
Bookings include Oxford, Cambridge, Buxton, Lowestoft, Brighton, &c.
WYLIE THOMPSON, Harrogate (3), Buxton (3).

Mr. BRANDON THOMAS'S COMPANY.
"CHARLEY'S AUNT."
WANTED, July 22, owing to transfer, Also Sept. 30, North.
Address, CECIL BARTH, General-Manager, Prince's Theatre, Bristol.

"A STRANGER IN NEW YORK"
"A STRANGER IN NEW YORK"
(from the Duke of York's Theatre).
WANTED, Autumn Dates, for this magnificent Musical Comedy. Every Scene carried; all new. Vacant Sept. 9, 16, 23, Oct. 7, on.
ROBERT PERRIS, West London Theatre, W.

"THE LITTLE RARL."
WANTED, June 10, 17, and on, with exceptions, for this Attraction. Address, T. R. NUGENT, this, Peterboro'; next, T. R., Shrewsbury

H. HAMILTON STEWART'S COS.
"BOOTLES' BABY."
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, June 27 (three nights, to follow Scarborough), July 1.
WALTER J. BAYLISS, King's Theatre, Glasgow.
Wires to Brixton Theatre, S.W.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Dates for
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
July 15, Aug. 5, Sept. 23.
Miss Hilda Beverly
as
Gertrude Hunt.
Mrs. Morton Powell as Helena Byars.
Mr. Edward Valentine as Sir Robt. Llewellyn.
Mr. Stanton E. Sharpe as Rev. Basil Gortre.
Mr. W. J. Butler as Constantine Schawle.
A Perfect Cast.
MORTON POWELL, Crown Theatre, Peckham, S.E.

"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
WANTED, Dates, for this Attraction,
"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
July 22, 29, Sept. 23, 30.
Magnificent Production.
Powerful cast, including:
Miss Lillian Herries as Countess Steinback.
Mr. George Steele as Count Steinback.
Mr. Percy Ballard as Baron Cratzlaw.
MORTON POWELL, Crown Theatre, Peckham, S.E.

"HONOUR THY FATHER."
WANTED, for this great Domestic Play.
"HONOUR THY FATHER."
"HONOUR THY FATHER."
Aug. 5, 12, 19, 26.
MORTON POWELL,
Crown Theatre, Peckham, S.E.

"GREED OF GOLD."
WANTED, for this Proved Success, Sept. 23, Oct. 7, 14, 21.
MORTON POWELL, Crown Theatre, Peckham, S.E.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
Continued Success. Third Year.
WANTED, June 24 (Lancs or Yorks).
Wire for June 24. Wire.
June 17, July 22.
Aug. 12, follow Alexandra, Birmingham.
FRANK AYRTON,
Star Theatre, Swansea (return).

FRANK J. PITT and CHARLES HALLING'S CO.
"£1,000 REWARD."
"£1,000 REWARD."
WANTED, for this Successful Attraction, Aug. 12, to follow Brighton,
Sept. 23, 30, Oct. 7, 14,
Nov. 25, Dec. 2, 9,
Dec. 23, 30.
Now booking Spring and Autumn, 1908.
Refer W. D. Forsdike, Esq., and T. W. Rowe, Esq.
Opera House, St. Helens, June 3

WANTED, First-class Theatre, for Production,
Christmas and New Year's Weeks, of
JAMES KIDDIE'S
JAMES KIDDIE'S
Latest and Up-to-date
Pantomime,
Pantomime,
"ALADDIN."
"ALADDIN."
"ALADDIN."
Managers of First-class Theatres requiring a Money Magnet for these Holiday Weeks secure the above.
A Sure Success.
Address,
JAMES KIDDIE, Alexandra Theatre, Widnes.

HAROLD WANTAGE'S COMPANIES.
"THE PICK OF THE BUNCH."
The successful Musical Comedy.
Played over 500 times.
Powerful Cast of Principals, full Opera Chorus.
WANTED, June 24, July 1, to follow Lyceum, Edinburgh, and precede Grand, Blackpool.
A few Autumn dates open. Address, J. WILFRED CHILTON, New Theatre, Blyth.

GARSIDE and KNOWLE'S PRODUCTIONS.
WANTED, Theatres. "The London Fireman," vacant June 10; "Her Marriage Vow," vacant Sept. 16, 23, 30. Prince's, Bradford.

MISS BONWIN CARLTON'S CO.
"THE PLUCKY NIPPER."
WANTED, June 17, 24, July 1. Wire for June 17. EDWARD SURREY, to-day, T. R., Shrewsbury; next, Colosseum, Oldham.

SHINTON and GREENWOOD'S TOUR.
"THE PRICE OF HER SOUL."
WANTED, June 10. Wire for June 10. Miss BESSIE RIGNOLD as OLGA. Aug. 12 (?), Sept. 9, and on, with exceptions. JOHN B. SHINTON, T. R., Wolverhampton.

MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COS.
"A SISTER'S SIN."
WANTED, July 29, for this Romantic Drama, a happy blend of Comedy and Pathos.
"A SOLDIER'S HONOUR."
All dates this year filled. F. G. KIMBERLEY, Vauxhall, The Scotlands, Wolverhampton.

MR. THOMAS SIDNEY'S COMPANY,
"THE MARRIAGE OF KITTY."
WANTED, Theatres.—Mr. Sidney is desirous of filling June 10 and 17. Wire to-day, T. R., Bradford; letters to King's T., Sunderland.

"SOMEBODY'S SWEETHEART."
WANTED, for this Successful Musical Play, with a Plot, July 15, 29, and November dates. EDWARD MARRIS, O. H., Jersey.

E. H. KNIGHT and GEORGE DENHAM'S CO.
"THE GRIP OF IRON."
WANTED, Aug. 5, 12, Sept. 2, Oct. 21, New Year's Week, no other vacancies.
GEORGE DENHAM,
7, The Crescent, Barnes, S.W.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
WANTED, a few Autumn Dates, for the above Attraction. Refer Milton Bode, Esq.
All communications re dates.
LEONARD DALRYMPLE, 38, Sutton Ct.-rd., Chiswick, W.

"AN ABANDONED WOMAN."
WANTED, Big Theatres, June 17, July 1,
to follow Newcastle and precede London.
Miss Edith Blande as NINON.
To-day, HARRY FOXWELL, Theatre Royal, Barnsley.
June 3, Opera House, Coventry.

"A DESTROYER OF MEN."
The Complete Production Travelled.
WANTED, June 24 (precede Newcastle), July 22 (precede Sheffield). JAMES HARE, wires, T. R., Colchester. Letters, Queen's, Longton.

"LIFE" and "EAST LYNNE."
WANTED, June 10, 24 (follow Leicester, return), July 1, 8, and 22 (South), for Musical Version of above. "Wanted by the Police" vacant Aug. 5, 12, Sept. 9. Wire, HERBERT BARRS, Nuneaton. Write Rugby.

WANTED, Theatres for "The French Spy" Co., vacant Aug. 5, 12. Sept. 30, Oct. 7, 21, Jan. 6, 13. FRED BENTON, 8, Balmoral-grove, Rhyl.

A. CAMPBELL KELLY'S
"THE TRAIL OF THE SERPENT."
WANTED June 10, 17, 24, July 8 and 15, and onwards, with exceptions. Wire to-day, T. R., West Bromwich; Mon., Muncaster, Bootle.

WANTED, Good Theatres, for "The Naval Detective" and "In Old Madrid" Co., Musical Plays; First-class Company, 14 Artists, Lady Dancers; June 10, 17, 24, July 1, 8, 15, 22. Mrs. FRED J. KIRK, Kursaal, Bexhill.

WANTED, for "Second to None," by Walter Howard, good Theatres, for weeks Oct. 28 and Xmas. Address, T. E. WARD, 27, Sidney-st., Brighton.

"THE DANDY DOCTOR."
WANTED, for this always Successful Musical Something-to-laugh-at, Sept. 30, Oct. 7 and 14.
EDWARD MARRIS, O. H., Jersey.

WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 7, onwards, for Madam Fred Harcourt's
Grand Vaudeville Company of Ten Star Artists, including that Sensational Mystery,
"Lilith."
Best Theatres only.
Electric Light essential.
All communications to
77, St. Mary's-street, Cardiff.

THEATRES WANTED.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR,
"The Manxman."
"The Manxman."

WANTED, July 1, 8, Aug. 5 and 12, also few later. New printing, effects, and scenery. Success continued.
"Divorced,"
a new powerful modern domestic drama; also
"David Garrick."
Played in conjunction if necessary, or separately.
Supported by Miss Minnie Watersford
and company of selected artists.
June 3, T. R., Leeds.

MR. WILLIAM A. ARMOUR'S COMPANY.
"The Best of Her Sex." First-class company, including Miss Dora Price as Vera Delorme. Beautiful scenery, by McCulloch and Co., Sheffield; attractive printing, by Allens, Staffords, and McCaws.
WANTED, June 24 (follow Palace, Newcastle), July 1 (precede Theatre Royal, Ashton), July 8, and onwards, with exceptions. Mr. Reginald Payne is no longer a member of the above company. WILLIAM A. ARMOUR, this, T. R., Wolverhampton; next, T. R., West Bromwich.

Special Notice.
Can now Book Autumn Dates, the Jamaicans having decided to stay in England for the Autumn, owing to their Enormous Success.
To Managers of Theatres, Halls, Pier Pavilions, &c., &c.
Do you require a Distinct Novelty and a really Charming Entertainment?
Something out of the Beaten Track.
THE NATIVE CHOIR FROM JAMAICA,
all escaped from the recent terrible earthquake, have a few Vacant Dates for their Unique Entertainment.
WANTED, June 10, Aug. 12, Sept. 16, and onwards, with exceptions.
The Jamaicans have appeared before Lord Elgin, Colonial Secretary, Lord and Lady Derby, Earl Roberts, Lord Brassey, Sir Alfred Jones, and many other notabilities, and caused a furore in every case. Twelve Performers. Can give the whole Entertainment, and Novel Sunday Concerts if desired. Three Changes of Costumes. Excellent Lithos., &c. Booked for London (ninth visit); North Pier, Blackpool (two dates, return visits); Grand Opera House, Middlesbrough; Winter Gardens, Bournemouth; Pier Pavilions, Morecambe, Ryde, Herne Bay, Brighton, Plymouth, Folkestone (two dates), also for Dover (two dates), Ramsgate, Southsea, Southport (two dates), Liverpool (return visit).
Apply for Booklet, Terms, &c., Managers,
Messrs. H. E. JONES and A. DOUGLASS,
21, Water-street, Liverpool.
Telephones, 5650 and 2449 Central.
Wires, "Motherland, Liverpool."

WANTED, June 17, 24, July 1, 15, Theatres, Halls, Sharing or Rental, Empire Animated Pictures, High-class Variety Company. Big Show. Box 4,916, "The Era."

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for Musical Comedy Autumn Tours, Principals in all Lines, also good Musical-Director; have vacancies for abroad early next year for well-known Musical Comedy Artists, also for coming Autumn for First-Class Baritone; Star Artists vacant for Pantomime in London please write in. C. ST. JOHN DENTON, 34, Maiden-lane, Strand.

WANTED, for Musical Comedy and Light Opera, Town and Tour, Principal Artists in all Lines; also Chorus Ladies and Gentlemen; the latter must be young, of good appearance, and good voices. Send particulars at once to KELSON TRUEMAN, Regent House, 233a, Regent-street, W.

"TWO LITTLE SAILOR BOYS," Autumn Tour.
WANTED, for above, Open Aug. Bank Holiday, rehearse week previously, Recognised Leading Actor (Juvenile), for Noel Tregarthen; Aristocratic Heavy for Lieut. Redstone, double Capt. Yorke when required as Understudy; also good, reliable Carpenter, combine Baggage, &c. All particulars, age, height, (important), references, photo., W. H. HALLATT, 8, Homefield-rd., Chiswick, London, W. N.B.—No interviews unless by appointment.

Mr. J. BEBB'S TOUR.
"THE PRODIGAL DAUGHTER."
WANTED, Full Company, including Juvenile Gentleman, Second Juv. Gent, Gentlemanly Heavy, Young Gent. for Tom Blinker, Character Actor for Jew part (Comedy), Character Actor to Double (not tall), Character Actor for Trainer and S.M., probably to produce, Gentlemanly Comedian for Lord Banbury, Good Advance Agent, Baggage Man, Comedienne for Dorcas (Quaker part); Ladies for Character and Juvenile parts. Photos. in all cases. Lowest terms, refs., which will be applied for (four weeks' addresses),
to A. ROGERS, c/o "The Shulamite" Co.,
12, Market-terrace, Crewe.

"PROOF" CO.
WANTED, experienced Artists for Principal Parts. Little Girl; must be over eleven years of age, to look eight; one to train not objected to. Lowest terms, age, height, photos. (in all cases), latest references, which will be applied for. No interviews except by appointment. WILLIAM MACLAREN, Gowanlea, Navarino-road, Worthing.

"HER MARRIAGE VOW."
WANTED, for Autumn Tour, commencing Aug. 5, week previous for rehearsal, First-class Juvenile Lady, powerful and pathetic; Juvenile Man, good voice and appearance; Irish Comedian; young; First Old Man; Lady for Eccentric Comedy Old Maid. All must be thoroughly experienced. State age, height, references, and lowest terms; photo. where not known. No interviews except by appointment. GARSIDE and KNOWLES, Prince's Theatre, Bradford.

"WHAT THE BUTLER SAW."
WANTED, Ladies and Gentlemen in all Lines of Business, Tour commence in July. State terms and full particulars. Silence in all cases polite negative. Address, RIGNOLD and BLANCHE, Kennington Theatre, S.E.

WANTED, for Short Season, Ladies and Gents, who have played in "In Old Kentucky"; rehearse June 7, at Bolton. Address, letters only, J. F. ELLISTON.

WANTED, good Heavy Lady, tall, powerful, must dress well. Photos., reference, &c. Also good Comedian write. W. GRAHAM ARTHUR, Court Theatre, Bacup.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.
WANTED, Gentlemen for Benvolio and Paris, in "Romeo and Juliet," one week, June 10; must have played parts before. Apply by letter only, with full particulars and lowest terms, WHITCOMB, above.

WANTED, Young Juvenile Gent., with répertoire, for Stock; Leading Lady (young); Comedian, adaptable for Irish parts. Commence June 10; rehearse at once. SMITH, Palace Theatre, Rhyl. Lowest terms first letter.

WANTED, for Stock at Deal, Second Comedian (sing), rehearse Monday. Wire (terms must be low), 23, St. Patrick's-road, Ramsgate.

WANTED, three Ladies and three Gentlemen, for walking on and understudy; experience not necessary. Apply personally.
J. L., Hampton Court Palace, Walworth-road, S.E.

WANTED, young, attractive, tall Show Ladies, good Engagements. Apply personal, VALENTINE'S Agency, 8, Dean-st., Oxford-st., London.

WANTED, attractive, tall, young Ballet Ladies, good dancers; good engagements. Apply personal, VALENTINE'S Agency, 8, Dean-st., Oxford-st., London.

WANTED, immediately, First-Class Lady Vocalist and Dancer, for Dutch Character, with sabot dance, good voice essential. Address, with photo., references, age, height, and absolutely lowest summer terms, WILFRED CHILTON, New Theatre, Blyth.

WANTED, six Lady Choristers, resident in Glasgow, two weeks, Monday, June 10. Address, photo., age, height, voice, lowest terms, WILFRED CHILTON, Theatre, Blyth.

WANTED, at Once, for Season at Blackpool, First-class Soprano, Contralto, and Tenor; also good Humourist; must read at sight. State terms, Press notices (if any). Apply at once, TOM HUGHES, 48, Cliffe-street, Rishton, Lancs.

ARTISTS WANTED.

THE ALBEMARLE SYNDICATE,
Musical, Dramatic, and Variety Agency,
157, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Artists to Kindly Note that, owing to the constant demands made for Musical and Dramatic Artists at above Agency, that a Special Department has been opened. Wanted, Chorus Ladies for New Musical Comedy Sketch, also Dancers for Troupes. Artists Vacant for Pantomime please write in. Communications to be addressed to: Musical and Dramatic Dept., Mr. RALPH H. GREY; Variety Dept., Mr. WILLIAM C. CHAPPELL.

WANTED, for Summer Season, Contralto or Strong Soprano, Baritone or Robust Tenor, Light Comedian, and Pianist; must be young, with good répertoire of Solos, Concerted Numbers, &c. All to play in Sketches. Lowest terms, recent photo., and particulars, to LEONARD DALRYMPLE, 38, Sutton Court-road, Chiswick.

WANTED, Contralto, High-class, Concert Work, willing to work on contract for same. No music halls. Write, Box 4,884, "The Era."

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. SMITH and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Miss Lily Ward, at Lib. Juvenile and Heavy Leads, concluded Tour, W. Greet's "Sign of the Cross" Co. C/o BLACKWOOD, 2, Fulham Park-gardens, S.W.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by Flora Macdonald, A.L.C.M, Powerful Soprano; young, large répertoire, experienced, Al-Fresco or Concert Party. 56, Drayton-road, Harlesden.

WANTED, Engagement, by Mezzo-Soprano, to combine Second Violin, seaside preferred. Address, V. S., 12, Mortlock-gardens, Harders-road, Peckham, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Young Lady (Soprano Vocalist) would like to join Concert Party for few weeks; willing to play accompaniments. Address, Box 4,892, "The Era."

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Pantomime Chorus and Show Ladies. Send photograph, age, height, and other measurements, lowest salary. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, Pantomime Artists in all Lines, and Chorus for Pantomime. Write full particulars to KELSON TRUEMAN, Regent House, 233a, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, Chorus and Show Ladies, for Various Pantomimes next Xmas Season. Address, E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, Artists Disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas to send photos., terms, and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, for London Pantomime, Star Comedian; nothing too big.
Ordinary turns please save stamps.
Apply, C. ST. JOHN DENTON, 34, Maiden-lane, Strand.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Scenic Artists, Theatre Managers, &c., to write for Leete's Catalogue of colours, varnishes, painting brushes, and every requisite for scene painting and theatre decoration. The fullest range of colours in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, Scenic Artist, for permanency, begin £5 per week, and rising. Only those willing for strictest enquiries need apply.
MOODY-MANNERS STORES,
The Hyde, Hendon, London.

WANTED, First-Class Scenic Artist, to Repaint Stock Scenery. Apply, with latest references, Mr. PERCY DUNSFORD, Theatre Royal, Exeter.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Scenery Contracts, Productions. Our Paint Frames, 40 by 24; Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. FRED WILKINS and BRO. LTD., 54, Whitechapel, Liverpool. Telegrams "Theatrical."

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE,
CARLISLE.
WANTED, Known, Scenery Made, Painted, and Repaired. First-class Scenic Artist. Magnificent paint-frame; spacious carpenter's shop

Estimates free on application to
THOS. COURTICE, H. M. T., Carlisle.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, Effective and Artistic Work and good Joinery. Prices moderate. Large Studio and Workshop. CHARLES SAYER, Scenic Artist, 2, Clarendon-road, Croydon.

WANTED, Engagement, as Scenic Artist and Stage-Manager, Music Hall. Terms moderate. Address, FERROLL, 29, Carroun-road, South London.

WANTED, Contracts, for High-Class, Effective Scenery. Attractive Settings, lowest prices. Carlyle Scenic Studio, W. B. ROBINSON, 170, King's-road, S.W.

WANTED, Theatrical Contracts, Fit-ups, Repainting. Moderate terms. W. HENRY, Scenic Artist, 104, Loughboro'-park, Brixton.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Stage-Manager.
WANTED, for the Palace Theatre, Cork, a thoroughly competent and reliable man as Stage-Manager. Applications, with full particulars, to be addressed to DOBBIN, OGILVIE and Co., LTD., King-street, Cork.

WANTED, a Steady Young Man, as Billposter, to travel with Circus Agent (look after horse and van); good situation to right man. Silence a polite negative.
Write at once,
G. A. RAMPLING,
Circus Agent, Post Office, Tavistock.

WANTED, Billposter, must be sober. Apply, giving lowest terms,
BILLPOSTING Co., 25, Fleet-street, Burnley.

WANTED, Young Window-Biller, use Can and Brush; useful man only required, knowing district preferred. PHILLIPS, Raymond's Pictures, Assembly Rooms, Woolwich.

WANTED, by Chung Ling Soo, a First-Class Wardrobe Mistress, for long Tour, one who can make and mend, machine provided; also to act as maid and dresser during performances; to one able to mind her own business and not Chung Ling Soo's a comfortable engagement is assured. Apply, with references, salary required, &c., personally or by letter, next week, June 3, Empire, Liverpool; following week, June 10, Empire, Glasgow.

WANTED, to Let, the Services of W. C. Burns, 20 years' practical experience, Management, Theatre, Variety, Circus, &c.; road, rail, resident; up-to-date ideas; expert Pressman and Advertiser; life total abstainer; highest refs. 15, Charlotte-street, South Shields.

WANTED, by Author, the assistance of Gentleman in producing, or otherwise disposing of, a new Comic Opera; must have good influence in theatrical circles. Liberal terms can be arranged. Box 4,886, "The Era."

WANTED, by Gentleman, with several years' experience of Theatrical Management, Engagement as Resident or Acting-Manager; might invest small capital in sound theatre, or give cash security. Box 4,883, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, immediate or Autumn, Acting-Management (resident or tour), or Advance, late Theatre Royal and Circus of Varieties, Bury. WALTER MOULD, Theatre, Bury.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, by Young Man (21), position Assisting Management of Theatre; at present managing small Provincial Theatre; used to Paybox; not afraid of work; Disengaged July 31. Communications, Box 4,875, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Chas. A. Lawrence, Advance Manager, Disengaged. Thanks Ralph Pringle, Esq, nine months' most comfortable Engagement. Offers invited, United States and Canada. Communications, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Known, James Lece, the well-known Circus Agent, is at Liberty, England preferred. Address, 9, Head-street, Enniskillen, Ireland.

WANTED, Engagement, by Carpenter, good practical bench hand, property hand; age 30; good refs., Theatre, Hall or Painting Rooms. CARPENTER, 64, Dongola-rd., Phillip-lane, London, N.

WANTED, Town Engagement as Wardrobe Mistress, take productions right through. Mrs. MITCHELL, 12, Sunnyside, Waldegrave-road, Teddington, Middlesex.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Musical Director and Full Band, for the New Pavilion, Abertillery. 17 miles from Newport, Mon. Proprietors, E. and H. TILNEY. Manager, E. PRYCE. Opening August Bank Holiday. Twice Nightly. Also Young Man to take charge of Stage and Three Assistants, all to Bill and be generally useful. State Terms and Full Particulars to E. PRYCE. Silence a polite negative.
Artists booked at Gloster and Porth can have dates at Abertillery.

WANTED, for Pitching Band, First Violin or Second, combine Clarionet. Terms, shares. Address, B. M., Manor Hotel, Market-street, Torquay.

WANTED, Good Orchestral Violinist, Flautist, Trombone, Soloists, July 14 (nine weeks), Seaside; trial essential. Lowest, 92, West End-lane, N.W.

WANTED, good Solo Cornet, refined tone essential, for permanent engagement at the Royal County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames; to a suitable steady Musician comfortable engagement all the year round; preference given to man prepared to come and reside in the town.
Apply, with terms and references, to
Mr. PETER DAVEY,
or to
Mr. HUGO RIGNOLD (Musical-Director),
Royal County Theatre,
Kingston-on-Thames.

WANTED, good Cornet, state terms, for Tenby, commencing July 1; must be steady, sober, and reliable. Amateurs save stamps. J. KLEE, 10, Westmoreland-buildings, Bath.

WANTED, First Cornet, to open June 10. Apply, MANAGER, King's Theatre, Longsight Manchester.

WANTED, at Once, (Gent.) good Cornet Solo, and play other instrument ('Cello preferred), speak a few lines, Musical Scena, Halls. Lowest terms and photo. to Box 4,902, "The Era."

WANTED, Reliable and Experienced Solo Cornet, for Military Band, at Redcar and Saltburn, ten weeks, commencing July 1, twice daily, including Sunday. Terms and references to G. B. ROBINSON, 33, Russell-street, Stockton-on-Tees.

WANTED, for Militia Training, Anglesey R.E., Clarionet, Horn, Cornet; must enlist; ex-Army men only.

Lowest terms and latest reference.
Apply,
BANDMASTER, Kingsbridge Camp, Beaumaris.

WANTED, Boy Clarionets, Oboes, Violins, for First-Class Juvenile Band, Touring; instruments and uniforms provided. MANAGER, 32, Windsor-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, to complete Band, String Bass, Viola, Flute, and Piccolo, Trombone or Euphonium, good Singers (Baritone and Tenor). Terms, shares. ADAMS, 4, Market-pl., North Berwick.

WANTED, E flat Bass and Double Bass (4 string), for Military Band; season 7 weeks, Burnham (Somerset), commencing July 15. WOODS, 81, Commercial-road, Grantham.

Euphonium Player
WANTED, to Open in two weeks' time, a real, First-class Euphonium Player, for a Big Musical Comedy Act, which is fully booked up. The right man can have a two years' guaranteed berth (no vacant weeks); must be steady and respectable. State wages and experience to Box 4,901, "The Era."

WANTED, Euphonium and Trombone, Council Military Band, June 24, 10 or 12 weeks. Terms, refs., BELLERBY, Denecholme, Ilkley.

PARAGON THEATRE OF VARIETIES,
LONDON, E.
WANTED, First-Class 'Cello Player, permanency for competent, steady, and reliable instrumentalist. Terms and refs. to CONDUCTOR.

WANTED, smart Orchestral Pianist, must be able to play from Second Violin parts, and well acquainted with the Variety business; permanency for competent, steady, and reliable musician. Terms and references to CONDUCTOR, Paragon Theatre, London.

WANTED, Young Lady Pianist and Vocalist, long engagement for suitable person; open at once. MARSHALL, Londonderry Hotel, Seaham Harbour.

WANTED, smart Young Lady, as Pianist, Barmaid; good home; half fare paid. State age, terms, OLDFIELD, Royal Lancer, Doncaster.

WANTED, for Al-Fresco, Soprano Vocalist-Pianist. Send full particulars, age, photo., salary, &c., VERNON CHALDERS, West End Pier, Morecambe.

WANTED, for Hancock's Coliseum, good steady Pianist, Singer preferred, must read at sight, good money and constant berth for suitable single man; also Wanted, several good working Showmen, to join at once. Apply, E. BERT JARVIS, Manager, Saturday, Penzance; Monday, St. Just, Cornwall.

WANTED, Young Lady Pianist and Vocalist, good appearance, to take charge of small Music Store at Seaside Town, commencing July 8. Recent photo., age, and salary, to Box 4,914, "The Era."

WANTED, immediately, Pianist and Violinist. Age, references, lowest terms, E. G. FALCON, County T., Bedford.

WANTED, to open immediately, Pianist, First-Class Sight Reader and Vocalist, for Season, Al Fresco.
Write, BEANLAND,
Summer Gardens, Bridlington.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

FROM A MUSICIAN:—
To the Manager of "The Era" Advert. Dept.,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street,, W.C.
"Re Advertisement
"'WANTED, ENGAGEMENT BY CORNET.'
"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, "A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

FROM A BANDMASTER:—
"Re Advertisement, 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.'
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies, and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster,
"Littlehampton."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, for Hanneford's Circus, Ireland, good Double Drummer, Open at Once.
Address, Sat., Castlepollard;
Monday, Mullingar;
Tuesday, Tyrell's Pass.

WANTED, Drums and Effects, commence immediately; also Flute and Piccolo, to commence June 10. BANDMASTER, Alexandra's Circus, Wincanton, Dorset, Sat.; Warminster, Sun. and Mon.

WANTED, at Once, by the Weston-super-Mare Town Band, through disappointment, a good Double Drummer, with Effects; able to read at sight; 30s. per week. W. PFAFF, Bandmaster.

WANTED, Gentleman, to teach Mandoline in Classes.
State experience and wages required to
THE COLLEGE OF MUSIC,
20, St. Mary's-place, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, good Family Band, for South Wales. Lowest terms, full particulars.
ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, through closing, by experienced Leader, as Leader or First Violin; excellent references. VIOLINIST, Lulworth, Cumberland-rd., Hanwell, Middlesex.

WANTED, Known, Walter Greco, Musical-Director, is now at Liberty to accept Engagement in London; Music Hall. Address, 31, Carnarvon-road, Stratford, E.

WANTED, Engagement as Musical-Director, in First-Class Music Hall, many years' reference. Box 4,898, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Hargreaves, Conductor, Hippo., Colchester, Liberty Monday; 14 years' experience; till Sunday, above address; afterwards, 74, Roscommon-street, Liverpool; excellent references.

WANTED, Engagement, just concluded 4½ years as Leader, Brighton West Pier Orchestra. MASON, 42, Belle Vue-gardens, Kemp Town, Brighton.

WANTED, First-Class Engagement as Musical-Director or Solo Pianist and Accompanist; excellent up-to-date library. CONDUCTOR, 3, Dimple-terrace, Matlock, Derbyshire.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, as Leader or First Violin, any capacity; competent.
167, New Cross, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Good Leader, with Good Stock of Music, at Liberty, Variety or other Business. J. C., 11, Gilpin-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Pianist-Conductor (Bassoonist, Bass Vocalist, and Composer), at Lib. from June 16. Address, Box 4 910, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, as Leader or First Violin, good references. Wire or write, CHALDER, Leader, Grand Theatre, Croydon.

WANTED, Known, exceptionally good experienced Violinist or Leader, known, open for temporary Engagements, any class music. 92, West End-lane, N.W.

WANTED, by Violinist, reliable, Summer Engagement; experienced in Orchestra; highest references. Apply, LEWIS, Training College, Winchester.

WANTED, by Violinist (late Theatre Leader), Engagement; young; excellent character; London or seaside preferred. VIOLINIST, 39, Marian-square, London, N.E.

WANTED, Engagement, as First or Second Violinist; reliable, sober; good refs. WARD, 48, Nansen-road, Lavender Hill, S.W.

WANTED, by First-class First Violin (or Leader), can combine good Clarionet Engagement few weeks after June 22. Box 4,918, "The Era."

WANTED Summer Engagement, by reliable Cornet, first or second. Address, ELLIS, 23, Tunnel-road, Tunbridge Wells.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, any capacity, steady and reliable. CORNET, 22, Gladstone-street, West Gorton, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, as Cornet, any business; experienced.
WM. FLETCHER, 95, Hornby-st., Bury, Lancashire.

WANTED, Engagement, good young First or Second Cornet (Military or Orchestral). H. ANGEL, 47, Stopford-road, Upton Manor, London, E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, through disappointment, immediately, anywhere, any business; good sight reader and transposer. CORNET, 50, Young-st., Hingham.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by experienced Orchestral Cornet, as First or Second, in good Orchestra or Theatre. Highest refs. TITHERINGTON, Solo Cornet, Gaiety, Dublin.

WANTED, Engagement as Cornet, Military and Orchestral; experienced, knowledge of Violin, Clarionet, and French Horn. F. K., 7, Berwick-street, Pimlico, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, Cornet, perm., any business, in provinces, refs., total abstainer, young. A.M.U. Write, J. LONG, Tunn-st., Fakenham, Norfolk.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarionet Player; High or Low Pitch. J. DUNKLEY, late Solo Clarionet and Band-Sergeant, Coldstream Guards, 20, Chiddingstone-street, Fulham, London, S.W.

WANTED, Known, 10s. bonus offered by Clarionet, good amateur, Orchestra exp., for intro. to shop; nominal salary. COLMAN, 23, Warren-st., Fitzroy-square, W.

WANTED, Engagement, as Clarionet, Military or String.
C. STEAD, 1, Beaufort-rd., Pittville, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Clarionettist; Military or Orchestra; thoroughly experienced; also by First-class Pianist. 35, Henrietta-street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by experienced Clarionettist, Military or String.
H. E. JACKSON, 25, Tanfield-road, Croydon.

WANTED, Engagement, Bassoon, Summer; at Liberty June 1.
LOUIS CHAPMAN, 6, St. Philip's-terrace, Cheltenham.

WANTED, by Bassoon, Engagement, experienced; excellent ref.; season or permanency. F. HIRE, 2, Royal-parade, Hunstanton, Norfolk.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Bass (four-string), Orchestra or Military; highest references, any distance. CLEVELAND, 6, South King-street, Dublin.

WANTED, by Double Bass, Engagement for Summer, Seaside preferred, Military or Orchestral. Write, W. M. MAYO, Rushden, Northants.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Bassoonist, Summer or permanent; good refs. BASSOON, 25, Wade-lane, Leeds.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Double Bass, any business; would deputise. Apply, BASSIST, 77, Azenby-rd., Lyndhurst-rd., Peckham, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, as Double Bass, experienced and reliable. Season, Theatre or Variety. GEORGE, Airedale House, Church-street, Castleford, Yorks.

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady Double-Bass Player.
Mrs. SMITH, 35, Leighton-road, Kentish Town, N.W.

WANTED, Engagement, as Contra Bass; competent, reliable, abstainer; Variety, Theatre, Concerts. Address, BASSO, 29, Clifford-street, Byker, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, by Experienced Double Bass, Engagement for Summer; would deputise; London or Suburbs. J. E. SCOTT, 67, Lancaster-st., Borough-rd., S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Trombone, any business; would deputise; four years Wo's Pier, Brighton. STOCKER, 8, The Flats, Surrey-st., Worthing.

WANTED, Engagement, Trombone (experienced), in good Orchestra, Theatre, Music Hall, or Summer Season, now at Lib. Box 4,894, "The Era."

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, by Trombonist. Address, STEWART,
7, Park-view, Staincliffe-road, Dewsbury.

WANTED, an Engagement by a First-Class Trombonist, through disappointment; can combine Violin. MUSICIAN, 28, Belmont-avenue, Blackpool, Lancs.

WANTED, by Trombone and Tuba, First-Class Engagement.
A. PUCCINELLI, 15, Church-street, Soho.

WANTED, by Trombone or Euphonium, Engagement; any business.
Apply, P. EWINS, 9, South-street, Reading.

WANTED, Engagement, by competent E Flat Bombardon, Season, Band or Permanency; at Liberty June 17. BAUCE, Band 3rd Dorset Regt., Lodmoor Camp, Weymouth.

WANTED, through misunderstanding, Bombardon seeks Season's Engagement, Town or Seaside; experienced, good refs. BOMBARDON, 142, Kennington Park-road, S.E.

WANTED, by French Horn Player, Engagement, Seaside or Permanency; good references. Address, HORN, 6, Hilda's-grove, Rose Cottage, Hull.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice, for Little Girl, on 'Cello; also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. CASSELLE, 35, Granville-square, King's Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, Engagement, at Once, Lady Cellist, Solo and Orchestra; young and experienced, for Café, Seaside, &c. Apply, Box 4,857, "The Era."

WANTED, by experienced Lady 'Cellist, evening Engagement in London, Sundays excepted. Address, 'CELLIST, 118, Elgin-avenue, W.

WANTED, by 'Cellist, Engagement, Solo and Orchestral; any capacity.
Apply, Box 4,897, "The Era."

WANTED, an Engagement, by a thoroughly experienced 'Celloist, any Business; good refs., near London if possible. Box 4,903 "The Era."

WANTED, Known, First-Class 'Cellist at Liberty.
Address, Box 4,900, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by experienced Viola; any business; deputising not objected to. WHITE, 14, North Denes-road, Newtown, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, by Good Viola or Second Violin, Engagement; steady, experience, and good references; combine Second Cornet. J. HARRISON, 51, Buckley-street, Edgeley, Stockport.

WANTED, by First-class Viola, Engagement, few weeks after June 22.
Box 4,917, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Oboeist, any business, or deputising; excellent references. OBOE, 156, Lower Richmond-road, Putney, London, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, First-class Oboe Player; 13 years' experience, Military and Orchestral Playing; late 15th Hussars. J. WRAIGHT, 19, Durham-road, South Ealing, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Young Lady Harpist, Hotel or Tea-rooms. Terms moderate. Apply, J. FIELD, 39, Camberwell-road, London.

WANTED, Engagement, Flute and Piccolo, by experienced Flautist, Theatrical or Variety business, latter preferred; good references. J. JERMAN, 15, Hobart-cottages, Weymouth.

WANTED, good Summer Engagement, by experienced Flute and Piccolo, Orchestral or Military; just finished five months at Crystal Palace. FLAUTIST, 9, Rattray-road, Brixton.

WANTED, Engagement, Flute and Piccolo; good refs; Dis. June 7, any Bus., Variety preferred. FLAUTIST, 78, Longstone-road, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Engagement, as Flautist; also Bass (four strings), both experienced, reliable. D. NEEDHAM (Flautist), A. WILLET (Bass), County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, by experienced Flautist, Engagement, Summer or Permanency; thoroughly reliable; at Liberty June 1. FLAUTIST, 24, Bosworth-street, Openshaw, Manchester.

WANTED, by thoroughly reliable Flute and Piccolo, Summer Engagement; good references. Address, FLAUTIST, 31, Kent-st., Leicester.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Orchestral Pianist and Vocalist, Hotel or Café preferred. GRACE GOODWIN, 12, Juer-street, Park-road, Battersea.

WANTED, Engagement, June 1 to 15, by experienced Pianist, Dramatic or Variety; good reader and accompanist; would deputise. FISHER, Priory-place, Doncaster.

WANTED, as Pianist and Trombone, Engagement, good sight-reader; good references. L. C., Rogate, St. Albans-road, Kingston, Surrey.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Pianist; used to Variety, &c.; good Soloist; excellent references; young. Lulworth, Cumberland-road, Hanwell, Middlesex.

WANTED, Engagement, smart, reliable Pianist, young, experienced, Drama, Opera, Variety; excellent reader, transpose; highest reference. BARNARD, 58, Ham Park-road, Stratford.

WANTED, Known, Young Lady, A. T. C. L., Solo Pianist, good Accompanist, Sight-reader, Sings, would join Concert Party. E., 11, Willoughby Park-road, Tottenham.

WANTED, by Amy Vetta, Summer Engagement, Double Drummer, Effects, thoroughly experienced, good Variety Turn; Piano Solos. Box 4,887, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Drummer, with Effects, through closing, any business; young, abstainer, reliable; good reference. WADE, 35, Clow Bridge, near Burnley.

WANTED, Engagement (through closing), Double Drummer, and Effects; own Tympani, any Business. J. TELL, 36, St. James's-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Tympanist; at Liberty June 10. Apply, J. A. SANDERSON, Grand Opera House, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Double Drummer, Summer, or Music Hall; permanency; experienced, reliable. DRUMS, 11, Ritson-road, Dalston, London.

WANTED, Known, Shikissimma Band, Ladies' Japanese Orchestra, Disengaged, three to twenty performers, all Soloists, magnificent costume or white dress, Piers, Hotels. Glenthorpe, Chesterfield-road, Newbury.

WANTED, Engagements for Scarlet Domino Ladies' Band, Ladies' Salon Quartette and Florentine Quartet, at home or abroad. Apply, BUREAU, 8, Bedford-terrace, Kensington.

WANTED, by the Imperial Trio (Violin, 'Cello, Piano), Engagement, July and August; Hotel or Hydro. Address, ANGEL, Cary Lodge, Torquay.

WANTED, Engagement, by Major La Bon's String Band, nine good English musicians, Vocalists, and Instrumentalists. 16, Milton-street, Burton.

WANTED, Known, "Rosabel" Ladies' Band, now playing Folkestone Pier.
Address, 24, Bradstone-avenue, Folkestone.

WANTED, Garner's Scarlet Elysee Band, from three performers, Hotel, Piers, Tea Rooms, Dancing; large music library. 55, Richmond-road, Barnsbury, N.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for Mlle. Florence's Juvenile Colossal Circus, Lady and Gentleman Riders, with own horses, for Tenting Season; also a Boy's Band of Six. Communicate, FLORENCE, Empire, Hull.

WANTED, First-Class Gymnastic, Acrobatic, and other Dumb Shows, London, August Bank Holiday; also similar cheaper Acts, Saturdays, June 22, 29, London. Apply immediately. Variety Turns for General Booking send full particulars. VALENTINE'S Agency, 8, Dean-street, Oxford-street, London.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, a fine-built Lady Gymnast, about 18 years; first-class performer can lead to a long engagement. State height.
Apply, with photo., to O. V. ESTRELLA, 132, Kennington Park-road, London.

WANTED, a Tumbler, for Comedy Act, one that has done top mounting preferred. Age, height, salary, all particulars, Box 4,919, "The Era."

WANTED, Girl about 15, with some knowledge of Acrobating, as apprentice to First-class Acrobatic Family. Communications, c/o Box 4,880, "The Era."

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty shortly for Stage or Ring, Tudor's Four Educated Ponies, Hengler's Circus, London, twice daily. Agents should see this Act. Address, W. TUDOR.

WANTED, Known, Olrac and Milton, Society Gymnasts, on Tour. Home address, 193a, Brixton-road, London, S.W.

WANTED, Known, George Davilla, the Marvellous Vibrating Telephone Wire Performer, High Wire, Cranbrook, Kent. Thanks to Frank Pettigrove, Esq., for eight weeks' comfortable engagement, also for Contract for the remaining season. Perm, address, Forest View, Honey-lane, Waltham Abbey, Essex.

WANTED, Known, Don Pedro, the Modern Blondin, at Liberty for Fêtes and Galas. Enormous success, Crystal Palace, London. Terms, 121, Rhyddings Park-road, Swansea.

WANTED, Known, Le Brun, Irene, and Edie, Novel Juggling Speciality, vacant June 10 Address, 21, Shirley-street, Hove.

WANTED, Known, Carlo Bianchi, the Upside-down Juggler, does with his feet what others cannot do with their hands. Vacant June 3. 17, Cheltenham-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Vilo, Juggler, Lamp Manipulator, Liberty Galas. Address, 24, Henry-street, Leicester.

WANTED, Known, Great Scott, the Original Juggling Fireman, vacant June 3 and 17. Wire, Hippodrome, Coventry.

WANTED, by Boy 18, with knowledge of juggling, Engagement as Apprentice to Juggler or Juggling Troupe. Box 4,907, "The Era."

WANTED, by good Performer, Tumbler, Acrobatic Balancer, &c., Straight or Comedy, to Join Troupe or Sketch. Box 4,904, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, good Second Mounter and Tumbler, at Liberty to join at Once. F. LEGLERE, 151, St. John's-road, Walthamstow.

WANTED, Engagement, for Hot-air Balloon Ascents and Parachute Descents, Lady and Gent. Parachutists; always reliable. Apply, Capt. FLEET, Harrow, Middlesex.

WANTED, by Young Man, English, Job with Circus or Menagerie, to look after Wild Animals; Show if required; England or abroad. R. B., 41, Waghorn-street, Peckham.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES and THEATRE ROYAL.
WANTED, First-class Variety Artists, all Lines.

ARTHUR CARLTON, Palace, Worcester.

Scarborough.
WANTED, Monday, June 10, and onwards, Variety Artists in all Lines. Nothing too Big. Full particulars to KITCHINGMAN, Aquarium.

VICTORIA THEATRE, STANLEY.
The above is closed till Bank Holiday, Aug. 5.
WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, for that Date, and on; good Top write in. T. C. RAWES, Proprietor.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, June 10, Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest. Hall small. P. REYMOND, as above.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, Specialities, Sisters, June 10 and on; those who worked before write. CLEMPERT'S Pavilion, H. Broughton, Manchester; or Grand Theatre.

PARLATO'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Variety Artists, Queen's Hall, Radcliffe, June 17, onwards. Full particulars to C. E. PARLATO, Temperance Hall, Whitby, Yorks.

WANTED, June 10, onwards, for Hall and Fêtes, Variety Artists in all Lines, Specialities. T. R. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, June 10, 1907, and onwards.
A. E. PICKARD, Britannia Panopticon, Glasgow.

WANTED, Variety Artists new to Wakefield and Hull. June 10, 17, must be cheap and good. Always room for good Turns. Wire, BRANDON'S Agency, 31, Thirsk-road, Mitcham, London.

WANTED, for the Empire, Doncaster, June 24, onwards, Variety Artists, Doubles doing Singles, say when last there. B. KENNEDY, Grand Theatre Luton.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, June 10.
LINDON, Theatre Royal, Stanley, Durham.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, June 3 and on.
Comfortable Engagements,
Sure Money.
Lowest Combination Summer Terms essential.
Silence polite negative.
Impossible to answer all.

Apply,
THE DAYTON FAMILY,
Hippodrome, Wakefield.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, coming North, to send dates and terms.
ANDERSON'S Agency, 5, Great Clyde-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, from now onwards.
Apply, Mr. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artists requiring Engagements, to state Qualifications, Dates Open, Salaries desired,
and where can be seen working.
ARTHUR WARWICK, Bax-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, two weeks, June 24, July 8, 22. CHARLES A. JAMES, waxworks and Varieties, Dublin.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines.
BARNARD'S AGENCY,
33, Shaw-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, First-class Artists Only, for First-class Variety Theatres, immediate and future dates, also Pantomime.
JESS VERNO'S Agency, 16, Elizabeth-st., Liverpool. Telegrams, "Merriment." 'Phone, 2076 Royal.

WANTED, refined Al-Fresco Artists, all Lines. Terms must be low. Open immediately. ELLIS, Herbert House, High Lever, near Ongar.

PARLATO'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, for Temperance Hall, Whitby, Artists, for one week, June 10. Particulars and absolute lowest terms to C. E. PARLATO, address as above.

WANTED, Refined Al Fresco Artists all Lines, Specialities write for odd weeks. Particulars, W. FROHMAN, 10, Staithes-lane, Morpeth.

WANTED, Artists known to William Ainsworth (late Manager Oxford, Middlesbrough, Hippodrome, Stockton) to send vacant dates, lithos. Heath Villas, Stockton-on-Tees.

WANTED, Al Fresco Artists in all Lines, to open June 10. Send terms, &c., to CHRIS. BAKER, 45, Castle-street, Ryde, Isle of Wight.

WANTED, Artists, for Combination, Dewsbury, June 10; now to the town.
CADLE'S Agency, 105, Strand, London, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, new for Halifax, June 10. Big Acts (Comedy), on percentage. Wire till Saturday night, Theatre, Chorley; after address, CLIQUOT, Queen's T., Castleford.

Rehearsal Monday next, at Castleford, 1 o'clock: The Famous Four Eugenes, Zanfretta and Napio, Bioscope, Patty Yole, Geo. Grenville, Sisters Ford, Mark Mooney, Two Neilsons, and Chev. Cliquot.

WANTED, through disappointment, First-class Pierrot Artists; used to the Business; good voices and appearance. A. LINDSAY, 127, Temple-hill, Troon, N.B.

WANTED, Artists engaged at Grand Theatre, Bolton, to Note, the Proprietors will shortly commence the Two-Houses a Night System. Stars of magniture with vacant weeks please communicate, J. F. ELLISTON, Bolton.

HIPPODROME AND CIRCUS VARIETIES, FOUNDRY-STREET, DEWSBURY.
General-Manager, GEORGE WELDON.
The present Season will terminate Sat., June 8.

WANTED, Artists for the Autumn Season, commencing Aug. 5, and future dates. Applicants please state where they can be seen performing the next few weeks; preference given to those who have not appeared in Dewsbury before.

WANTED, Artists of all Kinds, for Circus, Spennymoor. Apply, RICHARDSON BROS., LTD., Olympia, Sunderland.

WANTED, Comedians, with plenty of Second Part stuff, and able to Dance, play in Sketches; those willing to work preferred. W. J. CHURCHILL, Arvon Cottage, Llandudno.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Halls, Theatres, Al-Frescoes, At Homes. Write, call, AGENCY, 1, Berwick-house, 139, Oxford-street, W.

FRED DURHAM'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Nothing too Big, for London, Chatham, Dover, Brighton, Sandgate, Ramsgate, Sheerness, Bexhill, Portsmouth, Leicester, Sheffield, Bradford, Liverpool, Blackburn, Halifax, Hartlepool, Lincoln, Bath, Southampton, Warrington, Burnley, &c., &c. Write at once, lowest and full bookings, 1A, Loughborough-road, Brixton, London, S.W. Telephone, 15 Brixton.

COVENTRY HIPPODROME.
Proprietors, COVENTRY HIPPODROME Co., LTD.
WANTED, Agents and Artists to please Note that from Dec. 23, 1904, no Contracts will be recognised unless signed by the Secretary and Manager, T. M. SYLVESTER, Manager; G. E. WRIGHT, Secretary.

TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN.
WANTED, for the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Dublin,
All the Greatest Stars in the Profession,
Acts New in Dublin, for the above,
the Premier Variety Theatre in Ireland,
Direct or through Agents.
All communications to WILL SLY,
41, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone, 09144.

WANTED, for June 10, 17, and 24,
Stars in all Lines.
Stars in all Lines.
Full up for Smaller Items.
Can always Fix Big Numbers any Odd Weeks.
CADLE'S Agency,
105, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Stars and Novelties, all branches, Big Sensational Acts for Galas and immediate dates, with Showy Lithos.
Wanted, Novel Drawing Acts, for Hengler's Circus, London.
Wanted, Complete Entertainments, Dramatic, Operatic, Variety, Minstrel, Concert, and Picture Companies, for Bijou Theatre, Bayswater, London, W.; Victoria Hall, Halifax; Theatre, Arbroath; Drill Hall, Bath; Hope Hall, Liverpool; Assembly Rooms, Theatre, Durham; Central Hall, Darlington, &c., &c.
Entire Tours Booked for First-Class Companies. Stars and Novelties with immediate vacancies for leading London Halls communicate.
ALFRED SAKER and Co., Variety Agents, 'Phone 194 Brixton. 17, Cranworth-gar., Brixton.

WANTED, Variety Stars, Big Specialities, Novelties, June 10, onwards. Bookings, terms, &c., Japanese Troupe required for Pantomime.
EDGAR STEBBINGS, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester. 'Phone, 09261. Tels., "Stebbing, Manchester."

WANTED, Stars and Specialities, for immediate and future Dates. Terms and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-av., W.

DEETRICH'S VAUDEVILLE BUREAU,
31, Islington, Liverpool.
WANTED, always, the Best Acts in the Market, for immediate and future dates, nothing too big nor too small. Artists written before please keep me posted. Send lowest terms, posters, photos, list of bookings in first instance to save time. Contracts waiting for Jollions, Vocalists. Communicate at once, with full list of bookings.

CHAPPELL'S CONCERTS, GT. YARMOUTH.
Three Shows daily.
WANTED, two Speciality Acts, for seven days, commencing Saturday, Aug. 10, to Saturday, 17th, inc. Com., HARRY BARKER, 52, River-road, Littlehampton, Sussex.

WANTED, First-Class Dumb Acts, all Lines, including Troupe of Jap Acrobats, Pair of Clowns, &c., Scottish Sports, weeks July 8, 22, 29, Aug. 5 and 12. Lithos., terms, &c., letters only, CALVERTO, 12, Euston-square, London.

WANTED, for the Hippodrome, Coventry, variety talent of every description, the absolute cream of the profession. Novelties, Big Pantomimes, Spectacles, and Sensational Attractions. Any turn with drawing power can have immediate date. Also wanted for the great Fun City, Coventry, big Outside Attractions, Animal Shows, Circuses, Aeriel Acts, High Divers, Side-Shows of every description, big Bicycle Acts, Comedy, &c.; also Equestrian Artists with own horses, all to open early in July, and no fancy prices paid. Also required for the New Hippodrome, Peterborough, opening August 5. Variety Artists of every description, good refined Musical and Comedy Acts, Children, and other Spectacles. When applying please state for which place, whether for Hippo. or Fun City, Coventry, or for Peterborough.
Artists must also bear in mind that Peterborough is only a small town.
Address, with all communications, to
T. M. SYLVESTER,
217, Piccadilly, London, W.

N.B.—Good troupe of Pierrots for the Coventry Fun City.

STALYBRIDGE AND WORCESTER.
WANTED, Talent all Lines,
JAMES FIONI'S Agency,
21, North-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool."
Telephone, 1686 Royal.

DREW BAYLEY'S AGENCY.
WANTED, the Best of Talent coming North, June, July, and August. If terms are low I can book you. 170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

HENRI CAZMAN'S AGENCY,
Denmark-hill, London.
WANTED, May 27, June 3, 10, 17, 24, Head-lines and Stars for Principal London and Provincial Halls.

For my own Combinations, June 24, Accrington; July 8, Liverpool; July 15, St. Helens. I want New and Novel Turns to these towns, and with a view to being booked in London and the Country through this Office.

Letters, lithos., full list bookings, lowest terms, to
HENRI CAZMAN, Palace, Belfast.

PALACE OF VARIETIES, OLDBURY.
WANTED, June 10, on, Specialities, Novelties, Comedy, Double Acts (each doing Singles), Sisters, anything drawing power. Lowest Summer terms, litho., W. B. BOSTOCK, Manager.

GEO. ZALVA'S HIPPO., SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED, July 29, onwards, Specialities and Acts of every description that can be worked in a ring. Lowest terms and particulars, as above.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Big Variety Turns,
Big Variety Turns,
Big Variety Turns,

Something New and Up to Date,
Novelties and Sensational Acts,
For Immediate and Future Dates, for
London, Liverpool,
Birmingham, Leeds, Newcastle,
Glasgow, Belfast,
Dublin, Manchester, Bolton,
Wolverhampton, Oldham,
Hartlepool, Shields, Barrow,
Carlisle, Darlington,
Hull, Middlesbrough, Stockport,
Blackpool, Morecambe,
Brighton, Boscombe, Margate,
Portsmouth, Southampton,
Bath, Lincoln, Leicester, Bradford,
Halifax, Sheffield, Blackburn,
Lancaster, Stockport, Burnley, Derby,
Attercliffe, Stoke, Grimsby.
St. Helens, Accrington, Warrington,
Bury, Hanley, Stockton, &c., &c.
Send, at once, terms, dates, and lithos.
Those having a good act can rely on getting Immediate Work.
WILL SLY,
41, Oxford-street,
Manchester.
Telephone, 09144.
Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."

WANTED, Star Turns, early dates. GEO. AYTOUN, 120, Kennington Park-road, London, S.E. Wire, "Antics, London." 'Phone 1949 Hop.

WANTED, June 10, Dover, one or two Refined Turns. State lowest; tour if suitable. D. G., 28, Newnham-terrace, Hercules-road, Lambeth.

WANTED, smart showy Specialities and Novelty Acts, June 17 (South), July 1, 8 (North). Summer Terms, Lithos., BURNETT, Tindell, A.B.C. Pictures, Pier, Worthing.

VENTOM SWIFT'S AGENCY,
ALHAMBRA, EDINBURGH.
WANTED, Sterling Attractions, and First-Class Small Turns, June 10.

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, late Manager, Blackpool, Morecambe, &c. Address, next week, Douglas Hotel, Corporation-st., Manchester.

WANTED, Novelties for outdoor Charity Fête, Vicarage grounds, Swanley (Kent), on July 17 (6 to 8 p.m.); clean turns. Lowest terms to G. W. ATKINSON, Swanley Village, Kent.

PALACE THEATRE, CORK.
PALACE THEATRE, CORK.
PALACE THEATRE, CORK.
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PALACE THEATRE, CORK.

Manager, HENRY KEMBLE.

Closes Saturday
for a few weeks
for alterations, &c.

WANTED, Sept. and onwards, Big Numbers, Comedians, Illusions, &c.

Full particulars,
HENRY KEMBLE'S AGENCY,
233, Kennington-road,
London.

WANTED, June 17, South Coast Town, 40,000, First-class Top, to Share, Troupe of Acrobats would do well; also any good, cheap Specialities (doubles preferred); also Coloured Singers and Dancers, &c. Terms must be low. Letters to ENTERTAINMENT MANAGER, Pier Pavilion T., Herne Bay.

WANTED, First-Class Combinations, for Empire, Hull, June 10, July 1, 15, and on; for Hippodrome, Wakefield, July 15 and on; must be good, or useless. Full particulars to ALFRED SELWYN, Collins's Music Hall, London, N.

WANTED, Combinations, or Picture Shows, June 10, onwards; only place now open in town; 30,000 inhabitants. Hippodrome, Kidderminster.

WANTED, Variety Combination, for Ornamental Gardens; covered stage, 24 by 20; centre of town; no free gate. Grand Theatre, Mansfield.

WANTED, Big Comedy Sketches, for Glasgow and the North. Full particulars to FRANK LYNNE, Empire Theatre, Bradford.

WANTED, for First-Class Pier, Al Fresco (Devon), Refined Humorist, Soubrette, and Lady Violinist, Vocalist (Mezzo or Contralto), to open July 1. Rehearse Thursday previous; must be young, absolutely refined, and have large répertoire, or useless. Apply, with photos. (imperative), stating lowest terms and full particulars, to WESTALL, 11, Beech-road, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, a Smart Girl, good at Acrobatic Dancing and Singing. Full particulars and salary expected to TROUPE, Box 4,912, "The Era."

WANTED, for Dare's Minstrels, commencing July 8, Robust Tenor Vocalist; long engagement. State experience, age, and absolute terms, to CHARLES DARE, 296, Old Kent-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Vocalist, with good Répertoire of Illustrated Songs (must have slides), for Animated Picture Exhibition. Absolute lowest terms, song list, full particulars, to BEANLAND and EMERSON, Queen's T., Castleford.

WANTED, a capable man, to play small part in Sketch, also to look after Scenery and Baggage; also small Acrobatic Comedian, youth preferred; also short Youth, about 15 or 16, either very bandy or knock-kneed.

State Salaries and Experience.

Reply,
A. H.,
15, Moss-grove, Urmston, Manchester.

WANTED, Catlin's Royal Pierrots, First-class Baritone who can dance a little. Photo., age, &c., T. W. JOHNSON, 8, Greenfield-street, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, good Comic Singers or Comedians, new to Halifax, Monday next; also Artists all Lines, new to Lancaster and Morecambe, June 10, 17, 24, July 1 and 8. Wire up to Saturday night, ONDA, Theatre, Dewsbury; after, Grand Theatre, Halifax.

WANTED, for Minstrel Troupe, Good Funny Comedians, to commence in July, for Season; Jimmy James and Doc Watson call or write; also Flautist. Address,
FRED NEIMAN'S Agency, 108, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Tall Comedian, Music Hall Sketch.
Apply, letters, CHAS. FISHER, Shepherd's Bush Emp.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Six Boys to Sing, Dance, and able to speak few lines on Stage; must be over 14, and good, to join well-known troupe.
Apply immediately, with all particulars, Box 4,909, "Era" Office.

WANTED, Smart Small Boys, Good Voices, Dancers, and Acrobats.
CADLE'S Agency, 105, Strand.

WANTED, by Chung Ling Soo, two or three Japanese, Chinese, or European Boys of dark complexion, for Stage purposes; must be smart and willing to work; very long engagement and good salary will be given. Apply, personally, or by letter, next week, June 3, Empire, Liverpool; following week, June 10, Empire, Glasgow.

WANTED, Assistant, smart young man, about 5½ft. high, must have experience in fixing apparatus. Call Monday or Tuesday, about 11 o'clock, at 61, Endymion-road, Brixton Hill, JAMES H. JEE.

WANTED, good complete Bioscope Show, for Season, at Greenwich Theatre. Send best terms, specimen programmes, ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, for Season, commencing July, Seaside Town (North), thoroughly experienced Picture Operator, with good Lantern and up-to-date selection of Films, changed weekly. Full particulars and absolute terms to Box 4,913, "The Era."

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, good Bioscope, South Coast, on Shares; also Pianist; open June 24. EVENTIO'S Agency, 14, Belvedere-road, Westminster Bridge.

WANTED, Operator, with own Machine and Latest Films; 2½ hours' entertainment per night. Write to A. E. ABRAHAMS, Theatre Royal, Stratford, E.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Wanted, Known, MYSTERIOUS LILITH,
in her beautiful Palace of Roses,
the most Sensational Mystery Act ever presented.
Also LILIAN WARREN'S Vocal Pictures,
with beautiful Dissolving Effects.
Liberty July 8, 22, Aug. 26.
This week, Grand, Stockton; next week, Gaiety, Chatham. Perm. add., 77, St. Mary's-st., Cardiff.

WANTED, Known, Queenie Lolo, Charming Lady Gymnast, Graceful Trapeze and Teeth Speciality Artist; also Little May, Juvenile Speciality Dancer and Contortionist; Liberty Dec. 9, 1907. Private address, 127, Upperaughton-road, Birkdale, Southport.

WANTED, Known, Gracie Bard, Chic Comedienne, vacant June 10, 17. Offers invited. Thanks to Dave Hart, Esq., the Hustler, for Contracts. See Cards.

WANTED, Monday next and June 17, by Hilda Wilson, Male Impersonator, 42, Lord Nelson-street, Liverpool. Capital and entertaining.—Vide Era, May 13, '07.

WANTED, Known, Sisters Nella, refined Speciality Pot-Pourri Act. This and next week, Italian Circus, Sunderland; Vacant June 10, onwards. Communications to 3, Carterr-street, Sunderland.

WANTED, Known, if you want an Act that will draw, book Amurat, the Musical Athlete, and you will have crowded houses; only Act of its kind; plays on the Cornet Technical Selections while holding a piano and two men on his chest, vacant June 10, 17, and July. Rosherville Gardens, Gravesend.

WANTED, Known, A. Vowles Reeves, Comedian and Instrumentalist, invites offers any business October 7, forward. Permanent, Bagshot Park, Bagshot, Surrey.

WANTED, by James Brady, Comedian, immediate dates, June 10, on, twenty-six weeks Moss and Stoll Tour. Monday, return Hippodrome, Scarboro'.

WANTED, Monday next, by J. H. Kavanagh, Star Comique; evening dress Laughter-maker with a voice. Wire, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, June 10 (through hall closing), by Cambo, the Musical Monkey.
Address, Surrey Theatre, London.

WANTED, Monday next, also June 10, 24, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist, and De Lil, Illusionist. Wire, Palace, Glasgow, Saturday; then, Union-road, Macclesfield.

WANTED, by Highland Piper, Medalist, Engagements, Garden Parties, Beanfeasts, or Travel; good dress and pipes. 29, Knowles-hill-crescent, Lewisham.

WANTED, June 17, week, near London, Illustrated Songs, with own Slides and Lantern. Lowest, letter only. W., 132, Kennington Park-road.

WANTED, June 3, 10, onward. Wire, 506, Stockport-road, Longsight, Manchester. The Original Kyoto, Comedy Japanese Contortionist, Comic Conjurer, Juggler, and Dog; also Miss May Geraldine, Comedienne, Vocalist, Dancer; two

WANTED, Vokes and Marshall (Ned and Jessie), Refined Comedy Musical Artists, vacant June 3, 10. Wire, 16, Moreton-street, Strangeways, Manchester.

WANTED, June 3, 10, Jack Sheppard, World's Greatest Handcuff King and Prison Breaker; also Miss Ruby Vesta, in the Great Trunk Mystery. Big Top; Sure Draw. Challenges with safes, &c. Wire, Hippo., Burton-on-Trent.

WANTED, Known, Lenton and Bertram, Zancig Thought-Reading and High-class Conjuring. A few Dates left for Summer. 251, Seven Sisters-road, N.

WANTED, Known, Charley Dixon, Kate Lynd, open July 22, 29, Empire, Dublin. Telegraph, May 14, says: Kate Lynd, the up-to-date chorus singer, was warmly encored; and Chas. Dixon, the eccentric comedian, kept the house in uproar. Monday next, return, Hippo., Ipswich.

WANTED, by Ted Young and Ada Twibell, June 3 and 10, two distinct Turns.
Wire, Gaiety Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, The Musical Palmers are Vac. July 1, 8, and 15, Share or Cert.; only Summer Vacancies. Address, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, June 10 and 17, The Moncktons, in Original Musical Comedy Episode, "Are Wives Dummies?" June 3, Empire Palace, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Known, Vacant Monday, two First-class Acts, E. W. Selman, Laughter-maker, Ivy Gallard, Smart Comedienne. Sure Draws. Wire, Hippodrome, Scarboro', coming North.

WANTED, by Ariel and Astarte, Smartest and Prettiest of all Lady and Gent. Gymnastic Acts, free June 3, 10, on, with exceptions. Wire, Empire, Merthyr; after Sunday, PACEY'S Agency.

WANTED, Monday, also June 10, to precede Dublin, by Will and Roze, Comedy Acrobatic Conjurers, and Alvar, Sensational Gymnast; two acts, three people. Wire, Temperance Hall, Merthyr Tydfil.

WANTED, Monday next, also June 10, The Percys (Harry, Lillie), Duettists, Dancers, Speciality Performers; distance no object. Wire, Hippodrome, Spennymoor.

WANTED, June 17 (follow York), also 24th, by Cadogan and Wingrove, "A Clerical Complication" (Muir and Bartlett's). Hippo., Stalybridge.

WANTED, June 10, by Fields and Lewis. Great Star Comedy Act. Wire this week, Grand, Hanley. June 3, Pavilion, Newcastle.

WANTED, July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, by the great Mueller and Coyne.
Next week, Gaiety, Glasgow.

WANTED, Monday next, by Ellis and Dale, Knockabout Patter Comedians and Expert Chair Leapers. Wire, quick, Grand Theatre, Chorley.

WANTED, Known, Webb Bros., the Musical Clowns, vacant May 27, nine weeks. Address, 4, Speenham-road, Stockwell, London.

WANTED, Known, Wright and Elton, Comedy Act, vacant Monday next, June 3, and 10. Wire, Hip., Birmingham; after Saturday, 51, Navigation-street, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Monday, also June 10, by Chant and Chant, Refined Comedy Act; the Act that never fails to get there. Wire, 87, Wollaton-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, June 10 and 17, by the Three Moxons, Continental, Musical and Acrobatic Comedians. This week, Botanic Gardens, Belfast; next, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, 3rd, 10th, and 17th, by Atlas and Vulcana Troupe, including Vulcana, the despair of and challenge to all the so-called Models in the world. Vulcana depends upon real talent, not suggestiveness, to retain the name she has won from all the world—"the most beautiful and physically perfect woman on earth."
The only Posing Act allowed by the authorities.

Conclude to-night, Regent, Salford;
after, 17, Waterford-road, Fulham.

WANTED, Known, The Comerfords, Novel Comedy Acrobats, just returned from abroad. Liberty to accept Engagements for England. Bull Hotel, Bull-lane, Gloucester.

WANTED, by The Florias, Wonderful, Effective Continental Equilibrists, and Dutch Comedy Slack-wire Artists, June 10. This week, Palace, Dundee.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Managers and Agents in want of a First-Class Speciality Act to see the Almo Trio, Alexandra Palace Theatre, London, N. (third week).

WANTED, Known, Emma Don and her Black and White Comedy Team want June 17, the only vacant date this year. Address, June 3, Hippodrome, Lancaster.

WANTED, Known, vacant June 17, for Tour, three distinct turns, Bioscope, Illustrated Songs, and Juvenile Vocalist. Offers invited. EDWARDS, 30, St. John-street, Rochdale.

WANTED, Known, Lieut. Albini and his Charming Young Ladies, "Sailor and His Lass" Mystery, the Talk and Sensation of Spennymoor, opened Monday to packed house. Bottom of bill. New bill, Tuesday, Albini Top. Patrons say the Finest-class Showman ever witnessed in Spennymoor. Return in Oct.

WANTED, Known, Grand Revival and Brilliant Success of Signor Corelli's Farcical Magical Sketch, "Lucifer's Larks," Pier Pavilion, Dover, last week. Weeks preceding and following, July 1, Zoological Park, Southport. Vacant for Spectacular Conjuring Act, "Mephisorcery," or otherwise. Perm., 5, Richmond-gardens, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, Known, Bros. St. Clair, Comedy Cyclists and Bicycle Football Players, beg to thank Jess Verno, Esq., for bunch of contracts, also for settling Elliston Pantomime; also thanking J. Kiddie for offer for Panto. Only a few Vacant Dates this year.
Hurry up. Hurry up. Hurry up.
All communications,
JESS VERNO,
or Permanent, 14, Sea View-parade, Morecambe. This, Opera H., Harrogate; next, Dewsbury.

WANTED, Known, Swift Trio, Humorous Cyclists, vacant June 3, onwards. Address, 1, Broad-street, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Known, The Dunlops, Comedy Cyclists; Lillian Sivado, Lady Gymnast; two distinct acts; vacant June 10, 17. Usual Success, Winter Gardens, Morecambe. Monday, Queen's Theatre, Keighley, Yorks.

WANTED, Known, Caban's French Circus, Ponies, Donkeys, Goat, and Dogs, at Lib. June 3, 10, 17, share or salary. Wire, Hippo., Yarmouth.

WANTED, by Miss Ella's Lion Show, Monday next, June 10 and 17.

Communications
week June 3,
Palace, Porth, South Wales.

WANTED, Known, the Two Dominos, Clown and Donkey. Era says:—The clown has plenty of ready patter at command; while the pure Arabian talking moke shows an amount of intelligence that might be envied by many of his human prototypes. Of course his talking is not of the articulate order, but he is readily understood, and, what is more, evidently understands. Liberty Monday. Wire, Palace, Plymouth. 71, Kennington-road, London, Sunday.

WANTED, Alice Fontainbleau, World-famed Troupe of Dogs; Highest Jumpers in England. Next week, Hippo., Preston; Gala, Keighley, June 15; vacant 17th.

WANTED, Known, to Proprietors of Piers, Pavilions, Halls, &c., the greatest Attraction Touring, Talking and Living Pictures, combined with the Scotch Boys' Highland Band, the most Juvenile Band in Great Britain, full Orchestra of twenty-four performers, gorgeous Highland Costumes, Instrumentalists, Vocalists, Comedians, and Scotch Dancers. Enormous success at Ryde Pier last week. The Era says: The Scotch Boys' Highland Band has proved itself a first-class combination. Smart turns. Vacant dates, Aug. 5 and on. MANAGER, 32, Windsor-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, by Youth, 17, as Assistant-Conjurer or Illusionist.
A. G., 26, Albert-road, Richmond, S.W.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, at Seaside preferred, for Chronophone, Gaumont's patent, and Animated Pictures. Address, CROSS, Golden Lion Hotel, Bolton.

WANTED, Engagement, Public or Private, Harmon's Bioscope, Marionettes, also Royal Punch and Judy, with Toby. 326, Earlsfield-road, Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, Engagements, Cinématograph, extensive répertoire, Gramophone Recitals, Melba, Kubelik, "Mikado," Oratoria, "Elijah," &c.; also Illusion, "Astarte," together or separate. 8, West-street, Colchester.

WANTED, Engagements for Bioscope. WALKER,
1, Lorne-street, Fairfield, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Travers' Bioscope, at Liberty; also Pharos, Billiard Ball King and Silent Thought Transference Act; Complete Show for Piers, Seaside Halls, &c. TRAVERS, 154, High-street, Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, Dates, Lambert's Animated Pictureland, thirty minutes' to two hours' up-to-date Show, Piers, Pavilions, or High-class Al Fresco; lime or electric, Gaumont's Chrono; June 3, on. Thanks Geo. Burton, Esq., for offer. Coms., 2, Whitbread-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, by Skilled Bioscope Operator, permanent berth, low salary, seven years' experience principal London and Provincial Halls. Box 4,891, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Rosenthal, Bioscope Operator, just finished Waller Jeff's Tour, open at once. Address, 2, Mount-place, Burmantofts, Leeds.

WANTED, Known, Vacant June 17, Operator, own Machine, Al-fresco or Tour; Apparatus, electric, lime; combine Vocalist, assist piano. CLARK, P.O., Plymouth.

WANTED, by Advertiser, with six Electric Limes, Engagements, such as Al Frescos, Piers, Music Halls, &c. EDISON, 166, Liverpool-road, London.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, Tom Norman, Silver King (regd.), Auctioneer, Valuer, Expert and Authority, Auctioneer to Lord George Sanger (England's Greatest Showman), and Leading Showmen of Great Britain. Sales and Commissions conducted in any part of the World.
If you want to Buy or Sell
Anything Connected with the Business,
Consult TOM NORMAN, Auction Dept.,
"The Era" Office, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand. Change of address. Wanted to purchase or engage, all kinds of Novelties and Curiosities (alive or dead), if suitable for exhibition.

WANTED, Known, .22 "R" and "D" cartridges, Globes, Balls, Winchester and New Military Repeaters, Pistols, and all repairs done. GREENE, 74, Falmouth-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Auctioneers to send to Simons for Secondhand Watches and Jewellery of every description, also reproductions of Old Sheffield Plate.
Rock Bottom Prices Only.
100, 101, 102a, Houndsditch, E.C.

WANTED, Showmen to Know that the Gourock Ropework Co., Ltd., Largest Tent Manufacturers in the World, have a large stock of New and Second-hand Circus Tents made from their famous Rotproof and Waterproof Tent Canvas, Birkmyres Cloth." The most durable and waterproof Canvas for Showmen's Tents, &c. Buy from Manufacturers and save middlemen's profit. GOUROCK ROPEWORK CO., LTD., Lancaster-place, Lowestoft.

Auctioneers.
WANTED Known, Great Value Offered in Secondhand Silver Watches.
Auctioneers only supplied.
Write to-day for full particulars,
C. G. CLICHER, 22, Argyle-street, Glasgow.
Try one of my famed parcels, containing Ten English Lever and Twelve Silver Geneva Watches. Best Value ever Offered.
In great demand Price, £5 5s.

WANTED, Known, all kinds of Showmen's Painting undertaken; Oil-Paintings, Scenery, Letter Cloths. ROCHE, Artist, 22, Lansdown-road, Lee, S.E.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, for Outdoor Public Entertainment, in connection with Balloon Ascent, Performing Elephant, Whirling Whirl, Spiral Mat, Bicycle Troupe, or Similar Show, Aug. Bank Holiday.
CATERER, Post Office, Norwich.

WANTED, Everybody to Know that there will be a Gigantic Fun City, to be held in Coventry. The greatest outdoor amusement enterprise ever held in the ancient city. Now in course of organisation, and will open about the end of June, and which promises to be the greatest success ever known in Coventry. It will be absolutely the first American Amusement Park on this side of the Atlantic, and is, without doubt, a daring and unique experiment. The following shows are required :—
Hale's Tours of the World, Helter Skelter Lighthouse, Plinston's Flying Airship, Traver's Giant Circle Swing, Oscillating Stairway, Whirling Switchback, Circuses, Menageries, Chidlow's Games, &c., Hamanayer Railway, Giant Switchback, Water Chute, Merrymakers and Pierrot Companies, Ariel Flights, Chronophones, Shooting Galleries, Swings, Cockerels, Overboats, Good Side Shows, Cocoa-nut Shies, and Stalls of Every Description; in fact, everything to make this colossal enterprise the greatest success ever known in the Midlands. Money for nothing, simply waiting to be picked up.
Space can now be Let for all the above-mentioned Shows.
For all particulars, apply,
T. M. SYLVESTER,
217, Piccadilly, London, W.

WANTED, Novelties at all times, for Aberdeen, Edinburgh, and Glasgow.
HUMBER, Waxworks, 112, George-st., Aberdeen.

WANTED, Novelties, Freaks; can open at once. Sale of Books and Postcards allowed.
CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin.

WANTED, First-Class Novelty, with good Flash, for Booth; Salary or Shares.
COLLENA, 14, Woodbine-street, South Shields.

WANTED, Novelties, Bioscope, Freaks, anything with drawing powers; nothing too big; must have flash. HOWARD, Exhibition, 24, Plumstead-road, Woolwich.

WANTED, Novelties, or any Quick Money-taking Show, for Monday and onwards, open all year. PROPRIETOR, 100, Lower-marsh, Lambeth.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, and Attractions, to write in for future dates at my American Museum. A. E. PICKARD, American Museum, Glasgow.

WANTED, Auctioneer, for Great Yarmouth; experienced Seller of Gold and Silver, China, Plate, and Fancy Goods.
Apply,
WILLIAMS and Co.,
20c, Regent-road, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, for Summer Resort, experienced Auctioneer; good berth and pay to capable man only.
Box 4,889, "The Era."

WANTED, Lady Phrenologist, on Shares, splendid position; open immediately.
SAMUEL'S Exhibition Palace, 6, Henry-st., Dublin.

WANTED, Palmists, Stalls, Games, Novelties, &c., open immediately, under cover, Seaside Resorts, England and Scotland. Wire, PROPRIETOR, 1, Promenade, Portobello.

WANTED, two Young Ladies, to parade on front of Living Picture Show, to Sing and Dance. Apply, WILDEN, Shore, Southport.

WANTED, one or two Comedians, used to Fair Business preferred. Jimmy Harvey write if Disengaged. State terms, live in or out. CRIGHTON'S Cinematograph Exhibition, Normanton, Yorks.

WANTED, Doorsman, good appearance, who can tell a good tale, on Living Picture Show; good shop, season. WILDEN, Shore, Southport.

WANTED, Smart Doorsman and Picture Describer, for Payne's Picture Show; must have good refs; used to Fair Business. Apply, with full particulars, lowest terms, PAYNE, Fair Field, Basingstoke.

WANTED, good Doorsman, used to Fair business; must be steady and reliable, for Ground Booth. RENTON, Recreation Ground, Hemel Hempstead.

WANTED, Electric Engraver, to work on Folkestone Pier, on sharing terms. Best position. Write to LIPMAN, 20A, Snargate-street, Dover.

WANTED, Stamp, Midget, and Post-card Operator, and to finish throughout; used to tent work; travel, live out. Wage, experience, Box 4,896, "The Era."

WANTED, a First-Class Tattoo Artist.
Apply,
A. E. PICKARD, American Museum, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Bailey's Punch and Judy highly complimented by the Secretary at Huddersfield Gala; few Dates Open. Address, Buxton.

WANTED, Known, Signor Trevori, Punch, Conjurer, and Ventriloquist, now booking for Fêtes, Flower Shows, &c. Ivanhoe House, Greenlane, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Lena South, Artistically Tattooed Lady, Liberty for Season or Otherwise; or would join Novelty. 45, Hercules-road, Westminster, London.

WANTED, by Little General and Miss Mite, both under 4ft., as Paraders to First-class Picture Show; past three years with Wadbrook's Electrograph.
General Post Office, Abergavenny.

WANTED, Engagement, by No. 1 Marionette Show. Managers and Agents can see Show Working. Apply, MANAGER, Institute, Sunningdale, Berks.

THE TWO-HEADED PATAGONIAN GOLIATH.
Admission, One Shilling.
At Liberty Shortly.

WANTED, Shops, &c., July, Aug. Sept. As our Attractions periodically play the same American Circuits, would Sell the Two-headed Giant Exhibition (at close of London engagements), or exchange for Novelty new to the States.
All communications to permanent address,
KAP-DWA Co., 54, Shaftesbury-avenue, London.

WANTED, Known, Ernest Phillips, at Liberty (late Manager "Dronza," England and America), as Manager, any Concern requiring Pushing, Live Methods; 18 years' experience every branch Exhibition Work; capable Organiser, Variety Work, Illusions, Advertising, &c.; exceptional refs., smart appearance; age 38. 66, Doddington-grove, S.E.

ROYAL PAVILION, PIER, MOUNTAIN RAILWAY and PLEASURE GROUNDS (25 acres), ABERYSTWYTH.

WANTED, Showmen, Roundabout Proprietors, Stallholders, First-class Side-shows, Novelties, &c., to Rent Spaces in Pleasure Grounds for Summer Season or part. Switchback and London Band Daily. Apply, GEO. T. COLEMAN, Proprietor.

WANTED, Known, that I have Ground to Let, for Shows, Roundabouts, Stalls, &c., for Burslem Flower Show, on June 26 and 27; also for the Burslem Wakes on the 28th, 29th, and July 1.
Apply for Space to
P. COLLINS, Gondola Works, Walsall.

THE FULHAM MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL'S GRAND CARNIVAL AND FAIR, June 27, 1907.

WANTED, to Let, Showmen's Pitches, for all Kinds of Fit-ups, Swings, Frames, Machines, and Small Novelty Joints. Apply to the Sole Authorised Agent, T. W. POTTS, 30, Chesilton-road, Fulham, S.W. Telephone, 258 Putney. Great business anticipated. The whole town en fête.

WANTED, to Let, Land for Stalls and Shows. Apply, JOHN HARDMAN, Manager, Starr Estate Fairground Co., 16, King-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, to Circus Proprietors, Showmen, and Al-Fresco Entertainers.—To Let, large piece of Land, close to joint railway station, centre of town; splendid opening.
Address,
AUCTIONEER, 5, Hampshire-terrace, Southsea.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Showmen to Know that the following is a complete
COPYRIGHT LIST OF FAIRS, FEASTS, WAKES, AND CARNIVALS IN ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, AND WALES FOR JUNE.
(COPYRIGHT TO THE ERA.)

ENGLAND.

June 1. Kirkburton (3,162)
June 1 Astwood Feast
June 1. Outwood Feast (5,000)
June 1. Redruth (10,500)
June 1. Rugeley (7,181)
June 3. Normanton Feast (13,000)
June 4. Hayle (1,000)
June 6. Tiverton (10,400)
June 7 Southrapps (1,800)
June 8. Prescot (7,500)
June 11. Cranbrooke (3,500)
June 13. St. Austell (3,477)
June 14. Rawtenstall (31,000)
June 15. Dore and Totley (1,650)
June 17. Taunton (21,600)
June 17. Tetney (800)
June 17 Thorne (Yorks.) (3,400)
June 19. Falmouth (11,800)
June 19. Lambert Castle (Dorset)
June 20. Abingdon (6,500
June 20. Coleford (2,600)
June 20. Kidderminster (24,700)
June 20. Maidstone (33,500)
June 22. Astwith (74)
June 22. Coal Aston (1,000)
June 22. Dronfield (6,500)
June 22. Hardstaff (190)
June 22. Marbury Park (689)
June 22. Mexboro' (10,000)
June 22. Newport Pagnell (4,000)
June 22. Selby (8,000)
June 22. Shipton-on-Stour (1,700)
June 22. Staveley (6,372)
June 22. Staveley Woodthorpe (9,000)
June 22. Tydeswell (2,600)
June 22. Hunston (1,700)
June 22. Wadebridge (2,300)
June 24. Bromsgrove (8,500)
June 24. Cambridge (38,400)
June 24. Farnham (6,124)
June 24 St. Just (Hunts.) (6,000)
June 24 Willersey (356)
June 25. Bridgwater (15,200)
June 25. Newcastle-on-Tyne (214,000)
June 26. Halifax (98,000)
June 26. Yeovil (10,000)
June 28. Andover (6,500)
June 28. Bolton-by-Bolland (600)
June 28. Folkestone (31,000)
June 28. Saltash (3,400)
June 28. Belper (11,300)
June 29. Brampton (6,914)
June 29. Duckmanton (525)
June 29. Eckington (16,653)
June 29. Edensor (6,235)
June 29. Elmton (675)
June 29. Winster (842)
June 29. Fareham (5,000)
June 29. Reedham (1,200)

SCOTLAND.

June 11. Alyth (3,000)
June 14. Selkirk (5,500)
June 15. Largs (3,300)
June 26. Frazerburgh (9,000)
June 28. Renfrew (9,300)

WALES.

June 1. Caerphilly (16,000)
June 3 Carmarthen (10,000)
June 10. Llandovery (2,300)
June 12. Brynmawr (7,000)
June 12 Merthyr Tydfil (27,000)
June 14. Ferndale (10,300)
June 17. Llangefeloch
June 17 Usk (1,500)
June 24. Lydney (3,000)
June 29. Ton-y-Pandy (6,000)

BLACKPOOL SANDS.

WANTED, Known, the South Shore Pleasure Beach is the only site in Blackpool for Open-Air Attractions.
The grounds are forty acres in extent, right on the sea front, and are situated immediately next the Promenade at the Electric Tramway Terminus. From April 1 to Dec. 31, 1905, 4,000,000 passengers were carried on these tramways. The permanent attractions now include the "River Caves of the World," "Maxim Flying Machine," "Sea Circus," &c. Great Canadian Water Chute and Scenic Railway from Coney Island now being erected for this season. For sites and concessions for really good Novelties apply personally. Office on grounds. Letters only, 14, Balmoral-road, Blackpool.

LIFEBOAT DEMONSTRATION, BRISTOL.
SATURDAY, JULY 6, 1907,
At THE ROVERS' FOOTBALL GROUNDS, BRISTOL. HIGH ROPE, STAGE PERFORMANCES, FIREWORKS.

WANTED, to Let, Ground for Riding Machines, Swings, Slipping the Slip, Sheets, and Side Shows of all descriptions, at moderate rental. This Fête will be the most gigantic held in Bristol for a number of years; already been billed since February last, and tickets now on sale at reduced fee of admission. The Procession, which consists of a number of Lifeboats and Tableaux Carriages, will enter the grounds from the streets, and not break up outside the grounds. For lettings apply the Sole Lessee, T. R. GANNON, West-grove, Ashley-road, Bristol. Telegraphic address, "Fêtes, Bristol." Tel., No. 2536X Nat.

WANTED, Known, to Roundabout Proprietors, Showmen, Stallholders, and Amusement Caterers.
The Greatest Event in the Annals of the Showman World.
Messrs. P. and J. Collins have Secured the Whole of the Liverpool Parks and Corporation Open Spaces for the Pageant Week, commencing August Bank Holiday, Continuing for Six Days, where will be held Monster Fun Fairs.
The City of Liverpool will Observe this Week as a General Holiday.
The Channel Fleet will Anchor in the Mersey.
Excursion Trains will Run into Liverpool Daily from every Railway in Britain.
Persons requiring Grounds, Stands, or Space,
Address, with Full Particulars, to
Lessees,
P. and J. COLLINS,
Gondola Works,
Walsall.
Telegrams, "Gondola, Walsall."
Telephone, 80 Walsall.

WANTED, to Let, the Exhibition Hall, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 240ft. by 100ft., suitable for Exhibitions or Large Spectacular Shows.
Terms and dates, apply, NEWCASTLE EXHIBITIONS, LTD., 43, Grainger-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, to Let, fine Shop, main position, suit unredeemed pledge man. Andrew Paul, Nodder, or L. Cohen write. MANAGER, 25, Union-st., Torquay.

WANTED, to Let, Shop, South Shore, Scarborough, suit Palmist, Jewellery, Auctioneer. Apply, GAMBART, 128, Chapeltown-road, Leeds.

WANTED, to Let, suit Wire-worker, Engraver, &c., a Covered Stall, 16ft. long, in one of the best streets in Southport; would divide in half; immediate possession. ANCELLI, 42, Bright-street, Southport.

WANTED, Known, large Distorting Mirrors to Let on Hire or Share, Exhibitions, Bazaars. Address, MIRRORS, 19, Seymour-grove, Old Trafford, Manchester.

WANTED, to Let, in Automatic Machine Shop, a Window, suit Photos., Jewellery; also Spaces for Games, &c. Apply, 551, Holloway-road, N.

WANTED, Known, Blackpool, in the best positions, suitable for forty Slot Machines, no one else there; will let same or go on sharing terms. Apply, J. RILEY, 14, Dover-mansions, Canterbury-road, S.W.

WANTED, on Com., Pictures, Machines, or Phonographs, splendid position. Call, SPORT LAND, 571, High-road, Leytonstone, E.

WANTED, Good Shop (Seaside preferred), for First-class Waxwork Exhibition; no rubbish; rent or shares. DE FREUX, 100, Lower Marsh, Lambeth.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

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Price and particulars to
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WANTED, to Let or Sell, the Lease of the above Theatre, now fully licensed; none but Principals or their solicitors dealt with.
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WANTED, Known Members of the Actors' Association are invited to consult the Secretary before signing Agreements. Members wishing the Council of the Actors' Association to recover Unpaid Salary would greatly assist by not allowing arrears to accumulate.
10, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

"THE NEW MAGDALEN."

WANTED, to make the following Correction. An Announcement of "an entirely new version" of this play appeared recently in "The Era." This was due to inadvertence, Mr. J. B. Mulholland being sole owner of the legally authorised version of Wilkie Collins' play.
H. E. GRIFFIN, Theatre Royal, Preston.

Notice.

WANTED, Known, Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson wishes to state that he has no business relations or interest in an Artist bearing the same name.

WANTED, Managers to Kindly Note that we, the undersigned, have dissolved Partnership; Edie Duniker and Nancy Thornton (late The Coolvilles).

WANTED, Known, the Hippodrome, Spennymoor, has been purchased by a Syndicate, and will be run on up-to-date lines in the Autumn.

WANTED, Known.—Will Miss Gladys Gilgrist, late of Bladon and Fred Cooke's Cos., communicate B., 33, Shaw-street, Liverpool? Will hear something to advantage.

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Important.

WANTED, Mr. J. B. Montague to kindly communicate with Mr. R. C. BUCHANAN,
Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, ACCRINGTON.

WANTED, to thank all those who answered advertisement last week re Stock Season; arrangements now complete. J. G. MAINE.

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EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1.30, for :—
Harry Lauder, J. W. Rickaby, Wallace Selkirk and Co., Percy Honri, Hartley Wonders, Maggie Walsh, Three Rubys, Bioscope, Illustrated Song, May Audrey, "The Punch-bowl."

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for :—
Paul Conchas, Dutch Daly, Bonnie Goodwin and Piccs., Columbias, The Netherlands, F. Bertram and Co., W. J. Ashcroft, Harry Bedford, Bioscope, Fred and Pauli.

ZOO AND HIPPODROME, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for :—
The Lukushimas, Sidney Lee, Karno Four, Bioscope, Frank Seeley, Nellie Martell, New York Nippers, The Wedburns, Kent and Keith, "Grip."

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for :—
Ginnett's "Dick Turpin," New Macs, Sisters Dorrell, Boccaccios, Laurie and Beattie, Bioscope, Illustrated Song, Herbert Rule, Lafaille Troupe, Nellie Wallace.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Bransby Williams, Donaldson Bros. and Ardell, Nora Emerald, Maud Mortimer, Nellie Coleman, Dome, Norman Leonard Trio, American Comedy Four, Bioscope, The Howes.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Vesta Tilley, Fred Poplar, Kitty Wager, Will English, Guy Ryder, Twin Australian Andersons, Tom Owen, Wartenburg Bros., D'Arc's Marionettes.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Ernest Shand, George Formby, Harry Freeman, The Findens, McConnells, Eily Adair, Bioscope, Tom Edwards, Lupino Bros., Robb Gilmore.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
"A King for a Day," Gwennie Hasto, The Sousloffs, The Delevines, Theo Bowmeester, Millman Trio, Bert Byrne, Bioscope, Sisters Poole, Claire Romaine.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Matthew Brodie and Co., Ellis Barrieton, Lady Fauntleroy, Five Osranis, Johnny Walker, Illustrated Song, Bioscope, J. L. Shine and Co.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
"Moving In," Bros. Egbert, Fanny Erris, Drew and Alders, Herbert Shelley, Debreans, Allan Hanbury, Collins and Rice, Frank Lynne, Tom Child.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Neil Kenyon, Howard and Collinson, Gasch Sisters, Leonie Dixon, Hetty King, Borellis, Lieut. Travis, Celtic Comedy Trio, Amy Augarde and Co., Bioscope.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Chung Ling Soo Leo Stormont, Illustrated Song, Burns and Danvers, Gladys Mavius, Chas. Norton, Satanella Troupe, May Walsh, Bioscope, "Casey's Court."

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
C. W. Somerset and Co., Sisters Jonghmanns, Mendel, Cruikshank, Caselli's Dogs, Clark and Hayden, Bioscope, Johnny Alexander and Co., Illustrated Song, W. F. Frame.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Cinquevalli, The Anartos, Ben Albert, Edie King, Pat Raffety, May Henderson, Fanny Fields, Ryder Slone, Boy Glen, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
George Lashwood, Austin Rudd, Baker and Balfe, Rosie Archer, Jordan and Harvey, Eight Empire Girls, Sylvesta, Amy Anderson and Co., La Berat, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
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EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
"Casey's Circus," Josh Dixon, Flo Esdaile, Clark and Hamilton, Seeley and West, Ella Shields, Farley, Rennie, and Farley, Three Cape Girls, Arabella Allen, Canty's Grotto.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3, for :—
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EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 3, for :—
Mariedl, Ross and Grayson, Gintaro, Marzella's Birds, Browning and Wally, Horace White, Billy McClain's Sextette, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
"My Pal Jerry," J. A. Wilson, The Motramos, Beattie and Blanche, Lena Verdi, Ruth Lytton, Bert Woodward, Lindon's Vaudeville Co., Bioscope.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30, for :—
Kellinos, Starr and Leslie, Daisy Jerome, Boswell's Circus, Walter King, Ian Colquhoun, Woodhouse and Wells, Kitty Marion, "Test of Friendship," Bioscope.

ARDWICK EMPIRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
George Leyton and Co., Frank Leslie, Sisters Macarte, Harry Friskey, Fred Storey and Co., Steve McCarthy, Edie Reynolds and Co., The Carlyles, Bioscope, Marie Kendall.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2, for
George Gray and Co., in "Parson Gray, V.C.," Dion Wade, Bessie Butt, Thos. E. Finglass, Peggy Pryde, Arthur Aldridge, Bioscope, Illustrated Song, David Poole, Lockhart's Elephants.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Wilkie Bard, Will Musgrave, George Ridgwell, Moulier Sisters, J. P. Ling, The Craggs, Les Frasettis, Sisters Morgan, Little Dott Moss, Bioscope.

THE FOLLOWING ARE BOOKED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ABOVE:

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Tom Costello, Minna Merry, Jackley Trio, Pictures, "Charley's Uncle," Maud Laverne, Edwin Barwick, Lily Langtry, Trapnell Family.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1 for :
Karno's Co., in "The Bailiff," Amy Russell, Spry and Monti, Arthur Gill, Lashmars, Billy Farrell.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Ben Hur, Maud Jestor, Roma and Romani, Victor Travers, C. Randolph King, Pictures, Northern Troupe, Twin Bros. Dean, "Would-be Actors" Co.

RICHMOND THEATRE, RICHMOND.
Proprietor, Mr. George Dance.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Chas. Bignell, Sylvia Du Barry, Pearce and Ward, Belle Harcourt, Harry Simms, Madge Morley and Co., Pictures, "The Sorceress," Horace and Olga.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL
Rehearsal at 12, for :—
Alix Lukos, Maude Rochez's Monkeys, Rich and Rich, Van Biene and Co., Bioscope, Frank Cumminger, Genaro and Theol, Jessie Albini.

THE GRANVILLE, WALHAM GREEN.
Rehearsal at 3, for :—
Oswald Williams, Agnes Fraser and Co., Chris. Richards, Chas. Pastor, Fred Frampton, Clito Clifford, Rosie Bartlett, Bertha Winder, Ethel Ra Leslie, Two Bees, Stanley and Vandyke, Binns and Binns, Karno Four, Jack and Evelyn, Bioscope, J. A. Warden.

THE PALACE, CAMBERWELL.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Both Performances.
George Robey, Victoria Monks, Fulbrook and Co., Chas. Pastor, Billy Hobbe, Harry Champion, Millie Howell, Margaret Radcliffe, Geoffreys and Benson, Stanley and Vandyke, Avrignys, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, COVENTRY.
Proprietor, Mr. George Dance.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
"The Little Stowaway," Mlle. Ameda, Bishop's "My Gollywog," Marie Empress, Fred Hastings, Arthur Astell, Chronophone, Bioscope, Chas. Kay.

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND
(Now in course of erection).
Artists and Agents please note that Bookings for the above Theatre have commenced.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE, READING
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Three Golden Graces, Sam Dalton, Lilian Travelli, The Delomes, Little Tichbourne, Bioscope, Brayne and Lloyd.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

ARTISTS ARE REQUESTED TO NOTE THAT THE ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON, IS WITHIN THE AREA ABSOLUTELY BARRED BY US.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.

Artists must have Band Parts for at least Twelve different Instruments for the Orchestras. Matter for Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR ALL THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to CO-OPERATIVE OFFICES, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, or at least TWO WEEKS, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled.

IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to Opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced.

ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

N.B.—Silence in every case a polite negative. Artists are requested not to enclose stamped envelope. Letters marked "Private" will be delayed.
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CALLS FOR MONDAY, JUNE 3, 1907.

PALACE, DOVER.
Raymond, Dan Filmer, Ivy Adelaide, Chas. Ridgewell, Lily Watson, Nellie Montague, Bernard and Weston, The Four Herberts.

ALHAMBRA, SANDGATE.
Raymond, Lade Henderson, Sisters May, Ted Wooten, Tom Bass, Ida Brophy, Wilton Herriott and Co.

GRAND, SHEFFIELD.
T. W. Barrett, Susie Marney, T. C. Callaghan, Peter Gotz, Pictures, Burnetti and Corri.

THEATRE ROYAL, CROYDON.
Fred Southern and Co., Raymond, The Players, The Courtney Family, Sisters Bronson, Harry Hillier.

THE PALACE, GLASGOW.
Sole Proprietor and Manager, RICH. WALDON.
All Bookings are now made direct from above Hall.
All Contracts made on behalf of the Palace, Glasgow, on or before April 7, 1906, and delivered to the present Management, not yet completed, will be carried out.
Bill matter must be sent two weeks in advance.
CALL for Monday, June 3, 1907, at 12 o'clock.
John Lawson, Ruby Bijou, Harry Bickley, Gertie Gitana, Williams and Monkhouse, the Clavers, Dan Thomas, Walker and Lake, Winifred Ward, Nat Clifford.

GLASGOW PAVILION
CALL for Monday, June 3, 1907.
7. Twice Nightly. 9.
Rehearsal at 11 o'clock for :—
Gay Paree, Arthur Albert, Barnard's Marionettes, Charles Fannings, Nellie Adams, Belrose and De Velin, Hyram Travers, Alexandra Dagmar.

GREENOCK PAVILION
All bill matter must be sent to Glasgow fourteen days ahead. Failing this, Artists will run the risk of having their Contracts cancelled. By order,
SAMUEL LLOYD, General-Manager

BURTON-ON-TRENT.
NEW HIPPODROME.
CALL, Monday, June 3. Rehearsal 12.30. Bennett and Martell, R. C. Note, Miss Maie, Daisy Davenport, Dick and Dorothy, Fred Fane, New Operascope, Lack and Ford.
Artists requiring immediate dates, apply, H. PERCIVAL YOUNG, Sole Booking Representative, Shakespeare Theatre Offices, Clapham Junction, London, S.W.

SHEERNESS HIPPODROME.
General-Manager, Mr. FRED LEIGHTON.
CALL, Monday, June 3, 1907.
Fred Moule and E. D. Nicholls Co., with "The Battle of the Belles," Miss Adey Spencer, Miss Pattie Burton, Kisbey, Flo Mellor, Jenny Reeve, Fred Keeton. Band Rehearsal, 1 p.m., Monday, June 3.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.
In consequence of the Lord Chamberlain refusing to permit Variety Artists to appear at the Britannia Theatre, all contracts must be considered cancelled.
Artists not certain of the order of their dates on the London Circuit, please communicate with Mr. FREDERICK BAUGH.

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FOR
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(MURPHY and LIPTON.)
MISS LILY BURNAND.
"Up We'll Go."
(MURPHY and CASTLING.)
MISS HILDA JACOBSON.
"You Shall Live in a Chalet."
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RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS

All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office.

Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns.

Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier.

Artists employing Agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents.

New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our District Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follow :—

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LONDON DISTRICT.
MR. WILLIAM COLLINS,
The Empire, Shepherd's Bush, W.

N.B.—Mr. OSWALD STOLL or Mr. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously.

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Telegraphic address, "Moul, London." Telephone No. 2009 Gerrard.
All Billing Matter for the undermentioned Theatres to be sent to the Secretary at above address. All communications as to engagements for the Theatres to be addressed to Messrs. ROSEN & BLISS, Variety Agents, 56, Whitcomb-street, Leicester-square, London, W.C.
Telegrams, "Twopence, London." Telephone No. 7623 Gerrard.
N.B.—INTERVIEWED BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS for MONDAY, JUNE 3, 1907.

Rehearsals at 1 p.m.

PALACE THEATRE, PLYMOUTH.
Bros. Horne, Billy Burns, Eadie and Ramsden, "Man v. Motor," Davis and Gledhill Trio, James and Lucy Allison, The Avolos, Bioscope, Dusty Rhodes.

PALACE THEATRE, BRISTOL.
Fred. Ginnett's Boy Army, Kitty Clover and Co., The Knick Knacks, Venie Clements, James Willard and Co., Bugler Carr, Bioscope, John E. Coyle.

PALACE THEATRE, SUNDERLAND.
Arthur Conquest and Co., "The Sioux." Patta Bella, Fanny and Harry Dent, J. C. Scatter, Raie Walters, Harry and Elsie Mayville, Bioscope, The Stein-Eretto Troupe.

KING'S THEATRE, GATESHEAD.
Chanti, Stidder and Dunbar, Tom E. Hughes, Florence Schubert, Hector and Sultan, McAskell, Bioscope, The Deer Family.

PALACE THEATRE, DUNDEE.
The Bensons, Nellie Vance, The Florias, Babs Lloyd, Rowland Hill, the Fordyces, Clare Greta, Bioscope, Mike Cray.

PALACE THEATRE, ABERDEEN.
Warsaw Brothers, Jennie Sydney, Harry Briggs, Zenora, Percy Curry, Lambeth and Robertson, Evie Hamilton, Cyclumina, Bioscope, Harry Nelson.

N.B.—Artists will oblige by sending billing matter punctually.

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See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.

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CALLS.

FOR WEEK COMMENCING
MONDAY, JUNE 3, 1907.

PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT.

SPECIAL NOTICE.
Rehearsal at all Halls, Monday, at 12.0 sharp.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Maidie Scott, Kroney Bros., Nellie Nora, Pictures, Frederica's Dogs, Matt. Wilkinson and Co., Violet Beatrice.

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Picture Entertainment.

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Six Bros. Luck, Jack Dawe, Sisters Walmesley, the Lannons, Four Goldinis, Ailsa Douglas, Fyne and Hurley, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

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Howard and Harris, Bros. Huxter, Rose Cabani, Walter Stanley, Larola, Sisters Edwardes, Addie Dorina, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, HALIFAX.
Will Vay's Juveniles, Wake and Dean, Abdy and Bushman, Zarmo, Martelloni Troupe, Marvelle and May, the Maples, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE, W. HARTLEPOOL.
Roze and Calvert, the Marconis, Otto and Olga, Les Zelovas, Graham and Barron, Burns and Bentley, Diamond and Beatrice, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

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THE BRITANNIA.
Matinée Monday.
Tom Kelso and Co., Saturday to Monday Co., Leonard Mortimer and Co., Raymond.

FORESTERS.
Matinées Monday and Thursday.
Ernest Rees, Edie Endon, Milner Verren, The Bassos, The Nettas, Mersano, Mack Olive, Dandy Thieves, The Lorrisons, Leolar Troupe, Raymond.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday.
Maxim Girls, Frank Hardie and Co., Pichel Troupe, Rene Graham, Vere and Royal, Mumming Birds, Harry Bancroft, Emmie Ames, The Peritas, Carl Rosine, Raymond.

SURREY THEATRE.
All Artists engaged for Surrey Theatre must bring 14 Band parts.
Matinée every Monday.
Mme. De Rose, J. H. Hawtrey, Chris Richards, F. V. St. Clair, Capt. Hamilton, V.C., Co., Leonard Mortimer's Co., Bessie Willow, Carlotta De Yonsen, Raymond, Florence Bell, Cambo.

Notice.—All artists carrying Scenery must have it Fireproof, according to L.C.C. regulations, otherwise it will not be allowed in the Halls.

All Bill Matter or Notification of Appearance must be sent in 14 days prior to opening. All Artists must attend Band Rehearsal, or their Contracts may be cancelled at the option of the Management.

N.B.—All Billing Matter, accompanied by Pictorials, and Business Communications relating to the Provincial Circuit, must be addressed to the
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(By C. Wilmott, Rita Strauss, and H. E. Darewski, jun.),
and
"I'll be your Golliwog"
(Kennedy Russell),
Sung by Miss Isabel Dillon.

"All Alone in Old Cologne'
(Murray, Leighton, and Hilbury.)
Sung by Miss Alexandra Dagmar.

"Knock Your Heads Together" (Murphy and Lipton.)
Sung by Michael Nolan.

"Look Before You Leap"
(Murphy and Lipton.)
Sung by Miss Agnes Hazel.

"I'll Tell Tillie on the Telephone" (Castling and Godfrey.)
Sung by Miss Dora Lyric.

"What a Lovely Lot they are!" (Murray and Leigh), **"Girls, beware of the Serpentine!"** (E. W. Rogers), and **"O for a Night in the West!"** (E. W. Rogers.)
Sung by George Lashwood.

"Lavender"
(C. Wilmott and H. E. Derewski, jun.),
and
"When you know you're not Forgotten" (Gardenier and Helf).
Sung by Miss Mabel Green.

"Man and Wife should always Pull Together"
(Murphy and Lipton),
and
"Sympathy"
(Kendis and Paley).
Sung by Miss Carlotta Levey.

"If the Man in the Moon were a Coon"
(Fischer),
and
"Baby Lucie"
(Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford).
Sung by G. H. Elliott; the former also by Miss May Moore-Duprez.

"I want a Girl"
(Bateman and G. Collins),
and
"I'm Going—I'm Going—I'm Gone!"
(Castling and C. Collins).
Sung by Miss Daisy Dormer.

"Read Between the Lines" and **"The Echo of an Old, Old Tale"** (F. Leo).
Sung by Miss Sable Fern.

FOR RECORD LIST OF WHITSUNTIDE WINNERS SEE PAGE 21.

Professionals and Entertainment Managers visiting America are cordially invited to avail themselves of the use of our New York Offices (Mr. FRED DAY, Manager), 15, WEST THIRTIETH STREET, for Letters, Telegrams, Cables, &c.

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Sung by Miss Hetty King.
"THERE'S A JACK FOR EVERY JILL" (Wincott & Staunton). Sung by Joe Archer.
"THE SEASIDE SMILE" (Lyle & David).
Sung by Miss Vesta Tilley.
"THEY ALL LIVED HAPPILY AFTERWARDS" (Mills & Arthurs).
Sung by Whit Cunliffe.
"PRESENTS" (Nat Clifford & Medley Barrett.) Sung by Fred Earle.
"FUNNY LITTLE BOB-TAILED COAT" (Gorman, Lowen & Champion).
Sung by Harry Champion.
"STROLLING ALONG THE SANDS" (Godfrey & Lyle).
"IRIS" (Mellor, Lawrance & Gifford).
"SUNRAY" (Worton David & Kenneth Lyle).
"THE POLICEMAN" (David & Mayo).
Sung by Sam Mayo.
"I'M GOING TO SING A SONG TO YOU THIS EVENING" (David & Mayo).
Sung by Sam Mayo.
"HERE WE COME GATHERING FLATS AND JAYS" (E. W. Rogers).
Sung by George Lashwood.
"BY THE BANKS O' ALLAN WATER" (Lamb & Moore). Sung by Jock Whiteford.
"I WONDER" (Boden & Ford).
"IF I WERE YOU" (Boden & Ford).
Sung by Harry Ford.
'WHEN THE RIGHT GIRL COMES ALONG,' (Worton David & Kenneth Lyle.)
Sung by Miss Vesta Tilley.
"JUST MY LUCK" (Alf. Ellerton).
"DOWN WHERE THE BRINY BREEZES BLOW" (Alf. Ellerton).
Sung by T. E. Dunville.

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"BY THE LIGHT OF THE HONEYMOON," "DEARIE,"
"ALL LITTLE GIRLS ARE PRETTY," "FOL-OL-THE-DIDDLE-OL,"
"JUST YOUR HEART OF GOLD," "MY SCHOLARS,"
"MOTHER'S LITTLE PET LAMB," "CHOW-CHOW,"
"WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH THE MOON?"
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A resourceful but hungry man is compelled to think of some ruse to satisfy his hunger and thirst. He takes a dummy from outside a shop, and with this he begins. The different experiences he goes through with this absurd figure are screamingly funny. He gets some money and a good dinner; but was it worth it? The film will tell you.

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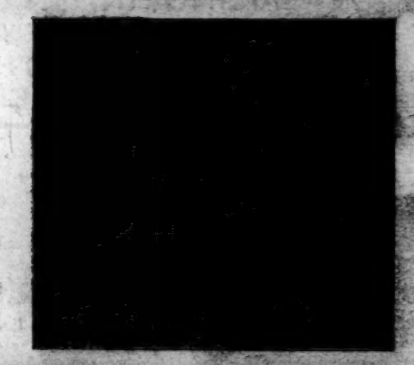

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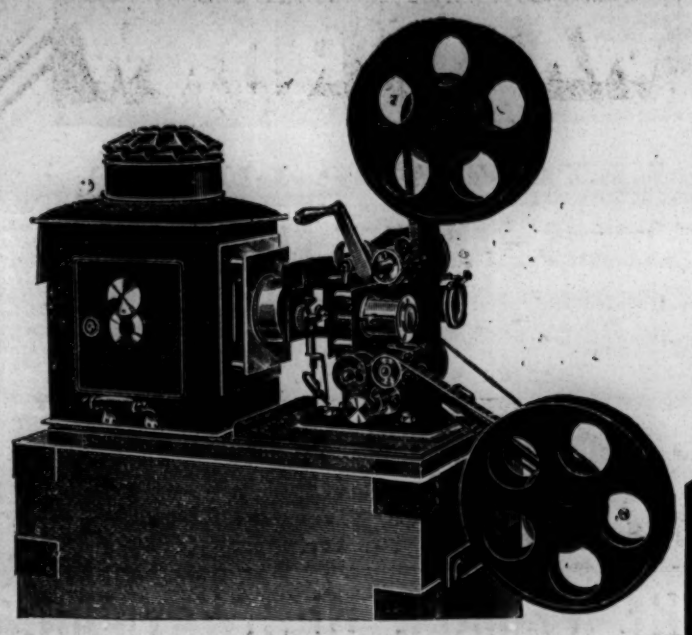

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London Offices: 8, Rupert Court, W. John Moore, Manager.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.

To anyone connected with the stage, from the call-boy to the "star," and from the electrician to the manager, the "Era Annual" makes an appeal which it is very hard to resist. The number of stories and anecdotes contributed by well-known members of the theatrical profession are always bright, breezy, and fresh, and, as usual, the photographs are excellently reproduced. The calendar is arranged so as to give an interesting theatrical event, with the year of occurrence, for every day in the year. The tables of plays produced at the various London and provincial theatres provide an interesting story of successes and failures, and in every respect the Annual for 1907 is well up to the usual standard. It is published at one shilling by "The Era," at 5, Tavistock-street, London.—Dublin Express, Jan. 28.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.

A capital shilling's worth is the "Era Annual," with its valuable lists of new plays produced during the year in London, the provinces, Berlin, and Paris. In contains, also, many readable articles by stage favourites, notably a characteristic contribution, "How I Spend My Day," by Miss Ellen Terry.—Daily Express, Feb. 2.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.

The "Era Annual" for 1907 is now out. It is full of good things, and will be eagerly perused by all who are interested in dramatic and musical affairs and personnel. Portraits of, and original contributions by, several public favourites and managers appear, including Miss Ellen Terry, who tells "How I Spend My Day"; Mr. Frank Cooper, Mr. Arthur Collins, Mr. Charles Collette, Mr. Frank Curzon, Mr. Matthew Brodie, Miss Constance Moxon, Miss Edith Cole, and Mr. Tom Craven. There is, in addition, the usual store of miscellaneous theatrical information which is indispensable to all who are interested in stage matters.—Liverpool Post, Jan. 26.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.

"The Era" Annual deservedly ranks high as a record of the passing theatrical show. The new issue, in a comprehensive survey of the drama, mentions in proper order all the productions and revivals of the year, both at home and abroad and gives a list of the theatres and music halls of the United Kingdom, with the names of their respective managers. The lighter side of the publication, to which many well-known managers and performers contribute, is of exceptionally high literary merit.—Morning Leader, Jan. 21, '07.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—*The Shadows of a Great City* draws big audiences to the more popular parts of the house this week. Mr. Fred Morgan plays the hero with all the necessary breeziness and emphasis; and Miss Mary Raby shows to admirable advantage in the part of Biddy Roonan. Mr. H. A. Lyons makes a first-rate villain; and two minor characters are capitally represented by Messrs. Fred Bentley and Storey Gofton. Miss Dorothy Clifton plays an ingénue part most gracefully; and all the other members of the company ably assist in making the piece a success.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—The Warsaw Brothers' entertainment proves thoroughly enjoyable, being one of the smartest of its kind; Mr. Harry Nelson makes a big hit with his catchy and up-to-date songs; and Sprightly Wee Archie McAllister, a local laddie, delights the house with his rendering of "Mona" and his clever sand dancing. The Sisters Lotus are smart duettists; Mr. Harry Briggs, the triple-voiced vocalist, possesses an exceptional range; Cyclamena does a novel cycling turn; and Miss Jennie Sydney is a good vocalist and dancer; Zenora, a clever contortionist; Miss Evie Hamilton, a dainty comedienne; and Lambeth and Robertson, in their very humorous sketch, *Scotch Folks' Wooing*, are all exceedingly well received.

ALDERSHOT.—THE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—*Somebody's Sweetheart* is being played by Mr. Marris's company. As Lulu, Miss Effie Vincent is winsome and clever, her singing and dancing being excellent. As Stanton, Mr. Cecil W. Parke sings and acts with exceptional ability; as Freddie, Miss May Norris is good; Martin Blabbs, around whom all the frolic revolves, finds a particularly clever exponent in Mr. George Brentwood, whose puns and funniosities, not to mention the mandoline efforts, are the hit of the evening. Mr. Frank Gala makes a fine Old Joe; while Miss Dolly Rayne and Miss Rosie Chandler dance gracefully. The quasi-villainous Stephen is ably impersonated by Mr. Percy Maitland.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—*Her One Great Sin* is being presented by Miss Lydia Donovan and company. Miss Lydia Donovan assumes the rôle of Grace Warhurst, and depicts the varied phases of the character with power and pathos. Another important rôle which is very ably interpreted is that of Arnold Thornhill, by Mr. C. Quinton Fulford; Reuben Warhurst, the wronged husband, finds a capable exponent in Mr. G. Edwd. Hall; humour is imparted by the acting of Mr. F. Hodson as Jerry and Miss Nellie Lambert as Nancy, a servant girl. The shady side of slum denizens and low life are portrayed with skill by Mr. Chas. E. Lambert, Mr. J. Crondace, and Miss Louie Walton; effective work is also done by Miss Phyllis Damian, Miss Maudie Lambert, and others in minor parts.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—W. G. Wesley reappears here in quaint melodies, sung in a quiet, yet humorous, style; Cora Duncan and Albert Brasque appear in a smart little playlet, *A Society Butterfly*; the Three Lancashire Harmony Boys, assisted by Mr. Cliffe Dover, comedian, appear in the vocal scena, *Home for the Holidays*, with pleasing harmonic effects; the Juanitas are finished athletes as well as daring acrobats; Landon Brothers are clever comedy acrobatic contortionists; another feature of interest which fixes attention is the dramatic sketch, *Nancy*, from Dickens's "Oliver Twist." Miss Georgette Thierry's assumption of Nancy is very vivid and characteristic; Mr. Willie Black's Bill Sikes is brutal and savage; and Miss Florrie Sorsby as Oliver, Mr. Henry Deane as Mr. Brownlow, and Mr. Bernard Liell as Fagin, act in capital style. The Brothers Robson, versatile comedians, are eccentric comedians and dancers; Fred Dornan is a good character-vocalist; Miss Agnes Molteno has a delightful scena, with living tableaux and specially-painted scenery. She is assisted by Miss Ida Thompson and Mr. T. Edwards. The bioscope pictures are "Sports in Galway."

ATTERCLIFFE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chris A. Wordsworth.—Picture entertainments are still a powerful attraction, with Miss Nellie Burke as vocalist.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. T. E. Owen. An attractive programme here is headed by the Three Royal Dreadnoughts (Lilian, Vera, and Major Charles) in a remarkable exhibition of skill as rifle shots. The Brady and Johnson combination, in a laughable comedy sketch, *My Uncle*, is heartily received; a pleasing combination of whistling, singing, and dancing is given by Phillips and Merritt (lady and gentleman); Miss Maud Esmond is a dainty burlesque artist; Chester and Lees afford much amusement with their marionettes; fun and skill are combined by Elton and Elma in a triple-bar act; juvenile Joe Conway is a versatile comedian; and the programme is completed by Mr. Clayton's Attergraph pictures.

CENTRAL HALL.—Lessees, Jasper Redfern, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frederick W. Holmes.—The pictures here are well diversified, and the variety turns are furnished by Shawlene, the whistling genius; Miss Laurina Lindberg, vocalist; the Two Gentrys, in an interlude, varied by an acrobatic dance from the lady; and Alpho, an accomplished ventriloquist.

BARNSLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. A. C. Mitchell.—*The Sledge Hammer* is presented here this week by Mr. George Henry. Mr. David Hamilton as Matthew Derrick gives a capital study of the part; Mr. Alfred Burrows does well as Everard Derrick; and as his step-brothers, Jacob and Simon, Mr. A. Bertram Croucher and Mr. Hardy Marco are to be complimented. Mr. Fred Best is well placed as Tom Walker; and the same may be said of Miss May Douglas as Catherine Henris, their quaint humour being responsible for much laughter. Miss Jessie Hope acts with distinction as Rose Maywell; and Miss Ethel Stuart well acquits herself as Maria Derrick. The remaining parts are all in good hands.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—The D'Oyly Carte Principal Répertoire Opera company is here this week. Miss Mabel Grahame acted with much charm and vivacity and sang brilliantly as Gianetta; and Miss Lulu Evans made a charming Tessa. Miss Theresa Rassam was a commanding Duchess of Plaza-Toro; while Mr. Charles R. Walenn was an amusing Duke. Luiz was well done by Mr. Leicester Tunks; the Casilda, by a deputy, was a pleasing performance; while Mr. Fred Billington revelled in the congenial part of the Grand Inquisitor. Messrs. Pacie Ripple and Albert Kavanagh were delightfully pleasing Gondoliers.

TIVOLI THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Edgar Laban.—Frank and Alice Lurin are extremely successful in an extravaganza, entitled *Cinders*; Edgar Dudden is a good comedian and bone soloist; the Four Figaros vocalise and dance agreeably in *Ten Minutes on the Continent*; and Bishop and Vale are pleasing comedy artists and dancers. Miss Mabelle May is a dainty singer; the Grosvenors contribute some tuneful harmony; and the Gladenbecks give a clever hand-balancing and ring speciality act.

BATH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Closed.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—The regular vaudeville season having concluded last Saturday, Mr. Macnaghten has started a summer season of picture entertainments, which appears to be likely to prove as equally successful locally as it does in the other halls he controls. The films by the Raymond Bio-Tableaux are of the latest and best, and include educational, historical, and humorous subjects. A word of praise is due to Mr. Teal, who carries through his no light task as pianist with pleasing results.

BEDFORD.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—On Monday night, before a good house, Mr. F. R. Benson and company submitted Cervantes's *Don Quixote*, dramatised by G. E. Morrison and R. P. Stewart. The title-rôle was rendered with fine passion, tenderness, and dignity by Mr. Benson; the rich humour of Mr. Geo. R. Weir as Sancho Panza made the part a delightful reality; Mr. Murray Carrington was an important and dignified Don Miguel, the Chancellor; Mr. Clarence Derwent was a capable Duke; Nicholas, the lover of Antonia, found a spirited and manly representative in Mr. Geo. Buchanan; and Palamque was given full scope by Mr. E. A. Warburton. Miss Mildred Forster was a truly regal Duchess; and Miss Gwladys Wynne played with exquisite feeling as Antonia. The lesser parts were all in capable hands, and the staging was of the usual good order which characterises Mr. F. R. Benson's productions.

BELFAST.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—Closed for summer vacation, re-opening on July 29 next.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General-Manager, Mr. J. De Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Harris.—The Fourteen Black Hussars appear to the greatest advantage in their musical act, *The Bass Drum Trust*; the reception nightly of this clever combination has been most enthusiastic. Mr. Peter Bermingham, the Scotch comedian, creates much merriment with his droll songs; and the Courtiers at once establish themselves favourites with their unique act. The Musical Jees uphold their reputation with their instrumental novelty act, and their performance is certainly a feature of the programme; Mr. Henri Cazman is undoubtedly a smart artist, his mimicry being surprisingly realistic; and a hit has been made by Miss Florence Yaymen, the American coon caricaturist. Also appearing are Miss Dolly Denton (comedienne), the Sisters Belmont (comediennes and dancers), and the Palace pictures.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Belfast Hippodrome Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Will Sley; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The Brothers Luck Co.'s sketch, *The Hotel Grande*, evokes the loudest hilarity; the feats of strength by Mr. Launceston Elliott have created quite a sensation, and we have nothing but praise for this clever athlete; Martine and Son, song illustrators, have been accorded a good reception, and deservedly so; and Regan and Ryan are exceedingly droll Irish comedians and fine dancers; and the contortionist feats of Mr. Sim Maree are certainly very clever. Lanos and Montes, Continental eccentrics, take well; as does Miss Edith St. Clair, comedienne. Also appearing are Mr. Dick Kendal (comedian), Miss Lil Hartley (comedienne), and the new pictures on the Hipposcope are certainly a most attractive feature of the programme.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John A. Walker.—Fred Karno's company present with great success their latest creation, *The Bailiff*. Mr. Fred Kitchen's impersonation of the Bailiff has created roars of laughter; Mr. Billy Farrell is a capital coon vocalist, his songs being splendidly rendered; and as a mimic Mr. Arthur Gill has few equals. Miss Amy Russell's fine voice has been heard to the utmost advantage; and Spry and Monti uphold their reputation as a comedy duo of great excellence. The Lashmars, in their speciality act, have been enthusiastically received. A word of praise is due to the orchestra of this hall, so skilfully conducted by Mr. W. L. Richards, I.S.M.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Sinclair Neill.—The Alhambra Dramatic Company, under the direction of Mr. M. Montgomery, are here with the drama, *On the Stroke of Twelve*. Mr. Horace Denton furnishes an admirable impersonation of Jack Rutledge; and we have nothing but praise for that charming actress, Miss Nina Blake-Adams, for her delightful interpretation of the part of Jess Bainbridge. Mr. Cyril Grier gains the utmost approval for his impersonation of the Jew; and Miss Kathleen Magee could not easily be surpassed as Marie Bergerre. Mr. Elmore Frith is admirable as Henry Rutledge; and the humour of the piece is in the safe hands of Mr. Tom H. Solly, his impersonation of Pat creating roars of laughter. Mr. Edward M. Heanley must be commended for his skilful impersonation of James Horton; the rôle is a difficult one, but in Mr. Heanley's hands it was presented in a manner that would be difficult to excel. Mr. Ed. Smythe as George Bainbridge scored heavily, and Miss Mattie Crawford was charming as Doris Rutledge. Mr. J. E. Davies as Warder Dole completed the cast. Mr. Tom H. Solly is responsible for the admirable stage arrangements. The Alhambra Bioscope, under the direction of Mr. W. Newlove, present a fine picture, "When We Were Boys."

ULSTER HALL.—Proprietors, Belfast Corporation.—The Zancigs opened on Monday. Their remarkable demonstrations of thought-transmission have created quite a sensation, and undoubtedly the visit here will be a pronounced success. A concert-party of great merit assisted. Miss Ethel Grimes, who is the happy possessor of a fine soprano voice, sang "Il Bacco" with great effect; and Miss Kate Moss sang two songs with her own violin obbligato with great acceptance; Miss Clare Alexander's plantation songs delighted all; and the clever society entertainer, Mr. E. Thornley-Dodge, created much amusement with his sketches, recitations, &c. Mr. David Brazell's songs have been loudly and deservedly applauded. The accompaniments are faultlessly played by Mr. Harold E. Scott. It should be added that the tour is under the direction of Mr. Alfred Moul.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant; Secretary, Miss Isabel Morris.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company is on a return visit with *Two Little Drummer Boys*. Miss Maggie English and Miss Maud Douglas are highly popular in the title-rôles; Mr. Edward Bikker is well suited as General Kingsley; the four officers of the 6th Royal Warwicks are admirably impersonated by Messrs. Geoff Sutherland, H. Ryeland Leigh, F. Rogers, and Philip Redgrave; and Mr. Michael Madden as Quinery O'Quirke and Mr. Charles Locke as Timothy provide the necessary humour. Miss Beatrice Shirley gives an interesting performance of Alma Kingsley; Margaret Rivers is well played by Miss Mildred Eversleigh; and Miss Lizzie Chambers is a sprightly Molly Meadows.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—Haley's Juveniles give a clever and interesting entertainment, and are a leading feature; Mr. Arthur Rigby, comedian, is a warm favourite; and Tennyson and Wallis are patterers of exceptional ability. Miss Rachel Lowe, a vocalist of ability, has many admirers; and an excellent company includes the Three Rio Tintos (acrobats), Addison's fox terriers, Miss Dolly Andrews (comedienne), and Brown's Royal Bioscope.

BIRMINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr Philip Rodway.—The promenade concerts continue to increase in popularity, and yield rich enjoyment. On Monday the orchestra excelled itself, giving the overture to *Carmen* and the Intermezzo, the D minor Rhapsody of Liszt, the Rakoczsky March from Berlioz's *Faust*, and Mr. Granville Bantock's *Sappho* Prelude, &c.; Mr. Max Mossel gave Sinding's First Violin Concerto, and Miss Edith Clegg shone as the vocalist. Mr. J. MacCabe is business-manager for Mr. Mossel.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Rodgers, Limited; Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—*A Message from Mars* greets the Prince of Wales's patrons; Mr. Arthur Holmes-Gore being secured for his well-known and finely-finished rôle of Horace Parker. Mr. William H. Brougham makes an excellent impression as the Messenger from Mars; Miss Joan Ellis is much applauded as the *fiancée*, Minnie Templar; Mr. Bruce Lindley scores heavily as the tramp; Miss Flora Hastings acts in a distinguished and graceful manner as Miss Parker; Mr. Thomas Holding is exceptionally good as the American, Arthur Dicey; and Miss Madge Herrick plays the rôle of Polly to admirable advantage.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Bernardo.—*Guilty Gold*, the new drama by Horace Stanley, and produced here last Monday, is noticed elsewhere.

CARLTON THEATRE, SALTLEY.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—A smart variety company holds sway for the nonce here, consisting of Dan Agar, burlesque comedian; Florrie Wright, ballad singer; the Sisters Dudley, duettists; T. W. Lenner, the quaint comedian; Marie Vincent, burlesque serio; Will Sandes, the "indiarubber comic"; David Hallam, of Geo. Dance's *Toreador* company; Sandes and Vincent, speciality artists; and Lena Dudley, in illustrated songs, all of whom receive much applause.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles.—*The Sorrows of Satan* and *A Soldier of France* fill the bill here, with Messrs. Travis Green and Arthur Hinton's company, in conjunction with Messrs. Matthew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond. On Monday and Tuesday *A Soldier of France* revealed Mr. Arthur Hinton's splendid ability and energy in the rôle of Corporal—later, Father Jean. Mr. Travis Green excited due feeling with his clever character-study of the villain, Judas Delara; Mr. Victor Millard gave a praiseworthy portrayal of the hero, Louis, also appearing as the father, Captain Lorraine; Mr. Arthur Lowry scored as the Duke De Laval; Miss Lydia André pleased well as Rita; Dolly Turner was admired as Master Louis; Miss Leila Zillwood, whose admirable desserts brought her a benefit list night, came out strong in the part of Pauline; and Mr. Wilton Drury's clever exertions as Jollyboy were well seconded by Miss Jennie Clare as Margot.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham.—At the head of the bill is Mr. Sidney Dooley and Mr. Charles Seymour's company in *A King for a Day*. This is a complete musical comedy in itself. There is a strong chorus, and throughout there are many tuneful songs and pretty dances. Humour is the keynote of the tabloid comedy, and Sidney Dooley as Septimus Tupper, and Miss Edith Barwell as Eliza Remnant, are conspicuous in many laughable situations. Theo. Bouwmeister is a protean actor of more than average ability; Claire Romaine pays a welcome return visit; Gwennie Hasto dances as cleverly as ever; the Millman Trio are smart tight-wire artists; and the Sonsloffs are clever whirlwind dancers. Bert Byrne, comedian; the Delevines, sketch artists; and the Sisters Poole, duettists and dancers, also contribute.

GAIETY.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—The premier position here is occupied by *Happy Holland*, presented by Jake Friedman and Miss Florence Hunton. Jack Lorimer is responsible for several pleasing songs and dances; Montague Biggs is received with great favour; an excellent musical turn is presented by Sterling and Lowe; and the Four Avocas, in *The Reckless Miner*; Fred and Maud Vypond, Lord, Murray, and Lord, Johnny Fuller, and Stella Stoll, are also in the company.

HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—The Minstrel Maids, whose turn proves very successful, strike an original note in their entertainment, and *The Bass Drum Trust* proves a fitting finale. Fred Edwards and company give a bright and laughable sketch, entitled *The Kleptomaniacs*; J. G. Aitken is a capital Scotch comedian; May Edouin presents a refined song-scena; Edwin Boyde is a droll comedian; Kendrick and Laura are clever society entertainers; and Maudo Vera, serio and coon artist; Wat Watkins, comedian; and the Nirdas, juvenile acrobats and equilibrists, add to the evening's enjoyment.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Foster.—At the head of an interesting programme are Matthew Brodie and company in the sketch, entitled *The Drummer of the 76th*. John L. Shine has a novelty in his excellently-conceived sketch, *An Actor's Art*. During his stay of twenty-five minutes on the stage he portrays no fewer than seven characters. He is ably assisted by his brother, Wilfred Shine, and Richard Purdon. Entertaining items are also provided by Ellis Barrieton, vocalist; Johnny Walker, comedian; Tom H. Wood; Lady Fauntleroy; and the Five Osranis.

NATIONAL TRADES' EXHIBITION, BINGLEY HALL.—General-Manager, Mr. George Stanley.—This colossal show, with its many side-shows and other varied attractions, closes to-night (Saturday) when the annual cheque, this year amounting to over £200, will be handed the treasurer of the Queen's Hospital here on behalf of that institution.

BLACKBURN.—PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—The entertainment here this week is of all-round excellence. Howard and Harris appear in an amusing sketch, while Addie Dorina shows some remarkable "quick-change" work in her sketch *Dr. Spot's Patients*. Larola is a clever comic juggler of the three Brothers Huxter, acrobats, who do some remarkable feats; and the Sisters Edwards, comediennes; Walter Stanley comedian; and Rose Cabini, chorus vocalist, complete the programme.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page.—Miss Emma Litchfield's company in the drama *A Clever Imposter* is playing here. Mr. Stewart Cleveland, in the part of Manuel Teixeira, acts powerfully; and Miss Litchfield is good as Norah Grovenor. The piece is capitally staged.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—*The New Boy*, very capably enacted by Mr. Jerrard Grant Allen's company, is meeting with a cordial reception here this week. The title-rôle is played by Mr. Leon M. Lion, in whom custom hath made it a property of easiness. Miss Katherine Harrington does well as Mrs. Rennick; Misses Nellie Redwood and Beatrice Manning are seen to advantage as Nancy Roach and Susan respectively; Dr. Candy has a good representative in Mr. Harry Ashford; and Mr. George de Lara, Mr. W. J. Rea (as the French master), and Mr. Stanley Logan (as Bullock major) likewise play their parts satisfactorily.

GRAND THEATRE.—Owner and Manager, Mr. T. Sergenson.—Mr. Herbert Ralland and T. Sergenson's company is playing *Shall We Forgive Her?* here this week. Mr. Charles B. Vaughan scored a complete success in the part of Oliver West; Mr. Frank Bradley's impersonation of Neil Garth is forcible and telling; Mr. J. Herbert Beaumont carefully portrays Paul Elsworth; Mr. A. C. Thornhill is effective as James Stapleton; and Mr. H. Robert Averell as Reggie Walton could scarcely

be improved upon. The acting of Miss Edith Anton Laing as Grace West is much admired, and Nellie West is gracefully represented by Miss Ida Chapman.

Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Martin Adeson and company top this week's bill in their successful sketch *The Masked Lady*. The Four Athos, ball manipulators, also have a big reception; and other popular turns are supplied by Geo. Collins, comedian; the Brothers Obo, duettists; the Zerbinis, musical specialists; the Custances in a sketch; the Seven Walfrunas, acrobats; Walter Munroe, comedian; Josie Money, comedienne; and Sylvia's tableaux.

North Pier.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. James Walker.—Mr. Ernest Lloyd's Excelsior Opera Singers are supplying the entertainment here this week. They are all vocalists of undoubted merit, but as Mr. Frank Quinn, the baritone, stands out so much above the ordinary, he deserves special mention.

Victoria Pier.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. Geo. Roberts.—The Melfords, versatile entertainers, are fulfilling an engagement here. George Royle's Troubadours and Herr Blome's orchestra are still retained.

BLYTH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur C. Moody.—Mr. Harold Wantage's company is here with *The Pick of the Bunch*. In the rôle of Dick Seymore, Mr. Wantage renders an amusing impersonation; whilst Mr. Algernon W. Lee has a most favourable reception as Halliwell Menit. To Mr. Percy Haverstock every praise is due for a fine portrayal of Colonel Menit; Ruth Gay finds a charming exponent in Miss Eva Elliss; in the hands of Miss Bina C. Hilton the part of Nellie Mather stands out prominently; to Miss M. Sadie the honours of the evening are due for a clever and vivacious rendition of the part of Nancy. Mr. Harry Bolton conducts in an able manner a well-organised orchestra.

Gaiety.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. G. E. Good.—Dr. Carl Hermann, in his bloodless surgery and electric wonder-working, has proved a strong attraction; also appearing with success are Mme. Angeline, in a smart dancing and juggling act; Miss Francis Hanlon, a dainty comedienne and dancer; Carley and Place, patterers and dancers; Sidney Leon, swell comedian; J. H. Malva, ventriloquist; and the Three Bostonians, in their attractive American songs and dances.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. William Tudor.—Pictorial and variety entertainments continue to form the programme here, and good houses are the rule.

BOLTON.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Melvin.—Miss Marie Dagmar and Mr. Fred C. Somerfield are presenting *The Tyrant*, in which Mr. Roy Fortesque appears as Angelo, Mr. Fred C. Somerfield very ably plays the part of Homodei, and Miss Marie Dagmar cleverly portrays the character of Tisbe. Miss Margaret Frame gives an excellent rendering of the part of Lady Katherine; the Rudolph of Mr. John Cecil was much appreciated; and Miss Lallah Shelton was responsible for a good piece of acting in the part of Bulle.

Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—The principal item here is Paul Pelham's nautical scena, *King's Naves*, in which Mr. Pelham appears in his great impersonation of Lord Nelson concluding with a sensational and realistic tableau of the Battle of Waterloo. Other items in an interesting programme are Bock Pyolades, in his facial entertainment; the Olympian Trio, in plantation melodies; Eddie Ford, extempore vocalist; J. H. Milburn, comedian; Dardan and Iris, in their original and refined dancing act; H. E. High, burlesque skater; Miss Ida Fair, comedienne and ballad vocalist; Charles Tempest, laughing comedian; Astley's American Circus, and the Imperial Bioscope.

BOOTLE. — Muncaster Theatre. — Proprietors, Messrs. Pennington; Manager, Mr. H. Pennington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Young. — Mr. A. Campbell Kelly and company are here in *The Trail of the Serpent*. The rôle of Sir Gerald Kingston is well sustained by Mr. Henry K. Penn; Mr. A. Campbell Kelly is seen to advantage as Gerald Kingston, also enacting Old Jack with power; a sweet and charming Ethel Maynard is Miss Phyllis Elton; and Miss Nana Cameron is effective as Rachel, the gipsy. Mr. Frank Lyndon brings down the wrath of the house as Ralph Hammond; and Mr. John Cullen well depicts Gipsy Jake with power. The comedy is entrusted to Mr. J. R. Tyrell as William Higgins, and Miss Jennie Risley as Rose Wilson.

BOSCOMBE.—Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry Ball.—The chief attraction this week is Fred Karno's comedians, in the amusing travesty, *Mumming Birds;* Minnie Hunt and Rhys Thomas are clever in the amusing duologue, *Her Birthday;* J. H. McCann submits an original turn as a dancer on roller skates; Bliss and Bliss cause laughter with their patter; Lillian Rigby is successful as an instrumentalist; Master Chas. Carr gains much applause for his dance; Rosie Rival is a *chic* comedienne; and the Hippodrome pictures conclude.

BRADFORD.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—On Thursday evening, May 30, Mme. Jane Hading, the accomplished French actress, gave one performance of the part of Gilberte in the drama of *Frou-Frou*, and a well-filled house applauded the gifted lady's impersonation. On Monday Messrs. Leonard Pagden and G. M. Copping's company commenced a six nights' engagement in *Jim the Penman*, and Mr. Pagden submitted a fine character-study of the forger, James Ralston. Miss Alice Farleigh impressed her audience greatly in the character of Mrs. Ralston; Mr. Orlando Barnett effectively filled the part of Baron Hartfield; Mr. Ernest A. Douglas was amusing as the sleepy Captain Redwood; Mr. W. Lockhart played Louis Percival with the required dignity; and Miss Muriel Pope made a charming Agnes Ralston.

Prince's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Francis Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—*The London Fireman* was presented for the first time here on Monday. Mr. J. Forbes Knowles, in his fine impersonation of Hal Curtis, has excellent support. Miss Nellie Shirley acts with tenderness as Ida; Mr. Herbert S. Humber effectively fills the part of the villainous Viscount Fleming, whose father is an excellent character-study strongly sustained by Mr. E. L. Garside; Mr. L. Thomson as Abel Folnum (Ida's father) and Miss Beatrice Sinclair as Grace Curtis are especially noteworthy. Mr. Fowler Thatcher is comic as Nixey; and Miss Nellie Garside makes an amusing Polly Bramble.

The Empire.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—A fine company here includes Allan Hanbury, comedian; Collins and Rice, quaint rhymsters; Tom Child, the Yorkshire tenor; the Egbert Brothers, "the happy dustmen," quaint, diverting, and popular as ever; Fanny Iris, who displays courtly grace as a knight of old; Herbert Shelley, in a thrilling episode *Dan the Outlaw;* the De Breams, in clever Japanese jugglery; Frank Lynne, funny comedian; Drew and Alders, in their new funny sketch, *The Coastguards;* and Herbert Darnley's company in the sketch *Moving In*.

Palace Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. R. Ralli.—Ailsa Douglas is first on a programme of much merit this week as a chorus vocalist; and following the lady are Fyne and Hurley, in a capital turn, *The Coster and the Dude;* the Lannons, exceedingly clever high pedestal dancers; Jack Dawe, a purveyor of acceptable comedy; the Four Spanish Goldinis, carpet spinners and acrobats; the Sisters Walmsley, duettists and dancers; and the Six Brothers Luck, in *The Demon of the Cellar*.

BRIDLINGTON. — Royal Prince's Parade.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—Two of the great features at the promenade concerts, under the able conductorship of Mr. Joseph Sainton, are the violin solos of Mr. Rudolph Bauerkeller, who plays with great taste and technique some of the best works of the great composers; and the very fine cornet solos of Mr. J. Bossi, who is a master of this difficult instrument. The vocalist this week is Miss Joan Ashley, a lady with a contralto voice of great beauty and power. Mr. Flockton-Foster and his company of costume entertainers are a never-failing source of delight to the large audiences who assemble in the Grand Pavilion.

New Spa and Gardens.—General Manager and Secretary, Mr. Henry Hague.—Mr. Sydney James's talented company, the "Rustic Scholars," are giving their last performances this week, to the delight of the frequenters of the Spa. The New Zealand twins (Misses Aileen and Doris Woods) score immensely with their new item, "Bedtime at the Zoo"; Mr. Gilbert Farine is very amusing in his "Potted Poetry"; Mr. Harker Nicholls sings some fine baritone songs, and his clever solo played on a collection of jam-pots is a great novelty; and Mr. Alfred Wooton's fine tenor voice is heard to advantage. Herr Simon Wurm and his Imperial Viennese Band render with fine effect their varied programmes, and Herr Van der Naotan's pianoforte solos are a great treat.

The Palace.—Managers, Messrs. W. H. and J. W. Delmar.—The Parisian Animated Picture Co. are this week giving a very fine show of living pictures. The Alvoys, in their amusing sketch, *Bertie's Birthday*, and the Leopold Leglere Troupe of acrobats are retained in the bill for another week.

Summer Gardens.—Lessees, Messrs. Beanland, Bath, and Danton; Manager, Mr. Charles Beanland.—The novelty of the week is a screaming absurdity, *Hamelton's Diorama; or A Trip Round the World*, Mr. George Hyam, the conductor of the tour, giving the audience a most amusing time. The pierrot programme of the troupe is well arranged and admirably carried out.

BRIGHTON.—Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. H. Cecil Beryl; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harcourt M. Beryl.—Mr. Robert Crossman's company opened here on Monday with *Sergeant Brue*. Mr. Arthur Reynolds was very entertaining as Sergeant Brue; Mr. T. A. Shale made a humorous and eccentric Cookie Scrubbs; Mr. J. H. Goldsworthy gave an excellent impersonation of Michael Brue; Miss Mary Hay was a bright and attractive Aurora Brue; Miss Marion Hargrave was a droll Daisy; and Miss Ethel Ivimey a pleasing Mabel Widget. In the absence of Miss Cissie Raymond, owing to a relaxed throat, Miss Lilian Leslie, at short notice, submitted a creditable representation of Lady Bickenhall. The remaining characters were ably sustained, and the chorus and orchestra did well under the direction of Mr. Sydney Shaw. Between the first and second acts Mr. James Coward performed several pieces with much success on the Mustel organ.

Grand Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter.—Mr. Carpenter's company is performing *The Shaughraun* here this week, and attracts large audiences. Mr. Charles Preece gives an admirable impersonation of Conn; Miss Lucy Murray is a charmingly winsome Moya; Miss Daisy Scudamore submits an excellent enactment of Claire Ffolliott; Mr. Roy Redgrave is well suited as Captain Molineaux; and the villainous Squireen and his creature, Harvey Duff, are forcibly portrayed by Mr. Ellis J. Preston and Mr. Charles Russell; Miss Amy Venimore as Arte O'Neal and Mr. Arthur H. Hill as Robert Ffolliot are distinctly effective; and Mr. H. C. Lanceley is a genial Father Doolan.

Alhambra.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. L. Graydon; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Ernest Lepard.—A capital company is engaged here this week. Harry Tate's company is highly amusing in *Motoring;* Charles Kitt's and Rhoda Windrum evoke hearty laughter with their military comedy, *The Cuckoo;* Rezene and Robini achieve great success in *Army and Navy;* Johnny Holland and company are very warmly received in the comedy domestic sketch, *The Millionaire;* Ina Lorrimore is a versatile Scotch comedienne and pleasing dancer; Massona gives a clever juggling turn; La Belle Lillian is a clever and graceful cyclist; Tony Iveson, "the ragman at the piano," is entertaining; Barney Vox is a capital ventriloquist; and the Alhambrascope pictures under the superintendence of Ruffel's Imperial, Ltd., are interesting.

Hippodrome. — Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—An attractive programme is sustained here this week. Harry Ford, comedian, keeps the house rippling with laughter; the Westwoods, comedy and expert cyclists, are exceptionally clever; Frank Danby and company win enthusiastic applause in Edward Marris's new musical comedy sketch, *The Chauffeur;* Barton and Franklin, "Scottish princes of music," are versatile instrumentalists; the Two Kays are effective in their vocal scena, *The Nightingale;* Cullen, Carthy, and Little Cluley are droll and amusing comedians; the Henres are clever club throwers and jugglers; the Ringling Trio are capital American eccentrics; Tod Lowen, comedian, and Gladys Wilton, juvenile contralto, submit pleasing turns; and the Barrascope pictures are interesting.

West Pier.—Secretary and Entertainment Manager, Mr. A. D. Norman.—Mr. Norman V. Norman and company are still here, and are delighting large audiences. On Monday they gave an admirable performance of *The Adventure of Lady Ursula*. Mr. Norman V. Norman achieved brilliant success by his masterly impersonation of Sir George Sylvester; Miss Beatrice Wilson won great favour by her thoroughly artistic impersonation of Lady Ursula; Miss Sybil Ruskin made a vivacious Dorothy Fenton; Mr. Aubrey Mather was capitally suited as the Earl of Hassenden; and Mr. Brember Willis as Mr. Dent, and other members of the company gave able representations of their parts. The programme for the week also included *As You Like It, Robin Hood, David Garrick*, and the balcony scene from *Romeo and Juliet*.

Palace Pier Theatre.—Mr. Arthur A. Horner's company is here this week with *Walker, London*. Miss Ruhamah Catton makes a delightful Nanny; Miss Mary Pemberton is a charming Bell Golightly; Miss Ruby Wyndham's Mrs. Golightly, and Mrs. J. W. Braithwaite's Sarah Rigg are admirably played; Mr. Edward Coventry merits warm praise for his excellent impersonation of Jasper Phipps; Mr. Forrester Harvey is a capital "W. G."; and the remaining characters are satisfactorily sustained. The comedy is preceeded by *Hester's Mystery*.

BRISTOL.—Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—Mr. Brandon Thomas' company is here with *Charley's Aunt*. Mr. Spencer Trevor acted capitally as Lord Fancourt Babberley; Mr. Hastings Lynn did well as Jack Cherney; Mr. Brandon Thomas was highly successful as Colonel Sir Francis Chesney; Mr. Richard B. Mason was satisfactorily cast as Charles Wykeman; Mr. Walter Beaumont made the most of Spettigue; and Mr. Sydney Compton was successful as Bassett; Ella Delahay is played in interesting style by Miss Marjorie Murray; Miss Lena MacNaughton is sufficiently dignified as Donna Lucia; and Kitty Verdim and Amy Spettigue have pleasing exponents in Miss Amy Harpwaye and Miss Ida Vynall. The performance commences with *The Lancashire Sailor*, in which Mr. Walter Beaumont, Mr. M. A. Wetherall, Mr. Sidney Compton, Miss Molly Robertson, and Miss Amy Harpwaye distinguish themselves.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry C. Alty.—*A Warning to Women* is being played here by Mr. C. Watson Mill's company. Mr. C. Watson Mill acts effectively as Shaun; Miss Rosalind Tate displays considerable power as Moira Kennion; Mr. Richard Vane makes the most of the unsatisfactory part of Dr. Marcus Dread; Mr. William Vane and Miss Grace Barton both act pleasingly their respective parts of Fergus McNaughton and Sheila Kennion; Mr. N. C. Slaughter is amusing as Lord Eversleigh; and Mr. Henry Rutland acts remarkably well as Squire Kennion; as also does Miss Edith Rutland as the cripple boy, Miles O'Moore.

Palace Theatre.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—Fred Ginnett's Boy Army tops the bill here, the boys and ponies doing their work admirably; John E. Coyle, comedian, obtains applause; Venie Clements is a pleasing comedienne; James Willard and company score with the sketch, *Did He Deserve It?*; Kitty Clover and company also score with the comedy sketch, *Mr. There's Heir;* the Knick Knacks are smart dancers, and amuse with song and patter; Bugler Carr is successful in his equilibristic and musical act; and the performance concludes with interesting animated pictures.

Empire.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—George Marriott and company are highly successful here with their dramatic sketch, *Oliver Twist*. Madge Grey, comedienne and mimic, presents an exceptionally clever and refined turn; Violet Stockelie is a pleasing comedienne; Lavater Lee is successful with his performing dogs and donkey; Elmo and Recco amuse as comedy acrobats; the Four Olympian Stars, speciality dancers and vocalists, present a good turn; Will Lytton, comedian and dancer, is successful; and Beau and Belle score with their vocal scena, *A Pierrot's Serenade*. The performance concludes with up-to-date animated pictures.

BROUGHTON.—Victoria Theatre, Ltd.—Manager and Licensee, Mr. J. Fred. Watson.—Under the personal direction of Mr. Julian Graham the musical play *Juno, the Living Statue*, is finding much favour. Miss Edith Barnes, the American soubrette, is a host in herself; a funny Timothy Twinkle is provided by Mr. Harry Walsh; the title-rôle is well sustained by Miss Kate Graham Beck; Samuel Strong is fittingly portrayed by Mr. Fred Carrington; Mr. G. Walker is a capable Anthony Somers; John Murphy is in the capable hands of Mr. Richard Teasdale; Miss Florence Wood is a pleasing Priscilla Strong; and Miss Gertrude Lawson a sprightly Lottie Stimson.

BURNLEY.—Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Of a high order is the programme provided here this week. Leoni Clarke presents his menagerie of cats, canaries, rabbits, monkey, &c., in a remarkable performance; the Piccolinis, a smart pair of children, are greatly applauded for their handbalancing and dancing; Flo Chevalier sings acceptably; Flo Hilton is good as a male impersonator; Matlo is a neat juggler; and the performance of Max Duffek, contortionist, is excellent. Francis O'Flynn is well received for his banjo solos; Spencer and Marks are funny in a sketch, *The Stage-struck Waifs;* and "The Short-sighted Cyclist," by the Empire Theatroscope, is good.

BURY (Lancs.).—Circus of Varieties.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—The Ottograph pictures are again the chief item here this week. Other turns are the Haverleys, song illustrators; and Miss Ena Compton, vocal comedienne.

The Hippodrome. — Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Sons; General-Manager, Mr. W. Broadhead, jun.—A capital programme includes the Four Kurios, in a comical and mysterious turn; Bert Danson, vocalist and dancer; Roy Bevis, magician; Mlle. Renne, a clever lady juggler; Edgar Forrest's comedy company in a sketch, entitled *My Friend the Enemy;* the Lombards, acrobats; May and Ruby, vocalists and dancers; Cissie Astbury, comedienne and dancer; and Doyle and Gibson, comedians.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—Opera House (Hippodrome).—Proprietor, Mr. H. Dudley-Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Waller.—Bennett and Martell give an original and amusing performance; a skilful acrobatic exhibition by Lack and Ford is highly applauded; R. C. Note is eminently successful is his humorous songs; Miss Maie, a graceful figure on wire and rope, is extremely clever; Daisy Davenport sings and dances in capital style; Dick and Dorothy, Fred Fano, and up-to-date living pictures by the Operascope conclude an enjoyable programme.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS.—Royal Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Eade Montefiore.—Miss Fanny Robina tops the bill here, meeting with a flattering reception; the Five M.Ps. give an excellent display of musical talent; Miss Daisy Palmer is an unusually clever dancer; Alf. E. Passmore sings genuinely humorous songs; Haig and Russell contribute a farcical sketch; C. Tamamoto's performance on the slack wire is cordially applauded; and Miss Florrie Cooper, a tremendous favourite, uses a powerful contralto with excellent effect.

CAMBRIDGE. — New Theatre. — Managing Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—On Monday night Mr. Oscar Asche and Miss Lily Brayton with their company appeared in *Taming of the Shrew*, and as Petrucio Mr. Asche fulfilled to the utmost the high expectations promised, while the Katharina of Miss Lily Brayton was also a surpassingly clever performance. The following were also responsible for a good share of the success of a remarkable production, viz., Miss Agnes Brayton, Messrs. H. R. Hignett, Caleb Porter, Reginald Ian Penny, Alfred Brydone, J. Fritz-Russell, G. K. Souper, R. F. Anson, and Henry Kitts. On Tuesday *Othello* was played, with excellent results, and *Taming of the Shrew* was repeated on Wednesday.

CARDIFF.—New Theatre.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—*The Officers' Mess* is presented by Mr. W. Penrhyn Forster's company. Mr. G. Cadwaladr as Major-General de Beaune undertakes the part with much success; Mr. Chas. D. Cleveland in the rôle of Antonio Wilkins presents a good delineation; Mr. P. Gedge Twyman makes a handsome Captain Melville; Mr. Harry Emerie as Thomas Nugg proves particularly amusing; as Sybil Carruthers, Miss Edith Harmer is delightful, her voice being a valuable asset; Miss Clara Nicholls ably fills the part of Lady de Beaune; and Miss Nellie Sheffield puts in some capital work as Rose Smith. Mr. H. Vivian is seen to advantage as Dick Potts.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—Proving an attraction here is Mr. Ernest Abbott and company in *Sapho*. Miss Ada Abbott undertakes the title-rôle with infinite credit; Mr. Abbott impersonates Jean Gaussin with considerable ability; Mr. Frank Stephens as Unucle Cesaire is amusing; and Lucy is portrayed with much pathos by Miss Edith Knight.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. W. Lea; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. S. Dring.—*The Prince of Monte Carlo*, a laughable sketch, is at the head of the bill here. Mr. Harry Roxbury as P.C. Longfellow is exceedingly funny, with Mr. Richard Bosco as the Count; Miss Ethel Bryant portrays Lady Carr in a satisfactory manner; Miss Queenie Leighton makes a distinct success with her songscena, *On and Off the Stage;* a screamingly farcical sketch, *Kiss Your Father*, is presented by Lonnen Meadows and company; a mystifying turn is that of Dida, styled "the creation of a woman from nothing," introduced by Lewis de Burg; the Miles-Stavordale Quintet give a perfect imitation of the human voice; Larry Lewis is a really quaint comedian; J. B. Preston is also a good Scotch comedian, his patter being exceedingly laughable; and Dan Leno, jun. (comedian), the Two Dixons (bâton swingers, banjo, song, and dance artists), and a picture of life in the Far West on the American Bioscope complete the programme.

CARLISLE.—H. M. Theatre.—Lessees, Mr. Thos. Courtice and Mrs. R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—*The Shadows of a Great City* is excellently interpreted by the stock company. Mr. W. J. Miller makes a breezy and robust hero; and the heavy part is played with considerable power by Mr. Joseph Millane; Mr. Harry Douglas as the Jew pawnbroker submits a clever and interesting character-sketch; the detective is ably delineated by Captain A. E. Winnington-Barnes; and the comedy relief is in the safe hands of Mr. Charles R. Stone. A clever sketch of Biddy Roonan, a big-hearted, voluble Irishwoman, is contributed by Miss Emily Kelsey; Miss Mabel Rose acts pathetically as Annie Standish, and Nellie, her daughter, is charmingly played by Miss Ethel Bracewell.

The Palace.—Proprietors, The Palace Theatre, Carlisle, Ltd; Managing-Director, Signor Rino Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—Miss Lottie Lennox secures a flattering reception for her well-rendered songs; Elton and Edwin are loudly applauded for their clever banjo duets; *Ferdie's Ma-in-Law* goes with a scream from start to finish; Arnold Richardson is responsible for most of the fun, and all the parts are briskly played. Harry Carmen is a capital comedian, his principal song, "My Irish Molly," as rendered by singers of almost every nationality, is cleverly done. Some wonderful feats in the way of spade-jumping in and out of tubs and over various obstacles are performed by Fioretti and Elly; Harvey and Holt, comedy artists, give an excellent turn; and Daisy Lane, a dainty little comedienne, is seen and heard to advantage. New pictures by the Pepiscope conclude.

CASTLEFORD.—Queen's Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, Messrs. Chas. Beanland and Will H. Emerson; General-Manager, Mr. Will H. Emerson.—Topping the bill is Chevalier Cliquot, who swallows swords and electric lights; much enthusiasm is evoked by the Four Eugenes in daring and clever gymnastic displays; the Two Neilsons dance well, and cause much laughter with witty and humorous patter; Patty Tole makes a good impression, her dancing and singing going very well; George Grenville, with catchy songs, appeals strongly to the audience; as musical eccentrics, Lanfretta and Napio gain rounds of applause; the Sisters Ford give an excellent turn as character and comedy duettists; and new animated pictures by the Loyal Dominion Co. still interest and amuse the house. The orchestra, under Mrs. H. B. Coda, lent excellent aid.

CHATHAM. — Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard; Secretary, Mr. Geo. G. Ridley.—Here we have Mr. Morton Powell's company in *The Woman Who Gambles*. In the leading rôle Miss Lilian Herries scores quite a success; Mr. Geo. Steele as Otto and Mr. Reginald Fox as Carl Ctzarteriski are prime favourites; Mr. Percy Ballard's Baron Cratzlaw is powerful; and Miss Lillian Rignold makes a lively Zila.

Barnard's Palace of Varieties.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—*The Unwritten Law* is being played here in thrilling style by Mr. John Lawson, and a capital company, including Miss Buena Bent as Evelyn; Marlo and Manton create plenty of fun in *Other People's Babies;* Martinett and Wallis are a pair of coloured musical entertainers; Will Farrell's songs go down well; Leah Arden scores with "What makes me love you as I do?" and others appearing are Will Farrell, comedian; Daisy Hicks, comedienne; and Victor Courtney, comedian at the piano. Lacey's Erascope projects some good films.

Gaiety Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Capt. H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. F. J. Donne.—Here we have Dinah Morris and company in a lively production, entitled *The Village in Dahomey;* Dan Kirton, clog dancer; Peggy Fame, whose turn is more popular than ever; Lilian Warren, in some well-rendered ballads; Nellie Gannon, vocalist; Lilith, a neatly-worked illusion; and Harry Wright, in "Items of the day." The Edisonograph contributes an interesting film, "The Betrothed's Nightmare."

CHELTENHAM.—Montpellier Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. Alfred W. Newton.—This week Mr. Will C. Pepper's Original White Coons pay a welcome return visit with a capitally varied programme, the artists being Mr. James Godden, humorist; Miss May Hudson, musical entertainer; Mr. Allan Thomas, banjoist and light humorist; Miss Lillian Wesson, soprano; and Mr. Alfred Wood, comedian and banjoist. On Tuesday the band of the Grenadier Guards gave two concerts.

CHESTER. — Royalty Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—The Colley-Dryden company is attracting large houses here this week. Miss Ada Colley, with her melodious voice, rouses her audience to enthusiasm; Martin Conway is the cause of great laughter with his clever songs and patter; Los Rupertos are a couple of smart equilibrists; Miss Mollie Molan is a chic comedienne and a dainty kaleidoscopic dancer; Mr. Leo Dryden is highly successful in his various efforts, and presents a change of songs each evening; Vernon's Bioscope proves entertaining; and Lytton, ventriloquist, also appears. Each performance concludes with a farcical sketch, entitled *Charlie's Indian*.

COLCHESTER.—Hippodrome. — Joint Proprietors, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot and Mr. Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. Jack de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—The Poluski Brothers, who are starring here this week, score heavily at each house; the Paolis, in a posing and speciality act, are a particularly smart pair, and are applauded accordingly; Rudge Whitworth, society entertainer, is a versatile artist, going especially well as a coster elocutionist; Ted Thomas is a droll comedian; Tennis and Laune are a graceful pair of duettists, with some attractive business; and May Kent is quite a popular comedienne. The orchestra is now under the conductorship of Mr. Amos Parker, who wielded the bâton here for the first time on Monday.

CORK.—Opera House.—Manager, Mr. John Horgan.—Mr. Eugene C. Stafford's company is here in *The Private Secretary*. As the Rev. Robert Spalding Mr. Donald Price-Evans kept the house in roars of laughter; Mr. W. Hargreaves as Mr. Cattermole fills the part to perfection; Miss Dora Gray as Edith Marsland is admirable; and the same may be said of Miss Mary E. Deverell in the part of Eva Webster. Mrs. Alfred Davis as Miss Ashford extracts much humour out of the rôle; Mr. H. Sinclair makes an effective Mr. Marsland; Mr. Randolfe Reade is excellent as Douglas Cattermole; Mr. Vivian Gilbert is the Bond-street tailor to the life; and Miss Cecily Wade gives a pleasing interpretation of the landlady. The play is preceded by *My American Admirer*, in which Mr. H. Sinclair, Mr. James Hussey, Miss Cecily Wade, and Miss Mary E. Deverell take part.

COVENTRY.—The Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—Mr. Harry Foxwell's company is here in *A Broken Heart*. Mr. John Clyde ably fills the rôle of the master blacksmith, John Barnard; and is capably assisted by Miss Vera Trevosper as Mary Barnard. Mrs. Harry Foxwell is seen to advantage in the dual rôle of Miss Grace Fanshawe and Mrs. Krellett. Other characters are well represented by Mr. Scott Leighton (Stephen Rayllon), Mr. Will Lindsay (Tony Tibbets), Mr. Charles Vivian (Gash Giles) Mr. Geo. Addison (Skrimp), Miss Helen Grahame (Mrs. Barnard), Miss Nancy Mitchell (Sally Travner), and Miss Florrie Sorsby (May Barnard).

Hippodrome Theatre.—*A Pair of Spectacles* is being performed by an excellent company under the management of Mr. Chas. M. Daly, who takes the part of Uncle Gregory in a very able manner. Mr. Henry Belding, in the character of Benjamin Gildfinch, keeps the house in roars of laughter. Good acting is furnished by Mr. Stanley S. Gordon as Percy, Mr. G. M. Newall as Dick, Mr. Tom Bowron as Lorrimer, Mr. Fred H. Turrell as Bartholomew, Mr. Edward W. Cudd as Joyce, Miss Nina Vaughan as Mrs. Goldfinch, Miss Hilda Merrilees as Lucy, and Miss Dora Hilstrom as Charlotte. Between the acts a very fine set of coloured pictures is shown, and the Sisters Desmond appear and give songs and duets.

Empire Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Dance. One of the chief items is the sketch *The Little Stowaway*, the two principal characters being capitally portrayed by Mr. J. K. Walton as Capt. Worsley and Miss Eva Lumley as the Stowaway. Will Bishop and company appear in a humorous piece, *My Gollywog*, which is very pretty. The clever dancing by Will Bishop is heartily appreciated; Marie Empress scores a success as a dainty comedienne; the performance by Mlle. Ameda, an entertainer, is well received; and Fred Hastings (comedian), Charles Kay (raconteur), and Arthur Astell (comedian) capably contribute to the programme. The Chronophone, which is a combination of the phonograph and living pictures, is also given.

CRADLEY HEATH.—Empire Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Jno. H. Morton.—Kennedy's Komikas are giving their second week's show to full houses. Little Hatch again delights with his funniosities; Miss Josephine Townshend has a charming voice; Miss Mabel Yorke sings some good songs; James Burt again gives his ventriloquial turn; Dan Noble is a first-rate comedian; and Mlle. Lucretia gives a fine exhibition of top-boot dancing. A Bioscope display concludes.

CREWE.—Lyceum Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Taylor, J.P.—*The Shulamite* is being presented by Mr. William Greet's company. Miss Ruth Shepherd, who possesses remarkable talent for the rôle of Deborah Krillett, acts superbly; Miss Emily Levettz gives a clever delineation of Tante Anna Vanderberg; Mr. Algernon J. Hicks as Simeon Krillett is a typical Boer farmer, a part he appears to have carefully studied; Mr. Charles Fancourt's Robert Waring is full of power and individuality; and Mr. Geo. Rammell gives a skilful rendition of Jan Vanderberg. Miss Chrissie Bickerstaff's performance of the Kaffir slave girl, Memke, is good; and Mr. Albert Rogers as Klas is a distinct success.

CROYDON.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Herrick.—The attractive programme this week includes Fred Southern's company in *Lost at Sea*, and also the humorous sketch, *His Lordship's Birthday*. Harry Hillier is a good instrumentalist; the Players give a praiseworthy turn; the Courtney Family in *Jack's Return* do well; the Sisters Bronson, duettists, are welcome; and Raymond's Bio-tableaux is appreciated.

Empire Palace of Varieties. — Proprietor, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay. — La Milo, in her poems in marble, is being well received here; Bert Brantford is a clever comedian; E. J. Johnson, coloured comedian, wins applause; Brett and Orford are great in their sparkling vaudeville, *Two Love Birds;* the Eight Stella Girls sing and dance their way into favour; the Tally Ho! Trio make a big hit in their mirth and harmony act; Queenie Essex is an entrancing little comedienne; Ed. E. Ford, comedian, is good; and the Piccad troupe of American pantomimists bring down the house with their exceedingly humorous knockabout sketch, *The Burglars of New York*. The Bioscope pictures are well up to date.

DARLINGTON.—Theatre Royal and Hippodrome.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—The stock season opened here on Monday with Mr. F. B. Woulfe and Miss Ethel Griffies and company in *Lady Godiva*. Miss Griffies makes a beautiful Godiva; Miss Theo. Henries is a charming Lady Aldyth; Miss Edith Lorraine an excellent Elfrida; and Tom of Coventry is in the capable hands of Mr. F. B. Woulfe. Mr. R. S. Innes as the Earl of Mercia is exceptionally good; Mr. Clifford Rean as Alga gives a capital rendering; and Mr. A. Holland Day as Unwolf Unwolfson is successful. *The Merchant of Venice* was played on Friday.

DERBY.—Grand Theatre.—Sole Owner and Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Assistant-Managers, Messrs. Chas. Denley and Herbert Taylor.—Billie Barlow is paying a welcome visit here, and with her smartly-rendered songs scores a distinct success. Galetti's monkeys provide a most amusing turn, which is greatly appreciated; Mignonette Kokin is a charmingly quaint comedienne, and her speciality dances meet with cordial approval; the Saletos are daring equilibrists; Dan Robans is a baritone vocalist of great ability; Zeta Gray and company, in a sketch, *The Lancashire Lass*, introduce some capital singing, interspersed with humour; Lambert and Hands, in a vocal scena, do exceedingly well; and Will Poluski, jun., comedian, soon makes himself a favourite. The Bioscope, with its film, "Picturesque Japan," adds greatly to a well-arranged programme.

DEVONPORT.—Metropole Theatre.—Manager, Mr. G. S. King.—The summer stock company commenced operations on Monday, *The Ticket-of-Leave Man* being produced to a well-filled and appreciative house. The members of the company are Messrs. D. C. Phelps, L. Aardale, S. Bedwell, L. Clements, and R. Webb, and the Misses Olga Andre, Elsie Shelton, and C. Cleveland.

DONCASTER.—New Grand Theatre and Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—A variety company, with Dr. Walford Bodie as the central figure, is drawing well here this week. T. Duriah, comedian, scores; Belford and Mars, duo singers and dancers, are brilliant; and daintiness characterises Little Dolly Robson, the child-wonder; the Musical Acmes, in their drawing-room entertainment, afford a rich treat; and success attends Tom N. Mills, Australian actor-vocalist; Russell and Reed's company, in *Binks' Blunder*, provide piquant humour; and Bella Skene, burlesque actress and vocalist, is commendable. Dr. Bodie demonstrated his prowess in the science of electricity. On Monday evening a child of tender years, having been paralysed from infancy, was subjected to treatment, and subsequently walked to the wings amid the wildest enthusiasm. Similar astounding cures were effected on Tuesday evening.

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ming.—Mr. Joshua Dyson's Dyorama and Gipsy Choir still continues its successful career at the Grand Theatre, with a change of programme each evening.

DOVER.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Chairman of Directors, Mr. B. Carter; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—Clark and Gallimore's San Francisco Minstrels attracted good houses nightly on the occasion of their first visit to this town. The first part of the evening was given up to selections interspersed with the old-time gag, while the remainder of the programme was composed of vaudeville items contributed by G. Richins, a clever bird imitator; the California Quartette of cultured artists; Ed. Camplin, the story teller; the Two Chandons, in a humorous interlude; Clark and Gold, banjoists; Gallimore and Stene, in a smart turn; an amusing sketch by the Gallimore Trio, and lastly the "Great Little Thomas," the talented comedian so long associated with the Mohawk Minstrels. On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, Mr. F. R. Benson's North Shakespearean company are billed to play *Macbeth*, *Twelfth Night*, *Richard III.*, and *As You Like It*.

PIER PAVILION, PROMENADE PIER.—Lessees, The Dover Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—The Sparkenhoe Concert Party is here this week, and submit a series of capital entertainments. Master Cyril Godwin, a violinist of great brilliancy and wonderful technique, receives a great ovation; and Mr. Arthur Pickett's marvellous execution in his pianoforte solos as well as his tactful accompaniment are duly recognized; Mr. Charles E. Barratt, an accomplished humorist, sings good songs; Mr. Carl Weber is a smart conjurer and interests the audience with his thought transmission scene, in which he is assisted by Miss Daisy Pollock. The fine selection of songs rendered by Mr. Andrew O. Sarson prove him to have a tenor voice of excellent quality; the cultured voice of Miss Annie Weed, L.R.A.M., is heard to advantage; and Miss Daisy Pollock sings most pleasingly, and meets with universal approval.

PALACE HIPPODROME.—Lessees, The Vaudeville Syndicate; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Holt.—A very clever turn is given this week by the Four Herberts, who deserve unqualified praise for their original acrobatic act, entitled *Novel Farm Furniture*. Some funny songs are smartly rendered by Chas. Ridgewll; a rousing welcome is accorded Bernan and Weston, patter comedians; Nellie Montague is a most popular artist, and Lily Watson submits a quaint and humorous turn; Dan Filmer's eccentricities are well received; Ivy Adelaide, a refined and graceful singer and dancer, makes a good impression, and Raymond's Bio-tableaux are watched with interest.

DUBLIN. — GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Directress, Mrs. Michael Gunn; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Hyland.—The boards are occupied here this week by Mr. J. Mackey Glover's juvenile company from Drury-lane Theatre with the pantomime of *The Forté Thieves*, which proved a delightful and attractive performance, and was heartily appreciated by a crowded audience. The parts were cleverly fulfilled. Master Jack Frost distinguished himself as Abdalla, and the Ali Baba of Master W. Bishop was a capital performance; Miss Florrie Clarke gave a dainty and pleasing portrayal of Morgiana, and Miss Jessie Evans made an effective Ganem; Miss A. McDonald sang and acted nicely in the part of Hassarac; Master Teddy Gordon did admirably as Cassim Baba; and Miss L. Randall was amusing in the rôle of Cogia Baba. The remaining parts were successfully portrayed, and the choruses, dances, pretty dresses, and scenery, with the grand transformation, "The Coming of Spring," added greatly to the attractiveness of the performance, which concluded with a grand shadow pantomime.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—An old Dublin favourite is here this week in Tom Costello, who gives his latest success, "The Suffragettes," which is exceedingly smart and clever. Mr. Bates Maddison's comedy company in an up-to-date sketch, entitled *Charley's Uncle*, causes much laughter, and Lily Langtry sings and dances in a charming manner; Edwin Barwick, comedian and mimic, is well received; Maude Laverne, comedienne, has a host of admirers; the Jackley Trio, including the whistling comedian, George, in their acrobatic speciality, are particularly good; and Minna Merry, the female George Robey, scores a decided hit; the Eight Emerald Gems, in songs and dances, repeat their former success; and the Trapnells Troupe of juvenile acrobats are highly appreciated. The Empire Pictures conclude the performance.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Secretary, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—A hearty welcome greeted Florrie Gallimore on Monday night, her new and catchy songs being heartily appreciated; Barney Stuart, in his scena, "The Miser," was well received. A smart speciality act, "On Board an Ocean Liner," by Fred Elton, was greatly enjoyed. The Three Sisters Treo were warmly applauded for their capital hunting song and dance; the Bros. Smarte gave a clever and eccentric performance; Nash and Noel, with their song and patter, won rounds of applause; the Cheers and their performing cats appeared with great success; Josie Delaine scored with her songs and dances; Gatsuma gave a good display of Japanese conjuring; and the Bioscope concluded.

WORLD'S FAIR AND MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. A. James.—Joe Cash, eccentric comedian; Rose Cameron, ballad vocalist; Teddy Lennon, comedian; the Cashlings, duettists and dancers; and the new Cinematograph furnish the entertainment here.

SAMUELS' EXHIBITION PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. S. Samuels.—The following artists are appearing here this week:—James Dunn, eccentric comedian; Stella Maine, serio and expert dancer; Harry Boland, comedian and dancer; George Howard, tenor; Michael O'Shea, Irish comedian; May Olive, comedienne; and Cobb and Cobb, sketch artists

PAVILION (Kingstown).—Manager, Mr. Fred R. Heley.—The Gaieties, under the direction of Wilson James and Charles Conyers, opened here on Monday for a short season, and met with a warm reception. The programme provided is most entertaining, and includes humorous and vocal items by Miss Beatrice Jeffreys (soprano), Miss Lois Barker (contralto), Mr. Percy Watson (tenor), Miss Ruby Wilson (comedienne), Mr. Charles Conyers (versatile entertainer), and Mr. Wilson James (humorist).

DUDLEY.—EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. B. Peberdy.—The Decars, with their unridable mule and clever acrobatic performance, are causing endless amusement here this week. The Brothers Corcoran, musical ship builders, are great favourites; Mlle. Sylvesto, lady contortionist, gives a very good exhibition of suppleness; Hans and Lux, the argumentative college chums, prove themselves excellent comedians and dancers; Acakabar performs some smart tricks on the silver chains; and Nellie Lauurn (comedienne) and Chas. Rutland (comedian) are well received. The Empire Pictures conclude the programme.

DUNDEE.—PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. E. J. Dexter.—The Bensons, at the top of the bill here in their clever musical and comedy act, meet with approval; excellent comedy juggling is contributed by Mike Gray; Rowland Hill has some capital songs; Babs Lloyd has a flattering reception; Claire Greta gives charming interpretations of the songs and dances of the Sunny South; and Nellie Vance scores with tasteful singing. The Fordyces appear in a clever turn; the Florias prove themselves aerial acrobats of uncommon merit; and Vernon's Imperial Bioscope concludes.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. A. P. Williams.—Fant Abbott, wonder worker, tops the bill, and completely baffles the audience with his clever performance; George Melvin, Scotch comedian, is also appearing with success; Hall and Wilson give a smart exhibition; and the "Strong Man" turn contributed by Titan is exceptionally good. Telka, a pleasing ballad vocalist, gets a good reception; Wyllie, in "The Adventures of a Musical Tramp," is responsible for much laughter; Madge Carew, serio and dancer, gets a good reception; as do also the Orchids (Violet and Harry) for their comedy turn; a clever mind-reading act, "A La Zancig," a cycle competition, and the Electro Motorscope complete the bill.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Percival.—Mr. Clarence Lewis' company is appearing here with success in *The Black Vampire* and *Oliver Twist*.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Devonshire Park and Baths Co.; Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clark.—On Monday Mr. Murray King and his company performed *Niobe* here. Mr. Murray King has much to do, and in his characteristic manner he makes extensive fun as Peter Amos; Mr. Charles Crawford animated and interesting, is a really excellent Cornelius Griffin, Mr. Edmund Beresford is a suitable Phillip, and Mr. Ardene Linden is a capital Hamilton Tomkins. Miss Lilias Waldegrave as Niobe adds another success to her list; Miss Pauline Straus is an attractive and able Caroline Dunn; Miss Violet Hollom and Miss Sepha Julians share honours as Hattie and Beatrice, and Mrs. Stanislaus Calhaem, gives a very fine embodiment of Helen, and Miss Tessa Myers is a bright, animated Miss Mifton.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Mr. Charles la Trobe's company in *Jedbury, Junior*, is here. Mr. A. W. Tyrer works hard and successfully in the name-part; Mr. Edward Ouston is a dignified Jedbury, senior; Mr. F. Stoney is a satisfactory Major Hedway, Mr. George Percy is an able Mr. Simpson, Mr. Richard Neville is a bright Tom Bellaby, Mr. Claude Vernon causes much fun as Job, and Mr. Reginald Craven is an amusing Mr. Glibb. Miss Victoria Addison is a charming, expressive, and dainty Dora, Miss Joan Wellman is an imposing Mrs. Jedbury, Miss Dorothy Rowell is a pretty girlish Nelly, and Miss Leonora Thomas is a smart Mrs. Glibb.

THE HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Day.—Mr. Fred Cary is in high favour as an original and eccentric comedian; Miss Nora Moore is a handsome lady, beautifully gowned, and she has taking songs; the Dancing Gilberts are a couple of bright, enthusiastic ladies; Mr. Gus Hindell sings and impersonates to the great delight of the audience; the Almas contribute one of the most popular turns in a very smart balancing and tumbling act; Miss Florence Leonard sings in a very pleasing and refined manner; Messrs. Farrell and Miller sing and dance well; and new pictures are added.

EDINBURGH.—ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Carpenter.—Mr. H. B. Irving and company began a week's engagement here on Monday with *The Lyons Mail*, Mr. Irving being greeted with enthusiastic applause. The strongly contrasted characters of Joseph Lesurques and Dubosc gave the actor the opportunity of manifesting not only his unmistakable dramatic power, but the earnestness with which every point of the dual rôle had been studied. Mr. Irving was loudly recalled at the end of each act, and at the conclusion of the play he thanked the audience for their reception. Mr. Frank Tyars acted with vividness and truth the part of Jerome Lesurques; Mr. E. Harcourt Williams contributed a finished piece of acting as the dandy Courriol, and really admirable character-sketches were given by Mr. Charles Dodsworth as Choppard and Mr. Tom Reynolds as Ferrinard. Mr. Arthur Curtis was capital as Joliquet, and Mr. Fewlas Llewellyn as Dorval, Mr. Eric Mason as Didier, and Mr. Frank Cochrane as postmaster of Montgeron were all as good as could be. Miss Madge McIntosh's performance of Janette was an exceedingly able one, full of sincerity and strength; and Miss Sybil Noble was a charming Julie. *King Rene's Daughter* was played as a curtain-raiser, Miss Madge McIntosh acting with tenderness and grace as Iolanthe, and Mr. Tyars, Mr. E. Harcourt Williams, and Mr. Arthur Curtis giving excellent support. *The Bells*, in which Mr. Irving's Mathias was notable for its thrilling intensity, was given on Tuesday evening, and *Charles the First* was also played during the week.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—All-round attractiveness marked this week's programme, which was headed by the notable Lorch Family in their wonderful Risley performance; Mr. Graeme Goring and Miss Lilian Locke appeared with artistic effect in the humorously pathetic sketch, *Cinders*, a pleasing production out of the ordinary run of vaudeville duologues. A decided novelty in music and song was provided by Mr. Wilbur Hill and Miss Willette Whittaker, who gave a most exhilarating turn; the living marionettes of the Katos are clever; Wallace proves himself a remarkable expert young juggler; Miss Gwladys Elvey, of recent local pantomime fame, was cordially welcomed, and her turn is a bright one; Mr. Alec Kendall put in some quaint patter as a comedian; Mr. Hal Forde's songs were vastly appreciated; Miss Helen Charles was loudly recalled for her versatile imitations and dialect pieces; and a good series of Bioscope films concluded a pleasant show.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Parham Wells.—Mr. Harry Lauder's name on the programme here this week has drawn crowded houses. Mr. Lauder is in his best form, and his rendering of several of his favourite songs has called forth the customary demonstrations of approval; the Hartley Wonders give an extraordinary display of jumping feats, and the Three Rubys are dexterous acrobats. *The Punch Bowl*, a hunting sketch, serves to introduce some capital singing by Messrs. Frank Wood, G. Ide, Sydney Bracey, Robert Selby, Millroy Cooper, and Ralph Nairn; Mr. J. W. Rickaby's well-known humorous ability is shown in a clever song, and Miss Maggie Walsh, the singing mill-girl, charms her audience by her expressive singing; Miss Gracie Moore, a pleasing vocalist, contributes a taking song, which is illustrated by a series of beautiful pictures; Mr. Percy Honri displays excellent executive ability as a player of the concertina, and he sings effectively; while Wallace Selkirk's juvenile performers in a stirring military spectacle, *Egypt*, and humorous films shown by the Bioscope add to the attractiveness of a first-class bill.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Ventom Swift.—The Boston Twins are well to the fore this week with their amusing knockabout act, entitled *Kilt Land*. An interesting Indian musical sketch, *The Belle of Arizona*, is presented with much acceptance by Emmie Milsted and Joe Bell; Miss Amina Rinder's illustrated songs are very warmly received; Miss Ada Twibell, another pleasing vocalist, makes a favourable impression; and Mr. Charles Lester gives a skilful display of juggling. Miss Daisie Cordelia dances in a dainty and somewhat novel fashion; Mr. Ted Young is successful as a character vocal comedian; and up-to-date Alhambrascope Pictures complete the bill.

EXETER. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—Mr. Edmund Tearle and Miss Kate Clinton's company is here with a répertoire which includes *Othello*, *The Three Musketeers*, *Macbeth*, *Julius Cæsar*, and *The Octoroon*. Mr. Edmund Tearle as Othello is seen at his best, and his acting is very fine indeed, and, together with Miss Esther Tearle as Desdemona, well merit the unstinted applause with which they were received. As the scheming Iago, Mr. Bernhardt Turner proves himself a very clever actor; Mr. Clifford Marle as Cassio is all that could be desired, while Mr. J. A. Keogh as Roderigo is decidedly good; Miss Mary Campbell makes a sympathetic Emilia. In *The Three Musketeers*, Mr. Tearle is quite at home as D'Artagnan, and he is ably seconded by Miss Kate Clinton as Miladi, and Mr. Bernhardt Turner as Richelieu.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Messrs. C. and F. Renad's company in *The Swiss Express* are here. The Messrs. Renad give a very humorous rendering of James and John, and put in some good acrobatic work; Mr. Wilfred E. Brandon is very amusing as Dr. Gull; Mr. Basil Reynolds and Mr. Alex. Wylie leave nothing to be desired as Rob Rollingstone and Dudley Green; and Miss Celestine Brandon sings and dances daintily as Virginia. Miss Lottie Stone's Palace Quartette contribute to the success of the performance. A flying matinée on Tuesday attracted a large audience to welcome Mr. Seymour Hicks, Miss Zena Dare, and company in a triple bill, *Scrooge*, *You and I*, and *Papa's Wife*.

LEAS PAVILION.—Manager and Musical-Director, Mr. D'Arcy Clayton.—The Excelsiors commenced a week's engagement here on Monday. Miss Ethel Branston and Miss Marie Moffert are received most enthusiastically; Mr. Willie Rouse, comedian, is as good as ever; and Mr. Wilson Bamber and Mr. W. H. Webb meet with well-merited success.

GATESHEAD. — KING'S THEATRE — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harold Arnold.—Chanti, a protean artist, is possessed of wonderful dancing abilities and a host of novel scenic contrivances; the Deer Family present a picturesque scena called "Indians of the Past," in the success of which the dancing of a young lady member of the party is a potent factor; admirable foolers are found in the persons of Hector and Sultan; McAskell is described as a "comic talking conjurer," and he does not belie the description; Tom E. Hughes, a genuine comedian, has a very hearty reception; Stidder and Dunbar, in *The Sport and the Gypsy Girl*, prove excellent entertainers; Percy Curry is a comedian with gags which go well; and pictures by Vernon's Imperial Bioscope complete the show.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; Acting-Manager, Councillor Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas France.—*The Eve of Her Wedding* is being presented here by Mr. Wilson Benge. Mr. Benge impersonates quietly yet powerfully George Tremaine; Mr. Louis Hector makes a striking picture as Dean Clifton, and his acting is worthy of high praise; Mr. Arthur Keand provides a capital portrayal of Squire Leverton; Mr. Chas. H. Gallier is excellent as Dick Leverton; Mr. Chas. Digby is highly amusing as Rudolph Earle; and Giovanni receives the best of treatment at the hands of Mr. David Beattie. One of the best performances seen here for some time is that of Mr. Norman B. Cannon, who plays Jack Hearne; Mr. Chas. Groves, jun., is seen to advantage in the parts of Paul Cairsham and Hiram P. Younger; a very emotional depiction of Mavis Leverton is furnished by Miss Sadie Smith; Miss Adeline Raby achieves a large amount of success in the part of Renniede Tell; and Miss Sybil Hare is charming in the rôle of Gwendoline Younger.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Councillor Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stephen Smith.—The New York Picture Company and Mysterious Parker in a quick-change act form the fare at this house.

GLASGOW. — KING'S, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, *pro tem.*, Mr. Percy Humphrys.—Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart and company opened on Monday in *Bootle's Baby*. As the good-hearted Bootles, Mr. Stewart acts with excellent effect, firm, yet restrained; Miss Maisie Richardson makes a charming Bootle's Baby, and her bright and animated style proves very fascinating. Mr. Henry Wolston was a duly cynical Captain Gilchrist, and his sorely-tried wife was acted with pathetic sympathy by Miss Georgina Wynter. Miss Gladys Harvey as Laura and Miss Isabel Roddick as Mrs. Smith made an attractive couple of society ladies. The humour of Private Saunders as played by Mr. Tom Mowbray was most enjoyable, especially his little tiffs with Humpty-Dumpty, the nurse, cleverly acted by Miss Edith Ife. Officers in the regiment were ably portrayed by Messrs. Leslie Owen, Ernest Gray, William Midgeby, and Hubert Purser.

METROPOLE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Gillespy.—Mr. Harry Foxwell's company is here with *An Abandoned Woman*. The title-part, as presented by Miss Edith Blande, is an exceedingly effective performance. In the rôle of Phillipe Malvoisin, Mr. Richard Ferris gives an impersonation of exceptional merit; as the hero, Captain Seaton, Mr. Walli Spinner bears himself in gentlemanly fashion; Miss May Richardson makes a sympathetic Eleanor Deane; in the part of Paddy Boyle, Mr. Jim K. Wood acts and sings with much good humour; Sammy Sharp is cleverly played by Mr. Will Glaze; Miss Elsie Deane makes a smart housemaid, and the parts of Sir Marmaduke Seaton and Robert Saunders are well filled by Mr. George Gormby and Mr. P. Morton Wright respectively.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners.—Paul Conchas, the herculean juggler, gives a unique and novel performance. An old favourite, Dutch Daly, submits a fine musical performance; and the veteran, W. J. Ashcroft, attracts more than usual attention, proving himself a marvel. Bonnie Goodwin's piccaninnies (now under the direction of Marie Goodwin) are highly appreciated for their dancing ability. The Netherlands are successful in their smart scena, *Dutch Pastimes*; Colombia's Cyclists give a wonderful and daring performance; Harry Bedford, comedian; and Fred and Pauly, acrobats, are also worthy of note in a clever programme.

ZOO-HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd., and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—The Lukushima troupe of Japanese acrobats perform some daring and elegant risley feats; George Kirk's company present an exciting little drama, called *Grip; or the Fatal Hand*, in which Mr. George Langdon gives a strong representation of a detective; while Miss Connie Laurie is excellent as a street waif. The Karno Four, in a sketch, *The Dinner Hour*, provide some pantomimic knockabout fun; the New York Nippers, in *Bed-time*, keep the merriment going while they are on; Kent and Keith are lively comedians whom all are glad to see and hear. Others are the Wedburns, instrumentalists, vocalists, and patterers; Sydney Lee, a clever sleight-of-hand performer; and Nellie Martell, a smart comedienne. Bioscope pictures are agreeably shown between some of the turns.

PAVILION, LTD. — General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—Mr. John Tiller's company is this week giving *A Trip to Paris*, the artists being Messrs. Bob Selvidge, Teddy Gibbs, Barney Dixon, and Harold Wardroper, and Misses Jessie Templeton, Nelly Rodney, Lizzie Hay, and Emmie Franks. Alexandra Dagmar makes a hit with a versatile turn in the way of impersonations; Belrose and De Velin enhance their already high reputation by their cultured singing of several duets; Charles Faning and Lotta Charles provide a clever comedy turn, and Arthur Albert scores well as a light comedian; Hyram Travers, the famous "pearly king," gives a touch of his quality in several smart songs. An excellent turn is that of Barnard's Mannikins in *The Coons' Revelry*.

COLISEUM. — Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Burdette.—Fred Ginnett's popular *Dick Turpin's Ride to York* company top the bill, and the clever performance is much enjoyed. The Dorrell Sisters are warmly recalled for expert and neat dancing; as patter comedians, the New Macs make a hit, and their admirable dancing wins much applause; Olive Tree sings a pleasing song, illustrated, about "Two little dirty hands," which is well received; Herbert Rule gives an eccentric song turn, and Nellie Wallace repeats her success of last week. The singing and playing of the Boccaccio Minstrels are enjoyable, amusing and clever; and Signor Francia is a mandolinist of great talent; a fine gymnastic and equilibristic series of feats calls for admiration, the lady member of the Lafailler troupe standing out prominently in trials of strength. One of the very best things in the programme is the sketch, *In Her Boudoir*, by Edward Laurie and company; fine operatic singing, graceful dancing, the gentleman's make-up, by-play, and like variety of business mark the features in which Ivy Beatty has a worthy share. The menagerie procession on the Bioscope is very interesting.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; General-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—John Lawson's company is here in *Sally in Our Alley*. The production is expensively staged and is well received; Gertie Gitana also has a good reception, and is heartily applauded for her singing and dancing. Other notable turns are Ruby Bijou, an artistic bare-foot dancer; Williams and Monkhouse, comedy artists; Dan Thomas, comedian; Nat Clifford, eccentric comedian and dancer; the Clavers, in a smart juggling exhibition; Winifred Ward, male impersonator; Walker and Lake, comedians; and the Bioscope.

GAIETY, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Harry Bowerman.—The Four Berlin Belles top the bill, and give a smart exposition of artistic dancing and high-kicking, which is much appreciated; Tom Garland excels as a ventriloquial entertainer; and an unique juggling and globe-walking performance is given by Globella; Mueller and Coyne contribute an excellent variety entertainment; and the fun produced by Comical Walker and his troupe of "Aristocratic Nippers" created roars of laughter. Other acceptable turns include Bert Anderson, society conjurer; George Edney, vocalist; James Lowrey, original Newcastle singing furnace-man; and the new Bioscope with new films.

BRITANNIA.—Proprietor and Director, Mr. A. E. Pickard.—De Ora, flying trapeze artist, gives a display that is greatly enjoyed by the audience. Another successful performer is found in Frank Vallance, conjurer, who is full of mystery; while Will Candlish, negro comedian, also makes a hit. Others items are given by Ethel Lease, comedienne; Daisy Dalmery, comedienne; Lillie Benson, comedienne and dancer, and the Chronophone.

GLOUCESTER.—PALACE.—Owners, Messrs. C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr. R. T. Rea.—At the head of this week's bill we have the Royal Banzai Family, who are extremely good in their acrobatic feats; the Sisters Selwyn give a pleasing vocal and clever dancing act; Arthur Croxon is splendid in his impersonations and mimicry, and earns an enthusiastic recall; while Percy Farrimond is the possessor of a really good tenor voice, and is immediately in favour with the audience. Fred Hallam is funny in his songs; the Zano Brothers on the triple bars are responsible for a mirth-provoking performance; Nancy Langtyre is a charming comedienne, and looks well; the Bonanzas have an interesting acrobatic turn; Hector and Paulus are also acrobats, with the addition of some comedy; while E. Montefiore and company have a pretty scena, *The Little Colonel*, and the Bioscope, as usual, show an excellent film.

GREAT YARMOUTH. — ROYAL AQUARIUM. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—Mr. Henry Swinerd's company is here with *Dare-Devil Dorothy*. In the title-rôle Miss Dorothy Desmonde plays with spirit and vivacity, and is ably supported by Miss Marie Vere as Ruth, Mr. Walter Ashley as Captain George Fielding, Mr. Henry C. Ward as Captain Edward Dudley, Mr. Dean Cliffe as Featherstone Haugh, Mr. William G. Hearson as Smith, Mr. Arthur Hartley as Hawkins, Mr. Bert Edwards as Silas Crump, Miss Lillie Blake as Rosy Ann, Miss Mabel Blake as Polly, and Miss Nellie Harcourt as Judith.

GREENOCK.—EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry L. Skivington.—Mr. J. Cumming is here with up-to-date Animated Pictures; Miss Lily Moselle and company keep the audience in an almost continuous roar of laughter by their appearance in the mirth-provoking sketch, *The Woman Who Risked It*; David Stewart, tenor vocalist, is much applauded for his fine singing; and Corelli, in a humorous interlude, entitled *A Lesson in Magic*, is good.

PAVILION THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Chas. A. White.—The Lizzette Troupe of lady acrobats have achieved a great success here this week; Molly Augarde is a capital comedienne; Shirley and Ransome, in a coster episode, entitled *'Arf a Quid*, are much appreciated; Queenie May, juvenile comedienne, displays much talent; Jack Neil remains for another week; L. R. Atholl, actor-vocalist, also contributes, and the Paviscope Pictures are up to the usual standard.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry.—Messrs. Armitage and Leigh's company is here in *East Lynne*. In the part of Lady Isobel Miss Julie Kennard accomplishes very realistic acting, and wins universal favour; Mr. Alfred Beaumont admirably sustains the character of Archibald Carlyle; the quaint characters of Cornelia and Justice Hare find excellent exponents in Miss Ethel Hardacre and Mr. C. C. Grattan; Mr. Frederick Harker is quite equal to the part of Francis Levison; whilst others taking prominent characters are Miss Ethel Savile as Barbara Hare, Mr. Harry C. Rutland as Richard Hare, Mr. Cyril Hayward as Lawyer Dill, Miss Jessie Bayes as Little Willie, and Mr. Alfred Tate as the amusing policeman.

CURRY'S TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North.—Closed until August.

THE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. A. Edwardes; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. F. Miller; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Houghton.—Bella and Bijou provide an entertainment which is at once amusing, original, and refined; excellent vocalism is contributed by Gittings' Opera Company, whose condensed representations of *Maritana* and *The Bohemian Girl* are popular features of the programme; a remarkable illusion is presented by the Venturinis, who materialise two women apparently out of nothing; Ada Parker gives good coon songs; Arthur Aiston and company have an amusing absurdity, *Duck Hunting*; and Billy Dewey, coloured vocalist; A. E. Clifford, vocalist; and H. Pawson, necromancer, also appear.

HALIFAX. — THEATRE ROYAL, LTD. — General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—*Master and Man* was presented by the Northern Theatres' stock company on Monday. Mr. Cyril Austen-Lee achieved a notable success as Jack Walton; while no less successful was Mr. J. Cook Hinton in the difficult rôle of Robert Carlton. Mr. Ernest Plumpton put forth his mightiest efforts in the intricate character of Humpty Logan; an acquisition to the company was Mr. Bernard Mervyn, whose forcible representation of the rebellious Jim Barleigh left an indelible impression; a good-tempered Tom Honeywood was found in Mr. Henry C. Gilpin; while Miss Jessie Belmore was a capable helpmate in her simulation of Letty; and Miss Winnie Tempest made a convincing Hester Thornbury. The local management are to be commended for the admirable manner in which the plays are staged each week under the able guidance of Mr. Otto C. Culling.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Harrison.—This week we have Will Pay's Juveniles, in *Life in the Slums*; the singing of the kiddies is delightful. A couple of loquacious exponents of comedy are Wake and Dean; an excellent collection of cockatoos, well trained by Marvelle and May, give an entertaining performance; very pleasing are the Maples in *How to Treat a Burglar*; Abdy and Bushman produce a canine and table act very painstakingly; Normo, who terms himself the mad, but uncommon, juggler, has a host of up-to-date tricks; the Martelloni Troupe of vaulters are here, the vaulting of the ladies being especially graceful.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. T. Winks. — John Higgins accomplishes some astounding feats in the art of jumping; Sheila McNeill, "the lass from Killiecrankie," contributes meritoriously, and is greeted cordially; Will Rain and company, in *Motor Maniacs*, are very clever; and Violi is a gifted instrumentalist. The Veronia Troupe of singers and dancers create a favourable impression, and are loudly applauded; Will Onda and company, in *Hovel Comfort*, and the Grays, comedians, are amongst the performers to meet with favour.

HANLEY.—GRAND, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. James Wynes.—A capital programme is headed by Robbins, the Canadian cyclist, in a marvellous performance; a clever dramatic sketch presented is 99, and arouses much interest; the Four Juggling Geraldos contribute a turn which is decidedly clever; James Kurry is most amusing in his songs and business; Ruby and Laws are a smart pair, their singing being quite a feature in the sketch *In Old Madrid*; Mabel le Blanche sings a nice song in good style; the Five Brewsters are successful in a turn consisting of drills, dancing, and banjo playing; Mill May and Teresa in their Japanese scena and quick-changes are much appreciated; and the pictures are excellent.

HARROGATE. — GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Smith.—For the first three nights of this week we had a visit from the London Comedy Company, in Sidney Grundy's charming play, *A Fool's Paradise*. Mr. Henry Twyford was good as Philip Selwyn; and Mr. Arthur Claremont was well placed as Lord Normantower. Mr. Wylie Thompson as the Hon. Tom Verinder, and Miss Hilda Stericker as Mildred Selwyn, were both excellent; Miss Margery Chard as Kate Derwent was all that could be desired; Miss Laura Hansen was good as Beatrice Selwyn; and Mr. Cecil Wynne was Sir Peter Lund. The play was preceded by *An April Shower*. For the rest of the week variety was the order.

HARTLEPOOL.—EMPRESS.—Proprietors, Messrs. Councillor Everton and J. W. Cragg; Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Charlie Ferrier.—The programme for the week is headed by those old-time favourites Charles Majilton and his company of comedians with *The Trippers*; Narrow Bros. do some marvellous knockabout cycling feats; to the vocal and comedy scena by the Napoli Sextette is awarded an encore; Hilton, the Scotch ventriloquist, is an expert; Nellie Lewis charms all with her descriptive songs; Copeland and Son give an exhibition of clog dancing; and some new pictures are exhibited.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Scutt.—Mr. John Gerant and company are playing *At Duty's Call*. Mr. William S. Parkes plays impressively as General Gordon; Mr. John Gerant as the renegade Harold carries through his revengeful schemes with much energy; Mr. Henry Watson makes an admirable hero, and acts his part as Captain George Allison in a bold and frank manner, and in the lighter scenes, together with Mr. Frederick Sandy as Jack Spencer, gives an admirable boxing exhibition; Mr. Frank Caffrey provides some amusing comedy as Terry O'Hallaron, together also with Miss Doris Lorraine as Mary and Mr. Ivan Mavis as Joey Trot; Miss Lily Crammonde charmingly fills the onerous part of Dora Drummond; and Miss Beatrice Western gives an exceedingly strong interpretation of the rôle of Salema. On Wednesday Mr. Seymour Hicks and London company, with Miss Zena Dare, played a special matinée.

HASTINGS PIER PAVILION.—Pier-Master, Mr. R. Turner; Entertainment-Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—*Called Back* is holding the boards here and is commendably staged. Gilbert Vaughan is naturally played by Mr. Talbot Homewood; Mr. Charles Hawker intelligently sustains the part of Anthony Marsh; Mr. Frank Carlisle is very successful in the character of Paoli Mascari; Mr. Arthur St. John is easy and natural as Dr. Ceneri; a good character-sketch of Petroy is given by Mr. Howell Sequin; and Captain Varlamoff and Adolphus Raker are well taken respectively by Messrs. C. and H. Howell. The housekeeper, Priscilla, could not be in better hands than those of Miss Eva Bayley; Miss Violet Graham gives a well-studied impersonation of Mary Vaughan; and Miss Kate Randolph is charmingly natural as Pauline Marsh.

HASTINGS HIPPODROME AND THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Norman.—Miss Mabel Le Roy starts a good programme; Grant and Allen evoke great laughter; Miss Venie Belfry, a smart comedienne, finds plenty of admirers; Casselli is a clever banjoist; Mr. Will Freedo is a good vocalist and expert dancer; the operatic singing by the Victoria Duo makes a distinctly favourable impression; a spirited little sketch, *Teasing the General*, is enacted by Perrette and Mona, whose quick change of character, catchy songs, and clever dancing are applauded; and Mr. Charles Austin is highly diverting.

ST. LEONARDS PAVILION THEATRE. — Pier-Master and Entertainment-Manager, Mr. Elvey Thomas.—Dr Seaton is making a welcome return with a series of animated photos. Dr. Seaton is clever in sleight-of-hand and plate-spinning. Professor Trillo is an amusing ventriloquist, and Mr. Cecil Clark introduces interesting pictures.

HUDDERSFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Andrews.—Miss Annie Bell and company are here in *Sapho*. Miss Annie Bell looks well and plays with much dramatic force as Sapho, and Mr. Otto Minster's Jean

BUCHANAN'S
"BLACK & WHITE"
THE WHISKY OF WORLD WIDE REPUTE

is convincing enough to warrant Sapho's infatuation. The minor parts are capably filled, notably a clever character-study by Mr. George Antley as Cesaire.

HIPPODROME, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—The Mohamed Troupe of Arab acrobats are seen in their wonderful exhibition of pyramid building and tumbling. The other turns are J. W. Rowley, who has a great reception in his native town; Cosgrove and Burns, refined duettists; Joe Cheevers, a quaint comedian; Sisters Melba, vocal duettists; Feldman's clever troupe of juveniles; Allis and Cassati, humorous duettists; Jules Kiaro, hand balancer; Miss Ella Dean, in some good songs; and new pictures on the Bioscope.

HULL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. F. Morton.—Mr. Alexander Loftus and company is here in *The New Barmaid*. In the title-rôle, Miss Clara Beck has a part which she fills with much verve; as Bertie White, Mr. Loftus is hugely entertaining.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—This week we have *Under the Czar*. In the part of Sonio Gregorvitch, Miss Carlotta Anson contrives to secure much success; Mr. Gerald Smythe gives an excellent account of himself, and adds to the evening's enjoyment.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE AND MORTONS, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—*A Woman's Past* is being played by Messrs. Warden and Sandford's company. Miss Marie Hanbury as the heroine sustains most of the hard work of the play, and her efforts tend largely to maintain the interest which is manifested from commencement to end.

THE HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Graham; Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—George Gilbey, Harry Taft, Mark Lemon, Dale and O'Malley, Gladys and Alber, Marian May, and Austin constitute a good company.

THE PALACE.—Vesta Tilley is drawing crowded houses; Fred Poplar's songs cause much amusement; the Twin Sisters Anderson's speciality dancing gains much applause; and the admirable company includes Kitty Wager, Tom Owen, Wartenburg Bros., Will English, Guy Ryder, and D'Arc's Marionettes.

THE EMPIRE.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Slingsby.—Mlle. Florence, the rolling globe lady, goes through a smart performance; Abex, the miniature Hercules, gives an excellent show; the Ottawas appear in an interesting musical cowboy representation entitled *After the Hunt*; and other good turns include Marie Liston, Fred Ace, Fred Ellis, Alton and Lois, Maud Clifton, Erom and Charlotta, and Professor Wallace.

THE CIRCUS.—Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Emerson.—Animated pictures are drawing record houses.

IPSWICH. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—Arthur Watson, Flo. Stanley, and their troupe of comedians, appear in *The Cruise of H.M.S. Victory*, which abounds in humorous situations, the songs and dances being exceptionally good; Kate Lynd is applauded for her turn as a comedienne; Charles Dixon contributes humorous ditties and clever dances; Frances Letty scores a success; Ernie Mayne well sustains his reputation; Lozelle is a nimble, alert gymnastic performer on the rings and bar; George Doughty and Co. give a laughable sketch entitled *Captain Cupid*; and Hendon and Wooton give a smart bicycle performanc.

JARROW.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson.—Mr. Fred Granville's company is here this week with *Defending His Honour*. Mr. John Davidson is excellent as Douglas Bryce; Miss F. Melrose Millet as Ethel Bryce plays well; Mr. Clifton Earle and Mr. J. D. Geddes are genuinely good as Stephen Graid and George Duncan; the troubles of Richard and Dick and Mrs. Verison cause laughter in the hands of Mr. F. Arthur, Mr. H. Macaulay, and Mrs. E. Lyons; and Mr. Evan Roland appears successfully as Jack Damish.

JERSEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Edward Marris.—The Russell Rosse Répertoire Company opened on Monday with *Captain Swift*. Mr. J. Edward Fraser gave a fine interpretation of the captain; Mr. Charles H. Kenny admirably enacted Mr. Seabrook; Mr. George Mudie was good as Harry Seabrook; Mr. W. P. Lipscombe appeared as Gardiner; Miss L. Kingston made a charming Stella; Miss E. Nolan O'Connor capably took the part of Mrs. Seabrook; and Miss Maude Vincent as Mabel Seabrook and Miss Rachel de Travis as Lady Staunton did well. *Betsy* and *A Pair of Spectacles* also appear on the bill.

TRIANGLE PARK.—The Park has opened for the season with the Dandies. The troupe, five in number, is proving a big draw.

KEIGHLEY.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Carson and Kendall.—Pete and Minnie Lee do a very entertaining comedy and vocal sketch here called *The Scotchman's Visit to London*; Dick Bradley is a clever trick cyclist; Ernest Hildred sings in good style; Mme. Lumiere still scores heavily; the Three Behans, quick-change dancers, are seen to advantage; and Mint and Mart are successful in a smart speciality. Fred Danvers' sketch company is here, and gives a capital rendering of *The Two Polts*. Mr. Fred Danvers is exceedingly good; Mr. Evelyn as the Colonel acts admirably; and Mr. Fred Griffiths and Mr. Linney do justice to their parts.

KING'S LYNN.—NEW ROYAL THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. J. Bannister Howard, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Herr B. Pareezer.—The final week of the Hippodrome season is being favoured by crowded houses. The Sisters Judge introduce a collection of beautiful and highly-trained cockatoos, parrots, and macaws; Mr. Fred Squire, with Mr. Wilfred Heath and Miss Louisa Hunter, present a clever ventriloquial comedy sketch, *£1,000; or, the Missing Ward*; the Brontés are intensely funny in their duologue, *Saucy Maud*; A. P. Boswell, the black-faced comedian, is highly amusing; Li-Chang-Hi proves a mystifying magician; Nelson Hardy is good as a mimic and impersonator; and Wilfred Heath appears successfully as a vocalist. On Wednesday afternoon Mme. Jane Hading and company paid a flying visit in *Frou-Frou*.

LANCASTER.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. W. J. Fergusson and John Porter.—A really good programme is arranged this week. The Alexandroff Troupe of Russian singers and dancers, who head the bill, give a smart performance; Emma Don, with her black and white comedy company, sings well; the Villions, acrobatic cyclists, win hearty applause; Mlle. Ada Gatley supplies a pleasing turn; Harry Maynard, character vocalist; Fame and Fortune, in a clever comedy act; the Sisters St. Julian, duettists and dancers; and the Hippograph complete.

LEEDS.—GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Edward Cadman.—*The Importance of Being Earnest* is being revived at the Grand this week by Messrs. Hoffe and Campbell's company. Mr. J. Graeme Campbell gives a fine character study of John Worthing; as the cynical and caustic Moncrieff Mr. Monckton Hoffe is eminently successful; and Mr. Walter Hope is to be complimented on a capable effort. Miss Amy Lloyd-Desmond is the very correct Miss Prism to the life; Lady Bracknell has an effective exponent in Miss Phyllis Manners; the Hon. Gwendoline Fairfax is cleverly enacted by Miss Hestor Newton; and Cicely Cardew is also a fine effort by Miss Nona Hope. The curtain-raiser, *Father Varien*, is well played.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—This theatre is occupied by Mr. A. B. Cross's company with a presentation of the popular Hall Caine play, *The Manxman*. Mr. Cross himself gives a powerful delineation of Pete; the Kate Cregeen of Miss Minnie Watersford is sympathetic; Mr. Frank Etheridge plays Cregeen effectively; the Dr. Mylcreest of Mr. C. H. Mortimer is a capable effort; and Miss Nellie Freeland and Miss Hazel Dent are also seen to advantage.

EMPIRE.—Moss Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—Ernest Shand, at the head of an attractive Empire bill, is vastly popular; Tom Edwards, a past master of the ventriloquial art, gives a finished and thoroughly entertaining exposition; the McConnell Trio are big favourites; Mr. and Mrs. Harold Finden score with a clever quick-change duologue; the Lupino Brothers are doing well with an original specialty; Eily Adair is a pleasing comedienne; and Harry Freeman has a big reception.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter De Frece.—Apollo, the strong man, is a leading feature of the week's bill here. An interesting turn is that of the Three Demons, in a daring cycle act; Wisper is a big success with comic jugglery; Cribb and Cribb prove vastly amusing; and Charles Cranston, comedian, Maggie Rimmer, vocalist, and Beattie Bloom, dancer and burlesque artist, all enjoy popular favour.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Thos. Barrasford; General-Managers, Mr. Chas. Weldon and Mr. Claude Shayler.—Freddie French and company are here this week with an amusing burlesque act, *The Policemen's Ballet*, a suffragist skit, which proves most entertaining; Kelly and Gillette foot the bill with their clever acrobatic billiard table act; a fine musical turn by the Columbia Trio is much enjoyed; Stacey and Williams are popular with smart songs and patter; Carlotta Levey finds ready acceptance; a capital comedy act by Terry and Bentley is well to the liking of the audience; the Sisters Warwick have an expert and graceful trick cycling act; and Arthur Woodville, comedian, Conway and Garland, in an original absurdity, Pat Carey, Irish comedian, and Chas. Rozell, an expert gymnast, are doing particularly well.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Jones.—A pair of smart Hebrew comedians, Lowenwirth and Cohan, find themselves very popular at this hall; the Arthur Lloyd Trio are doing their well-known twin sister comedy act with good success; Barney Armstrong, a favourite comedian, is having a good week, as also are Brull and Hemsley, in a clever comedy specialty; the Sisters Hampel, comediennes, Dan Conroy, comedian, Anthony the Conjurer, and Nell Wynne, vocalist, make up a first-rate programme.

LEICESTER.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton.—A large and fashionable audience here on Monday gave Mme. Jane Hading a most enthusiastic reception, when the gifted French actress and her Parisian company presented for the first time in Leicester *Frou-Frou*.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. E. R. Beaumont.—A capital attraction is presented here this week by Mr. T. Arthur Jones's No. 1 Company in the drama, *Life's Sweetest Sins*. Miss Marie Daventry, a talented young actress, is seen to considerable advantage as Doreen Rivers; Mr. T. Arthur Jones makes a good impression as Captain Harold Marston; Mr. Oswald Douglas as the evil genius, Dr. Colbrooke, plays well; Miss Mary Ainslie is good as Fay Colbrooke; and Mr. Percy Meads as Mr. Burrows is also well placed. Both Miss Marion Armitage as Bess Grayson and Mr. Edgar Morgan as Bob Tanner give amusing portrayals.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Bertram G. Iles.—Included in a good programme here is the production by Messrs. Philip Reid and Percy Ford's combination of a new dramatic military episode in one scene and two tableaux, entitled *A Test of Friendship*, by Percy Ford, suggested by the story written by Major-General Baden-Powell of Mafeking. The scene is laid in Matabeleland, the two tableaux representing the last stand. As Dick Maynard and Jack Foster Mr. J. A. Bentham and Mr. Harry Scott are deserving of the highest commendation for the way in which they play their parts. The Kellinos are making a big hit with their Risley act, "Venetia"; Daisy Jerome has a fascinating style; Boswell's Stage Circus pleases all sections of the audience; Starr and Leslie score their usual success with a bright and entertaining turn; Woodhouse and Wells are a clever couple; Ian Colquhoun's baritone voice is heard to considerable advantage; Walter King, comedian, is well received; and Kitty Marion is a dainty comedienne. The Bioscope is a feature with "Jim's Apprenticeship."

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joe Lawrence.—Madie Scott, comedienne, holds the most prominent position here, and her bright style and smartness are rewarded with great applause. Mat Wilkinson and company are creating the utmost hilarity with their comedy sketch, *The Registry Office*; the Brothers Kroney are humorous and clever comedians and acrobats; Walter H. Pallister's Bioscope is again making a hit with a series of enjoyable films; Nellie Vera gives a capital musical turn; Mlle. Frederica's dogs are put through a performance of rare excellence; and Violet Beatrice does well as a boy impersonator.

LEIGH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Cragg; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Rousby.—This week Mr. Harry Roxbury's company is here with *A Little Vagabond*. Miss Vashti Wynne gives a capital rendition of the part of Poll; Miss Alice Bowes as Arthur, the little vagrant, achieves an unqualified success; Miss Caroline Fenton is suitably placed as Julia Pilbeam; Mr. Cyril A. Collins gives an impressive portrayal of Jim Harris; Mr. Stanley Radcliffe is well placed as Eric Arden; Slideaway Bates finds a skilful and humorous exponent in Mr. J. W. Gallagher, his efforts being well seconded by Miss Bella Moody as Hannah Smithers; and Mr. Richard Bosco gives a capital study of Thomas Withworth.

LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—The new stock company opened their season under encouraging auspices on Monday evening. Foremost in a full bill came the good acting drama, *Shadows of a Great City*, which was carefully staged, with Mr. Fred W. Freeman a vigorous hero, Mr. Clavering Craig a gentlemanly villain, and Mr. James Somerville as the conventional type of detective. Mr. James Chippendale and Mr. Barry Lupino—old Leith favourites both—have to do with the comic relief; the former in the part of a money-lending Jew, and the latter as a nondescript scapegrace. Miss Paulina Gear, with a fair share both in the pathetic and humorous scenes, invested her impersonation of Biddy Rooney with abundant warmth and impulse; and Miss Doris Gilham acted with grace and ability in the dual rôles of a mother and daughter; while Mr. Percival Dye, Mr. Paul Dysart, Mr. Dudley White, and Mr. Nesbit showed evidences of study in their renderings of minor parts. Mr. John Darlison's farcical sketch, *The Baby and the Butterfly*, afforded opportunities for an exuberance of fun, to which Mr. Chippendale, Mr. Lupino, Mr. Freeman, Miss Gilham, and Miss Gear very successfully contributed. There was also an interesting exhibition of Royal Star Animated Pictures.

LOWESTOFT. — HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert; Manager, Mr. Frank Freeland.—The interest and variety of the pictures here are well maintained, and the auditorium is filled nightly with delighted audiences. Craig, Roze, and Craig head the variety turns; Ray and Miles are excellent in their comedy; and Steve Cooke's comic songs go well.

LIVERPOOL. — ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—*Napoleon the Great*, played by Mr. Frank M. Thorne's able company, has proved a good draw here this week. Foremost in the cast was Mr. Hugh Montgomery, who presented with care and effect the title-rôle; Mr. Oliver Birrel showed conspicuous ability as the rascally Colonel Laverauness; Mr. Phil Harper did justice to Colonel Meuron; Mr. Bartlett Garth afforded good support as Paul Laczinska; and excellent work also came from the Misses S. Porteous (Lisette), Florence Thorne (Mère Dumont), Marie Harcourt (Marcelle Choupin), and Leslie Warner (Marie Walewska).

LYRIC — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—The capital ventriloquial show given by Coram, who pays a return visit here, has been much enjoyed; another excellent turn was submitted by Ted and May Hopkins, a smart couple of humorists, with *Welsh Courtship*; a neat carnival scena, entitled *The Garden of Girls*, came from Haley's Prize Juveniles; loud applause followed the efforts of Topsy and Usher, who had some smart plantation songs and dances; Sandow went through an able exhibition of strength; Maston showed himself a versatile mimic; and others in the list were J.C. Crawley, with his regimental smoking concert turn; and Nellie Boden, a popular comedienne and dancer. On Thursday evening Mr. Fred Coles, the acting-manager, who has had to resign owing to ill-health, took a benefit.

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—This popular resort has this week been giving its patrons *A Sister's Sin*, capitally produced by Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company. The rôle of Harold Raymond was ably portrayed by Mr. H. Arnold Allen; Miss Mabel Scudamore showed high gifts in the character of Minnie Hastings; a fine George Oakley came from Mr. Andrew Money; as the gipsy Charzel, Miss Lilian Radburn acted with considerable power; Mr. Ernest Frere was an amusing Jewish moneylender; Miss Dorothy Love made a sweet May Raymond; Mr. Henry Heller was a typical gentleman farmer; and the Misses Edie Macklin and Effie Mackintosh were the rival lovers.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—Top of the bill here this week are Arthur Roberts and company with the very humorous farce *The Woman Who Was*, which has proved exceedingly enjoyable; George D'Albert had a cordial reception on his return visit; Percival and Morley rendered an amusing trifle, *Turtle Doves*; the vocal efforts of the Elgars were much appreciated; clever work on the slack-wire was shown by Albert Kartelli; Will Walton kept his audience in a merry mood; and the list also contained the names of Harry Vardon, ventriloquist; Nellie Chandos, comedienne; Lottie De Abbey, vocalist; Flo Warner, vocalist; and Cordite and Buffalo, smart rope manipulators.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—This week the "Royal" Stock Dramatic Company have presented *The Executioner's Daughter*, from the pen of Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson. Included in the principal artists were Messrs. Cecil Ravenswood (Monsieur Roche), Sydney Grant (Felix Marius), Harry Tresham (Paul Rouvell), Robert Wilton (Tom Holmes), Miss Nellie Bonser (Annette), and Miss Beryl Ravenswood (Felice). Mr. Percy Boucher has left the company.

PADDINGTON PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Edwards.—The stock dramatic company here this week have given *Geoffrey Langdon's Wife*. Included in the cast were Messrs. Wallace Campbell (Cyril Langdon), Frank S. Strickland (Geoffrey Langdon), H. Hesslegrave (Will Maynard), Francis E. Wybert (Vimbart), H. G. Brandon (James), Miss Sara Blumenthal (Janet Miles), Miss Gladys H. Walton (Lily Mortimer), and Miss Lina Nazeby (Elinor D'Arville).

PARK PALACE.—Proprietors, Lancashire Vaudeville Syndicate, Ltd.; General-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece.—*Jeanie Deans* is the title of the drama being presented here this week by the popular stock company. Mr. Albert Sember makes an admirable David Deans; Miss Lilian Burns distinguishes herself as Madge Wildfire; Miss Nelson Ramsay and Miss Violet Barley-Clarke efficiently hold the rôles of Jeanie and Effie Deans; Mr. Archie Helsby does well as the outlawed Geordie Robertson; Mr. Hugh Carmichael is an imposing Duke of Argyle; as the Laird, Mr. Will Percy acquits himself well; and Mr. Walter Foster is Mr. Sharpitlaw. There are fourteen tableaux, all neatly put on.

HAYMARKET.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. Edwin W. Smith.—Harry Calden and company are still here delighting everybody; this week they are presenting *A Lost Name*. Cecilia Maud has a number of acceptable songs; the Sisters Anderson are dainty vocalists and dancers; and Joe Humphreys puts in a second week with several new songs, including "That is the reason why."

WESTMINSTER.—Lessee, Mr. Fred E. Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—The Bioscope here has been delighting audiences with a fine film showing a torpedo attack on the Dreadnought; Eustace and Eyre had a funny ventriloquial sketch, entitled *Tomkins, Jun.*; Cyril Carle gave with effect Godfrey's scena, *Dreams*; Carney Bros., as comedians and vocalists, earned loud applause; some excellent work on the ladder was executed by Signor Bertani; and Lily Vane, comedy artist, also appeared.

OLYMPIA. — District - Manager. Mr. Albert Bulmer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wighton.—Foremost here this week is a new dramatic sketch, entitled *The Great Poison Case*, which is rendered with effect by C. W. Somerset and company, the principals including Messrs. C. W. Somerset, G. Newman, Henry Latimer, and Cameron Carr and Miss Katherine Romsey and Miss Agnes Russell. The work, which includes a murder trial, was keenly appreciated. Frame, the laughter creator, brought much new business; the wonderful pianoplaying of Mendel was listened to with great attention; Cruikshank was as funny as ever; a neat musical duologue, *An Appointment*, emanated from Clark and Hayden; Johnny Alexander and company had a merry sketch, *Brown in Paris*; Charles Hargreaves, with his illustrated songs and fine baritone voice, supplied an agreeable turn; the performing dogs belonging to Rosina Caselli proved exceedingly interesting; and the singing of the Jonghmann Sisters was most enjoyable.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.—The remarkable conjurer Chung Ling Soo returns here, and has again mystified large audiences. *Casey's Court*, produced by an army of youngsters, has pleased everybody; Florence Burns and James Danvers had an excellent comedy musical pianoforte *mélange*; Leo Stormont rendered several taking songs in his own able style; the acrobatic dancing of the Satanella Trio met with the highest approval; Gladys Mavius, assisted by Dot, had a sweet scena, *Rosie is Waiting*; Charles Norton, "the old firm," gave a smart exhibition of mimicry; Anna Hope had some choice illustrated songs, particularly "Won't you come over to my house?" and May Walsh was a dainty American comedienne.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors, Liverpool Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. James Marks.—Heading the bill of this popular resort this week are the Geni Family of risley acrobats, who pay a welcome return visit; the Romsakoff combination of girls go through a really creditable lightning musical drill act; as lady instrumentalists the Three Sisters Transfield show high accomplishments; Will Johnson is a comedian of merit; clever and humorous acrobatic work comes from the Alaskarno Trio; Harry Candale, "the farmyard linguist," possesses remarkable mimetic powers; and also in the list are Daisy Martell, comedienne and dancer, and Lilian Elfreda, mimic of music hall stars.

MANCHESTER.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietors, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. M. Thorburn.—Miss Annie Hughes once more offers Manchester the opportunity of seeing her interpretation of the title-part in J. K. Jerome's play, *Miss Tommy*, originally produced not long ago in this city. The piece has many features of interest, and it pleased a good audience on Monday. Miss Hughes's performance is of course excellent; and a fine, breezy, comedy version of William Clodd is provided by Mr. Willie Hartill. Mr. Evelyn's Vernon's Peter Hope is a very natural creation; and great praise is due to Mr. Rupert Lister for his finished and sympathetic depiction of Dick Danvers. Miss Winifred Pearson acts distinctly well in the difficult rôle of Mr. Morrison, the other woman; while as Honour, Miss Ida Richardson could not easily be improved upon; and Mr. Reginald F. Beach adds much to the humour of the lighter scenes as Flipp, the office boy. *Good-for-Nothing Nan* precedes.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—The attraction here is provided by Mr. J. Rice Cassidy's company, in *Dan the Rake*, a romantic costume play of strong interest. Mr. and Mrs. J. Rice Cassidy, as Dan and Madge, succeed very well indeed in these important humorous rôles; Mr. Arthur Stratton as Captain Tom Cooper, the villain, is well placed; and Mr. Frank Copeland as Lieut. Kavanagh makes an ideal lover. Mr. Jerrold E. Reed as Colonel Flamer and Mr. Frederick Lloyd as General Lake act with distinction; Miss Florence Creagh gives a dramatic rendering of Helen; and Miss Alice Marsden plays with due pathos the rôle of the blind and deserted Mrs. Donnelly.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hearn.—That fine specimen of humanity, L. W. Murray, figures prominently here this week in feats of strength and physical culture posing; Wyndham and Waters, in their laughable act, *The Professor and His Pupil*, are also a big attraction; Wee Mona Vivian, child comedienne and dancer, is well received; Adams and Roose, in a new-style singing playlet, are entertaining; W. T. Ellwanger and company are seen to advantage in a capital sketch, entitled *The Peacemaker*; and considerable amusement is caused by the Three Currans, in their boxing act. Exceedingly smart turns also are those of Alf. Ripon, the ventriloquial Lauder; Bert and Dora, comedy artists; and Shavo, comedy juggler. Pictures complete.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. R. Flanagan; Manager, Mr. P. Ryan Smith.—Mr. Sidney Dench's company remains here another week, and is seen to great advantage in *The Octoroon*, Mr. Dench playing the part of Salem Scudder.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Dry.—*The World's Great Snare* is presented here this week by Mr. W. Alexander Dallas's company.—A good house on Monday was especially appreciative of the excellent acting of Mr. Leonard Williams as Royal Keene, Mr. A. F. Bassett as La Mort, the renegade; Mr. Theodore Hill as Red Heart, the Indian chief; Miss Lily Forsyth as Wild Rose, the charming Queen of the Plains; Miss Fay Garnett-Vayne as Star-Eye; and Mr. Maurice Jones as Levey, the moneylender; while others who well earned the applause they received were Mr. Fred Lillywhite, as Granville, the mine owner; Mr. George Scully as the amusing Von Vinck; and Mr. Hyland O'Shea as Maloney, the Irish settler. The minor parts were also well rendered, and excellent staging contributed to the complete success of the performance.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—A powerful attraction here this week is George Leyton, in his military scena, *Lucknow*, assisted by a number of Indian Mutiny veterans, and a tableau of the historical Relief by the Highlanders. Miss Marie Kendall adds considerable interest to the programme by her spirited singing of comedy songs; and a fine turn, elaborately staged and strongly played, is that of Fred Storey and company, in *Rip Van Winkle*. Good business is added by Harry Friskey, a capital comedy juggler; Edith Reynolds and company, in a quiet but effective sketch; Steve McCarthy, comedian and dancer; the Macarte Sisters, in a graceful wire act; the Carlyles, in a series of whirlwind dances; and Frank Leslie, character comedian.

HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—An excellent turn here this week is provided by George Gray and company, in *Parson Gray, V.C.*; Lockhart's Elephants are also a big turn; Tom E. Finglas gives effective delineations of negro life in the Eugene Stratton style; and Peggy Pryde adds to her reputation in characteristic songs. Strong turns are added by David Poole, ventriloquist; Dion Wade, comedian and mimic; Arthur Aldridge, accomplished vocalist; Bessie Butt, soubrette and dancer; and the Choir, who are heard in several pleasing items. The Bioscope depicts a torpedo attack on the Dreadnought.

KING'S (Longsight).—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. B. Taylor.—Mr. Augustine Knight presents Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson's romantic drama, *The Assassin*, here this week, with great success. Mr. Knight himself is seen to advantage as Prince Demetri; Miss Ella Vane is particularly good as Countess Wanda; Mr. E. E. Ashby plays Ivan Ipanoff with distinction; and excellent support is rendered by Mr. Fred Constable, Miss Hettie Senior, Miss Frances Waring, Miss E. Robertson, Mr. Tom J. Taylor, and Mr. Edwin Jenner. The scenery and general mounting of the play is exceptionally good.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter de Frece; Secretary, Mr. Peter Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Tealor Wade.—A strong programme is headed here this week by that prince of illusionists, Carl Hertz, assisted by Miss Emiline D'Alton, their "Bridal Chamber" trick being particularly effective. Prominent also are Fred Earle, of "Seaweed" fame; and the Tokio Troupe, a wonderful Japanese family, in a clever act. Excellent items are also forthcoming from Charles Ulrick, the barrel king, an astonishing turn; Duncan and Godfrey, in their coster scena, *Me and 'Er*; Frank Cass, vocal comedian; Daisy Mayer, coon comedienne and sand dancer; Nellie Dunbar, comedienne and dancer; Alice Ormonde, vocal comedienne; Sammy Shields, Scotch comedian; and Blarney and Kennard, with their waltzing dog. The sixteenth anniversary performance is announced for June 27.

TIVOLI. — Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—A distinct novelty here this week is Herr Oscar Van Coppee's fantastic transformation scena, *Children of the Sun*, introducing twelve charming Dutch girls, prettily attired, and all excellent singers. Another capital turn is that of Mabel Osborne and Gordon Brookes, who create no end of laughter, and meet with a flattering reception; the Voldam Brothers are exceedingly clever Dutch acrobats of the eccentric order; Tom Moore, character comedian and vocalist, makes a hit; Louie Oswald is a dainty singer; and Lily Black and Dorothy Vincent are pleasing comediennes. Up-to-date pictures on Raymond's Vivagraph complete the show.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—A good programme is offered here this week, the principal turn being Harriett Vernon, whose chief item is a pretty scena, entitled *Sunshine and Shadow*. The Emmell Comedy Company (including Adele Levey) are smart and amusing in a short sketch, *My Statue of Grace*; the Four Sisters Victoria are charming juvenile instrumentalists and dancers; and Mi Narom, comedienne, tickles the audience immensely. Beside these, Leslie Race is a cultured vocal comedian; the Betsons, comedy cyclists, are highly diverting; May Newall sings daintily; and Harry Bentley is a pleasing comedian. The pictures are good.

HIPPODROME (Hulme).—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Kay.—The Royal Hungarian Szarvaci Ferencz Troupe of singers, dancers, and acrobats, are at the top of the bill here this week, and their marvellous performance is greatly appreciated; Robbins and Collier, as usual, make a hit in their musical comedy act; Cliff Ryland is an excellent story-teller, and vastly amuses the audience; Lily Gaston is a very clever dancer; Shirley Liggins and company, in their novel scena, *Farmyard Pastimes*, are highly successful; and other good turns are offered by Ella Beaumont, comedienne and dancer; the Currie Trio, burlesque artists and dancers; and Lillie Dene and Charles Dawson, in an amusing skit, *Stage Aspirants*. Laughable pictures are shown on the Bioscope.

MANSFIELD.—HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Herbert Darnley; Resident-Director, Mr. Tom Jennings; Acting-Manager, Mr. Mark Lorne.—*The End Crowns All* is being presented by Miss Augusta Tulloch's company. Mr. Roy Milton, in the rôle of Prince Borinsky is all that can be desired; Mr. Arthur Plummer gives a splendid interpretation of Lord Arthur Lyndhurst; as Ivan Spava, Mr. Max Coutts is successful; in the comedy part of John H. Jubbs, Mr. George Bryne is quite at home; and as the acrobat, Edwin Romaine, Mr. Donald Stewart is successful. Miss Augusta Tulloch proves herself an actress of ability in the part of Vera Romaine; and in the rôle of Lola Ivanwitch Miss Amber Wyvelle is very capable.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, Mansfield, Sutton, and District Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Capt. Cecil Clayton.—Mr. Harry Joseph's Pierrots continue to attract. Good singing is the rule, and the dancing is all that can be desired.

MARGATE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr Edward Michael; Stage and Business-Manager, Mr. A. Austin-Leigh.—*The Liars*, presented by the Margate Stock Company, under the direction of Mr. A. Austin-Leigh, has been having a successful run during the week. Mr. Austin-Leigh plays admirably as Colonel Sir Christopher Deering, and is ably supported by Mr. Robert Grey as Edward Faulkner; Mr. Ernest Cossart puts in some good work as Freddie Tatton, and Mr. H. G. Mason is efficient as Gilbert Nepean, capable support being given by Mr. G. W. Eton as Archibald Coke. Miss Mabel Archdall is delightful as Lady Rosamund Tatton, and Miss Nancy Beresford is equally charming as Lady Jessica Nepean; Miss Emmie O'Reilly is good as Mrs. Ebernoe, Miss May Saker plays well as Mrs. Crespin, and Miss Belle Travers is excellent as Dolly Coke. The other characters are all carefully portrayed.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Joint Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtree.—A very smart performance is contributed to the current week's programme by the Three Juggling Breens, whose act is particularly smart and funny; Mlle. Renee, in her unique musical act, is a great success; the Sisters Charnley, vocalists, dancers, and bâton manipulators, are deservedly applauded; Pollo Jerome, gymnast, and Flo Wood, comedienne, contribute pleasing turns, and J. Wright Aitken and company, in a dramatic sketch, *The Devil's Hand*, play well. An exciting picture is shown by means of the Biograph.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Albert Jackson.—Mr. Charles Draycott's company is here this week with *The Stolen Birthright*. Mr. Draycott provides a skilful delineation of Marco Taddeo; Miss Muriel Thompson as Miranda submits an artistic performance; Mr. A. C. Holmes is both outspoken and manly as Andrea Celsi; an admirable sketch of Stefano is contributed by Mr. Harry Scatchard; Mr. G. Ridgeway-Thorne and Mr. John Sheridan as Prince Michele Salvati and Prince Antonio both fill their parts with tact and ability; Miss Maud Desmond is quite satisfactory as Fidelia; a bright and vivacious Nita is seen in Miss Ethel Vinroy; and Mr. Harry Harrop is distinctly humorous as Pedro.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—The leading turns here this week are provided by Captain Devereux's comedy troupe of dogs; Les Blancs, comedians on the triple bars; the Magnet Trio of vocalists and dancers; Gale and Gale Trio, in an amusing absurdity; George Menva, illusionist, assisted by Mlle. Etoile; and Horace Sadie, characteristic dancer. The Biograph exhibits some new pictures.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE—Manager, Mr. W. Melton.—Go-Won-Go-Mohawk and her American company are presenting the drama, *Wep-Ton-no-Mah*. Mr. C. W. Charles plays capitally as Colonel Stockton; Mr. Guy D. Hackney is an excellent Capt. Franklin; Manuel Lopes has a capable exponent in Mr. Edward Leroy;

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Chief Gane-Gau is well played by Mr Pasco Bioletti; Mr. Arthur Selwyn and Mr. Dan Ryan do well as Sam White and Carry Cullen respectively; the title-rôle is played with distinct skill by Go-Won-Go-Mohawk; Miss Bessie Frank is a charming Nellie Stockton; while Miss Jessie Hart is an interesting and amusing Matilda Sniffles.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Charles Imeson.—*The Idler* was produced here for the first time in Middlesbrough on Monday by Mrs. T. Greenwood-Croft's company. Mr. Philip Cunningham received a hearty welcome in the leading rôle of Mark Cross; as Lady Harding Mrs. T. Greenwood-Croft gave a pleasing portrayal; Mr. Stephen T. Ewart was an admirable Sir John; Mr. William Attfield figured prominently as Simeon Strong; and Miss Celia Gordon was a delightful Mrs. Cross. Mr. C. W. Spencer as General Merryweather and Miss Zoe Davis as Kate Merryweather were all that could be desired; Miss Lucy Edwin was a pleasing Mrs. Glynn Stanmore, and Mr. Joseph Bardsley as Bennett did well.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, The Middlesbrough Grand Opera House Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. Ker Chatto.—The Native Choir from Jamaica occupy the boards here this week, and give a fine selection of coon songs and plantation melodies.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Brill; Manager, Mr. Charles G. Rembges.—Colby and May provide the star turn here this week; Charles McNaughton and May Garstang cause much laughter in their comedy act *Bill*; Les Poses create a great impression with their singing; Will McIvor is an excellent vocalist; and Henri Bekker does some clever conjuring tricks. Mr. and Mrs. George Leonard please in a sketch entitled *Coming Home*, and Stuart and Evans, comedians, and Ted Cowan are also in the programme.

OXFORD PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Alf. Graham; Manager, Mr. R. L. Griffiths.—Harry Pleon, Celia Kent, and party provide the star turn here this week, and they create roars of laughter in their scena *Pudden Watchman*. Harrigan and Holt, eccentrics, score a success; and Billy Williams fully maintains his reputation. J. P. Carroll gives a clever tambourine display, and Will Driscoll, comedian and dancer, pleases. Other turns are Carr and Rose, vocalists, and the Sisters Brooke, duettists and dancers.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—PALACE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. T. W. Rowe.—A capital company, under the management of Messrs. Silverstone, Wright, and Belton, appeared here on Monday in *The Nihilist*. As Ivan Wowasky, Mr. Felix Pitt played with true insight. Other members of the company aiding in the success of the thrilling play with able and well-studied impersonations were Mr. Henry Wright, Mr. Kenyon Gray, Mr. Carl Rovinelli, Mr. O. Silverstone, Mr. John Belton, Mr. Morgan Richards, Miss Mary Dawson, Miss Florrie Kelsey, Miss Jessica Ford, and Miss Vera Pettitt.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon.—*Man's Enemy* is here, played by Mr. Hartwell J. Kirby's company. Leading rôles are ably undertaken by Messrs. Norman A. A. Overton, T. G. Vane, Fred Owen, T. Arthur Ellis, William Jeans, and Hartwell J. Kirby; while excellent support is rendered by Messrs. Charles E. Johnson, Burt Gordon, Frank Hedley, Harry Clifton, and Fred Ross, Miss Maud Buchanan, Miss Maudie Grayson, and Miss Evelyn Geldard.

EMPIRE THEATRE. — Resident-Director, Mr. R. Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Neil Kenyon has had warm receptions this week from crowded houses. As a Scottish fish-wife and the Scotsman with his pack, he provides excellent entertainment. Miss Hetty King, male impersonator, does well, each of her songs going well; Signor and Mme. Borelli are clever pianists and singers; Miss Amy Augarde, supported by Messrs. Sydney Watson, Wilfred Howard, James Dallas, and E. A. Hill-Mitchelson, appears in *La Carmencita*; Howard and Collinson contribute an amusing duologue, *The Porter and the Parcel*; and other turns are Miss Leonie Dixon, soubrette and dancer; Lieut. Travis, ventriloquist; Celtic Comedy Four; and the Gasch Sisters.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Barrasford Co.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Will H. Boardman.—Unique and clever feats of juggling are done here by Mr. Morris Cronin; the Vails provide a distinctly good gymnastic turn; and a good performance is given by Wylie's Dogs. Jack Pleasants, comedian, has a couple of very good songs; Enid Errol and company appear in a fantastic little sketch; Keith and Merson contribute amusing dialogue in *The Meet*; and other turns are those of the Jimsons, in *The Burglar's Surprise*; Boumeister, violin virtuoso; Fields and Lewis, burlesque artists; and Miss Bertha Zander, with illustrated songs.

NEWPORT.—LYCEUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sidney Cooper.—Mr. Chas. Macdona's *Gay Parisienne* company is here. Mr. Wm. Harman is humorous as Ebenezer Honeycombe; Mr. Squire Day's Major Forsdyke is an excellent character-study; and Mr. Clifford Seyler as M. Pompier does well, his dancing being very clever throughout. Mr. J. FitzJames is a good Hans, the hotel-keeper; Mr. Tom Kennard sings well as Tom Everleigh; and Mr. R. Kloss is satisfactory as Amos Dingle. In Miss Alice Nixon Mlle. Julie Bon-Bon had a very charming interpreter; she acts smartly, dances delightfully, and possesses a very graceful figure. Miss Holford Beringer's Mrs. Honeycombe is pointed; Nora is well played by Miss Nance O'Neill; and Miss Madge Soutter is good as Ruth. The Imperial Glee Singers, Messrs. Hoddy, Rose, Kennard, and FitzJames, received quite an ovation for their singing in the second act. Mr. Cooper has oragnised for two nights of the week fêtes in the Belle Vue Park, at which there will be displays of fireworks by Messrs. Pain, of London.

EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Major Gallagher; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Page.—Mariedl, the giantess, is proving an interesting feature of the bill this week. A lively turn is provided by a company of coloured artists, with Billy McClain, "the hottest coon from Dixie," as the leading spirit. Marzella's troupe of birds are popular; and Horace White, a novel ventriloquist, is amusing. Gintaro, a Japanese equilibrist; Burney and Wally, an acrobatic dental act; and Ross and Grayson, in a singing and dancing mélange, come in for warm recognition. The Bioscope shows pictures of the laying of the Cape to Cairo Railway.

NORTHAMPTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Seddon.—On Tuesday evening Mme. Jane Hading appeared in *Frou-Frou*, receiving a most enthusiastic welcome. The remainder of the week has been filled in by Mr. J. A. Campbell's company in *The Little Breadwinner*. Mr. Dunlop Stewart is excellent as the old Quaker, Lord William Dorrington; and Joseph Prior, the villain, is effectively played by Mr. Alfred Maurice. The fun is supplied by Mr. Norman Hall as Charles Prior. Richard is played in a satisfactory manner by Mr. Matthew Boulton; Miss Emil Leslie plays the heroine in a quiet and ladylike way; little Emmie Thomas makes an attractive and winsome little Meg; Miss Nellie King as Bobby Trott is a thorough boy, and the pair are clever singers and dancers.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Thos. A. Evans.—The Dillons are a great success here, and their bouncing competition has been the cause of much mirth. Johnny Dwyer is a character comedian who is always welcome; the Darnton Sister are charming duettists; Cull-Pitt, who is assisted by Mlle. Adele, gives a pot-pourri of conjuring and impersonations; Miss Kitty Kearns gives an agreeable turn; Stan Aubrey, eccentric comedian, furnishes some eccentric dancing; Lesrto and his dog Babs give a musical display; the Palace pictures this week have a comic interest; Miss Florence Smithers, Mr. Owen Dacroy, and company present a sketch, *Hard Lines*.

NORTH SHIELDS. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—*The New Magdalen*, presented here this week by Mr. Edward Sorley's company, is warmly greeted. As Julian Grey, Mr. W. S. Hartford gives a powerful and interesting performance; Mr. Horace Logan is seen to advantage as Horace Holmcraft; Mr. W. Simpson is a capable Ignatius Detrel; Mr. Barry Sullivan does well as Captain Arnault; and Mr. James A. Storey is an acceptable Surgeon Saville. As Mercy Merrick, Miss Yvonne Orchardson proves herself to be an actress of no mean ability; Miss Rachel Donne gives a capital rendering of Grace Roseberry; and Miss Bartle Frere is clever as Lady Janet Ray. *A Case for Eviction* proves a good curtain-raiser.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Wm. Mould.—The star turn here is the Coopers, with their vocal scenas, which meet with appreciation. Messrs. Ryan and Hall, smart acrobats and eccentric comedians, come in for an enthusiastic reception; Rappo and Ella, gymnasts, perform some clever feats; Miss May Macdonald, character vocalist, is popular; Little Georgie, boy comedian, is good; Mr. Joe Cookson, ventriloquist, goes well; Mr. Harry Leaton, vocal comedian, submits an acceptable turn; and the Bio-Photoscope is, as usual, a popular item.

NORTHWICH.—PIERROT PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. Glanmore Jones.—Mr. Harry Liston and Miss Lord Lumley are paying us a visit. Mr. Liston proves that he has lost none of his old skill, and keeps the house in rapt attention with his wonderful versatility. He is ably supported by Miss Lord Lumley, whose charming manner and clever acting draw forth rounds of applause. Mr. Phil Lister, an instrumentalist, gives a skilful performance on the bells and other musical instruments. The Bioscope still occupies an important place on the programme.

NORWICH.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—Immense excitement is caused here by the appearance of George Hackenschmidt, the "Russian Lion.' Among other attractions are the Four Burnells, in their sketch *On the Links*; Burley and Burley, an amusing turn; Sandy McNab and company, in an absurdity, *The Egyptian Mummy*; the Nightingales, song illustrators; Jennie Johns, soubrette; Bessie Arthur, Scottish vocalist; McDonald and Hunting, American entertainers; and the Hippo. Biograph.

NOTTINGHAM. — GRAND THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. Chas. P. Cooke.—Mr. Allan Wilkie's company is here. Monday saw the production of *Hamlet*, and on Tuesday *The Merchant of Venice*. Mr. Allan Wilkie assumed the rôle of Shylock, and in it he gave a wonderful exhibition of versatile acting; while the Portia of Miss Carrie Baillie was a great artistic success. Through indisposition Miss Iné Cameron was unable to assume the rôle of Jessica, which in her absence was undertaken in a very capable manner by Miss F. Hunter Watts; Miss Daisy Horrocks looked very winsome and was altogether satisfactory as Nerissa; Mr. Geo. Munro as Lancelot Gobbo was well suited. The necessary gravity and dignity of Antonio was easily portrayed by Mr. G. Alexander Marsh; Mr. Paul Lovett made a very satisfactory Bassanio; and the rollicking Gratiano found a suitable exponent in Mr. John Paley. Mr. E. Digges had all the necessary accomplishments for a charming Lorenzo, and was well supported by Messrs. Lambton and Dockwray as Salanio and Salarino respectively. Messrs. Gordon Phillott, Ian Fleming, and John Phelps all did good work, as also did Mr. Gordon Ash and Miss Eily O'Dempsey. *Romeo and Juliet*, *David Garrick*, *The Bells*, *Othello*, and *The Ticket-of-Leave Man* are also announced. Mme. Jane Hading and full Parisian company appeared here on Thursday in a matinée of *Frou-Frou*, and a large audience gave the talented artist a warm reception.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles H. Bowmaker.—Lew Lake and company are presenting *My Pal Jerry*, and securing nightly most gratifying receptions. Two amusing and clever comedy artists are Tom and Marie Motramo; Lindon's vaudeville entertainers provide an entertainment at once varied and refined, and the humorous songs in the Scottish dialect sung by Miss Ruth Lytton, combined with her charming appearance and clever dancing, compel admiration; Bert Woodward does all his cycling tricks in the neatest possible manner; Lina Verdi sings very sweetly and dances very neatly; and Beattie and Blanche are duettists of no mean attainments. J. A. Wilson causes much amusement, and the feats of his dog Towser are the acme of animal training. Some good films shown by the Bioscope complete an excellent programme.

NUNEATON.—PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE AND ENTERTAINMENTS CO., LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter J. R. Bryan.—Mr. Gilbert Payne and an excellent company opened here on Monday with *The Honeymoon*. Mr. Gilbert Payne as Nathaniel Noodle kept the house in constant merriment, being ably supported by Miss Nellie Dyson as Emaretta Noodle, Mr. Leslie Erle as Jack Armstrong, and Miss Pattie Fairley as Madge. Mr. Fred Fulton was a good Archie Mashington, his comic songs being well received; Mr. Aldyn Sawyer did well as Col. Vandyke Brown; and Miss Myra Douglas and Mr. Harry Hoyland are worthy of mention.

OLDHAM.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—Mr. Valentine Beadon's company in *The Best Must Win* opened on Monday, under the direction of Mr. Sidney C. Cranston. Miss Marie Menzies as the persecuted heroine was capital; and Miss Marie Robson ably filled the part of Lucille La Ffanche. Mr. Sidney C. Cranston does some smart work as Paul Dumaresq; and Mr. Graham Woods as Gaston makes a gentlemanly villain. Mr. J. Dobson Clyde as Juan Minos was also very good. Mr. A. Hall Menzies provided excellent comedy as Jacques Courcel, in which Miss Daisy Humphreys as Suzette was well to the fore. Mr. George H. Child makes a capital Sabertache; Mis Violet Ospringe as La Marquis de Marcel and Miss Mary Vincent as Therese were excellent.

COLOSSEUM.—Manager, Mr. W. Eastwood.—Miss Ethel Van Praagh and Mr. J. Edward Whitty opened here with *An Unwedded Wife*. Miss Van Praagh appeared as Marion, and ably sustained a trying part; Miss Elsie Walton was a dainty Elsie Langham; and Mr. Valentine Henry portrayed the part of Frank Armstrong in a manly fashion. Mr. E. St. Clair Forbes in the heavy part of Philip Blakstone acts in clever style, and receives much assistance from Mr. Wilton Bedford as Christopher. Miss Jessie Gilette makes a lively Caraway Crumpet, and with Mr. Will Casey as Napoleon B. Boomer infuse much humour into their parts, in which Mr. J. E. Whitty as P.C. O'Runyin also takes a fair share. Mr. Logan Darra is a capital John Hawthorn, and Mr. J. A. Grove is very good as David Drummond.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. Howgate.—The Gems give a turn full of tuneful melody and some excellent comedy; Schenk Bros.' equilibristic feats are marvellous; W. H. Clemart, in his ventriloquial entertainment, provides a novel turn; Russell Brandow is a capital dancing comedian; Jeannette Hall, lady baritone, sings in an able manner; and the Cromwells are smart in juggling. Miss Marie Neilson is an engaging comedienne and dancer; and Fred Herbert, extempore vocalist, is quite popular. The pictures shown by the Dottoscope are very good.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. Nuttall.—The Maitland Trio cause hearty laughter with their absurdity, *The Picture*; the Donnas Trio are smart in a balancing trapeze act; Mozetto, juggler, has added new tricks to his act with success; the Maros, comedians, on the triple bars, are excellent; the Evalos, in a varied turn, are very clever; Fred Maitland, discoursing on "Should Women Have Votes?" causes roars of laughter; Harry Rayley is a smart vocalist; and Mr. E. poses as a patterer in a humorous manner. The Dottoscope also provides a good turn.

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Lucas, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. C. Dorrill.—The latter half of last week Mr. Oscar Asche and Miss Lily Brayton drew tremendous houses with *Othello*, *The Virgin Goddess*, and the *Taming of the Shrew*. This week the National Theatre Society, of the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, are giving a most interesting series of Irish plays. On Monday there was a full and highly-appreciative house, who gave a most cordial reception to *The Gaol-gate*, *Hyacinth Halvey*, *The Shadowy Waters*, and *The Rising of the Moon*. The first play was exquisitely performed by Miss Sara Allgood, Miss Maire O'Neill, and Mr. F. J. Fay. In the second little comedy Mr. Fay greatly distinguished himself as Halvey, and received capital support from W. G. Fay, A. Sinclair, Sara Allgood, and Bigit O'Dempsey. In *The Shadowy Waters*, Miss Darragh gave a powerful rendering of Dectora; and Mr. F. J. Fay again scored heavily as Forgael. In *The Rising of the Moon*, W. G. Fay was very effective as the ballad singer, and Arthur Sinclair gave his effective support as a policeman. During the engagement there will be performed *Riders to the Sea*, *On Baile's Strand*, *Kathleen ni Houlihan*, *The Jackdaw*, *The Playboy of the Western World*, and *Spreading the News*.

EAST OXFORD THEATRE. — Lessees, Miss Winifred Stuart and Mr. C. Watson Mill; Manager, Mr. Frank Stuart.—Mr. Wm. Fraser-Brunner's company is here with *The Superior Miss Pellender*, preceded each evening by *A Man of Vengeance*. In the latter piece, Mr. Wm. Fraser-Brunner, Mr. Ellis D. Carlyle, and Miss Queenie Fraser-Brunner all acquitted themselves admirably. In *The Superior Miss Pellender*, Mr. William Fraser-Brunner gave a very artistic and clever rendering of Mr. Lister; while Mr. Ellis D. Carlyle achieved considerable success as Noel. Miss Beatrice Fitzhugh made a captivating Mrs. Pellender; Miss May Staples was winsome as Nancy; Miss Marie Ault was true to nature as Edith; and Miss Queenie Fraser-Brunner admirably sustained the difficult rôle of Miss Pellender.

PAISLEY.—PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—In possession here this week is the J. C. Cummings Animated Pictures, of first-rate importance. The variety company includes Kitty Leveyne, comedienne; Bandoni, the one-man band; Miss Alice Golding, vocalist; and W. H. Smart, comedian and dancer.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Douglas F. Bostock.—The Aurora Troupe perform with grace and dexterity cycling feats; Victor Newman scores in his character impersonations; the Three Prestons submit a funny absurdity, *The Liftman's Rise*; Harry Arnold, Scotch comedian, is applauded; Albert Athas and Lizzie Collins furnish a clever and entertaining number; the Sisters du Barrie are refined duettists and dancers; George Prince, comedian, gives a successful turn; the Calcotts display ability in their musical scena, *Rags and Tatters*; and the Hippodrome Bioscope is to the front with new pictures.

PLYMOUTH. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee, Mr. C. F. Williams; Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—An admirable satire on a street mendicant is given here this week by Mr. John Le Hay, supported by Mr. Charles Causley and Miss Mary Duggan; Miss Florence St. John is also a strong attraction in *My Milliner's Bill*; Will and Alice Vokes furnish a novel terpsichorean turn; Mr. George Robins is heard to advantage in a couple of items, *à la Grossmith*; and Miss Beatrice Lindley is a graceful and attractive vocalist. Other contributors to the programme are Mr. Bert Morland (comedian) and the Sisters Le Hay.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. C. F. Williams; Manager, Mr. P. Williams.—A capable production of *Her Wedding Morn* is given here this week. Mr. C. A. Melton plays Harold Saxby with creditable zeal and ability; Mr. Cyril Melton is a success as Seth Mason, an ex-convict; and Mr. Greene Taylor is well fitted with the humorous part of a Sexton.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—The Davis and Gledhill Trio are on a return visit with their novel and daring cycle turn, which is highly attractive; the Brothers Horne evoke loud applause for their humorous contribution; Dusty Rhodes delights his many local friends with his peculiar patter; and Eadie and Ramsden furnish a popular vocal and dancing item. Other contributors are Billy Burns, James and Lucy Allison, and Vernon's pictures.

PORTSMOUTH. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—Mr. Weedon Grossmith's farcical comedy, *The Night of the Party*, is staged here for the week. Mr. Sebastian Smith plays Crosbie with conspicuous success; Mr. Frank Frayne is personated by Mr. Frank H. Denton in first-rate style; Mr. Douglas Munro gives a capital character-study as Mr. Flambert; Mr. Roundle and Mr. Bogle are ably sustained by Messrs. Percy Robinson and Stanley Arthur; Miss Beatrice Mervin is excellent as Lady Hampshire; Miss Florence French well portrays the gipsy, Vandelier; and Miss Lillian Williams does capable work as Paulina.

PRINCE'S THEATRE. — Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate.—Messrs. Chas. H. Phelps and Harry Tilbury, with their company, are here this week with *The Blind Foundling*, Mr. Phelps taking the part of the wronged husband, Gerald Dalton, in artistic fashion. Parson Ray is depicted in becoming manner by Mr. Frank Harvey; Mr. A. George Fry as Mark Redman, an adventurer, is very efficient; Dick Bobbins, with songs, is in the able hands of Mr. Tilbury; and Miss Trixie Toole as Winnie Bobbins, with songs, enlivens the otherwise pathetic play admirably. Miss Bella Tilbury as Isabel, the wife of Dalton, gives an excellent portrayal of the character; and Miss Mabel Hall as Fairy, the blind foundling, is charming in a pathetic part.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—The bright and lively comedian, Arthur Reece, is paying a return visit here, and with new songs scores well; Amy Sullivan, a very taking comedienne, pleases the audience immensely; Charles Clifford, vocalist and solo harpist, is a very capable musician; Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, the Factory Nightingales, are popular, and receive genuine applause; Talbot and Pearce give an artistic musical duologue; the Prince Milner Trio are very clever on the slack wire and with their hoop manipulation; Tom Parker, comedian and dancer, is diverting; the Sisters Lunelle, a pair of graceful and energetic soubrettes and danseuses, are much appreciated; the Monckton, in musical comedy episode, *Are Wives Dummies?* prove very entertaining; Harry Radford and Mlle. Valentine, jolly juggling jesters, cause much laughter; and Payne's pictures brings a well-diversified programme to a conclusion.

HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—The star turn here is the ever-popular and vivacious Marie Loftus, the charming comedienne, who, with new burlesque business and several of her best songs, delighted the audience, and had a splendid welcome; the Melroses, comedy artists, are most amusing; Rochez' Circus, consisting of highly-trained ponies and dogs, are much admired for their intelligence; Miss Rose Harvey, a comely comedienne, is much liked for her capital songs; Frobel and Ruge, aerial comedians, are well applauded for their daring antics on the swinging bar; Miss Maud Courtney, the American girl in song and story, had a cordial greeting for her efforts to amuse; the Mysterious Mr. C. also had a warm welcome for his very capable vocalisation and amusing patter; the Three Amaranths do a wonderful acrobatic dancing act; Hanvarr and Anna Lee, the golfer and the maid, are expert jugglers; and the Hippodrome pictures complete an excellent programme.

RADCLIFFE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. G. T. Santé; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Boothman.—Monday night, the closing night of the season, was set apart for the benefit of Mr. Boothman, the acting-manager, and the house was as full as it could possibly be. A capital variety programme was provided. A bright party of local children, trained by Mrs. J. B. Lord, danced the Maypole, their pretty dresses, combined with the electrical effects, making a pleasant spectacle. Mr. Ernest Nelson gave an exhibition of strength and skill, which greatly interested; Mr. Fred Lever sang with the aid of bioscope pictures; the Testo Brothers gave their entertaining turn as musical acrobats; a good balancing turn was provided by Messrs. Allan and White; Knoto proved a clever contortionist; Clown Nippo created laughter by his efforts to train local lads; Messrs. Kay and Grimshaw were entertaining in a descriptive vocal scene; and Messrs. Jill and Laval were good in their comedy act, *Tramps at Play*.

RAMSGATE.—ROYAL VICTORIA THEATRE.—Proprietors, Ramsgate Corporation; Lessee and Manager, Mr. Jules Richeux.—Closely following on the productions of *The Pick of the Bunch*, *Somebody's Sweetheart*, and *In the Soup*, comes *The Lady of Ostend*, and Sir F. C. Burnand's comedy proves as witty, clever, and as great an attraction as ever. As Dick Whortles, Mr. Henry Hampson gives a good study of a married man of Jonah-like propensities; Toby Krockitt, the prize-fighter, finds an admirable exponent in Mr. Watkin Wynne; whilst Mr. Percy Marshall's sketch of the sporting old father-in-law is a fine piece of work. Mr. Laurence Brough presents us with a refined and gallant Frenchman; Miss Kate Milford as Mrs. Whortles is good; and as the cantankerous mother-in-law, Miss Bessie Harrison evokes hearty applause. The love interest is charmingly sustained by Miss Evelyn Ormonde as Millie Grace; and Miss Roberta Svendson, in the title-rôle, is clever.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Milton Bode.—Mr. George Dance's Variety Season.—Manager, Mr. E. J. Macdermott.—Mme. De Vry's Three Golden Graces appear this week in a series of classical poses; the Delomes produce a clever dancing speciality, *The Phantom Dancers*; Sam Dalton does a good turn; Little Tichbourne, a juvenile artist, appears with success as a comedian and long-boot dancer; Lillian Travelli is a pleasing comedienne; Harry Brayne and Bert Lloyd give a very funny sketch, *The Tree of Truth*; and some more new pictures are shown on Vernon's Bioscope.

RHYL.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Will Smith.—For the first three nights this week Mr. Fred Smith's company appear in *Trilby*. Svengali was in the capable hands of Mr. Will Smith; and Mme. Constance Bellamy gave a good interpretation of the title-rôle. *The Corsican Brothers* was billed for the last three days.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler and Sutton; Manager, Mr. Jack Macdermott. — A good company is headed by Alex. Chentrens, Anglo-French comedian, whose style at once captivated the audience. Fred Barnes, comedian; Frank Dunlop, Welsh comedian; Lillian Barnes, contralto; Jack Macdermott; and Forshaw and Kershaw, also appear.

ROCHDALE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; General Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Hague.—*A Gambler's Daughter* is here. Mr. Robert Ayrton, with his Irish brogue, makes a typical Desmond O'Dare; Mr. Alfred Sanders is prominent as the grabbing Solomon Solomons; Mr. George Vinning submits an earnest portrayal of Jack Grant; and Mr. W. H. Terr acts with success the part of Ralph Gillman. Captain Stanhope has an able exponent in Mr. H. Barham; and Stephen Brand is in the safe hands of Mr. Charles Yorke. Miss Harriett Loydall is amusing as the loyal Auntie Zeb, a negress; and Miss Adria Hill cleverly enacts the dual rôle of Mildred Grant and Miriam Grant.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thomas Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Hargreaves.—Julian Mack is a highly-diverting comedian; his amusing description of a "Suffragette" created roars of laughter. Cline and Clark give a smart exhibition of sand and buck dancing. Other artists appearing include Lester Bros., coloured duettists and dancers; Frank and Violet Payte, comedy duo; Onda and Leon, comedy bar performers; Macdonald Trio, musical specialities; Charlie Somers, comedian; and the Empire Bioscope.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Smith and Co.—Pringle's North American Animated Picture Company continues its fourth week with new pictures that find great favour. Variety turns are submitted at intervals by Ford and Hanson, the musical millionaires; and the Gilberts, with their trained animals.

ROTHERHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Holbery Hardy. — Miss Winifred Maude and company are presenting *The Sins of a City*, directed by Mr. Victor Du Cane. Mr. Leonard S. Harrison is very effective as Donald McIvor; and Mr. Vincent W. Carlyle is a manly Sandy McDonald. Mr. Norton Shields, in the dual parts of Joe Woodleigh and Jasper Woodleigh, is responsible for a very clever portrayal; and Mr. William Bradford is seen to advantage as Ralph Blackwater, K.C.; being ably seconded by Mr. Victor Du Cane as Isaac Levi. Miss Ethel Tinsley is very smart as Lesbia; and Miss Jenny Hackett is most amusing as Midge, receiving well-deserved recalls for her songs and dances. Miss Lily Mason scores as Mrs. Miggs; and Miss Winifred Maude gives a very pleasing and sympathetic rendition of the part of Seawood.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—*His Sister's Honour* is being presented by Messrs. E. A'Dell and Chabôt's company. Mr. Ed. E. Lewis sustains the hero, Frank Stanley, very satisfactorily; Sir Richard Redvers is excellently played by Mr. Lincoln Calthorpe; Mr. Gilson Brooke works well as Dr. Godfrey; Miss K. Eckart is seen to advantage as Dora Stanley; Miss Ethel Ashleigh makes a charming Ivy Merton; much fun is contributed by Mr. Harry Ugar as Timothy Timid and Miss Janet Lawton as Maria. Miss Winnie Kennedy does well as Gretchen.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. J. C. Patterson. — A special feature of this week's programme is Mrs. John Lawson as Fay Faber in the sketch, *A Devil's Sunday*, supported by several clever artists. Jack Lane, an excellent pianist, keeps the house in roars with his patter and comic songs; and a pathetic domestic episode, *His Birthday*, is smartly played by Mr. and Mrs. Royston Dene and company. Other attractive turns are given by Sibb and Sibb (Gertrude and Willie), double trapeze artists; Stephens and Kennion, eccentric dancers; Edie Anderson, expert dancer; Jean Seul, clever illusionist; and Stanley and Grennop, in a speciality banjo act.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Wentworth.—A bright and attractive bill is presented here this week. Henry Herne and company, in their romantic episode, *Colleen Bawn*, with a real water scene, are well received; the comical juggling act by Olms and Carbeth gets much appreciation; the Japanese art of self-defence is well shown by the Olympian Lady Jiu-jitsu Troupe; and other turns include Mayme Cannon, comedienne; Madge Allen, comedienne and dancer; Wilfred Gregory, Canadian flexible marvel; Lindsay and Harte, in *The Scotchman and the Heiress*; and Ian Maclaren, Scottish tenor.

STRETFORD PAVILION. — Proprietor, Mr. Sidney Weatherilt; Manager, Mr. Fred Erick.—Another good bill this week includes Miss Clairette Florence, soprano vocalist; Tom E. Swift, eccentric comedian; Walter Conila, double-voiced vocalist; Arthur Wake, baritone; Marie Riviers, comedienne; and Stratton Wells, versatile comedian.

SCARBOROUGH.—THE AQUARIUM. — Secretary and Manager, Mr. Walter Kitchingman.—The Three Moxons, Continental acrobatic comedians, give a diverting and well-finished entertainment; Morimura, Japanese illusionist, is an adept at his art, and exhibits cleverness in all his tricks; and George Bernard, actor vocalist, always has the ear of a local audience, and acts creditably. O'Malley and Brown present a sketch, *Pal of Mine*, which is brimful of original ideas; Richardson Taylor, society entertainer, gives pleasure to all who listen to his sketches and imitations; Mollie Seymour (comedienne and violinist, is deservedly applauded for her skill; Mme. Marie Levante's orchestra of ladies, Vernon's Imperial Bioscope, the troupe of lady swimmers, and Jennion's Fantoches complete the programme.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Geo. Zalva.—James Brady, comedian, causes considerable laughter with his songs, and delivers his contributions in good style; James Shields, one-legged dancer, shows much ability, and is well received; Belle Ray is still retained with her illustrated songs, and has become a permanent favourite; the Two Daniels, negro comedians, score with their patter, which is richly humorous; and the animated pictures that are shown are of considerable interest and much appreciated.

SEACOMBE.—IRVING THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiernan. Engaged here are Harry Harper's Clifton Banjo Party, who render a selection in excellent style; Ye Players, in a smart drawing-room entertainment; Andy Griffin, Scotch

comedian; Adeler and Sutton's Pierrots; and the Minster Quartette, all of whom do capital work.

SHEERNESS.—PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Phil Reymond.—A capital company here gives great satisfaction. Valson is a smart musical comedian; Miss Florrie Laurel a clever coon singer; the Sakerbonners have struck oil with their musical act, *Our Compound Mixture;* Mr. Phil Reymond fully maintains his reputation as a comedian; Miss Topsy Levane, too, scores as a low comedy actress; and the Aurendel Company concludes with a screaming comedy sketch, *Matrimony.*

SHEFFIELD.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—On Monday Mr. Ernest E. Norris and company began the second week of their engagement here before a good audience in *An Ideal Husband.* As Sir Robert Chilters, Mr. Ernest Norris acted with ease and naturalness; Mr. Austin Melroy cleverly delivered the polished epigrams of Viscount Goring; and well-played parts were the Earl of Caversham of Mr. Edward S. Petley and the Viscount de Nunyar of Mr. Frederick Tyrrell. Miss Vera Beringer was a graceful representative of the fascinating Mrs. Cheveley; and other carefully-acted characters were the Mr. Montford of Mr. R. Noble, the Lady Chilters of Miss Enid Ross, and the Lady Markby of Miss Kate Chard.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—*Between the Lights* is again delighting local audiences. The acting, scenery, and effects are all good.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Lumsay.—A crowded and enthusiastic house welcomed Mr. Watson Mills's company on Monday in the interesting play *A Wrecker of Men.* Miss Ruth Zillwood as the fascinating reincarnation of the Egyptian enchantress, Risca, was the embodiment of all the personal graces which have made man the slave of woman since the world began, and she acted with sustained power and emotional ability. Miss Gwendolyn Talbot made a pretty and sympathetic Doris, and Miss Beatrice Reynolds was a vivacious Varisole. As the Priest of Isis, Mr. Sydney Rennef acted with dignity; Mr. Percy Horton was good as the hero, Guise Strange; Mr. Leslie Ross made an amusing Reggie; Mr. Miller Anderson was effective as the silent witness, Railton; Mr. Syd Renouf did well as the Jew, Isaacs; and a fine, forcible, and breezy impersonation was Mr. Eric Campbell's Jim Murley. The scenery was first-rate.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Moss Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—A first-rate array of talent is engaged here this week, including Mr. Bransby Williams, in his fine impersonations from Shakespeare and Dickens; Donaldson Bros., Ardell, and pantomime troupe in their ever-welcome absurdity, *Fun at the Zoo;* Miss Maud Mortimer, a favourite burlesque actress; Miss Nelly Coleman, in her funny low-comedy male impersonations; Mr. Dome, the smart and diverting clay-modeller; the Norman-Leonard Trio, instrumentalists; the American Comedy Four, vocalists; the Howes, second-sight artists; Miss Nora Emerland, dancer; and the Bioscope, with new humorous films.

GRAND THEATRE. — Proprietors, The Vaudeville Syndicate; Manager, Mr. David Warwick.—Mr. T. W. Barrett, the original "nobleman's son"; Mr. T. C. Callaghan, vocal comedian; Miss Susie Marney, serio-comic; Burnette and Conri, in a novel act; the Pallister animated pictures; and Peter Gotz, strong man, are delighting large audiences here.

FITZALAN HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Edward Ranier.—Drama and varieties are doing good business nightly.

CENTRAL HALL.—Lessees, Jasper Redfern and Co., Ltd.—The Two Gentrys give a very amusing sketch; and Alpho submits a novel ventriloquial turn. Laurina Lindburg is a vocalist of considerable merit; and Shawlene, the whistling genius, provides an excellent entertainment. The animated pictures, as usual, are up to date, and include "Norway's Derby," "The Police Dogs" (showing dogs at work catching criminals), and a very amusing one, "Catch the Kid."

SHREWSBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Business-Manager, Mr. W. C. Dornton.—Mr. T. R. Nugent's company is here this week with the musical drama *The Little Earl.* Mr. W. Dewhurst acts creditably as Harry Dare; Mr. H. Compton makes a good villain as King Ashton; Mr. A. Martin as Reggie Clavering, a dude, merits praise; and Mr. T. R. Nugent, in the character-part of Billie Barton, works hard and successfully. Miss Maggie Gardiner as Belle Langrish plays conscientiously and well; Miss C. Davies makes a smart barmaid; Miss Jean Berresford is a bright Elsie Woodford; and Miss Gladys Greet is attractive as Claire Sidney. Interesting variety turns enliven the piece.

SOUTHAMPTON. — GRAND THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Weston.—Mrs. Morton Powell's company is this week appearing in *When It Was Dark.* The exacting rôle of Gertrude Hunt is remarkably well played by Miss Hilda Beverley. Mr. W. J. Butler as Constantine Schuabe, Mr. Edward Valentine as Sir Robert Llewellyn, and Mr. E. Stanton Sharp as the Rev. Basil Gortre, are all excellent; and Mrs. Morton Powell acts with charming grace as Helena Byars.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. William Trussell.—The French conjurer Melot is wonderfully clever, and mystifies everyone; the Three Sisters Sprightly delight all with their sparkling numbers; and a touch of sensationalism is added to the programme by the performance of Le Diabelo, a wonderful trick cyclist. Other turns are given by Oakdene, ventriloquist; Mulvey and Miriam, in *In the Study;* Le Cren Trio, in a military absurdity; Olive and Owen, vocalists; and Lily Stewart, comedienne.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. W. de Frece and F. Mouillot; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. P. Howell.—The Ten Loonies score a tremendous success in their act *Dotty;* Haydn's Marionettes submit another clever performance; and Francini, Ollom, and Page give a smart musical and acrobatic turn, which meets with great favour. Peggy Lennie and Walter Hast appear in *The Sea Nymph;* and Violet Carlyle scores with her pretty "Mountain maid" song. Forest and King, Ike Scott and Son, and Jeanie Hartley also shine.

PIER PAVILION.—Acting-Manager, Mr. H. C. Salt.—"The Medleys," directed by Mr. Wallis Arthur, provide the attraction at this resort. The trio of humorists, Messrs. Wallis Arthur, George Blackmore, and J. M. Campbell, are all splendid; whilst Miss Carrie Herwin (contralto) and Mr. Francis Ludlow (baritone), sing delightfully. Mr. George Swaine plays the piano in accomplished style.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—EMPIRE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Conquest; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power.—Mr. Montague Beaudyn provides this week's attraction with the Russian melodrama, *A Beautiful Fiend,* the mounting and effects of which are good. Mr. Herbert Skardon gives a masterly study of Ivan Paulovitch; in the hands of Mr. Harry C. Robinson the villainy of Count Fedor is strikingly portrayed; Mr. Matt Russell is eminently suited as Sergius Strogoff, and his humiliation is a notable feature; Mr. Dick Seddon proves popular as Christopher Crackles, as also does Miss Marie Fontaine as Patty Woodlands, both causing great merriment; Miss Violet Ingram characterises with grace and dignity the rôle of Nadine Karateff; and Wanda Lubinoff has in Miss Sidney Crowe an interpreter of great ability.

PIER PAVILION.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley E. Angless.—This week's attraction, as provided by "The Scarleteers," under the direction of Mr. Charles Hinchcliff, is of an exceptional character, and for the creditable manner in which they entertain a return visit would receive as cordial a welcome as is afforded them this visit. From the opening chorus it is apparent that a capital and enjoyable programme is in store, and which is more pronounced by the jolly and agreeable manner in which the songs and choruses, duets, quartettes, &c., are rendered, all of which gaining hearty applause. Mr. Charles Hinchcliff has a selection of good songs, and his contributions meet with entire approval; Miss Lilian Sanders sings blithely and well, and with Miss Rosa Mellish, whose items are delightfully and cleverly executed, add much to the success of the excellent programme. Miss Nora Wallis, too, is no less successful in her endeavours, sings well, and dances with ease and skill. The humorous element is provided by Mr. Alex. B. Gilbert, who deserves special mention for his taking and clever way of amusing. Mr. Oldbury Brough, who accompanies throughout, also gains distinction for his humorous interludes.

PIER HILL BANDSTAND.—Sole Lessee, Mr. H. E. Angless.—Although the weather for the past fortnight has not been favourable for outdoor entertainments, it has not marred the success of Mr. Ballard Brown's concerts. Vast crowds daily have really enjoyable programmes submitted, and capital business is being done.

SOUTHPORT.—OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS.—Proprietors, The Southport Opera House and Winter Gardens Co., Ltd.; Secretary, Mr. R. Singleton.—Mr. Albert Chevalier opened on Monday evening. The first part of the programme included four songs, which were rendered in the well-known style of the inimitable coster impersonator. Mr. Chevalier next appeared in the title-rôle of Mr. J. M. Barrie's fantastic play, *The Pantaloon,* and acquitted himself with success. Subsequently the quaint musical play, *The Dream of His Life,* written by himself, was presented, in which Mr. Chevalier, in the part of Peter Pinder, has plenty of scope for a display of versatility, his capital impersonation of the character securing well-deserved applause. Mr. Chevalier is very ably supported by a specially-selected company, including Mr. Julian Cross.

ALBERT HALL, WINTER GARDENS.—Lessee, Mrs. Charles Parker; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Mertz.—Maurin's marvellous fountains presented beautiful kaleidoscopic effects, and concluded with an attractive scene, entitled *The Water Nymphs.* Other popular items were contributed by Stewart and Morgan, in their vocal scena, *Leaving Ireland;* the Three Sisters Urma, triple trapeze artists; the Six Æolians, in their vocal and dancing act; the Zancigs, in their marvellous demonstrations; Chris Van Berne, comedian and banjoist; Ridiculous Recco, in a burlesque acrobatic sketch, *How to Become an Acrobat;* Geo. W. Nicholson, Yorkshire humorist; Charlie Williams, Scottish negro and big-boot dancer; and the Parkerscope, with the latest animated pictures.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. J. and F. Coulson.—*The Hour of Her Triumph* is being presented by Mr. Fred J. Webb's company to enthusiastic audiences. Rose Denton is powerfully portrayed by Miss Barbara Gott; Mr. Fred J. Webb as Eugene Harbury plays in a convincing manner; Miss M. Danvers Smith gains sympathy as Nellie Clavering; and Linda Denton has a charming exponent in Miss Mamie Stanton. Mr. T. O. Stephenson does well as Jack Vernon; Miss Lalla Price in the double rôle of Martha Jinks and Sal Soaker plays excellently; Mr. Leslie Hawkins makes the most of his opportunities as Harold Clavering; Mr. James Stuart hits off the romantic lover, Rosenis Montmorency, in good style; and great merriment is caused by Mr. Louis Nanton as Ben Brodie and Miss Hetty Gale as Jennie Jinks.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—An excellent bill is headed by Ben Hur, whose feats of strength arouse hearty applause. Livesey and Rosebery, assisted by Albert Mason, appear to great advantage in *The Would-be Actors;* clever character impersonations are submitted by C. Randolph King; Roma and Romani provide an enjoyable musical turn; Victor Travers, coon singer, is entertaining. The programme also includes other attractive items in the Northern Troupe of International Dancers; the Twin Bros. Dean, smart dancers and whistlers, Maude Jestor, ballad vocalist, and the Bioscope.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. K. Hall and Joseph Sweeney; Business-Manager, Mr. Harry Burns.—A welcome return visit is being paid by the Universal Picture Company, with an excellent series of new films.

SPENNYMOOR.—CAMBRIDGE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; General-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—Lieut. Albini, illusionist and sleight-of-hand expert, with an attractive series of pictures, met with capital support here last week. This week local patrons are witnessing with pleasure the second visit of *At the World's Mercy,* a bright little comedy-drama, which is being toured under the ripe and skilled direction of Mr. Charles Herman. Miss Cissie Melford bears much of the burden of the piece, and in the rôles of Kitty and Skittles, two very dissimilar characters, she displays great abilities. She has an admirable help-mate in Mr. Jess Boxer, who fills the rôle of Charlie Smart in smart style; Mr. Carr Loates gives great satisfaction as Captain Manley; and Miss Madge Devereux submits a truly womanly impersonation of Alice Leigh. Tiny Carrie Johnson gives a pleasing performance of Dot, which reflects the greatest credit upon those responsible for her training; Mr. Edward Rawlinson as Jabez Barber, and Mr. G. W. Knight as Morris Goldstein, depict in glowing colours a pair of despicable scoundrels.

ST. HELENS.—THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader.—Messrs. Pitt and Halling's company is here this week in *£1,000 Reward.* Miss Daisy Halling is highly successful as Mme. Sanson; Miss Lynn Darlington is excellent as Meg, being heartily encored for her singing; Miss Rose Conroy is admirably suited to the part of Kitty; and Mrs. Sidney Halling does well as Mrs. McCarthy. Mr. Fred Wilberforce gives a masterly exposition of Gilbert Lisle; and as Fred Ingleford, Mr. J. N. Cowling is effective. Mr. Charles Halling appears with credit as Vincent Rainsworth; and Mr. Frank Dallas does exceedingly well as Inspector Gilbert. Mr. Joe English makes a smart Dick Springthorpe; Mr. Arthur Merton is good as Fighting Jeppe; as is also Mr. Frank J. Pitt as Fred Ingleford, jun.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Wilmot; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Vic Carnell.—Frank Purcell's comedy company create roars of laughter here in the sketch, *Three Husbands;* another excellent sketch, which is exceedingly well received, is *My Burglar,* presented by Harry Thorpe and company; Miss Edie Veno, comedienne, has made a hit; the Brothers Durant are enthusiastically applauded; and other good turns include Miss Mamie Iris, comedienne; the Veckeys, banjoists; Jack Rae, comedy gymnast; and Miss Elise May, vocalist.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Revill, jun.—This week the drama, *The Woman from Scotland Yard,* is being played. The chief part is that of Paul Obanoff, and Mr. Alex. C. Grant gives a powerful impersonation of the character. Miss Emily Money makes a stately Lady Stanhope; Miss Chrissie Dunbar acts the title-rôle with charming grace and effect; Mr. George Edwin Clive is very commendable as Harry Stanhope; and Mr. John L. Schofield efficiently presents the part of Ivan Vassilietch. A pleasing vein of comedy runs through the piece, capitally provided by Mr. Walter Clarke as Algernon Fitzmaurice, Mr. Robert Cromwell as Jack Brown, and Miss Sidney Barrisford as Mary.

EMPIRE, LTD.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Black.—The Yiulians Family of clever acrobats are the chief attraction here this week; Lionel Vaughan's comedy sketch company, appearing in *In Trouble,* has caused boisterous laughter; W. G. Webber, bass vocalist, has been enthusiastically received; Phil Herman, comedian, was very successful; Vandinoff gave a clever display of quick picture-painting; Eric Johns, tenor vocalist, was pleasingly greeted; and Carson Hicks showed ability as a vocalist and dancer.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—HIPPODROME THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Robt. A. Nicholson; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Geo. Stainton. — Libby Blondelle and her Four Johnnies are here this week, and present a novel musical show, which is greatly appreciated; Solari Duo, operatic vocalists, &c., are accorded an enthusiastic reception for their display; Stanley's Urchins are a troupe of excellent vocalists and dancers; and Gillin provides an amusing ventriloquial entertainment. Derenda and Green are a pair of comedy jugglers; and Earle and Melville, patter comedians, are well received. Mme. Du Roche is greatly admired in her soprano songs; and the Selbinis are greatly appreciated in their cycling and acrobatic feats. Henderson, the concertina king, is also well received.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Councillor J. Batty; Manager, Mr. W. Batty.—Leslie Brothers head the bill this week, and are very amusing as the mad musicians; W. B. Raby is a quaint comedian; and Anna Kenwick is well received for her song and dance. Bert Williams is a pleasing ventriloquist; and Wright and Lawson are a pair of funny comedians. The Jansons present a novel gymnastic act; and Johnson and Wells are greatly admired as vocalists and dancers. Fred Sinclair and Grace Whiteford cause great amusement in their sketch, *Getting Even;* and the pictures complete the programme.

STOKE.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr T. Allan Edwards; Manager, Mr. H. Miller.—Mr. J. Gar Kiddie's company head the bill in *The House of Tinn,* which is screamingly funny, Mr. Kiddie in his part being exceedingly clever. The Sisters Geretti, in their trapeze performance, contribute a truly wonderful act; scenes from Dickens are admirably given by Miss Eva Hope and Mr. Jack Wayho; Phil Bransby, as a coster comedian, is capital; the Brassos, in their acrobatic performance, are smart and clever; Little Salvino, in a musical turn, does well; the Sages have good business, and dance admirably; Bertha Norwood is a pleasing songstress and dancer; and the pictures are good.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan. — Mr. Thomas Sidney's company is here in *The Marriage of Kitty.* The curtain-raiser is *John Aylmer's Dream.*

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Sunderland Theatres Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Jas. Hemingway.—Mrs. F. Wybert Clive's *The Branded Woman* company is here. Mr. James Stillwell as the artist hero is seen to advantage; Mr. Walter Steele scores in the heavier rôle of Leon; an excellent rendition of Louis Duroc is submitted by Mr. Ed. Lowrie; and Mr. W. Cowell Clarke's study of Zarka is also admirable. The comedy element is contributed in no small degree by Mr. Harry Liddle, in his portrayal of Dick Brown; Mr. F. Wybert Clive, in addition to supporting the rôle of Paul Fleuret, is in evidence as director in front; Miss Lilian Ross proves capable in the difficult part of the title-rôle, Genevieve Laroche; Miss Alice Campbell does excellently as Countess Daphne; and Miss Maude Elliott is equally good as Marie; whilst a word of praise is due to Miss Isabel Hunt for a smart rendition of the soubrette part of Jacqueline. Miss May Warden is also good in the juvenile rôle of Rudolph; and Miss Rose Franklin ably fills the part of Mme. Crevier.

PALACE OF VARIETIES. — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Acting-Managers, Messrs. Browne and Stringer.—The Stein-Eretto troupe's turn of hand-acrobatic balancing is novel and clever; Arthur Conquest's pantomimic sketch, *The Sioux,* is interesting; Harry and Elsie Mayville's marionette duets are well worth seeing; Fanny and Harry Dent score in their musical comedy sketch, *Mary and the Squire;* Patta Bella, comedienne, Rae Walters, comedienne, J. C. Scatter, comedian and dancer, and the Biograph pictures complete the programme.

SWANSEA. — THE GRAND.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Brooks and Woodbridge; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Oswald Brooks; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Dean.—For the second week of his engagement at the Grand, Mr. Norman MacOwen presented on Monday to a capital house *A Bunch of Violets.* Mr. Philip Marchant, the greatly-troubled aristocrat, received clever treatment from Mr. MacOwen; Miss Violet Sterne as Lady Marchant fully justifies the excellent opinions formed of her last week; the impersonation of Mrs. Murgatroyd by Miss Lester Stephens was marked all through by ability; as was the Violet of Miss Mary Masters. As Mark Murgatroyd Mr. Sidney R. Palfrey was successful; Mr. Murray Hathorn's Lord Mount Sorrell was excellent; and as the Hon. Harold Ingles Mr. Arthur Linay was successful. Mr. Arthur Somers as Jacob Schwartz leaves nothing to be desired Miss Isabel Hathorn, as the maid, created a good impression.

THE STAR.—Manager, Mr. William Coutts; Assistant-Manager, Mr. S. J. Powell.—*The Power of Gold* is being presented by Mr. Frank Ayrton's company. Mr. George Lyttleton's portrayal of the fiendish Hadgi Zambria is well done; and Mr. R. P. Stacey acts well as Paul Judson. Excellent work is performed by Miss Lily Prescott as Meg Judson; comedy is ably provided by Mr. Frank Ayrton and Miss Madge Seymour; the impersonation of Lady Brandon by Miss Amy McNeill was a powerful one.

THE EMPIRE, LTD.—Manager, Mr. A. Mitchell; Assistant-Manager, Mr. P. C. Rowe.—The Boisset Troupe, in *The Bricklayers,* keep the audience in one roar of laughter. That charming comedienne, Marguerite Broadfoote, renders her songs in her best style; an artistic performance is provided by Powell's Marionettes; Ross and Lewis, in *Fits and Misfits,* give a clever exhibition of dancing; Frank Couch has a good song and some good stories, which he tells well; high-class selections by Grace Morton are features of the bill; the Phydoras, in an eccentric musical act, do well, as do also the Sisters Chester, dancers and instrumentalists. Bioscope pictures complete the programme.

TORQUAY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—Mr. Charles Harrington's company, in *Uncle Tom's Cabin,* opened on Monday. In the title-rôle Mr. J. Carr gave a capital representation; Mr. Charles Harrington as Phineas Fletcher did very well; and as George Harris Mr. Leslie Beaufort was daring and courageous; whilst as Eliza Miss Hero Hathaway acted with peculiar tenderness and pathos. Mr. Albert G. Wray as Mr. St. Clair was all that could be desired; and Miss Jenny Malcolm as Aunt Ophelia was quaintly funny. The part of Little Eva was excellently taken by Miss Holly Hazelwood; Miss Hettie Johnson was good as Casey; and Mr. J. Henry Rogers as the hard, unfeeling Legree, was strikingly brutal.

TYNEMOUTH.—PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. H. Graham; Manager, Mr. Lindon Travers.—Jack Mills, comedian, has a budget of good songs; another capital turn is that of Phern and Phern, in a clever musical act; the Soho Trio contribute some excellent dances; Gravelta and Parr are versatile entertainers; and Dorothy Lawson Taylor, vocalist; Frances Kapstoune, comedienne; and the Bioscope, complete.

VENTNOR (Isle of Wight).—THE PAVILION.—The Pink Carnations concert party, under the management of Mr. Harold Perry, opened a three nights' engagement here on Monday. Special mention may be made of the duets by Miss Nellie Barnwell and Mr. Harold Perry; the solos by Miss Gipsy Dale and Mr. H. V. Crofton; and the humorous sketches of Mr. Cuthbert Rose; whilst Mr. Bert Patterson rendered valuable assistance at the piano. Mr. Burton Yaldwyn is the business-manager for the party.

WAKEFIELD.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Sherwood and Co.—The drama, *Under the Russian Flag,* is presented here this week by Mr. Jack Haddon's company. The part of General Romanoff is admirably played by Mr. George Cecil Murray; Mr. Sidney Arnold does well as Michael; and Mr. Charles Stafford is able as Ivan. Mr. Jack Haddon gives a forcible impersonation as Captain Demetrius; Mr. Hal Forde as Peter, Mr. Templar Ellis as Alexis, and Miss Molly Hackett as Ogaritz creditably provide the humorous element. Colonel Souvaroff is cleverly depicted by Mr. W. Wilson; Miss Marie Rayner charms the audience with her graceful and womanly portrayal as Luka Marischia; and Miss Violet Lytton is good as Vera Vassiloff.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—The Dayton Family of Risley performers head the bill here, with feats of exceptional cleverness and daring; another smart and interesting turn is provided by the Cecilian Family, including Prof. T. Wigham, concertina soloist; the Milford Brothers, on the trapeze, prove very popular; W. Belleau and company, in a comedy sketch, *A Night's Frivolity,* cause much merriment; Frank Coyle, comedian, is applauded; the Hannaway Brothers, comedians, and the Harry Sansone Trio, in a speciality act, ably contribute.

WARRINGTON.—ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr. F. Willmot.—Louis Hardt, considering his stature, supplies a wonderful performance in feats of strength; Palles and Cussick are again seen in their droll episode, *The Funny Side of Life;* the Brothers Diamond are seen to advantage in a speciality act; and Arthur Slater is an exceptionally smart siffleur. Donald MacDougal is a quaint Scotch comedian; and Daisy Snow a favourite comedienne. Moon and Morris are capital comedians; and the pictures detailing the Gunner Moir Fight are good.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—GRAND.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Manager, Mr. Herbert Feather.—*The Sporting King* is being presented this week by a company including the author, Mr. Charles Whitlock; Mike Crawley, the celebrated London boxer; and Tom Lancaster, the middle-weight champion of England. Mr. Whitlock gives a powerful impersonation of Joe Brave, the old champion, and makes the character a vividly realistic one; as the old Squire Stamford Mr. Harry Richardson portrays the character to the life; Mr. Arthur Chisholm is well suited as the Squire's son, David; the villainy of Renard is ably depicted by Mr. Leonard Yorke; Jessie Lane has a capital representative in the naïve and lively Miss Eva Reed; much dramatic power is displayed by Miss Lilla Wilde in the rôle of Freena Basilk; the comedy, in the hands of Mr. Alfred Terriss as Jack Sharpe, is amusing; and the rendering of the persecuted Joan Brave by Miss Georgina V. France calls forth the warmest admiration.

PALACE. — Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—A programme excellent in every item is submitted here this week. Roze and Calvert, the comedy couple, are responsible for boisterous laughter; the Marconis, electrical wonders, cause amazement; Mr. Chas. Diamond and Miss Beatrice discourse sweet music on harp and saxophone; Otto and Olga are clever and unmistakably funny; Burns and Bentley, in simultaneous dancing, are clever; Graham and Barron, comedians and dancers, have a good reception; and an excellent gymnastic display is contributed by the Zelovas.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.—GRAND PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. John H. Stevenson.—Mr. John Ridding's Opera Company is paying a welcome return visit. On Monday, in *Maritana,* Miss Kitty Brownless, with voice of rare purity, in the title-rôle, gained unstinted applause; the Lazarillo of Miss Jessie Dennis was exceptionally good; and it would be impossible to praise too highly Mr. John Riddings's impersonation of Don José; and Mr. Charles Le Sueur's Don Cæsar is entitled to the highest eulogy. *The Bohemian Girl, The Lily of Killarney, Il Trovatore,* and *The Daughter of the Regiment* are in the week's bill.

KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—Mr. Francis Everard's company is making its first appearance here in *The Sorrows of Satan* and *Shadows of a Great City.* Mr. Francis Everard gave an intensely dramatic interpretation of Prince Lucio Rimanez; Miss Vera Fordyce showed histrionic art above the average as Lady Sybil; there was plenty of low comedy in Mr. Arthur Ferris's Morris; and Mr. M. Morley Carrol acted with distinction as Mr. Geoffrey Tempest.

WEST STANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Stanley Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Mark H. Lindon.—The smart dancing and clever tumbling of the Poole-Pelhams provides a neat and refined turn; the Four Maisanos, musical eccentrics, give a clever and humorous act; Mr. Geo. Westland is a smart Scotch comedian, who sings and patters well; and Sandy and Carl are a pair of all-round fun-providers, being responsible for some good dancing, boxing, and tumbling; Halma is a juggler who thoroughly understands his tricky business; the Three Zednas are smart dancers and vocalists; Miss Maggie Dilston is a charming little singer, her pretty face and sweet voice making her a general little favourite; Harry Burns's Juveniles are marvels of child training, who present a fine scena, entitled *The Waif.*

WIGAN.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Co.—Mr. Harry Starr and company are here in *The Unseen Power.* Mr. Starr as Fred Granville plays the part with much strength of character and resource; Mr. Edwin Firth as Antonio is capital; and Mr. Will Hee as George Granville, and Mr. Fred W. Graham as Horatio Cracklesby, take honours. Lucretia Granville is ably impersonated by Miss Kate Norris; and Miss Madge Blundell gives an admirable representation of Anita Romano.

WREXHAM.—EMPIRE MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. J. J. Scott; Manager, Mr. C. W. Collings.—This week the Musical Palmers, five in number, who are great favourites with Wrexham audiences, make a welcome re-appearance in their refined musical and military entertainment; Miss Daisy Palmer, one member of the family, who does a single turn, is a delightful comedienne and danseuse; Arnotti scores in an eccentric musical show; Rex and Ford are amusing patter comedians; the Days give a mystifying second-sight performance; and some excellent "pictures" complete a most interesting programme.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

CHARLES FRY'S RECITALS.

The debt of gratitude which the student of Shakespeare owes to Mr. Charles Fry was added to on Saturday, when an opportunity was given of witnessing *Troilus and Cressida* for the first time since the poet's death. Such neglect of the piece is hardly surprising, for the representation of Saturday showed that however rich in dialogue the play may be, it is unfitted for the stage. The episodic nature of the work was plainly apparent, and the scenes, except in a few instances, seemed to bear little relation to each other. Shakespeare's *Troilus and Cressida,* in its first form, appears to have been written and played about 1603, while an adaptation by Dryden, with the subtitle of *Truth Found Out Too Late,* was produced at the theatre in Dorset Gardens in 1679. Mr. Fry, by whom the piece has been adapted and produced, has followed the cuts suggested in Sir Henry Irving and Mr. Frank Marshall's edition of *Troilus and Cressida.* The interview between Helen and Paris, which appeared in Mr. Fry's version, scarcely justified its retention; but the omission of the death of Hector, which Mr. Fry considers to be unworthy of the Achilles, was a wise move, which gave added significance to the latter scene when the event was related by Troilus. As a contribution to contemporary dramatic lore the production is of distinct value, and Mr. Fry is to be commended for his enterprise. The customary care was displayed in the allotment of the characters, and though there were some weak points in the cast, an artistic treat was in many cases provided. Mr. Lewis Casson, who is again lent to Mr. Fry by the Court management, was a superb exponent of Troilus. He lacked nothing in manly dignity, and though occasionally he hurried the lines, he was always audible. His love-scene with Cressida was tender and delicate, while his impassioned and vehement outburst after witnessing the perfidy of his betrothed so affected the audience that the clever young actor was repeatedly recalled. The refinement and delicacy of Miss Olive Kennett was employed with effect in the part of Cressida. The sincerity of Cressida's love for Troilus was finely expressed, and made all the more effective her gradual yielding to Diomedes, the reluctance which takes possession of Cressida when she looks on her first love token being indicated with rare art. Mr. Fry contented himself with the part of Thersites, the deformed Grecian, of which he made the utmost. The waspish retorts of Thersites were made very droll, and not one went unrewarded with a laugh. A conspicuous success of the afternoon was the Cassandra of Miss Winifred Rae, whose raven locks adorning a face of marked beauty gave character to the part of the Prophetess. Her doleful accents lent a weird rhythm to the lines, and the rendering was a most impressive one, which called forth repeated cheers. The fine physique of Mr. Patrick Munro marked him out as an ideal exponent of Hector, and his ringing voice sounded effectively in the declamatory lines. The long speeches of Ulysses were well maintained by Mr. Arthur Broughton, who acted well, and exhibited praiseworthy perfection in the knowledge of his lines. Mr. Vernon Cartwright was a handsome Diomedes, acting with infinite tact in his scene with the faithless Cressida; and Ajax was invested with the sheepish qualities proper to the part by Mr. William Stewart. Mr. H. A. Rourke was a stately King of Troy; and Paris was discreetly impersonated by Mr. Arthur W. Steed. Mr. J. K. Maclean outlined the character of Agamemnon clearly and distinctly; Mr. W. J. R. Cane was an elderly but volatile Pandarus, making much of his opportunities, which included a song; and Mr. Stanley Leverton was a dignified Nestor. Mr. T. Rowbotham did well as Patroclus; and Mr. William Anning was a comely Achilles, and acquitted himself of his duties with grace and skill. Miss Annie Williams's Andromache was an impersonation of distinct promise. The actress has youth and freshness on her side, and sympathy was compelled by the natural pathos of her acting. Mrs. E. J. Way was a regal Queen Helen; and Miss Frances Edmonds displayed a strikingly weird make-up as Hecuba. Miss Dora Keith betokened an intelligent appreciation of the part of a boy; and Mr. T. Milford doubled the rôles of servant to Cressida and also to Paris. A prepossessing impression was created by Mr. Guy Cooper, who spoke the prologue with spirit and admirable elocution. As is customary with Mr. Fry's recitals, the play was given on a draped stage, but the costumes were very elaborate; and Mr. Arthur Fox's music aided the production, which was greatly appreciated by a large audience.

Contrary to his usual practice, Mr. Fry, in association with Miss Olive Kennett, is giving his recitals daily, and Monday evening saw the revival of *The Comedy of Errors,* which was divided into five scenes. The play is an admirable example of Shakespeare's constructive skill, and the ingenuity of the story kept the house alive with mirth throughout the evening. With few exceptions, the piece was rattled through with remarkable smartness and verve, and the conflicting adventures of the twin Antipholi and their similarly-related servants kept the audience in a constant state of pleasing bewilderment. The responsibilities of the brothers were shared with equal credit by Mr. Arthur Broughton and Mr. Patrick Munro, the former actor being suitably bright and buoyant as the Syracusan hero. Mr. Munro exhibited his customary cleverness in the rôle of the Ephesian youth, his fine delivery giving effective aid to the lines. Alike in appearance as well as drollery were the Two Dromios of Mr. Chas. Fry and Mr. C. Francis. The richness of the humour of the Dromio of Syracuse was markedly increased by the mellowness of Mr. Fry's style; and Mr. Francis as the Dromio of Ephesus employed a wealth of comic resource with irresistible effect. The tribulations of Adriana were borne with charming fortitude by Miss Olive Kennett, who gave a true touch of comedy to many of the speeches placed in the mouth of the Ephesian's wife, while her perturbation and solicitude for her husband's safety were expressed with captivating grace. The classic beauty of Miss Muriel Hutchinson added to the attractiveness of her performance of Luciana, and a sympathetic voice and a refined manner completed the excellence of her rendering. The stately bearing and gentleness of the Abbess were successfully assumed by Mrs. E. J. Way; and Ægeon, was represented with intelligence by Mr. Stanley Leverton, whose delivery of the merchant's long speeches was carefully emphasised. Mr. H. A. Rourke won laughter by his eccentricities as the schoolmaster, Pinch; and the Angelo of Mr. T. Milford Cottam was a well-defined and pleasing representation. Mr. T. Rowbotham looked a truly benign Duke, and spoke with agreeable earnestness; Mr. N. C. Wetheritt gave a commendable rendering of the Officer; and the cast was completed by Mr. J. K. Maclean as a merchant and Messrs. Skinner and Oliver as soldiers. *The Comedy of Errors* was preceded by the quarrel scene from *The School for Scandal,* in which Miss Annie Williams gave a bewitching portrayal of the varying moods of the youthful Lady Teazle, and won general admiration. Mr. Arthur Fayne made up well as Sir Peter, and exhibited the old gentlemen's petulance and irritation in a manner quite in tone with the character.

AT the adjourned sitting of the Glasgow Theatrical Licence Court on Monday all the applications for the renewal of licences for the various places of amusement in the city were granted, with the exception of that for the Theatre Royal, which was continued pending the completion of alterations.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"HOPFENRATH'S ERBEN."

Burlesque, in Five Acts, by T. Wilkens, produced at the New Schauspielhaus, May 22, 1907.

Baron von Jankowitz	HERR KLEIN
Frau Hopfenrath	FRAULEIN CARLSEN
Lilly	FRAULEIN MAREN
Milly	FRAULEIN WALDOFF
Hans	HERR KLEINER
Dabelstein	HERR ARNDT
Fritz	FRAU GISELA SCHNEIDER
Kaetchen	FRAULEIN COLLOT
Gelbsiegel	HERR WALDEN
Jacques	HERR FRIEDRICH
Kopp	HERR REITZBACH
Kraus	HERR ANSIEDLER
Gettke	HERR POHL
Haase	HERR AGTE
Minna	FRAULEIN BERGER
Junger Mann	HERR HOEBLING

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, May 30.—This old-new piece has become the success of the late season, and will certainly prove the most popular play in the New Schauspielhaus bill. Wilkens was one of the fathers of the Berlin burlesque-farce, the original *Hopfenrath's Erben* having flourished more than thirty years ago. But little is left of the author's work, properly speaking; the couplets and many of the episodes having been added, while the great hit of the present piece is a parody of *Salome*, written by the well-known composer of light music, Bogumil Zepler. This was in the hands of Frau Schneider (Salome), Herr Walden (Herodes), and Herr Ernst Arndt (Jochanaan), and was irresistibly comical, played and sung as it was most cleverly. The "Dance of the Seven Veils"—perhaps the *clou* of the parody—executed by these smart comedians is a thing to be remembered, and the composer has drawn some of his best bits from Schumann, Wagner, and even Strauss himself, with fine impartiality. As regards the plot of the piece itself it is simplicity personified, as were ever the plots of the good old farces. Good, honest work finally succeeds, the parvenu's pride receives its well-merited fall, and the firm of "Hopfenrath's Erben" regains the high standing it had lost by foolish speculations. The piece was capitally acted down to the smallest detail, but the principal laurels were gained by the trio of artists above mentioned.

At the Luisen Theatre a novelty was recently produced making exactly the opposite impression to that calculated upon. It was a four-act drama—a "picture from life"—by S. Shorowitz, entitled *Freie Liebe*. A well-to-do young architect is ruined body and soul by his inamorata, with whom he resides outside the bonds of matrimony. The lady finally deserts her lover, and goes off with another to a ball while the wretched architect is dying of a broken heart. In the final act a couple of nurses appear with an ambulance to bear him to the hospital, where, we are assured, he will give up the ghost, and his mother rushes in to scream "Mein armer Sohn!" as the curtain falls. The audience—truth compels me to record—were convulsed with laughter instead of tears, and applauded the tragic passages with visible delight.

"DIE SCHMUGGLER,"

Comedy, in Four Acts, by Arthur Dinter, produced at the Schiller, N., June 3, 1907.

Schleim	HERR BILDT
Alois	HERR BERNSTEIN
Schimmel	HERR KIRSCHNER
Salome	FRAULEIN WYDA
Kathele	HERR BARTELS
Schang	HERR REMBE
Andres	HERR SCHABIK
Schorch	HERR SANDEN
Sperber	HERR IWALD
Chaffepot	HERR WERANA
Zipfel	HERR BENDOW
Frau Zipfel	FRAULEIN HELMS
Pimpe	HERR OTTO
Biedermann	HERR GEMMEKE
Grimmig	HERR HARTWIG
Neumann	HERR HAASE
Null	HERR FOERSTER

BERLIN, THURSDAY, June 6.—This is the work of a native of Alsace. It has been—astonishing to relate—the winner of a prize competition, and this fact, no doubt, influenced the management of the Schiller in the accepting of it. Public opinion here thinks the production of such a maliciously anti-Prussian piece was not either in good taste or a good stroke of business, but the gallery, at least, appeared to enjoy it thoroughly. Nobody minds a little harmless fun poked at red-tapism, but the author has entirely overshot his mark in making the Prussian Custom House officials such contemptible fellows, such impossible caricatures. Herr Dinter's spite, too, against the Prussians in general is plainly manifest in places, and altogether it would have been more judicious to have left *Die Schmuggler* in its native country, where it is evidently far better appreciated. The action passes in an Alsatian frontier-village, where the smuggler-king, François Sperber, has his haunts. Schimmel, the landlord of the inn, is one of Sperber's satellites, and the principal incident in the piece is the narrow escape both have from being discovered and arrested. Sperber's impudence and ready wit never desert him, and in the nick of time he manages to slip into the stolen clothes of a Prussian official and pass himself off as that person to his brother officials. The situation is distinctly humoursome, and this scene makes the chief running in the piece. The acting was capital throughout.

MISS GERALDINE FARRAR has returned from her American and Parisian triumphs to our Royal Opera. Her first reappearance was on Monday in *Traviata*, the opera in which she was first heard here, five years ago. The Opera House was crowded from floor to ceiling with an enthusiastic audience, the beautiful young artist receiving a welcome such as must have delighted her. Miss Farrar's voice has matured and gained in volume and roundness since her absence, and the duet sung by her and Naval (Alfred) in the fourth act was a musical treat that could not easily be surpassed.

AT the Lustspielhaus a novelty made its appearance on Saturday with very satisfactory results. It is a farce in four acts by MM. Alexander Engel and Julius Horst, entitled *Die Welt ohne Männer*. Plot there is little or none; the theme is much the same as that of the farce *Los vom Mann*, which was given here some years ago. But Fräulein Pepi Glöckner, a very popular Viennese soubrette, had splendid opportunities for the display of her versatile talents, and that for the delighted audience was the chief thing. The heroine has openly declared war against the male sex, and a couple of friends join her in the determination to withstand all masculine blandishments. The trio succeed in remaining adamant only for a time, one after the other falling a victim to the despised lords of creation. A few skilfully-placed couplets made a hit, sung as they were with much verve and charm by Fräulein Glöckner.

THE successful run of the farce-burlesque *Hopfenrath's Erben* was broken on Friday for a single performance of Goethe's *Faust*. It was an unusually even cast, and one of the best classical evenings the New Schauspielhaus has had since its opening. The only drawback was the length of the intervals, which made the performance too long for the taste of the majority of the audience. Herr Grube, the former Royal Schauspielhaus manager and an actor of great merit, gave the rôle of Mephisto. His conception is original and striking; Lucifer is more cynical and jocular than he is in the hands of most of his exponents, and the reading gains considerably in consequence. Fräulein Maren is always a most sympathetic Gretchen, and the rendering of the name-part by Herr Zimmerer was very interesting. The mounting was excellent.

WE are being literally deluged with operettas and comic operas. It is a positive epidemic. There is, to begin with, the uninterrupted sway of Leliar's *Lustige Wittwe* at the Theatre des Westens (whose company proper since the insolvency of the management has been scattered to the four winds of heaven), and Karl Millöcker's melodious little work, *Die sieben Schwaben*, has opened the Ferenczy season of summer opera at Krolls, or the New Royal Opera. In the latter work Fräulein Mia Werber, the pretty and *petite* original Geisha, takes the principal rôle of Kätchen and sings and acts it with all her customary charm. The remainder of the cast is satisfactory, while the exceptionally good mounting adds considerably to the attractions of the operetta, which will certainly enjoy a long lease of life. *Paris*, the pretty little one-act operetta, is still holding the boards of the Folies Caprice, with the Figaro company, and, finally, there is the very excellent company from the An der Wien Theatre, Vienna, at the Lessing. The Viennese guests are capital singers and actors, and the management understands the mounting of the Waltz King's operas to perfection. Thus *The Bat*, *Der Zigeuner-Baron* and other similar works are being given nightly to very appreciative audiences. Fräulein Mizi Günther creates a particularly favourable impression as Adele in *Die Fledermaus*; her voice is as pleasing as her appearance, while her vivacious acting carries the audience completely with her. The Lessing Theatre closes this month for a six weeks' holiday.

DIRECTOR GREGOR and his company have returned from London, and reopened at the Komische Oper. *Hoffmann's Erzählungen* is still filling the bill to the exclusion of all else, and will probably do so until the summer holidays commence. Herr Gregor is more than satisfied with his London season, and fully intends to go there again next year.

CRIMINAL novels and plays being the vogue here with a great portion of the population, a new piece in the style of Sherlock Holmes and water is to be produced at the Bernhard Rose Theatre to-morrow. It is entitled *Der grosse Unbekannter*, and the author, Herr Kurt Mattull, has laid the scene in London, depicting the life of one of the swell mob.

THE Lortzing has had to close precipitately before the close of the season in consequence of some technical difficulties of the stage, which the police authorities have discovered to be dangerous to the artists. In consequence of this state of things a number of engagements have had to be cancelled. The management is looking out for a vacant theatre to be able to continue acting until the end of June, but up to now nothing suitable has been found.

"CHARLEY'S TANTE" is being given every night at the Thalia, with Herr Thielscher in the name-part, which was created by him. The popular comedian is making a tremendous hit with it once more before leaving that theatre for the Metropol.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

The students' concert on Friday evening, May 31, opened with Haydn's Quartette for Strings in G, carefully interpreted by Mr. Thomas Peatfield, Miss Gladys Raymond, Mr. Herbert Kinze, and Mr. Felix Norman Salmond. The piano solo Sonata in B flat, by Clementi, was given with neat and finished execution by Miss Adelaide Bonnar, an Associate of the Royal College and Clementi Exhibitioner, and Mr. Robert Murchie was loudly applauded for his admirably-played flute solos, Berceuse (Joachim-Andersen) and Ch. M. Widor's Scherzo. Another interesting item in the programme was Schumann's Sonata for violin and piano, in A minor, Op. 105, rendered with much ability by Miss Amy Rydings and Miss Winifred Gardiner. The songs included in the programme were A. Goring Thomas's beautiful Nocturne ("Night hymn at sea"), in which Miss H. Marie Wright's fine voice was heard to great advantage. Miss Anna Izard also deserved praise for her well-played violoncello obbligato. Although the music lay somewhat too low for the lady's voice, Miss Wena Pickering received a warm greeting from the audience for her clever singing of Secchi's "Lungi dal caro bene." Mr. Thomas Watson was also well received for two songs, "O Mary, dear" (M. V. White) and A. Jensen's "My heart's in the Highlands." A well-played organ solo, Prelude and Fugue in B minor (Bach), by Mr. Harold Rhodes, concluded the concert. There was a very large audience, and Miss Alice Cotton, A.R.C.M., ably performed the duties of accompanist.

With the exception of Bach, the programme of the orchestral concert on Thursday afternoon was devoted to the works of Glazounow, the Russian composer. In Bach's Concerto for violin and flute (Brandenburg, No. 5), with stringed orchestra, the soloists, Mr. Frank Tapp, Miss May Harrison, and Mr. Robert Murchie, were much applauded by the large audience for their skilful and finished performance. The stringed orchestra, conducted by Sir Charles V. Stanford, also greatly distinguished themselves. A. Glazounow's Two Melodies for contralto and orchestra, Chanson and Romance Orientale, were admirably sung by Miss Dilys Jones, and the same composer's Symphony No. 7 in F major beautifully rendered by the orchestra. M. Glazounow, who was warmly greeted, himself conducted the violoncello solo, "Chant au Ménestrel," Miss Beatrice M. Harrison playing with fine tone and expression. The Suite for Orchestra, "Raymonda," was also conducted by the composer. "Raymonda," is arranged from the ballet in three acts, which shows "how Jean de Brienne, the lover of Raymonda, goes to the wars to fight the infidels. While absent, Abdourahman, a Saracen, attempts to carry off Raymonda. De Brienne, however, returns in time to save her and kill the Saracen, afterwards marrying Raymonda." The ten picturesque movements were capitally played by the Royal College orchestra. At the close of the suite both band and the eminent composer received a hearty reception from the audience, one of the largest ever seen at the Royal College.

TICKETS FOR THE PLAY.

At Brompton County Court, on Monday, before Sir William Selfe, Mrs. D. Laing, of 7, Seville-street, Hyde Park, was sued by Mr. Cecil Roy, theatre-ticket agent, of 91, Knightsbridge, for £2 6s., said to be due for four stalls at the Savoy Theatre, booked by telephone in June last.

Miss Richardson, a young lady in plaintiff's employment, who was sworn on her own Testament, said that in June Mrs. Laing ordered six stalls for the Savoy, and later in the same day telephoned for four more seats, as near the others as possible. Witness was able to procure the seats, but after she had done so Mrs. Laing sent to say she found most of her party had seen the piece, and she would not want the tickets. She was told it was impossible to cancel the seats, which had been ordered specially for her, and a gentleman, who afterwards called at the agency, said he would leave the tickets on sale.

Mrs. Laing said she paid for the first lot of seats she ordered, and it was not until the following morning that she asked if she could have the refusal of the other four until six o'clock. The agents said, "Yes, if we can get them." Later defendant found she could not use the tickets, which had been sent to her house by mistake, and a friend took them back for her.

Judgment was given for the plaintiff.

THE KING AND QUEEN and the Princess Victoria were present at the performance of *Lohengrin* at the Royal Opera, Covent Garden, on Monday.

"GUILTY GOLD."

A Drama, in five acts, by Horace Stanley, Produced at the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, on Monday, June 3, 1907.

Harold Elmore	MR. ALEX. ALEXANDER
Ralph Bartlett	MR. CHARLES BOURDEN
John Middleton	MR. DAVID CURTIS
Martin Haldane	MR. TOM ROYDAN
Septimus Sweet	MR. HORACE STANLEY
William Maggs	MR. TOM E. SINCLAIR
Algernon Carruthers	MR. ARTHUR E. FRANCIS
Uriah Fudge	MR. ALARIC BURTON
Jem Huggins	MR. ERNEST GRIFFITHS
Tobias Dobbs	MR. MARK LANE
Sam Swipes	MR. WILL BENNETT
Gaffer Giles	MR. HARRY LOATES
Tom Croft	MR. FRED STEPHENS
Inspector Bradley	MR. THOMAS DUNN
Elsie Middleton	MISS ELSIE CAPELL
Hetty Hoyle	MISS JOSEPHINE LEE
Bertha Blossom	MISS EVELYN M. WALTON
Jane Watson	MISS CHARLOTTE MAINE
Nancy Bright	MISS KATE KILPACK
Kitty Clarke	MISS JENNY PRIESTMAN
Rhoda Hampton	MISS VIOLET CRAUFORD

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Guilty Gold, the dramatic significance of which occurs later in the play, was not found wanting in any of those essentials which go to build up a successful melodrama. The piece is redolent of humour, and the dramatic surprises should keep any audience sympathetically bound to the end. In the first act we see Elsie Middleton, the heroine, and her father, ostensibly a country gentleman, but in reality a convict on ticket of leave. Elsie is beloved by Harold Elmore, a young clergyman with "a past"—a "reformed rake," in point of fact, as his former mistress, Rhoda Hampton, jeeringly reminds him. This lady, desiring to keep Elmore unto herself, readily helps Ralph Bartlett in his scheme to possess himself of Elsie Middleton and her fortune. Accordingly, the villain presents himself as a suitor for the daughter's hand, and is repulsed by the father, whose unhappy secret he knows, and whom he at once denounces to the police. At the same time, Rhoda Hampton is pursuing the young clergyman, but it transpires that she possesses that—for her—inconvenient appendage, a husband, who has been suffering imprisonment for a crime committed by her. This husband, having made his escape, appears to the astonished wife, on vengeance bent, but speedily succumbs to her wiles, and is betrayed by her to the police. In the next act, Bartlett, who, to revive his flagging fortunes, has stolen the Duchess of Chandos' diamonds, seeks to induce Middleton, who has returned from prison, to aid him in the safe disposal of his booty, and, on Elsie frustrating his plan, he hands her over as the thief. She is, however, discharged, and Harold Elmore, who has all this time been staunch, implores her to marry. This she will not do until her father is completely reformed. Anon, Harold is beguiled to Rhoda's room, as a means of compromising him in the sight of Elsie, who, nevertheless, remains steadfast in her love and faith. An unwelcome arrival here is Martin Haldane, Rhoda's convict husband, returned from penal servitude, and once more on vengeance bent. Failing to get him in her toils again, a fierce fight ensues, in which the wanton contrives to force him, by an unexcepted coup, into a tall safe, and shutting the door, leaves him to suffocate. The dramatic moment is in the sequel to this, for one, "Toffee," on burglary intent, discovers the crime, and the body falling out, a most tense situation is created. The father, and daughter, and lovers, continue to be persecuted, but despite the villain's persuasions, Middleton refuses to be bribed and fed with "guilty gold," the proceeds of the diamond robbery; and now the diamonds themselves seem to be the primary object, for, being hidden for security in the Lea Marshes, they are appropriated by the now wild and dishevelled Rhoda, who, by the way, has developed a strong craving for brandy. The disappearance of the diamonds brings on Bartlett in hot pursuit of his false accomplice, and a desperate struggle, hand to hand, takes place between the pair, which ends in the death of both. The last scene, Cheriton Church, is devoted to the wedding of Elsie and Harold, which brings the curtain down on an exceedingly pretty set. Scenes, "Near the Willow Pond," in Act 1, "Down by the Ferry," in Act 2, outside "the Half Moon," "At Poverty Junction," and "Lea Marshes," in Acts 3 and 4, all arrested attention and applause by their beauty and completeness, and are really a credit to the local artist, Mr. Edward A. Hall. The music, by Stephen E. Blythe, is appropriate, and the author, Mr. Stanley, has good reason to be satisfied with his work.

Mr. Alex. Alexander acted and spoke with manly fervour and gained general admiration as the young clergyman, Harold Elmore. Mr. Charles Bourden elicited more than the usual execration by the thoroughness of his acting as the bigamist, blackmailing villain Ralph Bartlett. Miss Violet Crauford as the adventuress Rhoda Hampton gave one of the best-acted rôles in the drama, her passion and frenzy being fine, whilst her power and witchery were enthralling. Miss Elsie Capell gave a charming portrayal of the heroine, Elsie Middleton, full of sympathetic touches and traits. Mr. David Curtis, as John Middleton, looked and acted the part, no more and no less, the character of the ticket-of-leave man being represented as it should be, with occasional gleams of hope and touches of despair. Mr. Tom Roydan's share of the work as Martin Haldane was extremely well done, and secured much sympathy for the unhappy and despitefully used husband. Mr. Horace Stanley, the author, found a congenial rôle in "Toffee," otherwise Septimus Sweet, a humorous desperado, with a pious aversion to work. Mr. Tom E. Sinclair made one of the successes of the piece in the rôle of an exceedingly comic policeman. Miss Kate Kilpack as his sweetheart and wife, Nancy Bright, was a vivacious and clever supporter, whose little tirades gave welcome relief; and Miss Evelyn M. Walton as Bertha Blossom, with views on the rights of women, Miss Charlotte Maine as Jane Watson, a derelict, Mr. Harry Loates as the bucolic bellringer and sexton Giles, Mr. Ernest Griffiths as the bully and wife-beater Jem Huggins, Mr. Arthur E. Francis as Algernon Carruthers, Mr. Mark Lane as the aged Tobias Dobbs, and Mr. Alaric Burton as the hypocritical Uriah Fudge made the utmost of their opportunities. One more rôle, and a serious one, cleverly and pathetically played by Miss Josephine Lee, and deserving of special mention, was that of Hetty Hoyle, a village girl, betrayed by Bartlett and rescued by Elsmore, and who, having joined the Salvation Army, makes a fruitless effort to reclaim the adventuress. The verdict of the house was entirely favourable, the audience attending the progress of the play with enthusiasm, and cheering lustily at the finish.

MR. THEO. BALFOUR'S NAME.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—I have had a portion of a day bill forwarded to me of a Miss Susie Campbell's No. 1 company—general-manager, Mr. W. Campbell Maxwell—in the romantic French military play, *A Master of Artifice*, in which my name heads the list of characters as playing Seigneur Duvernay. As this has been, and is likely to be, misleading to managers who have known me for upwards of twenty years, will you allow me to state through your columns that I do not know Mr. W. Campbell Maxwell, and that he has no authority whatever to use my name for such purpose as I have mentioned.—Yours faithfully,

THEO. BALFOUR.

124, Delamore-street, Kirkdale, Liverpool.
June 6, '07.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"LA CATALANE."

Lyric Drama, in Four Acts, by MM. Paul Ferrier and Louis Tiercelin, Music by M. Fernand Le Borne, Produced at the Opéra, on May 5.

Anita	MLLE. GRANDJEAN
Inès	MLLE. MARTYL
Antonia	MLLE. LAUTE
Pépa	MLLE. GOULANCOURT
Une Etoile	MLLE. AGUSSOL
Térésa	MLLE. BEAUVAIS
Franciska	MLLE. MATHIEU
Andrès	M. MURATORE
Miguel	M. DELMAS
Gaspard	M. NUIBO
Blas	M. TRIADOU

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, MAY 30.—The libretto of *La Catalane* is heavy, and so "unmusical" that M. Le Borne had a difficult task in having to set this indigestible story to music. It is quite apparent that there has not been a proper collaboration between authors and composer, otherwise the result would have been more satisfactory. The plot is founded on a three-act Catalonian drama called *Terres Basses*, by M. Guimeira, wherein we are given to understand that if we search for virtue we must not look for it in the lowlands, but on the mountains. The purer the air the better the morals! In the opening scene, Andrès, a shepherd in the highlands, tells us that he is leaving his beloved mountains to marry Anita, who, down below, is in the employ of Miguel, a rich miller. Miguel has given his consent to the marriage. Why was his consent necessary? Thereby hangs a tale, and a wicked tale. Don Miguel is a powerful man, who treats his dependants in mediæval style. Anita has been his mistress. Everybody knows it—except Andrès. But Miguel is in financial straits, which compel him to look for a rich wife, and, having found one, settles things in a comfortable manner, as far as he himself is concerned. He wants a husband for Anita, and as he is not likely to find one in his own district, where people know their liaison, he ascends the mountains and finds the guileless Andrès, who, having always admired the pretty Anita, is only too happy to ask for her hand. And in this way the wily Miguel has, as he thinks, arranged matters in such a way that Anita can remain his mistress even after she has become a wife. We next assist at rejoicings in expectation of Anita's wedding, and poor Andrès fails to understand the more or less spiteful jokes levelled at him. As to Anita, she is under the impression that Andrès, knowing all her past, is an "obliging husband," and she, therefore, is barely civil to him. After the church ceremony, the wedding guests meet in the inn, where, of course, there is singing and dancing. But when the amorous Andrès wants to take his young wife in his arms, she pushes him away and tells him that he never will cross the threshold of her bedroom. And whilst the latter stands wondering what it all means, Miguel comes and whispers to Anita that he wants to spend that night with her, adding that Andrès is not an "obliging husband," and knows nothing of his wife's past. This leads to a scene between Anita and Miguel. Andrès now is worthy of her love; she wants to belong to him—to him alone, and implores Miguel not to persecute her any further. Miguel, however, is obstinate. He claims his right *primæ noctis*, and will not be done out of it. His obstinacy costs him dear. When he comes to conquer, Andrès, who now knows everything, seizes him by the throat and throttles him. Having despatched his rival, Andrès tells Anita that he will forget the past, and he takes her with him to the mountains, away from the wickedness of the valley. M. Le Borne's music is not lacking in poetry; it is melodious in parts, and the work is excellently orchestrated, but, like the story, is long-winded, and consequently tedious. The weight of the piece rested on the shoulders of M. Muratore, and this artist, in the rôle of Andrès, was as good as ever. The other parts were well sustained by Mlle. Grandjean, Mlle. Martyl, and M. Delmas.

"SALOME" has proved not only an artistic, but a financial success. The six performances have brought in £7,800, or £1,300 per performance. The organisers have every reason to be satisfied with this result, a record one in the good city of Paris.

"MONSIEUR DE PREVAN."

Comedy, in Three Acts, in Verse, by MM. Gumpel and Delaquys, Produced at the Odéon, on May 30.

M. de Prévan	M. DUARD
Belleroche	M. VARGAS
Vaubelle	M. BERNARD
D'Estreban	M. CAPELLANI
Frontin	M. DESFONTAINES
Ramponneau	M. DEGEORGE
L'Abbé Coignard	M. VIOLET
Le Comte	M. DALTOUR
Elmire	MLLE. BARJAC
Claire	MLLE. LELY
Anaïs	MLLE. TAILLADE

PARIS, THURSDAY, June 6.—Everybody knows Laclos' famous novel "Les Liaisons Dangéreuses," which at the time created much scandal on account of its "immorality," and to-day—more than a century later—seems tame by the side of the up-to-date productions. The principal personage therein is M. de Prévan, a *roué*, the prototype of the modern Marquis de Priola, an epicure in questions of love, who thinks that liaisons should be ephemeral, in order not to become dangerous. The authors, attracted by this strange figure, have dramatised the story, and their effort has been crowned with success. The slight plot is as follows: Claire, Anaïs, and Philippine are inseparable. Each of these ladies has a lover, but their friendship, which dates from the time they were girls, has not been affected by this. They are so smitten with the men of their choice, and are so sure that their love is requited, that they are above petty jealousies. Nothing can break up their intimacy. To Prévan all this seems preposterous, not to say unnatural, and he is anxious to know whether these ladies are really different from other mortals. He starts making love to them, and neither of them is proof against his fascinations. But the ladies' lovers learn what has occurred, and challenge him to fight. Prévan consents on condition that his adversaries accept his invitation to luncheon. When the meal is finished a reconciliation takes place, whereupon Prévan proposes to the three men a scheme that will teach their ladies a lesson, and punish them for their infidelity. The women, who have been kept in ignorance of what has occurred, meet at Prévan's house, where they find their lovers. To the latter Prévan tenders his apologies, and the ladies discover that they have been fooled by Prévan. A noisy explanation follows, ending in the three men breaking off with their mistresses, who, in their turn, quarrel with one another. The "inseparables" are separated for ever. The work was fairly well interpreted.

OWING to the fact that Mme. Sarah Bernhardt's theatre was filled with English and Americans, Miss Olga Nethersole can hardly claim to have appeared to a representative Paris audience. The average French playgoer feels bored if he has to listen to a language with which he is not familiar. On the other hand, the Paris Press was well represented, and they showed themselves deeply interested in the celebrated actress's performance, whom they consider very talented and most sympathetic. It was a daring venture on Miss Nethersole's part, and she was fully entitled to the hearty reception that greeted her. Mme. Sarah Bernhardt, in her stage-box, surrounded by numerous friends, applauded louder than anyone; and the English actress will have cause to look back with pleasure on the nights she appeared at the Sarah Bernhardt Theatre, with the great Sarah among the spectators.

"FORTUNIO,"

Musical Comedy, in Five Acts, by MM. G. A. de Flers and Robert de Caillavet, music by M. André Messager, produced at the Opéra-Comique on June 5.

Jacqueline	MME. MARGUERITE CARRE
Madelon	MLLE. LA PALME
Gertrude	MLLE. VILLETTE
Maître André	M. L. FUGERE
Clavaroche	M. DUFRANC
Landry	M. JEAN PERIER
Fortunio	M. FRANCELLE
Maître Subtil	M. CAZENEUVE
Guillaume	M. HUBERDEAU
De Verbois	M. GUILLAMAT

ALFRED DE MUSSET'S delightful comedy *Le Chandelier* had already tempted Offenbach, whose operette *Fortunio's Song* had a tremendous run in England some forty years ago. But Offenbach did not deal with the story as told by de Musset. His libretto was a kind of sequel to it, showing us Fortunio grown old, seeing one of his clerks make love to Mme. Fortunio, like he did to his employer's wife when he was young. MM. De Flers and de Caillavet have given us more or less the plot of *Le Chandelier*. I say more or less, for in their desire to drag the work through five acts instead of contenting themselves with three, they have not only rendered the musician's task most difficult, but have deprived Musset's masterpiece of one of its greatest charms, its simplicity. It is quite true that a five-act work is entitled to a higher scale of authors' rights; but this consideration should not have weighed with the librettists. The plot can be briefly told. Jacqueline is the wife of an old notary called André. In the opening scene, on the fashionable promenade of a small provincial town, André is introduced to the gallant Captain Clavaroche, who is to play the lover's part in this ill-assorted marriage. We also make the acquaintance here of Fortunio, whom the notary accepts as a clerk, and who at once falls under the spell of the Jacqueline's beauty. We next see the lady in her own home, in the early morning, inducing her old husband to regain his room. No sooner is he gone than she advances on tiptoe to the cupboard and releases Clavaroche. And it is in this scene that we have the explanation of the slang term "Chandelier." André being jealous of his wife, Clavaroche suggests to her that, in order to detract attention from the real lover, she should show some slight favour to a harmless young man, allowing him to carry her dog or her shawl, and rewarding him with a sweet smile. Fortunio is chosen for the office of "Chandelier"; but the result is not the one Clavaroche expected. The impressionable Jacqueline falls in love with her "chandelier," and the noble warrior is out of the running. As regards the music, M. Messager has given us the brightest and freshest of music in his first three acts, but from that moment our interest in the musical portion ceases. The whole first act is delightful, and the finale with its soldiers' march evoked enthusiastic applause. The second act, where the orchestra imitates the braying of an ass, preparing us to the scene between Jacqueline and her husband, is very successful from a musical point of view. The love duets, too, between the lady and Fortunio are written in M. Messager's happiest vein. Then follow the two monotonous acts that mar the work. As to the interpretation, nothing could have been finer than Mme. Marguerite Carré's rendering of the rôle of Jacqueline. M. Dufranc was an excellent Clavaroche; and the rôle of Fortunio was safe in the hands of M. Francelle. M. Carré has done wonders in the way of mounting.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

On Friday afternoon, May 31, at Queen's Hall, a chamber concert was given by the students of the Royal Academy, the programme being on this occasion entirely supplied by the juvenile students. In the course of the long programme most of the young performers did the greatest credit to the training they have received at the Royal Academy, but perhaps the strongest item in the concert was Master Stanelli de Groot's capitally-executed violin solos of Bach's Air and De Beriot's Bolero, which elicited loud and long-continued applause from the large audience. It was really wonderful to see the confidence and command of his instrument displayed by the little fellow, and "It gives one furiously to think," as the French say, what our young folks will do in the future at their present rate of progress in music. Second only in merit to Master de Groot were the violin solos of Master Victor Harris, who most successfully essayed Romance in D, by D'Ambrosio, and Carl Bohm's Moto Perpetuo. Miss Gladys E. Adams's cleverly-played harp solo of Gustav Hölzel's "Song without words," arranged by John Thomas, was only marred by a defective string in her instrument; while Master Vivian Langrish showed great promise in his pianoforte solos of Chopin's Nocturne in F and Valse in D flat. Miss Norah Cordwell in Liszt's "Eglogue" and Chopin's Study in G flat (Op. 25) also displayed talent; and Miss Dorothy Chiltern Griffin, another clever pianoforte student, received much applause for her rendering of Preludes, Nos. 11 and 9, by Blumenfeld. Other able performers were Master Frank Hutchens, heard in Three Studies, Nos. 3, 7, and 16 (pianoforte), by Chopin; Miss Evelyn Dawkin, who gave Felix Swinstead's piano solo, Prelude in D; and Miss Dorothy Bramley and Miss Evelyn Dawkin, who played "Invitation à la Valse," for two pianos, by Weber—Corder; while Master Stanelli de Groot was associated with Master Victor Harris in Duettini, "Souvenir de Campagne," Minuit, and Sérénade, for two violins, by Godard. The vocal items included in the programme were not less interesting than the instrumental pieces. Miss Clara Butterworth sang "A Summer Night" (A. Goring Thomas) with real artistic expression; while Miss Olive Turner was heard in two song MSS. of her own composition, "Go, and be free," founded on the anecdote how "Tamberlik, the great tenor, one day bought up all the birds in the market at Madrid, opened the cages, and set them free," and "May." Both songs, although, of course, miniature, showed merit, and the youthful composer, vocalist, and player was most heartily recalled to the platform. Another clever little vocalist was Miss Marie Cuyper, heard in Sullivan's "Orpheus with his lute" and the duet, "Brother, come and dance with me," from the first act of Humperdinck's *Hänsel and Gretel*, was skilfully acted and sung by Miss Janet Woolley and Miss Olive Turner. Miss Hilda May Campbell sang two of E. Elgar's songs, "Queen Mary's Song" and "Through the long days"; and Miss Gertrude Newson, Reinecke's air, "An Evening Song." The accompanist was Miss Elsie W. Owen.

"EGYPT."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Our attention having been drawn to a paragraph in your issue of May 25 to the effect that Mr. Sidney Rennef will produce a new drama, entitled *Egypt*, at the Star Theatre, Liverpool, on July 1, may we, as the author and composer of Mr. Wallace Selkirk's successful military and naval spectacle of the same name, be permitted to draw the attention of Mr. Rennef to the fact that the sketch *Egypt* was first produced at the Empire, Sheffield, four weeks ago, and is now being played all round the Stoll tour (next week at the Zoo-Hippodrome, Glasgow) by Mr. Wallace Selkirk's Co.?

Under these circumstances, and to avoid confusion, we should esteem it a favour if Mr. Sidney Rennef could see his way clear to in some way alter the title of his drama, as priority undoubtedly rests with Mr. Wallace Selkirk and—yours faithfully,

HARRINGTON AND TATE,
3 Berners-street, W., June 6.

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

KING'S, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, June 3, the Comic Opera, Book by Herbert Dawson and A. F. Allen Tower, and Music by R. A. Smith, entitled "THE YOUNG LIEUTENANT."

A very picturesque period for a comic opera is 1805, "Nelson's glorious days," and given brightness of treatment, tuneful music, and lively acting, success should easily be attainable. But, truth to tell, much of these ingredients was wanting on Monday evening at the King's. The story is founded on very slight lines. The young lieutenant, Harry Summers, in the hearing of one of the characters, casually mentions that if the crew of his ship were made aware that they would be sailing on a Friday there would be a mutiny on board, and he devoutly wishes this were the case, so that he could remain on shore to persuade his cousin, Marjorie Mayfair, to marry him instead of the Duke of Bowminster. Summers is placed under arrest, and a court martial ordered but is not proceeded with, and everything ends happily. The dialogue is by no means brilliant, but the music, though reminiscent, is melodious. Mr. Buchanan Wake made an energetic Admiral Sir Stoke Newington; and Mr. L. C. Hughes played efficiently as the Duke of Bowminster; Mr. Wilfred Norman was a brisk 1st Lieutenant Charles Layhurst; Mr. E. B. Davies as 2nd Lieutenant Reginald Greenlaws secured praise; and as 3rd Lieutenant Harry Summers Mr. Douglas Phillips sang and acted very effectively, receiving encores for several of his songs. Bill Barnacle was well sustained by the veteran singer Mr. Richard Cummings, who scored very decisively with his stirring patriotic song; Bob Bruiser, Jack Plane, and Jem Fellows were capitally undertaken by Mr. Bert Burton, Mr. George Robertson, and Mr. A. H. Drinkwater. Dick Bulger, a rat-catcher, found a lively and amusing representative in Mr. Fred Payne, who made the most of the poor opportunities afforded him. By far the greatest success among the ladies was attained by Miss Nellie Wigley, whose Polly was a brilliant success; her acting was animated and her singing in excellent taste. Miss Madeleine Stone made a pleasant Dowager Lady Harlington; and Mother Price was humorously undertaken by Miss Maud Esdaile. Miss Madge Davies and Miss Mollie Elliston were successful as the Ladies Winifred and Evelyn Archer; Kitty Green and Nellie Brown were capably played by Miss Violet Campbell and Miss Violet Braham. The costumes of the period were absolutely correct, and the scenery was worthy of all praise.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, June 3, H. Armitage and A. Leigh's Company in "LEAH KLESCHNA."

The management is offering a very attractive programme this week, the *pièce de résistance* being the New Theatre success of 1905, *Leah Kleschna*. The play is not new to the patrons of the Marlborough, having appeared in November, 1905; nevertheless, judging by its reception throughout the week, it is still a great favourite. In the character of Leah Kleschna we find Miss Haidee Wright, an actress whose good work we have more than once had occasion to commend. It is early seen that Miss Wright has made a careful study of the part, which, from start to finish, she plays with telling effect. The character abounds with opportunities to score, of which Miss Wright takes every advantage. Her greatest chance of shining is in Act IV., in Leah's renunciation of her old life and her parting from her father. It is here that the actress boldly grasps the situation, and presents it most powerfully. The part of Kleschna is one that affords much chance of brilliant acting, and Mr. William Clayton may be said to do all that is possible with the material at his disposal. As Paul Sylvaine Mr. William F. Grant has a part which suits him admirably, and which he plays in an easy and natural style. The somewhat unsavoury character of Raoul Berton is ably played by Mr. Harry Nunn. As General Berton Mr. Ronald Daniel draws a faithful picture of the stern and unrelenting military man; and also appears with success as Valentine Faber. A creditable account of Schram is given by Mr. Campbell Goldsmid. Among the ladies Miss Ethel Russell must be credited with a satisfactory rendering of Mme. Berton; and Claire Berton is a part in which Miss Emmie Wallace appears successfully. Miss Violet Thorold gives a praiseworthy performance of Sophie Champonniere; and satisfactory support is also found in Messrs. Bert Gunter (Anton Piaff), Bernard Rain (Johann), Arles Conway (Reichman), F. Bannerman (Baptiste), Henry Buxton (Officer), Miss May Hamond (Frieda), and Miss Edith Summers (Charlotte).

CORONET THEATRE.

On Monday, June 3, "KITTY GREY."

Mr. C. St. John Denton's company is putting in a week at the pretty Notting-hill Gate theatre with the sparkling and melodious work yclept *Kitty Grey*. Several new numbers have been added to the musical score, notably Miss Nellie Cozens's "The feeling's just the same," which is tumultuously encored, Miss Eily Helene's "Grow, little mushroom, grow" and "Queen of Old Samara," and Mr. Robert Whyte, jun.'s "When we see a blue moon in the sky"—all very successful items. Miss Hilda Guiver enacts the part of Kitty Grey. Her singing is delightful, and her acting is full of vivacity, not unmixed with pathos. Mr. Leslie Harris, who as Reggie, Lord Plantaganet is quite the making of the piece, is another who must have played his part any number of times, yet he is full of freshness and spontaneity in his humorous exposition of character, and his dancing is very nimble and quaint. Miss Eily Helene acts demurely and daintily as the extremely proper Lady Binfield, who only feels her feet in the last act. She acts with a nice sense of humour and sings most acceptably. Miss Nellie Cozens is bubbling over with high spirits and good humour as Mrs. Bright, formerly as Zo Zo, the bare-backed circus rider, and enters thoroughly into the fun of the piece, and sings and dances with verve and ability. Mr. Robert Whyte, jun., does all that is required of him as the merry monarch from Illyria, and acts with well-restrained ardour and animation. Mr. Yorke Hatton sings well and acts agreeably as the much-perplexed Lord Binfield; and Miss Lena Denton is a bright and lively Sadie de Poulson. A bevy of beauty, in the shape of visitors to Biarritz and ladies of the Frivolity Theatre, add to the attractiveness of the piece. Mr. Leslie Steward, who does well as Ponbricket, stage-manages the show; and Mr. Herbert Sich is acting-manager for Mr. Denton. The tour is under the direction of Mr. F. J. Richardson, and the full chorus and augmented orchestra is under the direction of Mr. Otto Mans.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, June 3, the Drama, entitled "THE MIDNIGHT MAIL."

On Monday evening this theatre was *en fête*, for the employees of Messrs. John Brinsmead were being entertained by the founder of the firm, on the occasion of the seventieth anniversary of his wedding, and the whole of the pit and nearly all the stalls had been reserved for their use. Messrs. Doutridge and Longden's company appeared in Arthur Shirley's exciting drama, *The Midnight Mail*, and this play, with the sensational fight on the footplate of the engine, seems to be greatly appreciated. It is certainly not lacking in excitement, and the company work hard to ensure success. Mr. George Howard makes a capital Harry Steyne, and plays with great earnestness throughout; while Mary Steyne, the sorely-tried wife, is very sweetly portrayed by Miss Ada Oakley, who enlisted the full sympathy of the audience for the character. Mr. Fred G. Evison is most entertaining as Billy Brewer—the publican's friend, as he aptly describes himself. He cleverly manages to extract much humour from this character, without being in any way objectionable, and in one of the latter scenes he gives a fine display of his dramatic powers. Mr. Charles Spencer is good as the wily Hassan Padisha; Miss Mildred Carr is very lively as Nancy Brewer; while Miss Sandford is acceptable as Lady Phyllis. Leonard Royle is played in an earnest manner by Mr. Austin Mortimer; and Mr. Harry Emmerson is particularly good as the large-hearted Donald Craig, who proves such a friend to the hero. Mr. H. Dobell Lyle is seen to advantage as Jasper Thornleigh. The many other minor characters are in each case suitably filled, and the play is staged in the most complete manner; the scene of the midnight mail running at full speed is most realistic. The whole production is under the direct supervision of Mr. James Willard, whose name is a guarantee of the excellence of any production with which it is associated. Mr. Wilfred Stanford ably performs the duties of acting-manager.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, June 3, the Comedy "WHAT THE BUTLER SAW."

Mr. Lionel Rignold's company in *What the Butler Saw* opened at Kennington Theatre on Monday under the most favourable auspices. Mr. Lionel Rignold as Pink, the butler, is, of course, the life and soul of the comedy, but he is supported by a company of first-class ability all round, and in the second act especially the fun is fast and furious. There is never a dull moment when Mr. Rignold is on the stage. Miss Ada Blanche makes a big hit by her humorous delineation of the rôle of Mrs. Barrington, and the clever manner in which she handles a long succession of hilarious situations stamps her as a comedy actress of great merit. The part of Jack Barrington, the jovial Irishman, is admirably taken by Mr. Chas. Fawcett, who puts in some of his best work, and hugely delights the house. Mr. Alec Alves gives a grotesque, but none the less mirthful, interpretation of the character of Vere de Bogyne; Sir Chas. Foden is excellently represented by Mr. Louis Lingard; and Miss Clara Russell scores a personal triumph by her happy rendering of the part of Miss Foden. Mr. H. H. Rignold as Abraham Mikestein presents a careful study of a Jew; and Miss Dorothy Garth is happily ingenuous as Maria, the maid. Mr. Victor Widdicomb makes a very good General Dunlop; and as Clarissa and Selina Dunlop Miss Dorothy Hart and Miss Vera O'Connell both do well; Mr. Roy Byford deserves warm praise for the able manner in which he sustains the rôle of Professor Shale; while Miss May Hart comes in well as Sophonisba Hake, the child of the piece. Others whose bright and willing efforts and abundant humour contribute largely to the evening's amusement are Mr. Leo St. Clair as Sydney Clifford, Mr. George Ascot as Dr. Clayton, Mr. Charles Barnes as John, Miss Jennie Wigney as Nora, Miss Mona Garland as Mrs. Fleming-Smyth, Miss Elsie Terris as Fanny, and Miss Julie St. George as Mrs. Hake. The scene, Foden Hall, in which the play is developed, is a finely-equipped set.

BROADWAY THEATRE, S.E.

On Monday, June 3, was presented the Drama, by Arthur Shirley, entitled "THE GRIP OF IRON."

Mr. Samuel James is responsible for this week's programme, which consists of the popular drama entitled *The Grip of Iron*, billed as having been played over five thousand times. Mr. James has secured a strong company to interpret the play, including Mr. Fred Powell, whose Jagon is identified with the play, and whose performance of this repulsive character is as good as ever. Mr. Wallace Curnock is an earnest and clever Paul Blanchard; Mr. C. Lodge Percy gives a capital interpretation of the villain Lorentz de Ribas; Mr. W. J. Riley as Alphonse de Coucou and Mr. John Brittain as Dodot are very amusing representatives of the detectives of the new and old schools respectively. Mr. Sidney N. Hallows presents a natural portrait of the lawyer, Robert de Belfort; Mr. George Ashley is good as Monsieur de Beaudin; Mr. George Denham gives a splendid character-study as Loustalot; and Mr. Eric Dane (Governor of the gaol), Mr. John Arthur (Captain of the Raven), Mr. Tom Hayes (Warder of the Raven), Mr. A. H. Hughes (Warder at La Roquette), Mr. G. Fentfield (Footman), Mr. A. James (Prison Barber), and Mr. Charles Mackay (Captain Guerin) are all excellent. Miss Rosabel Dod as Cora Simmonet gives a clever interpretation of the character; Miss Florence Lovell is very good indeed as Sophie Blanchard; Miss Helen Cameron is a pretty and sympathetic Marie Guerin; Miss Cissie Hayes is good as Babette; the same remark applies to the Mlle. Delaney of Miss Pope Royal. This week is the third of the four weeks advertised as the experimental season of two houses nightly. Next week the bill will consist of *A Life's Revenge*.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, June 3, the Drama, entitled "HONOUR THY FATHER."

Mr. T. Morton Powell's company is drawing good audiences this week with the above favourite play, which is exactly suited to the taste of lovers of melodrama. The piece is capitally acted and excellently mounted, several of the sets being very effective specimens of scene-painting. The central figure of the play is the old farmer, Gabriel Garth, a part played in rugged and effective fashion by Mr. Walter M. Cameron, who is pathetic in his scene in the asylum in the second act. Mr. Robert Gilbert is a breezy young Captain as Jack Halyard; and Mr. Howell Travis is a powerful Duncan Bly. Mr. W. H. Melrose is amusing as the dense but good-hearted yokel Ned; and Mr. Fred L. Conynghame is very humorous as the eccentric Mike Copplestone. Miss Mabel Coleman is pathetic as the wronged Lillian Garth; and Winnie Donovan is a charming representative of the young heiress, Mercy Merry. Miss Ada Salmon is a merry and fascinating Poppy Cornleigh; Miss Kate Newton acts with feeling as Gertrude Garth; Mr. Frank Eden plays well as Dr. Sleek; and a powerful character-sketch is provided by Mr. Claude Merton as George Bloggs. Mr. Frank Eden is the general-manager and Mr. Claude Merton the stage-manager for the company.

GRAND, FULHAM.

On Monday, June 3, the Play, by G. R. Sims and Arthur Shirley, "TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."

Messrs. Hardie and Von Leer's company, is paying a return visit with *Two Little Vagabonds*, which, in spite of its ten years or more of life, has not lost its power to attract. The company is well up to its work. Mr. Douglas Vigors makes the most of the somewhat unsympathetic rôle of George Thornton; Mr. Sidney Vautier plays quietly as Captain Darville; and the important part of the Gaffer is in the hands of Mr. Lionel Ellis, who makes a success of it, his humour and dramatic power not being found wanting. He is well supported by Mr. Frank Gordon, who plays Dido Bunce in a restrained, but effective, manner; and also by Mr. Dick Winslow, a lively and life-like representative of the mercurial Coughdrop. Mr. Harry Wright deserves a word of praise as Leeson, his acting and make-up in his dying scene being most realistic. Miss Grace Heywood gave a powerful study of Marion Thornton in the impassioned scenes; Miss Rosslyn Vane as Barbara Scarth rendered admirable support; and as Biddy Mullins Miss Evelyn Shaw did very well, notably in the first scene of Act 4—the garret scene. In Miss Edie Martin as Dick and Miss Josie Beltram as Wally are found two excellent boys, and their admirable work materially aids the success. The management is presenting some artistic souvenirs in celebration of the tenth anniversary of the production of the piece.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, June 4, the Drama, in Four Acts, by C. Watson Mill, entitled "A WARNING TO WOMEN."

The series of sterling melodramas which Mr. H. Dudley Bennett is producing at the Shakespeare Theatre is proving powerfully attractive, and crowded houses throughout this week have revelled in the thrilling episodes of the great moral play, *A Warning to Women*, in which the evils resulting from the habitual use of drugs are so strikingly illustrated. The play, which is under the direction of Mr. Frank Adair, is ably acted. Much of the success attending the production is due to Miss Louie Adair, whose pathetic delineation of Moira Kennion, a dipsomaniac, stands out prominently as the work of an actress skilled in emotional and character parts, and is the most striking performance in the piece. Mr. Frank Adair gives an admirable interpretation of the character of Dr. Marcus Dread, and indicates his pitiless and relentless nature in every speech and gesture. As Shaun, Mr. Wingold Lawrence looks well, and acts with real dramatic power, delivering his lines with vigour and emphasis. Mr. George Mitchell is naturally well gifted for the embodiment of Squire Kennion, and hits off the stern pride of the character exactly. Mr. Jack Denton assumes with success the geniality of Lord Eversleigh, and his clever acting and quaint drollery keep the audience in continual laughter whenever he is upon the stage. Mr. Chris Mason makes the most of his opportunities in the rôle of Fergus McNaughton; and Mr. George H. Asquin adds to the humour of the piece by his representation of Mike McQuade. Mr. Fred Withers is satisfactory as Father Emmanuel Wallace; and Mr. Hugh Mewburn as Ferdinand de Joules also renders good support. Miss Lydia Mannington is admirably placed as the fortune-teller, Molly O'Moore, and gains much applause for a spirited rendering. An attractive Sheila Kennion is found in Miss Doris White, who makes a charming appearance in the part. One of the outstanding features of the play is the impersonation of Myles O'Moore, a cripple boy, by Miss Bertha Hanbury, a young girl who speaks her lines with praiseworthy distinctness, and acts with considerable self-possession. The minor parts are all capably enacted, and the scenery and general effects leave nothing to be desired. Mr. E. De Hague Body is the courteous acting-manager for Mr. H. G. Dudley Bennett.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

Mr. W. W. Kelly's *Royal Divorce* company is here. Mr. Fredk. Victor's Napoleon is a fine performance, his short, sharp, and precise manner being quite in accordance with the character he sustains. Mr. William Dexter gives a splendid study of Talleyrand; Mr. J. M. Montanini as the traitor Marquis de Beaumont is convincing; and Mr. George Hudson gives a clever impersonation of the innkeeper, Grimaud. Mr. Albert Grenville is amusing as General Augereau, and Mr. George Frere is a capital Marshal Murat. Marie Louise, Napoleon's second wife, is played in a dignified manner by Miss Agnes Imlay; Miss Helen Richmond is sympathetic Stephanie de Beauharnais; and Miss Maggie Cardiff is natural as the little King of Rome. The trying character of Josephine is played by Miss Edith Cole, who wins the sympathy of the audience from the start, playing with much dramatic force and emotion.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, June 3, the American Drama, in Four Acts, by Malcolm Douglas, entitled "A FIGHT FOR MILLIONS."

This play has been remarkably well received in Marylebone, its several songs and dances, cleverly rendered, going far to make the entertainment a bright and cheery one. A notable success is scored by Mr. Tom Jones as Clara ap Morgan, from some unpronounceable village in Wales, though Mr. Jones makes the name of his birthplace trip glibly enough from his tongue, much to the West Londoners' enjoyment. Mr. William Macready puts plenty of go and determination into his rendering of Tom Manley; Mr. Richard A. Greene vigorously portrays the unscrupulous Richard Dudley; Mr. Harold Turner as Solomon Moses works with a will and dances admirably; while Mr. Karl H. Edwards, in addition to his duties as manager to Mr. Robert Perris, also finds time to sustain the important rôle of Willie Neverwork in characteristically clever style. Miss Winifred Symons does very well as Pearl Rivers; Miss Rosie Kearns is energetic as Betty Brady; and Miss Elma C. Turner makes a decided impression as the sorely-tried Helen Dudley.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, June 3, "WHEN WE WERE TWENTY-ONE."

Large crowds have been assembling here this week to enjoy this most charming and engrossing play, admirably presented by Miss Dorothy Cacey and Mr. Riddell Robinson, with a strong company. Mr. Riddell Robinson, who appears as Richard Carewe, acts in his usual finished manner, and obtains frequent applause. Mr. Edgar Coyne is distinctly humorous as Sir Horace Plumely, otherwise "Waddles," and is ably supported by Mr. Frank Powell and Mr. F. C. Pool as his cronies, Colonel Garhame and Dr. McGrath. The rendering of Phyllis by Miss Mildred Hodson is intensely interesting and fascinating. The somewhat difficult part of the Imp, an impressionable boy, who falls in love with the wrong woman, is cleverly sustained by Mr. Gerald Henson. Kara Glenesk, known as "The Firefly," the cause of all the trouble, is powerfully enacted by Miss Dorothy Cacey, whose impersonation of an adventuress is wonderfully impressive. Most realistic was Miss Flo Preddy's portrayal of Mrs. Ericson, a kindly, calm, and comfortable matron; Miss Susie Oak made a *chic* French maid; and other parts were well handled by Messrs. Forbes Harrison, F. Moorgate, and A. E. Coleby.

THE ARTHUR VERNE FUND.

Subscriptions already received :—

	£	s.	d.
Henry Swinerd	5	5	0
J. W. Cordiner	5	5	0
Messrs. Power and Kirby's Co. (per Martin Comstock)	2	10	6
Horace Stanley	2	2	0
Sam Livesey	2	2	0
The Tyrant Company (per Roy Fortesque)	1	16	6
Nellie Harcourt	1	1	0
George Brooks	1	1	0
Lyn Harding	1	1	0
G. Howard Watson	1	1	0
Mrs. Hy. Mayhew	1	1	0
Queenie Leighton	1	0	0
Lester Collingwood	0	10	0
Bert Edwards	0	7	6
Deane Cliffe	0	5	0
W. C. H.	0	5	0
Arthur Hartley	0	5	0
Walter Ashley	0	5	0
Henry C. Ward	0	5	0
Marie Vere	0	5	0

Subscriptions will be gratefully received and acknowledged by Henry Swinerd, Royal Artillery Theatre, Woolwich; or by J. W. Cordiner, *Dare-Devil Dorothy* company, en route.

Mr. Alfred Capper, the renowned entertainer, will give a thought-reading séance at the Hampstead Conservatoire on the afternoon and evening of Wednesday, June 19. Interest in the science of mental telepathy is growing daily, and Mr. Capper may well be relied upon to provide something to marvel at.

"A KNIGHT OF THE ROAD."

A Romantic Drama, in Four Acts, by Ina Leon Cassilis, produced, for the first time, at the Royal County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames, on Monday, June 3.

Capt. Maurice Arundel ....Mr. Gordon Bailey
Mark Drayton .....Mr. Reginald Rivington
Bretton Lee .....Mr. Edward Landor
Daft Willie .....Mr. Arthur Goodsall
Sir Godfrey Lockwood ..Mr. Fredk. Morland
Hugh Lockwood .....Mr. Tom Shelford
Bidwell .....Mr. Robert Bottomley
Adams .....Mr. E. Landor
Chief Constable .....Mr. Arthur Dawe
Stella Lockwood .....Miss Lola Duncan
Rose Milson .....Miss Violet Cecil
Dorothy Lee .....Miss Lucy Wilson

(from our own correspondent.)

The greatest charm about Miss Cassilis's latest effort in playwriting is the picture that it presents of English life in the old days of Dick Turpin and Claude Duval. The story is full of interest, well sustained from beginning to end. Briefly, the plot is as follows. The frequenters of a hostelry called the King's Rest include a handsome young man named Maurice Arundel, believed to be a captain in the Army, and a surly bailiff named Mark Drayton. Both men conceive a strong affection for Dorothy, the landlord's sister, who, however, chooses the captain, and there is naturally bad blood between the two men. Few people dream that the handsome and dashing young captain is the notorious highwayman known as Dare-devil Grahame, but the fact is known to Drayton. Dorothy's brother, it appears, was fond of card playing, and in a game with Drayton managed to win a good deal of his opponent's money. As Lee is crossing the heath at night after play, he is followed by Drayton, who kills the young man and robs him of his money and valuables. Dorothy, arriving unexpectedly on the scene, Drayton accuses his rival, Arundel, of the crime, and then announces to the horrified girl that the man to whom she had given her affections and who had murdered her brother was none other than the redoubtable knight of the road, Dare-devil Grahame. The lady's love thereupon turns to hate, and she straightway proceeds to Sir Godfrey Lockwood, a Justice of the Peace, to denounce the highwayman. When she arrives there and again sees her lover, who happens to be a guest in the house, she hesitates. Arundel boldly confesses that he is indeed the famous highwayman, but offers to give up the life if only she will fly with him. In order to gain time, Dorthy conceives the idea of fixing a date for the elopement and of having Arundel arrested when he keeps the appointment. When the fateful evening arrives at the King's Rest, Drayton, overwhelmed with the consciousness of his crime, is sitting at a table, his head buried in his hands. A half-witted peasant, known as Daft Willie, who had seen Dorothy's dead brother lying on the heath, suddenly discovers that he has a button which he found in the young man's clenched fist, and in a lucid interval he compares the button with the others on Drayton's coat, and the discovery of their similarity, coupled with the fact that the dead man's watch is found in Drayton's pocket, is sufficient evidence to convince even the half-witted peasant that the murderer of Bretton Lee is the man sitting before him on a chair half asleep. When Drayton recovers himself and is confronted with the evidence of his crime by Willie, the bailiff nearly strangles him, and is prevented from doing so only by the timely arrival of Dorothy. It is the moment when Dare-devil Grahame is to keep his tryst and the police are to arrive to effect his capture. When Dorothy learns from the half-witted peasant that her lover is innocent and that Drayton is the murderer she realises what a terrible mistake she has made. Accused of the crime, Drayton ridicules the evidence of a witless being, whose testimony the law would not admit. The captain arrives on the scene, closely followed by the police, who surround the house. Drayton, rushing forward to assist the officers of the law, is shot by Daft Willie, and finally the lovers manage to fight their way out of the house and to escape.

The play, which was received with unmistakable signs of appreciation by a full house, was produced by Mr. Gordon Bailey, who, as the highwayman, gave a fine picture of the free-and-easy manners of a knight of the road. Miss Lucy Wilson, who is not unknown to Kingston audiences, excelled herself in the trying part of Dorothy Lee. The poignancy of her grief was well assumed, and the scenes between her and Drayton when she discovered the truth were powerfully rendered. The impersonation of the witless Willie by Mr. Arthur Goodsall was admirable, and he richly deserved the applause which the audience frequently bestowed upon him. Mr. Reginald Rivington was also very good as the villain, Mark Drayton, and gave an intelligent representation of the part. The part of Bretton Lee, who disappears after the first act, was ably sustained by Mr. Edward Landor. A meritorious performance was also given by Mr. Tom Shelford in the part of Hugh Lockwood, a foppish dandy from town; and Mr. Frederick Morland presented a typical picture of the fine old English gentleman as Sir Godfrey Lockwood. Amongst the rest of the company mention should be made of Miss Lola Duncan, who played the part of Stella Lockwood, Sir Godfrey's daughter; of Miss Violet Cecil, who gave a piquant impersonation of the maid, Rose Milson; and of Mr. Robert Bottomley, as her fellow-servant, Bidwell. The scenery, which was supplied from the theatre stock, was admirably suited to the play. The effect was also enhanced by the rendering of old English airs by the theatre orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Hugo C. Rignold. Mr. E. Playford is acting as business-manager for Mr. Gordon Bailey and Mr. Robert Bottomley as stage-manager.

LYRIC OPERA HOUSE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, June 3, 1907, Mr. Samuel James's Stock Company in the Drama, by Matt. Wilkinson, "SATURDAY NIGHT IN LONDON."

The Lyric, after a long sojourn in the lands of the more peaceful type of melodrama, has returned to sensational drama, and the satisfactory box office returns prove how very popular this form of entertainment is at Hammersmith. In *Saturday Night in London* Sir Jasper Wilton, a London banker, was to have been played by Mr. H. H. Barrington, but he was suddenly taken ill, and at a moment's notice Mr. Cuthbert took up the part, and gave a most satisfactory rendering. As the hero, Roy Wilton, Mr. David G. Noble acts with force and wins much applause; Mr. Albert Wainwright as the villain, Edward Mordant, is good; Mr. Edward Chester plays Abraham Shabner, a Jew moneylender, and Mr. Edward Davis is Jacob Giddens, a bill discounter. Mr. A. P. Kaye is excellent as Jack Dorrincourt, pavement artist, &c., and Mr. Will Skelton makes a most amusing Nicky Nobbs. Miss Hilda Baynton as the heroine, Mona Clayton, an orphan, is exceedingly capable, especially thrilling being the scene is which she temporarily loses her reason. as Sarah Shabner, the Jew's daughter, who hovers between good and bad, Miss Winnie White is satisfactory, and Miss Frances Hudson is well fitted with the part of Maud Somerton. Miss May Seton as Polly Hawkins, the future Mrs. Nobbs, gives a clever and funny performance, and on Monday, it being her birthday, Miss Seton met with several signs of affection from an enthusiastic audience. Other characters are well filled by Mr. H. A. Collins, Mr. A. Little, Mr. E. Burgess, and Mr. H. Valentine. The Brewsters give an excellent boxing display in the last scene of Act 3. The play is well staged.

THE SAVAGES AND CHARITY.

The Savages have often emerged from their wigwam in the Adelphi to aid the cause of the "palefaces," and on Tuesday afternoon they put their hearts and their talents into an entertainment at His Majesty's on behalf of the Lord Mayor's Cripple Children Fund, initiated by the present Chief Magistrate of London's city, who, unfortunately, was unable to be present on account of indisposition. The charitable festival was, however, graced by the Prince and Princess of Wales, who came in shortly after three, and evidently enjoyed the special attractions of the afternoon, the chief of which was entitled

"HANDS UP."

Chevalier St. Leger de Main ..... Mr. Barclay Gammon
Tip .....Mr. Maitland Dicker
Lady Journalist .....Mme. Shrimpton
Lord Charles Battleship ..Mr. Richard Green
Mr. Justice Duckling ..Mr. Gerald Fitzgibbon
Father Vaughn .....Mr. Arthur Helmore
G. B. Ess .....Mr. John Bromley
An Actor .....Mr. Farren Soutar
Cyrus Q. Dongs .....Mr. Nelson Jackson
Peace President .....Mr. Courtice Pounds
Suffragettes ..... Mr. W. Gourlay, Mr. Robb Harwood, Mr. Reginald Groome
Police Constables .. Mr. Tom Browne, Mr. Penrhyn Stanlaws, Mr. L. Raven-Hill, Mr. Mostyn Pigott, Mr. Lance Thackeray

This novelty took the form of a revue, the lyrics being by Mostyn Pigott and Adrian Ross, the dialogue by Fred Bowyer, and the music by various composers. The celebrated palmist, Chevalier St. Leger de Main (Mr. Barclay Gammon) is one of the most arrant humbugs of Bond-street; but his salon is frequented by the celebrities of the day—actors, dramatists, judges, preachers, and millionaires. They not only come to have their hands read, but to assert their opinions, topical and political, in the jingle of rhyme. There was an actor-manager (Mr. Farren Soutar), who, with the voice and mannerisms of Sir Charles Wyndham, sang :—

"If business isn't big,
I put on a sort of wig,
For it's Davy Garrick always pulls me through."

The entry of Lord Charles Battleship thrust us completely into a full-dress debate on the Navy, with spirited action and a lively musical accompaniment by Mr. Albert Fox. Lord Charles calls a spade a spade, and in his hearty British way Mr. Richard Green, who represented him, sang the following rousing chorus :—

"We don't want to grouse,
But by Jingo if it's true,
For every battleship we build
Some other chap builds two;
Something must be done,
For we must be number one,
Britannia must be mistress of the ocean."

The tune and the rhythm recall G. W. Hunt's lyrical manifesto of the 'seventies, and the verses were vigorously declaimed. G. B. Ess is designated as the lord of the stage and the press; and Mr. Justice Duckling rejoices in setting the court a-chuckling. The best joke of the whole production was the advent of the Suffragettes, represented by Messrs. W. Gourlay, Mr. Reginald Groome, and Mr. Robb Harwood. To the celebrated tune from *The Mikado* they sang :—

"Three little Suffragettes are we,
Laugh'd at and chaff'd by the great B.P."

Policemen appeared in the persons of the well-known artists and writers Tom Browne, Penrhyn Stanlaws, L. Raven-Hill, Douglas Almond, Fred Grundy, George Lynch, Mostyn Pigott, and Lance Thackeray, to arrest the trio for breaking the law by singing *The Mikado* music, but the "ladies" broke off into a parody of Miss Vesta Victoria's famous song :—

"There was I, waiting in the cold,
Waiting in the cold, waiting in the cold,
Lor', how it did upset me.
When we shouted 'All we want's a vote,'
Keir Hardie sent a note; this is what he wrote—
Sorry to say you can't come in to-day—
C.-B. won't let me."

With the arrest of the crowd the merry piece came to a conclusion. The hardest-worked member of the cast was Mr. Barclay Gammon, who played the palmist, given to fits of abstraction—otherwise petty larceny—on very amusing lines. Mr. Maitland Dicker, who stage-managed, was a droll Tips. Mr. Gerald Fitzgibbon sang with point as Mr. Justice Duckling; and Mr. Farren Soutar's imitation of Sir Charles Wyndham was easy and natural.

Another novelty of the afternoon was the one-act play by Mr. Alfred Sutro, entitled

"MR. STEINMANN'S CORNER."

Percy Hardwick .....Mr. Eille Norwood
Mrs. Hardwick .....Miss Henrietta Watson
Norah .....Miss Dorothy Minto
Joseph .....Mr. Reginald Walter

Mr. Sutro should be able to found a three-act play of powerful interest of the simple thesis set forth in this one-act piece. Percy Hardwicke, a stockbroker, announces to his wife that on the morrow he will be hammered on the Stock Exchange unless she, with her vast fortune—for which he has married her—elects to save him. She refuses to do anything of the kind, and when he talks of his good name twits him with uttering romantic nonsense. Theirs has been a marriage of calculation, and she is ready to advance him sufficient to pay his creditors 10s. in the pound. The situation is saved by Norah, an old sweetheart of his, who arrives to tell him that she is going to marry Steinmann, the man who has cornered him, and that the price of her consent is the waiving of her future husband's claim. Percy, though he has jilted the girl, is appalled at the sacrifice she is making; but he is unable to refuse her help. He taunts his unsympathetic wife when she offers him her cheque, and the curtain falls. Mr. Eille Norwood played with feeling as the stockbroker; Miss Henrietta Watson made a distinguished and coldly reserved Mrs. Hardwicke; and Miss Dorothy Minto was fresh and natural as Norah.

Among other incidental attractions *The Marchioness*, an episode from Charles Dickens, with music by Edward Jones, the book being by Mr. B. W. Findon, was heartily enjoyed. Mr. Farren Soutar played Dick Swiveller with the air of a courtier; and Miss Marie Wright asserted her claims to be regarded as one of the best comic actresses of the day by her excellent representation of the pathetic little drudge, her final minuet being as rich an exhibition of drollery of manner as we have seen for a considerable time on the London stage. There were many "turns," and among these we must specially mention Mlle. Jane May, Mr. Harrison Hill, Mr. Franklin Clive, Mr. Tom Clare, Mr. Robert Ganthony, and Mr. Harry Fragson. The band of the Coldstream Guards was under the direction of Lieut. Mackenzie Rogan.

Makes the Skin as Soft as Velvet.—Beetham's "La-rola" preserves the Skin from the effects of the sun, winds, and hard water. Entirely removes and prevents all roughness, redness, irritation, tan, &c., and Keeps the Skin Soft, Smooth, and White at all Seasons. Invaluable for the Complexion, Delightfully Soothing and Refreshing after walking, golfing, cycling, motoring, dancing, &c. Gentlemen will find it wonderfully soothing if applied after shaving. Bottles, 1s., 1s. 9d., and 2s. 6d. each, of all Chemists and Stores. M. Beetham and Son, Cheltenham.—[Advt.]

THE ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

At the Council meeting of the Actors' Association, at 10, King-street, Covent Garden, on Tuesday, there were present Mr. Lewis Casson (in the chair), Mr. Henry W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Miss E. Wynne Matthison, Messrs. Cecil Brooking, C. F. Collings, Fredk. Morland, Kenyon Musgrave, and Frank Vernon, and Chas. Cruikshanks (secretary).

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The hon. solicitors reported the steps taken in two cases for the recovery of salary, and received instructions. They also reported the steps they had taken in a case of recovery of lost property, and received instructions.

Vacancies on Council.—The hon. solicitors reported they had had an interview with Mr. Hodge (of counsel). He stated that in his opinion the twenty-five members of the Council would be acting legally by remaining in office until the next annual general meeting, and that they would not be acting legally by electing further members to make the Council up to forty-two.

A discussion arose as to the probable attendances of members of the Council of twenty-five, and ultimately it was agreed that, inasmuch as there was a suggestion that the Council should meet in future on Mondays instead of Tuesdays, the secretary might make enquiries as to whether the change would meet with the approval of the councillors who were not present.

Two cases where the paymentof the Association agency fee were disputed were considered, and instructions given to the secretary.

The Council considered the complaint of a member who had been struck off for non-payment, that certain important letters containing remittances from abroad had been returned to the Post Office. The member was interviewed, and it was pointed out that as no definite promise to pay had been given, and as the secretary had not been notified that important letters were expected, the staff had done right in carrying out the definite published rules of the Association. The secretary was instructed to confirm this by letter, while expressing the Council's regret at the inconvenience that had been caused.

A similar case was considered, where a member's name had been removed from the register on April 2 owing to non-payment of subscription. The member asked that foreign letters might be left at the A.A. until called for. It was agreed the lady be informed her wish would be carried out, but that the Association could accept no responsibility in the matter.

Questions for the Council.—Upon the proposition of Mr. Fredk. Morland, seconded by Mr. Frank Vernon, it was agreed the secretary in future request all members who desire matters placed before the Council, whether promises for payment of subscription or otherwise, to be put into writing by the member wishing to bring such questions, &c., before the Council.

Hon. Medical Officers.—Upon the proposition of Mr. C. F. Collings, seconded by Mr. Fredk. Morland, Dr. Wallace, of Guernsey, was elected an hon. medical officer to the A.A.

Upon the proposition of Mr. Kenyon Musgrave, seconded by Mr. Frank Vernon, Dr. Rutherford, of Birmingham, was elected an hon. medical officer to the A.A.

Dr. Dunkley, late of Birmingham, was appointed an hon. medical officer at Rottingdean, near Brighton.

Walter Maxwell, Manager.—The Chairman read a letter from this gentleman (May 29), who stated that although there was no actual obligation for him as a manager to resign from the A.A., the fact that the majority of the members did not wish the manager to remain in was sufficient to warrant his action. He therefore confirmed his resignation with the greatest regret. It was agreed his resignation be accepted with regret.

Social.—A letter was read from the Social Committee, asking a member of the Council to take the chair at the next social debate (Friday, June 7). Mr. Casson promised to attend, and the secretary was directed to so inform the Committee.

Holidays of the Staff.—The secretary was directed to arrange these.

V.A.F.—The secretary of the V.A.F. stated there would be a general meeting of the Federation shortly, when the matters referred to would be discussed.

Subscription.—The secretary was directed to amend standing advertisements stating that in future the subscription would be 15s. per annum, or 4s. 6d. per quarter, and to insert a notice, "Should a member fail to pay his subscription within seventy days after it is due, his membership will cease, but he may be-relected by the Council upon payment of arrears and a reinstatement fee of 1s.

Finance and General Purposes Committee, Library Committee, Social Committee.—The reports of these Committees were given. In the case of the Library Committee, a suggestion as to the book-case was adopted; and upon the proposition of Mr. Frank Vernon, seconded by Mr. C. F. Collings, it was agreed that the book-case in the Council Chamber be removed to the saloon.

Mesdames Nance Elmhirst Goode, May Beatrice, and Decima Moore were nominated as candidates for election as members of the A.A.

Five former members were reinstated.

The Finance and General Purposes Committee held a meeting on Thursday, the 30th ult., to consider the present financial condition of the Association.

Mr. H. Athol Forde occupied the chair. There were present Messrs. Cecil Brooking, Lewis Casson, Fredk. Morland, and Kenyon Musgrave, and Chas. Cruikshanks (secretary).

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The secretary having placed upon the table a rough statement showing the receipts by way of subscriptions, &c., from members of the Association and the cost of maintenance of the institution during the last ten years, the Committee proceeded to discuss the question as to how a statement should be drawn to be placed before the members showing the financial position at the present, the effects in the past, and the prospects of the future. Ultimately it was agreed the further consideration of the matter should be postponed until June 3, at 11.30. The meeting lasted from 4 till 6.20 o'clock.

The same committee held a meeting on Tuesday. There were present Messrs. Fredk. Morland (in the chair), Cecil Brooking, Lewis Casson, H. Athol Forde, Kenyon Musgrave, and Frank Vernon, and Chas. Cruikshanks (secretary).

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Mr. Lewis Casson read a statement prepared for the consideration of the Council, and further discussion thereon was adjourned.

THEATRICAL PATENTS.

The concise descriptions that we give below of recent applications for patents are specially contributed by Messrs. Howard and Co., patent agents, 57 and 58, Chancery-lane, London, W.C., who will assist readers in all patent matters.

APPLICATIONS:

11,797.—Mariano Fortuny, of Chancery-lane, London. Device for illuminating stage by means of reflected light.

11,935.—Tom Lowcock, of Halifax, Yorks. Apparatus for use in music halls and like places by acrobats and others in the performance of feats of skill.

11,973.—Ernest Elias Tidbold Badcock Greville, of Gray's Inn-road, London. New method for the production of spectacular stage effects.

ACTORS' UNION.

LONDON.

Mr. Charles Allan occupied the chair at Tuesday's meeting of the Actors' Union, held at the Bedford Head Hotel. Among those present were Mr. Charles Sugden, Mr. Cecil Calvert, Miss Beatrice Lloyd, Miss Daisy Gwynn, Mr. Longford Reed, Miss Adelaide Gracey, Mr. Watty Brunton, jun., Miss Lillian Tweed, Mr. E. Wolseley, Mr. E. Stranach, Miss May Conrade, Mr. Fred Lake, Mr. J. C. Taylor, Mr. Alfred Bennett, Miss Maud Shelton, Mr. Maurice Hoffman, Mr. Campbell Goldsmid, Mr. and Mrs. Oswald Marshall, Mr. A. T. Harding, Mr. Ernest Outtrim, Miss Grace Lester, Mr. Harry Paulton, Miss Nellie Burdette, Mr. A J. Stafford, Mr. and Mrs. Robson Paige, Mr. Francis Wolviston, Miss Violet Thorold, Miss Constance Glover, Miss Patterson, Mr. Frank Sutherland, Miss Audrey Canning, Mrs. Horace Booth, Mr. Percy Everard, Mr. Chas. Medwyn, Miss Irene Leoville, Miss Mary Bessle, Miss Gertrude Tate, Mr. Dave Austin, Mr. Walter Sember, Mr. Richard Elliott, Mr. S. Goodwin, Mr. Thos. Chamier, Mr. H. P. Owen, Miss Una Gilbert, Mr. Lawrence Grove, Mr. E. Howard Templeton, Mrs. Leoville, Mr. Fred Prior, Mr. Alfred Richards, Miss Anson, Mr. C. R. Hann, Mr. Christopher, Mr. Cresfan, Mr. Howard Cochrane, Mr. W. Hubert, Miss Emma Stockley, Mr. J. W. Rider, Mr. E. C. Lilly, Mr. Wesley Russell, Mr. Brandon, Mr. Edgar J. Coyne, Miss Madge Beresford, Mr. F. Jacques, Mr. G. Bradley, Mr. G. Hudson, Miss Lucy Sibley, Miss Bird, Mr. Willie Reed, Mr. Kendrew Millson, Mr. Wm. Macready, Miss Winifred Symonds, Mr. Ruddle Brown, Mr. Rawson Buckley, Mr. H. Armitage, Mr. Arthur Leigh, Mr. Montague Lane, and Mr. James English.

THE CHAIRMAN stated that he could see nothing to prevent any lady or gentleman in the profession from becoming a member of the Union. He really believed and hoped that the Union would in time be of immense help to them. It was for them to work together to secure the best results. Every individual member should do his or her best to get members.

MR. CECIL CALVERT said that it was not sufficient that a member should be a member only—he should also be a missionary. It was only by their united efforts that new members could be got, and a personal conversation was better than a letter. The man who said he did not want to join because he could see no need of it, or because he had sufficient money, was acting selfishly. Was it not far better for him to give them his moral support, and help his poorer brethren to earn a decent living? At the present time they had the sympathy of the touring manager, and that was a good sign. The old argument that actors never have united in the past had been used over and over again, but that was no argument why actors should not unite when there was a reason for doing so. They had all heard a good deal about the poverty of the profession, but by joining this Union actors and actresses would remove the very causes which made for poverty.

MR. WILLIAM MACREADY said that every member of the Union should speak of it as much as possible whenever opportunity occurred. Every one of the four hundred members should secure at least six recruits, and that would make a total membership of 3,000, who could secure great improvements in theatrical conditions. Then the poverty in the profession could be reduced to a minimum by the weeding out of the unfit and the abolition of the amateur.

MR. RICHARD ELLIOTT said that the Union was not intended as an aggressive body. The unjust exactions imposed by managers should be put an end to. He exhorted his hearers to show every confidence in their chairman and committee.

THE CHAIRMAN, in reply to a question put by Miss Lucy Sibley, said that the rules would be supplied on the 21st inst., and at a meeting on that date an important question connected with the rules would be brought forward, and any amendments thereto could be suggested.

MR. MAURICE HOFFMAN expressed the opinion that if a minimum wage of £2 a week could be established, it would be of the greatest benefit to the profession, but he thought it should not be insisted upon at the present moment, because managers could not pay that amount.

THE CHAIRMAN and others assured Mr. Hoffman that there was not the slightest intention on the part of the committee to demand the immediate establishment of a minimum salary of £2 a week. That would come later, when they were stronger.

MR. CAMPBELL GOLDSMID said that this minimum salary could only be met by the resident-managers paying the touring managers better terms. The touring managers were quite in favour of the objects of the Union, and some of them had asked if they could give donations to the Union, which was, of course, not permissible.

A vote of thanks to the chairman terminated the proceedings.

A general meeting of the Actors' Union will take place in the Chandos Hall, Maiden-lane, on June 21, at noon, to consider certain rules passed at the Bijou Theatre on Sunday, April 21. Any member wishing to move an amendment to the rules must give notice in writing to Mr. Oswald Marshall, hon. secretary, by June 14.

Mr. Fred Bentley presided at the first meeting under the auspices of the Actors' Union held in Her Majesty's at Dundee, on the 30th ult. Among those who attended the meeting were:—Messrs. Richard Ewell, Stanley Roberts, Harris Sidney, John A. Carlyle, Ernest Noble, and Harry Cooke. The objects of the Union were put before the meeting by the chairman, who also answered many questions.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—As one of the earliest subscribers to the A.U., I should like to hear some valid reason why I have no voice in the framing of rules, and why ladies should not represent me on the Council. I believe Mr. Raleigh's interest in the movement, and the weight attaching to his name, induced a good number of people to become members, and it is a matter of regret to me that he did not see his way to accept the position of president when he was invited to do so by the provisional committee.—Yours faithfully, DAISY HALLING.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Mr. Shine has volunteered to resign his position on the A.U. Council. I, for one, should accept his resignation with satisfaction but that I have never regarded the acceptation of his candidature as a legitimate proceeding. Rule No. 6 of the A.U. membership form, which I signed, reads:—"That any member of the Union becoming a manager or acting-manager shall, during the period of his management, forfeit his right to vote, and cease to hold executive powers in the Union."

Under this rule, I contend that the presence of sketch managers on the committee is not valid. I have no animus against Mr. Shine, but he is a sketch manager (i.e., an employer of labour), so, I understand, is Mr. Paulton, and, as such, they represent the element which has alone deterred me from subscribing to the Actors' Association. The interests of the actor and of the manager are diametrically opposed. A manager may personally love you fondly, but this will not prevent him from offering you, in business, a smaller salary than you are worth. Further, the proposal to extend protection to sketch artists appears to me to be an interference with the business of the V.A.F., and a wandering from the main road into by-ways, leading to bewildering complications. An actor, strictly speaking, is an artist who acts in licensed theatres.

At any rate, this class of artist is sufficient for the A.U. to deal with at present. No doubt the error of excluding ladies from the committee, a subject put to the vote of only forty or so members out of over three hundred, has already been recognised. In many trade unions women are not represented on the council because they have no knowledge of, or concern in, the trade; but it cannot be urged that actresses know less of the theatrical profession than actors. It is small inducement to an actress to become a member to tell her she will not be represented on the committee. "The Union will be governed and developed on strictly democratic lines, *by actors for actors*" (Rule No. 3). Strict adherence to this rule will be the attitude of every thoughtful member of the A.U.—Yours faithfully, NORMAN TRAVERS.

Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield.

MR. H. B. IRVING AT EDINBURGH.

Mr. H. B. Irving delivered a lecture on Tuesday afternoon to the members of the Edinburgh Branch of the British Empire Shakespeare Society on "Shakespearean Actors of the Eighteenth Century." The meeting was held in the Albert Hall, where a large audience was presided over by Dr. Marshall, of the Royal High School. Mr. Irving, at the outset, said that Shakespeare—above all a writer for the theatre—was an actor himself. Playing and acting were his business. Shakespeare wrote for the audiences of his day, with an eye to posterity, no doubt, but primarily to carry on the business of a theatre. Poetic plays, however great as literature, had never held and never would hold the stage so long as they were undramatic in their treatment and construction. Shakespeare triumphed over his fellows because of his greater appreciation and understanding of the art of dramatic effect. The eighteenth century was a century utterly unproductive of great drama; without Shakespeare to fall back on, the tragic actor of the period would have been sadly gravelled for lack of matter. Between 1710 and 1740 Shakespeare was almost entirely neglected; it required the coming of another actor of genius to seize the glorious opportunities that had been overlooked or despised by Cibber and his colleagues. The first sign of any attempt at realism in the matter of dress in Shakespearean productions was in 1773. In that year Macbeth was dressed in the kilt, and the Coldstream March was played as incidental music. The most inconceivable nonsense that could be written about Shakespeare by academic critics, ignorant of, or sympathetic towards the theatre, was perhaps carried to its farthest limit when they found Professor Raleigh suggesting that Shakespeare's genius had suffered rather than gained at the hands of such latter-day actresses as Mrs. Siddons, Ellen Terry, and Ada Rehan, and that it had never fared better than in the days when the boy actors played his female parts. What constituted the genius of Garrick and Mrs. Siddons; what made them so unapproachably supreme among the players of their day, was that theirs was a triumph of natural acting as opposed to the unreality of convention. In conclusion, Mr. Irving contrasted the state of the actors of the eighteenth century with those of to-day, and pleaded for actors that training which would qualify them to interpret Shakespeare—a training which the hard work of the old stock companies was eminently fitted to give.

Lord Kingsburgh proposed a vote of thanks to the lecturer, and said that it was about forty-eight years ago since he first met Mr. Irving's father, as a member of the stock company of the Theatre Royal. He believed that it was largely due to the discipline of those days—for an actor had often to play six different parts in one week—that Sir Henry Irving was able to embody so well so many different phases of his art. Dr. Marshall seconded the motion, which was received with great enthusiasm.

"A CASE OF ARSON" REVIVED.

The Haymarket Theatre is likely to be well served for some time to come with that mercurial comedy from the French, *My Wife*; but an additional attraction, put into the bill for the first time on Wednesday, has been found in Herman Heijerman's strikingly human piece, *A Case of Arson*. This dramatic curtain-raiser, which is by the author of *The Good Hope*, a strong play that was produced by Miss Ellen Terry at the Imperial during her season there in 1903, again brought to the notice of London playgoers the clever Dutch actor, Mr. Henri de Vries, who, since he first claimed artistic recognition here has been winning laurels on the other side of the Atlantic. As a vehicle for the display of his conspicuous abilities the piece mentioned above is well fitted. Of course, the distinguished Hollander is protean in the best sense of that much-abused term; but he is something more. He sinks his individuality in the most complete way. It is not mere masquerading in disguise: each character seems to stand before us as a separate personality—truthful, sincere, and convincing. Most of us remember the piece, which deals with the examination by a judge of various witnesses in connection with the burning of his shop by John Arend, a village tobacconist, who is tortured by the consciousness that his little girl's charred body bears witness to the divine judgment that has already overtaken him. At first the man brazens it out, and answers with little apparent hesitation the searching questions of the magistrate. But when the official of the law has had before him Arend's imbecile brother, his doddering old father-in-law, a fat publican, a talkative and reminiscent grocer, an asthmatic police sergeant, the guilty man becomes conscience-stricken and repentant. The voice, features, gait—all are changed in each character, and humour plays its part in the piece as well as pathos, and testifies to the rare powers of the artist. It is to be noted that Mr. de Vries has a greater command of our language, and this improvement adds much to the interest of a performance that only an actor with intellectual and histrionic endowment could hope to make successful. He is supported by Mr. Percy Rhodes as the magistrate—an impersonation of considerable dignity and strength. The performance of *A Case of Arson* was most favourably received by a full house on Wednesday, when the Dutch actor was honoured with several curtains.

Since the first night *My Wife* has been judiciously pruned in places, and now plays much closer, with the result that Mr. Michael Morton's comedy is one of the most joyous of the season's entertainments. Miss Marie Lohr, Miss Millie Legarde, Mr. A. E. Matthews, and Mr. Aubrey Smith enter heartily into the scheme of fun, but never overstep the confines of comedy. The fine traditions of the house are well sustained, and Mr. Harrison should not require another principal piece for some time to come.

CRICKET.

THEATRE ROYAL v. MR. W. WATSON'S ELEVEN.

Played at Home Park, Windsor, on Thursday, May 23, and resulting in a win for Mr. Watson's team by ten wickets. Scores:—

THEATRE ROYAL:—A. Andrews, b W. Watson, 15; J. Andrews, b Pearson, 2; R. Watts, b Pearson, 20; D. Richards, c and b Pearson, 0; W. Thomson, b W. Watson, 19; A. Willis, c D. Watson, b W. Watson, 11; G. Cooper, b W. Watson, 14; J. Norse, b W. Watson, 0; F. Norse, b W. Watson, 0; F. Blott, b Pearson, 0; H. Sinclair, not out, 2; extras, 5. Total, 89.

WYLIE WATSON'S ELEVEN:—A. Watson, b Blott, 14; W. Watson, not out, 46; F. Pearson, not out, 20; extras, 10. Total for one wicket, 90. Messrs. Johns, D. Watson, Smith, Johnson, Hall, Finch, Hardy, and Jones did not bat.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces

"DON JUAN IN HELL."

A Dream, from *Man and Superman*, by Bernard Shaw, produced at the Court Theatre, on Tuesday afternoon, June 4.

Don Juan .....MR. ROBERT LORAINE
Dona Ana de Ulloa ....MISS LILLAH MCCARTHY
The Statue .....MR. MICHAEL SHERBROOKE
The Devil .....MR. NORMAN MCKINNEL

A superabundance of Shaw has been furnished this week at the Court, where have begun a series of Tuesday and Friday matinées, embracing the Dream Scene from *Man and Superman*, entitled *Don Juan in Hell*, and the trifle *The Man of Destiny*, both by Bernard Shaw. The popularity of the Court matinées was evidenced by a crowded audience, who were kept closely interested, and took up the humorous points of both plays with celerity. Mr. Shaw can apparently use any theme for his favourite pursuit of baiting the Briton, and the more audaciously he brings the weaknesses of his audiences before them the greater is the welcome extended to their portrayal. The fashion of laughing with Mr. Shaw has taken a permanent hold, but the marvel is that audiences, however subtle his humour, contrive to laugh so well together. A double purpose is served by the revival in the afternoon of the Dream Scene from *Man and Superman*, for not only does it gain new followers for Mr. Shaw, but it provokes a wish to see the rest of the play, a desire that can be easily gratified at the same house, where *Man and Superman* forms the evening bill.

Those who have read the edition of *Man and Superman* in its entirety will know that the Dream Scene deals with the infernal regions, which are represented on the stage by a dark curtain suggesting an abysmal void. Don Juan Tenorio is already an inmate of Hades, and presently welcomes Dona Ana, the daughter of a Spanish commandant, whom he had killed in a duel. Later, the old soldier arrives in person—or, rather, in stone—and the group is joined by Lucifer, who constitutes himself the chairman of a protracted debate on love, motherhood, religion, and eternity. The discussion in Hades is overburdened with Shawian philosophy, with its attack on social conventions and its ruthless ridicule of cherished religious convictions, which all the excellences of the acting could not lighten; but the contrasts afforded in the delivery of the dialogue by such practised elocutionists as those engaged in the representation of the Dream Scene were fully sufficient to win general admiration. Mr. Robert Loraine, who is the John Tanner of the evening, is retained for the representation of Don Juan, and very picturesquely does he propound his irreconcilable theories, delivering his lines with such well-studied emphasis as to invest them with added brilliance. The social arrangements in Mr. Shaw's Hades permits each member of the community on arrival to fix his or her own age, and consequently Mis Lillah McCarthy is able to appear as a beauteous damsel in crinoline and coiffure. Her part in the performance is more or less restricted to the fascinations of figure and face; but when Donna Ana is called upon to speak Miss McCarthy is sweetly effective, except in the opening, when the muffled tones of her voice are weirdly thrilling. Mr. Norman McKinnel's share in the diabolical debate is strengthened by the richness of his voice and the well-judged phrasing, and frequent cheers gave proof of the admiration which his performance of Satan excited. The mellowness of Mr. Michael Sherbrooke's style is admirably adapted to the drollery of the statue, and the actor's conception of the old Spanish commandant exploited a rich vein of comedy.

The author was equally well served in the trifle, which followed, entitled

"THE MAN OF DESTINY."
A Trifle by Bernard Shaw.

General Bonapart .....MR. DION BOUCICAULT
Giuseppe .....MR. HERMAN DE LANGE
A Lieutenant .....MR. TREVOR LOWE
The Strange Lady .....MISS IRENE VANBRUGH

The play, which lasted for the best part of an hour, has the picturesqueness which belongs to the period when Napoleon was in the early days of his victorious career, and shows him as the youthful General whose ambitions are being stirred by thoughts of conquest. Even such he is made the mouthpiece of Mr. Shaw's tirades against the English, who at that date were not apparently free from the faults of modern times. An ingenious story, not very plainly unfolded, is told in the little piece, which deals with the theft of despatches by a resourceful lady, and their subsequent recovery by Napoleon after much wordy warfare. Mr. Dion Boucicault gave a vivid portrayal of the scheming Bonapart, his play of feature, his intensity, and the meaning infused into his lines being past praise. The brilliance of Miss Irene Vanbrugh's talents shone conspicuously in her rendering of the Strange Lady, the impersonation of which involves the necessity of appearing in the garb of a soldier. The melodious voice and eloquent action which are among the accomplishments of Miss Vanbrugh were invaluable in the part. A superb character-study of a self-confident booby of an army officer was supplied by Mr. Trevor Lowe, who caused the heartiest laughter by his grotesque acting, and Mr. Herman De Lange's shrewd though loquacious inn-keeper was imbued with drollery. An effective set represented the interior of the farmhouse in Italy, in which the scene is laid.

LONDON COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

At St. Andrew's Hall, Newman-street, W., on Thursday evening, May 30, the London College of Music gave a students' orchestral concert, including compositions by Mendelssohn, Wieniawski, Niels W. Gade, and Sterndale Bennett, as well as several vocal solos. The concert began with the overture, "The Naiades," by Sterndale Bennett, a fine old English composer, whose works are nowadays somewhat unjustly neglected. The orchestra, although not quite certain in their attack, gave on the whole a pleasing performance of this fine overture. Mr. John Lister Harrison was to have sung the "Preislied" (*Die Meistersinger*), but owing to indisposition was unable to appear. In Wieniawski's violin Concerto in D minor Miss Marguerite Bamberg displayed no little talent, being quite at home with all the technical mysteries of double stopping and harmonics. Another clever student of the London College was Miss Gertrude Wilkins, who gave a most artistic performance of Sterndale Bennett's pianoforte Concerto in F minor, the "Barcarolle," the lovely slow movement in the concerto being particularly well played; the orchestra also most ably supported the young pianist, who at the close was loudly applauded. Miss Lilian Marshall, a (Sullivan) scholar and pupil of Mr. Stanley-Verde, sang Hubert Bath's ballad, "The Viking's War Song," correctly, but with hardly enough dramatic power. Later in the programme Miss Marshall was set down for Hatton's song, "The Enchantress." Miss Helena Jackson, a medalist of the L.C.M., was warmly applauded for her singing of Mendelssohn's "Infelice." In the second part of the concert, Miss Frances M. L. Corri played Mendelssohn's brilliant pianoforte Concerto in G minor with considerable effect, the orchestra being at its best in this work. Included also in the programme was Niels W. Gade's Symphony in F. Dr. F. J. Karn was the conductor, and Mr. Gordon Tanner the leader, of the orchestra. During the interval the Bartlelot gold medal, annually offered by Sir Walter and Lady Bartlelot, was presented to Miss Gertrude Wilkins by Lady Bartlelot. Other medals were also presented to Miss Helena Jackson, Miss Ruby Cox, and Miss Olive Chapman.

MATINEE AT THE PLAYHOUSE.

Mr. Cyril Maude very kindly lent the Playhouse on Thursday afternoon for the purposes of a special matinée in aid of the funds of the Parish of Holy Cross in St. Pancras. As usual, many prominent members of the theatrical profession generously gave their services for the occasion.

The programme started with the first act of *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch*, performed by the Terry's Theatre company, by permission of Mr. Gaston Mayer. Miss Madge Carr Cook repeated her touching and altogether delightful performance of Mrs. Wiggs; and Miss Bessie Barriscale as Mary, Miss Louise Closser as Miss Hazy, Miss Florence Busby as Miss Lucy, Miss Grace Griswold as Mrs. Eichorn, Miss Bertha Livingston as Mrs. Shultz, Mr. Fredk. Burton as Mr. Stubbins, Mr. Forrest Robinson as Mr. Wiggs, and the other members of the cast did full justice to the very entertaining comedy. Miss Irene Vanbrugh recited a monologue entitled "A Peculiar Attack," by Miss Phobe Hart. Miss Vanbrugh, as the young lady who tells the story of how she "did a faint" and gave evidence of curious "symptoms" in order to gain the consent of her parents and relatives to her marriage with the man she loved, caused a good deal of amusement, the lines being delivered in an expressive yet perfectly natural manner. Mr. Charles H. E. Brookfield's clever little one-act play *The New Régime* was capitally acted by Miss Lottie Venne as the erring and disobedient wife, who is brought to a proper state of mind by the workings of her own jealous, but loving nature; Mr. Wilfred Draycott as the quiet, unassuming, yet determined husband; and Miss Maud Hoffman as the French maid Victorine.

The novelty of the afternoon was a somewhat pathetic little playlet, by Mr. Herbert Swears, entitled

"PANSY."

Pansy .....MISS KATE RORKE
Nita .....MISS MAUDE BUCHANAN

Mr. Swears calls the trifle "an impression." Pansy is a painter and Nita is her sister. The former is a woman who has seen life and, although not old, not even middle-aged, has matured in experience of the world. The latter is a girl of eighteen. Pansy has acted the part of a mother to her sister, has kept her, paid for her education, and given her that chance in life which Pansy had to make for herself. In the studio the older woman stands hesitatingly before the easel. For the moment inspiration is a laggard. She calls in the aid of her sister, who tells her to sketch a certain type of face, which is described most minutely. Pansy finds a certain pleasure in following Nita's instructions, for the features of the man she is transferring to canvas are the features of the man she loves. And the same man loves, and is loved by, her sister. A letter comes. It is for Nita, and it is from a man who asks her to become his wife. It is the man in the picture. In great joy, Nita hands the important missive to her sister to read while she plays the piano. Then, after receiving Pansy's congratulations, she asks her to dictate the reply. And as the younger woman goes out to despatch a messenger with the note, Pansy regretfully once more stands before the easel, and erases the sketch of the man she has lost and her sister has won. Miss Kate Rorke acted with much feeling the part of the faithful woman who had practically devoted her life to her sister's welfare, and had at last been compelled to part with the one thing that gave her inspiration and helped her to think of the future as a bright and happy prospect. As Nita Miss Maude Buchanan was a light-hearted, irresponsible, "slip" of a girl, and played the rôle with a suitable sense of careless abandon.

As to the other contributors to the programme, Mlle. Jane May recited with wonderful dramatic fervour "A Terrible Moment," almost striking terror into the hearts of her audience by the tragic intensity of her utterance. Mr. Barclay Gammon was exceedingly amusing in a musical sketch, and Mr. Fred Upton told a few funny stories in a delightful anecdotal style.

THE ROYALTY PIERROTS.

The reputation of the little theatre in Dean-street for humour is once more being sustained by the pierrotic entertainment of the Follies, who again present a triple bill—if we may so call it—conceived in the truest spirit of fun. Their return on Monday was hailed with considerable enthusiasm by a large audience, who again found plenty to laugh at in the "Peter Pantomime," *Baffles*, in which Mr. H. C. Pelissier and Mr. Lewis Sydney exhibit their happy methods of travestie with unquestionable success. Of the "great curse," we may say that we have heard nothing so whimsical or so witty since the production of *Paw Clawdian*, at the now defunct Toole's Theatre, in the days when burlesque always formed the attraction at one or two of our West End houses. The topical hits are not confined to this laughable skit, for there are plenty of them in Mr. Pelissier's new song, "In the spring-time," one of the most successful numbers of the first part of the entertainment. The humorist touches lightly on the weddings of Edna and Ellen, and refers to the vexed question of costume for La Milo. Of course, Mr. Pelissier's eccentric German character-study of the professor with a wife in the Fatherland, who is quite content with his lot here, is retained. It is much too funny to be left out. Miss Gwennie Mars has a pretty and dainty new number, entitled "The caterpillar and the rose," a title that sounds so much like La Fontaine. The *bouche fermée* effects in the chorus of this are decidedly pleasing. Early in the bill come Miss Lily Walbrook and Mr. Dan Everard, in the duet, "I want the moon," a number that could not escape the inevitable encore on Monday. Mr. Lewis Sidney described at the piano in his own mercurial way an incident at a ball; and Mr. Pelissier, also at the piano, described with the delightful freedom of a born *improvisatore* various composers' methods of treating the nursery rhyme, "Rock-a-bye baby," choosing first Miss Liza Lehmann's light, airy, graceful style, and following on with the Scandinavian school, represented by Grieg. Then came the modern German school—the Abbé Liszt and others, the conclusion of this clever item in the evening's bill being the treatment of the theme from the point of view of a French operatic tenor—very intense and in romantic mood. The Nicotine quartets, introduced for the first time, show considerable originality. The quatuor in praise of the Dutch pipe breathes the stolid humour of the inhabitants of the country of canals; and in his exaltation of the hookah the composer, Mr. Pelissier, has, in his music, caught something of the Oriental colouring. The words of the lyrics eulogising the tyrant goddess Nicotia are by Mr. Arthur Davenport. An entirely pleasant evening is again wound up by a circumstantial burlesque of a variety entertainment, in which comic singers, champion rifle shots, versatile instrumentalists, and other turns, regarded as the staple of the entertainments on the lesser stage, are cleverly satirised. Not the least funny part of this portion of the bill is the behaviour of the "audience," represented by the Follies with considerable observation of character.

THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES and suite witnessed Mr. Charles Frohman's production of *Brewster's Millions* at the Hicks Theatre on Monday.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

MISS ELLEN TERRY will not be able to appear at Miss Fanny Coleman's benefit matinée, at St. James's Theatre, on Thursday, as she is going abroad. The popular actress, however, has signalised her interest in the event by generously sending a cheque for £50. The fund has also been swelled by a contribution of £5 each from Sir Squire Bancroft and Mr. Pinero.

MR. RUPERT D'OYLY CARTE, son of the late Mr. Richard D'Oyly Carte, and step-son of Mrs. D'Oyly Carte, was married at St. George's, Hanover-square, on Thursday, to Lady Dorothy Milner Gathorne-Hardy, third daughter of the Earl of Cranbrook, of Hemsted Park, Cranbrook, Kent, and granddaughter of the first Lord Cranbrook, who was successively Secretary of State for the Home, War, and India Departments, and twice Lord President of the Council. There was a full choral service, and the wedding ceremony was performed by the Bishop of Stepney, assisted by Canon Mornington (uncle of the bridegroom) and the Rev. A. S. Crawley. The Earl of Cranbrook gave his daughter away. She wore a very picturesque gown of silver satin, made en Princesse, with a long Watteau train. The skirt was bordered with a wide insertion of jewelled lace, with true-lovers' knots in silver, and the bodice was arranged with a jewelled lace yoke, draped with soft folds of chiffon and silver satin, fastened with a handsome paste buckle. The elbow-sleeves of chiffon were trimmed with straps of silver and small paste buckles. The bride's tulle veil was arranged over a wreath of real orange-blossom, white heather, and myrtle. Her ornaments included a pearl necklace, the gift of the Earl and Countess of Cranbrook, and pearl and diamond earrings, presented by the bridegroom.

THE bridesmaids were Miss Una Hardy, Miss Cicely Acland, Miss Ursula Wright, and Miss Alice Hunter Blair, with four little girls—Miss Grace Browning, the Hon. Phyllis Goschen, Miss Rosalind Steward, and Miss Betty Spottiswoode. They wore charming dresses in shaded pink chiffon, recalling the delicate colouring of the Catherine Mermet roses. The skirts were bordered with ruches of shaded rose-pink chiffon, and arranged with fichus in chiffon and silk, and chemisettes of fine silver lace. With these gowns the bridesmaids wore veils of the palest pink chiffon, sewn with silver thread, and caught on either side with silver roses. Their bouquets were composed of orchids, with ferns and smilax. The bridesmaids were dressed in picturesque frocks of shaded pink chiffon, copied from an old Dutch picture, the short-waisted bodices arranged with deep chiffon collars, and bordered with silver lace. With these quaint dresses they wore silver shoes and caps of silver lace. Mr. George Blake McGrath acted as best man.

MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER was present on Thursday at the meeting of the After-Care Committee for watching over the lives of physically defective children after their leaving school. The meeting was held at the house of Mr. and Lady Gwendolen Guinness.

MR. GEORGE GROSSMITH has demanded from Mr. Frank Harris, the editor of *Vanity Fair*, under threat of legal proceedings, an apology for certain statements which appeared in that paper with reference to Mr. Grossmith's treatment of the celebrated "red-haired girl" who went about selling scissors by means of plausible stories. Mr. Harris has humorously refused the apology, and has sent Mr. Grossmith the name of the solicitor of *Vanity Fair*.

MISS OLGA NETHERSOLE, whose season at the Sarah Bernhardt Theatre, Paris, began on Monday evening, was on Wednesday served with an injunction restraining her from playing *Carmen*. M. Albert Carré, the director of the Opéra Comique, who caused the injunction to be served, says that he did so because he considers that the performance of *Carmen* in a French theatre would be an infringement of his rights over the opera.

MISS EDNA MAY entered for the second time into the bonds of matrimony on Tuesday, when her wedding with Mr. Oscar Lewisohn, son of the late Mr. Leonard Lewisohn, the wealthy copper magnate of New York, was celebrated at the Registrar's Office at Windsor. The small party which assisted at the ceremony was made up chiefly of Mrs. Pettie (mother of Miss May), Miss Jane Pettie, Miss Margaret Pettie, Mr. and Mrs. Skarratt (witnesses), Mr. Royle, and Mr. Rudolf Cohn. The bride wore a close-fitting dress of crêpe-de-chine, heavily embroidered with white lace, and a lace blouse and overall. Her hat was of the Romney type in white straw, with trimmings of white tulle and white lilies.

MANY celebrated stage favourites, including Miss Gertie Millar, Miss Kate Cutler, Miss Marie Studholme, Miss Pauline Chase, Miss Nina Sevening, and Miss Letty Lind, journeyed to Ascot by special train from London, and participated in the wedding breakfast, which was laid out in a large marquee on the lawn of the bridegroom's residence at Torwood. The presents, which amounted to over a hundred, included a gilt and embroidered picture-frame from Mr. and Mrs. Lionel Monckton, a flower bowl from Miss Marie Studholme, a Japanese screen from Mr. Joseph Coyne, and a silver coffee-pot from the Adelphi Theatre staff. In the afternoon Mr. and Mrs. Lewisohn left Ascot for London en route for Dover and Paris, from whence they will proceed on a lengthy tour of the Continent by motor-car.

MISS MARIE CORELLI occupied a box at the Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne, on Monday evening and afterwards congratulated Mr. Murray King. The performance of *Niobe* was also under the patronage and presence of the Mayor and Mayoress of Eastbourne, Mayor and Mayoress of Boulogne, Mayor and Mayoress of Dieppe, and many other notabilities. In the vestibule of the theatre Miss Marie Corelli was presented with a handsome bouquet before being escorted to her box.

THE "Irving Memorial" Committee held a meeting on Monday, when there were present Messrs. Cecil Raleigh (chairman), Sir Charles Wyndham, Messrs. H. Beerbohm Tree, George Alexander, G. P. Bancroft, Acton Bond, Lewis Casson, Norman Forbes, John Hare, Martin Harvey, Alfred Kendrick, Cyril Maude, Forbes Robertson, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary). Mr. John Hare was elected president of the Fund. One of the suggested sites considered by the Committee was approved by the sculptor, and it was agreed the president of the Fund should approach the proper authorities with a view to obtaining permission to erect the statue on the spot selected.

THE production of *The Changeling*, which was to have been given this week at the Playhouse, is postponed to a later date.

MR. MARTIN HARVEY commenced his four weeks' répertoire season with *The Breed of the Treshams* at the Adelphi on Monday, and when the popular young actor made his first entrance it was the signal for one of the heartiest welcomes it has been our lot to hear. The huge audience followed closely the fortunes of Keresby, known as the "Rat," and at the end Mr. Harvey had to respond with a speech. The "House Full" boards have been adorning the front entrance four nights this week, and it appears as if Mr. Harvey will regret having limited his season to such a brief period.

"GREAT POSSESSIONS" will be produced on Monday, with Mr. Harvey and Miss N. de Silva in the leading parts, supported by Messrs. Charles Glenney, Charles J. Cameron, Albert E. Raynor, Vincent Sternroyd, Philip Hewland, George Cooke, Fred Wright, sen., P. Foster, Kenneth Black, A. Field, F. J. Arlton, Alfred Mansfield, Leonard Craske, P. Alexander, C. Langton, Leslie Palmer, and Denholm Muir, and Misses Suzanne Sheldon, Maud Milton, Coleridge, Madge Fabian, Maud Rivers, Bessie Elder, Mrs. B. M. de Solla, and Mrs. F. Wright. The scene is laid in the market-place of a small town on the Lake of Gennesareth, A.D. 31.

QUITE an interesting evening was that of Tuesday last at the elegantly-appointed Managers' Club in Savoy Buildings. The first event was the drawing for the Derby sweepstakes, which was followed by the bestowal of a silver goblet upon Mr. Stanley White, the winner of the recent billiard handicap. The presentation was made in a few admirably-chosen words by Mr. Graham Falcon, and suitably acknowledged by Mr. White, who asserted that his success was due more to luck than skill. To those who were aware of Mr. White's proficiency with the cue his modesty was fully apparent. The goblet, which was the gift of Mr. G. M. Polini, an ever-generous member of the Club, was filled with champagne and passed round as a loving-cup for each visitor to "quaff the generous wine," and wish the victor continued success, that his aim might be true and his hand ever steady. Friendly conversation and appointments to meet at Tattersall's at Epsom on Derby Day terminated a most pleasant evening.

MR. HARRY KILBURN, who has been playing so successfully Hans Wagner, the Dutch Brewer, in Baron H. Harriss's *Prince of Pilsen* for twelve months past, has been re-engaged by that gentleman for autumn, Christmas, and spring, 1908. Mr. Kilburn has, consequently, had to refuse several tempting pantomime offers.

"DIVORCONS" in a new dress will be revived at the Duke of York's on Tuesday. The version of Sardou's comedy is by Miss Margaret Mayo, and the company will consist largely of the American artists who were playing in the piece at Wallack's, New York, up to the end of last week, and sailed for London on Saturday morning. Among the English actors is the popular J. D. Beveridge, who during the past two years has been touring the United States in *Man and Superman*. The rest of the cast will consist of Messrs Frank Worthing, Richard Bennett, J. W. Macdonald, Frank Collins, Max Freeman, and Frank Hatch, and Misses Grace George, Jane Corcoran, Ruth Benson, Ruby Ray, and Sadie Jerome.

THE great success of *Her Love Against the World* has led to the selection of another play by Mr. Walter Howard for the boards of the Lyceum Theatre. *The Midnight Wedding*, which is to be the next attraction at the famous Strand house, has been already seen at the West London, where it was produced in February last. It has all the romantic and exciting characteristics of the play now running at the Lyceum, and possesses a military element of an attractive type. The play will be presented on Saturday, June 15, but as Messrs. Smith and Carpenter are under contract to produce *The Christian* in August and another play later in the autumn, their only chance of doing *The Midnight Wedding* is presented in the interval between now and August, and the piece can therefore have only a very short run.

THE principal artists who have helped to carry *Her Love Against the World* on its prosperous way will appear in *The Midnight Wedding*. Mr. Norman Partreige heads the cast as Paul Valmar, and Miss Nora Kerin will double the rôles of Second Lieut. Karl Helsburg and Princess Astrea Von Strelsburg. The remainder of the company comprises Messrs. Frederick Ross, Ronald Adair, Eric Mayne, Fred Grove, S. Major Jones, Harry Barford, Gus Oxley, Edmund Waller, Harold Chapin, and Henry Armstrong, and Miss Valli Valli and Miss Daisy Gwynne.

MR. EDWARD ERNEST COOPER, who for some years past has held the position of hon. treasurer to the Royal Academy of Music, has been elected chairman of the committee of management of that institution, in succession to the late Mr. Thomas Threlfall. Mr. Charles Rube has succeeded Mr. Cooper as hon. treasurer.

THE last weeks of *Clancarty* at the Lyric are announced. Mr. Lewis Waller's arrangements compelling him to close his season on July 13. As a consequence, Mr. W. S. Maugham's modern play, *The Explorer*, which at one time Mr. Waller contemplated doing this season, is to be kept until later.

MISS HELENA HEAD (Mrs. Leonard Shepherd), who has been touring the Southern States of America during the past season, recently gave the first of a series of recitals from *Macbeth*, before an enthusiastic audience in New York. The recital consisted of an introduction and some half-dozen scenes from the play, including the Letter-reading, the Murder, the Banquet, and the Sleep-walking episodes, together with an outline of the main incidents connecting them.

MR. LEWIS WALLER will impersonate the title-rôle in the dramatic reading of *Coriolanus* to be given under the auspices of the British Empire Shakespeare Society on Tuesday afternoon. Miss Genevieve Ward will be the Volumnia, and the cast will also include Messrs. A. E. George, Kenyon Musgrave, C. Leveson Lane, Alfred Bristowe, A. Conybeare Gough, David Denard, and Acton Bond; and Misses Jean Mackinlay, Celia Palo, and Sybil Ruskin.

MISS NINA BLAKE-ADAMS, the leading actress of the Alhambra Dramatic Company, Belfast, is to be accorded a complimentary benefit on Thursday. Miss Adams has just completed twelve months' engagement at Belfast, during which period she has impersonated many leading rôles with great distinction.

MISS GRACE LESTER is re-engaged for the seventh time by M. Auguste Van Biene to play the Duchess in *The Broken Melody* during his short suburban tour, commencing on Monday at Kennington, and for autumn tour. Miss Lester, it is of interest to add, has just concluded an engagement with Messrs. W. and F. Melville's stock seasons at the Standard and Grand Theatres.

MR. G. WALLACE JOHNSTONE has been engaged by Mr. Edward Compton for his season at the St. James's Theatre, as well as for the tour to follow, until Whit week, 1908. Mr. Johnstone will thus reach his fifth engagement with Mr. Compton.

MISS VIOLET M. HARLEY, who made such a pronounced success a little while back in Miss Annie Hughes's original part in *A Country Mouse*, has had unfortunately to take an enforced rest, under medical advice. During the last few months she has therefore been enabled to devote her time to her favourite occupation—musical composition—with such success that she has already disposed of six or seven ballads to the leading publishers. The first to be published, "Love's a piper gay," words by that well-known writer of ballads, Clifton Bingham, came out this week.

MR. OTHO STUART has secured from Mr. J. H. Leigh a lease of the Court Theatre, and will open his season there in September. His répertory will mainly consist of comedies of modern life.

AT the annual general meeting of the Actors' Orphanage Fund, held on the 31st ult., at the Playhouse, under the chairmanship of Mr. Edward Terry, an announcement was made to the effect that the following ladies and gentlemen had been elected to the executive committee, which will serve until May, 1908:—Miss Carlotta Addison, Miss Lena Ashwell, Miss Ada Blanche, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Rev. Arthur Brinckman, Miss Phyllis Broughton, Mrs. Edward Compton, Mr. Charles Cruikshanks, Miss Vane Featherston, Miss Helen Ferrers, Mrs. Gay, Mr. Martin Harvey, Mrs. Mangles, Miss E. Wynne Matthison, Mr. Harry Nicholls, Mrs. S. Raleigh, Miss Cicely Richards, Miss Genevieve Ward, Miss May Warley, and Mrs. Fred Wright.

MR. EDWARD COMPTON will commence his season at the St. James's Theatre on July 29 with a new piece, the second act of which is laid in the Georgian epoch. Miss Suzanne Sheldon, Mr. Eric Lewis, Mr. Charles Groves, and Mr. Henry Ainley have already been engaged; and Miss Marie Hassall, Miss Phyllis Relph, Miss Marion Ashworth, Mr. Henry Crocker, Mr. G. Wallace Johnston, Mr. Reginald E. Besant, Mr. Benedict Butler, and Mr. Philip Gordon—all members of Mr. Compton's provincial company—will support him at the St. James's, where Mr. George Alexander's adept and active general-manager, Mr. C. T. H. Helmsley, will, by Mr. Alexander's consent, remain to see to affairs in front.

MISS BILLIE BURKE, the pleasing representative of the lady partner in *Mr. George*, at the Vaudeville, has been engaged by Mr. Charles Frohman as leading lady for Mr. John Drew's next season, opening in September at the Empire Theatre, New York.

"IN THE BISHOP'S CARRIAGE," a four-act comedy drama, adapted by Channing Pollock from a novel by Miriam Michaelson, will be produced at the Waldorf Theatre towards the end of this month. The cast will include Mr. Frank Cooper, Mr. Chas. Cartwright, Mr. Henry Vibart, Mr. Charles Collette, Mr. Arnold Lucy, Miss Agnes Hewitt, Miss Edith Cartwright, Miss Elspeth Dudgeon, Miss Margaret Fuller, and Miss Fanny Ward. The play was originally performed last year at Springfield, Massachusetts, and was given at the Grand Opera House, New York, on Feb. 25. Mr. Charles Cartwright will be responsible for the Waldorf production.

MR. WILFRED STANFORD, the acting-manager of the Camden Theatre, is to be congratulated on having been promoted to the rank of Captain in the 17th Middlesex Volunteer Rifle Corps, to which he has devoted a great deal of his leisure time.

THE tradition of Burbage's time will be followed in the performances of *The Merchant of Venice*, to be given in the Elizabethan manner at the Fulham Theatre next week, when the character of Shylock will be represented as the comic villain with a red wig. In pursuance of a similar precedent, the stately Portia of modern days will be replaced by the "little body" made familiar to Elizabethan audiences by a boy's impersonation. The strong cast includes Messrs. Lionel Belmore, Harding Stearman, Lionel Atwill, Ben Field, B. A. Pittar, and Edward Landor, and "Masters" Margaret Bussé, Lillah McGrath, Winifred Rae, and W. Mayo.

THE domestic amenities of Garrick's household are quaintly revealed in a letter which was included in a sale at Sotheby's on Tuesday. Among the collection of autograph letters was one written by the famous actor to the Hon. Mr. Fitzmaurice in 1773 respecting a play. The epistle contains the following passage:—"If my wife would not set all ye family in an uproar, I would ask you to call in with ye draft of ye play and stay till go to sleep—but if you'll take things as they are you will come if you like it—were I to hint ye matter ye house would be up in arms." The letter sold for £3 10s.

MR. SAMUEL JAMES has decided to imitate his successful stock season at the Broadway, New Cross, on the two-houses-a-night system by trying the same plan for the following month at the Lyric, Hammersmith. The shows at that house will therefore start at 6.40 and 9 p.m.

MR. EDWARD MARRIS is to be congratulated on the enterprising way in which he has taken over the responsible position of lessee and manager of the Jersey Opera House. The booking for Mrs. Patrick Campbell's visit to the island this week, in spite of advanced prices, was unprecedented.

THE Executive Committee of the "Charles Santley Jubilee Fund" held their final meeting on Tuesday afternoon, under the chairmanship of the Earl of Kilmorey, K.P., when it was resolved that a cheque for £2160, which was the balance in hand after payment of all expenses, be sent to Mr. Santley.

A LONG illness, followed by the necessary rest, has combined to keep Miss Agnes Hewitt off the boards for too long a time. It is therefore pleasant to read her name in the cast of *In the Bishop's Carriage*, which is to be produced at the Waldorf Theatre, and her many friends will be glad to welcome her back to the stage.

CONTRIBUTIONS to the Annual Theatrical Sports received during the week have comprised the following:—Frank Curzon, £1 1s.; Messrs. Whitbread, £1 1s.; Messrs. Rayne, £1 1s.; Miss G. Ward, £1 1s.; Miss Rozant, 2s. 6d.; Alfred Sutro, £1 1s.; W. S. Gilbert, £2 2s.; *Daily Telegraph*, £3 3s.

MISS BATEMAN (Mrs. Crowe) is producing *Medea in Corinth* at a matinée at the Court Theatre on Monday, July 1. This play was written for Miss Bateman by the late W. G. Wills, and produced by her at the Lyceum with great success under her late father's management, and has not been given since. The programme will also include the comedietta *Evening Dress*, by W. D. Howells, and both casts will be in capable hands, Miss Bateman having secured the services, among others, of Miss Ierne Fitzgerald and Miss Isabel Merson, and Messrs. Lewis Casson, Henry Le Grand, and Jules Shaw. The whole performance is under the immediate direction of Miss Bateman, and will be given in aid of The Orphanage of the Infant Saviour, Barry-road, S.E.

MISS KATE RORKE will introduce several of her pupils at a matinée which she will give at the Great Queen-street Theatre on Tuesday, June 25. On that occasion the programme will consist of W. S. Gilbert's *Pygmalion and Galatea*, and a new one-act play by Mrs. George Cran, entitled *The Shell of a Man*.

MR. HERBERT PERCY, who for some years has been associated with Alice Kauser, of New York, has arrived in London. Miss Kauser is the head of a large play agency, and represents in America the foremost managers and dramatists of that country, as well as those of England and the Continent. Mr. Percy will be remembered as an English actor some years ago, and still combines that profession with the play business. He will open next season in New York at the Lyceum Theatre as Dr. Wake in *Dr. Wake's Patient*, having been engaged as leading man with Miss Margaret Illington (Mrs. Daniel Frohman). Before returning to America Mr. Percy will visit the principal European centres.

LESLIE STUART'S delightful music is now charming the natives of Italy, *Florodora* having just been produced at Milan.

MISS WINIFRED EMERY has been secured by Mr. Laurence Irving to appear in a new one-act play, called *The Phœnix*, which he has recently written. The little play will be produced in conjunction with the English version of Brieux's comedy, *Les Hannetons*, called *The Incubus*, at the Coronet on June 24.

A ONCE popular actress has passed away in the person of Mrs. George Owen, who died at Leicester on Tuesday at the advanced age of 81. Mrs. Owen was the widow of a former lessee of the Theatre Royal, Leicester, and enjoyed the friendship and respect of the late Sir Henry Irving and Wilson Barrett, from whom she received many kindly letters. The deceased lady was best known for her impersonation of Lady Isabel in *East Lynne*, and Leah in the drama of that name.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE will be devoted to a matinée on Tuesday, July 2, in aid of the Benevolent Fund of the Foreign Press Association in London. The brilliant entertainment will be contributed to by Mr. Tree, who will appear in a one-act play; Miss Viola Tree will sing; Mr. Arthur Bourchier and Miss Violet Vanbrugh will be seen in a duologue (engagements permitting); and Miss Annie Hughes and company will present an act of *Miss Tommy*. Mr. James Welch and Miss Audrey Ford supply a duologue. A new romantic play will be acted by Master Edward Garratt; and the list of artists will also include Miss Marie Brema and Miss Tita Brand, Miss Billie Burke, Mlle. Adeline Genée, Leo, Jan, and Mischel, Cherniawsky, Mr. Hayden Coffin, Miss Marie Dainton, Mr. Maurice Farkoa, Miss Rosina Filippi, Miss Kitty Gordon, Mr. George Graves, Miss Ethel Irving and Mr. Bertram Steer, and Mlle. Jane May (assisted by Mr. Clifford Brooke) in the first act of the celebrated mimodrama, *L'Enfant Prodigue*.

THE Shaftesbury management a few days since offered a prize of two guineas for the best title for a picture by Mr. John Hassall, representing a quaint little maiden, whose gown showed signs of wear and tear. The picture was headed "Lady, Tatters, Shaftesbury Theatre," and out of an enormous number of suggestions the prize was awarded to the inscription, "Full inside. Wish I was!" Since the opening night many additions have been made to the opera, and *Lady Tatters* may now be said to be one of the brightest attractions in London.

MR. ALLAN WILKIE is this week doing extraordinary business at the Grand Theatre, Nottingham, the theatre on Thursday evening being packed in every part. Next week Mr. Wilkie will pay his first visit to the Theatre Royal, Bradford, returning the following week to the Opera House, Blackpool, and will bring his present successful tour to a close at Scarborough. Mr. Wilkie has secured a powerful company of thoroughly experienced artists for his autumn tour. Special scenery is being painted for his productions, and Messrs. W. Allen and Sons will have most of the new printing.

BARON HARRISS'S principal *Prince of Pilsen* company brought its second tour to a close at Cambridge on Saturday evening, when an enthusiastic house cheered everything and everybody to the echo, the appearance of Miss Harriss being the signal for salvoes of applause. At the termination of the play the students, who were present in force, waved their caps and gowns frantically, and were not satisfied until the curtain had been raised again and again. During the evening Miss Harriss was the recipient of a handsome Chippendale silver mirror with candelabra attached from the members of the company. The presentation was made by Mr. Harry Kilburn in a few felicitous phrases, and graciously acknowledged.

MR. W. S. HARTFORD, who will conclude on Saturday a six weeks' engagement as Julian Gray, in *The New Magdalen*, has been re-engaged for a further six nights to appear at Aberystwyth Coliseum as Ben Kershaw, in *A Snug Little Kingdom*, and Parbury, in *The Tyranny of Tears*.

WHILE Mr. Auguste Van Biene, the popular actor-'cellist, was playing *The Broken Melody* recently at the Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham, the usual professional stage-door pest waited on him, and declared he had had nothing to eat for twenty-four hours. Mr. Van Biene gave him some money, and asked the man not to spend it on drink. "No," he said; "I'm going to get something to eat, buy a bit of 'baccy,' and with the rest have four-penn'orth to hear you to-night."

THE wedding presents included a turquoise and diamond brooch from Mrs. Stanley Boulter (Mrs. D'Oyly Carte), a silver sugar-basin from Sir Charles Wyndham, and a silver inkstand from Mr. George Grossmith.

CLOSE upon the termination of Mr. Lewis Waller's season at the Lyric, which will end on July 13, will come the season of Grand English Opera by the Moody-Manners Company. The season will be of six weeks' duration, and in addition to the regular operas of the repertory several new works may be anticipated.

MISS DOT STEPHENS, who has now recovered from the effects of her railway mishap last year, will resume her engagements at Walsall in July. The young actress, whose feet were both injured in the accident, is completely cured, and can now walk about without any difficulty.

THE usual elaborate preparations are being made for the annual garden party in aid of the Actors' Orphanage Fund, which will be given in the grounds of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, on Friday, July 5, from three to seven o'clock. Mr. Cyril Maude, who is president of the society, will produce in the Gardens Theatre Royal an original play, specially written for performance on this occasion only, by Captain Robert Marshall and Mr. Alfred Sutro. Jarley's Living Waxworks will be impersonated by a special company of artists, under the direction of Mr. C. Aubrey Smith and Miss Vane Featherston, with Mr. Fred Wright, jun., as Mr. Jarley; and the music hall vaudeville entertainments will be contributed by stars of the stage. There will be two ice-cream tents, under the direction of Miss Mangles and Miss Lilian Braithwaite, who will be assisted by many popular actresses.

THE event is already assured of the presence and help of Mr. and Mrs. George Alexander, Sir Squire and Lady Bancroft, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Bourchier, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Compton, Mr. and Mrs. H. V. Esmond, Miss Vane Featherston, Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Irving, Mr. and Mrs. Laurence Irving, Miss Gertrude Kingston, Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Maude, Miss Mary Moore, Mrs. Raleigh, Mr. and Mrs. G. R. Sims, Mr. H. Beerbohm Tree, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Terry, Sir Charles Wyndham, and Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Willard. The full band of the Hon. Artillery Company will play during the afternoon, by kind permission of Colonel the Earl of Denbigh, C.V.O. (commanding the Hon. Artillery Company).

MR. HARTWELL G. KIRBY will shortly produce a new play entitled *The War Cry*. The bookings are being made by the well-known American and European manager Mr. Martin Comstock.

MR. MONCKTON HOFFE'S tour of Oscar Wilde's play *The Importance of Being Earnest* has proved so satisfactory that he intends continuing it into the autumn. The company is playing a successful engagement this week at the Grand Theatre, Leeds.

THE charity matinée in aid of the Children's Seaside Holiday Homes on Tuesday, for which Messrs. Smith and Carpenter have generously lent the Lyceum Theatre, will be supported by a brilliant array of talent. Theatre and music hall will be alike represented in the programme, among the artists who have already volunteered their services being Miss Constance Collier, Mrs. Lewis Waller, Miss Marie Lloyd, Mr. Alec Hurley, Mr. George Graves, Mr. Lyn Harding, Mr. Basil Gill, Miss Marie George, Mr. Norman Partriege, Miss Daphne de Rohan, Mr. Aubrey Fitzgerald, Mr. George Robey, Miss Margaret Cooper, Mr. Alfred Lester, Miss Evie Greene, Miss Billie Burke, Miss Nora Kerin, Mr. Malcolm Scott, Mr. G. H. Elliott, Mr. Austin Melford, Miss Millie Lindon, and Mr. Charles Pond.

MISS CLARA BECK, who is to be the principal girl in Mr. Fred Wyndham's pantomime at Edinburgh, has been retained to play the title-rôle in *The New Barmaid* in the meantime. The popular musical comedy, which is still under the direction of Mr. Alexander Loftus, is booked right through the present year.

A POETIC fairy play, entitled *The Magic Arrow*, by Francis Chamier, has been accepted for publication by Messrs. Gay and Bird, and will shortly be put on the market. It is in blank verse with lyrics.

A PORTION of the library of Mr. E. S. Willard, who is giving up his country house, will be disposed of at Sotheby's during the early part of July. The portion to be sold embraces a practically complete collection of first editions of the works of Algernon Charles Swinburne and French and German translations of "Atalanta in Calydon," "Chastelard," "Laus Veneris," &c. There are also many books printed on pure vellum by the Kelmscott and other Presses, and several which were specially illuminated in gold and colours for Mr. Willard.

MR. NORMAN V. NORMAN is concluding his spring tour, which has been so successful that no fewer than five of the theatres visited have been rebooked for the early autumn. After a short rest in the country, Mr. Norman will commence his season of pastoral plays in July.

MR. GEORGE ANTLEY has concluded over three years successful engagement as Uncle Césaire in *Sapho*.

MR. J. BANNISTER HOWARD has been exceptionally lucky in the Derby sweepstakes. In addition to drawing Orby at the Managers' Club, he also had the rare luck of securing the same horse at the Yorick Club.

THE secretary of the Actors' Benevolent Fund asks us to acknowledge, with his thanks, a suit of clothes sent to him anonymously. The garments were given at once by the committee to a most deserving actor whom they fitted, and who expressed his grateful thanks to the anonymous donor.

IN connection with William Holles and Nannie Goldman's successful production of *The Stepmother* at the Crown Theatre, Peckham, the following amusing letter was received by Mr. Cecil Paget, the manager:—"Dear Sir,—Through being urged to witness your play last evening, I am now writing to say that I think it was very good indeed. It was so lifelike, and it seemed to me as though it had been taken from real life, because I am one of those who have gone through the experiences of a stepmother.—Yours truly, E. C. B." Mr. Cecil Paget, who has rebooked the piece, expressed himself delighted with the production, and especially with Nannie Goldman's pathetic portrayal of the broken-hearted boy "Danny." Mr. Arthur Shirley, the author, had the pleasure of witnessing the performance on Saturday in the presence of a a house packed from floor to ceiling.

WE record with regret the death of Mrs. Frank Harvey, widow of the late popular actor, which occurred at Upper Tooting on Tuesday. Mrs. Harvey toured with her late husband, who died in March, 1903, for many years in the chief provincial towns. The funeral was announced for yesterday afternoon.

THOSE who attended the private farewell matinée to Mr. and Mrs. Luther Munday, arranged by Lady Romney on behalf of the Green Park Club, took away an extremely interesting souvenir in the shape of a programme. The inside of the programme was literally covered with facsimile autographs copied from Mr. Munday's collection of letters from "stars in the firmament of art who have, without money or price, taken some part in the thousand hours of play and song in the social gatherings initiated and managed by Mr. and Mrs. Munday."

MR. SOTHERN and Miss Marlowe bade farewell to London at the Waldorf on the last day of the month amid many signs of goodwill. The famous American was called before the curtain enthusiastically at the end, and in the course of a speech said that Miss Marlowe and he came to London fully aware of the great difficulties they had to encounter in presenting themselves in seven heavy and elaborate productions in six weeks before a new community. They believed that in America those persons who had honoured them with encouragement and approval would rejoice with them that, while they had not lacked mild reproof, they had mostly won the golden largesse of praise. They would be gratified that it was in the plays of Shakespeare that they had gained the best opinion expressed by the critics. It was not in their experience nightly to hear cries of "Bravo!" from the stalls, a place where the emotions were said to be under control. While they felt that such evidence of approval sprang from generosity to them as strangers perhaps more than from their work, they were conscious, too, that they had impressed their audiences at least with the sincerity of their endeavour.

AT the Oldham County Court on Saturday, the solicitor for Messrs. David Allen and Sons asked for an order for the committal of Brisbane Doyle, against whom a judgment summons had been made for £50, part of the costs of an unsuccessful action in the High Court against Messrs. Allen for alleged breach of contract. The Judge made an order for the immediate committal of Doyle for forty days, and fined him £10 and costs for the default of appearance on the witness summons, with the alternative of a further term of imprisonment for one calendar month.

"MR. GEORGE" concludes its stay at the Vaudeville on Friday, and on the following evening will be revived *Mrs. Ponderbury* (originally known as *Mrs. Ponderbury's Past*). Mr. Hawtrey will reappear as Major Ponderbury, and the cast will also include Miss Marie Illington and Miss Billie Burke.

A PASTORAL performance of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* will be given by Patrick Kirwan's Idyllic Players, at the Royal Botanic Society's Gardens, Regent's Park, on Tuesday evening, July 2, in aid of the Catholic Hospital of St. John and St. Elizabeth, Grove End-road. The performance is designed to provide funds to enlarge the present nursing accommodation of the hospital, which is served gratuitously by the Sisters of Mercy.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Ellen Terry First Memories.

In the intensely interesting first instalment of Miss Ellen Terry's "Story of My Life," in this week's issue of *M.A.P.*, Miss Terry thus describes the first thing she ever remembered:—"In the corner of a lean-to, whitewashed attic there stood a fine, plain, and very solid oak bureau. By climbing up on to this bureau I could see from the window the glories of the sunset. My attic was on a hill in some large and busy town, and the smoke of a thousand chimneys hung like a grey veil between me and the fires in the sky. When the sun had set, and the scarlet and gold, violet and primrose, and all those magic colours that have no names, had faded into the dark, there were other fires for me to see. The flaming forges came out and terrified while they fascinated my childish imagination."

Bernard Bludgeoned.

Mr. Shaw, says a writer in "Blackwood," is an ideal Polytechnic hero, which, to say the least, is not smart of him. Whenever Mr. Shaw attempts to gull readers on a higher level than that of the empty-headed eccentrics who pretend to a knowledge of philosophy and to an "advanced" state of culture on the strength of a few madhouse smatterings of Nietzsche, his cleverness collapses. Any scholarly critic—of the calibre of Mr. Lang, for instance—with a real knowledge of the broader fields of philosophy and literature, could smash a charlatan like Mr. Shaw in a very few pages, if it were worth the trouble—smash him beyond all hope of repair. It is our desire in this article merely to hasten the process of his own self-induced dissolution; for we are tired of watching him hop over the graves of the illustrious dead and skip like a blue-behinded ape upon the trees of Paradise.

Phelps's Pinches.

"THERE were no understudies in those days," says Miss Fanny Coleman to a *Morning Leader* interviewer, speaking of her early experiences. "Supposing a leading lady was ill, or could not appear, somebody or other who seemed to have intelligence was popped on. Prompter very busy. Person popped on worried; but, like the pianist of the Far West, doing her best—although the regular members of the company would cheerfully have shot her. Because, you see, a novice, with no knowledge of the part, and few opportunities of having seen it played by the original artist, was not only awkward herself, but by that awkwardness upset the rest of the company. I have played with Phelps. He was gruff, and would come and pinch your arms angrily if things didn't go as he wished."

He Sat by Mendelssohn.

MR. JOHN REYNOLDS, writing to protest against the destruction of Crosby Hall, says:—"For about five years I was musically educated in the Throne Room of the Hall by my old master, J. H. B. Dando. Dando was one of the pioneers of chamber music in London, and in this Throne Room he gave for years a series of quartette concerts, long before the Monday Popular Concerts were dreamt of. I had the run of the concerts, and going in one night I took a modest seat next to a strange gentleman, who had been equally modest. When the programme had reached the point of a performance by Herr Mendelssohn, up got my neighbour, and proved to be the great man himself. He played some of his "Lieder Ohne Wörte," and delighted everybody. For an encore he extemporised on the themes of a quintette by Mozart which had been previously played."

"Uncle Tom" without the Ice.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN" is always being played somewhere or other; but this good old theatrical "stand-by" seldom visits New York nowadays. A rearrangement of the ancient stage classic, recently produced at the Majestic Theatre there, is described by an American newspaper as being "minus dogs, ice, and angels," which means that the authors, Messrs. James W. Harkins and Edwin Barbour, have eliminated the bloodhounds and Eliza's flight across the ice; have made Marks and Topsy subordinate characters; and have tried to bring into the foreground the human interest of the story. The auction sale of slaves and the time-honoured "Apotheosis of Little Eva" are also omitted, the latter feature being replaced by a tableau showing Lincoln freeing the slaves. The new version is well received.

Richter and the Rapper.

DR. HANS RICHTER, says the *Daily News*, is German to the backbone. Although a Teuton by temperament, Richter can, when he likes, be delightfully humorous. Once, during the rehearsal of a musical festival, he was disturbed by someone in the hall beating time on the floor. He requested the offender in his broken English to desist. 'You see,' he explained, with a smile, 'when I am conducting I cannot always keep time with your foot.'"

The Pugilist and His Pay.

ON a recent tour of *Sporting Life*, the play—in which it will be remembered the hero, Lord Woodstock, has to take part in a boxing match and come off victorious—a professional prize fighter was engaged to give added realism to the character of his opponent. There had been two matinées during the week, and after the first treasury on Saturday the pugilist called attention to the fact that he had only received payment for one, whereas he had given two. "Yes," was the reply, "but we only pay for one." "But I have played two," reiterated the pet of the prize-ring, "and I want paying for each." "We don't do it in this company, and you're not going to get it," persisted the manager. "Well, then," said the pugilist, decisively, "if I don't get my money, *Woodstock don't win that fight to-night.*" "Pay him!" said the manager. And he was paid.

Pawning His Boots.

SIGNOR PUCCINI, who is in London, has told a *Daily Chronicle* man that when he—the composer—was writing his first opera, *Le Villi*, he lived for four months on credit at a little restaurant called the Aida, in a slum in Milan. His dinner usually consisted of a piece of badly-cooked meat and a cup of more or less sour wine. He can still recall the half-ashamed manner in which he used to tell the waiter to chalk up the bill; and then he sneaked out of the place because he had no money for a tip. He can also recollect his humble diggings, where he tried to exist on the few francs a week allowed him by the Government as a charity pension. "Two or three of us," he says, "lived together, and we often had to pawn our umbrellas and overcoats and boots in order to get a little ready-money for immediate requirements."

Mr. Sothern's Hamlet.

"MY Hamlet," says Mr. E. H. Sothern to a *Daily Chronicle* representative, "was the result of long and anxious thought. When I first thought of playing Hamlet, I began systematically to read through not only the various texts, but as many commentators as I could. I soon gave that up, however, as I found them terribly contradictory. I was determined that my Hamlet should not be a composite photograph of other people's ideas about him. Then I threw all theories aside and just went to Shakespeare himself, and somehow or other the whole character seemed to emerge, perfectly clear, perfectly easy to comprehend—though not so easy to explain, for, after all, Hamlet is almost as complex and many-sided in his simplicity as we ourselves."

ACTORS' ORPHANAGE FUND.

Mr. Edward Terry presided at the eleventh annual general meeting of the Actors' Orphanage Fund, held at The Playhouse on Friday afternoon, 31st ult. The theatre was kindly lent for the occasion by Mr. Cyril Maude, and the auditorium, filled as it was with stylishly-dressed members of the fair sex, presented a pretty spectacle. Supporting Mr. Terry on the stage were Mr. Cyril Maude (president of the Fund), Sir James Crichton-Browne, Mr. Fred Terry, Mr. Chas. Cruikshanks, Miss May Warley, Miss Vane Featherston, Mrs. Edward Compton, Mr. Fred Wright, jun., Mrs. Fred Wright, Mr. W. H. Crompton, Mrs. Cecil Raleigh, Miss Wynne Matthison, Miss Carlotta Addison, Miss Elizabeth Borden, Miss Braithwaite, Miss Phyllis Broughton, Miss Alexandra Carlisle, Miss Gertrude Warden, Mr. H. Lanham, Mrs. Gay, Miss Cecilia Richards, Mrs. Mangles, Mrs. Walter Abrahams, Miss Viola Compton, Mrs. A. M. Lane, Mrs. Villiers, Miss Cicely Villiers, Mrs. Hodgkinson, Miss E. Foster, Mrs. Synge-Hutchinson, Miss Minnie Turner, Miss Salomons, Mrs. Fredk. Irwick, and Miss Constance Hyem.

The report for the year ending Dec. 31, 1906, was as follows:—

In submitting their annual statement for 1906, your committee have the pleasure of reporting a credit balance of £1,000 12s. 4d., the total receipts from all sources amounting to £2,318 14s. 5d., and the expenditure being £1,318 2s. 1d.

To this happy state of affairs the great success of the garden party at the Botanical Gardens very largely contributed, and the committee once more take this opportunity of tendering their very grateful thanks to the hon. sec., Miss May Warley, and her coadjutors, for their untiring efforts on behalf of the Fund.

Throughout the year there has been no cause for anxiety concerning the fifty-two orphans now provided for by this Fund.

Those members of the committee who have from time to time visited the various schools give a uniformly good report on both the conduct and health of the pupils, whilst the reports concerning those children, who from different causes are now in homes, give reason for equal satisfaction.

Donations and Subscriptions. — Considering the liberal amount of last year's special donations (the latter including £160 from the Dramatic and Musical Sick Fund, &c., &c.), the income for 1906 compares favourably with that of 1905. The Rev. Arthur Brinckman, Lord Burnham, Mrs. D'Oyly Carte, Mr. Eric Lewis, and Mr. Alfred Sutro have again been prominent subscribers to the Fund, whilst the gratitude of the committee is also due to a considerable number of other supporters. In this connection the committee urgently repeat their last year's appeal for an increase in subscriptions, as it is chiefly by these that a solid income is provided for the Fund, the claims on which are steadily increasing.

Autographs.—With regard to the sale of autographs, which continues to provide an agreeable augmentation to the Charity's income, the committee have to thank Miss Ellen Terry, Miss Irene Vanbrugh, Miss Julia Neilson, Mr. Fred Terry, Miss Fanny Moody, &c., &c.

In conclusion, the committee are greatly indebted to Mr. Cyril Maude, who presided at the last general meeting, held by kind permission of Mr. Arthur Bourchier at the Garrick Theatre; to Messrs. Clark, Battams, Lanham, and Co., for their work in auditing the books and preparing the balance-sheet; to Mr. C. Aubrey Smith, hon. treasurer, for his valuable help; to Mr. Eugene Judge, their solicitor; and to Mr. E. W. S. Cox-Sinclair, standing counsel.

BALANCE-SHEET FOR THE YEAR ENDED DEC. 31, 1906.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Receipts—		
Subscriptions and Donations	267 15 6	
Collecting Boxes	21 17 3	
Tax on Free Admissions	27 10 9	
Benefit Performances (including Botanic Gardens Fête, £1,553 13s. 10d.)	1730 0 0	
Sundry Interests	0 7 0	
Sale of Autographs, &c.	19 2 6	
		2056 13 0
„ Shone Trust Interest		39 14 1
„ Bank Deposit Interest		25 4 1
„ Interest on Investments:—		
2½% Annuities	23 17 0	
2½% Metropolitan Consolidated Stock	118 11 3	
India 3% Stock	47 5 0	
Transvall 3% Stock	7 10 0	
		197 3 3
		£2318 14 5
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
By Maintenance, Clothing, and Education of Children (as per Schedule)		1224 17 1
„ Postage Stamps	10 12 9	
„ Printing and Stationery	8 15 11	
„ Advertising	12 11 6	
„ Sundry Expenses	13 17 4	
„ Secretary's Salary	42 7 6	
„ Rent of Office	5 0 0	
		93 5 0
„ Balance, being Excess of Income over Expenditure for the Year		1000 12 4
		£2318 14 5

LIABILITIES.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Sundry Debtors—		
For School Fees, Maintenance, &c.	244 5 6	
Xmas Treat	4 18 6	
Secretary's Salary	1 0 0	
Rent of Office	5 0 0	
		255 4 0
„ Capital Account—		
Balance as at Jan. 1, 1906	8308 9 2	
Add—Excess of Income over Expenditure, for the year ended Dec. 31, 1906	1000 12 4	
		9309 1 6
		£9564 5 6

ASSETS.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
By Investments (at cost)—		
Metropolitan Consolidated Stock (2½%)	4487 2 0	
India 3% Stock	2037 1 0	
Transvaal 3% Stock	1451 6 0	
Annuities 2½%	1000 0 0	
Less—Reserve for Redemption	45 7 11	
	954 12 1	
		8930 1 1
„ Cash at Bank—		
On Deposit	300 0 0	
On Current Account	168 10 0	
		468 10 4
„ Interest on Investments (accrued)—		
Metropolitan Consolidated Stock	9 8 4	
Annuities	5 7 8	
Shone Trust Investments	16 10 9	
India 3%	15 15 0	
Transvaal 3%	7 10 0	
		54 11 9
„ Income Tax Recoverable		8 14 6
„ Balance due in respect of Botanic Gardens Fête		102 7 10
		£9564 5 6

We have compared the above balance-sheet with the books and vouchers of the Fund, and certify the same to be in accordance therewith. We have also verified the securities.

CLARK, BATTAMS, LANHAM, and CO.,
Hon. Auditors, Chartered Accountants,
7, Mildred-court, Bank, London, E.C.
March 20, 1907.

THE CHAIRMAN, rising to move the adoption of the report, said:—I have received the following telegram from Mrs. Carson: "May all success attend your meeting to-day." We are all delighted to know that if she is not present here in person, her spirit is with us in our doings. We are all delighted, too, to note the tremendous progress and prosperity of the Theatrical Orphanage Fund. I remember that some years ago, when the idea was mooted of a new building, I was thought a very severe and sad man because I rejected the advice at that time tendered. The methods adopted by the council of the Fund have been most admirable and well carried out. The Fund began eleven years ago with two orphans, and you have now fifty-three in your charge. The majority of the council are ladies, the inferior sex being only allowed to put in a very small number. All the children are doing very well, and you have a sum of £8,400 invested. The subscriptions have slightly fallen off through the inauguration of what was called Actors' Day, and on this subject I feel somewhat strongly, because I think that the amount which is now being held in hand, and was collected on Actors' Day, should be distributed amongst the charities of which this is so delightful a specimen. I shall use every opportunity to see that the money is divided between the three charities—the Theatrical Ladies' Guild, the Theatrical Orphanage, and the Actors' Benevolent Fund. All of these are doing most admirable work, and all are wanting the money that is at the present time hung up. I hope and believe that in a few days we shall realise our wishes in this respect, and that you will have the pleasure of receiving a handsome cheque. I understand that the children sent from the schools are doing excellent work. Reading over the names of some of the children, I feel a little sad to think that their fathers were comrades of mine; but it is a pleasure to me to know that they are enjoying the comforts which, were it not for this Fund, would be denied them. I can only hope that your subscriptions will go up by leaps and bounds, and I sincerely trust that this year the garden party will be very successful. I advise the council to think seriously about the building scheme which has been proposed. I, as you know, have much to do with orphan children, and this will have been my children's day, because I have just parted with 618 orphan boys and girls, and therefore I take a great interest in our young people. But I do impress upon you that, before you enter further into the idea of building, to think thoroughly of the scheme, to work it up thoroughly, and have a good sum of money to start with. You have not merely to consider the actual building of the proposed establishment, but the maintenance of it, which will run into a very large sum of money.

MISS MAY WARLEY briefly seconded the adoption of the report, which was carried.

MR. CYRIL MAUDE announced the election of, as additional vice-presidents, Lady Bancroft, Miss Winifred Emery, Mr. George Alexander, Mr. Edward Terry, and Mr. H. Beerbohm Tree, to whom he proposed a vote of thanks. Continuing, Mr. Maude said that it was extremely gratifying that the orphanage was in such an excellent condition, and their balance-sheet such a magnificent one. They had cleared over £1,000, besides maintaining and helping every orphan who had claimed the privilege of being helped. It was a matter for congratulation that they had such an assiduous honorary secretary as Mr. A. J. Austin, and such a strenuous helper as Miss May Warley. Hitherto they had had only one vice-president, namely, Miss Ellen Terry, and a few weeks ago the five ladies and gentlemen already mentioned were written to, and readily gave their consent to become vice-presidents. In regard to the idea of a new building, he thought that Mr. Terry was mistaken, because, as far as he (Mr. Maude) knew, there had been no definite expression on the subject, and he was quite satisfied with the present state of things. If there were any rich lady or gentleman present who could present them with a ten or eleven roomed cottage, where they could accommodate the children who were too young to be put to school, and yet would be all the better for being taken away from the wretched homes they at present lived in, the committee would be very pleased to hear about it.

MR. CHARLES CRUIKSHANKS seconded the vote of thanks, which was carried.

MISS CARLOTTA ADDISON read out the list of members who had offered to serve on the executive committee for the year ending May, 1908, and three scrutineers—Mr. Alfred Turner, Miss May Hewitt, and Mr. C. H. Billington—were appointed to examine the voting papers.

MRS. EDWARD COMPTON referred to the good work which was being done in the schools. She hoped that the boys and girls being looked after by the Fund would turn out splendid men and women.

MISS LILIAN BRAITHWAITE proposed, and MISS WYNNE MATTHISON seconded, a vote of thanks to the outgoing executive committee.

MRS. CECIL RALEIGH made acknowledgments on behalf of the outgoing committee, and eulogised the services rendered by their president, Mr. Maude.

MISS MAY WARLEY, in announcing that the Theatrical Garden Party would take place on Friday, July 15, in the grounds of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, said that she had found it impossible to come to terms with the Botanical Gardens this year. For the past three years there had been great difficulty experienced as to the catering. At the Botanical Gardens there was not the necessary accommodation, there was not the water supply, and the caterers were not accustomed to attend to thousands of people. She had to express her gratitude to Colonel Evans, who every year sent the band of the Honourable Artillery Company free of charge.

MR. FRED TERRY proposed and MISS HELEN FERRERS seconded the re-election of, and a vote of thanks to, Messrs. Clark, Battams, Lanham, and Co., as hon auditors; Mr. Eugene Judge as hon. solicitor; Mr. Cox-Sinclair as hon. standing counsel; Mr. Aubrey C. Smith as hon. treasurer; and Mr. A. J. Austin as hon. secretary.

MR. H. LANHAM, in the absence of Mr. Aubrey C. Smith, suitably responded for the honorary officers.

SIR JAMES CRICHTON-BROWNE, proposing a vote of thanks to Mr. Cyril Maude for the use of The Playhouse, delivered an admirable and stirring address, in which he made a strong appeal for subscriptions in aid of the Orphanage Fund. He himself was opposed to the building of an establishment for these orphans of actors, as he did not believe in barracks for babies or club-life for children. The committee should retain for the youngsters the inestimable benefits of home and family life. He thought that every supporter of the Fund must be grateful to Mr. Cyril Maude for opening his theatre to them on that occasion.

MRS. A. A. MANGLES seconded the motion, which was enthusiastically approved of by the meeting.

MR. FRED WRIGHT, JUN., made a very amusing speech, in which he cleverly put forward the claims of the Theatrical Orphanage Fund.

THE REV. ARTHUR BRINCKMAN proposed, and MISS ALEXANDRA CARLISLE seconded, a vote of thanks to Mr. Terry for presiding, which was gracefully acknowledged.

"THE PLAYBOY OF THE WESTERN WORLD," which caused some excitement in Dublin last winter, will be produced at the Great Queen-street Theatre on Monday.

"THE BREED OF THE TRESHAMS."

Revival of the Drama, by John Rutherford, at the Adelphi Theatre, on Monday, May 3.

Lieut. Reresby	MR. MARTIN HARVEY
Viscount Dorsington	MR. CHARLES J. CAMERON
Colonel the Hon. Clement Hungerford	MR. CHARLES GLENNEY
Col. Sir Henry Curwen	MR. ALBERT E. RAYNOR
Colonel Bagshaw	MR. FRED WRIGHT, SEN.
Captain Stanhope	MR. PHILIP HEWLAND
Captain Rashleigh	MR. ALFRED MANSFIELD
Lieut. Willoughby	MR. DENHOLM MUIR
Cornet the Hon. Francis Tresham	MR. LEONARD CRASKE
Cornet Kit Peyton	MR. VINCENT STERNROYD
Corporal Lumsford	MR. GEORGE COOKE
Corporal Saxton	MR. LESLIE PALMER
Will Lumsford	MR. P. ALEXANDER
Joan	MISS BESSIE ELDER
Jevons	MR. H. GRAVES
Hon. Margaret Hungerford	MISS COLERIDGE
Mrs. Bagshaw	MISS MAUD MILTON
Helena Pierrepoint	MISS MAUD RIVERS
Batty	MISS N. DE SILVA

Mr. Martin Harvey made a welcome reappearance to his London admirers at the commencement of his season at the Adelphi Theatre on Monday evening, in John Rutherford's four-act play, *The Breed of the Treshams*, in which Mr. Harvey had already been seen at the Lyric, in addition to his performance of the leading part of Lieut. Reresby at the first London production of the piece at the Kennington Theatre, in the December of 1903. Mr. Harvey has won golden opinions in the character, and in his provincials tours it is one of his strongest attractions. The well-knit plot, the close succession of exciting incidents, and the brightly-written, nervous dialogue, all contribute to the sustained success of the piece. As our readers will remember, the hero is Lieut. Reresby, otherwise "The Rat," the illegitimate son of the bad Lord Tresham. Not only has his bearing of the bar sinister spoilt him; he has been unfortunate in having for his father a most accomplished blackguard, who inoculated young Reresby with his vices, and corrupted him by his example. The "Rat" is, in short, a complete specimen of the "soldier of fortune" of the Charles I. period, and is not ashamed to aid and abet his superior officer, Colonel Hungerford, in the latter's attempt to betray the town of Faversham to the rebels. There is little to chose between the villain and his tool; but Reresby, at any rate, is roguishly frank and blunt about his sins, and does not, as the Colonel does, "dissemble and cloak" them with cant and fine manners. A romantic love for Hungerford's daughter, Margaret, induces Reresby to protect her, and advance in every way the prospect of her union with the legitimate son of the late Tresham, the Hon. Francis. And so, when there is danger that the Colonel's treachery may be discovered, his faithful instrument, himself detected in treasonable intercourse with the rebels, will not speak. Torture is applied to force him to betray his instigator; but, pretending that he is about to make a disclosure, he stabs himself, and falls senseless. In the end, the "Rat," as Reresby is called, is pardoned and deprived of his commission, going off to enlist in the ranks and fight for the King.

Mr. Martin Harvey has greatly improved his part of Lieut. Reresby since his first performance of it at Newcastle on Sept. 28, 1903. Many little ingenious touches have been applied to the character since Mr. Harvey's first experiments with it, and, if we mistake not, he has added greatly to its comic and grotesque side. The impersonation is now one of the most weird, ecentric, droll, and yet terrible things imaginable. It combines the most airy oddity with the deepest tragedy of a human soul, and the horror of remembrance has seldom been more vividly depicted than when Mr. Harvey as the "Rat" describes the latter's memories of the tortures he suffered at the hands of some Spanish soldiers, and his loss of a certain beloved Margaret, who was carried off by a party of ruffians, headed by Reresby's own father. Here and there, these passages of broken pride and hopeless remorse come in; but the prevailing note is that of reckless, mocking, and, at times, maliciously monkeyish gaiety. Through all, Reresby exercises a certain superiority by his skill of fence, by his ready wit and resource, and by the directness with which he calls a spade a spade. Mr. Harvey's Reresby is indeed an extraordinary creation. The revelation of the self-contempt of the "lost soul," of the frequent promptings of Reresby's better nature, and of the good that remains in him, in spite of all his experiences, is a deeply pathetic one, and the pitiful story is told with the aid of a most artistic and effective exterior. The blackguardish air of the loose swashbuckler and reckless and hardened mercenary and partisan is given by a costume which is full of character, besides being, in a wild way, very becoming. Altogether, Mr. Harvey's patrons have witnessed this week one of this gifted actor's best and most artistic efforts. He is again supported by Miss N. de Silva, who is as fresh, frank, and rollicking as ever as Reresby's affectionate "follower," Batty. A stern, dignified, and impressive performance of the part of Colonel Hungerford is contributed by Mr. Charles Glenney, who adds to his villainy a flavour of ironical jollity, which is very quaint and curious. Mr. Glenney is a well-practised actor, who is equal to any emergency, and the part of the traitorous officer comes quite within his compass. Mr. Alfred Mansfield gives a neat and effective portraiture of Captain Rashleigh; and Mr. Denholm Muir does excellent work as Lieut. Willoughby. A bold, free, and active embodiment of the Hon. Francis Tresham is supplied by Mr. Leonard Craske, who is personally well suited to the rôle. Mr. Albert E. Raynor and Mr. Fred Wright, sen., give ripe and solid impersonations of Colonels Curwen and Bagshaw; and Miss Maud Milton is unimpeachable in every way as Mrs. Bagshaw. An earnest and artistic representation of Margaret Hungerford is given by Miss Coleridge, who plays the part with admirable purity and tenderness; and Miss Maud Rivers is a pleasing and piquant Helena Pierrepoint. Mr. Philip Hewland is satisfactory as Captain Stanhope; and the leading "rankers" are ably embodied by Mr. Vincent Sternroyd, Mr. George Cooke, and Mr. Leslie Palmer, Mr. P. Alexander doing good work as Will Lumsford. The minor rôles are carefully sustained, and the scenery is both elaborate and illusive. The practised stage-management of Mr. H. J. Loveday secures the complete smoothness of the revival.

"THE WALLS OF JERICHO."

Revival of Mr. Alfred Sutro's Four-act Play, at the Garrick Theatre, June 4.

Jack Frobisher	MR. BOURCHIER
Hankey Bannister	MR. SYDNEY VALENTINE
The Marquis of Steventon	MR. ERIC LEWIS
Lord Drayton	MR. DOUGLAS IMBERT
Harry Dallas	MR. CYRIL KEIGHTLEY
Bertram Hannaford	MR. ARTHUR WHITBY
The Hon. Wilfred Renton	MR. ALFRED BRISTOWE
Lord Marchmont	MR. FRANK ELLIOTT
The Hon. Jasper Twelvetrees	MR. F. CECIL
Peters	MR. WILLIAM BURCHILL
Simpson	MR. HARRISON CARTER
James	MR. STAFFORD
William	MR. HILLIARD
Lady Lucy Derenham	MISS PAMELA GAYTHORNE
Lady Westerby	MISS NORA GREENLAW
Miss Mornington	MISS ELFRIDA CLEMENT
The Duchess of Skye	MISS MARY WEIGALL
Lady Parchester	MISS EVA KILLICK
Miss Wyatt	MISS MARY SUMNER
Lady Alethea Frobisher	MISS VIOLET VANBRUGH

What was advertised as the 419th performance of *The Walls of Jericho* was given at the Garrick Theatre on Tuesday evening, when Mr. Alfred Sutro's drama was again received with the warmest approbation. It was at the Garrick that it was first presented, on Oct. 31, 1904, with Mr. Bourchier and Miss Vanbrugh in the leading rôles, Mr. O. B Clarence playing the Marquis of Steventon, and Mr. H. Nye Chart enacting Harry Dallas. When the piece was transferred to the Shaftesbury in the October of the following year, Mr. Aubrey Smith undertook the character of Jack Frobisher, Mr Lawrence Grant replaced Mr. Junius B. Booth as Bertram Hannaford, and Miss Mabel Moore was seen as Lady Alethea Frobisher. There are a good many particulars in which the present cast differs from that of the original production, chief amongst them being the important assumption by Mr. Eric Lewis of the character of the Marquis.

The novelty of attacking the "smart set" has now evaporated, and the play stands on its merits as a dramatic appeal. Those who deny the existence of certain habits and customs in the "set" attacked will at least own that there are to be found in real life in London the equivalents of the Marquis of Steventon and Lady Alethea Frobisher, and the more or less reputable circle in which they move. Mr. Sutro has simply given us a "variant" on the old story of mixed-class marriage, which has served the stage so well in time past. Nobody can blame him for having picked and chosen his characters, as suited his purpose of making an effective play. The sympathy of the audience is not with Jack Frobisher as a social "outsider," but with him as a husband, a father, and a man. The vices he objects to in his wife and her friends are not confined to any particular class, but are practised, as legal cases every day prove, in all sections of society.

Interest on Tuesday evening was centred in Mr. Eric Lewis's impersonation of the Marquis of Steventon. Mr. Lewis is a finished and delicate comedian, with a style entirely his own, and he gives a delightfully humorous embodiment of the somewhat paltry peer of the realm, making each point with an ease and acuteness which leave nothing to be desired, and supplying an interpretation which is as unforced as it is artistic and effective. The young and ingenuous Lord Drayton is now depicted by Mr. Douglas Imbert, to whom, in the original performance, was allotted the little rôle of James. Mr. Imbert plays the part with bright intelligence, real ability, and agreeable style and distinction. The difficult task of representing Harry Dallas is now in the capable hands of Mr. Cyril Keightley, whose embodiment of the polished libertine is equally excellent in its style and its personal characterisation. Mr. Arthur Whitby does thoroughly good work as Bertram Hannaford; and Mr. Alfred Bristowe is seen to real advantage as the Hon. Wilfred Renton, Mr. Frank Elliott being efficient as Lord Marchmont, and Mr. F. Cecil satisfying all requirements as the Hon. Jasper Twelvetrees. A part demanding considerable tact and experience in its exponent is that of Lady Westerby, which Miss Nora Greenlaw sustains with decided credit. Miss Pamela Gaythorne interprets with much appreciation and intelligence the rôle of Lady Lucy Derenham; and Miss Elfrida Clement, the Miss Mornington of the original cast, repeats her sharp and *chic* performance. The humour of the card-sharping Duchess of Matlock is none the less diverting now that she has been re-christened the Duchess of Skye; and Miss Mary Weigall—with the make-up of a veritable "Gorgon"—does valuable work in the character first performed by Miss Lena Halliday. Miss Eva Killick is excellent as Lady Parchester and Miss Mary Sumner is unimpeachable as Miss Wyatt. Of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Bourchier's performances as Jack and Lady Alethea Frobisher it need only be said that they are as admirable and able as when *The Walls of Jericho* first delighted a Garrick audience; and Mr. Sydney Valentine's fine impersonation of Hankey Bannister is as sharp and effective as ever. Mr. Bourchier's strong and resolute acting as the husband, his fine delivery of the more forcible passages, and his masterly treatment of the part as a whole, appeal to all; and Miss Vanbrugh's picture of the vain, self-willed, and rebellious wife is, as before, worthy of the warmest praise. The play is liberally and tastefully mounted, and the revival has been received with delight and enthusiasm.

SEVENTY YEARS MARRIED.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Owing to the very large number of letters and telegrams of congratulation that my wife and I have received from all parts of the world, we find that at our great age it is impossible for us to reply to them.

May I ask you, through the medium of your valuable columns, to express our thanks to those kind friends who have thought of us on this happy occasion?—Yours faithfully,

JOHN BRINSMEAD.

Albert-road, N.W.

THE Dalston Theatre will remain closed for a few weeks to permit of extensive stage alterations, improvements in lighting, renovation, and redecoration. Prospective bookings include many West End successes, while the Christmas pantomime will be founded on the story of "Sindbad the Sailor."

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

DRESSES AT THE PLAY.

The latest creations of fashion are to be found in the new play, *My Wife*, at the Haymarket. In the first act Miss Millie Legarde looks radiant in filmy mousseline de soie, painted with a deep bordering of tulips in delicate yellow and purple shades. The corsage is particularly new and effective, inasmuch as over folds of blue mousseline an elaborate fichu-bolero is arranged, composed of corn-coloured lace edged with ball fringe, and finished upon the long sash-ends with deep fronds of meshwork chenille. Short hip basques of the same ornamentation and touches here and there of narrow satin ribbon complete a remarkably beautiful whole.

Miss Legarde's second evening dress is a gown of primrose-coloured supple satin, the skirt of which falls in graceful and untrimmed folds from the waist downwards, and a corsage completely made of gold "wire net" darned with gold. With it is worn a very elegant cloth coat of a soft shade of cream, that tones in well with the yellow, with a bordering of grey and gold plaided taffetas, and lined throughout with white satin.

Miss Marie Löhr, the heroine of the play, wears a succession of charmingly dainty costumes. Her tailor-made suit of the first act is composed of plaided biscuit and blue cloth, trimmed with biscuit soutache upon the skirt, that boldly outlines the blue motifs upon it. A most becoming little loose coat, with postillion tabs at the back, has a blue vest touched with soutache, and the costume is completed by means of a bronze straw hat massed with white wings in front. On her entrance Miss Löhr wears over the costume a cover-all cloak, built of earth of Egypt cloth (a new shade of tan), lined with white satin and trimmed with turquoise blue and a tinge of gold. The second act reveals Beatrice Dupré in a little white cloth suit, with a pleated coatee, fascinatingly trimmed with ball fringe, and in the third is displayed a very becoming pearl-grey chiffon dress, with a band of embroidered lisse and filet lace upon the skirt, and a Japanese bodice with the characteristic short sleeves of that genre, from which protrude the white lace and point d'esprit elbow-sleeves that appertain to the chemisette. The bodice is touched with tomato velvet very sparingly, but most effectively, and the belt is a curious Eastern-looking melée of three colours—old blue, dull red, and gold.

Miss Mary Moore thoroughly upholds her reputation as one of the most faultlessly-attired ladies on the stage by her costumes in *The Liars* at the Criterion. She makes an exquisite appearance in her gown of cream spotted net, with a handsomely embroidered zouave and a big pink rose at the breast, the whole crowned by a large black hat wreathed with pink roses, veiled with black net, which falls, curtain fashion, at the back. Another charming creation is her décolleté dress of brilliant green net, over white chiffon, a big *chou* springing from the waist in front, and finding a restful background in a soft white vest. The gown is handsomely beaded in green bugles, and a green osprey is worn in the hair.

Miss Dupont's gown of pale green net is elaborately embroidered in white silk, and allied to white chiffon. The skirt is arranged with panels of the net, bordered with bands of white silk, proceeding from waist to hem, and supported by a chiffon underskirt; and the bodice is prettily arranged with similar materials, and a lace vest, while a becoming green toque completes the toilette.

Perfection is reached in the dresses which Miss Marie Tempest wears in *The Truth* at the Comedy. Two of the frocks are made with kimono bodices and high belts. One is of deep cream-coloured crêpe de Chine, the crossed bodice and sleeves (in one) covered with handsome embroidery in gold-coloured silks; and with this is worn a chemisette, showing almost to the waist, back and front, of clear net, surmounted by a very high collar-band of the same, and, for a little while, a sac coat of rich cream-coloured guipure with a chinchilla collar, and a hat of mole-coloured panne. The second kimono dress is of flesh-pink crêpe de Chine, with a crossed bodice and sleeves of lovely blonde lace bordered with the crêpe, two pink tassels dangling in front over the waist-belt, and the filling-in at the neck being of clear net. Miss Tempest's third dress is in soft cloud-grey, the skirt and sleeves of chiffon, and the pinafore bodice all of grey silk embroidery, worked on either net or chiffon. The bodice is cut very low, and bordered with grey satin, and above is a vest of fine lace, while the ceinture is of satin. With this is worn, for a short time, a lovely little coat of silver-grey panne and a purple hat, a ribbon-velvet to match adorning Miss Tempest's hair.

Miss Grace Lane and Miss Sybil Carlisle are also prettily gowned. The former appears first in a Princess visiting dress of pastel-pink cloth, embroidered up the front with satin in a paler shade, a pink straw hat with shaded feathers, and a sable stole; and afterwards in white mousseline, embroidered with satin and silks, with an over-bodice of crêpe de Chine, richly embroidered, and cut square at the neck. This toilette is accompanied by a big black hat crowned with white feather-fronds, and a handsome ermine set. Miss Carlisle was dressed in réséda-green cloth, with a three-quarter coat of green embroidered net, a green feather-boa, and a hat trimmed in the same colour.

Miss Violet Vanbrugh, in the revival of *The Walls of Jericho* at the Garrick, makes her first appearance in a dress of pure white satin, veiled with white net, showered with gold paillettes. The design consists of a delicate scroll-work of giant daisies, intersected with long 2in. bands of gold paillette net, which take a perpendicular direction, and are specially becoming to the stately and graceful figure of the wearer. The bodice consists of two deep flounces of sequined net, headed with a gauged tucker of snowy silk tulle, the flounces being brought down to a point at the waist behind, while they are caught on the left side and again on the right shoulder with a single glittering gold iris. The little sleeves are of puffed white net, covered with bands of gold sequins, while the dazzling effect of the gown is still further accentuated by drop earrings and a diamond pendant.

Miss Pamela Gaythorne as Lady Lucy wears a dainty "ingénue" frock of pale Veronica pink tulle, trimmed with wreaths of twisted pink satin ribbon, the ring-shaped motifs being continued on the bodice of the gown in the form of a simulated bolero. A little gauged vest of pearl-white lisse, and puffed bébé sleeves, edged with lace, as well as a deep swathed pink satin ceinture, complete the effect, while a charming note of originality is introduced into the coiffure by means of a chaplet of leaves, laid one over the other, and finished on either side with a cluster of ripe cherries in realistic colourings.

In the second act, Miss Vanbrugh wears a gown of a very pale and clear blue mousseline de soie, mounted over white satin, and patterned in panel form with quantities of shaded Delft blue roses, the bodice being arranged in soft folds, crossed in front over a lace vest, and outlined with a narrow hem of Delft blue satin. With it is worn a coat of the finest pale blue net, the long basque of which is slashed up all round, and worked in a broderie Anglaise design of mammoth Chinese roses and marguerites, in shaded blue and white, the back of the coat fitting compactly to the figure, and caught in with a folded satin belt, which is passed under the loose fronts, and fastens over the bodice. Two deep frills of creamy lace fall over undersleeves of the finest spotted net, drawn in with bands of blue satin, and finished with a shower of fuchsia tassels.

Miss Pamela Gaythorne appears in the same act in a simple but charmingly-made dress of white voile. The corsage is formed of rows of fine tucks to the waist, and is supplemented with the favourite ball trimming, the short kimono-shaped sleeves being hemmed with white satin, and slashed up to the shoulder over undersleeves of Valenciennes lace, and drawn together by a lacing of narrow satin ribbon. Miss Nora Greenlaw, in this act, wears a curious and original gown of rich white satin, veiled with deep purple mousseline de soie, the striking effect of this contrast being enhanced by large purple irises, cut out of cretonne and appliqué to the draped folds of the bodice, and repeated on the skirt.

In Miss Eva Killick's dress of black and white striped gauze, the skirt is arranged in close knife-pleats all round, while the bodice is fashioned of white mousseline de soie showered with pin-head black spots, over which is folded a fichu of black and white gauze trimmed with rows of the narrowest black Malines lace, and caught in front with an immense cluster of tempting white-heart cherries, with their green leaves and woody stalks, which is fastened to the corsage with a bow of black and white satin ribbon. The sleeves are formed of crossed folds of the fichu, caught with an encircling band of black and white ribbon, and edged with little frills of white lisse, bordered with Malines flounces, while the vest is of the finest embroidered white lawn, trimmed with black lace flounces of minute size With this costume is worn a hat of bronze-green coarse straw in a modified Charlotte Corday shape, trimmed on either side with great clusters of shot green and bronze ribbon, a single deep pink rose being inserted exactly in the centre of the brim at the back, almost resting on the curls and waves of the hair, while another in a paler shade is placed in front, a little to one side.

Miss Vanbrugh's dress of rose-petal lawn in the third act is adorned with life-size hollyhocks in pink and yellow, which are so skilfully introduced and effectively adapted to the demands of cut and material that there is none of the natural rigidity of the old-world cottage favourite, trails—in addition to those on the skirt—being brought over the corsage and sleeves, and interspersed with insertions of lace and lawn in a shade of convolvulus blue. A broad edging of the same coloured lawn forms a border to the kimono sleeves, and outlines the vest of tucked pink chiffon, the undersleeves being carried out in like manner, while a touch of black is introduced by means of a twist of satin on the sleeves and front of the corsage, the skirt being finished with a deep hem of convolvulus blue linon.

In Miss Pamela Gaythorne's pretty gown in this act the skirt is made very full, and is adorned with gauffered frills of lawn, arranged in fan-shaped groups a little above the hem. The corsage is supplemented with a round yoke of Valenciennes lace, the shoulders being draped with a fichu of lawn edged with gauffered frills of lawn and lace, the same decoration bordering the short sleeves, these being supplemented with dainty undersleeves of lace, edged with rows of Valenciennes. Two large crescent-shaped rosettes, formed of ropes of blue satin in a slightly deeper tone than that of the gown itself, and gold cord, are worn in the centre of the corsage, interwoven with a twist of cerise satin.

Miss Violet Vanbrugh's dress of coral-pink crêpe de chine, in the last act, depends for its cachet on the hand embroidery decorating the corsage. This is carried out in velvet chenille and silk in deeper shades of pink, so as to give the effect of a galon, appliqué to the bodice in the form of bretelles and tabs, in order to give somewhat the appearance of a bolero. A square yoke of white lace is inlet into the corsage, which is further supplemented with rows of darned spots, and finished with heavy tassels, while the black hat which accompanies the gown is trimmed with masses of white convolvuli, entirely covering the crown and brim.

Miss Greenlaw's tea-gown of fine transparent Chantilly lace, dyed a delicate ash-green, is cut away in front to show an underdress of white mousseline de soie, hemmed with a wide border of panne. The front of the gown is bordered with a band of the palest green satin, sewn with pendent berries in silk of a deeper shade, while the bodice, composed of a waterfall of lace, is pouched over a waistband of tangerine-yellow velvet, drawn through rings of old paste.

Miss Killick's dress in this act is of shot brown and gold taffetas, made in semi-Directoire style, the double revers on the bodice being crossed over into a high black satin waistbelt, and fastened with immense black satin buttons. The V-shaped opening at the neck is softened with a fold of white chiffon, whilst her Romney hat of black crin is encircled with a long black plume, finished with a large rose in Nattier blue satin.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

Señor Carlos Sobrino on Tuesday afternoon gave his fifth pianoforte recital in the Concert Room, a large audience being present. Brahms' "Variations and Fugue, on a Theme by Handel," was the first item in the programme, being followed by three works of Rubinstein, Señor Sobrino giving a most refined interpretation of the popular "Melodie in F." The pianist's playing of the "Barcarolle in G" also greatly pleased the audience; as well as the brilliant "Gavotte in F sharp." It was, however, in the five examples of Liszt that the talented Spanish pianist made the greatest impression, the "Liebestraum No. 3" being beautifully rendered, and the "Etude de Concert in D flat" and "Valse impromptu" greatly applauded; while Señor Sobrino's brilliant execution in the difficult "Tarantelle de Bravoura" ("Muta di Portici"), and the more familiar "Hungarian Rapsodie, No. 12," roused the audience to most enthusiastic applause, the professor being recalled many times to the platform. Señor Sobrino's last recital will be given on June 18, instead of the 11th.

CRICKET.

Miss Cecilia Fowler's Ladies' XI. scored 39 and Miss Winifred Bradley's XI. 54 in a match played near Clifton Downs on Saturday, May 25. Miss Winifred Bradley bowled well for her side.

"A Royal Family" v. "Peter Pan" (Duke of York's Co.).

Played at Toley's Playing Fields, Acton, May 26, 1907, the "Panites" winning by thirty-one runs. Scores:—

"Peter Pan":—First innings: L. Owen, b Bentley, 7; F. Annerley, run out, 12; J. Malvern, b Bentley, 0; A. W. Baskcomb, c and b Bentley, 19; Chris. Walker, b Wellesley, 19; C. Trevor, b Bentley, 1; D. Vigors, b Bentley, 0; G. Hersee, not out, 0; Loring Fernie, b Bentley, 1; Ben Field, run out, 2; P. M. Knox, b Bentley, 2; extras, 20. Total, 83. Second innings: L. Owen, run out, 21; F. Annerley, b Bentley, 19; J. Malvern, c McRae, b Bentley, 2; A. W. Baskcomb, b Cassey, 0; Chris. Walker, absent, 0; C. Trevor, run out, 18; D. Vigors, b Bentley, 1; G. Hersee, c McRae, b Cassey, 1; Loring Fernie, absent, 0; Ben Field, not out, 2; P. M. Knox, absent, 0; extras, 4. Total, 68.

"A Royal Family":—First innings: H. G. Bentley, not out, 31; Alex. Cassey, run out, 0; G. Morton, c and b Trevor, 9; Duncan McRae, c Hersee, b Baskcomb, 1; C. J. Wellesley, l.b.w., b Baskcomb, 5; T. Brooklyn, stumped Knox, b Baskcomb, 0; C. Foote, b Baskcomb, 0; G. Walters, b Owen, 0; A. Farrar, c Annerley, b Baskcomb, 1; W. Hubert, b Owen, 3; E. Brookfield, b Owen, 0; extras, 6. Total, 56. Second innings: H. G. Bentley, c and b Owen, 20; Alex. Cassey, b Owen, 23; G. Morton, c Malvern, b Baskcomb, 7; Duncan McRae, b Owen, 2; C. J. Wellesley, b Owen, 4; T. Brooklyn, run out, 0; C. Foote, b Baskcomb, 0; G. Walters, c and b Baskcomb, 0; A. Farrar, not out, 0; W. Hubert, b Baskcomb, 8; E. Brookfield, c Malvern, b Baskcomb, 0; extras, 0. Total, 64.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

The Theatrical Sports Committee met on Wednesday last, Mr. C. Aubrey Smith, chairman, presiding. Among those present were Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, hon. treasurer; Mr. J. Cullen, St. James's Theatre; Mr. A. Palmer, Comedy Theatre; Mr. C. T. Cory, Vaudeville Theatre; Mr. A. Earnshaw, Duke of York's Theatre; Mr. G. H. Dyball, Opera House; Mr. E. Catlin, Surrey Theatre; Mr. H. Porter, Criterion Theatre; Mr. Ed. Stow, Savoy Theatre; Mr. Spaull, and the hon. secretary, Mr. W. Johnson. The minutes of the previous meeting having been confirmed, the correspondence relating to the arrangements was dealt with. It was decided, in reply to an enquiry respecting the eligibility of the soldiers employed at the Hippodrome, Woolwich, that the stage-manager should be informed the Committee could not depart from the rules confining the competitions to civilians.

The honorary secretary reported that a circular letter had been sent to the stage-manager of every music hall and theatre in the Metropolitan area, with a post-card for reply, asking for the appointment, from the staff or orchestra, of a representative to act for the Sports Committee. The following appointments had been notified: Mr. G. Saunders, master carpenter, the Borough Theatre; Mr. A. Palmer, the master carpenter, the Comedy Theatre; Mr. G. Bailey, master carpenter, the New Theatre; Mr. Hildyard, stage manager, the Chelsea Palace; Mr. W. J. Simpson, box office, Ealing Hippodrome; Mr. G. Fuller, Grand, Croydon; Mr. C. T. Richardson, stage-manager, Palace, Hammersmith; Mr. H. G. Brooke, stage-manager, Duchess, Balham; Mr. Phillip Sheridan, electrician, Crown Theatre, Peckham; Mr. Hook, stage-manager, Hippodrome, Putney; Mr. A. William Goodrich, stage-manager, New Cross Empire; Mr. H. Bolton, electrician, His Majesty's Theatre; and Mr. Geo. Selcraig, St. James's Theatre.

The Hon. Treasurer reported on the letters issued re Prize Fund, and the following donations received and prizes promised:— Mr. and Mrs. George Alexander, a clock, first prize for the 100 yards handicap; Lady Bancroft and Sir Squire Bancroft, two prizes; the proprietors of the *Daily Telegraph*, £3 3s.; Mr. W. S. Gilbert, £2 2s.; Mr. Alfred Sutro, £1 1s.; Mr. Frank Curzon, £1 1s. Miss Genevieve Ward, £1 1s.; Messrs. Whitbread and Co., £1 1s.; Mr. H. Rayne, £1 1s.; Miss Katherine Compton, £1 1s.; Miss Eva Moore, £1 1s.; and Miss Ina Rozant, 2s. 6d. Mr. John Lawson wrote promising a donation of 10s. Reports were considered relating to the printing of the programme, and the advertisements therein, and arrangements were made for the issue of handbills, posters, and window cards.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday week, in the Board Room at "The Era" offices.

The tug-of-war teams from the various London theatres and music halls will not have the redoubtable Dublin Empire team to pull over the

"THE ERA" CHALLENGE SHIELD.

mark. They are giving the contest a rest this year. It is to be hoped that *The Era* Challenge Shield will remain in London this time. When team meets team then comes the tug of war, and when the Annual Theatrical Sports are being held at Stamford Bridge grounds on Tuesday, July 9, may the best team win.

The assistance of volunteers is invited to make the sports a success. Entry forms will be sent on application, or may be obtained from the Committee, or its representatives. The final list of events is as follows:—

1. 100 yards running handicap.
2. 100 yards veterans' running handicap. (For men over 50 years of age.)
3. Quarter-mile running handicap.
4. Half-mile running handicap.
5. One mile running handicap.
6. 50 yards blindfold race.
7. Quarter-mile obstacle race.
8. 120 yards obstacle sack race.
9. Four-lap relay race. Open to three men from any theatre, or music hall (eligible to compete)—one to run, one to walk, and one to cycle. For a challenge trophy presented by Mr. C. Aubrey Smith, and medals.
10. One mile walking handicap.
11. Half-mile cycling handicap.
12. One mile cycling handicap.
13. Five mile cycling championship. If more than fifteen enter, the best fifteen may be selected. For the championship shield presented by Sir Thomas Dewar, M.P. To be won three times in succession.
14. Tug-of-War competition. For "The Era" challenge shield and ten medals. Open to teams of five men from any theatre or music hall. One reserve man allowed to be entered with the team. Weight of team limited to 60 stone.
15. 100 yards boys' running handicap. Sons under 12 years of age of employees eligible to compete.
16. 50 yards boot race.
17. 100 yards scratch consolation race. Open to those competitors who have not won a prize in the other events.

In answer to an enquiry regarding the benefits of the National Association of Theatrical Employees, we may state that the various branches have different benefits. The London General Staff Branch provide three classes of benefits, which are fixed according to the contribution paid. Members in Class A. contribute 2d. per week, and 1d. per month to the benevolent fund. This class receives the general support of the Association, legal advice free, legal assistance in approved circumstances, and assistance from the benevolent fund. The Association has paid as much as £40 in legal aid for members, and has granted as much as £4 in one year to a member from the benevolent fund, a sum equal to 160 years' contributions. Class B. contribute 4d. per week, for which they receive, in addition to the benefits enumerated, insurance on two lives, £10 at death of a member, and £5 at death of a member's wife. These benefits are equal to over thirty years' contributions. Class C. contribute 6d. per week, for which they are entitled, in addition to all the above benefits, to sick pay of 10s. per week for six weeks, and 5s. per week for an additional six weeks, a possible total sum of £4 10s. per annum (the contribution for this benefit being 8s. 8d. per year), or a sum equal to ten years' contribution. There are few, if any societies, all things considered, which provide such benefits for the contributions named, and every employee would do well to provide himself and dependents with such means of assistance in time of need. If the profession, generally, were not so generous to the improvident, a larger number would, no doubt, avail themselves of the opportunities constantly held out to them of making provision; more especially, as they may do so, in a dignified way with very small cost to themselves. It may also be assumed that even these substantial benefits could be increased with the support of the whole body entitled to membership in the Association.

The Committee of the Bioscope Operators' Association will meet on Tuesday next at the office, 29, Wellington-street, Strand. It is gratifying to know that members are joining at every meeting.

The meetings of the Bradford Branch, N.A.T.E., are held on the last Sunday in each month, in the Oddfellows' Hotel, Manchester-road. The meetings of the Cork branch are held at 105, Patrick-street, every Sunday, at 8 p.m

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MR. DICK CRUIKSHANKS.

Mr. Dick Cruikshanks is a son of the veteran Surrey actor, Charles Cruikshanks, the highly-esteemed secretary of the Actors' Association, so long connected with the fortunes of the historic old theatre "across the bridge" while the late George Conquest held sway. He was born in the early seventies. He soon felt a desire to place before a discriminating public samples of his abilities; the opportunity occurred, he being requisitioned in his teens for a waxwork show (*à la* Mrs. Jarley), in which he made a palpable hit by falling off his pedestal and raising a bump on his head. At thirteen he was the manager of a burnt cork brigade of ambitious amateurs, and even went so far as to press his elder sisters into his service. His father was anxious that he should pursue some—well, slightly more remunerative profession than that of an actor, and so, when his education was completed, he sent his son to a City lawyer with the idea of his being articled, and ultimately turned out as a fully-fledged solicitor. He *was* turned out, sooner than his sire anticipated, for, by his unremitting inattention to his studies, he acquired an undesirable reputation of extreme unfitness for the brilliant career mapped out for him.

While in the solicitor's office, Dick and a chum worked turns at music halls as comedy sketch artists (unbeknown to their parents). These sketches did not rouse the ire of the leaders of the dramatic profession, and therefore the youngsters were left severely alone.

The next venture in attempting to establish a future was made in an engineer's works, where the youth had the opportunity of learning a trade of inexhaustible opportunities He served his time as an apprentice, and, when it was completed, stated his intention of becoming an actor. During his apprenticeship he had established a high reputation in the smoking concert world as a comic singer.

His first theatrical engagement was with the Haymarket touring company, in *John a' Dreams*. There he remained throughout the tour, and then joined *The Shop Girl* company, and afterwards several other companies of note, playing almost every line of business. Tiring of the "legit," he tried busking for a while. It was pleasant work, plenty of fresh air, plenty of variety, and plenty of money—at times.

He had had some experience of busking during his "theatrical" career, for, on the first day of a certain Derby week, he and five others who had been with him in a musical comedy company on tour, finding themselves disengaged—not at all an unusual thing, even in those days—blacked up and took to the Downs. And they did not take much else. The "bottle" (buskers' slang for money-box or collecting shell) at the end of the day contained eleven pence and three farthings. No doubt their talents were highly appreciated by the admiring crowds, but less than a shilling was not much to share between six, so they decided to walk home.

Having gained some experience, Mr. Dick Cruikshanks turned his attention to the halls. He toured with George Gray in *The Fighting Parson* for nearly two years, having appeared in many sketches previously with undoubted success. He resolved to write sketches of his own, and so started straight away, and very shortly produced *Bridget's Idea*, with his own company, headed by Miss Alice Maydue. This proved a success, both in town and country. He provided his father with a domestic episode, entitled *An Old Clown's Christmas*, which was presented in due course at the Surrey, with every sign of approval, and at present another work of his, *La Vivandière* (an adaptation of Ouida's "Under Two Flags") is booked for a lengthy tour in town and country. Another piece, *She Loved Much*, secured a full measure of success. Needless to state that he has, like most authors, an unlimited supply of sketches of every style and description ready for immediate production, and is prepared to write to order on the slightest provocation. Can any author say more—or less?

Mr. Dick Cruikshanks is a married man, his wife being the well-known and talented Miss Flo Lynn. The rest of the family consists of "Little Tess," who made her first appearance "on any stage" in April last, and, being at present only ten months old, her father has not yet definitely settled plans for her future, and is, for the moment, undecided whether to make her a political reformer or a "Risley" acrobat.

AMUSEMENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

DURBAN. May 4.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. B. and F. Wheeler; Business-Manager, Mr. P. F. Thompson.—After a lengthy interval the Theatre Royal was reopened this week by the Woods-Williamson Dramatic Company, the production being an adaptation of Marion Crawford's historical romance, "In the Palace of the King," which is the work of Miss Maud Williamson. Don John, Prince of Austria, was admirably played by Mr. Alfred Woods, who acted naturally; Miss Williamson as Dolores also showed exceptional abilities; Philip the Second was artistically played by Mr. Horace Hunter; Mr. Douglas Gordon, who took the part of General de Mendoza, was eminently successful; and Mr. Hylton Warde gave a capital rendering of Adonis, the Court jester. Miss Lily Hammersley showed marked ability in the part of Dona Ana; and Miss May Kenyon as Inez de Mendoza, Dolores' blind sister, contributed some excellent acting. All the minor parts were efficiently performed, and the play was capitally staged and handsomely dressed. Other productions by the company include *The Gates of Bondage*, *The Garden of Lies*, *Barabbas*, *The King's Mistress*, and *The New Magdalene*.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

ON THE ROAD, JUNE 10.

All-of-a-Sudden Peggy.—D. P. T., Eastbourne.
An Unwedded Wife.—T. R., Wolverhampton.
At Duty's Call.—O. H., Coventry.
Benson, F. R. (N.).—T. R., Worthing.
Benson, F. R.—New Theatre, Oxford.
Between the Lights.—T. R., Leicester.
Bootles' Baby.—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
Branded Woman.—P. O. W., Salford.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—O. H., Southport.
D'Oyly Carte.—Winter Gardens, Blackpool.
Eve of Her Wedding.—T. R., South Shields.
Go-One-Go-Mohawk.—Alexandra T., Hull.
Guilty Gold.—Northampton.
Fatal Wedding.—Grand T., Plymouth.
Her Lost Self.—Empire T., Southend.
Her Marriage Vow.—T. R., North Shields.
Her One Great Sin.—Junction T., Manchester.
His Sister's Honour.—T. R., Dover.
Home, Sweet Home (Lindo).—Prince's T., Bradford.
Honour Thy Father.—Prince's T., Portsmouth.
Hour of Her Triumph.—Queen's T., Gateshead.
Ian Maclaren.—O. H., Southport.
Idler, The.—Theatre Royal, Hull.
Importance of Being Earnest.—O. H., Harrogate.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Bentham and Sedbergh.
Little Breadwinner.—Croydon.
Little Vagrant.—Queen's T., Farnworth
London Fireman.—T. R., North Shields.
Man's Enemy.—T. R., Sunderland.
Manxman.—Theatre Royal, Bolton
Midnight Mail.—Coronet Theatre, W.
New World.—Prince's T., Preston.
Power of Gold.—Hippodrome, Mansfield.
Private Secretary.—P. O. W., Birmingham.
Prodigal Parson.—Theatre Royal, Merthyr.
Prodigal Daughter.—T. R., York.
Royal Divorce.—Pier Pavilion, Eastbourne.
Shulamite.—Theatre Royal, York.
Sin of Her Childhood.—T. R., Chatham.
Stolen Birthright.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
Stowaway, The.—Lyceum Theatre, Newport.
The Woman Pays.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
Tommy.—Aquarium T., Yarmouth.
Two Little Vagabonds.—Marlborough Theatre, N.
Tyrant, The.—Court Theatre, Wigan.
Uncle Tom's Cabin.—T. R., Bristol.
Under the Russian Flag.—T. R., Tonypandy.
When a Man Hates.—Nuneaton and Rugby.
When the Lights are Low.—Metropole T., Manchester.
When Other Lips.—Elephant and Castle Theatre.
Wilkie, Allan, and Co.—T. R., Bradford.
Woman from Scotland Yard.—T. R., Ashton.
Woman's Past.—Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.
Wrecker of Men.—T. R., Leeds.
£1000 Reward.—Prince's T., Blackburn.

FIFTY YEARS OF THE DRAMA. 1850—1900.

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In these columns it is proposed to give a strictly alphabetical arrangement of the titles of plays produced during the last fifty years. It will be the most complete list ever published, and should prove invaluable to authors desiring to discover whether a certain title has ever been used, and when. To members of the dramatic profession it will be useful in determining the dates of plays in which they have achieved successes. Our readers are politely requested to advise us of any omission or inaccuracy which they may notice.

This list as soon as complete will be published in cheap book form.

Wooden Spoon Maker, The, Adelphi, May 13, 1863.
Woodleigh, Theatre Royal, York, Feb. 9, 1883.
Woodman's Spell, Marylebone, July 20, 1850.
Wooing and Waiting, Birmingham, Oct. 10, 1895.
Wooing in Jest, Strand, Nov. 1, 1858.
Wooing One's Wife, Olympic, Oct. 21, 1861.
Worcester Fight, St. George's Hall, Jan. 11, 1890.
Worcester Sauce, Worcester, April 26, 1872.
Word of Honour, Grecian, Oct. 22, 1874.
Work and Wages, Theatre Royal, Hanley, Jan. 27, 1890.
Workbox, The, Theatre Royal, Worcester, Oct. 31, 1890.
Work Girl, Surrey, April 15, 1895.
Workhouse, the Palace, and the Grave, Britannia, Dec. 6, 1858.
Working Man, Oldham, July 10, 1890.
Workman's Wife, Theatre Royal, Liverpool, April 26, 1875.
Workman, The, Theatre Royal, Sunderland, May 10, 1880.
Work of Mercy, Ladbroke Hall, April 8, 1892.
World Against a Lie, Liverpool, May 10, 1880.
World Against Her, Theatre Royal, Preston, Jan. 11, 1887.
World of Fashion, Olympic, March 17, 1862.
World of Sin, Standard, Nov. 5, 1900.
World of Trouble, Grand, Birmingham, Dec. 3, 1894.
World's Verdict, Merthyr Tydvil, July 10, 1890.
World's War, Victoria, April 17, 1854.
World, The, Drury Lane, July 31, 1880.
World, the Flesh, and the Devil, Wednesbury, Dec. 7, 1899.
World Turned Upside Down, Regent, Dec. 26, 1873.
Worrybury's Whims, New Alexandra, May 20, 1865.

Mr. Charles Hannan's fantastic comedy, *The Electric Man*, the entire provincial and suburban rights of which have now reverted to the author, was recently produced in Cape Town by Mr. Leonard Rayne, and met with similar success to that which attended it in London and elsewhere.

Mr. Edward Michael's programme at the Theatre Royal, Margate, for the next three weeks is of unusual interest. On Monday next he produces, for the first time in England, a powerful play entitled *The Daughters of Men*, written by Mr. Charles Klein, which has made a great success in the United States; the following week will witness the production of a play adapted by Miss Emma Brooke from her novel, *The Twins of Skirlaugh Hall*; and on June 24, *The Duchess of Marlborough*, which had its first representation at the Margate Theatre Royal, will be revived by request. Mr. Michael has engaged the services of several well-known artists, among them being Miss Cecil Cromwell, Miss Eily Malyon, Mr. Henry Renouf, and Mr. Arthur Royston. In the cast will also appear various local favourites, including Mrs. Culling, Mr. Leigh, and Mr. G. W. Elton.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

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Notice to Advertisers.

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. B.—*We have not heard the line you quote, and therefore are unable to inform you of the name of the originator of the sketch wherein it occurs.*

G. E. R. (Brixton).—*Miss Louie Freear appeared at Terry's Theatre on Jan. 19 with Mr. Montague Roby's Midget Minstrels, and played the part of Mrs. Stiggins in a farce called* Snooks.

FROM THE PIT (Clapham).—*Yes. Miss Winifred Emery played the part of Nellie Denver when the late Mr. Wilson Barrett revived* The Silver King *at the New Olympic—now pulled down—on Jan. 3, 1891.*

DIABLET.—*We cannot tell you. It was at Kennington last week, but its movements this week are not advertised. Possibly the tour is finished. Write Manager, Hicks Theatre, and send stamped envelope.*

NEPEAN BODDY.—*The best plan would be to apply to the Secretary of some local society presenting plays and get experience with amateurs. Your success would, of course, depend on your voice, deportment, appearance, and intelligence. Without very special gifts it would be unwise for you to attempt to follow the stage as a profession.*

G. E. VICARY (Newington Butts).—*Mrs. Patrick Campbell did not play in the piece you mention at the Adelphi, but came a few years later to that theatre. Mr. Charles Warner played Tom Robinson at Drury Lane Theatre, in* It's Never Too Late to Mend, *on April 11, 1891. The actor who originally took the part on the production of Charles Reade's drama on Oct. 4, 1865, at the Princess's was George Vining.*

E. H. FIELDER (West Hampstead).—*To answer your question would involve too much searching of our columns.*

J. W. H. (Upper Tooting).—*Mr. Frank Harvey died in March, 1903, prior to which he and his wife, with their own company, appeared in the chief towns throughout the country. One of Mr. Harvey's dramas,* Shall We Forgive Her? *was produced at the Adelphi.*

T. B. INGLIS.—*Put your question to Mr. Otto Twigg at the London Hippodrome, enclosing a stamped envelope.*

MISS C. N. GRUNDY.—*Apply to the Manager, New York Clipper, New York, U.S.A.*

W. W. LEAFER (Harringay).—*Miss Kate Vaughan died in Johannesburg on Feb. 21, 1903. In our obituary notice of her stage career her maiden name is not mentioned. Possibly one of her stage comrades of the old Gaiety days could give you the information you seek. Try Mr. Edward Terry, whose address is Terry's Theatre, Strand, W.C., or Mr. George Conquest, Empire Theatre, Southend.*

MISS N. MORRIS (Cork).—*The last we heard of the lady was that she had married again and settled down in Glasgow; but we are unable to ascertain her address, although we have looked down the list of professional apartments in several of the professional papers.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth** or **Death** or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny.**

The charge for a notice of **Marriage**, not exceeding forty words, is **Two Shillings and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny.**

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

PARKER.—May 29, at Ferndale, Railway-road, Waltham Cross, Mrs. Haydn Parker (Miss Victoria Cross), of a daughter (stillborn).

MARRIAGES.

D'OYLY CARTE—GATHORNE-HARDY.—June 3, at St. George's, Hanover-square, Rupert D'Oyly Carte, son of the late Mr. R. D'Oyly Carte, to Lady Dorothy Gathorne-Hardy, third daughter of the Earl of Cranbrook.

EDWARDES—HILL.—June 1, at St. Peter's, Southampton, Felix Edwardes to Eveline Mary Hill.

LEWISOHN—TITUS.—June 4, at the Registry Office, Windsor, Oscar Lewisohn, formerly of U.S.A., to Edna May Titus, formerly Edna May Pettie, professionally known as Edna May.

WARREN-SMITH—LOFTUS.—June 7, at St. Peter's, Thundersley, Essex, William Phillips Warren-Smith to Kitty Loftus, actress.

DEATHS.

COLLINS.—June 1, at 34, St. John's Wood-road, George Walton Collins, late of Charleville-mansions, West Kensington. Beloved husband of Marie M. Collins.

HARVEY.—On the 4th inst., at 56, Drakefield-road, Upper Tooting, E. M. Harvey, widow of the late Frank Harvey. Funeral on the 7th inst., 3 p.m., at the Southern Cemetery, Manchester.

LLOYD.—May 24, at Gloucester, Theodore Lloyd, of Anderton and Rowland's Show. Deeply mourned by his sorrowing wife, Nellie Anderson.

OWEN.—June 4, at Leicester, aged 81, Mrs. George Owen, widow of the late George Owen, formerly lessee of the Theatre Royal, Leicester.

RUSSELL.—June 1, at Farley Villa, Malvern Link, of pulmonary tuberculosis, Herbert Manfield (Manfred) Russell, tenor, third son of the late Henry Russell, of The Hollies, Anerley, S.E.

IN MEMORIAM.

GOURIET.—In ever-loving remembrance of our darling sister, Margaret Crossland Gouriet, who passed away June 8, 1904. Never forgotten by her devoted sisters, Maud and Lottie Crossland.

PINDER.—In loving memory of Olman, beloved husband of Josephine Pinder, who died at Orange, June 4, 1906, aged 38 years. Until the day breaks.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps. *The Era* is posted on Saturday in time to reach London subscribers by the *first* Town Delivery, and Country Subscribers should receive their Papers by the *first* London Post. Address, the PUBLISHER, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

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No Circulars or Parcels admitted to this list.

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Armitage, Mr. H.
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Atherton, Mr. Bert
Austa, Miss Amba
Baines, Miss Florence
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Ball, Mr. Ernest
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Baroni, Mr. H.
Barrington-Clark, Dr. C.
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Bell, Miss Trixie
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Cariss, Miss
Carte, Mr. Chas.
Carter, Mr. Charles
Caselle, Miss C.
Cass, Mr. Richard
Cassello, Madame
Chanti, Mr. and Mrs.
Chard, Lieut.
Cheetham, Mr. L.
Chipperfield, Mr. J. W.
Chivers, Mr. C.
Clements, Mr. W. L.
Cliff, Little
Clifton, Miss Connie
Clyatt, Mr. C.
Coleman, Miss Amy
Collins, Mr. Alf
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Collins, Mr. W.
Connorton, Mrs.
Cooke, Mr. Chas. P.
Cossart, Mr. Ernest
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Coutts, Mr. Henry
Crowther, Mr. M.
Crump, Mr. Herbert F.
Curre, Mr. Carne
Dailley, Miss P.
Dainton, Miss Maisie
D'Alberg, Miss C.
Dallas, Mr. J. H.
Dalton, Mr. Will
Daly, Mr. Brian
De Wynne, Mr. C.
Doreen, Miss Lillian
Eckert, Miss K.
Edgar, Mr. Alfred
Ediss, Miss Connie
Eleonora, Mlle.
English, Mr. Will
Ergotti, Messrs., and King Luis
Fane, Miss Ida
Finglass, Mr. T.
Florias, The
Fortescue, Miss (Actress)
Ganthony, Miss Nellie
Gilbey, Mr. George
"Gilleno," Mr. H. Giles
Godwin, Mr. Will
Gordon, Mr. Anthony
Gouriet, Mr. Victor
Graham, Mr. B.
Gregory, Mr. Maundy
Gregory, Mr. W.
Grieg, Mr. F. St. John
Groves, Mrs. J. H.
Gully, Mr. Vincent
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Haisan, Mr. C. H.
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Levaine Mr. Harry
Lindo, Mr. Frank
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Loftus, Miss Cissie
Loftus, Miss Kitty
Lonsdale, Miss Ada
Lovatt, Mrs. A.
Lovett, Mr. Beresford
Magrath, Mr. Chas.
Martin, Mr. Philip
Maxford, Mr. D.
Mayor, Miss Queenie
McNaughton, Mrs. Chas.
Millington, Miss
Monermann, Otto
Montague, Mr. J. B.
Moore, Mr. Marshall
Moseley, Mr. W. G.
Murray, Mr. A. B.
Mcunt, Mr. Chas.
Neilson, Mr. H. V.
Nero, Mons. M.
Nolan, Mr. M.
Norman, Mr. A. W.
Orchid, Mr. Harry
Orros, Miss Edith
Osborne, Mr. Will
Paull, Miss E. G.
Pearce, Mr. Knight
Pemberton, Mr. F.
Peterman, Mr. J. B.
Petit, Mons.
Pink, Mr. Wal
Potter, Mrs. Brown
Priest, Mr.
Raby, Mr.
Race, Mr. Leslie
Reed, Mr. Fred
Revell, Mr. Harry
Revy, Miss Aurelie
Roberts, Mr. R. A.
Romaine, Mr. Edgar
Rooke, Miss Irene
Schubert, Miss Florence
Scudamore, Mr. L.
Seaforth, Mrs. S.
Sealby, Miss M.
Sealby, Miss Mabel
Selbo
Sevening, Miss Nina
Shelford, Mr. T.
Shine, Mr. Wilfred
Sidney, Mr. Ben
Siegenberg, Miss Lottie
Signora Gentma
Silver, Miss Christine
Stanford, Miss Mary
Stanley, Mr. J. Briant
Starbuck, Mrs.
Steale, Mr. Charles
Stiles, Mr. Leslie
Stoodley, Miss Ida
St. Quentin, Mr. Ed.
Stratton, Miss Daisy
Stratton, Mr. Eugene
Thorne, Miss Alice
Toole, Miss Trixie
Tribune, Mr. Deane
Vallus, Mr. H.
Vasco, Mr. W.
Verner, Mr. Chas. E.
Vezin, Mr. H.
Waldegrave, Miss L.
Ware, Mr. Ernest
Warren, Miss L.
Watts, Mr. Arthur
Weaver, Mr. Will
Weavers, Mr. C.
Weightman, Mr. J.
Wells, Mr. Adolph
Welwyn, Miss J.
Whallen, Mr. Mike S.
Wilbur, Mr. Caryl
Wilford, Mr. Paul
Williams, Mr. J.
Wilson, Mr. R.
Winn, Mr. J. H.
Wolviston, Miss F
Wylie, Mr. L.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Harry Freeman—Saturday, June 8.
Frank Liston—Saturday, June 8.
Kate Olga Vernon—Sunday, June 9.
Emma Rainbow—Sunday, June 9.
Norman G. Appleby—Sunday, June 9.
Jerrold Heather—Sunday, June 9.
Alf. Gibson—Monday, June 10.
J. J. Webb, sen.—Monday, June 10.
Mrs. Walford Bodie—Monday, June 10.
Mabel Spencer—Monday, June 10.
Violet Vanbrugh—Tuesday, June 11.
Phyllis Relph—Tuesday, June 11.
Dr. Walford Bodie—Tuesday, June 11.
Dolly Elsworthy—Tuesday, June 11.
Arthur Hillcoat—Tuesday, June 11.
Sandy McNab—Tuesday, June 11.
Julia Neilson—Wednesday, June 12.
May Davis—Wednesday, June 12.
H. H. Barrington—Wednesday, June 12.
Bob Leonard—Wednesday, June 12.
Frank Coyle—Wednesday, June 12.
Tom Motramo—Wednesday, June 12.
Alfred Artois—Wednesday, June 12.
Ethel Haydon—Thursday, June 13.
Pope Pax—Thursday, June 13.
Fannie Leslie—Thursday, June 13.
Juan A. Caicedo—Thursday, June 13.
Charles Morritt—Thursday, June 13.
F. W. Warden—Friday, June 14.

DEATHS OF THE MONTH.

MAY 1. Annie Lyons.
,, 3. Sarah Carr, aged 70.
,, 5. Paul Belmore, aged 34.
,, 5. James Birdsall (James Flakey).
,, 6. Mrs. Charles Bush (Florence Charles).
,, 6. Harry Kenyon, aged 37.
,, 6. Jas. Orr Leslie, aged 70.
,, 6. Mrs. W. Scott.
,, 8. Arthur Cecil Webb.
,, 9. Mrs. Leonard Thiel (Nellie Welling), aged 27.
,, 9. George Nicholson, aged 73.
,, 9. Captain Rodgers.
,, 11. Mary Jane Rackstraw.
,, 12. Hannah Spencer, aged 77.
,, 13. Henry Dundas (Arthur Harrison), aged 47.
,, 14. Emma Bourn.
,, 15. George Adney Payne, aged 60.
,, 16. Charles A. Leicester.
,, 18. George Leitch.
,, 21. Willie Elton, aged 2.
,, 27. Herr Theodor Rosenfeld, aged 56.
,, 28. Asher Simmons, aged 60.
,, 29. Marie Brooke (Mrs. D. Scott-Dalgleish).
,, 29. Brian Dale.

BUREAU DE CHANGE | SPECIALLY RECOMMENDED. HANDS and CO., 16, STRAND, CHARING CROSS RAILWAY STATION, LONDON, W.C.

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GENTS' BOSTON GARTERS, for supporting the Socks, Cotton		1/- ,,
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COUGHS, COLDS, ASTHMA, BRONCHITIS.

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Every Evening at 8.0 (Doors Open 7.40).
A New Musical Play,
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Cast also includes Mr. Sydney Valentine, Mr. Eric Lewis, Mr. Cyril Keightley, Miss Pamela Gaythorne, Miss Nora Greenlaw, Miss Elfrida Clement.
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Every Evening, at 8.30,
CHARLES FROHMAN presents
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A Comedy in Four Acts, by Clyde Fitch.
Matinées every Wednesday and Saturday, at 2.30.

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Nightly at 8.
Last Five Days, Ending June 13.
New Production, Saturday, June 15.
The Stirring Romantic Play,
HER LOVE AGAINST THE WORLD
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LEAH KLESCHNA.

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KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH, W.

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Managing-Directors,
Mr. ERNEST STEVENS and Mr. R. C. BUCHANAN.
Monday night, MADAME JANE HADING in "FROU-FROU." Rest of the Week, and Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, "TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."
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Monday, June 10,
Nightly, 7.45,
Matinée Saturday, June 15,
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"MY SWEETHEART."

'Phone, 50, Brixton.

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SHAKESPEARE'S PLAYHOUSE.
"THE MERCHANT OF VENICE,"
as it was acted in the time of the Author, and under the direction of Mr. Wm. Poel.
June 11, 13, 14, at 8.30.
Matinées June 12, at 4.30; June 13, 15, at 2.30.
Prices 1s. to 7s. 6d.

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KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.
Managing-Director, Mr. PETER DAVEY.

Monday, June 10,
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"THE SLEDGE HAMMER."
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Monday, June 10, Kitts and Windrum and Co., John Marx, Gondolier Glee Singers, Kittee Rayburn, Geo. Young, Walter Ellis and Co. in "The Sleepwalker," Stanley and Greenop, Fred Dunstone, Ethel Dunford, Fanny Humber, Gladys Witton, St. John and Edwards, Master Clifford, Edisonograph. Rehearsal Monday, 1 o'clock. Open 7.30 (Saturdays 7.0). Commence 7.40 (Saturdays 7.15, with augmented programme). Tele. 503 Westminster. Assist-Manager, Mr. MAURICE VOLNY.

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Musical-Director, Mr. J. Starck;
Stage-Manager, Mr. A. Everitt.

EAST HAM PALACE,
HIGH-STREET, EAST HAM.

Twice Nightly, at 6.30 and 9.
Band rehearsal Monday at 4 o'clock.
Marie Dainton, Childie Stuart, Herald Comedy Four, D. W. Watson, Three Sisters Kilner, George Newburn, Brown and Le Clerq, Arthur Watson and Co., Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope.
Manager, ARTHUR J. BARCLAY.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.

Twice Nightly at 6.30 and 9.
Band rehearsals at 3 p.m. on Mondays. All artists must attend.

Ben Hur, Brien M'Cullough and Co., Three Merrills, Wilson Hallett, Fioretti and Elly, The Ellimans, Ted Cowan, Louise Zetland, Hallam and Stanton, Ruffell's Pictures.
Manager, ARTHUR J. BARCLAY.

SOUTH LONDON PALACE,
LONDON-ROAD, S.E.

Twice Nightly, at 6.30 and 9.10.

M. Santoi and Co., Musical Schafers, Frank Leon, The Picanays, Tom Woottwell, La Danseuse, Conway and Leland, Ruffell's Bioscope, Harry Weldon, Daunton Shaw Troupe.
Manager, MR. WILLIAM PAYNE.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

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"QUEEN OF SPADES,"
Grand Ballet.
Last week of Mlle. ALEXIA, Danseuse de genre.

Varieties by MARIA VINENT, URBANI AND SON, LES GIGNAC, FIVE WHITELEYS, CARL LYNN, Urbanora, The Derby, Short-sighted Cyclist, Horse Show, &c., and "L'Amour," last nights.
Doors 7.45. Manager, GEORGE SCOTT.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square).

New Ballet, SIR ROGER DE COVERLEY.
by Adrian Ross. Music by Osmond Carr.
Mlle. ADELINE GENEE (Premiere Danseuse).
"MR. HYMACK." THE PEREZOFFS.
THE GREAT LE PAGES.
Joseph Adelmann Trio, Daunton Shaw Troupe, Graziella's Birds, Miss Ruby Helder, Biograph, "The Debutante," &c. Every evening at 8.
Manager, Mr. H. J. HITCHINS.

PALACE.

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Mr. A. A. Strong has published a book on "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," which should be in the hands of everyone who is obliged to know about this perplexing subject. Dramatic copyright in England is in a particularly unsatisfactory state, and it is much to be hoped that ere long some more rational method of securing protection for a play may be devised than the slovenly and sometimes costly "production for copyright purposes," which is at present required.—St. James's Gazette.

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
"The Era" Annual for 1907, published at a shilling from 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, is, as usual, a happy combination of record, almanac, and literary symposium. The last-mentioned aspect is one that most commends the work to the lay reader. The literary contributions are signed by well-known artists who have contributed personal experiences of remembered incidents, and whose portraits adorn the pages. A touch of pathos is lent to an otherwise cheery publication by the inclusion of stage and music-hall favourites who died last year, one of whom was Mr. J. L. Toole.—Financier and Bullionist., Feb. 6.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
"The Era" Annual for the current year, besides having all the usual valuable features which make the work so necessary for reference, has, for a special feature, a series of short articles, stories, or sketches by prominent members of the dramatic and musical profession, a well-executed portrait of each writer accompanying the text. The obituary for last year—unfortunately a heavy one—is given in a series of photograph likenesses of those departed. The full-page portrait of Mr. J. L. Toole is, indeed, worth more than the humble shilling at which the Annual is sold. The monthly calendar is, as usual, a storehouse of interesting facts connected with the stage. — Weekly Times and Echo.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
That invaluable annual, "The Era" Almanac, has just made its appearance for 1907. In addition to its usual record of the important productions and revivals of the past twelve months in London and Paris, there is a series of bright contributions by Miss Ellen Terry, Mr. Edward German, Mr. Frank Cooper, Mr. Frank Curzon, Mr. Charles Collette, Miss Alma Murray, and other well-known members of the profession.—Sunday Times, Jan. 27.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
"The Era" Dramatic and Musical Annual for 1907 will be cordially welcomed by the profession, as well as by all who are interested in the modern theatre and concert-hall. It contains some racy little sketches by Miss Ellen Terry, Miss Pollie Emery, Mr. Charles Collette, and other well-known artists; much useful information and many illustrations.—Leicester Daily Post, Jan. 23, 1907.

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Augustus F. M. Spalding ..(a)	10	0	0
A. Mortimer Singer	10	0	0
J. R. De Lamar	10	0	0
Sir Squire Bancroft .....(a)	5	5	0
J. Williamson (a)	5	5	0
Edward Terry (a)	5	5	0
Henry Arthur Jones	5	5	0
H. S. Trower ..	5	5	0
H. Warrender ..	5	5	0
Sir Charles Mathews	5	5	0
Sir W. V. Morgan	5	5	0
Sir Walter Gilbey	5	5	0
Samuel Heilbut..	5	5	0
W. H. Kendal..	5	5	0
Wharton P. Hood	5	5	0
Robert Arthur ..	5	5	0
Miss Annie Hughes	5	5	0
J. Martin Harvey	5	5	0
Col. N. Newnham-Davis	5	5	0
Max Michaelis..	5	5	0
Miss Bessie Michael Gunn	5	5	0
Lumley and Lumley	5	5	0
Col. Clifford Probyn	5	5	0
Alderman Sheriff Crosby	5	5	0
A. Pulitzer	5	5	0
"The Era"....	5	5	0
C. M. S. ....(a)	5	0	0
Hon. W. F. D. Smith .....(a)	5	0	0
Signor Enrico Caruso	5	0	0
Henry Evill	5	0	0
Julius Reiss	5	0	0
Fritz Reiss	5	0	0
Simon Symons..	5	0	0
E. D. Maddick..	4	4	0
Sydney Grundy (a)	3	3	0
Lady Harland..	3	3	0
Dr. Allchin	3	3	0
J. Otto Schuler..	3	3	0
Hubert J. Greenwood, L.C.C...	3	3	0
H. Le Forester..	3	3	0
T. F. Dillon Croker	3	3	0
W. Clarkson	2	2	0
Tom B. Davis ..	2	2	0
J. Bruce-Joy....	2	2	0
Frederick Macmillan	2	2	0
Henry Smith ..	2	2	0
B. M. Woollan..	2	2	0
Mrs. E. M. James ....(a)	2	2	0
Field-Marshal Sir F. P. Haines, G.C.B. (a)	2	2	0
Wentworth Hogg .....(a)	2	2	0
Donald Munro..	2	2	0
W. Whitehouse..	2	2	0
A. G. Warren ..	2	2	0
W. H. Godfrey..	2	2	0
Walter Ellis ...	2	2	0
Miss Ellen Terry	2	2	0
H. Hughes.....	2	2	0
Rt. Hon. Sir Spencer P. Fane .....(a)	1	1	0
A. Conyers Haycraft .....(a)	1	1	0
A. F. Henderson	1	1	0
James E. Jones.	1	1	0
Arthur Merrilees	1	1	0
John Miles.....	1	1	0
J. Stein Morrison	1	1	0
H. Lazarus	1	1	0
C. Alias ....(a)	1	1	0
W. Millwood	1	1	0
T. Maskall ..	1	1	0
Walter J. Ebbetts	1	1	0
W. M. Borradaile	1	1	0
M. R. Morand..	1	1	0
J. Bannister Howard	1	1	0
J. Bannister Howard ..(a)	1	1	0
R. A. Bradshaw	1	1	0
E. Chambers....	1	1	0

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 1907.

PATRONS OF THE DRAMA.

It is an ancient truism that the drama's laws are given by the drama's patrons; and it is of obvious importance to the theatrical manager to know exactly to whom he must look for the "support" which is to pay his expenses. The very interesting remarks by Mr. GEORGE ALEXANDER, which we print elsewhere, anent the composition of the audiences which have kept so many successes at the St. James's Theatre running over the hundredth night are very valuable as coming from an expert in the art of attracting the public; and they are the more significant as they emanate from the manager of a theatre which has always borne the *cachet* which is given by the approval of Fashion. The St. James's has always been carried on in such excellent "form," and its "first nights" have been attended by so many personages of social distinction, that many have been led to the error of supposing that it derives its prosperity from some special *clientèle*. The old idea of theatrical management used to be that the *première* of a new play was to be attended by as much of the *crême de la crème* as could be packed into the stalls and boxes. They were supposed, at dinner-parties and other functions, to give their opinions on the play to their friends. One first-nighter would thus inoculate a score of his or her friends with a desire to see the piece; and the news of the success, permeating the whole of society proper, would, by a process of natural descent, reach those outside the pale, until, radiating from Mayfair as a centre, they reached the *ultima Thule* of Upper Tooting, and spread from West Kensington even unto Maida Vale. How superficial was this view of the importance of the "fashionables" to the prosperity of a play can easily be understood when we estimate the small number of "society people" in London and the large number of seats that have to be filled night after night during a long run.

It is, of course, an axiom nowadays that the London manager must depend upon his stalls and dress-circle—his stalls especially—to make a profit. It is curious to note how the centre of financial importance has shifted in the past from the boxes to the pit, and then from the pit to stalls. In the early English theatres the pit was the resort of the "groundlings," while the people of fashion assembled in the private boxes or on the stage itself. By CHARLES II.'s time the pit had become "smart." "Among the rest here," says PEPYS, "the Duke of BUCKINGHAM to-day openly sat in the pit; and there I found him with my Lord BUCKHURST, and SEDLEY, and ETHERIDGE the poet." The Right Hon. WILLIAM WINDHAM, Colonial Secretary, and one of the "beaus" of his day, in his "Journals," tells of his frequent visits to the pit of Covent Garden. The advantages of the pit were recognised by society people who were "smart" in more senses than one; and audiences came to agree with HAZLITT that "it was unpleasant to see a play from the boxes." The managers, at last realising the situation, seized upon the best rows of seats in the pit and converted them into stalls, charging for these a larger price than they had ever levied in regard to the boxes. Stalls were first introduced at the Opera House in the Haymarket in the year 1829. Dissatisfaction was expressed at the moment; but there was no serious disturbance, and the public paid the increased price or stayed away from the theatre; for, says a chronicler, "staying away from the theatre could now be calmly viewed as a reasonable alternative. The play was no more what it had been—a sort of necessary of life." The example of the Opera manager was soon followed at all other theatrical establishments; and high-priced stalls became the rule everywhere. The absence of any system of booking rendered it necessary for our ancestors to anticipate the present method of employing messenger-boys to keep places in a queue; they sent their footmen to occupy bodily the places which were to be filled by their masters.

Mr. ALEXANDER, in our pithy interviewette, opines that the bulk of a West End manager's support is to be expected from people of moderate incomes living in or around London. What constitutes a "moderate income" nowadays is doubtful; but that City men and professional men in receipt of between one and two thousand a year are very numerous in London is obvious to anyone who notices the hundreds of smart villas which must take incomes of at least this amount to maintain. The type of man who keeps the theatre going is the *paterfamilias* with a wife and a few daughters; and with this type of family a visit to a theatre is more or less of an outing and an "occasion." As it does not happen every week, the parent generally makes up his mind to "do the thing well," the visit to the play being coupled with a dinner or supper to his wife and the "girls." Probably the parent is not himself an enthusiastic playgoer; but he recognises what is due to his women-folk, and the wisdom of the policy of occasionally "taking them out." As a domestic emollient, a visit to the theatre has no rival; and, as it is usually undertaken for the sake of the "female element," the influence of that element on the fortunes of a playhouse is very great indeed. The vast well-to-do middle-class are the real supporters of the theatre in London. They have neither the audacity nor the motive to be mean; whereas the aristocratic folk, with greater expenses and—often—smaller incomes, are more hardly pressed. The extent to which begging for free admissions and using the cheaper parts of the house at matinées is carried on would surprise many of our readers. An acting-manager of high position told us the other day that he saw, one afternoon, a carriage with a marquis's coronet on the doors drive up to the theatre at which he officiated, and set down a bevy of beautiful girls and a governess, who all took their places in the queue, and eventually entered the pit. Persons of established position have always been more indifferent to appearances than commoner folk; and we find that important personage Mr. PEPYS expressing a sense of injury when, there being no room in the pit, he was forced to pay four shillings and go into one of the upper boxes, "which," he says, "was the first time he ever sat in a box in his life." Plays, to succeed nowadays, must not, as did the lewd comedies of the Restoration, appeal to the taste of the limited clique known as "the town." They must please the general public; and how healthy and true are its instincts a glance at the list of entertainments at the theatres in London at present distinctly proves.

MR. ALEXANDER ON AUDIENCES.

As several comments have reached us upon our recent leader on "American Dramas" and the question of the component parts of London audiences, we made it our business to call on Mr. George Alexander, and elicit his opinions on the subject. Our readers will remember that, in the article in question, in elaborating the argument that smart society, as such, does not so distinctively "support" the theatre as it did, we became committed to the reverse theory that the theatre was once "supported" by smart society.

"I am aware," said Mr. Alexander, discussing this point, "that in some quarters the approval of the fashionables is deemed to be the great and only requisite for the success of a play. But anyone who will reflect upon the numbers of 'customers' whom a manager requires to fill his stalls and dress circle night after night during a run, must realise that the comparatively small section known as 'smart' can never turn the balance between the long prosperity of a new piece and its speedy withdrawal for urgent financial reasons. I should say that the class which really keeps the play-house going is composed of well-to-do people with modest incomes; the class which inhabits houses in not the very 'best' quarters, and has always money to spend. From these in London, and from visitors of the same class from the provinces, is the great bulk of the manager's receipts derived. Even if a play appealed especially to 'smart society,' and it filled the house night after night, the numbers of paying patrons would be exhausted in a month or six weeks.

"Even supposing that 'smartness' necessarily implies frivolity—a supposition difficult to prove—the most profitable appeal at a theatre like the St. James's would be to the deeper instincts of play-going humanity, and not to the shallowest. Your leader writer, in his estimate of *The Princess and the Butterfly*, places stress on certain details, while he ignores the deep satire and warm, pulsating human interest of Mr. Pinero's fine play, without which it never could have pleased my public, who are neither morbid nor 'milk-and-water' in their tastes. *Lady Windermere's Fan*, which is frequently referred to as a kid-glove drama or a collection of epigrams, has one of the deepest, finest, tenderest of 'stories.'

"There can be no greater mistake than to picture the St. James's only as the home of brilliant epigram and feather-headed frivolity. The success of such dramas as, for instance, *If I Were King*, and of *Liberty Hall, As You Like It, Old Heidelberg, Paolo and Francesca*, and *The Prisoner of Zenda*—with the very same public, mind you, that is supposed to care for nothing but glitter and sparkle and 'up-to-date' smartness—is, I think, sufficient disproof of any such accusation."

MR. H. A. LYTTON, the well-known actor, was successful in his action against Mr. D. J. V. Langhorne (carrying on business as the Metropolitan Garage Association) to recover damages for misrepresentation or for secret commission, for neglect in looking after an electric landaulette, plaintiff's property, and for a statement of account in connection with the hiring of the car. Mr. Lytton was awarded £100 damages.

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JOHN R. ROGERS.

"'I want to introduce everybody to Rogers,' says a writer in the *San Jose Mercury*. 'It will do everybody good to know him. He is a philosopher, but I would have hardly dared to tell him so last night. He would have knocked me down with a funny story. He is sixty-seven years of age, and not a white hair in his head. His muscles are as strong and firm as those of a young pugilist. His face beams with merriment, his eye sparkles, and he is as young as the most frolicsome schoolboy. He has been in the show business for forty years, and knows nearly everybody of note who has been behind the footlights in the last half century. He has been fourteen times around the world, and has crossed the Atlantic ninety-eight times—or is it 980?

"'Rogers says that the reason he is not ready to be Oslerized is that he has breathed so many different sorts of air, and lived on so many different sorts of food, and run up against so many different sorts of people; but I know better. He is sixty-seven years young because he is absolutely care free, because he has a merry soul, and because he likes to bring joy wherever he comes. Now you have been properly introduced, I'll let Mr. Rogers talk a little.

"'"We generally find what we are looking for in this world. I knew a fellow once who came around looking for trouble. He wanted to hit somebody. He went into a saloon, ordered a drink, and started out without paying for it. He found trouble all right. They hauled him away a little later in an ambulance. But say, what's the use of hunting unpleasant things when you can just as well have a good time? I'd hate to make folks feel gloomy when I'm around. It must be awful to be a funeral procession. The heavy tragedian's all right on the stage, but folks want the funny man out in real life. You can generally tell what a man is really like before you have been with him long. When I run up against a stack of sadness I try to throw a little sunshine on it, and then if I can't make an impression I get out. I won't stay around with folks who can't smile a little now and then. It's great to be happy, and I'd like to see the man who could make me glum. I won't stand for it.'

"Here the cyclone of words takes another turn.

"'"Did it ever occur to you that every man is a barbarian when he is born? The first thing a baby does when in reach of your watch or your diamond stud (I see you left yours at home), is to make a grab for it. Folks have got to be educated up to civilisation, and its got to be done individually. A youngster is not always responsible for growing up perpetually sour-bawled. I'd like to see a whole bunch of merry fools scattered around over the world. People would begin to grow up happy and everybody would soon feel so good that they couldn't think of fighting and kicking up trouble all the time. Those would be dull days for the lawyers, wouldn't they, but they'd be mighty good days for everybody else.

"'"This show business is great. You see all sorts of people, but most of them think they ought to be in the limelight most of the time. I've been thinking that men and women haven't such an awful lot to be proud about. We're not built so architecturally perfect that we can brag about it. There's the nose, stuck on above the mouth. A fellow can't take a bite of limburger cheese without getting a whiff of it and spoiling his appetite. And then there's your mouth. It's just like capital and labour. The lower jaw does all the work and the upper part of the mouth has the tasting apparatus and gets all the pleasure. Here we have an ear on each side of the head. What goes in one ear slides out the other. One of them ought to be blocked up. There are two eyes in the front of the face. You can see just as well with one and the other one ought to be in the back of the head, so you could see both ways. We're not such remarkable creatures, are we? But, then, what's the use of stewing about that? I can taste, taste and smell and see and hear enough good things to suit me, and I'm not kicking.'

"The tornado at this point takes another whirl.

"'"I've noticed in knocking around the world that there's a lot of difference in people. Everybody has some peculiarity. It's the same among actors as among anyone else. There was Mary Anderson. She never read the newspapers. She would get up in the morning, put on a wrapper and eat a little breakfast. Then she would get a novel, call one of her pet dogs or cats to her, and drop down on the floor for an hour or two at a time. It strikes me that was a funny thing to do. But she enjoyed it. Barrett ate but one heavy meal a day, and that was at midnight. He would eat a few bites for breakfast and for lunch, and then after the show was over he would order the biggest meal he could get and fill up. Said he couldn't play on a full stomach. That's the way with most of them. Emmett was one of the five actors whom I have known who could eat heartily before going on the stage. He ate almost all the time in fact, but his heaviest meal was a late dinner. Lawrence D'Orsay, whom I brought over from England, lived on one note. He never varied. He was immaculately dressed—he wore an extreme English dress. I told him that it would go all right in the East, but he would have to tone it down when he came West. He said that "Whatevah is good enough foh New Yawk and Bawston is good enough for Texaws, you know." He changed his tune when a cowboy shot his hat full of holes. He never would venture back to "Texaws" again.'

"The train came and Rogers had to leave. Next time you meet J. R. Rogers on the street stop him and let him talk to you awhile. The beautiful things he will tell you will convince you that John R. Rogers will always be known as 'Yours merrily.'"

THE new managing-director of the Pavilion Theatre, Mr. Sigmund Feinman, left for New York on Wednesday in last week by the s.s. Kaiser Wilhelm II. A large crowd, including the members of the Jewish Operatic and Dramatic Company, gathered at Waterloo Station, and the occasion was marked by the presentation of a handsome bouquet of flowers to the departing actor by little Miss Carmel Ephstein. A party numbering twenty journeyed to Southampton to bid the traveller *au revoir*. Mr. Feinman returns to England on July 1, when he will complete his arrangements for reopening the theatre early in August.

EARL'S COURT.

Whatever be your personal predilections and your tastes, you are bound to find something to interest you in the Balkan States Exhibition, which is now enjoying a career of popularity at Earl's Court. In fact, it is quite a liberal education to stroll through the rooms and examine collections of Servian paintings, sculpture, and engravings, specimens of clothes, embroideries, ornaments, gold and silver work, musical instruments, weapons of warfare, and all manner of food-stuffs. Here, too, the student of ethnographical problems will find much to attract his attention, what with the score and a half of figures, dressed in national costumes, from Servia, Old Servia, and Macedonia, and the other objects from the famous museum at Belgrade. And the statistician will find plenty of scope for his talents in an examination of the tables of figures and information devoted to trade, agriculture, gold, silver, copper, lead, and zinc mines. Then there are also the Bulgarian and Montenegrin sections, each offering special attractions, and each, like the Servian section, under royal and distinguished patronage.

One learns a great deal more concerning the three States mentioned when, wandering through the Balkan Village, one is sufficiently induced by a huge sign which says "Through the Balkans" to enter the edifice indicated and sit down for a few minutes to watch the wonderfully realistic pictures taken by the Urban Trading Co., Ltd., under the direction of the well-known explorer, Mr. Harry de Windt. We start from Trieste, and travel through Herzegovina and Bosnia, countries which were formerly almost inaccessible to a stranger, and it is, therefore, interesting to note how rapidly Austria has converted these one-time lawless States into busy commercial and civilised centres. To-day mosques, minarets, and the mysterious "Veiled Women of Mortar" alone recall Oriental traditions, although it is not such a very long time since Christians were impaled upon the very spot now occupied by a modern and palatial hotel. And now we leave the blue Adriatic to travel through Montenegro, and are shown stirring scenes in Cettinje—the smallest capital of the world—and the wild Montenegrin, with his barbaric costume and customs. The second series of films takes us to Servia. The Bioscope shows us a bright and beautiful city in Belgrade, and, indeed, there seems little of the gloom and mystery one might associate with the capital of Servia when one recollects the terrible tragedy which overthrew the dynasty of the late King Alexander and Queen Draga. While in Belgrade we witness the military evolutions of King Peter's bodyguard, the officers of which organised the *coup d'état* which resulted in the assassination of his predecessors on the throne. Travelling into the provinces, we are introduced to Servian village life, and towards the close of this journey is depicted a skirmish between Turkish troops and insurgents near the Bulgarian frontier—a frequent outcome of the eternal Macedonian question. The concluding series treats us to magnificent views of Bulgarian life and manœuvres of Prince Ferdinand's army.

Two or three hours can easily be employed in visiting other departments of the Exhibition. There is, for instance, the magnificent scenic production called "Old Japan," which is to be found in all its bright and gorgeous splendour occupying the whole of the Empress Hall. Here one sees temples, pagodas, monuments, and tea-houses surrounded by the trim and picturesque working establishments of the various craftsmen. All around is a wealth of plum, cherry, peach, and wistaria bloom. Whether interested in Eastern workmanship or not, one feels compelled, somehow or other, to watch the nimble fingers of these Japanese engaged in fan-making and fan-painting, wood engraving and carving, manipulating silk and ivory, bronze, pottery, &c., and making artificial flowers. The amusement element is well attended to by the clever juggling and wonderful balancing tricks of a Japanese troupe of artists.

In the Balkan Theatre, which is to be found on the left-hand side as one enters the Balkan Village, free performances are given from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Native peasant dancers and singers contribute their national entertainments and sports, accompanied by a Tzigane band. Just across the way are the Pygmies, an interesting and very happy little family which Colonel Harrison brought from the Congo, and who are going back to their native forest at the close of the Exhibition. Near by is the cabin occupied by Sacco, the champion fasting man of the world, who on Thursday evening commenced the feat of denying himself food for thirty-five days. Sacco enjoyed his parting meal at eight p.m. on Thursday in the presence of members of the public, after which he entered his glass house, which was screwed and sealed up. We are informed that watch is kept night and day over Sacco, who is provided with books, cigarettes, and a typewriter to entertain himself with.

Leaving the Village, we pass under some arches to a domain which is called Elysia. Here and round about one becomes acquainted with "mirrors of mirth," a cycle circus, the "wheel of Avernus," ballooning on a cylinder of steel, the helter-skelter lighthouse, the working salt mine, switchback, demonstrations by restless ants and bees, the electrophone, Pharo's Temple of Mystery, Gondia, "the missing link," and Peerinal and Swami, the Hindoo freaks. Close by, too, is the al fresco theatre where Mr. Harry Loftus presents his entertainment, *Pierrot and Co.* There is a capital little programme, which includes songs, choruses, and duets from Mr. Harry Loftus, Mr. D. Kopski, Mr. Edgar Edwards, Mr. James Chilcott, Miss Edith Brockley, Mr. Wm. Everard, and Miss Julie Dolaro. Mr. Kopski presides at the piano. Situated in the neighbourhood of what is known as the Queen's Court are to be found the Balkan stalactite caverns, the new water chute, Maxim's flying machine, and the fishing cormorants.

One could not conclude a notice of Earl's Court without referring to the delightful performances given by the military and other bands in various parts of the grounds throughout the day. If one gets somewhat bewildered by the huge congregation of multifarious objects to be seen in the Exhibition, a pleasant few minutes'—hours, if desired—rest may be sought and the mind refreshed and recuperated by taking advantage of the seats in the gardens and listening to the musical selections so finely performed by the band of H.M. Royal Artillery, under the able conductorship of Mr. George Miller, L.R.A.M., and by the London Exhibitions' Orchestral Band, under the conductorship of Signor A. Venanzi. These two bands do admirable work in the Western Gardens, Queen's Court, and Imperial Court.

PRESENTATION.—Mr. Walter Mould, who has been assistant-manager of the Bury Theatre for the past six years, has been the recipient of a dressing-case and writing-case, subscribed for by the staffs of the Theatre Royal and Olympia Circus, Bury, as a token of regard. Mr. Otto C. Culling, in making the presentation, said it was a pleasant yet unpleasant duty to perform. Owing to some re-arrangement in the management of their theatres, Mr. Mould was leaving Bury, and might go to one of their other houses. Mr. Culling testified to the fact that Mr. Mould had done his best for the firm and the staffs also, and said it was with pleasure he presented him with those emblems of esteem. Mr. Mould briefly responded.

MR. EDITOR.—Sir,—In your current issue you state that Miss Adela Bowen is engaged to play the Princess in *Adrienne Lecouvreur* and Blean in *Tanqueray* by Miss Nethersole for Paris. It should have been, yours faithfully, ADELINE BOURNE, Theatre Sarah Bernhardt, Paris, June 4.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

At a special meeting of the committee of the Music Hall Benevolent Fund, held on Friday, May 31, great regret was expressed that Miss Marie Lloyd would be unable to preside at the annual dinner, which it was decided to hold at the place and date advertised, viz., the Trocadero, on Sunday next, June 9, at 7 o'clock, and to reduce the price of the tickets to 6s., exclusive of wine. Tickets can be obtained at the office of the Fund, 18, Adam-street, Strand. Messrs. Lyons have cancelled the original contract, and have promised, under the circumstances, to do all they can to meet the wishes of the committee.

The election of the general secretary of the Variety Artists' Federation is now proceeding. The voting papers which have been sent to all members of the executive now in the United Kingdom are returnable by Tuesday, when the result of election will be announced. The candidates are Mr. Frank Gerald, the present general secretary, and Mr. Monty Bayley.

Another general meeting of the Variety Artists' Federation will be held as soon as the award has been made known. Mr. G. R. Askwith promises that this will be in a few days.

The Paragon anniversary is to be celebrated on Friday next, when a special programme of considerable attractiveness will be presented by Messrs. Fred Miller and Charles Beecham. Mr. David Cowis will be on hand to direct the stage.

An unprecedented "bit o' luck" has happened to Mr. Cremetti, one of the directors of the Palace. There was a Derby "sweep" at that establishment, and the "horses" were drawn in the presence of the leading members of the staff. Much to their surprise, however, Mr. Cremetti's name was called to the first three horses! There are now rumours of a big dinner for the staff.

Mr. Bransby Williams, who is now on the Moss and Stoll tour, has decided on accepting Mr. Percy Williams's tempting offer to revisit America at the end of September. He hopes, however, to be back in London in time enough to join the Christmas entertainment at the Hippodrome. The young actor will visit New York, Boston, Brooklyn, and Philadelphia.

A fashionable matinée in aid of Sir William Treloar's Cripple Fund will be held at the London Hippodrome on Friday, July 5. Mr. Fred Trussell, the manager, has the arrangements well in hand, and is making special efforts to obtain record financial results. The Lord Mayor and Sheriffs will attend in state.

The reappearance on Monday night, at the Palace Theatre, of Mr. R. G. Knowles accounted for the fact that the immense audience included a great number of his fellow-countrymen. The famous American joker had brought with him a rare choice of funny yarns, and a capital new song entitled "Every little bit added to what you've got makes a little bit more." The enthusiasm with which Mr. Knowles was received proved that London had not forgotten him during his two years' absence. He reappears in his familiar white trousers.

An unequivocal success was instantly scored by Mr. George Leyton and his company (including fifteen survivors of the Indian Mutiny) at the Ardwick Empire, on Monday last, with Messrs. John P. Harrington and Jas. W. Tate's stirring military sketch in two scenes, entitled *Lucknow*, and the same company and sketch are due to appear at the London Hippodrome, for an engagement commencing Monday next.

Mr. Joe Elvin was successful on Tuesday in the *Evening News* competition for a limerick on the leech incident in the second act of the comic opera of *Tom Jones* at the Apollo. The prize was five guineas, which was given for the following witty lines:—

"This weather's the cause—she can't stick it—
Poor Lizzie dislikes a wet wicket.
She has crawled with a grin
'Neath the hearth of the inn,
Where she's 'kidding' herself she's a cricket."

A "social purity" deputation, headed by the Bishop of London, made a protest on Wednesday before the Theatres and Music Halls Committee of the London County Council against the exhibition of living statuary. Photographs of ladies in statuesque poses were shown to the committee, which stated that it had received previous complaints, and promised to consider the whole question afresh. Mr. H. J. Greenwood received the deputation.

Mr. George Mozart is not in the habit of "giving himself away," but he gave his pretty and accomplished daughter Annie away on June 1 to Mr. Peter Dalziel Brown. It was a most deserving case. The wedding took place at St. Saviour's Church, Brixton Hill, breakfast afterwards being served to some forty guests at Mr. Mozart's residence in the Haytor-road. On all sides it was remarked that Mr. and Mrs. George Mozart looked but little older than the bride and bridegroom, whose joint-ages reached some thirty-six years. The presents were many and costly, and the guests included the well-known sketch-writer, Mr. Chris Davis (of the *People*) and Mr. and Mrs. Tom Craven. A prettier wedding has seldom been seen in the profession.

Signor Carlo Grossi comes to the London Hippodrome on Monday with high credentials as a thought and mind reader and telepathic expert. He will be blindfolded by any member of the audience and led away beyond the reach of hearing or seeing anything that is going on. Then over a chalked line made as intricate with circles and curves as possible, and on which crosses have been placed, Grossi will walk, pausing on each cross for a moment. He will find pins hidden by any member of the audience in any part of the auditorium, and, always blindfolded, will find a single hair and restore it to the person to whom it belongs.

His most marvellous feat will be to unravel a supposed murder mystery. Whilst he is blindfolded two members of the audience are asked to simulate a crime. Several knives are laid on a table, the supposed murderer takes one of them and pretends to stab somebody. He then takes from the pocket of his victim some article which he hides anywhere he likes. The blindfolded detective will point out the supposed assassin, the victim, the thing stolen, and the whereabouts of the knife. Grossi works unaided by even a single partner, and the sceptics are invited to test him.

The action brought by Mr. Leo Stormont (Mr. William Macpherson Easson) against the London Pavilion has been settled. The plaintiff's case was that the defendant company agreed to produce his sketch, adapted from the French *Mephisto en Voyage*, and called *The Devil's Week-end*, for a trial week at £50, and then on the occasion of the day's rehearsal refused it. The defendants denied the breach of contract. On taking his seat on Monday, Mr. Justice Ridley said there had been friendly terms between the plaintiff and the defendant company in the past, and there might be the same friendly terms in the future. Mr. Horridge and Mr. Spencer Bower, the counsel engaged, both agreed, and the jury returned a formal verdict for £50 for the plaintiff, with costs.

Mr. Henry Kemble, the popular manager of the Palace, Cork, on his retirement from that post, was presented on Friday, May 31, with a purse of sovereigns, and the High Sheriff of the town sent a cheque. Sir Alfred Dobbin made the presentation. Mrs. Kemble (Miss Bertha Stuart) was also honoured by a beautiful bouquet.

A company called the Liverpool Theatres of Varieties, Limited, has been registered with a capital of £45,000 (£1) (40,000 preference) to acquire the Tivoli Palace, Park Palace, and Paddington Palace, all in Liverpool, and to adopt an agreement with the Lancashire Vaudeville Syndicate, Limited.

The licensing magistrates granted a full licence on Tuesday to Mr. Richard Thornton's new Empire Theatre, Sunderland, which opens on July 1. This means that drama, musical comedies, and operas can be staged as well as variety shows, and that alcoholic refreshments will be obtainable in all parts of the house.

The Palace Theatre, Dundee, after a successful season, closes for the summer vacation to-day. Mr. E. J. Dexter, an enthusiastic disciple of Izaak Walton, intends to devote part of his well-earned holiday to his favourite sport. If he is as successful with the rod as he has been in the management of the Palace he should be rewarded with some heavy creels.

The plans for the alterations necessary for the conversion of the Grand Theatre, Birmingham, to its future use as a music hall were considered by the Birmingham Licensing Bench at the transfer sessions on Thursday. Moss' Empires in March last acquired by purchase the lease of the house from the Birmingham Corporation for seventy-five years from 1883, when it was built. At present the building was not in accordance with modern ideas of comfort and convenience, and Moss' Empires, Limited, were going to spend a large sum of money in renovation and rearrangement. The proposed alterations included the doing away with a gallery which had been awkward and dangerous, and in every respect consideration would be paid to the safety, convenience, and comfort of the public.

Mr. Frank Matcham, the well-known theatre architect, who gave evidence, said he had prepared the plans for the proposed alterations. The theatre would be to a great extent rearranged and reconstructed, having regard all through to modern requirements as far as the place would allow. He had always kept in the front the safety, convenience, and comfort of the public. It was proposed to spend £10,000 on the alterations. Mr. Chance, for the Bench, had no hesitation in saying that the alterations suggested would be an enormous improvement, both as regards the safety and comfort of the public and the convenience of those who took part in the performances. The plans were approved.

Mr. Walter Smith was presented, on Saturday evening, with a gold watch chain and a purse of gold from patrons, artists, and staff of the Eastbourne Hippodrome on the occasion of his resignation of the position of resident manager. The regrets of the donors were expressed by Mr. E. A. Foster on behalf of the patrons, by Mr. Chas. Austin for the artists, and by Miss E. B. Showler and Mr. W. H. Ash for the staff. The presentation was made by Miss Showler. Mr. Smith replied, thanking the subscribers for their kindness.

Southampton theatrical enterprises will naturally be benefited by four of the largest ships of the White Star Line making the southern seaport their headquarters, as it is well known that after a week or two at sea a little relaxation is eagerly welcomed by all members of the shipping fraternity. Among those invited by the directors of the White Star Co. at the inaugural luncheon on the Adriatic on Saturday were Mr. Frank Macnaghten (managing-director of the Palace, Southampton) and his local manager, Mr. Wm. Trussell.

The Mayor of Southampton, members of the Corporation, and a most distinguished company assembled on board, and the tone of the post-prandial speeches was very optimistic as to the future prosperity of the town of Southampton. A special invitation was extended to the officers and crew of the Adriatic by Mr. Frank Macnaghten to visit the Palace, where every facility is afforded all shipping men for their entertainment and comfort, which they readily appreciated and availed themselves of.

Mr. Thos. A. Evans, resident-manager of the Palace of Varieties, Northampton, has been accorded a complimentary benefit by Mr. Fred H. Anderson, the proprietor. It will take place on the 14th inst., when a number of artists have volunteered their services.

Whilst Fred Karno's company was playing the travesty, *Mumming Birds*, on Monday at the Boscombe Hippodrome, a part of the scenery, representing the stage-boxes, somehow gave way, and fell forward on the stage, carrying several members of the company from a good height to the ground. The curtain was at once lowered, and it was seen that one or two of the members were injured. Bob Lewis and C. Wragg were taken to the local hospital, the former on an ambulance, but after being attended to it was found unnecessary to detain either. Several other artists were slightly injured, but, after a brief delay, they pluckily resumed the performance.

Miss Winnie Stanhope happened to occupy rooms last week in a house where a poor girl fell from a third-floor window on Saturday morning—a very painful experience for the artist. The rumour ran through the town that it was to Miss Stanhope the accident had happened, and that she was severely injured. The news soon reached the ears of the stage-manager, who immediately went to the Infirmary to see the patient, but was refused on account of her precarious condition. He was about to wire the sad news to London, when a happy thought struck him to hear the landlady's version of the whole affair. He was delighted to find Miss S. (although very upset at the occurrence) quite in her usual perfect health.

Pontefract is to have a variety hall, and the site is that of the tan-yard, near Tanshelf Station, conducted for many years by Mr. George Broadhead. The building, the plans for which were passed by the Corporation in April of 1904, is to be of brick, with stone facings, and the length of it will be 85ft., with a frontage to the main road, nearly opposite Tanshelf Court, of 60ft. The building will rise to a height of about 70ft., including the turret-dome. The name is to be the Alexandra Hall. Mrs. S. A. Driver, of Carleton Park, is to be the enterprising owner.

The staff of the Ardwick Empire on the 31st ult. presented to Mr. Harry Hall a handsome gift. The popular manager is to be married shortly. The presentation was made on the stage, Mr. R. A. Roberts, the protean actor, genially presiding.

A large circle of our readers will be sorry to hear of the death of Mr. Harry Baldwin, of the Cricket Players' Hotel, Church Gate, Leicester, which is the headquarters of both the V.A.F. and the Actors' Union. Mr. Baldwin, who was held in much respect by both branches of the profession, died on the 29th ult., at the age of fifty-six. A funeral service was held at 8.30 on Saturday morning, at St. Margaret's Church, Leicester, the body being afterwards conveyed to Burnley, where the interment took place later in the day.

The Variety Artists celebrate Federation at the Crystal Palace on Monday, June 27, and there are also numerous demonstrations in aid of the various charities of the music hall world on the same date throughout the United Kingdom, the Continent, America, South Africa, and Australia. In addition to an enormous array of stars of the variety profession in the theatre, concert hall, and centre transept, there will be numerous outdoor attractions, including the Music Hall Sports on the magnificent Crystal Palace track.

The prizes, that are to be distributed by Miss Marie Lloyd, reach the value of £300, and include the following:—

Challenge cup, presented by Mr. Harry Lauder for the best all-round athlete.

120 Yards Handicap.—Memento Shield, presented by Proprietor of *The Music Hall and Theatre Review*.

Half Mile Handicap.—Challenge Cup, presented by the Terriers' Association.

One Mile Walking.—Challenge Cup presented by Mr. Frank Allen.

One Mile Bicycle Handicap.—Challenge Cup, presented by Mr. James Buchanan.

120 Yards Hurdle Handicap.—Silver cigar-case, presented by *The Era*.

Ladies' (V.A.F.) Bicycle Race.—Trophy, value £21, presented by Messrs. Sam Mayo and Fred Earle.

Five Mile Motor-cycle Handicap.—Trophy, value £10 10s., presented by Mr. Harry Tate.

Five Mile Motor-cycle Invitation Scratch Race (professional riders only).—Trophy, value £10 10s., presented by Mrs. Harry Tate.

And the following handsome prizes which have not yet been allotted to any particular event:—

£5 5s. prize, presented by Miss Lil Hawthorne.

£5 5s. prize, presented by Mr. Eugene Stratton.

Other prizes have been generously contributed by Messrs. George Robey, Sandford and Lyons, R. A. Roberts, the Two Bostons, Roxborough and Wright, Brothers Ethairien, Alexander and Hughes, Misses Victoria Monks, Ray Wallace, May Henderson, and by Messrs. White Bros. (Nottingham), New Goswell Printing Co., R. March and Co., Simpkin, Ltd.

We note the occasion is advertised as "The Day of the Year," and certainly the programme embraces every class and form of entertainment, and should attract many thousands to the Palace on the 27th. All further particulars, entry forms, &c., can be obtained from the general secretary, Frank Gerald, 28, Wellington-street.

Mr. Frank Parker, after countless interviews, has decided on Miss May Moore Duprez as his principal lady in the forthcoming ice-carnival, *Zuyder Zee*, at the London Hippodrome. Miss Duprez, as all theatre-goers know, is a charming singer and dancer. She furthermore complies with Mr. Parker's requirements in being a good actress and a skater. Miss Duprez is just twenty-two, and came to England from America seven years ago. Two years since she undertook a tour of the world, and made an enormous hit in Australia and South Africa. In the last pantomime at the Belfast Theatre she played the part of Gretchen, and her Dutch pattering, singing and dancing were very popular the year before at Plymouth.

Mr. Michael Nolan and his wife, Miss Agnes Hazel, write to say good-bye for the present. This is their second trip to Australia, and there is no doubt they will receive a hearty greeting when they reach the Antipodes. The famous Irishman and his wife are accompanied by their daughter, who should gain experience by her tour. Michael wishes us to say he never was better, and expects to be in grand trim when he touches "down under."

Miss Gipsy Woolf is back in England after a most successful tour in Holland, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, France, Germany, and Bavaria, finishing in Brussels with great éclat. She now starts in London, following with the Barrasford tour, returning to the Continent for a few months before commencing the Stoll tour. She is free for pantomime (principal boy or girl).

Creditors met on Tuesday before Mr. W. P. Bowyer, Assistant Receiver, under the failure of Herbert Clarke, variety comedian. The debtor attributed his insolvency to loss caused by the music-hall strike, and to his having failed to obtain engagements in America owing to bad feeling engendered against him through his having assisted to end the strike. The liabilities were estimated at about £620, and the assets at £60. The matter was left in the Official Receiver's hands, debtor intimating his intention of settling with his creditors in full, and hoped within a fortnight to pay down £200 and the balance by setting aside a portion of his weekly salary.

Harrington and Tate's company, including Miss Phyllis Yorke and Mr. Albert Weston (late principal comedian with Mr. Fred Karno), have been appearing during the week at the Granville, Walham Green, in a dainty new musical comedy sketch written and composed by the first-named gentleman with such signal success that they have been immediately booked for an extended provincial tour.

Miss Margaret Radcliffe was one of the artists engaged to sing at the banquet of the Shropshire Society in London, held at the Hotel Cecil on Monday, when a large and distinguished company was present, including Sir Clement and Lady Hill, the Earl and Countess Kilmorey, Viscount and Viscountess Hill, Lord and Lady Forester, Lord Berwick, Sir A. and Lady Hargreaves, the Mayor and Mayoress of Shrewsbury (Mr. and Mrs. T. Corbett), Mr. W. Clive Bridgeman, M.P., Mr. A. C. Plowden, Col. W. S. Kenyon Slaney and Lady Mabel Kenyon Slaney, and others. Much interest attached to Miss Radcliffe's appearance, she being a Salopian, hailing from that delightful old-world town of Shrewsbury.

At the 514th meeting of the Executive Committee of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association, held at the offices on Wednesday, the chair was occupied by Mr. Harry Blake. There were also present Messrs. Charles Coborn, Albert Le Fre, Bob Hutt, Jeff Vendome, Fred Neiman, J. Welsh, Harry Bancroft, Fred Harrison, and Bernard Stavordale. Mr. C. Douglas Stuart (the secretary) read the financial statement, which showed a total of £55 12s. Fifty-five new members had been enrolled during the week.

No clue of any kind has been discovered likely to lead to the detection of the assailant of Miss Kitty Gordon, the actress, who was shot at three times by a man in Petersham Wood, Richmond Hill, when motoring with her husband from London to their hotel at Richmond in the early hours of Saturday. At the London Pavilion on Saturday evening Mr. George Robey appeared as a deputy for Miss Gordon, who, however, was able to sing later in the evening. She fainted at the conclusion of her turn. Miss Gordon has signed several contracts the last few days through Tom Pacey's agency.

The latest quotations of music-hall shares are as follow: Alhambra, 1⅞; Canterbury, ½; Empire (15s. paid), 1⅜, ditto (10s. paid) 1½; London Pavilion Ordinary, 4¾, ditto Preference 5; London Coliseum, ½; Metropolitan, ½; Moss' Empires, 4¾, ditto 5 per cent. Preference, 3⅞; Oxford, 6¾; Palace, 13s.; Tivoli, 6; Variety Consolidated Theatres, 12s. 6d.

Sir Edward and Lady Moss arrived in London on Saturday last from their Scottish seat at Middleton. They are staying at the Savoy Hotel for the season.

Mrs. John Lawson is at the Hackney Empire next week with *The Devil's Sunday*, avowedly based upon Father Vaughan's allegations concerning the Sabbath habits and customs of the alleged "smart set."

Brien McCullough has written for Miss Dolly Elsworthy an entirely new version of *Jack Sheppard*, which will be produced at the Surrey on Monday next, under the title of *Jack*. He is also playing his latest at the Palace, Walthamstow, next week.

The Terriers' Cricket Club will play Sam Mayo's team on Wednesday next, June 12, at Freeman's Ground, Champion Hill (five minutes' walk from the Empire, Camberwell), commencing at 12 noon, sharp. All friends are invited. The club would be glad to arrange with any teams connected with the profession. Address, the hon. sec., Capt. B. Woodger, Metropole Hotel, Denmark Hill, S.E.

Miss Enid Errol, who has been making such a success with her fantastic dancing episode, "A Magic Vase," has been engaged by Mr. John Tiller as *première danseuse* for his summer season at Blackpool.

Friends of Miss Kitty Olive will be sorry to hear that she is lying dangerously ill with paralysis. She is being lovingly nursed by her sister, Mrs. Arthur Hewland, who wishes to thank Miss Anna De Grey (secretary of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild) and others for their great kindness.

Miss Mary Ellis, a member of Mr. Fred Karno's *Mumming Birds* company, has been awarded £100 damages for injuries received whilst going to a rehearsal on a "Pilot" motor 'bus.

Mrs. Adney Payne is giving up her flat in Bedford-court Mansions, the articles of vertu, china, and fine furniture of which will be sold shortly by Messrs. Robinson and Fisher, of King-street, St. James's, W. Feeling the great need of change and rest after the shock of her bereavement, Mrs. Payne departed on Friday for Herne Bay, where letters may be addressed to her care of Mrs. Brookes, St. Elmo, Canterbury-road.

When it became known that Miss Kitty Gordon had been shot at on Saturday considerable doubts were entertained as to her appearing at the first afternoon tea concert in the Floral Hall, Devonshire Park, Eastbourne, on Monday. The popular actress, however, intimated her intention of fulfilling the engagement, and a large audience assembled to greet her. But when Miss Gordon should have appeared on the platform Mr. E. A. Brown (the manager and secretary) stated that he had received a telegram to the effect that she had missed her train and was motoring down from London, and expected to reach the Park at 4.15. At 5.15 Miss Gordon and her husband (Captain Beresford) dashed up in a motor. A great ovation was accorded to the charming artist, who contributed "Because" and "I had my love," and also responded to a most enthusiastic encore.

Miss Edith Cruikshanks has been specially engaged by Mr. John Lawson to sustain her original character (Mrs. Norman) in the highly successful sketch, *The Unwritten Law*, which will be the main attraction at the Pavilion (way down East) next week. Miss Cruikshanks is booked with Mr. George Dance in the autumn to continue her well-known impersonation of Mrs. Allington in *The Beauty of Bath*.

Mr. Will Evans met with an unfortunate experience on the night of the 30th ult. While returning home after the conclusion of his engagements his chauffeur, to avoid a collision with a brougham coming suddenly from a side road, diverted the car on to the pavement in the Bayswater-road, but could not avoid striking the back of the vehicle, frightening the horse and causing it to bolt. The popular comedian, however, happily escaped serious injury, but was severely shaken.

Mr. Julius and Mme. Zancig, who have been travelling the British provinces since Feb. 25, have played to some phenomenal business, and have also been the recipients of much pleasant and honourable courtesy and attention. Lord and Lady Burton came down to Burton on purpose to receive them; Sir William Clayton has shown his hospitality at both Malvern and Torquay; and Sir Oliver Lodge attended their performance at Birmingham, and wrote a special letter to the Liverpool Press, in which city the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress gave a reception at the Town Hall in their honour.

The Bishop of Manchester attended their reception at the Midland Hotel; and Sir William Bailey gave a special party in their honour on his beautiful estate at Sale, near Manchester. On Monday, the 27th ult., the Earl of Aberdeen, His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and suite, attended the first performance at the Rotunda, in Dublin.

Mr. Sydney Paxton, the general touring business-manager for the Zancigs, had the honour of taking His Excellency, with Captain and Lady Coates, to Mr. and Mme. Zancig's dressing-room, and presenting them to the distinguished visitors. Lord Aberdeen expressed himself greatly interested, and chatted for nearly half an hour on psychology and mental telepathy. On Friday Mr. and Mme. Zancig, Mr. Paxton, and ladies and gentlemen of the company, were invited by their Excellencies to the Viceregal Lodge and Gardens.

The tour, which has been under the direction of Mr. Alfred Moul, terminates on June 15. Sixty towns will have been visited, and every day two performances have been given. Not one has been missed, even when, as on some occasions, the company have not arrived till 2.30, with the performance due to commence at 3 o'clock.

In the autumn there will be a second tour, also under the direction of Mr. Alfred Moul, when Mr. Sydney Paxton will again be the general-manager.

Venus, the late Lord Leighton's model, toured by L. Austin Millais, is winning golden opinions by her production of *A Modern Godiva*, which is being rapidly booked up.

On Wednesday, at the West London Theatre, Will Lennox introduced his musical scena with the unique title *The Burglar's Extra Turn*, which appears to be an exceedingly elastic act, capable of occupying the stage for from five to forty minutes. The turn was deftly woven into Robert Perris's up-to-date and popular drama, *A Fight for Millions*, in which, by the way, the Welsh comedian, Tom Jones, is so prominently figuring just now. In the pawnbroker's scene reference is made to certain burglaries. The burglar (Will Lennox) enters the shop, and annexes sundry portable properties. In the course of his search he comes across certain musical instruments, on which he plays popular numbers. All the "business" fits in capitally with the surroundings, and as a finish Will Lennox discovers some bells, which are immediately commandeered as accessories towards an effective dance, and the "burglar," having collected his "swag," retires. The trifle went excellently on the first night, and is adapted for any class of audience. It is well worth the attention of managers.

PARIS VARIETY GOSSIP.

Entente cordiale weather, still in progress, is making things bad for the summer theatres, and delaying the closing of many of the winter halls. The Variétés will shut on or about the 12th, and will remain so during the summer season.

The Revue of the *Ambassadeurs* will be presented in the course of a week or so. Great excitement has been raised by the first appearance of Gaby Deslys after her London success in the successful musical comedy fantasy *The New Aladdin* at the Gaiety.

The revue, *Si ca vous Chante*, at the Alçazar, d'Eté, contains many English allusions, and also quite a number of English artists. Miss Withney, a young American lady, who was seen here in the production of *The Country Girl* at the Olympia, has several parts, her best impersonation being an English barmaid and a suffragette. Miss Cocktail and Tod Cams give us still another version of "The Mattchiche" in a dance called the "Todo-Kama." Messrs. Many and Millions play the spirited steed of a lady cabby, and the Eight Lorrisons appear as English barmaids, suffragettes, soldiers, and jesters.

The *commère* is charmingly presented by Mlle. De Vassy, who is ably seconded by M. Leprince as the *compère*.

Miss Lawler has come to satisfactory arrangements with the management of the Palace Theatre, London, and will open there about June 22. She will introduce some of her latest Parisian successes and a big American number with something specially catchy in the way of a chorus.

At the Etoile Palace, called the American Music Hall, several well-known London turns are appearing. Miss Belle Braham is introducing her illustrated songs, which gain much applause; Leo, a ventriloquist, causes much laughter with his comical figures; Huter and Maris are seen in an eccentric comedy act; and Harson's Marionettes and Miss May, wire-walker, are also of the company. Bosanquet, the violinist, is billed, but did not appear the night of our visit.

An arrangement is being discussed by which Messrs. Borney and Duprez, of the Marigny, will take over the Nouveau Cirque. As yet no arrangement has been come to with regard to the Casino de Paris, which is still closed. In a like state is the Hippodrome.

Many London and Continental managers are in Paris at the present time on the look out for novelties. Amongst others are Ben Tieber, of the Apollo Theatre, Vienna; Mr. Brill, of Ronacher's, Vienna, and Mr. Tichy.

Miss Lucette de Varley, who is at present making a big success at the Apollo with her charming chansonettes, will soon be in London, where she goes for the season.

The June company at the Apollo is a great improvement on its predecessors. Tony Wilson and La Belle Heloise, who were some little time ago seen at the Alhambra, present a very fine bar act. The young lady calls for special mention. Mlle. Mado Minty, fresh from the Chatelet, where she played her part of Prince Pif Paf Pouf in the piece of the same name, introduces some speciality dances. The Serenadas, in ancient Venetian costume, sing several Italian songs in excellent style; the Amoros Sisters do singing, dancing, juggling, and acrobatic work, and are equally good in all; the Darras Bros., equilibrists, call forth loud applause; the Eight Apollo Girls sing and dance with success, their dancing being in strong contrast to that of La Belle Vampa, with sacred Egyptian dances. Lucette de Varley sings her songs in a sweet and charming manner; and the Patty Franck troupe give a fine display of gymnastic skill. Other members of the company are Mimi Fritz, eccentric dancer; Mlle. Jackson, chanteuse; La Poltina, and the Apollograph.

Mr. Tom Dunville, whose business has been transacted for many years by the firm (now dissolved) of Oliver and Holmes, has now appointed Mr. Will Oliver as his sole representative, the appointment dating from May 31.

Mr. Ross Gilmore writes that he struck the idea of a burlesque on *The Silver King* eighteen months ago, and in January last had it written up for him, producing it on Monday, Feb. 25, 1907, at the Palace, Bordesley. Of course, burlesques of the drama, and incidentally of the titular character, date back to the early months of 1883 at the theatres.

Lady Julia, the ape with the human brain, made her début at Hengler's Circus on Friday afternoon, the 31st ult., in the presence of the Princess Royal and the Duke of Fife, with their two daughters. Lady Julia is only two years old, and stands two feet high. After six months' training she can put on a coat without any help, then undress altogether and put on her nightclothes, and get into a little bed that has been specially made for her.

The Sims (Rosa and Kitty) have a new entertainment, entitled *From School to Stage*, which they will present at the Empress, Brixton, and the Granville, Walham Green, on Monday, June 17. They have been secured by Mr. J. F. Elliston for pantomime, and are being pioneered by the energetic Spot Oliver.

Dr. Walford Bodie presently will go on tour with his own company. Last week, at the New Theatre, West Stanley, he took close on £400, despite the fact of his tenth visit, the Saturday night's receipts being close on £100. He has been re-engaged to return in four weeks' time. This week he is playing to packed houses at the Grand Theatre, Doncaster.

An interesting billiard match—500 up—was played at the Jubilee Hotel, Gravesend, recently, between Little Dando and Happy Attwood, the latter taking 100 start, for a trophy presented by Mr. T. W. Wright (son of Harry Wright and Nellie Garron). After an exciting game, Little Dando won by 7 points. Both the diminutive players received an ovation on their appearance at night at the Grand, Gravesend.

Joseph Adelmann, the xylophone virtuoso, and his two daughters come to the Empire next Monday, and will produce an entirely new act. This consists of orchestral selections of the Xylophone, concluding with a fantasia played entirely on instruments usually associated with a toy shop. Following on the fine pictures of the race for the Jubilee Stakes—which enabled sportsmen to watch every detail of the struggle from start to finish—highly successful pictures of the Derby have been secured, and will be shown nightly.

The manner in which Mr. W. H. Armstrong, the well-known music-hall solicitor, of 1, Renfrew-road, Lambeth, stuck to the case in which Mr. Hampel, the agent, was concerned, and the result obtained, is high testimony to his ability as a painstaking, hard-working solicitor. Mr. Armstrong instructed Mr. George Elliott and Mr. Daniel Warde as counsel, and they had to meet a formidable opposition in the Treasury prosecution, which was represented by Sir Charles Mathews and Mr. Arthur Gill. The result was that the jury, without leaving the box, acquitted the prisoner, and he was discharged.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

MR. DAVID DAY'S firm is just placing on the London market some pretty songs acquired from Messrs. Stanley E. Mullen and Co., of Melbourne, notably "There is sunshine my side of the street," by Ella Ogilvie, and "Teach me to forget," by Raymond Hope.

A BUSY week with the first song writers and composers of the day has resulted in Messrs. Francis and Day adding to their stupendous catalogue the following new numbers, among others, "I can't keep my thoughts from thinking of you," by George Arthurs and C. W. Murphy; "Come in my submarine," "Take me up in the mountains, Sammy," and "Here comes the ragman!" all three by Harry Castling and Fred Godfrey; "Always look before you leap" (sung by Miss Agnes Hazel), by C. W. Murphy and Dan Lipton; "Don't you love your little Charlie now?" by Charles Ridgewell and Charles Collins; "That old garden seat" and "My Pomona Queen," by E. W. Rogers; "Don't you think it time that you woke up, John Bull?" (Woolmer Young), by Harry Adams and Ernée Woodville; "Yucatan," by A. E. Sidney Davis and Sidney Baynes; "Desdemona, won't you feed me any more, please?" (Will E. Haines), by Albert Bagley and J. Charles Moore; "On the Bonnie, Bonnie Banks of Loch Lomond" (Pat Rafferty), by F. W. Carter; and "I can't forget Auld Reekie" (Miss Jessie Preston), by J. F. Lambe.

MISS LILY BURNAND will shortly be heard in the charming idyll entitled "Under the lilac tree," by Chas. Wilmott, T. M. Down, and H. E. Darewski, jun. Messrs. Francis and Day publish the morceau.

MR. TOM COSTELLO has in "For Auld Lang Syne" a new descriptive waltz song, which he essayed for the first time at Belfast a fortnight ago, a success worthy to rank with his great hit of former days, "Comrades." The unanimous verdict of Belfast has now been endorsed by delighted audiences at Dublin. The number is by F. W. Leigh and Henry E. Pether.

MR. SID BANDON'S new song, "Mary fell in love with a butcher with his Buy! Buy! Buy!" has proved a "roof-raiser" at the Bedford during the week, and possesses in a large degree the two great desiderata of a successful song—a succinct, clean story, and a taking chorus. Mr. Bandon also scores with a powerful descriptive song by Alf Ellerton, "I went to sleep a poor man—I've woke up a millionaire."

CHORUS and ballad singers should not fail to get Maurice Scott's charming number, entitled "When the wedding bells rang out for you and me." Permits may be had of the Star Music Co.

MR. ALF J. LAWRANCE (of Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford), whose song "You shall live in a chalet," published by Feldman and Co., is likely to become a hit of the season, has this week become part proprietor of the permit for al fresco entertainments at Prestwick, N.B., in addition to Ayr and Dunoon, where they are already meeting with unbounded success.

MISS MARGARET ASHTON has just accepted for production a new song, entitled "Don't forget, Mignonette," by Herbert Shelley and Fred Elton, which she will feature shortly at the Oxford and Tivoli. The composer, Mr. Fred Elton, is scoring nightly with this song on the Stoll tour in his scena, "On board an Ocean Liner." The publishing rights have been secured by the Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Co., Ltd.

ONE of the most successful items this week on the Holborn Empire's bill is Mr. Chas. R. Whittle's song, "What you can't get you can always do without." The Shapiro, Von Tilzer Co. are publishing this song, and also that very tuneful little number "Little girl, tell me what I would know," which Miss Madoline Rees has been featuring at the Oxford.

MR. GEORGE LASHWOOD'S song, "Girls all love a soldier bold," has made a terrific hit at the Holloway Empire this week, and is another of the Shapiro, Von Tilzer Co.'s successes. Mr. Lashwood has decided to feature this song in pantomime next season.

MR. GEORGE LASHWOOD is producing next week, at the New Cross Empire, a new song by Fred Allsopp and Will Haines entitled "The tale of a match." This promises to be a very popular number. It is published by the Star Music Co.

MR. MACDERMOTT, Adeler and Sutton's manager at the Pier Pavilion, Rhyl, writes to the Star Music Co. to say their ditties, "On the Isle of Anglesey" and "Swing me up higher, Obadiah," are the two biggest songs in Rhyl this season.

MESSRS. MILLS AND SCOTT, who set the present craze for Dutch business with their phenomenal success "By the side of the Zuyder Zee," have found another big chorus song in "Has anyone seen a German band?" Miss Florrie Forde and Miss Ella Retford are both scoring heavily in town with this song, which is published by the Star Music Co.

MISS ANNIE PURCELL will on Monday, at the Tivoli, produce a song, entitled "In the valleys of Switzerland," which number Messrs. Francis and Day are publishing, and which Miss Purcell will sing garbed as a Savoyard. The ear-haunting refrain is one likely shortly to be the property of the "man in the street."

To the making of new additions to Mr. "Sixpenny Pops" Smith's catalogue of Messrs. Francis and Day's cheap copyright music there is seemingly no end, the latest being the following four new numbers:—"Isn't it wonderful?" "The boy and the eagle," "If you don't want lots of gold," and "I'm going, I'm going, I'm gone!"

UNQUESTIONABLY the song of the year from the pierrot point of view is Mr. J. F. Lambe's delightful creation, "Queen of Old Samara," with which both Misses Margaret Radcliffe and Lilian Lea have been so successful during the week at, respectively, the Palace, Camberwell, and the Empress, Brixton. Mr. John Tiller will specially feature it (and, incidentally, no less than six other Monte Carlo publications) in his big Blackpool production; and Mr. Paul Mill is so enthusiastic about the song that no less than six pierrot companies under his direction will specialise it this season.

SO great has been the success achieved by Happy Fanny Fields in Messrs. John P. Harrington and Jas. W. Tate's song, "Den he blow," that this charming Dutch artist has commissioned the same author and composer to supply her with a budget of new numbers for West End exploitation. The successful song already referred to is published by the Monte Carlo Publishing Co.

THE latest prominent sketch artists to fall under the spell of Messrs. Harrington and Tate's sketch-writing abilities are Miss Haidee Lee and Wallace Kingston, who have just placed a commission for a new musical comedy act with these prolific and successful writers, on the writing and composing of which they are now busily engaged, and the new sketch may be expected at a leading hall at an early date.

"THE JAM OF POTANA."

A Comedietta, in Two Scenes, by Mrs. Fortune, produced for the first time at the Camberwell Empire, on Monday, June 3.

The Jam .....MR. CLIFTON YATES
The Grand Vizier .....MR. TONY COOPER
The Hon. Mrs. Hunter ..MISS VIOLET ROMAINE

Set in two scenes, full of brilliancy and colour, elegantly costumed, and well acted by Mme. Warner's carefully-selected company, *The Jam of Potana* won an undoubted success before a packed audience on Monday. An Eastern potentate on a visit to England is marked down by a pretty and designing young widow, who is not averse to sharing the dusky monarch's throne. Thus we find the Hon. Mrs. Hunter as chaperon to a bevy of charming English girls staying "up the river" with the full intent of throwing herself in the way of the Jam of Potana. The Prince falls an easy victim to the pretty English widow's charms, and invites her to bring her charges to his Court at Potana. The second scene introduces us to the Palace at Potana, where the widow finally consents to stay and share his Highness's throne. Much of the success of this miniature musical comedy is due to the charming personality and vocal abilities of Miss Violet Romaine, who as the Hon. Mrs. Hunter acts with brightness and vivacity, giving a cultured rendering of the pretty ballad, "Love is ever divine." As the Jam, Mr. Clifton Yates has little to do, but does that little thoroughly and well. The irrepressible Vizier is in the hands of Mr. Tony Cooper, who is the life and soul of many exhilarating passages, his constant animation making him a warm favourite. As the "up the river" girls, the Misses Minnie Saunders, Ada Coral, Dora Lester and Queenie Warren are charming, and give good effect to their boating song and their solo and acrobatic dances. The chorus is tuneful and well-balanced; and, in fine, *The Jam of Potana* deserves a long lease of popular favour.

Another excellent item in the current bill is supplied by Haidee Lee and Wallace Kingston in their clever *pot-pourri* of song, dance, and acrobatism, entitled *The Only One I Love*. This amusing duologue is smartly written and briskly played. The Three San Remo Girls, charmingly costumed in blue, pink, and silver, as the Devil-may-care Brigade, sing and dance with tireless energy, and win loud approbation; Lily Foy has two good songs in "Whoa, Jemima!" and "He took me for a walk around the houses," to which she gives admirable point and expression; Arthur Elvey as the unemployed "Bookie" supplies tips for the races; the Sisters Hall give full effect to their coon duet, "Moon dear"; the Silent Howards gave a séance of silent thought telegraphy that is clever and bewildering; Bob Hamilton, a sturdy Scot, tells funny stories and excels in his concertina solos; Mr. Carl Howard in his comical burlesque jugglery scena keeps the house roaring with laughter; Eugene and Willie are smart entertainers in a skilful musical and acrobatic act; while Jeapes's wonderful animated transformation pictures supply a fitting ending to the liberal entertainment provided by Messrs. Jessie Sparrow and Harry Bawn

FEDERATION DAY SPORTS.

The Federation Day Sports are fixed for Thursday, June 27, at the Crystal Palace grounds. The last day for accepting entries is Monday, June 17. Mr. Albert Le Fre, V.A.F. Sports Committee, 28, Wellington-street, may be applied to for entry forms and all information. Entry fees must accompany entry forms. The following is the list of events:—

1. 120 Yards Running Handicap.
2. Motor Cycle Race. Prize value £10 10s., presented by Mr. Harry Tate.
3. Motor Cycle Exhibition Race. By the champion riders of the world.
4. One Mile Ladies' Bicycle Race (scratch). Prize value £21, presented by Messrs. Sam Mayo and Fred Earle (to be held one year only, but if won three years in succession, to become the absolute property of the winner). Open only to those who have been members of the V.A.F. for six months or longer.
5. Two Miles Bicycle Handicap.
6. 30 Yards Comic Flip-Flap Race.
7. One Mile Walking Handicap.
8. Animal Bicycle Race (comic event).
9. One Mile Running (scratch). Prize, V.A.F. Challenge Cup (to be held one year only, but if won three years in succession to become the absolute property of the winner). Open only to those who have been members of the V.A.F. for six months or longer.
10. 100 Yards Children's Handicap. Open only to the children of the artists, over six and under fourteen. No prize for costume.
11. One Mile Bicycle Race (scratch). Prize Buchanan Challenge Cup, presented by Messrs. Buchanan and Co.
12. 120 Yards Hurdle Handicap.
13. Half-mile Running Handicap.
14. 100 Yards Agents' Running Handicap. Open to agents and their clerks.
15. 350 Yards Obstacle Running Handicap.

Events Nos. 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 14, 15 are open only to those who have been directly connected with the music hall, theatrical, and circus professions for the twelve months immediately preceding these sports.

HARRY GRELL FUND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Will you kindly announce the following subscriptions which, through the aid of your columns, I have received for the above fund?—Yours truly,
ALBERT LE FRE.

Empire Theatre, Middlesbrough.

Joe O'Gorman	£10	0	0
Arthur Lennard	1	1	0
Bates Maddison	0	10	0
Percy Delevine	0	10	0
Harry Delevine	0	10	0
R. A. Roberts	0	10	0
Ernest Shand	0	10	0
"Dome"	0	5	0
Duncan and Godfrey	0	5	0
Sam Delevine	0	2	6
E. Lanos	0	2	6
E. Montes	0	2	6
Jennie Hartley	0	2	6
Walter George	0	2	6
Alf. Hardiay	0	2	6
Sydney and Maud Wood	0	2	0
J. Burlington Rigg	0	2	0
Arthur Court	0	2	0
Cribb and Cribb	0	2	0
Nellie Dunbar	0	1	0
Arthur Croxon	0	1	0
Per Fred Grey:—			
W. Ethairien	0	5	0
B. H.	0	2	6
	£15	13	6

Collected by Mr. Frank Calvert:—			
Roze and Calvert	0	5	0
Goodfellow and Gregson	0	5	0
Geoffreys and Benson	0	2	6
D'Arcs' Marionettes	0	2	6
Harry Taft	0	1	0
George Green (Birmingham)	0	1	0
	£0	17	0
From a few of the Boys of the Argyle, Birkenhead	0	16	0

KITTY LOFTUS'S WEDDING.

At Thundersley Church, Essex, on Friday afternoon, Miss Katherine Kitty Loftus was married to Mr. William Philipps Warren-Smith, only son of Mr. Alexander Smith, of Tay Bank, Helensburgh, N.B., in the presence of a very large number of relatives and friends of both parties. The bride, who looked very charming, was attired in a crêpe-de-chine dress, with Chantilly lace decorated with *appliqué* vine-leaves and grapes, with veil and train, the latter adorned with true-lover's knots and orange blossoms. She wore two rows of pearls and diamonds and a diamond pendant and brooch, the gifts of the bridegroom.

The bridesmaids were Miss Ada Welford and Miss Christina Welford, nieces of the bride. They were attired in white satin Empress dresses, with daisy chains round their necks and daisy veils, and wore pearl brooches, the gifts of the bridegroom. Mr. R. E. Saunders was the best man, and the bride was given away by Mr. J. R. Benson. The rector, the Rev. Talfourd Major, officiated. As the bridal party entered the church, which was beautifully decorated with flowers, the choir sang the hymn, "The voice that breathed o'er Eden."

[*Photo by Histed, Baker-street, W.*

MISS KITTY LOFTUS.

Mendelssohn's "Wedding March" was played by the organist. After the ceremony an "At Home" was held at the Rectory. Amongst those present were:—Mr. and Mrs. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. J. Warren Foster, Mr. Fergus Hume, Dr. Sharman, Mr. and Mrs. William Peek, Miss Vivienne Peek, Mrs. George Byng, and Miss Rendall. In the evening Mr. and Mrs. Warren-Smith left Leigh-on-Sea Station for Belgium and the Continent, where the honeymoon is being spent. The bride's going-away dress was of white soft silk with *appliqué* lace and white coat and lace hat.

Miss Loftus, who has been touring the provinces since she was a child, was, as she puts it, "brought up on Shakespeare." Her grandfather was an old Shakespearean actor, and much of her early training was received in Mr. F. R. Benson's company. She began by playing the children's parts in most of the plays written by the Immortal Bard. A few years saw her in more responsible rôles, such as Polly Eccles in *Caste* and Naomi, as well as in the Gaiety burlesques on tour, including *Little Jack Sheppard*, *Cinderella Up Too Late*, generally appearing in Miss Nelly Farren's parts. *The Lady Slavey* was specially written for Miss Loftus. Coming to London, she played in *Santa Claus* at the Lyceum under Mr. Oscar Barrett's management; and here it is of interest to state that she did a last performance and a first performance on the same evening, for within a few hours she took her final call before the curtain at the Lyceum in *Santa Claus*, and made her initial appearance in the production of *Gentleman Joe* at the Prince of Wales's Theatre with Mr. Arthur Roberts. Remaining for a time at the Shaftesbury, she was seen in *Biarritz*, *The White Silk Dress*, and *A Pierrot's Life*. The last-mentioned was a wordless play, the music being by Sig. Costa, and the company of artists, with the sole exception of herself, were foreigners. Subsequently she performed notable service in *The Yashmak*, also at the Shaftesbury, and the following Christmas was at the Queen's Hall in a little sketch, *The Order of the Bath*, produced by herself. In this piece Miss Loftus and Mr. Albert Chevalier were the stars. She was one of those in the company who bade farewell to the old Opera Comique in its concluding performance of *A Good Time*, a farce by George R. Sims, in which she played the part of Mary. At Terry's Theatre she made herself extremely popular in Mr. Basil Hood's Christmas fairy plays. These were succeeded—as far as Miss Loftus was concerned—with the production of *The French Maid* and *Her Royal Highness* at the Vaudeville, in both of which pieces she assumed title-rôles. Engaged for a six weeks' stay in America, she became such a favourite that she remained six months, and before she left signed a contract for two years. She found the work, however, to be beyond her strength, and her managers kindly released her. Back in London, Mr. F. R. Benson secured her for Puck in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, the boy in *Henry V.*, Viola in *Twelfth Night*, Ariel in *The Tempest*, and Lucy in *The Rivals*. She next produced and played on tour a play called *Baby*, by Mr. Kinsey Peile, and, on returning to town, appeared as Foolish Harriet in *Shock-Headed Peter* at the Garrick. Subsequently she for a while took the place of Miss Marie Tempest as Nell Gwynne in *English Nell* at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, and played it in the suburbs. In the revival of *Morocco Bound* at the Comedy she enacted the rôle of Maud Sportington. This was followed by a tour with her own company in *Naughty Nancy*, Mr. John Le Hay being in the cast. Later she appeared as Betsy with Sir Charles Wyndham at Wyndham's, after which she took the Savoy, and had an agreeable four months' run of *Naughty Nancy*. After a holiday in France, spent partly in enjoyment and partly in securing good French pieces suitable for adaptation, Miss Loftus returned to take her company on tour with Mr. Frank Stayton's play, *The Maid from School*, which she produced at Terry's, with an afterpiece called *The Duchess of Silliecrankie; or, The Earl and the Cherry Girl on Their Singularly Entangled Honeymoon*. Like other famous comediennes, Miss Loftus has yielded to the allurements of the variety stage, and accepted in 1905 a lucrative special engagement at the London Pavilion from Mr. Frank Glenister. At that popular house she made a great success in her "policeman" song. In 1906 she went to South Africa under the auspices of the Hyman management, and appeared both at the Tivoli, Cape Town, and the Empire, Johannesburg.

THE V.A.F. MEETING.

At a special meeting of the Variety Artists' Federation, held at the Empire, Camberwell, on Sunday, at which there was a good deal of heated discussion, Mr. JOE O'GORMAN, who presided, drew the attention of those present to the following three rules, which he stated had been inserted in the book of rules without the knowledge of the Executive Committee, and without having the sanction of the general meeting. "The first rule," said Mr. O'Gorman, "is 13. I was one of eight who signed a book of rules for registration as a trade union. Here is the book, an exact copy of which we retained. We were informed that the rules were lost, and we were asked to sign other copies. I asked if they were the same, and was told they were. We signed them, and discovered later on that the rules we signed were not the same as those we signed originally, there having been certain alterations made without your consent or the consent of your Executive Committee. I will read the interpolated rules:—

13.—Removal of Officers.
(1) Should the Chairman or any member of the Executive Committee be charged with neglecting his duties, violating the rules, or other grave misconduct, either by the Executive Committee, or by any member, the charge, together with the member's reply thereto, shall be laid before the Executive Committee at their meeting, and the vote of the members taken on the question of removing him from office.

The other one is:—

(2) The dismissal of the General Secretary shall be by the vote of the members only.

"On the bottom of the slip you will find the rule which was passed by you practically unanimously at the last general meeting, April 14, which says, "The Secretary shall be elected annually by the members of the Executive Committee then in the United Kingdom voting by ballot." That is the rule that you passed at your last meeting, and when this rule was passed both Mr. Gerald and Mr. Mountford informed you that they were aware of the other rule having been inserted as to the dismissal of the Secretary. As we contended at the last general meeting, the artist who is away in the provinces, however brilliant or capable he may be, is not in a position to know whether the Secretary is prosecuting his duties satisfactorily or not, but the Executive Committee, who are daily in touch with your Secretary, know exactly how he is performing those duties. The next one is:—

(3) Any officer of this Federation neglecting the duties of his office, or violating the rules, may be removed by a majority of the votes of the members present at a meeting of the Executive Committee held for the purpose of considering the conduct of such member.
(4) No officer of this Federation shall continue in office if three months in arrears, and on the happening of such event his office shall immediately become vacant.

"There is already a rule which says if you are two months in arrears you are no longer even a member of the Federation.

31.—Books and their Inspection.—The books of the Federation shall be kept at the General Office, and shall contain a list of the names of all the members of the Federation, and all books shall be open at all reasonable times to inspection by every member or person having an interest in the funds of the Federation.

"I don't know whether this is in accordance with Trade Union principles, but to me it seems preposterous that a person who has practically nothing to do with the Federation should have such a privilege.

35.—Arbitration.—Should at any time any dispute or difference arise between members of the Federation, or any claim be made by one member or members against another, the same shall, in the event of the members concerned so agreeing, be submitted to the arbitration of the members for the time being of the Legal Committee, and the parties shall abide by, and be bound by, the decision of such Committee, and shall pay any such sum awarded against them, or do any act which the Committee shall award to be done.

"When these things creep into our book of rules without our knowledge, it places your Executive in a most unfortunate and invidious position. We wrote to Morris and Rickards and told them that rules had been inserted without the consent of a general meeting, and they sent me this (reading):

4, Mitre Court Chambers,
Temple, E.C.,
Feb. 26, 1907.

DEAR SIR,—We had two long interviews with the Registrar of Friendly Societies on the Rules sent him for registration, and after his perusal of them he required certain alterations, which we made, including an addition to the objects of the Federation, from and including Clause 9 of the objects.

He also required a new rule as to the removal of officers, which you will find inserted as Rule 13.

From MORRIS AND RICKARDS.

Frank Gerald, Esq.,
28, Wellington Street.

"I appeal to you now, ladies and gentleman, to pass rules for the acceptance of the Registrar, who says he did not order those rules to be inserted, and as soon as the General Meeting passes new rules, he will register the Society."

After further discussion, it was proposed by Mr. JAMES RALSTON, and seconded by Mr. ROBERT DUNNING: "That the rules which have been inserted without the cognisance of the Executive Committee in the Book of Rules—rules 13, 31, and 35—be deleted." Carried unanimously.

MR. O'GORMAN: "It is clearly understood that Rule 18, as passed at the last General Meeting on April 14 last, stands?" (Cries of "Yes," "yes.")

Rule 18 reads as follows:—

The Secretary shall be elected annually by the Members of the Executive Committee then in the United Kingdom voting by ballot.

MR. ALBERT VOYCE: "On the advice of Mr. Mitchell, I will make the suggestion that this rule be placed under the heading of the "Removal of Officers":—

Should the Chairman, Secretary, or any other officer of the Federation be charged with neglecting his duties, violating the rules, or other grave misconduct, the charge, together with the officer's reply thereto, shall be laid before the Executive Committee at their meeting, in writing, and the vote of the entire Executive Committee, then in the United Kingdom, shall be taken on the question of removing him from office.

This was seconded by Mr. MOUNTFORD and carried unanimously.

The following rule was then considered:—

35.—Arbitration between members.

Should at any time any disputes or difference arise between members of the Federation, or any claim be made by one member or members against another, the same shall, in the event of the members concerned so agreeing, be submitted to the arbitration of the members for the time being of the Legal Committee, and the parties shall abide by and be bound by the decision of such Committee, and shall pay any sum awarded against them, or do any act which the Committee shall award to be done.

MR. MITCHELL: "I would like to suggest that Rule No. 35 should read:—

Should at any time any dispute or difference arise between members of the Federation, or any claim be made by one member or members against another, the same shall, in the event of the members concerned so agreeing, be submitted to the members for the time being of the Executive Committee, who shall appoint arbitrators, and the parties shall abide by and be bound by the decision of such arbitrators, and shall pay any sum awarded against them, or do any act which the Committee shall award to be done.

Proposed by Mr. WAL PINK, that the alteration as suggested by Mr. Mitchell be adopted. Seconded by Mr. FRED HERBERT. (Carried unanimously.)

Mr. O'GORMAN: "We now come to the alterations in the objects of the Federation (1 to 11)."

1. To regulate the relations between artists and their employers, and also between member and member.
2. To secure unity of action by organisation and otherwise to improve the position and status of the profession of variety artists.
3. To abolish all abuses detrimental to their welfare.
4. To promote industrial peace and progress by all amicable means, and, when differences do arise, to assist in obtaining an equitable settlement by reasonable means.
5. To accumulate from the contributions of the members a fund adequate for the protection of their interests and the provision of the benefits specified.
6. To provide such benefits on the death of a member as the Executive Committee shall decide.
7. To provide legal assistance to secure the due fulfilment of contracts, the payment of money due under contracts, or compensation due to its members, with all or any of the above objects within the limits allowed by law.
8. When the funds of the Federation shall permit, to provide a scheme for the establishing of an old-age pension fund.
9. The securing or assisting in securing of legislation for the protection of the Federation's interests, and for the general and material welfare of its members.
10. The adoption of any other legal method which may be decided to be advisable in the general interests of the members declared by a majority of the members of the Executive Committee.
11. For the purpose of promoting these objects, and of making these methods effective, the Federation may aid and join with other Trade Unions or other Societies or Federations of Societies, having for their object, or one of them, the promotion of the interests of artists or others, within the scope of the Trade Union Acts.

"The part I object to is, and the sooner you give your opinion the better—I object to the words, 'The Federation may aid and join any other Trade Union.' Now, I don't wish to be unkind—whether it is put there wilfully or not I won't say; but it is put there to perpetuate the National Alliance."

After prolonged discussion, a resolution, proposed by Mr. MOUNTFORD that the Alliance should be continued, was seconded by Mr. HARRISON, and lost, five voting for it.

Mr. ALF. LEONARD moved the rescinding of the rule regarding the admission of musical conductors as members of the V.A.F. This was seconded by Mr. JAMES HOWARD, and carried unanimously.

CHARLES COBORN AND THE V.A.F.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Please accept this assurance of my gratitude for your notice in the last issue but one of the fact that for very many years I have striven to arouse the members of the variety business to their need of co-operation for their general welfare. I have delayed a week in acknowledging your kind remarks with the idea that some of the very many who know those remarks to be founded on facts might like to add a word or two of endorsement. Let me say at once that I did not expect it, so that I am in no way disappointed.

I am a little out of fashion just at the moment. That is proved by the fact that though my name came fifteenth in the first election of 126, after I resigned as a protest against a policy of undue coercion and impatience under criticism, and allowed myself to be again nominated, my name was not included in the first forty-nine. Of course, it is always somewhat annoying to be misunderstood by one's friends, but, excepting for that, I am in no way perturbed at a result which is not without its humorous aspect. I am not aware that I have altered or deviated one hair's-breadth from the position I have always maintained and the views I have always expressed; but yet, all of a sudden, I seem to have become an object of suspicion, and to be regarded by my fellow-members as an individual unworthy of their confidence and support. Of course, no invidious action on the part of individuals, nor even the misunderstanding of the majority, can ever weaken my desire and intention to use my humble powers in what I regard as service to the interests of our common business, and if those powers are not required within the councils of the Federation, they can be, perhaps, quite as usefully employed outside.

I seek no cheap notoriety. If I did, I could obtain more with an hour's use of my pen than by a month's attendance in a committee-room. But there is one thing I should like you to allow me to express in your columns, and that is the belief that, if there is one man amongst the music hall artists more entitled than any other to the style and title of leader in the business, it is your humble servant. Some people favour the plan of not replying frankly to a clear and bold statement, but rather prefer waiting till the effect of it may be supposed to have died down. It is thought safer sometimes.

All I ask now is that anyone who may feel disposed to reply to this claim on behalf of someone he may think more worthy of the dignity shall make himself sure of his facts, pro and con, and then he may accept my fullest assurance that he need not spare himself in the very least in his criticism. I am making the claim because I want us all to get to business. I think there has been a lot of time, money, and temper needlessly squandered. As we are now in the position of being told to "open our mouth and shut our eyes, and see what Arbitration will send us," and as we have also our Federation Day to bring to a successful issue, which will need our most earnest and united efforts, I will not detain you longer than to conclude with the hope that my remarks will be received in a temperate spirit.—Yours truly,
CHARLES COBORN.

May 23, 1907.

MISS MADGE BRYCE, now appearing at the Palace, Greenwich, has just refused two engagements for America and Australia. Miss Bryce is a recruit from musical comedy to the music hall stage, and has won great praise over her latest song, "In the good old days of old."

MISS KATIE MARSH has collected for *The Era* Shilling Fund in aid of the Music Hall Home Fund the following sums:—Katie Marsh, 2s.; F. G. McNaught, 1s.; H. F. Gregg, 1s.; H. Fitzgerald, 1s.; "Girl About," 1s.; Lew Lake, 2s. 6d.

MISS CLARICE MAYNE has been tremendously successful at the Palace this week, in spite of the strong counter attractions, in her delightful rendering of Ballard Macdonald and Donovan Meher's quaint ditty, "Will he answer 'Coo-goo'?" and the Monte Carlo Co. expect a record sale for this tit-bit of mirth and melody, which is included in their "Sixpenny Successes" series.

DESPITE the outcry in religious circles in Coventry, the pageant committee have decided to adhere to their choice of pink fleshings and light drapery as the costume to be worn by Lady Godiva in the forthcoming procession. La Milo will be the heroine.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

HOLLOWAY EMPIRE.

This week finds an admirably varied programme provided for the delectation of the habitués of this popular home of vaudeville, and the consistent good business is being fully maintained as a consequence. Sylvester, a magician, assisted by Miss Vera de Courtney, opens the evening's entertainment, and proves himself to be a skilful and resourceful exponent of his business, his egg trick being very smart and his reception very cordial. Miss Rosie Archer, a mimic at the piano, gives some exceptionally clever impersonations of lady vaudeville artists, her subjects including Vesta Victoria, Marie Lloyd, Daisy Jerome, Kate Carney, and Vesta Tilley. Her act, which is very clever, is warmly received, a call, which is well earned, being accorded her. Amy Anderson and company in *The Banana Queen* still make as good a hit as ever, the knockabout business provoking much amusement; not a little praise should be extended to the newsboy, who presents some clever acrobatic feats. In another song Miss Anderson does equally well. The Eight Empire Girls, in song and dance, make a hit, their turn proving very attractive. La Berat, in a fire dance, gives a most effective act, the novel lighting effects proving very beautiful. Much applause is accorded the lady at the conclusion. Austin Rudd, in a burlesque policeman's song, tickles the fancy of the audience, and his parody on the "Zuyder Zee" also gains him a good reception. Baker and Balfe, two very skilful performers on the xylophone, display their ability to great advantage in an operatic selection, and Mr. Baker later on gives evidence of his ability as a dancer. One of the star items this week is George Lashwood. Needless to say, his number was warmly greeted on being displayed, which was increased on his appearance. He sang three songs. The first, "Beware of the Serpentine," with a catchy melody, caught the ear of the house; the second, a military song, also went down splendidly; and for the third he introduced his new scena, *Oh for a Night in the West!* This is a somewhat elaborate production, and depicts the reflections of a man about town banished from London to the West by his father in the hope of effecting a pronounced improvement in his conduct. It serves its purpose of providing the artist with a new scope in which to display his talents in a picturesque and effective manner. It is completely successful, and Mr. Lashwood gained a most emphatic call at its conclusion. Another turn of great interest is Jordan and Harvey, the Hebrew comedians, who also secured a very flattering reception. In song and patter these artists are alike clever, and their act was most amusing. The Bioscope this week, in a little drama, entitled *Distress*, proves very exciting, and Mr. Forbes Russell and his orchestra contribute with marked success to the pleasure of the evening.

NEW CROSS EMPIRE.

As is the rule here, each house is crowded with enthusiastic audiences, who do full justice to the liberal and judiciously-selected bill of fare submitted for their delectation by the managing-director, Mr. Oswald Stoll, who is so ably and courteously represented by the resident-manager, Mr. Ernest Bridgen. The excellent orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Louis la Rondelle, is one of the pleasantest features of the programme, which contains many admirable turns. First on the bill is Mr. Harry Tate in his laughter provoking contribution, *Motoring*, which met with its usual reception of laughter and applause. Mr. Tate is a worker who does not spare himself, and scores a huge success when depicting the troubles and trials of the amateur motorist. Mark Sheridan is a great favourite here, as elsewhere, and his popularity is thoroughly well deserved, for besides being a good singer he is a really funny comedian and a capital dancer, while his patter is irresistible. His singing of two songs, entitled "Good-night" and "Days that are coming by-and-by," is decidedly successful. The Mezzettis, in a comedy act on the triple bars, are well applauded for their excellent work; Miss Ella Retford, the delightful Dutch comedienne and coon singer, makes a great success with her rendering of "Has anyone seen a German band?" and "Mr. Grundy," and her dancing is particularly good; Spry and Austin, the popular vaudeville entertainers, appear with much success in "All sorts," which includes admirable dancing, singing, and comedy business; Fielding and Hull are capital vocalists, and win well-deserved applause for their singing of a medley, preceded by some new and smart patter; Francis, the cannon-ball king, gives a clever exhibition of skill and dexterity in the manipulation of cannon-balls, in which he is assisted by Alfred; the American Bioscope presents an interesting series of pictures, entitled "A Struggle for Life"; Miss Amy Clevere, pretty and dainty, sings very pleasantly "I'll meet you under the old oak tree," and dances gracefully; and one of the features of the programme is the appearance of De Gracia's elephants, who are marvellously intelligent, and the football and cricket is most laughable and clever.

RICHMOND THEATRE.

The climatic caprices of the past week have had the result of filling the pretty little Temple of Thespis on Richmond Green The overture, "Catch of the Regiment," is the prelude to other good things. With a vast amount of energy and charm, Miss Belle Harcourt bids *au revoir* to her little fisherboy, to the satisfaction of the audience. The fun is fast and furious during the eccentricities of Pearce and Ward, whose patter is funny throughout. The boxing scene provokes further hilarity, and proves amusing. Then Mr. Harry Sims discourses on "Girls from seventeen to twenty-two," and infuses into his theme an originality of treatment that may be commended; his second contribution also deals with the vagaries of Dan Cupid, and is keenly relished. Drama finds a place on the bill in the shape of a powerful little sketch, entitled *The Sorceress*. The plot deals with the fortunes of a Semitic maiden, who combines fortune-telling with that of usury; the combination appears to be a remunerative one, but she is troubled with the fact that she is unable to discover the whereabouts of her daughter, who was abducted from her possession. The close of the first scene shows the discovery of her daughter Naomi's existence by the Sorceress. In the second scene a couple of desperados invade the apartments of the Sorceress, one of whom acknowledges that he had taken part in the kidnapping of Naomi. A bribe from the Sorceress is refused. Anon a visitor appears in the form of the wife of an insolvent nobleman and the guardian of Naomi. All ends happily, and the mother and daughter are united. There are some excellent lines in this sketch, which, however, will improve with compression. It was remarkably well acted, dressed, and mounted. Quite refreshing is the excerpt from *Nelly Neil*, and Mr. Max Guy's orchestra renders it admirably. A troupe of toy terriers, under the direction of Horace and Olga, do some wonderful feats, not the least amusing being a friendly boxing match between a couple of singularly sagacious "doggies." Miss Sylvia du Barry vocalises pleasingly. *After the Races* gives Miss Madge Morley's company an opportunity; it causes peals of laughter. The hit of the piece was made by the garrulous landlady, who scored an unqualified success, and *After the Races* was admirably interpreted throughout. Mr. Charles Bignell confessed he was "The happiest man alive," and certainly looked it; the clever comedian also told of a lady whom he confessed was "only twenty-one"; and then his stories of experience dealt with oysters, polygamy, and the Chatham Railway. He won the entire favour of the house with "Are we downhearted?" The Bioscope scene for the week is entitled "The Struggle for Life," and illustrates the troubles of a tramp, whose vicissitudes are many, but who, after many troubles, succeeds in winning the hand of his employer's daughter.

HAMMERSMITH PALACE.

The programme this week is headed by Mr. Herbert E. Terry and company in the drama-sketch on Russian life entitled *Retribution*. Mr. Herbert Terry himself fills the part of Prince Karl Ordinoff, the chief of police, and invests it with all the necessary sinister effect; Mr. Geo. Belmore is a good aide-de-camp, Captain Ruvitch; the part of Richard Kirby, the imprisoned English journalist, is excellently portrayed by Mr. James Fettes; and as Violet Kirby, his wife, Miss Jessie Danvers gives a most sympathetic rendering. Mr. John Cooke is a satisfactory Sergeant Kriloff.

Mr. Tom Foy and company, with their farcical absurdity *The Yorkshire Lad in London*, cause much mirth. A most pleasing turn is that of Miss Effie Stewart, who sings a Scotch song with excellent accent, and also gives a clever step dance. Quite a change from the usual exhibition of comedy is the performance of Mr. Harry Russon, who in excellent style sang "In the days of good King Charlie," and recited Kipling's poem "Gunga Din," winning enthusiastic applause. The Kirbys, with a smart little dialogue, are responsible for a large share of the laughter of the evening. Mr. Walter Emerson, described as six feet of comicality, well lives up to this description with his two songs, "I think I shall go again to-morrow night," and "I think you would better leave it where it is." The Three Sisters Lee sing a good coon song, and perform several clever acrobatic tricks. Mr. Harry Anderson sings a couple of good chorus songs, entitled "The world will still go rolling merrily round" and "My new pal is my old gal." The Ellimans met with an excellent reception for their rendering of several popular songs on their concertinas. Carney and Armstrong give an amusing skit on an amateur actor, and also a good coon song, partly accompanied by whistling. The excellent programme is completed with Forman and Fannan, Miss Winnie Derson, Clifton and Gibson, and the Edisonograph. The courteous acting-manager, Mr. Lewis Vincent, has as his assistant-manager now Mr. Fred H. Coe, who is a nephew of Mr. John Coe, the popular proprietor.

GRAND, CLAPHAM.

Exceptionally interesting is the programme presented here this week, and houses of the most liberal proportions are nightly testifying their appreciation. The ball is started rolling by Miss Helene Martin, a charming vocalist, who is the possessor of a fine voice, which she knows how to use with the greatest effect. The number she gave was sung in a telling manner, and she was many times called before the curtain. Kahn and Kahn, the illusionists, are making one of their periodical visits to this hall, and again completely succeed in mystifying Claphamites with the cleverness of their tricks. Mimicry has a capable exponent in Miss Nina Gordon, who is giving clever impersonations of some of our leading performers, including Harry Lauder, Vesta Victoria, Camille Clifford, and Margaret Corneille. The fine voices of the Morton Comedy Trio are much appreciated, and their eccentricities are the cause of the heartiest laughter.

Alan Holt and company are presenting a dramatic episode in the life of a society woman, whose husband has been sentenced to a long term of imprisonment for a crime he has never committed. He succeeds in escaping from prison, and, although wounded, immediately makes for home. Hardly has he arrived when a visitor is announced. He proves to be an aristocratic scoundrel, who, under the plea of friendship, is trying to poison the wife's mind against her husband, in order to gain her affections. The wife implores her husband to escape, but, feeling very weak, he retires to another room to rest. The villain enters, and finds the room empty; but he is afterwards accosted by a money-lender, who makes his appearance at the window. It transpires that this man himself is the thief for whose crime the escaped prisoner has suffered. The moneylender suggests that in order to obtain money they shall kidnap the child of the house. The husband overhears the arrangement, and, impersonating the moneylender, assists in the kidnapping of his own child. Eventually there is a terrific combat between a serving-maid and the villain, who is finally disposed of by the outraged husband. The programme does not contain the names of the cast, so special comment cannot be given, but great praise is deserved by the lady who impersonates the wife.

Binns and Binns are presenting their exceedingly entertaining turn, which they bring to a conclusion by the playing on concertinas of Sullivan's "Lost Chord." The Two Bostons go as well as ever in their amusing act, to which some very clever dancing is added. Albert Le Fre is here with his "That's what you see on the halls," which is meeting with a most favourable reception. Professor Dunning has a clever ventriloquial show, and his puppets are ingeniously manipulated. Roxborough and Wright are presenting a farcical sketchlet entitled *Cockie*, which causes the heartiest laughter and applause. Woolmer Young is singing a song with the refrain "John Bull, wake up!" and a pleasing evening's amusement is brought to a conclusion with the Bioscope. The series of films depicting "A Wonderful Electric Belt" is most amusing. Mr. Harry Ketteman, the popular manager, does everything possible for the comfort of his friends and patrons.

"DAVID GARRICK."

An Episode, in One Scene, produced at the Bedford, Camden Town, on Monday, June 4.

David Garrick .....MR. RONALD BAYNE
Stella .....MISS EVELYN HOPE

Decided favour was won by a little sketch which forms an item of this week's programme at the Bedford. The romantic love affair of the famous actor has been treated in a lighter spirit than is customary, and each line contains a touch of humour. The episode deals with the infatuation of a young lady named Stella, who from a private box in the theatre has watched David Garrick rapturously night after night. Her father induces the actor to pledge his word that he will so disgust the young lady that she will be disillusioned. The actor accordingly visits the house to carry out his purpose, but is dismayed to find that the girl is the very one to whom he himself has lost his heart. He nevertheless pursues the plan arranged, simulating drunkenness so well that the maiden is fain at length to bid him go. Garrick takes his leave, but no sooner has the lady left the room in tears than he returns and sits down to write a letter to the father, telling him the compact is performed. He alters his mind, and discards the letter, which is picked up by Stella, who thus learns that Garrick has been only pretending, and the piece ends with an avowal of love and a determination to set aside the parental injunction.

Mr. Ronald Bayne, who has for some time been playing the part of Napoleon in a sketch written round that personage, displays an acute sense of drollery in the part of Davy Garrick. The dialogue is sentimental and witty by turns, and Mr. Bayne's spasms of tragedy and comedy are cleverly affected, the fun of the part keeping the audience highly amused. The lovelorn lady has a charming exponent in Miss Evelyn Hope, who acquitted herself creditably, both in the melodramatic intensity which she is called upon to assume and in the more vivacious passages of the part.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

CHATS WITH VARIETY ARTISTS.

MR. WALTER MUNROE.

Walter Munroe, "the man who struck O'Hara," enters on his twenty-fifth consecutive annual tour with the Moss-Stoll combine at Hackney Empire next Monday

This celebrated Irish comedian is as firm a favourite with audiences everywhere to-day as he was when crowds were pouring into the old Aquarium twenty years ago to witness his fine top-boot dancing, and to hear his "hurricane voice" telling of "The coming of age of Tim McCarthy's daughter," or that "A fine young fellow is the Earl of Fife," the latter a song sung in every street at the time the Earl of Fife married the King's (then Prince of Wales) daughter. The chorus of this ditty ran:—

"A fine young fellow is the Earl of Fife,
He's large estates and a nice young wife;
He's the finest fellow that you ever saw,
And he never need be frightened of his mother-in-law."

At the Alhambra, where the Prince heard Munroe sing this song, H.R.H. laughed most heartily at the concluding line, and led the applause.

Walter Munroe is probably one of the most versatile men in the variety profession to-day. The public know him as a first-class comedian and dancer; but there are two other worlds that give him every deference—as a diamond expert, and again as a breeder and owner of trotting horses. The latter taste is probably attributable to the fact that Munroe spent some years of his youth in close proximity to a circus stable.

Ballinasloe, Co. Galway, may claim the honour of giving Munroe his first reception in life. Papa Munro was a doctor of music, and when young Walter was five years of age he determined to try his fortune in England. The fickle dame frowned on his effort, and a short while after tiny Walter found himself an orphan and without a friend in the world. The hungry little lad took his fate in his hands, and boldly marched up to a circus proprietor then showing near Liverpool, and asked for employment. This step led to his being apprenticed as a bareback rider, trapeze artist, and singing clown.

"I was very happy," smilingly reflects Munroe, "with the dogs and the ponies and the elephants, and even the wild animals. But one day our show went to Dublin, and there I got my opportunity. The Dublin Exhibition was on, but every singer engaged there was a failure, owing to the enormous size of the place and its bad acoustics. Now, I was noted for my hurricane voice, as it was called, and the manager suggested to me that I should go on. 'If,' said he, 'you fail, we'll stop the singing part of the show.'"

Munroe went on, sang, and was heard by every-

MR. WALTER MUNROE.

body. He has been a public favourite from that moment to this. So pleased was the manager with his act that he presented him with a heavy gold watch, chain, and matchbox. To use Mr. Munroe's own words, "I strutted about like a peacock with my presentation adorning my person. But greater gratification to my vanity was yet to come. I was singing a song, entitled 'Viscount Barney Blake,' and speedily got nicknamed 'the Viscount' in consequence. Shortly afterwards the exhibition manager suggested to me that I should take the name or title of Viscount. I objected, not knowing whether it would be lawful to do so. Judge of my surprise when one day the manager presented me with the rights to the style and title Vicomte Munroe for the next fourteen years. He had purchased a Continental title then in the market, and from that moment I could legally assume the name. I have never paid the renewal fees, and so I suppose all claim on my part to be a Viscount, if I wished to assert it, is lost. Any way, it doesn't much matter."

In the old days Munroe had one engagement that lasted a solid year at the Aquarium. Another lasted five years without a break at the Alhambra, and he was a star turn in the first programme presented at the Empire, Leicester-square.

"Ah! but the darlin' cud dance on iggshills an' niver crack wan o' thim," was the eugolistic, if extravagant, comment bestowed by an old Irish lady on Munroe's dancing. Before Walter "invented" the style of dancing all over the stage at the performer's own sweet will it was the fashion for clog and top-boot dancers to retain one position before an audience.

Walter Munroe is one of those delightful raconteurs who can keep a roomful of people interested in the happenings of his life. One of the stories he tells is as follows:—

Walter was engaged at the old Star, Dublin, during the great coal-porters' strike in that city. On the first night he walked on the stage and got a great reception, and in the ordinary way started to sing. He had got well into the stride of the first verse when a stentorian voice addressed the stage in these terms:—

"Howld on there, Munroe."
"What's wrong?" interrogated the artist.
"Ye'll not sing another note."
"An' why shouldn't I?" said Munroe, indignantly.

And the answer came:—"An' d'ye think we'd be after allowin' ye to prostitute yer talent by singin' to that blackguard blackleg in the circle there until he's gone out?"

The objectionable member of the audience being removed, Munroe was allowed to proceed.

MR. FRED H. COE, a nephew of the popular proprietor, Mr. John C. Coe, is now assistant acting-manager of the Hammersmith Palace.

SKETCHES AT THE GRANVILLE.

"THE CONSTABLE AND THE PICTURES."

An original Musical Fantasy, by Messrs. Wimperis, Davenport, and L. Godfrey Turner, with Music composed and arranged by Miss Marjorie Slaughter.

Lady Lavinia Mostyn .....MISS AGNES FRASER
Sir Roland Stone .....MR. ALEC FRASER
Reuben Pryor .....MR. M. R. MORAND

The fascinating Miss Agnes Fraser as an oil-painting, the figure in which every night steps out of the canvas and walks the haunted chamber of an old manor house as the ghost of the Lady Lavinia Mostyn, should surely present pleasing possibilities. And, sure enough, the possibilities are more than realised when one witnesses the graceful movements, the engaging personality, the irresistible charm of the beautiful Lady Lavinia of Miss Fraser's creation. The story of this trifle, which first bore the title of *When Knights were Bolder*, may be told in a few words. Reuben Pryor is a policeman on the look-out for coiners and for promotion. There is an old manor house on his beat, and he enters one of the rooms at midnight. After making a search, more for the purpose of his own personal safety than for anything else, he settles down to a soliloquy on a policeman's lot, and upon various other matters. Suddenly there steps out from the frame of one of the pictures a beautiful girl, attired in the picturesque costume of the Tudor period. The policeman becomes quite sympathetic as he listens to the tale of woe unfolded by the lady—how in the long ago her lover, Sir Roland Stone—Rolling Stone, as he is called by the constable—wooed her against her father's wishes, and how just as they were eloping the rope-ladder was cut by the irate parent, and how the lovers came into sudden and dangerous contact with Mother Earth. But she and Sir Roland now meet each other every night in this haunted chamber. And lo! and behold Sir Roland steps forth from the canvas and challenges the minion of the law to a duel. But just as the moment for the firing of shots arrives, the mediæval gallant returns to his place in the picture.

We have already referred to Miss Agnes Fraser's altogether delightful acting as the Lady Lavina Mostyn. Mr. M. R. Morand is intensely amusing as the constable, and he is to be commended for a capital portraiture. His song about a policeman is extremely well rendered. Mr. Alec Fraser presents the serious rôle of Sir Roland Stone in able fashion.

The other sketch, produced for the first time this week, bears the title of *The Dairymaids*, and is presented by Miss Phyllis Yorke, assisted by Mr. Albert Weston. A pretty dairymaid is singing to herself a love ditty, when a crashing noise is heard, and a motorist, whose machine has come to grief, appears before us. Apparently, however, he is not so much overcome with sorrow at the incident that he can be oblivious to the charms of an engaging damsel, and it is not long before he commences a violent flirtation, in which his propensities for "larking" and for joking are given every opportunity. The amusing trifle causes roars of laughter. Miss Phyllis Yorke is dainty, insouciant, and vivacious, as the dairymaid, and Mr. Weston acts with good spirit and a fine sense of humour as the chauffeur.

QUEEN'S, POPLAR.

Mr. Jack Woolf's long and varied programme this week is extremely good, every item being of interest, and exceptional business is being done. Messrs. Selby and Myers, in a song, "He and I," are responsible for some amusing cross-talk, and their nimble dancing provokes applause. The Four Jumels, a quartet of smart instrumentalists, submit some well-executed selections, their rendering of "The Lost Chord," with bell accompaniment, being both novel and artistic. Mr. Harry Leybourne, the double-voiced mimic, is fully appreciated for his imitations, his "Whisper and I shall hear" causing great merriment. A clever acrobatic sketch, entitled *Those Troublesome Slaveys*, is presented by the Elvio Trio, who are to be highly commended for their performance; while Mr. Charles Lloyd displays versatility of no mean order in his up-to-date melody, "East and West End." A vigorous exhibition, contributing largely to the enjoyment of the evening, is provided by the Two Andrillas; and Mr. Will Lynn's vocalism is greatly admired. Considerable skill is seen in the entertaining turn, given for the first time in England, by the Matulla Troupe; and Messrs. Walker and May sing and dance with an amplitude of energy and spirit, their numbers, "Don't forget to bring your money home," "My Evaline," and "Coon Town Jubilee" obtain enthusiastic applause, and when it is remembered that Mr. Walker is totally blind, his particularly agile dancing is simply wonderful. The military spectacle, *For England's Glory*, by the Francis Harrold company, appeals strongly to a poplar audience, and the management are to be congratulated for the admirable completeness in which the sketch is staged. Mr. M. Glenton is seen to advantage as Sergeant Harry Gilbert, his fine, resonant voice being of great assistance to the part. The renegade and brutal Captain Hoffman, who betrays the camp, is portrayed with the necessary intensity by Mr. W. J. Mackay; and Mr. George Edwards is acceptable as Colonel Carter. Miss Edith Hall gives an interesting impersonation of the Red Cross Sister, Margaret Baxter; and Miss Nellie Carr is easy and natural as the bugler boy, Tim Morris. The exciting incidents of "The Camerons to the Rescue" and "The Traitor's Just Reward" fairly brought down the house. The bioscope pictures, including "The Hero at the Fire," were successful; while praise must be given to the Model Band, under the direction of Mr. Fred Venton, for their playing of the intermezzo, "Tres Piquants" (Theo Bonheur). Mr. Jack Woolf spares no effort in his labours for the comfort of the patrons, and the assistant acting-manager, Mr. Morris Abrahams, is ever to the front with his courteous and assiduous attention.

CROUCH END HIPPODROME.

The most exacting of music-hall frequenters could not fail to find his wants satisfied at this beautiful home of variety, for Mr. H. de Groot has made every provision for amusing his patrons with excellent novelties. Every part of the house is well-filled, and all those present show, by hearty applause, that the efforts of the management are thoroughly appreciated. This week's programme includes two clever sketches, admirable songs and dances, and Bioscope pictures. Mr. J. H. Hutchinson fills the conductor's chair with his customary address; and after a well-rendered overture by the orchestra, Miss Jessie Star "opens the ball" with a couple of humorous Scotch songs, and is much to be commended; Mr. Hal Chapter, a quaint comedian, contributes two excellent items, "Where, oh where?" and "We shall all be happy," the latter producing roars of laughter; the Two Stuarts, speciality artists with patter, coon songs, and rag-time dances, do a capital turn; and the first sketch is then presented. It is entitled *The Red Letter*, and is founded on the recent sensational Thaw case. The cast includes Mr. Leslie Bell, Mr. Fredk. Wilson, Mr. Frank Chapman, Mr. Geo. Harrison, and a lady whose name deserves to be in the programme. It is a smart sketch, with beautiful scenery and effects, and gains much applause. A favourite with the Pavilion audiences, Ambrose Thorne, proves himself a refined comedian, and supplies the next turn, singing in easy style "Aroplane," and describes what he would do if he was a Member of Parliament; Miss Lilian Lowe warbles "I never knew" and "The song that reached my heart," and meets with an enthusiastic reception nightly; the "man with the funny voice," Mr. H. O. Wills, creates great amusement with his song, "I kept waving my flag"; and Miss Lily Flexmore contributes a ditty and some most extraordinary acrobatic feats, making one of the hits of the evening. Mr. Alf Lester, supported by Miss Florence Wakeman, next appears in *A Restaurant Episode*. A wonderful amount of fun is got out of the little piece, and both the lady and gentleman work with a will to gain the success they undoubtedly achieve. Little Miss Zeta Russell, assisted by two gentlemen, representing a dude and a shoeblack, are to be specially commended on their contributions to the programme; and the performance concludes with a series of Bioscope pictures. On Wednesday evening two extra turns were introduced. Leo, a ventriloquist of no mean order, met with a very flattering reception, his singing of "Rocked in the cradle of the deep" being applauded. Miss Rita Rhyll, though very nervous, made a hit with her two songs, "When you know you're not forgotten" and "Pansy." Among the prospective engagements here is that of Miss Marie Lloyd, who commences a week's exclusive engagement on Monday, June 24.

ROYAL ALBERT.

An excellent, varied, and popular programme is provided here this week, and Mr. Arthur G. H. Hunt can have no doubt as to its entertaining powers when he hears the laughter and applause of his patrons ringing through the house. Undoubtedly the great outstanding feature of the bill is the sketch, *Two Up a Tree*, as performed by Albert and Edmunds, supported by a clever company. No more thoroughly side-splitting farcical sketch has come to our notice for some time, and, outrageous as may be the doings of those concerned, their extravagance is skilfully blended with that tincture of real comedy that makes the whole thing acceptable to the discerning, and relieves it from the suggestion of mere buffoonery. Where the parts are not individualised on the programme it is impossible to accord praise by name, but we must say that the acting of one of the principals—probably Mr. Edmunds—marks him as a low comedian of the first class and an artist whose talents should enable him to shine on the more "legitimate" stage. At the same time, it must be admitted that he is admirably supported by the other two gentlemen and the two ladies engaged in the cast, the whole combination making for laughter as loud as it is long.

Miss Cissie Esdale is an agreeable singer and dances well. Mr. Sam Mitchello, with a comical face, makes a great hit with his song, "Right opposite me," and an amusing ditty in the character of an eccentric young female. A handsome presence, a gorgeous costume, and a ringing voice combine to render Miss Maude Beaumont a prime favourite, and her two contributions—"Wedding bells ring out for you and me" and "Fatherland"—are received with loud applause. Mr. Charles Gardener is an eccentric comedian, who scores in a good "dame" song, "I'm a lady," and a parody on "When the lights are low." Levano proves himself to be a side-somersault thrower of wonderful dexterity, the difficult turns he makes while holding naked daggers to his breast and firing off other deadly weapons arousing enthusiasm. A dainty, graceful performance is given by the Zampas, duettists, dancers, and bâton manipulators. Both lady and gentleman, besides being blessed with good looks, have plenty of talent, their singing, dancing, and "manipulating" being about equally praiseworthy. In addition, they dress charmingly, and make their performance, refined throughout, all the more attractive thereby. Another pair of duettists and dancers are the Two Wiltons, who both sing and dance with exceeding energy. Raymond's Bio-Tableaux show some pretty pictures and satisfactorily wind up an excellent entertainment.

CAPE CHANTANT AT CRYSTAL PALACE.

Mr. J. Bannister Howard has the advantage of giving this popular entertainment either in the open air in the North Tower Gardens or in the theatre inside the Crystal Palace; and, in face of the recent very unseasonable weather, there has been no reason to complain of the audiences assembled this week to enjoy the efforts of the merry little company of artists, who provide the afternoon and evening amusement. These include the Royal Quintette, who render the songs and dances of many lands; a Highland scena, with pipe music and strathspeys, being followed by a characteristic Irish jig and typical song, concluding with a Spanish dance. Mr. Harry Tomps is a most original mime, full of dry conceits, and a raconteur of marked excellence, his stories being racy and original, with no trace of vulgarity, and, in addition, he contributes a solo on the English concertina, which is loudly redemanded. Miss Lillie Lassah receives a genuine and hearty welcome from her friends in front, who are mindful of the success she made as Aladdin in the Christmas pantomime. She has a new song and dance, entitled "Pearl," and gave also a pretty rendering of "A bungalow in Borneo." The Sisters Clare prove themselves to be alert and practised dancers and duettists, with taking songs and smart appearance; and Messrs. Newham and Latimer are quite up to date with a song about a long-expected infant, and references to the Court of Spain. They repeat here the successes so often gained elsewhere. The appearance of Mr. Alf. E. Passmore is the signal for a boisterous greeting, for was he not the Widow Twankey in last season's pantomime? His songs were both broadly comic, the first having reference to a faithless wife, who left with a policeman, and another, an elaborate nonsense song—a great effort of memory, to say the least of it. The artists will be changed each week, and with brighter and warmer weather, the café chantant is sure to be one of the great attractions of the Sydenham pleasure resort.

ABERTILLERY PAVILION OPENING.

Although not completed, this building was opened for one week on Monday by Mr. Jos. Poole's No. 1 Myriorama Company. After the National Anthem had been sung by Mr. Bert Berry and the members of the company assembled on the stage, Mr. Berry introduced Mr. Tilney, the proprietor, and Mr. E. Pryce, the newly appointed manager, who gave the audience a brief outline of the future of the Pavilion, which, he said, had been hurriedly completed to admit Mr. Poole's company for this special week, this being the last week of their present season. It would then remain closed until August Bank Holiday, when it would be run on the twice-nightly system. Artists would be taken from Mr. C. W. Poole's variety palaces at Gloucester and Porth. There would be a professional band of ten, under a competent musical director, and everything would be conducted on up-to-date first-class lines, and at popular prices. The building itself has sloping floors, with seating accommodation for 1,600. It has an installation of high-pressure heating apparatus, and is electrically lighted throughout. The stage measures 45ft. by 35ft. Proscenium, 24ft. opening, eight dressing rooms being provided on level of stage. There is an available population within four miles of 80,000. As for the performance, a capital series of pictures was presented, and a good company of artists gave an excellent entertainment. The Four Rosaires submitted a smart acrobatic act; Eileen and Mayrie were very successful in their dancing; Mr. Bert G. Berry excelled as elocutionist and vocalist; the Tissots gave a startlingly clever marionette exhibition; Dick Bradley proved an amusing and clever trick cyclist; the Seddons, in their turn, provided much merriment; Mr. Fred Harris, the Welsh comedian and tambourinist, was greeted with uproarious applause; and Mint and Mart, paper manipulators, also entertained in admirable fashion.

THE Burnells have kindly forwarded 10s. 6d. for the widow of the late Harry Kenyon.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

Fairs Ahead.

FOR next week we have only a few fixtures—Cranbrooke, on the South-Eastern and Chatham; St. Austell, on the Great Western; Rawtenstall, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; and Dore and Totley on the Midland Railways.

Scotch Fairs.

ALYTH, on the Caledonian; Selkirk, on the North British; and Largs, on the Glasgow and South-British Railways.

Welsh Fairs.

LLANDOVERY, on the London and North-Western and Great Western; Brynmawr, London and North-Western and Great Western; and Ferndale, on the Taff Vale Railways.

Portishead.

THIS pretty seaside resort on the Bristol Channel had it pleasure fair, providing open-air amusement for the people last week, under the able management of Messrs. Cole Bros., of Gloucester, who exhibited Venetian gondolas, switchback, helter-skelter, shooter, swings, and games.

Leamington.

GREAT public patronage and appreciation has rewarded the efforts of the showpeople at this inland watering-place. Mrs. P. Collins's magnificent show, "Wonderland"; Wall's midget exhibition; P. Collins's No. 1 motor-set, helter-skelter, and steam yachts; Cordwell's miniature roundabouts and throwing games; Hall's shooter and varieties; Leigh and Jones's highfliers; Parkins's Winchester range; and the fun of the fair by Messrs. Wright, Cordwell, Hall, and Fletcher, delighted great crowds.

Penzance Fair.

ONE of the best of the Cornish fairs was spoilt by two days' bad weather. The local hon. agent to the Guild and show world correspondent, G. W. A. Norton, Esq., accompanied by Capt. Rowland, of Anderton and Rowland's cinématograph theatre, interviewed the Mayor of Penzance, and His Worship most kindly extended the fair two days. This thoughtful concession on the Mayor's part was received by the showmen with great thanks. The Mayor and the Mayoress and party further manifested their interest in the show folk by attending the Guild service, conducted by the Rev. T. Horne in Anderton and Rowland's show. Far-away Penzance thus is brought into line with the best and most progressive boroughs in the United Kingdom.

Truro Fair,

HELD immediately before Penzance Fair, is usually attended by the same shows and other novelties. These included W. C. and S. Hancock's great West of England aggregation of fair-ground concerns—the big machines, helter skelter, &c., &c., Rowland and Anderton's, J. Jones, Lawrence, Broadway, and Alf. Wright; the shooters, swings, big wheels, varieties, throwing games, and stalls of the Jones family, the Oldridges, Locks, Chapmans, Frampton, Harford, Smith, Allen, and others; the roundabout concerns of Chas. Heal, Anderton and Rowland, and Wm. Brewer and Sons were also present.

Derby.

FOR the holidays at this great Midland centre of pleasure were the concerns of the local showman, Mr. A. Twigdon, who exhibited cinématograph theatre and steam and electric riding machines, J. Proctor's cinématograph show, and machines by Alf. Cox, Jervis, and Burton; shooters, swings, and throwing games by S. Hall, A. Hall, Warwick, Saint, Burton, and others.

Grimsby Fair.

TUBY AND SONS' superb Coliseum continues its triumphant career at the Lincolnshire and Yorkshire fairs. At the busy great central town and docks the show scored an instantaneous success. Crowded audiences voiced their appreciation of the up-to-date films and the talking and singing pictures. The other concerns were Taylor's steam horses, Mr. Tuby, sen.'s, Winchester range, throwing games and varieties by Clayton, Webb, Louis, and others.

Adwalton Fair.

HARRY ASHINGTON and Bailey's exhibitions divided the show honours at this Yorkshire fixture; Goldthorpe Marshall exhibited motor cars, and Mrs. Hughes swings. The rifle saloons were those of Rhodes, Burgess, Hayes, Seed, and Lorenzo. The other amusement caterers were Bassett, Vanner, Blackburn, Hough, Thomas, Wain, Pegrotti, and Jacques.

Elsecar Feast.

THE chief attractions at this thriving centre of industry were Farrar's portable Coliseum, Proctor's theatre of animated pictures and varieties, W. H. Marshall and Son's motor cars, Harniesse's racing birds, T. Burgin's steam swings, and the usual attendant throng of funmakers, with shooters, dolly frames, and throwing games.

Usk (Mon.) Trinity Fair.

FINE weather prevailed at this ideal spot for a country pleasure fair. Jacob Studt's magnificent theatre of up-to-date pictures and variety entertainment was the big draw of the fair. Testo's marionettes and animated photography, Prof. Whyle's entertainment, Jacob Studt's switchback, and the fair-ground amusements of Messrs. T. Butlin, Freeman, Clarke, and Davies, and local stall-holders, completed the list of things at Usk Fair.

WE regret to chronicle the death of a clever young showman, Theodore Lloyd, a much-valued employee of Messrs. Anderton and Rowland. He died after an extremely short illness at Gloucester on May 24 last. He is well remembered and esteemed by his former employers, Jacob Studt and W. C. and S. Hancock. He was an expert electrician and good all-round worker. Seven months ago he married Miss Nellie Anderson, comedienne and danseuse, with Anderton and Rowland, with whom she remains. We feel sure that the great heart of showland will go out in sympathy to his bereaved wife.

On the Barrow Round.

AT Barrow Fair itself were George Green's Coliseum, Monte Bros'. similar concern, Wilson's living pictures, and J. Cottrell's exhibition. There were many large machines. These included Geo. Green's motor cars, Wm. Murphy's set of motors, R. Carr's galloping horses, Harrison's Alpine glide, Barker and Son's steam yachts, and gem and miniature horses, cars, and ponies, by Newsome, Casey, Talbot, and Allison.

Shooting Saloons and Varieties.

"ALL the jolly fun of the fair," shooters, and games were provided by Doughty, Sheeran, Casey, Stanley, Geo. W. Newsome, Broughton, Talbot, Wilson, Gilling, and Dearden.

Evesham.

AT Evesham Whitsuntide Fair, held in Byrd's Timber Yards, were Mr. H. Ayer's steam roundabouts, Ayers's and Hatwell's shooting saloons, Ayers's and Rawlings's swing boats, Kemp's toy stalls, and other attractions by Messrs. Ayers, Stanley, Kimberley, Innes, and others. Also Skinner's waxworks and marionettes.

Worcester.

AT Worcester Foresters' Fête were Scott's galloping horses, park swings, shooting saloons, cokernuts, &c.

Great Witley.

Scott's steam galloping horses, park swings, shooting saloons, bottle battery, &c., has been visiting Great Witley.

Bidford-on-Avon.

BIDFORD-ON-AVON Trinity was maintained by Mr. Henry Ayres's steam horses and cockerels, park swings, shooting saloons, &c., Stanley's and Butler's cokernut sheets, Kemp's toy stalls, and other amusements, &c., by Messrs. Innes, Ayers, Kemp, Herbert, Smith, Kimberley, and others.

Broadway.

AT Broadway Wakes were Mr. Albert Curtis, with roundabouts and other attractions.

Fêtes.

AT Fernhill Heath Club Fête were Strickland's gallopers; at Chipping Campden were Curtis's roundabouts; at Pinvin, Fladbury, and Ashton-under-Hill were Scarrott's roundabouts; at Upton Snodsbury were Scott's world's fair; at Offenham Wake were Ayres's roundabouts; and at Harvington Fête were Ayers's roundabouts.

Theatres.

HOLLOWAY'S theatre is at Shipston-on-Stour, and Mrs. Sinclair's theatre is at Stratford-on-Avon.

Pleasure and Horse Fairs in the Midlands.

JUNE 24, Bromsgrove, pleasure and horse; June 26, Pershore, pleasure and horse; June 22, Shipston-on-Stour, horse and pleasure; July 1, Feckenham Wakes; July 11 to 15, Headless Cross Cherry Wakes; Aug. 3 to 7, Redditch Pleasure Fair. Bromsgrove, Pershore, Shipston-on-Stour, Feckenham, Headless Cross, and Redditch are all in Worcestershire.

Dalton-in-Furness.

THE funsmiths here were Messrs. Monte Bros., Wilson, Wm. Murphy, Carr, Allison, Newsome and Son, Doughty, Casey, G. Sheeran, and Wilton. Well and truly did these worthy brothers of the ancient craft work like hammer and tongs to keep the people in a roar of laughter.

Southwold Trinity Fair.

THE provider-in-chief of the people's amusements here was the local showman, Mr. Stocks, and with him were identified Messrs. Keets and Abbot.

Small Heath Fair.

AFTER Birmingham the concerns divide, one section going to Leamington with Collins's big show, and another taking the suburban fair at Golden Hillock-road, Small Heath. The shows here were Sagar's palace of delight, Manders's menagerie, Proctor's circus, and Haydn and Clytie. The machines were John Collins's four-abreast horses, the motor-car set, and wheeley whirley, Cordwell and Mercer's juvenile roundabouts, and shooters, varieties, and stalls by Deeks, Mercer, Dobson, Humphries, and others.

The White City, Old Trafford.

THIS amusement park has been a great attraction every day since Whit Monday, when it was opened (for six months) for the first time, and 58,000 persons passed the turnstiles, 14,000 of whom patronised the new gravitation railway, known as the Figure Eight. Many of the beauties of the Botanical Gardens are retained, and at dark the grounds are brilliantly illuminated by about 40,000 electric lights. The fairy fountain, worked by electricity, is greatly admired. There are plenty of various kinds of amusement to suit young and old. This week the band of the Northumberland Fusiliers play during the afternoons and evenings. Among the amusements well patronised are the roller skating rink, the great water chute (120ft.), dragon slide, Pain's great fire spectacle, *Fighting the Flames*, Hale's "Tours of the World," Payne's museum and stereopticum, Quinn's pierrots, Parker's Æolian Opera Company.

ON Monday last the veterans of the Indian Mutiny and Crimean Campaigns, in the Manchester district, to the number of 130, were entertained by the chairman (Mr. C. H. Heathcote) and managing-director (Mr. John C. Brown), and they thoroughly enjoyed the side shows. Many of them ascended about 750ft. in Spencer's captive balloon, "City of London.'

IT was stated that the special matinée at the Manchester Palace of Varieties, on May 10, resulted in the funds of the Veterans' Association being increased by £93 17s.

Pageant Week in Liverpool.

THE Corporation of Liverpool, ever alive to the wants of the people, have let to the famous showmen, P. and J. Collins, the whole of the Liverpool parks and Corporation open spaces for the pageant week, Aug. 3 to Aug. 9. The city of Liverpool will observe this week as a general holiday. The Channel Fleet will anchor in the Mersey at the time. Excursion trains and steamers will run into Liverpool from all parts of Great Britain.

FOR a reduction in traffic rates no greater argument is needed from the showmen than the fact that they are continually increasing the passenger traffic on the railways.

Garrick to Boom the Chronomegaphone.

MR. HENRY W. GARRICK, the noted Press manager, has just been engaged by Mr. Bromhead, of the chronomegaphone (Messrs. Gaumont, of Paris and London), to act as publicity agent for this company. Mr. Garrick has just concluded an eight years' engagement at the London Hippodrome, and is now running a publicity bureau "off his own bat."

On the Scotch Round.

SALTCOATS, Ayrshire, held its annual fair the first days of this month. The shows were—Paulo's circus; Henderson's cinematograph theatre; Chapman's trained birds and hares; and Prof. Moore's strength and athletic show. The riding machines were Wilmot's royal motor-cars and J. Wilmot, jun.'s, highfliers. The shooting concerns were by Messrs. Dawson, Wilmot, and Stevenson. The fun merchants and novelty providers were Stevenson, Imring, Wilmot, Smith, Kennedy, Nelson, Gray, Dawson, and others. The business of the fair was spoilt by bad weather, and most of the travellers remain here waiting to move on to Largs Fair.

Subscriptions to Guild, 1907.

Per Mr. Whatney—T. Holcroft, Bolton, £1 1s.
Per Mr. Chaplain—John Humphrey, jun., 5s. 6d.
Per Mr. Shuttleworth—Ralph Ingham, 5s.
Per Mr. Ball—Alf. Ball, £1; C. Ives, 5s.
Per Mr. G. Bailey—A. Powell, 5s.; W. Harris, 5s.
Mr. Wm. Marfleet, 5s.
Mr. Wm. Canty, 5s.

THE Rev. T. Horne will be at Porth, in the Rhondda Valley, on Sunday next, June 9, when he will speak at the annual gathering of Welsh showmen at three in the afternoon.

NOTWITHSTANDING the unseasonable weather, large numbers of people are finding the entertainments at the White City, Old Trafford, just what has been wanted in the district for some years. An extra attraction this week is the annual June Flower Show, which has been a huge success. Captain Tom Payne's museum, the figure-eight gravitation ride, Hale's cinematograph tours of the world, the great water-chute, and the numerous other side-shows are doing good business. The gardens are in splendid condition, and when illuminated by the 40,000 electric lights at night are a veritable fairyland.

SHOWMEN'S GUILD MEETING
AT PENZANCE FAIR.

The first meeting of showpeople in the West of England under the Guild auspices was held in Anderton and Rowland's show (by kind permission of the proprietors), at Penzance, on Sunday last, June 2, at four o'clock in the afternoon.

The ultimate success of the gathering was assured by the amount of preparatory work done by the hon. local agent of the Guild, G. W. A. Norton, Esq., Beachfield, Penzance. The prominent showmen at the opening of the proceedings included Messrs. Wm. and Charles Hancock, Captain Rowland, Messrs. Anderton and Son, John Jones, J. Lawrence, Chas. Heal, Bert Jarvis, J. Leslie, A. Jones, W. Jones, R. Chapman, W. Cribb, Alf. Wright, Lock, Oldridge, Hurford, Brewer and Son, and the working staff of the various shows, machines, &c., on the ground. On the motion of the Rev. T. Horne and Mr. Wm. Hancock, Captain Rowland was voted in the chair. In a pithy opening speech, the chairman said that the great object before them was the important question of trade defence. This work was being done now, and had been well done for many years past, by the Guild. He felt sure that when they had heard their friends, the chief speakers of that gathering, the Rev. T. Horne, and Mr. Norton, their local champion and trade defender, all of them would recognise their duty and their privilege to join the society, and to strengthen its officers in their useful work. (Applause.) He, therefore, asked Mr. Norton to address the meeting.

A Trades Union Necessary.

Mr. Norton was cheered on rising to speak. He claimed to be in complete sympathy with the life and work of the travelling showmen. He knew the arduous and exacting nature of their business in life. Because he knew that he strongly urged them to combine, and to stand together as one man, for trade defence. A trades union was necessary.

In the Showmen's Guild that protective force they needed was found. He reminded them how various corporations had endeavoured to obtain excessive powers by Private Bill legislation; how other corporations had tried to obtain obnoxious bye-laws, penalising and injuring the show business. He submitted that the Showmen's Guild, by reason of its intimate knowledge of the fair-ground business, was best able to cope with such difficulties, and consequently merited the generous and loyal support of the fraternity of the road.

Whilst they readily admitted that the Guild had not been so active in the West as in the North and other parts of the kingdom, yet none the less the victories gained by the organised showmen in other districts had acted as a wholesome deterrent to corporations and public bodies all over the land. They might not know it, yet it was true, that a victory in any part of the United Kingdom

THREE CHUMS.
THE ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, SOUTHPORT.
The Little Girls are the Two Daughters of Mr. W. Simpson Cross, the Liverpool Naturalist.

strengthened the whole body of amusement caterers. (Applause.) If the travellers would but combine in one federation, such as the Showmen's Guild, and thus present a solid and united front to all their enemies, then would corporations hesitate to propose either obnoxious bye-laws or to seek excessive powers by Act of Parliament. (Cheers.)

The Organising Chaplain on the Guild.

Mr. Horne received an ovation on rising to commence his address. At the outset he explained why no meetings had been held on the West of England round. First of all, they must recognise that only this very year had he, personally, become free to attend those meetings. For many years past he had given his holidays—and a few other days taken from his hitherto fixed clerical work—to organise and to speak at meetings of showpeople. These necessarily limited opportunities had been given to such places as he could readily take. Hence a long journey West was a practical impossibility until this year. This year already he had taken big centres of show-life—at Manchester, Wrexham, Knutsford, Preston, Birmingham—and now he was with them at the earliest possible moment in the West. (Applause.)

He desired to tell them what the Guild had done for the show community in the past, what it is doing in the present, and what, in all human probability stands before it in the near future. "In the past twenty years of strenuous work the Guild has defended the liberty and the sanctity of the showman's home on wheels. We have made our enemies understand that, as loyal British subjects, we repel all mistaken efforts to stigmatise our domestic life, or to mark us and our little ones as fit subjects for special and invidious laws. We defeated the Movable Dwellings Bill of the late George Smith, and we have defeated since all attempts to pass legislation that would impose upon us pains and penalties not applicable or necessary for dwellers in houses of brick or stone. We claim, and the Legislature has upheld that claim, that the laws that govern fixed dwellings are ample enough for movable ones. We recognise that the Public Health Acts rightly apply to our houses on wheels, as to town-dwellers' houses, and we are contented with the same safeguards for health and the laws that secure the liberty of the subject." (Great applause).

Local Government and Show Life.

For many years past they had fought all attacks, whether from individuals or from corporations and local governing bodies, on the showman's mode of life and trade. Powerful corporations had attempted in various ways to injure the show business. He detailed examples of this, and showed how free trade in fairs had been won, how local bodies had been taught that Parliament would not sanction by Private Bill legislation powers in restraint of trade or grant powers in excess of the general law of the land to curtail the hours in which shows, roundabouts, and fairground amusements should be open. (Cheers.) These were the great governing principles of their daily life that the Guild had fought for and had won. It did not matter whether their circuit was east, west, north, or south, the same law, the same liberty was theirs, and it was a most narrow and partial view of their responsibility to even conclude (as he feared some had done in the past, "Oh, it does not affect me here on my round, why, then should I bother to support a movement that defends, the northern, the southern, and the eastern showpeople, but never touches me or mine?" He seriously warned them against any such selfish or narrow view of their life. No matter where the fight raged—here or in the north—the effect on public opinion was just the same. A victory for liberty, life, and work won at Leeds or at Durham was a victory that benefited showpeople all over the land. (Great applause.) He dwelt upon the necessity of maintaining a constant watch upon their enemies, a constant and strong trade organisation to deal with all possible attacks, and to keep before the show-loving public the truth concerning the showman, his family, and his avocation in life.

The Cost of Trade Defence.

The annual report and financial statement had been placed in their hands. A reference to that would clearly demonstrate that the Showmen's Guild was the most economically-worked trade society in existence. They only had one paid worker, the secretary, who kept, and who, under his own personal supervision, dealt with the ever-increasing volume of correspondence. All the other workers, like their great friend Mr. Norton, were honorary and unpaid. (Applause.) In Parliamentary defence work they had spent over £3000; in defence of the people's fairs nearly £1000. Every day the Showmen's Guild kept watch and ward over their trade interests. No matter where the danger arose—in the most distant corner of the kingdom, or in the heart of the land—the battle-ground, in the end, was London. Their rights had to be fought at the heart of the Empire, and most frequently in Parliament itself.

That was why the Guild was centred in the metropolis, in order all the better to do its necessary and benficent work. He concluded a closely-reasoned address, which was followed with the utmost attention, by exhorting those present to join the Guild, and so help to strengthen the work of showman trade defence, and to preserve to the people of their busy Empire the open-air amusements of their popular fairs. (Great and continued applause.)

Mr. William Hancock's Speech.

As one of the oldest showmen on the Western circuit Mr. Hancock begged leave to speak a few words after their reverend friend, whose speech he endorsed most heartily. He especially wished to emphasise what had been said with regard to the necessity of trade defence in order to deal with the growing exactions of Corporations and other public bodies. What more glaring instance could they have than the fair they were now attending? Forty years ago, the biggest show or menagerie attending paid only 30s. for ground rent for Penzance Fair; roundabouts, £1; shooting-games and side-shows, about 10s.; stalls, 1s. 6d. or 1s. a day. Now they exacted £16 to £18 for a big show, £10 to £18 for a machine, £2 for a shooting-gallery or throwing game, and small things on the same exorbitant scale. What were they to do? Why, the answer was for them all to join together and to ask for equitable and reasonable tollage—tolls that would leave a fair return for their labour and capital sunk in their business. (Applause.) He, for his part, would do all he could to help in the matter, whether it were done by the Guild or by active union amongst West Country showmen themselves, with the power of the Guild to back them. His firm would most certainly renew their subscription to the Guild funds.

Captain Rowland's Speech.

The object before them was quite clear. They had to support the Guild and its protective work. He and his partner would set the ball rolling by subscribing 3 guineas. (Applause.) Let every proprietor and every stall-holder join the society, and then its good work would go forward. With increase of funds there would be increased efficiency. He felt deeply grateful to Mr. Horne for all the noble work he had done for them; also to Mr. Norton, whom all Western showpeople respected and highly valued. He concluded by calling upon those present to join the society.

The following members were enrolled:

Per MR. G. W. A. NORTON, Hon. Agent.	£	s.	d.
Messrs. Anderton and Rowland	3	3	0
Messrs. W. C. and S. Hancock	2	2	0
Charles Heal	1	1	0
J. Brewer	1	1	0
Wm. Rowland	0	10	6
John Jones	0	5	0
Mrs. Lock	0	5	0
Mrs. Oldridge	0	5	0
A. Jones	0	5	0
Wm. Jones	0	5	0
R. Chapman	0	5	0
J. Lawrence	0	5	0
W. Cribb	0	5	0

A conference then took place on the question of ground rent at Penzance, Messrs. Hancock, Jones, Rowland, Lawrence and others taking part in the discussion, and a petition to the Corporation was formulated asking for more reasonable tolls at the next fair.

The Guild Service.

Hundreds of people were turned away unable to gain admission to Anderton and Rowland's theatre at the Showmen's Evensong at the fair. The Vicar of Penzance and his choir boys took part in the service. The Vicar of St. John's (the parish church of the fairground) was also present, and amongst the congregation were the Mayor, the Mayoress, and party. The Rev. T. Horne preached an impressive sermon on the story of "Dives and Lazarus," the Holy Gospel of the day.

From every point of view a remarkable success resulted from the first work of the Guild at Penzance Fair.

WEST BROMWICH fancy fair took place on the old Albion football ground, and consisted of P. Collins's No. 3 motors and racing cockerels, also the slipping-the-slip; Mrs. J. Hayes's swings, overboats, and big boat; S. Dobson's juvenile horses; Sagar's palace of delight and animated photography; Mander's star menagerie; Stokes and Scarf with Aunt Sallies; Whyatt's shooting saloon; and cocoanuts by Hayes, Wagstaffe, Whyatt, Humphries, and Price; the whole doing record business considering the bad weather.

A PATENT has been granted in London to an inventor in Victoria (N.S.W.) for an aquatic roundabout, which consists of submergible torpedo-shaped boats, with transparent sides, which are to revolve in a tank of water, ascending and descending as they revolve.

THE Agricultural Hall at Canterbury has been occupied since Wednesday by Purchase's world famed menagerie.

THE bioscope pictures, including many interesting and beautiful films, are still a source of great attraction at the Prince's, Poplar, where record business is being done. The general-manager, Mr. C. Melville Lurring, is to be congratulated upon the remarkable success of his efforts.

PENZANCE FAIR.
A MEDIÆVAL FESTIVAL IN AN OLD-WORLD SETTING.

"Apples of silver,
In a golden frame."

Such is Penzance Fair at Corpus Christi-tide. The Cornishman of to-day may know next to nothing about the origin of the Fair, nor care to recall those wonderful days in the olden time when the winding and zig-zag streets of their picturesque town were thronged with thousands of devout sightseers, come to Penzance to take their part reverently in the glorious procession of the Blessed Sacrament. The fine old church of St. Mary was then but a chapel, served by the monks of St. Buryan, the minster abbey and the mother-church of the Land's End.

We many well picture the moving panorama of life in the Middle Ages, the procession and adoration of Corpus Christi, as it made its way along the principal streets of the town, starting from church, and back again to church—the white-robed choristers chanting "Pange Lingua":—

"Now my tongue, the mystery telling,
Of the Glorious Body sing,
And the Blood, all price excelling,
Which the Gentiles' Lord and King,
In a Virgin's womb once dwelling,
Shed for this world's ransoming."

How the lusty monks—the miners and the fishers of those days—would take up the song as the majestic shrine on which the sacrament was carried, shoulder high, by priests and acolytes, wended its stately way in solemn pageant. Beneath the baldachino of the moving shrine the sacrament was carried for the adoration of the attendant throng, the bishops, the abbot, the monks and clergy in the rich robes of their several degrees and place in the hierarchy of the Church, the guilds and guildsmen, and women in the garb and regalia of their trade and craft. Music, song, and joy of colour—such was the religious pageantry of Corpus Christi in the olden time.

To-day there is no procession through the streets; but at St. Mary's Church—the link with the glorious past is still unbroken—"Pange Lingua" was sung as the white-robed choir, led by cross-bearer, moved to its glorious music in stately dignity through the aisle to the sanctuary and choir stalls—a symbolic joyance of colour, music, and odour of sweet incense. Such is still, in these days of scepticism, of materialism, and religious upheaval, the Feast of the Blessed Sacrament at Penzance at Corpus Christi. In that we had our part and lot, and rejoiced that to-day the olden-time pageant is still expressed, still lived in modern mode and life. The Church side of the festival, as regards its open-air celebration, has not endured; but the secular side of Corpus Christi has survived the wear and tear of the ages. The old charter pleasure fair begins always on Corpus Christi day (the Thursday after Trinity Sunday), and lasts three days. The crowds come into Penzance to keep the feast. The continuity of the people's pleasure fair has never been broken.

With the People at the Fair.

Speeding on from Plymouth to Penzance, through the Cornish Riviera, we were soon told that Penzance Fair was the goal of the throng of people that boarded our train. From Redruth downward to Penzance the stations were crowded by eager men, women, and children, all bound for the fair. Speedily we were packed like pilchards in a barrel, such a merry, joyous pack, such bursting vigour of young life, willing to stand—yes, willing to cling like flies to the carriage roof—that they might reach the fair, and save the awful wait of twenty minutes for the next train. "No. Wait twenty minutes at the dull everyday station, when at Penzance is the fair. Not us'en. We'm bound for Corpus Christi Fair, and we'm agoin' by thicky train." So cheerfully shouted every "Jan" and every "Mary" as they invaded and possessed every inch of standing room. When at length the train reached the end of its journey, and it was emptied of its living freight, what an invasion it was. The station, the streets—crowded—crowded. Oh, the perspiring eagerness of that throng, the rushing pilgrimage to the fairground of that jocund multitude. Who is going to abolish a fair in Cornwall? If any would-be despoiler of the people's fairs contemplates such an adventure, we advise him to pause and consider well the love of the people for their ancient fairs and open-air holiday times. We bid such mistaken zealot remember:—

"Sixty thousand Cornishmen
Will know the reason why."

An Olden Fair in Modern Panoply.

It is a charter fair, and the Corporation of Penzance wisely determine to provide a suitable site. The venue of the fair has been changed four times within the last forty years. Mr. Wm. Hancock, the senior partner in the well-known West of England showman firm, W. C. and S. Hancock, well remembers the changes in the site during that period. It is now held on the recreation ground—in every way an admirable fair-ground. The shows, &c., are arranged in the great quadrangle of the ground, machines one side, shows another side, shooting concerns and throwing games on a third side, and the fourth side is broken up to afford the necessary entrance avenues and commodious exits. Facing the entrance avenue at the top side of the square were the magnificent cinematograph theatres of W. C. and S. Hancock and Anderton and Rowland, and with them the celebrated West of England show, Jones's Theatre of Vaudeville and Animated Photography. Next, in order of position, were, Alf. Wright's Cornish boxing booth, Lawrence's bijou marionette theatre, and "Beautiful Amelia," the giant lady.

Hancocks' Exhibits.

First in order of merit and importance was the show, a superb example of the best kind of cinematography and varieties. The inside performance, amongst the very best of its kind, and the outside parade and the illuminated front (glorious in thousands of many-coloured electric lamps) made it a great centre of attraction and delight to thousands of eager patrons. The motor-car track, the four-abreast gallopers, and the helter-skelter, were the machine exhibits of the firm, and all maintained the high reputation of these well-known caterers of amusements.

Anderton and Rowland's Exhibits.

The magnificent Coliseum of Varieties and Living Pictures was, like its neighbour, the Hancocks' show, deservedly popular, and crowded at every performance. It is but scant praise to say that these enterprising showmen are up-to-date; Messrs. Anderton and Rowland are more than that, they are in advance of to-day, and quite ready for to-morrow. A splendid show inside and out, a capital company of variety artists, good on the outside parade and on the stage within, a thoroughly up-to-date range of high-class films—these things manifest the business enterprise of its proprietors, and the secret of their abounding success. The other exhibit of this firm was the fine set of Venetian gondolas, "Venice at the Fair."

John Jones's Exhibits.

The vaudeville theatre and cinematograph, in which the members of the clever Jones family take the chief part. The excellent programme of variety turns included J. Leslie, comedian, Saldo, the youthful Sandow, winsome and lightsome Sophie Jones, the champion child dancer of the West, and Misses Jones, dancers and vocalists. The pictures were described and the variety items

introduced by Mr. John Jones, the inimitable raconteur, descriptive lecturer, and proprietor of the show. The other concerns under Mr. Jones's banner included shooting galleries and throwing games.

Side Shows and Shooters.

There was Lawrence's marionette theatre, a gem exhibition, outside and in, a show that would be welcome on every fair-ground in the country. The miniature stage, the fantocina, and the marionette pantomime were all delightful, and worked as only expert figure workers, like the Lawrence family, can work them. Alf. Wright and school of boxers gave challenge to the brawn and thews of Cornwall to enter the ring in friendly bout with the scientists of fistiana" within. "Beautiful Amelia," the marvel of adipose tissue, yet withal lissome, graceful, and charming of figure, was the object of wonder and admiration to crowds of sightseers. Mrs. Lock, Mr. Hurford, Mr. Oldridge, and Mr. A. Jones provided excellent shooting ranges for the expert and amateur marksmen of Penzance.

Other Machine Novelties.

One side of the fair-ground was fully occupied by the riding machines. Amongst those not already noticed were the machines of Brewers and Sons and Chas. Heal, with splendid electrical plant and orchestraphones, motor-cars, flying motors, galloping horses, and birds; the big wheel and manual swings of Chapman, and gem sets by other caterers.

Throwing Games, Variety Stalls, &c.

Rowland's stalls, Hamlyn's stalls, Cribb's photo booth, Antonio's stalls, and throwing games, strikers, and all the fun of the fair, by Messrs. Hurford, Lock, Jones, Rowland, jun., Chapman, Oldridge, and others.

From Penzance, the bulk of the concerns go to Falmouth, but we understand that Messrs. Anderton and Rowland take a short season of private business at Newquay.

South Wales Notes.

MR. JOHN JOHNSON, Barry Dock, judging by record houses, has certainly endeared himself to the local people. His generosity to local charities and "helping the lame dog over the style" is the success of his popularity. "Electric light throughout."

MESSRS. JOHNSON BROS., at Brynmawr, are having a successful season. James Day is at Aberavon with Mollie's striker and cokers.

IN an interview with Mr. John Studt in connection with the following cutting from the *Western Mail* of May 31, he intends going through with the matter, as he is on the right side of the hedge, so to speak :—

Curious Contretemps at the Treorky Fair.

THE Treorky annual fair is a well-patronised fixture, and, as usual, on these occasions, Mr. John Studt's concern forms the chief attraction apart from other features; but this week there has been brought about a curious and disconcerting contretemps. It appears that Mr. Studt, the well-known showman, had made arrangements for the use of a waste piece of ground used for tipping purposes by the District Council, near the Tynybedw Siding, the Rhondda River having here been diverted from its original bed for the purpose, and had rented it from the Bute Estate, the owners of the property. After some preliminary work in the direction of levelling the ground, Mr. Studt brought to the spot the paraphernalia of his show, the whole weighing about 120 tons. Now, however, it transpires that the Ocean Coal Co. are sub-lessees of the plot, and have consequently served Mr. Studt, whom they allege to be a trespasser, with peremptory notice to quit, although the fair, which this year is proving an unprecedented success, is fixed to last till Tuesday next. Surveyors are now on the scene, but Mr. Studt sticks to his post, and expresses his determination to remain there until next Tuesday, when his period of tenency expires, and developments are now being awaited with considerable local interest, as the fair mainly depends upon Mr. Studt being allowed to continue in possession.

TO-DAY John Scot's Royal Circus opens at Whit stable.

SHOWMEN ANSWERS.

LEON GOULD *is asked to communicate with the Guild Secretary,* THE ERA *Office, at once.*

C. SHAW.—*The mistake was owing to the absence of the Hon. Chaplain from town.*

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SYDNEY, APRIL 30. — *Brigadier Gerard* is Mr. J. C. Williamson's newest bill at the Theatre Royal, and Mr. Julius Knight makes the Gascon braggart and swashbuckler a hero full of finesse and courage. Mr. Harry Plimmer brings Major Ollivier into noteworthy prominence; and Mr. Hubert Willis gives a capital character-study of Napoleon. The wily, chuckling diplomat, Talleyrand, falls to Mr. Leslie Victor, who does his best with him. Miss Marion Grey appears as the Comtesse; whilst Miss Dorothy Sydney fills all the requirements of the maid, Agnes. The play is capitally mounted, scened, and costumed, and as all stories dealing with Napoleon are popular her, the performance was warmly applauded.

"WHAT WOULD A GENTLEMAN DO?" finds the Brough-Flemming Comedy Company all at their very best: a judiciously-apportioned cast and conscientious acting is the rule wherever Mr. Herbert Flemming is directing. Mr. Gregan McMahon makes the hit of his career as Dickie Hood. Miss Beatrice Day is always good, and her Dolly Banter adds another high-class portrait to her gallery. Miss Bessie Major, whom we are too soon to lose, makes Agatha just the author's Agatha. Miss Kate Gair (Lady Nora Harvey), Miss Gordon Lee (Madge Kederby), Mr. Edgar Payne (Colonel Sir Bruce Kederby), Mr. Norman McKeown (Geoffrey Seaton), Mr. Carter Pickford (Sir Christopher Wynne), and Mr. John F. Forde (Sergeant Rodd), were all excellent. Mr. Harry Whaite painted the scenery, and was "called" for it. *In Honour Bound* preceded the comedy, and in the one-act play Mr. Herbert Flemming, Miss Beatrice Day, Miss Gordon Lee, and Mr. Carter Pickford sustained their old rôles with usual skill.

"MOTHER GOOSE" keeps Mr. J. C. Williamson's patrons at Her Majesty's busy and boisterous. There seems to be no sort of prospect of a falling-off in anything, and the run threatens to break the Melbourne record of thirteen weeks.

THE Tivoli habitués greet Amiel with enthusiasm at every performance. His marvellous contortions are so graceful and devoid of the shudder-provoking element that the theatre is filled with people belonging to the best circles of society. Charlene and Charlene, Fred Bluett, Master Joseph Dewhurst, and others never fail to please. King and Benson appear in a new sketch, *The Newsboy's Courtship*, in which the lady uses the Yorkshire dialect to perfection. Miss Bijou Russell, the latest arrival, has captured the public with her coon songs.

THE Empire operators will be busy at Olympia next week securing pictures of the Horse Show. Excellent new films of the famous Weybridge Motor Track have been obtained, and, later, pictures of the Richmond Show will be presented. The Empire has secured exclusive rights in these two latter films.

MR. FRED KARNO will produce at the Canterbury, on Monday, the 17th inst., with a special company, a new and original sketch, entitled *London Suburbia.*

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, MAY 8.—Mme. Alla Nazimova has scored an emphatic success at the Bijou Theatre in a three-act comedy from the Italian of Robert Bracco, called *Comtesse Coquette.* The piece was translated by Dirce St. Cyr and Grace Isabel Colbron, and was produced by Mr. Henry Miller. Comte Silvio and Comtesse Nina have a perfect understanding as husband and wife. She is a noted flirt, and he is to permit her to keep her men friends without displaying any jealousy, having declared that his faith in her is so great that he will never question her actions. Then the Comtesse meets Gino Riccardi, and he taunts her about her honour, daring her to let herself be tempted. She is amused at the man's complacency and self-conceit, and when he declares that she would never dare to trust herself to him alone, in his apartment, where he could bring all his wiles to bear upon her, she laughs and accepts his challenge. She will be at his rooms at two o'clock on the following afternoon. The next act finds Gino laying his net in his studio. On the writing-desk lies a poem which he has just dedicated to her. Hearing footsteps, he sits down at the piano and sings a love song to her. When he turns round he finds to his dismay that instead of Nina it is Silvio, her husband. Gino gets rid of him, and Nina arrives, perfectly cool and charming. She objects to the metre of his poem, criticises his pictures, and finds fault with him in general. Then, removing her cloak, she seats herself, exclaiming demurely: "Here I am. Now tempt me." Gino is nonplussed, and before he can make any progress in his love-making, Nina strolls to the window and discovers that her husband is watching the house from across the street. Gino sees his chance at last. He offers her the key of a side door through which she can make her escape unseen; but she must pay for it with a kiss. Nina scorns him, however, and walking to the window calls to her husband to come up. He enters, believing the worst of her, and they leave together. The third act, several weeks later, takes place in her boudoir. She and her husband are not on speaking terms, and she has written Gino to come and see her. Before Gino arrives, however, Silvio presents himself, and begs for a reconciliation, declaring that he does not care what she has done, he is willing to forgive her. But Nina tells him that his distrust has killed all her love for him as her husband. Then, to add to his despair, she tells him that she has at last found a lover whom she adores. Silvio demands his name, and leaning over to him with a laugh, she whispers "You!" She explains that, after mature reflection, she has discovered that while he has proved a failure as a husband, he will be a huge success as a lover. Gino is announced. Husband and wife run into the bedroom and close the door. Gino titivates himself before Nina's mirror, nonchantly removes his gloves, and hums a tune. Nina and Silvio open the door and peep at him. He hears their tittering, understands, takes his hat, and tiptoes from the room, followed by peals of laughter. Mme. Nazimova, as the Comtesse, acts the part in a most engaging manner, and is ably supported by Messrs. Guy Standing, Arthur Forrest, and Ernest Elton.

NEW YORK, MAY 15.—*The Primrose Path,* a drama in four acts, by Bayard Veiller, was produced at the Majestic Theatre on the 6th inst. The play is based to some extent on a novel by Lucas Malet, entitled "The Wages of Sin," and was written for the author's wife, Miss Margaret Wycherley, who appeared as the heroine, Joan Treghenna, and made a very favourable impression. There are four scenes, the first being laid in Paris, and the other three in New York. Ned Templeton, a talented young American artist, is lying ill with brain fever in a poverty-stricken garret in the Latin Quarter. Joan, a young Devonshire girl, has been living with him for some months, and her love for him is so great that when it becomes absolutely necessary to obtain money with which to purchase food and medicine for the delirious man, and the landlord refuses to wait more than a few hours for the rent, she betakes herself to the streets, where for the time being she becomes a prostitute. Templeton recovers, thanks to the girl's sacrifice, and is led to believe that the funds came in a letter from Joan's father. In the second act the two are living in New York. Templeton's picture, "The Primrose Path," for which Joan has posed, has attracted the attention of James Cartwright, a millionaire, who has purchased it for $5000, has presented it to the Metropolitan Museum of Fine Arts, and has given the young artist commissions which will bring him fame and fortune. Cartwright has a daughter, Helen, the sole heiress to his fortune. Whilst Templeton is spending three weeks at the Cartwright country seat painting the millionaire's portrait the two young persons fall in love, and when Ned returns to Joan, flushed with success and with plenty of money in his pocket, he tells her that they must part.

Joan, when she realises that she is to be cast off by the man she has loved and worse than died for, resolves to tell her great secret to any woman who ever attempts to marry her Ned. This opportunity comes in the third act, in the life class of an art school endowed by Cartwright, whose daughter, Helen, is a member of the school. Joan has not seen Ned for months, and has gone back to her old life of a model, while Ned has that very morning been installed as the director of the school. His engagement to Helen Cartwright has just been announced, and while he is out of the room the new model, Joan, has mounted the platform when Templeton returns. Hurriedly dismissing the young ladies of the class, he has a stormy interview with her, and during his absence Helen enters the class room. Templeton returns again in time to hear his former mistress tell his fiancée the story of how she saved his life. This is the great scene of the play, and it was acted by Miss Wycherley in a very effective manner.

In the last act Ned and Joan are together again. They call on Miss Cartwright almost simultaneously, and Joan hears Ned tell Helen that he loves her, and that while he must continue to live with the woman who has sacrificed herself for him his existence has become unbearable. Then Joan steps between the two. She has seen a new light. She is going back to Devonshire, back to her own people. There is something more for a woman to do than to love a man who is unworthy of her devotion. So she bids them both good-bye and passes out into the night alone.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

Last Saturday, June 1, Wagner's opera, *Der fliegende Holländer,* was given for the first time this season, and in spite of the dismal weather a large audience, headed by the King and Queen, were present. The cast on Saturday was, in many respects, excellent, Mme. Destinn displaying the romantic as well as the dramatic side of Senta's character. Mme. Destinn sang the music with great expression, being particularly happy in her rendering of Senta's ballad. As the Dutchman, Herr van Rooy's fine acting and singing made a deep impression, and the great duet between Senta and the Hollander was beautifully sung. Mr. Griswold, who has been trained at the Royal College of Music, proved an excellent Daland; while Herr Knote acted and sang with great intelligence in the part of Eric, Senta's lover, and the music of the Steersman was capitally sung by Herr Neitan. Mme. Tolli, in the character of Mary, completed the cast. The opera was picturesquely mounted, and the chorus singing admirable. The stage management and scenic effects were most effective, and the orchestral playing, under Dr. Richter, was simply perfect.

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WANTED, First-class Companies, for DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E. July 29, Aug. 5, 12, Oct. 28, Dec. 16, Jan. 20, Feb. 10, 17, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Oct. 14, Nov. 4, 25, Dec. 2, Feb. 3, 10, 17, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER,
Aug. 5, 12, 19, Dec. 9, Feb. 24, March 2, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER,
Oct. 14, 21, Nov. 11, 18, 25, Dec. 9, Jan. 27, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON,
Aug. 5, 12, 19, 26, Sept. 16, Nov. 11, 18, Dec. 9, Feb. 10, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD,
June 24, Aug. 19, Sept. 2, Oct. 7, Dec. 16, Jan. 6, 20, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON,
Aug. 12, Sept. 2, Nov. 18, 25, Dec. 2, 16, Feb. 3, 10, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER,
Aug. 5, 12, 19, Sept. 9, 30, Oct. 7, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON,
Sept. 2, 9, 16, 23, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, Important Attractions, Terriss Theatre, Sept. 16; Grand Theatre, Aug. 19 and Sept. 23. WALTER MELVILLE, Standard T., E.

WANTED, First-Class Companies, GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE, July 29, Aug. 12.
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD, July 22.
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Sept. 30, Oct. 7, 14, 21, Nov. 4, onwards.
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Aug. 12, 19, 26, Sept. 2, 9 (three nights only).
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Thoroughly Up-to-date, Re-opens July 29.
Electricity throughout; new scenery; large stage dimensions.
WANTED, First-class Attractions. Holds £100 at ordinary prices.
Only Vacant Dates,
Sept. 5, 6, 7; 12, 13, 14; 19, 20, 21.
Must be the best Attractions on the road.
HENRY HAGUE, General-Manager.

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WANTED, First-class Pantomime, Theatre Royal, Halifax, Dec. 23, 30; Theatre Royal, Bury, Jan. 6, 13.
Full particulars to
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Apply, Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR, 24A, Regent-street, S.W.

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WANTED, for Autumn and Spring, with exceptions, First-class Musical and Dramatic Attractions. London Managers, Note.—We draw from a population of 100,000. One of the most Magnificent Theatres in England, without opposition. L. CARSON, Keighley.

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WANTED, July 1, 8, Powerful, High-Class Play or Musical Comedy.
WM. MORTON.

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WANTED, Special Attraction, for June 17, June 17, June 17,
Silence in all cases a polite negative.
Apply, Mr. C. F. WILLIAMS, T. R., Plymouth.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTHEND.
WANTED, three nights, July 4, 5, and 6, week July 29 (Cricket Week), also three nights, Dec. 26, 27, and 28, and weeks Oct. 14 and Dec. 16, for Musical Comedies or High-Class Shows.
Apply, GEORGE CONQUEST.

CORK OPERA HOUSE.
Vacant Dates.
June 17, 24, July 1, 8, 15, 22, Aug. 12, 19.
WANTED, a Strong Musical Attraction, for July 1, the great Horse and Dog Show week. Applications to Mr. JOHN HORGAN, Manager.

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WANTED, First-class Attractions, Dec. 16, April 13, and onwards.
Address, T. ALLAN EDWARDES.

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WANTED, First-class Attractions, Sept. 9, 23, Nov. 25, Dec. 2.
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Apply, EGBERT LEWIS.

COMPANIES WANTED.

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Vacant July 15, 22, and 29, onward (with exceptions).

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Vac. June 10, 24, July 1, onward, with exceptions. (Last three nights of each week).

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Vacant June 10, 24, onward, with exceptions.

METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant Aug. 5, 12, 19, onward (with exceptions).

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE
Vacant Aug. 5, 12, 19, onward (with exceptions).

"THE LOST CHORD."
Vacant Aug. 26, onward (with exceptions).

"THE SPAN OF LIFE,"
Vacant July 22, 29, onward, with exceptions.

"CINDERELLA,"
Vacant Feb. 24, March 2, 9, onward (with exceptions).

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Holding Capacity, 3,500.
See Mr. Charles Manners' Letter in "The Era" of April 6.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, No 1 Attractions only.
July 22, 29, still open.
Special Terms to Special Attractions.
Share or Certainty.
Open to Negotiate for Easter Panto., 1908, 2 weeks.
All Communications, JNO. ED. JOWSEY, Grand Opera House, Middlesbrough.
Telegrams, "Magnet," Middlesbrough. Telephones, 413, 426, 500.
Silence a Polite Negative.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Companies, for July 15 and 29.
Address, CHARLES REVILL, Theatre Royal, Stockport.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-Class Dramatic Attractions, July 8, 29.
E. H. PAGE.

GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions, June 24, July 1, 8, on; also Big Atractions for August Bank Holiday, and First-class Panto. for Xmas. FRED GRANVILLE, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLNE, LANCS.
WANTED, Good Companies, Aug. 26 (through transferring), Sept. 9, and few intermediate dates later. Address, GERALD HARDING.

EDEN THEATRE, BISHOP AUCKLAND.
WANTED, Really Good Attractions, for Aug. 19 (?), Sept. 2, 16, Oct. 7, 14, Nov. 4, 11, Dec. 2, 9, 16, Jan. 6, 13, 27, on.
R. ADDISON, LIMITED.

OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Companies, July 15 and 29.
Apply,
STANLEY ROGERS, 124, Warwick-road, Carlisle.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Peterborough, good Companies, Aug. 5, on.
A. D. VERNON.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, MEXBORO'.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, Aug. 5.
Address, W. H. MELTON.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies for June 24, July 1, 8, 22, and Aug. 5. Address, E. B. GOULDEN.

WANTED, Best Companies, Comedies preferred. June 24, July 1 and 15, 16, 17, 18, on, with exceptions. Wire PHILLIPS, Coliseum, Aberystwyth.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
Sole Lessee, JULIAN MALVERN.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, July 15, 22 (?), Sept. 23, 30.
Now booking 1908.
Address,
CHAS. M. JULIAN, General-Manager.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, Sept. 2, 9, 16, Oct. 7, 14, 21, Dec. 2, 16.
Wanted, Pantomime, Dec. 30.
Apply to Mr. JAMES KIERNAN.

STANLEY, DURHAM, NEW ROYAL, LTD.
WANTED, Big Attraction, July 1, owing to extension of season; enormous business last week with Dr. Bodie; hundreds turned away nightly; returns after five weeks' absence. This week, Harry Burns's Excellent Combination. Apply, MARK H. LINDON.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies for two nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. ASHTON, Strand, Barnstaple.

WANTED, First-Class Company, for July 22, three nights, to open Season at Grand Theatre, Llandudno. Address, HALDANE CRICHTON, East Molesey.

WANTED, Special Attractions, No. 1 Companies, for August Bank Holiday and onwards; good holiday date; electric light. JONES, Grand Theatre, Aberavon.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
W. J. COTTON, Proprietor.
Seats 600; Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, share or rent. Sole Booking Agent, SIDNEY HAMILTON, Piccadilly-mansions, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

COMPANIES WANTED.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessees and Managers, MR. and MRS. CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.
The Leading Theatre of the Town.
The Only Theatre in the Town Lighted by Electricity.
The Only Theatre in the Town allowed to Advertise on the Electric Cars.
The Theatre which does the Business.
Now in Course of Rebuilding.
The Seating Capacity of each part of the House is being Largely Increased.
The Holding Capacity of the Theatre will be Second to None in the Town.
The Stage will be Capable of any Production Touring, will be able to fly a 36ft. cloth.
The Theatre will Re-open Aug. 5.
The Theatre will Re-open Aug. 5.
Autumn Bookings include
"The Dairymaids,"
Mr. James Welch's Co., in "When Knights Were Bold,"
Miss Annie Hughes, in "Tommy,"
Mr. Norman Macowan, in "Monsieur Beaucaire," "The Little Stranger"
(including Master Edward Garrett),
"A Trip to the Highlands,"
Mr. Bannister Howard's No. 1 Company, "The Eternal City,"
Mr. Walter Maxwell's Co., "The Lion and The Mouse" (third visit),
Mr. Charles Cartwright and Co., "In the Bishop's Carriage,"
and other of the Principal Attractions Touring.
WANTED, Exceptional Attractions, Aug. 12, 19, and Various, onwards.
CALVERT ROUTLEDGE, H. M. T., Barrow.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions, QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH, QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH, July 1, 8, 15, 22, Aug. 5, 12, 19. July 1, 8, 15, 22, Aug. 5, 12, 19.
ALBERT THEATRE, BRIGHOUSE, Sept. 2, 16, 23, 30.
MORTON POWELL, Crown Theatre, Peckham, S.E.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, High-class Attractions, for Aug. 12, 19, Sept. 2, 9, and onwards, with exceptions. Required, Big Atraction for Xmas and New Year's Weeks.
Address,
THOS. SWINTON.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Musical Attractions, Aug. 5, 19, Oct. 14, 28, Nov. 11, 18, 25. Good Pantomime required for Dec. 23, 30.
JAMES BELL.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE GIRL WHO TOOK THE WRONG TURNING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres, Oct. 7, Nov. 18.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE SOLDIER'S WEDDING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 9 and 23. Apply,
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 12, Dec. 2.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 12, 19, Sept. 23, and Dec. 23, 30.
FREDERICK MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 23, 30, Dec. 23, 30.
FREDERICK MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

FRED MELVILLE'S NEW PRODUCTION.
"HER ROAD TO RUIN."
WANTED, Aug. 12, Oct. 28.
FREDERICK MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 30, Nov. 18, 25, Jan., on.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 16, Oct. 21, Nov. 11, Xmas, Jan. 30, on.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Dec. 23, Jan. 6 13, Feb. 3, 17, March 2, 23.
DOUGLAS BRUCE, 22, Upper Hagley-rd., Birmingham.

"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY."
The Most Successful Play Produced during the year 1906.
WANTED, Sept. 2 and 9, in First-Class Theatres only. Wire or write,
W. W. KELLY,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, Weeks of Sept. 16 and 23, Scala Production.
Wire or write,
W. W. KELLY,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN" and "THE OCTOROON."
with all the Special Scenery, Own Printing, Big Company, Real Negro Specialities, &c.
WANTED, Theatres, July 8, 22, on.
CHARLES HARRINGTON, T. R., Bristol.

Miss DOROTHEY CACEY'S CO.
"WHEN WE WERE TWENTY-ONE."
Enormous Success this week at Brixton.
WANTED, June 24, also July 1, and various, onwards.
Wire, FRANK NELSON, Brixton Theatre, S.W.
After Saturday, Marina Theatre, Lowestoft.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, June 24, June 24. June 24, June 24. July 1, July 1. July 1, July 1.
Address, J. W. CORDINER, Opera House, Southport.
See Companies Advertisements, Page 2.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
Continued Success. Third Year.
WANTED, June 24 (Lancs or Yorks). Wire for June 24. Wire. July 1, 8, and 22. Aug. 12, follow Alexandra, Birmingham.
FRANK AYRTON, Hippodrome, Mansfield.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Maundy-Gregory, of the Waldorf Theatre, has certain Autumn Dates open for "Lights Out." Daily Mail and Record says:—"Lights Out" is undoubtedly one of the plays of the age. Apply, Waldorf Theatre.

MONTAGUE BEAUDYN'S COMPANY, "A BEAUTIFUL FIEND."
Miss Sidney Crowe in title-rôle.
WANTED, Theatres, Vacant July 1, 8, July 22, 29, Sept. 2. Great Success last week, Alex., Birmingham; also record Whit Week, Nuneaton. MONTAGUE BEAUDYN, to-day, Empire, Southend; next, East Oxford Theatre, Oxford.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Dates for
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
July 15, Aug. 5, Sept. 9, 23, Oct. 21.
The most Powerful Play Touring.
Magnificent Cast.
Superb Production.
MORTON POWELL, Crown Theatre, Peckham, S.E.

"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
WANTED, Dates for
"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
A Powerful Romantic Play.
Brilliant Uniforms.
Exceptionally Strong Company.
July 22, Sept. 23, 30, Oct. 21.
MORTON POWELL, Crown Theatre, Peckham, S.E.

"HONOUR THY FATHER."
WANTED, Wanted, for
"HONOUR THY FATHER."
"HONOUR THY FATHER."
Aug. 5, 12, 19, Sept. 9, 16, 23.
A Beautiful Production.
A Good Play; Well Acted.
MORTON POWELL, Crown Theatre, Peckham, S.E.

WANTED, First-class Theatre, for Production,
Christmas and New Year's Weeks, of
JAMES KIDDIE'S
JAMES KIDDIE'S
Latest and Up-to-date
Pantomime,
Pantomime,
"ALADDIN."
"ALADDIN."
"ALADDIN."
Managers of First-class Theatres requiring a Money Magnet for these Holiday Weeks secure the above.
A Sure Success.
Address,
JAMES KIDDIE, Alexandra Theatre, Widnes.

FRANK J. PITT and CHARLES HALLING'S CO.
"£1,000 REWARD."
"£1,000 REWARD."
WANTED, for this Successful Attraction, Aug. 12, to follow Brighton,
Sept. 23, 30, Oct. 7, 14,
Nov. 25, Dec. 2, 16,
Dec. 23, 30.
Now booking Spring and Autumn, 1908.
Prince's, Blackburn, June 10.

CHARLES DRAYCOTT'S COS.
"A STOLEN BIRTHRIGHT."
A Greater Success than ever.
WANTED, Theatre, July 8, between A. T., Hull, and A. T., Birmingham.
Wire for July 8.
To-day, T. R., Merthyr; next, Alex. T., Sheffield.

PAUMIER AND HOWARD'S TOURS.
"THE MIDNIGHT WEDDING."
London Production, June 15.
Lyceum Theatre.
WANTED, for North Company, Nov. 4, 11, 18, 25,
all January and February.
Address,
PAUMIER AND HOWARD, Lyceum T., London, W.C.

"GREED OF GOLD."
WANTED, Wanted, for
"THE GREED OF GOLD."
"THE GREED OF GOLD."
the most Successful Melodrama of the Past ten years.
Sept. 23, Oct. 7, 14, 21.
MORTON POWELL, Crown Theatre, Peckham, S.E.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, Sept. 9 (to follow Palace, Newcastle, return), Oct. 7, and Nov. 4,
Xmas, and New Year.
Funnier than twenty Pantomimes. DICKIE CLARE, 25, Leazes Park-road, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

"THE LITTLE EARL."
WANTED, June 24, July 1 and 8, Aug. 5, on, with exceptions, for this Successful Musical Drama. Address, T. R. NUGENT, Shrewsbury; next, Muncaster, Bootle.

"A DESTROYER OF MEN."
Complete Production carried.
WANTED, weeks of June 24 and July 22.
JAMES HARE, to-day, Queen's, Longton; next, Star, Liverpool.

Miss BONWIN CARLTON'S CO.,
"THE PLUCKY NIPPER."
WANTED, June 17, 24, June 17, 24.
Wire, Wire. EDWARD SURREY,
Colosseum, Oldham.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, First-Class Theatres.
FRED BULMER, c/o "The Era." Vacation add.

EDMUND TEARLE'S TOUR.
Shakespearean and Classical Répertoire.
Also "The Three Musketeers," &c.
WANTED, July 1, 8, onwards.
Wire, Prince's Theatre, Bristol.

Miss TRIXIE TOOLE'S CO.
"THE GIRL FROM CHICAGO."
WANTED, Aug. 5, onwards, with exceptions; Troupe Dancers Toured.
Address, Theatre Royal, Aston.

Mr. BRANDON THOMAS'S COMPANY.
"CHARLEY'S AUNT."
WANTED, July 22, owing to transfer, Also Sept. 30, North.
Address, CECIL BARTH, General-Manager, Theatre Royal, Plymouth.

H. HAMILTON STEWART'S CO.
"BOOTLES' BABY."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, June 27 (3 nights to follow Scarborough), July 15, and on, with exceptions. Address, WALTER J. BAYLISS, Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh.
Wires, "King's, Glasgow."

WANTED, July 1, 8, onwards, Miss Kate Clinton and Co, "Jeanie Deans" (Kate Clinton as Jeanie), "East Lynne" (Kate Clinton as Lady Isabel), "The Green Bushes" (Kate Clinton as Miami). July 1, 8, onwards, vacant. Wire, EDMUND TEARLE, Prince's Theatre, Bristol.

"THE FRENCH SPY" CO.
WANTED, Aug. 12, Sept. 30, Oct. 7, 21.
FRED BENTON,
8, Balmoral-grove, Rhyl.

"MYSTERIES OF THE THAMES."
An entirely new Production.
WANTED, Dates, May 11, on, 1908.
Will be splendidly played.
AUGUSTINE KNIGHT, 19, Dunalley-par., Cheltenham.

"LIFE" and "EAST LYNNE."
WANTED, June 24 (?), July 8 and 22, "Wanted by the Police," Aug. 5, Sept. 9, 16, Oct. 28, Magnificent Pictorials, Powerful Co.
HERBERT BARRS, Theatre Royal, Rugby.

E. H. KNIGHT and GEORGE DENHAM'S CO.
"THE GRIP OF IRON" CO.
WANTED, Aug. 5, Sept. 2, Oct. 21, New Year's Week, Jan 6, 13, 20, Feb. 3, 10.
GEORGE DENHAM, 7, The Crescent, Barnes, S.W.

WANTED, Aug. 19, 26, Sept. 9, and on, with exceptions. One of the finest plants of printing on the road. All new scenery.
Look out for New Production at Rotunda, Liverpool, June 24, for 6 nights.
Wire or write,
JOHN B. SHINTON, to-day. T. R., Wolverhampton; Next, Rotunda, Liverpool.

SHINTON and GREENWOOD'S TOUR.
"THE PRICE OF HER SOUL,"
by Wm. Hibbert.
WANTED, Aug. 19, 26, Sept. 9, and on, with exceptions, for this tried success.
Hundreds turned away
last week at
Metropole Glasgow.
Refer Arthur Jefferson, Esq., or Charles Barnard, Esq., re business this week.

Glasgow News says: A good play, particularly well acted.
Midland Evening News: The company is an excellent one throughout, and John B. Shinton was a dignified exponent of the hero; in fact, in such a part he appears to fulfil an ideal.

"NO WEDDING BELLS FOR HER."
WANTED, for this Magnificent Attraction, Sept. 2, 9, 23, Nov. 4 and 11; also Spring Dates, 1908. Mrs. FRANK BATEMAN, 37, Beresford-st., Woolwich.

THEATRES WANTED.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN."
"THE MANXMAN."
WANTED, July 8, Aug. 5, and 12, Sept. 9, Oct. 7, and few later.
"DIVORCED,"
a New Powerful Domestic Drama; also
"DAVID GARRICK,"
can be played in conjunction (if necessary).
June 10,
T. R., Bolton (return).

MISS MARY NEIL and MR. GEORGE KIRK'S
"HER LUCK IN LONDON" CO.
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Big Theatres,
July 29, Sept. 9, 16, Oct. 7.
Communications to GEORGE KIRK,
46, Aldred-road, Crookes, Sheffield.

"A FOOL'S PARADISE."
"A FOOL'S PARADISE."
By Sydney Grundy.
WANTED, July 8, and on, with exceptions, Enormous success at Harrogate.
Strong Cast.
WYLIE THOMPSON, Opera House, Buxton.

"THE HONEYMOON."
"THE HONEYMOON."
WANTED, for this Great Musical Attraction, Sept. 23 (North),
Oct. 14, 21, 28, Nov. 11 and 18.
Twenty First-class Artists.
Special Plant of Printing.
New Elaborate Scenery and Dresses.
GILBERT PAYNE, G.P.O., St. Andrew's, Fife, N.B.

MR. WILLIAM A. ARMOUR'S COMPANY,
"THE BEST OF HER SEX."
An enormous success at every town visited. A company second to none. Splendid scenery, and the finest plant of printing on the road, by the best artists of Allen's, Stafford's, and McCaw's.
WANTED, June 24 (follow Palace, Newcastle), July 1 (precede T. R., Ashton), July 15, and on, with exceptions. W. A. ARMOUR, this, T. R., West Bromwich; next, T. R., Blyth.

MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COS.
"A SISTER'S SIN."
WANTED, July 29, for this Romantic Drama, a happy blend of Comedy and Pathos.
"A SOLDIER'S HONOUR."
All dates this year filled. F. G. KIMBERLEY, Vauxhall, The Scotlands, Wolverhampton.

MISS EMMA LITCHFIELD'S COMPANY.
"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR."
WANTED, June 17 (wire), July 1, on,
"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR."
"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR."
Twelve in Cast and Trained Horse Toured.
Splendid Plant of Specially-cut Printing.
Excellently Staged and Dressed.
Wanted, June 17, July 1, on, with exceptions.
Wire, CLEVELAND, Prince's, Blackburn.
Write to Royalty, Barrow.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN."
WANTED, June 24, July 1 (?), 15, Aug. 5, on, with exceptions.
A Delightful Version, Perfect Cast, Exquisite Costumes, Crowded with Mystic and Electric Effects, Judiciously Sprinkled with "Wizardry."
Scenery all New.
A Plenitude of Palms, Shrubs, Flowers, and Cushions. A beautiful and Massive Organ is Shown and Played upon by "Prince Lucio."
Refer Recent Date Played,
T. R., Belfast, Grand T., Blackpool, T. R., Cardiff.
At Each Theatre Receipts Increased every Night.
Also Refer Mr. John Hart, T. R., Bradford.
We absolutely Crammed the Royal, Sheffield, the Whole of Whit Week.

Wire, to-day, LOIE ESMOND, T. R., Tonypandy.
June 10, GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.

HILL AND AYRTON'S COMPANIES.
Now in Fifteenth Year of Tour.
WANTED, Good Theatres, June 24, July 22, Sept. 2 and 9 (through transfer), for their latest success,
"A GAMBLER'S DAUGHTER."
Address,
Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham,
June 10, six nights.

MRS. ANN HUGHES' COMPANY,
in the Latest Opera Success,
"THE YOUNG LIEUTENANT."
WANTED, Managers of Important Theatres to Please Send Vacant Autumn Dates.
A. F. ALLEN TOWER, KING'S THEATRE, W.

F. WYBERT CLIVE'S CO.,
"THE BRANDED WOMAN."
James Stillwell as Philip Maurice. Lilian Ross as the Branded Woman; and Star Cast.
WANTED, for this Great Attraction, Aug. 5 (to follow Palace, Newcastle), 26, Sept. 2, 9, and Xmas Week. WALTER STEELE, General-Manager, to-day, T. R., Sunderland; next, P. O. W., Salford.

MESSRS. ELLIMAN'S ENTERPRISES.
"A HEART'S DESIRE."
WANTED, for the above enormous Attraction, July 1 and 8, also several Autumn Dates. Refer H. Darnley, Esq., re business done at Hip., Mansfield; also W. Eastwood, Esq., Colosseum, Oldham, re drawing powers. Managers invited to see this great Attraction. Coms. re dates to G. M. HURST, Colosseum, Oldham.

"A STRANGER IN NEW YORK"
"A STRANGER IN NEW YORK"
(from the Duke of York's Theatre).
WANTED, Autumn Dates, for this magnificent Musical Comedy. Every Scene carried; all new. Vacant Sept. 9, 16, 23, Oct. 7, on.
ROBERT PERRIS, Osborne T., Manchester.

WANTED, for "The Woman Pays," Sept. 2, 23, Oct. 7, and on.
F. M. THORNE, Rotunda T., Liverpool.

Special Notice.
Can now book Autumn and Winter Dates, the Jamaicans having decided to stay in England, for a time, owing to their Enormous Success.
THE NATIVE CHOIR FROM JAMAICA,
all escaped from the recent terrible earthquake, have a few Vacant Dates for their
Unique and Really Charming Entertainment.
WANTED, Aug. 12 (?), and 26, Sept. 16 and on, with exceptions.
The Jamaicans have appeared before Lord Elgin, Colonial Secretary, Lord and Lady Derby, Earl Roberts, Lord Brassey, Sir Alfred Jones, and many other notabilities, and caused a furore in every case. Twelve performers. Whole Entertainment, and Novel Sunday Concerts if desired. Three changes of costume. Excellent lithos, &c. Booked at First-Class Theatres, Halls, and Pavilions all over the Kingdom. Return Dates in nearly every instance. This week, Grand Opera House, Middlesbrough; next, St. George's Hall, Bradford.
Apply for Booklet, Terms, &c., Managers,
Messrs. H. E. JONES and A. DOUGLASS,
21, Water-street, Liverpool.
Telephones, 5650 and 2449 Central.
Wires, "Motherland, Liverpool."

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for Musical Comedy Autumn Tours, Principals in all Lines, also good Musical-Director; have vacancies for abroad early next year for well-known Musical-Comedy Artists, also for coming Autumn for First-Class Baritone; Star Artists vacant for Pantomime in London please write in. C. ST. JOHN DENTON, 34, Maiden-lane, Strand.

WANTED, for Musical Comedy and Light Opera, Town and Tour, Principal Artists in all Lines; also Chorus Ladies and Gentlemen; the latter must be young, of good appearance, and good voices. Send particulars at once to KELSON TRUEMAN, Regent House, 233A, Regent-street, W.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
WANTED, for Special Production of "Under Two Flags," entire Company, including clever Lady for Cigarette, one week, July 8; rehearse week previous. Address, with lowest terms, photos., &c., C. M. JULIAN.

WANTED, for open air performance, "As You Like It," July 5 and 6, near Edinburgh; full company. Address, with lowest inclusive terms and references where not known, to R. C. BUCHANAN, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, Ladies and Gentlemen, for two weeks, June 17, Manchester, "Bunch of Violets," "A Fool's Paradise." H. V. NEILSON, Queen's Theatre, Manchester.

ARTISTS WANTED.

ARTHUR JEFFERSON'S SKETCHES,
"HOME FROM THE HONEYMOON."
WANTED, Artists.—Char. Com., Peppery Old Colonel, Comedian (short, change to female), Char. Comedian (combine management), Responsible (double), Carpenter (to play small part), Lady for Bride (pretty, bright, vivacious, small part, dress well), Light Comedian. Those experienced in farcical comedy preferred. Tour starts July 8, South Shields. "CONVICT LOVER," Lady for Lady Hilda (juv. lead, capable of spirit and go), Genetleman for Juvenile Lead. Irish Comedian (young, bright, and racy), Heavy Lead (combine management), Char. part (could be played as Jew), Responsible (to double), and Carpenter (to play small part). Those in the London district preferred. Short trial tour, commencing July 22, Empire, Camberwell. In all cases quote the usual full particulars, references, and definite inclusive terms. Rehearse in each case five days previously. Address, Metropole Theatre, Glasgow. Mark envelopes "Sketch."

SHINTON-AND GREENWOOD'S COMPANIES.
WANTED, for Special Week, for New Production at Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool, June 24. Rehearse Monday June 17. Recognised Leading Man for David Kingsley part (but military), Good sound Actor (tall) for Breezy Colonel (with pathos), Bright Chambermaid for French Maid (must be able to speak broken English well, and be of good appearance), also Young Lady for small light comedy part. All must be thoroughly reliable, and good study. Photos, references, and absolute lowest terms to JOHN H. SHINTON, Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

MOSS AND STOLL THEATRES,
LIVERPOOL AND MANCHESTER.
WANTED, for "The Typhoon," July 29, Leading Lady. Particulars and photos., W. MOWBRAY-HARLE, Empire T., Liverpool.

WANTED, Small Clever Child Actress, over 14, mother play small part, one week. Rehearse 17th. H., Grand Theatre, Southampton.

Mr. NORMAN V. NORMAN'S TOURS.
WANTED, Gentlemen, to play Juveniles and Responsible Parts; also Gentlemen, to play Character Parts, and Lady and Gentleman for Small Parts. Full particulars, references (which will be applied for), HOWARD ASHLEY, West Pier, Brighton.

"HER LUCK IN LONDON" CO.
WANTED, a Romantic Leading Man, thoroughly experienced. Age, height, refs., &c., GEO. KIRK, 1, Colchester-street, St. George's-square, S.W. Letters only.

WANTED, Clever Young Lady, Musical, willing to invest in known Sketch. Photos. and full particulars, D., 41, Oakhill-road, Putney.

WANTED, Known, Vacancy in High-Class Concert Company for Lady or Gentleman Amateur; good Society; excellent opportunity for ambitious people. Box 4,937, "The Era."

WANTED, brilliant Pianist and Accompanist, Lady or Gentleman, one who can sing preferred; also Contralto and Baritone, twelve weeks at seaside, not Al Fresco. Box 4,931, "The Era."

WANTED, Young Gentleman, must be refined, to sing at Private Entertainments; speak lines preferred. REED, 52, Mill-lane, West Hampstead.

WANTED, Tenor, able to sing Selections Grand Opera. Send photo. and full particulars to MANAGER, 39, Choumert-road, Peckham, S.E.

WANTED, Contralto, read at sight, recite if possible, for High-Class Concert Party. Write or call, with song (send p.c. first), PITMAN, 3, Gunnersbury-mansions, Gunnersbury.

WANTED, Boys, from 14 to 16 years, Sopranos and Altos. Apply Saturday, from 1.30 to 2.30, G. PHILLIPS, 191, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. SMITH and SONS' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by George Neilson, Operatic Baritone, late Prin. Moody-Manners Op. Co., immediate Engagement, for High-Class Concert Party or Piers. 13, Cambridge-parade, East Twickenham, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Soprano, High-Class Al Fresco or Concert Party; experienced in Al Fresco work. VOCALIST, 18, Albert-place, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Known, Contralto, good voice and training, wishes to make arrangements to join high-class Concert Party. Terms shares or contract (large répertoire); only first-class Party. Box 4,928, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagements, by Strong Mezzo Soprano (also Violinist), prefer Seaside Concert Party. V. R., 12, Mortlock-gardens, Harders-road, Peckham, S.E.

WANTED, by Duettists and Soloists, Soprano, Contralto, powerful voices, Engagements for Summer weekly or daily; can accompany if necessary. Terms, apply, D., 141, Endlesham-rd., Balham, S.W.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Pantomime Chorus and Show Ladies. Send photograph, age, height, and other measurements, lowest salary. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, Pantomime Artists in all Lines, and Chorus for Pantomime. Write full particulars to KELSON TRUEMAN, Regent House, 233A, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, Artists Disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas, to send photos., terms, and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Pantomime Artists in all Lines.
H. A. JORDISON,
22, Upper Brook-street, Manchester.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Scenery Contracts, Productions. Our Paint Frames, 40 by 24; Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. FRED WILKINS and BRO., LTD., 54, Whitechapel, Liverpool. Telegrams "Theatrical."

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE,
CARLISLE.
WANTED, Known, Scenery Made, Painted, and Repaired. First-class Scenic Artist.
Magnificent paint-frame; spacious carpenter's shop
Estimates free on application to
THOS. COURTICE, H. M. T., Carlisle.

WANTED, Contracts, for High-Class, Effective Scenery. Attractive Settings, lowest prices. Carlyle Scenic Studio, W. B. ROBINSON, 170, King's-road, S.W.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, Effective and Artistic Work and good Joinery. Prices moderate. Large Studio and Workshop. CHARLES SAYER, Scenic Artist, 2, Clarendon-road, Croydon.

WANTED, Known, A. G. Betts, Scenic Artist, late of Grand, Leeds, and three years with Milton Bode, Esq., is open for Contracts or good Engagement. Managers requiring a good, steady, reliable Artist, and not a bar lounger, address, County T., Reading.

WANTED, by Davies Massey, Scenic Artist, Engagement for High-class Work only. Address, 4, Princess May-rd., Stoke Newington, N.

WANTED, by Philip Small, Scenic Artist, Engagement or Contract, Town or Provinces; refs. Address, 40, Randolph-gardens, Maida Vale, London.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, at Once, Manager for First-class Music Hall; must have thorough knowledge of the Business in every detail, and be well acquainted with all the best Music Hall turns; good salary paid to suitable man.
Apply, with
three copies of latest references, and stating abilities, experience, and salary required, to
THE DIRECTORS,
Palace Theatre, Grimsby.

WANTED, immediately, a Secretary for a First-Class Music Hall in the Provinces; experience of Music Hall work not absolutely necessary, but applicants must have the highest references and must understand company secretarial work and book-keeping; must assist in the management if required. Apply, stating age, experience, and with copy testimonials, to Box 4,935, "The Era."

WANTED, Baggage Man, play parts, work traps; must speak a little German or French. Particulars, height, age, &c., apply, Box 4,923, "The Era."

WANTED, Lady or Gentleman Cashier, for First-Class Concert Tour, August to June; reference and cash security required. Box 4,936, "The Era."

WANTED, to Let, the Services of W. C. Burns, 20 years' practical experience, Management, Theatre, Variety, Circus, &c.; road, rail, resident; up-to-date ideas; expert Pressman and Advertiser; life total abstainer; highest refs. 15, Charlotte-street, South Shields.

WANTED, Management of Theatre, Hippo., Pier, Pavilion, &c., large or small, nineteen years' experience, all duties. LEWIS, 36, Brunswick-street, Horwich.

WANTED, Known, James Leco, the Old Original and Reliable Advance Agent, is at Liberty for Circuses, &c., England preferred. C/o May, Publican, Pound-street, Sligo, Ireland.

WANTED, Engagement, as Advance Agent, High Window Biller, and not afraid of Brush. Address, AGENT, "King's Service" Animated Pictures, Victoria Hall, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Town Engagement as Wardrobe Mistress, take productions right through. Mrs. MITCHELL, 12, Sunnyside, Waldegrave-road, Teddington, Middlesex.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, good experienced Orchestral Leader, Violinist, 2 months, about 35 hours weekly; Soloist preferred; Seaside. Send lowest. Box 4,942, "The Era."

WANTED, Good Orchestral Violinist, Flautist, Trombone, Soloists, July 14 (nine weeks), Seaside; trial essential. Lowest, 92, West End-lane, N.W.

WANTED, Violinist, 'Cellist (Ladies), to complete Trio, July 20, until end September; Orchestral experience required. Box 4,938, "The Era."

WANTED, to open June 17, a good Solo Cornet, steady, experienced in Variety business, twice nightly and matinée. Terms and refs. ANDERSON, Conductor, Pal. Theatre, Blackburn.

WANTED, good Clarionet Player, for Empire, Middlesbrough, to open June 17; sobriety indispensable. Apply, stating age, to GREENFIELD, Mus. Dir.

WANTED, Double Bass, open June 17, Lady preferred.
SKINNER, Pier, Worthing.

WANTED, Euphonium or Valve Trombone, for Tenting Season. Apply, AUGUSTE DENTON, Mus.-Dir., 86, Victoria-street, Grimsby.

SPA MILITARY BAND, SCARBORO'.
WANTED, for eleven weeks, commencing July 8, Alto Saxophone (E Flat), seven weeks, July 29, Second Flute and Piccolo, six weeks, Aug. 5, Third Clarionet, Baritone (Althorne), and Bombardon (BB flat preferred). CHARLES GODFREY, Musical Director.

WANTED, at Once, a good Solo Tenor Horn Player; sober. Terms, shares. A. PECORINI, Italian Band, 15, Church-street, Torquay, Devon.

WANTED, 'Cello (combine Clarionet or Cornet or Bass), also Viola (combine Clarionet or Horn or Bass), also Drums and Effects (with Glockenspiel preferred), also Clarionet, also Bassoon. State references and lowest terms. FORD, Band Offices, Ilfracombe.

WANTED, First-Class Pianist, Singer preferred; also Comic and Planksman; must be workers and steady; good wages right men. TRACY, Auctioneer, Blackwood, Mon.

WANTED, Portable Player, Vocalist, Mimics, and Artists all Lines, Al Fresco. Lowest terms, reply, AUSTIN, P.O., Broadstairs, Kent.

WANTED, Lady Double Drums and Effects, for Season's Engagement, commencing July. Address, Mme. ANGLESS, 78, Norwood-road, Herne Hill, S.E.

WANTED, Known, to Bandmasters.—Offers are invited for the use of the New Large Bandstand, Enclosure, and Chairs on the Esplanade at Walton-on-Naze, to Open about July 22, and close Sept. 14. A good Band to be supplied to play seven days per week. Bandmaster to take all receipts, finding Band, Music, and Collector. Address within 14 days to HON. SECRETARY, Improvement Association, Walton-on-Naze, Essex.

WANTED, Three Young Ladies (Trio), Piano, 'Cello, and Violin, to perform daily during July, August, and part September, in First-class Hotel on South Coast; Pianist must be able to sing songs from Light Opera, Burlesque, &c.
Apply, Box 4,927, "The Era," giving full particulars as to experience and remuneration required.

WANTED, a good Family Band, six musicians, able to do Double Instruments. Apply, T. C. RAWES, Victoria Theatre, Stanley, Durham.

WANTED, Lady Musicians, Violins, 'Cellos, &c.; other instruments may write (in first instance) to Box 4,943, "The Era."

WANTED, High-Class Bands of four and six, for Hotels. State lowest terms, &c.; audition required. Box 4,951, "The Era."

WANTED, Two Bandsmen, who have been, or are about to be Discharged from Regular Army after 12 years' service, for Enlistment into Permanent Staff of Infantry Militia,
to go on to complete service for pension.
Apply,
Box 4,932, "The Era."

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

FROM A MUSICIAN:—
To the Manager of "The Era" Advert. Dept.,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.
"Re Advertisement
"'WANTED, ENGAGEMENT BY CORNET.'
"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, "A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

FROM A BANDMASTER:—
"Re Advertisement, 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.'
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies, and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster,
"Littlehampton."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, by Musical-Director; at Liberty (Violin), for deputising, one to five weeks, commencing June 10. T. STEVENS, M.D., Tivoli, Grimsby.

WANTED, Engagement by Pianist-Conductor, Pictures or Variety, twelve years' experience. Wire for Monday to PIANIST, Tregedar Hall, Newport, Mon.

WANTED, Engagement, by the following: Conductor, First Violin, Cornet, Bass, Trombone, and Drums, together or separate; any Business. ORCHESTRA, Hippodrome, Stalybridge.

WANTED, Engagement, as Leader or First Violin; good references; experienced and reliable. VIOLINIST, 162, High-street, Notting Hill Gate, W.

WANTED, Known, exceptionally good experienced Violinist or Leader, known, open for temporary Engagements, any class music. 92, West End-lane, N.W.

WANTED, by First Violin (capable lead), permanency, Aug. 5, Hall, Theatre; experienced Concert, Variety, Dramatic; good performer, reliable, abstainer; without library, but with first-class refs.; London or First-class Provinces only. Box 4,924, "The Era."

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by Ernest Lifton-Head, Violinist, Pump Room Orchestra, Bath. Box 4,925, "The Era."

WANTED, by Violinist, good répétiteur, immediate Engagement, through theatre closing. Address, J. B., 108, Chalton-street, Euston-road, N.W.

WANTED, an Engagement, in Ladies' Orchestra, as Second Violin; experienced. Miss HELEN IZETT, 38, London-road, Newcastle-under-Lyme.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, First-Class Violinist, any business; young and thoroughly reliable. Address, VIOLINIST, 32, Prince's-road, Richmond, S.W.

WANTED, Engagemnt, as First or Second Violin, by good Violinist, who would accept low remuneration to gain experience; London district preferred. H. W., Lulworth, Cumberland-rd. Hanwell.

WANTED, by First-class First Violin (or Leader), can combine good Clarionet. Engagement few weeks after June 22. Box 4,918, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Violinist; just concluded 4½ years Leader Brighton West Pier Orchestra. MASON, 42, Belle Vue-gardens, Kemp Town, Brighton.

WANTED, by Violin and Viola, late Theatre Leader, Engagement for next three or four weeks. VIOLIN, 39, Marian-square, N.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Violin, Disengaged June 17 to Aug. 5; competent and reliable; any business; would deputise. MORRELL, Alex Palace Theatre, N.

WANTED, Known, Good Violinist (Leader), at Liberty; used to Variety or other Business. Address, VIOLINIST, 256, Liverpool-street, Salford.

WANTED, by Good Cornet, Engagement, First or Second; experienced; good refs.
A. ELLIS, 14, Dudley-road, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, through disappointment, immediately, anywhere, any business; good sight reader and transposer. CORNET, 50, Young-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, by Cornet, Engagement, any distance; Military or Orchestra; good refs.
A. R. ELLIS, 14, Dudley-road, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Known, R. Tripp, Solo Cornet, New Theatre, Oxford, at Liberty for good Summer Engagement, June 27, thoroughly competent; experienced, reliable.

WANTED, Engagement, as First or Second Cornet, any Business; steady and reliable. JIM MARGINSON, 1, Paragon-terrace, Bath-road, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady Cornet Soloist; at Liberty July 1.
Address, CECIL, Post Office, Halifax.

WANTED, Engagement as Cornet, Military and Orchestral; experience; good refs.; combine Second Violin if necessary. F. K., 7, Berwick-street, Pimlico, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarionet Player; High or Low Pitch. J. DUNKLEY, late Solo Clarionet and Band-Sergeant, Coldstream Guards, 20, Chiddingstone-street, Fulham, London, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarionet; reliable, experienced, Disengaged 8th inst., Summer or Permanency. GEORGE MARTIN, 20, Widred-road, Dover.

WANTED, First and Second Cornet Players, Empire, Stratford. Write, enclosing references, to Mr. W. COLLINS, Empire, Shepherd's Bush.

WANTED, Engagement, as Clarionet (good), Disengaged, any Business; good refs.
CLARIONETTI, 9, St. Paul's-terrace, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, for Clarionet, combine Viola, 9 weeks; Disengaged June 27, any Business; good references. CLARIONET, New Theatre, Oxford.

WANTED, Engagement as Clarionet, any business; used to Military or Orchestral; late West Pier Orchestra, Brighton. C. NEWCOMBE, 21, Tilstone-street, Brighton.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarionet, good; Disengaged; good refs. Address, J. RYAN, 9, St. Paul's-terrace, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-Class Clarionettist, Military or Orchestra; thoroughly experienced; also by First-Class Pianist. 35, Henrietta-street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Double Bass, through theatre closing; steady, reliable, age 28. UNSWORTH, 1, South-grove, Brooklands, near Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement by Double Bass or Repiano Clarionet, through closing, Season or permanency; experienced; good references. WRIGHT, 14, Horace-street, Burnley.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Bass (4 string), late Gaiety, Dublin, open at once. CLEVELAND, 6, South King-street, Dublin.

WANTED, Engagement by Experienced Double Bass; can open at once; any business. GEORGE, Airedale House, Church-st., Castleford, Yorks.

WANTED, by experienced Double Bass, Engagement or Deputising; any business. Apply, BASSIST, 1, Honeybrook-road, Clapham Park, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Bassoonist, all-round experiences; good refs.
BASSOON, 25, Wade-lane, Leeds.

WANTED, Engagement, Bassoon, to open immediately.
LOUIS CHAPMAN, 5, St. Philip's-terrace, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Engagement, Trombone, experienced, in good Orchestra. Theatre, Music Hall, or Summer Season; now at Liberty. Address, MUSICIAN, Church-street, Bawtry, Yorks.

WANTED, by Trombone, Engagement, any business. A. CARTRIDGE, care of 23, Beatrice-street, Stanley-road, Bootle, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, by Trombone, professional experience; deputised for King with the Blue Hungarian Band. R. DOUGHERTY, Caroline-street, Kendal, Westmoreland.

WANTED, Engagement, by Trombonist; excellent refs. Address,
STEWART, 7, Park-view, Staincliffe-rd., Dewsbury.

WANTED, by Trombonists, B flat and G, Engagement; thoroughly competent, reliable, any Business; join immediately; excellent refs. Wire, G. DALGLEISH, 13, Mansfield-road, Walthamstow.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Trombone, any Business; would deputise; strictly attentive to business, and reliable. TROMBONE, 9, High-street, Hastings.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Trombone, Theatre, Music Hall, or Seaside; String or Military; experienced; refs. Address, S. SMITH, 88, Lavender-hill, London, S.W.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, Young Lady Flautist, 3 years' Orchestral experience; also Young Lady, good Second Violin, 5 years' experience; together or separate. Very reasonable terms for permanency in café or travelling exhibition. Both good appearance.
Reply, Box 4,933, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Known, W. Robson, Flute and Piccolo, late Band Coldstream Guards, and Solo Flute, West Pier, Brighton, at Lib. to accept permanent Engagement. 23, Blaker-st., Brighton.

WANTED, by experienced Flute and Piccolo, Summer or other Engagement, through disappointment; good refs. ANDERSON, 38, Peter-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo, Soloist, Engagement. Military or Orchestral; excellent references; young and reliable. T. HURN, 9, Upper Aberdyberthi, Swansea.

WANTED, by experienced Flautist, Summer Engagement; good Soloist and thoroughly reliable. Address Box 4,934, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagements, by Flautist, also Bass, concluding seventh season, Theatre Orchestra. D. NEEDHAM (Flautist), A. WILLETT (Bass), 76, Marlboro'-road, Bedford.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, steady, reliable Flautist; excellent references. HOWIE, 29, Forster-road, Bevois-mount, Southampton.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by experienced Flute and Piccolo, Orchestral or Military; just finished five months at Crystal Palace. FLAUTIST, 9, Rattray-road, Brixton.

WANTED, Engagement, by Brilliant Solo Pianist and Accompanist; Arranger and Composer; Sight-reader, MSS. GEORGE LOWE, 7, Bridge-street, Evesham.

Pierrot Troupes and Others.
WANTED, Known, First-Class Pianist would like to join Troupe. Address, RAWSON, Clipstone-st., Leicester.

WANTED, by Pianist, Daily or Evening Engagement; excellent sight-reader and accompanist. C. R., 35, Artesian-road, Bayswater, W.

WANTED, by Lady Pianist, Re-engagement; good Accompanist and Sight-reader; Concert, Pictures, Variety, Drama; age 18. 7, Bexley-terrace, Whitstable.

WANTED, by Pianist, experienced, Soloist, sight reader, accompanist. Engagement in First-Class Hotel, Hydro, or Band. R., 19, Capel-street, Dublin.

WANTED, Engagement, Pianist, smart, young, reliable, experienced Drama, Opera, Variety, Pictures, Self or Orchestra. References. BARNARD, 58, Ham Park-road, Stratford.

WANTED, Engagement, by Tympanist and Drums, all Effects; thoroughly experienced, sober, reliable; season or permanency. DRUMS, 27, Tawson-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, as Drums, Theatre or Varieties; own Timps. and Glock.; have Library. NEVILL, 149, Tennyson-road, Stratford, E.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-Class Double Drummer, thoroughly experienced. Variety preferred; steady, reliable; references. DRUM, 11, Ritson-road, Dalston, London, N.

WANTED, Known, Shikissima Band, Ladies' Japanese Orchestra, all Soloists; magnificent costume or white dress. Piers, Hotels. Glenthorpe, Chesterfield-rd., Newbury.

WANTED, Engagements for Scarlet Domino Ladies' Band, Ladies' Salon Quartette and Florentine Quartet, at home or abroad. Apply, BUREAU, 8, Bedford-terrace, Kensington.

WANTED, Garner's Scarlet Elysee Band, from three performers. Hotel, Piers, Tea Rooms, Dancing; large music library. 55, Richmond--road, Barnsbury, N.

WANTED, Known, Miss Gascoyne Old's Shakespearean Orchestra, at the Crystal Palace, four times daily, from June 1 to June 15. 238, Edgware-road, W. Agent, Monsieur JULES GUISE.

WANTED, Known, Renowned Society Hungarian Band, Open for Engagements, for Exhibition, Seaside, Sunday Concerts, &c. Particulars, CONDUCTOR, 53, Philpot-st., E.C.

WANTED, by Military Band, Engagements, town or Seaside; smart uniform; good répertoire. B. M., 66, Chipstead-street, Parsons Green, S.W.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, good Equestrian Families,
Good Equestrian Families,
Good Equestrian Families,
Good Equestrian Families,
Good Equestrian Families,
Good Equestrian Families,
Good Equestrian Families,
Good Equestrian Families,
Good Equestrian Families,
Good Equestrian Families,
Good Equestrian Families,
Good Equestrian Families,
for Paris,
one and two years' Contract.

Send offers and photographs
to
ROCHE,
23, Boulevard des Italiens,
Paris.

WANTED, for Sloan's Hippodrome, Jersey and Guernsey, Circus Artists in all Lines, Bareback Riders (without Horses), to commence early in June. Artistes only. Address, H. SLOAN, 112, Bd. Rochechouart, Paris. Please do not put bills in letters; will not be received.

WANTED, for Small Circus, useful people for Fair Business. Address, TOM HALL, Post Office, Barnsley. Little Mick, Harry Ormond write.

WANTED, Circus Artists, for Tenting, also Boys' Band.
Coms., FLORENCE, Palace, Bridlington.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Sensational Novelties,
Aerial Shows, Acrobats,
Three Bars, &c.
For Fêtes and Galas, Aug. 5 week.
Sample lithos. and terms to
WILDER, Agents, Great Francis-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, a finely built Lady Gymnast, about 18 years, First-class Performer; can lead to a long Engagement. State height. Apply, with photo., to O. V. ESTRELLA, 132, Kennington Park-road, London.

WANTED, Contortionist or Comic Singer, Open-air Business, used to Double Entrées, for Ireland. GYMNAST, Dunboyne, Co. Meath, near Dublin.

WANTED, a Young Girl, with some Knowledge of Gymnastics or Acrobating, to go in a First-class Family. All particulars, salary, and photo. (if have one); must be over 16 years of age. Address, ALBERT and WALTER, Cirque Plage, Nancy, France. Postage 2½d.

WANTED, a smart Tumbler, one who can do good Butterflies. Address letters, E. K., 97, Camberwell-grove, London, S.E.

WANTED, a Trampoline Tumbler, or one willing to learn. State ground tricks, age, height, weight, and salary. Box 4,946, "The Era."

WANTED, a Young Man that can Tumble a little, for Comedy Act. Age, height, weight, tricks, also salary. Box 4,945, "The Era."

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty shortly, for Stage or Ring, Tudor's Four Educated Ponies, Hengler's Circus, London, twice daily. Agents should see this Act. Address, W. TUDOR.

WANTED, Known, the Stephenson Family, at Liberty, with First-Class Circus Acts, own Horses, &c. Address, 173, Queen's-road, Manchester.

WANTED, June 17, July 1, 8, The Maros, Clean, Clever, and Quaintest Three-bar Act. This, Hippo., Oldham; Monday, Gaiety, Dundee.

WANTED, Monday next and later, Cameo Troupe, Comedy Acrobats; Top Line Act; admittedly funny. Wire, 1, Upper Duke-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Bodey Bros., Comedy Bars, want June 10, 17, 24, July 1, 8, 15, July 22, American Tour. Wire, 10, Fillwood-road, Fishponds, Bristol.

WANTED, June 17, 24, Almo Trio, First-class Comedy Three-Bar Act, fourth week, Alexandra Palace, London, N.

WANTED, Known, Don Pedro, the Modern Blondin, at Liberty for Fêtes and Galas. Enormous success, Crystal Palace, London. Terms, 121, Rhyddings Park-road, Swansea.

WANTED, Known, George Davilla, Marvellous Wire Performer, High Wire, Tonbridge and Hastings. Address, Forest View, Honey-lane, Waltham Abbey, Essex.

WANTED, Known, Pauletti, Cycling Novelty, big success everywhere. Thanks for offers; few vacancies for Galas; two Acts. 106, Bigland-street, Salford.

WANTED, by Otto Ethardo, Artistic Juggler, Monday next and June 17. Wire or write, 15, William Edward-street, Birmingham.

Balloon Ascents.
WANTED, Engagements, by Lieut. Lempriere, the Popular Reliable Aeronaut. Address, LEMPRIERE, Handsworth, Birmingham.

Parachute Descents.
WANTED, Gala Secretaries seeking Big Attractions to engage Lieut. Lempriere and his charming Lady Pupils for Parachute Descents or Races; together or separate. One still open for Aug. Bank. LEMPRIERE, Handsworth, Birmingham.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES
and THEATRE ROYAL.
WANTED, First-class Variety Artists, all Lines.

ARTHUR CARLTON, Palace, Worcester.

JOHN H. TOMKINSON'S ROYAL GIPSY CO.
Established 1888. Nineteenth year of Tour.
WANTED, for Season 1907-8, commence Sept. Artists in all Lines, Startling Specialities Refined Sisters, Soprano, Contralto, and good Bioscope; also Musical-Director (Pianist). Particulars, TOMKINSON, 36, Albany-road, Kensington, Liverpool.

PARLATO'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Variety Artists, Queen's Hall, Radcliffe, June 24, onwards. Particulars, Temperance Hall, Whitby.

Scarborough.
WANTED, Monday, June 17, and onwards, Variety Artists in all Lines. Nothing too Big. Full particulars to KITCHINGMAN, Aquarium.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, June 10, Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest. Hall small. P. REYMOND, as above.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, June 17 and onwards.
A. E. PICKARD, Britannia, Glasgow.

WANTED, Variety Artists, June 17, onwards.
JOHN O. HAYES,
People's Theatre, Glastonbury, Som.

DR. WALFORD BODIE'S
ROYAL MAGNETS,
on Tour.
WANTED, Artists all Lines, big Sensational Novelties, July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29. State when and where last in Scotland. Absolute Lowest Terms. Fares paid after joining. No Commonwealths; Ghost walks every Friday night. Tokio Japanese Troupe send Bill Matter this week. Turning Hundreds away nightly at Grand Theatre, Doncaster. Address, Monday next, Theatre Royal, Crook, Co. Durham.
DR. WALFORD BODIE, M.D.,
Sole Director and Proprietor.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, from now onwards.
Apply, Mr. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Gala Artists for Sept. 2 and 3, near Leeds. Lowest in first letter.
Address, CANDLER, 6, Oxford-terrace, Harrogate.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, two weeks, July 8, 22, Aug. 5. CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin.

DREW BAYLEY'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Artists in every Line, June 17, 24, July, Aug., Sept., and on, for Perth, Dundee, Aberdeen, Greenock, Glasgow, and Paisley; also for several Good Halls in England. Note the address, 170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

WANTED, Al-Fresco Artists, all Lines, for Al-Fresco Entertainment in Dunoon. Terms, &c., HOWARD, SAWYER, and LAWRANCE, Rose Mount, East Bay, Dunoon, N.B.

WANTED, First-class Artists Only, for First-class Variety Theatres, immediate and future dates, also Pantomime. JESS VERNO'S Agency, 16, Elizabeth-st., Liverpool. Telegrams, "Merriment." 'Phone, 2076 Royal.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, June 17, and on; also big Troupe of Pierrots. Sure Money, Comfortable Engagement. Nothing too Big.
Lowest Combination Summer Terms essential.

Silence polite negative.
Impossible to answer all.
Apply,
THE DAYTON FAMILY,
Parr Hall, Warrington.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Artists, for New Hippodrome, Aldershot, for Aug. 5. Terms and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Artists, Known to W. Ainsworth, late Manager Oxford, Middlesbrough, Hippodrome, Stockton, to send bookings, terms, litho., Heath Villa, Stockton-on-Tees.

WANTED, Al-fresco Artists, June 17, 24, and onwards, for Pavilion, Belper, new to Belper. Photo., terms, HICKS, Gordon House, Wolfa-street, Derby.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Vocalists and Sketch. Write for June 24. Sharing terms. E., 14, Belvedere-road, Westminster Bridge.

WANTED, Refined Al Fresco Artists, open June 17. State if instrumentalist. Lowest terms, &c. JACK W. RUSSELL, Comedy Cadets, 18, Clerkson-street, Mansfield.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, coming North, to send dates and terms.
ANDERSON'S Agency, 6, Great Clyde-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, "Homes," Halls, Theatres, Al Frescos. Agency, 1, Berwick-house, 139, Oxford-street, London. Hours 10-1, 4-8.

WANTED, Known, Call, Alhambra, Edinburgh:—Stanley's Urchins, Gracie Bard, George Edney, Jack Easy, Mlle. De Roche, James Lowrey, Arthur Newton, and The Lashmars.

TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN.
WANTED, for the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Dublin,
All the Greatest Stars in the Profession,
Acts New in Dublin, for the above,
the Premier Variety Theatre in Ireland,
Direct or through Agents.
All communications to WILL SLEY,
41, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone, 09144.

WANTED, for June 17, 24, July 1,
Stars in all Lines.
Stars in all Lines.
Full up for Smaller Items.
Can always Fix Big Numbers any Odd Weeks.
CADLE'S Agency,
105, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Big Variety Stars, Big Specialities, Novelties, June 17, onwards. Bookings, Terms, &c., EDGAR STEBBINGS, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester. The following booked by Edgar Stebbings for Gala, June 10, be on Gala Ground early, as per Contract: Banzai Japanese Family, Aerian and Ostara, The Cranks, Browns Trio, The Miltons, Wilson and Wilson, Collard's Boarhounds, Clark and Clack. 'Phone 09261. Tels., "Stebbing, Manchester.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities, for immediate and future dates. Terms and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-av., W.

VENTOM SWIFT'S AGENCY.
ALHAMBRA, EDINBURGH.
WANTED, Stars and Startling Attractions, and High-class Small Turns, June 17, on.

STALYBRIDGE AND WORCESTER.
WANTED, Talent all Lines,
JAMES FIONI'S Agency,
21, Norton-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool."
Telephone 1686 Royal.

DUNDAS'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Talent of every description, for June 10 and onward. Quote absolute lowest first letter. 52, Rosthwaite-rd., West Derby, Liverpool.

LEO FRITZ VARIETY AGENCY.
WANTED, the Greatest Acts in the Business Comedy, &c., price no object, for June 17, and onward; 12 months' solid work to the right stuff. Wire or write immediately, Glenshaw mansions, Brixton-road, S.W. Telephone, 457 Brixton. Telegrams, "Evelyncia, London."

WANTED, for Gloucester, Porth, Barry Dock, Worcester, Abertillery, Variety Acts, Specialities; must have full Bookings, Vacancies. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

THE "JOSEPH" POOLE'S MYRIORAMAS.
No. 1 and 2 Companies.
WANTED, for Season 1907 and '08, to commence August Bank Holiday, High-class Specialities and Refined Variety Turns; preference given to anything Novel; also Musicians of every Description, to wear evening dress, and assist with fittings when travelling; also Real Live Advance Agents, High Window Billers, Picture and Effect Workers, Baggage Men, &c.; 40 weeks' tour to the right people. Absolute lowest terms and refs. in first letter.
J. WOLSELEY POOLE and FRED MAYER,
"Verona," Malmesbury, Wilts.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.
Proprietors, Messrs. J. TYRER and WM. B. BOSTOCK.
WANTED, June, onwards, Specialities, Comedy Acts, Serios, Comedians, Sisters (new to above). Artists that have written please write again. Lowest Summer terms; lithos. WM. B. BOSTOCK, General Manager.

WANTED, Specialities in all Lines, also Acts for South Wales and District. MARTINO'S Agency, care of G.P.O., Gateshead-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Big Specialities, for Galas, the bigger the better. Send terms, lithos., and vacant dates. SMALLEY, 19, Vauxhall Bridge-road, London.

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, late Manager, Blackpool, Morecambe, &c. Address, next week, C/o "The Era."

WANTED, for Band Stand, First-class Novelties that can draw Business; good Humorists and Double Turns communicate. FORSYTH, Pier, Folkestone.

WANTED, Sensational Novelties that can Draw Business, Comedians and Specialities, single weeks, July 8, onwards. FORSYTH, Pier, Folkestone.

WANTED, for Kendal Gala, Tuesday, Aug. 5, 1907, Open Air Novelties. State particulars and lowest inclusive terms before June 18, 1907, to the Secretary, W. SCALES, 30, Lowther-st., Kendal.

WANTED, Big Star Top, Popular S.E. London Vaudeville Theatre, once nightly, July 1 (shares). Lithos.
Box 4,948, "The Era."

Outdoor Attractions
WANTED, for
Yeovil Amalgamated
Friendly Societies Fete.
Tuesday, Aug. 6, 1907.
Apply, Hon. Sec., W. J. BROOKS.

WANTED, Big Comedy Sketches, for Glasgow and the North. Full particulars to FRANK LYNNE, Empire Theatre, Leeds.

WANTED, for Messrs. Davis' Pictorial Enterprise,
one week, June 17, Liverpool,
First-class Tenor and Contralto,
both to Sing to Pictures.
Pianist and experienced Operator (electric);
Doorsman and Window Biller,
also refined Speciality (Florias write).

Apply, letters only,
45, Wordsworth-street, Sefton Park, Liverpool.

WANTED, Young Lady, with slight knowledge of Banjo or Mandoline, to qualify for First-class Refined Musical Combination; must be young, good-looking, and lady-like. Particulars, photo. if possible, to B. STEPHENS, 40, Cromwell-road, Wimbledon.

WANTED, a Smart Girl, good at Acrobatic Dancing and Singing. Full particulars and salary expected to TROUPE, Box 4,912, "The Era."

WANTED, Singer of Illustrated Songs, with Own Pictures and Lantern, week, near London, June 17. Terms, LORRAINE, Palace, Plymouth.

WANTED, Humorist-Ventriloquist and Lady Vocalist (Comedienne), for Refined Concert Party. Particulars first instance, Box 4,940, "The Era."

WANTED, Comedians, with plenty of Second Part stuff, and able to Dance, play in Sketches; those willing to work preferred.

W. J. CHURCHILL,
Arvon Cottage, Llandudno.

WANTED, Youth or Young Man, must Tumble a little, or do Front Bending. Address, TROUPE, 103, Erwyn-road, Tooting, S.W.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Big Variety Turns,
Big Variety Turns,
Big Variety Turns,

Something New and Up to Date,
Novelties and Sensational Acts,
For Immediate and Future Dates, for
London, Liverpool,
Birmingham, Leeds, Newcastle,
Glasgow, Belfast,
Dublin, Manchester, Bolton,
Wolverhampton, Oldham,
Hartlepool, Shields, Barrow,
Carlisle, Darlington,
Hull, Middlesbrough, Stockport,
Blackpool, Morecambe,
Brighton, Boscombe, Margate,
Portsmouth, Southampton,
Bath, Lincoln, Leicester, Bradford,
Halifax, Sheffield, Blackburn,
Lancaster, Stockport, Burnley, Derby,
Attercliffe, Stoke, Grimsby,
St. Helens, Accrington, Warrington,
Bury, Hanley, Stockton, &c., &c.
Send, at once, terms, dates, and lithos.
Those having a good act can rely on getting
Immediate Work.
WILL SLEY,
41, Oxford-street,
Manchester.
Telephone, 09144.
Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."

WANTED, Wanted, Star Turns,
Variety,
New
and
Up to Date.
Sensational Acts,
for
North Wales,

Manchester, Liverpool,

Dublin, Belfast,

Blackpool, Morecambe,

and the
South Coast.

Send at once,
Terms, Dates (1907 and onwards),

Lithos, &c.

HOWARD LEES,
South Shore, Blackpool.

WANTED, New Turns, for Australia, America, and United Kingdom. TOM PACEY, 186, Brixton-road, London. 'Phone, 87, Brixton. Telegrams, "Parthenon, London."

WANTED, Knockabout Comedian, Jew part, Comedy Sketch, able to do funny falls; sobriety essential. Terms, references, to SKETCH, 22, Craven-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Comedian, Smart in Concerteds; refined, must be smart; open June 24, for 11 weeks. Photo., terms, WILLMOTT FOWLER, Marine Pagoda, West Kirby, Cheshire.

WANTED, Smart Pantomimist, for Continent; used Traps, Tumbling. State where playing, age, height, experience, married or single, lowest salary. Apply, Box 4,920, "The Era."

WANTED, Clever Comedian Pantomimist, Traps, Tumbler, &c., for Continent. Full particulars, where playing, age, height, lowest salary, apply, Box 4,922, "The Era."

WANTED, Smart Posturer, well up in trap business. State full particulars, lowest salary, for Continent. Apply, Box 4,921, "The Era."

WANTED, Ladies and Gentlemen all Lines, for occasional work in Cinématograph Pictures. Those with experience and residing within easy distance of Mitcham write, COLEBY, c/o Cricks and Sharp, Mitcham, S.W.

WANTED, good complete Bioscope Show, for Season, at Greenwich Theatre. Send best terms, specimen programmes. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, First-class Operator, Electrician, for Electrical Dance Act. References and terms to MAUDE MURRAY, 35, Mall-road, Hammersmith.

WANTED, competent Cinematograph Operator; good references. State wages required and particulars by letter. C., 59, Seward-road, Hanwell, London.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Proprietors,
Managers,
Artists, &c.,
to read the following:
31/5/07.
I herewith authorise Mr. Will Oliver to act as my agent from the above date.
Signed,
T. E. DUNVILLE.
All coms. re my business to W. OLIVER,
Spot Lodge, Brixton-road.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

PIER PAVILION, DOVER.
WANTED, Known, to Managers of Theatres, Halls, Pier Pavilions, Gardens, or Aquariums, &c., Empire No. 1 Company, at Liberty June 17, 24. Sharing or Rental. Wire for June 17, Star Company, Bioscope, Animated Pictures, The Godfreys, Musical Sketch; Florrie Groves, Comedienne; Cee Mee, Ventriloquist; Zaima and Mlle. Delouri, Gymnasts; Horace Lingrove, Humorist; The Famoras, Song Illustrators; Rosie Rees, Serio and Dancer; Minnie Percivall, Instrumentalist. Wire, MANAGER, Empire Company, Pier, Dover.

WANTED, Known, Wanted, Known,
MYSTERIOUS LILITH,
in her beautiful Palace of Roses,
the most Sensational Mystery Act ever presented.
Also LILIAN WARREN'S Vocal Pictures,
with beautiful Dissolving Effects.
At Liberty July 1 and 8.
All coms., Grand, Gravesend; or
Permanent address, 77, St. Mary's-street, Cardiff.

WANTED, Known, Queenie Lolo, Charming Lady Gymnast, Graceful Trapeze and Teeth Speciality Artist; also Little May, Juvenile Speciality Dancer and Contortionist. Private address, 127, Upperaughton, Birkdale, Southport.

WANTED, Monday next, also June 24, July 1, 15, 22, by the Three Sisters Urma, Premier Triple Trapeze Artists; only Vacant Dates this year.
Wire, Albert Hall, Southport.

WANTED, Monday, also June 17, by Sisters Ely, the Talented Duettists. Wire for Talent. 7, Carver-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Sisters Nella, Refined Speciality Pot Pourri Act. Next, Olympia, Sunderland; vacant June 17, onwards. Coms., 3, Carter-street, Sunderland.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Squire Day, Comedian and Dancer, Mr. Charles Macdona's "Gay Parisienne," concludes twenty weeks Tour, Lyceum Theatre, Newport, Mon. Next, Pier View, Ventnor, Isle of Wight.

WANTED, June 10, on, Jack Sheppard, World's Greatest Handcuff King and Prison Breaker; also Miss Ruby Vesta, in the greatest Trunk Mystery on the Stage, big Top, Challenges, with safes, padlocks, &c. Wire, 49, Seymour-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Mac Mannon, Illusionist, Vacant June 10 and 17. Offers invited. Wire, 3, Grafton-place, Euston-square, London.

WANTED, June 10 and 17, by Harry Leaton, Refined Vocal Comedian; a sound singer of sensible songs. Wire, Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, by Harpist (gentleman), Engagement with Pierrots, Troupes, &c.; also Lady (young), Vocalist (Comedienne). Address, FRED BARRINGTON, 7, Victoria-road, Camberley, Surrey.

WANTED, June 17 and 24, also July 1, 8, and 15, by Li Chang Hi, and Assistant, Chinese Conjurers par excellence. June 10, Crystal Palace.

WANTED, by A. Trillo, England's greatest Ventriloquist, Monday next, and 17th. Always successful and great draw; ten minutes to one hour. Wire, Pier Pavilion, St. Leonards.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, July 1 and 8, by Hulbert (Ventriloquist) and De Lil (Illusionist); two smart Acts. Monday, Winter Gardens, Morecambe.

WANTED, Known, Tom Garland, Vent. and Conjurer, wants Monday; Starring, Big Success. This week, Gaiety, Glasgow. Wire for Monday.

WANTED, Known, Walter Roselle, Ventriloquist, at Liberty June 17, as Entertainer or Lecturer. Address, C/o Allen, 80, King Edward's-road, Birmingham.

WANTED, June 10, 17 (wire, 506, Stockport-rd., Manchester), the Great Kyoto, Comedy Japanese Pot Pourri Act; May Geraldine, Dancing Comedienne.

WANTED, Vokes and Marshall (Ned and Jessie), Refined Comedy Musical Artists, Lib. June 17. Theatre Royal, Dewsbury. Booked by CADLE.

. . . considerable vocal ability.—Era.
WANTED, by The Jollions (Viola, Soprano; and Fred, Baritone), Vocalists and Duettists, through transfers, immediate and a few Autumn dates; at Liberty for Panto Apply first instance, 172, Newhall-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, by Sam Griesley, Vocal Comedian, and Lizzie Round, Male Impersonator, June 24, July 8. Address, 42, Norfolk-street, Rotherham.

WANTED, by Ted Young and Ada Twibell, Monday next, also June 17; two distinct Turns. Wire, Alhambra Theatre, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Monday, also June 24, by Will and Roze, Comedy Acrobatic Conjurers; and Alvar, Sensational Gymnast. Wire, 9, Sidney-st., Manchester.

WANTED, Monday, also June 17, 24, The Monckton's, in a beautifully-staged screamingly funny Comedy Episode, "Are Wives Dummies?" Empire, Portsmouth; next, 12, Kyotts Lake-road, Sparkbrook, Birmingham.

WANTED, June 17, follow York, also 24th, by Cadogan and Wingrove, "A Clerical Complication" (Muir and Bartlett's). Empire, York.

WANTED, Monday next, by Eustace and Eyre (E. W. and Dorothy), in Screaming Vaudeville Ventriloquial Act, "Tomkins, Junr." Sure success. Wire, Westminster Music Hall, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Webb Bros., the Musical Clowns, vacant May 27, nine weeks. Address, 4, Speenham-road, Stockwell, London.

WANTED, Known, Fame and Fortune, Acrobats and Comedians; big hit Hippo., Lancaster, vacant June 10, 17. 23, John-st., Blackburn.

WANTED, June 10, 17, on, by Chant and Chant, Refined Vocal Comedy Duo. Wire for a Sure Fire Hit, 87, Wollaton-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, June 17, 24, by Los Granadas, with their own Trampoline Novelty, Sensational Happenings Outside an Hotel, Galas or Theatres. Thanks to Raoul Pitau for Contracts; and Messrs. Rasimi, Pasquier, of Lyons and Paris, for offers. 64, Upper Sutton-street, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Aug. 19 (follow Torquay Pier Pavilion), by The London Entertainers' Concert Party, Six Artists and Bioscope. Apply, PERCY NEWPORT, 7, Sheen-terrace, Kingsway, Mortlake.

WANTED, Lenton and Bertram, Zancig Thought-reading and Conjuring, two acts; a Gigantic Success Everywhere. A few Open Dates. 251, Seven Sisters-road, N.

WANTED, by The Florias, Wonderful, Effective Continental Equilibrists, and Dutch Comedy Slack-wire Artists, June 10. This week, Palace, Dundee

WANTED, Known, The Ringling Trio, Original Comedy Act. A Big Hit this week, Hippo., Brighton; next week, Hippo., Leeds.

WANTED, Known, Vacant June 24, three distinct turns, Bioscope, Illustrated Songs, and Juvenile Vocalist; offers invited from Touring Co's. EDWARDS, 30, St. John-street, Rochdale.

WANTED, Aug. 5, week or days, by I.D.K. Minstrels, with Orchestra or Small Troupe; High-class Show. Apply, MANAGER, 7, Sheen-terrace, Kingsway, Mortlake.

WANTED, Known, Swift Trio, Humorous Cyclists, Vacant June 10, 17, 24, July 1. Address, 66, Upper Sutton-street, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ella's Lion Show, only one in this country, vacant June 10, 17, July 1, 8, 15, and 22.

All communications,
65, North-road, Porth, South Wales.

WANTED, Known, Caban's French Circus, Ponies, Donkeys, Goat, and Dogs, at Liberty Oct. 14, 21, 28, on, with exceptions. Address, C. CABAN, Hippodrome, Yarmouth.

WANTED, Known, Mlle. Rosini's Miniature Menagerie, also Gipsy Ann and her famous dog Rosie. This, O. H., Clacton-on-Sea; next, Whitley Park, Whitley Bay; vac. June 17 and 24.

WANTED, Galas, the World's Greatest Act, with Dogs, Chard's Canine Hippodrome, and Troupe of Highest-leaping Hounds on Earth. This Act is truly the Most Exciting and Sensational Performance ever seen with Dogs. Can Top any London Programme and follow all Dog Acts—a fact which cannot be disputed. G. R. write, also Buer. Open for America. Address, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Devereux's Great Comedy Dog Show, Liberty Monday. Sure draw. Wire, 18, Highland-view, Twynrodyn, Merthyr Tydvil.

WANTED, Alice Fontainbleau's Canine Marvels, talk of every town they visit. Tremendous success this week, Hippo., Preston; 15th, Fête and Gala, Keighley.

WANTED, Known, Judge's Cockatoos, vacant June 10, 17. Wire, Hippodrome, Bury St. Edmunds.

WANTED, Known, The Spangelettis (one Lady, two Gentlemen), at Liberty with great Pot-Pourri Animal Act; also Comedy Act, Halls, Galas, Fêtes, &c. Address, SPANGELETTI, 173, Queen's-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement with recognised Touring Company, the most elaborate and novel Marionette Entertainment in the world; programme new to England; constructed to fit any Stage, also Piers and Gardens. Terms moderate. Vacant from Aug. 5. Address, CARL HOWLETT, Granville, Green-lanes, Hornsey.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty June 17, for Piers, Theatres, or Halls, Stewart's Royal Animated Pictures (miles of Up-to-date Films), and Six First-class Turns, viz., Daisy Graham's Performing Birds (electric fit-up), Kitty Woodford's Dogs, Harry Stewart (Protean Change Artist), Little Doretta (Dutch Song and Acrobatic Dancer), Woodford's American Illustrated Songs, and Leonard and Mac, Patter Comedians. Apply, STEWART, Theatre, Alexandra Palace, London, N.

WANTED, Engagement, Public or Private, Harmon's Bioscope, Marionettes, also Royal Punch and Judy, with Toby. 326, Earlsfield-road, Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, Bioscope Engagements. Terms moderate. Several thousand feet of Film to Sell, from 1d. per foot; Song Slides, 8 Pal of Mine, 4s.; 8 May I Come Home, 4s. MORRIS, Bioscope, Tweed-street, Liverpool.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, Tom Norman, Silver King (regd.), Auctioneer, Valuer. Expert and Authority, Auctioneer to Lord George Sanger (England's Greatest Showman), and Leading Showmen of Great Britain. Sales and Commissions conducted in any part of the World.
If you want to Buy or Sell
Anything Connected with the Business,
Consult TOM NORMAN, Auction Dept.,
The Era" Office, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.
Change of address. Wanted to purchase or engage, all kinds of Novelties and Curiosities (alive or dead), if suitable for exhibition.

WANTED, Known, .22 "R" and "D" cartridges, Globes, Balls, Winchester and New Military Repeaters, Pistols, and all repairs done. GREENE, 74, Falmouth-road, London, S.E.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, all Kinds of Showmen's Painting Undertaken, Oil-paintings, Scenery, Letter Cloths. ROCHE, Artist, 22, Lansdown-road, Lee, S.E.

WANTED, Novelties at all times, for Aberdeen, Edinburgh, and Glasgow.

HUMBER, Waxworks, 112, George-st., Aberdeen.

WANTED, Auctioneers to send to Simons for Secondhand Watches and Jewellery of every description, also reproductions of Old Sheffield Plate.
Rock Bottom Prices Only.
100, 101, 102A, Houndsditch, E.C.

Auctioneers.
WANTED Known, Great Value Offered in Secondhand Silver Watches.
Auctioneers only supplied.
Write to-day for full particulars,
C. G. CLACHER, 22, Argyle-street, Glasgow.
Try one of my famed parcels, containing Ten English Lever and Twelve Silver Geneva Watches. Best Value ever Offered.
In great demand Price, £5 5s.

WANTED, Showmen to Save Money by sending for Leete's Catalogue of specially prepared Paints, Colours, Varnishes, Brushes, &c., and every requisite for decorating Caravans, Roundabouts, Swings, &c. Cheapest house in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, Novelties, Freaks; can open at once. Sale of Books and Postcards allowed. CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin.

WANTED, Freaks and Novelties, also Lady Palmist. Bagan's Waxworks, 48, North-street, Belfast. For Seaside also.

WANTED, for Hancock's Living Picture Exhibition, one or two Lady Dancers and Singers, capable of doing a turn inside as well as Parading outside. Lowest terms and photo., Falmouth until Saturday; Liskeard, Monday, until Wednesday.

WANTED, Lady Phrenologist, on Shares, splendid position; open immediately. SAMUELS' Exhibition Palace, 5, Henry-st., Dublin.

WANTED, for June 21, 22, two Negro Minstrels, to perform in large Booth during Fair. Address,
J. WILKIN,
Red Lion, Aldborough, Norwich.

WANTED, Two Knockabouts, for First-class Show; must assist to Pull Down and Build Up, and make themselves generally useful. Letters only to T. TUBY, Coliseum, Market-place, Scunthorpe, Lincs.

WANTED, Good Doorsman, for Novelty Exhibition; can join at once; also good Novelty, can open Monday. PROPRIETOR, 100, Lower-marsh, Lambeth, London.

WANTED, Doorsman, for Novelty Exhibition, used to Booth; permanent situation to suitable man; also Organ and Lamp Man; can join at once. J. BYE, Exhibition, Market-place, Durham.

WANTED, Smart Doorsman and Describer, for First-Class Picture Show; preference given to man able to book good round of Fair grounds. Must have First-class references. WALTER PAYNE, 346, Brixton-road, London, S.W.

WANTED, a good man, to Lecture, must be a good Lecturer &c., &c.; good money to a good man. My Germany address, Miss A. Bounds, Herzog Adolpfstrasse 40, Wesel a/Rhein, Germany. Address in England, Miss A. BOUNDS, 2, Picton-place, St. Helens-rd., Swansea, S. Wales.

WANTED, useful men for Auction Tent, comfortable shop to willing workers; must state wages. MANAGER, Auction Tent, Carrickfergus, Ireland.

WANTED, Expert Rock Seller, front position, no opposition, first-class Seaside resort; shares, rent, or commission. REEVES, 46, Twiss-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, that Bounds' No. 1 Show, the Bear Lady,
is returning to England Aug. 17,
after 25 years in Germany and France.
Miss Bounds, the Bear Lady.
Opening Aug. 17 in Glasgow,
at Pickard's Waxworks,
and after that, Nov. 4, Aberdeen,
at Humber's Waxworks.
The Bear Lady was eighteen months at Passage Theatre, Berlin, and is now in Berlin. Director and Manager who wrote before please write again.
The Biggest Novelty and Money-taker anywhere. The Show bar none.
MISS BOUND,
Herzog Adolpfstrasse 40, Wesel a/Rhein, Germany.

WANTED, by General and Miss Mite, both under 4ft., as Paraders to First-class Picture Show; past 3 years with Wadbrook's Electrograph. General Post Office, Abergavenny.

BLACKPOOL SANDS.
WANTED, Known, the South Shore Pleasure Beach is the only site in Blackpool for Open-Air Attractions.
The grounds are forty acres in extent, right on the sea front, and are situated immediately next the Promenade at the Electric Tramway Terminus. From April 1 to Dec. 31, 1905, 4,000,000 passengers were carried on these tramways. The permanent attractions now include the "River Caves of the World," "Maxim Flying Machine," "Sea Circus," &c. Great Canadian Water Chute and Scenic Railway from Coney Island now being erected for this season. For sites and concessions for really good Novelties apply personally. Office on grounds. Building in New Spanish Street, 25ft. by 35ft., to Let for Good Side Show, on Sharing Terms. Letters only, 14, Balmoral-road, Blackpool.

LIFEBOAT DEMONSTRATION, BRISTOL.
SATURDAY, JULY 6, 1907,
At THE ROVERS' FOOTBALL GROUNDS, BRISTOL. HIGH ROPE STAGE PERFORMANCES, FIREWORKS.
WANTED, to Let, Ground for Riding Machines, Swings, Slipping the Slip, Sheets, and Side Shows of all descriptions, at moderate rental. This Fête will be the most gigantic held in Bristol for a number of years; already been billed since February last, and tickets now on sale at reduced fee of admission. The Procession, which consists of a number of Lifeboats and Tableaux Carriages, will enter the grounds from the streets, and not break up outside the grounds. For lettings apply the Sole Lessee, T. R. GANNON, West-grove, Ashley-road, Bristol. Telegraphic address, "Fêtes, Bristol." Tel., No. 2636X Nat.

WANTED, Everybody to Know that there will be a Gigantic Fun City, to be held in Coventry. The greatest outdoor amusement enterprise ever held in the ancient city. Now in course of organisation, and will open about the end of June, and which promises to be the greatest success ever known in Coventry. It will be absolutely the first American Amusement Park on this side of the Atlantic, and is, without doubt, a daring and unique experiment. The following shows are required:—
Hale's Tours of the World, Helter Skelter Lighthouse, Plinston's Flying Airship, Traver's Giant Circle Swing, Oscillating Stairway, Whirling Switchback, Circuses, Menageries, Chidlow's Games, &c., Hamanayer Railway, Giant Switchback, Water Chute, Merrymakers and Pierrot Companies, Aerial Flights, Chronophones, Shooting Galleries, Swings, Cockerels, Overboats, Good Side Shows, Cocoa-nut Shies, and Stalls of Every Description; in fact, everything to make this colossal enterprise the greatest success ever known in the Midlands. Money for nothing, simply waiting to be picked up.
Space can now be Let for all the above-mentioned Shows.
For all particulars, apply,
T. M. SYLVESTER,
217, Piccadilly, London, W.

WANTED, to Let, Land for Stalls and Shows. Apply, JOHN HARDMAN, Manager, Starr Estate Fairground Co., 16, King-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, to Let, Stall Space for any Novelty, front position, Lancashire resort; rent, shares, or offers. REEVES, 46, Twiss-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, to Let, Piece of Ground, 40ft. by 60ft., Auctioneers, Entertainers, Best Position, Southend. HOLT, Waxworks, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, to Let, Shop, South Shore, Scarborough, suit Palmist, Jewellery, Auctioneer. Apply, GAMBART, 128, Chapeltown-road, Leeds. Gloucester.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

SHOWMEN'S GUILD.
President, LORD GEORGE SANGER.
WANTED, Known, the Annual Meeting for Wales,
next Sunday (to-morrow), June 9, at Porth Fair, 3 o'clock in the afternoon.
Speakers, the Rev. T. Horne, Messrs. H. and J. Studt, and others.
T. HURST,
Hon. Secretary.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
to Showmen, Stallholders, and Amusement Caterers,
Travelling Fairs, and Fêtes,
P. COLLINS,
Gondola Works, Walsall,
has some Positions to Let
at his well-known
Fair Grounds.
Dates as below:
Kidderminster Pleasure Fair,
open Thursday, June 20;
Bromsgrove Midsummer Fair,
open Saturday, June 22;
Burslem Flower Show and
Fête in the Park,
June 26 and 27;
Burslem Wakes,
on New Central Ground,
sanctioned by Corporation,
commences Saturday, June 29.
Hanley and Longton to follow;
Worcester Races, July 3;
and a continuous run right on to Birmingham and Leicester October Fairs.
Persons with good, clean, and well-conducted concerns will be quoted reasonable rents.
All applications address as above.
Telegrams, "Gondola, Walsall."
Telephone, 80 Walsall.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
To Roundabout Proprietors,
Showmen, Stallholders, and Amusement Caterers,
The Greatest Events in the Annals of the Showman World.
Liverpool's 700th Anniversary.
Liverpool's 700th Anniversary.
Liverpool's 700th Anniversary.
Liverpool's 700th Anniversary.
Pageant and Fêtes,
and
Visit of the Channel Fleet.
P. and J. COLLINS
have secured
the whole of the Liverpool Parks
and
Corporation Open Spaces
for
the Pageant Week,
Aug. 3 to Aug. 9,
where will be held
Monster Fun Fairs.
Monster Fun Fairs.
Monster Fun Fairs.
Monster Fun Fairs.
The City of Liverpool will observe this week as a General Holiday,
The Channel Fleet will anchor in The Mersey.
Excursion Trains and Steamers will run daily into Liverpool from all parts of Britain.
Persons requiring
Grounds, Stands, or Spaces for Shows, &c.,
address, with full particulars, to
the Lessees,
P. and J. COLLINS,
Gondola Works, Walsall,
Telegrams, "Gondola, Walsall."
Telephone, 80 Walsall.

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WANTED, Spaces, Exhibitions or Shops, for Wire Engraving, Stickybacks, new Side Show; also Pianist-Vocalist. MELSOM, 1, Russell-road, Fishponds, Bristol.

WANTED, Helter Skelter Lighthouse, for Folkestone Pier. Sharing terms only. Tremendous business can be done. FORSYTH, Pier, Folkestone.

WANTED, Auctioneers, to Know that Simons, of 100, 101, 102A, Houndsditch, is still forging ahead with his up-to-date Lines in Jewellery, Clocks, Fancy Goods, &c.
Try me; I sell cheap.

WANTED, to Sell, Four good Money-taking Concerns, well worth the attention of Amusement Caterers, Travelling Fairs, or Fêtes, or Proprietors of Pleasure Gardens, Exhibitions, or Fun Cities.
One Set of Twin Steam Yachts, carry 120 passengers, fitted with Electric Light Plant, Magnificently Carved and Decorated; Good Set of Wagons for carrying same by road or rail.
One Wheely-Whirley or Oscillating Platform Roundabout, carries 120 passengers, driven by steam, Splendidly Decorated, Fitted with Electric Light Plant, and Wagons to carry same, road or rail.
One Set of Circular Switchback Motor-Cars, carries 100 passengers, driven by steam, a really Magnificent Machine, with Grand Display of Carved Work and Decorations, fitted with Electric Plant, all Wagons to carry same, road or rail. The above three lots are built by well-known makers, Savage and Co., King's Lynn.
One Helter-Skelter Lighthouse, with one of the Best Slides on the Road. Built by Spooner, Burton-on-Trent.
Either of the above lots can be bought with or without the Electric Light Plants, Wagons, or Organs.
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Gondola Works,
Walsall.

WANTED, to Sell, Saloon Road Living Van, in excellent condition, Mollicope Top, Hostess Cooking Range, and all inside fittings, built for Gentleman's Tour. Sell 35 guineas, a bargain. Photo. 4 stamps. Seen by appointment. Apply, T. HARRISON, Riversdale Farm, Combs, Bakewell.

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WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every Description, Best and Cheapest. WORMALD, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London. Established 1887.

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WANTED, offers for a Live Duck with Four Legs and Two Tails, genuine freak of Nature. Apply, B. BENTLEY, 80, Conduit-street, Manchester.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, to Purchase,
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several Animal Waggons,
several Animal Waggons,
several Animal Waggons,
must be in fair condition.
must be in fair condition.
Sizes, lowest price, to
Box 4,929,
"The Era."

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
"The Era" Dramatic and Musical Annual for 1907 is up to its usual standard—in fact, it is, if possible, smarter than ever. There is an excellent budget of articles from the pens of Miss Ellen Terry, Miss Cicely Richards, Miss Pollie Emery, Messrs. Frank Cooper, Arthur Collins, Charles Collette, Frank Curzon, Edward German, Cliff Ryland, and many others. The illustrated obituary, the alphabetical list of plays produced in London and the provinces, and all the other valuable features of the Annual are as complete as ever, and make this handbook extremely useful not only to members of the profession, but to the infinitely wider circle interested directly or indirectly in the drama.—Whitehall Review.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
A welcome friend, with many old features as good as new, and with a selection of contributions in story form by theatrical celebrities.—Evening Standard and St. James's Gazette, Jan. 24, 1907.

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CALLS FOR MONDAY, JUNE 10, 1907.

THE LONDON HIPPODROME.

George Leyton, Jackson Family, Duncan's Dogs, Rhoda Brothers, Vasilescu Troupe, Orford's Elephants, Wyndham and Kitty, Martinecks, Australian Woodcutters, Rapoli, Fred Lindsay, Prof. Grossi, Maude Rochez's Monkeys, Toft's Tableaux, Chronomegaphone.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1.30, for:—
Wilkie Bard, Bros. Dean, Carter Livesey and Co., Howard and Collinson, Harry Bedford, Fred and Pauli, Roma and Romani, Nellie Stratton, Bioscope, Celtic Comedy Trio.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for:—
Harry Lauder, May Audrey, Hartley Wonders, Maggie Walsh, Tom E. Finglass, Northern Troupe, Illustrated Song, "Iona," Bioscope, "Whirling the Whirl."

ZOO AND HIPPODROME, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for:—
W. Selkirk and Co., Three Rubys, Leo Stormont, Verno and Voyce, Carlyles, Dolly Denton, Richardson Taylor, Clark and Hayden, Bioscope, Caselli's Dogs.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for:—
Chung Ling Soo, Satanella Troupe, Nellie Martell, New York Nippers, J. W. Rickaby, Edith Fink, The Bruins, Bioscope, Arthur Aldridge, Percy Honri.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
The Gems, Punch and July Girls, Gladys Mavius, Tom Owen, Stelling and Revell, Belloni's Cockatoos, Robb Gilmore, Six Brothers Luck, Illustrated Song, Amy Marsden.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Fred Storey and Co., in "Rip Van Winkle," Ray Wallace, Allan Hanbury, Norman Leonard Trio, Maud Mortimer, Nellie Coleman, Dome, Donaldson Bros. and Ardell, Bioscope.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
"Moving In," Bros. Egbert, Frank Seeley, Guy Ryder, Wartenburg Bros., Fanny Erris, D'Arc's Marionettes, American Comedy Four, Frank Lynne, Ed. Laurie and May Beattie.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Hetty King, Horace White, Dorothy Drew, Will English, "My Gollywog," Six Æolians, Musical Johnstones, Harry Edson, Bioscope, Paul Conchas.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
"The Amber Light," Bioscope, Frank Cumminger, Powell's Marionettes, Kitty Marion, Sisters Morgan, Bert Woodward, Drew and Alders.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Ernest Shand, George Formby, The Findens, J. Alexander and Co., Johghmann Sisters, Daisy Mayer, Ruth Lytton, Les Strads, Tom Moore, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
"My Pal Jerry," McConnells, Eily Adair, C. Randolph King, Harry Freeman, Victor Travers, Tom Edwards, Bioscope, Arthur Astill.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Vesta Tilley, Bioscope, Musical Jees, W. J. Ashcroft, Alix Lukos, Trapnell Family, Narrow Bros., Lee and Bentley, Ouida Macdermott, Tom Costello.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
"Dick Turpin," Bioscope, Jackley Trio, Herbert Shelley, Edwin Barwick, Lily Langtry, L. W. Harris, Illustrated Song, Lockhart's Elephants.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
"The Devil's Sunday," The Delevines, Ch. Fisher and Co., Bonnie Goodwin's Piccaninnies, Lancashire Lassies, Melot Hermann, Doughty's Sketch Co., Walter Munroe, Lauder's Chronophone, Little Dott Moss.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
Cinquevalli, The Anartos, Ben Albert, Edie King, Pat Rafferty, May Henderson, Fanny Fields, Ryder Slone, Boy Glen, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
George Lashwood, Austin Rudd, Baker and Balfe, Rosie Archer, Jordan and Harvey, 8 Empire Girls, Sylvesta, Amy Anderson and Co., Le Berat, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
Mark Sheridan, Spry and Austin, Ella Retford, Harry Tate, Francis and Alfred, Fielding and Hull, The Mezzettis, De Gracia's Elephants, Little Tina, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3, for:—
Black Hussars, Will Musgrave, George Ridgwell, Moulier Sisters, The Craggs, Les Frasettis, Sisters Sprightley, David Poole, Bioscope.

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EMPIRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 3, for:—
H. Roxbury and Co., Larry Lewis, Miles Stavordale, Queenie Leighton, J. B. Preston, Dida, Two Dixons, Dan Leno, jun., Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 3, for:—
The Boissets, Three Sisters Chester, Three Phydoras, Marguerite Broadfoote, Ross and Lewis, Grace Merton, Frank Couch, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
Harry Ford, Ross and Grayson, Marzella's Birds, Cissie Curlette, Ellis Barrieton, Five Osranis, Mona Macdonald, "King for a Day," Light and Marshall, Bioscope.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30, for:—
Neil Kenyon, J. A. Wilson, The Motramos, Beattie and Blanche, F. Elliston and Co., Billy McClain and Co., Lindon's Vaudeville Co., W. Bourne and Co., May Walsh, Bioscope.

ARDWICK EMPIRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
"The Fighting Parson," Bioscope, Walter King, Daisy Jerome, Boswell's Circus, Ian Colquhoun, Woodhouse and Wells, Genaro and Theol, Illustrated Song, The Kellinos.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2, for
Phil Ray, Bioscope, Chas. Norton, Starr and Leslie, Cruikshank, "The Punch-bowl," Netherlands, Illustrated Song, Mendel, Millman Trio.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
"Casey's Circus," Josh Dixon, Flo Esdaile, Clarke and Hamilton, Seeley and West, Ella Shields, Farley, Rennie, and Farley, Cape Girls, Canty's Grotto, Bioscope.

THE FOLLOWING ARE BOOKED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ABOVE:

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
Karno's "The Bailiff," Amy Russell, Arthur Gill, Spry and Monti, Babs Lloyd, Mueller and Coyne, Pictures.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1 for:
W. F. Frame, Sisters Dorrell, Karno Four, Minna Merry, Boccaccio Minstrels, Herbert Rule, New Macs, Frank Bertram and Co., Lukushimas.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Kitty Wager, Frank Travis, Leonie Dixon, Gasch Sisters, Pictures, Fred Poplar, Twin Andersons, Borellis, Charles Bignell.

RICHMOND THEATRE, RICHMOND.
Proprietor, Mr. George Dance.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
"The Gentleman Cracksman," Grace Langley, John Josey and Co., Lulu Gould, Pictures, Raynor and Reece, Alma Obrey, Bob Baxter, Jessie Preston.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL
Rehearsal at 12, for:—
Eugene Family, Marie Empress, Kent and Keith, Illustrated Song, Bioscope, Fred Hastings, May Mars, Doody and Wright, Gintaro.

THE GRANVILLE, WALHAM GREEN.
Rehearsal at 3, for:—
"Mumming Birds," Alexandre and Hughes, Alf Chester, Harry Leybourne, Albert Le Fre, J. C. Kurry, Beattie Mayer, Hetty Lee, Ina Lorrimer, Lillie Farrar, Ike Scott and Son, Picquays, Geoffreys and Benson, Newham and Latimer, Bioscope.

THE PALACE, CAMBERWELL.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Both Performances.
Karno's "Early Birds," Leonard Mortimer and Co., Sisters Wingrove, Herbert La Martine, Sam Mayo, Dan Crawley, Arthur Rigby, Gwennie Hasto, Ethel Ra Leslie, Foreman and Fannan, Bioscope, Collins and Rice, Binns and Binns, Ike Scott and Son.

EMPIRE, COVENTRY.
Proprietor, Mr. George Dance.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
J. L. Shine and Co., Hinton and Wooton, Marie Kendall, Sisters Poole, Rinaldo Trio, Steve McCarthy, Mariedl, Bioscope.

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IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to Opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced.

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The New Imperial Anthem (Edward Montagu).
Sung by Ian Colquhoun, also by Miss Ruby Helder, at the Empire, Leicester Square.

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(E. W. Rogers),
Sung by George Lashwood.

"FOR AULD LANG SYNE"
(F. W. Leigh and H. E. Pether),
Sung by Tom Costello.

"MY CASTLE IN SPAIN"
(Lawrence, Mellor, and Gifford),
Sung by Miss Lil Hawthorne.

"PANSY" (By C. Wilmott, Rita Strauss, and H. E. Darewski, jun.), and
"I'LL BE YOUR GOLLIWOG" (Kennedy Russell),
Sung by Miss Isabel Dillon.
"THE HOME THAT'S HOME FOR ME"
(F. W. Leigh and H. E. Pether),
Sung by Miss Vesta Tilley.

"IF THE MAN IN THE MOON WERE A COON" (Fischer), and "BABY LUCIE" (Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford).
Sung by G. H. Elliott; the former also by Miss May Moore-Duprez.

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Telegrams, "Twopence, London." Telephone No. 7623 Gerrard.
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CALLS for MONDAY, JUNE 10, 1907.

Rehearsals at 1 p.m.

PALACE THEATRE, PLYMOUTH.
Isabel Derrie and Co., in sketch, "La Vivandiere," Bugler Carr, Kitty Clover and Co., Little Cliff, Jas Willard's Sketch Co., "The Little Wonder," Marstro and Oretta, Bioscope, G. W. Hunter.

PALACE THEATRE, BRISTOL.
Parke's Eton Boys, Sybil Montague, C. Wordley Hulse and Co., in sketch, "The Fight in the Forge," the Avolos, Billy Burns, Walker and May, Bioscope, Lonnen Meadows and Co., in sketch, "Kiss Your Father."

PALACE THEATRE, SUNDERLAND.
Chas. Majilton and Co., in sketches, "The Trippers" and "Round the Clock," Zenora, Stidder and Dunbar, John E. Coyle, Carr and Rose, Evie Hamilton, Bioscope, Marino.

KING'S THEATRE, GATESHEAD.
Arthur Conquest and Co., in sketch, "The Sioux," Flo Banks, The Almas, Little Maudie Francis, Bioscope, Martino, Harry Wenburn, Lotus Sisters, Donal McDougal.

PALACE THEATRE, ABERDEEN.
The Bensons, Pattie Bella, Chas. Banks, Hilton, Emmie Milsted and Joe Bell, Clare Greta, Percy Curry, The Fordyces, Bioscope, Bains and Reed.

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ALHAMBRA, SANDGATE.
Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Jack Foley, Louie Hurman, Dan Filmer, Czar's Russian Troupe, Ivy Adelaide, Bernard and Weston.

GRAND, SHEFFIELD.
Carl Herman, The Three Bostonians, Phedona, Frederica's Dogs, Pallister's American Bioscope.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.
NEW HIPPODROME.
CALL, Monday, June 10. Rehearsal 12.30. Miss Veronica Brady and Co. in "The Lady Soubrette," Harry Wright, Nellie Gannon, Winona and King, The Bonanzas, Zano Bros., New Operascope, J. G. Aitken.
Artists requiring immediate dates, apply, H. PERCIVAL YOUNG, Sole Booking Representative, Shakespeare Theatre Offices, Clapham Junction, London, S.W.

CALL, Monday, June 10.
Hippodrome, Wakefield:
Billy Ross and Co., Nellie Sheldon, Arthur St. George, Ethel Yorke, Ted Clifton, Maudie Kendall, Professor Earle, Ward and Davis, Fields and Lewis.

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Bill matter must be sent two weeks in advance.

CALL for Monday, June 10, 1907. at 12 o'clock.
G. Chanti, Wallau, Oliver Conroy, Desmonti and Mora, Leah Arden, Stave, Keith and Merson, Sisters Marion, Pictures.

SHEERNESS HIPPODROME.
General-Manager, Mr. FRED LEIGHTON.
CALLS for week commencing June 10, 1907: Valesco's Australian Stage Circus, Violet Beatrice, Morelli and Mooir, Matt Wilkinson and Co., The Fitzroys, Flo Mellor, Charlie Hampton, Zanfretto and Napio. Band Rehearsal, Monday, June 10, at 1 p.m.

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CALLS.
FOR WEEK COMMENCING
MONDAY, JUNE 10, 1907.

PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT.

SPECIAL NOTICE.
Rehearsal at all Halls, Monday, at 12.0 sharp.

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Matinée every Monday.
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Matinée every Monday.
"My Landlord," Fred Lawrence and Co., Leolor Troupe, Sivronas, Rene Graham, Chas. Austin, Dolly Elsworthy and Co., Edie Endon, Edith Evelyn and Co., Raymond's, Arthur Norton.

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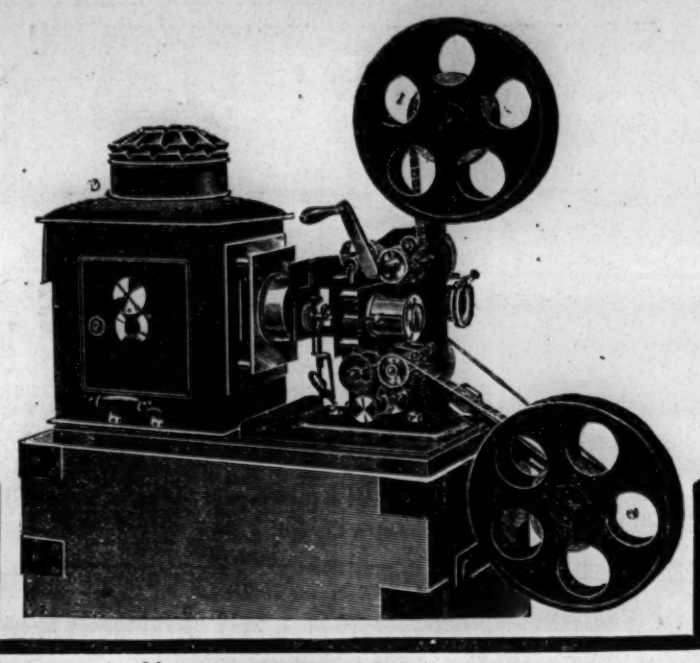

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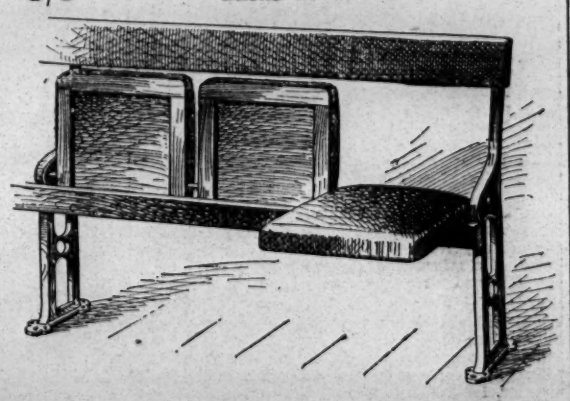

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PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDARE. — NEW THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. Z. Andrews.—This week Mr. Neville Claude's company presents *The Priest of the Temple*. Mr. Walter H. Wilson is a decided success as Valerius; Mr. Arthur Knight is a powerful Appius; Mr. Arthur L. Reed a cynical Decius; Mr. Clem Horlock as Hermanus acts with much force; Mr. Vernon Cockburn is a quaint Albertius; Miss Flora Leslie an excellent Præstantia; and Miss Gipsy Alexander an effective Polita.

ABERDEEN.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—*Nell Gwynne* is played this week to large houses. Miss Hilda Shirley takes the title-part with much power and winsome grace; Miss M. Fawcett appears to advantage as the Duchess of Portsmouth; and among the other members of the company who appear with distinction are Mr. Ernest Nelson as the tragedian of the King's playhouse, Mr. Owen as Lord Rochester, Mr. Hilliard Vox as Roland Graeme, and Miss Millie Maynard as Abigail.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—The turn of the versatile Bensons is brilliantly successful; and another thoroughly enjoyable entertainment is provided by Hector and Sullivan. *The Belle of Arizona*, a sprightly sketch, is vivaciously played by Miss Emmie Milstead and Mr. Joe Belle; Mr. Percy Curry makes a hit with his amusing songs; Mr. W. E. Hilton is both skilful and amusing as a ventriloquist; Mr. Charles Banks, comedian, and his celebrated dog, Woof, are heartily applauded; Miss Patta Bella is a piquant comedienne; Miss Claire Gretta is charming alike as a Spanish singer and dancer; and the Fordyces are also well received. The Bioscope gives an amusing display.

ACCRINGTON. — PRINCE'S. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—*The Three Musketeers* is being presented here. Miss Mabel Mannering acquits herself with great credit in the rôle of Miladi de Winter; Miss Gladys Lloyd admirably portrays Anne of Austria; Miss Violet Temple is an effective Mme. Vermont; the part of Raoul d'Artagnan is splendidly interpreted by Mr. Gerald Heather; Mr. J. G. Maine leaves nothing to be desired as the Cardinal; Mr. Louis Edmond is a capital exponent of the King; Mr. A. D. Layland well sustains the Duke of Buckingham; Mr. Allan Carruthers submits a capital performance as Mosqueton.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. Willmot, Vandy, Potter, and Weisker; Director, Mr. F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Parsons.—The chief attraction is Mr. Fred Karno's company, in *Mumming Birds* and *Early Birds*. The remainder of the bill comprises Harry Thorp and company, Dan Hendy, J. C. Crawley, Louis Hardt, Bros. Durrant, Cim Maree, and the Bioscope.

ALDERSHOT.—HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Galdwin.—Aldershot Theatre has temporarily been converted into a Hippodrome, with favourable results. The honours of the evening are shared by Messrs. J. A. Bentham and Harry Scott in a dramatic military episode, and the Three Delaries in a gymnastic act. Miss Joan Deering's dainty singing and playing obtain an enthusiastic reception. The Le Cren Trio are humorous acrobatic dancers; *The Missing Will* is an American vaudeville that gives opportunity for smart dialogue; Daisy Read, comedienne and speciality dancer, and the Olympian troupe of lady dancers and vocalists find favour. Fred Lester uses a tuneful baritone voice to advantage in comic song and ballad. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope gives great amusement.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—*The Woman from Scotland Yard* is played here. Miss Chrissie Dunbar as the lady detective, Edith Mayne, acts with a fine sense of what is required in assuming the rôle of an officer of the law; Mr. Alex. C. Grant is the impersonation of coolness and deliberation, courage and effrontery; Mr. Geo. E. Clive, a vigorous interpreter of a brave Englishman; Mr. J. L. Schofield does good work as a Nihilist; Mr. Walter Clarke merits praise for his portrayal of a dude, who claims to be the legitimate husband of Lady Stanhope; Mr. Robt. Cromwell as a coast-guardsman is responsible for much of the humour introduced; and with him must be linked Miss Sidney Barrisford, the sweetheart, who is equally responsible for the undercurrent of comic absurdity. Miss Emily Money as Lady Stanhope has a difficult part to interpret, and she manages by judicious treatment of delicate situations to merit much sympathy, notwithstanding her compromising position and tacit admission of guilt as a bigamist and an accomplice in a more heinous crime.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—Mr. Alf. Ripon takes the boards with his doll, the "Komik Skot," a very clever ventriloquial act of patter and song; Mme. Sims Reeves revives recollections of the famous tenor by giving from his great répertoire of songs some of the well-known ballads; the Three Sisters Edwardes, assisted by Larry, their father, and old soldier of Kandahar March fame, introduce the pathetic military scena, *The Dying Soldier*; favourite comedy artists are Bert and Dora; and the Danbys (Charles and Arthur) are expert singing and dancing comedians. Really funny and clever is the juggling act of Olms and Carbeth; the Jiu-Jitsu Troupe demonstrate the art of self-defence; J. H. Darnley and company appear very successfully in the farcical playlet, *What a Night*; and Bioscope pictures conclude a good programme.

SANGER'S ROYAL CIRCUS.—Proprietors, Lord John Sanger and Sons, Ltd.—A brief visit was paid to Ashton by the unique travelling combination of circus and menagerie. The show requires big space, and located themselves on the Volunteer Field, where two grand exhibitions were given, afternoon and evening. The programme was of the best in equestrianism, acrobatic, gymnastic, zoological, scientific, fourteen separate turns of artists, educated horses and trick ponies, elephants, &c.

ATTERCLIFFE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chris A. Wordsworth.—Illustrated songs by Miss Nellie Burke, and an interesting selection of pictures, continue to attract crowded houses here.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. T. E. Owen.—The Four Rosaires, triple-bar comedians and acrobats, provide a turn of much merit; Miss Mignonette Kokin is a charming and vivacious comedienne, and her dancing is clever; the Saletos, in their graceful head and hand balancing act, are accorded a hearty reception; much amusement is caused by the antics of Galetti's Monkey Comedians; an interesting film is presented by Mr. Clayton on the Attergraph; a pleasing item is the performance of Luigo Salvino, a clever juvenile instrumentalist; Miss Madge Norwood is a refined soubrette and dancer; and Fox and Melville prove popular in illustrated songs.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Miss Emma Litchfield's company in *A Clever Impostor* is here. The authoress herself plays excellently as Nora Grosvenor, and her delineations of Sarah Ellen, Old Rebecca, and Molly O'Flynn are equally pleasing. Mr. Stuart Cleveland is clever as Manual Teixeira; and Miss Maud Steeple as Margaret Grosvenor, Miss Isabel Singleton as Maisie Grosvenor, and Miss Florence Gorner as Annie Pleasant are each, in their several parts, very pleasing. Mr. Edward Swinton is a humorous Miss Brightside.

BATH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—The popular comedian, Mr. Seymour Hicks, appeared here on Wednesday, together with Miss Zena Dare, supported by Mr. Stanley Brett, Mr. J. C. Buckstone, Mr. Laurence Caird, Mr. William Lugg, Miss Florence Lloyd, and full company in a triple bill, consisting of *Papa's Wife*, *You and I*, *Scrooge*, which delighted a crowded and enthusiastic audience.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—The summer season of picture entertainments is proving a gratifying success, the firm of Raymond quite upholding their high reputation. An additional draw is the series of illustrated songs given by The Lovelaces, which are highly appreciated.

ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—Mr. Lawson Howes.—The Creoles, a sextet of variety entertainers, commenced an engagement here on Monday, in a bright and varied programme, which has been well received.

BEDFORD.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—Variety holds sway here this week, Kennedy's Komiks, clever and jovial pierrots, occupying the boards. Nat Abbatt is a capital instrumentalist in clown's garb; the Cedrics contribute a smart turn, and are well received; Miss Mollie Revell is a capital lady baritone, and Mr. Clarence Turner creates roars of laughter with his songs. Mr. Victor Verney gains much applause for his whistling solos, and Miss Ella Verne is a clever burlesque serio; the Ver-Vains are two extraordinary coon experts; and Miss Queenie Vane dances well, and also sings a good song. A fine display of animated pictures conclude the show.

BELFAST. — PALACE THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. Warden, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—Mr. Arthur Roberts, supported by his company, tops the bill here with *The Woman Who Was*. A welcome return visit is being paid by Miss Florrie Gallimore, the delightful comedienne, whose catchy chorus songs have been loudly encored. Mr. Dan Thomas, a big favourite here, has been as successful as ever; and the farmyard imitations of Mr. Harry Carsdale are certainly most realistic. Miss Josie Delaine has been accorded a good reception, as has Miss Lilian Victoria, a comedienne of exceeding merit. The bill is completed by Cribb and Cribb, comedians, Vera Mayne, Canard, and the Palace pictures.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Will Sley; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—John Tiller's company tops the bill here with *High Jinks; or, Fun on the Sands*. The Silver Tone Quartette delight all with their harmonious items; the cycling feats of the Auroras have created a sensation; the Three Sisters Tree delight all with their smart act, *Hunting*; and the capital comedy sketch, *The Lancashire Lass*, is presented by Zeta Grey and company. Mr. Fred Elton appears to advantage in the speciality scena, *On Board an Ocean Liner*; and Miss Elsa Brull and Mr. Arthur Hemsley, in their novel act, *Fun in a Music Shop*, take well. Others here are the Smarte Bros., novel eccentrics; and the new pictures by the Hipposcope.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John A. Walker.—The star here this week is the famous comedian Mr. W. F. Frame, whose Scotch character songs are inimitably rendered. Roars of laughter greet the Karno Four, in their comedy sketch, *The Dinner Hour*. Much amazement has been caused also by the clever feats of the Lukushima Troupe; and the Boccaccio Minstrels, including Signor Francia, the famous mandoline soloist, are paying a welcome return visit. Messrs. Frank Bertram and company appear with success in *The Chaperon*; and the New Macs create much laughter. Mr. Herbert Rule is a good comedian; and also here are the Sisters Dorrell, duettists and dancers; and Miss Minna Merry, described as the "Female Robey."

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Sinclair Neill.—The Alhambra Dramatic company produce here this week the fine drama *Her Wedding Day*. The piece provides much scope for the abilities of Miss Nina Blake-Adams, who appears with great success in the rôle of Madge Conway. Mr. Horace Denton shares the honours by his clever interpretation of Harold Saxby; and Mr. Cyril Grier distinguishes himself by his able treatment of the arduous rôle of Seth Mayson. Mr. E. M. Heanley fairly earns the loud anathemas of pit and gallery by the realistic manner in which he portrays the villainies of Weedon Kenyon; Miss Kathleen Magee furnishes a skilful impersonation of Dora, alias Mme. Maurice; and much praise is due Mr. Tom H. Solly for his impersonation of Caccles. Mr. Elmore Frith is a capital Sam Klink; and Miss Mattie Crawford all that could possibly be desired as Dolly Klink. Miss Alice Clarke furnishes a capital impersonation of Mrs. Caccles; and Mr. Ed. Smythe's impersonation of Jordan P. Jessop has much to commend it. Mr. Tom H. Solly is, as usual, responsible for the stage-management. The Alhambra Bioscope, under the direction of Mr. W. E. Newlove, exhibits a fine series of pictures this week representing a burlesque melodrama from New York in five acts and thirty-six scenes.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant; Secretary, Miss Isabel Morris.—On Monday last Mr. Harry Starr's company opened in *Otto the Outcast*. Mr. Starr, a versatile artist, sustains the title-rôle with considerable ability; Mr. Edwin Firth gives a powerful rendering of Roderique D'Estalier; Daddy Bruneau is well impersonated by Mr. Wm. Miller; and Mr. Fred W. Graham gives a humorous performance of Augustine Carrotte. Miss Kate Norris displays considerable ability as Lara; and the remaining parts are adequately filled. *Carl the Clockmaker* has been produced later in the week.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—Jack Lorimer, the popular Scotch comedian, is a leading member of an excellent company, which also includes Miss Peggy Pryde, Dutch Daly, Haverleys, American song illustrators; Dale and O'Malley, comedians; the Three Prestons, in *The Liftman's Rise*; Miss Rosa Loader, comedienne; Miss Kitty Kearns, comedienne; and Brown's Royal Bioscope.

BIRMINGHAM.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Rodgers, Limited; Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—*The Private Secretary* reappears here with Mr. Eugene C. Stafford's company, plus Mr. J. F. Graham, who, to the general delight, emerges as the unfortunate Rev. Robert Spalding. Mr. Graham's reappearance is obviously a gratification to his friends and admirers here; and, needless to say, Mr. W. Hargreaves' study of the corpulent and explosive Cattermole is highly popular. Mr. Jas. Hussey as Harry Marsland, Mr. Randolfe Reade as Douglas Cattermole, Mr. Vivian Gilbert as Gibson, and Mr. H. Sinclair as Mr. Marsland all prove eminently capable; and the ladies, led by Miss Dora Gray as Edith, make pleasant impressions. These include Mrs. Alfred Davis, Miss Hussey as Harry Marsland, Mr. Randolfe Reade as Douglas Cattermole, Mr. Vivian Gilbert as Gibson, and Mr. H. Sinclair as Mr. Marsland all prove eminently capable; and the ladies, led by Miss Dora Gray as Edith, make pleasant impressions. These include Mrs. Alfred Davis, Miss Cicely Wade, and Miss Mary E. Deverell. *My American Admirer* precedes this.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Bernardo.—*A Gambler's Daughter* makes a very successful appeal on its first engagement here. Miss Adria Hill, in the dual rôle of mother and daughter, displays talents of an undoubtedly high order, and her success is most deserved. Mr. Robert Ayrton as the emigrant, O'Dare, wins hearty cheers, his portrayal being a very telling one; Mr. Alfred Sanders as Solomons makes a typical money-grabber; Mr. Charles Yorke does full justice to the part of Stephen Brand; Mr. H. Barham embodies the characteristics of "the weasel," Capt. Stanhope, in a clever manner; Mr. Basil Mitchell is well qualified for the rôle of the son, Jack Grant; and Mr. Richard Pitt as John Grant (the father), Mr. Wilford Bailey as Ralph Gillman, Mr. Edward Hobart as Tom Brand, Miss Lizzie Gorden as Carmen Sancho, Miss Harriett Loydall as the faithful negress Auntie Zeb, and others are also very good.

CARLTON THEATRE, SALTLEY.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—Kennedy's Komiks supply the fare here, with Mr. Keane Harker, a refined burlesque comedian; Miss Florrie Wentworth, the *Belle of New York* favourite; Miss Dora Price, ballad vocalist; Miss Lily Skelt, of J. W. Turner's opera company; Mr. David Hallam, the refined interlocutor and entertainer; Mr. Albert Vince, the gallery favourite; Miss Dolly Vance, a clever and pleasing vocalist; and the Incemores, in their quaint marionette duet. The electric animated pictures are another great attraction; and the stage, representing Blackpool Tower, is illuminated with innumerable vari-coloured electric lights.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles. —*His Dishonoured Wife*, presented by Mr. Chas. H. Phelps, Mr. Harry Tilbury, and company is attracting excellent houses here, and much enthusiasm is evinced in the play. Mr. Phelps invests the rôle of the village blacksmith, Frank Lindon, with manly attributes that awaken much applause; Mr. Frank Harvey wins a hearty reception with his fine acting as Neil Locksey; Mr. A. Geo. Fry gives a clever exposition of the villain's rôle, Lord Devant; Mr. Bernard Webb supports ably as Tom Redman; and the author of the play, Mr. Harry Tilbury, scores in the humorous rôle of Mickey Doolan. Miss Belle Tilbury gains unlimited sympathy as the wife, Florence; Miss Arline T. George acts charmingly as Alice Harvey; Miss Mabel Hall shines as the daughter, Mabel Lindon; and Miss Trixie Toole as Araminta creates other diversion, her singing and acting being of a most clever and vivacious description.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham.—Hetty King, who tops the bill here, pleases audiences immensely; Paul Conchas, the Herculean juggler of cannon balls and shells, holds the audience spellbound; Horace White, a capable ventriloquist, provides a good turn; and Will English is an excellent coon artist. The Musical Johnsons are responsible for pleasing xylophone selections; Will Bishop and company present a pleasing sketch, entitled *My Gollywog*; and the Six Æolians (vocalists and dancers), Harry Edson (with his dog), and Dorothy Drew (comedienne) also provide excellent turns.

GAIETY.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—Heading the bill is Roland, the illusionist, who mystifies with his latest success, "The Bachelor's Dream." Lotto, Lilo, and Otto are responsible for some clever and novel cycle feats; Duncan and Godfrey give an interesting coster comedy, entitled *Me and 'Er*; Allen and Hart are excellent vocalists and dancers; and Vasey and Ramsey in *Jerks, the Butler*, also provide some excellent dancing. Elsie Roby has a pleasing interlude in *The Slaveys' "At Home"*; Rich and Rich are capital comedians; and Gracie Taylor and Ada Cerito are also responsible for acceptable turns.

HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—Mr. Frank Danby is here with a company in *The Chauffeur*; the Elgars appeal successfully to the music-loving portion of the audience; Barton and Franklin give a really clever turn; Conway and Garland are funny in a burlesque, entitled *Left in Charge*; and Juno Salmo (the "devil dandy"), the Henries (juvenile club-throwers), Rosie Bartlett, Maud Walsh (comedienne), Harry Mountford (raconteur), and Harry Vardon (ventriloquist) all combine to give a capital entertainment.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Foster.—Fred Eustace and company, who are responsible for the production of a comedy-drama, *The Amber Light*, have achieved a great success. A new eccentric comedy act, entitled *At the Seaside*, is cleverly presented by Drew and Alders; Powell's marionettes are highly appreciated; Bert Woodward, the "steeplechasing cyclist," is received with great applause; and Frank Cumminger, the Sisters Morgan, and Kitty Marion complete a well-balanced programme.

BLACKBURN.—NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page.—Mr. Frank L. Pitt and Mr. Charles Halling's company is appearing here in the detective drama, *£1,000 Reward*.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—Haley's Juveniles give the principal turn in a good company. They appear in a carnival scene, and dance and sing in entertaining style. The Spanish Goldinis, in a carpet-spinning and electrical novelty act, take well; and Zarmo, "the mad juggler," is very clever. Marvello and May's performing cockatoos are interesting examples of careful animal training; Obdy and Bushman, in a comedy dog act, and Rose and Calvert supply capital comedy; while Daisy Davonport is a dainty dancer. Mulvey and Miriam present their sketch, *In the Studio*; and Raymond's Bioscope shows some excellent pictures.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—The engagement here this week of the D'Oyly Carte Opera company is fitting and appropriate, as Monday night last saw the eighteenth anniversary of the opening by the self-same company, although the personnel, with one exception, is entirely changed, Mr. Fred Billington being that one exception. *The Gondoliers* was the attraction on Monday, and drew a good house. The various characters were in safe hands, and all went merry as a marriage bell. Mr. Charles R. Walenn as the Duke of Plaza-Toro, Mr. Billington, of course, as the Grand Inquisitor, Mr. Leicester Tunks as Luiz, Mr. Albert Kavanagh (another old favourite) as Guiseppe, and Miss Theresa Rassam as the Duchess met with the most cordial reception. *Iolanthe*, *The Yeomen of the Guard*, *Pinafore*, and *Trial by Jury* also find a place on the bill.

GRAND THEATRE.—Owner and Manager, Mr. T. Sergenson.—Messrs. Ralland and Sergenson's company have changed their programme from melodrama of last week to *The Late Lamented* this week. Mr. Arthur Gibbons gives every satisfaction as Stuart Crosse, and Mr. Charles Boult effectively presents Major Joseph Marshall; Mr. F. Pennington-Gush as Richard Webb and Miss Chrissie Ralland as Mrs. Webb also play their parts with conspicuous ability; whilst Miss Kitty Cavendish presents an excellent sketch of Mrs. Stuart Crosse.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Harry Randall, who tops the bill here this week, is meeting with a big reception nightly, and his songs and sayings have "caught on" tremendously; Ted and May Hopkins also contribute a very enjoyable turn in the shape of a sketch entitled *A Welsh Courtship*, which brings down the house; the Eight Lancashire Lads have previously won a reputation here as singers and dancers; Lina Verdi is known and admired as a comedienne and mimic; Jack Cosgrove and Ethel Burns contribute a comedy and vocal entertainment; Ellie Stuart sings and dances well; Jeanette Hall is a clever lady baritone vocalist; Raie Walters is a dainty comedienne; and Burt Danson finds favour

in eccentric character comedy. Vernon's Imperial Bioscope still shows the pictures.

NORTH PIER.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. James Walker.—The entertainment here this week is provided by Mr. Sydney James's Rustic Scholars, an excellent combination of artists, which includes Misses Aileen and Doris Woods in duets, dances, and Maori specialities; Mr. Alfred Wooton, vocalist, Miss Maud Fitz-Stubbs, pianist, Mr. Harker Nicholls, expert instrumentalist and Mr. Gilbert Fernie, humorist.

BOLTON.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Melvin.—Mr. Alfred B. Cross and company are here in *The Manxman*. Mr. A. B. Cross impersonates with great skill the difficult and arduous part of Pete; Miss Minnie Watersford displays fine emotional power in her rendering of the character of Kate Cregeen; Cæsar Cregeen has an able exponent in Mr. Frank Etheridge; Mr. Sydney C. Kearnes is successful as Philip Christian; and Mr. Maurice Yorke as Ross Christian, Miss Nellie Freeland as Nancy, and Miss Hazel Dent as Miss Christian, do ample justice to their respective parts.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—This week a visit is being made by the celebrated Colley-Dryden variety company, which embraces Mme. Ada Colley, the Australian nightingale; Los Rupertos, equilibrists and jugglers; the Two Neilsons, in refined duologue and dancing speciality; Roxborough and Wright, an inimitable comedy couple; Ed. B .Ford, comedian; Martin Conway, comedian; Baroni and Kemp, comedy quick-change artists, in *Fun on Furlough*; Mr. Leo Dryden's sketch company, in a funny farce, *Charlie's Indian*; Mollie Nolan, a charming comedienne and dainty dancer; Mr. Leo Dryden, vocal character-actor; and Vernon's Imperial Bioscope.

BOOTLE. — MUNCASTER THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. Pennington; Manager, Mr. H. Pennington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Young.—This week we have a visit from Mr. T. R. Nugent and company in *The Little Earl*. The characters, which are suitably portrayed, are Harry Dare (Mr. W. Dewhurst), King Ashton (Mr. H. Compton), Billy Barton (Mr. T. R. Nugent), Little Victor (Master Sidney), Claire Sidney (Miss G. Greet), Elsie Woodford (Miss Jean Beresford), and Belle Langrist (Miss Maggie Gardiner).

BRADFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—In a répertoire of Shakespearean plays, Mr. Allan Wilkie, the tragedian, supported by a company of sterling merit, is attracting excellent audiences here this week. On Monday night Mr. Wilkie presented a forcible and masterly performance of Shylock in *The Merchant of Venice*. Miss Carrie Baillie gave a charming and spirited rendering of the part of Portia; Antonio was a dignified and capable effort on the part of Mr. G. A. Alexander Marsh; Mr. Gordon Phillott as the Duke and Mr. G. Munro as Launcelot did well; and amongst others of the company who stood out prominently in a fine representation were Miss F. Hunter Watts as Jessica and Mr. Ernest Digges as Lorenzo. The play was very adequately staged, and Mr. Wilkie was repeatedly recalled. On Tuesday evening a fine performance of *As You Like It* was submitted, Mr. Wilkie appearing as Jacques, the support being again worthy of the warmest praise. *Romeo and Juliet*, *Othello*, *The School for Scandal*, and *Hamlet* are also billed.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Francis Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—Mr. Frank Lindo and his very capable company are appearing here with marked success this week in *Home, Sweet Home*, a drama of sterling interest, which affords excellent scope to Mr. Lindo in the part of the brave fisherman, Stephen Armitage, and Miss Marion Wakeford as Joan, his betrothed. Dora is a promising effort by Miss Daisy Rochefort; Mr. F. Miles Hodgson handles the villain's part with consummate skill; Mr. G. Overs, Mr. D. Laurence Doyle, Mr. J. Patrick, and Miss Ray Rochefort satisfy all requirements in important rôles.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—Comedy is the prevailing element here this week. George Formby, the quaint Lancashire comedian; Ernest Shand, with his piquant smartness; and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Finden, in their *Two to One* funny duologue, being responsible for much of the hearty laughter that prevails. Les Strads blend good comedy, too, with their fine instrumental work; Tom Moore's character-comedy is excellent; and *Brown in Paris* is most amusingly presented by Johnny Alexander and company. There is some good vocalism by the Jonghmann Sisters; Daisy Mayer supplies an ideal coon sketch, assisted by Paul Knox; Ruth Lytton is an attractive Scotch comedienne; and there are some good pictures shown by the American Bioscope.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Richard Ralli.—Rose Cabani, comedienne and dancer, contributes in smart style to a fine programme here this week; and Oakdene, the naval and comedy ventriloquist, provides a good turn, which has the charm of novelty. Webb and Branston's vocalism is finished and artistic; Queenie Essex is a *chic* and charming comedienne with an excellent voice; Stewart and Evans, comedians, entertain with smart patter and good dancing; the entertainment presented by the clever acrobat and juggler, Larola, is brimful of humour; Maidie Scott is a very bright and charming comedienne; Edwin Boyde elicits roars of laughter; and Raymond's Bio-tableaux show some very interesting pictures.

BRIDLINGTON. — ROYAL PRINCE'S PARADE.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—Mr. Joseph Sainton and his finely-balanced municipal orchestra are gaining great praise. The vocalist this week is Mr. Ward Cawdrey, a good basso. Mr. Flockton-Foster and his talented company of costume entertainers secure large houses in the Grand Pavilion.

NEW SPA AND GARDENS.—Secretary and General-manager, Mr. Henry Hague.—Herr Simon Wurm and his Imperial Viennese band are rendering some fine programmes here this week. The vocalist is Miss Elsie Tracey, a fine soprano.

THE PALACE.—Managers, Messrs. J. W. and W. H. Delmar.—Topping the bill here this week is Mlle. Florence, the famous globe walker; Abex, in remarkable weight-lifting, justifies his title of "the Miniature Hercules"; the Attawas give a clever patter turn; Fred Ace is a smart novelty instrumentalist; Maude Clifton, comedienne; Alton and Lois, comedy artists; Prof. Wallace, a really versatile and humorous ventriloquist; and Eron and Carlotta, in a sensational illusion, add to the attractions of a big programme.

SUMNER GARDENS.—Lessees, Messrs. Beanland, Bath, and Danton; Manager, Mr. Charles Beanland.—*Fun at the Baths*, a most laughable piece, is providing great amusement here this week.

BRIGHTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. H. Cecil Beryl; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harcourt M. Beryl.—Mr. Seymour Hicks and his company, including Miss Zena Dare, gave afternoon and evening performances here last Monday, and sustained a triple bill, comprising *Papa's Wife*, *You and I*, and *Scrooge*. In the first-named piece Mr. Seymour Hicks as Gerald Singleton and Miss Zena Dare as Kate Weatherby submitted admirable impersonations; while in *You and I*, Mr. Stanley Brett as the Hon. Herbert Fitzallen and Miss Zena Dare as Miss Middleton were especially effective. *Scrooge*, however, proved the most attractive feature of the programme. Mr. Seymour Hicks gave a masterly portrayal of Scrooge; Mr. J. L. Buckstone as Bob Cratchit and Mr. Stanley Brett as Fred Wayland were completely successful; Miss Florence Lloyd made a winsome Mrs. Fred Wayland; and Mr. William Lugg was impressive as the Ghost. At Thursday's special London matinée Mrs. Madge Carr Cook and the entire company from Terry's Theatre, London, gave a performance of *Mrs. Wiggs, of the Cabbage Patch*. The theatre was then closed for the summer vacation and cleaning until July 29.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter.—Mr. Carpenter's company is performing *Man to Man* here this week. Mr. Roy Redgrave submits a fine impersonation of the hero, George Gordon; Miss Daisy Scudamore is charming and graceful as the heroine, Ethel Maythorne; Mr. Dennis Bryan is powerfully effective as the villainous Richard Ellerton; Mr. Arthur H. Hill gives an admirable representation of the Rev. Philip Ormond; and much amusement is afforded by Mr. Charles Preece as Samuel Plumtree and Miss Lucy Murray as Miss Lavinia Dove. Other characters are well portrayed by Mr. Ellis J. Preston (Bill Burkley), Mr. H. C. Lanceley (Matthew Ellerton), Miss Amy Venimore (Gipsy Madge), and Miss Winnie Barton (Ned Doyle). The drama is admirably staged, and attracts large audiences.

ALHAMBRA.—Managing-Director, Mr J. L. Graydon; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Ernest Lepard.—A capital company is here this week. R. A. Roberts, the protean actor, achieves conspicuous success in his clever comedy sketch, *Ringing the Changes*; Ernest Rees, droll comedian, is a great favourite; the Three Firmans are very warmly applauded for their pot-pourri act; Cedar and Elgar are well received in their comedy act, *Ye Dayes of Ode*; Arthur Melrose is a clever comedian and word whistler; Percy Hannon, a young American baritone, sings in good style; Belle Green is a humorous entertainer; Fred Bronte is a pleasing vocalist; Lily Esplin, comedy artist, gives a good turn; and the Alhambrascope is up to date and interesting, and includes a picture of the fire at Kemp Town last Sunday.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—A very attractive programme is sustained here this week. Lil Hawthorne wins enthusiastic applause for her admirably rendered songs; Kartelli gives a marvellous display in his sensational wire act; M. Slippere, blind entertainer, is well received; Percival and Morley are very effective in *Turtle Doves*; Tate and Tate are clever comedy trampolin acrobats; Addie Dorina displays some quick changes in the sketch, *Dr. Spot's Patients*; Tennyson and Wallis, comedians, are entertaining patterers; Clown Barker and his comedy circus provide an excellent turn; Gus Garrick makes a great hit in "Music Hall Tit-bits"; Osborn and Brookes, musical comedy duo, acquit themselves with great success; the Brontes are pleasing in the duologue *Saucy Maud*; and the Barascope pictures are up to date, and include a representation of last Sunday's fire at Kemp Town.

WEST PIER.—Secretary and Entertainment Manager, Mr. A. D. Norman.—Mr. Rollo Balmain and Miss Sara Mignon and company opened here on Monday with *Our Flat*. Mr. Rollo Balmain gave an excellent representation of Nathaniel Glover; Miss Sara Mignon was a delightful Margery Sylvester; Miss Louie West made a droll Bella; Miss Miriam Holt was a charming Lucy McCallum; and Mr. J. W. Braithwaite as Mr. McCallum and Mr. Sydney Leyton as Reginald Sylvester added to the enjoyment of the audience. Morning and evening performances are given on the pier by the band of the 16th Lancers.

PALACE PIER THEATRE.—Mr. Leslie Gaze's vaudeville company, "The Hollanders," is here this week. The picturesque costumes of the members add to the effectiveness of their performances. The vocal solos and concerted pieces are charmingly rendered and warmly applauded. Mr. Fred Lyne, Mr. Leslie Gaze, Miss Mary Powell, Miss Isabel Powell, and Mr. Dick Henly acquit themselves admirably, and Miss Muriel Lillington ably carries out the duties of accompanist.

BRISTOL.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—Mr. Edmund Tearle and company are here for the week with *The Three Musketeers*, the drama being staged in good style. Mr. Tearle obtains applause for his exposition of D'Artagnan; Miss Kate Clinton displays power as Miladi; Mr. G. T. Greig, Mr. Bernhardt Turner, and Mr. Clifford Marle are decidedly good as Louis XIII, Richelieu, and Duke of Buckingham; Athos, Porthos, and Aramis are well represented by Messrs. Alfred D. Adams, Ernest Lodge, and Edmund Grogan; Miss Mary Campbell is expressive and stately as Anne of Austria; and Miss Esther Tearle acts effectively as Constance. The remaining characters are all carefully taken, and on Friday evening the ladies in the audience are to be presented with a handsome cloth bound volume of Dumas' famous novel, "The Three Musketeers."

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. T. Alty.—The ever-popular *Uncle Tom's Cabin* is proving attractive here. It is staged effectively, and well played by Mr. Charles Harrington's company. Mr. J. Carr makes an ideal Uncle Tom, playing the part with simple dignity, and when necessary with power; Mr. Harrington presents a capital performance of Phineas Fletcher; Mr. J. H. Rogers is sufficiently aggressive as Legree; Mr. John Gibson does well as Mr. Wilson; Mr. Leslie Beaufort makes the most of George Harris; Mr. A. G. Wray is advantageously placed as St. Clair; Miss Sylvia Stella makes a capital Topsy; Miss Holly Haselwood is pleasing as Eva; and the remaining parts are all rendered in satisfactory style. The Plantation Festival is well done, the singing being exceptionally good.

PALACE THEATRE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Secretary, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—Park's Eton Boys present a pleasing turn, the boys being good vocalists, and their voices blending harmoniously; Lonnen Meadows and company score in their smart sketch, *Kiss Your Father*; C. Wordley Hulse and company have much success with their dramatic sketch, *A Fight in the Forge*; the Avolos do clever feats on perpendicular poles, and also other acrobatic acts; Walker and May, coon singers and dancers, are very successful, the male partner being stated to be the only blind comedian on the stage; Sybil Montague is a pleasing ballad vocalist; Billy Burns, singing pit lad, is successful; and the performance concludes with animated pictures of interesting and amusing subjects.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—Auto-Atlas does a good "strong show," amongst other feats lifting with his teeth a 15 h.p. motor car, with the machinery going at the stated rate of fifty miles an hour, and containing three passengers; George Marriott and company present with much success their effective and well-acted sketch, *A Modern Millionaire*; the Victoria Duo, two exceptionally pleasing lady vocalists, are highly successful, their voices harmonise beautifully, and a word of praise is due to the orchestra for their clever work in this turn under the direction of Mr. H. E. Hatley; Ray Maskell is an expert speciality dancer; Curwen and Belle, in their speciality, *The International Club*, amuse with song, dance, and quick-change business; Carl Howard, comic conjurer, is decidedly smart; Mark Henton, comedian, obtains applause; the Katos are successful with their automatic theatre; and Farrell and Miller, comedians and dancers, are good in their line. The performance concludes with some clearly-projected animated pictures of the Derby.

BROUGHTON.—VICTORIA THEATRE, LTD.—Manager and Licensee, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—On Monday a large audience assembled when at 7.30 *The Rogues of the Turf* was presented. Miss Mabelle F. Barlow ably sustains the part of the adventuress, Marion, and Mr. J. F. Preston appears as Joe Flaxman. Miss Laura Wright worked hard and successfully as Phyllis, and Miss Ethel Rainforth made a charming Nellie. This was followed by the amusing musical comedy-burlesque, *An English Belle*. Mr. Horace Custins as Sunny Jim, a travelling pedlar and bondescript; Mr. John F. Preston as Consul, a ticket-of-leave man; and Mr. Arthur Lonville as Police-constable Nabbem contrived to keep the house in a continual roar. Miss Gertie Walsey as Alice Oatfield pleased with her songs and charming manner; and Mr. Walter D. Brodie (Jack Trenent), Miss E. Rainforth (Bob Trunion), Mr. Arthur Bell (Capt. Barnacle), Mr. Bert A. Rutley (Squire Harnacre), Miss Mabelle F. Barlow (Mrs. Oatfield), Miss Laura Wright (Dolly), Miss Mary Jones (Madge Merry), and Miss Amy Gribben (Jennie Jones) also lent excellent support.

BURNLEY.—EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Some excellent artists appear here this week. The Ando Troupe of Japanese equilibrists perform a number of very clever feats; the Bouncing Dillons are neat in their turn with the spring net; Marie Jones and Ernest Munroe are acceptable in a quick-change sketch, *The Way to Win a Bet*; the Alberto Troupe are well received; and Harry Taft provokes roars of laughter with his songs and patter; Kate Lynd, with songs, is amusing; and Charley Dixon, comedian, the Lillian Bros., and the Empire Theatroscope are also attractions.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—OPERA HOUSE (NEW HIPPODROME).—Proprietor, Mr. H. Dudley Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Waller. — A musical sketch, *The Lady Soubrette*, is given by Miss Veronica Brady's capable company. In the title-rôle, Miss Brady introduces some charming songs and dances. Two old favourites here, Nelly Gannon and Harry Wright, whose popularity has not waned, are responsible for good turns; a unique performance is that of Winona, the rifle expert; the Bonanzas and Zano Brothers are really clever in their feats; a good share of applause is accorded to J. G. Aitken, Scotch comedian; and also to capital living pictures by the Operascope.

BURY (Lancs.).—CIRCUS OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Animated pictures are still the chief attraction here. The series are very good this week, and include representations of a performance of *The Sign of the Cross*. Other turns are Harry Zetter, comedian, and Lambert and Hands, duettists.

THE HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Sons; General-Manager, Mr. W. Broadhead, jun.—Excellent turns are provided here this week. Miss Georgette Thierry's sketch company give a capital representation of *Oliver Twist*; Harry Fisher and company, in a musical absurdity, *The Intruders*; Yorick and Yorick, smart tumblers and comedians; H. J. Barclay, comedian and dancer; W. G. Wesley, vocalist; Burton and Trent, in a musical act; Le Warren, ventriloquist; and the Danas, singers and dancers, are all good.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS.—ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Eade Montefiore.—Judge's performing cockatoos, parrots, &c., are a great attraction here; the Brontes, in their sketch, *Saucy Maud*, give a performance far above the average; Nelson Hardy is a clever mimic; Li-Chang-Hi, a conjurer of remarkable skill, is warmly applauded; Wilfred Heath possesses a fine baritone voice, which is heard to advantage in his well-chosen songs; and A. P. Boswell performs some marvellous feats of strength. The programme concludes with a smart sketch, *£1,000; or, The Missing Ward*, in which the characters are successfully sustained by Mr. Fred Squire, Mr. Wilfred Heath, and Miss Louisa Hunter.

BUXTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. Arthur Willoughby.—For Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday this week we had Mr. Sydney Grundy's *A Fool's Paradise*, played by a capable company. Mr. Cecil Wynne was particularly good as Sir Peter Lund; and Mr. Arthur Claremont made a bright Lord Normantower. Mr. Wylie A. Thompson fairly revelled in the part of Tom Verinder; and Mr. J. H. Twyford was good as Philip Selwyn. Miss Margery Chard played very nicely as Kate Derwent; and Miss Hilda Steriker was well suited to the part of Mildred. Miss Laura Hansen was a capital Beatrice Selwyn. The play was preceded by *April Showers*.

CAMBRIDGE.—For the third year in succession Mr. D. Lewin Mannering and company, under the management of Mr. W. B. Redfern, gave two pastoral plays on Tuesday in the beautiful grounds of Downing College. In the afternoon *The Comedy of Errors* was selected, and a fashionable audience was present. Mr. D. Lewin Mannering gave a good reading of Antipholus of Syracuse, and Mr. Stanley Drewitt was equally successful as Antipholus of Ephesus. The two Dromios were cleverly played by Mr. Duncan Yarrow and Mr. Henry Ainsworth; Miss Edyth Goodall was very taking as Adriana. In the evening *As You Like It* was given.

CARDIFF. — NEW THEATRE. — Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—*The New Boy* is being presented here. Mr. Leon M. Lion appears as Archibald Rennick, and makes a great success of the character; Miss Katherine Harrington as Mrs. Rennick submits a very pleasing impersonation indeed; as Dr. Candy Mr. Harry Ashford is excellently placed; Mr. George De Lara very creditably fills the rôle of Felix Roach; while other clever representations are enacted by Mr. Wm. J. Rea (de Brizac), Mr. Stanley Logan (Bullock Major), and Miss Nellie Redwood (Nancy). The comedy is preceded by *Meg the Mobswoman*. On Saturday last Mme. Jane Hading made a visit, and on next Saturday Mr. Seymour Hicks and Miss Zena Dare appear in a triple bill.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Robt. Redford.—*A Wife's Triumph* occupied the boards here on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Saturday evenings, performed by Ernest R. Abbott's company. Mr. Frank Stephens as Frank Wilton gives a vivid representation of the gambler; Mr. W. H. Garbois as Ellis Jordan does exceedingly well; and Mr. Weedon Rose is successful as Julius Hartman. Miss Edith Knight as Alice Wilton gains the sympathy of her audience; and Miss Ada Abbott is suitably placed as Bessie Dewhurst. Mr. Edwin Keene as P.C. Bradford and Miss Marjorie Tennant as Marjory Crib prove to be excellent representatives of comedy. Miss Hetty Jones as Little Frank is undoubtedly a clever little actress. On Thursday and Friday the well-known play *Trilby* is billed.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. W. Lea; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. S. Dring.—This week the Fourteen Black Hussars have been presented by Lasky Rolf and company. Their turn is carried off in a smart and pleasing manner, displaying splendid manipulation of the brass instruments. The famous Craggs, in *Billy*, present another interesting item, their combination of comedy and skill being greatly appreciated. David Poole is an exceptionally clever ventriloquist, who received a splendid reception on Monday night; the Three Sisters Sprightly, comediennes and burlesque artists; Les Francettis, violin, harp, and xylophone soloists; George Ridgwell, versatile vocalist; Moulier Sisters, clever horizontal bar performers; Will Musgrave, comedian; and an amusing subject on the Bioscope complete the week's programme.

CARLISLE.—H. M. THEATRE.—Lessees, Mr. Thos. Courtice and Mrs. R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—The stock company this week is producing *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*. Mr. W. J. Miller makes an excellent Bob Brierley; James Dalton has a capital representative in Mr. Gerald Byrne; one of the features of the performance is the Hawkshaw of Mr. Joseph Millane; a clever piece of character-acting is submitted by Mr. Chas R. Stone as Melter Moss; Captain A. E. Winnington Barnes as Green Jones keeps the house in one continual round of laughter; Mr. Harry Douglas is all that can be desired as Mr. Gibson; Miss Ethel Bracewell is a sweet and pathetic May Edwards; Miss Emily Helsey scores a decided success as Mrs. Willoughby; and Miss Edith Madelle is a bright and lively Sam Willoughby.

THE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Palace Theatre, Carlisle, Ltd; Managing-Director, Signor Rino Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—Sinclair and Whiteford head the list this week with *Getting Even*; F. V. St. Clair has some good topical and satirical songs; Bert Williams is a clever young ventriloquist; Frank and Alice Lurin score with their extravaganza, *Cinders*; the Cheers, with their *Dick Whittington* scena and performing cats, have caught on immensely; the Sisters Casselli are extremely popular; and Mabelle May is a graceful dancer. The Pepiscope is still a popular item.

CASTLEFORD.—QUEEN'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Chas. Beanland and Will H. Emerson; General-Manager, Mr. Will H. Emerson.—A new series of animated pictures is being presented here this week by the Loyal Dominion Co., and large audiences assemble to enjoy the show. The Days cause much astonishment with their second-sight séance.

CHATHAM. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard; Secretary, Mr. Geo. G. Ridley.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's company is here in *The Sin of Her Childhood*. Miss Clara Santley gives a creditable representation of Mrs. Haysel; Mr. James Duncan is a favourite as the Rev. Alan Grey; Mr. Wilson Summers is equal to the occasion as Stephen Haysel; Mr. Frank Liston is a manly Captain Thornton; and Mr. Hugh Brady a rollicking Barney O'Reilly. Excellent support is given by Miss Katie Lever as Eliza Muggins; Miss Effie Bartlett as Mary Haysel gains sympathy; and as Hannah Spry Miss Lissa Young scores a success.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Here we have Harry Bold, comedian; the Claymores, a pair of neat dancers and club jugglers; Beau and Bell, in a well-liked vocal-scena; Charles Denton, whose "I know where to find 'em" pleases highly; W. L. Murray, in artistic poses and weight-lifting; Irene Meldon, a popular singer and dancer; Boden and Bell, a couple of juveniles who prove very entertaining; Nellie Farrell, in an Irish serenade and a laughable low-comedy song; and the Brothers Horne, in their well-known boxing sketch. Lacy's Erascope has a capital film, entitled "The Female Highwayman."

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Capt. H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. F. J. Donne.—Gus Elen is the bright particular star here, and scores nightly with "The pavement artist," after which the Edisonograph shows some excellent pictures of Mr. Elen singing many of his past successes. At the conclusion he reappears, and brings down the house with "The wrong 'un's bedroom." Janet H. Reynolds is paying us a very welcome return visit with "Bright Eyes, my Queen." The Three Amaranths are clever acrobatic dancers; the Ettenas are seen to advantage in a globe-rolling and equilibristic act; and Berth Duckett, male impersonator, Dave O'Toole, comedian, and Harry and May Kent complete the company. The Edisonograph is up to date.

CHESTER. — ROYALTY THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—A capital bill of fare is presented here this week, the chief attraction being Mr. J. F. Elliston's company in the dramatic episode, *Madge*, a cut-down version of *In Old Kentucky*. Other interesting turns are presented by J. P. Carroll, expert tambourinist; Chas. Lestre, society juggler; the Sims, vocalists and dancers; Billy French, a marvellous buck-dancer; the Merrions, in *Fun in a Music-Shop*, and Dolly Denver, in song and dance.

CLACTON-ON-SEA.—PALACE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. M. P. W. Willard.—The above place opened on Monday with the following company:—Little Dando, comedian; the Donnells, expert vocalists and dancers; Edgar Berte, entertainer; the Sisters Brand, comediennes and dancers; Brothers Brooks; Minnie d'Auban, burlesque artist; Walter Curtis, a smart comedian; Talbot and Pearce, in a pretty and effective Japanese scena, *Yo-San*; and Miss Kate Butler, a clever character comedienne. Good pictures are shown by the Palascope. The band is under the direction of Mr. Algernon Clark, and the following artists, who make up the Lunar Sextette, entertain in the grounds:—Mesdames Blanche Woodford, Adelaide Chadwick, Florence Forester, Messrs. Norton Greenop, Eustace Clare, and Edgar Berte.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessee, Mr. H. Montague; Manager, Mr. E. J. Barrett.—Mr. Harold Montague and his Vagabonds are still here, and have this week given new songs and business, and on Thursday a new sketch, *The End of the Story*, by A. Helier and H. Montague, in which Miss Ethel Mayaffre and Harold Montague appear. The troupe is made up of Mesdames Olive Spark, Leslie Lulu, and Marie Longmore, and Messrs. Leslie Burgess and Claude Russell.

WESTCLIFF GARDENS.—Proprietors, Messrs. Graham, Russell, and Bentley.—These always-popular entertainers are going as strongly as ever, and in addition to themselves have this week the assistance of Miss Gertrude Shrimpton, soprano, and Mr. James Davis, tenor, from the Queen's Hall.

COLCHESTER.—HIPPODROME. — Joint Proprietors, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot and Mr. Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. Jack de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—John Lawson and company are presenting *The Unwritten Law* and *Humanity*. In addition to Mr. John Lawson, the cast comprises Mr. Johnston Powell, Mr. William Lindon, Miss Buna Bent, Miss Cruickshanks, Miss Lily Morris, and others, and the nightly reception is highly flattering. Dot Hardy once again scores heavily with her low comedy songs and mannerisms; whilst Gicardo is very entertaining as a juvenile juggler. The Sisters Charnley, also on a return visit, are very clever with their bâtons, and dance extremely well; whilst Billy Bracy does well as a comedian.

CONSETT.—NEW THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance.—The musical comedy drama, *At the World's Mercy*, is here this week. As Captain Frank Manley Mr. Loates is very good; and as Charlie Smart Mr. Jess Boxer proves himself an able actor. Mr. Edwin Leigh as Jabez Barber, and Mr. Herbert Newman as Morris Goldstein, are sufficiently villainous to merit the execrations of the audience. Miss Cissie Melford, in the dual rôle of Skittles the stowaway and Kitty the music-hall star, acquits herself commendably; Miss Madge Devereux is a very attractive Alice Lloyd; and as Dot Tiny Carry Johnson is deserving of every praise. The singing and dancing of Miss Melford and Mr. Boxer creates great enthusiasm. The piece is well mounted.

CORK.—OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. John Horgan.—Mr. J. Mackey Glover's children's pantomime, *The Forté Thieves*, opened a week's engagement here on Monday. As Abdalla Master Jack Frost distinguished himself; Master W. Bishop gave a capital rendering of Ali Baba; Miss Florrie Clarke, a dainty little artist, as Morgiana was good; Miss Jessie Evans as Ganem was most effective; and Miss A. McDonald was successful as Hassarac.

COVENTRY.—THE OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—*At Duty's Call* is proving very attractive here this week. Mr. John Gerant portrays the part of Harold Allison in a powerful manner; and Captain George Allison is in the capable hands of Mr. Henry Watson. Miss Lily Crammonde gives a charming representation of Dora Drummond; the character of General Gordon is in the hands of Mr. Stanley Blake; and Mr. Louis Scott and Mr. Frederick Sandy as Jack Spencer and Teddy O'Hallaron respectively are very amusing.

HIPPODROME.—An enjoyable variety programme is provided here this week. Matthew Brodie and company give a dramatic sketch, entitled *The Drummer of the 76th*, which was much appreciated. The Sisters Geretti in their gymnastic display, a comic sketch by Messrs. Daly and company, Ernie Mayne with his laughable songs, George Autell, a quaint comedian, and Fred Lincoln and Billy Farrell's songs and dancing are other attractions. The Hippodrome pictures wind up a pleasant evening.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Dance.—Good houses are being drawn by the capital programme here this week. Marie Kendal proves to be a great attraction, and was deservedly encored; Messrs. J. L. Shine and company give a highly amusing sketch, *An Actor's Art*, in which Mr. Shine takes no fewer than six parts. Mariedl, the Tyrolean giantess, causes a sensation; the Rinaldo Trio are clever comedy acrobats; Hinton and Wootton, cyclists, give a skilful exhibition of football; the Sisters Poole, duettists and dancers, and Steve McCarthy, comedian, also help to make the programme a success. The Empire bioscope concludes.

CREWE.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Taylor, J.P.—Mr. Stanley Carlton's company was here the first three nights of the week in *A Life's Story*. Mr. Carlton gives a powerful and effective rendition of Count Benger; Mr. Arthur Dudley is a capable exponent of Captain Jack Temple; Mr. Marshall Meade is clever as Detective Tom Berry; Mr. Edwin Beverley is a pronounced success as Max Clifford; Mr. Chas. Wilson is good in the humorous rôle of Tony Crimonini; and Mr. Geoffrey Chate does full justice to that of Lieut. Hugo de Bresson. Miss Ruble Maude finds ample scope for her excellent abilities as Zieka; Miss Muriel Dean acquits herself with credit as Beatrice; and Miss Susie Beaven, who possesses a charming voice, is a decided favourite as Rosa. *A Marriage of Vengeance* was billed for the remainder of the week.

CROYDON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Herrick.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's company, in *The Little Bread Winner*, is attracting appreciative audiences here this week. Mr. Dunlop Stewart as Lord William Donnington is very impressive; Mr. Matthew Boulton submits a good impersonation of Richard Lawrence; the villainies of Joseph Prior are realistically portrayed by Mr. Alfred Maurice; Mr. Norman Hall may be congratulated on his representation of Charles Prior; Mr. Wallace Carey is good as Doctor Chadwick; Miss Emil Leslie distinguishes herself as Margaret Daventry; Miss Jenny Bostock as Bridget O'Flanaghan is capital; Miss Nellie Thorne-Hallam attractively represents Kate Cherry; Miss Kitty Melville as Ruth Cherry is very good; Miss Nellie King does well as Bobby Trott; and Miss Emmie Thomas sustains the title-rôle in an admirable manner.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES. — Proprietor, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay. — John F. Preston's company is receiving well-deserved applause here in the Oriental dramatic sketch, *Saved From the Harem*; Pete and Juno are a clever pair of coloured comedians and dancers; Decima Brooke is a fascinating comedienne; Charles Whittle, comedian, is good; Herbert Clifton has a falsetto voice of much sweetness; Ruby Emerson is a charming comedienne; Max Waldon's female impersonations and dancing create quite a furore; the Ongars work hard and successfully in their dancing turn; and very funny and smart is the acrobatic act of Price and Revost.

DARLINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—The second week of the stock season here with Mr. F. B. Woulfe opened with *The Streets of Darlington*. Mr. Clifford Kean as Gideon Bloodgood is a typical villain; the part of Badger is in the capable hands of Mr. Woulfe; Mr. Claude Aymond as Captain Fairweather looks the part; Mr. Bob Anderson as Puffy shows well in comedy; and Mr. R. S. Innes as Paul Fairweather is clever. Mark Livingstone is played in excellent manner by Mr. Holland Day; Miss Ethel Griffies makes a good Alida; Miss Theo. Henries is a charming Lucy; and Miss Edith Lorraine makes up well as a boy. On Friday *Hamlet* was given.

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE.—Sole Owner and Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Assistant-Managers, Messrs. Chas. Denley and Herbert Taylor.—Bella and Bijou, society entertainers, are the leading feature this week, and their clever répertoire is to be highly commended. The Donnas Trio provide a novel balancing trapeze act, which is quite above the average. Other turns include the Bros. St. Clair, exceedingly neat trick cyclists; the Four Jumels, who render pleasing selections on various instruments; Ada Parker, coon songstress; Adams and Hall, slieght-of-hand entertainers; the Coopers, harmonising vocalists; and A. E. Clifford, vocalist. The Bioscope, with interesting pictures, completes the bill.

DEWSBURY. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The Northern Theatres Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Asquith.—The leading feature in the enjoyable programme supplied by a strong variety company this week is unquestionably Henry Cadle's production, *Casey's Court*, a number of juveniles distinguishing themselves and greatly gratifying their audience. The Fergana Four, Continental head and hand balancers, displayed remarkable ingenuity and daring; Clarke and Glenny may claim with confidence that their sketch *The Haunted House* is a laughter-maker of the most effective type; the Vandam Brothers dance cleverly, and win applause in a series of acrobatic tricks; Geo. V. Campbell achieves success with his diverting songs and business; and the Lyric Five are worthy of warm praise for the variety and quality of their vocal and instrumental entertainment.

DONCASTER. — NEW THEATRE AND EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—Will Hughes, the boy coon sand dancer, is well applauded; the Belmore Sisters are accomplished in foot work; and Chas. Rowen, eccentric comedian, is popular. Special interest is centred in Menotti, who cycles at the rate of forty miles an hour on a single wire. Other interesting turns are those of Gus Hindell, comedian, assisted by a company of Doncaster lads; Walter Purvis and company,

singing is particularly appreciated, also the instrumental solos. Mr. James Clark is a violinist of much capacity, and always secures an encore. The sketches written and produced and by H. H. Cullum are well received. Mr. Dyson is for the most part his own lecturer, and his running commentary on the pictures presented is bright and instructive.

DERBY CASTLE.—Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. J. Kelly.—This place of entertainment opened for the regular season on Monday evening last. Mr. Harry Wood once more wielded the conductor's bâton, and introduced all the latest dance music. An excellent variety programme was also presented. Mr. Charles Vincent, with his drolleries, evoked laughter; Mr. James Eadie and Miss Cissie Ramsden were clever in a smart duologue, entitled *Charlie's Visit*. The Three Brothers Lloyd gave their distinctly original performance on the double tight rope. Among other attractions a unique collection of Manx scenes in oil, by the well-known artist the late Frank Horphner, are on view, and secure much attention from judges.

DOVER.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Chairman of Directors, Mr. B. Carter; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred. C. Dew.—*His Sister's Honour* is this week being staged by Messrs. B. A. Dall and Chabot's company. Mr. Edward B. Louis's resonant voice and good appearance make his performance as Frank Stanley most interesting; and Mr. Gilson Brook's portrayal of Dr. Godfrey is also a praiseworthy piece of work. The clever acting of Mr. Lincoln Calthorpe emphasises the villainies of Sir Richard Redver; a sympathetic delivery of the many good speeches in the part of P.C. Worthie marks Mr. Harry Mitchelson; while Mr. Harry Ugar is resourceful and highly amusing in the rôle of Timothy Timid. The part of Maria Mickie is played with great success by Miss Janet Lawton, who also introduces a song and dance; while Miss Winnie Kennedy's Dutch yodelling song is novel and effective. A powerful rendition of Dora Stanley is given by Miss Kathryne Eckhart; and Miss Ethel Ashleigh is a pathetic Ivy Merton.

PAVILION PROMENADE PIER. — Lessees, The Dover Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—A smart performance on the trapeze is given by Zasma; and other turns are contributed by the Godfreys, musical sketch artists; Miss Florrie Groves. Horace Cinquevalli, Cee Mee, The Famoras, Miss Florence Carlow, and Miss Minnie Percivall. Miss Agnes Beckwith and her clever troupe of swimmers still continue to attract by their graceful performances in the crystal tank.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Lessees, The Vaudeville Syndicate; Manager, Mr. Fred Hoult.—Fred Moule and E. D. Nicholls and company appear in *The Battle of the Belles;* Learto, with his clever dog, "Babs," gives a pretty turn; Nellie Nora is a talented instrumentalist; and Ted Wooten, laughing comedian, meets with a great reception. Lade Henderson is the possessor of a beautiful and well-trained voice, and is heard to advantage in several good songs; Henry Hilton's turn is original; and Milner Verren scores a success with his vocal efforts.

DUBLIN. — EMPIRE. — General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Geo. H. Marsh.—Fred Karno's comedians are the attraction here this week, and evoke continual merriment in *The Bailiff;* Spry and Monti are as popular as ever; Babs Lloyd is an engaging comedienne and expert dancer; Arthur Gill is deservedly applauded for his rendering of songs in various voices; Amy Russell is heard to advantage in several catchy songs; Mueller and Coyne, the comedy couple, are highly entertaining; and the Emerald Gems, who are retained from last week, are still scoring. The Empire pictures complete the bill.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Chas M. Jones; Secretary, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—Here we have a return visit of the evergreen Horace Wheatley, whose excellent songs and humorous patter keep the house convulsed with laughter; the Sisters Lee, vocalists, dancers, and acrobats, obtain a cordial reception; Aerial and Astarte are graceful gymnasts; as a character impersonator, Nellie Moore is successful; N. T. Kioto, in a smart equilibristic act, merits applause; a hit has been made by Regan and Ryan, an amusing pair of comedians; the Bendons, duologue artists, are well received; Lil Hartley sings lively songs with spirit; and the Bioscope is still showing good pictures.

WORLD'S FAIR AND MUSIC HALL. Proprietor, Mr. C. A. James.—The programme here this week is furnished by Collins and Irene, illusionists; La Bella Rosa, mandolinist; Tom Wesley, descriptive vocalist; Ella Lane, soprano vocalist; Len Delmar, lady impersonator and dancer; and the Cinematograph.

SAMUELS' EXHIBITION PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. S. Samuels.—The following artists are appearing here this week:—The Arthur Ben Anderson Family, musical Oriental Americans; Will Yew, eccentric comedian; Bessie Wilson, serio and expert dancer; Patsy Nolan, female impersonator; Chas. Rivers, comedian and dancer; and Agnes Macdonald, the lasting lady.

PAVILION, KINGSTOWN.—Manager, Mr. Fred R. Heley.—Walter George's *Smart Set* company commenced a week's engagement here on Monday, when a large audience was present. Miss Georgie Martin, in song and dance, is warmly applauded; Mr. Walter George, with his humorous songs, is cordially received; Miss Lena Hutchings renders her vocal numbers in a charming manner; and among others who contribute to the success of the entertainment are Mr. James Burlington-Rigg, baritone vocalist; Miss Hilda Light, Mr. Arthur Court, Miss Nellie Comber, Mr. Herbert Oliver, and Miss Ethel Wyndham.

DUDLEY.—EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. B. Peberdy.—Frank Purcell's comedians are causing endless amusement here in a screaming absurdity, entitled *Three Husbands*. Onda and Leon, comedy bar performers, are responsible for a clever and amusing turn; H. A. Borri shows exceptional ability in a comedy juggling act; catchy songs are rendered in dashing style by Florrie Bray, versatile comedienne; J. P. Boston, as a variety entertainer, gives an enjoyable turn; and Chas. Kay, on topics, and Will Ellerslie, comedian, are well appreciated.

DUNDEE.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. A. P. Williams. — *Dan the Rake* figures successfully here, Mr. Johnny McElroy dealing with the title-rôle in a clever manner. The play is produced by Mr. Leslie Vyner's company.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Percival.—Mr. Roland Yorke's company occupies the boards here this week in *The Triumph of Truth*. As the villainous Count Raoul D'Orville Mr. Roland Yorke proves himself an actor of exceptional ability; Mr. Herbert Goddard makes a dignified Sir Charles Eversleigh; Mr. Dudley Wynton does well as Captain Jack Eversleigh; Mr. Rawdon Vivian is capable as Inspector Danvers; and the part of Pierre Coppard is well interpreted by Mr. Stephen Crossley. A powerful rendering of the part of Vitteo Mascagai is given by Mr. Leonard Maxwell; Miss Gertrude Hunt acted exceedingly well as Blanche La Croix; Miss Florence Halton made a delightfully clever Coralie; Miss Gertrude Bonser enacted the dual rôles of Lilian and Violet Anstruther with conspicuous success; while Miss Nellie Huges played sympathetically as Little Lena. The comedy parts of Tommy Woodhead and Kate Bright were in the safe keeping of Mr. Fred De Vere and Miss Gertie Rosalind.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Devonshire Park and Baths Co.; Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clark.—The attraction here is Messrs. Lionel Glenister and Wood-Ingram's company, in *All-of-a-Sudden Peggy*. Miss Decima Moore's work as Peggy has all her individual charm and brightness; Miss Naomi Neilson contributes a sound performance as Mrs. O'Mara; Miss Kate Wingfield is a stately Lady Crackenthorpe; Miss Eva Lonsdale an attractive Millicent; and Miss Estelle Despa an excellent and voluble Mrs. Colquhoun. Very high praise is fully earned by Mr. Lionel Glenister for his easy and pleasing efforts as Jimmy Keppell; Mr. Alfred S. Barker is an amusing Anthony; Mr. Henderson Bland a perfectly satisfactory Major Phipps; Mr. J. Edgar Stevenson a capital Jack; and Mr. Patrick Fitzgerald gives able help as Lucas. *After Seven Years* is the well-played curtain-raiser.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Mr. W. W. Kelly's company is appearing here in *A Royal Divorce*. Miss Edith Cole is a handsome and regal Josephine; Miss Agnes Imlay a dignified and imposing Marie Louise; Miss Helen Richmond a good Stephanie; and little Miss Maggie Cardiff plays prettily as the King of Rome. Mr. Frederick Victor gives a powerful, impressive performance of Napoleon; Mr. William Dexter is an effective Talleyrand; Mr. G. M. Montanini an earnest and convincing Marquis de Beaumont; Mr. Alfred Grenville a spirited Augerean; Mr. Lorton Orme uses a fine voice with excellent effect as Brigadier Pierre; and Mr. George Hudson gives a really clever character sketch of Grimaud.

THE HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Day. —Miss Dinah Morris and company are heading the bill here with an elaborately-staged sketch, *The Village of Dahomey;* the Meymotts (Harry and Ada) smartly play in a sketch, *Semi-detached;* Mr. Sid Bandon is a genial comedian; Miss Venie Belfry highly pleases with her songs; Miss Lily Eyton is a particularly effective and charming vocalist; the Kimberleys sing, dance, and patter very ably; Miss Mabel Le Roy contributes a taking turn; and Mr. Harry Wilson is a successful impersonator.

EDINBURGH.—ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Minshull.—*Bootle's Baby* is being presented by Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart's company. Mr. Stewart gives an excellent impersonation of the good-natured Bootles; Miss Georgina Wynter acts naturally and sympathetically as the injured Helen Grace; the parts of Mrs. Smith and Laura Norris are attractively portrayed by Miss Isabel Roddick and Miss Gladys Harvey; and high praise must be given to Miss Maisie Richardson, an Edinburgh young lady, for the brightness and charm of her acting as Mignon. Mr. Henry Wolston makes a sufficiently cold-hearted Captain Gilchrist, whose brother officers are well represented by Mr. Leslie Owen, Mr. Ernest Gray, Mr. William Midgley, and Mr. Herbert Purser; and some delightfully quiet humour is introduced by Mr. Tom Mowbray and Miss Edith Ife, in their clever renderings of Private Saunders and Humpty Dumpty.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead. —*The Romany King* is delightfully acted by Miss Lucie Carne, Mr. Lempriere Pringle, Mr. John Doran, and Mr. J. C. Piddock. Amongst other admirable musical turns are the part-songs, given with humour and pathos by the Wakeman Quartette; and the clever vocal and instrumental act by Sterling and Love. Miss Daisy Stratton is warmly received for her bright acting and singing; and Miss Jessie Merrilees is recalled for an enjoyable rendering of "The Banks of Loch Lomond." The dashing gymnastic feats of the Ten Genis in their Risley performances arouse the enthusiasm of the audience; and the Athos Troupe supply an entertainment in which remarkably smart ball manipulation and daring head balancing are introduced. Mr. Mike Cray is a droll, proficient juggler; and Mr. Frederick Neiman is thoroughly amusing in his ventriloquial sketch. A series of laughable films is shown by the Bioscope.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Parham Wells.—Mr. Wilkie Bard's turns this week have been more amusing and enjoyable than ever. Miss Nellie Stratton is a pleasing comedienne of talent and promise; Roma and Romani contribute a delightful selection of instrumental music; Fred and Panly exhibit some novel acrobatic feats in the way of balancing and somersault specialities, very deftly performed; and the Celtic Comedy Trio prove themselves good vocalists. There has been no brighter or more diverting sketch seen here for some time than the successful skit, *The Would-be Actors*, presented in finished fashion by Mr. Carter Livesey, Miss Lilian Rosebery, and Mr. Albert Mason. Howard and Collinson are responsible for another sketch, of the *La Poupée* kind, entitled *The Porter and the Parcel;* the Brothers Dean earn distinction as whistlers, and still more as neat and expert step-dancers; Mr. Harry Bedford gives a good comedian turn; and Bioscope pictures conclude the list of attractions.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Ventom Swift.—A lively programme here this week includes Stanley's Urchins, in an exhilarating display of dancing and clever singing; the Lashmars, in a racy sketch, *Bits and Pieces;* Mr. Jack Ramsay, mimic; Mlle. Du Roche, an excellent singer and burlesque actress; the Sisters Du Barrie, skilful dancers; Mr. George Edney, comedian; and Mr. James Lourey, the Newcastle singing furnaceman.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Mr. Arthur A. Horner's company, in *Walker, London*, is here. Mr. Edward A. Coventry gives an extremely laughable impersonation of Jasper Phipps; Mr. W. René Hammersmith acts with excellent effect as Renard Von Burgh; Mr. Walter Pemberton distinguishes himself as Kit Upjohn; Mr. Forrester Harvey is very amusing as W. G.; Mr. Arthur Flinders deserves a word of praise as Ben; Miss Ruby Wyndham is an efficient Mrs. Golightly; Miss Mary Pemberton is pleasing as Bell Golightly; Miss Ruhamah Catton is a sweet and dainty Nanny; Miss Ethel Stanley and Mrs. J. W. Braithwaite are good in their respective parts of Penny and Sarah Rigg. *Hester's Mystery* is the curtain-raiser.

LEAS PAVILION.—Manager and Musical-Director, Mr. D'Arcy Clayton.—Mr. Fred Rome's concert party, The Orchids, pay their first visit to Folkestone, and are particularly successful. Miss Frances Roscorla is well received; Miss May Windsor's efforts are enthusiastically applauded; Mr. Wilfrid Siracey is a comedian of marked ability; Mr. Leonard Griffiths and Mr. Fred Rome are very clever and highly appreciated.

GATESHEAD. — KING'S THEATRE — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harold Arnold.—Arthur Conquest and company, in a North American pantomime named *The Sioux*, occupy the leading line here this week, and have met with a pleasing reception. Donal McDougal, Scotch comedian, has many admirers; Harry Wenburn, a comedian with genuinely funny songs, is appreciated; little Maudie Francis qualifies for a forefront position amongst our child vocalists and dancers; Martino, a skilful contortionist, presents *The Viper's Nest;* The Almas, equilibrists and tumblers, Flo Banks, comedienne, and the usual pictures also afford pleasure.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Councillor Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas France.—Mr. Fred J. Webb's company in *The Hour of Her Triumph* forms the fare here. Mr. Leslie Hawkins does justice to Harold Clavering; Mr. T. O. Stephenson is well suited as Jack Vernon; Mr. Webb as Harbury gets through a large amount of work with distinct credit; very humorous are Messrs. Louis Nanton and James Stuart as Ben Brodie and Rosenis Montmorency; Miss Barbara Gott supplies a capital impersonation of Zelia Claremont; Miss Lalla Price gives an excellent character-sketch as Sal Soaker, and later proves highly diverting as Martha Jinks; and Miss Price is a first-class sample of the versatile actress. Nellie Clavering receives good treatment from Miss M. Danvers Smith; Linda Denton is sweet and girlish as portrayed by Miss Mamie Stanton; and Miss Hetty Gale makes an attractive Jennie Jinks.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—The New York Picture Company is in the third week of its visit here, and is showing some excellent and popular pictures. Bu-val, an eccentric, appears with success.

GLASGOW. — KING'S, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. H. Macfarlane.—Mr. Harold Wantage and company are appearing here this week in *The Pick of the Bunch*. As Halliwell Menit Mr. Algernon W. Lee sings and acts with considerable taste; the Col. Menit of Mr. Percy Baverstock is a highly characteristic and amusing personage; and Miss M. Sadie plays the title-part, Nancy, and infuses a deal of spirit into the character. In the rôle of Martin, Mr. Harold Wantage acts with unfailing humour; Mr. Norman Bowyer makes a quaint and original figure of Dick Seymour; the part of Nellie Mather has a promising representative in Miss M. Christopher; as Ruth Gay Miss Eva Ellis sings and dances gracefully, and Miss Mabelle May makes an attractive Wilhelmina. Several smart dances are executed by the Lottie Stone troupe of dancers.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager Mr. Sam Gething; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Manners. — The genial and only Harry Lauder is packing the house at every performance this week. Harry, by request, is giving a few old favourites, and "She is ma daisy" ranks admirably. In a new song "The tailor's wife," a typical Lauder ditty, he is in fine vein, and his reception is tremendous. In Tom E. Finglas we have a fine coon singer and a neat and agile dancer; in Alfred Lester, a picture song singer of a high order; and a feature in jumping is made by the Hartley Wonders; the Tom Davis Trio, in their sensational act, "Whirling the Whirl," prove another good draw; and the audiences warmly applaud Maggie Walsh for her fine singing; Chas. Frazer and Co. score well in *Iona;* the Northern Troupe are splendid dancers; and good pictures are shown on the Bioscope.

ZOO-HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd., and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—Wallace Seikirk's juvenile spectacle entitled *Egypt* includes a smart display of naval and military warfare by Glasgow children; Rosina Caselli's Midget Wonders, the smallest canine race in the world, perform many clever tricks; while the vocal scena performed by Verno and Voyce is highly appreciated; a clever ventriloquial entertainment is given by Richardson Taylor; and the Three Rubys perform many daring and graceful tricks as contortionists. Other acceptable turns are given by the Carlyles, clever whirlwind dancers; Clark and Hayden, in musical duologue, *An Appointment;* Leo Stormont, baritone; Dolly Denton, comedienne; and the Bioscope.

PAVILION, LTD. — General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—The Lorch Family of Risley acrobats are the principal attraction, and give a clever acrobatic display; Lillie Soutter, comedienne, renders several songs in her usual sprightly style; Peter Bermingham, Scotch comedian, is responsible for much merriment with his pawky humour; other interesting turns on the programme include Queenie May, comedienne; Lily Black, vocalist and comedienne; Hans and Lux, patter comedians; the Gilbeys, instrumentalists; Selbo, expert juggler; and the Courtiers, vocal entertainers.

COLISEUM. — Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Burdette.—Chung Ling Soo astounds the audience with his Chinese conjuring; Percy Honri and his concertina form a combination not easily rivalled, and his turn is deservedly popular; the Bruins contribute a lively speciality item, entitled *A Trip to the North Pole;* J. W. Rickaby is a comedian with a wealth of original notions, and is a big favourite; first-rate musical items are given by Edith Fink, a sweet singer, and Arthur Aldridge, a tenor of special ability; the New York Nippers, in their *Bedtime* speciality show smart dancing, and enjoyable turns are given by the Satanella Trio, Nellie Martell, and the Bioscope.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; General-Manager, Mr. Harry M'Kelvie.—Chanti, the wonderful quick-change artist, represents nearly all the costumes and dances of the world; the Sisters Marion are two nice little girls, who sing duets in charming harmony; Stave is a weird musician, who makes effective use of electric light; Wallace is a remarkably smart young juggler; Keith and Merson, as jolly huntsmen, keep the fun going briskly with witty patter; Victor Newman gives some realistic imitations of the late Sir Henry Irving; Leah Arden is a ballad vocalist with a powerful voice, which she uses effectively; Oliver Conroy is a favourite comedian; and Jack Neil has always a welcome reception. Moving pictures of winter pastimes by the Palacescope round off a good entertainment.

GAIETY, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Harry Bowerman.—The Cee Mee Family display wonderful skill in their sensational trapeze act, and James and Alexander cause a good deal of merriment; R. C. McGill, Scotch comedian, contributes quaint songs; Sandy and Carl are most amusing in their burlesque boxing act; Kate Gourlay is a singer of pleasing songs, and the Sisters Ross are very successful as duettists; Clara Hastings proves a clever comedienne; the Bioscope, with a capital series of pictures, concludes.

BRITANNIA.—Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickard.—Amy Bathurst is a clever comedienne and charms everybody with her top-boot dancing; Velasco, Demon Painter, deserves credit for his performance, which is much admired; Dennis Glover, tenor vocalist, sings two songs in fine style; Charles F. Bradie, comedian; Daisy Cordelia, comedienne and dancer; and the Bioscope complete the programme.

GLOUCESTER.—PALACE.—Owners, Messrs. C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr. R. T. Rea.—Le Diabelo presents a sensational act in looping the wheel; the Three Romas are clever in a gymnastic act; Mr. Harry Nelson proves a smart patterer; and Miss May Marton is a neat comedienne. Johnny Fuller as the cat on the wire receives applause; and Miss Nell Brough is a good burlesque artist and sifflleuse. Messrs. Cullen, Carthy, and Little Cluley supply an entertaining turn; Messrs. Merton and Rydon are vocal and speciality duettists; and the Bioscope shows the Derby of 1907.

GRAVESEND. — GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. David Hart. — The juvenile cross-talk comedians, Alex and Lilley, undoubtedly do remarkably well; Dan Kirton sings well and dances admirably; Ena Somers, a many-sided entertainer, is particularly adroit with her concertina; Maude Vera, a descriptive serio and coon artist, meets with a good reception; Piquo, in his solo comedy sketch, causes endless merriment; Mysterious Lilith is a wonderful illusionist; whilst Lilian Warren's illustrated songs are deservedly popular.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—Miss Annie Hughes and company are here this week with Jerome K. Jerome's play, *Miss Tommy*. In the title-rôle, Miss Hughes plays with taste and sympathy; Miss Winifred Pearson is excellent as Mr. Morrison; and Miss Ida Richardson is natural and winsome as Honour. Peter Hope is capitally represented by Mr. Evelyn Vernon; Mr. Willie Hartill is energetic and effective as William Clodd; Mr. Reginald F. Beach is a part Flipp; and Dick Danvers is admirably portrayed by Mr. Rupert Lister.

GREENOCK.—EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry L. Skivington.—Messrs. Howell Webb and company head the bill, and present with success an exciting dramatic sketch, entitled *The Galley Slave*, in which Mr. Howell Webb plays the leading part. The Clevers submit a clever juggling and equilibrist turn; Lizzie Laurie's illustrated songs are well received; and Bendon's animated pictures are also an attraction.

PAVILION THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Chas. A. White.—Mr. Belrose and Miss Maud de Velin, who head the bill, are much applauded for their finely-rendered operatic selections. Other contributors are Wyllie, in a humorous musical turn; Mlle. Telka, a pleasing contralto; Titan, a strong man; Miss Minnie Osborne, a charming comedienne and dancer; George Rae, Scotch comedian and eccentric dancer, Harry Maynard, a popular character vocalist, and the Paviscope.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry.—The drama, *As Good as Gold* is here this week. The dominating character is the unscrupulous Sir Richard Wharncliffe, and a capital exponent is found in Mr. Jackson Hayes. The parts of Lieut. Stanton and Norah Williams are played by Mr. Fred Lloyd and Miss Isla Garnet Vayne. Miss Agnes Collier is well suited as Kate d'Arville; Mr. Clinton Baddeley is good as Mark Williams; Miss Bertha Baker represents the Kipper; and the comedy parts are played by Mr. Joseph Rowlands (Timothy Nias), Mr. Herbert Fuller as Horatio Spanker, and Miss Gertie Reid as Madge Merry.

THE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. A. Edwardes; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. F. Miller; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Houghton.—A capital piece of burlesque is provided by Culfane's Comedy Four, in their miniature musical comedy, *Pipple from Poppleton*. The Tokio Troupe of Japanese performers do all kinds of acrobatic and equilibristic work; the De Wynne Brothers give a smart display of head and hand balancing; Chester and Lee cleverly manipulate their marionettes; whilst others appearing are Maud Esmond, burlesque artist; Phern and Phern, in a musical act; T. C. Edwards, baritone vocalist; and Phil Bransby, coster comedian.

GUERNSEY.—THEATRE ST. JULIAN.—Lessee, Mr Edward Marris.—An exceptional treat was provided here on the 6th inst. in the flying visit of Mrs. Patrick Campbell and company in *Magda*, great interest being taken in the famous actress's appearance in the title-rôle. Mr. Hubert Carter's Leopold was a particularly fine performance; Lieut. Max had an able exponent in Mr. J. Geldard; Mr. Charles Garry gave a clever embodiment of Von Keller; and Mr. Berte Thomas assumed Heffterdingk with broad earnestness. Miss Annie Hill played Theresa intelligently; Miss P. Wheeler was all that could be desired as Augusta; and charming indeed was the Marie of Miss Stella P. Campbell.

HALIFAX. — THEATRE ROYAL, LTD. — General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—The Northern Theatres stock company are this week staging the play *Shall We Forgive Her?* A foremost place is given Mr. Bernard Mervyn, whose forcible enactment of the ne'er-do-well, Neal Garth, is received with spontaneity; a manly and earnest "engraver" is presented by Mr. J. Cook Hinton; Mr. Cyril Austen Lee is good as Parson Elworth; Miss Winnie Tempest infuses passion into the difficult rôle of Grace; and Miss Jessie Belmore, is admirably placed as Nelly West.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Harrison.— Six Bros. Luck, Ltd., company are here in *The Hotel Grande;* Jock Walker has some very breezy Scotch gags, which he expounds quaintly; Otto and Olga are smart with instruments, &c.; some remarkably clever leaping feats are introduced by the Three Bros. Huxter; Burns and Bentley are quaint Americans, and quite adepts at the art of top-boot dancing; a good comedian is Walter Stanley; and the Three Royal Dreadnoughts are expert rifle shooters.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Sam Winks.—*The Would-be Actors* is splendidly acted by Miss Lily Bertram and Mr. T. W. Rawson; another good item is furnished by Chevalier Cliquot, the sword swallower. Sill and Sillcott, silent comedians, Patty Yole, dancer, James Brady, eccentric joker, the Stein Erretta Troupe, Sisters Ford, duettists, and Russell and Reed's company, in *Binks' Blunder*, also entertain.

HANLEY.—GRAND, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone.—Kelly and Gilette are here in their screamingly funny sketch, *Fun in a Billiard Room;* Carlotta Levy wins the hearts of her audiences with her excellent songs, which are charmingly rendered; Fred Curran scores a huge success in his songs; the Borghetti Troupe are extraordinary acrobats; Venie Clements is a bright and vivacious comedienne, her song "I'm in love with the trombone," being capital; Cull Pitt patters admirably, and as a comedy magician is capital; Bromley and Fontein return in their sketch, which is made as funny as ever; Terry and Bentley in their comedy act are much appreciated, the male member being a clever contortionists; while the lady is a vocalist of a high order. The pictures are good.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Smith.—For the first three nights of this week Mr. Monckton Hoffe's company presented *The Importance of Being Earnest* to full houses. Mr. Monkton Hoffe was good as Algernon Moncrieff; and Mr. Nicholson was well placed as John Worthing. Mr. Ralph Hutton was excellent as Rev. Canon Chasuble; Miss Phyllis Manners was good as Lady Bracknell; and Miss Minnie Grey was a fair Gwendoline Fairfax. Miss Lloyd-Desmond was especially well placed as Miss Prism; and Miss Nona Hope made the most of Cicely Carden.

HARTLEPOOL.—EMPRESS.—Proprietors, Messrs. Councillor Everton and J. W. Cragg; Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Charlie Ferrier.—A smart turn is provided by Will Onda's comedians, who head the bill in their amusing sketch, *Hotel Comfort;* Atroy gives an exhibition of juggling and hoop bowling that would be difficult to beat; a musical turn that is decidedly novel and entertaining is provided by Mlle. Violi; John Higgins, champion jumper, is paying a return visit; as also is Sam Dalton, eccentric comedian and mimic, and Tom Parker, a smart clog dancer, Lillian Travellie, burlesque artist, and Julia Faviour, comedienne and dancer, are also on the list, which is concluded by a capital display on the Bioscope.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Scutt.—*When It Was Dark* is admirably presented here this week by Mrs. Morton Powell's company. The rôle of Gertrude Hunt is filled by Miss Hilda Beverley with an earnestness that gains sympathy; the zeal and enthusiasm of the Rev. Basil Gortre are finely delineated by Mr. E. Stanton Sharp; while his antithesis, Constantine Schuabe, is as convincingly played by Mr. W. J. Butler. The despicable Sir Robert has a good exponent in Mr. Edward Valentine; and Ionides, his accomplice in fraud, is picturesquely played by Mr. D. N. Stornott. Mrs. Morton Powell very pleasingly represents the womanly rôle of Helena Byars; agreeable comedy is supplied by Miss Dorothy Hildebrande as Grace Goldeye; with Mr. Millar Wilson as the Hon. Charles Gayfly. Good assistance is rendered by Mr. Ernest St. John as the Rev. Byars, Mr. R. B. Drysdale as Nunc Wallace, Mr. H. B. Lewis as Harold Spence, and Mr. F. Davis as Ali-al-Murad.

PIER PAVILION.—Pier Master, Mr. R. Turner; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—Mr. Weedon Grossmith's farcical comedy, *The Night of the Party*, is attracting good audiences. Mr. Sebastian Smith as Crosbie, the principal butler, gives a remarkably clever sketch of one in an elevated state of mind; Miss Florence French as Gipsy Vandelier, Miss Lillian Williams as Paulina, the housemaid, and Miss Beatrice Mervyn as Lady Hampshire, are excellent; Mr. Douglas Munro as the Duke's servant, and Mr. Frank Denton as Frank Frayne also do well. The comedy is under the direction of Mr. Charles H. Williams.

ST. LEONARDS PAVILION THEATRE.—Pier Master and Entertainment Manager, Mr. Elvey Thomas.—Another series of interesting animated pictures on the Bioscope is being shown by arrangement with Mr. W. J. Jury. Humorous slides are also shown by Professor Stanley Collins, who dovetails some clever illustrations of sleight-of-hand into the entertainment.

HORWICH. — PRINCE'S THEATRE. — Proprietor, Mr A. P. Patterson; Manager, Mr. Alec Harcourt; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. W. Graham.—Messrs. Elliman's company, in *A Heart's Desire*, form the attraction this week. Mr. Frank V. Fenn plays Lord St. Ives with much feeling; Mr. Eddie Vane as Eric May is decidedly good; Mr. S. Claydon makes the most of the Hon. Bertie Beresford; Messrs. Herbert Lewis and Charles King play Luke Forrest and David McCulloch respectively; and Mr. Walter Kennion is a typical old butler, Coombes; Miss Emmeline Roselle as Julia, lady's maid, is capital; Miss Ida Irving has a good part as Gwendoline Ross, Lord St. Ives' ward, and takes full advantage of it; Miss Amy Dalby's rendering of the Hon. Elsie Beresford is a very careful study, full of merit; and Miss Enid Edoni's Oiya, a half-caste, is a most artistic performance.

HUDDERSFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Andrews.—Mr. Harry Foxwell has got together a capable company to play the drama *A Broken Heart*. Mr. John Clyde looks the part, and plays with fine force, as John Barnard; Mr. Scott Leighton is cool and restrained as the villain, Raylton; Mr. Chas. Vivian shows ability in the part of Gash Gills; Mr. Will Lindsay is naturally funny as the bumpkin, Tony Tibbits; Miss Marguerite Trevosper's excellent work in the part of Mary Barnard is worthy of the highest commendation; Miss Florrie Sorsby is good as Little May; and Mrs. Harry Foxwell makes the most of her opportunties as Miss Fanshaw.

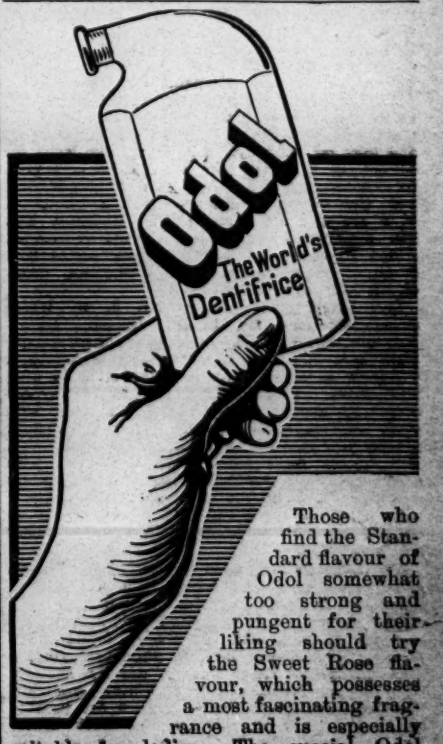
HIPPODROME, LTD. — Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—The best turn this week is provided by Miss Libby Blondelle and her four Johnnies; Ryan and Hall give a clever and humorous acrobatic turn; the Sisters Hampel are two good singers and humorists; the Solari Duo are talented lady instrumentalists; the Villion Trio are daring and interesting trick cyclists; Miss Mollie Doon is a sweet singer and a delightfully fascinating dancer; and Derenda and Green, a pair of club jugglers, are more than usually expert. Russell Carr, ventriloquist, Haley's Garden of Girls, and interesting pictures on the Biograph are also included in the programme.

HULL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. F. Morton.—Haddon Chambers' fine play, *The Idler*, is here, under the guidance of Mr. Greenwood-Croft. Mrs. Croft, to whom the rôle of Mrs. Harding is assigned, is seen to the very best advantage; Mark Cross is in the hands of that clever artist Mr. Philip Cunningham; and Miss Celia Gordon realises the rôle of Mrs. Cross with much effect. There is a very pleasing tone introduced into the picture by Miss Zoe Davis as Kate Merryweather, and as Sir John Harding Mr. Stephen T. Ewart gives an able character sketch. The play is well staged and the representation highly effective.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing Director, Mr. John Hart; General Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—A strong drama and one full of exciting episodes is *The Master Criminal* which fills a place in the programme of this theatre. Mr. Henry Osmond is an actor who could surely find better work to do. He makes all that is possible out of Telford Lestage; Miss Winifred Chalmers paints the adventuress in proper tints; and the detective finds a suitable representative in Mr. John C. Carlyle. The remainder of the cast call for no special mention.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE AND MORTONS, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—Go-Won-Go-Mohawk is here once more with *Wep-Ton-No-Mah*. That capable artist Mr. Pascoe Bioletti, a great favourite in Hull, is cast as the Chief, Gane-Gan; the title-rôle is efficiently played by Go-Won-Go-Mohawk; Mr. C. W. Charles is cast as Capt. Stockton; Mr. Edward Leroy is an able Manuel Lopes; Matilda Sniffle, as played by Miss Jessie Hart, is a pleasing study, and much amusement is afforded by her work.

HYDE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. R. Feather.—The management have sub-let the theatre during the summer vacation, and this week Mr. John Clempert and a strong company of variety artists filled the bill. Terry and Browden are highly successful in a vocal comedy act; Effie Macdonald is a pleasing vocalist; and A. Magnus is also responsible for a clever vocal effort. Mons. Twizto is a smart contortionist; and Thora is a sweet songstress. Little Doris Jeffe is a dainty vocalist and dancer, and contributes a smart quick-change act; Artie Francis, comedian, is successful; the turn provided by Mr. Charles Carte, actor vocalist, is keenly appreciated. The concluding item is the stirring Russian military play, entitled *Jedevka*, in which the principal character is admirably portrayed by Mr. John Clempert.



Those who find the Standard flavour of Odol somewhat too strong and pungent for their liking should try the Sweet Rose flavour, which possesses a most fascinating fragrance and is especially suitable for ladies. The special Odol properties are the same in both.

ILKESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—*The Trail of the Serpent* is being played here this week by the company of Mr. A. Campbell-Kelly. Miss Phyllis Elton makes a pathetic Ethel Maynard, and Mr. Campbell-Kelly himself secures marked attention for his impersonation of Gerald Kingston and Old Jack; Miss Nana Cameron presents a capital interpretation of Rachel; Mr. J. R. Tyrell, as William Higgins, and Miss Jennie Risley as Rose Wilson, are amusing; as the villain, Ralph Hammond, Mr. Frank Lyndon is well placed; and Mr. John Cullen as Gipsy Jake is deserving of praise.

IPSWICH. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—The great attraction here is the engagement of Hackenschmidt, who has elicited much cheering; Jennie Johns delights the audience with a couple of charming songs; Sandy McNab and company give an entertaining sketch entitled *The Egyptian Mummy;* and the company also includes Burley and Burley, a pair of wonderful contortionists; McDonald and Hunting, American comedians; Bessie Arthur, a pleasing Scottish vocalist; the Nightingales, song illustrators; and the Four Burnells, who cause roars of laughter in their comic knockabout business.

JARROW.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Rex Sugden.—This week Mr. Edward Sorley's company is paying a visit with *The New Magdalen.* Miss Yvonne Orchardson as Merry Merrick plays the rôle commendably; Miss Rachel Donne's Grace Roseberry is neat; Miss Bartle Frere is suitably placed as Lady Janet Roy; and Mr. W. S. Hartford makes a dignified Julian Gray. Mr. Horace Logan fills the part of Horace Holmcroft to perfection.

JERSEY.—THE HORSESHOE QUARRY.—A series of al fresco entertainments opened here on Monday with a troupe of pierrots and Veroniques, under the Opera House management. Mr. Tom Payne, with songs and dances, proves a great draw, and Miss Elfie Vincent is a dainty comedienne; Miss Maisie Gerrard is an excellent accompanist; Mr. C. Brunston Williams and Mr. Reginald Hamber sing in good style.

ODDFELLOWS' HALL.—The National Animated Pictures are making a return visit here.

KEIGHLEY.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Carson and Kendall.—The Musical Palmers provide an excellent musical show here, and prove a great draw; Mozetto is loudly applauded for a clever juggling act; Sam Redfern, comedian, delights his hearers in song and patter; Miss Daisy Palmer dances nicely; and capital pictures are exhibited by Films, Ltd. Fred Danvers's sketch company appear in *Those Awful Twins.* Mr. Fred Danvers and Mr. Evelyn, with their bright and breezy quips, amuse all.

LANCASTER.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. John Porter and W. J. Fergusson.—Messrs. Kitchen and Lister's dramatic sketch, *No. 99,* with Mr. Frank Lister in the title-rôle, is exceedingly well presented. Harry Grey, comedian, has a great reception, as also have Cline and Clark, black and white singers and dancers. Olive Armidale, comedienne; Jack Rae, ring performer; the Varleys, duettists; Harris and Worth, comedians; and the Hippograph complete a first-rate programme.

LEEDS.—GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Edward Cadman.—Mr. Ernest E. Norris's adaptation of that old favourite, *The Three Musketeers,* is enjoying good patronage at the Grand this week. Mr. Norris is responsible for a dashing and enjoyable portrayal of the chivalric D'Artagnan; Miss Vera Beringer achieves success as Lady Winter; Richelieu is well and carefully played by Mr. Edward Petley; and the Musketeers are represented with rare fidelity by Messrs. Austin Melroy, Archer Brown, and Ernest Stridwell; Miss Enid Ross presents the wronged Queen in captivating style, and Miss Dorothy Chard is a winsome Constance.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—*A Wrecker of Men* is just the sort of thrilling melodrama dear to the hearts of the Royal habitués, and good houses are the rule this week. The name-part is Risca Mallison, an adventuress, and this is a very fine bit of acting by Miss Ruth Zillwood; the wronged heroine, Doris Melville, is a portrayal of exceeding charm by Miss Gwendoline Talbot, and Miss Beatrice Reynolds also displays much ability in a character of importance; Mr. Eric Campbell is distinctly clever in the rôle of Jim Murley; Mr. Percy Horton proves no less effective as Guise Strange; and much good work is also done by Mr. Milner Noble and Mr. Thompson Carruthers in other leading parts.

EMPIRE.—Moss Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—A varied and attractive Empire bill has Edward Lauri and company as star turn, and their comedy sketch, *In Her Boudoir,* proves very amusing and entertaining. Herbert Darnley's company adds greatly to the merriment with an uproarious screamer, *Moving In,* which is smartly enacted; a remarkably good show is that of D'Arc's Marionettes, whose antics and imitations are very cleverly executed; the well-known Egbert Bros. are to the fore with a favourite speciality; the American Comedy Four are amongst the most popular turns in the bill; a novel acrobatic speciality by the Wartenberg Bros. arouses much enthusiasm; Fanny Erris, comedienne, does a pleasing turn; and Guy Rider and Frank Seeley are each popular.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter De Frece.—By arrangement with Mr. John Lawson, the famous sketch, *Sally in Our Alley,* is to be seen here this week, and its presentation has aroused the liveliest interest; another notable turn is that of Les Sousloffs, sensational terpsichorean experts; George Prince and Dick Kendal are clever and popular; Ford Williams scores a succes as a vocalist; Maud Beaumont, comedienne, renders acceptable contributions; and the turn of Rose Harvey, vocalist, is also well liked.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Thos. Barrasford; General-Managers, Mr. Chas. Weldon and Mr. Claude Shayler.—The Minstrel Maids are a merry and talented company. Fred Cary, who leads the comedians, is vastly popular; and other notable comedians engaged are Joe Cheevers, Will Walton, and The Custances. Edie Gray and her clever boys are a great success; the Ringling Trio have a clever eccentric speciality; the Nirdars are juvenile acrobats of merit; Rosalie Jacobi is a favourite soubrette, and Nelly Chandos, comedienne, also contributes.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Jones.—Amongst the most popular turns here this week is that of the Piccolinos, a company of clever juveniles, who score in song and dance. Tom E. Conover and company are doing an amusing skit, *The Drink Cure,* with every appearance of success; Gillin, the popular novelty ventriloquist, is having a good week; Lord, Murray, and Lord repeat previous triumphs with a clever comedy sketch; Huline and Le May are successful in a similar line; whilst Mlle. Eldee, with a refined speciality; Ted Waite, comedian; and the Sisters St. Julian, duettists, are also among the best items.

LEICESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business Manager, Mr. E. R. Beaumont.—Messrs. Fred Acton and Harry C. Nash's company is here with the drama *Between the Lights.* Miss Eileen Bamford plays sympathetically and well as Violet Warren, and Mr. Bertram H. Rose as Captain Robert Hinton and Mr. Frederick Garrett as Gerald Warren are both to be congratulated on portrayals of much merit; Mr. William R. Winning is good as Stanley Crofton, and Mr. Fred Acton as Jimmy Tickle is popular; Miss Fannie Williams as Madge Armley is a success; Mr. Frank Orchard capitally enacts the dual rôles of Oswald Warren and Ben Armley; and Mr. F. Daleno as Charles Stott, Miss Millie Doris as Kitty, and Miss Winifred Acton as Ellen are others who fill their parts in commendable style.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Bertram G. Iles.—Mr. William Bourne's company appears in *Ordered to the Front.* Mr. Frank Petley as Captain Mountrevor, Mr. F. Vernon Travers as James Woodruffe, Mr. Allen Wye as Mike Kavanagh, Miss Teresa Osborne as Helen Mountrevor, Miss Alys Eden as Jenny, and Mr. Sydney Compton as Rev. Arthur Graham are to be congratulated on the successful manner in which they play their various parts. Neil Kenyon, the clever and popular Scotch comedian, is making a most successful first appearance here. Billy McClain and company, including Mlle. Cordelia, are making a hit with their enjoyable and exhilarating scena, entitled *The Hottest Coon from Dixie;* May Walsh is a charming and refined comedienne; Frank Elliston and company create hearty laughter with their farcical sketch, *Aunt Matilda;* J. A. Wilson, with his well-trained dog, "Private Towser," receives his usual hearty welcome; Lindon's Vaudeville Entertainers are good in an entertaining comedy mélange entitled *Monks at Play;* Tom and Marie Motrama are capital musical comedy artists. The Bioscope is a feature, and Beattie and Blanche, duettists and dancers, also appear.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joe Lawrence.—Miss Lois du Cane and Co. are presenting with the greatest success the sensational episode *War,* in which Miss Lois du Cane as Jessie Grant, Mr. E. Eardley Howard as Gilbert Newton, Mr. P. Barry-Lewis as Sagasi, Mr. Ernest E. Batley as Captain Digby Nolan, and Mr. William Beatty as Colonel Grant give excellent impersonations. A big hit is being made by T. W. Barrett, a really clever and laughter-provoking comedian; Sidney Dolf is smart in his novel act; the Sisters Allen are attractive duettists and smart dancers; Walter H. Pallister's Bioscope remains a very popular feature; Kitty Kirwin, Irish comedienne, and Susie Marney, low comedienne, are also entertaining.

LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—*The Mockery of Marriage,* a sterling drama by Mr. Edward Thane, affords Miss Constance Medwyn opportunities for fine emotional acting in the part of Alva Kenyon; while strong work is done by Mr. Clavering Craig as the villainous Dick Kenyon, and by Mr. James Chippendale as Seth Pearce; Miss Doris Gilham plays Rosa Vernham charmingly; Mr. James Somerville is effective in the rôle of Mr. Vernham; and Mr. Fred W. Freeman makes an excellent Jack Stanley. Commendable character studies are given by Mr. D. Johnson and Mr. Percival Dye in their respective rôles of Old Pete and Ned Stanley; and Mr. Barry Lupino as Toby, with Miss Sallie Adelstone as Mary Anne, develops the comedy vein most successfully. An interesting display of "Royal Star" animated pictures is followed by a good old farce, in which Mr. Somerville, Mr. Lupino, Miss Gilham, and Miss Adelstone, aided and abetted by a property baby, keep the fun going quite gloriously.

LIVERPOOL. — ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—Mr. C. Watson Mill and his able company have done capital business here during the week with his excellent drama *A Warning to Women.* Miss Rosalind Tate made a good impression as the unfortunate Meira Kennion; Mr. C. Watson Mill ably figured as the wandering minstrel, Shaun; the villainous Dr. Marcus Dread found in Mr. Richard Vane an exponent whose work was followed with the closest attention; another well-drawn character was that of Fergus McNaughton, played by Mr. William Vane; Mr. Henry Rutland afforded the utmost satisfaction as Squire Kennion; Mr. Henry P. Kennedy raised endless laughter with his Mike McQuade; Mr. N. Carter Slaughter did the most with the rôle of Lord Eversleigh; thanks are due to Miss Grace Barton for her thoughtful picture of Sheila Kennion; and Miss Ellen Beverley was an excellent Molly O'Moore. The drama was put on in good style.

LYRIC — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—Public patronage of this popular north-end house continues satisfactory. Heading a good bill this week is Nat Clifford, "the nimble one"; Coram, a smart ventriloquist, remains another week; Gus Harris, the Hebrew delineator, presents a remarkably life-like impersonation of Lord Beaconsfield, being assisted by auxiliaries and striking scenic effects; Palles and Cussick, favourite comedians, have a turn which earns general approval; Lily Flexmore has some remarkable dances and dainty songs; a clever exhibition of banjo playing is provided by the Vekeys; the Wallys are particularly good comedy and expert jugglers; and Miss Gladys Williams renders some taking songs. The Bioscope shows the Derby.

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—Here this week *A Destroyer of Men* is presented by Mr. James Hare's well-balanced company. Mr. C. P. Wentworth looked well and acted well as Count Starevitch; Mr. Hare played with much feling and power the part of Karl Mischla, the exile; Mr. Hill Creamer did justice to Paul Starevitch; strong support came from Mr. Charles Bickell as Michael Mischla; Mr. Charles Coventry was an excellent type of a police spy; Miss Irene Clifford worthily held the rôle of Olga Mischla; Miss Alice Buckland was a pleasing Nina Pattakake, and sang sweetly; and the characters of Vida Ravel was in the good hands of Miss Jessie Yatman. The scenic effects were very appropriate.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Mznaging-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan. —Top of the bill here this week are Freddie French and company with the laughable sketch *The Suffragettes,* which has proved greatly diverting; another merry trifle is *Kleptomaniacs,* presented by Fred Edwards and company, including Miss Bertha Northam; Rachel Lowe has a couple of acceptable novelty songs; some clever work as gymnasts is shown by the Four Rio Brothers; the Two Kays have a neat scena, *The Nightingale;* Stacey and Williams are amusing cross-talkers, and show some good dancing; several popular songs come from May Edouin; and other turns are provided by Charles Rozel, speciality gymnast; Arthur Woodville, light comedian; Jack Pleasants, comedian; and Nat Watkins, comedian.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole. —*Brave Hearts* is the title of the drama being presented here this week by the Royal stock company. Mr. Harry Tresham makes an excellent Guy Barrington; the villainous rôle of Ralph Craddock is well handled by Mr. Sydney Grant; Mr. Cecil Ravenswood shows to advantage as Edward Grantham; Mr. Robert Wilton makes a humorous Sam Sawyer; Miss Nellie Bonser distinguishes herself as Kate Edwards; and Miss Beryl Ravenswood does well in the rôle of Clara Vivian.

PADDINGTON PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Edwards.—The Royal stock dramatic company, here this week, are giving *The New World,* from the pen of Fred D'Arcy. The principal rôles are taken by Messrs. Wallace Campbell (Jack Hawley), Frank S. Strickland (Jim Rawlins), H. Hesslegrave (Joe Williams), H. G. Brandon (Brutus Brown), Francis E. Wybert (Sam Smart); Miss Gladys H. Walton (May Walton), Miss Lina Nazeby (Samantha Clayton), and Miss Florence Barnes (Jenny Williams).

HAYMARKET.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. Edwin W. Smith.—Harry Calden and company remain here with their popular sketches. This week they are giving *The Foreign Spy; or, Through Shot and Shell.* Billy Dewey sings and dances ably; Frances Phillips is a comedienne with many good points; and George Horner has a number of songs which gain for him much applause. The Bioscope is a special feature of the programme.

WESTMINSTER.—Lessee, Mr. Fred E. Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—Spencer and Marks (Arthur and George) top the bill here this week with their humorous act, *The Stage-struck Waifs;* Jock McKay, as a Scotch comedian and piper, is a good turn; a clever and refined singing act is submitted by Cliff and Monti; the Sisters Bronson earn cordial recognition for their duets and smart dancing; and "The pillow-fight on the revolving pole" causes endless laughter.

OLYMPIA. — District - Manager. Mr. Albert Bulmer; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wighton.—Foremost here this week are Fred Ginnett's company with the well-presented equestrian spectacle *Turpin's Ride to York,* which has proved popular; the wonderful intelligence shown by Lockhart's elephants has been watched with interest; Lily Langtry is as lively as ever; Herbert Shelley submits his one-man play *Dan the Outlaw,* which is very enjoyable; the Jackley Trio have an amusing and clever acrobatic speciality; and also in the list are Ernest Tilbury, with his choice illustrated songs; Edwin Barwick, comedian and mimic; and L. W. Harris, comedian.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss Empires, Ltd.—Crowded houses nightly have been the rule here this week owing to the visit of Miss Vesta Tilley, whose reception has proved as cordial as ever. Her new song, "The seaside smile," sung for the first time on Monday evening, was most favourably received. In response to a call before the curtain, Miss Tilley returned thanks. She said she had been under nervous apprehension as to the reception of her new number, but now that Liverpool had approved it, it would go everywhere. Tom Costello brought his latest, "The Suffragettes"; the comedy and clever cycling by the Narow Bros. were loudly applauded; W. J. Ashcroft, the original solid man, was given a hearty reception for his songs; the Musical Jees afforded every pleasure with their sketch *The Scarecrow;* some smart acrobatic work was performed by the juvenile Trapnell Family; William Lee and Helen Bentley presented a new comedy, *A Friend in Need,* which proved highly amusing; the song-scena, "Pictures in the fire," by Alix Lukos, was much enjoyed; and Ouida Macdermott, a neat comedienne, also appeared.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors, Liverpool Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. James Marks.—Good business has been done here this week. Top of the programme is Marie Loftus with her latest successes, including "Singers, past and present"; Luis Hardt, the boy Samson, gave an interesting sketch, *Flights of Imagination;* Florence Yaymen showed herself to be a clever coon caricaturist; some neat and expert juggling was gone through by the Five Geraldos; Henri Cayman pleased everyone with his turn; Dandy George and his canine companion proved exceedingly acceptable; Moon and Morris are funny; the Sisters Belmont sang duets and danced in a pleasing manner; and also in the list were W. H. Downs, coloured ballad-vocalist, with a fine voice; and Mabel La Blanch, vocal comedienne.

THEATRE MODERNE.—Lessee, Mr. Gooes.—This hall (formerly the Parthenon) is largely patronised by audiences who enjoy Pathé Frères' new Passion Play bioscope pictures.

LOWESTOFT. — HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert; Manager, Mr. Frank Freeland.—A full house assembled here on Monday to enjoy the "Derby Day" film, which is the special feature for the present week. Mr. W. Martell possesses a fine voice, and won a great success; Morimuna is neat and original in his conjuring and illusions, and the Four Fouberts are very funny in their sketch, *Uninvited.*

MAIDSTONE. — HIPPODROME. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. S. Baskerville.—The Schenk Brothers head a good bill this week, and are heartily applauded for their clever equilibristic act; Susie and Protti are clever acrobatic dancers; the Cecilias play on a number of instruments, and are well received. W. H. Clemart gives a novel ventriloquial act. Others appearing are Stan Aubrey, comedian; Ethel Loftus, comedienne; and Maude Fenton, comedienne and dancer, together with the Bioscope.

MANCHESTER.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietors, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. M. Thorburn.—Local audiences are this week interested in the appearance of Mr. Ellerslie Pyne, a young Manchester actor, in *The Sleigh Bells,* an adaptation of the late Sir Henry Irving's well-known success. Mr. Ellerslie Pyne essays the rôle of Mathias with distinction, the Dream Scene being especially well done. Miss Renie Douglas as Catherine renders valuable assistance. The drama is preceded by the Balcony Scene from *Romeo and Juliet.*

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—Mr. Robert Parris's company is playing *A Fight for Millions* here after a brief absence. A strong individual attraction is in Mr. Tom Jones, the Welsh comedian, as Clara-ap-Morgan; and important parts are excellently played by Mr. William Macready, Mr. Monson Thorpe, Miss Winifred Symons, and Miss Rosie Kearns. The drama is finely staged, and holds the interest of the audience from first to last.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hearn.—Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson's company is here this week in *When the Lights are Low.* Mr. Ernest Raymond is capital as the Admiral; Mr. George Daiper is well suited as Guy Goldsworthy; and Mr. Stephen G. Scanlan is very good as the villainous Noland. Miss Violet Carlyle and Miss Amy Ellam as the sisters do much toward the play's success; Miss May Ediss acts sympathetically as the blind Stella; and Miss Cissie Podmore contributes cleverly to the fun as Kathleen Kerry. In a humorous direction the work of Messrs. F. Serle, J. Russell Bogue, and James E Abbot is noteworthy; and as a character-study the Isaacson of Mr. Lance Usher is very good.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. R. Flanagan; Manager, Mr. P. Ryan Smith.—Mr. Sidney Dench's company still occupy the boards here. This week the play is *The Colleen Bawn.*

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Day.—Miss Lydia Donovan and company present the drama, *Her One Great Sin,* here this week. Miss Lydia Donovan plays Gracie Warhurst in fine style; Mr. G. Edward Hall is manly and natural as Reuben; and Mr. C. Quinton Fulford makes a capital villain as Arnold Thornhill. Miss Louie Walton's Bet Hundle is a piece of good character-acting; and praise may be added for the Nancy Wimpenny of Miss Nellie Lambert. Others who do well are Miss Phyllis Damain and Miss Maudie Lambert; while Mr. Fred Hodson as Jerry adds to the fun.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—George Gray, in *The Fighting Parson,* is the star attraction here this week. The Kellinos, extremely smart risley-ists, share the honour of prominence. Fine turns also are Woodhouse and Wells, patter comedians and dancers; Daisy Jerome, the popular comedienne and dancer; Boswell's stage circus of ponies, dogs, &c.; Ian Colquhoun, a powerful baritone vocalist; and Genero and Theol, the india-rubber pair; while Anna Hope features a popular song, and Walter King, comedian, is dolefully quaint. The Bioscope is good, as usual.

HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—Phil Ray, the well-known comedian, tops the bill here this week, and makes a big hit, his smart patter being particularly enjoyable. The Millman Trio are clever aerial tight-wire artists; Mendel is a wonderful pianist; Charles Norton is a smart mimic; and the Netherlands, in their latest scena, *Dutch Pastimes,* sing and dance well. A pleasing musical sketch, *The Punch Bowl,* is given in fine style by Messrs. Frank Wood, G. Ide, Sidney Bracey, Robert Selby, Millroy Cooper, and Ralph Nairn; whilst good turns are also offered by Starr and Leslie, and Cruikshank in music and jest. Two vocal items by the choir and some amusing pictures complete the programme.

KING'S (Longsight).—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. B. Taylor.—Harriet Vernon, the ever-popular burlesque artist, is scoring here this week. Henry Herne and company, in the romantic scena, *The Colleen Bawn,* are seen to advantage; Leslie Race is a capital swell comedian; the Four Sisters Victoria are pleasing instrumentalists and dancers; Lily Gaston is an exceptionally good dancer; and smart turns are also contributed by Mayne Cannon, comedian and trick pianist; Harry Lee, comedian and mimic; Robins and Collier, in their clever scena, *The Lady and the Porter;* and the Bros. Robson, comedians and dancers. Amusing films are shown on the Bioscope.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter de Frece; Secretary, Mr. Peter Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Tealor Wade.—A highly expert and entertaining act by Morris Cronin and troupe, *A Whirl of Clubs,* is the principal feature of this week's programme here. Excellent also in its way is the sensational cycle performance of Tom Grave, flying the revolving wheel. Beside these, Alfred Lester, assisted by Florence Wakeman, is excellent in his scena, *A Restaurant Episode;* the Athlones are seen in artistic classical poses; Wylie's Dog Circus is very diverting and wonderful; the Bros. Lester dance very cleverly; and good turns are added by W. B. Raby, comedian, and Dan Kennedy, comedian, each in a different style. The pictures complete an excellent programme.

TIVOLI. — Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A Wilks; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Herr Van Coppee's delightful song-scena, *Holland in Song and Picture,* by twelve charming Dutch girls, remains here another week, and are deservedly well appreciated. A similar turn is also provided by the original Les Fleurs D'Orange, the "Summer Idyll at Trianon" being particularly pretty and effective. The Maples show *How to Treat a Burglar* in a humorous manner, and also dance well; Mark Merry is a comedian of the quaint order; and Gladys Archbutt, a delightful musical comedy artist, is an excellent dancer and pleasing singer; Billie Burford, comedienne, has some catchy songs; G. W. Foster is an amusing eccentric; and Rose Waller, comedienne, sings acceptably. Raymond's Vivagraph completes.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—The chief attraction here this week is Mr. Montague Beaudyn's company in *Jealousy.* The acting of Miss Cissie St. Elmo as Wanda Lubinoff, and of Mr. Beaudyn as Ivan Paulovitch is very fine. The episode is well staged. Miss Florence Smithers, supported by a strong company, is exceedingly good in a comedy sketch, *Hard Lines.* The Lombards are accomplished acrobats; Lindsay and Harte, the Scotch-American duo, are entertaining; Payne Clarke, operatic tenor, is good; and some wonderful double somersaults are performed by La Troupe Espagnole Juanitos. Others who offer good turns are the Currie Trio, burlesque artists and dancers; and Wilfrid Gregory, contortionist. "The Electric Belt," shown by the Bioscope, is funny.

HIPPODROME (Hulme).—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Kay. —Miss Agnes Molteno heads the bill in the beautiful living tableaux scena, *An Old Time Story,* and sings delightfully. A gorgeous spectacular musical scena is given by the Seven Zerbinis, including Little Cyril, in a burlesque of Sousa; Wilton Heriot and company, in a protean act, *An Anglo-American Alliance,* are very good; Harwood's Juveniles, in their novelty scena, *A Children's Christmas Eve,* are decidedly clever; and Duncan and Brasque, in a smart playlet, *The Society Butterfly,* are capital. Other enjoyable items are those of May and Ruby, vocalists and dancers; Mi Narom, comedienne; Harry Bentley, eccentric comedian; the Betsons, comedy cyclists; Pete and Minnie Lee, in song scena; and the animated pictures.

RUSHOLME PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Leslie; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles North; Secretary, Mr. Geo. Phillips.—Fanny Newman, a charming comedienne, is paying a welcome return here this week, and is well received. Excellent also are Arthur Bearle, comedian, and Bromley Carter, humorist; Charles North, baritone, and Bernard Rowley, tenor, are first-rate vocalists; John Chesney is a pleasing concertina soloist; Hugh Haines is a quaint comic; and Lucy Wilson is good at the piano.

MANSFIELD.—GRAND THEATRE AND GARDENS, LTD.—Managing-Director, Captain Cecil Clayton.—On warm evenings the entertainment is held in the picturesque gardens. Bob Stephenson, comedian, gives a good turn; Eva Frere sings excellent songs; Myron Howard's sketch is acceptable; Little Keeno, H. Keeble (comedian), and Gillin's acrobatic troupe are successful; and other good turns are also submitted. A new series of pictures is presented on the theatre bioscope.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Herbert Darnley; Resident-Director, Mr. Tom Jennings; Acting-Manager, Mr. Mark Lorne.—Mr. Frank Ayrton's company is here this week presenting *The Power of Gold* to good houses. Mr. George Lyttleton gives a powerful rendition of the character of Hadji Zambra; and Mr. H. F. Stacey is well placed as Paul Judson. In the part of Meg Judson, Miss Lily Prescot is quite at home. Miss Madge Seymour as Norah Donnelly and Mr. Frank Ayrton as Sammy Smudge are responsible for a great amount of merriment. The exacting part of Lady Brandon is in the capable hands of Miss Amy MacNeill. Mark Harley is ably portrayed by Mr. Richard Harris.

MARGATE.—HIPPODROME.—Sole Joint Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtree.—Another excellent combination of talent this week includes Adey Spencer, comedienne; Kisbey, the funny "call boy"; and the Paiolos, in their speciality act, who, together with Flo Cecil, comedienne, make up the first part of an entertaining number of turns. In part two, Rosie Revell, comedienne, takes well with her comedy coon songs; Bliss and Bliss are smart cross-talkers; and Hanvarr and Anna Lee, the golfer and the maid, introduce some clever club juggling and marvellous acrobatic feats. The show, including the Bioscopic pictures, is an exceptionally good one.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Albert Jackson.—Messrs. Northway and W. V. Garrod's company is this week paying a return visit with *The Prodigal Parson.* Mr. W. V. Garrod is well suited as the Rev. Tom Godley; a capital delineation of Enoch Jaggins is given by Mr. Paul Beckett; the rôle of Fern Godley is pleasingly rendered by Miss Bertha Kingston; Phil Drive is well accounted for by Mr. Owen Redmonde; Miss Sybil Hammersley is an amusing Gretchen; and Miss Violet Jeffries gives an intelligent portrayal of Myrtle Godley.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—The Alskarno Trio, comedy risleyists, top the bill here in an enjoyable turn; Satida and Vone, Creole vocalists and dancers, are an attraction; Fredk. Austin, comedian and dancer, shows ability; Mons. and Mlle. Fransoli give an interesting exhibition of statue posing; Sullivan's Quartet are successful in their sketch *Tommy and the Lady Lawyer;* the Woolhafs are paying a return visit; and the Biograph is up to date with the race for the Derby.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE —Manager, Mr. W. H. Melton.—Mr. Valentine Beadon's company is here in *The Best Must Win.* Mr. Sidney D. Cranston gives a cultured rendering of Paul Dumaresq; Mr. Graham Woods submits a vigorous portraiture of Gaston, whose satellite, Juan Minos, is ably interpreted by Mr. J. Dobson Clyde; Mr. A. Hall Menzies is a decidedly amusing Jacques Courcel, and Mr. Geo. H. Child a satisfatcory Sabertache. Miss Marie Menzies interprets the rôle of Denise Dumaresq with dramatic instinct; and the Lucille of Miss Marie Robson is another skilful rendering. *East Lynne* was presented on Thursday.

MIDDLESBROUGH. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Charles Imeson.—Messrs. Hamilton Woodert and Chas. V. Sandford's company is here with *A Woman's Past.* Miss Maisie Hanbury, in the part of Bessie, creates a very good impression; as David Heath Mr. Horace E. Herbert acquits himself with credit; and the part of Frank Dellaumay finds a clever representative in Mr. Charles Sandford; Miss Eva Bertram is very effective as Clara Darrell, and Mr. A. Hamilton Warden plays the part of Clement Harper to perfection; Miss Mary Mallalieu is very pleasing as Dorothy Heath, and Mr. G. Moreton Williams does full justice to the character of Uriah Craven; Miss Phyllis Monkton as Kate, Mr. Philip Nailor as Bloater, and Mr. Frank Hayling as Scrubby are all that can be desired. The piece is capitally staged.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, The Middlesbrough Grand Opera House Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. Ker Chatto.—*Mice and Men* is being presented by Mr. Michael Dempsey's company. Mr. W. H. Rotheram gives a particularly fine representation of the difficult rôle of Mark Embury; Miss Helena Parsons plays the part of Peggy with grace and charm; and Mr. Knox Ord infuses some skilful acting into the character of Captain G. Lovell; Miss Mabel Ormonde is delightful as Joanna Goodlake, and Miss Amy Fanchette is all that can be desired as Mrs. Deborah.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Brill; Manager, Mr. Charles Rembges.—Joe O'Gorman is the star turn here this week, and he delights the audiences with his smart patter and songs; Austin Linton and company create roars of laughter in a sketch entitled *The Bigamist;* while Alec Kendal, the irresponsible comedian, offers some funny jokes; Mena Brae scores a great success with her splendid singing, and Richard Finberg contributes some fine studies from famous plays; the Zeloves, acrobatic equilibrists; Maggie Rimmer, comedienne and dancer; and Charlie Craston, comedian also add to the programme.

OXFORD PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Alf. Graham; Manager, Mr. R. L. Griffiths.—A feature of the programme presented here this week is the performance of Mr. Graham's Premier Troupe of Juveniles, which is composed entirely of local children; Sadler and Ross create roars of laughter with their songs and patter; and Billy Howard and Kathleen Harris give delight with their recital of the amusing adventures of a tramp; Tom Burns and Jerry Rodigan, Stephens and Rennier are smart comedians, and Barney Vox is a clever ventriloquist.

MORECAMBE. — WINTER GARDENS. — General-Manager, Mr. Tom Atkinson.—Cyclumina is heading the bill here with his clever and effective electrical cycling act; M. Hulbort has a good ventriloquial act; Miss Conally sings some pretty songs, with illustrated photographs thrown on the screen; De Lil has some good illusions, which are smartly worked; and Jenny Sydney sings and dances with equal effect. A splendid range of pictures is shown.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE. — TYNE THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessees, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; Manager, Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe.—*The New Barmaid* is here. In excellent form as Bertie White, Mr. Alexander Loftus carries the house with him; as the lady journalist Miss Violet Osmund plays with spirit and humour; and a dainty exponent of the title-rôle is Miss Clara Beck. Amongst other noteworthy impersonations is Mr. Charles Adeson's William White.

PALACE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Thos. W. Rowe.—*An Abandoned Woman* is here, played by Mr. Harry Foxwell's company. The heroine is admirably represented by Miss Edith Bland, and capital support is given her by Mr. Skinner, Mr. George Gormley, Mr. P. Wright, Mr. Richard Ferris, and Miss May Richardson.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon.—*Defending His Honour* is the attraction here, the leading parts being well sustained by Messrs. John Davidson, George Arthur, J. D. Geddes, Fred L. Arthur, Evan Roland, Haughton, Macaulay, and Clifton Earle, and the Misses F. Millett, Sybil Haughton, Norah Egerton, and Mrs. Edmund Lyons.

EMPIRE THEATRE. — Resident-Director, Mr. R. Thornton; Manager, Mr. Walter P. Wells.—Mr. Lew Lake and company are successful here in *My Pal Jerry;* Mr. Tom Edwards, a "ventriloquial huntsman," is highly amusing; and Mr. Arthur Astill proves his ability as a whistler; the McConnell Trio appear in a vocal comedy sketch; and other contributors to a good entertainment are Miss Elly Adair, comedienne; Mr. C. Randolph King, Mr. Victor Travers, and Mr. Harry Freeman, comedian.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Barrasford Co.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Will H. Boardman.—Henriette de Servis's reproduction of modern pictures win great applause; the Sisters Warwick contribute a graceful cycling turn; and Gertie Gitana's songs and dances are warmly applauded; Messrs. Stewart and Morgan prove popular in *Return to Ireland,* and Messrs. Walton and Lake are highly amusing in "Extemporania"; Fred Earle, with "Seaweed," proves popular, and others in the company are Smith and Johnson, Charles Fanning, Pat Lynch, and Kendrick and Laura.

NEWPORT.—LYCEUM.—Lessee and Manager Mr. Sidney Cooper.—Miss Winifred Maud's company is playing *The Stowaway* here this week. Miss Winifred Maud as Althea Dale makes a charming heroine; Miss Ethel Tinsley as the wronged wife gives an ideal interpretation of a difficult part; and Mr. Victor Du Cane scores a big success as Dicky Dials. Mr. Wm. Bradford as Charles Etherington is a satisfact

Alexander, Charles Burden, David Curtis, Tom Roydhn, Horace Stanley, Tom E. Sinclair, and Mesdames Elsie Capell, Josephine Lee, Evelyn M. Walton, Kate Kilpack, and Violet Cranford.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Thos. A. Evans.—The collier and his child, otherwise Mr. Retsill and Miss Alice Myra, are giving their clever display of thought-reading with great success; the Four Figaros please with song and dance in varied costumes; the Gregson Comedy Trio tender a smart acrobatic act *The Dummy*, which is heartily received; M. Biggs gives an excellent imitation of Marie Lloyd; Vincent, table expert and lightning Arab tumbler, is deservedly applauded; and Hilda Wilson (male impersonator), Harry Scatter (comedian), the Brothers Corcoran (musical shipbuilders), and Queenie West (comedienne) also provide acceptable items; and the Palace pictures are highly appreciated. Amongst the extra turns on the 7th inst., for Mr. Thos. A. Evans's benefit, were George Gulliver, the unique and versatile ventriloquist; the Brothers Hazzard, smart wrestlers; and Vesta, in a special act.

NORTH SHIELDS. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—Messrs. Garside and Knowles' company, with *The London Fireman*, is here. Mr. J. Forbes Knowles, as Hal Curtis, gives an admirable portrayal of the character; and Mr. Herbert S. Humber is a capable Viscount Fleming; Mr. Lionel Thompson does well as Abel, and Mr. Fowler Thatcher makes a great hit as Vixey Slinger; as Ida Curtis, Miss Nellie Shirley is worthy of the highest praise; Miss Beatrice Sinclair is an effective Grace Curtis; Miss Nellie Garside wins much favour as Polly Bramble, and Miss Nellie Waddington as the Countess Fleming shares in the success.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Wm. Mould.—Mr. Dan Conroy, comedian, who is starring here, is well received at each house; the Emma Don Comedy Team meet with an enthusiastic reception; and Mr T. C. Callaghan, comedian, meets with quite an ovation; La Belle Tosca introduces a graceful wire act; Mme. Vanda, speciality artist, does a good turn; the Leglere troupe of acrobats are clever; and the Bio-photoscope, as usual, shows an excellent film.

NORTHWICH.—PIERROT PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Glanmore Jones; Manager, Mr. Lyndon Wyatt.—Mr. Teddy Whittle with his quaint witticisms convulses the house. Messrs. Parker and Parr are paying a return visit, and the loud applause testifies to their popularity; Miss Stella Millar wins many friends with her charming singing and graceful dancing; Mr. John Humphreys possesses a powerful bass voice, which he uses to advantage. The biograph with high-class pictures completes the programme.

NORWICH.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—Mr. and Mrs. George Leonard give here an attractive and amusing sketch, *Coming Home*. Mr. Clarence C. Corri's company create roars of laughter in their extravaganza, *Office Hours;* Burns and Burns are also well received in their absurdity, *Scenes in a Museum;* Lozelle shows some daring and clever athletic feats; Bob Hamilton is a successful Scotch comedian; May and Lily are pleasing musicians; Speedwell gives artistic drawings of celebrities with much rapidity; Ted Curtis and his Picaninnies, with Little Rudolph, are neat and attractive in their turn, and the Hippo. Bio. shows some amusing pictures.

NOTTINGHAM. — GRAND THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. Charles P. Cooke.—*The Sorrows of Satan* is being played by Miss Loie Esmond's company. Mr. Edward Neville gives a fine performance of Lucio Rimanez; Miss Muriel Hardy describes Lady Sybil Elton's troubles and trials with a dramatic intensity that calls for high commendation; Miss Loie Esmond makes a bright and piquant Diana Chesney; and Mavis Clare is carefully portrayed by Miss Rosie Neville. Mr. Conrad Haywood acts with taste and artistic feeling as Geoffrey Tempest; Mr. I. Le Fleming endows the part of the Earl of Elton with all the requisite dignity; and Mr. Fred Cherry makes all his opportunities as Morris. Miss Cecil Bryne adds a necessary touch of humour in her diatribes on things in general; and good work is shown by Messrs Charles Ninian and Fred White. A bright little comedietta, played by Miss Rosie Neville and Mr. Coleman Davies, precedes the play.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles H. Bowmaker.—A smart little musical comedy, entitled *A King for a Day*, is productive of hilarious laughter, for much of which Messrs. Fred Eastman and Fred Brampton are responsible. The musical parts are well sustained by Misses Maidie Berken and Edith Barwell. The marvellous tricks of Marzella's birds evoke the heartiest applause; and Cissie Curlette shows skill as a mimic of birds. A thoroughly attractive turn is provided by Ross and Grayson, pianists and dancers; the songs of Harry Ford have always something original about them, and the three new ones this week are no exception to the rule; Ellis Barrieton uses his pleasant voice to good effect in a song; Mona Macdonald is well received; Light and Marshall are a smart pair of patterers; and the programme is further helped by the Five Osranis, in a pantomime sketch, and the American Bioscope.

KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Edgar O. Waller.—This is the fifty-second consecutive week that animated pictures have been exhibited here. The interest does not abate in the least, and Mr. Macnaghten is to be congratulated on giving his patrons an up-to-date and varied programme each week.

NUNEATON.—PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter J. R. Bryan.—On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday the boards were occupied by a company of local ladies and gentlemen amateurs in *The Red Lamp; When Man Hates* forming the attraction for the remainder of the week.

OLDHAM.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—Miss Augusta Tullock and company opened here on Monday in the comedy-drama *The End Crowns All*. Miss Tullock, who is also the authoress of the play, appears in the leading character, and her acting of Vera Romaine is greatly admired; Miss Amber Wyville as Lola Ivanwitch acts with credit; and her scheming accomplice, Prince Borinsky, is excellently played by Mr. Roy Milton. Mr. Arthur Plummer is capable as Lord Lyndhurst; and Ivan Spava is well represented by Mr. Edward Vivian. Mr. Wm. de Lacy as the Rev. Samson Gone, creates much mirth, and derives great assistance from Miss Nellie Fern as Birdie Going. Mr. George Byrne as John Jubbs makes a capital clown; and Mrs. Cleo Jubbs is well played by Miss Rosie Watson. Miss Cora Linda acts in a dainty manner as Enid Romaine; Mr. Hugh Travers as Nicholas Boris is effective; Miss Fay Norton is good as Harris; and Mr. Chas. Robinson is also praiseworthy as Boris. Specialities are introduced by Miss Amber Wyville, Rosie Watson, and Geo. Byrne.

COLOSSEUM.—Manager, Mr. W. Eastwood.—Miss Bonwin Carlton's company, in *The Plucky Nipper*, had a capital reception. Miss Carlton appears in the name-part, Polly Hithard, and is quickly on good terms with the audience; Miss Kitty Maynard as Daisy Paget plays capitally; and Miss Esther Lamont is excellent as Ina. Mr. Morris Maud is a manly Captain Frank Leslie; Mr. William Heilbronn does capable acting as the rascally Richard Vanbrugh; his tool and accomplice, Bill Burgess, being ably dealt with by Mr. Edward Surrey. Mr. H. J. Butler is a soldierly Colonel Fenwick; and Mr. Claud Kingston makes a fine Henry Paget. Tommy Atkins is humorously played by Mr. Syd H. Morton; Mr. Frank Dalem as John Grip and Mr. W. Lewis as Van Voch are well placed.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Howgate.—Hal Forde is the star here, and his songs have thoroughly caught on; the Emmell Comedy Company, including Miss Adele Levey, gain much applause with a mythical muddle, *My Statue of Grace;* Troupe La Faille perform some daring equilibristic feats with success; Miss Maud Courtney, the American girl, with her yarns, is very good; and Mr. C. tells some really funny stories. Gorman's Juveniles submit clever singing and dancing in their scena, *The Waif;* the Three Rio Tintos do some skilful leg work in *African Gambols;* J. H. Bray, descriptive vocalist, and a humorous picture by the Dottoscope conclude the programme.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Nuttall.—Willie, Wild, and West, the bounding navvies, create much amusement; Harry Pleon and party cause roars of laughter with *P.C. Pudden;* Madge Allan is a charming comedienne with a good voice; C. H. Charlton, conjurer, mystifies his audience with his mystic kettle; the Lancashire Harmony Boys, assisted by Mr. Cliff Dover, in *Home from the Holidays*, gain much applause; Harry Briggs sings in different voices, with good results; and Blarney and Kennard provide some smart comedy. Greener, singing pit lad, and Carter and Gale, character duettists, also appear with success. The Dottoscope again shows new pictures.

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Lucas, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. C. Dorrill.—Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Benson opened here on Monday. *As You Like It*, beautifully staged and mounted, had the best of receptions, and well deserved, too, the acting being good all round. Mrs. Benson played Rosalind with all the old charm and grace; and she had excellent support from Miss Tita Brand, who made an excellent Celia. The Phebe of Miss Gladys Wynne left nothing to be desired, and Miss Leah Hanman's Audrey was just the hoydenish wench that Shakespeare intended. The songs were beautifully rendered. Mr. Benson's Orlando was very acceptable—a powerful and withal tender performance in his scenes with Rosalind; he is always good in business like the wrestling scene. He was well backed up by Mr. Worlock as Charles. Mr. G. R. Weir repeated his clever and highly humorous performance of Touchstone; Adam was exceedingly well played by Mr. Nicholson, and the exiled Duke found a competent exponent in Mr. F. H. Clarke. During the week they performed *Don Quixote, Macbeth, Merry Wives of Windsor, The Country Girl, Hamlet*, and *Merchant of Venice*.

EAST OXFORD THEATRE. — Lessees, Miss Winifred Stuart and Mr. C. Watson Mill; Manager, Mr. Frank Stuart.—Mr. Montague Beaudyn's company is here with *A Beautiful Fiend*. Mr. Herbert Skardon gives a robust and praiseworthy representation of Ivan Paulovitch; Mr. H. C. Robinson makes a capable and convincing villain as Count Fedor Karateff; and Mr. Matt Russell does well as Sergius Strogoff. Mr. Dick Seddon is a humorous Christopher Crackles, and Mr. Patt Quinn is seen to advantage as Malachi; Miss Marie Fontaine is a dainty and amusing Patty Woodlands, and Miss Violet Ingram is successful as Nadine Karateff; Miss Sydney Crowe plays the arduous and exacting rôle of Wanda Lubinoff with considerable skill.

PAISLEY.—PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—The J. C. Cummings's animated pictures are still being shown here, the films this week being entirely new, and of a pathetic and humorous character. Jack Chambers is a thoroughly good negro entertainer; Smart and Levine are applauded for their smart dancing; Yettmah, Japanese magician, provides an interesting number; and Miss Doreen Day pleases with mimicry.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Douglas F. Bostock.—In evidence here this week are Charles E. Colby and Lily E. May in a novel ventriloquial turn; Clarke's Nippers, in their club juggling, dancing, and ball punching are greatly enjoyed; Barnard's Mannikins present with success a unique marionette entertainment; the eccentricities of the Boston Twins are followed with interest; Arthur Albert, actor vocalist, scores in his latest successes; Wright and Elton contribute excellent singing, dancing, and eccentric tumbling; a pleasing turn is given by Charles Diamond and Miss Beatrice, instrumentalists; and Hyram Travers and the Hippodrome Bioscope complete the show.

PLYMOUTH. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee, Mr. C. F. Williams; Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—*Charley's Aunt* still proves an immense draw. Mr. Spencer Trevor as the would-be lady "from Brazil, where the nuts come from," is inimitably funny; Mr. Brandon Thomas is excellent as Colonel Sir Francis Chesney; Mr. Sydney Compton has a quaint style as Brassett; and Mr. Walter Beaumont is excellent as Spettigue. Miss Lena McNaughton is amusing as the "real" aunt; and Miss Amy Harpway and Marjorie Murray render material assistance.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. C. F. Williams; Manager, Mr. Percy Williams; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest Grant.—The popular *Stowaway* forms this week's chief attraction, and Mr. Greene Taylor's presence in the title-rôle is enough to ensure its complete success. Mr. C. A. Melton gives a fine impersonation of Tom Inglis; and Miss Adelina Mercandalli, a new member of the stock company, creates a favourable impression. The Misses Elaine Vanbrugh and Beatrice Hudson act with their accustomed ability.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—Sketches predominate this week, the principal being *La Vivandière*, an adaptation of Ouida's well-known "Under Two Flags." Miss Isabel Derrie is an impetuous Cigarette; and Miss Lettie Fane a graceful Princess. Little Cliff is a good step-dancer; and James Willard's company evokes fun in their contribution, *The Little Wonder*. Marstro, equilibrist; Bugler Carr, G. W. Hunter, and Kitty Clover and company, complete.

PONTYPRIDD.—ROYAL CLARENCE THEATRE.—Owners and Proprietors, Mrs. Trenchard and Miss L. Jones; Manager, Mr. Charles Trenchard.—The attraction at the above is the United English Opera Company, under the direction of Mr. F. S. Gilbert.—On Monday and Thursday *Maritana* was staged, with Mr. F. S. Gilbert as Don Cæsar de Bazan, Mr. N. Klitgarrd as King of Spain, Mr. H. Blagrave as Marquis De Montefiore, Mr. Fred Featherstone as Alcade, Mr. James Knox as Captain of the Guard, Mr. J. Kineale Campbell as Don José, Miss Doris Gilbert as Lazarillo, Miss Kate White as Marchioness Montefiore, and Miss Elsa May as Maritana, all acquitting themselves admirably. *The Daughter of the Regiment, Il Trovatore*, and *The Bohemian Girl* were also billed.

PORTH.—THE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. C. W. Poole; Acting and Stage-Manager, Mr. Walter Bynorth.—Cussac Talma, illusionist, is the star turn this week, and is assisted by Mlle. Yvonne de Forge in a marvellous performance; Arthur Croxon, mimetic comedian, scores a thorough success; Ernest Montefiore and company, in *The Little Colonel*, are deserving of every credit; the Sisters Selwyn are really smart in a refined vocal and dancing act; Johnny Dwyer is greatly appreciated; Hector and Paulus amuse the audience as comedy acrobats; Percy Farrimond, the Lancashire singing collier, receives rounds of applause; Fred Hallam, a quaint comedian, keeps the audience in excellent humour. The Palace bioscope is exceptionally good.

PORTSMOUTH. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—*Are You a Mason?* is being presented this week here by Mr. Charles Macdona's company. George Fisher is being sustained by Mr. Frank Lincoln with great success; Mr. E. H. Paterson as Amos Bloodgood is excellent; Mr. H. Langdon Bruce is excellent and painstaking as Frank Perry; Hamilton Travers is amusingly taken by Mr. Brown Elliot; Miss Adelaide Grace is efficient as Mrs. Bloodgood; Eva is pleasingly acted by Miss Mabel Younge; Annie and Lulu are well personated by Miss Babs Stuart and Miss Nora O'Neill; and Miss Dora Gregory as Lotti is very good. The one-act episode, *A Bad Penny*, makes a capital curtain-raiser.

PRINCE'S THEATRE. — Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate.—Mr. Morton's Powell's company, with the successful drama, *Honour Thy Father*, is drawing good houses here this week. Mr. Walter M. Cameron takes the trying part of Gabriel Garth in a powerful manner; Mr. Robert Gilbert is a capable Jack Halyard; Mr. Howell Travis does good work as Duncan Bly; Mr. Claude Merton, in the dual rôles of Job Merry, a self-made man, and George Blogg, a lunatic, plays both parts with ability; Messrs. W. H. Melrose and Fred L. Conynghame, as Ned Pennycomquick and Mike Copplestone, are capital; Miss Mabel Coleman portrays the part of Lilian Garth with great distinction; Miss Winnie Donovan is winsome as Mercy Merry; Miss Ada Salmon makes the best use of her opportunities as Poppy Cornleigh; and Miss Kate Newton depicts Gertrude Garth with excellent judgment.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—The premier attraction here for the week is Gunner Moir, who is giving a capital exposition of the "noble art"; Easman, a clever and amusing comedy juggler, meets with approval; Charles Carr, juvenile comedian and dancer, is praiseworthy; Bert Byrne gives several humorous ditties; the St. Johns, in a musical comedy act, give satisfaction; Florence and Lilian are highly appreciated for their refined musical entertainment; the Sisters Lytton, vocalists, are pleasing; Jessie Albini has a cordial greeting for well-selected numbers; Lidden and Hayward, comedy team, is capital; the Six Yiulians, Risley acrobats, give a marvellous display; and Payne's Bio-photoscope, with new pictures, completes the bill.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—Topping the bill here, Mr. Sam Elton is convulsing the house with his funny entertainment; Minnie Hunt and Rhys Thomas give a highly meritorious rendering of their amusing trifle, *Her Birthday;* Miss Jean Hartley is commendable as a comedienne and dancer; Miss Tina Clementa's horse and dogs are deserving of the highest praise; Peggie Lennie and Walter Hast present the poetic phantasy, *A Sea Nymph*, with complete success; Mr. Morney Cash, "the Lancashire lad," does well; Haydee's Marionettes are cleverly manipulated; Forest and King are capable dancers; Miss Lottie Collard, comedienne, meets with approval; and the Hippodrome pictures complete an excellent programme.

RAMSGATE.—ROYAL VICTORIA PAVILION.—*Jedbury, Junior*, is being played here. Mr. A. W. Tyrer plays the title-rôle in really excellent manner, and Mr. Edward Ouston is very successful as Jedbury, sen. Miss Victoria Addison acts splendidly in the part of Dora Hedway, and Miss Dorothy Rowell makes a fine Nelly Jedbury; Mr. Richard Neville is a breezy young lover, and Mr. Reginald Craven sustains the quite fictitious character of "Mr. Glibb."

AMPHITHEATRE.—This old-established playhouse has been closed during the past fortnight for the summer cleaning and renovation. It will reopen on Monday, when the programme will consist of animated pictures (supplied by the Animated Bioscope Combine), and some clever variety turns.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Milton Bode.—Mr. George Dance's Variety Season; Manager, Mr. E. J. Macdermott.—The Howes (Rowland and Kitty) display their powers in thought-transference; Wilson and Waring give a capital sketch, entitled *A Bit of Nonsense*, in which Miss Waring introduces some quick changes of costume; Sadie Simpson is a dainty dancer; the Kurios give a startling and amusing pantomime turn; Takio, a Japanese artist, submits some clever imitations of birds, animals, and other sounds; the Brenton Sisters appear to advantage as duettists and dancers; and some good pictures are shown on Vernon's Bioscope.

ROCHDALE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; General Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Hague.—Mr. John Leopold's company present their up-to-date absurdity, *New Frivolity*, with their accustomed ability and success. Smart dances, clever acrobatic work, and amusing situations combine to make a most enjoyable and laughable performance. *The Houseboat* acts as a curtain-raiser.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Smith and Co.—Pringle's North American Animated Picture Co. is still here and as popular as ever. On Monday evening packed houses assembled, and heartily appreciated the series of new pictures thrown on the screen. The Abodaroff troupe of acrobats appear at intervals with a clever display of tumbling, &c.

ROTHERHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Holbery Hardy.—A variety combination here this week has proved highly successful. Messrs. Pallister's American Bioscope exhibit some excellent films; Miss Edna Latonne, chorus vocalist, excels in her songs; and Miss Carrie Victoria, descriptive vocalist, is very pleasing. Cambo, the musical monkey, is responsible for a most amusing turn; Professor Milne is deserving of mention; and Mac and Hill, comedians, are responsible for a good deal of fun. Sketches, entitled *Betrayed Friendship* and *In the Tempter's Coil*, are also included in the programme. Mr. Nelson Watt Phillips is clever as Sergt. Eastgate, Mr. W. G. Blunt scores as Captain Clinton, and Miss Lizzie Edare is pleasing as Mrs. Eastgate.

RUGBY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geoffrey Fulton.—Mr. W. Graham Arthur and company are for the first three nights of this week presenting *When a Man Hates*. Mr. Arthur as Pietro Donelli gives a vigorous and artistic rendering; Mr. Arthur Jarvis is excellent as Lawrence Hastings; and Mr. F. A. Lester is very good as Sir Rupert Treherne. Mr. Herbert M. King is clever and realistic as Paul; Mr. Fred A. Lewis does well as Detective Smart; as Peter Pimple Mr. Ernest Turner is amusing; Mr. Louis Tucker as Jim Rogers and Mr. A. G. Gillies as Hawk both do well. Miss Maud Burleigh is very clever as Olga Gwynne, Miss Mabel Liston as Letty is well placed; as Dolly Dimple, Miss Jennie Hallworth is vivacious and amusing.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—*The Branded Woman* on Monday interested a large house. Miss Lilian Ross capably sustains the title-rôle, Genevieve Laroche. She is ably supported by Mr. James Stillwell, who is seen to advantage as Philip Maurice; Mr. W. Cowell Clarke makes an admirable Zarka; Leon is well portrayed by Mr. Walter Steele (who also is general-manager of Mrs. F. Wybert Clive's company); Mr. Harry Liddle is a funny Dick Brown; and Miss Isabel Hunt smartly plays the soubrette part of Jacqueline. Louis Daroc is excellently presented by Mr. Edward Lourie; Miss Alice Campbell does well as Countess Daphne; Miss Morna Dumayne is a charming Marie. The Juvenile Rudolph finds a good exponent in Miss May Warden, and Miss Rose Franklyn fills the part of Mme. Creirer ably.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. J. C. Patterson.—An exceedingly smart ventriloquial act by J. W. Winton heads this week's bill. Miss Jessie Elvin cleverly sustains the characters of the twin sisters in the romantic sketch, *A Gipsy's Revenge*, and is ably supported by her company; the Kirbys do a laughable burlesque scene; Ernie Myers keeps the house in roars with his patter and songs. The other turns include *The Phantom Ship;* Daisy Martell, comedienne and dancer; Will Johnson, lively comedian; Lillian Elfreda, mimic; Lily Lonsdale, soprano; and Marie Blythe.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Wentworth.—The Szarvaci Ferencz Troupe of singers, dancers, and acrobats give a smart performance; Wyndham and Waters present an amusing sketch, *The Professor and His Pupil;* Wee Mona Vivian, a child vocalist, dances cleverly; *My Friend the Enemy* is a comical sketch by Edgar Forrest and company. There is also plenty of variety provided by the Three Parzones, in *The Trainer and Two Tramps;* T. E. Gilbey on the rocking ladder; Fred Dornan, character vocalist; and Doyle and Gibson, comedians and dancers.

SHEERNESS.—THE HIPPODROME. — General-Manager, Mr. F. Leighton.—Valesco's Australian stage circus, comprising ponies and monkeys, is giving great amusement here this week; Zanfretto and Napio are funny in their musical speciality; Matt Wilkinson and company, in the comedy act, *The Registry Office*, cause considerable merriment; a capital trapeze turn by the Fitzroys is much appreciated; Morrello and Mooir, in their eccentric pot-pourri act, gain a cordial reception; Flo Mellor, coon delineator, is well received; Violet Beatrice, boy impersonator; and Chas. Hampton, eccentric comedian, are also highly successful.

THE PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Phil Reymond.—An excellent all-round company here this week includes Mr. W. Valson, musical comedian; Miss Flo Laurel, a charming coon impersonator; the Mercers, with their laughable act, "Mirth, Music, and Mystery"; Mr. Phil Reymond, who still continues a prime favourite; and Miss Topsy Levane, a clever comedienne and dancer; and the Arundel company conclude with a comedy sketch, *Conglomerations*.

SHEFFIELD.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—Mme. Jane Hading and her company paid a flying visit here on the 31st ult., and appeared to a good audience in *Frou-Frou*. This week *Jim the Penman* has been revived by Messrs. Leonard Pagden and G. M. Copping's company. Mr. Leonard Pagden cleverly depicted the conflicting elements of the character of James Ralston; Mr. Orlando Barnett's Baron Hartfeld was a first-rate bit of characterisation; Mr. W. Lockhart proved quite successful as Percival; and Mr. E. A. Douglass as Captain Redwood acted with the requisite care and finish. Miss Alice Fairleigh won the sympathies of the audience as Ralston's unfortunate wife, and Miss Muriel Pope was a charming and unaffected Agnes.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—*The Gamester of Metz* is being played by Mr. Charles March's company. Mr. March gives a clever representation of the leading rôle. All the other characters are played with great *esprit de corps*.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—*The Stolen Birthright* is being performed by Mr. Charles Draycoll's company. Miss Muriel Thompson looks handsome as Miranda, and she acts with great dramatic ability; Miss Ethel Vinroy plays with pleasing vivacity as Nita; and Miss Maud Desmond is a graceful Fidelia. Mr. Charles Draycott is again seen to advantage in his dashing performance of the daring Marco Taddeo; an impersonation full of force and power is Mr. A. C. Holmes's Andrea Celsi; and other clever portrayals are the Stefano of Mr. H. Scratchard, the Prince Antonio of Mr. G. Ridgeway-Thorne, the Pedro of Mr. Harry Harrop, and the Prince Michele Salvati of Mr. John Sheridan.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietors, the Moss Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—Excellent turns are being given by the Six Bros. Luck and their pantomime company, in *The Hotel Grand;* Mr. St. John Denton's company in *The Punch and Judy Girl;* Messrs. Stelling and Revell, the mirth-provoking comic bar artists; Mr. Tom Owen, comic vocalist; Mr. Stuart in picture songs; Belloni's wonderful cockatoos, parrots, &c.; Mr. Robb Gilmore, eccentric comedian and dancer; Miss Amy Marsden, Miss Gladys Mavius, the American Bioscope, and the Gems, in a refined musical comedy act.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Vaudeville Syndicate; Manager, Mr. David Warwick.—Dr. Carl Hermann, the electric expert; Phedona, instrumentalist; Frederica's well-trained dogs; the clever three Bostonians, song and dance artists; and Pallister's Bioscope, with admirable Gaumont and Pathé Freres' films, make up a capital programme.

CENTRAL HALL.—Proprietors, Messrs. Jasper Redfern, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Fred W. Holmes.—In addition to first-rate animated pictures of up-to-date events, &c., the contributions of Clyo and Rochelle, the diverting entertainers; Will Kingsley, bellringer; Miss Lillian Hales, speciality artist; Shawlene, an expert whistler; and others are warmly applauded this week by good houses.

FITZALAN HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Edward Ranier.—*Poor Jo* is being acted to large audiences, with Miss Alice Maude in her pathetic impersonation of the name-part.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—EMPIRE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Conquest; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power.—Miss Frances Delaval is here with *Her Lost Self*. Mr. Fred Emery, in the rôle of Wilfred Daventry, displays excellent talent; Norman Esmond has a capable exponent in Mr. G. Osmond Tearle, and shares honours with Mr. Jack Clive as Paule Kimberley. Mr. Lord Stillwell is well suited as Victor Elsworth; Abraham and Rachael Cohen are ably represented by Mr. William H. Burton and Miss Rose Vernon Paget; Mr. Fred Gresham is very popular as Tom Flyaway; and Miss Marie M. Corri is good as Bridget Malone. Miss Dorothy Milne as Lucille and Dorothy is graceful and pleasing; Miss Frances Delaval impresses by a strong and powerful portrayal of Philipine Marcel.

PIER PAVILION.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley E. Angless.—Miss Octavia Kenmore and Mr. Leigh Lovel are here. The first half of the week was devoted to *In the Soup*. Mr. Leigh Lovel, in the important rôle of Horace Gillibrand, won especial praise; Miss Octavia Kenmore as Judith gave a striking and clever portrayal; Mr. Arthur McGulloch ably depicted Abernethy Ruppershaw; Mr. Geoffrey Saville as Paul Hemming was decidedly good; Emil Moppert had an able interpreter in Mr. C. Calvert Haws. Miss Dora Lewis was well suited as Delphine Moppert; and Miss Kate Maynard as the stepmother gave every satisfaction.

PIER HILL BANDSTAND.—Sole Lessee, Mr. H. E. Angless.—Mr. Ballard Brown's efforts in providing first-class and refined entertainments here are appreciated. Favourite artists are Miss Elsie Kemp, a comedienne and reciter of marked ability; Mr. Finlay Dunn, Scotch comedian; Mr. J. W. Bowie, tenor; and Mr. Will Collins, a comedian who pleases immensely

SOUTHPORT.—OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS. —Proprietors, The Southport Opera House and Winter Gardens Co., Ltd.; Secretary, Mr. R. Singleton.—Mr. Ian Maclaren, supported by his répertoire company in Shakespeare and old English comedy, is paying a welcome return visit here, presenting on Monday *David Garrick*. Mr. Maclaren played the title-rôle with earnestness and force, his delineation being marked by considerable power; Mr. Frank Royde successfully enacted the part of the Hon. Bob Fairley; Alderman Brackson had a capital representative in Mr. Arthur Fayne; Miss Edith Coleman submitted a commendable and artistic impersonation of Mabel Brackson; Miss Rosalie Notrelle was a piquant Arabella; and Miss Gertrude Littlewood an amusing Mrs. Peters. The play was preceded by the comedietta, *Delicate Ground*. During the week, *Othello, The Rivals, Twelfth Night, Hamlet*, and *As You Like It* are billed.

ALBERT HALL, WINTER GARDENS.—Lessee, Mrs. Charles Parker; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Mertz. —The premier turns here are Russell Wallet, "the Lady in Black"; Leo Montaldo's original equilibrists, on the slack wire, introducing trained parrots and cockatoos; Alice May and company, in a sketch entitled *Tranquillity;* Julian Mack, the original dame; the Howards, mind readers; Little Maudie Ray, *chic* comedienne and dancer; the Sevilles, musical experts; Little Don, quaint comedian; and the Brothers Curran. The Parkerscope has the latest films.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. J. and F. Coulson.—The boards here are occupied by *The Eve of Her Wedding*, presented by Mr. Wilson Benge and company. George Tremain is excellently performed by Mr. Wilson Benge; Mavis Leverton is ably sustained by Miss Sadie Smith; the villainous Dean Glifton is strongly presented by Mr. Louis Hector; Jack Herne is well enacted by Mr. N. B. Cannon; Miss Adeline Raby is an interesting adventuress; and the Gwendoline Younger of Miss Sybil Hare is another fine performance. Paul Cairshaw and Hyram P. Younger are both capably interpreted by Mr. Chas. Groves, jun.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—At the head of the bill is Chas. Bignell, comedian, whose songs are greatly appreciated; a fine acrobatic performance is presented to great advantage by the Gasch Sisters; the Borellis, comedy vocalists, are another strong attraction; and a good ventriloquial act is submitted by Lieut. Travis. The Twin Sisters Anderson are excellent skipping-rope dancers; and other good items figuring in the bill are Kitty Wager, comedienne; Fred Poplar, comedian; Leonie Dixon, comedienne and dancer; and the Bioscope.

SPENNYMOOR.—CAMBRIDGE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; General-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—On Monday there was produced a new play of intense human interest, dealing with life of the present day, by Mr. Charles March, entitled *The Saint and the Woman*. A notice will be found in another column.

STAFFORD.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Elphinstone.—The stock company is this week presenting *Shadows of a Great City* and *Ticket-of-Leave Man*. In the first-named piece, Mr. Edwin Turner is a vigorous and capable Tom Cooper; Mr. Francis Everard gives an able impersonation of Jim Farren; and as Abe Nathan, Mr. Herbert Sidney is good. Miss Mabel Marte is an impulsive and pathetic Biddy Roonan; and Miss Lallah Davies acts with grace in the dual rôles of Annie and Nellie Standish.

STALYBRIDGE.—GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Fioni; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Jackson. — "So-da" heads the bill here this week with an astounding illusion; Herr Addison's canine troupe are doing well at the bottom; Pueblo and Cropp, American creole couple, create much amusement; George Barron, comedian, scores a success; and the Lizzette Troupe, vocalists and acrobats, are strong favourites. Molly Augarde, comedienne; Farr and Farland, comedians and banjoists; the Irroys, comedy acrobats, are also popular entertainers; and the latest pictures are shown on the Bioscope.

ST. HELENS.—THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD. —General-Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company in *A Sister's Sin* is the attraction here this week. Mr. H. Arnold Allen plays Harold Raymond admirably; Mr. Andrew Money is an excellent George Oakley; and Mr. Henry Heeler a successful Walter Hastings; Miss Mabel Scudamore creates a strong impression by her earnest delineation of Minnie Hastings; whilst Chârzel by Miss Lilian Radburn and Redempta by Miss Violet Langley are also admirable performances. Plenty of good comedy is supplied in the portrayals of Larry Murphy, Floss Perks, and Neil Stubbs by Mr. Tyrom Power, Miss Edie Macklin, and Miss Effie Mackintosh.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Wilmot; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Vic Carnell.—The Three Demons head the bill here in a sensational cycling act; the Clement Trio win applause with their flying trapeze performance. Other excellent turns include Mr. E., in up-to-date jokes; Martinetti and Wallace in musical act; the Evalos, gymnasts and jugglers; Mr. Willie Wade, comedian; Miss Alice Maud, child male impersonator; Mr. Joe Conway, comedian; and Weisker's Barrascope.

STOCKPORT. — THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE. — Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Revill, jun. —*A Woman Worth Winning* is the attraction here this week. As General Borinski, Mr. Percy Norman makes a perfect villain; Fergus Lorinsky is capably acted by Mr. A. B. Mackay; and Mr. Gilbert Standing

sketch; the Kimberley Boys are quaint comedians; Agnese and Arthur Lynch's picture song was pleasingly received; the Lavails are graceful and smart gymnasts; Kate Gower, character and quick-change artist, met with satisfactory applause; and Geo. Hastings, actor-vocalist, contributed his share to the evening's enjoyment.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—HIPPODROME THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Robt. A. Nicholson; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Geo. Stainton.—Countess Romanow is admired in her representations of statuary; Gladys and Alber are an excellent pair of comedy tumblers; Elsie Verni is a delightful soprano vocalist; and Arthur Slater is greatly appreciated in his whistling solos. Rappo and Ella, society gymnasts, are an exquisite turn; and Maxford and O'Neil are very amusing as patter comedians. Fanny and Harry Dent present a humorous sketch, *Mary and the Squire;* and the Seven Wulfrunas are very amusing as acrobats, &c. The pictures complete the programme.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Councillor J. Batty; Manager, Mr. W. Batty.—Terry and Lambert are very clever in their character studies from life, and greatly appreciated; Gracie Logan is a charming vocalist and dancer; and Sydney Lee is very amusing as a magician. The Cattaneo Troupe are well received as comedy acrobats; and Sinclair and Parr are a duo of excellent vocalists. Cinizelli, the "silent jester," is very skilful in his feats, and causes great amusement; George D'Albert is an old favourite here, and is more popular than ever; interesting pictures are shown.

STOKE.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr T. Allan Edwardes; Manager, Mr. W. Miller.—Nellie Wallace scores her usual success, being vociferously recalled; Picitt and Lizette, in their illusionary sketch, *The Crazy Cook*, are well received, several of their feats being marvellously clever; the Brady and Johnson combination are always welcome in their sketches; Eric Johns has a nice tenor voice, which is heard to advantage; the Clarina Sisters, in their instrumental duetts, are much appreciated; Will Poluski, jun., is very funny, and meets with success; Violet Ashcroft is a dainty comedienne; Elton and Elma contribute a smart triple-bar act; and the pictures are entertaining.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.—Managing Director, Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. L. Carlo.—*Our Flat*, on a visit this week, is being played here by Mr. Thomas Sidney's company. Mr. Edgar Kent plays the light-hearted young author with exhilarating breeziness; Mr. J. J. Hooker submits a capital study of McCallum; Mr. H. Bonhote Wilson is natural as Clarence Vane, and Mr. Thomas Sidney's rendition of Nathaniel Glover, if on rather exaggerated lines, is highly amusing. Mr. H. Melvill enacts the part of Stout, and Mr. Fred T. Prior is responsible for that of Prichard; Miss Kathleen Russell is seen to advantage as Margery Sylvester; Miss Josephine Rae scores greatly by her admirable Bella; Miss Ada Clooke does what is necessary as Lucy McCullum; and Miss Eva Trevena does not overdo the part of Mme. Volant; whilst Miss Nellie Wentworth effectively fills that of Elsie Claremont. The comedy is preceded by the one-act play, entitled *Twenty Years After*.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The Sunderland Theatres Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Jas. Hemingway.—Mr. Hartwell J. Kirby's company is here this week in *Man's Enemy*. Mr. Norman A. Overton proves successful as Harry Stanton; Mr. Wm. Jeans is good as the General; Mr. T. G. Vane scores as Fred Lisle; Mr. Fred Owen is greatly in evidence as Ikey Barnett; Mr. Hartwell J. Kirby ably portrays the part of Count Janski; Mr. Frank Hedley enacts the part of the waiter, Adolphe; and Mr. Harry Clifton did well as the Overseer. Miss May Grayce's delineation of Polly Harris is all that can be desired; Miss Maudie Grayson is excellent as Grace Leslie; Miss Evelyn Gildard is accountable for Mrs. Saunders, and Miss Maud Buchanan for Sarah Drake.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Lessees, United Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Maanger, Messrs. Browne and Stringer.—An entertaining programme is being submitted here. Chas. Majilton and company head the bill with a laughable comedy burlesque, entitled *The Trippers*. Next in order comes the daring Marino, with a loaded 40 h.p. motor-car driven over his body, and other equally startling and daring feats; the Zenora, in a grotesque acrobatic act; Carr and Rose, in an operetta sketch; Evie Hamilton, soubrette and dancer; Stidden and Dunbar, the musical comedy duo; John E. Coyle, comedian; and the Palace pictures complete the bill.

SWANSEA.—THE GRAND.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Brooks and Woodbridge; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Oswald Brooks; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Dean.—*The Second Mrs. Tanqueray* is being given this week by Mr. Norman Macowan's company. Mr. Macowan added another to his list of successes by his able impersonation of Aubrey Tanqueray; and Miss Violet Sterne as Paula acted with great charm. Ellean was entrusted to Miss Isobel Hathorn, who sustained the rôle excellently. A decided success was also scored by Mr. Murray Hathorn as Cayley Drummle; Miss Mary Masters as Mrs. Cortelyon left nothing to be desired; Miss Lester Stephens as Lady Orreyed had a part for which she is perfectly suited; and the Sir George Orreyed of Mr. Sidney R. Palfrey was a clever performance.

THE STAR.—Manager, Mr. William Coutts; Assistant-Manager, Mr. S. P. Powell.—Miss Grace Warner received a rare welcome on Monday in *Lady Audley's Secret*. As the guilty Lady Audley, Miss Warner held the audience throughout by her powerful acting; Sir Michael received full justice from Mr. C. Corri; as Alice Audley, Miss Kate Stewart was excellent; as was also Mr. George Gordon as Robert Audley. George Talboys was ably enacted by Mr. C. Pitt; and a decided success was scored by Miss A. Corri as Phœbe Marks, whose drunken husband was well represented by Mr. A. Page. *Editha's Burglar* precedes.

THE EMPIRE, LTD.—Manager, Mr. A. Mitchell; Assistant-Manager, Mr. P. C. Rowe.—*The Prince of Monte Carlo*, in which appear Mr. Harry Roxbury and Miss Ethel Bryant, creates roars of laughter; Miss Queenie Leighton, in her songs, and scena, *On and Off the Stage*, is an unqualified success; Lewis De Burg presents Dida, a turn which leaves the audience highly perplexed; Harry Lewis is a favourite; the Miles-Stavordale Quintette of instrumentalists are one of the features of the programme; Dan Leno, jun., makes an excellent impression; the Two Dixons give an interesting turn of bâton swinging and banjo playing; and Scotch comedy is well provided by J. B. Preston. "The Great Boar Hunt" on the Bioscope concludes a good bill.

TON-Y-PANDY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Carlton and Duckworth; General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth.—*Under the Russian Flag* is being played here by Mr. Jack Haddon's No. 1 company. Mr. Haddon takes the part of Captain Demetrius with great success; Mr. Charles Stafford makes an excellent Ivan Romanoff; the part of Michael Romanoff is in the safe hands of Mr. Sydney Arnold; Mr. Cecil Murray is a good General Romanoff; Mr. Templer Ellis a funny Alex. Skopolopki; being well assisted by Miss Molly Hacket as Ogarita. The part of Vera Vassiloff is ably portrayed by Miss Violet Lytton; and Miss Marie Turner plays the trying rôle of Luka Marischla with admirable skill.

TYNEMOUTH.—PALACE-BY-THE-SEA.—Proprietor, Mr. J. H. Graham; Manager, Mr. Lindon Travers.—The chief attraction this week is the appearance of the Sabots Concert Party, under the management of Mr. Walter Walters. Another capital turn is that of Charles F. Best, as Macbunker, in burlesque entr'acte, *The Mountebank*. Other items are submitted by Mr. Owen Clarke, illusionist; the Palace Orchestra, and the Bioscope.

WAKEFIELD.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Mr. Frank Thorn's company is here this week in the play *The Octoroon*. Mr. Hugh Montgomery gives an able portrayal as Saleb Scudder; Mr. J. O. Stewart is seen to advantage as Jacob McClosky; Mr. Phil Harper does full justice to the rôle of Wahnotee; and Mr. Olive Birrell proves capable as George Peyton. Mr. Harry Leander is efficient as Pete; Mr. Albert Sinclair creditably depicts the rôle of Mr. Sunnyside; Miss Marie Harcourt acts with power and taste as Dora Sunnyside; Miss Florence Thorne is admirable as Mrs. Peyton; Miss Ethel Day is commendable as Grace; and Miss Ethel Brune is charming as Minnie.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—Billy Ross and company give a smart boxing turn; Prof. Fred Earle is a clever conjurer; Ward and Davies (Howard and Louie) present a funny sketch, *Wanted, a Typist;* Fields and Lewis are successful in a burlesque act; Mr. Arthur St. George, vocalist, sings well; Miss Ethel Yorke, comedienne, is entertaining; and Miss Nellie Sheldon (character vocalist), Miss Maudie Kendal (vocalist and dancer), and Mr. Ted Clifton (comedian) ably contribute.

WALSALL.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Heading the bill here this week are the Flying Eugenes, who evoke much enthusiasm by their marvellous gymnastic display; Marie Empress, comedienne, is well received; Fred Hastings, the funny comedian, is exceedingly good; May Mars, musical comedy girl; Gintaro, a neat juggler and top-spinner; and Gracie Moore, in her illustrated song, add appreciably to the success. Kent and Keith, comedy duologue artists; Sid Doody and Edie Wright, are well applauded; and the American Bioscope completes a capital programme.

WARRINGTON.—ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr. F. Willmot.—Really delightful singing is that of the Primrose Quartette, who head the bill here; Tell and Higgs score a big success in a speciality act; and Billy Hook and Daisy Eye cause laughter with their sketch. Cyril Carle faithfully impersonates the late Charles Godfrey in many of his songs; the Carney Brothers are capable duettists; Earle and Melville, accomplished comedians; and the Sisters Urma, neat performers on the bar. Mamie Iris, a dainty comedienne, and the Royal Bioscope pictures, are also attractions.

PARR HALL.—Lessee, Mr. J. Lyon Whittle.—The Dayton Family and combination are the attraction here this week, and good business has been done. The Daytons are exceptionally smart, and their wonderful feats cause astonishment. The Lauriers are also very clever; and Mlle. Fontain's Mannikins are well received. Other excellent turns are the Royal Pierrots, the Steinway Quartet, the Milfords, Harry Sanson, and George Bernard.

WEDNESBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Battersby; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Kuner.—Messrs. Kennedy's Komiks are proving an excellent attraction here this week. Mlle. Lucretia, pantomime favourite, in her vocal entertainment, is a decided success; the performance presented by Mr. James Bert, interlocutor and entertainer, is full of interest; Mr. Dan Noble, comedian, in his latest songs meets with a hearty reception; the two Sisters Deare in their military march duets prove highly successful; and the pictures are good.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—GRAND.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Manager, Mr. Herbert E. Feather.—*My Sweetheart* is being played here this week by Mr. Sydney Spenser's company. Mr. Ed. Rawlinson is responsible for the character of Tony, and acquits himself well; Tina has a vivacious representative in Miss Lizzie Hall; Joe Shotwell is well represented by Mr. Sydney Spenser; the parts of Harold Bartlett and Mrs. Fleeter have able exponents in Mr. Wilson Coleman and Miss Ada Champion; and Mr. John F. Traynor plays well as Dr. Oliver.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—Mahatma's remarkable exhibition of second-sight and mental telepathy completely puzzles all; Wake and Dean, comedians, create much merriment; graceful dancing is done by the Twin Sisters Edwardes; Ailsa Douglas is a successful comedienne; the eccentricities of Lanos and Montes are very amusing; Blanche and Powell, in a drawing-room entertainment, win considerable applause; the Juggling Fitzgeralds and the Bio-tableaux conclude the list.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.—KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. M. Payne.—Mrs. Charles J. Kirke's company is here this week in *In Old Madrid* and *The Naval Detective*. On Monday night the former was presented. Mr. Leslie Austin gave a decidedly good interpretation of the dual rôle, Frank Lyndhurst and Count Corregillo; Mr. C. Chewde made an excellent Mentoza Stillagano; Mr. C. H. Matthews was a capital Fernando Cassilus; very praiseworthy was the Horatio J. Rogers of Mr. W. T. Hybert; and Mr. C. Burns did well as Marmaduke R. Fitzsimmons. Miss Francesca Strickland gave a fine impersonation of Violet Lyndhurst; Miss Louie Fountaine made the most of Lola Stillagano; as did Miss Seymour of Martha Jane; and Miss Edith Claris (Madeline Ellesmere), Miss Amy Shaw (Grace Featherstone), and Miss May Hawthorn (Maude de Vere) are all entitled to commendation.

GRAND PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. John H. Stevenson.—The So and So's are making their first appearance here this week. Mr. Ernest Thiel sings humorously; Mr. Harold Johnson excels as a raconteur; Mr. Stuart Alexander's fine voice is heard to advantage; Miss Maude Davis is much applauded for her singing; Miss Gwynneth Power shows talent in her recitation, "Music in Our Street"; and Miss Hilda Poel was well received for her comedy items; whilst Miss Millie Gordon excels as a danseuse, Herr Kändt's Austrian Blue Band gains in popularity week by week, and new pictures are shown by the Lens Bioscope.

WHITBY.—SPA THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Payne Seddon.—Important improvements have been effected at this theatre and adjacent grounds since last season, the promenades having received extensive alterations and renovations, whilst the lighting is now of a much superior character. On Thursday last week the boards of the theatre were occupied by Mr. Monckton Hoffe's comedy company, in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, when a good house was present. The company gave an excellent rendering of the play throughout.

At the Waterloo Theatre on Wednesday and Thursday last week, Mr. Julian Bainbridge, supported by an efficient company, occupied the boards in *Ingomar*. Mrs. Boughton, in the rôle of Actea, provided a fine rendering; whilst the various other parts were creditably portrayed.

At the Temperance Hall, the Porlatos, a variety troupe, have appeared with much success, the entertainment being diverting, and the animated pictures particularly pleasing.

WIGAN.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Co.—Miss Marie Dagmar and Mr. Fred. C. Somerfield present *The Tyrant*. The part of Homodel, the avenger, is powerfully enacted by Mr. Somerfield; and Mr. Roy Fortescue as Angelo, the tyrant, and Mr. John Cecil as Rudolph, Prince de Roma, are each capable exponents of the respective characters. Miss Marie Dagmar strikingly portrays the part of Tisbe; Miss Margaret Frame as Lady Catherine displays a strong personality, with marked histrionic ability; and Miss Olive Lloyd as Reginella imparts a lively humour into the piece.

WORTHING.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Herr C. Adolf Seebold.—Mr. F. R. Benson's North Shakespearean company is here this week. *Twelfth Night* was played on Monday. Mr. Gerald Ames gave an interesting portrayal of Orsino; Mr. Henry Herbert made an excellent Malvolio; Mr. Ross Shore finely enacted the part of Sir Toby; being ably assisted by Mr. Esme Filmer, a quaint Sir Andrew. Miss Dorothy Green as Viola played with force and animation; and Miss Mary Webb's singing was greatly admired. *Henry the Fifth, The Merchant of Venice, Macbeth, Hamlet, The School for Scandal, As You Like It*, and *The Taming of the Shrew*, were also billed. On Friday, at a special flying matinée, Mrs. Patrick Campbell appeared in *Magda*.

WREXHAM.—EMPIRE MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. J. J. Scott; Manager, Mr. C. W. Collings.—This week, Rita and Roma, vaudeville entertainers, are a big attraction; Moneta and Ford, acrobatic comedy artists, are distinctly amusing; the Sisters Hula dance well; Miss Eva Searle, comedienne, and Fred Arno, actor-vocalist, also assisted materially in amusing the patrons. The animated pictures are both entertaining and instructive.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

THE following additions to the list of donations to the prize fund and the prizes for competition have been received since last week:—Moss Empires, Ltd., £2 2s.; Mr. Martin Harvey, £1 1s.; Mr. Arthur Chudleigh, £1 1s.; Mr. C. Thorogood, £1 1s.; Lord George Sanger, £1 1s.; Jerrard Grant Allen, 10s. 6d.; the Goswell Printing Co., 10s. 6d.; Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter have sent a handsome clock, Messrs. H. Lazarus and Son a chair; and the Bodie Drug Co. £4 4s. for advertisements in the programme.

THE following representatives of the committee appointed are: Mr. F. McMullen, electrician, the Court Theatre; Mr. Max Goucke, electrician, Camden Theatre; Mr. W. C. Weaver, the Lyric Theatre. Mr. H. G. Brooke, of the Duchess Palace, should have been announced in the last list as stage carpenter. Mr. A. W. Saunders writes to say he is the stage-manager.

THE committee of the Bioscope Operators' Association met on Tuesday last, Mr. J. Wood presiding, and a number of applications for membership were granted. Cards of membership have been issued, and those who have not received them are requested to communicate with Mr. Weedon, 29, Wellington-street, Strand, London. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, when all members in London are urged to attend.

THE award in the recent arbitration proceedings has not yet been issued. A general meeting of the members of each society concerned will be held in London on the first Sunday following the issue of the award.

THEATRICAL REGATTA

THE thirteenth annual Regatta of theatrical employees took place last Sunday, the course being the Putney Mile, on the Thames. The programme resulted as follows:—

RUM-TUM HANDICAP (distance half a mile).—Heat 1: W. Miller, 14sec. start, 1; E. Ryan, scratch, 2; F. Hemmings, 16sec., 3. Won by three lengths. F. Hemmings met with an accident and capsized. Heat 2: F. Cooke, 8sec. Rowed over. Heat 3: C. Richards, 20sec., 1; B. Linsell, 8sec., 2; W. Walters, 21sec., 3. Won by half a length. Heat 4: T. Young, 10sec., 1; I. E. Callaghan, 22sec., 2; A. Whittaker, 30sec., 3. Won by two lengths. Heat 5: A. Ashwick, 3sec., 1; E. Wright, 8sec., 2; W. White, 26sec., 3. Won by half a length. Heat 6: W. Walker, 9sec., 1; P. Welch, 14sec., 2. Won by a length.

SECOND ROUND.—Heat 1: F. Cooke, 1; W. Miller, 2. Easy win. Heat 2: E. T. Young, rowed over. Heat 3: C. Richards, 1; A. Ashwick, 2. A keen struggle for the victor; won by a foot.

FINAL.—F. Cooke (centre), 8sec., 1; E. T. Young (Middlesex), 10sec., 2; C. Richards (Surrey), 26sec., 3 Won by two lengths after a good race between first and second, the third being left.

HAYMARKET CUP FOR CHALLENGE FOURS.—Heat 1: The Gaiety crew (the holders) competed with two crews from the New Theatre. The Gaiety crew won by a length and a half. Heat 2: Fulham Grand crew beat the Kennington Theatre crew easily. In the final tussle between the Gaiety crew and the Fulham Grand, the Fulham crew won by two lengths, to the great disappointment of the Gaiety supporters.

CHALLENGE FOURS FOR THE DEWAR SHIELD.—The Fulham Grand No. 2 crew defeated the New Theatre No. 2 crew. Heat 2: Won by the New Theatre No. 1 crew. Heat 3: The Fulham No. 1 crew beat the Gaiety fours. Final: Fulham No. 1, 1; Fulham No. 2, 2; New Theatre, 3. Won by half a length, New Theatre stopping before the finish.

SWIMMING HANDICAP (distance, quarter of a mile).—C. T. Parsley, 10sec., 1; O. Carter, 10sec., 2; E. T. Young, 24sec., 3. About four yards divided second and third.

OPEN FOURS.—G. Montgomery, R. Forman, W. Miller, A. Nash-Milme (cox.) (Surrey), 1; E. Callaghan, W. Walters, W. Roche, A. Townsend, G. Bailey (cox.) (centre), 2; A. Whittaker, E. T. Young, B. Barclay, G. Hemmings, C. Hulton (cox.) (Middlesex), 3. Won by three lengths.

THE prizes were as follows:—The Dewar Challenge Shield, with gold medals for the winning crew presented by Mr. G. P. Huntley. The Haymarket Challenge Cup, presented by Messrs. Cyril Maude and Frederick Harrison. For the Challenge Pairs: 1st prize, tea service; 2nd, cruets. Rum-tum Handicap.—Silver cup presented by Mr. Cyril Maude, to be won twice in succession. 1st prize, marble clock; 2nd, gold-mounted umbrella; 3rd, silver-plated teapot. Open Fours.—1st prize, case of carvers. Swimming Handicap.—1st prize, silver watch and chain; 2nd, cruet; 3rd, a book.

THE prizes will be presented tomorrow (Sunday), at 9 p.m., at the Freemasons' Arms, Long Acre.

THE Regatta Committee are—E. Wright (Gaiety), F. Hemmings (Kennington Theatre), B. Leinsell (Grand, Fulham), F. Cooke (Grand, Fulham), W. Walker, and R. Forman (New Theatre). The hon. secretary is E. Callaghan, Apollo Theatre, and assistant hon. secretary G. Montgomery, Alhambra Theatre.

THE staff of the Theatre Royal, Colchester, had their annual outing on Saturday, when they paid a visit to the metropolis. Arriving at Liverpool-street at 9.30, the morning was occupied in visiting various places of interest. The "call" for dinner was 1 o'clock, at Pinoli's Restaurant, Wardour-street, W., where an excellent repast was served. Mr. F. Graham Macdona presided, and welcomed the staff, expressing his pleasure at meeting them again, and mentioning the regret felt by Mr. Charles Macdona at being unable to be present, owing to an important engagement elsewhere. The same remark applied to Mr. F. C. Upton, the esteemed manager of the "Royal."

DINNER over, a visit was paid to the London Pavilion, where, by the kindness of Mr. Frank Glenister, the manager, seats were reserved for the party in the dress circle. The return journey was made by the midnight supper train from Liverpool-street. The arrangements were made by the Hon. Secretary, Mr. H. O. Cousins, and the Assistant Secretary, Mr. G. R. Dawdry.

THE STATUS OF THE ACTOR.

The commonest fallacy cherished by many in regard to the actor's art, says Mr. H. B. Irving, in his essay on the above subject, is that it is the art of the mimic and nothing more, an art of sedulous imitation, offering no scope to originality or independent, intellectual exertion. A rough-and-ready answer to this common assertion is contained in the fact that good mimics are as a rule notoriously bad actors, and that obviously the sedulous imitation of actual men and women in the circumstances of our daily life can afford an actor little help in the portrayal of such creations of imaginative genius as Hamlet or Othello. That the art of acting had its origin, in common with the pictorial arts, in an imitation of nature, is possible and probable; that it soon passed from mere imitation to representation is certain; and therefore equally certain is it to my mind that, as a result of that transition, the actor is called upon, in common with other representative artists, to reproduce in idealised form that branch of nature—man—which is his especial study. As one great critic has tersely expressed it, "neither the poet nor the actor pretends closely to copy nature, but only to represent nature sublimated into the ideal," and it is this process of idealism that the actor must apply to every character he undertakes to portray, no matter how nearly that character may seem to approach to everyday reality, if he would present it conformably to those rules of correct and beautiful expression that are as imperative in the art of the theatre as they are in the arts that express themselves on canvas or in marble. The carrying out of this process calls on him for gifts of insight and imagination similar to those we look for in any other form of artist; and as insight and imagination of the highest order are employed in the creation by the poet of such transcendent beings as Hamlet or Lear, so in translating such beings into action, in putting them before the spectator as creatures of flesh and blood, insight and imagination of a high order will alone enable the actor to achieve that "union of grandeur without pomp, and nature without triviality," that supreme idealisation of man in action as we see him about us, which is the fitting and worthy complement of the art of the dramatic poet. Without in any way detracting from the share of the dramatist in the productions of the theatre, it must, I think, be admitted by anyone who takes the trouble to consider the question from an enlightened standpoint, that the actor is not the mere parrot-like reciter of the words of the playwright, that the higher the dramatist soars the greater is his need of some kind of intellectual response on the part of his actors, and that instead of setting up actor and author as rivals who are perpetually endeavouring to extend their frontiers at each other's expense, they should be regarded as equal participators in the highest achievements of the theatre.

The answer of G. H. Lewes to the question propounded by Diderot in his famous *Parodoxe*, How far does or should the actor really feel the passion he expresses? is not only interesting as a correct solution of a rather simple problem that has given rise to a good deal of ignorant and thoughtless comment, but shows us very clearly the point in his art where the actor is called upon to exercise a faculty for intelligent selection similar to that demanded from any other artist. "As in all art," writes Lewes, "feeling lies at the root; but the foliage and flowers, though deriving their sap from emotion, derive their form and structure from the intellect." Poet and actor must be capable of feeling the emotions they translate into word or action, but must be so far masters of themselves as to be able to select from their emotions those elements that will serve as materials for their art. "The sudden flash of suggestion which is called inspiration may be valuable, it may be worthless; the artistic intellect estimates the value, and accepts or rejects it accordingly." Passion and reflection are the two elements that, happily combined, compose great acting; for passion alone produces disordered results, reflection alone a cold and unreal imitation. If the combination be a rare one, that is a cause for constant regret; we may lament the absence of worthy exponents of an art to our heart's content, but we must not allow the absence of great acting to blind us to the fact that acting is a great art; those who deplore our modern acting, and call for its reform, too often forfeit our attention and respect by telling us at the same time that our art is contemptible and an unworthy employment for an intellectual man. Such criticism can only have the effect of placing the modern actor, who seeks to improve and develop his art, on the horns of a dilemma, from which, however, a moderate exercise of reason and common sense may successfully extricate him.

Another common objection urged against the claims of the actor's art to occupy a place by the side of other arts is that the actor's is an art for which no special training is required, his calling one into which anybody can enter, and, no matter how inferior his attainments, find immediate employment. But the same might be said of the art of literature, or the art of oratory. All those arts which have not, like music and painting, a visible technique written, so to speak, across their faces, which operates as an immediate deterrent to thoughtless aspirants, are liable to reckless invasion at the hands of people whose desires and ambitions are hopelessly in excess of their gifts. To write or to speak or to act seem uncommonly easy to a number of over-confident persons; some of these are content with merely regarding the art from a disrespectful distance, and nursing an obstinate conviction that they could easily practise it if they only took the trouble to try; others do try, and in course of time go to swell the melancholy army of those who have mistaken their vocations in life. But because bad literature, bad oratory, and bad acting are, like the poor, always with us, and there are probably few here who at various times in their armchair, at church, or in the theatre, have not suffered distress at the hands of incompetence in one or all of these forms, are we to deny that writing or speaking or acting, if thoughtfully, instead of thoughtlessly practised, reveal their rules of form and expression to those who cultivate them seriously, and demand the same lifelong adherence on the part of those who follow them in the hope of attaining to some measure of perfection, as the arts whose preliminaries are more obviously technical?

For purposes of legislation, and in everyday talk, all kinds of stage representation, each excellent in its way, are lumped together, and the exponents of these various forms of entertainment, in some of which the art of acting plays a comparatively subordinate part, are grouped together generically as actors and actresses. And thus it is that persons who have never acted in their lives, whose association with the theatre has been dumb and fleeting, do not hesitate to satisfy, when occasion demands, the exigencies of their country's justice by describing themselves on charge sheets and other legal documents of a melancholy character as actors and actresses. No calling is so rich in sutlers and camp-followers, because no calling is so easy to enter in some capacity or other, no term is so loosely employed as that of actor, and no calling offers to the outsider such seeming allurements to decoy the ignorant and unwary. We all of us have known, in some form or other, the glamour of the theatre to those who sit in front of the curtain. How many really well-informed persons find it difficult to believe that acting is not "such fun," and the whole business nothing but one long round of applause and suppers?

"THE DAUGHTERS OF MEN."

A Play, in Three Acts, by Charles Klein, Produced at the Theatre Royal, Margate, on Monday, June 10, 1907.

John Stedman.....MR. A. AUSTIN-LEIGH
Richard Milbank.....MR. WALLIS CLARK
Mathew Crosby.....MR. ARTHUR ROYSTON
Reginald Crosby.....MR. ERNEST COSSART
James Thedford.....MR. ROBERT GREY
James Burress.....MR. HENRY RENOUF
Louis Stolbeck.....MR. FRANK STONE
Oscar Lackett.....MR. G. W. ELTON
Patrick McCarthy.....MR. J. R. LEFANE
Martin.....MR. H. G. MASON
Parker.....MR. RICHARD TRIEVE
Grace Crosby.....MISS EILY MALYON
Louise Stolbeck.....MISS CECIL CROMWELL
Mrs. Reginald Crosby.....MRS. CULLING
Paxton.....MISS B. MCINTYRE

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. Charles Klein's latest work was produced here on Monday by the Répertoire Theatre Association, under the stage direction of Mr. A. Austin-Leigh. Dealing with the effects of trade unions on present-day industries, the author has powerfully depicted both sides of this momentous question—capital on the one hand and labour on the other. The gigantic firm of Milbank and Crosby, iron-founders and colliery owners, was carried on by two cousins, Richard Milbank and Mr. Crosby, sen.; but upon the death of the latter Richard Milbank retires from active management, and Crosby's two sons, Mathew and Reginald, join the board of directors and take up the reins of government. At the opening of the play their workers are out on strike, and their sister, Grace Crosby, has, in their opinion, brought disgrace upon the family by falling in love with John Stedman, who is helping the men in their struggle. Uncle Richard, who has been summoned to attend a family council, points out to Grace the folly of her becoming entangled with an agitator, and declares the family would be willing to receive Stedman as a suitor for her hand if he will give up his mission as the "People's Champion." Whilst Grace is pleading with Stedman to do this for her sake James Burress, a red-hot Socialist, summons Stedman to a meeting of the Central Council. Grace pleads with him not to go, but he has pledged his word, and cannot withdraw, even at the expense of losing his sweetheart, and he bids her good-bye.

Two months later Stedman is waited upon by James Burress and Louis Stolbeck, members of the Brotherhood, who inform him that they know he is in love with Grace Crosby, and they intend to report him to the Central Council as being unfit to represent the people. Stolbeck's daughter Louise, whom he has brought up as a "Daughter of the People," is madly in love with Stedman, and insanely jealous of Grace Crosby, and there is a dramatic incident between the two when they come face to face in Stedman's room.

Act III. opens on a sitting of the impromptu council. Burress, who has been waiting his opportunity to expose Stedman, learns that Grace is in the study, and goes to the door and calls to Miss Crosby that her friends are waiting to take her home. To his consternation, however, Louise comes from the room. Stedman is recommended to forward his resignation to the Central Council, but so forcibly does he expound his views that Grace can remain in the study no longer, but emerges and begs of him not to resign. The situation is saved, and a happy ending assured by the arrival of Uncle Richard, who invites Stedman and another of the men's leaders to go to his offices at noon the next day to arrange matters amicably.

The piece was admirably played all round, the chief honours falling to Mr. A. Austin-Leigh in the rôle of John Stedman. He brought his long experience to bear with advantage upon the part, and both in the love-scenes with Grace and in his advocacy of the rights of the people he supplied an impersonation of such undeniable excellence as to win for him frequent rounds of applause. Mr. Wallis Clark gave to the peppery, yet warm-hearted uncle, Richard Milbank, just the needed strength, and acted with convincing sincerity throughout. A rather unthankful character was that of Mathew Crosby, the man who is determined to keep the family name unsullied, and, above all, to crush the people. It was a difficult part, which needed delicate handling, and Mr. Arthur Royston was successful in every way. Mr. Ernest Cossart was responsible for the little comedy element which appeared in the piece, and played with quiet humour the rôle of Reginald Crosby. Mr. Robert Grey imbued with considerable force the part of the hopeless lover, James Thedford; and as the three red-hot members of the Brotherhood, Mr. Frank Stone as Louis Stolbeck, Mr. G. W. Elton as Oscar Lackett, and Mr. Henry Renouf as James Burress cleverly depicted the several parts. Mr. J. R. Lefane played successfully the small rôle of Patrick McCarthy, as also did Mr. H. G. Mason as the wavering mechanic Martin; whilst Mr. Richard Trieve was quite satisfactory as Parker. Miss Eily Malyon's delicate and tactful rendering of Grace Crosby was a delightful piece of acting, the character being clearly and artistically defined by this clever actress. Miss Cecil Cromwell as Louise Stolbeck acted with pathetic passion, her scene with Grace in the second act being the crowning success of an exacting part. Mrs. Cullen was good as Mrs. Reginald Crosby; and the maid, Paxton, was entrusted to Miss B. McIntyre.

"TO ACTRESSES."

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THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"PERRICHON'S REISE."

Farce, in Four Acts, by MM. Labiche and Martin, produced at the Schiller Theatre, June 6, 1907.

Perrichon ..... HERR THURNER
Frau Perrichon ..... FRAU GUDE-BRAND
Henriette ..... FRAULEIN BECKER
Mathieu ..... HERR TREU
Desroches ..... HERR WIENE
Savary ..... HERR KOSTLIN
Majorin ..... HERR REIMER
Joseph ..... HERR BEIERLE
Jean ..... HERR RAMEAU
Kellner ..... HERR MENKE
Gepäckträger ..... HERR SCHMIDT
Bedienter ..... HERR WOLLNY
Dienstmann ..... HERR WIEGAND
Verkäuferin ..... FRAULEIN FECHNER

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, June 13.—This piece is not new to Berlin, but not having been given for a good many years it was unknown to most of the audience, who received it with enthusiasm. It has been done into admirable German, but the translator's name does not appear in the bill, and the acting was first rate. The age of the farce is forgotten in the genuine fun with which it is replete, and if the characters are not quite modern they are interesting enough to be warmly welcomed. The plot is no doubt known to your readers, so that a few words will be all that is needful. Perrichon is a typical parvenu, who, having made a fortune and disposed of his business, determines to enjoy his life at any cost. Above all, he means to travel and see the world, and to be seen and admired himself. The adventures he meets with by the way, and those of his wife and daughter, must be seen to be appreciated; there are a good many striking "situations," and the audience laughed with hearty good will.

SERIOUS plays are "off"; the Berliners cannot be got into a theatre in the summer unless they may be made to laugh, or—at least—enjoy their beer in a pleasant garden during the entr'actes. At the Deutches Herren Meinhard and Bernauer are giving a season of burlesque farce, which is proving very successful, and which will last until the re-opening of the theatre with the company proper on Aug. 8. The latest piece is Emil Pohl's burlesque, *Der Jongleur*, much the same kind of laughable nonsense as is *Robert und Bertram*, the piece that preceded it. Pohl has been dead many years, but his work lives after him, and as one of our critics tritely observes, there is more life in the dead farce-makers than in the living ones. It is genuine Berlin humour that sparkles in every scene, which humour—when really the genuine article—is not easily surpassed. The couplets, too, are funny, and were well interpreted, it fortunately not being requisite to be vocally gifted to deliver patter-songs. Herr Meinhard gave the rôle of a Saxon tailor capitally, and Herr Wassmann, Fräulein Hellmuth, Frau Grimm-Einodshofer, and others completed the good cast.

THE Royal Opera is fortunate in obtaining Miss Geraldine Farrar's presence at the close of the season, for without some great attraction Berliners prefer to spend the summer evenings out of doors. When the American cantatrice is announced there is a rush for seats, and the huge house is filled to the last place. Miss Farrar sang in *Traviata*, *Faust*, and *Manon* last week, each time with signal success. In connection with the annual review, the customary gala performance consisted this time of Donnizetti's *Daughter of the Regiment*—the Kaiser's own selection. It was not quite such a representative performance as is usually the case on such occasions; the name-part—which is one of Frau Hertzog's best rôles—was entrusted to Frau Erika Wederkind, of the Dresden Court Opera, and she was not in good voice. The same may be said of Herr Philipp, who gave the part of Tonio, but the remainder of the cast was good, and the chorus—under the conductorship of Herr von Strauss—was splendid. Great pains had been spent upon the *misé-en-scène*, which created universal admiration. Their Majesties, with their guests, applauded as heartily as anyone.

ON Monday, the 100th performance of *Rienzi* was pleasurably anticipated as something like a festival, the Germans always enjoying celebrating an anniversary. Disappointment was all the greater therefore when, at almost the very last moment, *Die Meistersinger* was put in the bill instead. The Royal management is, unfortunately, given to these sudden alterations, whereas theatres of lesser magnitude are more considerate.

A SPECIAL performance of Björnson's interesting play, *Ein Falissement*, was given on Sunday at the Royal Schauspielhaus by the Kaiser's commands. Their Majesties, with several members of the Imperial family, were present. The performance of *Richard III.*, which was announced for that evening, and for which most of the tickets had been sold, was, in consequence, postponed until to-night. Herr von Wildenbruch's historical play, *Die Rabensteinerin*, is still holding a place in the bill, and Schiller's *Wallenstein Trilogy* is given this week, with Herr Matkowsky in the part of Wallenstein.

THE Deutsch-American Theatre has come to an abrupt termination, and the company are not only thrown out of employment, but have, unfortunately, little chance of getting the money due to them. The managers, Herren Paul and Adolf Philipp, suddenly threw up the reins after an unsuccessful season at the Karl-Schulze Theatre in Hamburg, leaving the artists to take their chance. One of the brothers left for America, the whereabouts of the other is not known.

AT the Bernhard-Rose Theatre on Wednesday a new detective play made a distinct hit, the house being crowded with a most enthusiastic audience. Herr Kurt Matull is the author, and the piece is entitled *Der Grosse Unbekaunter*. The action passes in London, the doubtful hero being nothing less than a "real live lord," and a genius in the art of burglary! This gentleman criminal is, of course, a very good fellow at heart, so that when he fools the police and evades imprisonment the sympathies of the audience are with him. As to the moral of such plays, that is, as the Germans say, a thing for itself. The acting was capital, Director Rose himself giving the rôle of the noble burglar. There is every probability of the piece running for some time.

Two new plays by popular authors have just been completed, both of which are to be produced here next season. One is a drama, in five acts and a prologue, entitled *Das Wahre Gesicht*, by Max Halbe. It is said to be highly tragic, with a somewhat conflicting plot, the action passing in Prussia under the Polish rule. The second piece is also a serious one—a two-act drama by Fritz von Briesen, bearing the title *Die Sandbüchse*, which is a North-German dialect term for a manor farm.

THE Prince Regent of Bavaria has definitely declined to grant Herr Mottl's resignation of the post of Court Kapellmeister, so that there is no chance at present of Mottl succeeding Herr Mahler as director of the Imperial Opera at Vienna. Those who profess to know, however, say the change is a mere matter of time.

MANAGERS AND INVESTMENTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Rumours are continually reaching me that my different managers have, from time to time, lost money in theatrical ventures organised by me. I wish to state most definitely that no manager of mine has ever invested one penny piece in any of the theatres or touring companies I have controlled, and I am sure they would one and all be the first to contradict any such misleading statement.—Yours faithfully,

SAMUEL JAMES.

8, Warwick-court, Gray's Inn, W.C.
June 13.

CHARITY AT THE LYCEUM.

The Lyceum was kindly lent by Messrs. Henry R. Smith and Ernest Carpenter on Tuesday for a matinée in aid of the Children's Seaside Holiday Homes, instituted by the Rev. A. B. C. Robinson, and a large audience responded to the call of charity, and hugely enjoyed the very attractive miscellaneous entertainment placed before them by the organising committee, headed by Mr. Ernest Carpenter, of which the hon. secretary was Mr. Charles Brooks.

One of the strongest and most exciting items in the long programme was the third scene of the second act of the piece, *Her Love Against the World*, which, by its marvellously successful run, has proved that Londoners have still a love of good melodrama well played. The excerpt was presented by the famous cast that has done so much to bring success to the house. Mr. Norman Partriege was again a strenuous and noble Eric; Mr. Eric Mayne, by his mixture of cool suavity and grim determination, realised the character of Ulric; Miss Valli Valli interested us all in the sayings and doings of Lionel Strathmere (Nello); and Miss Nora Kerin was entirely sweet and commendable as Iris; the other characters of the scene being effectively handled by Mr. Frederick Ross, Mr. S. Major Jones, and Mr. H. Chapin. Mr. Norman Partriege, Mrs. A. Chapin, Mr. Baliol Holloway, and Mr. Fred Grove were announced to play the Closet Scene from *Hamlet*; but Mr. Ernest Carpenter announced from the stage that, in consequence of the heavy work entailed in rehearsing the new Lyceum drama, Mr. Partriege felt himself unable to tax his powers further. Mr. George Graves was unable to appear in consequence of the loss of his wardrobe; Miss Evie Greene was unavoidably detained; Miss Billie Burke was kept away by the rehearsals of *Mrs. Ponderbury* at the Vandeville; and Mr. Alec Hurley wrote to say that Miss Marie Lloyd was indisposed, but enclosed a cheque for five guineas. Shakespeare was not, however, unrepresented at the matinée, the Tent Scene in *Julius Cæsar* being finely given by Mr. Basil Gill and Mr. Lyn Harding. Miss Constance Collier chose for her recitation Scott's favourite poem, "Young Lochinvar"; Miss Clarice Shirley and Mr. Harry Barford amused everyone by their presentation of the comic misunderstandings in *A Pair of Lunatics;* and Miss Valli Valli and Mr. Edmund Waller presented with considerable success a duologue by Scott Craven and J. D. Beresford, entitled *The Compleat Angler*, who in this case was undoubtedly Cupid. Mr. Waller played the part of the Hon. Wylie Walton, who instructs Patience in the art of angling, with the result that he himself is "hooked."

Mr. George Robey kept the house in roars while he sang "What are you looking at me for?" and "Good Queen Bess," with accompanying patter. Mr. G. H. Elliot, the chocolate-coloured vocalist, aroused the house to enthusiasm in his popular lilt, "If the man in the moon were a coon"; and there was hearty laughter for Mr. Charles Pond's clever skit on the out-of-work orator, entitled "On Strike." Other artists announced were Mr. Harry Buckland, Mr. Gus Oxley, Mr. Noel Fleming, Miss Ida Valli, Mrs. Lewis Waller, Mr. Stuart Edwards, Miss Lulu Valli, Miss Millie Lindon, Mr. Malcolm Scott, Mr. Austin Melford, Miss Annie Purcell, Miss Nina Martino, Mr. Will Van Allen, Mr. Aubrey Fitzgerald, and Mr. Fred Grove. A picture, painted by Mr. Charles Wylie, was auctioneered from the stage by the genial Mr. Henry R. Smith, who eventually knocked down the pretty work of art to Mr. G. H. Elliot for £4 15s., Mr. George Robey's last bid being £4 10s. The Lyceum orchestra was under the able direction of Herr Raimund Pechotsch, assisted by Mr. A. Bond Sayers (by kind permission of the London Pavilion). The honorary stage-managers were Adolphe J. Tressidder (by permission of the London Pavilion), Ernest D'Auban (by permission of Drury Lane), S. Major Jones (Lyceum Theatre), and Harry Barford (Lyceum Theatre). A large number of pretty girls drove a rare trade in chocolates, bonbons, flowers, and programmes.

"AMY'S BURGLAR."

A Comedietta, by Leonard C. White, produced at the Public Hall, Croydon, on Tuesday, June 11.

Captain Neville ..... MR. ARTHUR ROWSELL
Amy ..... MISS WINIFRED WHITE

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

This little play was produced at the Public Hall, Croydon, on Tuesday, and proved very interesting. When the curtain rises it is near midnight, and we find Amy waiting the return of her brother Jack, who has gone to a fancy dress ball with his friend, Captain Neville, whom Amy has never seen. She is alone in the house, and is very nervous, her agitation being increased when she reads in the newspaper of a daring burglary which has taken place in the neighbourhood the previous night. Her terror is at its height when she receives a visit from Captain Neville, who has won the first prize at the ball for an excellent impersonation of a burglar. Amy naturally takes him for the real article, and much amusement is caused by her nervous efforts to quiet the supposed house-breaker. In the meantime, Captain Neville has taken a fancy to his friend's sister, and when it is ultimately disclosed that he is only an imitation burglar it is evident that the affection is mutual, and will end in a love match. The story is pleasingly told, and we have nothing but praise for Miss Winifred White's charming portrayal of Amy. The rôle of Captain Neville was also capitally enacted by Mr. Arthur Rowsell.

FANNY COLEMAN MATINEE.

Once again was Mr. George Alexander's hospitality enjoyed in a kindly cause when, on Thursday afternoon, he lent the St. James's Theatre for the purposes of the complimentary matinée given to the veteran actress, Miss Fanny Coleman, to mark the completion of her fiftieth year of stage work. Mr. Alexander admirably represented the feelings of Miss Coleman's many admirers when he addressed the audience on the subject of the matinée. "There is one name upon this programme to-day," he said, "that I am sure fills you with greater interest than any other, and that is the name of Miss Fanny Coleman. As I know that it would cause disappointment if you did not, figuratively speaking, shake hands with her across the footlights, I have asked her to come forward."

After Miss Coleman had made her appearance on the stage, amid a perfect tornado of applause, Mr. Alexander, addressing her, continued: "I have prepared no speech to say to-day, but I am sure that, representing the profession which you have so honourably adorned, I can say that nothing could give us greater pleasure than to be here to-day and to show you in how much respect you are held by the actor and the actress. I took a hurried survey this morning of your career—an honourable career, of which anyone might be proud. You have been associated in the past with the greatest actors and actresses of their time, and it affords me unqualified pleasure to feel that within these walls you have shown the

[*Photo by Alfred Ellis.*

MISS FANNY COLEMAN.

St. James's audiences the highest and most perfect forms of dramatic art. I have only now to wish you long life and happiness. The only regret I feel in connection with to-day's performance is that we are denied the satisfaction of seeing you act here this evening."

Miss Ethel James and Mr. Bernard Gawthorp started the programme with admirably-rendered songs, after which Mr. H. V. Esmond delivered in stirring fashion the lines of Tennyson's "Defence of Lucknow." The second act of Sudermann's *Magda* was then given, Mrs. Patrick-Campbell acting in finished style in the title-rôle, Miss Stella Patrick-Campbell making a pleasing appearance as Magda's sister, and Mr. Hubert Carter bringing tragic force to bear on the part of Lieut.-Col. Schwartze. Miss Helen Mar delighted her hearers with several funny stories, after which the audience had the pleasure of renewing acquaintance with *The Liars*, Sir Charles Wyndham playing his original part of Sir Christopher Deering, and Miss Mary Moore cleverly enacting the rôle of Lady Nepean, Mr. Eille Norwood that of Gilbert Nepean, and Mr. Thalberg Corbett that of Edward Faulkner. Miss Irene Vanbrugh caused some merriment with her recitation, "A Peculiar Attack"; and Miss Ada Reeve sang about the troubles of a mistress with her servants, and how in every case she had to "tell the girl she didn't suit." In *A Quiet Rubber* Mr. John Hare was seen at his best in his old part of Lord Kilclare, his wonderful acting and make-up exciting general admiration. Mr. Charles Groves made a capital study of the hot-headed Irishman, Mr. Sullivan, while Mr. Ivo Dawson as Charles and Miss May Martyn as Mary Sullivan acquitted themselves creditably. Mr. Jerrold Robertshaw and Miss Constance Collier appeared in *The Mummer's Wife*, an adaptation by Mr. F. Kinsey Peile of Catulle Mendes' *La Femme de Tabarin*. Mr. Robertshaw gave a realistically tragic portrayal of Raymond, the strolling player; and Miss Collier acted with convincing earnestness as the unfortunate Bianca. Mr. Lewis Waller, in his most virile style, recited Owen Meredith's poem, "The Portrait." Miss Lottie Venne and Mr. Eric Lewis took part in a delightfully amusing new duologue by Mr. Lewis, entitled *Mr. Hunter and Mrs. Shooter*, which was extremely well received; and Miss Eva Moore entertained the house with a recitation of "Pa's soft spot."

[*Photo by "Daily Graphic" Agency*

MISS FANNY COLEMAN AT HOME: THE VETERAN ACTRESS—FOR WHOSE BENEFIT A MATINEE WAS GIVEN AT THE ST. JAMES'S THEATRE ON THURSDAY LAST—IN HER KENTISH GARDEN NEAR LONGFIELD.

EDNA MAY'S UNDERSTUDY.

In Mr. Justice Ridley's Court on Tuesday Miss Ethel Newman sued Messrs. A. and S. Gatti and others for damages for breach of contract. They denied the breach, and pleaded a custom of the profession as a defence.

Mr. Lush, K.C., and Mr. Colam (instructed by Messrs. J. H. Mote and Son) were for the plaintiff, and Mr. C. F. Gill, K.C., and Mr. McCardie (instructed by Mr. J. D. Langton) for the defence.

Mr. Lush said the defendants, in February, 1906, were about to produce *The Belle of Mayfair*, to follow *The Catch of the Season*, and engaged Miss Edna May to take the leading part. They were desirous of securing Miss Ethel Newman as understudy, and Mr. Clark, their manager, saw her about it. She consented, and on March 6 a written contract was entered into. By it she was engaged for the run of the play to understudy Miss Edna May at a salary of £4 a week and £1 extra for each performance in which she filled the rôle. She also agreed not to appear at any other place of entertainment during her engagement without the consent of the defendants. At that time she was in receipt of a salary of from £10 to £15 a week, and the acceptance of this offer was a very heavy pecuniary loss, but she thought she could afford to sacrifice it for the sake of the opportunity she was given of the playing of Miss Edna May's part when that actress was unable to perform. The view the defendants now set up was that they were entitled to ignore her and ask some other lady to play it; that they should be able to call on her to play, but that she would have no corresponding right to play. On March 24 the piece was produced, and Miss Newman played at matinées and when Miss Edna May was indisposed. In the summer she heard rumours of an intention on the part of the management to ask someone else to take the part, and she protested to Mr. Clark. In July and August, when Miss Edna May went for her holiday, the plaintiff played the part, and did it to the satisfaction of the defendants. Miss Edna May returned in the first week of September, and resumed the part for about ten days, when she had some difference of opinion with the management and declined to continue. Miss Newman took the part and played it from Sept. 22 to Oct. 6, when, without any sort of complaint against her, and when she was under the belief that the part was hers, she suddenly found herself dispossessed by Miss Phyllis Dare. She was ignored, and asked to understudy the new principal. If she had ever contemplated any such possibility she would never have entered into the engagement. On Oct. 5 her solicitors wrote saying that it was stated in the newspapers that the part was being rewritten to suit the capabilities of Miss Dare, and that being so the plaintiff would decline to act as understudy to that lady, and claimed the right to perform the part till the end of the run of the piece. They also complained that while she was playing the part her name had not been advertised, in accordance with the custom of all West End theatres. The defendants replied that if she did not like to understudy Miss Phyllis Dare they would not object to her terminating her engagement. As a matter of fact, the contract involved an obligation on their part that the plaintiff should be in a position to carry out her part; in other words, they had warranted that there should be a part of Miss Edna May for her to understudy; it was their look-out if they quarrelled with that lady and not the plaintiff's. Her solicitors replied, saying that she did not wish to terminate the engagement, and reiterating her claim. On Oct. 8 the sub-manager wrote:

Dear Miss Newman,—There is a call for understudies at twelve noon to-morrow, which please attend. I have had no explanation of your absence from the theatre to-night and on Saturday night. I trust you will be able to supply me with a satisfactory excuse to-morrow.

The next day the sub-manager wrote again, saying that a doctor's certificate was the only excuse for absence he could accept. Her solicitors answered that she was quite willing to understudy Miss Edna May or to play her part, but that she declined to understudy Miss Phyllis Dare.

Miss Newman, in her evidence, said she had had eight or nine years' experience as an actress. She had played nearly all Miss Edna May's parts in the provinces, and for the last seven years had been receiving £9 to £15 a week.

When the case was resumed on Wednesday Mr. Ben Nathan, music-hall and theatrical agent, said that the form of contract with Miss Newman was most extraordinary. Under the ordinary agreement an understudy had no right to demand the part, but that custom would not apply to this case. In the ordinary agreement the understudy was engaged to understudy the part, but Miss Newman was engaged to understudy Miss Edna May.

Mr. Herbert Clark, manager of the Vaudeville Theatre, gave evidence that Miss Newman asked to be considered in any vacancy in *The Belle of Mayfair*. He replied that all the arrangements were complete, but subsequently she called, and they discussed the matter of understudying Miss May. The matter was embodied in the contract; he made no promise outside that. At that time the part had not been definitely settled; in fact, the play was altered, and the second act entirely rewritten afterwards. It was also being considered at that time whether the names of the characters should not be altered. When Miss Newman saw from the papers that Miss Phyllis Dare was to take the part, she said that as she had played the part for thirty-seven performances to the satisfaction of the management she might have had the chance of playing it on. He told her that they were perfectly satisfied with her work as an understudy, but she could not replace such a lady as Miss Edna May, who drew a very big salary and very big houses. It would not have spoilt her reputation to have understudied Miss Phyllis Dare, Miss Billie Burke, or Miss Edna May; they were principals, and she, as far as London was concerned, was an understudy. The engagement of principals was a question of drawing capacity.

Mr. Beerbohm Tree, in answer to Mr. Gill, said it was the practice to provide understudies for the principal actors and actresses who had to come to the theatre every evening to see if the principals had arrived. If the principal had arrived and was going to play, the understudy would leave the theatre if not engaged in a smaller part.

Under what circumstances is the understudy called upon to play?—In the event of the principal being ill or being late—(sotto voce)—golfing.

Mr. Gill: When you engage an understudy, is it the practice to engage a person of great importance, one of equal calibre to the principal, or a minor actor or actress?—Well, supposing at the present moment I have engaged at my theatre an actor to understudy my part, he has a minor salary. But if I were to fall ill, I should endeavour to get the most attractive man, in order that the public might continue to come and see the play. It would not be a case of ability but of popularity.

The same thing applies to all the principals. If an important lady went out of the bill, would you replace her by someone in the same position?—I might retain the understudy, or I might engage a person to attract the public.

Is that a matter you would allow the understudy to decide to claim the right to play?—No, merely moral suasion. The ordinary course is to engage a minor artist to understudy somebody else. In an emergency the understudy would play, and might play for the whole run if she leapt into an immediate popularity with the public; but in the ordinary way I should say: "This is a very serious matter. What can I do to fill that part without diminishing the audiences?"

Mr. Henry Dana, business-manager to Mr. Tree, and Mr. Charles Helmsley, manager at the St. James's, gave evidence that the contract with Miss Newman was not extraordinary. In their opinion an understudy had no right to claim to play in the absence of the principal.

Mr. Alfred Turner, acting-manager at the Playhouse, gave evidence to the same effect.

The jury found for the plaintiff, with £300 damages.

The case was mentioned on Thursday, when Mr. Lush, K.C., asked for judgment for the plaintiff. Mr. Gill, K.C., submitted that judgment should be entered for the defendants, on the ground that the agreement was for the Judge to construe, subject to the question whether there was any term of art in it which required explanation. The only word in it which required explanation at all was the word "understudy," and on that the evidence was all one way.

Mr. Justice Ridley said that if it had not been for Mr. Ben Nathan's evidence that the agreement was in an unusual form he should not have left the case to the jury. It was a question whether they held it or not. He did not, but the jury did. The balance of evidence was against the plaintiff, but the jury found in her favour. He should not have done so personally, but he was not entitled to say more than that. He could do nothing for the defendants, who must go to the Court of Appeal.

Judgment was entered for the plaintiff, with costs, with a stay of execution, £100 only to be paid into Court.

THE PROHIBITED "MIKADO."

In the House of Commons on Monday Mr. Trevelyan asked the Home Secretary whether the Lord Chamberlain had yet taken any steps to withdraw his prohibition of the production of *The Mikado*.

Mr. Gladstone said that the Lord Chamberlain had the matter under consideration at the present time.

Mr. Trevelyan: How soon will the decision be made known?

Mr. Gladstone: If that question is put next week I hope to be able to announce it.

Mr. George D. Faber: In view of the serious loss and inconvenience caused to innocent people, will the right hon. gentleman induce the Lord Chamberlain to hasten his decision?

Mr. Gladstone: I have no doubt that he will lose no time.

Mr. W. Redmond: Will the right hon. gentleman communicate with the Secretary for Foreign Affairs, and get him to ask the Mikado if he has any real objection? I am sure that he has none.

Mr. H. C. Lea: Was the prohibition made in consequence of the visit of Prince Fushimi, and did the order emanate from the King? (Cries of "Order.")

No answer was returned.

Mr. George D. Faber: Has the Home Secretary no remedy to suggest to meet the case of the sufferers? Will the Government introduce a Bill providing that, after the granting of a licence for the production of a stage play it shall not be withdrawn unless the play has been materially altered?

Mr. Gladstone: I can promise no such Bill.

Mr. W. Redmond: Is the right hon. gentleman aware that there is being performed in a certain theatre in London a play which, from many points of view, is distinctly offensive to the Kaiser?

Mr. Gladstone: I am not aware of it.

Mr. W. Redmond: Well, it is quite as bad as *The Mikado*.

The Home Secretary, on the evening of the 7th inst., received a deputation in Leeds of gentlemen connected with amateur theatricals in Yorkshire, who urged the reinstatement of *The Mikado*. The Home Secretary stated that the power of action did not rest with his Department, but with that of the Lord Chamberlain's. He was, however, willing to do all he could to get the licence renewed. A new title would, no doubt, be necessary, and certain passages might have to be re-written. Some negotiations had, he believed, already taken place with a view to the opera again being produced, and if the deputation would express their views in writing he promised to use his influence in the direction of gratifying their wishes.

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LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, June 10,
Mme. Jane Hading and Co., in
"FROU-FROU."

The management of this theatre is to be congratulated on their enterprise in bringing before their patrons Mme. Jane Hading and her Parisian company in *Frou-Frou*. The performance on Monday was one of artistic excellence, upon which every member of the company is to be congratulated. The large house was not slow to recognise the exceedingly effective work of the famous actress in the part of Gilberte (Frou-Frou). A clever and resourceful piece of acting was the Sartorys of M. Hauterive; and M. Arnaud gave a capital reading of Valréas. M. Luguet sketched a charming portrait of the light-hearted Brigard; Mlle. Laure Sureau brought all her ability to bear upon the character of Louise; the Baronne de Cambri was ably undertaken by Mlle. Alcimi-Leblanc; and the part of Pauline was effectively played by Mlle. Renée Sauer, M. Alcimi-Leblanc being an acceptable Baron.

On Tuesday and throughout the remainder of the week Hardie and Von Leer's company has been playing *Two Little Vagabonds*. The impersonations of Wally and Dick by Miss Edie Martin and Miss Josie Beltram are decidedly interesting; Miss Grace Harwood, as Marion Thornton, is to be praised for her natural charm, and in the more pathetic scenes she shows much skill as an actress; Miss Rosslyn Vayne displays talent in the rôle of Barbara Scarth; and Miss Evelyn Shaw is most successful in the part of Biddy Mullins. As George Thornton Mr. Douglas Vigors, in a part which suits his style admirably, has called forth much praise; Mr. Sydney Vautier has a suitable rôle in that of Captain Darville; and as John Scarth Mr. Dunstan Haye gives a performance of merit. Mr. Lionel Harris is good as Bill Mullins; and so are Messrs. Frank Gordon and Dick Winslow as Dido Bunce and the Coughdrop, his confederates. Mr. Harry F. Wright capably portrays Leeson, a soldier servant· and the same may be said of Messrs. Marston Moore (Hargitt), Thomas Blakeman (Dr. Lynn), Hugh Holliman (Gargoyle, the sexton), Henry Buckland (Whiffin), and W. T. Harris (footman). The acting of Miss Lena Vernon as Sister Randall is excellent, and the part of the maid servant, in the hands of Miss H. Leslie, deserves recognition.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, June 10, the Musical Farce, entitled
"THE OFFICERS' MESS."

After the heavy dramas of the last few weeks a pleasant change is made in the programme during the present one, and Mr. W. Penrhyn Forster's company are appearing in the new military musical farce *The Officers' Mess*. The libretto is from the pen of Mr. Cyril Hurst, who has written some very smart lyrics, while Mr. Mark Strong is responsible for the music, which is very tuneful and catchy, and proves him to be a composer of great merit. The bright particular star of the production is Miss Nellie Sheffield, who as Rose, the maid, is very charming, and works tremendously hard throughout. Miss Sheffield is well supplied with songs, her "Laughing Song" being quite the hit of the piece, though she scores very heavily with her "Newspaper Boy" number, and her dancing met with great appreciation. Mr. Harry Emeric is a most amusing comedian; and as Thomas Rugg he finds ample scope for his talents, and keeps the fun going merrily all the time. Miss Edith Harmer is a very pretty Sybil Carruthers, who acts and sings delightfully, and her song "Please keep away" was very daintily rendered, and was encored. The General is capitally played by Mr. L. Cadwaladr, who fills the part admirably; while Lady Constantia is ably portrayed by Miss Clara Nicholls. Mr. P. Gedge Twyman is smart as the Hon. Claude Melville; a very amusing character is Antonio Wilkins, the theatre manager, which is most amusingly played by Mr. Charles D. Cleveland, who has a very smart song about the troubles and trials of a manager. Miss Mabel Lawrence is smart as the Call Boy; Miss Essie Perrin contributes some very taking dances during the evening; and the Alston Troupe also acquit themselves well and do much good work in the chorus line. The orchestra is under the direction of Mr. A. L. Spittle, and adds in no small measure to the enjoyment of the play. Mr. Robert Arthur has introduced an innovation at this theatre in the form of a gramophone entertainment, which is given by Messrs. Imhof and Mukle on the Auxetophone each evening before the curtain rises.

CORONET THEATRE.

On Monday, June 10,
the Drama, by Arthur Shirley,
"THE MIDNIGHT MAIL."

Sensationalism is rampant this week at the Coronet, where Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's company, under the direction of Mr. James Willard, is appearing in Arthur Shirley's melodrama, *The Midnight Mail*. The scene where beery Billy Brewer drugs the easy-going signalman, Jasper Thornleigh, and jambs the lever, Harry Steyne, the weak-minded hero, being just in time to avert a catastrophe, and the scene of the famous struggle on the engine of the midnight mail, are both exciting enough to please the most exacting lover of sensation. The part of the vacillating hero, Harry Steyne, an engine-driver who continually changes his mind according to whether duty or the craving for drink is uppermost, is played by Mr. George Harvard with rugged force and virility. Mr. Fred G. Evison dominates the play as the drunken reprobate Billy Brewer, late stoker on the London and Something or Other Railway, and the audience first roar with delight at his comicality, and then hiss vehemently his wicked ways of deceit and depravity, which do not stop short at murder and outrage. He works hard and successfully in the part. Mr. Austin Mortimer as Leonard Royle, an African explorer; Mr. Charles Spencer as the villainous Hassan Padisha, a Turkish adventurer; and Mr. Harry Emmerson (who stage-manages the show) as the extremely lenient manager of the line, all act well and in keeping with their parts. Miss Ada Oakley makes a pretty and sympathy-evoking heroine, Mary Steyne, the anguish-stricken wife and mother. Miss Sandford as Lady Phyllis Eustace also appeals to the emotions successfully; and Miss Mildred Carr is arch and bright in the small part of Nancy Brewer, the lady who is living a life of "gilded infamy." Mr. H. Dobell Lyle, who is the acting-manager, enacts the part of the criminally negligent signalman, Jasper Thorndyke; Mr. J. Ingledew is a genial Irish Sergeant of Police, chock full of generous sentiment; and the other parts are satisfactorily rendered. The general manager and producer is Mr. James Willard. Mr. Edward Lytton informs us the piece was first produced at the Coronet about five years ago.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, June 10,
the Drama, in Four Acts, entitled
"EAST LYNNE."

The popularity of *East Lynne* seems never destined to wane, and it is highly gratifying to find that such a wholesome drama still evokes so much favour with the playgoing public. "If you have tears prepare to shed them now" has been Mr. Bailey's motto in Marylebone this week, and certainly plenty of sympathy has been showered on Miss Julie Kennard, whose portrayal of the erring Lady Isabel touched the sympathetic West Londoners to the quick. Mr. Alfred Beaumont gave a finished representation of Archibald Carlyle; Mr. Frederick Harker brought the polished villainies of Sir Francis Levison well to the fore; Mr. Spencer Goodwin was suitably cast as Lord Mountsevern; Mr. C. C. Gratian enacted the irascible Justice Hare in clever fashion; Mr. Cyril Hayward did exceedingly well as Lawyer Dill; Mr. Harry C. Rutland's efforts as Richard Hare deserve every credit; whilst Mr. Alfred Tate kept the house in a titter with his skilful delineation of the moralising guardian of the law, P.C. Bullock. Miss Ethel Hardacre impersonated Cornelia Carlyle with good effect; Miss Ethel Savill made many friends as Barbara Hare; Miss Jessie Sydney did well as Joyce; and Miss Jessie Bayes touched many hearts with her gentle portrayal of Little Willie. The piece was well staged, and received with much favour.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, June 10,
the Comedy Drama, in Three Acts,
"THE BROKEN MELODY."

Mr. Auguste Van Biene has had many pleasant experiences during the five thousand times on which he has appeared in *The Broken Melody*, but it is doubtful if any were more gratifying than that which awaited him at Kennington Theatre on Monday, when he opened a fresh tour with this ever-welcome play. The house was crowded in every part with an enthusiastic and appreciative audience, who insisted on repeated encores of the charming music which has made Mr. Van Biene famous. There was a great scene of enthusiasm in the second act, but the culminating point was reserved for the end, when the eminent actor-musician was called before the curtain, and had to make a bright little speech to his admirers before they would disperse. Of Mr. Van Biene's 'cello playing, what can be said that is new? It was as delightful as ever, and his impersonation of the part of Paul Borinski was conceived in a spirit which left nothing to be desired. Mr. Van Biene was supported by a powerful company, the various members of which were happily placed, and skilfully carried out their respective parts. As Mabel Borinski Miss Lena Burnleigh played with charming grace, and in the second act was seen to especial advantage. Miss Grace Lester enacted the somewhat difficult rôle of the Duchess de Verriers with considerable skill. Mr. Henry Ludlow made an excellent General Ivanoff; and Mr. Edward Van Biene was very good as Dickson. Mr. Herbert Colley made a great deal of merriment by his amusing interpretation of the part of Mortimer; Mr. Dudley Stuart deserves warm praise for the manner in which he impersonated Beaujoir; Miss R. Pulleyne as the Hon. Mrs. Spinnaker and Mr. Archie Selwyn as the Hon. Richard Spinnaker did remarkably well; and Mr. W. Thomson was admirably placed as Dr. Magrath. Miss Margaret Gordon could not very well be bettered as Mrs. Dickson; and Miss Mannering left nothing to be desired as Miss Gerrard. The staging and accessories are quite up to Mr. Van Biene's standard, and the orchestral music is well rendered under the direction of Mr. Percival Goffin.

THE LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday June 10, the Drama, entitled
"THE MYSTERY OF A HANSOM CAB."

The above drama is the first of four which are to be performed on the two-houses-a-night system, and Mr. Samuel James has got together a capable stock company for the performance. Mr. George Denham as Brian Fitzgerald, a young Irish gentleman, gives an excellent study; Mr. Edward Thane is a satisfactory Mark Frettleby; and as Roger Moorland, an adventurer, Mr. C. Lodge Percy gives one of his usual competent renderings. Mr. George Arthur, first as Oliver Whyte, the murdered man, and later as a detective, is good; and Mr. Albert Wainwright well fills the part of Carlton, a solicitor; Mr. George Wallace plays Felix Roliston, a man about town. Miss Hilda Baynton is a charming Madge Frettleby, and Miss Florence Lovell is particularly good as Rosanna Moore, the mother of Sal. Quite the best performance in the cast is given by Miss Winnie White as Sal, the waif. Mother Guttersnipe is quite safe in the hands of Miss Thurston, and Miss Ethel Green is a clever little Cora Featherweight. The remaining characters are all well filled, and the staging leaves nothing to be desired.

BROADWAY THEATRE, S.E.

On Monday, June 10, the Play, by Walter Howard, entitled
"A LIFE'S REVENGE."

Mr. Samuel James' capable company is doing full justice to this powerful and romantic play, and all concerned are meeting with well-deserved success. Mr. Charles East as Prince Boris Strogoroff presents an impressive and clever study of a difficult character; Mr. H. Gray Dolby is excellent as Michael Orloff; Mr. David G. Noble is an earnest and artistic representative of the hero, Paul Starovitch; and Mr. G. Montague Lane plays Maurice Trevor admirably. Mr. Will Skelton is good as Nicholas; Mr. J. E. Manning is an entertaining Colonel Tumbleoff; Mr. Geo. K. Ashley plays capitally as Clarence Chesterfield; and Mr. Edward Malone, Mr. Martin Edwin, Mr. George Gibson, Mr. Frank Liddle, Mr. Tom Williams, Mr. Frank Ingle, and Mr. Tom Myles are all adequate representatives of their respective characters. Miss Louise Hampton is a delightful Princess Vanda Ivgala, gentle, womanly, and altogether lovable; Miss Grace Emery is bright and pleasing as Daphne Dashaway; Miss N. Lucas is an attractive Aculina, and Miss East Robertson as Marcia Vittoria gives a fine rendering of the part, and one greatly appreciated by the audience.

GRAND, FULHAM.

On Tuesday, June 11, and following nights,
the Elizabethan Stage Season,
"THE MERCHANT OF VENICE."

At the Fulham Theatre this week the Elizabethan Stage Society are giving, under the direction of Mr. William Poel, six performances of the *Merchant of Venice*, "after the manner of the sixteenth century." The modern playgoer will miss the changing scenery, the elaborate costumes of the period, and the glare of the footlights; he will also miss the tedious waits between the scenes. The back and wings of the stage are simply draped and arranged for exits and entrances. No sooner has one set of actors left the stage than the next appears, and thus there is no interval to break the continuity of thought. The costumes are frankly more English than Venetian for the most part, and Portia might have borrowed her dresses from the well-stocked wardrobe of Queen Elizabeth herself. Yet in spite of these eccentricities (which are probably quite correct historically), there is a stately simplicity about the proceedings that will appeal even to the average modern playgoer, and much more to the student of the drama and the lover of fine English. Of the acting, it may be said at once that it is of more than average merit, and characterised by great care and thoughtfulness; in fact, the whole rendering of the play, in spite of the apparent simplicity, suggests that infinite care has been taken with every detail, and, as a rule, the elocution of the actors was admirable. Mr. William Poel is responsible for the production, and also undertakes the part of Shylock. This was a scholarly and refined performance, quite logical, and full of life-like touches. Mr. Lionel Atwill was a good Bassanio; and Mr. B. A. Pittar was a dignified and touching figure as Antonio. Mr. Lionel Belmore was full of spirit as Gratiano, and both he and Mr. Benfield as Launcelot showed a nice sense of humour. The female characters were not (as in the days of Elizabeth) acted by boys, but by ladies. "Master" Margaret Bussé gave an excellent rendering of Portia, and was well supported by "Masters" Lyle McGrath as Nerissa and Winifred Mayo as Jessica. The other characters were ably handled; there was an absence of staginess and a natural dignity of manner about them that was very pleasing, while doubtless the absence of scenery enabled much more care to be devoted to stage-management and elocution, with excellent results. In fact, the whole performance reflects the greatest credit on the management, and should prove intensely interesting to the lover of Shakespeare, and even the casual playgoer will find it well worth a visit.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, June 10, the Drama,
"LIFE'S SWEETEST SINS."

This piece, with its improbabilities, sensational developments, and thrilling situations, is well played here. As Captain Harold Marston Mr. T. Arthur Jones acts in a quiet and convincing manner. Mr. Oswald Douglas takes full advantage of the opportunities offered him in the character of the villainous, scheming Dr. Colebrooke. Kimberley Coutts (alias Flash Jim) and the Rev. E. Grey (alias Sam, the Scribe) are presented respectively by Messrs. Robert Swain and J. A. Whitehouse. Ernie Woodstone finds an able representative in Mr. Alexander Wills. Miss May Ainslie is extremely successful in the rather unthankful character of Fay Colebrooke; and Miss Marie Daventry as Doreen Rivers, the heiress, gives an impressionable study of this important character. Miss Marion Armitage as Bess Crayson and Mr. Edgar Morgan as Bob Tanner, a valet, are jointly responsible for some very amusing scenes; in which they are assisted by Mr. Sydney Belmoré as Jack Larkey, a sailor. Other minor characters are in safe hands. The submarine boat afloat and on the bed of the ocean, in the third act, is aptly described on the programme as an admirable transformation scene.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, June 10,
the Drama, by S. Buchanan Rogerson, entitled
"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."

This week we have a visit from another of Mr. T. Morton Powell's companies in *The Woman Who Gambles*. The play is very ingeniously constructed and full of exciting situations, the last act especially being fertile in surprises. With scenery of unusual effectiveness, aided by excellent acting, it is not surprising that the play has been attracting good audiences. Miss Lillian Herries wins sympathy and applause for the unhappy heroine, Countess Natalie Steinbach, and her mania for cards and her subsequent repentance and self-sacrifice for her husband's sake are most effectively rendered. Mr. George Steele delivers his lines well as the brave and true-hearted Count Otto Steinbach; and Mr. Percy Ballard gives a firm and impassioned reading of the character of the wicked Baron Cratzlaw. Miss Lillian Rignold is a bright and engaging Zilla Zeyalda; and Mr. Owen Edwin aids her in the fun-making as the foolish but good-hearted Hon. Bertie Bray. Mr. Sam S. Wilford is very amusing as Peter Peteroff; while Miss Lily Malvern does all that is possible with the unthankful rôle of Stella Melakoff. Mr. Reginald Fox is excellent as the brave and self-sacrificing Lieut. Carl Ctzarteriski; and Miss Dora Thrale soon makes herself a popular favourite as Cora Gouldhart. Mr. Arthur Brandhurst as George Orloff and Mr. Ernest Herbert as Stambuloff ably contribute to the general success of the evening.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, June 10,
"MY SWEETHEART."

Brixton Theatre patrons have this week been made quite happy by Mr. David James's capital presentation of *My Sweetheart*. Mr. Edwin H. Wynne gives a finished delineation as Tom Faust, his German accent being admirable throughout, and in his rendering of the many numbers allotted to him and in his duets with Tina he is very successful. His songs, "Go to sleep, my darling" and "Peek-a-boo," are repeatedly encored. Miss Christine Rayner is a delightfully unaffected and demure Tina Hatzell, and captivates all by her dainty dancing and bright gaiety; Miss Adah Barton as Mrs. Fleeter gives a telling portraiture of an unprincipled adventuress, and deserves praise for the force she throws into her performance. As the cool, calculating villain, Harold Bartlett, Mr. Gerald James is well suited. Mrs. Hatzell is vigorously played by Miss Pollie Marshall, who thoroughly realises the energetic old farmwife, and creates much merriment. Mr. W. J. Robertson gives a careful rendering of Doctor Oliver, and speedily secures the approbation of the audience. The clever, carefully thought-out impersonation by Mr. Fred W. Leonard of the brokendown sport, Joe Shotwell, earns a large propertion of the applause of the evening. Mr. Fred Maye is distinctly funny as Dudley Harcourt, and evokes peals of laughter; Mr. Alfred White is successful as Farmer Hatzell, and Master Varey completes the cast as Peek-a-boo. The orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Geo. Carter, does excellent work.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, June 10,
Wilson Barrett's Drama, entitled
"THE SLEDGE-HAMMER."

Mr. George Henry's company, by arrangement with G. M. Polini, appeared in this stirring play at the Royal County Theatre on Monday night, and during the week, and it was received with marked favour at each performance. Mr. David Hamilton sustains the rôle of the farmer and farrier, Matthew Derrick; and his three sons, Everard, Jacob, and Simon are impersonated with much success by Messrs. Alfred Burrows, A. Bertram Croucher, and Hardy Macro respectively; the part of Cornelius Derrick is ably embodied by Mr. Bert Howard; Miss Ethel Stuart makes an acceptable Martha Derrick; and Miss Jessie Hope acquits herself well as Rose Maywell, Matthew Derrick's adopted daughter. The play was excellently staged, the last scene, in which the exciting fight with sledge-hammers takes place between two of the Derrick brothers, being a realistic piece of acting.

"THE GOLDEN GOOSE."

Musical Comedy Burletta, in Two Scenes, by J. Hickory Wood, produced at the Theatre Royal and Opera House, West Bromwich, on Monday, June 10.

Widow Wank ..... Mr. John E. Barrie
Jack ..... Mr. Willie Lomas
Landlord ..... Mr. Charles Baker
Sheriff's Officers ..... Walker and Baker
The Golden Goose ..... Mr. Robert Pender

The story opens outside the house (or, as the piece is written, the shoe) of Widow Wank. This lady is supposed to have gone to market with her farm produce, consisting of eggs, butter, &c. On her return with her donkey and cart she is run into by a party of motorists. A general spill gives fine scope for a regular pantomime rally, of which advantage is of course taken. Trouble quickly overtakes the unfortunate widow, who is unable to meet the demands of her landlord. He arrives on the scene with a couple of eccentric sheriff's officers to eject her. Previous to this happening, a stray goose strolls into the garden of the widow, who decides to give the bird a home. A wise resolve indeed! For the goose lifts the cloud of misfortune by presenting to the widow a number of golden eggs each larger than the previous one. Of course the landlord, noting the widow's sudden access of wealth, makes vigorous overtures to her. All this takes place in the midst of a concourse of villagers and motorists. A compromise is arranged, and all are taken to the Golden Palace, the Magic Home of the Goose. Magic it truly is, for in the brief space of ten seconds we are transferred from the humble abode of the widow to a magnificent Palace scene. Here revelry of a very high order is indulged in, the climax being reached when the widow accepts the hand of her once oppressive landlord. The principal parts were effectively played by Mr. John E. Barrie (Widow Wank); Jack, Mr. Willie Lomas; the Landlord, Mr. Chas. Baker; and Messrs. Walker and Baker, who caused an amount of fun as the Officers. The title-rôle was most cleverly interpreted by Mr. Robert Pender.

IRISH PLAYS.

The Irish National Theatre Company, Limited, from the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, have once more claimed the attention of London playgoers this week with a répertoire of plays, mostly of the one-act variety. On their previous visit it will be remembered that they presented several interesting works in the St. George's Hall, and this week their venue has been the Great Queen-street Theatre, where on the evenings of our visits the house was filled in all parts.

Monday was set apart for the first production in London of

"THE PLAYBOY OF THE WESTERN WORLD,"
a Comedy, in Three Acts, by J. M. Synge.

Christopher Mahon ..... Mr. W. G. Fay
Old Mahon ..... Mr. J. M. Kerrigan
Michael James Flaherty .. Mr. Arthur Sinclair
Margaret Flaherty ..... Miss Maire O'Neill
Shawn Keogh ..... Mr. F. J. Fay
Philly O'Cullen ..... Mr. J. A. O'Rourke
Jimmy Farrell ..... Mr. Ernest Vaughan
Widow Quin ..... Miss Sara Allgood
Sara Tansey ..... Miss Brigit O'Dempsey
Susan Brady ..... Miss Cathleen Mullamphy
Honor Blake ..... Miss Annie Allgood

That peculiar Hibernian sense of humour which discovers in the obsequies of a relative or friend a cause for uncontrollable jollification and general congratulation is part of the theme which Mr. Synge brings before us in *The Playboy of the Western World*. The "playboy" is Christopher Mahon, who, having had a quarrel with his father, strikes the old man on the head with a spade, or what is known in Ireland as a loy, and leaves him for dead. Christopher eventually finds his way to Flaherty's public-house in a village on the coast of Mayo. Here he is worshipped as a hero when he tells the people that he has killed his own father. Indeed, so much is he esteemed by the women for his horrible deed that two of them fall desperately in love with him. One of these ladies is Margaret Flaherty, daughter of the publican, and the other is the Widow Quin. They quarrel over the worthless Christopher, but Margaret assumes the rôle of top-dog, and orders the Widow Quin out of the house. Margaret even goes so far as to jilt her meek-and-mild sweetheart, Shawn Keogh, who had never attempted to make himself popular by killing his "da." And, shure and begorra, as Christopher had committed no weekday kind of a murther, but a thing that would make the peelers afeard of following him, what wonder that a fine, prancing lass of county Mayo should kneel at his feet in admiration, and worship him with heart and soul! Why, as the entranced Margaret says, it was near time such a foine lad as him should have his good share of the earth. Truth to tell, though, the "peelers" are not in search of Christopher; but the foine lad's own father is afther him, for he is not dead after all. Bandaged he is, and it is clear from the story he tells as he comes upon the scene that there seemed at one time a likelihood of his dutiful offspring dancing at his wake. Old Mahon is only prevented from giving his son an ignominious thrashing by the interference of the publican's family, who themselves wish to be revenged for the trick they consider has been played upon them. Christopher is no hero now, for his parent is very much alive, and everyone denounces the younger man in unmeasured language, and are with difficulty restrained from handing him over to the police. Margaret also vents her rage upon her erstwhile lover, whom she now renounces, and the little play of the playboy comes to an end.

The piece was extremely well acted. Miss Maire O'Neill, a young lady of much personal charm, played in an attractive manner as Margaret; and Mr. W. G. Fay presented an interesting and at times amusing character-study of the playboy. Other rôles were capitally enacted by Miss Sara Allgood as the Widow Quin, Mr. F. J. Fay as Shawn, Mr. J. M. Kerrigan as Old Mahon, and Mr. Arthur Sinclair as the publican.

Lady Gregory's one-act comedy, *Spreading the News*, was also presented on this and other evenings, Mr. W. G. Fay delighting everybody with his comical characterisation of Bartley Fallon; Miss Sara Allgood ably delineating the sorrows of Mrs. Fallon, and Mr. F. J. Fay appearing as the magistrate.

On Tuesday three one-act plays new to London were produced, and *Spreading the News* was repeated. The first item on the programme was

"RIDERS TO THE SEA,"
a One-Act Play, by J. M. Synge.

Maurya ..... Miss Sara Allgood
Bartley ..... Mr. W. G. Fay
Cathleen ..... Miss Maire O'Neill
Nora ..... Miss Brigit O'Dempsey

This is a very morbid work, and shows Mr. Synge in quite a different mood from that which he gave evidence of in *The Playboy*. In a cottage on an island off the west coast of Ireland Maurya an old woman, sits grieving over the loss of her five sons, who have all been drowned. Now the sixth, and last, is about to ride down to the sea. She foresees his death and prophesies it. Later, and after a good deal of most depressing conversation has taken place between the old dame and her two daughters, the dead body of her son is carried into the cottage, borne on a stretcher. Miss Sara Allgood acquitted herself most creditably as the morose and bereaved mother; and Mr. W. G. Fay as Bartley, her son, and the Misses Maire O'Neill and Brigit O'Dempsey as the daughters submitted praiseworthy representations.

The second piece was

"THE JACKDAW,"
a Comedy in One Act, by Lady Gregory.

Joseph Nestor ..... Mr. F. J Fay
Michael Cooney ..... Mr. W. G. Fay
Mrs. Broderick ..... Miss Sara Allgood
Tommy Nally ..... Mr. Arthur Sinclair
Sibby Fahy ..... Miss Brigit O'Dempsey
Timothy Ward ..... Mr. J. M. Kerrigan

Mrs. Broderick keeps a little general shop, and is in financial straits, so much so, indeed, that she expects the bailiffs to take possession in a few hours. She goes to explain matters to the county court judges while her friend, Joseph Nestor, looks after the shop. Michael Cooney, Mrs. Broderick's brother, who has been away from the country, enters, hears how matters stand, and hands to Nestor banknotes to relieve the widow, instructing him not to inform her who the donor is or how he came by them. Nestor offers Mrs. Broderick £10 for her worthless old jackdaw, and, of course, the lady agrees to the bargain. The villagers, hearing that huge sums of money are being paid for birds by some crank of a visitor, bring jackdaws' eggs to the shop in the hope of securing a small fortune. The laughable situations to which this gives rise were brought before us in the most entertaining style by, among others, Miss Sara Allgood as the widow, Mr. W. G. Fay as her brother, and Mr. F. J. Fay as the advising and comforting Nestor.

Very wearisome and depressing was

"THE SHADOWY WATERS,"
a Play, in verse, by W. B. Yeats.

Dectora ..... Miss Darragh
Forgael ..... Mr. F. J. Fay
Arbric ..... Mr. Arthur Sinclair

This is really poor stuff, and everybody in the theatre on Tuesday evening was heartily bored with it. In fact, a general sigh of relief went up when the dropping of the curtain at last announced that it was actually over—an event everybody had been expecting and hoping for fully half-an-hour before it happened. Mr. Yeats tells us in an explanatory note that "*The Shadowy Waters*, though there is much incidental Irish legend here or there, is not founded on any particular story, and should explain itself to any auditor who can understand, let us say, the love poetry of Shelley. Forgael, dissatisfied with an earthly love, seeks together with the woman chance—or destiny—has cast before him unearthly love beyond what seems to be the limits of the world. By his magic harp he plunges her into the illusions of love which become real, and they pass away from what seems real."

We do not think that Mr. Yeats is justified in associating the "love poetry of Shelley" with this unsatisfactory "play in verse." But we must admit that it was excellently acted, and that the lines, bald as they were in the poetic sense, were beautifully delivered by Miss Darragh, Mr. F. J. Fay, and Mr. Arthur Sinclair.

Wednesday evening saw the production of

"THE GAOL GATE,"
A Tragedy, in One Act, by Lady Gregory.

Mary Cahel ..... Miss Sara Allgood
Mary Cushin ..... Miss Maire O'Neill
The Gatekeeper ..... Mr. F. J. Fay

This was another depressing item. Mary Cahel, an old woman, accompanied by her daughter-in-law, comes to the gaol to enquire after her son, and finds, after a lengthy conversation with the gatekeeper, that he had been hanged a few hours previously. There is a good deal of miserable wailing, and that is about all that can be said of the piece. Miss Sara Allgood, Miss Maire O'Neill, and Mr. F. J. Fay adequately carried out the authoress's melancholy ideas.

Very different is

"THE RISING OF THE MOON,"
A Play, in One Act, by Lady Gregory.

Ballad Singer ..... Mr. W. G. Fay
Policeman Z ..... Mr. Arthur Sinclair
Policeman X ..... Mr. J. A. O'Rourke
Policeman Y ..... Mr. J. M. Kerrigan

This practically amounts to a conversation between two men—one a homeless individual, in the guise of a ballad singer, escaping from the law, and the other a sergeant of police, who is on the look-out for him. There are several extremely amusing passages between the two men, and the ballad singer gains the other man's sympathies to such an extent that he is actually assisted to escape from the law, in spite of the £100 reward that is offered for his detection. Mr. W. G. Fay was highly diverting as the ballad singer, and Mr. Arthur Sinclair acted well in the rôle of the Sergeant.

The same authoress is to be congratulated upon what was undoubtedly the cleverest and wittiest of all the plays that have been presented during the week. This was

"HYACINTH HALVEY,"
A Comedy, in One Act, by Lady Gregory.

Hyacinth Halvey ..... Mr. F. J. Fay
James Quirke ..... Mr. W. G. Fay
Fardy Farrell ..... Mr. Arthur Sinclair
Sergeant ..... Mr. J. A. O'Rourke
Mrs. Delane ..... Miss Sara Allgood
Miss Joyce ..... Miss Brigit O'Dempsey

Hyacinth Halvey is a weak-minded but perfectly virtuous young man, who comes to the village of Cloon with all manner of testimonials, which he is foolish enough at first to read aloud to certain gossips who are not slow in spreading the news of Halvey's manifold good qualities. Indeed, the young man gets so heartily disgusted at being regarded as a milk-and-water nincompoop that he actually and purposely "lifts" a dead sheep which is hanging outside James Quirke's, the butcher's, shop, and throws the carcase into a ditch. Then he comes back and takes delight in boasting of his crime, and is surprised when Quirke embraces him lovingly and tells him that he has rendered a noble service. The fact is, there had been complaints about the worthy Quirke's meat, and an inspector had been instructed to examine the butchery store. The sheep not being in evidence, Quirke was saved from an unpleasant prosecution. The playlet is exceedingly laughable from beginning to end, and was capitally played by Mr. F. J. Fay as Halvey, Mr. W. G. Fay as Quirke, Mr. J. A. O'Rourke as a sergeant of police, Mr. Arthur Sinclair, and the Misses Sara Allgood and Brigit O'Dempsey.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.

Mr. George Alexander kindly lent the St. James's Theatre on Friday afternoon, the 7th inst., for a private farewell matinée for Mr. and Mrs. Luther Munday, the performance being arranged on behalf of the Green Park Club by Lady Romney. During an interval Mr. Alexander appeared on the stage and addressed the audience. He said that he felt it would not be out of place if he uttered a word or two of congratulation to Mr. and Mrs. Munday. He himself had known Mr. Munday for twenty years, and he knew nothing that was not good of him. The members o' the dramatic profession would wish Mr. and Mrs Luther Munday every prosperity and a happy old age.

The programme contained the facsimile autographs of many famous literary, artistic, theatrical, and musical people, copied from letters in Mr. Munday's possession. A capital entertainment was provided. Miss Gladys Marsden and Mr. George Smith-Wright made a somewhat unusual but very amusing departure from the ordinary performance. Miss Marsden was No. 13 on the programme, and as she objected to such an unlucky number she decided to go on the stage with somebody else, so that, presumably, if any misfortune came, it would be divided between two persons instead of falling upon one. The two programme numbers were exhibited concurrently, and when the two artists appeared almost simultaneously before the footlights each apologised to the other for "clashing." However, they decided to remain and see what each could do to entertain the good folk in the auditorium. The result was a capital little "impromptu" entertainment, in which Mr. Smith-Wright gave amusing imitations of Mr. Beerbohm Tree and other well-known actors, and Miss Marsden caused a good deal of merriment by her impersonations of actresses. The biggest item was the Screen Scene from *The School for Scandal*, Mr. Cyril Maude and Miss Winifred Emery giving their polished performances of the parts of Sir Peter and Lady Teazle, ably supported by Mr. Fred Terry as Charles Surface, Mr. Ben Webster as Joseph Surface, and Mr. King Fordham as the Servant. Coming back to the separate artists, Miss Helen Mar told several amusing and pathetic stories in her most delightful style; Mr. Reginald Somerville was heard to advantage at the piano and in song; and others whose musical and vocal talents proved highly attractive to the audience were Signor Roberto Biletta (accompanied by Mr. N. Lambelet), Miss Kitty Cheatham (accompanied by Mr. Sydney Stocker), Miss Pearl Ladd (accompanied by Mr. Adolph Mann), Miss Janotha, Miss Palgrave-Turner, Miss Kathleen Mayer, Mr. Walter Wheatley, and Mrs. Werner Laurie.

In order to relieve the monotony of the long wait, necessarily imposed upon patrons of the early door, Mr. E. Oswald Brooks, the resident manager and Lessee of the Grand, Swansea, has introduced a giant gramophone, through which medium Melba, Caruso, Ben Davies, and other first-class artists are introduced to the audience.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

The following statement regarding the actual financial position of the Association has been issued :—

Before the end of the present year the following expenses will have been incurred in addition to the amount already spent this year—

Salaries	£310
Premises	253
Legal and Administrative Expenses (estimated)	172
Total	£735

To meet this total the Association will have at its disposal—

	£	s.	d.
Present Cash Balance	254	0	0
Invested Funds	73	10	0
Rent from Actors' Day Board	15	0	0
New Subs. and Agency Fees (estimated)	90	0	0
Total	£432	10	0

The estimated deficit at the end of the year will therefore be £303. In addition to this sum, the Association will continue to be liable for £465, the balance of the £860 lent to the Association in 1901 in the form of debentures. £860 was lent to the Association in 1901 in the form of debentures repayable on demand, bearing interest at 5 per cent. per annum on the security of the assets of the Association, which include the liability of each member to contribute to those assets up to £1 in the event of the Association being wound up during the time of his membership or one year afterwards (see Memorandum of Association, par. 7). Of this £860, debentures to the value of £325 have been surrendered by the holders, who have thus made a generous gift to the Association of that sum. £70 has been repaid in cash, leaving a balance of £465 for which the Association is liable. This state of affairs may not be actually so serious as it appears, as the debentures were taken up by persons who were anxious to help the Association; at the same time, the issue of these debentures without any attempt to provide funds for their redemption seems hard to justify.

The Council point out that the causes which have led to this position are by no means new, but have been operating for many years, during which the Association has consistently and continuously lived beyond its legitimate income.

During the past ten years it was only in 1899 that the income from ordinary sources exceeded the expenditure, and that was accounted for by a large increase in the number of life members. Funds obtained from this and similar sources, such as legacies and donations, cannot in any but a charitable institution be legitimately treated as income or used for normal expenditure, but should be placed to a reserve.

One of the most regrettable features of the past financial administration has been that no serious attempt has been made to maintain an adequate reserve fund. The small amount actually accumulated has been almost entirely swallowed up in additional expenditure designed to attract new members.

A study of the accounts for the last ten years shows that the Association has raised from its own resources £10,071.

The expenditure during that period has been £12,852.

The difference during ten years is £2781.

This difference has been met as follows—

Three Matinées	£1184
Legacy	250
Donations	395
Sustentation Fund (in 1903 40 members undertook to subscribe to this Fund for five years)	118
Loan on Debentures	860
	£2807

That is to say that the Association has depended on outside help for 20 per cent. of its expenditure. Acting on this policy, over £300 would have been expected to be raised from outside sources to meet the coming deficit this year.

THE FUTURE.

The Council is convinced that if the Association is to enjoy the respect and confidence of its members and of the profession it must be self-supporting—that is, it must limit its expenditure to its normal income instead of venturing on schemes which can only be met by appeals to outside help. Hitherto the policy has been to conduct the Association too much on the lines of a charitable institution. Benefits have been offered to the members which the amount of the subscription could not justify.

The executive is certain that the Association can be carried on within the limits of its income, and is now devoting itself to the consideration of such economies as may be necessary for the purpose. These almost certainly must include the abandonment of the insurance scheme and a large reduction in the amount spent on premises.

It is estimated that a membership of 1200 may be counted on for 1908. This would produce a total estimated income of £1000. It would, therefore, be necessary to limit the expenditure on some such scale as follows :—Premises, £200; salaries, £450; legal and administrative, £300. The Council believe that certain of these economies can be effected in time to reduce the estimated deficit this year and some part of that deficit can be carried forward to next year.

Finally, the Council would again emphasise the fact that the Association is at the present moment in no worse position than it has been for the last ten years, and firmly believe that, conducted on the lines of independence suggested, its future prosperity is assured.

The Council of the Actors' Association held their usual weekly meeting on Tuesday, when there were present Mr. Fredk. Morland (in the chair), Mesdames Clare Greet and Wynne Matthison, and Messrs. Lewis Casson, C. F. Collings, H. Athol Forde, Spencer Trevor, and Chas. Cruikshanks (sec.). The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The hon. solicitors reported they had had an interview with a member as to her claim, and she had decided not to proceed further. They also had had an interview with a member, and advised him.

After some discussion, it was agreed that the further consideration of the election of chairman and deputy-chairman of the Council be postponed for the present.

The financial statement of the affairs of the A.A. prepared by the Finance and General Purposes Committee was read by the chairman, and it was agreed that the same be published.

Blake Adams and C. V. France tendered their resignations as members of the Council, owing to their inability to attend meetings. The resignations were accepted with very great regret. Messrs. Roy Horniman and Edmund Gurney were elected to fill the vacancies thus created.

Two cases of disputed agency fees were again under consideration, and the secretary received instructions. Dr. Cecil W. Rowntree, 16, Weymouth-street, W., was elected an hon. medical officer, and Mr. William Black Alexander, of 32, Old Burlington-street, W., an hon. dental surgeon to the A.A.

The secretary reported he had received a complaint as to the condition of the dressing-rooms at a provincial theatre, a copy of which complaint he had sent on to the management and was awaiting reply.

The chairman read a letter from an actress, not a member of the A.A., on a case of alleged bogus management, and was directed to inform the lady that her letter would be filed for future reference and to suggest to her the advisability of writing to the Editor of *The Era* on the subject of her complaint.

The report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee was received.

The report of the Library Committee was received and the rules suggested were adopted with the amendment of Rule 3 by inserting the word "signature" for "name." It was also agreed that Mr. Beckett might receive from the committee an honorarium. The secretary was directed to comply with the request of the secretary of the Library Committee, and write to Mr. Laurence Irving, asking him kindly to accept the chairmanship of the Library Committee for the remainder of the A.A. year, expiring at the next annual general meeting.

The secretary referred to a letter he had received from Miss Lucy Sibley, asking for a chairman for the next "Social" (21st inst.), and Mr. Fredk. Morland accepted the position.

Six former members were reinstated.

The Finance and General Purposes Committee held a meeting on Tuesday last, when there were present Mr. H. Athol Forde (in the chair), Messrs. Lewis Casson, Fredk. Morland, and Chas. Cruikshanks (sec.). A discussion arose as to the probabilities of sub-letting the whole or part of the Association's premises. The secretary referred to the different methods which might be adopted if a portion of the premises were retained. Ultimately it was agreed that Messrs. Lewis Casson and Fredk. Morland should act as a committee to inquire into the practicability of sub-letting, and to consider the acquirement of other premises suitable to the purposes of the institution.

The secretary referred to the various estimates received for carrying out the repairs, &c., according to the specification prepared by the hon. consulting architect, and it was agreed that the question of acceptance of any of the tenders should stand over until the question of sub-letting the whole or a portion of the premises was settled.

The chairman read Miss Rose Mathews's letter of May 19, 1907, with regard to the bi-monthly meetings, and it was agreed that the matter should stand over until next week, when Mr. Morland would be prepared to place before the committee a suggestion as to the method of dealing with the question.

A.A. SOCIAL.

Mr. Lewis Casson took the chair at the social meeting of the Actors' Association on the 7th inst., the subject for discussion being "Is the Art of Acting Deteriorating?"

Miss JOAN PEREIRA considered that the level of art attained by English actors and actresses did not come up to that of their French and German *confrères*. English players were too apt to neglect the fundamental study of a part and to give less attention to facial expression, for instance, than the laws of characterisation demanded. Another evil was that when an actor received, say, a classical part to play, he would often go to see another player in the rôle, and the result was, of course, a mere imitation. An actor or actress should not cease to act when he or she ceased to speak; yet on the English stage it was a frequent thing to see a face suddenly become devoid of expression as soon as the lips were closed. The English actor was never *un homme de salon*; he lacked that grace which invariably distinguished the Frenchman in the drawing-room in the presence of ladies.

Mr. ROBERT CASTLETON said the modern audience was unsympathetic. He also deplored a lack of good plays, particularly of good melodramas. It was really the conditions of the modern theatre which had deteriorated.

Miss LUCY SIBLEY said there was no scarcity of art upon the music hall stage. It was perhaps necessary for the music hall performer to get his effects upon broader lines, yet there was no necessity for him to be inartistic. An acrobat was an artist in his way, as was also a juggler; and there was a great deal of artistic acting of a high order of merit in many a modern music hall sketch.

Mlle. JULIETTE MILO thought that the art of acting in general in England was not deteriorating; that it was improving, in fact. In her opinion, French acting was vastly over-rated in England; and she herself had heard London audiences applauding French acting which she had thought distinctly bad. She deplored, however, the tendency to specialise.

Miss ROSE MATHEWS said the conditions under which the modern actor worked had a deteriorating effect upon his art. The modern theatre was regarded merely from a commercial standpoint. People had forgotten that the play and the acting were the things; the cost of a production was too often uppermost in their minds. She was of opinion that good acting could never be obtained until more attention was given to art and less to syndicates.

Mr. CASSON, in conclusion, said that actors would do well to realise their own shortcomings; there was always a tendency to blame others. If acting had deteriorated it was due, in one instance perhaps, to the development of the intellect at the expense of the imagination. Technique also was all-important, and constant study and practice were necessary.

Mr. David Belasco's new Stuyvesant Theatre in West Forty-fourth-street, New York, now nearing completion, is the first playhouse in that city to be built in an enclosed rectangular court, with an open passageway ten feet wide extending around the entire structure. This passageway affords protection in case of fire, and permits the arrangement of an unusual number of side exits. Perhaps the most remarkable novelty in the new playhouse, however, is the system of electric lighting, invented by Mr. Belasco, and carried into effect by a firm of electrical experts. Mr. Belasco's idea has been to do away with the ordinary glare of theatrical lighting, and furnish a soft and gentle light, like real daylight. No chandeliers or brackets will be visible in the theatre. Instead, the clusters of electric lights will be enclosed in the space between the fireproof roof of the building and the ground-glass ceiling of the auditorium. This ceiling will be supported by ribs, thus presenting a panelled appearance. The effect of the lights shining through the glass will be mild and all-pervading. The lights beneath the balconies are to be similarly contrived. Behind the scenes, for stage effects, there are to be no less than 4000 lights, with all manner of new contrivances for obtaining all degrees of brilliancy. The distance from the floor of the stage to the roof above is ninety-two feet. Above the stage are to be two large fly galleries on both sides. All the "drops," as well as the curtain, are to be raised and lowered by electric motors. The centre of the stage is occupied by the platform of a large elevator, and below the stage are two separate floors. The purpose of this arrangement is to change the stage settings between acts more rapidly. One stage setting need merely be pushed on to the elevator, and lowered to either of the floors below, where it can be stowed away. This electric elevator is controlled by two buttons. If one of these buttons is pushed, the elevator descends to the first storey below the stage, and if the other button is pushed it descends to the second. The dressing rooms are in a separate structure, divided from the main building by a thick fire wall. They are arranged in six stories, and are all open to daylight and fresh air, with windows on the ten-foot court already described. Besides all the customary modern improvements, there is a shower bath on each floor. The seating capacity of the theatre is to be 1100. The orchestra pit is to have a concrete floor, covered with glass. It is expected that this will be a benefit in disseminating the music.

ACTORS' UNION.

LONDON.

Mr. Campbell Goldsmid presided at Tuesday's meeting of the Actors' Union, held at the Bedford Head Hotel. There was a capital gathering of members and others, including Mr. Rawson Buckley, Mr. Howard Templeton, Mr. and Mrs. Francis Chamier, Mr. Arthur Bawtree, Mr. Oswald Marshall, Mr. J. W. Ryder, Mr. Carlyle Pritchard, Mr. Victor Widdicombe, Mr. R. Cowell, Mr. Alfred Tate, Miss G. Tate, Mr. Percy Everard, Mr. C. C. Grattan, Mr. Percy Braithwaite, Mr. A. A. Murray, Mr. Massey Glenville, Mr. Alfred Bennett, Mr. E. Wolseley, Miss Violet Sims, Mr. Laurence Grove, Mr. Albert Haggen, Mr. Howard Cockrane, Mr. Frank Drew, Mr. and Mrs. Bradley, Mr. Tom J. Taylor, Miss Marie E. Robertson, Mr. Frank Sutherland, Miss Laurence, Mr. J. Skea, Miss Doris Regan, Mr. Barrington Foote, jun., Mr. W. Brougham, Mr. J. Mayall, Mr. C. Medwyn, Mr. Bruce Lindley, Mr. F. Strickland, jun., Mr. F. Litchfield, Mr. F. Jacques, Miss K Herbert, Mr. H. G. Griffin, Miss Carnegie, Miss Lena Delphine, Mr. E. Chester, Miss Georgie Trueman, Miss Nelly Howitt, Mr. W. Ruddle-Brown, Mr. E. Y. Rae, Miss Mary Brougham, Miss Elsie Carew, Miss Helen Vicary, Miss Wolverston, Mr. Leonard Marshall, Mr. G. Goodwin, Mr. Albert Hayzen, Miss May Conrade, Miss Mabel Syringa, Mrs. Horace Booth, Miss May Bessle, Miss Constance Groves, Mr. Alfred Richards, Miss Kate Randolph, Mr. Robt. Whyte, jun., Miss Eva Lumley, Miss Violet Vivian, and Mr. E. Hornby.

The CHAIRMAN very briefly opened the proceedings, after which

Mr. BRUCE LINDLEY said that there was an idea in the provinces that the Actors' Union was a London clique. That was a totally incorrect impression, and he hoped that everybody would do his or her best to remove it wherever it was found to exist. As to the suggested £2 minimum salary, he found that this was a stumbling-block to the progress of the Union in the provinces. He himself was of opinion that this minimum should apply only to fellows of the Union who had had five years' experience, and not to what he would call the probationers in the profession. He thought that if only they approached managers in the right spirit their demands would be met.

Mr. RAWSON BUCKLEY remarked that the £2 minimum was a goal they were aiming at. There was not a soul in the provinces who did not agree that £2 a week was absolutely the lowest sum that anybody could live on comfortably and respectably. As to joint salaries, if an actor was worth £2 a week and his wife was worth similar before they were married, why should they accept £2 10s. as a joint salary after marriage? An another point, he thought that artists who secured "shops" through the agency of the Union should contribute a small amount, say 5s., to the old-age pension fund.

Mr. FRANCIS CHAMIER expressed the view that it was not desirable that the Union should be too aggressive at the moment. The £2 minimum was certainly "in the air," and they all hoped it would come before long. As to the death levy, that would prove to be in existence whenever required, and it should be a comfort to members of the Union to know that if they died to-morrow without leaving sufficient for their funeral expenses, they would not be buried as paupers. It would be a good thing if they were to exercise a little self-sacrifice on one day in the year and have an Actor's Day—or, rather, a Union Day—of their own.

Mr. LAWRENCE GRANT said that the committee should call in the aid of an actuary to form an old-age pension scheme. The original idea of Actors' Day was the formation of a pension fund, and he thought that such a fund could now be established on that basis by the Actors' Union.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—I should like to ask why the rules which were passed by a small meeting of members so far back as April 21 have only now been made known to the rest of the members? I can only assume that the Executive Committee were ashamed of them, as indeed they need be.

Is it fair to ask us to become members of a union without first knowing the rules with which we are asked to comply? The rules as now formed are not at all in accordance with the circular issued by the Provisional Committee and on which the members have joined. Again, are not country members entitled to a vote on them? I think the country members will be very foolish if they do not insist on this. The circular states one of the objects of the Union is "to establish and maintain an honest living minimum salary." How does the Union propose to do this in the music halls? What will be the effect of two Societies (the V.A.F. and the Union) dealing with one and the same place? Should we not confine ourselves to the licensed theatre? This, I think, was the object of the founders; anyway, I, and I believe many others, will refuse to subscribe one 6d. towards fighting what occurs in music halls. One of the rules states that "an actor or actress running one sketch is not a manager." How would this apply to a man or woman running one play? The contention, I submit, is absurd. What the few members who have already joined have to think of is not what will benefit themselves, but the majority of our calling.

The Union started out with the cry, "A non-aggressive policy." Is it going to be non-aggressive in dealing with music halls, which, I respectfully contend, are quite outside its jurisdiction?—Yours faithfully,

MABEL SYRINGA.
(Mrs. Robson Paige).

10, Osprirge-road, N.W., June 13.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—I find in your last week's issue, under the heading "Actors' Union," the following paragraph: "The chairman, in reply to a question put by Miss Lucy Sibley, said that the rules would be supplied on the 21st inst."; and in the same column, lower down, I find the following paragraph: "Any member wishing to move an amendment to the rules must give notice in writing to Mr. Oswald Marshall, hon. secretary, by June 14."

In short, we are to give notice of any amendments to the rules we wish to propose one week before we know what those rules are. How the ladies who were scorned for their "lack of business ability" must smile!—Yours faithfully,

WILLIAM LOCKHART,

Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield, June 12.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Those of the fair sex who have felt injured at the ungallant proposal to exclude them from direct representation on the A.U. committee may retire behind their dressing-room doors and indulge in a smile at the reflection that, though would-be cavillers may point reproving fingers at the eight rules recently issued, on the score that the wording displays a lack of business acumen, they cannot inquire, "What else could you expect with *women on the committee?*" Whilst appreciating the difficulties of the position and the good intentions of the members of the committee, it must be borne in mind that actors as a class are not good business-men; that those who are usually become managers; and that, though good intentions are admirable paving-stones, in business a cement of practical knowledge is necessary.

Why not postpone the general meeting, and make another guess at the suitable elucidation of *all* the rules? I trust my fellow-members will not lose patience because the machines does not run quite smoothly at first. Let us adhere to the original programme, and we shall "arrive."—Yours faithfully,

NORMAN TOWERS,
Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Permit me through your columns to appeal as strongly as I can to all ladies who are members of the Actors' Union, begging them to be present at the general meeting which is to be held on June 21, at Chandos Hall, Maiden-lane, at twelve o'clock, for the purpose of voting for the removal of those restrictions which have been unhappily placed upon their representation in the committee.

Ladies have as much place on the committee of the Actors' Union as they have upon the Council of the Actors' Association, and I trust they will not fail to come forward and insist upon their right with every vote at their command.—Yours faithfully,

LUCY SIBLEY.

7, Gainsborough House,
Finchley-road, N.W., June 13, 1907.

A READING OF "CORIOLANUS."

The stage of the Lyric Theatre presented an unaccustomed sight on Tuesday afternoon, when the raising of the curtain revealed an array of actors in morning suits and actresses radiant in exquisite costumes who sat round in a semicircle for the purpose of giving a reading of *Coriolanus*. The reading was given under the auspices of the British Empire Shakespeare Society, and attracted a large audience, composed principally of ladies, who applauded at frequent intervals. In the centre of the stage sat Mr. Lewis Waller, with Miss Genevieve Ward at his side, while the chief characters were ranged around, and the "crowd" occupied seats at the back. The play, which was cut from the Lyceum edition in order to bring it within the limits of a reading, lends itself admirably to the purpose, and on the occasion under notice it was so well cast that it proved thoroughly interesting. Book in hand, Mr. Waller thrilled the audience in the part of Coriolanus, giving an impassioned rendering of the lines, and investing his delivery with many elocutionary graces. Miss Genevieve Ward spoke the words of Volumnia from memory without any reference to the printed page, and infused into her rendering the utmost feeling and emotional power, moving the audience irresistibly in the final pathetic scene with her noble son. Mr. A. E. George's Menenius Agrippa was distinguished by the earnestness and care which are invariably associated with the work of this excellent actor; and Mr. Arthur Wontner attained perfection in his rendering of Comimius, the long speeches allotted to the part being delivered with artistic effect. Mr. Kenyon Musgrave and Mr. C. Leveson Lane divided well-won honours as the tribunes Sicinius Velutus and Junius Brutus; Mr. Alfred Bristowe spoke with due fervour as Titus Lartius, and Mr. Acton Bond, under whose direction the reading was given, brought to the lines of Tullus Aufidius a dignity of expression and a variety of treatment which gave full weight to their meaning. A musical voice and sympathetic style made Miss Celia Palo's rendering of Virgilia most agreeable. Miss Jean Sterling Mackinlay did full justice to the part of Valeria; and to Miss Sybil Ruskin was allotted the small rôle of a Gentlewoman. Not the least attractive portion of the entertainment was supplied by Miss Enid Rose, who read the stage directions with graceful distinctness that was good to listen to. The duties of citizens and servants, who have an important influence in the play, were competently sustained by Messrs. A. Coneybeare Gough, A. Warmington, Norman Wrighton, B. Camplin Smith, T. Cronin Wilson, and A. Caton Woodville; and Mr. Arthur Trantom acquitted himself nobly as a lord.

At the close of the performance, Mr. Sidney Lee, as president, offered their thanks to Mr. Waller, one of their vice-presidents, for the services rendered to the Society that afternoon. He had not only generously lent the theatre, but had contributed to the entertainment by giving a reading of the leading part in that noble play with the spirit and pathos he had taught them to expect in his rendering of a Shakespearean part. Their gratitude was also due to Miss Ward, who had given a masterly interpretation of an impressive part which would be linked with her name for all time. No one who had not had the felicity of hearing her rendering of that character could fully realise the significance of it. Thanks were also due to the others of the cast, not forgetting the members of the mob. Mr. Lee added that reading circles were being formed in all parts of the country, and announced that a conference would take place the following day to promote the welfare of the Society.

DRESSES AT THE PLAY.

Artistic taste is reflected in the costumes in *The Merry Widow*, which has entered upon such a brilliant career at Daly's. Miss Lily Elsie's most effective gown is of the faintest oyster-pink tulle covered all over with a trailing pattern of gold paillettes. A succession of veilings are introduced on the gown, the foundation being of cream Liberty satin covered with the new gold tissue with a watered effect, which in turn is veiled with silver gauze. The front panel is of gold net sewn all over with great darned motifs in the form of detached flowers, and showered with nail-head sequins, a band of thick silver lace being introduced at the hem. The bodice is worked with large flower motifs designed in silver bugles, and embroidered on a foundation of silver lattice work, and is further adorned with lines of gold tissue and fringes of crystal bugles, the puffed sleeves being caught in with a band of embroidered net.

Of the dresses worn by Miss Firth, one is carried out in Empire style in a shade of bright delphinium-blue over a soft satin foundation in the same colour, the material of the skirt being of the finest crêpe, gathered into the deep swathed belt of folded panne in the same intensely blue shade, and headed with the narrowest piping of lily-leaf green velvet. The skirt is trimmed with long lines of silver and gold tissue, and one and a half inch bands of blue panne with immense circular motifs in graduated sizes, while the skirt falls over a deep hem of lattice work silver lace covered with conventional flowers in the new darned broderie, which looks as though it had been carried out in fine silver straws, the gleam of the flowers under the vivid blue of the crêpe giving almost the effect of the silvery scales of a fish. The bodice, which is composed of fine silk net worked in dew-drop crystals and glittering silver and gold bugles, is crossed with bretelles ornamented with a trellis design of bugles and encrusted with turquoises, a narrow hem of delphinium-blue velvet and lily-leaf green panne giving solidity to the scheme. The kimono sleeves are of white net showered with dewdrops and fringed with silver beads, while a great puff of the palest sunset-pink tulle surmounts each shoulder.

Miss Nina Sevening's evening gown has a basis of phlox-blue taffetas. Although not strictly Empire in every detail, the dress is made with a short waist, defined with a band of shot green and blue and silver tissue, brought high up at the back and finished with a bow and long flat ends. The immensely full skirt is box-pleated over the hips, the front panel being finished at the foot with a ruching of taffetas, the lining being of emerald-green silk. The bodice represents an alliance of paillette and golden-disc sewn net and tinted lace and bugle embroidery, as well as roses in changeant gold tissue, a gorgeous spray of which, in pink, sapphire, and turquoise-blue, emerald-green, mandarin-yellow, and purple, shot with gold, is brought over the right shoulder from the back, and, crossing over the front, is caught on the left side just above the waist. One-half of the cross-over bodice is composed of folds of taffetas, the right sleeve consisting of three superposed frills of the same, bordered with gold and bugle-embroidered galon, and made up over an under manche of paillette net, the other half of the corsage and sleeve consisting of soft folds of the net, showered with gold and star-shaped paillettes.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"UNE AVENTURE DE FREDERICK LEMAITRE,"

Comedy, in Two Acts, by M. Serge Basset, Produced at the Œuvre on June 8.

Clarisse	MLLE. ANGELET
Mme. Graillotet	MME. BRANIANO
Clémence	MLLE. MILLET
Frédérick Lemaître	M. SEVERIN MARS
Graillotet	M. ANDRETON
Le Docteur	M. MOCK
Omnibus	M. BUSSIERES

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, June 13.—The Théâtre de l'Œuvre has given us three new plays, two of which are decidedly interesting. Frédérick Lemaître, one of the greatest actors of modern times, was born in 1800 and died in 1876. Talented, but intensely vain, he deeply resented anything in the way of adverse criticism, and it happened only too often that wags, in order to rouse his temper, would organise a hostile demonstration when he appeared on the stage. The scenes that followed baffle description, and once he forgot himself so far as to offer a gross insult to the public. The uproar was so great that the authorities had to take the matter up, and Lemaître was sentenced to one month's imprisonment. For all that, he was so great a favourite that on his first reappearance the house cheered him and carried him home in triumph. But Lemaître was essentially sentimental, and it is that idiosyncrasy which M. Basset has illustrated in *Une Aventure de Frédérick Lemaître*. He shows us the great actor advanced in years. The Press treats him unkindly, and Clarisse, his mistress, not only deceives him, but tells him sneeringly that he no longer has the power to awaken emotion. "At one time," she says, "you made the public laugh or cry. Now it is all finished." Clarisse has wounded him more cruelly than she thinks. For the first time during his artistic career he loses faith in himself, and he sends for Graillotet, the impresario. Unfortunately Graillotet has troubles of his own. His child has died suddenly, and the blow has struck his wife speechless. She remains motionless in her chair, and all attempts to rouse her prove fruitless. The doctors say that she is slowly losing her mind, and that only a violent emotion can save her. Graillotet is certain that Lemaître can perform this miracle, and he begs him to try it. Lemaître consents. He is not only prompted by pity; he is also anxious to know whether he has really lost his influence over people. Aided by Graillotet's employee, nicknamed "Omnibus," because he impersonates every rôle, he calls on the sick woman and plays before her the well-known scene in *L'Auberge des Adrets*, with the love declaration to Mlle. Eloa. But Mme. Graillotet does not listen, and Lemaître understands that he must not try to make her laugh. He reflects a moment, and then suddenly acts before her the part of a man who sees his son die. He trembles, he moans, and the woman looks at him fixedly. She listens to him when he describes the consolation we derive from praying on the grave of those we have lost, and, rising from her chair, she says she wants to visit her child's tomb. She is saved. As to Lemaître, he has forgotten the cruel Clarisse, and once more he has faith in himself. The work was capitally acted.

"PLACIDE" is from the pen of M. Séverin Mars, who played the part of Lemaître in the preceding piece. It is an amusing satirical farce. Placide Tournedos is accused of having murdered an old woman, and the jury find him guilty. The man, however, is innocent, and a M. Lerou is so convinced of this that after much trouble he obtains for Placide a free pardon. Placide is discharged from prison, but his parents disown him, and as he cannot find any work he is on the point of starving. He tells M. Lerou that he was better off in prison, where, at all events, he was fed, and M. Lerou takes him into his house until he can find him employment. Placide makes himself at home. He drinks M. Lerou's best wine, he is very noisy, makes love to the housemaid, and is altogether most objectionable. Things finally come to such a point that Lerou loses patience, and wants to turn his unwelcome visitor out of the house. Placide then flies into a rage, and says that he really did murder the old woman. Lerou trembles. He does not quite believe this statement, but, supposing it were true and became known, he (Lerou) would become the laughing-stock of the town. So he begs Placide to keep the matter quiet, and in return for his silence promises to keep him in idleness till the end of his days. Lerou, however, who until then was opposed to beheading criminals, now becomes a staunch advocate of capital punishment. The farce was greeted with roars of laughter.

"TU VEUX RIRE!" is the title of a little revue by MM. Henri de Gorsse and Georges Nanteuil, brought out at the Ambassadeurs. What with recent strikes and other troubles, the authors have had a splendid opportunity of cracking jokes at everybody and everything. The first to come in for her share of chaff was Mme. Sarah Bernhardt. She has been appointed Professor at the Conservatoire, but, finding the post too irksome, she sends her dresser to replace her. Then we have the waiters' strike. The members of the Government, fearing to lose the pleasures of the café, have replaced the waiters by soldiers. Artillerymen draw the beer, policemen stir the chocolate with their truncheons, and divers wash up the plates. The tableau relative to vaccination also had a great success. Berniquette Brachu, a naïve peasant girl, goes to a doctor to be inoculated. She has no idea of how the operation is to be performed, with the result that when the doctor takes her in his arms she believes she is being vaccinated. Nor is the lady cabby forgotten. The fascinating young creature on the box acknowledges that she cannot drive, but, as her fare is young and handsome, she proposes to keep him company inside her cab. And they spend a pleasant hour together. In another tableau we gather from the conversation between two or three roughs that in all the dangerous quarters policemen have trained dogs, who help them to arrest criminals, but an old ticket-of-leave man has discovered a simple method of making the animals harmless. When he goes out at night he takes with him a fine lady dog, and the police dogs are not proof against her fascinations. The excellent cast, headed by the inimitable Max Dearly, did honour to the revue.

A FRESH difficulty has cropped up between M. Antoine and M. Gémier, at one time staunch friends, now sworn enemies. M. Antoine, director of the Odéon, is going on tour, and as his artists accompany him, he styles the undertaking the "Antoine Company." But M. Gémier, manager of the Antoine Theatre, also goes on tour with his company, and if he calls it, as he has a right to do, the "Théâtre Antoine Company," it can give rise to misunderstandings and mistakes; and M. Gémier vents his anger in a letter to the Press. "M. Antoine," he writes, "is making a mistake—as usual. There is no such thing as a former or a present Théâtre Antoine. There is the Antoine Theatre, founded by him and by me, now under my sole management. The artists of the Théâtre Antoine are not the same as those of the Odéon, managed by M. Antoine. The répertoire of the Théâtre Antoine has nothing in common with that of the Odéon, managed by M. Antoine. In order to avoid misunderstandings, why does not M. Antoine announce that he travels with the Odéon company; and why does he not describe himself on the bills as 'Antoine, manager of the Odéon'? It strikes me, he need not be ashamed to be at the head of a national theatre whose reputation is established."

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

MR. EDWARD TERRY was presented at Court on the occasion of the King's Levée at St. James's Palace on the 3rd inst. The distinction was consequent upon the appointment of the popular comedian as a Justice of the Peace for Surrey, and the presentation was made by the Hon. Henry Cubitt.

MR. BEERBOHM TREE has been honoured by the German Emperor with the Order of the Crown of the third class in connection with the recent visit of the famous actor and his company to Berlin. His Majesty has also conferred on Mr. J. T. Grein, to whose initiative the happily inspired visit was due, the Order of the Red Eagle, fourth class.

MR. JOHN HARE'S decision that the coming autumn shall witness his farewell of the provincial towns will be received with regret in all parts of the country. London playgoers are happily for some time to be spared the necessity of bidding the famous actor good-bye, as he hopes to appear in one more original part written for him by Mr. Pinero. Mr. Hare's last appearance in London this year, it may be added, was made in *A Quiet Rubber* for Miss Fanny Coleman's benefit at the St. James's Theatre on Thursday afternoon.

THE farewell tour will begin at the Prince's Theatre, Bristol, on September 30, and terminate on December 7. The special répertoire will consist of a revival of Mr. Pinero's play, *The Gay Lord Quex*, in which Mr. Hare made one of the most pronounced successes of his career, together with *Caste*, *A Quiet Rubber*, and *A Pair of Spectacles*, while the excellent company engaged includes Miss Nancy Price, Mr. Charles Groves, Mr. Charles Maude, Mr. G. S. Titheradge, Miss Jean Sterling Mackinlay, Miss Ada Ferrar, Miss Helen Rous, and Mr. Bertram Steer. Mr. Hare has appointed as his general-manager Mr. Percy Burton, who was for so long connected with Sir Henry Irving and Sir Charles Wyndham.

SIR SQUIRE AND LADY BANCROFT were at the reception at 22, Park-crescent following the wedding of Mr. Charles Ernest Pumphrey with Miss Iris Mary Bell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Moberly Bell, which took place at the Church of the Annunciation, Old Quebec-street, on Wednesday. The assembly was also graced by Mrs. George Alexander.

MR. GEORGE GROSSMITH and the members of the family entertained on Tuesday, at their house in Russell-square, the members of the Atlantic Union, a society which exists for the purpose of strengthening the bonds of friendship between the Mother Country and the Colonies. An enjoyable entertainment was furnished by Mr. George Grossmith, jun., Mr. Maurice Farkoa, Miss Dorothy Scott, and others. Among the guests were the Earl and Countess of Kinnoull, Sir Charles Wyndham, Earl and Countess of Donoughmore, and Mr. G. R Sims.

MR. MARTIN HARVEY has been the object of well-merited praise for the superb colouring and atmosphere which he has succeeded in obtaining in the production of *Great Possessions* at the Adelphi. The piece cannot, however, be played longer than the week originally announced, and on Monday Mr. Harvey revives *The Corsican Brothers*, which has not been seen in the West-end for a good many years. Mr. Harvey, in the dual rôle of the brothers dei Franchi, will be supported by Messrs. Vincent Sternroyd, Albert E. Raynor, George Cooke, Alfred Mansfield, Charles Cameron, Paul Barry, J. Barber, Fred Wright, sen., Philip Hewland, Leslie Palmer, P. Alexander, Denholm Muir, H. Earle, R. Allen, and D. Holm, and Misses Coleridge, Maud Milton, Maud Rivers, Bessie Elder, Marjorie Field, Ethel Patrick, and Madge Fabian.

"THE CORSICAN BROTHERS" will be preceded by a new one-act drama in "two panels," by Rosamund Langbridge, entitled *A Tragedy of Truth*, with Mr. Henry Ainley, Miss Maud Milton, and Miss N. de Silva in the cast. This play is accompanied throughout with music, which has been specially written by Mr. Norman O'Neill, who will conduct the orchestra at the first performance.

AN interesting event of the "Country Fair" to be held in aid of Our Dumb Friends' League on the afternoons of June 28 and 29 at the Botanical Gardens, Regent's Park, will be the cricket match, Actors *v.* Actresses, with Mr. C. Hayden-Coffin as head of the gentlemen's team, and Miss Vane Featherstone as captain of the ladies. Miss Margaret Cooper will preside over the round-abouts; whilst Mr. and Mrs. George Giddens will take charge of the swings. There is also to be a "Village Green," where impromptu entertainments, dances, &c., will take place hourly, and other amusements will be provided in the form of cocoanut shies, Aunt Sallies, Richardson's show, and Lady Clifton Robinson's art gallery, which is being arranged on an elaborate scale. Mrs. Hayden-Coffin will be in charge of the refreshment department.

WE record with great regret the death, at the early age of twenty-six, of Miss Gertrude Valentine (Mrs. Lauderdaile Maitland), who passed away on Monday at Ferndene, Chiswick-lane, W. Until recently Miss Valentine held the responsible lead in *The Coal King*, a drama which has enjoyed great success in the provinces. The interment took place on Wednesday at St. George's Cemetery, Hanwell.

MISS CONNIE EDISS illumined the interior of Mr. Justice Ridley's court on Tuesday, when an action for damages was brought against her by a labourer who had been injured last November at Lewisham by a motor-car driven by the cousin of the popular actress. Miss Ediss gave the Court a realistic imitation of the man's movements, as he had hesitated which way to run when the car was upon him. "We frequently have narrow escapes," she said. "People stand in the middle of the road, and don't look where they are going. I drive myself sometimes. We were not going more than ten miles an hour. It was about church time. I don't know if anybody goes to church down there; but I expect they do." Despite Miss Ediss's entertaining contribution to the proceedings, the plaintiff was awarded £135 damages.

THE next "social" of the Actors' Association, which is fixed for Friday next, will take the form of a debate on the affecting question, "What will remedy the present slavish imitation by touring companies of their London originals?" The debate will be led by Miss Italia Conti, and will be presided over by Mr. Frederick Morland.

MISS MARIE TEMPEST has very kindly consented to present the prizes at the Theatrical Sports at Stamford Bridge on Tuesday, July 9. It is to be hoped that many admirers of the popular artist will be present to "support" her on this interesting occasion.

MR. JOHN R. ROGERS writes thus vivaciously on the eve of embarking for this country: "As a comic interview with me is appearing in the Press announcing my age as sixty-seven, will you kindly set your readers on the right line by announcing I sail on the St. Louis, June 15? And, to avoid giving my friends heart failure, don't expect to see a decrepit old man at sixty-seven, but apparently the son of that once known everywhere as 'Yours merrily.'"

"THE FORTE THIEVES, PLAYED PIANO," with which the children of Drury-lane Theatre have recently added to their reputation, will be staged at the Marlborough Theatre, Holloway, next week. Even as it was the great boast of the Moore and Burgess Minstrels that they never appeared out of London, so also the children of Drury Lane Theatre asserted that they were never to be seen outside the national theatre; but their hard-and-fast rule has been broken, with the kind permission of Mr. Arthur Collins, who lent them the scenery and dresses and enabled them to go on tour "on their own." In the announcements late-comers are politely asked to take a seat on the mat outside, and refrain from whistling through the keyhole; and should the plot prove wild on the wing, members of the audience are requested to capture it and return it to the author.

MISS SOPHIE HARRISS, who is enjoying a well-earned rest at Baron Harriss's place near Maidenhead, was returning from Windsor in her electric launch one day last week when the propeller suddenly snapped, and, despite the efforts of the engineer armed with a boat-hook, the little craft was rapidly carried by the strong current in the direction of Bray Weir. Happily some gentlemen on the lawn of the George Hotel close by witnessed the affair, and put off in punts to the rescue.

MR. ALFRED GRAY and Miss Violet Malcolm Barnett will give a costume recital at the Caxton Hall, Westminster, on the afternoon of Tuesday, June 25. The programme will include a scene from *Hamlet*, the Balcony Scene from *Romeo and Juliet*, Gloucester's wooing of Lady Anne from *Richard III.*, the Forest Scenes from *As You Like It*, and the Quarrel Scenes from *The School for Scandal*. Miss Lesley Gibson will take the part of Celia, and violin and pianoforte solos will be contributed by Miss Doris Cloud and Miss M. A. Winter. The business arrangements are in the hands of Mr. Ernest Schofield.

AN autumn tour of suburbia has been arranged for *Her Love Against the World*. The tour will commence on Sept. 23, at the Standard Theatre, and will finish on Nov. 25.

IN the Court of Chancery on Saturday, Greet and Others v. Snape was an application by the plaintiffs for an injunction restraining the owner of a portable theatre from infringing the copyright of the late Mr. Wilson Barrett's play, *The Sign of the Cross*. It was stated on behalf of the plaintiffs, the owners of the copyright and the licensees of the play, that the defendant had produced a play, which he called *The Sign of the Cross*, at various places in Lincolnshire. In 1905 he admitted having infringed the copyright, undertook not to do so again, and agreed to pay three guineas damages "when convenient." Those damages had not been paid. Mr. Justice Neville, in granting the injunction, directed an inquiry as to damages, and gave the plaintiffs the costs of the action.

MR. E. M. ROBSON will have an important part in Mr. Edward Compton's production at the St. James's on July 29.

MISS HARLINGTON has been engaged by Mr. Frank Bertram to play Batty in *The Breed of the Treshams*, and her husband, Mr. Gwyn-Richardson, to stage-manage the same production. Another notable engagement for the same tour is that of Mr. Alfred Holles, who will play the part of Viscount Dorsington, commencing in July.

MR. LEONARD PAGDEN and Mr. G. M. Copping, in spite of the excellent business, are compelled to conclude their tour with *Jim the Penman* at the Lyceum, Sheffield, to-night, as Mr. Pagden must forthwith devote his attention to his production of *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray* at West Pier, Brighton, on June 24.

IN connection with the Workmen's Compensation Act, which comes into force next month, Mr. J. Cooke Beresford, of 16, Panton-street, Haymarket, has arranged with a first-class insurance company to cover all theatrical risks greatly below tariff rates.

SIR FRANK BURNAND'S farce, to be revived at the Vaudeville on Tuesday, is to retain its original title of *Mrs. Ponderbury's Past*. Miss Marie Illington will appear in the title-rôle, Mr. Charles Hawtrey will be Mr. Ponderbury, and the cast will be completed by Messrs. Charles Troode, Russell Norrie, Edward Fitzgerald, Ernest Graham, Henri Laurent, L. Williams, and Percy R. Goodyer, and Miss Billie Burke, Miss Mona Harrison, and Miss Mirabel Hillier.

MISS DECIMA MOORE was among the artists who contributed to the concert given at the Ladies' Army and Navy Club, Burlington-gardens, W., on Monday, in aid of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Help Society, Princess Christian and several members of the aristocracy being among the audience. The programme was also contributed to by Misses Rhoda and Lilla von Glehn, Mlle. Marie de Nys, Miss Betty Callish, Misses Ada and Jessie McLeod, Mr. Albert Archdeacon, Mr. John McCormack, Mr. Frank Ivimey, and the Meister Singers.

THE Marlborough Hall, Regent-street, was filled with a large audience on Saturday night, when a capital performance of Lateiner's operetta, *Gabriel*, was given by the M. D. Waxman Yiddish Operatic and Dramatic company. Mr. M. D. Waxman in the title-rôle and Mme. Rose Waxman as Dinele repeated their artistic impersonations, and excellent work was put in by Mr. Kempner as Albrecht I., Mme. Fanny Waxman as Chinke, and Mr. N. Hamburger as Dr. Abraham. A feature of the play was the international dancing by the Leonard Gorney Trio. The entertainment was given in aid of the West Central Benevolent Society, established to assist necessitous Jews in that particular district.

MR. STRATTON MILLS will revive on Monday at the Brixton Theatre the famous triple bill, comprising *The Highwayman*, *Faithful James*, and the ever-popular *Pantomime Rehearsal*, which was toured for so long and with such success by Miss Cissy Grahame.

MR. JERROLD HEATHER, the well-known provincial actor, on terminating his engagement as Harry Wilding in Mr. Walter Howard's new drama, *Second to None*, was engaged by Mr. J. E. Barnes to sustain a round of romantic juvenile parts, such as D'Artagnan, Garrick, and Bob Brierley, during his stock season at Accrington.

MISS FLORENCE GLOSSOP-HARRIS, who has been resting after her spring tour, will support Mr. Ian Maclaren as Portia and Rosalind at Kingston next week, after which she will begin active preparations for her autumn tour, which starts in August. Her répertoire will include most of Shakespeare's best-known works, and also a revival of the Drury Lane drama, *The Royal Oak*, which has not been seen in the provinces for some years. Miss Glossop-Harris has re-engaged Mr. Frank Cellier, jun., and Mr. Percy H. Vernon, and is making further important engagements.

MR. HOWARD BRENAN, who has achieved much success in the provinces as a romantic juvenile actor, has been engaged by Mr. B. A. Pittar to play Touchstone in *As You Like It*, together with other important parts in a series of pastorals, commencing at Newbury on June 26. Mr. Brenan concluded a spring tour at Brighton on Saturday last.

WE regret to record the death of Mr. Chas. Gcold, the well-known actor, who passed away in his fifty-fourth year on Saturday last, at his residence, 64, Harpenden-road, Manor Park. Mr. Goold, who was a member of the North London Amateur Dramatic Club at the same time as Mr. Beerbohm Tree, began his professional career with the late D'Oyly Carte as Hildebrand in *Princess Ida*. In 1888 he entered upon an engagement with *The Still Alarm* company, which lasted twenty months. A short trip with Mr. Charles Hawtrey's *Private Secretary* company followed, and in 1891 he toured with the late Sir Augustus Harris's company in *The Late Lamented*, playing Mr. Fawcett and stage-managing. In 1892 he played the part of the Sheriff in *Maid Marion* on tour, and remained with this piece, which he took out with his company in the following year.

PARTS played by Mr. Goold during his subsequent touring included Murgatroyd in *A Bunch of Violets* and Uncle Gregory in *A Pair of Spectacles*. During 1897 and 1898 he appeared as Balthazar in *La Poupée*, and the following year toured with *An American Citizen* company. 1901 saw him as the Lord Mayor in *The Forty Thieves*, and in the following year he joined Mr. Arthur Roberts in *The Cruise of H.M.S. Irresponsible*. Tom Cod in *The Beauty of the Barge* and Eames in *The Little Stranger* were included in his more recent achievements. Mr. Goold toured twice in America. The deceased actor was interred at the City of London Cemetery, Manor Park, on Wednesday. At his express desire, the followers were limited to his widow (Miss Emelie Holt) and three professional friends. A large number, however, assembled at the grave, and many beautiful floral tributes were sent.

THE celebrated Danish actress, Mme. Clara Wiehe, from the Theatre Royal, Copenhagen, who will be chiefly remembered for her telling performance in the wordless play *La Main*, has been successfully appearing in matinées at the Coronet, supported by Mons. Wague, in *L'homme aux Poupée*, in which she impersonates a doll in order to wile away a crank with whom she is in love from his mad infatuation for toys. She has also been appearing in *Les Souper d'adieu*, which, as its name implies, is a farewell supper-party, in which a man discards his somewhat vulgar paramour. Mons. and Mme. Depas, in the one act, *Revue de Snob*, also appeared last week with great success.

SO great was the success of the moral drama, *A Warning to Women*, at the Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham, last week that Mr. H. G. Dudley Bennett has continued the run until to-day. The play is produced under the direction of Mr. Frank Adair, who, with Miss Louie Adair, as leading lady, Miss Lydia Mannington, Mr. Wingold Lawrence, Mr. Chris Mason, Mr. Jack Denton, Mr. Geo. Mitchell, Mr. Geo. H. Asquin, &c., have been engaged by Mr. Bennett for the summer season.

MR. EDWARD MARRIS' enterprise at Jersey is being crowned with well-merited success. Last week at the two matinées given by Mrs. Patrick Campbell, the Opera House was packed from floor to ceiling. This week Mr. Marris has started an entirely new venture by giving an open-air variety entertainment, which is drawing crowds of people.

MR. AND MRS. WILFRID COMPTON (Miss Miriam Holt) concluded on Saturday a twelve weeks' engagement with *Our Flat*. Mr. Compton has played over 200 times in this comedy, and upwards of 400 in *The Private Secretary*. Over 300 performances were reached by Mr. Compton in *The Breed of the Treshams*, and he scored a century in *Monsieur Beaucaire*. Miss Holt has played with her husband in most of his engagements with every success.

MR. C. ADOLPH SEEBOLD has secured some fine bookings for the Theatre Royal, Worthing, the engagements for the season including Miss Ellen Terry, who appears on the last three days of August.

THE interesting list of artists who will take part in the special matinée in aid of the funds of the Foreign Press Association in London at His Majesty's Theatre on Tuesday, July 2, has been strengthened by the addition of Miss Olga Nethersole (who will come from Paris for the occasion), by Mrs. Langtry, in *'Twixt the Nightfall and the Light;* by Mlle. Adeline Génée, in the Riding Dance from *High Jinks;* and by Mme. Yvette Guilbert.

THE last night of *A Royal Family* at the Duke of York's Theatre was marked by a scene of much enthusiasm. Each act was loudly applauded, and at the end of the performance the curtain had to be raised many times, the audience repeatedly calling for Miss Alexandra Carlisle and Mr. Henry Ainley.

MR. WALTER HOWARD requests us to contradict the statement that the run of *The Midnight Wedding* at the Lyceum is limited to any period. His arrangement with the management of the theatre is that the piece shall be played so long as it continues to attract.

MR. CHARLES DODSWORTH, who has been playing Choppard and other leading character parts with Mr. H. B. Irving on his spring tour, is re-engaged for the autumn.

MR. EDOUARD JOSE sailed yesterday by the Araguaya for Buenos Aires, to look after the preliminary arrangements of his first South American enterprise. Mr. José has contracted with Seymour Hicks for a first-class English company. The répertoire includes *Miss Hook of Holland*, *Tom Jones*, *My Darling*, *The Beauty of Bath*, and a number of other West End successes. The cast is exceptionally strong, and contains such artists as Mr. Stanley Brett, Mr. Martin Adeson, Miss Beatrice Edwards, and other well-known players, together with a chorus of thirty-five.

MR. JERRARD GRANT ALLEN'S tour of *The New Boy* has been so successful that, instead of terminating the tour in August, as was originally intended, he has decided to continue it until December.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE, Blackpool, this week reaches its eighteenth birthday. The theatre, which has attained such popularity during the administration of Mr. John R. Huddlestone, was opened under the management of the renowned Mr. William Holland on June 10, 1889. The inaugural play was *The Yeoman of the Guard*, and the attraction for the eighteenth anniversary was also Gilbert and Sullivan opera, a whole week being devoted to the celebration.

THE Grand Theatre, Birmingham, is shortly to undergo considerable alterations and improvements. It is proposed to spend £10,000 upon the work, and the approved plans show many structural alterations and improvements., chief of which is the provision of a large crush-room, with new approaches to the orchestra stalls under the floor of the pit.

MR. EDWARD COMPTON has selected *The Eighteenth Century* as the title of the play which he will introduce to London at the St. James's Theatre on July 29 next. The play was originally produced under the title of *To-Morrow* at Paisley in the February of 1904, and is of a fantastic character. Miss Eva Moore will appear as the heroine, and Mr. E. M. Robson will also be in the cast.

MEMBERS of the Actors' Association are instituting a new society, called the Play-Actors, the objects of which are the production of the plays of Shakespeare and other poetical dramatists without scenery or special costume, the introduction to the public of original plays by English authors, and the representation of adaptations of dramatic works by foreign authors. Membership of the society is of two degrees, acting and ordinary, the former being limited to forty, and being confined to professional players who are members of the Actors' Association, and will be cast. The subscription will be 10s. 6d., and will give ordinary members the right of admission to each representation. A *sine qua non* of the society is that every performer at all performances must be a member of the Actors' Association.

THE season of the new society, which is to consist of eight performances, will begin on Sunday, June 23, at the Bijou Theatre, at 3, Bedford-street, when the programme will consist of the first scene from the fifth act of *Measure for Measure*, *The Parasites*, a play by Rose Mathews, and *The Sergeant of Hussars*, a new play by Cicely Hamilton. Songs will be contributed by Miss Alys Rees and Miss Nance Elmhirste Goode, an Australian vocalist, and Miss Italia Conti will recite. Subsequent performances—which are fixed for Sundays, Sept. 29, Oct. 13, 27, Nov. 10, 24, and Dec. 8 and 22—will be given in a more commodious theatre, yet to be decided upon. The Council of the Play-Actors consists of Mr. F. Topham (chairman and hon. treasurer), Mr. Robert Castleton, Mr. Clive Currie, Mr. C. F. Collings, Miss Cicely Hamilton, Miss Winifred Mayo, Mr. Fewlass Llewellyn, Mr. F. de Quincey, and Miss Rose Mathews, the hon. secretary, whose address is 9, Trafalgar-studios, Manresa-road, Chelsea.

"CHEZ MAXIM," in *The Merry Widow*, at Daly's, is one of the finest restaurant scenes ever put on the stage, and the dresses and hats which are seen there are, as the fashion papers say, *le dernier cri*. There is novelty introduced into the last act in the shape of a cutlery accompaniment to Mr. Berry's song, which has a very original effect. The beautiful music, the spirit of gaiety which pervades the piece, and the brilliant setting, should make this last undertaking of Mr. George Edwardes's one of the most successful of his many successes. The reception which was accorded to the piece on the first night was enthusiastic in the extreme.

AN irresponsible musical absurdity, entitled *Such a Nice Girl*, written by Frank Stanmore, will shortly be toured by a strong company, including Miss Nell Richardson, Mr. Arthur Poole, and the author. The company will visit the County Theatre, Kingston, on July 8.

MR. JOHN GAFFNEY, who, since the erection of the Liverpool Shakespeare Theatre in the year 1888, has been its esteemed manager, had his nineteenth annual benefit on Thursday evening. There was a crowded audience, and all the principal variety artists engaged in the city and Birkenhead came forward willingly. The performance commenced with the one-act farce, *My Wife's Dentist*, presented by several local amateurs. The event, as usual, was a tremendous success.

IN our notice last week of *Hands Up*, the cleverly-written *revue* produced at His Majesty's at the Cripples' Fund matinée, we omitted to give the credit of the Suffragette number and "We don't want to grouse" to Mr. Fred Bowyer, a popular member of the Savage Club, whose political and topical songs have brightened many a pantomime and musical comedy. Mr. Bowyer's "A little bit of sugar for the bird," written by him for *The New Barmaid*, reached a total of verses almost equalling that of "The whole hog or none," sung by the celebrated Mackney.

THE gala performance at the Royal Opera on Wednesday night in honour of the visit of the King and Queen of Denmark was marred by a tragic occurrence, in the painfully sudden death of Major-General Sir Arthur Ellis, G.C.V.O., C.S.I., Comptroller in the Lord Chamberlain's Department. Just before their Majesties were due to arrive, Sir Arthur Ellis, who occupied a seat in the stalls with Lady Ellis, was observed to faint, and was carried out and placed in the directors' room, where he was attended by Sir J. Reid, King's physician, and Sir Frederick Treves. A hypodermic injection was resorted to, but Sir Arthur did not recover consciousness, and died while the performance was in progress.

"LADY TATTERS" will have a souvenir evening at the Shaftesbury on Friday, when it will reach its 51st performance. To mark the occasion every member of the audience will be presented with a copy of the full score of the light opera, as published by Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter, and sold for 6s. The score will contain all of the twenty-seven numbers by Mr. Walter Slaughter, and the same copy will be given to all regardless of the price paid for the seat. Elaborate alterations in the piece have been prepared for Wednesday, new numbers having been allotted to Messrs. Walter Passmore and Courtice Pounds, Miss Marie George and Miss Claudia Lasell. The novelties will be included in the presentation score.

INTEREST in music and drama in Canada is stimulated by the offer of prizes to amateurs. The second competition for the Earl Grey musical and dramatic trophies will take place in Ottawa during the week beginning Feb. 4, 1908. The competition is open to amateurs in Canada and Montreal, and the rules restricting professional assistance have been very carefully devised. The principal qualities by which the dramatic competition will be judged are stated to be: Originality of production, if written by an amateur; stage setting; excellence of the company in acting together as a unit; the promptness of entrances, exits, and the picking up of cues; grace or ease of carriage and manner; diction, dress, and make-up. The musical productions will be judged by: Attack, precision, accuracy; intonation (playing or singing in tune), quality of tone; technical proficiency, expression, interpretation, and general effect.

MESSRS. VEDRENNE AND BARKER will start their season at the Savoy on Monday, Sept. 16, their inaugural production being *You Never Can Tell*. On the following Tuesday week the first of a new series of matinées is to be given, and the autumn season will witness the production of new plays by Mr. Shaw, Mr. Granville Barker, and Mr. John Galsworthy, as well as one of the dramas of Euripides, translated by Professor Murray.

A FIRE broke out at the theatre at Narbonne on Monday night, and the whole building was destroyed. It is believed that the outbreak was the work of an incendiary.

MESSRS. ELLIMAN are creating a great success with the well-known romantic play, *A Heart's Desire*. The piece is booked right into 1908 at the principal theatres in the provinces. The play can boast of an excellent company, elaborate scenery, and everything that goes to make up an up-to-date attraction.

MR. ALFRED CAPPER'S séance of thought-reading and other phenomena is likely to draw large audiences to the Hampstead Conservatoire next Wednesday afternoon and evening. Mr. Capper has lately returned from a successful tour in France, Switzerland, and Italy, and London, where he is such a favourite, has too long been denied the chance of enjoying his entertaining performance.

AN unpleasant surprise befell the management of the Grand Theatre, West Hartlepool, on Wednesday morning, when it was discovered that the building had been burgled during the previous night. The thieves had evidently concealed themselves during the Tuesday's performance of *My Sweetheart*, for there was no evidence of any doors or windows having been forced. The visitors had helped themselves to a supply of tools from the carpenter's shop, and making their way to the manager's room, forced the lock of the safe, and took possession of the contents, which included the Tuesday's takings and some money belonging to the manager. The chocolate boxes had been wrenched open, the money confiscated and the sweets scattered broadcast. They had then visited the dressing-rooms, and after choosing what costumes pleased their fancy, calmly let themselves out by a side door. At the time of writing no clue is to hand to the identity of the thieves.

UNDER the patronage of the Lord Mayor, the Right Hon. Sir William Treloar, Mr. F. M. Paget will give a dramatic and musical recital at the Steinway Hall on the evening of July 9.

MR. J. C. WILLIAMSON, from the Antipodes, is on his way to England on board the s.s. Mongolia. He has reached Colombo, Ceylon, and if waves and winds are propitious, the popular Australian manager will arrive in England on or about June 30

WE join cordially in congratulations to Miss Nell Sargent, who was married on the 5th inst. at St. Augustine's Church, Cork, to Chauncey Rupert Charles Morris, of Balham, S.W. The ceremony was performed by the Very Rev. William O'Sullivan, O.S.A. The bride is the younger daughter of R. E. Sargent, Golden-grove, Douglas-road, Cork (late agent Bank of Ireland, Bandon), and was given away by her father. She wore a handsome gown of ivory broché silk, trimmed with lace and silver embroidery, and a hat to match. Her ornaments were of gold and turquoise, and she carried a beautiful bouquet of lilies, smilax, and maidenhair, the gift of the bridegroom. Miss Maud E. Sargent, the sister, was the bridesmaid, Mr. David P. Johnstone, R.A.M.C., acting as best man The presents were numerous and handsome. Mr. and Mrs. Chauncey Morris spent the honeymoon in London.

MESSRS FRANCIS, DAY, AND HUNTER, with their usual liberality, have sent to Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, hon. treasurer of the Theatrical Sports, a massive black marble timepiece. It is intended as a prize for the Theatrical Sports at Stamford Bridge on July 9. Happy will be the winner of this beautiful present!

MR. NORMAN V. NORMAN has arranged with Mr. Dan Godfrey to give a short series of pastoral plays at Bournemouth. Mr. Godfrey's well-known band will play all the music, and the grounds will be elaborately decorated.

AN action which arose out of the proposed arrangement between Mr. Ascherberg, the well-known music publisher, of Berners-street, and Mr. Wentworth Croke, in 1905 to take over the Savoy Theatre from Mr. Leigh, came before Mr. Justice Warrington on Wednesday. The facts, shortly put, were that Mr. Ascherberg invited Mr. Croke to take a half-share of the theatre, and after negotiations had gone on for some time it was decided not to proceed further with them. The lessee of the Savoy Theatre, however, commenced proceedings to compel Mr. Ascherberg to take up the lease, and the matter was eventually settled by the payment of a sum of money. Mr. Ascherberg then called upon Mr. Croke to repay him half of what he had paid, and Mr. Croke denied all liability in the matter. In the result, the Judge found that there was no undertaking on the part of the defendant, either expressed or implied, to pay the plaintiff any part of the expenses incurred by him, and gave judgment for the defendant with costs.

MR. GEORGE MUDIE, JUN., evidently intends to follow his father's example and make a study of old men's parts whilst still in his youth. At the Opera House, Jersey, last week, he essayed, for the first time, the rôle of Benjamin Goldfinch in *A Pair of Spectacles*, and gave an excellent rendition of the part, his make-up being particularly good. Young Mr. Mudie, it may be added, played Dolby in *Betsy* the previous evening.

THE King and Queen of Denmark dined at Marlborough House on Monday as the guests of the Prince and Princess of Wales. After the dinner an evening party was given, at which a large number of distinguished guests attended, and two plays were acted; *Sixes and Sevens*, in which Mr. Arthur Bourchier and Miss Violet Vanbrugh took part, and *The Impertinence of the Creature*, with Miss Marie Tempest and Mr. Gerald Du Maurier as the widow and the "unknown gentleman."

AMONGST those taking part in the variety entertainment in the Old Ball-room, under the direction of Mr. Edward Terry and Mr. Graham Browne, at the Queen's Fête at the Mansion House on Thursday in aid of Crippled Children, were Mr. Leslie Lambert, with a sleight-of-hand entertainment; Mr. Harry Fragson, with a song scena; Mr. F. Clive, accompanied by Herr Wilhelm Ganz, in the Prologue to *I Pagliacci*; Mr. Lewis Waller, with a recitation; Mme. Alice Esty, with three selections; Master Max Darewski, with a pianoforte solo; Miss Lilian Braithwaite, with a recitation; Miss Helen Mar, with a story; and Mr. Harry Fragson, with French songs. The conductor was Herr Wilhelm Ganz.

AUTOGRAPH money is daily received by the secretary of the Actors' Benevolent Fund from Sir Charles Wyndham, Mr. H. Beerbohm Tree, and Miss Mary Moore. Mr. Harcourt Williams has sent £2 10s.; Mr. C. H. Workman a further sum of 6s. 6d.; and Mr. James Welch, £1 2s. 6d.

MR. H. B. FITZGIBBON, who has been business manager of the Compton Comedy Company, for tours extending over a period of eight years, has received a gratifying offer from Mr. Edward Compton of a further year's engagement, including the acting management at the St. James's Theatre during Mr. Compton's season there. This, however, Mr. Fitzgibbon has had to decline in order to fulfil a contract with Mr. George Alexander, by whom he is re-engaged for the autumn, when he will, as general manager, pilot the first tour of the latest St. James's Theatre success, *John Glayde's Honour*.

MR. BEERBOHM TREE, says Mrs. Cran, in "Stars of the Stage," is occasionally absent-minded. One day he took a cab and gave the driver the address. Throughout the journey he was reading letters, and when the house was reached he alighted, still reading, and knocked at the door. When the door was opened, Tree looked up abstractedly, and said to the amazed servant: "Come in! Come in!" Still reading, he re-entered the cab and returned to the theatre with his mission all unaccomplished. Of the numerous letters he receives from aspirants, two are given; one from a man who explains: "I have been a bricklayer for five years, but having failed in this branch, I have decided to take on acting, it being easier work"; and another from a Mohammedan gentleman who recommends himself on the ground that "I can lift any grand piano with my teeth."

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Mr. Hare on Actor-Managers.

"I REALLY think," says Mr. John Hare, in an interview with a *Tribune* representative, "the services of actor-managers have been of the greatest value to dramatic art. They do their best to keep up the traditions of the stage, although they cannot, of course, do as much in this way as certain managers on the Continent who enjoy a municipal or State subvention. Take the case of the Bancrofts. We all know what they did to reform the stage. They banished the old Adelphi style from the boards for ever, and they gave us rooms that really looked like rooms with strong wooden doors and ceiling all complete. Before their time we had blue sky-cloths in drawing-room scenes, flats that did not join, and lath and canvas doors that shivered with every gust of wind that came from the back of the stage. Indeed, if often happened that we had no doors at all."

Stage Traditions.

"FORMERLY actors remained under one management for years. They worked together, and they got a certain set of traditions. Look at the Comédie Française. Go and see *Le Malade Imaginaire* or *Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme*. You will see it played exactly as it was in the reign of Louis XIV. The traditions are handed down even to the minutest details, and as the company are always playing together the ensemble is perfect. Here, if we want to revive *The School for Scandal* we have to it more or less by guesswork. At the Comédie Française you can see not only the plays of Molière, but those of the moderns, Dumas fils and Augier, for instance, played exactly as they were on their original production. Here a good play, say, for instance, *The Notorious Mrs. Ebbsmith*, has a run, and then is put away. In France such a play would remain in the répertory. We do nothing to keep alive the literature of our stage."

An Endowed Theatre.

"THE remedy is an endowed theatre, whether endowed by the State or the municipality or private individuals does not matter. But we should have one theatre at least that is not run on commercial lines. In this respect there is hardly a country that is not ahead of us. You will have seen that New York is to have an endowed theatre. Certain rich men have each subscribed a large sum of money for this purpose. The total amount, I believe, is from one to two millions. Of course, the scheme will take a long time to fructify, but after a few years such an institution gathers about it the most valuable traditions."

Who Invented Bullock?

MR. ARTHUR WILLIAMS writes:—"In a case of infringement of copyright which came before Mr. Justice Bingham this week, *re East Lynne* and the part of Bullock, it was stated that Mr. Chute created that string of gags and wheezes known as Bullock. I have a bill before me of the Theatre Royal, Glasgow (Dunlop-street), dated May 12, 1866, in which *East Lynne* is decribed as being dramatised by the late J. B. Johnstone, and played by the late Miss Heath as Lady Isabel, Mr. Kendal as Captain Levison, Mr. Fitzroy as Justice Hare, and Harry Paulton as Bullock. Which was the *creator* of this wonderful classic, Mr. Chute or Mr. J. B. Johnstone? I should like to know."

Ellen Terry's First Appearance.

MISS ELLEN TERRY, in her "Story of My Life," now appearing in *M.A.P.*, thus describes her first appearance on the stage. She was cast for the part of Mamillius in *A Winter's Tale*. "I can remember as clearly as though it were yesterday," she writes, "the great day when I donned the little red and silver dress in which I appeared as Mamillius. My mother had arranged my hair in sausage curls on each side of my head in even more perfect order and regularity than usual. Besides my clothes I had a beautiful 'property' to be proud of! This was a go-cart, which had been made in the theatre by Mr. Bradshaw, and was an exact copy of a child's toy as depicted on a Greek vase. It was my duty to drag this little cart about the stage, and on the first night, when Mr. Kean as Leontes told me to 'go play,' I obeyed his instructions with such vigour that I stumbled and fell; and, in the laughter of the audience that followed, I thought that I heard the death-knell of my histrionic career. Even now I remember how bitterly I wept, how humiliated I felt."

Beerbohm Tree's Wit.

MRS. GEORGE CRAN'S admirable account of the life and work of Mr. Beerbohm Tree in the "Stars of the Stage" series contains some samples of Mr. Tree's ready wit. When remonstrated with on his early extravagance, he would say, "Thrift is a virtue it is easy to urge upon others." When a young literary dandy at the table waxed witty at the expense of his neighbours, Mrs. Cran heard Mr. Tree whisper: "Why not palliate the pangs of controversial vivisection with the chloroform of courtesy?" The ironic verbiage of the rebuke was exquisitely cruel; the boy, stopped in midcareer, looked unutterably foolish, and the actor, with kindness as quick as his wit was keen, added: "You know, a man is allowed to think, but not aloud."

Hamlet in AP.

"XXX" in the *Morning Leader* has been "translating" Shakespeare into the "AP." language made famous in a recent divorce case. "Take," he says, "Hamlet's soliloquy as a specimen of the subtle charm of the new language. The lines are longer, but if there are too many feet they must be sawed off in different lengths:

Hamlet: Tapo bape, or napot tapo bape; thapat apis thape quapestion!
Whapethaper 'tapis napoblaper in thape mapind tapo sapuffaper
Thape slapings and arrapows of outrapagapeous faportapune,
Or tapo tapake armaps agapainst a sapea of trapoubaples
And bapy oppaposaping, end thapem?

Who knows what light such a translation, if executed by scholarly hands, may shed on the Baconian theory."

A Pianoforte Joke.

THE Children's Company from Drury Lane Theatre, which has been on tour for nine weeks, and has collected and shared about £700, has had, says the *Daily Mail*, some very funny experiences, principally in getting licences for the three youngest, who are slightly under age. The play is called *The Fortè Thieves, Played Piano*, and one magistrate questioned the manager as to the circumstances under which the children were educated, and said, "It does not say much for the children's progress if their principals themselves cannot spell." "I do not quite know what you mean," answered the manager. "Why," said the magistrate, "you spell 'forty'—f-o-r-t-e." "Oh, that's a joke," said the manager. "'Forte,'" with the accent on, 'played piano'—'piano-fortè'—it's a joke." "Oh, it's a joke, is it?" said the magistrate; and he granted the licences.

Joseph's Coat.

L.C.C. INSPECTOR, to first boy in class under examination: "What can you tell us about Joseph and his brethren?" "Please, sir, he wore a coat of many colours." "And what did his brethren do with him?" "They put him in the pit, sir." "And *why* did they put him in the pit?" "Because he wore a coat of many colours, sir; if he'd had a frock coat and a high hat, they'd have put him in the stalls."

"IOLANTHE;
OR, THE PEER AND THE PERI,"

the Fairy Opera, in Two Acts, written by W. S. Gilbert; composed by Arthur Sullivan; Revived at the Savoy Theatre on Tuesday, June 11.

The Lord Chancellor	MR. C. H. WORKMAN
Earl of Mountararat	MR. FRANK WILSON
Earl Tolloller	MR. HAROLD WILDE
Private Willis	MR. OVERTON MOYLE
Strephon	MR. HENRY A. LYTTON
Queen of the Fairies	MISS LOUIE RENE
Iolanthe	MISS JESSIE ROSE
Celia	MISS VIOLETTE LONDA
Leila	MISS BEATRICE MEREDITH
Fleta	MISS VIOLET FRAMPTON
Phyllis	MISS CLARA DOW

The revival of *Iolanthe* at the Savoy Theatre on Tuesday evening brings to mind the sad circumstances in which the late Sir Arthur Sullivan conducted the first performance of the opera in the November of 1882. On the evening fixed for the production information reached the composer that all the savings of a lifetime had been lost in the bankruptcy of a public company with whom Sullivan's well-earned wealth had been deposited. In a moment the result of the work of a lifetime and of economy—for Sullivan was never an extravagant man—was swept away, and, financially, the musician was left little better off than when he was a student at Leipzig. It is interesting to look back upon this 1882 performance, on account of the many artists of eminence who took part in it. Mr. George Grossmith was the Lord Chancellor, Mr. Durward Lely Earl Tolloller, Mr. Charles Manners Private Willis, Mr. Richard Temple Strephon, Miss Alice Barnett the Fairy Queen, Miss Jessie Bond Iolanthe, Miss Julia Gwynne (now Mrs. George Edwardes) Leila, and Miss Leonora Braham Phyllis.

Iolanthe is one of the best of the Gilbert and Sullivan series. It contains more of Mr. Gilbert's satire and fancy, and less of his cheaper *ad captandum* comicalities; more of Sullivan's exquisite melody, and less of those facile compositions with which he was wont to escape from the difficulty of setting some of Mr. Gilbert's verse. Even the "patter-y" Dream Song of the Lord Chancellor is elevated and embellished by orchestration worthy of Mendelssohn; and *Iolanthe* includes some of the most sincerely sweet and purely pathetic airs that Sullivan ever wrote. The "old favourites" are too firmly fixed in the memories of old Savoy patrons for any need to allude to them *in extenso*. What was notable at the performance on Tuesday was that the opera appeared to have improved rather than grown out of date in the interval during which it has been absent from the London stage. It may be that it "shone superior" by contrast with many of our recent comedy-musical compositions; at any rate, the reception it had from the audience could only be described as rapturous. At first the management showed a disposition to decline encores; but, after the ice had been broken with respect to the Lord Chancellor's confession of his susceptibility, all the more effective numbers had to be repeated.

The present Savoy company have improved immensely since their first coming to the cradle of Gilbert and Sullivan opera. Mr. C. H. Workman—cheered by the sympathetic applause of Mr. George Grossmith, who was in a private box—played the Lord Chancellor marvellously well, and in a manner which leaves no loophole for carping or complaint. The quaint seriousness of the personage, his droll refinement, his absurd dignity, and his comical courtesy, were given with all the requisite cleverness and tact. Mr. Overton Moyle has an excellent voice for the part of Private Willis, and used it with complete success, besides endowing the contemplative soldier with due stolidity and repose. Mr. Henry A. Lytton was, as was only to be expected, unimpeachable in every way as Strephon; and Miss Louie Réné thoroughly comprehended the way in which the mock-heroic platitudes of the Queen of the Fairies should be delivered. Miss Clara Dow was a delightful representative of Phyllis, and did all that was necessary with the part, both dramatically and vocally; and Mr. Harold Wilde was a thoroughly capable exponent of the character of Earl Tolloller. Miss Jessie Rose has made herself an immense favourite in the course of this series of Savoy revivals, and her Iolanthe was a charming performance, full of tenderness, grace, and musical excellence. The three leading fairies had very attractive and intelligent representatives; and under the able stage-management of Mr. Albert James the chorus had been trained and marshalled to perfection. The dresses, made by Mme. Leon and Messrs. B. J. Simmons and Co. from the original designs, were as dainty, costly, and sumptuous as if the revival were meant to last for a year; and the scenery by Messrs. W. Raphael and A. Terraine and A. Warner was quite up to the high Savoy standard of excellence.

The scene at the close was uproariously enthusiastic. The whole audience joined in a demonstration of the sincerity of which there could be "no possible doubt whatever." They insisted on the appearance of the principal artists; and when the coming of Miss Jessie Rose was delayed they persevered heartily in their demands for her appearance. They were obstinate in insistance on Mr. Gilbert's presence, and paid liberal tribute to his talent. They summoned Mr. François Cellier, whose clever conducting had much to do with the success of the evening, and applauded him to the echo. They called out Mr. Albert James, and paid him a similar compliment; and when—after the most obstinate and not-to-be-denied insistence on her showing herself—Mrs. D'Oyly Carte, dressed in white and bearing a beautiful bouquet, bowed her acknowledgments, they wanted her to make a speech. It was evident that the plucky spirit of the manageress, who, in spite of recent ill-health, has thrown herself heart and soul into the work of these delightful revivals, has been keenly appreciated by the public. It was pleasant to see Mrs. Carte looking so well, and to think that the success of her experiment has been so gratifyingly complete.

THE well-known character-actor, Mr. Mark Paton, who has just returned from Australia, is now in town looking remarkably well after a record tour.

"GREAT POSSESSIONS."

Play, in Four Acts, translated from the German of Karl Rössler, Produced at the Adelphi Theatre, on Monday, June 10.

The Rich Asarja	MR. CHARLES GLENNEY
Nathaniel	MR. MARTIN HARVEY
Joram	MR. CHARLES J. CAMERON
Rabbi Jehuda	MR. ALBERT E. RAYNOR
Spintharos	MR. VINCENT STERNROYD
Malchiel	MR. PHILIP HEWLAND
Zaccheus	MR. GEORGE COOKE
Samaya	MR. FRED WRIGHT, SEN.
Annas	MR. P. FOSTER
Jesse	MR. KENNETH BLACK
Phabes	MR. A. FIELD
An Old Fisherman	MR. F. J. ARLTON
The Stranger	MR. ALFRED MANSFIELD
Ulam	MR. LEONARD CRASKE
Beria	MR. P. ALEXANDER
Japhia	MR. C. LANGTON
Machir	MR. LESLIE PALMER
Rechab	MR. DENHOLM MUIR
Simon	MISS N. DE SILVA
Ruth	MISS SUZANNE SHELDON
Rachel	MISS MAUD MILTON
Leah	MRS. B. M. DE SOLLA
Rahab	MISS COLERIDGE
Mariamne	MISS MADGE FABIAN
A Rich Woman	MISS MAUD RIVERS
1st Poor Woman	MISS BESSIE ELDER
2nd Poor Woman	MRS. F. WRIGHT

The translation from the German of Karl Rössler which Mr. Martin Harvey presented at the Adelphi Theatre on Monday evening, is scarcely as satisfactory as his other notable productions, though it contains several scenes of real dramatic force. The impression created is partly due to the fact that the leading personage is a feeble-minded dreamer, the helpless victim of the circumstances which surround him. Nathaniel, the reputed son of the rich and avaricious Jew, Asarja, is really the offspring of Asarja's faithless wife and a gay and handsome Greek named Spintharos. Asarja, who is tormented by remorse for the villainous tricks by which he has accumulated his wealth, hands it over in trust to Nathaniel; and the result is that the young man, who has been impressed by the humanitarian teachings of a new prophet, resolves to distribute his "great possessions" among the starving workpeople of the small town on the Lake of Gennesaret, where the scene of the play is laid in A.D. 31. But the workpeople, who are an ill-conditioned and ungrateful lot, turn upon Nathaniel and begin to bully him. He learns from Spintharos of his—Nathaniel's—real parentage; and, taking him at the moment of depression following the disclosure, Ruth, the voluptuous widow of Nathaniel's deceased brother, "throws herself at his head," and leads him off to sin. When old Asarja finds that Nathaniel, in utter despair of readjusting the problem of property, is going to throw the family gold and jewels into the Lake of Gennesaret, he consents to his son's assassination by a lame and envious cobbler named Zaccheus, who stabs the young man to death. There are many other characters in the cast, notable amongst them being Joram, the brother of Asarja, who returns from abroad, reproaches the old Jew with his trickeries, and knocks him on the head with a paving-stone; and an illegitimate son of Asarja's by a blind beggar called Rachel. The lad is insane, and at one point attempts to commit suicide by drowning.

The length of the cast supplied many opportunities for distinction to individual artists. Mr. Charles Glenney gave a very fine performance as the remorseful and avaricious Jew, Asarja, the Hebrew characteristics being very cleverly supplied, and the expression of remorse, indignation, and passionate avarice being quite powerful. With the aid of an excellent make-up Mr. Glenney depicted very graphically the headstrong, emotional, and obstinate nature of Asarja, and filled the part, physically and intellectually, to the utmost. Even Mr. Martin Harvey could do little with such a hopeless task as that of representing the unfortunate Nathaniel, whose share in the story is so poor and pitiful. The more Mr. Harvey emphasised the helpless dreaminess of Nathaniel's nature the weaker, dramatically, the character became. There was just one chance in the rôle, when Nathaniel is inspired with the Spirit of God; and here Mr. Harvey was deeply impressive. But no artist, however gifted, could do anything great with a personage who is everyone's dupe, and who is made strong, sensual love to by an exuberant female in the sight and hearing of the audience. Everyone in the play "scores off" Nathaniel; and the result is that, act he never so ably, the representative of the rôle is reduced almost to passivity. This is the more conspicuous as the "scorers" are such a very self-assertive crew. Joram is perfectly perfervid in his savage earnestness, and Mr. Charles J. Cameron gave the fullest value to the snarling spite of the angry brother of Asarja, besides looking the "very image" of a cantankerous and irrepressible Jew. Mr. Albert E. Raynor, as the Rabbi Jehuda, sketched the familiar Pharisee type clearly and sharply, the hard and crafty character of the cruel formalist being indicated with real skill. Mr. Vincent Sternroyd's gipsy-like Greek, with "Hyperion's curls" and "the front of Jove himself," bore himself nobly, and acted with a picturesque freedom that was quite appropriate. Mr. Phillip Hewland as a half-witted beggar was picturesque and effective; Mr. George Cooke was vitriolically virulent and graphically base as the sandal-maker, Zaccheus; and Mr. Fred Wright, sen., was pathetically senile as the old and dignified beggar, Samaya. Annas had a competent representative in Mr. P. Foster; and Mr. Kenneth Black gave a neat performance of the part of Jesse, Mr. A. Field doing good work as Phabes, and Mr. Alfred Mansfield contributing a weird and vivid interpretation of the rôle of the Stranger. Mr. Denholm Muir was quite efficient as Rechab; and Miss N. de Silva played the insane Simon with the sensitive pathos which she has always at command. Miss Suzanne Sheldon's personal charms enabled her to embody the sensual and seductive Ruth with remarkable reality, and the thoroughness of her acting gave full value to the very voluptuous passages of the play in which Ruth wooes the shy and shrinking Nathaniel to wickedness. Miss Maud Milton made the most of her opportunity as the injured mother of the insane Simon, and delivered her reproaches of her seducer with fine elocution and excellent emphasis; and Miss B. M. de Solla hit off cleverly the 'cute and artful Leah. Miss Coleridge looked very pretty and acted gracefully as Rechab; and Miss Madge Fabian was commendable as Mariamne.

The single scene, by W. Telbin, was a marvel of painting and "building-up," the porch, with its Ionic columns, the solid masonry of the arched tower, and the lovely view of the Lake and its shores, making a picture of exquisite beauty. There was neither overture nor entr'acte music, the orchestra being artificially turfed over; and at the end of each act the lights were lowered gradually, and some tableau curtains, designed by Mr. R. Phené Spiers, descended upon the darkness. Great credit for the marshalling of the stage crowds of oil-pressers and labourers must be given to Mr. H. J. Loveday, under whose direction the stage was placed. The dresses, from drawings by Tissot and William Hole, were realistic, and, where opportunity offered, luxurious. *Great Possessions* had a hearty reception from an audience which included many warm admirers of the gifted and enterprising actor-manager.

"THE MERRY WIDOW."

Adapted by Captain Basil Hood from *Die Lustige Witwe*, by Victor Leon and Leo Stein, Music by Franz Lehar; the English Lyrics by Adrian Ross; produced at Daly's Theatre on Saturday, June 8.

Vicomte Camille de Jolidon	MR. ROBERT EVETT
Marquis de Cascada	MR. LENNOX PAWLE
M. de St. Brioche	MR. GORDON CLEATHER
General Novikovich	MR. FRED KAYE
M. Khadja	MR. V. O'CONNOR
Nisch	MR. W. H. BERRY
Waiter at Maxim's	MR. R. ROBERTS
Prince Danilo	MR. JOSEPH COYNE
Baron Popoff	MR. GEORGE GRAVES
Natalie	MISS ELIZABETH FIRTH
Olga	MISS NINA SEVENING
Sylvaine	MISS IRENE DESMOND
Praskovia	MISS KATE WELCH
Lo-Lo	MISS AMY WEBSTER
Do-Do	MISS DOROTHY DUNBAR
Jou-Jou	MISS DOLLY DOMBEY
Frou-Frou	MISS DAISIE IRVING
Clo-Clo	MISS PHYLLIS LE GRAND
To-To	MISS MABEL MUNROE
Margot	MISS MARGOT ERSKINE
Zo-Zo	MISS GERTRUDE LISTER
Fi-Fi	MISS MABEL RUSSELL
Sonia	MISS LILY ELSIE

We, who are versed in the geography of the stage—a geography of limitless possibilities, infinitely more interesting though slightly more complex than that of the everyday world—as soon as we learned from our programmes on Saturday night that *The Merry Widow* hailed from Marsovia, knew that we might reasonably expect to spend the evening in the company of lovely women and gallant men, clothed in most becoming national (?) costume, possessed of boundless wealth, and with a sprightly wit. We knew also that the music by Mr. Franz Lehar had been ringing in the ears of the Continent for the last eighteen months, and that *Die Lustige Witwe* was one of the most popular persons on the Continent. The fact that the merry little lady was making her London début under the wing of Mr. George Edwardes was sufficient guarantee that she would be launched with lavishness wedded to perfect taste.

On the opening night the opera was conducted by the composer, who received a most hearty welcome from a very appreciative house. His music is sure to become as popular in London as it has been in Germany. Already on Saturday night parts of the house caught up the more "catchy" tunes, and sang and whistled them lustily during the entr'actes. Mr. Lehar has provided music to suit the taste of various classes of music-lovers. There are airs in *The Merry Widow* with a lilt in them which ring in one's ears after they have been heard once; and there is also music good enough to appeal to the most cultured ear, almost in the style of grand opera. Certainly the most popular will be the waltz in Act 2, while "I go to Maxim's" will be a close second, and a third in the running will certainly be the "Vilia" song.

The plot is ingenious, but clear and coherent. Sonia, the "merry widow," had, in former days, before her marriage, and when but a farmer's daughter, met Prince Danilo, and there had been some love-passages between them; but Danilo, in obedience to the will of his uncle, the reigning monarch, "loved and rode away." When the play begins, Sonia is an enormously rich and very lovely widow, much sought in marriage. She meets Danilo at a ball at the Marsovian Embassy, in Paris, to which the Prince had been brought by the Ambassador of Marsovia, Baron Popoff, in order that he might have a chance of ingratiating himself with the pretty widow, whose millions the Baron is most anxious to keep in the country, as the finances of Marsovia are in anything but a flourishing condition. Sonia taunts the Prince with his desertion, and tells him scornfully that as she is now rich he will probably declare his love. The Prince, stung by her taunts, swears he will never speak of love to her; and, until the very end of the play, and in spite of the severest temptation, he manages to keep his word. Sonia, being a woman, of course does her best to make him break it. Around this central plot several minor intrigues are woven, which lead one to imagine that the ladies of the Marsovian Court are as frail as they are fair. The worthy Baron's pretty wife is no exception to the rule, and, on one occasion, she is only saved from discovery by Sonia taking her place at the last moment, just as the doors of the summer-house in which Natalie had been hiding her admirer, a French Vicomte, are thrown open, Natalie escaping by a back door as Sonia enters. The mock-discovery, while filling the Baron with relief, brings despair to the heart of the Prince Danilo, who goes off to Maxim's to drown his troubles before his departure from Paris. Sonia follows him, an explanation is forthcoming, and the curtain goes down upon a reconciliation.

The part of the Merry Widow is played delightfully by Miss Lily Elsie, who has caught exactly the spirit of light-hearted gaiety, touched occasionally with deeper feeling, which is necessary to the part. She is merry and grave, tender and cold, in turn, one moment using every weapon of a pretty woman to bring her lover into subjection, and the next moment ignoring his existence as she dances gaily off with a crowd of admirers. In the second act Miss Elsie played with fine dramatic instinct. This, and her singing of the "Vilia" song, if nothing else—for her whole performance reached a high standard of excellence—place her at once in the front rank of the bright particular stars of light opera. Mr. Joseph Coyne's rendering of the "Maxim's" ditty was an excellent bit of comedy. Mr. Coyne deftly recited the pretty ballad which the Prince sings to Sonia in the second act, which he gave with fine vigour and intensity. He played the character throughout in the vein of pure comedy, and although the romance with which the authors have evidently invested the part was absent, Mr. Coyne made a manly fellow of the Prince, and got great fun out of the rôle. The humour of Mr. George Graves as the Ambassador, Baron Popoff, was admirable in every respect. Mr. Graves is a past-master in the art of coining quaint, descriptive expressions, and his abuse of the aspiring Nisch, the messenger to the Legation (played with much droll effect by Mr. W. H. Berry), will add extensively to the vocabulary of many of Mr. Graves's admirers. Mr. Lennox Pawle was genuinely funny as a comic French Marquis; and Mr. Fred Kaye's unique methods were as distinctive as ever in the part of General Novikovich. Mr. Robert Evett's voice delighted the ear in his song, "If I might go with you," and his acting as the Vicomte Camille de Jolidan, the devoted admirer of Natalie, was a first-class piece of work. There is always a delightful finish about anything which Mr. Evett does. Mr. Gordon Cleather as M. de St. Brioche supplies a neat piece of work; and as a waiter as Maxim's Mr. R. Roberts makes a hit in a small rôle; while Mr. V. O'Connor plays M. Khadja, Counsellor of Legation, effectively. As Natalie, Miss Elizabeth Firth looks charming in some very beautiful frocks, and sings and acts in her usual accomplished style. Miss Firth's voice is singularly pure, and has a crystalline sweetness. She played Natalie very prettily, at one moment urging the man she loved to forget her and marry the widow, and the next declaring that he should do nothing of the kind. Miss Nina Sevening looked bewitchingly pretty as Olga, the flighty little wife of the jealous attaché; and Miss Irene Desmond was good as Sylvaine, wife of Khadja; while Miss Kate Welch made an agreeably *naïve* Praskovia. The girls at Maxim's were represented by a bevy of exceptionally pretty and very smartly-dressed damsels. Miss Amy Webster sang excellently; and Miss Mabel Russell as Fi-Fi danced lightly and daintily.

"DIVORCONS."

An adaptation by Margaret Mayo of Victorien Sardou's comedy in three acts, played for the first time in London at the Duke of York's Theatre, on June 12.

M. Henri de Prunelles	MR. FRANK WORTHING
M. Adhémar de Gratignac	MR. RICHARD BENNETT
M. Cravynac	MR. J. D. BEVERIDGE
M. Bafourdin	MR. J. W. MACDONALD
Bastien	MR. FRANK COLLINS
Joseph	MR. MAX FREEMAN
Jamarot	MR. RICHARD WILSON
Cyprienne	MISS GRACE GEORGE
Josepha	MISS JANE CORCORAN
Mme. de Brionne	MISS RUTH BENSON
Mlle. de Lusignan	MISS RUBY RAY
Mme. de Valfontaine	MISS SADIE JEROME

It is rather too late in the day to discuss the merits of *Divorçons*, which was produced at the Palais Royal in the December of 1880. The English version of the play by Miss Margaret Mayo, which was presented at the Duke of York's on Wednesday, is not the first attempt that has been made to produce an equivalent of Sardou's piece. At the Comedy Theatre in 1892 was performed a version by Mr. C. H. E. Brookfield, entitled *To-day*, in which Mr. Charles Hawtrey, Miss Lottie Venne, Mr. Granville Barker, and Mr. George Grossmith, jun., took part; and Mr. and Mrs. Bourchier's performances at the Royalty, in his version of *Divorçons*, under the title of *The Queen's Proctor*, are still fresh in our memories. Sardou's skill in construction and in the invention of humorous situations was conclusively proved by the roars of merriment that were heard in the Duke of York's Theatre on Wednesday evening. There could, indeed, be no denying the demonstrative delight of the audience with the entertainment provided. Their enjoyment was obviously unalloyed by any recollection of the original; and the funny situations and droll dialogue of the play sent them into convulsions of laughter, their intense satisfaction culminating in the heartiest applause at the end of each act.

We may be grateful to Miss Mayo for having retained the French names of the personages, and for following the original as far as decency permitted. The translation is neatly and pleasantly made, though the Americanisms sounded strangely in a play in which the personages are supposed to be French.

Divorçons was one of the first comedies which dealt humorously with the question of divorce in France. The main thesis is the objection of the French wife to the husband because he is a husband. His "official" position, says de Prunelles, is the cause of his wife, Cyprienne, preferring to him her admirer, M. Adémar de Gratignac, who is really a silly and fatuous personage. The glamour of danger and secrecy, however, gives Adhémar a halo of romance which is wanting to the humdrum, everyday affection of de Prunelles; and, as the new divorce bill is about to be passed, Cyprienne—who is a feather-headed little goose—dreams of a speedy release from de Prunelles, and a prompt and happy union with de Gratignac. It occurs to the latter to anticipate the passing of the bill by a false telegram sent to him by a friend; but de Prunelles divines the situation, and determines to take advantage of it. He adopts the tone of being delighted to obtain his freedom, and shifts on to de Gratignac all the disabilities of the husband—his security, his legality, and his common-place. When Cyprienne finds that de Prunelles is only too happy to be released, she becomes jealous, and sooner than he shall go out to dinner with a pretty widow of his acquaintance, she "throws over" Adhémar, and accompanies her husband—now become, technically, her lover, and, therefore, alluring and attractive—to a restaurant. While they are enjoying themselves, Adhémar, in his character of injured husband, makes himself so absurd that Cyprienne, in disgust, and having learnt her lesson, returns to her allegiance.

The dialogue in the original is too highly spiced for an English audience, and Miss Mayo has omitted some of the most indecent passages. Enough, however, of *Divorçons* remained to amuse an audience ignorant of the original, and to give Miss Grace George—an American actress, new to London—an opportunity of proving her ability as an actress. Miss George has a pleasing appearance, much energy and vivacity, a distinct delivery, and the flexibility necessary to depict the varied moods of the fickle and excitable Cyprienne. Her representations of jealousy, vexation, joy, and irritation, were done with all the skill of a talented and experienced artist, familiar with every branch of her business, and employing, with easy quickness, all its expedients. Miss George was natural, vivid, at times earnestly expressive, and always active, expert, and effective. We can easily imagine this alert and agreeable actress in a character better suited to her talent than that of Mme. de Prunelles. She has an attractive method, a bright and pleasing style, and a charming sincerity which at once wins the hearts of an audience. Her delivery of the eloquent description of a French marriage from the wife's point of view was smooth, pointed, and admirably fluent and expressive. Her interest in her work was unflagging; her coquetry was quite cleverly done; her expression of emotion was keen and telling; and the earnestness, ability, and energy which she employed had their reward in the hearty applause of the audience. But, to say the best of it, the part of Cyprienne must always present difficulty to an actress of Anglo-Saxon blood. If she give it its full strength and value, her performance must necessarily prove distasteful to English ears and eyes; if she omit the indelicacies and the sensualities of the rôle it loses a great deal of its meaning and comic effect. Miss George at once made herself a favourite with the audience at the Duke of York's Theatre, and we hope soon to see her in a character better suited to her charming style and pleasant personality. Her reception was warmly favourable; and there was no mistaking the success of her Cyprienne with the Duke of York's audience.

Mr. Frank Worthing's reading of the rôle of de Prunelles did not err on the score of frivolity; but perhaps the philosophic nature of the ingenious husband was all the more firmly insisted on. Mr. Worthing seemed at first a little nervous, and inclined to dwell upon his dialogue; but he regained confidence as the performance proceeded, and his reading of the rôle was certainly very original, the idea being carried out with most praiseworthy conscientiousness. Mr. Max Freeman contributed a remarkably quaint and clever embodiment of Joseph, his funny "broken-English" diverting the audience immensely, and winning for him the warmest approval of the audience; and that admirable artist Mr. J. D. Beveridge performed a rather thankless task conscientiously as M. Cravynac, the friend and confidant of de Prunelles. Mr. Richard Bennett gave to de Gratignac the necessary suggestion of silliness, coupled with a fairly prepossessing style and exterior; he wisely abandoned any attempt to "Frenchify" de Gratignac, and endeared him to the house by a kind of sheepish amiability which was genuinely comic. Miss Ruby Ray played Mlle. de Lusignan with a refinement and clear lucidity which were very welcome indeed. Mr. Frank Collins was quite satisfactory as Bastien; and the same may be said of Miss Jane Corcoran as Josepha; Miss Ruth Benson played Mme. de Brionne boldly, and Miss Sadie Jerome did sound work as Mme. de Valfontaine; Mr. Richard Wilson acted ably as Jamarot, and Mr. J. W. Macdonald was quietly effective as M. Bafourdin. The piece was produced under the direction of Mr. Frank Hatch.

NEW PLAYS OF THE MONTH.

London.

May 1. *Lady Tatters*, romantic light opera, in three acts, written by Herbert Leonard, lyrics by Roland Carse, music by Walter Slaughter—Shaftesbury.
„ 1. *Brewster's Millions*, comedy, in four acts, by Winchell Smith and Byron Ongley, dramatised from a story by George Barr McCutcheon—Hicks Theatre.
„ 1. *Spectres of the Sanctum*, theosophical and spiritualistic sketch, by J. N. Maskelyne—St. George's Hall.
„ 4. *Miss Selina of K—*, musical comedy, book and lyrics by E. C. Mabel Leeds, music by Claude Blakesby-Yearsley—County Theatre, Kingston.
„ 6. *Cleopatra in Judæa*, play, in one act, by Arthur Symons (English Drama Society)—Bijou, Bayswater
„ 6. *The Hour*, comedy, in three acts, by Nugent Monck (English Drama Society)—Bijou, Bayswater.
„ 6. *The Tiger's Den*, drama, in four acts, by Charles Freeman—Theatre Royal, Stratford.
„ 7. *A Brier Rose*, comedy, in three acts, by H. Little (produced by amateurs)—Cripplegate Institute.
„ 8. *Strongheart*, American comedy-drama, by William C. de Mille (played for the first time in England)—Aldwych.
„ 11. *Designing People*, comedietta, by Sydney Fane—King's Hall, Covent Garden.
„ 13. *When Knighthood was in Flower*, play, in four acts, by Paul Kester, dramatised from Charles Major's novel of the same name (the Sothern-Marlowe season)—Waldorf.
„ 14. *The Hearthstone Angels*, comedy, in three acts, by Alison Garland—Imperial.
„ 15. *The Girls of Gottenberg*, musical play, in two acts, by George Grossmith, jun., and L. E. Berman, music by Ivan Caryll and Lionel Monckton, lyrics by Adrian Ross and Basil Hood—Gaiety.
„ 18. *The Last of His Race*, romantic drama, in four acts, by Donald MacLaren, music by Arthur Farwell (Professor of Cornell University, U.S.A.), produced in America as *The Redskins*, and presented for the first time in this country at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, on April 8, 1907—Drury Lane.
„ 20. *Citizen Morot*, play, in one act, by Alice Clayton Greene—Camden.
„ 20. *Her Road to Ruin*, drama, in four acts, by Frederick Melville—Terriss.
„ 20. *The Young Lieutenant*, comic opera, book by Herbert Dawson and A. F. Allen, music by R. A. Smith, lyrics by Herbert Dawson—Royal Artillery Theatre, Woolwich.
„ 26. *Clothes and the Woman*, comedy, in three acts, by George Paston (Miss Symonds), produced by the Pioneers—Imperial.
„ 26. *A Man's Foes*, play, in one act, by Diana Cholmondeley, produced by the Pioneers—Imperial.
„ 27. *The Stepmother*, by Arthur Shirley—Crown, Peckham.
„ 28. *Martha Plays the Fairy*, comedy, in one act, by Keble Howard—Haymarket.
„ 28. *My Wife*, comedy, in three acts, from the French, adapted by Michael Morton from *Mlle. Josette, Ma Femme* (Gymnase, Paris, Nov. 16, 1906), by Paul Gravault and Robert Charnay—Haymarket.

Revivals.

May 1. *Hamlet*, Shakespeare's tragedy (Sothern-Marlow season)—Waldorf.
„ 2. *Romeo and Juliet*, Shakespeare's tragedy (Sothern-Marlowe season)—Waldorf.
„ 4. *A Royal Family*, comedy romance, in three acts, by Captain Robert Marshall (originally produced at the Court Theatre on Oct. 14, 1899)—Duke of York's.
„ 7. *Prunella; or, Love in a Dutch Garden*, pierrot play, in three acts, by Laurence Housman and Granville Barker, music by Joseph Moorat (originally produced at the Court Theatre on Dec. 23, 1904)—Court.
„ 22. *A Woman of No Importance*, play, in four acts, by Oscar Wilde—His Majesty's.

Provinces.

May 9. *Father Varian*, play, in one act, by Monckton Hoffe—Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne.
„ 13. *The Song of the Torch*, play, in four acts, by Ian Hanford—Theatre Royal, Margate.
„ 13. *The Best of Her Sex*, drama, by William A. Armour and Robert Cheval—Coloseum Theatre, Oldham.
„ 20. *The Woman from Scotland Yard*, melodrama, in four acts, by George E. Clive and Alex. C. Grant—Osborne Theatre, Manchester.
„ 20. *For Her Husband's Sake*, domestic drama, in four acts, by Millar Anderson—St. James's Theatre, Manchester.
„ 20. *The Miser's Legacy*, domestic drama, by H. F. Maltby—Royalty Theatre, Llanelly.
„ 22. *Lynch Law*, dramatic sketch, in three scenes, by Sara B. Von Leer and E. P. Clift—Theatre Royal, Leeds.
„ 24. *Heber Sayell*, play, in one act, by Dorothea Wilson Barrett—Prince's, Bristol.
„ 27. *The Maid and the Motor Man*, musical comedy, libretto by J. Hickory Wood, music by A. Romilli—New Theatre, Cardiff.
„ 27. *The Sporting King*, drama, in three acts, by Charles Whitlock—Metropole, Gateshead.
„ 27. *The Eve of Her Wedding*, domestic drama, in four acts, by C. Watson Mill—Theatre Royal, Sunderland.
„ 28. *As Your Hair Grows Whiter*, play, in four acts, by Herbert Fuller (copyright performance)—Opera House, St. Helens.

Paris.

May 3. *Le Cœur et Le Reste*, comedy, three acts, by J. Monnier and G. Montignac—Athénée.
„ 4. *La Clef*, play, four acts, by Sacha Guitry—Théatre Réjane.
„ 10. *Ariane et Barbe-Bleue*, lyric tale, by Maurice Maeterlinck, music by Paul Dukas—Opéra-Comique.
„ 13. *Monsieur Alphonse*, by A. Dumas *fils* (revival)—Comédie-Française.
„ 13. *Les Fresnay*, one act, by Fernand Vandérem—Comédie-Française.
„ 13. *Fleurs d'Avril*, one act, in verse, by G. Vicaire and J. Truffier—Comédie-Française.
„ 14. *L'Otage*, comedy, three acts, by Gabriel Trarieux—Odéon.
„ 15. *Les Ames ennemies*, play, four acts, by P Hyacinthe-Loyson—Antoine.
„ 23. *La Patronne*, play, three acts, by G. Spitzmuller and A. Guetton—Molière.
„ 24. *La Catalane*, lyric drama, four acts, by Paul Ferrier and Louis Tiercelin, music by Fernand le Borne—Opéra.
„ 30. *Monsieur de Prévan*, comedy, three acts, in verse, by Gumpel and Delaquys—Odéon

Berlin.

May 3. *Das Mädchen ohne Ehre*, three-act play, by W. Melville—Luisen.
„ 8. *Staatsanwalt Alexander*, four-act play, by K. Schüler—Berliner.
„ 9. *Der Bettelgraf*, operetta, in three acts, by Leo Ascher (An der Wien Theatre Company's season)—Lessing.
„ 11. *Hopfenratti's Erben*, five-act farce, by Wilkens—New Schauspielhaus.
„ 13. *Im Rausche des Lebens*, three-act drama, by O. Pitschel—Bernard Rose.
„ 18. *Das Mädchen aus dem, Nacht-Café*, three-act play, by G. Ordeau—Central.
„ 30. *Das Rätsel seiner Ehe*, play, in six scenes, by L. Hasse—Luisen.
„ 31. *Drei Paar Schube*, three-act comédy, by K. Görlitz—Schiller, N.

"HELEN'S LITTLE SUBTERFUGE."

A New and Original Comedy, in Three Acts, by Roland Bottomley, produced at the Queen's Gate Hall, on Wednesday, June 12.

Lady Sarah Jennings ..... Miss Dulcie Derada
Helen Stanhope ..... Miss Mary Thornhill
Benson ..... Mrs. Isabel Edsell
Esther Graeme ..... Mrs. Hardy-Corfe
Mr. Carlton ..... Mr. Edward Landor
Mrs. Carlton ..... Miss Kate Hodgkinson
Derrick Carlton ..... Mr. Roland Bottomley
Miss Bensusan ..... Miss Carlotta Crayge
Alice Traynor ..... Miss Blanche Wilmot
Nina Martin ..... Miss Terrell
Marie Grey ..... Miss Cecily Stuckey
Mrs. Ralston ..... Miss Edith Bottomley
Thomas "Tops" Dalton .. Mr. R. C. Harcourt
Archie Gossett ..... Mr. Tom Shelford
Reginald Rivers ..... Mr. Robert Bottomley

Mr. Roland Bottomley, who has already done good work on the stage, and is certain to do a great deal more, has taken to playwriting, and produced on Wednesday evening, at the Queen's Gate Hall, two pieces from his pen. The more important of the two is entitled *Helen's Little Subterfuge*, a comedy, in three acts, which appeared to give much satisfaction to a very friendly audience. The piece opens with a conversation between Lady Sarah Jennings and Helen Stanhope. The former complains that for four seasons she has chaperoned Helen, whose matrimonial prospects are as nebulous as they were when she originally came out. Helen is not quite of her aunt's opinion. She has given her heart to Derrick Carlton, and has received telegrams from two other suitors, Archie Gossett and Reginald Rivers, making appointments with her alone on business that concerns her very nearly. Both these young gentlemen arrive, and make themselves more or less ridiculous. Helen contrives to get rid of them by cajoling them to take her friend Esther Graeme, to the Academy. The coast being cleared, she is able to receive Derrick, and to make an appointment with him to get married on the following morning. He is not quite sure that his people will receive with open arms such an impulsive and highly unconventional wife; but she assures him that she will make everything all right if he will allow her to carry out a little scheme she has devised. This is the "subterfuge" of the title. In the second act, when the guests are assembled in the hall at Carlton Manor, the residence of Derrick's parents, a scream for help is heard outside the portico, and Helen, who is now Mrs. Derrick Carlton, apparently fainting and in great distress, is brought in.

She invents a very thin story about an attack by a strange man, and meets with much sympathy from her mother-in-law, the kind-hearted Mrs. Carlton, sen. Her portmanteau is found by Derrick; but he does not discover the marriage certificate, which is picked up in the porch by his pater. The old gentleman immediately determines to have a little game with the young couple, even though it is a family tradition that more than one of the Carltons in the remote past married the stranger that accepted chance hospitality within their gates. Helen is treated, therefore, with some suspicion by her kind host and hostess, and has to run the gauntlet of unkind remarks and innuendoes from her mother-in-law's guests, especially from a Miss Bensusan, a frowsy spinster in spectacles. Of course, everything comes right in the end, and Helen and Derrick, we hope, live happily ever after. The comedy did not strike one as very stimulating, but the author has a sense of humour, and possesses the instinct of the theatre. He borrows occasionally from authors wittier than himself; but he sins in excellent company. His best character is the old maid, Miss Bensusan, a part that was played with drollery by Miss Carlotta Crayge. Miss Mary Thornhill, in spite of her lisp, scored as Helen; and the men in the piece were invariably good, Mr. Edward Landor, Mr. Roland Bottomley, Mr. R. C. Harcourt, Mr. Tom Shelford, and Mr. Robert Bottomley all scoring.

Preceding the principal piece came the farce, by the same author, entitled

"A QUIET EVENING."

Hargreaves ..... Mr. Tom Shelford
M. de Trappe ..... Mr. Robert Bottomley
Mme. de Trappe ..... Miss Ella Daincourt

The title is "writ sarcastic," for Hargreaves, a bachelor, is interrupted continually by De Trappe, a Frenchman furiously jealous of his English wife. He has actually patented a special perfume, and can follow the scent wherever she goes. Of course, she comes to Hargreaves, who cleverly gets rid of her without arousing the Gallic Othello, who is eventually mollified. *Voilà tout.* The piece, which has but little merit, was briskly played by Mr. Tom Shelford as Hargreaves, by Mr. Robert Bottomley as the conventionally excitable Frenchman, and by Miss Ella Daincourt, an attractive Mme. de Trappe.

The report of the committee appointed by the National Fire Protection Association of America to investigate the subject of theatre fires and the better protection of audiences, includes the following recommendations and requirements: The three great safeguards are found to be: First, the providing of ample, automatic, quick-opening smoke vents over the stage; second, the thorough equipment of the stage with automatic sprinklers, by means of which the action of the heat will promptly release over the burning scenery a rainfall tenfold heavier than the heaviest thunder shower, drenching the scenery and extinguishing the flames; and, third, the providing of especially ample exits and stairways from the gallery. The fireproofing or flame-proofing of scenery is found to be of doubtful value under the practical conditions of use. The so-called fireproof paints are of very small fire-retarding value. The asbestos curtain is found to possess much less endurance against heat and flame than had been supposed. The steel curtain covered with non-conductor on the stage side is far better than the asbestos curtain, but may give trouble in lowering, or may permit large quantities of suffocating gas to be forced into the auditorium around its edges. Dry powder fire extinguishers and hand grenades are likely to prove worse than useless, by promoting waste of valuable time. The stage should be separated from the auditorium by a self-supporting brick wall of the same thickness as required for outside walls and the entire width of the building, and should extend full thickness of the wall at least four feet about the stage roof, or the auditorium roof if the latter be higher, and should be coped. There should be no openings in this wall except the curtain opening, and not more than two others, to be located either below the stage level, or one on either side of the stage on the first floor, but no openings of any kind above the first floor.

"A BRAND FROM THE BURNING."

Play, by Geo. S. King, produced at the Metropole Theatre, Devonport, on Monday, June 10.

John Mawle ..... Mr. Richard Webb
Reginald Dalston ..... Mr. Leonard Aardale
Edward Parker ..... Mr. Douglas C. Phelps
Silas Maitland ..... Mr. Stanley Bedwell
Charles Heather ..... Mr. Fred Hill
George Lawson ..... Mr. Oscar Power
Billy Blossom ..... Mr. Larry Clements
Sir Henry Kato ..... Mr. John Owen
Counsel for the Plaintiff .. Mr. Sidney Henson
Detective White ..... Mr. Vivian Thomas
Will Neverwork ..... Mr. Henry B. Lewis
Timmy Flyer ..... Mr. Chas. Cloake
Policeman X73 ..... Mr. Tom Yates
Daisy ..... Miss Elsie Shelton
Ruth Parker ..... Miss Maude Lynton
Kate ..... Miss Lillie Reilly
May Thompson ..... Miss Cissie Cleveland
Ursula ..... Miss Olga Audre

(from our own correspondent.)

The above new play is from the pen of Mr. Geo. S. King, the manager of the theatre; the incidental music being written and arranged by Mr. E. Graham-Dunstan, the musical director of the theatre. The plot is as follows:—John Mawle is the manager of the Silchester Branch of the London and Western Banking Company, Ltd. Ursula, his daughter, is engaged to Reginald Dalston, a clerk employed in the bank. During Dalston's absence Ursula is ruined by Edward Parker, the manager's chauffeur. Learning she is to be married to Dalston in a month's time, Parker induces her to go through a form of marriage with him. The couple go on the Continent, but on reaching Venice, Parker confesses he is a married man, who has deserted his wife, and Ursula then leaves him and returns to London, and is just in the act of throwing herself into the Thames, when she is prevented by a Salvationist, who proves to be no other than Parker's deserted wife. Ursula returns to her father's home, and there meets Dalston, who declares he is willing to marry her.

The story of Ursula's betrayal is told in the Divorce Court, where the marriage with Parker is declared to be null and void. Dalston returns one night, to find Silas Maitland (a friend of Parker's) in his wife's bedroom, Parker having previously told her he would blow her husband's brains out unless she confessed to illicit relations with Maitland. Parker hides behind a dressing-table and covers Dalston with a revolver. In order to save her husband Ursula makes the required confession, and Parker escapes through an open window. Dalston refuses to believe his wife's statement that the whole affair was a plot to deceive him, and he denounces her. Ursula leaves her husband, but ultimately Parker, foiled in his purpose, admits that the plot was made up, and subsequently poisons himself. The company is a very able one, outstanding features of the performance being the acting of Messrs. Richard Webb and Douglas C. Phelps and Miss Maude Lynton.

THE LATE MRS. FRANK HARVEY.

A few particulars of the career of Mrs. Frank Harvey, whose death we briefly recorded in our last issue, will no doubt be of interest. After a painful illness, Mrs. Harvey passed away on the 4th inst. at her residence, 56, Drakefield-road, Upper Tooting, at the early age of forty-eight. Mrs. Harvey joined the famous Mlle. Beatrice Company some thirty years ago, and it was during her association with this company that she first met Mr. Harvey, to whom she was married three years later. On the death of Mlle. Beatrice, the company was carried on by Mr. and Mrs. Frank Harvey, who toured for more than twenty years round the country, visiting all the principal provincial towns.

Photo by J. Monk, Preston.

THE LATE MRS. FRANK HARVEY.

Owing to Mrs. Harvey's ill-health, they retired for five years, and took an estate close to Oldham. It was during this period that Mr. Harvey wrote his last play, *The Milestones of Life*, and for the purpose of producing it he started out on a "farewell tour." It was a farewell tour indeed, for it was during this itinerary that Mr. Harvey developed the illness that resulted in his death, in March, 1903. Mrs. Harvey, not caring to tour after her husband's death, left the stage for good, and took up her residence in London, where her untimely demise came as a shock to many.

Mr. Bannister Howard had an excellent company of artists during the past week at the Café Chantant in the North Tower Gardens of the Crystal Palace. They included Nell Emerald, Wal Robbins (musical comedian), Cissie Lupino (transformation dancer), Harding and Preston, Frances Ferina and company, and Li-Chang-Hi, the great Chinese musician. Next week the programme includes Fanny Robina in her great medley, "The Albert Hall Concert," "Coming back home again," and "My little baby boy"; Neil Hardy, the new and eccentric comedian; Florry Cooper, in her great song, "The stars are angel faces"; Stewart and Evans, in their comedy dialogue, "Aunt Amelia"; the Cosmans (George and Nellie) in their refined comedy act; and Haig and Russell (comedians).

Her Majesty the Queen, accompanied by the Queen of Denmark, visited the Red Cross Exhibition at the Balkan States Exhibition, Earl's Court, on Tuesday. Their Majesties appeared much interested in the exhibts.

A copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps. *The Era* is posted on Saturday in time to reach London Subscribers by the *first* Town Delivery, and Country Subscribers should receive their Papers by the *first* London Post. Address, the Publisher, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

FIFTY YEARS OF THE DRAMA. 1850—1900.

(copyright.)

In these columns it is proposed to give a strictly alphabetical arrangement of the titles of plays produced during the last fifty years. It will be the most complete list ever published, and should prove invaluable to authors desiring to discover whether a certain title has ever been used, and when. To members of the dramatic profession it will be useful in determining the dates of plays in which they have achieved successes. Our readers are politely requested to advise us of any omission or inaccuracy which they may notice.

This list as soon as complete will be published in cheap book form.

Worship of Bacchus, Olympic, July 21, 1879.
Worship of Plutus, Ladbroke Hall, July 6, 1888.
Worst Woman in London, Standard, Oct. 23, 1899.
Worth a Struggle, King's Cross, Feb. 18, 1871.
Wrangles, Cheltenham, March 26, 1900.
Wrath; or, A Message from the Dead, Theatre Royal, Huddersfield, Oct. 6, 1882.
Wreck at New Brighton, Theatre Royal, Birkenhead, May 15, 1882.
Wrecked, Theatre Royal, Margate, Dec. 4, 1884.
Wrecked, but Not Lost, City of London, Nov. 9, 1867.
Wrecked in London, Elephant and Castle, Aug. 1, 1887.
Wreckers; or, Martial Law, Her Majesty's Theatre, Carlisle, Dec. 4, 1884.
Wrecker, The, Britannia, July 1, 1878.
Wreck of the Argosy, Town Hall, Reading, Oct. 3, 1871.
Wreck of the Golden Mary, Victoria, Jan. 19, 1857.
Wreck of the Pinafore, Opera Comique, May 27, 1882.
Wrinkles, A Tale of Time, Prince of Wales's, April 13, 1876.
Writing on the Wall, Drury Lane, Feb. 12, 1855.
Written in Sand, Olympic, Aug. 29, 1884.
Wrong Address, Trafalgar, Oct. 5, 1895.
Wrong Door, Comedy, May 20, 1890.
Wrong Envelope, Novelty, Oct. 22, 1888.
Wrong Envelopes, Strand, July 19, 1887.
Wrong Girl, Strand, Nov. 21, 1894.
Wrong Legs, Theatre Royal, Ilkeston. Sept. 14, 1896.
Wrong Man in the Right Place, Princess's, April 10, 1871.
Wrong Mr. Wright, Eastbourne, Nov. 2, 1899.
Wrongs of Poland, Victoria, Feb. 11, 1865.
Wyllard's Weird, Criterion, Dec. 29, 1887.
Yashmak, Shaftesbury, May 31, 1897.
Ye Fair One with Ye Golden Locks, Surrey, Dec. 26, 1872.
Ye Fancy Fayre, St. George's Hall, May 30, 1881.
Ye Faust and Marguerite, East London, Dec. 26, 1873.
Ye Good Old Days, Surrey Masonic Hall, April 28, 1897.
Ye Ladye of Lyons, Aquarium, Great Yarmouth, April 10, 1882.
Ye Legende, Imperial, Sept. 22, 1883.
Yellow Boy, Theatre Royal, West Hartlepool, May 16, 1883.
Yellow Dwarf, Olympic, Dec. 26, 1854.
Yellow Dwarf, Burlesque, Olympic, April 9, 1855.
Yellow Passport, Olympic, Nov. 7, 1868.
Yellow Peril, Margate, Sept. 13, 1900.
Yellow Roses, Scarborough, Dec. 16, 1878.
Yellow Terror, Manchester, Oct. 1, 1900.
Ye Merrie England, Theatre Royal, Liverpool, Nov. 12, 1877.
Yeoman of the Guard, Savoy, Oct. 3, 1888.
Yeoman's Service, Novelty, Sept. 19, 1885.
Yes or No, Theatre Royal, Dublin, May 2, 1877.
Ye-Wyn-Wyn-Wn, Olympic, Nov. 17, 1875.
Y'lang Y'land, Hampton Wick, Jan. 5, 1893.
Yorick's Love, Lyceum, April 12, 1884.
Yorkshire Lass, Olympic, Feb. 18, 1891.
You Mustn't Laugh, Opera Comique, Nov. 5, 1892.

"THE ERA."

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ON THE ROAD, JUNE 17.

All-of-a-Sudden Peggy.—Marina T., Lowestoft.
An Unwedded Wife.—Prince's T., Grimsby.
Benson, F. R. (N.).—Birmingham and Gloucester.
Between the Lights.—Empire T., Oldham.
Biggest Scamp on Earth.—Prince's T., Portsmouth.
Bootles' Baby.—Tyne Theatre, Newcastle.
Destroyer of Men.—Royalty T., Barrow.
Eve of Her Wedding.—T. R., Jarrow-on-Tyne.
Fight for Millions.—T. R., Huddersfield.
Gay Parisienne.—T. R., Portsmouth.
Girl from Japan.—O. H., Southport.
Guilty Gold.—O. H., Coventry.
Heart's Desire.—Gaiety T., Burnley.
Her Lost Self.—Prince's T., Portsmouth.
Her Marriage Vow.—Crown T., Peckham.
Her One Great Sin.—King's T., Longsight.
His Sister's Honour.—T. R., Chatham.
Home, Sweet Home (Lindo).—Alexandra T., Hull.
Honour Thy Father.—Elephant and Castle T.
Hour of Her Triumph.—Grand T., Newcastle.
Ian Maclaren.—County T., Kingston.
Idler, The.—King's Theatre, Sunderland.
Importance of Being Earnest.—T. R., Hull.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Sedburgh and Maryport.
Little Breadwinner.—Lyric T., Hammersmith.
Little Vagrant.—Theatre Royal, Sheffield.
London Fireman.—Crown T., Peckham.
Man's Enemy.—Queen's T., Gateshead.
Manxman.—Theatre Royal, Stockport.
New Barmaid.—King's T., Glasgow.
New World.—Hippodrome, Mansfield.
Octoroon (Thorn).—T. R., Rochdale.
Otto the Outcast.—Prince's T., Preston.
Price of Her Soul.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
Private Secretary.—King's T., Hammersmith.
Prodigal Parson.—Prince's T., Blackburn.
Prodigal Daughter.—Victoria T., Broughton.
Royal Divorce.—Junction T., Manchester.
Sin of Her Childhood.—Oxford.
Sorrows of Satan.—H. M. T., Aberdeen.
Stolen Birthright.—T. R., Bolton.
Stowaway, The.—Theatre Royal, Bristol.
The Woman Pays.—T. R., Rochdale.
Tommy.—New Theatre, Oxford.
Two Little Vagabonds.—Kennington Theatre, S.E.
Triumph of Truth.—Cambridge T., Spennymoor.
Uncle Tom's Cabin.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
Under the Russian Flag.—Star T., Swansea.
When a Man Hates.—Queen's T., Longton.
When it Was Dark.—P. G. T., Folkestone.
When the Lights are Low.—T. R., Barnsley.
Wilkie, Allan, and Co.—O. H., Blackpool.
Woman Adrift.—Broadway T., Deptford.
Woman from Scotland Yard.—Grand T., Hull.
Woman's Past.—Star Theatre, Liverpool.
Wrecker of Men.—T. R., Sunderland.
£1000 Reward.—Grand T., Nottingham.

"EAST LYNNE" LITIGATION.

In the King's Bench Division on Tuesday, before Mr. Justice Bigham and a Common Jury, Mr. John Pitt Hardacre and Mrs. Frances Mary Gumley were the plaintiffs in an action for an infringement of their copyright in what is known as the Bullock version of *East Lynne*. Defendants were the Arthur Carlton Theatres (Limited), Mr. Herbert Barrs and his wife, Mrs. Dorothy Oswald Barrs, and Mr. Arthur Roscoe Carlton. The statement of claim alleged that at Bromley and Stalybridge in August and September, 1905, defendants, by a performance of *East Lynne*, infringed the plaintiff's copyright. Defendants denied there was any infringement.

Mr. Shee, K.C., for the plaintiffs, said *East Lynne* was adapted some years ago from a novel by a gentleman named Chute. The novel was a very sad story, also the play, and as the play did not succeed on the stage—it wanted something to relieve it—Mr. Chute added a comic part—viz., that of a policeman, who was named Bullock—and the play had been a great success. Mr. Hardacre acquired the rights to produce that version. There had been many attempts to alter the name of the comic policeman, but, counesl said, they were an infringement of Mr. Hardacre's rights. The infringement of which plaintiffs complained took place, and was persisted in, pending an action for an infringement of a similar character, at Birmingham. That action was tried at Manchester, where it was decided that there was an infringement of Mr. Hardacre's rights. In that case they had adopted the titles of the acts. The present action was in regard to representations of the play at Bromley and Stalybridge, where the policeman, instead of being called Bullock, was designated Jorkins, and it was alleged that the dialogue of that character was copied word for word from the Bullock version.

Mr. Cecil Elgar, business-manager for Messrs. Armitage and Lee, who are touring with a company playing Mr. Pitt Hardacre's version, said he saw the performance at Bromley, and in his opinion it was a copy of the Bullock version. There was very little alteration made, compared with that at Birmingham, in respect of which the plaintiff successfully brought an action.

His Lordship asked why defendants had on their bills, "This is not the Bullock version."

Witness said that was because a writ had been issued, claiming all rights under the Bullock version.

Mr. Shee asked the witness if he thought a comic policeman in itself was an infringement of Mr. Hardacre's play?

Witness: Yes. There is none in the original book.

Mr. Pitt Hardacre stated that the Bullock version of *East Lynne* was the only one that had held the stage. He had advertised in theatrical papers warning companies against infringements of his rights in respect to that version. He had brought many actions, and was always successful.

Mr. Rafferty, on behalf of Mr. Arthur Carlton, said his client was managing-director of the Arthur Carlton Company (Limited), and he made every effort to prevent any infringement of the Bullock version.

Mr. Barrs, another of the defendants, gave evidence, and denied that the words alleged were spoken at Bromley or Stalybridge. He agreed to perform the piece, and he denied that it was similar to the Bullock version. The words for the comic parts were taken from a recollection of comic pieces during an experience of twenty years. He crossed out that he thought resembled the Bullock version. In the action at Manchester the plaintiff got a verdict against witness for penalties amounting to £28, but they had not been paid.

The jury found a verdict for the plaintiffs against all the defendants, and his lordship entered judgment for £12, and granted an injunction.

CRICKET.

Bristol X.L.C.R. and Harry Hare's Orchestral Band Athletic Clubs v. Bristol Early Closers' C.C.

Played on Clifton Downs, Wednesday, May 29.

Result: Bristol X.L.C.R., 38; Bristol Early Closers, 79. George Hedges bowled well for Bristol Early Closers' C.C.

Miss Cecilia Fowler's Eleven made 26 against 42 scored by Miss Winifred Bradley's Eleven, in a match played near Clifton Downs on Wednesday, May 29.

"The Cafe Concert," a new original musical comedy sketch, written by Charles Parsons and Will Ashworth, with music by C. Blakesley Yearsley, and new and elaborate scenery by Geo. Wayne and J. Mullins, will be produced under the direction of Chas. Parsons at the Empress, Brixton, on Monday next.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

FRANK HENDERSON.—*Both Mr. Joseph Mackay and Mr. Wallis Mackay have joined the great majority. We do not know the names of any plays from their pens. You might find them by searching* The Era *Almanacks for the last twenty years.*

ARTHUR WILLIAMS.—*The adaptation by Edmund Falconer of Victor Hugo's famous drama* Ruy Blas *was produced at the Princess's on Oct. 27, 1860, with the following cast: Ruy Blas, Mr. Fechter; Don Cæsar de Bazan, Mr. A. Harris; Don Salluste de Bazan, Mr. Walter Lacy; Count of Alba, Mr. Meadows; Don Pedro, Mr. Garden; Don Campo, Mr. Raymond; Gudiel, Mr. Moreland; An Alcade, Mr. Paulo; A Huissier, Mr. Daly; Marianne of Neuberg (betrothed and wedded by proxy to Charles II. of Spain), Miss Heath; Doña Casilda, Miss Rose Leclercq; and Duchess of Albuquerque, Mrs. Weston.*

AMBIGUOUS.—*An interesting summary of the action brought by the late Mr. George Adney Payne against Miss Marie Lloyd will be found in A. A. Strong's "Dramatic and Musical Law," to be had at our offices.*

GARSTON.—Judged By Appearances, *play, in one act, was produced at the Comedy Theatre on March 22, 1902, the night of the transference of* The New Clown *from Terry's to the Panton-street house. Mr. Frederick Fenn is the author, and as he writes for* The Tribune *a letter to the office of that paper would no doubt reach him. He is also a member of the Green Room Club, 48, Leicester-square, W.C.*

M. A. SCHEFF.—The Prince of Pilsen *was produced for its first public performance in this country at the Shaftesbury Theatre on May 14, 1904. It was previously "copyrighted" at St. George's Hall.*

SEABANK.—*We regret to say that the number you require is out of print. You can see the file on application at our office and by payment of a fee.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth** or **Death** or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence,** every additional word **One Penny.**

The charge for a notice of **Marriage,** not exceeding forty words, is **Two Shillings and Sixpence,** every additional word **One Penny.**

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BIRTHS.

BRETON.—Tuesday, June 11, Mrs. Arthur Breton (Miss Dolly Sterling), at the Green Man Hotel, Hereford, of a fine boy.

DENHAM.—On June 8, Millie Denham, wife of Edgar Budden, of a daughter. Both doing well.

MARRIAGES.

MORRIS—SARGENT.—June 5, at St. Augustine's Church, Cork, by Very Rev. William O'Sullivan, O.S.A., Chauncy Rupert Charles Morris, of Balham, S.W., to Ellen Mary (Nellie), younger daughter of R. E. Sargent, Esq., Golden-grove, Douglas-road, Cork (late agent Bank of Ireland, Bandon).

DEATHS.

ELLIS.—June 11, at the Covent Garden Opera House, suddenly from heart disease, Major-General Sir Arthur Edward Augustus Ellis, G.C.V.O., C.S.I., Comptroller in the Lord Chamberlain's Department.

GOOLD.—June 8, at his residence, Manor Park, in his 54th year, Chas. Goold, actor.

HUGUES.—June 11, at Paris, Clovis Hugues, poet, dramatist, and journalist, aged 55.

MAITLAND.—On the 10th inst., at Ferndene, Chiswick-lane, W., the wife of Lauderdaile Maitland (professionally known as Gertrude Valentine), aged 26. Deeply mourned.

SHEPHERD.—On June 6, at Walthamstow, of pneumonia, Ernest Joseph, youngest son of Walter and Henrietta C. Shepherd, late of Thames Ditton, aged 23.

STEWART.—June 9, at 19, Gibson-square, Islington, Clare, wife of James Stewart.

STEWART.—Found drowned on the beach at Bournemouth on June 11, Rowland Stewart, late manager of the Theatre Royal, Bournemouth.

IN MEMORIAM.

BEST.—In memory of my dear wife, Louise Dorothy Best (Miss Lalo), who died June 16, 1905, at Portsmouth. She was a devoted wife and a faithful friend. R.I.P.

CRAWFORD.—In loving memory of my husband, Alexander Cumming Rutherford Crawford (Harry Linn), who died June 11, 1890.

LE FRE.—In ever-loving memory of our darling Albert (son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Le Fre), who was taken from us June 17, 1905, aged 13 years.

"Beloved and loving, he has passed away,
While we who mourn his loss can only pray
To meet him again in that blest home
Where sorrow and death are all unknown."

IN spite of the lateness of the season, another new play was produced last Monday at the Astor Theatre, New York. It is called *The Builders*, and was written by Marian Fairfax. A young man of good family, after serving a term of imprisonment for manslaughter, goes to Arizona to begin life anew. Here he builds an irrigation plant, and is about to win fame and honour, when his prison record is produced. He is deeply in love with a girl, who turns from him when the crisis comes, and he ends by wedding his typist, who, like himself, is burdened with a past, and is able to sympathise with him.

We shall be obliged if our readers will send us any amusing anecdotes they may hear, or accounts of any quaint incidents they may witness while acting or rehearsing.

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Baines, Miss Florence
Ball, Mr. Ed. George
Bale Troupe.
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Collins, Mr. W.
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Crump, Mr. Herbert F.
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Dailly, Miss Phyllis
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De Roy, Miss Daisy
De Wynne, Mr. C.
Dobler, Mr. George
Doreen, Miss Lillian
Eckert, Miss K.
Edgar, Mr. Alfred
Ediss, Miss Connie
Ellery, Mr. John
Eleonora, Mlle.
Elliotts and Savonas
Elliott, Mr. J.
Elton, Mrs. Fred
Emilon, Mr. Alfred
English, Mr. Will
Fane, Miss Ida
Farren, Mr. Arthur
Felix, Miss Lizzie
Foldi, Miss I.
Fortescue, Miss (Actress)
Fuller, Miss Louie
Godwin, Mr. Will
Gordon, Mr. Anthony
Gouriet, Mr. Victor
Graham, Mr. B.
Grieg, Mr. F. St. John
Gully, Mr. Vincent
Haddon, Miss B.
Handel, Miss Zette
Harding, Mr. M. C.
Harvie, Mr. Geo.
Hewitt, Mr. Charles
Hill, Miss J.
Hollisher, Mr. H.
Hope, Mr. Roland
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Kendal, Mr. Alec
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Lindo, Mr. Frank
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Lonsdale, Miss Ada
Louis, Mr. Edward
Lovatt, Mrs. A.
Lovett, Mr. Beresford
Mackay, Miss J.
Marler, Mrs. Nellie
Martin, Mr. Philip
Mayor, Miss Queenie
McCoy, Sisters
McNaughton, Mrs. Chas.
Miller, Mr. St. Aubyn
Millington, Miss
Monermann, Otto
Montague, Mr. J. B.
Moore, Miss Carrie
Moore, Mr. Marshall
Moore, Mr. W.
Moseley, Mr. W. G.
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Saker, Miss Annie
Schubert, Miss Florence
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Sealby, Miss Mabel
Selbo
Sevening, Miss Nina
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Sidney, Mr. Ben
Siegenberg, Miss Lottie
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Starr and Leslie
Steale, Mr. Charles
Stoodley, Miss Ida
Storey, Miss S.
St. Quentin, Mr. Ed.
Stratton, Miss Daisy
Sylvester, Mr.
Thorne, Miss Alice
Tribune, Mr. Deane
Vasco, Mr. W.
Verner, Mr. Chas. E.
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Walpole, Mr. E.
Warburton, Mr. Hornby
Ware, Mr. Ernest
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Watts, Mr. Arthur
Weavers, Mr. C.
Wells, Mr. Adolph
Whallen, Mr. Mike S.
White, Mr. W. J.
Whyte, Mr. Karl
Willford, Mr. Paul
Williams, Mr. J.
Winn, Mr. J. H.
Wylie, Mr. L.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

John Terry—Saturday, June 15.
Jack Collinson—Saturday, June 15.
Percy Emery—Saturday, June 15.
Kitty Loftus—Sunday, June 16.
Harry Lupino Lane—Sunday, June 16.
George Giddens—Monday, June 17.
Dorothy Hanbury—Monday, June 17.
Claire Pauncefort—Monday, June 17.
Constance Elgin—Monday, June 17.
Harry J. Brett—Monday, June 17.
Alfredo Borelli—Monday, June 17.
Jack Selbini—Monday, June 17.
Ted Volta—Monday, June 17.
Taff Volta—Monday, June 17.
Max Merlin, Monday, June 17.
J. M. Glover—Tuesday, June 18.
Fred. H. Graham—Tuesday, June 18.
Fred Marlow—Tuesday, June 18.
May Whitty—Wednesday, June 19.
George Alexander—Wednesday, June 19.
Max Pemberton—Wednesday, June 19
Lucy Clarke—Wednesday, June 19.
Fred Storey, Thursday, June 20.
Henry Neville—Thursday, June 20.
Charles Glenney—Thursday, June 20.
Sybil Arundale—Thursday, June 20.
Marie Dainton—Thursday, June 20.
Leah Marlborough—Thursday, June 20.
William Bailey—Friday, June 21.
Bernard Stavordale—Friday, June 21.

THEATRICAL PATENTS.

The concise descriptions that we give below are specially contributed by Messrs. Howard and Co., patent agents, 57 and 58, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., who will assist our readers in all matters appertaining to inventions:—

APPLICATIONS.

12166. Thomas Smith Jacobs, Hereford House, Southend Green, Hampstead, London. Anchor-stay or grip for securing tables, chairs, and other furniture to the floor of a theatre or other place.

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13110. Stockall and Checkogram, Ltd. Apparatus for delivering, receiving, and registering the delivery and receipt of tickets, checks, or the like for admission to theatres, halls, athletic and race-grounds, and other places.

2948. Darlaston. Illuminated means for indicating programme and similar references in theatres and music halls.

8573. Salge. Process for treating the human skin for theatrical and like purposes.

COMPLETE SPECIFICATION:

3633. Theatrical appliances. Dyball, G. H., Tivoli Music Hall, Strand, London. Tableaux curtains are partly balanced by a weight attached to lines passing over pulleys, and are first opened and then raised, by lines from a winding-drum. A line from a compensating balance weight is wound on a fusee barrel on the shaft of the winding-drum instead of on a cone pulley, thus preventing any slipping of the line.

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THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT
FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER.

BY ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B.

Mr. A. A. Strong has published a book on "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," which should be in the hands of everyone who is obliged to know about this perplexing subject. Dramatic copyright in England is in a particularly unsatisfactory state, and it is much to be hoped that ere long some more rational method of securing protection for a play may be devised than the slovenly and sometimes costly "production for copyright purposes," which is at present required.—St. James's Gazette.

Copyright confusion is, like the poor, always with us, and as it seems likely to remain so until at least the crack of doom, it were well for all concerned, or likely to be concerned, to take immediate steps to secure a copy of Mr. Albert A. Strong's new work, entitled "The Law of Copyright." Mr. Strong is already favourably known to the profession for his text-book on "Dramatic and Musical Law," which, like his latest production, is published at "The Era" Office. "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" essays to make clear to the non-legal mind what is—or, in some cases, what probably is—the law as to musical and dramatic copyright. The chapters on the Berne Convention and on the Chase Act, passed by the United States Congress last March, are full of interest.—Referee.

Published at "The Era" Buildings,
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Shakespeare said—
"THERE'S THE RUB."
BODIE says—
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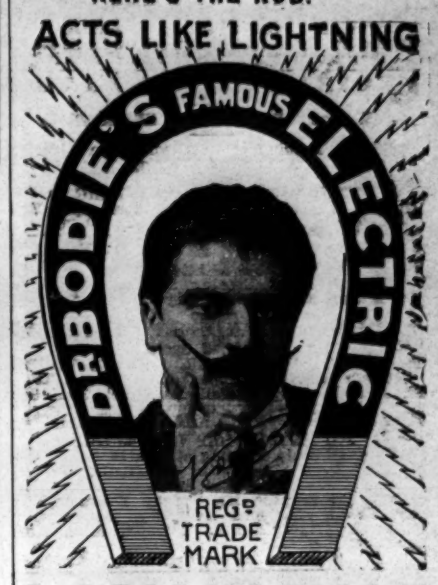

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R. DURNFORD,
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Chapter II.
PERFORMING RIGHT.

Chapter III.
INFRINGEMENT AND REMEDIES.

Chapter IV.
MUSICAL COPYRIGHT.

Chapter V.
INTERNATIONAL AND COLONIAL COPYRIGHT.

"The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," by Albert A. Strong, LL.B., solicitor, author of "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" office), seems to be the one compendious and indispensable authority on the subject, as vexed as the "Bermoothes" and as tortuous as a Chancery suit, that has long been wanted. It is in every essential a text book for the perplexed layman, and no solicitor or barrister worth his salt ought to think of taking or appearing in "proceedings" without consulting its pages. It must suffice, after what has been said, to state little more than that the contents include five chapters, respectively named "Copyright as Opposed to Performing Right," "Performing Right," "Infringement and Remedies," "Musical Copyright," and "International and Colonial Copyright." The work, for all its precise authority, is not dry reading. The statutes, with the elucidatory notes, necessarily impose a task on the reader which takes some tackling, but they had to be there. The cases adduced, however, are full of interest. Certain of them might fitly find a place in the romance of copyright. There was the fight of Charles Reade with George Conquest over "It's Never Too Late to Mend," for instance, and the equally interesting conflict of Mr. J. A. Cave with Chatterton over "The Wandering Jew." The latter was a famous battle. Chatterton took it to the House of Lords, and was finally beaten, to the unspeakable relief of Mr. Cave, who is never weary of relating the story. Had the result been otherwise, it would have meant his ruin. I well remember meeting him on the day of his victory and "crashing a cup with him" in honour of the same. "The Law of Copyright" is dedicated to Mr. A. W. Pinero.—Sportsman.

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SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 1907.

THE THEATRICAL SPORTS.

Again the time approaches when the "stalwarts" amongst the employees of the theatrical profession will meet to test their strength, activity, and endurance. At Stamford Bridge Grounds on July 9 the annual contests will take place in connection with the Theatrical Sports. These interesting and amusing competitions promote good fellowship throughout the body of workers, and encourage the acquisition of the healthy body in which the healthy mind is said to preferably reside. This paper has always been foremost in encouragement of these sports; and *The Era* Challenge Shield, for which the tug-of-war teams from the various London theatres and music halls will compete at Stamford Bridge, stands as a shining testimony to our sympathy with the object. The redoubtable team from the Empire, Dublin, who have hitherto won this shield and carried it to Ireland, will not compet this year. Mr. and Mrs. GEORGE ALEXANDER have sent a clock as the first prize for the 100 yards handicap, and Lady BANCROFT and Sir SQUIRE BANCROFT have contributed two prizes, while Mr. W. S. GILBERT has also donated. Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter have sent a magnificent timepiece as a prize. Mr. ALFRED SUTRO, Mr. FRANK CURZON, and Miss EVA MOORE are among the subscribers. The meeting of the committee last week, which included the chairman, Mr. C. AUBREY SMITH, Mr. F. H. PEDGRIFT, the hon. treasurer of the sports, the hon. secretary, Mr. W. JOHNSON, and representatives from several of the leading London theatres, was a most satisfactory one. The application of the committee for a representative from every music hall and theatre in the Metropolitan area has been freely responded to, and already over a dozen have been appointed. No fewer than seventeen "events" will be found on the card on the 9th prox., including such interesting items as a 100 yards veterans' running handicap, for men over fifty years of age; a 50 yards blindfold race; a four-lap "relay race," open to three men from any theatre or music hall, one of whom has to run, one to walk, and one to cycle; a five-mile cycling championship for the shield presented by Sir THOMAS DEWAR, M.P.; a 100 yards running handicap; and a 50 yards "boot race." With such an attractive *ménu*, it is to be hoped that the attendance at the sports will exceed even those of previous years. These annual theatrical sports are deserving of wide notice and general support from the profession at large. Year by year the sports have grown in popularity and interest; and there are many reasons why this gathering should rank among the most noteworthy professional gatherings of the year. The sports serve a three-fold purpose of undoubted importance; there is first their benevolent intent, the scope of which has been so enlarged as to disarm objections from those who do not care to support efforts to augment funds intended for a minority. The proceeds of the sports will be placed to the credit of a National Benevolent Fund for employees, male and female, which will be administered most carefully for the benefit of the deserving. That the fluctuating nature of theatrical business inevitably involves some hardships among the ranks of the employees is notorious, and that such a fund will serve a useful purpose may be taken for granted. The second object of the sports is social—to bring employer and employed together in aid of charity, and to encourage athletic exercises by employees. The man of affairs in a theatre must be in close touch with his staff, and exercise a supervision over the performance of their multifarious duties. To take an interest in these sports is to show an interest in their affairs and to encourage them to forms of exercise beneficial to the individual and helpful in keeping alive the love of physical skill. To cultivate an *esprit de corps* in the staff of every theatre is not without its economic advantage to employers. When men take interest in the doing of their champions, and follow to the field their teams who compete to hold or win some trophy that carries honour and distinction, they are brought into "comradely" relations; and when they know that their manager takes an interest in their efforts their respect and affection for him increase. A keen interest in these athletic exercises helps to soften the asperities inevitable in the profession, and to bridge over the divisions of caste and rank.

The Theatrical Sports are under the auspices of the National Association of Theatrical Employees; and those competing are for the most part engaged in the more practical and mechanical labours of the stage. There would be no difficulty, however, if it were deemed desirable, in organising an Athletic Festival which would be joined in by the "shining lights" of the theatrical profession, many of whom are college men and excellent amateur athletes. There can be little doubt of such sports being well attended; indeed, the chief objection would be that the general public would flock to the spectacle from motives which would involve some loss of dignity in the competitors. The sight of Mr. BEERBOHM TREE, Mr. GEORGE ALEXANDER, and Mr. MARTIN HARVEY taking part in a "sack race" would certainly "draw all London," and would result in a splendid "gate" for the benefit of theatrical funds; but, though we daresay the devotion of these gentlemen would induce them to sacrifice themselves in the cause of charity, it would be base to take advantage of their good nature. It might be argued that, considering the uncertain nature of theatrical speculation, a "blindfold" race was only a physical parallel to the competition in which a manager takes part whenever he produces a new play; and the oppositions which every London *entrepreneur* meets with in the course of ordinary business must familiarise him, morally, with those of an "obstacle" race. But if all that we hear of the difficulty of the experienced actor obtaining an engagement in the provinces be correct, the veterans of the profession would find a competition like that mentioned above a painful reminder of the fact that they are badly "handicapped" already in the struggle for existence. We hope that, even though they cannot compete personally in the arena, the leaders of the profession will assist and encourage the Theatrical Sports in every possible way.

MATINEE AT THE ROYALTY.

Two new pieces were produced at a special matinée at the Royalty Theatre on Monday in aid of the Ladies' Work Association, an institution that is quite helpful to needy gentlewomen in the disposal of their handicraft. A so-called Bohemian comedy in two scenes, by Francis Toye, formed the opening item in the programme. It was entitled

"THE EXTRA SHILLING."

Richard Allingham .....MR. ROBERT HILTON
Walter Ravenscroft ....MR. PHILIP DESBOROUGH
Bateson .....MISS ELSA SINCLAIR
Mary Carrington .....MISS ESME HUBBARD
Olive Trevorton .....MISS INA PELLY

By the use of the word "Bohemian" as a description of his comedy the author evidently considers it allowable for the men characters to swear at their own sweet will before ladies without the slightest semblance of apology. To our thinking both Dick Allingham and Walter Ravenscroft were most objectionable bounders, and it seemed a pity that Olive Trevorton and Mary Carrington did not possess brothers to resent their caddish behaviour. Dick, at the opening of the piece, has been apparently successful in his suit to Olive, who, however, allows Walter to dangle after her; and when, later, Dick calls at the flat to tell her that he is going down to Putney to propose to the rich Miss Rosie Beale, she takes it quite calmly. After his departure, however, she discovers that her heart is not quite so indifferent to him as she thought, and, telegraphing, she brings him back to her side. Extraordinary conduct, truly, for any girl of such independent notions as Olive! He returns, proposes, and is accepted. There is some attempt at epigrammatic writing in the comedy, but when the dialogue is not vulgarised by unseemly language it is dull and stupid. Miss Ina Pelly, in spite of an evident lisp, almost succeeded in making Olive interesting; and Miss Esmé Hubbard was easy and natural as Mary Carrington. Mr. Robert Hilton and Mr. Philip Desborough did as well as one could expect with the men characters, whose words and actions, we hope, are not typical of the smart young men of the day. Miss Elsa Sinclair completed the cast as the maid Bateson.

Midway in the bill came the representation of *Le Passant*, by François Coppée, played with a real tinge of romance by Miss Aimée Lowther as Zanetto and Miss Rita Jolivet as Sylvia. The concluding item of the bill had apparently aroused considerable interest among the audience. Its author, Mr. Brinsley Trehane, has trenched on dangerous ground, but though his piece is Biblical he has skilfully avoided offending religious susceptibilities, and some of his lines have considerable power. It is entitled

"THE DAUGHTER OF HERODIAS."

Herod .....MR. ROBERT HILTON
Astrologer .....MR. PHILIP DESBOROUGH
Executioner .....MR. EVERITT COMBERBACH
Slave .....MR. J. BRAITHWAITE
Salome .....MISS MABILIA DANIELL

The overture, by Robert Hilton, suggests the tragic subject somewhat cleverly, and the incidental music by Granville Bantock is appropriate. Herod, seated in his palace, is warned by an astrologer against his infatuation for the "daughter of the dust of hell"—Salome. She dances before the monarch, and her snake-like movements fascinate him. In his rapture he exclaims: "Now ask thou, daughter of Herodias, what thou wilt; rack heaven itself for thy reward." She whispers in his ear, and the messenger of death to John the Baptist departs with a warrant. The deed of blood is proclaimed in the streets by the wailings of the people, and the curtain falls. When it again rises, Salomé is being attacked and maltreated by the revengeful Jews, and is eventually stabbed to the heart by the executioner. Mr. Robert Hilton would have been an impressive Herod had he not been so indistinct. He endeavoured to be intense, but succeeded only in being inaudible. Mr. Philip Desborough may be complimented on his sincerity as the Astrologer. There was nothing particularly distinctive or impressive about Miss Mabilia Daniell's dancing or pantomime as Salomé, but she certainly looked the part. The piece was produced by Mr. Robert Hilton and Mr. Montague Wigan, the latter officiating as stage-manager during the afternoon.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR.

Your book will, I am sure, be a valuable aid to all managers and actors.—SIR HENRY IRVING.

Should be found very useful.—*Pelican.*

Should prove perfectly invaluable.—*Weekly Sun.*

Mr Strong states the whole case very clearly.—*Illustrated London News.*

THE Princess Christian of Schleswig, the Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein and suite, were present at the performance of *John Glayde's Honour* at the St. James's Theatre on Thursday evening.

"JOHN GLAYDE'S HONOUR."

100th PERFORMANCE.

Mr. Alfred Sutro in his treatment of his dramatic thesis in *John Glayde's Honour* has shown an unconventionality as daring as it is interesting. Had he followed the methods of the brilliant Dumas, or even the French dramatists of the present day, he would have been open to the charge of plagiarism or conventionality, or both. Had the ending of the successful St. James's play been the customary duel between the two men, or the more violent expedient of killing the wife, there would have been little chance of success. By making the American millionaire occupy a higher plane of philosophy than is customary with men possessing wives who announce frankly their intention of being unfaithful, the author has raised an enormous amount of discussion. This has spelt success, and on Friday, the 7th instant, when Mr. Sutro's play reached its hundredth performance, a large and enthusiastic audience expressed its pleasure by fashionable applause, and the curtain had to be raised several times after each act.

This gratifying success has been secured by the delightful acting of the whole of the cast; and the production boasts throughout that *cachet* which has come to be regarded as a special feature of Mr Alexander's management. Everything is in perfect taste, and throughout the play we realise the stress and cares of a modern business American who has devoted his life to the making of money. The character is perfectly natural. John Glayde, in spite of his wonderful success—a success eloquent of financial genius and of the making of opportunity—is deeply conscience-stricken that while the millions stick to him the wife whom he won in the more romantic days of his youth is slipping away. Mr. George Alexander's fine, thoughtful features suggest this idea in Glayde's first interview with Muriel in the first act, on the unexpected return of the husband from America. There is apprehension of coming trouble in the quick, anxious glance at Lerode. How tender are Mr. Alexander's tones in the scene wherein he sketches the future of husband and wife as Darby and Joan, and how powerfully he strikes the chord of sympathy in John Glayde's forgiveness of the woman who goes out from his presence to betray him. In the last act his just wrath—never over-emphasised—is terrible in its biting irony and its freezing patronage.

Miss Eva Moore has had many more attractive parts than that of Muriel Glayde, but rarely one of greater difficulty, or one that demands so much quiet force and intensity. It were so easy to be melodramatic in the wife's reproaches of a husband whose pursuit of business has obliterated all memory of his early devotion and tenderness. Muriel's specious reasonings for her treason, it is true, convince no one but herself, but Miss Moore makes us understand the character of the woman who utters them. Of course, there can be no sympathy for the Delilah-like behaviour of Muriel in the third act, and such a cruel piece of deceit makes the portrait seem out of drawing. But the actress nevertheless triumphs, and presents very cleverly the woman, racked with doubt, carried away by an impulse of infatuation.

Mr. Matheson Lang as the lover Lerode has not a long part, but his rendering is full of passion, especially so in the scene where the artist tears up the millionaire's cheque in payment for his unfinished picture. As a jeune premier Mr. Lang had already made his mark, and his engagement at the St. James's has added materially to his already high reputation as an actor.

Mr. Norman Forbes has long held the position of one of London's most original actors, and his appearance in the part of Christopher Branley gives it considerable importance. Christopher has set theories concerning life which are the result of a deliberate trifling with opportunity. He has what may be called a kink in his disposition; but as a theatrical character he is decidedly interesting as presented by Mr. Forbes, whose sketch adds appreciably to the colour scheme of Mr. Sutro's dramatic canvas.

Mr. W. Graham Browne as Howard Collingham suggests most agreeably, and with no little earnestness and sincerity, a bright, chivalrous youth with a wisdom beyond his years. The interviews between Collingham and John Glayde contain some good dialogue, and Mr. Browne makes every one of his lines tell by his well-bred restraint and dignity.

Miss Henrietta Watson cleverly avoids the melodramatic note as the Princesse de Castagnary—more sinned against than sinning—and depicts with considerable power the anxiety of the woman who has suffered to prevent her inexperienced and infatuated friend from taking the fatal step that leads only to remorse. The actress scores most unmistakably in the final scene in the studio.

Miss Helen Ferrers succeeds in giving character to Lady Lerode; and Miss Gwendolen Floyd's Mrs. Rennick adds to the interest of the lighter scenes. Miss May Martyn's Dora Longman has considerably improved, and her portrait of the young ingénue is winsome indeed.

Mr. Michael Sherbrooke as the confidential valet does much to raise the curiosity and excitement of the audience, especially in the second act. Michael, whose life seems to be spent in deciphering codes and sending cablegrams, is a man of very few words, and Mr. Sherbrooke makes them tremendously effective.

Mr. E. Vivian Reynolds has but one scene as Walters, that in which the confidential valet hesitates to tell his master of the clandestine interview between Trevor Lerode and Mrs. Glayde. It is a scene, however, that requires the tactful treatment of an experienced actor, and it is only a just tribute to Mr. Reynolds's power to say that he is perfect. Mr. W. Hann's fine interior in the first and third act suggests artistically the luxury and taste of a Parisian home; and Mr. Joseph Harker's studio in the last act is particularly good.

THE ARTHUR VERNE FUND.

Subscriptions received:—

	£	s.	d.
Henry Swinerd	5	5	0
J. W. Cordiner	5	5	0
Messrs. Power and Kirby's Co. (per Martin Comstock)	2	10	6
Horace Stanley	2	2	0
Sam Livesey	2	2	0
The Tyrant Company (per Roy Fortescue)	1	16	6
Nellie Harcourt	1	1	0
George Brooks	1	1	0
Lyn Harding	1	1	0
G. Howard Watson	1	1	0
Mrs. Hy. Mayhew	1	1	0
George Arliss	1	1	0
Queenie Leighton	1	0	0
Charles Barnard	0	10	6
Lester Collingwood	0	10	0
Walter H. Nightingale	0	10	0
Bert Edwards	0	7	6
Deane Cliffe	0	5	0
W. C. H.	0	5	0
Arthur Hartley	0	5	0
Walter Ashley	0	5	0
Henry C. Ward	0	5	0
Marie Vere	0	5	0

Subscriptions will be gratefully received and acknowledged by Henry Swinerd, Royal Artillery Theatre, Woolwich; or by J. W. Cordiner, *Dare-Devil Dorothy* company, en route.

STAGE SOCIETY PRODUCTIONS.

A long but not unprofitable afternoon was spent in the Imperial Theatre on Monday, when the latest discoveries of the Incorporated Stage Society were given to the public. The first was a one-act piece translated from the German of Frank Wedekind by a member of the Society, and entitled

"DER KAMMERSANGER."

Servant .....MR. CHARLES GIBSON
Lift Boy .....MR. A. B. IMESON
Gerardo .....MR. JULIAN L'ESTRANGE
Isabel Coeurne .....MISS IRENE CLARKE
Professor Duhring.....MR. EDMUND GWENN
Music Mistress .....MISS FLORENCE ADALE
Helene Marowa .....MISS CONSTANCE COLLIER
Muller .....MR. JAMES R. SINCLAIR
Charwoman .....MISS ALYS REES

A sublimely ridiculous point is reached in the above play, which, despite a number of smart sayings, occupied a tedious hour. Art has no place in the vocabulary of a German Court singer named Gerardo, whose one idea of duty is to keep faith with the public, by whom he is idolised. He is engaged to sing Tristan in a distant town, but his departure is delayed by the appearance of a child of sixteen, one of the many who have fallen madly in love with the tenor. No sooner has he succeeded in dismissing her with his photograph and a few words of fatherly advice than he is broken in upon by an old musical composer, who beseeches him to listen to a few bars of an opera to which he has devoted his life. The tenor has only half an hour in which to catch his train, but gives ear to long speeches by his visitor, and answers them in equally protracted terms. The old man is succeeded by a smartly-dressed lady, who has forced her way past the servant. She has been on terms of illicit affection with Gerardo, declares she cannot live without him, and threatens that unless he takes her with him she will commit suicide. Gerardo refuses, and the lady, pressing a revolver to her forehead, falls mortally wounded. Gerardo can see only one way to avoid breaking his contract, and that is to get himself arrested for the crime. He sends for the police, but they are nowhere to be found. Ten seconds only remain for the singer to catch his train, and, leaving the unconscious woman lying on the floor, he rushes off to the railway station, secure of fulfilling his contract.

The little piece was strongly cast. Mr. Julian L'Estrange adopted an easy method well in keeping with the part of the popular but pedantic Gerardo, and delivered his formidable length of lines with easy assurance. Superbly arrayed, Miss Constance Collier did the best possible with the character of Helene Marowa. The depths of despair to which the woman descends were portrayed with tragic significance, and the sight of the beautiful suppliant at the feet of her idol almost compensated for the unreality of the scene. Mr. Edmund Gwenn invested the part of the old composer with deep earnestness and emotional power; and the artlessness of the infatuated young girl was sweetly expressed by Miss Irene Clarke.

The more important item of the programme was a play in three acts by Charles McEvoy, entitled

"DAVID BALLARD."

Mrs. Ballard .....MISS CLARE GREET
Gladys Ballard .....MISS LILIAN M. REVELL
Louisa .....MISS SYDNEY FAIRBROTHER
Mercy Hainton .....MISS DOROTHY MINTO
Percy Ballard .....MR. NORMAN PAGE
David Ballard .....MR. MILTON ROSMER
Simon Ballard .....MR. EDMUND GURNEY
Darwin Snodge .....MR. NIGEL PLAYFAIR
Leo .....MR. JULES SHAW
Rosace .....MR. KENYON MUSGRAVE

The hero of the story proves to be no hero after all, and his adventures, exciting at times, have a tame and conventional ending. The play, however, is ingeniously filled in with a number of characters, and the dialogue put into their mouths has a freshness and humour which is very welcome. The dissension which exists in the Ballard family is owing chiefly to the eldest daughter, Gladys, who has ideas beyond her station, and with her sharp tongue controls the house. Percy, the younger son, who enjoys life as far as his means will permit and perhaps farther, is the hope of the family; while his brother David yearns to get away from his desk in the counting-house and to achieve literary distinction. He tries to borrow £5 from his father in order to start on a career as an author, but is refused, and accordingly leaves the house with the determination to do or die. A year elapses, and the family, minus David, is found in a restaurant at Soho, whither they have repaired at the invitation of Darwin Snodge, a cheap picture-painter, who is giving a dinner in celebration of his engagement with the irritating Gladys. The dinner has scarcely ended when David staggers into the room in a starving condition. Despite the protests of Gladys, Snodge, fearful of having such a character as David as a brother-in-law, aggressively insists on the young man returning home; but David refuses until his pretty cousin, Mercy Hainton, adds her entreaties. The third act finds David, evidently reformed, and occupying the position left vacant by his father, who has died during the year that has elapsed. Percy, however, has taken an opposite road, and presently comes to Mercy with the confession that he has embezzled £700 of his employer's money. He coolly proposes that Mercy shall devote a sum of £500 which she has inherited to refund the money, and thus save him from gaol. David is indignant at the proposal, and while he is persuading Mercy to sever her connection with such a family the pair discover that they are in love with each other, and, after agreeing to devote Mercy's money and £100 which David has won by a poem on Sunlight Soap to pay off Percy's theft, they leave the house with the intention of getting married. Each character of the play is cleverly contrived, and the chief success was made by Miss Clare Greet as the h-less Mrs. Ballard, who is responsible for some of the most amusing dialogue of the piece. Miss Greet was natural and unobtrusive, and acted the part to perfection. No less effective was the Gladys of Miss Lilian M. Revell, who happily caught the asperity of tone required and represented the hard-natured girl with fidelity. Much was expected of Miss Sidney Fairbrother, and in the part of an oppressed "slavey" she did not disappoint, and gave an original rendering, teeming with real touches of comedy. A clever conception of the selfish and little-minded Percy was supplied by Mr. Norman Page, who suggested exactly the low cunning and conceit of the part, which yielded a wealth of drollery. Miss Dorothy Minto gave an earnest and delicately sympathetic impersonation of the gentle Mercy, and a companion picture was provided in the kindly and genial old father, acted in fine style by Mr. Edmund Gurney. Mr. Milton Rosmer skilfully simulated the unrest and passionate vehemence of David, his acting in the scene in the restaurant being very powerful. A clever caricature of the superficially sage Darwin Snodge was supplied by Mr. Nigel Playfair, whose rich voice and vigorous style stood him in good stead Excellent impersonations of a German waiter and a restaurant proprietor were given by Messrs Jules Shaw and Kenyon Musgrave respectively Much laughter was the outcome of the performance, but the audience were too fatigued at the end of four hours to make any great manifestation of approval.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

Bizet's popular masterpiece, *Carmen*, was produced on Thursday night, June 6, to an overflowing house, and vocally the performance was an undoubted success. Mme. Kirkby Lunn, although not an ideal Carmen, sang the charming music to perfection; indeed, it may be questioned if the famous Habañera or Mme. Lunn's share in the duet with Don José was ever so beautifully rendered. Histrionically Mme. Lunn did not quite realise Prosper Merrimée's passionate and fascinating heroine, which was so admirably acted by Mme. Minnie Hauk when *Carmen*, on June 22, 1878, at Her Majesty's, was first heard in London, with Campanini as Don José and Del Puenti as the Toreador.

Signor Caruso, who was in excellent voice, sang the Rose song so finely that the audience tried hard for an encore. In the part of Micaela Mme. Donaldo sang most sympathetically; and the characters of Frasquita and Mercedes were adequately represented by Mesdames Lejeune and Paulin; while M. Gilibert made a capital smuggler and Signor Scandiani a picturesque Toreador. Signor Campanini conducted; the chorus was bright and effective, and the stage-management excellent.

On Saturday last the double bill, *Cavalleria Rusticana* and *Pagliacci*, so familiar in the late Sir Augustus Harris's time, was given at Covent Garden, and, to judge by the immense house, these works have by no means lost their popularity. In Mascagni's opera a new-comer, Mr. Wheatley, appeared as Turiddu, and revealed a pleasing though not powerful tenor voice, which Mr. Wheatley has at times a tendency to force. Miss Scalar, another American, who sang with such success in *Aida* last year, impersonated the unhappy Santuzza, receiving a hearty welcome from the audience on her *rentrée*. Miss Scalar sang with intensity and acted in a dramatic and powerful manner; while Miss Gleeson-White sang Lola's music charmingly. M. Scandiani made a fairly effective Alfio; and the character of Lucia was undertaken by Mme. Severina.

Pagliacci was, on the whole, a finer performance. Miss Destinn made a most dramatic Nedda, as well as singing the music admirably, adding another artistic triumph to her already long list. Mr. Sammarco, who was excellent as Tonio, sang the Prologue finely, being received with enthusiastic applause; and Mr. Bassi, a new American tenor, acted and sang with distinction as Canio, although the monologue at the end of the first act was delivered in somewhat too exaggerated a manner. Mr. Bassi, however, made a good impression, and will be a welcome addition to the Covent Garden artists. Messrs. Venturini and Scandiani were successful as Silvo and Beppe; and Signor Campanini, who conducted both operas, secured excellent results.

A gala performance, by command of King Edward, in honour of the King and Queen of Denmark, was given at Covent Garden on Tuesday night. The house presented a most brilliant appearance. Round each of the balconies in the auditorium, trellis, covered with smilax and roses, had been fitted, while five boxes on the grand tier, thrown in one and draped with yellow and white hangings, constituted the Royal box, in front of which, on a medallion in yellow flowers, were the initials "E. and F." On each side of the box, also constructed of flowers, were the Union Jack and the Danish ensign. Over the Royal box was a Tudor crown, also in flowers, and from the balcony tier numerous baskets of roses hung, while all round the proscenium ran a deep border of crimson and pink roses. At nine o'clock the immense audience rose as His Majesty the King entered the Royal box with the Queen of Denmark, followed by the King of Denmark with Queen Alexandra. After them followed the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Duke of Connaught, Prince Arthur of Connaught, the Duchess of Connaught, and Princess Patricia of Connaught. Other members of the Royal Family were the Princess Victoria, the Princess Royal, the Duke of Fife, Prince and Princess Christian, and the Princesses Elizabeth and Victoria of Bentheim, and the Duke of Argyll, while among the audience was a perfect host of the rank and fashion. The Danish National Anthem and "God Save the King" were played by the orchestra when the Royal party arrived. The performance consisted of the first act of *Madama Butterfly*, in which Mlle. Destinn, Signor Caruso, Signor Scotti, Mme. Lejeune, and Signors Zucchi, Marcoux, and Galletti appeared; *La Bohème*, Act 1, with Mme. Melba, Signor Caruso, Signor Sammarco, Signor Marcoux, M. Gilibert, and Signor Gianoli in the cast; and selections from scenes 1 and 2 of *Die Meistersinger*, Act 3, Herr Van Rooy playing Hans Sachs, and Fräulein Hempel and Frau Tolli the characters of Eva and Magdalene. Detailed criticism of these examples is unnecessary. All the principal vocalists were in good voice, Mme. Melba and Signor Caruso having two recalls after *La Bohème*. Puccini's two works were conducted by Signor Campanini, and Dr. Richter the excerpts given of *Die Meistersinger*. A sad event occurred during the gala performance. Sir Arthur Ellis died through heart seizure while he and Lady Ellis were conversing with Sir Frederick Treves. It was thought at first that Sir Arthur Ellis had simply fainted, but though Sir James Reid and Sir Frederick Treves did all that was possible, he never recovered consciousness. It was thought best merely to state to the Royal party that Sir Arthur Ellis had fainted and had been carried out from the stalls. Sir Arthur Ellis had suffered for a long time from heart disease and fainting fits, and had been advised not to go where excitement was, or attend race meetings.

BOURNEMOUTH MANAGER DROWNED.

An inquest was held on Wednesday at the Bournemouth Coroner's Court before the Deputy Coroner, Mr. F. G. Lefroy, on the body of Mr. Rowland Stewart, manager of the Theatre Royal, Bournemouth, whose body was found in the sea at Bournemouth the previous day.

A boatman in the employ of the Bournemouth Corporation said that he was in charge of the Bathing station at Meyrick Steps, to the east of Bournemouth Pier, on Tuesday morning. At about a quarter to eight he saw a body in the water, and went in and brought it to the shore.

Dr. Harold Simmons, police surgeon, said the body was externally much bruised, especially about the head, face, and chest. The lungs were congested, and there was water in the lungs and stomach. The appearances were those characteristic of death by drowning. The injuries were such as were usually found on bodies which had been buffeted about against rocks or piers. The body had been in the water two days or more.

The jury returned a verdict of found drowned. The Coroner said he was asked by Mr. Hounsell, who represented Messrs. Mouillot and Co., in whose employ deceased was for a long time, to state to the jury—and he had much pleasure in making the statement, for he knew deceased as a fellow townsman—that Mr. Mouillot had the highest opinion of the deceased, that he valued his services greatly, and much regretted his death.

MR. THEO. BALFOUR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—In reference to Mr. Theo. Balfour's letter in last week's *Era*, it is more than evident that there are other Balfours in the profession.—Yours faithfully,

SUSIE CAMPBELL.

Kennington Theatre, June 10.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

We understand that the Board of Trade Arbitrator's award in the matter of the recent music-hall dispute took concrete form yesterday, when it was signed by Mr. G. R. Askwith. The award is to be issued to-day.

Miss Marie Lloyd will make her first appearance on the Paris variety stage at the Folies-Marigny on Sunday night, and will give altogether eight performances at this house. Among Miss Lloyd's artistic comrades will be La Belle Otero. Two real tip-toppers! Miss Lloyd will appear in some delightful gowns.

The office of general secretary to the Variety Artists' Federation will now be filled by Mr. Monte Bayly, and Mr. Frank Gerald, who was so prominent during the strike, now retires from the position. He polled 23 votes to Mr. Bayly's 81.

Miss Marie Tempest has very kindly consented to present the prizes at the Theatrical Sports at Stamford Bridge on Tuesday, July 9. It is to be hoped that many admirers of the popular artist will be present to "support" her on this interesting occasion.

The new "mirth and mystery" sketch, with the clumsy title of *The Constable and the Pictures*, which was given a first trip in London at Walham Green, is coming to the Tivoli on Monday, the 24th, Miss Agnes Fraser makes a most engaging and picturesque heroine, and Mr. M. R. Morand, her comrade in *The Earl and the Girl*, and Mr. Alec Fraser give able support.

Among Mr. Alfred Butt's most interesting forthcoming engagements are Miss Lawler, long associated with the stage in the part of "La Cigale," and Miss Maud Allen, who will introduce a sensational attraction entitled *The Vision of Salome*.

Mr. Frank Macnaghten, with his ever-widening circuit, which now embraces some twenty houses, has found it absolutely necessary to establish a London booking centre, and henceforward the preparing, signing, and issue of contracts, and the engagements of artists will be principally carried out at Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C. The financial offices will remain as hitherto at York-street, Sheffield.

Miss Adeline Genee and Miss Dorothy Craske will both be absent from the Empire at Christmas, the Danish prima donna assoluta going to America, and Miss Craske to the Lyceum to play her first speaking part—that of Robinson Crusoe. This young lady at the Leicester-square house has played "boys" for years past with most expressive gestures and eloquent pantomime, and her grace, refinement, and charm should make her an ideal choice for her new part.

Mrs. Adney Payne has announced her intention of returning to the stage, and the pictures and drawings belonging to her, which include works by F. Goodall, R.A., T. B. Hardy, James Baldock, Edwin Ellis, J. F. Herring, and others, will be sold on Thursday next, June 20, at their rooms, King-street, St. James's-square, by Messrs. Robinson and Fisher, who have also received her instructions to sell at the same place on July 2 and 3 the decorative china, bronzes, carved ivory figures, a buhl table, a Bechstein pianoforte, a bedroom suite, and other effects belonging to her.

Miss Margaret Ashton, who heads the list as the result of the third week's voting in the annual *Pelican* Competition, has been spending a few days in Paris preparatory to enjoying a holiday tour in the Norwegian Fjords. The popular American lady sails on Tuesday for Bergen, thence to Trondjhem, and—if time permits—as far north as the Lofoden Islands, which lie within the Arctic Circle. In July Miss Ashton resumes her London engagements at the Oxford.

"Zuyder Zee" is due at the London Hippodrome on Monday, June 24. It is Mr. Frank Parker's fortieth production at this theatre. The "book" has been written by W. H. Risque, and the music by Carl Kiefert. The cast includes Mr. Tom Shale, a tenor-comedian, who has done some excellent work in leading operatic and musical comedy parts in the provinces. He will play Van Schunk, a Dutch cheese and sausage factor; and the chief comedy interest will be safe in the keeping of Mr. Bert Gilbert, an old favourite at this house, and Mr. Jimmy Milburn, whose youthful appearance belies the fact that he is a veteran comic of the halls. Nipper Lupino Lane comes with excellent family credentials; and Baby Betty Green, who is to play Wee Gretchen will be remembered for her delightful performance last year in *The Prince Chap* at the Criterion. Of Miss May Moore Duprez, who is to play Greta, the queen of the carnival, we spoke last week.

The champion skaters engaged, in addition to the foregoing, include Hess and Lisbon, the Ashley Team, the Four Figaros, the Snow Family, and the Tiller Troupe of Dutch clog-dancers. The first scene shows a carnival in progress at Amsterdam in summer, with the picturesque details of a Dutch setting. A quick change will show the same spot in winter. Again it is carnival, and snow-covered skaters will give the most realistic aspect to this scene.

De Gracia's Royal Assam Elephants, while proceeding from New Cross Empire to the Empire, Stratford, on Sunday morning, were stopped at Blackwall Tunnel by the police, who considered that the gigantic pets were in some way breaking the bye-laws; but the constable could not detain them, owing to their ponderous weight, and affection for their keepers. There was no damage done, or any excitement, but when a policeman takes one's name and address it is generally a prelude to a summons.

Having regard to the disturbed condition of variety business in January and February last, on account of the strike, the net profit earned by the Oxford for the twelve months ended April 30 may be summed up as entirely satisfactory. After providing for interest on the Debentures, it amounts to the sum of £16,092. The payment of a further dividend of £6 per cent. (less income tax) for the half-year ended April 30, together with a bonus of 1s. per share (free of tax) equal to £11 per cent. for the year was passed at the fifteenth annual meeting of shareholders held at the hall yesterday afternoon. The directors dealt with the surplus by applying £5000 to the general reserve fund, and carrying the balance to the current year's accounts. It will be seen by the balance-sheet that the directors have been enabled to redeem on satisfactory terms £20,650 of the Debenture issue.

We understand that the Theatres and Music Halls Committee of the London County Council has postponed for a week a decision with regard to the appeal to stop the exhibitions of living statuary in order that four members of the committee who have not seen the performance may do so in the interval.

Mr. Percival H. Gallagher has been appointed acting-manager of the Grand, Clapham, and entered on his duties on May 20.

Operations have commenced towards the providing of the new theatre in Lodge-lane, Liverpool. Messrs. Broadhead, of Manchester, are now rapidly demolishing the old property on the site, and there are hopes that the handsome building will be ready for opening early in the new year.

Mr. Fred Coles, who, after ten years' service as acting-manager of the Liverpool Lyric, has resigned through ill-health, was last week given a bumper benefit. On behalf of a number of well-wishers, he was presented with a substantial cheque, while his colleagues handed him a silver-mounted dressing case, and a handsome inkstand.

The erroneous impression formed that the Glasgow magistrates had forbidden the exhibition of living statuary has been dissipated by the appearance of the twenty professional French models of Mlle. de Serris at Glasgow Empire this week, by the special permission of the magistrates to the proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.

The Star Theatre, Swansea, is, we are informed, going to be entirely rebuilt, at a cost of £15,000. The auditorium will be gutted, and a handsome dress circle added, with gallery above. Boxes will also be provided. The stage will not be interfered with. Plans are now being prepared by a well-known firm of theatrical architects, and will be presented to the Swansea Watch Committee in a few weeks' time. These intended alterations will make the Star one of the handsomest theatres in Wales.

Miss Vesta Tilley, who will be the leading star at the opening of the New Empire, Sunderland, on July 1, may be said to be the mascot of the many houses associated with the name of Mr. Richard Thornton, Sir Edward Moss, and Mr. Frank Allen, in the North-Eastern district of England. Miss Tilley was intimately associated with the opening of the Empire, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and on Sept. 29 last year laid the foundation-stone of the Sunderland house, which is the thirty-ninth established in conjunction with the great Moss-Stoll, Thornton, and Allen combine.

Miss Tilley was then presented with a beautifully-designed jewel casket and jewel tray, the former being inscribed, "Presented to Miss Vesta Tilley on the occasion of her placing the foundation-stone of Mr. Richard Thornton's New Empire Theatre, Sept. 29, 1906. W. and T. R. Milburn, F.R.I.B.A., Architects; J. W. White, Builder." The Mayor of Sunderland, referring to Miss Tilley, said, "She had endeared herself to everybody, and the stone which she had placed in position bore on it a name that would always be loved—Miss Vesta Tilley. He asked them to thank her and drink her health, and he was glad to be able to announce that, when the building was ready, she would appear on the opening night." Now the building is ready, and Miss Tilley appears on July 1.

Chappell's Promenade Concerts, Great Yarmouth, of which the proprietress is Mrs. S. Lawton and the general-manager Mr. Harry Barker, will open on Monday next for the summer season with three performances daily, 11 a.m., 3 p.m., 7 p.m. The following artists will appear:—Minnie Leverentz, Bros. Hannaway, J. H. Crew, Cissy Trent, Leslie Reed, Lulu Langley, Byden Currie, Bob Stephenson, Ernest D'Almaine, Maie Duncan, J. E. Fletcher, Amy Bellwood, Bu-Val, William Kingsley, James Law, Clark and Gold, Lack and Ford, Miss Maie, Henry Foden, Curtis Leo, Bros. Lavelle, Robert Gilbert, The Deroneys, Alfar, Les Blancs, Fife and Fife, Hector and Sultan, and Harry Barker.

The report of the directors of the New Gaiety Theatre Co., Dundee, Ltd., to the second annual meeting of the shareholders, together with profit and loss account and balance-sheet, as at May 15, 1907, has just been issued. The profit and loss account shows a surplus for the year, which the directors propose to deal with by paying a dividend of five per cent., free of income-tax, and carrying the sum of £90 to the reserve fund.

In connection with the visit of the Three Royal Dreadnoughts, expert rifle shots, to the Palace of Varieties, Attercliffe, last week, a miniature air-rifle competition was inaugurated, for which Mr. T. Allan Edwardes, the proprietor, offered a number of valuable prizes, consisting of a silver cup and gold and silver medals, all of which were keenly contested for with excellent results. The whole arrangements were made and carried out by Mr. J. Lacy Lyne, the popular manager, in a highly satisfactory manner.

Mr. Irving Bosco (Poole and Bosco), formerly joint proprietor of the Hippodrome, Chichester-street, Belfast, was the defendant in an action brought before Judge Gibson, in Dublin, on Friday, the 7th inst., by David Lynch, a petty officer on board H.M.S. Emerald, to recover damages (£1000) for personal injuries sustained by him. Plaintiff, it appeared, attended a performance given under the defendant's auspices at Queenstown on May 14, 1906. A trick rifle-shot was showing what he could do, when a bullet glanced off the target and hit the plaintiff in the right eye, of which he had lost the sight, and had been deprived of further promotion in the naval service and of his pension. Mr. Justice Gibson directed the jury to award substantial damages. The jury assessed them at £750.

Mr. Justice Darling and Mr. Justice A. T. Lawrence, in the Divisional Court on Saturday, dismissed the appeal of Harvey and others v. Tivoli, Manchester (Limited). This was an appeal by plaintiffs from a judgment, by Judge Woodfall, at Westminster County Court. They entered into a contract with the defendant company to give a speciality entertainment in October, 1906. The agreement was signed in October, 1903, by the "Harvey Boys." Eddie Harvey, a member of the trio, died two months before the date of the performance, and the defendant company consequently cancelled the contract, although the vacancy in the troupe had been filled by a substitute. Plaintiffs sued the defendant company for £32 10s., or damages for breach of the agreement, but the Judge decided in favour of the defendant company.

Mr. Justice Darling, in delivering judgment, said it was contended that the Harvey Troupe, having once existed, no matter what changes might take place in its component parts, the entity existed, and would continue to exist for ever. He did not think that could be maintained. Therefore the appeal failed. Mr. Justice Lawrence concurred. He said it was a personal contract, and they could not force the defendant company to accept other persons than those agreed upon.

Mr. Morris Abrahams, the hard-working assistant acting-manager of the Queen's, Poplar, is taking a well-earned rest this week at Blackpool, which at this time of the year is seen at its best.

At a meeting of the Birmingham Watch Committee on Wednesday, the Estates Committee forwarded a complaint from some of the tenants of houses adjoining the Gaiety Theatre. They expressed their intention of leaving their premises unless the annoyances caused by the queue system, the striking of matches on the paintwork, the throwing of orange peel, and the use of bad language were abated. The Chief-Constable, who said that there were already police on special duty at this queue, said he would have a report prepared on the matter by the superintendent of the division.

Mr. Stanley E. Mullen, of the new Melbourne music-publishing house of Mullen and Co., is now on a visit to London, a visit in which he is combining business and pleasure. His name will be remembered as a former terror to evil-doers in the nefarious trade of the music pirate.

Mr. Fred Day, looking fit and well, arrived in London on Saturday last, having journeyed from New York on the Lucania. As is well known, the American branch of Messrs. Francis and Day's great business has been under his control since its inception, and has proved a hugely-successful undertaking under his management, and he is now enjoying a well-earned holiday. He was met at Euston by Mr. David Day, and heartily greeted by many members of the staffs of the Charing Cross-road and Denmark-street establishments.

Mr. Fred W. Millis, who has recovered from his serious operation, is leaving the Gordon Hospital, Vauxhall Bridge-road, this week. He will not be able to work for a few weeks yet. He desires to put on record the extreme kindness he has received from the matron, the nurses, and all connected with the institution, not forgetting Mr. Miles, the clever specialist, who so skilfully operated and watched his case.

Mr. Herbert Shelley, who is at Camberwell and the Metropolitan next week, has concluded his successful tour of *Dan the Outlaw* at the Olympia, Liverpool, this week. The Press in every important city visited have been high in their praise of his Gaelic protean play, and Mr. Oswald Stoll has secured the attraction for the whole of his tour in 1908.

The river outing of the Committee of the M.H.A.R.A. and friends will be held on Sunday, July 28. The party should travel by special train from Waterloo to Reading, and thence by one of the largest steam launches through Caversham, Mapledurham, Whitechurch, Pangbourne, Goring, Streatley, and Moulsford Ferry as far as Wallingford and back, luncheon and high tea being provided on board.

The usual monthly meeting of the Management Committee of the Music Hall Sick Fund was held on Wednesday at the York Hotel, York-road. Mr. W. J. Wainratta (vice-president) occupied the chair, and there were also present:—Messrs. Frank Heath, Tom Carney, H. E. High, W. West, and R. T. Baines (secretary). On the motion of Mr. High, seconded by Mr. Heath, it was resolved that Mr. Arthur Oldred Clarke, of Holloway-road, be appointed hon. solicitor to the Fund. After the transaction of some business of a private character the meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the chairman. The annual general meeting of the Society will be held on Wednesday, July 10, when the principal business will be the election of officers and committee for the ensuing year.

Mr. Fred Karno's No. 1 Company is appearing this week at the Canterbury in *Saturday to Monday*. On Monday next that gentleman will produce a new and original sketch entitled *London Suburbia*. Of course, the subject will be treated in that broad humorous spirit which has animated so many of this gentleman's productions.

Mr. Horace Goldin, the well-known illusionist, was sued on Thursday by John Moore and Co. in respect of certain posters made to his order. The defence was that the posters were not suitable or made according to order. Judge Woodfall, in giving judgment for the plaintiff for the amount claimed (£10 17s. 1d.), said that it was absurd to think that a photograph could be properly reproduced on a poster—which did not show a good likeness of Mr. Goldin; but then, neither did the others. He therefore found that the plaintiff was entitled to judgment, with costs.

In *The Fisher Girl*, which is to be presented at the Paragon on Monday by Charles Fisher's Opera Company, we recognise the musical comedy-drama originally produced in London at the Grand, Islington, by Mr. Oswald Brand, who wrote the lyrics, the music being by Mr. W. T. Gliddon. The mysterious character of Vanderdecken, the Flying Dutchman, is introduced, and will be played at Mile End by Mr. J. M. Jones, its original representative. Miss May Glenn will play the heroine; and others in the cast will include Mr. Edward Kipling, Mr. Jerrold Manville, Mr. John Donald, and Miss Dorothy Vernon. Miss Beatrice Harold's troupe of dancers and a powerful chorus will add to the importance, attractiveness, and musical excellence of the production, which is to be under the personal supervision of Mr. Charles Fisher.

Mr. James McCarthy, the popular resident manager of the Britannia, has been an inmate of Guy's Hospital, where he underwent an operation for abscess in the jaw. He is now convalescent, although still attending the hospital, and hopes to go away on a short holiday to recoup his strength. Mr. Burton, the assistant-manager at the Surrey, is acting as his deputy during his absence.

Mr. Will Ashworth has been specially engaged to manage Charles Parsons' companies.

Miss Mabel Sinclair, the premier lady ventriloquist, having concluded a highly successful tour of the Keith and Procter Circuit in the States, has returned to England to fulfil engagements at the London Pavilion and on the Stoll Tour. She is specially engaged by Messrs. Klaw and Erlanger for a return tour of the States.

Mr. Alfred Butt, the managing-director of the Palace Theatre, is assiduous in his attention to the sporting public. Derby Day by Bioscope, from 3.30 a.m. until the actual running of the classic race, which, of course, is taken in detail, has received great attention. The films of the great Horse Show at Olympia are changed nightly, and the public therefore have an opportunity of being kept thoroughly posted in the various results, not merely by announcement but by picture. Another item on the Bioscope programme is the Ladies' Sports at Ranelagh, and it may be mentioned that an excellent set was taken of the visit of the King and Queen of Denmark to the City on Monday.

The Empire has the advantage of being the only theatre showing Biograph pictures of the Richmond Horse Show, the first series of which was presented on Friday night. As all the principal entries for the International Show at Olympia are also entered for the Richmond Show, the event will this year undoubtedly constitute a record. The Biograph pictures of the Olympia spectacle are now being presented nightly.

Miss Harriett Vernon, who presented such a charming lilac song, has a new number, entitled "On beautiful Lake Lucerne," which has every appearance of being one of the year's winners.

Our readers will hear with deep regret of the sad bereavement of Mr. James Stewart, "the tramp at the piano," who has sustained a terrible loss in the death of his wife.

Mr. Jack Woolf is thoroughly reorganising and making several important improvements behind the curtain at the comfortable Queen's, Poplar. At present the stage is being entirely re-floored without the slightest disturbance or inconvenience to any of the performances, which shows how excellently the work is being supervised.

Consequent on the decease of Mr. George Adney Payne the following changes in the boards of the syndicate halls have been announced:—Mr. Walter Payne has been elected upon the boards of the Tivoli, the Oxford, the Variety Theatres Consolidated, and the United Varieties Syndicate. Mr. Henry Tozer and Mr. Henry Sutton have been appointed managing directors of the Oxford and the Tivoli. Mr. Henri Gros (in addition to continuing managing director of the Metropolitan) becomes senior managing director, and Mr. Joseph Davis joint managing director of the Euston, Chelsea, South London, Walthamstow, East Ham, and Tottenham music halls. Mr. H. H. Wells becomes managing director of the Canterbury and Paragon, Mr. Henry Tozer joining the board of the company.

Concerning Federation Day, Mr. Charles Coborn writes from 40, Perran-road, Tulse-hill, S.W., June 13:—"In the forthcoming gala performance at the Crystal Palace, organised by the Variety Artists' Federation for Thursday, 27th inst., there will be, as part of the grand scheme, high-class concerts in the Concert Hall, and I have been honoured by the Executive Committee with the task of seeking the brotherly help of the artistic fraternity of the opera and concert world, and a goodly number of well-known and highly-esteemed artists have already generously promised to help. But I want to ask through your always hospitable columns that artists of the theatres, opera, or concert platform who find themselves both able and willing to support their professional cousins (so to speak) to be so kind as to send me their names in order that the list may be recorded as soon as possible." Mr. Coborn's telephone number is 277 Brixton.

Among the chief attractions on Federation Day at the Crystal Palace on the 27th will be the sensational acts given in the centre transept by Juan Caicedo, King of the Wire, the Villions, bicyclists, and others. Miss Anna de Grey, the secretary of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, is organising a hat-trimming competition, and Mr. Horace Wheatley has gathered together a mirthful contingent of his countrymen to assist him in an unique entertainment to be given in the Irishmen's Tent. Among those who have volunteered their help are Walter Munroe, Pat Carey, Tom Costello, Pat Doherty, Tom Carney, T. C. Callaghan, W. J. Ashcroft, and others. There will be a baseball match between the Old Thespians and a London team.

The latest events added to the Sports at the Crystal Palace on June 27 are the 440-yards Championship (running) for the Johannesburg Cup (open to members of the V.A.F. only), and a 440-yards running handicap for members of the Press only. Mrs. Bob Hutt will give a prize to the lady who sells the most programmes. The entries to the Sports close on June 19.

Will Oliver made a special journey on Wednesday to Chester in order to see the Simms (Rosa and Kitty) before they open in town on Monday. He was much pleased with the brightness of their number. As sister turns have almost died out, the Simms will no doubt become a welcome addition to our London favourites.

The many friends of Miss Sheila McNeil will be pleased to learn that she is now on the high road to recovery from the sharp attack of rheumatic fever, which caused her to be out of the bill at Collins's from the middle of last week. She hopes to resume work shortly, and wishes, through our columns, to thank all and sundry for their kind inquiries.

The staff of the Empire, Camberwell, will have their first summer outing on Sunday, July 14. They will go by brakes to Long Ditton, where dinner and tea will be provided, afterwards returning to town. Messrs. Jesse Sparrow, Harry Bawn, Percy Ford, E. Webb, Fred Neiman, and several other gentlemen have subscribed handsomely towards the expenses.

Mr. Joseph Adelmann, the wonderful xylophone player, and his two daughters have recaptured all the enthusiasm with which they were received on on their first appearance at the Empire, and now repeat some of their best known selections on the xylophone.

Mr. Ivan Berlyn, who has recently been touring successfully in *Veronique*, is now playing in the principal provincial towns Mr. John Lawson's part in *Sally in Our Alley*, with which he has made a big hit during the month.

Mr. Walter Norman, the popular manager of the Hastings Hippodrome, was the recipient of a tremendous ovation when he stepped on to the stage at his benefit matinée on Wednesday, June 5, and returned thanks to all concerned in a neat speech. A large array of brother and sister artists lent their services in honour of the occasion. In addition to the regular company, several came from Eastbourne by permission of Mr. S. W. Winter, manager of the Eastbourne Hippodrome. These included Miss Nora Moore, Miss Phyllis York, Gus Hindle, the Dancing Gilberts, and Fred Carey. Mr. George B. Bohee appeared, and Mr. Arthur St. John came by permission of Mr. J. D. Hunter, of the Hastings Pier Pavilion. Local talent was also represented by Mr. John Fuller (comedian), Leslie Barton (baritone), and a sketch company composed of Miss Bessie Watson, Miss Carmen Collyer, Messrs. Bert Forss and Bert Overs, produced *The Wrong Box*. Miss Emie Winson gave her singing picture turn, and Mr. Frank Lane some amusing patter. Some lightning portraiture was introduced by Mr. Charles Hughes, and Mr. J. E. Stanborough, the latter cleverly giving a sketch of a tramp. The long programme was thoroughly enjoyed.

Managers who are on the look-out for fresh talent should pay a visit to the Theatre Royal, Oldham, next week, where two new acts will be produced—viz., The Excelsiors, who are well known in concert circles, and who are putting on a singing scena; the second item is a strong show by two gentlemen who will be known as the Milano Bros. Both are anticipated to be very big successes, and will be in the hands of Mr. Dottridge, the well-known agent.

The latest quotations for music hall shares are as follow:—Alhambra 1½, Canterbury ½, Empire (15s. pd.) 1⅜, Do. (10s. pd.) 1½, Lon. Pav. Ord. 4⅜, Do. Pref. 5, Lon. Coliseum ½, Metropolitan ½, Moss Empire 4⅜, Do 5 p.c. Pref. 3⅜, Oxford 6⅜, Palace 13/0, Tivoli 5, Var. Cons. Theas. 12/6.

Mr. Fred Herbert occupied the chair at the 515th meeting of the Executive Committee of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association, held on Wednesday, when Messrs. Charles Coborn, Harry Blake, R. Abel, Harry Bancroft, Jeff Vendome, Fred Harrison, Bob Hutt, and C. Douglas Stuart (secretary), were present. Mr. Blake made the welcome statement, in his report of the visit of the deputation to the Ocean Accident Insurance Company, that the company had agreed to a reduction of nearly £50 off £449 18s. 8d. due to them. The accountant's statement for the half-year ending May 31 put the total receipts at £2,517 18s. 8d. The expenditure, including £870 on charitable donations, totalled £1,803 6s. 1d. In that period 1,356 new members were enrolled, while 3,284 were renewed. £156 19s. 6d. was transferred to the reserve fund, which stands at £522 6s. 6d. The deposit account is £150; the current account, £387 13s. 1d.; and petty cash, £20. The secretary's weekly financial statement dealt with £43 15s. 6d., and twenty-four new members had joined.

The Theatre of Varieties, Pitfield-street, Hoxton (known to music-hall readers as Harwood's), is announced for absolute sale, by order of the mortgagees, and Messrs. Barker and Finch, 13, Hart-street, Bloomsbury, will submit the valuable free lease for nine years of the property to public auction at an early date (unless sold privately in the interim). The theatre has for years past been a highly successful concern, and earned fortunes for previous proprietors, and the public-house attached occupies a fine position in a marketing thoroughfare. The rent is £300.

Mr. C. W. Somerset, whose work in strong character parts has made his name famous at His Majesty's and other West End houses, made one of the hits of his career when he appeared at the Duke's of York's Theatre on September 25, 1895, in a play by Walter Frith, entitled *Her Advocate*. In this he played the part of Dr. Marshall, a guilty poisoner, who, in the witness-box, cowers before the fierce cross-examination of a barrister, originally played by Mr. Charles Cartwright. A condensed version of the play has been produced at the Empire, Glasgow, under the title of *The Great Poison Case*.

Mr. Frank Coyle, after a short London season, will take a holiday next week in Paris with his wife. Mrs. Coyle will look at the shops in order to pick up new ideas for her millinery business in Leeds and Mr. Coyle will acquire some sketches of character to be embodied in new comic songs.

One of the most useful adjuncts of the library of the artist or the office of the agent is the table of distances published by Messrs. H. and M. Rayne, of the Theatrical Stores, 49, Charing Cross-road, and 115 to 119, Waterloo-road, S.E. By a glance at this one can immediately ascertain—let us say—the exact distance between the Paragon and the London, and Collins's and the Oxford. With the barring clause always with him, the variety artist should immediately secure this framed certificate of distances between hall and hall, which is revised and certified by Edward Stanford, geographer to the King.

Miss Dora Lyric is performing this week at the Hippodrome, Ealing, and singing the song, "I'll tell Tilly on the telephone," which was first introduced by her and published by Francis, Day, and Hunter. It is an enormous chorus song, and is being sung all over Ealing. She has two more numbers in preparation by Castling and Godfrey, who are keeping her busy with numbers. Miss Lyric leaves town on Monday for Chatham, Sheerness, and Southampton, returning to the Clapham and Bedford. She has had several offers for pantomime, but has not settled yet. Mr. Walter Bentley is her business manager.

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Nolan and their daughter departed for Australia last week. Amongst those present at Liverpool-street to see them off were Mr. Dick Knowles, Mr. Wal Pink, Mr. Joe O'Gorman, Mr. Tom Pacey, Mr. Mike Asher, Mr. Jeff Vendome, Mrs. Pink, Miss Nora O'Gorman, Mr. Alf Chester, Mr. Charlie Brady, Williams and Warden, Mr. George Gunnop, Mr. Frank Halter, Mr. Tom Carney, Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Fitch, Mr. and Mrs. Pocock, and Mr. and Mrs. Harry Anstead. At Tilbury they received numerous telegrams wishing them God-speed, and among the final leave-takers were Mr. and Mrs. Pocock, Herbert Nolan (their son), and Miss Marie Balfour.

Tom Jones—not Fielding's hero, but the new Welsh comedian, who comes from Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwll-llantysiliogogogoch, and in confidence proclaims this fact to audiences—has been engaged by Mr. Milton Bode to play Dame in pantomime next Christmas season. Tom Jones has quite a style of his own, possessing a genial communicative method which is decidedly in his favour, and his quips and cranks are delivered with a sly humour that is irresistible. He is at present starring in the popular drama *A Fight for Millions*, which has been toured so long and so successfully by Robert Perris.

Mr. and Mme. Zancig return to the Alhambra on Monday for a short season, after a successful tour in the provinces. They will present exactly the same entertainment as set all London talking about the mysteries of mental telepathy. During their tour their thought-transmission power has been tested by many of the leading scientific men of the kingdom, none of whom has been able to discover their secret.

The programme at the Alhambra on Monday will also be reinforced by the presentation for the first time in London of M. Houdin's electrical ballet, which has been imported direct from Paris. It will be performed by the Alhambra's own *corps de ballet*, and some remarkable electrical "effects" are promised. On the same evening Signora Maria Bordin returns to the Alhambra to take up the part of *première danseuse* in *The Queen of Spades* ballet.

Mr. Frank H. France and Miss Edith Stewart open at the Tivoli on Monday in their successful sketch, *The 100 to 1 Chance*, for a four weeks' engagement. Wherever played this smart little racing sketch always meets with great approval, and, with the exception of a few weeks in August and September, it is fully booked until next Easter. Miss Edith Stewart (Mrs. France) has recently been ill, and obliged to cancel several weeks' bookings; but after recuperating in the bracing air of Deal she is now quite ready for her London season.

The Brewster Troupe, who recently returned from an extended tour through Spain and South America, are now at the Os Bavvatra Theatre, Buda-Pest, where they are meeting with the usual success. They return to England for Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's *Aladdin* pantomime, with Miss Kitty Brewster in the rôle of principal girl.

Mrs. Bennett and Mr. Edward Cranston are having a complimentary benefit given them at the Canterbury on Wednesday evening, June 26, prior to their departure for Australia. A host of stars have promised to appear.

Mr. Leipold will present a novel turn at the Tivoli on Monday. He will play a violin solo and accompany himself on the piano, without mechanical assistance of any kind, using his hands only.

Mr. Edmond Bosanquet's success at the Etoile Palace, Paris, has been so conspicuous that the director of that house has placed him at the top of the bill for two weeks running, a most unusual proceeding. Mr. Bosanquet is one of the very few London music-hall orchestral directors who has conducted a Paris theatrical band.

The Terriers' Cricket Club and Sam Mayo's XI. played a match on Wednesday at Freeman's Grounds, Champion Hill, S.E. A number of professional friends put in an appearance, and enjoyed a delightful day's sport. The Terriers, who won, ran up a total of 115. They consisted of the following:—F. Barker, Woolmer Young, G. Burgess, W. Stebbings, E. Martin, W. Clarke, E. Webb, H. Bawn, W. H. Brownson, F. Hurst, Kloof, and Leon Bassett. Mr. Sam Mayo's team made 70. They were:—F. Morrison, H. O. Wills, L. Zampa, G. Walters, Edgar Budden, G. H. Elliott, Sam Mayo, F. Cowan, B. Womack, L. Young, S. Wood, and Mark Leslie. The Terriers will play next Wednesday at the above grounds. Teams wishing for matches with them should address Capt. B. Woodger, Hon. Sec., Metropole Hotel, Denmark Hill, S.E.

PARIS VARIETY GOSSIP.

JUST at the present moment most of the music halls are vieing with each other to produce something extra special in the way of shows on Sunday night, the evening of the Grand Prix.

AT the Folies-Marigny the entente cordiale will be celebrated by two stars of equal magnitude: one is La Belle Otero and the other Marie Lloyd. Miss Lloyd's London reputation is well known here, and *tout Paris* will flock to see her if there should be room enough in the house after the English contingent has finished booking seats, which they are doing at this moment. Miss Lloyd will give eight performances at the Marigny.

AT the Alcazar d'Ete a grand ball has been arranged for the evening of the Grand Prix.

A GREAT success was scored on Tuesday by the Ambassadeurs Revue, *Tu Veux Rire*. A fine cast has been gathered together, and the current topics of the day have been very humorously treated by MM. H. de Gorsse and G. Nanteuil. Gaby Delys and Max Dearly carried off the honours of the evening. Their chief successes were gained in the lady cabby and her fare and in a very quaint Dutch dance, which is very reminiscent of *Miss Hook of Holland*. In this number they have the assistance of Miss Vera Barton, a charming little dancer, whose *pas seul* earlier in the evening was one of the hits. Mlle. Delys also introduces a ju-jitsu song, in which she is assisted by M. A. S. Eida. Others who did much towards the success were Mlles. Derminy (commère), Foscolo, C. Martens, Moreau; MM. Alberthal (compère), Gerier, Strack, and Ferdinand Frey.

AT the Capucines, Mlle. Marguerite Duval and Polin are still playing with great success in the play, *Son Petit Frere*.

MISS JOSEPHINE SABEL is back in Paris after her African trip.

MR. TED MARKS, with his button-hole bouquet, and Mr. Mark Klaw, of Klaw and Erlanger, are also paying the Gay City a visit.

THE programme at the Alhambra for the last fifteen days before the annual closing consists of the El Tampico Trio of South American instrumentalists; the Geerts Family of Gymnasts; Mlle. Amylla, in an allegorical pantomimo, entitled *Phydra;* and several other excellent turns. Quite a special feature is being made of the Cinematograph, which runs forty minutes.

PARIS is at present suffering from a very bad attack of "cinematomania," as Max Dearly very aptly puts it in the Ambassadeurs Revue. From one end of the Boulevards to the other is one long string of Cinematograph theatres, outside of which stand gaily-dressed attendants, who inform the passers by (as in the old showman days) that they are just about to begin.

AT night the Cinematograph has taken the place of the illuminated advertisements, and at many points crowds may be seen watching the manufacture of Somebody and Co.'s hats or whisky. And now the last move is the theatres, which used to be content to shut their doors during the summer months, are giving Cinematograph shows at reduced prices. Things must be looking particularly rosy for the trade at the present moment.

"TEDDY SMILES, THE SPORTSMAN,"

a Musical Comedy Sketch, in Three Scenes, produced at the Empire, Camberwell, on Monday, June 10.

Teddy Smiles ..... MR. WILL HEBDEN
I. Doem ..... MR. MAT MCCORMACK
W. E. Bolt ..... MR. JOE MCCORMACK
Rev. Quaker Oats ..... } MR. H. C. STOREY
Hawkseye ..... }
Fidgetts ..... MR. FRANK ZAZA
Lord Anglefish ..... MR. BERTIE WHITE
Count Marcello de Shampedro ..... MR. V. A. VINCENT
Bert Walters ..... MR. DRAPER
Harry Smart ..... MR. BRANDWOOD
P. C. Slowem ..... MR. F. LEVER
Countess de Shampedro .. MISS CLARA VINCENT
Lady Amelia Cawson .. MISS MILLIE AUGUARDO
Mabel Martin ..... MISS RAY MONTROSE

Teddy Smiles, produced at the Empire, Camberwell, on Monday, was received with marked favour by a good house, and will admirably serve its purpose as a twenty-five minute pot-pourri of tune and fun. It is well presented by Mr. Will Hebden and his company. The slight story admirably serves its purpose. In the first act we find ourselves at the Old Horseshoe Inn. To this peaceful spot come Teddy Smiles, a welsher, his two confederates, and a flash-note gang. These worthies soon discover that Lord Anglefish carries with him a large sum in notes, and striking up an acquaintance with him, they cleverly exchange his genuine flimsies for their flash ones. The gang soon find that discovery is certain, and when a missionary, the Rev. Quaker Oats, arrives at the inn they exchange Teddy Smiles's suit-case for his, and find in it three complete clerical outfits, which they immediately annex, leaving their own in the place of them. Smiles and his two confederates now masquerade as the Rev. Quaker Oats and his two curates, while the parson, left with only Smiles's glaring suit, puts it on, and is given into custody by Lord Anglefish, who has discovered that he has been robbed. The parson protests, but Smiles and his gang declare the parson an impostor, and he is removed in custody. He is able to satisfy very soon the authorities as to his true identity. In the last scene—Lady Cawson's baronial hall—Hawkseye, the detective, has the flash-note gang under observation, and enlists the services of Fidgetts, the butler, and Mabel Martin, the maid, to bring the bounders to justice. This is soon effected, but not before Teddy Smiles and his pals have upset everybody and everything at Lady Cawson's mansion.

As Teddy Smiles Mr. Will Hobden is the life and soul of the whole production. He is not only funny, but sings admirably "I'm a bishop," and joins Mr. H. C. Storey—who assumes the dual rôle of the parson and the detective—in a capital duet, "Did you ever." Mr. Storey gives a fine effect to a pretty ballad, "My own bright eyes." The brothers Mat and Joe McCormack as the welshers in their duet, "We know a thing or two," create roars of laughter, and their dancing contributes to their success. Miss Millie Auguardo invests the part of Lady Cawson with dignity and grace; as the Count and Countess Mr. V. A. Vincent and Miss Clara Vincent fill their parts with distinction; Mr. Bertie White as the dude, Lord Anglefish, is decidedly good, never for a moment getting out of touch with the character. The minor characters receive adequate attention from Miss Ray Montrose, Messrs. Frank Zaza, Draper, Brandwood, and F. Lever. The chorus and the quartette of policemen, in their excellent number, "Hush, hush, it's the footstep of the policeman," deserve a special word of praise. The scenery and costumes are elaborate and tasteful.

MR. NORMAN G. ACTON will produce a new American episode on Wednesday next (matinée) at the Empress, Brighton.

MR. FRED CURRAN, who has returned from a successful tour in Australia, opens on Monday at the Oxford, Middlesbrough.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

LARGE audiences at the Tivoli have shown in no uncertain manner during the week their enthusiastic appreciation of Miss Annie Purcell in her new and delightful number, entitled "In the valleys of Switzerland," written by Charles Wilmott, and for which Hermann E. Darewski, jun., has composed a delightfully characteristic and flowing melody. Miss Purcell has been identified with many successful songs, but with this item has eclipsed all her previous triumphs. Mr. David Day's firm has the morceau in the press.

BY special invitation of Mr. Tom Costello, Messrs. Fred W. Leigh and Henry E. Pether on Tuesday paid a flying visit to Liverpool so that they might, at the Empire, have auricular and ocular demonstration of the huge successes made by the celebrated comedian in their new number, written specially for him and entitled "For Auld Lang Syne; or, my home is far away." Mr. Costello will on Monday introduce the number, which is being published by Messrs. Francis and Day, to London audiences, and will also be heard in a new humorous song by Bennett Scott, entitled "The tenbob rise."

NEW numbers just added to Messrs. Francis and Day's "Sixpenny Pops" include "The Empire Barn Dance," by James Fitzgerald; "All alone in Old Cologne," one of the most melodious of the songs of the day; and Felix McGlennon's Manxland craze, "She lives in the Isle of Man." At its present rate of progress Mr. John Smith's catalogue will very soon embrace 400 items.

AMONG new songs just accepted for publication by Messrs. Francis and Day are the following:—"She used to push a basinette," written, composed, and sung by Charles Coborn; "My Southern Queen" (sung by Miss Nell Emerald), "Come back to baby and me," and "Up in an airship," all three by H. Taylor; "Is there a doctor about?" (Wilkie Bard), by Worton David and Shirley Ilton; "I don't want no one," by G. A. Stevens; "The old cracked basin" (Harry Randall), and 'You may want a friend some day," both by T. W. Connor; and "What is it makes the girls love you?" by Harry Leighton and Charles Hilbury.

MISS BERTHA STUART, the sweet singer of Scotch songs, produced last week a new number by A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott entitled "You are still my Highland laddie," and writes to say the song was an instantaneous success. Miss Stuart will shortly open at the Tivoli and Oxford, where her London admirers will have an opportunity of hearing her latest acquisition.

SEASIDE entertainers from all points of the compass write to tell of the phenomenal success of "Sailing in my balloon," the Star Co.'s great hit. Closely rivalling this number in popularity are the same firm's "Isle of Anglesey," "Has anyone seen a German band?" "You can't do without a girl," and "Swing me higher, Obadiah."

BENNETT SCOTT has returned from his trip to New York, and he and A. J. Mills have "started in" by writing one of the daintiest numbers imaginable. The title is "Pretty little maid of Norway." It has a most contagious chorus, and will be issued in due course by the Star Co.

MISS FLORRIE BRAY has been appearing at the Empire, Dudley, this week with some catchy songs. She has a happy knack of taking the audience into her confidence and making them take up her choruses.

Two eleventh-hour successes have suddenly come to light amongst al fresco songs, namely, "In an old sedan chair," published by Feldman and Co., and "Take me back to Dublin Town," published by Francis, Day, and Hunter. Both numbers are already popular at certain seaside towns, and al fresco proprietors should lose no time in including them in their programmes. Both are from the prolific pens of Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford, who were respectively responsible for "I wouldn't leave my little wooden hut" and "I've built a bamboo bungalow" last season.

ENORMOUS, indeed, has been the success of Messrs. Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford's new "Dutch" winner, "I'm goin back to the Fatherland," with pierrot troupes all over the country, particularly in Blackpool, where it is a veritable rage. Mr. Will Evans is specially producing this number in a new sketch he is pioneering, with appropriate costumes and effects; whilst Mr. John Tiller is doing ditto with the same song in his shortly due big Blackpool production. The Monte Carlo Publishing Co. issue this morceau.

MISS MARIE LOFTUS has been scoring very heavily with a new "simple country girl" song, entitled "Devonshire Cream," by Messrs. John P. Harrington and Jas. W. Tate, and has given the same author and composer a practically unlimited order for specially-written new comedy numbers.

MISS KATIE MARSH scored an instantaneous "hit" at Collins's this week with Messrs. Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford's Rocky Mountains romance, "Don't go back to Carolina," with which Miss Rosie Lloyd has also been winning "golden opinions" everywhere; and pierrots galore furthermore report great things anent the seaside success of this "taking" Monte Carlo Co.'s publication.

MISS BIJOU RUSSELL, on her opening night at the Tivoli, Sydney, scored a phenomenal success with Mr. J. F. Lambe's delightful song, "Queen of Old Samara," and had to respond to encore after encore before her Australian admirers were satisfied. The Monte Carlo Publishing Co. have been simply inundated with Australasian orders for this successful song; and in consequence of the ever-increasing popularity of their "Sixpenny Successes" series "down under," the well-known Australian publishers, Messrs. Allen and Co., are now issuing special editions of all this successful young firm's principal numbers.

So great has been the success at the London Hippodrome this week of Messrs. John P. Harrington and Jas. W. Tate's stirring dramatic sketch, *Lucknow*, in which Mr. George Leyton and some dozen or more actual survivors of the Indian Mutiny appear, that this well-known author and composer have been simply flooded with commissions for new sketches for leading artists in this line of business. Truly, nothing succeeds like success!

MISS MARIE LLOYD, who, by the way, has just gone to Paris, has placed a special commission with Messrs. John P. Harrington and Jas. W. Tate, author and composer of her celebrated "Customs of the country" ditty, to supply her with several new songs specially designed for her forthcoming campaign in America.

PERCY STANHOPE'S concert party, which includes Marie Westcott, Florence Bell, Charles Austing, and Hickmann-Smith, is scoring a record success at Lowestoft, where they are engaged for a month.

THE music of *The Merry Widow*, which is being performed at Daly's, has become so instantaneously popular that a great rush has been made for the gramophone records of the principal numbers. The various depôts of the Gramophone Co. are, we understand, overrun with orders for this new music.

SONGS IN THE STATES.

A CHAT WITH MR. BERT FELDMAN.

The news that Mr. Bert Feldman had returned from his visit to America brought hosts of friends to welcome the enterprising principal of a famous firm. In an incautious moment Mr. Feldman gave us admission to his sanctum, where the intermittent tingle of the telephone bell mingled with the strains of the latest composition played on a piano in an adjoining room. Mr. Feldman's retreat is a veritable gilded chamber, sumptuously furnished and tastefully decorated. On the ceiling is an artistic fresco, representing rosy Cupids gambolling beneath a cerulean sky, while the walls present a charming study in plastic design. In the centre of the room stands a grand piano, whereon are played the numberless scores which are submitted to Mr. Feldmann's experienced ear before being given to an eager public.

"Yes," says Mr. Feldman, light-heartedly, "I have just returned from America, and my trip has been a most satisfactory one from a business, as well as a social, point of view. The success of 'By the side of the Zuyder Zee' has been phenomenal, and immediately on arrival I placed it with some of the best performers in the country. When I left it was being featured in the new musical comedy, *Fascinating Flora*. 'Au revoir, my little Hyacinth,' is also an established success in the New World.

"I have fallen in love with America," Mr. Feldman confessed. "Everybody treated me so hospitably, and I was entertained right royally. A fine future is in store for English artists, and I feel thoroughly convinced that there is going to be one

[*Photo by Hana.*
MR. BERT FELDMAN.

of the greatest booms in English songs imaginable. A wave of popularity for British-made melodies is passing over the land of the Stars and Stripes, and the latest importations from this country have become quite a craze. I have the greatest possible faith in our song-writers, and feel sure of their capability to write successes both for this country and the other side. It is a most difficult thing to please a fickle public. What is wanted is a pretty idea wedded to a haunting melody, and that is bound to catch the popular ear."

Mr. Feldman had to submit to a good many interviewers, but one of his most amusing experiences was the result of the fertile imagination of the American reporter, by which Mr. Feldman awoke one day to find himself a millionaire—on paper. The article is headed

"HOW I MADE A MILLION DOLLARS OUT OF ONE SONG."

"'Sing a song o' sixpence,'" the time-honoured nursery rhyme," Mr. Feldman is reported to have said, "has no doubt turned thousands of dollars into the pockets of publishers who have been reprinting it from time to time, in connection with the other good old moss-grown chestnuts. But I believe I am the only publisher who ever actually made 1,000,000 dollars out of a single song. When A. J. Mills, who wrote the words, and Bennett Scott, the composer of the melody, submitted the song to me, I at once foresaw great possibilities, but not quite such possibilities as have since been realised. Within an incredibly short time all England was singing the song, and the result, at least, from a financial point of view, may safely be said to be the most astounding that ever fell to the lot of a publisher." Mr. Feldman readily admits the enormous success which attended the song, but he can scarcely claim that it made him a millionaire.

"During my sojourn in New York," said Mr. Feldman, "I had the felicity of meeting Miss Alice Lloyd and Miss Vesta Victoria, who may well be said to have been the rage of the American capital, and the constant evidence on all hands of the success of these popular English artists formed one of the most gratifying events of my trip to the States."

A survey of B. Feldman and Co's. extensive premises, which look out from Arthur-street on to New Oxford-street, gave an idea of the facilities which are offered in what is practically the rendezvous of the most prominent artists. The establishment consists of three buildings, to which adjoining premises are shortly to be added. The publishing department, waiting-room, &c., occupy the ground floor, while the basement is devoted to shipping orders. On the upper floors are elegantly-furnished rehearsal rooms, and apartments where dances are arranged. It is no uncommon thing for four pianos to be going at once, and sixty performers rehearsing all day for the coming pantomime.

"The success which my firm enjoyed last Christmas was phenomenal," said Mr. Feldman, "and I haven't the slightest fear but that we shall excel ourselves this coming season. We have already the finest selection of pantomime songs that I have met with in my career, and I have every hope that our prosperity of last year will be repeated. Oh, the pirates," added Mr. Feldman, with a sigh. "Yes, there is happily no fear of them now. Music publishers as well as composers owe a life-long debt of gratitude to Mr. T. P. O'Connor in getting the Musical Copyright Act passed, and I have no hesitation in saying that 'T. P.' is the most popular man in musical circles in America."

What need is there to enumerate the song successes that have emanated from the firm since Mr. Bert Feldman came to London some ten years ago, and started in a small way in Oxford-street? The hits of the house number "Say au revoir, but not good-bye," Arthur Lennard's "Smoke," and many of Vesta Tilley's most famous productions. "Could you be true to eyes of blue?" "Mr. Moon," "When there isn't a girl about," Gus Elen's "Wait till the work comes round," and "The old Bull and Bush," among many other triumphs. At the present time the firm is issuing one of the most wonderful books ever placed on the market in Feldman's "12th Song Annual," which contains the words and music, with tonic sol-fa settings, of upwards of forty songs. The firm's 6d. edition also offers an unexcelled choice.

THE BENEVOLENT FUND DINNER.

It is extremely regrettable to know that the continued existence of the chief fund for the relief of the "poor distrest" members of the music-hall profession—a fund that has been established for some eighteen years—is threatened by divisions in the variety profession itself. Miss Marie Lloyd was originally announced to preside at the Music Hall Benevolent Fund dinner on Sunday night, and the occupancy of the chair by such an immensely popular and so good-hearted an artist would certainly have been a great draw, and therefor an immense gain to the fund. Unhappily, after considerable expense had been incurred by the issue of circulars and tickets, Miss Lloyd found herself unable to fulfil her promise. This non-fulfilment not only proved a serious set-back to the charity, but imposed upon its committee the task of choosing Miss Lloyd's substitute. No easy matter, as it happened; for not until the company had assembled in the reception-room at the Trocadero did Mr. Horace Marriott succeed in securing Mr. Harry G. Hibbert, the chairman of the Fund committee, to direct the proceedings. For once there was not the slightest suspicion of a discordant element, the gathering, though small, being governed by heartiness and jollity.

After the usual loyal toasts, proposed by the Chairman, "The King" being given with musical honours, MR. FRANK GERALD rose to ask all present to join him in a tribute to one who was no longer with them. The place that had been vacated was one which it would be a long, long time before they would see filled. He asked all present to drink to the memory of the late Mr. George Adney Payne. The work performed in connection with their Fund by the late Mr. Payne was work familiar to them all; it was work which all must appreciate, no matter whether they were proprietors, agents, or artists. He felt that an assemblage such as the present one, gathered together in the cause of a charity which the whole of his auditory, however few in number they might be, wished to see kept alive—(hear, hear)—would agree unanimously and enthusiastically that in losing Mr. Payne they had lost one of the strongest supporters of the Fund. The toast was drunk upstanding and in silence.

In giving the next toast, "The Music Hall Benevolent Fund," the CHAIRMAN, to illustrate the impossibility of saying much in the nature of variety in a speech on behalf of a charity, told the story of a village sexton, a bit of an artist, whose efforts with the brush were confined to public-house signs, and for the most part to curious ornithological specimens—shaped something like a duck, though they bore the titles of "The Spread Eagle," "The White Swan," &c. A sailor who had bought a hostelry in the place wanted his house to be known as "The Ship," and, on giving the order to the village Morland, received the reply, "Well, sir, I'll paint you a ship, but I expect that it will be very like a duck." Though he had been called upon at a moment's notice, he was extremely proud to occupy the position which was his that evening, and all the more proud that it was not every man who could boast of having been Marie Lloyd's understudy. (Laughter and applause.) They had no orator in the chair, and he therefore thought that the voluminous notes that had been prepared by his friend on his right, Mr. Ben Nathan, were to be handed over to him; but when he tried to appropriate them the author grabbed them as if they were ten per cent. (Laughter.) He had been two years chairman of the committee, and he was therefore qualified to speak of it. He knew how hard its members worked. It was not the business of a charity to distribute its fund to all comers. Their liberality should be—and was—tempered by discernment and discretion. The speaker then related his experience in connection with an applicant who had succeeded, by clever fraud, in extracting something like £80 from a theatrical charity, and described an interview with an acrobat, another pretender, who could not speak a word of English. In the main, however, they had to deal with urgent appeals from most deserving people, whom it was their wish, and would be the wish of everyone there, to relieve. It would be idle to ignore that their numbers on the present occasion were not so large as on some occasions in the past, yet he did not recall any of the Fund, dinners that had been so delightfully representative. Not only was the present the first occasion upon which they had had ladies among them, but they had a larger proportion, he thought, of representative working members of the profession with them than ever before. While he would meet a diminished subscription list with undiminished cheerfulness, he believed that this demonstration on the part of the Fund might prove a fair beginning of a nobler time for them. From his friend Mr. Nathan came the suggestion that the ladies should put the cards in their pockets and collect £5 each. At any rate, he would ask them all to do their best, and try and appreciate the crisis with which they were face to face.

MR. BEN NATHAN, who proposed the Music-Hall Profession," prefaced an earnest speech for unity among artists by an amusing anecdote and many interesting reminiscences. Looking back on the days of his youth in Birmingham, his first remembrances of the halls were associated with Day's Crystal Palace. Then, when anyone joined the variety profession, the inquiry was made, "What's he been up to?" He questioned very much whether there was any great difference between the entertainments of the past and those of the present. The comic songs of the old days were neither better nor worse than they are now; the great improvement was found in the audiences and in the magnificent establishments of to-day. Much discussion had been rife lately which was not calculated to cement friendships; and the wild and irresponsible statements concerning salaries in America did no good. If they were true, then across the Atlantic was a land flowing with milk and honey and streets paved with gold. Anyone who had the good of the music-hall profession at heart should join together now and at once in sinking any imaginary differences. There was a period of prosperity coming over the music halls of this country which nothing but disruption could delay. Life was so rapid nowadays that business-men valued the crisp, clean, and wholesome entertainment which music halls provided, and it behoved them all to sink their grievances, real or imaginary, and to work together for the good of their profession. (Hear, hear.) He felt sure that existing differences would be settled amicably. Coupling with the toast the name of Mr. Charles Coborn, he concluded with a high compliment to the artistic and personal qualities of that popular comedian and cosmopolitan character-vocalist.

MR. CHARLES COBORN, on rising to acknowledge, was greeted with loud demands for a song, demands which he did not for the moment satisfy, much to the disappointment of a little group of connoisseurs whom he had been charming with a French stanza, *sotto voce*, from his exquisite "Je suis vieux, je suis vieux." One of the duties incumbent upon them all, declared Mr. Coborn, was most decidedly to support the Fund. The establishment of that Fund had removed the stigma which for many years had rested on the variety profession of not possessing an institution for the poor and needy of its class. They would all regret to see the Fund sink, but he did not believe it would sink. He was sure that means would be found to enable it to continue its active existence. He had very much pleasure in stating that Mr. George Robey had informed him of his intention to make a donation of £50 to aid in the continuance of the institution. (Loud applause.)

MR. FRANK GERALD, in proposing the toast of "The Chairman," referred to his deep interest in the Music Hall Benevolent Fund, and to his untiring efforts in connection therewith. He read on the menu that this was the seventeenth annual dinner, and though the gathering there was not large, everyone present was an enthusiastic well-wisher of the charity, which he felt certain would not flicker out. Something was going to happen that would go far to place it on a sound financial footing. They would celebrate Federation at the Crystal Palace on the 27th of this month, and there would be numerous demonstrations in aid of the various charities of the music hall world on the same date throughout the United Kingdom, the Continent, America, and Australia, and he looked forward with confidence to seeing the Fund in a healthy state financially. It was with great pleasure that he asked them to drink to their Chairman.

After MR. HIBBERT had replied, MR. HORACE MARRIOTT read out the list of subscriptions, which included £50 from Mr. George Robey and £60 from the M.H.A.R.A. Harmony then ruled the proceedings. Mr. Charles Coborn, who opened the ball with a poem by C. S. Calverley, "The Heartless Anna," afterwards contributed, at the unanimous request of those present, "Two lovely black eyes," accompanied by Mr. Angelo Asher, who directed the band at the old Trocadero Music Hall (the site of the restaurant), when the famous number became so popular that it was known as the "Trocadero Anthem." Miss Marguerite Broadfoote sang a charming ballad; Mr. Harry Mountford told some good stories; Mr. George Reeves related in amusing fashion the history of a cigar—one of those things that did not require puffing; Mr. Frank Gerald recited "A Tale of the 10th Hussars," by the late Clement Scott; Mr. Ben Nathan recited "The Villain at the Vic"; and Mrs. George Reeves sang "The Airship and the Swallow." Mr. Angelo Asher accompanied throughout.

Among those present were the following members of the committee:—Mr. Tom Pacey, Mr. Charles Coborn, Mr. Angelo A. Asher, Mr. Claude C. Bartram, Mr. Frank Gerald, and Mr. Harry Mountford. The company also included Mrs. Tom Pacey, Mr. and Mrs. Willie Edelsten, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Edelsten (Miss Marguerite Broadfoote), Mr. John Carney, Mr. Edgar Lee, Madame Fourauld, Mr. Appleyard, Mr. Frank Desprez, Mr. G. S. Edwards, Mr. Sam Bury, Mr. and Mrs. Laurie Graydon, Mr. Patrick Doherty, Miss Evelyn Vaudry, Miss Minnie Mace, Mr. Ben Nathan, Mr. Harry Blake, Mr. H. Belcham, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Reeves, Mr. C. Douglas Stuart (secretary of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association), Mr. W. Payne, Mr. Charles Berte, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hardie, and Mr. Horace Marriott (secretary to the Fund).

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, MAY 29.—Several of the leading theatres are closed, but there is plenty of theatrical entertainment still to be found along Broadway. *Fascinating Flora*, just produced at the Casino, is intended to be the regular summer attraction at that popular playhouse, but it will need considerable improvement to be as successful as other Casino "shows" of the same character have been during the hot weather. *The Orchid*, with Eddie Foy and a large cast, seems to have settled at the Herald-square Theatre for the summer. Mr. George Broadhurst's play, *The Man of the Hour*, is expected to remain at the Savoy Theatre for several months to come. *Brewster's Millions*, with Edward Abeles at the head of the cast, is running indefinitely at the Hudson; and so is *The Rose of the Rancho* at the Belasco, where Miss Frances Starr continues her delightful impersonation of the Spanish heroine. *The Red Mill*, with Montgomery and Stone, is still going strong at the Knickerbocker Theatre; and *The Parisian Model*, with Miss Anna Held, is doing equally well. Mr. William Collier, in *Caught in the Rain*, is nearing his two-hundredth appearance in that farce at the Garrick Theatre. Mr. John Barrymore has assumed the leading rôle in *The Boys of Company B*, replacing Mr. Arnold Daly, who will soon be in London. *The Road to Yesterday*, with Miss Minnie Dupree, is another play that retains its hold on popular favour. The Hippodrome closed last Saturday after a very prosperous season under the management of Messrs. Shubert and Anderson, many thousands of people having seen the gorgeous spectacles *Pioneer Days* and *Neptune's Daughter*.

"FASCINATING FLORA," a musical comedy, by R. H. Burnside, Joseph W. Herbert, and Gustave Kerker, drew a big crowd to the Casino on the opening night. The piece has been adversely criticised, but it is the sort of thing that can be "built up" and altered out of all recognition without disturbing the relevancy of the title, so it is not likely to score a failure. Miss Adele Ritchie, handsomely gowned as usual, appears in the title-rôle; and Mr. Louis Harrison has a prominent rôle. A capital bit is "The Subway Express," a duet by Mr. Harrison and Miss Ritchie, with the entire chorus hanging on the straps of a crowded subway car in the background. "Romance and Reality," a topical ditty, written and sung by Mr. Harrison; and "Ballooning," a lively number by Paul West, win the approval of the audience. Miss Ada Lewis makes a distinct hit as Winnie Wiggles, a country girl with an ambition to shine in grand opera, particularly when she sings the duet from *Il Trovatore* with Caruso, the latter being represented by a phonograph. Miss Ella Snyder as Dolly Wagner was cordially welcomed after her long absence in London. Mr. James E. Sullivan again exploited his broken-German dialect; and Mr. Frederick Bond made the most of a not very important rôle. There are two acts. The first shows a Conservatory of Music in Paris; while the second, divided into two scenes, is laid in a New York broker's office and at Manhattan Beach.

MISS FAY TEMPLETON made her last appearance on the stage on the 18th inst., at the Grand Opera House, the play being *Forty-five Minutes from Broadway*. She was born in 1865, and bred in the atmosphere of the theatre. Her father, John Templeton, now on the editorial staff of a New York newspaper, was then in the theatrical business, and her mother, known on the stage as Alice Vance, was also in the profession. Miss Templeton made her first regular appearance when she was only four years old, with the Templeton Opera Company, in Charleston, S.C., reciting "Babes in the Wood," and singing some of the old familiar songs of the time. A few years later she made her New York *début* with the late Augustin Daly, playing Puck in his production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Miss Templeton's first rôle in comic opera was that of Ralph Rackstraw in *Pinafore*, and at the age of fifteen she had become a light opera star known throughout the country. She appeared in a number of E. E. Rice's productions, such as *Evangeline* and *The Corsair*. Then she married Howell Osborne, and retired from the stage, living for several years in Paris. When Mr. Osborne died in 1895, it was announced that he had bequeathed $100,000 to his wife. Miss Templeton made her reappearance in New York in the burlesque of *Hendrick Hudson*. She made a big success in E. E. Rice's production of *Excelsior, Jun.*, and afterwards joined the Weber and Fields company. For the last two years she has been appearing under the management of Messrs. Klaw and Erlanger in musical comedies.

MR. HARRY TOMPS, a new and novel performer, with a budget of dry stories, a good comic song, and a clever concertina solo, is being well booked up at the principal halls.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE ALHAMBRA.

The palace in Leicester-square long since established a reputation for international courtesy, and many nationalities have been entertained within its walls, which on Tuesday night echoed back the applause of a contingent of Japanese sailors from the famous man-of-war commanded by Vice-Admiral Goro Ijuin, K.C.B., now in British waters. Admiral Ijuin was seated in a private box, and among the other Japanese officers were Captain Heitaro Takeno-Outchi, Captain Tanin Yamaya, Captain Tochinai, C.V.O., Engineer Captain Heihachi Tsukui, Commander Chuzaburo Sakakibara, Flag-Commander Isam Takeshita, Lieutenant-Commander Count Tsuneha Sano, A.D.C., and Flag-Lieutenant Shinjiro Yamamoto, of the Imperial Japanese Navy. The First Lord of the Admiralty, Lord Tweedmouth, who had entertained these gentlemen to dinner at his official residence in Whitehall, also occupied a box. Accompanying him were Lord Redesdale, Admiral K. C. Douglas, Admiral Winsloe, Captain Pakenham, R.N., Captain Hutchins, R.N., Captain Jackson, R.N., Captain Morgan, R.N., and other naval officers. The sailors—many of whom wore the medals won by them in the late war—were accommodated in the balcony. The house was beautifully decorated with flowers and bunting, the Union Jack and the Japanese flag being everywhere. The special programme, printed in the Japanese language, with the names of Mr. Alfred Moul and Mr. George Scott in the picturesque alphabet of our allies, will no doubt be treasured by the hardy little men, who gave such a good account of themselves under Togo. They were evidently greatly impressed by the pretty groupings, the gorgeous dresses, and the fine dancing and miming that have done so much for the success of *The Queen of Spades*. Interested spectators, too, were they of the modern magic and the sleight-of-hand of De Bière, whose art is most agreeably and amusingly presented, and rightly evokes much laughter.

They may have been puzzled somewhat by the eccentric behaviour of Les Gignac, from the banks of the Seine, the comedian's make-up as a gawky girl in short frocks probably appealing more to their sense of humour than his lady partner's appearance in a breeches part. A special turn of the evening was contributed by a couple of Japanese fencers, who seemed to emulate in their system of attack and defence the old English sport of quarter-staff. The stick-play was of the vigorous give-and-take order. The Five Whiteleys, in their pot-pourri of acrobatics and wire-walking, were warmly applauded; Mr. Carl Lynn's imitations of animals arrested attention and commanded applause; Urbani and Son, with a drawing-room gymnastic act of surpassing merit, won hearty recognition; and nothing was more laughable than the blunders of a short-sighted cyclist, presented by the far-famed Urbanora methods, which enable us to enjoy the Derby once again, after seeing the famous race on Epsom Downs. *L'Amour* and Maria Vinent, the attractive French chanteuse, were also in the festival bill. Mr. George Byng's magnificent orchestra contributed to the significance of the occasion by a musical pot-pourri of the songs of the battle and the breeze.

BOW PALACE.

In the current programme pride of place is held by the sketch, *For the Honour of the Regiment*, and the patriotic sentiment with which it teems is just to the liking of the hardy workers who form the major part of the patrons of this East End variety theatre. Execrations are freely showered at the head of the traitorous Major Carr, who would not only betray the secrets of his country to a foreign Power, but is villain enough to attempt to compromise the honour of his comrade's wife, and it is a moment for general satisfaction when in a spirited duel with swords between the Major and Captain Dare the former is worsted. How the gallant Captain forgives his enemy, and how the latter, stricken with remorse, blows his brains out to save the honour of the regiment, are thrilling events which follow, and at its conclusion the playlet is vociferously applauded. Its interpretation by Mr. Frank Hardie's company is in every way admirable. Mr. R. Cruikshanks as Major Randall Carr, and Mr. Harry Hiller as Captain Harry Dare, V.C., are both excellent; Mr. Frank Hardie as the foppish but courageous Lieut. Bertie Clive has a capital part; Mr. Fred Dobell is a soldierly Colonel Clive; and Miss Irene Carlton charmingly plays Vera Dare.

Sammy Shields is a prime favourite, and he has a fund of racy stories which go remarkably well. Three items have to be contributed before the audience are satisfied, the most popular being his depiction of a Scotchman watching the Chelsea football team play. Mack Ollive, in the whistling scene from *The Belle of New York*, provides a most welcome contribution to the programme, and his whistling solos afterwards are much enjoyed. Daisy De Roy creates a highly favourable impression when she sings of "Annie Green," and afterwards gives a "yodelling" song with fine effect. Mackintosh and Royal, who possess championship awards for their prowess, give an expert display of clog-dancing, which is keenly watched and applauded.

The Pichell troupe of acrobats perform numberless feats of balancing and tumbling with great dexterity and ease, and their Risley act is given with that agility and unconscious effort which betokens the skilled performer. Jack Dawe is a most popular occupant of the stage, and both his songs are well received. Tod Lowan is very quaint, and has an original style which adds to his success. Harry Hillier provides a versatile turn, which finds much favour, and the gymnastic feats of the Peritas are accomplished with grace and daring. George Bendon wins a cordial reception when he sings "Lulu," and he is equally successful in his second item. The Bio-Tableaux pictures this week show "The Two Sisters," the passing of which is intently followed. Mr. James Manning conducts with his customary skill, and Mr. Charles Harvey is highly popular in his managerial capacity.

HACKNEY EMPIRE.

An exceptionally interesting programme is being presented at this hall this week—of such a length that the performance has to commence at 6.30, and popular support is still extended to it with unfailing strength, the holding capacity of the house being fully taxed at each show. The Delevines in a *mélange*, *Flipp and Flopp*, submit a particularly smart turn, comprising song, dance, acrobatic, and knockabout business. The comedian of the troupe works hard and with success, the lady sings and dances very prettily, and the scarecrow dance of the two gentlemen playing Flipp and Flopp can only be described as wonderful. Walter Munroe sings his song, "The man who struck O'Hara," in his own inimitable style, and then gives a very clever imitation of a one-legged man dancing, following with a dance of the type that the older generation of comedians finished their turns with. Bonnie Goodwin's Apollo Picaninnies, assisted by Miss Marie Goodwin, gave an exhibition of dancing which, considering the age of the youngsters, was phenomenal, and a most enthusiastic reception was accorded them at the end. M. H. Melot, a conjurer, presented a smart and clever act. His neatness in submitting his experiments was much in evidence, and the interest and pleasure his performance gave the audience was evidenced by the applause which made it necessary to bow his acknowledgments twice. Charles Fisher's Pocket Opera Company are responsible for a musical interlude of great merit; Messrs. Fisher and Dwyer, who wrote and composed the trifle, have supplied just enough coherence in the shape of a story to introduce their ability as vocalists with effect. Miss Zella Lusano, as Kitty, possesses a soprano voice of great power, which is utilised to considerable advantage; and Mr. Fisher also displays a tenor voice with similar happy results. Mr. Michael Dwyer as the much-tried composer has unquestionable gifts as a comedian, and his piano playing is beyond reproach. The Six Lancashire Lasses, singers and clog-dancers, make a successful bid for popular approval, both items coming in for every sign of appreciation. Mrs. John Lawson and company in the *Devil's Sunday* form one of the principal features of the bill. Mrs. Lawson herself in the part of Mrs. Faber enacts that somewhat unpleasant rôle with much skill, and she is capitally supported by her company, of whom particular mention should be made of the gentleman who played her husband, but is not billed. The Chronomegaphone is an invention that would seem to make the actual presence on the stage of an artist a matter of little moment in the future, comprising both the features of a gramophone and bioscope. The house listens to Mr. Harry Lauder in three of his popular successes, and must have found it difficult to realise that the artist himself was not entertaining them, the illusion being remarkably convincing. No sign was wanting to show that a very complete hit had been secured by the invention, and it will doubtless arouse great interest during its tour. Other artists completing the programme were George C. Doughty and Phyllis Atherley, in *Captain Cupid*; and Little Dot Mors, a child comedienne. Mr. Walter Johnston's fine orchestra still remains a feature of the evening, giving as an overture Schubert's "Rosamunde" prelude. Mr. John Christie is most courteous in the discharge of his duties in the front of the house, and Mr. W. R. Gillander, the Press representative for Messrs. Moss and Stoll, is geniality itself.

EMPRESS, BRIXTON.

The high level of excellence which the programmes that are weekly being presented at this most popular hall attain is, judging by the animated appearance of the house, very much appreciated. Undoubtedly the tit-bit of this week's entertainment is Apollo, the "ideal athlete," who is having a great reception. Walking on in an ordinary blue suit, his appearance does not savour of the extraordinary; yet, after a few minutes, in which he has shown some wonderful feats of strength, he brings the fact home to all that his claims as a strong man are undeniable. The easy manner in which he tears in two a pack of cards is marvellous, and then he puts two packs together, in all 104 cards, and calmly proceeds to serve them in the same manner. All through, his style is neat and facile in the extreme, and this is one of the greatest charms of his entertainment. Whatever he does is done in a perfectly natural manner, and without apparent effort. He also shows several interesting tricks of ju-jitsu, demonstrating how easy it is to defend oneself in case of sudden attack. He brings his turn to a conclusion by allowing a motor-car, containing several people, and weighing well over a cople of tons, to be driven over his body. This seems to affect him as little as if the weight were only a few pounds. The applause he gets on rising from the floor is deafening, and he has many times to bow his acknowledgements. A word of mention must also be made of his assistant, who introduces some comic business with excellent results. Miss Crissy Bell, a musical comedy actress, from the Aldwych and Vaudeville Theatres is appearing to advantage with a couple of numbers which are admirably rendered. In that entitled "She was a fisherman's daughter," which is set to very pretty music, she makes a decided hit, and her naïve and demure style of rendering it is a very great factor of its "scoring" power. Dion Wade has a most amusing song, "Wouldn't you be better in a home," which causes roars of laughter. In his second, he gives an impersonation of George Robey, and certainly he has "got" this famous artist to a "t." An amusing "sketchlet" entitled *The Amorous Prince*, is being presented by the Hatton-Russell Trio. This is admirably acted, and is causing much laughter. The Prince, who is supposed to be a Russian, is the possessor of a good voice, which he uses with good effect. Bert Coote's Kiddies, some sixteen in all, are introducing the most interesting numbers from the children's scene, in *The Fatal Wedding*. These youngsters are quite "old stagers" at the game, and their singing and dancing are a treat to witness. The entertainment presented by the Selbinis, trick cyclists, is both novel and interesting, and is full of unique and original tricks. One of their number introduces laughable comic business with considerable effect. The Two Bostons are making one of their periodical visits to this hall, and are meeting with their customary success. The dancing of the showman's assistant is most clever, and he proves himself no mean exponent of the art of terpsichore. Miss Alice Yorke and company are appearing to advantage in their sketch, *The Unbidden Guest*; and Lloyd Morgan, described as a "new comedian," is singing with success a number which certainly bears the hall mark of originality. Harry Nation is giving, "He's a seaside Johnny," which goes very well. Sydney Mason and company are presenting a dramatic episode, entitled *Dr. Parker*. This is cleverly written, and is followed with great interest. It certainly gives Mr. Sydney Mason plenty of scope for scoring. Of this he takes the fullest advantage, and, on concluding, is the recipient of hearty applause. Other contributions to a most enjoyable entertainment are being furnished by Miss Sylvia du Barry, the possessor of a fine voice; Baby Betty Green, a very clever youngster; and Carrie Foy. The Bioscope is again showing some exciting and laughable pictures, the series of films depicting "The Wonderful Electric Belt" being very interesting. The orchestra renders ably the overture and incidental music, and adds in no small manner to the evening's pleasure. Mr. Francis Winchcombe, the genial acting-manager for Mr. Francis Nelson, does everything possible in the front of the house for the comfort of his friends and patrons.

BARNARD'S, GREENWICH.

Last week there was an exceptionally good bill at this popular hall, so ably managed by Mr. Bert Dent. The programme included three capital sketches, including *The Artist's Dilemma*, which is a cleverly-written playlet, and met with considerable applause. Some very amusing situations arise out of the difficulties consequent upon the desire of a father to marry his son to the wrong woman. This week's bill is of the usual length and strength. Young Glenroy, the juvenile coster comedian, is warmly applauded for his songs, entitled "The Coster's Benefit" and "The Paper Boy." An excellent turn is provided by Hughes and Holden, creative comedy jugglers. Nancy Wentworth is a charming comedienne, while her dancing is very good, and her singing of "Mary" and "Pass round the hat" capital.

Ruffell's Bioscope is a great feature of the bill here; the pictures are well chosen and most interesting. Marie Parkinson is a clever coon comedienne, and gives an excellent rendering of "The old home across the sea" and "Have you seen my Henry Brown." Itrama is very successful in what is billed as "a great, original perch act." Aline Leslie sings sweetly, "Once" and "Land of the sunset glow." Goodfellow and Gregson are irresistible in their song, dance, and patter. Les Fleurs, Anglo-Continental singers and dancers, are well received in their novel entertainment, which consists of a song in five verses, each verse being rendered in a different language. Gus DaHon is a capital ventriloquist and conjurer, and his contribution is well received. Nash and Noel are smart comedians, and the patter is very funny.

Miss Hulo Hodgson and Harry Lowther's sketch, entitled *The Barmaids*, goes well. Mr. Harry Lowther is excellent as Dixon, and he is well supported by the members of the company. A turn not on the programme is that of Miss Rosie Gaston and company, who appear with considerable success in a sketch, entitled *A Late Rehearsal*. The band, under the direction of Mr. William Skerry, dispenses good music.

THE BRITANNIA.

Although this popular place of amusement is now without its variety licence, there appears to be no diminution in the attendance; indeed, a marked improvement is noticeable. The most important item of the programme is a sketch adapted from a series of stories now running in a popular periodical, and deals with the doings of Sexton Blake, a detective, who is anxious to capture the head of a gang of blackmailing criminals. The numerous and exciting incidents are skilfully treated by a capable company, including Miss Carlotta de Yonsen as Leah Coursell. Mr. C. Douglas Carlisle, who is the usual intrepid detective that nothing can harm, gives a powerful delineation of Sexton Blake. The master criminal and his blackmailing associates are adequately represented by Mr. Charles A. Carlisle, Mr. W. Loupe as Silas Strong, Mr. Phillip Astere as Teddy Baker, Mr. M. Langdale as Makeroff; and Tinker, Blake's assistant, is capably undertaken by Mr. Lee Gilbert.

Miss Jane Moore's company appear in a startling episode, *For a Sister's Honour*, a playlet written by Mr. E. C. Matthews, and dealing with that terrible scourge, the white slave traffic. A pretty young girl has been drugged by Pierre Dupont, and taken to his house, where she is seen by his so-called wife, who recognises her as a younger sister, and is determined to save her. Pierre, finding his plans thwarted, determines to kill her, and an exciting struggle ensues on the staircase; but the villain is eventually captured by the police. The piece was well played by Miss Jane Moore as Cora Coyne, the heroine, Miss Dora Haggett as Nellie Boyne, Mr. Frederick George as Pierre Dupont, Mr. Lewis Norton, who gave an amusing study of the dude, Charlie Lamley, Mr. Albert Bernard as Pecksniff Sharp, an old hypocrite, and Mr. A. E. Mayne as Honri Dardles, Pierre's accomplice, were heartily received by the audience.

Mr. Leonard Mortimer's company provided a third sketch, entitled *The House of Evil*, a brightly-written and smartly-played item, full of thrilling scenes, which received capable representation at the hands of Mr. H. Pearce as Lieut. James Heath, Mr. Murray Yorke as Dan Heath, Mr. Albert Guyon as Murray Warren, Mr. Chas. E. Ludlow as Jeff Janders, Miss Guinevere Shelton as Cissie Janders, and Miss Helena Wallran as Lou Heath. Mr. Fred Southern's company produced their amusing sketch, *His Lordship's Birthday*, which evoked hearty laughter; and Raymond's Bio-tableaux introduced some very interesting pictures. Mr. Carl Hamlin and his efficient orchestra played some melodious pieces during the evening.

A DENIAL.

Sir,—As some misunderstanding has arisen in connection with the visit of some artists to the Grand, Bolton, last week, I should take it as a favour if you would kindly make the following facts known:—To enable them to leave the town, I, with the assistance of the members of the Colley-Dryden Company, raised subscriptions on their behalf. Mr. J. F. Elliston, with his characteristic generosity, gave 2 guineas; Mme. Ada Colley also handed me a cheque for 2 guineas; and these sums, with other contributions, enabled me to meet the cost of their fares from Bolton to London. I regret to say, however, a report was circulated in the town to the effect that I was the individual responsible for their being left stranded here, having—so the rumour said—promised to purchase the sketch in which they appeared, and its scenery for £12. This I absolutely deny. I never made any such promise. I was only too glad to do what I could to help them to raise sufficient money to get out of the town. I have never seen the sketch in question, and in common fairness to those who so kindly responded to my appeal I trust you will insert this.—Yours truly,

LEO DRYDEN.

Grand, Bolton. June 12.

HARRY GRELL FUND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Will you kindly announce the following subscriptions which, through the aid of your columns, I have received for the above fund?—Yours truly,

ALBERT LE FRE.

	£	s.	d.
Collected by Mr. Frank Calvert:—			
Gladys and Alber	0	1	0
Charlie Jerome	0	1	0
Fields and Lewis	0	2	0
Bert Williams	0	2	0
Zelovas	0	1	0
Burns and Bentley	0	1	0
Otta and Olga	0	2	0
Diamond and Beatrice	0	3	0
Graham and Barrow	0	1	0
The Marconis	0	2	0
Mr. Battersby, Palace Hotel, West Hartlepool	0	2	6
Mr. Barker, Station Hotel, West Hartlepool	0	5	0
Mr. Dodsworth, Seaton Hotel, Seaton Carew	0	2	6
	£1	6	0
Per Percy Delevine:			
Vesta Tilley	0	10	6
Gwennie Hasto	0	2	6
Waterbury Bros.	0	2	6
Will Dare	0	2	6
Tom Owen	0	2	0
Rosa Loader	0	1	0
Charles Martell	0	5	0
Bert Wilson	0	2	0
Collected by Fred Grey	1	1	0
	£1	8	0
Cliff Ryland	0	5	0

ALEXANDRA PALACE.

Last Saturday evening saw the first of a series of al fresco concerts in the Grove, the band of H.M. Coldstream Guards being in attendance. Tschaikowsky's ever-popular grand overture, "Solennelle," or "1812," was given with suitable pyrotechnical effects by Messrs. James Pain and Son, the illumination of the surrounding foliage of one of the most enjoyable parts of the Park grounds making the entertainment more than usually attractive. The vocalists, Miss Ethel Dexter and Mr. A. H. Gee, met with flattering receptions for the excellent renderings of their respective numbers, and an additional item of some of the Urban well-known productions of animated pictures in the open air, was a feature which met with general approval from a large and appreciative audience. The theatre is occupied for the fourth and concluding week by Mr. Chas. W. Poole's Royal Myriorama, which unique entertainment continues its successful career. Miss Kitty Woodford contributes in a pleasing style the refrain, "Life's game of see-saw," accompanied with appropriate coloured photographic pictures. All the other numbers in Poole's varied programme likewise call for commendation.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR

Your book will, I am sure, be a valuable aid to all managers and actors.—Sir Henry Irving.

Mr. Strong states the whole case very clearly.—*Illustrated London News.*

Should be found very useful.—*Pelican.*

Should prove perfectly invaluable.—*Weekly Sun.*

Contains in a handy compass and in a clear style the law relating to theatres and music halls. The book is well up to date.—*Law Times.*

MOUNTFORD V. GIBBONS.

At the Wandsworth County Court on Monday, before his Honour Judge Russell, Mr. Harry Mountford, of the Mountford and Walsh combination, sued the Grand Palace of Varieties, Ltd., Clapham Junction, to recover £26 13s. 4d., by way of damages for the wrongful cancellation by the defendants of two dates upon which the plaintiff had been engaged to perform at their music hall, namely, on April 24, 1905, and November 20, 1905.

Mr. Cannot appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Walter Payne was counsel for the defendants.

In the course of his opening statement Mr. Cannot said that by Clause 14 of the contracts it was provided that if the directors decided to give two performances nightly instead of one the artist was to be paid extra remuneration to the extent of one-third of the salary agreed upon. As a fact, the defendants did change their performances into two-shows-a-night, and gave the plaintiff a month's notice of the change. The plaintiff was willing to perform, and sent in his bill matter 14 days in advance, but the defendants refused to allow him to appear. It seemed that the defendants had entered into some arrangement with Mr. Walter Gibbons, who was now running the hall, and Mr. Gibbons approached the plaintiff and suggested that other dates should be substituted for the two in question, and the plaintiff agreed to accept the whole of Mr. Gibbons' tour. But for this the plaintiff would have brought his action in 1905.

Mr. Harry Mountford stated that during the late strike he was chairman of the National Alliance, and had always fought Mr. Gibbons. The two contracts in respect to which he was now suing he entered into with Mr. Arthur Yates, the then manager of the Grand. They were for £10 a week each, the management to provide a piano. He sent in his bill-matter in accordance with the contract, and afterwards received a letter stating that his name had been taken off the books. This letter was signed "Walter Gibbons," but he did not know that Mr. Gibbons had anything to do with the Grand. Witness replied stating that he did not recognise his right to cancel the contracts, and that he would see the directors. "Information was then given through the Press that the house had been turned into a two-houses-a-night show" said another letter from Mr. Gibbons, "and as you failed to inform me that you were willing to perform, the contract is null and void." To this witness wrote pointing out that he called to the Grand to rehearse, and was not allowed to do so, and he asked for an interview. This was granted, and he called at the Grand and asked to see Mr. Gibbons. Correspondence ensued, with the result that Mr. Bawn, Mr. Gibbons' manager, promised him dates for the whole of the Gibbons' tour. The first date that was sent him was for February at Ealing, and he sent in his bill matter. When he presented himself at the Holborn Empire the manager told him that he had broken his contract with regard to Clause 18. As a fact, he was expected to be in two different places at the same time.

Cross-examined by Mr. Payne, witness said that when he went to the Grand to perform in April the manager said, "I don't know what is the matter, but you can't play here to-night; Gibbons has taken it over." Mr. Gibbons entered into an agreement for him to appear at all his halls, wherever they were. He was given contracts for eight dates at salaries ranging from £12 to £14 a week. This was in January last, and they were to be in lieu of the two contracts which had been cancelled. There was no dispute about his appearing at the Holborn Empire, as he was there ready to appear, but the manager said he had broken his contract, and he was stopped.

Re-examined by Mr. Cannot, the witness said he was to have the whole of the Gibbons tour, which included the Duchess, Balham, but he had never been given a contract for that hall.

For the defence, Mr. Walter Gibbons said he gave the plaintiff £99 worth of contracts in satisfaction of the whole thing. The first fell due on February 18 last. The plaintiff expressed himself as being very well satisfied, and witness wished to treat him generously. Witness advertised in *The Era* that all artists must send in their bill-matter a fortnight previous to opening. If the plaintiff did not send in his bill-matter, he would be taken out in the ordinary course, and witness was of opinion that he did not send in his bill-matter, or he would have appeared. It was Mr. Reed, his manager, who arranged the dates with Mountford, and the strike soon afterwards took place.

His Honour said the difficulty was this: admittedly, the first contract was made with the New Grand, and not with Mr. Gibbons at all, and the plaintiff had admitted that all the new contracts were given him in substitution of the others; he forewent his right to those, and took others from Mr. Gibbons. Surely his right of action against the New Grand had gone? Was it admitted that Mr. Gibbons was acting for the New Grand?

Mr. Cannot said Mr. Gibbons made the arrangement because he had taken over the business, and the contracts of the New Grand. The plaintiff had received no consideration for waiving his right of action.

His Honour: He agreed to take the contracts. I think you must examine your witness.

Mr. Gibbons went on to say that the Holborn contract was cancelled because the plaintiff did not appear at rehearsal.

Mr. Reed, manager to Mr. Gibbons, said the latter told him to do his very best for Mr. Mountford, and he gave him eight weeks. He could not give him Balham, as that was full up, but Mr. Mountford said, "You have done your best," adding that Mr. Gibbons had treated him most generously. They subsequently sent the plaintiff Balham, but the contract was returned, because the net salary had been put in.

His Honour pointed out that Mr. Gibbons and the New Grand had not so far been connected so as to make the arrangement between Mr. Gibbons and Mountford binding as between Mountford and the New Grand.

Mr. Payne agreed, remarking that Mr. Mountford had written stating that he did not wish to sue the New Grand if he could arrange matters with Mr. Gibbons, who said he would meet him in a friendly spirit. He submitted that the correspondence showed that the plaintiff always looked to Mr. Gibbons, and that if there was a claim existing between him and the New Grand it had been satisfied.

Mr. Cannot argued to the contrary, and said a strong point in his favour was that Mr. Gibbons had never advertised the plaintiff. He submitted that there had been no novation, and no contracts to which the New Grand had been a party. He had advised the plaintiff that he could not succeed in that Court if he launched an action against Mr. Gibbons, so it had been discontinued. He submitted that the plaintiff was entitled to the full amount claimed, and that he had no contracts with Mr. Gibbons that he could enforce.

His Honour said he thought his judgment ought to be for the defendants. It was perfectly clear to his mind that the plaintiff was aware of the change in April, 1906, and that he subsequently entered into a new arrangement with Mr. Gibbons which was satisfactory to both parties, and it was nothing to do with the New Grand. Judgment for the defendants with costs.

In our last week's report of Blackburn, Larola, the juggler, was, by an obvious printer's error, described as "of the three Brothers Huxter." There is, of course, no connection between the turns.

The Bioscope pictures still continue to attract large audiences at the Prince's, Poplar, a gratifying result which is due to the excellence of the films and the variety of subjects presented.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

An excellent concert was given by the students of the Guildhall School on Wednesday evening. The somewhat lengthy programme commenced with Miss Helen M. Squire's able pianoforte solo, "Hexentanz" (MacDowell). Two little duets, "Snowdrops," by Liza Lehmann, were well sung by Miss Grace Cole and Miss Fanny Cuthbert. The novelty of the concert was a trio mandoline of Rossini's "Tancredi," capitally played by Miss Lilian Branston, Miss Lilian Cooper, and Mr. J. Stein, pupils of Mme. Waldahoff. Miss Gretta Dawson essayed the waltz air from Gounod's *Romeo and Juliet*, and Miss Alice Edwards may be heartily praised for her crisp and neat execution in Brahms' piano solo, "Scherzo in E flat minor." In the difficult aria from Leoncavallo's *Pagliacci*, "Vesti la Guibba," Mr. Frederick H. Blamey displayed a good and well-trained tenor voice but an utter absence of dramatic feeling. A clever violin solo by Miss Elaine Dickens, who chose Vieuxtemps' "Ballade et Polonaise," was much applauded; but Miss Gertrude Mayo, who has a fine contralto voice, might have given us something fresher than the inevitable "My heart is weary," from *Nadeschda*, though it is due to the vocalist to state that her rendering was far above the average. Mr. F. J. Daff proved an able executant in his piano solo of Tausig-Schubert's "March Militaire." Miss Ethel Oliver was not happy in her choice of so poor and inartistic a song as "A song of innocence." Two cleverly-written violin solos, entitled "Chanson gracieuse" and "Moto perpetuo," by Ethel Barnes, were most skilfully played by Miss Edith Clapham; and Master Cecil Hay showed great ability in his piano solo, "Impromptu in A flat," by Chopin. A word of praise must also be awarded to Miss Jenny Hyman for her clever accompanying.

The organ recital of Mr. G. F. Vincent was given on Wednesday afternoon in the concert-room of the Guildhall School, the programme being agreeably varied, and including a very clever composition of his own, a Minuet in G. J. S. Bach's famous Prelude and Fugue in B minor was admirably played, and the audience were also greatly pleased with Mozart's charming Larghetto from Clarinet Quintett. The Prelude on a Choral—"Was Gott thut das ist Wolhgethan" (Krebs)—was included in the recital, as well as H. Smart's Postlude in C and Guilmant's Sonata in A major, No. 8, Op. 91. At the close of his recital the organist met with a hearty reception.

MR. STANLEY ADAMS AND MISS CARRIE FRASER'S CONCERT.

At Steinway Hall, on Friday afternoon, June 7, under the distinguished patronage of the Right Hon. the Lord Strathcona, Mr. Stanley Adams and Miss Carrie Fraser gave a highly successful concert in the presence of a large and fashionable audience. Mr. Adams, a Canadian baritone who has studied at Milan and under Signor Lorenzo Valenti, has a pleasing voice of good compass, while his experience as a writer of plays and sketches is shown by the success with which a musical comedy sketch, *Willie Off the Yacht*, has met with recently at the London Pavilion. Mr. Stanley Adams was first heard in three of Frank Lambert's songs, "Look down, dear eyes," "I love you," and "Speak but one word." He was also heard in Hahn's "Rêverie" (by request) and "Non chiedermi se t'amo," by Tosti, and, being encored, responded with "Barbette." Later in the programme Mr. Adams sang "I know" (from "Three Little Songs"), by Eileen Quayle; "Till I wake" (Amy Woodforde-Finden), and Leoni's "Coolan Dhu." In addition to these Mr. Adams was most cordially received for his clever acting in a duologue, *The Ninth Waltz*, by R. C. Carton, in which he was associated with Miss May Haysack, a talented comedienne, who appeared by kind permission of Mr. James Welch, of Wyndham's Theatre. The duologue, which relates how Dick, after seven years' absence, returns to Florence just in time for "the ninth waltz," met with a hearty reception from the audience. Miss Carrie Fraser also greatly pleased by her display of comedy in "Isn't it like a man?" by Paul Mill, and "How we play Bridge" (Fane), given by request. Miss Fraser's other songs were "Singers and talkers" and a highly successful rendering of "The curate and the maiden," and, being encored, she gave "Philosophy." Miss Fraser has a really capital laugh, which quite infected the audience. Her other items were "Kisses and kisses" (Clarke), and Paul Rubens' "I don't seem to want you when you're with me." Mme. Elsa Oswald, a pupil of Mme. Marchesi, who has a pure and refined soprano voice, sang "Si mes vers avaient des ailes" (Hahn) and "Lenz," by Hildach, with marked success; and later on in the concert gave a brilliant example of Chaminade's florid song, "L'été." Clever violin solos were played by Mlle. Elsa Bignardi, daughter of Pietro Bignardi, the noted tenor, and in Massenet's "Méditation de Thäis" and Hubay's "Hejre Kati" Mlle. Bignardi was much applauded. The Trio, *Cavalleria Rusticana*, was played by Miss Gertrude Tipper (violin), Miss Dickinson ('cello), and Miss Carrie Fraser (piano), and the concert concluded with a lively duologue, *Tried to Tell His Wife* (Anon), arranged by Mr. Adams, in which Miss May Haysack and Mr. Stanley Adams appeared. Miss Carrie Fraser presided at the piano.

MASONS AT WORK.

The Thornhill Lodge, No. 3,163, celebrated the first year of its existence on the 16th ult. by installing Mr. W. E. Piper as their Master for the ensuing year. In order to demonstrate his eagerness for work, Mr. Piper called an emergency meeting for the 6th inst. for the purpose of raising Messrs. E. Snow, S. L. Manchester, A. T. Newman, H. T. Dudd, W. Jervis, A. Newns, and C. W. Adams (the latter gentleman being the popular manager of the Holloway Empire). The ceremony was performed in a manner which gained great admiration from the members and visitors present.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught has granted the Chelsea Lodge a Charter for the purpose of holding a Chapter in connection therewith, and the consecration will take place in the Masonic Temple at Frascati's Restaurant, Oxford-street, at 3 p.m. on Friday, June 28. The ceremony will be performed by Sir Edward Letchworth, assisted by W. H. Turner, M.A., Messrs. Frank Richardson, Harry Nicholls, Henry Neville, Percy Fitzgerald, Charles Cruikshanks, James Weaver, and H. Sadler. The officers-designate are Messrs J. W. Mathews, Z.; Albert Le Fre, H.; Herbert Chenery, J.; Wolfe S. Lyon, treasurer; Charles J. Doughty, S.E.; Fred Clay, S.N.; Serpentello, P.S.; H. Baroni, 1st A.S.; and G. H. Dyball, 2nd A.S. Amongst the founders the following names will be found: W. Hitch, F. H. Pedgrift, Harry Bawn, G. Grahame, T. Burnetti, Frank Hardie, Atlas, Dr. Ramsden, F. McNaughton, Valazzi, R. W. Duce, Scott Adaker, Albert Christian, William Jeapes, H. R. Mayville, Geo. Mozart, Fred Neiman, E. L. Robertson, Fred Farren, W. G. Mosely, &c. We understand that this is a record number, and it speaks volumes for the enterprise of so young a Lodge as the Chelsea, which was consecrated only two years since.

FRED NEIMAN, THE GREAT VENTRILOQUIST, IN EDINBURGH.

But a music hall audience is a very uncertain quantity; last night's gave as kindly heed to a ventriloquial entertainment on lines which have come down practically unchanged since the day of Valentine Vox. Still, Mr. Neiman compelled respect by his clever handling of his troupe.—*Edinburgh Evening News*, June 11, 1907.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

Fairs Ahead.

FOR next week there are Taunton, on the Great Western; Thorne (Yorks), on the Great Central and North Eastern; Falmouth, on the Great Western; Abingdon, on the Great Western; Coleford, on the Great Western and Midland Joint; Kidderminster, on the Great Western; Maidstone, on the South Eastern and Chatham; Dronfield, on the Midland; Mexborough, on the Midland and Great Central; Newport Pagnell, on the London and North Western; Selby, on the Great Northern, Great Eastern, North Eastern, and Midland and North Eastern Joint; Shipston-on-Stour, on the Great Western; Staveley, on the Midland; and Wadebridge, on the London and North Western and Great Western railways.

Derbyshire Feasts.

THE following small fixtures occur next week:—Tideswell, Unston, Staveley, Woodthorpe, Coal Aston, and Hardstaff; Marbury Park, in Cheshire; and Lambert Castle, in Dorset.

The Organisation of the Guild

CONTINUING his itinerary of British Fairs, the Rev. T. Horne hopes to hold meetings at Mexboro' Feast on Sunday, June 23, and at Halifax Fair, June 30.

Lanark Fair.

THE exhibitions at this fixture were: Mrs. Manders and Sons' coliseum of varieties and living pictures, Buckley's show of trained animals, &c. The riding machines were John Wilmot's steeplechasers and Walter Wilmot's gallopers, and W. Wilmot's park swings; shooting concerns by Messrs. McIndoe, Broughton, S. Freeman, Wright, and Dawson; all the fun of the fair by Messrs. Anderson, Knowles, Wright, Freeman, Broughton, McIndoe, and other caterers.

Falmouth Fair.

THE principal show present was John Jones's celebrated West of England Variety Theatre and Animated Photography. The other fairground novelties were Rowland and Anderton's gondolas, W. C. and S. Hancock's electric roundabouts and helter skelter, and Brewer's gallopers. The minor shows and novelty booths were Alf Wright's school of boxers and Spinck's giant lady show. The shooters, emma sheets, and cokers, swings, and variety stalls were by Jones, Oldridge, and a contingent of caterers from Penzance Fair.

Scunthorpe.

TUBY AND SON'S Coliseum and Theatre of Varieties continues its successful season at this Lincolnshire centre of busy life. The minor novelties and side exhibits are provided by Messrs. Webb, Tuby, sen., Illingworth, Lewis, Clayton, and Harry.

THE Charles Urban Trading Company, Limited, were, by the courtesy of the directors of the International Horse Show, afforded facilities in choice of positions specially suited to their purpose of obtaining cinematograph portraits of the Royalties present on arrival at, and departure from, Olympia. In the series thus secured are included representations of trotting, single, double, and tandem; riding, driving, and jumping. Other interesting films depict the arrival of the King and Queen of Denmark at Portsmouth, the State visit of the King and Queen of Denmark to the Guildhall, London, and the Royal review at Aldershot.

THE Midsummer Fair at Bilston lasted from Friday, the 7th inst., till Tuesday last. Amongst the shows were P. Collins' racing motor-cars and cockerels, Mrs. J. Hayes' overboats, swings, and big yachts, P. Collins's slipping the slip, J. Stokes' Emmas, and cokernuts by Whyatt, Humphreys, Hayes, Wagstaffe, and Walton.

GUILD subscriptions, per G. W. A. Norton, Esq.: T. Whitelegge, 5s.; C. Spinck, 5s.; Alf. Wright, 5s.; J. Russett, 5s.; F. Hurford, 5s.; W. Barlow, 5s. Per Mr. Chaplain: T. Cooper, 5s. Per Mr. Walter Wilmot: Miss L. Dowson, 5s.

PORTH FAIR.

The Valley of the Rhondda was within the memory of the present generation almost a terra incognito; its fertile vales and uplands peopled only by sturdy Welsh yeomen, whose herds of sheep and kine found rich pasture on its glorious mountain ranges. Fifty years ago the Rhondda was dotted here and there by sparsely-populated villages. Then you could count its population in units of thousands; now you must estimate its industrial pushing life by tens and even hundreds of thousands. "King Coal" was discovered, and the black diamonds brought wealth and prosperity to the erstwhile sleepy hollow of the Rhondda. Now, from Cardiff right away to the seaboard beyond Treherbert, we have immense congeries of human life—huge coal-pits, with their tens of thousands of busy workers at the coal-seam. The giant mountains act as grim sentinels over these busy hives of human life and enterprise and exhausting labour. Pontypridd, Porth, Ferndale, Ton-y-Pandy, Treorchy, Ystrad, Treberbert form almost one unbroken line in the Rhondda Valley: a line of busy, throbbing life—the old pastoral calm of the Rhondda gone never to return. "King Coal" reigns, and all is well. Work is plentiful, the workers a sober and thrifty class, and the result is a happy and contented people.

The Genesis of Modern Fairs.

The fairs in the Welsh coal-fields most aptly illustrate the economic demand that originates and determines our fairs. Wherever the people are massed in their multitude there the showman comes and makes a fair for the amusement and recreation of the toilers. The Studt family are not only providers of fair ground amusements; they are originators and founders of fairs in industrial Wales. The Rhondda Valley, Taff Vale, Ebbw Vale, and other parts of the Principality owe their fairs almost entirely to the genius and enterprise of the Brothers Studt, the Rhondda round of fairs being the special territory of Mr. John Studt, who is the founder and lessee of the principal fairs. When we visited Porth on a busy Saturday nights its streets were literally alive with eager, throbbing life. You were caught up and carried forward in the stream of it. Here were the people. Every shop was doing a roaring trade—no lack of supplies, no lack of money to obtain them; a prospering town—a contented people. Such we found Porth in the Rhondda.

The Pilgrims of Porth.

All roads led to the fair at Porth. If you wished to avoid it you could not, for the irresistible compulsion of fifty thousand people turned facewards to the fair magnetised you, and so you fall into step and line, and go with the merry pilgrims of the Rhondda to the fair. You may break step for a moment and solace yourself with ice-cream or toothsome ginger-bread, but it is only refreshment by the way. On—on you are hurried to the fair. Oh, what a merry medley of joyous life it is at the end of the pilgrimage! Now you are caught up and cast willy-nilly into a motor-car, speeding round a switchback track. You tootle the raucous horn to warn the motorists ahead of you and behind you that your prize Daimler 40 h.p. has a monopoly of the track, and that all and sundry must take note of you in all your glory—"playing the millionaire" at tuppence a time.

The Sportsman at the Fair.

Having played the millionaire, you remember that somewhere in your town-bred nature you retain hereditary tendencies to British sport. Hey, presto, pass a nimble penny and you find yourself behind a gun. You are aiming at flying birds, leaping hares or rabbits in a makebelief jungle. Oh, indeed, you are a sport! You make further essay—you wish to break loose and smash something. Well, it's quite easy. Another magic penny, and you can throw at dummy heads or milky cokers. But that is not all that your now bursting physical exuberance may achieve. You may enter the boxing saloon. You may peel off the garb of your city servitude, and the "Cardiff Crusher" or the "Birmingham Bruiser" will kindly oblige with a few friendly taps on your claret-box, or on your "bread-basket," and there you are—a British bulldog, and all for a penny a time.

Optics and Mystics at the Fair.

Our fair of to-day is eminently scientific. Our leading shows run to sciences applied quite readily. Hence the popularity of the optical illusion, the cinematograph picture; or we dabble in occult marvels. Hence our second sight and Egyptian mysteries at the fair. At Porth fair we have those kings of the Kimato picture—the Dooners and the Wadbrooks—and the prince and princess of occultism, the Samoudas. These be tuppenny and thrippenny shows, and worth a shilling, so up-to-date, so perfect in every sense are these portable palaces of the people at the fair.

The Funmakers at Work.

Swing high, swing low; pull, pull hard, and away you go; the miniature Eiffel Tower, the Big Wheel—

"Wheeling upward car,
Rising, rising like a star."

"Here you are, sir, all the jolly fun. Three shots a penny." "Try your skill; win 'em and have 'em." "Come along, gents; come along, ladies; three a penny—three a penny." "No waiting, no waiting, always showing. Ada Russell, the giant fat lady. A penny is the charge for admission to see this marvel of human nature. No waiting." What a wonderful blend of competing merry music of lusty lungs and winning eloquence. Such is the trade and calling of the fun-smiths at the fair.

Wadbrooks' Electrograph.

The enterprising proprietor of this excellent show (Mr. H. Scard) is justly famous (in Wales and out of it) for the refined and up-to-date character of the entertainment under his direction. He styles his latest range of films "Marconigrams of passing events day by day'.' His vaudeville company comprises many favourites of the variety stage. Mr. Scard, whilst still retaining the old name ("Wadbrooks") of the firm, is in every sense in the front rank of modern showmen.

J. Dooner and Son's Coliseum

is another of the perfectly-equipped palaces of popular amusement that cast distinction upon our best fairs. Mr. Dooner is justly regarded as one of the oldest and most esteemed showmen on the road. The name "Dooner" is a guarantee that only the very best and the most refined and acceptable pictures and variety turns will be seen on the bijou stage of the theatre. R. Dooner, his capable and talented son, and the junior member of the firm, is also well-known in showland as being a worthy son of a worthy sire and a showman to the manner born. Dooner's show is well known in the Welsh towns and cities, and the name "Dooner" is a household word in the valleys where "the steam-coal comes from."

Princess and Prince Samouda.

The more we wonder and the more we marvel the oftener we see this highly gifted pair. Sometimes we stand amazed at the skill of the Black Prince, and conclude in our stupefaction, "Ah, it is the quick by-play of the Prince that does the trick." Then we turn and notice the exquisite finish of the Princess in her part of the delusion (or is it illusion?), and we balance our partial judgment and say, "No, it is not one, but it is the two of them acting in perfect psychometric sympathy." "Two minds with but a single thought," that is the latest formula. Undoubtedly clever, really smart, and altogether fresh each time we see them in their unique occult performance.

Scarrott's Palace of Fistiana.

Talk about "moving with the times," why here you have sparring by electricity. Fisticuffs by arc lamps, light and heavy-weight boxing in the glowing light of electric lamps. Why, it is enough to make the old show lover gasp with surprise to see the gold and silver fittings, the *recherché* appointments that now attend putting on the gloves for a friendly bout. We most heartily congratulate Professor Scarrott on his palace of boxiana.

Frank Gess and School of Boxers.

Here again British pluck and British stamina finds popular expression; but this is the dear old boxing booth, with the old-time watchman's rattle, and "the orator" of the ring setting forth in sturdy speech that "Taffy Jones," of Merthyr, will engage "Scotty Campbell" or "Paddy Murphy" (names to conjure with) in 10 rounds for £20 a-side. Queensbury rules," &c. A rattling, bustling good show, "which no one dare deny."

John Studt's Exhibits.

The popular king of shows in the Rhondda, whose majestic presence is known of all Welshmen and honoured everywhere, still maintains his long-since acquired position as a leader in the world of shows. His magnificent motor-car machine, colossal in its proportions and complete and beautiful in all its rich appointments, attracted great attention and streams of patrons. The No. 2 set, "The Zoological Carroussel," and the fine range of park-swings were also deservedly popular.

Henry Studt and Son's Exhibit.

The magnificent Gordon-Bennett racing motor-cars are the latest novelty in electric riding machines. Messrs. H. Studt and Son are to be congratulated on this perfect example of up-to-date and popular exhibit of delightful motion.

The "Russell" Abnormal.

This marvel of human growth, as usual, attracted much attention. The extraordinary size and weight of Ada ponderous and Ada beautiful delighted the numerous patrons of this capital show.

John Fossett's Exhibits.

This veteran provider of fair-ground amusements was, as ever, well to the front with his aggregation of novelties, the shooting ranges, the photo saloon, and other attractions under his direction being well patronised.

J. B. Bullin's Exhibits.

The miniature Eiffel Tower and over-boats, the gem roundabouts, the throwing games, and other varieties obtained their full share of public approval.

Wm. Freeman's Novelties.

These included shooting gallery, throwing games, variety stalls, and sheets.

North and Son's Exhibits.

The aggregation of novelties controlled by these enterprising showmen comprised shooters, mollies, cokers, and varieties; and well patronised they were by the vast crowds at the fair.

Winsper's Varieties and Sheets.

These included throwing games, swings, and shooters.

The Olla Podrida of the Fair.

The other varieties, games, &c., were provided by Messrs. Jones, Kinder, Jeffreys, Potter, Unwin, Matthews, Towers, Williams, Haley, Phillips, and numerous local stall-holders. Porth Fair both in the high-class nature and the variety of its entertainments may claim to rank with the very best of modern fixtures, and its ever-increasing success and importance reflects the greatest credit upon the lessee, Mr. John Studt, and also upon his indefatigable lieutenant and manager, Mr. John Gage.

SHOWMEN IN COUNCIL.

ANNUAL MEETING IN WALES.

The ninth annual meeting of the Van Dwellers' Protection Society (the Showmen's Guild) in the Principality took place at Porth Fair on June 9, and was in every way a big success, "Little Wales" still maintaining the proud position of enrolling the largest number of members registered at any one of the provincial meetings of the society. The gathering took place in Mr. Henry Scard's magnificent pavilion (Wadbrook's Electrograph), kindly lent for the occasion by the proprietor

Amongst the showmen at the meeting were Mr. Henry Studt, V.P. (who occupied the chair), Mr. John Studt, V.P., Mr. James Dooner, Mr. Richard Dooner, Mr. John Fossett, Mr. John North, Mr. Wm. Freeman, Mr. John Gage, Mr. Frank Gess, Mr. F. Towers, Mr. Jacob Butler, Mr. Wm. Kinder, Mr. John Scarrott, Mr. W. Jones, Mr. J. North, jun., Mr. T. Unwin, Mr. L. Williams, Mr. G. Winsper, jun., Mr. M. Haley, Mr. W. Jeffreys, Mr. J. Gaze, jun., and others. Mr. Jacob Studt, V.P., whose show and machine novelties are now at Newport (Mon.), and Mr. John Johnson, of the Theatre Royal, Barry Dock, motored to Porth and took part in the latter portion of the proceedings. There were a number of ladies present, and great enthusiasm marked the gathering.

The Chairman's Speech.

MR. HENRY STUDT, in his opening remarks, dwelt upon the loyalty of Welsh showmen to the Van Dwellers' Society. For many years they had gathered in large numbers to listen to the organising chaplain's statement of the good work done by the Society, to protect their trade interests, and to vindicate their business and calling in life. He called their especial attention to the serious question of railway rates, the proposal on the part of railways to increase the rates for carriage of their goods by special train 50 per cent. Here was a matter of vital importance to all of them. They could only meet the combination of the railways by combination amongst themselves. He had no doubt that Mr. Horne would tell them, in his address, what steps the Society had taken in this extremely urgent matter. The proposed rates would so seriously cripple their business that they would be compelled to carry their grievances before the Railway Commissioners, and if not successful they would be driven to adopt other means of transit from town to town. (Cheers.) He needed not to remind them of the great and good work their trade organisation had done in the past. The annual report and balance-sheet, in their hands now, would demonstrate that, and, further, would absolutely satisfy them as to the economical working of the Society and the good use made of their money by the executive council and officials of the Guild. He confidently appealed to them to subscribe liberally and supply the sinews of war to their trade protection society. He called upon their reverend friend to deliver his address. (Great applause.)

The Need for Guild Propaganda Work.

THE REV. T. HORNE reminded the showmen present of the remarkable growth in usefulness and in public esteem of the Guild. The secret of that success was only found in the persistent and consistent way in which they, as a body, had maintained the justice of their aims and the integrity of their work. In the great fight for the liberty of their individual life, the sanctity of their homes, and the reality of their claim to be citizens of the commonwealth and loyal subjects of the King, they had been blessed by complete success; and now everywhere, throughout the length and breadth of the land, the showman was recognised, and his avocation in life understood and appreciated to an extent never before realised. This great work was entirely done by their strenuous labour in that society during the past twenty years. This was the propaganda work of their Guild, to claim for show-people the same even-handed justice, the same trade liberty and protection accorded to all lawful and necessary industries in the national life. The same laws of trade, the same laws of domestic security that all other workers enjoyed were good enough for them; they did not need special legislation or special by-laws. The ordinary law of the land, governing all other trades and industries, was quite sufficient for their work and for their workshops, the shows and novelties of the fair. The Public Health Acts applied just as effectively, just as stringently to their movable dwellings as to immovable ones. They claimed the safeguards and the immunities of the ordinary laws of the land, and they opposed all proposals to inflict upon them as a class in the community restrictions and invidious rules and regulations that other classes were exempt from. That was their charter—to proclaim that charter was the object of their propaganda. (Applause.)

The Victories of the Guild.

They had killed the mischievous and mistaken proposals of men like the late George Smith, and the later proposals to label and mark them as creatures needing special coercion either as parents or as citizens. Showmen were not gipsies; they were not marauding tramps, without homes or visible means of honest subsistence; they were just ordinary men and women, carrying on, to the outward seeming, a somewhat out-of-the-common and extraordinary trade and avocation in life. That was all; their lives were just as honest, just as cleanly, just as pure and law-abiding as all other classes in the commonwealth, and they repudiated all efforts, all attempts, whether by individuals or by corporations, to stigmatise them as being fit subjects for special and restrictive legislation.

The Parliamentary Work.

Corporations like Halifax, Mansfield, Eccles, Hyde, Rotherham, Buxton, Aston, Radcliffe, Selby, Swindon, Acton, East Ham, Pontefract, Gateshead, Wallasey, Rawtenstall, Colne, Newport, Carlisle, Penrith, Middlesex County, Chester County, Lancaster County, and many other smaller public bodies had endeavoured, either by Private Bill legislation or by by-law enactments to cripple and penalise them in their business; but in all these important places they had fully vindicated their right as lawful traders to carry on their work under the ordinary law, and without special and invidious restrictions. Three great principles had been fought for and won—free trade in fairs, no legal enactments in restraint of trade, and no limitation by public bodies as regards business hours other than the ordinary laws that regulate the opening and closing of ordinary business premises. (Great applause.) On this work they had spent over three thousand pounds, and every penny was well spent, and in their interest and to their lasting benefit. He asked them to consider, if these corporations had obtained their proposed additional powers, how long would the other public bodies have been content without them?

The Guild a Bulwark of Defence.

It was upon that work, but not that alone, that he based the claim of the Guild to their continued support. Another great branch of their work was to preserve the fairs and holidays of the people. Whenever attacked, and by whomsoever attacked, the Guild stood for the defence of the people's fairs. In that department of their work last year they fought memorable battles at Burslem and at Mitcham, and spent over one hundred pounds in defence of the fairs.

Railway Rates.

There was, he believed, still a possibility of the railway rates question being settled by mutual understanding and agreement. Whilst that open door was there he would only reiterate what he had said before—that any increase in the rates would seriously cripple the show industry, and compel the show traders to adopt other means of transit. He had set out in an article that appeared in *The Era* the serious position of affairs that the increased rates would inevitably create. He had shown that the show and fair-ground business, in maintaining the fairs and the public holidays of the nation, had created, and were still creating and increasing, year by year, by opening up new fairs, the enormous volume of passenger pleasure traffic that constituted so profitable a portion of railway income. Why, instead of increasing rates for their goods they had a reasonable claim for a reduction; instead of decreased facilities, their trade because of the trade it brought with it, ought to be fostered and encouraged.

What Had Been Done?

A deputation of the principal traders in the showmen world, representing the trade organisations and every business interest at stake, laid their views before the traffic managers at the Railway Clearing House. That deputation came away with but little satisfaction. He was connected, as all showmen knew, with *The Era* newspaper, their old champion and friend in all their struggles and fights. In that paper he had set out their just and most reasonable and moderate claims. A copy of *The Era* containing that manifesto of the organised showmen was posted to every traffic manager, to every general manager, to every chairman of every board of directors, of every railway in the United Kingdom; and, more than that, to the editors of all our principal newspapers. (Great applause.) So sure are we of the justice of our claim that we felt that the great mass of public opinion would support us if it comes to an appeal from the railways to the Railway Commissioners.

Advance as Well as Defence.

Great as their trade defence work had been, and truly effective as vindicating their life and character as other parts of their work had been, yet that was not all. He stood there for *advance* as well as *defence*. He defended them because he knew their life and understood them and their work. He claimed for them higher reaches of work and enterprise than liberty of life and defence of their livelihood. He enlisted them in the great and most necessary work of lifting up and bettering the open-air amusements of the people. He asked them to recognise that their mission to entertain and to amuse the toiling millions of their motherland was in reality a great and grand work. Let them be proud of it. It was part and parcel of our complex civilisation and the outgrowth of our national life. He claimed for the Guild in its latest development of public work—the Guild services in show-booths such as the one they had taken part in that day—that they were advancing, uplifting the whole conception of their work and life in public esteem and respect. All these spheres of the Guild work and enterprise helped to create and to maintain an intelligent and tolerant public opinion. It was the loyal response of little Wales in the past years that had led him to the practical conclusion that he could best help his brethren of the road by freeing himself from fixed clerical work, and so to come amongst them at all the great centres of their life and work and plead with them and for them in all parts of the country—east, west, north and south—that their own society might continue in increased power and usefulness its truly necessary and most beneficent work in the world of shows. (Great and continued applause.)

Mr. John Studt's Speech.

The genial vice-president, in a characteristic few words, emphasised the need for continued and loyal support. "Little Wales" had been for years past at the top of the tree in the number of members enrolled at any provincial centre. Welsh showmen were proud of that fact, and meant to maintain that honourable position. (Applause.) He could not add anything to what his brother, their chairman, had said; but this he must say, how proud and thankful they were that their reverend friend and advocate, Mr. Horne, never tired of the good work he had started in their midst. His example ought to be enough to inspire, to encourage them. (Cheers.)

Mr. James Dooner's Speech.

In response to the chairman's request Mr. James Dooner addressed the gathering. As one of the oldest travelling showmen on that road he could well remember that their work and life used to be much misunderstood, and subjected to the petty tyranny of every "Jack in office," who, dressed in a little brief authority for the moment, took upon himself to hector over the travelling showman. Those bad old days were past and gone for ever. (Applause.) The better state of things now existing was the direct result of their efforts to defend themselves and to improve their calling in life. The Guild had led the way, and had done splendid work. A glance at the statement of accounts before that meeting would prove that the Guild, with limited funds, was doing most important work, and that, with the exception of a small salary to their secretary for keeping the books, all the workers were quite voluntary and unpaid. He and his son were quite ready to renew their annual subscription, and to do all in their power for the good of the Society and its work (Cheers.)

Nomination of Welsh Officers.

In accordance with the suggestion of the annual committee at Manchester that local centres should nominate their own committee-men at provincial gatherings, the following names were proposed for office in 1908: Messrs. Henry Studt, John Studt, James Dooner, and R. Dooner as vice-presidents; and Messrs. John Johnson, John North, John Fossett, and J. B. Butlin as members of committee for 1908. The Welsh members also resolved that it be an instruction to the annual committees in Manchester and London in 1908 that all officers of the committee subscribe not less than one guinea to the Fund. Messrs. R. Dooner and John Gage acted as secretaries, and the following members were enrolled per Mr. John Studt, V.P.:—

	£	s.	d
John Studt (2nd sub.)	2	2	0
Henry Studt	1	1	0
J. Dooner and Son	1	1	0
H. Scard	1	1	0
John North	1	1	0
Jacob Studt (2nd sub.)	0	10	6
John Johnson	0	10	6
John Fossett	0	10	6
Frank Gess	0	10	6
Wm. North	0	10	6
J. Butlin (2nd sub.)	0	10	6
A. Matthews	0	10	6
L. Williams	0	10	6
W. Kinder	0	10	6
H. J. Scarrott	0	10	6
F. Towers	0	5	0
T. Unwin	0	5	0
G. Winsper	0	5	0
M. Haley	0	5	0
H. Freeman	0	5	0
W. Jones	0	5	0
Mr. Phillips	0	5	0
John Gage	0	5	0
W. Jeffreys	0	5	0

The Guild Service.

Despite a tremendous downpour of rain, the showmen's service in Wadbrook's show was well attended. The Rev. T. Horne was assisted by the hon. local chaplain, the Rev. G. Francis (who read the Guild Office) and the Rev. R. P. Martin (who read the Lesson). The organising chaplain preached the sermon, taking for his subject "Love the brethren." The choirs of St. Paul's and St. John's Churches sustained the sung parts of the service. Mr. Horne in the morning assisted at the High Celebration at St. Paul's, and at the conclusion of the service spoke a few words on the work of the Guild to the congregation. As a thank-offering to the church and choir the showmen sent a subscription of three guineas to the choir funds.

FILM GOSSIP.

Pathé Frères.

WE were extremely interested the other afternoon in witnessing several new films of the Pathé Frères. The first picture bears the title of "The Reluctant Dog." Burglars are seen emerging with their booty from a residence, and a few seconds later the householder and his wife, evidently realising that a dog would be an excellent protector of their property, decide to get one. Forthwith, then, goes the master of the house in quest of a faithful canine. We see him enter a dogs' home, make his selection, and start for home. But the brute whom he has secured has not yet known its new owner sufficiently long to bear any great affection for him, and it accompanies him not of its own free will, but by the fact that it is pulled along by a chain, and frequently brings its master to the ground. Most ludicrous incidents follow when, later, the dog rushes ahead of the man and drags him along.

"Too Late for Lunch."

A MAN suddenly awakes from a prolonged sleep, and realises that he is "behind time" for an appointment at a friend's. Hastily dressing himself, he rushes out into the street, over bridges, down steps, knocking down people and other obstacles that may be in his way, and eventually he is chased by an infuriated crowd of victims, who are, however, finally frightened away from the friend's house by the ferocious attitudes and actions of the porters, assisted by the man who has arrived just "too late for lunch."

"A Drama of the Riviera"

has a tragic story to tell, and, briefly, shows how a married woman improperly countenances the attentions of a certain individual, how the husband finds them in each other's embrace, how he shoots the intruder and thrashes his wife, and how he eventually takes her back to his heart. Some very pretty and artistic scenes of the Riviera are realistically depicted in this series.

In "Realities of Life"

a young man, feeling his work at the desk some what irksome, takes a trip round town with the object of thoroughly enjoying himself. One of the first persons he meets is an old fortune-teller, who sells him a glass which, on being used, enables the owner to "see behind the scenes." Thus, he stops to look at a well-fed and apparently happy individual who has just emerged from a restaurant. The youth consults his glass, and sees the diner at home with a bandaged leg, suffering no doubt from gout. A beggar comes along and solicits a copper. Again the glass is utilised, and the mendicant is at home, counting hundreds of coins. He is a pauper in public and a miser in private. The young man is brought face to face with other phases of life, not as they appear sometimes under a veneer of gilt and glitter, but as they really are in their very nakedness; and eventually he is perfectly satisfied to return to his work.

"No More Children Wanted"

illustrates the troubles of a father and mother who have six or seven youngsters, and have been turned out of one house and are now in search of another. Everywhere they are met with the prohibition as to children, and their attempts to smuggle their offspring into a flat by hiding them in trunks, and the adventures they meet with in doing so, form a number of exceedingly laughable incidents. Altogether Pathé Frères may be congratulated upon several fine new sets of pictures, which are as clear and well-defined photographically as they are attractive in subject, and which our showmen friends will not be slow to supply themselves.

The Charles Urban Trading Co., Ltd.,

are now publishing a unique descriptive series of the gorgeous, imposing, and brilliant State ceremonies in connection with the visit of the King and Queen of Denmark. The first subject depicts the arrival of the King and Queen at Portsmouth, scene on the jetty, inspection of the Guard of Honour, and the departure of the Royal train for London. The State visit of the King and Queen to the Guildhall follows, with scenes in the courtyard, arrival of the Royal party, reception by the Lord Mayor, and the pomp and circumstance peculiar to such an occasion.

THE great International Horse Show at Olympia forms a particularly beautiful subject, and in this Mr. Urban introduces close portrait views of the monarchs as they arrive. The scenes in the arena are most vividly portrayed, the horses, of course, forming the centre of interest. Parades of magnificently-handled teams, exhibitions by trotting horses, single, double, and tandem, riding by the world's experts mounted on champion horses, exhilarating jumps, judging and awarding the honours, &c., present an exceedingly attractive display. Preliminary private trials, under superior conditions of lighting, with the actual horses engaged at Olympia, are also introduced.

THE series concludes with the Royal review of 21,000 troops at Aldershot in honour of the visit of the King and Queen of Denmark. Portraits were secured of their Majesties, Princes, General Staff, &c., on their arrival at the Royal Pavilion. This was only possible by the special courtesy of the Aldershot command. All the pictures are remarkable as affording close portrait views of the Royal and other distinguished personages present on each occasion.

The Vitagraph Company

are also able to submit some attractive novelties. One of these is a film called

"Forty Winks."

Blinks is awakened by the alarm clock, which has been set for eight o'clock. He jumps out of bed, looks at the clock, then decides to have just "forty winks" more. What happens subsequently is all a dream. He jumps out of bed and gets into his clothes with great celerity, dressing himself in about five seconds, dashes downstairs, knocking over a chambermaid who is just ascending. Rushing out of the front door, he collides with the baker, and runs into a nursemaid with a baby carriage, a bicyclist, and several pedestrians. He jumps into a waggon standing at the kerb, but the wheel comes off. He then engages an automobile, which starts away rapidly, and tears along at frightful speed, cutting around corners and zigzaging along the road in a truly awful manner. Suddenly it explodes, and Blinks wakes again and finds himself still in bed.

"One Man Baseball."

ANOTHER of the same firm's publications that should also prove exceedingly popular bears the title of "One Man Baseball," and is a kind of amusing pantomime showing a baseball player on the diamond talking to the umpire, the pitcher, the base-men, and the fielders. He dons his catcher's mask, and cleverly goes through all the movements and actions of a regular game. A fly is hit, and he watches the flight of the ball away up into the air. It goes so high that he is obliged to get a telescope to watch it. Next we see him at the bat. He makes several wild swings, and finally knocks a home run, runs around the bases, slides for home plate, is put out, argues with the umpire, and finally gets into a fight with him.

BOZ AS BOBADIL.

Amongst the many books which were disposed of at the sale of the property of the late Mr. J. L. Toole was a morocco-bound prompt copy of Ben Jonson's comedy, *Every Man in His Humour*, used by the amateurs known as the "Splendid Strollers" in 1847-48, and marked by Charles Dickens.

A few particulars concerning the play will not be out of place before coming to the performance itself, given by the band of distinguished amateurs nearly sixty years ago. *Every Man in His Humour*, which Mr. A. W. Ward refers to as "the first important comedy of character proper produced on the British stage," was originally performed in 1598 at the Globe Theatre, and by "the Lord Chamberlain's servants," including Shakespeare, Burbage, Condell, Hemings, Kemp, A. Phillips, W. Sly, T. Pope, C. Beeston, and J. Duke. Proving a success, the play was printed and published in 1601. John Downes, who, besides writing "Roscius Anglicanus; An Historical View of the Stage," was prompter to "the Duke's servants" in the theatre at Lincoln's Inn Fields, from 1662 to 1706, states that the comedy was revived at the Theatre Royal between 1663 and 1682. It was again revived, "with alterations," at Lincoln's Inn Fields in January, 1725; and, in November, 1751, Garrick produced the piece at Drury Lane, fitting it with a new prologue, and himself playing Kitely.

Other notable revivals followed, and in the month of September, 1845, a private performance of *Every Man in His Humour* was given in Miss Kelly's Theatre, Soho, under the direction of Charles Dickens, who, writing to John Forster, gives a humorous description of the difficulties he experienced in engaging the little theatre in Dean-street, now known as the Royalty. Miss Kelly, it should be explained, was a very eccentric personage, governed by whims and fancies. Dickens writes:—"Heavens! such a scene as I have had with Miss Kelly here, this morning! She wanted us to put off until the theatre should be cleaned and brushed up a bit, and she would and she would not, for she is eager to have us and alarmed when she thinks of us. By the foot of Pharoah, it was a great scene! Especially when she choked, and had a glass of water brought."

In his Life of the great novelist, John Forster thus refers to the performance:—"The play was played on Sept. 21, 1845, with a success that outran the wildest expectations, and turned our little enterprise into one of the small sensations of the day. The applause of the theatre found so loud an echo in the Press that for the time nothing else was talked about in private circles; and, after a week or two, we had to yield (we did not find it difficult) to a pressure of demand for more public performance in a larger theatre, by which a useful charity received important help." Forster goes on to say that "it would not be safe now to assume that ours was much above the average of amateur attempts in general. Lemon certainly had most of the stuff, conventional as well as otherwise, of a regular actor in him, but this was not of a high kind; and, though Dickens had the title to be called a born comedian, the turn for it being in his very nature, his strength was rather in the vividness and vanity of his assumptions, than in the completeness, finish, or ideality he could give to any part of them. It is expressed exactly by what he says of his youthful preference for the representations of the elder Mathews. At the same time, this was in itself so thoroughly genuine and enjoyable, and had in it such quickness and keenness of insight, that of its kind it was unrivalled; and it enabled him to present in Bobadil, after a richly-coloured picture of bombastical extravagance and comic exultation in the earlier scenes, a contrast in the later of tragical humility and abasement that had a wonderful effect. But, greatly as his acting contributed to the success of the night, this was nothing to the service he had rendered as manager. It would be difficult to describe it. He was the life and soul of the entire affair. I never seemed till then to have known his business capabilities. He took everything on himself, and did the whole of it without an effort. He was stage-director, very often stage-carpenter, scene-arranger, property-man, prompter, and band-master. Without offending anyone, he kept everyone in order. For all he had useful suggestions, and the dullest of clays under his potter's hand were transformed into little bits of porcelain. He adjusted scenes, assisted carpenters, invented costumes, devised playbills, wrote out calls, and enforced as well as exhibited in his proper person everything of which he urged the necessity on others. Such a chaos of dirt, confusion, and noise, as the little theatre was the day we entered it, and such a cosmos as he made it of cleanliness, order, and silence, before the rehearsals were over! There were only two things left as we found them, bits of humanity both, understood from the first as among the fixtures of the place: a man in a straw hat, tall and very fitful in his exits and entrances, of whom we never could pierce the mystery, whether he was on guard or in possession, or what he was; and a solitary little girl, who flitted about so silently among our actors and actresses, that she might have been deaf and dumb, but for sudden small shrieks and starts elicited by the wonders going on, which obtained for her the name of Fireworks." The straw-hatted mystery revealed itself eventually as a gentleman in training for the tragic stage.

With regard to other members of the company who appeared in *Every Man in His Humour*, Mr. Dudley Costello (Downright) was the author of several popular tales. Mr. Douglas Jerrold was regarded as the first comic dramatist of the day. Mr. Mayhew (Knowall) was another successful playwright. Mr. Leigh (Oliver Cob) was well known as the author of "The Comic Grammar." Miss Fortescue (Dame Kitely), of the Haymarket Theatre, is best remembered, perhaps, as the original representative of Barnaby Rudge.

Turning to *The Era* of Feb. 28, 1845, we find quite a glowing notice of the performance at Miss Kelly's Theatre. Says our critic:—"The comedy was sustained with a degree of animation and intelligence not often attained at a regular theatre. Mr. Forster adopted what may be called a Macready view of Kitely, but it would be the height of injustice to ascribe to him the merit only of a successful imitation. Bobadil was played with admirable spirit by Mr. Charles Dickens. He assumed the swagger of the 'Paul's Man' with an ease that belonged to a stage veteran rather than to an amateur. The perfect change which he brought over the whole manner and bearing of the character after the beating, the substitution of the sneaking, pitiful-looking wretch, for the gallant, flaunting boaster, was a masterly transformation. He was excellently supported by Mr. Leech as the empty, frivolous, and foppish Master Matthew. Mr. Jerrold's Master Stephen was a fine study; and Brainworm found an adequate representative in Mr. Mark Lemon, the editor of *Punch*, and a popular dramatist and novelist." The writer concludes his notice with the following outburst of enthusiastic flattery:—"To sum up all, we have never seen a play rendered more truly interesting than this comedy was by the gentlemen who sustained it." Jonson's play was followed on this memorable occasion by one of the versions of *Passé Minuit*, called *A Good Night's Rest; or, Two in the Morning*, by Mrs. *Charles Gore*, "excellently played by Mr. Dickens and Mr. Lemon. We will venture to assert that, as long as memory retains her seat, none who were fortunate enough to be present will forget the intrinsic merit of the performances, nor the peculiar associations with which they were environed." The cast included Dickens's younger brothers, Frederick as Edward Knowell and Augustus as Thomas Cash.

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Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

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WANTED, First-class Companies, for
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
July 29, Aug. 5, 12, Oct. 28, Dec. 16, Jan. 20, Feb. 10, 17, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Oct. 14, Nov. 4, 25, Dec. 2, Feb. 3, 10, 17, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER,
Aug. 5, 19, Dec. 2, 9, Feb. 24, March 2, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER,
Oct. 14, 21, Nov. 11, 18, Dec. 9, Jan 27, on
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON,
Aug. 5, 19, 26, Sept. 16, Nov. 11, 18, Dec. 9, Feb. 10, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD,
Sept. 2, Oct. 7, Dec. 16, Jan. 6, 20, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON,
Sept. 2, Nov. 18, Dec. 2, 16, Feb. 3, 10, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER,
Aug. 12, 19, Sept. 9, Oct. 7, 14, 21, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON,
Sept. 2, 9, 16, 23, on.
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for
DALSTON, Aug. 5 and 12;
WOLVERHAMPTON, Aug. 5, 19, and 26.
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE,
July 29.
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD,
July 22, 29.
Address, Sidney Bacon, Metropole T., Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-Class Companies for
COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
Sept. 9, 16, 23, Oct. 7, Nov. 4, onwards.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON,
Sept. 30 Oct. 7, 21, Nov. 4, 11, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY,
Aug. 12, 19, 26, Sept. 2, 9, 16 (three nights only).
E. Graham-Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, for weeks of July 1 and 8,
First-class Attractions;
must be something Big.
Wire, "Hustler, Birkenhead."

WANTED, First-class Attractions Only,
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Nov. 4 and Nov. 28 (3 nights).
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH.
Oct. 21, Nov. 18, and
Nov. 25 (3 nights).
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN.
Aug. 12.
Apply, F. Mouillot, 1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

BRIDLINGTON SPA THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.
Thoroughly Up-to-date, Re-opens July 29.
Electricity throughout; new scenery; large stage dimensions.
WANTED, First-class Attractions.
Holds £100 at ordinary prices.
Only Vacant Dates,
Sept. 5, 6, 7; 12, 13, 14; 19, 20, 21.
Must be the best Attractions on the road.
Henry Hague, General-Manager.

THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-class Attractions only,
Aug. 19 and 26.
Address, Harry Yorke.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, High-class Attractions, for
Aug. 12, 19,
Sept. 2, 9,
and onwards, with exceptions.
Required, Big Atraction for Xmas and New Year's Weeks.
Address,
Thos. Swinton.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL,
BLYTH-BY-SEA.
Monday, June 10, and during the week,
"THE BEST OF HER SEX."
Huge success of Mr. William Mollison and Co. in
"THE BONNIE BRIER BUSH."
Managers in doubt kindly refer.
WANTED, First-Class Company, July 15 (only vacant date). Miners' Picnic Week, Musical preferred. Apply, A. C. Moody, Lessee.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Attraction, July 8.
E. H. Page.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Musical Attractions,
Aug. 5, 19,
Oct. 28,
Nov. 11, 18, 25.
James Bell.

GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
WANTED, First-Class Musical and other London Attractions. Aug. 12, 19, Sept. 9, 23, Oct. 14, 21, 28; also big Pantomime for Xmas. Address, Fred Granville, Theatre Royal, Hyde.

CORK OPERA HOUSE.
Vacant Dates.
WANTED, Companies, for June 24, July 8, 15, 22, Aug. 12, 19.
Applications to Mr. John Horgan, Manager.

THEATRE ROYAL, SOUTH SHIELDS.
July 1 vacant through cancelling.
WANTED, Good Attraction.
Add., J. and F. Coulson, T. R., S. Shields.

COURT THEATRE, GALWAY.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, July 29 (Horse Show week), Aug. 5 (Race week), and onwards, with exceptions.
Only genuine Attractions entertained.
Apply, P. O'Shaughnessy, Proprietor.

WANTED, First-Class Company (Musical preferred), for Grand Theatre, Llandudno, July 22, 23, 24. Wire, Haldane Crichton, Hippodrome, Norwich; next, Hippodrome, Ipswich.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, Musical Attractions, also Comedies and Good Drama, for the Autumn. Special Musical Comedy wanted for the Re-opening, Aug. 15. W. E. Potts.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies for July 8, 22, Aug. 5, 12, and 19. Address, E. B. Goulden.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies,

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant July 15, 22, 29, onward, with exceptions.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Vacant June 24, 27, July 1, 8, onward, with exceptions.
(Last three nights of each week).

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant July 8, 15, onward, with exceptions.

METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant Aug. 5, 12, 19, onward, with exceptions.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
Vacant Aug. 5, 12, 19, onward, with exceptions.

"THE LOST CHORD."
Vacant Aug. 5, onward, with exceptions.

"THE SPAN OF LIFE,"
Vacant July 22, onward, with exceptions.

"CINDERELLA,"
Vacant Feb. 24, Mar. 2, 9, onward, with exceptions.

To Let, on Royalty, "THE PRAIRIE FLOWER" and "OUR BRITISH EMPIRE."

Excellent Plants of Printing.

All communications to
Arthur Carlton, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
The Premier Theatre in the Furness District.
Holds £90 at ordinary Prices.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions,
Vacant July 29, Aug. 12, 19, 26,
and various on.
The following, amongst others, are future Bookings for the above Theatre:—
Allan Wilkie, Lingford Carson's Companies, "When it was Dark," "A Little Vagrant," "A Destroyer of Men," "The Breed of the Treshams," "Life of a Showman," Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's Companies, Mrs. D'Oyly Carte's No. 1 Répertoire Company (tenth visit), "Raffles," F. R. Benson's Co. (third visit), Baron H. Harriss's No. 1 Company, "The Prince of Pilsen," Mr. Percy Hutchison's Companies, including "Peter's Mother," Mr. George Edwardes' own Company, in "See-See," Silvanus Dauncey and M. V. Leveaux's No. 1 Company, in "The Walls of Jericho," "The Girl from Japan," "The Sign of the Cross," &c., &c.

All applications for dates to
Hugh Robertson,
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GRAND OPERA HOUSE,
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Proprietor, Albert Smith.
One of the Handsomest and Best-equipped Theatres in the Provinces.
Holding Capacity, 3,500.
See Mr. Charles Manners' Letter in "The Era" of April 6.
WANTED, No. 1 Attractions only.
July 22, 29, and on (with exceptions).
Special Terms to Special Attractions.
Share or Certainty.
Open to Negotiate for Easter Panto., 1908, 2 weeks.
All Communications, Jno. Ed. Jowsey,
Grand Opera House, Middlesbrough.
Telegrams, "Magnet," Middlesbrough.
Telephones, 413, 426, 500.
Silence a Polite Negative.

THE SPA, WHITBY.
WANTED, Good Company, July 22 or 25 (three nights), and Sept. 12, 13, 14.

DUMFRIES and HAWICK THEATRES.
Wanted, Companies, Aug. 12 and on, three nights each town.

OPERA HOUSE, LONDONDERRY.
Vacant Dates in August and September.
W. Payne Seddon, The Spa, Whitby.

KING'S THEATRE, WALTON-ON-NAZE.
Lessees and Managers,
Messrs. E. Lazern and W. J. Davies.
WANTED, for three night Seasons, Musical Comedy and Dramatic Companies, Aug. 5, onwards. Apply, with full particulars to above, C/o The Billboard, 8, Rupert-court, Piccadilly-circus, W.

THEATRE ROYAL,
ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.
WANTED, for July 29,
First-class Dramatic Company.
Address, Charles Revill,
Theatre Royal, Stockport.

STANLEY, DURHAM, NEW ROYAL, LTD.
WANTED, Big Attraction July 1, owing to extension of Season.
Apply, Mark H. Lindon.

WANTED, First-Class Companies, Musical or Farcical Comedy preferred, June 17, 24, on, with exceptions. Elvey Thomas, Pavilion Theatre, St. Leonards.

WANTED, Attractive Companies, Aug. 12, Nov. 18
(owing to transfer to oblige Mr. Irving),
and early Spring Dates.
Sidney Cooper, Lyceum, Newport.

THEATRE ROYAL, JARROW.
WANTED, First-Class Attraction, July 29, only vacant date this year. Apply, Hugh Robertson, T. R., Jarrow.

NEW THEATRE, CONSETT.
WANTED, Sound Attraction, for June 24.
Apply, Hugh Robertson, Jarrow.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Peterborough, good Companies, Aug. 5 and 19, Sept. 2, on.
A. D. Vernon.

WANTED, Good Companies, through transfer, Aug. 12, Sept. 16 and 23. W. K. Galley, T. R., Macclesfield. Silence a courteous negative.

WATERLOO THEATRE, WHITBY.
Entirely redecorated; lighted throughout by electricity.
WANTED, Company, Aug. 5, Military preferred. 1,000 Troops encamped here Bank Holiday week. Apply, Manager.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions,
Dec. 16 and April 13.
Address, T. Allan Edwardes.

WANTED, Big Attraction, Aug. 5 (re-opening), 19, Grand, Radcliffe; also Autumn, Grand, Chorley. Address, Sante, Theatre, Radcliffe.

WANTED, Attractions, August Bank Holiday and onwards, good date; electric light; First-class Varieties write. Apply, Jones, Grand Theatre, Aberavon.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, Sept. 2, 9, 16,
Oct. 7, 14, 21, Dec. 2, 16.
Wanted, Pantomime, Dec. 30.
Apply to Mr. James Kiernan.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies for two nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. Ashton, Strand, Barnstaple.

WANTED, Best Companies Only, July 1 and 15, 16, 17, 18, Aug. 1, 2, 3. Wire.
Phillips, Coliseum, Aberystwyth.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
W. J. Cotton, Proprietor.
Seats 600: Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, share or rent. Sole Booking Agent, Sidney Hamilton, Piccadilly-mansions, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

COMPANIES WANTED.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessees and Managers,
Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.
The Leading Theatre of the Town.
The Only Theatre in the Town Lighted by Electricity.
The Only Theatre in the Town allowed to Advertise on the Electric Cars.
The Theatre which does the Business.
Now in Course of Rebuilding.
The Seating Capacity of each part of the House is being Largely Increased.
The Holding Capacity of the Theatre will be Second to None in the Town.
The Stage will be Capable of any Production Touring, will be able to fly a 36ft. cloth.
The Theatre will Re-open Aug. 5.
Autumn Bookings include
"The Dairymaids,"
Mr. James Welch's Co., in
"When Knights Were Bold,"
Miss Annie Hughes, in
"Tommy,"
Mr. Norman Macowan, in
"Monsieur Beaucaire,"
"The Little Stranger"
(including Master Edward Garrett),
"A Trip to the Highlands,"
Mr Bannister Howard's No. 1 Company,
"The Eternal City,"
Mr. Walter Maxwell's Co.,
"The Lion and The Mouse" (third visit),
Mr. Charles Cartwright and Co., "In the Bishop's Carriage,"
Mr. Frederick Mouillot's Co., including Miss Decima Moore, in "The Truth."
and other of the Principal Attractions Touring.
WANTED, Exceptional Attractions,
Only vacant dates this year.
Aug. 19, Sept. 2, 16, Oct. 7, Dec. 23.
Calvert Routledge, H. M. T., Barrow.

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.
GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attractions, must be First-Class,
July 29, July 29,
Aug. 5, 12, 19,
and on, with exceptions.
Wire, Wire, Wire.
R. C. Buchanan.

WANTED, First-Class Attraction, for August Bank Holiday, at the Royal Court Theatre, Liverpool; opening date after entire re-decoration of Theatre.
Apply, Mr. Robert Arthur, 24a, Regent-st., S.W.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions, for the following Dates: Aug. 5, 12, 19, 26, Sept. 2 and 9.
Apply, Mr. Robert Arthur, 24a, Regent-st., S.W.

HOWARD AND WYNDHAM, LIMITED.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions,
Aug. 5, 12, Sept. 16, Glasgow.
Address, Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh.

WANTED, really First-Class Attractions of all kinds, but must really be First-Class.
Address, J. F. Elliston, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions,
QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH,
July 8, 22, Aug. 5, 12, 19, 26.
ALBERT THEATRE, BRIGHOUSE,
Sept. 2, 16, 23, and few later.
First-Class Musical Attractions.
Morton Powell, Elephant and Castle Theatre, S.E.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
Sole Lessee, Julian Malvern.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, July 15, 22, Sept. 23 and 30. Bookings include Mr. Lewis Waller's "Robin Hood," "The Earl and the Girl," "Peter's Mother," Messrs. Polini and Melford's "Silver King," "The Girl Behind the Counter," "Raffles," "Mr. Popple," &c.
Address,
Chas. M. Julian, General-Manager.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions,
July 29, and on, with exceptions.
Wire, Wire, Wire.
R. C. Buchanan,
Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

THEATRE ROYAL, BATLEY.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, Sept. 30, and sundry onward.
The Theatre is at present closed for extensive structural alterations and redecoration, at a cost of over £1,000. The most improved heating apparatus and electric plant are being installed.
When re-opened in September, this Theatre will hold over 2,000 people, and will be one of the best mony-making dates in the Kingdom.
All communications to J. Edward Whitty.

WANTED, Companies to write in, on share or rental; good business. Panto. write in to Hugh Ritchie, Manager, Theatre, Musselburgh.

WANTED, a First-Class Company, July 15, for the Empire Theatre, Oldham.
Address, Ernest Dottridge.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE GIRL WHO TOOK THE WRONG TURNING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres
Oct. 7, Nov. 18.
Walter Melville,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE SOLDIER'S WEDDING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 9 and 23
Apply,
Walter Melville,
Standard Theatre, E.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 12, Dec. 2
Walter Melville,
Standard Theatre, E.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 12, 19, Sept. 23, and Dec. 23, 30.
Frederick Melville,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 23, 30, Dec. 23, 30.
Frederick Melville,
Standard Theatre, E.

FRED MELVILLE'S NEW PRODUCTION.
"HER ROAD TO RUIN."
WANTED, Aug. 12, Oct. 28.
Frederick Melville,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 16, Oct. 21, Nov. 11, Xmas, Jan. 30, on.
Tom H. Taylor, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 30, Nov. 18, 25, Jan., on.
Tom H. Taylor,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Aug. 19, Dec. 23,
Jan. 6, 13, Feb. 3, 17, March 2, 23.
Douglas Bruce, 22, Upper Hagley-rd., Birmingham.

"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY."
The Most Successful Play Produced during the year 1906.
WANTED, Sept. 2 and 9, in First-Class Theatres only. Wire or write,
W. W. Kelly,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
July 1, 22,
Aug. 12, 19, 26.
Address, J. W. Cordiner,
Opera House, Southport.
See Companies Advertisements, Page 2.

"WHY MEN LOVE WOMEN."
ELLEN SNOW and No. 1 Company.
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 30, Oct. 21, Nov. 11.
Walter Howard, Lyceum Theatre, W.C.

THEATRES WANTED.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, Weeks of Sept. 16 and 30, Scala Production.
Wire or write,
W. W. Kelly,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN," "THE OCTOROON."
Full Chorus, Special Scenery. It is undoubtedly the best "Uncle Tom's" Company we have seen.—Torquay Times.
WANTED, Theatres, July 22, on.
Charles Harrington, Alexandra T., Sheffield.

The Success of the Season.
"WHEN WE WERE TWENTY-ONE."
Miss Dorothy Cacey's Co., including
Mr. RIDDELL ROBINSON.
WANTED, July 8, 15, and various onwards.
Also good date for August Bank Holiday.
Address,
Frank Nelson, New Theatre, Cardiff.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
Continued Success. Third Year.
WANTED, June 24 (Lancs or Yorks).
Wire for June 24. Wire.
July 1, 8, and 22,
Aug. 12, Aug. 19 (between Oldham and Preston).
Frank Ayrton,
Queen's Theatre, Farnworth.

THIRD YEAR OF TOUR.
The Premier Shakespearean Company.
ALLAN WILKIE.
Refer John Hart, Esq., who, after personally witnessing Monday night's performance at the Theatre Royal, Bradford, offered his complete circuit of Theatres on increased terms.
WANTED, Big Theatre (Lancs.), July 29, also Sept. 16, 30, Nov. 4 and 11, Jan. 20 (?), Feb. 24, March 2, May 4 (to precede Gaiety Theatre, Dublin), 18, and onwards.
Refer John Hart, Esq.
Refer John Hart, Esq.
Refer John Hart, Esq.
Address,
to-day, Harold Nuttall, Theatre Royal, Bradford; next week, Opera House, Blackpool.

WANTED, First-class Theatre, for Production,
Christmas and New Year's Weeks, of
JAMES KIDDIE'S
JAMES KIDDIE'S
Latest and Up-to-date
Pantomime,
Pantomime,
"ALADDIN."
"ALADDIN."
"ALADDIN."
Managers of First-class Theatres requiring a Money Magnet for these Holiday Weeks secure the above.
A Sure Success.
Address,
James Kiddie, Alexandra Theatre, Widnes.

HALLATT AND HOWARD'S COS.
The Lyceum Success,
"HER LOVE AGAINST THE WORLD."
Suburban and Provincial Tours.
WANTED, Known, several Important Vacancies. Apply by letter only, Lyceum T., W.C.

Messrs. ELLIMAN'S ENTERPRISES.
"A HEART'S DESIRE."
WANTED, July 8, 15, 22, to follow P. O. W., Salford, and precede Prince's T., Preston; also Aug. 19, and several Autumn and Spring Dates. Refer any Manager visited re drawing powers of above. Re dates, G. M. Hurst, Gaiety Theatre, Burnley.

CHARLES DRAYCOTT'S COS.
"A STOLEN BIRTHRIGHT."
A Greater Success than ever.
WANTED, Theatre, July 8, between A. T., Hull, and A. T., Birmingham.
Wire for July 8.
To-day, A. T., Sheffield; next, Grand, Bolton.

Miss BONWIN CARLTON'S CO.,
"THE PLUCKY NIPPER."
WANTED, June 24, July 1, 8.
Edward Surrey, Coliseum Theatre, Oldham.

MR. H. F. MALTBY AND COMPANY,
"THE YOUNGEST OF THREE" and "SIR GEORGE OF ALMACK'S."
WANTED, July 22 and 29 (North), also Seaside dates Aug. 29 (three), Sept. 12 (three). Wyn Weaver, 99, Gibbon-rd., Kingston-on-Thames.

ROBERT PERRIS' CO.
"A STRANGER IN NEW YORK"
"A STRANGER IN NEW YORK"
(from the Duke of York's Theatre).
WANTED, Autumn Dates, for this magnificent Musical Comedy. Every Scene carried; all new. Vacant Sept. 9, 15, 23, Oct. 7, on.
T. R., Huddersfield.

WANTED, July 22 and 29, for Madge McIntosh, F. Lumsden Hare, and their London Company, in "The Swashbuckler," by Louis N. Parker, from the Duke of York's Theatre.
Box 4,972, "The Era."

E. H. KNIGHT and GEORGE DENHAM'S CO.
"THE GRIP OF IRON" CO.
WANTED, Sept. 2, Oct. 21, New Year's Week, Jan 6, 13, 20, Feb. 3, 10.
George Denham, 7, The Crescent, Barnes, S.W.

"SUCH A NICE GIRL."
An Up-to-date Irresponsible Musical Absurdity.
Motor-car travelled for Advertising Purposes.
Powerful Company.
WANTED, June 24, July 1, to precede Kingston.
Wire or write, J. Alban Newton, 19, Sterndale-road, West Kensington.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, a Big Theatre, for Xmas and New Year. Dickie Clare,
25, Leazes-park-road, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Lanc. or Midlands, June 24, July 1, "Our Flat" and "Gay Lord Quex." Wire, Rollo Balmain, West Pier, Brighton.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, First-Class Theatres.
Fred Bulmer, c/o "The Era." Vacation add.

"WHEN WOMAN HATES."
WANTED, Aug. 26, Sept. 2, 9, 30.
Fred Bulmer, c/o "The Era," vacation address.

"WHY MEN LOVE WOMEN."
ELLEN SNOW and No. 1 Company.
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 30, Oct. 21, Nov. 11.
Walter Howard, Lyceum Theatre, W.C.

"THE MASTER CRIMINAL."
WANTED, good Theatres, July 8, 22, 29, Aug. 5, 19, only dates 1907. Osmond, Grand, Hull; next, Junction, Manchester.

LONDON AND PROVINCIAL PANTOMIMES CO.
"FAIR ONE WITH THE GOLDEN LOCKS."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Xmas week and Feb. 3 and 17.
Stanley Rogers, 124, Warwick-road, Carlisle.

Miss EMMA LITCHFIELD'S COMPANY,
"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR."
WANTED, July 1, 8, and Aug. 5, on.
The Successful Novelty Drama.
Twelve in Company, and Trained Horse Toured.
Stuart Cleveland, Royalty Theatre, Barrow.

WANTED, July 18 (three nights), South, July 22, onwards, with exceptions, for
"A SNUG LITTLE KINGDOM" and
"WANTED, JAMES BURTON."
Admirable Cast. New and Specially Painted Scenery for both Productions.
Herbert Jay, 10, Jermyn-street, S.W.

WANTED, Good Theatre, June 24, for "A GAMBLER'S DAUGHTER."
Wire to-day,
Hill and Ayrton, Alexandra T., Birmingham; next, T. R., Ashton-under-Lyne.

"GAMESTER OF METZ."
WANTED, Theatre, June 17.
Wire, Charles March, T. R., Sheffield.

"LIFE" and "EAST LYNNE."
WANTED, June 24, July 8 (follow Pontypridd), 22; Six Musical Numbers. "Wanted by the Police." Vacant Aug. 5, Sept. 9. Herbert Barrs, T. R., Leicester.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.

WANTED, Dates for
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
July 15, Aug. 5, Sept. 23, Oct. 21.
Exceptional Cast.
Miss Hilda Beverley as Gertrude Hunt.
Mrs. Morton Powell as Helena Ryars.
Mr. Stanton E. Sharpe as Rev. Basil Gortre.
Mr. W. J. Butler as Constantine Schwabe.
Mr. Edward Valentine as Sir Robert Llewellyn.
MORTON POWELL,
Elephant and Castle Theatre, London, S.E.

"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
July 22, Sept. 23, 30, Oct. 21.
Miss Lillian Herries as Countess Steinback.
Mr. George Steele as Count Steinback.
Mr. Percy Ballard as Baron Cratzlaw.
Supported by a very strong Cast.
MORTON POWELL,
Elephant and Castle Theatre, London, S.E.

"HONOUR THY FATHER."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Aug. 12, 19, Sept. 2, 9.
Powerful Cast. Fine Production.
MORTON POWELL,
Elephant and Castle Theatre, London, S.E.

"GREED OF GOLD."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Sept. 23, Oct. 7, 14, 28.
Entire new production. Company carefully selected.
MORTON POWELL,
Elephant and Castle Theatre, London, S.E.

"THE LITTLE OUTCAST."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"THE LITTLE OUTCAST."
An Honest, Homely Play. Acted by a First-Class Company. Produced on a Lavish Scale.
Vacant Oct. 21, 28, Nov. 4, 11, 18.
MORTON POWELL,
Elephant and Castle Theatre, London, S.E.

MRS. MORTON POWELL
in
a New Play,
by S. Buchanan Rogerson.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
MRS. MORTON POWELL
MR. MORTON POWELL
MRS. MORTON POWELL
in a
Brilliant Light Comedy Character.
Brilliant Light Comedy Character.
Specially written for her.
Specially written for her.
Supported by a
Powerful Cast.
MORTON POWELL,
Elephant and Castle Theatre, London, S.E.

HILL AND AYRTON'S COMPANIES.

Now in Fifteenth Year of Tour.
WANTED, Good Theatres,
June 24, July 22, Sept. 2 and 9 (through transfer), for their latest success,
"A GAMBLER'S DAUGHTER."
Address,
Theatre Royal, Ashton-under-Lyne,
June 17, Six Nights.

FRANK J. PITT and CHARLES HALLING'S CO.
"£1,000 REWARD."
"£1,000 REWARD."
WANTED, for this Successful Attraction, Aug. 12 (to follow Brighton),
Sept. 30, Oct. 7,
Nov. 4, 25, Dec. 2, 16,
Dec. 23, 30.
Now Booking Spring and Autumn, 1908.
Grand, Nottingham, June 17.

MISS MARY NEIL and MR. GEORGE KIRK'S
"HER LUCK IN LONDON" CO.
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Big Theatres,
July 29, Sept. 9, 16, Oct. 7.
Communications to GEORGE KIRK,
Bridge House, Malton, Yorks.

MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COS.
"A SISTER'S SIN,"
WANTED, July 29, for this Romantic Drama, a happy blend of Comedy and Pathos.
"A SOLDIER'S HONOUR."
All dates this year filled. F. G. KIMBERLEY, Vauxhall, The Scotlands, Wolverhampton.

F. WYBERT CLIVE'S CO.
"THE BRANDED WOMAN."
James Stillwell as Philip Maurice.
Lilian Ross as The Branded Woman.
Great Success last week at T. R., Sunderland.
Two return dates booked. Refer.
Immediately booked by T. W. Rowe, Esq., for Palace, Newcastle, after seeing first two Acts on the Monday night.
WANTED, for this great Attraction, Aug. 5, 26, Sept. 2, 9, and on, with exceptions.
Everything carried. Printing a speciality.
Ap., WALTER STEELE (Gen.-Man.), P.O.W. T., Salford.

Mr. WILLIAM A. ARMOUR'S CO.,
"THE BEST OF HER SEX."
WANTED, July 1 (between North Shields and Ashton), July 15, 22, and onwards, with exceptions. Wire for July 1. WILLIAM A. ARMOUR, this, T. R., Blyth; next, P., Newcastle.

WANTED, Theatres, for "The Price of Her Soul," vacant Aug. 19, 26, Sept. 9, and on; grand new production at Rotunda T., Liverpool, June 24, for six nights, of "The Love of a Life," by Eugene Gotère. Address, JOHN B. SHINTON, Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

MISS TRIXIE TOOLE'S COMPANY,
"THE GIRL FROM CHICAGO."
WANTED, Aug. 12, onwards, with exceptions.
Troupe of Dancers Toured.
Address, Theatre Royal, Smethwick.

WANTED, for Russell Rosse's Tours, June 24 (precede Dublin) and July 15 (between Dublin and Glasgow). RUSSELL ROSSE, 10, King-st., W.C.

HARDIE AND VON LEER'S CO.,
"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."
WANTED, First-Class Theatre,
June 24 (London or near).
E. P. CLIFT, 110, St. Martin's-lane, W.C.
Wires, "Vagancy, London." Tel., Gerrard 7504.

"WOMAN AND WINE."
Entire Production carried.
Fifty people on the Stage.
WANTED, through misunderstanding, Good Theatres, Oct. 14, Nov. 4. E. VIVIAN, EDMONDS, 13, Hosack-road, Balham, London, S.W.

"IN A WOMAN'S GRIP."
WANTED, Aug. 12, Sept. 16, Oct. 21, 28.
ANDREW MELVILLE,
Metropole Theatre, Birmingham.

"DRIVEN FROM HOME."
WANTED, Sept. 2, 30, Oct. 21, Dec. 2.
ANDREW MELVILLE,
Metropole Theatre, Birmingham.

EDMUND TEARLE'S TOUR.
Shakespearean and Classical Répertoire, including "The Three Musketeers," &c., &c.
WANTED, July 1, 8, onwards.
Wire, Prince's Theatre, Bristol.

WANTED, for "HER LOST SELF," by Nita Rae, "THE BIGGEST SCAMP ON EARTH," by F. A. Scudamore, June 24, Aug. 19, Sept. 2, Xmas. Frances Delaval, and Powerful Co. Prince's Theatre Portsmouth.

WILLIAM HOLLES and NANNIE GOLDMAN'S COMPANY, in Arthur Shirley's great Drama, "THE STEPMOTHER."
WANTED, Aug. 26, Sept. 16, 23, Oct. 7, 14, for this enormous drawing Attraction.
There are real tears in it.
WILLIAM HOLLES,
11, Newport-house, Great Newport-street, W.C.

"AN UNWEDDED WIFE."
WANTED, Large Theatre, July 8, vacant through transfer.
Thanks Mr. Wm. Morton for return at Alex. T., Hull; also Mr. Eastwood for return at Oldham.
Letters to J. EDWARD WHITTY, P.O.W. T., Grimsby.

"A FOOL'S PARADISE,"
by Sydney Grundy,
And
"THE NEW MAGDALEN,"
by Wilkie Collins.
WANTED, July 1, to follow Lowestoft. Strong Cast. Refer Harrogate, Buxton, and Oxford, &c.
WILLIE THOMPSON, Victoria Theatre, Ramsgate.

THEATRES WANTED.

MR. WILLIAM MOLLISON.
MR. WILLIAM MOLLISON.
MR. WILLIAM MOLLISON.
MR. WILLIAM MOLLISON.
MR. WILLIAM MOLLISON.
MR. WILLIAM MOLLISON.
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Vacation.
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Vacation.

Next Tour starts at
Opera House, Blackpool,
and
includes most of the First-Class Theatres in the United Kingdom.

Extensive Répertoire.

Appropriately Staged.

Carefully Cast,
and
Magnificent Plant of New Pictorial Printing.

WANTED, Oct. 14,
owing to change of Management,
Nov. 4, 18,
and three following weeks;
also Feb. 3, 10, and 24.
SIDNEY COOPER,
Lyceum, Newport.

MR. WILLIAM MOLLISON'S
BRILLIANTLY SUCCESSFUL TOUR.
WANTED (owing to change of Lessceship), October 14; also November 4 and 18, to precede and follow the Marlborough, and early Spring Dates.
(See Touring Companies' Page.)
Address,
SIDNEY COOPER,
Lyceum, Newport, Mon.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN."
WANTED, June 24, July 15, 22, Aug. 5, on, with exceptions.
A delightful version, perfectly cast.
Exquisite costumes; scenery all new.
Crowded with mystic and electric effects.
Judiciously sprinkled with "Wizardry."
A plenitude of palms, shrubs, flowers, cushions.
A beautiful massive organ is shown,
and played upon by Prince Lucio.
Again an emphatic success at Nottingham.
An unqualified success. . . . An effective draw at the Grand Theatre. . . . Treated with the skilful touch of a master hand. . . . Undeniably secured a strong hold upon the sympathies of a large audience, and was excellently acted throughout.—Nottingham Express.
Wire, to-day, LOIE ESMOND, Grand T., Nottingham.
June 17, Theatre Royal, Merthyr Tydvil.

"THE LITTLE EARL."
WANTED, June 24, July 1, 8, Aug. 5, and on.
At the New Theatre Royal, Shrewsbury, last night, Mr. Nugent's company commenced a week's engagement in the musical drama, "The Little Earl." The piece is extremely diverting, and several delightful songs and dances are introduced. Master Sidney (the Little Earl) is an exceptionally gifted comedian, and his vocal contributions bring down the house.—Midland Evening News, June 4.
Address, T. R. NUGENT, to-day, Muncaster, Bootle; next, Clarence Theatre, Pontypridd.

"SAVED FROM THE SEA."
By Arthur Shirley.
Everything carried.
WANTED, Aug. 12, 19, Sept. 23, Oct. 14, Xmas (Dec. 23, 30),
and Spring, 1908, with various exceptions.
Apply,
SAMUEL JAMES,
Warwick House, 8, Warwick Court,
Gray's Inn, W.C.

"THE LOVE THAT LASTS FOR EVER."
By Edward Thane.
WANTED, Sept. 9, 16, Oct. 7, 23, Nov. 4, 18,
Xmas Week.
Clear Stage only required.
Apply,
SAMUEL JAMES,
as above.

"AS GOOD AS GOLD."
By F. S. Jennings.
WANTED, Aug. 5, 26.
Clear Stage only required.
Apply,
SAMUEL JAMES,
as above.

"WHY MEN LOVE WOMEN."
ELLEN SNOW and No. 1 Company.
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 30, Oct. 21, Nov. 11.
WALTER HOWARD, Lyceum Theatre, W.C.

WANTED, for "The Woman Pays," Sept. 9, Oct. 7, 21, and on.
F. M. THORNE, T. R., Rochdale.

"THE STOWAWAY," by Tom Craven.
Musical Comedy Drama.
WANTED, First-Class Theatres,
June 24, June 24, June 24.
Wire, Wire, WINIFRED MAUDE,
To-day, Lyceum Theatre, Newport, Mon.
June 17, Theatre Royal, Bristol.

THE NATIVE CHOIR FROM JAMAICA,
all escaped from the recent terrible earthquake, have a few Vacant Dates for their Unique and Really Charming Entertainment.
Enormous success last week at
Grand Opera House, Middlesbrough.
Can now book Autumn and Winter Dates, the Jamaicans having decided to stay in England for a time owing to their pronounced success.
WANTED, Aug. 12 and 26, Sept. 16, and on, with exceptions.
The Jamaicans have appeared before Lord Elgin (Colonial Secretary), Lord and Lady Derby, Earl Roberts, Lord Brassey, and Sir Alfred Jones, and caused a furore. Twelve performers. Whole Entertainment, and Novel Sunday Concerts if desired. Three changes of costume. Excellent lithos. &c. Booked at First-class Theatres, Halls, and Pavilions all over the Kingdom. Return Dates in nearly every instance. This week, St. George's Hall, Bradford; next, West End Pier, Morecambe.
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LOUIE FREEAR FLYING MATINEES and EVENINGS.
WANTED, Dates, several days vacant during Aug. and Sept., for Louie Freear and Star Co. Apply, sending list of vacancies to TOURING MANAGER, c/o Charles, of 28, Shakespeare-rd., Brixton.

WANTED, Theatres, Halls, Pavilions, &c., June 24, July 1, and on, for the Royal Star Pierrots and Grand Vaudeville and Picture Company; the greatest, most novel show touring. This, Parr Hall, Warrington; next, TRAVIS, G. T., Mansfield.

WANTED, Theatres, Halls, Piers, &c., by West Australian Picture and Vaudeville Co., just concluding Hippo., Cambridge. Apply, MANAGER, Corn Exchange, St. Neots, Hunts.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for Autumn Tours, Musical Comedy, Principal Baritone, Tenor Choristers, First-Class Prima Donna; also for London Pantomime, Artists in all Lines. Apply, C. ST. JOHN DENTON, 34, Maiden-lane, Strand.

WANTED, for Musical Comedy and Light Opera, Town and Tour, Principal Artists in all Lines; also Chorus Ladies and Gentlemen; the latter must be young, of good appearance, and good voices. Send particulars at once to KAYSON TRUEMAN, Regent House, 233A, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, for Royalty, Morecambe, Artists in all Lines, for Special Production, for one week, July 8, of "Under Two Flags," including Lady for Cigarette. All to rehearse week previous. Address, with lowest inclusive terms, photos., &c., C. M. JULIAN.

Mrs. SAM DUCKWORTH'S CO.
"HER NAMELESS CHILD."
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Autumn Tour. Photos., references, and terms, first letter,
SAM DUCKWORTH,
Theatre Royal, Ton-y-Pandy.

ARTISTS WANTED.

"THE TRAITOR."
WANTED, Entire Company, for Autumn. Photos., references, and terms must accompany all applications, also two weeks' address. HILL-MITCHELSON and HARRIS FINBERG, Star Theatre, Liverpool.

"A HEART'S DESIRE."
WANTED, Known, several Vacancies will occur in the above. Only those willing to go through the year need apply. Photos., absolute lowest terms, references, &c., to C. ELLIMAN, Gaiety T., Burnley.

"THE TYRANT."
WANTED, for few Special Weeks, Autumn, First-Class Leading Lady, good appearance, handsome dresses; also for Autumn Tour, really bright, smart Chambermaid, petite; and smart willing Baggage Man, must be able to play small part really well, not less than 5ft. 7in. In all cases photos., fullest particulars, lowest terms. State where can be seen playing within next few weeks.
FRED C. SOMERFIELD, Fearnhead, near Warrington.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, for "Span of Life," commencing July 15. Full particulars,
ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

SIDNEY BACON'S
"THE DUCHESS OF TOOTING" CO.
WANTED, Juvenile Man (Baritone), Petite Lady for Page, and Soprano Choristers. Photos., age, height, lowest terms, and references,
Box 4,978, "The Era."

WANTED, Juvenile Lady and Juvenile Leading Gentleman, rehearse this week. Photos., terms (Summer), references. CARR LOATES, Opera House, Wakefield.

"NO MAN'S LAND."
WANTED, Powerful Heavy Character, to open July 8, and go through Autumn; also Full Company, with exceptions; rehearse London, July 29. Full particulars, letters only, HENRY HERNE, 8, Stanley-grove, Longsight, Manchester.

"A WRECKER OF MEN."
WANTED, Intense Character Actor, to double; also good Responsible Man; rehearse Tues.; open 24th for five weeks' Tour. Photo., terms, &c., to THOMPSON CARRUTHERS, T. R., Sunderland.

WANTED, thoroughly experienced Heavy Man, to look about 27; rehearse June 18, Manchester. Lowest terms and full particulars, Miss LYDIA DONOVAN, 86, Rusholme-road, Manchester.

"A SISTER'S SIN."
WANTED, good Juvenile Gentleman and smart Chambermaid, for above; rehearse at once. Absolute lowest Summer terms and refs. KIMBERLEY, The Scotlands, Wolverhampton.

WANTED.—Splendid chance for ambitious Amateur Lady and Gentleman to enter First-Class Dramatic Company, under well-known management, to understudy principal rôles and play small but important parts. Fares paid; long Tour. Moderate premium required. Address, Box 4,982, "The Era."

"HAPPY HOLLAND."
WANTED, good Baritone and Young Lady Soprano, at once, for Chorus.
13, Camberwell New-road, S.E.

WANTED, a good Tenor Vocalist. Apply by letter, stating qualification and salary expected, to A. TETLOW, Philharmonic Hall, Cardiff.

WANTED, a Boy, good Soprano, age 14 or over.
Apply by letter,
F. LURIN, 3, Cotrill-road, Dalston, London, N.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Young Man, well educated, good appearance, Musical, Theatrical Engagement. Of his Matthew Jannaway in "My Friend the Prince" (amateur), The Era said:—A really polished enactment. Box 4,971, "The Era."

WANTED, by Duettists (Soloists), Soprano, Contralto, powerful voices, Engagements, weekly or daily; can accompany; no Al-Fresco. D., 141, Endlesham-road, Balham.

WANTED, Engagement, by Good Soprano; High-class Al Fresco or Concert Party; experienced in Al Fresco work. VOCALIST, 18, Albert-place, Cheltenham.

WANTED, by Bass Vocalist (from the Midlands), who is able to accompany, an Engagement with a High-Class Concert Party. Address, P. J. C., 8, Elgin-crescent, Wealdstone.

WANTED, to join good Concert Party immediately, Contralto, Operatic Ballads; good accompanist. Address, VOCALIST, Post Office, Formosa-street, Maida Hill.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Pantomime Chorus and Show Ladies. Send photograph, age, height, and other measurements, lowest salary. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, Pantomime Artists in all Lines, and Chorus for Pantomime. Write full particulars to KELSON TRUEMAN, Regent House, 233A, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, tall Chorus Ladies, for London Pantomime, also Tenors and Basses; ladies must be over 5ft. 8in. Apply first instance by letter only, enclosing photo., FRANK POSTLETHWAITE, Theatrical and Variety Agent, 25, Wellington-st., Strand.

WANTED, Artists Disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas to send Photos., terms, and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, for Pantomime, 100 Chorus and Show Ladies. Address, with photos. and references, to E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Scenic Artists, Theatre Managers, &c., to write for Leete's Catalogue of colours, varnishes, painting brushes, and every requisite for scene painting and theatre decoration. The fullest range of colours in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

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WANTED, Known, Scenery Made, Painted, and Repaired. First-class Scenic Artist. Magnificent paint-frame; spacious carpenter's shop
Estimates free on application to
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WANTED, by Philip Small, Scenic Artist, Engagement or Contract, Town or Provinces; refs. Address, 40, Randolph-gardens, Maida Vale, London.

WANTED, Engagement for Stock Scenery or Contract, late Dalston Theatre and Palace, Stoke Newington. ALFRED FORD, 110, Wenlock-st., Islington, N.

WANTED, Contracts for High-Class Scenery, at Lowest Prices. Carlyle Scenic Studio, W. B. ROBINSON, 170, King's-road, S.W.

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WANTED, at once, smart, energetic Acting-Manager, for well-known Provincial Theatre; must find cash security of £150; to the right man a permanent situation is assured; a man willing to learn the business not objected to. Apply, with fullest particulars and lowest terms, to Box 4,960, "The Era."

WANTED.—An opening occurs in the managerial department of important amusement firm for smart, intelligent Gentleman to thoroughly acquire the duties of Theatre, Drama, Variety and General Business and Stage-Management. Salary given; expenses paid. Unique opportunity and permanent engagement to suitable person; substantial premium required. Address, Box 4,984, "The Era."

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WANTED, Theatre Electrician; must be able to do wiring; abstainer preferred.
Apply, with lowest terms and references,
J. W. CANE, County Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, Head Electrician, must be thoroughly used to Music Hall work; good references required. Apply, J. WOOLF, Wonderland, Whitechapel.

WANTED, Carpenter, used to Stock Theatre, must have own tools, and be able to make and not afraid of work. Apply, MANAGER, Theatre, Flowergate, Whitby.

WANTED, experienced Property Man.
Apply,
MURRAY, Casey Circus, Palace, Leicester.

WANTED, smart Young Man, as Property Man and Sell Music, &c.; steady, and willing to work. Dare's Minstrels, Colwyn Bay.

WANTED, good Poster Writer. Send sample, lowest terms, references.
ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, Billposter,
with experience in running Small Branch.
State wages
and experience.
MITCHELL,
256, High-street, Rochester.

WANTED, to Let, W. C. Burns, 20 years' Practical Management, Theatre, Variety, Circus, &c.; rail, road, resident; bang up-todate in every detail; unique references; life total abstainer.
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WANTED, Management of Theatre, Hippo., Pier Pavilion, &c., large or small; experienced in all details. F. LEWIS, Brunswick-street, Horwich.

WANTED, Known, well-educated Young Gentleman desires to learn Theatrical Management. Apply, Box 4,960, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Jim Leco, Circus Advance Agent, &c., is out of Shop, and serve him right. C/o Peter May, Publican, Pound-street, Sligo, Ireland.

WANTED, a Situation as Nurse to Child, Governess, or Lady's Companion. Address, WRIGHT, c/o Mrs. Rydon, Hippo., Lancaster.

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WANTED, Conductor, to supply String Band of 10 for the Scarboro' Season; must thoroughly understand Variety Business; evening dress, &c. Apply, with lowest terms and references, GEO. ZALVA, Hippodrome, Scarboro'.

WANTED, Musical-Director for Tour, commencing Sept.; good Pianist and Arranger essential; also Lady Musicians. TOMKINSON, 36, Albany-road, Kensington, Liverpool.

WANTED, Conductor (Violin) and First Violin, at once. Apply, LEIGHTON, General-Manager, Hippodrome, Sheerness

CAMBRIDGESHIRE ASYLUM,
FULBOURN, near CAMBRIDGE.
WANTED, Male Attendant,
First Violin or Euphonium Player preferred. Apply, stating age and height, and enclosing copies of testimonials,
to the SUPERINTENDENT,
at the Asylum.

WANTED, July 25, 6 weeks, First Violin, Second (combining Second Cornet), 'Cello, Flute, Clarionet, Euphonium, Trombone. Age, terms, GREENHEAD, Herne Bay.

WANTED, for Military Band,
Ten Weeks, Seaside, July 8,
three times Daily, No Sundays.
Solo Cornet, Flute and Piccolo, Solo Euphonium, First B flat Clarionet.
None but steady and reliable Players need apply, with copies of references.
BANDMASTER, 19, Sutton-rd., Muswell Hill, London, N.

WANTED, at once, for an English Orchestra, First Cornet, not over 30 years, six or twelve months' contract, Concerts only; must be good, others save time. Apply, with photo. and age, also lowest terms, &c. Letters 2d. Also others may write. MUSICAL-DIRECTOR, Scotch Orchestra, Establishment, National, Copenhagen, Denmark.

WANTED, Solo Cornet, Second Violin, Viola, and Bass, for the Hippo., Douglas, one show daily, open July 8. A. DOUGLAS WILLCOX, M.D., 55, Narrowgate, Alnwick.

WANTED, reliable Cornet; experienced in Variety, open Monday next. State absolute lowest terms and refs. to MUSICAL-DIRECTOR, Theatre Royal, Windsor.

WANTED, Solo B flat Clarionet, for Pitching in West End London; can join at once. Terms Shares. B. M., 69, Carlisle-street, Edgware-road, London.

WANTED, Trombone, Buff. Bill's Circus and Menagerie, 30s.; Tenting Ireland; must be steady and reliable. REYNOLDS, Buff. Bill's Circus, Cork Sat., Mallow Monday.

WANTED, good Trombone, for July, 4 weeks; terms 55s.; easy engagement; no Sunday. A. MORETON, The Stream, Burghill, Hereford.

WANTED, Euphonium or Valve Trombone, for Circus Tenting Season. Apply, AUGUSTE DENTON, Mus. Dir., 86, Victoria-street, Grimsby.

WANTED, Harpist, as Accompanist, in small Orchestra, must play from Piano Acc., quick reader, strictly sober and attentive, or no use; open air engagement. State terms, age, and refs., Box 4,967, "The Era."

WANTED, First-Class Flute and Piccolo, open Monday, rehearsal 12 o'clock. Wire terms and references, GEORGE BURNLEY, Conductor, Theatre Royal, Edinburgh.

WANTED, for Hancock's Living Pictures and Palace of Varieties, a Pianist, one used to travelling preferred. Will Ashman write in again? Also Two Lady Dancers and Singers, willing to Parade out, lowest terms and photo; also one or two men used to show business. To suitable people good wages and long engagement. Apply Liskeard until Saturday; West Hoe, Plymouth, all next week.

WANTED, Mandolinists, young, of both sexes. Send full particulars,
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WANTED, Musicians, for the R.M.S.P. "Ortona" (Australian line), leaving Tilbury 27th June; Violin, Piano, and Clarionet. References for character and ability indispensable. Light duties only. Apply, F. C. CANE, Bandmaster, 28, Nelson-street, East Ham, Essex.

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Surrey County Asylum, Brookwood, Woking.

WANTED, First-class Musicians, all Instruments for Ballroom, from July 1, regular engagement; only steady and competent Instrumentalists need apply. Applications, stating experience, with references and salary required, for one or two performances daily, to be sent to "MUSICIAN," 34, Fenney-street, Bury New-road, Manchester.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, good Family Band, for South Wales. Send full particulars,
ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, First-class Musicians, for Orchestral Concerts, Tynemouth Palace, Northumberland. Address, J. H. GRAHAM, Palace-by-the-Sea, Tynemouth.

WANTED, Ladies' Band of Five (include Cornet), eight weeks' season. Lowest terms, photos. SMITH, Claremont Pier, Lowestoft.

WANTED, Two Bandsmen,
who have been, or are about to be Discharged from Regular Army after 12 years' service, for Enlistment into Permanent Staff of Infantry Militia,
to go on to complete service for pension.
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WANTED, for Small Tenting Show, Youths or Men for Small Band. Mlle. FLORENCE, King's Theatre, Gainsborough.

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WANTED, Known, C. W. B. Madden, Mus Dir., Composer, Arranger, Pantos., &c., at Lib.; Deputise First or Second Violin. Refs. 4, Ducie-street, Leigh.

WANTED, Known, Musical-Director at Liberty (Violin) for deputising. T. STEVENS, M.-D., Tivoli, Grimsby. Private address, 31, Torrington-street, Grimsby.

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WANTED, by a First-Class Experienced Musical Director (Violin), Variety or Dramatic, Theatre, permanency, through closing; fine library, excellent references; one who can make the most of a small band. M.-D., Grand Theatre, Plymouth.

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WANTED, by Bandmaster, shortly retiring on pension, appointment to Volunteer Band, School, or other similar post; thoroughly experienced in Orchestral work and Arranging; capable Violinist; good testimonials and references. Address, BANDMASTER, Gazette Office, Ealing.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, through Theatre closing, by C. H. SUMMERS, Leader, Gaiety.

WANTED, Known, Violinist, brilliant, experienced, and reliable, at Liberty, Leader or First Violin; Variety or any Business. Address, VIOLINIST, 266, Liverpool-street, Salford.

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WANTED, Engagement as Leader or First Violin; excellent references; five seasons last engagement. Address, V. CHALDER, 11, Howley-road, Croydon.

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WANTED, by experienced Violinist, Re-engagement in First-Class Orchestra in London; permanency. BUDD, 3, Grenville-st., Russell-sq., W.C.

WANTED, by Violinist and Pianist, First-class Café, Exhibition, Ball-room, Pictures; permanent. Highest references. Trio supplied. Box 4,956, "The Era."

WANTED, by Violin or Viola, one or two weeks' Engagement, South of England, June 17, on. CHATFIELD, 403, Middlewood-road, Hillsborough, Sheffield.

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WANTED, Engagement, by Young Lady Violinist; tour or permanent; good appearance; refs. Box 4,970, "The Era."

WANTED, by Violinist, experienced, an immediate Orchestral Engagement; town, country, or seaside; life abstainer. Address, VIOLIN, 134, Haverstock-hill, Hampstead, N.W.

WANTED, by Violinist, good Repetiteur, immediate Engagement, through Th. closing; good refs. Address, J. B., 108, Chalton-st., Euston-road, N.W.

WANTED, Engagement, Violinist, 4½ years Leader West Pier Orchestra, Brighton. MASON, 42, Belle Vue-gard., Kemp Town, Brighton.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Violinist, any Business; London preferred; can open immediately. H. WILKINS, 19, Daneville-road, Denmark Hill, Camberwell.

WANTED, Engagement, experienced Violinist, Leader or First, any business; can combine Clarionet. W. A. EVANS, 32, Devonshire-road, Walthamstow.

WANTED, Re-engagement, Violin and Viola, London or Seaside. Disengaged the 15th, through closing. J. GAMGEE, 91, Tachbrook-street, Pimlico, S.W.

WANTED, by Violinist, reliable, Summer Engagement; experienced in Orchestra; highest references. Apply, LEWIS, Training College, Winchester.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, any business; steady and reliable. CORNET, 22, Gladstone-street, West Gorton, Manchester.

WANTED, by Cornet, Engagement, any distance; Military or Orchestra; good refs. A. R. ELLIS, 14, Dudley-road, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Solo Cornet, thoroughly reliable, excellent references; at Liberty Monday, 17th. CORNETTIST, c/o Post Office, North Shields.

WANTED, by Cornet and Double Bass, Engagement, at Liberty Monday, June 24, together or separate. Any Business. 15, St. Martin's-place, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Cornet, Clarionet (brothers, age 27 and 21), smart amateurs, would join Band, Military and String, for Employment; trade, jobbing compositors (N.S.). CORNET, C/o Mr. Snell, 4, Bourne-road, Bexley, Kent.

WANTED, Engagement, by Sole Cornet, experienced Variety; genuine. London only. Permanency. Box 4,954, "The Era."

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, Cornet, perm., any business, in Provinces; refs.; total abstainer, young. J. LONG, Tunn-st., Fakenham, Norfolk.

WANTED, Engagement, as Cornet, First or Second; could combine Second Violin if necessary; would do Yeomanry, or deputise. F. K., 7, Berwick-street, Pimlico, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Orchestral Cornet; good references. GEORGE BRADLEY, 24, Erskine-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, as Clarionet, late Principal Clarionet Riviere's Orchestra, Colwyn Bay, also for Mr. A. E. Bartle, Southport. C. MATTHEWS, Oadby, Leicester.

WANTED, by Clarionet, nightly Orchestral Practice; experienced; salary optional; London. COLMAN, 23, Warren-street, Fitzroy-square, W.

WANTED, by experienced Clarionettist, any Business; at Liberty July 1, short Seaside preferred, or permanency. WALTER, 4, Marshall-buildings, Webber-st, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Clarionettist, thoroughly experienced, Military or Orchestra; also by First-class Pianist. 35, Henrietta-street, Ashton-under-Lyne, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, Bassoon, to open immediately. LOUIS CHAPMAN, 6, St. Philip's-terrace, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Known, Lady Double Bass Player, Disengaged. H. SMITH, 35, Leighton-road, Kentish Town, N.W.

WANTED, by experienced and reliable E flat Bass Player, Good Summer Engagement; good testimonials. CHAPMAN, 2, Eden-villas, Douglas-road, Tonbridge.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Double Bass (4 string), combine brass. W. SMITH, Post Office, Devizes.

WANTED, through Theatre Closing, Engagement as Double Bass. WHITAKER, 5, Terrick-road, Wood Green, N. After Monday, Clement View, Nelson, Lanc.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Bass or Second Clarionet, through closing, season or permanency; experienced; good references. WRIGHT, 14, Horace-street, Burnley.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Double Bass, through theatre closing; steady, 28, reliable. References. UNSWORTH, 1, South-grove, Brooklands, Manchester.

WANTED, by Bassoon, Engagement; Disengaged; Open for Summer Season, Opera, Tour or Permanency; excellent references; ex-Guardsman. AMOS, 92, High-street, Thornton Heath.

WANTED, Engagement, String Bass or Bombardon, Orchestral or Military; experienced, best references. J. W. H., c/o Fisher, Dispensary-yard, Northgate, Wakefield.

WANTED, by experienced Double Bass, Engagement, or Deputising, Theatre or Variety; excellent refs. J. E. SCOTT, 67, Lancaster-street, Borough-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Bassoonist, just finished Tour, requires Engagement, any business; excellent refs. W. H. SECKER, 4, Ravensbury-villas, Mitcham.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Bassoonist, with all-round experience and good refs. Write, BASSOONIST, 25, Wade-lane, Leeds.

WANTED, Engagement, Trombone, experienced in good Orchestra, Theatre, Music Hall, or Summer Season. MUSICIAN, Church-street, Bawtry, Yorks.

WANTED, Known, Marie Walker, Trombone, at Lib. Monday for Season. 7, Cromwell-road, Shipley, Yorks.

WANTED, Known, First-class Trombone, at Liberty, any Business; would deputise; reliable. BRAMWELL, 35, Achilles-street, New Cross, S.E.

WANTED, by Trombonists, B Flat and G, Engagement; competent, reliable, any business; join immediately; excellent refs. DALGLEISH, 13, Mansfield-road, Walthamstow.

WANTED, Engagement, by Trombone or Euphonium, any Business. Apply, P. EWINS, 9, South-street, Reading, Berks.

WANTED, Season's Engagement, by reliable E flat Bombardon; good refs.; Town or Seaside. Address, BOMBARDON, 142, Kennington Park-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by French Horn, through reduction in Theatre Orchestra. Address, HORN, 6, Hildas-grove, Rose Cottage, Hull.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice, for Little Girl, on 'Cello; also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. CASSELLE, 35, Granville-square, King's Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, Known, E. Inkpen, at Liberty after 26th, through closing, as 'Celloist, in Theatre or Variety Orchestra; good references. New Theatre, Oxford.

WANTED, Known, Lady 'Cellist, experienced Orchestral Player, at Liberty. STREBELLE, 34, Grafton-square, Clapham Common, London.

WANTED, by 'Cellist, Engagement for a few weeks, any Business. Address, 'CELLO, 74, Queen's-road, Reading.

WANTED, through closing, as 'Cellist, Engagement or deputising; any business. Address, R. SORTIN, 13, Southampton-st., Fitzroy-square, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by 'Cellist; good reader; moderate terms; any Business. 'CELLO, 11, Cottage-place, New-road, Leigh-on-Sea.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced London 'Cellist, Theatre or Music Hall, London or Suburbs. Apply, 'CELLO, 25, Maplethorpe-road, Thornton Heath.

WANTED, Engagement by experienced Viola; any business; deputising not objected to. WHITE, 14, North Denes-road, Newtown, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, by experienced Oboeist, Engagement; sober, reliable; late Royal Artillery Band, Woolwich. FIELD, 28, Cardozo-road, Holloway, N.

WANTED, Known, First-Class Oboe and Cor Anglais Player, open for Engagement until July 15. JOSEPH CRAEN, 84, Windsor-crescent, Bridlington.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Flute and Piccolo, any business; good references; can join at once. W. MARSHALL, 11, Clarence-street, Leicester.

WANTED, Engagements by Flautist and Piccolo, Solo and Orchestral; sober, reliable; or yachting tours. FLAUTIST, 4, Bexley-road, Belvedere, Kent.

WANTED, by good Flute and Piccolo, Summer Engagement, thoroughly experienced and reliable. FLAUTIST, 24, Bosworth-st., Openshaw, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement by Flute and Piccolo, Military or String; good references; would join Works Band. Address, Flautist, 55, Denman-street, Leicester.

WANTED, Re-engagement by experienced Flautist, Theatre or Variety; would deputise. FLUTE, 17, Macdonald-road, Forest Gate, Essex.

WANTED, good Summer Engagement, by experienced Flute and Piccolo, Orchestral or Military, just finished Crystal Palace. FLAUTIST, 9, Rattray-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, with First-class Concert Party, good Solo Pianist and Accompanist; can open at once. KARL SCHWARCK, Pianist, Shanklin, I.W.

WANTED, by Lady Pianist, Engagement, experienced accompanist; good appearance. L., 39, Chelsham-road, Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, Pianist, Accompanist, First Sight-reader; Dance Music, &c.; no vamping; Bass Voice. F. H. P., 19, New Bridge-road, Hull.

WANTED, Engagement by Lady Pianist, thoroughly experienced in Dramatic, Variety, and Orchestral; good offers only. SILVESTER, 25, Commercial-road, Eastbourne.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Pianist, in Orchestra or Café; will accept small salary to gain experience. ULVERTH, Cumberland-road, Hanwell.

WANTED, Engagement as Double Drummer, with Effects; steady and reliable; good references. TED CALLCOTT, 16, Burlington-street, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, Re-engagement, as Double Drummer, with effects; steady and reliable; Liberty 17th. W. SIMS, 34, Foy-street, Wigan, Lancs.

WANTED, Engagement, Tympani, Drums, and Effects; experienced, sober, reliable; season or permanency. Now at Liberty. DRUMMER, 27, Tawson-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-Class Double Drummer, thoroughly experienced, Variety preferred, steady, reliable; references. DRUMS, 11, Ritson-road, Dalston, London, N.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-Class Mandolinist; would prefer to join Troupe; highest references. Address, Box 4,968, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Shikissima Band, Ladies' Japanese Orchestra, all Soloists; magnificent costume or white dress, Piers, Hotels. Glenthorpe, Chesterfield-rd., Newbury.

WANTED, Engagements for Scarlet Domino Ladies' Band, Ladies' Salon Quartette and Florentine Quartet, at home or abroad. Apply, BUREAU, 8, Bedford-terrace, Kensington.

WANTED, Known, Miss Gascoyne Old's Shakespearean Orchestra, at the Crystal Palace, four times daily, re-engagement till June 20. 238, Edgware-road, W. Agent, Monsieur JULES GUISE.

WANTED, Known, Renowned Society Hungarian Band, Open for Engagements, for Exhibition, Seaside, Sunday Concerts, &c. Particulars. CONDUCTOR, 53, Philpot-st., E.C.

WANTED, Garner's Scarlet Elysee Band, from three performers, Hotel, Piers, Tea Rooms, Dancing; large music library. 55, Richmond--road, Barnsbury, N.

TO CORPORATIONS, GARDENS, and PIER PAVILION MANAGERS.
WANTED, Known, Giacomo Marchisio and his Orchestra, Dis. after July 15; smart, brilliant, refined. 5, St. Michael's-gdns., Notting Hill.

WANTED, Engagement, for Season, good Orchestra, Bands (Military or Symphonique). Union Musical, 30, Rue du Maroc, Paris XIX.

WANTED, by Military Band, Engagements, town or Seaside; smart uniform; good répertoire. B. M., 56, Chipstead-street, Parsons Green, S.W.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, good Equestrian Families, Good Equestrian Families, Good Equestrian Families, Good Equestrian Families, Good Equestrian Families, Good Equestrian Families, Good Equestrian Families, Good Equestrian Families, Good Equestrian Families, Good Equestrian Families, Good Equestrian Families, for Paris, one and two years' Contract.
Send offers and photographs to ROCHE, 23, Boulevard des Italiens, Paris.

WANTED, a few useful People for a Little Circus. Money low, but sure. CIRCUS, Black Torrington, Devonshire.

WANTED, for Galas, July, Aug., Cyclists, Acrobats, Wire or Rope Performers. Davis and Gledhill Trio write. WOOD, Caterer, Whitehall-road, Bristol.

WANTED, a Lady Gymnast, about 18 years, with knowledge or apprentice can apply, with photo., stating height, to O. V. ESTRELLA, 132, Kennington Park-road, London.

WANTED, Girl about 15, with some knowledge of Acrobating, as Apprentice to First-class Acrobatic Family. Communications, c/o Box 4,880, "The Era."

WANTED, a Lad, age 14 to 18, for Top Mount Comedy Act. Age, height, weight, &c., Box 4,969, "The Era."

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty July 1, for Stage or Ring, Tudor's Four Educated Ponies. Hengler's Circus, London, twice daily. Agents should see this Act. Address, W. TUDOR.

WANTED, Known, Olrac and Milton, Society Gymnasts, on Tour. Permanent address, 193A, Brixton-road, London, S.W.

WANTED, Known, a First-class Second Mounter and Tumbler; open to join Troupe, or could go Top-mount Acrobats. Address, Box 4,964, "The Era."

Balloon Ascents.
WANTED, Engagements, by Lieut. Lempriere, the Popular Reliable Aeronaut. Address, LEMPRIERE, Handsworth, Birmingham.

Parachute Descents.
WANTED, Gala Secretaries seeking Big Attractions to engage Lieut. Lempriere and his charming Lady Pupils for Parachute Descents or Races; together or separate. One still open for Aug. Bank. LEMPRIERE, Handsworth, Birmingham.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES and THEATRE ROYAL.
WANTED, First-class Variety Artists, all Lines.
ARTHUR CARLTON, Palace, Worcester.

Scarborough.
WANTED, Manday, June 24, and onwards, Variety Artists in all Lines. Nothing too Big. Full particulars to KITCHINGMAN, Aquarium.

PARLATO'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Variety Artists, Queen's Hall, Radcliffe, July 1, onwards. Particulars, Queen's Hall, Radcliffe, Lancs.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, June 24, Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest. Hall small. P. REYMOND, as above.

WANTED, Variety Artists all descriptions, for Monday next; wire or write lowest terms. BARLOW, 37, St. Mary's-street, Warrington; after Saturday, Grand Theatre, Mansfield.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, New for Blyth, June 24, one show nightly. Notice.—My combination at Queen's, Castleford, last week played to Big Business. Many thanks to Messrs. Beanland and Emerson for one of the most pleasant week's engagements I have ever spent. Address, C. CLIQUOT, Gaiety Theatre, Blyth.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates. WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, coming North, to send dates and terms. ANDERSON'S Agency, 6, Great Clyde-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists for Gala, four miles from Leeds, Sept. 2 and 3. Lowest in first letter. CANDLER, 6, Oxford-terrace, Harrogate.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, from now onwards. Apply, Mr. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

DREW BAYLEY'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, the Best of Artists for all North Towns, June 24, July, Aug., Sept., and on. 170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

DR. WALFORD BODIE'S ROYAL MAGNETS, on Tour.
WANTED, Artists all Lines, big Sensational Novelties, July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29. State when and where last in Scotland. Absolute Lowest Terms. Fares paid after joining. No Commonwealths; Ghost walks every Friday night. Tokio Japanese Troupe send Bill Matter this week. Turning Hundreds away nightly at Grand Theatre, Doncaster. Address, Monday next, Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.
DR. WALFORD BODIE, M.D., Sole Director and Proprietor.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Monday next, and on. Nothing too big. With or Without Own Vaudeville Company. All must state whether appeared at Middlesbrough, when, and where, or whether quite new for mentioned town. A Good Comedian also required. Wire or write, lowest combination terms to
THE DAYTON FAMILY, This week, Parr Hall, Warrington. Drawing elité of town, business highly satisfactory. Monday, Opera House, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, Artists willing to Share in High-class Open-air Entertainment (near London); must be refined and versatile, Piano Accompanist, able to Sing; Comedian; Good Baritone or Tenor; or Partner to invest small capital. Stage, chairs, &c., ready. Genuine. Interviews by appointment. Address, Box 4,961, "The Era."

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, two weeks, July 8, 22, Aug. 5. CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin.

WANTED, reliable Al-fresco Artists, young, good appearance, good pianist; transpose. Lowest in first letter, open Monday. MOORE, Pavilion, Hoylake.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, except Acrobats, also Bioscope and Operator, Change Films Weekly; must be latest; tour North. Photos. and lithos., SYDNEY BUCK, Bungalow Pavilion, Portobello.

WANTED, experienced Artists in all Lines, for Tour. Letters only. ROLLO BALMAIN, "T. M. A.," Savoy-mansions, Strand, London.

WANTED, for Paris and South France, First-Class Attractions. Artists who wrote before send perm. address and lowest. FLORIA, P.O., Birkenhead.

WANTED, First-class Artists Only, for First-class Variety Theatres, immediate and future dates, also Pantomime. JESS VERNO'S Agency, 16, Elizabeth-st., Liverpool. Telegrams, "Merriment." 'Phone, 2076 Royal.

WANTED, for Pavilion, Sunderland, June 24, July 1, 8, onwards, Artists in all Lines. PRINGLE, Pavilion, Sunderland.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, immediate dates. Send dates and terms. WM. B. BOSTOCK'S Agency, Palace of Varieties, Oldbury.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, including Sensational Tops, June 24, July 1 and 8. Absolute lowest (summer) terms to JAZON'S Agency, St. Andrew's-road, Anfield, Liverpool.

WANTED, Artists, Doubles doing Singles, Monday, onward, Cavalry, Army Service Theatres. Brougham found. State when last in Aldershot. Terms low. Wire, BAKER, 41, Union-st., Aldershot.

WANTED, Speciality Artists, that can work on Small Stage, in Open Air. Terms and full particulars to FRED BUXTON, Pierrot Village, Douglas, Isle of Man.

WANTED, Al Fresco Artists, in all Lines, open July 1, rehearse week previous; must be First-Class, Refined, and Dress well. Terms and full particulars to FRED BUXTON, Pierrot Village, Douglas, Isle of Man.

WANTED, Concert Artists, also smart Beginners, for London Hall. BOB GRAHAM, Variety Agent, 15A, Electric-avenue, Brixton. Telephone, 513 Brixton.

WANTED, Artists new to Wakefield and Hull, 24th, on. Big Acts Share. Letters, MARCUS BOYLE, 39, Hedon-road, Hull.

WANTED, to open Aug. 5, Artists in all Lines, Write or call, ANDREW MELVILLE, Metropole T., Birmingham.

COVENTRY HIPPODROME.
Proprietors, COVENTRY HIPPODROME CO., LTD.
WANTED, Agents and Artists to please Note that from Dec. 23, 1904, no Contracts will be recognised unless signed by the Secretary and Manager, T. M. SYLVESTER, Manager; G. E. WRIGHT, Secretary.

TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN.
WANTED, for the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Dublin,
All the Greatest Stars in the Profession,
Acts New in Dublin, for the above,
the Premier Variety Theatre in Ireland,
Direct or through Agents.
All communications to WILL SLY,
41, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone, 09144.

WANTED, for June 24, July 1 and 8, Stars in all Lines. Stars in all Lines. Full up for Smaller Items. Can always Fix Big Numbers any Odd Weeks. CADLE'S Agency, 105, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Big Variety Stars, Big Specialities, for Galas, Aug. 5, Japanese Troupe for Pantomime. Terms, Bookings, Lithos, EDGAR STEBBINGS, 23, Egerton-st., Manchester. 'Phone 09261. Tels., "Stebbing, Manchester."

WANTED, Stars and Specialities for immediate and future dates. Lithos., terms, and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

BARNARD'S VARIETY AGENCY, 33, Shaw-st., Liverpool.
WANTED, Stars, Specialities, all Branches. Nothing too Big to Hustle.

VENTOM SWIFT'S AGENCY, Alhambra, Edinburgh.
WANTED, Stars and High-class Small Turns, North, June 24.

DEETRICH'S VAUDEVILLE BUREAU, 31, Islington, Liverpool.
WANTED, for Stoke, July 8; Attercliff, July 15; Derby, July 2, 9; the best Acts in the Market, nothing too big, but state when played there before; also Towns for immediate dates. Artists written before please keep me posted. Lowest terms, posters, photos., bookings in first instance.

WANTED, for Gloucester, Porth, Pandy, Pentre, Abertillery, Barry, Worcester, Variety Acts. Full bookings. Mantell Oval write. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, Big Acts of every kind, for the North. Send full bookings, &c., to FRANK LYNNE, 77, Angell-road, Brixton, S.W. Note change of address.

DUNDAS'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Talent every description, in and near Liverpool, June 17, and onwards. 52, Rosthwaite-road, West Derby, Liverpool.

BRITANNIA, GLASGOW.
WANTED, June 24, and onwards, Specialities, Comedy Acts, Comedians, Comediennes, Soubrettes, Sisters, good Double Turns doing Singles. A. E. PICKARD, Proprietor and Director.

WANTED, Specialities of all kinds. MARTINO'S Agency, Barcroft-street, Grimsby.

WANTED, Specialities, July 8, and Sept. 9. Harry Barker's Entertainment Bureau, 6, Harley-road, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Combinations, Pierrot or Variety, July 1, onward. FRED ERICK, Stretford Pavilion, Manchester.

WANTED, Nigger Turns, Bioscope, Specialities, &c., on share arrangements. Call 10, any morning. Clapham Assembly Rooms, Gaudenroad.

WANTED, Star Turns, for New Hippodrome, Aldershot, Aug. 5. Terms and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Big Variety Turns, Big Variety Turns, Big Variety Turns,
Something New and Up to Date, Novelties and Sensational Acts, For Immediate and Future Dates, for London, Liverpool, Birmingham, Leeds, Newcastle, Glasgow, Belfast, Dublin, Manchester, Bolton, Wolverhampton, Oldham, Hartlepool, Shields, Barrow, Carlisle, Darlington, Hull, Middlesbrough, Stockport, Blackpool, Morecambe, Brighton, Boscombe, Margate, Portsmouth, Southampton, Bath, Lincoln, Leicester, Bradford, Halifax, Sheffield, Blackburn, Lancaster, Stockport, Burnley, Derby, Attercliffe, Stoke, Grimsby, St. Helens, Accrington, Warrington, Bury, Hanley, Stockton, &c., &c. Send, at once, terms, dates, and lithos. Those having a good act can rely on getting Immediate Work.
WILL SLY, 41, Oxford-street, Manchester. Telephone, 09144. Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."

PALACE, CORK. PALACE, CORK. PALACE, CORK. PALACE, CORK.
Manager, HENRY KEMBLE.
Closed till September for alterations.

WANTED, Sept., Oct., and onward, Big Tops, Musical Sketches, Illusions, Comedians, Cycle Acts, &c.
Full particulars, Lithos., and Terms, to HENRY KEMBLE'S Agency, HENRY KEMBLE'S Agency, HENRY KEMBLE'S Agency, HENRY KEMBLE'S Agency, 233, Kennington-road, London. Can fix big numbers several weeks.

WANTED, Tops of Bills, for Norwich, Ipswich, and Paisley Hippodromes, June 24 and onwards. Apply, with lowest summer terms, E. H. BOSTOCK, Zoo, Glasgow. N.B.—Silence a polite negative.

WANTED, Star Tops for June 24, on; also Pantomime Artists all Lines. "LORD" GEO. AYTOUN'S Agency, 120, Kennington Park-road, S.E. Wires, "Antics, London." 'Phone 1949 Hop.

GEO. ZALVA'S HIPPODROME, SCARBORO'.
WANTED, commencing about the middle of July and during Aug. and Sept., First-class Novelties of every Description that can be worked in Arena. All must say when and where in Scarboro' before, and quote lowest terms. A good Ringmaster may also write.

PALACE T. OF VARIETIES, OLDBURY.
Proprietors, Messrs. WM. B. BOSTOCK and J. TYRER.
WANTED, June 24, onwards, Novelties, Specialities, Comedy Acts, Serios, Comedians, Sisters, Double Acts (doing Singles), new to above. Artists that have written, please write again. Lowest summer terms, lithos., WM. B. BOSTOCK, General-Manager.

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, late Manager, Blackpool, Morecambe, &c. Address, next week, 6, Trafalgar-rd, South Shore, Blackpool.

WANTED, Barrel Act, for Aug. 5, also Artists, all Lines, for Galas. Send memos., lithos., BARRETT'S Agency, Queen's-road, Sheffield

WANTED, High-class Entertainment, with good printing, 2 hours' duration, for large Seaside towns in Kent; two weeks or more, from Sept. 9. Sharing terms. Write, CONTINENTAL AGENCY, 4, Brixton-road, London.

WANTED, Smart Ladies, Singers and Dancers, for Continental Engagements, must be not less than 5ft. 6in. in height. Apply, SIGNOR ROSI, Drill Hall, 19, Chenies-street, W., between 12 and 3 o'clock.

WANTED, for High-Class Al Fresco Concert Party (North Wales), Baritone, accompanist preferred, also Refined Comedian, must have good répertoire, used to Concerted items; gentlemanly appearance. State age, lowest terms, photo. Open June 29. ROYAL MAGNETS, Banbury, Oxon.

DARE'S MINSTRELS.
WANTED, for Seaside Season, good Robust Tenor. State experience, age, and lowest terms to CHARLES DARE, 296, Old Kent-road, London.

WANTED, Boy Vocalists, 14 or over. Apply, with Song, Monday, 12 to 4, WAL PINK, 42, Balham-grove, Balham.

WANTED, small smart Boys, with good voices. Apply, CADLE'S Agency, 105, Strand, London, W.C.

WANTED, Smart Youth, Tumbler and Knock-about. State age, tricks, salary, &c., Box 4,974, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, a Lad; must tumble a little, or Legmania Tricks, used to Stage. Box 4985, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Gentlemanly Youth, as Assistant to Conjurer, splendid opportunity; small premium required; man with large phonograph also write. Box 4,959, "The Era."

WANTED, good complete Bioscope Show, for Season, at Greenwich Theatre. Send best terms, specimen programmes. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, end of Season, First-Class Operator and Machine, must be A1 Show; also Sisters or Singles, Musicians and Vocalists; permanent engagement to clever all-round people. Absolute lowest. FRED M. BARBER, Auctioneer, St. Peter's-road, Great Yarmouth. Want twelve Pierrot Dresses, Boys 14 years.

WANTED, Competent Operators. Men that know their business, and who are willing and energetic only need apply. Best salaries for best men; loafers save stamps. The RAYMOND BIOTABLEAUX, 56, Great Queen-street.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Wanted, Known, MYSTERIOUS LILITH, in her beautiful Palace of Roses, the most Sensational Mystery Act ever presented. Also LILIAN WARREN'S Vocal Pictures, with beautiful Dissolving Effects. At Liberty July 1 and 8. All coms., Grand, Gravesend; or Permanent address, 77, St. Mary's-street, Cardiff.

WANTED, Known, Queenie Lolo, Charming Lady Gymnast, Graceful Trapeze and Teeth Speciality Artist; also Little May, Juvenile Speciality Dancer and Contortionist Liberty Dec. 9. Private address, 127, Upper Aughton-rd., Birkdale, Southport.

WANTED, by Mlle. Sylvesto, Unique Lady Contortionist, Monday, 17th, 24th, July 1, 29; always a Success. 206, Lambeth-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Little Babs Lloyd, Starring Empire, Dublin; 17th, Empire, Belfast. Two distinct turns. Vacant 24th, onwards. Nellie Vance, Comedy Artist. Wire.

WANTED, Known, Miss Lottie Collard, the Charming Comedienne and Expert Dancer, Liberty June 24. This, Hippo., Portsmouth; next, Hippo., Southampton.

WANTED, Known, Florence and Lillian, Artistic Musical Act, Disengaged June 24, July 1, 22. 83, St. Augustine's-rd, London, N.W.

WANTED, by the Sisters Du Barri, Monday, 1st, also July 17. Terrific Success, Alhambra, Edinburgh. Wire, Alhambra, Edinburgh.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, to Managers of Galas, Piers, Halls, &c., Chevalier T.H. Crowther, at Liberty June 17 and onwards, with two First-Class Acts, Skating, Unicycling, Juggling, and up-to-date Feats of Swordsmanship; can also supply several Illusions; large quantity of Roller Skates, &c. 20, Lynthorne-road, Frizinghall.

WANTED, Monday next, also June 24, by Rowland Hill, Refined Comedian and Patterer. Wire, 47, Rumford-street, All Saints, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Ernest Sinclair, Juggler, Baton, and Club Manipulator, till July 3, Oxford Pageant. Add., 29, Leopold-st., Oxford.

WANTED, Monday next, by George Grenville, the Popular Comedian. Terrific success Queen's, Castleford, last week; same this week at Palace, Oldbury, Wire.

WANTED, by Allan Hanbury, Patter Comedian, June 24, also July 8. Re-booked Moss-Stoll Tour. This, Palace, Hull; next, Palace, Leicester.

WANTED, Arnold Richardson, Yorkshire Comedian, write immediately to TOM SHAW, 18, Adam-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, June 17, onwards, by H. G. Clark, Eccentric Comedian. Wire or write, 50, Lodge-street, Queen's-road, Harpurhey, Manchester.

WANTED, by Sam Mitchello, Quaint Comedian and Dancer, June 24 and July 1. Monday, Tivoli, Manchester.

WANTED, July 1, 8, 15, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist, and De Lil, Illusionist; two smart acts. Offers. Theatre Royal, Worcester.

WANTED, June 24, onward. Wire, Empire, Hull, Two Great Acts. Kyoto, the Original Comedy Japanese Contortionist, and Pot Pourri Act. A Laughing and Applauding Hit. Also Miss May Geraldine, Comedienne and Dancer, with a Crowd of Catchy Chorus Songs.

WANTED, Vokes and Marshall, Ned and Tessie, Refined Comedy Musical Artists, Liberty June 17, 24. Wire, Theatre Royal, Dewsbury, Success.

WANTED, June 17, 24, July 1, by The Calcotts, in Musical and Dancing Scena, "Rags and Tatters." Terrific Success Everywhere. Address, 17, Nelson-street, Southport.

WANTED, Known, Liberty Monday, J. H. Bray, Descriptive Vocalist, and Ella Macgregor, Scottish Soprano. Wire, Theatre Royal, Oldham.

WANTED, Halls or Galas, June 24 and later, by Will and Roze, Comedy Acrobatic Conjurers; and Alvar, Daring Gymnast; Galas, Dublin and Cleethorpes. Coms., 6, Dolly-lane, Leeds.

WANTED, June 24, July 1, by Two Neilsons (Harry and Rosa), Comedy and Acrobatic Dancing Speciality. Grand, Bolton; Monday, Aquarium, Scarboro'.

WANTED, by Ted Young and Ada Twibell, Monday next, two distinct turns. Wire, Hippodrome, Scarborough.

WANTED, by Ariel and Astarte, smartest of all Lady and Gentleman Gymnastic Pot-Pourri Acts. Great Success Tivoli, Dublin; Monday, 17th, Regent, Salford; free July 1, 15, 22, 29, where address.

WANTED, June 24, July 1, The Monckton, in Screamingly Funny Comedy Episode, "Are Wives Dummies?" Monday, Theatre Royal, Tony-Pandy, Wales.

WANTED, 17th and 24th, by Cadogan and Wingrove, "A Clerical Complication" (Muir and Bartlett's). 9, Cambridge-road, Battersea, S.W.

WANTED, by Fields and Lewis, great Comedy Act, June 24. This, Hip., Wakefield; June 17, Hip., Liverpool. Wire, Star Turn.

WANTED, Known, The Shermans, Glasgow's Leading Comedians and Patterers, vacant Mon., also June 24. Wire, c/o Carroll, 22, Balmano-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, July 1, 8, 15, 22, by the Bros. Webb, Musical Clowns. Address, 4, Speenham-road, Stockwell, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Rezene and Robini, vacant June 17 and 24. Coms., Half Moon, Holloway, London.

WANTED, Monday next, onward, by Chant and Chant, refined Vocal Comedy Duo, thanks for offers last week. Wire for sure Fire Hit. 87, Wollaton-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, Ranée and Rajah, Anglo-Indian Mystical Entertainers, Doubles and Singles required, 17th and 24th, vacant Panto. 26, Harwood-road, Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, Known, The Musical Palmers, vacant July 1, 8, 15, Share or Certainty, North or Midlands preferred. Address, Hippodrome, Stockton-on-Tees.

WANTED, Known, Three Moxons, Acrobatic and Risley Comedians, Vacant June 17. Wire Empire, Hull. Also July 1 and 8. Enquire about us.

WANTED, by The Florias, Wonderful, Effective Continental Equilibrists and Dutch Comedy Slack-wire Artists; refined, clever, and daring. Vacant June 24. 22, Claughton-road, Birkenhead.

WANTED, next week, June 17, by Almo Trio, First-class Comedy Three-Bar Act; close tonight, 4 weeks, Alexandra Palace, London, N. Wire, wire.

WANTED, Known.—Offers invited, Retsill and Myra, Collier and Child, Thought Transmitters, played to record receipts, Central Hall, Sheffield. Remarkable Success, Palace, Northampton. Thanks to Fred H. Anderson, Esq., for congratulatory telegram, and Will Dalton for Contracts.

WANTED, July 1, by Los Granadas, with their own Trampoline Novelty, Sensational Happenings Outside an Hotel, Galas or Theatres. Thanks to Raoul Pitau for Contracts; and Messrs. Rasimi, Pasquier, of Lyons and Paris, for offers. 64, Upper Sutton-street, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, The Wilberts, in "A Trip to Magicana." For terms, dates, com., W. AINSWORTH, Heath Villa, Stockton-on-Tees, Sole Agent.

WANTED, Lenton and Bertram, Zanzig Thought-reading and Conjuring, two acts; a Gigantic Success Everywhere. A few Open Dates. 251, Seven Sisters-road, N.

WANTED, Known, The Bowrons, Silent, Blindfold, Thought-Reading Act; Tour or odd dates in or near town; Concerts, Garden Parties, &c. BOWRON, 20, Kenton-road, Hackney.

WANTED, Known, Vacant Aug. 5, on, Three Good Turns, Bioscope, Illustrated Songs, and Juvenile Vocalist; for tour. EDWARDS, 30, St. John-street, Rochdale, Lancs.

WANTED, Known, the Magnet Wrestling Trio, headed by Young Hackenschmidt, Undefeated World's Champion Boy Wrestler, &c. Vacant June 21, July 15, 22. Agent, CHARLES DEETRICH; or 34, Margaret-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Trio of Champion Wrestlers, First-Class Show, Engagement for Summer months. Agent wanted. Write, PIGOTT, 1, Grafton-terrace, Acton.

WANTED, Monday next, by Cameo Troupe, Comedy Speciality, Halls, Piers, Galas. Success assured. 1, Upper Duke-st., Manchester; or, STEBBINGS.

WANTED, June 24, July 1 and 8, by the Great Albano Troupe. Refined Musical Act. See Cards.

WANTED, 17th and 24th, by Atlas and Vulcana Troupe (three ladies and one gent.); Miss Vulcana in the most Wonderful Poses ever Known. A Sensation in every Town visited. Wire till Sat., Empire, Hull; after, 17, Waterford-road, Fulham.

WANTED, July 8 (three nights), for "The Masqueraders," Costume Concert Party; only vacant date. HERBERT JAY, 10, Jermyn-street, S.W.

WANTED, Known, The Dunlops, Comedy Cyclists; also Lillian Sivado, Lady Gymnast; two distinct acts. Vacant Monday next. Wire, T. R., Macclesfield.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Monday next, also June 24, by Billy Ross and Co., Greatest Comedy Act on the Stage. Starring Hippodrome, Wakefield. Wire.

WANTED, Known, Swift Trio, Humorous Cyclists, vacant June 17, 24, July 1. Address, 66, Upper Sutton-street, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, The Cecilians, Lady Instrumentalists. This, Hippo., Maidstone; next, P., Chatham; Vacant June 24 and July 8. Wire as above.

WANTED, Known, The Cecilians are Speciality Artists, including smallest, smartest, all-round Child on Variety Stage. 120, Victoria-dwellings, Farringdon-road, London.

WANTED, Known.—What a Draw Cecilians are! Refinement a Speciality, including Smartest and Smallest All-round Child on Variety Stage. 120, Victoria-dwellings, Clerkenwell.

WANTED, Known.—What a Draw Cecilians are! Vacant June 17, 24. Musicians, Vocalists, Expert Dancers; three Smart Young Ladies, one Gent.

WANTED, Known.—What a Draw Cecilians are! We Storm your Audience, Pack your Hall. This week, Palace, Hammersmith.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ella's Celebrated Lion Show, the Only Lion Show in this country at the present time, vacant July 1, 8, 15, and 22. Communications, week June 17, Hippo., Colchester.

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WANTED, Known, Alice Fontainbleau's World-famed Troupe of Dogs. Great Success Hip., Preston. Next week, Queen's Theatre, Castleford; Vacant July 8, 15.

WANTED, Galas, the Greatest, Smartest Dog Act in the World. Address, CHARD, c/o "Era." G. R. write.

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WANTED, by Youth, 17, Engagement as Assistant Conjurer or Illusionist, height 5ft. 8in. A. G. GREEN, 26, Albert-road, Richmond, S.W.

WANTED, June 17 and 24, Stewart's Animated Pictures and six Star Turns, all complete; just terminating four weeks at Alexandra Palace Theatre, London. Address, STEWART, as above.

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WANTED, Engagement, by Bioscope Operator, with own Machine and Fit-up if required. DENVERS, Regent Theatre, Salford.

WANTED, Engagement, Public or Private, Harmon's Bioscope, Marionettes, also Royal Punch and Judy, with Toby. 326, Earlsfield-road, Earlsfield, S.W.

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P. COLLINS, Gondola Works, Walsall,

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Rehearsal at 12, for:—
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Rehearsal at 1, for:—
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General-Manager, Mr. FRED LEIGHTON.
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General-Manager, VENTOM SWIFT.
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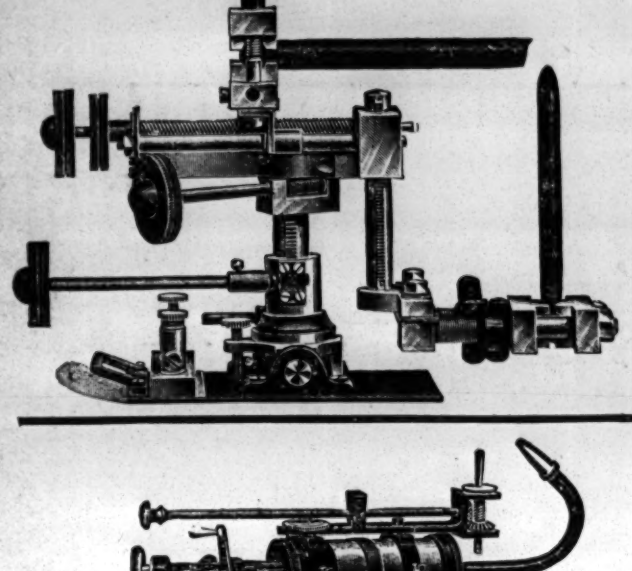

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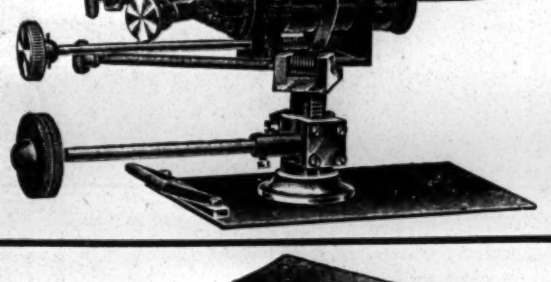
ARC LAMP.

The greatest advance in Arc Lamps made for years. Of entirely new construction, the Carbons working at right angles, thus saving a considerable amount of space, and above all obtaining a better light.

Price, £6 6s.



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High Pressure
LIME JET.

A high pressure jet that will give 3,000 candle power. The desideratum of the lecturer and cinematographist. Very massively made in first-class style and finished as a scientific instrument should be.

Price, £3 10s.

The "MABOR"
INDESTRUCTIBLE
LIMES.

A perfect lime moulded from fine magnesia powder unaffected by damp, need not be kept in a tin, and can be used over and over again.

Price (per box of 6),
1 in. diam. 1/6
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W. BUTCHER & SONS, CAMERA HOUSE, FARRINGDON AV., E.C.
Write for our "EMPIRE" Catalogue.

CRAVEN'S Famous HAMPERS.

The World's Strongest and Best, as used by the Elite of the Profession, all of whom speak highly in their praise.

RELIABLE TRAVELLING HAMPER.

Fig. 400.

Sizes and Prices as under:—

Inside Measurements. Long.	Wide.	Deep.	PRICE.	Lining	G.P.O. Rollers on Tray bottom
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26 x	16 x	16 ..	7/9 ..	3/6 ..	3/0 .. 2/3
28 x	18 x	18 ..	8/9 ..	4/0 ..	3/3 .. 2/6
30 x	20 x	20 ..	10/6 ..	4/6 ..	3/6 .. 2/6
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TO THE CRYSTAL PALACE AND PRINCIPAL FETES AND GALAS.
Airship Flights, Balloon Ascents, Captive Balloons, Balloon Races, Parachute Descents (from Gas Balloons or Hot Air Balloons), Lady and Gentlemen Parachutists. Displays of Small Balloons and Figures.
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TIP-UP CHAIRS, Pit Seating, and General Theatre Furnishing. See our latest in Al-fresco Chairs; 400 to 500 supplied on the shortest notice.
Send for our catalogue.
Prices and quality astounding.
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LIVE STOCK NOVELTIES.

Two very fine riding Dromedaries, with saddles, now carrying people daily at the Palestine Exhibition; 2 Donkeys, 2 large Chacma Baboons (one turns double somersaults all day to crowds people there), 2 Eastern Sheep, 6 Python Snakes, 3 Lions, 1 Vulture, 2 Wolves, 2 Gazelles, 1 Educated Chimpanzee (at liberty in house and yard), 20 Rhesus Monkeys, 1 Japanese Deer, 1 Barbary Deer, 6 Lemurs, 20 Rose Cockatoos, 9 Armadillos, 2 Civet Cats, 4 Golden Lion Marmozets, 20 Ordinary Marmozets, 25 Mastigure Lizards, 3 Baby Crocodiles, 1 Kangaroo, 2 Viscalhas, 2 Australian Cranes, 1 Marabou Stork, 1 Sea Vulture, 4 Owls, 50 Foxes, 8 Baboons, 4 Mandrills, 5000 small birds, usual other birds and animals. Telephone, 6341 Avenue. Telegrams, "Hamlyn, London Docks, London." John D. Hamlyn, 221, St. George's-street, London.

TO SHOWMEN, ENTREPRENEURS, AND CINEMATOGRAPH SHOW EXPLOITERS.

A

CINEMATOGRAPH SHOW.

THE

"CRUISE OF THE OPHIR."

ONE THOUSAND POUNDS

FOR

TWENTY-FIVE SHILLINGS.

TO THE PUBLISHER, "THE ERA,"

SIR,—

It may possibly interest you to learn that a Quarter-Column Advertisement in "The Era" (One Insertion) resulted in over £1,000 Bookings for an Entertainment with which I was connected some little time ago. The entertainment was entitled:

"THE CRUISE OF THE OPHIR,"

Cinématograph Show, and the Bookings were effected within a week.

Yours faithfully,
H. GOLDSMITH-WHITTON
(Late Manager West's "Our Navy," &c.).

London, May 19, 1904.

FOUR PENCE per foot nett.

VITAGRAPH FILMS.

FOUR PENCE per foot nett.

A Sensational and Dramatic Western Picture entitled—

A SQUARE DEAL;

or, THE END OF THE "BAD MAN."

COPYRIGHT 1907 BY THE VITAGRAPH COMPANY OF AMERICA.

A sequel to our recent success "The Bad Man of the West." It is a "Western Classic," dealing with the love of fair play and honour that prevails in the hearts of the rough Western miners and cowboys.

Length 425 feet. Price £7 1s. 8d.

New Comedy of the Right Sort.

FORTY WINKS; or, A STRENUOUS DREAM.

Copyright 1907 by The Vitagraph Co. of America.

Blinks is awakened by the alarm clock. Lies down again for "just forty winks more." Jumps up and into his clothes at lightning speed. Rushes downstairs knocking over a chambermaid. Tucks table cloth into his neck in mistake for napkin. Devours his breakfast in four gulps. Dashes madly away carrying everything on table with him. Collides with baker, butcher, nursemaid and bicyclist in his mad rush for the train. Jumps into wagon, it starts, and wheel comes off. Engages auto. It tears along at frightful speed, then suddenly explodes and Blinks awakes again and finds it just Five Minutes since the alarm went off. **Length 270 feet, and all good. Price £4 10s.**

A New and Original Comedy Film!

A HORSE OF ANOTHER COLOUR.

Copyright 1907 by The Vitagraph Co. of America.

Two confidence men steal a farmer's white horse, take it behind a convenient haystack, paint it black, put on a false tail and sell it to the farmer again. When he washes his "beautiful new black beauty" the paint comes off and—well, just see what the farmer does. It's one big laugh all the way through. **Length 425 feet. Price £7 1s. 8d.**

Raffles, the Amateur Cracksman	1050 ft.	Ostrich Farm at Pasadena	200 ft.	The Prospectors	770 ft.
The Servant Girl Problem	600 ft.	Pigeon Farm near Los Angeles	200 ft.	All Aboard	485 ft.
Licence No. 13, or, The Hoodoo Automobile	750 ft.	Horseback Trip Over the Rockies	440 ft.	The Jail Bird	610 ft.
Sherlock Holmes, or, Held for Ransam	725 ft.	A Strenuous Wedding	410 ft.	'Frisco Earthquake (sold in any length)	1500 ft.
Black and White	470 ft.	Stop Thief	277 ft.	The Snap-Shot Fiend	610 ft.
The Escape from Sing Sing	775 ft.	Juvenile Chicken Thieves	220 ft.	The Acrobatic Burglars	660 ft.
Burglar Bill	210 ft.	Troubles of a Hobo	245 ft.	The 100-to-1 Shot	640 ft.
Moving Day	790 ft.	Man Wanted	300 ft.	Secret Service	655 ft.
The Newsboy	785 ft.	Please Help the Blind	460 ft.	N. Y. Athletic Club Games	
The Green Goods Man	730 ft.	Funny Faces	230 ft.	Pals, or My Friend the Dummy	670 ft.
Oh! You Dirty Boy	90 ft.	Flags and Faces of all Races	366 ft.	The Indian's Revenge	795 ft.
Monsieur Beaucaire	615 ft.	The Modern Oliver Twist	800 ft.	Naval Review	500 ft.
Post No Bills	485 ft.	Man with the Ladder and the Hose	475 ft.	A Race for a Wife	850 ft.
Flat Dwellers	450 ft.	Nobody Works Like Father	690 ft.	Vanderbilt Auto Race	500 ft.
Lost Collar Button	430 ft.	Oh! that Limburger	600 ft.	Mother-in-law	620 ft.
		Love versus Title	720 ft.	The Automobile Thieves	955 ft.

And the Villain Still Pursued Her	800 ft.
A Midwinter Night's Dream	600 ft.
Foul Play	875 ft.
The Mechanical Statue	480 ft.
The Bad Man	660 ft.
Fun in a Fotograf Gallery	785 ft.
The Haunted Hotel	500 ft.
The Spy	485 ft.
A Curious Dream	300 ft.
The Belle of the Ball	475 ft.
Retribution	770 ft.
Amateur Night	390 ft.
The Hero	250 ft.
On the Stage	715 ft.
The Pirate's Treasure	715 ft.
The Stolen Pig	450 ft.

Telephone: No. 14277 CENTRAL.

ALL THESE VITAGRAPH FILMS ARE WINNERS!

Telegrams "VITGRAF, LONDON."

THE VITAGRAPH COMPANY OF AMERICA,

10, Cecil Court, Charing Cross Road, London, W.C.

NEW YORK: 116, Nassau Street. CHICAGO: 109, Randolph Street. PARIS: 15, Rue Saint Cecile.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE ERA

VOL. 70. No. 3,586. SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 1907.

THE AWARD

Which has been waited for so patiently and so earnestly by

MANAGERS, ARTISTES, STAGE EMPLOYEES, AND MUSICIANS.

It is with much pleasure that we have been enabled by the enterprise of our printers to place before the Theatrical and Variety World the full text of

MR. ASKWITH'S AWARD.

The copy of this Award was obtained three hours after we had gone to Press, but the energy and determination of the Proprietors of THE ERA, that its readers should be in early possession of the particulars of the much-discussed and expected Award, overcame all obstacles, and the Award is now given to the Amusement World. The provisions of the Award we leave to our readers—for future discussion and comment.

THEATRE OF VARIETIES IN GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

ARBITRATOR'S AWARD.

In consequence of certain disputes between managers of theatres of varieties in London and the provinces and their artistes, musicians, and employees, and following upon a strike of artists, musicians, and employees it was agreed by the parties to refer all matters in dispute to me, George Ranken Askwith, and it was agreed, for the purpose of bringing the award under the terms of the Conciliation Act, 1896, to request the Board of Trade to confirm the reference, and such confirmation having been granted, I, the undersigned, have heard the parties and their representatives, and, having received and considered the evidence of more than one hundred witnesses during twenty-three formal sittings and the statements there made and at many conferences, award and declare, in addition to three interim awards already published, that the following rules, regulations, and rates shall be applicable to theatres of varieties in Great Britain and Ireland :—

ARTISTES.

Existing Contracts.

In existing ontracts upon request by the managers to make such award and declaration as may be reasonably necessary with respect to clauses generally inserted in existing contracts, I hereby award and declare that :

(*a*) Where clauses are inserted providing that the management may transfer the engagement at their option to any other theatre or theatres owned or controlled by or associated with the management, and then in such cases the artiste may be transferred during the whole or any part of the engagement (not less than one week) to any other theatre owned or controlled by or associated with the management with the consent of the artiste, such consent not to be unreasonably withheld. If such transfer is made in the provinces reasonable expenses shall be allowed.

(*b*) Where clauses are inserted providing that the management may, by notice in writing to the artiste to be given at any time during the expiration of the engagement, extend, prolong, or renew the term for a further period, and that in the event of such option being exercised, the same provisions, so far as may be, are to apply to the extended term, and that during such term the artiste shall perform at such theatres, and for such periods as the management shall direct, and that, in the event of such option being exercised, the same provisions are to apply, so far as may be, to the renewed engagement, and that during such term the artiste shall perform at such theatres and for such periods as the management shall direct, the following proviso shall be deemed to be annexed, viz., that, in the event of any such notice being given, such extension, prolongation, or renewal shall be subject to the terms of the award if, and so far as the terms of the contract and the award may differ.

(*c*) Where clauses are inserted providing that the management may at their discretion, or for causes which they in their absolute discretion shall consider adequate, close any of the theatres to which the contract applies during the whole or any portion of the periods of employment, and that no salary shall be payable on any day on which the artiste shall not perform in consequence of such closure then, and in such case no salary shall be paid for days upon which the theatre is closed by reason of national mourning, fire, epidemic, strikes, lock-outs, disputes with employees, or order of the licensing or any local authority. No salary shall be payable for any performance at which an artiste may not appear through illness or his own default, nor for days upon which the theatre is closed by reason of alterations, decorations, or repairs, or any cause which the management may reasonably consider adequate, provided that two months previous notice has been given to the artiste.

(*d*) Where clauses are inserted providing that the artiste shall when so required by the management appear at all matinées weekly without the payment of any additional remuneration, artistes shall in future only be called upon to perform at such matinees as were the usual weekly practice at the time the contract was made. Any additional matinées shall be paid for at the rate of one-seventh of the salary in one-show-a-night houses and one-twelfth in two-shows-a-night houses.

(*e*) Where clauses are inserted providing that performances by artistes are to take place at such times as may be notified by the management with the option of varying such times at their discretion, the management in future shall notify the times for appearance to the artiste, and may vary the same at their discretion on or before Friday in the week previous to the performance, but not later, unless the time can be varied without unreasonable interference with times at any other theatre.

(*f*) Except as hereinbefore mentioned no existing contract shall be deemed to be affected by this award.

ARTISTES.

FUTURE CONTRACTS.

1. I AWARD AND DECLARE that under contracts to be made in the future all matinees are to be paid for at the rate of one-seventh of the weekly salary in one show a night houses and one-twelfth in two show a night houses for each matinee.

2. I AWARD AND DECLARE that managements shall not be allowed a greater bar either in times and distances than I have allowed in subsequent clauses which specify maximum bars, and nothing therein contained shall prevent artistes and managements from agreeing to relaxation of conditions either in the contract itself or subsequently in writing.

3. I AWARD AND DECLARE that in all future contracts where clauses are inserted dealing with matinees and the transference of artistes, the form and conditions of Clause 2 (matinees) and Clause 4 (transfers) in the form of contract hereinafter set out shall be obligatory, and that the two months' notice required in Clause 10 shall be obligatory, and also that in contracts falling within sub-section (d) of the barring clauses the conditions relating to variation of times as mentioned in Rule 2 shall also be obligatory.

ARTISTES.

FUTURE CONTRACTS (MODEL).

WHEREAS attention has been called to differences which have arisen or may be likely to arise from the terms and conditions hitherto used in certain contracts and request has been made that a contract for ordinary use by theatres of varieties in London and the Provnces should be drafted in order that uniformity should as far as practicable be obtained, and that difficulties and discrepancies should hereafter be avoided, and that the said contract should form a model for future contracts between managements and artistes, with such proper alterations and additions as may be suitable for particular localities or circumstances, I hereby append the following form of contract drafted with the above purpose and object for the use and guidance of managements and artistes.

FORM OF CONTRACT.

AN AGREEMENT made the day of 190 BETWEEN hereinafter called the Management on the one part and hereinafter called the Artiste of the other part WITNESSETH that the Management hereby engages the Artiste and the Artiste accepts an engagement to appear as (or in his usual entertainment) every evening at the theatres and from the dates for the periods and at the salaries stated in the First Schedule hereto subject to the said theatres being in the occupancy and possession of the Management and upon and subject to the undermentioned conditions.

1. The word "Artiste" shall when more than one is included in the performance include the plural.

2. The Artiste agrees to appear at any Matinees required by the Management and shall be paid at the rate of one-seventh of the weekly salary in one show a night houses and one-twelfth in two shows a night houses for each Matinee.

3. Where this contract relates to a partnership, troupe, or sketch, the Artiste shall at the time when the contract is signed furnish the Management in writing with such names as the Management may require and shall not substitute a performer for a person so named without the written consent of the Management.

4. The Artiste may be transferred during the whole or any part of the engagement (not less than one week) to any other theatre owned or controlled by or associated with the Management, with the consent of the Artiste, such consent not to be unreasonably withheld. If such transfer is made in the Provinces reasonable expenses shall be allowed.

5. Barring Clause.

Upon breach of (any of) the barring clauses the Artiste shall pay to the management as liquidated damages one week's salary for each breach thereof but nothing in this clause shall affect the right of the Management to apply for an injunction to restrain the Artiste from performing or rehearsing in breach of the said clauses nor the right to determine the contract.

6. The Artiste shall not infringe any copyright patent or other proprietary rights of third parties and in the event of infringement shall be liable for and on demand pay the amount of all damages penalties and costs incurred by the Management.

The Artiste shall not give or permit to be given any colourable imitation or version of his performance within the radius or time prescribed by the barring clauses.

7. In case the artiste shall, except through illness certified as hereinafter provided, or accident proved to the satisfaction of the Management, fail to perform at any performance, he shall pay to the Management as, and for liquidated damages, a sum equal to the sum which the Artiste would have received for such performance, in addition to costs and expenses incurred by the Management through the default of the Artiste.

When the management own or control two theatres in any provincial town, the Artiste shall act as deputy in cases of emergency upon request, and be paid at the rate of

8. The Artiste undertakes that his performance shall not be dangerous to the Artistes, Audience, or Stage Employees. If any accident or injury results from the performance of the Artiste, the Artiste shall pay for any loss, damage, or costs incurred by the Management.

9. The Management shall not be liable to the Artiste or to the legal personal representative of the Artiste for any loss, damage, or injury to the Artiste's person or property during, or in connection with, the engagement, unless caused by the negligence of the Management.

10. The Artiste shall not assign, mortgage, or charge his salary, nor permit the same to be taken in execution. No salary shall be paid for days upon which the theatre is closed by reason of national mourning, fire, epidemic, strikes, lockouts, disputes with employees, or order of the licensing or any public authority. No salary shall be payable for any performance at which an Artiste may not appear through illness or his own default, nor provided that two months' previous notice has been given to the Artiste for days upon which the theatre is closed for alterations, decorations, repairs, or any cause which the Management may reasonably consider adequate.

11. The Artiste agrees to observe and carry out conditions and regulations imposed by statute, the London County Council, or other public authority, and to comply with the requirements of any public authority, that scenery and properties used by the Artiste shall be non-flammable. All flammable material brought into the theatre by the Artiste may be required to be made non-flammable by him, or at his expense, by the Management.

12. The Artiste declares that at the time of signing this contract he is under no engagement with any other Management that can preclude him from fulfilling the engagements shown herein, and that he has not concealed any change of professional name or description.

13. The Rules and Regulations subjoined shall be read and construed as forming part of this Contract, and the Artiste agrees to abide by all reasonable rules which may from time to time be made by the Management for the good and orderly conduct or special requirements of their theatres, provided that the rules shall have been served on or brought to the notice of the Artiste.

14. Upon the breach by the Artiste of any of the terms and conditions in this contract, or of Rules 1 to 10, the Management, without prejudice to other remedies, and in addition to rights given under the terms and conditions aforesaid, or the rules may forthwith determine this Contract, and the Artiste shall have no claim upon them for salary (other than a proportion for performances played), expenses, costs, or otherwise.

The same provision shall apply upon breach by any member of a troupe or company if not remedied after complaint by the Management.

15. Any notices under this Contract may be served upon the Artiste by posting the same to his last known address, or to the agent through at any theatre in the manner specified in rule 11.

16. The Management may by notice in writing, to be given before the termination of this engagement, re-engage the artiste once subject to any engagements existing at the date hereof, to appear at any of the theatres herein mentioned for a like period not exceeding weeks, to commence not later than 18 months subsequent to the date of the notice, and the Artiste shall, if so required, perform accordingly upon the same terms as in this Contract.

17. If the artiste's performance is contrary to law or is objected to by any licensing or other public authority this contract may be cancelled by the management.

If the management be threatened with legal proceedings in respect thereto the contract may be cancelled unless the artiste forthwith provides indemnity to the satisfaction of the management.

18. Matter for billing, programmes, and advertisement, and the words of all songs must be sent to at days before opening.

SCHEDULE.

Week at commencing at the salary of per week.

RULES AND REGULATIONS.

1. The Artiste shall attend Rehearsals if required at the places and times notified by the management.

2. The Artiste shall be present in the theatre not less than five minutes before.

The Artiste may be put on ten minutes later than the specified time and if required must do the whole of his performance. The Management may vary the times specified for appearance at their discretion on or before Friday in the week previous to the performance but not later, unless the time can be varied without unreasonable interference with times at any other theatre.

3. In the event of an Artiste being unable to perform through illness, a medical certificate must be sent immediately to the Management at the Theatre setting forth the nature of the illness and that the Artiste is unable to appear. If the Artiste is prevented by illness or from any cause whatever from performing on the first night or for three consecutive nights the engagement may either be determined or be treated as postponed to such date as the Management decide, subject to engagements entered into by the Artiste.

4. The Artiste giving expression to any vulgarity or words having a double meaning or using any objectionable gesture when on the stage shall be liable to instant dismissal and if dismissed shall forfeit the salary for the current week. Any question under this clause to be decided by the management whose decision shall be final and binding on the artiste.

5. Any artiste being in the theatre in a state of intoxication may be fined one week's salary or dismissed.

6. Artistes shall not address the audience except in the regular course of the performance nor interfere in any manner with other artistes or employees nor go into the front of the house without permission.

7. Singers shall, if required, sing at least three songs at each performance. The management may prohibit the whole or any part of the performance which they consider unsuitable or displeasing to the audience and in the case of songs may require a copy to be forwarded for approval days before a song is to be sung and no variation will be permitted from words so approved.

The artiste agrees to produce new or revert to any old song, sketch or business on the reasonable request of the management, and to provide suitable dresses and properties.

8. Artistes must respond to encores or not as the management shall reasonably direct.

9. No naked lights shall be carried or matches used, nor any lighting apparatus interfered with by the artiste. Artistes shall not bring into the theatre combustible or explosive materials without the written permission of the management.

10. Smoking is strictly prohibited in dressing rooms or anywhere in proximity to the stage.

11. The artiste must furnish the hall-keeper with his address and while performing at any threatre notice shall be sufficiently served if sent to such address or if no address is furnished by deposit in the place for deposit of letters at the theatre.

12. The management shall have the sole right to determine the position of the artiste's name, the size and nature of the type, and the description of the turn on bills, programmes and advertisements.

13. No person not employed at the theatre shall go behind the scenes without permission.

ARTISTES.

FUTURE CONTRACTS (BARRING CLAUSES).

Whereas it has been customary in contracts for engagement of artistes to insert clauses commonly known as "barring clauses" restricting appearance of artistes within specified areas and for long periods of time before, during, and after engagements and whereas evidence has been tendered before me upon all points referring to the said clauses and I have carefully weighed and considered the same and the requirements for the welfare of the industry as a whole and its just and proper conduct and deem it expedient that maximum restrictions should be declared I award the following in respect of future contracts :—

(*a*) The barring of theatres of varieties for a period after the termination of any engagement, except for not more than two weeks after the termination of an engagement in provincial towns, is abolished.

(*b*) In contracts made by a management for the performance of an artiste, either with or without an option to renew, at a West End treatre of varieties, i.e., a theatre situated within a radius of one mile from Charing Cross on the northern bank of the Thames, to the entire exclusion of any other theatre of varieties the termsa nd conditions, including extension and re-engagement, shall be such as may be agreed between the parties.

If a management shall contract with an artiste for an engagement of at least £40 per week, the artiste consenting to perform concurrently at two theatres either (1) both, now open, in the West End, both now open, such contract may include conditions that the artiste can be barred from performing at other theatres not making exclusive contracts and situated within a radius of four miles from Charing Cross and (or) within a radius of two miles from the outside theatre specified in the contract, for a period of nine months prior to the performance of the artiste, and from performing at theatres giving exclusive contracts and situated within the said radius of four miles and (or) within a radius of two miles from the outside theatre specified in the contract for a period of eight months prior to the performance.

(*c*) In contracts made by a management for the performance of an artiste, either with or without an option to renew, at a theatre outside the West End but within the Metropolitan Police District to the entire exclusion of any other theatre of varieties the terms and conditions shall be such as may be agreed between the parties, except that no artiste shall be barred prior to appearance beyond a radius of two miles nor within such radius of two miles nor within such radius for a longer period than fifteen months.

(*d*) In all other contracts made by management for the performance of an artiste within the Metropolitan Police district the terms and conditions shall be such as may be agreed between the parties, except that as to contracts made for performance at theatres of varieties situated within the West End no artiste shall be barred prior to appearance (a) beyond a radius of one mile nor (b) within such radius for a longer period than four months, and as to contracts made for performance at theatres of varieties situated outside the West End but within the Metropolitan Police district no artiste shall be barred prior to appearance (a) beyond a radius of two miles nor (b) within such radius for a longer period than eight months.

(*e*) In contracts made by a mangement for the performance of an artiste in the provinces, *i.e.*, outside the Metropolitan Police district, the terms and conditions shall be such as may be agreed between the parties, provided that no artiste shall be barred from performing prior to appearance (a) beyond a radius of ten miles nor (b) within such radius for a longer period than fifteen months, except that no town shall be barred which has a population of more than 70,000 inhabitants (according to the A.B.C. Railway Guide) and is situated beyond a radius of six miles.

(*f*) In the contracts mentioned in the above subsections, excepting sub-section (*e*), if the period between the date of the contract and the performance exceeds the period of bar the management may insert a provision in the said contract requiring the artiste during such period of excess before accepting an engagement at another theatre within the barred area to offer his services to the management on the terms mentioned in the said contract, and thereupon the management shall accept such offer in writing and specify the theatre for the performance within a week, or be deemed to have refused the same.

(*g*) Artiste includes troupe, company, partnership, or other combination of two or more performers, and the word theatre, when used in relation to barring clauses, shall be deemed to include theatres, theatres of varieties, music-halls, clubs, concerts, or other places of entertainment.

ARTISTES.

FUTURE DISPUTES.

In the event of any dispute arising hereafter no strike or stoppage of work shall take place, and if any change be desired in the rules and conditions hereinbefore declared six calendar months' notice in writing must be given either by managements or artistes, such notice to expire on 30th June in any year (except that neither side shall give such notice prior to 1st January, 1912), and shall state clearly the nature of such alteration and the reasons therefor and the theatres affected thereby. The party receiving the notice shall have the right of replying to it within two calendar months within one calendar month of the said counter-two artistes shall meet together and endeavour to come to an unanimous understanding before 30th June, failing which both parties shall refer the question to arbitration. A party upon receiving notice as hereinbefore specified may within seven days demand that a like notice shall be served on any other managements whom he shall deem to be affected, and upon such demand notice shall be served forthwith upon such other managements and shall be deemed to have been served on the 1st January.

In the event of no understanding being arrived at between the parties affected, the question, in accordance with agreement now come to, shall be referred for final determination to me, or, failing me, to another agreed arbitrator, or, failing agreement, to an arbitrator appointed by the Board of Trade. Upon such reference each party shall as a condition precedent to arbitration deposit the sum of £20 with the arbitrator, who may out of such sum award costs to either party. The decision of the arbitrator shall be final and binding on the parties.

MUSICIANS.

Provinces.—A local dispute at Leicester having been decided by me in the course of the proceedings, I award and declare that no dispute exists at the present time in the provinces requiring my adjudication.

London.—Minimum wage. I award and declare that in existing theatres of varieties where the average wages of the musicians, exclusive of the conductor, in the first full week of January, 1907, amounted to less than thirty shillings per week per musician, exclusive of matinees, there shall henceforth be paid at such theatres a minimum wage of thirty shillings per week to all musicians, except drummers; drummers, twenty-eight shillings.

In all theatres and in new theatres commencing during the continuance of this award the minimum wage to be paid to all musicians, except drummers, per week for evening work shall be thirty-two shillings; drummers, thirty shillings.

Matinees.—Matinees in all theatres of varieties in London shall be paid for at a rate of not less than five shillings in one show a night houses per matinee, and three shillings in two show a night houses per matinee.

Ordinary rehearsals are included in the salary paid, as formerly. Special rehearsals are to be paid for extra at sums to be agreed between the management and musicians.

I make no order with regard to deputies or with regard to any other claims on behalf of musicians.

EMPLOYEES.

(1) Provinces.

No proposals for alteration or change on behalf of the Employees (stage hands, etc.) in provincial theatres of varieties was brought before me and I award and declare that no dispute exists at the present time in the provinces requiring my adjudication.

2. London. Minmum rate of pay. Daymen.

Assistants employed during the day in addition to evening work in the stage, including flies, properties, etc., assistant electricians, lime-light or gas men to be paid a minimum of 27s. 6d. per week, exclusive of overtime.

HOURS.

The normal working hours to be approximately between 10.30 o'clock a.m. and 3.30 o'clock p.m., allowing one hour for meals, in the daytime on ordinary days and from 10.30 o'clock a.m. to the conclusion of the performance allowing one hour for meals on matinee days—Saturdays to be approximately between 10.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. in the event of no matinee; and in the evening from the time necessary for commencing the performance to the clearing of the stage at its conclusion not later than midnight.

OVERTIME.

All work done after twelve (midnight) to 7 a.m. or on Sundays, Good Fridays, or Christmas Days to be paid for at the rate of elevenpence per hour.

Nightmen.—Including all those engaged for stage work during a performance.

DUTIES.

To be the setting and striking of the scenery the operation of lights used and the general stage work during the performance, and the clearing of the stage after the last item on the programme not later than midnight.

MINIMUM RATE OF PAY.

In one-show-a-night houses 2s. per performance and 2s. for each matinee of the present average duration.

A special performance exceeding the usual duration of a matinee or evening performance to be paid extra.

In two-shows-a-night houses, 2s. 3d. per night, and 1s. 6d. for each matinee of the present average duration.

REHEARSALS.

Nightmen for rehearsals between 7 a.m. and 12 p.m., 7d. per hour, with a minimum of 1s. 9d., and for rehearsals after 12 p.m. (midnight), on Sundays, Good Fridays, or Christmas Days, 11d. per hour.

All men employed for rehearsals to be paid from the time of the call, if on duty.

CARPENTERS.

Bench hands. The rate of pay to be 10½d. per hour, or the London rate.

Carpenters to work 8½ hours before charging overtime.

OVERTIME. On week days from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. time and a half; from 8 o'clock p.m. to 7 o'clock a.m. next morning, double time. After 1 o'clock Saturdays and on Christmas Day, Good Friday and Sundays double time to be paid.

Two hours grinding money to be allowed on finish of a job after working 48 hours. Carpenters to give two hours' notice on leaving after working 48 hours. Carpenters to give two hours notice on leaving after working 48 hours.

OTHER DEPARTMENTS OR EMPLOYEES.

Minimum wages for stage managers (stage foremen), 36s. per week.

Minimum wage for electricians (switchboard attenuants) 30s. per week.

HOURS The same as for daymen.

OVERTIME. All work done after twelve (midnight) to 7 a.m. or on Sunday, Good Friday, or Christmas Day to be paid for at the rate of 1s. and 11d. per hour respectively.

NOTE. The variety in the extent of electrical knowledge and skill in dealing with electrical appliances required for different theatres of varieties is so large that no dividing line between electricians (qualified switchboard attendants) and electricians paid under the title of chief electricians or master eletricians can be fixed for the purpose of gradation of minimum wage, and in my opinion no minimu mwage for such chief or master electricians is required, and I make no order in regard to them.

MUSICIANS AND EMPLOYEES (FUTURE DISPUTES).

(1). In the event of any question arising as to whether the award is being observed or not, it has been agreed that such question shall be referred to me, or, failing me, to another arbitrator to be appointed by the Board of Trade, for decision and upon any decision that the award has not been observed, and neglect to comply with the order thereupon made, the persons aggrieved shall have liberty of action to take such course as they shall deem fit, or as the arbitrator shall direct.

(2). Any proposal for the alteration of any of the rules, regulations, and rates fixed after this enquiry, and specified in this award, shall be subject to not less than three months' notice, to expire on March 31st or September 30th in any year, stating the alterations proposed and the grounds therefor, and such proposal, if made in 1908, shall state the changed circumstances which would justify such reopening, and it has been agreed, shall be examined and stated by me to be satisfactory, before such reopening is allowed. Upon notice being given under this clause, the procedure laid down in the following clause shall be followed.

(3). For the adjustment of all future disputes, and to avoid stoppage of work, any difference arising between managements and their musicians or employees shall be first considered by the parties concerned and (or) their authorised representatives, and in the event of no agreement within a period of three months shall be referred to three persons, two to be appointed by the parties and one by the General Federation of Trade Unions and if such persons shall not be able to meet, or do not agree upon a decision within one month, it has been agreed that such differences shall be referred to me, or, failing me, to another arbitrator to be appointed by the Board of Trade, whose decision shall be final and binding.

4. Upon any difference being referred to me or to another arbitrator as aforesaid, it has been agreed that both parties shall, as a precedent to arbitration, deposit the sum of £20 each with the arbitrator who may out of such sum award costs to either party.

This award shall come into operation one month from the date hereof.

AND I FURTHER AWARD AND DECLARE that with regard to the whole of this award any questions upon the construction or interpretation shall be referred to me for decision.

AS WITNESS MY HAND this fourteenth day of June, One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seven.

(Signed) GEORGE RANKEN ASKWITH.

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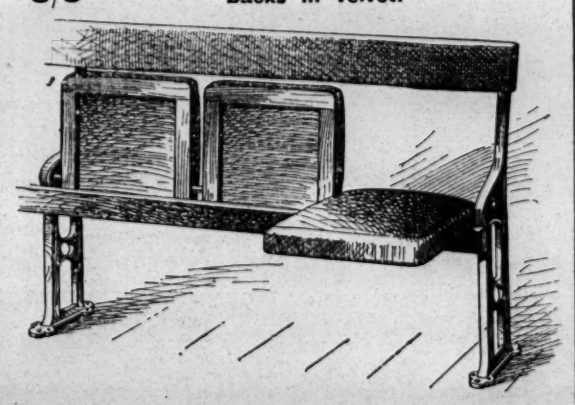

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IMPORTANT NOTICE.

EARLY TRAINS.

The Railway Companies are despatching many morning trains earlier than hitherto. This will enable subscribers and advertisers in the provincial towns to get copies of "The Era" in time for the breakfast table. Advertisers are requested to forward their advertisements as early in the week as possible, and not later than 7 p.m. on Thursday.

Address:
THE PUBLISHER, The Era Buildings, 5, Tavistock Street, W.C.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—*The Sorrows of Satan* is the play for the week. Mr. Hoffman gives a powerful representation of the part of Prince Lucio Rimancz, and Miss Hilda Shirley plays very skilfully as Lady Sibyl Elton. Miss Marion Fawcett shows much talent in her portraiture of Diana Chesney; Mr. Herbert Hollister as the Earl of Elton, Mr. Hilliard Vox as Geoffrey Tempest, and Mr. H. P. Owen as Viscount Lynton all act most capably; and the parts of Mrs. Mardum by Miss Brandon Gower, Miss Fitzroy by Miss Julia St. George, and Mavis Clare by Miss M. Maynard, are also remarkably well done.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—The two Dents—Fanny and Harry—play very cleverly an amusing sketch, *Mary and the Squire;* and another admirable turn is provided by the Wakeman Quartette, a combination showing remarkable musical ability. The versatile Bandoni, "the one-man orchestra," is exceptionally popular; and Piece and Riwost keep the house in a continuous state of merriment by their drollery. Miss Lily Stewart is a graceful comedienne and dancer; Stidder and Dunbar most agreeably blend music and comedy; Mr. Jack Ramsay is a resourceful comedian; and Copeland and Son are unrivalled as clog-dancers. A new pictorial series, "The Race for the Derby," is shown by Vernon's Bioscope.

ALDERSHOT. — HIPPODROME. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Gladwin.—A well-arranged and attractive bill is provided here. Dick Cruickshank and Co. are seen in an absurdity, *Bridget's Idea;* Adelina as a facialist impersonates many celebrities; Miss Belle Ray sings with excellent results to limelight illustrations; the Danbys prove themselves versatile comedians; Mr. T. Cliffe dances and sings; Little Vio Lette is a clever young artist in singing and male impersonation; and last, but not least, is *La Vivandiere,* a capital version, in four scenes, of "Under Two Flags," Miss Isabel Derrie giving a clever portrayal of Cigarette; others who also do well are Mr. D. Cruickshank, Miss O'Neile, Miss Tess Florence, and Mr. Geo. Vincent.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—This week's bill is provided by Adrian Hill and Robert Ayrton's company, with *A Gambler's Daughter,* mounted with special scenery. Mr. Robert Ayrton sustains with dramatic skill the part of Desmond O'Dare; and Miss Adria Hill gives two finished portrayals of Mildred and Miriam Grant, mother and daughter. Mr. Richard Pitt as John Grant gives a vivid interpretation of the cunning and ferocious nature of the man.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son.—This week's programme includes Barton and Trent, in their original eccentric musical comedy act. Pete and Minnie Lee, with some amusing business in a song-scena; Harwood's Juveniles, in *A Children's Christmas Eve;* The Enimell Comedy Company, with *My Statue of Grace,* cleverly interpreted by Miss Adèle Levey, Mr. Fred Heming, and Miss Jeannie Watson; the Sisters Wilfred, duettists and dancers; and Wee Mona Vivian, the favourite child actress and dancer. The chief item of the programme is a realistic representation of the lake of Killarney, a real masterpiece of stagecraft, which absorbs thirty minutes in production. We have also *The Colleen Bawn,* with suitable scenic equipment, enacted ably by Misses Ida Millais, Alice Brunnette, Messrs. H. Herne, Jno. Forman, C. F. Young, and Matthew Corry. The Water Cave is a real lake.

ATTERCLIFFE.—PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. T. E. Owen.—A programme of all-round excellence here this week is headed by the Royal Tokio troupe of Japanese, who give a remarkable performance of top-spinning and feet-balancing; a popular turn is that of Picitt and Lizette, in an illusionary scena, *The Crazy Cook;* Mr. Dick Bradley is most amusing as a tramp cyclist; the Sisters Hypatia, in pretty costumes, sing nicely and dance gracefully; Mr. E. C. Clayton, with his Attergraph pictures, is well received; Mr. T. C. Edwards, the Australian baritone, has a good reception; Mint and Mart are to the fore as comedy-sketch artists, a fine exhibition of paper-tearing being given by the lady; and Mr. Billy Dewey, coloured comedian, wins deserved applause both for his singing and dancing.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Mr. James Hare's company, in *A Destroyer of Men,* is here. Mr. Hare plays well as Karl Mischla; Mr. C. P. Wentworth is satisfactory as the villain, Count Starevitch; and the Fedor Strellitzke of Mr. Charles Coventry is praiseworthy. Miss Irene Clifford as Olga Mischla gives a fine character study; Miss Jessie Yatman is a pleasing Vida Ravel; and Miss Alice Buckland as Nina Pattakake, and Mr. Ross Warren as Coco Tatchoski are acceptably humorous.

TIVOLI THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edgar Laban.—Fred Sinclair and Gracie Whiteford, in their breezy farcical comedy, *Getting Even,* are very well received. George Fife, comedian, Geo. Prince, the crazy comic, and the Sisters Cusselli, duettists and expert dancers, all give good turns. Bert Williams is a capital ventriloquist, and Miss Maud Cherry a pleasing eerio comedienne; while Barnard's Mannikens, wooden actors, proves an interesting and pleasing item.

BATH.—PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—The picture entertainment of the Raymond Bio-tableaux is being continued with every token of appreciation. Miss Lovelace varies the programme with some excellent illustrated songs.

BEDFORD.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—Kennedy's Komiks look very smart in their pierrot costumes, and the scene, which depicts Blackpool's Eiffel Tower, is enhanced by numerous electric light bulbs. Mr. Nat Abbott's laugh is still infectious; Mr. Clarence Turner, "fra' Lancashire," has grown more popular, and his "Walk round, Sammy," scores every time. Mr. Victor Verney cleverly imitates the nightingale. An exceedingly clever tramp wire walker and an interesting display of animated pictures are among other items in the evening's entertainment.

BELFAST.—PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Warden, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—Apollo's remarkable feats of strength have caused quite a sensation. Mr. Lempriere Pringle and Mr. J. C. Piddock appear with great success in their operatic episode, entitled *The Romany King.* Mr. Alfred Lester, assisted by Miss Florence Wakeman, creates much amusement with his restaurant episode; Mr. Fred Neiman's ventriloquial sketch is an acquisition to any programme; and nothing but praise must be accorded Colby and May, *The Ventriloquist and the Doll,* for their decidedly clever act. Also appearing are Farr and Farland, Leah Arden, Mike Cray, and the attractive Palace pictures.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Will Sley; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—Mr. John Tiller's company provides plenty of enjoyment with their exhilarating piece, *A Trip to Paris.* A hit of no small magnitude has been made by Chanti, the celebrated quick-change artist. The Waldrons create much laughter with their comedy sketch, and Mr. Barney Stuart's character impersonations reflect much credit on this capable actor. The Three Sisters Lee please with their vocalism and dancing; and the new pictures exhibited by the Hipposcope are certainly most entertaining. Also appearing are Miss Nellie Moore, character impersonator; Margutta, in speciality act, and Miss Madge Allan, vocalist and dancer.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John A. Walker.—Gaumont's Chronomegaphone gives a faithful representation of Mr. Harry Lauder's voice in the several songs identified with his name. Mr. Lew Lake, Mr. Fred Lawrance and company create such amusement with their comedy drama, *My Landlord;* and a welcome return visit is being paid by Mr. J. W. Rickaby. Mueller and Coyne delight all with their smart comedy number; and the New York Nippers, in *Bed Time,* provide a most entertaining act. Miss Nellie Martell is a capital comedienne and dancer; and praise is also due to Miss Babs Lloyd, comedienne and dancer, and the Bioscope.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Sinclair Neill.—The Alhambra Dramatic Company, directed by Mr. M. Montgomery, are presenting this week the powerful drama, *Queen of the Night.* Mr. Horace Denton has been most successful in his treatment of the rôle of Frank Featherstone; and Miss Nina Blake-Adams deserves much praise for her delightful impersonation of Maude Sylvester. Mr. Cyril Grier could not easily be excelled as Old Briskett; and Miss Kathleen Magee acquits herself with distinction as Paulina. Mr. Elmore Frith gains much approval for his impersonation of David Pentreath; and Mr. Tom H. Solly is delightfully droll as Adolphus Briskett. Mr. Edward M. Heanley's realistic impersonation of Philip Stoneleigh gains loud execrations; and Miss Dora Bishop distinguishes herself by her clever impersonation of Mary Pentreath. Miss Alice Clarke was eminently satisfactory as Mrs. Briskett; and Miss Mattie Crawford could hardly be excelled as Kitty White. Mr. Ed. Smythe was quite capable as Jack Trent; and other rôles were adequately sustained by Messrs. J. E. Davies and T. Moselle. Mr. Tom H. Solly was responsible for the stage management. The Alhambra Bioscope, under the direction of Mr. W. E. Newlove, exhibits a fine picture, entitled "A Square Deal."

BILSTON.—AL-FRESCO PAVILION.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harry Battersby.—Although performances have had to be given temporarily in the theatre building adjoining, owing to stormy weather, the attendance so far has been very satisfactory. The regular entertainers, under the title of "Imperial Pierrots," have been supplemented by W. H. Whiteman, tenor vocalist, and Otto Ethardo, the juggler.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL. — Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant; Secretary, Miss Isabel Morris.—Miss Go-Won-Go Mohawk's American company is on a return visit with *Wep-Ton-No-Mah.* Miss Go-Won-Go Mohawk repeats her powerful and picturesque rendering of the Indian mail-carrier and C. W. Charles is unexceptionable as Colonel Stockton. The rather up-hill rôle of Manuel Lopes is well played by Mr. Edward Leroy; Miss Bessie Frank is an interesting Nellie Stockton; and Mr. Dan Ryan a capital Garry Cullen.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—The Kellinos, in their musical and acrobatic entertainment, *A Fête in Venice,* are a leading feature. Cruikshank, comedian and instrumentalist is also a favourite turn; and an excellent combination also includes Sid Doody and Edie Wright, versatile comedians; Mr. Jack Pleasant, with some capital comic songs; Miss Ida Brophy, comedienne; Mr. Walter Emerson, comedian; Miss Crissie Cross, comedienne; and Brown's Royal Bioscope.

BIRMINGHAM.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Bernardo.—*My Sweetheart* is playing to packed houses nightly, Mr. Collingwood's enterprise—this being the only theatre in the city remaining open—thus meeting with its just reward. Mr. Sidney Spenser's company is responsible, Miss Lizzie Hall, as the artless Tina, winning great applause with her captivating style and appearance. Miss Ada Champion as the adventuress, Mrs. Fleeter, is very effective; Miss Mary Drummond gains many smiles as Mrs. Hatzell; and Miss Olive Downs is pleasing as Peek-a-Boo. Mr. Edward Rawlinson enjoys the utmost popularity in his clever and quaint portrayal of the simple-hearted Tony; Mr. Wilson Coleman acts with fine dramatic ability as the scheming Harold Bartlett; Mr. Sydney Spenser as the "old sport," Joe Shotwell, makes his appearances the signal for uproarious mirth; and Messrs. Frank Wilson, J. F. Traynor, Newton Turner, and the Misses Lillie Smith and Violet Fielding do well.

CARLTON THEATRE, SALTLEY.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—Kennedy's Komiks continue to score here, this entertainment having, since its former introduction, made wonderful progress both in popularity and ability. This week the company includes Dan Noble, who is really very good; Harker and Wentworth, in a most entertaining turn; Noble and Yorke, a clever and refined couple; Miss Dora Price, whose operatic selections are charming; Miss Josephine Townshend, who contributes much to the enjoyment of the programme; the Sisters Deare, in a smart military scena; Mr. David Hallam, whose efforts are well rewarded; and the electric animated pictures, in which the pathetic as well as the comic and novel is well distributed.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles.—*The Nihilist* is presented here by an excellent company, for which Messrs. Silverstone, Wright, and Belton are responsible. Mr. Felix Pitt comes in for chief notice as Ivan Nowasky, the efforts of this sound and experienced actor, as usual, commanding admiration; Mr. Carl Rovenelli simulates the villain admirably as Prince Alexander; Mr. Kenyon Gray shows clever acting qualities as Karl Orloff; Mr. O. Silverstone makes a most interesting rôle of Petoff; and Messrs. Morgan Richards, Edward Dowds, and James Hamilton support. The acting of Miss Florrie Kelsey as Alexina is remarkable for its charm; Miss Mary Dawson displays fine talent and tact as Princess Olga; Miss Jessica Ford is a vivacious Katrina, and Mr. Harry Wright shares in the popularity as Bobbie.

EMPIRE PALACE. — Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matchan.—A leading feature in the bill at the Empire is a sketch of a sensational character, entitled *The Storm,* based on a tragic story, which is well told by Percy Murray and company. Launceston Elliott, the "British Hercules," displays his wonderful strength; Dusty Rhodes is very successful in his droll doings; Donaldson Brothers and Ardell present a funny comedy, entitled *A Zoological Comedy;* Arthur Aldridge is a fine tenor; and Ross and Lewis, the Yankee duo; Gladys Mavius, the Canadian girl; David Stewart, baritone; and W. H. Ashcroft complete an enjoyable programme.

GAIETY.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—Tom Graves, in a remarkable cycling feat, easily heads the bill this week. Other turns include the American Comedy Four, in part songs; the Gladenbecks, in a ring act; Stelling and Revell, acrobatic comedians; Sid Cotterell and company in the sketch, entitled *The Substitute;* Harry Marte, in a dancing act; Dale and O'Malley, comedians; and Gus Harris, Hebrew delineator.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—Heading the bill this week is an exceedingly humorous sketch, entitled *The Suffragettes,* presented by Freddie French's company. Clown Barker's Comedy Circus is very quaint; George D'Albert enjoys much popularity; Tennyson and Wallis are extremely funny as cross-talkers; and the same may be said of Stacey and Williams; Hartelli is amazing in his wire act; there is something that is clever as well as funny in the trampolin acrobatic work of Tate and Tate; and Osborn and Brooks, Dan Thomas, and Frank Cass are also responsible for capable turns.

BORDESLEY PALACE. — Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Foster.—Mariedl, who is 9ft. high, and weighs 390lb., is the big attraction here. Philip Reid and Percy Ford present a military sketch, entitled *A Test of Friendship;* the Three Sisters Jonghmann obtained a number of encores by their singing; J. Alexander and company, in *Brown in Paris,* and James Stewart, "the tramp at the piano," receive their share of applause; and Daisy Mayer and Mark Merry wind up an excellent entertainment.

BOTANICAL GARDENS, EDGBASTON.—Mr. F. R. Benson's (North) company appeared here this week in a series of delightful pastoral plays. On Monday evening and Wednesday afternoon *As You Like It* revealed a charming Rosalind in Miss Dorothy Green; the Orlando of Mr. Frank Darch was full of the romance of the part, and Mr. Gerald Ames as the Duke, Mr. Ross Shore as Touchstone, Mr. Henry Herbert as Jacques, and Miss Louise Graeme as Celia, among others, gave creditable performances. On Wednesday evening *The Merry Wives of Windsor* showed Mr. Henry Herbert to fine advantage as Falstaff; Mesdames Dorothy Green and Mary Webb acquitted themselves of the respective rôles of Mistress Ford and Mistress Page with clever cajolery; and Messrs. Gerald Ames, Philip Merivale, Esme Filmer, E. Spencer Geach, Frank Darch, and the Misses Louise Graeme and Rosa Burgess contributed well to the success. *Much Ado About Nothing* on Tuesday afternoon, and *Twelfth Night* in the evening, completed the series, which has been attended by fairly propitious weather and good "houses."

BLACKBURN.—NEW PRINCE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page.—Messrs. Alfred Northway and W. V. Garrod's company are appearing here in *The Prodigal Parson.*

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—The principal turn this week is the miniature musical comedy, *A King for a Day,* played by Messrs. Sidney Dooley and Charles Seymour's capable company. Other artists are Maidie Scott, comedienne; Les Zelovas, acrobats; Sisters Kilner, duettists; Oakdene, ventriloquist; Webb and Branston, operatic duettists, and Queenie Essex, comedienne.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr. Allan Wilkie and company are here. *The Merchant of Venice* was carefully presented on Monday night, when Mr. Wilkie submitted a very painstaking performance of Shylock, and Miss Carrie Baille elicited applause by her admirable impersonation of Portia. Mr. G. Alexander Marsh's Antonia was also a meritorious performance, and Miss F. Hunter Watts played Jessica very satisfactorily. *Romeo and Juliet* was Tuesday's attraction, Mr. Wilkie contenting himself with the part of Friar Laurence, and Mr. Marsh playing Romeo.

GRAND THEATRE. — Owner and Manager, Mr. T. Sergenson.—*The Ring of Iron* is played by Messrs. Ralland and Sergenson's company. Mr. C. B. Vaughan very ably portrays Sir John Graham, and Mr. J. Herbert Beaumont is well suited to the part of Wilfrid Meredith. The wronged heroine is charmingly and sympathetically presented by Miss Mary Anton Laing; whilst Miss Ada Marius contributes a creditable impersonation of Nancy Drake.

PALACE.— General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Fred Karno's comedians in their pantomimical burlesque, entitled *Jail Birds and Early Birds,* evoke roars of applause. The Brothers Leslie supply a very clever musical turn, and R. H. Douglas scores as a monologue entertainer; the Olmars are clever acrobats, Little Cliff is a favourite boy comedian, Florence Schubert finds favour as a burlesque actress, Harry Bedford is a quaint comedian, and the Ramlos are expert gymnasts.

NORTH PIER.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. James Walker.—Mr. Ernest Hastings contributes several humorous sketches with his well-known ability; Mr. Owen McGiveney is a successful impersonator of Dickens' characters, and Mr. Bridge Peters enjoys a high reputation as a baritone vocalist. The orchestra is again under the conductorship of Professor Speelman, now for the twenty-fifth consecutive year.

BLYTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur C. Moody.—Chung Ling Soo, the marvellous Chinese magician, supported by a strong company of variety artists, has fulfilled a most successful engagement here; Lena Wylie, Scotch vocalist, has a pleasing voice; Arthur Albert also renders some excellent numbers; Burns and Bentley, a pair of mirth-provokers, deserve praise; Caroze and Keeth present a fine comedy and juggling act; Norah Bremner is a finished dancer; George Westland, Scotch comedian, scores a hit; Billy Richardson, the stump orator, is well received; the Marros, in their comedy triple bar act, win applause; and Slippere, the blind wonder, is a clever instrumentalist.

THE GAIETY.—Lessee, Mr. George E. Good.—At the head of the bill here are Reed and Stevens, in their dramatic episode, *The Right Road;* Frank Jeffrey, character comedian; Kromo, wire-walker; the Two Smiths, knockabouts; Ali Ben Hassan, Continental juggler; Brown and Clare, in a speciality act; Lily Ward, comedienne; Jack Schaller, comedian; and Cotelli and Rieff, in a pleasing sketch, *Wanted, a Wife.*

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Tudor.—Pictures by the New Bioscope Co., of London, have proved attractive here. The variety company includes Percy Curry, Tyneside comedian; Lille Carrick, comedienne and dancer; Gipsy Ann and her fortune-telling dog; and Mlle. Rosini and her miniature menagerie.

BOLTON.—GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—Mr. Charles Draycott and his company are appearing in *The Stolen Birthright.* Mr. Charles Draycott undertakes the difficult part of Count Marco Taddeo, and Miss Muriel Thompson that of Princess Mirando. Other characters are capably filled. The play is followed by the sensational Bret Harte episode, entitled *Madge,* and Vernon's Imperial Bioscope.

BOOTLE. — MUNCASTER THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. Pennington; Manager, Mr. H. Pennington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Young.—Mr. F. H. Neville and company are here in *The Trail of Sin.* As Philip Meredith, Mr. John Soden gives a fine performance, anod Miss Ella Forest is a sympathetic Estelle Meredith. Mr. F. H. Neville supplies a powerful rendering of Nan Vedder; Miss Evie Conway sings and dances prettily as Anita; much fun is created by Mr. J. Scarth as Joe Jorum, and Miss Doris Cameron is a dainty Polly Lockwood.

BOSCOMBE.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Ball.—A great attraction is here this week in the person of Miss Kate Carney, with her company in *Liza Johnson.* Miss Carney received a most gratifying reception, being recalled many times; the Martine Brothers execute some clever somersaults, and also give a comedy acrobatic display. Kisby, "the call boy," submits a humorous burlesque of variety turns; the Paolias exhibit a series of classical poses; Polly Gerome is a neat and clever gymnast; Adey Spencer supplies an agreeable item; and the Hippodrome pictures include some good films.

BRADFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—Mr. Ernest E. Norris presents here this week his own version of *The Three Musketeers.* Miss Vera Beringer gives a clever performance of Miladi; Mr. Norris himself is virile and interesting as the adventurous D'Artagnan; Miss Dorothy Chard plays Constance well; Miss Enid Ross is acceptable as Anne of Austria; Mr. E. S. Petley's Richelieu is cleverly drawn, and Messrs. Austen Melroy, C. Arthur Brown, and Harold Wagner picturesquely fill the rôles of Athos, Porthos, and Aramis.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Francis Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—An excellent performance of Mr. Charles E. Clarke's interesting drama, *A Broken Heart,* is being presented here for the first time this week by Mr. Harry Foxwell's company. John Barnard is powerfully represented by Mr. John Clyde; Mary is played by Miss Vera Trevosper with fine effect; Mr. Scott Leighton leaves nothing to be desired as the unscrupulous Stephen Raylton; and as Gash Gills Mr. Charles Vivian is distinctly effective. Mrs. Harry Foxwell is particularly good in the dual rôle of the heiress who marries Raylton, and also an Irish landlady. Barnard's child is acceptably played by Miss Florrie Sorsby. Mr. W. Lindsay and Miss Nancy Mitchell relieve the serious situations by some good comedy.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—Mr. John Lawson, who is supported by a capable company, is appearing here this week with much success in a finely-staged and thrilling society episode, viz., *The King's Minister.* The acting is excellent. The delightful entertainment by Belloni's cockatoos is again a much-appreciated feature; Frank Couch, comedian, is responsible for good patter; the graceful and clever juvenile acrobats, the Trapnell Family, are on a return visit; a fine character sketch is presented by Edwin Barwick, actor-vocalist; Kitty Marion, comedian, presents a bright turn; Frank Seeley's comedy is delightfully quaint; in his usual clever and humorous style Dome accomplishes his clay-modelling; Nellie Coleman's male character sketches are quaint and clever; and Lily Langtry, comedienne, appears again, bright and active as ever.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Richard Ralli.—An item of much interest here in an attractive programme is the *Carnival Scena* by Haley's juvenile company of smart dancers and vocalists. Daisy Davenport, comedienne, submits an acceptable turn; a very remarkable hoop trick is presented by Carl Rosine, a clever magician; warm applause greets the Satanella Trio in their Continental and acrobatic feats of dancing; R. C. Note is a good vocalist; Gladys Huxley, comedienne, is good and much in evidence; Roze and Calvert, who are favourites, are responsible for delightful comedy; and the Two Sparks, duettists and dancers; and Ramond's Bio-Tableaux complete the bill of fare.

BRIDLINGTON. — ROYAL PRINCE'S PARADE.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—A striking feature of the Promenade Concerts at this popular resort are the splendidly played pianoforte solos of Mr. Joseph Sainton, the talented conductor of the municipal orchestra.

NEW SPA AND GARDENS.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. Henry Hague.—Herr Simon Wurm and his orchestra continue to give great delight to the frequenters of the Spa.

SUMMER GARDENS.—Lessees, Messrs. Beanland, Beth, and Danton; Manager, Mr. Charles Beanland.—The feature of the programme this week is an amusing burlesque, *Madame Samina's Orchestra,* in which the company give a very amusing performance. Miss Nan Farren, a taking comedienne, is highly applauded for her talented contribution to the general programme.

BRIGHTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter.—Mr. Carpenter's company is performing *Her Wedding Day* here this week to large audiences. Mr. Philip Darien submits a fine impersonation of the hero, Harold Saxby; and Miss Daisy Scudamore acquits herself admirably as the heroine, Madge Conway. Mr. Roy Redgrave, as the villainous Weedon Kenyon, presents a capital character-study; Miss Amy Venimore is seen to much advantage as Mme. Maurice; Mr. Ellis J. Preston is highly successful as Seth Mayson; and great amusement is afforded by Mr. Charles Preece (Mr. Caccles), Miss Lucy Murray (Mrs. Caccles), Miss May Day (Dolly Klink), and Mr. Arthur H. Hill (Sam Klink). The remaining characters are satisfactorily sustained.

ALHAMBRA.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. L. Graydon; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Ernest Lepard.—A capital programme is sustained here this week. Harry Tate's company achieves great success in the original concoction, *Fishing*; Binns and Binns, "the vagabonds," submit a pleasing medley of comedy and music; Bromley and Fontein are very entertaining in a vocal sketch; Charley Dixon is an eccentric comedian; Parker and Parr, Welsh comedy vocalists, are well received; Pueblo and Cropp, Creole speciality artists, win cordial applause; Maud Vera is a pleasing descriptive serio and coon artist; Henri Bekker, assisted by Mlle. Maie, gives an effective turn; Kate Lynd is a dainty comedienne; and the Alhambrascope pictures are interesting and amusing.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—There is an excellent company here this week. Frank and Jen Latona win enthusiastic applause for their delightful comedy and music; Kelly and Gillette are highly successful in their billiard table act; H. La Martine is a capital vocalist and eccentric dancer; Bliss and Bliss are a pair of very droll comedians; Will Walton, comedian, is cordially received; Walter Wade is a clever comedian; Carlotta Levey sings in excellent style; Lillie Lassah, comedienne and dancer, gives a good turn; Harry Vardon is an entertaining ventriloquist; Lucy Coventry is a dainty comedienne and expert dancer; the Elgars are refined vocalists, and the Barrascope pictures are amusing.

WEST PIER.—Secretary and Entertainment Manager, Mr. A. D. Norman.—A London company, under the direction of Mr. Charles H. Williams, is here this week with *The Night of the Party*. Mr. Sebastian Smith gives a highly entertaining impersonation of Mr. Crosbie; Mr. Douglas Munro cleverly enacts the pompous Mr. Flambert; Mr. Percy Robinson is well suited as Mr. Raundle; and Mr. Stanley Arthur is very droll as Mr. Bogle. Mr. Frank H. Denton submits an admirable portrayal of Mr. Frank Fayne; Mr. Eric Forth's Sir Charles Hampshire and Miss Beatrice Mervin's Lady Hampshire are well played; Miss Florence French is forcible as Gipsy Vandelier; and Miss Lillian Williams makes a great hit as Paulina. Mr. Ernest Rivarz (Alderman Hargen) and Miss Marion Lewis (Mrs. Young) also merit praise.

PALACE PIER THEATRE.—Mr. Fred Beck's company is here this week with *Nicholas Nickleby*, *My Wife*, and *The Kiss in the Dark*. In the school scenes from *Nicholas Nickleby*, Mr. J. E. Cowell, who has adapted them from Dickens' novel, gives a very clever representation of Mr. Squeers; Mr. Cyril Fairlie plays the part of Nicholas Nickleby effectively; Miss Emmie King is a pleasing Miss Squeers, and Mr. Fred Beck makes the most of his opportunities as Mr. Snawley. In *My Wife*, Mr. Beck achieves distinct success as Timothy Twitters.

BRISTOL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. C. Alty.—Miss Winifred Maude's company, under the direction of Mr. Victor Du Cane, is here for the week with *The Stowaway*, the play being staged in a liberal manner. Miss Winifred Maude is in every way pleasing as Althea Dale; Miss Ethel Tinsley acts well as Florence Etherington; and Miss Jenny Hackett makes a capital part of Chucky. Mr. Victor Du Cane obtains applause for his impersonation of Dicky Dials; Mr. Vincent Carlyle is effective as Tom Inglis; Mr. William Bradford is consistent in the unpopular rôle of Charles Etherington; Mr. James Carson does well in the short part of Paul Inglis; Mr. Leonard Harrison is amusing as Percy Ewart; and Joe Hickey and Sandy Prowse have capable exponents in Mr. W. E. Simpson and Mr. Harry Johnson.

PALACE THEATRE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—The *Casey Court* company heads the bill successfully; Jock Whiteford, Scotch comedian, is decidedly clever, his turn being highly diverting; James Willard's sketch company score in *The Little Wonder*; Rose Elliott, a pleasing vocalist, obtains considerable applause; Jimmy Shields, one-legged comedian, dances cleverly; Sinclair and Parr, actor-vocalists, are appreciated; and Linton, equilibrist, is successful in a daring cable act. The performance concludes with animated pictures.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—The Conn and Conrad company amuse with their speciality, *Twentieth Century Burglars*; Lazern does some smart conjuring; Perrette and Mona have a good speciality in *Teasing the General*; Florence and Lilian present a refined musical act; H. Scott Leslie is successful with his monologue, "Don't know, don't care"; Goodfellow and Gregson score with their song, patter, and dance; Venie Belfry, comedienne, is an acceptable vocalist; and Millie Engler, Louie Tinsley, and Fred Knight amuse with their sketch, *Beauty and the Burglar*. Animated pictures complete the bill.

BROUGHTON.—VICTORIA THEATRE, LTD.—Manager and Licensee, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—The idea of presenting two separate plays is proving a success. This week's plays are the spectacular drama *Soldiers of the Queen*, by Max Goldberg, and the musical farce *The Caliph's Carnival*. In the drama Mr. John F. Preston plays the part of Hans Müller; and the dual rôles of Capt. Richard Forrester and Ralph Forrester are well played by Mr. W. Howard Barlow. Miss Mabelle F. Barlow also sustains the characters of Grace Forrester and Dick Forrester. Mr. Robert Faulkner portrays the hero, Jack Willoughby, in fitting style; comedy is provided by Mr. Horace Custins, as Tom Pinch, and Miss Gertie Wasley as Mary Ann. Miss Laura Wright, Miss E. Rainforth, Mr. Walter D. Brodie, and Mr. Arthur Lenville give excellent support. In *The Caliph's Carnival* Mr. J. F. Preston is good as O'Sullivan Pasha; the Caliph is sustained by Mr. Arthur Lenville. Mr. Robert Faulkner (Mustapha), Miss Mabelle F. Barlow (Balkis), Miss Ethel Rainforth (Kissi Kassi), Mr. Horace Custins (Tommy), Miss Laura Wright (Polly), Mr. R. J. Webster (Cruso), and Miss Gertie Wasley (Mabel), and the other members combine to keep the house in roars. The music is catchy, and the staging is good.

BURNLEY.—EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Very clever is the performance of Les Martineks, with their inanimate rag doll act; "The Lost Chord" is charmingly rendered by the Four Jumels; Corman's Juveniles give some pleasing songs and dances; and Jeanette Hall, lady baritone, is greatly appreciated; Blarney and Kennard are funny patterers and songsters; Sterling and Cashen introduce some funny military comedy and dances; and Flo Warner, vocalist, is good. The Empire Theatroscope depicts a smart picture, "Police Dogs."

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—OPERA HOUSE (HIPPODROME).—Proprietor, Mr. H. Dudley Bennett; Manager, Mr. John Waller.—A novel entertainment is given here by the Tennessee Guards, a coloured troupe, who excel in military exercises; the Original Legleres submit a skilful acrobatic performance; the Gelders succeed in mystifying the audience by their clever conjuring tricks; humorous songs by Wallace Whitney and Beattie Foster; and graceful dances by Ivy Deane, together with the Operascope, conclude.

CARDIFF.—NEW THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robt. Redford.—For the closing week of the season, Miss Dorothey Cacey's company is presenting *When We Were Twenty-One*. It is rather to be regretted that Miss Cacey is seen in one act only, as her rendering of the unattractive part of the Firefly is admirable. The important character of Richard Carewe is in the capable hands of Mr. Riddell Robinson, whose powerful acting receives high commendation. Mr. Edgar J. Coyne submits a fine portrayal of Sir Horace Plumley, his quiet humour being very effective; Mr. Frank Powell (Col. Miles Garhame) and Mr. F. Chas. Poole (Terence McGarth) are also largely responsible for the success of the piece; while Mr. Gerald Henson is to be congratulated upon his faithful rendering of the Imp. Miss Mildred Hodson's delineation of Phyllis is a charming piece of acting; Miss Flo Preddy is very good in the rôle of Mrs. Ericson.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—Mr. Ernest R. Abbott's company entered on its third week at the Royal on Monday, the piece billed for the evening being *Lady Audley's Secret*. Miss Ada Abbott filled the rôle of Lady Audley in a praiseworthy manner; Mr. Frank Stephens is well placed as Robert Audley; Mr. Weedon Ross as Captain Maldon displays histrionic powers; and Mr. W. H. Garbois is seen to advantage as Sir Michael. Little Miss Hetty Jones, a remarkably clever child-actress, deserves much credit for her rendition of Master George. Other parts are capably filled by Miss Majorie Tennant, Miss Louise Gilmore, Miss Edith Knight, and Mr. Edwin Keene.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Lea; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. S. Dring.—Full houses are attracted this week by the ideal coon, Eugene Stratton, who presents several new songs with his customary success. A couple of amusing and entertaining musicians are Seeley and West; a beautiful display is made by David Canty's illuminated water grotto, in which Mlle. Da Silva appears with brilliant effect; the performance of Little Agnes Tina is greeted with continued applause; Carlos Menard introduces some clever trick violin playing; Gus Garrick does well with his amusing items; Josh Dixon is another smart comedian; Flo Esdaile is a charming songstress; the Three Cape Girls work hard for the applause bestowed on their big boot dancing; and the Bioscope supplies excellent pictures.

CARLISLE.—H. M. THEATRE.—Lessees, Mr Thos. Courtice and Mrs. R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—*The Shaughraun* is being played here by the stock company. As Conn, Mr. Chas. R. Stone is well suited; Captain Molineaux is neatly played by Capt. A. E. Winnington-Barnes; Corry Kinchela has an admirable representative in Mr. Joseph Millane; Mr. W. J. Miller is well placed as Robert Ffolliot, and the Harvey Duff of Mr. Harry Douglas is a fine bit of character acting. As Claire, Miss Ethel Bracewell scores her light comedy scenes being brilliant; Miss Mabel Rose is a sympathetic Arte O'Neil, and Miss Emily Kelsey as Mrs. O'Kelly, and Miss Edith Madelle as Moya are excellent.

THE PALACE.—Proprietors, the Palace Theatre, Carlisle, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Rino Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—Hetty King is heartily applauded here; the Bensons are appreciated in their speciality act; Muir and Bartlett create roars of laughter by their sketch, *The Collar Stud*; Arthur Croxon, mimetic comedian, has "caught on"; Edgar Budden scores as a bone soloist; Arthur Woodville, swell comedian, takes well; and Queenie May is a dainty comedienne. The Pepiscope concludes the entertainment.

CASTLEFORD.—QUEEN'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Chas. Beanland and W. H. Emerson; General-Manager, Mr. Will H. Emerson.—The Loyal Dominion Company's dramatic and humorous animated pictures, and an excellent variety company, continue to do good business here. The good programme includes Mme. Alecia, a clever rolling ball equilibrist; Harry Drew, Welsh basso; and Mme. Fontainebleau, with an intelligent troupe of performing dogs.

CHATHAM.—BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Miss Dora Lyric's songs go with a rare swing; Harry Cotton still scores with his burlesque pensioner's ditty. Others are the Cecilias, with selections on cornet, post horn, and bugle; Tom Yorke, coster comedian; Dave Laird, comedian; Lacey's Erascope; Percival and Morley, in an amusing duologue, *Turtle Doves*; and the Six Brothers Luck Pantomime company, in *The Demon of the Cellar*.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Capt. H. E. Davis.—Rosie Reval opens the ball here with neat song and dance; the Larrisons are an amusing couple, who appear as the amiable idiot and the dainty soubrette; the Bros. Brooks give a well-liked comedy act; Fred Land is very freely applauded for his parody on the coon song; the Sisters Brand make a most favourable impression; Ella Shields' songs go remarkably well; Duncan and Godfrey make a most decided hit with *Me and 'Er*; and the Edisonograph shows up-to-date pictures.

CHESTER.—ROYALTY THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—Premier position here is occupied by Mlle. Von Etta in a mixture of legerdemain and quick-change, which enjoys a great measure of success. Bert Bowden, comedian, scores in his ditty, "I think we shall have trouble." Geoffreys and Benson make a decided hit with their clever duologue, "Spoofed"; Mlle. Renne is a smart girl juggler; Ellis Barrieton sings pleasingly "Could we recall"; the Carney Bros. gain well-deserved applause for their song-scena, *Rich and Poor*; Roy Bevis presents magical problems; and "The Automobile Thieves," a dramatic film, is projected by Vernon's Bioscope. On Monday evening a sketch entitled *School* was presented by Miss Zona Joy's company.

CLACTON-ON-SEA. — PALACE-BY-THE-SEA, LTD. — Managing-Director, P. W. Willard, Esq.—The following make up a good variety show: Zara and Arno, a couple of very smart bar performers; Tom Collins with his topical song, "Fly away Peter, come back Paul"; the Three Danbrooks, who give a smart musical turn; the Three Sisters Grovini, clever acrobats and contortionists; Probyn and Bates, eccentric entertainers; Beattie Benson, a clever young dancer; George Barron, a good comedian; Miss Maude Lavern, burlesque singer; and Mr. Edgar Berte, with his monologues. The Palascope showed some good pictures. The Lunar Sextette still give al fresco shows in the grounds, and the capable orchestra is under the direction of Mr. Algernon Clark.

HIPPODROME (late OPERETTA HOUSE). — Lessee, Bertram C. Ross; Manager, N. Sargant.—The Sylvenes top the bill, and the gentleman is a very smart and clever equilibrist and hand balancer; the Musical Keiths give a very bright musical turn, they are clever; Petite Carlina, a smart costume dancer; Woolmer Young, a good descriptive comedian; Lottie Bray, banjoist and dancer; the Musical Silvo, who gets sweet music from glasses and the silver chimes; Will Lear, comedian; and Lola Dalby, comedienne and dancer.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessee, Mr. Harold Montague; Manager, Mr. E. J. Barrett.—Mr. Montague and his Vagabonds are still here, and have been giving their bright little vaudeville shows to good houses.

WESTCLIFF GARDENS.—Proprietors, Messrs. Graham Russell, and Bentley.—In addition to the three proprietors, Madame Gertrude Shrimpton, soprano, is here this week, and Mr. Harry Barrett, the well-known Queen's Hall bass.

COLCHESTER.—HIPPODROME.—Joint Proprietors, Messrs. Frederick Mouillot and Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. Jack de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—Miss Ella's performing lions are here, and form an attractive turn. Hanvarr and Anna Lee are wonderfully clever with the clubs, and the lady is intensely droll with her eccentric tumbling. Groves and Chalmers are a versatile duo, whose most pleasing feature is a very pretty dance, which is loudly applauded. Maud Wilton, chic comedienne, has a voice above the average, and, moreover, has a charming stage presence. Burnard and Yalsku are an entertaining pair of dancers; Arthur Boyne repeats his well-known eccentricities, with a new and original cough; and Jock Campbell appeals to the lovers of Scottish humour.

CONSETT.—NEW THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance.—Mr. Charles March's new play, *The Saint and the Woman*, is the attraction here this week. Mr. John Burton essays the rôle of the Vicar of Llandilas with commendable effect; whilst as Ivor and Evan Llewellyn Mr. George Gaisford and Mr. Leonard Brookes are good. Mr. Monson Thorpe is an able Richard Grainger; Lady Hardinge is well played by Miss Sybil Winter; Miss Emma Victor does full justice to the part of Margery; and as Olive Meyrick Miss Gwendolin Hastings well merits the applause accorded her.

COVENTRY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—The house was well filled on Monday to give a hearty reception to the sensational drama, *Guilty Gold*. The hero is admirably portrayed by Mr. Alex. Alexander; Ralph Bartlett (bigamist and blackmailer) is well taken by Mr. Charles Burden; Martin Haldane is in the capable hands of Mr. Tom Roydan; Miss Violet Crauford is greatly admired in her powerful impersonation of Rhoda Hampton, Miss Elsie Capel making a graceful Elsie Middleton.

HIPPODROME.—There is a good variety entertainment here. Mr. Sam Elton, in a wonderful turn, keeps the audience roaring with laughter; the Jantureas troupe of American artists give a clever acrobatic turn. Amuurt, strong man, holds a pianoforte and boy on stool for a considerable time; and Harry Nelson, comedian; the Sisters Hall, duettists; and Daly's comedy sketches are all good. The animated pictures show photographs of the Tourist Trophy races. During an interval in the second performance on Monday night at the Hippodrome, Coventry, Mr. Lennox Barry, the newly-appointed manager, made a brief speech, in which he assured the patrons that the best artists obtainable would be engaged during the coming months, and he hoped the people of Coventry would rally round him. At the conclusion of his speech, the audience rose and sang, "For he's a jolly good fellow."

THE EMPIRE. — Proprietor, Mr. George Dance; Manager, Mr. K. D'Laco. — An exceptionally good programme is submitted at this popular house this week. The Carmos, Australian jugglers and balancers, are a very clever pair; the Horne Bros. appear in their boxing sketch; the Sisters Pine are responsible for some clever patter; and others contributing to the bill are the Gothams; Sydney Lee, card manipulator, &c.; Harry Conlin, comedian; and the Leonards, in a comedy act. The Bioscope pictures, as usual, are included.

CROOK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. Wallace Davidson, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Wallace Davidson.—Mr. Hartwell J. Kirby's company, in *Man's Enemy*, opened on Monday to a large and appreciative audience.

CROYDON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Herrick.—Mr. Fred Jarman's company is appearing here twice nightly in *Under the Czar*. Mr. Wilson Howard renders sterling service as Nicholas Verosiaft; Mr. William Matthews is well placed as Zakhar Kovesky; Mr. R. Merring is good as Michael Granoviski; Mr. Cecil Morand wins favour in the part of Paul Ignat; Mr. Carl Vallender is droll as Alexis Petroff; Mr. J. Leicester acts with effect as Egor Gregorovitch; Mr. Victor Gordon is praiseworthy in the rôle of Victor Kleff; Miss Madge Clair is picturesque as Zara Bhura; Miss Violet Vivienne deserves a word as Siomka; Miss Carlotta Anson gives a sympathetic rendering of Sonia Gregorovitch; and the remaining characters are adequately enacted.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—George Robey is the star here, and his reception is most cordial; Tom Lloyd is a first-rate eccentric comedian; the Westwoods give a smart comedy cycle act; Hanid Alexander is a clever pianist, comedienne, and dancer; the Brothers Etharin are a whimsical pair of comedians; Bert Coote's Yankee Doodle Girls are high-class vocalists and dancers; Harry Anderson's songs go with a swing; Huline and Le May, musical clowns, make a big hit; the Imperial Bioscope is enjoyed; and Rauschle is very good in his life-like impersonations of great men.

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Managers, Messrs. Chas. Denley and Herbert Taylor.—The chief attraction here this week is Alexandra Dagmar, who, with pretty songs and amusing anecdotes, is making a decidedly favourable impression on large audiences. The Three Merrills, American comedy cyclists, are also to be complimented, their turn being quite the neatest seen locally for some time; the Three Behans, quick change artists, appear to great advantage in some clever speciality dances; and the tuneful part songs of the Sisters Grosvenor certainly leave nothing to be desired. Joe Conroy is a promising young comedian; and the Four Rosaires cause hearty laughter in a clever triple bar act. Chester and Lee's marionettes are very entertaining; and Madge Norwood is successful in song and dance. The Bioscope concludes with this year's Derby.

DEVONPORT.—METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. G. S. King.—*The Green Hills of the Far West* deals with the lighter side of life in the Far West, and is admirably rendered by the stock company, under the able direction of Mr. D. C. Phelps, who also assumes a leading part in the performance. Miss Olga Andre makes a fascinating heroine as Ameni; Mr. Leonard Aardale is a capable villain; and Mr. Larry Clements is amusing as Scrubbs. Miss Cissie Cleveland, an old pantomime favourite, is also a welcome member of the company.

DOUGLAS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Gray. — Mr. Herbert Ralland's company appeared on Monday evening in Sir Charles Young's fine drama, *Jim the Penman*. The play and the players were received with enthusiasm. Miss Kitty Cavendish's interpretation of Nina Ralston was marked by sincerity and power; Miss Chrissie Ralland as Agnes Ralston did excellent work; Mr. Charles Boult gave a fine dramatic performance as Jim the Penman; Mr. Arthur Gibbons, well made-up, was forceful as Baron Hartfeldt; Mr. F. Pennington Gush was interesting as Louis Percival; and Mr. Arthur Dennis effective as Captain Redwood.

DERBY CASTLE. — Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox, jun.—Mr. Charles Vincent, a clever comedian, has established quite a reputation; Mr. James Eadie and Miss Cissie Ramsden present a smart sketch; the Cromwells give an up-to-date juggling performance; the Derby Castle orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Harry Wood, invite dancing.

Other amusements in Douglas are Mr. Fred Buxton's Pierrots and Mr. Charles Dare's Burnt Cork comedians.

DOVER. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Dover Theatres, Ltd.; Chairman of Directors, Mr. B. Carter; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—Mr. Montague Beaudyn's company is here in *A Beautiful Fiend*, and is proving popular. Miss Sidney Crowe as Wanda Lubinoff succeeds in interesting the audience; while a capable impersonation of Fedor Karateff is contributed by Mr. Harry C. Robinson. A fine manly portrayal of Ivan Paulovitch is given by Mr. Herbert Skardon; and Mr. Matt Russell is impressive and convincing as Sergius Strogoff, whose sister Nadjne has an emotional and charming impersonator in Miss Violet Ingram. Comedy is introduced by the eccentricities of Mr. Dick Seddon as Christopher Crackles and Mr. Pat Quinn as Malachi, the latter gentleman's acting in the stronger scenes being worthy of praise; while Miss Marie Fontaine is a captivating and engaging Patty Woodlands.

THE PAVILION, PROMENADE PIER. — Lessees, The Dover Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. F. C. Dew; Chairman of Directors, Mr. B. Carter.—A very bright series of concerts have been given this week by a costume concert party called the Dutch Serenaders. Mr. Alec Davidson's magnificent voice has won him many warm admirers; Mons. Jules Charmettes has a pleasing manner of rendering light comedy ditties, and is also a talented performer on the 'cello. A voice of great power and flexibility is possessed by Miss Sissie Read; Miss Dora Harrison is a piquant soubrette; and Miss Vera Desmond accompanies and also contributes pianoforte solos.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Lessees, The Vaudeville Syndicate; Manager, Mr. Fred Holt.—Macdonald and Hurtington, expert dancers, give a clever turn this week; and the Czar's Royal Russian troupe of dancers are also well received. Jack Foley, a funny comedian; and Louie Hurman, burlesque actress, work well; and Mlle. De Rose has a wonderful baritone voice. Other turns are contributed by J. H. Hawtrey, actor-vocalist, the Coopers, harmonising vocalists, and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

DUBLIN. — EMPIRE. — General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—An excellent variety combination provides the amusement here this week. The Lukushima Troupe, who hold premier position, cause quite a sensation in a daring and clever acrobatic act; W. F. Frame's quaint mannerisms and songs are heartily enjoyed; the Boccaccio Minstrels meet with a flattering reception; the New Macs are popular; Frank Bertram and company, in an amusing sketch entitled *The Chaperon* score successfully, as do also the Sisters Dorrell, vocalists and dancers. The Karno Troupe, in their pantomimic absurdity, *The Dinner Hour*, create great hilarity, and Herbert Rule and Raie Rosenthal also give pleasure with their contributions. The Empire Pictures make an attractive final item.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Secretary, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—The Aurora Troupe of Cyclists, who were billed to appear here this week, were unable to fulfil their engagement owing to the melancholy accident which resulted in the death of a lady member of the troupe in Belfast last week. Their place is well filled by the Banzai Japanese Troupe in a startling performance; a hit has been made by the Silver Tone Quartette, in their singing and dancing act; Jack Ross is heard to advantage in a number of well-chosen songs; Brull and Hemsley, in an amusing sketch, *Fun in a Music Shop*, are warmly received; as is also Lil Barrington, comedienne; Frederica's terriers and pony supply an interesting item; and the Boston Twins prove as big favourites as ever. The Custances' sketch, *A Game for Two*, causes laughter; Harry Taft is a comedian of more than ordinary merit; and the Bioscope never fails to amuse.

WORLD'S FAIR AND MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. A. James.—The bill of fare here this week is furnished by Tom Wesley, descriptive vocalist; La Bella Rosa, mandolinist; Len Delmar, lady impersonator; Ella Lane, soprano vocalist; Collins and Irene, illusionists; and the Cinematograph.

SAMUELS' EXHIBITION PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. S. Samuels.—The artists engaged here this week include Will Yew, eccentric comedian; Bessie Wilson, serio and expert dancer; Arthur Ben Anderson Family, Musical Oriental Americans; Charles Rivers, comedian and dancer; Patsy Nolan, female impersonator; and Agnes Macdonald, the fasting lady.

PAVILION (KINGSTOWN).—Manager, Mr. Fred R. Heley.—The Rustic Scholars opened for a short season here on Monday to a well-filled house, and were accorded a hearty reception. The programme, both vocal and instrumental, was excellently gone through, and the several items contributed by Messrs. Gilbert Fernie, Alfred Wooton-Harker, Nichols, and the New Zealand Twins were all appreciated.

DUDLEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—Kennedy's Komiks are supplying a capital evening's entertainment here. The programme includes Little Hatch, a diminutive and versatile comedian; the Verne Sisters, duettists and dancers; Mr. James Burt, described as of Geo. Dance's company; King and King, comedy couple; and the Four Godfreys, clever singers and dancers. Animated pictures complete.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred H. Anderson.—Mr. Will Sargent, vocal comedian; and Chummie La Mara, burlesque artist, are both old favourites here, and secure a good reception; and Dolly and Madge McCalla, juvenile entertainers, give a good turn. Excellent pictures are shown.

DUNDEE.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. A. P. Williams.—This week we have a musical farce comedy, entitled *The Barber*. Mr. Johnny McElroy is very amusing in the title-rôle; Mr. Anthony Gordon, Mr. Leslie Vyner, Mr. Charles Kean, Mr. Herbert Cecil, Mr. Harry Vane, Miss Dora Hammersley, and Miss Maude le Ray are also much in evidence, and all give good accounts of themselves. An excrutiatingly funny one-act drama emanating from the fertile brain of Mr. Williams also proves exhilerating fare. Janet Alexander returns to the scene of many of her former triumphs, and receives a brilliant reception; Michael Kemble, who appeared as the Demon King in Mr. Williams' last pantomime, has to respond to a double encore. The Motorscope, with a splendid series of new pictures, completes a varied and very enjoyable bill.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Percival.—The Kingston Dramatic company presented on Monday evening the Scottish drama, *Jeanie Deans*. In the title-rôle Miss Madge F. Young was seen to much advantage; an emotional Effie was supplied by Miss Emily Peel; Miss Madge Locke was responsible for a clever Madge Wildfire; Mr. Harry Egan as Dumbiedykes created huge merriment, his dialect and make-up being alike excellent; Mr. J. T. Dale was a splendid Geordie Robertson, his singing of several Scotch ballads fairly bringing down the house. As David Deans, Mr. A. W. B. Kingston gave a fine character study of the part. The following plays have also been given throughout the week, viz., *For Fame and Glory*, *Ivanhoe*, *Charles Peace*, *Peggy Armstrong*, and *Queen of the Prairies*.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE. —Proprietors, the Devonshire Park and Baths Co.; Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clarke. —Mr. W. Penrhyn Forster's company is appearing here in *The Officer's Mess*. Miss Nellie Sheffield as Rose Smith provides the house with numberless laughs, and sings, dances, and acts with much brightness; Miss Edith Harmer is a capital Sybil Carruthers; Miss Clara Nicholls is a satisfactory Lady Constantia; and Miss Essie Perrin as Selina Celeste is a most graceful and finished dancer; Mr. Harry Emeric is a really excellent comedian as Thomas Rugg, and the extensive fun he provides is always legitimate; Mr. L. Cadwaladr is a brisk effective Major-General, whose songs are splendidly rendered; Mr. P. Gedge Twyman as Captain Melville is all that can be desired in appearance, acting, and singing; Mr. Charles D. Cleveland works hard and well as Antonio; and Mr. H. Vivian is a very good Dick Potts. *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch* is announced for Thursday matinée, and for this the booking has exceeded all records.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Mr. Gerrard Grant Allen's company is occupying the stage with *The New Boy*. Mr. Leon M. Lion causes much merriment as Archibald Rennick; Mr. Harry Ashford is a humorous Doctor Candy; Mr. William J. Rea an amusing Theodore; Mr. George De Lara a good Felix Roach; and Mr. Stanley Logan a very satisfactory Logan. Miss Katherine Harington plays briskly and well as Mrs. Rennick; Miss Nellie Redwood is a bright Nancy Roach; and Miss Beatrice Manning does well as Susan. *Meg, the Mobswoman* is the curtain-raiser, and in this Miss Katherine Harrington is a particular success. Miss Annie Hughes appears later in the week in *Miss Tommy*.

THE HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Day.—Miss Esta Stella is at the head of a good bill offered here this week, and her smart style, singing, and dancing, are very successful; Miss Arabella Allen again supplies one of the most popular turns with her wonderfully fine acting and make-up in characters from Dickens; Lyster and Cook are novel instrumentalists; Mr. and Mrs. Shelley score in their amusing sketch, *Miss Summerton's Baby*; the Victoria Duo are cultured vocalists and musicians; Mr. Herry Walker is a funny comedian; Messrs. Haverley and Homer dance and joke in approved fashion, and new exciting pictures are added.

EDINBURGH.—ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Carpenter.—*The Pick of the Bunch* is being presented by Mr. Harold Wantage and company. Mr. Percy Bayerstock is genuinely humorous as Col. Joseph Menit, and there is an easy style in Mr. Harold Wantage's impersonation of Martin, servant to Halliwell Menit, the latter part being capitally played by Mr. Algernon W. Lee. Other performances of merit are the Dick Seymour of Mr. Norman Bowyer, the Ruth Gay of Miss Eva Ellis, the dashing Nellie Mather of Miss Madge Cristopher, and the quaint Wilhelmina of Miss Mabette May. Miss M. Sadie as Nancy gives a vivacious piece of acting, her burlesque of a melodrama with Mr. Baverstock being one of the greatest hits of the evening. The dancing of Miss Mabel Coleman was greatly admired.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead. —Into the musical mélange *A Trip to Coontown* about a score of coloured performers put considerable light and shade with an unlimited amount of spirit and vivacity. The two Lilliputian Wonders, Les Piccolinos, give a versatile entertainment, including rifle-shooting, cycling, balancing, wire-walking, and dancing. Wild, Wille, and West impart novelty to a clever comedy acrobatic turn; Mr. Charles Banks and his trained dog Woof are cordially received; and the most demonstrative marks of favour are bestowed on the instrumental performances of Diamond and Beatrice, Percival, and Mr. Edmund Bosanquet. Cosgrove and Burns contribute acceptably to the harmony and humour of the evening's amusement; the veteran Mr. F. V. St. Clair creates great enthusiasm; and some fine films are exhibited by the Bioscope.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Cole. —Mr. Bransby Williams is impressive alike in his Dickens impersonations and his Shakespearean monologues; he has rarely done anything better than his sketch of Othello, which he added to his répertoire on Tuesday evening. Signor and Mme. Borelli present their clever imitations of foreign singers and skilful pianoforte playing; Mr. Victor Travers is amusing in his travesty of a coon song; and Little Ganty catches on with his droll sketches. The Gasch Sisters give a particularly dashing acrobatic performance; and Mr. Bert Woodward does some wonderful feats on the bicycle, his somersault throwing with his machine over two tables being especially daring. Lew Lake and company act with dramatic effect in the little play *My Pal Jerry*; Mr. Lake and Mr. Bob Morris handle the pathetic dying scene with real power and feeling. Lieut. Travis, ventriloquist, Miss Leonie Dixon, a charming dancer, and Miss Madge May, comedienne, contribute interesting turns to a good programme.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Ventom Swift.—Leslie Curtis once more provides a bright and enjoyable turn; Smiler Lee is also prominently in favour with the audience; Howard Ward and Louie Davis give an amusing duologue; George Marquis and Gracie Mignon appear in a refined comedy act; and the comedian and comedienne element is further happily developed by Ally Miller, Donal Macdougall, Ada Kingsley, and Gracie Bard; while Clara Hastings, a pleasing vocalist, and Yettmah, an expert magician, also contribute to the programme.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Mrs. Morton Powell's company, in *When It Was Dark*, are here. Mr. E. Stanton Sharp plays impressively as the Rev. Basil Gortre; Mr. W. J. Butler gives a forcible representation of the fiendish Constantine Schwabe; Mr. Edward Valentine is excellent as Sir Robert Llewellyn; Mr. Ernest St. John does well as Rev. Byars; Mr. Millar Wilson effectively fills the part of Charles Gayfly; Mr. Harold B. Lewis is a praiseworthy Harold Spence; Mrs. Morton Powell gives an excellent rendering of the part of Helena Byars; Grace Goldeye finds a charming exponent in Miss Dorothy Hildebrande; and the trying rôle of Gertrude Hunt is well sustained by Miss Hilda Beverley.

LEAS PAVILION.—Manager and Musical-Director, Mr. D'Arcy Clayton.—"The Orchids" have scored a great success, and have been re-engaged this week; Mr. Fred Rome is irresistibly funny, and wins rounds of applause; Miss Frances Roscorla is a dainty comedienne; Miss May Windsor, in her songs at the piano, is a general favourite; Mr. Leonard Griffiths is the fortunate possessor of a powerful well-trained voice, which he u

brette and dancer, met with success; Johnnie Quinn is an acceptable vocalist; and the American Bioscope is much admired.

GLOUCESTER.—PALACE.—Owners, Messrs. C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr. R. T. Rea.—Miss Madge Daly at once gets on capital terms with her audience with a couple of catchy choruses; Kavados is an expert juggler and cannon ball manuipulator; and Johnny Norman, in eccentric songs, causes continuous laughter. The Schiavonys, comedy acrobats, are excellent; Miss Marie Weston entertains with song and dance, and Mr. Percy Maye presents a refined female impersonation; Elton and Elma, on the triple horizontal bars, give a smart and humorous show; Belrose and De Velin possess cultured voices, which are tastefully blended in duets. The Daunton-Shaw troupe of trick cyclists are wonderfully good. The programme concludes with the Bioscope.

GREAT YARMOUTH. — ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—Mr. Fred Karno's company in the pantomimical farce, *His Majesty's Guests*, occupies the boards this week. Mr. Geo. Hester causes plenty of laughter as Sergt. Lightning, and is ably assisted by Mr. Frank Morton as Lord Easem, Mr. Charles Usher as Mr. Miffin, Miss Lenora Castelle as Lady Maude Easem, Miss Edith Ager as Dolly, and Miss Kitty Brunton as Miss Manley.

GREENOCK.—EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry L. Skivington.—Mr. Howell Webb's company is here with a drama, entitled *The Convent Bell*. The principal parts are in the capable hands of Mr. Howell Webb, Miss Magdalen Moore, Miss Vana St. George, and J. P. Marsden; while the humorous element is clevely exploited by Mr. Newton-Pearce and Miss Pauline Desborough.

PAVILION THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Chas. A. White.—On the 13th inst., the general-manager, Mr. Chas. A. White, held his first benefit, which was an enormous success. Lily Soutter is the principal attraction this week, and had a capital reception on the opening night; the Seven Wulfrunas arouse enthusiasm by their clever acrobatic performance. The Orchids, vocal and comedy artists, are well received; and Tom Basett proves amusing in his Shakespearean burlesques. Peter Bermingham, Scotch comedian, and Stave, in a novel musical turn, also entertain.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry.—*An Unwedded Wife* is here this week, presented by a company under the direction of Miss Ethel Van Praagh and Mr. J. Edward Whitty. Miss Van Praagh appears as the deceived wife, Marion, and her acting evokes much appreciation; Mr. E. St. Clair Forbes represents the gentleman criminal, Phillip Blakston, in suitable fashion; Mr. Logan Darra is impressive as John Hawthorne; and Mr. Valentine Henry and Miss Elsie Walton accomplish good work as Frank Armstrong and Elsie Langham; while Little Doris is pleasing as the child, Reggie. Mr. Whitty causes much amusement as the eccentric P.C. Runyin, and is well supported by Mr. Will Casey as Napoleon Boomer and Miss Jessie Gillette as Caraway Crumpet.

THE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T A. Edwardes.—Le Diabelo's sensational feat of Looping the Devil's Wheel is attracting much attention; Galetti's Monkeys give a very amusing act; Mignonette Kokin scores a success as a comedienne; Burg, Hand, and Wise appear in a laughable burlesque; Fox and Melville contribute good illustrated songs; Luigo Salvino is an accomplished instrumentalist; and others appearing are Marie Beresford, comedienne, and Ted Saunders, comedian.

THE PIER PAVILION, CLEETHORPES.—Manager, Mr. W. T. Bolland.—The Creole Concert Party are providing the daily entertainments. The party consists of six talented artists, and the programmes include excellent vocalism and refined comedy, &c.

HALIFAX.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—*It's Never Too Late to Mend* was played on Monday by the Northern Theatres' Stock company. The fugitive, Tom Robinson, was characteristically presented by Mr. Bernard Mervyn; a clever study of Peter Crawley was given by Mr. Ernest Plumpton; George Fielding had an admirable delineator in Mr. Cyril Austen Lee; and Mr. Lallen looked the part of Parson Eden. A breezy representation of Jackie was capably submitted by Mr. John Hames; Mr. J. Cook Hinton doubled the rôles of Isaac Levi and Mr. Hawes in fine style; Miss Winnie Tempest had much to recommend her as Susan Merton; while Miss Nellie Taylor was well suited to the rôle of good-natured Mary; Miss Jessie Belmore struck a high note as a young felon.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Harrison.—The Columbia Comedy Trio, in their operatic and humorous absurdity, command great attention; Charles Mildare is a marvellous siffleur, his imitations of birds being thunderously encored. In a refined musical mélange the Sisters Carina carry all before them; a little domestic episode is well played by Mr. and Mrs. Royston Dene. The Spanish Goldinis' amazing electric dancing evokes well-deserved approbation; Blanche and Powell in a drawing-room act, Sidney Dolf, and Schenk Bros., equilibrists, receive their fair share of the honours. The Bioscope concludes.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sam Winks.—This week Miss Dinah Morris and her talented troupe of Southern State artists, including Mr. Sam Morris, in his original creation of Col. Martin Mugg, stage an exciting plantation scena, entitled *The Village in Dahomey*. May Lloyd, descriptive vocalist, Ted Marlow, impersonator, Wragg and Wragg, the Fallons, the Almas, lightning equilibrists, Dan Kirton, the Allens, speciality artists, and Phil Bransby, are well received.

HANLEY. — GRAND, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. James Wynes.—A good all-round bill is headed by the Countess Romanow in a series of classical poses entitled *Iris*, all of which are carefully chosen and beautifully staged. The Eight Lancashire Lads are exceedingly smart; the Three Sisters Urma contribute an interesting triple trapeze performance; Ernie Mayne creates roars of laughter; the Sisters Lunelle are a clever and vivacious pair; Harry Carsdale, the farmyard linguist, is most successful; Ethel Dunford's nice voice is heard to advantage; Alma and Rosi do well; and the pictures are excellent.

HARTLEPOOL. — EMPRESS. — Proprietors, Messrs. Councillor Everton and J. W. Cragg; Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Charlie Ferrier.—The principal attraction in an altogether strong programme is E. Hoggan Armadale, long associated with the late Sir Henry Irving's Lyceum company, who is giving his weird impersonation of Mathias in a specially-prepared sketch of *The Bells*. Charlie Craston, in comedy, is very amusing; Sibb and Sibb (Gertie and Willie) do some remarkable trapeze work; Maggie Rimmer goes as well as ever; Margaret Ismay and her White Coons are capital dancers; Harry Leaton is a sound singer of sensible songs; the Juggling Fitzgeralds show remarkable dexterity; and the pictures are more than usually amusing.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Scutt.—*Walker, London*, is being successfully played here this week by Mr. Arthur A. Horner's company. An excellent impersonation of Renard von Burg is provided by Mr. W. René Hammersmith; Mr. Edward A. Coventry is amusing as Jasper Phipps; and charming and dainty are the Misses Mary Pemberton and Ruhamah Catton as Bell and Nanny. Miss Ruby Wyndham makes an excellent Mrs. Golightly, and the remaining rôles have good exponents. The one-act play, *Hester's Mystery*, precedes Mr. Forrester Harvey pleasingly acting the rôle of Mr. Owen Silverdale, Miss Ruhamah Catton being convincing as Hester; and able support being given by Mrs. J. W. Braithwaite and Messrs. Walter Pemberton and W. René Hammersmith.

PIER PAVILION.—Pier-Master, Mr. R. Turner; Entertainment-Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—Delafoire is singularly clever on the zylophone, and gives various musical selections; as a variety entertainer, Mr. Douglas Beaufort, in introducing ventriloquism, sleight-of-hand, and pianoforte sketches, delights his audience; a capital comedy sketch, *The Lady Soubrette*, is smartly acted by Messrs. Fern, Pounds, John Nolan, Cyril Bydar, and Miss Veronica Brady. A miniature theatre is cleverly exhibited by Mlle. Haydee; Miss Beattie Lyndon gives a good turn as a comedienne and dancer. Some new and pleasing views are shown on Walter Payne's Bio-Photoscope.

ST. LEONARDS PAVILION THEATRE.—Pier-Master and Entertainment-Manager, Mr. Elvey Thomas.—Mrs. Ann Hughes' company are appearing in *The Young Lieutenant*. The principal characters are supported by Messrs. Buchanan Wake as the Admiral, Wilfred Norman, E. B. Davies, and Douglas Phillips as Lieutenants. The lady artists are excellent throughout, playing with intelligence and grace. The most important are the Misses Madeleine Stone as Lady Harlington, Madge Davies and Miss Mollie Elliston as Lady Winifred and Lady Evelyn Archer. The augmented orchestra, with a full operatic chorus, is under the direction of Mr. Alexandra Humphreys.

HUDDERSFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Andrews.—*A Fight for Millions* is being played here by Mr. Robert Perris's company. Mr. Tom Jones, a Welsh comedian, who plays the part of Clara-ap-Morgan, is a decided attraction.

HIPPODROME, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—Madame Ada Colley makes admirable use of a fine voice; Vasey and Brown, comedians, are particularly neat dancers; a screaming farce, entitled *Charlie's Indian*, is presented by Mr. Leo Dryden's company; Martin Conway's funny stories and comical make-up are greatly amusing; and Los Rupertos, equilibrists, Miss Mollie Nolan, a dainty comedienne and dancer, the Carlyles, in a clever dancing act, Leo Dryden, character vocalist, and new pictures on the Bioscope, are included in the bill.

HULL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. F. Morton.—The fine play, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, presented by Messrs. Hoffe and Campbells's company, has scored an all round success. Miss Prism could not have a better representative than Miss Lloyd-Desmond; Miss Hester Newton makes the most of the Hon. Gwendoline Fairfax; while Miss Nora Hope is a creditable Cicely Cardew. The Lady Brackenbury of Miss Phillis Charmers is a creditable performance; as Moncrieffe, Mr. Monckton Hope has a part which he admirably sustains; Mr. Nicholson is excellently cast as Worthing; *The Queen's Messenger* is an interesting curtain-raiser.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—*The Woman from Scotland Yard* meets with popular approbation. Mr. Alex. Grant is a fine Paul Obanoff; and in the title-rôle Miss Chrissie Dunbar makes a hit; the Adventuress is skilfully sustained by Miss Emily Money; as the Stepson, Mr. G. E. Clive does reliable work. The comic relief is strongly evident.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Mortons' Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—*Home, Sweet Home* is just the sort of play to please a popular audience, and the company which presents it here this week is one of much merit. Miss Marian Waterford has in Joan just the part to reveal those excellencies which make her work so noteworthy; Mr. Frank Lindo is an excellent Stephen Armitage; Mr. D. Laurence Doyle furnishes a fine character sketch as David Armitage. As the child, Dora, Miss Daisy Rochefort gives a very intelligent reading; and Capt. Gerald Gambier is a consistent Duke.

ILKESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—*Juno*, a musical play, is being presented this week by Mr. Julian Graham's company. The title-rôle is effectively taken by Miss Kate Graham Beck; and Miss Florence Wood is quickly in favour as Priscilla Strong; whilst Miss Edith Barnes as Mrs. Marie Strong gains admiration; Miss G. Lawson as Lottie Stimson is much applauded for her clever dancing; Mr. Harry Walsh as Timothy Twinkle keeps the audience in roars of laughter; Mr. Richard Teasdale gives a smart performance as John Murphy; and Mr. F. Carrington deserves praise for his impersonation of Samuel Strong.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Jim Morley.—The following turns are appearing here with success:—Dizart, the handcuff king; the Rollins, duettists and paterers; Fred Knowles, eccentric comedian; and Vesta Nellie, comedienne and dancer.

IPSWICH.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. E. R. Bostock.—Clarence C. Corri's company heads the programme here this week with the pantomime sketch, *Office Hours*. Other items include Bob Hamilton, Scotch comedian; Ted Curtis's Piccaninnies, who gain much applause; Speedwell, a lightning portrait painter in oils; Mr. and Mrs. George Leonard, in the droll sketch, *Coming Home*; May and Lilly, pleasing musical entertainers; and Burns and Burns, with their absurdity, *Scenes in a Museum*.

JARROW.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Rex Sugden.—The attraction here this week is Mr. Wilson Benge's company with *The Eve of Her Wedding*. Mr. Arthur Keand gives a good account of the part of Squire Liverton; Mr. Wilson Benge gives a manly portrayal of George Tremain; and Mr. Charles H. Gallier is well placed as Dick Leverton; and Mr. Charles Digby causes much amusement as Rudolph Earle, being ably assisted by Miss Sybil Hare as Gwendoline Younger and Miss Sadie Smith as Mavis Leverton. Mr. Lewis Hector plays with force the part of Dean Clifton; Mr. Norman B. Cannon is an excellent Jack Herne; and Miss Adeline Raby a satisfactory Renée. Mr. David Beattie as Giovanni proves himself a capable actor; and Mr. K. Arthur is an effective Bill Groggins.

JERSEY.—THE HORSE-SHOE QUARRY.—The Pierrots and Veroniques are still drawing big crowds, the new programme being a good one. The duet given by Mr. Payne and Miss Vincent proves very popular.

THE ODDFELLOWS' HALL.—The National Animated Pictures are still doing good business.

THE TRIANGLE PARK.—The Dagonets opened here for a fortnight, under the direction of Mr. Joseph Blascheck.

LANCASTER.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. W. J. Fergusson and John Porter.—Otto Menotti heads the bill this week with a most sensational cycling trick; Les Montaldos, slack wire artists, have a good reception; and Ted E. Box is a smart comedian. Nellie Merton and George Rydon, comedy artists, Woodhouse and Wells, patterers, J. T. Wolstenholme, vocalist, Dene and Dawson, in a comedy act, *Stage Aspirants* Lilian Elfreda, a pleasing mimic, and the Hippograph make up an excellent programme.

LEAMINGTON. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, Messrs Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Manager, Mr. Harry Hunter.—Mr. Seymour Hicks and Miss Zena Dare visited Leamington on Monday, when they appeared at the Theatre Royal in a triple bill. There was a crowded attendance, whose reception of these most distinguished artists was one of great enthusiasm. The pieces played were *Papa's Wife*, *You and I*, and *Scrooge*, the wonderful adaptation of Charles Dickens's "Christmas Carol." *In Papa's Wife* Miss Dare gave an exceedingly clever impersonation of Kate Weatherby, whilst Mr. Seymour Hicks played the part of Gerald Singleton to perfection. The second piece, *You and I*, was most amusing, and in this Miss Dare played with charming naïveté. Others who gave excellent performances were Mr. Stanley Brett, Mr. Laurence Caird, and Miss Florence Lloyd. *Scrooge* was undoubtedly the finest piece of the evening, and proved an admirable contrast to the others. Mr. Seymour Hicks gave a magnificent performance of Ebenezer Scrooge, in which he clearly illustrated his wonderful versatility. Other characters were ably sustained by Messrs. Stanley Brett, William Lugg, J. C. Buckstone, Miss Florence Lloyd, Steadman's choir, &c. At the conclusion of the performance there was an outburst of enthusiasm, during which Mr. Hicks thanked the audience for their hearty reception, and expressed a hope that both he and Miss Dare would visit Leamington again.

LEEDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—*A Warning to Women* is played by Mr. C. Watson Mills' company. Mr. Henry Rutland's portrayal of Squire Kennion is powerful and convincing; Mr. Richard Vane's representation of the villain, Dr. Dread, shows a high order of ability; and Mr. Godfrey Tearle has much to do with the success of the piece by his clever efforts as the humorous Shaun. The squire's daughter Moira is a performance of rare charm by Miss Molly Malone; Miss Elinor Glover does well as Hildred; and Miss Phyllis Brook leaves nothing to be desired in her personation of Lady Colner.

EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd; District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—The Empire patrons are this week favoured with a visit from that prince of comedians, Harry Lauder; the wonderful blind pianist Mendel again delights all with his splendid performance at the piano; the Norman and Leonard Trio also win the favour of their audience in a musical speciality; an up-to-date and clever comedy duo, Collins and Rice, provide a bright and enjoyable sketch; and Tom Owen's comedy contributions are well liked. A couple of pleasing comediennes, May Walsh and Maude Mortimer, find a ready acceptance of their items; whilst C. Randolph King, a clever character-actor, brings up the rear in great style.

PALACE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Walter De Frece.—Prominent in this week's Palace bill is the George Bonhair Troupe, a company of remarkably expert risley acrobats, whose feats arouse great enthusiasm; that clever little lady, Gertie Gitana, foots the list with neat song and dance; Cole and Herbert, a pair of smart juggling eccentrics, are deservedly popular; Will Lytton is a favourite comedian; and Tom Dunsmore, in a similar line, is also having a good week. Lily Black proves a pleasing and acceptable comedienne; and Cyril Carl, an actor-vocalist of merit, also makes a successful appearance.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietor, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; General-Managers, Mr. Chas. Weldon and Mr. Claude Shayler.—The amusing sketch *Kleptomania* is a feast of fun, in which Fred Edwards and Co. distinguish themselves, Miss Bertha Edwards being particularly clever and entertaining; uproarious merriment is also the keynote of a specialty by Joe Nightingale and Arthur Stigant, and the presentment is much enjoyed. May Edouin is singing new items in her best style; and, in a similar line, Molly Doon also scores good success. The Sisters Marion are again doing well; Arthur Goodman presents a burlesque specialty; Juno Salmo arouses interest with his weird electric turn; and further capital entertainment is subscribed by the Heures, club manipulators; Smith and Johnson, coloured comedians; Charles Faning and Nat Watkins, comedians.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Jones.—Harry Pleon is well applauded for smart new items, rendered in his best style; Mr. H. O. Wills is another prominent comedy purveyor who hits the popular taste; the Three Gregsons also provide capital comedy entertainment; Wyndham and Waters are to the fore with a clever specialty; Lil O'Gorman is a pleasing vocalist; the mimicry of Tackio is interesting and amusing; and other contributors to a good bill are Phillips and Merritt, in comedy sketch, and Fenton and Dwight, eccentrics.

LEICESTER. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. E. R. Beaumont. Mr. Herbert Barr's company is here with the musical drama *Life*. Mr. Herbert Barrs, the actor-author, makes a manly Jack Lockhart, and as the evil genius, Sir Horace Lester, Mr. Ronald Grahame is a success. Miss Dorothy Oswald is excellent as Beatrice Ferrars; and Miss Maudie Vincent as the waif, Jess, is to be highly complimented. Miss Edna Hana does well as Ruth Thorpe; Mr. Will Sherlock is good as Zac Krabbe; and Mr. A. B. Lyons, as Joe Pippet, Mr. Willis Collins, as Detective Blake, Mr. H. Evans, as Peter Thorpe, and Mr. Alf. Selwood, as P.C. Nabbs, are others who should be singled out for praise. In the last act a variety entertainment is contributed to by Miss Maudie Vincent, Mr. Will Sherlock, Mr. A. B. Lyons, Miss Ethel Bateman, and others, which meets with success.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Bertram G. Iles.—The chief attraction here this week is the historical sketch, by Louis Cohen, entitled *The Drummer of the 76th*, presented by Matthew Brodie and Co. Both Mr. Matthew Brodie, as Napoleon, and Miss Dorothea Vivian, as the drummer-boy, are to be highly complimented; Miss Augusta Tullock as Frau Wagner and Mr. J. Rosier as Marshal Launes also render capable assistance. Marzella's Birds show the acme of training, and prove a most popular item; Harry Cadle's funny eccentric act, *Casey's Circus*, creates much laughter; Gintaro, the Japanese juggler and top-spinner, is very smart; Ruth Lytton scores a well-deserved success as a Scottish comedienne and dancer; Rose and Grayson are excellent vocalists and dancers; Fred Hastings is a funny comedian, who provokes hearty laughter; the Sisters Morgan are charming duettists and dancers; Allan Hanbury, the new comedian is also a success. The American Bioscope throws on the screen some entertaining pictures.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joe Lawrence.—Miss Lois du Cane and company enter on a second week's engagement here on Monday with the episode, *Bluejacket*, Mr. Eardley Howard as Harry Franklin, and Miss Lois du Cane as Nellie Drake, being especially good; Keith and Merson maintain their popularity in their funny hunting absurdity, *The Meet*; Phedona gives a clever and prettily-staged musical entertainment; Mollie Seymour is a capital vocal and musical expert; Bert and Dora are amusing comedy artists; Harry Milton, Dutch comedian and smart dancer, appears in place of Cissie Esdale; Walter H. Pallister's Bioscope, a standing feature here, shows an excellent series of pictures.

LEIGH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Cragg; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Rousby.—The second week of the Pavilion Pierrott season is being greatly appreciated. Miss Nell Reine, comedienne and descriptive vocalist, is a success; Messrs. Sam Johns and Leen Neville are smart comedians; in the farce, *I've Sent My Wife to Golborne*, Mr. Harry Brousby makes a hit as Timothy Honeybun; Miss Nance Neill is a successful vocalist; and the pictures on the Bioscope are good.

LEITH. — NEW GAIETY THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—*East Lynne* has been a strong attraction this week, with Miss Constance Medwyn appearing to advantage as Lady Isabel, well supported by Mr. Fred Freeman as Archibald Carlyle, Mr. Clavering Craig (an ideal Levison), and Mr. James Chippendale (excellent in the short part of Lord Mountsevern). Miss Doris Gilham is a pleasing Barbara Hare; and both Miss Paulina Gear and Mr. Barry Lupino succeed in thoroughly amusing the audience as Miss Cornelia and Mr. Dill. The Hares, father and son, find characteristic impersonations at the hands of Mr. James Somerville and Mr. Percival Dye; Willie Carlyle is played in promising fashion by Miss Bessie Craig; while Miss Sallie Adelstone and Miss Trevor Dunn do useful work as Joyce and Suzanne. Following an interesting interlude of Royal Star animated pictures, a farcical sketch entitled *The Outfit* gives Mr. John Darlison opportunities for a bit of refreshingly droll comedy acting, cleverly assisted by Miss Gilham and Miss Adelstone.

LIVERPOOL. — ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—An able company, under the control of Messrs. John B. Shinton and Alexander Greenwood, has been producing here this week *The Price of Her Soul*. Miss Bessie Rignold was seen to great advantage as Olga Lanovitz, playing with much dramatic strength; Mr. John B. Shinton acquitted himself well in the rôle of Lord Mandeville; Miss Ada M. Ryder was a powerful Countess Inez; little Mabel Ronald was an intelligent Vera; Mr. Archie Gear handled the character of General Lanovitz with every satisfaction; Mr. Arthur E. Pringle looked the part of Major Ivan effectively; Miss Grace Garside made a humorous Lady Jemima; and the other rôles were effectively presented.

LYRIC.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—Heading a capital bill here this week are Rastus and Banks, smart coloured American entertainers, vocalists, and dancers; another good turn is that given by the Martelloni troupe of lady acrobats, whose work is remarkably skilful; Thorpe and Coe raise endless laughter with their absurdity, *My Burglar*; the vocal scena, *Dreamland*, by L. B. Athol, is richly enjoyed; Hook and Eye (Will and Daisy) have a merry comedy duologue, *The Latch Key*; Alice Maude, a child male impersonator, is a neat turn; Ernest Montefiore and company please greatly with *The Little Colonel*; Entwistle and Robeiro submitted an appreciated musical mélange, *The Window Cleaner*; and Durant Brothers, with their wonderful airship, also appear.

STAR THEATRE. Proprietor, and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—*A Woman's Past* is presented here this week by Messrs. Warden and Sandford's combination. Miss Maisie Hanbury is a charming Bessie; Miss Mary Mallalieu proves equally pleasing as Dorothy Heath; Mr. Horace E. Herbert has a flattering reception for his David Heath; the part of Frank Dalannoy is in the capable hands of Mr. Charles V. Sandford; Mr. A. Hamilton Warden is an excellent Clement Harper; Miss Eva Bertram does justice to the part of Clara Darrel; Mr. G. Moreton-Williams gives satisfaction as Uriah Craven; and other rôles are in the able hands of Miss Phyllis Moncton, Mr. Philip Nailer, and Mr. Frank Hayling.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—Top of the bill here is Frank Danby, supported by a company of artists in a musical comedy sketch, *The Chauffeur*, which is richly enjoyed; Jan Rudyeni and company please everybody with their musical romance, *The Power of Music*; Verno and Voyce, popular singing comedians, appear with advantage; the Jimsons have a humorous novelty sketch, *The Burglar's Surprise*; several musical instruments are skilfully played by Barton and Franklin; Fields and Lewis are a couple of excellent burlesque artists; Conway and Garland are responsible for a deal of fun with their *Left in Charge*; Harry Thurston has a merry burlesque monologue, *The Silver King*; and Wright and Elton, comedians, score decisively.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES. — Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—Here this week the Royal stock company are presenting Walter Howard's *Man and Wife*. Mr. Harry Tresham makes an excellent Paul Revere; Mr. Sydney Grant distinguishes himself as Captain D'Esparre; Mr. Robert Wilton and Mr. Leo Montgomery ably fill the rôles of Bimbo and Bambo; Miss Beryl Ravenswood makes a sympathetic Ruth Revere; and Miss Nellie Bonser plays with distinction as Marcelle.

PADDINGTON PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. M. Montgomery.—The dramatic stock company here this week are presenting *Denounced*. Mr. Francis E. Wybert plays with care as Ivan Nicholai; Mr. Frank Strickland makes a sufficiently villainous Wolf Nicholai; Mr. Wallace Campbell does well as Karl; Mr. H. G. Brandon is immensely funny as Boko; a telling Michael Gortz comes from Mr. Hesslegrave; Miss G. H. Walton is effective in the rôle of Ogara; and Miss Lina Nazeby acquits herself ably as Catherine.

HAYMARKET.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. Edwin W. Smith.—Harry Calden and company are still here this week presenting the sketch, *A Fight for Gold, or, a Man's Sacrifice*; T. C. Callaghan, in his songs and patter, proves very diverting; Kitty Kearns is a dainty vocal comedienne; and Fred Fletcher has a number of popular songs.

WESTMINSTER. — Lessee, Mr. Fred E. Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery. — The Brothers Smarte, novel eccentrics, arouse a deal of laughter; George Young, a blind musician, displays extraordinary skill; the male impersonations of Vesta Fay are creditable; Mark Lane, as a comedian, meets with approval; and Monti Santos shows much skill as a juggler.

OLYMPIA, LTD.—District-Manager, Mr. Albert Bulmer; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wighton.—The ever-popular Neil Kenyon has a budget of good things; Jack McKenzie and company present an enjoyable musical comedy extravaganza, *The Garden of Glitter*; Spry and Monti bring their smart military scena, *The Dandy Guardsman*; John L. Shine and company have a charming sketch, *An Actor's Art*; the St. Clair Brothers, comedy cyclists, provide a clever football match on bicycles; the Three Rubys, the singing contortionists, present an uncommon and highly pleasing show; and Arthur Gill, the man with many voices, Amy Russell, a sweet-toned soprano, and the Netherlands, with their pretty scena, *Dutch Pastimes*, also appear.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Nellie Wallace, returned from her American tour, has a warm reception; Phil Ray keeps his audience in a continuous roar of laughter; George Kirk and company's sketch, *Grip, or the Fatal Hand*, is immensely enjoyed; the Bruins present the latest edition of their smart trifle, *A Trip to the North Pole*; Zaid, assisted by Orienta, has a novel speciality on the rings; Tom E. Finglas is a clever delineator of negro life; the Millman Trio's tight wire feats are characterised by grace and skill; Madge Grey, a clever comedienne and mimic, tells some delightful children's stories; and Ruby Dahl, with her merry mannikins, has a much appreciated show.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors, Liverpool Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. James Marks.—Heading a capital bill here this week is Amy Augarde, with *La Carmencita*, an enjoyable little sketch, in which she is supported by Wilfred Howard, E. E. Coleman, James Dallas, and William Newland. Barney Armstrong proves exceedingly popular, his songs and patter creating great laughter; Palles and Cussick render their audience hilarious; Cedar and Elgar are a particularly funny couple; Miss Ruby Bijou, the barefoot dancer, is received with much favour; Rose Harvey renders enjoyable numbers; the vocal duets of the Sisters Melba are highly pleasing; the Athlones submit a neat posing and speciality act; some excellent banjo playing comes from the Vekeys; and Miss Lucy Weston, comedienne, also appears.

ROSCOMMON.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Willmott.—A smart pair of comedians, Farrell and Miller, are here this week, together with Cim Maree, with his novelty act, "The Human Coil"; and the Sisters Bronson, clever duettists and dancers. The Bioscope shows some excellent films.

LLANDUDNO.—PIER HEAD PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. Arthur Sutcliffe.—Messrs. Adeler and Sutton's Pierrots draw crowded audiences nightly. Miss Lillian Barnes, contralto, contributes some good songs in excellent style; and Mr. Percy James, baritone, is also in good form. Mr. Fred Barnes, light comedian, finds favour; and Mr. Tom Stuart's musical monologues, dramatic recitations, and comic songs, are hugely enjoyed. Mr. Arthur Sutcliffe, the local favourite, is all that could be desired as a comic. Mr. J. A. Tunbridge is the able accompanist.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. A. E. Vaughan; Manager, Mr. J. Ritson.—This week the above theatre is occupied by a return visit of the Parisian Animated Picture Co., with an entirely new set of pictures, coupled with which is the appearance of Colvill Dyke, magical and ventriloquial entertainer, the absurdities of his mechanical figures evidently appealing to young and old alike.

LOWESTOFT. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietor, Mr. George Gilbert; Manager, Mr. Frank Freeland.—The seasons apparently have no effect on the fortunes of this comfortable resort. Packed houses are the rule, and good management combined with generous catering are winning their deserved reward. High-class pictures are well backed up by such strong variety turns as Caban's performing ponies, donkeys, dogs, &c.; Princess Fayette's Parisian driving; Jack Heath's comic effusions, and Daisy Silcott's dainty songs.

MARINA.—Managing-Director, Mr. E. A. Smith.—The season's attractions commence this week with *All-of-a-Sudden Peggy*. Anthony finds a humorous representative in Mr. Alfred S. Barber; and Mr. Lionel Glenister is thoroughly at home as the Hon. Jimmy Keppel; Mr. J. Edgar Stevenson as Jack Menzies does excellent work. Miss Decima Moore is admirably suited as Peggy, and presents a well-thought study. Miss Kate Wingfield (Lady Crackenthorpe) and Miss Eva Lonsdale (the Hon. Millicent Keppel) are charming representatives.

MANCHESTER.—ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—Mr. W. Alexander Dallas's company is here in *The World's Great Snare*. A capital performance is given, in which Mr. Leonard Williams is excellent as Royal Keene; Mr. A. Fellows Bassett plays the renegade La Mort in strong style; Miss Lily Forsyth makes a charming and sympathetic Wild Rose, the queen of the plains; Miss Fay Garnet-Vayne provides a telling study of the Indian chief's daughter, Star Eye; and Miss Lillith Gabriel is an effective Louise Granville. Among many other distinct and varied characters, all well played, the lively rôle of Patrick Maloney is in the very capable hands of Mr. Hyland O'Shea, who makes the most of it.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hearn.—The Royal Hungarian Szarnaci Ferencz Troupe sing and dance well, and perform astounding acrobatic feats; Miss Georgette Thierry's company in *Nancy Sikes*, an episode from "Oliver Twist," is also a big attraction; the Brothers Robson, "the Hielan'men frae Argyle," are humorous in song and dance; and May and Ruby, vocalists and dancers, are warmly received. Other acceptable turns are those of the Brothers Lillian, acrobats on the silver chain; Payne Clarke, tenor vocalist; Olms and Carbeth, Continental juggling comedians; Pheon and Pheon, instrumentalists; and Fred Dornan, actor-vocalist. The animated pictures, "Sports in Galway" are interesting.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. R. Flanagan; Manager, Mr. P. Ryan Smith.—Mr. Sidney Dench and company are here for a fourth week, in another old favourite, *The Streets of London*. Miss Dora Dench as Lucy is one of the prominent successes of the cast; and among others who help to make the play interesting and attractive Mr. Leonard Laurence is seen in a clever rendering of Gideon Bloodgood, and Mr. Sidney Dench plays Badger in his usual effective style.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Day.—*A Royal Divorce* signalised its fiftieth visit to Manchester this week. Miss Edith Cole as Josephine and Mr. Frederick Victor as Napoleon are at the head of the cast, and the performance of these two is transcendently good. Of many other ladies who figure more or less prominently, Miss Agnes Finlay is deserving of special praise for her depiction of Marie Louise; while the splendid work of Mr. F. Victor is admirably supplemented by Mr. William Dexter as Talleyrand, Mr. G. M. Montanini as De Beaumont, Mr. A. Grenville as Augereau, and Mr. George Hudson as Grimand.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—Fred Ginnett and Co., in *Dick Turpin's Ride to York*, is the top attraction here this week, and proves an interesting and sensational show. Paul Conchas, the Kaiser's strong man, adds a fine exhibition of Herculean juggling. Capital turns are given also by the Musical Jees in *The Scarecrow*, and J. A. Wilson, the recruiting sergeant, assisted by Private Towser. Other clever and varied business is provided by Ernest Tilbury, a popular tenor vocalist; Little Tichbourne, comedian and big boot dancer; Leo Stormont, the well-known baritone; Clark and Hayden in a musical act; and Edith Fink, a pleasing comedienne from the musical comedy stage.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—Lasky Rolfe and company present here, with decided success, their latest novelty, *The 14 Black Hussars*; another turn of note is that of Rosina Caselli and her highly trained troupe of Chihuahua dogs of Mexico, whose performance is nothing short of wonderful; as usual Tom and Marie Motramo are delightfully entertaining, and make a hit; May Mars sings well in her effective song scena, "In the Shadow of the Pyramids"; and extremely clever and amusing are the Narow Brothers, trick cyclists and acrobats; the Jackley Trio in their acrobatic speciality are very

dancers. Some very smart hand and head balancing is done by the Pasquali Brothers, and the Bioscope pictures are attractive and amusing as usual.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. H. Melton.—Miss Maud Western and company are presenting *The Prodigal Son*. Mr. W. A. Buckstone is a soldierly Captain Fanshawe; the Jack Fanshawe of Mr. Claude Seaton is a well-studied rendering; Mr. Alf. Stretton gives a very vigorous portraiture of the villain, Ralph Marsden; while the rôle of Bill Burke is played with remarkable vividness and great emotional power by Mr. John Levey; Mr. Robt. Earl as Larry M'Gehan typifies abundantly the humour of his race; Miss Maud Western plays cleverly in the character of Dick, the outcast; Miss Ada Hender is excellent as Margaret Marsden; as Nellie Burke, Miss Helen Thompson is most acceptable; and Miss Connie Meadows displays sprightliness and verve as Mary.

MIDDLESBROUGH. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Charles Imeson.—Dr. Walford Bodie is this week paying a visit here, and he gives a clever exhibition of his powers. Russell and Reed's company create roars of laughter in a sketch, entitled *Binks's Blunder*. The Musical Acmes provide a refined musical entertainment; and Helford and Mars, singers and dancers, prove a delightful turn; Bella Skene gives a clever vocal turn; and Mr. Tom M. Mills, actor-vocalist, pleases. Little Dolly Robson, the child wonder, and T. Duriah, comedian, also add attractive turns to the programme.

OPERA HOUSE. — Proprietors, The Middlesbrough Grand Opera House Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. Ker Chatto.—The Dayton Family give a clever and comical acrobatic turn; and some excellent singing is provided by the Meister Quartette. The Star Pierrots, speciality artists, please; and W. Belliman and company cause much laughter in *A Night's Frivolity*. The Milford Bros. do some clever tricks on the trapeze; and Geo. Bernard, vocal actor, scores a great success. Other turns are given by Stanley Baltimore, comedian; Mlle. Fontain's Mannikins; the Lauriers, and Vernon's Bioscope.

EMPIRE PALACE. — Managing-Director, Mr. John Brill; Manager, Mr. Charles Rembges.—Mrs. John Lawson and company, in a sketch, entitled *Devil's Sunday*, are here this week. The Three Demons perform their cycling act on a track revolving in mid-air at the rate of 60 miles an hour; Raie Walters proves a most pleasing turn, her latest song, the "Camera," being well received. Selbo is a clever juggler; and Moon and Morris, comedians and dancers, do well; Daisy Davideon gives some excellent singing; and other turns are provided by James Brady and the Empire pictures.

OXFORD PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Alf. Graham; Manager, Mr. R. L. Griffiths.—Alfred Graham's troupe of juveniles are retained another week; and the Three Prestons cause much laughter in their absurdity. *Life in the Slums* is exceedingly well portrayed by Will Vay's Juveniles; and the Bros. Onda please in their athletic act. Will Onda's comedians create much laughter in a sketch, *Hotel Comfort;* and other turns are given by Fred Curran, comedian; the Great Vincent, tumbler; and Chas. Lilburn, comedian.

MORECAMBE.—WINTER GARDENS.—Manager, Mr. Tom Atkinson.—The Du Gros comedy acrobats have proved a sterling attraction. Satsuma, the Japanese juggler, is as clever as ever; Marie D'Alcourt sings with pleasing effect; and the Irish songs of Marie Connolly are also good.

WEST END PIER.—The choir of coloured singers from Jamaica, brought to this country by Sir Alfred Jones, have been filling a highly successful engagement, and excellent programmes have been submitted during the week.

NEW BRIGHTON.—TOWER THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Davey.—The Mystic Hussars, in a clever and mystifying military mélange; Fred Gifford, tenor vocalist; Nellie Bridger and Edith Chandler, duettists; the Sisters Iris, comediennes and dancers; Nipper Anton, in a successful and enjoyable plantation scene, are all well received here. The Imperial Bioscope shows some interesting pictures.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—TYNE THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessees, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe.—*Bootles' Baby* is here, played by Mr. Hamilton Stewart's company. Mr. Stewart, as Capt. Ferrers, realises the gallantry and grace of the character, and Mignon is prettily played by Miss Maisie Richardson; a convincing interpretation of Capt. Gilchrist is given by Mr. Henry Wolston, and the officers of the Scarlet Lancers are ably represented by Mr. Leslie Owen, Mr. Ernest Gray, Mr. Wm. Midgley, and Mr. Hubert Palmer. Other members of an able company are Mr. Tom Mowbray, Miss Isabel Roddick, Miss Georgina Wynter, Miss Gladys Harvey, and Miss Edith Ife.

PALACE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Thomas W. Rowe.—*The Best of Her Sex* is here, played by Mr. Wm. A. Armour's company, the leading rôles being assumed by Miss Alice Defoe, Miss Dora Price, Miss Nell Ingram, Mr. Herbert J. Walton, Mr. W. F. Armour, Mr. C. Conway, Mr. Edward M. Hamilton, Mr. Herbert Ashton, Mr. Philip Forster, and Mr. Fred Rignold.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon.—*The Hour of Her Triumph* is being played here by a company under the direction of Mr. Fred J. Webb. Among those prominent are Mr. Leslie Hawkins, Mr. T. O. Stephenson, Mr. Fred J. Webb, Mr. James Stuart, Mr. Louis Nanton, Miss Barbara Gott, Miss M. Danvers Smith, Miss Lailah Price and Miss Mamie Stanton.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton.—Mr. Ernest Shand's patter songs are as popular as ever; Miss Peggy Pryde's woman's rights song brings the house down; the Musical Johnstons are experts on the Xylophone, and in song and patter Fred Poplar amuses immensely; an imposing spectacle entitled *Egypt* is given by Wallace Selkirk's juveniles; and others in a good company are Buy Ryder, the Twin Andersons, Lena Verdi, and Kitty Wager.

PAVILION THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Will H. Boardman.—Mr. John E. Coyle, comedian, is very popular here this week; Nat Clifford, a nimble comedian, scores with his "Grand Hotel" song; a dainty singer is Miss Rachel Lowe; and the Minstrel Maids in a vaudeville act keep the audience interested; Mlle. Lumiere, serpentine and fire danseuse, gives a novel and picturesque performance, and the Macdonald Trio are very amusing; Chas. Rozel is a clever gymnast, and the Ringling Trio, comedy tumblers and eccentrics, the Four Rios, in a gymnastic novelty, and Edie Gray, with "the Boys" in harmony, are notable.

NORTHAMPTON.—PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Thos. A. Evans.—For the summer season the management is presenting a series of high-class Bioscope pictures by Pathé Frères, which are cleverly shown by Clement Vincent, and pleasingly varied by the musical mimicry of Adderley, the operatic vocalism and instrumentalism of the Solari Duo, and a humorous interlude *A Lesson in Magic*, by Corelli.

NORTH SHIELDS.—CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—Stanley's Urchins are here this week, and present an enjoyable act, consisting of singing and dancing. Mme. Du Roche, soprano and burlesque actress, meets with an enthusiastic reception; and Messrs. Wright and Lawson, eccentric duo, create much hearty laughter. Mr. Will Harvey and Miss Hettie Holt are pleasing comedy artists; the Sisters Du Barrie, comediennes and dancers, are well received; Mr. Frank Newbury, whistling comedian, meets with his usual success, and the Bio-photoscope is still showing some good pictures.

NORTHWICH.—THE PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. Glanmore Jones; Manager, Mr. Lindon Wyatt.—Mr. Charles Parker's Komedy Koncert Kompany are here this week. The company consists of five ladies and two gentlemen, each of whom is an artist of the highest ability. Mlle. Rosa Rosette is a brilliant violinist, and plays most difficult selections with a graceful facility; Miss Marie Cooper, a charming soubrette, wins unstinted applause for her songs; Miss Gertrude Martini meets with a hearty reception; Miss Lille M. Blythe possesses a beautiful soprano voice, and sings her songs with telling effect; Miss Violet Vaughan, the pianist and accompanist, in undoubtedly clever at her work; Mr. Arthur Linton, the humorist, is deserving of the highest praise for his artistic contributions; whilst Mr. Lauri Wylie, with his mimicking mannikin, produces some exceedingly clever imitations of George Robey. Fred Wright, jun., Eugene Stratton, and Dan Leno; Mr. Teddy Whittle has become very popular with his quaintly-humorous songs. Some new pictures by the Raymond Bio-tableaux Co. are shown.

CENTRAL THEATRE.—Proprietress, Mrs. S. Golden.—Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Levy and Mr. J. E. Cardwell's Juvenile Musical Comedy company present a bright entertainment. Wee Geo. Wood, a diminutive comedian of eleven years, sings and patters in a way that convulses the house. Miss May Gibson is a soprano vocalist of no mean order, and her numbers are much appreciated; Miss Dolly Dodds possesses a contralto voice which she uses with fine effect; as a dancer, Miss Katie Le Blanche is a prime favourite; Master Jack Harrison possesses a rich fund of humour, and his mimicry causes much amusement; the Bros. Armstrong, female impersonators and dancers, are good; the sketch, *Little Paul Pry*, by the principal members of the company, concludes an entertainment which was thoroughly enjoyed by the crowded audience.

NORWICH.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—The musical Elliott Savonas give an exceedingly attractive half-hour's performance; the Raynor Trio are highly successful as equilibrists; Mr. Richard Taylor is a good turn as a ventriloquist, mimic, and whistler; O'Malley and Brown, in their sketch, create much amusement; Ivy Adelaide is a charming comedienne and dancer; the Laville Bros. are good acrobats, and appreciated; whilst Dan Filmer is well received as a comedian and dancer. The Hippo. Bio. is especially good this week.

AGRICULTURAL HALL ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—The Royal Canadian Animated Picture Co. opened here on Monday for the week, and exhibit pictures combining fun with interesting scenes in Canada, South Africa, and life in the Far West. They are well patronised.

NOTTINGHAM. — GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Chas. P. Cooke.—Messrs. Frank J. Pitt and Charles Halling's company are presenting the drama, *£1000 Reward*. Mr. Chas. Halling has a congenial part as Vincent Ramsworth; and Mr. Frank Dallas causes much amusement as a detective of the old school. Mr. Frank J. Pitt essays the rôle of Fred Ingleford, the younger, with gratifying results; whilst Mr. J. Newton Cowling is equally at home as the elder Ingleford. Messrs. Fred Wilberforce and Joe English are well placed as Gilbert Lisle and Dick Springthorpe respectively; whilst Messrs. Arthur Merton, Charles Parker, George Owen, William Vincent, and James Ashton all do good work. A great deal of the success of the play depends upon the acting of Mme. Sanson, the adventuress, and in this rôle Miss Daisy Halling is distinctly good, and carries through the difficult situations with the ease of a perfect artist. Mrs. Sydney Halling is good as Mrs. McCarthy; as also is Miss Rose Conroy as Kitty Springthorpe. Miss Lynn Darlington is an ideal Meg, and in the third act sings in her sweet soprano, and in inimitable style, "Eileen Alanah."

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Bowmaker.—Frank and Albert Boisset and company, in *The Bricklayers*, provide plenty of boisterous mirth and rollicking fun, and are proving themselves a great attraction; Edward Lauri, Miss May Beatty, and Miss Lily Drury are seen to great advantage in the sketch, *In Her Boudoir;* Miss Marguerite Broadfoote has hosts of admirers, and again demonstrates her power to please; whilst Horace White is amongst the first-class ventriloquists who employ modern methods, and do not rely upon the stereotyped style of the past. The Phydoras are exceedingly clever knockabout musical artists, and the Sisters Poole look very dainty and present a refined entertainment of song and dance. Powell's Marionettes are very elaborately staged, and represent high-water mark in puppet shows; Harry Reynolds sings in good style songs illustrated by limelight; Frank Cumminger gives an excellent turn of sand dancing, and the programme is completed by the usual Bioscope pictures.

NUNEATON.—PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE AND ENTERTAINMENTS CO., LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter J. R. Bryan.—Messrs. Travis Green and Arthur Hinton (in conjunction with Messrs. Mathew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond) are presenting *A Soldier of France*. There was a good house on the opening night. Mr. Arthur Hinton gives an excellent portrayal of Corporal Jean; Mr. W. Travis Green makes a capable Judas Delara and Count D'Laban; Mr. Victor Millard does good work in the double rôle of Captain and Lieutenant Lorraine; as Duke D'Laval, Mr. M. H. Glenville is seen to advantage; and Miss Leila Zillwood wins hearty applause for her interpretation of Pauline Lorraine. Mr. Fred Osman as Pollyput Jollyboy, and Miss Hetty Zilwood as Mayol, supply good comedy.

OLDHAM.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—Messrs. Fred Acton and H. C. Nash opened here on Monday evening with *Between the Lights*. Miss Eileen Bamford as Violet Warren plays in a sympathetic manner, and Miss Fannie Williams is very good as Madge Armley. Mr. Bertram H. Ross gives a smart portrayal of Captain Robert Hinton; and Mr. Wm. R. Winning is very good as the scheming Stanley Crofton. Mr. Frederick Garrett and Mr. Frank Orchard are very good as Gerald Warren, and the latter artist doubles the parts of Oswald Warren and Ben Armley very cleverly. Mr. Fred Acton is a success as Jimmy Tickle. Miss Millie Doris as Kitty and Mr. Frank Daleno furnish the comedy, and sing some capital songs.

COLOSSEUM THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. Eastwood.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley are here with *A Sister's Sin*. Mr. H. Arnold Allen makes a capital Harold Raymond, and Mr. Andrew Money is very good as the villainous George Oakley. Mr. Edward Bikker as Walter Hastings does well; Mr. Ernest Frere and Mr. Harry Lyndon make a good Ikey Moses and Theophilus Hope respectively. Miss Mabel Scudamore was a charming Minnie Hastings; whilst Misses Lillian Radburn and Violet Langley as Charzel and Redempta do same capable acting. Miss Dorothy Love is good as May, and Miss Iza Lyndon makes a capital Jack. Miss Edie Macklin as Floss Perks and Miss Effie Macintosh as Nell Stubbs, with Mr. T. Power as Larry Murphy, keep the audience in good humour.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Howgate.—Miss Ray Wallace, mimic, earns several recalls in a delightful manner. Lord's Excelsior Opera Singers, including Miss Ona Ashton, a local favourite, sing some capital melodies with success; the Pickel troupe are clever and clean in their risley performance; Manson and West are very good in *Telling the Tale;* Milano Bros. are smart dental athletes, one of whom lifts a motor-car whilst balancing on his hands; Bert Danson is a funny comedian, and Laurina Lindley, operatic vocalist, sings well. Little Tim and the Dottoscope complete the bill.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Nuttall.—Raglus, eccentric, causes much laughter in a novel act. Gladys and Alber are very good in a comedy act, and they have caught on. Fenton is an expert in sand and smoke pictures, and his shadowgraphy is very good; Effie Stuart, Scottish comedienne, is one of the smartest dancers who have appeared here; the Two Kays are capital vocalists, with a good scena, *The Nightingale;* Rose Pink is a dainty little maiden in song and dance; Tom Leo, comedian, also appears, and the Dottoscope concludes the programme.

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Lucas, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. C. Dorrill.—On Monday, Miss Annie Hughes opened here with her company in *Miss Tommy*. Miss Annie Hughes gave a most delightfully fresh and bright performance in the title-rôle, and quickly enlisted the sympathies of the house; she received splendid support from Mr. Rupert Lister, who played Dick Danvers in a convincing fashion that showed genuine power; Mr. Evelyn Vernon was just what was required as the father, Peter Hope; the parts of Clodd, the manager, and Flipp, the office boy, were lled in a most satisfactory manner by Mr. Willie Hartill and Mr. R. F. Beach; Miss Winifred Pearson played the part of the heartless and vicious Mr. Morrison with considerable effect; and Miss Vera Pole made a most interesting and fascinating child as Honner. On Thursday Mr. Symour Hicks and Miss Zena Dare are billed to appear here in *Scrooge, Papa's Wife*, and *You and I*.

EAST OXFORD THEATRE.—Lessees, Miss Winifred Stuart and Mr. C. Watson Mill; Manager, Mr. Frank Stuart.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's company is here with *The Sin of Her Childhood*. Mr. James Duncan gives a very natural and careful rendering of the Rev. Alan Gray; while Mr. Wilson Summers depicts Stephen Heysel with considerable skill and due restraint; Mr. Frank Liston enlists sympathy with his quiet delineation of Capt. John Thornton; and Mr. Hugh Brady is responsible for a good deal of fun as Barney O'Reilly; Miss Clara Santley is true to life as Maria Heysel; and Miss Kate Lever makes a bright and vivacious Eliza Muggins; Miss Lissa Young has a good reception as Hannah Spry, and is vociferously encored for her songs; while Little Dorothy is a great succes as Eric Dugdale; and Miss Effie Bartlett is good as Merle Heysel.

PAISLEY.—HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Douglas F. Bostock.—Prominent here this week are the Cee Mee Family of gymnasts, who execute difficult and amusing feats; the Yankee Comedy team submit a capital drawing-room entertainment; Luis Hardt, the boy Samson, demonstrates his ability in weight lifting; much laughter is aroused by Harry Grey in his versatile entertainment; Emmie Milsted and Joe Bell, in an Indian musical comedy scena, *The Belle of Arizona*, are deservedly well received; R. C. Magill, Scotch comedian, scores with his humorous songs; Olive Armadale is a pleasing ballad vocalist, and receives encomiums; a much appreciated turn is the marvellous juggling of the Clavers; and the Hippodrome Bioscope terminates an excellent programme.

PLYMOUTH. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee, Mr. C. F. Williams; Manager, M. J. Longden Lee.—*Mice and Men* is played by Mr. Michael Dempsey's company. Mr. W. H. Rotherham gives a careful portrayal of the systematic and dry-as-dust Mark Embury; Little Britain is admirably played by Miss Helena Parsons, her gradual evolution from the cumbersome child to the graceful girl being eagerly followed; Mr. Edmund Lee as Roger Goodlake, is a mainstay of the performance; and Miss Mabel Osborne capably acquits herself as the frivolous wife, Joanna. Miss Dot Seilby is an amusing matron of the Foundling Hospital; and Mr. Edward Percival is entertaining as the Beadle.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. C. F. Williams; Manager, Mr. Percy Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Grant.—The attraction here is Arthur Shirley's *Passion's Power*. Mr. Gerald Spencer gives a clever representation of a remorseless villain, the scenes with his attempted victim (admirably played by Miss A. Mercandalli) being particularly dramatic. Mr. C. A. Melton plays the forgiving lover with his accustomed ability; and Mr. Greene Taylor, in accordance with expectation, makes a great success of the comic business.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—Leoni Clarke's trained cats, rats, mice, canaries, and monkeys give a finished, and, at the same time, amusing animal performance; Miss Sybil Montague, ballad vocalist, has a voice of fine range and power, distinctly above the average; Park's Eton Boys are heard to advantage in some single and combined numbers; Walker and May, a blind comedian and expert dancer, were deservedly encored for a very clever exhibition; and Hulse and company present a stirring dramatic episode, entitled *The Fight in the Forge*. Other contributors are Jack Walker, Meadows and company, and Vernon's pictures.

PORTH.—THE PALACE (late Opera House).—General-Manager, Mr. C. W. Poole; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Bynorth.—Pearce and Ward, dancers and patterers, contribute greatly to the evening's enjoyment here; T. E. Hughes is a comedian with a real sense of humour; Welda and Wyne, introducing juggling, dancing, and tumbling, are smart; Lily Lonsdale is accorded a hearty reception for her singing; Robins and Collier, in a musical comedy scena, *The Lady and the Porter*, make a big hit; the Valdos, eccentric motor-'bus men, provide amusement; the Avolas, comedy acrobats, are successful; Ernie Myers is a good comedian; Kata's Komical Kidgets are also entertaining; Johnny Fuller scores as the Great Little Cat on the wire, and the Palace pictures are very interesting.

PORTSMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—Mr. Charles Macdona's *Gay Parisienne* company is fulfilling a week's engagement at this house. Mr. Will Harmen played with unctuous humour the part of Mr. Ebenezer Honeycombe, and was ably supported by Miss Holford Beringer as Mrs. Honeycombe; Major Fossdyke was amusingly taken by Mr. Squire Day; Mr. T. Kennard as Tom Everleigh did well; and Mr. Clifford Seyler in the rôle of M. Pompier was droll. Miss Alice Nixon as Julie Bon-Bon gave an excellent interpretation; Miss Nance O'Neill was quite satisfactory as Norah; and Miss Madge Soutter as Ruth was decidedly good. The vocal quartettes, in which Messrs. Hoddy, Rose, Kennard, and Fitzjames took part, were much admired.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate.—The thrilling drama, *The Biggest Scamp on Earth*, is being staged here by Miss Frances Delaval and company. Miss Delaval in the rôle of Naomi, has a part that suits her admirably; Vivian Wakefield found an excellent exponent in Mr. Jack Cleve; Mr. Fred Emery well sustained the part of Derrick Knight, "the biggest scamp on earth"; Napoleon Hawke was characteristically acted by Mr. William H. Burton; Miss Dorothy Milne well portrayed the heroine; Miss Violet Mignon as Bobby was very good indeed; and Miss Rose Vernon Paget depicted the lodging-house keeper, Mother Hawke, with great success.

EMPIRE-PALACE.—Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—A well-varied bill this week is being put before the patrons of this house. John Marx, monarch of muscular might, is nightly astonishing the audience with his extraordinary feats of strength; the Elvio Trio, in the amusing scena, *Those Troublesome Slaveys*, are laughter-provoking; the Brooklands are dainty soubrettes and danseuses; Walter Stanley, eccentric comedian and dancer, with quite a style of his own, receives a hearty greeting; Patty Yole, a comely and tuneful comedienne and danseuse, gains approval; Regan and Ryan, in a high-class comedy act, do well; Rita and Roma are very clever in their business; Gwennie Hasto is a charming and refined vocalist and fancy dancer; the Bros. Ashley and company, in a laughable and clever boxing act, *Next, Please*, score well; the Warsaw Bros., in a musical comedy act, are highly amusing; and Payne's Pictures finish a meritorious programme.

HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. de Frece; General-Director, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—The programme submitted here this week is of excellent quality. The Six Bros. Luck, in their original pantomime, *Hotel Grande*, are screamingly funny; Mr. A. G. Spry is the quintessence of drollery; Miss Violet Carlyle, in her capital scena, *My Mountain Maid*, is favourably received; E. R. Dainez's circus is a very popular turn; Susie and Protti, whirlwind dancers, give an extremely good terpsichorean act; Francini, Olloni, and Page, Continental comedy instrumentalists, are clever in *Une Soirée Musicale;* Miss Harriett Vernon, burlesque actress, has a flattering reception; Mr. Dan Robans is a capable vocalist; Miss Florence Somer, a dainty comedienne; and the Hippodrome pictures complete the bill.

RAMSGATE. — AMPHITHEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Bowman.—The Alliance Bioscope combination of animated pictures and clever variety turns fill the bill at the Amphitheatre this week, the performances being much enjoyed by the audiences. Messrs. G. Egerton Burnett and Harry Tindell, who introduce the show, are to be congratulated on its excellence. The variety turns are by Le Brun and Mlle Irena, jugglers and equilibrists; Little Edie, talented child vocalist; and Miss Katie Kyrle, vocalist, whose songs are illustrated by means of dissolving lantern view. The Amphitheatre has, during the past fortnight, been thoroughly cleaned and overhauled, and now presents quite a smart appearance.

ROYAL VICTORIA THEATRE.—Proprietors, Ramsgate Corporation; Lessee and Manager, Mr. Jules Richeux.—*A Fool's Paradise*, staged in first-rate style by Mr. Wylie A. Thompson's clever company, has constituted the attraction here this week. Miss Laura Hansen gives evidence of the possession of splendid histrionic power in the rôle of Beatrice Selwyn; and Miss Margery Chard plays finely as Kate Derwent. Mr. Cecil Wynne makes a delightful study of the part of the physician, Sir Peter Lund; and Mr. Arthur Claremont impersonates Lord Normantower with admirable effect. The juvenile parts of the Hon. Tom Verinder and Mildred Selwyn are capably sustained by Mr. Wylie A. Thomson and Miss Hilder Stericker respectively; while Mr. J. Henry Twyford effectively portrays Philip Selwyn, the husband of Beatrice. *A Fool's Paradise* is preceded each evening by the curtain-raiser *An April Shower*.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietor Mr. Milton Bode; Mr. George Dance's Variety Season, Manager, Mr. E. J. Macdermott.—A specially attractive programme is provided for the Ascot Race week. Henry Coutts and company present a very clever sketch entitled *Outflanked*, in which a variety of marvellously quick transformations are introduced: Mr. and Mrs. Lucas display much artistic ability in their interpretation of Scenes from Dickens; the Cumberlands performs some agile and clever feats as trick cyclists; the Stella troupe of speciality dancers are again well received; Mr. A. W. Scott, coon delineator and dancer, gives a good turn; and Nettie Starr is a pleasing comedienne. The entertainment closes, as usual, with some excellent pictures on Vernon's Imperial Bioscope.

ROCHDALE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Hogue.—*The Octoroon* occupies the boards here this week, and finds great favour with the popular parts of the house. Mr. Hugh Montgomery submits a powerful impersonation of Salem Scudder; Mr. J. O. Stewart cleverly impersonates the unscrupulous Jacob M'Closky; Mr. Oliver Birrell makes the most of George Peyton; and Mr. Harry Leander is a typical old negro as Pete. Miss Marie Harcourt is all that could be desired as Dora Sunnyside; Miss Florence Thorne is capital in the part of Mrs. Peyton; and the title-rôle is enacted by Miss Leslie Warner, whose spirited acting was greatly appreciated.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. Smith and Co.—Pringle's North American Animated Picture Company is still here drawing large houses. Capital pictures of varied descriptions are shown on the screen, with variety turns at intervals by Hector and Sultan, comedy sketch artists, and Three Tivoli Girls, duettists and dancers.

EMPIRE. — Proprietor, Mr. Thomas Hargreaves; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Hargreaves. — Animated pictures by the Empire Bioscope are the chief feature here this week. A capital series is submitted, which the audience thoroughly appreciate. The Markies, musical comedy sketch, and Mollie Malone, Irish comedienne, also appear with success.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—*The Best Must Win*, by Myles Wallerton and Frances Gilbert, is this week presented by Valentine Beadon's company. Mr. Sidney C. Cranston (who is the general-manager) successfully portrays the hero, Paul Dumaresq; and the villain, Gaston, is ably sustained by Mr. Graham Woods. Much fun is contributed by Mr. J. D. Clyde as Minos; Mr. A. H. Menzies as Jacques Courcel and Miss D. Humphreys as Suzette. Miss Marie Robson undertakes the dual rôles of Terese and Lucelle with distinction; Miss Marie Menzies plays Denise with advantage; Mr. G. H. Child gives a fine study of the old soldier Sabertache; Miss Dorothy Lane is successful as La Marquise de Marcel.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. J. C. Patterson. — Miss Daisy Dormer is a charming artist, who gets much applause for her songs and dancing; the vaudeville entertainers, the Courtiers (eight), under the direction of Paul Mills, are very clever singers; Ariel and Astarte are smart aerial gymnasts; Brothers Curran, in farce, *Taking the Census;* Cull-Pitt, assisted by Adele, in clever illusion tricks and patter; Spencer and Marks, in their sketch, *The Stage-Struck Waifs;* Charles Coverdale, eccentric comedian; and Charles Rowen, comedian, also appear.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead.—A very pretty musical scena, called *The Enchanted Garden*, by the Zerbinis troupe of seven, is enthusiastically applauded. The wonderful illusion, "So-da," mystifies the audience; Gustave's Royal Pierrots (five ladies and five gentlemen) do some very good business; "There's going to be a show" is a smart moulding in clay and sand act by Gravetta and Parr; topical songs by Harry Barclay, smart juggling and good dancing by the Sisters Belmont, Mme. Collard's scene with trained boarhounds as lions and tigers also give much pleasing entertainment.

SCARBOROUGH. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietress, Mrs. Henry Mayhew; Manager, Mr. Fred P. Morgan.—Miss Augusta Tullock and company, in *The End Crowns All*, are playing here this week. Miss Tullock gives an able portrayal of Vera Romaine; Mr. Arthur Plummer as Lord Lyndhurst makes a capital hero; Mr. Roy Milton as Prince Borinsky acts with considerable power; Miss Amber Wyville as Lola Ivanovitch sings creditably; and Mr. Hugh Travers as Nicholas Boris does well. All the other parts are in excellent hands.

AQUARIUM.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. Walter Kitchingman.—The chief attraction here this week is Stylo, who produces effective results from hoop manipulation; Mlle. Corri sings character songs with good effect; Mlle. Rosa is a clever dancer; the Neilsons submit a duologue, entitled *Silly Billy;* Miss Dolly Andrews, comedienne, is very pleasing; and Arthur Stratton has a humorous sketch, while Fred Duxbury, elocutionist, also appears. Mme. Levante's orchestra of ladies play selections during the day.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. George Zalva.—Taylor and May, coloured duettists and dancers, show great skill; Sam Dalton, comedian, is full of humour; Lillian Travelli sings agreeably, and Carr and Rose please with their speciality turn. The animated pictures prove most interesting.

SHEERNESS. — THE PALACE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Phil Reymond.—An excellent all-round company is here. Daddy Breezer is very funny, and causes roars of laughter; *The Slavey on Strike* has made a big hit; Mr. Phil Reymond is still to the fore as a first-class vocal comedian and character actor; Miss Topsy Levane is a capital low comedy artist and an expert dancer; and the Crown Sketch Company concludes with the laughable *A Fight for a Wife*.

SHEFFIELD. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—Mr. Harry Roxbury's company opened to a good house on Monday in *A Little Vagrant*. Mr. J. W. Gallighar caused roars of laughter as Slideaway Bates, and Miss Vashti Wynne, Mr. Cecil Collins, and the other artists were all successful in their respective parts.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—Mr. Charles Harrington and his celebrated combination, in *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, are meeting with their usual success this week. Mr. Harrington repeats his amusing impersonation of Phineas Fletcher, and the other characters are well played. In the third act a very entertaining plantation concert is introduced, in which the coloured members of the company greatly distinguish themselves.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Moss Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan P. Dunbar.—A house packed from floor to ceiling welcomed Mr. Fred Karno's talented company on Monday in the new farcical absurdity in three scenes, *The Bailiff*, with Mr. Fred Kitchen, the genial comedian, in one of his quaint and inimitable comic creations. A charming little extravaganza is performed by Miss Lennie and Mr. Hast, the talent of the artists being helped by beautiful scenery and effects. D'Arc's wonderful variety marionettes are enthusiastically applauded and very cordially received are Mr. Charles Norton, an original mimic and comedian; Mr. Tom Wootwell, an old favourite; Mr. and Mrs. Finden, sketch artists; Fred and Parly, hand balancers; Starr and Leslie, vocalists and jugglers, &c.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Vaudeville Syndicate; Manager, Mr. David Warwick.—The following contribute to the programme this week: Mahatmas, illusionist; the Sisters Allen, pleasing duettists; Mr. Fred Pollard and company, in a burlesque; Miss Cissy Esdale, vocalist; Mr. Arthur Richardson's comic comedy company; Mr. Alf Ripon, variety artist; and Pallister's popular pictures.

CENTRAL HALL.—Proprietors, Jasper Redfern, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Fred W. Holmes.—"Forty Winks," "A Brigand's Story," and other new films are well received this week, and smart turns are done by Jack Renson and Miss Rose Waite, two old local favourites; the two Balzens, in a novel act; and Mr. Leonard Bean.

FITZALAN HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Edward Ranier.—In addition to the stock dramas Professor Bluett, a clever conjurer, is appearing to good audiences nightly.

SOUTHAMPTON. — GRAND THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Weston.—The attraction this week is Mr. John Humphries' company in *First-Class*. Mr. Humphries, in the part of Dan, a miser, beggar, and thief, acts admirably; and another favourite member of the company is Mr. Bay Russell, who is seen to great advantage as Jack Stroud.

PALACE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Wm. Trussell. — R. A. Roberts, the protean artist, is starring here in *Dick Turpin*, and he meets with a cordial reception. Other excellent turns are given by Lanos and Montes, Continental eccentrics; Les Sados, juggler; Rell and Butt, patterists and dancers; the Lombardi duo, operatic vocalists; Vere and Royal, comedy artists; Ethel Arundell, serio, and Master Carr, juvenile comedian and dancer.

HIPPODROME. — Joint Proprietors, Messrs. Fred Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. P. Howell.—The Albert and Edmunds comedy troupe top the list, and evoke continuous laughter with their sketch, *The First Mrs. Banbury*. Another popular feature of the bill is the irresponsible trifle submitted by Minnie Hunt and Rhys Thomas, entitled *Her Birthday;* Helen Charles is a delightful society entertainer; and Tina Clementa's horse and dogs are remarkably clever. Resau's trio of equilibrists are smart; the Sisters Charnley, duettists and dancers; Lottie Collard and Nellie Dunbar, comediennes, also appear.

PIER PAVILION.—Acting-Manager, Mr. H. C. Sait.—*The Hollanders*, a merry and bright concert party directed by Mr. Leslie Gaze, provide the attraction here this week, and their original entertainment, given in dainty Dutch costumes, proves very attractive.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—EMPIRE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Conquest; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power—Mr. John Leopold and company are here with *New Frivolity*. Mr. Watson Hume gives an agreeable impersonation of Oliver Buckwheat. Mr. John Leopold, jun., who takes the rôle of Daniel Teething in creditable style, sings well and thoroughly deserves the hearty recall accorded him for his smart and clever dance with Miss Amy Hall, the later artist giving entire satisfaction as Lucy Buckwheat. Mr. Willie Leopold imparts a vigorous portrayal

Lloyd was a manly Leonard Murray; Mr. Owen Edwin as Bobbie Vane and Mr. Elton Morgan as Glory were both very amusing; Miss Flo Norman as Phyllis assisting with them in several laughable scenes; and Miss Annie Hylton as the heroine proved herself an accomplished artist.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Willmot; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Vic Carnell.—Charles Majilton and company of comedians are here in the evergreen comedy, *Round the Clock*. Arthur Kennedy is undoubtedly one of the finest trick cyclists that have appeared at this house; Jenny Hartley is a clever dancer; Cim Maree a contortionist of exceptional ability; Gladys Williams is amusing in a burlesque lecture, *Man;* and Jules Kiora is a clever hand balancer.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Revill, jun.—This week we have *The Manxman*, the fine impersonation of Pete by Mr. Alfred B. Cross commanding everyone's appreciation. Miss Minnie Watersford acts impressively as Kate Cregeen; and Nancy has a capable representative in Miss Nellie Freeland. Mr. Sydney C. Kearns is thoroughly effective in the character of Philip Christian; and Mr. Frank Etheridge gives a clever portrayal of Cæsar Cregeen.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Black.—The Edgertons, trapeze artists, accomplish some daring feats. Among others are Miss Agnes Molteno, in a charming scena, *Dolly and a Coach;* W. B. Raby, a comedian with tuneful songs; Sam Redfern, with his amusing patter; the Collier and his Child (Retsyl and Myra), in a clever second-sight performance; Miss Alice May and company, in a laughable sketch, *Tranquillity*, in which Miss May shows marked versatility; the Belmont Sisters, pleasing comediennes and dancers; the Maritana Opera company, in scenes from *Il Trovatore* and *The Bohemian Girl*.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—HIPPODROME THEATRE.—General-Manager, Robt. A. Nicholson; Assistant Manager, Mr. Geo. Stainton.—The Stein Eretto troupe of acrobats provide a fine entertainment; J. C. Scatter is a popular comedian here, and is greatly appreciated; Maggie Walsh is a delightful soprano vocalist; and Ingram and Irving present a highly amusing sketch, *The New Office Boy*. The Musical Palmers are also well received; the Saletos present an elaborate gymnastic act; the Dancing Gilberts are a pair of artistic dancers; the Hartleys are an excellent troupe of acrobats, and the pictures are very humorous.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Councillor J. Batty; Manager, Mr. W. Batty.—Fred Curran, the comedian, has made an immense hit here; Oswald Williams provides an elaborate illusionary show, and is both amusing and interesting. Jennie Johns is one of the most delightful artists witnessed here, and is greatly admired; Bugler Carr provides a pleasant entertainment as a bugler; and the Days, second-sight seers, offer a sensational turn. Helene and Emilion are greatly admired in their gymnastic entertainment, and William Gourlay is a very funny comedian. The pictures are very humorous.

STOKE.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Manager, Mr. J. H. Miller.—Mr. H. Leslie Bell presents Miss Lily Pearl and company in the New York Society sketch *The Red Letter*, which is most interesting. Daisy Jerome scores a huge success in her songs; A. E. Clifford is a capital vocalist; the Sivanes, in their comedy act, are well received; Harry Tate's company in *Motoring* causes screams of laughter; Ada Parker is a good coon singer; Chas. Lestree is a juggler with much ability; and the Bioscope shows some capital pictures.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Carlo.—A rare treat is being offered to Wearsiders this week by the visit of Mrs. T. Greenwood-Croft's company in *The Idler*. Mr. Phillip Cunningham plays Mark Cross with dignity, smoothness, and polish. Mr. Stephen T Ewart, in the trying character of Ivo John Harding, comes through the ordeal with infinite credit. Mr. Wm. Attfield gives an unconventional rendering of the American millionaire, Simeon Strong; and Mr. Reginald Myers is efficient as Bennett. Mrs. T. Greenwood-Croft sustains the rôle of Lady Harding with great finish; Miss Celia Gordon, as Mrs. Cross, is deserving of more than passing mention, her histrionic ability calling for praise; Mr. C. W. Spencer submits a capital study of General Merryweather; and in Miss Zoe Davis is found a captivating Kate Merryweather. Miss Lucy Edwin is advantageously placed as Mrs. Glym-Stanmore.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Theatre Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Jos. Hemingway.—Mr. Chas. Watson Mills' *A Wrecker of Men* company occupies the boards here this week. Mr. Eric Campbell simply rollicks in the part of Jim Murley, the slogger; Mr. Percy Horton is well placed as Guise Strange; as is also Mr. Thompson Curruthers as Eric Melville. Mr. Milner Noble as Pharosaphus the Egyptian, and Mr. Leslie Ross as the Hon. Reggie Verincourt are adequate. Miss Ruth Zillwood invests the trying part of Risca Mallison with distinction. Miss Gwendoline Talbot is exceedingly pleasing as Doris Melville; and Miss Beatrice Reynolds is amusing as the slavey, Vavasole Slopper.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Lessees, The United County Theatres, Ltd.; Acting-Managers, Messrs. Alfred Browne and Syd. B. Stringer.—The programme this week includes the Ten Loonies in their lively musical sketch, *Dotty*, which has a tremendous reception; Johnson and Wells, clever coloured vocalists and dancers, are invariably well received; the Fordyces are a neat and nimble pair of entertainers; Russell Carr has a soldier automaton in his ventriloquistical turn. The bill also includes Claire Greta, vocalist and dancer; the Kirbys, in an amusing absurdity sketch; Alec Kendal, patter comedian; and the usual display of bioscopic pictures.

SWANSEA.—THE GRAND.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Brooks and Woodbridge; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Oswald Brooks; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Dean.—An admirable presentation of *The Tyranny of Tears* is given this week by Mr. Norman MacOwan's company. Mr. Arthur Somers is to be congratulated on his excellent impersonation of Mr. Parbury, the literary man, whilst Miss Mary Masters, as Mrs. Parbury, adds considerably to her reputation. The versatility of Mr. Norman MacOwan is further proved by his able rendering of the part of Mr. George Gunning. As Miss Hyacinth Woodward Miss Violet Sterne plays with a depth of feeling that ensures the plaudits of the audience. Mr. Murray Hathorn, as Colonel Armitage, is one of the successes of the evening; Mr. Robert Entwhistle as Evans, the butler, is really good; and Miss Isabel Hathorn makes the most of the maid, Caroline.

STAR.—Manager, Mr. William Coutts; Assistant-Manager, Mr. S. P. Powell.—The drama, *Under the Russian Flag*, is well received here. Mr. Jack Haddon, as Captain Demetrius, is supremely good. Miss Violet Lytton, as Vera Vassiloff, is a great success. Joan Romanoff was cleverly presented by Mr. Charles Stafford. Miss Marie Rayner is capital as Luka Marischla. Mr. Edward Avinal, as Wolf Marischla, is excellent. The comedy of the piece was well sustained by Miss Molly Hackett, Mr. Hal Forde, and Mr. Templer Ellis.

EMPIRES, LTD.—Manager, Mr. A. Mitchell; Assistant-Manager, Mr. P. C. Rowe.—The wonderful Craggs, who top the bill here this week, combine skill and comedy to an astonishing degree. Joe O'Gorman is, as usual, a huge success. The Three Sisters Sprightly provide a brisk and bright turn. Some excellent violin-playing, together with harp and xylophone selections, stamp Les Frasettles as high-class musicians. George Ridgwell has an excellent baritone voice which he uses well. A clever ventriloquial turn is contributed by David Poole. The Moulier Sisters display wonderful prowess on the horizontal bar, and Will Musgrave, comedian, is a host in himself. The Bioscope has some excellent films.

TON-Y-PANDY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, Messrs. Carlton and Duckworth; General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth.—Hackenschmidt heads the programme here, and his fine physique and excellent bouts meet with great favour. The St. Johns, musical experts, provide a smart turn; while the Alskarno Trio are clever Risley artists. The Woollhafs also merit much approbation; and the same remark applies to the Moncktons in their sketch.

TORQUAY.—PRINCESS PIER CONCERT HALL.—Proprietors, The Torquay Town Council; Manager, Mr. A. T. Tremlett.—The Medleys are paying a return visit here this week. Miss Ada Gaskill renders some songs in dainty fashion, and also does well in a duet with Mr. Geo. Blackmore, who is amusing in his humorous songs. Mr. J. M. Campbell provokes much merriment in his sketches, and Mr. Francis Ludlow has a good baritone voice. Mr. Geo. Swaine is an efficient accompanist; Mr. Wallis Arthur also does well.

TYNEMOUTH. — PALACE-BY-THE-SEA.—Proprietor, Mr. J. H. Graham; Manager, Mr. Lindon Travers.—The bill here this week is headed by Gillin, a humorist and ventriloquist of considerable ability; M. Loudoun Cameron, magician, also contributes an interesting turn; Mary Ambrose, vocalist and violinist, is well received; Eugene and Willy contribute a capital musical act; the Brothers Cress, acrobatic grotesques, perform many wonderful feats; Mr. Travers this week introduces a new aspirant for stage honours, namely, Wilfred Bernand, who proves himself to be a character impersonator of no mean order. The evening entertainment winds up with a good show of animated pictures.

WAKEFIELD.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—*At the World's Mercy* is presented here this week by Mr. Cairn Loates and company. Mr. J. R. Murray gives a capital rendering as Jabez; Mr. G. D. Knight does well as Morris Goldstein; Mr. Jess Boxer is seen to advantage as Charles Smart; and Mr. W. H. Irving proves efficient as Stoneling Sam; Mr. Carr Loates gives a clever and convincing portrayal as Captain Frank Manley; Miss Madge Devereux is an able exponent of Alice Lloyd; Miss Minnie Dalton is effective as Mrs. Roukes; Miss Cissie Milford gives a clever impersonation in the dual rôles of Skittles and Keitty, a music-hall star; and Miss A. Hunter is pleasing as Rosie.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—Messrs. O'Connor and Brady, old favourites here, create much merriment; Miss Georgina Leonard is an attractive comedienne; Tony Iveson, tramp musician, wins applause; James Shingleton, singing collier, sings with telling effect; Allen McAskell, conjurer, takes well; and Clarke and Glenny, in *The Haunted House*, rouse much mirth; Richard Finberg displays ability as a character actor.

WALSALL.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd. General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—All-round attractiveness marks this week's programme, which is headed by Arthur Lennard, character vocalist, in his latest successes; the Three Sisters Chester, banjoists, vocalists, and dancers, meet with a good reception; Barrett and Knowles, patter comedians; the Lafaille Troupe, in a clever equilibristic act; the Regals; Minna Merry, eccentric comedian; Harry Edson and his wonderful dogs, are all highly appreciated. The American Bioscope completes the bill.

WARRINGTON.—ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr. F. Willmot.—Coram, the ventriloquist, makes his re-appearance, and increased patronage has been the order. Stelling and his clown-dog Kiswaski supply a capital turn, and Bonnetti and Corrie are clever comic jugglers. Eileen and Marjorie are smart patterers, and Mac and Hill good comedians. Lily Flexmore also does well, and the Bioscope is showing Pathé's films.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—GRAND.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Manager, Mr. Herbert E. Feather.—Miss Emma Lichfield's company, in *A Clever Impostor*, is here. Miss Lichfield in a quartet of characters is a great success, her acting throughout creating a deep impression. Mr. Stuart Cleveland, in the rôle of Manuel Teixeira, is powerful; the comedy, which is allotted to Mr. Edward Swinton as Jim Brightside and Miss Florence Gomer as Annie Pleasant, is enjoyable; and Captain Desmond has a capital representative in Mr. Arthur Mervyn.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson. — Marvelle and May's performing cockatoos and macaws give a wonderful performance; the Maples, in a speciality, *How to Treat a Burglar*, are responsible for many aching sides; much amusement is afforded by Larola, "the funny man with funny ways"; the dog show and table act by Abdy and Bushman is a smart turn; there is much that is original in the comedy act, *In the Studio;* Mulvey and Miriam fully deserve the applause awarded them; Will Johnson, the lively comedian, repeats his success; Rose Cabini is a dainty comedienne; and Daisy Martelle is smart.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE. — KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE. — Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—The United English Opera Company is making its first appearance here this week. On Monday night *The Daughter of the Regiment* was staged. Mr. F. S. Gilbert is in excellent voice, and gave a fine interpretation of Tony. Mr. J. Kneale Campbell as Sergeant Sulpice, Mr. H. Blagrave as Bruno, Mr. T. Hamilton as the Corporal are commendable. Miss Doris Gilbert is thoroughly artistic as Marie; as the Countess of Berkenfeldt Miss Evelyn Gilbert is entitled to commendation; and Miss Kate White is good as Babette.

GRAND PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. John H. Stevenson.—The Dandies are paying a most welcome return visit here. Miss Josephine Gordon is heard to much advantage in *For a Dream's Sake*. Miss Mabel Carlton sings with artistic effect, "Pussy had another sardine." Mr. Stephen Fitzgerald's humorous items fairly bring down the house. Mr. Henry J. Corner's musical monologue, "Devil ma' care," proves a rare treat. The selections played by Herr Kändt's Austrian Blue Band are rapturously encored; and some very fine pictures are shown on the Lens Bioscope.

WIGAN.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Co. — Mr. Morton Powell's company is here in *The Woman Who Gambles*. The title-rôle is played with great emotion and effect by Miss Lilian Herries. Miss Dora Thrale, as Cora Gouldhart, is also an admirable exponent of the character; Mr. Geo. Steele as Count Otto Steinbach, Mr. Percy Ballard as Baron Cratzlaw, and Mr. Reginald Fox as Lieutenant Carl Ctzarteriski all give powerful representations of their parts.

WORTHING.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Herr C. Adolf Seebold.—Mr. Charles La Trobe's company opened here for the first three nights with *Jedbury Junior*. Mr. Edward Ouston is good as Christopher Jedbury, sen.; Miss Joan Wellman is well placed as Mrs. Jedbury; Mr. A. W. Tyrer gives a manly delineation of the character of Christopher Jedbury, jun.; Miss Dorothy Rowen is a winsome Nelly; Mr. George Raines characteristically enacts the part of Whimper; Mr. Claude Vernon does well as Job; Mr. Frank Stoney is a typical soldier as Major Hedway; Miss Victoria Addison is excellent as Dora, and soon installs herself as favourite; Mr. Reginald Craven as Mr. Glib is funny; Mr. George Percy is very good as the scheming Mr. Simpson; Mr. Richard Neville makes a good character as Tom Bellamy; while Miss Leonora Thomas is all that could be desired as Mrs. Glibb. On Thursday Mr. Jerrard Grant Allen's Co. presented *The New Boy*.

WREXHAM.—EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. J. Scott; Manager, Mr. C. W. Collings.—The chief attraction here this week are Yorick and Yorick, in their eccentric acrobatic performance; and the Three Royal Temples, operatic vocalists, including Mme. Louis Gilbert, a brilliant soprano. They are ably assisted by Luke and Logan, in a screaming absurdity, *The Waiter;* and by Wallie Gilbert, a capable descriptive vocalist; while the animated tableaux are as pleasing as usual.

YORK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—*The Sporting King* is being played by Messrs. Whitlock and Rutter's company. The former plays exceedingly well as Joe Brave, and Miss G. V. France gives a winning portrayal of his daughter. The villainies of Renard are fully maintained by Mr. Leonard Yorke, and the humorous element is in the safe hands of Mr. Alfred Terriss and Miss Eva Reed.

OPERA HOUSE AND EMPIRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brooke.—Wilbur Hill and Willette Walker are an amazingly clever couple, and have proved a great attraction this week. Hilton is a ventriloquist of much merit; and Dolly Denver is a smart little lady, whose energy never seems to flag. *The House of Tinn*, as played by J. Gar Kiddie's company is amusing; and Bertha Duckett, Talberto and Douglas, Allan and Hart, and the Bioscope complete the bill.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps. *The Era* is posted on Saturday in time to reach London Subscribers by the *first* Town Delivery, and Country Subscribers should receive their Papers by the *first* London Post. Address, the PUBLISHER, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SYDNEY, MAY 14.—Mr. J. C. Williamson revived *Monsieur Beaucaire* at the Theatre Royal on the 11th, with Mr. Julius Knight as the *bête noire* of Beau Nash and the Bath water drinkers. The actor has acquired polish and accent through his recent visit to England, and his Beaucaire was good. Miss Elbert-Orton made a distinct advance in public favour by her admirable acting as Lady Mary Carlisle, and justified her position as leading lady. Mr. Harry Plimmer made the Duke of Winterset a strong characterisation, arrogant and unscrupulous. Mr. Herbert Bentley was a manly Major Molyneux; and Mr. Denniston got all fun possible out of the lines allotted to Mr. Rakel. The mounting was Williamsonian.

"THE WALLS OF JERICHO" is a trump card with the Brough-Flemming company at the Palace, for Miss Beatrice Day and Mr. Herbert Flemming give of their very best in art and nature as Lady Alethea and Jack Frobisher, the autocratic wife and Queensland squatter husband. We had also again Miss Bessie Major as the Duchess of Syke, Miss Madeline Meredith as Lady Westerby, Miss Kate Gair as Lady Derenham, and Miss Mary Milward as Lady Parchester. Mr. Norman McKeown again replaced the late Mr. Robert Brough with signal success; and Messrs. Edgar B. Payne, Carter Pickford, and J. Paulton had their old places in the cast. Next come three nights of *Quality Street*, and then we are to see *Olivia*, from Sir Henry Irving's own specially marked manuscript.

"MOTHER GOOSE" has been running ever since Christmas Eve, and seats are still booked days ahead. When Mr. Williamson sends this pantomime away from Her Majesty's to New Zealand, its place will be taken by the Royal Comic Opera Company.

AT the Criterion, Mr. William Anderson is still running *Honor Thy Father;* but at the end of the week a new play, by Edmund Duggan and Bert Bailey, called *The Squatter's Daughter*, will be staged with all the necessary Australian colouring.

THE Tivoli has new-comers. The best are Miss Doris Tindall and Mr. Don Royall, who do a military song and dance; and Miss Elsie Brown made her Australian debut as a serio-comic songstress. The Bicknells came back, and were rapturously welcomed; and Charlene and Charlene continue to make folks wish that their stay will not soon come to an end. Emil Anniel, Fred Bluett, Bijou Russell, Nellie Kilburn, Harold Reeve, and a heap more talent, provide Mr. Harry Rickards' supporters with money's worth every time.

WEST'S Pictures and the Brescians turn money away every night from the Lyceum, and, so far, no note of departure is sounded. Mr. Joe Brown is the business manager.

THE National Amphitheatre has new-comers in the shape of Miss Winnie Bond, a charming song-and-dance exponent, and Mr. Albert McKisson, who is an expert knockabout comedian. Mr. J. C. Bain, who is also manager, is a great favourite in his well-selected budget of songs; and a long list of artists is provided by Mr. Brennan.

HERR GERARD VOLLMAR, for over fifteen years in Australia as a first-class violoncellist, died on the 3rd inst., and was accorded a funeral from Paling's Concert Room on the 6th. He was forty-five years old.

MR. JOHN A. DELANEY, the best all-round musician in New South Wales, died on the 11th, and was buried on the 13th in Waverley Cemetery. He was fifty-five years old, and, from his earliest youth, was connected with St. Mary's Cathedral, where he was organist and conductor to the last. Mr. Delaney has also been conductor of opera companies, the Sydney Liedertafel, and Philharmonic Society. All the resident musicians attended his funeral, and thousands lined the streets.

MELBOURNE, MAY 13. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee, Mr. Bland Holt; Business-Manager, Mr. Simonsens. — The powerful melodrama *The White Heather* continues to attract large audiences. The acting of Mr. Bland Holt's talented company is quite up to the standard. Notwithstanding the success achieved by *The White Heather*, Mr. Holt will adhere to his rule of giving playgoers quick changes of bill, consequently the run of the present production is limited to a few more nights only. It is understood Mrs. Bland Holt will leave for a trip to England early in July.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business Manager, Mr. Fred Aydon.—On Saturday evening King and Benson made their reappearance for a short farewell season, and met with a flattering reception. Fred Russell continues prime favourite with his inimitable partner, Coster Joe; Leonard Nelson has leapt into popular favour with his illustrated songs; Frank Hartley has introduced some new juggling items into his turn; Mr. V. L. Granville impersonates characters from various well-known plays with great success; while Gracie Grahame, Art Slavin, the Three Gibson Girls, Miss Lyons, little Marjorie Bray, Addie Leigh, Grace Compton, Will Lochrane, and a host of others add to the success of the performance.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Joe Solomons.—Kavanagh, the boy juggler, made his first appearance on Saturday, and met with a good reception. Miss Ailsa Sherbrooke, soprano, also appeared for the first time, and charmed all with her singing. New turns were presented by George Sparks, Clara Keating, Claude Sullivan, Ettie Williams, Fred Garnett, Frank Yorke, the Crystals, George Jones, and Fred Ireland; while a series of new Biograph pictures called forth loud applause.

ATHENÆUM HALL. — Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Marsh.—The series of Biograph pictures, entitled "Living Scotland," are proving highly successful, the hall being filled nightly. The pictures are undoubtedly some of the finest we have had in Melbourne, and are almost entirely devoid of any "flicker' In addition to the "Living Scotland" series, a number of humorous pictures are shown, which meet with great approval. Mme. Carreno, the celebrated pianist, will inaugurate a short season at the Town Hall on Monday evening next, under the management of Herr Benno Sherek. The Glaciarium is proving a source of delight to all lovers of ice-skating, the attendances both during the day-time and at night being very large.

CRICKET.

MISSES CECILIA FOWLER AND WINIFRED BRADLEY'S LADIES' ELEVEN V. BRISTOL X.L.C.R. FIRST AND SECOND ELEVEN.

Played near Bristol on Saturday, June 1. During the match Harry Hare's Orchestral Band played a programme of music. In the match the gentlemen batted with broomsticks. Scores:—

MISSES FOWLER AND BRADLEY'S ELEVEN: Miss Rosie Davies, b H. Belding, 0; Miss Irene Bradley, b H. Belding, 0; Miss Cecilia Fowler (captain), b H. Belding, 5; Miss Lillie Belding, b H. Belding, 0; Miss Lilla Carter, b Bailey, 2; Miss Winifred Bradley, b H. Belding, 0; Miss Minnie Leonard, b H Belding, 13; Miss Gracie Leonard, b Bailey, 1; Miss May Fisher, c and b H. Belding, 4; Miss Lucy Norris, run out, 0; Miss Ethel Bowman, b H. Belding, 5. Total, 30.

BRISTOL X.L.C.R.: J. Lewis, b Miss W. Bradley, 7; A. Cox, b Miss Fowler, 0; F. Thorne, b Miss Fowler, 0; S. Carter, b Miss Fowler, 3; H. Slade, c Miss I. Bradley, b Miss Fowler, 0; H. Clements, b Miss W. Bradley, 4; J. Aubrey, b Miss W. Bradley, 16; F. Stevens, b Miss Fowler, 0; H. Belding (captain), b Miss Fowler, 9; E. Belding, b Miss Fowler, 5; A. E. Bailey, b Miss Fowler, 11. Total, 59.

FARQUHAR THE DRAMATIST.

It was doubtless in 1705, says Mr. William Archer, in his admirably-written and very scholarly and pithy Introduction to Mr. T. Fisher Unwin's "Mermaid Series" edition of George Farquhar's plays, that Farquhar's military duty took him to Shrewsbury, in search of recruits for Marlborough's army. He was well received, he tells us, by the local magnates, whose kindness made recruiting, "which is the greatest fatigue upon earth to others," the greatest pleasure in the world to him. He seems to have returned in good spirits: for the comedy which he founded on his experiences abounds more than any of his other plays in the joy of life. *The Recruiting Officer* was produced at Drury Lane on April 8, 1706. With it Farquhar's luck revived, so far as the theatre was concerned. "The Duke of Ormond," he writes, "encouraged the author, and the Earl of Orrery approved the play. My recruits were reviewed by my general and my colonel and could not fail to pass muster." Genest says the play was "acted ten times," but its success was far greater than this figure would indicate. It at once became one of the stock comedies of the English theatre. When, in the autumn of 1706, the leading members of Rich's company went over to Swiney at the new Haymarket Theatre, the two houses played it against each other. Most of the original cast were now at the Haymarket; but Rich advertised that "the true Serjeant Kite"—that is Estcourt, whom Steele so warmly praises in the part—was to be seen at Drury Lane alone. Genest mentions fifteen notable revivals of the play, the last taking place at Covent Garden in 1829; but, as a matter of fact, the comedy was constantly being revived, whether in London or the provinces, throughout the eighteenth century. Contemporary gossip identified the leading characters of the play with local notabilities of Shropshire; but their names mean nothing to the modern reader.

The success of *The Recruiting Officer*, unfortunately, did not fill Farquhar's exchequer. A "pretended patron," said to have been the Duke of Ormond, advised him to supply his present wants by selling his commission, and promised "to provide for him"—that is, to give to him another commission—in a very short time. Farquhar acted on this advice and paid his creditors; but the patron was so dilatory in carrying out his part of the arrangement that the poet sank into dire poverty. The sequel may be given in the words of Thomas Wilks, who professed to have had the account from Colley Cibber:—

"Mr. Farquhar was a constant attendant on the theatre; but Mr. Wilks, having missed him there for upwards of two months, went to the house where he lodged in York Buildings to inquire for him, and was informed that he had left it, but could not learn where he lived. Mr. Wilks a few days after received a letter from Farquhar desiring to see him at his lodgings in St. Martin's-lane. Wilks went there and found him in a most miserable situation, lodged in a back garret, and under the greatest agitation of mind. Wilks inquired the reason of his distress, and Farquhar acquainted him with the whole affair [of the commission]. . . . Wilks advised him to write a play, and that it should be brought on the stage with all expedition. 'Write!' says Farquhar; 'it is impossible that a man can write common sense who is heartless, and has not a shilling in his pocket.' 'Come, George,' replied Wilks, 'banish melancholy, draw your drama, and I will call on you this day week to see it; but as an empty pocket may cramp your genius, I desire you will accept of my mite'—and gave him twenty guineas. Mr. Farquhar immediately drew up the drama of *The Beaux' Stratagem*, which he delivered to Mr. Wilks, and it was approved by him and the managers, and finished in six weeks. Mr. Farquhar, during his writing this play, had a settled sickness on him, and most part of it he wrote in his bed, and before he had finished the second act he perceived the approaches of death. The first night that it was performed, his good friend Mr. Wilks came to give him an account of its great success. . . . On the third night of its being performed, which was for his benefit, he died, which was the last week in April, 1707. Among his papers was found the following note directed to Mr. Wilks, viz.:—

"'DEAR BOB,—I have not anything to leave thee to perpetuate my memory, but two helpless girls; look upon them sometimes, and think on him that was to the last moment of his life thine,

'G. FARQUHAR.'

"He was buried in the church of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, at the expense of Mr. Wilks."

There is no reason to doubt the substantial accuracy of this account, though the death of the author on the very night of his benefit is probably a concession to the common taste for apt coincidences. Genest gives March 8 as the date of the first performance, and although we do not know his authority, it was probably trustworthy. The statement that Farquhar died in the last week in April is borne out by the register of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, which records the burial, on May 3, of "Mr. George Falkwere." Thus there would be a good seven weeks between the production and the author's death; and this is all the more probable as there was certainly time for him to write a prefatory note to the first edition of the play, speaking of its established success, and praising its representation ("which cannot be matched") in such terms as to suggest that the writer had actually seen it. It is well-nigh impossible, at any rate, that this "advertisement" should have been written between the first representation and the third.

Wilks, it is said, secured a benefit for Farquhar's family, and apprenticed the two daughters to mantua-makers. But the widow seems to have died in great poverty, and the daughters to have sunk rather than risen in the social scale. One of them married a tradesman and died soon afterwards; the other was living so late as 1764, in the capacity, says Leigh Hunt, of a domestic servant. During the sixty and odd years of her life, how many managers and actors must her father's plays have helped to enrich!

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces

FIFTY YEARS OF THE DRAMA. 1850—1900.

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In these columns it is proposed to give a strictly alphabetical arrangement of the titles of plays produced during the last fifty years. It will be the most complete list ever published, and should prove invaluable to authors desiring to discover whether a certain title has ever been used, and when. To members of the dramatic profession it will be useful in determining the dates of plays in which they have achieved successes. Our readers are politely requested to advise us of any omission or inaccuracy which they may notice.

This list as soon as complete will be published in cheap book form.

YOU NEVER CAN TELL, Strand, May 2, 1900.
YOUNG AND HANDSOME, Olympic, Dec. 26, 1856.
YOUNG APPRENTICE, Britannia, March 9, 1868.
YOUNG COUPLES, Gaiety, Feb. 20, 1884.
YOUNG DICK WHITTINGTON, Theatre Royal, Leicester, April 18, 1881.
YOUNGER SON, Gaiety, June 9, 1893.
YOUNG FOLKS, Wimbledon, Oct. 21, 1895.
YOUNG FOLKS' WAYS, St. James's, Oct. 20, 1883.
YOUNG FRA DIAVOLO, Gaiety, Nov. 18, 1878.
YOUNG HUSBANDS, Sadler's Wells, Aug. 28, 1852.
YOUNG LAD FROM THE COUNTRY, Marylebone, March 23, 1863.
YOUNG MAN IN GREEN, Lyceum, Feb. 1, 1869.
YOUNG MAN OF THE PERIOD, Standard, July 5, 1869.
YOUNG MRS. WINTHROP, Marylebone, Sept. 21, 1882.
YOUNG MR. YARDE, Buxton, Aug. 15, 1898.
YOUNG PRETENDER, Theatre Royal, Dundee, June 29, 1874.
YOUNG RECRUIT, Pavilion, Nov. 28, 1860.
YOUNG RIP VAN WINKLE, Folly, April 17, 1876.
YOUNGSTERS' ADVENTURE, Strand, Aug. 19, 1895.
YOUNG TRAMP, Prince's, Bristol, Sept. 12, 1885.
YOUNG WIFE, Vaudeville, July 1, 1884.
YOUNG WIVES AND OLD HUSBANDS, Opera Comique, Dec. 16, 1876.
YOUR VOTE AND INTEREST, Court, Feb. 4, 1874.
YOUR WIFE, St. James's, June 26, 1890.
YOUTH, Drury Lane, Aug. 6, 1881.
YULE LOG, Adelphi, Feb. 7, 1873.
YVETTE, Avenue, Sept. 12, 1891.
YVONNE, Her Majesty's Theatre, Richmond, March 5, 1881.
ZAMET; OR, BONNIE BOHEMIA, Theatre Royal, Gateshead, Aug. 12, 1891.
ZAMPA, Court, Oct. 2, 1872.
ZANA, Britannia, Sept. 19, 1870.
ZANGA, Victoria, Aug. 22, 1877.
ZANGRIDE, Queen's Hall, July 6, 1868.
ZANONE, Stroud, Nov. 8, 1899.
ZAZA, Garrick, April 16, 1900.
ZELICA, Brixton, Dec. 17, 1891.
ZELMA; OR, AN INDIAN'S LOVE, Britannia, Dec. 13, 1875.
ZEPHYR, Avenue, March 3, 1891.
ZERAGO; OR, THE WILD TRIBE OF THE MOUNTAIN TORRENT, Theatre Royal, Tunbridge Wells, May 24, 1869.
ZILLAH, Lyceum, Aug. 2, 1879.
ZILPHA, Brentford, Feb. 24, 1887.
ZIMMERADSKI, Dublin, Oct. 21, 1896.
ZINGARO, Coronet, May 22, 1900.
ZOLA, THE TRUTH SEEKER, Standard, Aug. 9, 1898.
ZOO, THE, St. James's, June 5, 1875.
ZORIADA, Sidcup, Jan. 9, 1891.
ZULU WAR, Theatre Royal, Birkenhead, June 6, 1881.

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LADY TRICK CYCLIST KILLED.

Before the eyes of her father and brothers, a German girl trick cyclist named Hildegard Morgenroth, aged fifteen and a half, belonging to the Aurora Troupe, was killed in the Belfast Hippodrome on Friday afternoon, June 14, while performing gratuitously in a Queen's College fête. The family acted together, and the girl had given expert cycling exhibitions ever since she was five. She met with the accident during her performance of the ride inside the teacup track—the climax of the act. Four of the men cycling in one direction supported the track in which she rode, and somehow she lost her balance and fell. Doctors in the audience at once attended to her, but she breathed her last behind the scenes before the ambulance sent for had arrived.

At once the curtain was rung down, and the manager announced the sad news and the cancellation of the night's performance. The audience, greatly shocked, passed out in silence. The father's grief was almost uncontrollable. The Dowager Lady Dufferin and others who were patrons of the fête deeply deplore the tragedy. The Auroras were recently performing at the London Hippodrome.

THE INQUEST.

At the inquest, held in the Belfast Recorder's Court on Saturday, before the City Coroner (Dr. James Graham), Mr. A. J. Lewis appeared for the proprietors of the Hippodrome, and Mr. C. W. Henderson, chairman of the directors, and Mr. H. T. Downs, general manager, were also in attendance. Mr. W. H. Davey, Barrister-at-Law, represented the Queen's College Fête Committee, and Head-Constable M'Guigan conducted the proceedings for the police.

The father of the deceased was present, but as he could not converse fluently in English, and was naturally much affected by the accident, he was not called as a witness.

Harry Morgenroth said he was a member of the Aurora troupe of cyclists, which also comprised his three brothers and the deceased, Hildegard Morgenroth, who was his sister. The latter was fifteen years of age, and had been performing on the stage since she was four years old. Witness said he took part in the matinée performances on the 14th inst., and saw his sister on the platform, which was raised in the usual way. She was riding in the cup-shaped track, when she came over the top and fell on her head. That was the first accident that had ever occurred during their performance.

To Mr. Lewis: The appliances used in the performance were the property of his father, and they took them about with them from theatre to theatre.

The Coroner: How long had the deceased been performing on that particular construction?

Witness: Since October last. She had been working on another track for about two years before. Continuing, witness said the machine was in perfect working order, and the accident did not occur through any defect in the appliances.

The Coroner: What height was the top of the cup from the ground?—About ten feet.

A Juror: Was she in perfect health?—Yes, she was very well.

The Coroner: Did she ever have a fall before?—Yes, once; but my father caught her. It was on the old track, and the present one is much safer.

Did you consider it safe?—Yes.

Speaking in German, the father intimated at this stage that the appliances were tested regularly at rehearsals in order to see if it was possible for the girl to fall out of the cup-shaped construction, and it was not; she was bound to fall inside.

Continuing, witness said he could not understand how the accident happened.

In answer to a juror, witness said deceased and her brothers cycled in the same direction, and not in opposite directions. He was of opinion that something must have blinded her for a moment, and caused her to fall.

The Coroner: Was she licensed for these performances?

Mr. Lewis: No license is required, as the girl was over fourteen.

Fred Wilby, stage-manager at the Hippodrome, stated that the performance given by the Aurora troupe was under the immediate management of the father, who superintended it. The turn lasted for about twelve minutes from beginning to finish. The last trick consisted of the girl being placed in a cup-shaped construction before it was lifted from the ground, and the four brothers, who were on bicycles, then raised it on their shoulders. On a signal being given, the male cyclists began to ride round the stage, and the girl also cycled round inside the cup. Half-way through the performance the father fired a revolver, and at the finish he blew a whistle as a signal for the girl inside to stop pedalling. There were three men, in addition to the father, on the stage, and when the whistle was blown they came to the assistance of the brothers. Witness was on the stage at the time of the of the accident. After the whistle had been blown, the girl seemed to lose her head and go up too high, with the result that the front wheel got out of the cup, and she fell to the ground, a distance of about ten feet. The width of the construction was forty feet at the top and about twenty feet at the bottom, and it was five feet high.

Mr. Harry Downs, the general-manager, was called, and asked by a juror if he could offer any explanation as to how the accident happened. Witness said he was at the top of the gallery at the time. He saw the bicycle running up, and did not think that the girl made the slighest effort to save herself. The accident happened in an instant, and the deceased did not go an inch away from where she fell out. At the time of the accident the cyclists were going about three miles an hour.

A Juror: Was the machine stopped with great suddenness, which might have precipitated the girl out?—No.

The Coroner inquired if the father of the deceased had any complaint to make against the management; and Mr. Morgenroth, who was weeping piteously, replied in the negative.

Dr. Kirkhope deposed that he was in the Hippodrome at the time of the accident. The girl was picked up unconscious, and in his opinion death was due to a fracture of the base of the skull.

The Coroner: Did you consider it a safe performance?—I think it was a trivial thing that caused the accident.

Asked as to his opinion of how the accident happened, witness said previous to performing the concluding feat the girl had been engaged in another trick which necessitated her standing on her head for some little time, and he thought that probably the circulation had not sufficient time to recover itself in the cranium. The slightest vibration of the handle-bar would affect the girl, and that might have caused the accident. Otherwise the performance was a perfectly safe one.

Dr. C. R. Harvey, Royal Victoria Hospital, said he agreed with the previous witness as to the cause of death.

Mr. Lewis did not think anyone could suggest that the unfortunate accident was in any way brought about by any defect in connection with the theatre. The place itself was perfectly equipped, and the entertainment was always of a high order. His intention was simply on behalf of those whom he represented to offer their sincerest and heartfelt sympathy to the parents and brothers of the deceased girl. It was terrible to think that one who was just on the threshold of life should be cut off so suddenly.

Mr. W. H. Davey said on behalf of the Executive Committee of the Queen's College Fête he wished to express the deep regret which they all felt at the unfortunate calamity. Their grief was intensified a hundredfold by the fact that that young life had been cut off in the midst of an entertainment which was in the interests of the college. As Mr. Lewis had stated, they intended devoting the entire proceeds to any object the parents might select as a memorial of their daughter.

The Coroner, in summing up, also expressed his sympathy with the bereaved family.

The jury returned a verdict of accidental death, and added a rider to the effect that no blame was attached to anyone. They also expressed their sympathy with the parents and brothers of the deceased.

At the close of the inquiry the coroner mentioned that Dr. Kirkhope and Dr. Harvey had generously handed over their fees to the fund in aid of any memorial to the girl.

Mr. Downs said the family intended to retire from the business and return to Germany. They were in comfortable circumstances, and would not accept the money. He had been speaking to Mr. Davey on the matter, and they thought the best thing would be to do something in connection with the Royal Victoria Hospital

The proceedings then terminated.

Mr. Wal Grace, as a member of the company engaged at the Hippodrome, Belfast, on the occasion of the above shocking accident, adds the following additional items for the information of those particularly interested.

The unfortunate little lady when she fell was at once promptly attended to by medical men, who pronounced her quite dead from a broken neck.

She was immediately removed to the mortuary attached to the hospital, and I, as an executive member of the Variety Artists' Federation, was requested by the parents to at once make in their name all arrangements for her removal to Germany for burial. Messrs. Thos. Cook and Son, tourist agency, the undertakers (Messrs. Melville and Co., Ltd.), the Rev. Dr. Murphy (chaplain in Belfast to the Actors Union) were communicated with with the view to a memorial service being held in St. George's Church, Belfast, prior to the removal of the deceased from the city. The coroner promised to hold an early inquiry the following morning, and at the various halls and theatre in Belfast notices were put up that the memorial service would be held the following afternoon at 3.30, and inviting all sympathetic friends, artists, and others to follow the hearse containing the coffin from the hall to the church. The students of the Queen's College—the beneficiaries of the matinée—had already signified their intention of joining this procession from the hospital to the church, and to give the entire proceeds of the fund raised at the matinée to the friends of the deceased

The following remarkable and never-to-be-forgotten scene was the result of this arrangement of the procession. Two hundred students from the college followed the hearse from the hospital to the church, and were joined by the managers and the artists of the variety theatres and theatre, also the acting-managers, staffs, musicians, to the number of about 300, and by the citizens of the city (quite 2,000), who fell in behind, and Belfast saw a sight it had never before witnessed: a funeral cortége in Ireland with so many ladies following.

The church was nearly full on arrival of the sad procession. Room, however, had been reserved for the artists and immediate friends, and shortly afterwards the church was hushed to stillness as the grief-stricken father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Morgenroth, entered, accompanied by the four brothers, whose sorrow found an echo in the sobs of the entire congregation. The impressive scene when the mother dropped beside the coffin in an agonised shriek just as the last strains of Chopin's "Funeral March" died away can never be imagined.

The funeral service was in German and translated afterwards in English by Doctor Murphy. The choral service rendered by the largely-attended choir, and the soul-stirring address to the congregation will be remembered by all who were present, including Mr. Arthur Roberts, Mr. W. F. Frame, and Miss Florrie Gallimore.

After the ceremony in the church the coffin was removed to the s.s. Donegall, en route with the family to Germany.

It was covered with floral tributes, broken harps and wreaths, sent by students of the colleges, wreaths and floral designs from ladies and others who were in the audience and witnessed the accident; but what touched the hearts of the poor girl's family more than all were the huge wreath of immortelles in a glass shade, 2ft. by 3ft., subscribed for by the Belfast Hippodrome artists; another from manager Downs, and a magnificent "In Memoriam" book lying in a silver casket bearing the names of all the artists in Belfast, who assembled on the Palace stage early on Saturday morning by special request of Mr. Arthur Roberts, notified by Bro. Fred Elton, another fervent V.A.F., who assisted greatly in all the arrangements.

At this gathering (attended by 120) Mr. Arthur Roberts, in a loving and sympathetic address, alluded to the terrible accident, and the following resolution was proposed by Mr. Wal Grace, seconded by Mr. W. F. Frame, and carried in silence, all standing:—"That this meeting of artists visiting Belfast begs to express its profound grief and sorrow at the sad end of our little comrade, Hildegard Morgenroth, who, in the cause of charity, sacrificed her young life, and they respectively tender to her nearest and dearest their deep and respectful sympathy in their sad bereavement."

The boat containing the bereaved party and the coffin, which had been hermetically sealed up prior to removal, arrived at Heysham at 8 o'clock on Sunday morning, and proceeded (viâ London) direct to Berlin, where the relatives of the family reside.

Respectful thanks are certainly due to the management of the Hippodrome for at once closing the hall for their week-end, and for paying salaries in full to those artists, musicians, and members of the various staffs who so nobly responded to pay tribute on an occasion which was as remarkable for its heartfelt sympathy as for the suddenness which prompted it.

"KINDRED TIES" is the title of a new sketch written by Wilfred H. Benson, to be produced by Miss Freda Sharlotte at the Palace, Hammersmith, W., on July 1. In this production Miss Sharlotte engages with the heavy man in a very strong fight with swords. The scene is laid in the house of a wealthy Corsican countess, and the setting will be of an elaborate nature. Miss Sharlotte has engaged an exceptionally strong company to support her, including Mr. Stanley Grosvenor as the Count, whom she fights and finally kills.

MR. CHARLES CLIFFORD, the favourite harpist and vocalist, is in town looking fit and well. Having returned from a long tour of Scotland, Ireland, and Wales, he is now having a well-deserved rest before starting his next tour, commencing at Plymouth, following on to Bristol, Burnley, Bolton, Preston, Nottingham, and other English towns where he has been delighting the people for so many years past.

THE Dowager Duchess of Saxe Coburg Gotha, Princess Beatrice of Saxe Coburg Gotha, Princess Henry of Battenberg, and Prince Leopold of Battenberg were present at the performance of *La Tosca* at the Royal Opera, Covent Garden, on Wednesday.

SIR WALTER SCOTT AND THE THEATRE.

In Lockhart's "Life of Sir Walter Scott" are included quotations from some of the many letters which Sir Walter wrote to Joanna Baillie. Particularly interested was he in the production of her drama, entitled *The Family Legend*, at the Edinburgh Theatre, in October, 1809, the play which five and a half years later was staged at Drury Lane.

In one of these letters to Joanna Baillie, who at this time was a resident of Hampstead, appears for the first time the name of a person who soon obtained a large share of Scott's regard and confidence—the comedian, Mr. Daniel Terry. Lockhart gives the following interesting particulars concerning this at one time well known actor:—"He had received a good education, and had been regularly trained as an architect, but abandoned that profession at an early period of life for the stage, and was now beginning to attract attention as a valuable and efficient actor in Henry Siddons's new company at Edinburgh. Already he and the Ballantynes were constant companions, and, through his familiarity with them, Scott had abundant opportunities of appreciating his many excellent and agreeable qalities. He had the manners and feelings of a gentleman. Like John Kemble, he was deeply skilled in the old literature of the drama, and he rivalled Scott's own enthusiasm for the antiquities of *vertu*. Their epistolary correspondence in after days was frequent, and will supply me with many illustrations of Scott's minor tastes and habits. As their letters lie before me, they appear as if they had all been penned by the same hand. Terry's idolatry of his new friend induced him to imitate his writing so zealously that Scott used to say, if he were called to swear to any document, the utmost he could venture to attest would be that it was either in his own hand or in Terry's. The actor, perhaps unconsciously, mimicked him in other matters with hardly inferior pertinacity. His small, lively features had acquired, before I knew him, a truly ludicrous cast of Scott's graver expression; he had taught his tiny eyebrows the very trick of the poet's meditative frown; and, to crown all, he so habitually affected his tone and accent that, though a native of Bath, a stranger could hardly have doubted he must be a Scotchman. These things afforded Scott and all their mutual acquaintances much diversion; but perhaps no stoic could have helped being secretly gratified by seeing a clever and sensible man convert himself into a living type and symbol of admiration."

Daniel Terry, architect, after five years' experience of office routine, became an actor. However, after playing a few minor parts, he again returned to his original pursuit, which he finally quitted in 1805, and joined the company of Mr. Stephen Kemble, then performing in some of the provincial towns in the North of England. With this company he remained until its dissolution in August, 1806, and gained in it considerable experience as an actor. It was in November, 1809, that he was engaged by Mr. Henry Siddons to lead the business at Edinburgh on the secession of Mr. Meggott. Whilst there he made the acquaintance of Mr. Ballantyne, the well-known publisher, and was by him introduced to Sir Walter Scott, who ever afterwards remained with him on the most friendly footing. In the summer of 1812 he was induced by the offer of an engagement at the Haymarket Theatre to take leave of his friends and the stage at Edinburgh, to court, what is ever the ultimatum of an actor's ambition, the favourable testimony of a London audience. He made his first appearance in London on the boards of the Haymarket on May 20, 1812, in the character of Lord Ogleby in *The Clandestine Marriage*, and was favourably received. He continued during this and the next season to play in succession a variety of old and new parts, with undiminished success. At the expiration of the second season he joined the Covent Garden company, and he remained at this theatre until some disagreement about remuneration induced him to go over to the rival establishment, then under the management of Elliston. Here he remained until 1825, when, in conjunction with Mr. Yates, he purchased the Adelphi Theatre, and this is one of the occasions alluded to, that Sir Walter proved himself "a friend indeed," becoming, it is said, his security for the payment of Mr. Terry's part of the purchase-money. This speculation was looked upon as a sound one, and the theatre continued to thrive for two seasons under their joint-management. Then unpleasant rumours of pecuniary embarrassments on the part of Mr. Terry (totally unconnected with Mr. Yates or the theatre, and, indeed, incurred previous to their partnership) began to attract so much public attention as to render a dissolution of their partnership necessary. This was accomplished, and Mr. Terry compounded in a handsome dividend with his creditors. After the settlement of his affairs, he was re-engaged at Drury Lane Theatre, and appeared there in the characters of Sir Peter Teazle and Peter Simpson; but his acting showed a considerable falling off, and through ill-health he was compelled to relinquish the engagement, and he died shortly afterwards.

Two letters written in November, 1814, give, says Sir Walter's biographer, "amusing sketches of his buoyant spirits at this period of gigantic exertion, and the first of them, which relates chiefly to Maturin's tragedy of *Bertram*, shows how he could still contrive to steal time for attention to the affairs of brother authors less energetic than himself."

The letter thus referred to was addressed from Abbotsford to Daniel Terry. Scott writes:—"I have been recommending to John Kemble (I dare say without any chance of success) to peruse a MS. tragedy of Maturin's (author of *Montorio*); it is one of those things which will either succeed greatly or be damned gloriously, for its merits are marked, deep, and striking, and its faults of a nature obnoxious to ridicule. He had our old friend Satan (none of your sneaking St. John-street devils, but the arch-fiend himself) brought on the stage bodily. I believe I have exorcised the foul fiend—for, though in reading he was a most terrible fellow, I feared for his reception in public. The last act is ill contrived. He divides the whole horrors of the catastrophe (though God wot there are enough of them) into a kind of drippity-droppity of four or five scenes, instead of inundating the audience with them at once in the finale, with a grand *gardes l'eau*. With all this, which I should say if I had written the thing myself, it is grand and powerful; the language most animated and poetical; and the characters sketched with a masterly enthusiasm."

The tragedy here referred to—*Bertram; or, The Castle of St. Aldobrand*—was in five acts, and was first performed at Drury Lane Theatre on May 9, 1816, with Kean in the title-part, Pope as St. Aldobrand, and Miss Somerville as Imogine. The play was revived at Sadler's Wells in 1847, with Phelps in the title-part, and again at the Marylebone Theatre in 1853, with Mrs. Wallack as the heroine. The plot is briefly as follows:—Imogine, loving and loved by Bertram, an exile, marries in his absence his enemy St. Aldobrand, in order to save her father from ruin. Bertram, the outcast, is shipwrecked near the castle of the wedded pair, and the old lovers meet. Imogine is unfaithful to her husband, whom Bertram kills, after seducing his wife. Imogine goes mad, and dies, whereupon Bertram commits suicide. The tragedy was also produced in New York in September, 1816, when Mrs. Mary Barnes, an English-born actress who had made her first appearance in America the previous April, was the representative of the unhappy heroine.

GEORGE COLMAN AND DAVID GARRICK.

George Colman was born at Florence in 1732, and was the son of Francis Colman, diplomatist. He was educated at Westminster School and Christ Church Oxford, and became a student at Lincoln's Inn. He was duly called to the bar in 1755; but the stage offered for him far stronger attractions than the law, and his first dramatic piece was produced in 1760. In 1767 he became one of the proprietors of Covent Garden Theatre with which he remained associated (as manager also) till 1774. In 1776 he bought from Foote the "Little Theatre in the Haymarket." Of this he was director until 1789, when he showed symptoms of senile decay, and was succeeded by his son, George Colman, jun. He died at Paddington in 1794.

A series of original letters from David Garrick and others to Colman were published some years ago, and form interesting reading. The first, dated Dec. 17, 1761, is addressed to Colman by Garrick, and was written nine months after the publication of Churchill's *Rosciad*, and ten months after the first representation of Colman's *Jealous Wife*. The *St. James's Chronicle* was chiefly in the hands of Bonnett Thornton, Garrick, and Colman, under whose able guidance it soon became a popular journal Colman now started another literary periodical under the title of the *Genius*, the main object of which was to give further assistance to the *St. James's Chronicle*. There appears by the "Garrick Correspondence," to have been much paper warfare between Murphy and the manager of the Drury Lane Theatre about this time; Murphy complaining that he had lost £800 by his pieces, which amount had found its way into Garrick's pocket instead of his own.

Of Murphy Dr. Johnson observed, according to Boswell, "I don't know that Arthur can be classed with the very first dramatic writers, yet at present I doubt much whether we have anything superior to him." Garrick never appeared to have had much love for Murphy, and he vexatiously delayed bringing out the *Orphan of China*. In fact, at first he refused to accept the play which might have been almost as great an error as his rejection of Home's *Douglas*. The letter above mentioned is as follows:—

DEAR COLMAN,—I rejoice that you are arrived safe at Bath, but most sincerely wish you as little pleasure there as possible, and you may guess the reason. Fitzherbert being with you will, I fear, most powerfully counteract my wishes; however, I have some small hopes from his not being under the same roof with you.

I have this moment seen our friend Churchill, and told him a fine scheme of Vaughn's, in conjunction with the gang of Pottinger. They are going to publish a set of papers called the *Genius*, in order to forestall yours and deceive the public. It is a most infamous design; and I desired Churchill would let Thornton know of it, which he will do immediately, and prevent their scoundrelity by some humorous paragraph. If you would have anything done, write directly, and you shall be obeyed most minutely.

I have read your last, and think it a fine plan—a little too hastily finished. There is strength and good sense; but I would have more laugh and pleasantry. Our new tragedy creeps on. We might press it on to six nights with much loss; but I hope that the author will be reasonable and satisfied with what we have already done, without insisting upon our losing more, to *force* a reputation—this *entre nous*.

You have heard, I suppose of a Col. Barré, who has taken the lyon by the beard in the Parliament House. P. made no reply to it, and lost his question. The town in general thinks that the Col. was rather too rough. There will be fine work anon! Whitehead's play has been once read, and has a great deal of merit.

Pray let me see you soon with your bundle of excellencies. Mr. Murphy has at last declared off with us, and in a letter to Obrien says that he has been so great a loser by the manager of Drury Lane, that he can never more have any dealings with us. Wish me joy, my dear friend, but keep this to yourself for many weighty reasons.

My love to Fitzherbert, and believe me most affectionately yours,

D. GARRICK.

The second is an extremely amusing letter, dated from Spa, Aug. 13, 1763, and addressed to Wm. Putteney, Earl of Bath, the political antagonist of Sir Robert Walpole. Lord Bath had married the sister of Colman's mother. At his death an annuity of nine hundred guineas devolved on his nephew under the earl's will. In this letter his lordship, referring to the Continental trip, says:—"I am sorry Garrick is going such a journey, and designs to be so long absent from England. I fancy he is driven out of it, more from resentment of the bad usage he met with last winter from a few impertinent coxcombs than from any real jealousie of the restoration of my health and vigour; but I can assure him if my constitution holds out, my love for Mrs. Garrick will be full as strong and violent when she returns from Italy as it is at this present writing."

George Colman, the younger, in a note to his publication of "Post humous Letters, &c.," says, "It is whimsical to observe Lord Bath's acquiescence in his protegé's theatrical connections. All the Earl's admonitions to Coley, not to throw away his money and time in running after plays, but to stick to the law, end in a request to procure his lordship the honour that a portrait of himself might be hung up by Mrs. Garrick." The elder Colman dedicated his play of the *Jealous Wife* to his patron, in 1761. All this refutes the report that he forfeited Lord Bath's affection by his pursuit of the drama.

The next epistle, dated Turin, Oct. 18th, 1763, is from Garrick to Colman. George Garrick was brother to David, and deputy-manager of Drury Lane Theatre. A part of his duty, says Mr. Peake, was to walk about the stage and quiet the talkers or intruders by his exclamation of "Hush! hush!" His salary was considerable; and some one inquiring why, or for what service, George was paid so large a sum, Charles Bannister replied: "It is hush-money!"

Townley was head master of Merchant Taylor's School, and author of "High Life Below Stairs," &c.; Schomberg, a physician. The doctor was also a writer of farces. Mr. Peake humorously remarks: "His prescriptions were the best of his writings—they would act; not so his farces." The letter was as follows:—

MY DEAR COLMAN,—I wrote last to George, and now for you. We got to this pretty city (for it is no better) last Fryday night, and are obliged, much against our wills, to stay here till next Saturday, for the pearch of our carriage was broke upon the top of Mount Cenis by the carelessness of our Voiturier, who instead of carrying it upon ye back of mules (as he ought) had it dragged up that wonderful mountain by twelve men, and it is a great miracle that it was not dash'd into ten thousand pieces. However, we are all well contented and happy, and are resolved to fret at nothing. Mr. Pitt and all ye English here are most particularly kind to us. This day a gentleman shew'd me two London Chronicles, in which they have abus'd me most clumsily; I read their malignity with as much sang-froid as Plato himself would have done tho' entre nous. I wish they had not mentioned a certain Duke, but he too is above feeling their nonsense. I cannot but take notice that Mr. Straught has twice officiously excus'd himself for the abuse upon me in his paper, has sworn as often that there should be no more of it, and has as often treacherously broke his word; but I am neither amaz'd or uneasy at it, and so you may tell our friend Becket.

We have nothing here in our way but a miserable Bouffi Opera, and ye worst dancing I ever saw. The people in ye pit and boxes talk all ye while as in a coffee house, and ye performers are even with 'em, for they are very little attentive, laugh and talk to one another, pick their noses, and while they are unengag'd in singing, they walk up to ye stage boxes (in which the other actors and dancers sit dress'd in sight of ye audience), turn their backs, join in ye laugh and conversation of their brethren, without ye least decency or regard to ye audience; I never was more astonish'd in my life; their theatres are very elegant, the whole is composed of pit and boxes (five or six rows of 'em), without galleries. Each box is like a little room where they receive visitors, and think and talk of everything but what passes upon ye stage.

I forgot to tell you that we had the finest day imaginable for passing ye terrible Mount Cenis. I was highly entertained indeed, and it is much more inconceivable (I mean the manner of ascending and descending) than it is dangerous or disagreeable I long to hear from you or George. I am sorry that I did not desire a letter to this place, it would have reach'd me by this time, and I shall not be at Florence this fortnight at least, so you must not be surprised that you have not an answer to anything that may be sent there. All letters for ye future must be directed for me to ye *Marquis Belloni* at *Rome*, till I send to ye contrary.

The travelling through Savoy and Piedmont to this City is the most romantick and delightfull with regard to the scenery that can be imagined, and the nastiness of ye inns, the peculiarity of nastiness, is likewise as much above conception. I have taken some memorandums of the things, which I have seen with my own eyes, that exceed all belief, and which I shall write down very soon, and send to our friend *Townley* as a Nosegay for you and Schomberg. Pray make a holyday on purpose, and let it be read in full assembly over a bottle of ye Dr's claret by that aforesaid arch blackguard, the Revd. Mr. James Townley.

My fellow traveller, *Mence*, is obliged to go oft for Minorca. We shall part in a few days, he to his Regimt, and I for *Florence*. My wife has been very ill and frighten'd us all, but she is now well and herself again—she desires her love to you and George. Pray remember us to the Huberts, Churchill, Schomberg, Dr. Hay, and Smallbroke, and all whom you know, I would remember if I could. God bless you my dear friend. Ever and most affectionately yours,

D. GARRICK.

NEW ENGLISH AND FOREIGN PLAYS.

In order to assist managers and others in the selection of pieces for production and adaptation, we are publishing from time to time synopses of likely English and Continental plays, so that dramatic speculators may judge for themselves of the suitability of the plots for their purpose. Authors wishing for this publicity should forward synopses to "Playwrights," care of *The Era*, from whom further particulars can be obtained.

"KING OF THE OPIUM RING."

Melodrama, in Four Acts,
by C. E. Blaney and C. A. Taylor.
(All rights reserved).

This play displays the seamy side of the opium habit, especially of its effect upon "pure whites." Old Ironsides is a rolling-stone who has passed most of his life as a seafarer, and has lost all touch with his two daughters. The only clue to their identity appears to be a locket containing portraits and the existence of the cryptic word "Anatckwa" tatooed upon his arm. George Macey is the Opium King, and a successful though suspected smuggler of the drug. His wife, Bell, and his mistress, Georgetta, are sisters, and Ironside's lost daughters. Macey has illegal transactions in opium traffic with Wah Sing, a very wealthy Chinaman, who is suspected, and closely watched by numerous police and Revenue officials. The Chinaman has a passion for Georgetta, whom he would marry. The latter, before becoming Macey's "Queen of the Opium Ring," was loved by van Stouten, captain of the harbour police, and his devotion to her almost involves him in serious breaches of duty. It will be seen from the foregoing that the chief interests in the play centre round the smugglers' attempts to foil the vigilance of the Revenue and police officials and their endeavours to carry on their traffic in the drug, the discovery and reunion of old Ironsides' daughters, the saving of Georgetta from the wiles and intrigues of both Macey and Wah Sing, and Georgetta's ultimate restoration to the arms of her faithful lover Albert van Stouten. All these are accomplished in the course of the play, an adequate synopsis of which would prove almost as long as the play itself. The play includes scenes in the Bay of San Francisco, and exciting arrests and attempted murders on board Macey's private yacht; an opium den, masked as a Chinese laundry, where the effects of opium are realistically depicted, exciting escapes being made when the "den" is raided by the police. Among the scenes of the piece is the exterior of a club in San Francisco, near which a trap is laid by Wah Sing to abduct Georgetta. The heart of Chinatown, with Joss House and theatre, and a celebration of the Chinese New Year, during which a pyramid of Chinese acrobats, members of a secret guild hostile to that which includes Wah Sing amongst its members, rescue Georgetta from an upper-storey window and convey her to safety on a balcony in a building on the opposite side of the street, is also shown. Another exciting episode takes place in Wah Sing's private house and place of business, where Georgetta is saved from being married to Wah Sing by the timely arrival of her relations and friends, literally at the last moment, and the substitution of a veiled Chinese girl, in Georgetta's place, before the Joss idol

"THE ERA."

EARLY DELIVERY.

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"THE TWINS OF SKIRLAUGH HALL."

Play, in a Prologue and Four Acts, by Emma Brooke, produced for the first time at the Theatre Royal, Margate, on Monday, June 17.

Anne, Lady Redeburne .....Miss Eily Malyon
Betty Pyteman .....Miss Cecil Cromwell
An Old Nurse .....Miss Eugenie Vernie
Michael Redeburne .....Mr. Henry Renouf
Hannah .....Miss Eugenie Vernie
Ralph .....Mr. Wallis Clark
Oliver .....Mr. W. P. Wells
Laura .....Miss Cecil Cromwell
Letitia .....Miss Eily Malyon
Mr. Lindley .....Mr. A. Austin-Leigh
Harry Lindley .....Mr. Eric Maxon
Dr. Bellomy .....Mr. Frank Stone
Rev. Gabriel Oglethorpe ....Mr. H. G. Mason
Willie Ackroyd .....Mr. Gilbert Clark
John .....Mr. G. W. Elton
Mrs. Margerison .....Miss May Saker
Martha .....Miss Mimi Renouf

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The Twins of Skirlaugh Hall appeals particularly to the student of psychology and the believers in transmigration and reincarnation, but for the ordinary playgoer the subject is too profound. The scene is laid at Skirlaugh Hall in Yorkshire. Lady Anne Redeburne's serving woman is Betty Pyteman, the illegitimate daughter of her ladyship's father. Lady Anne believes that her first husband was murdered by Betty, and at the opening of the play is much perturbed at the thought that she is carrying on clandestinely with her second. In a fit of ungovernable fury Lady Anne stabs Betty, and, with the aid of the old nurse, conceals the body in a secret chamber.

The play is then pushed forward 200 years, to the period 1820, when the twin daughters of Michael Redeburne, a lineal descendant of the family, are budding into womanhood. Letitia is fair and frail looking, the counterpart of her ancestor, Lady Anne; Laura is dark and masterful, with a head of peculiar formation, which is said largely to account for her violent temper. She has a pronounced antipathy towards her sister, which is commented upon by all who come in contact with the family. Mr. Lindley, with an inkling of the old story, the real facts of which he cannot fathom, has a suspicion that psychology is at the bottom of the trouble. Young Harry Lindley has just returned after a long absence, and is in love with the unobtrusive Letitia. During the Christmas festivities the two young lovers hide in the room in which 200 years before the murder took place. The other guests also come into the hitherto never-opened room, where hangs a portrait of Lady Anne and her serving woman, and everybody is struck by the likeness in the picture to the two girls. A few weeks later, on learning that Letitia is in love with Harry, Laura, who is smitten that way herself, breaks into one of her fits of temper, and is thrashing her meek little sister with a hunting-crop, when the father intervenes, and as a result Laura is banished from the house. She is, however, allowed to return home for the wedding, and declaring that her present is upstairs in her box, she invites Letitia to go to her room for it. Shortly afterwards Letitia comes flying downstairs with a cry and a moan, having been struck in the back with a knife, as was poor Betty Pyteman two hundred years before.

Laura, deemed to be mad, is sent away to an asylum. The stab Letitia has received does not prove fatal, and the doctor announces that her injuries will cause her to shake off the haunting memories of the past, so it may be presumed that a happy future is in store for the young couple.

The acting was good all round, and the artists used every endeavour to make the piece go. Mr. Henry Renouf as Michael Redeburne was the real old English gentleman to the life. Miss Eily Malyon, in the rôle of Lady Anne, was capable in the prologue, and showed a distinct contrast as the timid, brooding Letitia in the play itself. Miss Cecil Cromwell invested with strong individuality the dual rôle of Betty and Laura. The ill-balanced mind was effectively indicated, but the part was never for a moment overacted. Miss Eugenie Vernie was good as the old nurse in the prologue, and as Hannah, the wife of Michael Redeburne, in the play. The dull rôle of Mr. Lindley was made the most of by Mr. A. Austin-Leigh, whilst Mr. Eric Maxon infused brightness into the piece as the light-hearted Harry Lindley. Mr. Frank Stone as Dr. Bellomy succeeded in raising laughter, and by adroit acting and a clear delivery of the lines entrusted to her, Miss May Saker gave a fillip to the play. Able support was given by Mr. Wallis Clarke as Ralph, Mr. W. F. Wells as Oliver (the two sons of Redeburne), Mr. Gilbert Clarke as Willie Ackroyd, and Miss Mimi Renouf as Martha and Mr. G. W. Elton as John, the housekeeper and butler respectively.

THE ARTHUR VERNE FUND.

Subscriptions already received :—

	£	s.	d.
Henry Swinerd	5	5	0
J. W. Cordiner	5	5	0
Messrs. Power and Kirby's Co. (per Martin Comstock)	2	10	6
Horace Stanley	2	2	0
Sam Livesey	2	2	0
The Tyrant Company (per Roy Fortescue)	1	16	6
Nellie Harcourt	1	1	0
George Brooks	1	1	0
Lyn Harding	1	1	0
G. Howard Watson	1	1	0
Mrs. Hy. Mayhew	1	1	0
George Arliss	1	1	0
Queenie Leighton	1	1	0
Charles Barnard	0	10	6
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Arthur Hartley	0	5	0
Walter Ashley	0	5	0
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Marie Vere	0	5	0
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Subscriptions will be gratefully received and acknowledged by Henry Swinerd, Royal Artillery Theatre, Woolwich; or by J. W. Cordiner, *Dare-Devil Dorothy* company, en route.

THEATRICAL PATENTS.

The concise descriptions that we give below of recent applications for patents are specially contributed by Messrs. Howard and Co., patent agents, 57 and 58, Chancery-lane, London, W.C., who will assist readers in all patent matters :—

APPLICATIONS.

12,800.—Thomas Harden, of Hurlingham-road, Fulham, London. Improvements in devices for creating the illusion of travelling in a vehicle.

13,005.—Philip Alberti and Albert Wilson, of Oxford-road, Manchester. Amusement appratus.

13,200.—Mary Shippobottam, of Hanover-street, Keighley, Yorks. Improvements in apparatus for purposes of amusement.

COMPLETE SPECIFICATION ACCEPTED.

7,153.—Hicks and Wigan. Illusion device.

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THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"LA RIVALE,"

Play, in Four Acts, by MM. Kistemaeckers and Delard, produced at the Comédie-Française on June 13.

Simone de Mortagnes .....Mlle. Pierat
La Baronne de Ligneuil ....Mlle. Mitzy-Dalti
Jane Brizeux .....Mlle. Berthe Cerny
Mme. de Chamblay .....Mme. Robinne
Le Baron de Ligneuil .....M. Louis Delaunay
Un Mouleur .....M. Joliet
Rafiadoli .....M. Charles Esquier
Chamblay .....M. Croue
Mortagnes .....M. Siblot
Sormiers .....M. Grandval
André Brizeux .....M. Grand
Pontecroyx .....M. Paul Numa

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, June 20.—MM. Kistemaeckers and Delard—be it said without reproach—have taken a leaf out of M. Gabriele d'Annunzio's book. Those who know his impressive play *La Gioconda* will remember that he asks, "Is an artist born to make his wife happy or to create masterpieces?" And he shows us Settala, the sculptor, sacrificing his devoted wife Silvia to the beautiful Gioconda, his mistress, who inspires him. The story which the authors of *La Rivale* unfold is constructed on identical lines. The sculptor, André Brizeux, has been married ten years. Thanks to his wife Jeanne, this Bohemian has been transformed into a man of the world. He is courted, admired; his works fetch fabulous prices, and honours in every shape have been showered on him. But, for an intelligent woman, Jeanne commits a fatal mistake. She receives in her house M. de Mortagnes, a worthless poor relation, and his daughter Simone, a lovely girl. And this happens just at the moment when André imagines that his creative power is on the wane and requires stimulating. De Mortagnes, an old *viveur*, having squandered his fortune, now trades on his title, and joins the pseudo Baron de Ligneuil in shady undertakings. As to Simone, thanks to André and Jeanne's generosity she wears beautiful toilettes and enjoys herself in that elegant milieu. For all that, she is not happy. All the men make love to her, and the Baron de Ligneuil and an abject creature, Sormiers, even make shameful propositions to her. Pontecroyx, a respecable youth, chief clerk in an insurance company, asks her to become his wife. But Pontecroyx is poor, his salary is not big, and, worse still, Simone has fallen in love with André. She refuses Pontecroyx, and falls in André's arms. It is not long before Jeanne discovers the lovers' secret, and she vainly tries to bring her husband back. Then follows a dramatic scene between the wife and the mistress. "You have no right to take André away!" exclaims Jeanne. "I am his wife, his companion!" But in reply to her passionate appeal, Simone cries, "You may be his wife, but I shall be the mother of his only child!" The outraged wife calls out "Thief, thief!" and shows her rival the door. Several months elapse. The sculptor has gone away with Simone; but, with his thoughts lingering again on the past, he longs to see once more his old studio, and one night Pontecroyx smuggles him into the house. The place looks exactly like it did when he left it, and André feels strangely moved. Moreover, his child is dead, and he feels egoistically drawn towards his wife. Jeanne suddenly enters, and André is struck with her expression of infinite sadness. He feels inspired, and thinks of the great work he can produce. But grief has killed whatever affection Jeanne may have felt for André. She reminds him of the duties he has incurred towards Simone, and says "Go away!" And he goes. The great mistake in the work is that whereas we could realise in a measure the artist's love for La Gioconda, who inspired him, we fail to understand André's passion for Simone. His is a common love adventure, without the excuse we find for D'Annunzio's hero. The work was well acted by Mlle. Berthe Cerny, dignified in the rôle of Jeanne; by Mlle. Piérat, a touching Simone; and by M. Grand, a romantic André. Special praise is also due to M. Delaunay, to whom had been allotted the unsympathetic part of the Baron de Ligneuil.

"L'ENFANT DU TEMPLE,"

Play, in Five Acts and Nine Tableaux, by M. Alban de Polhes, produced at the Ambigu on June 14.

Mme. Léninger .....Mme. Dubuisson
Le Dauphin (petit Léninger) .....Mlle. Flore Mignot
Marie-Antoinette .....Mme. Chapelas
Femme Simon .....Mlle. Noris
Mme. Elisabeth .....Mlle. Suzanne Danjou
Fouché .....M. Etievant
Barras .....M. Grey
Simon .....M. Liezer
Gomin .....M. Leclerc
Brutus .....M. Blanchard

When Louis XVI. and Marie-Antoinette were beheaded, their unfortunate boy was not set free, but remained in the care of Simon, a cobbler, who ill-treated the child. After a short illness the Royal Prince died, and was buried in the cemetery of Sainte Marguerite. Despite the official documents which prove the death and burial of little Louis, there are still many persons who believe he was rescued, and that another child of the same age, and bearing a strong likeness to him, was buried in his place. In fact, we have at the present moment in Paris a gentleman calling himself Jean de Bourbon, who not only is convinced that he is a direct descendant of the escaped prince, but is surrounded by a little court who address him as "Monseigneur," and say Mass for his return to the throne of France. As, however, this Jean de Bourbon is a harmless pretender, does not conspire against the Government, and relies on a miracle to get himself crowned King of France, he and his little court are left in peace. Many dramas have already been written on the supposed thrilling episode of the Prince's escape, and M. Alban de Polhes felt tempted to add one more to the list. In his play he shows us a woman called Léninger, who, having been befriended by Marie-Antoinette, has become devoted to her. Mme. Léninger's little boy resembles the Dauphin, and she sacrifices her child to the Royal cause. Marie-Antoinette has lost her life on the scaffold. Robespierre has likewise been beheaded, and Barras, the new man in power, is at heart a Royalist. With his sanction, and aided by Fouché, the Prince is taken from his prison and replaced by little Léninger. When the latter is dying, his mother, by a strategem, comes to say him a last farewell. On perceiving his mother, the child opens his lips to speak, but Mme. Léninger makes a sign, and, remembering his promise, he remains silent, and dies without divulging the secret. The pathetic story is well told. The audience shed copious tears over the heroic little Léninger, and hooted the wicked Simon. And, as the frequenters of the Ambigu as a rule are not very well up in history, they will take it all for granted and the before-mentioned Prince Jean de Bourbon will have gained a few more adherents. Mlle. Flore Mignot played the double rôle of the real and the false Prince with great feeling and M. Liézer succeeded in making himself look hideous as the scoundrelly Simon.

M. Ruez, the ruler for five years of the Folies-Bergères, Pariasiana and Olympia, has become bankrupt. The establishments over which he ruled will once more return to the Brothers Isola.

DRESSES AT THE PLAY.

A striking show is made by the costumes in *A Midnight Wedding* at the Lyceum. As Princess Astrea Miss Kerin appears in the Chapel scene in an evening dress of white soft satin, cut square at the corsage and filled in with soft net pailletted with gold. There are puffed under-sleeves of white chiffon, over which fall the shorter pair of white satin. The skirt is turned back to show a panel of tucked chiffon trimmed with a full ruche, and round her hair Miss Kerin twists a long scarf of the same white chiffon.

The second of Miss Kerin's dresses shows the new Shantung silk in a *soft* delicate shade of brown. It is cut *en Princesse*, and is trimmed with bands of self-coloured silk relieved by pipings of cream satin. The dainty little bodice is of fine creamy lace, over which are worn kimono straps of brown silk. The hat tones with the dress in colour, and is trimmed with long white feathers and a knot of faded roses tucked in at one side. Miss Kerin's last dress is of pale pastel blue cloth, made Princess fashion. It is worn with a charming lace bodice and a mushroom hat trimmed with a huge black silk bow and a bunch of roses.

Miss Valli Valli wears a dainty dress of white voile cut very short and full, with a tight-fitting black velvet bodice and chemisette of white net. On her head is a smart little cap of white lawn finished with two coquettish rosettes of black ribbon, with long ends falling on the shoulders. As a bride Miss Valli Valli looks very fascinating in a dress of white spotted net, very simply made with two deep tucks that decorate the skirt; and the tiny puffed sleeves give a very smart appearance to the bodice.

Miss Daisy Gwynne dresses Satanella in a handsome gown of blue chiffon trimmed with lace; and with it is worn a sleeveless coatee of black jetted net, cut square at the neck and opening in the front to show the lace and chiffon of the corsage. Over this costume Miss Gwynne throws a long loose cloak of peacock-blue silk, and she has a large hat of white leghorn trimmed with huge ostrich plumes.

American fashion is extensively reflected in *Divorcons* at the Duke of York's. Miss Grace George, the leading lady, appears in the first act in an exquisite afternoon gown of pale myosotis-blue Oriental satin, made in Empire style. The high Empire waistbelt of swathed satin is worked in a delicate trailing pattern of silver thread, while the bébé bodice of string-coloured net is encrusted round the throat with Brussels lace, trimmed with little flat bows of myosotis-blue satin. The hat consists of a small mushroom in natural-coloured Leghorn, with a large mob-cap crown encircled with a trail of deep La France pink roses and foliage, while the costume is supplemented by a semi-fitting sleeveless coatee of coarse lace, mounted over white silk, the fronts being inlet with motifs of chiné silk in a blurred flower design, little epaulettes of the lace and thick silk cords, finished with heavy tassels, embellishing the whole. Miss George's second costume is an exquisite demi-toilette of fine net the colour of clotted cream, and mounted over white silk. The gown, which is made on Princess lines, is decorated with four long stole panels of deep cream lace extending from the shoulders, a swathed belt of soft satin being slipped underneath, while a heavy embroidery of floss silk, representing a tangle of roses, and reaching from the knee to the hem, likewise enriches the gown. The short epaulette sleeves, as well as the corsage itself, are also thickly embroidered, while her dainty restaurant wrap of transparent rose-coloured chiffon in burnous form, made with stylish "bag" sleeves, is outlined with narrow ruchings of chiffon. The cloak is supplemented with a collar of folded velvet ribbon, edged with a tiny kilted frill of the same, and finished with long velvet streamers and heavy silk tassels, the huge Lamballe hat of pure white crinoline being wreathed with an enormous white ostrich plume, tipped with pink.

Miss Benson's Princess gown is of fine crushed framboise cloth, moulded to the figure, the tablier corsage being finished with wide mitred bands of its own material, heavily embroidered in thick floss silk in a paler shade of framboise. The gathered under-bodice is fashioned of "old ivory" net and Alençon lace, while three superposed flounces of the same dentelle form the elbow sleeves, a large black picture hat and cloth cape completing the toilette. The evening gown worn by Miss Benson in the second act is of petunia-coloured chiffon velvet, cut on Empire lines, the fichu folds of the bodice being caught with two large antique paste buttons in front, while the under-bodice of string-coloured lace is finished with elbow sleeves composed of little superposed frills of the same dentelle.

Miss Ruby Ray has chosen a supple cloth in a delicate shade of champagne, the two-tiered skirt being cut into deep castellations, and fashioned in corselet form, while the short sac coat is decorated with *découpé* motifs of its own material worked into a tortuous design. A simulated waistcoat of oatmeal linen is worked with eyelet-hole embroidery, and edged with tiny frills of Valenciennes lace, while a black velvet collar makes an agreeable contrast to the delicate tint of the cloth. Her hat is a simple cloche of black chip, with a large black and white bird poised on the crown, the wide, out-stretched wings completely covering the brim.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

The concert given by the students of the Royal College on Thursday, June 13, opened with Schubert's (posthumous) "Quartet for Strings, in D minor," which has the "heavenly length" characteristic of Schubert's instrumental works. But if anything could excuse the length of a quartet lasting nearly an hour it is the beautiful "Andante con moto," of which the young performers, Miss Mary Harrison, Miss Marjorie Beer, Mr. Frank Bridge, and Miss Beatrice M. Harrison gave an excellent account. Miss Gwendoline Trevitt sang Handel's "Care selve" (*Atalanta*) and "Daffodils," by Edward German, Miss Trevitt's fluent delivery of the latter song being much appreciated by the audience. Two of Mr. Frank Bridge's piano solos, "Sea Idyll" and "Capriccio," were skilfully executed by Miss Lucia Simpson. The "Sea Idyll" proved somewhat diffuse and indefinite, but the "Capriccio" was cleverly written, and the audience gave the composer and pianist a most hearty reception. In Liza Lehmann's song, "Ah, moon of my delight," Mr. Frank Webster used his musical and well-trained tenor voice with capital effect; and Miss Florence Taylor sang "The walnut tree" and "Devotion," by Schumann, with much grace and expression. The audience were also greatly pleased with Mr. Felix Norman Salmond's finely-played violoncello solos, "Aria in D" and "Bourrée in C," by Bach. The concert concluded with Beethoven's "Trio for Piano and Strings in D major," op. 70, No. 1, the executants being Miss Ellen Edwards, Miss Lorna Downing, and Mr. F. Gershom Parkington. The accompanist was Miss Alice Cotton

MAKES THE SKIN AS SOFT AS VELVET.—Beetham's "LAROLA" preserves the Skin from the effects of the sun, winds, and hard water. Entirely removes and prevents all roughness, redness, irritation, tan, &c., and KEEPS THE SKIN SOFT, SMOOTH, and WHITE at all Seasons. INVALUABLE for the COMPLEXION, DELIGHTFULLY COOLING AND REFRESHING after walking, golfing, cycling, motoring, dancing, &c. Gentlemen will find it wonderfully soothing if applied after shaving. Bottles, 1s., 1s. 9d., and 2s. 6d. each, of all Chemists and Stores. M. BEETHAM and SON, CHELTENHAM.—[ADVT.]

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

A MEETING of the Theatrical Sports Committee was held on Wednesday at *The Era* office, Mr. C. Aubrey Smith, the Chairman, presiding. Those present were Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, the hon. treasurer; Mr. James Cullen and Mr. William Barbour, St. James's Theatre; Mr. A. Palmer, Comedy Theatre; Mr. P. Sheridan, Crown Theatre; Mr. G. H. Dyball, Opera House; Mr. E. Catlin, Surrey Theatre; Mr. H. Porter, Criterion Theatre; Mr. C. Thorogood, Mr. A. Earnshaw, the Duke of York's Theatre; and W. Johnson, hon. secretary.

THE minutes of the previous meeting having been confirmed, the hon. treasurer reported on donations to prize fund and prizes presented for competition received since the last meeting. In addition to those already announced in this column, Mr H. Beerbohm Tree has sent £1 1s., and Mr. Dion Boucicault £1 1s., and Mr. Cecil Paget has promised 10s. 6d. The chairman and Mr. H. Porter reported on arrangements made with the London General Omnibus Co. and with Mr. Squires, of the London Road Car Co., to exhibit bills on the side of a number of their 'buses announcing the sports and the theatrical cricket matches.

MR. PEDGRIFT, on behalf of *The Era*, Ltd., undertook to print a number of posters for the committee. A unanimous vote of thanks was passed to the proprietors of *The Era* for their kindness.

A NUMBER of entry forms were submitted and passed. The following were selected with the hon. treasurer and secretary to act as the prize selection committee :—Messrs. A. Palmer, of the Comedy Theatre; and Mr. A. Earnshaw, of the Duke of York's Theatre. Mr. W. Barbour made an excellent suggestion, which he desired should be brought to the notice of those interested in the sports and benevolent funds. The committee heartily recommend the suggestion, and would be glad if it was carried into general effect. The proposal was that the company, orchestra, and staff of each theatre should be invited to contribute to provide a championship trophy, cup, or other prize for competition, to be inscribed with the name of the theatre, to be held by the theatre represented by the winner for six or twelve months, as may be approved. Thus the committee have the Haymarket Cup or Shield, the St. James's Cup, His Majesty's Cup, and so on. This would arouse, it is assumed, considerably greater rivalry between the various theatres. The ambition to acquire their rival's trophy and to retain possession of their own "House" Cup, would create a feeling of great benefit to the sports. The committee hope to make an announcement at its next meeting that this suggestion has been adopted. The number of cups or shields is only limited by the number of events not now offering a challenge trophy.

ATTENTION is drawn to the fact that the entries close to-day, but any entry received in time to go to the handicapper and be approved by the committee will be included. The sooner the entries are sent the better, and the more certainty of their being accepted. Tickets are ready for issue, and printed matter of various kinds available. Assistance in any way cordially invited. Next meeting of the committee next Saturday, at 5.30.

A GENERAL meeting of the members of the Carpenters' Branch N.A.T.E. will be held to-morrow, Sunday, at headquarters, Salisbury Hotel, St. Martin's-lane, at 8.30. All members urged to be present. The Award and other important matters will be placed before the meeting.

THE adjourned annual general meeting of the members of the General Staff Branch—London, N.A.T.E., will be held on Sunday, in the St. George's Hall, Westminster Bridge-road, S.E., at 7 o'clock. The agenda is as follows :—

1. Annual Report.
2. Financial Statement and Auditors' Report (already issued).
3. Arbitrator's Award—Music Hall Dispute.
4. Alliance between The Variety Artists' Federation, The Amalgamated Musicians' Union, and our Society.
5. Election of Branch Officers :—President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, three Trustees, two Auditors, and ten Members to act on the Committee.
6. Election of National (Executive) Committee and General Officers :—President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, and three Trustees.
7. E.C. recommendation. (1) That the Society be represented at the Annual Trades Union Congress. (2) That the Society be affiliated with the General Federation of Trade Unions. The cost of the same to be paid by all Branches in proportion to their respective membership.

Admission only on production of card of membership for current quarter.

A JOINT meeting of the members of the National Association of Theatrical Employees and the Amalgamated Musicians' Union, and, probably, the members of the Orchestra Association, will be held on Sunday week, in The Horns, Kennington, S.E., to consider the Award and the future actions of those societies in relation to the Award, and to the Variety Artists' Federation. Mr. J. B. Williams, general secretary of the Musicians' Union, Mr. William Johnson, general secretary of the N.A.T.E., will speak. Representatives of labour organisations in the metropolis will be invited. The meeting will be private. Members and ticket holders only admitted. This meeting will be of considerable importance, and while the recent alliance with the V.A.F. is almost certain to be dissolved, there is every prospect of a federation being formed of the London Musicians and Stage Employees.

IT was not expected that the award would satisfy everybody, and, in that respect, it has justified expectations; but, on reflection, the employees will find, whatever its shortcomings, it will give them some advantages, and place them in a position, with the co-operation of the managers, to establish a much better state of things than has formerly existed.

IT must be recognised that no body of workmen have shared in the economic growth of their trade or industry until they have fixed a starting-point. That starting-point is a recognised rate of minimum rate of pay and a maximum normal working day. The award provides these two essential conditions to any future orderly development by the raising of the minimum rate or the reduction of the normal working hours per day.

THE award is, practically, for two-shows-a-night houses, and it gives considerable benefits to the night men and day men employed in the two-shows-a-night houses, to the extent of from 2s. to 7s. 6d. a week, and fewer hours of work for day men, with extra pay for overtime.

THE carpenters (bench hands) are the only section included in the National Alliance who have got in full the recognition of their Union rate. They, of course, represent a body of skilled artisans, and although the number employed in music halls is not great, it has opened the doors of every music hall in the Metropolitan Police area to the Union carpenter, who, formerly, could not accept work where his Union rate of pay was not paid. It may also benefit them if the sketch artists and the scenic artists they employ to make their scenery, observe the terms of the award in this direction.

THE use of the terms "stage-foreman and switchboard electrician," is to be deplored. A manager must, under the Council's regulations, have a competent man in charge of the lighting and its installation. A switchboard attendant is not necessarily an electrician. It would, therefore, be obvious that managers cannot apply the rate of pay fixed for a switchboard attendant to the electrician in charge, and responsible to the management, under the rules of the L.C.C. This point is covered by Regulation No. 54, which has officially been stated to mean

"A properly qualified man means an attendant who would be able to deal with any urgency, repairs, and *alterations*, such as are required almost daily in theatre installations."

THE use of the term "approximately" with reference to the hours of work per day is most unfortunate, and, in my judgment, without precedent in like circumstances. One might as well say the wages shall be "approximately" so and so, or that the price of admission of the music halls shall be "approximately" so and so. It was most essential that ambiguity in the fixing of the hours and the rates of pay should be avoided.

IT is a pity that some arrangement was not made, or suggested, for the benefit of hall-keepers, baggage-men, and other sections included among those involved in the dispute, and whose claims were referred to arbitration; but, it should be borne in mind that clause 4 of the part dealing with "Future Disputes" affords an opportunity for any section whose claims are not dealt with in the award, to obtain conditions through their representatives by negotiations with the manager.

THE only question that is likely to affect the attitude of the employees towards the award is the question of the reinstatement of the men not covered by the interim award. Their case can still be placed before the arbitrator; but it is more desirable that the question should be settled between the parties, and, from all accounts, the managers of the halls concerned are now considering what can be done.

THE Amalgamated Musicians' Union and National Association of Theatrical Employees are calling a mass meeting for the 30th inst. to discuss their position with regard to the award. The Musicians' Union is not satisfied with Clause 2, which will be thoroughly discussed at the meeting.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, June 20.—There is but little to record of last week's doings, many of our theatres having already closed for the summer holidays—lasting, usually, from six to eight weeks. An event anticipated with interest was the season of Herr Wedekind at the Kleines, which commenced—in the absence of the regular company—last week. Herr Frank Wedekind is a popular writer and dramatist; he excels in the modern style of play—realistic to the verge of repulsion—and he has also written a few pleasant things. With all his talents, however, he is not an actor, and it is a matter of wonderment that his affection for the boards has not died a natural death, so much cold water has been poured upon it by the critics. In his comedy, *Der Kammersänger*, Herr Wedekind gave the name-part, making of it an utterly unconvincing character. Fräulein Lotte Klein played charmingly as Miss Isabel, and Frau Wedekind (the author's wife) and Herr Licho were good in the remaining rôles. *Rabbi Esra*, a one-act play, also by Herr Wedekind, made a very poor impression. It is little more than a monologue, and, the author giving the title-rôle in his customary lethargic and indistinct style, the results may be imagined. *Der Friede des Hauses*, drawn from Maupassant by Herr Ploecket-Eckard, completed the programme. The most enjoyable part of the entertainment was without doubt the acting of Frau Wedekind—a young artist whose talent and charm should make her career an unusually successful one.

THE Royal Opera closes this week with a performance of Gounod's *Faust*, with Miss Geraldine Farrar in the part of Marguerite. The first important revival after the holidays will be Smetana's *Dalibor*, in which Fräulein Destinn and Herr Kraus are cast for the principal rôles. There will be new scenery and costumes. The Royal Schauspielhaus—whose holidays begin a little later—produces this evening an adaptation by Theodor Gassmann of Scribe's five-act comedy *Les Doigts de Fée*, under the title of *Feenhaende*.

AT the Schiller Theatre O.—formerly known as the Wallner Theatre—the Morwitz season of summer opera has commenced. The management is thoroughly experienced, as the Morwitz Opera is an annual institution during the summer months, and the company is a satisfactory one. *Die Hugenotten* was chosen for the opening performance on Saturday; Sunday afternoon attracted a large audience to hear *Der Freischutz* at popular prices, and *Martha* proved a draw in the evening. The bill for the present week includes *Carmen* and *The Magic Flute*.

AT the Komische Oper, the bill alternates between *Carmen* and Hoffmann's *Erzählungen*, the latter attracting many of the visitors with whom Berlin is crowded at present. The ever-popular *Lustige Wittwe* is still running nightly at the Theatre des Westens, with an afternoon performance on Sundays; its success appears permanently established.

A WELL-KNOWN and much-esteemed actor, Herr Wilhelm Ruff, passed away last week at the age of sixty-five, and his place in the company of the Luisen Theatre will not be readily filled. Formerly a member of the Wallner, later on of the Residenz company, Herr Ruff made his mark in every play he acted in; he was as good in tragedy as comedy, and a hard worker up to the time of his death, which was the result of a stroke and quite unexpected.

FRAULEIN IRENE TRIESCH, the famous actress—member of the Lessing company—who is in private life Mrs. Frederic Lamond, is receiving congratulations upon the birth of a daughter.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR.

Your book will, I am sure, be a valuable aid to all managers and actors.—SIR HENRY IRVING.

Mr. Strong states the whole case very clearly.—*Illustrated London News.*

Should be found very useful.—*Pelican.*

Should prove perfectly invaluable.—*Weekly Sun.*

Contains in a handy compass and in a clear style the law relating to theatres and music halls. The book is well up to date.—*Law Times.*

Furnishes useful information.—*Daily News.*

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—*Star.*

Mr. A. A. Strong has compiled an exceedingly useful volume dealing carefully, intelligently, and fully with the law bearing upon things theatrical. As a book of reference this excellent digest will be found invaluable.—*The Era.*

MR. PERCY BOUCHER, who has just severed his connection with the stock and dramatic company at the Royal, Liverpool, where he inaugurated the two-houses-a-night system some years ago, will take a complimentary benefit at Hope Hall, in that city, on Thursday evening next.

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, June 17,
the Comedy, by C. H. Hawtrey, entitled
"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."

It is just over twenty-three years since Mr. Hawtrey's farcical comedy entered upon its long and prosperous career, and, judging by the laughter of the large audience at the King's on Monday evening, there should be many more years of success in store for *The Private Secretary*. New to London is Mr. Donald Price Evans, who, in the title-part, worthily follows in the footsteps of his predecessors, and gives a presentment that at once "catches on" with the audience. Cattermole is once more in the very experienced hands of Mr. W. Hargreaves, whose characterisation is most popular. Mr. H. Sinclair as Mr. Marsland is quiet and dignified, as befitting a country squire; and Harry Marsland is well played by Mr. James Hussey. Mr. Randolph Reade is a dashing Douglas Cattermole. An exceedingly able and humorous rendering of Sidney Gibson is given by Mr. Vivian Gilbert; and the part of Knox is adequately filled by Mr. John Macready. A delightful Edith Marsland is Miss Dora Gray; and Miss Mary E. Deverell acts charmingly as Eva Webster. Miss Cecily Wade's embodiment of Mrs. Stead is of good service; and Miss Ashford, with her spiritual views, is capitally enacted by Mrs. Alfred Davies. *Good for Nothing* is also presented during the evening, enabling Miss Dora Gray to successfully extract humour and pathos from the part of Nan.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, June 17, the Children's Pantomime,
"THE FORTE THIEVES."

The management of this comfortable theatre have secured a special and unique attraction this week, namely, the juvenile company from Drury Lane Theatre in the pantomine *The Forté Thieves* (played piano), with its bright music and tasteful scenery. The play is mounted in capital style and the company, composed of highly accomplished artists, all of whom work with a zeal that is most praiseworthy. Master W. Bishop as Ali Baba gives an admirable impersonation of the woodman, father of Ganem, the hero. The latter part is suitably undertaken by Miss Jessie Evans, who possesses, if not a powerful voice, a well-trained one, and, in addition, is the possessor of considerable powers as a comedienne. Master Teddy Gordon gives a good account of himself as Cassim Baba; and Miss L. Randall, quaintly made up as Cogia, also merits commendation. The bright particular star of the production is Master Jack Frost, the Drury Lane "call-boy," who undertakes the part of Abdalla, and scores a big success. Miss A. McDonald, who is responsible for the rôle of Hassarac, gives a good account of herself; and considerable talent is displayed by Miss Florrie Clarke as Morgiana. She is a vocalist of no mean order, singing with point and style, and her dancing is dainty and graceful. Miss Gertie Britton makes a charming Fairy of the Cave, being ably attended by Fairies L. Clarke, E. Crump, and L. Bew. Masters Middleditch and Burton ably impersonate Percy, the donkey, whose antics considerably amuse the younger members of the audience. Miss Vickie Hogben is an excellent exponent of the terpsichorean art, and is heartily received. One of the notable successes of the evening's entertainment is the singing of "Sambo" by Miss L. Gibbons, assisted by the Misses J. Biggs and M. Spear as coons. The whole concludes with a grand shadow pantomime.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, June 17, the Drama, entitled
"IN THE SHADOW OF NIGHT."

Mr. James Willard and his company are appearing here again this week in Mr. Willard's sensational drama, *In the Shadow of Night*, which has not been seen at this theatre for a very long time. It is a most exciting drama, and the scene in which the villain secures the hero and heroine and sets fire to the building would surely be difficult to beat for the height of sensational realism; while the final scene of the Thames in which the stage is flooded with water is excellently done. Mr. James Willard himself appears as the villain, Clifford Yorke, and he plays the part in the most finished style, and not without an amount of humour which is rather refreshing in this type of character. Violet Kingston is very charmingly portrayed by Miss Elsie Wallace, who acts in a very sweet manner, while Violet's lover, Gordon Allington, is played in a manly fashion by Mr. Austin Mortimer. Mr. George Harvey gives a good sketch of the old squire, John Allington, while Mr. Harry Emmerson is particularly good as the rugged old farmer, James Woodstock. Mr. M. Arnold is very popular as the gentleman in khaki, Tom Nainby. Miss Mildred Carr makes a capital Molly Woodstock, and keeps everyone in good spirits by her lively acting. Mr. Evison displays his ability as a character actor, first by his clever sketch of an old postman and afterwards he creates endless amusement as the young clergyman, the Rev. Nathaniel Hope. Mr. William Hayward is seen to much advantage as Jake Grudgewell, the man who aids the villain in his various plots and schemes. Mr. Clive Rawlins is good as P.C. Hammond, and Miss Phyllis French is very smart as Bob, the little tramp, who proves such a faithful friend to the hero. No notice would be complete without reference to Gyp—Molly's canine companion, who is such a terrer to Clifford Yorke and his accomplice. The dog certainly seems to enjoy his share in the play and is a great favourite. The play is very well staged, and the many big scenes are put on in the most complete manner. The orchestra, under Mr. G. F. Ford's direction, do splendid work and give much pleasure. Mr. Wilfred Stanford is the acting manager for Mr. Robert Arthur.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, June 17, the Drama,
by Arthur Shirley and George Conquest, entitled
"THE LONDON FIREMAN."

Large audiences have this week been interested in the above exciting story of London life. The piece contains many ingeniously-contrived situations, and the comedy element is well up to the mark. Messrs. Garside and Knowles' company presents the play to the best possible advantage. Mr. J. Forbes Knowles supplies a vigorous embodiment of the hero, Hal Curtis, and Ida Curtis is well enacted by Miss Nellie Shirley. Mr. Fowler Thatcher is capital in the dual rôles of the old reprobate, Bill Stinger, and the young rascal, Nixey Stinger, and to his unforced and infectious humour a great part of the success is due. Miss Nellie Garside is delightfully *chic* and engaging as the plain-spoken Polly Bramble, and her scenes with Nixey Stinger provoke roars of laughter. Mr. William Burgess is a powerful "Ratty" Curtis, and Mr. Herbert S. Humber an excellent Viscount Fleming. Mr. Frank Hertie plays cleverly in the dual rôles of the kind-hearted Dr. Gerrard and the eccentric German, Professor Curlewach. Mr. Lionel Thompson acts with dignity and naturalness as the blind Abel Fortnum, and Mr. Walter Wilby is good as Joe Blumer. Miss Beatrice Sinclair is powerful and pathetic as the unfortunate Grace Curtis. The other characters are in good hands. The scenery is quite adequate, and the scene of the house on fire at the end of the third act is very realistically rendered.

THE LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, June 17,
"THE LITTLE BREAD-WINNER."

A prompt return to the one-house-a-night system has been made here this week, and the above-named drama, played by Mr. J. H. Campbell's company, is drawing excellent houses. Mr. Dunlop Stewart is effective as Lord William Dorrington; Mr. Matthew Boulton as Richard Laurence gives a good interpretation; Mr. Alfred Maurice contributes a particularly good performance as Joseph Prior; and Mr. Norman Hall is excellent as Charles Prior. Mr. Wallace Carey is good as Doctor Chadwick, as also is Mr. Lea Hair as Monty. Miss Emil Leslie wins sympathy as Margaret Daventry; as Bridget O'Flanaghan Miss Jenny Bostock is satisfactory; Kate and Ruth Cherry are well played by Miss Nellie Thorne-Hallam and Miss Kitty Melville; Little Emmie Thomas as the Little Breadwinner sings several songs, and dances neatly; and Miss Nellie King (Boby Trott) is a pleasing little actress and vocalist. The play is well mounted. The overture and incidental music are by Mr. Arthur Workman.

CORONET THEATRE.

On Monday, June 17,
"THE BROKEN MELODY."

Mr. Auguste Van Biene and company are appearing at the Coronet this week in the perennial comedy-drama, *The Broken Melody*, which bids fair to rival *Charley's Aunt* in its running capacity. The distinguished actor-musician, though suffering somewhat from indisposition on Monday night, made a great hit as Paul Borinski, alias Count Livodia, and both by the vigour, earnestness, and sincerity of his acting and by his delightful 'cello recital in act II. he gained golden opinions. Miss Lena Burnleigh makes a very sweet and sympathetic figure of the wronged child-wife, Mabel, and acts with just the right degree of tragic intensity. Miss Grace Lester glides gracefully through the rather thankless part of the lovelorn Duchesse de Verviers, and even contrives to enlist our sympathy somewhat for this misguided and scheming woman. Miss R. Pulleyne makes a pretty and taking Hon. Mrs. Spinnaker; Mr. Henry Ludlow is imposing as the secret police spy, General Ivanoff; Mr. Edward Van Biene is very good as the faithful old retainer, Dickson; and Miss Margaret Gordon is well in the picture as the inquisitive landlady, Mrs. Dickson. As the insufferable Mortimer, the theatrical agent, Mr. Herbert Colley causes considerable laughter, and very amusing is the scene where Miss Gerrard, a part played by Miss M. Mannering, mistakes him for the maestro. Mr. Dudley Stuart as Beaujour and Mr. Archie Selwyn as Hon. Richard Spinnaker are eminently satisfactory; and Mr. W. Thomason as Dr. Magrath is also good. Mr Gilbert Heron is the business manager, Mr. Archie Selwyn stage manager, and Mr. Percival Goffin musical director for Mr. Van Biene.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, June 17, the Play in Four Acts,
by Dion Boucicault, entitled
"THE OCTOROON."

The revival this week of Mr. Dion Boucicault's popular play, *The Octoroon*, is proving very acceptable to patrons of the Shakespeare Theatre, and at each performance the house has been filled with an enthusiastic audience. The play is staged in a very complete and elaborate manner, and is excellently interpreted by a very good company. Mr. Frank Adair, who gives a capital embodiment of Salem Scudder, meets with much success; Mr. Hugh Mewburn as Jacob McClosky is to be congratulated on a sterling performance; and Mr. Wingold Lawrence as George Peyton submits a manly and earnest portrayal of the character. Mr. George H. Asquin, who is responsible for a clever character study of Pete, an old Negro, also contributes an excellent clog dance. As Wah-notee, an Indian Chief, Mr. George Mitchell is satisfactory, and Mr. Chris Mason makes the most of his opportunities in the rôle of Col. Pointdexter. Mr. Fred Withers as Sunnyside and Mr. C. Cecil as Capt. Ratts also render good support. Miss Louie Adair, in the part of Zoe, the Octoroon, acts with pleasing effect, winning sympathetic applause; Miss Lydia Mannington makes an attractive Dora Sunnyside; Miss Nellie Daly as Mrs. Peyton is effective; and Miss Daisy Maynard is deserving of commendation for her delineation of Paul. A group of coloured artists, specially engaged, introduce plantation songs, dances, &c., which are enthusiastically encored. The play is produced under the direction of Mr. Frank Adair, who is assisted by Mr. Chris Mason as assistant stage-manager. The comfort of the audience is, as usual, well looked after by Mr. E. de Hague Body, the popular acting-manager for Mr. H. G. Dudley Bennett.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, June 17, the Drama,
"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."

For ten years the famous play, *Two Little Vagabonds*, has been before the public, but it has not staled at all, and the large audiences which have nightly assembled at Kennington Theatre to witness its production by Hardie and Von Greer's original company this week have followed the development of the story with as much interest as ever. It has been rightly said that this play is one which goes straight to the human heart. It has humour, wit; it abounds in thrilling situations; it is full of wonderful character-drawing, and it is insistent in its appeal to the emotions. The piece is excellently put on, for the company is the strongest that Hardie and Von Greer have on the road, and the staging and accessories leave nothing to be desired. In the title-rôle, Miss Edie Martin (Dick) and Miss Josie Beltram (Wally) each score a triumphant success, acting with a childish charm and pathos which irresistibly appeals to the susceptibilities of the audience. Mr. Douglas Vigors does well in the somewhat difficult part of George Thornton, first the jealous, and subsequently repentant, husband. As the wrongly-accused wife of Thornton, Miss Grace Heywood acts with great dramatic force and intensity. The heroine could not be better presented. Bill Mullins, the Gaffer, is amusingly portrayed by Mr. Lionel Ellis, who is admirably supported by Mr. Frank Gordon as Dido Bunce, Mr. Dick Winglow as the Coughdrop, and Miss Evelyn Shaw as Biddy Mullins. Mr. Ellis and Mr. Shaw are responsible in the main for the lighter side of the play, and they are to be congratulated on the fine show they give. Mr. Sidney Vautier makes a splendid Captain Darville, in love with Barbara, and Mr. Dunstan Haye is well placed as John Scarth—the suspicious husband. In the part of Barbara Scarth, the erring but remorseful woman and eventually happy wife, Miss Rosslyn Vayne finds full scope for her histrionic abilities, and Miss Lena Vernon does all that is required of her as Sister Randall with tactful judgment. Mr. Harry F. Wright gives a careful study of the character of Leeson, the soldier-servant, and Mr. Marston Moor is amusing as the inquisitive landlord of the Chequers Inn. Mr. Hugh Holliman as the Sexton and Mr. Henry Buckland in the character of the Village Constable both cause considerable merriment. The smaller parts of Dr. Lynn (Mr. Thomas Blakeman), the Footman (Mr. W. T. Harris), and the Maidservant (Miss Hilda Leslie) are ably taken.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

This week a series of Shakespearean performances have been given under the direction of Mr. Ian Maclaren. The play on Monday was *The Merchant of Venice*, in which the part of the Jew was portrayed by Mr. Maclaren with conspicuous ability. He was assisted by a most capable company, Mr. Dagby Vole playing the Duke of Venice, Mr. Frank Royde the Prince of Morocco, Mr. Arthur Fayne Antonio, Mr. Frank Cellier, jun., Bassanio, Mr. Basil Deane Gratiano, Mr. J. V. Bryant Lorenzo, and Miss Glossop-Harris Portia. On Tuesday *As You Like It* was produced, with Mr. Maclaren as Orlando, and Miss Harris as Rosalind; whilst Mr. Fayne filled the part of Jacques, and Mr. Cellier that of Touchstone. The attraction on Wednesday was *Hamlet*, when Mr. Maclaren played the title-rôle, Mr. Royde the King, Mr. Cellier Laertes, Mr. Fayne Polonius, and Miss Rosalie Notrelle Ophelia. *Twelfth Night* was produced on Thursday, *Othello* on Friday, and *Hamlet* will be reproduced to-night. The plays were admirably staged.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, June 17, the Drama,
by C. A. Clarke and H. R. Silva, entitled
"HONOUR THY FATHER."

Mr. Morton Powell's company is here this week in the above-named drama. Patrons who enjoy thrilling situations are amply catered for in this production. As Gabriel Garth Mr. Walter M. Cameron provides an interesting and pathetic study, in which he is ably assisted by Miss Kate Newton as Gertrude Garth, his wife. Jack Halyard is played in a dashing manner by Mr. Robert Gilbert, and Mr. Howell Travis acts with much power as the villainous Duncan Bly. Mr. Fred L. Conynghame in the character of Mike Copplestone is a quaint comedian, and keeps the audience in fits of laughter by his off-hand treatment of the villainous Duncan Bly. Miss Mabel Coleman gives a sympathetic rendering of the character of Lilian Garth, and Miss Winnie Donovan is a fascinating Mercy Merry. Miss Ada Salmon as Poppy Corleigh and Mr. W. H. Melrose as Ned Pennycomquick are together responsible for much merriment, and other characters are in safe hands. The drama is well staged, especially the scene in the second act representing Sir Duncan Bly's House Boat on the Thames.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, June 17, the Drama, in Four Acts,
Written by Edward Thane, entitled
"THE MOCKERY OF MARRIAGE."

This drama of Mr. Thane is always sure of a hearty welcome in Marylebone, and certainly this week proved no exception to the rule, Mr. Bailey's staunch patrons following the various incidents with breathless interest. As Dick Kenyon Mr. Edward Thane is seen at his best, and he certainly succeeds in stirring the passions of the West Londoners to their uttermost depths. Mr. C. J. Foster deserves every praise for his careful playing of Seth Pearce; Mr. W. E. Griffiths is well placed as Joseph Vernham; Mr. Frank Coston is full of life and go as Toby Wright; and Mr. Charles Lodge-Percy imparts plenty of earnestness into his vigorous portrayal of Jack Stanley. Miss Henrietta Schrier enacts Rosa Vernham with much feeling and tasteful effect; Miss Rose Ellis gets plenty of sympathy as Nelly Kenyon; Miss Grace Emery scores all along the line for her vivacious acting as Mary Ann Barnicoat; whilst Miss Winifred Whyte—at times strongly reminiscent of Miss Olga Audre—puts in plenty of good work as the sorely-tried Alva Kenyon. The piece is mounted and staged in irreproachable style, and the all-round excellence of the company is most noticeable.

BROADWAY THEATRE, S.E.

On Monday, June 17, the Drama,
by Wm. McClellan, entitled
"A WOMAN ADRIFT."

Mr. Samuel James this week presents *A Woman Adrift*, supported by an excellent company. Mr. Henry Hatchman gives a very fine performance of the dual rôle of Ferdinand Castro and Leo Castro; Mr. David G. Noble is very good indeed as Sir John Ingleby; Mr. George Wallace makes an amusing Jibbs; Mr. Ashton Winslow plays well as Pentecost Mackay; and Mr. George Ashley as Roderick, Mr. Will Skelton as Dennis, Mr. Fred Dalton as Carla, Mr. Norman Brooks as Pedro, and Mr. F. Gare as Andreas all add to the success. Miss Maud Harris plays Rupert Ingleby naturally and pleasingly; Miss Katharine Clarke gives an excellent performance of the part of Cora Leigh; Miss Ella Seton is an attractive Molly; and Miss East Robertson adds to her reputation by her admirable acting of the character of Stella.

"DRINK;
OR, SAVED BY A CHILD'S PRAYER."

A Drama, in Four Acts, by Cecil Phillips,
Produced at the Town Hall,
Cley-next-the-Sea, Norfolk, on Friday, June 14.

Hartley Granville ..... MR. DOUGLAS WARE
Joe Morgan ..... MR. BEN CARR
Swizzel ..... MR. CECIL PHILIPPS
Susie ..... MISS EFFIE MASON
Mrs. Morgan ..... MISS ELIZABETH LANG
Mary Morgan ..... MISS EUGENIE VESTRIS
Ida Morgan ..... MISS KATE LANG
Frank Hammond ..... MR. BEN BARNETT
Mrs. Bradley ..... MISS KATE MONTGOMERY
Policeman ..... MR. DAVID COOK

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The above drama bears but little resemblance to the play with a similar title which Mr. Charles Warner has made so popular. The theme deals with the troubles that befall a once-prosperous tradesman, who has yielded to the seductive cup, and his subsequent reformation. The carefully-told story takes place in an English country village. Joe Morgan, the principal business man in the community, is making frequent visits to the Rose and Crown, presided over by Mrs. Bradley. His daughter Ida is sought in marriage by Frank Hammond, whom she loves, but, fearing she has inherited the alcoholic taint, she refuses him. Meanwhile a rascally lawyer, Hartley Granville, discovers that Ida is the legatee under a certain will, and determines to compel her to marry him. Morgan's drink habit eventually results in his ruin, and at length he is ejected from the village inn, the hostess hurling a heavy tankard after him. Morgan's child Mary, to whom he is devotedly attached, arrives at this moment to conduct her father home, and is struck by the missile. The next scene shows the dying bed of little Mary. Joe Morgan kneels at his dying child's side as she recounts a vision she has of her father sober and respected. As the child passes away Joe vows to abstain in future from all intoxicants.

Seven years elapse, and Morgan has kept his promise. We next se him a prosperous business man, with his shop on the site formerly occupied by the Rose and Crown, the landlady of which has become a ruined drunkard herself. In order to raise money to leave the country Hartley Granville forges Joe Morgan's name to a cheque, but the forgery is discovered. Morgan would forgive his enemy, but the police are inexorable, and he is led away to gaol. Frank Hammond, who has now become a barrister, renews his suit to Ida, and this time is accepted.

Mr. Phillips has constructed a clever work, which should be more effective as an object-lesson of the evils of intemperance than many sermons. The dialogue is sensible, and the situations probable; while the element of humour is not lacking. Much fun comes of the vicissitudes of the courtship of Swizzel and Susie, characters charmingly played by Mr. Phillips and Miss Effie Mason. As Joe Morgan Mr. Ben Carr acted with discrimination and intense realism; Mr. Ben Barnett was good as Frank Hammond; Miss Elizabeth Lang and Miss Kate Lang as mother and daughter were quite at home in their parts; a clever child actress in Miss Eugenie Vestris made a veritable hit, her natural acting in the death-scene being well worthy of a child bearing the honoured name of Vestris, to which she claims an ancestral right. The author and all concerned received enthusiastic cheers.

ANOTHER play from the pen of Mr. Richard A. Greene, entitled *What Love Can Do*, is shortly to be produced by Mr. Fred J. Little, who has acquired the rights for Great Britain and Ireland.

THE Great Eastern Railway Co. has just issued an advertising novelty consisting of small oval cards, illustrating the beauties of the scenery of the Norfolk coast, with some of the most interesting spots in East Anglia, including Cromer, Mundesley-on-Sea, Sheringham, &c.

PASTORAL PLAYS.

Beautiful weather favoured the production, in the grounds of the Royal Botanic Society at Regent's Park, on Monday afternoon, of a couple of pastoral plays by Miss Beatrice Forbes-Robertson. Among the audience on this brilliant summer afternoon were many well-known actors and actresses, including Sir Charles Wyndham, Miss Mary Moore, Miss Constance Collier, and Mr. Henry Neville. The first piece presented, described by the authoress as "an Arcadian comedy in one act," bore the title of

"CUPID'S THRONE."

SHEPHERDS.

Corin ..... MR. MILTON ROSMER.
Strephon ..... MR. PHILIP DESBOROUGH
Philemon ..... MR. ALEXANDER CASSY

SHEPHERDESSES.

Daphne ..... MISS GERTRUDE HENRIQUES
Chloe ..... MISS MAUDE BUCHANAN
Phœbe ..... MISS VERA HERBERT
Althea ..... MISS MARGARET FARELEIGH
Amaryllis ..... MISS BEATRICE FORBES-ROBERTSON
An Old Man ..... MR. TOM HESLEWOOD
Amélie ..... MISS CORISANDE HAMILTON

One could hardly have wished for more delightful surroundings which were to act as a "scene" for a charming little play than were afforded by the picturesque little grove in which these "shepherds" and "shepherdesses" lived and had their being for the space of nearly an hour. Trees and bushes formed almost a semi-circular stage, and the foliage was dense enough to prevent the curious from seeing beyond or penetrating into the mysteries of the improvised dressing-room. *Cupid's Throne* tells in verse a pretty story. Corin, a simple Arcadian, loves Amaryllis, but, with feminine fickleness, she turns her affections towards Strephon, who does not really care for her, and only tolerates her until he has secured his beloved Amélie. Corin bewails his fate as he witnesses the happy union of these and other lovers, and Amaryllis laments her faithlessness. But Daphne finds a way to bring them together, and all ends happily. Miss Forbes-Robertson was exquisitely graceful and engaging as Amaryllis, and quite took the fancy of the spectators. Mr. Milton Rosmer submitted a capital study of the sorrowful swain, Corin; and able support was rendered by Mr. Philip Desborough as Strephon, Miss Corisande Hamilton as Amélie, Miss Gertrude Henriques as Daphne, and the other members of the cast.

The second piece was

"THE QUEST OF THE STAR,"
a Romantic Pastoral Play, in One Act.

The Prince ..... MR. LEWIS WILLOUGHBY
Lord Ambrose ..... MR. ALEXANDER CASSY
Pasqual ..... MR. PHILIP DESBOROUGH
Blaise ..... MR. HUBERT CARTER
The Princess Rosabel ..... MISS GERTRUDE HENRIQUES
Croisette ..... MISS MAUDE BUCHANAN
An Old Woman ..... MISS VERA HERBERT
Fair ..... MISS BEATRICE FORBES-ROBERTSON

"A slight clearing in a forest" is the scene in which this love-story is supposed to take place, and the forest was well enough represented by the luxurious trees which formed a pleasant enclosure in which Miss Forbes-Robertson and her party of players gave their performance. An old woman has brought up a girl who, as a baby, she found in the forest. That girl, who is known as Fair, has developed into a fine woman, and is loved by the son of her benefactress. But there is another maid who also loves the sturdy goatherd, and she is Croisette. Fair accidentally drops a necklace containing a diamond star, and this is picked up by Croisette, who refuses to part with it to Blaise, the goatherd, until he has promised to treat her in a friendlier manner. Into the forest fastness rides a prince, who has decided to relinquish the leadership of his subjects and to lead a happy, free, and unfettered life in this picturesque Arcady. The old woman finds him lodging, and he—well, he falls a victim to the sweet enchantments and the innocent simplicity of Fair. The Prince's chancellor comes in search of his royal master, and he is accompanied by the Princess Rosabel. The two nations represented by the Prince and Princess are at war, and it is the desire of the Chancellor to secure peace by the marriage of the reigning heads. Therefore the Prince is told that he must wed the Princess Rosabel. For the sake of his people, and much against his own inclinations, he agrees to do so, and as he is saying "good-bye" to poor Fair the fact that a diamond star was found on the latter when a baby proves her to be the rightful princess, and so all ends well. Miss Forbes-Robertson again delighted everybody with her impersonation of the fresh and dainty young forest maiden. Mr. Hubert Carter was vigorous and hearty as the goatherd; and Mr. Lewis Willoughby acted with convincing earnestness as the Prince. Miss Maude Buchanan gave an entirely pleasing portrayal of the winsome Croisette; Mr. Alexander Cassy maintained the dignity of the Chancellor; Miss Gertrude Henriques as the jealous and scheming Princess Rosabel and Mr. Philip Desborough as her body servant, and Miss Vere Herbert as an old woman all acted in commendable fashion. Miss Forbes-Robertson may be congratulated not only upon the writing of these plays, but also upon their production.

SEÑOR CARLOS SOBRINO'S RECITAL.

On Tuesday afternoon the Spanish pianist, Señor Sobrino, gave his sixth and last recital in the concert-room of the Guildhall School. The programme was interesting and varied, giving examples of no less than nine composers, the first heard being D'Albert's clever Allemande, Gavotte et Musette. Señor Sobrino greatly pleased his large audience by his playing of Raff's La Fileuse and Grieg's Album-leaf, Papillons, and the Norwegian Bridal Procession; being also much applauded in the popular Etude "Si Oiseau j'étais" by Henselt. A brilliant rendering of Sinding's delightful Frühlingsrauschen and the quaint Menuett a l'Antique, by Paderewski, were one of the chief features of the recital, which also included Tschaikowsky's Nocturne, "In the Troika," and MacDowell's remarkable Witches' Danse. Moszkowski was represented by his "En Autumn" and Caprice Espagnol, both beautifully played. At the close of this, his last recital, Señor Sobrino was many time recalled, and very warmly greeted.

CHARLES GARTHORNE'S WIDOW FUND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Will you allow me to acknowledge through the columns of your paper the following amounts received from the Brough-Flemming Comedy Company, at present touring in Australia, on behalf of the widow of the late C. W. Garthorne:—

	£	s.	d.
Miss Beatrice Day and Mr. Herbert Flemming	4	4	0
Mrs. Robert Brough	2	2	0
Miss Bessie Major	1	1	0
Mr. E. B. Payne	0	10	0
Mr. Claude Whaite	0	10	0
Mr. Varner	0	10	0
Mr. W. E. Beyer	0	5	0
Miss Madeline Meredith	0	5	0
Miss Gordon Lee	0	5	0
Mrs. Geyon McMahon	0	2	6
Mr. Norman McKewen	0	2	6
Miss Mary Milward	0	2	6
Mr. John Paulton	0	2	6
Mr. John Firde	0	2	6

Additional amounts will be thankfully received for this fund by yours very truly.

JAMES W. MATHEWS.

Green Room Club, Leicester-square, W.C.,
June 18.

"THE DOOR UPON THE LATCH."

Play, in one act, dramatised by F. Kinsey Peile, from "Le Sire de Maletroit," a story by Robert Louis Stevenson, and produced at His Majesty's Theatre, on Friday, June 14.

Alain—Sire de Maletroit ..... MR. LYN HARDING
Denis de Beaulieu ..... MR. BASIL GILL
Dom Franciscus ..... MR. ROBERT H. ATKINS
Florimond de Champdivers ..... MR. LANGHORNE BURTON
Jean ..... MR. CLIVE CURRIE
Marie ..... MISS KATE OSBORNE
Peasant Woman ..... MISS MURIEL ALEXANDER
Blanche de Maletroit ..... MISS CONSTANCE COLLIER

Those were the days of chivalry, as well as of bloodthirsty tyranny, when Alain—Sire de Maletroit, like another Louis XI., sent gallant knights to their death without shriving or without trial for a mere act of folly. Yet he is quite an interesting old gentleman as created by the late Robert Louis Stevenson in his romance, "Le Sire de Maletroit," which Mr. Kinsey Peile has carefully dramatised for His Majesty's Theatre, and thereby added appreciably to the interest of Mr. Tree's programme. The feudal lord guards with a jealous care his niece, Blanche de Maletroit, who has dared, during her devotions at mass, to lift her beautiful eyes to gaze for a moment at a young knight, Florimond de Champdivers, with whom she falls in love. Cupid finds a messenger, and an unsigned letter, dropped by Blanche, falls into the grim old tyrant's hands. Previous to this, however, it is the unhappy fate of Florimond to incur his displeasure, and the young lover is strung up outside the window of the castle on a charge of brawling and drunken violence, proferred against him by the female keeper of a wineshop who was unable to supply his wants. Having thus satisfied the demands of what he terms justice, my lord of Maletroit reads Florimond's unsigned letter, and resolves to follow out its instructions by leaving the door on the latch. Denis de Beaulieu, a young officer, becomes an unwilling intruder. He has to defend himself against the attack of some roystering soldiers, and putting his back up against the yielding door, falls sprawling into the dimly-lit apartment. Here he is discovered by the chuckling old schemer, who, mistaking him for the writer of the incriminating letter, insists that he shall marry Blanche, or meet the fate of the real lover. Denis flatly refuses, though, when he sees her kneeling at the altar, ready dressed for the ceremony, he confesses to an admiration of Blanche's beauty. The crafty old match-maker leaves the young people for a while to themselves. Denis will not make Blanche unhappy by marrying her against her will; but, after she has overcome his scruples by an avowal of love, she indulges in a fit of pique, and refuses to marry him. The noose is put round his neck, and such an argument cannot be resisted. She falls into his arms, removes the rope, and he leads her to the altar.

Mr. Lyn Harding as the Sire de Maletroit gives a character sketch that affords a most interesting example of the actor's versatility. He conveys quite easily the impression of cynical malignancy, heedless cruelty, and craft that possess the old gentleman, and to his cleverness the dramatist owes not a little of the success of his piece, which was received with much applause on the night of our visit. Miss Constance Collier makes a beautiful bride, and gives an air of medieval romance to the rôle of Blanche; and Mr. Basil Gill is robust and virile as the chivalrous Denis de Beaulieu. Mr. Langhorne Burton creates a good impression by his pleading as the unfortunate Florimond. Mr. Robert H. Atkins is an impressive Dom Franciscus; and the minor parts are capably handled by Miss Kate Osborne, Miss Muriel Alexander, and Mr. Clive Currie. Mr. Tree has shown his usual care in the mounting of the piece, the hall of Alain's castle, with its stained glass windows and its torchlights in embrasures, realising exactly a medieval apartment of the fifteenth century.

"THE DUMB-CAKE."

Play in One Act, adapted from Arthur Morrison's "Divers Vanities," by the Author and Richard Pryce, and produced at the Hicks Theatre, on Wednesday, June 19.

Martha Hardy ..... MISS HILDA TREVELYAN
Mrs. Nye ..... MISS MINNIE GRIFFEN
Spotto Bird ..... MR. LOUIS GOODRICH

Cakes and ale have a more pathetic significance than is usual in the new one-act play, *The Dumb-Cake*, adapted by Arthur Morrison and Richard Pryce from the former's story, "Divers Vanities," and produced on Wednesday at the Hicks Theatre in front of *Brewster's Millions*. Poor little Martha Hardy, living at No. 5, Webster's Almshouses, in the Borough, where she has been nursing her bed-ridden mother for some years, indulges in day-dreams of a lover—such as she has read of in novelettes. The legend of Allhalloween, explained to her circumstantially and accurately by Mrs. Nye, another inmate of the Almshouses, exercises a spell over her. She follows the old lady's directions implicitly. There is the cake, which has been baked for seven days, and placed under her pillow for seven nights; there the glass of ale, and there the candle. They are all arranged on the table, and the door of the dwelling is to be left wide open on the stroke of twelve for the lover to come in. During her temporary absence to make her invalid mother comfortable for the night, Spotto Bird, a pickpocket well known to the police, is being followed in the neighbourhood, and, hard pressed, the fugitive gladly takes advantage of the open door, which he closes and bolts. Catching sight of the beer, he immediately drinks it; but the cake is too heavy for him to tackle. Poor little Martha on her return gazes at him ecstatically as if he were a knightly lover come to bear her away from her colorless existence. He cannot comprehend her joyful welcome, and can only hazard answers to her wondering questions. She calls him Wilfred, gives him a locket, and extracts from him a promise to call "next Thursday." On his departure Mrs. Nye returns to toll the story of the robbery of an old gentleman's watch, and then Martha comprehends that her future husband is only a dream after all. The acting of Miss Hilda Trevelyan as Martha is worth going a long way to see. The patient, gentle little drudge becomes in her hands an embodiment that is touchingly real; and the small figure departing up the staircase to resume the common round of her grey life is a pathetic sight. Mr. Louis Goodrich is a characteristic moocher; and Miss Minnie Griffen makes a duly garrulous Mrs. Nye.

Brewster's Millions is running to the laughter and applause of enthusiastic and packed houses, who recognise in Mr. Gerald du Maurier an actor who wears with considerable distinction the mantle of Charles Mathews.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

The usual Council meeting was held at 10, King-street, Covent Garden, on Tuesday. Mr. Lewis Casson occupied the chair, and also present were—Mr. Henry W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Mesdames Georgina Hamilton and Wynne Matthison, and Messrs. Cecil Brooking, C. F. Collings, Edmund Gurney, Roy Horniman, Fredk. Morland, Frank Vernon, and Chas. Cruikshanks (secretary).

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The chairman read a letter from Mr. Arthur Holmes-Gore in which he tendered his resignation as a member of the Council and committees thereunder. It was agreed the acceptance be deferred until Mr. Lewis Casson had an opportunity of writing him on the subject with a view to his retention of his seat.

Mr. Lewis Casson read a copy of his letter to Mr. A. W. Pinero, and Mr. Pinero's reply to the effect that he preferred that his resignation should stand. It was agreed that Mr. Pinero's resignation be accepted with very great regret.

A member attended before the Council and explained the circumstances under which he claimed damages from a manager for breach of contract. It was agreed that Mr. Mote be asked to inform the gentleman the Association could not take up the matter as he was not a member of the Association at the time the cause of action arose.

A member attended before the Council and gave her views upon the subject of the agency-fee resolution passed at the meeting on the 4th inst. The matter having been discussed at some length, it was decided that the resolution of the 4th inst. be rescinded.

The chairman read the correspondence with regard to a claim under coupon, and it was agreed that the member should see the hon. solicitors and state his claim in order that they may prepare a declaration to be made by him setting out the details and giving the necessary proof of loss, and that he should be requested to attend the next Council meeting at three o'clock.

The question of the circulation of the letter to managers on the subject of accommodation for artists in theatres, and also of the appeal to actors for the proper treatment of dressing-rooms, was under discussion. With respect to the appeal to actors, it had already been decided that the late deputy-chairman should communicate with certain managers so that they might, if they so wished, suggest alterations or additions. After some discussion, it was proposed that the secretary send copies of the appeal to actors to the secretaries of the Theatrical Managers' Association and the Touring Managers' Association, and request them to ask the members of their Associations to suggest any alterations or additions that they wish. As an amendment, it was proposed that, in view of the present financial position of the A.A., the whole question of the distribution of the letter to managers and the appeal to actors be shelved. This amendment was lost, and the original proposition carried.

The secretary reported he had written to Mr. Laurence Irving, as directed, and received a reply that his time was too much taken up to enable him to accept the chairmanship of the Library Committee.

In a letter to the chairman of the Council, Mr. Kenyon Musgrave suggested that, inasmuch as he should be absent for some little time, he should resign. It was agreed that Mr. Musgrave's resignation be not accepted.

A resolution, proposed by Mr. Frederick Morland and seconded by Miss Georgina Hamilton, "That the Council cordially welcomes the society formed by members of the A.A., entitled 'The Play Actors,' and is ready to assist it in any way that is possible, and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Council of 'The Play Actors,' was agreed to.

It was proposed by Mr. Fredk. Morland and seconded by Miss Wynne Matthison: "That the Council is of opinion that the enforcement of a minimum wage—though for the present impracticable—is a necessary condition to the well-being of the theatrical profession, and is determined to do all in its power towards the attainment of this object. The Finance and General Purposes Committee are therefore directed to collect any information and statistics which may bear upon the subject, and to report to the Council." The matter having been discussed at considerable length, the resolution was agreed to.

The report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee was received and adopted. The report of the Social Committee was received.

The secretary having reported the receipt of a letter from a lady promising payment of her subscription when she had secured an engagement of some duration, it was agreed that the secretary should write to the lady, pointing out to her the alteration of the rule governing the payment of subscription, and to inform her if her dues were not paid prior to the expiration of seventy days from the 27th of last month her name would be removed from the register, but that she might be reinstated at any time thereafter upon application.

It was resolved that the secretary should write to the secretaries of the committees, drawing their attention to the rules in existence governing the operations of committees.

Constance Clive and Clarissa Selwynne were nominated for election, and five former members were reinstated.

The Suggestion Book was considered and entries made.

The Finance and General Purposes Committee held a meeting on Tuesday, when there were present—Mr. Lewis Casson (in the chair), Messrs. Fredk. Morland, Frank Vernon, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary). The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Mr. Fredk. Morland placed the following recommendations before the committee, and it was agreed that the same be submitted to the Council: "That the Council be advised, in the place of the present bi-monthly and social meetings, to substitute fortnightly meetings of the Actors' Association, to be held every alternate Friday from September to May inclusive. Of these, every fourth meeting shall be a business meeting and the others conducted as are the present social meetings. That the Council appoint the chairman at all the meetings. That the Social Committee arrange for tea to be served before all the meetings, and arrange for lecturers, speakers, &c., at the non-business meetings. That it be open to members to give notice of subjects for discussion at the business meetings. That the Council bring before the business meetings such matters in regard to which it may be desirable to have the opinion of the members. That the secretary or his deputy be present and act as secretary at the business meetings. That all the meetings be open to the Press."

ACTORS' UNION.

LONDON.

MR. FRED BENTLEY presided at Tuesday's meeting of the Actors' Union, in place of Mr. Frank Lacy, who was detained in consequence of a rehearsal. The meeting was held at the Bedford Head Hotel. Among those present were Mr. Ruddle Brown, Mr. Arthur Bawtree, Mr. E. Y. Rae, Mr. Harry Paulton, jun., Mr. H. Nelson, Mr. R. Cowell, Mr. Russell, Mr. Redmond, Mr. Pritchard, Mr. Bonhote Wilson, Mr. F. Prior, Mr. A. Richards, Mr. F. Rolls, Mr. Frank Sutherland, Mr. J. M. Troughton, Mr. Seager, Mr. Wm. Lockhart, Mr. Lanford Reed, Mr. Austin, Mr. H. J. Loveday, jun., Mr. E. Chester, Mr. A. Wainwright, Mr. Roy Barraclough, Mr. J. Carl-Lyle, Mr. J. Braithwaite, Mr. Leonard Marshall, Mr. S. Braithwaite, Mr. G. Goodwin, Mr. L. Stevenson, Mr. C. Dashwood, Mr. Bennett, Mr. E. W. Wolsley, Mr. Alex Alves, Mr. W. F. Clitherow, Mr. Leyton Cancellor, Mr. Simon Ord, Mr. Richd. Elliott, Mr. Jas. Willoughby, Mr. Roy Gordon, Miss Megone, Mrs. Megone, Miss Gurney, Miss Roberts, Miss B. Liston, Miss Harrison, Miss Norton, Miss Upton, Miss Nellie Howitt, Miss Cuthbert, Mr. Cecil Braithwaite, Miss Annie Travers, Miss E. Lumley, Miss Bratley, Miss Harrison, Miss Elsie Carew, Miss Gracey, Miss Kate Randolf, Mr. C. E. Anson, Mr. G. Sydney, Miss M. Armitage, Miss Nellie Burdette, Miss Hilda Dennis, Miss Mapleson, Miss G. Tate, Miss Gladys Ffolliott, Mr. George Trewman, Mr. Digby, Miss Nance Nicholls, Miss Robertson, Miss Mabel Syringa, Miss May Conrade, Mr. and Mrs. O. Marshall, and Miss Lucy Sibley.

The CHAIRMAN opened his address by tendering his thanks to all those who had been kind enough to vote for him as a member of the committee. Speaking on the objects of the meeting, he pointed out that it was of no use a man being a member of the Union unless he could do something for it. Some people had looked upon their joining the Union as a kind of hobby. The Irving-Hicks scheme was started two years ago with the fixed intention of opposing anything in the nature of a trades union. The A.U. was at present a trades union, and intended to remain one.

MISS GLADYS FFOLLIOTT said that some days ago she was talking to a well-known manager, and he told her that he himself would bear not the slightest animosity to the Actors' Union, because he was of opinion that it would be the means of improving matters generally. She desired to urge upon their consideration such important schemes as the death levy and the old age pension fund. She thought that they should get up a performance for the purpose of securing money for the Union.

The CHAIRMAN announced that there would be an important meeting of members on Friday at the Chandos Hall, in Maiden-lane.

MR. ARTHUR BAWTREE again drew attention to the objects of the Union, and impressed upon his hearers the importance of introducing new members. He intimated that it was not the intention of the Union to start a theatrical agency, but that they would help each other to secure engagements.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Certain people are mystified as to the means by which sketch-managers appeared on the committee. Sketch-managers would not be on the committee if members had not voted for them. The mystery is why members voted for them. I am acquainted with several members, and doubtless there are many more, who voted for Messrs. Shine and Paulton, ignorant of the fact that they were sketch-managers, naturally concluding that all candidates offered themselves under Rule 6, which makes managers ineligible for election. It must not be forgotten that Mr. Robson Paige contemplated resigning his position on the council when the inexplicable departures from the original programme were foreshadowed, but he considered he could better serve the ultimate welfare of the Union by remaining. Mr. Gordon Wilson, with delightful ingenuousness, has said, he likes to see ladies in their "own fields," the Orphanage and the Guild. On what ground does he hold that the Union council is not equally "their field"? Is it that of mental deficiency or lack of practical knowledge? Is, say, Miss Gertrude Kingston less capable of adequately voicing and carrying out the members' wishes than some of the present committee? Mr. Paige, together with Mr. Raleigh, recognising the principle involved, has from the first staunchly championed the inclusion of ladies on the committee. We cannot reasonably look for an appreciable increase of membership under existing conditions. Artists listen and read, but they won't join. It is a case of "No, Maria; I will do anything you like in reason, but I will *not* come home." And this will be the general attitude until the machine, which has run off the lines on which it started, be hoicked back and set going on "strictly democratic lines, by actors for actors."—Yours faithfully,

NORMAN TOWERS.

1, Cromartie-road, Crouch End, N.

ALFRED CAPPER'S ENTERTAINMENT.

Mr. Alfred Capper, who is well-known for his thought-reading séances, gave an entertainment on Wednesday evening at the Hampstead Conservatoire. There was a capital audience, who followed with considerable interest the various feats brought under their notice. In his opening remarks Mr. Capper explained that he had no intention of devoting himself entirely to thought-reading, which formed less than a half of the programme. The earlier part of the evening was partly taken up with the tying and untying of knots, and in this direction Mr. Capper gave evidence of talent and skilfulness which somewhat mystified the spectators. For instance, a silk handkerchief was borrowed from a member of the audience, it was knotted strongly in four places, and yet Mr. Capper had only to hold the handkerchief in his hand and ask someone to blow at it, and all the knots were found to be untied. Still more wonderful was his trick with a long piece of braid, tied to the back of a chair, fastened to a ring and a key, the two ends of the tape, passed through the arms of a boy's Eton jacket, and then by a steady movement separated from all the various articles. Coming to Mr. Capper's thought-reading feats, one could not but marvel at the precision and rapidity with which these were performed. Names of persons were written on small cards, which were placed in an envelope, and Mr. Capper, without seeing the writing on the slips, but simply after scrutinising the faces of the writers, revealed the information in each case. He was equally successful at his own speciality of "hide and seek." This proved to be a little more complicated and difficult of accomplishment than the pastime so popular at children's parties. After Mr. Capper had left the room, one of the audience removed a ring from the finger of a lady, touched various objects in three parts of the auditorium, and then hid it. On returning, Mr. Capper took the hand of the person who had secreted the ornament, repeated his movements, and indicated the whereabouts of the ring, doing all this blindfolded. The whole show proved most enjoyable, especially as Mr. Louis de Rougemont assisted in one of the items.

MR. GRAHAM MORRISON.

Mr. Graham Morrison has been engaged by Mr. Seymour Hicks to represent him and manage the répertoire company he is sending out to South America in August next for the South American Syndicate, Baires, Ltd. Mr. Graham Morrison, who, prior to joining the theatrical profession, was an accountant and a well-known society entertainer, is thoroughly acquainted with all branches of the profession, and in addition to business and stage-management, is an accomplished singer, dancer, and sifflеur, and is a most versatile actor, having played character parts, old men, and boys' parts in drama, farce, musical comedy, &c., but his business instincts led him to forsake the stage for the front of the house, and in 1901 he became business-manager for Mr. John Gerant's *At Duty's Call*. Then followed management of *The Runaways* and *The Naughty Baroness*, then *The Light That Failed*, *Monsieur Beaucaire*, *Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner* (two tours), *Goody Two Shoes*, after which general-management of *The Factory Fire* (the re-christened *Case of Arson*, in which the celebrated Dutch actor, Henri de Vries, played), then general-management for *Under Which King?* and *Dr. Wake's Patient*, both plays from Adelphi Theatre, then to the Adelphi Theatre to assist in

[*Photo by Kingston.*

MR. GRAHAM MORRISON.

front of the house. Then followed a tour with Mr. Forbes Robertson as Press manager, then a short engagement at Terry's Theatre with Mr. James Welch, followed by general-management for Mr. Cyril Keightley's répertoire company, general-management for Mrs. Michael Gunn's *Sinbad the Sailor* pantomime company, and, finally, business-manager-in-advance for Mr. Seymour Hicks and Miss Ellaline Terriss's *Beauty of Bath* tour.

Amongst numerous others, Mr. Graham Morrison has held business engagements with the following well-known managers:—Messrs. Charles Frohman, Seymour Hicks, Lewis Waller, Forbes Robertson, James Welch, Wilfred Cotton, Peter Davey, and Otho Stuart.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

Puccini's tragic opera, *La Tosca*, was given for the first time this season on Thursday night, June 13, a large audience being present. In the part of La Tosca, Mme. Giachetti made her first appearance this season, giving a most dramatic and intense rendering of a character which, however unpleasant, requires masterly treatment, and Mme. Giachetti, in her great scene with Scarpia, by her powerful and realistic acting, made a deep impression on the audience. Some slight changes were an improvement in this scene, Tosca stabbing Scarpia while he is sitting at the table and not as he rises from the writing-desk. Signor Caruso both sang and acted admirably as Cavaradossi; while Signor Scotti as the cruel and callous Scarpia achieved his customary success. The one touch of quaint humour which gives a moment's relief to this gloomy and lurid opera was the capital Sacristan of M. Gilibert. For the rest, M. Galletti played Angelotte and Signor Campanini conducted an excellent performance.

Faust was given on Friday night, June 14, with somewhat moderate results. Mr. Carpi, while using his pleasing tenor voice with good effect in the charming music, gave a slightly tame impersonation of the hero. Mme. Donalda, who looked delightfully youthful in the part of Marguerite, sang the "Jewel song" brilliantly; and M. Journet's fine voice was heard to great advantage in his robust and humorous representation of Mephistopheles. Mr. Crabbe acted the part of Wagner with intelligence; and Mr. Sammarco deserves hearty praise for his fine singing and acting as Valentine. Siebel was undertaken by Miss Zeppilli; and the Nurse by Mme. Paulin. The opera was performed in Italian, Mr. Percy Pitt conducting the orchestra.

Verdi's *Rigoletto* was performed at Covent Garden on Monday night, and the old opera went well considering there were no great stars in the cast. Mr. Bassi, who in *Pagliacci* lately created a good impression, further improved his position by, in many respects, an excellent performance of the Duke in Verdi's opera. The fine quality of Mr. Bassi's voice and his graceful and sympathetic acting made the new tenor's appearance in this character a success. Miss Selma Kurz, whose brilliant singing as the page in *Ballo in Maschera* some season ago may be remembered, impersonated the unhappy Gilda, but beyond some clever singing and well-executed shakes in "Caro Nome" Miss Kurz's Gilda was a cold and, in some respects, an uninteresting performance. Not being in good voice was evidently the chief cause. The principal feature of the performance on Monday was the fine singing and acting of Mr. Sammarco, in his splendid interpretation of the hapless Jester. Mme. de Cisneros sang admirably as Maddalena, while the Contessa was cleverly played by Mme. Severina. M. Gilibert made an excellent Monterone, and Mr. Journet a realistic Sparafucile. Mr. Panizza proved most efficient as conductor, not a little of the success of the performance being due to his untiring efforts.

MR. TREE AND THE VAGABONDS.

Mr. Beerbohm Tree was entertained at luncheon by the New Vagabond Club at the Hotel Cecil on Thursday, in recognition of his long service in connection with the stage. Sir Gilbert Parker, M.P., took the chair, and amongst those present were Mrs. and Miss Tree, Mr. Coulson Kernahan, Mr. C. E. Shaw, M.P., and Mrs. Shaw, and Mr. Bernard Roth, M.P.

SIR GILBERT PARKER, in proposing the health of Mr. Tree, spoke of his great distinction as actor and manager, and said his career was identified with high idealism and magnificent courage in the profession which he had chosen, and in which he had achieved distinguished success.

Mr. BEERBOHM TREE, in responding, said—Ladies and gentlemen, I was almost tempted to address you as brother and sister Vagabonds, but, looking round this room, I can plainly see by your well-bred air, and by the bedizened splendour of your raiment, that most of you are only vagabonds by courtesy—that you are stooping to vagabondage. And it is well that you, the choice spirits of this club, should enjoy a holiday, and, leaving your gentility with your umbrellas in the hall, should once more become your primal selves, and play at being children for the nonce, for all children are vagabonds. During this holiday you will not mind—perhaps you may enjoy—hearing, or even speaking, the truth. And it is appropriate that you should entertain an actor, for the actor's title is rooted deep in time—we were vagabonds before we were artists. The actor is Nature's vagabond. There are several kinds of vagabonds—some are born vagabonds, some achieve vagabondage, and some have vagabondage thrust upon them. I am delighted to find myself in your presence to-day. Yes, as I said, the actor is Nature's vagabond, and he remains a good actor so long as he remains a good vagabond. When once he puts by the many-coloured garb of his imagination, when once he lays aside the magic wand of his soul's independence, he ceases to be a vagabond and becomes only one of the mercenaries in the noble army of utilitarians—he becomes a bondman—he plays the game. Every man pays the penalty of playing the game, for in pursuit of that game he loses the cause. His chief weapon is tact, that most useful and, as I think, that least admirable of all the virtues. Far be it from me to sneer at the tact of a good heart—that is a golden possession; but I mean the utilitarian tact—what I may call Income Tact—the tact which is always compromising with God in order not to offend the devil. To me and to you no land is so dear as that of Vagabondia. It happened to me only this week to find myself there. On Tuesday last I was projected into a strange land—a land of dreams. All the centuries jostled each other in its streets. With a background of ancient buildings stretching back many hundreds of years, its citizens garbed in the costumes of many periods—ancient Britons, nuns, priests, Plantagenets, Yorkists, Tudors, cavaliers, learned doctors, necromancers, peasants, and courtiers—all made their way to a common meeting ground, and there they lived over again the most thrilling episodes. I rubbed my eyes. Someone told me that I was at Oxford, and that these personages were professors, dons, and bishops. It was the Oxford Pageant—a riot of beauty and a feast of colour. Here, forgetting themselves for the time being—(ladies and gentlemen, there is all the difference between forgetting *one's self* and *forgetting* one's self)—breaking with old prejudices, giving joy to the multitude, the citizens of Oxford were living again the life of Merrie England. It was an olla podrida of all the classes. The Arts and the Sciences were rioting in vagabondage. Oxford was *en fête*—Oxford was forgetting itself. There I saw Justice walking arm-in-arm with one of the Seven Deadly Sins, and I thought I detected Death helping Charity to strawberries and cream. Who again shall say that "the dreaming spires of Oxford" look down only on dulness and vain gentility!

As every good woman is at heart a Socialist, so every good artist is at heart a vagabond; and to be one's self is the greatest, the rarest luxury of life. The extraordinary thing about humanity is that men are always trying to be what they are not. There is no more terribly hard-worked profession than that of the social diplomatist. We all know that meeting-place where men and women are hustling, jostling, and perspiring to get into the coveted ring. There is a great want of pride about humanity. Occasionally I hear people speak of their "betters." Since my childhood I have always shuddered at the phrase. Our only betters are ourselves—self-respect is the first duty of every citizen. To be free of soul—to be a vagabond—is better than to be the slave of the social system. Every large-minded man I have ever met has had the element of vagabondage in him. A gentleman is one who does not care whether he is one or not. Of course many people have different ideas on this subject. I think it was Nellie Farren who defined a gentleman as a man who could wear a clean collar without looking conspicuous. It is easier for the poor than the rich to attain to the aristocracy of vagabondage. "Poor and content is rich, and rich enough, but riches fineless is poor as winter."

By the way, the greatest man that ever lived was a vagabond at heart—I mean Shakespeare. How he loved all his vagabonds! The Clown in *Twelfth Night*—in him we always detect Shakespeare's own wayward mind. Autolycus is another beloved vagabond of Shakespeare. With what serene tolerance he drew that greatest, that fattest of all vagabonds, Falstaff, who had for a companion that Royal vagabond, Prince Hal. And how near a vagabond himself was that friend of vagabonds—I mean Hamlet.

And do we not hear the sigh of the tired vagabond in those words of Shakespeare's sonnet:—

As, to behold desert a beggar born.
And needy nothing trimm'd in jollity,
And purest faith unhappily forsworn,
And gilded honour shamefully misplaced,
And maiden virtue rudely strumpeted,
And right perfection wrongfully disgraced,
And strength by limping sway disabled,
And Art made tongue-tied by authority,
And folly (doctor-like) controlling skill,
And simple truth miscalled simplicity,
And captive good attending captain ill.

To be entertained by a vagabond club must seem to an actor like coming home. And yet there is a distinction. You are the new vagabonds, a mushroom growth in that fair land of Bohemia where Art flowers, whilst we actors are of the old regime. We are of the ancient lineage of crime. Don't be alarmed. Since the beginning of things, Art has always been a crime. In its highest expression it makes men feel, and it makes men think, and these are sins which your well-ordered citizen must always resent. They disturb the settled order of society, and I suppose that is why all of us who, even in the humblest way, claim kinship with Art, have ever been driven to dwell beyond the city walls, as were the Jews in the Middle Ages. From their aloofness the Jews drew their strength. The artist pitches his tent in the desert. He is gipsy born. If he be poor, if the tent be rent and torn, there are rifts in its flapping canvas to yield glimpses of the starlit sky that is the poet's roof, and around his tattered tent in a magic circle dance the fairies—the love-children of the poet's fancy. You by your creation of this race of new vagabonds prove that in every age Art is recruiting its own. I desire most heartily to wish all prosperity to your cause, and I would thank you for myself that in making me your bidden guest to-day you have recognised that more ancient claim to vagabondage which is the actor's birthright. I drink to vagabondage—the only bondage of the free!

"THE SAINT AND THE WOMAN."

A Play, in Four Acts, by Charles March, Produced at the Cambridge Theatre, Spennymoor, on Monday, June 10.

The Vicar of Llandilas .....MR. JOHN BURTON
Ivor Llewellyn .....MR. GEORGE GAISFORD
Evan Llewellyn .....MR. LEONARD BOOKER
Sir John Hardinge .....MR. W. LOCKHART
Richard Grainger .....MR. MONSON THORPE
Principal Hartwell .....MR. HERBERT SALMON
Lady Hardinge .....MISS SYBIL WINTER
Margery .....MISS EMMA VICTOR
Olive Meyrick.....MISS GWENDOLIN HASTINGS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

At the commencement of the story the household of the worthy Vicar of Llandilas consists of the Vicar himself, his two sons, Ivor and Evan, his ward, Olive Meyrick, and his housekeeper, Margery. Evan is of an ambitious turn of mind, and has determined to make a name for himself as a politician; while Ivor, the very antithesis of his brother, is still busy sowing his wild oats. Soon after the opening of the play Ivor, who has been spending the night with a few boon companions, reaches home in an inebriated condition. The Vicar reproaches him for his misdeeds, and implores him to make an effort to reform. At this juncture the postman arrives with a letter from Evan addressed to Olive, in which she is informed of his return as Member of Parliament for the borough of Longdeane. Evan arrives amid great rejoicings, but a little later Ivor overhears a conversation between his brother and Olive, in which she reminds him of a solemn promise he has made to marry her, and on her knees implores him to fulfil his vow, disclosing to him the fact that she is about to become a mother. Evans's worldly advancement, however, presents, in his eyes, an insuperable barrier to his marriage, and he cruelly tells her so, at the same time suggesting that she shall place her betrayal at the door of Ivor, the ne'er-do-well. Ivor interrupts the conversation, and a stormy scene ensues between the brothers, which results in the departure of Ivor and Olive from the Vicarage. Their flight being observed by the Vicar, Evan supplies an explanation which leads his father to believe that Ivor is responsible for his ward's dishonour.

Years pass on, and Evan has become a leading star in the political firmament. He is holding a reception in his mansion at Longdeane, and is the centre of an enthusiastic assembly. At this proud moment Ivor and Olive reappear. The former has been pursued with relentless cruelty by his ambitious brother, and has spent a portion of his time in prison, while the promises made by Evan to look after the welfare of Olive and her child have been ruthlessly broken. Under pain of exposing his brother's perfidy to his guests, Ivor succeeds in compelling Evan to sign an agreement by which he binds himself to look after his son's education and welfare. In the third act Evan, who has become Prime Minister, has had to submit to an ignominious defeat in the Commons brought about mainly by the exertions of a rising young politician, named Richard Grainger, who is none other than the illegitimate offspring of Evan. Ivor has returned from abroad a millionaire, but now goes by the name of Trevor. Evan, suffering severely from the bitterness of defeat, discloses to Richard the shame of his birth, and demands that he shall give up his political career. Evan then takes the revolver which he has brought with him, and, extracting every cartridge save one, places it at Richard's elbow, requesting him to use it as he thinks fit—either by shooting himself or his father. Olive then enters, and, goaded to desperation, seizes the weapon and fires point-blank at Evan, who falls mortally wounded.

The fourth act depicts the jury-room in the Court of Justice, where Olive is being tried for the murder of Evan. Ivor is one of the jury, and he is straining every nerve to induce his colleagues to return a verdict of "Not guilty." In order to achieve his purpose he deliberately tells them that it was he, and not Olive, who committed the deed, and the curtain descends as Olive is being released and Ivor is taking her place in the dock.

Mr. March had got together a company of sound and reliable artists, who gave evidence of very careful and diligent rehearsal. Mr. Leonard Booker displayed admirable capabilities as Evan; whilst Ivor met with successful treatment at the hands of Mr. George Gaisford. Miss Gwendolin Hastings submitted a really attractive impersonation of Olive; and Mr. Monson Thorpe ably portrayed Richard Grainger. Mr. John Burton presented an ideal sketch of the Vicar, and Miss Emma Victor as the kindly housekeeper satisfied all requirements.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

At the students' concert on Wednesday the programme was agreably varied by two organ solos and a concerto for organ and pianoforte. The concert began with Claudius H. Couldery's organ solo, "Overture," played by Mr. C. H. Barker, a promising pupil of Dr. Warwick Jordan. Miss D. Batten sang "Chant Hindou," by Bemberg, with fair success, and the only fault that could be found in Miss Dorothy Hillier's violin solo of Seitz's "Andante and Allegretto from Fourth Concerto" was slightly faulty intonation. Maude V. White's pretty song, "The spring has come" and "I know a lovely garden," by Guy d'Hardelot, were pleasingly sung by Miss Dora Hughes; while Mr. Richard J. C. Chanter played a cleverly-written "Nocturne" and "Aubade" for piano of his own composition. Adams' somewhat commonplace song, "The Maid of Malabar," was well sung by Mr. Sidney J. Aries; and Miss Florence Simpkins 'cello solos, "Barcarolle," by de Munck, and Dunkler's "La Fileuse," were only marred by a certain timidity, being otherwise correct both in tone and execution. In two songs of Walthew, "Fold and Field" and "May Day," Miss Mabel Silvester was much applauded; and a capital organ solo of Dubois's charming "Cantilene Nuptiale in A flat" and "Grand Chœur, in B flat" was given by Mr. Herbert P. Graham. Miss Madge Dixon, a pupil of Miss Kate Rorke's, recited Edgar Allen Poe's poem "The Bells" with considerable dramatic effect, and one of the best vocal items was "Son of Mine" (from William Wallace's "Freebooter Songs"), excellently rendered by Mr. J. F. Lewis. The first performance of Mr F. J. Massey's "Concerto for Organ and Piano (MS.)" proved attractive, although, as in most students' compositions, the want of a definite theme was felt. The work was ably played by Mr. M. Gordon Burgess, F.R.C.O., and the composer, Mr. F. J. Massey, who, at the close was cordially greeted by the audience. Miss Jenny Hyman acted as accompanist.

THE King and Queen, with Princess Victoria and the Prince and Princess of Wales, witnessed the performance of *The Merry Widow* at Daly's Theatre on the evening of the 14th inst.

MR. LAWRENCE DERRICK has been scoring heavily at Bognor Pier Pavilion this week with his repértoire of baritone solos, musical monologues, &c., being particularly successful in "Devil-may-care," Mr. Bransby Williams's popular number.

THE Dowager Duchess of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, Princess Beatrice of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, the Duchess of Argyll, Princess Henry of Battenberg, and Prince Leopold of Battenberg were present at the performance of *La Gioconda* at the Royal Opera, Covent Garden, on Thursday.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

SIR CHARLES WYNDHAM will keep *The Liars* in the bill at the Criterion until he goes away for his summer holiday, the success of Mr. H. A. Jones's play quite justifying its retention. The production of *The Mollusc* will accordingly, with the consent of Mr. Hubert Henry Davies, be postponed until September, when Sir Charles and Miss Mary Moore return to the theatre which has witnessed their earlier as well as their later triumphs.

MR. LEWIS WALLER is to be felicitated on attaining to the dignity of a grandfather—manifestly one of the youngest on the stage. The distinction was conferred upon him by his son, Mr. Edmund Waller, to whom a baby boy was born last week. The younger Mr. Waller is but twenty-three years of age, and was married to Miss Ethel Warwick a little over a year ago. He made his West End *début* at the Lyceum Theatre this year in the part of Dr. Helgar in *Her Love Against the World*.

MRS. BEERBOHM TREE was the charming hostess at a musical party at her home in Chiswick last week, when some delightful music was discoursed. Miss Viola Tree's fresh young voice gave sweet effect to one or two of Tosti's songs, and Signor Boscoe, a young Italian vocalist, and Mr. Victor Mannel also added to the enjoyment of the evening. Amongst the guests were Lady Bective the Duke of Rutland, Mr. Gerald du Maurier, and Miss Marion Terry. Lady Bective's small party on the 12th inst. was graced by Mr. and Mrs. Tree, Mr. du Maurier, and Miss Marion Terry.

MR. MARTIN HARVEY has been elected Hon. Vice-President to the Ethnological Society, thus filling the vacancy caused by the death of Professor Oscar Wanscher, M.D. Mr. Harvey's revival of *The Corsican Brothers* at the Adelphi, by the way, attracted quite a number of distinguished visitors, including the Princess Royal and the Duke of Fife, H.R.H. Princess Henry of Battenberg and suite, the Duchess of Rutland and Lady Marjorie Manners, Mr. Paderewski, Mr. Seymour Lucas, R.A., Sir Edward Moss, Mr. J. Comyns Carr, Capt. Robert Marshall, and Mr. A. W. Pinero. The "House Full" boards have been out several times this week. The success of *The Corsican Brothers* has been so great that Mr. Harvey has decided to take a West End theatre at the end of his autumn tour and put the play on for a run.

"THE ONLY WAY" will on Monday start the fourth and last week of the season at the Adelphi. Mr. Harvey and Miss N. de Silva will be seen in their original parts, and the cast will also include Mr. Charles Cameron as the President, Mr. Charles Glenney as Defarge, Mr. Albert E. Raynor as Marquis de St. Evremonde, Mr. Fred Wright, sen., as Dr. Manette, Mr. Leonard Craske as Charles Darnay, Miss Maud Milton as The Vengeance, and Miss Coleridge as Lucie Manette. It should be noted that on Saturday, June 29, *The Only Way* registers its thousandth performance. It was as far back as Feb. 16, 1899, at the Lyceum Theatre, that Freeman Wills' version of Dickens' "Tale of Two Cities" started on its career of unalloyed prosperity.

MRS. GEORGE ALEXANDER on Wednesday afternoon presented the prizes to the students of the Academy of Dramatic Art who were successful at the recent public performance at the St. James's Theatre. Mr. H. G. Bentley received the gold medal, given annually by Sir Squire and Lady Bancroft, and six copies of the Heinemann edition of Shakespeare were also awarded. A Japanese box was presented by M. Matsui and M. Iohitawa-Sadanji, two gentlemen distinguished in literature and the theatre of Japan, who have for some time been watching the instruction given in the academy, with the result that M. Matsui will inaugurate in his country a school of acting conducted upon the same lines. Mr. Bentley has been professionally engaged by Mr. George Alexander, as has also Miss Beatrice Smith, who won a Shakespeare, and Miss Bessie Boyle and Miss Pauline Straus, two other prize winners, have been retained respectively by Mr. John Hare and Mr. M. V. Leveaux.

THERE were "scenes" at the second presentation of Mr. J. M. Synge's comedy, *The Playboy of the Western World*, the other evening at the Great Queen-street Theatre. The play was one of a series of dramatic works dealing exclusively with Irish life, and was produced for the first time in London on the previous Monday evening by the Irish National Theatre company, from the Abbey Theatre, Dublin. Miss A. E. F. Horniman, who has given much of her money and personal labour to the cause, and the author had received notice after Monday's performance that if the piece were again put on during the week farmyard and vegetable produce would find its way across the footlights as a slight demonstration of Hibernian indignation. Miss Horniman, however, rather rejoiced at the prospect of a "row," and as rotten eggs had no terrors for the company, no alteration was permitted in the plans, and *The Playboy* was performed.

SEVERAL times during the presentment of the piece there were loud hisses and "boos," chiefly from the gallery, though one gentleman in evening dress who had a seat in the stalls, rose to his feet and shouted, "It's a libel on Irish womanhood!" There were frequent interruptions after this, vulgar abuse was showered upon Mr. Synge, and there were cries of "Murder the author!" Our representative, who was in the theatre on this occasion, made inquiries of several Irish members of the audience as to what was considered most offensive in the play to the somewhat easily-aroused susceptibilities of the natives of the Emerald Isle, and he was told that the play was not considered representative of Irish life and character, and that the main incident, an Irish girl worshipping at the feet of a ruffian because he had related a stirring story of how he had murdered his father, was distinctly distasteful to the folk of the "distressful counthry." It may be remembered that the same play caused a riot on its production in Dublin.

MISS MARION TERRY, Miss Lilian Braithwaite, and Mrs. Cyril Maude graced the proceedings at Lady Blomfield's party at Claridge's Hotel on Tuesday afternoon. The assembly was intended to mark the "coming out" of Lady Blomfield's daughter.

MR. BEERBOHM TREE will embody the part of John Jasper in the version of Dickens' "Edwin Drood" which he is shortly to present at His Majesty's. Mr. Comyns Carr has invented an ingenious elucidation of the mystery which Dickens left unsolved, and has supplied a dénouement that is original and reasonable. The piece is in four acts and ten tableaux, and the scheme includes pictures of the opium den in the East End, of the old cathedral at Cloisterham, of the crypt at night, of the dinner-party in Jasper's rooms, and of a musical evening at Miss Twinkleton's.

MRS. PATRICK CAMPBELL, who will undertake a provincial tour next autumn, will produce an English version of Hofmansthal's *Electra*, which has had a great success in Germany. The adaptation will be done by Mr. Arthur Symons, and the music is to be composed by Mr. Cyril Scott. Hofmansthal is one of Germany's most distinguished post-dramatists, and made his first success with *Gestern*, a play in blank verse written at the age of sixteen, while he was still at school.

AMONGST the donations already received for the Prize Fund of the Theatrical Sports are the following:—Proprietors *Daily Telegraph*, £3 3s.; Moss Empires, Ltd., £2 2s.; Mr. W. S. Gilbert, £2 2s.; Mr. Alfred Sutro, £1 1s.; Mr. Frank Curzon, £1 1s.; Messrs. Whitbread and Co., £1 1s.; Miss Genevieve Ward, £1 1s.; Mr. H. Rayne, £1 1s.; Miss Eva Moore, £1 1s.; Miss Kate Compton, £1 1s.; Mr. Martin Harvey, £1 1s.; Mr. Arthur Chudleigh, £1 1s.; Lord George Sanger, £1 1s.; Mr. Dion Boucicault, £1 1s.; Mr. H. Beerbohm Tree, £1 1s.; Goswell Printing Press, 10s. 6d.; Mr. Jerrard Grant Allen, 10s. 6d.; Miss Ina Rozant, 2s. 6d. First list of prizes received:—Marble clock, Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter; glass scent bottle, Lady Bancroft; silver egg-cup and spoon, Sir Squire Bancroft; clock, Mr. and Mrs. George Alexander; chair, Messrs. Lazarus and Sons; Mr. Cecil Paget, 10s. 6d.

MR. ACTON BOND and Mrs. Russ Whytal were the Macbeth and Lady Macbeth respectively at Sheffield on Tuesday evening last, when the British Empire Shakespeare Society gave the first dramatic reading that has been held under the auspices of its branch in that centre. The Bishop of Sheffield presided, and was supported by many of the professors of the University, the audience, who numbered at least 1,000, being most enthusiastic.

A PERFORMANCE, on behalf of the League of Mercy, of the musical playlet, by A. S. Scott-Gatty, entitled *The Three Bears*, was given at the Vaudeville Theatre on Thursday afternoon. The juveniles evidently enjoyed themselves as keenly as did the "children of a larger growth" in the auditorium, and the former had evidently been carefully instructed and rehearsed by their teacher, Mrs. Wordsworth. Especially noticeable was Miss Beryl Hentschel, who gave a really delightful performance as Princess Golden Locks.

THE Waldorf Theatre re-opens on Monday with *In the Bishop's Carriage*, a dramatisation by Channing Pollock of Miriam Michelson's famous novel. The story hinges on the daring escapade of a female thief, who, after purloining a lady's coat and hat, takes refuge in the carriage of a high dignitary of the Church. The piece is said to be a cross between *Raffles* and *Leah Kleschna*, and we cordially wish it all the success which attended the pieces named.

THE secretary of the Actors' Benevolent Fund has received from Mr. Lewis Waller a further remittance of £6 9s. 3d., collected by means of his autograph.

"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH," which still pursues a triumphant career at Terry's Theatre, paid a flying visit to Eastbourne on Thursday afternoon, when the Devonshire Park Theatre was packed from floor to ceiling. The piece is shortly to be sent on tour, and its success at Eastbourne augurs well for its prosperity in the provinces.

MISS DOROTHY CACEY, who has achieved a gratifying success on tour with H. V. Esmond's charming play, *When We Were Twenty-One*, will shortly produce, by arrangement with Mr. Arthur Law, *A Country Mouse*. Miss Cacey will have the rôle of Lady Sylvia, and Mr. Riddell Robinson will play the part of Archibald Vyse.

MR. NORMAN V. NORMAN has secured from Mr. Arthur Bourchier the rights of Miss Gladys Unger's play, *Mr. Sheridan*, which had such a successful run at the Garrick Theatre, and will shortly send it on tour with a powerful company. For his forthcoming pastoral play Mr. Norman has engaged Mr. Lionel Belmore who, it will be remembered, was for many years with Sir Henry Irving, and more recently with Mr. H. B. Irving, in the capacity of stage-manager, &c.

MR. ERNEST R. ABBOTT, who has been running a summer season of four weeks with Mr. Robert Redford, of Cardiff, will on Monday next mark the last week of his present series at the Theatre Royal by the production of a new play, entitled *The House of Shame*, written by Ada G. Abbott. The keynote of the piece is sounded in the following couplet:—"Alas, that Spring should vanish with the rose, That Youth's sweet scented Manuscript should close."

THE Imperial Theatre will be devoted on Tuesday evening to a performance chiefly by amateurs of Mr. Bernard Shaw's play *Candida*, given on behalf of the works undertaken by the "Ladies of Charity." The title-rôle will be played by Miss Irene Rooke.

MISS DORA DENCH and Mr. Sidney Dench are meeting with gratifying success in their summer venture at the St. James's Theatre, Manchester, and are entering on their sixth week's stay, "house full" boards having been more than once displayed during the season. Miss Dench will take a complimentary benefit on July 5, and a month later starts an autumn tour with *A Prince of Rogues*.

"THE PET OF THE EMBASSY" begins its autumn tour at the Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton, on Aug. 5, with Miss Ethel Dunford in the title-rôle, and a full chorus. The tour is under the direction of Mr. C. Hamilton Baines.

WE regret to learn that Mr. Edward Rochelle is lying very ill in a nursing home at 15, Bulstrode-street, Welbeck-square. He would be pleased to see or hear from old friends.

A NEW comedy, in three acts, by J. Storer Clouston, entitled *The Pocket Miss Hercules*, is to be given at the Royalty on Friday afternoon next, in aid of the Grosvenor Hospital for Women and Children. In the cast will be included Mr. Fred Wright, jun., Mr. H. Athol Forde, Mr. Edward Sass, Mr. H. C. Buckler, Mr. Charles Goodhart, Miss Daisy Atherton, and Miss Esme Hubbard.

MR. ARTHUR COLLINS has just returned from Paris, whither he went to get details for the Grand Prix scene, which is to be a thrilling feature of the autumn drama at Drury Lane, as yet unnamed. Mr. Collins has made an important engagement in that of Mr. Albert Chevalier, who will play a comedy part in Messrs. Cecil Raleigh and Henry Hamilton's drama. The cast will also include Miss Fanny Brough.

IRELAND has lost its oldest actor by the passing of Mr. Milban Denmeade, whose funeral took place at Miltown Cemetery, Belfast, on Sunday. The cortège was a large one, and included several well-known citizens. The Very Rev. Father Conalty, St. Peter's, officiated at the graveside. Telegrams were received by the widow of the deceased from several prominent Belfast gentlemen expressing sympathy, and regretting their inability to attend at the interment. America has also sustained a loss in the death of Mrs. W. G. Jones, its oldest actress, who died in New York last week. She was seventy-nine years old, and at one time was one of the most popular players in the States.

THE Princess's is in a fair way of being placed once again on the active list, the plans having been passed for the transformation of the old-time theatre into a two-tier house, with 5s. stalls and a 1s. pit. It is more than probable that the first production will be a drama by George R. Sims and Arthur Shirley, who collaborated in one of the most successful dramas produced of late years at the Princess's, namely, *Two Little Vagabonds*.

THE ban under which *The Mikado* has languished for a period of three months was unconditionally removed on Monday, when the Home Secretary announced, in the House of Commons, that the Lord Chamberlain, having taken the matter into his careful consideration, felt justified in deciding in the circumstances now obtaining to withdraw the prohibition as to the play. Asked whether any compensation would be paid to the companies which had been affected by the prohibition, Mr. Gladstone's reply was in the negative.

THIS is the last week of the season of the American-Indian actress, Go-Won-Go-Mohawk, in her well-known play of *Wep-Ton-No-Mah*, Miss Mohawk thus celebrating her 2500th performance in Great Britain.

THE season of French plays at the Royalty will begin on Sept. 30 with *L'Ami des Femmes*, in which M. Le Bargy will reappear in London. On Oct. 23 Mme. Sarah Bernhardt will begin a series of performances, in the course of which she will be seen in a new play. M. Gaston Mayer has also arranged for a winter season at the Royalty, beginning in January, and altogether the forthcoming performances of French plays will extend over a period of eighteen weeks.

IN the Court of Bankruptcy on Tuesday a sitting was held for the public examination of E. S. S. Strong, of Stockwell Green, S.W. It appeared that the debtor had toured with a play of his own production, called *Darkest London*, and had also catered for and chartered steamboats running between Richmond and Staines. The accounts showed unsecured debts £764, and assets nil. The sitting was adjourned.

THE Music Trades' Association of Great Britain held their twenty-first annual dinner at the Hotel Great Central on Tuesday, under the presidency of Sir Herbert Marshall. Members of the Association sell some 100,000 instruments annually, while reforms in the publication and sale of music have been instituted through the medium of the society. During the evening Sir Frederick Bridge, M.V.O., paid a high tribute to the work done in the cause of charity by the Music Trades' Benevolent Society.

MR. ERNEST CH. GITTINS' *Maritana* opera company concludes to-day a successful fortnight's engagement at the Empire Theatre, Stockport. Wallace's *Maritana* was the opera chosen for the first week, and *The Bohemian Girl* and *Il Trovatore* were each rendered on three nights of the second.

MR. ARTHUR JEFFERSON, who numbers among his many enterprises the duties of lessee and manager of the Theatre Royal, North Shields, took his benefit on Wednesday, when the house was reopened for the occasion. An attractive and varied bill of fare was put forward, and the event was liberally patronised.

MISS EVELYN ST. MAUR will have a benefit at the Masonic Hall, Camberwell New-road, on Monday. Among the artists will be Miss Nellie Clarence, who is organising the entertainment, and will appear in the dramatic sketch, *A Daughter of Destruction*.

A REMINDER may be given of the benefit matinée for Mr. Sydney Barraclough, which is to take place at the Adelphi on Tuesday. We are asked to say that the prices of the stalls are not a guinea, as has been stated, but just half the amount. The programme will include the Countess of Cromartie's clever little sketch, *The Finding of the Sword*, with the original cast; and among the artists that will appear are Mr. Lewis Waller, Mr. George Grossmith, Miss Winifred Emery, and Miss Lottie Venne in *The New Regime*.

MESSRS. MURRAY KING AND CLARK are among the first to take advantage of the removal of the embargo on *The Mikado*, and announce early performances of the famous work at the Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne, which is still doing overwhelming business. For the flying visit of *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch* on the 13th inst. every seat had some time beforehand been booked at raised prices, and hundreds were turned away.

THE Melba prize for sopranos at the Royal Academy of Music has been awarded to Clara Smith, a native of Stratford-on-Avon, Natalie A. Campbell being highly commended; and that for contraltos was won by Edith Kirk, a native of Leicester, Dorothy Webb being highly commended. The adjudicators were Mme. Alice Esty, Mme. Clara Butt-Rumford, and R. Kennerley Rumford.

HERR B. PAREEZER will open the King's Lynn Hippodrome and Theatre, of which he has been manager for more than a year, on August Bank Holiday. The theatre enjoys the advantage of holding a licence for both dramatic and variety performances. It may be added that on Wednesday next Herr Pareezer will have his first complimentary benefit, when he will present the farcical comedy, *My Friend the Prince*.

Two plays by Charles Rann Kennedy were copyrighted at the Bijou Theatre, Bayswater, on Wednesday. The first was a comedy in five acts, entitled *The Servant in the House*, which is destined for production in New York next season under the management of Mr. Henry Miller, with Mr. Walter Hampden in the leading part. The comedy was succeeded by a tragedy in five acts, entitled *The Winter Feast*, which, we understand, has been written specially for Miss Wynne Matthison.

MISS NINA BLAKE, the leading actress at the Alhambra Theatre, Belfast, who enjoys the distinction of having in one year represented no less than fifty-two distinct characters, was accorded a complimentary benefit on the 13th inst. The fine drama *Her Wedding Day* was staged, Miss Adan charming all with her graceful impersonation of Madge Conway. The Silver Tone Quartette and Brull and Hemsley came from the Hippodrome; the Boccacio Minstrel Troupe, engaged at the Empire, made a big hit; and Mr. Dan Thomas and Miss Vera Mayne also appeared. Miss Bel Luscombe, a delightful soprano, made a much-appreciated contribution; and Mr. Tom H. Solly sang several comic songs inimitably. During the evening Miss Adams was the recipient of several substantial gifts, including a life-size portrait of herself, and several handsome bouquets.

MR. WALTER MELVILLE'S *The Girl Who Lost Her Character*, which was presented in German in Berlin at the Luisen Theater so successfully, made a tremendous success on the night of June 13 at Nuremberg. The play, translated by Siegfr. V. Lutz, will open the season in October at the large Lustspiel Theater in Wien (Vienna), one of the first theatres in Austria.

THE full cast of *The Earl of Pawtucket*, which will be produced at the Playhouse on Tuesday, will consist of Messrs. Cyril Maude, George Shelton, W. H. Post, A. S. Aspland, George Courteney, Richard Stirling, David Todd, John Harwood, Dore Davidson, D. McCarthy, A. G. Onslow, C. Hampden, and W. Blair, Master Doyle, and Miss Pollie Emery, Miss Elsie Ferguson, and Miss Alexandra Carlisle. *The Earl of Pawtucket* will be preceded by *The Drums of Oude*.

MR. W. T. RUSHBURY has just concluded arrangements with Mr. T. Edward Ward to tour *Second to None* in Scotch fit-ups from Tuesday next.

GOOD houses have been favouring Mr. Stratton Mills's triple bill at the Brixton Theatre this week—*The Highwayman*, *Faithful James*, and *A Pantomime Rehearsal* being ably presented. In the second-named piece Mr. Hill-Mitchelson plays with much spirit as Philip Melville; Mr. Stratton Mills is delightful as the ever-obliging James, the waiter; and other characters are admirably taken by Mr. Frank Harrison, Mr. Arthur Metcalfe, Mr. Cecil Frere, Miss Minnie Blanchard, and Miss Cissie Sephton. *A Pantomime Rehearsal* is thoroughly played throughout, the laughter of the audience being long and the applause unstinted. Mr. Frank Harrison works untiringly as James Reed, the stage-manager; Mr. Stratton Mills, Mr. Cecil Frere, and Mr. B. W. Metcalfe are excellent as the indifferent actors; whilst as the amateur actresses Miss Eva Aylmer, Miss Minnie Blanchard, Miss Winnie Volt, Miss Cissie Sephton, and Miss Ruby Carter are very dainty, their singing and dancing being excellent.

THE public of Swansea are showing keen appreciation of Mr. Norman MacOwan and his company. Each week brings increasing business, the engagement ranking as one of the best in the history of the house.

THE animated pictures still continue a source of great popularity at the Prince's, Poplar, where this week some very beautiful films are being exhibted, notably "Satan's Son Visits the Earth" and "Great Annual Carnival at Nice." The general-manager, Mr. C. Melville Lurring, well looks after the comfort of his patrons.

THE Royal County Theatre, Bedford, was crowded on Tuesday afternoon with a fashionable audience eager to show their hearty appreciation of the histrionic abilities of Miss Zena Dare, Seymour Hicks, and his company, who appeared in the triple bill—*Papa's Wife*, *You and I*, and *Scrooge*. The two principals were warmly received, and at the close Mr. Hicks received a specially hearty ovation.

MR. LEONARD PAGDEN produces on Monday *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray* at West Pier, Brighton. The strong cast includes Miss Lucy Wilson, Messrs. J. Ed. Pearce, Jas. Hussey, Gordon Bailey, Wm. Lockhart, Misses Edith Cuthbert, Bartle-Frere, and Muriel Alston.

OWING to the success of the two houses a night system at the Broadway, New Cross, the season is to be extended. The attraction for next week is Mr. Louis Calvert's production of *Trilby*, in which Mr. Cecil G. Calvert will appear as Svengali.

THAT excellent actress, Miss Kate Bishop, is still delighting audiences at His Majesty's Theatre by her performance of the severely censorious Lady Caroline Pontefract in *A Woman of No Importance*. By a very regrettable error the address in Miss Bishop's avdertisement last week was given as Poste Restante, New York. It is to be hoped that it will be a very long day ere Miss Kate Bishop decides to leave the "scenes of her former triumphs" to cross the Atlantic.

AT West Hartlepool, on Wednesday, Edward Welsh, Geo. Gillies, and John Hanlon were charged on remand with breaking and entering the Grand Theatre, West Hartlepool, and stealing three pairs of trousers, four pairs of boots, and several other articles, belonging to *My Sweetheart* company, besides £10 10s. in gold and silver money, the property of Messrs. Granville and Feather, lessees of the theatre. When charged with the offences, Welsh replied, "I got £2 11s. 3d.," Gillies answered, "Yes, I got the same," and Hanlon's utterance was, "I never stole all them clothes." The prisoners were committed to take their trial at the Durham Assizes.

MR. WILFRID COMPTON AND MISS MIRIAM HOLT (Mrs. Compton) are spending a short holiday with their little daughter at Liverpool. Mr. and Mrs. Compton have been engaged by Mr. Arthur Jefferson to play Percy and the bride in his sketch, *Home from the Honeymoon*.

OWING to contingencies arising out of the termination of Messrs. Vedrenne and Barker's tenancy of the Court, Miss Bateman has been obliged to change the date of her matinée at that theatre from July 1 to July 2. The play to be produced on that occasion, it will be remembered, is *Media in Corinth*, written for Miss Bateman and played by her in the Lyceum in 1872. The performance is to be given in aid of the Orphanage of the Infant Saviour, Barry-road, S.E.

ALLITERATIVE and awesome is the title chosen by Captain Robert Marshall and Mr. Alfred Sutro for the thrilling melodrama which is to be performed at the theatrical garden party, to be given in the grounds of Chelsea Hospital, in aid of the Actors' Orphanage Fund, on Friday, July 5. It is to be called *The Desperado Duke; or, The Culpable Countess*, and will be sustained chiefly by Mr. Cyril Maude, Mr. Edmund Maurice, Mr. Lennox Pawle, Miss Helen Ferrers, Miss Dorothy Minto, and Miss Alexandra Carlisle.

A MATINÉE at the Royalty on Thursday next will introduce to the public a new lady dramatist. *The Heart of the Machine*, which will be produced on the occasion, is from the pen of Mrs. Antonia William, whose play, although occupying three acts, demands only five characters for its representation. The four important parts will be enacted by Mr. Norman McKinnel, Mrs. Russ Whytal, Mr. Henry Ainley, and Miss Suzanne Sheldon.

MR. LEWIS WALLER will begin his season at the Lyric in December with the successful American play, by Milton Royle, entitled *The Squaw Man*, which is to be re-named *The English Cowboy*. During Mr. Waller's autumn tour of *Robin Hood* Miss Nora Lancaster will play the chief feminine rôle in that drama, Miss Evelyn Millard's engagement expiring with Mr. Waller's present season at the Lyric, which ends on July 13.

MISS DAVIES WEBSTER has arranged for a soirée to be given in the rooms of the Women's Institute, 92, Victoria-street, S.W., on Tuesday, July 2. Miss Webster will represent Jeanne D'Arc in a dramatic study by Augusta Webster; Mr. Herman Vezin will recite, and a feature of the evening will be a new drawing-room sketch by C. A. Dawson Scott, entitled *The Holiday Governess*. The proceedings will include a collection, which will be devoted to the benefit of Mrs. Harry Grindall, an old actor's widow, who has for some time struggled bravely against adverse circumstances.

AN interesting billiard match took place on Wednesday afternoon at the Nag's Head Hotel, Mansfield, when Mr. Will White, head of *The New World* company at the Hippodrome this week, played Mr. Victoria Rae, a member of the company, a game of 500 up for a purse of £5, given by Mr. Mark Lorne, the popular acting-manager of the Hippodrome. Mr. Rae, who received 50 start, was passed before he had reached 200, but gamely playing on, managing to keep close up, and the game was called, White, 449; Rae, 450. Mr. White winning eventually by 29 points. After the match both victor and vanquished were entertained to lunch by Mr. Lorne.

MR. CHARLES CONSTANT, the proprietor of the Theatre Royal, Ryde, has just taken over the management of the theatre, and will reopen it with a first-class company on July 1. Really high-class attractions do good business at Ryde.

MISS ITALIA CONTI is arranging a garden fête in aid of the Battersea Crèche for Wednesday next, at Battersea Rise House, Clapham Common. The fête, which is under distinguished patronage, will be opened by the Countess of Kinnoull at three o'clock, and at 3.30 there is to be performed the forest scenes of *As You Like It*, with Miss Conti as Rosalind and Mr. Hylton Allen as Orlando, supported by Messrs. F. Cremlin, Walter Ringham, Wm. Luff, Ed. Lador, Montague Wigan, and Robert Grey, and Misses Kate Turner, Betty Castle, Evelyn Marthèze, and Claire Greet. There is to be a strawberry tea after the play, at which Miss Pauline Chase, Miss Alexandra Carlisle, and other well-known favourites will assist. A variety concert, organised by Mr. Robert Grey, will be given during tea, and the attractions will include various side-shows, and an exhibition of Highland dancing. The tickets are 2s. 6d. and 1s., but members of the Actors' Association and Actors' Union can obtain them at reduced rates from their secretary before the day of the fête.

MR. HAROLD WANTAGE, who has recently acquired from Mr. Charles Carey the entire rights of the popular musical comedy *The Pick of the Bunch*, must be highly gratified at the hearty reception accorded the company and play at the hands of Glasgow playgoers last week. The comedy proved exactly to the taste of the King's Theatre patrons, as was conclusively proved by the large and enthusiastic audiences throughout the week. The comedy is being re-written, and a new version will be sent out in the autumn, equipped with elaborate uniforms and remodelled scenery.

YEOMAN service was done in the cause of charity by members of Miss Doris Gilham's company from the Gaiety Theatre, Leith, who contributed largely to the attractions of the annual demonstration and sports in aid of the funds of Leith Hospital, held under the auspices of the town's friendly and trade societies and the Good Templars, on the 10th inst. Mr. Barry Lupino captained an eleven in a comic cricket match, and also headed a football team, both contests causing unbounded amusement, whilst many a diversion was created by the efforts of the Gaiety Ambulance Corps. Miss Gilham, Miss May Lupino, Mr. James Chippendale, and Mr. Barry Lupino also officiated as judges.

MESSRS. GARSIDE AND KNOWLES celebrated the 1,000th performance of Arthur Shirley and George Conquest's play, *The London Fireman*, at the Crown Theatre, Peckham, this week. On Aug. 3 they produce, on an elaborate scale, their new drama, *Her Marriage Vow*.

MR. FRED C. SUTCLIFFE, who for many years has held the position of business manager of the Tyne Theatre, Newcastle, is to be made the recipient of a testimonial in recognition of his personal qualities and of his services to the charities of Tyneside. Influential patronage has been secured, the list including the names of the Lord Mayor of Newcastle, Sir Charles Wyndham, Mr. Charles Frohman, Mr. John Hare, Mr. Martin Harvey, Mr. Seymour Hicks, Mr. H. B. Irving, and Mr. H. Beerbohm Tree.

MR. F. R. BENSON, the Master of the Romsey Pageant, is preparing an elaborate spectacle, which will be presented on Tuesday next and two following days. The pageant represents some of the historical events which have taken place in the town since the founding of the Abbey in the year 907, and is divided into ten episodes. The first deals with the founding of Romsey Abbey by Edward the Elder, the second with the murder of Ethelwold, and the third with the destruction of the Abbey by the Danes, the final episode representing King Charles I. on his way through Romsey a prisoner in the hands of the Parliamentarians.

"PROPOSING BY PROXY; OR, THE END OF THE STORY," a one-act comedietta, by A. Helier and H. Montague, was produced at the Pier Pavilion, Clacton-on-Sea, on Monday. Jim Ford, as the story goes, receives a letter from his brother George saying that he is in love with Mabel Hudson, and asking him (Jim) to propose to her for him, as he is too nervous to do so himself. On reading the letter Jim comes to the conclusion that he also is in love with Mabel. George, in the meantime, has told Mabel that Jim wants to see her on important business, and she calls, with the result that Jim eventually secures her for himself. The dialogue is bright and witty. Miss Ethel Mayaffré showed all her accustomed grace and charm as Mabel, and Mr. H. Montague made a good Jim Ford.

THE indictment of the so-called Theatrical Trust was dismissed in New York on Wednesday, the Judge holding that plays are not articles of trade in common use, and that the defendants, therefore, did not restrain trade, as alleged.

THE Crystal Palace was visited by a huge crowd on Saturday afternoon, when the grand festival performance of "Elijah" took place. Foremost among the soloists was Mr. Santley, who received hearty tokens of affectionate regard and admiration, and sang with a vigour and enduring power truly remarkable for a man of his age. The other principals included Mr. Ben Davies, Mme. Ada Crossley, Miss Nicholls, Miss Edith Evans, Miss May Peters, Mr. Gwilym Richards, and Mr. Charles Knowles. The oratorio was directed by Dr. Cowen, Mr. Hedgecock discharged his duties ably at the organ, and the London Symphony Orchestra lent admirable assistance.

MR. ALLAN WILKIE obtained undoubted success last week on his first visit to the Theatre Royal, Bradford, where large and appreciative houses gave this talented actor a cordial reception. On Saturday night Mr. Wilkie closed his week's visit with *Hamlet*, and in response to demonstrative applause the popular actor thanked the playgoers of Bradford and the Press for the kind encouragement they had given to his colleagues and himself throughout the week.

"THE LOVE OF A LIFE," from the pen of Eugene Gotère, is the title of a new drama to be produced on Monday at the Liverpool Rotunda Theatre by Messrs. John B. Shinton and Alex. Greenwood's company. The play, which is of great heart interest, shows what an important influence can be exercised by a child over the life of a man or woman. A feature of the third act will be the introduction of the trained horse, Rapid.

AT a meeting of the King's Lynn Theatre Co., Ltd., an offer from Messrs. W. Payne-Seddon and George Robertson was considered and accepted. Messrs. Seddon and Robertson will book the theatre in conjunction with Loughborough.

MESSRS. A. J. HARDING and Charles R. Hann are touring in the autumn a social drama in four acts by Frank Dix, entitled *Delivered from Evil*. A special feature of the first scene of the third act, which represents a hop garden in Kent, is the introduction of a dioramic change from moonlight to sunrise. New scenery is being painted, and an excellent plant of printing by David Allen and Sons, Ltd., together with all effects will be carried.

THE house staff of the Glasgow Coliseum had a very pleasant outing to Strathblane last Sunday. Leaving the theatre in brakes, the company drove through some magnificent scenery till they reached Campsie Glen, where dinner was served in first-class style, after which sports were held. Mr. Harry Burdette presented the prizes.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

A Wet Blue Ribbon.

MR. BEERBOHM TREE'S readiness of resource, says Mrs. George Cran in "Stars of the Stage," was shown on the first night of *The Private Secretary*. He was just going on the stage as the Rev. Robert Spalding, when he thought a piece of blue ribbon in his buttonhole would have a clerical effect. He asked every one quickly for some, no one had any; his cue was coming, and the idea seemed lost, when Mrs. Tree cut a piece of canvas from the scenery, dipped it in a pot of blue paint the scene-painters had left near at hand, and put it in wet; it became a feature of the part as everyone remembers.

A Falling Petticoat.

MR. TREE tells an amusing story of how one night, during the performance, Mrs. Leigh Murray's petticoat began to come down. Accomplished veteran of the boards as she was, she managed to sidle to the nearest wing and kick it successfully behind the scene. Mr. W. J. Hill, a sound actor of the older school and a man to whose ready wit Mr. Tree always pays tribute, came on, with grave suspicion in his face, and asked the curate if there were "any women about?" The Rev. Robert said: "No!" "Yet," said Mr. Hill, "I thought I saw a petticoat on the stairs."

Mr. Harvey's Voice.

MR. MARTIN HARVEY, says *London Opinion*, is the fortunate possessor of a remarkably fine voice, and Lord Cadogan went to see *The Only Way* very many times for the sake of his tribunal speech in the third act. It is related that when Mr. Harvey was playing in *After All* at the Avenue a woman in the gallery was heard to remark, "The piece ain't no good, but it's worth coming to the theatre to hear that man say his prayers. Ain't he got a voice!"

Miss Terry's Memories.

MISS ELLEN TERRY, pleasantly continuing the "Story of Her Life" in *M.A.P.*, says "My whole life was the theatre, and naturally all my early memories are connected with it. At breakfast father would begin the day's 'coaching.' Often I had to lay down my fork and say my lines. He would conduct these extra rehearsals anywhere—in the street, the 'bus—we were never safe! I remember vividly going into a chemist's shop and being stood upon a stool to say my part to the chemist! Such leisure as I had from my profession was spent in 'minding' the younger children—an occupation in which I delighted. They all had very pretty hair, and I used to wash it and comb it out until it looked as fine and bright as floss silk! It is argued now that stage life is bad for a young child, and children are not allowed by law to go on the stage until they are ten years old—quite a mature age in my young days! I cannot discuss the whole question here, and must content myself with saying that during my three years at the Princess's I was a very strong, happy, and healthy child."

A Bit of "Bluff."

MR. J. F. GRAHAM, of the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Birmingham, tells an anecdote of his early theatrical experience in Australia. While he was engaged in the rehearsal of a play in one of the Melbourne theatres the call-boy stepped up to him on the stage, and handed him a telegram. It really contained no more important matter than a request from a friend who lived up country that he should purchase for him a couple of water-slide cornets. The instruments to this day are foreign to Mr. Graham's knowledge, but he saw in this incident an opportunity of which he was not slow to take advantage. Stepping straight across to the manager, who from the wings had witnessed the delivery of the telegram, Mr. Graham asked, in the earnest tone which every actor can summon at will, if that dignitary could spare him a few moments. "Oh! come and see me after rehearsal," the latter exclaimed in his loftiest manner; but, seeing that the young actor was not to be put off, he added, "Well, what is it?" "I wished to ask you if you could see your way to increasing my salary," Mr. Graham responded with a simulation of indifference he was far from feeling. "Ah! I thought so," replied the manager, pointing to the telegram, which the applicant still held in his hand. "And I suppose if I don't, you will go over the way" (indicating the opposition theatre). "Very well; say another £2." And in his joy at the success of his ruse Mr. Graham forgot all about the water-slide cornets.

"Hush!"

THE plan which was put in practice on the first night of *The Corsican Brothers* at the Adelphi of excluding late-comers from the auditorium till the end of the first piece is justified by an incident which, says the *Daily Mail*, took place at the *première* of *The Dumb Cake* at the Hicks Theatre on Wednesday. At a thrilling moment of the play, when the house was held by the pathos of the situation and by Miss Trevelyan's exquisite acting, a noisy party of late-comers were allowed to thrust their way into the auditorium. They were met with angry cries of "Hush!" But it was too late. The "atmosphere" was gone, the attention of the audience was diverted, and the first performance of Messrs. Morrison and Pryce's play was seriously affected.

As Bad as Bullfighters?

THE Bishop of Birmingham in his address last week at a meeting of the Actors' Church Union at the Temperance Hall, Birmingham, said there was a present tendency, as there had been in the past, to put the acting profession under a sort of taboo, and to bring about in the minds of those who stand for the Christian Church a kind of idea that the profession should be regarded with some degree of horror as the professional bull-fighters had been dealt with by the Church in Spain. He wanted to obviate if he could that kind of feeling. In Greece, Italy, Spain, Germany, and England, the greatest work of literature was dramatic, written for the stage, acted and seen, and that fact made it quite impossible for the drama to be placed under taboo. They wanted to abolish the prejudice which existed against members of the theatrical profession, and bring them into union with the church. There was no profession in which the members were kinder to each other in times of distress, and no profession where there was so much distress. The life was a hard one, and most uncomfortable for the actors who had to change their lodgings every week and move about. Consequently, he thought they were all under a kind of real obligation, which the union realised, to see that the profession was treated as all other legitimate professions, and brought within the pale of society and the church.

Irving's Elaboration.

MR. BRAM STOKER, in his "Personal Reminiscences of Henry Irving," gives an interesting description of the elaborate mounting of *The Corsican Brothers* at the Lyceum in 1880. He writes: "The scene of the Masked Ball represented the interior of the Opera House, the scenic auditorium being furthest from the footlights. In fact, it was as though the audience sitting in the Lyceum auditorium saw the scene as though looking in a gigantic mirror placed in the auditorium arch. The scene was in reality a vast one and of great brilliance. The Opera House was draped with crimson silk, the boxes were practicable, and contained a whole audience, all being in perspective. The men and women in the boxes near to the footlights were real; those far back were children dressed like their elders. Promenading and dancing were hundreds of persons in striking costumes. It must be remembered that in those days there were no electric lights, and there were literally thousands of lights in the scene."

"MRS. PONDERBURY'S PAST."

Revival of F. C. Burnand's Farce, in Three Acts, at the Vaudeville Theatre, on Tuesday, June 18.

Matthew Ponderbury ....MR. CHARLES HAWTREY
Mervin Thorp .....MR. CHARLES TROODE
Captain John Rumford ..MR. WILFRED DRAYCOTT
Peter .....MR. EDWARD FITZGERALD
Hyacinth Grayling .....MR. ERNEST GRAHAM
Sir Rover Baring .....MR. HENRI LAURENT
Colonel Aversnack .....MR. L. WILLIAMS
Dr. Phelim Orlover .....MR. PERCY R. GOODYER
Mrs. Ponderbury .....MISS MARIE ILLINGTON
Lady Baring .....MISS GWYNNE HERBERT
Ethel Penniston .....MISS MONA HARRISON
Susan .....MISS MIRABEL HILLIER
Mme. Polacca de Mojeski ..MISS BILLIE BURKE

Mr. F. C. Burnand's adaptation of *Madame Mongodin*, by MM. Ernest Blum and Raoul Toché, which was first seen at the Avenue Theatre in the November of 1895, was revived at the Vaudeville on Tuesday, the French piece having been produced at the Gymnase, Paris, in 1890. That the play retains much of the "peculiar" flavour of the original may be gathered from the fact that the plot turns upon the demonstrative virtue of Mrs. Ponderbury, who, on a certain occasion, when a stranger ascended a balcony to her bedroom and tried to take liberties with her, defended herself with a knife, which she has treasured ever since in memory of her firmness. Mrs. Ponderbury keeps her husband very much in submission; and he amuses himself by watching their neighbour, a certain lively music-hall artist, take her bath in the river. This ends in Ponderbury asking her for an assignation at the studio of an artist named Thorp, who is painting Mme. de Mojeski's picture. While she is changing her dress the artist goes out, locking Ponderbury in the studio with the lady. The key is left hanging on a nail in the garden outside; and Ponderbury, attracting the attention of some passers-by, prevails on them to bring it up, and open the door. Unfortunately, two of the obliging strangers are his wife and niece. When they enter, Ponderbury pretends to be attacked by somnambulism, and is with difficulty prevented from walking out of the window. In the last act, an old friend of Ponderbury's turns up after a sea voyage, and tells the story of the assault on Mrs. P., with the difference that he describes the lady as having welcomed instead of rejecting his advances. This revelation brings Mrs. Ponderbury into a state of subjection, and secures Ponderbury's future freedom.

The piece is a little old-fashioned in style; but it is essentially and irresistibly amusing, and its revival has the advantage of showing us Mr. Charles Hawtrey in a character quite in his customary vein. Everyone is aware how delightful Mr. Hawtrey is as one of the subdued, but sly, husbands of farce, and how droll he makes the meekness which is but a cloak for secret impropriety. Mr. Hawtrey as the cowed, but crafty, Ponderbury, acts with all his old demureness and originality; and the laughter he evokes is as free and liberal as of old. Another "feature" of the revival is the appearance of dainty Miss Billie Burke in the character sustained at the Avenue by Miss Lottie Venne. Miss Burke's personality has a peculiar charm; and she has a lightness of touch and an arch animation which are marvellously winning. Miss Burke has undoubted comedy gifts, and her characterisation of Mme. de Mojeski shows keen observation, a rich sense of humour, and a delicate appreciation of the value of detail. She made a decided hit with an "introduced" song by Mr. Fred Montagu, called "Molly Molyneux." Miss Burke rendered it in a *chic* and vivacious manner, and her fascinating treatment of the ditty will certainly send hundreds to purchase the song, which is published by Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter. We are sure that the success of Miss Burke in the part must have been a surprise to most of her many admirers, and we prophesy for this young lady a brilliant career. We have not too many comédiennes on our stage, and Miss Burke's accession to the ranks is a thing on which both she and the public may be congratulated. That finished actress, Miss Marie Illington, embodies Mrs. Ponderbury with the effective combination of imposing comeliness and an authoritative manner which has made so many of her impersonations intensely acceptable. Every point is scored, and not an opportunity is lost by Miss Illington, who is in excellent form. Mr. Charles Troode's Mervin Thorp is a smooth and neat embodiment, which answers all requirements, and reflects much credit on the actor; and Mr. Wilfred Draycott's Captain John Rumford could hardly have been improved upon, so replete is it with all the necessary qualities. Mr. Edward Fitzgerald does excellent work as Peter, his depiction of the eccentric butler being very grim and quaint, and his make-up being excellent; and Mr. Ernest Grayham, as the vapid Hyacinth Grayling, gives a very characteristic and clever performance. Mr. Henri Laurent is entirely efficient as Sir Rover Baring; and Mr. L. Williams does good work as Colonel Aversnack, Mr. Percy R. Goodyer contributing a commendable embodiment of Dr. Phelim Orlover. Miss Gwynne Herbert is a most agreeable and intelligent representative of Lady Baring; and Miss Mona Harrison is a charmingly fresh and pretty Ethel Penniston; Miss Mirabel Hillier being satisfactory as Susan. *Mrs. Ponderbury's Past* is preceded by a duologue in one act, by G. H. Street, played for the first time, and entitled *The Anonymous Letter*. The "parties" are husband and wife, and the latter has received an anonymous letter informing her that her husband has had frequent meetings with another lady. He tells her that he wrote the letter himself in order to excite her jealousy; but his fib is detected, for it was the wife who penned the epistle to draw him out, and discover how far he had gone in his flirtation. *The Anonymous Letter* is a bright and pretty trifle. Mr. Wilfred Draycott is remarkably good as the husband, acting with a true sense of comedy; and Miss Dorothy Hammond as the wife combines beauty of person with quiet humour and real ability.

THE problem of beautifying the complexion is one which has confronted the actress of all ages. It has evidently been effectually solved in the new treatment bearing the refreshing name of Aquada, administered by Mrs. Probyn, at her flat at 54, South Molton-street. There is no sort of make-up in the process; it consists simply in drawing out from the pores with a tiny instrument the dirt of years and imparting freshness and purity to the skin. Blackheads are chased from their strongholds and the pores so braced up that they cannot return. Besides the cleansing of the skin Aquada soothes the nerves in a marvellous way, and many a headache has yielded completely under its pleasant influence.

MARTIN HARVEY ON MANAGEMENT.

Mr. Martin Harvey has chosen the "only way" to recuperate the wearied organism in the intervals of weekly play-production in London. He has pitched his tent to the north of Regent's Park, in one of those delightfully old-fashioned houses that remind us that the architects of the last generation builded "better than they knew." There is a spacious stillness about the large garden, with its classic fountain making gentle music, and its vast vinery, the only occupant of which is one massive vine, arching over a veritable little ball-room. And, to escape entirely from even domestic interruptions, Mr. Harvey, at the end of his pleasaunce, has a rustic "temple" with Ionic columns, where he retires to discuss weighty business with his trusty acting-manager, to consider designs for costumes, and to peruse plays.

Fresh from last night's triumphs with *The Corsican Brothers*, Mr. Harvey is naturally willing to talk of the fine old play, which everyone knows, and of which so little is known.

"My endeavour," says Mr. Harvey, "has been to 'go back to first principles' in our version of the famous play, or, rather, of the less famous novel from which *Les Frères Corses* was taken. We have tried to get at Dumas' intentions, and go behind the perversions of those who have endeavoured to 'improve' upon the inimitable Alexander. For instance, we have replaced in the second act the very important scene—you must

MR. MARTIN HARVEY.

have noticed it last night—between Louis and Martinelli. The fault of the previous versions—of the English one, at any rate—was that the second act chiefly consisted of spectacle.

"If I remember rightly, much of the action took place down in what we may call the 'promenade' of the old Paris Opera House. This always seemed to me curious, as from what one can gather from the literature of the period, there was so much riotous movement and practical joking in that part of the house that it would have been hardly in the arena that the 'young bloods' of the time would have had their arguments or laid their wagers."

"Yes; and so we have chosen for our set one of the corridors, where such easy talk would be more possible. But the most important change that we have made is in going back to Dumas' novel for the character of Emilie de Lesparre, who in the English versions is made an entirely proper person, not at all the sort of creature either to have attracted de Château-Renaud or to have yielded to his fascinations. In Dumas' book—and Dumas was always artistically and entirely right—she is a rather flighty young woman, entrusted to the care of Louis by her husband, an honest sailor, while he is away on a voyage. In the English versions Louis and Emilie never met except in Montjiron's apartments for a moment."

"Then your improvements are chiefly in the direction of strengthening the part of Louis?"

"Exactly. Louis was a mere shadow, and consequently the second act suffered. In the French Emilie had already gone a good way with de Château-Renaud, and came to the Opera House on his promise to return to her certain compromising letters. So that in all my adjustment of the play I have been only trying to get back, as far as possible, to the real author, dear old Dumas."

"*The Corsican Brothers* is certainly an actor-manager's piece, if there be any truth in the description given of the nature of the actor-manager by certain critics. It is a 'great pull' to be able to enact *both* heroes in a drama. But you certainly deserved it after your self-sacrifice in *Great Possessions*."

"*Was* I so self-sacrificing? The fact is, I was so pleased with the piece when I read it that my personal prominence in it was out of my mind when I determined to do it. I had never seen it acted. It had only one private performance, in Munich. We have had to alter it already in the direction of curtailment. The original would have played four hours. The author sees his way to developing the character of Nathaniel, which is, perhaps, a little too much on one note. But I must tell you that I do not believe in producing plays with an eye alone to pecuniary or, indeed, any form of 'success.' I produce a play because it appeals to me; because, in short, I like it. And I believe," says Mr. Harvey, waxing earnest and enthusiastic, "that, and that only, is the way to be successful. You may not always hit the mark; but the man who pleases himself in his art is, to say the least, as likely to be fortunate in winning the approbation of his public as the man who writes or 'presents' with his eye always on the probable receipts. There is only one way in which we can keep up the interest in the English drama. Let authors write and managers produce, first of all, for their own sakes. The line about the drama's patrons giving the drama's laws has done more harm than the writer could ever have foreseen."

"And you don't think the English drama is 'going down'?"

"Going down? Not a bit of it. It is simply a case of flux and reflux. There are periods when, for some time, no notable plays are produced. Then out come several good things; and matters look up immediately. We must think more of the honour which attaches to doing good work, and less to long 'runs' and bankers' balances. Take all this talk about 'bad business' in the provinces. I have not experienced any, nor, I believe, have any of the first-rate companies sent out by my brother managers. And, I may say, in passing, that I believe the better class of provincial audience is less *blasé* and more keenly appreciative than those of the metropolis. Life in London is so breathless and so strenuous that people have no time to enjoy art.

"THE CORSICAN BROTHERS."

Adapted from the Novel of Alexandre Dumas; the version played, for the first time in London, at the Adelphi Theatre, on Monday, June 17.

M. Fabien dei Franchi } MR. MARTIN HARVEY
M. Louis dei Franchi ...
M. de Château-Renaud..MR. VINCENT STERNROYD
M. le Baron de Montgiron MR. ALBERT E. RAYNOR
M. le Baron Martelli .....MR. GEORGE COOKE
M. Alfred Meynard ....MR. ALFRED MANSFIELD
M. Favrolles .....MR. CHARLES J. CAMERON
M. Beauchamp .....MR. PAUL BARRY
Antonio Sarrole .....MR. J. BARBER
Colonna .....MR. FRED WRIGHT, SEN.
Orlando .....MR. PHILIP HEWLAND
Griffo .....MR. LESLIE PALMER
Boissec .....MR. P. ALEXANDER
Tomaso .....MR. DENHOLM MUIR
A Surgeon .....MR. H. EARLE
Servants ..... } MR. R. ALLEN, MR. D. HOLM
Emilie de Lesparre.....MISS COLERIDGE
Madame Savilia dei Franchi MISS MAUD MILTON
Coralie .....MISS MAUD RIVERS
Frisette .....MISS BESSIE ELDER
Estelle .....MISS MARJORIE FIELD
Celestine .....MISS ETHEL PATRICK
Maria .....MISS MADGE FABIAN

Mr. Martin Harvey's revival of *The Corsican Brothers* takes us back to the time when Fechter first appeared in *Les Frères Corses* at the Théâtre Historique, Paris, in 1850, and to the "palmy days" of the Princess's, when Charles Kean represented the Brothers dei Franchi there in 1852, the then long run of sixty nights being the result of the experiment. The celebrated revival of the drama at the Lyceum in the September of 1880, with Henry Irving as the Brothers, William Terriss as de Château-Renaud, and Elwood as Montgiron, is still fresh in the memories of playgoers. Dumas' famous story is so old as to be almost new to the present generation, who may be willing to be reminded that the action opens in the island of Corsica, where Fabien dei Franchi is living with his widowed mother. His twin brother, Louis dei Franchi, between whom and Fabien a mysterious electric sympathy exists, is in Paris; and while Fabien is writing a letter, the ghost of Louis appears to him with blood oozing from his breast. As a matter of fact, Louis has been killed in a duel with a certain Château-Renaud, whom he offended by protecting a lady from his advances. Fabien arrives in Paris, manages to meet de Château-Renaud on the same spot on which poor Louis was slain, and puts him to death after a desperate combat.

The story, as all will remember, is embellished with certain "visions," the effect of which greatly depends upon the way in which they are managed. Mr. Harvey has by various means made the appearance of Louis to his brother in Corsica more mysterious and ghostly than usual; and all the details of these ghostly visitations are quite artistically supplied. In place of the elaborate *bal masqué* which used to occupy so much of the second act, he simply suggests the *locale* by the entrance of a few masqueraders, one of the corridors of the Opera House, with its fine columns and red-plush seats, being the scene of de Château-Renaud's wager.

Mr. Martin Harvey's Fabien dei Franchi is one of the best things that he has done. Fabien's overpowering apprehension of misfortune, his graceful and aristocratic bearing, and the weird mystery and tender melancholy with which Mr. Harvey managed to imbue his impersonation, made it entirely agreeable and absolutely convincing. His Fabien, in his demeanour to his mother and to his guest, was a very perfect gentleman, and his delivery of the explanation of the family mystery was a delicately artistic piece of inflexion. In the last act his Fabien had all the necessary resolution and stern intensity; and Mr. Harvey took his share of the duel with an energy and keenness which held the house in the breathless silence of suspense. He made the most, too, of the character of Louis, the settled melancholy and confident expectation of death felt by the doomed young man being rendered extremely impressive by Mr. Harvey's poetic and imaginative treatment. As de Château-Renaud, Mr. Vincent Sternroyd gave a keen and polished performance, making him more of a dandy and a lady-killer than is customary, and endowing him with an aristocratic air and a persuasive manner. Mr. Albert E. Raynor supplied a sound and effective interpretation of the rôle of Montgiron; and Mr. George Cooke acted with animation and energy in Martelli's scene with Louis in the second act, Mr. Alfred Mansfield being agreeably easy and urbane as Alfred Meynard. Mr. Fred Wright, sen., whose years sit lightly upon him, was an excellent exponent of Colonna; and Mr. Philip Hewland was capital as Orlando. Miss Coleridge looked extremely attractive as Emilie de Lesparre, and handled her scene with Louis in the Opera corridor with grace, skill, and tact; and that always safe and able actress, Miss Maud Milton, was the acme of amiability and gentle bearing as Madame dei Franchi. The minor parts of Griffo and Maria were well sustained by Mr. Leslie Palmer and Miss Madge Fabian; and the *grisettes* were depicted with animation and vivacity by Misses Maud Rivers, Bessie Elder, Marjorie Field, and Ethel Patrick. Mr. Charles J. Cameron gave sufficient colour and emphasis to his rôle of Favrolles; and Mr. Paul Barry was sound and satisfactory as Beauchamp. The revival was received with hearty enthusiasm, and at the close of the performance Mr. Harvey, speaking from the snow-covered stage, and humorously contrasting what he called his "chilly surroundings" with the warmth of the reception given to the play, thanked the audience for it on behalf of himself and the company.

The Corsican Brothers was preceded by a piece in two panels, by Rosamund Langbridge, played for the first time, and entitled

"A TRAGEDY OF TRUTH."

Michael Hennessy .....MR. HENRY AINLEY
Mrs. Riordan .....MISS MAUD MILTON
Mary Riordan .....MISS N. DE SILVA

A Tragedy of Truth deals with the old Irish superstition concerning spells. Mary Riordan is the unfortunate owner of red hair. It appears that, amongst the peasantry of the Emerald Isle, this is considered to be "unlucky"; and, consequently, there is little chance of Mary ever getting married. Her mother, who possesses strange powers of witchcraft, puts a spell on young Michael Hennessy, with whom Mary is in love, and makes him "fancy" the young woman. He offers her marriage; and, in the second "panel," Mary is getting ready for her wedding. The girl, however, cannot endure the idea of winning a husband by sorcery, and resolves to tell Michael all before the ceremony takes place. When the young man learns about the spell he shrinks from his bride in horror; and, on her attempting to approach him, stabs her to the heart with a knife taken from the table. This strong little play made a deep impression, greatly on account of the admirable way in which it was acted. Mr. Henry Ainley was tremendously powerful in his depiction of terror and wrath as Michael Hennessy, and looked the imaginative, highly-strung Hibernian to the life. Miss Maud Milton contributed an intense and impressive embodiment of Mrs. Riordan; and Miss N. de Silva—who, it must be owned, looked far too pretty to be neglected by suitors—was a sweetly simple and pathetic exponent of Mary Riordan. Mr. Norman O'Neill's incidental music greatly assisted the effect of the situations; and Mr. G. J. Dodson's interior of a Galway cabin formed an appropriate setting.

"THE MIDNIGHT WEDDING."

The drama, in four acts, by Walter Howard, performed at the Lyceum Theatre, on Saturday, June 15.

Paul Valmar .....MR. NORMAN PARTRIDGE
The Crown Prince Leopold..MR. FREDERICK ROSS
Lieut. Eugene Von Strelsburg MR. RONALD ADAIR
Capt. Rudolph Von Scarsbruck..MR. ERIC MAYNE
Father Gerard .....MR. FRED GROVES
Sergeant Max .....MR. S. MAJOR JONES
Corporal Otto.....MR. HARRY BARFORD
Private Bobo .....MR. GUS OXLEY
Sergeant of the Guard .....MR. WILTON JAMES
Conrad .....MR. EDMUND WALLER
Trooper Fritz .....MR. HAROLD CHAPIN
Trooper Ludwig .....MR. HENRY ARMSTRONG
Kathie .....MISS VALLI VALLI
Rozel .....MISS DAISY GWYNNE
Princess Astrea Von Strelsberg MISS NORA KERIN

Messrs. Henry Smith and Ernest Carpenter have scored another triumphant success at the Lyceum with *The Midnight Wedding*, which was played for the first time in London at the West London Theatre last February, after a provincial production at the Grand Junction Theatre, Manchester. *The Midnight Wedding* has all the requisites of success with popular audiences. The hero and the villain are boldly drawn and distinctly defined. The heroine is a beautiful and gracious princess, and the "comic relief"—most necessary in the intervals of the strenuous and sensational action—is broadly and genuinely amusing.

As we have already twice told the story of *The Midnight Wedding*, we need only now remind our readers that the hero, Paul Valmar, is the son, by a morganatic marriage, of the Crown Prince Leopold of Savonia. Disowned by his father, for political reasons, the youth has entered the ranks of the army, and has worked his way up to the rank of "sword-master" and lieutenant. By his success, he has incurred the jealousy of Captain Rudolph Von Scarsbruck, the detested suitor for the hand of Princess Astrea Von Strelsberg. The Princess's brother, Eugene, who has squandered her fortune, and is in the power of Von Scarsbruck, insults Valmar, and the latter, after a brief combat, leaves him for dead. Flying from military punishment, Valmar seeks refuge in the chapel of the Princess's palace, and she implores him to marry her, to save her from the combined attack of her brother and Von Scarsbruck. The ceremony is performed, and Paul is arrested and imprisoned immediately after, obtaining release by revealing his identity to the Crown Prince. Von Scarsbruck, in order to shame the Princess into marrying him, enters her bedchamber; but Valmar is on his track, and overawes him with a revolver. After various thrilling and exciting incidents Von Scarsbruck is slain by Paul, and there seems no obstacle to the happiness of Valmar and the Princess, especially as there appears to be a possibility of Valmar ultimately inheriting Savonia's crown.

The acting all round is admirably appropriate to the tone and nature of the play. The artists are keenly appreciative of the method demanded by the piece, and throw themselves into their work with an energy and sincerity of purpose which carry the most complete conviction. Mr. Norman Partriege depicts the chivalrous sword-master, Paul Valmar, with all the necessary vigour, grace, and earnestness. The high spirit, the active combativeness, and the sensitive pride of the personage are shown with the most telling effect; and, from first to last, Mr. Partriege wins the heart of his audience by his manly bearing, his deep seriousness, and the electric energy of his expression. Mr. Partriege is excellent in his outbursts of righteous indignation; and in the rôle of the disinherited Prince he had many opportunities for the use of his best powers in this direction. The masterly character of Paul Valmar—whose cunning of fence gives him, certainly, a great advantage over his enemies—is admirably indicated by Mr. Partriege, whose vivid personality and intense and active insistance make him the idol of the Lyceum audience. Great ability is, indeed, demanded by the hero who has to play against such a smart and well-favoured villain as Mr. Eric Mayne's Capt. Rudolph Van Scarsbruck. A great revivalist regretted that "the devil should have all the good times"; and, really, one grudges the Lyceum villains such a handsome representative as Mr. Mayne, who has to do all he knows to make himself properly detestable. Handsome is, however, that handsome does; and, by his strong and vigorous characterisation, Mr. Mayne succeeds, in the end, in rendering the unworthy officer sufficiently hateful. The very way in which he shows his teeth suggests savage aggressiveness; and the thorough blackguardism of the cruel and cynical Captain is as little in doubt as is the complete success of Mr. Mayne's embodiment. There is a sustained animosity about his impersonation which gradually impresses itself on the audience, and helps them to rejoice at his death in the last act. Mr. Ronald Adair as the second, and subordinate scoundrel, suggests with great ability both the want of principle and the weakness of Lieut. Eugene Von Strelsburg, whom he makes not too rascally, but just rascally enough. Mr. Frederick Ross's depiction of the distress of mind of the well-meaning Crown Prince is very natural and sincere, and he has the advantage of looking the character extremely well, embodying it with genuine ease and dignity. Mr. Fred Grove endows Father Gerard with all the necessary clerical unction and amiability; and Miss Valli Valli, in the lightly comic character of Kathie, is both delightfully pretty in appearance and exquisitely arch and dainty in style and manner. Miss Daisy Gwynne is highly dramatic as Rozel, alias Satanella, and her bold bearing and fine figure make her performance of the part very effective and picturesque. Miss Nora Kerin puts a liberal amount of dramatic power into her acting as Princess Astrea Von Strelsburg, her facial expression in some of the more emotional scenes being very impressive, and her delivery of the passionate speeches in which the part abounds having a strength of expression which is worthy of the warmest praise. She wears the uniform of the Red Hussars with confidence, and displays throughout a histrionic ability which deserves, and obtains, the heartiest applause. The three comic soldiers are represented in the most amusing manner. Mr. S. Major Jones is a burly Sergeant Max; Mr. Harry Barford is capital as Corporal Otto; and Mr. Gus Oxley—who has most of the comic "fat"—positively revels in his opportunities for creating fun as Private Bobo. Mr. Wilton James is good as the Sergeant of the Guard; Mr. Edmund Waller does useful and efficient work as Conrad; and Mr. Harold Chapin and Mr. Henry Armstrong are excellent as Troopers Fritz and Ludwig.

The scene at the end of the performance on Saturday, was one of great enthusiasm, bouquets of great size and beauty being handed over the footlights, and an excited demonstration bringing out first the principals, next Mr. Walter Howard, and then Messrs. Smith and Carpenter, the latter of whom, in a few pithy sentences, returned thanks for the reception of the drama, and said that it left no doubt of the success of the experiment of presenting at that historic theatre, first-rate entertainments at prices within the reach of the general public. The speech was received with responsive cheers. We must not forget to praise the admirably complete production of the play by Mr. Carpenter, and Herr Raimund Pechotsch's excellent conducting of the performance, by a really good orchestra, of his cleverly composed incidental music.

SIR SQUIRE BANCROFT'S EARLY MEMORIES.

In the interesting theatrical reminiscences entitled "Mr. and Mrs. Bancroft on and off the Stage," written by themselves and published a few years ago, Sir Squire Bancroft narrates some "early memories" of the London theatres. He writes: "I had been always stage-struck—my toys were little theatres, in which *The Red Rover* and *The Miller and His Men* enjoyed very long runs; while, later on, I would for years read a tragedy in preference to a novel, until I learnt from my mother an adoration for the works of Dickens. All my pocket money was spent at the play, and dramatic books (of which I was a great collector) became my hobby; but the thought of my ever being in truth an actor was looked upon with ridicule.

"During my youth I went greatly to the play, and remember much that I saw. The first glimmer of recollection I retain of amusements is the circus at Astley's, and of pantomimes both there and at the Surrey Theatre. I recall, but only with a child's remembrance, being taken to the Lyceum to see the incomparable Madame Vestris, and living in the fairyland of William Beverley's gorgeous scenery; also to the Strand Theatre (then called Punch's Playhouse) to see that great actor Farren before he left the stage. The play was *The Vicar of Wakefield;* Mrs. Stirling was Olivia, and Leigh Murray also acted in it. Macready I never saw; but I do not forget as a very small boy reading and devouring, with a longing to be present, the bill of his farewell performance. At the same age I can just remember seeing old Madame Tussaud seated at the inner door of the famous Waxwork Exhibition in Baker-street, and comparing the reality with the effigy. Later—for my mind retains much more—I was often at Sadler's Wells Theatre, and saw many of the Phelps productions, several of them over and over again, and I witnessed most of Charles Kean's splendid revivals at the Princess's. At the Adelphi I saw Benjamin Webster, Leigh Murray, Paul Bedford, Miss Woolgar, and Madame Celeste, but—I can't say how it happened—never Wright.

"My memory grows brighter at thoughts of the Olympic, where I was enthralled by an actor whom I shall never forget—Frederick Robson. I saw him very often, and vividly recall his pathos in *The Porter's Knot*, the intensity of his avarice as the old miser, Daddy Hardacre, and his wonderful acting in *Payable on Demand;* to have once seen is never to forget him as the distracted financier, whose fortunes are saved by the news of Waterloo, brought to him by a carrier pigeon, which he ran round the stage embracing and covering with kisses in a way that provoked no smiles, but only loud applause. The power of Robson's acting was as contagious as a fever.

"At the Lyceum I recall Charles Dillon's fine performance in *Belphegor*. I sat that evening by my mother's side, and in the touching scene between the Mountebank and his son we little thought that the pretty girl who had made us cry by her pathetic acting as the boy Henri, in which she first appeared in London, would be my future wife. At the beginning of the new year I saw her for the second time as 'the little fairy at the bottom of the sea' in *Conrad and Medora*. Soon after, at this theatre, I also recollect seeing Helen Faucit (Lady Martin) act Lady Macbeth and Pauline in *The Lady of Lyons*. These were the days when young theatre-goers had little ambition beyond a front seat in the pit: the days when one's toes were trodden on between the acts by horrible women who sold apples, oranges, and ginger-beer; the days when the bill of the play was little better thn a greasy mass of printer's ink on paper nearly two feet long.

"I was present at the Princess's when Charles Kean retired from management. *Henry VIII.* was played, with Kean as Wolsey and Mrs. Kean as Queen Katharine. The night was indeed one to well remember, as was the vast distinguished audience. Kean delivered a farewell managerial address, one point in which I can recall when he said how he had been blamed for mounting this or that play too sumptuously, while on the other hand he was recently scolded for the rudeness and simplicity of the goblets he had used in Macbeth's Banqueting Hall, adding in his own quaint manner, 'it was the first time he ever heard that Macbeth had an eye to King Duncan's plate.' The night was altogether memorable, and even the afterpiece is worth recording, a farce written by Edmund Yates, called *If the Cap Fits*, acted by Walter Lacy, Frank Matthews, and Miss Julia Murray (now the wife of the distinguished reciter, Mr. Samuel Brandram), and last, and then least, for she was only a child, Miss Ellen Terry, who appeared as a dapper little tiger. Charles Kean's great services to the stage were publicly acknowledged at a banquet given in St. James's Hall, Mr. Gladstone, then Chancellor of the Exchequer, who was at Eton with Kean, being among the speakers.

"I mention my going at about this time to the Strand Theatre to see the burlesque on *The Lady of Lyons*, in which Charlotte Saunders and John Clarke were so popular in their personations of the two Napoleons, because there was a little farce called *Captain Charlotte* played on the same night, in which I saw Marie Wilton for the third time (and never again until we met upon the stage); I have no better remembrance of that performance, I am ashamed to say, than the ungallant one of thinking her the thinnest girl I had ever seen.

"The splendid performance of that fine actor Benjamin Webster in *The Dead Heart* is vividly imprinted on my mind, as is also the *première* of *The Overland Route*, at the Haymarket; this comedy I witnessed several times—how amusing it was, and how well played by Charles Mathews and Buckstone, Compton, and Chippendale, Mrs. Charles Mathews, and Mrs. Wilkins. In the autumn of 1860, on one of the early nights of its brilliant career at the Adelphi, I remember my rapture at *The Colleen Bawn;* how well I recall the acting of Mr. and Mrs. Dion Boucicault as Myles-na-Coppaleen and Eily, of Miss Woolgar as Anne Chute, and Edmund Falconer as Danny Mann.

"Without dwelling longer on these recollections, I will mention a very important night when I was among those who greeted that most famous of romantic actors, Charles Fechter, when he played *Ruy Blas* for the first time in English. This was followed soon by a revival of *The Corsican Brothers*, which I also saw produced. The first and second acts, I recollect, were then transposed, as they had been previously played by Fechter in France; the scenes in Paris, where Louis meets Chateau Renaud and is killed, preceding those at Fabian's home in Corsica, where he sees a vision of his brother's death.

"These two delightful evenings shall close this hurried record; with them those early, never-to-be-forgotten visits to the play—those nights that were the balm for many sad and weary days—came for ever to an end. The charm, the mystery, which had hung for years around the playhouse, and chiefly made my dreams, were soon to be dispelled. 'The cloud-capp'd towers, the gorgeous palaces,' were now to be revealed to me in all the barrenness of painted canvas; for, although in a very few days I was again in a theatre, I this time entered it by the stage-door."

THE Barber-Ritchie Trio, a clever troupe of comedy cyclists, will make their reappearance at the Empire next Monday. Mr. Ritchie is well-known as the original "tramp cyclist."

MR. JOHN FULLER, JUN., the young New Zealand manager, is taking a business jaunt through Scotland and Ireland. He returns to London about the middle of July, and then leaves Southampton by the Adriatic for New York on July 31.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE ALHAMBRA.

The possibilities of electricity for producing original stage effects were first tried, we believe, at the Savoy on the production of *Iolanthe*, when the coiffures of the fairies were decked with the brilliant incandescence of tiny bulbs. The Fairy Electricity has waved her wand, too, in the advance that has been made of late years to greater beauty and truth in stage productions of Shakespeare, and the elfin fancies of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* are now commonly portrayed in a manner that realises in two senses the witchery of the Bard. Neither has the variety stage been a laggard in the march of progress, and it is now some years since we saw the first electric ballet at the Oxford. Quite a small affair this, and as an "illuminating" spectacle it is entirely eclipsed by the glories of the new divertissement, entitled *Electra*, produced at the Alhambra on Monday evening. The dances in this have been arranged by the ingenious Signor Alfredo Curti; but what is of more importance is the fact that in the latest novelty presented by Mr. Alfred Moul and Mr. George Scott we are privileged to witness the very latest developments in stage electricity—if we may be allowed to use the phrase—invented and thought out by H. Harndin. A woodland glade—a fit trysting-place for dryads—presents its pretty vista to admiring eyes. It is speedily peopled by the fairies owning the sway of the goddess Electra—represented in dainty fashion by Signorina Morino—who is led on by Cupid. The gossamer-like robes of the dancers become all aglow with light, and their bodices glitter with incandescence. Their firefly head-dresses also assume brilliant hues, and on a darkened picture the pirouetting coryphées look like so many Jack-o'-Lanterns flitting about the stage. A more beautiful effect is obtained when the corsage of each ballerine is suddenly flooded with the scintillating light from a number of tiny bulbs, which have the appearance of a host of sparkling brilliants, which flash and twinkle in bewildering beauty. A dazzling finale is secured by the lowering of a dark curtain spangled with stars, which seem to ascend and descend in a shower. The novelty is one of great beauty and surpassing brilliance, and derives no little of its charm from the music of Mr. George Byng, the Alhambra's *chef d'orchestre*, who later directs his artistic forces in the lively and beautiful "Light Cavalry" overture by Suppé.

The return of the Zancigs revives recollections of the well-engineered press controversy concerning the doings of this remarkable couple, whose various experiments in telling the dates of coins, the numbers of notes, the names on visiting cards, seem to be as inexplicable as ever, though Mr. Zancig is careful to explain that he is there merely "to interest and mystify." This he succeeds in accomplishing completely, the book-reading feat being especially remarkable.

Returning from a triumphant season at La Scala, Milan, comes Signorina Maria Bordin to take up the title-rôle in the beautiful ballet *The Queen of Spades*. This brilliant mistress of pirouette and the *pas bondissant* presents the more scrupulous technique of the Italian school of dancing, which is in the strongest possible contrast to the particular genre adopted by Mlle. Alexia, whose sensational feats borrowed something from the acrobatic art to make them so. Signorina Bordin was most heartily received in her various *pas seuls*, which were full of freedom and grace.

The Urbanora animated pictures embrace some singularly clear films depicting the jumping competitions at the recent horse show at Olympia, with, incidentally, some excellent portraits of the King and Queen and their Royal guests of Denmark. One shout of laughter greets the adventures of the short-sighted cyclist, and there are also some amusing trick films of conjuring feats.

New-comers to the house include the Yiulians Family, in an astounding exhibition of the Risley business; and the Racoczy Sextet of Hungarian ladies. Carl Lynn is an established favourite with his clever imitations of animals; and the Five Whiteleys are most interesting in their acrobatic pot-pourri.

THE CANTERBURY.

A series of comic surprises is in store for those who witness the new extravaganza, *London Suburbia*, by Fred Karno and Leonard F. Durell, which is this week added to the famous Karno répertoire. The delights of the outer metropolis are depicted in two scenes, the first representing a row of villas, with housemaids busy on the doorsteps. A literary gentleman in search of a secluded spot is induced to take a front parlour, but no sooner has he started work than the milkman awakes the echoes with his shrill call, the coal-heaver shouts raucously up and down the street, costers cry their wares incessantly, and passers-by execute acrobatic evolutions over the housemaids' pails until the author is compelled to vacate his apartments. He seeks relief on the first floor, and a scene representing the backs of the same houses is shown. Here the disturbance increases, the neighbours carrying on an animated conversation over the walls, and husbands yelling for their wives to get their meals.

Among the drollest incidents of the back-yard pandemonium is that of a young man who brings out a concertina to play to a couple of rabbits which occupy a hutch in the yard. His performance arouses the neighbours, who appear at their various windows, each provided with a musical instrument, and joining in the playing of the "Zuyder Zee." Eventually there is an outbreak of fire, and the occupants of the burning buildings are forced to make their escape by the windows, a very thrilling scene being the result. Laughter was plentiful on Monday night, when the artists worked indefatigably to ensure success, the chief parts being allotted to Messrs. Jimmy Russell, Geo. Craig, John Doyle, Jack Royal, Sid Chaplin, Fred Whittaker, and Mesdames Amy Forrest, Sarah Doyle, Georgina Royal, Maud Montagu, May Purslow, Hazel Hood, Alma May, Rosie Moran, and Ada Whittaker. The mounting was in Mr. Karno's best style, the flames bursting forth from the burning buildings being very realistic.

Mr. Fred Miller's current programme abounds in interesting turns, the advent of Chirgwin being eagerly awaited. The "White-Eyed Kaffir" is as merry as a cricket, and he chirps his various lays with his customary geniality. Audiences are so well acquainted with his répertoire that they are able to make their own selection, and the popular comedian readily answers to the call of the majority. Howard and St. Clair are the cause of much merriment with their *Any Coke?* sketch, the drollery of the comedian and the vivacity of his fair partner exercising a most agreeable impression. The Two Bostons have the assistance of their sagacious dog, who aids energetically in the comic bull-fight, and the dancing of one of the performers is viewed with admiration. Miss May Belfort invests the refrain "I love you" with charming refinement of voice and style, and also renders a monologue dealing with a tale of Christmas bells impressively. The farcical musical episode *Poor Beggar* introduces Mr. John Le Hay in an artistic impersonation of a mendicant who has innumerable ailments in turn. As a comedian Mr. Le Hay is irresistible, but the audience is fain to pause in their mirth to give a cheer for the snatches of song by which the well-known musical comedy favourite exercises a robust tenor. Miss Rosie Lloyd delights her admirers with a ballad of the affections, and increases their felicity with her popular "Never introduce your bloke to a lady friend," for which she is repeatedly recalled. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope presents excellent pictures, and the bill has contributors also in the popular Miss Millie Lindon, Sanford and Lyons, Miss Esme Gordon, Allis and Cassati, and Mr. Harry Russon.

THE BEDFORD.

The current bill at this popular and most comfortable hall is quite up to the usual standard of excellence, and the programme contains several very excellent turns. Mr. B. P. Lucas is to be complimented on the programmes he puts forward, and with his able manager, Mr. A. F. Lovesey, to help him, he makes everyone welcome and comfortable. The sketch entitled *The Magic Carpet* is presented by Mr. John Warren and company. It is a magical play, and contains several very startling illusions, the chief of which is the disappearance of a lady from the stage when a screen is placed in front of her. She stands on a carpet which is only put down a moment before, and therefore seems impossible to have been arranged in any way. Certainly it is a very clever illusion, and was greatly applauded. Previous to the little sketch Mr. Warren gives some very clever sleight-of-hand tricks, which are accompanied by some very amusing patter on his part. Harry and Ada Meymott appear in a diverting little play, entitled *Semi-Detached*, which tells of the trials of a solicitor who is endeavouring to master the facts of a case while his next-door neighbour wrestles with the piano and sings very much out of tune. Shortly after his client, a very charming lady, appears, and in the end he discovers she is his musical neighbour. However, he finds her so attractive that he proposes and is accepted, and so ends the little trifle. Mr. Harry Meynott is capital as the solicitor, and keeps the house in a roar; while Miss Ada Meymott plays the lady in a very entertaining manner, and they finish off the sketch with a clever medley of popular songs. Altogether it is one of the brightest little things we have seen for some time. Mr. Harry Morgan sings a couple of coon songs in a very finished manner, and adds a short dance which is well executed. McWerne, described as an impressionist, gives some clever impersonations, the cleverest being that of a man who seems to have an endless wardrobe on. His impression of Mr. Arthur Prince, the ventriloquist, is decidedly good. The Sivronis are very entertaining in their vaudeville entertainment, and early in the evening Les Petits Diabolos appear with much success. Curwen and Belle provide a very amusing interlude with their little sketch, *The International Club*, in which the male partner gives some very smart quick-change work, and appears as a German, Frenchman, Lancashire lad, and Scotsman, and creates roars of laughter in his various disguises. Mr. W. H. Downs appears in *The Darkey's Dream*, in which he is assisted by his piccaninnies, and he is accorded a very hearty reception. On the evening of our visit an extra turn was provided, but the name of the artist was not given. He sang two descriptive songs in a most finished manner, which showed off his voice splendidly, and the reception he received must have been most gratifying to the artist. Some very interesting and amusing pictures are shown on the Bioscope, which is quite one of the standing features here, and is always greatly appreciated by the patrons. The programme is brought to a conclusion by the military spectacle, *For England's Glory*, which is of the most stirring description, and is capitally staged. The play is written and produced by W. J. Mackay, who gives a forcible portrayal of Captain Hoffman; while the other characters are capably filled by Messrs. Stuart Lomath, George Edwards, and Miss Ina Alston. The orchestra, under the bâton of Mr. G. R. Hatley, renders the music during the evening, and adds greatly to the enjoyment.

DUCHESS, BALHAM.

The tardy approach of summer is being much appreciated by music-hall managers, the attendances at this cosy hall in particular showing little, if any, signs of falling off. The programme which is being presented this week is exceptionally interesting, and the various items are received with every expression of goodwill. The house is put in an excellent humour early in the evening by Miss Ruby Emmerson, who describes in song "What you must have," and gains great approval. Hayman and Franklin, with their clever cross-talk, are successful in keeping the house in a continuous roar of laughter; they bring their turn to a conclusion with an amusing song, and well earn the applause they receive. A prominent place in the evening's entertainment is taken by Carrie Laurie's Juveniles, who sing and dance in a manner which would do many of their seniors credit. The comedian of the party is very diverting, and a word of praise ought certainly to be given to the little dot in white for her clever singing and dancing.

Miss Lily Lenora, a comedienne with a pleasing voice, sings a number entitled "Under the big umbrella-ella," which is set to pretty music; Miss Lenora brings her turn to a conclusion with some dainty dancing. A very clever and interesting performance is that presented by Lux and his canine assistants; these dogs are almost human in their sagacity, and have been trained to a high pitch of excellence. Carney and Armstrong, a couple of amusing comedians, are doing well with some clever and original work; they have a very effective coon song with a pretty whistling chorus, which is much appreciated. Albert Le Fre is making one of his periodical visits here with his amusing mélange, "That's what you see upon the halls," and is meeting with his usual success; he is a most versatile comedian, and everything he does is accomplished in a thoroughly finished manner.

Herbert Darnley and company are presenting here a skit entitled *The Sandow Girl*. There are two or three amusing songs in it, that entitled "A bit of resin for the bow" being much relished. Another feature of the sketch is some clever dancing by the Rosaire Troupe, who show themselves no mean exponents of the art of Terpsichore. Kitty Glover and company are giving a comedy sketch, entitled *The Pet of the Ballet*, with every sign of success. A capital evening's amusement is brought to a conclusion by some very amusing pictures on the Bioscope, which furnishes one of the brightest and most appreciated items of the evening. The films shown this week are "A Blind Man's Dog" and "Billiards Mad," the latter especially being most laughable. The orchestra keep well together in their overture *El Capitan*, and by their attention to the incidental music contribute in no small measure to the evening's enjoyment. Mr. L. Westcott Hicks, the genial manager, and his assistant, Mr. Arthur F. Vernall, do everything possible for the comfort of their patrons.

EALING HIPPODROME.

The Secretary for War erred greatly when, in his scheme of National Defence, he failed to secure the collaboration of Mr. Will Evans, for to see this popular comedian in his mirth-provoking travesty of the "invasion of 1910," is an object-lesson in military tactics. Laughter accompanies the sketch from the first drawing of the rusty sword to the last shot from the canvas cannon, and the comedian is the object of many recalls. Mr. Leo Tell would be hard to beat in his imitations of many musical instruments. Reproductions of the saxhorn, cornet, and 'cello, the amorous serenades of the midnight "Tom," barking dogs, and neighing horses, all come from the same source, namely, his mouth, and appreciation is showered on the artist from all parts of the house.

Mr. George French presents here his successes, "When I was young a soldier I would be" and "Out of the working-classes," and well sustains his reputation. Miss Ada Martine has a blithe and merry personality that marks her at once as a popular favourite. Her two numbers, "Back to Carolina" and "Sweet English maid" both have a haunting melody that lingers long upon the ear. Associated with a pretty dance Miss Martine's turn is very welcome. Terry and Bentley have some very entertaining cross-talk, the wilful stupidity of the gentleman being well contrasted with the witty repartee of his partner, who, in addition to being a graceful dancer, is a sweet singer, a fact which she proves in her song "I love you, ma cherie."

Mr. Frank Sylvo's manipulation of a number of cigar-boxes is remarkably skilful, while his running accompaniment of jocular comment is particularly funny. Mr. Chas. Whittle, the popular comedian, has two pleasing numbers in "Put me amongst the girls" and "I knew a naughty little boy," which are rendered in finished style. Upon Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope a series of films illustrating "The Indian's Revenge" is presented. Mr. E. W. James has his hands full just at present, two of his chief aids having been transferred to the Duchess at Balham, namely, Mr. L. Westcott Hicks as manager and Mr. Kennedy Russell as musical-director. Both gentlemen were much liked, and their departure is regretted.

THE PARAGON ANNIVERSARY.

The twenty-second anniversary of the re-opening of this palatial house in Mile End was celebrated with a long, strong, and varied entertainment on Friday, June 14, and in celebration of the event the principals of the variety world generously proffered their services, thereby giving the visitors an extra special evening's amusement, which, to judge by the appreciation shown, was thoroughly enjoyed The hall was most tastefully decorated, and the exertions of the popular manager, Mr. Charles Beecham, had much to do with the success. In the lounge many people prominent in the music-hall world assembled; but one well-known form was sadly missed—that of the lamented George Adney Payne, who always took a great interest in the house, which was his first venture in proprietorship.

Mr. H. H. Wells, the new managing-director, in introducing himself to the audience, asked for the continuation of their support, and mentioned that he would do his utmost to provide his patrons with a thoroughly good show week by week. He was in a position to give most of his time to the direction of the theatre and to making any improvement. He proposed altering, at the earliest convenient moment, the seating accommodation of the balcony, with the object of giving the patrons thereof greater comfort.

Amongst the many items of the entertainment Mr. Bert Wickham, the Welsh Hercules, was prominent with feats of strength, including the stopping of the progress of two eight horse-power motor-cars when going at full speed. The Brothers Griffiths, in their wrestling skit, caused roars of laughter; Miss Ghita Corri sang beautifully "Come back to Erin," her rich voice and distinct articulation gaining for her the most enthusiastic applause; and De Vry's statuary act included some cleverly-arranged groups, the one most popular being "Patriotic Allegory." Among the comic singers Mr. Dion Wade rendered in droll style "Wouldn't you be better in a home?" and for an encore gave a wonderful impersonation of Mr. George Robey. Mr. Andie Burne gave his "Broken-down Masher," and finished with a clever dance. Miss Lucy Weston, looking pretty in a tasteful gown, sang delicately her "Guide-Book" song, which refers to a country mother's advice to a daughter who is visiting London. Messrs. Marcel and Boris, extraordinary equilibrists, were seen to advantage in some wonderfully neat and clever business. Baby Baker, a tiny mite, gave a coon song. Miss Annie Purcell introduced a number, "In the valleys of Switzerland," which bids fair to achieve as great a popularity as her "Zuyder Zee." It has a pretty melody, and a simple refrain that is easily caught up.

Mr. John Lawson's sketch, *Youth and Folly*, which was played instead of *The Unwritten Law*, to suit the requirements of the L.C.C., deals with a certain rich Jack Graham, who is in love with and loved by a pretty young married lady, the wife of the villain. Their marriage not being legal, the lovers are in a position to marry; and the runaway match is presented by a series of films shown on the Bioscope. In the last scene—a Continental theatre—there is a stage, on which four ladies execute a neat little dance. At one of the tables, seated, is the villain with his friends. The newly-married couple arrive, and in an altercation between the husbands concerning the wife's honour chairs are thrown about, and the first husband is shot dead, thus ending the troubles of *Youth and Folly*.

Amongst others who appeared were Messrs. Frank Leon, Tom Woottwell, Clito Clifford, Ray and Darwin, Woolmer Young, Conway and Leland, Chirgwin, Kathleen Gray, Amy Cooper, Sandford and Lyons, Baby Mills, the Lavels, Percy Clifton, Lilian Lea, Five Starlights, A. G. Spry, Harry Harris, Miss Di Sylva, Jennie Alexandra, Alexandra Dagmar, Boyd and Gilfain, and Gilbert Girard (in some clever impersonations of animals).

MR. W. B. FAIR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Not for the want of energy nor for lack of activity (although I am fifty-seven, and am one of the few surviving music hall and pantomime artists who were popular thirty-five years ago), I have had one more check at the hands of Dame Fortune. It is only a little over a year ago that I embarked upon a business in which I and my friends had the greatest confidence, and that promised to give me occupation and sufficient earnings to provide me with all I needed until the end of my life.

I have received considerable assistance from my old friends during the time that I was making this commercial effort, and I also threw into it the whole of the small capital I was able to command from family sources.

The speculation to which I refer, and which is described upon enclosed card, unfortunately turned out a complete failure, and I lost my little all. Consequently, I am at the present moment stranded, and have no alternative but to appeal to the good feeling which has always been extended to me by the Press, public, and my brother artists to assist me at a proposed benefit which will take place at an early date at the Town Hall, Holborn. I should be very pleased if you could find room for a few lines in the columns of your valuable paper to ask those artists who would be willing to assist to send in their names to Mr. Alf. Abrahams, 42, Wellington-street, Strand, secretary *pro. tem.*—Yours faithfully,

W. B. FAIR.

16, Barnsbury Park, N., June 21, 1907.

[Mr. W. B. Fair, the original singer of "Tommy make room for your uncle," was at one time proprietor of the Winchester Music Hall, and was connected with the East London Theatre in 1872, when George Leybourne had it.]

THE Brothers Obo on Friday, the 14th inst., had some fine sport with rod and line in the Severn at Worcester. Jim Obo hooked and landed a fine chub, which turned the scale at 1lb. 8oz., and before the excitement had subsided Ben Obo hooked—and, after about ten minutes' struggle, landed—a splendid bream weighing exactly 5lb. They would like to know if this weigh has been beaten by any of their brother artists. Fred Craig (of Craig, Rose, and Craig), who was fishing with them at the time, did not have the same luck.

THE Belfast gallery boys have a fondness for the best Scotch, and they get it from Frame. After he had given them half a dozen wee Scotch songs at the Alhambra Theatre in Linenopolis last week they asked for more.

ON THE ROAD, JUNE 24.

ALL-OF-A-SUDDEN PEGGY.—Victoria T., Ramsgate.
AN UNWEDDED WIFE.—T. R., Aston.
AT THE WORLD'S MERCY.—T. R., Swansea.
BETWEEN THE LIGHTS.—Grand T., Nottingham.
BOOTLES' BABY.—Londesboro Theatre, Scarboro'.
BRANDED WOMAN.—Hippodrome, Mansfield.
DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY.—T. R., Rochdale.
EVE OF HER WEDDING.—T. R., Scarborough.
FIGHT FOR MILLIONS.—Star T., Liverpool.
GIRL FROM JAPAN.—T. R., Rochdale.
GUILTY GOLD.—Burnley.
HER MARRIAGE VOW.—Crown T., Peckham.
HER ONE GREAT SIN.—Grand T., Hull.
HIS SISTER'S HONOUR.—T. R., Ashton.
HONOUR THY FATHER.—T. R., Leicester.
HOUR OF HER TRIUMPH.—Alexandra T., Hull.
IAN MACLAREN.—T. R., Portsmouth.
IDLER, THE.—P. O. W., Grimsby.
IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST.—King's T., Glasgow.
LA COMEDIE ANGLAISE.—Silloth and Haltwhistle.
LITTLE BREADWINNER.—Chatham.
LITTLE VAGRANTS.—Court T., Wigan.
MAN'S ENEMY.—T. R., Jarrow.
MANXMAN.—T. R., Bristol.
NEW BOY.—Palace T., Brighton.
NEW WORLD.—Cambridge T., Spennymoor.
OCTOROON (THORN).—Theatre Royal, S. Shields.
PICK OF THE BUNCH.—King's T., Sunderland.
PRICE OF HER SOUL.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
PRODIGAL PARSON.—Prince's T., Bradford.
ROYAL DIVORCE.—T. R., Lincoln.
SHULAMITE.—Winter Gardens, Blackpool.
SIN OF HER CHILDHOOD.—T. R., Croydon.
STOLEN BIRTHRIGHT.—T. R., Birkenhead.
STOWAWAY, THE.—East Oxford T., Oxford.
THE WOMAN PAYS.—T. R., South Shields.
TOMMY.—Worthing and Bognor.
TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS.—County T., Kingston.
TRIUMPH OF TRUTH.—T. R., Blyth.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN.—O. H., Coventry.
UNDER THE RUSSIAN FLAG.—T. R., Merthyr Tydvil.
WHEN A MAN HATES.—T. R., Stratford.
WHEN IT WAS DARK.—Crown T., Peckham.
WHEN THE LIGHTS ARE LOW.—Grand T., Bolton.
WILKIE, ALLAN, AND CO.—Theatre Royal, York.
WOMAN FROM SCOTLAND YARD.—T. R., Sheffield.
WOMAN'S PAST.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
WOMAN WORTH WINNING.—Grand T., Byker.
WRECKER OF MEN.—Prince's T., Preston.
£1000 REWARD.—T. R., Stockport.

"THE CRUISE OF H.M.S. VICTORY."

Written by Miss Flo Stanley,
Music by Harry Petersen, Produced at the Walthamstow Palace, June 17.

Lord Teasum .....MR. BOB LEARDO
Dick Hatchway .....MR. HARRY WATSON
Trotter .....MR. JOE BURLY
Lady Teasum .....MISS NELLIE GRANT
Polly .....MISS FLO STANLEY
Jack Marlinspike .....MR. ARTHUR WATSON

Although this bright and amusing musical comedy sketch is not exactly new, it has been so greatly improved in many respects since its first production as to lay claim to something more than passing notice. In setting herself to write a musical comedy the performance of which would not extend beyond the time-limit of the variety theatre stage, Miss Flo Stanley was confronted with a task of no little difficulty; but the young authoress has entirely succeeded. She had a good story to start with in the mutual jealousies of Lord Teasum, the Admiral of the Fleet, and his wife, a lady who apparently would stand no nonsense; and she has wound this into an interesting plot, which partly revolves round the search for a long-lost niece of Lady Teasum's, a "young person" who is entitled to a fabulous fortune. Matters are complicated by a brace of devil-may-care sailors who write bogus letters to the opposing parties, and thereby set them by the ears. Lord and Lady Teasum each engages one of the "salts" to act as a sort of private detective, and try to find out what is politely called "incriminating evidence." After many wild doings on board the Victory matters are satisfactorily cleared up, Lord and Lady Teasum forgive each other, and Polly is acknowledged as the hitherto missing heiress, and all ends merrily. The little play, the plot of which is lucidly set forth, is written in crisp, telling duologue, containing not a few clever lines; the lyrics are graceful, and set to catching music by Mr. H. Petersen.

The company engaged in the interpretation of *The Cruise of H.M.S. Victory* has been carefully selected, and all work hard to secure success. Mr. Arthur Watson as Jack Marlingspike, on whose shoulders fall the principal duties, is the life and soul of the play, acting with immense humour throughout, singing his share of the music admirably, and dancing with grace and dexterity. Mr. Watson is received as a first favourite the moment he appears, and wins easily at the finish. The chief is capitally supported. Miss Flo Stanley, looking bewitching, plays with neatness and animation, her saucy sprightliness being exactly suited to the rôle of the pretty waitress who turns out to be so "well-connected." Mr. Bob Leardo, looking every inch an admiral in his handsome uniform, plays with spirit, and sings "Jack's the boy for work" with great gusto. Mr. Harry Watson is good as Dick Hatchway; Mr. Joe Burly is excellent as Trotter, a waiter; Messrs. Ted Shepperd, Geo. Bailey, Arthur King, and Tom Murphy efficiently fill up the canvas. Miss Nellie Grant is a very fine Lady Teasum, handsome on the most liberal scale, and speaking with the most refreshing emphasis. The pretty waitresses are represented by Misses Gracie Dudley, Hettie Harrison, Lillie Dudley, Daisy Dudley, Katie Marsh, and Rosie Sprightly. Some pretty dancing is supplied by Lottie Stone's troupe. The piece is splendily staged, the first set representing Portsmouth Harbour with warship in the offing; and the final scene, On Board H.M.S. Victory, being both artistic and realistic. The dresses are handsome and appropriate, and all the appointments thoroughly in keeping.

ONE of the chief events of the season, and one to be looked forward to with much pleasure and interest, is a Grand Fête Garden Party and Carnival, given by the Variety Artists' Federation at the White City, Old Trafford, Manchester, on Thursday next (Federation Day), the proceeds of which are to be divided between the Federation, the Music Hall Home, and the Music Hall Benevolent Fund. The White City has made extensive preparations, and has generously given one-half of the entire receipts to this good cause. All the leading artists in Manchester and those performing within a radius of sixty miles have consented to appear, enabling the committee to present one of the largest and most complete bills possible. Amongst the entertainers are Marie Loftus, the Poluskis, Miss Agnes Molteno, Donaldson Brothers and Ardell, the Voises, and Miss Harriett Vernon, with others too numerous to mention—in all some 300 artists. In the evening will be held a monster masquerade carnival, at which over £50 in prizes will be distributed. A conspicuous feature of this will be the parade, which will be participated in by over 500 persons, accompanied by five different bands.

IN the action, Wade *v.* Selby, George Robey sought to set aside a promissory note for £650, and the matter was settled by the defendant, a money-lender, agreeing to accept £50 as the balance due to him and the cancellation of the note.

(*For other Variety Notices see pages* 19 *and* 22.)

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

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All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

ALIDA (Regent's Park).—*Stormbeaten, the late Robert Buchanan's adaptation of his own powerful novel of "God and the Man," was produced at the Adelphi on March 14, 1883, Mr. Charles Warner played the part of Christian Christiansen. The piece was also played at the Pavilion Theatre, Mile End, with Mr. Edmund Tearle in Mr. Warner's part.*

J. BERTRAM (Wimbledon).—*An important revival of* Wild Oats, *the comedy by O'Keefe, was that presented at the Criterion by Sir (then Mr.) Charles Wyndham on May 29, 1886, when he played the part of the generous, careless adventurer Rover. The popular actor just previously had been christened the "electric-light comedian" by no less an authority on acting than the late Mr. Howard Paul.*

ERNEST.—*Charles Godfrey (Paul Lacey), the actor-vocalist, died on March 28, 1900, at Brierley Hill, Staffordshire, where he is buried. His wife predeceased him.*

G B. JONES (Grimsby).—*We regret that we cannot supply you with the information; but a letter to the courteous Mr. W. Lestocq (Mr. Charles Frohman's manager), c/o Hicks Theatre, Shaftesbury-avenue, London, W.C., will enable you to obtain the information you desire.*

FABIEN.—*It would be impossible to give you here a resumé of the law on this wide subject. We advise you to get Strong's "Dramatic and Musical Law," published at this office, price 3s. 6d. It deals thoroughly with the matter.*

H. INGHAM.—*Miss Kate Bishop was the original Violet Melrose on the production of* Our Boys *at the Vaudeville by the James and Thorne management on Jan. 25, 1871. She is now playing Lady Pontefract in* A Woman of No Importance *at His Majesty's. Her daughter, Miss Marie Lohr, who has made a most successful début at the Haymarket in the title-rôle of* My Wife, *bids fair to follow in her accomplished mother's footsteps.*

F. G. BANKS.—*The artistic career of Mr. Martin Harvey—who began his experience on the boards with Sir Henry Irving—even if summarised, would be too long for this column. You will find probably all that you require in "The Green Room Book; or, Who's Who on the Stage," published by T. Sealey Clark and Co., Limited, 1, Racquet-court, Fleet-street, E.C.*

LEONARD GATES.—*There is an undoubted market for coon songs. It does not matter about them being orchestrated, as new numbers, when submitted to artists, almost invariably have nothing more than a pianoforte score. An advertisement in our columns is most likely to help you. You might also write and send the coon numbers to Mr. G. H. Elliott, the "chocolate-coloured coon," care of "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C., stating that you have the songs, and offering them for his perusal. It would be best to offer only singing rights. If the numbers should be successful, the publishing would follow as a matter of course, and you would share the rights. As to the waltzes, galops, and other compositions, you might write to Francis, Day, and Hunter, music publishers, 142, Charing Cross-road, W.C.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a Birth or Death or an "In Memoriam" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is One Shilling and Sixpence, every additional word One Penny.

The charge for a notice of Marriage, not exceeding forty words, is Two Shillings and Sixpence, every additional word One Penny.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

PRAGNELL.—June 16, at 51, Elaine-street, Liverpool, the wife of Mr. L. Barrett Pragnell, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

CAREY—LACEY.—On Thursday, June 20, at St. Marylebone Church, W., by the Rev. H. Saunders, Charles Carey to Madge Lacey.

HAMILTON—MERTON.—June 11, before the Registrar, at Strand District Office, Robert T. Hamilton to Kathleen Merton (Mervyne).

NOAKES—BOSWELL.—June 16, at Christ Church, Eastbourne, Richard John Noakes, of the Hippodrome, Eastbourne, to Mary Ann Boswell.

DEATHS.

BLACKWOOD.—On May 28, at 24, Lloyd-square, W.C., suddenly of paralysis, Miss Virginia Blackwood (Mrs. G. Murry Wood). American papers please copy.

ENGLISH.—June 15, at the Epsom Infirmary, George Griffiths English, aged 38.

LEWIS.—On June 15, at her residence, 186, New Kent-road, suddenly, of syncope, Jane, the beloved mother of Maude Vena.
Rest in peace, my dearest.

WOOD.—May 28, of paralysis, Mrs. G. Murray Wood (Miss Virginia Blackwood), actress.

IN MEMORIAM.

FREDERICKS.—In loving memory of Albert Fredericks, of the Stratford Theatres, who departed this life June 26, 1901. R.I.P.

HARRIS.—In dearest remembrance of Augustus Henry Glossop Harris, who passed away at Folkestone, June 22, 1896, age 44.

LAUCK.—In loving memory of my dear husband, Pierre H. Lauck, American gymnast, of St. Louis, Mo., U.S.A., died June 26, 1899. Ever remembered by his devoted wife, ROSE LAUCK.

MR. JOHN WILLS and Miss Bessie Mackenzie, operatic duettists, will make their first appearance in vaudeville on Monday next at the Hippodrome, Huddersfield. Miss Mackenzie will be remembered in connection with the D'Oyly Carte Principal Répertoire Opera Co., in which she played, while under Mrs. Carte's management, nineteen parts, including the prima-donna rôles. Miss Mackenzie also interpreted the rôles of Madamoiselle Herpin and Madame du Terterre in *The Little Michus*, under Mr. George Dance's management. Mr. John Wills has been for many years with Mrs. Carte, and has appeared with success for Mr. Fred Billington. The business arrangements of the turn are in the hands of Messrs. G. and F. Peel.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

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Barker, Mrs. A.
Barlow, Miss B.
Bartlett, Miss Rose
Bastow, Mr. George
Bathurst, Mr. Pat
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Bickford, Mr. M.
Biresleyn, Miss E.
Blair, Mr Athol
Bond, Mr. Acton
Boswell, Mr. J.
Brett, Mr. Edwin
Brooke, Mrs. E. H.
Burdett, Mr. Frank B.
Cadell, Mrs. Nellie
Campbell, Miss A. E.
Caris, Mr. Jack
Cariss, Miss
Carmen, Mr. Harry
"Carrie"
Carsoll, Mr. J. P.
Cassello, Madame
Chattell, Mr. Henry
Chipperfield, Mr. J. W.
Clements, Mr. W. L.
Clyatt, Mr. C.
Cody, Mr. W. F.
Coleman, Miss Amy
Collins, Mr. Alf
Corner, Mr. Harry
Courtnedge, Mr. Robert
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Dagnall, Mr. E.
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D'Alberg, Miss Rose
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Dalton, Mr. Will
Daly, Mr. Brian
Danby, Mr. F.
Danby, Mr. Gus
Dartrey, Mr. R.
De Roy, Miss Daisy
De Wynne, Mr. C.
Dobler, Mr. George
Doreen, Miss Lillian
Ellery, Mr. John
Elliott, Mr. J.
Elton, Mrs. Fred
Elvo, Mr. Jim
Emilon, Mr. Alfred
England, Miss D.
English, Mr. Will
Farren, Mr. Arthur
Felix, Miss Lizzie
Florrias, The
Foldi, Miss I.
Fortescue, Miss (Actress)
Fuller, Miss Louie
Gates, Mr. Bob
Ginnett, Mr. F.
Godfrey, Mr. Arthur
Godwin, Mr. Will
Graham, Mr. B.
Grant, Mr. Wm. F.
Greenhouse, Miss Marie
Grieg, Mr. F. St. John
Griffiths, Mr. J. Phillips
Haddon, Miss B.
Handel, Miss Zette
Harding, Mr. M. C.
Harrison, Mr. Fredk.
Harvey, Mr. Alf
Herman, Mr. Phil
Hill, Miss J.
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Hope, Mr. Francis
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James, Mr. Sydney
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Knights, Mr. A.
Kreamer, Mr. George
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Marms, Miss Ada
Martin, Mr. Philip
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Monermann, Otto
Money, Mr. Andrew
Moore, Miss Carrie
Moore, Mr. Marshall
Morton, Miss E.
Moseley, Mr. W. G.
Mount, Mr. Chas.
Neilson, Mr. H. V.
Newton, Mr. John A.
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Nolan, Mr. M.
Norman, Mr. A. W.
Norman V. Norman, Mr
Oates, Miss Lillian
Oliver, Mr. J. C.
Orchid, Mr. Harry
Osborne, Mr. Will
Pattersons, Mr. B.
Permain, Mr. F. W.
Power, Mr. Chas.
Raby, Miss Mary
Raby, Mr.
Race, Mr. Leslie
Radford, Mr. F. J.
Rafferty, Mr. Pat
Ralph, Mr. C. E.
Redmond, Mrs. M.
Revell, Mr. Harry
Revy, Miss Aurelie
Roberts, Mr. R. A.
Rose-Hessee, Mme.
Rossitor, Miss Nancy
Royce, Mr.
Roxbury, Mr. Harry
Ruggles, Miss Annie
Sages, The
Schubert, Miss Florence
Scott, Mr. C. Wilkinson
Sealby, Miss Mabel
Sedgwick, Mr.
Sedgwick, Mr. William
Selbo
Sevening, Miss Nina
Sidney, Mr. Ben
Smith, Mr. Wellesley
Snow, Miss Ellen
Stanley, Mr. J. Briant
Starbuck, Mrs.
Stather, Mr. Herbert
Stoodley, Miss Ida
Storey, Miss S.
Stratton, Miss Daisy
Sylvester, Mr.
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Ware, Mr. Ernest
Warren, Miss L.
Warwick, Mr. B.
Weaver, Mr. Willie
Whallen, Mr. Mike S.
White, Mr. W. J.
Whyte, Mr. Karl
Willford, Mr. Paul
Williams, Mr. J.
Williamson, Miss Maud
Wood, Miss Dora
Zenora

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Arthur Bourchier—Saturday, June 22.
Paul Martinetti—Saturday, June 22.
Martin Harvey—Saturday, June 22.
H. Rider Haggard—Saturday, June 22.
Cora Duncan—Saturday, June 22.
Carlotta Zerbini—Saturday, June 22.
Geraldine Ulmar—Sunday, June 23.
Maud Valerie White—Sunday, June 23.
Ben De Frece—Sunday, June 23.
H. W. Wieland—Sunday, June 23.
John Cassidy—Monday, June 24.
Fred Mulvey—Monday, June 24.
Gwendolen Floyd—Monday, June 24.
A. G. Spry—Monday, June 24.
John La Martine—Monday, June 24.
Sydney Paxton—Tuesday, June 25
J. G. Grahame, jun.—Tuesday, June 25.
Cecil Klein—Tuesday, June 25.
Ben Nathan—Wednesday, June 26
May Moore Duprez—Wednesday, June 26.
Trixie Gilfain—Wednesday, June 26.
Georgina Preston—Thursday, June 27.
Norman Wrighton—Thursday, June 27
C. Onda—Thursday, June 27.
Ciss Smythson—Thursday, June 27.
Celestine Bertram—Thursday, June 27.
Slade Murray—Friday, June 28.
Ethel Bracewell—Friday, June 28
George Abel—Friday, June 28.
Madge Carr—Friday, June 28.
G. M. Polini—Friday, June 28.

MR. WILL LENNOX, who has just produced *The Burglar's Extra Turn* so successfully, relates an amusing experience which happened to him one night while he was working the West London. In his character of the burglar he naturally donned suitable clothes, and to save changing at the theatre he wore these under a light overcoat. On the occasion in question he went off to visit some friends when he left the theatre. These friends occupied a ground floor flat in a quiet and select district. Lennox duly rang the bell, and knocked at the door, but could get no answer.

NEVER fastening their windows in the daytime, his friends obtained entrance in that way when they had forgotten to take a key, so "the burglar" adopted the same device, and taking off his overcoat began to raise gently one of the windows. Having succeeded so far, he climbed on to the sill, and was about to enter, when he felt himself roughly seized, and a deep voice said, "So, my lad, we've got you at last. Come out of it!" Lennox was horrified to see a burly constable glaring at him, and hastened to offer an explanation, but his attire did not assist matters, and the officer insisted upon taking him to the station. On the road, however, one of the "burglar's" friends happened to come towards them, but it took a long time and a big tip to satisfy the policeman that he had not made an error.

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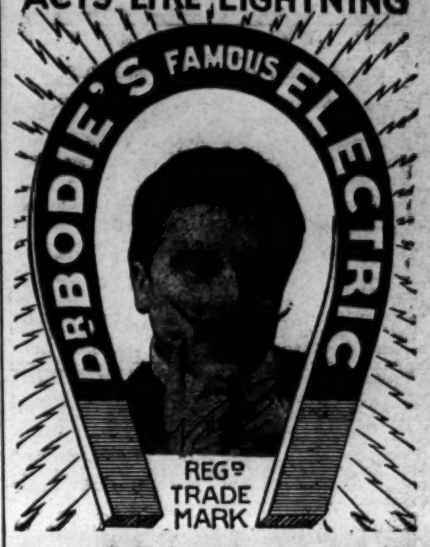

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
"The Era" Annual for 1907 is out, published from the offices of "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, W.C. It is the usual complete record of doings in theatreland during the past year, and possesses a live interest in the number of excellent personal contributions by well-known managers, authors, actors, and actresses of the day.—*Sportsman*, Jan. 22, 1907.

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Artists are notified that they must send their full Bill Matter in two clear weeks before opening. Rehearsal, 1 o'clock Mondays. All must attend. Artists not complying with the above rules are subject to having their contracts cancelled at option of Management.

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
"The Era" Dramatic and Musical Annual for 1907 will be cordially welcomed by the profession, as well as by all who are interested in the modern theatre and concert-hall. It contains some racy little sketches by Miss Ellen Terry, Miss Pollie Emery, Mr. Charles Collette, and other well-known artists; much useful information and many illustrations.—Leicester Daily Post, Jan. 23, 1907.

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, JUNE 22, 1907.

MR. ASKWITH'S AWARD.

The work done by *The Era* in placing at the service of the profession the full text of the Arbitrator's Award in the matter of the music-hall managers and the variety profession four days before it appeared in any other paper has met with genuine and general appreciation; and we reprint it this week, with the addition of the very interesting "interim awards" which were given in the spring of this year. Applications for copies of the full text were numerous last week; and congratulations have reached us on all sides, including a most gracious letter from the Arbitrator himself.

We do not propose to deal *seriatim* with the details of the award. We present our readers with the full text, and they are quite capable of examining it and analysing it for themselves. As they will see by letters which we print on another page, prominent managers like Mr. HENRY TOZER and Mr. OSWALD STOLL have expressed themselves as satisfied with the result; and that the artists' reception should be equally cordial is proved by the *dicta* of such representative men as Mr. JOE O'GORMAN, Mr. WAL PINK, and Mr. ALBERT VOYCE. Indeed, the Award is full of important concessions to the artists, among which we need only mention the clauses which ordain that any extension, prolongation, or renewal of an engagement will not be subject to the terms and conditions embraced by the original contract, but to the terms and conditions of the Award; that any music-hall which decides to add to the present number of its matinées will be called upon to pay for each and every additional matinée; that the manager must notify each artist as to his or her "times" on or before Friday in the week previous to opening, and no manager may vary those "times" after the said Friday, except by mutual arrangement; that all matinées are to be paid for at the rate of one-seventh in all one-show-a-night houses, and at one-twelfth in all two-shows-a-night houses; that no manager will be allowed to bar an artist after the expiration of an engagement for more than two weeks; and that every artist working at "turn" money, and whose salary for working two halls, concurrently, is less than £40 per week, will not be barred more than one mile in the West End, and not for a longer period than four months. On the very difficult "barring question" it was humanly impossible to find a decision which would not be open to criticism; but we hope that Mr. ASKWITH'S Award on this point will be found, if loyally construed and carried out, practical and workable.

An award in arbitration is not an Act of Parliament, and can never have the force of law. Its power lies entirely in the loyal observance of its clauses by the parties concerned. It must be remembered that this arbitration was not adopted until thousands of pounds had been spent in the attempt to settle matters by actual warfare. The recourse to arbitration was an acknowledgment by both sides that the combat had been carried on long enough, and that some compromise was demanded by both sides as the only solution of the difficulty. It would be easy enough to pick holes in the award, to point out difficulties that may arise and complications that may ensue. But if it is in this spirit that the patient and thoughtful labours of Mr. ASKWITH are to be received; if, now that the bitter feelings which were naturally excited during the recent struggle have subsided, they are to be renewed, we may well ask ourselves "Why was the resort made to arbitration?" No award, however ably and carefully prepared, can possibly satisfy both parties in a dispute. But, by the very fact of resorting to arbitration, the combatants acknowledge that they have failed to settle the points at issue by actual fighting. Either a war must be carried on till, as BISMARCK put it, one of the two combatants is "bled to the white"; or some form of compromise must be adopted. No one will deny that Mr. ASKWITH has done his work thoroughly. He is absolutely disinterested personally in the matter; and he has examined over one hundred witnesses at twenty-three formal sittings. The mere labour of digesting the technical information thus obtained must have been great. It is hardly possible that the Award should not contain points for carping criticism. But we hold those the worst enemies of the variety profession as a whole who, now that there seems to be every prospect of a period at least of peace, stir up the ill-feeling which has happily subsided, and, either indiscreetly or for merely interested motives, endeavour to create dissatisfaction and sow dissension between manager and artist. Let us, at any rate, give the Award a chance. Let us give it a trial before we condemn it. Instead of suggesting difficulties in its working, let us try to facilitate its operation. As we have said, the Award is not law, nor will it be illegal to modify any details of the most useful form of contract which it supplies to managers and artists. The Award is simply a basis of agreement, a fundamental Charter, an attempt to supply a compromise between the lately contending parties in the recent great and costly strike. When the matter was placed in Mr. ASKWITH'S hands, it was with the obvious assumption that his decision would be loyally accepted. That this spirit will prevail with the vast number of members of the profession may be inferred from the tone of the meeting at the Camberwell Empire on Sunday evening, when a vote of thanks to the Arbitrator was passed with acclamation.

"A LITTLE TYRANT."

Sketch, in One Scene, by Lewis Gilbert,
Produced at the Middlesex Music Hall on Monday, June 17.

Lord Hartbourne .....MR. LEWIS GILBERT
Eric .....MISS FLORRIE GREEN
Fairy .....MISS DOLLY SWIFT
Harris .....MR. E. P. DURHAM

A simple story, filled with wholesome sentiment, and not without an element of humour, is furnished in the new sketch, which is delighting the exacting audiences at the Middlesex this week. Little Eric, the adopted son and heir of Lord Hartbourne, exercises a gentle yet firm influence over his indulgent foster-parent, who is ready to grant his every request. Through the drawing-room window the boy hears a little girl singing in the street, and, moved by her indigent appearance, he orders the footman to bring her in and give her food. Lord Hartbourne is indignant at Eric admitting such a disreputable-looking child into his house, but Eric pleads so effectually that his lordship relents. The girl tells a pitiable tale of a mother dying of starvation in a garret, and, casting her eyes on a picture of a young lady which ornaments the mantelshelf, she recognises in it the portrait of her parent. Lord Hartbourne realises that the child is the offspring of his own daughter, whom years before he had turned from his house on account of her marrying beneath her, and determines to restore her to her parental home.

The success which the little play secured was due, in an important measure, to Miss Florrie Green, who acted the part of the boy with delicacy and charm. She quite captivated the hearts of the Middlesex audience, who listened with infinite relish to the speeches rendered with childish sagacity by the lad. Mr. Lewis Gilbert made a stately and dignified Earl, and acted impressively, forming an effective contrast to the boyish impulsiveness of Eric. The dignified footman of Mr. E. P. Durham was also a useful performance. The sketch, which comes at an early period of the evening, was loudly applauded.

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SKETCHES AT THE LONDON PAVILION.

"THE PEACEMAKER."

Wife .....MISS MARIAN MATHEY
Maid .....MISS BEATRICE WEBB
Uncle .....MR. ALFRED WELLESLEY
Husband .....MR. W. T. ELLWANGER

A genuine success is being scored at the favourite variety house in Piccadilly-circus by this capitally conceived and amusing sketch, cleverly played by a company, in which the author, Mr. W. T. Ellwanger has a part. Uncles in farces are almost invariably associated with droll situations, often compromising to their dignity, but more often eloquent of their kindliness of heart. Sometimes they play the tyrant, but generally they are burdened with giving advice to all and sundry. The uncle in Mr. Ellwanger's trifle obtains his title by his well-meaning efforts to restore harmony between a husband and wife who have just returned from a motor ride, accompanied by uncle. This praiseworthy old soul, on the departure of the wife, turns up, and taking in the situation, exhorts his nephew (the husband) never to argue with a woman. Man, superior man, only lowers his status when he does so. When the husband has gone to the club our avuncular Solon offers precisely similar counsel to the wife, and between whiles indulges in fits, from which he recovers by the aid of brandy. There is room for doubt on this point, however, as again does his ta'e to the wife concerning his ailment differ from that told to the husband. After a series of droll situations the young couple become reconciled "on their own," and uncle consoles himself with copious doses from the brandy bottle. Mr. Alfred Wellesley, who reminds us occasionally of the late W. J. Hill and Stewart Dawson, presents an entirely clever and consistent study of the uncle, obtaining his effects by quiet and unforced drollery. Mr. W. T. Ellwanger does all that is necessary for the part of the husband; and as the wife Miss Marian Mathey manages to score. Miss Beatrice Webb does useful work as the maid.

A pretty little novelty is that entitled *The Maid and the Moon*, ingeniously and elaborately mounted by Mr. Frank Glenister, who has done justice in his scenery and effects to a fanciful idea. In a woodland glade sings a maid in the moonlight. The inconstant planet has more fascination for her apparently than for the Veronese maiden Juliet; and when a real face appears the serenader wonders what will happen. By an arrangement that argues considerable ingenuity, the moon glides from the sky-line towards earth, increasing in size as it descends until, on reaching the ground, it becomes a huge luminous orb, from which the boy steps to have a duet with the maid. The boy after warning the maid of the watching propensities of the queen of night, enters his moon again, and it sails upwards, diminishing in size as it goes. The effect is watched with much interest, and is charming. The trifle is prettily played by the Misses Hopkins.

Jack and Evelyn are responsible for much laughter in their comedy act, "Come into the Office"—an amusing gag which invariably quickens mirth. Mr. Jack must, however, be careful about his meat-juice wheezes: they are perfectly proper, of course, but scarcely judicious. Miss José Collins scores a success with her pretty song, "My Tiny Firefly"; Miss Kitty Gordon sings a new butterfly song in a dress of rare beauty; and Malcolm Scott appears with success as "Nell Gwynne," who certainly set the fashion of mothering the aristocracy. Mr. George Mozart's clarionet playing in "The Mudlark Village Band" is the most comical thing we have heard for some time. To the bassoon belongs the traditional honour of being the "comedian" of the orchestra: Mr. Mozart has changed all that; for after hearing him one is disposed to say that the clarionet now takes pride of place as a laughter-maker; but, then, it must be in the hands of a comedian! Miss Mabel Sinclair, the lady ventriloquist, has returned to this house after a most successful tour in America. The experience gained on the other side has been of considerable advantage to this clever girl, whose performance is as skilful in its technique as it is ingenious in its conception. Mr. Albert Whelan, the artistic mimic; Mr. Chris Richards, the eccentric dancer; Mr. T. E. Dunville, with his burlesque policeman song; Mr. Gilbert Girard, animal imitator; the Fitzroys, Miss Alice Lawton, the Harmony Four, Mr. Harry Morgan, and Major Newell are among other attractions.

CHELSEA PALACE.

The high level of excellence always associated with Mr. Gros' cosy hall at Chelsea is well maintained in the current bill, which has been delighting crowded and appreciative audiences. Mr. T. E. Dunville has a large following in the citadel, and his admirers scrutinise each action closely, and hang upon every word. The result is found in roars of laughter, devoted in equal proportion to his song, "That's extra," and to his diverting impersonation of a policeman. Mr. Tom Costello is in the current programme, but on the night of our visit his place was taken by Mr. Lloyd Morgan, a comedian and vocalist with a breezy style. He found immediate favour with his first song, but his popularity was greatly increased by his second effusion, which may be described as "capital," seeing that it dealt with the initial letters of proper nouns. The song takes a topical turn, and in the last verse felicitous reference was made to Mr. Norman Berlin, the manager, to Mr. Angelo Asher and his orchestra, and to all present. It is seldom that a deputy takes such instant possession of the goodwill of an audience as did Mr. Morgan.

Mystification as well as mirth is aroused by Lieut. Albini in his illusion, *The Sailor and His Lass*, in which a new version of the famous box trick is submitted. An attractive lady is shut up in a chest, which is tightly corded and placed behind a curtain. An equally comely midshipman stands by the side of the box, the curtain is drawn, and in less time than it takes to tell, the middy and the maid are found to have changed places. Lieut. Albini tempers his illusions with many humorous comments, and secures a prominent place in popular regard. Miss Leah Odell exercises a fine voice in her song-scena, "Memories," which introduces selections from famous melodies, "Killarney" and "The dear little Shamrock of Ireland" figuring to advantage in her répertoire. Eccentricities of an excruciating character are supplied by the Pollos, whose tumbling feats include many awkward falls. The animated armchair is also very funny, and their burlesque levitation comes as a genuine surprise to many.

The xylophone is put to admirable use by the Vernon Troupe, who make Suppé's "Light Cavalry" sound particularly inspiriting on their giant instruments. Popular choruses are also given by the quintet, who work energetically and secure enthusiastic plaudits. Old friends are found in Brown and Le Clerq, who enable us to renew acquaintance with the time-worn sketch *Black Justice*. Little alteration seems to have been made in the comic concoction, yet its effect is as hilarious as ever. Big Ben Brown as the Judge and Little Le Clerq as the Policeman never fail in their efforts to arouse laughter, and the dance indulged in by two fair prisoners to the strains of a barrel-organ proves very exhilarating. Gladys Warren, comedienne and dancer, and Kit Keene, coloured comedian, are well received, and the programme is concluded by the tinted pictures on Jeapes' Animated Graphic, some impressive views being presented. Mr. Edward Swanborough, though much better, has not yet recovered from his long illness, and the management of the hall is undertaken in a thorough way by Mr. J. Norman Berlin, who declares that work is the only thing he's fit for, but proves, nevertheless, an engaging companion.

THE V.A.F. ADJOURNED MEETING.

The adjourned general meeting of the Variety Artists' Federation was resumed on Sunday at the Camberwell Empire. Mr. Joe O'Gorman, who took the chair, contended that the members of the Federation had every reason to be proud of the Award. The learned Arbitrator had a very difficult task, especially when it came to the barring clause, upon which an enormous amount of time was spent, and it had every possible attention. Some proprietors contend that their business is built up on the Barring clause, and if they (the artists) had not got everything they asked for, they had certainly got a great deal more than he ever thought they would get. Mr. O'Gorman announced that they had invited Mr. Doughty, the counsel who had presented their case before the Arbitrator, to come there, and he would only be too pleased to put any clauses of a technical nature plainly before them.

MR. MONTE BAYLY, the new secretary of the Federation, then read the Award. This was very fully discussed, and innumerable questions were asked and answered, Mr. O'Gorman, Mr. Wal Pink, and Mr. Doughty giving every information on technical points, especially those relating to the *personnel* of troupes, and the option and barring clauses, with the "compound exclusive contract." A unanimous vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Askwith, and a similar honour was reserved for Messrs. Joe O'Gorman, Wal Pink, W. H. Clemart, and Doughty for the defence put up by them on behalf of the artists, all these gentlemen returning thanks.

The meeting then paid attention to the agenda.

MR. CLEMART moved:—"That the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the V.A.F. be elected annually by the whole of the Committee of the Federation then in the United Kingdom voting by ballot."

This being a correction of the rule in the book, it was proposed by MR. CLEMART, seconded by MR. HAST, that the old rule be rescinded. Carried.

The new rule, seconded by LEO TELL, carried.

Proposed by MR. CLEMART, that "Immediately following the declaration of the poll, the Secretary shall write to every member of the Committee asking for nominations for the above positions."

MR CLEMART: That is when the Committee has been elected the Secretary shall write to each member and ask who he wishes to nominate for the post.

Seconded by JAMES HOWARD. Carried.

Proposed by MR. CLEMART: "That in the event of any member of the Committee being suspended from the Federation for any period whatever, his place on the Committee shall be considered vacant, and shall be filled by the next on the list of defeated candidates."

Seconded by MR. MAYVILLE. Carried.

Proposed by MR. CLEMART: "That all retiring officers and members of the Committee shall be considered renominated for election."

Seconded by HARRY DELAVINE. Carried.

MR. CLEMART, in proposing "That the collection of the death levy in its present form be done away with," said he would move that at a date to be fixed by the Committee the present system be done away with, and that they should have a weekly stamp of 7d.

MR. O'GORMAN quite agreed with Mr. Clemart that it would be better to have a specific sum stated, but personally was against the abolition of the 6d. stamp, because it was most popular. He suggested the continuance of the 6d. stamp, but at the beginning of each of the twelve calendar months they should be liable for a 6d. death levy stamp

MR. SMYTHSON proposed £75 as a fixed sum, and this proposition was carried by 94 to 59.

"THE FISHER-GIRL,"

A Musical Comedy-Drama, written by Mr. Charles Fisher, Lyrics by Mr. Oswald Brand, Music by Mr. W. T. Gliddon, produced at the Paragon on Monday, June 17.

Vanderdecken .....MR. J. M. JONES
Baron von Finklestein ..MR. EDWARD KIPLING
Mynheer Jan Stofel ....MR. JERROLD MANVILLE
Heindrick .....MR. JOHN DONALD
Kasper .....MR. ARTHUR RODNEY
Mme. Jan Stofel .....MISS MAUDE SHELTON
Berta .....MISS MAY GLENN

The scene of this musical comedy-drama is laid in a Dutch village. Vanderdecken, the accursed mariner, known as "The Flying Dutchman," is forced once in seven years to land and perform some good deed. He arrives at the village of Vanderkoopen after a lapse of twenty-one years, expecting to find his wife and daughter alive. The wife died almost immediately after he sailed, and the daughter, Berta, known as "The Fisher-Girl," was adopted by Mynheer Jan Stofel and brought up as his child. Mme. Jan Stofel, an ambitious scheming woman, wants to marry her to a wealthy English Baron, with more money than brains. But she is in love with a sailor, Heindrick. Vanderdecken recognises in "The Fisher-Girl" his long sought for daughter, and joins the lovers' hands. When Heindrick asks Mynheer Jan for his consent to the marriage, he is surprised to learn that Jan is not Berta's father. The sketch concludes with a vision of Captain Vanderdecken, still under his curse to sail on for ever.

Mr. Edward Kipling as Baron Von Finklestein is very amusing, and his song "The bold, bad man" is excellently rendered. Mr. Jerrold Manville and Miss Maude Shelton play well as the Stofels; Miss May Glenn is a delightful representative of Berta, and does all that was necessary with the part, both vocally and dramatically; and Mr. John Donald as Heindrick is excellent. The production is effective; and Miss Beatrice Harold's troupe of lady dancers and a chorus of twenty greatly assist the success. The sketch is prettily mounted and is well received. Mr. Albert Bartlett ably conducts.

"THE UNDERSTUDY."

A New Musical Interlude, produced at the Empire, Camberwell, by Mr. Tom Craven, on Monday, June 17.

The Understudy .....MR. TOM CRAVEN
The Dresser .....MR. WILL HINDSON

In a very pretty scene, representing the principals' dressing-room at the "Buffoonery" Theatre we find Chiks, the dresser, at the telephone receiving a message that the star actor cannot appear owing to the breakdown of his motor-car. His understudy comes in, eager to grasp the chance of his life, but is distracted at not being able to get the part "word perfect"; and to strengthen his memory resorts to whiskey. By the advice of the dresser, he resolves to have a dress rehearsal of the part. The first character delineated is that of a decayed vocal actor, whose attempt to sing about "The things we see on the stage" ends in failure. Chiks encourages the understudy to try the part of the serio; and with a quick change, a serio of the old school, assisted by the resourceful Chiks, burlesques a topical ditty, "Twinkling Stars." This is followed by a burlesque coon song by an American tramp, "No one dares to sing such rot as me." Another telephone message brings the news that the principal has engaged another car, and is on his way to the theatre to take up his part. The understudy is reluctant to give up the "chance of his life," and Chiks has to summon the call-boy to assist him in disrobing the disappointed aspirant to theatrical honours. Mr. Tom Craven as the understudy is to be very warmly commended for his clever quick changes and for his very adroit and amusing embodiment of the trio of characters. He scores a decided success, and is warmly applauded. As Chiks, Mr. Will Hindson has little to do, but does it remarkably well.

THE L.C.C. AND AMUSEMENTS.

The usual weekly meeting of the London County Council was held on Tuesday at the County Hall, Spring Gardens, under the presidency of Mr. Percy Harris (chairman).

"THE UNWRITTEN LAW."

The theatres and Music Halls Committee reported as follows:—"Our attention having been drawn to a sketch, entitled *The Unwritten Law*, which was recently produced at certain music halls in London, we called for a report on the subject. The sketch is obviously based on a criminal case tried a short time ago in America, and in our opinion is open to grave objection. We have therefore caused a letter to be sent to the licensees of the various music halls in London, informing them of our opinion of the sketch, and requesting that if they have made any arrangements for its production they will be good enough to countermand such arrangements."

The report was received without discussion.

THE ALHAMBRA.

The Committee, having considered a drawing submitted by Mr. W. M. Brutton, showing a proposal to widen the exit at the foot of the gallery staircase at the Alhambra, recommended that he be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the drawing submitted by him, but that his attention be drawn to the necessity for the works shown on the drawing being carried out in accordance with the provisions of the London Building Act, 1894.

Agreed to.

THE EMPIRE.

The Committee recommended that the application of Mr. H. J. Hitchins for the transfer to himself of the licence for music and dancing for the Empire Theatre of Varieties be granted; that the motion of the transfer be endorsed on the licence, and that the seal of the Council be affixed to such endorsement.

Approved.

DALY'S THEATRE.

The Committee also approved of a drawing submitted by Mr. J. Sinnett, showing the proposed alterations to the resistance chambers at Daly's Theatre, and drawings submitted by Mr. H. Hunt of the switchboard and regulator which it is proposed to fix at the premises, provided that the regulations of the Council are complied with in all matters of detail.

AGRICULTURAL HALL.

The Committee reported that they had considered drawings submitted by Mr. J. Jeffery, showing a proposed alteration to the refreshment bar on the north side of the galleries at the Royal Agricultural Hall; an extension of the minor hall which it is proposed to erect on a site in Swanley-street, and the arrangements in connection with the Palestine Exhibition; and they recommended that Mr. Jeffery be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the drawings submitted provided that certain stated conditions be complied with.

Agreed to.

EARL'S COURT.

The drawings submitted by Mr. A. O. Collard showing the arrangements in connection with certain side shows in portions of "Elysia" at the Balkan States Exhibition, Earl's Court, the open air stage and seating, &c., were also approved.

THE TERRIERS' OUTING.

The Terriers and their friends, numbering about sixty, had their annual river outing on Sunday last. The party included president Jesse Sparrow, trustee S. N. Salter, solicitor G. P. R. Burgess, Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Box, Leonard Wm. Bassett, M. McDowall, Mrs. F. Neiman, Kloof and Ramsey, B. Whiteling, Miss Peggy Fame, Theo. Dunkley, Edwin Brett and Emmeline Orford, J. Elmo, R. Cass, E. Rutland, H. Conlin, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Hutt, Mr. and Mrs. H. Jeapes, H. Krott, Miss Ada Blanche, Mr. and Mrs. V. Cowper, Mr. J. A. Ham, Mrs. Harry Lester, Mr. and Mrs. F. Postlethwaite, Mr. and Mrs. H. Gage, J. C. Moore, B. Woodger, Charles Cornish, Mr. Munden, Harry Lester (secretary), &c.

Journeying down from Waterloo by the 9.10 a.m. train the party arrived at Hampton Court at 10. Photographs were taken on board the La Burgoine, and the merry party set sail on their journey to "old Windsor," lunch being served en route. On arrival, sports were held with the following results:—100yds. running handicap (for Terriers only), won by Jack Elmo (prize, a silver tankard, presented by G. P. R. Burgess); second, Harry Conlin (prize, silver cigarette case, presented by Mark Ringham). 30yds. ladies' race, running backwards, won by Mrs. Kloof (prize, an American satchel and purse, presented by S. N. Salter). 50yds. ladies' race, won by Peggy Fame (prize, silver mounted purse, presented by Douglas White). 50yds. needle and cotton race, won by Miss Orford and E. Rutland (prizes, lady's parasol and gentleman's silver-mounted walking-stick, presented by Bob Hutt). 30yds. egg-and-spoon race, won by Mrs. Hutt (prize, silver bracelet, presented by Harry Wright). Half-mile walking race, won by Billy Kloof (prize, carriage clock, presented by Edwin Brett); second, Bob Hutt (prize, pair German hollow ground razors, in oak case, presented by Harry Lester). Hat-trimming competition, won by Ted E. Box (prize, magnificent set of carvers, in case, presented by Jesse Sparrow); second, G. P. R. Burgess (prize, fancy vest, to order, presented by George Nyman).

After about two hours' ashore the return journey was made, tea being served on board. Hampton Court was reached at 8.30, the train departing 9.10, arriving Waterloo at 10, after a most enjoyable day. The musical portion of the programme was due to J. C. Moore, B. Hutt, H. Conlin, T. E. Box, Kloof and Ramsey, Mr. H. Gage, Miss Ada Blanché, Mrs. F. Postlethwaite, and others. The refreshments were well looked after by C. Cornish and B. Woodger, the catering being in the hands of the proprietors of the Dover Castle Hotel. Harry Lester (secretary) was again congratulated on the excellent arrangements made. President Jesse Sparrow presented the prizes to the successful competitors in his usual happy style. Telegrams of good wishes from Hastings came from Jimmy Wood, Tom Branson, and Walter Norman.

THE yarns of Knowles are vastly amusing Palace audiences. A man in Cape Town, who had been entertained by Knowles in London on several occasions, met him in the street, extended a most effusive greeting, and invited him to lunch. "We shall have to go to the club," he said. "I should like to take you home, but the fact is my wife can't stand theatrical people." "That is a pity," replied the actor. "I should like to go to the club, but the fact is my wife can't stand clubs." Another tale refers to an archbishop, who, going out to South Africa, made it a practice to walk the deck constantly. His face would break out into a smile, and then the reverend dignitary would make a bow. After that he stopped, shook his head, and frowned. The passengers, much puzzled by this, asked the captain the meaning of his actions. "Well," said the skipper, "I have come to the conclusion that he is always asking himself to have a drink and constantly refusing it."

MESSRS. ROSEN AND BLISS, the well-known variety agents, have removed to more commodious offices, at 12 and 13, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

MISS VI ADELE, the daughter of Mr. Bob Hutt, has made her first appearance in the provinces, where she has achieved a great success. She will make her début in town shortly.

(*For other Variety Notices see pages 16 and 22.*)

VARIETY GOSSIP.

We have to thank our friends, our journalistic contemporaries, and our legion of professional readers for their hearty congratulations on the fact that *The Era* was the first newspaper to print the full text of the Award. By the loyal help of our printers we were able to insert the Award as an inset, and thus place it in the hands of the profession at breakfast-time on Saturday morning.

Miss Marie Lloyd made her first appearance in Paris on Sunday night before a large and enthusiastic audience at the pretty little Marigny Theatre, in the Champs Elysées. The special playbill for the Grand Prix, which marks the last week of the season, included our Marie and La Belle Otero.

The popular little Englishwoman received sixty telegrams from London friends wishing her good luck, and she immediately struck the "entente" chord with the burlesque Spanish señorita, who sings "Tiddley-om-pom." This lively lilt brought down the house. Marie is delighted with Paris and would like to live there; but London need not be alarmed. Her English engagements run right up to the end of 1909, with one tour in America.

Princess Henry of Battenberg and family paid a visit to the London Hippodrome on Wednesday afternoon to witness the performance of the Australian axemen, Jackson and M'Laren. Her Royal Highness, at the close of the performance, expressed great satisfaction at having seen such a novel exhibition.

Mme. Yvette Guilbert will start on July 1 at the Palace Theatre her last engagement at the variety theatres in any part of the world. At the conclusion of her stay at the Shaftesbury-avenue house the famous chanteuse has arranged to tour the United States in the plays in which she recently achieved so great a success in Brussels, and will thenceforth devote herself entirely to the legitimate stage.

At a meeting of the Theatres Committee of the London County Council held to consider the question of living statuary exhibitions at the halls, it was decided to recommend the Council to take no action in the matter. The decision was only arrived at after strenuous opposition from several members of the committee, but the majority in favour of the decision was a large one. There is no doubt that the committee have considered the question very thoroughly. In addition to holding several meetings last week, the members witnessed a private performance of Seldoms' Venus, by the invitation of the management of the London Pavilion.

The directors of the Surrey have decided to set apart Wednesday next for two performances (at 6.30 and 9.15 p.m.) in aid of the funds of certain hospitals and charitable institutions in the neighbourhood. The entire proceeds from admission and the sale of flowers, &c., will be handed over to the charities. The following have kindly given their patronage and support:—The Mayor of Southwark, Lord Llangattock, His Majesty's Paymaster-General, Mr. R. K. Causton, M.P., Mr. A. Wilson, L.C.C., and others.

On behalf of the Executive Committee of the Variety Artists' Federation, Mr. Charles Coborn, representing the sub-committee in charge of the grand concert in the Concert Hall of the Crystal Palace on Thursday next, the 27th instant (Federation Day), desires to thank Mme. Esther Palliser, Miss Evie Greene, Signor Cemikoff, and the many ladies and gentlemen who have so generously promised their kind help on that occasion, and to say that times and particulars will be communicated to them in due course. He further desires to ask for more volunteers, especially for the evening performance, and to say that there is every prospect of a magnificent concert as part of the proceedings of that eventful day.

The musical sketch, by Godfrey Turner and Arthur Wimperis, entitled *The Constable and the Pictures*, is coming to the Tivoli on Monday. The scene is laid in a picture gallery, and Miss Agnes Fraser, as one of the pictures comes to life, puzzles very generally the up-to-date policeman, Mr. Morand. Mr. W. S. Gilbert propounded a similar idea in his clever little piece, *Ages Ago*, and elaborated it in the unsuccessful *Ruddigore*. The score is by Miss Marjorie Slaughter, daughter of Mr. Walter Slaughter.

An application was made before Mr. Justice Bucknill in the Probate and Divorce Division on Monday in reference to the estate of the late Mr. Geo. Adney Payne. Mr. Willis said that the widow of the deceased gentleman, Mrs. Clara Agnes Payne, had entered a caveat against the last will being admitted to probate. Therefore the executors, Mr. Walter Payne and Mr. Walter Gibbons, who were the plaintiffs, asked for the appointment of a receiver, *pendente lite*, to manage the affairs of the estate. The applicant, Mr. Walter Payne, a son of the deceased and a barrister, was also heir-at-law, and an executor under the last will of May 19, 1904, and an executor under an earlier will of Oct. 13, 1899, therefore he administered the estate whatever the result of the action now pending.

The deceased gentleman was largely interested in music hall, dancing, and liquor licences; he had a flat in Bedford Court-mansions, and a freehold house at Herne Bay, and a number of shares in the Empress Theatre of Varieties Company. All these matters required managing, and with regard to the Empress Company a meeting was to be held on Monday next, and it was necessary for some representative to be there to safeguard the interests held by the deceased, whose estate was worth about £50,000. Mr. Walter Payne was willing to act as administrator without remuneration. Mr. Willock, for the widow, said that his client left the matter entirely in the hands of the Court. His lordship appointed Mr. Walter Payne administrator *pendente lite*, with the usual security.

The Hippodrome "telepathist," Carlo Grossi, is a Milanese, and he claims to have started on his present career as a result of discovering that he could anticipate mentally the visits of his friends. England seems to have been the last country on his list, for he has appeared in Asia, America, Africa, and Australia, and has investigated murder mysteries in all these continents. His show is not only interesting, but hair-raising in more senses than one. The Dutch skating carnival at the Hippodrome is now fixed for the 24th.

Miss Marie Blythe is making a big success with two new numbers by Alfred Glover, "An old top floor" and "Keepsakes." She opens in London for one month on August Bank Holiday.

The many friends of the popular ventriloquist, Mr. Fred W. Millis, will be glad to learn that he has now recovered sufficiently to return to his home, Wattle Bloom, Teddington, where he will be delighted to see or hear from friends. The tedium of his stay in the Gordon Hospital, where he was so patiently and skilfully nursed back to health, was much relieved by the frequent visits of Little Tich, who, with his usual kindly forethought, drove the convalescent from the Vauxhall Bridge-road to his home at Teddington in his own motor. Mr. Millis was thus spared the inevitable jarring of a journey taken in any ordinary vehicle.

Mr. Walter de Frece, owing to his many connections with theatrical ventures, has resigned his position in the Liverpool Theatre of Varieties, Ltd., which controls the Tivoli, Paddington Palace, and Park Palace in the city on the Mersey. He, however, retains his shares.

The controlling interest in the company which directs the Grand, Nottingham, has been acquired by Moss's Empires, Ltd. It is understood that the house, at least for the present, will continue to be a drama theatre.

Mr. Kay Draco, from the Richmond Theatre, has become manager of the Empire, Coventry, and Mr. Lennox Barry has transferred his services from that house to the Hippodrome in the same town.

Mr. Frank Macnaghten (of the Macnaghten Vaudeville Circuit) has acquired the King's Theatre, Cardiff, on a twenty-one years' lease, with option of purchase, and it will be opened on August Bank Holiday as a music hall. About £4,000 is to be spent on the renovation of the theatre, and Mr. Blandon Blake has made arrangements for a speedy completion of the work, which has been let to local contractors.

Mr. Harry Esden, the late popular manager of the Empire, Newcastle-on-Tyne, who is leaving to take up the position of resident-manager at the New Empire, Sunderland, was presented by a few friends on Saturday afternoon, at the close of the matinée at the former house, with a gold watch. Mr. John Pellow, who was the first manager of the Empire, occupied the chair, and explained the object of the presentation. Mr. Richard Thornton, resident-director, made the presentation, to which Mr. Esden feelingly responded.

With reference to the New Empire, at Sunderland, which would be opened on July 1, he said it would be one of the largest and finest entertainment houses in the kingdom, and he was proud to hold the position of manager of such a magnificent building. He concluded by wishing success to the new manager of the Newcastle Empire, Mr. W. Parham Wells, who, in a few words, reciprocated the wish. Among those present were Messrs. R. Thornton, Sidney Stone, John Pellow, W. Parham Wells, F. Phillips, Geo. Robson, J. Shaw, F. Anderson, John Bell, and others.

The Award has cleared the air, and artists are making up leeway by booking dates far ahead. Miss Vesta Tilley has signed with Moss' Empires for tours up to and including 1911 for all houses where she has been in the habit of appearing in the past.

Mr. H. C. Arnold, jun., son of the lessee of the Lyric Theatre, Liverpool, has been appointed acting-manager in the place of Mr. Coles, who was compelled to resign owing to bad health.

Last Friday night (14th), at the Empire Palace Theatre, South Shields, a complimentary benefit was accorded to Mr. C. P. Loller, the genial musical-director, who, after holding the position for upwards of seven years, is leaving, having been promoted to a similar position at the New Empire Theatre, Sunderland. Mr. Loller, who is an exceptionally fine violinist, contributed a selection of Scotch melodies. Extra turns were given, and the affair was a great success.

A billiard handicap, held at the Belle Vue Hotel, Swansea, by the gentleman artists appearing at the Empire last week resulted in some exciting contests. Mr. Harry Roxbury, of *The Prince of Monte Carlo* company, proved the victor, and was duly rewarded with first prize, which was presented by the proprietor of the hotel, and took the shape of a silver sovereign-purse. It bore the inscription, "Belle Vue, Swansea, 1907, Harry Roxbury."

At the Palace, Belfast, this week two old friends are in the same programme, both disciples of Valentine Vox, viz., Fred Neiman and Charlie Colby, whose acts are going exceedingly well. Both ventriloquists belong to the same American order—the Elks, and other societies, with one exception, Mr. Colby being a Water Rat and Fred Neiman a Terrier. Neiman's Minstrels complain that Colby's darkie figure has "pinched" some of their burnt cork, so they gave him a black eye.

At the Hippodrome, Eastbourne, on Monday, a handsome hanging-lamp was presented to Mr. Dick Noakes, a much-respected member of the staff, by his colleagues, on the occasion of his marriage. The presentation was made by Mr. Sidney W. Winder (managing-director), who personally endowed the happy pair with a silver teapot.

The business of the Pavilion, Newcastle-on-Tyne, of which the managing-director is Mr. Thomas Barrasford, has steadily improved, and the net profit earned for the twelve months ended May 31 last, after providing for interest on mortgage and on debentures, amounts to £4811. In December last an interim dividend of 2½ per cent. (less income tax) was paid for the half-year ended November 30, 1906; the directors now recommend the payment of a further dividend of 7½ per cent. (less income tax) for the half-year ended May 31, 1907, making 10 per cent. for the year. It seems a fortuitous circumstance for this popular establishment that two of its directors—Mr. Hugh Astley and Mr. Ilfort Ibbetson—are on the board of the London Pavilion.

Mme. Natalia, the celebrated contralto and pianiste, has just concluded at Bexhill a forty-four weeks' continuous tour of England. She has recently been singing McConnell Wood's latest success, "Lead thou me on" to enthusiastic audiences at the Empress, Brixton, and the Palace, Greenwich. She is singing at the Empress, Brixton, anniversary on Friday night, when she will introduce for the first time to the London public "Where roses gleam," by Angelo Mascheroni.

The public examination was concluded in the London Bankruptcy Court on Thursday, the 13th, of S. T. T. James, manager, of Warwick-court, Gray's Inn. Debtor stated that of his unsecured liabilities of £4,878 £2,050 had arisen in connection with an agreement entered into by him on behalf of a company to acquire a lease of the King's Theatre, Cardiff, at a rental of £800 a year; also for the supply of wines, &c., for the same. He had returned the liability as a contingent one. His failure arose from the depreciation of London house property.

The Haverleys, the popular American song illustrators, start again on Sunday on a seventeen weeks' tour of the provinces.

Mr. H. C. Arnold, the lessee of the Lyric Theatre, Liverpool, a popular Mason, was endowed recently with Provincial Grand Lodge honours at a session held at Blackpool.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Queen's College, Belfast, Athletic Field Fête on the 17th, it was resolved that a letter of sympathy be sent to the father of the girl who was killed at the Hippodrome performance on the 14th in aid of the fête, together with the following vote of condolence:—"That the Executive Committee of the Athletic Field Fête convey to Herr Morgenroth and family its deepest sympathy with them in the terrible loss they have sustained in the death of Fräulein Morgenroth during a special matinée at the Royal Hippodrome on behalf of the funds of the fête." It was also agreed that the proceeds of the matinée should be placed at Herr Morgenroth's disposal.

The list of variety artists who are to appear at the Crystal Palace on Thursday next, Federation Day, has become so long that it is impossible to mention all who are going to take part. In the theatre there will be continuous performances during the day and evening, and visitors will have the pleasure of meeting, among a host of other, Marie Lloyd, Little Tich, Alec Hurley, Joe Elvin, Harry Tate, Horace Goldin, Fred Karno and company, Mark Melford and company, Albert Le Fre, the Musical Schafers, Tom Craven, Harry Anderson, Giant Rooster, Johnny Dwyer, Tom Costello, Charles Mildare, Florrie Robins, Jolly Criss Cross, Duncan and Godfrey, Newham and Latimar, Fanny Robins, Florrie Cooper, Nipper Lupino-Lane, the Villions, T. E. Dunville, Dan Crawley, Wal Pink, George Reeves, Carlotta Levey, the Four Geraldos, the Bouncing Dillons, Victoria Monks, Sam Mayo, Hardeen, Charles Coborn, Florence Deighton, Charles Russell, and Alf. Lester.

The following artists will appear in the Concert Hall:—Miss Evie Greene (from Daly's and the Palace Theatres), Mme. Spada, Miss Amy Atkins, Miss Sylvia du Barry, Miss Mabel Mavis, Miss Marguerite Bramberg, the Misses Solari, Mr. Harold Wilde, Mr. Philip Newbury, Mr. Harry Dearth, Mr. Richard Green, Mr. Charles Coborn, Mr. M. Henderson, Mr. Charles Butler, and Mr. John Josey. A capital show will be seen in the centre transept, including Caicedo, the King of the Wire; King Alexander, whizzing the whirl; Les Henris, and the Villions.

The Music Hall Sports, for which there are a vast number of entries, will commence at 11.30. The prizes, valued at £300, will be given by Miss Marie Lloyd. Altogether there will be fifteen hours' continuous amusement, and side-shows will be going all day long inside the Palace.

Mr. George Leyton's stage experiences have been associated with the delineations of heroes of all ages—fighting heroes for choice—and we have seen him both as Henry the Fifth and the Iron Duke. Of late years it has been his self-imposed task on the boards to champion the cause of the veterans of the Crimea and the Indian Mutiny, and in consequence of his whole-hearted exertions many an old warrior has been relieved from practical starvation. He has been presenting his new songscena, entitled *Lucknow*, at the Hippodrome, where he appears surrounded by fourteen war-worn veterans, all of whom are actual survivors of the Indian Mutiny. The stirring lines of the scena fitly commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the event, and the robust and manly style of Mr. Leyton's rendering win for him the heartiest applause.

Mrs. Bennett and Edward Cranston will sail per Orient steamer Ortona on Friday next to fulfil engagements with Mr. Harry Rickards. A special train leaves St. Pancras at 10.45. A grand complimentary benefit will be given the artists at the Canterbury on Wednesday evening next, when an enormous bill will be presented.

Mr. George Mozart, at the termination of his present successful engagement at the London Pavilion, will tour the South Coast towns, opening at Margate. On his return to the London Pavilion he will produce Chris. Davis's burlesque sporting skit, *Won by a Neck*, and a new characteristic scena or monologue entitled *Umbrellas*.

Mr. Herman Finck's "Musical Memories," so well played by his excellent orchestra, have now been performed as a selection at the Palace for the past six months. It is quite possible to have a new series, and names of popular numbers are requested.

Mr. Leo Dryden, who is the sole responsible manager for the Colley-Dryden company, has been playing to record business with the following managers:—Messrs. Milton Bode, J. F. Elliston, Otto C. Culling, Wm. Robinson, H. J. Worswick, Ernest Dottridge, and R. C. Buchanan. Miss Ada Colley, the Australian nightingale, who sings Sir Henry Bishop's "Lo, here the gentle lark" so beautifully, has created a genuine sensation, and the Anglo-Australian amalgamtion is a sure draw.

Mr. Carl Hertz, the popular magician, will sail for South Africa on July 6. On his return to England in October he proposes to produce a remarkable illusion, which is to be known as "The Garden of Eden." It will contain horticultural and ornithological specimens, but whether Eve will be walking among them we know not. The garden will most likely be "an Adamless Eden."

"Loose Tiles" has been chosen as the title of a new sketch, which is to be produced by Mr. H. A. Langlois at the Queen's, Poplar, on Monday. A comedy of this name was produced at the Vaudeville Theatre in the 'eighties.

At the 516th meeting of the Executive Committee of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association, held at the offices on Wednesday afternoon, Mr. Fred Herbert was voted to the chair, and among those present were Messrs. Charles Coborn, Charles Gardner, Fred Harrison, Harry Blake, R. Abel, Jeff Vendome, Harry Wright, Bob Hutt, Bernard Stavordale, George Smythson, Frank Gerald, and C. Douglas Stuart (secretary). The committee decided to insure all the servants of the Association by way of safeguarding it against the Compensation Act.

The eighth anniversary of the opening of the Empress, Brixton, will be celebrated on Friday next, when the entertainment will commence at 7 p.m. Mr. Nelson Francis will present a festival entertainment.

Mr. Alfred Wellesley, who is taking over the English rights of Mr. W. T. Ellwanger's sketch *The Peacemaker*, has been booked by Mr. Frank Glenister for a further thirty weeks over the next two and a half years. Mr. Wellesley is a great success in the part of the uncle in the above production.

Swan and Vesta arrived in England on June 15 per Orient Royal Mail s.s. Ortona, after ten months' touring through India. Artists before signing contracts for India would do well to consult them, as no one knows the country except those who have been through it.

Miss Lily Tiso is playing a pleasant month's engagement in *La Ville Lumière* at the Jardin de Paris. She is already re-engaged for next year. The Jardin is one of the few places in Paris without a claque.

An excellent little American episode, entitled *A Sister's Honour*, was produced at the Empress, Brixton, on Wednesday, and, judging by the applause, it is in for a long run. Mr. N. G. Appleby, in the principal character of the stranger, Jim Radcliffe, was excellent; Miss Gertrude Churchill as Mamie both looked and played the part to perfection; and Mr. A. O'Keen made a manly hero.

Mr. Ernest Lord's Excelsior Opera Singers have been appearing for the first time on the music hall stage this week at the Royal, Oldham. Their success was instantaneous, and at each performance three and four times have they had to appear before the curtain. Owing to their reception Mr. Lord has decided, on terminating his concert tour at the end of September, and adopting the halls proper from Oct. 7. He has placed the sole booking of his Opera Singers in the hands of Mr. Dottridge, who should have no difficulty in securing dates for this delightful act

"The Era" was very fortunate in being the first newspaper able to print *in extenso* the text of the final Award. On Saturday morning its offices were besieged by artists applying for copies. The Variety Artists' Federation ordered 300, and large numbers were supplied to the Stage Operatives' Society, the Amalgamated Musicians' Union, Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. J. L. Graydon, and others.

All entrants for the Federation Sports at the Crystal Palace, which start at 11.30 sharp on Thursday next, will receive a competitor's ticket by sending a stamped addressed envelope to Albert Le Fre, 28, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C.

The staff of the London Pavilion had their twentieth annual excursion on Sunday. This time the beautiful up-river reaches of the Thames Valley were chosen for the outing. The company, numbering over one hundred, took special train to Taplow, and joined the steam launch His Majesty at Boulter's Lock. After a most enjoyable trip up the river luncheon was partaken of at the Crown Hotel, Marlow. Hurley was afterwards visited. Mr. Frank Glenister, Mr. W. Cobbett, Mr. A. Bond-Sayers, and Mr. Fredk. L. Rose were present, the first-mentioned presiding at the luncheon and making an effective and appropriate speech. The arrangements of the trip reflect the utmost credit upon the hon. secretary, Mr. Thomas Prior.

Since Herr Henry Erhorn succeeded to the musical-directorship of the London Hippodrome he has made a speciality of operatic selections, which have been greatly appreciated by the audiences. Consequently every week we get a tit-bit from *Tannhäuser*, *The Flying Dutchman*, *Lohengrin*, or equally favourite operas. Incidentally, it may be mentioned that Herr Erhorn is a pupil of Eduard Strauss, and his speciality is waltz music in the style of the great master. Herr Erhorn has been engaged in the Hippodrome orchestra eight years.

Dr. Sandford Arnott, the eminent surgeon, performed most successfully on Sunday a very difficult operation on the eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dunning (Dunning and Kahn). Dr. Arnott is in daily attendance, and hopes in a short period to have the little invalid well on the road to health.

Dr. Walford Bodie is playing to record business in the theatres with his own company of Royal Magnets. He commences his Scotch tour in a fortnight. Mrs. Bodie has gone for a short holiday to their beautiful Highland home, the Manor House, Macduff, lately erected by the doctor as his family residence at a cost of over £7000, the architects being Messrs. Marshall, McKenzie and Co., who built the Waldorf, and also the New College, Aberdeen, lately opened by the King. Mrs. Bodie gave a grand dinner to their tenants last week in the large banquetting-hall of the Manor House, when over one hundred sat down to a splendid repast, the doctor's piper playing in the grounds. The tenantry presented Mrs. Bodie with a very valuable cutlery case, containing over ninety pieces, with solid silver mountings and real ivory handles. Both Dr. and Mrs. Bodie are very popular with their tenants. The doctor is now one of the largest property owners in the north.

Mr. Herbert Dickeson's company will appear on Monday at the Metropolitan and Chelsea Palace in a new musical comedy act, entitled *A Fair Exchange*. The company includes Miss Violet Lytton, Miss Alma Evelyne, Percy Crawford, and Herbert Dickeson.

The Simms opened on Monday night at the Empress, Brixton, and the Granville, Walham Green, and have every reason to be satisfied with their early experience of a London audience. Their services were snapped up next day by Mr. Oswald Stoll. Their success is very gratifying to their pioneer, Will Oliver, who knows a good turn when he sees it.

So phenomenally successful did Messrs. John P. Harrington and Jas. W. Tate's petite musical comedy, *The Dairymaid*, prove on its initial production at the Granville, Walham-green, a couple of weeks ago, as interpreted by dainty Miss Phyllis Yorke and Mr. Albert Weston, that the advance bookings for this successful sketch have been exceedingly heavy during the past few days. *The Dairymaid* starts on what promises to be a most successful tour of the principal halls at the Empire, Stratford, on Monday next, and is being pioneered by the up-to-date author and composer, aided and abetted by that astute agent, Mr. Jack Lotto.

Miss Haidee Lee and Mr. Wallace Kingston have this week accepted from the pens of Messrs. John P. Harrington and Jas. W. Tate a musical comedy in miniature, with a Continental environment. It embraces several particularly fine numbers, and good judges consider the music to be some of the best that has ever emanated from the pen of Mr. Tate. We may expect the production of this important sketch at an early date.

Mr. Wallace Selkirk, whose new naval and military spectacle, *Egypt*, specially written and composed for him by Messrs. John P. Harrington and Jas. W. Tate, has been winning golden opinions at the Empire, Newcastle, during the present week, opens with the same thrilling sketch at the Empire, Leeds, on Monday next.

Miss Clara Alexander, whom Mr. Forbes Robertson engaged for a curtain-raiser during his London season, has been secured by the Empire Theatre, and will open there in her remarkable coon songs and dialect next Monday. No type of American character has been more misrepresented in this country than the coon. Miss Alexander has made a special study of this interesting creature, and presents him in the dialect he speaks and in the plaintive little folk-songs that he sings. Miss Alexander has caught to perfection that strange mixture of drollery and pathos which go to make up the tragi-comic figure of the genuine nigger, and she has been well described as "the Plantation Chevalier."

"My Station of Grace" is continuing its tour with every success. Mr. Alfred M Loader, the author, describes it as a mythical muddle, with most original and amusing situations. It is certain to arrive in London before long. Miss Adèle Levey (late of the Three Sisters Levey) plays the statue with the talent born of experience. Her fine figure is modestly draped—quite a contrast to the living statuary of the period.

Mr. George Leyton, who is rousing the patriotic pulse by his *Lucknow* scena at the Hippodrome, has received the following letter from Mr. John Harrop, Lord Mayor of Manchester:—"I am informed that on Saturday last Mr. Bentham, on my behalf, received from you £37 16s., proceeds of sale of song, 'Lucknow,' at the Empire Theatre during the past week, and I understand that you have handed over a total amount of £2,275 2s. 2d. to various veterans' funds throughout the United Kingdom. As president of the Manchester Fund, I desire to convey my sincere thanks for the kind help you have rendered, which is highly appreciated by the committee and myself."

The latest quotations of music hall shares are as follow:—Alhambra, 1½; Canterbury, ½; Empire (16s. paid), 1⅛, ditto (10s. paid), 1⅛; London Pavilion Ordinary, 4⅛, ditto pref., 5; London Collseum ½; Metropolitan, ½; Moss' Empire, 4⅞, ditto 5 per cent. Pref., 3⅞; Oxford, 6⅜; Palace, 13s.; Tivoli, 6; Variety Consolidated Theatres, 13s.

The Hippodrome, Hastings, will reopen its doors on Monday, July 8, under entire new management, and the bookings are placed in the sole hand of Mr. Fred Higham, 9, York-road, S.E.

The variety theatre at the Crystal Palace on Thursday next, Federation Day, will be under the control of Newham and Latimar. A very fine programme has been arranged, all the leading stars having kindly consented to appear. There will be four performances. Don't forget Thursday, the 27th!

The *Libre Parole* states that the police have prohibited the appearance of Prince Robert de Broglie, who was at the London Tivoli during the strike, at Parisian music halls, where he was to have made his début on Monday, fearing disturbances during the performances.

Mr. Ernie Mayne, "Cupid, the Simple One," who is now on a short starring tour, has just been re-booked by Moss, Stoll, Allen, and Thornton till 1913. He will be seen in pantomime this Christmas with Mr. Fred Karno at the Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

An action for an alleged breach of contract was heard on Thursday before Mr. Justice Warrington, when the Richars and Barney Syndicate were the plaintiffs and Mr. Ernest Shand the defendant. The contract contained a "barring clause" which prevented the performer from appearing at any hall within two miles of the Cambridge between the date of the contract and the week of his engagement. Mr. Shand, however, threatened to perform at the Paragon, which was admittedly less than two miles distant, and this action was brought, claiming an injunction to restrain him. The defence was that the clause was unreasonable, but counsel for the syndicate explained that it was necessary, in view of the great competition among the suburban halls. Mr. Rufnus Isaacs, for Mr. Shand, then said that he would not contest the action further, and judgment with costs was entered for the syndicate.

In consequence of the frequency with which Mr. Zancig is unduly detained in one section of the auditorium, rendering it impossible for him to visit other parts of the house, the management of the Alhambra has decided to have a bell rung at intervals, which will be the signal for Mr. Zancig to proceed to some other part of the theatre.

In the case of the London Music Hall *v.* the Poluskis, which commenced before Mr. Justice Warrington on Thursday, Mr. Eldon Banks said the agreement was dated Dec. 19, 1903, and covered a number of engagements, each lasting for two weeks. The defendants stated that they did not threaten to perform within one and a half miles of the London, as alleged, the Paragon not being, they contended, within one and a half miles of it. The distance, they contended, should be determined by "Phillips's Table of Distances." The question was whether the distance was "by crow or cab." He believed that according to the law one was obliged to measure "by crow." They did not know who Phillips was or where to find him. Mr. Harry Thomas Underwood, a director of the plaintiff company, and Mr. William Henry Burney, managing-director, also stated that he had never heard of the table. Judgment was given for the plaintiffs with costs, similar judgments being also entered for the London Music Hall in similar actions against Miss Jessie Preston and Mr. Benjamin Sylvester, known as Orpheus.

Mr. Oswald Brand writes:—"I shall be glad if you will kindly state that the libretto and lyrics of *The Fisher-Girl* are absolutely my original invention, based on the old legend, "The Flying Dutchman." The work was so highly criticised at the time of its first production by the entire Press that I feel, in justice to myself, I must claim the sole right of subscribing my name to the creation of the book."

Miss Margaret Ashton, who was present at the Grand Prix on Sunday last, returned from Paris on Monday afternoon, and sailed the following day on the s.s. Irma for a trip through the fjords of Norway. She hopes to get as far as the Lofoden Islands, within the Arctic Cirlcle, and will resume her London engagements in July.

Mr. Fred Karno's latest sketch, *The Bailiff*, will make its first appearance in London at the Hackney Empire next Monday. *The Bailiff*, the principal part in which is played by Mr. Fred Kitchen, creates roars of laughter from start to finish, and deals with the blunders of broker's men. Fred Kitchen, with his friend "Meredith," are to be seen at their best, the attempts of the brokers to enter the house being ludicrous in the extreme. Finally they effect an entrance, and, after selling up the home, it is discovered that they have come to the wrong house. As a result the broker's men blame each other, and the curtain descends on them engaged in a deadly fight.

Fred Kitchen comes of an old theatrical family, and was born in the profession. His first appearance on the stage was when, three months old, he appeared with his father in the sketch *The Dumb Man of Manchester*. By the way, it is Mr. Kitchen's idea to play this piece according to modern ideas. Fred Kitchen's second appearance—at Day's, Birmingham, when he was about eighteen months old—was attended by a curious occurrence. He was standing in the wings dressed in Scotch plaid and kilt, when a well-known lady vocalist seized his hand and pulled him on with her. "The moon sheds its watery eye," she sang, amidst vociferous applause, and at once, by some coincidence, the footlights went out. The reason was never found out, but it was taken as an omen of good luck, and proved so.

Mrs. George Daventry and Mr. Charles Aldred are scoring a success at the Empire, Camberwell, this week, in a cleverly-constructed and intensely dramatic and high-class sketch, *Monte Carlo*.

Miss Sylvia Cavalho, the distinguished actress, supported by Mr. Clifford Pembroke and a selected company, will produce at the Canterbury, on Monday week, a romantic episode, entitled *The Fortunes of War*, by C. C. Andrews (the well-known writer and contributor to the *Strand Magazine*). *The Fortunes of War* is an episode of the naval war between England and America in 1812. The scene is laid in the interior of a New England homestead, situated on the Connecticut coast. In this episode Miss Cavalho has a powerful part.

Mr. Lewis Gilbert is producing *A Little Tyrant* this week at the Middlesex. The sketch embodies a pretty story, prettily told, and is right away from the tabloid blood-and-thunder dramas or the ultra-farcical pieces just now so prevalent on the variety stage.

The charming soubrette, Miss Bessie Butt, during her recent pantomime engagement at Birmingham, won the "Owl" cake and also captured the first prize—a diamond ring—in the beauty competition, presented by a local paper.

An act out of the common will be submitted at the Hackney Empire on Monday by Maud Rochez, who will present a variety theatre run entirely by monkeys, and wonderful they are. The orchestra is composed of apes, the scene-shifters and supers are of the same type, and the artists are also quadrumanous. They conjure, juggle, wrestle, motor, dance, steeplechase, play musical instruments, and, in short, their versatility is amazing. Nothing funnier has been seen for a long time.

THEATRES OF VARIETIES IN GREAT BRITAIN & IRELAND.

Music Hall Strike.

THE AWARDS

— OF —

MR. GEORGE RANKEN ASKWITH,

THE ARBITRATOR ACCEPTED BY

Managers, Artistes, Stage Employees, and Musicians.

THE AWARDS.

Mr. George Ranken Askwith has very graciously sent a letter of congratulation to *The Era* on producing the full text of the award so soon after its signature. He has also pointed out the omission of a clause from the copy supplied to us by the Board of Trade. This he has supplied, making the final award as it appears in the current issue of *The Era* perfectly accurate. As the three interim awards have a connection and bearing on the final award, we print the four awards for the use of manager, artiste, stage hand, and musician. These four awards will be subsequently produced as a handy booklet, and may be had from *The Era*.

FIRST INTERIM AWARD,

ISSUED FEB. 14, 1907.

CONCERNING MANAGERS AND ARTISTS.

"The managers of music halls in London and the provinces having had certain matters of dispute with artists, musicians, and stage hands in their employment, and all parties having agreed to refer all matters in dispute between them to me, the undersigned, George Ranken Askwith, and having requested the Board of Trade to confirm such reference, and the Board of Trade having formally appointed me, the undersigned, to act as arbitrator, and the parties having requested me to issue immediately an interim award upon certain matters necessary to be determined before the hearing of questions of wages and other matters in dispute, I award and declare that on and after Saturday, the 16th day of February, no artist who is under contract to the above-named managers, or has agreed to abide by the result of this arbitration, shall perform at the Scala Theatre or elsewhere, in violation of any contract, or in furtherance and continuance of the present strike; and that all legal proceedings by any of the managers against any of the artists, or other persons concerned, shall be withdrawn, and that all artists and other persons holding contracts shall be allowed to fulfil their contracts with the managers on and from Monday, the 25th February, upon giving notice of their intention to fulfil their contracts on or before Saturday, the 16th February; and, further, that all pickets, meetings, and issuing of circulars or notices in connection with, or in furtherance of, the existing strike shall forthwith cease.—As witness my hand, this 14th day of February, 1907. (Signed) GEORGE RANKEN ASKWITH."

SECOND INTERIM AWARD,

ISSUED FEB. 21, 1907.

CONCERNING THE MUSICIANS.

"I award and declare that all musicians who, in consequence of the strike, are without employment, may forthwith apply for engagements, and upon such application shall be given the vacancies at present existing in the orchestras (agreed at 20 per cent. of those who are now unemployed), and those vacancies which will arise in the course of the rearrangement now in progress, and to be completed by March 11 (agreed at 30 per cent. to those who are now unemployed). The same engagements shall be either at the same halls where they were previously engaged or at other halls, but at no less rate of pay than the rate which they previously received. To the remainder of the whole body on strike who may not have been able to obtain engagements on or before March 11, either at music halls or elsewhere, preference shall be given at the music halls concerned in respect of vacancies arising before publication of my final award. I concur with the agreement of the parties that for the purpose of absorbing the said musicians quickly and without friction the managers will supply a list of the managers and music halls concerned in the dispute, to whom application can be made, and lists of the places vacant, and the number and character of the instruments required, and that the musicians may themselves choose and select by whom from amongst their number application for such places may be made. Any balance of musicians not absorbed at the end of the proceedings and prior to the publication of an award upon wages and other questions in dispute shall be referred to me for consideration."

THIRD INTERIM AWARD,

ISSUED MARCH 1, 1907.

CONCERNING STAGE HANDS.

"In further arrangement of the music hall dispute, and in addition to awards published by me on Feb. 14 and 21, 1907, I award and declare with regard to the stage hands that I concur in the agreement between the parties not to examine at the present time the question of the justice or injustice of the strike. I award that stage hands who, in consequence of the strike, are without employment, may apply for engagements, and shall be entitled to vacancies now existing or arising (agreed at 50 per cent. of those who are out of employment), such vacancies to be filled up on or before March 11, and those employed to receive payment at such rate as the arbitrator may subsequently decide to be payable to each class as and from March 11, but pending such decision temporarily at the rate paid in the first week of January, 1907. The remaining stage hands shall be given preference for employment in respect of vacancies arising before the publication of my final award. Any balance not absorbed in obtaining work before the end of the proceedings and prior to the publication of an award upon wages and other questions in dispute shall be referred to me for consideration. The stage hands may themselves choose and select by whom application may be made for the aforesaid vacancies."

FINAL AWARD.

Issued June 14, 1907.

CONCERNING MANAGERS, ARTISTES, STAGE-HANDS, AND MUSICIANS.

In consequence of certain disputes between managers of theatres of varieties in London and the provinces and their artistes, musicians, and employees, and following upon a strike of artistes, musicians, and employees it was agreed by the parties to refer all matters in dispute to me, GEORGE RANKEN ASKWITH, and is was agreed, for the purpose of bringing the award under the terms of the Conciliation Act, 1896, to request the Board of Trade to confirm the reference, and such confirmation having been granted, I, the undersigned, have heard the parties and their representatives, and, having received and considered the evidence of more than one hundred witnesses during twenty-three formal sittings and the statements there made and at many conferences, AWARD AND DECLARE, in addition to three interim awards already published, that the following rules, regulations, and rates shall be applicable to theatres of varieties in Great Britain and Ireland:—

ARTISTES.

EXISTING CONTRACTS.

In existing contracts upon request by the managers to make such award and declaration as may be reasonably necessary with respect to clauses generally inserted in existing contracts, I hereby award and declare that:

(*a*) Where clauses are inserted providing that the management may transfer the engagement at their option to any other theatre or theatres owned or controlled by or associated with the management, then and in such cases the artiste may be transferred during the whole or any part of the engagement (not less than one week) to any other theatre owned or controlled by or associated with the management with the consent of the artiste, such consent not to be unreasonably withheld. If such transfer is made in the provinces reasonable expenses shall be allowed.

(*b*) Where clauses are inserted providing that the management may, by notice in writing to the artiste to be given at any time before the expiration of the engagement, extend, prolong, or renew the term for a further period, and that in the event of such option being exercised, the same provisions, so far as may be, are to apply to the extended term, and that during such term the artiste shall perform at such theatres and for such periods as the management shall direct, and that, in the event of such option being exercised, the same provisions are to apply, so far as may be, to the renewed engagement, and that during such term the artiste shall perform at such theatres and for such periods as the management shall direct, the following proviso shall be deemed to be annexed, viz., that, in the event of any such notice being given, such extension, prolongation, or renewal shall be subject to the terms of the award if, and so far as the terms of the contract and the award may differ.

(*c*) Where clauses are inserted providing that the management may at their discretion, or for causes which they in their absolute discretion shall consider adequate, close any of the theatres to which the contract applies during the whole or any portion of the periods of employment, and that no salary shall be payable on any day on which the artiste shall not perform in consequence of such closure, then and in such case no salary shall be paid for days upon which the theatre is closed by reason of national mourning, fire, epidemic, strikes, lock-outs, disputes with employees, or order of the licensing or any local authority. No salary shall be payable for any performance at which an artiste may not appear through illness or his own default, nor for days upon which the theatre is closed by reason of alterations, decorations, or repairs, or any cause which the management may reasonably consider adequate, provided that two months' previous notice has been given to the artiste.

(*d*) Where clauses are inserted providing that the artiste shall, when so required by the management, appear at all matinées weekly without the payment of any additional remuneration, artistes shall in future only be called upon to perform at such matinées as were the usual weekly practice at the time the contract was made. Any additional matinées shall be paid for at the rate of one-seventh of the salary in one-show-a-night houses and one-twelfth in two-shows-a-night houses.

(*e*) Where clauses are inserted providing that performances by artistes are to take place at such times as may be notified by the management with the option of varying such times at their discretion, the management in future shall notify the times for appearance to the artiste, and may vary the same at their discretion on or before Friday in the week previous to the performance, but not later, unless the time can be varied without unreasonable interference with times at any other theatre.

(*f*) Except as hereinbefore mentioned no existing contract shall be deemed to be affected by this award.

ARTISTES.

FUTURE CONTRACTS.

1. I AWARD AND DECLARE that under contracts to be made in the future all matinées are to be paid for at the rate of one-seventh of the weekly salary in one-show-a-night houses and one-twelfth in two-shows-a-night houses for each matinée.

2. I AWARD AND DECLARE that managements shall not be allowed a greater bar either in times and distances than I have allowed in subsequent clauses which specify maximum bars, and nothing therein contained shall prevent artistes and managements from agreeing to relaxation of conditions either in the contract itself or subsequently in writing.

3. I AWARD AND DECLARE that in all future contracts where clauses are inserted dealing with matinées and the transference of artistes, the form and conditions of Clause 2 (matinées) and Clause 4 (transfers) in the form of contract hereinafter set out shall be obligatory, and that the two months' notice required in Clause 10 shall be obligatory, and also that in contracts falling within sub-section (d) of the barring clauses the conditions relating to variation of times as mentioned in Rule 2 shall also be obligatory.

ARTISTES.

FUTURE CONTRACTS (MODEL).

WHEREAS attention has been called to differences which have arisen or may be likely to arise from the terms and conditions hitherto used in certain contracts and request has been made that a contract for ordinary use by theatres of varieties in London and the Provinces should be drafted in order that uniformity should as far as practicable be obtained, and that difficulties and discrepancies should hereafter be avoided, and that the said contract should form a model for future contracts between managements and artistes, with such proper alterations and additions as may be suitable for particular localities or circumstances, I hereby append the following form of contract drafted with the above purpose and object for the use and guidance of managements and artistes.

FORM OF CONTRACT.

AN AGREEMENT made the day of 190 BETWEEN hereinafter called the Management of the one part and hereinafter called the Artiste of the other part WITNESSETH that the Management hereby engages the Artiste and the Artiste accepts an engagement to appear as (or in his usual entertainment) every evening at the theatres and from the dates for the periods and at the salaries stated in the First Schedule hereto subject to the said theatres being in the occupancy and possession of the Management and upon and subject to the undermentioned conditions.

1. The word "Artiste" shall when more than one is included in the performance include the plural.

2. The Artiste agrees to appear at any Matinée required by the Management and shall be paid at the rate of one-seventh of the weekly salary in one-show-a-night houses and one-twelfth in two-shows-a-night houses for each Matinée.

3. Where this contract relates to a partnership, troupe, or sketch, the Artiste shall at the time when the contract is signed furnish the Management in writing with such names as the Management may require and shall not substitute a performer for a person so named without the written consent of the Management.

4. The Artiste may be transferred during the whole or any part of the engagement (not less than one week) to any other theatre owned or controlled by or associated with the Management, with the consent of the Artiste, such consent not to be unreasonably withheld. If such transfer is made in the Provinces reasonable expenses shall be allowed.

5. Barring Clause.

Upon breach of (any of) the barring clauses the Artiste shall pay to the management as liquidated damages one week's salary for each breach thereof, but nothing in this clause shall affect the right of the Management to apply for an injunction to restrain the Artiste from performing or rehearsing in breach of the said clauses nor the right to determine the contract.

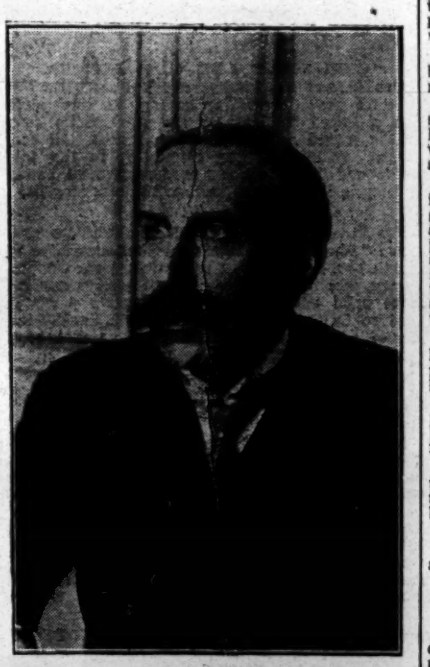

Photo by Half-Tones, Ltd.

MR. GEORGE RANKEN ASKWITH.

6. The Artiste shall not infringe any copyright, patent, or other proprietary rights of third parties, and in the event of infringement shall be liable for and on demand pay the amount of all damages, penalties, and costs incurred by the Management.

The Artiste shall not give or permit to be given any colourable imitation or version of his performance within the radius or time prescribed by the barring clauses.

7. In case the artiste shall, except through illness certified as hereinafter provided, or accident proved to the satisfaction of the Management, fail to perform at any performance, he shall pay to the Management as, and for liquidated damages, a sum equal to the sum which the Artiste would have received for such performance, in addition to costs and expenses incurred by the Management through the default of the Artiste.

When the management own or control two theatres in any provincial town, the Artiste shall act as deputy in cases of emergency upon request, and be paid at the rate of

8. The Artiste undertakes that his performance shall not be dangerous to the Artistes, Audience, or Stage Employees. If any accident or injury results from the performance of the Artiste, the Artiste shall pay for any loss, damage, or costs incurred by the Management.

9. The Management shall not be liable to the Artiste or to the legal personal representative of the Artiste for any loss, damage, or injury to the Artiste's person or property during, or in connection with, the engagement, unless caused by the negligence of the Management.

10. The Artiste shall not assign, mortgage, or charge his salary, nor permit the same to be taken in execution. No salary shall be paid for days upon which the theatre is closed by reason of national mourning, fire, epidemic, strikes, lockouts, disputes with employees, or order of the licensing or any public authority. No salary shall be payable for any performance at which an Artiste may not appear through illness or his own default, nor provided that two months' previous notice has been given to the Artiste for days upon which the theatre is closed for alterations, decorations, repairs, or any cause which the Management may reasonably consider adequate.

11. The Artiste agrees to observe and carry out conditions and regulations imposed by statute, the London County Council, or other public authority, and to comply with the requirements of any public authority that scenery and properties used by the Artiste shall be non-flammable. All flammable material brought into the theatre by the Artiste may be required to be made non-flammable by him, or at his expense, by the Management.

12. The Artiste declares that at the time of signing this contract he is under no engagement with any other Management that can preclude him from fulfilling the engagements shown herein, and that he has not concealed any change of professional name or description.

13. The Rules and Regulations subjoined shall be read and construed as forming part of this Contract, and the Artiste agrees to abide by all reasonable rules which may from time to time be made by the Management for the good and orderly conduct or special requirements of their theatres, provided that the rules shall have been served on or brought to the notice of the Artiste.

14. Upon the breach by the Artiste of any of the terms and conditions in this contract, or of Rules 1 to 10, the Management, without prejudice to other remedies, and in addition to rights given under the terms and conditions aforesaid, or the rules, may forthwith determine this Contract, and the Artiste shall have no claim upon them for salary (other than a proportion for performances played), expenses, costs, or otherwise.

The same provision shall apply upon breach by any member of a troupe or company if not remedied after complaint by the Management.

15. Any notices under this Contract may be served upon the Artiste by posting the same to his last known address, or to the agent through whom this contract is made, or while performing at any theatre in the manner specified in rule 11.

16. The Management may by notice in writing, to be given before the termination of this engagement, re-engage the artiste once subject to any engagements existing at the date hereof, to appear at any of the theatres herein mentioned for a like period not exceeding weeks, to commence not later than 18 months subsequent to the date of the notice, and the Artiste shall, if so required, perform accordingly upon the same terms as in this Contract.

17. If the Artiste's performance is contrary to law, or is objected to by any licensing or other public authority, this contract may be cancelled by the Management.

If the management be threatened with legal proceedings in respect thereto the contract may be cancelled unless the artiste forthwith provides indemnity to the satisfaction of the management.

18. Matter for billing, programmes, and advertisement, and the words of all songs must be sent to at days before opening.

SCHEDULE.

Week at commencing at the salary of per week.

RULES AND REGULATIONS.

1. The Artiste shall attend Rehearsals if required at the places and times notified by the management.

2. The Artiste shall be present in the theatre not less than five minutes before.

The Artiste may be put on ten minutes later than the specified time and if required must do the whole of his performance. The Management may vary the times specified for appearance at their discretion on or before Friday in the week previous to the performance but not later, unless the time can be varied without unreasonable interference with times at any other theatre.

3. In the event of an Artiste being unable to perform through illness, a medical certificate must be sent immediately to the Management at the Theatre setting forth the nature of the illness and that the Artiste is unable to appear. If the Artiste is prevented by illness or from any cause whatever from performing on the first night or for three consecutive nights the engagement may either be determined or be treated as postponed to such date as the Management decide, subject to engagements entered into by the Artiste.

4. The Artiste giving expression to any vulgarity or words having a double meaning or using any objectionable gesture when on the stage shall be liable to instant dismissal, and if dismissed shall forfeit the salary for the current week. Any question under this clause to be decided by the management, whose decision shall be final and binding on the artiste.

5. Any artiste being in the theatre in a state of intoxication may be fined one week's salary or dismissed.

6. Artistes shall not address the audience except in the regular course of the performance nor interfere in any manner with other artistes or employees nor go into the front of the house without permission.

7. Singers shall, if required, sing at least three songs at each performance. The management may prohibit the whole or any part of the performance which they consider unsuitable or displeasing to the audience and in the case of songs may require a copy to be forwarded for approval days before a song is to be sung and no variation will be permitted from words so approved.

The artiste agrees to produce new or revert to any old song, sketch, or business, on the reasonable request of the management, and to provide suitable dresses and properties.

8. Artistes must respond to encores or not as the management shall reasonably direct.

9. No naked lights shall be carried or matches used, nor any lighting apparatus interfered with by the artiste. Artistes shall not bring into the theatre combustible or explosive materials without the written permission of the management.

10. Smoking is strictly prohibited in dressing rooms or anywhere in proximity to the stage.

11. The artiste must furnish the hall-keeper with his address, and while performing at any theatre notice shall be sufficiently served if sent to such address, or if no address is furnished by deposit in the place for deposit of letters at the theatre.

12. The management shall have the sole right to determine the position of the artiste's name, the size and nature of the type, and the description of the turn on bills, programmes and advertisements.

13. No person not employed at the theatre shall go behind the scenes without permission.

ARTISTES.

FUTURE CONTRACTS (BARRING CLAUSES)

WHEREAS it has been customary in contracts for engagement of artistes to insert clauses commonly known as "barring clauses," restricting appearance of artistes within specified areas and for long periods of time before, during, and after engagements, and WHEREAS evidence has been tendered before me upon all points referring to the said clauses, and I have carefully weighed and considered the same and the requirements for the welfare of the industry as a whole and its just and proper conduct and deem it expedient that maximum restrictions should be declared, I AWARD the following in respect of future contracts:—

(*a*) The barring of theatres of varieties for a period after the termination of any engagement, except for not more than two weeks after the termination of an engagement in provincial towns, is abolished.

(*b*) In contracts made by a management for the performance of an artiste, either with or without an option to renew, at a West End theatre of varieties, *i.e.*, a theatre situated within a radius of one mile from Charing Cross on the northern bank of the Thames, to the entire exclusion of any other theatre of varieties, the terms and conditions, including extension and re-engagement, shall be such as may be agreed between the parties.

If a management shall contract with an artiste for an engagement of at least fourteen weeks during any period of twelve months, and a salary of at least £40 per week, the artiste consenting to perform concurrently at two theatres either (1) both, now open, in the West End, or (2) at one theatre within and one outside the West End, both now open, such contract may include conditions that the artiste can be barred from performing at other theatres not making exclusive contracts and situated within a radius of four miles from Charing Cross and (or) within a radius of two miles from the outside theatre specified in the contract, for a period of nine months prior to the performance of the artiste, and from performing at theatres giving exclusive contracts and situated within the said radius of four miles and (or) within a radius of two miles from the outside theatre specified in the contract for a period of eight months prior to the performance.

(*c*) In contracts made by a management for the performance of an artiste, either with or without an option to renew, at a theatre outside the West End but within the Metropolitan Police District to the entire exclusion of any other theatre of varieties, the terms and conditions shall be such as may be agreed between the parties, except that no artiste shall be barred prior to appearance beyond a radius of two miles nor within such radius for a longer period than fifteen months.

(*d*) In all other contracts made by a management for the performance of an artiste within the Metropolitan Police district the terms and conditions shall be such as may be agreed between the parties, except that as to contracts made for performance at theatres of varieties situated within the West End no artiste shall be barred prior to appearance (a) beyond a radius of one mile nor (b) within such radius for a longer period than four months, and as to contracts made for performance at theatres of varieties situated outside the West End but within the Metropolitan Police district no artiste shall be barred prior to appearance (a) beyond a radius of two miles nor (b) within such radius for a longer period than eight months.

(*e*) In contracts made by a management for the performance of an artiste in the provinces, *i.e.*, outside the Metropolitan Police district, the terms and conditions shall be such as may be agreed between the parties, provided that no artiste shall be barred from performing prior to appearance (a) beyond a radius of ten miles nor (b) within such radius for a longer period than fifteen months, except that no town shall be barred which has a population of more than 70,000 inhabitants (according to the A.B.C. Railway Guide) and is situated beyond a radius of six miles.

(*f*) In the contracts mentioned in the above subsections, excepting sub-section (*d*), if the period between the date of the contract and the performance exceeds the period of bar the management may insert a provision in the said contract requiring the artiste during such period of excess before accepting an engagement at another theatre within the barred area to offer his services to the management on the terms mentioned in the said contract, and thereupon the management shall accept such offer in writing and specify the theatre for the performance within a week, or be deemed to have refused the same.

(*g*) Artiste includes troupe, company, partnership, or other combination of two or more performers, and the word theatre, when used in relation to barring clauses, shall be deemed to include theatres, theatres of varieties, music-halls, clubs, concerts, or other places of entertainment.

ARTISTES.

FUTURE DISPUTES.

In the event of any dispute arising hereafter no strike or stoppage of work shall take place, and if any change be desired in the rules and conditions hereinbefore declared six calendar months' notice in writing must be given either by managements or artistes, such notice to expire on 30th June in any year (except that neither side shall give such notice prior to 1st January, 1912), and shall state clearly the nature of such alteration and the reasons therefor and the theatres affected thereby. The party receiving the notice shall have the right of replying to it within two calendar months either by giving counter-notice or otherwise, and within one calendar month of the said counter-notice on or before 31st March two managers and two artistes shall meet together and endeavour to come to an unanimous understanding before 30th June, failing which both parties shall refer the question to arbitration. A party upon receiving notice as hereinbefore specified may within seven days demand that a like notice shall be served on any other managements whom he shall deem to be affected, and upon such demand notice shall be served forthwith upon such other managements and shall be deemed to have been served on the 1st January.

In the event of no understanding being arrived at between the parties affected, the question, in accordance with agreement now come to, shall be referred for final determination to me, or, failing me, to another agreed arbitrator, or, failing agreement, to an arbitrator appointed by the Board of Trade. Upon such reference each party shall as a condition precedent to arbitration deposit the sum of £20 with the arbitrator, who may out of such sum award costs to either party. The decision of the arbitrator shall be final and binding on the parties.

MUSICIANS.

Provinces.—A local dispute at Leicester having been decided by me in the course of the proceedings, I award and declare that no dispute exists at the present time in the provinces requiring my adjudication.

London.—Minimum wage. I award and declare that in existing theatres of varieties where the average wages of the musicians, exclusive of the conductor, in the first full week of January, 1907, amounted to less than thirty shillings per week per musician, exclusive of matinees, there shall henceforth be paid at such theatres a minimum wage of thirty shillings per week to all musicians, except drummers; drummers, twenty-eight shillings.

In all other theatres and in new theatres commencing during the continuance of this award the minimum wage to be paid to all musicians, except drummers, per week for evening work shall be thirty-two shillings; drummers, thirty shillings.

Matinées.—Matinées in all theatres of varieties in London shall be paid for at a rate of not less than five shillings in one-show-a-night houses per matinée, and three shillings in two-shows-a-night houses per matinée.

Ordinary rehearsals are included in the salary paid, as formerly. Special rehearsals are to be paid for extra at sums to be agreed between the management and musicians.

I make no order with regard to deputies or with regard to any other claims on behalf of musicians.

EMPLOYEES.

1. *Provinces.*

No proposals for alteration or change on behalf of the Employees (stage hands, etc.) in provincial theatres of varieties was brought before me, and I award and declare that no dispute exists at the present time in the provinces requiring my adjudication.

2. *London. Minimum rate of pay. Daymen.*

Assistants employed during the day in addition to evening work in the stage, including fly, properties, etc., assistant electricians, lime-light or gas men, to be paid a minimum of 27s. 6d. per week, exclusive of overtime.

HOURS.

The normal working hours to be approximately between 10.30 o'clock a.m. and 3.30 o'clock p.m., allowing one hour for meals, in the daytime on ordinary days, and from 10.30 o'clock a.m. to the conclusion of the performance allowing one hour for meals on matinée days—Saturdays to be approximately between 10.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. in the event of no matinée; and in the evening from the time necessary for commencing the performance to the clearing of the stage at its conclusion not later than midnight.

OVERTIME.

All work done after twelve (midnight) to 7 a.m., or on Sundays, Good Fridays, or Christmas Days, to be paid for at the rate of elevenpence per hour.

Nightmen.—Including all those engaged for stage work during a performance.

DUTIES.

To be the setting and striking of the scenery the operation of lights used and the general stage work during the performance, and the clearing of the stage after the last item on the programme not later than midnight.

MINIMUM RATE OF PAY.

In one-show-a-night houses 2s. per performance and 2s. for each matinée of the present average duration.

A special performance exceeding the usual duration of a matinée or evening performance to be paid extra.

In two-shows-a-night houses, 2s. 3d. per night, and 1s. 6d. for each matinée of the present average duration.

REHEARSALS.

Nightmen for rehearsals between 7 a.m. and 12 p.m., 7d. per hour, with a minimum of 1s. 9d., and for rehearsals after 12 p.m. (midnight), on Sundays, Good Fridays, or Christmas Days, 11d. per hour.

All men employed for rehearsals to be paid from the time of the call, if on duty.

CARPENTERS.

Bench hands. The rate of pay to be 10½d. per hour, or the London rate.

Carpenters to work 8½ hours before charging overtime.

OVERTIME. On week days from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., time and a half; from 8 o'clock p.m. to 7 o'clock a.m. next morning, double time. After 1 o'clock Saturdays and on Christmas Day, Good Friday and Sundays double time to be paid.

Two hours grinding money to be allowed on finish of a job after working 48 hours. Carpenters to give two hours' notice on leaving after working 48 hours.

OTHER DEPARTMENTS OR EMPLOYEES.

Minimum wages for stage managers (stage foremen), 36s. per week.

Minimum wages for electricians (switchboard attendants) 30s. per week.

HOURS The same as for daymen.

OVERTIME. All work done after twelve (midnight) to 7 a.m. or on Sunday, Good Friday, or Christmas Day to be paid for at the rate of 1s. and 11d. per hour respectively.

NOTE. The variety in the extent of electrical knowledge and skill in dealing with electrical appliances required for different theatres of varieties is so large that no dividing line between electricians (qualified switchboard attendants) and electricians paid under the title of chief electricians or master electricians can be fixed for the purpose of gradation of minimum wage, and in my opinion no minimum wage for such chief or master electricians is required, and I make no order in regard to them.

I also make no order with regard to extra or odd men employed for baggage work, brass cleaning, or other jobs in and about theatres of varieties or with respect to any other claims on behalf of employees.

MUSICIANS AND EMPLOYEES (FUTURE DISPUTES).

I AWARD AND DECLARE—

1. In the event of any question arising as to whether the award is being observed or not, it has been agreed that such question shall be referred to me, or, failing me, to another arbitrator to be appointed by the Board of Trade, for decision and upon any decision that the award has not been observed, and neglect to comply with the order thereupon made, the persons aggrieved shall have liberty of action to take such course as they shall deem fit, or as the arbitrator shall direct.

2. Any proposal for the alteration of any of the rules, regulations, and rates fixed after this enquiry, and specified in this award, shall be subject to not less than three months' notice, to expire on March 31st or September 30th in any year, stating the alterations proposed and the grounds therefor, and such proposal, if made in 1908, shall state the changed circumstances which would justify such reopening, and it has been agreed shall be examined and stated by me to be satisfactory, before such reopening is allowed. Upon notice being given under this clause, the procedure laid down in the following clause shall be followed.

3. For the adjustment of all future disputes, and to avoid stoppage of work, any difference arising between managements and their musicians or employees shall be first considered by the parties concerned and (or) their authorised representatives, and in the event of no agreement within a period of three months shall be referred to three persons, two to be appointed by the parties and one by the General Federation of Trade Unions, and if such persons shall not be able to meet, or do not agree upon a decision within one month, it has been agreed that such difference shall be referred to me, or, failing me, to another arbitrator to be appointed by the Board of Trade, whose decision shall be final and binding.

4. Upon any difference being referred to me or to another arbitrator as aforesaid, it has been agreed that both parties shall, as a precedent to arbitration, deposit the sum of £20 each with the arbitrator who may out of such sum award costs to either party.

This award shall come into operation one month from the date hereof.

AND I FURTHER AWARD AND DECLARE that with regard to the whole of this award any questions upon the construction or interpretation shall be referred to me for decision.

AS WITNESS MY HAND this fourteenth day of June, One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seven.

(Signed) GEORGE RANKEN ASKWITH.

"THE CAFE CONCERT."

A Sketch, in Two Scenes, by Charles Parsons and Will Ashworth, produced at the Empress Theatre, Brixton, on Monday, June 17.

Excuse for the introduction of many lively if rather disconnected, incidents is given in this musical sketch by the adventures of a certain detective named Gas, who, with the aid of various disguises, eventually arrests a bookmaker who is in the act of taking the odds in a certain shady café, where a variety concert is in progress. There are great possibilities in the sketch, but it wants revising and working up. Mr. Mike Johnson as the Detective has most of the work to do, and gives a very excellent rendering of his part. Mr. Will Ashworth as Solly Lewis, a racing tipster, does his work very well; Mr. James Mannon as the landlord supplies what is required; and Mr. Will H. Keith as Boon is responsible for many laughs. Messrs. Charles and William Penn as the two Government clerks are efficient; and the café singer, Claire Constance, is brightly represented by Miss Dolly Glenville. The Sisters Myra do some good dancing. An excellent chorus is ably led by Miss Louise Bernard and Miss Ethel Avis. The music by Mr. C. Blakeslet Yearsley is tuneful, and the sketch is produced under the personal supervision of Mr. Charles Parsons.

DR. WALFORD BODIE IN DONCASTER.

A WONDERFUL PHYSICIAN.
DONCASTER PARALYTICS RESTORED TO VIGOUR.

The famous Dr. Walford Bodie, the electrical hypnotist, who achieves what can only be described as marvels in the direction of the cure of paralysis by his amazing electrical process, is amongst us, and Doncastrians ought to crowd to the Grand Theatre nightly in order to witness his mystifying demonstrations of that power which so very few know much about, and perhaps none fully understand. The name of Dr. Bodie is familiar to all who take an intelligent interest in public events. We have heard much that is good and wonderful of him; and we have known his name to be roughly handled by calumniators, mostly of the medical profession, who, equipped on sterotyped lines in medical science at the colleges, have looked sceptically upon the undoubtedly beneficial results of his skilful electric treatment of cases that have baffled their most eminent exponents of orthodox methods. Very many local cases have passed through Dr. Bodie's hands during his stay in Doncaster, and to-morrow (Saturday) night, subjects of paralysis who have been unable to use the affected limbs for years, some from birth, and have been treated by the Doctor's marvellous process of "bloodless surgery," will appear on the theatre stage before the public, and, on the Doctor's guarantee, are expected to use the erstwhile diseased limbs with comparative, if not absolute, freedom. Dr. Bodie, having no wish to interfere with the good work that doctors are trying to accomplish, does not take any case unless it has been discharged and declared incurable. He has, he says, been charged with using violence upon his patients in order to accomplish his cures, and of causing hæmorrhagic disorder and fracture. This Dr. Bodie most emphatically denies. He contends that no medical man can conscientiously say that the knife is the proper treatment for paralysis, and incidentally he offers to give £500 to the Doncaster Royal Infirmary if it can be shown that he uses undue violence and causes hæmorrhage and fracture. We may pause to remark that so far from his operations causing pain, the patients appear rather to enjoy them. Dr. Bodie does not claim to do anything mystical, because he can easily explain all from a scientific standpoint. The subject of electricity has simply not been studied sufficiently to bring it under the power of man as Dr. Bodie uses it, and so he is in the position of speaking and demonstrating to the lay mind when before the public—professional or otherwise. He charges his body with a tremendous degree of electrical power and effects his work upon human ailment by transmitting the power, according to the character of the disease and temperament of the patient. He guarantees permanent cure if his instructions are carried out, and declares that 60 or 70 per cent. of his patients are permanently cured. Among his many subjects this week is a little girl, whose home is in Milner's Yard, and who is said to have been paralysed since her birth. After treatment the child walked upon the stage, and although not having wholly restored the use to her limbs, Dr. Bodie undertook that this should be accomplished by the end of his visit. Another case is that of William Ward, ten years old, of Bentley-road, paralysed all his life in both feet, able to walk only by the aid of another person, discharged incurable from Leeds infirmary. Dr. Bodie's process appears to be barbarous, for he takes the limb in both hands and apparently smashes it across his knee. The patient in this and other cases, however, showed no signs of pain, except perhaps for a slight twitching of the face. He then proceeds to pass electricity from his body into the diseased limb. After treatment this child, Ward, who had been carried on to the stage, was able to stand alone; by the aid of the doctor he leapt from the chair, and he walked uprightly and unaided from the stage amid the plaudits of the audience. A third case is that of Herbert Gillvray, nine years of age, of Wood-street, Doncaster, paralysed in one foot, discharged incurable from the Doncaster and Leeds Infirmaries. Similar treatment found him not only able to walk, but to run. Dr. Bodie claims to have brought happiness to hundreds of homes, and judging by the demonstrations at the Grand Theatre this week, there is no reason for disputing his claim.—*Vide Doncaster Gazette*, June 7, 1907.

[Photo. by Laird, Aberdeen.

MR. WALFORD BODIE, M.D.

FRED. NEIMAN AND CHARLIE COLBY
AT PALACE, BELFAST.

Frederick Neiman scored a decided success with his animated ventriloquial minstrels, introducing a life-like impersonation of the ever-famous W. J. Ashcroft as "The Solid Man." Colby and May were as good as ever in the ventriloquist and the dancing doll, and Tommy wears the same air of wicked cleverness as of old, and convulses the audience with his pointed repartee.—*Northern Whig*, June 18, 1907.

MR. LEONARD ROBSON'S miniature farcical comedy, *The Girl from Biarritz*, has proved one of the most successful items on Mr. Jesse Sparrow's programme at Camberwell this week. It is well played by Miss Eileen Concannon, Mr. Wilson Blake, and Mr. Leonard Robson.

MISS JANET ALEXANDER, a talented young artist, who is fast climbing to the top, is creating a big sensation this week at Mr. R. A. P. Williams' Dundee Gaiety. Her répertoire is a most extensive one, her articulation perfect, while her delightful fairy-like dancing, added to a charming stage presence, combines to make her turn artistic and enjoyable.

WE regret to hear that Miss Bella Bashall is very ill, and is lying in the French Hospital, 172, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.C.

OPINIONS ON THE AWARD.

Mr. Henry Tozer.

The Award is the preservation of the Unities. In it are repeated the deductions and definitions made by managers at the meetings of the Conciliation Board, thereby removing any excess of power they apparently possessed under their contracts with artists. Reasonable bars have been enacted for the future, and wise precautions have been taken that artists and managers shall faithfully and equitably fulfil their respective obligations.

The provisions of the Award, which ensure its being observed and remaining undisturbed for some time to come, are admirable, and all employees are safeguarded thereby from heedless agitators, while the important music-hall industry will be preserved from unconstitutional disturbance. It appears to me that the Arbitrator's model contract will undoubtedly be accepted by managers and artists generally, and all our contracts for the future will be bound by the Award. In a case like this there must be anomalies, and it is impossible to provide for every contingency that may arise. But the spirit of fairness we have hitherto felt and shown will guide us in dealing with individual cases which the Award does not provide for.

Mr. Oswald Stoll.

On the one hand, the artists have not obtained anything like the demands put forward in "The Charter of the National Alliance."

On the other hand, the main body of managers have not now all that they had before. Some conditions are relaxed, others are tightened, and some that were hazy are clarified.

The necessity of certain barring clauses to the existence of variety business as a reasonably safe deposit of capital and a reputable calling has been securely established, as I have all along contended it was bound to be.

The Arbitrator appears to have kept two points in view in arriving at his conclusions:—

(1) The need of crystallising conditions essential to the security of the industry as a whole; and

(2) The desire to satisfy everybody.

Personally, I am glad that he was strong enough to keep the first point first. His patience has been remarkable.

I think that the vindication of the barring principle shows that the artist had not one real grievance against the interests I represent, and that the reason why they would not strike against us even after my refusal to sign the "Charter" is thus made quite clear.

The V.A.F.

Mr. Monte Bayly, general secretary of the Variety Artists' Federation, writes to state that the artists are on the whole satisfied with the Award of the Arbitrator on the recent dispute, and that three or four hundred of them, at a meeting at the Empire, Camberwell, passed a vote of thanks to Mr. Askwith. The barring clause, he adds, is more stringent and complicated than was hoped for, but now some finality is attached to barring, and the principle that some restriction must be placed upon it is established.

"THE ERA" AND THE AWARD.

THE *Referee* has kindly remarked that *The Era* deserves great credit for having, at very short notice, issued on Saturday last a verbatim copy of the Award as a special supplement. All concerned, or in any way interested, in the late strike will find *The Era* Award supplement handy to keep in the house or hall, as the case may be.

THE *Encore*, in speaking of Mr. Askwith's award, says: "The award, the long-awaited award, is at length out, and we must congratulate our contemporary, *The Era*, on the enterprise which enabled it to print the full text as an inset and get it through by Saturday morning, a task the difficulties of which only those behind the scenes of a printer's can appreciate."

HORACE WHEATLEY.

AT THE THEATRE ROYAL, EDINBURGH.

Amid the rush for up-to-dateness, it is with pleasure that one sees Mr. Horace Wheatley. In striking contrast to Miss Florence Yaymen's amusing skit on coon singing and dancing is this happy Irishman's impersonation of one of the "good ould sort." He has a way of his own in his patter and songs, all reminiscent of the "little isle," and his neat and seemingly effortless step-dancing is characteristic of a class of humorist that is unfortunately almost unknown now.—*Evening Dispatch.*

AT THE PAVILION, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

The name of Horace Wheatley has been a household word in the music-hall world for many a year. "The Genial Irishman" is full of resource yet . . . . few stories, told with his old humour, and, in response to a warm encore, Mr. Wheatley sang a ditty of "The Hearty Veteran," which went as well as anything."—*Daily Journal*, Dec. 18, 1906.

Horace Wheatley, the genial and versatile Irishman, with his touches of pathos and comedy, and the lightness of his dancing, was a tremendous favourite.—*Northern Gossip.*

AT THE PALACE, GLASGOW.

That genial old Irish comedian, Horace Wheatley, is the attraction at the Palace this week. Horace, although getting very far on in years, demonstrated last night that he is still capable of singing tunefully his little Irish songs. But it is his dancing which fascinates, and after a round of the present-day new-fangled noisy American dances, it is delightful to watch Horace Wheatley's grace of movement and execution. Without a doubt Horace Wheatley is still on the top rung in regard to this branch of the music-hall trade.—*Glasgow News*, May 21.

AT THE PALACE, LEEDS.

There is no lack of goodly entertainment at the Palace this week. Horace Wheatley, with his Irish songs and clever step-dancing, is a host in himself, and bound to find favour with the patrons of the Holbeck house.—*Leeds Mercury*, May 28.

AT THE TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN.

Long before the doors opened at the Tivoli last night a big crowd had asembled in order to make sure of admission to see Horace Wheatley, who is probably the most popular comedian at present on the boards. On taking the stage he was greeted with loud applause, but after he had told numerous funny stories, sung several songs, and given a dance, all in his own inimitable style, he was vociferously encored, and had to give an impromptu dance before the curtains before he was allowed to retire.—*Dublin Evening Mail*, June 11.

THAT popular chorus vocalist, Miss Dora Lyric, is this week topping the bill at Barnard's Palace, Chatham, where she is delighting her audiences and drawing packed houses.

MR. RYDER SLONE will shortly produce an amusing character study, entitled *The Night Watchman; or, This is My Silver Wedding.* It is a fine example of the work always expected from and supplied by C. W. Murphy.

MR. DONAL MACDOUGALL, a Scotch comedian who is proud of his clan, is scoring a gratifying success with his "tartanic" humour at Edinburgh toon, d'ye ken, where he is modest enough to bottom the bill at the Alhambra.

(*For other Variety Notices see pages* 16 *and* 19.)

MISS GIPSY WOOLF.

Miss Gipsy Woolf, the talented music-hall artist, who has just returned to England after a twelve months' Continental engagement, seems to have had some very enjoyable experiences during her travels. Among the towns she visited were Paris, Amsterdam, Cologne, Berlin, Hamburg, Bremen, Leipsic, Hanover, Dresden, Nuremberg, Copenhagen, Christiania, Frankfort, and Brussels.

"I have had a most delightful tour," remarked Miss Woolf to us the other day. "Everything appeared to be in my favour. For instance, while I was at Hamburg, where I appeared at the Hansa Theatre, what is known as the Domzeit was in progress. The whole town was *en fête*, and every theatre in the world was represented either by agents or managers. Everybody of theatrical repute was there, and it was the last occasion on which I saw the late Mr. George Adney Payne. The managers and others were all supposed to meet at the various cafés to talk about business, but it generally meant having a jolly good time. A huge fair was held in the centre of the town, and the different entertainers vied with one another in providing attractions.

"Theatrical life in Germany is very different from what it is in this country. Attached to many of the theatres are restaurants, where the artists can have their meals pleasantly in each other's company. Then the theatres in Germany are incomparably more beautiful than those in Britain, speaking both from the point of view of architecture and interior appointments. The work for the artists is much easier, too. There is no such thing as two shows a night; but, on the other hand, we have to engage in Sunday work, and take part in two performances on that day.

[Photo by Wilcke.

MISS GIPSY WOOLF.

"I thought Nuremberg such a quaint old city. I stayed there a month, and saw all there was to be seen, including the famous clock and the Eisenjungfrau, the terrible instrument of torture used for political prisoners. In Norway we had a lovely time. During our stay in Christiania we used to trudge to the top of the hills and indulge in the wildest feats of tobogganing. They have such a charming custom there at Christmas time. Two or three days before Christmas, and when everything was wreathed in snow, I noticed that from all the windows—even of the poorest houses—big bunches of corn were hanging, and from the trees in the gardens of the big houses corn was also hanging. This was done so as to give the birds a happy Christmas, and I can assure you that if you had seen the empty stalks a few days after Christmas, you would have realised how highly the feathered trible appreciated the festive banquet provided for them. In Amsterdam, where I appeared at the Circus Carre, I was much struck by the variety and picturesqueness of the costumes."

While on the Continent Miss Woolf presented her scena, entitled *Fun in a Cornfield*, in which she was assisted by the six young ladies forming her troupe. The act consisted mainly of singing and dancing, and Miss Woolf introduced for the first time to Continental audiences the popular song "The Zuyder Zee." Owing to the success she attained by this engagement she has had numerous offers to go back to various countries, and in September she commences another tour, which is to last a few months, during which she will visit several of the towns already named.

Miss Woolf—who, by the way, is a daughter of Mr. Jack Woolf, the general-manager of the Queen's, Poplar, and the proprietor of Wonderland—will be touring the provinces for the next few weeks, will shortly produce a new scena, entitled *The Mermaid at Margate*, the words being by Mr. Ballard Macdonald and the music by Mr. Donovan Meher. New and elaborate scenery has been painted for this production, and some dresses have been designed and made by Miss Lily Woolf, of 108, Charing Cross-road, W.C. Miss Gipsy Woolf will take the part of the mermaid, and will be supported by her troupe of eight girls. After returning from the Continent, Miss Woolf goes on the Stoll tour, probably appearing in London for pantomime.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.

Far and away the best feature of the excellent programme provided by Mr. Arthur J. Barclay this week for the delectation of his patrons is the production of the now popular musical-comedy sketch, *The Cruise of H.M.S. Victory*, as performed by Mr. Arthur Watson, Miss Flo Stanley, and their talented troupe. This breezy little play is noticed in another column. Among the variety company are Selby and Myers, who sing "He and I" and patter effectively; the Musical Schafers perform prodigies of harmony on all sorts of weird instruments, and are loudly applauded; Mr. Charles Bignell sings in his well-known rollicking style "I'm the happiest man alive" and "Only twenty-one." A pretty and talented young lady called La Danseuse appears in a speciality entitled *Noel; or, A Child's Christmas Dream*, in the course of which she delights the audience with some capital dancing, including a sailor's hornpipe, a Highland fling, and a sand dance. La Danseuse is warmly received. One of the biggest successes of the week is achieved by the Bouncing Dillons. The gentleman works wonders on the springs, and the lady is no less successful as a graceful acrobat; but the fun waxes fast and furious when a number of lads appear to take part in a "bouncing" competition. The grotesque doings of these youngsters send the audience into screams of laughter. Prizes are to be given on Friday night. Mr. George Newburn's reproduction of the manner of various favourites is decidedly clever, those of Harry Lauder and Geo. Lashwood being the best. A serious sketch, written by G. W. Appleton, entitled *The Unbidden Guest*, is well played by Miss Alice Yorke, Mr. H. Brandon, and Mr. Vernon Sansbury. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope has the usual good show of films.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

TO-DAY (Saturday) there will be sounds of revelry by daylight at Wendover, Bucks, the occasion being the annual outing of the combined staffs of Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter, and the scene that famous hostelry the Red Lion Hotel. Both the Charing Cross-road and the Denmark-street branches will be entirely closed, and rumour hints darkly at a certain decoration to be worn by members of the large party, who will be accommodated with special saloons on the 10.5 a.m. from Marylebone (Great Central). Mr. David and Mr. Fred Day will be among the guests.

MUCH of the interest of that successful revival at the Vaudeville of *Mrs. Ponderbury's Past* centres round an episode concerning a song, and Miss Billie Burke's arch rendering of the said number, which is by Edward Montagu, has caused it to be largely inquired for already. It is entitled "Molly Molyneux," and is published by Messrs. Francis and Day.

AT no period of a strikingly successful career has Mr. Tom Costello been better fitted with well-contrasted songs than he is just now, and the two new numbers introduced to London by him on Monday at the Chelsea Palace are excellent vehicles for showing off his well-known versatility. The verdict of the great provincial cities on his chorus song, "For auld lang syne; or, my home is far away," was fully endorsed by town audiences, and Messrs. Leigh and Pether may be congratulated on having added yet another to the lengthening list of popular favourites written by them in conjunction. His first number, "The ten bob rise," was entirely new, and likewise scored an emphatic and unmistakable hit, and the song, in which the henpecked, trembling "house-worm" relates with fearful joy how he gets his "old pal Joe" to spend his "half-sovereign rise" for him each Saturday, so that his virago of a wife shall not have it, is enriched by "business" invented by the comedian, and the item goes with a scream from beginning to end of four long verses. It is by Edgar Bateman, with music by Bennett Scott, and is published by Messrs. Francis and Day, as is also Mr. Costello's "For auld lang syne."

To Messrs. Francis and Day's "Sixpenny Pops" series has now been added Nos. 377 and 378, namely, "Soon I'm leaving Dublin town" and "I'm a little bit deaf to-day," Edgar Curtis's popular humorous song.

MR. GEORGE LEYTON is to be congratulated on the sterling hit he has made with Messrs. Harrington and Tate's thrilling song-scena, *Lucknow*, at the London Hippodrome. The popular actor-vocalist considers this production the best thing he has yet essayed during his artistic career. Messrs. Harrington and Tate have been singularly successful in "fitting" Mr. George Leyton, as his other two big successes, "Nelson's Name" and "The Wreck of the Birkenhead," are both from the same prolific pens.

MR. GEORGE LASHWOOD, who has been the chief attraction at the Stratford Empire, produced a night or two since a new chorus song entitled "In the Twi-Twi-Twilight." Seldom has a number been launched with such evident and instantaneous signs of success. Everybody was humming the catchy refrain, and by the time the second verse was reached the chorus was taken up and sung by the audience in every part of the house. Mr. Lashwood is very emphatic in stating that it is the biggest chorus he has struck since "Riding on Top of the Car." "In the Twilight" is by Mr. Charles Wilmott and Mr. Herman E. Darewski. Messrs. Francis and Day are the publishers.

DENHAM HARRISON, the well-known composer and musical director, has been engaged by Mr. F. R. Benson to conduct and superintend the musical arrangements in connection with the big pageant to be given at Romsey on the 25th, 26th, and 27th inst., to celebrate the one thousandth anniversary of the founding of the Abbey by King Edward the Elder in the year 907.

THE performing rights of a new song, entitled "Sweet flowers of Spain," have been acquired by Miss Sylvia du Barry, who will feature it in town at the end of the month. It is by T. M. Down and Ernée Woodville, and the combination of brilliant bolero for the verse and a dreamy refrain will make the morceau much sought after when published.

FELIX MCGLENNON is again to the fore, and has this week placed with the Star Music Co. a charming Irish ballad with the pretty title "Blackbird." Artists who remember the hundreds of successes Mr. McGlennon has written will be glad to find his hand has lost none of its former cunning in the composition of attractive lines, and his natural gift of melody has enabled him to compose one of the prettiest of tunes, the lilt of which is quite irresistible.

DURING the past week the Star Music Co. have had quite a rush for copies of Percy Edgar and Kenneth Lyle's dashing light comedy song, "You can't do without a girl." This desirable state of affairs is undoubtedly due to the enormous success made with this number by George Leyton. Pierrots note!

THE many artists who have requested permission to sing Castling and Murphy's dainty Welsh love song, "On the Isle of Anglesey," will be glad to know the Star Music Co. are now giving a limited number of permits for this big winner.

MR. HARRY CADLE has written the Monte Carlo Publishing Co. a most eulogistic letter, concerning the success of his clever youngsters engaged in *Casey's Court*, in their rendering of Mr. J. F. Lambe's popular song, "Queen of Old Samara." Even in far-away Dunoon, on the banks of the Clyde, pierrots are winning enthusiastic plaudits with this charming number, which certainly bids fair to become the biggest of the present season's song successes.

NIPPER LUPINO LANE is one of the latest artists to exploit the Monte Carlo Publishing Co.'s popular songs. He will specially "feature" Messrs. Mellor, Lawrance and Gifford's Dutch song, "I'm going back to the Fatherland," at the Palace Theatre, Shaftesbury-avenue, on Monday next, and later in the week purposes producing "Georgie from Georgia," by Pelham and Rule. Needless to state, both of these well-known numbers are included in the enterprising Berners-street firm's "Sixpenny Successes" series.

MR. CHARLES WHITTLE has secured from Charles Ridgewell, the author and composer, of "I'm Billy Muggins," a comic song entitled "I'm-Dunn—Mister Dunn," in which the singer will again portray a cautious tyke who is not such a fool as he looks.

MR. F. V. ST. CLAIR, before leaving town, disposed of no less than eleven songs to the publishers. His "Flying Machine" song, which has a haunting melody, is already sold for Birmingham, Glasgow, Newcastle, Manchester, and Edinburgh pantomime. Messrs. Price and Reynolds are publishing several of his latest numbers.

"GIVE ME THE SHIPS" is a new naval song sung by A. R. Moyle, the descriptive baritone vocalist. It is written and composed by Mr. F. V. St. Clair, and has a fine breezy melody.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

Fairs Ahead.

THE fairs ahead for next week are Bromsgrove, on the Midland; Cambridge, on the Great Eastern, Great Northern, London and North-Western, and Midland; Farnham, on the London and South-Western; St. Just (Cornwall), on the Great Western; Willersey, on the Great Western; Bridgwater, on the Great Western; Newcastle-on-Tyne, on the North-Eastern and North British; Halifax, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire and Great Northern Joint; Yeovil, on the Great Western and South-Western; Andover, on the London and South-Western; Bolton-by-Bolland, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Folkestone, on the South-Eastern; Saltash, on the Great Western; Belper, on the Midland; Brampton, New (Derby), on the Midland; Duckmanton, on the Midland; Eckington, on the Midland; Edensor, on the Midland; Elmton, on the Midland; Winster, on the Midland; Farcham, on the London and South-Western; Reedham, on the Great Eastern; Fraserburgh, N.B., on the Great North of Scotland; Renfrew, on the Glasgow and South-Western; Lydney, on the Great Western and Midland; Ton-y-Pandy, on the Taff Vale Railways.

News from the West.

MESSRS. ANDERTON AND ROWLAND'S company, comprising *inter alia* the Sisters Anderson, vocalists and danseuses; Chas. Bruno, comedian; Fox, ventriloquist; and Miss E. May, dancer and song illustrator, in their grand theatre of varieties, have been playing to bumper houses in Newquay during most of this week. This show was visited by the Lord Mayor of London when at Helston, when the Lord Mayor congratulated Captain Rowland on the excellence of his show, and wished him every success. Particular mention must be made of Miss E. May, whose charming singing has evoked enormous applause throughout the western counties. This talented little lady should have a strong future ahead of her.

Astwood Bank.

AT Astwood Bank we have Herberts' roundabouts, park swings, shooting-saloons, bottle battery, cokernut sheets, &c.

A GRAND fête and sports will be held at Astwood Bank on Saturday, July 13.

Feckenham.

FECKENHAM WAKES will be held on Monday, July 1, not July 8, as falsely circulated. Feckenham is about nine miles from Bromsgrove.

Brierley Hill Fair.

THE venue of the fair was Locks-lane, and the ground was well arranged, and all the show novelties well displayed. The shows were Manders' star menagerie, and Sagar's palace of delight. The machines were P. Collins' racing cockerels and wheeley-whirley; Mrs. Hayes' yachts; Beach and Scarfe's overboats; throwing games, stalls, &c., by Messrs. Humphries, Whyall, Wagstaff, Stokes, Cooper, and others.

Aylesbury June Fair.

AT this fair Messrs. H. Thurston and Sons' new mountain motor-cars proved the chief attraction. Messrs. Biddall Brothers also visited the town with their two bioscope exhibitions. The smaller element was supplied by the usual local caterers, Messrs. C. Saunders, H. Brett, H. Smith, &c. Considering the unsettled weather business was very brisk.

Redditch.

REDDITCH SUMMER FAIR was held on the recreation ground, and was maintained by P. Collins's Wonderland (a magnificent show); also Wall's midget exhibition; Collins's three machines—the helter-skelter, lighthouse, the motor-cars, and the steam-yachts; midget horses by Wright and Cordwell; shooting-saloons, bottle batteries, stalls, strikers, and other novelties by Messrs. Wright, Cordwell, Powell, Parkins, Harris, and others. This is the first helter-skelter that has visited this town, and the large show and organ of Collins's has been the talk of Redditch and district.

The Guild Chaplain on Tour.

TO-MORROW (Sunday) the Organising Chaplain of the Showmen's Guild will address meetings of showpeople, both in the afternoon and evening. The gatherings will take place in Messrs. Tuby and Sons' Coliseum and Theatre of Varieties on the fairground. The evening meeting will take the form of the Guild Service, and Mr. Horne will be assisted by the Vicar of Mexboro' and the parish church choir.

Mitcham Fair, 1907.

WE draw our readers' attention to the special article on this subject in another portion of this page. Mr. Horne, the organising chaplain, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, of *The Era*, and Mr. Alf. Ball have been in conference this week with regard to the latest developments of this question, and it will be seen that important action is to be taken immediately. On Wednesday last Messrs. Horne and Ball spent many hours in Mitcham making necessary forward arrangements for a big public demonstration on the fairgreen next Thursday. As they passed through the village, eager men and women came rushing out from shop and cottage doorways to ask the important question, "Will there be a fair?" To all and sundry Mr. Ball, whose very presence is a guarantee of good faith, strength, and stability, gave the eminently satisfactory answer: "Yes; there will be a fair." But neither Mr. Horne nor Mr. Ball would be drawn any further than making that general statement.

Richmond (Yorks) Fair.

THE shows and machines at this fair included Murphy's cinematograph theatre, and the riding-machines and swings of Messrs. Crow, Shipley, Cowie, and Buck, the shooting concerns, throwing games, and varieties of Messrs. Harker, Cowie, Crow, Buck, and sundry local caterers.

Rawtenstall Fair.

THE Lancashire showmen have taken advantage of the security of their position at Rawtenstall by attending this fair in remarkable strength as regards the high-class quality of the concerns and the number of their exhibits. The cinematograph shows were those of Colonel Clark and James Norman, and with them were associated Bailey's circus; La Neve and Norah Sullivan, in feats of strength, and their charming bevy of lady wrestlers; Senator Leo's platonic phantasy; E. Ball's midget exhibition; Charles Relph's novelties and Mrs. Birch's aquatics. The machine list included the local caterers, and Mrs. Susan Holden and Tom Holden's ostrich-farm set and twin steam yachts. The other big machines were W. Mitchell, jun.'s, motor cars, Geoghegan's steam roundabouts, and R. H. Williams's tunnel railway. The swings were provided by Messrs. Slater and Shuttleworth; the bazaars by Messrs. Jameson and Bunhalls; varieties, throwing games, and shooting galleries by Messrs. Williams, Sharpe, Royle, Horton, Butterworth, T. Slater, Gallagar, Shorrocks, the Lorenzo Family, and the Jennings Family.

Mr. Alf. Ball's New Show.

THE metropolitan district will soon be distinguished by another entirely up-to-date cinematograph show front. Made to the special order and under the expert advice and supervision of the proprietor this wonderful example of high art on the fairground is the latest production of Messrs. Gabioli et Cie., of Paris. Mr. Ball is now concluding an eminently successful season at Tilbury Docks, and he expects the arrival of his new show next week. He will stay ten days or a fortnight longer at Tilbury Dock, erecting and practically testing the capabilities of his new venture before taking it out on the road. We heartily join in the congratulations of Mr. Ball's many friends upon this step forward and upward in his profession.

White City, Old Trafford.

NOTWITHSTANDING the tardiness of summer, thousands of well-pleased patrons have visited the White City, Old Trafford, Manchester, where mirth and merriment have reigned supreme since the gates were thrown open to the public some five weeks ago. The principal features of the City of Pleasure, as it has been aptly termed, are now in good running order, and new attractions are being added from time to time. It is without doubt the most extraordinary as well as the most beautiful place of its kind anywhere. One can now fully appreciate the work done by managing director J. Calvin Brown, who sustains the reputation made by him as a veritable "wizard."

MR. HENRY DRAKE'S Zingari Pierrots give acceptable performances. Simbri, the Oriental illusionist and magician, is here this week, mystifying good houses. Milton's Marionettes are also a good attraction. The Black Dyke Band conductors, Mr. John Gladney and Mr. Harry Bower, provide an excellent programme in the grounds, and the White City orchestra, conductor, Herr Leon Weltman, also perform in the ballroom. Another addition which is popular is P. Collins's razzle-dazzle. A grand fancy dress carnival was announced for to-night (19th inst.).

Scene in a Menagerie.

THE menagerie of Herr Hagenback at Hamburg has been the theatre of a tragic incident. One of the attendants discovered that a tiger was ill. He informed the manager, and led him to the tiger's cage. As soon as he opened the door, however, the attendant slipped and fell on the floor. In a moment the tiger was upon him and seized one of his arms. Herr Hagenbeck, in his efforts to force the tiger off the attendant, was bitten on the face. Finally other employés of the menagerie arrived and rescued the two men. The manager is not seriously injured, but the attendant's arm is almost entirely clawed off.

ANSWERS TO SHOWMEN.

H. SPENCER WILLIAMS (Wrexham).—*The compilation of the list of fairs involves a great deal of trouble and time. We never begin this exacting work for the ensuing year until September or October, the current one, and the list is never published for the New Year until the middle of January. We quite recognise your difficulty, but we cannot help you beyond suggesting that it might serve your purpose to write to the Market Inspectors of the towns you wish to take in your tour for 1908.*

MR. ARSCOTT (Toronto, Canada).—*Many thanks for your paper. We have heard nothing of any value to you this side. Wish you every success in your present work.*

WALTER WILMOT.—*The Guild Chaplain regrets that absence on tour in Wales prevented him receiving your letter before Wednesday morning. We trust that you got the copy of "The Era," but if it did not reach you send your address for this week-end to the Publisher, "The Era," and a copy of this week's paper will be forwarded.*

JAMES LEO.—*Many, many thanks. We rejoice that you are resuming your good work of correspondence.*

DEATH OF A FAMOUS DWARF.

The people at the fair at Sparkhill, Birmingham, and indeed the wider circle of the showman world, were deeply saddened by the news of the death of Mrs. Sophia Morris, professionally known as Mme. Small, the lady midget. The deceased lady toured the county for many years with her husband, professionally known as General Small. The General died two years ago, and for some time past Mrs. Morris has been in poor health. The funeral, which attracted a large concourse of people, took place at the Yardley Cemetery, at Birmingham. The coffin was of polished English oak, with brass fittings, and bore the inscription: "Sophia Morris. Died June 7, 1907. Aged 34 years." The tiny coffin (a child's size, the little lady only being 3ft. 4in. in height) was drawn to the cemetery in a four-horse hearse, and was covered with many floral tributes of esteem and respect from her wide circle of friends and acquaintances. The principal mourner was the midget daughter of the deceased, known as "Pansy," and in the mourning coaches (five in number) were—Mr. John Hastings and his son, Mr. Goddard (brother of the deceased), Mr. Chamberlain (Leicester), Mr. Shaw (Brighouse), Mr. Haydn, Mr. and Mrs. Mercer (Salford), Mr. and Mrs. Deekes, Mr. and Mrs. Proctor and daughter (of circus fame), Mr. and Mrs. Lee, Mr. Leonard Harris, Mrs. Horton, Mrs. Jones, the wife of Tich of Collins's Fair (who was unable to be present owing to an engagement), Mrs. Wall (of show fame), Mrs. Humphries, and Mrs. Andrews (of the Wellington Inn, Small Heath). The bearers were employees of Mr. John Hastings and fellow-workers of the deceased. Floral tributes were received from deceased's brother, Mr. Goddard, of Bradford; Mr. and Mrs. P. Collins (Walsall), Mr. and Mrs. John Collins (World's Fair, Liverpool), a pretty little wreath from her daughter Pansy, a cushion in flowers with the words "Rest in the Lord," from her employer, Mr. Hastings, a harp of lilies from Mr. and Mrs. Mercer (Salford), Mr. and Mrs. Humphries (Great Bridge) (wreath), fellow employees (wreath), anchor from the employees of John Collins, Golden Hillock road, wreath from Tich and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Horton (wreath), Mr. and Mrs. Deekes (anchor), and also from Mr. and Mrs. Haydn, Mr. and Mrs. Dobson, Mr. Herbert Lewis (Manchester), Mr. and Mrs. Wall, Mr. and Mrs. Vallus, the employees of Mr. Mercer, the employees of Mr. Collins (Fun Fair, Leamington), Mr. and Mrs. Lee, and Mr. and Mrs. Andrews (Small Heath).

The funeral arrangements were conducted by Mr. H. Humphries, of Great Bridge, the carriages being supplied by Messrs. Ambler Bros., Longmore-street.

THEATRICAL PATENTS.

The concise descriptions that we give below are specially contributed by Messrs. Howard and Co., patent agents, 57 and 58, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., who will assist our readers in all matters appertaining to inventions:—

2,851.—Seats. J. Taylor, Clifton-drive, Ansdell, Lytham, Lancs. A seat for theatres and other purposes of the type in which a waterproof or like cover is secured over the seat and released and drawn back by a weight, spring, or the like when the occupant rises; is provided with a rocking front which disengages the cover when the occupant sits down. The cover is secured to a hook or fastener under the rocking front, so that when a person sits down the lower part of the front pushes the cover off, and enables it to be drawn back automatically by a roller weight when the occupant rises. Two covers are preferably employed for each seat. Instead of each end of each cover being secured inside the seat and separate weights employed, the two covers may be in one piece, one end arranged to pull out in one direction and the other in the opposite direction, and one weight may be employed to draw both ends inwards. The covers also may be arranged in the back of the seat, or both in the back and underneath the seat.

THE FIGHT FOR MITCHAM FAIR.

There is little honour in being a prophet after the event, but it is universally conceded that when a prophet prophesies in advance of the event, and is thereby in due time justified, there is considerable reward and occasion for satisfaction. When the whole of the London Press announced last year the abolition of Mitcham Fair, we not only contradicted this very definite statement, but we ventured to prophesy that the fair would take place as usual. The fair did take place, and a demonstration of Mitcham people and their friends in defence of their fair rights also took place on the Fair Sunday. The Conservators and a number of gentlemen who claimed to be the owners of the fair franchise issued a proclamation stating that "No ground would be let on the ancient Fair-green to showmen or other traders." The old tenants, showmen, and others did, however, draw up on the Green, and did hold the fair, despite the unknown terrors of the joint proclamation of the Mitcham Conservators and owners of the franchise.

What Happened to the Showmen.

Because the Home Secretary did not issue an order stopping the fair the County Police refused to take action, and simply stood by as spectators of the struggle between the daring showmen and the autocratic Conservators. An action for trespass was entered in the High Court against three of the daring show tenants—Messrs. Ball, Wilson, and Hill. This injunction would have been contested but for the unfortunate complication of the legal issues involved in the "belated" discovery of extraordinary (so-called) powers possessed by the Conservators under an Act of Parliament obtained by them sixteen years ago. These powers gave them no right to abolish of their own free will the old Charter fair, but it did contain provisions for compensating the Lord of the Manor (or his assigns) for any money loss that might ensue under a scheme of so-called improvement of the common lands carried out by the Conservators. In their "Statement of Claim" the Conservators stated that when they issued their order forbidding shows to draw on to the Fair-green, and thus practically stopping the fair for 1906, they were acting under the provisions of this private Act of theirs, and in furtherance of a (hypothetical) improvement scheme for the common lands. This "new issue" entirely changed the face of affairs as it was then disclosed to the showmen. The defendants, Messrs. Ball, Wilson, and Hill, took counsel's opinion upon the new situation. The Honourable Ewen Charteris, the eminent Parliamentary barrister, who for many years past has specialised in the niceties of the law as touching showmen's business, gave it as his opinion that this private Act of Parliament might be held to give the Conservators powers to absorb by compulsion (and necessary compensation) the existing fair franchise as regards the collection of rents and tolls.

The Conservators Could Not Abolish the Fair.

This could only be done under the provisions of the Abolition of Fairs Act, with the consent of the Home Secretary. The significance of this element in the matter will be seen when it is remembered that the Home Secretary refused to abolish the fair in 1906. Had it not been for the discovery of their new claim to proceed under a private Act of Parliament the Conservators would undoubtedly have found themselves in the position of having grossly exceeded their authority in forbidding showmen and traders to carry on a fair which had not been constitutionally abolished. Had there been the straight issue only between the showmen and the Conservators of the abolition of the fair, and the claim to override the decision of the Home Secretary, there would have been no doubt as to the ultimate victory of the showmen and fair-ground traders. The "new issue" raised the possibility of a long and expensive suit in the High Court, and the friends of the defendant showmen did not advise them to accept the financial responsibility which such a suit would have involved. The consequence was that they accepted the injunction which bound them not to trespass again upon the Fair-green. And once more there came the chorus of the daily Press, "Mitcham Fair verily and indeed abolished."

The Real Points at Issue.

The first and the most important point is that up to the present moment Mitcham Charter Fair is not abolished. It is true that three showmen are under a ban of the High Court, and that these men, until the point is finally settled as to the assumed powers of the Conservators, dare not draw up on the Fair-green. The second point is that the Conservators are so uncertain as to their powers (under which they have already penalised Messrs. Ball, Hill, and Wilson) that they are again asking the Home Secretary to abolish the fair. It is an interesting comment on the present state of affairs at Mitcham that the friends of the autocratic Conservators on the Parish Council have persuaded that body to join them in their crusade against the continuance of the fair.

Divided Counsels.

From what we have been able to learn, there appear to be three parties (divided on this question of the fair) on the Mitcham Parish Council. The first party is pledged to abolition at any cost and at all risks. The second party, and probably the largest group, is pledged to the removal of the fair to a more convenient site; and the third party are definitely opposed in the interests of the people to the abolition of the fair. The misfortune up to the present moment has been that for all practical purposes, and certainly upon all the issues raised up to the present, parties number one and two have acted together, leaving the defenders of the fair in a decided minority. We are confident that the moment has arrived for endeavouring to bring about a better understanding between the party whose only object is to remove the fair to a better site and the sturdy champions of the fair who constitute the third group. A union thus effected between those who would improve the fair and those who insist on maintaining it would leave the abolitionists in a hopeless minority.

The Appeal to the People.

The Showmen's Guild, fully realising the position of affairs at Mitcham, has determined to take immediate action to arouse and to lead public opinion, and we confidently anticipate that when Mitcham has asserted itself in defence of its ancient fair, and given a proper lead and mandate to its enlightened representatives on the Parish Council, the small clique that stands for the spoliation of the people's ancient Fair rights and franchises will meet with the ignominy and the defeat that they so justly deserve. To illustrate the machinations of this narrow clique who stand pledged to the abolition of the fair at all costs, we reproduce from the local Press the extraordinary arguments of the friends of the Conservators, who moved the Parish Council to support the Conservators in yet another application for the abolition of the fair.

Mr. Aldwinckle moved:—"That the Conservators of Mitcham Common be urged to follow up the proceedings which they have already taken with the view of abolishing the annual fair by making another application to the Home Secretary for an order closing the fair for ever." Mr. Aldwinckle said he hoped the Council would be unanimous. The Council by grant and public subscription had acquired the right of the fair from the owner, Mrs. Bailey, with a view of getting it abolished. These rights could not be abolished except by an order signed by the Home Secretary. He thought they were nearly all agreed in England that the present Home Secretary was by no means a strong man, a man not likely to do anything of that kind on his own initiative unless he was forced to or backed up by public opinion. He therefore asked for the unanimous support of the Council in order that the Conservators could again approach the Home Secretary, who, he believed, had again this year refused to issue an order for the abolition of the fair. Last year he refused to issue the order because the notice was too short. The situation was also this, that the Conservators had obtained an injunction against the showmen, or a number of the showmen, but there was nothing to prevent them holding the fair, such as the selling of merchant goods, fried fish, or for having cheap Jacks there, unless they got this order. Their position was an intolerable one, because they had the Fair-green a desert waste. If they had this order they could make it a recreation ground or a beautiful garden, and Upper Mitcham would then become like Lower Mitcham—that part of it at any rate—a rural spot marred only by a little hideous modern architecture.

Mr. A. Mizen thought that if the Council made direct application to the Home Secretary it would strengthen the application of the Conservators, who did not directly represent the parish, only four being Mitcham members. He seconded the resolution. The fair rights belonged to the parish, and they were anxious that they should belong to the parish. At present they were held by private individuals who were holding them for safety until such time as the Home Secretary issued the order.

Mr. Baker: Do I understand that if this motion is carried and the Home Secretary accedes to your wishes the rights of the people, so far as the fair is concerned, will be done away with?

The Chairman: On the Fair-green.

Mr. Baker: They won't prevent us holding a fair.

The Chairman: They cannot hold it on the Fair-green.

Mr. Baker: We could hold it somewhere else.

Mr. E. Mizen: Who will?

Mr. A. Mizen: They are opening one at Merton.

Mr. E. Mizen said the Conservators had received many applications with reference to the holding of the fair. So far as the Conservators were concerned they were quite welcome to hold it in any public-house yard or anywhere else so long as it was not on the Common. As a matter of fact, a fair was often held at Gorringe Park at different times of the year.

Mr. Baker said that was on private ground. He took it that the Council desired that nothing should happen that would in any way interfere with the rights of the people. As one of those returned at the last election to safeguard, as far as possible, the ancient rights of the people, he was not anxious that the fair should be held on the Fair-green, but he believed that it should be held year after year.

The motion was carried, eleven voting for it and four against. With regard to this move on the part of the "friends of the Conservators," we have only to remark that we hear (apparently for the first time) that the Home Secretary has already refused to issue an order abolishing the fair this present year of grace. "Last year," said Mr. Aldwinckle, "the Home Secretary refused because the notice was too short," and their position was evidently a worse one this year, for he has again refused, and given no reason. Another curious piece of information is, that there is a doubt as to the ownership of the rights purchased from Mrs. Bailey. Mr. Aldwinckle said that the Council had acquired by grant and public subscription the rights of the fair from the late owner, Mrs. Bailey, but Mr. A. Mizen (who ought to know) said that at the present the fair rights were held for safety (for whom and for what?) by private individuals who were holding them (evidently afraid of the Council) in their own hands until such time as the Home Secretary falls into line (persuaded by the pushful Mr. Aldwinckle) to "toe the line," and to issue the necessary order to legalise (or regularise) the autocratic action of the all-powerful Conservators.

The Guild Executive and the Fight for Mitcham.

In consideration of the important fact that there are vital principles at stake, touching the life and liberty of every showman in this question (complicated as it is) of the defence of Mitcham Fair, the Showmen's Guild has determined to definitely enter the arena and to help the people of Mitcham to maintain their old-time pleasure fair. Showmen throughout the country will see that it is of the most vital importance to them that any public body arrogating to itself the right to override the Statute law of the land and to abolish (whether by a subterfuge or a perversion of the law) an existing fair should be fought with all the power possessed by the organised showmen of the Empire. We have always recognised that "The Abolition of Fairs Act" does provide proper machinery for the abolition of fairs that no longer serve any useful purpose, but we do not recognise the right of either corporations or individuals to abolish a fair without an appeal to the traders and the people concerned as provided by the Statute. Last year the Showmen's Guild, as in duty bound, petitioned against the proposed abolition of Mitcham Fair. The Guild petition was supported by petitions from individual traders in Mitcham itself, and the result of the agitation was—the refusal of the Home Office to grant abolition. In the Guild petition the showmen recognised that the justice of the matter would be met by removing the fair to a more commodious and less dangerous site. The Home Secretary, in his reply to the various petitioners, approved of this suggested removal of site. In repeated interviews and official communications between the Guild Executive and the Mitcham Conservators, the showmen have frequently urged the removal of the fair to the Three Kings portion of Mitcham Common. To all these suggestions and *pourparlers*, the Conservators (with all politeness) turned a deaf ear. The Showmen's Guild has failed to move "the powers that be," and they now appeal from "the would-be masters" to the real masters of the situation—the sovereign people. If the people, properly appealed to, decide that they do not want the fair, then will the showmen take their goods and their talents to other markets.

Proposed Meetings and Petitions.

On Thursday next, June 27, the Guild will hold a public demonstration in favour of the fair at seven o'clock in the evening on Mitcham Fair-green. The chair will be taken by Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, of *The Era*, and one of the honorary treasurers of the Guild; and amongst the speakers will be the Rev. T. Horne, Mr. T. Watson Wright, and a number of local gentlemen, members of the Parish Council and others interested in preserving the fair for the people of Mitcham. A resolution asking the Parish Council to reconsider the claim of the people to their old Charter Fair, and further requesting them to oppose the abolition petition which is now being promoted with a view to influence the Home Secretary against the fair will be proposed. A resolution will also be proposed asking them to accede to the wish of the people and to remove the fair from the Fair-green to the more suitable site on the Three Kings Common. A monster petition will be opened for the people of Mitcham to sign against the proposed abolition, but at the same time expressing willingness to accept removal to a better fairground.

What Must London Showmen Do?

Here is a big struggle for the retention of a fair that is not dying out, but (given more room to expand) would develop into the finest pleasure fair within the Metropolitan district. The vast residential area, "London over the Surrey border," is growing by leaps and bounds, and to preserve a fair in the midst of its teeming multitudes is of the utmost importance to the business prosperity of the show industry. We therefore appeal to every London showman who can possibly get away from his concern, or who is at the present time within easy access of Mitcham, to rally round the executive officers of the Guild.

EDUCATION FADDISTS ON THE WARPATH.

At the recent annual meeting of the County Councils Association, under the presidency of Lord BELPER, held at the Guildhall, Westminster, a discussion took place on a proposal to promote a Bill in Parliament to secure the registration of van and tent dwellers.

Sir WILLIAM VINCENT, in opening the discussion, dealt with the legislation required for dealing with the nomad classes. He said they had received expressions of opinion from thirty-seven County Council Committees in England and Wales, and of these, thirteen favoured legislation, in addition to several others who had signified their assent in 1898. London qualified its opinion. On the previous Sunday he had a census taken in Surrey, and found there were 1,518 inhabitants of vans and tents, of whom 340 were of school age. Only forty-four of these children were attending school in the county or receiving any education. Registration seemed of the very first importance, and it was suggested that all temporary dwelling should be licensed by the County Councils and registered as belonging to a certain district. The Act should contain clauses dealing with the education of the children. He moved that the matter be referred to the Executive Council.

Mr. J. W. WILLIS BUND (Worcestershire) seconded, and this was carried.

Following upon this discussion, Mr. WHITEHEAD, M.P., put the following question in the House of Commons:—"To ask the Secretary to the Treasury whether vans used as dwellings are subject to any duty corresponding to Inhabited House Duty or the licence duty on carriages; or, like motor-cars, are required to be registered and to bear a reference number; and if not whether His Majesty's Government, with a view to more effective control over dwellers in vans by the sanitary, police, and education authorities, will introduce legislation to provide for such registration, bearing of a reference number, and payment of a licence duty."

Mr. RUNCIMAN, Under-Secretary of State to the Treasury, made the following reply:—"I am informed that vans used as dwellings by the gipsy class are not chargeable with licence duty. They are trade carts, and hawkers' licences are taken. Caravans used as dwellings for pleasure, or other than trade purposes, are carriages within the meaning of the Act, and chargeable with licence duty."

The Danger to Showmen Van-Dwellers.

We recognise fully that the main purpose of these educational faddists is to capture for the education machine the child of the gipsy and the travelling hawker; but our complaint is, and we must never tire of reiterating it, that until our County Councillors and Members of Parliament recognise that in all proposals of this drastic nature that showmen and fairground traders using vans must be exempt, we shall be obliged to oppose all such wide-embracing and misleading proposals. In the Moveable Dwellings Bill introduced in the year 1892 there were proposals of a like character to those mentioned above. Clause I. provided that no moveable dwelling should be used as a place of abode until it had been registered, and stated serious penalties for the neglect of registration. Clause II. provided that the Local Government Board should have powers to make, revoke, and vary regulations respecting the registration of moveable dwellings and the granting of certificates of registration, and providing for the labelling of such dwellings, and embodied serious penalties for non-compliance with the Act. And Clause III. provided that every county authority should carry the Act out and appoint officers for the purpose.

The object of these proposed regulations was to bring (according to the promoters of the Bill) van-dwellers under the ordinary sanitary and educational laws of the land.

The Men Who Never Learn.

The present group of education faddists in the House of Commons and their fellow-workers on our public bodies are evidently inspired by the same narrow, fanatical bitterness of spirit that moved George Smith and his fellow-workers twenty years ago. These men never learn; they have allowed themselves to become sterotyped, and no matter how the world may move along progressive lines and become more tolerant of the difficulties and complexities of human life, these educational "Chadbands" go about endeavouring to make everything come within the measurement of their "two-foot rule—exact compliance with an iron-shod law." Men and women and dear children must be broken 'neath this iron heel of their tyrannical creation; family life, and all that is meant by love of home—father, mother, child—all these must be destroyed that the fads and fancies of these men may prevail.

What the Showman Has Done.

He has proved again and again before Committees of the House of Commons, and he has expounded and defended from a thousand platforms, the indisputable truth that the educational machinery of the State and the multiplicity of private schools (open to the showman's child as to other citizens' children) amply provides for the education of the children of the fairground. For over twenty years the Board of Education has been increasing the educational facilities, and keeping, in both town and country, an open door for the showman's child. The truth of the position to-day is, that no further legislation is required, and that every advantage is taken by showpeople of the ample facilities provided by State education and by the private and secondary schools. We are in a position to demonstrate this.

Misleading Statistics.

Sir William Vincent, in the discussion reported above, states that on a certain Sunday he had a census taken in the county of Surrey, and found that there were 1,518 inhabitants of vans and tents, and of these 340 were children of school age, and that the census afforded the startling fact that only forty-four of these children were attending school in the county or receiving any education. These remarkable figures were discussed by the executive of the Showmen's Guild, and it was resolved that a searching analysis of the numbers should be taken, and it should be seen how far these figures applied to the children of travelling showpeople, the probability being that the census related entirely to certain large settlements of gipsies in the county of Surrey. The executive of the Showmen's Guild again protest against the misleading assumption that "gipsy" and "showman" are synonymous terms. They are compelled to maintain an expensive Parliamentary Scrutiny and Defence Agency in order to make this protest upon every occasion when, whether in Parliament or out of it, the words "van-dweller" and "tent-dweller" are used in such a vague and misleading manner as to imply that they cover all persons who use tents and vans for the purposes of their avocation in life.

The Need for Continued Defence Work.

We warn our showmen readers that the enemy at their gate is still active, still persistent, and that their object is to stigmatise and label the travelling showman as a fit subject for special and coercive legislation. We ask showmen to notice that the County Councils have formed an association—that they are combined for the purpose of obtaining special legislation to increase their powers. In order to combat this immediate danger it is necessary for every showman and fair-ground trader to join forces by becoming members of the Showmen's Guild. Without a strong combination to fight against these opposing forces both in the country and in Parliament the showman's business will become so hampered and ultimately so injured that it will cease to afford, as it does at the present time, an acceptable, honest, and industrious means of livelihood.

FILM GOSSIP.

Charles Urban Trading Co.

"A BAFFLED BURGLAR" is one of the new picture subjects of this company, for which a great demand may be anticipated, if excellent staging, clever acting, and diverting situations count for success. A burglar, at "work" in a suburban residence, discovered by the lady of the house, is soundly trounced and cowed. Until her husband arrives she makes her unwilling guest nurse and feed her baby; but while he is thus engaged a pair of mice, caught in a cage, alarm the mother, who seizes the child and mounts the table. The burglar liberates the mice, and, under cover of the confusion, makes his escape from the house, only to fall—literally—into the jaws of a little watch dog, who hangs on to his catch to the end of the picture. Many laughable incidents occur in subsequent scenes. The burglar clings to the chassis of a motor, which is followed by another car containing the irate lady and her family. An exciting pursuit, in which burglar and dog are dragged through a stream and bumped along suburban roads, is ended by the arrest of the burglar, while the tenacious dog worries his mouthful of reward.

"HANKY PANKY CARDS" is made up of a series of dainty, clever, and beautiful illusions. A magic pack mysteriously appears, the cards rise one by one from the case, fall to the ground, from whence, in defiance of all natural laws, they rise unaided and re-enter the case. The King and Queen of Hearts leave their cards, gracefully pirouette, embrace, and again resume card form. The Knave materialises, and deals his own suit, and an Ace divides and sub-divides into four aces, the centre of each being filled with an animated face, which indulges in grimaces of a most humorous character. The cards of the whole pack are finally seen to arrange themselves upon the screen, with a smiling, animated "Joker" in the centre.

BOXING CONTEST.—The final boxing contest of the season at the National Sporting Club for £650, and the 8st 10lb. Championship of England between Driscoll and Bowker, is a thrilling reproduction. As the contest lasted for seventeen rounds, it is obvious that a complete picture would be costly, but the Charles Urban Trading Co. has prepared a series in which only the principal features are introduced. These exciting episodes are arranged in their exact sequence, and the stage of the match may easily be seen from the card hanging in front of the Press box. The lighting arrangements for securing these "interior" pictures are so successful that every corner of the N.S.C., and every face in the field of the camera, are reproduced sharply and with complete absence of shadow.

"THE SHORT-SIGHTED CYCLIST" of the same company is still going strong at the Alhambra. Though this exciting and humorous picture has enjoyed a seven weeks' run its popularity is as great as it was on the first night.

Pathé Frères.

THIS company, as usual, are not behindhand in the matter of attractive and original subjects. One of these, bearing the title, "Harlequin's Story," and measuring 1352ft., has some exceedingly novel "effects." Two figures, made up to represent Harlequin and Columbine, have been standing on pedestals for a long time, enjoying in silence each other's company. But Columbine is taken away, and Harlequin goes forth in pursuit. In this eminently chivalrous enterprise he is assisted by pigmies, who build bridges for him, and in other ways render service to him. They set on fire the house whither the pretty doll-maiden has been taken, and Harlequin, searching among the débris, discovers the separate limbs of his beloved, reverently places them in a bag, and subsequently, and, unlike Humpty Dumpty, puts them all together again.

MOTORISTS will find exceeding interest in the new Biograph pictures of the Weybridge motor track now being shown at the Empire. The series reveals the entire course from end to end, and the last film presents us with the big crowd of cars which were seen at the recent private view.

"RED SPECTRE." — Another very attractive film by the same firm is that called "Red Spectre." The Spectre is most assiduous in his attentions to the members of the fair sex. He is gallant enough to give them special consideration. We see two beautiful women standing patiently in the background of the picture while he prepares their destruction. His *modus operandi* is exceedingly simple, but, at the same time, exceedingly effective. He tenderly lifts each victim, lays them on a small table, wraps them in a black shroud, and then, in a mysterious way, they are seen to rise in the air until, having reached a certain point, where it is to be presumed that the atmosphere is of an ultra-tropical nature, they are cremated, and we see the shroud falling away from the bodies in picces. The different scenes and the illusions are most cleverly arranged, and the film, which is 626ft. long, should be in great request.

"THE WOOD-CHOPPER'S DAUGHTER."—Here Messrs. Pathé treat us to a little tragedy. A young fellow, while out shooting in a forest, is wounded and receives first aid at the hands of a wood-chopper and his daughter. He is carried home on a stretcher, but before he leaves the forest it is clear that he has fallen in love with the wood-chopper's pretty daughter. While the young fellow is in a state of convalescence the girl brings flowers and places them outside his window. On one occasion she is picking flowers when she is shot by a gamekeeper. She is conveyed to the house of her lover, and expires in his presence, her death having been brought about in an act of devotion to him. The scenes in this series are beautifully depicted. Another film, "Quick, I'm on Fire!" is of the humorous variety.

Walturdaw Specialities.

SHOULD there ever be a dearth of music hall artists, or even of actors and actresses, it will be possible to find admirable substitutes for them by ingeniously-arranged combinations of the cinematograph and gramophone. We have had already evidence of the success of these artificial entertainers, which enable one to witness scenes from plays and to hear the language of the players and the music of the orchestra. The Walturdaw Company, Ltd., have just brought out the latest contrivance of this character, and they have given it the name of

The Cinematophone.

THIS "singing picture machine," as the patent is described, can be fitted instantly to any existing animated picture machine, and singing and talking pictures can be presented with unerring fidelity and absolute synchronism. The Walturdaw Company have issued their initial series of films and records, which deal with the subject of the recently much-debated opera *The Mikado*. The play was performed for the purpose of the Cinematophone by a company containing many old Savoyards, including the original Koko, Mr. George Thorne. There are some ten scenes, and the songs, duets, and choruses are perfectly audible and understandable, and are in perfect time with the movements of the artists.

IN connection with the Cinematophone the Walturdaw Company have also arranged representations of the violin, xylophone, ocarina, and other musical instruments, as well as whistling. Of course, the invention opens out numberless possibilities, which need not be detailed, and which occur to one's mind at once.

FIFTY YEARS OF THE DRAMA.

Kind expressions from Authors and Managers.

SIR SQUIRE BANCROFT.

"I congratulate you on your 'Fifty Years of the Drama': the list must prove both interesting and useful to lovers of and workers for the stage."

MR. GEORGE EDWARDES.

"I think the new feature of *The Era* is most interesting and useful. A list of plays produced from 1850 to 1900 will certainly be of great service to a very large number of your readers."

MR. EDWARD TERRY.

"An admirable idea, and will prove a most valuable record."

MR. FRANK CURZON.

"Your list, I think, will be most useful for reference."

MRS. W. K. CLIFFORD.

"I think the list will be immensely useful."

MR. SYDNEY GRUNDY.

"Your list will be exceedingly useful. But, of course, there is no reason why old titles should LOT be used again. Indeed, some day we shall have to go back to them. Some of our modern titles, when they are not mere proper names with an adjective attached, display the desperation of the dramatist in too ludicrous a light. Such a title as 'The Importance of Being Earnest' amounts to a misdemeanour."

MR. ARTHUR W. PINERO.

"The list of plays produced during the last half-century is a most valuable record. The thanks of those interested in the theatre are due to *The Era* for this and many other enterprises."

MR. ALFRED SUTRO.

"The list you are compiling will be of very great benefit, and I am looking forward to the time when it shall be complete, and obtainable in pamphlet form."

MR. ARTHUR BOURCHIER.

"Mr. Arthur Bourchier thinks the list very useful indeed."

MR. JUSTIN HUNTLY McCARTHY.

"I have watched with the greatest interest the progress of your alphabetical list of the plays published during the last half of the nineteenth century. It is a most useful undertaking, and when it appears in volume form it must prove of great value to all who are concerned with the drama."

MR. ISRAEL ZANGWILL.

"The list of plays will be very interesting and useful when published in complete form. The etiquette of the profession apparently still allows of novelists' titles being used by playwrights. Thus, *The Master*, which will appear in your list as a play by somebody else, is the name of a book of mine; while the new play, *Noah's Ark*, has the same title as a shorter story of mine."

MR. ARTHUR LAW.

"The publication in *The Era* of a list of plays produced during the fifty years, 1850-1900, is an excellent idea, and will be most useful to authors who may be in doubt as to their right to a certain title. When it is issued in book form I shall be very glad to possess a copy."

MR. TOM GALLON.

"Your idea seems to me to be a most excellent one. Quite apart from the fact that there is always a difficulty in knowing what titles have been used, there very often arises the question of when and where a play was actually produced—a question difficult to be answered. Actors and authors should alike be grateful to *The Era*."

MR. HAROLD MONTAGUE.

"I think the idea of printing a list of plays produced during the last fifty years an excellent one. It should be of great value to authors."

MR. ARTHUR SHIRLEY.

"The list of produced plays was not merely a happy thought, for the same idea has probably occurred to many, though until *The Era* carried it out no one took the pains to collect and publish such a truly valuable record.

"Managers, dramatists, as well as would-be authors, will henceforward have a long list of titles to refer to, and there will be neither reason nor excuse for encroaching on pre-existing copyright in play titles. What a lot of trouble it should save us all!"

MR. WALTER MELVILLE.

"I think it shows great enterprise on the part of your journal, and likely to prove most useful and at the same time interesting to the general profession."

MR. ARTHUR MORRISON.

"The list you are publishing will be a most valuable work of reference to everybody taking an interest in the stage, and I have no doubt that when it is published as a book you will find its success warrant you in issuing fresh editions from time to time, with the information brought to date in each case."

MR. J. J. DILLEY.

"The idea is an excellent one, and there can be no question at all of the usefulness of such a summary."

MR. COSMO HAMILTON.

"I think that your new feature is an excellent and most useful one. A list of plays produced during fifty years is interesting not only to the playgoer, but essentially so to the manager and the playwright. They will only have to consult it to be sure that a title has not been used before."

MR. CHARLES H. E. BROOKFIELD.

"My attention has been called to your list of plays produced between 1850-1900. I have no doubt it will prove interesting and useful to many."

MR. F. FRANKFORT MOORE.

"The list of plays produced during the past fifty years, now appearing in *The Era*, will, I am certain, prove, when completed, extremely valuable to everyone associated with the drama in England. I am convinced—and I have had a considerable amount of experience in this direction—that it will be especially valued by all writers upon stage matters. The advantage of being able to refer at a moment's notice to the criticisms upon the production of various plays in various newspapers must be apparent to everyone. If such a list had been in existence some years ago I would have been saved a vast amount of worry and vexation of spirit. *The Era* has once again proved itself appreciative of the conditions under which the best interests of the drama in England are maintained."

MR. LOUIS N. PARKER.

"I think your list of plays, produced between 1850 and 1900, will, like the other contents of your paper, be invaluable."

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS. ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS.

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TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING. Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E. July 29, Aug. 5, 12, Oct. 28, Dec. 16, Jan. 20, Feb. 10, 17, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING. Oct. 14, Nov. 4, 25, Dec. 2, Feb. 3, 10, 17, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER, Aug. 5, Dec. 2, 9, Feb. 24, March 2, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER, Oct. 14, 21, Nov. 11, 18, Dec. 9, Jan 27, on
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON, Aug. 19, Sept. 16, Nov. 11, 18, Dec. 9, Feb. 10, March 2, 9, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD, Sept. 2, Oct. 7, Dec. 16, Jan. 6, 20, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON, Nov. 18, Dec. 2, 16, Feb. 3, 10, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER, Oct. 7, 14, 21, 28, Nov. 11, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON, Sept. 2, 9, 16, 23, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-Class Companies, GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE, Aug. 12 and 19, Oct. 21.
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD, July 29, Aug. 12.
Address, SIDNEY BACON, Metropole T., Gateshead. Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-Class Companies for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD, Sept. 9, 16, 23, Oct. 7, Nov. 4, onwards.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON, Sept. 30, Oct. 7, 21, Nov. 4, 11, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY, Aug. 12, 19, 26, Sept. 2, 9, 16 (three nights only).
E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-Class Attraction, for August Bank Holiday, opening date Royal Court Theatre, Liverpool, after entire redecoration. Apply, Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR, 24A, Regent-street, S.W.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions, for July 8, Aug. 5, 12, 19, 26, and Sept. 2 and 9. Apply, Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR, 24A, Regent-st., S.W.

BRIDLINGTON SPA THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.
Thoroughly Up-to-date, Re-opens July 29. Electricity throughout; new scenery; large stage dimensions.
WANTED, First-class Attractions. Holds £100 at ordinary prices.
Only Vacant Dates, Sept. 5, 6, 7; 12, 13, 14; 19, 20, 21. Must be the best Attractions on the road.
HENRY HAGUE, General-Manager.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
Sole Lessee, JULIAN MALVERN.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, July 15, 22, and Sept. 23.
Address, CHAS. M. JULIAN, General-Manager.

THE SPA, WHITBY.
WANTED, Good Companies, Sept. 16, and on, July 1, probably vacant for Concert Party, through illness.
DUMFRIES and HAWICK, Vacant Aug. 12 and on, 3 days each Theatre.
OPERA HOUSE, DERRY. Vacant for First-class Companies only (no Dramas), Aug. 19 and on.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, The Spa, Whitby.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, for week of July 15, First-Class Attraction; must be something big.
Wire, "Hustler, Birkenhead."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, High-class Attractions, for Aug. 12, 19, Sept. 2, 9, and onwards, with exceptions.
Required, Big Atraction for Xmas and New Year's Weeks.
Address, THOS. SWINTON.

THEATRE ROYAL, PLYMOUTH.
WANTED, Special Attraction for July 1, July 1. July 1.
Silence in all cases a polite negative.
Apply, Mr. C. F. WILLIAMS, T. R., Plymouth.

KING'S THEATRE, SUNDERLAND.
Joint Managing-Directors, ERNEST STEVENS and R. C. BUCHANAN.
WANTED, through transferring, First-class Attraction, Aug. 5, Aug. 5.
R. C. BUCHANAN, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

THEATRE ROYAL, HEBBURN.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, Sept. 9, 23, Nov. 18, Dec. 16, 30, Jan. 6, First-Class Panto., first in, and on. Bookings include "Grip of Iron," "Three Little Maids," "Toreador," "La Poupée," "Gamester of Metz," "Juno," "When Other Lips," "The Honeymoon," Allan Wilkie.
CHARLES ELDERTON, General-Manager, Whitley Park Grounds, Whitley Bay.

RAMSGATE.
SANGER'S AMPHITHEATRE.
The old-established and popular Theatre.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, Sept. 16 (?), Oct. 14, Nov. 11; also good Pantomimes, Jan. and on.
Address, HENRY BOWMAN.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, Dec. 16 and April 13.
Address, T. ALLAN EDWARDES.

WAKEFIELD OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, Sound Attractions, Aug. 12, 19, 26, Sept. 2, 16, 23, Oct. 7, 21, 28, and Pantomime, Jan. 20 (two weeks) and Feb. 3 (two weeks).
Silence a polite negative for date quoted.
Address, SHERWOOD and COMPANY.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
WANTED, Known. — For Vacant Dates (First-class Companies only), apply, J. RITSON, General-Manager.

WANTED, No. 1 Companies, Aug. 12, 19, 26, Nov. 25, Dec. 9, 16, 23, Jan. 13, 20. MANAGER, King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield.

WANTED, No. 1 Companies, Dec. 16, Jan. 6, 20, March 30. Grand Theatre, Mansfield.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies,

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Vacant June 24, July 1, 8, onward, with exceptions. (Last three nights of each week).

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant July 8, 15, 29, onward, with exceptions.

METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant Aug. 5, 19, onward, with exceptions.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
Vacant Aug. 5, 12, 19, onward, with exceptions.

"THE SPAN OF LIFE."
Vacant July 22, Sept. 2, 30, onward, with exceptions.

"CINDERELLA."
Vacant Feb. 24, Mar. 2, 9, onward, with exceptions.

All communications to ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
The Premier Theatre in the Furness District. Holds £90 at ordinary Prices.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, Vacant July 22, 29, Aug. 12, 19, 26, and various on.
The following, amongst others, are future Bookings for the above Theatre:—
Allan Wilkie, Lingford Carson's Companies, "When it was Dark," "A Little Vagrant," "A Destroyer of Men," "The Breed of the Treshama," "Life of a Showman," Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's Companies, Mrs. D'Oyly Carte's No. 1 Répertoire Company (tenth visit), "Raffles," F. R. Benson's Co. (third visit), Baron H. Harriss's No. 1 Company, "The Prince of Pilsen," Mr. Percy Hutchison's Companies, including "Peter's Mother," Mr. George Edwardes' own Company, in "See-See," Silvanus Dauncey and M. V. Leveaux's No. 1 Company, in "The Walls of Jericho," "The Girl from Japan," "The Sign of the Cross," &c., &c.
All applications for dates to HUGH ROBERTSON, T. R., Jarrow

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.
Proprietor, ALBERT SMITH.
One of the Handsomest and Best-equipped Theatres in the Provinces. Holding Capacity, 3,500.
WANTED, No. 1 Attractions only. Still Vacant Aug. 19 (Race Week), Musical Attraction preferred; share or certainty; also Nov. 25, Dec. 2, 9, and 16.
Open to Negotiate for Easter Panto., 1908, 2 weeks.
All Communications, JNO. ED. JOWSEY, Grand Opera House, Middlesbrough. Telegrams, "Magnet," Middlesbrough. Telephones, 413, 426, 500. Silence a Polite Negative.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions, QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH, July 22, Aug. 5, 12, 19. Playing to big money.
ALBERT THEATRE, BRIGHOUSE, Sept. 2, 16, 23.
MORTON POWELL, Crown Theatre, Peckham, S.E.

WANTED, First-class Companies, THEATRE ROYAL, NORTH SHIELDS, Vacant Aug. 19, Dec. 9, 16.
OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON, Vacant Aug. 12, Nov. 4 (3 nights).
ATHENÆUM THEATRE, LANCASTER, vacant Aug. 12, Nov. 7 (3 nights). 11 (3 nights).
STANLEY ROGERS, 124, Warwick-road, Carlisle.

THE HIPPODROME, BROADWAY, SHEERNESS.
WANTED, First-class Companies Only, Musical or Farcical Comedies preferred. Apply, FRED LEIGHTON, General-Manager.

WANTED, Big Attraction, Aug. 5; also Aug. 26, Sept. 2. WALLACE DAVIDSON, Managing-Director, Theatre Royal, Crook.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLNE, LANCS.
WANTED, Strong Attraction, Aug. 12 (Local Holiday Week, and commencement of Autumn Season; share or certainty. Address, GERALD HARDING.

WANTED, Big Attractions, Aug. 5 (re-opening), 19, Grand, Radcliffe; also Sept. 30, on, Grand, Chorley. Address, SANTE, Theatre, Radcliffe.

MARINA THEATRE, LOWESTOFT.
WANTED, First-Class Pantomime, Jan. 6, first in, vacant through abandonment of Tour. Address, E. A. SMITH.

GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
WANTED, First-Class Musical and other London Attractions, Aug. 12, 19, Sept. 9, 23, Oct. 14, 21, 28; also big Pantomime for Xmas. Address, FRED GRANVILLE, Theatre Royal, Hyde.

WANTED, First-Class Companies (not Dramas) for Aug. dates and onwards. Address, HERR PAREEZER, New Royal Theatre, King's Lynn.

WANTED, Companies vacant July 15, on, big Attraction for Bank Holiday, now booking Autumn. JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum T., Stafford.

GRAND THEATRE, CROYDON.
WANTED, Known, a few Dates still Vacant. First-Class Companies only entertained.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Sept. 2, Opening Week of the Season after Summer Vacation; Sept. 9, 16, Oct. 7, 14, Dec. 2, 16. Wanted, Good Panto., Dec. 30, Jan. 6, 13, 27, Feb. 3, March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30. Apply, JAMES KIERNAN, Owner and Manager.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, Musical Attractions, also Comedies, and Good Drama, for the Autumn. Special Musical Comedy wanted for the Re-opening, Aug. 15. W. E. POTTS.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Peterborough, good Companies, Aug. 5 and 19, Sept. 2, on. A. D. VERNON.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies for two nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. ASHTON, Strand, Barnstaple.

GRAND THEATRE, ABERAVON.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, for August and onwards; nothingtoo big; electric light; scenery all flown. Apply, MANAGER.

KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE, WESTON-SUPER-MARE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, July 8, 15 (?), 22, 29; sharing terms. W. PAYNE.

WANTED, Pantomime, "Forty Thieves" or "Blue Beard," first in; first-class Theatre, holding £100. BARNARD'S Agency, 33, Shaw-street, Liverpool.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
W. J. COTTON, Proprietor.
Seats 600: Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, share or rent. Sole Booking Agent, SIDNEY HAMILTON, Piccadilly-mansions, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

COMPANIES WANTED.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessees and Managers, MR. and MRS. CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.
The Leading Theatre of the Town.
The Only Theatre in the Town Lighted by Electricity.
The Only Theatre in the Town allowed to Advertise on the Electric Cars.
The Theatre which does the Business.
Now in Course of Rebuilding.
The Seating Capacity of each part of the House is being Largely Increased.
The Holding Capacity of the Theatre will be Second to None in the Town.
The Stage will be Capable of any Production Touring, will be able to fly a 36ft. cloth.
The Theatre will Re-open Aug. 5.
Autumn Bookings include "The Dairymaids," Mr. James Welch's Co., in "When Knights Were Bold," Miss Annie Hughes, in "Tommy," Mr. Norman Macowan, in "Monsieur Beaucaire," "The Little Stranger" (including Master Edward Garrett), "A Trip to the Highlands," Mr Bannister Howard's No. 1 Company, "The Eternal City," Mr. Walter Maxwell's Co., "The Lion and The Mouse" (third visit), Mr. Charles Cartwright and Co., "In the Bishop's Carriage," Mr. Frederick Mouillot's Co., including Miss Decima Moore, in "The Truth," and other of the Principal Attractions Touring.
WANTED, Exceptional Attractions, Only vacant dates this year. Sept. 2, 16, Oct. 7 (?), Dec. 16, 30, Jan. 6, onwards.
CALVERT ROUTLEDGE, H. M. T., Barrow.

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.
GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attractions, must be First-Class, July 29, July 29, Aug. 5, 12, 19, and on, with exceptions.
Wire, Wire, Wire.
R. C. BUCHANAN.

WANTED, Good Companies, for remaining Summer and Autumn dates, three nights. CHAS. CHAPLIN, Public Hall, Colwyn.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE GIRL WHO TOOK THE WRONG TURNING," By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres, Nov. 18, Dec. 2. WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE SOLDIER'S WEDDING," By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 23. Apply, WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS," By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 12, Dec. 2. WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE," WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 12, 19, and Dec. 23, 30. FREDERICK MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH." WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 23, 30, Dec. 23, 30. FREDERICK MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

FRED MELVILLE'S NEW PRODUCTION. "HER ROAD TO RUIN." WANTED, Aug. 12, Oct. 28. FREDERICK MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON." WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 16, Oct. 21, Nov. 11, Xmas, Dec. 30. TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER." WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 30, Nov. 18, 25, Dec. 30. TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER." WANTED, Aug. 19, Dec. 23, Jan. 6, 13, Feb. 3, 17. DOUGLAS BRUCE, 22, Upper Hagley-rd., Birmingham.

"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY." The most successful Play produced during the year 1906. WANTED, Sept. 9 and 16, in First-Class Theatres only. Wire or write, W. W. KELLY, 8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE." "A ROYAL DIVORCE." "A ROYAL DIVORCE." WANTED, Weeks of Sept. 16 and 30, Wire or write, W. W. KELLY, 8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN" and "THE OCTOROON." Full Chorus, Specialities, Powerful Company. It is undoubtedly the best "Uncle Tom's Cabin" Company we have seen.—Torquay Times. WANTED, Theatres, July 22, Aug. 5, on. CHARLES HARRINGTON, Th. Royal, Coventry.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY." "DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY." "DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY." WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, July 1, Aug. 12, 19, 26. Address, J. W. CORDINER, June 24, Theatre Royal, Rochdale. See Companies' Advertisement, page 2.

Miss DOROTHEY CACEY'S CO. "WHEN WE WERE TWENTY-ONE," including Mr. RIDDELL ROBINSON.
Miss Cacey will shortly produce, by arrangement with Mr. Arthur Law, "A COUNTRY MOUSE." WANTED, July 8, 15, and on, with exceptions, also good Theatre for August Bank Holiday. Managers of First-class Theatres only. Wire, FRANK NELSON, Saturday, New Theatre, Cardiff; next week, Theatre Royal, Plymouth.

Mr. WILLIAM A. ARMOUR'S CO., "THE BEST OF HER SEX." Another Big Hit at Palace, Newcastle, this week. Refer to T. W. Rowe, Esq. North Mail's headline of notice of show:—Good Play, Well Played, First-class Company, including Miss Dora Price, Mr. John Cecil, Mr. A. G. Polson Turner, &c. WANTED, July 22 (follow Coventry), 29, Aug. 5, and onwards, with exceptions. WILLIAM A. ARMOUR, to-day, Pal., Newcastle; next, T. R., North Shields.

MISS MARY NEIL and MR. GEORGE KIRK'S "HER LUCK IN LONDON" CO. By Charles Darrell
WANTED, Big Theatres, Sept. 9, 16, Oct. 7. Communications to GEORGE KIRK, Bridge House, Malton, Yorks.

"A PRINCE OF ROGUES." Miss Dora Dench and full Company. New Scenery, magnificent Printing and Dresses. Tour starts Pontypridd, Aug. 5. WANTED, Sept. 2, 16, 30, and Xmas, sixth week. Miss Dench's Complimentary Benefit July 5. Write, St. James' Theatre, Manchester.

"THE PRINCE OF PILSEN." WANTED, Dec. 30, through Theatre changing to Varieties, Lancashire or Yorkshire preferred, only vacant date until Autumn, 1908. BARON H. HARRISS, Theatre Royal, Hanley.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
All Star Cast.
Superb Production.
Exceptional Receipts.
Southampton, Monday worst night of week.
Portsmouth, Monday worst night of week.
Hastings, Monday worst night of week.
The same everywhere.
Vacant,
Aug. 5, Sept. 23, Oct. 21.
MORTON POWELL, Crown Theatre, Peckham.

"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Sept. 23, 30, Oct. 21.
Splendid Cast.
Brilliant Production.
Great Box Office Returns, Great.
Refer,
Wigan, Peckham, Bristol,
or any Theatre visited.
MORTON POWELL, Crown Theatre, Peckham.

"HONOUR THY FATHER."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Aug. 12, 19, Sept. 2, 9.
Powerful Cast. Fine Production.
MORTON POWELL,
Crown Theatre, Peckham.

"GREED OF GOLD.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Sept. 23, Oct. 7, 14, 28.
Entire new production. Company carefully selected.
MORTON POWELL,
Crown Theatre, Peckham.

"THE LITTLE OUTCAST."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"THE LITTLE OUTCAST."
An Honest, Homely Play. Acted by a First-Class Company. Produced on a Lavish Scale.
Vacant Oct. 21, 28, Nov. 4, 11, 18.
MORTON POWELL,
Crown Theatre, Peckham.

MRS. MORTON POWELL
in
a New Play,
by S. Buchanan Rogerson.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
MORTON POWELL,
Crown Theatre, Peckham.

WANTED, First-class Theatre, for Production,
Christmas and New Year's Weeks, of
JAMES KIDDIE'S
JAMES KIDDIE'S
Latest and Up-to-date
Pantomime,
Pantomime,
"ALADDIN."
"ALADDIN."
"ALADDIN."
Managers of First-class Theatres requiring a Money Magnet for these Holiday Weeks secure the above.
A Sure Success.
Address,
JAMES KIDDIE, Alexandra Theatre, Widnes.

"A FOOL'S PARADISE."
By Sidney Grundy.
WANTED, July 1, to follow Lowestoft, 8th, to precede Weston-super-Mare, on, with exceptions.
Return dates, Oxford, Buxton, &c.
Headline from Thanet Times:—
Brilliant Presentation.
Every part played by an experienced Artist.
WYLIE THOMPSON, Marina Theatre, Lowestoft.

MR. WILLIAM MOLLISON'S SHAKESPEAREAN TOUR.
WANTED, Oct. 14 (London, South, or Midlands), Nov. 4, 25, Dec. 2, 9, 26, and 30, Jan. 6, 13, Feb. 10 (North), and April 6 (Midland); also Autumn 1908 dates; extensive Répertoire; appropriately mounted, carefully cast. Bookings include the leading Theatres in the United Kingdom.
Address, SIDNEY COOPER, Lyceum T., Newport.

WANTED, Good Dates, July 15 and 22, only Vacant Dates.
Mr. GEORGE E. MUDD'S CO.,
in the Charming Society Play, "The IDLER,"
from the St. James's Theatre, London.
By arrangement with Mr. George Alexander.
Mr. Philip Cunningham as Mark Cross,
Mr. Stephen T. Ewart as Sir John Harding.
Address, GEORGE E. MUDD,
this, King's Theatre, Sunderland;
next, P. O. W., Grimsby.

"LA POUPEE."
"LA POUPEE."
"LA POUPEE."
WANTED, unexpectedly Vacant, Sept. 2 and 9, also few later Dates.
HERBERT RALLAND, Gaiety Theatre, Douglas.

ROBERT PERRIS' CO.
"A STRANGER IN NEW YORK"
"A STRANGER IN NEW YORK"
(from the Duke of York's Theatre).
WANTED, Autumn Dates, for this magnificent Musical Comedy. Every Scene carried; all new. Vacant Sept. 9, 16, 23, Oct. 7, on.
Star, Liverpool.

Miss BONWIN CARLTON'S CO.,
"THE OLD, OLD STORY."
"THE OLD, OLD STORY."
WANTED, July 29, Aug. 5, 12, Sept. 2, 9.
EDWARD SURREY, 133, Rock-street, Oldham.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, First-Class Theatres.
FRED BULMER, c/o "The Era." Vacation add.

"WHEN WOMAN HATES."
WANTED, Aug. 26, Sept. 2, 9, 30.
FRED BULMER, c/o "The Era," vacation address.

WANTED, Theatres, "The Trail of Sin," unexpectedly vacant June 28, July 1, 8, 15, 22. Wire, F. MOORE, Muncaster Theatre, Bootle.

"MICE AND MEN."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, July 1, 8 and 15.
WILLIAM MARTIN, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, London.

H. HAMILTON STEWART'S COS.
WANTED, First-class Theatres,
"BOOTLES' BABY,"
June 11 (3 nights, to follow Harrogate), July 15.
"SHERLOCK HOLMES."
A few Autumn Dates Vacant.
WALTER J. BAYLISS, Londesboro' Theatre, Scarboro'.

"WHEN A MAN HATES."
WANTED, Theatres, for July 1 and 8. Wire for July 1 and 8.
Refer A. F. Cross and Sheriff Howard, Esq., re this Money-making Attraction.
Wire, W. GRAHAM ARTHURS, to-day, Queen's Theatre, Longton; Mon., T. R., Stratford.

"AN UNWEDDED WIFE."
WANTED, Large Theatre, July 8, owing to transfer.
J. EDWARD WHITTY,
Address wires to-day, P.O.W., Grimsby; next week, T. R., Aston, Birmingham.

MISS TRIXIE TOOLE'S CO.
"THE GIRL FROM CHICAGO."
WANTED, Aug. 26, Sept. 2, 16, onwards. Troupe Dancers Toured.
Address, Empire, Oldham.

"THE PICK OF THE BUNCH."
Musical Comedy, two Acts, powerful Cast and Chorus.
WANTED, July 1, between Sunderland and Blackpool. Wire, CHILTON, King's Theatre, Sunderland.

EDMUND TEARLE'S TOUR.
Tragedy, Comedy, Drama.
WANTED, July 1, 8, onwards.
Wire, Marlborough Theatre, N.

"LIFE OF A SHOWMAN."
WANTED, Oct. 28 and Nov. 4, between Newport and Newcastle.
G. T. SANTE, Grand Theatre, Chorley.

WYBERT CLIVE'S CO.
"THE BRANDED WOMAN."
WANTED, for this Money-maker, Aug. 5 (to follow Palace, Newcastle), 26, and Sept. 2.
Apply, WALTER STEELE, Hippo., Mansfield.

"SUCH A NICE GIRL."
WANTED, for this Irresponsible Musical Comedy, July 4, 5, 6 (to follow Worthing), also July 14 (to follow Kingston). Wire, J. ALBAN NEWTON, 19, Sterndale-rd., West Kensington.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE PET OF THE EMBASSY."
"THE PET OF THE EMBASSY."
"THE PET OF THE EMBASSY."
"THE PET OF THE EMBASSY."
"THE PET OF THE EMBASSY."
The Latest Great Successful Musical Comedy.
Special New Scenery. Gorgeous Costumes.
Special Printing.
Great Cast. Full London Operatic Chorus.
WANTED, for this great Attraction (owing to the Autumn Tour starting six weeks earlier), Aug. 12, Aug. 12, Aug. 12 (between Wolverhampton and Leicester); also Aug. 25, Aug. 26, Sept. 9, Sept. 9, and on, with exceptions.
All communications re Dates, &c.,
HAMILTON BAINES,
Caversham-road, Reading.
"HIS LORDSHIP'S ARRIVAL,"
"HIS LORDSHIP'S ARRIVAL,"
"HIS LORDSHIP'S ARRIVAL,"
"HIS LORDSHIP'S ARRIVAL,"
Musical Comedy,
Now Booking Spring, 1908.
"THE NEW AMBASSADOR."
"THE NEW AMBASSADOR."
By C. T. Burgess. Music by Vincent Exley.
To be ready shortly.
All communications,
HAMILTON BAINES,
Reading.

ALFRED B. CROSS' TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN,"
"THE MANXMAN,"
by Hall Caine and Wilson Barrett.
WANTED, Aug. 5, also 12th, Sept. 9, Oct. 7.
"DIVORCED,"
a New Powerful Domestic Drama; also
"DAVID GARRICK" (a huge success in Bolton).
Played in conjunction where necessary.
June 24th, T. R., Bristol.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
Continued Success. Third Year.
WANTED, July 8, (Lancs. or Yorks.). Wire for July 8 and 15. Wire.
July 8 and 15, between Rochdale and Cardiff.
Aug. 19, between Oldham and Preston.
If in doubt refer Tom Jennings, Esq., Hippodrome, Mansfield. Sat. receipts £53 11s. 9d.
FRANK AYRTON,
Queen's Theatre, Farnworth.

MR. AND MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.
"A SISTER'S SIN."
WANTED, July 29, Sept. 2 and 16, for this Romantic Play.
"A SOLDIER'S HONOUR."
All dates this year filled. F. G. KIMBERLEY, Vauxhall, The Scotlands, Wolverhampton.

A. J. HARDING and CHARLES R. HANN.
AUTUMN AND SPRING TOUR OF
FRANK DIX'S
"DELIVERED FROM EVIL,"
A Social Drama, in Four Acts.
New Scenery and Effects; Printing by David Allen and Sons, Ltd.
WANTED, Dates, Aug. 5 and on, with exceptions. A. J. HARDING,
Bedford Club, Bedford-street, W.C.

WANTED, "The Honeymoon Girl," now in rehearsal, First-Class Theatres, July 15 and on; full Company of First-Class Principals and Chorus, also Troupe of Dancers. All coms. re above, which is being run on First-Class Lines, apply JORDAN and LAWN, Spread Eagle Hotel, Wandsworth, S.W.

SHINTON AND GREENWOOD'S TOURS.
"THE PRICE OF HER SOUL."
WANTED, Aug. 19, 26, Sept. 2, and on, with exceptions.
"THE LOVE OF A LIFE,"
A few Autumn Dates vacant for above.
Production Monday next, for six nights, at Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.
Address,
JOHN B. SHINTON,
Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

FRANK J. PITT and CHARLES HALLING'S CO.
"£1,000 REWARD."
"£1,000 REWARD."
WANTED, for this Successful Attraction, Sept. 30, Oct. 7, Nov. 4, 25, Dec. 16, Dec. 23, 30.
Now Booking Spring and Autumn, 1908.
T. R., Stockport, June 24.

Messrs. ELLIMAN'S ENTERPRISES.
"A HEART'S DESIRE."
WANTED, July 15, to follow West London Theatre, also July 22 (?), to precede Preston; also Aug. 26, and several onward: opened to a packed house on Monday night; another big house on Tuesday. Refer J. E. Culcen, Gaiety, Burnley. All communications re dates to G. M. HURST, Prince's, Blackburn; next, P. O. W., Salford.

WANTED, for "The Woman Pays," Oct. 7, 28, Dec. 2, and on.
FRANK M. THORNE, T. R., South Shields.

"THE MASTER CRIMINAL."
WANTED, Good Theatres, July 8 and 15, Aug. 5, 12, 19, Sept. 2, 16.
HENRY L. OSMOND, Junction T., Manchester.

MRS. EMMA LITCHFIELD'S COMPANY.
"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR."
WANTED, Aug. 5, 12, 19, and 26.
STUART CLEVELAND, Colosseum, Oldham.

"SAVED FROM THE SEA."
By Arthur Shirley.
Everything carried.
WANTED, Aug. 19 (?), Sept. 23, Oct. 14, Nov. 4, 18, Xmas Week, and Spring, 1908, with various exceptions.
Apply,
SAMUEL JAMES,
Warwick House, 8, Warwick Court, Gray's Inn, W.C.

"THE LOVE THAT LASTS FOR EVER."
By Edward Thane.
WANTED, Aug. 19 (?), 26, Sept. 16, Oct. 7, 23, Nov. 4, 18, Xmas Week.
Clear Stage only required.
Apply,
SAMUEL JAMES,
as above.

HARDIE AND VON LEER'S CO.,
"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."
WANTED, First-Class Theatre, July 1 (London or near).
E. P. CLIFT, 110, St. Martin's-lane, W.C.
Wires, "Vagancy, London." Tel., Gerrard 7504.

LONDON AND PROVINCIAL PANTOMIMES CO.
"FAIR ONE WITH THE GOLDEN LOCKS."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Xmas week and Feb. 3 and 17.
STANLEY ROGERS, 124, Warwick-road, Carlisle.

WANTED, Known, Theatre or Hall required during July,
for Organised Répertoire Co.,
playing a dozen recent London Successes, on rental, share or certainty.
Box 5,007, c/o "The Era."

"FROM SCOTLAND YARD."
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, Aug. 5, onwards. FRED BULMER, Box 4,832, "The Era" (vacation address).

THE NATIVE CHOIR FROM JAMAICA,
all escaped from the recent terrible earthquake, have a few Vacant Dates for their Unique and Really Charming Entertainment.
Enormous success last week at
St. George's Hall, Bradford.
Can now book Autumn and Winter Dates, the Jamaicans having decided to stay in England for a time owing to their pronounced success.
WANTED, Aug. 12 and 26, Sept. 16, and on, with exceptions.
The Jamaicans have appeared before Lord Elgin (Colonial Secretary), Lord and Lady Derby, Earl Roberts, Lord Brassey, and Sir Alfred Jones, and caused a furore. Twelve performers. Whole Entertainment, and Novel Sunday Concerts if desired. Three changes of costume. Excellent lithos., &c. Booked at First-class Theatres, Halls, and Pavilions all over the Kingdom. Return Dates in nearly every instance. This week, West End Pier, Morecambe; next, North Pier, Blackpool.
Apply for Booklet, Terms, &c., Managers, Messrs. H. E. JONES and A. DOUGLASS,
21, Water-street, Liverpool.
Telephones, 5650 and 2449 Central.
Wires, "Motherland, Liverpool."

THEATRES WANTED.

M. RUSSELL ROSSE'S TOURS.
WANTED, July 15, between Dublin and Glasgow. RUSSELL ROSSE, 16, King-street, W.C.

WILL ONDA'S TOUR.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, July 15, 22, and Aug. 5, on, for the Most Successful Variety Combination on the Road.
Turning money away every night at the Oxford Palace, Middlesbrough.
This is not bluff, but the truth.
Next week, Alhambra, Morecambe.

WANTED, for Joseph Poole's Myriorama and Complete Variety Organisation, Good Theatres or Halls between Bristol and Manchester, weeks Aug. 5, 12; full Band and Staff carried. Sharing or rental. POOLE, "Verona," Malmesbury.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for Autumn Tours, Musical Comedy, Principal Baritone, Tenor Choristers, First-Class Prima Donna; also for London Pantomime, Artists in all Lines. Apply, C. ST. JOHN DENTON, 34, Maiden-lane, Strand.

WANTED, for Musical Comedy and Light Opera, Town and Tour, Principal Artists in all Lines; also Chorus Ladies and Gentlemen; the latter must be young, of good appearance, and good voices. Send particulars at once to KELSON TRUEMAN, Regent House, 2334, Regent-street, W.

"LIFE OF A SHOWMAN," TOUR, AUG. 5.
WANTED, Tall, Powerful Actress, Agatha Winter, heavy part; Tall Robust Man, for Sir Noel Hartland; Petite Clever Child Actress, for Lynette Leader, must be over fourteen years of age, but must be very small for her age; also Tall Young Man, Baggage or Agent, to understudy Comedy part; Circus Acts, Comedy or Principal for Circus Scene. Note.—Photographs, references, and lowest terms, with two weeks' addresses and stamped addressed envelope, must be enclosed in first letter. All parts must be well dressed. Address, G. T. SANTE, Grand Theatre, Chorley.

HALLATT AND HOWARD'S COS.
The Lyceum Success,
"HER LOVE AGAINST THE WORLD."
Suburban and Provincial Tours.
WANTED, Known, several Important Vacancies. Apply by letter only, Lyceum T., W.C.

WANTED, for Musical Comedy, Autumn Tour, a Principal Singing Comedian (refined Low Comedy); a Comedienne of the Louie Freear type, sing and dance; a Character Actor, for Army officer, with powerful baritone voice; a Singing Juvenile Gentleman, tall, smart appearance; Strong Tenor or Light Baritone; an Attractive Young Lady Vocalist, well-trained powerful soprano voice essential; several Lady and Gentlemen Choristers, tall, smart appearance, with strong, well-trained voices imperative. Address, with photo., reference, age, height, complexion, voice, terms, to Box 5022, "Era" Office.

WANTED, Artists, for Tour of "The Private Secretary," commencing Aug. 5. No notice will be taken unless age, height, references, and lowest terms are stated, and ladies' photos. sent.
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

GRAND THEATRE, STOCKTON-ON-TEES.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for Special Four Weeks Stock at the above Theatre, commencing July 1, terminating July 27.
Rehearse Liverpool, Tuesday the 25th inst.
Lowest terms, photos., and references, to
M. MONTGOMERY, Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, to open Aug. 5, Artists in all Lines. Write or call,
ANDREW MELVILLE, Metropole T., Birmingham.

"WHEN OTHER LIPS."
WANTED, First-Class Artists, to complete Cast. Autumn and Spring Tour.
JONES, 26, Wightman-road, Finsbury Park, N.

WANTED, Powerful Character Actress, to play Old Hag's part; also Tenor Vocalist, for Old Man's part, and Robust Baritone, who must have exceptionally powerful voice. Address, with references and photos. (which will be returned), Box 5017, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Comedy Old Woman, to double if required; probable long tour. Amateur with premium might be entertained. Photos., age, and lowest terms, Box 4,993, "The Era."

WANTED, smart Lady Vocalist and Dancer, for Small Dutch Dialect part; must have powerful voice, and be well up in Sabot Dancing. Address, with photo. (essential), age, height, references, terms, Autumn Tour,
WILFRED CHILTON, King's Theatre, Sunderland.

MR. H. F. MALTBY AND CO., "THE YOUNGEST OF THREE" and "SIR GEORGE OF ALMACK'S."
WANTED, for Autumn Tour of above, good Character Comedian. Height, lowest terms, photo., references. H. F. MALTBY, Woodford, Gordon-road, Worthing.

WANTED, London, Monday, Two Gents, small parts. LESLIE BELL, Hippodrome, Stoke, today; then, 35, Florence-street, Islington.

WANTED, Lady and Gentleman, Amateur, to play small part in Sketch, in London. Address full particulars, MANAGER, 203, Kennington-rd.

H. HAMILTON STEWART'S COS.
WANTED, smart Boy Actor (must be over 14), to play the part of Billy in "Sherlock Holmes"; also other Artists to complete Cast. Apply, with full particulars, photos., &c. (letters only), STEWART, 6, Fairfax-road, Bedford Park, London.

WANTED, for Arthur Curzon's Tours, Two Educated Gentlemen, for small parts and understudies; thorough tuition in all lines of business; salary paid; six months' engagement to suitable men. Letters only, 4, Gresham-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, for Mr. Norman V. Norman's Tours, Lady and Gentleman play Small Parts, and Understudy; no other vacancies. W. H. ASHLEY, c/o Newton, Promenade, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Known, the Carl Rosa Opera Co. can receive applications for extra Choristers for season at Covent Garden, commencing Dec. 26. Apply any Friday at 1 o'clock, 14a, Wrotham-road, Camden Town, N.W.

WANTED, Soprano Vocalist, for Musical Comedy Sketch; must be able to act (for Princess). State experience, compass of voice, age, height, photo., &c., to JACK MCKENZIE (to-day), Olympia, Liverpool. June 24, Zoo, Hippodrome, Glasgow.

WANTED, to Open at Once, Good Powerful Deep Baritone or Bass, play straight, &c. Mr. LINDSAY, Pierrots, Troon, N.B.

WANTED, a really First-Class Vocalist and Pianist (Humorous or Ballad); must be young, sober, and a gentleman. Write, MANAGER, Cadets, Ferndene, Hornsea, Yorks.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by Flora Macdonald, A.L.C.M., powerful Soprano, Al Fresco, or Concert Party; young, large répertoire. 66, Waveney-avenue, Peckham.

WANTED, by Strong Mezzo-Soprano, Engagements prefer Seaside Concert Party; just left Bognor Pavilion. RAY, 12, Mortlock-gardens, Harders-road, Peckham.

WANTED, by Young Actor, 23, Engagement, Light Comedy, Musical Comedy, or Drama. Moderate salary. MARTIN MOAR, Langside-place, Langside, Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagement, Rough Character, Comedy Parts, A.S.M.; height 5ft. 7in., age 32; refs., A. Bourchier, &c. ALLEN, 49, Northcote-rd., Clapham, London.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Pantomime Chorus and Show Ladies. Send photograph, age, height, and other measurements, lowest salary. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, Pantomime Artists in all Lines, and Chorus for Pantomime. Write full particulars to KELSON TRUEMAN, Regent House, 2334, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, Artists Disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas to send photos., terms, and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-Avenue, W.

WANTED, for Pantomime, 100 Chorus and Show Ladies. Address, with photos and references, to E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

HIPPODROME, SCARBORO'.
WANTED, twelve Smart Girls, used to Chorus and Ballet, to take part in Water Pantomime; need not be swimmers, but must go in water. Apply, GEO. ZALVA.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, a good All-round Scenic Artist, with own brushes, for a few weeks; artists' labourers save stamps. Address, with references and actual lowest summer terms, CONTRACTING ARTIST, Theatre Royal, Exeter.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Scenery Contracts, Productions Our Paint Frames, 40 by 24; Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. FRED WILKINS and BRO. LTD., 54, Whitechapel, Liverpool. Telegrams "Theatrical."

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, CARLISLE.
WANTED, Known, Scenery Made, Painted, and Repaired. First-class Scenic Artist.
Magnificent paint-frame; spacious carpenter's shop
Estimates free on application to
THOS. COURTICE, H. M. T., Carlisle.

WANTED, Contracts for High-Class Scenery, at Lowest Prices. Carlyle Scenic Studio, W. B. ROBINSON, 170, King's-road, S.W.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, Effective and Artistic Work and good Joinery. Prices moderate. Large Studio and Workshop. CHARLES SAYER, Scenic Artist, 2, Clarendon-road, Croydon.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Young Gentleman, to learn duties of Variety Management, Typewriter preferred. Salary given; cash security required.
Age, height, to
Box 5,014, "The Era."

WANTED, Young Man as Advance; used to Institutions, Smalls; one able to play piano preferred. BANVARD, Ballyconnell, Co. Cavan, Ireland.

WANTED, at once, Young Man, for Agent, for small Circus; must ride a bicycle; long engagement. Address, Melville's Circus, Askeaton, Co. Limerick.

WANTED, for Joseph Poole's Myriorama, Baggage Men, Window-Billers, Picture-Workers, commence Aug. 5. Terms, J. W. POOLE, Verona, Malmesbury.

WANTED, Smart Young Man, look after Pony, Bill, and make self useful; permanent job. Box 4,990, "The Era."

WANTED, a smart Coloured Boy, age 10 to 14, to make himself generally useful in Fashionable Bungalow at Roker, Sunderland; live in; must be respectable. Letters, FRED FARROW, The Bungalow, Roker, Sunderland.

WANTED, to Let, W. C. Burns, 20 years' Practical Management, Theatre, Variety Circus, &c.; rail, road, resident; bang up-todate in every detail; unique references; life total abstainer.
15, Charlotte-street, South Shields.

WANTED, by Walter Smith, late Manager, Hippodrome, Eastbourne, position as Manager; twenty years' experience as Stage, Advertising, and Acting Manager, also Bar Management; excellent references and securities. Apply, 119, Whitley-road, Eastbourne.

WANTED, by a Professional Gentleman of many years' practical experience, Disengaged shortly, as Stage-Director, Scenic Artist, Comedian, either Theatre or Music Hall; well acquainted with Theatrical, Operatic, Pantomime, and Variety business; undisputable testimonials and photographs will be forwarded to responsible managers. London or Suburbs preferred.
Box 4,987, "The Era."

WANTED, Post, as Assistant Music-Hall Manager; excellent references; used to every branch of the Variety Business; also Bars. H. A., Hippodrome, Sheerness-on-Sea.

WANTED, Management of Theatre, Hippo., Pier Pavilion, &c., large or small; experienced in all details. F. LEWIS, Brunswick-street, Horwich.

WANTED, Known, well-known Provincial Resident Business-Manager, five years in present position, is desirous of similar position in good Theatre. Can give excellent references.
Write in first place to
Box 5,009, "The Era."

WANTED, by well-educated Young Gentleman, position in Theatre, Music Hall, or Agency, smart and energetic; excellent credentials. Box 4,999, "The Era."

WANTED, by Electrical Engineer, exceptionally good experience, charge of lighting and power installation in large establishment in or near London. WHITE, 16, Hathaway-rd., Croydon.

WANTED, by competent Electrician, used to all kinds of Theatre work, at Liberty. PARKER, 10, Lismore-circus, Gospel Oak, London.

WANTED, by Wardrobe Mistress, Engagement. Costumier, cut, make, alter, and renovate; good reference. Address, Miss SAMWELLS, 22, Bridgfield-street, Stockport.

WANTED, position as Housekeeper to Professional Lady or Gentleman, or Tour with Lady as useful Maid. R., 199, Fulham Palace-rd., London, S.W.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

HIPPODROME, BLACKPOOL.
WANTED, Musical Conductor for above, for Season commencing July 1 to end of Sept.; must be thoroughly experienced in Variety business. Apply, stating lowest terms, to T. P. DUIGNAN, Manager, as above.

WANTED, Leader, for Tour; young, smart. Lowest terms, references. CONDUCTOR, 41, Margravine-gardens, Barons Court, W.

WANTED, Musical-Director, to open Monday, July 1, must be used to Variety business; good library of music. Lowest terms, age, and references, T. A. EDWARDES, Grand Theatre, Derby.

WANTED, First Orchestral Violin (one plays Oboe preferred), from middle July. Seaside. Trial essential. Send lowest. Box 5,006, "The Era."

LONDON COUNTY ASYLUM,
CLAYBURY, WOODFORD BRIDGE, ESSEX.
WANTED, Male Attendants (First Cornet, First Clarionet, Bombardon, and Saxhorn Players preferred); wages £29 a year for first six months; then, if satisfactory, rising to £31, and subsequently by £1 annually to £40 a year, with board, lodging, washing, and uniform. Previous experience not necessary. Daily leave 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.; weekly, 1½ days; annual leave, first fifteen months (after nine months' service), six days; the following twelve months, twelve days; each successive twelve months, fourteen days. Candidates must not be more than 35 years of age. First-class Attendants are appointed by promotion from the Second-class. Apply to MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT at the Asylum.

WANTED, for Joseph Poole's Myrioramas, Good Solo Cornet, also Double Drum and Effects; must wear evening dress, and assist with fittings when travelling; commence Aug. 5. Terms and refs., J. W. POOLE, "Verona," Malmesbury.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, to open July 29 next, First Cornet, Viola, and 'Cello. Terms and references to FRED W. WARDEN,
Theatre Royal, Belfast.

WANTED, Cornet Players, to join at once. Will Warrad write. Address, JOS. ASTLEY, Melville's Circus, Askeaton, Co. Limerick.

WANTED, to Open, August Bank Holiday, First-class Clarionet, also First-class Trombone. Apply with lowest terms and references to CHAS. A. WENMAN, County Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, for Sedgwick's Menagerie, good Trombone; salary 30s. week. Saturday, Grangmouth; Monday, Alloa; Tuesday, Dollar; Scotland. Apply H. HOLMES, Bandmaster, Sedgwick's Menagerie.

WANTED, Trombone, at Once, ten or twelve weeks, Small Military (Council) Band. Write or wire, terms, refs., GEO. WOOD (late Blackpool). Send address, BELLERBY, Denceholme, Ilkley.

WANTED, at once, Tenting, thorough good and sober Trombone; must be used to Comic Marches. Letters only, COOK, Ravensthorpe, Northampton.

WANTED, by July 1, for Permanent Staff Worcester Regiment, for Militia Training, Solo Slide Trombone, and Solo B flat Clarionet Players; must be first-class men. For full particulars, write, BANDMASTER KNIGHT, Norton Bks., Worcester.

WANTED, Euphonium or Trombone, for Circus, Tenting Season. Apply, AUGUSTE DENTON, Mus.-Dir., 36, Victoria-street, Grimsby.

WANTED, Bombardon, experienced, requires Engagement, town, seaside, or Yeomanry; good refs. Address, 142, Kennington Park-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, for Bostock and Wombwell's Royal No. 1 Menagerie, Bombardon and Trombone Players. J. MILLS, Leader, Sat. and Sun., Builth; Mon., Llandrindod Wells; Tues., Rhayader, Wales.

WANTED, at once, Tenor Horn Player, permanency. Terms, Share. Write to A. PECORINI, Italian Band, 15, Church-street, Torquay, Devon.

WANTED, First-Class 'Cellos, Bassoons, Flutes, Violins, and all instruments, commence Monday next. Address, FITZSTUART, 2, Raglan-road, Sandylands, Morecambe.

WANTED, Pianist, male, for Picture Show; must do a turn (Not Musical Sketch). M. HENDERSON, 14, East Mayfield, Edinburgh.

WANTED, for Special Matinée, London, First-Class Ladies' Orchestra; pretty uniforms or costumes. Terms, &c., Box 5,005, "The Era."

WANTED, Lady Instrumentalists, for Orchestra. Interview essential. Write, Miss GASCOYNE OLD, Conductor, Shakespearean Orchestra, Crystal Palace.

WANTED, Military Instrumentalist, July, September, 4 hours daily. Terms, references, to CONDUCTOR, 146, Shepherd's Bush-road, London, W.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

FROM A MUSICIAN:—
To the Manager of "The Era" Advert. Dept.,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street,, W.C.
"Re Advertisement
"'WANTED, ENGAGEMENT BY CORNET.'
"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, "A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

FROM A BANDMASTER:—
"Re Advertisement, 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.'
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies, and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster,
"Littlehampton."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Bandmaster, shortly retiring on pension, appointment to Volunteer Band, School, or other similar post; thoroughly experienced in Orchestral work and Arranging; capable Violinist; good testimonials and references. Address, BANDMASTER, Gazette Office, Ealing.

WANTED, Engagement as Leader and Conductor or First Violin; experienced Varieties, Theatre; low salary for permanency. Box 4,994, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, a First-Class Musical-Director is now at Liberty for Music Hall; highest of references. Box 4,995, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Harry Wilson, Musical-Director and Pianist, Liberty July, through closing; would deputise; good répertoire and references, &c. Hippodrome, Scarborough.

WANTED, Engagement as Musical-Director or First Violin, any business; excellent refs.; young, smart. MUSICIAN, 20, Beaumont-square, E.

WANTED, Known, Musical-Director (Pianist), Composer and Arranger, open for deputising in London. P. DELEVANTE, 3, Clarence-chambers, N.W.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, through Theatre closing, by C. H. SUMMERS, Leader, Gaiety Theatre, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Leader or First Violin, at Liberty June 29, any business; excellent refs. HARRIS, c/o Sutherland, 96, Northwoodside-road, Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-Class Musical Director (Violin), excellent references regarding ability, &c.; steady, splendid library, Variety preferred. MORRIS, c/o Musicians' Club, 9, Great Newport-street, W.

WANTED, business as Conductor, Military or otherwise, could supply good small Band, upwards of 25 years' experience; good library. High testimonials. MADDISON, 1, Inver-road, Clapton.

WANTED, by Violinist, reliable, Summer Engagement; experienced in Orchestra; highest references. Apply, LEWIS, Training College, Winchester.

WANTED, by Violinist, immediate Engagement, any business; good reference; total abstainer. WALPOLE, 25, Bethel-street, Norwich.

WANTED, by Violinist, young, good repetiteur, immediate Engagement. Write or wire, VIOLINIST, 108, Chalton-street, Euston-road, N.W.

WANTED, by Violin (late Theatre Leader); young, reliable, strictly steady. VIOLIN, 68, Pritchard's-road, Hackney, London.

WANTED, by Violinist, Engagement, for July only; any business; experienced; would deputise. Miss MADELEINE TUGMANN, 7, Boscombe-rd., Folkestone.

WANTED, Known, Lady Violinist (Solo and Orchestral), Good Leader; every experience; Disengaged July and August. Box 4,958, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Violinist; 4½ years Leader Brighton West Pier Orchestra, recently disbanded. MASON, 42, Belle Vue-gardens, Kemp Town, Brighton.

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady Violinist; experience in Solo and Orchestral work. Apply, L. RALPH, 5, Theobald-square, Rochester.

WANTED, Engagement, experienced Violinist, Leader or First, Variety, or any business; good references. Address, EVANS, 32, Devonshire-road, Walthamstow.

WANTED, Known, Violinist, brilliant, experienced and reliable, Leader or First Violin, Variety preferred. Address, VIOLINIST, 256, Liverpool-street, Salford.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, Cornet, perm., any business, in Provinces; refs.; total abstainer, young. J. LONG, Tunn-st., Fakenham, Norfolk.

WANTED, Engagement, by good reliable Cornet; well up in any Business; can join at once. J. PLACKETT, Belmont House, Penglaise-terrace, Aberystwyth, South Wales.

WANTED, Known, Lillie Luraine, Cornetist, Disengaged through having resigned her Engagement with The Original Cecilias, Musical Act. Perm. address, 441, Woolwich-road, Charlton, Kent.

WANTED, Known, R. Tripp, Solo Cornet, New Theatre, Oxford, at Liberty for Good Summer Engagement, June 29; thoroughly competent; experienced, reliable.

WANTED, Engagement as Second Cornet; total abstainer. Address, H. RUSSELL, JUN., 4, Court-street, Leamington.

WANTED, by experienced Clarionettist, any Business; at Liberty July 1, short Seaside preferred, or permanency. WALTER, 4, Marshall buildings, Webber-st, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement as Clarionet, late principal Clarionet Riviere's Orchestra, Colwyn Bay; also for Mr. A. E. Bartle, Southport. CHARLES MATTHEWS, Oadby, Leicester.

WANTED, Engagement (Clarionet), Solo or otherwise, through disappointment, Military or String. Summer or permanency; experienced. GEORGE MARTIN, 20, Widred-road, Dover.

WANTED, Engagement, Bassoon, to open immediately. LOUIS CHAPMAN, 6, St. Philip's-terrace, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Double Bass (four string), combine brass. W. SMITH, Post Office, Devizes.

WANTED, Known, experienced Bassoon, open for "odd weeks"; short season or deputising, during summer. BIRD, 5, Belgrave-road, Leicester.

WANTED, Engagement, by Bassoonist, season or permanent; good all-round experiences; good refs. Write, BASSOON, 25, Wade-lane, Leeds.

WANTED, by First-Class Bass, Permanent Engagement, good Theatre or Music Hall; highest refs.; sober. NICHOLLS, 19, Glenburn-road, Seacombe, Cheshire.

WANTED, immediate Engagement, by Bassoonist, any capacity; experienced; excellent references; just finished Tour. SECKER, 4, Ravensbury-villas, Morden-road, Mitcham.

WANTED, Known, experienced Trombone, at Liberty for Permanent or Seaside Engagement in or near London; highest credentials. Wire or write, TROMBONIST, 17, Bournemouth Park-road, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, Engagement, Trombone, experienced, in good Orchestra, Theatre, Music Hall, or Summer Season. Address, MUSICIAN, Church-street, Bawtry, Yorks.

WANTED, an Engagement by Trombone; experienced; highest refs. STOCKER, 26, Chantry-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Trombone; thoroughly experienced in all Lines. GASCOIGNE, 112, Penshurst-road, Thornton Heath, Surrey.

WANTED, Engagement, by Good Trombone, through disappointment, any Business; good refs. E. B., 35, Western-road, Ealing.

WANTED, Known, First-class Trombone, at Liberty, any Business, London or Provinces. BRAMWELL, 35, Achilles-street, New Cross, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Bombardon, E. flat, experienced, at Liberty June 29; Army Journal, first-class refs. BASSO, 7, St. George's-crescent, Brearley-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, Engagement, E flat Bombardon, any Business. TOM MOORE, 3, Bradley-st., off Accrington-road, Burnley.

WANTED, by E Flat Saxophone, Permanent Engagement, eight years' experience with Military Band; good refs. SAX, 39, Park-street, Tunbridge Wells.

WANTED, by French Horn Player, Engagement; can commence immediately; good references. Box 5,004, "The Era."

WANTED, Orchestral Practice, for Little Girl, on 'Cello; also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. CASSELLE, 37, Great Percy-st., King's Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, an Engagement, as 'Cellist, in Theatre or Variety Orchestra; good references; thoroughly experienced. E. INKPEN, 12, Napoleon-road, St. Margaret's, Middlesex.

WANTED, for few weeks commencing August, Engagement by experienced Orchestral 'Cellist in good Seaside Orchestra; first-class refs. Box 4,986, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by experienced London 'Cellist, London or Suburbs; good references. Apply, 'CELLO, 25, Maplethorpe-road, Thornton Heath.

WANTED, Known, Lady Violoncellist, experienced Orchestral Player, at Liberty. STREBELLE, 34, Grafton-square, Clapham Common, London.

WANTED, by Viola (late Moody-Manners), Engagement; experienced all business. VIOLA, 39, Marian-square, London, N.E.

WANTED, Known, First-Class Oboe and Cor Anglais Player, open for Engagement until July 15. JOSEPH CRAEN, 84, Windsor-crescent, Bridlington.

WANTED, Engagement, Young Lady Flautist, 3 years' Orchestral experience; also Young Lady, good Second Violin, 5 years' experience; together or separate. Very reasonable terms for permanency in café or travelling exhibition. Both good appearance. Reply, Box 4,933, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Engagement, Flautist, experienced all kinds of business; thoroughly reliable; permanency or deputy; good refs. FLAUTIST, 137, Northwold-road, Clapton.

WANTED, good Summer Engagement, by experienced Flute and Piccolo Soloist, Orchestral or Military; last engagement five months Crystal Palace. FLAUTIST, 9, Rattray-rd., Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, by good Flute and Piccolo, Summer Engagement, thoroughly experienced and reliable. FLAUTIST, Box 5,003, "The Era."

WANTED, immediately, Engagement by First-Class Orchestral Pianist, conversant all lines; also by excellent Clarionettist, Military or Orchestra. 35, Henrietta-st., Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED, Engagement, by thoroughly experienced Double Drummer, Summer Season, or Music Hall, permanency; references. DRUMS, 11, Ritson-road, Dalston, London, N.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Drummer, through closing (own Tympani); excellent references, any Business. J. TELL, 36, St. James's-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, a Season or Permanent Engagement as Drums, with Timps. G. PABLO, 22, Woodland-avenue, Gorton, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, by well-known Tympanist, Drums, Effects, any business; thoroughly experienced, sober, reliable. Edale House, Hough Hill-road, Stalybridge.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-Class Mandolinist; would prefer to join Troupe; highest references. Address, Box 4,968, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagements for Scarlet Domino Ladies' Band, Ladies' Salon Quartette and Florentine Quartet, at home or abroad. Apply, BUREAU, 8, Bedford-terrace, Kensington.

WANTED, Known, Renowned Society Hungarian Band, Open for Engagements, for Exhibition, Seaside, Sunday Concerts, &c. Particulars. CONDUCTOR, 53, Philpot-st., E.C.

TO CORPORATIONS, GARDENS, and PIER PAVILION MANAGERS.
WANTED, Known, Giacomo Marchisio and his Orchestra, Dis. after July 15; smart, brilliant, refined. 5, St. Michael's-gdns., Notting Hill.

WANTED, Known, Miss Gascoyne Old's Shakespearean Orchestra, at the Crystal Palace, Four Times Daily, from June 1 to June 15; re-engaged till June 29. 238, Edgware-road, W. Agent, Monsieur JULES GUISE.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, for Season, good Orchestra, Bands (Military or Symphonique). Union Musical, 20, Rue du Maroc, Paris XIX.

WANTED, Engagement for First-cclass Band, from July 21 to October; highest references. MUS. DIR., 10, Emlyn-road, Wendell Park, W.

WANTED, by Military Band, Engagements, town or Seaside; smart uniform; good répertoire. B. M., 56, Chipstead-st., Parsons Green, S.W.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, good Equestrian Families,
Good Equestrian Families,
Good Equestrian Families,
Good Equestrian Families,
Good Equestrian Families,
Good Equestrian Families,
Good Equestrian Families,
Good Equestrian Families,
Good Equestrian Families,
Good Equestrian Families,
Good Equestrian Families,
for Paris,
one and two years' Contract.

Send offers and photographs
to
ROCHE,
23, Boulevard des Italiens,
Paris.

GEO. ZALVA'S HIPPODROME, SCARBORO'.
WANTED, July 29 and Aug. and Sept., First-class Novelties and Animal Acts of every description, that can be performed in an Arena. Good quick Equestrian Act Wanted, and useful people for Water Panto. Apply, with lowest terms, as above.

WANTED, for Hanneford's Circus, Ireland, Good Speciality, also Lady Serio.

Address, Saturday, Ennistymon, Co. Clare. Monday, Gort, Co. Galway.

WANTED, to Open at Once, good Aerial Show, High Wire, Trapeze, Norwegian Spar Act, or anything suitable for outdoor Attraction. Alvantee communicate. BEACH, Skinner's Meadow, Shortlands, Kent.

WANTED, First-class High Wire Act, two acts preferred, Aug. 5, week, two shows a day; very lowest terms; Acts must have all Fittings for Outside Show. CHARLES ELDERTON, Whitley Park Grounds, Whitley Bay.

WANTED, Aug. 7, Gymnasts, Trick Cyclists, or suitable outdoor Acts, for Athletic Sports. Particulars, lowest terms, BRISCOMBE, Ripon.

WANTED (through illness), a Lady Trick Cyclist, who has knowledge of Tumbling, to take place of another young lady in well-known Troupe. Address, L. H., Post Office, 10, Acre-lane, Brixton, London.

WANTED, a Tumbler, for Comedy Act. Age, height, weight, and salary required. Box 5,013, "The Era."

WANTED, Young Man for Top Mount, for Comedy Act. All particulars, Box 5,012, "The Era."

WANTED, smart Young Man Tumbler for Troupe. State particulars to DAVIS, 1, Upper Duke-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Circus Proprietors and Hippodrome Managers to Note that the Three Ohmys, greatest of all Lady Acrobatic Equestriennes, on three beautiful trained Horses, the only Act of the kind in the world, open Monday next, The Tower Circus, Blackpool; their third engagement this season. They have a few weeks at Liberty before opening for the season in Paris. Proprietors, Managers, and Agents would do well to see this Act, twice daily at the Circus Tower, Blackpool. Address, CLAUDE OHMY, as above.

WANTED, Known, The Ernests, Lady and Gentleman Bareback Equestrians, in their Successful Equestrian Pot-Pourri, "Redskins." Now on Continental Tour. For vacant dates, address, THE ERNESTS, 17, Fordel-road, Catford S.E.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty Shortly for Stage or Ring, Tudor's Four Educated Ponies, Hengler's Circus, London, Twice Daily. Agents should see this act. Address, W. TUDOR.

WANTED, Neddy Vokes, English and Continental Musical Talking Knockabout Clown, Liberty Home or Abroad. Address, 16, Moreton-st., Strangeways, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Bimbo, Clown, Comedian, and High Stilt Performer, good in Sketches, great attraction for Gala. Address, Selly Park, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Bodey Bros., Comedy Triple Bars, for Galas, &c., Liberty June 24 and July. Aug. 5, Alexandra Palace, London. 10, Fillwood-road, Fishponds, Bristol.

WANTED, Known, The Rizarelis, Lady Gymnasts, in a new and novel Trapeze Act; also the Recars, Chinese Eccentric Acrobatic Act; two distinct Acts. Vacant July 1 and later. Address, 3, Bowden-street, Stockport.

WANTED, Known, Olrac and Milton, Society Trois Bar Fixe Comiques, on Tour. Permanent address, 193a, Brixton-rd., London S.W.

WANTED, July 1 and 8, by La Dor Troupe (male and female), Acrobatic Roman Double Ladder Wonders, Screaming Absurdity, "Spanish Bull-Fight"; Lady on Rolling Globe; Five People, Three Distinct Speciality Acts. Queen's Hall, Radcliffe.

WANTED, Dates, 1908, The Rolands, Marvellous Athletes, and Alfred Siegel, Champion Wrestler. Acknowledged by all to be Unequalled in their Equilibristic Act, and Undertaking to Defeat all Comers at Wrestling. On tour. All coms., 7, Wellington-avenue, Liverpool.

Balloon Ascents.
WANTED, Engagements, by Lieut. Lempriere, the Popular Reliable Aeronaut. Address, LEMPRIERE, Handsworth, Birmingham.

Parachute Descents.
WANTED, Gala Secretaries seeking Big Attractions to engage Lieut. Lempriere and his charming Lady Pupils for Parachute Descents or Races; together or separate. One still open for Aug. Bank. LEMPRIERE, Handsworth, Birmingham.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES and THEATRE ROYAL.
WANTED, First-class Variety Artists, all Lines.

ARTHUR CARLTON, Palace, Worcester.

PARLATO'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Variety Artists, Queen's Hall, Radcliffe, July 8, onwards. Particulars, Queen's Hall, Radcliffe, Lancs.

COVENTRY HIPPODROME.
WANTED, First-class Variety Artists, all Lines, for immediate Dates.
Apply, S. T. NEWSOME,
Hippodrome, Coventry.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, July 1, Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest. Hall small. P. REYMOND, as above.

Scarborough.
WANTED, Monday, July 1, and onwards, Variety Artists in all Lines. Nothing too Big. Full particulars to KITCHINGMAN, Aquarium.

WANTED, First-Class Variety Artists all Lines, Aug. 5 and onwards; also Combinations and Bioscope. HERR PAREEZER, Hippodrome, King's Lynn.

WANTED, Variety Artists, in all Lines, July 1, and onwards.
Apply, A. E. PICKARD, Britannia, Glasgow.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

HENRY KEMBLE'S AGENCY,
HENRY KEMBLE'S AGENCY,
HENRY KEMBLE'S AGENCY,
HENRY KEMBLE'S AGENCY,
HENRY KEMBLE'S AGENCY,
233, Kennington-road, London.
General-Manager and Exclusive Agent,
PALACE THEATRE, CORK.

WANTED, Sept. and onwards,
Artists of all descriptions.
Big Specialities,
Animal Acts, &c., &c.

Can guarantee
First-Class Acts good work.

Lowest terms,
open time, and lithos.,
to above.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME, ROCHDALE.
Lessees, Messrs. JACKSON and WHITE.
WANTED, for Re-opening, Aug. 26, onwards, Artists in all Lines. Nothing too big. Apply (letters only), J. JACKSON, c/o Jackson Family, 350, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Artist, all Lines, Monday next and on, Artist doing two acts preferred. Nothing too big. Sure money. No percentage. Comfortable engagement. Lowest combination summer terms to THE DAYTON FAMILY, Co-operative Hall, Crewe..

P.S.—Artist wanted also for our Second Company, commencing August Bank Holiday. Silence polite negative. Impossible to answer all.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, immediate Dates for Derby, Stoke, Attercliffe, and Grimsby. Lowest terms must be stated, and no stamped envelopes enclosed. T. A. EDWARDES, Grand Theatre, Derby.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Artists all descriptions, for Hippodromes, Kidderminster and Redditch, for June 24, onwards, one week each town; Doubles preferred. Send lowest summer terms, share, or salary, to BARNES, Hippo., Kidderminster.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, two weeks, July 8, 22, Aug. 5. CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists, all Lines, July 1, onwards. Terms, lithos., bookings. Big Specialities for Galas, Aug. 5.
EDGAR STEBBINGS, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester. 'Phone, 09261. Tels., "Stebbing, Manchester."

WANTED, Artists, at Once, all Lines, to play parts in Cinematograph Productions. Write, stating all particulars, to VICTOR W. ROWE, 28, Herbert-road, Stockwell, S.W.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, from now onwards.
Apply, Mr. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, First-class Artists Only, for First-class Variety Theatres, immediate and future dates, also Pantomime.
JESS VERNO'S Agency, 16, Elizabeth-st., Liverpool. Telegrams, "Merriment." 'Phone, 2076 Royal.

DREW BAYLEY'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, the Best of Artists for all North Towns, July, Aug., Sept., and on. 170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists all Lines new to Middlesbro', Morecambe, and Lancaster, July 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29. Address, ONDA, Alhambra, Morecambe.

WANTED, Artists all Lines. Dates, terms, WM. B. BOSTOCK'S Agency. Pleased to see old and new friends Sunday evenings. Palace, Oldbury.

WANTED, Concert Artists, also smart Amateurs and Beginners, for small Music Hall, London. BOB GRAHAM, Variety Agent, 15A, Electric avenue, Brixton.

WANTED, Artists for Open-air Concerts at Swansea, Pierrots, Quartettes, and Single Artists for August,, under sharing process or salary. Apply by letter, stating vacant dates and terms, to M. W. SHANLY, 33, King Henry's-road, South Hampstead, N.W.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, coming North, to send dates and terms.
ANDERSON'S Agency, 6, Great Clyde-street, Glasgow.

PALACE T. OF VARIETIES. OLDBURY.
Proprietors, Messrs. WM. B. BOSTOCK and J. TYRER.
WANTED, July 1, on, Artists and Novelties, Double Acts, doing Singles. Lowest summer terms, lithos., WM. B. BOSTOCK, General-Manager.

VENTOM SWIFT'S AGENCY.
Coms., 728, Romford-road, Manor Park, London. Sole booking representative, Alhambra, Edinburgh.
WANTED, Known, Artists working London next few weeks with odd weeks vacant North, Sept. onwards, communicate, with absolute lowest and where can be seen working.

WANTED, Variety Artists all Lines, for Emp., Doncaster, July 8, onwards; Doubles doing Singles say when last there. State lowest. B. KENNEDY.

TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN.
WANTED, for the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Dublin,
All the Greatest Stars in the Profession,
Acts New in Dublin, for the above,
the Premier Variety Theatre in Ireland,
Direct or through Agents.
All communications to WILL SLEY,
41, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone, 09144.

WANTED, for July 1, 8, and 15,
Stars in all Lines.
Stars in all Lines.
Full up for Smaller Items.
Can always Fix Big Numbers any Odd Weeks.
CADLE'S Agency,
105, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities, for immediate and future Dates. Terms and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shafesbury-avenue, W.

ALFRED SAKER AND CO.,
Dramatic and Variety Agents,
17, Cranworth-gardens, Brixton, S.W.
WANTED, Stars and Novelties, for Principal London Halls. Marguerite Ismay, Grant and Allen, Paulasto Troupe please communicate. 'Phone 194 Brixton.

STALYBRIDGE and WORCESTER.
WANTED, Talent, all Lines.
JAMES FIONI'S Agency,
21, Norton-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool."
Telephone, 1686 Royal.

DUNDAS'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Talent, every Description, for immediate Dates; Principal Boys Girls, and Comedians write in for next season's Panto. 52, Rosthwaite-road, West Derby, Liverpool.

HARRY SKIVINGTON'S AGENCY.
HARRY SKIVINGTON'S AGENCY.
48, Brisbane-street, Greenock.
WANTED, Good Tops of Bill, for Glasgow, Greenock, and District. Send full list of bookings and lowest terms.
Empire, Greenock, re-opens Aug. 19.

WANTED, First-Class Speciality, for long tour, commence Sept. TOMKINSON, 36, Albany-rd., Kensington, Liverpool. John H. Tomkinson's Royal Gipsy Co.

WANTED, Specialities of all Kinds, also Gala Sensations, High Rope, Aug. 5. THE INTERNATIONAL AGENCY, 125, Barcroft-street, Grimsby.

WANTED, Cream of the Profession, to send full bookings. Terms to WILLIAM AINSWORTH, Vaudeville and Concert Agent, Heath Villa, Stockton-on-Tees.

WANTED, Speciality Turn, suitable for Show; long engagement to the right people.
GIBSON, Show, Feast Ground, Royston, nr. Barnsley.

WANTED, New Turns, for Australia, America, and United Kingdom. TOM PACEY, 186, Brixton-road, London. 'Phone, 87, Brixton. Telegrams, "Parthenon, London."

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Big Variety Turns,
Big Variety Turns,
Big Variety Turns,

Something New and Up to Date,
Novelties and Sensational Acts,
For Immediate and Future Dates, for
London, Liverpool,
Birmingham, Leeds, Newcastle,
Glasgow, Belfast,
Dublin, Manchester, Bolton,
Wolverhampton, Oldham,
Hartlepool, Shields, Barrow,
Carlisle, Darlington,
Hull, Middlesbrough, Stockport,
Blackpool, Morecambe,
Brighton, Boscombe, Margate,
Portsmouth, Southampton,
Bath, Lincoln, Leicester, Bradford,
Halifax, Sheffield, Blackburn,
Lancaster, Stockport, Burnley, Derby,
Attercliffe, Stoke, Grimsby.
St. Helens, Accrington, Warrington,
Bury, Hanley, Stockton, &c., &c.
Send, at once, terms, dates, and lithos.
Those having a good act can rely on getting Immediate Work.
WILL SLEY,
41, Oxford-street,
Manchester.
Telephone, 09144.
Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."

WANTED, Big Attractions,

Seaside,
Halls,
and
Galas.

JAMES FIONI'S Agency,
21, Norton-street,
Liverpool.

LEO FRITZ'S VARIETY AGENCY.
Glenshaw-mansions, Brixton-road, London, S.W.
Telephone 457 Brixton. Telegrams, "Evelyncia, London."
WANTED, the World's Greatest Attractions, Wanted, Top Liners, Top Liners; price no object; twelve months' solid work to the right stuff. Wire above for July 1 and onwards.

WANTED, really First-Class Attractions of all kinds, but must really be First-Class. Address, J. F. ELLISTON, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

WANTED, High-Class Vaudeville Attractions, Acts known to me write at once, enclose bookings, lowest terms, &c. FRANCIS O'FLYNN, care of "The Era."

DEETRICH'S VAUDEVILLE BUREAU,
31, Islington, Liverpool.
WANTED, Star Acts, Artists all Lines, particularly for Attercliffe, July 15, Derby, July 29; nothing too big. State when last there, with full particulars, bookings, lithos., and terms.

WANTED, Sensational Gala Acts, Ground, Aerial, Acrobatic, Animal, July, Aug. 5, onwards. Send memos., lithos., terms. Perm. add., BURTON'S Agency, Fargate, Sheffield.

WANTED, for Gloucester, Porth, Pandy, Pentre, Abertillery, Barry, Worcester, Variety Acts. Full bookings. Mantell Oval write. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, Monday next,
Two Good Comedy Acts.
Wire lowest, ZALVA, Scarborough.

WANTED, Big Acts of every kind, for the North. Send full bookings, &c., to FRANK LYNNE, Stoll's Hippodrome, Manchester.

WANTED, Variety Acts all Lines, offer big drawing Acts good Sharing terms, for Stanley, July 1. RAYNE, c/o Lovett's Commercial Hotel, Leeming-street, Mansfield.

WANTED, Star Variety and Speciality Acts, for early dates, where the Barring Clause does not apply. Top of Bills having odd weeks out write. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, Big Tops, for a Variety House, Sept. 2, 9, and 16.
Price no object for Big Stars. Address,
DOTTRIDGE, Variety Agent, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, Big Tops, for a Variety House, Sept. 2, 9, and 16.
Price no object for Big Stars. Address,
DOTTRIDGE, Variety Agent, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, late Manager, Blackpool, Morecambe, &c. Address, next week, 6, Trafalgar-rd, South Shore, Blackpool.

WANTED, at once, Startling Novelties in all Lines of business, Troupes of Lady Dancers, one or two fine Lady Acrobats, Six Rocking-Chair Girls and Royal Six please communicate. Apply personally, to-day or Monday, or by letter, to HAWKE and HAMILTON, 142, Long Acre, W.C.

W. HAMILTON'S EXCURSIONS.
Nos. 1 and 2 COMPANIES.
WANTED, commencing Sept. 30, First-class Novelties; nothing too big; also wanted, commencing Aug. 26, Picture and Effect Workers. Letters only, V. HAMILTON, Brixton Hall, Brixton.

WANTED, Known, the Banbury Neithrop Club are open to receive
Tenders from Entertainers
for Fête on August Bank Holiday.
Address,
GREEN, 2, Crouch-street.

WANTED, Song Illustrators, with own Slides, July 1, onwards, and other turns, suitable for Picture Show. Full particulars and lowest terms, BEAULAND and EMERSON, Queen's Theatre, Castleford.

WANTED, Known, Joe Boganny has always Vacancies for Smart Tumblers. Palace, Shaftesbury-avenue, London.

WANTED, Soubrette, for Open-air Pierrot Troupe; young, good voice. State age, height, full particulars, CLIFTON, 24, New-street, Pwllheli.

WANTED, Ladies who can Sing and Dance well, for Troupe; only the best need apply. Box 5,001, "The Era."

WANTED, two Girls, for Illusion, Sisters preferred, one look fourteen, one about 5ft. 4in. Apply, S., 31, South Hill-park, Hampstead, N.W.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Star Comedians and Comediennes,
Star Comedians and Comediennes,
Hippodrome, Hastings, July and Aug.
Quote lowest terms one house nightly.
Sole Bookings, FRED HIGHAM,
9 York-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, for Al Fresco, open July 1, till Sept., Refined Low Comedian (large rép.), also Accompanist, to sing (good voice). Photos. and lowest terms, DICKESON, A.A.

WANTED, at once, a Knockabout Comedian and Dancer, long engagement. Address, MANAGER, Melville's Circus, Askeaton, Co. Limerick.

WANTED, Funny Eccentric Comedian, must be small in stature; excellent opportunities; long tour. Full particulars, Box 5,019, "The Era."

WANTED, for High-class Open-air Entertainment, St. Albans, Comedian, Tenor, Soprano, Piano Accompanist, able to Sing; must be refined and versatile. Apply personally, between 11-12, Monday, to STRACHAN, c/o Woolhouses, Wardour-street, London, W.

WANTED, good Operators, for Bioscope, must understand Electric and Gas, and do their own filling up.
Permanency for good men.
References required.
Box 4,998, "The Era."

WANTED, good complete Bioscope Show, for Season, at Greenwich Theatre. Send best terms, specimen programmes. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, good Bioscope Operator, opens Alhambra, Morecambe, Monday, one week, if suitable, tour. Wire, ONDA, Oxford Palace, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, Bioscope Operator, at Once. Apply, stating full particulars and salary required, to BIOSCOPE, Box 5,000, "Era" Office.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Wanted, Known,
MYSTERIOUS LILITH,
in her beautiful Palace of Roses,
the most Sensational Mystery Act ever presented.
Also LILIAN WARREN'S Vocal Pictures,
with beautiful Dissolving Effects.
Owing to Enormous Success, Re-engaged
for next week at Grand, Gravesend.
At Liberty July 1 and 8.
All coms., Grand, Gravesend; or
Permanent address, 77, St. Mary's-street, Cardiff.

WANTED, Known, the Original Mlle. Lumiere's Electrical Fairy Grotto Co., Vacant Aug. 5, 12, 19, and 26. Money-taking Theatres with Big Holding Capacity, electric installation essential. Offers invited for above dates. This week, Pavilion, Newcastle; 24th, Hippodrome, Leeds.

WANTED, by Nellie Elder, Comedienne, Tyrolean Vocalist, Authoress, and Composer, Monday next, also June 24. Wire quick, Grand Theatre, Doncaster.

WANTED, by Miss Daisie Morell, the Versatile Vocalist, Monday next, also July 15, 22. Wire, Bellevue, Ethelbert-road, Bromley, Kent.

WANTED, by Nellie Nora, Instrumental Act, Monday next. Wire, Alhambra; or 8, The Crescent, Sandgate, Kent.

WANTED, Known, Sisters Nella, Refined Speciality Pot-Pourri Act, Vacant June 24, onwards. Communications to 212, Ocean-road, South Shields.

WANTED, Known, Florence and Lillian, Artistic Musical Act, Disengaged July 1, 8, 15. Address, 83, St. Augustine's-road, London, N.W.

WANTED, Known, The Cecilias, Lady Instrumentalist. This, Palace, Chatham; next, Palace, Southampton. Vacant July 8. TOM CLAXTON.

WANTED, by Rowland Hill, Comedian and Patterer, Monday next, also July 29. Wire, Bellevue, Ethelbert-road, Bromley, Kent.

WANTED, Perce Upton, Droll Comedian, through Hall closing, July 1, 15, vacant for Pantomime. All communications, 52, Bolton-road, Stratford, Essex.

WANTED, by H. G. Clark, Eccentric Comedian, 24th, onwards. Wire quick, permanent address, 50, Lodge-st., Queen's-rd., Manchester.

WANTED, July 1 and 8, by George Grenville, the Popular Comedian. Big success this, T. R., Ton-y-Pandy; Monday, Theatre, Glastonbury. Wire or write for a sure success.

WANTED, Monday next, by Allan Hanbury, Comedian, Al Fresco offers invited. This, Pal., Leicester; or 38, Holland-st., Brixton, London.

WANTED, by Otto Ethardo, Artistic Juggler, Monday next; also July 1. Wire or write, 15, William Edward-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, Monday and onwards, by Hartz, Continental Magician, splendid Act, new to England, any business. 100, Church-st., Dunstable.

WANTED, by English Concertina Soloist, Engagements; turn can be heard privately by appointment. CONCERTINIST, 5, Loftus-rd., Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, 24th, and July 1, by Morimura and Miako, Marvellous Japanese Conjurers; the Most Successful Conjuring Act on the Road. Wire, 16, Osborne-street, Seedley, Manchester.

WANTED, The Wilberts, in "A Trip to Magicana." For terms, dates, com., W. AINSWORTH, Heath Villa, Stockton-on-Tees, Sole Agent.

WANTED, July 1, by A. W. Reed, Lightning Land and Seascape Painter and Comedy Conjurer. A smart, refined act. Pal., Greenwich.

WANTED, Agent, who has Vacancies for a smart, refined Comedy Act, to see the above. P. A., 205, St. Leonard's-street, E.

WANTED, Managers and Agents to Wire for the most Novel Act now in England.
PICITT and LIZETTE,
"THE CRAZY COOK,"
Vacant all July owing to an unexpected alteration in our Continental Bookings.
Wire for July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29.
PICITT and LIZETTE,
Magical Pantomimists,
in their Illusionary Extravaganza
"THE CRAZY COOK,"
"THE CRAZY COOK,"
Original Illusions worked like lightning.
A big Dumb Act. Original Comedy.
50 Birds and Animals, 50.
Only dates this year, and your only chance till Aug. 24, 1908, to book this absolutely unique Act.
Wire, Saturday, Palace, Attercliffe;
Monday, Grand Theatre, Derby.
Wire, Wire, Wire for July 1.

WANTED, June 24. Wire, Empire, Hull. Topping Bill. Enormous Success. Specially engaged by A. Selwyn, Esq. The Great Original Kyoto, Comedy Japanese Contortionist, Pot-Pourri Act. A Clever and Refined Funny Act. Also Miss May Geraldine, Comedienne, Vocalist, Dancer. After Sat., 506, Stockport-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Vokes and Marshall (Ned and Jessie), Funny Refined Comedy, Musical, and Patter Artists, Liberty. 16 Moreton-street, Strangeways, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next and July, The Monck tons, in Musical Comedy Episodes, "Are Wives Dummies?" "A Woman's Curiosity," also "The Lady and the Burglar," produced Hippo., Hulme, Sept. 25, 1905. Wire, Theatre, Ton-y-pandy. Monday, 12, Kyotts Lake-rd., Sparkbrook, Birmingham.

WANTED, by Vaughan and Hyde, in their latest successful Novelty, "Ups and Downs," July 1 and 8, to follow Empress, Brixton. Wire or write as above.

WANTED, 24th, July 8 (North), by Cadogan and Wingrove, "A Clerical Complication" (Muir and Bartlett's). 9 Cambridge-road, Battersea Park.

WANTED, July 1, 29, Aug. 26, by The Calcotts, in High-class Musical and Dancing Scena, "Rags and Tatters." Terrific Success Everywhere. Monday next, Royalty T., Chester.

WANTED, June 24, by Harry Howe and Mabel Kessler, Vocalists, Cornet, and Posthorn Soloists, First-class Comedy, Double or Two Singles. Victoria Theatre, Barry Dock.

WANTED, July 1, on, The Mintos, Lady and Gent., Musical Eccentrics, Vocalists, and Sketch Artists, 2 distinct Specialities. Add., Post Office, Southport.

WANTED, Known, that Bob Hartley and Doris Dene will for the future be known as Jimmy Green and May Mayne.

WANTED, Monday next, by Jimmy Green, Comedian; May Mayne, Serio and Descriptive. This week, successful appearance, Wire, Theatre Royal, Dewsbury.

WANTED, June 17, on, the Gordons, in their Screaming Comedy Act, "Feathers to Fly With." Write or wire, c/o A. E. Jones, 34, Thimble Mill-lane, Nechells, Birmingham.

WANTED, July 1, 8, 15, 22, by the Bros. Webb, Musical Clowns.
Address, 4, Speenham-road, Stockwell, S.W.

WANTED, by Doyle and Gibson, Comedians, July 1, 8, 15, and 22. Mon., Empire, Ashton-under-Lyne; or H. BURNS, Hartlepool.

WANTED, June 24, July 1, by Erris and D'Aubyn, in their latest Comedy Act, "Have a Bit of Bun." Coms., Gaiety, Glasgow.

WANTED, by Rell and Butt, Novel Comedians, Mon. next, and July 1 and 8, only vacancies this year. Wire, Palace, Southampton.

WANTED, Known, The Karls (Two Gents), Original Acrobatic Equilibrists, free Aug. 5, onwards. Galas invited. 40, Dalby-street, London, N.W.

WANTED, Known, Wright and Elton (Great Comedy Act), Vacant July 1, 22, 29. This week, Hippo., Liverpool; Monday next, June 24, Tivoli, Manchester. Wire.

WANTED, Monday, by Chant and Chant, Refined Vocal Comedy Duo. Thanks offers last week. Wire for a Sure Hit, 87, Wollaton-st., Nottingham.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Fields and Lewis, Great Comedy Act, a Star Turn, Monday next, June 24, '07. Wire, Hippodrome, Liverpool, Wire.

WANTED, next week, June 24, and July 8, Bros. Almo, big Comedy Three-Bar Act. Big success here, and offered several return dates. Wire immediate, Pier Pavilion, Folkestone.

WANTED, The Rizarellis, Lady Gymnasts, also The Recars, Eccentric Acrobatic Act; two Acts, Vacant July 1 and later. 3, Bowdon-street, Stockport.

WANTED, Lenton and Bertram, Zancig Thought-reading and Conjuring, two acts; a Gigantic Success Everywhere. A few Open Dates. 251, Seven Sisters-road, N.

WANTED, June 24, July 15, by Los Granadas, with their own Trampolin Novelty, "Sensational Happenings Outside an Hotel," Galas or Theatres. Thanks to Messrs. Raoul Pitau, T. Gannon, D. Barnes, for Contracts; and Messrs. Paul Valentine, E. Jazon, H. Eventio for offers. 64, Upper Sutton-st., Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, few immediate dates for J. Negus's Screaming Comedy Act, "Waking Them Up," four in number, July 8 and 15, to follow Collins's, London, previous to long tour.

WANTED, Known, Three Moxons, Acrobatic Risley Comedians, Liberty Nov. 11, 18, 25. This, Empire, Hull. All coms. address, 3, Winsley-road, Bristol.

WANTED, by The Three Danbrooks, Rattling Musical Comedy Act, vacant July 8 and on. Wire, Palace, Clacton; next, Hippodrome, Sheerness.

WANTED, July 1, 8, 15, by Hulbert (Ventriloquist) and De Lil (Illusionist). Letters, C/o Burton, 33, Cleavland-street, Doncaster.

WANTED, Known, What a Draw! Cecilians are vacant June 24, July 1, 8, Musicians, Vocalists, Expert Dancers. 120, Victoria-house, Farringdon-rd., London.

WANTED, Known, Proprietors, Managers, Agents, Blanche and Zena, Continental Lady Cyclists, introducing an exciting Act, Football Match on Bicycles; also another great Act, introducing a small and up-to-date Cycle Track and performing genuine Tricks on same; nothing like it ever been seen in England; the only two Ladies performing the above distinct Acts. Only a few vacant dates before returning to the Continent. Communications for one or both Acts. MANAGER for Blanche and Zena, Theatre Royal, West Bromwich.

WANTED, Pauletti, Novelty Cyclist; a Funny and Daring Act; Laughs. This, Nelson and Winsford Galas. Per., 106, Bigland-st., Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Bros. St. Clair, Comedy Cyclists and Bicycle Football Experts, Moss and Stoll Tour, this, Olympia, Liverpool; next, Empire, Glasgow; Liberty Sept. 9 and 23. Com., En Route, or JESS VERNO'S Agency.

WANTED, Known, Swift Trio, Humorous Cyclists, Monday next, Regent Theatre, Salford. Booked by STEBBINGS. Vacant July 1 and 15. Thanks to Gannon for Contracts.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ella's celebrated Lion Show, now on its fifth year of successful tour in England, vacant July 1, 15, only for the North. Communications week June 24,
King's Theatre,
Gateshead-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Known, Devereux's Great Comedy Dog Show; the Animals with Human Brains. Great Success this week, York Gala. Liberty July 22, 29, and on. Always a Success. Palace, Bradford.

WANTED, Known, Proprietors wanting Attractive Show should secure Alice Fontainbleu's Renowned Troupe of Dogs. Topping Bill this week, Queen's Theatre, Castleford. Highly complimented by Mr. Emerson. Next week, Gala, Burslem. Vacant July 8 and 15. C/o "Era."

WANTED, Monday, also July 8, 15, 22, Kitty Woodford's Dogs, smart and funny Animal Act. Successful everywhere. Wire for Monday, 5, Buckingham-road, Wood Green, London.

WANTED, Galas, the Greatest Act ever seen with Dogs, Chard's Canine Hippodrome. Address, Box 5016, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Judge's Cockatoos, vacant July 8, 15, 22, and 29.
Wire, 6, Ashbrook-road, Upper Holloway, London.

WANTED, Engagements by Proprietor of a Wonderful Thought-reader and Performing Dog. Address, Box 5,018, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Public or Private, Harmon's Bioscope, Marionettes, also Royal Punch and Judy, with Toby. 326, Earlsfield-road, Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, Known, thoroughly experienced, reliable, smart Operator, at Lib.; highest references. Address, OPERATOR, c/o Urban Trading Co., 46A, Market-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, by Bioscope Operator, with own machine, complete. Address, 41, Bolsover-street, Portland-road. Station, W.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, Tom Norman, Silver King (regd.), Auctioneer, Valuer, Expert and Authority, Auctioneer to Lord George Sanger (England's Greatest Showman), and Leading Showmen of Great Britain. Sales and Commissions conducted in any part of the World.
If you want to Buy or Sell
Anything Connected with the Business,
Consult TOM NORMAN, Auction Dept.,
The Era" Office, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand. Change of address. Wanted to purchase or engage, all kinds of Novelties and Curiosities (alive or dead), if suitable for exhibition.

WANTED, Known, .22 "B" and "D" cartridges, Globes, Balls, Winchester and New Military Repeaters, Pistols, and all repairs done. GREENS, 74, Falmouth-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Auctioneers to send to Simons for Secondhand Watches and Jewellery of every description, also reproductions of Old Sheffield Plate.
Rock Bottom Prices Only.
100, 101, 102A, Houndsditch, E.C.

WANTED, Auctioneers, to Know.—For cash only, my New Price List. Ready for you to Sell. Silver English Capped Lever Watches at following prices: 7s., 7s. 6d., 8s., 8s. 6d., 9s., 9s. 6d., 10s., 11s., and 12s. each, splendid goods. Silver Geneva Watches, 800 and 935 silver (assorted) at 3s. 6d. each. Market Workers should buy my 6s. and 6s. 6d. English Lever Watches; also my 3s. and 3s. 3d. Silver Geneva Watches. C. G. CLACHER, 22, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, all kinds of Showmen's Painting undertaken; Oil Paintings, Scenery, Letter Cloths. ROCHE, Artist, 22, Lansdown-road, Lee, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Showman's Artist, also Builder of Ghost Shows, &c. Marionette Figures for Sale, cheap. TURNER, 67, Bonsall-street, Manchester.

To Steam Circus Proprietors and Showmen.
WANTED, Known, Tenders Invited for First-Class Steam Circus and Sole Right for Side Shows, for the West Wilts Liberal Fête, Saturday, July 27, 1907; the best attended Fête in the county. Many other Attractions to draw patronage; the event of the Summer in Trowbridge.
Apply, HON. SECS., Fête Committee,
23, Church-street, Trowbridge.

WANTED, Novelties, Freaks; can open at once. Sale of Books and Postcards allowed. CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin.

WANTED, Quick-showing Novelty for July 12, Holidays; Good Business on Shares, two weeks. Also Lady Palmist. BAGAN'S New Varieties, North-st., Belfast.

WANTED, Freaks or Quick-showing Novelties, for Monday (wire) and future dates; best position. MANAGER, Exhibition, Market-street, Longton, Staffordshire.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, and Attractions for 1908, to write in to
A. E. PICKARD, American Museum, Glasgow.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
for
THE WHITE CITY, MANCHESTER,
THE WHITE CITY, MANCHESTER,
THE WHITE CITY, MANCHESTER,
THE WHITE CITY, MANCHESTER,
THE WHITE CITY, MANCHESTER,
THE WHITE CITY, MANCHESTER,
the only Amusement Park in Europe.

A real First-Class Playground for the people of Manchester.

The White City leads the way—imitators follow.
The White City leads the way—imitators follow.
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WANTED, to open Wednesday, June 26, Bioscope and Side Shows, for 13 days, on shares. 86, Pearl-buildings, Portsmouth.

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WANTED, smart Man, as Doorsman, used to the Show business, must be tall, abstainer preferred. State full particulars as to experience, age, and wages required, to A. E. PICKARD, Britannia Panopticon, Glasgow.

WANTED, good Doorsman, for Mirrors or Studio; must be steady and reliable; permanency. State wages, &c., to Studio, Trades Exhibition, Kirriemuir, N.B.

WANTED, a good Doorsman, for a First-Class Picture Show, one able to describe the pictures, and also knows or able to book good round; only those that are well up in their work need apply. Till Sunday, Fair Ground, Romsey, Kent; after, 346, Brixton-road, W. PAYNE.

WANTED, First-Class Doorsman; good shop for good man; can join at once.
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To Roundabout Proprietors,
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The Greatest Events in the Annals of the Showman World.

Liverpool's 700th Anniversary.
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the whole of the Liverpool Parks
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Corporation Open Spaces
for
the Pageant Week,
Aug. 3 to Aug. 9,
where will be held
Monster Fun Fairs.
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The City of Liverpool will observe this week as a General Holiday.
The Channel Fleet will anchor in
The Mersey.

Excursion Trains and Steamers will run daily into Liverpool from all parts of Britain.

Persons requiring
Grounds, Stands, or Spaces for Shows, &c.,
address, with full particulars, to
the Lessees,
P. and J. COLLINS,
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Telegrams, "Gondola, Walsall."

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Must bring good Doorman.
Sharing terms.
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For Particulars, Price, and where to be seen,
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Launceston Elliott, Bioscope, Ernest Tilbury, R. H. Douglass, May Mars, Lieut. Travis, Little Tichbourne, Leonie Dixon, Maudie Francis, "The Garden of Glitter."

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for :—
"My Pal Jerry," Madge May, Bioscope, Signor and Mme Borelli, Little Ganty, Bert Woodward, Marie Santoi and Co., Gasch Sisters, Millman Trio.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Neil Kenyon, Arthur Aldridge, C. Randolph King, Frank Seeley, Bioscope, Eric, Mendel, Fanny Erris, Hill and Whittaker, Musical Jees, Jennie Johns.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Darnley's "The Skirmishers," Starr and Leslie, Stelling and Revell, Belloni's Cockatoos, Tom Woottwell, Rosa Loader, Sisters Poole, David Stewart, Bioscope.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
The Black Hussars, "Heartstrings" Co., Selkirk's "Egypt," Nellie Coleman, Dome, Kitty Marion, Carlyles, Ray Wallace, Bioscope.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Nellie Wallace, Fatna Diard, Edwin Barwick, Trapnell Family, Miles Stavordale Quintette, Bioscope, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Finden, W. F. Frame, Dan Leno, jun., "The Prince of Monte Carlo."

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
"Ordered to the Front," Grace Merton, Bioscope. "Kiss Your Father," Tossing Austins, J. B. Preston, Martin Henderson, Tom E. Finglass.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Fred Storey and Co., in "Rip Van Winkle," American Comedy Four, Amy Russell, Fred and Pauli, Lennie and Hast, Chas. Norton, St. Julian Sisters, Laurie and Beattie, L. W. Harris, Illustrated Song.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Wilkie Bard, Narow Bros., Norman Leonard Trio, Maud Mortimer, Ruth Lytton, Cissie Curlette, Elsie Claire, Matthew Brodie and Co., Bioscope, Olive and Owen.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Harry Lauder, Bioscope, Ryan and Hall, Tom Moore, Boccaccio Minstrels, Frank Bertram and Co., Hartley Wonders, Maggie Walsh, Four Regals, Lukushimas.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Australian Woodcutters, Bioscope, La Danseuse, Boyd and Gilfain, Powell's Marionettes, Percy Honri, Rapoli, Celtic Comedy Trio, Herbert Rule, "Baby Burglar."

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Karno's "The Bailiff," Rich and Rich, Elsie Robey, Lowell and Lowell, Russell Wallett, Rochez's Dogs, Bessie Butt, Bioscope, Illustrated Song.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Bella and Bijou, George Reeves, Drew and Alders, J. W. Hall, Whit Cunliffe, The Æolians, Clement Trio, Corcoran Bros., Bioscope, Little Dott Moss.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Clark and Hamilton, Five Delevines, Chas. Fisher and Co., Lancashire Lassies, Bonnie Goodwin's Piccaninnies, Melot Hermann, Doughty Sketch Co., Walter Munroe, Ted E. Box, Sidy Nirvana, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Arthur Weston and Phyllis Yorke, Cinquevalli, The Anartos, Ben Albert, Edie King, Pat Rafferty, May Henderson, Ryder Slone, Boy Glen, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3, for :—
Mark Sheridan, Spry and Austin, Harry Tate, Francis and Alfred, Fielding and Hull, The Mezzettis, Ella Shields, De Gracia's Elephants, Bioscope.

PHILHARMONIC HALL, ST. MARY-STREET, CARDIFF.
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EMPIRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 3, for :—
Eugene Stratton, Josh Dixon, Seeley and West, Flo Esdaile, Cape Girls, Canty's Grotto, Gus Garrick, Little Tina, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 3, for :—
The Craggs, Will Musgrave, George Ridgwell, Moulier Sisters, Les Frasettis, Sisters Sprightly, David Poole, Ella Retford, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Geo. Gray and Co., in "Parson Gray, V.C.," Larry Lewis, Ross and Lewis, Queenie Leighton, Jackley Trio, Mark Merry, Two Dixons, Illustrated Song, Bioscope.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30, for :—
The Boissetts, Three Sisters Chester, Three Phydoras, Marguerite Broadfoote, D'Arc's Marionettes, Phil Ray, Moon and Morris, Amy Marsden, Bioscope.

ARDWICK EMPIRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Seven Perezoffs, Bioscope, Arthur Gill, Ross and Grayson, Marzella's Birds, Will Bishop and Co., Gintaro, Frank Lynne, Tom H. Davis, Donaldson Bros. and Ardell.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2, for
Mariedl, Bioscope, Fred Hastings, Ruby Dahl, Mabel Bardine and Co., Madge Grey, Alix Lukos, Illustrated Song, Violet Ray, Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
George Lashwood, Austin Rudd, Baker and Balfe, Rosie Archer, Jordan and Harvey, Eight Empire Girls, Sylvester, Amy Anderson and Co., La Berat, Johnny Walker, Bioscope.

THE FOLLOWING ARE BOOKED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ABOVE:

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Lauder's Chronophone, Sisters Darrell, "My Landlord" Co., Nellie Martell, New York Nippers, New Macs, Will English, Bioscope, J. W. Rickaby.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1 for :
Bob Hutt's "Welcome Home," Billie Burford, Roma and Romanti, Northern Troupe, Howard and Collinson, Harry Bedford, Bros. Dean, Carter Livesey and Co.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
George Formby, Peggy Pryde, Guy Ryder, Lena Verdi, Vasey and Ramsey, Pictures, Mueller and Coyne, Musical Johnstones.

RICHMOND THEATRE, RICHMOND.
Proprietor, Mr. George Dance.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Pictures, &c.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL
Rehearsal at 12, for :—
Bros. Horne, Leonards, Sisters Pine, Martelloni Troupe, Gotham Quartette, Harry Conlin, Bioscope, Hinton and Wootton.

THE GRANVILLE, WALHAM GREEN.
Rehearsal at 3, for :—
Harmony Four, Tom Leamore, Carl Lynn, Chas. Whittle, Harry Anderson, Ernie French, Winnie Derson, Yolande Noble, Raies, Three Sisters May, Grahame and Harrington, Ashley Bros. and Co., Kitts and Windrum, Kent and Keith, Bioscope.

THE PALACE, CAMBERWELL.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Both Performances.
A. Conquest and Co., Auto Atlas, Ed. E. Ford, George Brooks, Lily Langtry, Katie Marsh, Foreman and Fannan, Terry and Lambert, Lurins, Lanos and Montes, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, COVENTRY.
Proprietor, Mr. George Dance.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Tom Davis Trio, Will Johnson, Daisy Martell, Ethel Ra Leslie, Matthew Cowper and Co., Kroney Bros., The Howes, The Delomes, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND
All Artists engaged. Please note that this Theatre will open positively July 1.

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Closed.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

ARTISTS ARE REQUESTED TO NOTE THAT THE ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON, IS WITHIN THE AREA ABSOLUTELY BARRED BY US.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.

Artists must have Band Parts for at least Twelve different Instruments for the Orchestras. Matter for Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR ALL THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to CO-OPERATIVE OFFICES, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, or at least TWO WEEKS, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled.

IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to Opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced.

ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

N.B.—Silence in every case a polite negative. Artists are requested not to enclose stamped envelope. Letters marked "Private" will be delayed.
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"THERE'S NOTHING LIKE YOUR FIRST LOVE AFTER ALL." (Morton and Leslie Stuart). Sung by Eugene Stratton.

"IN THE VALLEYS OF SWITZERLAND." (Charles Wilmott and H. E. Darewski, jun.) Sung by Miss Annie Purcell.

"THE QUEEN OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS." (Paul Rubens.) Sung by Miss Evie Greene.

"EVERY LITTLE BIT ADDED TO WHAT YOU'VE GOT." Sung by R. G. Knowles.

"HE'S A COUSIN OF MINE" (Mack, Smith, and Silvio Hein), Sung by Miss Clarice Vance.

"FOR KING AND SIRELAND." The New Imperial Anthem (Edward Montagu). Sung by Miss Ruby Helder, at the Empire, Leicester Square; also by Stanley Adams.

"IN THE TWI-TWI-TWILIGHT" (C. Wilmott and H. E. Darewski, jun.), and "OH, FOR A NIGHT IN THE WEST" (E. W. Rogers), Sung by George Lashwood.

"FOR AULD LANG SYNE" (F. W. Leigh and H. E. Pether), and "THE TENBOB RISE" (Bateman and Bennett Scott), Sung by Tom Costello.

"COME ALONG MY PRETTY 'LIZA" (Murray and Everard), and "I AIN'T NOBODY IN PARTICULAR" (Leigh and Scott McKenzie), Sung by Alec Hurley.

"MY CASTLE IN SPAIN" and "MY COSY CARAVAN" (Lawrance, Mellor, and Gifford), Sung by Miss Lil Hawthorne.

"IF THE MAN IN THE MOON WERE A COON" (Fischer), and "BABY LUCIE" (Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford). Sung by G. H. Elliott.

"I'LL TELL TILLY ON THE TELEPHONE" (Castling and Godfrey), Sung by Miss Dora Lyric.

"THE MAN WHO STRUCK O'HARA." (Mitchell). Sung by Walter Munroe.

"READ BETWEEN THE LINES" and "THE ECHO OF AN OLD, OLD TALE." (Frank Leo). Sung by Miss Sable Fern.

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Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier.

Artists employing Agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents.

New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our District Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follow :—

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LONDON DISTRICT.
MR. WILLIAM COLLINS,
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N.B.—Mr. OSWALD STOLL or Mr. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously.

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All Billing Matter for the undermentioned Theatres to be sent to the Secretary at above address. All communications as to engagements for the Theatres to be addressed to Messrs. ROSEN & BLISS, Variety Agents, 12 & 13, Henrietta-street, Covent-garden, W.C.
Telegrams, "Twopence, London." Telephone No. 7623 Gerrard.
N.B.—INTERVIEWED BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS for MONDAY, JUNE 24, 1907.

Rehearsals at 1 p.m.

PALACE THEATRE, PLYMOUTH.

Tom Leamore, Linton, Sinclair and Parr, Kimberley Boys, Rose Elliott, Jimmy Shields, Violette, Gibson and Coons, Bioscope, John Grun Marx.

PALACE THEATRE, BRISTOL.

Mrs. John Lawson, "The Devil's Sunday," Jock Walker, Atilla Bros., Henri Bekker, Gertrude Moore, Joe Mac, Bioscope, Sid Cotterell and Co.

PALACE THEATRE, SUNDERLAND.

Freddie French and Co., "The Suffragettes," W. E. Hilton, Ouida Macdermott, Chas. Banks, Brull and Hemsley, Lily Stewart, Les Zelovas, Bioscope, Will Vay's Juveniles.

KING'S THEATRE, GATESHEAD.

Ella's Lions, Sisters Bartholomew, Claire Greta, Harry Nelson, Harry Barclay, Pattie Bella, Bioscope, Otto and Olga.

PALACE THEATRE, ABERDEEN.

Howell, Webb, and Co., "The Galley Slave," G. W. Foster Carr and Rose, Rose Waller, Leslie Lynn, The Shirmans, Harry Leaton, Bioscope, Margerite Ismay and Piccaninnies.

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CALLS. CALLS.

THE VAUDEVILLE SYNDICATE.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, JUNE 24, 1907.

PALACE, DOVER.

Raymond, Cissy Thompson, Percival and Morley, Judge's Cockatoos, Phedona, Tiny Arnold, Carl Herman, Three Bostonians, Joe Dale.

ALHAMBRA, SANDGATE.

Raymond, Tom Yorke, Lily Lassah, the Coopers, Cambo, Fred Moule and Co., Chas. Lilburn.

CRAND, SHEFFIELD.

Mollie Seymour, Pictures, Bert and Dora, Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, Fred Southern and Co., the Carpenters.

GLASGOW PAVILION.
CALL for Monday, June 24, 1907.
7. Twice Nightly. 9.
Rehearsal at 11 o'clock for:—
Connie Ediss, Webber, Wulfrunas, Gillin, Hayman and Franklin, Mlle. Fougère, Alice Hollander.
All bill matter must be sent to Glasgow fourteen days ahead. Artists failing this run the risk of having their Contract cancelled.
By Order,
SAMUEL LLOYD.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.
NEW HIPPODROME.
CALL, Monday, June 24. Rehearsal 12.30. Ariston's Cats, E. W. Selman, Ivy Gallard, Mozzetto, Harry Raley, Stidder and Dunbar, New Operascope, Three Consol Girls.
Artists requiring immediate dates, apply, H. PERCIVAL YOUNG, Sole Booking Representative, Shakespeare Theatre Offices, Clapham Junction, London, S.W.

CALLS. CALLS.

THE PALACE, GLASGOW.
Sole Proprietor and Manager, RICH. WALDON

All Bookings are now made direct from above Hall.
All Contracts made on behalf of the Palace, Glasgow, on or before April 7, 1906, and delivered to the present Management, not yet completed, will be carried out.
Bill matter must be sent two weeks in advance.

CALL for Monday, June 24, at 12.
J. E. Coyle, Russell Carr, Queenie May, Cline and Clark, Peter Bermingham, The Royal Korries, Bert Danson, Five Sisters Warwick.

COVENTRY HIPPODROME.

NOTICE TO ARTISTS AND AGENTS.

ALL CONTRACTS on behalf of the above company will in future be signed by MR. S. T. NEWSOME, who alone is authorised to sign. Artistes holding contracts are requested to apply immediately for confirmation of dates to S. T. NEWSOME, Hippodrome, Coventry.

N.B.—All bill matter to be addressed to THE MANAGER, HIPPODROME, COVENTRY.

THEATRICAL, MUSICAL, AND EQUESTRIAN OBITUARY FOR 1906.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.

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Miss AMY ROBINSON.

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CALLS.

FOR WEEK COMMENCING
MONDAY, JUNE 24, 1907.

PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT.

SPECIAL NOTICE.
Rehearsal at all Halls, Monday, at 12.0 sharp.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.

Mahatma, Lois Du Cane Co., Nellie Montague, Pictures, Pollard Bros. Co., Alf. Ripon.

PALACE, LINCOLN.

Roze and Calvert, R. C. Note, Daisy Davenport, Nora Desmond, Beal and Broadway, The Peritas, McDonald and Huntington, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE, BATH.

Picture Entertainment.

PALACE, BRADFORD.

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PALACE, BLACKBURN.

Marie Loftus, Mr. and Mrs. Roston-Dene, Two Sparks, Rezene and Robini, Carrie Victoria, Burns and Bentley, The Maples, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, HALIFAX.

PALACE, W. HARTLEPOOL.

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Libby Blondelle and Co., Walter Stanley, Czar Troupe, Spanish Goldinis, Nora Stockwell, Fyne and Hurley, The Cecillas, "Casey's Court," Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

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"Woman Who Gambles."

IMPORTANT NOTICE.
Managers of touring companies are hereby notified that the Rotherham and Chesterfield Theatres are the premier places of entertainment in these respective towns, and that all other places of amusement are rigidly barred. All applications for dates at Leeds, Rotherham, and Chesterfield to be addressed to the Head Offices at Sheffield.

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Telephone, 5954 Avenue.
Telegrams, "Stageyness, London."
Rehearsal at all Halls, Monday at 12 o'clock.

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Yorkshire Glee Singers, Keith and Merson, Tom Kelso and Co., Lalie Brooke, Vi Rayner, Leolar Troupe, Madge Lynn, Esmond Evelyn Co., Raymond, Ernest Rees, Dolly Elsworthy and Co.

THE BRITANNIA.

Matinée Monday.
Raymond, Fred Karno's "Dandy Thieves," Harvey and Shreeve Co., Leonard Mortimer and Co.

FORESTERS.

Matinées Monday and Thursday.
Raleigh, Abrahams, and Co., Chris. Richards, "Captain Hamilton, V.C." D. W. Watson, Casey's Circus, Bessie Willow, Harry Hillier, Sisters Rayman, Foy Bros. and Co., Raymond, Bernard and Weston.

SADLER'S WELLS.

Matinée every Monday.
Leonard Mortimer's Co., Sivronis, Edie Endon, Two Jays, Rose Cass, Sammy Shields, Mackintosh and Royal, Will Harmony, Chas. Austin, Harry Simms, Raymond, Carlotta De Yonsen and Co.

SURREY THEATRE.

All Artists engaged for Surrey Theatre must bring 14 Band parts.
Matinée every Monday.
Tatten Hall, Lottie De Abbey, Mack Olive, Tom Barrett, Sable Fern, Whitworth Girls, Geo. Bendon, Tod Lowan, Les Louberts, Queenie Dell, Raymond, "King for a Day" Co.

Notice.—All artists carrying Scenery must have it Fireproof, according to L.C.C. regulations, otherwise it will not be allowed in the Halls.

All Bill Matter or Notification of Appearance must be sent in 14 days prior to opening. All Artists must attend Band Rehearsal, or their Contracts may be cancelled at the option of the Management.

N.B.—All Billing Matter, accompanied by Pictorials, and Business Communications relating to the Provincial Circuit, must be addressed to the

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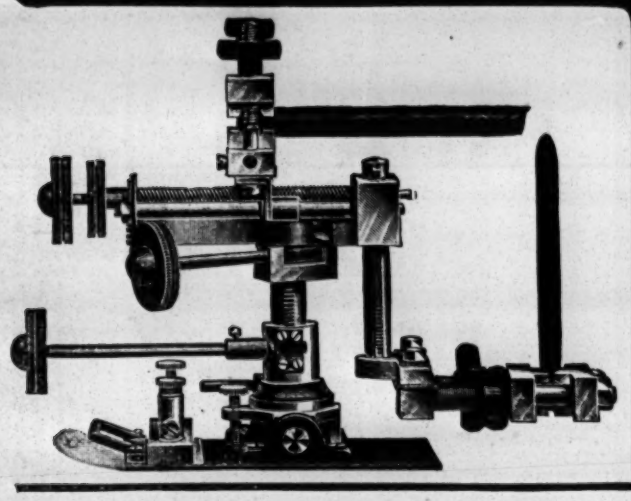

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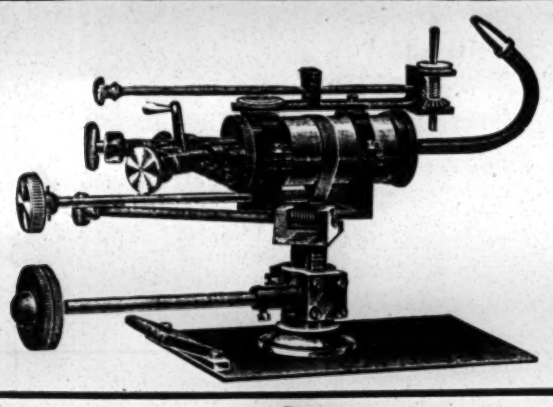

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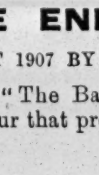

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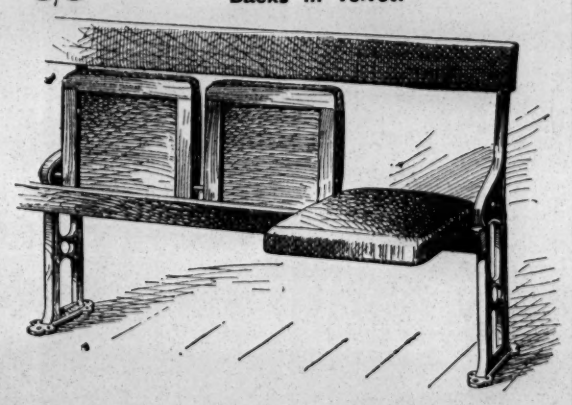

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AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SYDNEY.—MAY 21.—*Olivia*, from Sir Henry Irving's manuscript, promised Mr. Herbert Flemming's admirers a rare treat, and the pretty Palace Theatre was packed to enjoy it. Mr. Harry Whaite's exquisitely-painted scenes were most affectionately welcomed, and the artist thrice summoned to receive loud acclaim. The Vicar of Wakefield found an apt portrayal in Mr. Herbert Flemming's impersonation; it was perfect. As for Miss Beatrice Day, nothing comes amiss to her, and Olivia lived again on the stage at the Palace; and Mr. H. W. Varna directed the performance, and the general grouping did him infinite credit. Miss Bessie Major was an ideal Mrs. Primrose; and Mr. Carter Pickford gave an earnest interpretation of the scoundrel Thornhill. A charmingly acted rôle was the Burchell of Mr. Winter Hall, who sang "Begone, dull care"; and Miss Madeline Meredith was Sophia. Mr. Edgar Payne Farmer Flamborough, Mr. John F. Forde Leigh, and Mr. Gregan McMahon Moses. Miss Beatrice Day had many beautiful floral tributes.

"THE SQUATTER'S DAUGHTER" is a new melodrama dealing exclusively with Australian life in the days of Ben Hall, the bushranger. It is written by Messrs. Edmund Duggan and Bert Bailey. The story is an interesting one, the situations deftly managed, and the characters strongly drawn. Miss Eugenie Duggan is the heroine, Violet Enderby, who passes victoriously thorugh all the vicissitudes of a dramatic heroine with her usual aplomb. The return of Mr. George Cuss after his recent illness was heartily greeted, and he fairly rollicked as Tom Bathurst in checkmating the traditional villain, Dudley Harrington, played, of course, by Mr. Laurence Dunbar. Mr. Harry Douglass came back after years of absence, and made Old Nick Harvey, an ex-convict, of great value. Mr. J. H. Nunn, who also stage-managed, was the old squatter, James Harrington, a part carefully acted. Miss Ada Guildford played the handsome victim of Dudley, Sarah Lynch, with pronounced power; and Miss Georgie Leighford, Mr. Temple Harrison, Mr. Edwin Campbell, Miss Maud Cosham, and Mr. J. McDonald were a quintette of capitally-portrayed aboriginals. It would interest the English public to see an Australian black-fellow properly acted. It is usual to make him an American negro. The authors, Mr. Edmund Duggan and Mr. Bert Bailey, were Ben Hall, the bushranger, and Archie McPherson, a Scotch "new chum," or "tenderfoot." Miss Lillie Bryer made a charming Governess; and Miss Lena Langridge was Jenny Thornton, the heroine's maid. Champion wood-choppers and shearing experts were engaged by Mr. William Anderson to give verisimilitude to the scene and events, and Mr. George Sutch composed and directed specially appropriate music.

"THE SILVER KING" was revived by Mr. J. C. Williamson at the Theatre Royal on the 18th inst., with Mr. Julius Knight as Wilfred Denver. Following a long procession of capable actors in this rôle Mr. Knight had a serious handicap, but he delighted a packed house. Three scenes were omitted—the Lane scene, the Office scene (made so strong by Wilson Barrett), and the arrest of Henry Corkett—nobody knows why, but it was done. The best acted part was Daniel Jaikes, by Mr. Hubert Willis. It ranks with Phil Day and H. H. Vincent's, a vastly fine performance. Mr. Harry Plimmer makes Captain Skinner ("the Spider") just the callous scoundrel fresh from the author's pen and brain; and Mr. Reginald Rede played Elijah Coombes on the traditional lines; whilst Mr. Leslie Victor's Henry Corkett would be hard to beat. The quartette of burglars was well completed by the Cripps of Mr. Rupert Julian. A handsome and earnest Olive Skinner was Miss Katnarine Elbert-Orton, and Miss Marion Grey was cast for Nellie Denver. This is the last week of the season, as on the 25th the series of German opera will commence here.

"MOTHER GOOSE" keeps on laying golden eggs for Mr. J. C. Williamson and his partners at His Majesty's, the booking precluding the existence of a vacant seat. The end of the run is not yet fixed, but it must come soon, as several of the principals are wanted for the new *Blue Moon* company, now being formed. Miss Celia Ghiloni and Miss Florence Young are amongst these.

MR. HARRY RICKARDS, who leaves on the 25th for England in the Mongolia, signalised his coming departure by introducing perhaps the greatest "turn" he has ever given at the Tivoli—Techow's performing cats. The house was literally packed an hour before starting time, and hundreds were unable to get into the theatre. The feline performers kept the folks laughing and clapping all through their show, and the advance booking is enormous.

WEST'S PICTURES and the Brescians at the Lyceum, the Picturesque Company at the Oxford, vaudeville at the National Amphitheatre, the Edison Picture Palace, the Haymarket Hippodrome ("Silvershot"), the All-Star Variety Company, and Clay's Vaudevillians are all doing financially well.

MR. J. C. WILLIAMSON leaves for England by the Mongolia on the 25th on a prolonged tour in search of rest and talent. A well-attended meeting of prominents at the Hotel Australia decided on a send-off banquet, but the busy manager courteously declined.

THE booking for the Wagner Opera Season began at Nicholson and Co.'s Music Warehouse yesterday, and the prospects are all in favour of a big season for Mr. Musgrove's latest venture.

THE CANONBURY CLUB.

The members of the Canonbury Constitutional Club held a farewell dinner at their headquarters, Canonbury Tower, on Saturday evening, under the presidency of Councillor E. W. Davis. The historic building, after undergoing extensive renovations and improvements, will be reopened about six months hence as a non-political social club, in accordance with a scheme promoted by Lord Northampton, of whose estate the Tower forms a part. Amongst those present were Mr. Weedon Grossmith, an old member and staunch supporter of the club, and Mr. Tom Heslewood, actor and artist. Mr. Grossmith, whose name was associated with one of the toasts, in response expressed his regret that it was the farewell convivial gathering of the dear old club where he had spent so many delightful hours, and had always met the best of friends. Mr. Grossmith mentioned the fact that he had resided in a house adjacent to the Tower for ten years, and greatly amused the company by relating some of his experiences as a Canonbury householder. Amongst those he used to meet at the club were the late Mr. Herbert Campbell and Mr. Geoffrey Thorn, the author of many pantomimes at the Grand and other theatres.

The excellent entertainment which followed the dinner was contributed to by Mr. R. G. Knowles, who came from the Palace Theatre; Mr. Richard Walthew, who gave two pianoforte solos; Mr. Roland Bagnall, whose humorous songs were much appreciated; Mr. MacKelvin, a clever Scotch comedian; Mr. J. B. Fox, bass vocalist; Mr. T. H. Dey, Mme. Maud Perry, and the Misses Longhurst and Elmes. Mr. Lovett King acted as accompanist, and also sang a couple of comic songs; while Mr. Will Clinch rendered valuable service as stage-manager.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps. *The Era* is posted on Saturday in time to reach London Subscribers by the *first* Town Delivery, and Country Subscribers should receive their Papers by the *first* London Post. Address, the PUBLISHER, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

THE "outings" of the stage staff have already commenced. These are functions which even the most unsatisfactory conditions of the weather cannot prevent, as with good cheer and a good "share-out" the stageman does not much mind other circumstances prevailing on the day.

NEXT Sunday the Crown Theatre staff go to "Devil's Dyke," leaving London Bridge at 8.30 a.m., in special reserved carriages. They arrive at Brighton at 10.20, and will dine, at one sharp, in the Dyke Hotel, Mr. Cecil Paget, the popular manager, being chairman. The hon. secretary of the outing is Mr. Philip Sheridan, the electrician, who is to be congratulated on the get-up of the programme, which contains a short history of the Crown outings since 1899.

THE Theatrical Sports Committee meet on Saturday, at 5.30 p.m., in *The Era* offices, when the entries for the sports will close and be examined for acceptance. Miss Ada Reeve, having presented a silver bag-purse, containing £1, for competition in a ladies' race, the committee propose to add such an event to the programme. Wardrobe, programme, and dressers are invited to enter. The nature of the race is yet to be decided, but it may be an egg-and-spoon race, 50 yards. All entries for any events received before five o'clock to-day (Saturday) will be in time for the consideration of the committee.

SINCE the last meeting of the committee a number of donations and several prizes have been received, and a full list has been issued to all representatives of the committee.

THE teams entered to date for the tug-of-war competition are as follows:—Covent Garden Theatre, Lyceum, Duke of York's, Empire, Leicester Square, Ealing Hippodrome, Woolwich Hippodrome, East Ham Palace, and Crown Theatre, and it is expected there will be teams from the Oxford and the Gaiety.

THE teams entered for the Relay Race are as follows:—St. James's, Alhambra, Lyceum, Duchess, Balham, Duke of York's, Daly's, London Pavilion, Grand, and Empire, Croydon; total, nine. So far there is a large entry. Mr. Robert Watson will be the referee, Mr. Ed. J. Bostock the handicapper, and Mr. F. W. Parker the hon. timekeeper. Pictures of the events will be taken by the Charles Urban Trading Co.

AT the adjourned annual general meeting of the No. 1 General Staff Branch, held on Sunday last in the St. George Hall, S.E., the secretary, Mr. William Johnson, reported on the Award, and the matter was discussed at length. The committee and officers were elected for the ensuing year, and also candidates for the National Committee. It was decided to endorse the recommendation of the Executive Committee that the Society be represented at the annual Trade Union Congress and affiliated with the General Federation of Trade Unions. The proceedings lasted until a late hour.

A MEETING of the members of the London branches of the National Association of Theatrical Employees and the Musicians' Union will be held to-morrow (Sunday) evening in the large hall at The Horns, Kennington, to consider the Award and other matters connected with the National Alliance. Mr. C. Jesson, L.C.C., will preside. Among the speakers will be representatives of labour organisations, Mr. J. B. Williams (general secretary Musicians' Union), Mr. William Johnson (secretary, stage employees), and Mr. Harry Mountford (late chairman of the Alliance). Non-members connected with the profession may attend if a ticket is obtained from either the N.A.T.E. or the Musicians' Union officials.

A MEETING of the committee of the Bioscope Operators was held on Tuesday, and several applications for membership were granted. Members on tour are asked to keep the secretary informed of their address, as several communications have been returned by the Post Office.

AT a meeting of the Carpenters' Branch of the N.A.T.E., held last Sunday evening in the Salisbury Hotel, the proposal that the society be represented at the annual Trade Union Congress and affiliated with the General Federation of Trade Unions was endorsed, and a grant of £40 was voted to the London branches whose members were involved in the late dispute.

THE staff of the Colosseum Theatre, Oldham, to the number of twenty, including Mr. Chas. Myers, the popular stage-manager, held their second picnic on Sunday last. Lincoln was chosen for this year's outing, and an early start was made, the party arriving about 8.30 a.m. After breakfast a drive of twenty miles was taken, and various places of interest were visited. The party started after dinner for home, which was reached shortly before nine o'clock.

THE staff of the Eastbourne Hippodrome took their annual outing on Sunday last, when the interesting town of Arundel was visited. An early start was made by train, and at eleven o'clock the town was reached. After an excellent dinner Mr. Ash proposed the health of the managing-director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter. Miss Showler very gracefully seconded, the toast was drunk with enthusiasm, and Mr. Winter suitably responded. The managing-director generously provided char-à-bancs, and a delightful drive of ten miles pleasantly passed away the afternoon. The evening was filled in according to the fancy of each individual, and the party returned home soon after eleven at night, after a most enjoyable outing.

THEATRICAL PATENTS.

The concise descriptions that we give below of recent applications for patents are specially contributed by Messrs. Howard and Co., patent agents, 57 and 58, Chancery-lane, London, W.C., who will assist readers in all patent matters:—

APPLICATIONS.

14,422.—Arnold Thackhall-Browett, of Hertford-street, Coventry. Improvements in or relating to kinematographs and the like.

14,056.—Alfred Wrench, of Gray's Inn-road, London. Improvements in kinematographs.

14,058.—Ernest Francis Moy and Percy Henry Bastie, of Greenland-place, Camden Town, London. Improvements in cinematograph projectors, cameras, and the like.

COMPLETE SPECIFICATION.

5346.—Theatrical scenery. L. J. Carter, of Sedgwick-street, Chicago, Illinois, U.S.A. Scenery is suspended by rollers running in an endless slotted tubular track, or by wheels running on a rail, and is moved by spindles carrying toothed wheels gearing with perforations in metal sheets fixed to the back of the scenery at the upper edge. The toothed wheels are kept in engagement with the metal sheets by a guide-block or rollers. One sheet of scenery may be suspended within another to enable actors or objects to occupy the space between, and the different sheets may be driven at different speeds.

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Mr. Strong states the whole case very clearly.—*Illustrated London News*.

Should be found very useful.—*Pelican*.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—The dramatic fare here served for the current week is provided by Messrs. E. A'Dell and Chabot's company, in *His Sister's Honour*. Mr. Ed. E. Louis enacts the character of the Civil Serviceman, Frank Stanley, with great skill; the part of the villain is ably portrayed by Mr. Lincoln Calthorpe, and effective interpretation is given of the sister of Stanley, Dora, by Miss Kathryne Eckart. Good impersonations of varied characters are also given by Messrs. Gilson Brooke, Harry Ugar, a capital comedian, and Miss Janet Lawton as a pert servant maid, Miss Ethel Ashleigh as a crippled girl, and Miss Winnie Kennedy as a Dutch dancing girl.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—Miss Harriet Vernon is the "star" in an admirable list of artists. The Sisters Currie and Wallie Scott give a fine display of song and dance; Ethel Fooney and partner give a good sketch under the title *Escaped*; Gravetta and Parr present a varied entertainment of ventriloquism and clay modelling; Doyle and Gibson are good in song and patter; Leslie Race, swell comedian, gives a couple of songs; a series of amusing pictures is provided, and a pleasing and novel turn is that of "The Netherlands" in their song-scena, *Dutch Pastimes*. Lionel Vaughan's Comedy Company wind up the programme with a sketch entitled *In Trouble*. Large audiences are the rule.

ATTERCLIFFE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chris A. Wordsworth.—Crowded houses are still being attracted here by the picture entertainments, and illustrated songs are ably rendered by Miss Nellie Burke.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. T. E. Owen.—The enterprise of the management of this popular house in providing first-class fare is being rewarded by large audiences nightly. Mr. Ted Saunders cleverly impersonates a number of star artists; a good reception is given to Miss Violet Ashcroft, vocal comedienne, who renders her songs in excellent taste; Marlow is a clever juggler; a pleasing item is furnished by Mora and Flora in a quick-change vocal scena, entitled *Rich and Poor*; and Mr. Clayton's pictures this week include "A Crime on the Mountains." A popular turn is that of Mephisto, society contortionist; Mr. Charlie Deane, comedian, soon makes himself a favourite with his chorus songs; and Mr. Ted Karno and his comedians present a hilarious absurdity, entitled *The Dinner Hour*.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. Stone.—Mr. Valentine Beadon's company is here in *The Best Must Win*. Paul Dumaresq is capitally taken by Mr. Sidney C. Cranston; Mr. Graham Woods, a capable Gaston, is ably seconded by Mr. Dobson Clyde as Juan Minos, a humorous presentment; Miss Dorothy Laine is a convincing Marquise de Marcel; Miss Marie Robson, both as Therese Dumaresq and Lucille la Ffanch, is extremely effective; Mr. A. Hall Menzies makes a picturesque Jacques; and Miss Marie Menzies a dramatic and engaging Denise Dumaresq.

TIVOLI THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edgar G. Laban.—Binns and Binns do an amusing musical act; Ada Twibell vocalises sweetly; Arthur Croxon proves a capital mimetic comedian; Woodhouse and Wells are acceptable patter comedians; Fioretti and Elly give a quite artistic novelty; and Alcide Capitaine has a perfect gymnastic display.

BATH.—PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—The picture entertainment is being continued, and Raymond's Animated Picture Co. appears to have an endless stock of films of the best subjects to unfold. Illustrated songs are also agreeable items.

BEDFORD.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—There was a good "house" and a good company at the above place of amusement on Monday night. Kennedy's Komiks occupied the boards, and kept the audience in roars of laughter during the evening. The Great Little Hatch proved to be four feet of extraordinary comicality; the Sisters Deare displayed ability as instrumentalists, and their duets were well sung; Dan Noble, a quaint and refined comedian, was encored time after time. His song, "The sale's now on," caught on wonderfully. Marie Yorke, an attractive soubrette, sang one or two catchy songs, James Burt, a refined interlocutor, was responsible for much hilarity; and Florrie Wentworth and Keane Harker sang duets in a pleasing manner.

BELFAST.—PALACE THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General-Manager, Mr. J. De Freece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—John Lawson and company top the bill, and on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday produced with undoubted success *The King's Minister*, in which Mr. Lawson impersonates the title-rôle with much skill. Other rôles were satisfactorily sustained. Mr. Fred Cary, a big favourite here, creates much merriment; and a hit has been made by Les Sousloffs, whirlwind dancers; Trobel and Ruge, aerial comedians, in their act, *Fun on a Pole*, succeed admirably; and a hit has been made by Hurmann, the smart juggler; the Sisters Melba, vocal duettists; Vincent, acrobatic table expert; the Melroses, comedy artists; Miss Rose Harvey, comedienne; and the Palace Pictures complete.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Will Sley; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The Mirthful Mystifiers head the bill with their comedy, *Three of a Kind*. Mr. J. W. Rowley, an old favourite here, has been accorded a great reception; and the acme of training is exhibited by Frederica's wonderful terriers; the vocalism of the Lombardo Duo has won unbounded applause; and Jim and Jenny Lee appear in a smart wire walking performance; the Three Orros, in their performance on silver chains, are certainly clever; and the Custances appear to advantage in their act, *A Game for Two*. Also here are Miss Ella Dean, contralto; Mr. Harry Taft, comedian; the Three Rubies, in their original speciality; Mr. J. H. Carney, mimic, and the Hipposcope, with new pictures.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John A. Walker.—Bob Hutt and company top the bill and produce with much success their funny production, *Welcome Home*, in which Mr. Hutt is inimitable. The Northern Troupe of International dancers have been enthusiastically received; and Carter Livesey and Lilian Roseberry evoke loud laughter with *The Would-be Actors*; Mr. Harry Bedford is a droll comedian with good songs; and a capital comedy act is provided by Howard and Collinson; the Twin Brothers Dean, whistlers and dancers; Billie Burford, comedienne; the Empire Bioscope; and the Eight Emerald Gems, in character songs and dances, have been warmly welcomed.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Sinclair Neill.—The Alhambra Dramatic Company, under the personal direction of Mr. M. Montgomery, produce here this week the sterling drama *Brave Hearts*. Miss Nina Blake-Adams plays the rôle of Kate Edwards in a charming manner; Mr. Horace Denton acquits himself with much distinction as Guy Barrington; Miss Kathleen Magee must be accorded the highest commendation for her impersonation of Clara Vivian; and Mr. Cyril Grier is a satisfactory Isaac Moser; Mr. Edward M. Heanley's acting as Ralph Craddock is all that can possibly be desired; and Mr. Elmore Frith is, as usual, excellent in the dual rôle of Edward Grantham and Jacques; the humour of the piece is in the safe hands of Mr. Tom H. Solly and Miss Mattie Crawford. The Alhambra Bioscope exhibits a fine series of pictures.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL. — Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant; Secretary, Miss Isabel Morris.—Mr. Charles Draycott's company opened on Monday to a crowded house in *The Stolen Birthright*. Mr. Draycott gives a powerful and highly effective rendering of Count Marco Taddeo, the evil genius of the piece; Prince Andrea Celsi is well impersonated by Mr. A. C. Holmes; Mr. T. Scratchard is most efficient as Stefano; and Mr. Harry Harrop as Pedro and Miss E. Vinroy as Nita admirably depict the lighter passages of the play. Miss Muriel Thompson as the Princess Miranda acquits herself with much ability, playing the leading rôle with care and discrimination; and the remaining characters are in thoroughly competent hands. On Friday *East Lynne* was produced, with Miss Thompson as Lady Isabel. The productions have been very creditably staged.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—Billy Howard and Kathryn Harris in their act, *The Adventures of a Happy Tramp*, are deservedly a leading turn; Miss Marie Kendall, the popular comedienne, is also a welcome return visit; and Mr. Dan Thomas and Miss Daisy Yates are also great favourites in their amusing burlesque, *Widow Twankey's Laundry*. A capital company also includes Miss Emma Don and her black and white comedy team; Mr. Phil Bransby, coster comedian; Miss Dolly Denton, comedienne; Mr. Steve McCarthy comedian; Mr. Lawrence Barclay, comedian; and Brown's Royal Bioscope. Mr. Ernest Denney is musical director.

BIRMINGHAM.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Bernardo.—*A Marriage of Vengeance* was attended by a full house on Monday, when it was presented by Mr. Stanley Carlton's company. Chief among the female rôles shines Miss Rubie Maude as Stella, an adventuress, with womanly charm and power; Mr. Marshall Meade is thorough and effective as Rheinhardt; Mr. Edward Beverley acts with considerable force and dignity as Glynne Earnscliffe; Mr. Arthur Stanley is successful as the son, Paul; Mr. Stanley Carlton does well as Geoffrey Vannock; Miss Lucie Bevan presents a buxom and vivacious picture of the serving maid, Amelia; and Mr. Chas. Wilson keeps the house well amused with his droll songs and sayings as Bob Shorner. *A Life's Story* has been played since Thursday.

CARLTON THEATRE, SALTLEY.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander. — Kennedy's Komiks continue their successful reign here. Miss Marie Liston, "the popular principal boy," receives great applause for her comic and sentimental lays; Melvin and Max shine as American ragtime comedians and dancers; Miss Daisy Oliver wins much favour as a ballad vocalist; Ellis and Liston do well with an all too short but clever comedy sketch; Miss Florence Edgar is successful as a burlesque vocalist; Miss Marie Riviere is applauded as "the Queen of Song"; David Purnell, interlocutor, is an outstanding feature of the programme; Professor and Mme. Sardou participate in several smart illusions; and the electric animated pictures are another source of delight and satisfaction.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles.—*An Unwedded Wife* is the attraction here, presented by Miss Ethel Van Praagh and Mr. J. Edward Whitby and company. Miss Van Praagh appears as the unwedded wife, Marion, displaying great emotional power; Mr. E. St. Clair Forbes receives excellent tokens of success as the villain, Philip Blakstone; Mr. Valentine Henry is cheered for his well-studied and manly acting as Frank Armstrong; Mr. Logan Darra acts with powerful effect as John Hawthorne; Miss Elsie Walton is graceful and clever as Elsie Langham; and Mr. J. A. Grove is successful as David Drummond. The humorous rôles are exceedingly well rendered by Mr. Will Casey as Napoleon B. Boomer, Mr. J. E. Whitby as P.-C. O'Runyin, and Miss Jessie Gillette as Caraway Crumpet; while Mr. Wilton Bedford shines as Christopher Lennox. The boy, Reggie, is pleasingly portrayed by Little Miss Doris.

EMPIRE PALACE. — Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham.—The chief item of the entertainment here is a musical mélange entitled *The Prince of Monte Carlo*, in which Mr. Harry Roxbury takes the part of a representative of Scotland Yard, and creates great laughter. Nellie Wallace the eccentric burlesque artist, pays a welcome return visit, and introduces several new songs; Frame, the well-known Scottish comedian, is repeatedly recalled; the Miles Stavordale Quintette of instrumentalists give an entertainment of great merit; and the Trapnell Family of acrobats also do well; Dan Leno, jun., makes his first appearance here; Mr. and Mrs. H. Finden, Edwin Barwick, and Fatmah Diard complete an excellent programme.

GAIETY.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—Annie Purcell, the dainty comedienne, is attracting large audiences here this week. Next in favour is the Beau Ideal Troupe of juveniles, in their refined and amusing acts of mimicry, dancing, and singing; the De Breans, described as the world's premier sciographists, are applauded for a mystifying performance; Barny Vox is as good as ever; Ethel Dunford, vocalist; Vosper, mimic and necromancer; Laletos, equilibrists; Austin and Cowan, scena vocalists; and Sam Morrison, a soprano street singer, contribute to a well-balanced programme.

HIPPODROME.—Managing Director, Mr. Thos. Barrasford.—*High Jinks; or, Fun on the Sands* is the attraction at this house. The company is one of Mr. John Tiller's, and includes some excellent artists, chief of whom is Mr. Bob Selvidge in the leading rôle. The Columbia Trio gives a really clever performance; Roxborough and Wright, comedians, appear in an absurdity called *Cockie*; and Bliss and Bliss cause fun; Gladys Wittan, juvenile cantralto, bids fair to become famous; Chas. Faning, comedian; Will Walton, Joe Chevers, and the ever popular pictures complete a good all-round entertainment.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Foster.—*Orderd to the Front* tops the bill here this week. As Captain Montrevor Mr. Frank Petley is extremely good, while Miss Teresa Osborne's conception of the part of his wife is admirable. Lonnen Meadows, and company present an exact antithesis of the previous sketch in *Kiss Your Father*, which provokes roars of laughter. Tom E. Finglass is a capital coon artist; Martin Henderson, the blind pianist and concertina soloist, is very good; while the Tossing Austins create much merriment; Grace Merton, the original street singer, and J. B. Preston, Scotch comedian, also merit their share of applause.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—*The Shulamite* is being played by a company under the direction of Mr. H. Theodore. Mr. Algernon J. Hicks very effectively embodies the rôle of Simeon Krillett, and Mr. George Rammell does every justice to the part of Robert Waring; Mr. Alfred Hilliard's Jan Vanderburg is also a painstaking performance; in the difficult part of Deborah Krillett Miss Ella Thornton is seen at her best, and meets with a most cordial reception; Miss Emily Levettez and Tante Vanderberg and Miss Chrissie Bickerstaff as Memke give every satisfaction.

GRAND THEATRE.—Owner and Manager, Mr. T. Sergenson.—Messrs. Ralland and Sergenson's répertoire company are devoting the fifth week of their season to *Jim the Penman*. Mr. Charles Boult gives a good account of James Ralston; Miss Kitty Cavendish carefully plays Mrs. Ralston; and Miss Chrissie Ralland creates a good impression as Agnes Ralston; Mr. F. Pennington-Gush, gives a satisfactory rendering of Louis Percival, and Mr. Arthur Gibbons contributes a meritorious study of Baron Hartfeld.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Frank and Jen Latona contribute a turn of music and comedy; Agnes Molteno presents a cleverly conceived song scena; Lily Burnand is a popular burlesque artist; Little Cliffe sings and dances well; Johnson and Wells find favour as transformation vocalists and dancers; Wilson Hallett brings down the house with his child-mimicry; Martine and Son are tuneful American song illustrators; the Sisters Lunelle are graceful dancers; and the Vetter Brothers create hilarity in the speciality act entitled *The Page's Recreation*.

BOSCOMBE.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Ball.—E. R. Dainez' Circus fills the chief position on the bill, and the animals' performance reflects great credit on their trainer; the Carina Sisters submit an artistic musical mélange, which is well appreciated; Raie Walters, as "The Fisher Girl," is pleasing; an interesting turn is given by Boden and Bell, described as the smallest entertainers in the world; Fortune and Le Pomme cause much laughter with their knockabout turn; the Sisters Charnley are a clever pair of duettists and dancers; Lozelle again shows his cleverness as a gymnast; and the Hippo pictures are instructive and entertaining.

BRADFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Closed for the summer vacation.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—Messrs. F. L. Connyhame and C. A. Clarke's stirring and well-constructed drama, *The Prodigal Parson*, is being staged for the first time here by a capable company, under the direction of Messrs. Alfred Northway and W. V. Garrod. Mr. Garrod himself undertakes the exacting part of the much-wronged Rev. Tom Godley, in which he is distinctly effective; as Enoch Jaggins, Mr. Paul Beckett does excellent work; Mr. W. Hayward, as Ben, fills all requirements, and he has in Mr. W. Vincent a capable confederate, viz., Ned Kettlepin; Phil Drive is humorously played by Mr. Owen Remonde. Miss Sybil Hammersley brightly fills the part of his sweetheart, Gretchen; Miss Bertha Kingston commands sympathy as Fern; and as Myrtle, Miss Violet Jeffries acts with intelligence.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss' EMPIRES, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—Admirably supported by Miss Lilian Holmes as Gretchen, and a capable company, Mr. Fred Storey is this week presenting his clever and beautifully-staged compressed version of *Rip Van Winkle*, with very great success. In a poetic phantasy, viz., *The Sea Nymph*, Peggie Lennie and Walter Hast combine grace with humour. Charles Norton's mimicry is distinctly novel and clever; Amy Russell, soprano, sings with power; a delightful musical protean *mélange*, *In Her Boudoir*, is presented with marked success, and amidst roars of laughter, by Edward Lauri and a clever company, which includes May Beatty, a charming actress and vocalist. Miss Gertrude Bradshaw, an accomplished vocalist, is an excellent deputy for Alexandra Edwin, contralto. Fred and Panley present a novel and clever turn as acrobats and gymnasts on the rings; the American Comedy Four blend humour and good vocalism with effect; and L. W. Harris submits an acceptable comedy turn.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Nacnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Richard Ralli.—A very clever and exceedingly witty performance by Jay W. Winton forms a prominent feature of the fine programme here. There is some excellent vocalism in the smart drawing-room entertainments submitted by Blanche and Powell. Master Charlie Carr is a capital dancer and juvenile comedian of promise; Captain Devereux's troupe of performing dogs are a wonderful example of animal training; some clever feats are accomplished with ease by Augustin and Hartley, barrel jumpers. There is some excellent Irish comedy and smart boxing in Billy Ross and Co.'s sketch, *The Hot Member*; the juggling by Les Sados is cleverly accomplished; Melia and Mozarabar submit a fine equilibristic performance; and there are some capital pictures shown by Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

BRIGHTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter.—*The Colleen Bawn* occupies the boards here this week, and attracts crowded audiences. Miss Lucy Murray submits a charming enactment of the title-rôle; Mr. Charles Preece gives an admirable portrayal of Miles-na-Coppaleen; Mr. H. C. Lanceley's Father Tom is a capital character study; Miss Daisy Scudamore achieves great success as Anne Chute; Mr. Roy Redgrave is highly effective as Hardress Cregan; Mr. Ellis J. Preston skilfully sustains the part of Danny Mann; and Mr. Villiers Stanley's Kyrle Daly and Mr. Charles A. Russell's McCorrigan are well played. The drama is finely staged.

ALHAMBRA.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. L. Graydon; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Ernest Lepard.—There is an excellent company here this week. Herbert Clifton, "the marvellous-voiced mimic," gains very hearty applause for his admirably rendered songs; Harry Olaff, assisted by Miss Dolly Maguire, submits his new satire, *The Demon and the Fairy*, with success; Alexandre and Hughes are clever musical comedians; the funny episode, *My Uncle*, presented by the Brady and Johnson combination, proves very enjoyable; Les Rallis are entertaining in *The Artist and His Monkey*; the Victorian Duettists are accomplished vocalists; the Almas, speciality artists, give a good turn; Maud Ford is a dainty comedienne and sand dancer; Emmie Harlow, speciality artist, is well received; and the Alhambrascope furnishes an excellent series of pictures.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—A capital programme is sustained here this week. Miss Amy Augarde and company achieve distinct success in a Spanish episode, *La Carmencita*; George Gilbey, comedian, is a great favourite; Rastus and Banks, American coloured entertainers, are well received in *The Major and the Maid*; Conway and Garland give an amusing sketch, *Left in Charge*; the Nirdas are clever acrobats and balancers; Stacey and Williams are good cross-talk artists and dancers; the Schiavonis Troupe provide a capital display of comic tumbling; the Three Sisters Silcott are pleasing vocalists and dancers; and the Barrascope pictures are amusing.

WEST PIER.—Secretary and Entertainment Manager, Mr. A. D. Norman.—Mr. Leonard Pagden's company opened here on Monday with *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray*. Mr. Leonard Pagden gave a masterly impersonation of Aubrey Tanqueray; Miss Lucy Wilson displayed marked ability as Paula; Miss Edith Cuthbert was graceful as Ellean; Mr. J. Edward Pearce was well suited as Cayley Drummle; Mr. Gordon Bailey's Captain Hugh Ardale was admirably enacted; Miss Gladys Bartle-Frere's Mrs. Cortelyon and Miss Muriel Aston's Lady Orreyed were ably played; and other parts were satisfactorily sustained by Mr. Harold Orme, Mr. William Lockhart, and Mr. Jas. P. E. Hussey.

PALACE PIER THEATRE.—Mr. Gerard Grant Allen's company is here this week with *The New Boy*. Mr. Leon M. Lion is highly amusing in the title-rôle; Miss Katherine Harrington acts brightly as Mrs. Rennick; Mr. Harry Ashford acquits himself admirably as Dr. Candy; Mr. George De Lara makes a capital Felix Roach; and Miss Nellie Redwood is a winsome Nancy Roach. The farce is preceded by *Meg, the Mobswoman*, in which Miss Katherine Harrington is especially effective.

BRISTOL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. C. Alty.—Mr. Alfred B. Cross's company is here with *The Manxman*, the play being well staged. Mr. Cross presents a convincing exposition of Pete, and Miss Minnie Watersford makes an excellent study of Kate Creegan. Mr. Sidney C. Kearns is effective as Philip Christian; Mr. Frank Etheridge depicts Cæsar Creegan with considerable ability; Mr. Rayson-Cousens makes the most of Ross Christian; and the remaining parts are all carefully played.

PALACE THEATRE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—Mrs. John Lawson's sketch company is here with *The Devil's Sunday*, Mrs. Lawson giving a fine and convincing exposition of Fay Faber; the other parts are all cleverly taken, and the sketch is staged in an admirable manner. Sid Cotterell and company amuse with the comedy sketch *The Substitute*; Attilla Brothers score with a "strong show"; Henri Bekker, assisted by Mdlle. Maie, is highly successful in card manipulation and conjuring tricks; Gertrude Moore pleases with her novel singing and dancing act; Joe Mack, eccentric comedian and expert dancer, obtains considerable applause; and Jock Walker, Scotch comedian, is appreciated. The performance concludes with "The Blind Beggar and His Dog," depicted by Vernon's Imperial Bioscope.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—Horace Mills and W. H. Rawlins are here on a return visit with their amusing sketch, *Mashing the Missus*. The Dandies are refined vocal entertainers; Lily Eyton is a pleasing vocalist; Mdlle. Rose is a clever conjurer; Fred Saunders, comedian, is appreciated; Roy Beavis does some good conjuring, etc.; Esta Stella scores with her military songs; Lyster and Cook do a good musical turn; and the performance concludes with a new series of animated pictures.

BROUGHTON.—VICTORIA THEATRE, LTD.—Manager and Licensee, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—Mr. John F. Preston and his company continue to do well with their two pieces each night, and on Monday evening the dramas, *The Hand of Justice* and *The Factory Girl* met with much approval from a full house. Mr. John F. Preston appeared as Count Vladimir in *The Hand of Justice*, and Na Jerka was well played by Miss Mabelle F. Barlow; Mr. Robert Faulkner made an excellent Philip Montgomery; Mr. Arthur Lenville and Miss Laura Wright, as George Simkins and Jennie Jones, provided the comedy business; Mr. Horace Custins, Miss Ethel Rainforth, and Miss Gertie Wasley also had suitable parts. In *The Factory Girl* Mr. John F. Preston was the hero, Stephen Plum, and the heroine, Martha Gibbs, was ably presented by Miss Mabelle Barlow; Mr. Horace Custins was very amusing as Toby Twinkle; Mr. Robert Faulkner played Sir Arthur Lascelles excellently; Jasper Plum and Frederick Plum were well sustained by Mr. Arthur Lenville and Mr. Walter Brodie; Miss Laura Wright caused much laughter with her Lady Leatherbridge; and Lady Valerie was cleverly sustained by Miss Ethel Rainforth. Each piece was well staged.

BURNLEY.—EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Miss Dinah Morris, along with Mr. Sam Morris, produce a well-staged scena, entitled *The Village in Dahomey*, which is full of tuneful singing and clever dancing. The Lombars exhibit strength in a hand balancing act, and Terry and Bentley create roars of laughter with their funny patter. Mlle. Margutte, a smart contortionist, is loudly applauded, and A. E. Clifford is an excellent singer. Little Ada Parker gives a good coon song and dance, and humorous pictures are provided by the Empire Theatroscope.

BURTON-ON-TRENT. — OPERA HOUSE (NEW HIPPODROME).—Proprietor, Mr. H. D. Bennett. Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Waller.—The unusual sight of highly trained cats going through clever gymnastic performances is presented by Harriston; Eddie Stidder and Gwennie Dunbar are accorded rounds of applause for their comic music business; some marvellous juggling tricks are shown by Mozetto; the Three Consol Girls are responsible for some graceful dances; Ivy Gallard and E. W. Selman give humorous songs in good style; and the entertainment concludes with Harry Raley and the Operascope.

BURY (LANCS).—CIRCUS OF VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—The animated pictures this week show the horse show at Olympia, Grand National, scenes from America, etc. Other turns include Mr. Caskey, a coloured singer and dancer; Mr. Eric Johns, a pupil of Santley; and Miss Maude Kay dancer.

THE HIPPODROME.—General Manager, Mr. Broadhead, jun.—Szarvaci Ferencz troupe of Hungarian singers, dancers, and acrobats; the Olympian Lady Jiu-Jitsu Troupe; Gustave's Royal Pierrots; the Emmell Comedy Company, in a sketch entitled *My Statue of Grace*; Payne Clarke, singer; and Fred Dorman, actor-vocalist, are all fine turns.

CARDIFF.—NEW THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—Closed during week for summer vacation. Reopen on Saturday for matinée and evening performance of Phyllis Dare and London company.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—Mr. Ernest R. Abbot's production of the new play *The House of Shame*, is dealt with in another column.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. W. Lea; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. S. Dring.—Harry Tate, on Monday night, was accorded a hearty reception by the huge audiences, and in his side-splitting sketch entitled *Fishing* created a fine impression. Mr. E. Whittle, American ventriloquist, who proved a splendid deputy in the absence of Mr. Mark Sheridan; another interesting turn was that of De Gracia's elephants, their athletic feats being most amusing; Ella Shields rendered her coon songs in a particularly pleasing manner; while the Mezzettis, in a comedy act on the triple bar, were both marvellous and amusing; Spry and Austin, the popular vaudeville artists, proved very entertaining; Francis, the cannon ball king, assisted by Alfred, gave an admirable act; Fielding and Hull, in vocal medleys, and a film on the Bioscope completed the performance.

CARLISLE. — THE PALACE. — Proprietors, the Palace Theatre, Carlisle, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Rino Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—Troba, juggler, is giving a very finished performance here; Barnard's Mannikins in *The Coons' Revelry*, are much appreciated; the Kirbys are very amusing; George Prince is a funny comedian; the Ramlos submit a capital triple bar act; the Olmars are clever acrobats; and the Sisters Brooke are smart vocalists and dancers. The Pepiscope completes the entertainment.

CASTLEFORD.—QUEEN'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Chas. Beanland and W. H. Emerson; General-Manager, Mr. Will H. Emerson. Countess Romanow heads the bill and gives a series of poses entitled "Iris." She is creating much interest, and is warmly applauded. Pictures showing an episode in the life of the Countess, are also given between the poses; Mr. T. W. Rawson and company are also here with a farcical absurdity, *Innocent Jimmy*. This entertaining item is nicely staged, and is excellently acted by a well-balanced company. An up-to-date show of animated pictures by the Loyal Dominion Company is again presented with unfailing success.

CHESTER.—ROYALTY THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—The Three Merrills, who head the bill here, submit a clever cycling act; Vernon's Bioscope is featuring new Pathé and Vitagraph films; Phern and Phern, in a novel musical act, are well received; the Calcotts, in "Rags and Tatters," show their complete mastery over the banjo; Alpho, a smart ventriloquist, has some funny patter; Nina Gordon's impersonations at the piano meet with an enthusiastic reception; Eva Chadwick, comedienne, is an acceptable vocalist; and the Sisters Varley, vocalists and dancers, also appear.

CLACTON-ON-SEA.—PALACE, LTD.—Managing Director, Mr. P. W. Willard.—Farley, Renny, and Farley in *Fun at a Railway Station*, top the bill and give an amusing show; Cumminger and Colonna give a smart turn. The programme also includes Chas. Coverdale, talker, mimic, and singer; Harry and May Kent, in a musical comedy absurdity, *The Grass Widower*; Tom Collins, comedian, a big favourite; Durdan and Iris, novelty dancers; Walter Balfour, a fine baritone; Edgar Berte, entertainer; and Beattie Benson, a clever young dancer. On Wednesday afternoon a special matinée was given, when Mr. Harry Fragson appeared, and gave selections from his répertoire.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessee, Mr. Harold Montague; —Messrs. E. J. Barrett and H. Montague's "Vagabonds" are still very popular here. The troupe is made up of Mesdames Olive Spark, Leslie Lulu, and Marie Longmore, Messrs. Leslie Burgess, Claude Russell, and H. Montague. The show is always bright and pleasant, and each evening little sketches are given in which Miss Ethel Mayaffré appears.

WESTCLIFF GARDENS.—Proprietors, Messrs. Graham, Russell, and Bentley.—Good business is the order of the day here. In addition to the three proprietors the programme is made up of Miss Amy Snow Page, a sweet singer; Mr. Harry Barrett, a fine bass; and Mr. Kit Keen, coloured comedian. Mr. Bert Graham has lately gone in for living marionettes, which go remarkably well.

COLCHESTER.—HIPPODROME.—Joint Proprietors, Messrs. Frederick Mouillot and Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. Jack de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben. de Frece.—John Lawson's sketch, *Sally in our Alley*, is much appreciated. Tom Grave's cycle act on the revolving wheel appeals strongly to those fond of daring and sensationalism; Beatrice Willey, a very refined vocalist, is afforded an ovation for her pretty floral song-scena; Pyck, Tholl, and Taylor provide a very amusing entertainment, into which considerable originality is introduced; whilst Pinto, in his peppermint-rock tights, is extremely quaint, and goes particularly well; Abbey Keith is an attractive comedienne; the pictures are above the average, and the orchestral music reflects the utmost credit on the conductor, Mr Amos Parker.

COVENTRY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—*Uncle Tom's Cabin* is being played here. Uncle Tom is capitally impersonated by Mr. J. Carr, and Miss May Turner makes a charming Little Eva; Miss Holly Haslewood is responsible for some good acting as Mrs. St. Clair; Mr. Albert G. Wray performs creditably as Mr. St. Clair; as the slave dealer Mr. J. Henry Rogers is seen to advantage; Miss Sylvia Stella as Topsy provides plenty of amusement; and Mr. Leslie Beaufort is responsible for the part of George Harris.

THE HIPPODROME THEATRE.—A programme of great variety is put before the patrons this week. A fine turn is given by the ten San-Tan Girls, whose dancing and singing arouse great applause; an exciting dramatic episode entitled *A Woman's Revenge* is given by the London Sketch Company; and an amusing comedy sketch, entitled *My Wife's Husband* is supplied by Mr. C. M. Daly and company; Park's Eton Boys, the gold medal vocalists, submit an admirable turn; Miss Lillian is a daring trick rider; and other contributors to the bill are the Sisters Love, good duettists; Esme Gordon, comedienne; and Bicknell, a clever clay modeller.

THE EMPIRE. — Proprietor, Mr. George Dance; Resident-Manager, Mr. K. Draco.—The Tom Davis Trio give a sensational exhibition of motor cycling on a track which is raised and lowered while the cyclists are at full speed. The Marvellous Houses appear as telepathists or thought-readers, and the quickness with which the answers are given is marvellous; Matthews, Cowper, and company give a charming comedy sketch, *When the Clock Went Wrong*; the Delomes as phantom clog dancers are deservedly encored; Ethel Ra-Leslie gives a couple of charming songs; and other contributions are given by Will Johnson, comedian; Kroney Brothers, the Lazy Coalmen; Daisy Martell, comedienne and dancer; and the Bioscope.

CROOK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. Wallace Davidson, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Wallace Davidson.—The Scottish Animated Picture Company are appearing this week with success. Some of the latest pictures are included in the programme, one of the best being Pathé's "Red Spectre." Amongst the variety artists is a droll and clever Scotch comedian, Mr. J. C. Lawrence.

CROYDON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Herrick.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's company is presenting *The Sin of Her Childhood* twice nightly here, and the drama is capitally mounted. Miss Dorothy proves herself an accomplished little actress in the dual rôles of Eric Dugdale and little Mary; Miss Lissa Young acts and sings cleverly in the part of Hannah Spry; Miss Katie Lever makes a vivacious Eliza Muggins; Miss Clara Santley shows histrionic ability as Maria Haysel; and Miss Effie Bartlett brings expression to bear upon the rôle of Mary Haysel. Mr. Arthur Trail acts carefully as Thomas Haysel; Mr. Wilson Summers gives a graphic rendering of Stephen Haysel; Mr. James Duncan submits a sound performance as the Rev. Alan Grey; Mr. Frank Liston renders sterling service as Captain John Thornton; and Mr. Hugh Brady is a droll Barney O'Reilly.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—Will Evans heads the bill here this week and causes much laughter with *The Invasion of* 1910. The Brothers Redmond are invigorating acrobatic comedians; Charles Ulrick, the barrel king, wins unstinted applause; Kioto is a marvellous Japanese juggler; Mooney and Holbein are entertaining vaudeville artists; Carney and Armstrong, in their comedy turn, make a big hit; Billy M'Clain, supported by Mme. Cordelia and the Dixie Warblers, are great in *The Hottest Coon from Dixie*; and other items are Carlotta Levey, vocalist; Jennie Reeve, comedienne; and the Imperial Bioscope.

DARLINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—The fourth week of the stock season opened on Monday with *Jane Shore*. Miss

programme here this week is the Chronomegaphone, giving a true representation of Harry Lauder in several songs. The excellent singing and graceful dances of the New York Nippers evoke hearty applause; Miss Nellie Martell, with her engaging personality, is popular; the sketch entitled *My Landlord*, presented by Fred Lawrence and Co., is funny; and J. W. Rickaby upholds his reputation as a comedian; Will English, in coon songs and dances, is nightly recalled; the New Macs remain over from last week; and the Sisters Dorrell, vocalists and dancers, also score successfully. The Empire pictures conclude a well-varied entertainment.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Secretary, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—Joe O'Gorman, who heads the bill here, has created quite a furore; the Waldrons in a laughable comedy act, *The Silly Burglar*, prove diverting; Jennie Hartley, comedienne and dancer, obtains considerable appreciation; Chanti is a protean artist of undoubted ability; and Fred Neiman gives an exceedingly smart ventriloquial act. The Brothers O'Gorman, comedians and dancers, are well received; Madge Allen is a pleasing vocalist and dancer; Ted Curtis and piccaninnies score quite a success; as does also Arthur J. Hill in his lilliputian act. The Bioscope is particularly interesting.

WORLD'S FAIR AND MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. A. James.—The programme submitted here this week includes: Fred Walton's living marionettes; Emilie Stephenson, ballad vocalist; Witty Will Pearce, humorist and mimic; Ada Lytton, international dancer; and the Cinematograph.

PAVILION, KINGSTOWN.—Manager, Mr. Fred R. Heley.—The So and So's company commenced a week's engagement here on Monday, and were warmly welcomed by a well-filled house. Mr. Harold Johnson, in humorous songs and patter, was very entertaining; Miss Minnie Gordon, in song and dance, was deservedly applauded; Mr. Stuart Alexander and Miss Maude Davis rendered several duets in a capital manner; Miss Gwynneth Power's recitations were appreciated, as were the humorous turns of Messrs. Harold Johnson and Ernest Thiel. Miss Hilda Poel contributed vocal numbers successfully.

DUNDEE.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. A. P. Williams.—A capital representation of *The Fatal Hour* is being given here. Mr. Douglas Hutchens is an admirable Squire Henderson; Mr. Anthony Gordon is quite at home in the part of Richard Blair; Mr. Charles Kean is a most impressive villain; Mr. Herbert Cecil an amusing Bertie; Mr. Leslie Vyner a good Maurice Isaacs; and Mr. Johnny McElroy, as Walter Wallop, was responsible for good comedy acting. Miss Julie Cathcart made a charming squire's daughter; Miss Dora Hammersley an effective Olga; and Miss Madge Trundle, as Marie St. John, left nothing to be desired. The Four Berlin Belles dance well.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Percival.—Mr. A. W. B. Kingston's company again occupies the boards here this week. On Monday *East Lynne* was staged. Miss Madge F. Young as Lady Isobel portrayed the character excellently; Miss Emily Peal as Cornelia Carlyle and Miss Glory Glaurence as Barbara Hare were also successful. A clever rendering of the part of Willie Carlyle was given by Miss Ivy Locke; Mr. A. W. B. Kingston made a gentlemanly Carlyle; as Richard Hare Mr. J. T. Dale sang several songs in a pleasing manner; and Mr. Harry Egan was amusing in the comedy part of Peter Wopps.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE—Proprietors, the Devonshire Park and Baths Co.; Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clarke.—Mr. Arthur A. Horner's company is appearing here in *Walker, London*. Mr. Edward A. Coventry gets many laughs as Jasper Phipps; Mr. W. Rene Hammersmith is an excellent Renard Von Burg; Mr. Walter Pemberton an animated Kit Upjohn; Mr. Forrester Harvey a very appropriate W. G.; and Mr. Arthur Flinders a satisfactory Ben. Miss Mary Pemberton and Miss R. Catton are pleasing exponents of the parts of Bell Golightly and Nanny; Mrs. J. W. Braithwaite does able comedy work as Mrs. Rigg; Miss Ruby Wyndham is efficient as Mrs. Golightly; and Miss Ethel Stanley gives good help as Penny. *Hester's Mystery* is the front piece.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Under the management of Mr. Herbert Greville, a company is appearing here in *Sweet and Twenty*. Miss Hilda Vaughan as Joan is a distinct success, her work being sympathetic and graceful; Miss Violet Greville makes a voluble Mrs. Trevelyan, and Miss Agnes Geoghagen an excellent Ellen. Miss Olga Hope is a pleasingly natural Chris; Mr. Drelincourt Odlum a picturesque and dignified Rev. James Floyd; Mr. Stephen Wentworth a clever and restrained Eustace; Mr. Gordon McLeod, as Douglas, handles a difficult part with considerable success; Mr. Joseph Rowland makes much fun out of the rôle of Prynne, and Mr. Arthur Melton is a satisfactory Treherne.

THE HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Day.—A capital bill is offered to patrons here, and a worthy head-line is the pretty, clever, and original turn of the Eight Stella Girls; Curwen and Bell are an able couple, with a smart quick-change act; Mr. H. Scott Leslie is a character-actor of ability; Mr. Carl Howard a really funny conjurer; Stevens and Kennior are successful comedians and dancers; Mr. Milnes Verren returns to again delight with his singing; and Miss May Nero as a comedienne completes the programme.

FLORAL HALL.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. E. F. Brown.—On Monday afternoon the inaugural concert of the Duke of Devonshire's Private (Eastbourne) Orchestra was given here. Very keen interest has been shown in the formation of this band, and a large audience assembled to hear the first concert. There are forty-six performers, under the direction of Herr Tas, and the orchestra promises to be an exceptionally fine one. The programme included a Beethoven overture and symphony, Weber's "Invitation à la Valse," Sir E. Elgar's "Cockaigne," and prelude to *Meistersinger*. The renderings were warmly applauded by an appreciative audience.

EDINBURGH.—ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Minshull.—Miss Violet Osmund's company has brought along *The New Barmaid*. As the two military characters, Captain Lovebury and Colonel Claymore, Mr. James Hawkes and Mr. Frank Collins make good use of their opportunities; and in the humorous rôles of Bertie and William White, Messrs. Alexander Loftus and James Grant are responsible for much hard work and plenty of fun. Monsieur Bonson is capitally impersonated by Mr. Charles Adeson, whose smart step-dancing is a feature in the entertainment; and smaller male parts are well filled. Among the ladies, Miss Clara Beck is a winsome Ethel Joy; Miss Marian Vyner, as Dora Heather, shows herself an adept in graceful dancing; and Miss Mabel Harrison and Miss Grafton play nicely as Lady Moulton and Brenda Louth. The singing is very good, and there is an excellent chorus.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—A capital programme here this week introduces, amongst many other clever turns, Mlle. Alexia, a wonderfully agile and graceful dancer. She is ably assisted by M. Orfes, and the dashing performances of the two artists evoke enthusiastic applause. Mr. Alfred Lester, a quaint comedian, gets with quiet humour in a sketch, entitled *A Restaurant Episode*, in which he is admirably supported by Miss Florence Wakeman as a French actress. Colly and May give a ventriloquial and musical act with many novel features; and Cedar and Elgar arouse the hearty laughter of the audience by their fresh and amusing patter in a sketch, *In Dayes of Olde*. Miss Lena Wylie displays a sympathetic and cultivated voice in the rendering of several ballads; Mr. Sam Elton is neat, skilful, and droll in his plate juggling and acrobatic sketch; Thornbury paints extremely well in chalks, and shows ability as a ventriloquist; Mr. Harry Champion finds favour with his humorous patter songs; while Miss Leah Arden, a bright comedienne, and fresh pictures shown by the Bioscope complete an excellent bill.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Cole.—This has been quite a comedy week at the Moss-Stoll variety house. Mr. Ernest Shand, in a triple turn, patters and sings most amusingly in his own peculiar and effective style. Mr. Fred Poplar compels laughter by his "drunk" ditty and business; while Mr. Harry Freeman is a comic of the fast and furious sort; Collins and Rice put in some lively work as duologue comedians; and the McConnell Trio of vocalists contribute a happy vaudeville sketch. Smart comediennes and dancers are found in Miss Kitty Wager, the Twin Andersons, and Miss Elly Adair; the ventriloquial entertainment of Mr. Tom Edwards is among the best of its kind, keeping the audience in great humour; and Lockhart's elephants, under the direction of Captain Taylor, score heavily in their clever and diverting performance.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—*At Duty's Call* is being played by Mr. John Gerant's company. Mr. John Gerant gives an able portrayal of Harold Allison; Mr. Henry Watson acquits himself with credit as Captain George Allison; General Gordon is ably interpreted by Mr. Thomas E. Barry. Mr. Frank Caffrey acts with unfailing humour as Terry O'Hallaron; Mr. Frederick Sandy is excellent as Jack Spencer; Mr. Louis Scott is an effective Hassan; Mr. Ivan Mavis deserves a word of praise as Joey Trot; Miss Lily Crammonde is charming and graceful as the heroine, Dora Drummond; Miss Beatrice Western is splendid as Salema; Miss Doris Lorraine distinguishes herself as Mary; and Miss Nina Vere makes a capital Merrud.

LEAS PAVILION.—Manager and Musical-Director, Mr. D'Arcy Clayton.—"The Willow Pattern Serenaders," Mr. Arthur Chenery's costume concert party, commenced a week's engagement here on Monday. Miss Amy Brook renders some catchy songs; Miss Mildred Parr is a chic comedienne; Miss Zoe Styles gives some first-rate musical items; Mr. Coran Smart as Ko-Ko merits applause; and Mr. Arthur Chenery as Chin-Chin is a comedian of special ability.

GATESHEAD. — KING'S THEATRE. — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harold Arnold.—"Starring" here this week we have Miss Ella, with her troupe of well-tamed forest-bred lions; Otto and Olga, comedy instrumentalists and vocalists, make a pronounced "hit"; a success is also scored by Claire Greta, who dances with rare grace; Harry Nelson, a local comedian, finds appreciation; Harry Barclay, an excellent comedian, wins well-merited approval; and the Sisters Bartholomew, Patta Bella, comedienne, and pictures, depicted by Vernon's Bioscope, complete an excellent race holiday programme.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Councillor Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas France.—Mr. J. Rice Cassidy's company, in *Dan the Rake*, has attracted large holiday audiences to this house. Mr. Cassidy, in the title-rôle, shows all his old cleverness; Mr. Jerold E. Reed makes an excellent Colonel Flamer; Mr. Frank Copeland carries himself well as Lieut. Kavanagh; Mr. Arthur Stratton makes the most of the part of Tom Cooper; Mrs. J. Rice Cassidy acts with rare vivacity as Madge; Helen Flamer is capitally portrayed by Miss Florence Creagh; and Miss Alice Marsden fills the part of Mrs. Donnelly with distinction.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Councillor Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stephen Smith.—The New York Picture Company continues to show here. Jack Sheppard, jail breaker and handcuff expert, is also in this week's programme.

GLASGOW.—KING'S, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. H. Macfarlane.—Mr. Monckton Hoffe's company is here this week in *The Importance of Being Earnest*. The part of John Worthing, J.P., is taken by Mr. C. J. Nicholson, who gives a convincing portrayal; Mr. Monckton Hoffe is admirably suited as Algernon Moncrieff; the Rev. Canon Chasuble is played with excellent taste by Mr. Ralph Hutton; Merriman and Lane are well represented by Messrs. Arthur Forbes Watts and A. W. Barker; the Lady Bracknell of Miss Phyllis Manners is highly amusing; and as Gwendoline Fairfax Miss Hestor Newton bears herself gracefully; Miss Nona Hope acts with spirit as Cicely Cardew; and the Miss Prism of Miss Amy Lloyd-Desmond is a particularly good study. The comedy is preceded by *A Queen's Messenger*.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich Waldon.—Mr. and Mrs. Charles Natanson and their Hebrew company are here. The plays presented have included *The Wise Man, The Savages, The Broken Hearts, The Jewish Zaza, King Lear, Hamlet*, all in Yiddish. The powerfully dramatic acting of Mr. and Mrs. Natanson has evoked admiration.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Manners.—Bransby Williams's portrayal of Dickens's characters has again been loudly applauded here; Hetty King sings in characteristic style; John L. Shine and company in *An Actor's Art* are successful; and the Brothers St. Clair are amusing in their comedy cycle act. Victor Travers and Frank Couch do well; Nell Emerald, comedienne; Dora Martini, gymnast; and May Walsh, comedienne contribute to a capital programme.

ZOO-HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd., and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—May Mars is making a success here; Little Maudie Francis's pretty songs and neat dancing are admired; Launceton Elliott displays marvellous strength; R. H. Douglass, in a monologue, *The Private Detective*, assumes several smart disguises; Little Tichbourne is an agile long boot dancer; Ernest Tilbury's illustrated songs are very successful; Lieut. Travis takes well in his ventriloquial turn; and Leonie Dixon is a smart soubrette. The programme concludes with a musical comedy sketch, *The Garden of Glitter*, by Jack Mackenzie and company.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—Miss Connie Ediss has introduced with success several of her comedy songs; the Brennans' dances are smart, and the Brothers Harrison are clever comedians; George Cairncross, in dramatic impersonations, makes a success; the singing of W. G. Webber, basso, is a treat; Bonsanquet is a violinist of rare skill; Gillin is a popular ventriloquial artist; Hayman and Franklin, Hebrew impersonators, have a royal reception; *Fun in a Café* serves to show the Seven Wulfrunas at their best.

COLISEUM.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Burdette.—Lew Lake and company, in *My Pal Jerry*, are here. The principal characters are capably filled by Bob Morris and Lew Lake. The Millman Trio of tight wire artists evoke appreciation; Signor and Mme. Borelli's songs are capitally rendered; other interesting turns are those of the Sisters Gasch, clever acrobats; Madge May, comedienne; Marie Santoi, in the vocal novelty, "A Japanese Tea Garden"; Bert Woodward, trick cyclist; and Little Ganty, comedian. The Bioscope has an interesting set of pictures.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Waldron; General Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—John E. Coyle has an enthusiastic welcome here; a neat and graceful cycling turn is contributed by the Five Sisters Warwick; Peter Bermingham is a strong favourite, and his quaint witticisms are richly enjoyed; Clive and Clark do a very good song and dance turn; and the Royal Korries supply an enjoyable performance; Bert Danson, a smart patter comedian; Russell Carr, a clever ventriloquist; Queenie May, juvenile comedienne; and the latest Pathé films on the Bioscope complete a first-rate bill.

GAIETY, LTD.—General Manager, Mr. Harry Bowerman.—Mayme Cannon's rendering of several popular coon songs takes immensely here. Capitally received are the McKinnon Family, instrumentalists and dancers; Arthur Woodville gets well merited recognition for his dancing; Minnie Wren and Norah Bremner alike do well; and the songs of Percy Curry and Dick Graham are appreciated. The Gaiety Bioscope concludes the programme.

BRITANNIA.—Sole Proprietor and Director, Mr. A. E. Pickard.—Flint and Lovett, comedians and dancers, are the principal attractions here. Cee Bee, instrumentalist and vocalist, makes many friends; other artists engaged are Osmond, expert balancer; Nettie Hawthorn, comedienne; and Tessie Vandean, burlesque actress and dancer. The Bioscope has an interesting set of pictures.

GLOUCESTER.—PALACE.—Owners, Messrs. C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr. R. T. Rea.—Mr. James Willard and Co., in the sketch *The Little Wonder*, appear with success. Mr. Ernie Myers as a patterist is excellent, and Messrs. Pearce and Ward, burlesque boxers, etc., present a smart act. Kato's Komical Kidgets are an entertaining living marionette performance. The Marvellous Avolos, comedy acrobats on the perpendicular poles, are capital, and an artistic humorous turn is provided by Mr. Tom E. Hughes. Miss Lily Lonsdale is rewarded with applause for her tasteful vocalism, and Welda and Wynne, comedy jugglers, dancers, etc., are quite to the liking of the audience. The Four Oldham Mill Lads sing and dance cleverly and the same applies to the Three Tivoli Girls. The Bioscope concludes a good programme.

GREAT YARMOUTH. — ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—Mr. Julian Graham's company is here this week with the merry musical play, *Juno*. Miss Kate Graham Beck, the American soubrette, is charming as Juno, and is well supported by Mr. Harry Walsh as Timothy Twinkle; Mr. Fred Carrington as Samuel Strong, Mr. Richard Teasdale as John Murphy, Mr. Geo. Walker as Anthony Somers, Miss Edith Barnes as Mrs. Marie Strong, Miss Florence Wood as Priscilla Strong, and Miss Gertrude Lawson as Lottie Stimson.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert.—This favourite place of amusement opened for the summer season on Monday, and a capital programme is provided for the week. The most applauded artists are the Banzai Troupe of Japanese, who give a fine acrobatic performance; Les Montaldos, equilibrists on the slack wire, who introduce highly-trained parrots and cockatoos into their act; and Miss Chloe Convere, in a graceful equestrian performance; plenty of laughter is evoked by Rabbit and the Brothers Webb, especially in the farcical Spanish bull fight. Other artists appearing are Tony and Novel, Russian equilibrists, Almero, the man monkey, Mr. Geo. Gilbert, with "Spot Beauty," and Addison's Troupe of performing fox terriers. Interesting pictures, including the Derby, 1907, are shown by the Bioscope.

BRITANNIA PIER PAVILION. — Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edward Gray.—The San Francisco Minstrels are giving a most enjoyable entertainment. Specially fun-provoking is the Great Little Thomas, and specialities by G. Rickins, the Musical Harpers, the Chandos, and Messrs. Gallimore and Steene are much appreciated.

GREENOCK.—EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry L. Skivington.—Lambeth and Robertson provide the star attraction with their sketch, *Scots' Folks Wooing*. J. H. Harris, comedian, scores nightly with his well-rendered songs; Luie O. Wright, comedienne and dancer, wins cordial applause; and others who do well are Bella Almore, comedienne and dancer; Wilton and Ford, comedians and patterers; and Little Venus, character-vocalist and dancer. The Bioscope pictures are up to date.

PAVILION THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Chas. A. White.—Victor Newman heads the bill here this week, his impersonations of past and present actors being capital; Mlle. Rosini's exhibition of trained dogs is of exceptional merit; the Two Cliffs distinguish themselves as clever acrobats; Lilly Black, comedienne, is a charming vocalist; and other contributors are Jack Easy, comedian; Gipsy Ann, with her fortune-telling dog; Amy Bathurst, comedienne; and the Pavilion Bioscope.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry.—After a long absence Haddon Chambers's *The Idler* is being presented by a company under the direction of Mrs. T. Greenwood-Croft. Mr. Philip Cuningham wins favour for his acting as Mark Cross; Mr. Stephen T. Ewart is equally prominent as Sir John Harding; and Mr. William Attfield as Simeon Strong contributes in a large measure to the success. Mrs. Greenwood-Croft proves herself an accomplished actress as Lady Harding; and as Kate Merryweather Miss Zoe Davis is well received.

THE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. A. Edwardes.—Alexandra Dagmar is highly pleasing the audiences with her diverting stories and generally entertaining business. A dramatic episode, *Blackmail*, in which a sensational water scene is introduced, is presented by Harry Herne and Ida Millias' company. The Four Rosaries are clever bar performers; the Sisters Grosvenor are a trio of charming vocalists; Walter Wade displays versatility as a comedian; Charles Lestree is a smart juggler; and the Sivanes, in a comedy act, and Dolly Denver, dancer, also contribute.

GUERNSEY.—THEATRE ST. JULIAN.—Lessee, Mr. Edward Marris.—This week the boards are occupied by a vaudeville company, organised by Mr. Stanley Hope, in aid of local charity. A clever little sketch, *Her Ladyship and the Newsvendor*, is most excellently interpreted by Miss Nellie Thearle and Mr. Stanley Hope. Miss Harriett Fawn charms her audience by her expressive singing and sprightly dancing; the one-act play, *Drifted Apart*, from the pen of Sir Charles Young, Bart., was also presented, Mr. Hope appearing as Sir Geoffrey and Miss Thearle as Lady Gwendoline.

HALIFAX.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—*A Woman of the People*, admirably enacted by the Northern Theatres Stock Company, is attracting capital houses. The devil-may-care Renny had an artistic interpreter in Mr. Bernard Mervyn; Mr. Cyril Austin Lee gave an interesting study of Bertrand; while the shadiness of the piece was thoroughly looked after by Mr. J. Cook Hinton. Clever Miss Winnie Tempest created a deep impression in the title-rôle; and Miss Ruby Loncraine was no less successful as Sophie. The setting of this important work reflects great credit upon the producer, Mr. Ernest Plumpton.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Ed. Harrison.—Haley's Juveniles provide a picturesque carnival scena; screamingly funny is the sketch *Ferdie's Ma-in-Law*, delightfully put on by Mr. Flockton Foster's company, including Mr. Arnold Richardson; neat is the business contributed by Webb and Branston, opera singers; and Gladys Huxley makes many friends. Oakdene causes great fun in a ventriloquial act; and Maidie Scott, who styles herself just a comedienne, is always welcome. Queenie Essex, another comedienne, is also well received.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sam Winks.—The Colley-Dryden Company are doing big business here this week. Ada Colley, the "Australian Nightingale," has been in excellent voice, and fairly entranced her innumerable admirers with her superb renderings of popular ballads. A welcome appearance is made by Leo Dryden, whose character simulations of favourite actors were loudly applauded; Martin Conway is cordially received on his return visit; a troupe of skilful equilibrists are the Los Rupertos; and Mollie Nolan soon wins favour with her singing and dainty foot work. The would-be acrobats, by Comical Walker, and a farce, entitled *Charlie's Indian*, introduced by Leo Dryden's Comedy Co., earn well-merited approbation; Globella, in an up-to-date globe-walking experiment, works hard.

HANLEY. — GRAND, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. James Wynes.—Mlle. De Dio heads the bill, in her beautiful new dances; Radford and Valentine's juggling is particularly fine; Bob Hamilton is decidedly successful in his Scotch songs, his concertina-playing also is quite a feature; Dolly and Elsie are a smart pair of juvenile vocalists and dancers; Horace White has a novel ventriloquial entertainment, which is much appreciated; Cullen and Carthy and Little Cluley patter and dance cleverly; Marie Tempest is a smart comedienne, with a nice style; Herbert La Martine is a truly wonderful dancer; and the Pictures are capital.

HARTLEPOOL. — EMPRESS. — Proprietors, Messrs. Councillor Everton and J. W. Cragg; Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Charlie Ferrier.—On Monday both houses were packed in every available part. Screams of laughter predominated whilst J. Gar Kiddie and his company were performing their absurdity, *The House of Tinn*. Fanny and Harry Dent, old favourites here, had a hearty welcome in their comedy sketch, *Mary and the Squire*; the Wartenburg Bros. are the smartest double-foot experts ever seen in the 'Pools; the Wakeman Quartette of vocalists, including Miss Nancy Bruce (soloist), provide a pleasing turn. Much amusement is created by Helm and Cozens in a comedy act. *The Doctor and the Patient*; Henriquette Maude, "the 'London Daily Mirror's' Little New Zealand Girl," gives an interesting account, illustrated, of how she worked her way round the world; J. C. Scatter, with song, dance, and patter, takes well; and excellent pictures of Japanese scenery conclude.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Scutt.—On Monday Mr. C. E. Scutt had a complimentary benefit performance, and was gratified by a crowded house. The lengthy programme opened by an excellent performance of *Box and Cox*, Mr. C. Esdale appearing as Box, Mr. C. E. Scutt as Cox, and Miss Frances Davie as Mrs. Bouncer. Miss Dorothy Payn and Mr. Lawrence Hanray gave their entertainment of humorous duets, recitations, and a well-executed clog dance; Mr. Bert Forss cleverly impersonated Dickens's characters, and was warmly applauded; Mr. Charles E. Scutt delivered a most interesting description of New Zealand, aided by views very well shown by Mr. H. W. Rowland. The orchestra, augmented and directed by Mr. Thos. Hilton, was greatly appreciated. Miss Winifred Dixon, a soprano of excellent voice, sang a ballad; Mr. Thos. Hilton submitted two well-played violin solos; the one-act matrimonial scene, *He, She, and It*, played by Mr. C. E. Scutt and Miss Jessica Thorne, followed by the clever comedian, Mr. J. D. Hunter, in his humorous songs and character sketches, concluded the performance. The theatre will be closed for a fortnight for renovations.

HASTINGS PIER PAVILION.—Pier Master, Mr. R. Turner; Entertainment-Manager, Mr. J. W. Hunter.—Mr. Sydney Spencer's No. 1 company, in *My Sweetheart*, provides a pleasant entertainment. Tina, as taken by Miss Lizzie Hall, is conspicuous for its winsomeness and charm; Mr. Edward Rawlinson puts plenty of healthy vigour into his embodiment of Tony; as Joe Shotwell Mr. Sydney Spencer gives a sturdy and convincing rendering; a good impersonation comes from Miss Violet Etherington; Miss Mary Drummond submits a capital sketch of the farmer's wife; an effective portrait of Mrs. Fleeter is submitted by Miss Ada Champion; and Mr. Wilson Coleman's Harold Bartlett and Mr. Frank Wilson's Dudley Harcourt are telling impersonations. Oliver and Farmer Hatzell are well represented by Mr. John Traynor and Mr. James Porter respectively.

ST. LEONARDS PAVILION THEATRE.—Pier-Master and Entertainment-Manager, Mr. Elvey Thomas.—The principal artist in a good programme here is the American songstress, Miss Yvonne Lamor, who interprets her songs with decided charm, both as regards voice and style. Miss Julia Willis has a pleasing way of singing; Miss Muriel Harding as a vocalist earns a cordial welcome, and she is associated with Mr. Sidney Hamilton in an interesting sketch, *A Newspaper Episode*. Mr. Scrope-Quentin also sings.

HUDDERSFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Andrews.—A novel programme is provided for this the last week of the season. The first item is a tuneful operatic drama, entitled *The Gamester*, in which some good singing is heard from Miss Lili Sharpe, Mr. Furness Williams, and Mr. Arthur Cartwright. This is followed by a high-class pianoforte and violin recital by Herr Aiulf Hjorvard at the piano, and M. Rafalewski solo violin. The concluding piece is a lyric comedy, entitled *The K.C.*—a bright musical playlet acceptably presented.

HIPPODROME, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—A fine bill includes the Piccolinos, a pair of accomplished, versatile midgets; the Boston Twins, comedians; Miss Ghita Corri, whose fine singing is highly appreciated; the Meymotts, a smart pair, in their diverting sketch, *Semi-Detached*; Jack Lane, a good comedian, whose stories in the vernacular create roars of laughter; Verno and Voyce, in their entertaining burlesque, *Jack Sheppard*; Walls and Mackenzie, whose tuneful ballad singing is well received; the Stein Eretto troupe of acrobats, in some wonderful feats of hand-jumping; and a good film on the Bioscope.

HULL.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Local Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—*Her One Great Sin*, which is presented by Miss Lydia Donovan's company, is possessed of powers of attraction which fill the theatre. As the wronged husband, Mr. G. Edward Hall finds ample scope to shine; while as his antithesis, Mr. Cecil Newton plays the heavy part with much success. As the foil to the various schemes of the villain, Miss Phyllis Damian carries the sympathy of the house with her; and as an emotional actress Miss Lydia Donovan shines considerably.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Morton's, Ltd.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Morley.—The melodrama *The Hour of Her Triumph* appeals with much success to the patrons of this popular playhouse. Mr. Leslie Hawkins gives a conscientious rendering of the father's rôle; in the part of the consistent schemer, Eugene Harbury, Mr. Fred J. Webb attains a fair place; as the wronged girl, Nellie Clavering, Miss M Danvers-Smith plays sympathetically; Miss Lalla Price proves her versatility in a double rôle; the Rose Denton of Miss Barbara Gott is a very creditable piece of work; Mr. Newton gives a good account of himself in the comedy rôle.

THE HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Yeaham; Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—The La Faille troupe top the bill in a smart equilibristic act; the Three Prestons are responsible for roars of laughter in their sketch, *The Liftman's Rise*; Jack Pleasants is a big favourite; Vardon, a rising ventriloquist, Annie Lang, a serio and dancer, Elton and Elma, in a funny knockabout act, and Jack Crawley completing a capital company.

THE CIRCUS.—Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Emerson.—On Monday Mr. Emerson commenced his 116th consecutive night with animated pictures.

THE EMPIRE.—Manager, Mr. Harry Slingsby.—Hector and Sultan and the Sauteron Wonders are the principal turns here.

ILKESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—The boards are occupied this week by Mr. Ellerslie Pyne and company, in *The Sleigh Bells*. Mr. Pyne himself takes the rôle of Mathias, his excellent performance meeting with loud and prolonged applause. Miss Grace Jones makes the most of Annette, and Mr. Norman H. Tracey gives a good study of Christian. Miss Renie Douglas is a successful exponent of Catherine; Father Walter and Hans are suitably represented by Messrs. William Garrett and Bernard H. Webb. Each evening the play is followed by *Poor Joe*, the title-rôle being taken by Miss Grace Jones.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Jim Morley.—Chant and Chant, in songs, dances, &c., Bert Coote, comedian, Alice Campbell, comedienne, Jack Taylor, vocal comedian, and Alice Temple, song and dance artist, are appearing here with success.

IPSWICH. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—The chief item of this week's programme is that of the famous Elliot-Savonas combination, whose clever instrumental act is presented under the title of "The Palace of Orpheus," with wonderful electric appliances. Other turns include Richard Taylor, a clever ventriloquist and sifleur; the Raynor Trio of equilibrists; O'Malley and Brown, in a laughable knockabout sketch called *You're Still a Friend of Mine*; Dan Palmer, comedian; Ivy Adelaide, a pleasing singer, who well rendered a dainty song, "The Lady of the Lake"; and Yavelle Brothers, a pair of knockabout comedians.

JARROW.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Rex Sugden.—The attraction here this week is Mr. Hartwell J. Kirby's company, in *Man's Enemy*. The part of Harry Stanton is done full justice to by Mr. Norman A. Overton, and Mr. T. A. Ellis gives a powerful portrayal of that of Tom Drake; Mr. Fred Owen causes much amusement as Isaac Barnett; Mr. T. G. Vane is well placed as Fred Lisle; Count Lanski is carefully handled by Mr. Hartwell J. Kirby; and Mr. Charles E. Johnson makes an ideal Bill Saunders. Miss Maud Buchanan is all that can be desired as Sarah Drake, and Miss Maudie Grayson as Grace Lisle and Miss May Grayce as Polly Harris are well placed.

JERSEY.—THE HORSE-SHOE QUARRY.—The Pierrots and Veroniques are still very popular. This week the entertainment is exceptionally good; Mr. James Salter has joined the troupe, and Mr. Tom Payne is greatly *en évidence*.

ODDFELLOWS' HALL.—The National Animated Pictures Company are drawing crowded houses, many local pictures being shown.

THE TRIANGLE PARK.—The second week of the Dagonets' visit opened last Monday. The programme is a good one, and the new-comer, Mr. Guy Williams, was enthusiastically encored for his songs.

LANCASTER.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. John Porter and W. J. Fergusson.—The bill is headed this week by Sid Doody and Edie Wright in a comedy act, which is well received; Hall and Earle are remarkably clever eccentrics; Jas. Stewart, the Tramp at the Piano, has a flattering reception; and the Silver Tone Quartette sing and dance nicely; Mlle. Ameda, equilibrist; Mlle. La Tostia, with the mandoline; Miss Luna Lisle, comedienne; and the Hippograph, with new pictures, complete a first-rate programme.

LEEDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—A thrilling drama, *The Woman Who Gambles*, is at the Royal this week, an effective presentation being given by Mr. Morton Powell's company. The central figure of Countess Nattalie is an effective personation of much ability by Miss Lillian Herries. Mr. George Steele wins favour with a resolute personation of Count Steinbach; Mr. Percy Ballard displays ability as Baron Cratzlaw; and Mr. Edwin Owen is well fitted in the part of the Hon. Bertie Bray. Miss Dora Thrale and Miss Brenda May each distinguish themselves in leading feminine rôles, and the cast throughout is efficient.

EMPIRE.—Moss Empires, Ltd; District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—The musical contributions of the Black Hussars are decidedly effective; Ray Wallace, the clever mimic, is again a leading line, and her performance continues very popular; as also do the comedy characters cleverly portrayed by Nellie Coleman. Some expert acrobatic dancing by the Carlyles is much enjoyed. Dome, the clay manipulator, contributes his usual interesting turn; a bright musical sketch by Clarence Corri and company arouses great enthusiasm; and the juvenile musical spectacle, *Egypt*, presented by local boys, is an effective turn. Kitty Marion proves a pleasing and popular comedienne, and an interesting Bioscope display completes the bill.

PALACE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Walter De Frece.—The Palace bill is headed this week by Percival, in a clever performance at the piano; the Three Zaracs win favour in a smart and humorous triple-bar act; the Zampas, duettists and dancers, score with a dashing interlude; and the Ladderites are doing their specialty with success; T. C. Callaghan and Charles Gardner are popular comedians; Jimmy James finds ready acceptance with his banjo selections; and Marie Leonard sings in attractive style.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietor, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; General-Managers, Mr. Chas. Weldon and Mr. Claude Shayler. — Another recruit from musical comedy, Frank Danby, makes a very popular top-of-the-bill turn here, his rollicking humour finding an effective vehicle in a farcical sketch, *The Chauffeur*. A romantic sketch serves for the exploitation of Jan Rudenyi's musical abilities and his selections on the violin are listened to with rapt attention; Stewart and Morgan win approval with their fine vocal abilities; acrobatics by that clever pair, Tate and Tate, are an interesting feature; Clown Barker is once again very successful with his circus presentation; and those fine musicians, Barton and Franklin, are also having a good week. Maud Esmond is a favourite comedienne; a remarkable dancing spectacle is provided by Mlle. Lumière; and a clever comedy duo, Martinette and Wallace, complete the bill in popular style.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam Jones

finds its opportunities in the part of Gordon Isaacs; and Mr. Barry Lupino's Tommy Sprouts is a very diverting person; while Mr. John Darlison and Mr. Percival Dye contribute careful studies of character as Sir Sydney Barraclough and Godfrey Dane; and Mr. Roy Craig shows much promise in his impersonation of Bertie Burlington. Miss Doris Gilham plays with great spirit in the congenial rôle of Aminta J. Beane, Miss Etta Imeson is quite charming as Sylvia, and Miss Paulina Gear acts with artistic feeling the more emotional part of Margaret Dane. A one-act version of *Robert Macaire* is excellently interpreted by Messrs. Clavering Craig and Lupino as the immortal thieves, Mr. Chippendale and Mr. Somerville as the sergeant and the landlord, and Miss Gilham as Marie.

LIVERPOOL. — ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery. For notice of a new production here see another column.

LYRIC.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—The ever-popular *Round the Clock* heads the bill here this week, Charles Majilton and his company proving as funny as ever; a screamingly ridiculous scena, *P.C. Pudden on Duty in the Limelight*, is given by Harry Pleon, Celia Kent, and party; Ernie Mayne's parodies on popular songs are very laughable; some smart songs come from Venie Belfrey; Kartelie performs cleverly on the slack wire; Lilian Victoria, a talented young male impersonator, who is earning golden opinions, has a cordial reception; and the Bioscope shows the latest pictures.

STAR THEATRE. Proprietor, and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—Mr. Robert Perris's company, under the direction of Mr. Karl H. Edwards, pay a welcome return visit here, with *A Fight for Millions*, which is worthily presented. Mr. William Macready holds the rôle of Tom Manly with distinction; Mr. Kendrew Milson acts well as Hudson Rivers; Mr. Richard A. Greene proves effective in the character of Richard Dudley; a well-drawn tramp, Willie Never work, is submitted by Mr. Karl H. Edwards; Mr. Harold Turner causes a deal of laughter with his Solomon Moses; Mr. Tom Jones makes a funny Clara Ap Morgan; Miss Elma C. Turner gives a sympathetic rendering of Helen Dudley; and strong support comes from Miss Winifred Symons (Pearl Rivers), Miss May Crosse (Mrs. Rivers), and Miss Rosie Kearns (Betty and Mag Brady).

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan. —Top of the programme here this week is Jock Whiteford, a particularly funny Scotch comedian; the acrobatic work of the Lumars is watched with interest; Osborn and Brookes are a pair of accomplished musical comedians; some smart songs are rendered by Gertie Gitana; the Ringling Trio of American eccentrics prove an amusing turn; a merry time is provided by the comedians, Tennyson and Wallis; a charming trifle of humour and song, entitled *The Little Colonel*, is submitted by Ernest Montefiore and company; the Henres are expert juvenile club throwers; and others in the list are Smith and Johnson, society coloured duo; the Macdonald Trio, with their musical garden; and Edie Gray and "the boys" in harmony.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES. — Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole. —The "Royal" stock company here are this week giving *The Ring that Binds*. Mr. Harry Tresham plays well as Gerald Hazleton; Mr. Sydney Grant makes an efficient Mortimer Despard; the double rôle of Colonel Beverley and David Rogers is held by Mr. Cecil Ravenswood; Mr. Robert Wilton is a funny Belshazzar Pitt; and other excellently given parts are Surana (Miss Beryl Ravenswood), and Mona Beverley (Miss Nellie Bonser).

PADDINGTON PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. M. Montgomery Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Edwards. — Walter Howard's *Man and Wife* is the play given here this week by the "Royal" stock company. Included among the principal artists are Messrs. Wallace Campbell (Paul Revere), Frank Strickland (Captain D'Esparre), H. Hesslegrave (Sergeant Jacques), H. G. Brandon (Bimbo), Francis E. Wybert (Bambo), Misses Florence Barnes (Jean), Lina Nazeby (Ruth Revere), and Gladys H. Walton (Marcelle).

PARK PALACE.—Proprietors, The Lancashire Vaudeville Syndicate, Ltd.—The able stock company here, under the direction of Mr. Albert Sember, are doing good business. This week they are giving *The Law and the Man*. Mr. Sember acts with power as Will Waring; Mr. Walter Foster holds the part of Seth J. Hoskins with credit; Mr. Archie Helsby affords satisfaction as Robert Galloway; the Silas Wragley of Mr. Hugh Carmichael deserves praise; Mr. Will Percy does credit to Tom Dabney; and other parts are efficiently submitted by Miss Lizzie Chambers (Bess Dabney), Miss Nelson-Ramsey (Cicely Waring), and Miss Lillian Burns (Nellie Laverock).

HAYMARKET.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. Edwin W. Smith.—Harry Calden and company are this week presenting *The Shadow of Guilt, or the Avenging Hand*; Edward Ind, a popular character vocalist, pays a return visit; George Reynolds shows ability as a comedian and dancer; and Ivy May has some taking songs, and dances neatly. The Bioscope shows a large number of up-to-date pictures.

WESTMINSTER. — Lessee, Mr. Fred E. Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—The beautifully illustrated songs by the Lynchs are highly appreciated here; Earle and Melville keep their audience in a merry humour; the Danas are a smart vocal comedy duo; and the rest of the programme is occupied by Le Warren, singing ventriloquist, and the excellent Bioscope.

OLYMPIA.—District-Manager, Mr. Albert Bulmer; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wighton.—Jackson and McLaren, with their tree-felling exhibition, make their first appearance in Liverpool; Master Edward Garratt, of *The Little Stranger* fame, gives a delightful trifle, *The Baby Burglar*; Percy Honri has a budget of funny things; a fine exhibition of juggling comes from Rapoli; Boyd and Gilfain provide a pleasing musical turn; the Celtic Comedy Trio are humorous vocalists; Powell's Marionettes are cleverly manipulated; and the programme also contains the names of Herbert Rule, eccentric comedian, and La Danseuse, an accomplished juvenile artist, with her dancing scena, *Santa Claus*.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Harry Lauder is drawing big houses here; the Lukushimas, including Otra San, a most expert troupe of Japanese entertainers, delight everybody; Tom Moore has some excellent and funny songs; a remarkable exhibition of strength is given by the Four Regals; Maggie Walsh, the Lancashire singing mill girl, is received with cordiality; Frank R. Bertram and company present a capital comedy sketch, *The Chaperon*; some remarkable jumping is shown by the Hartleys; Ryan and Hall have a funny show as acrobats and wrestlers; and the Boccaccio Minstrels, including Signor Francia, give a most pleasing entertainment.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors, Liverpool Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. James Marks.—A very attractive bill here this week is headed by the smart sketch, *A Trip to Coontown*, which has pleased immensely; the Esquimaux Troupe have a novelty acrobatic scena, *The Land of the Midnight Sun*; Geoffreys and Benson are a lively and merry couple; the wonderful and swiftly-executed oil-paintings by Vandinoff are much admired; a pleasing musical performance is provided by the able instrumentalists, Franchini, Ollam, and Page; Ingram and Irving are a smart pair of comedians; Alsa Douglas sings sweetly; and W. B. Raby, comedian, also appears.

ROSCOMMON.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Willmot.—The Bioscope occupies a large share of the bill here. Some able juggling is gone through by Monty Santos; Jock McKay, the new Scotch comedian and piper, is loudly applauded; and Eileen and Mayne are a couple of smart musical, dancing, and singing juveniles.

LLANDUDNO.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. A. E. Vaughan; Manager, Mr. J. Ritson.—The Parisian Animated Picture Company are again occupying the boards this week with a new set of pictures each evening.

PIER HEAD PAVILION.—Messrs. Adeler and Sutton's Pierrots; Local Manager, Mr. Arthur Sutcliffe.—*The Gay River* is presented by the Pierrots to enthusiastic audiences. Mr. Frank Dunlop makes a decided hit; Miss Mildred Bryan's voice is much admired; Mr. W. H. Powell excels both in song and dance; Mr. Harrison Latimer is also in excellent voice; Miss Winifred Norman's dancing is all that can be desired; and Misses Casa and Elinor Crawford both do well.

PIER PAVILION, LTD.—Secretary, Mr. Sam Hughes. —The orchestra under Mr. A. W. Payne, A.R.A.M., plays to crowded audiences nightly. The vocalists on Saturday were Mme. Edna Thornton and Miss Lenora Russell, who were both in excellent voice.

LOWESTOFT. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietor, Mr. George Gilbert; Manager, Mr. Frank Freeland.—The series of animated pictures include two thrilling scenes, "The Trail of Blood" and "The Highway Robbery." The Brothers Bright top the bill and prove very entertaining in their gymnastic display; J. H. Kavanagh is most amusing as a comedian; and Miss Mabel Bright is a warm favourite as a comedienne and dancer.

MARINA.—Managing-Director, Mr. E. A. Smith.—The London Comedy Company are here with *A Fool's Paradise*. Miss Laura Hansen is seen to advantage as Beatrice Selwyn; Mr. Cecil Wynne affords a capital study as Sir Peter Lund; and Mr. Arthur Claremont is equally successful as Lord Normantower; Mr. Wylie Thompson is admirably cast as the Hon. Tom Veringer; and Miss Margery Chard performs creditably in the rôle of Kate Derwent.

SPARROW'S NEST PARK.—The Lowestoft Corporation concerts started for the season on Monday. The company includes "The Gaieties," Beatrice Jeffreys, Lois Barker (accompanist), Ruby Wilson, and Messrs. Percy Watson, Chas. Conyers, and Wilson James. On the opening day the audience were entertained to afternoon tea by the Mayor and Mayoress, Mr. and Mrs. B. S. Bradbeer.

OLYMPIAN GARDENS.—Mr. Paul Mill, a well-known local entertainer, commenced his season at this popular resort on Monday, when Mr. F. R. Duberley's company presented a musical entertainment, *The March Hares*. The artists include Messrs. Davy, Burnaby, Edmund Hallick, Crampton Bryant, and Misses Kathleen Severn, Maud Jay, and Doris Lind. Mr. Philip Braham proves an admirable accompanist.

LUTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, E. Graham Falcon; Manager Louis J. Beard.—Vaudeville entertainments are being given at this theatre during the summer months, and are much appreciated by the townspeople. This week, amongst others, The Weimers, in their graceful, comical, and refined entertainment on the elevated wire, are accorded a hearty welcome, as also is the actor-vocalist, Mr. Fred Villars. Miss Dora Doone is a clever vocalist and dancer, and Miss Kate Avey is quite a favourite, her dancing being above the average. Messrs. Chas. Appo, in a pedestal act, and Wal. Robins, the black and white artist, are also good.

MAIDSTONE.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. S. Baskerville.—The bill here is headed by the famous Kellinos, acrobats. The Brothers Hayes, cross-talk comedians and dancers; the Polio Trio of cyclophone experts; the Five Casino Girls, instrumentalists; Bella Williams, comedienne; and the Biograph are among the other attractions.

CORN EXCHANGE. — The pictures of the Excello Chronophone and Bioscope Company are well up to date, and include the Derby and a great variety of subjects. Their vaudeville entertainment and musical selections are excellent.

MANCHESTER.—ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son: Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—Mrs. Fred J. Kirke's musical comedy company in the romantic musical drama, *In Old Madrid*, form the attraction here this week, and the piece is very well received. Mr. Leslie Austen works hard and successfully as Frank Wyndhurst and the Italian Count; as Fernando Cassilus, Mr. C. H. Matthews shows marked ability; and Mr. W. E. Chewd is capital as Mendoza Stittigano, the toreador; Madoline Ellesmere is charmingly played by Miss Edith Claris; a clever interpretation of Martha Montmorency, the danseuse, is given by Miss Lily Seymour; Miss Francesca Strickland as Violet, Lyndhurst's wife, plays with great sympathy and effect; and Miss Louie Fountaine is very successful as Lola, the Spanish girl. The piece is not lacking in humour, which is amply exploited by Mr. Walter H. Hibbert as the valet and Mr. Charles Burns as Violet's uncle. Some good singing and pleasing dances enliven the action. The programme is varied by a change on Thursday to *The Naval Detective*, for the remainder of the week.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hearn.—The Kurios, in a comical concoction of art and mystery, are the top attraction here this week, and worthily justify their prominence. Capital business of a sensational kind is added by J. Koffer-Reynolds and company, in a "wreckage" scena, entitled *Conscience*. Florence Smithers and company are seen in *Hard Lines*, an excellent comedy sketch; the Juanitos Troupe of Spanish acrobats also do wonderfully well; and other good turns are to the credit of Harwood's Juveniles, in a novelty scena, the Betsons, clever comedy cyclists, Marquis and Mignonette, in a smart comedy act, *Little Willie*, the Moules, light entertainers, and Harry Bentley, eccentric comedian. The pictures are very good.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. R. Flanagan; Manager, Mr. P. Ryan Smith.—The fifth week of Mr. Sidney Dench's company at this theatre is marked by a very satisfactory production of *Conn, the Shaughraun*. Mr. Sidney Dench plays Conn and Miss Dora Dench is seen as Claire Ffolliott, both playing with marked success, while the company supporting them is all that could be desired, and the staging is adequately sensational.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Dry.—Miss Winifred Chalmers and company are here this week in a clever and well-played version of *Oliver Twist*, dramatised by Messrs. Henry L. Osmond and Ernest Noble, who appear in the respective rôles of Bill Sikes and Monks, and contribute much to the success of the play; Miss Winifred Chalmers plays Nancy in splendid style; and Mr. John C. Carlyle adds a fine dramatic impersonation of Fagin; while as Oliver Miss Lizzie Powers is natural and pleasing. Among others who submit clever character studies, Mr. Harry Cook as the Dodger, Mr. H. Gower May as Bumble, and Mr. H. Somerville as Mr. Grimwig, are well worthy of special praise.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—The big turns here this week are provided by the Donaldson Bros. and Ardel, in their Zoological comedy-pantomime, and the Seven Perezoffs, in a comic juggling act, *An Evening in a Parisian Café*. Violet Ray, instrumentalist and singer, is well received; Arthur Gill, the yokel of many voices, is possessed of a wonderful gift; Will Bishop and company present *My Gollywog*, with capital effect; Marzella's Birds are marvellously trained; Ross and Grayson, the quaint couple, in a musical comedy mélange, are very funny and undoubtedly one of the best turns in the programme; Frank Lynne, comedian, is entertaining; and Arthur Lester sings well to illustrations. The Bioscope completes with a diverting series.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—A "big" attraction here this week is the Tyrolean giantess, Mariedl. Excellent are Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco, in their unique entertainment, a combination of cleverness; Mabel Bardine and company are highly successful in a dramatic playlet by Marion Russell, entitled *Nell of the Halls*; and Fred Hastings, comedian, makes a decided hit; Madge Grey is a clever mimic and bright comedienne, and is deservedly well received; Gintaro is exceptionally smart as a Japanese juggler and top spinner; and capital turns are also furnished by Ruby Dahl and her life-size mannikins; and Alix Lukos, character vocalist. Madge Robertson, of the choir, scores a success with an illustrated song, "Needles and pins," and other enjoyable items are "The fisher boy," by the choir, and "The Magical Press," on the Bioscope.

KING'S, LONGSIGHT.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. B. Taylor.—An interesting sensational melodrama, entitled *The Passion of Redemption*, is presented here this week by Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company, with great success. The piece is well mounted, and the company strong throughout, including Messrs. H. Arnold Allen, Andrew Money, Ernest Frere, Harry Lyndon, Michael Madden, Edward Bikker, F. Newburn, and Misses Violet Langley (Redempta), Iza Lyndon (excellent as Jack), Mabel Scudamore, Lilian Radburn, Dorothy Love, Edie Machin, and Effie Mackintosh.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter de Frece; Secretary, Mr. Peter Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr Tealor Wade.—The Poluski Brothers top the bill here this week, and create, as usual, much laughter with their capital business; Messrs. Pringle and Piddock present, in fine style, a romantic operatic episode, entitled *The Romany King*, the singing and scenery being excellent; the Geni Family are exceedingly good risley acrobats; and smart dancers are the Eight Lancashire Lads, who meet with a warm reception; Dandy George and "Rosie," a wonderfully well-trained dog, go through their usual neat performance; Haydee's Marionettes are manipulated in a life-like manner; good dancing is done by Rosie Reval, comedienne, and by Forrest and King; and Cole and Herbert are eccentric jugglers. Interesting pictures complete.

TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes. — The Six Idols, vocalists and dancers, make their first appearance in Manchester here this week, and give a brisk and pleasing turn; Prince Kuroki, the Japanese magician, is very smart and successful in a series of illusions; the Edgertons present a gymnastic act with sensational effects; Charles McNaughton and May Garstang, assisted by Percy Carr, are very good in their burglar sketch, *Bill*; and Daisy Wright and Crazy Elton, in *Mirthisms*, are distinctly clever and entertaining. Other good turns are given by the Sisters Allen, duettists and dancers, T. W. Royal, champion clog dancer, Mlle. Sam Florrale, French chanteuse, Ruby Bijou, a very graceful bare-foot dancer, and Pearl Linda Daie, comedienne. F. V. St. Clair, who should also have appeared, was prevented by illness.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Mick.—The Wedburns, in an enjoyable act, entitled *The Duke and the Jester*, are to the front here this week, and meet with a good reception, their patter causing roars of laughter—an excellent turn. Louis Hardt, the Boy Samson, poses *a la* Sandow, and performs some marvellous feats of strength; the Deer Family are excellent singers and dancers, and their tableaux, *Indians of the Past*, are very well done; Correze and Keith, in a juggling and cannon ball act, are good; Hyde and Cody, eccentrics, amuse the audience with clever tumbling; the Sisters Belmont sing and dance nicely; Burton and Trent provide an enjoyable musical and dancing turn; and May De Rowse sings in a pleasing manner. The pictures are amusing.

HIPPODROME (HULME).—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Kay. —A highly sensational and smart gymnastic turn is given here this week by the Brothers O'Brian, in their wonderful triple bar act. One, Billy Farrell, is as interesting as ever; and the Napoli Sextette, including Mr. John Lloyd, the famous tenor, are exceedingly good in a pleasing vocal scene, entitled *An Evening at Home*. Georgina Leonard, burlesque artist, makes a hit, being recalled; the Three Parzones are clever and amusing; and well received items are those of Harris and Worth, comedians, and W. G. Wesley, a singer of quaint songs. Osborne and Bert did not appear on the occasion of our visit. The pictures are good.

RUSHOLME PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Leslie; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles North; Secretary, Mr. Geo. Phillips.—Harry Leslie's well-known Comedy Cadets are the attraction here this week, and each turn is excellent.

GRAND.—Jasper Redfern's pictures remain a staple part of the programme here, which is made up of lively vaudeville turns, and is attracting good houses nightly.

THE WHITE CITY (OLD TRAFFORD).—Managing-Director, Mr. J. C. Brown.—This resort of pleasure-seekers is becoming more and more popular, and among its attractions this week are the Indian mysteries of Jean Seul, and the expert business of Captain Kettle Mersano, king of cards and coins. A grand carnival and fancy dress parade, in which 200 variety artists will take part, is to be held, with the charitable object of increasing the funds of the Federation Music Hall Home and the Music Hall Benevolent Fund. This event of Thursday must be noted as the greatest show ever organised for the objects in question, and half the entire gate receipts—arranged to be given by the White City management—will doubtless amount to a very substantial sum.

MANSFIELD.—HIPPODROME.—Managing Director, Mr. Herbert Darnley; Resident Director, Mr. Tom Jennings; Acting-Manager, Mr. Mark Lorne. Mr. F. Wybert Clive's company are here this week. The first three nights were occupied by the presentation of *The Branded Woman*. Miss Lilian Ross showed great ability in the rôle of Genevieve Laroche; as the Countess Daphne Miss Alice Campbell was very well placed; Mr. James Stillwell gave a powerful rendering of the rôle of Philip Maurice; and Mr. W. Cowell Clarke was at home in the rôle of Zarka; as Paul Fleuret Mr. Wybert Clive gave a fine interpretation; Mr. Walter Steele as Prince Haubert and Mr. Edward Lowrie as Louis Daroc proved capable actors; Mr. Harry Liddle was amusing as Dick Brown, as also was Miss Isabel Hunt as Jacqueline. For Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evenings *The Conscript* was announced.

MARGATE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Exclusive Manager, Mr. E. Michael.—Once again the costume play, *The Duchess of Marlborough*, has been presented here, and it is a very creditable production. Mrs. Culling is seen to distinct advantage as Sarah Duchess of Marlborough, and finely portrays the remarkable woman who is swayed between loyalty to her Queen and love for her husband. Mr. Henry Renouf plays the rugged soldier, John Churchill, Duke of Marlborough, with complete success. Mr. A. Austin Leigh is in his element as Robert Harley, and Miss Cecil Cromwell does admirable work as Mrs. Masham, the Queen's favourite. Miss Eugenie Vernie plays capitally as Queen Anne; Mr. Ernest Cossart as Col. Jack, and Mr. G. W. Elton, as Dr. Swift, are each well placed; and ample support is given by Miss May Saker, as Lady Susan Villiers; Mr. H. G. Mason, as Lord Villiers; Miss Mabel Archdall, as Lady Wood; Mr. Wallis Clark, as Capt. Richard Steele; and the remaining members of the company. The play has been produced under the stage management of Mr. A. Austin-Leigh.

THE HIPPODROME.—Joint Managers, Messrs. F. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; General Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtree.—Tina Clementa's sporting act heads the bill this week, and a clever entertainment it is—horse and dogs showing a remarkable perfection in training. Martin and Ridgway, the Australian lunatics, are amusing, and Cribb and Cribb, the idle fellows, evoke great laughter. William Cromwell, comedian, sings a good song. Mme. Thelma and Harry Groves, in the comedy act, *The Lady Sculptor*, create laughter; Violet Carlyle, in her song scena, "My Mountain Maid," again scores well; Edith Finck, comedienne, sings delightfully; and the Bioscope pictures are attractive.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Albert Jackson.—*Under the Russian Flag*, presented by Mr. Jack Haddon and company, is the attraction here. Mr. George Cecil Murray gives a fine portrayal of General Komanoff; Michael and Ivan are capitally represented by Mr. Sydney Arnold and Mr. Charles Stafford; an excellent delineation of Captain Demetrius is given by Mr. Haddon; Mr. Templer Ellis is a humorous Alex Skopelopki; Mr. W. Wilson a dignified Colonel Souveroff; and Mr. Hal Forde an amusing Peter Poluski; and Miss Marie Rayner plays with power as Luka Marisebla; Miss Violet Lytton is a delightful Vera Vascloff; and Miss Molly Hackett a vivacious Ogarita.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price. — Animated pictures continue to attract large audiences. Variety turns are this week provided by Tom Alvanbee, who meets with a cordial reception; the Schalbers, in an original comdy act, give a good turn; the Florodora Sketch Company are good; Pueblo and Cropp are amusing as the Swell and La Belle; Katie Blanche is a pleasing comedienne; and some new pictures are seen on the Biograph.

MIDDLESBROUGH. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Charles Imeson.—*Defending His Honour* occupies the boards here this week, and in the hands of Mr. Fred Granville's company is spiritedly interpreted. Mr. John Davison figures with great effect in the rôle of Douglas Bryce, and Miss F. Melrose-Millet acts with distinction as Ethel Bryce; the part of Stephen Graid is in the capable hands of Mr. George Arthur, and Mrs. Edmund Lyons is charming in the rôle of Miss Verison. The comedy portion, in the hands of Jack Damish (Mr. Evan Roland) is exceptionally well performed, and Mr. Fred L. Arthur's personation of Richard Verison is good; Miss Sybil Houghton is pleasing as Miss Lucien, and Mr. Houghton Macaulay does full justice to the part of Dick Verison; George Duncan (Mr. J. D. Geddes), David Pedlar (Mr. Clifton Earle), Captain Hampton (Mr. G. F. Roberts) are also well portrayed. The piece is admirably staged.

OPERA HOUSE. — Proprietors, The Middlesbrough Grand Opera House Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. Ker Chatto.—*The Superior Miss Pellender* is presented here this week by Mr. Wm. Fraser-Brunner and a capable company. Miss Queenie Fraser-Brunner is charming in the title-rôle; Mr. Wm. Fraser-Brunner does exceedingly well in the rôle of Mr. Tister; Mr. Ellis D. Carlyle as Noel causes immense amusement; the part of Mrs. Pellender is admirably played by Miss Beatrice Fitzhugh, and Miss Marie Ault as Edith and Miss May Staples as Nancy contribute in no small measure to the success of the piece. The play is preceded by a dramatic episode of the French Revolution entitled *The Man of Vengeance*.

EMPIRE PALACE. — Managing-Director, Mr. John Brill; Manager, Mr. Charles Rembges.—The famous protean actor, R. A. Roberts, is scoring heavily here this week with *Dick Turpin*; the Three Sisters Jonghmans are a great success in their vocal selections; J. A. Wilson and his dog are exceedingly good in a military caricature, and Walker and Luke, comedians, cause much laughter; Massona is a clever juggler, and the Two Palmers, comedy artists, and Edie Anderson, comedienne and dancer, also add to the attractiveness of the programme.

OXFORD PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Alf. Graham; Manager, Mr. R. L. Griffiths.—The Tennessee Guards provide the star turn here this week in a series of intricate military manœuvres; the Tally-Ho Trio submit some excellent singing, and Zeta Grey and company cause much merriment in a sketch entitled *The Lancashire Lass*; Godfrey completely mystifies the audience with his clever palming and illusions; and Will Haines sings some catchy songs. Other turns are provided by Harley and Harden, comedians, and Violet Mack, comedienne.

MORECAMBE.—ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Lessee, Lieut. Julian Malvern; General-Manager, Mr. C. M. Julian.—Fred Karno's comedians are a sterling attraction here, and their pantomimical burlesques, *Mumming Birds* and *Early Birds* cause endless amusement. Good variety turns are contributed by Evie Temple, comedienne; Ariel and Astarte, in a capital gymnastic act; Flo Penley and Geo. English, in two smart duologues, *Fine Mackerel* and *Coming from Kildare*; Dan Hendy, eccentric acrobat; Frank Zara, American patterer; Sisters Brenton, expert dancers, especially with the ropes; and Arthur Stanley, smart banjoist.

WINTER GARDENS.—Manager, Mr. Tom Atkinson. —The Lizette Troupe of lady acrobats hold the premier position here, and the Sisters Lytton prove very popular duettists. Gus Merriman is very funny with his trick musical act, and Florrie Connoly has some pretty illustrated songs. Molly Augarde is very successful in her several items.

ALHAMBRA PALACE.—Manager, Alderman John Gardner.—Onda Brothers' combination of artists prove a genuine draw here.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—TYNE THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessees, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe.—*Somebody's Sweetheart* is here, played by Mr. Edward Marris' company. Miss Elfie Vincent does all that falls to her lot most acceptably; Mr. Cecil W. Parke is a success as Stanton Ashleigh; and Mr. Walter Nugent is good in the rôle of Stephen Leverton; Miss May Norris adds effectively to the entertainment as Freddie Ashleigh; and Mr. George Brentwood is excellent as Martin Blabbs.

PALACE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Thomas W. Rowe. —*Secrets* is here, played by an excellent company, including Messrs. John E. Tomlinson, Reggie Brown, Welton Richards, Victor T. Raymond, Will Bird, Lal Abdul Coltman, Miss Lizzie Palmer, Miss Nellie Navarro, and Miss Cissie Harcourt. A clever dancing speciality is introduced by the Vernon Troupe.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon.—*A Woman Worth Winning* is presented here by a company under the direction of Mr. Percy Norman, the leading characters being assumed by Messrs. Percy Norman, Sidney Barton, A. B. MacKay, E. Hall Eldon, Miss Cissie Pauloff, Miss Trixie Leighton, and Miss Ida MacKay.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton.—Ever popular in Newcastle is Wilkie Bard, and his abundance of quaint humour and happy songs gain him a cordial reception; Matthew Brodie and his company, including Miss Dorothea Vivian give an historical sketch, *A Drummer of the 76th*, an episode in the life of Napoleon, and a charming production which is well played; a capital musical performance is given by the Norman and Leonard Trio; and Olive and Owen, create great amusement in a comedy singing act; while the Narrow Bros., comedy cyclists, provide a capital turn. The programme also includes Elsie Claire, a ballad vocalist, whose efforts were very pleasing; Ruth Lytton, a Scotch comedienne with a taking style; Cisse Curlette, a capital mimetic vocalist; and Maud Mortimer, a vocal comedienne of acknowledged ability.

PAVILION THEATRE.—The Barrasford Company; Acting-Manager, Mr. Will H. Boardman.—George Robey, with "Laugh," and "Why are you looking at me," succeeds in delighting crowded houses here; Miss May Edouin in a laughing song scores heavily; and Mr. Fred Edwards and company contribute a very amusing sketch, entitled *Kleptomaniacs*; a musical act by the El Tampico Trio goes well; and Larola is as skilful as he is droll; Regan and Ryan cause hearty merriment in their "rag-time millionaire" turn. Others in the programme are Mr. Fred Curran, Mr. Walter Emerson, Mr. Nat Watkins, Miss Rose Cabani, and Mr. Arthur Goodman.

NEWPORT.—EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Major Gallagher; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Page.—The famous Craggs, in a delightfully funny sketch, *Billy, the Steward of the Channel Queen*, top the bill here, keeping the house in roars from start to finish. David Poole is a clever ventriloquist; the Sisters Sprightly give a good musical item in Dutch character; and the Moulier Sisters present an attractive performance on the bars; Ella Retford is accorded a flattering reception; Les Frasettis delight the house with a clever musical turn; Geo. Ridgnell is warmly recognised in two solos given with excellent effect; and Will Musgrave, comedian, makes a favourable impression. The Bioscope shows several interesting pictures.

NORTHAMPTON.—PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Thos. A. Evans.—In addition to the Bioscope Pictures we have a return visit from the Haverleys, American song illustrators; Celia Claire and company, in a comedy complication entitled *The Woman Who* ——; and Chris Van Bern, a witty and versatile comedian.

NORTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—Mr. William A. Armour's company is presenting *The Best of Her Sex*. As Philip Farringdon Mr. William A. Armour acts with considerable power; Mr. A. Polson-Turner gives a smart interpretation of Leslie Verney; and Mr. John Cecil successfully sustains the rôle of the Rev. Stephen Maxwell; Mr. Horace Buckley is good as Holy Joe; and Mr. Fred Rignold makes quite a hit as P.-C. Peter Jorkins. Miss Dora Price capably acquits herself as Vera Delorme; Miss Alice Defoe is much appreciated as Ruth Raeburn; Miss Nell Ingram is capital as Polly Perkins; and Miss Lillian Rose is very pleasing as Little Phil.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—Miss Ada Fawn, the well-known serio, holds the premier position here, and her songs are well rendered; the Musical Palmers, in *Officers at Play* are cordially greeted; Miss Jenny and Mr. Will Fordyce, the neat and nimble pair, are very smart; the Ravens, comedy athletes, are entertaining; Miss Daisy Palmer, comedienne and dancer, makes a hit; Yettmah, Japanese magician, is well received, and the Bio-Photoscope concludes.

NORTHWICH.—PIERROT PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Glanmore Jones; Manager, Mr. Lyndon Wyatt.—The Æolian Opera Singers are delighting large audiences; Mr. Chas. E. Browne, a refined humorist and skilled instrumentalist, works untiringly, and his efforts are much appreciated; Miss Rose Alderman possesses a pleasing soprano voice, which is listened to with rapt attention; in addition to officiating at the piano, Miss Lilian Payne sings in capital style a couple of songs; Miss Doris Langdon, a charming soubrette, sings and dances in a very dainty manner; Mr. Robert Leach uses his voice to advantage; while Mr. Hubert Connorton, a light comedian, gives a refined performance. The principal picture on the Bioscope is the Derby of 1907.

NORWICH.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—The Arthur Saxon trio, who make a return visit, exhibit immense weight-lifting capacities, and are much appreciated; the Five Vernons give a pleasing xylophone entertainment; the Four Hearnes are very good in their eccentric acrobatic display; Hyram Travers is an amusing comedian; Barrington, with his freak performance at the piano, is successful; Charles Windermere and Clara Manifield are genuinely funny in their sketch, *Lunch for Two*; and Fay and Foy delight with their boxing proclivities; T. I. MacMillan is a genuine Scotch comedian; and the Hippo. Bio. displays some amusing pictures.

AGRICULTURAL HALL ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—The Royal Canadian animated pictures are still here, and continue attractive.

NOTTINGHAM. — GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Charles P. Cooke.—Messrs. Fred Acton and H. C. Nash's company is here with Edward Lampard's successful drama, *Between the Lights*. Mr. Bertram H. Ross acts with earnestness and power as Captain Robert Hinton, and is ably seconded in his efforts by Miss Eileen Bamford, whose winning manner and sympathetic assumption of Violet Warren deserves every compliment. The necessary villainy is perpetrated by Stanley Crofton, and in this part Mr. Wm. R. Winning is exceptionally capable; Mr. Frederick Garrett succeeds as Gerald Warren; and in the dual rôles of Oswald Warren and Ben Armley Mr. Frank Orchard is seen to advantage; Miss Fannie Williams as Madge and Misses Millie Doris and Winifred Acton as Kitty and Ellen fill their parts well, and as Jimmy Tickle Mr. Fred Acton causes much amusement.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Bowmaker.—One more George Gray and company present the successful sketch, *Parson Gray, V.C.*; Queenie Leighton, in her delightful scena, *On and Off the Stage*, sings in dainty style "Is London like it used to be?" The special cleverness of two of the Jackley Trio is almost eclipsed by the droll antics of the third, whose whistling is remarkably sweet; Mark Merry's lugubrious appearance adds to his popularity; and another quaint comedian is seen in Larry Lewis; the pictorial ballad loses none of its effectiveness by the singing of Miss Gracie Moore; Ross and Lewis present droll step-dancing; and a smart pair of dancers and banjoists is also found in the Two Dixons. Humorous pictures on the Bioscope complete an excellent programme.

NUNEATON.—PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE AND ENTERTAINMENTS CO., LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter J. R. Bryan.—Kennedy's Komiks (who had such a successful run here last summer) opened on Monday for four weeks, with a good programme, including Mlle. Lucretia, Mr. Dan Ajar (quaint burlesque actor), Will Sandes, and May Vincent, the Sisters Dudley, who give popular ballads; Mr. T. W. Lenner, entertainer, who gives some pleasing turns .Miss Florrie Wright,

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—John Marx, in his feats of strength, is the principal turn. Tom Leamore, comedian, is also a strong attraction; Violet Gilson, assisted by four white coons, furnishes a tasteful number; Linton is a daring slack wire performer; Sinclair and Parr interpolate amusing patter with their Irish songs; and Jimmy Shields is a comic one-legged dancer. Other contributors to an interesting bill are Rose Elliott, the Kimberley Boys, and Vernon's Pictures.

PORTH.—THE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. C. W. Poole; Acting and Stage Manager, Mr. Walter Bynorth.—Topping an exceedingly good bill here this week are the Okitos, in a new Chinese act of sensational splendour; Oliver Conroy, comedian, is a big favourite; Addie Dorina scores well in her quick-change sketch; Madge Daly wins all hearts with her favourite songs; Marie Weston proves herself a good speciality dancer; Kavados is seen to advantage as a juggler and cannon ball performer; Beirose and De Velin score an unbounded success in their singing; Percy Maye presents a capital female impersonation; Johnny Worman is responsible for genuine amusement; and the Palace Electric Bioscope depicts with the utmost clearness the latest and best films.

PORTSMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—Mr. Ian Maclaren and company are here for the week, giving a round of Shakespearean and Old English comedy. *David Garrick* was selected for the opening performance, Mr. Maclaren sustaining the title-part in an earnest and convincing manner that won much appreciation. The Alderman Bruckson of Mr. Arthur Fane was a capital study; Mr. Frank Fayne was eminently successful as Hon. Bob Fairley; and Messrs. Basil Dean, J. V. Bryant, and Huston McLarry in their respective parts of Messrs. Peters, Murmurs, and Johnson, of the City, all did good work. Miss Edith Coleman portrayed the stage-struck Mabel Bruckson admirably; Miss Gertrude Littlewood and Miss Rosalie Notrelle as Mrs. Peters and Arabella Johnson were excellent. The comedy was preceded by the clever trifle, *Delicate Ground*, in which Mr. and Mrs. Maclaren appeared. *Twelfth Night*, *The Rivals*, *Hamlet*, and *As You Like It* were also in the bill.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate.—*A Beautiful Fiend* is being played here this week by Mr. Montague Beaudyn's company to excellent audiences. Mr. Herbert Skardon, in the character of Ivan Paulovitch, bears himself in manly fashion; the brutal Count Fedor Karateff is well depicted by Mr. H. C. Robinson; Mr. Matt Russell makes the best of his part of Sergius Strogoff; Mr. Pat Quin does capital work as Malachi; and Mr. Dick Seddon as Christopher Crackles, ably assisted by Miss Marie Fontaine as Patty Woodlands, creates much amusement. Miss Violet Ingram plays Nadine Karateff sympathetically; and Miss Sydney Crowe in the powerful rôle of Wanda Lubinoff, the name-part, is most realistic.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—The Ten Loonies, with their ludicrous musical production, *Dotty*, are screamingly funny; Sisters Valli are a breezy pair of musicians and dancers; Pat Carey, popular as ever, sings and dances well; Bert Morland, versatile comedian, does well in his several numbers; Teresa da Silva is a capital contralto, with good chorus songs; Harry Rogerson, the tired comedian, is an artist of much versatility; the Lannons, champion high pedestal dancers, are very smart; Del and Hal, in the skit, *The Doctor's Deputy*, cause laughter; Arabella Allen, the Dickens' girl, submits a performance of great merit; Conn and Conrad Company, in new sensational act, *20th Century Burglars*, give a humorous turn, winding up with a balloon ascent; and Payne's excellent pictures conclude an agreeable programme.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. de Frece; General-Director, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—Miss Pollo Gerome, the charming lady gymnast, gives a daring and graceful performance, which is received with hearty plaudits; Resuas Trio, comedy wire equilibrists, are clever, and create roars of laughter; Kisbey, "the Call Boy," is highly diverting; Albert and Edmunds, with farcical absurdity, *The First Mrs. Banbury*, score well; Miss Adey Spencer, "the Girl from the Hat Shop," gives a pleasing turn, and dances well; Leonie Clarke, with his domestic animal performance of casts, rats, mice, &c., is much liked; Henriette de Terris's living pictures, tableaux vivants, and statuary are distinctly good; Miss Nellie Dunbar is a taking comedienne and dancer; Hano and Lux, with much amusing cross-talk, and the Hippo. pictures conclude a capital entertainment.

RAMSGATE.—AMPHITHEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Bowman.—The Leopolds have long been favourites with Ramsgate audiences, and their visit this week has been an extremely popular one. *New Frivolity* has been brought thoroughly up to date, but those responsible have been careful not to eleminate any of the old attractive features of this lively show, but have added to the points of interest it contained. Mr. John Leopold produces the farcical musical absurdity, and the Bros. Leo form an amusing quartette of students and waiters. The knockabout business is smartly sustained. Mr. Watson Hume is decidedly good as Oliver Buckwheat; and the same remark applies to Mr. J. Leopold, jun., as Daniel Teething. Mr. A. Mordaunt as Jules Vermiglio, Mr. Willie Leopold as the irrepressible Sammy, and Mr. Tom Leopold as Professor Fumble. Miss Cathleen Cavanagh fulfils the character of Madame Cobweb excellently; and Miss Amy Hall is in good form as Lucy Buckwheat. The other ladies' parts are successfully impersonated by Miss Gertie Winter (Vinnie Moore), Miss Gladys Somers (Maud), Miss Queenie Bronte (Nanette), and Miss Violet Keand (Nita Gordon). The tumbling, statuary, and musical turns are much appreciated.

ROYAL VICTORIA THEATRE.—Proprietors, Ramsgate Corporation; Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Richeux; Secretary, Mr. G. Tyler; Musical Director, Mr. Michael Connelly.—Mr. Richeux is maintaining his record for providing high-class plays at the Royal Victoria Theatre. This week the boards have been occupied by the clever company toured by Mr. Lionel Glenister and Mr. Wood-Ingram's company, Lionel Glenister and Mr. Wood-Ingram, in Ernest Denny's three-act comedy, *All-of-a-Sudden Peggy*. Miss Decima Moore makes a brilliant appearance as Peggy O'Mara, her impersonation being nightly applauded vociferously by the big audiences which have assembled during the week. Mr. L. Glenister acts finely as Jimmy Keppel and Mr. A. S. Barber is capital as the entomologist brother, Lord Anthony Crackenthorpe. Mr. Henderson Bland fills the rôle of the dudish Major Archie Phipps, in admirable fashion; and the other male parts are in capable hands. Miss Kate Wingfield makes an effective Lady Crackenthorpe; Miss Eva Lonsdale a charming Millicent Keppel; Miss Naomi Neilson gives a talented display of acting as the Irish widow, Mrs. O'Mara; and Miss Estelle Despa sustains the part of the Hon. Mrs. Colquhoun in a manner that calls only for praise. Each performance is preceded by a clever little curtain-raiser, *A Dramatic Episode*.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Milton Bode.—The variety season is now under Mr. Bode's personal supervision. The programme for the week includes the Pichel troupe, who give a daring and graceful acrobatic performance; May Lillian Levey (comedienne; Ted Waite, the rising comic, and J. P. Carrol, the soldier tambourinist, give excellent turns; Ellis Barrieton, "the man with the wonderful voice," attracts great attention; and Miss Zona Joy presents a capital vaudeville sketch, in which leading characters are sustained by Mr. Harry Edlin and Miss Maisie Merry.

RHYL.—QUEEN'S PALACE.—The Five Abadaroffs, in their comedy act, *Prehistoric Peeps*; Constance Bellamy, vocalist; Albert German, Nina Leslie, Arthur Sedgeley, and the Drolls and Demures supply an attractive programme here this week.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler and Sutton; Manager, Mr. Jack Macdermott.—Tom Stuart, character-actor, is on a welcome return visit, and displays elocutionary ability in several impersonations; Fred Barnes scores successfully in a series of coon songs and dances; a clever item is furnished by Sydney Bach, who performs astonishing feats at the piano; Jack Macdermott, comedian, has to respond to repeated encores nightly. The other members of the company are Jack Hughes (basso), Lydia Bland (soprano), Percy James (baritone), Percy Galino (musical comedian), and Forshaw Kershaw (solo pianist and accompanist).

WORLD'S FAIR.—This popular place of amusement is visited by large crowds daily, the greatest attraction being the Dahomey village, with real natives, introduced by their manager, Mr. Chas. Bailey. Their entertainment consists of war dances, a clever fire-eater, and sword exercises. Numerous side shows include Colonel Joe Shelley, Mexican scout; George M. Schilling, the man who is walking round the world; and Castania, the human ostrich and fire-eater.

ROCHDALE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Hogue.—*Dare-devil Dorothy* is the attraction here this week. It is a musical farce and provides ample scope for singing, dancing, and humour. The title-rôle is ably filled by Miss Dorothy Desmonde. Mr. Walter Ashley, as Captain George, both acts and sings with success; Mr. H. C. Ward cleverly portrays the villainies of Captain Dudley; and Mr. Bert Edwards, as the principal comedian, keeps the audience roaring with laughter. Miss Nellie Harcourt, as Judith, acts well and dances with artistic taste.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Smith and Co.—Pringle's North American Animated Picture company continues with success here. "The Life of Christ," with organ and choir effects, is presented at the first house each evening. The second house includes some capital pictures, and a laughable turn by Spry and Monti, comedy duo.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Thomas Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Hargreaves.—Pathé Frères' New Passion Play by the Bioscope is presented here with selections of appropriate music by choristers. Carlos Menard submits a turn as a trick violinist, and Rosa Neilon introduces various national dances.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Golden.—*The World's Great Snare* is a thrilling story of American-Indian life, which draws well here; Royal Keene is cleverly sustained by Mr. L. Williams; and Mr. A. F. Bassett is an excellent villain as Lascelles La Mort. Miss Lily Forsyth is a charming Wild Rose; Star Eye is well played by Miss Fay Garnet-Vayne; Louise Granville is efficiently presented by Miss Lilith Gabriel; Mr. G. Scully as Hans von Vinck and Mr. Hyland O'Shea as Patrick Maloney are the principal fun-makers.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. J. C. Patterson.—Parodies on the piano by Bert Shepard are much enjoyed; Perrette and Mona, in their comedy quick-change trio, "Teasing the General," are well received; the juggling and slack-wire act by Mlle. Ada Galley is very clever. Other good turns include the Three Seabornes, equilibrists and acrobats; Charlie Dillon, eccentric comedian; Daisy Reed, comedienne and dancer; Nellie Moore, a clever young character impersonator; the Sisters Darnton, pleasing duettists; the Swift Trio, comedy trick-cyclists; and Fred Hallam, comedian.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Wentworth.—Maurin's Fountains, with kaleidoscopic and beautiful prismatic effects, form an exceedingly pretty spectacle; the Romsakoff troupe of eight girls in a military musical act meet with warm approval; the Brontes, in "Stoney-Broke," are comical. The other artists include Pete and Minnie Lee, in their song-scena, "The Scotchman's Visit to London"; May Newall, with charming songs; Coon and Davies, patter comedians; Maxford and O'Neill, with very amusing sayings; the Three Rio Tintos, in "African Gambols," presented by E. Jerome Langford; and Mi Narom, comedienne.

SALISBURY.—COUNTY HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. Arthur Whitehead; Business-Manager, Mr. T. Brinsmead.—A large and appreciative audience assembled on Tuesday last, when Mr. Donald Arthur presented Miss Phyllis Dare and concert party. Miss Dare had a cordial reception and gave a sweet rendering of "Hello! Little stranger," and "Shy Anne," encores being given in each case. Miss Belle Green's imitations of children fairly brought down the "house"; Miss Hilda Barnes contributed in graceful style several violin solos; Mr. A. Peterkin, who possesses a fine voice, received encores for his well-chosen songs; Mr. Edward Brightwell acted as accompanist, and his pianoforte solos were well executed.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. C. Harrison.—Dr. Walford Bodie and his Royal Magnets are on a return visit here this week, and the announcement of their re-appearance was sufficient to secure a packed house on Monday. In the welcome accorded to Dr. Bodie, there was evidence that his fame as an entertainer increases with each visit. Once more he filled the audience with amazement at his marvellous electrical demonstrations. His abilities as a mesmerist were also utilised in a way that entirely convulsed the house. Dr. Bodie is assisted by a capable company of variety artists, prominent in the number being Mr. Tom N. Mills, who is seen to great advantage in the scena, *The Real John Bull*. The Musical Acmes are clever in a musical entertainment; Belford and Mars as duettists and patterers are much appreciated; Bella, Skene, and Helen Henri are pleasing vocalists; Little Dolly Robson gained hearty applause by her singing and dancing; T. Duriah is a successful comedian.

SHEERNESS.—THE PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Phil Reymond.—Another capital company here this week includes Bill Mullins, who is very funny; the Queen of Costers is an excellent turn. Mr. Phil Reymond is rewarded with rounds of applause, and the same may be said of Miss Topsy Levane, the popular burlesque actress and dancer. The Crown Sketch Co. conclude with the comedy sketch, *The New Owner*.

THE HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. F. Leighton.—Harry Wenburn had a hearty welcome here on Monday. Another popular favourite, Miss Dora Lyric, gives general satisfaction with her pleasing ditties; the Three Danbrooks, in a musical mélange, are capitally received; Kenneth and Kane, comedians and dancers, also meet with favour. Amongst others who successfully contribute are Miss Flo Banks, comedienne; Miss Edna Cragge, character vocalist; and Miss Kate Perries, comedienne.

SHEFFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—*The Woman from Scotland Yard* was played for the first time in Sheffield on Monday to a good audience, with Miss Chrisie Dunbar in the title-part.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—*A Woman's Past*, a drama of strong domestic and emotional interest, is being performed to crowded houses this week by a talented company, headed by Messrs. Hamilton Warden and Chas. V. Standford.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Moss Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan P. Dunbar.—The spacious Empire was packed on Monday, when Mr. Neil Kenyon, the funny patter comedian, met with an enthusiastic reception. Other clever performers who were cordially applauded were Mendel, the blind pianist; Mr. Frank Seeley, comic vocalist; Mr. Arthur Aldridge, vocalist; Miss Jennie Johns, serio-comedienne; Miss Fanny Eris, burlesque actress; the Musical Jees, in a musical pantomime act; Hill and Whittaker, talented Transatlantic banjoists, vocalists, and humoristic artists; C. Randoliph King, quick-change artist; Eric, conjurer; and the American Bioscope, with local films.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Vaudeville Syndicate; Manager, Mr. David Warwick.—Engaged at this popular resort this week are Miss Mollie Seymour, Bert and Dora, Dolly, Agnes, and Maude, Fred Southern's company, in a clever sketch, and Pallister's Bioscope with up-to-date pictures.

CENTRAL HALL.—Proprietors, The Jasper Redfern Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Fred W. Holmes.—In addition to the animated photos of local, topical, and humorous interest, the following are engaged: Thora, ballad vocalist; Mr. H. Magnus, comedian; and the Four Watsons, in a refined musical entertainment.

FITZALAN HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Edward Ranier.—The stock company is appearing in *Siberia* to good houses.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—EMPIRE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Conquest; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power.—Mr. Weedon Grossmith is gaining capital support this week for his highly successful presentation of the farcical comedy entitled *The Night of the Party*. Mr. Sebastian Smith gains chief honours for his impersonation of Mr. Crosbie; Mr. Frank H. Denton is popular as Mr. Frank Frayne; Mr. Ernest Rivarz plays Alderman Hargen humorously; Mr. Eric Forth gives prominence to the rôle of Sir Charles Hampshire; Miss Beatrice Mervin is eminently suited as Lady Hampshire; and Mrs. Young is well taken by Miss Marion Lewis. Miss Florence French is a striking Gipsy Vandelier; and Miss Lillian Williams presents a clever characterisation of Paulina.

PIER PAVILION.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley E. Angless.—The management deserve hearty congratulations on the delightful entertainments they provide week by week, and the programme as submitted on Monday by the Sabots adds considerably to many notable successes. Miss C. Stroud Wilson, with a capital selection of songs, has become a favourite; Miss Gwenllian Lewis contributes both songs and dances of considerable merit; Mr. Sydney Warwick is heard to advantage in his renderings; Mr. Walter Walters is mirth-provoking; and the musical sketches by Mr. Archie Naish are good.

SOUTHPORT.—OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS.—Proprietors, The Southport Opera House and Winter Gardens Co., Ltd.; Secretary, Mr. R. Singleton.—Mr. Seymour Hicks and company appeared on Monday and Tuesday in a triple bill, comprising *Scrooge*, *Papa's Wife*, and *You and I*. Miss Zena Dare took part in the two latter playlets, and depicted the rôles of Kate Weatherby and Miss Middleton with piquant abandon and natural charm; as Gerald Singleton in the second-named play, Mr. Seymour Hicks presented a well-conceived impersonation, and in the part of Ebenezer Scrooge he portrayed the characteristics of the grasping old man with realistic effect; the ghost of Jacob Marley was very efficiently impersonated by Mr. William Lugg; and Bob Cratchit was well played by Mr. J. C. Buckstone. For the last four nights of the week Messrs. Foster and Napier's company in *The King of Thieves* is billed.

ALBERT HALL, WINTER GARDENS.—Lessee, Mrs. Charles Parker; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Mertz.—Entertaining performances are given by Cliff Rylands, the quaint comedian; Katie Butler, character comedian; Tamamoto, sensational perpendicular rope performer; Walter Curtis, the merriment merchant; Wilfred Heath, operatic baritone vocalist; Lilian Brothers, society acrobats; Nelson Hardy, mimic and impersonator; Fentoni, speciality entertainer; the Parkerscope with the latest films, and a noved ventriloquial comedy, entitled *£1000; or, the Missing Word*.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. John and Fred Coulson.—*The Octoroon* is being played to excellent houses by Mr. Frank M. Thorne's company. Mr. Hugh Montgomery is very effective as Salem Scudder; the Jacob McClosky of Mr. I. O. Stewart is a powerful performance; Minnie, the quadroon, is well portrayed by Miss Ethel Brunn; and Zoe, the Octoroon, is ably sustained by Miss Leslie Warner. The other parts are all in good hands, and the piece is effectively staged.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—Peggy Pryde, in songs old and new, has an enthusiastic reception; George Formby is very funny; the Musical Johnstons, expert zylophone players, contribute good numbers; and Vasey and Reed are seen to advantage in a clever dancing creation, "Jerks, the Butler." The remaining turns are Mueller and Coyne, in a good comedy act; Guy Ryder, a sweet sifflеur and mimic; Lena Verdi, mimic and comedienne; and the Bioscope.

SPENNYMOOR.—CAMBRIDGE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; General-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—*The New World* is being presented by Mr. Will White's company. Miss Cissie Clarke, a sprightly soubrette, supports the rôle of Jenny Williams with refreshing piquancy; the part of Jack Hawley gives Mr. Victor Rae ample scope to exhibit his talents as an actor, and he makes the most of his opportunities; as Joe Williams Mr. Albert H. Clarke presents an excellent character sketch; and Miss Evelyn Robson fills the part of May Walton with success; Mr. W. S. Stevenson depicts the villainous Jim Rawlings in lurid colours; as the Greaser, Mr. Albert Carlton deserves much credit for his fine performance; Messrs. Fred Guinness and Will Bass as Sam Smart and Brutus Brown prove themselves to be a pair of droll patter and knockabout comedians; as the negro, Pete, Mr. Charlie Clarke gives a good account of himself, as does also Mr. Frank Hartie as Col. Clayton.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Revill, jun.—*£1000 Reward* is capitally presented here this week by Messrs. Frank J. Pitt and Charles Halling's company, Mr. Fred Wilberforce acts admirably as the villain, Gilbert Lisle; and Mr. J. Newton Curling makes an agreeable Fred Ingleford; as Fred Ingleford, jun. Mr. Frank J. Pitt fills the part effectively; Mr. Chas. Halling is distinctly capable as Vincent Rainsworth; Mr. Frank Dallas as Inspector Gilbert is very amusing; Mr. Joe English is pleasing as Dick Springthorpe; Miss Daisy Halling is an acceptable Madame Sanson; Miss Lynn Darlington acts and sings well as Meg; Miss Rose Conroy charmingly portrays the character of Kitty Springthorpe; and Mrs. Sidney Halling is excellent as Mrs. McCarthy.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Black.—The Creo Brothers, comedy acrobats, are a great success here this week; H. O. Wills, comedian, causes plenty of laughter; the Alberto Troupe of equilibrists are remarkably clever; Effie White in kaleidoscopic dances is pleasing; the Three Sisters Tree in *Hunting* are a most entertaining trio; Hary Drew's vocalism is much appreciated; Carl Rosine proves himself an able magician; and the Steinway Quartette in "Songs of the sea" are successful.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—HIPPODROME THEATRE.—General-Manager, Robt. A. Nicholson; Assistant Manager, Geo. Stainton.—Mr. Hoggen Armadale and company are here this week in *The Bells*. Ena Compton is a dainty comedienne; and Joe Cookson is a very clever ventriloquist; the Three Moxons are a troupe of excellent acrobats; Johnson and De Vere present a delightful cycling act, which is well received; the Nettas in their vocal scena "Home Again" display good vocal talent; while Wild, Willie, and West cause roars of laughter as the Bounding Navvies; a very humorous sketch, *Charley's Uncle*, is greatly appreciated; the Pictoscope displays interesting films.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Councillor J. Batty; Manager, Mr. W. Batty.—Horace Jones, the Welsh comedian, causes great amusement as a "football spectator"; Beatty and Blanch are a very talented pair of duettists and dancers; Little Bobbie, "the gallery boy," is very amusing in his impersonations of great artists; Mount and Corelli are greatly appreciated in their musical act, *The Master and the Maid*; Alfred Graham's Premier Juveniles display great musical ability in national songs and dances; Raglus, an eccentric juggler, is very entertaining; and Tom and Marie Motramo cause roars of laughter in their sketch, *Do You Reverse?* The pictures complete a capital programme.

STOKE.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Manager, Mr. H. Miller.—Hackenschmidt, the champion wrestler, heads the bill this week, and his exhibition is excellent; Galette's monkey comedians are a clever and interesting turn; Joe Conway is a pleasing comedian; the Elgars, vocal entertainers, provide a clever turn; Smarte Bros. are acrobats extraordinary; the Tokio troupe are clever equilibrists, &c.; Mignonette Kokin, as a comedienne, is good; the Sisters Hyatia, duettists, are well received, and the pictures are interesting.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Ernest Stevens and R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry L. Carlo.—Harold Wantage's company in *The Pick of the Bunch*, drew a crowded house here on Monday. Mr. Algernon W. Lee gives a capital rendition of Halliwell Menit, and Mr. Percy Baverstock scores as Colonel Joseph Menit; Martin finds an apt exponent in Mr. Harold Wantage; whilst Mr. Norman Bowyer makes the most of his opportunities as Dick Seymour; Miss M. Sadie is a charming Nancy; and Miss Mabette May a bright and winsome Wilhelmeina. The Lottie Stone Troupe of dancers contribute some excellent speciality dances.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Theatre Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. Hemingway.—Charles March is paying a welcome return visit at this theatre, and *The Gamester of Metz* was staged on Monday night. Mr. Marsh continues to fill the rôle of Paul Baldot in his customary style; Captain Badaine is in the able hands of George Baisford, who does it ample justice; as Lieut. Heroe, Mr. F. Thorpe-Tracey could not well be improved upon; and Mr. John Burton is a pleasing General de Montpurasse; Miss Gwendoline Hastings gives a refined and pathetic rendering of the Countess Baldot; and Miss Una Lane as Lucia is commendable.

PALACE.—Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Acting-Managers, Messrs. Alfred Browne and Syd B. Stringer.—Freddie French and company top the bill here, and score a success in their sketch, entitled *The Suffragettes*; Will Vay's Juveniles also please in their scena, *Life in the Slums*; Les Zelvas, acrobatic equilibrists, Lily Stewart, comedienne and dancer, W. E. Hilton, Scotch ventriloquist, Ouida Macdermott, character vocalist, Brull and Hemsley, in a quaint musical comedy act, Chas. Banks, comedian, and the Palace pictures complete the programme.

SWANSEA.—THE GRAND.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Brooks and Woodbridge; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Oswald Brooks; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Dean.—*Captain Swift* is presented by Mr. Norman MacOwan's company here this week. Mr. MacOwan invests the title-rôle with manliness and dignity; as Mrs. Seabrook, Miss Violet Sterne's acting reaches a high degree of excellence; Miss Mary Masters as Stella Darbisher, the heiress, is exceptionally good; Miss Isabel Hawthorn plays nicely the part of Mabel Seabrook; a real success is scored by Mr. Arthur Somers as Gardiner; as the feeble old Mr. Seabrook, Mr. Murray Hawthorn is life-like; Mr. Sydney R. Palfrey as the impulsive youth, Harry Seabrook, is praiseworthy; and Lady Staunton has a good impersonator in Miss Lester Stephens; in the rôle of Marshall, Mr. Robert Entwhistle is decidedly effective; as are also Messrs. Erik Rorke and Arthur Linay as Bates and Ryan respectively.

STAR THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. William Coutts; Assistant-Manager, Mr. S. J. Powell.—*At the World's Mercy* is successfully staged here this week, by Mr. Carr Loates and company. In the dual rôles of Skittle and Kitty, the music hall star, Miss Cissie Milford's delineations are all that could be desired; as Capt. Manly Mr. Carr Loates is seen to great advantage; and Miss Madge Devereaux is also excellent; as the villains of the play, Messrs. J. B. Murray, W. H. Irving, and G. D. Knight are in great form. A special word is due to Tiny Carry Johnson, who, as Dot, takes immediately with the house. Miss Minnie Dalton as Mrs. Rourke shows great ability; as do also Miss A. Hunter as Rosie; Mr. Jess Boxer as Charlie Smart, and Mr. W. Leonard as Dan are very good.

EMPIRES, LTD.—Manager, Mr. A. Mitchell; Assistant-Manager, Mr. P. C. Rowe.—Eugene Stratton is filling the Empire this week, being welcomed as heartily as ever. In her impersonations of well-known artists Little Agnes Tina is really clever; David Canty's water grotto is a thing of beauty, Mlle. De Silva giving an artistic display in the midst of the cascades; Seely and West will be long remembered here for their capital performance; Gus Garrick exploits different types of comedians very successfully; Flo. Esdaile, in her selections from the classics, meets with unstinted approval; Josh Dixon is as quaint as ever; and the Three Cape Girls excel as comediennes and long-boot dancers. The Bioscope contributes excellent films.

TON-Y-PANDY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Carlton and Duckworth; General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth.—Mr. George Henry's company this week presents *The Sledge Hammer*. Mr. D. Hamilton, as Matthew Derrick, is well suited; as Everard Derrick, Mr. Alfred Burrows is a great success; John Merlo is safely entrusted to Mr. Richard Cass; and Mr. Fred Best makes himself a prime favourite as Tom Walker. Rose Maywell is charmingly depicted by Miss Renie Douglas; and Miss Eileen Davenport is well placed as Maria Derrick.

TORQUAY.—PRINCESS PIER CONCERT HALL.—Proprietors, the Torquay Town Council; Manager, Mr. A. T. Tremlett.—Miss Seymour James' comedy company, the Queeries, who were so popular here last season, are here this week, and on Monday evening a crowded audience greeted their reappearance. Miss Seymour James is very dainty and pleasing in her rendering of some attractive songs, and Miss Madeline Rossiter also does very well, her clog dancing being much appreciated, whilst her duets with Mr. G. W. Desmond are frequently encored. Mr. Victor Wallace has a rich baritone voice, whilst Mr. Sydney James left nothing to be desired, his humorous selections and whistling solos drawing forth continued applause; Miss Clarice May is an efficient accompanist, and the concerted items are decidedly attractive.

TYNEMOUTH.—PALACE-BY-THE-SEA.—Proprietor, Mr. J. H. Graham; Manager, Mr. Lindon Travers.—A capital programme is provided here this week, the chief feature being the appearance of Harry Brown, coon comedian. Owing to his success, Wilfred Bernand, mimic, has been retained another week; the Two St. Johns, musicians and dancers, contribute an excellent turn; Sidney Dolf scores in his entertainment, *Versatility*; Sidney Jarvis, Canadian baritone, and Helen Martin, ballad vocalist, contribute acceptable turns; and the evening's entertainment winds up with an admirable show of animated pictures.

WAKEFIELD.—HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Sidney Tolfree.—Les Grandes Diamond Statues prove a great attraction in their living statuary poses; Mr. Harry Cooke, comedian, provides a good turn; Duncan and Brasque, in a playlet entitled *The Society Butterfly*, win appreciation; Copeland and Son are capital clog dancers; Arthur Elvy, sporting vocalist, merits favour; Miss Bertha Helmore is a pleasing comedienne and dancer; and Mr. C. Wordley Hulse and company appear in a stirring sketch, *The Fight in the Forge*.

WALSALL.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; General Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—The Gothams prove exceedingly funny; the Leonards, in their comedy act, *Point Duty*, are well received; the Martelloni Family are graceful lady acrobats; and a capital turn is given by the Brothers Horne in *The Biter Bit*. Other items include Hinton and Wooton in a football match on cycles; Harry Conlin, comedian; the Sisters Pine, comedy girls, in "Maggie's Day Out"; and the American Bioscope.

WARRINGTON.—ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr. Fred Willmot.—One of the most acceptable turns seen here for some time is that provided by the Cattaneo Acrobats, whose grotesque work is responsible for convulsive laughter; the Bioscope pictures showing the police dogs at work are also an attractive item; Lillie Soutter is a charming comedienne; Gladys and Amber are clever tumblers; and King Roy is a coloured vocalist with a good voice; Cim Maree is a remarkable contortionist; George Young is a talented blind musician; and Gladys Williams scores with good songs.

WEDNESBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Battersby; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Kemer.—Kennedy's Komiks and Variety Co. are here again this week, and continue to draw packed houses nightly. Mr. Nat Abatt, entertainer, proves highly interesting, and the performance of Miss Doris Merdale, ballad singer, evokes warm applause; the two Sisters Verne, duettists and dancers, give an artistic entertainment; and Miss Ella Francis, soubrette, is well worthy of mention. The Brothers King and King, comedians, create roars of merriment. The smart quartette by the Four Godfreys is all that could be desired.

WEST BROMWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. Harding Thomas; Manager, Mr. R. Nightingale.—Blanche and Diacoff present their wonderful bicycle riding in the teacup track to large audiences, and gain great applause; a smart turn is submitted by Wallace Whitney, who causes great amusement; the Jollions are well received; clever songs are given by Beattie Foster, who well deserves the encores accorded her; an interesting sketch, entitled *An Evil World*, by Mr. J. Wright Aitken and company creates excitement; the Barnsley Collier and his child in their clever second sight show prove very popular; and the Chronoscope shows some excellent pictures. Cycle competitions for amateurs on the teacup track take place each night, and cause roars of laughter.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—The Cumberland Troupe of cyclists are cheered to the echo for their smart act; the instrumentalism of the Three Transfields is a pretty and clever turn; the Ju-Jitsu exhibition by Frank Long, Miss Omoyo San, and company is watched with the keenest interest; the entertainment by the Vyponds is as novel as it is enjoyable; H. D. Charnock's legerdemain is mystifying; Mac and Hill, comedians; and Tony Iveson, *The Ragman at the Piano*, please immensely. Dainty Ethel Yorke is a charming comedienne, and new and interesting pictures on Raymond's Bio-tableaux conclude a strong programme.

WEST STANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Stanley Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing Director, Mr. Mark H. Lindon.—Messrs. Chas. Whitlock and H. S. Rutter's company in *The Sporting King* is here. Mr. Chas. Whitlock gives a fine impersonation of Joe Brave, the champion prize fighter, and Mr. Harry Richardson makes a bluff Squire Stamford; Mr. Arthur Chisholm portrays the part of David in fine style, and Mr. Leonard Yorke is good as Renard, and is ably seconded by Mr. E. Lovell as Stephen Basilk; Mr Alfred Terriss and Miss Eva Reed work splendidly as Jack Sharp and Jessie Lane; and Miss Baby Blythe is a capital little Squire; while Miss G. V. France is responsible for some impressive emotional acting; Miss Lilla Wilde ably handles the heavy rôle; and Mr. F. Biron is in the right place as Bill Bruiser; Mr. Tom Lancaster is seen to advantage as Tom Tyne.

WHITBY.—SPA THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Payne Seddon.—Madame Stockham's company of lady harpists and entertainers have occupied this theatre during the week, giving performances twice daily to good audiences. This company includes Madame Stockham, Miss Gladys Stockham, and Miss Della Stockham, harpists; Mr. Ernest Wale, violin; Mr. Stockham, baritone; Mr. A. Albert, lady impersonator; Mr. Bert Errol, humorist; and Mr. Frank Crawford.

WATERLOO THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Julian Bambridge.—Capital houses have been experienced at this theatre, the historical drama, *Mary Queen of Scots*, being staged during the first part of the week.

WIGAN.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Co.—*A Little Vagrant*, a drama brimful of human interest, has been presented this week by Mr. Harry Roxbury's talented company. Miss Vashti Wynne gives a very fine representation of the part of Poll, a daughter of sorrow; and the humorous situations created by Slideaway Bates and Hannah Smithers are cleverly presented by Mr. J. W. Gallagher and Miss Bella Moody, respectively. Mr. Cecil A. Collins as Jim Harris, and Mr. Stanley Radcliffe as Eric Arden, very effectively portray the villainy of the piece.

WORTHING.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Herr C. Adolf Seebold.—Miss Ann

ACTORS' UNION.

GENERAL MEETING.

A general meeting of the members of the above Union was held in the Chandos Hall, Maiden-lane, London, W.C., on Friday, June 21, 1907, for the purpose of considering the rules. Mr. Charles Allan occupied the chair. Amongst those present were Misses Agnes Paulton, Cecile E. Anson, Marian Bird, Grace Lester, Isa Patterson, May Conrade, May Bessle, Agnes Thomas, Doris Regan, Lucy Sibley, Doris Digby, Gert Tate, Maud E. Stoner, Audrey Canning, Nellie Howitt, Elsie Carew, Helen Vicary, Adelaide Gracey, Mrs. Horace Booth, Mrs. Sugden, Miss Emily Patterson, Miss Marie E. Robertson, Miss Gert Harrison, Mrs. O. Marshall, Misses Lily Crammonde, Beatrice Western, Ethel Russell, Margaret Damer, Josephine Ellis, Georgie Trueman, Nellie Burdette, Gladys Ffolliott, Stanley Burt, Constance Groves, Mary Brougham, Lydia Bush, Winifred Hart-Dyke, Violet Chamier, Clara Russell, and Messrs. Harry Paulton, sen., Robson Paige, Orlando Barnett, E. W. Wolsley, Alf. Bennett, Gordon Wilson, Fred Bentley, Arthur Bawtree, Chas. Medwin, Richard Cowell, Percy Braithwaite, H. Trent Adams, Frederic Jacques, Jack Collison, Edward Chester, Ruddle Brown, Dare Austin, H. Bonhote Wilson, Lionel Scott, Chas. Sugden, E. O'Neil, Chas. Allan, Harry Paulton, jun., O. Marshall, Stanley Roberts, Fred Dent, Robert Whyte, jun., Tom J. Taylor, Harry J. Loveday, jun., Bruce Lindley, Leonard Russell, Howard Cochran, Richard Elliott, H. Carlyle Pritchard, Wm. Lockhart, Roy Barraclough, Leonard Marshall, Roy Sydney, J. W. Braithwaite, Robin Shields, E. Y. Rae, Alfred Richards, Langford Reed, Henry Nelson, Carl Lyle, Howard Tripp Edgar, Albert Wainwright, Mark Lester, George Goodwin, Fred Jas. Clive, J. C. Taylor, Edwin J. Collins, William Dunlop, Cecil G. Calvert, George Rollit, Simon Ord, T. W. Ryder, Christmas Grose, J. A. Seager, Edwin Balmer, and W. F. Clitheroe.

Mr. Cecil Raleigh, in the course of a long speech, said: Your committee, I am sure, felt themselves face to face with a great deal of difficulty in framing rules which would provide for everything you have in view. They have therefore very wisely taken, roughly, the rules of a very successful institution—the V.A.F.—and made a few slight alterations in those rules, adopting them as far as possible to the things you desire. However, man is but mortal, and there are one or two things in these rules that require, I think, revision. I am not going to lay any stress upon them, but there is one rule which says we may affiliate with other unions. Now you know the V.A.F. itself has cut that rule out, acting upon experience; they found the rule undesirable. I think it would be well if we cut it out too. I think what is good enough for the V.A.F. is good enough for us. There is another rule—a very small one, but it has a very large effect. This is a rule with regard to the general secretary. As yet you have not a general secretary, but it is perfectly obvious that when you have money enough you must pay some gentleman, and pay him well, to do the work that will fall upon his shoulders. You will find you have a rule which says that the general secretary is elected by the Executive Committee. Now, of course, the committee is the most proper body to choose its own secretary. They choose the man and give him their instructions; but if he choose to snap his fingers at them and do a lot of things on his own you would think that the executive would be the proper people to get someone else. Your rule says the dismissal of the general secretary shall be by the votes of the members only. That is to say, he can defy his committee, and he can go to the members at large and have a general meeting before they can get rid of him. I suppose you all know that the rule was deleted by the V.A.F., and as the result of that deletion the secretary was dismissed and another elected by the Executive Committee, and he went into office a few days ago. Invite everyone to send up suggestions, and in about a month or five weeks' time bring forward a thoroughly revised and consistent set of rules which will govern the Union for the future.

I am not at one with you over the alteration which alludes to sketches at all. It is not because I have any invidious disregard to sketches; I am a writer myself, and make money out of them, so they are excellent things; but what I do think is that when I look at the history of trade unionism in this county, a thing of which I know something, I find that trade unions, as a rule, confine themselves entirely to the work of the particular trade and the things that occur in that trade. If a man at the same time has two trades he has to join two trade unions for protection in whatever he is doing one way or the other. It seems to me that music hall work and everything in the music hall is so excellently protected by the V.A.F. that it would be a great pity to trench upon what they do. I am a strong believer in the minimum wage, and I do not believe in hiding it under a bushel. I believe in fighting for it, and in saying that we are going to fight for it. The day may come when the executive will say: "We are going to shut every provincial theatre on the same evening"; and you will have to have the pluck to do it, and say: "We will strike for what we want." And you will get it. I find in our original circular the objects of the Union are:

1. To establish and maintain an honest living minimum salary.
2. To abolish the unfair competition of unpaid, or premium-paid, amateurs on the professional stage.

Those were our first two objects. Where are they in your rules? They are there, but they are hidden; and as an honest man I say they should not be hidden. I say, if you mean to have a minimum wage you should stick to it. What is your excuse for cutting it out? I say you are a pack of cowards to take it out. I have done with the Actors' Union for ever if that rule does not come back as the first object of our existence. With regard to sketch managers, I would rather have you stick to your £2 minimum. I would rather see you confine yourselves to the theatre; the sketch question would then disappear. Outside the actual theatre it would not concern you; it does not matter. But still, if you want to go into it, I think it is very easily settleable. A sketch manager is, of course, an employer of labour; but we know that is rather a technicality. I think it would be better for the sketch managers to act tactfully and say they will not sit with the committee because they are employers of labour. If they won't let a stage-manager sit upon the committee, a sketch-manager ought not to either. Women do business on committee work a great deal better than men. I assure you, from the work I have seen done, you would get a large amount of assistance from ladies. You would be well advised to say there shall be no distinction, and I strongly advise you to go back to the original circular, and say you know no difference between the two. Personally, I am strongly in favour of drawing a definite line, and saying that our work as a union shall be confined to theatres. In the Actors' Association, firstly they got as far as getting rid of the employers of labour, and then they insisted upon a £2 minimum. Last week their Council passed a resolution approving a minimum, and appointed a Committee to try and discover what that minimum should be. Are you going to lack the courage to do the same?

A vote of thanks to Mr. Raleigh for his address was carried with acclamation.

The Chairman asked the Secretary, Mr. Oswald Marshall, kindly to read the balance-sheet.

The Secretary read the balance-sheet, which was then formally adopted.

The Chairman then asked three gentlemen to act as tellers, and the following volunteers were accepted by the members:—Messrs. Roy Sydney, Leonard Russell, and Gordon Wilson.

The Chairman: We must now come to the plot of our meeting, and that is to discuss the rules. I think we had better take Rule 4, Clause I., Qualification for Membership:—

> Every actor or actress playing in dramatic or musical plays or sketches, who is not a manager, acting-manager, proprietor of a theatre, agent or agent's clerk, is eligible for membership, but no actor who has had less than five years' experience on the stage at the time of his joining the Union, shall be eligible for election on the Executive Committee, or for any other office until he has completed such five years' experience.
>
> An actor or actress running and playing in his or her own sketch is eligible for election, but if an actor or actress runs more than one sketch he or she is ineligible.

Mr. Harry Paulton, sen., proposed as an amendment the omission of the last paragraph of Clause I., and said he thought it might seem somewhat eccentric that he should appear in the position of proposing the removal of these words, because he was practically the author of them. He believed, in the first instance, that he was proposing them in the interests of the Union, and he still thought so; but he found that the feeling of the members was very strongly against the paragraph, and also that it was confused and mixed up with the first and more important part of the Rule, and as several amendments had been sent in he thought it would simplify matters to wipe it out entirely. But he would ask them to believe that he proposed the paragraph entirely, as he believed, in the interests of the Union and without any selfish motives, and that he was thoroughly disinterested in every way. He thought anybody who knew anything about him knew that he was not a sketch manager, and he did not know that he was ever likely to be. Of course, they never knew what they might come to! He wished to add this, that it had been the desire of the Committee that they were not to be continually airing their views and grievances in the public Press. That wish had been honestly respected by nearly the whole of the Committee, and although he had been attacked on the subject of being a sketch manager by people who got cheap advertisements by continually writing letters to the Press, the desire of the Committee would account for the accusations going unheeded. But he felt sure he could leave himself and his justification in their hands without fear of the result.

Mr. Fred Bentley seconded the amendment.

Miss Lucy Sibley proposed as an amendment that the rule, instead of reading: "Every actor or actress playing in dramatic or musical plays or sketches," &c., should read: "Every actor or actress whose principal means of earning a living is by acting or singing in musical or dramatic plays in licensed theatres," &c., and said her reason for bringing forward the amendment was that she thought they were not there for the purpose of running the Union on Trade Union lines; but the moment a man was an employer of labour, although he was not employing actors or actresses in a theatre, yet, looked at from the economic side of the question, their interests were not identical. That was the point the Union wanted to fight. It was not because they did not want managers there; but, as actors and actresses, they did not believe, when it came to fighting, that the managers would fight in their interests. They would be very great philanthropists if they did. They wished to keep the Union absolutely pure. They did not want people playing in sketches alone to be a qualification for membership. Their qualification ought to be that they were legitimate actors and actresses. She thought it would be better to leave the question of sketches out.

Mr. Robson Paige seconded the amendment.

Mr. Calvert moved as an amendment on Miss Sibley's amendment that the words "in licensed theatres" be deleted, and said he did not know whether they were aware of the fact that many of the largest music halls of England had dramatic licences, and the proprietors were trying to get more. Was the object of inserting the words "licensed theatres" intended to say that if a member of the Union who had supported it for a length of time, and whose ideas were the same as the rest of them, that if he accepted an engagement in a sketch at a music hall where he had to act he was to lose all the benefits of the Union? (Cries of "No.") He maintained that an actor was an actor wherever he was acting for his living, and ought to derive all the benefits the Union could afford him.

Mr. Harry Paulton, jun., seconded.

Mr. H. Paulton, sen., said it seemed to him an outrageous thing to propose that if an actor or an actress belonging to the Union went and performed at a music hall they were to be cast off. The very principle of the thing was an outrage, and it would be little less than betrayal for the committee to suggest it, and he thought anybody advocating such a suggestion was a traitor to the cause.

Mr. Chamier said it seemed to him that the persons who were speaking about Trade Unionism were absolutely and totally ignorant of the very first principles of Trade Unionism. Mr. Raleigh had said he did not wish Trade Unions to overlap, but they were bound to overlap, and you could not prevent it. Suppose he, as an actor, was engaged in a sketch, he would be still paying his sixpence a week to the Union, and if a strike took place among the music hall artists engineered by the V.A.F., he was a Trade Unionist, and if they went out he would have to go out too or else be a blackleg.

Mr. J. C. Taylor moved as a further amendment that the words "actor or actress" be altered to "all persons earning their livelihood by acting, singing, dancing, or pantomime," and the alteration of the words "five years' experience" into "five years' salaried engagement."

Miss Gladys Ffolliott seconded.

Mr. Lockhart said there had been a great deal of talk about licensed theatres and people leaving them to play in music halls, but he wished to support Mr. Calvert's amendment of deleting the words "licensed theatres." There were fit-up artists. Were they to turn their backs on them? If the words "licensed theatres" were not omitted that would immediately slam the door in the face of all such.

Miss Marion Bird proposed:—

> That a member be protected during temporary engagement on the halls not exceeding six months, the six months to be counted as consecutive work on the halls unbroken by other work in theatres.

In putting the proposition Miss Bird said that after a period of six months on the music-hall stage people could join the V.A.F., and that would protect them and at the same time would prevent overlapping.

Miss Ffolliott thought if an actor or actress was forced into the halls, and they were not well enough off to refuse, it was all the more necessary that they should be protected because they were doing their best to earn a living, and their 6d. was the same colour whether they took it from Walter Gibbons or from Sir Charles Wyndham. She thought it would be a foolish thing to send people away to join the V.A.F. They were only a young institution, and they ought not to turn anybody away. A person was an actor whether he acted in a theatre or a music hall.

There being no seconder, Miss Bird's amendment was lost.

The Chairman then put Mr. Taylor's amendment to the meeting, and declared it lost.

The Chairman next put Mr. Calvert's amendment to Miss Sibley's amendment that the words "in licensed theatres" be omitted, and it was carried by a large majority, 69 voting in favour and 2 against.

The Chairman was then about to put Miss Sibley's amendment as altered, when Miss Sibley withdrew it.

The Chairman then put Mr. Paulton's amendment, and declared it carried.

Clause I. was then adopted without the last paragraph.

The Chairman: Now let us proceed to Clause II.:—

> Any member becoming a manager, or acting-manager, proprietor of a theatre or company, or sketches, excepting as embodied in Clause I., business manager, agent, or agent's clerk, shall, during such period forfeit all right to attend any meeting of the Union or to vote at any election, and if a member of the executive committee shall *ipso facto* vacate such office and be suspended from all privileges of membership during such period, saving benefit of the death levy.

Miss Sibley moved as an amendment that instead of reading:—

> Any member becoming a manager or acting-manager, proprietor of a theatre or company, or sketches, excepting as embodied in Clause I., &c.,

Clause II. should read as follows:—

> Any member becoming a manager or acting-manager, proprietor of a theatre or company, or touring company, or sketch company, &c.

Mr. Robson Paige seconded the amendment.

Mr. Lockhart said he thought Miss Sibley was quite right. He quite agreed that an actor was an actor wherever he might play, and he also thought a manager was a manager wherever he was. A sketch manager was just as much a manager as Mr. Beerbohm Tree was an actor-manager.

The Chairman: We have settled that point. If a member of the Union has the misfortune to become a sketch manager he forfeits his rights of being one of the executive. If a sketch manager desires to belong to the Union he cannot do so until he ceases to have the slur upon him of being a manager. I think that meets the question. But, Miss Sibley, I don't quite understand your amendment.

Miss Sibley: My amendment is that the words "touring company or sketch company" should be inserted.

The Chairman: The rule already says "Proprietor of a theatre, or company, or sketches."

Miss Sibley: Yes; it is the same thing. Then I will withdraw my amendment.

Mr. Taylor: I don't think we should deprive sketch managers of any privileges in the way of insurance. If he has been a member prior to being a sketch manager, I don't think he should be disqualified from benefits. I move that we alter the wording so that the last two lines read "be suspended from all privileges of active membership saving all insurance benefits."

Mr. Roy Sidney seconded the amendment.

Mr. Paulton, jun., suggested the omission of all words after "vacate such office."

Mr. Taylor seconded.

Mr. Tripp Edgar thought they ought to be careful what they were doing, because that would include managers in any protection that they might have when they became sufficiently strong.

Mr. Calvert pointed out that all legal protection was vested in the committee.

The Chairman then put Mr. Paulton's amendment to the meeting, and declared it carried unanimously. Clause II. as amended was then unanimously adopted.

The Chairman: Now Clause III.:—

> Any member taking up any of the above-mentioned positions must give notice to the executive committee of the Union, and, failing to do so within a reasonable time, the executive committee shall have power to call on such member to resign, and in the event of his or her refusing to do so, the executive committee shall have power to expel him or her from the Union.

The Secretary: Mr. Momber has proposed by letter that the words "within reasonable time" be struck out and the words "within six calendar months" be substituted.

Miss Sibley: Then he could attend our meetings without giving notice. I shall move that it be done within twenty-eight days.

Miss Ffolliott: Supposing they are abroad? I say leave it as it is.

Mr. Paulton, jun.: I move that the rule stand as it is.

Miss Ffolliott: I second that.

The Chairman then put Clause III. to the meeting, and it was unanimously adopted.

The Chairman: Now No. IV.:—

> All members having had the before-mentioned five years' experience on the stage shall be termed Fellows, and all members until they have completed such five years' experience shall be termed Associates.

Miss Sibley moved as an amendment the insertion of the words "in licensed theatres" after the words "five years' experience on the stage."

Mr. Robson Paige seconded the amendment.

Mr. Paulton, jun., moved that the rule should stand as printed.

Mr. E. Y. Rae seconded.

Mr. Bentley moved the addition of the words "and that no one be admitted as an Associate unless they have already served twelve months."

The Secretary said that Mr. Momber had proposed the addition of the words "candidates for election to state length of time they have been in the profession."

Mr. Bentley seconded the amendment, and on being put to the meeting it was carried with one dissentient.

Mr. Paulton, jun., then withdrew his amendment, and Clause IV. was then unanimously adopted with Mr. Momber's addition.

The Chairman: Now Clause V.:—

> A member retiring from the profession through age or any other cause, having been a member of the Union for three years, and still continuing to pay up his subscriptions and levies, shall be entitled to death levy.

The Secretary said Mr. Momber had suggested the addition of the words "and shall be eligible to serve on the committee." (Cries of "No.")

Mr. Taylor suggested the alteration of the words "the death levy" to "old age pensions."

Mr. Tripp Edgar moved as an amendment the omission of the words "for three years."

Mr. Paulton, jun., moved that the last line, "shall be entitled to the death levy," should be altered to "shall be entitled to all benefits."

Mr. Bentley seconded the amendment.

Mr. Tripp Edgar said he could not accept that. "All benefits" would mean legal protection and medical advice. He thought when a member retired from the Union, generally speaking, he would be in some other business by which he was accruing money, and he thought they would find they had quite enough to do with their money to protect those who were in the Union.

Mr. Calvert said they were quite safe on that point, because legal protection would not be given to anybody without the consent of the committee.

Mr. Lockhart said they were not going to protect anybody in legal matters except where acting was concerned. If a man was too old to work and could not act any more, they were not going to give him any legal protection for any other cause. And therefore it seemed to him that it was superfluous. Suppose a man arrived at the age of ninety and could not act any more, so long as he paid up his subscription he (the speaker) did not see that he retired from the Union at all. He was unable to act in just the same way that he would be unable to act if he broke his leg.

Mr. Tripp Edgar said omitting the words "three years" answered Mr. Lockhart's question, but he was entirely in favour of those people having the benefit of the death levy. He was merely thinking of medical attendance. Many a young actor and actress between the age of twenty and thirty retired from the profession and went into some other business. Suppose he retired and went into the grocery business, to which he was probably more suited, should he be entitled to legal or medical advice?

The Chairman then put Mr. Paulton's amendment to the meeting and declared it carried. Neither of the other amendments were seconded.

The Chairman: We now come to "Qualification for office":—

> A candidate for any office in this Union must be a *bond-fide* Fellow in full benefit at the date of his proposal and election, and have been a member for the preceding six months. With the exception of the first ballot.

Mr. Ruddle Brown proposed that the Secretary should send a circular letter to each member asking the following question:—

> Are you in favour of ladies serving on the executive committee, or should they have a sub-committee of their own?

Miss Ffolliott seconded the proposition.

Mr. Paulton, jun., said that everybody had made up their minds on the subject, and he thought, with a view to saving expense, they ought to vote on the question at once.

Mr. Chamier said he was absolutely opposed to having ladies on the committee.

Miss Sibley seconded Mr. Paulton's proposition that the vote be taken at once.

Mr. G. Gordon Wilson spoke in favour of ladies having a sub-committee of their own, and, after some further discussion, the Chairman put Mr. Brown's resolution to the meeting and it was carried unanimously.

Miss Sibley proposed the following resolution:—

> That the rules as considered and passed to-day be submitted to all members of the Union, within seven days of this date; and that another general meeting be called within twenty-one days from this date, at which meeting amendments may be moved, before the rules be confirmed and made binding on all members.

Mr. Robson Paige seconded the resolution.

The Chairman reminded Miss Sibley that Mr. Cecil Raleigh recommended that when they had decided the questions of principle, a sub-committee should be appointed to deal with the rules, and that they should then be referred to a general meeting.

Miss Sibley said if a sub-committee were appointed to consider the rules she would withdraw her resolution.

The Chairman then proposed that a select committee be appointed to consider the rules with the exception of qualification for membership and office with a view to condensing them, and then submit them to the executive committee.

Mr. Paulton, jun., said he would like to propose that that sub-committee should submit the rules to the executive committee, and that those rules, if approved by the executive, should be adopted as the rules of the Union.

Mr. Chamier seconded the proposition.

Mr. G. Wilson supported it, and on being put to the meeting it was unanimously adopted, and the following ladies and gentlemen were appointed as a select committee: Miss Gladys Ffolliott, Miss Nellie Howitt, Miss Lucy Sibley, Miss Georgie Trewman, Mr. Edwin Palmer, Mr. Gordon Wilson, Mr. Richd. Cowell, Mr. H. Bonhote Wilson, Mr. Howard Cochran, Mr. Wm. Dunlop, and Mr. Roy Sydney.

Mr. Fred Bentley then proposed that the following paragraph be added to Rule 23:—

> If any member be satisfactorily proved to have done, said, or expressed in writing or caused to have been done, said, or expressed in writing anything calculated to bring discredit upon the Union, the said member shall, for the first such offence, be fined the amount of a fresh entrance fee, and for a second such offence be asked to resign, and shall be expelled in the event of his refusing to do so.

Mr. Chamier seconded the resolution.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the proceedings.

Mr. H. Tripp Edgar, in the absence of Mr. Francis Chamier, took the chair at Tuesday's meeting of the Actors' Union. Among others present were: Mr. Leonard Russell, Mr. E. H. Templeton, Mr. Edward Morgan, Mr. Jack Collinson, Mr. Edmund Beresford, Mr. Harry Paulton, jun., Mr. Bawtree, Mr. Edward Mervyn, Mr. E. T. Rae, Mr. Tripp Edgar, Mr. James Bryan, Mr. Trent Adams, Mr. A. E. Johnstone, Mr. Fred Bentley, Mr. Alfred Bennett, Mr. E. Wolseley, Mr. W. Allison, Mr. R. H. Stephenson, Mr. J. W. Braithwaite, Mr. W. Brougham, Mr. Edmond Valentine, Mr. Robin Shields, Mr. Roy Gordon, Mr. T. J.Taylor, Mr. Lawrence Stephenson, Miss Constance Groves, Miss Mary Brougham, Mrs. Oswald Marshall, Mrs. Horace Booth, Miss Marie E. Robertson, Miss Dot Seilby, Miss Gertrude Harrison, Miss Isa Patterson, Miss Vicary, Miss Adelaide Gracie, Miss Haidee Wright, Miss Agnes Paulton, Miss Georgie Newman, Miss May Conrad, Mr. Charles Mervyn, Mr. Alfred Tate, Mr. G. Goodwin, Mr. Bruce Lindley, Mis Nelly Burdett, Miss M. Armitage, Miss Nelly Howitt, Miss Gladys Ffolliott, Mr. M. Cooke, Mr. W. H. Morgan, Mr. Harry Scot, Mr. Henry Ludlow, Mr. G. Seagar, Mr. Ruddle Brown, Mr. F. M. Henry, Mr. Michael Ravin, Mr. Bernard Mervin, Mr. W. Manfree, Mr. Leonard Marshall, Mr. Ned Prior, Mr. Albert Wainwright, Mr. Dick Cruikshanks, Mr. Frank Gerald, Mr. Charles Aldred, Mr. Oswald Marshall, and Mr. Harry Loveday, jun.

The Chairman said that he was pleased to tell them that the Union now stood on a firm financial basis. Their expenses at present were well under half their takings, and that fact augured well for their future. The spirit of co-operation was abroad, and there was every indication that the Union would be welcomed by managers, as the latter would realise that the Union would spell progress and improvement. They might be well advised to work on the broad lines of trade unionism. A trade union had a hold upon every one of its members, and would do everything in its power to prevent bad practices among its members. Thus managers would come to look upon the Actors' Union as a highly reputable body, which would, by securing the highest interests of the profession and of the acting art, enable the manager who paid good salaries to make a profit for himself, and would make an end of many of the existing abuses. It was a fallacy to imagine there could be no union in the theatrical profession. They would prove that there could be. Dealing with the subject of the admission of ladies to the council and executive committee, he (the chairman) declared himself, in a humorous fashion, to be against such admission, and it was quite apparent that the ladies themselves were opposed to members of their own sex acting on the committee.

The Chairman, in reply to a question, said that a small honorarium was now being paid to Mr. Marshall for his services as secretary, and that the committee were about to appoint a permanent paid secretary who would have no connection whatever with the profession.

Mr. Butler remarked that he had found in his travels that young actors and actresses objected to joining the Union because they imagined that their doing so meant entering into conflict with the managers. That was not the case. They did not want to fight their employer, but to ask from him a fair bargain.

Mr. Fred Bentley remarked that one of their objects was to secure a minimum salary, but there was no intention to demand that at once. Then the question of joint salaries would have to be considered. There should be no reduction of salaries in the case of a husband and wife who appeared in one company.

Mr. Wilson complained of the "portable" manager who came into a town a couple of days before a bona fide company commenced a week's engagement, and performed their play in the backyard of a public-house.

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, June 19.—When winter "lingers in the lap of spring," as it did this year, there is a lot of grumbling; but the old adage about the "ill wind" suggests itself when one considers the managers of the half a dozen theatres that, contrary to all precedent, have kept their doors open till Midsummer, making this one of the longest seasons in New York's theatrical history. To the latter the unseasonable weather has proved a godsend. Passing the Hudson Theatre lately, where *Brewster's Millions* has pursued its prosperous career for more months than one can remember, I was astonished to see a crowd of people literally "pouring in"—such a crowd, in fact, as one might expect to see in January. Then there was *The Chorus Lady*, which was swung by the tide of popular favour from one theatre to another, finally finding a firm anchorage at Hackett's Theatre. At a time when New Yorkers are usually surfeited with theatre-going I found the house packed from floor to ceiling.

Mr. E. H. Sothern and Miss Julia Marlowe are fulfilling a farewell engagement of two weeks at the Academy of Music, during which *Romeo and Juliet*, *Hamlet*, and *Twelfth Night* are to be presented. Mr. Sothern and Miss Marlowe seem to be highly elated over their reception in London, the fact that they suffered some pecuniary loss through their expedition to the world's metropolis causing them no concern whatsoever. Shakespeare in midsummer under ordinary conditions would certainly be played to empty benches, but in this instance the Academy of Music is none too large to accommodate all those who wish to attend these farewell performances.

The reign of the roof gardens has begun. At the Jardin de Paris, which is the new name given to the roof garden of the New York Theatre, Fred Karno's troupe have scored a distinct hit in *A Night in an English Music Hall*, this ludicrous but clever offering provoking roars of laughter.

Mlle. Dazie, no longer "the girl with the red domino," dances gracefully and is heartily applauded. Jewell's Mannikins, a marionette show that for ingenuity and novelty far surpasses anything of the kind the writer has ever seen, keeps the audience keenly interested, and earns the appreciation it deserves. Daisy James sings "Melinda" and several other numbers, which are received with warm approval. Celia Galley's French songs please the people in front, and the London Empire Models, who pose in imitation of famous pictures and statuary, are an interesting and popular feature.

Miss Camille D'Arville, whose reappearance on the stage in *The Belle of London Town* after a long absence was recently recorded, is delighting the devotees of vaudeville at the Keith and Proctor houses by her rendering of Julian Edwards's "Drinking Song," from the above-named opera, and two new numbers, one being entitled "Sweet Miss Mary" and the other a negro ditty, "I'll be dar."

George M. Cohan in *The Honeymooners*, a new version of the musical comedy, *Running for Office*, is the summer offering at the Aerial Garden on the roof of the New Amsterdam Theatre. Mr. Cohan, who writes songs and musical comedies before breakfast, is idolised by youthful Americans who love plenty of noise and action. In fact, one of the songs in the piece is called "Make a lot of noise," and the commandment is faithfully followed by the entire company. Miss Gertrude Hoffman's imitations of Anna Held, Eddie Foy, and other footlight favourites are most diverting.

"His Honour the Mayor," a musical play by Alfred E. Aarons, which had a long run at the New York Theatre last year, has been revived as the summer attraction at Wallack's Theatre. The company includes Mabel Hollins, Janet Priest, Harry Kelly, and Fletcher Norton. The "Dancing Dolls" (once the Pony Ballet) and a roller skating ballet are popular features.

DRESSES AT THE PLAY.

Charming Paquin gowns are worn by Miss Alexandra Carlisle in the new comedy, *The Earl of Pawtucket*, produced at the Playhouse on Tuesday. One is of dainty white mousseline de soie effectively trimmed with insertions of Cluny lace. The lace forms a transparent yoke on the bodice, and appears on the skirt in downward bands alternately with narrow white satin ribbons. The waist-belt is of white Oriental satin. The fashionable tussore is the basis of another pretty creation in mauve and white stripes. The bodice is in kimono effect, and has an empiecement of Molines and filet lace. On both bodice and skirt are bias strappings of the striped silk, and there is a folded belt of violet Oriental satin. A modified Empire gown of buttercup mousseline de soie is trimmed on skirt and bodice with tassels and fancy braids in silk of the same shade of yellow. The short, full sleeves are of white mousseline de soie incrusted with Cluny lace, and the transparent yoke is of the same lace. With this dress is worn a becoming hat of buttercup Leghorn straw, with a cluster of large pink roses and green foliage.

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ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

The Finance and General Purposes Committee held a meeting on Monday last. Mr. Lewis Casson occupied the chair, and he was supported by Messrs. Cecil Brooking, H. Athol Forde, Fredk. Morland, Frank Vernon, and Chas. Cruikshanks, secretary. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

The question as to sub-letting the premises was considered, and after a lengthy discussion it was agreed that the secretary should write to various house and estate agents *re* the letting or disposal of the old premises and the obtaining of new. It was also agreed that the future meetings of this Committee be held on Thursdays at 4 p.m.

A proposition "That this Committee recommend to the Council that a Minimum Wage Committee be formed consisting of the members of the Finance and General Purposes Committee and three others" was agreed to.

A further meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee was held the following day, when Mr. Fredk. Morland occupied the chair, supported by Messrs. Lewis Casson, H. Athol Forde, Frank Vernon, and Chas. Cruikshanks, secretary. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Messrs. Fewlass, Llewellyn, and Roy Horniman were elected members of the committee.

Mr. Lewis Casson tendered his resignation as a member of this committee, as he would be on tour during July and August, and his resignation was accepted with regret.

The Social Committee held a meeting on Monday, when there were present Mr. Clive Currie (in the chair), Mesdames Georgina Hamilton, Rose Mathews, Mr. A. E. Drinkwater, Mr. Arthur Morris, and Miss Lucy Sibley (hon. sec.). The hon. secretary reported that she had had an interview with Mr. William Poel, who had chosen July 19 for his reading. She reported his suggestions, and it was agreed that Mr. Poel's kind offer be accepted, subject to the Council's consent; the hon. secretary was instructed to place the suggestions before the Council. It was decided that, subject to the consent of the Council, the "Social" of July 5 be abandoned, as it clashed with the date of the Theatrical Garden Party.

Miss Georgina Hamilton handed in a cheque for £1 5s. 10d., 14s. 6d. guarantee fund and 11s. 4d. profit on a tea. The hon. secretary reported a profit of 2s. 8½d. on tea at the last "Social."

Mr. Fredk. Morland attended the meeting, his proposition was discussed, and the hon. secretary was instructed to report to the Council that the committee approved, subject to a slight amendment proposed by Miss Sibley.

The usual weekly meeting of the Council was held on Tuesday, when there were present:—Mr. H. Athol Forde (in the chair), Mr. Henry W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Mesdames Clare Greet and Georgina Hamilton, Messrs. Lewis Casson, Roy Horniman, Fredk. Morland, Frank Vernon, and Chas. Cruikshanks (secretary). The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The hon. solicitors reported that they had written to a member in accordance with the Council's instructions, and had interviewed and advised another member.

A member who claimed £3 15s. for loss of property on tour attended before the Council. The claim was investigated, and it was decided that the claim was a good one. The secretary was directed to notify the insurance company, and ask for payment. The hon. solicitors were requested to give their opinion with regard to sub-letting the premises. The secretary read the form of a letter which he proposed should be sent round to different estate agents, and he was instructed to ask for a profit rental or a premium for the lease.

The hon. solicitors gave it as their opinion that, owing to the covenant contained in the lease, it would not be possible to let rooms for rehearsals to strangers.

In answer to a letter from a late member asking that her foreign letters might be retained at the A.A. until called for, the secretary was instructed to inform her that such foreign letters would be retained for two months, but that the Association disclaimed all responsibility.

The chairman read a letter from a late member in which he complained of his letters being returned to the D.L.O., and the secretary was directed to send him a copy of the notification which went out to all the members with the report and accounts for the year 1906, and inform him that his name was removed from the register of members on April 2, 1907.

The secretary asked for instructions in two cases where the rooms and notepaper were being used by persons who were no longer members of the Association, and it was decided to write to these late members and ask for an explanation.

Upon the proposition of Mr. Lewis Casson, seconded by Mr. Roy Horniman, Mr. Fewlass Llewellyn was elected to fill a vacancy on the Council.

It was agreed that the resolution "That it be a bye-law of Council proceedings that no communications concerning any proceedings of the Council shall be made to the Press except by the secretary or by direct instruction of the Council," passed on May 7, 1907, be rescinded.

The chairman read a letter from a member on the subject of the condition of the provinces, and the secretary was directed to reply that the whole question was being considered by the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

A member asked that her resignation might be accepted, notwithstanding the fact that her subscription for the current year had not been paid as she had paid her subscription last year though abroad the whole time. She intended to reside abroad in future. Her request was agreed to.

The secretary reported that a member who had returned from abroad and had not paid his subscription was in the habit of using the rooms, and added that he was preparing a circular letter to be addressed to such members.

The reports of the Finance and General Purposes Committee of their meetings of the 18th and 24th inst. were submitted, and the suggestion as to the formation of a Minimum Wage Committee having been discussed, the recommendation of the committee was accepted and adopted.

The meeting of the 18th sent up a recommendation in connection with the bi-monthly and social meetings. It was suggested that the names of both these meetings be altered, and that in future they should be known as the "Fortnightly Meetings of the Actors' Association"—every fourth meeting being for business purposes only. After discussion it was agreed that the further consideration of the whole question should be adjourned until next week.

The report of the "Social" Committee was given, and the suggestion as to Mr. Poel having rehearsals, &c., was agreed to. The secretary was instructed to inform the Social Committee that the writing-room would, if necessary, be placed at the disposal of Mr. Poel daily from 5 to 7 from July 8 up to July 19, when the reading would take place.

The report of the "Commissioners'" Committee was given, and a discussion arose as to the duties of commissioners and the work done by them. Ultimately it was agreed that the further consideration of the subject be deferred until the second week in September.

COUNCIL MEETINGS.

It was decided that during the months of July and August, in the event of there not being a quorum of five at the meeting of the Council at 2.45 on any Tuesday, the Finance and General Purposes Committee may proceed with and dispose of the business on the agenda.

Mr. Fredk. Morland asked when it was usual to go to press with the "Year Book," and being informed as to the date, proceeded to suggest several improvements in the issue. It was agreed that the matter might stand over until some future date.

The election of Clarissa Selwynne and Constance Clive as from July 1 was confirmed, and three members were reinstated. Mr. Charles Bruce was nominated for election.

A.A. SOCIAL.

MR. FREDK. MORLAND was the chairman at the social gathering of the Actors' Association on the 22nd inst. The debate on "The Slavish Imitation of London Actors by Touring Companies" was opened by Miss LUCY SIBLEY, who said that the evil did exist, but was not universal. It was more prevalent in the case of amateurs, who might be said simply to mimic the original. Such slavish imitation meant death to art; in fact, the actors became mere puppets. Of course, no real artist would imitate—real art implied originality.

MR. POOLE KIRKWOOD took it for granted that many companies were imitations of London originals, but he questioned whether provincial companies could do better than copy good London originals. The author's views ought to be taken into consideration, and he might be assumed to have imparted these to the London company.

MISS TWEED objected to the suggestion that provincial companies were mere slavish imitations of London originals.

MR. CECIL RALEIGH also referred to the fact that the author's view ought to be consulted. An original production took a long time to organise. In the case of dead authors, of course, there were no means of ascertaining their views, but living authors took an active part in the rehearsals. The author was the real creative artist, just as the painter or the novelist. He could regard the play as a whole. But the author also deserved assistance from the actor in developing the character. If the author's ideas were not to prevail, chaos would result.

A cordial vote of thanks to Mr. Morland for presiding concluded the meeting.

NEW ENGLISH AND FOREIGN PLAYS.

In order to assist managers and others in the selection of pieces for production and adaptation, we are publishing from time to time synopses of likely English and Continental plays, so that dramatic speculators may judge for themselves of the suitability of the plots for their purpose. Authors wishing for this publicity should forward synopses to "Playwrights," care of *The Era*, from whom further particulars can be obtained.

"THE WOOING OF MRS. VAN COTT."

Notes and Synopsis.
Farcical Comedy in Three Acts, by
John Ernest McCann.
(All rights reserved).

A typical American boarding-house farce. The proprietress of the house is Mrs. Bird, whose daughter, Cora Nora Dora van Cott, has been recently left a widow. The principal boarders, all impecunious and expecting a favourable turn in the tide of their private affairs, are Major Allcuff, proud of his pedigree, and an Irish baronet, Sir Shannon McThunder. There is a well-to-do young journalist, also a boarder, named Archie Cummings. Molly Bawn is the Irish servant, and "Condensed Milk" the negro man-of-all-work. Mrs. van Cott receives the attentions of all the boarders, as the will is about to be read, and van Cott is expected to "cut up" well. The attorney-at-law, Joseph H. Artichoke, arrives, and reads the will. The two servants get small legacies; Mrs. Bird is left the second-best bed; charities connected with the welfare of cats and dogs and the prevention of animal suffering are benefited largely; and the widow inherits much property and a sum of money well over a million dollars, but subject to the condition that she marries either a Chinaman or an Afro-American within a year of her husband's demise. The will is dated April 31, 1899. Tired of her admirers' attentions, the widow, with her mother and the two servants, seeks seclusion at Professor Jag's sanatorium; but the suitors soon reappear on various pretexts. The Irishman and the Major draw cards to decide who shall retire from the field; the latter loses, but returns soon with a trumped-up story that one of his ancestors had a liaison with a fair octoroon; therefore he has negro blood in his veins, and is thus to be regarded as an eligible second husband under the terms of van Cott's will. The Irishman bribes Professor Jag to transfuse about a quart of negro blood, obtained from "Condensed Milk's" body, into his veins, to qualify him as a candidate for the widow's hand. Later, the will is pronounced invalid, as it is dated April 31, and Mrs. van Cott marries Archie Cummings, the journalist; Mrs. Bird accepts the Major's proposal, and the impecunious Irishman pairs off with the Irish maid, Molly Bawn.

ALTERATIONS AT DALY'S.

In the King's Bench Division on Wednesday, before Mr. Justice Kekewich, on the adjourned summons—Edwardes *v.* Daly—the Court had to determine whether under a lease dated Dec. 12, 1901, between the plaintiff and the Hon. B. E. E. Barrington (the English administrator of the late Mr. Augustin Daly), and an agreement dated June 16, 1903, the plaintiff or the defendants were liable for certain alterations in the electric lighting at Daly's Theatre. The lease is now vested in the defendants, as executors of the late Mr. Daly. Mr. Jessel, K.C., for the plaintiff, said there was a covenant in the lease by which the lessee undertook, during the said term, to comply with all lawful requirements of the London County Council with regard to the structure of the theatre, provided, nevertheless, that any structural alterations or works of that nature, which might be so required, should be done by, or at the expense of, the lessor. That was only with regard to the structure. The alterations in question involved no structural alterations. The County Council had for some time been urging upon the parties the desirability of making the alterations, but they could not quite agree as to who should pay for them. They arranged, however, that the alterations should be made. Mr. Edwardes did them, and, by an arrangement between the parties, without prejudice to the questions in dispute, it was settled that a summons should be taken out. By the agreement it was stipulated that for five years, from Aug. 1, 1903, the plaintiff should have the sole use, management, and control of the theatre for the purposes, and subject to the stipulations, therein mentioned, the profits being shared between the parties.

His Lordship's view was that the parties must have been taken to have intended that Mr. Edwardes should do whatever was necessary to keep the theatre open and make it profitable, exercising his own choice as to complying with any requirements made on him. His Lordship directed that plaintiff must bear the cost of the alterations.

THE King and Queen, accompanied by the Grand Duke and Duchess of Hesse, Prince and Princess Andrew of Greece and suite, were present on Wednesday evening at the Adelphi Theatre and witnessed the performance of *The Corsican Brothers*. The same evening saw the King of Siam at Daly's Theatre, where *The Merry Widow* exercises her fascinations.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"FEENHAENDE,"

Comedy, in Five Acts, adapted from Scribe, by T. Gassmann, Produced at the Royal Schauspielhaus, June 20.

Gräfin Lesneve	FRAULEIN ABICH
Der Graf	HERR KESSLER
Tristan	HERR STALGEMANN
Bertha	FRAULEIN ESCHBORN
Helene	FRAU WILLIG
Von Kerbriand	HERR BOETTCHER
Die Marquise	FRAULEIN VON MAYBURG
Der Herzog	HERR PATRY
Frau von Berny	FRAU BUTZE
Josefine	FRAULEIN WUNDIKE
Corinne	FRAULEIN HAUSMANN
Esther	FRAULEIN AST
Putzmacherin	FRAULEIN JENSCH
Jean	HERR HOHENSTEIN
Diener	HERR BROSE

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, June 27.—This is an old friend in a new dress, so new, indeed, that—in addition to the fact that the piece has not been given here for twenty years—it may be looked upon in the light of a novelty. As the plot is undoubtedly familiar to your readers, a detailed account will be unnecessary. The play is a hymn of praise to work—honest hard work—and Scribe took a bold step when he made his characters—members of an ancient noble family—not ashamed of labour. The young Duchess Helene has earned her living as a dressmaker, helping thereby other members of her family, and is wedded by Count Tristan, who is also an avowed disciple of honest work. The first act is tedious, but in the second and following acts there is plenty of fun, and the greatest pains having been expended on the cast, the piece was very cordially received. Frau Willig was delightful in the part of Helen, and Herr Boettcher gave an excellent account of the rôle of Kerbriand, the amiable, good-hearted man, who, being afflicted with stammering, determines to enter the diplomatic service. Other characters were capitally sustained by Fräulein von Mayburg, Frau Butze, and Herr Stalgemann.

AT the Schiller N. an ancient burlesque has been revived with satisfactory results, *Kyritz-Pyritz*, by MM. Wilken and Justinus, authors who have long been dead. The humour is very broad, at times verging on horseplay, but the cast interpreted it with a good deal of discretion, and some of the scenes are genuinely funny. It is filling the bill nightly.

"STAATSANWALT ALEXANDER," the four-act drama by Carl Schüler—already detailed in your columns—has removed from the Berliner to the Thalia Theatre, where it is being given every night until the holidays. A change has been made in the cast, Herr Adolf Klein taking the title-rôle. Herr Klein is one of the best character actors we have, and for many years was one of the most prominent members of the Royal Schauspielhaus company. His interpretation of the powerful rôle is admirable, and he is supported in a thoroughly satisfactory manner.

AT the Lustpielhaus the merry Viennese farce, *Die Welt Ohne Maenner*, is still filling the bill nightly, and celebrates its twenty-fifth consecutive performance this evening. Fräulein Pepi Glockner is, as has already been stated, the principal attraction.

HERR BOGUMIL ZEPLER has just completed another operetta, which was produced with eminent success on Thursday at the New Operetta Theatre, Hamburg, by the company from the Berlin Apollo. Bogumil Zepler, it may be remembered, is the composer of the clever parody, *Salome*, recently mentioned in your columns.

A NEW farce by the well-known collaborators, Dr. Oscar Blumenthal and Herr Gustav Kalenburg, is just finished, and will be produced at the Royal Schauspielhaus early in October. The title is *Der letzte Funke* (the last spark), and the piece contains three acts. Herr Kadelburg, by the way, has just had the Knight's Cross of the Friedrich Order of the 1st Class conferred upon him by the King of Würtemberg.

THEATRICAL SPORTS.

Stamford Bridge Ground, Tuesday, July 9, 1907.

FIRST LIST OF DONATIONS TO PRIZE FUND.

The Bodie Electric Drug Co.	£4	4	0
Proprietors, *Daily Telegraph*	3	3	0
The Moss Empires	2	2	0
Charles Urban Trading Co.	2	2	0
Mr. Arthur Collins	2	0	0
Sir Charles Wyndham	1	1	0
Mr. Arthur Bourchier	1	1	0
Mr. Frank Curzon	1	1	0
Mr. Arthur Chudleigh	1	1	0
Mrs. D'Oyly Carte	1	1	0
Miss Kate Compton	1	1	0
Mrs. C. Ellis Fredericks	1	1	0
Mr. Charles Frohman	1	1	0
Sir W. S. Gilbert	1	1	0
Miss Adrienne Augarde	1	1	0
Miss Marie George	1	1	0
Mr. Martin Harvey	1	1	0
Mr. G. P. Huntley	1	1	0
Mr. H. B. Irving	1	1	0
Mr. William Greet	1	1	0
Mr. W. H. Kendal	1	1	0
Mr. J. H. Leigh	1	1	0
Miss Gertie Millar	1	1	0
Miss Eva Moore	1	1	0
Mr. Gaston Mayer	1	1	0
Mr. Michael Morton	1	1	0
Miss Julia Neilson	1	1	0
Mr. Alfred Sutro	1	1	0
Mr. H. Rayne	1	1	0
Lord George Sanger	1	1	0
Mr. H. Beerbohm Tree	1	1	0
Miss Ellen Terry	1	1	0
Mr. Fred Terry	1	1	0
Mr. C. Thorogood	1	1	0
Miss Ruth Vincent	1	1	0
Mr. J. E. Vedrenne	1	1	0
Miss Genevieve Ward	1	1	0
Mr. Lewis Waller	1	1	0
Messrs. Whitbread and Co.	1	1	0
Mr. and Mrs. Dion Boucicault	1	1	0
Miss Irene Vanbrugh	1	0	0
The Goswell Printing Co.		10	6
Mr. W. Lestocq		10	6
Miss Millie Legarde		10	6
Miss Annie Hughes		10	6
Miss Zena Dare		10	6
Miss Phyllis Dare		10	6
Mr. G. Grant Allen		10	6
Miss Nora Kerin		10	0
Mr. John Lawson		10	0
Mr. Cecil Paget		10	0
Miss Rozant		2	6

FIRST LIST OF PRIZES.

Lady Bancroft—A prize.
Sir Squire Bancroft—A prize.
Mr. and Mrs. George Alexander—A marble clock.
Miss Ada Reeve—Purse containing £1.
Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter—A marble clock.
H. Lazarus and Son—A chair.
E. A. Taylor—Oil painting.
E. S. Willard—Cut glass spirit decanter.
Thomas Dewar and Sons, Ltd.—Challenge shield.
"The Era," Ltd.—Challenge shield.

The Hon. Treasurer, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, will be glad to receive additional donations to the Prize Fund or prizes for competition. Address, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

"TRISTRAM AND ISEULT."

Mr. Comyns Carr rarely wrote anything finer than some of the scenes in his poetical drama, *Tristram and Iseult*, which was presented by Mr Otho Stuart at the Adelphi. The following extract is especially worthy of preservation. Tristram is bringing Iseult back to Cornwall to be the bride of King Mark; Iseult is eager to avenge the death of her brother Morraunt, who was slain by Tristram:—

Iseult. So then thou hast forgot that Morraunt died.
Tristram. I would I could forget.
Iseult. Thou can'st not! No,
Nor we who are his kin, and saw him die!
Think then it was forgotten in that hour,
When 'neath thy stronger arm, Sir Palamide
Fell stricken to the earth?
Tristram. I think not so!
Iseult. Nay, but King Gormon's oath still left thee free,
Who else had paid death's forfeit! Aye, 'twas so!
And then, when fearing naught, thy lips dared ask,
What he might not refuse—think you that Time
Had laid to sleep the bitter memory
Of Morraunt's death?
Tristram. Indeed, I think not so.
For well I know that bitter memory
Still lives to-day, and shall outlast all time.
Iseult. And, yet for all, thou still would'st serve thy King?
Tristram. As needs I must! 'Tis all that's left to me.
Iseult. Then, of thy love for him that is so great,
Go put the helm about and flee the land!
Tristram. I cannot!
Iseult. Cannot? Hearken then to me:
That oath of vengeance sworn so long ago,
Were I not all too weak, had long ago
Been satisfied. Thy valour saved thee then!
Thy valour and King Gormon's plighted word.
Yet know, though thou art free, that oath endures,
And the sword's point that found the servant armed
May haply strike his master.
Tristram. What means this?
Iseult. Dost see that cup? It is my mother's gift
To Mark the King. And that sweet wine it holds
My Lord and I shall drink in joyous pledge
Of our betrothal.
Tristram. Nay, I know it well.
Iseult. Yet know'st not all. Read what is writ thereon!
Tristram. [*Holding the cup in his hand.*] "Those twain who drink of this sweet wine shall dream
An endless dream that knows no waking here."
Iseult. Can'st thou not guess that dream? I'll tell thee then;
'Tis death!
Tristram. What sayest thou, Death?
Iseult. Aye, in that wine
Lies life's one secret none can ever know
Till Death unbars the door, and Death waits there!
'Tis naught to me, for life is naught to me!
And haply naught to thee whose life is safe!
Yet thou dost love thy King.
Tristram. And dost thou think
That I would shield myself and slay my Lord?
Iseult. Then put the helm about and flee the land.
Tristram. There is a better way.
Iseult. What way?
Tristram. Ah, why
When I lay stricken on the verge of death,
Why did'st thou heal that wound which but for thee
Had wrought thy vengeance then?
Iseult I know not!
Tristram. Why,
Why did'st thou stay thy mother's vengeful hand,
More merciful than thine, that would have slain me?
Iseult. I know not! Nay, I know not!
Tristram. Then I'll tell thee.
Thy deeper love for Moraunt, who had died,
Dreamed of a deeper shame for him whose sword
Had struck him down. Yea, well thou know'st 'tis so!
Set in thy heart there dwelt this fiercer hate;
"'Tis not enough that this poor knight should die!
Nay, he shall live, and bear upon his brow
The brand of coward, traitor, and what else
Shall link his name with endless infamy!"
So had'st thou dreamed; but so it shall not be!
For here I bare my breast and take that blow
Was meant for him I serve! Strike hard and deep!
Thou hast no pity left—those healing hands
Should own their sterner office.
Iseult. Nay, I cannot!
Tristram. Doth hate so move thee still? Why, see you then
I am no traitor! *This* shall make amends.
For here in full atonement for what's gone
I drink that poisoned cup was meant for him,
My Lord.
[*He goes up stage and seizes one of the goblets. She makes a movement to stop him, but as she does so he drains it down.*]
Iseult. Ah, no!
Tristram. 'Tis done! Iseult, farewell!
[*He comes down stage with eyes gazing outward as one waiting the call of Death. As he stands there she moves softly up stage, and drains the other cup.*]
Iseult. "Whom thou hast healed, him shalt thou wound again."
So this then is the end! Tristram, farewell!
Tristram. What hast thou done?
Iseult. As thou hast! Fare thee well.
[*They stand apart and in silence as the voices of the* SAILORS *are heard at the back softly singing. During the chorus the faces of* TRISTRAM *and* ISEULT *reveal the soft beginning of the mystic spell that is working within them, and as they stand, their faces gradually transfigured, the light increases till the scene is flooded with a golden dawn.*]

SAILORS' *chorus.*

New breezes spring
Across the foam,
The Swallow's wing
Is spread for home!
Day shines afar
And night is past
The harbour bar
Is won at last!

Tristram. They sing of day.
Iseult. Yet 'tis the night that comes!
Tristram. Yea, truly, so it is. Then hasten, night,
Unbar this golden prison men call day!
Iseult. Nay, look again, it hath the grace of dawn;
The stars are flushed with crimson, and the sky
Holds some new light I know not.
Tristram. Through the dusk,
The way shines clearly that shall lead us on.
And who are they that wander hand in hand
Within that shadowy wood? They come in troops,
With cheeks still wet with weeping! Who are they?
Iseult. I see them not! Thou hast gone on before
Where I must follow thee. Ah, now I see!
They also trod the way that waits for us!
Wilt thou too take this hand? All's over now,
It cannot harm thee more!
[*She holds out her hand, he takes it in his.*
Tristram. It healed me once!
Iseult. And wounded thee again! Aye, past all cure!
Tristram. The cure is here at last. Look where the sea
Breaks into flower and all the whitened foam
Is strewn with blossom! Spring is here again!
Iseult. Can this be Death's rough road?
Tristram. An' if it be,
Then Death and Life are one, and Death and Love!
For, look you, Love stands there; with rose-crowned brows,
He passes 'midst those shadowy forms, whose eyes
Are lifted up to greet him as he goes!
Iseult. Oh, Death, come quickly; end what needs must end!
Tristram. "Those twain who drink of this sweet wine shall dream—"
Iseult. "An endless dream that knows no waking here."
[*She leans towards him, her head sinking on his breast as the chorus is repeated softly.*

Day shines afar
The night is past,
The harbour bar
Is won at last.

Tristram. Aye, won at last!
Iseult. At last! It was no dream!
Tristram. Iseult, I love thee!
Iseult. As I love thee too,
And shall for ever love thee!
Tristram From this hour
We twain shall cleave together heart to heart.
Iseult. Aye, soul to soul, till Death indeed shall come
And sweetly end us both!

MANAGER AND EDITOR.

Mr. T. Edgar Pemberton, in his "life" of Charles Wyndham, gives an amusing account of the celebrated actor's visit to Chicago in 1871. The only place he could get into was Crosby's Opera House, a very magnificent building, almost as big as Drury Lane, but not the very best area for light comedy. As the audience was significantly small for the advent of the stranger, the size of that audience and the size of the house were out of all decent proportion. When Tuesday arrived the Press were most unanimous in their praises of both himself and his company.

Delighted, and even surprised at this, he concluded at once that with such a unanimous chorus of praise they were bound to have even that great house full that night, but unfortunately there was no improvement in the number of spectators. The actor-manager regarded the matter philosophically, but was much distressed next morning on taking up the papers to see in all of them the expression of surprise and regret on the part of the Press at the poverty of the attendance. He would rather have "kept that quiet," so that Tuesday morning's wonderful notices should have had time to percolate through the artistic centres of Chicago, whereas the publication of the news that the house was bad would certainly prejudice the attendance on the Wednesday night. He was quite right. Wednesday showed no improvement on Tuesday, and he was annoyed beyond measure on taking up the papers on Thursday to find a repetition of their surprise and regret still more forcibly emphasised to the Chicago public, and still unpleasantly more to himself. Thursday night's attendance was just the same, and Friday morning's Press even more than the same, for now they began to blame the public for neglecting the attraction there was in the town. This unusual step, however, had no influence on Friday night's house. The Chicago public were not to be moved; but Charles Wyndham had this solatium in his bitter disappointment and heavy pecuniary loss, that the manager tried to persuade him on the Friday morning to stay another week, as he was sure that this repeated attack on the public by the Press would have its effect. Alas! he was due at St. Louis the following Monday; but a few hours after the manager had spoken to him a strange coincidence occurred. He received a telegram from the manager at St. Louis telling him that Mrs. Oates, a lady star in America at that time, had lost one of her weeks in St. Louis through the floods and consequent breakdown of her train, and he very much wished her to have her second week, and if he would forego the next week he would give him the following two in their place. As the week in question was Holy Week, and the weeks following Easter and its successor, in a Roman Catholic city, he was only too glad to accept the change, and notified his Chicago manager to that effect. He quaked with fear when not even a Saturday performance resulted in anything like a remunerative house. But a strange thing happened on the Sunday morning. In the previous year the intrepid Miss Lydia Thompson had publicly thrashed the proprietor of the *Chicago Times*, and inasmuch as the manager of the Crosby Opera House had sided with Miss Thompson, the *Chicago Times* had, since that date, during the whole twelve months refrained from even mentioning the theatre or anybody connected with it. It was a matter of great public talk during the whole of that year, and the surprise of the Chicago public when, on the Sunday morning, they found in the *Chicago Times* a couple of columns of high praise equal to that of the other papers on the Wyndham Company's performances, can be realised. It was due to this: the manager happened to meet the editor of the paper quite accidentally on the Saturday, and under such psychological conditions that they quietly made up their differences, with the result that the editor had come on the Saturday night and gone into line with all the rest of the Press. This had a most wonderful effect for Charles Wyndham. From Monday onwards the houses were very fine, till towards the end of the week that vast theatre was crammed to its utmost capacity, and on Saturday evening he had every manager in Chicago waiting behind the scenes for him begging him to come back in May. The Crosby Opera House in the hot month of May was out of the question to his mind, and to the surprise of everybody he selected the very smallest theatre in Chicago. A friend pointed to the enormous house of that Saturday evening, and said, "This is what you could get, and yet you take the very smallest." His forecast was right, however. He opened in May at the Deerborn Street Theatre, and turned money away for three months. Then he arranged to return to his allegiance to the Crosby Opera House for the autumn.

The owner was going to decorate it in the most sumptuous manner possible. As a matter of fact, the decorations cost £16,000. Charles Wyndham was to open the theatre for a three months' season. Chicago never saw that beautiful opera house. The night before it was to be opened was the night of the Chicago fire, and this magnificent structure crumbled and melted away in nine minutes, not leaving a single brick or column standing on the ground. The proprietor stood in front watching this terrible destruction, and at the end of the nine minutes simply turned round to one of his friends and ejaculated: "I would not have minded the loss of the building if Chicago had only seen it once!"

PASTORAL PLAY AT BATTERSEA.

The beautiful old-world gardens of Battersea Rise House were on Wednesday the scene of a delightful representation of the Forest Scenes from *As You Like It*, by a company under the direction of Miss Italia Conti. The pipers of the Strathnaver Fairy Circle greeted the Countess of Kinnoull at the entrance to the gardens with the "Kinnoull March" on the bagpipes, and presented her with a bouquet tied with the Hay tartan ribbon, and she then declared the fête open.

Mr. A. Hylton Allen looked an ideal forest lover, and played Orlando with great poetical feeling and with a bright sense of comedy. Mr. Cremlin's sound experience was of great value as the Duke; Mr. Walter Ringham made Jaques interesting and picturesque; Mr. Landor was a good Touchstone; Mr. William Luff was a handsome and dignified Oliver; Mr. Montague Wigan as Adam, Mr. Oxlee as Corin, and Mr. Brookfield as Jaques de Bois lent valuable assistance; and Mr. James Gelderd was convincingly love-lorn as Silvius. A special word of praise must be given to the very funny William of Mr. Robert Grey. As Rosalind Miss Italia Conti looked delightfully boyish, and played with great charm and sincerity. It is to be hoped she may one day have an opportunity of showing her powers in Shakespearean comedy on a more ambitious stage. She was well supported by Miss Betty Castle, who was a most attractive Celia, and by Miss Evelyn Marthèze, who played Phebe with originality and winsomeness that was very enjoyable. Miss Claire Greet's Audrey was as excellent as that lady's work always is, and her scenes went with a ripples of laughter from the moment she appeared. Miss Kate Turner, Miss Pourtales, Miss Hamber, and Mr. Currey completed a most excellent cast.

The play was very well stage-managed and arranged for its charming surroundings, and gave great pleasure to a large audience. Afterwards the whole company were photographed in their dresses, a final snapshot being taken of Miss Italia Conti in her boy's dress handing Lady Kinnoull a cup of tea.

There was a very good variety concert during tea arranged by Mr. Robert Grey, and the scenes from *As You Like It* were repeated in the evening.

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, June 24, the Pantomime, entitled
"THE FORTE THIEVES."

Although the programme gives a fictitious name as the author, it is an admitted fact that Mr. Bruce Smith, the well-known scene-painter, is responsible for the literary and scenic portion of the entertainment. The children from Drury Lane Theatre play their parts cleverly. The call-boy, Master Jack Frost, is a thorough little comedian, and works very hard as Abdalla for the success of the production. Master W. Bishop is another smart juvenile, who will be heard of again. His singing and dancing as Ali Baba are energetic. Miss Jessie Evans as Ganem shows much spirit; and Miss L. Randall as Cogia Baba met with success. Cassim Baba has a diverting representative in Master Teddy Gordon. Miss A. MacDonald is a handsome Hassarac; and Miss Gertie Britton is a sprightly Fairy of the Cave. A pretty and engaging Morgiana is Miss Florrie Clarke. As the donkey, Master Middleditch and Master Burton raise many laughs. A graceful principal dancer is Miss Vickie Hogden.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, June 24, the Drama, entitled
"JEANIE DEANS."

Jeanie Deans, adapted from Sir Walter Scott's celebrated novel, "The Heart of Midlothian," is providing a distinct contrast to last week's programme. The romantic atmosphere of the story supplies excellent opportunities to artists and stage-management alike, while the very pretty and artistic costumes give life and colour to the scene. The members of the company, with Miss Kate Clinton as the "bright particular star," are one and all highly efficient, and it would be hard to say whether their individual merits or their well-drilled co-operation deserve the greater praise. Mr. Montague Lane supplies a portrayal of Geordie Robertson, which is marked by self-possession and dramatic power of no mean order; and Mr. Alfred D. Adams makes a great hit in his delineation of the unsuccessful wooer, the Laird of Dumbiedykes, a happy creation of the author, which in Mr. Adams's hands vastly entertained the audience. Mr. Joseph A. Keogh as David Deans plays forcibly and well, and Mr. Edward Grogan supplies a capital presentment of John, Duke of Argyle. Rueben Butler is portrayed with sound judgment and ability by Mr. Clifford Marle, and Mr. R. H. Lace makes the most of his opportunities as Mr. Sharpitlaw. Mr. Samuel Seldit presents an effective study of the Lord Justiciary, and Mr. Andrew Weir as counsel for the Crown is satisfactory. Mr. Neal Fitzwilliam as the counsel for the defence plays with unfailing care and intensity. Mr. George T. Greig does well in the part of Ratcliffe, and the same may be said of Messrs. Richard Melton and Alfred Talboys as Black Frank and Tyburn Tom. Miss Mary Campbell presents a telling picture of the long-suffering Effie Deans, and Miss Armor effectively portrays Margery Murdockson. Miss Wanda Beresford is successful as Queen Caroline and Miss Janet Bride is good as Mrs Balchristie. Miss Esther Tearle lends invaluable help as the half-witted Madge Wildfire, some of her scenes being very fine. Miss Kate Clinton in her impersonation of Jeanie Deans rivets the attention of her audience throughout the play, and a genuine outburst of hearty applause is accorded this clever actress at the final fall of the curtain.

THE CORONET.

On Monday, June 24, the Comedy, entitled
"THE INCUBUS."

A bold experiment was made by Mr. Laurence Irving at the Coronet on Monday, when the adaptation of Brieux's *Les Hannetons*, produced by the Stage Society on March 25, received its first public presentment under the title of *The Incubus*. The piece is more decidedly Parisian in flavour than many others which have been presented to English audiences, and though the unsavoury nature of the theme obtrudes itself at every turn, it is stuffed so full of satire and humour that laughter was frequent, and on Monday gave way at each curtain to warm cheers. The plot was fully detailed in our notice of the original production, and many of the artists who then appeared are included in the present cast. The impression created by Miss Mabel Hackney in her rendering of Charlotte, the workgirl who for five years has lived under the "protection" of a teacher of natural history, with whom she leads a life of constant wrangling and reconciliation, was repeated on Monday. Miss Hackney's spirits in the part never languish, and her clever performance again received the assured stamp of success. Mr. C. V. France delighted once again with his artistic rendering of Pierre, the botanist devoted to the care of his specimens and harassed beyond endurance by his irrepressible "comrade." Mr. France makes his points without any apparent exertion, his admirably-modulated voice giving apt expression to every word. The Gentleman of Mr. Nigel Playfair was another repetition of a former success, his impersonation of the dignified and dapper personage being very droll. A new-comer to the cast is Mr. Charles Garry, who presented a clever study of the veterinary surgeon Brochot, improving the effect of the part by many comedy touches, while the display of feeling in the last act was naturally done. Mr. William Farren, jun., gave character to the concierge, his make-up being very artistic; and Mr. Leonard Calvert supplied a neat sketch of a waterman. Miss Olive Terry impersonated Isabelle, Charlotte's bosom friend, admirably; Miss Florence Adale was again a vivacious maid-servant; and Miss Violet Chamier as the Lady from Below and Miss Beatrice Lett as Mme. Langlois adequately completed the cast.

More than usual importance was given to the curtain-raiser from the fact that it is from the pen of Mr. Laurence Irving, who had the assistance in its interpretation of no less a public favourite than Miss Winifred Emery. The piece, which on Monday received its first representation, is in one act, and is entitled

"THE PHŒNIX."

Herbert Medway, J.P. .....MR. NIGEL PLAYFAIR
Captain Ferris .....MR. LAURENCE IRVING
Maid .....MISS FLORENCE ADALE
Beatrice .....MISS WINIFRED EMERY

A duologue of a refreshing character sparkling with witty dialogue and possessing a wealth of sentiment makes the new playlet very welcome. The rôle which is graced by Miss Emery is that of a young widow who has many admirers. Her uncle presses the suit of a certain member of Parliament, but Beatrice has tender memories of a former lover who has seen service abroad. When Captain Ferris returns he learns from the uncle that Beatrice is on the point of marrying again. Beatrice requests the return of several letters which she had written him, and Ferris promises to destroy them on condition that he is allowed to read them first aloud. The perusal of the missives reveals the fact that before her marriage Beatrice was in love with Ferris, but had to wed in order to gain a competence for her sick mother. The letters are duly burned, but when it transpires that Beatrice has ever since cherished Ferris's letters, it is apparent that the old love endures, and will "rise like a Phœnix out of the ashes of the past." The reading of the letters supplied an exquisite comedy scene, the honours of which were shared equally by Miss Emery and Mr. Irving. Miss Emery invested her rendering of Beatrice with all the charm which has so endeared her to the public. Her assumption of artless innocence during the reading of the epistles was captivating, and every movement was instinct with grace, every word clear and distinct. Mr. Irving's easy and unobtrusive style in the part of Captain Ferris made all the more effective the neatly-pointed lines which he has to deliver, and his conception of the character supplied added evidence of the dramatic ability of which he has lately given such distinct proof. The subordinate part of the uncle, Herbert Medway, was capably sustained by Mr. Nigel Playfair. The little piece was enthusiastically cheered, the curtain having to be raised repeatedly at the end.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, June 24, the Drama, entitled
"EAST LYNNE."

Auguste Van Biene was to have appeared this week in *The Broken Melody;* but, owing to unforeseen circumstances, the famous actor-musician was unable to fulfil the engagement, although we hope to be able to welcome him here at an early date. In his absence there is being presented that ever-popular play *East Lynne*. Mr. James Willard has got a very capable company together, and he is lucky in being able to secure that fine actress Miss Lilian Dundas, who again plays the part of the unhappy Isabel. Miss Dundas acts with great force, and her acting of the more emotional scenes is most praiseworthy. Mr. James Willard appears as Captain Levison, and he presents a capital portrayal of the character. Archibald Carlyle is carefully played by Mr. Laurence Leyton, who is seen to advantage in the part. Miss Esther Carthew gives an amusing impersonation of Miss Cornelia Carlyle, and raises many laughs by her excellent picture of this kind-hearted old lady; while Lawyer Dill is likewise humorously depicted by Mr. Joe Bracewell. Mr. Arthur Mansfield does well as Richard Hare; while Mr. Frank Sutherland is good as the peppery old Mr. Justice Hare. Willie Carlyle is charmingly played by little Miss Mabel Jameson, who acts in a very natural manner; Suzanne, the French maid, is neatly presented by Miss Kitty Parsons; while the faithful Joyce is quite safe in the hands of Miss Helena Rigby. Miss Grace Carew makes a most delightful Barbara Hare, and plays the part with great tact; Mr. Charles Spencer is successful as Lord Mountsevern; and other characters are suitably portrayed. The opening of the new Tube Railway this week should add materially to the prosperity of this handsome and comfortable theatre, which is now brought quite close and handy to residents all over North London, for the Mornington-crescent Station is directly opposite the theatre.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, June 25, the Drama, entitled
"IN THE SHADOW OF NIGHT."

There has been quite a run of melodrama at Kennington Theatre lately, and one of the best specimens has been provided in Mr. James Willard's play, *In the Shadow of Night*, which he is himself producing. The drama is of an exciting and highly sensational character, and appeals to the sympathies of all. There is ample opportunity for effects, and full advantage is taken of these, the closing scene of the Thames when the stage is flooded with water being quite a triumph. The theme of the play is of absorbing interest, and its development is followed with the keenest attention. Mr. James Willard has chosen for himself the difficult and thankless rôle of Clifford Yorke, the villain, but he gives a fine portrayal of it, and introduces a lively humour which serves as a bright relief to the heavier work of the part. Miss Elsie Wallace is a charming and lovable Violet Kingston, the heroine, and her sweetheart, Gordon Allington, is well played by Mr. Austin Mortimer, who looks every inch the hero whom he impersonates. Mr. George Harvey is an ideal country squire as John Allington; and a careful study of the blunt, outspoken old farmer, James Woodstock, is given by Mr. Harry Emmerson. Tom Nainby is finely taken by Mr. Arnold, who is a great favourite with the audience; Miss Mildred Carr as Molly Woodstock gives a bright interpretation of the part; in the dual rôles of the old postman and the young clergyman Mr. Evison shows conspicuous ability; while Mr. William Hayward deserves mention for the thoroughgoing fashion in which he plays Jake Grudgewell, the villain's right-hand man. Miss Phyllis French makes a good deal out of the character of Bob, the young tramp, who is the hero's staunch friend; and Mr. Clive Rawlins deserves mention as the constable. Quite a feature of the drama is the appearance of Gyp, the dog who comes to the aid of Molly and worries the villains.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, June 24, the Drama, entitled
"AN ABANDONED WOMAN."

A stirring play and a strong company are together delighting large audiences here this week, and Mr. Harry Foxwell's combination are to be congratulated on their effective representation of Miles Wallerton and Francis Gilbert's drama. Mr. Walli Spinner is earnest and impressive throughout as Captain Herbert Seaton; and Miss May Richardson as Eleanor, his wife, plays in sympathetic style. Phillipe Malvoisin, chief of a gang of French thieves, finds an able exponent in Mr. Richard Ferris, and much assistance is given him by Miss Edith Blande, whose portrayal of the somewhat distasteful character of Ninon Malvoisin is to be commended. Mr. P. Morton Wright submits some fine acting as Robert Saunders; and Mr. Charles Grant is seen to advantage in the rather small but important character of Sir Marmaduke Seaton. The character of Sammy Sharp, the resourceful waif, who is instrumental in running the villain to earth, is smartly played by Mr. Will Glaze; and Mr. Jim K. Woods as Paddy Boyle is responsible for some genuine humour. Miss Elsie Dean gives a bright reading of Sally Sloper; and Mr. Charles Hunt as Sergeant Stubbles is droll. Other minor characters are well played, and the drama is adequately staged.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

The drama, in Five Acts, by Tom Taylor, entitled
"THE TICKET-OF-LEAVE MAN."

The Ticket-of-Leave Man is being presented here by Mr. David James. Mr. Lewis Willoughby as Bob Brierly is thoroughly successful. Mr. Fred Maye as James Dalton, is thoroughly appreciated; Melter Moss is excellently impersonated by Mr. Norman Clarke. Mr. W. J. Robertson fully realises the character of Hawkshaw; Mr. Gerald James is effective as Mr. Gibson, and also ably sustains the parts of Maltby and Brunton. As Sam Willoughby, Miss May Anderson is amusing. Mrs. Willoughby is cleverly depicted by Miss Pollie Marshall; Miss Ida Phillips plays May Edwards with womanly gentleness and tenderness. *An Artist's Dilemma* precedes the piece of the evening. In this Mr. Grooves Watson gives a capital representation of Ebenezer Biggs; Mr. Alfred Maye is a very vivacious artist; Mr. Lewis Willoughby is a dashing young husband; and Miss Ida Phillips a charming young wife. Both pieces are effectively staged. The orchestra, under the direction of Mr. George Carter, ably supplys the incidental music. The general-manager, Mr. R. W. Allum, is ever on the alert to study the comforts of his audience.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, June 24,
the Drama, in Five Acts, entitled
"MAN TO MAN."

Lovers of sensational drama may well be recommended to pay a visit to the Shakespeare Theatre this week, where the excellent company under the direction of Mr. Frank Adair is presenting *Man to Man*. Full advantage is taken of the thrilling episodes, that depicting a railway collision being a veritable triumph of stagecraft. The acting all round is of the highest order, and the interpretation of the piece so successful that the audience is roused to the greatest enthusiasm, prolonged applause awaiting the fall of the curtain. Miss Louie Adair is seen to advantage in the rôle of Ethel Maythorne, quickly gaining the sympathy of the audience and acquitting herself with success. Miss Nellie Daly is admirably placed as Miss Dove, a middle-aged spinster, and plays her part with humoous effect; as Gipsy Madge Miss Lydia Mannington contributes an excellent performance; and Miss Daisy Maynard is eminently satisfactory in the rôle of Ned Doyle. Mr. Frank Adair gives an admirable impersonation of the character of Richard Ellerton; baseness and effrontery are indicated in every speech and gesture. As George Gordon Mr. Wingold Lawrence looks well and acts with manly emphasis that is invested with just the right tone of sincerity. Mr. Chris Mason as Samuel Plumtree is bubbling over with humour; and Mr. George Mitchell assumes with success the rôle of the Rev. Philip Ormond, a prison chaplain, acting with energy and making every point in the dialogue tell. Mr. George Asquin scores a hit in the part of Bill Burkley, a convict, and his quaint mannerisms keep the house in roars of laughter. Minor parts are adequately sustained by Messrs. H. Holland, Charles Russell, and Fred Withers, and Miss Lilian Russell.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, June 24, the Play, by S. Buchanan Rodgerson, entitled
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."

Mrs. Morton Powell's company is here this week in *When It Was Dark*, giving a very able rendering of Mr. S. Buchanan Rodgerson's adaptation of Mr. Guy Thorn's famous theological novel. The play is ably written, and the author has judiciously introduced some appropriate comic relief. Good houses have been the rule during the week. Mr. W. J. Butler gives a powerful study of fiendish malignity as Constantine Schuabe, and his impressive performance is of the greatest value; Mr. Edwin Valentine is an excellent Sir Robert Llewellyn; Mr. E. Stanton Sharp displays capital elocutionary ability as the heroic young curate, Basil Gortre; that experienced actress, Miss Hilda Beverley, gives a powerful and sympathetic reading of the character of the *demi-mondaine*, Gertrude Hunt; Mrs. Morton Powell gains the sympathy of the audience by her engaging rendering of the rôle of Helena Byars, the vicar's daughter; the frivolous Grace Goldeye is ably enacted by Miss Dorothy Hildebrande; Mr. Ernest St. John is a dignified Rev. Mr. Byars; Mr. Harold B. Lewis plays well as the journalist, Harold Spence; and Mr. Millar Wilson as the Hon. Charles Gayfly and Mr. W. Drysdale as Nunc Wallace contribute able character sketches. The scenery is very effective, and the burning of the church in the third act is admirably managed.

BROADWAY THEATRE, S.E.

On Monday, June 24, was presented the Play, entitled
"TRILBY."

Mr. Louis Calvert's production of this celebrated play is entirely successful, and has met with the appreciation of the patrons of this favourite theatre. Mr. C. C. Calvert presents a cleverly-conceived and artistically-executed portrait of Svengali; Miss Edyth Goodall is a delightful Trilby O'Ferrall, pleasing greatly by her natural and charming assumption; Mr. J. W Riley is excellent as Talbot Wynne (Taffy); Mr. Howard Templeton is a capital representative of Alexander McAlister (Sandy); and the Little Billee of Mr. Oswald Marshall leaves nothing to be desired. Mr. Sydney N. Hallows plays effectively as Gecko; Mr. H. Gray Dolby is very good indeed as the Rev. Mr. Bagot; and Mr. Stanley Roberts (Zou-Zou), Mr. W. Kingsford Pearce (Dodor), Mr. J. Collison (Manager Kaw), and Mr. J. W. Chapman (attendant) are all excellent. Miss Linda Riley is a characteristic Mme. Vinard; Miss Nell Gillmore is very good indeed as Mrs. Bagot; and Miss Sealby (Susette), Miss Norman (Marianne), Miss Lightfoot (Jeanne), Miss Walker (Marie), and Miss Brooke (Angele) all add to the success.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, June 24, the Drama, by Geo. R. Sims and Arthur Shirley, entitled
"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."

The continued popularity of this old favourite amongst playgoers was again evidenced on Monday night, when it was presented to a crowded house at the Royal County Theatre by Hardie and Von Leer's company, and the story of the two little waifs was followed with as keen an interest as if it were being presented for the first time. The vagabonds were admirably impersonated by Miss Edie Martin (Dick) and Miss Jessie Beltram (Wally). A creditable rendering of the part of Marion Thornton was given by Miss Grace Heywood; whilst Miss Rosalind Vayne acquitted herself well as Barbara Scarth. Mr. Lionel Ellis as the Gaffer, Miss Evelyn Shaw as Biddy Mullins, Mr. Frank Gordon as Dido Bunce, and Mr. Dick Winslow as the Coughdrop each contributed substantially to the humorous element in the play; whilst good work was also rendered by Mr. Arthur E. Melbourne as George Thornton and Mr. Sydney Vautier as Capt. Darville. The mounting of the drama was all that could be desired.

THE LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, June 24, Mr. Fred Jarman's company, in the Drama,
"UNDER THE CZAR."

This well-known drama is doing excellent business on its return visit to the Lyric, where it is being presented by a most satisfactory company. Mr. Wilson Howard as Nicholas Yerostaff, the hero, plays with vigour, and gains much applause, the scene in which he is hanged being very effective. Mr. Gerald Smythe is good as Captain Johnson, the English officer; an excellent study of Zakha Kovesky is given by Mr. William Matthews; Mr. R. Merring as Michael Granoviski is quite satisfactory; the part of Egor Gregorovitch, a Nihilist, is in the safe hands of Mr. J. Leicester; Mr. George H. Doyle acts well as the Governor-General of Moscow; Mr. Carl Vallender as Alexis Petroff gives an excellent character portrayal, investing the part with all the necessary humour; and Mr. Cecil Morand makes more fun as Paul Ignat. Miss Violet Vivienne also adds to the mirth in her part as Siomka; Miss Carlotta Anson plays winsomely as Sonia Gregorovitch; Miss Madge Clare is a dainty gipsy girl, Zara Bhura; and the remaining characters are well played, Mr. Victor Gordon distinguishing himself as Victor Kleff, the doctor. The scenery is very good, and the uniforms are most effective.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, June 24, the Drama,
"THE ENGLISH ROSE."

The introduction of a short season of dramatic revivals under the direction of Mr. Beresford Whitcomb, with two such established favourites as Mr. Ashley Page and Miss Marion Denvil in leading rôles, has throughout met with the hearty support of local playgoers; and this is well merited, for a high standard has been maintained in the mounting of the various pieces, and great care has been bestowed upon their interpretation. For the fifth week of the series *The English Rose* is in the bill, and on the opening night of the week the piece had a cordial reception. Mr. Ashley Page enlists the sympathies of the audience throughout as the persecuted Harry O'Mailly, playing the part with considerable power and virility. Miss Marion Denvil is always sympathetic and charming as Ethel Kingston, and is a firm favourite. Mr. Weldon Atherstone contributes a strikingly impressive and convincing portraiture of Father Michael; and Mr. Tom Taylor is a bluff and breezy Knight of Ballyveeney. Mr. Walter Thornton depicts with considerable skill the villainous Captain Macdonald; and Mr. Raymond Wood provides an intense and graphic portraiture of Randal O'Mara. As a typical Irish police-sergeant Mr. Willie Reid has plenty of scope, and he is of incalculable value to the lighter side of the drama; Mr. A. Gambier Melford plays with grim humour as the car-driver, Nicholas Dickinson; and Mr. Harry Bristowe portrays Sir Philip Kingston very appropriately. Miss Laura Leycester is highly successful as Bridget O'Mara; and Miss Mabel Lowe is a duly pert and sprightly Louisa Ferguson. The minor parts are all played with intelligence and care.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.

On Wednesday, June 26, Shakespeare's Comedy,
"AS YOU LIKE IT."

Although the unfavourable weather precluded the possibility of this play being given in the open, as was originally intended, we doubt if the company has often played to a fuller house or to a more appreciative audience. Mr. Herbert Bunston's rendering of the exiled Duke was finished and effective, and Mr. P. Wilson, as Amiens, and Mr. Frank Cochrane, as the First Lord, could both sing well and act. The Jacques of Mr. F. Lumsden Hare was a sound performance. Mr. Herbert Plinge, as Charles the wrestler, was a sturdy figure, and in the wrestling scene gave great reality to the struggle. The Orlando of Mr. E. Harcourt Williams received a full share of encouragement, and the applause it evoked was well deserved. Mr. Arthur Curtis, as Adam, was good and earnest; and Mr. Charles Bibby made an excellent Touchstone, full of quaint humour. The Corin of Mr. Stockall Ward needs a special word of commendation; and Mr. Frank Randell was a duly pathetic and simple Silvius, and successfully doubled the part with that of the usurping Duke. Miss Madge McIntosh, as Rosalind, enlisted the sympathies of all, and her acting was a consistent success from start to finish. She was well aided by Miss Jean Stirling Mackinlay, as Celia. Miss Cissie Saumarez sang tunefully in the first act, and enacted Audrey with much drollery and character. The many glees during the action of the play were sung under her direction. Miss May Holland, as Phœbe, gave due emphasis to her lines. The play was prettily mounted.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, June 24, the Drama
"WHEN A MAN HATES."

Mr. W. Graham Arthurs' company provides the current week's attraction at the Stratford Theatre Royal. Mr. W. Graham Arthurs in the part of Pietro Donelli is very thorough and hardworking; and Mr. Arthur Jarvis has made a careful study of the part of the youthful curate, Lawrence Hastings. Mr. Herbert M. King submits a grimly-drawn sketch of the half-witted Paul; Mr. Fred A. Lewis is an alert representative of Detective Smart; Mr. F. A. Lester is convincing as Sir Rupert Treharne; Mr. Ernest Turner is a very amusing Peter Pimple; Mr. Sam Edwards is well placed as Jim Rogers; Mr. Fred Rosson as the Corwen village policeman with an American accent does very well; Miss Mamie Stuart plays with excellent Judgment as Olga Gwynne; Letty is daintily impersonated by Miss Mabel Liston; and Miss Jennie Hallworth is a very bright and pleasing Dolly Dimple.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

On Thursday evening, June 20, a dramatic performance of Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* was given by the pupils of Mr. Cairns James, who may be warmly congratulated on the entire success of a somewhat daring experiment, for surely never before has Shakespeare's romantic play been performed only by young ladies; and the strangest feature was that the male parts were the strongest portion of the cast. The performance was given in the theatre of the institution before a very large audience, and the two scenes of Athens and a wood near it, painted by Mr. W. Hemsley, answered admirably. Miss M. Robinson made a dignified Theseus, Duke of Athens, and his betrothed, Hippolyta, was ably undertaken by Miss M. Cotter; while Miss S. Jay and Miss M. A. Banks in the parts of Lysander and Demetrius gave a most dashing and gallant rendering of the two lovers. Miss Winifred Hatton acted sympathetically the character of Helena, Miss C. Barcham was an equally successful Hermia, and Miss A. Upton acted well as the ancient Egeus. Bottom, the weaver, was played with no small amount of humour by Miss G. Moore, who may also be praised for his excellent management of the ass's head and her clear enunciation under somewhat trying circumstances; and Miss L. S. Crunden may be most warmly commended for her excellent performance of Quince, the carpenter, and fussy stage-manager, prompter, and scenic artist, of the little play the rest of the motley group are getting up. Snout, Flute, Starveling, and Snug, played by Miss S. Newton, Miss M. Weeks, Miss E. Alderton, and Miss E. Robertson, also greatly amused the audience by their comic business. Among the Immortals Miss V. Coomes made quite a manly Oberon, and Miss J. A. Stirling a dainty and charming Titania; the capital Puck of little Miss Ivy Popham also deserves special mention. The little parts of Peaseblossom, Cobweb, Moth, and Mustard-seed were neatly acted and the lines clearly spoken by Misses Beryl Cramer, Dolly Mills, Annie Gregory, and P. Finch. The first and second Singing Fairies, Miss Enid Cummings and Miss M. Anderson (pupils of Mme. Henson), were much applauded in the duet "I know a bank"; and the first Speaking Fairy was cleverly impersonated by Miss M. E. Farnell. Mendelssohn's incidental music was admirably played on the pianoforte by Miss Jessie Attwell and Mr. Mischa Levin; while the Misses Stella Cobb, E. Coppin, E. Levey, E. Cummings, V. Somerville, D. Dix, M. Hemsley, E. Leslie, and I. Hart did credit to their professors in the pretty dances composed and arranged by Mr. B. Soutten. The charming and handsome costumes were admirably carried out by Mr. W. Clarkson, and at the close of the performance all the artists were received with enthusiasm, and the appearance of Mr. Cairns James on the stage greeted with loud and long-continued applause.

In the great hall of the City of London School on Wednesday evening the students of the Guildhall School gave an orchestral concert, which attracted a large audience. The orchestra, which was conducted by Dr. Cummings, was first heard in an excellent performance of Schumann's "Julius Cæsar" Overture, a somewhat unattractive work of the great master. The principal novelty of the concert on Wednesday was a Pianoforte Concerto (MS.) in C Minor, composed and played by Miss Ethel Scarborough. The new work consisted of an Allegro, Lento, and a spirited Allegro Vivace. Miss Scarborough in her clever concerto does not lack ideas, as the last movement alone contains such abundant material that, with judicious treatment, it might serve for a completo concerto. It was evident, however, that the young lady has great ability in writing for the orchestra, which plays the most important part in the new work. Miss Scarborough, who played the solo instrument with marked ability, being ably supported by the orchestra, was at the close most heartily applauded and twice recalled to the platform. In the vocal portion of the programme, Miss Amy Julie Bean was fairly successful in recit. "I thank thy zeal, good friend," and air, "Slow, sail slow, thou tiny boat," from Clay's *Lalla Rookh;* and Signor Mario Vail gave a fervent and dramatic rendering of "Si puo? Signore!" Leoncavallo's Prologue to *Pagliacci*. The singer, who received abundant applause, must, however, guard against a tendency to force the voice. The concert concluded with an effective performance by the orchestra of the Allegro in Raff's Symphony No. 5 in E Major, Op. 177.

"THE DANCING GIRLS OF SPAIN."

Comedy, in Two Acts, by George R. Sims, music by Clarence C. Corri, produced on Monday, June 24, at the Theatre Royal, Hull.

Don Julian Alvarez .....W. H. AUSTIN
Sir Jeremiah Joyce .....GEORGE DANVERS
The Rev. Alonzo Joyce .....JACK CRICHTON
Terence McGinty .....GEORGE DELAFORCE
Darcy Davis .....EDGAR DEREVE
Jack Davis .....JOHNNIE SCHOFIELD, JR.
Don Carlos Alvarez .....DONALD EDWARD
Guitarez .....ARTHUR WHITE
Interpreter .....EDWARD DURANT
Roderigo .....JAMES FALCON
Miss Chiquita Joyce .....DOLLY VARDON
Miss Marie Montresser .....GERTRUDE FAWCETT
Lola .....KITTY LAMBERT
Juanita .....MILLIE NEAL
Mercedes .....GERTIE JACKSON
Manuelita .....SADIE THOMPSON
Dancers .....THE THREE MAGNETS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Had Mr. George R. Sims made a journey to the Theatre Royal, Hull, and witnessed the initial performance of his comedy he must have felt somewhat disappointed with his work. It is not his best, and although Mr. Clarence C. Corri has introduced much sprightly music, it does not cover the shortcomings of the book.

Relying upon jealousy and intrigue for his plot, Mr. Sims chooses for his chief character an Irishman, whom he makes the victim of unheard of matrimonial difficulties. His wife leaves him on the wedding day, and after he has been led to believe she is dead, he marries an actress, with the same result, his second wife leaving him on the wedding day. He follows her to Spain, and, having traced her to Seville, he accepts a post of hall-porter in the hotel she patronises. Naturally Mr. Sims makes the most of the humour created, and the situation at times is excrutiatingly funny. The runaway actress, however, does not carry with her the honour of being the heroine, for Miss Chiquita Joyce is made the central figure of a nice little love affair, which parental interference prevents having a happy culmination until a few seconds before the final curtain is rung down.

By giving the piece a Spanish setting Mr. Sims has introduced much brightness by the colour of the costumes, and he has given Mr. Corri an opportunity, of which he takes advantage, to enliven the scene with sparkling music, to which the dancing girls respond with charming grace of manner. The cast is a strong one throughout, and may be relied upon to bring the best out of the work. It may be that they will develop it into a more highly-diverting performance than that witnessed on Monday evening. Miss Dolly Varden is a native of Hull, and had a most cordial reception. She played the part of the heroine with gaiety and considerable success, and looked *chic* when disguised as a midshipman. Mr. W. H. Austin was cast as the lover, Don Julian Alvarez, and proved himself to be possessed of a finely-trained voice. Messrs. George Danvers, George Delaforce, Edgar Dereve, and others were responsible for the humour; and Mr. Jack Crichton was the gay young curate. The Three Magnets displayed great agility in their dancing, and Miss Gertrude Fawcett was a delightful Marie Montresser.

MISS KATE RORKE'S PUPILS.

Gratifying results were obtained at the matinée given by Miss Kate Rorke, at the Great Queen Street Theatre, on Tuesday, in order to present to the public several young actresses who have studied under her direction. Great expectations were raised by the announcement of a performance of the pupils of an actress who has done such good work on the London stage, and the hopes of the audience that filled the theatre on Tuesday were not in vain.

The presentation piece was Mr. W. S. Gilbert's mythological comedy, *Pygmalion and Galatea*, to which full justice was done. No evidence was supplied as to how many among the young ladies who appeared owed their attainments in the dramatic art to Miss Rorke, but considerable promise was in many cases revealed. The all-important rôle of Galatea was undertaken with delicacy and judgment by Miss Ethel McDowell. Her natural dramatic talent and vocal powers have been skilfully cultivated, and the sweetness and simplicity of her impersonation was preserved throughout. Another meritorious rendering was the Cynisca of Miss A. Walden, who imported real feeling into her assumption, and spoke with well-varied phrasing, her invocation to the goddess being very impressive. Pygmalion had a artistic exponent in Mr. George Cook, who appeared by permission of Mr. Martin Harvey, and acted in finished style. Mr. G. M. Napper would have been a more soldierly Leucippe had he borne himself with greater confidence, but unreserved praise can be given to Mr. Charles Rock, who presented a remarkably droll study of Chrysos, the art patron—funny in make-up, gesture, and delivery. Miss A. Castiglione was suitably imperious and malevolent as Chrysos' wife, and a pretty performance of Myrine was given by Miss Dorothy Giles. Mimos and Agesimos, slaves respectively of Pygmalion and Chrysos, were invested with masculine fierceness by Miss Irene Grahame and Miss Maud Amoury. Following Mr. Gilbert's comedy was a new play in one act by Mrs. George Cran, entitled

"THE SHELL OF A MAN."

Ruth ..... MISS ENID ROSE
Dora ..... MISS BETTY HARDRESS
Guy Willoughby ..... MR. LAWSON BUTT

The power of the Press is here shown in an extraordinary way. Guy Willoughby, a famous actor, is in love with a lady journalist named Ruth, who, however, rejects his suit on the ground that his profession makes him insincere and she objects to allying herself with the "shell of a man." The actor accordingly decides to give up his profession, and gets so far as to telephone to the theatre instructions to put on his understudy. Arrangements are being made for the departure of the pair for Paris to be married on the morrow when the lady's sister calls the actor's attention to a eulogistic notice in a newspaper in which Guy is alluded to as the hope of the contemporary stage. Guy gazes in rapture at the article—all thought of his betrothal being apparently banished—and Ruth reminding him that he will be late for the theatre, he says he is afraid he will, and takes a hurried departure. The little piece received the benefit of excellent interpretation. Miss Enid Rose, who gained such well-deserved encomiums for her recital of the stage directions at the recent Stage Society matinée at the Lyric, acted the part of Ruth with refinement and skill. Her articulation is well-nigh perfect, and the musical tones of her voice lent additional impressiveness to her lines. Miss Betty Hardress in the part of the Sister Dora was vivacious enough, but did not err on the side of distinctness. Mr. Lawson Butt presented the actor in realistic style, and delivered his lines in a way that made one wish they had been better worth the utterance. The piece, indeed, has few smart sayings, though it must be said the theme has a tinge of originality. The authoress was warmly applauded at the close, when Miss Rorke was also called and presented with a bouquet.

"THE HEART OF THE MACHINE."

Play, in Three Acts, by Antonia R. Williams, produced at the Royalty Theatre on Thursday afternoon, June 27.

Beatrice Sherringham .....MRS. RUSS WHYTAL
Jim Estcourt .....MR. HENRY AINLEY
Ricardo Sherringham ..MR. NORMAN MCKINNEL
Eve Bastable .....MISS SUZANNE SHELDON
Prior .....MR. KEANE

The chief fault of *The Heart of the Machine* is lack of lucidity. The authoress is too mysterious; she keeps the audience too much in the dark; and it is only when nearing the end of the second act that she allows us to divine the drift of her story. Then she is responsible for a fairly strong situation; and the audience becomes interested. This interest, however, fades away in the third act, in which there is no situation whatever, and the only feeling engendered on Thursday afternoon by the feeble ending was one of perplexity.

Beatrice Sherringham and her brother, Jim Estcourt, are united by a strong affection. There is the bond of sympathy arising from similar tastes, for both are musical; and Jim is a *dilettante*, who writes opera. Beatrice's husband, Ricardo Sherringham, a doctor of science, is devoted to the improvement of the telephone, and is on the verge of a great discovery. His complete absorption in study and experiment has led to his neglect of Beatrice, who speaks in ecstatic fashion of the happiness of the first few weeks of their married life. Among Beatrice's acquaintances is a Mrs. Eve Bastable, the widow of an officer in the Guards. She comes to make a confession that it is owing to her want of caution that Beatrice's eight-year-old son lost his life. The mother readily forgives, and the widow is invited to stay. She has been six weeks in the house at the opening of the second act, and is assisting the scientific Ricardo in his experiments. Jim Estcourt, who is her companion, declares his love for her, and the cold, calculating inventor becomes inspired with the tender passion in her presence. Years ago, when a girl, she had been his assistant, and she had learnt to love him, and he got rid of her in order to marry Beatrice. She passionately upbraids him for his callous heartlessness, and smashes the machine. Part of the conversation is overheard by Beatrice, to whom Mrs. Bastable explains the situation, declaring that not only does she not love her husband, but that her heart is given to another. That other is Jim, who confesses to his beloved sister that somebody is even dearer to him than she. There is a rather perfunctory reconciliation between husband and wife, and at the final curtain-fall the former is examining the damaged instrument that it has taken him so many years to perfect, while Beatrice toys with a bowl of roses.

Miss Suzanne Sheldon as Mrs. Bastable roused the languid interest of the audience in the second act by her powerful outburst—the one genuine dramatic moment of the play. Mrs. Russ Whytal played with charm, gentleness, pathos, and admirable discretion as Beatrice; Mr. Henry Ainley put some fire and enthusiasm into his lines; and Mr. Norman McKinnel, who produced the play, was a cold and reserved inventor. Several prominent members of the profession were among the audience, and Sir Charles Wyndham occupied a stall.

"THE LOVE OF A LIFE."

A Drama, in four acts, by Eugene Gotere, produced, for the first time on any stage, at the Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool, on Monday, June 24.

Colonel Edgeworth .....MR. J. W. EVELYN
Captain Ravenscroft ..MR. ARTHUR E. PRINGLE
Lieut. Alverley.....MR. LOUIS NORMAN
Sub-Lieut. Gormanston
MR. GEO. MARRIOTT, JUN.
Private Sam Fluster .....MR. WILLIE SCOTT
Private Steer.....MR. ERNEST REGENT
Smervin ..... MR. ARCHIE GEAR
Mrs. Alverley .....MISS GRACE GARSIDE
Margaret Edgeworth
MISS N. EVELYN-WATERWORTH
Rosine .....MISS NELLIE JACKSON
Lady Vere Martinique.....MISS KATE WALFRED
Merna.....MISS ADA M. RYDER

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The scene opens in the rooms of Lieut. Alverley, at Gibraltar, where we learn that, through his extravagant wife, his funds are at low-water mark. In addition she has, for the purpose of meeting her gambling debts, forged on a promissory note the name of her husband's honoured superior officer, Colonel Edgeworth. When the regiment is ordered to the front, the scoundrelly Captain Ravenscroft, by means of false statements and offers of money, induces his comrade's wife to abandon her home. Repentance and the discovery of the plotting against her happiness drives the wretched woman to become a nurse during the campaign, so as to be beside her husband and child. The march of events show both how grossly they were deceived, and, in the end, through the kindly offices of Colonel Edgeworth, Lieut. Alverley, who has won distinction, rejoins his now devoted and reformed wife. The telling of the story certainly needs a deal of condensation and revision, especially in the first act, where one has to exhibit much patience for an indication of the author's intentions. There is introduced a deal of good comedy which comes as a relief from the lengthy stretches of dialogue.

Miss Ada M. Ryder, who bore a heavy and trying part, is to be congratulated upon the admirable manner in which she expressed the varying moods of the beguiled wife, Merna. There were periods in the play when Miss Ryder's powers as an actress were severely tested, and with every satisfaction. The rascally conspirator, Ravenscroft, was as well presented by Mr. Arthur E. Pringle as could be desired; his persuasive style lent distinction to the character, added to which was a good delivery and appearance. One of the best figures in the combination was that of Colonel Edgeworth, played with every discretion by that experienced actor, Mr. J. W. Evelyn; and a military fop was humorously submitted by Mr. George Marriott, Jun. The heroic and much sinned against Alverley found an excellent exponent in Mr. Louis Norman, who, however, would improve his work by a little more restraint in both actions and speech; Mr. Willie Scott and Mr. Ernest Regent, as the officers' servants, caused continuous laughter whenever they appeared. The recital of their love affairs and the reading of amorous missives were particularly funny items. Miss Nellie Jackson, as the object of their attentions, proved a vivacious French maid; Miss Grace Garside afforded satisfaction in the small part of Mrs. Alverley; Miss N. Evelyn-Waterworth was successful as the Colonel's daughter; and Miss Kate Walfred did the most with the evil-minded Lady Martinique. Messrs. John B. Shinton and Alexander Greenwood's company presented the play, which was appropriately mounted.

A THEATRE is shortly to be erected in Vienna bearing the name of Johann Strauss. A nephew of the author of the "Blue Danube" waltz, who bears the same Christian name and is a son of Eduard Strauss, is carrying on the traditions of the family and has lately been conducting concerts with great success in Munich. The original Johann Strauss, surnamed "the father of the waltz," was born in 1804 and died in 1849.

"THE HOUSE OF SHAME."

A Drama, in Four Acts, by Ada G. Abott, Produced at the Theatre Royal, Cardiff, on Monday, June 24.

Everard Hilderson ..... MR. JOHN LESTER
Berkeley Hilderson .....MR. ERNEST R. ABBOTT
Kingsley Hilderson ..... MR. W. H. GARBOIS
Barry Hilderson ..... MR. FRANK STEPHENS
Morris ..... MR. EDWIN KEENE
Miss Penelope Hilderson..MISS LOUISE GILMORE
Mrs. Manx ..... MISS MARJORIE TENNANT
Eliza .....MISS MARY DOUGLAS
Barbara Linley ..... MISS ADA ABBOTT

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. Ernest R. Abbott opened the closing week of his very successful summer season at the Theatre Royal, Cardiff, by producing a new drama, entitled *The House of Shame*, by Miss Ada Abbott, the talented actress. In this play Miss Abbott tells the story of an innocent girl who, by her purity and love, leads a drunkard to higher things, and turns a house of shame into a house of honour. At the head of the house of shame is Squire Everard Hilderson, owner of the mortgaged-up-to-the-hilt Thorpe Royal. He is a widower with three sons—Berkeley the eldest, a drunkard; Kingsley, a polished scamp; and Barry, a schoolboy. Barbara Linley, an orphan and the Squire's ward, is an innocent girl of sixteen. She, Napoleon, her dog, and Barry are chums. She has a fortune of £80,000. The Squire has brought her to Thorpe Royal to marry Kingsley, so that the £2,000 a year she is entitled to on her marriage will pay the interest on the overdue mortgage. Berkeley, however, insists on Barbara making her choice between Kingsley and himself, and to the surprise and annoyance of all she chooses Berkeley. He makes it patent that she will be his wife in name only until she is grown up, and the first act ends with the girl's innocent joy at being married, she having no idea of the meaning of the ceremony, and Berkeley staggering off to bed half drunk. In the second act they have been married a few weeks, and the Squire and Kingsley are trying to get Barbara's signature to the deed entitling her to her marriage portion. Berkeley refuses to allow her to do this, and in his absence they flog Barry to make Barbara sign, but she holds out, and Berkeley's timely return prevents any more brutality. The act closes with a charming scene between the drunkard and his child-wife. Her kiss rouses his better nature, and awakens the first chord of love for her in his heart. Act III. finds Kingsley making desperate love to Barbara to induce her to sign the deed. Barry, dressing up in one of her frocks and his aunt's wig, is mistaken by Kingsley for Barbara. Barry is horrified to learn of his brother's villainy and tells Berkeley, who, finding Barbara and Kingsley together, feigns drunkenness (he has given up the drink, through his growing love for his wife) and hears Kingsley making a final effort to ruin Barbara. At the close of a scene Berkeley tells her she is not his wife; he has only pretended to marry her to save her from Kingsley. Kingsley in a fit of fury says that Barbara will be known as Berkeley's mistress, and in the struggle that ensues slips, strikes his head, and dies suddenly. The Squire denounces Berkeley as his murderer, and says that Barbara's evidence will not be taken, as she is his wife. She ends the act by saying she is not his wife. Act IV. finds the Squire and his sister leaving Thorpe Royal for ever. Berkeley has really married Barbara to save her good name, but, never dreaming she cares for him, is departing to go out of her life. Barry persuades Berkeley to see Barbara to say good-bye, and she tells him she has found her woman's heart and loves him; and the piece ends with the re-union of Berkeley and his little wife.

Miss Ada Abbott as Barbara Linley submits an impersonation that could certainly not be improved upon. Her portrayal of the merry sixteen-year-old girl is a perfect piece of acting. The childish pranks of the "tom-boy" are as cleverly portrayed as are the more serious parts of the last two acts. Mr. Ernest R. Abbott as Berkeley Hilderson fills the character with credit, and brings out every point with a care denoting exceptional histrionic gifts. Mr. Frank Stephens as Barry has a difficult part to portray, but makes a success of it. Mr. W. H. Garbois is at once at home in the distasteful part of Kingsley, and received on Monday the compliment from the gallery of vigorous execration. Mr. John Lester does well as the Squire and is most dramatic in his final scene. Miss Marjorie Tenant as Mrs. Manx and Mr. Edwin Keene as Morris work extremely well together, and deserve much congratulation. Miss Mary Douglas as Eliza was another very amusing artist, her character acting being excruciatingly laughable. Miss Louise Gilmore appears as Miss Penelope. Miss Ada Abbott has added another triumph to her reputation of an accomplished actress and gifted authoress, and deserves the enthusiastic welcome that was accorded her drama on Monday night.

THE CELLI FUND.

This fund is being raised on behalf of the two young daughters, aged seventeen and eighteen, of the late Frank Celli, well known in the theatrical profession, who died in Charing Cross Hospital two years ago, leaving them totally unprovided for.

List of subscriptions to date :—

	£	s.	d.
Mr. W. H. Kendal	5	5	0
Mr. A. W. Pinero	5	5	0
Sir Squire Bancroft	5	0	0
Dr. C. Bell Keetley	5	0	0
Actors' Benevolent Association	5	0	0
Mr. Arthur Clark	3	3	0
Mr. W. S. Gilbert	3	3	0
Mr. Henry Arthur Jones	3	3	0
Leopold de Rothschild	3	3	0
A. B. F.	3	0	0
Frederick Macmillan	2	2	0
Mr. Howard Morley	2	2	0
Sir Charles Wyndham	2	2	0
Mr. Augustus F. M. Spalding	2	0	0
Sir Hubert Parry	2	0	0
Mr. George P. Bancroft	1	1	0
Miss Olga Birrell	1	1	0
Mr. Dion Boucicault	1	1	0
Mr. Arthur Bourchier	1	1	0
Mr. Albert Chevalier	1	1	0
Mr. G. Thorn Drury	1	1	0
Mr. George Grossmith	1	1	0
Mr. Martin Harvey	1	1	0
Mr. Anthony Hope Hawkins	1	1	0
Dr. John Harold	1	1	0
Mr. C. T. H. Helmsley	1	1	0
Mr. F. Maitland	1	1	0
Mr. H. B. Irving	1	1	0
Capt. Robert Marshall	1	1	0
Mr. S. Heilburt	1	1	0
Mr. Frank Misselbrook	1	1	0
Mr. H. G. Pelissier	1	0	0
Dr. Howard D. Stewart	1	0	0
Miss Irene Vanbrugh	1	0	0
Mr. Luther Munday	0	10	6
Mr. Ernest H. Maude	0	10	0
Mr. Egerton Beck	0	5	0
H. J. S.	0	5	0
Mr. P. M. Turner	0	2	6
	£72	17	0

Contributions towards this most deserving case may be sent to :—Mr. S. Sherrington Chinn, 1, Albemarle-street, W.; Mr. C. T. H. Helmsley, St. James's Theatre, S.W.; Mr. M. V. Leveaux, Garrick Theatre, W.C.; or the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, *The Era* Office, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, W.C. Cheques should be crossed and made payable to the "Celli Fund."

THE CHILDREN'S ADVOCATE.

Under the presidency of Viscount Portman, Mr. Arthur Bourchier delivered a delightful speech, characterised by humour and pathos, at the annual meeting of the Children's Happy Evenings Association, held on Thursday afternoon at the town address of the Marquis of Zetland :

Ladies and Gentlemen,—I suppose it may be taken for granted that we, who come together in the name of children and for the sake of children, acknowledge that we have an interest in them. If we have children of our own we are ready to tell a hundred stories of their cleverness, their quaint sayings, their pretty little ways. It is likely that we are not without our experience now and then of spoilt children. I do not mean of our own spoilt children, because nobody's own children ever were spoilt, but I mean the disagreeable children of our particular friends, who tell us unpleasant truths about our personal appearance, who decline to go to bed at a reasonable hour, and who are at last, to our great relief, carried off, protesting loudly. These are the spoilt children of our friends; but, ladies and gentlemen, there is a very different, a far more numerous, and a far more serious class of spoilt children—the spoilt children of the poor in this great City. The two grim nurses, Poverty and Sickness, who bring these children before us, preside over their births, rock their wretched cradles, and, alas! but too often nail down their little coffins and pile up the earth above their graves. I shall not ask you, on behalf of these children, to observe how good they are,

[*Photo by Sarony.*

MR. ARTHUR BOURCHIER.

how pretty they are, how promising they are—I shall only ask you to observe how weak they are, and to turn your thoughts to these spoilt children in the sacred names of pity and compassion.

The Children's Happy Evenings Association, of which H.R.H. the Princess of Wales is president, acts as fairy godmother to thousands of poor children in London, and, like a good fairy, it has also extended its beneficent operations among the children of other cities. The objects of the Association, which are well known, cannot be too warmly commended. I quote a few lines from the last report :—"To brighten the early years of children whose parents, owing to stress of work, can provide them with little beyond the bare necessaries of life, to teach them to play and amuse themselves in a healthy and orderly manner, and to offer in the clean, well-lighted schoolrooms, furnished with simple toys and directed by kind and sympathising helpers, a counter-attraction to the streets and courts which are too often the only playground of the poor."

What infinite pathos there is in that last sentence for those of us who look back with delight upon the happy evenings of our childhood in old-world gardens, and upon the never-to-be-forgotten hours in the spacious playing-fields of our old school!

While acting in Glasgow last autumn I came across a group of boys playing football in the district known as the Cowcaddens, a spot whose name suggests green meadows, but whose nature is closely allied with flinty cobble-stones. Their ball—save the mark!—was an empty sardine-tin, and they were barefooted, as seems to be the custom of the children of that hardy race; but they were kicking it backwards and forwards with a skill and vigour which Lord Kinnaird himself would have envied. My own toes ached as I watched them, and I could not but contrast *their* playground with the one in which I learned "to chase the flying ball."

If, in this crowded London of ours, we cannot give to every child an open space to play in, we can at least endeavour to give him or her healthy, rational amusement in comfortable warm rooms in the long winter months, and the Children's Happy Evenings Association provides not only the rooms and the amusements, but also a small band of cheerful helpers, who give personal service to the good cause.

There are a great many reasons why personal service should be given to this good cause, and why personal service should be valued more highly than money—not that the treasurer will look askance at cheques! The way to keep young is to be with the young, to laugh with them, to share their joys, and to understand their little griefs with a sympathetic heart. A father or elder brother will acknowledge that, however tired and jaded he may be after his long day's work, a couple of hours with the young folk at home puts new life into him and makes him forget the cares of this toilsome workaday world. And most mothers will tell you that the happiest hours of their day are spent with their children.

There are a hundred ways in which "grown-ups" can give personal help to this Association. Go to any of the centres and they will show you how to begin.

You can take a part in their games—blind man's buff is a pleasant change from bridge on a winter's evening—or you can tell them stories, or you can get up charades, or you can teach the boys the noble art of self-defence; or—and here I appeal to the gentler sex—you can initiate the girls into the mysteries of a doll's wardrobe: of these, I, a mere male, am not competent to say anything beyond stating the fact that when my own little girl gets a doll she always asks, "Does it undress?" And I notice how neatly she folds its clothes, and wish that I were as careful of my own!

Again, our own children should be encouraged to take a practical interest in their poorer brethren, not only by sending toys to the Association, but, better still, by going to some of the happy evenings

There is no use our shutting our eyes to the fact that we live in a democratic age, and, if it be true that the child is the father of the man, it may be equally true that the child of to-day is the law-maker of to-morrow, and *that* law-maker will have the same recollection of his childhood—happy or the reverse—be he Old Etonian or product of our national schools. I believe that much may be done to smooth away the little asperities, shall I say? between class and class by encouraging the children of the classes to mix more freely with the children of the masses. In the country the children of the gentry frequently go to Sunday school with the children of the tenantry, and when the son of the house comes home for his holidays it is the son of the gamekeeper, or, perhaps, of the poacher, who shows him where birds' eggs are to be found, and the son of the house reciprocates by teaching him to play with a straight bat. I am sure that nothing but good can come of this association of the children of one class with the children of another. In the Army and Navy we know that men will do practically anything for the officer who has played games with them, and I believe that, if the children of the poor see with their own eyes that the children of the rich are interested in them, and wish to make their lot a little happier, a little less uncomfortable, much bitterness will be avoided in the years to come, and the word "toff," as a term of contempt, will become obsolete. After all, the accident of birth is but an accident. "There, but for the grace of God, go I, John Smith," said the Quaker, as he saw the cart bearing the criminals to Tyburn.

Take your children, then, to one of these happy evenings, and you will be doing the good cause a greater service than you can with mere monetary help. Perhaps this first glimpse of children less fortunate than themselves, children who don't go to parties, and whose theatre is the sordid drama of back courts varied by an occasional Punch and Judy show, will strengthen that latent sympathy for suffering humanity which all children, rich and poor, most certainly possess, and the child who plays with his poor neighbour now will be an energetic worker for the Association a few years hence.

In Robert Louis Stevenson's book, "A Child's Garden of Verse"—a book full of beautiful thoughts—which every lover of children should know by heart, his childish sympathy with suffering is most tenderly expressed :—

"Every night my prayer I say,
And get my dinner every day;
And every day that I've been good
I get an orange after food.

The child that is not clean and neat,
With lots of toys and things to eat,
He is a naughty child, I'm sure—
Or else his dear papa is poor."

The gracious lady who is the president of the Association has shown her practical interest in its work by visiting the children at their games, and her children send frequent contributions of toys. I believe that some youngsters are happy in the possession of a cuirass, sent by Prince Edward. They are more fortunate than a child I know of who was playing at soldiers and wished to represent a Lifeguardsman in all the glory of a shining helmet. Seizing a saucepan, he jammed it on his head so firmly that it would not come off—and his father's dinner was inside it!

The most delightful paper, the most charming essay which the tender imagination of Charles Lamb conceived, represents him as sitting by his fireside on a winter night, telling stories to his own dear children, and delighting in their society, until he suddenly comes to his old, solitary, bachelor self, and finds that they were but dream-children, who might have been but never were. "We are nothing," they say to him, "less than nothing, and dreams. We are only what might have been, and we must wait upon the tedious shore of Lethe, millions of ages, before we have existence and a name." "And immediately awaking," he says, "I found myself in my armchair."

The dream-children whom I would now raise, if I could, before every one of you, should be the dear child you love, the dearer child you may have lost, the child you certainly have been. Each of these dream-children should plead for his poor brothers and sisters—"O help them in my name, O help them for my sake!" and immediately awaking you should find yourselves in this beautiful room, happily arrived at the end of a rather long speech, and thoroughly resolved that the Children's Happy Evenings Association shall flourish.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

Ponchielli's opera, *La Gioconda*, was revived at Covent Garden on Thursday, June 20. At Milan, in 1876, the opera, when first produced, made a favourable impression, but it was not heard in London until 1883, when it was performed at Covent Garden. The author of the libretto is Boïto, and the dramatic story is to a certain extent founded on Victor Hugo's "Angelo." The action of the opera occurs during the seventeenth century, at Venice. A street singer, La Gioconda, who is the sole support of her blind mother, falls in love with Enzo Grimaldo, a nobleman, whom she thinks to be only an officer in the merchant service. Unfortunately this gentleman loves a certain Laura, once betrothed to him, Laura, however, has been compelled to marry the Chief of the Council of Ten, named Alvise. To further complicate matters, Gioconda is beloved by one Barnaba, principal spy of the Council of Ten, who, being unsuccessful in his suit, informs Alvise that his wife intends eloping with Enzo. This also coming to the ears of Gioconda, she, of course, determines to kill her rival in Enzo's love. Relenting, however, she gives Laura a narcotic instead of the poison intended by Alvise. After this she tells Barnaba that if he only liberates Enzo she will be his. The lovers escape in a boat in the last act, and when Barnaba comes for his reward Gioconda stabs herself, saying, "Take me, I am thine."

The opera is in four acts, and the first contains perhaps the finest music—a beautiful prelude, some lively choruses, and a fine trio; while Barnaba has a most striking soliloquy. In the second act the principal features are the tenor romance, "Cielo e mar," and the duet between Laura and Enzo. The third act, besides being the most dramatic, contains the famous "Dance of the Hours," a charming ballet, with the lovely dresses of the dancers in pink, yellow, blue, and black, representing dawn, daylight, evening, and night, blending most harmoniously with the delightful music. The finale of this act is intensely dramatic both in music and situations. In the last act there is some clever concerted music, a serenade of gondoliers, and a beautiful rosary theme. The plot of the opera clearly shows that a dramatic soprano is imperative, and Mlle. Destinn admirably sustained the character of Gioconda; while Mme. Kirkby Lunn's Laura was finely sung and acted. Mme. Edna Thornton also greatly advanced her position by her clever rendering of the blind mother's part. As Enzo Signor Bassi sang well, but was to a certain extent overweighted by the demands of the part, although he was most cordially received by the audience. That fine artist Signor Sammarco impersonated Barnaba with marked success; and M. Journet may be warmly praised for his performance of Alvise. The opera was gorgeously mounted with most brilliant scenic effects painted by Mr. Harry Brooke; while the chorus singing was excellent, and the orchestra, under the skilful conductorship of Signor Campanini, all that could be desired.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, June 27.—The hot weather is supposed to have set in; our theatrical managers are packing their trunks and starting for seaside or country; and the members of the theatrical world, now that the playhouses are nearly all closed, centring their attentions on the Conservatoire competitions, which have just begun. As usual, there is much rivalry among the professors, but the one who is keenest to see her pupils arrive first at the winning post, or, at all events, "placed," is Mme. Sarah Bernhardt. The great actress—be it said in her honour—takes her duties quite seriously. Every Tuesday and Thursday morning, at exactly five minutes to ten, the heavy doors of the building in the Faubourg Poissonière are thrown open to allow Mme. Bernhardt's carriage to enter. She is punctual to the minute. Her arrival generally creates a little sensation in the neighbourhood, for the smart Cook's guide has made it one of the sights of the capital; and his flock, Baedeker in hand, look with awe on the famous artist whom they have never had a chance of seeing or hearing. Those hailing from your side of the water admire in silence. The Americans are less tactful. They cheer the fair occupant of the carriage, and from what I witnessed there one morning, the lady rather seemed to enjoy the homage. Nobody can deny that Mme. Bernhardt has shown herself an excellent and painstaking professor. If she finds that the tuition in the class is not sufficient to some of the pupils, she orders them to come to her house, and gives them extra lessons. Her favourite pupil at the present moment, and whom she reckons will carry off a prize, is M. Leroy, a talented young gentleman on the eve of marrying a student in M. Berr's class.

WHEN Mlle. Delna married, her husband's relatives insisted on her promising to turn her back for ever on the stage. The great prima donna did not care to make such a promise, but the said relatives were inexorable, and in order to avoid unpleasantness the lady accepted the condition. Unforeseen circumstances, however, have arisen, and we will once more have the pleasure of applauding that splendid singer in *La Vivandière*, at the Gaîté, in October next. MM. Isola have engaged Mme. Delna for three months, at a salary of £6000. The figure is high, but as she will have to appear every night (Sundays as well) MM. Isola have not made such a bad bargain. It will be remembered that Mme. Delna made a sensational début in *Les Troyens* some fifteen years ago, and her retirement from the operatic stage was a great loss to the music-loving public.

MM. GUICHES AND GHEUSI have read their play, *Chacun sa vie*, to the artists of the Comédie-Française, who will interpret it. The rehearsals have begun, and the work will probably be produced in the beginning of September next. In the same month the Comédie-Française will bring out a new comedy by MM. de Flers and de Caillavet. As to M. Alfred Capus' play, it will see the footlights on November 23. No date has yet been fixed for the new works by M. Henri Lavedan and Octave Mirbeau.

THE Théâtre des Arts promises us for the coming week the première of *L'Amour aux Castagnettes*, an operette by MM. Moncousin and Rabbe, for which M. Marius Lambert has written the music.

MM. HERTZ AND COQUELIN intended to keep the Porte-Saint-Martin open during the month of July, but as the house has undergone some repairs they will close their doors on July 1. It is probable that they will reopen with *Les Deux Gosses*, which continues to draw well.

MLLE. BERANGERE, a clever young actress who made her début at the Grand-Guignol and the Théâtre Molière, has been engaged at the Ambigu. M. Grisier has given her one of the leading rôles in the new piece to be produced there.

M. ALBERT CARRE has also made several important engagements. One is that of Mme. Boyer de Lafory, whose beautiful voice we heard at the Colonne concerts. The other is Mlle. Nicia, whom we have had occasion to mention already in these columns.

AT the end of the year M. Pedro Gailhard ceases to be manager of the Opéra, and his place will be taken by MM. Messager and Broussan. But he has to repair the damage done to the building during his tenure of office, and these repairs are estimated at about £3000. It is possible that the house will be closed for a week or a fortnight for the convenience of the workmen, but our Fine Arts Minister has already issued an ukase that in that case the employees and artists will not suffer any loss of salary.

As was reported in all the papers M. Lépine, the Police Prefect, forbade the Prince de Broglie to appear in public at the Nouveau-Cirque, where he wanted to direct a concert. M. Lépine was compelled to prohibit the performance inasmuch as the friends of the de Broglie family had threatened to make a violent demonstration. I had a short chat with the Prince, and for the benefit of the readers of *The Era*, asked him to give me his views on this prohibition. What the Prince said was to the point. He knows England, and drew a parallel between the younger sons of the British aristocracy and their colleagues in France. "Many of the former," he said, "either join a profession or embark in business, an example followed even by many titled ladies. Healthy in body and in mind, work appeals to them, and in their *entourage* they are respected for earning their livelihood. With the narrow-minded, narrow-chested French younger sons, things are altogether different. Work not only frightens them, but they consider it degrading. They will borrow money from their friends; they will gamble and owe what they lose; they will sponge on their relatives; and even accept financial help from their mistresses! All this is not considered dishonourable. A nobleman is allowed to resort to these tricks. But woe to him if he works! He at once becomes a criminal who should be prevented from earning a living. And that is how, by threatening to create a disturbance in the hall, they induced that good Police Prefect to stop the performance. And who are these members of my family who took it upon themselves to interfere? The Prince here volunteered some statements and gave a few details, which, being unprintable, cannot be produced.

M. ANTOINE and M. Jusseaume, the well-known scene-painter, have had a conference with M. Pierre Loti to arrange for the scenery of *Ramuntcho*, the new work by M. Loti to be produced at the Odéon in the course of next season.

THE Théâtre Antique de la Nature announces for Sunday the première of *Les Hommes de Proie*, a play by M. Charles Méré, the scene of which is laid in the Sahara. The strong cast comprises MM. Albert Darmont, Henry Krauss, Jean Hervé, Mlle. Christiane Mancini, &c.

THE open-air theatres are proving a success. At Aulnay-sous-Bois, a delightfully-situated little spot near Paris, the Théâtre-aux-Champ has just been brilliantly inaugurated. M. Jules Renard's *Bucoliques* and Jules Princet's *Messidor* were produced, and, despite the uncertain weather, the place was full to overflowing.

MR. EDITOR,—Sir,—In your notice this week of *In the Shadow of Night* company at the Camden the part of Violet Kingston was credited to Miss Elsie Wallace. That lady was billed for the rôle, but it was played by yours faithfully, PHYLLIS BRENT, Kennington Theatre, S.E., June 23.

A NEW comedy-opera in three acts, entitled *The Blossom of Brittany*, by Sutton Vane, with music by Edward Jones, was produced for copyright purposes at the Theatre Royal, Brighton, on Tuesday.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

MR. W. S. GILBERT, who is a participant in the Birthday Honours, was born in London in the November of 1836, and studied at Ealing and London University. He was called to the Bar in 1864, and subsequently held a captain's commission in the Aberdeenshire Highlanders (Militia). His literary career began with contributions to *Fun*, in which his popular "Bab Ballads" and his comic cantata, *Trial by Jury*, first appeared. Among the earliest of his numerous plays was *Pygmalion and Galatea*, written in 1871, while *The Fairy's Dilemma*, was produced by Mr. Arthur Bourchier at the Garrick as lately as 1904. It is, of course, on his association with the late Sir Arthur Sullivan in the Savoy operas that the fame of the new knight chiefly rests, and it is from the lovers of those renowned works that the bulk of congratulations will come. Mr. Gilbert is a Justice of the Peace for Middlesex, and resides at Grimsdyke, Harrow Weald. All must agree that the honour is thoroughly deserved.

MR. BEERBOHM TREE will terminate his season at His Majesty's Theatre on Friday next, when a lavish programme will be presented. The second act of *Colonel Newcombe*, *The Vandyck*, with Mr. Tree and Mr. Weedon Grossmith in their original parts, the third act of *A Woman of No Importance*, Act 2 of *Antony and Cleopatra*, and the second act of *The Winter's Tale*, in which the principal parts will be sustained by Miss Viola Tree, Mr. Basil Gill, and Mr. Lyn Harding, comprise an evening's entertainment that reflects the characteristic liberality of Mr. Tree.

THE stage was worthily represented at the King's Garden Party at Windsor Castle on Saturday, Sir Charles Wyndham and Sir Squire Bancroft stood for the knighthood of the theatre, and the brilliant gathering also included Lady Bancroft, Sir Francis and Lady Burnand, Mr. and Mrs. Beerbohm Tree and Miss Viola Tree, Miss Ellen Terry and her husband (Mr. James Carew), Miss Mary Moore, Mr. and Mrs. George Alexander, Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Maude, Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Gilbert, Mr. Edward Terry, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Mr. and Mrs. Dion Boucicault, Mr. Lewis Waller, and Mr. George Grossmith. Music was represented by Sir Alexander Mackenzie, Mme. Melba, Mr. Charles Santley, Mr. Kennerley Rumford and Mme. Clara Butt, Signor and Mme. Tosti, Mlle. Janotha, Chevalier and Mrs. Ganz, M. Johannes Wolff, and Mr. Percy Pitt; while Mr. Neil Forsyth, with whom was Mrs. Neil Forsyth, was a deputy from the Royal Opera House.

THE invitations to their Majesties' Garden Party included the names of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Kendal. Mrs. Kendal travelled from Filey, where she is at present staying, in order to attend the Royal function.

MR. A. W. PINERO has just returned to London from Wiesbaden. The health of the famous dramatist gave great anxiety in the spring, but he is now happily in his usual strength and spirits. He is engaged on a new drama for Mr. George Alexander, which is destined for production at the St. James's at the beginning of the New Year.

MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER will terminate his present season of *John Glayde's Honour* at the St. James's Theatre on Friday evening, July 12. On Sept. 9 Mr. Alexander and his company will begin a six weeks' tour of the provinces with *His House in Order*, visiting Blackpool, Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, Edinburgh, and Glasgow. When he reappears at the St. James's early in November Mr. Alexander will produce an adaptation by Cosmo Gordon Lennox from M. Henri Bernstein's successful work *Le Voleur*, the English title of which will be *The Thief*. During Mr. Alexander's absence the St. James's Theatre will be occupied by Mr. Edward Compton, whose season will begin on July 29 and terminate on Nov. 2.

MRS. PATRICK CAMPBELL recited at a café chantant given in aid of the Eye Hospital in Dr. Bland-Sutton's beautiful Persian Court, 47, Brook-street, W., on Tuesday afternoon. Another attractive feature of the entertainment was the performance by Miss May Palfrey (Mrs. Weedon Grossmith) and Mr. Frederick Kerr of Mr. Lawrence B. Eastwood's one-act play, *Are You There?* recently produced at the Duke of Westminster's, in the presence of the Princess Louise, Duchess of Argyll.

A NUMBER of fine players figure in the list appended, from which the teams for the London *v.* Provincial Actors cricket match at Kennington Oval on Tuesday will be selected:—London: H. H. Ainley, C. Childerstone, G. M. Maurier, B. Egerton, R. Evett, V. O'Connor, H. E. Pearce, R. Selby, C. Aubrey Smith, Hope Stamper, A. Whitby, and H. Wilde. Provinces: Guy Benson, G. H. Clarke, Leslie Holland, Talbot Homewood, Percival Knight, P. F. Knox, Sam Livesey, A. W. Metcalfe, Horace Mills, H. Morgan, J. Rathbone, and J. P. Wilson. The game will begin at 11 o'clock, and the proceeds will be devoted to the Actors' Benevolent Fund and the Actors' Orphanage Fund.

ACTORS will also wield the willow in a philanthropic cause the following week, namely, Thursday, July 11, when the stage will again be opposed to the turf in a cricket match at Lord's, in aid of the theatrical charities. The teams will be twelve a side, the jockeys consisting of M. Cannon D. Maher, G. McCall, W. Griggs, K. Cannon, G. Williamson, W. Matthews, P. Chaloner, J. Woodman, E. Hunt, M. I'Anson, and G. Lyall. The actors' side will be captained by Mr. George Edwardes, and the rest of the team will be picked from among Messrs. J. A. E. Malone, George Graves, Robert Nainby, Oscar Asche, Blackman, V. O'Connor, Pearce, Kenney, Fred Kaye, Joe Coyne, W. H. Dawes, Robert Evett, Louis Bradfield, and Robert Hale.

A SMALL collection of silver belonging to Mr. E. S. Willard, who is giving up his residence at Banstead and coming to London to lead, as he says, "the simple life," was sold at Christie's recently. Four plain octagonal trencher saltcellars, made by Edward Woods in 1727, brought £38, or 78s. an ounce; a William III. porringer, 130s. an ounce; and a Charles II. porringer, 175s. an ounce; while a small shallow bowl, made in the same reign, embossed with foliage and a Tudor rose, dated 1665 and weighing about two ounces, realised £35. Mr. Willard's collection of etchings, which comprise many Rembrandts, Whistlers, and Camerons, will also be sold at Christie's during this month.

MR. FORBES-ROBERTSON has been for too long a period absent from the West-end, and the announcement that Messrs. Vedrenne and Barker have engaged the popular actor and his wife to appear at the Savoy in the autumn is accordingly very welcome. The play in which Mr. Robertson and Miss Gertrude Elliott are to make their appearance is Mr. Bernard Shaw's much-discussed *Cæsar and Cleopatra*, which was originally produced in America, and will be staged at the Savoy during the latter half of November. The opening performances of the new management at the Savoy Theatre will be given on Monday evening, Sept. 16, with a revival of *You Never Can Tell*, while the Vedrenne-Barker matinées will be as hitherto on Tuesday and Friday afternoons, commencing on Sept. 24.

MR. J. BANNISTER HOWARD is considerably reducing his responsibilities this autumn, as he has, we understand, taken on another large business other than theatrical. He will practically be confining himself to musical companies, and is only running popular successes, viz.: *The Belle of New York*, *Florodora*, *The Earl and the Girl*, and *The Belle of Mayfair*. The rights, together with the scenery, properties, and fine plant of printing for the well-known drama, *The Four Just Men*, are available, and a rare chance for some enterprising manager thus presents itself.

PAGEANTRY in the provinces is keeping Willie Clarkson very busy. He supplied the Oxford production with 2000 costumes and wigs, the Bury pageant kept him well occupied, and when La Milo rides through Coventry à la Lady Godiva her flowing tresses will be supplied by Willie Clarkson.

PRINCESS HENRY OF BATTENBERG has signified her intention of being present at the theatrical garden party in aid of the Actors' Orphanage Fund, to be held in the grounds of the Royal Chelsea Hospital on Friday next. Numerous well-known actors will take part in the hat-trimming competition, which is under the direction of Miss Phyllis Broughton, and of which Mrs. George Alexander will be judge. A specially designed tent for chocolate bonbons will be presided over by the Misses Zena and Phyllis Dare, and at the strawberry and cream tent Mrs. Edward Compton and Miss Lilian Braithwaite will be assisted by many celebrated actresses. Mr. Fred Wright, jun., and Miss Connie Ediss will appear as Mr. and Mrs. Jarley in a representation of "Jarley's Living Waxworks"; but among the innumerable attractions perhaps the most impressive will be the production by Mr. Cyril Maude, at the "Theatre Royal," in the grounds, of the new and original play, specially written for performance on this occasion only, by Captain Robert Marshall and Mr. Alfred Sutro, entitled *The Desperado Duke; or, the Culpable Countess*.

MR. TREE has scarcely settled upon the production of Mr. Comyns Carr's version of Dickens' *Mystery of Edwin Drood* than he casts about for another important undertaking. His latest choice has fallen upon a dramatisation by Mr. William Locke of his own fascinating novel "The Beloved Vagabond." The love story of Paragot and Joanna furnishes the dramatic element of the piece in an effective prologue, but the play will have a different termination to that of the novel. Mr. Locke has done his work well, and the character of that genial and contented student and philosopher, Berzelius Nibbidard Paragot should provide Mr. Tree with a part in which his versatile talents will have full scope.

MR. MARTIN HARVEY, who is an old boy of King's College School, had a pretty compliment paid him on Tuesday night, when no less than 120 pupils booked seats to see *The Only Way* at the Adelphi. At the end of the performance a beautiful laurel wreath was handed across the footlights, and in reply to an enthusiastic ovation Mr. Harvey made a short speech of thanks, recounting by the way an amusing incident of his school days at the College. The business done by Mr. Harvey at the Adelphi this season has been phenomenal, and although he could have extended his lease with Mr. Stuart, the need for a holiday is manifest. On Sunday Mr. Harvey has to fulfil a promise made some time ago to assist at the Leeds National Lifeboat Fund, and will travel to the Yorkshire town early on Sunday morning, make his appeal on behalf of the Fund, and return to London the same evening.

MR. OSCAR ASCHE and Miss Lily Brayton will open their season at His Majesty's on Sept. 4 with *Attila the Hun*, a four-act tragedy in blank verse by Laurence Binyon, an Oxford man, whose poetic effusions have won great admiration. The action of the piece takes place in a Burgundian village, about the middle of the fifth century, and deals primarily with the intrigue between Attila, "the scourge of God," and Ildico, the woman for whom he breaks his marriage vows. The characters named are to be played respectively by Mr. Asche and Miss Brayton, while Miss Mary Rorke is to assume that of Attila's wife. The music is an important feature of the production, and will be composed by Sir Charles Villiers Stanford. *As You Like It* will be revived later in the season, with Miss Lily Brayton as Rosalind, and matinées of *Othello* and *The Taming of the Shrew* also figure in Mr. Asche's managerial scheme.

THE Jubilee Masters' Lodge of Freemasons, which is this year being presided over by Mr. Henry Neville, entertained a large number of ladies and other friends at the Hotel Cecil on the 21st inst. Mr. James Fernandez was among the company.

MR. J. C. WILLIAMSON, the veteran entrepreneur of Australia, arrives in London on Monday. His representative here is Mr. J. A. E. Malone, of Daly's Theatre, to whom all communications intended for Mr. Williamson should be addressed.

MR. CECIL A. COLLINS, who recently made a great success as Bill Sikes with Mr. Beerbohm Tree's company of *Oliver Twist*, has been engaged by Mr. Wentworth Croke to play Jason in his forthcoming tour of *The Bondman*.

MR. SIDNEY RENNEF will produce, at the Star Theatre, Liverpool, on Monday, a new domestic drama by T. G. Bailey, entitled *Love Rules the World*. Special attention has been paid to the staging, the whole of the scenery having been built for Mr. Rennef. After the production at Liverpool, *Love Rules the World* will be played for a week at the Victoria Theatre, Broughton, Manchester, and Mr. Rennef intends touring his new drama in the spring and autumn of 1908.

PLANS for the reconstruction of the Star Theatre, Swansea, the building of which is estimated to cost £15,000, were passed by the Works Committee on Tuesday. The plans, which have been prepared by Mr. A. Parry Fielder, provide for a theatre that is up to date in every way, and lighted throughout by electricity. The auditorium will be reconstructed on modern lines, and will be designed to accommodate 1706 persons.

A MATINÉE of *Dr. Wake's Patient* was given by the *Twelfth Night* players at the Marlborough Theatre on Tuesday, in aid of the carnival fund of the Great Northern Hospital, when the large audience included the Mayor of Islington. A fine portrayal of Dr. Forrester Wake was given by Mr. E. V. Young, who appeared by special permission of Mr. George Alexander. The other members of the company all merit praise for their interpretations of their respective rôles. During the intervals Miss Kate Rooney sang "Through love to light" and "My own land"; Señor José Gomez's two violin selections gave great delight. By a regrettable mishap the notice of the postponement of the Carnival from July to September was posted over the wrong bills, with the result that many people had the impression that it was the matinée that was postponed.

MR. ARTHUR LAW RAYNOR has been specially engaged by Mr. C. W. Somerset for his old part of Crafton Lyle for a short suburban tour of *The Sorrows of Satan*.

AT the Savoy Hotel, on Thursday afternoon, Miss Decima Moore, Mr. Frank Haskoll, and Miss Sybil Arundale gave a "matinée musicale." Miss Ruth Vincent charmed everyone, and her exquisite rendering of Edward German's waltz from *Tom Jones* and "Comin' through the Rye" was warmly applauded. Miss Sybil Arundale sang delightfully; and Miss Decima Moore rendered two songs very sweetly. Miss May Leslie Stuart contributed two items from *Tom Jones* with skill and taste; and Miss Decima Moore and Mr. Lionel Glenister appeared in a duologue by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. Miss Kitty Cheatham's recitations created amusement, and Miss Billie Burke, Mr. Arthur Playfair, Mr. Arthur Bleackley, Mr. Frank Haskoll, Mr. Hayden Coffin, Mr. Gordon Cleather, and Mr. Maurice Farkoa all contributed to the entertainment acceptably.

MESSRS. LIONEL GLENISTER AND WOOD-INGRAM have been fortunate in securing Miss Kate Cutler to play the name-part in *All-of-a-Sudden Peggy* for their autumn tour. The fame enjoyed by Miss Cutler in London will speed her popularity in the provinces, throughout which the clever piece which now claims her services has already received the undoubted stamp of success.

A PAINFUL case came before the Lambeth Coroner's Court on Saturday, when an inquiry was made into the death of James William Chenery, aged twenty-eight, an actor. On the previous Wednesday a policeman found Chenery dead on the Albert Embankment outside St. Thomas's Hospital. In his pocket was a large bottle labelled "Poison," a blue paper packet labelled "Oxalic acid," and a letter addressed "To the Coroner." In the letter occurred the phrases: "I am very sorry to bring this trouble to anybody; there is no way out of a miserable existence but this. This is no place for a homeless, penniless, and hungry man. I cannot walk about any longer at night." Alice Emery Chenery, the widow, said her husband finished an engagement with Mr. Oscar Asche and Miss Lily Brayton a fortnight ago, and since then had done nothing. He was given to drink. Samuel Philip Cooper, an actor, living in Camberwell New-road, said he and Chenery were on tour for about fifteen weeks with Mr. Oscar Asche and Miss Lily Brayton. The tour finished on Wednesday, June 7. Chenery had given up drink, and was a teetotaler. The jury returned a verdict of felo-de-se.

AT Bow-street Police Court on Monday Anthony Walters, of Brixton, was charged on remand before Mr. Fenwick with theft. The prisoner was employed at the Opera House, Covent Garden, and was recently stopped by a detective as he was carrying away a quantity of canvas that had been stolen. Counsel said the Royal Opera Syndicate did not wish to press the charge. They would be very glad if the magistrate would deal with the case under the first Offenders Act, as the prisoner was a good workman, and had hitherto borne an excellent character. The prisoner was accordingly bound over to come up for judgment if called upon.

"A STREET SCENE FROM STEPNEY," will be enacted on Tuesday and Wednesday next, at the Cadogan Rooms, Basil-street, Sloane-street, with the object of providing funds to build a clubhouse and restaurant in the parish of Holy Trinity, Stepney. Assistance in the novel scheme is to be lent by many aristocratic ladies, and the entertainment will be contributed to by Miss Marion Terry, Miss Viola Tree, and Miss Nina Sevening. Old folk games, handed down from the sixteenth century, will also be danced and sung by children from Stepney.

THE Tonic Sol-fa Association celebrates to-day at the Crystal Palace the jubilee of children's concerts. In 1857 it was considered an act of great daring to conduct a juvenile choir of several thousand voices through an unaccompanied selection, but the Tonic Sol-fa system made this experiment highly successful. Besides the children's concert, which is to be conducted by Mr. Filmer Rook, there will be an adult concert, with orchestral accompaniment, conducted by Mr. L. C. Venables, and during the proceedings Miss A. M. Wakefield will present a challenge shield and silver cups, which will be competed for by some of the choirs. In the evening Mr. Curwen will give a lantern lecture on "The Story of Tonic Sol-fa," and there will be tests in reading music at sight.

MR. ROBERT ARTHUR'S stock company, including Mr. Rutland Barrington, Mr. Whitworth Mitton, Miss Madge Temple, Miss Blanche Fenton, and Mr. Richard Green, opens at the Kennington Theatre for one week on Monday in a triple bill, comprising *The King's Hat*, *Faithful James*, and *La Mascotte*. Mr. Marshall Moore is the producer.

MR. R. W. ALLUM has engaged a strong bill for the Brixton Theatre next week, during which Mr. Walter Maclean and company are paying, by special desire, a return visit in *David Garrick*. A new comedietta, entitled *A Brace of Humbugs*, written by John Cutler, K.C., will precede. The plot is a modernised version of an episode in one of the well-known stories in "Arabian Nights' Entertainments." Mr. Maclean has again secured the services of Mr. T. W. Ford for the Alderman in his production of *David Garrick*. Mr. Ford will be remembered as the Alderman with the late E. H. Sothern.

AN application was made on the 21st inst. to Mr. Justice Warrington by Mr. Arthur Houston, instructed by Mr. H. Percy Becher on behalf of Messrs. Courtneidge, Limited, for an injunction restraining Mr. F. R. Duberley from performing or permitting to be sung certain songs or musical compositions the performing rights of which are vested in Courtneidge, Limited. Mr. A. F. C. Luxmoore, on behalf of the defendant, consented to a perpetual injunction with costs against his client.

MISS ITALIA CONTI was the charming Rosalind of a pastoral production of *As You Like It*, which formed the chief attraction of a garden fête given at Battersea-rise House, Clapham Common, on Wednesday, in order to raise funds to help the day nurseries for the children of working mothers opened in Battersea by Sir Walter Vaughan Morgan. Shakespeare's comedy had an appropriate setting amid the sylvan surroundings of the extensive grounds, and the piece was admirably stage-managed by Mr. Montague Wigan, who played Adam. Other parts were taken by Messrs. Cremlin, Walter Kingham, William Luff, A. H. Allen, Edward Landor, Oxlee, James Gelderd, E. Brookfield, Currey, Robert Grey, and Misses Kate Turner, Betty Castle, E. Martheze, C. Greet, E. Pourtales, and Hamber.

WE learn with regret of an accident to Mrs. Michael Gunn, the popular manageress of the Gaiety, Dublin, who fell down some stairs at the theatre in the early part of this week and strained the tendons of her shoulder. It is feared she will be confined to her room for some time.

A NEW National Opera House for Flemish opera is to be opened at Antwerp in October, and at Rotterdam a German opera is shortly to be started, influential amateurs in that city having launched the scheme with a capital, it is said, of £100,000.

"THE SCARLET PIMPERNEL" reached its 600th performance on Wednesday, when the New Theatre was densely crowded. Miss Julia Neilson and Mr. Fred Terry were both received with a veritable storm of applause. Miss Neilson's performance as the beautiful Lady Blakeney was as charming and sympathetic as ever, while Mr. Fred Terry as the gay and debonair yet remarkably clever Sir Percy Blakeney, acted with his customary brilliancy. A scene of enthusiasm was witnessed at the close of a memorable evening, when the curtain had to be raised again and again.

ON the 26th inst., Herr B. Pareezer, the new lessee of the New Royal Theatre, King's Lynn, had the pleasure of welcoming an overflowing house at his first "benefit." The Mayor of the Borough and a number of county families were among the company. It speaks well for the popularity of Herr Pareezer that the house was crowded and enthusiastic. That excellent play, *My Friend the Prince*, was given under the able direction of Mr. Paul McAlister.

MISS BATEMAN has decided to substitute Mr. Kinsey Peile's comedietta *The Stratagem* for *Evening Dress* at her matinée at the Court on Tuesday. Though played with a good deal of success in the provinces, Mr. Peile's little piece has not yet been tried in London, and it will form a fitting contrast to the tragic poetry of Wills's *Medea in Corinth*, which is to form the staple fare of the matinée.

DURING the summer recess the directors of the Theatre Royal, Bath, have decided to restore the front portion of the building of the old house. The restoration is to be carried out upon the original design, so as to be kept in harmony with the rest of the building.

WE regret to record the death of Alderman Mitchell, the chairman of the Theatre Royal Co., Ltd., Bath, who passed away on Wednesday at the advanced age of eighty-five.

M. PADEREWSKI was the guest of the Royal Academy of Music on Thursday, when the famous pianist treated the students to a short but greatly-appreciated recital. The young people of Tenterden-street assembled in full force, and when the master appeared on the platform he received an ovation that must have been decidedly gratifying. Commencing with his "Variations in E flat minor," M. Paderewski followed with his latest composition, the new Sonata, which was played with his usual brilliancy. Returning to the platform, he played with exquisite feeling Chopin's "Nocturne in F sharp" and the "Study in F minor." The programme concluded with a fine performance of Liszt's "Rhapsody No. 13."

SIR ALEXANDER MACKENZIE, in a few graceful sentences, tendered M. Paderewski the grateful thanks of the governing bodies and of the students for his amiable and generous action in coming to the Academy freely to give them these splendid examples of his art, both as an executant and a creative master. Sir Alexander predicted that the event would long survive in the memory of those who had the good fortune to be present.

THE new musical comedy, *Such a Nice Girl*, by Frank Stanmore, will be produced on Monday at the Theatre Royal, Worthing, and will visit the County Theatre, Kingston, July 8. Amongst the principals will be found Miss Nell Richardson, Miss Maude Percival, Miss Nellie Clarence, and Messrs. Arthur Poole, Douglas Payne, Fred Penley, Frank Tennant, and Frank Stanmore.

MR. LYN HARDING has now been selected for the leading part in the autumn drama at Drury Lane. Mr. Harding has a character which should suit him admirably, and the engagement is sure to prove a popular one.

A BODY of enthusiasts in Leeds has formed an association, to be known as the Leeds Playgoers' Society, with the object of "endeavouring to ascertain the wants of playgoers and operagoers and of being the means of expressing their wants in a more convincing manner than is afforded by a few isolated letters in the newspapers." The aims of the society are to guarantee support to impresarios in the production of novelties.

THE Shakespeare Reading Society gave two pastoral performances in the gardens of Lowther Lodge, South Kensington, on Saturday, in aid of the League of Mercy, which were under the immediate patronage of Princess Louise Augusta of Schleswig-Holstein. The programme comprised a succession of episodes from Shakespeare's plays. The opening episode was "Queen Katherine's Appeal to King Henry VIII."; followed by the "Watch" scenes from *Much Ado About Nothing*. Then came a pageant representing the coronation procession of Anne Bullen, prefaced by the scene between Wolsey and Cromwell. Next in due order came a pavane and a Morris dance, a scene from *Henry VI.*, in which, in the Temple Gardens, York and Lancaster come by their distinctive roses; the meeting of Edward V. and the Duke of Gloucester in *Richard III.*; and the presentation of Shakespeare to Queen Elizabeth and her Court.

WE deeply regret to record the death of Mr. Joseph Knight, the well-known dramatic critic, who passed away on Sunday evening at his residence in Camden-square, in his seventy-eighth year. Mr. Knight, who was born at Leeds, was educated at a private school in Yorkshire, and in 1860 came to London and entered at Lincoln's Inn, keeping terms with Sir F. C. Burnand and the late Mr. Montagu Williams. He contributed to innumerable periodicals, and in 1863 succeeded the late Mr. Clement Scott as dramatic critic of the *Sunday Times*. Mr. Knight's theatrical essays included, "A History of the Stage during the Victorian Era," a "Life of David Garrick" (1894), and the bulk of the biographies of actors contained in the "Dictionary of National Biography." His services to the stage were commemorated by the dinner given in his honour at the Hotel Cecil in 1905, when the chair was taken by the late Sir Henry Irving. The deceased writer, who was very greatly esteemed, leaves a widow and two daughters, one of whom is Mrs. Ian Robertson.

OUR advertisement columns contain an apology to Mr. Henry Arthur Jones, the Rev. Frank Heath, and Samuel French, Ltd., offered by Mr. F. H. Taylor, who admits that, under the title of *The Gold King*, he wrongfully performed their copyright play, *The Silver King*, or some substantial portion thereof. Mr. Taylor undertakes for the future not to perform, or cause to be performed, the said play or any portion thereof without proper consent, and not to use in connection with any plays announced or represented any title in such a way as to be calculated to deceive persons into the belief that the play so announced or represented is *The Silver King*.

MR. JERRARD GRANT ALLEN will produce at Ramsgate next week a one-act piece, entitled *England: a Play Without a Plot*, by Mr. Norman Roe; and will also present at the King's Theatre, Glasgow, on July 24 a new three-act comedy, by Mr. W. Strange Hall, called *The Stormy Petrel*. In this Mr. Jerrold Robertshaw takes the principal part.

FIRST-CLASS importance is attached to the matinée in aid of the funds of the Foreign Press Association in London, to be given at His Majesty's on Tuesday next. Mr. Beerbohm Tree, who is kindly lending the theatre, will make a contribution to the entertainment, and Miss Viola Tree will sing. Mr. Arthur Bourchier and Miss Violet Vanbrugh will appear in a duologue, as will also Mr. James Welch and Miss Audrey Ford, and the programme will also include Miss Constance Collier and Mr. Basil Gill in the Orchard scene from *Julius Cæsar*, Mrs. Langtry, Miss Billie Burke, Miss Marie Dainton, Miss Rosina Filippi, Mlle. Adeline Genée, Miss Kitty Gordon, Mme. Yvette Guilbert, Mr. Charles Hawtrey, Miss Annie Hughes, Mr. A. E. Matthews, Mlle. Jane May, Miss Olga Nethersole, Miss Marion Terry, Mr. Maurice Farkoa, and Mr. George Graves.

MR. M. RUSSELL ROSSE will, on Monday next, commence his third dramatic season at the Pavilion, Kingstown, when an extensive repertory will be given, including Mr. J. H. Darnley's *Facing the Music*. The cast will comprise Messrs. J. Edward Fraser, George Mudie, jun., Norman Clark, and David James; Mesdames Cissie Sephton, Edith Hesketh, L. Kingston, R. De Travis, and E. Nolan O'Connor.

MR. E. D. ELDRIDGE, who has been the Messrs. Shubert's chief representative in London for some time, departed for America yesterday morning, leaving Waterloo Station for Southampton by the 10 a.m. train. It is Mr. Eldridge's intention, we understand, to remain in America. A large number of theatrical and other notabilities assembled on the platform, and many little tokens of goodwill were seen to be given to Mr. and Mrs. Eldridge. Amongst those in the crowd were Mr. Marks, Mr. Oscar Hammerstein, Mr. Richard Warner, Mr. Frank Felton, and Mr. Maundy-Gregory, who remains at the Waldorf Theatre as manager and representative for the Messrs. Shubert.

MR. J. BANNISTER HOWARD asks us to notify all managers intending to visit the Theatre Royal, Ryde, and the New Royal Theatre, King's Lynn, that in future all communications should be addressed to Mr. Charles Constant at Ryde, and Mr. Barnet Pareezer at King's Lynn, as he has disposed of his interests to these gentlemen.

THE Haymarket Theatre was generously lent on Thursday afternoon by Mr. Frederick Harrison, for a reception in aid of the Samaritan Free Hospital for Women. The "hostesses" were Miss Marie Tempest, Miss Mary Moore, Miss Violet Vanbrugh, Miss Irene Vanbrugh, Mrs. Carr Cook, Miss Eva Moore, Miss Grace Lane, and Miss Marion Terry. Mr. Hayden Coffin sang "The Village Blacksmith" admirably; Mr. Lewis Waller gave a poem with deep expression; Mr. Fred Upton told some of his droll stories; and Mlle. Adeline Genée made an agreeable contribution to the performance. Mrs. George Alexander, Miss Maxine Elliott, and Miss Constance Collier were amongst those present.

IN the dress worn by Miss Elsie Ferguson in *The Earl of Pawtucket* at the Playhouse, the skirt is of myosotis-blue ninon de soie, with a bodice of the same, supplemented with a pinafore front and deep arm bands of velvet to match, piped with pavane silk. The pinafore is scooped out at the neck to give full importance to the new chemisier jabot of mousseline edged with lace, while the dainty elbow-sleeves of white mousseline de soie are sewn with perpendicular bouillonnées of lace edging. Two attractive little finishing touches are afforded by a smart butterfly bow of brown taffetas at the neck, and a deep curved waistbelt of the same tied in a bow behind, while the skirt is completed at the back with a flat double box-pleat. A charming hat accompanies this costume. It is of natural-coloured straw, trimmed on either side with immense chestnut-brown wings, which are spread out over the brim, a broad folded band of bright emerald-green velvet encircling the crown, and tied in a flat bow over the hair behind.

MISS ALEXANDRA CARLISLE makes her appearance in Act I. in the lovely gown in which she delights her audience in the second act. Mousseline de soie in a lovely shade of golden king-cup forms the basis, a perfect note of harmony being represented by the exact match afforded by the fine fancy silk braid with which both skirt and bodice are strapped. Each line of braid is finished with a braid motif and tassel to match, whilst the draped bodice is supplemented with short full sleeves of white mousseline de soie, thickly encrusted with applications of Cluny lace, the same forming a transparent yoke. A dyed Leghorn hat of the fashionable extravagant dimensions contributes to the general effect, this being trimmed with masses of huge pink roses and dark green foliage.

MISS ELSIE FERGUSON'S gown in Act II. is of filet adorned with immense chrysanthemums in coarse crochet, which are brought up the skirt from the hem in graceful lines, the kimono corsage being outlined with the same decoration and supplemented with an under-bodice of tucked chiffon, while the toilet is completed by a soft pink satin sash with long ends. Her cloche hat with high crown boasts a border of black straw, and is almost covered with masses of pure white Parma violets, one of the new skeleton black ostrich plumes with white spine rising from the forest of violets on one side.

MISS CARLISLE'S final appearance is made in a cloak of cream-coloured alpaca, which is cut in an essentially modern adaptation of the dolman style at the back, deep "surplice" sleeves springing almost from the centre seam, while in the front the "skirt" of the wrap is gathered fully into a band at the waist. Her gown of white mousseline de soie is trimmed with wide insertions of pure white Cluny lace and straight bands of narrow white satin ribbon, which are introduced in perpendicular lines from the shoulders to the hem, the same lace being responsible for the vest, while the kimono sleeves are finished with white silk tassels and rosettes, and her hat of fine peacock-green straw is adorned with a huge marabout feather.

MISS ELSIE FERGUSON, in the last act, wears a large black hat, trimmed across the front with a single black plume, and a semi-Empire gown of rose-pink ninon de soie. The short-waisted bodice is drawn over a full corselet skirt, and finished with a corded heading, whilst the somewhat elaborate sleeves of white mousseline de soie are laced together with rose-pink cord, and the deep-crossed collar, composed of wide bands of white lace hemmed with ninon, which adorns the corsage, is finished in front with a bunch of cord, with white pendant fuchsia tassels. Miss Alexandra Carlisle's dresses have been made by Paquin (Limited).

MESSRS. J. E. VEDRENNE AND GRANVILLE BARKER are to be entertained at a complimentary dinner at the Criterion Restaurant on July 7, in recognition of their three years' successful work at the Court Theatre. Mr. Beerbohm Tree, Mr. J. M. Barrie, Mr. Alfred Sutro, and Mr. Bernard Shaw are members of the committee who have in hand the arrangements for the dinner, over which the Earl of Lytton will preside.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Mr. Gilbert and the Brigands.

MR. W. S. GILBERT'S knighthood makes a few anecdotes about the great Savoyard apropos. His earliest recollections, says Miss Edith A. Browne in "Stars of the Stage," date back to the time when he was two years old. "Bab," who was making the Grand Tour with his parents, and was then in Naples, had been sent out for a walk with his nurse. Presently she was accosted by two men who said that the English gentleman had sent them for the baby. In simple faith she handed her little charge over to them, and they went their way—Gilbert had been stolen by brigands! A small detachment of carabinieri, armed with £25, was quickly despatched to the mountains, and the little hero of this adventure was safely restored to his parents. Gilbert distinctly remembers riding in front of a man on an animal through what seemed to be a cutting with steep banks on either side; in later days, when he was again in Naples, he recognised in the Via Posilippo the scene which had impressed itself on his infant memory.

Interviewing Charles Kean.

AT the age of fifteen Mr. Gilbert's theatrical bias led him into a more ambitious venture. Enraptured with a performance of *The Corsican Brothers* at the Princess's Theatre, then under the management of Charles Kean, he packed up a few clothes in a handbag, and actually succeeded in interviewing Kean with a view to going on the stage. It was a very elated stripling who received the message that Kean would see him in his room, but once face to face with the great actor, all the boy's courage forsook him. "So you would like to go on the stage?" said Kean. "Yes," murmured Master Gilbert, trembling in every limb. "What's your name?" The boy's imagination failed him at a critical moment in his life. "Gilbert," he replied, seeking refuge in the truth. "Gilbert—Gilbert," reiterated Kean, "are you the son of my old friend William Gilbert?" "Y—yes," stammered the boy, and he was promptly sent home to his father.

Gilbert and the Frenchman.

IN 1864, at the age of twenty-eight, he was called to the Bar. This "call" was, practically speaking, the only return the profession ever made for £400 which he had carefully planned out—£100 for the privilege of being a student at the Inner Temple, £100 to enable him to be a pupil in the chambers of the late Judge Watkin Wilkins, who was then a barrister, the third £100 to pay his fee of admission to the Bar, and the remaining £100 to set himself up in chambers in Clement's Inn. For four years he practised; the number of his briefs averaged five per annum, the number of his fees was considerably under that average, and this in spite of the fact that the first opportunity of calling a judge "Your wushup" was afforded him by a Frenchman who manifested his warm appreciation of his young counsel's oratorical powers by throwing his arms round Gilbert's neck and kissing him in open court. But even this warm-hearted Frenchman forgot to pay the barrister his fee.

Keeping Out Late-Comers.

"IT is very difficult to know what to say," said Mr. Tree, in answer to an inquiry from the *Daily Mail* as to the policy of keeping late-comers till the next entr'acte after their arrival. "You cannot dictate conditions, and you cannot follow the system in force on some parts of the Continent of closing the doors while the curtain is up." "The fashion of arriving late at the theatre," said Mr. George Alexander, "keeps leading actors from appearing in one-act plays. Even on first nights, when the tension on the stage is very great, people stroll in when the curtain is up. They anger the pit, and cause inconvenience all round. To a new author trying to get a hearing with a one-act play, this disregard of him and others is unfair." "You cannot," said Mr. John Hare, "get a London audience seated in time for any play, however serious. It is owing to that fact that managers begin at the late hour that now obtains." "It is very much to be regretted," said Mr. Frederick Harrison, "that audiences are not punctual. The stalls are never filled until nine o'clock; and the one-act play which is found interesting by those who arrive early is often spoiled by people taking their seats during its performance. It discourages the actors, in addition to annoying people who have come in before the curtain was raised." "It is a pity, of course, that audiences will be late," says Mr. Cyril Maude, "but as they are coming to an entertainment we cannot very well dictate to them. With a one-act piece, such as *The Drums of Oude*, performed in a dark auditorium, the difficulties are very great and sometimes amusing for those who try to find their way to their seats."

More Opinions.

MR. J. E. VEDRENNE, joint manager with Mr. Granville Barker of the Court Theatre, said that the exclusion of playgoers who arrived late until the fall of the curtain was "altogether too arbitrary. I know," he said, "many actors and actresses who have been simply heart-broken by the noisy interruptions of late-comers, and many a first act has been spoiled by their thoughtlessness; but as regards the Court Theatre, I have nothing of which to complain. When I gave a series of concerts at the Queen's Hall, I tried the experiment of excluding late-comers until the end of the first movement, and found it very successful. But a concert is different from a play, and I should not care to apply the experiment to a theatre." Mr. Arthur Bourchier has never found the necessity for such drastic action. "When silence is necessary during the first act," he said, "I have always found that a simple request was sufficient to prevent any late arrivals entering until a more opportune moment." "With a play of serious interest," said Mr. Lewis Waller, "every interruption is bad; bad for the audience that wants to follow the piece right through, and bad for the players. If the play is a brisk, breezy, or light affair, it is not so hurtful. When a one-act play of serious interest is staged it would not be unfair, perhaps, to ask late-comers to wait until it ended."

Overworked Actors.

AT the American stock-company theatre, says Mr. William Archer in an article in the *Tribune*, the company is so small that most of its members are engaged in every play that is presented; they have to act, not four or five times, but twelve times in the week; and while they are acting every afternoon and evening, they have to be rehearsing every morning the next week's production. It seems almost incredible that flesh and blood can stand such an appalling strain. On going through the play-bills of 1901-1902, I find that the leading man of that season played, in thirty-five weeks, no fewer than twenty-eight heavy parts; while the leading lady in the same space of time went one better, and played twenty-nine parts. And all these parts, observe, had to be studied and rehearsed while the actor and actresses were giving two performances a day! One wonders that the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals does not interfere. At any rate, no artistic results of any value are to be expected from such merciless slave-driving; and as a matter of fact I cannot learn that the stock-company theatres have proved good nurseries of recruiting-grounds for the stage at large.

"THE EARL OF PAWTUCKET."

A Comedy, in Three Acts, by Augustus Thomas, Played for the First Time in London at the Playhouse, on Tuesday, June 25.

Earl of Cardington	MR. CYRIL MAUDE
Silas Hooper	MR. GEORGE SHELTON
Senator Barker	MR. W. H. POST
Judge Fordyce	MR. A. S. ASPLAND
Henry Seaford	MR. GEORGE COURTENEY
Arthur Weatherbee	MR. RICHARD STERLING
Duffield	MR. DAVID TODD
Wilkins	MR. JOHN HARWOOD
Crennan	MR. DORE DAVIDSON
Maître d'Hotel	MR. DANIEL MCCARTHY
Waiters	MR. A. G. ONSLOW, MR. CHARLES HAMPDEN
Omnibus	MR. W. BLAIR
Page Boy	MASTER DOYLE
Aunt Jane	MISS POLLIE EMERY
Ella Seaford	MISS ELSIE FERGUSON
Harriet Fordyce	MISS ALEXANDRA CARLISLE

Mr. Augustus Thomas's comedy has been a great success in the United States, where the high-toned Britisher was played by Mr. Laurence D'Orsay; but as the fun of the piece to American audiences must have lain in what they must have regarded as the absurdities in diction and behaviour of an English aristocrat of the "haw-haw" type, it was doubtful if the piece would appeal to Londoners with the same strength. Any misgivings on that score, however, were immediately dispelled by the enthusiastic reception given to *The Earl of Pawtucket* at the Playhouse on Tuesday evening. The hero is a certain Lord Cardington, who, in order to avoid being called as a witness in an unsavoury law case, goes to America and takes the name of a friend, Montgomery Putnam. He has, on various occasions, assisted, and has fallen deeply in love with, a young lady named Harriet Fordyce, the daughter of an American judge, and she reciprocates his feeling. Harriet has just been divorced from a worthless husband bearing the same name as that assumed by the Earl. This is the situation when the play begins, and the fun arises out of the complications which are created by the false identity assumed by the Earl, who pretends to hail from Pawtucket, and "crams" American slang from notes in his pocket-book. Harriet soon discovers that Cardington is using a false name, and is greatly amused by his endeavours to cope with the embarrassments in which his assumption of another's identity places him. Not only is the Earl called upon to pay a sum as alimony which is due from the real Montgomery Putnam; the latter's family appeal to the supposed "head" of it to give his consent to certain projected marriages. In spite of many plausible answers, evasions, and excuses, Cardington's imposture is exposed by Putnam's sister, Aunt Jane, who sends for a policeman to arrest the pretender. In the end the Earl is obliged to save himself from the suspicion of being his own murderer by confessing everything, and showing, in proof, a letter he has received from the real Montgomery. This clears up everything, and, it is hardly necessary to add, makes the marriage of Cardington and Harriet secure.

The representation of the Earl of Cardington by Mr. Cyril Maude was an exquisite example of delicate humour and refined comedy. From Mr. Maude's first entry it was evident that he had won the friendship of the audience completely. His make-up — middle-aged, with a sandy wig and greyish moustache—was most artistic; and the Earl of Cardington's manner—half shy, half audacious, with the easy assurance of the aristocratic always underlying the natural diffidence of the man—was a marvel of accurate study and close observation. Mr. Maude at certain points in the play introduced a peculiar laugh, full of subdued enjoyment and irresistibly ludicrous. Lord Cardington's courtship of Harriet Fordyce was full of tact and chivalry; and his amusing embarrassment in the false position in which he had placed himself, his droll doubtfulness as to what would be the best thing to say in the circumstances, and his coolness amidst the difficulties which surround him, made Mr. Maude's Earl of Cardington a piece of acting which was quite up to the high standard of his reputation. There are few actors on the London boards who could have combined so cleverly the polish and repose of the gentleman with the art and craft of the consummate comedian. It is a performance that every admirer of unforced, natural comedy acting should see and appreciate. While intensely amusing it was never exaggerated or overdone, and supplied convincing proof that Mr. Maude's talent is as fresh and vivid as ever. A more charming Harriet Fordyce than Miss Alexandra Carlisle could neither be imagined or desired. Delightfully pretty, and clad in the "cunningest" of costumes, Miss Carlisle added to her personal advantages a crisp, melodious enunciation which was a pleasure to listen to; and her bright and winning style, her delivery of her dialogue—full of animation and yet well restrained by gentle good-breeding—made up a very large sum of satisfaction. Miss Carlisle's acting in the courtship scenes was daintily discreet and charmingly smooth and subtle; and her performance altogether was a most agreeable and acceptable one. Mr. George Shelton's appearance as Silas Hooper—rotund of figure and slightly rubicund—was a capital bit of make-up, and his depiction of the blunt indignation of the puzzled brewer was very funny indeed. Mr. Shelton's well-known qualities of quaintness and drollery were valuably employed in this excellent impersonation. Another ripe and well-trained artist, Miss Pollie Emery, showed the advantage of expert thoroughness and wide experience in her capital comedy acting as Aunt Jane. Bold, free, and briskly emphasised, Miss Emery's depiction of the kindly, resolute, and "original" old maid was as natural and true as it was diverting and effective. Mr. W. H. Post quite came up to expectations of what an American senator should be; and even those unfamiliar with the type were able to recognise in Mr. Post's Senator Barker the characteristics of the accepted type. Mr. George Courteney gave a curiously individual interpretation of Henry Seaford; and Mr. Richard Sterling's Arthur Weatherbee had all the necessary youth and good nature, and was a very intelligent assumption. Mr. David Todd was highly commendable as Duffield; and the little sketch of the valet, Wilkins, given by Mr. John Harwood, was extremely neat and telling. Mr. Dore Davidson's Crennan possessed many merits; Mr. Daniel McCarthy's *maître d'hotel* had all the necessary suavity and grace; Mr. A. G. Onslow and Mr. Charles Hampden were excellent in every way as the two waiters; and Mr. W. Blair did useful work as Omnibus. Miss Elsie Ferguson as Ella Seaford was just the sweet, unsophisticated young maiden required, and played with a simple freedom which was worthy of warm praise. The comedy was preceded by that stirring episode in one act, *The Drums of Oude*, capitally played by a competent cast. Mr. Kenneth Douglas showed real power as Captain Hector McGregor; Mr. A. G. Onslow was manly and military as Lieut. Alan Hartley; and Mr. Daniel McCarthy gave a characteristic representation of Sergeant McDougal. Mr. Charles Hampden played Stewart with care and discrimination; and Mr. John Harwood and Mr. W. Blair were picturesque representatives of the two mysterious natives. As Mrs. Jack Clayton Miss Madge Titheradge proved her possession of emotional ability, and acted with plenty of passionate expression. *The Earl of Pawtucket* had a very favourable reception from a fashionable audience.

"IN THE BISHOP'S CARRIAGE."

Play, in Three Acts, Dramatised by Channing Pollock from the Novel by Miriam Michelson, played, for the first time in London, at the Waldorf Theatre, on Monday, June 24.

Latimer	MR. FRANK COOPER
Tom Dorgan	MR. CHARLES CARTWRIGHT
Obermuller	MR. HENRY VIBART
Edward Ramsay	MR. CHARLES COLLETTE
The Bishop	MR. ARNOLD LUCY
Burnett	MR. HUMPHREY WARDEN
Forbes	MR. HARRY REYNOLDS
Detective	MR. HENRY WEMYS
Reggie Inglis	MR. FREDERICK TRENT
Policeman	MR. E. J. CARLEN
Mrs. Ramsay	MISS AGNES HEWITT
Nellie	MISS EDITH CARTWRIGHT
Mrs. Latimer	MISS ELSPETH DUDGEON
Mrs. Wallace	MISS JOAN DERRY
Miss Inglis	MISS VIOLET COOPER
Mag Monahan	MISS MARGARET FULLER
Nance	MISS FANNIE WARD

Mr. Channing Pollock deserves credit for his dramatisation of Miriam Michelson's novel, "In the Bishop's Carriage," which was first published in the American magazine called "Ainslie's," and was given to English readers by Messrs. Archibald Constable and Co. The story was a realistic autobiography of a New York thief, an exposition of her inmost feelings, told in terms of graphic vulgarity. In the end she marries the manager of a vaudeville theatre, a quite commonplace and unromantic personage. Mr. Pollock has replaced him by a sentimental and interesting barrister, and has constructed a play with sufficient melodramatic situation to sustain the story on the stage. As in the book, Nance, a clever young female thief, after stealing the watch of a bibulous gentleman named Ramsay, purloins a lady's coat and hat from a railway station waiting-room, and bolts into the carriage of an amiable bishop. She pretends to be insane, and her attractiveness and the pathos of her position win the prelate, who takes her to a garden party given by Mrs. Ramsay. There Latimer, a barrister whose hobby is reforming young criminals, meets her, recognises her as a former client, and forces her to give up the articles she has stolen, finally sending her off in a motor-car to repent. In the second act Nance calls at Latimer's chambers, ostensibly to help him in his scheme of getting her on the stage, but really to plan with Tom Dorgan, a ruffian under whose influence she is, a robbery of the premises. Dorgan conceals himself in a side room, and vows to "do for" Latimer if he should offer any resistance; but at the last moment Nance's affection for Latimer triumphs, and she touches a burglar-alarm which warns the barrister, who confronts Dorgan with a revolver, and gives him in charge, again sparing Nance. As is evident to every experienced playgoer, a union between Latimer and Nance is inevitable, and it is duly effected in the last act, in which we find Nance, now a successful actress, in a luxurious boudoir. She will not marry Latimer, as she is distressed on account of the fate of Tom, who escapes from durance vile, and tries to bully Nance into further alliance with him. She pleads for release, and implores him not to destroy her only chance of escape from a career of crime. The burglar, touched by her entreaties, relents; and Latimer completes the softening of the criminal's heart by shaking hands with him, Tom weeping, and going back to gaol repentant. The dialogue is so cleverly written that the incidents appear in the acting more probable than they may seem in cold print.

The piece had the advantage of a cleverly-selected cast, including some experienced and popular actors and actresses whom it was a pleasure to see again on the boards. Miss Fannie Ward as Nance astonished her best friends by the clever way in which she sustained the character. The reckless rowdyism of the girl thief's natural manner was assumed with remarkable skill; and, apart from this, the complex nature of the curious creature, her varying impulses, the real goodness which lies at the bottom of her character, her audacity, and her gift of imitation, were all admirably indicated by Miss Ward, who must be warmly congratulated on her improvement and her success. Her appearance and figure were very happily suited to the rôle, and her expression of pathos was genuine and natural. Added to this, there was a fascination about Miss Ward's Nance, an agreeable individuality, and a personal attractiveness which quite accounted for the barrister falling in love with her. Miss Ward has scored a marked triumph by her impersonation, which reveals in her the possession of remarkable talent. That fine actor Mr. Frank Cooper had an easy task, after previous achievements, in that of impersonating Latimer; but his embodiment was all the more effective from the facility with which he assumed the character. As the philanthropic barrister he was the acme of calm superiority, and his mellifluous diction, his unaffected dignity, his gentle repose, and the strength and firmness which were indicated as underlying his manners, made Mr. Cooper's impersonation in every way satisfying and convincing. After all that he has done, it is not necessary to state that the work entrusted to him in *In the Bishop's Carriage* does not demand the fullest exercise of his powers; but there is something very agreeable in the eased power which results from this condition of things. Mr. Charles Cartwright was in a similar condition as regards Tom Dorgan. A mere sketch was endowed with colour and reality by Mr. Cartwright's well-known incisiveness and reserved force. The deep and sullen malignity of the burglar, his savage love, and his vindictive brutality were suggested by the actor with the skill which comes of practice and the confidence which is the result of experience. Mr. Henry Vibart gave a pleasant, flowery freedom to his performance of the part of Obermuller; and Mr. Charles Collette as Edward Ramsay presented an imitation of slight intoxication which was kept just within the bounds of caricature. His exit in the second act was a marvel of neatness, humour, and finish, and showed how much may be made out of slight materials by an artist with Mr. Collette's mastery of detail and gift of quaint, original comedy. Mr. Arnold Lucy made the Bishop just the refined and well-bred ecclesiastic required, his appearance being excellent and his style unimpeachably correct. Miss Agnes Hewitt looked very handsome as the brisk and fashionable Mrs. Ramsay; and Miss Edith Cartwright, as the young lady who is doomed to be "cut out" by the pretty criminal, very cleverly managed to make Nellie Ramsay sufficiently unsympathetic without ceasing to be gentle and ladylike. Miss Elspeth Dudgeon's Mrs. Latimer was the essence of slightly querulous amiability; and Miss Joan Derry made a useful contribution to the cast as Mrs. Wallace. Miss Violet Cooper did good work as Miss Inglis, Miss Margaret Fuller was seen to advantage as Mag Monahan, and Mr. Humphrey Warden deserves praise for his performance of the part of Burnett. Mr. Harry Reynolds played Forbes creditably; and Mr. Henry Wemys was commendable as the detective, Mr. Frederick Trent being excellent as Reggie Inglis, and Mr. E. J. Carlen being suitably cast as the Policeman. Mr. Raphael supplied two artistic sets, Mrs. Ramsay's Garden being particularly pretty; and Mr. Harker's library interior was a sound bit of painting and arrangement. *In the Bishop's Carriage* had a cordial reception, and has many of the requisites for popularity and success.

The play is preceded by a musical mélange given by The Quips, a party of entertainers, who cause much amusement by their dancing, song-singing, and merry and diverting comic business.

THE BARRACLOUGH MATINEE.

The serious illness of Mr. Sydney Barraclough, the popular singer and hero of musical comedy, has unfortunately left him in a state of need, and to re-establish his health it is absolutely necessary that he should take a further rest. In order to provide him with funds and to assist him in "getting back," a matinée was given at the Adelphi Theatre (by the kind permission of Mr. Martin Harvey) on Tuesday. The business-management was in the hands of Mr. Frank B. O'Neill, and Mr. Thomas Harold Ferrar exerted himself to good purpose as the acting-manager and treasurer. The miscellaneous programme included several one-act pieces. The first of these was entitled *The Idol and the Husband*, an unimportant trifle, by Mrs. Albert S. Bradshaw. There is a compromising letter found which causes estrangement, and a peacemaker arranges a final reconciliation. Mr. Charles Angelo and the authoress distinguished themselves. At the close of a long afternoon was given a second representation of the Countess of Cromartie's play, in one act, with the original cast, entitled

"THE FINDING OF THE SWORD."

Osra Innis	MR. MATHESON LANG
Lord Colmore	MR. PLOWDEN
Professor Kéravel	CAPTAIN BLUNT
James Barrington	MR. MOORE BRABAZON
Muriel	MISS EDITH OLIVE

The mysticism and gloom of this uncanny piece puzzle rather than impress. We need not, however, discuss it further, as we noticed it at length on its production a few weeks since at the Playhouse. Miss Edith Olive again forcibly presented Muriel, whose soul is so mysteriously drawn to the reincarnated Irish chieftain, Osra Innis, effectively handled by Mr. Matheson Lang. Mr. Plowden, Captain Blunt, and Mr. Moore Brabazon did all that was necessary with the other characters. A pleasanter theme for the audience was found in the one-act comedy by E. M. Bryant, entitled *The Peacemaker*, originally produced in front of *The Stronger Sex* at the Apollo. In this Mr. Otto Stuart made one of his rare appearances as an actor as the genial Doctor Burton, a part that suited him to perfection. Miss Lilian Braithwaite was graciousness itself as Elizabeth Lavender; and Miss Ina Pelly and Mr. Athol Stewart did very well indeed as Mrs. and Mr. Harford, Parsons being amusingly delineated by Miss Ella Tarrant. The audience spent a delightful half-hour with Miss Lottie Venne and Mr. Wilfred Draycott, in Mr. Charles H. E. Brookfield's dialogue, in one-act, *The New Régime*.

To the miscellaneous items both variety and theatrical celebrities contributed. Miss Ruth Davenport recalled remembrances of her triumphs at the Alhambra when she sang a ballad; Mr. Fred Farren and Miss Elise Clerc triumphed in a *pas de deux* from *Sir Roger de Coverley*, the new ballet at the Empire, and incidentally Mr. Farren went in for topsy-turvydom in a dance that might be called a variant of the American jig. Both artists were greeted with enthusiasm, and Mr. Cuthbert Clark specially came along to conduct. The inimitable Cinquevalli met with an ovation in his human billiard-table tricks; and Little Tich was in great form with his "Park-keeper" song. Mr. Arthur Royd sang "Because" with much fervour; Miss Ethel Hirschbein's well-trained contralto voice was heard to advantage in Liddle's "Abide with me"; Miss Mabel Love recited cleverly an up-to-date and rather cynical little piece; and Miss Alice Liebmann (accompanied by Miss Bertha Liebmann) played very brilliantly Sarasate's "Zigeunerweisen." Just previously Mr. Lewis Waller had recited "The Ballad of the Clamphердown," and being insistently encored, started to give the famous speech from Henry V.: "Once more unto the breach, my friends." For once the popular actor-manager was afflicted with a lapse of memory, and after an endeavour at recollection, with his face hidden in his hands he walked off. On his return he started with his usual power and confidence, but on reaching the line "Your fathers, like——" he again came to a halt. "I'm very sorry," he said. There were general attempts at prompting, but at length a lady in the dress circle—probably an actress—gave the cue—"like so many Alexanders," and the rest was easy. Miss Billie Burke also suffered from a lapse of memory in her song. There was promise of much fun in the interesting announcement that Mr. Fred Wright would propose to Miss Kitty Gordon—the sort of thing he used to do as the detective in *Nelly Neil*; but the appointment was not kept; and Miss Gordon made up for the breach of agreement by singing her charming "Butterfly" song. Mr. Maurice Farkoa, recently returned from America, chose "Little hands," "Philosophy," and "I love you in velvet" as his contributions, which gave much pleasure; and he found a wonderful imitator in Miss Vera Le Fleming, the child wonder, who sang the last-mentioned number and danced very prettily. There was a good deal of force in Miss Alice Pierce's impressions of Miss Lena Ashwell and Mrs. Leslie Carter, and Miss Zélia de Lussan sang with exceptional freshness and vigour "The spring has come," by Maud Valerie White. The following ladies sold programmes:—Misses Phyllis Broughton, Olive Palmer, Elizabeth Wieland, Sybil Arundale, Jane May, Annie Esmond, Mabel Robbins, Cora Williams, Pauline Chase, Dorothy Craske, Millie Legarde, Ethel Hirschbien, Vera Trevelyan, Doreen O'Connor, Bertha Liebmann, Alice Liebmann, Rosamond Thompson, May Saker, Eva Kelly, Dorothy Scott, Gabrielle Wodnil, Isabel Hirschbien, Hylda Denison, Dorethea Mapleson, and Ruth Davenport. The volunteer musical-directors were Messrs. Edward Jones, George B. Byng, and Cuthbert Clarke; the hon. stage-managers, Messrs. Charles Wilson and Alfred Rivers; the assistant stage-manager, Mr. Robert M. Taylor; and the musical-director, Mr. Clemens Franckenstein.

THE WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—You would be conferring a favour on touring managers if you told us through your columns exactly how we stand in regard to this new liability Act, which comes into force July 1.

1st. Is the touring manager liable for any accident that may happen to a member of his or her company?

2nd. Is he liable for an accident that might happen to the carters who carts his scenery and baggage?

3rd. Is he liable for the stage men when getting his stuff out Saturday night (they are paid by the touring management)?

4th. Could the porter claim damages for any accidental injury received whilst loading or unloading the stuff at the station, working under the travelling management's, carpenter's, or baggage man's order?—Yours faithfully,

STUART CLEVELAND.

A Clever Impostor Co., June 26, 1907.

[The small booklet published at *The Era* office to-day, price sixpence, gives the Workmen's Compensation Act itself, with a commentary by Mr. Albert A. Strong, solicitor, the writer of the well-known work, "Dramatic and Musical Law." This little brochure tells how the Act affects theatres and Music Halls. It should be in the hands of every member of the profession.]

"THE ONLY WAY."

The dramatic version by Freeman Wills of "A Tale of Two Cities," revived at the Adelphi Theatre on Monday, June 24.

CHARACTERS IN THE PROLOGUE.

Marquis de St. Evremonde	MR. A. E. RAYNOR
Vicomte de St. Evremonde	MR. LESLIE PALMER
Dr. Manette	MR. FRED WRIGHT, SEN.
Jean Defarge	MR. ALFRED MANSFIELD
A Peasant	MR. H. BLACKMORE

CHARACTERS IN THE PLAY.

Sydney Carton	MR. MARTIN HARVEY
Ernest Defarge	MR. CHARLES GLENNEY
Mr. Lorry	MR. P. ALEXANDER
Mr. Stryver	MR. PHILIP HEWLAND
Dr. Manette	MR. FRED WRIGHT, SEN.
Charles Darnay	MR. LEONARD CRASKE
President	MR. CHARLES J. CAMERON
Public Prosecutor	MR. PAUL BARRY
Comte de Fauchet	MR. VINCENT STERNROYD
M. de Maury	MR. DENHOLM MUIR
Marquis de Boulainvilliers	MR. J. E. FRASER
Gabelle	MR. H. BLAKE
Barsad	MR. H. LINGLEY
Jailor	MR. G. WATKINS
First Citizen	MR. GEORGE COOKE
Second Citizen	MR. P. FOSTER
First Juryman	MR. L. ARTHUR
Lucie Manette	MISS COLERIDGE
The Vengeance	MISS MAUD MILTON
A Citizeness	MISS BESSIE ELDER
Mimi	MISS N. DE SILVA

Mr. Martin Harvey has been appearing at the Adelphi Theatre this week in Mr. Freeman Wills's dramatisation of *A Tale of Two Cities*, which was produced at the Lyceum Theatre in the February of 1899, with Mr. Harvey as Sydney Carton, Miss de Silva as Mimi, Mr. Fred Everill as Doctor Manette, Mr. Holbrook Blinn as the two Defarges, Mr. J. G. Taylor as Mr. Lorry, and Mr. Ben Webster as the Comte de Fauchet. Dickens's novel had previously been adapted by Tom Taylor, in whose version Madame Celeste doubled the parts of Colette Dubois and Madame Defarge. Mr. Wills did not make the mistake committed by Tom Taylor of confining the action to one city. There is a prologue, in which, as in the book, Jean Defarge is mortally wounded by the libertine St. Evremonde, and Dr. Manette is sent to the Bastille to secure his silence. The mere hint given by Dickens's introduction of the "little sempstress" in the tumbril was taken advantage of by Mr. Wills, who elaborated from it the character of the hopelessly affectionate Mimi.

The cast at the Adelphi is an excellent one. Mr. Harvey's embodiment of Sydney Carton is so famously successful that we need only say that it has lost none of the qualities which have made it so, and that Mr. Harvey as the dissipated "ne'er-do-well" is as fascinating, as pathetic, and as expressive as ever. Mr. Leonard Craske gives a very able rendering of the rôle of Charles Darnay, his delivery of the defence in the tribunal scene being most effective. That versatile veteran, Mr. Fred Wright, sen., portrays Dr. Manette in a manner that shows the advantages of ripe experience. Mr. Paul Barry does good work as the Public Prosecutor, and is ably seconded by Mr. Charles Cameron as the President. Mr. Vincent Sternroyd's Comte de Fauchet is full of cleverness, polish, and refinement, and Mr. H. Lingley is sufficiently gruff and surly as Barsad. Miss N. de Silva's touching pathos as Mimi is once more appreciated and applauded, and the Lucie Manette of Miss Coleridge is an earnest and agreeable impersonation which does her great credit. Mr. A. E. Raynor and Mr. Leslie Palmer as the two St. Evremondes are excellent, the aristocratic tone in both cases being admirably given; and Mr. Albert Mansfield's Jean Defarge is full of passionate energy. Mr. Charles Glenney depicts with his usual ability the vindictive nature of Ernest Defarge, being especially emphatic in the tribunal scene, and Mr. P. Alexander is quaintly and dryly humorous as Mr. Lorry. Mr. Philip Hewland is appropriately bluff and bumptious as Mr. Stryver; and Miss Maud Milton contributes a very fine impersonation of the Vengeance, Mr. Denholm Muir and Mr. J. E. Fraser doing well as M. de Maury and the Marquis de Boulainvilliers. The scenery for the play is effective and elaborate; and everything has been done to make the revival entirely successful, the result being an enthusiastically favourable reception.

IT is a pity, writes a correspondent of the *Pall Mall Gazette*, to note with what diffidence the man in the street and the man in the train essay mentioning *Troilus and Cressida*. When they do, they generally make a dissyllable of the gallant young Trojan prince's name. But, as Horace and Virgil show us, it should be treated as a word of three syllables:—

"Parte aliâ fugiens amissis Troilus armis."

Moreover, there is not the excuse here for the popular error that there is for the false quantity usually made by the many when they speak of Titus Andronicus or Posthumus in *Cymbelline*, that Shakespeare set them the example; for, although in the play Troilus may generally be scanned as if of two syllables only, on two occasions it is treated as if of three (if the first instance is to be treated as Alexandrine):—

"If ever she leave Troilus, time, force and death," cries the false Cressida; while later Ulysses says:—

"May worthy Troilus be half attached
With that which here his passion doth express?"

Clearly, therefore, it is as a trisyllable that Shakespeare would have the name pronounced.

"THE INEBRIATED CANINE," a one-act comedy-drama enacted by a company of trained dogs and monkeys, is one of the best things in the bill at Hammerstein's Paradise Roof Garden, New York. The curtain rises, showing a diminutive street scene. Dogs and monkeys are walking the pavement, driving carts and carriages, cleaning front steps, and depicting every phase of city life. Anon there staggers on to the stage a dog, apparently intoxicated, reeling and stumbling. He reaches the door of his house, the wife in the play appears at the window, sees her husband's condition, and refuses him admission. Deprived of shelter, the "drunk" sits upon the steps, where he is discovered by a passing policeman, played by a monkey, and is taken into custody. A "patrol waggon," drawn by two dogs and driven by a monkey, is summoned, and as the victim is being driven away through the crowd of animals gathered at the disturbance, the "wife," attracted to the window, sees what has happened, and rushes downstairs and attempts to rescue the inebriated canine. The act is performed entirely by American dogs and naturalised monkeys.

THE Prince and Princess of Wales were present at the performance of *Clancarty* at the Lyric on Monday, and on the same evening Prince and Princess Andrew of Greece witnessed *The Girls of Gottenberg* at the Gaiety Theatre.

THE Princess Royal and the Duke of Fife, accompanied by the Prince and Princess Andrew of Greece, were present at the performance of *John Glayde's Honour* at the St. James's Theatre on Tuesday evening.

THE L.C.C. AND AMUSEMENTS.

The usual weekly meeting of the London County Council was held on Tuesday at the County Hall, Spring Gardens, under the presidency of Mr. Percy Harris (Chairman).

LIVING STATUARY.

The Theatres and Music Halls Committee presented the following report :—

The question of the exhibitions of living statuary in music halls has engaged our earnest attention, a widely representative deputation having attended before us on June 5, 1907, and urged that the Council should put a stop to these exhibitions. The deputation consisted of the Lord Bishop of London, representing the Church of England; the Right Rev. Bishop Johnson, representing the Archbishop of Westminster; the Rabbi Morris Joseph, representing the Chief Rabbi; the Rev. C. Silvester Horne, representing the Free Church Council of London; and representatives of the National Vigilance Association, the London Council for the Promotion of Public Morality, and thirty-two other societies.

The Bishop of London, Bishop Johnson, Rabbi Morris Joseph, and the Rev. C. Silvester Horne expressed the views of the deputation. Briefly stated, these views were :—

(1) That the exhibitions of living statuary are exhibitions of apparently nude men and women, and that such exhibitions as a form of entertainment to a mixed audience are demoralising, both to the spectators and to the performers.

(2) That the efforts being made to raise a spirit of purity and self-control among the boys and girls belonging to the denominations represented by the deputation are seriously impeded by these exhibitions.

(3) That the effect of the photographs of the exhibitions is bad, and the exhibitions lead directly to the sale of the photographs.

(4) That the assertion that these exhibitions promote a knowledge of art is refuted by eminent sculptors, and that the proper places to study sculpture are the museums and art galleries.

(5) That it is the duty of the inhabitants of London to set an example, as what is allowed in London will be introduced elsewhere.

(6) That the deputation is convinced that the exhibitions have done harm and will do harm, and that it is their duty to get them stopped.

(7) That the exhibitions offend against the standard of public morality and against the general conscience.

(8) That the people who go to music halls ought to be protected against anything which may exert a depraving or corrupting influence.

(9) That the Council must interfere now or it will have no logical ground for interference, however much the tendency to have nude exhibitions may grow.

The speakers also stated that the deputation was not animated by any spirit of hostility to music halls, which they recognised supplied a legitimate want.

Mr. Adolf Seldom and Miss Olga Seldom, two of the artists appearing at the London Pavilion, and Mr. Astley, chairman of the London Pavilion, Limited, also appeared before us on June 5, 1907. Mr. Astley stated that the exhibition at the London Pavilion had been seen by a great number of people who had found no fault with it, and that pains had been taken to guard against anything to which objection could be taken. Mr. Seldom stated that all the pieces represented at the London Pavilion had, with one or two exceptions, been given in Berlin, and that he had autograph letters from some of the most eminent sculptors in Germany praising his work.

It may be well to state shortly the action that has been taken by the Committee with regard to exhibitions of living statuary in London. In May, 1906, a complaint was made to the Council with regard to the exhibitions given by La Milo at the London Pavilion and by Mlle. Lorraine at the Holborn Empire, and we sent inspectors, who attended as ordinary members of the public, to witness the performances and to report to us thereon. After considering the reports, we decided that the cases did not call for any action on our part. Further complaints with regard to La Milo's performances were received in June and July, 1906, and we again considered the matter and adhered to the decision previously arrived at.

In November, 1906, we considered a letter from the London Council for the Promotion of Public Morality, enclosing a newspaper cutting with reference to exhibitions of living statuary on the music-hall stage, and stating that it was desired to bring to the notice of the Council the very indecent pictures which were to be seen outside music halls, where the human form was displayed apparently in a state of nudity In reply, we stated that the living statuary exhibitions had been and still were the subject of careful consideration by the Council, but that so far it had not been necessary to take any action in the matter, and that, with reference to the remarks respecting the exhibition of indecent pictures outside music halls, the Council was not aware that any pictures were exhibited which could be so described; but that, if particulars were submitted of any pictures to which objection was taken, the matter would be carefully inquired into. No reply was received to our letter. In January, 1907, one of the Education sub-committees forwarded for our consideration a letter from the headmaster of one of the non-provided schools in Soho complaining of the harmful effect on the minds of the school children of the photographs exhibited outside music halls in connection with living statuary exhibitions. We caused a reply to be sent to the Education sub-committee in similar terms to that sent to the London Council for the Promotion of Public Morality.

In December, 1906, and January, 1907, we had before us several complaints with regard to the exhibition given by the Seldoms at the London Pavilion Music Hall and the pictures exhibited outside the hall, and, after considering a report on the subject, we caused the complainants to be informed that, after very careful consideration, we had decided not to take any action in the matter, but that we recognised that exhibitions of this character might easily become objectionable, and that it would, therefore, be necessary to keep them under observation.

In March, 1907, we received a complaint with regard to the performance of the "Three Golden Graces" at the Tivoli Music Hall, and, after considering a report on the subject, decided that it did not call for any action on our part.

The deputation which attended before us on June 5, 1907, while asking that exhibitions of living statuary should be stopped altogether, addressed their remarks particularly to the performance of the Seldoms at the London Pavilion, and to the pictures exhibited outside the hall. Some of the pictures in question to which the most serious objection was taken are not photographs of the actual representations given at the London Pavilion, but of well-known pieces of sculpture. Objection was also taken to the pictorial postcards sold in connection with the exhibitions.

Although we had on several occasions before the attendance of the deputation decided that it was not necessary or desirable to take any action with regard to exhibitions of living statuary in places of public entertainment, we have, in view of the important and widely representative character of the deputation, again given the matter the most careful consideration, with the result that we have caused the deputation to be informed that we do not see our way to condemn all exhibitions of living statuary, but that we shall continue to keep them under strict observation, and deal with each production upon its merits, and, if necessary, make representations to the managers of music halls with a view of removing or preventing any features to which objection might reasonably be taken. In this connection we think that the pictures exhibited outside the music halls should be limited to photographs of the representations actually given in the halls, and we have requested the management of the London Pavilion music hall to see that this is the case in future.

We recommend—

That the action of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee with regard to the exhibitions of living statuary in places of public entertainment be approved.

Amongst the members was distributed copies of a letter dated June 25, from the National Vigilance Association, addressed to the Chairman, stating that as the report of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee to be presented that day was, they understood, unfavourable to their application, they appealed to the Council for a further consideration of the matter. They submitted their protest in writing, as they thought it would be more convenient to the Council than to receive another deputation. The letter continued :—

"We are anxious to assure the Council that we are not opposed to music halls as such. They obviously supply a need in the life of the citizens of London, and, given a clean and healthy entertainment, might become one of the uplifting social forces. We would respectfully point out to the Council that the agitation against living statuary has not been 'got up' by any society, but is the outcome of a natural feeling of disgust roused in the minds of individual citizens. The agitation thus commenced has been carried on by the National Vigilance Association, the London Council for the Promotion of Public Morality, and other societies, and we must add that credit is also due to the Press for having called public attention in the interests of the healthy citizen life of the metropolis to this objectionable form of entertainment."

The Association submitted several points to the Council in support of their contention, appealing for "the exhibition to be prohibited as being inimical to the best interests of the community at large."

The Rev. J. Scott-Lidgett : I have on the agenda a notice of amendment to refer the report back for consideration, but I understand that Captain Swinton, on behalf of the General Purposes Committee, intends to move an amendment, and with the permission of the Council I will give way to him.

Captain Swinton then moved the following amendment in place of the Theatres Committee's recommendation : "That the proprietors of London music halls and other places of public entertainment be informed that in the opinion of the Council the continuance of exhibitions of living statuary is undesirable." He explained that this was a resolution which the General Purposes Committee had carried by a majority of 16 to 4; but as the chairman of that committee had declined to move it as an amendment he had decided to do so in his individual capacity. They had the whole of the religious bodies as represented by leaders of the Church of England, of Nonconformity, and of the Hebrew Church opposed to the continuance of these exhibitions, and he thought that the position held by these gentlemen was unassailable. However, members of the Council whose opinions he respected went to witness these exhibitions and saw no harm in them, and he was rather inclined to weaken on the matter. He could not but think, however, that the report of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee was not so strong as it might be, and he regretted that Mr. Greenwood, the chairman, had not seen his way to adopt a suggestion from the General Purposes Committee to take it back for further consideration. They all knew how difficult was the work of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee in dealing with what was complained of as being indecent, and how successful they had been in the past; they also knew how anxious the chairman and all the members were to guard against indecency in London entertainments. In the present instance, however, Mr. Greenwood simply said that his committee had made up their minds, and there was no good in taking the report back, but that the question should be fought out in the Council chamber. There was the fact that the leaders of the various churches had come forward to assert that these exhibitions were undesirable. This was the point they had to consider that afternoon, and they must make up their minds one way or the other. He wished to join issue with those who said these exhibitions were artistic. From the point of view of art he had perhaps more reason to speak authoritatively than any other member of the Council, because for three years he had drawn and painted from the nude, and he would be the last to decry any form of real art. But he could not admit that these performances were in any way artistic from the point of view of people who studied real art. In studying from the nude people studied from the ideal point of view, but who was going to be elevated by these exhibitions? The performers could not be, nor could the spectators, feel that they had witnessed anything that was really elevating. Then, too, how narrow was the margin of safety. Let them fancy what it meant if it got lower down the slope step by step. That was what they had to fear in the future. Was it worth the candle? He did not think that the people of London would lose one jot or one tittle if these exhibitions were done away with.

Sir John McDougall seconded the amendment. He said that some weeks ago he was asked by at least a dozen newspapers to express his views on the question before the Council, but he declined to do so because he had not seen any of the performances. But he was present when the deputation attended, and, following that deputation, they had before them the woman who took part in the exhibition, and also the chairman of the Pavilion company. They were told that it was useless asking the young person any questions because she did not know English, but the chairman of the Pavilion company described the performance, and that alone was sufficient to convince him that the exhibition was undesirable. It was explained that the woman was practically nude, except for a strip of cloth round her loins which was fastened on by a piece of gold-beater skin. The whole of her body was coated with a mixture of oxide of zinc and glycerine, which took an hour to put on and an hour to get off. The mere fact that one poor woman had to undergo such conditions sometimes twice during an evening and to appear before an audience under such conditions was enough to show how undesirable the whole thing was. The difficulty in the matter was if the recommendation of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee was carried it would be proclaimed throughout the land that the London County Council had approved the performances. He was aware that it was a very difficult thing to interfere with the amusements of the people; but the Council stood, in relation to the music halls, as the Lord Chamberlain did to the theatres, and he doubted if any theatrical manager in London would tolerate such a performance as this. The Council had therefore to stand between the people and their amusements, and some action was necessary to prevent such exhibitions going down and down and getting lower and lower. They had been told that the exhibition itself was not so bad as the photographs of it outside the Pavilion, which showed the means adopted to attract people. If the music-hall proprietors really desired to encourage a taste for art, let them get the Government to lend them the real statues and put them on the platform, and then see to what extent the young people of London would rush to the halls to look at them. The music-hall proprietors would, he was sure, smile at such a suggestion, for they knew that the real attraction was the nudity of the perfomance. He did not wish to say one word against the Theatres Committee, who had considered the question with great care. It was a matter of difference of opinion, but he hoped that the Council would adopt the amendment which he had the pleasure of seconding.

The Hon. H. Lygon said that some remarkable arguments had been used both by the mover and seconder of the amendment. Captain Swinton's main argument appeared to be that things would go from bad to worse, and that by adopting the recommendation of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee the Council would be establishing an evil precedent. He, however, thought that if Captain Swinton had done the committee the bare justice of reading their report he would never have brought forward such an argument, for they plainly stated "that we shall continue to keep them under strict observation and deal with each production on its merits, and, if necessary, make representations to the managers of music halls with a view of removing or preventing any features to which objection might reasonably be taken." The remedy was therefore in the Committee's own hands. Captain Swinton had also asked in all seriousness whether this performance was elevating. That was hardly a relevant question, because a music hall was not primarily for elevation, but for amusement; but it did not necessarily follow that because of that the performances were undesirable. He failed to see why the Council should interfere with one particular branch of performance on the ground that it did not elevate. He had the greatest respect for the leaders of religious thought, but what struck him in connection with the deputation was the fact that a prelate of the Church of England should have attacked a performance which he had flatly refused to witness. He thought it would have been more courteous to the Council and more like fair-play if the Bishop of London had taken the opportunity of seeing the performance before he condemned it. Sir John McDougall had quoted what he understood the chairman of the London Pavilion company to say when he was before the Committee as to the clothing worn by the representative of Venus, and Sir John's memory on that point did not agree with his own. His recollection was that the chairman of the Pavilion company said that Venus wore a pair of bathing drawers and over that some drapery, which certainly put a very different complexion on Venus. As to the suggestion that real marble statues should be placed on the stage, he might just as well suggest that Sir John McDougall should make his speches into a gramophone and thus address his remarks to the Council. If they were going to take exception to these performances he held that they should be consistent, and object to every ballet produced on the London stage, including, of course, the Royal Opera ballets. He was of opinion that in some of the music halls there were scenes presented that were infinitely worse than living statuary, and he contended that every performance should be treated strictly on its merits.

The Rev. J. Scott-Lidgett said it was not his desire to suggest that the objects and intentions of those who produced these exhibitions were in any way intentionally indecent, but they must bear in mind the real effect of these things on the minds of young people of both sexes at a most impressionable stage of their lives. He did submit, however, that the photographs, copies of which he held in his hand, were bordering on indecency, and apparently the music-hall proprietor admitted he would not show on his stage the subjects as depicted in the photographs. Young men coming to London for a holiday should not, by such exhibitions, be induced to yield to temptations of a grosser kind, and the standard as to the purity of the amusements of the people should be carefully maintained.

Mr. Reynolds said that in the place of making a long speech, as he had intended, he would content himself with asking a question. It was, if the Council decided to pronounce an opinion that these living statuary exhibitions were undesirable, would they not also condemn as being equally undesirable swimming matches in which ladies took part, mixed bathing, and gymnastic displays by ladies and gentlemen, as well as the wearing of V-shaped bodices by ladies at the operas and balls, and also such characters as Puck and other fairy-like creations in Shakespeare?

Sir Melvill Beachcroft described the report of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee as being of a whitey-brown colour, to repeat a phrase used by Mr. Labouchere on a certain occasion. He feared that the Council was not always consistent in its views on these matters. At the previous meeting they strained at the gnat of such an innocent book as "Mary Barton," but now they were asked to swallow the camel of living statuary. There was, he thought, a great deal in what Captain Swinton had said. If the promoters of these exhibitions were not prevented they might go the whole hog, and he hoped that the amendment would be adopted.

Mr. Hayes Fisher said he was prepared to support the Council's action in maintaining a high standard in public amusements, and there was no one more determined in that direction than the Chairman of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee. When he was shown the photographs to which attention had been made, he said at once "You ought to take prompt action." He had, however, since been to see the actual exhibition, and must admit that it had a very different effect upon him from what the photographs had. Indeed, he was of opinion that there was nothing in the exhibition itself to justify the Committee in taking exception to it as being below the standard which they could tolerate. In his opinion, there was nothing in the exhibition to feed vicious appetites, but there were many things at the music halls more demoralising than these shows, which were skilfully and artistically put on the stage. The Committee were prepared to watch most carefully any attempt to lower the tone of this class of entertainment.

Mr. Montgomery said that he had occupied a seat in different parts of the London Pavilion, and he had not heard a single ribald remark from any member of the audience while the exhibition was on. He believed that the show would have come to an end months ago but for the agitation got up by the very people who desired to stop such exhibitions.

Mr. Greenwood, the Chairman of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee, then replied on the debate. He pointed out that the question had been an extremely difficult one to deal with, and the Council seemed to have lost sight of the fact that the consideration of the matter had been before the Committee for a long time. Not a moment was lost whenever any complaint was brought to their notice, and every single case was carefully dealt with on its merits. It had been suggested that the situation was changed when the deputation came before them; but he could not admit that, for the real fact was there were not half as many of these performances in London now as there were in the early part of the year, and had it not been for the publicity given by the deputation he believed that the whole thing would have passed away by this time. It was true the deputation was a representative one, but he had been struck by the fact that out of the sixty or seventy people composing it, all but either seven or nine admitted that they had never seen the performance which they condemned. And yet they were asked that the views of the deputation should be adopted in front of those of the Committee who had given months of attention to the subject. His own view was that there was nothing harmful in these exhibitions as long as they were kept entirely to classical subjects or the representation of well-known works of art, that those taking part should not move, and that the artists should be draped when they came before the curtain at the end of the performance. In every case these conditions had been observed. He considered that the living statuary was free from the many objections which might have been raised to the living pictures which were in vogue at the halls eight or ten years ago, when the subjects selected were frequently secular, and seldom classical. He might say he had seen almost every exhibition of this living statuary, and during his visits, which were not restricted to the better parts of the houses, he had never heard a single ribald suggestion. He had received dozens of letters, many of them from working men and women, who denied that they looked upon the exhibitions from the sensual standpoint, but from the artistically elevating point of view. In conclusion, he appealed to the Council to regard the subject on broad lines, and to take a broad view of the whole facts of the case.

The closure to the debate having been applied, the amendment was declared on a show of hands to be carried by 60 votes to 43.

A division was then taken with the following result : For the amendment, 66; against, 45; majority for, 21. Amongst those who voted against the ammendment were Mr. George Alexander, Mr. Jocelyn Brandon, and the Rev. Stewart Headlam.

BALHAM EMPIRE.

The Theatres and Music Halls Committee reported that they had considered a drawing submitted by the British Cinema Company, Limited, showing the proposed seating in the area at the Balham Empire, Balham High-road, and recommended that the company be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the drawing submitted by them provided the under-mentioned conditions be complied with : That gangways 3ft. 6in. wide be made between the seating and the boxes on the prompt and o.p. sides; that the bentwood chairs for the pit seating be spaced at a minimum width of 18in., and that the rows of chairs be securely fixed to the floor near the exits; and that the regulations of the Council with regard to seating be complied with. Approved.

THE EMPIRE.

The Committee had considered a drawing submited by Mr. F. T. Verity, showing the proposed rearrangement of the stalls seating and exits at the Empire, Leicester-square. They recommended that Mr. Verity be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the drawing submitted by him provided the under-mentioned conditions be complied with : That the exit on the o.p. side of the pit be rendered available and be clearly indicated; that the going of the steps on the pass stairs on the o.p. side of the stalls be improved as much as possible; that, if it is intended to remove the door at the head of the pass stairs, a self-closing gate to close with the stream of traffic be provided in its stead.

Agreed to.

PRINCESS'S THEATRE.

The Committee had considered drawings submitted by Mr. W. G. R. Sprague, showing how it is proposed to comply with the suggestions made by the Council for the structural improvement of the Princess's Theatre, Oxford-street. They recommended that Mr. Sprague be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the seven drawings submitted by him provided that certain stated conditions be complied with, and that the regulations of the Council with regard to heating, lighting, small fire appliances, &c., be complied with.

Carried.

ROYAL ALBERT.

Many and varied are the attractions Mr. Arthur G. H. Hunt presents on his programme for the week, and the result is a foregone conclusion—*i.e.*, unstinted pleasure all round. To begin at the end, as it were, the turn which is numbered "2" but is played last, deserves first notice. This is a "dramatic episode," entitled *Vengeance*, played by the Deane-Jennings Company, and very well played too. The short play—for it is neither more nor less—is made up of an interesting, if somewhat complicated, story, told in three scenes and written with considerable point. The plot revolves around the efforts of one Captain Barry Gridge to win the affections of Millicent Melthorpe, but as the Captain soon turns out to be a villain of the deepest dye, as most stage captains are, and is opposed by the fine brave Lieut. Roy McAllister, it needs no ghost to come from the grave to tell the most inexperienced playgoer that his villainy finally catches himself in his own toils, and that the fate he had destined for the good people is meted out to him, who is hoist with his own petard—with a vengeance. Admirably staged and well played, the little piece goes "with a bang"—literally a bang, as it winds up with a realistic explosion. Mr. F. S. Jennings simply revels in the wickedness of Captain Barry Gridge, playing very powerfully throughout; Mr. R. Courtney looks handsome and acts with great effect as the good young man who does not die; Mr. J. May is exceptionally excellent as comic *deus ex machind*, Sub-Lieut. Andy Twiddle, and his capital disguise as a female is most effective. Miss Cora Deane is pretty, pathetic, and withal powerful as the greatly tried Millicent; while Miss Beatrice May plays with great aplomb as the reckless sorceress, Leonora Acoli. The mechanical effects are worked by Mr. H. Frank T. Holland, and will be better after one or two further rehearsals.

Miss Evie Hamilton sings "That's what the daisy said" very prettily, and dances with much grace. Allsopp and Beckwith are very amusing in their scena with the catch-phrase "I'm coming upstairs." Lack and Ford are comely acrobats with a large store both of comicality and acrobatism; a most amusing comedienne is Miss Kitty Kirwan, who, capitally made-up as an elderly Irishwoman, sings and patters to the great amusement of the audience; Prof. B. Jackson is an amusing and original ventriloquist, who makes his puppets, a coster boy and a little Highlander, speak in the most mirth-provoking manner. The Sisters Florence are perfectly charming as international dancers and sing acceptably.

The second sketch of the programme is the amusing piece *The Wrong Letter*, in which that old and favoured friend of the variety public, Mr. Brien McCullough, repeats, as Lieut. Nelson Togo Greene, an impersonation that he has made his very own, and in which he has abundant opportunities for a drily humorous style. Mr. McCullough is well supported by Mr. Fred Moyes and Miss Nellie Neilson. Walter Payne's Bio-Photoscope show some excellent pictures. The orchestra, under the direction of Mr. J. Stark, discourses sweet music, and the stage-management is capably performed by Mr. A. G. Everitt. Mr. Alfred Levy is all things to all men—and ladies—as Mr. Hunt's assistant-manager and secretary.

Mr. R. G. Knowles has this week accepted from the joint pens of Messrs. John P. Harrington and Jas. W. Tate a new and most novel song, which may tentatively be entitled, "The three D's." He has also commissioned the same gentleman to supply him with several other strong comedy numbers, and, needless to say, these indefatigable writers are now busily engaged on these commissions for the famous American raconteur and singer.

ON THE ROAD, JULY 1.

All-of-a-Sudden Peggy.—T. R., Portsmouth.
An Unwedded Wife.—T. R., Smethwick.
At the World's Mercy.—T. R., Cardiff.
Bootles' Baby.—Theatre Royal, Hull.
Branded Woman.—Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—Osborne T., Manchester.
Eve of Her Wedding.—T. R., Middlesborough.
Girl from Japan.—Osborne T., Manchester.
Guilty Gold.—T. R., Leeds.
Heart's Desire.—P.O.W., Salford.
Her Luck in London.—T. R., Scarborough.
Her Marriage Vow.—H. M. T., Aberdeen.
Her One Great Sin.—T. R., Worthing.
His Sister's Honour.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
Honour Thy Father.—Grand T., Brighton.
Ian Maclaren.—D. P. T., Eastbourne.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Haltwhistle and Alston.
Little Vagrant.—P.O.W., Grimsby.
Lucky Durham.—P. G. T., Folkestone.
Man's Enemy.—Theatre Royal, Aston.
Manxman.—Junction T., Manchester.
Master Criminal.—T. R., Merthyr.
Monte Cristo.—East Oxford T., Oxford.
New World.—Theatre Royal, Jarrow.
Octoroon (Thorn).—Grand T., Newcastle.
Prodigal Parson.—Prince's T., Preston.
Royal Divorce.—Osborne T., Manchester.
Shulamite.—Opera House, Brixton.
Sin of Her Childhood.—Lyric T., Hammersmith.
Stolen Birthright.—Alexandra T., Hull.
Stowaway, The.—Royalty T., Barrow.
The Woman Pays.—Grand T., Newcastle.
Tommy.—West Pier, Brighton.
Uncle Tom's Cabin.—T. R., Stockport.
When It Was Dark.—Elephant and Castle T.
When the Lights are Low.—Hippo., Wigan.
Wilkie, Allan, and Co.—Londesboro' T., Scarboro'.
Woman from Scotland Yard.—T. R., Sunderland.
Woman's Past.—Alexandra T., Birmingham.
Wrecker of Men.—Prince's T., Bradford.
£1000 Reward.—West London Theatre.

"LOOSE TILES"

Sketch, produced on Monday, June 24, at the Queen's, Poplar.

Marcus Pendleton .....Mr. Tom J. Taylor
Ivy .....Miss Tina Langlois
Mary ..... Miss W. Hilda
Miss Twitters..... Miss Cecily Kayne
Little John ..... Mr. H. A. Langlois

"Loose Tiles," as produced by Mr. H. A. Langlois on Monday night, proved to be a merry little trifle, and was received with every sign of success. Owing to impecunious circumstances, Dr. Marcus Pendleton, with a view to increase his income, has decided to look after lunatic patients, and is at that moment expecting an arrival. Unfortunately for the doctor's arrangements, his opposite neighbour is a theatrical manager bearing the same name as himself, from which coincidence many awkward mistakes are made. During the temporary absence of the doctor, Little John, who is about twelve feet in height, comes upon the scene, mistaking the house for that of the other Pendleton, and is exceedingly angry that he has not been fetched from the station in a pantechnicon. Ivy and Mary, alarmed at his size, endeavour in every way to humour him, imagining that he is the expected patient, and many amusing complications ensue, the matter being finally cleared up by the explanation given to the doctor and his household that Little John had been engaged to perform in a forthcoming play by the theatrical Pendleton. All the members of the company work with great spirit, and the sketch had evidently been well rehearsed. Mr. H. A. Langlois is seen to great advantage as the giant Little Johnnie, while the nervous Dr. Pendleton is portrayed with vigour by Mr. Tom J. Taylor, and Miss Tina Langlois is graceful as Ivy. Miss W. Hilda is well to the front as the housemaid Mary, and Miss Cecily Kayne enacts the elderly Miss Twitters with ease and finish. Among the many good turns provided here this week, special mention must be made of Mr. Sam Mayo, who provokes great mirth by his songs, "The policeman" and "The old tin can." Miss Daisy Mayer faultlessly renders "The story of an unlucky coon," and the Gilbert Trio are pleasing in "Passing by," while the excerpts from the works of Charles Dickens by Miss Eva Hope and Mr. Jack Wayho are particularly artistic. The popular general-manager, Mr. Jack Woolf, superintends with commendable vigilance, and the assistant acting-manager, Mr. Morris Abrahams, is ever watchful for the comfort of the patrons.

CONCERT AT CAMBERWELL.

A deserving cause was pleaded at the South London Institute of Music, Camberwell New-road, on Thursday evening, when a benefit concert was given to Miss Evelyn St. Maur, a well-known instrumentalist, who is suffering from a heart affection, and has been advised by four doctors to relinquish her profession. The entertainment on Thursday was designed to raise funds for the purpose of sending the lady away for a six months' rest, but the hall was by no means crowded. The small audience, however, was enthusiastic, and thoroughly enjoyed the various items of the entertainment, which was under the management of Mr. R. H. Patterson Wilson.

The concert was organised by Miss Nellie Clarence, who herself appeared in both comedy and dramatic sketches. The former consisted of the duologue *Married and Settled*, in the course of which Miss Clarence, who represented a nagging wife, was called upon to embody a gentleman in evening dress with comical effect, the tribulations of a tailor being humorously borne by Mr. Percy Thomas, who acted as stage-manager. Miss Clarence also sustained a trying part in a melodramatic episode entitled *A Daughter of Destruction*, and created a profound impression in the appeal of a mother to a Russian general to spare the life of her son. Excellent service was done by the popular comedian Mr. George Thorne, who was encored in an original rendering of "Tit-willow" from the lately banned *Mikado*, and gave in reply a droll account of a "nightmare," afterwards provoking great merriment in "The susceptible Chancellor," from *Iolanthe*, Mr. Thorne also figured on the programme as an author, an up-to-date skit called *The Suffragettes* being vivaciously rendered by Miss Ada Francis.

Pupils of Mme. Helen Townshend, who was one of the directors of the concert, did their teacher infinite credit. Great promise was given by Mr Lennox Coombe, who displayed a cultivated baritone in the ballad "Love, could I only tell thee." Miss Elsie Molloy showed no little comedy skill in the "Hullo, little stranger" song from *The Beauty of Bath*; and Miss Pat Bevan gave a refined and tasteful rendering of "All on a summer day." Among the numerous items of a diversified programme was a monologue entitled *The Eleventh Hour*, successfully delivered by Mr. Aleck Foster.

Tom Leo, on Monday at the Euston, was discovered singing his latest song in a bath on the stage! This new chorus number is by Maurice Scott, who wrote his "Too lazy to live," and is entitled "I mean to stop in the bath for years."

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps. *The Era* is posted on Saturday in time to reach London Subscribers by the *first* Town Delivery, and Country Subscribers should receive their Papers by the *first* London Post. Address, the Publisher, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

(*For other Variety Notices see pages* 19 *and* 22.)

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

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All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

(We do not answer questions by post.)

JOHN D'ARCY.—*Write the manager of the Pioneers' Society, Mr. Herbert Swears, 1, Trafalgar-buildings, Northumberland-avenue, W.C. A newer society for the introduction to the public of original plays from the pens of unknown English authors is the Play-Actors. The hon. sec. is Miss Rose Matthews, whose address is 9, Trafalgar Studios, Manresa-road, Chelsea. You might also try the Incorporated Stage Society, secretary, A. E. Drinkwater, 9, Arundel-street, Strand, W.C.*

LEONARD GATES.—*Before sending your sacred song to a lady singer popular with the public, would it not be possible to induce a good vocalist to introduce it to a local audience? Established singers are generally well supplied with "royalty" songs by writers of reputation with the publishers, and do not care to risk singing a number from an unknown composer. The experiment may be worth trying nevertheless.*

LYDIA (DENMARK HILL).—The Grip of Iron *was adapted from Adolphe Belot's story, "Les Etrangleurs," by Arthur Shirley, and first saw the footlights at the Surrey Theatre on Oct. 17, 1887. Mr. George Conquest, sen., was then the Jagon, alias Simonnet, Mr. T. F. Nye the Lorenz de Ribas, Mr. Charles Cruikshanks, the popular secretary of the Actors' Association, the Dodot, Mr. George Conquest, jun., the Alphonse de Coucou, Mr. Clarence Hague the Paul Blanchard, Mr. E. Vincent the Loustalot, Mrs. Bennett the Sophie Blanchard, Miss Le Warren the Cora Simonnet, and Miss Cissy Farrell the Marie Guerin.*

D. R. WILLIAMS.—*The popular little lady was born February 12, 1870, and made her first appearance on the stage at the age of fifteen. Twelve married; one daughter, also married.*

G. ASSER (Hastings).—*Mr. Dan Leno (George Galvin) died, at the age of 43, on October 31, 1904.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth** or **Death** or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny.**

The charge for a notice of **Marriage**, not exceeding forty words, is **Two Shillings and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny.**

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

BROADBENT-BELL.—June 22, at Deal, Eileen Limmere, the wife of W. G. Broadbent-Bell, of a daughter.

FALCON.—Mrs. Falcon, née Gena Manon, wife of Billy Falcon, of a son; both doing well.

WELLS.—25th inst., the wife of Gilbert Wells, a son. Both well.

WILTON.—June 20, at 3, Redcar-street, Anfield, Liverpool, Mrs. Robert Wilton (Florence Palmer), of a son. Both doing well.

DEATHS.

CHENERY.—June 19, on the Albert Embankment, of poison, James William Chenery, actor, aged 28.

CRISFORD.—Found drowned in the Thames on June 3, 1907, Augustine Alexander (Frank Crisford), aged 45 years. Interred at the City of London Cemetery, Ilford. Deeply mourned by his sorrowing wife, Beatrice Roby.
"Not dead, but gone before." R.I.P.

FARRELL.—June 24, at Liverpool, suddenly, Alfred Farrell (of Farrell and Willmot).

KNIGHT.—June 23, at his residence in Camden-square, Joseph Knight, dramatic critic and historian, aged 77.

LOCKE.—June 21, 1907, at Saltash, Cornwall, Dorothy (Dorothy Fairley), of consumption, after two years' illness. Beloved wife of Charles Locke.

MITCHELL.—June 26, Alderman Mitchell, chairman of the Theatre Royal, Bath, Co., Ltd., aged 85.

TAYLOR.—June 27, at his residence, 35, Ridgmount-gardens, W.C., of pneumonia, Charles Henry Taylor, lyric writer, aged 46. Funeral service to-day at St. Patrick's Church, Soho, at twelve o'clock, prior to interment at St. Pancras' Catholic Cemetery, East Finchley.

IN MEMORIAM.

COOPER.—In loving memory of my dear husband, John Cooper, Garrison Field, Sunderland, died June 29, 1906.
Not dead, but gone before.

FLETCHER.—In loving memory of our dear mother and father, Lizzie and Edward Fletcher, late lessee and manager of the T. R., Cardiff, who passed away June 20, 1899, June 26, 1896.

LILO.—In loving memory of Toby Lilo, who passed away June 28, 1902. Never forgotten by his father, brothers, and sisters. R.I.P.

MISS MAISIE MERRY has been winning golden opinions, to say nothing of encores and bouquets, for her fresh and dainty impersonation of Collin in Zona Joy's production of *School* at the County Theatre, Bedford.

IF laughter, applause, and encores are any criterion of success, Miss Zona Joy must be more than pleased with the reception accorded to her musical sketch, *School*, both at Chester and Reading. It is rare, indeed, even in Music Halls to get five encores in fifteen minutes, but such was the case, and still they wanted more.

THE following sums, amounting to 16s., sent to the Harry Grell Fund, have been collected by Les Zelovas:—Les Zelovas, 1s.; Charlie Craston, 1s.; Mena Brae, 2s. 6d.; W. Downs, 2s. 6d.; A Friend, 2s. 6d.; Queenie Essex, 2s. 6d.; Maidie Scott, 1s.; Mr. and Mrs. Oakdene, 2s.; and Ethel Branston, 1s.—16s.

AT the Royal Theatre of Varieties, Oldham, on Monday next a fantastic farce, entitled *Who's Afraid of Ghosts?* written by C. H. Longden, will be played by a first-class company of artists under the direction of Messrs. Longden and Ernest Dottridge.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.
No Circulars or Parcels admitted to this list.

Abbott, Mr. W. L.
Adams, Mr. Vincent
"Alec"
Anglin, Miss M.
Armitage, Mr. H.
Artois, Brothers
Asche, Mr. Oscar
Attwell, Mr. L.
Aucliffe, Miss Alice
Austa, Miss Amba
Bale Troupe.
Barker, Mrs. A.
Barrett, Mr. W. Burgess
Bartlett, Miss Rose
Bastow, Mr. George
Bathurst, Mr. Pat
Beaumont, Mr.
Bickford, Mr. M.
Biresleyn, Miss E.
Blair, Mr Athol
Boucicault, Miss Nina
Bown, Mr. Clifford
Brennand, Mr. R.
Brett, Mr. Harry
Broadfoote, Miss M.
Brooke, Mrs. E. H.
Burdett, Mr. Frank E.
Burgon, Mrs. W.
Cadell, Mrs. Nellie
Campbell, Miss A. E.
Caris, Mr. Jack
Carmen, Mr. Harry
"Carrie"
Carrol, Miss B.
Carsoll, Mr. J. P.
Carte, Mr. Chas.
Chaplin, Mr. Sydney
Chattell, Mr. Henry
Ching Lung Soo
Chipperfield, Mr. J. W.
Clements, Mr. W. L.
Clyatt, Mr. C.
Clyo and Rochelle
Cody, Mr. W. F.
Coma, Mr. Arthur
Condon, Miss Dora
Conroy, Mr. Oliver
Corner, Mr. Harry
Courtnedge, Mr. Robert
Crump, Mr. Herbert F.
Curre, Mr. Carne
Cutler, Miss Kate
Dagnall, Mr. E.
Dallas, Mr. J. H.
Daly, Mr. Brian
Dalymple, Mr. Leonard
Danby, Mr. F.
Dartrey, Mr. R.
Davies, Mr. F. D.
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Dobler, Mr. George
Edgar, Mrs. Richard
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Fossett, Mr. Robert
Fuller, Miss Louie
Gillmore, Mr. Barry
Ginnett, Mr. F.
Glendinning, Mr. John
Godwin, Mr. Will
Graham, Mr. B.
Grosvenor, Mr. Stanley
Greenhouse, Miss Marie
Harcourt, Mr. Fred
Harding, Mr. M. C.
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Howard, Mr. Carl
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Knights, Mr. A.
Kreamer, Mr. George
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Lawrence, Miss Francis
Leigh, Mr. S.
Lemoine, Miss Rose
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Lester, Mr. Alfred
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Levett, Mr. Harry
Lidden, Mr. Cecil
Lindo, Mr. Frank
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Lovett, Mr. Beresford
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Lytton, Mr. Bert
Mackay, Miss J.
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Newton, Mr. John A.
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Nolan, Mr. M.
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Norman V. Norman, Mr
Oates, Miss Lillian
O'Flynn, Mr. Francis
Ogino Family
Oliver, Mr. J. C.
O'Mara, Mr.
Orchid, Mr. Harry
Osborne, Mr. Will
Ottawas, The
Pattersons, Mr. B.
Picquays, The
Pink, Mr. Wal.
Power, Mr. Chas.
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Rafferty, Mr. Pat
Redmond, Mrs. M.
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Richards, Mr. Fred
Riche, Mr. O.
Roma, Mlle.
Rose-Hessee, Mme.
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Royce, Mr.
Ruggles, Miss Annie
Sages, The
Schubert, Miss Florence
Selbo
Selby, Mr. Alf
Shine, Mr. Wilfred
Smith, Mr. Wellesley
Snow, Miss Ellen
Soldene, Miss E.
Stanley, Mr. J. Briant
Starbuck, Mrs.
Stather, Mr. Herbert
Storey, Miss S.
Stratton, Miss Daisy
Sylvester, Mr.
Taylor, Mr. William
Tearle, Mr. Edmund
Tearle, Mr. Godfrey
Thorne, Miss Alice
Thornton, Mr. Frank
Tiller, Mr. A.
Transfields, Mr.
Tribune, Mr. Deane
Tucker, Miss Freda
Turner, Mr.
Vallus, Mr. H.
Volt, Miss W.
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Warburton, Mr. Hornby
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Whyte, Mr. Karl
Wilkes, Mr. C. Smith
Wilford, Mr. Paul
Williamson, Miss Maud
Wilson, Mr. Toney
Wood, Miss Dora

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Hugh Dempsey—Saturday, June 29.
Charles Darrell—Saturday, June 29.
John Coates—Saturday, June 29.
Lena Gifford—Saturday, June 29.
Charles Bignell—Sunday, June 30.
Edward Mervyn—Sunday, June 30.
Jas. D. Preston—Sunday, June 30.
Marie Dainton—Sunday, June 30.
Norman H. Tracy—Sunday, June 30.
Rose Dearing—Sunday, June 30.
J. Maundy-Gregory—Monday, July 1.
Maud Elmore—Monday, July 1.
Tom McNaughton—Monday, July 1.
Cyril Harrison—Tuesday, July 2.
Ray Maskell—Tuesday, July 2.
Mary Moore—Wednesday, July 3.
Grace Arundale—Wednesday, July 3.
Josephine Colona—Wednesday, July 3.
Butler Stanhope—Thursday, July 4.
Fred Poplar—Thursday, July 4.
Frank Boisset—Thursday, July 4.
A. E. Stigant—Thursday, July 4.
Albert Brasque—Thursday, July 4.
Wilfred Compton—Thursday, July 4.
Nettie Ware—Thursday, July 4.
Whimsical Walker—Friday, July 5.
Jan Kubelik—Friday, July 5.
Naomi Hope—Friday, July 5.
Billie Bint—Saturday, July 6.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR

Your book will, I am sure, be a valuable aid to all managers and actors.—SIR HENRY IRVING.

Should prove perfectly invaluable.—*Weekly Sun.*

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Furnishes useful information.—*Daily News.*

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MR. WILLIAM MORGAN, the manager of the Scarborough Aquarium, who died a month or two since, left estate valued at £29,854 gross and £19,978 net.

FRED KARNO'S new production, *The Bailiff*, is at the Hackney Empire this week. In it Mr. Fred Kitchen and Mr. Albert Bruno, both of *Moses and Son* fame, are appearing together.

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THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER,

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ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.).

Copyright confusion is, like the poor, always with us, and as it seems likely to remain so until at least the crack of doom, it were well for all concerned, or likely to be concerned, to take immediate steps to secure a copy of Mr. Albert A. Strong's new work, entitled "The Law of Copyright." Mr. Strong is already favourably known to the profession for his text-book on "Dramatic and Musical Law," which, like his latest production, is published at "The Era" Office. "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" essays to make clear to the non-legal mind what is—or, in some cases, what probably is—the law as to musical and dramatic copyright. The chapters on the Berne Convention and on the Chase Act, passed by the United States Congress last March, are full of interest.—Referee.

Mr. A. A. Strong has published a book on "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," which should be in the hands of everyone who is obliged to know about this perplexing subject. Dramatic copyright in England is in a particularly unsatisfactory state, and it is much to be hoped that ere long some more rational method of securing protection for a play may be devised than the slovenly and sometimes costly "production for copyright purposes," which is at present required.—St. James's Gazette.

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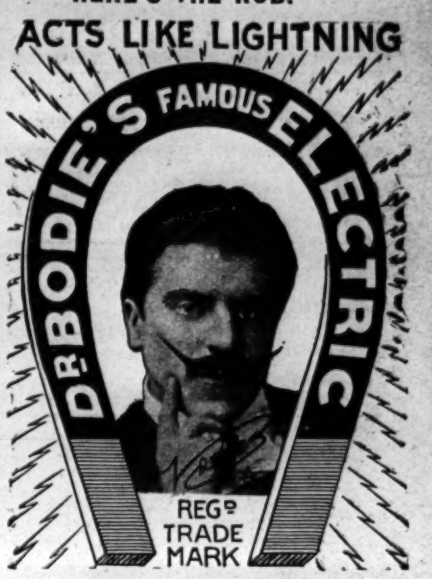

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SATURDAY, JUNE 29, 1907.

EXCLUDING THE UNPUNCTUAL.

Mr. MARTIN HARVEY has set an excellent example in insisting on the audience being in their seats at the raising of the curtain on *A Tragedy of Truth* at the Adelphi Theatre on Monday. The fact that conscience makes us all, if not cowardly, certainly mild and reasonable, was proved by the entire absence of resentment in those ladies and gentlemen who were excluded, and who waited patiently in the corridors while the new first piece was being performed. Unpunctuality in theatre-going has become of recent years a thorough nuisance, both to artists and audiences; and, as usual, the innocent have had to suffer for the guilty. Managers have realised the difficulty, and have done all in their power to overcome it. One method is by advertising the commencement of the performance slightly earlier than it really occurs, and making the overture occupy a considerable time. But the result often is that the lazy playgoer, relying on the "ten minutes' grace" which the orchestral selection provides, goes to a theatre where the curtain rises at the time stated in the advertisements and finds himself belated. To be too early at a theatre is almost as bad as being too late if the early-comer occupy a side or end seat. At each fresh arrival of fellow-playgoers to his row he has to rise and allow them to pass him; so that by the time the curtain rises he is somewhat disturbed and irritated. It is a question if the unpunctual playgoers themselves feel any discomfort or remorse for their fault. It is easily excused, we are sorry to say, in the stalls and dress-circle, where everyone feels that he or she may err in the same way to-morrow, and be equally in need of forgiveness. It must be admitted that, in a great many cases, the unpunctuality is the result of misfortune, not of wilful neglect. A button flying off at the last moment, an alteration in the time of a train, a detention in the prolonged "block," may cause arrival to be five or ten minutes after the rise of the curtain. When we consider what long distances many of the patrons of the stalls and dress-circle have to travel before reaching the theatrical centres, it is not surprising that some of them should be late at the theatre.

A great deal of this unpunctuality has, however, no such excuse. It is simply selfish carelessness, created by indifference to the feelings of others and an absolute disrespect for art. The result is that when a manager puts on a play the interest of which, as the programmes sometimes state, begins with the elevation of the curtain, he endeavours to shift the interruptions on to an unfortunate *lever de rideau*. The expression "playing the people in," which used to be applied to acting in first pieces, shows what their chief function was supposed to be. The discredit into which the *lever de rideau* feel is, no doubt, greatly due to the fact that it was regarded as a sacrifice to the disturbances caused by late-comers; and so, by a process of action and reaction, the "curtain-raiser" gradually descended to such a depth of inanity that it was, for a time, abandoned.

There are now, however, seven theatres in London which are presenting first pieces, in some of which the interest is tense, the sentiment delicate, and the artists engaged are of high artistic rank. When the *lever de rideau* consisted of a "screaming" farce, interruptions did not so much matter; the entertainment was proof against them. But in some of our modern first pieces the thread of feeling is so fine as to be easily broken. The illusion by which the audience is attached to the play is quickly removed and never restored. The finer the texture of the work the less it will bear being injured by disturbance; and it is a poor recompense to managers who are really trying to give the early-comers a charming prelude to the piece of the evening when their good intentions are spoilt by the sins of the unpunctual.

The pittites are great sufferers from this abuse; but most to be pitied of all are the unfortunate artists. When we remember how nervous an actor must be, how sensitive to the least impression, and how subject to discouragement and depression, one realises what annoyance and offence must be caused by the noise and bustle created by the advent of late-comers, especially to the stalls. There is a positive insult to the entertainment in the free-and-easy way in which some of these behave, in the manner in which they emphasise their impertinence. The artists cannot help feeling this acutely; and none of them can be expected to do his best while suffering from the vexation and irritation caused by impudent disregard of his feelings.

On the whole, we think the manners of London audiences have improved in the last few years. There is less talking in the course of a performance, and more respect for the management and the entertainment on the stage. What offence remains is chiefly caused by thoughtlessness. It is not brought home to people that they are doing an ill-bred and unkind thing in spoiling the work of those who are striving to amuse and interest them, and in interfering with the enjoyment of their fellows. An action like Mr. HARVEY's gives them "bold advertisement" of their error, and increases their respect for an art which will not endure to suffer from their carelessness and caprice. The matter, however, is beset with difficulty; and we can quite understand any reluctance a manager may feel to making an ordinance which might offend more of his patrons than would be pleased by its execution. The great obstacle is the indifference of the British public to artistic considerations; and these experiments can only be tried by *entrepreneurs* confident in their strength. The gratitude, however, of the whole profession, and of the cultured minority of playgoers, is deserved by these bold reformers.

CHARITY AT THE SURREY.

On Wednesday evening, by the courtesy of Mr. Frank Macnaghten and the directors of the Surrey, the whole of the proceeds of both houses, without any deductions, were devoted to the funds of Guys, Evelina, and the Ophthalmic Hospitals, and the St. Patrick Church of England Home for Working Lads. Charming ladies sold elegant programmes, smart buttonholes, chocolates, &c., and thus helped to augment the substantial sum that will accrue to the above charities. In addition to those in the regular bill, extra turns were given by Keith and Merson in their hunting absurdity, "The Meet," the Sivronis, Vickey Delmar, Edie Endon, Chris Richards, Walker and May, Florrie Forde, Harry Bancroft, Harry Weldon, Datas, Ernest Rees, Hillman and Russell, Cliff Ryland, Morny Cash, Gilbert Girard, Barney Armstrong, and Sammy Shields. Among the striking attractions of the current bill is Mr. George Sheldon's musical comedy, *A King for a Day*, admirably presented by Messrs. Sydney Dooley and Charles Seymour's company. The scene represnts the Kursaal Gardens, Badenbad. Here we find Signor Carrara, a famous sculptor, whose statue of "Psyche" is to be unveiled by H.H. the Prince of Polignac. At the last moment, however, the Prince wires that he is unable to fulfil his promise. In his dilemma the sculptor persuades Septimus Tupper, a Londoner on his holidays, to assume the rôle of the king. Tupper agrees if Carrara will aid him in his suit for the hand of Elsie, the niece of Eliza Remnant, whose determination to marry Tupper herself causes that worthy man much perturbation. His Highness the Prince arrives incog., and seeing Tupper being honoured by the townspeople, hides behind the statue. When Tupper unveils it all concerned are thrown into consternation by the Prince's sudden appearance, but His Highness forgives them all for their subterfuge, and promises to give the charming Elsie away at Tupper's wedding. As Septimus Tupper Mr. Sydney Dooley makes an amusing tripper; the Signor Carrara of Mr. Will Letters is excellent; as the Prince Mr. Fred Brampton gives a clever character study; Mr. Robert Barbour as the waiter is quaint; Miss Edith Barwell is languishing as the amorous Eliza Remnant; and Miss Molly Woolstenhulme as Elsie is heard to great advantage in her song "Rat-tat-tat." The chorus showed much ability both in singing and dancing. *A King for a Day* deserves to be seen by many audiences.

Charles Raymond's living study in sculpture is artistically represented by Clito, who in ever-varying colours presents living prototypes of works of art, such as "Salambo," "Truth," "Nymph at the Fountain," &c. Mack Olive, a gifted sifflеur, appears in the brilliantly-lighted candy-store scene from *The Belle of New York*. His best efforts are "Killarney" and "The soldiers of the Queen," with a drum accompaniment by his fair partner. Campkin, the tramp cyclist, gives a novel performance and an exciting finish in his race with the Whitworth Cycling Girls; Sable Fern has two good songs in "Read between the lines" and "The echo of an old, old tale," to which she gives point and expression; Tod Lowan, comedian, keeps his audience roaring with laughter; Lottie D'Abbey, in her representation of the late Mme. Olgar, singing "The song that reached my heart," fairly brings down the house; Les Louberts, in their acrobatic comedy scena, *Uninvited*, give an astonishing series of somersaults and flip-flaps; Tatten Hall, in his songs "Tired" and "Hang the eye-glass," wins favour; T. W. Barrett is as quaint as ever in his comical ditty, "I'll never go there again"; Queenie Dell raises a furore of applause for her sand and buck dances; George Bendon sings with much gusto coon songs, and Raymond's pictures of "In the Days of their Youth" are full of fun and variety.

MR. HERBERT GODFREY'S benefit at the Crystal Palace on Wednesday will be contributed to by a large number of well-known artists. Up to the present the performers include Miss Kitty Cheatham, Mr. Charles Coborn, Mr. Charles Copland, Miss Lucy France, Mr. Barclay Gammon, Mr. A. H. Gee, Miss Margaret Godfrey, Miss Kitty Gordon, Miss Eva Hart, Mr. Walter W. Hedgcock, Mr. Arthur Helmore, Mr. Fred Holloway, Mr. Nelson Jackson, Mr. Frank Lawton, Leipold, Mr. and Mrs. Noakes, Mr. Philip Simmons, Mr. G. H. Sr.azelle, Mr. Alexander Tucker, Miss Gladys Wright, and Miss Maria Yellard; while the Crystal Palace Military Band and the Boys' Band of the Lambeth Schools will also assist.

ONE of the greatest successes ever known in America has been achieved by Miss Alice Lloyd with John P. Harrington and the late George le Brunn's coster song, "Never introduce your bloke to your lady friend" (Miss Rosie Lloyd's popular song), which is said to have broken all song-selling records in America. Mr. Harrington is to be congratulated on this "winner," coming as it does immediately on top of Miss Vesta Victoria's sterling success, "I've told his missis all about him," from the same pen, with characteristic music by Mr. Jas. W. Tate.

MR. GEORGE EDNEY, V.A.F. (No. 3352), is lying in Edinburgh Infirmary, Ward No. 28, suffering from rheumatic fever, and is in want of assistance. The general secretary of the Federation will receive and acknowledge urgently needed donations.

THE SUNDERLAND EMPIRE.

Mr. Richard Thornton's new Empire, Sunderland, which will be opened on Monday, is the thirty-ninth house booked in conjunction with the great Moss, Stoll, Thornton, and Allen combine. Miss Vesta Tilley and a strong company have been engaged for the first performances. The massive proportions of the new building at once strike the eye. At the corner of Garden-place, on the old Bishopwearmouth Rectory site, a huge circular tower, embellished with stone cornices, balustrading, and stone lunettes, rises to the height of some eighty feet. The tower is surmounted by a well-proportioned copper dome, above it being a cupola with Corinthian columns and cornices, the whole being crowned by a large ball of copper emblazoned with the word "Empire."

The entrance doors and porches are of mahogany, and lead directly into the circular tower, which is lined with marble, and thence to the grand staircase, which is constructed of terrazzo, with wrought iron balustrading.

The staircase leads to a spacious circle saloon and circle waiting hall, all decorated in fibrous plaster, and with barrel-vaulted fibrous plaster ceilings with moulded ribs, supported by pilasters with mounded caps and bases. A special staircase is arranged for the circle and stalls, so that people waiting in the hall for the second house will not clash with those coming from the first house.

The pit is approached from Garden-place and has a large and spacious waiting hall, with sitting accommodation. The pit is well elevated and has a good view of the stage. The second tier of the house is the balcony, which has spacious entrances and exits, the entrances being approached through waiting-halls. The gallery also has large and safe entrances and exits, and, of course, forms the third tier of the house.

Great care has been taken to make the shape of the circle and balconies on the most modern lines, a great point being made of the width of the theatre, and every seat is arranged looking directly on to the centre of the stage. The private boxes are placed behind the circle. There are no stage boxes, the space being devoted to special dress-circle seats. Every seat in the building, with the exception of the gallery, is upholstered, the stalls and circle having tip-up seats and the pit and the balcony having a separate seat with fixed arms for each person, so as to avoid crushing. The total actual seating accommodation on this arrangement is 2,700.

The whole of the theatre is fireproof, the staircases being constructed of concrete and the tier floors all being constructed in iron on the canter-lever principle, with expanded metal and cement floors. The auditorium roof also is of concrete and iron construction, the centre portion being raised so as to form a handsome dome. The interior of the auditorium is decorated in fibrous plaster ornament to box fronts and balcony fronts; the walls are panelled in various designs and the panels fitted with red silk. The proscenium opening is of special width, and the front is decorated in fibrous plaster columns, pilasters, carved caps, entablature figure subjects with alabaster linings, columns, and central overhead feature. Above the proscenium arch is a series of figure-panels in paintings. The prevailing tints are cream and gold. The auditorium is separated from the stage by a fireproof screen.

The electric lighting system is of the most modern type, the whole of the stage equipment being carried out with electric lamps, arc lamps, and limelights. There is a biograph box at the back of the circle from which the biograph and limelights will be worked. Electric lights will be constantly burning over all exit doors with the word "Exit" in large black letters.

The auditorium is heated by hot water, and will be ventilated by fresh-air inlets and by a central exhaust sunlight ventilator of special construction. Gas has been introduced into the house as an auxiliary and for the heating of the dressing-rooms.

The dressing-room block is placed at the back of the stage, entirely shut off by a massive wall, and communicating only by fireproof doors. This block is also fireproof, with roomy staircase.

With such a renowned artist as Miss Vesta Tilley to top the bill, Miss Lilian Lea to bottom it, and a splendid all-round company in addition, the latest venture of the ever-growing Moss and Stoll enterprises will be assured of a magnificent send-off. Miss Lea has gained an enviable position on the now famous tour as a result of the many charming scenas she has presented from time to time, and is already a highly popular Sunderland favourite by reason of the brilliant successes she has made in the town as Principal Boy in pantomime. She will open the proceedings by singing the National Anthem, a ceremony Miss Lea has performed several times for this celebrated firm at different places, and her rich and powerful voice should thrill the vast audience which will assuredly fill the huge building.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR.

Your book will, I am sure, be a valuable aid to all managers and actors.—SIR HENRY IRVING.

Mr. Strong states the whole case very clearly.—*Illustrated London News.*

Should be found very useful.—*Pelican.*

Should prove perfectly invaluable.—*Weekly Sun.*

Contains in a handy compass and in a clear style the law relating to theatres and music halls. The book is well up to date.—*Law Times.*

Furnishes useful information.—*Daily News.*

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—*Star.*

Mr. A. A. Strong has compiled an exceedingly useful volume dealing carefully, intelligently, and fully with the law bearing upon things theatrical. As a book of reference this excellent digest will be found invaluable.—*The Era.*

MISS BERTHA DUCKETT, the well-known and popular dancer, has forwarded us the sum of 9s. for *The Era* Shilling Fund for the Music-hall Home:—Bertha Duckett, 2s.; F. Duckett, 1s.; T. H. Webster, 1s.; Isaac Ashton, 1s.; Victor Knowles (Blackpool), 1s.; Nath. J. Lewis, 1s.; Ernest Denny, 1s.; and James Clarke, 1s.—9s.

BENEFIT AT THE CANTERBURY.

The call upon the supporters of Mrs. Bennett and Mr. Edwin Cranston was heartily responded to at the Canterbury on Wednesday evening, when the two popular artists named had a farewell benefit prior to their departure for Australia. Mrs. Bennett is held in particular favour by south-side audiences, who well remember her excellent work at the Surrey Theatre, subsequent to which she was engaged for important parts at His Majesty's. Mrs. Bennett has also travelled extensively with music hall sketches, appearing frequently with Mr. Cranston, a long-popular sketch artist, who is most favourably known for his work in the playlet, *Terry; or, True to His Trust.*

Mrs. Bennett received an ovation on Wednesday, when she appeared to give a recitation in eulogy of "British Pluck," and later in the evening joined Mr. Cranston in a comedy duologue, entitled *A Model Wife*. In answer to the applause, Mr. Cranston came forward and said: "Ladies and Gentlemen,—It is etiquette, I know, to allow ladies to have preference, but Mrs. Bennett will pardon me if I come first, as ladies have a liking for the last word. I thank you very much for your generous support. We leave on Friday to fulfill an engagement with Mr. Harry Rickards in Australia, where we hope to be successful and to find audiences as kind and good as you are here. I believe we are the first dramatic sketch artists to go out there, and hope we shall do credit to the Mother Country. Words fail me to express my gratitude to Mr. Wells and the directors who gave me the benefit; to Mr. Fred Miller, to Mr. Cowis, to the conductor of the band, to all the staff, and to Mr. Tom Pacey, who was kind enough to get us our engagement. I hope when we return to find you all here and in good health."

Mrs. Bennett, who was also called upon for a speech, said:—"It is generally the women who do the talking, but on this occasion it is the man. I endorse all Mr. Cranston, my manager, has said, and heartily thank Mr. Miller, Mr. Cowis, the artists, band, and everyone. This is the first benefit I have ever had, and I like it so much that I wish I could have one every day. If I only have as good friends in Australia as you have been to us here I shall consider myself very fortunate. Good-bye, dear old friends, good-bye." Before the applause had subsided, "He's a jolly good fellow" was started by Miss Kate Carney in the stalls, and taken up by the house enthusiastically.

Functions such as these at the Canterbury are never without their specially arranged episodes, and on this occasion a diversion was created by Mr. Jack Wayho, who came on the stage to declare that there was a disagreement between Mr. Jack Collinson and himself as to their place on the programme. Mr. Collinson, decorated with a "thick ear," immediately followed, and the dispute waxed furious until, despite Mr. Fred Miller's interference, a fight with the "raw 'uns" took place. Mr. Wayho was in his best bully of the *Fighting Parson* form, and got in some realistic hits, but Mr. Collinson had not practised in *The Club Raid* for nothing, and succeeded in flooring his opponent with an upper-cut, after which the combatants cordially shook hands.

The special programme numbered some of the foremost artists. Mr. Arthur Roberts and company secured constant laughter in the sketch, *The Woman Who Was;* Chirgwin gained his usual demonstrations of goodwill; and Miss Millie Lindon fascinated all with a couple of tuneful songs. The Martialo Trio did wonders in the conjuring line; Dion Wade imitated George Robey to perfection; Walter Purvis and Co. appeared in a coster sketch; and contributions were made by Mr. Harry Anderson, Miss Lily Esplin, Miss Josey Hammersley, Miss Ruby Helder, Mr. Harry Russon, Mr. Walter Tilbury, Miss Louise Zetland, Miss Lily Arthur, Ian Colquhoun, Mr. Godfrey James, J. P. Ling, Babs Lloyd, Mr. Harry Luck, Miss May Marton, the Pasquali Brothers, Ruffell's Pictures, Herbert Shelley, and Mr. Joseph Simons. Mr. Fred Miller was presented by the beneficiares with a handsome cigar case, Mr. David Cowie with a case of pipes, and Mr. Tom Pacey was the recipient of a cigar-holder from Mr. Cranston.

"THE GIRL AND THE TOUGH,"
A Dramatic Sketch, produced at the Empire, Camberwell, on Monday, June 24.

The Girl ..... MISS PEARLA GARDINER
The Tough ..... MR. JOHN G. BRANDON
The Detective ..... MR. H. AGAR LYONS

Well-merited success attended the production here on Monday evening of a strong dramatic sketch, which graphically tells a pathetic story set in one scene representing the flat roof of a house in the Bowery quarter of New York. Sweet Norah Dalton, a helpless paralytic, reclining in her chair, looking wistfully at the lights of the great city which she has never seen, is startled by the sound of fire-arms and a man's wild dash on to the roof. Thinking it is some of the neighbours playing "hide and seek," she invites the trespasser to hide by the side of her chair, and when her brother, Dan Hartigan, a detective, appears in pursuit and inquires if anyone is in hiding, she replies in the negative. When he has gone the intruder rises and questions the girl, who tells him that she is helpless, and that all she sees of the world is from the roof, where she sits alone for hours while her brother is away hunting the "Toughs" of New York. She asks the man if he knows what the Toughs are, and says her brother told her the story of a youth named Ted Delaney who had committed a serious crime, and had been sentenced to five years' penal servitude, leaving to bear his shame a young and pretty wife, who never recovered from the shock, but pined away and died when her baby was born. The Tough realises that he is listening to his own life story, and is stricken with remorse. The detective returns, and thinking the refugee is about to injure his sister, fires at him, and the Tough falls mortally wounded. With his last breath the wounded man thanks the detective for his kindness to his wife, and asks the girl to pray for him, so that if there is any room in Heaven for a Tough they may meet again.

The Girl and the Tough has strong human interest, and holds the audience enthralled. Miss Pearla Gardiner as the Girl is bewitchingly simple and effective; Mr. John G. Brandon gives a powerful portrayal of the notorious young criminal, and his forcible denunciation of the authorities who make a Tough once a criminal always a criminal was very convincing. As the detective Mr. H. Agar Lyons gives a finished performance. The piece is adequately staged.

MR. REGINALD LEYLAND'S (late of His Majesty's Chapel Royal), whose London Vaudeville Concert Party were so successful on the Claremont Pier, Lowestoft during the Whitsun holidays, are delighting good audiences in the Pier Pavilion, Walton-on-Naze. They beat all records for any previous time of the year at Lowestoft, and are doing the same at Walton, notwithstanding the bad weather. The party consists of Miss Clarisse Heney, Master Reginald Leyland, Mr. Reginald Leyland, and Mr. James Bayne.

MISS CLAIRE ROMAINE, who goes to America shortly, has just placed a practically unlimited commission with Messrs. John P. Harrington and Jas. Tate for new character songs specially designed for America, while Miss Hetty King, who goes to the States in September, has done ditto. Verily, the successes Messrs. Harrington and Tate have been responsible for in the land of Uncle Sam recently have tended to make things pretty considerably in the region of Berners-street.

HOLLAND AT THE HIPPODROME.

Just now there is a distinct feeling for everything that is Dutch, and both the musical-comedy and the music-hall stages are literally as well as figuratively "clogged" with Dutch business. Many years since we had plays of serious interest with Hans and Katti as the comic protagonists, and one remembers the delightful Alice Atherton and the quaint Ada Alexandra in their sketches of female character from the land of the tulip. But the prevailing craze for Dutch pictures and for a mise-en-scène that realises life on the Zuyder Zee is something exceptional, and it could scarcely be ignored by such an up-to-date management as that at the Hippodrome. It has, therefore, given the cue to Mr. Frank Parker to prepare another production—his fortieth, which filled the arena and the stage for the first time on Monday. It is from the pen of Mr. W. H. Risqué, the music having been composed and selected by Mr. Carl Kiefert and is entitled

"THE ZUYDER ZEE."

Van Schunk ..... MR. TOM SHALE
Lazy Hans ..... MR. BERT GILBERT
Simon ..... MR. J. H. MILBURN
Peterkin ..... NIPPER LUPINO LANE
Greta ..... MISS MAY MOORE DUPREZ
Mina ..... MISS MAUDE TERRY
Katrina ..... MISS BETTY GREEN

In the village that is peopled by Mr. Risqué's characters life passes pleasantly enough amid the tulips, and the panorama of canals, red-tile farmsteads, and windmills is realised very prettily and naturally by Mr. Bruce Smith, whose brush and ingenuity have supplied skilfully a scene capable of a wonderful mechanical change, which is the *clou* of the production. We are not greatly concerned with the plot. The village flirt, or, rather, one of them, Greta, the proprietress of a cigar and sweet stall, has won the devotion, such as it is, of Lazy Hans, the slouching and somnolent employee of Mynheer Van Schunk, a dealer in cheese and delicatessen. Greta, we learn, is an heiress in a small way, being entitled to the sum of 500 guilders, and her good fortune becomes known to her friend Mina, a flower girl, and Mina's sweetheart Simon. The two plot to alter the figures, and by adding a nought multiply Greta's dowry ten times. Her wealth excites the cupidity of Van Schunk, who immediately proposes, and is accepted on the condition that he keeps Hans in his employ. But Greta's riches render this proceeding unnecessary, and she jilts the sausage merchant for the ne'er-do-well. At an ice carnival in honour of her marriage with Hans, Van Schunk takes his revenge by opening the canal sluice and deluging the happy village; but this mean revenge has no effect on the fortunes of hero and heroine, and it supplies a series of laughable incidents in the way of water pantomime that adds much to the joy of an excellent summer attraction. But we anticipate. Previous to the flooding of the arena we have a meteorological change in the quickest time on record. The landscape smiling under a summer sun, with a wealth of flowers, becomes in a few seconds a wintry waste, and skaters give a capital exhibition of the sport of the Hollanders on their native canals.

The heroine of the production is Miss May Moore Duprez, who has earned the title of the "merry Dutch girl" on the boards of the halls. She romps in light-hearted fashion as Greta, and sings and dances with a gaiety and abandon that do a great deal for the success achieved. Mr. Bert Gilbert, an old favourite at the Hippodrome, has no great opportunities as Hans, but his "tired" song and his original dance in which he lies down and taps his feet in rhythmical step on an upturned table. Mr. J. H. Milburn and Mr. Tom Shale also do the best possible with small opportunities. Nipper Lupino Lane has an incidental song and dance that bring down the house; and Little Betty Green also wins the hearts of the audience by her dancing and singing. The Four Figaros, Hess and Lisbon, the Ashley Team, the Snow Family, and Tiller's Eight Snowdrops add to the importance and vim of the spectacle, and we must not omit to mention the goose, a preternaturally wise bird, which must be able to trace its descent back to the historic birds of the Capitol.

DEATH OF CHARLES TAYLOR.

Death has robbed the musical comedy stage of one of its most graceful lyrical writers, and our readers will be grieved to hear that Mr. Charles H. Taylor succumbed on Thursday to an attack of pneumonia, at his residence, 37, Ridgmount-gardens, after a brief illness. A native of Manchester, the deceased gentleman started life in his father's business, in the silk trade; but some ten years since he met Mr. Robert Courtneidge, the well-known manager and producer, for whom he wrote the lyrics of a pantomime, which was produced at the Prince's Theatre. This connection was the foundation of a friendship that was only severed by the untimely death of the young writer; and it was owing to Mr. Courtneidge that Mr. Taylor came to London, where he became connected with a firm of publishers, and wrote songs. One of them, called "The Commissionaire," published by Feldman and Co., was sung at the halls with great success during the Transvaal war by Mr. Albert Christian. One of the verses ran:—

You're spick and span, a fighting man,
You've been and done your share,
And something left to spare.
Shake hands, Commissionaire.
From duty's path you never swerve,
You've shown us you have pluck and nerve.
Long may we keep you—in reserve, Commissionaire.

Pride of race and patriotism may be traced in every line of the verses. His muse was employed for the musical comedy stage when he wrote some of the lyrics for the *Silver Slipper*, produced June 1, 1901, at the Lyric Theatre, sharing the honours with Mr. W. H. Risqué.

He was one of the trio of writers responsible for the songs of *The Medal and the Maid*, produced at the Lyric on April 25, 1903, his coadjutors being George Rollit and Paul Rubens. In the same year he once more became associated with Leslie Stuart, in *The School Girl*, produced at the Prince of Wales's on May 9. He was chosen by Mr. Seymour Hicks to write the lyrics for *The Catch of the Season* (Vaudeville, Sept. 9, 1904), and *My Darling* at the Hicks' Theatre. His latest and his most successful work is to be found in *Tom Jones*, the successful comic opera now running with such success at the Apollo; and at the time of his death he was engaged on the libretto of a new opera, which he fondly regarded as the best of his efforts. His kindly and amiable disposition had endeared him to a large circle of friends, and he will be much missed in Bohemian circles. He is to be buried to-day in the Roman Catholic portion of the St. Pancras Cemetery (Finchley); but prior to the interment a service will be held at St. Patrick's Church, Soho, at 12 o'clock.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps. *The Era* is posted on Saturday in time to reach London Subscribers by the *first* Town Delivery, and Country Subscribers should receive their Papers by the *first* London Post. Address, the PUBLISHER, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

In consequence of the London County Council's resolution in regard to living statuary passed on Tuesday at their meeting, Mr. Frank Glenister has had, very regretfully, to give the Seldoms a month's notice to terminate their engagement at the London Pavilion.

Miss Marie Lloyd departs for America in September, and this week Messrs. John P. Harrington and Jas. W. Tate have been particularly busy equipping her with four new characteristic ditties, specially designed for American consumption, and respectively entitled "That's tellings," "Why Sue sighed," "Cause and Effect," and "Don't grumble at woman." This versatile author and composer are now considering a very tempting American offer they have received, and may take a trip to the other side in the same boat on which our representative "diva" sails.

Mrs. Dan Leno was married to Mr. Charles Francis Best, a comedian, on Wednesday. The ceremony took place at the registry office in Brixton-road, in the presence of a number of leading music-hall artists. The honeymoon will be spent in Belgium. It was at Manchester in 1883, after a three years' engagement, that the late Dan Leno married Miss Lydia Reynolds, then a popular ballad singer, and the two appeared together at the Surrey Theatre in pantomime. Mrs. Dan Leno, with increasing family cares, shortly afterwards retired from the stage, but her eldest daughter, Georgina (now a widow) followed in her mother's footsteps when she supported her father in the musical farce, *Mr. Wix of Wickham*. Mr. Dan Leno, jun., also has hereditary talent.

The bridegroom, Mr. Charles F. Best, is known to fame as "Mr. Bunker, the Mountebank," in a very droll act that is very popular at the halls. Originally he was known as Sarina, and for years did an excellent turn as a cyclist with Mme. Lalo, his first wife, who died on June 16, 1905.

Mme. Yvette Guilbert will make her début as a comedienne at the Théâtre des Variétés in Paris next autumn. Mr. Alfred Butt, however, has persuaded the gifted artist to make what may appropriately be termed a farewell appearance on the variety stage at the Palace Theatre, where she will commence an engagement for two special weeks on Monday, and will sing her original creations in English and French. Mme. Yvette Guilbert has the distinction of having been paid the highest salary of any artist on the variety stage. In addition to Mme. Guilbert, Mlle. de Dio will come with her wonderful transformations and dancing, to which, of course, must be added some extraordinary new lighting effects.

Miss Alice Lloyd and the McNaughtons will make their first appearance in London after their most successful tour in the United States at the Hackney Empire. The inimitable pair are well known to patrons of the Hackney Empire, and are old and valued friends of the pleasure-seeking public, and two of Mr. Stoll's oldest servants in length of service. They commenced with the famous manager at the Liverpool Parthenon "in the early days."

A comic of the earlier days is Mr. J. W. Rowley. To write a life-story of "Jack Rowley" would be to set out in detail the history of the music-hall since the days when the "free-and-easy" was the only place where the latest comic and "motto" songs were to be heard by those who favoured them. Rowley is, indeed, one of the "old brigade," and one, too, who has stood the test of change and time as few other variety artists have succeeded in doing.

Arrangements have been made by Mr. George Scott to entertain at the Alhambra 250 non-commissioned officers of the two Services, specially selected from the various depôts for the opening ceremony on Monday of the Union Jack Club. This splendid contingent of the country's defenders, after being entertained at the Union Jack Club, will be conveyed by motors to the Alhambra.

Mr. George Robey's two hundred per cent. bargain with a moneylender has been reduced by order of the judge to one bearing interest at merely twenty-five per cent., his Lordship stating that the comedian's position was perfectly well known, and that there was nothing to justify such exorbitant interest. Costs were also given to the comedian.

Mr. Charles Parker, son of Mr. Frank Parker, the popular producer at the London Hippodrome, came of age on Monday. Mr. Parker, jun., like his father before him, has been started on the lowest rung of the ladder, and is now assistant in the box office of the Haymarket Theatre. He bids fair to "follow in father's footsteps," as he has already shown an abnormal capacity for work, and therefore should have a brilliant future.

Mr. Herbert Shelley is by way of producing a new song, and will appear in the character of Charles I. at the Granville on Monday. The music is specially composed by Stephen R. Philpot. We don't remember to have seen any impersonators of the "Martyr King" on the variety boards, descriptive singers and actor-vocalists preferring, as a rule, his more frivolous son, "the Merry Monarch."

Mr. Herman Finck's new edition of "Musical Memories" will contain the waltz from *The Merry Widow* and the famous Barcarolle from *The Tales of Hoffmann*, and the young chef d'orchestre of the Palace Theatre invites the public to suggest the melodies which they would like also to be included.

The Oxford announces a novelty for Monday next, July 1, when Bert Wickham, the Herculean Cymro and world's champion all-round athlete, will give an exhibition of his physical strength, including his remarkable tests of motor *v.* man. Wickham maintains that he can, by sheer strength alone, and free from any mechanical aid, resist the force of a 16 to 22 h.p. motor-car, or two 8 h.p. cars.

Miss Gladys Archbutt (by Mr. Charles Frohman's kind permission) is singing the number which Mr. Joseph Coyne made so pleasantly familiar to the playgoing public in *Nelly Neil*, entitled "Popular Songs."

Mr. W. F. Frame finishes the Stoll tour this evening, and will rest for a little on the banks of the bonnie Clyde. He will again start his vaudeville tour at Saltcoats July 29 for a run of twelve weeks.

Mr. Tom Pacey was, on Wednesday evening, the pleased recipient of a much-cherished cigar-holder, from Mr. Edward Cranston, at the Cranston-Bennett farewell benefit at the Canterbury.

The profession are taking very kindly to motors. Cruickshank, with his magnificent 15/20 Humber, Mr. Tom Pacey and his useful 9/18 Clement, and Mr. Gus Elen, the possessor of a magnificent car, are frequent visitors to *The Era* offices.

Mr. Harry Rickards arrives in London in July to book artists until 1910. *The Era* Office is his headquarters for correspondence. His friends in London will be pleased to hear that he is much better in health, and that business at all his theatres is good.

Mr. Frank Allen has been elected a director of the Nottingham Grand Theatre. If the house, therefore, goes over to variety it will be run in connection with Moss' Empires.

We regret to announce that Mr. Alfred Farrell, who for many years worked in conjunction with Mr. Fred Willmot (Farrell and Willmot, comedians) died suddenly on Monday evening at Liverpool. Some six weeks ago the deceased commenced a partnership with Mr. David Miller, of that City.

The fame of the deceased gentleman and his partner was antecedent to the cross-talkers favourably known to the present generation; and in the eighties Farrell and Willmot and Tennyson and O'Gorman were turns to conjure with. Mr. Farrell not so long since appeared with his partner at the London Pavilion, where they were offered an engagement by Mr. Frank Glenister, and were thus able to renew memories of their former triumphs at the famous house in Piccadilly-circus.

Mr. Fred Willmot will in future have the bookings connected with the Liverpool Theatre of Varieties, Ltd., in place of Mr. Walter De Frece, who has resigned.

Mr. Walter Mould, late assistant to Mr. Culling, the manager of the Bury Theatre and Circus of Varieties, has been appointed manager of the Hippodrome, Accrington.

At Morecambe the V.A.F. Day was observed on Thursday afternoon at the Alhambra Palace, when, by permission of Alderman Gardner, a first-class show was given by many of the variety artists in the town.

Mr. Will Dalton, of Manchester, the energetic provincial agent, is pulling round from a severe illness which has necessitated an operation, successfully performed on June 1 by the eminent Manchester surgeon Mr. Smith. It will be several weeks before Mr. Dalton can attend to his business, which, in his absence, is in the capable hands of his manager.

This week's programme at the Tivoli, Manchester, is preceded by an original fantasia on "The Death of Nelson," by Mr. Frank J. Smith, the musical director at this popular house. A number of well-known airs relative to the theme are employed, and the combinations and transitions are handled with considerable skill and effect, the whole producing quite a dramatic and suggestive picture.

Mr. Richard Thornton's new Empire, Sunderland, which will be opened on Monday, is the thirty-ninth house booked in conjunction with the great Moss, Stoll, Thornton, and Allen combine. Miss Vesta Tilley and a strong company have been engaged for the first performances. The massive proportions of the new building at once strike the eye. At the corner of Garden-place, on the old Bishopwearmouth Rectory site, a huge circular tower, embellished with stone cornices, balustrading, and stone lunettes, rises to the height of some eighty feet. The tower is surmounted by a well-proportioned copper dome, above it being a cupola with Corinthian columns and cornices, the whole being crowned by a large ball of copper emblazoned with the word "Empire."

One of the best productions which has ever graced the boards of the Tower Theatre, New Brighton, was presented to a crowded audience on Saturday evening, when Mr. John Tiller put before the public *Her Birthday*, a piece of a most attractive character. It is a pretty scene, depicting the manners and life in France under Louis XV. The handsome costumes are worn by the charming ladies of the ballet with that courtliness necessary to effectively display them; and the stately dances, pretty songs, and artistic grouping are excellent in every way.

Mr. Hugh Wigglesworth, the erstwhile popular pier manager at Blackpool and Morecambe, and now the well-known variety artists' agent, is at present recuperating at the Brighton of the North, after being laid up for two months in London. He is advised by his medical attendant, however, to betake himself to Harrogate next week, so any of his old friends can communicate with him at the Kursaal there.

Mr. Ben de Frece, the popular and enterprising manager of the Hippodrome, Colchester, was on Saturday night last the recipient of a handsome silver salver from the male staff, and a very prettily-shaped silver teapot from the female staff, the occasion being his birthday. Numerous expressions of goodwill from friends both within and without the profession also found their way to him by letter and telegram.

The many friends of Mr. Harold Arnold, manager of the King's, Gateshead, and late manager of the Lyceum, London, will be pleased to learn that his wife gave birth to a daughter on Saturday last. The mother and child are both doing well.

The Blackpool Hippodrome reopens its doors on Monday next, when Mr. T. P. Duignan, the very popular general-manager, will submit a programme that is calculated to bring into requisition the "house full" notice board.

Blackpool's famous Tower Circus opened its doors for the season on Monday, when the genial George Harrop, alias the generous "General," submitted a very fine programme, and big business is the result. The artists engaged are Caban, with his famous Continental circus; Warsaw Brothers, Australia's musical comedians; the Three Bounding Patersons, gymnasts; Claude Ohmy, the daring bareback rider; the Sisters Macarte, tight wire walkers; Les Marsumas, comedians on wheels; Fitzgerald and his club-juggling girls; the Sisters Dering, acrobatic equestriennes; August and September, the popular clowns; and the Four Rios, gymnasts.

Miss Esta Stella has not yet settled for pantomime in Glasgow or elsewhere.

The third annual meeting of the shareholders of the Pavilion, Newcastle, was held on Tuesday at the theatre, Mr. Hugh Astley, chairman, presiding. The net profit earned for the twelve months ended on May 31, 1907, after providing for interest on mortgage and on debentures, amounts to £4,811 6s. In December last an interim dividend of 2½ per cent. (less income tax) was paid for the half-year ending Nov. 30, 1906; the directors recommended the payment of a further dividend of 7½ per cent. (less income tax) for the half-year ended May 31, 1907, making 10 per cent. for the year. After payment of this dividend there remains, with the balance brought forward from last year's accounts, the sum of £1,966 12s., which they propose to deal with by writing off £758 6s. 8d. from the premises account, £437 2s. 10d. off the preliminary expenses, and carrying forward the sum of £771 2s. 6d. to the current year's accounts. £1,000 of the debenture issue has been redeemed.

Miss Georgina Leonard is meeting with success everywhere in the provinces with her two big numbers "Marry me now" and "After the victory." Her business is still in the hands of that astute agent Tom Shaw.

Manson and West appeared at the Royal, Oldham, last week, in a farcical interlude, *Telling the Tale*, with great success, and Mr. Dottridge at once secured them to play the Dusky Princess and the Captain in Dottridge and Langden's production of *Robinson Crusoe*.

Mr. Frank Macnaghten's ever-widening circuit now embraces some twenty houses, and he has found it absolutely necessary to establish a London centre. Henceforward all communications in regard to the professional and publicity departments of the Macnaghten Tour must be addressed to the London offices, Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C., where all billing matter (accompanied by samples of pictorial printing) and notification of appearance must be sent.

Miss May Moore Duprez, "the jolly Dutch girl," celebrated her twenty-first birthday on Wednesday, and in honour of the event gave a party to which the principals in the latest Hippodrome spectacle, *Zuyder Zee*, and some well-known professionals, were invited. Quite "the hit of the evening" was made by Mr. Malcolm Scott, when he assisted Miss Duprez to cut a huge birthday cake, which was surmounted by a doll dressed to represent Miss Duprez in the Dutch costume she wears in the Hippodrome spectacle.

Miss Octavia Noel, who has so lately achieved success while starring as "An Abandoned Woman," has rejoined Mrs. John Lawson, to play Lady Seaton, in her sketch, *The Devil's Sunday*. Owing to that lady's regrettable illness Miss Noël played her part of Fay Faber at a few minutes notice on Saturday last at Middlesbrough and received the kind congratulations of the manager. She has been playing it at the Palace, Bristol, this week.

The appearance of Miss Agnes Fraser at the Tivoli has increased very appreciably the interest of the excellent programme that Mr. Joseph Wilson is giving at that house to crowded audiences. The Savoy *diva* is associated with the success of *The Constable and the Pictures*, a sketch suggested possibly by Mr. W. S. Gilbert's *Ages Ago*, or the unsuccessful *Ruddigore*. It is by Godfrey Turner and Arthur Wimperis, the latter gentleman being the writer of the lyrics for *The Dairymaids*, produced last year at the Apollo. The subject is treated with sufficient drollery, and the comic situations should secure for it a great success.

Mr. M. R. Morand, as well as Miss Fraser, makes his West-end variety début in this new and original sketch, and thus renews a pleasant artistic comradeship commenced at the Savoy and continued at the theatre over the way—the Adelphi—in *The Earl and the Girl*. Miss Agnes Fraser is the wife of Mr. Walter Passmore, and has been favourably known to London playgoers ever since she appeared at the Savoy, first as the understudy of Miss Isabel Jay and later as that lady's successor. Recently Miss Fraser made one of the big personal successes of *The Dairymaids* at the Lyric.

The music of the sketch has been written by Miss Marjorie Slaughter, the sixteen-year-old daughter of Mr. Walter Slaughter, the composer of *Marjorie* and *Lady Tatters*, and a most popular musical-director. The plot is slight enough, and concerns the entry of a muddle-headed constable into the library and picture gallery of a house that is thought to be a den of coiners. Two of the portraits emerge from their frames at the witching hour, and the modern Dogberry's suspicions are confirmed by the artless prattle of the lady portrait, with whom he minuets.

He is regarded, however, as a malapert knave by the gentleman portrait, who insists on a duel with a pair of flint pistols; but his uniform is saved by the return of both of the family ancestors to their positions on the wall of the apartment at the hour of one o'clock. Miss Agnes Fraser is both winsome and dignified as my lady; and Mr. Fraser makes a handsome representative of a gentleman of the Elizabethan period. Mr. M. R. Morand is intensely droll as the constable, and the sketch is a real and well-deserved success.

Though he had most likely heard of the alchemists, it is certain that Robert Herrick knew little or nothing of the wonders of chemistry when he wrote—

Some asked me where the rubies grew,
And nothing I did say;
But with my finger pointed to
The lips of Julia.

We shall be looking to Miss Alice Morton to produce rubies this afternoon at a private representation of her manufacture of gems at the London Hippodrome, at 12 o'clock.

Owing to the remarkable and still-growing success of *The Collar Stud*, Muir and Bartlett, who are continually receiving applications for the American rights, are themselves sending out a company to the States early in August. The company will play the full répertoire of Muir and Bartlett's sketches, including the Old English cameo, *The Lady of the Roses* (by arrangement with Mrs. Hugh de Beere).

Miss Lois du Cane, the clever leading actress, and her excellent company have proved an immense draw at the Pavilion, Leicester, this week. *Judas*, by Mr. Fred Maxwell, is playing to crowded houses. Next week Miss du Cane will produce *The Octoroon*. This will be the fourth week of this favourite artist's most successful engagement at this house.

The 517th meeting of the Executive Committee of the M.H.A.R.A. was held at the offices of the Association on Wednesday afternoon. Mr. Fred Herbert occupied the chair. Other members present were Messrs. Charles Coborn, Fred Harrison, Douglas White, and C. Douglas Stuart (secretary). Various applications from members for refunds were fully considered, and the Secretary instructed in the matters. The weekly financial statement, showing forty new members and a cash total of £37 10s., was passed, as was also the Hon. Treasurer's monthly statement.

The music of the Bandurrias, who play so artistically on mandolines and guitars, is admirably suited for garden parties, at homes, and other functions, and it is pleasant to hear that the combination is very busy fulfilling season engagements at the country houses of the leaders of society.

Les Fleury Duo will come to the Palace Theatre on Monday. This is the first appearance in England of these artists, who present a burlesque revue embodying twenty characters in eighteen minutes. This number should be a distinct novelty, as the act comprises songs, dances, comedy acrobatics, and transformation.

Mr. Horace Wheatley intends, at a very early date, to produce in the halls *Muldoon's Picnic*, which had such a long and successful run under his management a few years ago. It will be played by a full company of known artists.

Mr. Pete Murray, the acting manager at Sadler's Wells Theatre, is to take a benefit at that house on Friday evening, July 12. Mr. Erle T. Walkden, the able assistant-manager, is organising the two performances for the night in question, and is acting as the secretary for the benefit.

Mr. Charles Shank, of the Bros. Shank, acrobats, and Miss Florence Dale are to be married at St. Mary's Church, Kennington Park-road, at one o'clock to-morrow. The wedding breakfast will be given at Frascati's at 6 p.m.

Mr. Edward Kipling, late principal comedian in *Sergeant Brue*, *The Geisha*, *The Shop Girl*, *The Greek Slave*, &c., is returning to the halls, and opens at Collins's on Monday with a "petticoat" patter turn, written for him by Chas. D. Hickman, and entitled "The pally girl."

All employers of labour in the amusement world who wish to be on the safe side will do well to get a copy of the little booklet published at this office, price sixpence. It is entitled "The Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906, and its effect on Theatres and Music-halls." The writer is Mr. Albert A. Strong, LL.B. Lond., solicitor. A copy of the much discussed Act is printed in the work.

A goodly number of friends and well-wishers will assemble at Euston on Tuesday morning next, the 2nd prox., to bid farewell to Mr. Fred Day (of Messrs. Francis and Day), who is returning on that date to New York per Cunard s.s. Carmania.

Mr. Milton Bode is the latest convert to Music Hall management. On Monday last he took over the entire direction of his own theatre at Reading, with the result that he has completely broken his own records.

Mr. Frank Macnaghten and his co-directors are to be congratulated on the wonderfully successful result of their charity entertainment, given on Wednesday evening last at the Surrey Vaudeville Theatre, which now very popular establishment is, under their regime, enjoying an unparalleled run of prosperity.

His Worship the Mayor of Southwark and many distinguished guests were present, the night's proceeds resulting in something like £225 being distributed amongst the following well-known and deserving institutions:—Guy's Hospital, Evelina Hospital for Children, Royal Eye Hospital, and St. Patrick's Protestant Home for Working Lads.

The name of Harmston has long been celebrated in the annals of the arena, and Harmston's Grand Circus, which is travelling India, China, and the Malay Straits under the direction of Mme. Harmston-Love, gave a grand gala night at Bombay in February last before Lord Lamington, the Ameer of Afghanistan, and a large party from Government House. The management is wanting knockabout comedians, clowns with novelties, triple-bar performers, lady trick cyclists, and others. Those desiring engagements can apply, with terms, lithos, and photos., to Mme. Harmston-Love, Harmston's Circus, c/o Abram's Horse Repository, Singapore, Straits Settlements. Cable address: "Harmston's, Singapore."

At the complimentary benefit to Mr. Arthur Jefferson at the Metropole, Glasgow, yesterday (Friday) evening the beneficiaire was announced to make his first appearance on the Metropole stage as Sammy Plum in a screaming absurdity from his own pen entitled *The Girl is Mine, Ha! Ha!*. The artists appearing included several under engagement to Moss' Empires and Mr. E. H. Bostock.

Miss Clara Alexander, who came to the Empire Theatre, on Monday, made an immediate success, and is already a popular contributor to Mr. Hitchens's programme. There was no mistaking the genuine outburst of enthusiasm which greeted her negro racing yarn. "She's collared 'em," said one fervent stallite, and the laconic remark voiced the feeling of all present.

It should, however, be clearly understood that Miss Alexander is not a coon impersonator, or a mere elocutionist. She comes to us straight from her plantation home in Alameda, tingling to her finger tips with all the humour and pathos of the nigger. Appearing in a simple white dress, in a moment she becomes the genuine exponent of the coon as he lives his uneventful life in the Southern States.

The Musical Howards are giving their refreshing music and comedy act at the London Pavilion, where they have been secured for a series of engagements by Mr. Frank Glenister. Their act, good as it was when we last saw it, has been vastly improved, and the quaint business and patter of Mr. Howard cause the heartiest laughter. The lady looks very smart and dapper in her petticoated uniform, and plays with excellent effect Mr. J. Airlie Dix's fine melody, "The Trumpeter."

Mr. Harry S. Hart, one of our youngest agents, informs us that Miss Evie Greene has been booked through his agency for a Northern hall at a salary of £350 per week. Miss Greene will commence her tour in August next. Mr. Hart has at times negotiated business for Miss Phyllis Dare, Mr. Hayden Coffin, and Mr. Fred Wright, jun.

A note for interdict has been presented in the Bill Chamber of the Scottish Court of Session on behalf of Robert Allan P. Williams, lessee and manager of the New Gaiety Theatre, Victoria-road, Dundee, against Frank Percival, lessee and manager of the Empire Theatre, Rosebank-street, Dundee.

Complainer says that during his occupation of the New Gaiety since March, 1905, it has been continuously open to the public, and he has no intention of closing it, and never made any arrangement from which such an inference could be made. His licence entitles him to perform stage plays, and he regularly produces them, but in a theatrical newspaper the respondent, under the classification "Wanted Companies," had inserted an advertisement stating that the Empire is open all the year, and from Monday, June 17, the Empire would be the only drama house open in Dundee.

Mr. Williams says that this was intended to represent, and did represent, that the Empire Theatre was open all the year round, and that after June 17 it would be the only drama house open in Dundee, and that this was false. He says that he has suffered, and is still suffering, great hurt and prejudice owing to this. On June 14 complainer's agents called upon the respondent to publish a retraction of the statements complained of, but he had failed to do so. Lord Guthrie ordered intimation, and allowed six days for answers, and meantime granted interim interdict.

The Imperial Ladies' Quartet and Concert Party will be one of the attractions of the great garden fête in aid of the Lord Mayor's Cripples' Fund, to be given on Thursday next at Bute House, Brook Green, Hammersmith. Madame Remosany Reitz, who has trained these ladies, was for years a principal singer in first-class theatres in Berlin, Hamburg, Munich, and a successful concert singer. She now occupies a recognised position in London as a teacher of voice production and stage deportment.

Mr. Edward Cranston and Mrs. Bennett sailed yesterday on the Ortona to fulfil an engagement with Mr. Harry Rickards, made by Mr. Tom Pacey, who, during their absence, will negotiate contracts on their behalf.

As mentioned in our variety notices, Mr. George Lashwood is scoring a great success at the Shepherd's Bush Empire this week in a new song-scena, entitled *Oh, for a Night in the West*. The "West" referred to is the West End of London. Mr. Lashwood has a special and very picturesque setting representing a lonely home amidst wheatfields in one of the colonies, and the "idea" of the song is a young and irresponsible young man sent abroad by an angry father and longing to be back home again in London. The song, the dialogue, and the business suit Mr. Lashwood admirably, and the whole item is most excellent entertainment. What may be termed "a happy ending" is provided by the young fellow's receipt of a letter from his father giving him permission to return home again after what has been an absence of two or three years.

Sir F. Channing, in the House of Commons, on Monday, asked the Home Secretary whether he had obtained or proposed to obtain from the Metropolitan Police authorities, or from any other sources, reports as to the character of the living statuary performances now being carried out in the Metropolis; whether any such reports or inquiries showed that those performances were such as to bring them within the existing law; and what steps he would take, either by prosecution or by strengthening the law, to prevent or restrict such performances where found to be objectionable.

Mr. Gladstone said the performances referred to did not appear to him to justify interference by the police under the existing law. The London County Council exercised control as to the licensing authority of the houses where the performances took place. He understood that the question had been under consideration by a committee of that body, who are keeping these exhibitions under strict observation.

In the raging waters of the Hippodrome on Monday two little piggies got out of their element and became immersed by unwittingly following the ducks into the flood. A young girl tried to rescue one, but it was too heavy, and for a moment its life hung in the balance; then a man came forward boldly and took the struggling little beast into his arms, and the other one managed to clamber back to the stage.

The continued success of the Native Choir from Jamaica is very gratifying to Sir Alfred Jones, who brought over the coloured ladies and gentlemen from the West Indies, they having all escaped from the terrible earthquake which occurred at Kingston on January last. The tour of the Jamaicans has been extremely successful from every point of view. At many places they have done record business and their re-engagements are very numerous. They have now decided to stay in England during the winter, and their business is in the hands of Messrs. H. E. Jones and A. Douglass, who represent Sir Alfred Jones in Liverpool.

The second annual meeting of the New Gaiety Theatre Co., Dundee, Ltd., was held in the registered office, Bank Buildings, King-stret, Dundee, on the 21st. Mr. P. A. Scott, Chairman of the Directors, congratulated the shareholders on the favourable position of the Company, and declared a five per cent. dividend. Mr. Scott expressed his belief that in the course of another year the Directors would be able to declare a higher dividend. Mr. Scott's motion was unanimously adopted.

Miss Marie Loftus, Poluski Bros., Miss Agnes Molteno, Donaldson Bros. and Ardel, the Voises, and Miss Harriet Vernon were among the members of the Variety Artists' Federation who appeared at the Fête and Garden Party held on Thursday at the White City, Old Trafford. The proceeds of half the gate money will be kindly set aside by the management to be divided between the Federation, the Music Hall Home, and the Music Hall Benevolent Fund. The Lord Mayor of Manchester gave his patronage.

Miss Hanid Alexander, the clever pupil of Miss Helen Townshend, is engaged by Mr. Frank Glenister, for the London Pavilion, and will open there on Monday next.

Mr. F. Orcherton writes:—"At a full Council meeting of the Orchestral Association, at which Mr. Askwith's award was discussed, it was decided that, as the Arbitrator's award recently issued in respect to the music hall dispute would appear to fix 30s. (and, under certain circumstances, 32s.) as the minimum salary to be recognised for London musicians in the class of engagements under review, this Association desires it to be known that, as they have not been associated with the parties consenting to refer the questions at issue to arbitration, they cannot recognise the award as creating a standard They feel that the views held by this Association with reference to a 36s. minimum are thoroughly endorsed by the profession generally, and they are urging all their members to assist in every way possible to maintain that minimum."

The artists engaged during the week at the Crystal Palace Café Chantant by Mr. Bannister Howard include Mr. Frank Lawton, of *The Belle of New York* fame; Miss Beattie Bloom, a singer of sensible songs; Wisper, the comic juggler; Rosie Stevens, dancer; Harry Maynard, vocal comedian; and Maisie Ehinger, comedienne, who has been playing Mrs. Madison Crocker in *The Prince of Pilsen*.

Mark Adams, late of the Morton Comedy Trio, is about to produce a novel song-scena. It will be seen first in the provinces, and very shortly in London.

Miss Georgette Thierry and Mr. Bernard Liell produced at the Royal Theatre of Varieties, Oldham, on Monday, *The Fat Knight of Windsor*, from *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. The part of the amorous knight, Sir John Falstaff, was played excellently by Mr. A. Hornby Warburton, late of the Queen's Theatre, Manchester; Miss Thierry and Miss Ethel Maguire were capital as the mischievous wives, Mistress Ford and Mistress Page; and Miss Florrie Sorsby made a dainty Robin, the page. Mr. Liell and Mr. Henry Deane were excellent as Master Ford and Master Page, and the production was a great success.

The Snow Family, expert and grotesque skaters, have been specially engaged by Mr. Stoll for the new production, *Zuyder Zee*, at the London Hippodrome, where they have scored a great success.

The two Neilsons should have opened at the Empire, Rochdale, on Monday, but on arriving at rehearsal found that owing to the bioscope picture, "Life of Christ," being shown, the clergy of the town had protested against their screaming duologue and dancing speciality, *Silly Billy*, as being incongruous. They got over the difficulty, however, by Miss Rosa Neilson giving an exhibition of national dances, and were re-engaged for their duologue to open Monday next.

Miss Margaret Ashton has this week been staying at the Grand Hotel, Molde, one of the most charmingly situated towns in Norway, which, though it lies 3 deg. north of St. Petersburg, is styled "The City of Roses," from the luxuriance of its flowers. The view from the hotel, which is built on the edge of the fjord, is considered one of the finest in Europe, commanding as it does a superb panoramic view of vast stretches of fjord, studded with innumerable islets, with the magnificent background—twenty miles away—of the lofty range of Romsdal Alps, whose towering peaks reach over 6000 feet. The German Emperor, the King of Siam, and His Majesty the King will be among the distinguished visitors to Molde in July.

"Jack," from the pen of Mr. Brien McCullough, has been going very strong at the Palace, Bow, this week. Miss Dolly Elsworthy, in the title-rôle, has quite surpassed herself.

The latest quotations for music-hall shares are as follow:—Alhambra, 30s.; Canterbury, ½; Empire (15s. paid), 1½; ditto (10s. paid), 1½; London Pavilion Ordinary, 4½; ditto Preference, 5; London Coliseum, ½; Metropolitan, ½; Moss' Empires, 4¾; ditto Five per Cent. Preference, 3¾; Oxford, 6¾; Palace, 13s.; Tivoli, 6½; and Variety Consolidated Theatres, 13s.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

MR. R. G. KNOWLES' newest purchases in the song line have been acquired for publication by Messrs. Francis and Day. They are by George Arthurs and C. W. Murphy, and are entitled "Costumes, gowns, and frocks," and "Get it over!"

MISS VESTA TILLEY'S latest song—a messenger boy number—is entitled "I know my business," and is from the pens of the writers who supplied the gifted lady with the dashing "Jolly good luck to the girl who loves the soldiers"—Fred W. Leigh and Kenneth Lyle. Messrs. Francis and Day will issue it immediately. It is within the bounds of possibility that Mr. Lyle will be commissioned to set to music two striking songs, written specially for Miss Tilley, entitled respectively "The medical student" and "Following a fellah with a face like me."

THE song, "All alone in Old Cologne," with which little Miss Betty Green is capturing all hearts at the London Hippodrome in *Zuyder Zee*, is being enquired for everywhere, and Messrs. Francis and Day, its publishers, have just issued it as a "Sixpenny Pop." Messrs. Fred Murray, Harry Leighton, and C. Hilbury are the writers.

MR. GEORGE LASHWOOD, whose new song, "In the twi-twi-light," by Charles Wilmott and Herman E. Darewski, jun., is one of the biggest hits of the current year, has just disposed of to Messrs. Francis and Day, who are issuing the number just mentioned, a ditty entitled "When you have lots of feathers," by E. W. Rogers.

MISS FLORRIE GALLIMORE has just accepted a striking song, entitled "I've got three letters of the Alphabet—£ s. d.," which embodies a striking story with a singularly taking refrain, the work of Henry E. Pether.

THE various printing firms who feed the miles of shelving of Messrs. Francis and Day's two London establishments are busy just now with the following items, the latest acquisitions of the great house:—"It happened so," written and composed by Miss Mabel Goyder; "I felt a little awkward" (sung by Will Bentley), by Fred Frampton; "Coal" (Miss Amber Austa), by Percy Edgar and W. E. Haines; "You don't want me" (Miss Kate Carney), by Chas. Collins; "Take your greedy eyes off my little girl" and "Come to Buff-Buff-Buffalo" (Miss Daisy Dormer), by Fred Godfrey and Harry Castling; "I ain't a-goin' to work for you no more" (Miss Victoria Monks), by G. A. Stevens; "Mary and the butcher" (Sid Bandon), by Tod Lowen, E. W. Selman, and R. Gorman; "A millionaire" (Sid Bandon), by Alf Ellerton; "Your mother was all to me," by Fred Barnes and Chas. Collins; "It's all clobber that 'e thinks about" (Alec Hurley), by Fred Murray; and "March, march, march; or, You're proud to be a soldier" (George Lashwood), by Ralph Nairn and E. C. Matthews.

THE increasing popularity of the two new songs by Mellor, Laurance, and Gifford, entitled "You shall live in a châlet" and "Soon I'm leaving Dublin Town," and respectively published by Messrs. Feldman and Co. and Francis, Day, and Hunter, in their "Sixpenny Editions," is very gratifying, no less than twenty-five Pierrot proprietors having included them in their programmes.

MISS LIL HAWTHORNE is happy in the possession of a new song, entitled "Bye-bye, my sailor boy, Jack Tar," with which she has been pleasing her many admirers. Miss Hawthorne has always been identified with the better class of chorus song, and her new number is the equal, if not the superior, of any song she has yet produced.

THE singer of novelty songs, Miss Rachel Lowe, who has not been seen in the London halls for some little time, has just concluded a provincial tour, where she has been winning the encomiums of both Press and public. Her reception in Newcastle last week proved that her great success in pantomime at the Tyne Theatre a few years ago had not been forgotten, and the Pavilion was crowded throughout the week to welcome Newcastle's favourite "principal boy."

THE American song wave takes but little time to cross the Atlantic, and we are therefore not surprised that the latest ballad hit in the States, "Love me and the world is mine," has already caught on in England. It is being sung in several halls in London, and the répertoire of no Pierrot troupe is complete without it.

SONGS come and go, but old favourites are always welcome. R. G. Knowles has proven this with his familiar song, "The girl, the woman, and the widow." It has all the freshness of a new song as sung in Mr. Knowles's inimitable manner. It is the success at the Palace.

MR. GEORGE LASHWOOD produced a new song, entitled "In the twi-twi-twilight," last Monday at Shepherd's Bush Empire, where he is the chief attraction. The new number, with its ear-haunting refrain, immediately caught the ear of the audience, and by the time the second refrain was reached everyone in the hall was singing the song. Mr. Lashwood is most emphatic that this is the greatest chorus song he has had since "Riding on top of the car."

THE wife of Mr. Gilbert Wells, of "Varmer Giles" fame, has given birth to a son. Both mother and future young song-writer are doing well.

MR. DAN CRAWLEY has been—at the Tivoli notably—causing roars of laughter with "They can't diddle me!" and "Father keeps on doing it." Both are by that sterling writer, T .W. Connor, and Messrs. Francis and Day report steady sales of both numbers. A list of Mr. Connor's continuous successes for many years would include the titles of hundreds of the songs of Harry Randall and the late Herbert Campbell, and George Beauchamp.

MR. GEO. RIPON has sold the sole singing rights of the song "When you take a wife, &c.," written by the late James Curran, to J. W. Rowley. Managers and performers please note.

MR. HERBERT SHELLEY'S song, "Don't forget, Mignonette," which has been sung this week with such tremendous success by the composer, Mr. Fred Elton, at the Metropolitan, has been secured for publication by Messrs. Shapiro and Co.

PARTICULARLY successful have the members of Mr. John Tiller's company been in Blackpool with no less than four of the Monte Carlo Publishing Co.'s songs, viz., "Queen of Old Samara," by J. F. Lambe; "I'm going back to the Fatherland" and "Don't go back to Carolina," both by Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford; and "She didn't come from Borneo," by Pelham and Rule.

MISS FLORRIE GALLIMORE, for whom Messrs. John P. Harrington and Jas. W. Tate have just written a special new comedy number, entitled "I never tell tales out of school," is about to feature three new numbers published by the Monte Carlo Publishing Co., entitled "I'm going to try my luck in London," by Pelham and Rule, "Don't start to worry if the sun don't shine," by Harry Marlow, and a charming new Swiss song, "Dear little Tyrolese," by Harrington and Tate.

FEDERATION DAY.

The Crystal Palace was *en fête* on Thursday for the first annual celebration of the Variety Artists' Federation, that body, under the secretaryship of Mr. Monte Bayly and the general-managership of Mr. Frank Gerald, having arranged a host of attractions furnished by a veritable galaxy of stars of the music hall firmament. And, incidentally, it may be here mentioned that Federation Day was celebrated not merely in London but in several of the big towns and cities in the provinces. The condition of things in the Palace early in the afternoon was, it must be admitted, rather dull, as, for one thing, the weather did not seem to have made up its mind, and rain fell at intervals during the day; and, secondly, the crowd—in the sense of the number of visitors—did not make itself apparent until later on in the day, when everybody and everything brightened up considerably, many persons being attracted to Norwood by the usual Thursday evening fireworks. In this connection, it may be said that Messrs. Brock made a special display, their *magnum opus* being a magnificent pyrotechnic representation of the British flags, with portraits of Mr. Chamberlain and the Prime Minister; while a smaller design bore the happy expression, "Success to the Federation," a sentiment which was cheered by a number of artists and their friends, although it must be admitted that a great number of the later arrivals did not appear to understand what was meant by the "Federation."

The programme—it would be better to say the series of programmes—of entertainments was bewildering in its variety and quantity. To begin with, there were some half dozen bands. Mr. Angelo Asher's "Cadogan" Orchestra played at each of the performances in the Theatre of Varieties and elsewhere; Mr. Herbert Godfrey's Crystal Palace Military Band was heard to advantage in the centre transept; the Ladies' Orchestra played in pleasing style in the South Nave, where there was dancing; the Upper Norwood Temperance Prize Band, under the conductorship of Mr. Grant, did good work in the Sports Ground during the afternoon; Mr. Godfrey's Boys' Band and the Crystal Palace Military Band were also in evidence. Four performances were given in the theatre, under the direction of Messrs. Newham, Latimer, William Bint, Fred Mulney, and C. C. Bartram, the artists being selected from the following:—Fred Karno and Co., Marie Lloyd, Horace Goldin, Alec Hurley, Mark Melford and Co., Florrie Cooper, Leslie Bros., Albert Le Fre, the Musical Schafers, Tom Craven, Harry Anderson, Winnie Derson, Brothers Ethallen, Charles Whittle, Sanford and Lyons, Frances Drew, Master Artie Wheeler, Fyne and Hurley, Johnny Dwyer, George Antill, Charles Russell, Florrie Robini, Charles Mildare, Little Tich, Tom Costello, J. Alexandre and Co., Barney Armstrong, Jolly Criss Cross, Jock Campbell, Arthur Rigby, Duncan and Godfrey, Walter King, Bros. Durant, Charles Bignall, Dolly Golden, Newham and Latimer, the Herald Quartette, Arthur Elvy, Fannie Robini, Florrie Cooper, Drew and Alders, Nipper Lupino, Letta and Minnie, Joe Elvin, T. E. Dunville, Dan Crawley, Wal Pink, George Reeves, Carlotta Levey, the Four Burnells, Dan Rolands, Alexandre and Hughes, Charles Pastor, Mlle. Sylvester and Rumbo Austin, the Two Bees, Horace Oade, Queenie Morris, Harry Phillips, Howard Bros., Will Driscoll, Fred Lincoln, Edgar Budden, Musical Silvo, Kloof and Ramsay, Bros. Brooks, the Californian Girls, the Sisters Richmond, Dunning and Thaw, Victoria Monks, Willie Denham, Margaret Ashton, Russell Wallett, Sam Mayo, Charles Coborn, Ryder Slone, Mabel Sinclair, Boy Glenn, Florence Deighton, Fred Harrison, Diana Hope and Co., Ruby and Laws, Rose Bancroft, Billie Barlow, Hymack, Tom Dunmore, Alf Chester, Atroy, Fred Marlow, George Brooks, Lizzie Daniels, Mme. Natalia, Florence Worth, Tennie and Laune, Lil Hawthorne, Tom Fancourt and Jennie Rubie, Abel and Welsh, Joe Archer, Little Dot Moss, Athos and Collins, John Callen, Eddie Comet, Karno's comedians, Robb Gilmore, Johnson and Bert, Bella and Bijou, J. W. Hall, Whit Cunliffe, Malcolm Scott, Tom H. Davis, the Troupe La Faille, Anthony, the Bouncing Dillons, Carl Lynn.

In the concert hall the artists were:—Mme. Esther Palliser, Miss Evie Greene, Miss Mabel Mavis, Mme. Spada, Miss Marguerite Bramberg, the Misses Solari, Mr. George Mozart, Mme. Amy Atkins, Miss Nora Long, Signor Cornikoff, Mr. Robert Ganthony, Mr. Harold White, Mr. Philip Newbury, Mr. Richard Green, Mr. Harry Dearth, Mr. Charles Coborn, Mr. Dudley Causton, Mr. Chas. Butler, Mr. John Jooey, Mr. Cecil Marlier, Mr. Denis Byndon Ayres, the San Carlo Trio, Miss Lilian Bramberg, Mr. Harold Wilde, Miss Sylvia Du Barry, Miss Mabel Kaye, Mr. Walter W. Hedgcock, Mr. Asher, and Miss Margaret Godfrey acting as accompanists, Mr. Charles Coborn and Mr. King Alexander directing the operations. On the football ground Mr. Joe Elvin's production of *'Appy 'Ampstead*, with swings, donkeys, ponies, jockeys, clowns, &c., flourished exceedingly. Apollo permitted himself to be run over by a motor-car, "a death-defying act," as it was called, and Malcolm Scott and Whit Cunliffe presided over what they called a portable electric patent, a "Kopper-Katcher," which seemed a comparatively easy way of bringing the grist to the mill. "All the fun of the fair," too, included Whimsical Walker, Rumbo Austin, Cruikshank, and "all the great clowns"; Wayho and Collinson's boxing saloon, "Selina Seaforth's challenge to the world," and the Irishmen's tent. The last-named was a most exclusive institution, and bore the legend, "Nothing but Irish here," turns being provided by Messrs. Horace Wheatley, Pat Carey, Tom Costello, Pat Doherty, Shaun Glenville, Walter Munroe, T. C. Callaghan, Tom Carney, Pat Rafferty, W. J. Ashcroft, Alf Leonard, Williams and Warden, and Frank Leon. This fair, which furnished a great deal of merriment, was under the direction of Messrs. Jeff Vendome, Sid Bandon, and H. E. High.

THE SPORTS.

The officials for the day were as follows:—

Sports Committee:—Messrs. Albert Le Fre (Chairman), Harry Bancroft (Vice-Chairman), Bernard Stavordale, Harry Tate, Harry Herald, Alf. Herald, Gus Garrick, Charles Pastor, Harry Calver, Hal Forde, George Reeves, and Charles Mildare.

Judges:—Messrs. Albert Le Fre, Harry Bancroft, Harry Tate, Charles Pastor, Hal Forde, Gus Garrick, and Charles Mildare.

Official Starter:—Mr. George Thurling.

Timekeeper:—Mr. C. Thomas.

Stewards:—Messrs. Harry Herald, Bernard Stavordale, Alf. Herald.

Clerk of Course:—Mr. Harry Calver.

Handicapper for Motors:—Mr. F. Straight.

Handicapper and Referee:—Mr. R. P. Watson.

120 YARDS RUNNING HANDICAP.

First Prize—Cabinet of A1 plate and best cutlery. Presented by the Grand Order of Water Rats, together with a Memento Shield, presented by Mr. H. G. Hibbert (the proprietor of the *Music Hall and Theatre Review*), to be held by the winner for one year only and returned. Winner's name to be inscribed on the shield.
Second Prize—Handsome silver-plated cut glass rose bowl and flower stand. Presented by Miss Vesta Tilley.
Third Prize—Silver travelling clock. Presented by Bros. Ethairien.
Fourth Prize—Cake basket. Presented by the Committee.

First heat:—Sam Mayo, 1½yds., 1st; Bert Wormack, scr., 2nd. Second heat:—Fred Morris, owes 1½yds., 1st; Geo. Clarke, jun., 2yds., 2nd. Third heat:—W. L. Murray, scr., 1st; Harry Ford, 4yds., 2nd. Fourth heat:—Fred Laurel, 3yds., 1st; Ralph Howard, scr., 2nd. Fifth heat:—Fred Griffiths, jun., 5½yds., 1st; Albert Laurel, 5yds., 2nd. Sixth heat:—Bert Brantford, 9½yds., 1st; H. Anderson, scr., 2nd. Seventh heat:—Mike Asher, 9yds., 1st; A. Burrows, scr., 2nd. Eighth heat:—H. C. Clements, scr., 1st; W. Sibb, scr., 2nd. Ninth heat:—Bert Burnell, 10yds., 1st; Fred Earle, 9½yds., 2nd. Tenth heat:—Fred Lorenzo, 10½yds., 1st; H. M. Hoffman, scr., 2nd.

Second Round. First heat:—Fred Griffiths, jun., 1st; Fred Laurel, 2nd; George Clark, jun., 3rd. Second heat:—Fred Lorenzo, 1st; Bert Burnell, 2nd; Mike Asher, 3rd.

Final:—Fred Lorenzo, 1st; Bert Burnell, 2nd; Fred Griffiths, jun., 3rd; Fred Laurel, 4th. Time, 11⅕secs.

440 YARDS PRESS HANDICAP.

First Prize—Oil painting. Presented by Mr. Joseph Josephs.
Second Prize—Case of pipes. Presented by Messrs. Sanford and Lyons.
Third Prize—Watch. Presented by Mr. Alf. Abrahams.

E. Burmley, 10yds., 1st; Joseph Harris, 15yds., 2nd; Edward Barry, 35yds., 3rd. Time, 62⅘sec.

TWO-MILE BICYCLE HANDICAP.

First Prize—Handsome marble clock and figures. Presented by Mr. David Day.
Second Prize—Silver cigar case. Presented by *The Era*.
Third Prize—Tea set on stand. Presented by the Committee.

Gent Lotto, scr., 1st; Edgar Budden, 240yds., 2nd; Jimmie Zaro, 100yds., 3rd. Time, 4min. 59sec.

100 YARDS CHILDREN'S HANDICAP (BOYS).

First Prize—Watch. Presented by Mr. Harry Tomps.
Second Prize—Cricket bat. Presented by the Committee.
Third Prize—Football. Presented by the Committee.

Sidney Le Fre, 10yds., 1st; Eddie Ethairien, 30yds., 2nd; Percy Le Fre, 15yds., 3rd.

100 YARDS CHILDREN'S HANDICAP (GIRLS).

First Prize—Ladies' dressing case. Presented by the Committee.
Second Prize—Ladies' companion. Presented by the Committee.
Third Prize—Silver medal. Presented by Miss Lilly Arthur.

Elsie Budden, 15yds., 1st; Doris Williams, 9yds., 2nd; Irene Le Fre, 18yds., 3rd.

FIVE-MILE MOTOR CYCLE HANDICAP.

First Prize—Silver cup. Presented by Mr. Harry Tate.
Second Prize—Smoking cabinet. Presented by Messrs. Odhams and Co.

F. Fox, 2¾ h.p. Rex, 350yds., 1st; Ted Cowan, 3½ h.p. Humber, 400yds., 2nd. Time, 7min. 18sec.

ONE-MILE "FRANK ALLEN" CHALLENGE CUP WALKING HANDICAP.

The Challenge Cup, value 25 guineas, presented by Mr. Frank Allen, is to be held by the winner for one year only and returned to the Committee. Present holder, Harold H. Jeapes.
First Prize—Tea and coffee service on oak tray. Presented by Mr. Harry Tich.
Second Prize—Fruit and sugar stand. Presented by Mr. Charles Doughty.
Third Prize—Glass salad bowl and servers. Presented by Mr. Charles Whittle.

Thomas McGowan, 80yds., 1st; Fred Griffiths, sen., 400yds., 2nd; H. H. Jeapes, owes 20yds., 3rd. Time, 7min. 49sec.

100 YARDS AGENTS' RUNNING HANDICAP.

First Prize—A real Japanese album, inlaid with mother-of-pearl and hand-painted. Presented by Mr. W. B. Clarkson.
Second Prize—Silver-plated chased rose bowl. Presented by J. A. Wylie and Co.
Third Prize—Photo case. Presented by Mr. Geo. Brooks (the Blinker).

First heat:—H. Sheldon, scr., w.o. Second heat:—Harry Bawn, 20yds., 1st; W. H. Bradley, 4yds., 2nd. Third heat:—F. Napoli, 14yds., w.o. Fourth heat:—Jack Lotto, 40yds., w.o.

Final:—Jack Lotto, 1st; Harry Bawn, 2nd; F. Napoli, 3rd.

ONE MILE V.A.F. CHALLENGE CUP RUNNING CHAMPIONSHIP.

Challenge Cup to be won three times before it becomes the property of the winner.
First Prize—Presented by Miss Marie Lloyd.
Second Prize—U.S.A. hamper, with latest patent lock. Presented by Messrs. White Bros., Nottingham.
Third Prize—Make-up box. Presented by Messrs. Thomas and Co.

G. Clarke, jun., 1st; F. Dunlo Payte, 2nd; Ventom Swift, 3rd. Time, 5min. 13sec.

ONE-MILE "BUCHANAN" CHALLENGE CUP BICYCLE RACE.

Challenge Cup presented by Messrs. James Buchanan and Co., High Holborn. To be won three times in succession. Present holder, Ted Cowan.
First Prize—Handsome stationery cabinet. Presented by Mr. Eugene Stratton.
Second Prize—Presented by Mr. George Robey.
Third Prize—Writing case. Presented by Messrs. Simpkins, Ltd.

First heat:—J. Zaro, 1st; W. J. Simpson, 2nd. Second heat:—T. Cowan, 1st; G. Fuller, 2nd. Third heat:—Gent Lotto, 1st; Alfred Ford, 2nd.

Final:—Lotto, 1st; Cowan, 2nd; Zaro, 3rd. Time, 3min. 10sec.

120 YARDS HURDLE HANDICAP.

First Prize—Combination tantalus. Presented by Miss Lil Hawthorne.
Second Prize—Make-up box. Presented by M. Gustave, wig maker, Long Acre.
Third Prize—Set of Carvers. Presented by Messrs. J. Pixley and Co.

First heat:—Bert Brantford, 8yds., 1st; A. Laurel, 9yds., 2nd. Second heat:—F. Laurel, 4yds., 1st; Harry Ford, 5yds., 2nd. Third heat:—Ventom Swift, scr., 1st; F. Griffiths, jun., 10yds., and A. Dean, scr., dead heat. Fourth heat:—Eddie Comet, scr., 1st; H. Sheldon, 4yds., 2nd. Fifth heat, Dick Kendall, 7yds., 1st; H. J. Kennior, scr., 2nd. Sixth heat:—J. J. Elmo, scr., 1st; H. C. Clements, scr., 2nd.

Final:—Brantford, 1st; Griffiths, 2nd; F. Laurel, 3rd.

FIVE-MILE INVITATION AUTO-CYCLE RACE.

First Prize—Value £7.
Second Prize—Value £2.
Third Prize—Value £1.

C. R. Collier, 1st; Harry Martin, 2nd; W. Hodgkinson, 3rd. Time, 6min. 7⅗sec.

THIRTY YARDS COMIC FLIP-FLAP RACE.

First Prize—Massive marble clock and side pieces. Presented by Mr. R. A. Roberts.
Second Prize—Set of band books and leather case. Presented by H. and M. Rayne, Esq.

Andy Deans, 1st; W. Sibb, 2nd.

YARDS JOHANNESBURG CUP RACE (SCR.).

Cup presented by the directors of the Empire Theatre, Johannesburg, S.A., per Mr. Sydney M. Hyman. To be held one year only, but if held three years in succession to become the absolute property of the winner. Open to members of the V.A.F. only.
First Prize—Massive silver rose bowl. Presented by Mr. Joseph Lyons.
Second Prize—Presented by Miss Victoria Monks.
Third Prize—Set of pepper and salts in case. Presented by Mrs. Pixton Roxborough.
Fourth Prize—Six bottles of whisky. Presented by Mr. Bert Wilson.

G. Clarke, jun., 1st; Sam Mayo, 2nd; Ventom Swift, 3rd; Harry Morgan, 4th.

ONE MILE "MAYO AND EARLE" CHALLENGE CUP LADIES' BICYCLE RACE (SCRATCH).

Open to members of the V.A.F. only, to be won three years in succession.
First Prize—Spirit kettle on stand. Presented by Messrs. R. Marsh and Co.
Second Prize—Lady's toilet set. Presented by Mr. S. Ethardo.

Gladys Duncan, 1st; D. Villon, 2nd.

HALF-MILE ANIMAL BICYCLE RACE. (COMIC EVENT.)

First Prize—Fruit dish. Presented by Mr. Syd May.
Second Prize—Field glasses. Presented by Messrs. Henekey and Co., per Miss Irvine.

Ted Cowan, 1st; Edgar Budden, 2nd; Arthur Maxey and Sidney Pete (combined), costume prize.

HALF-MILE "TERRIERS" CHALLENGE CUP AND MEDAL RUNNING HANDICAP.

Challenge Cup presented by the Terriers' Association, 4, Kennington-road, S.E. (to be won twice in succession, or three years in all). Holder, Mike Asher.
Also Gold Medal for Cup winner. Presented by the Terriers' Association.
First Prize—Marble clock. Presented by Mr. Arthur Roberts.
Second Prize—Presented by the Hackney Furnishing Co.
Third Prize—Presented by Mrs. Whybrow (Portsmouth).

Mike Asher, 50yds., 1st; H. C. Clements, scr., 2nd; Sam de Wynne, 5yds., 3rd. Time, 2min. 10⅘sec.

THE CHICKEN RACE (100 YARDS).

First Prize—Presented by Miss May Henderson.
Second Prize—Smoker's cabinet. Presented by Mr. Jules Guise.
Third Prize—Make-up box. Presented by Mr. Cliff Ryland.

Harry Wright (winner of dead-heat with Henderson), 1st; Billie Henderson, 2nd; W. Villion, 3rd.

360 YARDS "HENRI GROS" CHAMPION CUP OBSTACLE RACE.

Champion Cup presented by Mr. Henri Gros. To be held by the winner for one year only and returned to the Committee. Present holder, A. Wright.
First Prize—Smoking cabinet. Presented by Miss Ray Wallace.
Second Prize—Three bottle tantalus. Presented by New Goswell Printing Co.
Third Prize—Set of carvers. Presented by Mrs. Pat Carey.

W. Rosser, 10yds., 1st; Andy Deans, scr., 2nd; Geo. Kellino, scr., 3rd.

100 YARDS CONSOLATION RACE.

First Prize—Afternoon tea service in case. Presented by Mr. Tom Costello.
Second Prize—100 Boston cigars. Presented by the Two Bostons.
Third Prize—Silver-plated cruet. Presented by "Smith," of the "Old Bell."

F. Morris, 1st; W. H. Murray, 2nd; Wormack, 3rd.

Massive silver-plated cup, presented by Mr. Harry Lauder, for the best all-round athlete, won by George Clark, jun.

50 YARDS SWIMMING HANDICAP.

Three Prizes.

Horace Cormack, scr., 1st; Carl Lyne, 3sec., 2nd.

100 YARDS CHAMPIONSHIP SWIMMING RACE.

Three Prizes.

R. Sheldrick, 1st; W. Marlo Doran, 2nd; Charles Mildare, 3rd. Time, 1min. 22sec.

The prizes for the swimming races are as follow:—

Championship Cup, Mr. Harry Stelling.
Suit of Clothes, Mr. George Nyman.
Gold Medals, Mr. Michael Nolan.
Gold Medals, by Miss Agnes Hazel.
Gold Medals, Mr. Chas. Mildare.
Opera Glasses, Mr. George Brooks.

The hat-trimming competition, open only to male members of the music-hall profession, evoked roars of laughter. This took place in the Egyptian Court, and was arranged by Miss de Grey, Miss Lil Hawthorne being the judge. The first prize was awarded to Mr. Malcolm Scott, whose nimble fingers exercised on a red and brown confection once more proved that he is a "woman who knows," a claim to which honourable title he has now fully justified. Mr. Roza got the second prize, and Mr. Seth Egbert the third. Nothing could have been more ludicrous than the sight of Mr. Arthur Roberts, who afterwards sold the hats by auction, marching round and round at the head of his little band of 'prentices to the hat trade, each of whom, with great pride and an air of superiority exhibited his workmanship in the chapeau line on his own head. Mr. Wal Pink was the acting-manager here. A café chantant, directed by Mr. Frank Aylmer, prospered in the North Tower Gardens, Mr. Fred Harrison rendering good service as acting-manager. In the centre transept performances were given by Caicedo, King Alexander, Les Henris, the Villons, Thos. D. Genaro, Theol Trio, Robb Gilmore, Walter Stanton, Bros. Egbert, Troupe Lafraille, Bros. Ashley, the Four Juggling Geraldos, the Bouncing Dillons, and Hardeen, the show being managed by Messrs. Chas. Russell, Albert Schaffer, H. Maynard, and Mr. Arnold Bell. It was here, too, that "Dare-devil Cormack" performed his feat of diving from a height of one hundred feet into a tank. Other attractions were centred round a balloon ascent, Maxim's flying machines, the ostrich farm, topsy-turvy railway, the water-chute, Mr. Ernest E. Noakes' drawing-room entertainments, and dancing on the lawn to the accompaniment of the Crystal Palace Quadrille Band, and in the South Nave to the music excellently played by the Ladies' Orchestra, under the able conductorship of Miss Gascoyne Old.

THE MUSIC HALL ATHLETIC SPORTS.

These sports, which have hitherto been held at Stamford Bridge Grounds and elsewhere, under other auspices than the Variety Artists' Federation, were this year taken charge of by that body, and the receipts, after paying certain expenses, will help to augment the funds of the various music-hall charities. Some of the events on Thursday afternoon demonstrated the physical fitness and athletic qualities of many members of the variety profession, while other items in the programme gave evidence of the contestants' ability to cause merriment.

Perhaps the most comical was the half-mile animal bicycle race. The costume prize in this was won by Messrs. Ardine Maxley and Sidney Pete, who combined in the make-up as a giraffe, but whose pedalling efforts, naturally enough, were not very brisk. The actual winners of the race, from the cycling point of view, were Mr. Ted Cowan, dressed up as a monkey, who was awarded the first prize, and Mr. Edgar Budden(a bear), the second. The V.A.F. Challenge Cup for the one-mile running championship was secured for the first time by Mr. George Clarke, jun., and if he be lucky enough to win it on two further occasions it will become his absolute property. A particularly interesting event was the five-miles invitation auto-cycle race, the first prize in which was taken by Mr. H. A. Collier, a 100 miles record holder. Mr. Harry Tate, who was marked down as a competitor, described himself as the ninety miles in fifteen minutes champion, and after such a record as that it is a wonder that any other motorist should have had the temerity to contest the race with him. The challenge cup presented by Messrs. James Buchanan and Co. for the one-mile bicycle race goes this year to Mr. Gent Lotto, the previous holder, Mr. Ted Cowan, being a close second. The Frank Allen challenge cup for the one-mile walking handicap, was won by Mr. Thomas McGowan (eighty yards start), last year's winner, Mr. Harold H. Jeapes, giving twenty yards, and making a splendid show for his third prize. Mr. F. Fox, on a "Rex" 2¾ h.p. machine, came in first in the somewhat exciting five-miles motor cycle handicap; and in the 120 yards running handicap Mr. Fred Lorenzo, who had ten-and-a-half yards start, took the first prize. The three trophies for the 440 yards "Press" handicap were won by members of the staff of *The Performer*, namely, Messrs. E. Burnaby, Joseph Harris, and Edward Barry. Mr. George Clarke, jun., secured the cup presented by the directors of the Empire Theatre, Johannesburg (per Mr. Sydney M. Hyman), for the 440 yards scratch race, which is open to members of the V.A.F. only. Mr. Clarke, by the way, distinguished himself in other events, and was awarded the massive silver cup given by Mr. Harry Lauder for the best all-round athlete. At the conclusion of the sports Miss Marie Lloyd, attired in a beautiful mauve costume, very charmingly and gracefully presented the prizes to the several winners, and was accorded a hearty vote of thanks.

PARIS VARIETY GOSSIP.

GREAT excitement has been caused in Paris variety circles by the case of the Isola Frères and Paul Ruez, which has just come through the Law Courts.

IN 1903 the Isolas let their three halls—the Folies-Bergère, Olympia, and Parisiana—to M. Paul Ruez, on what we might call in English the hire system. That is to say, M. Ruez was to pay so much per night until he had paid the total price for the two halls, which would then become his property. In the contract, however, was a clause stating that in the event of the daily payment becoming three days in arrears they (the Isolas) could expel M. Ruez and take possession of the houses.

FOR the last year or so business has been far from satisfactory, and as the necessary money was not forthcoming, steps were taken to expel M. Ruez. He, however, brought the matter into Court, which decided that since he had paid so much, he, and not the Isolas, was proprietor of the three halls. But before this M. Ruez had declared himself bankrupt, and so at the present moment the houses are in the hands of the liquidator. Messrs. Isola have appealed, and some interesting revelations are expected.

THE new Révue at La Cigale by M. P. L. Flers has met with a great success, and is down for a long run.

LA BELLE OTERO'S engagement at the Marigny was only for one night, but she will no doubt be seen there in September for a long engagement.

MANY French stars go over to London and make a success, why shouldn't a London star come over to Paris and do likewise? Anyhow, that is what Miss Marie Lloyd thought, and so combining business with pleasure, she arrived here on the 16th for an eight days' stay at the Marigny Theatre. On her opening night she was, as may well be imagined, a wee bit nervous; but the thunderous applause which greeted her and the sight of so many English faces in front, soon put her at her ease, and as she sang many of us closed our eyes and tried to imagine we were back again in the Oxford or Tivoli.

ON Monday Miss Edna Aug opened at the Marigny in a specially-written number. Miss Aug, it will be remembered, made quite a success in the last révue at the Folies-Bergère.

ON Saturday night a gala fancy dress ball was given at the Alcazar d'Eté in honour of the American Colony.

THE New Apollo is now closed for the summer season. It will be re-opened in August with a fine show.

THE grand concert which the Prince and Princess de Broglie had arranged to give at the Nouveau Cirque on Monday was at the last moment, prohibited by the Prefect of Police, who was under the impression that the event would be taken advantage of by the young Prince's family to create a public demonstration. The young couple were not disheartened, however, and have arranged to give a private concert in the near future, to which they intend to invite the representatives of all the papers in Paris.

MM. BORNEY AND DUPREZ, of the Marigny Theatre, have taken over the Nouveau Cirque, which will be renovated and re-opened next season.

FOLLOWING the idea of the Palace and Alhambra, the Jardin de Paris is now showing nightly to its patrons the Biograph, or, as it is here named, the Cinema-Eclipse, with the actual happenings of the day.

THE Variétés is presenting a complete play, *L'Enfant Prodigue*, by means of the Cinematograph.

AMONGST the coming engagements at the Marigny may be mentioned Saharet, the dancer, and Horace Goldin. La Belle Otero will also be seen there in a gipsy scena from the pen of M. Borney, one of the Marigny directors.

A NEW révue will shortly be seen at the Moulin Rouge, in which we are to see Lucy Jonsset, Morton, and Pogoud.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

HACKNEY EMPIRE.

An interesting item on the programme at this popular house for the current week is Mr. Fred Karno's latest creation, *The Bailiff*, for which Fred Karno, Fred Kitchen, and L. Durrell are responsible, and which is making its initial bid for popularity in the metropolis. It proves to be a very diverting production, having as the skeleton of a plot the attempts of a bailiff and his assistant to get into a house in which a distraint is to be made, only to make the discovery, when they are successful, that they have got into the wrong house. When we mention that Mr. Kitchen portrays the "man in possession," it will be obvious that every ounce of humour is extracted from the rôle. Mr. Kitchen proved himself a comedian of great ability, and practically the whole brunt of the show falls on his shoulders, but his reception was sufficient to indicate the great hit he had made. He is capitally supported by Albert Bruno, Herbeck Landeck, Harry Cappo, and T. Ellis Buxton, and the Misses Jessie Crammonde and Aggie Morris, &c. The mounting is on a very lavish scale, and the whole production should have as prosperous a career as Mr. Karno's other enterprises. For the remainder of the programme some very entertaining turns have been secured. Miss Elsie Robey, in a musical comedy act, *The Slavey's At Home*, proves very amusing at the piano, and concludes her turn with a smart sand dance. Miss Anna Hope, who was until recently, if we mistake not, one of the principals with the Carl Rosa Opera Company, proves herself to be the possessor of a magnificent contralto voice. For her first song, "Kathleen Mavourneen," this artist receives a tremendous reception, while for the second, "Won't you come over to my house?" an equally flattering expression of the audience's appreciation was forthcoming. The effect of both songs was greatly enhanced by beautiful illustrations. Rich and Rich, in their well-known patter and dances, amused the house, their concluding song, "Master and Man," finding much favour. Bessie Butt, a very vivacious lady, speedily made herself a warm favourite, her dancing being very good. Lowell and Lowell, grotesque acrobats, presented a particularly clever act. The perfect ease with which some of their tricks were accomplished tended to make one forget how difficult they were, but applause of a very hearty nature greeted them at the close. Russell Wallet, "the lady in black," presents a diverting turn; his make-up is quite wonderful, and his whole business—songs, piano-playing, and patter—very smart. A special word is due to him for his depiction of a serenader with a cold in the head; it was most amusing, and excellently done. Needless to say, loud and prolonged applause was his reward at the end. Harry Rochez's ponies and dogs is an animal act of great merit, the training of the performers being perfect; very frequent applause was accorded its progress, the finale of the act being very good. A very exciting and lengthy film, "The Struggle for Life," is the attraction on the American Bioscope this week, and it succeeds in arousing the keenest interest amongst the audience. Mr. Walter Johnson's orchestra still remains a feature of the evening.

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE.

George Lashwood heads the bill at this deservedly popular hall this week. Mr. Lashwood contributes three items—"Twilight," "Girls all love a soldier bold," and a special scena entitled "Oh, for a night in the West." In the military item Mr. Lashwood is assisted by the Eight Empire Girls, dressed as nursemaids; in the last item he enacts the part of a devil-may-care young fellow sent out to one of the colonies by an irate father. Mr. Lashwood, who has a special setting for this item, shows great cleverness in the way he handles the dialogue and the song, and this is certainly one of the most attractive and pleasing turns he has ever given us. The Eight Empire Girls also appear as a distinct turn and contribute a very entertaining singing and dancing act. Rosie Archer provides a very pleasing few minutes as a mimic at the piano, and Johnny Walker is very popular with a song entitled "I've just come back for my umbrella."

Amy Anderson and company appear very successfully in a coster scena entitled "The Banana Queen." The performance of Miss Anderson as the coster is extremely clever, and it is quite safe to say that until the close of the sketch no one ever thinks for a moment that the part is being played by a lady. Baker and Baife play operatic selections on Xylophones in a remarkably expert manner, and Mr. Baker, for an encore, adds a clever eccentric step dance, with Xylophone accompaniment. A most attractive item is that of La Berat, as the mystic fire maiden. The performance consists of skirt waving rather than dancing, but the attraction lies in the wonderful effects that are obtained by the aid of coloured lights playing on La Berat, on, of course, a dark stage. The performance is certainly extremely beautiful. Austin Rudd, as usual, is very popular. He has a couple of excellent songs, one entitled "I don't want to be a policeman any more," and a clever parody on "The Zuyder Zee." Sylvesta is an unusually good magician, who performs his many tricks, assisted by Miss Vera de Courtenay, in an excellent and amusing style. The well-known turn, Jordan and Harvey, Hebrew comedians, causes as much laughter as ever, and is genuinely amusing. The American Bioscope this week illustrates a Boar Hunt, a series of pictures which are exceedingly interesting. The excellent orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Harry W. May, contributes "Ronde des Bebes." A word of compliment must be passed to Mr. B. G. Maclachlan for his never-failing kindness in front.

SADLER'S WELLS.

Miss Carlotta de Yonsen and company are interesting crowded audiences at Sadler's Wells with their now well-known detective drama, *Sexton Blake*, written by Mr. C. Douglas Carlile. The story, which is so attractively presented by Miss de Yonsen and her little band of players, is of an absorbingly sensational kind. One might say that while Sherlock Holmes is the detective of the theatre, Sexton Blake occupies a similar position in regard to the music hall. In the presentment of the latter piece Mr. C. Douglas Carlile shows considerable versatility as an actor, and quite takes the fancy of the audience as an ideal "human sleuthhound." The part of the Master Criminal is in the capable hands of Mr. Chas. A. Carlile; while from Miss Carlotta de Yonsen we get a delightfully sympathetic and engaging characterisation of the heroine. Misses Lee Gilbert, W. Louper, Philip Astere, and M. Langdale render assistance in other rôles, and the playlet is extremely well staged. Coming to the individual turns, Mr. Sammy Shields, Scottish comedian, proves intensely entertaining with his description of the attitudes, the speech, and the general excited behaviour of the average spectator of a football match. He has, too, made a hit with the song "I'm looking for Gretchen," and altogether his style of humour has caught on at Sadler's Wells. Miss Edie Endon delights the house with her sweet singing and smart dancing; and the Two Jays make an agreeable diversion as "kwarrelsome komedians," as they describe their vocation. Mr. Will Harmony causes intense merriment with his comicalities; and some talented and most acceptable burlesque artists are found in the Sivronis. Mr. Chas. Austin cuts a most ridiculous figure as a woman who has much that is laughable to say concerning her husband, one "Perkins, who is fond of gherkins." He is extremely funny in another song on the subject of girls between the ages of seventeen and twenty-two. Macintosh and Royal are vocalists and comedians of great merit; Miss Rose Cass is a pleasing character vocalist; and Harry Simms maintains his excellent reputation as a popular light comedian. Mr. Leonard Mortimer's Dramatic Vaudeville Company are appearing in the sensational sketch, *The House of Evil*, written by Mr. Mortimer. Capital portrayals are given by Mr. Herbert Pearson as the hero, Miss Helena Walbran as the heroine, Mr. Murray Yorke as a smuggler, Mr. Albert Guyon, Miss Guinevere Shelton, and Mr. Charles E. Ludlow.

WOOLWICH HIPPODROME.

Full houses are the order of the evening, and should the depression now prevailing in the borough gain access to the hall it is soon dispelled by its enemies—music, wit, and humour. For the current week the management have provided a highly diversified programme, the various items of which win the loudly-expressed approbation of the audience. Foremost on the bill appears Mr. Joe Elvin and company, in *Trespassers Beware*. The sketch is brimful of amusing situations, of which Mr. Elvin as the unfortunate boating man who has "lost his rudder," takes full advantage of, and the playlet is accompanied throughout by much laughter.

The immobile comedian, Sam Mayo, hits the mark with two clever songs, which he sings in a droll manner, the audience being loth to part with him at the finish. Florence is a young lady of ability, and at once gains popular favour by her imitations and her singing and dancing. The Westwoods are extremely clever trick cyclists, their difficult feats being greatly appreciated.

In an amusing duologue Blake and Granby keep the house in roars of laughter, a man "in possession," mistaken for an eccentric American millionaire, providing a mirth-provoking situation, which is made the most of. Musical Silvo gains distinction for his playing on various weird-looking instruments, but most applause is lavished on his rendering of cleverly-executed solos on glasses. Herbert Darnley's Dots are well received, their dancing especially gaining well-merited applause; Pete and Juno, coloured comedians, are expert sand dancers, and obtain a due amount of praise; in his tuneful song "I'm lonesome" Mark Leslie scores favourably; Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope, depicting "The Seaman's Widow"—a realistic film—brings the entertainment to a close.

THE CROUCH END HIPPODROME.

The sound policy of Mr. H. de Groot is making things "hum" in earnest at this popular house, which is receiving the constant support of variety lovers in the neighbourhood. He is to be congratulated on this week's programme, which contains some thirteen high-class turns. Chief position in honour must, of course, be accorded to the queen of comediennes, Miss Marie Lloyd, fresh from her triumphs in Paris, who was warmly welcomed. Her three songs comprised "Customs of the country," followed by "Pom tiddley om pom," and lastly the old favourite "The coster's wedding." At the conclusion of Miss Lloyd's last song the following turn was delayed a few minutes on account of the prolonged applause accorded her.

Miss Ella Lorraine, Scotch vocalist, has a fine contralto voice, and sings with good expression "The bonnie banks of Loch Lomond" and "For all eternity." Ella Lane, comedienne, sings "Not so much of it" and a "Medley," both of which suit her style, and are much appreciated. Charles Denton, an excellent comedian, contributes "I've been looking for work" and a parody on "The old apple tree," and one of the leading items of interest this week is the comedy sketch *Coming Home*, in which Mr. and Mrs. George Leonard provoke hearty laughter. Mr. William Gourley, an actor-comedian, finds considerable favour, and the turn of the Musical Dandy, Johnny Johnstone, with jokes, songs, selections on 'cello and one-stringed fiddle, and dance, furnishes a very enjoyable item, and is enthusiastically received.

A rollicking piece of fun is contributed by Clark and Haydon in their musical duologue, *By Appointment*, which is very highly relished by the audience, the performers meeting with well-won commendation. A laughable sketch is enacted by Drew Macintosh and Co., entitled *Chalk and Cheese*, in which Miss Nancy Harding is highly amusing as Perkins, the maid. The programme concludes with bioscopic pictures, some very interesting views being shown and loudly applauded. The orchestra, under the bâton of Mr. H. J. Hutchinson, acquits itself ably in the accompaniments, and the opening selection is also finely rendered.

THE FORESTERS'.

Furnished by the management with an exceptionally attractive programme, this cosy hall is doing excellent business this week, every seat being invariably occupied. Much merriment is caused by a clever combination of youthful comedians in the skit *Casey's Circus*, the special panoramic scenery being extremely funny. The Got-em quartet of singers is especially good, the blending of the voices being perfect. Mr. Will Murray, who appears as Mrs. Casey, is to be congratulated on having such a smart set of lads, who take full advantage of the many humorous situations. Mr. Chris Richards is a good eccentric comedian and a clever dancer, his legmania business being particularly interesting. Mr. Richards also does some skilful hat manipulation.

Messrs. Bernard and Weston are two capital patter comedians, who provide many good laughs in their interesting chatter, and also execute a neat dance. Whimsical Walker, assisted by the clever child actress Miss Molly Moore, provides a most interesting sketch in *Captain Hamilton, V.C.* The story is that of a youngster who is left to take care of his mother while his father, a soldier, is away at the front. A burglar (well played by Mr. Walker) obtains admission and carefully collects the father's cups, prizes, &c., for removal; but on making his exit is discovered by the boy. In a well-played scene the child informs the ruffian that the father has been shot, and they are now penniless, with the result that the interloper not only replaces all the stolen articles, but leaves behind all the money—a few coppers—he has in his possession.

A thoroughly interesting turn is supported by Mr. Harry Hilliar, who proves an instrumentalist of no little merit. In addition to playing a violin solo he renders delightfully that charming ballad "Daddy" on the phono fiddle. He also possesses a sweet tenor voice, which he uses to advantage in "I'm wearing my heart away." Miss Bessie Willow sings "I wonder if the girl I'm thinking of is thinking of me" in taking style; and Mr. D. W. Watson gives a couple of solos on the cornet and post-horn.

Foy Brothers and company, in their comedy act *Pat in China*, are entertaining. The brothers indulge in some clever tumbling, and provide plenty of amusement. The Sisters Rayman are two bright duettists and dancers, their song, "Hannah, won't you open that door?" being catchy. They conclude with a neat step dance. *Fun in a Pawnshop* is an absurdity played by Raleigh Abrahams and company, in which some clever boxing is witnessed between Mr. Frank Exall (as the college boy) and Bill Bashem, the bully. The characters of Nathan Upthespoutski (the Irish pawnbroker) and Emile Kickard (the Frenchman) are well played by Messrs. Harry Hiscott and Alec Hassell. A capital evening's amusement is concluded by some very interesting pictures on the Bioscope, the film representing "Perseverance Rewarded" being excellent. Mr. Cochrane is to be complimented on the admirable order that prevails throughout the evening.

(*For other Variety Notices see pages* 16 *and* 19.)

THE HOUSE OF WITMARK.

M. Witmark and Sons, the celebrated music publishers, have had many experiences, many successes, many failures, many reverses, and many triumphs. They have seen small houses grow and some large firms "close in." They have gloried in the development of the humble performer to the full fledged star, and have grieved over the end of the once famous favourite. The era has has marked the passing of renowned old playhouse and the Aladdin-like appearance of many new temples of amusement.

Their staff of writers is extensive. The list includes the following names well known in the States:—Victor Herbert, Gustav Luders, Walter H. Lewis, Chauncey Olcott, Harry B. Smith, Frank Pixley, Henry Blossom, Edgar Smith, Arthur J. Lamb, Maurice Levi, John W. Bratton, Ernest R. Ball, Lyn Udall, Herbert Spencer, Paul West, Julian Edwards, Alfred G. Robyn, Richard Carle, Wallace Irwin, Stanislaus Stange, George Ade, Edward Paulton, Addison Burkhardt, Wm. Loraine, Geo. L. Spaulding, Ethelwyn Arnold, Dave Reed, Jun.; Clifton Crawford, John B. Gardner and Caro Roma.

The initial days of this now famous firm bring recollections of the one little room on the top floor of a rickety building that is no more, all the stock in one rack, with a dust-proof shawl curtain on it; one "tinpanny" square piano, a few chairs of varied styles, and a desk, the envy of the antiquarian.

No professional copies then. No printed orchestrations, no slides, and no staff of demonstrators.

MR. JULIUS P. WITMARK.

Just one pianist, one manager, one bookkeeper, one office boy, and one mail clerk—all the lot the same one.

The growth from the acorn proves that the efforts have been recognised and encouraged. Their erection of the first building with eight stories devoted to a popular music business is famous. They have over a dozen pianos, with Rycroft, Lesure, Ball, Krouse, Kendall, Spencer, Sutton, Weston; a most gentlemanly and loyal staff; the most efficient of demonstrators handling car loads of professional copies a year, and tons of printed and manuscript orchestrations and slides. Their Chicago house, under Nat D. Mann, is a huge success, and the London house, the only popular American firm located here in their own building, under the management of Charles Warren, is the Mecca of American show folk abroad.

The many friends of Julius P. Witmark, a member of the firm of M. Witmark and Sons, have been delighted to welcome him back to his desk in the Witmark building, New York. During his days as the "boy balladist" with Thatcher, Primrose and West's minstrels, Russell's *City Directory* and Hoyt's *Trip to Chinatown* companies, Mr. Witmark not only helped to popularise the first publications of the "House of Witmark"—some of them being his own compositions—but he made a large number of personal friends in the profession. When he left the stage and took personal charge of the firm's professional department, he not only retained the allegiance of all his old "comrades in music," but gained countless more friends by his uniform courtesy and excellent musical judgment. Hundreds of vaudeville vocalists relied absolutely upon Julius Witmark, not only for the selection but also for the "reading" of their songs; and there was widespread anxiety outside his immediate family and friends when, owing to a street car accident, it became necessary to amputate the entire limb to save his life. Now that he is back in harness again and getting about as nimble as ever with the aid of crutches, there is a tendency to sympathise with him, which is the one thing he does not care for. His pet reply to tearful friends is a paraphrase of old minstrel Billy Rice's joke: "I'd rather have people say of me 'there he goes' (even on crutches) than 'here he lies.'"

Furthermore, Julius is the proud father of the youngest member of the "House of Witmark," and he maintains that the baby had as much to do with his quick recovery as skilful surgery.

MASONS AT WORK.

Chelsea Lodge, 3098, held its regular meeting on Friday last, at the Town Hall, Chelsea. The officers present were Brothers Serpentello, W.M.; Albert Le Fre, I.P.M.; H. Busoni, S.W.; W. Hitch, S.W.; Wolfe S. Lyon, treasurer; Chas. J. Doughty, secretary; H. Heriot Hill, chaplain; H. Bawn, S.D.; W. Walton, J.D.; Angelo Asher, organist. Past Masters were represented by Brother J. W. Mathews, the first Master, and J. H. MacNaughton was Tyler. The full programme of work on the agenda was ably carried out by the W.M., who initiated C. H. Barton in a very impressive manner, and advanced Brothers Wilding, Dan Lipton, and T. H. Parker, and further advanced Brothers Leo Tell and Fred Keeton. The members present were Brothers Eric Farr, B. J. Whitely, Douglas White, H. R. Mayville, J. B. Helm, W. Permane, Frank Hardie, W. Scott Adaker, Herbert Austin, and G. H. Hill. Brothers T. W. Rimble, J. W. Hopekirk, H. Pursingey, and H. Chenery were the visitors. As we go to press Sir Edward Letchworth, assisted by Brothers Henry Neville, Harry Nicholls, and other grand officers, are consecrating the Chapter in connection with the Lodge.

The installation meeting of the Earl's Court Chapter, 2765, was held on Saturday evening, at the Criterion Restaurant, Piccadilly, W., when Brother Wolfe S. Lyon was installed as M.E.Z., and invested Brothers C. Hutt, H.; H. Kinch, J.; Surgeon-Major Coffin, S.E.; T. Meek, S.N.; T. Leete, treasurer; H. Hookins, P.S.; and C. Cleeve, P.Z. The companions subsequently dined together, and a very enjoyable entertainment was provided by Mesdames Julia Leslie, Adele de Freece, Messrs. Harry Sims, Gilbert Girard, and the Harmony Four.

FILM GOSSIP.

Charles Urban Trading Co.

The Victoria Falls.—Congratulations are certain to be showered upon Mr. Charles Urban when, on Monday at the Alhambra, the public will have an opportunity of witnessing a really wonderful series of animated scenes depicting the great Victoria Falls on the Zambesi River, of which we were given a private view yesterday. Comprehensive scenes are presented of the mile-wide Zambesi above the Falls, and the charm and fascination of the river are apparent as canoeing parties from the Victoria Hotel are seen negotiating its channels and embowered inlets. But charm and fascination give place to wondering amazement as the rapids are pictured, with waters rushing on their rock-strewn course to the brink.

To describe the Falls themselves—their magnitude, depth, the thousand cascades in the two-miles-wide cataract, the gorge, umbrageous and boulder-strewn, the clouds of mist, the swirling, foaming rapids below, where the waters of the great river are compressed into a narrow channel of thirty yards wide, the whirlpool, the sublime pictures of the Falls at warm sunset, at gorgeous tropic dawn, and by silvery moonlight—to describe all these the pen of a William Black is necessary. We have no doubt that many other managers will follow the example of Mr. George Scott, of the Alhambra, in securing this magnificent film.

De Beers Diamond Mine.—This is a comprehensive and perfectly photographed series of these celebrated mines, illustrating the methods employed on the surface, on the stages or galleries, and at the bottom of the workings. Panoramic views of the tremendous pit, drilling and blasting in full operation, when hundreds of tons of blue clay and rock are displaced by a single charge of explosives, handling and hauling the clay, dumping, crushing, &c., are shown.

"A Stag Hunt in France" is a new subject of fascinating interest, which illustrates, in beautiful detail, the French methods employed in this popular sport. Sublime pictures of lake scenery (tinted) showing the stag browsing—alarmed—in flight—swimming—throwing hounds off scent—discovered—pursued—hard pressed—overtaken—shot. A perfectly-trained pack of hounds are engaged, and their sagacity, discipline, and beauty are marvellous to witness.

Full of interest and excitement, too, are the Urban pictures of the motor-race for the Kaiser's Cup. This series affords splendid close portraits of the German Emperor and Empress and their suite, and impressive scenes in the forest as His Majesty and suite arrive, mounted.

Pathé Frères.

As usual, this firm have a good "show" in their latest novelties. "Chasing a Motorist" is a distinctly amusing film, and satirises the fear and dislike with which, not so very long ago, motor-cars and their drivers were regarded by the peasantry, particularly in France. A motorist, wearing a fur coat of Brobdingnagian proportions, is busily engaged attending to some temporary trouble with his car when he is seen by a village labourer. The latter, regarding him as some strange kind of animal, and his machine as a thing of terror, rushes away and raises an alarm among the villagers. The result is extremely amusing. Gendarmes come along, and they are supported by several soldiers, aided by the populace armed with various instruments. The motorist gets away after leaving his huge coat upon the ground.

"A Victim of Science" tells a little tragedy. A scientist, while engaged in an experiment, loses his sight, and the parents of his sweetheart refuse to permit their daughter to marry him, even although they have plighted their troth. Eventually the blind man commits suicide, after having been led to the brink of a quarry, where he and his loved-one had so often wandered in the past. The scenes in this are beautifully clear, and the film is one which should find a ready sale.

"Sammy as Footman" is full of comical incidents, and shows how a negro behaves on being received into his first employment as a footman. Other Pathé films of equal interest are "The Seaman's Widow" (a pathetic subject), "Drunkard in Spite of All" (a humorous film), and "The Diabolo." We have not the slightest doubt that all of these will prove popular.

Walturdaw Co.

The Walturdaw Company is going strong with the Cinematophone, the singing pictures which were fully described in this column last week. Their latest subjects include the "Four Jolly Sailormen," from the opera *The Princess of Kensington*, with some of the original cast, and the church parade scene from *The Catch of the Season*. We understand that the demand for these specialities has been remarkably large, and is on the increase.

Ruffells' have a fine picture in colours, called "The Red Sceptre," which will be produced at the Alhambra, Brighton, on Monday. It shows a number of weird and fanciful scenes. Ruffells' are also opening on Monday at the Palace, Brighton, for a couple of weeks, doing two shows a night of the cinematograph character.

Vitagraph.

"The Bunco Steerers" is a capital film, which is being published by the Vitagraph. The story it tells is this. Two "Bunco" men are seen waiting for their legitimate prey, a "rube" from the country, who soon arrives on the scene. One of the "side partners" endeavours to give the farmer the "glad hand," but Reuben is suspicious. The second "Bunco" man tackles him with better luck, and they go off arm in arm to a hotel, where the first man quickly puts on a waiter's apron and coat in an adjoining room and "serves the drinks" when his accomplice orders them. In this way they are enabled to drug the whiskey which the old farmer is plied with, and he is soon unconscious. The chief conspirator goes through his pockets, and then a quarrel arises over the division of the spoils. The "waiter" stabs his pal and leaves him for dead. At the police station the farmer is accused of murder and cannot prove his innocence. Suddenly, however, an ambulance surgeon enters, and then a stretcher is brought in bearing the wounded "Bunco" man, who in a dramatic manner accuses his false partner in crime and fastens the guilt upon him.

"THE FISHER GIRL."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—*Re* Mr. Oswald Brand's letter in your to-day's issue. This gentleman is perfectly correct in stating that he is the author of an opera entitled *The Fisher Girl*, but in the sketch bearing that title, produced by me at the Paragon Music Hall, on June 17, not a line from the original book is used. Every word of it was written by me, and even if it were not so the opera is my sole and exclusive property, therefore, I have the right to deal with it as I like, and have given him credit where credit is due—the lyrics.—Faithfully yours,

CHAS. FISHER.

The Managers Club, Savoy Mansions, W.C.,
June 22.

A MUSICAL STAFF EN FETE.

The banner of the "Sixpenny Pops." was borne proudly into the picturesque little town of Wendover, in Bucks, on Saturday, when the staff of Messrs. Francis and Day, the world-famous music publishers, for the sixth time paid a tribute of respect and affection to the heads of the firm by arranging an annual outing in their honour. Each member of the party wore a neat badge consisting of a pretty ribbon surmounted by a couple of axes, and bearing in gilt letters the words "6d. Pops," from which depended a silver sixpence. The firm was represented by Mr. David Day and by his son, Mr. Fred Day, who for the past three years has been strengthening in a phenomenal degree the interests of the house in America. Mr. William Francis had not sufficiently recovered from his late severe illness to be present, but he was represented by his two sons, Arthur and William, the latter of whom has been upholding with Mr. Fred Day the honours of the house in America. Mr. C. J. Smith was again the chairman of the party, and Mr. W. Eyke the vice, and well-known makers of melody present included Mr. Edgar Bateman, Messrs. Leigh and Pether, Mr. Charles Wilmott, and Mr. Hermann Darewski, jun.; while old and respected members of the firm were found in Mr. "Bob" Burridge and Mr. "Charlie" Rooker, the latter of whom can claim that his years of service, coupled with those of Mr. Smith, aggregate half a century.

An edge was given to the appetite shortly after arrival by a cricket match between teams captained respectively by Mr. Fred Day and Mr. Wm. Francis, jun., in which the former was victorious. Others took advantage of the beautiful walks in the vicinity, and Mr. Eyke went with his rod to the adjoining canal, but fished in vain. Dinner was served at the Red Lion Hotel, kept by Mr. J. S. Holland, which has the distinction of being referred to by Stevenson in his "Essays of Travel." After an excellent repast, served in admirable style, the chairman rose to give "The Health of the Firm." It was a very great pleasure to him to propose the toast, which had fallen to him for some years past. This time he had the added joy of coupling with it the name of Mr. Fred Day, whom he had the greatest pleasure in welcoming back. They had been very sorry to part with him, and they would be delighted to listen to a few of his eloquent remarks. Mr. Smith read the following telegram from Mr. Wm. Francis: "Heartiest good wishes for jolly day. Sorry not able to be with you. Good luck to all." He proposed that a wire should be sent to Mr. Francis expressing their pleasure at receiving his telegram, and regret at his absence. A telegram was also dispatched to Mr. Charles Day in the following terms: "Regret illness. Sympathy and best wishes from staff," and a cable to Mr. John Abbott, "Playtime, New York," which read "Fraternal greetings from all."

The toast was received with musical honours, and Mr. Fred Day, who was enthusiastically cheered, said he had been instructed to be brief, but would not need a code to bring his remarks down to the required number of words. He was delighted to be back in the country which to him was very near akin to Paradise. He thought he should find it necessary to make the trip very often, and would like to bring his American staff, a great number of whom volunteered to come, but as ladies were not invited he had to go without. He was very glad to see all looking so well. Hard work evidently agreed with them. He only wished he could find as good and enthusiastic business men on the other side as we have here.

Mr. David Day, who was very warmly received, said he would like to take a drink with the chairman for the purpose of proposing the health of the staff and the visitors. He and his son were indeed glad to be their guests that day, and were enjoying themselves thoroughly. He regretted that Mr. William Francis was not well enough to be with them, but both Mr. Francis and himself wished to thank them one and all for their good services and for their contribution to the continued success of the firm. For the past twelve months really good and steady progress had been made, owing principally to their support. He did not regret the absence of Mr. Abbott, because he was doing real good work as set for him by Mr. Fred on the other side. At the same time, the news by the last mail from America called for their sympathy, as it told them that Mr. Abbott was suffering from a touch of malaria. Since the letter arrived, however, he had received a cablegram message showing that he was hard at business. Mr. Charlie Day, although making satisfactory progress, was not well enough to be present, but he was with them in spirit, and had obtained a "6d. Pop" badge in order that he might wear it in honour of the occasion.

The toast was acknowledged by the vice-chairman, who said it was a pleasure to all to work for the firm. He thanked them also for so generously giving them the day in order that they might enjoy such a nice day in the country. Mr. Eyke ended by proposing the health of the committee and the visitors.

Mr. H. Harris responded on behalf of the committee, mentioning, amid applause, that they had to thank the firm for assisting the staff with a cheque towards the expenses of the day, by which they were enabled to enjoy a very good day in the country at a nominal price.

Mr. L. E. Bellamy and Mr. Fred Leigh also replied for the committee, and Mr. E. White and Mr. George Scott answered for the visitors.

A delightful drive was afterwards enjoyed, the party being taken by way of Aston Clinton, through Halton Woods, and by Alfred Rothschild's lordly domain, with the Chiltern Hills rising almost perpendicularly at the side. Five o'clock found the party, with spirits undamped by the rain, back at the hotel, where tea was followed by an impromptu concert, which Mr. David Day, by special request, led off with "Dear old pals." Mr. Fred Day gave in good style his own clever composition of "Tooralray"; and Mr. Fred Leigh, the writer of "Om-tiddley-om-pom," and Mr. Charles Wilmott, the author of "Twilight," each gave the song with which their pens are associated.

A little interlude was introduced when Mr. Fred Day suggested that Mr. "Bob" Burridge should speak on behalf of the "6d. Pops." Mr. Burridge is a little hard of hearing, and did not quite catch the remark; but no sooner did he learn that a speech was required of him than he was on his feet, and delivered a fluent oration which began with Mr. David Day and ended with the King. The speaker paid a tribute to the energy and perseverance which had made the name of Francis and Day famous in the remotest parts of the globe, and declared that as floral wreaths were conferred upon political and social leaders, so there ought to be laurels for the clever business man. He referred in appreciative terms to Mr. Fred Day, who, he said, had had plenty of thorns when he severed family ties and went to hoist the standard of the firm in America, and now should have all the roses that could be gathered. Cosy card parties were made up in the saloon carriage on the homeward journey, and another memorable outing come to an end in a chorus of delight.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

LISTS OF FAIRS, FEASTS, AND WAKES IN ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, AND WALES, FOR JULY.

ENGLAND.

July 1. Bradford (236,240)
July 1. Conisboro' (4,600)
July 1. Droitwich (4,113)
July 1. Earby (1,864)
July 1. Feckenham (4,587)
July 1. Inkberrow (1,631)
July 2. Chipping Norton (3,800)
July 2. Sampford Courtenay (900)
July 3. Bishampton (340)
July 4. Dereham (5,600)
July 4. Stokeferry (700)
July 4. Wakefield (36,000)
July 5. Great Chesterford (900)
July 5. Worcester (43,966)
July 6 Ashover (2,362)
July 6. Barlborough (1,942)
July 6. Blandford (3,600)
July 6. Bognor (6,200)
July 6. Gloucester (48,000)
July 6. Haxey (1,800)
July 6. Silston (3,189)
July 6. Stainsby (121)
July 6. Taunton (21,600)
July 6. Tibshelf (3,000)
July 10. Leeds (423,900)
July 10. Menston (1,745)
July 10. Ringwood (4,460)
July 10. Stroud (9,200)
July 11. Burnley (97,044)
July 12. Headless Cross (3,500)
July 13. Chapel-en-le-Frith (4,652)
July 13. Holmesfield (510)
July 15. Baildon (6,000)
July 15. Chumleigh (1,200)
July 15. Darwen (38,200)
July 15. Linton (9,200)
July 15. Salisbury (17,100)
July 15. Spilsby (1,500)
July 18. Atherstone (5,000)
July 18. Horsham (9,500)
July 18. Launceston (4,052)
July 19. Dursley (2,400)
July 20. Dewsbury (31,500)
July 20. Hatherlow
July 20. Hollinwood (8,962)
July 20. Normanton (Temple)
July 20. Stalybridge (27,000)
July 20. Tipton (20,500)
July 20. Tunstall (10,500)
July 22. Bramley (9,000)
July 22. Chesham (7,300)
July 22. Haworth (5,100)
July 22. Nelson (35,000)
July 23. Chiddingley (800)
July 24. Glemsford (2,000)
July 25. Alresford (2,000)
July 25. Epsom (11,000)
July 25. Hockwold (800)
July 25. Kingsbridge (3,000)
July 25. Reading (60,000)
July 27. Cley-next-the-Sea (700)
July 27. Compstall (2,300)
July 27. Longsight (16,500)
July 27. Melksham (2,500)
July 27. Mossley (14,800)
July 27. Shirland (3,697)
July 27. Stretton (615)
July 27. Walton (1,470)
July 29. Bollington (3,600)
July 29. Keighley (40,050)
July 29. King's Nympton (586)
July 29. Knottingley (6,500)
July 29. Olney (2,500)
July 29. Saltaire (5,000)
July 29. Sandford (200)
July 29. Shepley (25,000)
July 29. Unsworth (2,289)
July 29. Windhill (7,352)
July 30. Heyford (800)
July 31. Alfreton (6,120)

SCOTLAND.

July 1. Bridge of Allan (3,240)
July 1. Perth (30,749)
July 4. Greenock (63,423)
July 8. Glasgow (622,355)
July 8. Hawick (17,803)
July 11. Johnstone (10,502)
July 11. Motherwell (54,274)
July 15. Forfar (12,061)
July 17. Rothesay (7,323)
July 20. Arbroath (22,372)
July 20. Kinross (2,136)
July 25. Edinburgh (208,062)
July 25. Kilmarnock (34,161)
July 25. Kirkcudbright (3,500)
July 25. Stirling (18,403)
July 29. Leith (76,667)

WALES.

July 2. Flint (5,125)
July 4. Brecon (6,000)
July 5. Pontypool (6,000)
July 31. Tenby (4,700)

Kidderminster Fair.

THIS old-time Worcestershire town is possessed of one of the largest fairgrounds in the Midland Counties. This lends itself admirably to the display of the largest and the best concerns on this round. The premier show was Sagar's palace of delight and coliseum of varieties. The next in order was Mander's star menagerie, followed by Professor Hayden and Madame Clytie in second sight marvels; Hasting's tow ground booths, the midget marvels, and the fat lady; H. Wall's dwarf show. The machine sets were those of Mr. P. Collins, and included motor-cars, ostriches, steam yachts, and helter-skelter. The juvenile roundabouts and gem sets were by S. Dobson and J. Wright. There were innumerable stalls, the principal caterers of which were Hall Bros., Fipps, Birch, Beach, Wyatt, and Wright. The shooting concerns were provided by Messrs. Wright, Wyatt, and Jennings. The fair was an excellent one, everyone doing record business.

Selkirk Fair.

AT this Scotch fixture were the well-known concerns of J. Biddall, G. A. Biddall, S. Biddall, Styles and Co., Wilmots' motor-cars, W. and D. Murphy's motor-cars, Cross's steam horses and swings, Broughton's swings, Winchester ranges and bottle batteries by Hughes, Slater, Day, Sherran, Broughton, Mitchell, Black, and S. Biddall. The throwing games in excellent order of display were provided by Messrs. Blakeley, Millar, Black, Matchett, Shields, Slater, Russell, Broughton, Sherran, and Alfred Millar.

Maidstone Fair.

THE fairground novelties, including switchback, galloping horses, novelty booth, swings, shooting concerns, throwing games, &c., were provided by the well-known London caterer of amusements the Pettigrove Family.

Padiham Fair.

WE are in receipt of an official communication from the Padiham Urban District Council informing us that the Padiham Fair will be held this year from July 27 to August 3, and not the second Thursday in August, as in previous years. Showmen taking this round had better make a note of this official alteration.

Abingdon Fair.

THE June fair at the old town of Abingdon was but poorly attended by fairground traders. The only concerns on the ground were swings, by Clark and Spurritt; bottle smasher, by W. Spurritt; throwing games, by Messrs. J. Roberts and Buckland Bros.

Enrolment of Guild Members.

IN order that members may be enrolled in parts of the country where there is no committeeman enrolling members, the following gentlemen are being supplied with material and authorised to enroll members:—Mr. G. W. A. Norton, on the western round; Messrs. John Gage, manager for Mr. John Stud, on the Welsh round; G. Bailey, manager for riding machine for Mr. P. Collins; and C. Shaw, with Messrs. Tuby and Son. It is proposed to add other names to this list in order that greater facilities may be given to showmen and fairground traders to join the Guild.

The White City, Old Trafford.

THE many devices for interesting and amusing the large numbers of visitors to this lovely amusement park are continually being added to. Mr. Leoni Clarke is doing good business with his wonderful cats, birds, rats, mice, &c. In addition to the Maxim's airship, there is now Collins's great airship, which finds much favour. The great water chute, the figure eight gravitation ride, the dragon slide, Hale's tours of the world, the mystic rivers and artist's dream are also among the many attractions which are exceedingly popular. Though the weather has been very changeable and against open-air entertainments, there are ample sheltered amusements, and the excellent refreshment catering adds to the growing popularity of the resort, which is brilliantly illuminated at night.

THE SHOWMEN'S GUILD AT MEXBORO' FEAST.

The claim of the show industry to be modern and thoroughly up to date is strikingly illustrated in the growth and success of Mexboro' Feast. Fifty years ago it was just a small village fair, and meant tolerably good business for one or two fairground concerns. To-day it is one of the best fixtures for show business in the Barnsley district. The growth of the coal trade and the opening out of iron and steel works in its immediate vicinity has turned a small and sleepy Yorkshire village into the throbbing and pulsing heart of a great industrial district. The village feast, as is usually the case, originated with the observance of the Church Festival, the Parish and Mother church being dedicated to, and under the patronage of, St. John the Baptist. The fair itself is governed by the nearest Sunday to the Church Feast, and generally lasts from the Friday before St. John the Baptist Day till the middle of the following week, and within the octave of the Patron Saint.

The Organising Chaplain's Sunday Work.

Preached at St. Paul's Church, Mexboro', at 10.30, and afterwards assisted at the Festival Celebration of the Holy Communion. Addressed a gathering of united adult Bible classes at the parish church on the work of the Showmen's Guild at 2.30. Was principal speaker at the meeting for showpeople only on the Fairground at 3.30; assisted at the Festival Evensong at the parish church, St. John the Baptist, at 6.30. Preached at the showmen's service in Tuby's Coliseum on the Fairground at 8.15.

Guild Meeting.

Councillor G. T. Tuby, in whose magnificent pavilion the gathering was held, was unanimously voted to the chair, and supporting him were:—The Rev. T. Horne and Messrs. T. Tuby, jun., A. Fisher, W. Brandon, W. Doubtfire, J. Watson, C. Shaw, M. Tuby, T. Hall, J. G. Shaw, and other showmen and fairground traders. Mr. Tuby, in his opening remarks, said that the need for a trade protection society was obvious to all those who earned their living on the fairground. He did not propose to occupy their time by any lengthy speech, or to stand between that meeting and the hearing of what Mr. Horne had come to Mexboro' to tell them. This one thing, however, he must say, it was evident from the report, copies of which had been placed in their hands as the meeting was gathering, that Parliamentary defence work and some of the other branches of their Society's enterprise involved the expenditure of large sums of money. It was necessary, therefore, that all fairground traders should join together to find the ways and means to support that necessary work. He therefore commended most earnestly the Society to their appreciation and support, and now most gladly asked their organising chaplain to deliver his address.

The Work and Aims of the Showmen's Guild.

As in previous addresses fully reported in these columns, Mr. Horne dealt with the rise and progress of the Trade Defence Movement amongst showpeople. He demonstrated the importance of that work as their bulwark of defence, against the undue interference with their rights and liberties as an industrial class in the community attempted by individuals and corporations. He showed how the domestic peace and inviolability of their homes on wheels had been secured to them, how that their character as supplying a public need as craftsmen and traders with a noble lineage had been defended from the unjust attacks of ignorant fanatics and narrow-minded faddists.

He dwelt upon the freedom of their trade, as illustrated in the securities obtained by costly Parliamentary work against the encroaching powers of great corporations. They had secured and still maintained free trade in fairs, and freedom from the imposition of unjust and penalising restrictions sought by various public bodies who wished to be able to say to the showman—you shall open your show at such an hour and close your show at such an hour as we shall be pleased to dictate. Showmen claimed, he argued, to open their places of trade and business during the same hours as other legitimate traders. They did not claim special privilege above other citizens, but they did claim, and were prepared to strenuously maintain that their business was entitled to the same protection and the same liberty of growth and freedom as the trade and business of any other class in the community.

Why He Was on Tour.

It had been felt for many years past that it was only lack of knowledge on the part of the great mass of fairground traders that had prevented the Society receiving that support its work eminently demanded. This had been so borne in upon his mind that he had determined this year to surrender his fixed parish work, and to make his parish wherever showmen could be found. He was confident that the time had come in the growth of the great show industry to warrant his making this venture of faith, and he had no hesitation in saying that so far as he had already gone in organising and speaking at meetings and services of the Guild at such fairs as Manchester (Queen's-road), Wrexham, Knutsford (May Festival), Birmingham, Penzance, and Porth Fairs, that the results had more than exceeded his expectations. He was very anxious not only to include the great fairs in the country, but to get upon the rounds like this one in Yorkshire, where a particular group of showpeople kept well within its own district. Their chairman, Mr. Tuby, had been for years past a supporter of the Guild and a subscriber to its funds. He had the pleasure of enrolling Mr. Tuby, and receiving his annual subscription at Lynn Mart, and he sincerely trusted that the showpeople who mainly followed their chairman's round of fairs would come forward at that meeting and join the Society. He could not too strongly press upon them the great value and importance of increasing the members' roll. In fact, he was convinced that large numbers of members were of greater value to them in dealing with public bodies and with Parliament than big subscriptions from the big capitalists in their business. They needed both, but it was especially his mission in going from fair to fair to rally the rank and file, to swell both their numbers and to increase their funds. Let them not hesitate, but join the Society; he would rather have their names and the minimum subscription that day than wait for a later period in the year with the hope and expectation that better business would enable them to give a bigger subscription. Besides, he added, it is always open to a member to give a second and succeeding subscription when the sun of prosperity shone more fully upon them.

New Members at Mexboro'.

Mr. Tuby, in exhorting the showpeople present to join the Society, asked them to notice how he had been fully justified in abstaining from making a long speech at the opening of their proceedings. After what they heard, and also from what they were constantly reading of Mr. Horne's work, no one could doubt for a single moment that it was their duty and their privilege to rally to the support of the Society doing such magnificent work. Here was an organisation that united them. They might have their inside troubles and difficulties, but here was a Society which stood to protect them from all outside troubles, and he for one was heartily in sympathy with its work. He joined with Mr. Horne in urging upon them to become members.

The following members were enrolled:—T. Tuby, jun., 5s.; A. Fisher, jun., 5s.; W. Brandon, 5s.; J. Watson, 5s.; J. G. Shaw, 5s.; T. Hall, 5s; W. Doubtfire, 5s.

The Guild Service.

The Vicar of Mexboro', the Rev. W H. F. Bateman, has for many years past taken a deep and pastoral interest in his showmen parishioners at the time of the Feast. Whilst the exigencies of his parish work (he and his two colleagues in the minstry having three churches to serve) made it impossible to conduct services on the fairground, he had never omitted the diligent visiting of the caravans, friendly intercourse with the showpeople, the baptising of the children and ministering to the sick when necessary. In reply to the organising chaplain's request that services be permitted in his parish on the Feast Sunday, the vicar sent a most kindly-worded letter of appreciation, hearty desire to co-operate in the work and open hospitality, bidding the showmen's parson to make the Vicarage his home during his stay at Mexboro'. This is as it should be. Mr. Horne, as the diary of his day's work given above indicates, became one of the parish clergy for that day. At the Guild service, begun immediately after the conclusion of the services of the churches in the town, the vicar both conducted the service and read the appointed Lesson. The organising chaplain preached a sermon, with a special reference to the needs of showpeople, and an apposite reference to the keeping of their Parish Patronal Feast. He dwelt upon the historical fact that not only the show business had its rootage, if not its immediate beginning, in the old Church Festivals now called Fairs, but that the drama and the variety stage could be traced back to the old morality plays and Church Festival Pageants that originated at the great Festivals of the Church. He drew a moral from the stern Baptist power in dealing with crowds of people to the responsibility that rests upon every man, be he preacher, poet, artist, actor, or showman who has the gift of drawing a crowd. Woe betide that man, he said, who misuses the great gifts of drawing a crowd.

Tuby's show was admirably adapted for the purpose of the showmen chapel on the fairground, and the showman, his wife and family, highly appreciated the privilege of common prayer and worship with the Christian men and women of Mexboro'. The show was crowded to its utmost capacity by a devout and attentive congregation.

We are glad to announce that the Vicar of Mexboro' has consented to become honorary local chaplain to the Guild, and to know that he already acts in that capacity for the Actors' Union.

The Late Madame Small.

The above is a picture of Madame Small, whose demise and funeral we chronicled last week.

Mexborough Feast.

On No. 1 Ground, lessee, Mr. Tuby, the following concerns, machines, and novelties were on exhibition:—Tuby's coliseum, gondolas, motors, galloping horses, swings, and shooters; Davies' Circus; Westray and White's freak shows and novelty booths; Farrer and Ling's fine arts; Prof. Watson's boxing booth; T. Wortley's colliery model show and novelty booth; gem roundabouts and highflers by Fisher, Pullen, Welsh, Bentley, Woods, and Chambers; steam swings by Amos; Winchester ranges and rifle saloons by Fisher, Shaw, Bentley, and Pullen; Emma sheets, cokers, and throwing games by Waddington, Smith, Doubtfire, and Warren; novelty stalls and varieties by Lazarus, Webb, Monte, and others. Record business was done.

On No. 2 Ground, under the banner of Harniess and Son, were the concerns of Procter, Crighton, and Farrer, cinematograph theatres; Gal Hague's boxers; Goldthorpe Marshall's motors; Harniess' racing cockerels and galloping horse sets; J. Collins' yachts and helter-skelter; Corrigan's steam swings; Thomas' manual swings and gem swings and horses by Brookes and Hutchinson; Mrs. Burton's shooting gallery; football games by Gallagher and Vanner; throwing games and variety stalls by Walker, Townsend, Corrigan, Brookes, Houldsworth, Vanner, and Wright; refreshment boths by Hutchinson and Nolan; and varieties by Gallagher, Paget, and Brookes.

Showman's Locomotive.

"RULE of the road" summons at Newport.—Edward Danter, the well-known travelling showman, was summoned at Newport, Mon., on Saturday for failing to instantly stop his road locomotive on June 12, when Mr. Lewis Lewis, a Machen farmer, who was driving a horse and trap, put up his hand as a signal for him to stop. Mr. Newton Wade appeared for the prosecution; Mr. F. H. Dauncey was for the defence. There was a considerable conflict as to the details. Mr. and Mrs. Lewis were driving towards Newport, when the defendant's locomotive and two vans came along towards them. Mr. Lewis said he drew to the side of the road and put up his hand for the defendant (who was on the engine) to stop. He did not stop, and when the engine was within about a dozen yards of the trap the mare reared, turned round, and upset the trap, throwing both the occupants out. Mrs. Lewis had an ankle sprained and a foot injured. Complainant jumped up and seized the mare's head. By that time the defendant and his men had got to their assistance, and helped to put the trap upright again. Two days later complainant saw Danter at Mountain Ash, and told him of what had happened. Danter said, "You must have upset the trap yourself, then. You are no man; you kept me there on the road for more than half an hour." Defendant's version was that as soon as Mr. Lewis held up his hand he (defendant) shut off steam and stopped the engine, but complainant, having drawn to the side of the road, beckoned him to come on slowly, and he went on. The mare backed one of the wheels against the hedge, and Mr. and Mrs. Lewis jumped out. The Bench said there was not sufficient evidence to convict. The case was, therefore, dismissed.

Newport Pagnell.

THE fair here was well kept by both people and funmakers. The shows and concerns were Barker's electric coliseum, Harvey's boxing saloon, and a freak show. Messrs. Billing and Shepherd provided the principal machine novelties and ranges of swings. The other novelties were of the usual character.

ANSWERS TO SHOWMEN.

COLLINS.—*In the column headed "Film Gossip" you will find information of the newest films and accessories, and if you want novelties follow up the news and you will get them.*

THE FIGHT FOR MITCHAM.

In accordance with the plan of campaign outlined in our columns last week, a vigorous defence of the fair propaganda has been carried out by the executive of the Showmen's Guild and their many friends and helpers at Mitcham. The principal things done were—extensive advertising in the local Press, covering the walls and hoardings of Mitcham with large posters setting forth the case for the showmen and the not less important case for the preservation of the ancient fair rights and franchises of the people of Mitcham. In addition to the posters, five thousand handbills, containing the showmen's manifesto, were distributed. We give the text of this manifesto, and also the text of the remarkably able and eminently characteristic manifesto by Lord George Sanger, the venerated president of the Showmen's Guild. Of this latter three thousand were circulated:—

MITCHAM FAIR.

AN APPEAL TO THE PEOPLE.

Why should you surrender your ancient Fair Rights at the bidding of an interested clique who do not enjoy the open-air amusements which the Fair brings to your doors every year? The Fair is the poor man's opportunity for wholesome amusement and recreation. The Fair is also your legal security for the continuance of your old-time holidays.

The Showmen's Guild of Great Britain will give to the people of Mitcham an opportunity of recording their vote for or against the continuance of the old Charter Fair. The showmen recognise that to remove the Fair from its present congested and dangerous site in the centre of the town would be an advantage. They have offered the Conservators, and have also suggested to the Home Secretary, the removal of the Fair to the Three Kings Common. The Showmen's Guild desire an expression of opinion of the people of Mitcham on these questions:—

The continuance of the Fair, and its removal to a more suitable site on the People's Common.

A MEETING

Will be held on Thursday next, June 27, at 7 o'clock, On the Fair Green, Mitcham.

The Rev. T. Horne (Chaplain to the Showmen's Guild), Mr. F. H. Pedgrift (London Treasurer to the Showmen's Guild), and Mr. T. Watson-Wright (Solicitor to the Showmen's Guild) will address the meeting, supported by the executive officers of the Guild and local gentlemen interested in the preservation of the People's Rights in Mitcham Fair.

A DEFENCE OF BRITISH FAIRS,

Addressed to all Admirers of Shows and Showpeople by Lord George Sanger, President of the Showmen's Guild.

Especially Dedicated to the People of Mitcham.

I venture to draw public attention to the meeting organised by the Showmen's Guild, with which I have been closely allied since its origination. A meeting in the open air on the Fair Green at Mitcham, on Thursday evening, to protest against the attempt now being made to abolish Mitcham's old-time and honoured fair. I have recently read in the daily Press sound and reasonable leading articles and letters on the preservation to London City of Crosby Hall and other places of historical importance and memorable antiquity, and am led to ask—Is not Mitcham Fair worthy, on account of its historical associations, to be preserved? Is it consistent with common-sense that this fair that has outlived every other fair within the Metropolitan district should be abolished? Why should it not remain as a link with the past and an honoured heirloom to the people of Mitcham? For, indeed, it has a history of no ordinary importance.

Within Living Memory.

Within my time I have seen great and glorious exhibitions maintaining the fair on Mitcham Green—exhibitions now forgotten by both showmen and the public. The great Jacky Richardson, with his magnificent booth, I have seen pitched on the triangular ground where the fair has been held for generations. Both upon the outside parade and upon the splendid stage within the theatre the great actors and actresses of his day strutted and fretted their many parts upon the classic boards of that portable theatre. Again, I have seen at Mitcham Fair the great Paul Herring and Joey Grimaldi, the clowns, and with them Jim Burke, the pantaloon, Waters, the Simpkin, Hartley, the Johnny Wapstraw, and others the funmakers of those days, who convulsed with laughter the fathers, grandfathers, and some of the great-grandfathers of the present Mitcham inhabitants. These celebrities of their day, although they were not of blue blood or high estate, still they deserve the reverence of the present and coming generations. It is to me lamentable that in liberty-loving England there should be found still "the cloven-footed and the forked-tongued monsters" eager to trample down and to destroy the innocent enjoyment of the public, more especially the poorer classes; it is, to my thinking, an outrage and a crime.

The Glorious Past Record of Mitcham Fair.

To your fair came the great travelling menageries, in their day and generation of the famous George Wombwell, and the similar wild-beast shows of Atkinson, Hilton, Wright, and Manders. These travelling menageries made your old fair a notable landmark and a sharer in the showman glory of the nation. When we turn to the record of the circus world, we find that the great William Batty, William Cooke, Ducrow, John Clark, Fraser, and innumerable others have delighted Mitcham men, women, and children by their classic performances in the sawdust arena; and my earnest expectation and hope is that all good men and women who love to see and to join in the happiness and merriment of their friends and neighbours will unite their forces for the preservation of one of England's great historic fairs, and the last link with the venerable and distinguished past that Mitcham has in its fair.

The Attempts to Abolish the Fair.

From what I have read, the Right Hon. H. J. Gladstone, the Home Secretary, has not yet abolished the fair, nor will he do so. The good son of a great father (a father whose memory is reverenced by the whole civilised world), bearing a name that will be honoured as long as time shall last, I confidently anticipate that such a son will not dishonour the principles of such a father by signing a decree that merely plays into the hands of a few fanatics, who see nothing but wrongdoing in the light-hearted enjoyment of their more unsuccessful brethren.

A Final Appeal to Save the Fair.

We have already seen the many links that Mitcham possesses of the grand and glorious past in this ancient Charter Fair. That fair must be preserved, and it is to the people of Mitcham that we—the showmen of the Empire—look, not only for its maintenance, but for its continuance under such better and more modern conditions that will extend its usefulness and increase its prosperity. To the showmen, as a veteran and a father in their midst, I say that they must meet the abolitionists with a determined and stubborn resistance. Their cause is honourable and just, and I feel convinced that the general public, not only of the locality itself, will be with them, but that the sympathy of the show-loving people throughout the Empire will be extended to the movement that endeavours to preserve to people and showmen alike the old-time fair of "Lavender Land" at Mitcham.—Respectfully yours,

GEORGE SANGER,
President, the Showmen's Guild of Great Britain.

The Demonstration on the Fair Green.

Despite the deterrent aspect of the weather, the people of Mitcham began to gather in goodly numbers some considerable period before the time fixed for the meeting. Groups of eager men and women were discussing the question of the fair and its continuance, and reading the stirring words of Lord George Sanger's manifesto. The centre of attraction was the middle of the fairgreen. There a lorry had been drawn to serve as the platform for chairman and speakers. A long table stood before the platform to be used later on for the purpose of receiving signatures to the local petition against the abolition of the fair.

Under the energetic guidance of Mr. Alf. Ball, a rapidly-increasing band of local workers were busy perfecting the final arrangements, a marked feature of the demonstration being the hosts of ready volunteers among the workingmen of Mitcham.

A good number of local showmen answered the call of the executive of the Guild, and were present and took part in the detail work of organisation and obtaining signatures from the people present. Amongst these we noticed Mr. Tom Norman, vice-president of the Society, Messrs. Robert Clasper, D. Searle, G. Elliott, T. Stone, D. Stevens, and a number of the old tenants of Mitcham Fair. By seven o'clock there were a thousand people gathered round the improvised rostrum, and well before the ending of the chairman's speech between two and three thousand were present.

The Local Interests

were admirably stated by Councillor Baker, who prefaced his remarks by reading the following telegram from Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, of *The Era*:—"DEAR MR. HORNE,—Sorry that I am prevented by important business at *The Era* offices presiding over your Guild meeting. Wish you all success." In Mr. Pedgrift's absence he readily responded to the vote of the meeting and occupied the chair. He had, however, to attend a committee meeting of the Council in half an hour's time. Notwithstanding the time limit, he was glad to have the opportunity of identifying with the movement for retaining their ancient fair. Ever since he had been a member of Mitcham Parish Council it had been borne in upon his mind that the real interests of the great bulk of the people were being sacrificed to the private interests of privileged parties in the parish. On this question of the fair it was evident to him that interested parties were moving in the matter, and he felt sure that the mind of the people was being ignored by the abolitionists. They had in their town affairs and upon their Parish Council representation—over-representation of the classes and under-representation of the masses—private interests were cleverly advocated and the wider and more urgent interests of the people subordinated. The last election had sent to the parish men like-minded to himself, and they were trying—this sturdy minority—to defend the rights and interests of the workers. (Cheers.) He spoke against the abolition of their fair at their Council, but the interests of the few prevailed over the greater good of the many. He was doubly glad that the Showmen's Guild had taken this matter in hand, there had been too much "hole-and-corner" work, too much scheming by the people interested in the exploiting of their good old town for selfish purposes, in the past. No opportunities had been given the democracy to express its views on this question. He was glad that the Home Secretary had again refused the legal order that alone would justify (in law) the action of the abolitionists. Until the meeting of show tenants on the fair Sunday last year, and yet again this meeting, the working classes had had no chance given them of saying yes or no in the matter. This, he maintained, was unjust to the great bulk of the workers of Mitcham. He took his stand on the broad platform of social justice. He was ready at all times and in all questions to trust the democracy. He denounced with all the vigour he possessed the high-handed proceedings of those gentlemen—whatever their public standing, whatever their principles and motives—who abused the trust and confidence of the people, and used their position on public bodies to over-ride the wishes and to flout the desires of the people. (Great applause.) It was high time they had a real people's party (and in power) to express the people's will in their town affairs. Why, he asked, should these enemies of the people's rights be permitted to ride rough-shod over the cherished ideals, the material and mental needs, of their poorer neighbours? The open meeting held on that historic spot at the last fair was evidence sufficient to these spoilers of the people's rights that the abolition of the fair was detestable to the vast majority of the people of Mitcham. Here was unmistakable evidence of what the people wanted, yet that was contemptuously ignored, and the people's vote scoffed and derided. (Shame.) These traffickers in the seats of power not only treated the voice of the people with contempt, but proceeded to enter action in the High Court of Justice to enforce their autocratic will. He was glad to be able to express in public his own repudiation of this gross example of class abuse of popular powers, and to say that he and those who worked with him stood for the people's rights utterly—the whole people, not a class, or the masses against the classes, but the whole body of their townspeople. He looked forward to the time when this class and private interest coterie would be relegated to the private life they were so eminently fitted to adorn. (Cheers and laughter.) He again expressed regret that public work demanded his presence at the Vestry, but he confidently left the issues of fairplay and justice in their hands.

MR. ALF BALL, as member of the Executive of the Showmen's Guild, then introduced Mr. T. Watson Wright, Guild solicitor, to the meeting.

The Guild Solicitor's Speech.

MR. WATSON WRIGHT, who was received with cheers, said that the issues before the people of Mitcham involved more than the possible abolition of their ancient charter fair. To deprive a free community of valuable rights and privileges without coming before that community and taking a vote of the people was a gross attack on the rights of the community. This had been done, as they all knew, in Mitcham. There existed proper and constitutional methods to abolish undesirable or obsolete fairs. If a community for public reasons wished to abolish a fair, they could proceed under the Abolition of Fairs Act, a statute of the realm with machinery provided for all the interests, whether landlord or tenant, showman or resident. These provisions were ample and reasonable. Why had it remained, he asked, for the showmen to take the trouble and to incur the cost of taking a vote in public meeting of the people? Was the cause of the abolitionists so hopelessly unpopular that they dare not face a public meeting on this question? The Showmen's Guild came before the people, the people who alone had the rights to relinquish their ancient charter rights and privileges. At a mass meeting last August they had voted to move against abolition, and he trusted that the resolution he was about to read to them would be also carried—a resolution for preserving inviolable and intact the rights of Mitcham people. The showmen for whom he spoke were not unreasonable, nor yet law-breaking men. Let Mitcham, properly canvassed, properly addressed, determine that it no longer wanted a fair, then the show-people, as business-folk, would move their goods to a better market. (Applause.) He gave a *résumé* of the action taken by the old tenants of the fair at the last fair, and its culmination in the acceptance of an injunction by Messrs. Ball, Hill, and Wilson not to commit a technical trespass by drawing upon the old fairground without the consent of the conservators.

He showed how the clear and simple issue of the position as defined by the Home Secretary (who still refused abolition) had been complicated by the raising of a new issue or issues—the claim of the conservators, under a private Act of theirs obtained in 1891, to cover their arbitrary action by propounding an improvement scheme. The weakness of their action may be gauged from the fact that again they asked the Home Secretary to abolish the fair, and again he has refused. (Cheers.) He rejoiced that Mr. Gladstone had refused at the bidding of the abolitionists to interfere with or restrict the fair rights of the people of Mitcham. He told them the Abolition of Fairs Act set out certain reasons as a condition precedent to abolishing a fair. Not one of these reasons had been proved true of Mitcham, hence the fair still remained their right in law and their franchise. (Great applause.) Who were the gentlemen who now held the Lord of the Manor of Mitcham rights in the fair? These gentlemen were Messrs. Foss-Cubison, A. Mizen, and R. M. Chart. These gentlemen had bought out Mrs. Bailey's rights, and were now the legal owners of the franchise, and entitled, if they cared, to hold the fair, to draw the tolls, and to keep the profits arising therefrom; but that did not, either in law or justice, entitle them to say that the people of Mitcham should cease to enjoy their old pleasure fair. (Cheers.) The legal gentlemen amongst these four had recognised the parlous position in which they were placed, and had again approached, and had again been repulsed, by the Home Secretary. Now we hear that yet another essay is to be made to secure abolition. This time your parish council has been induced to lend itself to the third attempt. (Shame.) He trusted that the voice of that magnificent meeting would reach the council chambers, and that, in face of the constitutionally-expressed will of the people, the council would, even at the elventh hour, re consider its decision, and accede to and vigorously support the wishes of the people. (Applause.) In stirring words the Guild solicitor reminded the men and women of Mitcham that their rights and liberties were threatened by this wealthy, persistent, and narrow-minded set of men, who had banded themselves together to ignore the strongly-expressed opinion of the whole body of workers, and were determined to still ignore that opinion, however openly and constitutionally set forth. The people's rights were theirs by Magna Charter, No despot, however benevolent, no philanthropist, however wealthy, had a right, in this liberty-loving country of ours, to overrule the people's will, or to abrogate the Statute law of the realm for their narrow or fanatical purposes. He moved, therefore, that "This meeting of residents of Mitcham objects to the abolition of the fair, and respectfully urges the Parish Council, the Conservators of Mitcham Common, the owners of the fair franchise, and the showmen traders, to speedily arrive at a friendly agreement whereby the fair may be removed to the more commodious site on the Three Kings Common, and a joint petition by all parties concerned may be sent to the Home Secretary seeking permission to remove the fair to the new site." (Loud and continued applause.)

When the Rev. T. HORNE, who received a warm ovation, rose to second the resolution, the long-threatened rain came down in earnest; yet in spite of that the crowd remained.

The Chaplain's Speech.

AFTER a humorous allusion to the weather, he told the crowd the story of "Pomposity Wilks," the custodian of the parish pump at Little Pedlington. It transpired, he said, that the parish waters had been polluted and then used by certain "naughty boys and girls" of the parish, who had used the water to soften the clay wherewith they made mud-pies. Pomposity Wilks, rising to the gravity of the situation, moved at the meeting of the Vestry "That a padlock and chain be provided, and that the pump-handle be fastened down except at certain specified times per diem, so that naughty boys and girls had no further facilities for making vulgar mud-pies." The faithful historian of Little Pedlington thus records the glowing periods of the historic oration of Pomposity Wilks:—"The eye of both Upper and Lower Pedlington are upon us, and woe betide us if we fail in our trust and work to preserve and to conserve the pure waters of our parish from the desecration and misuse of these rude makers of mud-pies. Nay, I go further and say that the eyes of all civilised nations and peoples are upon us, and that mighty and far-reaching revolutions may give point and force to the story of our pusillanimity if we fail to do our duty by preventing the abuse of our virgin waters." (Laughter and applause.) The story of Pomposity Wilks reminded him of a speech recorded of one of their Parish Councillors at its last meeting. Mr. Councillor Aldwinckle, in moving a resolution to secure the support of the Mitcham Parish Council for abolition, made this astounding remark: "The Council, by grant and public subscription, had acquired the right of the fair from the owner, Mrs. Bailey, with a view of getting it abolished. These rights could not be abolished except by an order signed by the Home Secretary. *He thought they were nearly all agreed in England that the present Home Secretary was by no means a strong man, a man not likely to do anything of that kind on his own initiative unless he was forced to or backed up by public opinion.* He therefore asked for the unanimous support of the Council." He ventured to think that Pomposity Wilks' oration paled before this brilliant assault of the valiant councillor of Mitcham. He trusted that the worthy councillor was blessed with a sense of humour, and that he would take it in a Pickwickian sense, when he further committed himself to a little parable set to music in one flat, and entitled

"THE WINKLE AND THE TURTLE."

"Said the little Mitcham 'Winkle,'
As he set his brows a-wrinkle,
'Hurry up,' Mr. Turtle, don't you lag;
Or I, the Pushful Winkle, will teach you many a wrinkle—
Scoot! or I'll smoke you out with 'Mitcham shag.'

"Then the Turtle cast his gaze on't;
His searching eye did blaze on't;
And the Turtle squelched the Winkle with a snort.
Now the moral of my tale is that all Winkles must bewail is,
Never push a Turtle, lest you're caught."

(Laughter and applause.) To come to grips with these would-be masters of the people, these would-be dictators of what they (the people) ought to do, what sheer impudence! What amazing ignorance, this wanton attack on the Home Secretary betrayed! A weak man, indeed! A man without initiative! Waiting to be kicked by the parish of Mitcham. What a grotesque comedy, yet, within it all, a tragedy, that speech contained! (Loud and continued applause.) Mr. Gladstone, the worthy son of a noble sire, bearing an imperishable name, this famous and highly-placed servant of the Crown, waiting in the Home Office for "force" and "initiative" from Mitcham. It was eminently sad, yet they were thankful for a little grace of saving humour. (Applause.) Why, he asked in conclusion, should Mitcham people lose its fair? It was true, doubtless, that a certain section of the people did not enjoy its freedom, its comradeship, its neighbourliness. Well, he fully allowed such people all liberty to "gang ther ain gate," to please their little selves in their own high and intellectual manner. Granting that—and even more than that—why deprive the poor dwellers in Mitcham back slums and its many poorly-paid labourers, the wives and little ones of the annual holiday and pleasure of Mitcham Fair? He appealed to the kindly tolerance, to the deeper and wider Christian charity of these men who needed not a fair to still continue it to their poorer (ay, and even if they would have it thus) their weaker brethren, who still harboured precious memories of the past, and still desire to preserve—under conditions in the future—Mitcham Charter. He seconded with all his heart the resolution before the meeting. (Prolonged applause.)

The resolution was then put from the chair and passed, with great cheering, unanimously. The complimentary votes to the two chairmen were then passed, and the meeting terminated.

Until a late hour the tables for signing the petition against abolition were crowded, and many hundred names were signed.

The petition is as follows:—

To the Right Honourable H. J. Gladstone, His Majesty's First Secretary of State for the Home Department:—

We, the undersigned residents of Mitcham, object to the proposed abolition of the ancient pleasure fair. We regard it as an occasion of local holiday and as affording wholesome open-air amusement for us and our neighbours.

We therefore beg that you will not consent to the abolition of our ancient Fair Rights.

We regret to find that the Conservators of Mitcham Commons have not acceded to your suggestion and the suggestion of the organised Showmen to remove the Fair to a more commodious site under their control. Had this been done we should not have taken this present step in petitioning you in the matter.

EQUESTRIANS IN AMERICA.

Lord George Sanger, the *doyen* of the circus world, sends to us for publication a very sad account of a fatality to well-known English equestrians in America. "I am enclosing you," he writes, "a letter just received from a friend of mine, who was last summer one of Rowland's troupe of equestrians. The company included Mr. and Mrs. Rowland, Swallow, Hickey, Milly Ginnett (daughter of Claude Ginnet), and Miss Davies. They toured with Barnum and Bailey's show last year, but have since joined another company (whose name I cannot at present recall). George and Harry Austin were with the same show last year, and were offered considerable increase in salary to remain, but refused on account of forebodings of luckless times. As I have not seen any reference to the accident, I feel convinced that their many friends would like to know the sad details of the awful fate of the unfortunate Rowland. It adds to the tragedy of the event when we recall that his brother was accidentally drowned whilst making his way to the railway-cars after the performance. A drawbridge having been opened, and the young man running in the dark, fell into the rushing flood below, and his body never recovered. The widowed mother was a Miss Caroline Crockett, one of the first equestrienne leading ladies of her day."

The enclosed letters reads as follows: "I have some bad news to tell you. Poor George Rowland met with a sad and terrible death last week, and was buried yesterday. He was going to the sleeping-car when the performance was over, with a lot more of the performers, when they saw an express train coming on the line they were on, and they stepped off that line on to the next one. At that moment, a train coming the other way hit poor Rowland, killing him on the spot. He had a factured skull, his ribs were broken, his arms broken in several places, and both his legs cut off and his neck broken. What a terrible death for a young man just in his prime, and how sudden! Poor Mrs. Rowland is nearly out of her mind; I feel very sorry for her in her sad trouble. It is said that there were more than Rowland killed at the same time, but I do not know how true it is. They say that a clown had both his legs cut off.—A. HICKEY, Family Theatre, Gloversville, N.Y., June 7, 1907."

We feel quite certain that these doubly sad communications will evoke the most profound sympathy for the bereaved and desolated Rowland family, and we comply with Lord George Sanger's wishes in order that sympathy may immediately go out to those who are now lamenting their beloved ones.

Dronfield Fair.

HERE the chief providers of amusements were Alfred Twigdon, who exhibited gallopers and swings, shooters' stalls, and throwing games by numerous caterers.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, POPLAR.

The Bioscope pictures continue to do excellent business at this well-managed house, where large audiences are the rule at all performances. The well-varied subjects are portrayed on the screen with a vividness that meets with unbounded appreciation, the many interesting and exciting incidents being followed with keen attention. The proceedings are enlivened by a small orchestra which puts in some useful work, and the general-manager, Mr. C. Melville Lurring, is unceasing in his efforts for the comfort of his patrons. This week the films are particularly good, especially the "Launch of the Brighton Lifeboat," "Death of the Iron Horse," with its wealth of detail, and "The Troubadour," who effects wondrous changes with sheets of music and a fan. Humour is strongly presented in "After the Matinée," in which two University Proctors suffer much ignominy; "Unforeseen Bathing," with the disadvantages the fair sex endures when swimming in prohibited waters; "The Bigamist," who is deservedly punished by his eight wives; and "Caught in a Trap," which shows how a gendarme is rendered powerless by two burglars with a simple basket contrivance. Enthusiasm is roused by the adventures of "The Village Witch" and the "Highwayman's Fatal Leap"; while, from an educational point of view, "Scenes at the Zoo" and "Life of a New York Policeman" are extremely instructive. "True to his Trust" is a dramatic episode in the everyday routine of a village priest, and applause is gained by the exhibition of "The Adventures of a Negro King," "The Spring Fairy," "The La Patrie Balloon," and "Pay Day."

THE PICKETS!

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—As secretary and treasurer of a presentation fund for Mr. Leonard Mortimer, subscribed wholly by the ladies and gentlemen of the profession who acted as pickets during the late dispute, I would ask your indulgence to make an explanation to them, as they are no doubt wondering what has become of their subscriptions, my hands having been tied until the declaration of the Arbitrators' award. It was understood that the executive committee of the V.A.F. proposed to give their support to a complimentary dinner to the pickets if withheld until after the award. On writing to the executive committee of the V.A.F. last week asking that body if they intended to subscribe towards the evening of the presentation, I received a reply from the V.A.F. as follows: "*Re* enjoyment of the pickets, I am requested to inform you that the committee cannot accede to your request." I informed Mr. Mortimer of the intention of the pickets, and he expressed his opinion that under the circumstances it had better fall through. As the presentation is in my possession, I would ask the Picket Committee to meet at the Ship Hotel, Kennington-road, on Tuesday next, July 2, at 1 o'clock, to make final arrangements and fully discuss the disappointing and wholly unexpected situation. Thanking you for your indulgence.—Yours truly,
HAL BROUGH, Hon. Sec.

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WANTED, First-class Companies, for DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
July 29, Aug. 12, Oct. 28, Dec. 16, Jan. 20, Feb. 10, 17, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Oct. 14, 21, Nov. 25, Dec. 2, 16, Feb. 3, 24, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER,
Aug. 5, Dec. 2, 9, Feb. 24, March 2, 9, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER,
Oct. 14, 21, Nov. 11, 18, Dec. 9, Jan 27, on
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON,
Aug. 19, Sept. 16, Nov. 11, 18, Dec. 9, Feb. 10, March 2, 9, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD,
Sept. 2, Oct. 7, Dec. 16, Jan. 6, 20, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON,
Dec. 2, 16, Feb. 3, 10, 24, April 6, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER,
Oct. 21, 28, Nov. 11, 18, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON,
Sept. 2, 9, 16, 23, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-Class Companies for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
Sept. 9, 16, 23, Oct. 7, Nov. 4, onwards.
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Sept. 30, Oct. 7, 21, Nov. 4, 11, 25, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY,
Aug. 12, 19, 26, Sept. 2, 9, 16 (three nights only).
E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

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WANTED, for weeks of July 22 and 29,
Really
First-class
Attractions.
Wire,
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WANTED, First-class Attractions Only,
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN,
Sept. 9 and Oct. 21.
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH,
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Apply, FREDK. MOUILLOT,
1, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

BRIDLINGTON SPA THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.
Thoroughly Up-to-date, Re-opens July 29.
Electricity throughout; new scenery; large stage dimensions.
WANTED, First-class Attractions.
Holds £100 at ordinary prices.
Only Vacant Dates,
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Must be the best Attractions on the road.
HENRY HAGUE, General-Manager.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, High-class Attractions, for Aug. 12, 19,
Sept. 2, 9,
and onwards, with exceptions.
Required, Big Attraction for Xmas and New Year's Weeks.
Address,
THOS. SWINTON.

GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
WANTED, First-Class Musical and other London Attractions, Aug. 19, Sept. 9, 23, Oct. 14, Nov. 4; also big Pantomime for Xmas. Address, FRED GRANVILLE, Theatre Royal, Hyde.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for August Bank Holiday, at Court Theatre, Liverpool (after entire re-decoration of Theatre), also at Theatre Royal, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Apply Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR, 24A, Regent-street, S.W.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for July 8, Aug. 5, 12, 19, 26, Sept. 2 and 9.
Apply, Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR, 24A, Regent-street, S.W.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, BRISTOL.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, for Oct. 28.
Musical Play preferred.
Apply, J. M. CHUTE, Bristol.

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.
GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attractions, must be First-Class,
July 29, July 29,
Aug. 5, 12, 19,
and on, with exceptions.
Wire, Wire, Wire.
R. C. BUCHANAN.

KING'S THEATRE, SUNDERLAND.
Joint Managing-Directors, ERNEST STEVENS and R. C. BUCHANAN.
WANTED, through transferring, First-class Attraction,
Aug. 5, Aug. 5.
R. C. BUCHANAN, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

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WANTED, for Aug. 5, Big Attraction for Re-opening of Theatre after alterations; Musical Show preferred; Various Autumn Dates Vacant.
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SANGER'S AMPHITHEATRE.
The Old-established and Popular Theatre.
WANTED, First-class Company,
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WANTED, First-class Drama, for Grand Theatre, Bolton, July 22, share or certainty
Address,
J. F. ELLISTON, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

WANTED, Extra Special Attractions, for Theatre Royal, Bolton, Aug. 19; must be extra, or useless; share or certainty. Address, J. F. ELLISTON, Bolton.

OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON.
WANTED, Aug. 12,
ATHENÆUM THEATRE, LANCASTER,
Vacant Aug. 12.
STANLEY ROGERS, 124, Warwick-road, Carlisle.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
WANTED, Known. — For Vacant Dates (First-class Companies only),
apply, J. RITSON, General-Manager.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies, for Aug. 5, 19, Sept. 23, Oct. 7 and 21. Address, E. B. GOULDEN.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies,

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER,
Vacant Dec. 16, onward, with exceptions.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY,
Vacant July 15, 29, onward, with exceptions.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE,
Vacant Aug. 5, 12, 19, onward, with exceptions.

METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY,
Vacant Aug. 5, 19, 26, onward, with exceptions.

THEATRE ROYAL, BARRY DOCK.
Vacant Sept. 30, Jan. 6, onward, with exceptions.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH,
Vacant July 15, Aug. 5, 12, onward, with exceptions.
(Last three nights of each week).

"SPAN OF LIFE."
Vacant July 22, Sept. 2, 30, onward, with exceptions.

ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

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Lessees and Managers,
MR. and MRS. CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.
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The Only Theatre in the Town Lighted by Electricity.
The Only Theatre in the Town allowed to Advertise on the Electric Cars.
The Theatre which does the Business.
Now in Course of Rebuilding.
The Seating Capacity of each part of the House is being Largely Increased.
The Holding Capacity of the Theatre will be Second to None in the Town.
The Stage will be Capable of any Production Touring, will be able to fly a 36ft. cloth.
The Theatre will Re-open Aug. 5.
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Mr. Norman Macowan, in
"Monsieur Beaucaire,"
"The Little Stranger"
(including Master Edward Garrett),
"A Trip to the Highlands,"
Mr Bannister Howard's No. 1 Company,
"The Eternal City,"
Mr. Walter Maxwell's Co.,
"The Lion and The Mouse" (third visit),
Mr. Charles Cartwright and Co., "In the Bishop's Carriage,"
Mr. Frederick Mouillot's Co., including Miss Decima Moore, in "The Truth,"
and other of the Principal Attractions Touring.
WANTED, Exceptional Attractions, Only vacant dates this year.
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through obliging Bannister Howard, Esq.
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Proprietor, ALBERT SMITH.
One of the Handsomest and Best-equipped Theatres in the Provinces.
Holding Capacity, 3,500.
WANTED, No. 1 Attractions only.
Still Vacant Aug. 19 (Race Week), Musical Attraction preferred; share or certainty; also Nov. 25, Dec. 2, 9, and 16.
Open to Negotiate for Easter Panto., 1908, 2 weeks.
All communications,
JNO. ED. JOWSEY,
Grand Opera House, Middlesbrough.
Telegrams, "Magnet," Middlesbrough.
Telephones, 413, 426, 500.
Silence a Polite Negative.

THEATRE ROYAL, BLYTH.
This week, "The Triumph of Truth"; next week, "DAN THE RAKE."
WANTED, very Strong Attraction, July 15, Miners' Picnic Week; also Nov. 4, 18, through cancelling to oblige Mr. Bannister Howard. Now booking 1908. Good Companies always do splendidly. Bookings include William Mollison in Shakespeare and "Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush" (return), "The Christian" (return), "The Eternal City," Chung Ling Soo (return), "Robinson Crusoe" (return), "Red Riding Hood" (return), Harold Levy's pantomimes (return), "Woman and Wine," "For Her Sake," "Cripple Creek," "A Trip to the Highlands," "The Breed of the Treshams," "Flare Flare," "Claudian," "The New Barmaid," "Her Marriage Vow," &c., &c. Apply, A. C. MOODY, Lessee and Manager.

KING'S THEATRE, WALTON-ON-NAZE.
Lessees and Managers,
Messrs. E. LAZERN and W. J. DAVIES.
WANTED, for three night Seasons, Musical Comedy and Dramatic Companies, Aug. 5, onwards. Apply, with full particulars to above, C/o The Billboard, 8, Rupert-court, Piccadilly-circus, W.

GRAND THEATRE, ABERAVON.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, for August and onwards; nothing too big; electric light; scenery all flown. Apply, MANAGER.

WANTED, Big Attractions, Aug. 5 (re-opening after decorations and electric installation), also Aug. 19. Address, SANTE, Theatre, Radcliffe.

WANTED, First-Class Companies, for Autumn dates, Aug., onwards; good Panto. write in. Apply, HUGH RITCHIE, Theatre, Musselburgh.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLNE, LANCS.
WANTED, Good Attraction, Aug. 12 (Local Holiday Week and opening of Autumn Season), Share or Certainty; also Vacant Sept. 2.
Address, GERALD HARDING.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, Oct. 21, Nov. 25, Feb. 17, only vacant dates.
Address, T. ALLAN EDWARDES.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions, Aug. 5, Jarrow; 12, Spennymoor; July 8 also open Spennymoor. Wire, ROBERTSON, Jarrow.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Sept. 9, Oct. 7, Dec. 2, 16, 30, Jan. 6, 27, March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, and onward.
Apply to JAMES KIERNAN,
Owner and Manager.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
Sole Lessee, JULIAN MALVERN.
WANTED, Good Attractions, July 15, 22, Sept. 23.
Address, CHAS. M. JULIAN, General-Manager.

WANTED, First-class Co., Musical preferred, for the Races and Holiday Week, July 15.
W. E. POTTS, Opera House, Dunfermline.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Attractions, Musical preferred, Aug. 16 (3 nights), 19, 26, Sept. 2, on, with exceptions.
Address, W. E. POTTS.

COMPANIES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions, QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH,
July 29, Aug. 12, 19, 26, Sept. 9.
Playing to more money than many larger towns.
Good Dramatic Attractions, with
Good Printing,
Good Cast,
can
Open Well.
Rely upon a Big Saturday, and be certain of excellent Middle Nights.
Monday, opened to between £20 and £30.
ALBERT THEATRE, BRIGHOUSE,
Musical and High-Class Attractions,
Sept. 2, 16, 23 (?), Oct. 7, 21.
MORTON POWELL, Elephant and Castle Theatre, S.E.

THE HIPPODROME, BROADWAY, SHEERNESS.
WANTED, First-class Companies Only, Musical or Farcical Comedies preferred. Apply, FRED LEIGHTON, General-Manager.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies for two nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. ASHTON, Strand, Barnstaple.

WANTED, Comedy Companies, Touring Scotland, to book Theatre Royal, Inverness, N.B. Vacant dates Sept., onwards. Manager, CAMERON BURGESS.

WANTED, First-Class Pantomime, for nine nights, Xmas.
WADDINGTON, Theatre Royal, York.

WANTED, First-Class Companies only, for Pavilion Theatre, St. Leonards Pier, July 15 and 22, on, with exceptions. Apply, ELVEY THOMAS.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
W. J. COTTON, Proprietor.
Seats 600. Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, share or rent. Sole Booking Agent, SIDNEY HAMILTON, Piccadilly-mansions, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE GIRL WHO TOOK THE WRONG TURNING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres, Nov. 18, Dec. 2.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE SOLDIER'S WEDDING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 23.
Apply,
WALTER MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 2 and 9.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 12, 19, and Dec. 23.
FREDERICK MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 30, Oct. 14, Dec. 23.
FREDERICK MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

FRED MELVILLE'S NEW PRODUCTION.
"HER ROAD TO RUIN."
WANTED, Oct. 28, Nov. 18.
FREDERICK MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 16, Dec. 9, 23, 30.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 30, Nov. 18, 25, Dec. 30.
TOM H. TAYLOR,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Aug. 19, Dec. 23, Jan. 6, 13, Feb. 3, 17.
DOUGLAS BRUCE, 22, Upper Hagley-rd., Birmingham.

"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY."
The most successful Play produced during the year 1906.
WANTED, Sept. 9 and 16, in First-Class Theatres only.
Wire or write,
W. W. KELLY, 8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, Weeks of Sept. 16 and 30,
Wire or write,
W. W. KELLY,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN"
and
"THE OCTOROON."
Full Chorus, Specialities, Powerful Company.
The general verdict was that this is the finest production of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" given in Coventry.—Coventry Mercury.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 5, on. CHARLES HARRINGTON, Theatre Royal, Stockport.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Aug. 12, 19, 26,
Address, J. W. CORDINER,
Osborne Theatre, Manchester.
See Companies' Advertisement, page 2.

Miss DOROTHY CACEY'S CO.
"WHEN WE WERE TWENTY-ONE,"
including
Mr. RIDDELL ROBINSON.
Miss Cacey will shortly produce, by arrangement with Mr. Arthur Law,
"A COUNTRY MOUSE."
WANTED, July 15, 22, and on, with exceptions, also good Theatre for August Bank Holiday. Managers of First-class Theatres only. Wire, FRANK NELSON, Saturday, Theatre Royal, Plymouth; after, Knightstone Pavilion, Weston-super Mare.

MISS MARY NEIL and MR. GEORGE KIRK'S "HER LUCK IN LONDON" CO.
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Big Theatres, Sept. 9, 16, Oct. 7
Communications to GEORGE KIRK,
Theatre Royal, Scarborough.

Mr. WILLIAM A. ARMOUR'S COMPANY,
"THE BEST OF HER SEX."
Splendid scenery by McCulloch, Sheffield.
Magnificent plant of printing by the Best Artists of Allen's, Stafford's, Waddington's, and McCaws.
First-class Company of Recognised Artists, including Miss Dora Price, Mr. John Cecil, Mr. A. G. Polson-Turner, &c.
WANTED, July 22 (follow Opera House, Coventry), July 29, Aug. 5, and onwards with exceptions. WILLIAM A. ARMOUR, to-day, T. R., North Shields; next, Gaiety Theatre, Burnley.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
Continued Success. Third Year.
WANTED, July 8, (Lancs. or Yorks.).
Wire for July 8 and 15. Wire.
July 8 and 15, between Rochdale and Cardiff.
Aug. 19, between Oldham and Preston.
Sept. 16, Oct. 14, Nov. 4.
Wire for July 8 and 15.
FRANK AYRTON,
Theatre Royal, Rochdale.

By arrangement with Mr. George Alexander.
"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST."
"LADY WINDERMERE'S FAN."
By Oscar Wilde.
WANTED, Aug. 5 (Bank Holiday), Aug. 19, Sept. 2.
MONCKTON HOFFE, King's, Glasgow.

HARDIE AND VON LEER'S CO.,
"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."
WANTED, First-Class Theatre, July 8, Aug. 12, 26.
E. P. CLIFT, 110, St. Martin's-lane, W.C.
Wires, "Vagancy, London." Tel., Gerrard 7504.

"THE GRIP OF IRON."
WANTED, Dates in good Theatres, for this great money-maker, which is still breaking records, Sept. 2 and 9 (Midlands), Sept. 30 (South Wales), Oct. 21 (Lancs. or Yorks.), only vacant dates this year; Spring fast filling. E. H. KNIGHT, 7, The Crescent, Barnes, S.W.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Dates for
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
Brilliant and Undoubted Success
at the
Crown Theatre.
Refer Cecil Paget, Esq., Refer.
Fine Cast.
Excellent Production.
Vacant,
July 29, Aug. 5,
Sept. 23, Oct. 21, Nov. 11, 18, on.
MORTON POWELL, Elephant and Castle Theatre, S.E.

"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Enthusiastic Reception at
Theatre Royal, Leeds.
Refer R. Ernest Liston, Esq. Refer.
Magnificent Production.
Brilliant Play.
Strong Cast.
Vacant,
July 29 (?), Sept. 23, Oct. 21, Nov. 25.
MORTON POWELL, Elephant and Castle Theatre, S.E.

"HONOUR THY FATHER."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Playing to Excellent Business everywhere.
Strong Company.
Vacant,
July 29 (North), Aug. 12, Sept. 9, 23, 30, Oct. 7.
MORTON POWELL, Elephant and Castle Theatre, S.E.

"GREED OF GOLD.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Splendid Production.
Fine Cast.
Oct. 7, 14, 28, Nov. 4, 11, Dec. 23.
MORTON POWELL, Elephant and Castle Theatre, S.E.

"THE LITTLE OUTCAST."
WANTED, Dates for
This Honest Homely Play.
A Fine Story,
Well Told.
Acted by a Strong Company.
Mounted in a Lavish Manner.
Vacant,
Oct. 14, 21, 28, on, with exceptions.
MORTON POWELL, Elephant and Castle Theatre, S.E.

MRS. MORTON POWELL
in
a New Play,
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Oct. 21, 28, Nov. 11, 25.
MORTON POWELL, Elephant and Castle Theatre, S.E.

"SAVED FROM THE SEA."
By Arthur Shirley.
Everything carried.

Bookings include Prince's, Portsmouth; Alex., Hull; Court, Warrington; Rot., Liverpool; Col., Oldham; Alex., Sheffield; Met., Devonport; Alex., Birmingham.
WANTED, Aug. 19, Sept. 23, Oct. 14, Nov. 4, 18, Xmas Week,
and Spring, 1908, with various exceptions.
Apply, SAMUEL JAMES,
Warwick House, 8, Warwick Court,
Gray's Inn, W.C.

"THE LOVE THAT LASTS FOR EVER."
By Edward Thane.
WANTED, Aug. 26, Sept. 16, Oct. 7, 23,
Nov. 4, 18, Xmas Week.
Clear Stage only required.
Apply,
SAMUEL JAMES,
as above.

FRED ACTON AND HARRY C. NASH'S TOUR.
"BETWEEN THE LIGHTS."
WANTED, for this Enormous Attraction, Sept. 30 (through obliging Mr. Stanley Rogers), North; also Nov. 11 (North); now booking Spring. Just finished fifteen weeks' Tour at Grand Theatre, Nottingham. This is acknowledged by Managers, Press, and Public to be one of the best mounted Plays travelling. Refer C. P. Cooke, Esq., John Hart, Esq., Tom Sherwood, Esq., James Alexander, Esq., Milton Bode, Esq., Morton Powell, Esq. Vacant Sept. 30, Nov. 11, and now booking Spring. All communications to
FRED ACTON, 4, Claypole-road, Nottingham.

WILLIAM MOLLISON'S SHAKESPEAREAN TOUR.
WANTED, Nov. 4, 25, Dec. 2, 9, 23, and 30, Jan. 6, 13 (North), Feb. 3 (between Aberdeen and Glasgow), Feb. 24, April 6 (to follow Newcastle), May 18 (to follow Prince's, Bristol). Address, SIDNEY COOPER, Lyceum, Newport, Mon.

SHINTON AND GREENWOOD'S TOUR.
"THE PRICE OF HER SOUL,"
by Wm. Hibbert.
WANTED, Aug. 19 (?), Sept. 2, 9, Oct. 1,
and on, with exceptions.
"THE LOVE OF A LIFE,"
by Eugene Gotère.
See notice of production in this issue.
Re vacant dates,
Address,
JOHN B. SHINTON,
Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, Managers, with Open Dates, for High-class Pantomime that no Expense in Production or Artists is pared on, are requested to communicate with J. F. ELLISTON, Bolton.

"THE MASTER CRIMINAL."
WANTED, good Theatres, July 8, 29, Aug. 12, 19, Sept. 16.
HENRY L. OSMOND, Theatre Royal, Merthyr.

"THE PLUCKY NIPPER."
WANTED, July 22 (North), also Aug. 5, 12 (North), to follow Metropole, Glasgow. Wire for July 22, Aug. 5. EDWARD SURREY, 123, Rock-street, Oldham.

MESSRS. ELLIMAN'S ENTERPRISES.
"A HEART'S DESIRE."
WANTED, July 15 (?) (to follow West London Theatre), July 22 (?) (to precede Preston), Aug. 26, and several Autumn dates. Thanks to following Managers for return Contracts: H. Darnley, Esq., Wm. Eastwood, Esq., J. E. Culcen, Esq. Booked by every Manager who has seen the piece. Wire for July 15, 22, to G. M. HURST, Prince's Blackburn. Monday, P. O. W., Salford.

H. HAMILTON STEWART'S COS.
WANTED, First-class Theatres,
"BOOTLES' BABY,"
June 11 (3 nights, to follow Harrogate), July 15.
"SHERLOCK HOLMES,"
A few Autumn Dates Vacant.
WALTER J. BAYLISS, Theatre Royal, Hull.

"HER LOST SELF."
MISS FRANCES DELAVAL'S CO.
WANTED, Aug. 19, Sept. 2, Dec. 30.
23, Cromwell-road, Whitstable.

WANTED, July 15, between Spa, Scarboro', and T. R., Yarmouth, for "The Superior Miss Pellender." WM. FRASER-BRUNNER, wire, O. H., Middlesbrough. Write, Harrogate.

Miss EMMA LITCHFIELD'S COMPANY,
"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR."
WANTED, July 8 (wire), Aug. 12, on, with exceptions, for above Success.
Twelve in Company, and Trained Horse Toured.
STUART CLEVELAND, Theatre Royal, S. Shields.

The New Comic Opera,
"THE YOUNG LIEUTENANT."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Aug. 26, Sept. 2, 23, and onwards, with exceptions. Full West-End Cast and Operatic Chorus.
Mrs. ANN HUGHES,
Selattyn, 38, Thurleigh-road, Balham, S.W.

Mr. NORMAN V. NORMAN'S TOURS.
Miss Gladys Unger's Successful Play,
"MR. SHERIDAN"
(from the Garrick Theatre),
By arrangement with Arthur Bourchier, Esq.
WANTED, following Dates,
July 8, Sept. 2, Oct. 21, Nov. 4 and 18.
See Companies' Column.
Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, W.C.

"LIFE" and "EAST LYNNE."
WANTED, July 6 and 22, Splendid Co., Musical Specialities. "WANTED BY THE POLICE." Vacant Aug. 5, Sept. 9 and 16. HERBERT BARRS, Clarence Theatre, Pontypridd.

KATE CLINTON AND COMPANY.
"JEANNIE DEANS," "GREEN BUSHES,"
"EAST LYNNE," "LEAH," &c.
WANTED, July 1, 8, 15, onwards. Wire,
EDMUND TEARLE, Marlborough Theatre, N.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE PET OF THE EMBASSY."
"THE PET OF THE EMBASSY."
"THE PET OF THE EMBASSY."
"THE PET OF THE EMBASSY."
"THE PET OF THE EMBASSY."
The Latest Great Successful Musical Comedy.
Special New Scenery. Gorgeous Costumes.
Special New Printing by Allen's.
Big Cast, including
Miss Ethel Dunford.
Full London Operatic Chorus.
Additional new numbers by the Composer,
Mr. Albert E. Wilson.
WANTED, for this Great Attraction, owing to the Tour starting six weeks earlier,
AUG. 12, AUG. 12, AUG. 12,
AUG. 12, AUG. 12, AUG. 12,
AUG. 12, AUG. 12, AUG. 12,
to follow Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton, and precede Opera House, Leicester; also Aug. 26, Aug. 26, and Sept. 29, and on, with exceptions.
All communications re dates, &c.,
HAMILTON BAINES,
Caversham-road, Reading.

ALFRED B. CROSS' TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN,"
"THE MANXMAN,"
WANTED, Aug. 5 and 12,
also Sept. 9, Oct. 7, and few later.
"DIVORCED,"
a New Powerful Domestic Drama; also
"DAVID GARRICK" (a huge success in Bolton).
July 1, Junction Theatre, Manchester.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN."
WANTED, July 15, Aug. 5 and 26,
Various, on.
A Delightful Version. Perfect cast. Exquisite costumes. New scenery. Beautiful printing.
Powerful massive organ.
Crowded with Mystic and Electric Effects.
Magnificent Holiday Attraction.
Crammed T. R., Sheffield, every night Whit Week.
Refer Mr. John Hart.
Played to Big Business at Merthyr last week.
Refer Mr. Albert Jackson.
We fill Circle and Stalls at all Theatres visited.
Wire or write, LOIE ESMOND,
to-day and next week, Grand Theatre, Hull.

WANTED, for Edmund Tearle's Tour, July 1, 8, 15, onwards.
Wire, Marlborough Theatre, N.

MR. THOMAS SIDNEY'S COMPANY,
in "THE MARRIAGE OF KITTY."
WANTED, Dates.—Mr. Sidney is desirous of filling Aug. 26 and all Sept.
Address, SIDNEY, Opera House, Blackpool.

FRANK J. PITT and CHARLES HALLING'S CO.
"£1,000 REWARD."
"£1,000 REWARD."
WANTED, for this Successful Attraction, Sept. 30, Oct. 7,
Nov. 4, 25, Dec. 16,
Dec. 23, 30.
Now Booking Spring and Autumn, 1908.
July 1, West London Theatre.

A. J. HARDING and CHARLES R. HANN.
AUTUMN AND SPRING TOUR OF
FRANK DIX'S
"DELIVERED FROM EVIL,"
A Social Drama, in Four Acts.
New Scenery and Effects; Printing by David Allen and Sons, Ltd.
WANTED, Dates, Aug. 5 and on, with exceptions. A. J. HARDING,
Bedford Club, Bedford-street, W.C.

WANTED, for "The Woman Pays,"
Sept. 9, Oct. 7, 21, and on.
F. M. THORNE, Grand Theatre, Newcastle.

"LA POUPEE."
"LA POUPEE."
"LA POUPEE."
WANTED, unexpectedly Vacant, Sept. 2 and 9, also few later Dates.
HERBERT RALLAND, Gaiety Theatre, Douglas.

MR. AND MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.
"A SISTER'S SIN."
WANTED, July 29, Sept. 2 and 16,
for this Romantic Play.
"A SOLDIER'S HONOUR."
All dates this year filled. F. G. KIMBERLEY,
Vauxhall, The Scotlands, Wolverhampton.

"HOME, SWEET HOME,"
by Frank Lindo.
Played by own Company nearly 1,000 times.
Over twenty return dates this year.
Mr. FRANK LINDO. Miss MARION WAKEFORD.
WANTED, Theatres, only vacant dates this year, July 22 (between Liverpool and Leeds), Oct. 28, Nov. 18 and 25; fast booking 1908.
Address,
FRANK LINDO, T. R., Rotherham; next, Chesterfield.

Third Year of Tour.
The Premier Shakespearean Company.
ALLAN WILKIE.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Sept. 16, 30, Nov. 4, Feb. 24, March 2, 23, 30, April 6, 20, Aug. 3, 1908, onwards, with exceptions.
Address,
HAROLD NUTTALL,
Londesboro' Theatre, Scarborough.

Miss TRIXIE TOOLE'S CO.
"THE GIRL FROM CHICAGO."
WANTED, Aug. 19 (North), Sept. 16, near Manchester, Oct. 21 (North), and various on.
Address, 35, Binfield-road, Clapham, S.W.

MISS BONWIN CARLTON'S COMPANY,
"THE OLD, OLD STORY."
WANTED, for this Magnificent Production, all specially cut Printing, by Allen and Sons; clear Stage only required. Wanted, Aug. 5, 12, Sept. 9, 30. EDWARD SURREY, 133, Rock-st., Oldham.

WYBERT CLIVE'S CO., "THE BRANDED WOMAN." The most successful Drama Touring. Refer this week, Hippo., Mansfield.
WANTED, Aug. 5, 26, Sept. 2, and on, with exceptions. WALTER STEELE, Prince's T., Portsmouth.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Sept. 2, 9, Oct. 21, 28, Xmas.
FRED BULMER, c/o "The Era" (Vacation Address).

WANTED, for "A Snug Little Kingdom," July 18 (3 nights), to follow Worthing, precede Dover. JAY, 10, Jermyn-street.

LONDON AND PROVINCIAL PANTOMIMES CO.
"FAIR ONE WITH THE GOLDEN LOCKS."
WANTED, First-class Theatres,
Xmas week and Feb. 3 and 17.
STANLEY ROGERS, 124, Warwick-road, Carlisle.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, Sept. 16, 23, and 30, Scotland, Oct. 7, (North), Nov. 4 and 11 (Midlands).
DICKIE CLARE, Leckbarrow Cottage,
Greenodd, near Ulverstone, Lancs.

THE NATIVE CHOIR FROM JAMAICA,
all escaped from the terrible earthquake, have a few Vacant Dates for their Unique and Really Charming Entertainment.
Record business at West End Pier, Morecambe, last week.
WANTED, Aug. 12 and 26, Sept. 16, and on, with exceptions.
The Jamaicans have appeared before Lord Elgin (Colonial Secretary), Lord and Lady Derby, Earl Roberts, Lord Brassey, and Sir Alfred Jones, and caused a furore. Twelve performers. Whole Entertainment, and Novel Sunday Concerts if desired. Three changes of costume. Excellent lithos., &c. Booked at First-class Theatres, Halls, and Pavilions all over the Kingdom. Return dates in nearly every instance. This week, North Pier, Blackpool; next, Pier Pavilion, Ryde.
Apply for booklet, terms, &c., Managers,
Messrs. H. E. JONES and A. DOUGLASS,
21, Water-street, Liverpool.
Telephones, 5,650 and 2,449 Central.
Wires, "Motherland, Liverpool."

WANTED, Theatres, Halls, Pavilions by the Sea, on Share or Rental; must hold good money, July, Aug., Sept., for First-Class Variety Company and Bioscope, latest Films, North Circuit. Apply, CLARENCE SYDNEY, Manager, Post Office, Ashington, Northumberland.

THEATRES WANTED.

WILLIAM HOLLES and NANNIE GOLDMAN'S CO., "THE STEPMOTHER,"
by Arthur Shirley.
WANTED, Aug. 26.
Wire, WILLIAM HOLLES,
11, Newport-house, Great Newport-street, W.C.

Mr. RUSSELL ROSSE'S TOURS.
WANTED, July 15, between Dublin and Glasgow, and Aug. 5 and 12, to follow Edinburgh. Wire, RUSSELL ROSSE, Pavilion, Kingstown.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for Autumn Tours, Musical Comedy, Principal Baritone, Tenor Choristers, First-Class Prima Donna; also for London Pantomime, Artists in all Lines. Apply, C. ST. JOHN DENTON, 34, Maiden-lane, Strand.

WANTED, for Musical Comedy and Light Opera, Town and Tour, Principal Artists in all Lines; also Chorus Ladies and Gentlemen; the latter must be young, of good appearance, and good voices. Send particulars at once to KELSON TRUEMAN, Regent House, 233a, Regent-street, W.

ARTHUR JEFFERSON'S SKETCHES.
"HER CONVICT LOVER."
WANTED, Gentlemen, Juvenile Lead, Responsible, Carpenter and Baggage (both to play small parts). Rehearse week July 15, Camberwell, open (Palace, Camberwell) 22nd. Write, enclosing photo., stating age, height, terms, and recent refs., A. J., T. R., North Shields.

WANTED, for Musical Comedy, Autumn Tour, a Principal Singing Comedian (refined Low Comedy); a Comedienne of the Louie Freear type, sing and dance; a Character Actor, for Army officer, with powerful baritone voice; a Singing Juvenile Gentleman, tall, smart appearance; Strong Tenor or Light Baritone; an Attractive Young Lady Vocalist, well-trained powerful soprano voice essential; several Lady and Gentlemen Choristers, tall, smart appearance, with strong, well-trained voices imperative. Address, with photo., reference, age, height, complexion, voice, terms, to Box 5022, "Era" Office.

MRS. BANDMANN-PALMER'S TOUR.
WANTED, for Autumn, Ladies and Gentlemen for several vacancies in above Répertoire Company, also Little Girl, to train for Stage. References, height, lowest terms, photos., with stamped directed envelopes for return of same. Mrs. BANDMANN-PALMER, 36, Gloucester-road, Kew, Surrey. No interviews except by appointment.

WANTED, for Autumn Tour of "The Woman Pays," Artists in Various Lines. Age, height, refs., and photos. to F. M. THORNE, Grand T., Newcastle.

WANTED, Several Artists, to complete Cast for Special Week, July 8. Address,
C. M. JULIAN, Royalty, Morecambe.

"BETWEEN THE LIGHTS."
WANTED, Artists, with exceptions, for above Autumn Tour. Photos., references, and terms, to FRED ACTON, 4, Claypole-rd., Nottingham.

"A WORTHLESS WOMAN,"
New Play by Henry L. Osmond.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for Autumn. Lowest terms and last two references,
HENRY L. OSMOND, Theatre Royal, Merthyr.

WANTED, Heavy Lady (Adventuress type), for Vesta le Clere, "The Girl Who Took the Wrong Turning," fit-up tour; must dress well. Also Leading Man for Strathmere (Military), "Her Love Against the World." Full particulars, photos., HENRY CHATTELL, Watford.

WANTED, Lady, to play small but important part in new Sketch, being shortly produced by well-known entertainer; substantial premium required, or applicant could invest.
Apply, stating amount at disposal,
Box 5,039, "The Era."

WANTED, Young Actress capable of playing strong Old Woman and Comedy in Shakespearean and Modern Répertoire; must have had Shakespearean experience, or useless. State lowest terms, refs., and photos. (essential), ALLAN WILKIE, Londesborough Theatre, Scarborough.

LINGFORD CARSON REPERTOIRE CO.
WANTED, First-class Juvenile Lady and Gent. (joint preferred); capable of Pathos and Light Comedy. Photos. (essential), refs. (applied for). Age, height, lowest terms, &c., to CHARLES DRAYCOTT, to-day, T. R., Birkenhead; next, Alex. T., Hull.

MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.
WANTED, Juvenile Gentleman for Captain Temple, in "Soldier's Honour," send absolute lowest terms, full measurements, refs., long tour; also vacancy for Aristocratic Old Man. F. G. KIMBERLEY, The Scotlands, Wolverhampton. Rehearse July 29.

WANTED, for "The Private Secretary" Tour, commencing Aug. 5, Gentlemen for Cattermole (to Stage-Manage), Gibson, Douglas, Manager and Agent, used to Fit-up Towns, Lady Pianist, to understudy, Carpenter, and Fit-up Man. Age, height, references, lowest terms, photos.,
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, a First-Class Robust Actor, for Colonel Greystone, in Walter Howard's latest play, "Second to None," rehearse for long tour July 22. Full particulars, age, exact height, references, and measurements, to T. E. WARD, c/o 31, St. Nicholas-road, Brighton.

WANTED, Autumn Tour, Character Comedian, Jew, "Under Two Flags." State terms, height, references. MARK BLOW, 6, Highcliffe-villas, Herne Bay.

WANTED, Strong Character Comedian, Open August Bank Holiday; long engagement to good man; London. Photo., age, height, refs., lowest terms, LEONARD MORTIMER, "Highbury," 162, Clapham-road, S.W. Letters only.

WANTED, Short Comedian and Chambermaid, must be First-class Artists, sing and dance preferred; long tour to clever, reliable people.
HENRY L. OSMOND, Theatre Royal, Merthyr.

WANTED, a good, useful couple for Répertoire, Drama, Concert Turns preferred. Terms, &c., to JOHN B. TULLY, Post Office, Port Stewart, Co. Antrim.

WANTED, Ladies and Gentlemen wishing to enter Theatrical and Music Hall Profession, splendid chance, everything provided, many pupils are now holding prominent positions at West End Theatres and Music Halls. Terms can be arranged to suit pupils, payable by lesson or term.
Write for appointment, enclosing stamped addressed envelope, to
MANAGER,
West End Theatrical and Musical Academy,
44, Cranbourn-street, Leicester-square, W.

WANTED, a good Concert Party, for Goodwood Week, July 21, able to give a Sunday Show. BENSON, Pier Pavilion, Bognor.

WANTED, Known, the Carl Rosa Opera Co. can receive applications for extra Choristers for season at Covent Garden, commencing Dec. 26. Apply any Friday at 1 o'clock, 14a, Wrotham-road, Camden Town, N.W.

WANTED, immediately, good Sopranos, Contralto, Tenors, and Basses. Apply personally only, before 1, F. DARRELL and Co., 415, Strand (opposite Tivoli).

WANTED, Chorus Ladies, for Musical Comedy, Pantomime, &c., experience not necessary. Write for appointment, stamped envelope, West End Academy, 44, Cranbourn-street, W.C.

WANTED, Choristers (male), about 5ft., who can play Side Drum. Apply by letter, T. C. WRAY, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue.

WANTED, Soprano or Contralto, also Tenor (no Amateurs). Versatility and Musical Répertoire absolutely essential. Audition Tuesday; rehearse Wednesday, open following Wednesday. Write, lowest terms, seven performances weekly, Wandering Players, Bedfordbury, chambers, Strand.

H. and F. POOLE'S MYRIORAMA.
WANTED, to commence Aug. 5, at Devonport, for long Tour, Lady Soprano.
Refs., terms, and particulars to
CHARLES POOLE, 9, Reform-street, Peterboro'.

WANTED, excellent Contralto, for High-Class Concert Party, sight reader. Call, with song, write first, PITMAN, 3, Gunnersbury-mansions,

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, young Robust Tenor, long engagement. Terms, experience, &c., to CHARLES DARE, Minstrels, Douglas Head, Isle of Man.

WANTED, Smart Lady Dancers. Apply, 3, Percy-street, Tottenham Court-road, between 2 and 3 o'clock, Sat., Monday, and Tuesday.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, Chambermaids, Responsibles; sing and dance if required; young, experienced; just concluded stock. ROSE MONTEFIORE, 6, Canada-road, Deal.

WANTED, Vivacious Soubrette, to join well-known Comedian, in Comedy Sketches, for Halls. Age, height, refs., imperative, Box 5,036, "The Era."

WANTED, July 1 and on, by Miss Gabrielle Hope, Classical and Trick Pianist, humorous Vocalist at Piano; with Phil Ray's Mascottes, Kingston. 25, High-road, Streatham.

WANTED, Known, Mr. William D. Vincent, Tenor, at Liberty, Concerts, &c., Town or Seaside. 167, Tachbrook-street, Belgrave-road, S.W.

WANTED, Engagements for Concerts, &c., by Reciter of Attractive Selections, some with music. Box 5,024, "The Era."

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Pantomime Artists in all Lines, and Chorus for Pantomime. Write full particulars to KELSON TRUEMAN, Regent House, 233a, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, Artists Disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas to send photos, terms, and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 35, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, for Pantomime, 100 Chorus and Show Ladies. Address, with photos. and references, to E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, Pantomime Chorus and Show Ladies. Send photograph, age, height, and other measurements, lowest salary. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, Star Artist,
for Dame,
for First-Class Provincial Pantomime.
Address,
Box 5,028, "The Era."

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Scenic Artists, Theatre Managers, &c., to write for Leete's Catalogue of colours, varnishes, painting brushes, and every requisite for scene painting and theatre decoration. The fullest range of colours in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, First-Class Scenic Artist. Address, with reference and lowest Summer terms, to G. M. BRIDGES, King's Lynn.

WANTED, New Pavilion, Abertillery, Scenic Artist, own brushes. Terms and full particulars, E. PRYCE, Manager.

WANTED, for a few weeks, Smart Scenic Artist, with own tools. Apply, WORSWICK, Hippodrome, Wigan.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Scenery Contracts, Productions. Our Paint Frames, 40 by 24; Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. FRED WILKINS and BRO., LTD., 54, Whitechapel, Liverpool. Telegrams "Theatrical."

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE,
CARLISLE.
WANTED, Known, Scenery Made, Painted, and Repaired. First-class Scenic Artist.
Magnificent paint-frame; spacious carpenter's shop
Estimates free on application to
THOS. COURTICE, H. M. T., Carlisle.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, Effective and Artistic Work and good Joinery. Prices moderate. Large Studio and Workshop. CHARLES SAYER, Scenic Artist, 2, Clarendon-road, Croydon.

WANTED, Known, that Sidney Beltram's arrangements are complete till end of July; after at Liberty for Contracts or Salary Engagement. Letters, c/o Waterloo Hotel, Liverpool.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery of every description, good workmanship, reasonable prices. J. TURNER, Scenic Artist, 67, Bonsall-st., Manchester.

WANTED, Contracts for High-Class Scenery, at Lowest Prices. Carlyle Scenic Studio, W. B. ROBINSON, 170, King's-road, S.W.

WANTED, Travellers to Know. Alfred Smith, jun., Artist, Figure, Animal, Landscapes, and Flowers, writing and decorations. 66, Stanbury-road, Peckham, S.E.

MISCELLANEOUS.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, Acting-Manager, energetic and experienced, to open in few weeks' time. Address, with lowest terms, height, age, and photograph, to R. C. BUCHANAN, Grand Theatre, Glasgow. Telegraphic address, "Bookings, Glasgow."

WANTED, a good, reliable Agent, by Miss Sylvia Bond, the American Soprano and Descriptive Vocalist; entire new turn, Manchester or District preferred. Address, 270, Honeywell-lane, Oldham.

WANTED, good Practical Electrician. Last two references required, which will be enquired into. Apply, FRED KARNO,
28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell.

WANTED, good Electrician, one accustomed to Special Lighting Effects. Address, RAYMOND, 121, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Wanted, Billposter,
to take charge of
Branch Office.
Apply,
WOOLLEY'S, 23, Old Sneddon-street, Paisley.

WANTED, Steady, Reliable Bill-poster. State references and wages required.
BILL-POSTING Co., Pinfold-street, Sheffield.

WANTED, immediately, smart, reliable Window Biller, travel with Agent and attend to pony. State lowest terms in first letter; inexperienced hands save stamps.
Will Weaver wire or write.
SCOTT, 12, Charles-place, Hotwells, Bristol.

WANTED, experienced Cellar-man and Bar Manager, for Suburban Theatre; also one for Provinces. References to Box 5,027, "The Era."

WANTED, Ladies who can Sing and Dance well, for Troupe; only the best need apply. Box 5,001, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by W. C. Burns; 20 years' Practical Management, Theatres, Circuses, Varieties, &c.; road, rail, resident; successful, up-to-date methods; life total abstainer; unique refs. 15, Charlotte-street, South Shields.

WANTED, Known, as Resident-Manager, Secretary, or Position of Trust; thorough business capabilities; methodical and energetic; desired by Frederick E. Philpott, late proprietor and general-manager, on tour, "The Girl from Japan." Advance for the "Private Secretary," &c., &c. "Littlewold," Broadstairs. Refer most managers.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, H. Seymour, twelve years Stage-Manager, Chief Assistant for Sandow; travelled all over the world; speaks English, French, and German. 132, Kennington-road.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Management of Theatre, Music Hall, Pier Pavilion, &c.; large or small; experienced. All details, F. LEWIS, 36, Brunswick-street, Horwich.

WANTED, Engagement as Advance Manager or Bill Inspector; long experience, highest references, summer terms. AGENT, 9, Auckland-road, Kingston.

WANTED, by competent Electrician, used to all kinds of Theatre work, at Liberty. PARKER, 10, Lismore-circus, Gospel Oak, London.

WANTED, by Electrician, Engagement; not afraid of hard work; abstainer. WOODHAMS, 2, Hamilton Lodge, Upper Hamilton-rd., Brighton.

WANTED, Known, Arthur Warwick, Variety Agent, Bax-road, Manchester, has good Handy Man he can recommend; age 26, height 5ft. 5in.; good appearance.

WANTED, Known, Wardrobe Mistress, Disengaged, thoroughly experienced; can cut, make, and renovate; good reference. Address, 8, 37, Spains-rd., Fartown, Huddersfield.

WANTED, Seaside Season, Lady Machinist, to work names on Handkerchiefs. Address, FOWLER, Revolving Tower, Great Yarmouth.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

MILTON BODE'S COMPANIES.
WANTED, First-class Musical Conductor, for "Chinese Honeymoon," to rehearse July 15, at Leicester. Address, with terms and references, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

PALACE OF VARIETIES, PORTH.
WANTED, for the above, Musical-Director (Violin), to open July 8; permanency to the right man; must be used to Variety Business (twice nightly). Age, refs., and lowest terms to
W. BYNORTH.

WANTED, Two Musical Directors, for Variety Houses in Metropolis, age 25 to 30. Send, stating experience and qualifications, also photo. if possible, to Box 5,040, "The Era."

WANTED, smart Conductor (Pianist), capable writing voice parts and training in four-part harmony, for Sketch. Box 5,049, "The Era."

WANTED, Musical Conductor,
for No. 1 Tour of "Florodora."
Apply, DARRELL and Co., 415, Strand.

H. and F. POOLE'S MYRIORAMA.
WANTED, to commence Aug. 5, at Devonport, First Violin (Conductor), must have a good library; also Violin, Flute, and Piccolo, Solo Cornet; all must assist fittings when travelling (conductor excepted), also wear evening dress; long and comfortable engagement. Lowest terms to CHARLES POOLE, 9, Reform-street, Peterborough.

WANTED, First Violinist, for Happy Valley Minstrels; must black up, and used to the business. Letters to W. J. CHURCHILL, Llandudno.

WANTED, to open July 8, for Hippodrome, Hastings, good First Violin, Cornet, and Double Drummer, with effects. Age and references to CONDUCTOR, Seacroft, Boscobel-road, St. Leonards.

WANTED, Reliable Violinist (Lady), capable of leading Band, Season. Write or wire only, CONDUCTOR, 24, Anley-road, West Kensington Park.

WANTED, Good First Cornet,
to open Monday, July 8,
C. MEEK, Manager,
Queen's Park Hippodrome, Manchester.

WANTED, good Solo Cornet, for Circus, Tenting, terms 32s. 6d., open July 8; abstainer preferred. Apply, COOK, Circus, Monday, Exmouth; Tuesday, Budleigh Salterton.

WANTED, at once, good useful Cornet and Clarionet, permanent, shares. Ellis please write. PHILLIPS, Town Band, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, to complete Town Band, Pitching, Sheerness, Kent, Cornet, Second Violin, and Double Bass; permit. Terms, shares. DOUGLAS, 34, James-street, Sheerness.

YARMOUTH HIPPODROME.
WANTED, to open Monday next, July 1, good Double Bass; sober. Wire, TIDSWELL, Conductor, Hippodrome, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, to rehearse immediately, First-class Bass or Baritone, capable of Concertede; young and refined. WILMOTT FOWLER, Marine Pagoda, West Kirby, Cheshire.

WANTED, for Season, thoroughly experienced Double Bass, used to Variety. Age and absolute terms to CHARLES DARE, Minstrels, Douglas Head, Isle of Man.

WANTED, commencing July 15, Burnham (Somerset), good Tenor, Trombone; experienced, Military Journals; six hours daily, no Sunday; Drums write to J. WOODS, 81, Commercial-road, Grantham.

WANTED, good Trombone Player,
used to Circus Business.
Carlow, July 1;
Tullow, July 2.

WANTED, for Duffy's Circus, Touring Ireland, Trombone and Euphonium; join at once. Monday, Woodford; Tuesday, Portumna, Co. Galway.

WANTED, First-Class Trombone Player,
Address,
MILTON BODE, Theatre, Chester.

WANTED, First-Class London Euphonium, London, twice week-day, once Sunday. State age, late regiment, refs.
Box 5,043, "The Era."

WANTED, First-class Euphonium or Baritone Player, for Musical Show; young, and of good appearance. Box 5,051, "The Era."

ROYAL COURT THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
Managing-Director, Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR.
WANTED, competent Oboe Player, to commence Monday, Aug. 5, 1907. Apply, by letter only, to J. O SHEPHERD, Musical-Director. Send references.

WANTED, Flute, Clarionet, Trombone, 'Cello, for High-class Concert Work, Seaside season. Write SMITH, 565, Chester-rd., Old Trafford, Manchester.

WANTED, Piano, Violin, 'Cello, and Clarionet, for Australian Liner,
Sailing July 12.
BANDMASTER,
14, Brook-road,
St. Margaret's, E. Twickenham.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE ASYLUM,
FULBOURN, NEAR CAMBRIDGE.
Male Attendant
WANTED, Pianist or Euphonium Player preferred. Apply, stating age and height, and enclosing copies of testimonials, to the SUPERINTENDENT, at the Asylum.

WANTED, good Orchestral Pianist (Lady); must be able to sing Comic Songs. Apply to INTERNATIONAL BUREAU FOR ORCHESTRAS, 97, New Bond-street, W.

WANTED, First-class Accompanist, must read at Sight; also Petite Speciality Dancer, and really Funny Humorist; all must have excellent education and appearance, for High-class Party. Fully booked long tour; established three years. POPE, 45, New York-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Young Lady Pianist, good appearance, to take charge of small Music Store. State age, terms, and photo., to CHARLES DARE, Douglas Head, Isle of Man.

WANTED, Drummer, to open July 15, must have Tympanies and Effects; used to Variety business; evening dress; permanency if suitable. Lowest terms and references, T. A. EDWARDES, Grand Theatre, Derby.

WANTED, at Once, by the Weston-super-Mare Town Band, good Double Drummer, able to read at sight, young man preferred. Terms, 30s. per week. W. PFAFF, Bandmaster.

WANTED, Double Drummer, to open July 8. Terms and references to
HENRY BOWMAN, Amphitheatre, Ramsgate.

WANTED, for Rhyl Municipal Band, until end of September, Double Drummer, E Flat Bombardon, Euphonium, Saxophone, French Horn, Solo Cornet, Solo Clarionet, Flute and Piccolo. BEN JULIEN, Bandmaster, Rhyl, N. Wales.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Lady Double Drummer, with effects, well up in Variety business; one that could double with another instrument preferred. T. C. RAWES, Victoria Theatre, Stanley, Durham.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Bandsmen, String and Wind,
also Pianists and Buglers,
for First-Class Ocean Liners.

Apply,
BANDMASTER,
3, Fenchurch-street, E.C.

WANTED, at once, Instrumentalist, Seaside (South), Ball Room and Variety. State age, refs., lowest terms, CONDUCTOR, Care of Post Office, Bognor, Sussex.

WANTED, Lady Musicians, all Instruments, able to accept Long Engagements abroad, to send lowest terms, stating when able to join. Those not known to me enclose photo., references, particulars of experience. Offers only entertained from good Artists. HUNT, Wiener Café Restaurant, Fissithaler, Utrecht, Holland.

WANTED, First-class Musicians (String Players and Pianists), for Atlantic Liners; Musical Duties only. State age, experience, and references to Mr. C. W. BLACK, 19, Castle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

FROM A MUSICIAN:—
To the Manager of "The Era" Advert. Dept.,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street,, W.C.
"Re Advertisement
"'WANTED, ENGAGEMENT BY CORNET.'
"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, "A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

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"Re Advertisement, 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.'
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies, and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster,
"Littlehampton."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

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WANTED, by Bandmaster, shortly retiring on pension, appointment to Volunteer Band, School, or other similar post; thoroughly experienced in Orchestral work and Arranging; capable Violinist; good testimonials and references. Address, BANDMASTER, Gazette Office, Ealing.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by Young Composer-Conductor (Violinist), large up-to-date library; excellent testimonials. EUGENE ST. ELMO, 22, Knowle-road Brixton.

WANTED, Engagement, Town or Country, by experienced Lady Leader, used to leading small Orchestras. Apply,
Box 5,047, "The Era."

WANTED, by Good Violinist, Engagement, as Leader in Variety Theatre or other Business; experienced and reliable. J. CARPENTER, Gilpin-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Violinist and Pianiste, First-class Café, Exhibition, Ball-room, Pictures; permanent. Highest references. Trio supplied. Box 4,956, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement as First or Second Violin; eight years' Experience in Orchestral and Solo playing; good references. H. PILGRIM, 1, Gresham-street, E.C.

WANTED, by Talented Violinist, Soloist, Orchestral, Engagement, Seaside perferred; high titled refs. Apply, VIOLINIST, 37, York-street, Portman-square, W.

WANTED, by Violinist, young, good repetiteur, immediate engagement. Wire or write, VIOLINIST, 108, Chalton-street, Euston-road, N.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by smart young Violinist (Diploma), in good Orchestra; seaside preferred. For full particulars, refs., &c., apply Box 5,041, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Violinist, 4½ years Leader Brighton West Pier Orchestra, recently disbanded. MASON, 42, Belle Vue-gardens, Kemp Town, Brighton.

WANTED, by Cornet, Engagement, perm., in Provinces; total abstainer; out through disappointment. J. LONG, 98, Milton-street, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, Engagement as Second Cornet, reliable; total abstainer.
H. RUSSELL, JUN., 4, Court-street, Leamington.

WANTED, Known, reliable Solo Clarionet will join good Civilian Band, or Deputise; good ref.; abstainer. NICHOLS, 60, Flood-street, Chelsea.

WANTED, by experienced Clarionet, odd jobs or weeks; best references; string or military. GRIFFIN, 38, Albert-street, St. Paul's, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarionet, String or Military; Disengaged through disappointment. Address, CLARIONET, 9, St. Paul's-terrace, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Re-engagement as Double Bass, four strings, competent and reliable, any business. WHITAKER, 106, Portobello-rd., Bayswater, W.

WANTED, by First-class Double Bass, permanent Engagement, good Theatre or Music Hall; highest refs., sober. NICHOLLS, 19, Glenburn-road Seacombe, Cheshire.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Bass or E flat Bombardon, at Liberty July 6; any Business. E. J. ELLIOTT, 67, Albion-street, Halton, Hastings.

WANTED, Engagement, Trombone, experienced, Theatre, Music Hall, or Summer Season; now at Liberty. Address, MUSICIAN, Church-street, Bawtry, Yorks.

WANTED, by experienced Euphonium, Engagement; good refs.; at Liberty July 8. SERGT. GRICE, K.R. Rifles, Tidworth Pennings, Andover, Wilts.

WANTED, by Bombardon, experienced, Engagement, town, seaside, or Yeomanry; good refs. Address, BOMBARDON, 142, Kennington Park-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, by French Horn Player, Engagement, thoroughly experienced; good references. Address, MITCHELL, 6, Hilda's-grove, Rose Cottage, Hull, Yorks.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice, for Little Girl, on 'Cello; also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. CASSELLE, 37, Great Percy-st., King's Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, for few weeks commencing August, Engagement by experienced Orchestral 'Cellist in good Seaside Orchestra; first-class refs. Box 4,986, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Violoncellist, Disengaged; thoroughly experienced in Variety and Dramatic Business; First-class Reference. 'CELLIST, 34, Leoville-street, Belfast. Would deputise.

WANTED, an Engagement, as 'Celloist, in Theatre, Variety Hall, or Seaside Orchestra. Good references. E. INKPEN, 12, Napoleon-road, St. Margaret's, Middlesex.

WANTED, Engagement by 'Cellist, Theatrical, Orchestral, and Hotel; experienced. Apply, BERNARD GOODALL, Belmont House, Leonard-road, Landport, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced 'Cellist, good references.
Apply, 'CELLO, 25, Maplethorpe-rd., Thornton Heath.

WANTED, Engagement, after 30th, as 'Cello or Clarionet; excellent refs. 'CELLIST, 28, Colebrook-road, Walthamstow.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, by experienced Oboe, Engagement; sober and reliable;
late R.A. Band, Woolwich.
F. B. FIELD,
28, Cardozo-road, Holloway, N.

WANTED, Known, First-Class Oboe and Cor Anglais Player, open for Engagement until July 15. JOSEPH CRAEN, 84, Windsor-crescent, Bridlington.

WANTED, good Summer Engagement, by experienced Flute and Piccolo Soloist, Orchestral or Military; last engagement five months Crystal Palace. FLAUTIST, 9, Rattray-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, Flautist, experienced all kinds of business; thoroughly reliable; permanency or deputy; good refs. FLAUTIST, 137, Northwold-road, Clapton.

WANTED, Engagement, Flute and Piccolo, or Deputising. COLEMAN, Grand T. Varieties, or 27, Park-road, Bolton.

WANTED, Engagement, Messrs. Conolly, Pianist and Violinist, Seaside preferred; Sight-readers, Soloists; shares or salary. C/o Mrs. Breakspear, Ecton-road, Addlestone, Surrey.

WANTED, Known, Miss Constance Upstone, A.T.C.L., Solo Pianist, good Accompanist, Sight Reader, Sings; would join Concert Party. 11, Willoughby Park-road, Tottenham.

WANTED, by Young Lady, First-class Pianist (and Organist), Engagement, town or country. Terms low. HOLLAND, 43, Buchan-road, Nunhead, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Young Lady, smart appearance, good Pianist and Accompanist, wishes to join High-class Concert Party, August, Seaside. E., 31, Colville-gardens, Bayswater.

WANTED, Engagement, Pianist, experienced, reliable, excellent Soloist and Accompanist, used Opera, Concerts, Variety, Dances, &c. BARNARD, 2, Meeson-road, Stratford.

WANTED, immediate Engagement, by First-class Pianist, Orchestral, thoroughly experienced, Opera, Comedy, Variety, &c., can combine Clarionet or Second Violin. 35, Henrietta-st., Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED, Known, Shikissima Band, Ladies' Japanese Orchestra, all Soloists, for Piers, Hotels; trio disengaged, magnificent costume, including Vocalist. Glenthorpe, Chesterfield-road, Newbury.

WANTED, Engagements for Scarlet Domino Ladies' Band, Ladies' Salon Quartette and Florentine Quartet, at home or abroad. Apply, BUREAU, 8, Bedford-terrace, Kensington.

WANTED, Known, Miss Gascoyne Old's Shakespearean Orchestra, at the Crystal Palace, Four Times Daily, from June 1 to June 15; re-engaged till June 29. 238, Edgware-road, W. Agent, Monsieur JULES GUISE.

TO CORPORATIONS,
GARDENS, and PIER PAVILION MANAGERS.
WANTED, Known, Giacomo Marchisio and his Orchestra, Dis. after July 15; smart, brilliant, refined. 5, St. Michael's-gdns., Notting Hill

WANTED, Known, Renowned Society Hungarian Band, Open for Engagements, for Exhibition, Seaside, Sunday Concerts, &c. Particulars, CONDUCTOR, 53, Philpot-st., E.C.

WANTED, Known, First-Class West End Band (any number), Disengaged from July; latest music, scarlet and gold uniforms. BELL-PORTER, Musical-Director, 28, Gerrard-street, W.

WANTED, Garner's Scarlet Elysee Band, from three performers, Hotel, Piers, Tea Rooms, Dancing; large music library. 55, Richmond-road, Barnsbury, N.

Notice to Agents and Managers.
WANTED, Known, First-Class Orchestra, just concluding long Continental Tour, returning England July 1, four Violins (conductor Violinist), 'Cello, Bass, Flute, Cornet, Trombone, Piano, Drums; eight Ladies, three Gentlemen, young, excellent appearance, free for Engagements Cafés, Hotels, Piers, &c.; High-class Concerts given (also used any business); large Répertoire English, foreign music; speciality, Viennese music. Orchestra increased or decreased if desired. Reasonable terms for long Engagement. Rich costumes or Concert Dress worn as preferred. Photos., Répertoire, further particulars sent on application. Address offers, Box 5,023, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, for Season, good Orchestra, Bands (Military or Symphonique). Union Musical, 20, Rue du Maroc, Paris XIX.

WANTED, by Military Band, Engagements, town or Seaside; smart uniform; good répertoire. B. M., 56, Chipstead-st., Parsons Green, S.W.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, good Equestrian Families,
Good Equestrian Families,
Good Equestrian Families,
Good Equestrian Families,
Good Equestrian Families,
Good Equestrian Families,
Good Equestrian Families,
Good Equestrian Families,
Good Equestrian Families,
Good Equestrian Families,
Good Equestrian Families,
for Paris,
one and two years' Contract.

Send offers and photographs
to
ROCHE,
23, Boulevard des Italiens,
Paris.

WANTED, Trick Cyclists, Wire-Walkers, Trapeze, Musical Acts, and other Novelties, for Fêtes, July and Aug. State absolute lowest (fares paid from London terminus), lithos., permanent address, letters only, SYLVESTER, Agent, 271, Clapham-road, London.

WANTED, to Engage, High-Rope Walker, High Pole Climber, or any good Attraction for Open Air Shows, for Fair Grounds and Fêtes. Send particulars in first letter, H. WALLIS, Roundabout Proprietor, 10, Church-rd., Seaforth, Liverpool.

WANTED, good Speciality Turns, to open Monday, July 15. Write, Monday, Woodford; Tuesday, Portumna, Co. Galway; Wednesday, Parsonstown. DUFFY'S Circus.

WANTED (through illness), a Lady Trick Cyclist, who has knowledge of Tumbling, to take place of another young lady in well-known Troupe. Address, L. H., Post Office, 10, Acre-lane, Brixton, London.

WANTED, a Young Man that can Bear and Tumble, to join a First-class Troupe; all costumes found, travelling expenses; also a Young Girl that understands a little. W. LEOPOLD, Cirque Susman, Wavre, Belgium.

WANTED, smart Comedy Ring and Trapeze performer, by Professional; good Engagements, Share expenses. Address for interview, Box 5,044, "The Era."

WANTED, a Smart Young Man, that can Tumble a little. Age, height, weight, tricks, &c., photo. if possible, Box 5,045, "The Era."

WANTED, immediately, Smart Youth, must be good Tumbler and Knockabout, for Comedy Act. State tricks, age, height, and weight, lowest terms, &c.
Box 5,046, "The Era."

WANTED, Apprentice, Boy, age 8, used to Tumbling, for Mounting. Perm. add., ANDY and ANDY, c/o Hern, 6, Russell-street, Plymouth.

WANTED, for Sir Robert Fossett's Circus, a few good sober and respectable Grooms, also an experienced Electrician. Apply, Monday, Exmouth; Tuesday, Budleigh Salterton; after, The Farm, Ravensthorpe, Northampton.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Beach wishes to thank all Artists who replied to his advertisement last week. Too numerous to answer.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

HARMSTON'S GRAND CIRCUS.
HARMSTON'S GRAND CIRCUS.

WANTED, for the East,
Wanted, for the East,

Travelling India, China, and Malay Straits.
Wanted, Good Clowns with Novelties.
Wanted, good Gymnastic Performers.
Wanted, good First-class Triple-bar Performers.
Wanted, a good Lady Trick Cyclist or Troupe; must be clever and have plenty of dash in them.
Wanted, Two good Knockabout Comedians.
No Acrobats need apply.
Wanted, all Kinds of Novelties, anything New and Novel.
Numbers with Ladies in preferred; must be able to do two acts or more.

Remember, we want Clever Performers, as the Public in the East want something for their money. Second-class fares paid out; at least one year's engagement. Performers with talent always stay two years or more.
The Only Successful Show in the East for 20 years.
Artists applying must be able to follow the Programme below.

Apply, with terms, lithos., and photos., to
permanent address,
Madame HARMSTON-LOVE,
Harmston's Circus, c/o Abram's Horse Repository, Singapore, Straits Settlements.
Cable address, "Harmston's, Singapore."

HARMSTON'S GRAND CIRCUS
AND
ROYAL MENAGERIE OF PERFORMING WILD ANIMALS.

Bombay, Tuesday, Feb. 19, 1907.
Grand Gala Night,
under the distinguished patronage and in the immediate presence of
His Majesty the Amir,
H.E. Lord Lamington,
and a Large Party from Government House.

Official Programme.

Part I.
1. Burmese Elephant (Babe) and Donkey Andy Introduced by Gus Burns
2. Comic Entrée .. .. Joe Roberts
3. Hurdle Act .. .. Miss Marguerite
4. Burlesque .. .. Goat and Monkey
5. Collins Princess Quartette (Song and Dance) Miss Laura Calvert, Miss Jessie Bower, Miss Nellie Harris, and Miss Eva Harris
6. Pot-Pourri Act By Miss Nellie Harmston-Love with her Australian Pony "Beauty"
7. Roman Rings .. .. Frantz Troupe
8. Comic Equestrian Scene, John John By Messrs. Eldred, Roberts, and Cooke
9. Performing Tigers and Bears, introduced by John Paul Rougal, comprising the Greatest Up-to-date Animal Act in the World.
Interval of 10 minutes.

Part II.
10. Posing on Bare-backed Horses John Welby Cooke and Jennie Harmston-Love
11. Comic Globe Act .. .. By Denny and Frank
12. The Frantz Troupe, in their refined Acrobatic Drawing-room Entertainment
13. The Wheelers, in their Champion Trick Bicycle Act, introducing "Hooping the Hoop"
14. Wire Balancing .. .. .. Mlle. Marguerite
15. Burlesque Monkeys .. .. By Gus Burns
16. Double Jockey Act Frank Eldred and Jennie Harmston-Love
The Smallest Lady Jockey Rider in the World.
17. High Jumping and Diving Dogs Introduced by A. Ryan.
Concluding with the World's Greatest Sensation, Diavolo Looping the Loop on a Bicycle.

N.B.—This Programme is subject to slight alteration as necessity may require.

Friday Evening, Feb. 22, 1907,
Complimentary Benefit tendered to
The Marvellous Frantz Troupe.
A Monster Programme of all our Star Acts.
Madame HARMSTON-LOVE, Proprietress.
CHAS. BRUCE, Bandmaster.
JOHN ROUGAL, Animal Trainer.
Col. BOB LOVE, Sole Manager.
ALF RYAN, Stud Groom.
R. ALTON, Advance Representative.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Circus Proprietors, Hippodrome Managers, Agents, &c., to Note that
THE THREE OHMYS.
THE THREE OHMYS.
Greatest of all Somersault Bareback Riders, on three beautiful trained Horses, have made another big success at the Tower Circus, Blackpool. Everybody says it is the best Act ever seen in a Circus Ring. Shortly at Liberty for a few weeks, before opening for the Season in Paris. Address, The Three Ohmys, Tower Circus, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty shortly, for Stage or Ring, Tudor's Four Educated Ponies, Hengler's Circus, London, twice daily. Agents should see this Act. Address, W. TUDOR.

WANTED, Mlle. Alicia and Clown Joey, Single Trapeze, Rings, and Perpendicular Rope, Liberty Galas, &c. 13, Rye Hill-park, Peckham.

WANTED, July 8, Aug. 5, The Maros, Quaintest Three-bar Act. This, Empire, York; Monday, Theatre, Chester. Above address.

WANTED, Known, Fitzroys, Lady and Gentleman, Society Gymnasts, fourth return engagement London Pavilion, Piccadilly; free two weeks. July 15.

WANTED, Dates, 1908, The Rolands, Marvellous Athletes, and Alfred Siegel, Champion Wrestler. Acknowledged by all to be Unequalled in their Equilibristic Act, and Undertaking to Defeat all Comers at Wrestling. On tour. All coms., 7, Wellington-avenue, Liverpool.

WANTED, Galas, July and Aug., by Mlle. Bartenelli, Aerial, Contortionist; West or Midlands. Address, 53, Worcester-st., Gloucester.

WANTED, Engagement by Prof. George Barker (the Rocket), Sensational High Fire Diver, Trick Diver, and Swimmer. Address, 62, Lintaine-grove, Fulham.

WANTED, Known, First-Class Tumbler, back, forward, and side, good Comedy man as well, at Liberty at once. Address, Box 5,031, "The Era."

WANTED, for Buff Bill's Circus and Menagerie, Pony Pad. State lowest terms, Carlow, Monday, July 1; Tullow, 2nd.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES and HIPPODROME, BARRY DOCK.
WANTED, First-class Variety Artists, all Lines.

ARTHUR CARLTON, Palace, Worcester.

Scarborough.
WANTED, Monday, July 8, and onwards, Variety Artists in all Lines. Nothing too Big. Full particulars to KITCHINGMAN, Aquarium.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, July 8, Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest. Hall small. P. REYMOND, as above.

WANTED, for Empire, Doncaster, Variety Artists all Lines, Doubles doing Singles, say when last there, July 8 onwards. State lowest. B. KENNEDY.

WANTED, Variety Artists all Lines, new for Gainsborough, for July 15, Big Acts on Share. State Summer Terms. Address, CLIQUOT, 10, Wellington-place, Halifax.

WANTED, Variety Artists, Speciality Acts, sharing terms, for Grand Theatre Gardens; good stage, electric light. MANAGER, 23, Chaucer-street, Mansfield.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Variety Artists, for Al Fresco, on Shares; none but competent people need apply. Pianist good write in. Apply, R. MACGREGOR, Theatre, Musselburgh.

WANTED, Variety Artists, in all Lines, for Royal Theatre, Dewsbury,
July 8.
Write lowest,
SIDNEY TAYLOR, Empire, Burnley.

WANTED, Variety Artists, for odd weeks, July 1 till Sept. 8, Al-fresco; also good-voiced Comedian, for Season, to Open at Once. Address, LINDSAY, Pierrots, Troon, N.B.

WANTED, all kinds Variety Artists. Will see any Artists working if time sent. RICHARD CASS'S Agency, 9, Mundania-rd., Peckham.

PALACE T. OF VARIETIES, OLDBURY.
Proprietors, Messrs. WM. B. BOSTOCK and J. TYRER.
WANTED, July 8, on, Artists, all Lines, Continental Acts, Novelties, Double Acts (doing Singles). Lowest summer terms, lithos., WM. B. BOSTOCK, General-Manager. Artists that have written, please write again.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, coming North, to send dates and terms.
ANDERSON'S Agency, 5, Great Clyde-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for Glasgow Concerts. State absolute lowest. THE SCOTTISH MUSICAL AGENCY, 107, George-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists, nothing too big, for Circus and Hippodrome, Rochdale, from Aug. 26. Letters only, JACKSON, 350, Kennington-rd., London.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, Big Speciality Acts, for immediate dates. Price no object for right stuff. Lithos., &c., BURTON, 55, Percy-rd., Canning Town. Lowest terms first instance.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, from now onwards.
Apply, Mr. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, two weeks, July 8, 22, Aug. 5. CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists, all Lines, July 8, onwards. Terms, Lithos., Bookings.
Big Specialities for Galas, Aug. 5.
EDGAR STEBBINGS, 23, Egerton-st., Manchester.
'Phone 09261. Tels., "Stebbings, Manchester."

WANTED, First-class Artists Only, for First-class Variety Theatres, immediate and future dates, also Pantomime.
JESS VERNO'S Agency, 16, Elizabeth-st., Liverpool. Telegrams, "Merriment." 'Phone, 2076 Royal.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Small Hall, London; smart Amateurs and Beginners. Write or call, BOB GRAHAM, 15A, Electric-avenue, Brixton.

WANTED, for Queen's Hall, Radcliffe, Artists in all Lines. Terms low; Singles doing Doubles. PARLATO'S Enterprises, Public Hall, Darwen.

WANTED, Artists, Vocalists, with Illustrated Song Slides, &c., for Queen's Theatre, Castleford, July 8, onwards. Full particulars and lowest terms, first letter,
BEANLAND and EMERSON.

WANTED, Talented and Presentable Artists, for well-known Pierrot Company, for whole Season at South Coast Pier. Apply personally, between 1 2and 2 on Monday, AL FRESCO, 97A, Jermyn-street.

WANTED, Known, Artists requiring Engagements, state qualifications, vacancies 1907, salaries desired, and where seen working. ARTHUR WARWICK, Bax-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Stars and Novelties, for Present and Future Dates. Will those on our books please keep us posted as to dates, &c. Address, NEIMAN'S Agency, 108, Strand, London, W.C. Tel., 8488 Gerrard.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities, for immediate and future Dates. Terms and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Big Stars all Lines, July 8 and 29, new to Lancaster and Morecambe. Address, WILL ONDA, Alhambra, Morecambe.

WANTED, Variety Stars, July 8, on; best Syndicate Halls, Piers, &c., Pantomime Artists all Lines. "LORD" GEO. AYTOUN, 120 Kennington Park-road, London, S.E. Wires, "Antics, London." 'Phone 1949 Hop.

WANTED, Single and Double Turns, Bar Act by two gentlemen able to give head and hand balance act also if possible; Giant, or other clean Freak; also good Drawing Novelty and Illusion; ten weeks' tour; all fares paid. Full particulars, photos., stamped envelope for return, and absolute lowest (no best offers), to TOUR, care of Mrs. Webb, 95, Goldhawk-road, Shepherd's Bush, W. No callers except by appointment.

WANTED, good Gala Turns, July 3, 27, Aug. 5, 24. Lithos., bills, permanent address, WOOD, Caterer, 140, Whitehall-road, Bristol.

WANTED, New Turns, for Australia, America, and United Kingdom. TOM PACEY, 186, Brixton-road, London. 'Phone, 87, Brixton. Telegrams, "Parthenon, London."

WANTED, one or two Strikingly Good Turns, new to Hartlepool, for July 8; must be new to town. CADLE'S Agency, 105. Strand.

VENTOM SWIFT'S AGENCY,
728, Romford-road, Manor Park, London.
WANTED, all Turns Known to Me, with immediate Dates, to communicate, with absolute lowest London terms.

DREW BAYLEY'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
the Best of Talent for the North, Monday and on. Proprietors having disappointments wire me. 170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

DUNDAS'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Talent of every description, July 1 and onwards; absolute lowest in first letter. 52, Rosthwaite-road, West Derby, Liverpool.

DEETRICH'S VAUDEVILLE BUREAU,
31, Islington, Liverpool.
WANTED, the Best Real Talent in the World, for Momentary and Future Dates; can Book Great and Small Everywhere. Full particulars, terms, bookings (not vacancies), lithos., photos.

DAN NOBLE'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Acts of all descriptions. Contracts await St. Clair Bros., Ward and Davis, Yorkshire Tom, The Brontes, Lilian Bros., Three Royal Temples, King Leo, Ariel and Astarte, Buchanan Bros., and Codge. Communications, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Star Variety and Speciality Acts, for early dates, where the Barring Clause does not apply. Top of Bills having odd weeks out write. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, Big Acts of every kind, for the North. Send full bookings, &c., to FRANK LYNNE, 77, Angell-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, for Gloucester, Porth, Pandy, Pentre, Abertillery, Barry, Worcester, Variety Acts. Full bookings. Mantell Oval write. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, Greatest Acts in the Profession to send full bookings, terms; can find you work. WILLIAM AINSWORTH, Heath Villa, Stockton-on-Tees.

WANTED, two or three Dumb Acts, to work on shares with Buer's Animals; open Monday, near Bristol. 71, Kennington-road, London.

LEO FRITZ'S VARIETY AGENCY,
Glenshaw-mansions, Brixton-road, London, S.W.
Telephone 457 Brixton. Telegrams, "Evelyncia, London."
WANTED, the World's Greatest Attractions, Wanted, Top Liners, Top Liners; price no object; twelve months' solid work to the right stuff. Wire above for July 8 and onwards.

WANTED, High-Class Vaudeville Attractions, Acts known to me write at once, enclose bookings, lowest terms, &c. FRANCIS O'FLYNN, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, late Manager, Blackpool, Morecambe, &c. Address next week, Kursaal, Harrogate.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

PALACE, CORK.
Manager, HENRY KEMBLE.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Top and onwards,
Big Specialities, Illusions, Animal Shows.

Lowest terms to
HENRY KEMBLE'S Agency,
HENRY KEMBLE'S Agency,
333, Kennington-road, London.

HARRY SKIVINGTON'S AGENCY.
HARRY SKIVINGTON'S AGENCY.
48, Brisbane-street, Greenock.
WANTED, Good Tops of Bill, for Glasgow, Greenock, and District. Send full list of bookings and lowest terms.
Empire, Greenock, re-opens Aug. 19.

HIPPODROME, BLACKPOOL.
WANTED, Big Top for July 8 and weeks of August and September.

WANTED, Big Recognised Tops, 15th, Mansfield; 22nd, Wakefield; 29th, Hull, &c. Day bills, lithos., lowest percentage. Artists all Lines, young lady, fine figure, for Speciality, photos., or call to-night, EVENTIO, Palace, Greenwich.

WANTED, Combinations, Concert Parties, or Pierrots, for Luton and Bedford, July 8, onwards. E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, for Big Music Hall Production (Musical Comedy), Young Ladies for Principals, &c.; good looks, figures, smart address and appearance essential; also Troupe of Speciality Dancers (four or six), Gentlemen, Straight and Comedy. Produce in town. Apply, with photos., lowest terms, &c., to ARTHUR BENSON, 95, Brixton-rd., S.W.

WANTED, Ladies and Gentlemen, for London Concert. Mrs. W. AUBREY, Kirby Cross, Weeley, R.S.O., Essex.

WANTED, for Gustave's Royal Pierrots (five Troupes), Educated Young Ladies and Gentlemen, with exceptional voices; experience unnecessary. GUSTAVE, Empire, Ashton.

WANTED, a good Acrobatic Dancer. Those in London only need apply.
Box 5,048, "The Era."

WANTED, Young Lady, Step Dancer, must sing. State height, age, experience send photo. Apply, Box 5,038, "The Era."

WANTED, good Posturer, for Demon Part, used to leaps, vamps, for Continent, good Tour; also Baggage Man or Artist willing to look after same, capable of leaps, roll outs, knockabout pantomimist, one speaking German preferred.

Write, or call 12 a.m. Monday, Tuesday,
BRANGER, 113, Kennington Park-road, S.E.

WANTED, Funny Comedians, for Gags and Sketches; also other Al-fresco Artists, in all Lines; lowest salaries. MANAGER, c/o McPherson, Pleasaunce-gardens, Falkirk.

WANTED, for Isle of Man, open Monday, certain 8 weeks, First-class Comedian and Soubrette. Wire, low joint salary, MANAGER, Post Office, Bognor.

WANTED, for Sketch, tall, eccentric Comedian, and Short, Low Comedian. JENNIE MAYNARD, 95, Fentiman-road, Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, good complete Bioscope Show, for Season, at Greenwich Theatre. Send best terms, specimen programmes ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, Animated Picture Machine, with reliable Operator, Films and Gas provided, for eight weeks certain. T. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, Bioscope Operator, well up in Electric, for Queen's Theatre, Castleford. Permanency to good man.
Send full particulars, salary required, references, &c., to BEANLAND and EMERSON.

WANTED, good Operators, for Bioscope, must understand Electric and Gas, and do their own filling up.
Permanency for good men.
References required.
Box 4,998, "The Era."

WANTED, Operator, with own Bioscope, also good Vent.; long engagement suitable men. Lowest terms first letter. LEE, Post Office, Brynmawr.

WANTED, First-class Lantern Operator, Electrician, for Electrical Dance Act. MAUDE MURRAY, 35, Mall-road, Hammersmith.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Wanted, Known,
MYSTERIOUS LILITH,
in her beautiful Palace of Roses,
the most Sensational Mystery Act ever presented.
Also LILIAN WARREN'S Vocal Pictures,
with beautiful Dissolving Effects.
Owing to Enormous Success, Re-engaged at Grand, Gravesend. At Liberty July 1 and 8. Next week, 133, Kennington Park-rd., London, S.E. Permanent address, 77, St. Mary's-street, Cardiff.

WANTED, by Nellie Nora, Instrumental Act, Monday next; smart, refined, and well dressed. Wire, 69, Falmouth-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, July 8, 15, 22, to follow Palace, South London, Babs Lloyd. Star Artist, and Nellie Vance, Comedy Artist. Wire.

WANTED, Engagement, for the Musical Zingara (Mignon), Banjo Queen, or would join First-class Act. 73, Drake-street, Rochdale, Lanc.

WANTED, Known, Terry Sisters, at Liberty July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29. Address, 4, Kellett-road, Brixton, London, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Florence and Lillian (Artistic Musical Act), Disengaged July 1, 8, 15. Address, 83, St. Augustine's-road, London, N.W.

WANTED, by a refined Young Lady, at Liberty to join good Troupe, has a knowledge of Trapeze and Flying Act, and Wire-Walking, age 17 years, weight 7st. 4lb., height 4ft. 10in. and smart appearance.
Address to V. M.,
C/o 111, Colman-road, Peckham, London.

WANTED.—Neddy Vokes, English and Continental Funny, Refined Comedy, Musical, and Patter Comedian, Liberty. Wire, 16, Moreton-st., Strangeways, Manchester.

WANTED, by Otto Ethardo, Artistic Juggler, July 8, to follow Empire, Hull. Address, Empire, Hull.

WANTED, Known, H. G. Clark, Eccentric Comedian, Great Success, Pavilion, Morley. Offers for Combination invited. All coms., 50, Lodge-st., Harpurhey, Manchester.

WANTED, by Fred Hadley, Comedian, Entertainer, and Dancer, late of Catlin's Royal Scarborough Pierrots; at Liberty Monday next, for Al-fresco; good shows only. Wire, 44, Mawson-street, Ardwick Green, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next, also July 8, by George Grenville, the Popular Comedian; big success last week, T. R., Ton-y-pandy. Wire for Monday, Theatre, Glastonbury.

WANTED, few immediate dates, for Mr. J. H. Negus's Screaming Comedy Act, "Waking Them Up," July 8 and 15, to follow Collins's Music Hall, London, previous to long tour.

WANTED, Monday, also July 8, 15, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist, and De Lil, Illusionist. Wire, 54, Spring-gardens, Doncaster. (See Card).

WANTED, Known, Signor Rupert, Science of the Hand. Enormous Success, Irish International Exhibition, Dublin; Christmas Bazaars, &c.; offers entertained; splendid draw.

WANTED, Monday next, by the Two Palmers (Maud and James), Comedy Duettists, Single Turn if required. Wire, Empire, Middlesbrough.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, July 1, onward, wire Aquarium, Scarborough, the Great Kyoto, Comedy Japanese Pot-Pourri Act; also May Geraldine, Comedienne, Vocalist, Dancer. After Saturday, 506, Stockport-road, Manchester.

WANTED, by Ted Young and Ada Twibell, July 8, 15, and 29; two distinct turns. Address, 13, Clapham-road, London, S.W.

WANTED, July 8, 15, The Moncktons. In Successful Screamingly Funny Musical Comedy Episode, "Are Wives Dummies?" Artistically written, played, dressed, and staged. July 1, Empire, Hull.

WANTED, July 8 and 15, Emmie Milsted and Joe Bell, Comedy Scena, "The Belle of Arizona." July 1, Gaiety, Glasgow.

WANTED, July 8, 15, by Will and Roze, Comedy Acrobatic Conjurers, and Alvar, Daring Gymnast; two Acts, Halls or Galas. Palace, Oldbury.

WANTED, July 1, 8, by Dutch and Ditcher (Fanny and Harry), greatest Comedy Vocal Patter, Dancing Dutch Act on the Stage. Wire, Temperance Hall, Merthyr Tydvil, Wales.

WANTED, Known, Liberty Monday next, also 8th, Jimmy Green, Comedian, and May Mayne, Serio and Descriptive. This, Gaiety T., Blyth. Wire for two.

WANTED, by Ariel and Astarte, smartest of all Lady and Gentleman Gymnastic Pot-Pourri Acts. Great success Karno's Co., Royalty, Morecambe. Monday, Theatre, Keighley; free July 8, 15, 22, 29. Address as above.

WANTED, by Tom Bassett, Great Shakespearean Burlesque Actor (assisted by Miss Meta Clark), June 8 and 15, to follow Palace, Aberdeen. Great Success, Pavilion, Greenock. Wire, BASSETT, Palace, Aberdeen, for Sure Draw.

WANTED, 8th and 22nd, precede and follow Gaiety, Glasgow, by Cadogan and Wingrove, "Clerical Complication" (Muir and Bartlett's). Palace, Worcester.

WANTED, Known, The Netherlands, Dutch Pastimes." The Originators of Dutch Scenas. This week, Hippo., Ashton.

WANTED, by Fields and Lewis, Great Comedy Act. A Star Turn. Vacant July 8 and 15. Wire this and next week, The Palace, Clacton-on-Sea.

WANTED, Known, Conway and Garland have next week Vacant, July 1, "Left in Charge." Wire, Hippodrome, Brighton.

WANTED, July 8, 15, Erris and D'Aubyn, the Cream of Eccentric Comedy. Latest Success, "Have a bit of bun." Coms., Gaiety, Glasgow.

WANTED, July 8, 15, 22, Leonard and Mac, Patter Comedians; refined, and a sure success. Next week, Theatre Royal, Dover.

WANTED, by Doyle and Gibson, Comedians and Dancers, July 8, 15, 22, and 29. Mon., Emp., Hull; or H. BURNS, Hartlepool.

WANTED, July 15, 22, by Los Granadas, with their own Trampolin Novelty, "Sensational Happenings Outside an Hotel," Galas or Theatres. Hippodrome, Redditch.

WANTED, Known, The Henrés, the World's Greatest Juvenile Club Throwers, Vacant July 15, 22, 29, 1907. All communications, this week, Hippodrome, Liverpool; next, Pavilion, Newcastle.

WANTED, TheWilberts, in "A Trip to Magicana." For dates, terms, W. AINSWORTH, Heath Villas, Stockton-on-Tees, Sole Agent.

WANTED, Stein-Eretto Troupe, the greatest of all Hand-jumping Acrobats, the only Troupe that jumps on their hands up to the top of three tables, vacant only July 8, 15, 22, 29, for First-class Theatres and Hippodromes, and Fêtes, Galas. Wire or write, STEIN ERETTO, this week, Hippodrome, Huddersfield; next week, July 1, Empire, York; the only open dates before we leave for the Continent.
A Great Top of Bill Act.
Always a Big Drawing Card.

WANTED, July 1, 8, and 15,
by the Great Albano Troupe.
The Greatest Refined Musical Act.
See Cards.

WANTED, July 1 and 22, by Atlas and Vulcana Troupe, Greatest Top of Bill Attraction Extant. Wire, 17, Waterford-road, Fulham.

WANTED, Three Distinct Acts, Zancig Thought-reading, Conjuring, and Bioscope, for in or outdoors. LENTON and BERTRAM, 251, Seven Sisters-road, N.

WANTED, July 8, by Retsill and Myra (Collier and Child), Thought Transmitters, who played to Record Business at Sheffield, and Topped Bill on returning to Glasgow, helping to fill the house nightly at
Theatre, West Bromwich.

WANTED, Known. Do you want Packed Halls? Try Four Cecilians; they draw. Don't want the earth. Next, Empire Hull. Vacant July 8, 15.

WANTED, immediate dates, for that really funny Dumb Show Dilemma, "The Old Kent Road," by Shirley and Baldwin, supported by genuine company of Pantomimists, including E. E. Giles, jun., Jack Lovell, Dave Aylott, Chas. Stevens, Chas. Evans, Will Gillard, Vera Benningfield, and Geo. Conquest, jun. Apply re dates, &c., CONQUEST and GILES, Empire, Southend.

WANTED, July 8, 15, by Billy Ross and Co., Greatest and Funniest Comedy Act on the Stage. Starring, Palace, Bradford. Wire.

WANTED, Engagement, by "The Gay Gipsies." Grand Musical Act, including Instrumental, Saby Dancers, Quartettes, Sketches, Solos, for Bank Holiday week and onward; Great Success. Wire, REMOSANY, 90, Netherwood-road, near Shepherd's Bush Tube.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ella's Reputed Lion Show, only Vacant Summer Dates, July 15 and 22 (Midlands preferred); also Aug. 19 and 26. Communications, week, July 1, Theatre Royal, Stanley, Co. Durham.

WANTED, Known, Alice Fontainbleau's Canine Marvels. Great success this week, 26th and 27th, Fête and Gala, Bursiem. Personally complimented by the Mayor, and requested to give a Special Performance. Next week, Metropole, Manchester. Vacant July 8, 15. Coms. above.

WANTED, Known, Devereux's Troupe of Dogs; the Show that stands Alone; Liberty Aug. 5. Big Act for Galas. Palace Varieties, Blackburn.

WANTED, Known, Williams' Dogs at Liberty for Galas. A pleasing show, including Rose, in her latest somersault act, and Bells, in her marvellous cake walk. Wire, 1, Tower-st., Harrogate.

WANTED, July 8, 15, 22, Kitty Woodford's Dogs; a novel act, smartly worked, beautifully staged. Next week, Theatre Royal, Dover.

WANTED, Known, Judge's Cockatoos, vacant July 8, 15, 22, 29, Aug. 5. Wire, Alhambra, Sandgate.

WANTED, Known, Swift Trio, Humorous Cyclists, conclude to-night, Regent, Salford. Mon. next, Empire, Hull. Vacant July 15, 22, 29.

WANTED, to join Sketch Co.; can Tumble, Dance, Knockabout, &c.; just finished Tour with Leopolds; at Lib. 8th. LAMBSON, 49, Radlex-road, Leyton, London, N.E.

WANTED, Known, Liberty to join Comedy Act, good Pantomimist, Equilibrist, and Comedy Tumbler; good references. B. C., 1, Reed-street, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, by Young Gentleman (21), good appearance, Engagement in Cinematograph Show; can play piano and banjo. M. S., 54, Crystal-road, Blackpool.

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SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

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SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, Wanted, Known, Important, Important,
that the next Meeting of the British Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen's Union will be held at the
Castle Hotel, Halifax, on Tuesday, July 2, at 2.30 p.m.
Business Important.
Business Important.
Signed, THOS. HURST, Secretary.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
To Roundabout Proprietors,
Showmen, Stallholders, and Amusement Caterers,
The Greatest Events in the Annals of the Showman World.
Liverpool's 700th Anniversary.
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and
Visit of the Channel Fleet.
P. and J. COLLINS
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the whole of the Liverpool Parks
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Corporation Open Spaces
for
the Pageant Week,
Aug. 3 to Aug. 9,
where will be held
Monster Fun Fairs.
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Monster Fun Fairs.
Monster Fun Fairs.
The City of Liverpool will observe this week as a General Holiday.
The Channel Fleet will anchor in The Mersey.
Excursion Trains and Steamers will run daily into Liverpool from all parts of Britain.
Persons requiring
Grounds, Stands, or Spaces for Shows, &c.,
address, with full particulars, to
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Telegrams, "Gondola, Walsall."
Telephone, 80 Walsall.

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Tipton, Tamworth, Atherstone, Hanley;
Bloxwich,
Grand Fête and Gala,
Aug. 16 to 20;
Darlaston, Oldbury, Netherton, Wednesbury, Willenhall, Brierley Hill,
and others to follow up to
the Great
Birmingham Onion Fair,
commencing Sept. 25;
West Bromwich, Smethwick,
and
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Two Revolving Cars.
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Large Orchestrion, with Tunes,
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SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

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Rehearsal at 2, for
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Artistes wishing to negotiate engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies, can be seen between the hours of 12 and 4 (Mondays and Saturdays excepted).

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All billing matter and notification of appearance, accompanied by samples of pictorial printing, must be sent in to the London Offices fourteen clear days prior to opening, or contract may be cancelled at the option of the Management.
All artists carrying scenery must have same fireproofed in accordance with L.C.C. regulations, otherwise it will not be allowed in the Halls.
In cases of emergency after office hours, Mr. Baugh may be consulted at the Foresters' Theatre, Cambridge-road, E.
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Telegraphic address, "Stageyness, London."

CALLS.

FOR WEEK COMMENCING
MONDAY, JULY 1, 1907.

PALACE, BRADFORD.

"Trip to Coontown," Phil Bransby, Czar Troupe, Massona, Mdlle. Du Roche, Stanley's Urchins, Carrie Victoria, Jack Rae, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.

Blanche and Powell, Capt. Devereux, Chas. Coverdale, Les Sados, Jock Walker, Jay W. Winton, Master Carr, The Kellinos, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE, HALIFAX.

Roze and Calvert, Tiny Arnold, Augustin and Hartley, Daisy Davenport, Talbot and Pearce, R. C. Note, Lanos and Montes, Prof. Barney Vox, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE, W. HARTLEPOOL.

Flockton-Foster Sketch Co., Melia and Mozarabar, Le Vren Trio, Billy Ross and Co., Bains and Reed, Webb and Branston, The Six Idols, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.

The De Serris, Harry Taylor, Royston and Royce, Horace and Olga, Maidie Scott, Carlotta de Yonson and Co., The Simms, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.

The Carpenters, Oakdeane, Jack Foley, Louie Hurman, Lois Du Cane and Co., Raymond, Cissy Thompson.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
"A Sister's Sin."

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
"Home, Sweet Home."

THEATRE ROYAL, LEEDS.
"Guilty Gold."

THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Picture Entertainment.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Picture Entertainment.

PALACE THEATRE, BATH.
Picture Entertainment.

PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.
Picture Entertainment.

PALACE & HIPPODROME, CARDIFF
will open early in August.

PALACE & HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON
will open in September.

PALACE & HIPPODROME, BURNLEY
will open in December.

PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday.

Sydney Mason and Co., Woodhouse and Wells, Edie Endon, Two Wiltons, Stidder and Dunbar, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard, Johan Dearing, T. P. Hall, Davenports, Raymonds, Dr. Carl Herman.

THE BRITANNIA.
Matinée Monday.

Raymond Pictures, Arnold Bell and Co., Tom Foy and Co.

FORESTERS.
Matinées Monday and Thursday.

The Two Jays, Tod Lowan, Rose Elliott, Parker and Parr, Leonard Mortimer's Vaudeville Co., Sisters Thurban, Sammy Shields, Eugene Miska, Whitworth Cycling Girls, Mackintosh and Royal, Bros. Curran, Dora Dalby, Raymond's Pictures.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday.

Mack Olive, Keith and Merson, Hardie Palm, Kenderick and Laura, Tom Kelso and Co., Karnello, Geo. Bendon, Arthur Norton, Chas. Denton, Vi Rayner, Raymond, Oliver Twist Co.

SURREY THEATRE,
All Artists engaged for Surrey Theatre must bring 14 Band parts.
Matinée every Monday.

Elton and Elmo, Leonard Mortimer and Co., Hal Chapter, Rose Cass. The Lovelaces, Will Harmony, Ethel Arundell, Bros. Tarrant, Carl Rosine, Raymond, "Casey's Circus," Austin and Cowan.

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"MOLLY MOLYNEUX.'

(Edward Montagu).
Sung by Miss BILLIE BURKE, at the Vaudeville Theatre.
An Ideal Number for Seaside Soubrettes.

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THIS WEEK'S NOVELTIES.

THE DIABOLO. Code Word, COHORTE.

A harmless toy, bought to amuse the children, causes more fun than expected. The father gets hold of this toy and plays with it for hours. First in one room, then another, he tries to get a little quiet. He upsets everything he comes near—chairs, ornaments, &c.—and causes more and more confusion every minute. At last his wife catches him. . . Was the game worth the candle?

198ft. The Subject, £3 6s.

DRUNKARD IN SPITE OF ALL. Code Word, CHIRURGIE.

Robinson is delicate, and can take nothing but mineral water. One day, however, he meets with divers accidents, and is obliged to take something—well, not soda water. It has a curious effect, and thus he returns home to his wife, who speaks her mind on the subject.

445ft. The Subject, £7 8s. 4d.

CHASING A MOTORIST. Code Word, CLEMATITE.

A "bust-up" motor. A chauffeur in a bearskin lying under the machine. Great terror and excitement amongst the passers-by. Very amusing.

230ft. The Subject, £3 16s. 8d.

A SEAMAN'S WIDOW. Code Word, CLAVECIN.

A splendid sea picture. A fishing smack starts on its dangerous voyage. The wife bids her husband, the owner of the smack, goodbye, and returns home to her children to take up her daily task and await his home-coming. What a day it will be, such rejoicings! There is a storm at sea. Next morning the coastguards pick up a body washed ashore. It is the smack-owner. With their sad burden the men make their way to the cottage. The wife and children are broken-hearted and surround the loved one, now so cold and still. Very impressive.

528ft. The Subject, £8 16s. Colouring 10s.

SAMBO AS FOOTMAN. Code Word, CLAVIER.

Have you ever tried a black servant? Well, here you have a little idea of what the result might be. Was he worth the trouble?

198ft. The Subject, £3 6s.

VICTIM OF SCIENCE. Code Word, CLIMAT.

Two young people, walking in the country amongst the most gorgeous surroundings, are carried away with the charm and plight their troth. The young man, unfortunately, meets with an accident and loses his sight in an explosion, and is thrown over by the girl. Together with his mother he visits the places where he went with his beloved, but the past memories being too much for him, he throws himself over a great precipice. His mother finds him at the bottom—broken, bruised, and dead, but free from pain and at peace. Very touching, original, and full of interest.

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THE WOODCUTTER'S DAUGHTER.
577ft. The Subject, £9 12s. 4d. Code Word, CODIVILLE.

A HARLEQUIN'S STORY. Code Word, CLOWN.
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QUICK, I'M ON FIRE.
412ft. The Subject, £6 17s. 4d. Code Word, GRYSALIDE.

THE MAGIC DRAWING ROOM.
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297ft. The Subject, £4 19s. Code Word, CLICHE.

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